

inside: Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby executive director resigns ■ West Virginia justices recognize lesbian's parental right ■ Sarah Golden

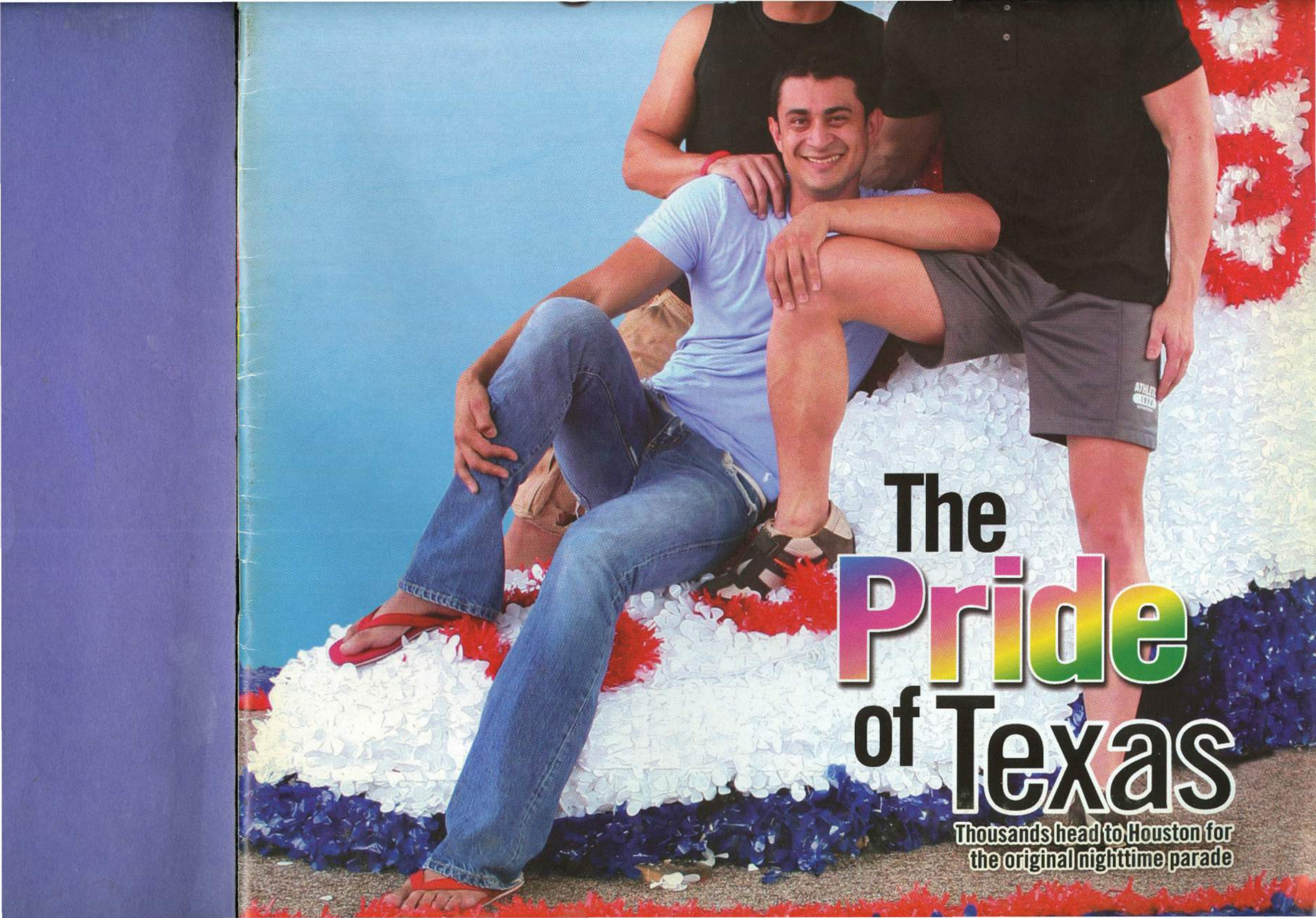
Volume 1 ■ Issue 25 ■ June 24, 2005

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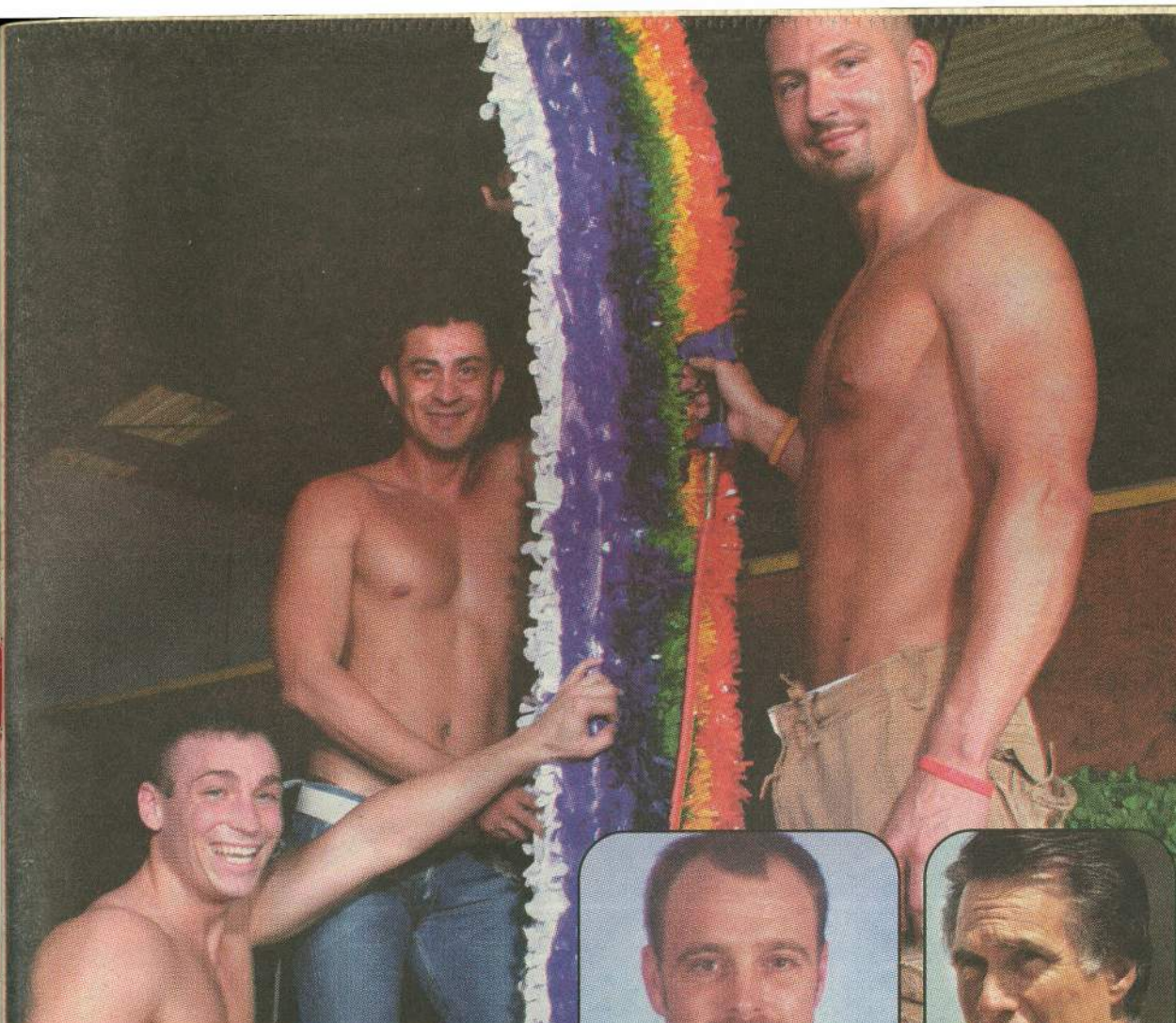


The Pride of Texas

Thousands head to Houston for
the original nighttime parade

UV
VODKA

Distilled four times,
the mood to tango
or in a Cherry Cosmo.



inside

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4 Texas News Politics

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8 National News Courts

West Virginia justices decided in favor of the non-biological

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Austin TX 78702
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Dallas TX 75204
Phone 214-754-8710 Fax 214-969-7271

HOUSTON

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Houston TX 77006
Phone 713-529-0322 Fax 713-529-0327

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Photographers: Christian Colbert, Guillermo Garza, Gregory Hayes, Milton Hernandez, Paul Stricklin, Terry Thompson

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In an attempt to provide a weekly report of the highest possible accuracy, credibility and integrity, TXT Newsmagazine acknowledges its mistakes large and small. We accept comments from readers about published material that may require correction or clarification. Comments should be reported to the executive editor by e-mail at vercher@txtnewsmag.com. Corrections and clarifications will appear as needed.

LETTERS

Keep letters brief and address only a single issue. For more details, see the details on this week's Perspectives page.

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Newsbriefs

HOUSTON

Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church casino night honors Rev. Mobley

Titled "Holy Craps," Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church's Casino Night is scheduled Friday at the Brookhollow Sheraton Hotel, located at 3000 North Loop West.

A \$50 ticket provides each guest with hors d'oeuvres, dessert, and \$5000 in casino chips which may be redeemed for prizes. A cash bar will be available, and a silent auction will be held.

Donated items include a pair of season tickets to performances by the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston and the Bayou City Women's Chorus, a framed work by artist Jim Goldston, a signed manuscript by poet Donna Garrett and other prizes.

An official Pride Houston event, the evening also marks the official farewell of the church's longtime associate pastor, the Reverend Carolyn Mobley.

"It's just time to move on, simple as that," said Rev. Mobley, who has served 15 years. Rev. Mobley said she was uncertain what she would do next, but she was sure it would be in a new city.

"It may be Florida, it may be Georgia, or it may be Las Vegas, Nevada," she said.

For tickets to Holy Craps, call 713-861-9149.

HOUSTON

AssistHers invites participation in logo contest, introduces new president

After nearly 10 years of providing in-home care and assistance to lesbians in need of health care, AssistHers has decided to update its look and has announced a Pride logo contest.

The new logo should emphasize the group's mission and have broad-based appeal for use on a Web site and with the group's advertising, said AssistHers' co-founder and new president Renee Tappe.

Entries must be sent by e-mail no later than July 15 to Contact@assisthers.org. Participation is open to all except AssistHers board members and their families.

The winner will receive a \$100 American Express gift card.

For more information, call 713-521-4628 or go to Assisthers.org.

HOUSTON

Houston Comets set Saturday as 'GLYP Day' at Toyota Center for game with San Antonio

It's no secret that the Women's National Basketball Association has lots of GLBT fans. As cameras sweep the stands during games, it doesn't take gaydar to recognize that many of the women are lesbians. And gay men are fairly well-represented, too.

On Saturday at 1:30 p.m., as the Houston Comets take on the San Antonio Silver Stars, gays and lesbians can take part in "GLYP Day" with Houston's Gay

Gay lobby's top staffer resigns

Ellis says other interests appeal; he receives much praise for 2½ year tenure

By Tammye Nash & David Webb
Staff Correspondents

Randall Ellis announced his resignation June 18 after serving two-and-a-half years as executive director of Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas.

"I decided it was time to pursue some other interests that I have had for awhile now, issues I was interested in before I worked for LGRL," he said in a telephone interview this week.

Reed Bogle of Dallas, a board member of the gay lobby, said Tuesday the board will begin a search soon for a new executive director. But the priority will be locating someone to direct the organization's campaign against the anti-gay-marriage amendment, which has been placed on the November ballot.

"We expect to have a campaign director hired within the next two weeks or so. Then we will start the search for a new executive director for the lobby," Bogle said. "I am not worried. We have a very capable staff in the office, and they will be able to handle things until we find someone."

A statement released June 18 said Lobby board members would use the opportunity to re-evaluate the organization's structure to "ensure continued growth and effectiveness."

Board members, community activists and lawmakers all praised Ellis's work.

"He is a great lobbyist, and it will be hard to find someone to replace him," Bogle said. "He has made friends even with our enemies in the Legislature."

Derek Robertson, a board member from Fort Worth, said Ellis has helped the

taken our organization to a new level," she said.

Jack Valinski, vice president of the Houston GLBT Political Caucus and executive director of Pride Houston, said Ellis did "a great job" despite budget constraints and numerous responsibilities.

"Randall was the executive director, running the organization. Yet he is out there lobbying every day. During the session, they don't have time to go out and raise the money when they need it most," Valinski said.

Lawmakers who worked with Ellis also had high praise.

Representative Garnet Coleman, a Democrat of Houston, lauded Ellis's "incredible work ethic. ... He has risen to all the challenges put before him."

Representative Mike Villareal, a Democrat of San Antonio, agreed. "These past two sessions have been very difficult for LGBT Texans. I could always turn to Randall to develop a calm and thoughtful response to the relentless attacks from the far right. He will be missed," Villareal said.

Representative Jessica Farrar, a Democrat of Houston, credited Ellis with developing a lobbying strategy that "helped us change the hearts and minds of lawmakers." Even though the Legislature approved a resolution to put the anti-gay-marriage amendment on the ballot, "we were able to educate many of my colleagues ... and we took a giant leap forward on marriage equality for LGBT Texans," Farrar said.

Ellis said his decision to resign was based on his desire to pursue other interests and on the burnout so many activists experience. It was not the result of a dispute between him and the Lobby's board, he said.

"It was all amicable, a decision we mulled over and came to together," Ellis



Randall Ellis: "I decided it was time to pursue some other interests that I have had for awhile now, issues I was interested in before I worked for LGRL."

Valinski said burnout is always a problem for activists, especially for those working with the Legislature. He said the most recent legislative session must have taken a "terrific toll" on Ellis because it was "incredibly challenging and difficult."

Ellis said he had planned to take a few weeks off over the summer and spend time "watering my lawn and soaking up some sun." But his plans were put on hold after Governor Rick Perry called a special session of the Legislature.

"I will be doing some independent consulting with some representatives during the special session on issues such as school finance and school safety," Ellis said. "My old boss, Garnet Coleman, called and asked me to help out, and I couldn't say no to that."

Ellis said he is considering several options beyond independent consulting, but that he does not want to "jinx" anything by publicly discussing those possibilities too soon.

"I'm gone, but I am not going very

from
Pride booth

Pride
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Ruby Hamilton, a yellow pages marketing associate, announced that Comets' frequent Most Valuable Player, Sheryl Swoopes, will be on the front cover of the 2005-2006 edition of the publication.

Packages for GLYP Day with the Comets start at \$12, and include one ticket to the game at the Toyota Center, one soda and one hot dog. For details, call 713-758-7296.

SAN ANTONIO

Wedding cake party to demand gay marriage rights honors longtime couple

On June 16, San Antonio artist Gene Elder hosted an event billed as the Wedding Cake Liberation Front honoring longtime San Antonio couple Toby Johnson and Kip Dollar.

Johnson and Dollar spoke to attendees about their long-term commitment and voiced their opposition to the proposed constitutional amendment banning gay marriage.

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"He is a great lobbyist, and it will be hard to find someone to replace him," Bogle said. "He has made friends even with our enemies in the Legislature."

Derek Robertson, a board member from Fort Worth, said Ellis has helped the lobby grow. "We are sad to see him go," Robertson said.

The gay lobby's co-chair, Jill Ireland of San Antonio, in a statement on June 18, praised Ellis. "He and his staff have

raised the money when they need it most," Valinski said.

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"It was all amicable, a decision we mulled over and came to together," Ellis said.

Bogle agreed. "It was really Randall's idea, and it was a totally mutual decision. He has always been interested in doing other things," she said.



Randall Ellis: "I decided it was time to pursue some other interests that I have had for awhile now, issues I was interested in before I worked for LGRL."

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Ellis said he is considering several options beyond independent consulting, but that he does not want to "jinx" anything by publicly discussing those possibilities too soon.

"I'm gone, but I am not going very far," he said. "I have some things in the works, so I will definitely be in Austin for a while. I may pop up from time to time."

Contact the writer: Nash@dallasvoice.com

Homeless youths have little to celebrate

This weekend or any weekend, young people living on Montrose streets learn to grow up fast

By Lorinda Robb

Contributing Writer

When the humidity dropped below 70 percent on a cobalt-blue summer day in Houston, it was cause for citywide celebration. And when the high tempera-

ture on the same day topped out at less than 90 degrees, faces in pedestrian-heavy Montrose lit up like they hit the Lotto.

But for a teenage girl in jeans and a yellow T-shirt lying in a fetal position on the shaded grass, the day was already a disappointment.

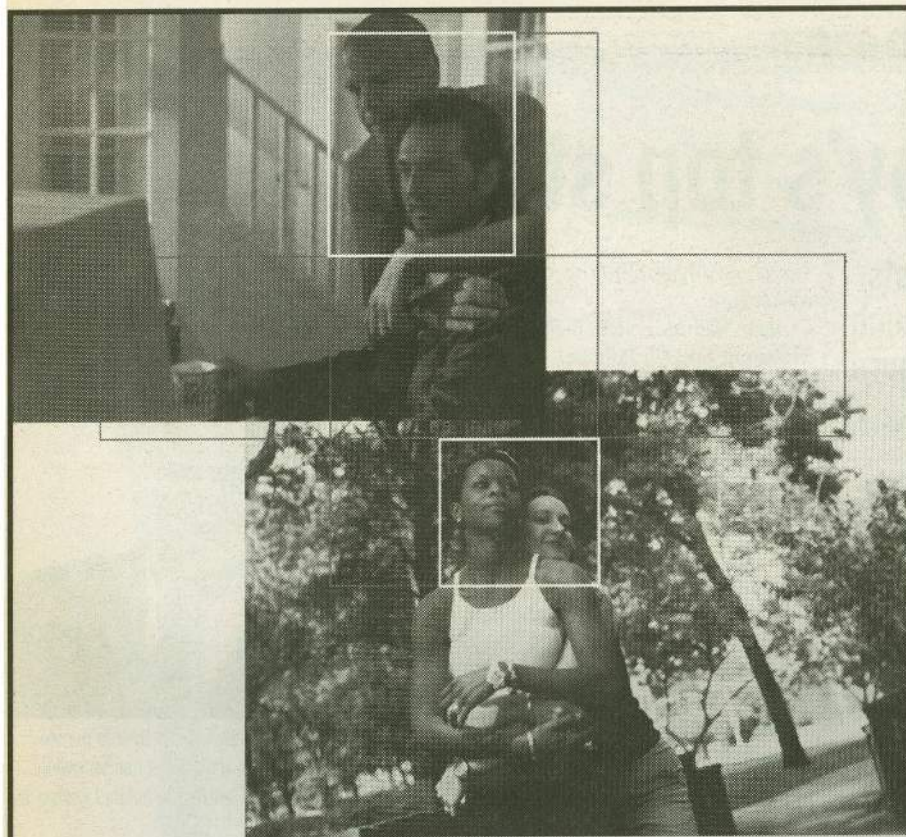
Brian Jones, one of eight staffers, looked out the window at the girl lying across the street from Houston Area

Community Services' youth drop-in center. "We had to ask her to leave just a while ago," he said. "She just couldn't follow the rules."

The girl's pale left arm was wrapped around a tan purse while a tall young man in baggy jeans and a black do-rag crouched close to her head. Every few seconds, he scanned the streets, keeping watch.

"Some of the kids are self-appointed

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protectors, some need protecting," Jones said. "It's a definite subculture."

José — a 6-foot tall, 22-year-old with athletic good looks and a big smile — agreed with Jones about the strong and the weak on the streets. José has been homeless off and on for four years as the result of arguing with his mother. Their last fight nine months ago was about his sister's children.

"She wasn't doing right by them," José said. "She said it wasn't my business and she told me to leave."

José wouldn't say what his sister had done, but he said compared to the drama at home, the dangers of the streets are easier to deal with.

"I have more responsibilities out here," he said. "You have to learn to take care of yourself."

Jones, who said he has worked for the past several years with homeless youth at two other area day facilities, said the center provides 13-to-24-year-old youths with a private shower with towels and toiletries, meals and HIV prevention classes. It also provides referrals to medical care facilities. Clients can do their laundry in an on-site washer and dryer.

The center requires all clients to apply for a Texas identification card if they don't already have one. They are also required to get a Social Security card. José said he's already applied for both. He expects them to arrive next week.

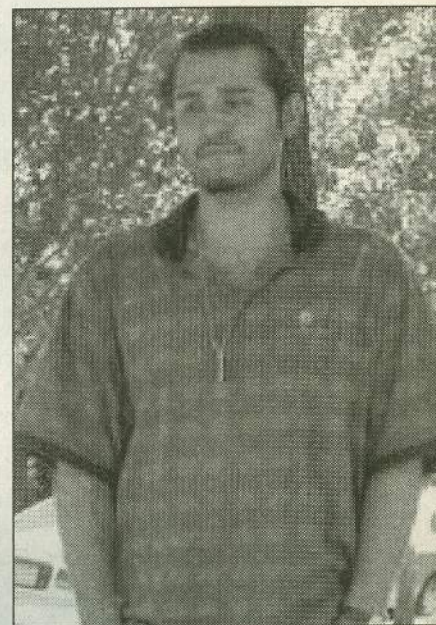
The cards should help him get steady work, he said, instead of the occasional stints doing auto repair and tire installation.

José said he thinks he's lucky to have a place to go during the day to get out of the heat and take a shower. And get away from the drug traffic.

According to José Ayala, the program manager at Houston Area Community Services, drug abuse is one of the most common reasons youths end up on the streets.

"A mother came in last spring to check us out because she wanted her son to come here," Ayala said. "She explained that she'd had to kick out her 19-year-old son because he got involved in drugs."

The main reason so many youths are drawn to Montrose is its reputation for avail-



RANI GORADIA/TXT Newsmagazine

PUTTING IT TOGETHER José, a client of the Houston Area Community Services Drop-in Center, is making progress toward independence.

To youths, that translates to money. Jones estimated that 75 percent of the 40 youths he sees in a single day at the center engage in "survival sex."

José said that he knows a lot of homeless kids who trade sex for clothes, food or a place to stay for a night. But he's not one of them, he said.

José said he was tested last week for HIV. "I'm healthy as an ox," he said with a smile, beaming at his negative result.

But Heather, who said she is 18, has problems.

[Heather is a pseudonym for the young woman interviewed for this article. She consented to the interview only if her real name and picture were not used.]

Heather said she was diagnosed a few years ago with bipolar disorder and borderline schizophrenia. At one time, she said, she had four prescriptions for her illnesses, including Ambien and Wellbutrin. But she accidentally overdosed on Ambien earlier this year after losing track of how many pills she had taken, she said.

texas

taking too many different things," Heather said. Now, she said, she only takes Ambien.

Heather has shoulder-length hair, flawless skin and green eyes that dart occasionally at sudden movements or noises.

Heather said she's homeless because she caught her mother's ex-fiancé stealing money from her family. "He knew I was onto him, he kicked me out of the house," she said.

She said that she's trying to locate her mom, who has custody of Heather's 16-year-old brother. Heather's worried about her brother, she said, because "he's gone through a lot."

From October to December, she stayed at Covenant House, a 60-bed shelter for homeless youth located one mile away from the

Gay man attacks International

Villanueva says police, university officials moving slowly, nervous about university's reputation

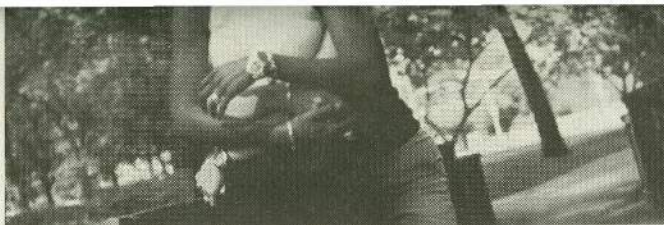
By Tammye Nash
Staff Correspondent

A gay student at Texas A&M University International in Laredo said he believes school administrators are trying to cover up an anti-gay attack against him in an effort to protect the university's reputation.

Peter Villanueva said in a telephone interview that the suspect, Gerardo Hugo "Gerry" Garza Jr., attacked him when he sat outside his dormitory on June 1.

A spokesman with the A&M International campus police responded that officers are investigating the attack as a hate crime and will arrest the suspect as soon as he is located.

Villanueva said Garza and a woman named Monica came to the dorm with Garza's cousin, Robert, to visit a resident assistant. While Robert was visiting the assistant, Garza and Monica asked if they could



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The main reason so many youths are drawn to Montrose is its reputation for availability of all kinds of illegal drugs, Ayala said.



RANI GORADIA/TXT Newsmagazine

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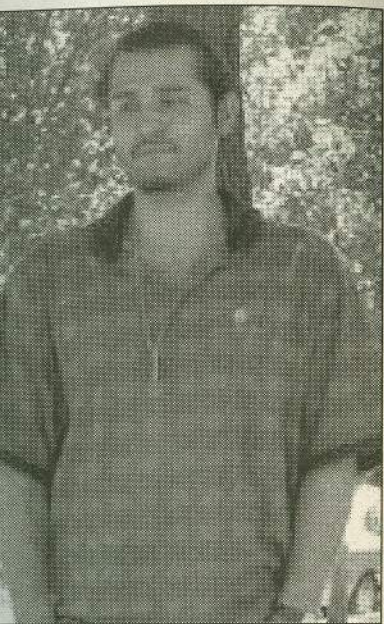
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RANI GORADIA/TXT Newsmagazine

NG IT TOGETHER José, a client of the Area Community Services Drop-in Center, making progress toward independence.

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se said that he knows a lot of homeless who trade sex for clothes, food or a place y for a night. But he's not one of them, d.

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Heather is a pseudonym for the young an interviewed for this article. She con- l to the interview only if her real name icture were not used.]

Heather said she was diagnosed a few ago with bipolar disorder and borderline phrenia. At one time, she said, she had rescriptions for her illnesses, including en and Wellbutrin. But she accidentally osed on Ambien earlier this year after track of how many pills she had taken, id.

A nurse in a mobile clinic told me I was

texas

taking too many different things," Heather said. Now, she said, she only takes Ambien.

Heather has shoulder-length hair, flawless skin and green eyes that dart occasionally at sudden movements or noises.

Heather said she's homeless because she caught her mother's ex-fiancé stealing money from her family. "He knew I was onto him, so he kicked me out of the house," she said.

She said that she's trying to locate her mom, who has custody of Heather's 16-year-old brother. Heather's worried about her brother, she said, because "he's gone through a lot."

From October to December, she stayed at Covenant House, a 60-bed shelter for homeless youth located one mile away from the

drop-in center. When she and a friend decided to move out, they tried living on the streets in Montrose, she said.

"I've revised some of my friends since then, because people change on the streets," she said. Now she shares cheap motel rooms with a group of people who split the cost.

"I'm like my mom," Heather said. "She goes out of her way to help others till she can't do for herself.

"I'm getting that way. My heart's changed a lot since I got out here."

Ben said he knew about the parade this weekend. "Yeah, it's a pretty big deal, I guess," he said with a shrug.

Contact the writer: Loyehaw@yahoo.com

Gay man attacked on A&M International campus

Villanueva says police, university officials moving slowly, nervous about university's reputation

By Tammye Nash
Staff Correspondent

A gay student at Texas A&M University International in Laredo said he believes school administrators are trying to cover up an anti-gay attack against him in an effort to protect the university's reputation.

Peter Villanueva said in a telephone interview that the suspect, Gerardo Hugo "Gerry" **LAREDO** Garza Jr., attacked him as he sat outside his dormitory on June 1.

A spokesman with the A&M International campus police responded that officers are investigating the attack as a hate crime and will arrest the suspect as soon as he is located.

Villanueva said Garza and a woman named Monica came to the dorm with Garza's cousin, Robert, to visit a resident assistant. While Robert was visiting the assistant, Garza and Monica asked if they could

Jarrod Shepherd, because non-students are not permitted on campus unless they are accompanied by a student.

While in Villanueva's room, they noticed computer screensavers of naked men in intimate poses. When Garza said he was uncomfortable in the room, Villanueva said he suggested that everyone go outside to smoke a cigarette, "just as a way to get everyone out of the room."

Outside, Garza grew increasingly angry, according to witnesses. Monica went to get Robert, who joined them outside sitting on the curb with Villanueva.

"We were having a conversation," Villanueva said. "I was getting ready to light a cigarette when he [Garza] walked up behind me and started kicking me in the head." He also uttered slurs related to Villanueva's sexual orientation.

Garza continued kicking Villanueva until the others pulled him off, the victim said. When Villanueva started to call the police, Monica and Garza fled.

Villanueva said he suffered a broken nose, a broken finger and severe bruising all over his body as a result of the attack.

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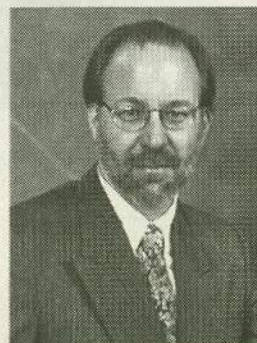
Continued, Next Page

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From Page 7

Shepherd and Robert gave statements to police implicating Garza and verifying Villanueva's account of the beating.

But Garza and Monica told police Villanueva was trying to force marijuana on them and Garza had to defend himself. They said Garza suffered a broken foot and a broken hand in the incident.

Villanueva said Robert told police Garza's attack on Villanueva was unprovoked, although Robert said he could not remember whether Garza uttered slurs. Shepherd's account mirrored Villanueva's.

Villanueva said he has since been contacted by a lawyer representing Garza, who told

him unless he dropped the charges, Garza would file assault charges against him. According to Villanueva, the lawyer also told him "unless I want my dirty laundry aired in public, I should reconsider the charges," Villanueva said.

He reported the lawyer's calls to campus police and to the district attorney.

Sgt. Jaime Rios, the Texas A&MI officer investigating the case, said the department has a warrant charging Garza with Class A assault, a misdemeanor, and added that police will arrest Garza as soon as they locate him.

"As far as we know now, the attack was not provoked. It should never have happened," Rios said.

Empower to the people

GLBT chamber notes increased attendance at this year's business expo

By Lorinda Robb
Contributing Writer

More than 100 companies, nonprofit agencies and artists were featured at last weekend's Empower business exhibition sponsored by the Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce.

According to Coy Tow, the chamber's executive director, about 2,500 visitors attended the event on Saturday and Sunday — a 67 percent increase from last year's 1,500.

The exhibit date was changed last year from September to June to try to take advantage of a more mobile community during Pride month, Tow said. Attendance during the fall, 2003 event was 3,500 during a rainy weekend.

Featured speakers at this year's events were Dave Pallone, author and former major league baseball umpire, Eileen Terry, senior vice-president of diversity with Blockbuster, and Jerry Simoneaux, a Houston lawyer.

The chamber also hosted the Conference for the Futures of LGBTIQA Residents of the Houston Metropolitan Area (*see separate story*).

The chamber's next event is Amazing Race Houston on July 8. Patterned after the



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NANCY FORD/TXT Newsmagazine

SPIRITUAL EMPOWERMENT Community Gospel Church members Greg DuPlessis, left, Kim Traywick, Clarice Anthony and Rosanne Konaric tagged Empower visitors with rubber rainbow "Jesus Loves Me" bracelets at last weekend's business expo, presented by the Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce.

"The vendors were pleased," Tow said. "And there are lots of ideas for improvement for next year." He said that there is a possibility of moving the dates to a different month in 2006.

CBS game show, *Amazing Race*, teams competing for prizes will be given clues directing them to local destinations.

Contact the writer: Loyeehaw@yahoo.com

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Futures conference sets Houston's 'gay agenda'

Lackluster turnout at much-hyped event doesn't faze activists or participants

By Lorinda Robb
Contributing Writer

After seven months of meetings and hammering out resolutions, about 75 area activists announced "an official gay agenda" for Houston and eight surrounding counties on June 18 at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

Spearheaded by longtime activists Ray Hill, Phyllis Frye and Jack Valinski, the Conference for the Futures of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersexed,

HOUSTON Questioning and Allies Residents of the Houston Metropolitan Area held meetings beginning in December to prepare the event.

Based on the success of the city's 1978 Town Hall I — a meeting attended by hundreds that laid the groundwork for thriving organizations like the Montrose Clinic, Gay Lesbian Switchboard, Montrose Softball League and Montrose Counseling Center — interested GLBT citizens met monthly to formulate specific resolutions for the queer community's future needs.

Many of the 55 published resolutions call

for the continuance of existing health care services and athletic activities through established groups.

But several of the declarations address current concerns like GLBT parental rights, same-sex marriage rights, safe schools and housing for queer kids, and improved medical care for the aging community.

Also included in the 49-page document is a resolution from the Interfaith Alliance for Inclusiveness, which calls for political support from allied churches.

All but one of the resolutions passed without dissent. The freedom-to-marry declaration contained what some participants called inflammatory language like "christianite" and "jump the broom," referring to outlawed marriages between African-Americans in the state in the 19th century.

"The purpose of the resolution is to state unequivocally our desire for and support of gay marriage," Hill said during the discussion.

When the debate ended, Hill said, "My momma told me, 'Don't do anything in your life that could lead to family court.'"

Attorney and community leader Phyllis Frye, who compiled the resolutions in preparation for the conference, said she was pleased with the event's turnout.

"Most people I saw there are always on the forefront," she said. "No one was

squelched or not listened to."

She said that she hopes that religious leaders will put the Adobe-formatted document on a CD, distribute it and mail it to others.

"Now, we've got an agenda that we can point to and say, 'Yeah, here it is. What about it?'" Frye said.

According to Frye, all proposed amendments should be submitted to her by the end of June.

Frye said she plans to post the final document on a mass e-mail list by the end of July.

Frye said that each individual or organization receiving the resolutions by e-mail will be responsible for distributing them further.

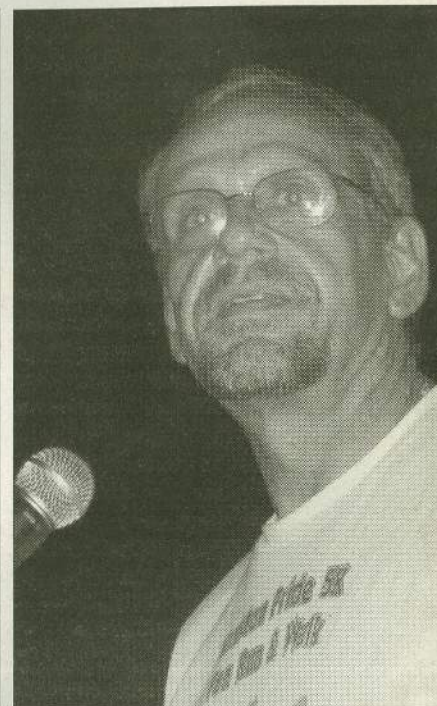
The conference marks the end of Hill's GLBT activism, he said.

"One person has had far more responsibility than any one person should have, or should take on," Hill said.

Hill added that he hopes future community leaders will keep democratic processes like the conference open to all sexual and ethnic minorities.

When it comes to political and social activism, Hill said, "There are no magic bullets. Nobody is smarter or better than the rest of us. You come up with proposals, and then you throw them out there to people who can make them possible."

Contact the writer: Loyeehaw@yahoo.com



NANCY FORD/TXT Newsmagazine

BE IT RESOLVED Houston GLBT Political Caucus treasurer Jerry Fenske presents a resolution at Saturday's Conference for the Futures of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersexed, Questioning and Allies Residents of the Houston Metropolitan Area.

Grand marshals take lead position in Houston Pride Parade

Honorees represent youth, social, spiritual and drag aspects of community

By Nancy Ford
Staff Writer

A gay man, a lesbian, a heterosexual couple and an organization will lead the Houston

said. "And we do, a little, every day."

Weldon Hickey is the parade's Male Grand Marshal. A leading drag performance member of many GLBT organizations including the Cu'tless Supremes, Krewe of Olympus and Miss Camp America, Hickey is an administrative assistant at the Montrose Clinic.

Hickey, 59, recalls in the early '80s seeing his first Houston Pride Parade with fondness and a little wonder. "Having just come out in



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Grand marshals take lead position in Houston Pride Parade

Honorees represent youth, social, spiritual and drag aspects of community

By Nancy Ford
Staff Writer

A gay man, a lesbian, a heterosexual couple and an organization will lead the Houston GLBT Pride Parade down Westheimer Road Saturday night.

Determined in an open election held earlier this year, the grand marshals of the 2005 Houston Pride Parade represent various groups that make up Houston's GLBT community.

The 2005 Female Grand Marshal is Deb Murphy. As Youth Services worker with H.A.T.C.H. and Montrose Counseling Center, she has worked with hundreds of young people and has helped build the program into a nationally recognized model for others working with GLBT youth.

A freelance writer, Murphy also serves as administrator of Houston's annual gay and lesbian film festival.

"Stupid as it may sound, I believe that I, working with other like-minded people, can change the world for the better," Murphy, 50,

said. "And we do, a little, every day."

Weldon Hickey is the parade's Male Grand Marshal. A leading drag performance member of many GLBT organizations including the Cu'tless Supremes, Krewé of Olympus and Miss Camp America, Hickey is an administrative assistant at the Montrose Clinic.

Hickey, 59, recalls in the early '80s seeing his first Houston Pride Parade with fondness and a little wonder. "Having just come out in the late '70s, the numbers of our community at the parade activities amazed me. I remember thinking, 'I'm not the only one!'"

Licensed counselors at Community Gospel Life Counseling Center, the Rev. Dennis and Evelyn Schave have been tapped as the parade's honorary grand marshals. Though both are 70 years old, they describe themselves as "full time ministers of the Gospel," traveling as evangelists to churches throughout North America and Africa, primarily on behalf of the GLBT community. They describe their commitment to GLBT people as "a God thing."

The couple participated in their first Pride parade in Portland, Ore., in 1990. "Evelyn rode in a Chrysler convertible, waving to the crowd and crying like a baby," Rev. Dennis said. "She held up a banner on a pole that said, 'Glory to God!'" Rev. Schave walked the five miles of the parade with a team of ten



NANCY FORD/TXT Newsmagazine

Deb Murphy, a freelance writer who works with H.A.T.C.H. and the Montrose Counseling Center, is female grand marshal.

others, carrying a rainbow flag that was ninety feet long and six feet wide. "The spectators broke into spontaneous applause as we passed by," he said.

The highest honor bestowed by Houston's GLBT community on an organization goes this year to the fund-raising group Bayou City Boys Club.

The Bayou City Boys Club has raised more than \$650,000 for area AIDS organiza-



NANCY FORD/TXT Newsmagazine

Weldon Hickey, an administrative assistant at the Montrose Clinic and a drag performance member of many Houston groups, is male grand marshal.

tions since it was established in 1991, hosting its popular Jungle Weekend, Gospel Brunch, Holiday Toy Drive and Summer Theater Night.

"Most any BCBC member would tell you that we have all gotten back so much more from this diverse and wonderful community than we have put in by way of our volunteer efforts," said lawyer Mike Collins, president of BCBC.

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national news

By Ann Rostow

Justices in two states rule favorably for gays

Activists cheer West Virginia decision; court finds for non- biological parent in dispute

Two state supreme courts issued rulings this week in favor of same-sex families. In one, the West Virginia justices gave custody of a five-year-old to the surviving partner of a lesbian mother. In another, the Iowa high court ruled that a collection of conservative lawmakers lacked standing to intervene in the dissolution of a civil union.

In West Virginia, Tina Burch had been fighting for several years with the parents of her deceased partner, Christina Smarr. In a tragedy right out of a made-for-TV movie, Burch and Smarr were driving home from a party in the summer of 2002, when Burch went off the road and crashed the car. Smarr was killed and Burch was hospitalized. While she was in the hospital, Smarr's family took the couple's toddler son, Zachary, and when Burch was released, the grandparents refused to give him back to his second mother.

Burch went to court at once, backed by the biological father who had donated his sperm to the couple and who wanted Tina Burch to retain her parental rights. After almost a year of litigation, a family court ruled that Burch was a psychological parent and deserved custody of her son. The grandparents appealed to a circuit court, where the ruling was reversed. According to the circuit court, Tina Burch had no legal relationship to her son, and could not even legally petition the court to intervene

put their differences aside in the interest of Zachary's well-being. Another justice concurred and dissented, while the fifth justice dissented. Neither of these two have yet to write an opinion, so their exact misgivings are a matter of speculation.

In Iowa, some readers may recall the case of two Woodbury County women who asked a judge to dissolve their civil union, even though it was contracted in Vermont and even though, technically, only a Vermont court could put an end to it. At first, Judge Jeffrey Neary reflexively signed their divorce papers without even checking the names. When he learned that he had "divorced" a lesbian couple from their civil union vows, he revised the order to reflect that fact that his order referred only to the end of a civil union, and not to the dissolution of a "same-sex marriage."

Nonetheless, Judge Neary's actions were cause for alarm among the state's conservatives, who worried that by severing a same-sex union, the judge had tacitly created a state policy of recognizing gay legal ties. A group of lawmakers, led by Republican Congressman Steve King, petitioned the state supreme court for the right

*West Virginia's highest
court ruled that Burch
met the definition of a
psychological parent.*

to intervene in the case and challenge Judge Neary's decision. At the same time, a group of citizens staged a recall vote last year in an unsuccessful attempt to drive

national

Far right to

**They're dropping support for
2006 amendment in favor of
more draconian measure in '0**

At ground zero in the fight for legalized same-sex marriage, opponents have made a bold shift in strategy. Led by Governor Mitt Romney, Massachusetts conservatives appear to have abandoned the effort to put an anti-marriage constitutional amendment on the 2006 ballot, and will try instead to rally support for a much harsher amendment in 2008. The marriage foes risk losing at the ballot box as theizens of Massachusetts grow increasingly used to the idea of same-sex marriage.

MASSACHUSETTS Already, a small majority of Bay State residents tell pollsters that they support gay and lesbian marriages. Common sense suggests that majority will expand — as has been the case with Vermont attitudes towards civil unions.

But the plan should nonetheless send chills through the GLBT activist community. Election conditions three years from now are unpredictable. Unlike the lan-

Time for



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Burch asked the state's high court to let her keep Zachary until the questions of parental rights and custody were resolved, and the high court agreed. Thus for another 18 months, as Zachary's custody was batted back and forth between the family court and the circuit court, the boy himself stayed put. Finally, last week, the state's highest court ruled that Burch met the definition of a psychological parent, someone who cared for a child emotionally and financially, lived with him or her as a parent, and did so with the consent of the legal parent. Further, the divided court ruled, Burch was entitled to primary custody in view of the decisions of the family court years earlier.

The three justices in the majority then admonished Burch and the Smarrs to try to

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In Iowa, some readers may recall the case of two Woodbury County women who asked a judge to dissolve their civil union, even though it was contracted in Vermont and even though, technically, only a Vermont court could put an end to it. At first, Judge Jeffrey Neary reflexively signed their divorce papers without even checking the names. When he learned that he had "divorced" a lesbian couple from their civil union vows, he revised the order to reflect that fact that his order referred only to the end of a civil union, and not to the dissolution of a "same-sex marriage."

Nonetheless, Judge Neary's actions were cause for alarm among the state's conservatives, who worried that by severing a same-sex union, the judge had tacitly created a state policy of recognizing gay legal ties. A group of lawmakers, led by Republican Congressman Steve King, petitioned the state supreme court for the right

*West Virginia's highest
court ruled that Burch
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to intervene in the case and challenge Judge Neary's decision. At the same time, a group of citizens staged a recall vote last year in an unsuccessful attempt to drive Judge Neary from the bench. That effort failed when a 58 percent majority voted in favor of the judge.

On Friday, the justices ruled that the lawmakers lacked the legal standing to intervene in the case, and that Judge Neary's decision in the matter would stand. "It would be strange indeed, and contrary to our notions of separation of powers," wrote the court, "if we were to recognize that legislators have standing to intervene in lawsuits just because they disagree with a court's interpretation of a statute." The decision of the high court does not prevent some future Iowa judge who might find himself or herself in the same situation from ruling differently. It simply preserves the basic boundaries of the rule of law.

Contact the writer: Ann@btnews.com

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MASSACHUSETTS

Already, a small majority of Bay State residents tell pollsters that they support gay and lesbian marriages. Common sense suggests that majority will expand — as has been the case with Vermont attitudes towards civil unions.

But the plan should nonetheless send chills through the GLBT activist community. Election conditions three years from now are unpredictable. Unlike the lan-

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Far right takes aim at Massachusetts marriages

**They're dropping support for
2006 amendment in favor of
more draconian measure in '08**

At ground zero in the fight for legal-
ized same-sex marriage, opponents have
made a bold shift in strategy. Led by
Governor Mitt Romney, Massachusetts
conservatives appear to have abandoned
the effort to put an anti-marriage constitu-
tional amendment on the 2006 ballot, and
will try instead to rally support for a much
harsher amendment in 2008. The marriage
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guage of the proposed 2006 amendment,
the new version rolls back and eliminates
marriage rights for same-sex couples,
while also outlawing civil unions. The
2006 plan, by contrast, would have ended

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legal marriage, while mandating civil
unions in their place.

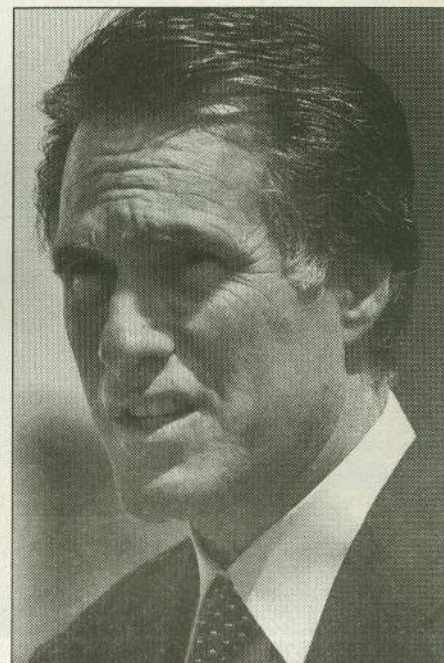
In the end, it was the counterintuitive
nature of the 2006 amendment that led to
its (presumed) defeat. Gay activists and
their allies flatly opposed any reversal of

hard fought marriage rights, while extreme
conservatives were tremendously unhappy
with the creation of civil unions. Although
the ill-drafted amendment scraped through
a legislative vote last year, it must pass the
legislature again this year in order to
advance to the ballot. Now that conserva-
tives have withdrawn their support for the
compromise measure, its demise is more
likely.

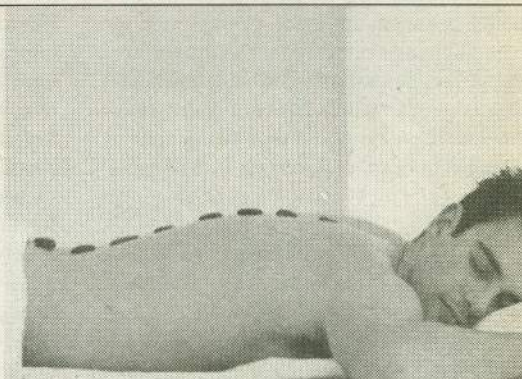
As for the 2008 strategy, marriage
opponents must petition their fellow citi-
zens in order to qualify their amendment
for two more legislative votes. Because the
amendment will have been initiated by citi-
zens, however, the proposal only needs a
25 percent vote of support in two succes-
sive legislative sessions, rather than a
majority. That low bar will be easily met if
the petitioners reach this stage. As for
whether Massachusetts voters would
repeal marriage rights in 2008, let's hope
the answer is no.

Governor Romney is expected to run
for the Republican presidential nomination
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Contact the writer: Ann@txtnewsmag.com



Governor Mitt Romney is aligning himself with conservatives on the gay marriage question, many believe in advance of a run for the Republican presidential nomination in 2008.



Time for a recharge?

Game on, the take on the world

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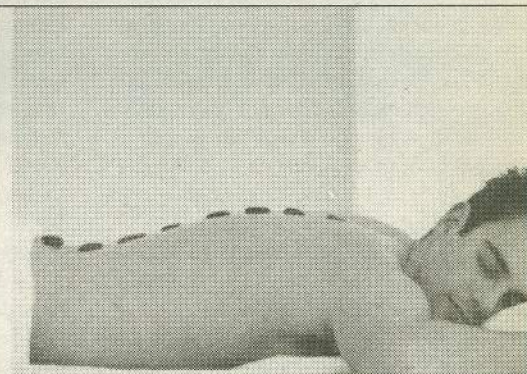
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Discrimination against gay men and lesbians innately wrong

Who's your ram?

"If science proves homosexuality is innate," asks *Seattle Times* science reporter Sandi Doughton, "is there any basis to deny gays equal treatment — including the right to marry?"

In this particular article, Doughton has just finished reviewing the research underway on a flock of sheep in Corvallis, Ore., where some of the boys just wanna have fun. As the old saying goes, rams will be rams. Hell, I think it's important to prove that sexual orientation has its roots in biology. But there's no reason why civil rights should be tied to the outcome of this kind of science. What if violence is genetic? What if serial killers have a chemical imbalance? Should they be allowed to marry?

Oh, I forgot. They already *are* allowed to marry. Well, you get the point. Discrimination on the basis of religious belief is unconstitutional, even though we can all change our faith at the drop of a yarmulke. Sexual orientation discrimination is wrong, whether or not we're gay from birth or have to attend correspondence school to get a degree in deviance.

Vive la difference

That's my rant for the week. But before we leave Sandi and our gay animal friends, you should know that about 8 percent of rams appear to be queer and that "rats, hamsters, ferrets and other lab animals flip-flop their sexual behavior when scientists manipulate the hormones they're exposed to before birth. Such experi-

connection. Some of my best friends are straight men, but please. We're talking about a subsection of humanity that "on average" can't tell the difference between beluga caviar and whitefish roe, won't hang up a bath towel, and whose members "as a rule" pick up their golf balls three feet from the hole and assume for scoring

purposes that they would have made the putt. Lesbians call that "cheating."

We told you so!

Moving right along, we wrote weeks ago that California lawmakers were going to take the same-sex marriage bill that lost in the Assembly by four teeny tiny votes, and slap it onto an active piece of Senate legislation in order to give it another chance.

Sure enough, the Associated Press now reports that San Francisco Assemblyman Mark Leno, who sponsored the measure in the Assembly, is confirming the plans. If the reborn marriage bill passes the Democrat-controlled Senate, it would return to the Assembly, where it appears to have a chance of picking up those final four votes. It already has one of them. Veteran lawmaker and gay marriage supporter Mervyn Dymally missed the vote by accident, some sources said at the time. It's unclear what would happen to a marriage bill that actually reached the governor's desk, but it would be a major victory regardless.

Meanwhile, as you know, California bad guys are trying to crank up the hate-o-meter in order to place a really horrible anti-gay measure on the June 2006 primary ballot. Their proposals would ban same-sex marriage and then go on to

University in Fullerton to be exact), and his yellow page ads herald his rates as "half the price" of other lawyers.

The cheap creep has plowed into federal court in Southern California like a bull in a china shop, and as of last week, the dumb fuck managed to lose a challenge to the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act. Shall we put "alleged" dumb fuck? No, because we read his inept legal brief at some point last year, and while we're not going to dig it out, we recall that Mr. Gilbert is not one of the legal profession's brightest lights.

Anyway, thank you, Mr. G., for a 33-page published federal court ruling upholding DOMA, which if I'm not mistaken, is only the second such opinion on record. (The first was thanks to Ellis Rubin in Florida, another loose cannon

result into an all-out disaster!

Luckily for us, Judge Taylor agreed with the National Center for Lesbian Rights and the State of California and declined to rule on the questions of state law that are the subject of a series of marriage lawsuits in state court. But that's the only good thing we can say about the whole situation.

Got Wood?

What else? Well, we're still waiting to see if the Canadian Parliament is going to vote on that marriage bill or put it off until fall. I think the Spanish Senate is about to vote on marriage, too, which prompted a big giant anti-gay demonstration in Madrid with maybe a half million people.



Hundreds of thousands of people march in the Plaza del Sol in the center of Madrid. Saturday's demon-

BERNAT ARMANGUE/Associated Press



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Of course many of you know that lesbians are inclined to have longer ring fingers than index fingers, just like men, while heterosexual women are about even. We also are more similar to straight men when it comes to eye blink reflexes and something to do with the inner ear. "Every time you find a body marker that gives an indication of prenatal testosterone exposure," says researcher Marc Breedlove, "lesbians on average are more masculine than straight women. This can't be a fluke."

Is it just me, or is there something about the idea of "body markers of prenatal testosterone exposure" that takes some of the edge off the sexy bad girl allure that we lesbians like to put out there? Plus, I'm not that thrilled with the straight male

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Meddling lawyers roil legal strategy

Do you even want to hear about the maniacs who persist in challenging the marriage law in Orange County? I don't know what's going on in the minds of the two gay guys who have brought this lawsuit. But their attorney is an ambulance-chaser named Richard C. Gilbert, who lists "Harvard Law School (PIL)" under "education" on his (now defunct) Web site. Know what PIL stands for? It stands for "Program of Instruction for Lawyers," which is a series of summer lectures and workshops that are open to anyone. Gilbert actually graduated from Middle of Nowhere Law School (Western State

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BERNAT ARMANGUE/Associated Press

Hundreds of thousands of people march in the Plaza del Sol in the center of Madrid. Saturday's demonstration was called to protest against the Socialist government's bill to legalize gay marriage.

who had gay and lesbian lawyers practically on their knees begging him to pull the plug on his various litigious projects in the Sunshine State. To his credit, he did not appeal his federal loss.)

In our latest gratuitous defeat, Judge Gary Taylor dismissed the idea that same-sex couples have a fundamental right to marriage like everyone else, and (after applying the lowest possible standard of review) determined that a public interest in the context of procreation was enough to justify the section of DOMA that defines marriage as a heterosexual status for all federal purposes. And how did Gilbert react?

Why, he announced immediate plans to appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, where he risks turning a bad

What else? Well, we're still waiting to see if the Canadian Parliament is going to vote on that marriage bill or put it off until fall. I think the Spanish Senate is about to vote on marriage, too, which prompted a big giant anti-gay demonstration in Madrid with maybe a half million people.

And in Toronto, a controversial statue of 18th century land owner Alexander Wood includes a brass plaque that graphically depicts a scandalous incident that led the locals to run the naughty Scot out of town.

According to Reuters, after a rape victim announced that she had scratched her assailant in his intimate parts, Wood took it upon himself to conduct personal inspections of the townsmen's privates. The plaque shows a man with his pants around his ankles, the newswire says, and Wood with his had outstretched "in mid-examination." According to a man who lives in the gay neighborhood, people have been touching certain areas of the plaque "for luck."

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the center of Madrid. Saturday's demon-
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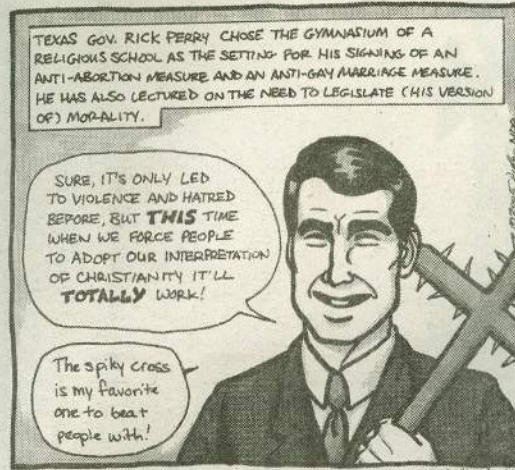
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Letters

Dalton was railroaded

Mark Dalton was railroaded into prison because of his job as an adult entertainment star — still a legal profession. If Mark had worked in a bank or any other job he would be a free man. Judge Carmen Rivera Worley (no relation to Joanne, from *Laugh-In*, I presume) called him a “menace to society,” when in point of fact it is she who is the menace. Dalton now has to enter a three-month rehabilitation center when all the charges were dropped by his ex-girlfriend — a complete travesty of justice and a waste of taxpayers money. Mark was and still is being persecuted.

Justin Ormond/Carrollton, Texas

Single women should side with gays

Recently the media have reported that the radical right plans to suggest that Hilary Clinton is a lesbian. Singles across the United States should take note. I am a single heterosexual who has decided to join my local gay political organization. Recent attacks on gay people and efforts to legislate against gay people hurt me.

Since I am a single woman who has never been married, I am often supposed to be gay. Very few co-workers come right out and ask me, but enough do. When I heard that a strong, accomplished, powerful woman like Hilary Clinton was being labeled a lesbian, I realized that all strong, accomplished and independent single women needed to fight discrimination against gays. Until being labeled a lesbian becomes no different than being labeled a bachelor, all strong, independent, powerful single women will be subject to discrimination.

Why are PDAs a special right of heterosexuals?

Most Americans react with disgust to see gay people's public displays of affection

We've made so much progress over the past four decades that it's easy to forget how far we still have to go.

You can see that in the same-sex marriage fight, where gay relationships are routinely equated with the destruction of civilization. But you can see it more clearly, I think, in day-to-day life.

I live in Minneapolis, one of the most politically liberal cities in the country. Minnesota has a statewide law protecting gays from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations. Minneapolis has three openly gay city council members, the largest proportion of any major city in the country. A Republican couldn't get elected dogcatcher in this town. My employer, the University of Minnesota, offers benefits to the same-sex domestic partners of employees.

Not long ago, I briefly dated a guy living in San Francisco. He came to visit me in Minneapolis for a long weekend, during which we did the kinds of things that

public in liberal Minneapolis, the reception we got ranged from cold disapproval to open hostility.

In one of my favorite neighborhood restaurants, while we were waiting in line to order, he hugged me from behind and lingered there a few moments. The wait-staff shot us nervous looks, like they feared we might start sodomizing each other right next to the lamb kebabs. Some

guy walked by us singing to his portable CD player, and spelled aloud the word “G-A-Y” as if it were part of the song.

Driving back from a movie, I put my arm around my date's shoulders. Several other drivers slowed beside us to take a closer look at my car, a 1959 Chrysler Windsor. When they noticed my arm around my date their appreciative attitudes changed. The nice ones pointed us out to their friends and laughed, then sped ahead.

A couple of carloads of young men were more menacing, throwing paper cups and even empty beer bottles at my car.

At the zoo, walking down the street and in the mall, we held hands at several points (always at my date's initiative). We got nasty looks each time. We would pass someone, then I'd turn my head and see that they were looking back at us and whispering to each other. A few parents turned their children away from us, as if we were contagious, harmful on sight.

All in all, in the space of a few days, things like this happened more times than I can count. At the end of the weekend, I apologized to him. I was embarrassed. I felt terrible that I brought him out of a place where he could be himself to a place where being himself meant living with a

hand-holding or other obvious signs of affection in public. We had held back without even realizing it. It was second nature to us.

My San Francisco date, however, hadn't been properly trained in this way. He had initiated each of these shameless, heedless displays and I had somewhat nervously gone along with them. He felt free in a way I never really have.

What does this atmosphere do to gay people who live outside a few square

When straight couples need a touch of reassurance, they hold hands without a thought. A husband will casually lean over and plant a kiss on his wife. These gestures, mild and routine as they are, help sustain a relationship. Yet for gay couples they are social faux pas, perhaps an invitation to abuse.

blocks of freedom in a few big cities? What effect does it have on our chances of forming lasting relationships? When straight couples need a touch of reassurance, they hold hands without a thought. A husband will casually lean over and plant a kiss on his wife. These gestures,



OUTRIGHT
Dale Carpenter

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This discrimination may happen without anyone ever telling the victim. You might not get a promotion, be invited to a party, or win a primary because you have been labeled gay. But you may never be told that people based their decision on a suspicion rooted in your singlehood. It is time for all strong, independent single women to support equal rights and treatment for all whether they are homosexual or heterosexual.

Hannah King/Dallas

To submit a letter We welcome and read all letters. We print a few that are representative of the many. Additional letters are on the TXT web page. Shorter letters and those addressing a single subject are more likely to be printed. Letters are edited for length and clarity. When submitting a letter, include your full name, street address and day and evening telephone numbers for verification purposes. Letters should be e-mailed to Nancy@txtnews-mag.com, or they may be faxed to 713-529-0327, or mailed to Letters from Readers, TXT Newsmagazine, 4617 Montrose Ave., Suite C229, Houston, TX 77006. All letters become the property of TXT Newsmagazine.

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Not long ago, I briefly dated a guy living in San Francisco. He came to visit me in Minneapolis for a long weekend, during which we did the kinds of things that

There's a deep aversion to gay people that will not be eliminated by enlightened laws. It's a gut-level disgust that defies rationalization, that resists education, that fears without thinking.

dating couples do in order to get to know one another better. We went out to eat. We went to the movies. We walked together down the street and in the mall.

He lives in the Castro and when he dates people, he's used to holding hands, kissing, hugging, showing affection in dozens of little ways. And he gives no thought to doing these things in public places. Yet when we did these things in



OUTRIGHT
Dale Carpenter

word “G-A-Y” as if it were part of the song.

Driving back from a movie, I put my arm around my date's shoulders. Several other drivers slowed beside us to take a closer look at my car, a 1959 Chrysler Windsor. When they noticed my arm around my date their appreciative attitudes changed. The nice ones pointed us out to their friends and

laughed, then sped ahead.

A couple of carloads of young men were more menacing, throwing paper cups and even empty beer bottles at my car.

At the zoo, walking down the street and in the mall, we held hands at several points (always at my date's initiative). We got nasty looks each time. We would pass someone, then I'd turn my head and see that they were looking back at us and whispering to each other. A few parents turned their children away from us, as if we were contagious, harmful on sight.

All in all, in the space of a few days, things like this happened more times than I can count. At the end of the weekend, I apologized to him. I was embarrassed. I felt terrible that I brought him out of a place where he could be himself to a place where being himself meant living with a constant sense of low-level danger. There was no way I could ever ask him to leave San Francisco to come to this place. There being no future, we stopped dating.

Sad as I was about that, I was mostly stunned. Though I knew things weren't perfect here, I had not experienced anything like it in the five years I'd lived in Minneapolis. Had these things really happened in my cocoon of tolerance and acceptance, my liberal bastion? Had it been a fluke, an unlucky weekend of chance encounters with the only ignoramus around?

Then it dawned on me why all this had happened while he was in Minneapolis, but not before. In previous dating relationships, all with men from the area, my dates and I had censored our public conduct in ways to avoid these problems. We'd engaged in little or no hugging, or

When straight couples need a touch of reassurance, they hold hands without a thought. A husband will casually lean over and plant a kiss on his wife. These gestures, mild and routine as they are, help sustain a relationship. Yet for gay couples they are social faux pas, perhaps an invitation to abuse.

blocks of freedom in a few big cities? What effect does it have on our chances of forming lasting relationships? When straight couples need a touch of reassurance, they hold hands without a thought. A husband will casually lean over and plant a kiss on his wife. These gestures, mild and routine as they are, help sustain a relationship. Yet for gay couples they are social *faux pas*, perhaps an invitation to abuse.

The truth is, there's a deep aversion to gay people that will not be eliminated by enlightened laws. It's a gut-level disgust that defies rationalization, that resists education, that fears without thinking. The laws that rule our lives are not written on statute books; they are written on hearts. And the heart of this country, in the heart of this country, is still darker than many of us had hoped it would be by now.

Dale Carpenter, a former president of Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, is a law professor at the University of Minnesota. Some of his previous columns can be read at www.indegayforum.com.

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Out proud

Houston's annual Pride celebration reaches out in 2005 as never before

By Arnold Wayne Jones

When Jack Valinski was in high school — and it wasn't *that* long ago — learning about gay issues, and understanding the feelings he was having, wasn't easy. His

school library "cut the pictures out of *Time* and *Newsweek* that had anything to do with sex — and not just gay stuff, but sexuality in general," he says.

For a young man questioning his orientation, just being able to see gay men — open, visible, out and proud — made all the difference.

Which is one reason why Valinski, executive director of Pride Houston, has no qualms about defending the usefulness, even necessity, of Gay Pride.

"You look on the surface, and Pride looks like a party," says Valinski in a telephone interview. "There's always some criticism that we spend so much money on the parade and can't we put that into AIDS research. But the answer is we need to do both. There are still people who don't have a role model."

Nowadays, unlike in the 1970s and '80s, it may seem as if many more people are comfortable living out. But there are always some for whom the coming out process is torturous. The importance of a parade and festival, like the ones Houston is having this weekend, "is that this will make it a little easier for people to be comfortable about themselves," Valinski says.

This year marks the 27th parade, which first called out in 1979 (there was a parade



raise the festival to a new level, with nationally-known acts like Sophie B. Hawkins and Pansy Division headlining.

The parade — and the entire Pride movement — is becoming more mainstream, Valinski says. It is the second largest parade in the city each year, for instance. Pride Houston has an ad in *The Houston*

McDonald's or Sharper Image does," he says.

People are beginning to realize that. Pride Houston estimates that 150,000 to 200,000 people watch the parade every year, and from an informal survey, Valinski believes about half are from out of town — which means the gay community is responsible for a notable economic impact in Houston. One mission of

...s Pride Festival

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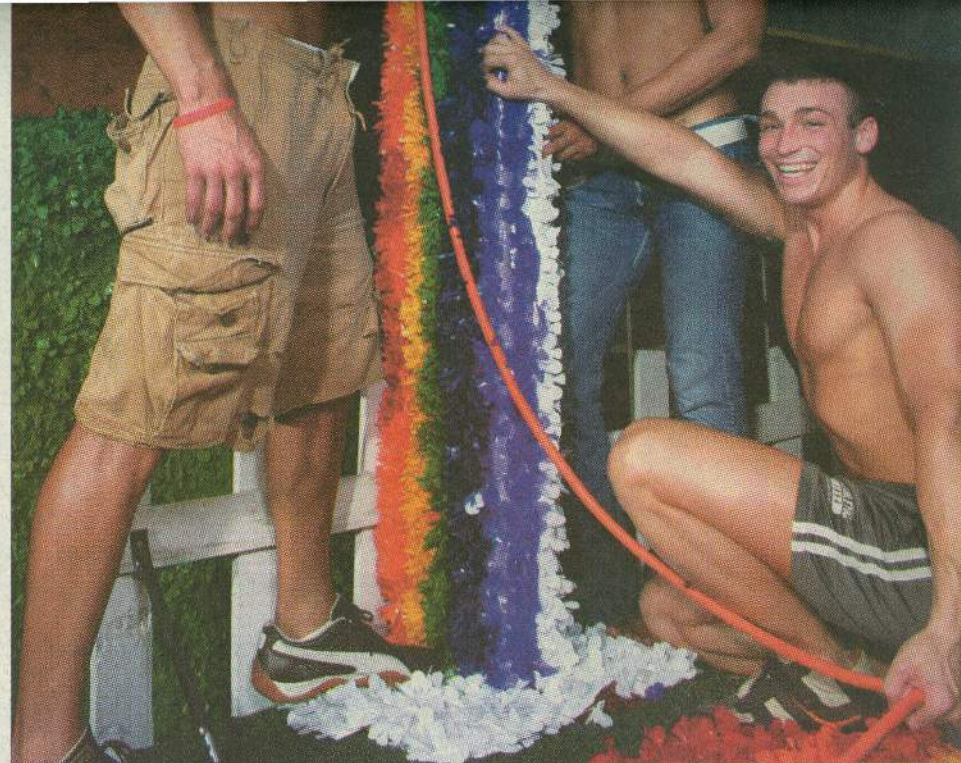
This year marks the 27th parade, which first rolled out in 1979 (there was a parade-free pride celebration in 1978). It was in 1997, however, that Houston inaugurated a nighttime parade.

"We thought about moving it to the spring or fall like Dallas" to cut down on the Texas heat. But coordinators eventually choose to change the hour of the day instead. "It's still hot out, but the sun is not beating down on you," Valinski says.

It also allows Houston to carry the torch by being the biggest city in the region with a traditional June parade.

But rather than just getting older, Pride Houston is committed to encouraging the Pride celebration grow. And the most significant step in that growth is expanding beyond the parade.

"We're probably one of the few cities where our parade has overshadowed our festival," says Valinski. But this year looks to



raise the festival to a new level, with nationally-known acts like Sophie B. Hawkins and Pansy Division headlining.

The parade — and the entire Pride movement — is becoming more mainstream, Valinski says. It is the second largest parade in the city each year, for instance. Pride Houston has run ads in *The Houston Chronicle*, Q Television will be doing a live broadcast and Dallas's cross-dressing drill team, The Strangerettes, are returning. "They are fabulous," Valinski says.

He's also excited that a contingent of statewide GLBT college groups are attending.

ON DECK

Houston Pride 2005

Houston Pride Festival, Westheimer and Yoakum Sts. June 25, 2 p.m.-8 p.m., \$10. Houston Pride Parade, at 845 Westheimer between Woodhead and Whitney Sts., June 25, at 8:45 p.m.

Getting people involved from all over is another goal of Houston's Pride. Valinski stresses that just because Texans have been to a parade in one city doesn't mean they know what it'll be like elsewhere. "Prides in each city reflect the city a lot more than a

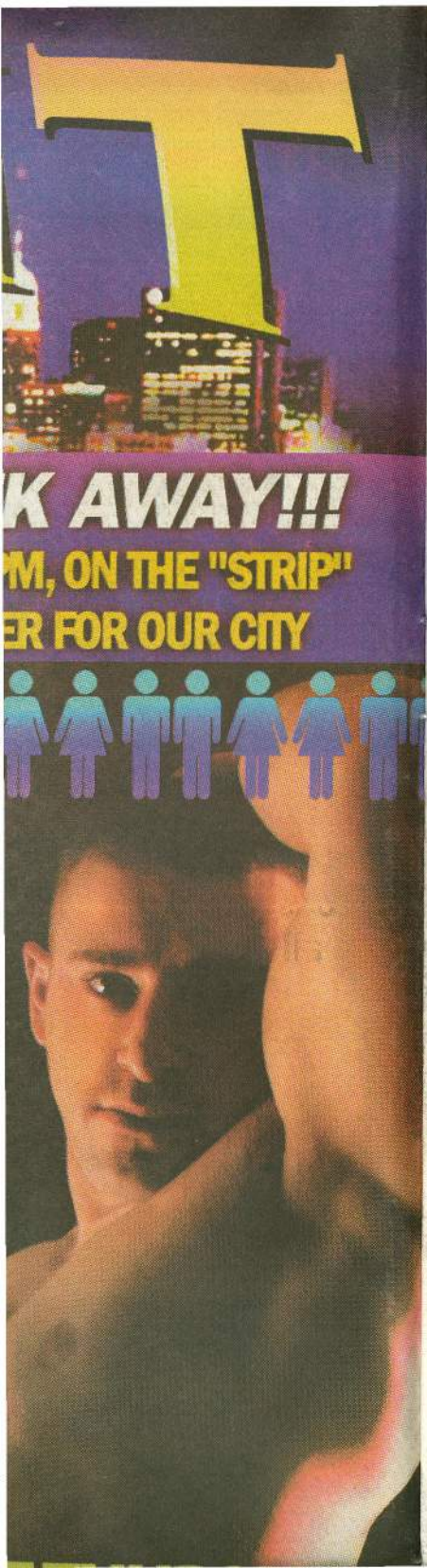
McDonald's or Sharper Image does," he says.

People are beginning to realize that. Pride Houston estimates that 150,000 to 200,000 people watch the parade every year, and from an informal survey, Valinski believes about half are from out of town — which means the gay community is responsible for a notable economic impact in Houston. One mission of the parade is to "let the non-GLBT community celebrate what a community is," says Valinski.

They rarely encounter barriers from the city as they did in the past. "Our big concerns are usually the weather and if the Rockets have a winning season," quips Valinski. (If the basketball team is in the NBA finals, the media focus a lot of attention on the game, and Pride doesn't get as much press.) That doesn't mean there aren't those who still refuse to accept Gay Pride, although Valinski puts it in context.

"We usually have 10 or 12 protesters who come from out of town," but that doesn't really bother him too much. "First, we're happy they know about the parade. But 10 or 12 protesters? There are 150,000 people enjoying themselves!"

E-mail: Arnold@btnews.com



the

Profile

By Joey Guerra

The Golden girl

From barista to lesbian icon, Houston singer Sarah Golden is all about life experiences

Sarah Golden doesn't need coffee. The petite singer is sitting inside a Starbucks, located in the heart of Houston's Montrose area — otherwise known as the center of the universe. She's got her hands wrapped around a triple-grande, five-pump, soy, white-chocolate mocha (her usual), but Golden crackles with nervous energy even before she takes a sip.

"I've decided: I'm going to be the first white folk-rapper. It's going to rock, and I'm going to sell to Dr. Dre and 50 Cent. I'll be in G-Unit or whatever," Golden says, sounding half-serious.

It's just one of many alternately hilarious and heartfelt tangents Golden wanders down during the course of a conversation, often

listen to. But Golden tries to be more than just another girl with a guitar.

"If I had a choice, I sure as hell wouldn't sing folk music. I listen to rap; I listen to everything," she says. "I love acoustic guitar, but at the same time, it's just what comes out [of me]. It's not a huge market — you can't play everywhere. I play real rhythmically, and I try to do as much percussion on my guitar as I can."

Music, and the arts generally, have always been family traditions for Golden. Her mother studied and sang opera; Dad is a photographer. Golden's sister works in theater, and her brother plays in a Cajun/Zydeco band out of Louisiana.

She refers to them as "The Partridge Family," and that sense of togetherness has found its way into Golden's burgeoning career. Mom even put up the money for the

have asked her to grow her hair out, dress more feminine or, worse, hide her sexuality altogether. It's just not commercially viable, they assure her, for a new female artist to like girls.

Naturally, the outspoken performer flatly refuses.

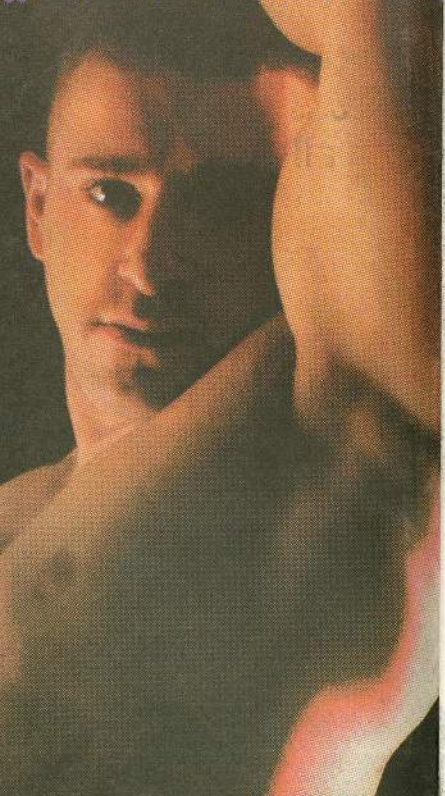
"I haven't worn a dress since the eighth grade. I'm not about to go get one. I'm already out in the community. All my writing, everything about it, talks about girls," she says.

Gay artists, she says, are "supposed to be like Melissa Etheridge and Tracy Chapman, all these people that are real quiet about everything, and then they come out once they're millionaires. Fuck that. I think I could be a hell of a good spokesperson for the gay community. We need a young, fresh, strong, open-minded, stubborn person



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Golden girl

From barista to lesbian icon,
Houston singer Sarah Golden
is all about life experiences

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It's just one of many alternately hilarious and heartfelt tangents Golden wanders down during the course of a conversation, often requiring little or no prompting. The young singer-songwriter is clearly excited about her music and, it seems, life in general.

Until she hooks up some serious bling-bling — or duets with Jennifer Lopez — Golden's genre of choice is folk music, accented by biographical, insightful lyrics. Her debut disc, *Truth*, was released in 2002. A follow-up is due later this year, and Golden says she already has 17 complete songs. (*Truth* is available at Sarahgolden.com and at Houston-area record stores.)

The openly gay native Houstonian performs regularly around town, having gigged at the Houston Women's Festival, the legendary Anderson Fair and the Last Concert Cafe. Golden also performs most Thursdays during open mike night at Chances, the popular lesbian bar.

Her music is easy, almost effortless, to

listen to. But Golden tries to be more than just another girl with a guitar.

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She refers to them as "The Partridge Family," and that sense of togetherness has found its way into Golden's burgeoning career. Mom even put up the money for the first disc.

"I'm lucky to have such a very, very helpful family," Golden says. "Everybody tries to hold everybody together."

LIVE

Sarah Golden

Sarah Golden appears June 30 (and most Thursdays) at Chances, 1100 Westheimer Road.

If only it were so easy in the music world.

Golden records independently at studios around the Houston area, but she is actively seeking a major-label deal. There have been a few close calls during club showcases, but nothing has allowed Golden the artistic control she demands — or the seemingly simple freedom of fashion.

Too many times, she says, label execs

have asked her to grow her hair out, dress more feminine or, worse, hide her sexuality altogether. It's just not commercially viable, they assure her, for a new female artist to like girls.

Naturally, the outspoken performer flatly refuses.

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Until that day comes — and it surely should — Golden is content to peddle her introspective songs and caffeinated conversation to open-minded fans. It's a perplexing, ultimately charming, contrast.

Of course, that's in between day jobs, where Golden's short attention span and breakneck energy also seem to thrive. Her goal — along with music superstardom, naturally — is to work at least 20 different jobs in her lifetime. Judging by a quick list of former employers, Golden should hit the double-digits very soon.

"I worked at Starbucks. I went from latte-slinging to guitar-stringing at a guitar store, and now I'm a pizza-delivery man. I worked at Party Boy, painting the haunted house," she says, clearly proud of her accomplishments. "I just want the experience of different things."

event



A room of their own

Jason and deMarco the gay Christian group, have been promising to open a recording studio in Houston. The promise becomes reality on Saturday.

A grand opening reception will be hosted by the handsome duo as well as their Texas-based producer, Alan Lett. It will be known as the Letthead Recording Studio. The facilities will be located near the intersection of I-10 and Wilcrest.

The reception takes place on June 25 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Food and beverages will be served.

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Booknotes

By Arnold Wayne Jones

A good writer is hard to find

Gay Southern author John McManus didn't start out in Texas, but he's happy to finally be here

John McManus grew up in the shadow of Tennessee's Great Smoky Mountains, so it's not surprising he set his first full-length novel, *Bitter Milk*, near Maryville, where he spent his childhood.

What may be a surprise — even to him, a little — is that as of late, he's thinking of Austin as home.

"I think I'm here semi-permanently," he says by telephone, having just returned to the Lone Star State. "For the past year, I was going back and forth between here and Tennessee and other places. I love living in Austin."

In part, it'll depend on whether he can support himself — which may depend in part on how well his new book sells.

"I hope the book gets attention," McManus says, noting that it's already getting more press than *Born on a Train*, a col-

don't come easily to him. "I took a month just dreading" writing a piece, he says. "I'd much rather make things up."

Others seem to like it when he does that, too. Early reviews of *Bitter Milk* have been favorable, which may leave McManus poised on the verge of becoming one of the breakthrough writers in American fiction. But not, he hopes, American gay fiction.

"I wouldn't want to write a book that's just 'gay fiction,'" he says. "I try to read a lot of gay writers and find it hard to find good gay fiction."

"There are plenty of good gay writers," but the question is whether the book would be of interest to anyone who is straight. The best queer novels are not specifically "gay" at all, he says.

He was first attracted to Southern writers like Eudora Welty, William Faulkner, Flannery O'Connor and especially Cormac McCarthy — authors who created a sense of

Bitter Milk

For much of *Bitter Milk*, Chilhowee Mountain seems like an empathy-free zone. Fat, effeminate and mother-obsessed nine-year-old Loren Garland never knew his father and doesn't fit in with mom's family of rednecks, none of whom seem to understand why she's taking hormone shots and likes to bind her chest. McManus specializes in creating uncomfortable familial situations — people who insult without thinking, like constantly noting that Loren is overweight, or that on the phone he sounds like a girl. He evokes a sense of grayness to life on the mountain — every scene feels overcast by a dark cloud — but many shards of humor pierce through. He also has great affection for his protagonist, who is heavily influenced by his imaginary friend Luther in a kind of battle of wills. *Bitter Milk* is a quick, entertaining read written in a fluid, seemingly effortless prose style.

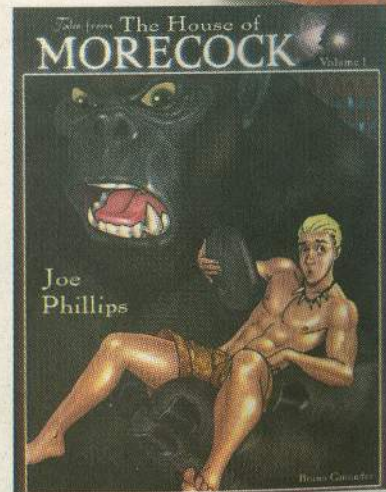
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postscript

Holy homo

Racy cartoon books show we do need another hero



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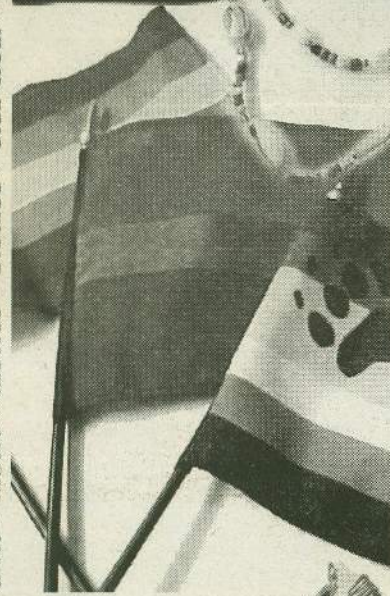
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In part, it'll depend on whether he can support himself — which may depend in part on how well his new book sells.

"I hope the book gets attention," McManus says, noting that it's already getting more press than *Born on a Train*, a collection of short stories he published in 2002. That book followed *Stop Breaking Down*, which in 2000 helped McManus win a prestigious Whiting Writers Award.

McManus came to Texas when he won a three-year fellowship through the Michener Center for Writers, a program at the University of Texas in Austin.

"It was three years being paid to write," he says affectionately.

When the fellowship money ended, he went back to Tennessee, working for his father's company delivering lost luggage. The job often requires hauling bags far into the backwoods around Knoxville, giving him hours alone with his thoughts. But Austin beckoned.

"I loved it there — it's a great community of writers," he says of his days at U.T. He's started to write nonfiction to supplement his income, even though essays and criticism

don't come easily to him. "I took a month just dreading" writing a piece, he says. "I'd much rather make things up."

Others seem to like it when he does that, too. Early reviews of *Bitter Milk* have been favorable, which may leave McManus poised on the verge of becoming one of the breakthrough writers in American fiction. But not, he hopes, American gay fiction.

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He was first attracted to Southern writers like Eudora Welty, William Faulkner, Flannery O'Connor and especially Cormac McCarthy — authors who created a sense of place and atmosphere with their prose. Only then did he discover gay writers.

"The first gay book I remember really liking was *Dream Boy*, which I happened onto in a used bookstore in Knoxville," he says. "I had no idea books like that even existed." With *Bitter Milk*, he tries to unite those interests.

The story concerns a nine-year-old boy named Loren whose mother, Avery, has gender dysphoria. Although sexuality plays an important role, the thrust of the story is how Loren and Avery are outcasts in their family, and how cruelly those who are different can be treated.

"Loren never comes out and says he's gay, but he's attracted to his [male] step-cousin," McManus says. "I wanted it to be political in that quiet way of acceptance based on awareness of people and who they are."

But tackling that topic in the form of a

Bitter Milk

For much of *Bitter Milk*, Chilhowee Mountain seems like an empathy-free zone. Fat, effeminate and mother-obsessed nine-year-old Loren Garland never knew his father and doesn't fit in with mom's family of rednecks, none of whom seem to understand why she's taking hormone shots and likes to bind her chest. McManus specializes in creating uncomfortable familial situations — people who insult without thinking, like constantly noting that Loren is overweight, or that on the phone he sounds like a girl. He evokes a sense of grayness to life on the mountain — every scene feels overcast by a dark cloud — but many shards of humor pierce through. He also has great affection for his protagonist, who is heavily influenced by his imaginary friend Luther in a kind of battle of wills. *Bitter Milk* is a quick, entertaining read written in a fluid, seemingly effortless prose style.

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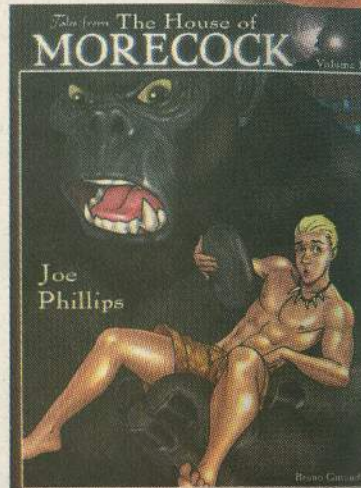
novel presented a serious challenge for McManus, whose previous work was comprised of short stories.

"It took me a long time to get it in any publishable condition," he says. "When I started writing stories, I would write vignettes with a certain mood in mind, piecing things together without any kind of outline." When trying the same technique for a novel, "I ended up with 200 pages of scenes without a real plot. It took several tries before I figured it out."

He's currently working on his next novel, also set in the South (although not Texas) and also dealing with family issues.

"I've generally found that when I've written stories about groups of friends it's much harder for me to find a reason for the story to matter — it's like it's not important enough," McManus says. "You can choose your friends but not your family. You are stuck with your family — you know how to push each others' buttons."

E-mail: Arnold@txtnewsmag.com



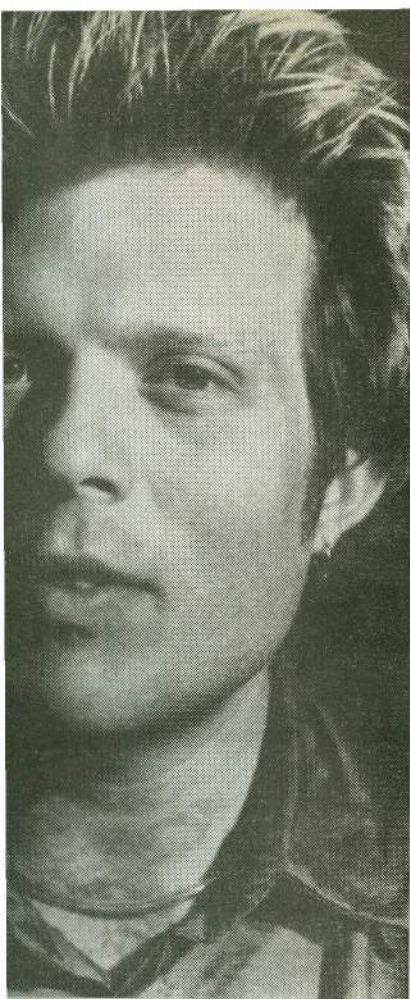
Heroes, by Patrick Fillion (Bruno Gmunder, 64 pages, \$22.95, hardcover)
Tales from the House of Morecock, Volume 1, by Joe Phillips (Bruno Gmunder, \$19.95, paper)

Does anyone honestly believe that comic book superheroes could be straight? Think about it. They like to play dress up and run around town in tights, wrestling with

other similarly clad men. They never seem to have successful relationships with women — their only long-term relationships are with daddy types (editors, publishers) and youthful male "wards." Right. And heterosexual superheroines? Two words: Wonder Woman.

So why keep up the pretense? Why acknowledge that these tough guys of superheroism are poofers, and happily so?

That's what Patrick Fillion does in his muscular, highly stylized erotic picture



Bitter Milk

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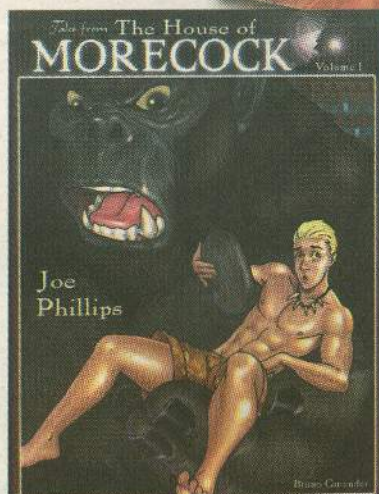
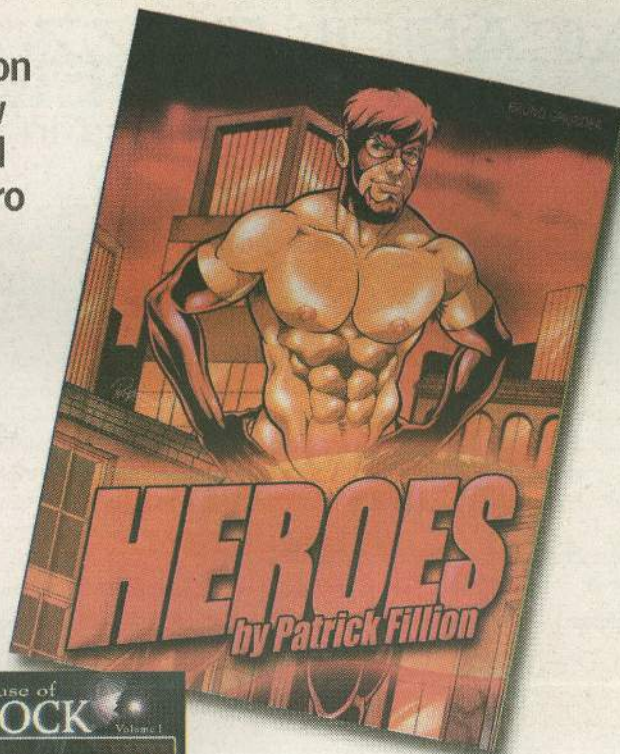
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book *Heroes*. Men with names like Deimos and Naked Justice strut their stuff with out-and-proud defiance, engaging in sex acts with other men, standing as role models for young gay men while titillating randy adults.

Not all the men here possess superpowers, though. Fillion portrays everyday heroes like lifeguards, showing that heroism among gays takes many forms. It's a colorful and cheeky coffee-table book — even if you feel compelled to put it away when mom comes over.

Jonas Morecock, the appealing twinkish cartoon star in *Tales from the House of Morecock, Vol. 1*, doesn't have any kind of supernatural powers himself, but he seems to stumble upon plenty of gay char-

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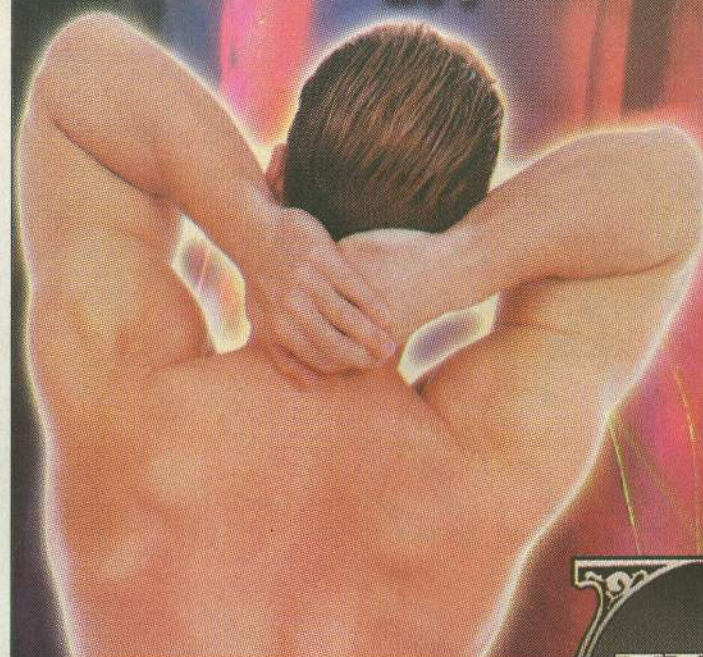
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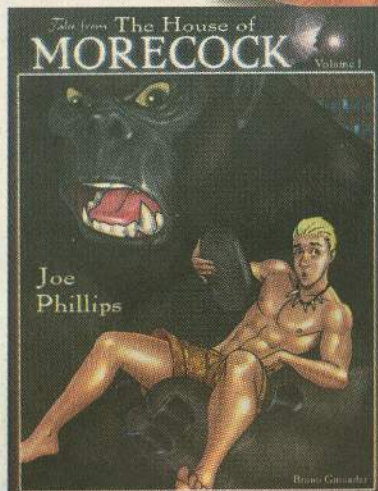
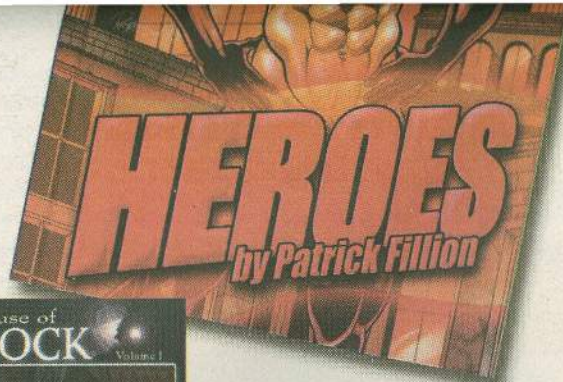
Bitter Milk

For much of *Bitter Milk*, Chilhowee Mountain seems like an empathy-free zone. Fat, effeminate and mother-obsessed nine-year-old Loren Garland never knew his father and doesn't fit in with mom's hilly of rednecks, none of whom seem to understand why she's taking hormone shots and likes to hold her chest. McManus specializes in creating comfortable familial situations — people who tuff without thinking, like constantly noting that an is overweight, or that on the phone he sounds like a girl. He evokes a sense of grayness to life on mountain — every scene feels overcast by a thick cloud — but many shards of humor pierce through. He also has great affection for his protagonist, who is heavily influenced by his imaginary friend Luther in a kind of battle of wills. *Bitter Milk* is a quick, entertaining read written in a fluid, unimpeachably effortless prose style.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

presented a serious challenge for McManus, whose previous work was composed of short stories. "It took me a long time to get it in a readable condition," he says. "When I was writing stories, I would write vignettes with a certain mood in mind, piecing things together without any kind of outline." When using the same technique for a novel, "I ended up with 200 pages of scenes without a plot. It took several tries before I figured it out." He's currently working on his next novel, set in the South (although not Texas) and dealing with family issues. "I've generally found that when I've written stories about groups of friends it's much easier for me to find a reason for the story to exist — it's like it's not important enough," McManus says. "You can choose your friends but not your family. You are stuck with your family — you know how to push others' buttons."

E-mail: Arnold@txtnewsmag.com



Heroes, by Patrick Fillion (Bruno Gmunder, 64 pages, \$22.95, hardcover)
Tales from the House of Morecock, Vol. 1, by Joe Phillips (Bruno Gmunder, \$19.95, paper)

Does anyone honestly believe that comic book superheroes could be straight? Think about it: They like to play dress-up and run around town in tights, wrestling with other similarly clad men. They never seem to have successful relationships with women — their only long-term relationships are with daddy types (editors, butlers) and youthful male "wards." Right. And heterosexual superheroines? Two words: Wonder Woman.

So why keep up the pretense? Why not acknowledge that these tough guys of superherodom are poofers, and happily so?

That's what Patrick Fillion does in his muscular, highly stylized erotic picture

book *Heroes*. Men with names like Deimos and Naked Justice strut their stuff with out-and-proud defiance, engaging in sex acts with other men, standing as role models for young gay men while titillating randy adults.

Not all the men here possess superpowers, though. Fillion portrays everyday heroes like lifeguards, showing that heroism among gays takes many forms. It's a colorful and cheeky coffee-table book — even if you feel compelled to put it away when mom comes over.

Jonas Morecock, the appealing twinkish cartoon star in *Tales from the House of Morecock, Vol. 1*, doesn't have any kind of supernatural powers himself, but he seems to stumble upon plenty of gay characters who do. (An encounter with a horny werewolf gives new meaning to the phrase, "The better to eat you with, my dear.")

This collection of short vignettes, a kind of animated sexual picaresque where Jonas meets and boffs equally attractive men, feels like an Archie comic book gone blue. It's campy and amusing with a good sense of humor about itself, and an affection for its more mainstream precursors.

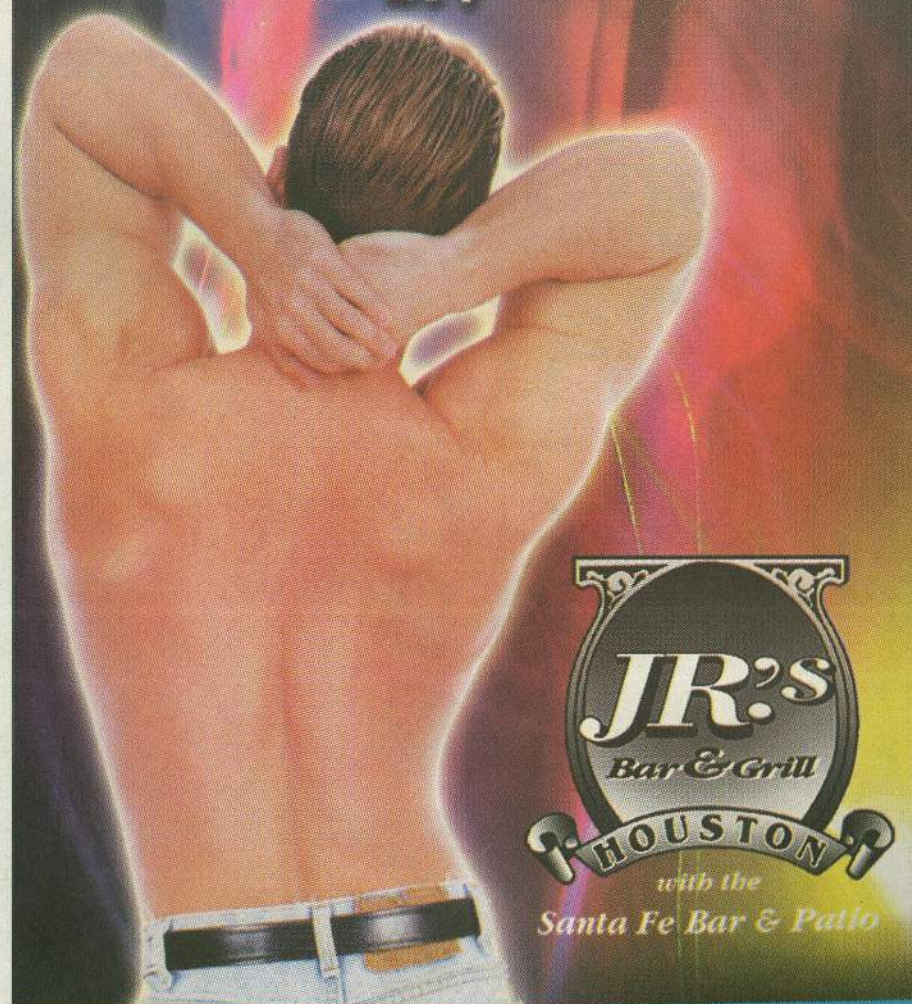
The artist, Joe Phillips, has a joyous energy and enthusiasm for his characters, all bright and unsarcastic young men pleased as punch to be queer. This is light and idealized stuff, a perfect summer tonic.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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TV

By Steven Lindsey

Marriage rights and wrongs

Same Sex America portrays both sides of the marriage debate

No matter which side of the same-sex marriage issue you're on, *Same Sex America* should infuriate you. Whether you're a right-wing zealot or a liberal, society-ruining, queer-lovin' homo, Showtime's newest documentary is polarizing. While it's not likely to change anyone's opinion, it does provide greater insight into both sides of the debate.

Filmmaker Henry Corra tells the stories of seven gay and lesbian couples who are getting married in Massachusetts after it became the first state in the union to sanction gay marriage. In between planning their nuptials, raising families and dealing with the sudden celebrity gained as a result of their controver-

sial weddings, each couple is also shown dealing with the possible fight in Massachusetts courts to appeal the ruling.

Throughout the film, Corra gains access to both camps. No matter how unbiased he tries to be, it's difficult to understand the radical position of some of the conservative protesters. Hopefully, even those opposed to same sex marriage would view these guys as wack-

os: Their argument is that gay unions automatically open the door to incest, polygamy and even bestiality.

Then there are the opponents who genuinely believe that they're fighting the good fight and that God loves everyone, homosexuals included. One woman gets visibly upset that people (read: gays) accuse her of harboring hatred.

Such testimonies show these people as complex human beings, not one-note bigots. Like most truly religious people, they honestly believe that their way is the right way, and — surprisingly — that doesn't automatically make them close-minded (which may be hard for many people on our side to accept).

Lea, a lesbian attending the protests, is the most compelling subject of the documentary.

She is literally caught in the middle of the fight: Across the room, her parents are protesting *against* gay marriage and she is forced to later confront them about their stance and try to understand how they can claim to love her, but not believe in her equal rights.

Same Sex America is a captivating, emotional experience that should reinvigorate your passion about the subject, whatever your viewpoint.

The stories are fascinating and the groundwork is laid for a follow-up film — not just in seeing what eventually happened to the couples, but also because the amendment will be taken up by the legislature in 2006. That's a cliffhanger if ever there was one.

E-mail: Steven@bdnewsmag.com



ON AIR

Same Sex America

Directed by Henry Corra
Runtime: 90 minutes
Airs on Showtime June 27 at 7 p.m.

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Film

By Steven Lindsey

Bewitched

— bothersome, bewildering

How Nora Ephron destroyed a potential franchise with her patented schlock

If ever there was a complete, unmitigated disaster that could've been avoided with a gay person in charge, it's *Bewitched*. The supernatural sitcom — with all its wonderfully queer undertones, flamboyantly over-the-top characters and cavalcade of closeted actors — has arrived on the big screen minus everything that made the TV show a classic.

The film's director and co-screenwriter, Nora Ephron, has finally proven what many have suspected for years — she's a one-note hack. She's now taken a show revered by gays (and even some straights) the world over and reduced it to a flimsy *When Harry Met Sally* clone with theretch-inducing, saccharin sentimentality of *Sleepless in Seattle*. It's cause enough for her to be exiled from America permanently.

ON SCREEN

Bewitched



Directed by Nora Ephron. Written by Nora and Delia Ephron. With Nicole Kidman, Will Ferrell, Shirley MacLaine, Michael Caine.
Rated PG; run time: 100 minutes
Now playing in wide release

The saddest part of this endeavor is that Ephron and sister Delia's intentions to reinterpret the sitcom were Witch's Honorable. The premise — a naive (er, stupid) real witch named Isabel (Nicole Kidman) lands the role of Samantha in a modern TV revival of *Bewitched* and falls in love with its star, Jack Wyatt (Will Ferrell) — has pop-culture genius written all over it.

The self-referential, wink-wink possibilities of a remake-show-within-a-remake-

What makes the injustice grander is that the movie merely pays homage to *Bewitched*. Ephron uses a brand-name TV property as a Trojan horse to lure us into theaters, only to trick us into witnessing another disgustingly routine romance laced with a few *really* lame special effects.

Kidman, in full breathy falsetto, does her best Meg Ryan impersonation — a move that should permanently nail shut the coffin that is her comedy career. Ferrell does exactly what he does in every other Will Ferrell movie. He's on the verge of becoming the next Robin Williams — which *isn't* a good thing.

On the supporting role front, Shirley MacLaine can't breathe new life into Endora; a fairly decent impersonation of Uncle Arthur by *The Daily Show*'s Steve Carrell quickly wears out its welcome; and Michael Caine willingly participates in the most shameless and predictable parade of product placements ever in a film.

There are possibly two genuine laughs in the entire movie, but countless — and inexplicable — scenes of Kidman doing high kicks are puzzling. We get it: You're skinny and you're limber. But sister, your nose-twitching is *nothing* like Elizabeth Montgomery's.

The film's only redeeming element is Kristin Chenoweth as Isabel's wacky neighbor, a younger, peppier Gladys Kravitz with more cleavage. She takes a role that could've been thoroughly annoying and makes it her own.

Gays have always identified with Samantha Stephens because she was an outsider trying to fit in, despite her extraordinary talents. She made it OK to be different; Uncle Arthur made it OK to be flamboyant; and

Beat

By Jimmy Smith

Out Af

Superstar
Africanis

For those who find the concept of world music about as exciting as a trip to Pier 1 with crunchy ol' Aunt Granola, *Africanism III* is an epiphany waiting to happen. For U.S. fans already hooked via the previously released import-only albums *Africanism* and *Africanism II* — and jonesing for more — the man has just arrived with the domestic (via Tommy Boy) *Africanism III* in hand.

In this instance, the man is Bob Sinclar, the French producer whose passion for African music has driven him to seek out, embrace and showcase tracks by some of the

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The self-referential, wink-wink possibilities of a remake-show-within-a-remake-movie were epic. Yet slow pacing and treacly dialogue doomed *Bewitched* from ever becoming a film franchise. They even threaten to tarnish the fond memories of the original show forever.

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Gays have always identified with Samantha Stephens because she was an outsider trying to fit in, despite her extraordinary talents. She made it OK to be different; Uncle Arthur made it OK to be flamboyant; and Endora made it OK to be a diva. Roll that all together and you've got a surprisingly influential TV show. Eliminate those elements, and the magic is gone quicker than you can say abracadabra.

E-mail: Steven@btnews.com



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txt

Beat

By Jimmy Smith

Out of Africa

Superstar French producer Bob Sinclar's *Africanism III* is an epic of world rhythms

For those who find the concept of world music about as exciting as a trip to Pier 1 with crunchy ol' Aunt Granola, *Africanism III* is an epiphany waiting to happen. For U.S. fans already hooked via the previously released import-only albums *Africanism* and *Africanism II* — and jonesing for more — the man has just arrived, with the domestic (via Tommy Boy) *Africanism III* in hand.

In this instance, the man is Bob Sinclar, the French producer whose passion for African music has driven him to seek out, embrace and showcase tracks by some of the

genre's most prestigious artists. On this epic 16-track, 77-minute non-stop dance mix, Sinclar brought together a glittering roster of top contemporary African musicians, electronic producers and superstar French D.J.s. The result is pure Afro-rhythmic alchemy.

Africanism launched in 2001, and was originally meant to be a series of 12" vinyl singles strictly for D.J.s. But after the success of the single "Edony (Clap Your Hands)" by French producer Martin Solveig (No. 1 on the club charts for weeks), the CD was released by Warner Bros. in France, selling well worldwide.

Africanism II was released a year later and

similarly welcomed. Both albums went gold in South Africa, giving the series an authentic — and deeply appreciated — stamp of African approval.

"The concept was born out of a discussion I had with my friend DJ Gregory [one of the biggest house D.J./producers in France] about our mutual passion for black African music of the '70s," Sinclar says. "We just free-styled and came up with the mix. With this album, I wanted to concentrate on the fusion of the African disco sound of the '70s with the contemporary house music sound of today.

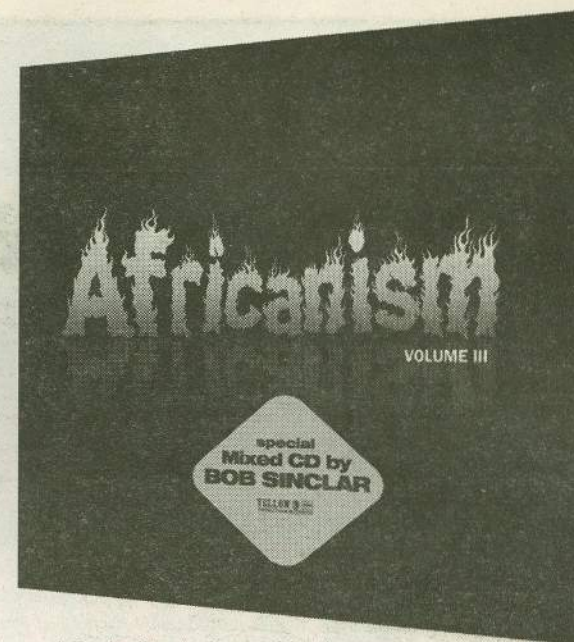
Although Sinclar had never worked

directly with many of the artists on the album, some of them — David Guetta, Tim Deluxe, etc. — he calls "very, very close friends."

The friendship paid off in the studio. *Africanism III* is at the same time a commendable homage to some of the best African musicians on the planet and a chic little (well, not-so-little) mix, perfect for sex on the savannah, midnight at the oasis or twirling on the terrace. It's a certain keeper for me.

And that's the beat.

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Kidman and McLane

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not-so-little) mix, perfect for sex on the
savannah, midnight at the oasis or twirling on
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Theater

By Arnold Wayne Jones

It's showtime!

A roundup of hot plays that'll keep you cool

It's hot in Texas during the summer, so why not find a way to cool down indoors?

That's the mission of Houston's Alley Theatre, which returns with its aptly-named Summer Chills Series — two cold-blooded mysteries intended to raise goosebumps.

First up is *Deathtrap*, Ira Levin's acclaimed play that is as frightening and surprising as it is funny.

If you've only seen the film, the chance to catch the stage version should not be missed. That's because *Deathtrap* is a grandly theatrical creation — a play about a play. Writer Sidney Bruhl invites Clifford, a promising student, to the remote house he shares with his wife Myra. Clifford has written a play that's so good, as Sidney notes, "even a gifted director couldn't ruin it." Sidney intends to steal the play. At all costs.

To say more could be to ruin the fun, and this is one show that promises to be loads of

fun.

If musicals are more to your liking, Austin has a large portion of offerings right now.

For nearly 30 years, the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Austin has been staging light operettas by the legendary team, whose works include *The Pirates of Penzance* and *The H.M.S. Pinafore*. But this summer, it's time for *The Mikado*.

One of the most beloved and amusing of their shows, this production includes the participation of members of the Capital City Men's Chorus — including its music director, Jeffrey Jones-Ragona.

Over at Zach, *Hank Williams: Lost Highway* continues to pack in audiences. The musical revue, which includes virtually all of the country crooner's hits ("I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry," "Hey, Good Lookin'," "Your Cheatin' Heart"), has been extended from its initial run. You have the chance to catch the Off-Broadway hit through July 17.

E-mail: Arnold@btxnews.com



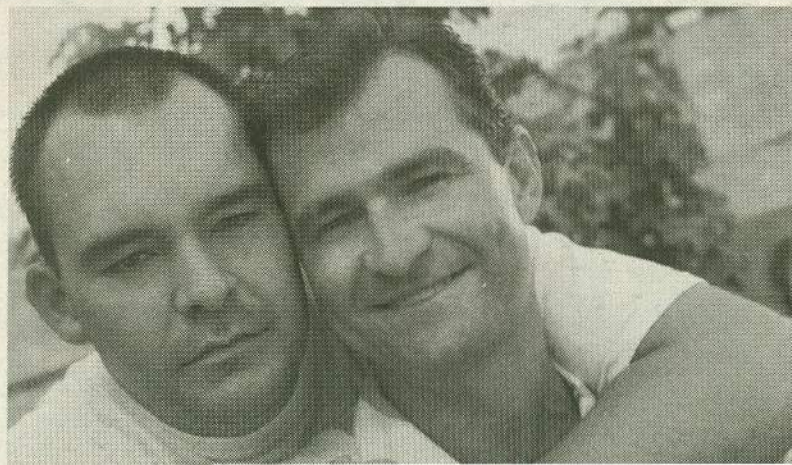
The Mikado

ON STAGE

The Mikado, Austin High School Performing Arts Center, 1715 W. Cesar Chavez St., Austin. Through July 3. Thu.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. matinees at 3 p.m. \$22. 800-494-8497.

Hank Williams: Lost Highway, Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomet Road, Austin. Through July 17. Thu.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2:30 p.m. \$37-\$40. 512-476-0541, ext. 1.

Deathtrap, Alley Theatre, 615 Texas Ave., Houston. June 24-July 10. Sun., Tue.-Thu. at 7:30 p.m., Fri.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. matinees at 2:30 p.m. \$19. 713-228-8421.



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the Pride Committee on
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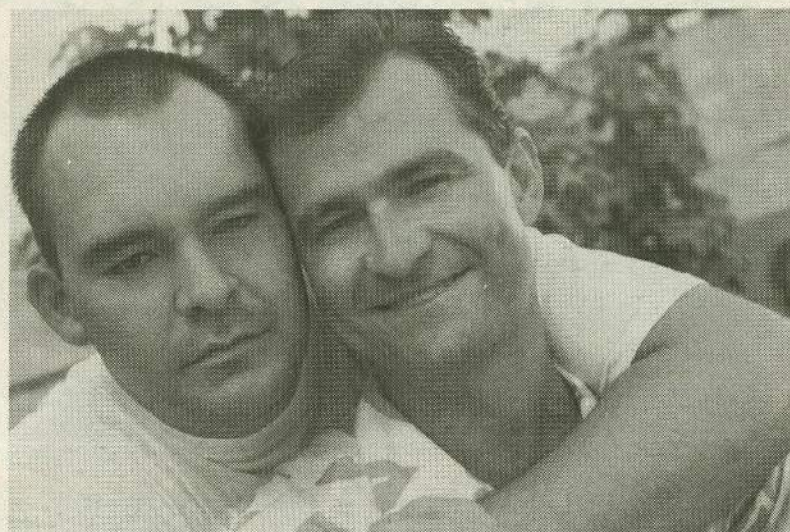
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Savor

By Arnold Wayne Jones

Bombay dreams

Clay Pit's contemporary take on Indian cuisine provides flavor and accessibility

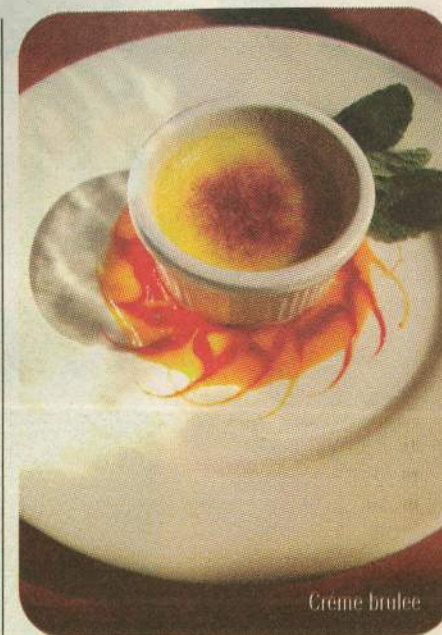
Indian food, to me, has always been a little bit like root beer: I don't buy it when I go to the store, I never think to order it when dining out, I seldom crave it. But when someone serves it to me, the memories of how good it can be come flooding back.

The problem for me, probably like a lot of people, is that Indian food simply isn't on the radar — items like curry, naan and basmati rice are relegated at the grocer to the aisle ominously marked "ethnic food" and more or less overlooked.

Tinku Saini, the executive chef and co-owner of Clay Pit, is trying to change that, one dish at a time. And he has at least one new convert.

Perhaps what sets Clay Pit apart is the addition of one word on its menu: *contemporary* Indian cuisine. The modern flair is decidedly welcoming. Something as simple as chips-and-dip gets a subtle twist. Our server quickly brought us small, salty-sweet roti chips and three chutneys, each with its own appeal — an Indian slant on a Texas dining staple.

The menu is rife with such touches, playfully tweaking traditional recipes. Saini himself was born in India but reared in St. Louis, Mo., and that



Creme brulee

Midwestern sensibility informs his recipes.

Some people are scared away by exotic spices and meats with few familiar words to provide refuge — tandoori, vindaloo, khuroos-e-tursh: what the hell does all that mean? But for those not put off by foreign-sounding dishes, the bill of fare at Clay Pit is remarkably accessible, even for meat-and-potatoes types.

Take the mirch masala, a term that roughly translates as "blended pepper spice" (the exact blend can vary from one chef to another). Clay Pit's version includes the distinctly Mexican jalapeno. The name might be Punjabi, but the ethnic smacks of Tex-Mex

tures.

Experienced Indian food connoisseurs recognize many elements. One of Clay Pit's signature dishes is curried mussels. The seafood was nearly smothered by the red wine sauce, but they were excellently cooked. The rich brown sauce was similar in appearance for the tamarind-coconut shrimp. We expected a few prawns dappled with curry, instead we got many jumbo shrimp swimming in a delicious sauce.

Naan, an Indian bread, gets several variations here; we tried the garlic-basil, the palek-paneer and the onion-cilantro. The former was a favorite but all were delicious. An appetizer of shrimp-and-crab balls were like small, spicy Maryland crabcakes, but the cilantro in the yogurt sauce overshadowed the seafood.

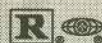
The locations don't offer identical menus — Addison offers some house specialties not in Austin (the first locale). The grilled lamb reflects a skillful preparation. Ours was done nicely — crispy, even slightly blackened on the outside but tender and medium rare at the bone. The garlic cream sauce provides some heat without overwhelming (though you can always ask for spicier).

Lamb is far more common in Indian cooking than beef, of course, and you can find it everywhere from the streets of New York to the grill. Saini's kind of meat is a lamb, a pastry reminiscent of empanadas, intrinsically Tex-Mex.



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The décor reflects a similarly Western ambiance. In Austin, the locale is the historic Bertram Building, rich in history and rumored to be haunted; in Addison, the colors are earthy but sophisticated, notable for a glass waterfall at the entrance and colorful light fix-

Chef Saini with rack of lamb

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The locations don't offer identical menus — Addison offers some house specialties not in Austin (the first locale). The grilled lamb reflects a skillful preparation. Ours was done nicely — crispy, even slightly blackened on the outside but tender and medium rare at the bone. The garlic cream sauce provides some heat without overwhelming (though you can always ask for spicier).

Lamb is far more common in Indian cooking than beef, of course, and you can find it everywhere from the appetizers to the grill. Samosas, a kind of meat- or veggie-filled pastry reminiscent of an empanada, make an excellent introduction to the flavors of the sub-continent. Saini offers three samosas, and while the spicy minced lamb is very good, the chicken (with three cheeses) is simply heavenly.

Plenty of items present the chance to sample cuisine from the other side of the world. We were intrigued by the paneer, an Indian cheese that has the look of tofu but is spicier, like mozzarella. There are seven curries you can pair with it, including the mirch masala, which we ordered prepared extra spicy. It definitely delivered — its piquancy was sly and cumulative — but the coco nut is exceptional, both with paneer and lamb.

Goat should be familiar to Mexican food eaters, where it goes by the name cabrito. Here, the tangy marinade — a mix of soothing yogurt and kicky cumin, garlic and ginger — won us over. We took some home, and actually improved the next day, when the spices had time to sink in even deeper.

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BILL OF FARE

Clay Pit

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Austin Area
1601 Guadalupe St., Austin. 512-322-5131

it or leave it unless its exceptional, and few are. (Why does a dessert have to be so heavy?) Clay Pit's mango cheesecake has quickly become a favorite. Not only is it light

Bon Appetit

Sample menu

Naan • \$1.50-\$2.75

Curried mussels • \$7.95

Samosas • \$3.95-\$7.25

Grilled rack of lamb • \$18.95

Bone-in goat curry • \$15.95

Paneer (mirch masala) • \$9.95

Tamarind-coconut prawns •

\$14.95

Mango cheesecake • \$4.95

Kheer (rice pudding) • \$3.95

Chai spice crème brûlée • \$4.95

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Crème brûlée

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with a yummy crust, but the infusion of mango adds color as well as a languid flavor.

Kheer, a soupy rice pudding, is one of those specialty dishes that you either love (as I do) or just don't get. Crème brûlée aficionados won't be disappointed by their surprisingly savory version, touched with cardamom and cloves.

Our servers were always polite, pleasant and attentive, although there were a few minor delays.

If you're the kind of diner who actively seeks out international foods, this restaurant is probably already in your rotation. But even if you're cautious about trying new things, Clay Pit goes about its intrigue comfortably. You won't be disappointed.

Now, how about a root beer with that naan?

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What a world, what a world...

Frank and Anita and will and grace

An abbreviated history of Houston's annual Pride Parade

Angeles and Chicago, but it took a bit longer for Houston to jump on the bandwagon toward fabulousness.

It wasn't until 1973 that representatives from the Houston Gay Political Coalition, a precursor to the Houston caucus we know today, appeared before City Council. In a fit of self-actualization, coalition members requested the last week in June be declared Gay Pride Week in Houston. Pretty please.

Things didn't go well for our side in chambers that day. Soon-to-be-unseated councilman Frank Mann responded to the plea saying, "You're abnormal. You need to see a psychiatrist instead of City Council."

My, how things have changed since those early days, when will and grace weren't so much television characters as character traits. This morning, June 24, Houston Mayor Bill White presents an official proclamation at the annual Lambda Legal Pride breakfast, honoring members of our community for their dedication to equality.

I hope community leaders attending the breakfast make it a point to toast our collective GLBT progress with a glass of o.j. In fact, all of us should drink a big, frosty tumbler of it every morning this week, to commemorate Houston's own version of Stonewall.

That auspicious day came in 1977 with a visit from singer and former Miss America Anita Bryant. The sugar-sweet representative for Florida's orange juice industry had taken on the threat of homosexuality, pushing for the passage of anti-gay laws in Miami/Dade County, Florida. "If gays are granted rights, next we'll have to give rights to prostitutes and to people who sleep with St. Bernards and to nail biters," she was fond of telling the press.

Apparently smitten by this sweet-talk, the Texas Bar Association invited Anita to sing at its annual convention that year in Houston — on June 16.

Imagine the joy this news brought to Houston's queer community. The city's first Pride Parade had been held downtown the year before and was attended by 200 or 300 people. But there would be no parade that year; it was cancelled due to a lack of cash.

And here comes Anita Bryant, all glassy-eyed and Aqua-Netted for the Lord, parading into our neighborhood to warn the populace of the scourge of homosexuality.

Something had to be done.

On the night Bryant was scheduled to sing for the lawyers, an estimated 12,000 gays, lesbians and friends marched down Smith and Louisiana streets, chanting, singing. The

throng encircled the Hyatt where Bryant was appearing, marching 'round and 'round the hotel like a Hajj.

I bet she was doing some nail biting of her own that night.

The anti-Bryant march, pulled together by Ray Hill and now-deceased veteran activist Gary Van Ooteghem, was a pivotal moment for Houston's burgeoning GLBT community. Houston's Pride Parade has continued each June since that night, now proceeding down Westheimer through the heart of Montrose.

In 1997, its producing committee, now called Pride Houston, moved the parade to its nighttime slot. More than 100,000 people are expected to line Westheimer Saturday night to greet and wave to and encourage the procession, now counted among the largest parades — gay, straight or otherwise — in the Southwest.

Now — 32 years later — Frank Mann is nowhere in sight. The mayor of Houston is enjoying breakfast with us. And Anita Bryant moved on to doing 10 shows a week in Branson, Mo., in a theater named for her. In 1998, the venue's name changed to Moe Bandy Theatre where Moe packs 'em in with his sidekick, Hargus. Not sure where Anita is now.

But orange juice never tasted so sweet.

E-mail: Nancy@btnewsmag.com

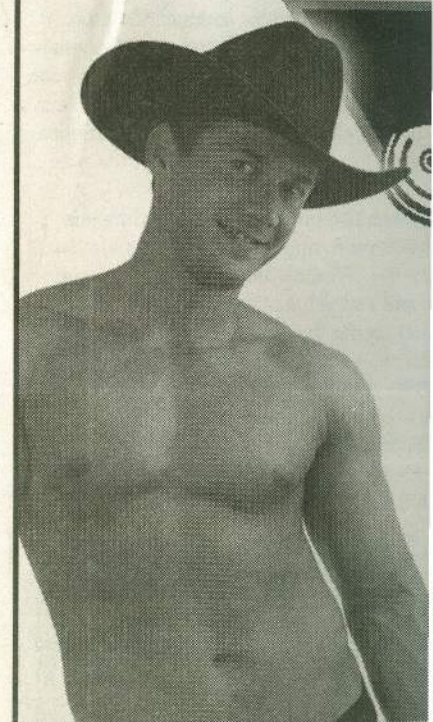
It's finally here.

Like children counting down the days and nights until Christmas morning, members of Houston's GLBT community — and those touched by it — welcome the Pride parade and its accompanying festival with breathless anticipation.

As most of us know, Pride celebrations are usually held each June to commemorate the Stonewall riots in New York, when queers revolted against police brutality in 1969, taking to the streets to fight for equal rights. Or maybe they revolted for the right to simply ride a bar stool without threat of police bashing.

Either way, since then, annual Pride events have cropped up nationwide. Festivities became glitzier as the years passed, particularly in New York, Los

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community — and those touched by it — welcome the Pride parade and its accompanying festival with breathless anticipation.

As most of us know, Pride celebrations are usually held each June to commemorate the Stonewall riots in New York, when queers revolted against police brutality in 1969, taking to the streets to fight for equal rights. Or maybe they revolted for the right to simply ride a bar stool without threat of police bashing.

Either way, since then, annual Pride events have cropped up nationwide. Festivities became glitzier as the years passed, particularly in New York, Los

see a psychiatrist instead of City Council.” My, how things have changed since those early days, when will and grace weren’t so much television characters as character traits. This morning, June 24, Houston Mayor Bill White presents an official proclamation at the annual Lambda Legal Pride breakfast, honoring members of our community for their dedication to equality.

I hope community leaders attending the breakfast make it a point to toast our collective GLBT progress with a glass of o.j. In fact, all of us should drink a big, frosty tumbler of it every morning this week, to commemorate Houston’s own version of Stonewall.

on June 16. Imagine the joy this news brought to Houston’s queer community. The city’s first Pride Parade had been held downtown the year before and was attended by 200 or 300 people. But there would be no parade that year; it was cancelled due to a lack of cash.

And here comes Anita Bryant, all glassy-eyed and Aqua-Netted for the Lord, parading into our neighborhood to warn the populace of the scourge of homosexuality.

Something had to be done.

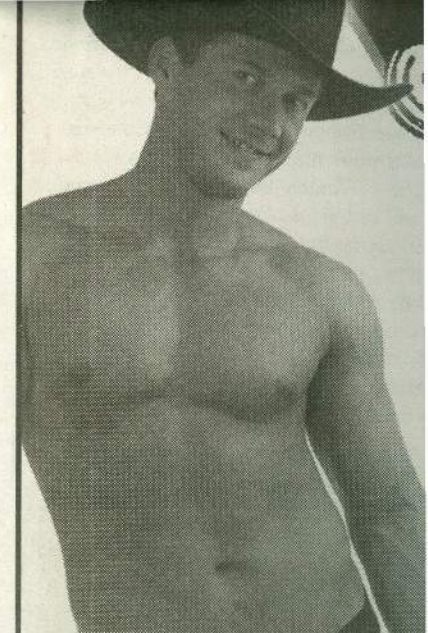
On the night Bryant was scheduled to sing for the lawyers, an estimated 12,000 gays, lesbians and friends marched down Smith and Louisiana streets, chanting, singing. The

nighttime slot. More than 100,000 people are expected to line Westheimer Saturday night to greet and wave to and encourage the procession, now counted among the largest parades — gay, straight or otherwise — in the Southwest.

Now — 32 years later — Frank Mann is nowhere in sight. The mayor of Houston is enjoying breakfast with us. And Anita Bryant moved on to doing 10 shows a week in Branson, Mo., in a theater named for her. In 1998, the venue’s name changed to Moe Bandy Theatre where Moe packs ’em in with his sidekick, Hargus. Not sure where Anita is now.

But orange juice never tasted so sweet.

E-mail: Nancy@btnews.com



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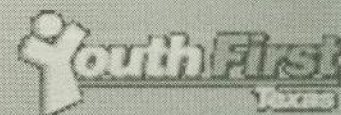
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By Billy Masters

WeHo gets its Pride on — that's hot

In the end, the **Paris Hilton** "scandal" was a letdown. Because a very vocal contingent expressed outrage that the car-washing/thong-wearing heiress was named grand marshal of the L.A. Pride Parade, security concerns arose regarding protests along the streets of West Hollywood.

Ultimately, the number of fans far outweighed the minuscule group of protesters, as Paris and **Kathy Hilton** rode along in a giant pink float. Kath wore a big hat and sunglasses — so she could have been anyone. But Paris left her face totally visible and was resplendent in a tiara and flowing gown (with Tinkerbell by her side).

Published reports indicate that Paris was asked to be the grand marshal and agreed only if her mother (who has a show to promote) could join her. Not true — believe it or not, Kathy was the one the Pride committee approached first! It was mom's idea to have Paris tag along. I know — I can't believe it, either!

Paris wasn't the only blonde bombshell to rock L.A. Pride. **Anna Nicole Smith** looked unbelievably slim, gorgeous and awake as she made her annual appearance. Afterwards, she sequestered herself in a cabana at WeHo's très gay nightclub The Abbey (where she allegedly indulged in certain substances and performed several acts on gentlemen that I am loath to report — even in a column called Filth).

Anna's male counterpart, **Reichen Burke**, hosted the afternoon portion of the Pride Festival, with his mother beaming backstage. Those of you who might recall a minor contretemps on the Web between Mama Reichen and me, rest assured that we are one big family (it was all a big bunch of nothing).



the final five hours of the festival alongside my mom. What can I say? We like headlining. Plus, working with featured performers **Tiffany** and **Deborah Gibson** is always a blast (we've done millions of events together).

The capacity audience of 10,000 people was beyond thrilled to see the dynamic divas. Tiff put on a show that rivaled **Cher**'s. Her elaborate set included numerous costume changes, scantily clad dancing boys and intricate choreography. She performed her old hits and an assortment of songs from her new CD, *Dust Off and Dance* (buy it — it's hot).

Deborah, however, relied solely on her pipes and delivered a 45-minute concert combining pop and Broadway material, sung to pre-recorded background tracks or by accompanying herself on the keyboard. When called back for the umpteenth time having sung everything she had prepared, she delivered a haunting a cappella version of "On My Own" from her Broadway show *Les Miz*.

The phenomenon known as *American Idol* was well represented. Kooky **Mikaloh**

got backstage, my buddy **Toni Ferrari** (from *Paradise Hotel*) introduced me to **Nikki McKibbin**! Yes, Season One's red-headed spitfire dropped in to support the gays (including Reichen, who appeared with her on the reality-star edition of *Fear Factor*). Nikster has a CD due out soon, and you know I'll be writing about it later this summer.

The real *American Idol* star of Pride was openly gay contestant **Jim Verraros**. Talented, sweet and so damn nice, Jim flew himself in from Chicago to do our festival for free. He rocked the house with a set that included "You Turn It On," which hit number 25 on the *Billboard* dance chart.

Michael Jackson was found not guilty on all charges. I don't know why anyone was surprised, since the state never had a case (the prosecution was not helped by the plaintiff's alleged grifter mom, **Janet Arvizo** — newly married and now known as **Janet Jackson**)!

Michael may be celebrating, but CourtTV's **Nancy Grace** is inconsolable. Nancy went on record predicting that Jackson would get 52 years in prison! By the final "not guilty" — timed with a devoted fan releasing doves in the parking lot of the courthouse — Grace was nowhere in sight.

A camera in the parking lot showed a flurry of feathers, and I swear Nancy was running around screaming, "Jackson may go free, but I'm gonna kill every last dove — pull!"

This week's "Ask Billy" question ties into the musical theme of this week's column in a roundabout way. Darren in Seattle asks: "What have you heard about *The Dukes of Hazzard* movie? Will it be a hit? Will **Johnny Knoxville** or **Seann William Scott** show some skin? And can **Jessica Simpson** act?"

That's a lot of questions. I hear the movie's fun. I think it'll be a hit. There's enough Knoxville and Scott skin to keep us happy (plus we've got flesh shots of them on

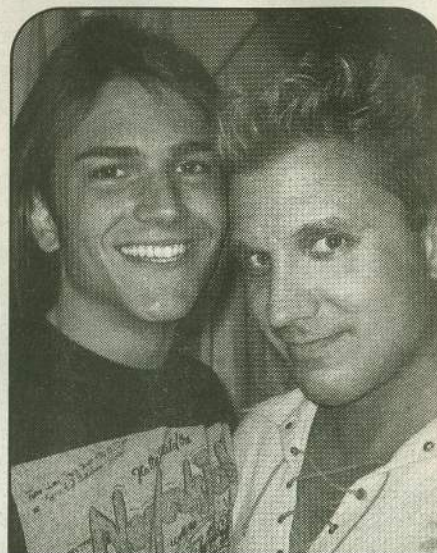
fool out of herself — at least not in the acting department.

Did you know that Mrs. Lachey recorded a cover of the **Nancy Sinatra** hit "These Boots Are Made For Walking" for the film's soundtrack? It's a little painful, but bear in mind that Nancy herself is more a "song stylist" than an actual "singer" — and I believe *Jessica has a stylist!*

In the video, Simpson appears to be a cross between Paris in that Carl's Jr. commercial and **Shakira** (minus the mongoose). You can check out the video for yourself at Filth2Go.com — we're not just about naked men.

When bringing you a Jessica Simpson video is more important than you a blind item, it's definitely time to reassess my priorities and end yet another column. Even though I'm enjoying the sun, the sand the sexy studs, I still have time for my fans. Just send a note to Billy@filth2go.com and I'll get back to you — even from Dick Dock (I think that's a WiFi hotspot!).

Until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.



Filth

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West Hollywood.

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Your very own Billy Masters co-hosted



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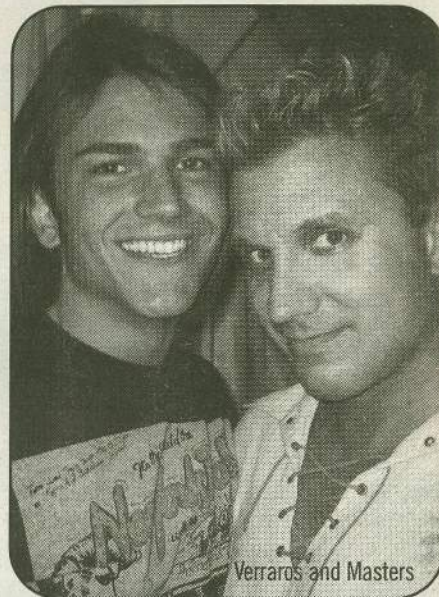
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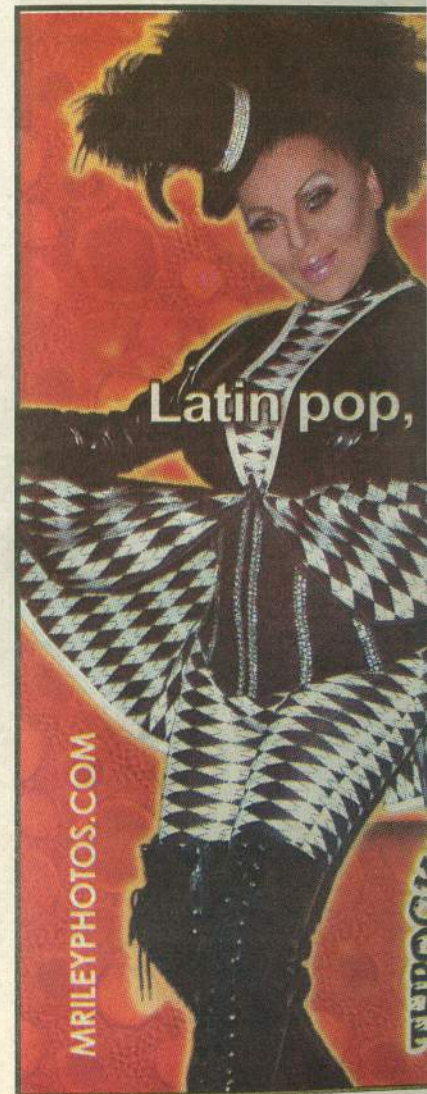
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KllyReview

Friday, June 24 AUSTIN

DJ Jason Jenkins, 10:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Fabric, 101 W. 5th St. 512-322-9333.

From the Deep II: Hope In the Time of Fear & Anger, presented by Diverse Space Dance Theatre. Through June 26. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday, 2 p.m. The New Ballet Austin building at 3rd Avenue and San Antonio Street. 512-394-1147.

The Mikado, presented by Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Austin, through July 3. Thursdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 3 p.m. \$5-\$22. Austin High School Performing Arts Theatre, 1715 W. Cesar Chavez St. 800-494-TIXS. Gilbertsullivan.org.

The Mystery of Edwin Drood by Rupert Holmes, through June 26. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday, 5 p.m. June 25, 2 p.m. \$25-\$30. Austin Playhouse, Penn Field, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C. 512-476-0084. Austinplayhouse.com.

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DALLAS/FT. WORTH

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Mondovino, presented by Magnolia at the Modern film series, through June 26. Friday, 6 and 8 p.m. Saturday, 5 p.m. Sunday, 2 and 4 p.m. \$5.50-\$7.50. Rated PG. English/French/Italian with English Subtitles. Modern Art Museum of Ft. Worth, 3200 Darnell St. 817-738-9215.

Name That Frame movie trivia with Wayne Smith. 10:30 p.m. Mickey's, 3851 Cedar Springs Rd. 214-219-MICK. Mickydallas.com.

Shabbat service, Congregation Beth El Binah. 8:15 p.m. Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 2701 Reagan St. 214-521-5342, ext. 1784.

[sic] by Melissa James Gibson. Presented by Stage West, through June 26. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 3 p.m. \$5-\$28. Sanders Theatre, 1300 Gendy St., Ft. Worth. 817-784-9378.

HOUSTON

A Class Act by Edward Kleban, Linda Kline and Lonnie Price. Presented by Theater LaB Houston. through June 26. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday, 6 p.m. \$23. 1706 Alamo. 713-868-7516. Theaterlabhouston.com.

Holy Craps, Resurrection MCC's Casino Night and farewell to Rev. Carolyn Mobley. 7 p.m.-Midnight. \$50. Benefits Resurrection MCC General Conference Delegates and Rev. Mobley. Sheraton Houston Brookhollow, 3000 North Loop West. 713-861-9149. Resurrectionmcc.org.

Lambda at the Icon, commemorating Lawrence v Texas, the 2nd annual civil rights brunch, with Mayor Bill White. 8 a.m. Hotel Icon, 220 Main. 214-219-8585. Ggamino@lambdalegal.org.

Latin Pride, Hot & Free with Jade Esteban Estrada. Presented by Twisted Mister Promotions. 9 p.m.-3 a.m. \$18-\$22. 1415 California. 713-320-9747. Twistedmister.biz.



Raised in Captivity by Nicky Silver. Presented by Unhinged Productions through June 26. Friday and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 3 p.m. \$15-\$20. Stages Repertory Theatre, 3201 Allen Parkway. 713-527-0123.

Sexually Transmitted Infections, Hepatitis and Tuberculosis, presented by Montrose Counseling Center's 2005 Spring/Summer Training Programs. Continuing education units available for LMSWs, LDCs, and LPCs. 1-4 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond Ave. 713-529-0037, ext. 2.

SAN ANTONIO

Miss & Mr. Texas Continental 2006 with Amber Nix, Tera Mathews, Sweet Savage, Sasha Andrews, Kourtney Devereaux and Daniel Xavier. 10:30 p.m. The Saint, 1430 N. Main Ave. 210-225-7330. Thesaint-satx.

Saturday, June 25

AUSTIN

QueerWaves with Taylor Cage, a weekly showcase of queer music and musicians on 91.7FM KNOP. 4:30 p.m.

HOUSTON

2nd Annual Houston Pride Pre-Parade Cool Down with Victory Fund Houston Board Members Janine Brunjes, Bill Colburn and David Arpin and Houston Victory Cabinet members. 6:30 p.m.-8:45 p.m. 1323 Hawthorne St. RSVP: 713-520-1353.

27th annual Houston GLBT Pride Parade, through Montrose on Westheimer. 8:45 p.m. Pride Houston. 713-529-6979. Pridehouston.org.

After Hours, pre-dawn GLBT radio with an attitude. 1-4 a.m. KPFT 90.1 FM.

Big Money Pretty Boy Amateur Strip Contest. 10 p.m. EJ's, 2517 Ralph. 713-527-9071.

Brilliance of Seasons, the artwork of Daniel-kayne, through June 30. Mind Puddles Gallery, 2305 Dunlavy. Daniel-kayne.com.

Houston GLBT Pride Festival, with headliners Pansy Division and Sophie B. Hawkins. Yoakum Street at Montrose Boulevard. 2:30-8:30 p.m. Pridehouston.org. 713-529-6979.

Letthead Recording Studio grand opening celebration with Jason & deMarco and producer Alan Lett. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. RSVP: 713-461-1818.

Montrose Soccer Club practice. 10:30 a.m. Woodrow Wilson School, Fairview and Windsor. Montrosesoccer.org.

Official Post-Parade with Kim English and XM Satellite Radio DJ Mark D. 9 p.m.-4 a.m. \$15-\$20. Benefits Pride Houston. Rich's Houston, 2401 San Jacinto. 713-759-9606. Richs-houston.com.

SAN ANTONIO

Back to Basics: A Big, Gay, Summer-long Party with swimsuit and tan line contest with cash prizes for men and women. Bonham Exchange, 411 Bonham. 210-271-3811. Bonhamexchange.com.

Single Lesbian Mothers. 12-1:30 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro. 210-225-7330. Diversitycentersa.org.

Spectrum yOUTH Group, a social group for young people ages 13 to 18 meets at the Diversity Center, 7 p.m. 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd floor. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

Sunday, June 26

AUSTIN

Austin Frontrunners. 7:45 a.m. 512-473-8334. Frontrunners.org.

Patio cookout. 5 p.m. Charlie's Austin, 1301 Lavaca. 512-474-6481. Charliesaustin.com.

Sunday Suner Show hosted by Jame Perry. Charlie's

p.m. King of Glory Lutheran Church, 6411 LBJ Freeway. 214-855-4998.

Summer barbecue. 1-4 p.m. The Club, 2616 Swiss Ave. 214-821-1990.

HOUSTON

After-After Hours Brunch, 5 a.m. Benefits Pride Houston. Berryhill Montrose, 3407 Montrose. 713-523-8226.

HATCH GLBT youth group. 6-9 p.m. 713-529-3590. Hatchyouth.org.

Honeymoon—The Official Pride After Party, with G'licious G and DJ Mark MacEwan, presented by Spoiled Boyz. 3:30-10 a.m. \$20-\$25. Benefits Pride Houston. Opus, 412 Main. 713-521-2910. Spoiledboyz.net.

Houston Pride 2005 Parade Awards Ceremony, 4 p.m. Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh. 713-529-6979. Pridehouston.org.

Jason & deMarco concert. 10-11:30 a.m. House of Glory, 3333 Fannin, Suite 106. 713-528-675. Houseofglory.org.

Lone Star Volleyball Association open play, 4-9 p.m. Willowbrook Sports Complex, 12539 Perry Rd. 832-723-6866. Lsva.org.

Michael's Variety Show. 8 p.m. 1419 Richmond Ave. 713-520-8446.

Montrose Men's Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church, 2515 Waugh, rear parking lot entrance.

Montrose Softball League. Slo-Pitch City Softball Park 1826 Gault Rd. Montrosesoftballleague.com.

Night in Oz Tea Dance—The Official Pride Closing Party, with Wizard of Oz-inspired costume contest. Presented by Houston Stonewall Democrats. 5:30 p.m. \$10. Rich's Houston, 2401 San Jacinto 713-621-5751. Houstonstonewalldemocrats@yahoo.com.

Queer as Folk and karaoke. 10 p.m. Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh Dr. 713-524-3359.

Social Sundays Party On The Patio with buffet and drink specials. 6 p.m. Bartini, 1318 Westheimer Rd. 281-701-8931. Clubbartini.com.

Summer barbecue. 1-4 p.m. The Club, 2205 Fannin St. 713-659-4998.

Women's Group. 10:45 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church's Sojourner Truth Room, 3rd floor, 5200 Fannin. 713-529-8571. Houstonwomensgroup.com.

SAN ANTONIO

Queer as Folk. 9 p.m. Heat, 1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600. Heatsa.com.

Weekly Review

performing at the Theatre, 1115 W. Cesar Chavez St. 600-494-TIXS. Gilbertsullivan.org.

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Baile Internacional Pride Dance with The Awesome D.J. Presented by Gays and Lesbians Organized By Orgullo. Benefits Amigos Volunteers in Education and Services, Inc. and Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce Educational Fund. 8 p.m.-1 a.m. \$25-\$30. Communications Workers of America Union Hall 622, 1730 Jefferson St. 713-710-0268.

Big Money Pretty Boy Amateur Strip Contest. 10 p.m. E/J's, 2517 Ralph St. 713-527-9071. Ejsbar.com.

Club Papi, The Official Pre-Parade Party. 9 p.m.-4 a.m. \$10-\$15. Rich's Houston, 2401 San Jacinto. 713-759-9606. Richs-houston.com.

Cultural Diversity/Sensitivity, presented by Montrose Counseling Center's 2005 Spring/Summer Training Programs. Continuing education units available for LMSWs, LCDCs, and LPCs. 1-5 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond Ave. 713-529-0037, ext. 2.

DJ Tucker spins. South Beach, 810 Pacific Ave. 713-529-SOBE. Southbeachthenightclub.com.

Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris, through July 17. Main Street Theater, 4617 Montrose Blvd. 713-524-6706. Mainstreettheater.com.



Jason & deMarco, 6/26

Raised in Captivity by Nicky Silver. Presented by Unhinged Productions through June 26. Friday and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 3 p.m. \$15-\$20. Stages Repertory Theatre, 3201 Allen Parkway. 713-527-0123.

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DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Conspicuous Production: The First Two Years of the UTD/SouthSide Artist Residency, on exhibit through August 1. Opening reception, 6:30-8:30 p.m. with the artists in attendance, and entertainment by Paul Slocum and Tree Wave. McKinney Avenue Contemporary, 3120 McKinney Ave. 214-953-1212. The-mac.

Poet Christopher Soden reads from his Tinman, with open mic. 7:30 p.m. Barnes and Noble, 1612 S. University Dr., Suite 401, Fort Worth. 817-335-2791.

Robert Bechtle: A Retrospective, through Aug. 28. \$4-\$6. Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 3200 Darnell St. 817-738-9215. Themodern.org.

Summer barbecue. 1-4 p.m. The Club, 2616 Swiss Ave. 214-821-1990.

Women's Festival 2005: The Faces of Women Ice Cream Sundae and Mint Lemonade Social with music by Ladies Touch, makeover drawing and silent auction. Saturdays through July 2. \$10-\$15. Reverchon Park and Recreation Center, 3505 Maple Ave.

Brinnance of Seasons, the artwork of Daniel Kayne, through June 30. Mind Puddles Gallery, 2305 Dunlavy. Daniel-kayne.com.

Houston GLBT Pride Festival, with headliners Pansy Division and Sophie B. Hawkins. Yoakum Street at Montrose Boulevard. 2:30-8:30 p.m. Pridehouston.org. 713-529-6979.

Letthead Recording Studio grand opening celebration with Jason & deMarco and producer Alan Lett. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. RSVP: 713-461-1818.

Montrose Soccer Club practice. 10:30 a.m. Woodrow Wilson School, Fairview and Windsor. Montrosesoccer.org.

Official Post-Parade with Kim English and XM Satellite Radio DJ Mark D. 9 p.m.-4 a.m. \$15-\$20. Benefits Pride Houston. Rich's Houston, 2401 San Jacinto. 713-759-9606. Richs-houston.com.

SAN ANTONIO

Back to Basics: A Big, Gay, Summer-long Party with swimsuit and tan line contest with cash prizes for men and women. Bonham Exchange, 411 Bonham. 210-271-3811. Bonhamexchange.com.

Single Lesbian Mothers. 12-1:30 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro. 210-225-7330. Diversitycentersa.org.

Spectrum yOUTH Group, a social group for young people ages 13 to 18 meets at the Diversity Center, 7 p.m. 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd floor. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

Sunday, June 26

AUSTIN

Austin Frontrunners. 7:45 a.m. 512-473-8334. Frontrunners.org.

Patio cookout. 5 p.m. Charlie's Austin, 1301 Lavaca. 512-474-6481. Charliesaustin.com.

Sunday Super Show hosted by Jame Perry. Charlie's Austin, 1301 Lavaca. 512-474-6481. Charliesaustin.com.

The OZ Parties' Summer Pool Party, a social event for HIV+ people. Noon-5 p.m. \$5-\$10. 300 Bear Canyon Dr. in Manchaca. 512-406-6408. Theozparties.org.

YOGAy presents YOGAy Sundays, 1 p.m. \$12. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. 512-220-6353. YOGAyTexas@yahoo.com.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Dallas Fort Worth Primetimers general meeting. 3 p.m. John Thomas Community Center, 2701 Reagan.

Dignity Dallas liturgy. 6 p.m. Bethany Presbyterian Church, 4523 Cedar Springs Rd. 214-521-5342, ext. 1732.

Jubilee Fellowship worship. 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. La Quinta Inn, 1001 W. Airport Freeway, Euless. 214-520-3223. JubileeTX.org.

Lambda Weekly Radio, gay and lesbian radio of North Texas, Dallas and Ft. Worth, airs on KNON 89.3FM. 1 p.m. Geocities.com/lambdaweekly.

Lutherans Concerned (GLBT affirming Lutherans). 7

Opus, 412 Main. 713-521-2910. Spoiledboyz.net.

Houston Pride 2005 Parade Awards Ceremony, 4 p.m. Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh. 713-529-6979. Pridehouston.org

Jason & deMarco concert. 10-11:30 a.m. House of Glory, 3333 Fannin, Suite 106. 713-528-675. Houseofglory.org.

Lone Star Volleyball Association open play, 4-9 p.m. Willowbrook Sports Complex, 12539 Perry Rd. 832-723-6866. Lsva.org.

Michael's Variety Show. 8 p.m. 1419 Richmond Ave. 713-520-8446.

Montrose Men's Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church, 2515 Waugh, rear parking lot entrance.

Montrose Softball League. Slo-Pitch City Softball Park, 1826 Gault Rd. Montrosesoftballleague.com.

Night in Oz Tea Dance—The Official Pride Closing Party, with Wizard of Oz-inspired costume contest. Presented by Houston Stonewall Democrats. 5:30 p.m. \$10. Rich's Houston, 2401 San Jacinto 713-621-5751. Houstonstonewalldemocrats@yahoo.com.

Queer as Folk and karaoke. 10 p.m. Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh Dr. 713-524-3359.

Social Sundays Party On The Patio with buffet and drink specials. 6 p.m. Bartini, 1318 Westheimer Rd. 281-701-8931. Clubbartini.com.

Summer barbecue. 1-4 p.m. The Club, 2205 Fannin St. 713-659-4998.

Women's Group. 10:45 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church's Sojourner Truth Room, 3rd floor, 5200 Fannin. 713-529-8571. Houstonwomensgroup.com.

SAN ANTONIO

Queer as Folk. 9 p.m. Heat, 1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600. Heatsa.com.

Sidewalk Sale. The Saint, 1430 N. Main. 210-225-7330. Thesaint-satx.com.

Super Sunday Show. Midnight. Heat, 1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600. Heatsa.com.



Mondovino, through 6/26



To submit an event listing All listings of upcoming GLBT meetings and events and of arts openings should be sent to the managing editor, in the Houston office. They must be received no later than noon on Monday to be included in Friday's newsmagazine. We prefer to receive them earlier. They may be e-mailed to Nancy@btnewsmag.com, or faxed to 713-529-0327, or mailed to TXT Newsmagazine, 4617 Montrose Blvd., Suite C229, Houston TX 77006.

HOUSTON

Annual Houston Pride Pre-Parade Cool Down with Story Fund Houston Board Members Janine Brunjes, Colburn and David Arpin and Houston Victory Binet members. 6:30 p.m.-8:45 p.m. 1323 Hawthorne. RSVP: 713-520-1353.

th annual Houston GLBT Pride Parade, through Montrose on Westheimer. 8:45 p.m. Pride Houston. 713-9-6979. Pridehouston.org.

er Hours, pre-dawn GLBT radio with an attitude. 1-4 a.m. KPFT 90.1 FM.

Big Money Pretty Boy Amateur Strip Contest. 10 p.m. E.J.'s, 2517 Ralph. 713-527-9071.

alliance of Seasons, the artwork of Daniel-kayne, through June 30. Mind Puddles Gallery, 2305 Dunlavy. niel-kayne.com.

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Montrose Soccer Club practice. 10:30 a.m. Woodrow Wilson School, Fairview and Windsor. montrosesoccer.org.

icial Post-Parade with Kim English and XM Satellite radio DJ Mark D. 9 p.m.-4 a.m. \$15-\$20. Benefits Pride Houston. Rich's Houston, 2401 San Jacinto. 713-759-06. Richs-houston.com.

IN ANTONIO

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iday Super Show hosted by Jame Perry. Charlie's Austin, 1301 Lavaca. 512-474-6481.

p.m. King of Glory Lutheran Church, 6411 LBJ Freeway. 214-855-4998.

Summer barbecue. 1-4 p.m. The Club, 2616 Swiss Ave. 214-821-1990.

HOUSTON

After-After Hours Brunch, 5 a.m. Benefits Pride Houston. Berryhill Montrose, 3407 Montrose, 713-523-8226.

HATCH GLBT youth group. 6-9 p.m. 713-529-3590. Hatchyouth.org.

Honeymoon—The Official Pride After Party, with G'licious G and DJ Mark MacEwan, presented by Spoiled Boyz. 3:30-10 a.m. \$20-\$25. Benefits Pride Houston. Opus, 412 Main. 713-521-2910. Spoiledboyz.net.

Houston Pride 2005 Parade Awards Ceremony, 4 p.m. Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh. 713-529-6979. Pridehouston.org.

Jason & deMarco concert. 10-11:30 a.m. House of Glory, 3333 Fannin, Suite 106. 713-528-675. Houseofglory.org.

Lone Star Volleyball Association open play, 4-9 p.m. Willowbrook Sports Complex, 12539 Perry Rd. 832-723-6866. Lsva.org.

Michael's Variety Show. 8 p.m. 1419 Richmond Ave. 713-520-8446.

Montrose Men's Alcoholics Anonymous. 7 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church, 2515 Waugh, rear parking lot entrance.

Montrose Softball League. Slo-Pitch City Softball Park, 1826 Gault Rd. Montrosesoftballleague.com.

Night in Oz Tea Dance—The Official Pride Closing Party, with Wizard of Oz-inspired costume contest. Presented by Houston Stonewall Democrats. 5:30 p.m. \$10. Rich's Houston, 2401 San Jacinto 713-621-5751. Houstonstonewalldemocrats@yahoo.com.

Queer as Folk and karaoke. 10 p.m. Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh Dr. 713-524-3359.

Social Sundays Party On The Patio with buffet and drink specials. 6 p.m. Bartini, 1318 Westheimer Rd. 281-701-8931. Clubbartini.com.

Summer barbecue. 1-4 p.m. The Club, 2205 Fannin St. 713-659-4998.

Women's Group. 10:45 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church's Sojourner Truth Room, 3rd floor, 5200 Fannin. 713-529-8571. Houstonwomensgroup.com.

SAN ANTONIO

Queer as Folk. 9 p.m. Heat, 1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600. Heatsa.com.

Sidewalk Sale. The Saint, 1430 N. Main. 210-225-7330.

Monday, June 27

AUSTIN

Speaking the Spoken: The Art of Verse, with Zell Miller III, presented by Xenogia Spoken Word Collective and Vortex Repertory Company. 7-9:45 p.m. \$1-\$3. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd. 512-423-9614 or 512 478-5282. Vortexrep.org.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Bernie Siben. 8 p.m.-12 midnight. Alexandre's, 4026 Cedar Springs. 214-559-0720. Alexandresdallas.com.

Leadership Lambda Toastmasters. 6:30 p.m. Oak Lawn Public Library, 4100 Cedar Springs. 214-219-1908.

HOUSTON

Big Money Pretty Boy Amateur Strip Contest. 10 p.m. E.J.'s, 2517 Ralph St. 713-527-9071. Ejsbar.com.

Food Addicts In Recovery. 7-8 p.m. Bering Methodist Church, 1440 Harold St. 713-523-7361. Foodaddictsinrecovery.com.

Lesbianas Latinas L2 Night with free pool, drink specials, and \$250 cash and prizes in a piñata. 9 p.m. Amazonia, 11449 I-45. 281-260-9885. Amaoniacclub.com.

Queer Voices, GLBT radio with Jack Valinski, Deborah Bell and various GLBT co-hosts. 7-9 p.m. KPFT-FM 90.1.

You Can be a Star talent contest. 8 p.m. Michael's, 1419 Richmond. 713-523-2828. Missmichaels05@sbc-global.net.

SAN ANTONIO

Shady Lady hosts Talent Night. Heat, 1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600. Heatsa.com.

Texas Tradition Cloggers classes. 5:30 p.m. Turner Club, 120 9th St. 210-535-6155. Texastraditioncloggers.com.

Tuesday, June 28

AUSTIN

Austin Gamblers Bowling League. 8:20 p.m. Dart Bowl, 5700 Grover. 512-647-7073. Austingamblers@yahoo.com.

hole, a world premiere, presented by Ethos, Tuesdays through Aug. 2. 8:30 p.m. \$10-\$25. The Yard at The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd. 512-478-5282. Vortexrep.org.

Texas Hold 'Em Tournament with great prizes. 7:30 p.m. Rain, 217B W. 4th St. 512-494-1150. Rainon4th.com.

Montrose Social Group (MSG), a peer-led community. 7:30 p.m. Bering Church, room 224. Msgshouston.org.

Queer as Folk. 10 p.m. Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh Dr. 713-524-3359.

RSICSS presents Drag Queen Bingo. 9 p.m. Meteor, 2306 Genesee. 713-710-0268.

Tight Tush contest, 8 p.m. Mary's, Naturally, 1022 Westheimer. 713-527-9669.

SAN ANTONIO

Amateur Talent Night. The Saint, 1430 N. Main. 210-225-7330. Thesaint-satx.com.

Queer as Folk and Layla's Male Strip-off with \$100 in prizes. 9 p.m. Heat, 1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600. Heatsa.com.

Wednesday, June 29

AUSTIN

I've Got Something to Say! open mic. Sidekicks, 110 E. Riverside Dr. Sidekicksaustintx.com.

Safe Space. 7 p.m. University of Texas, Jester West Fireplace Lounge. Demeureguy@yahoo.com.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Rainbow Roller Skating. 8 p.m. \$5. Forum Roller World, 1900 S. Great Southwest Prkwy., Grand Prairie. 214-478-2649.

Teen Project. 909 W. Magnolia St. Ft. Worth. 817-332-7722.

Mundo Latino with drink specials. Throckmorton Mining Company, 3014 Throckmorton. 3014 Throckmorton. Caven.com.

HOUSTON

Big Money Pretty Boy Amateur Strip Contest. 10 p.m. E.J.'s, 2517 Ralph St. 713-527-9071. Ejsbar.com.

Café con Leche, with Los Mocosos CD release party. South Beach, 810 Pacific. 713-529-SOBE. Southbeachthenightclub.com.

Discussion about Sculptra treatment for facial wasting. 7 p.m. Free. Skin Renewal Center, 1512 W. Alabama. RSVP: 713-533-0800. Nuturehealth.net.

Karaoke. Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh Dr. 713-524-3359.

Karaoke, with \$1.50 well drinks. 7 p.m. Bartini, 1318 Westheimer Rd. Clubbartini.com.

OutSkate Roller Skate Club. 8 p.m. \$5. Zenith Roller Rink, 8075 Cook Rd. 281-933-5818. Dobie367@aol.com.

Professional Women's Happy Hour. 7 p.m. Meteor.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Dallas FrontRunners run on the Katy Trail. 6:30 p.m. Meet at Knox Street entrance.

Fuse for young men, ages 18-24. 7:30 p.m. Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 2701 Reagan St. 214-540-4410.

Ministering to Families in Today's World, the 2005 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association, with The Prom You Never Had (But Now Can!), featuring opening remarks from Hillary Goodridge on Friday, a special Saturday appearance by Shelby Knox, and workshops. Through June 27. Ft. Worth Convention Center. 617-948-6131. Uua.org/ga/prog.html.

S4 presents DJ's Inzo and Phinatik. \$5 for 21+. 3911 Cedar Springs Rd. 214-559-0650. Caven.com.

The Best Little Hoedown in Texas, the 12th Annual Convention of The International Association of Gay/Lesbian Country Western Dance Clubs. Presented locally by Texas Twisters through July 4. Registration: \$95. Fairmont Hotel, downtown Dallas. Benefits Resource Center of Dallas and Youth First Texas. Hoedown2005.com.

HOUSTON

Ibiza Night with DJ Nacho. Amazonia, 11449 I-45. 281-260-9885. Amaoniacclub.com.

BiNet Houston. 7 p.m. Hobbit Cafe, 2243 Richmond. 713-467-4380. Flash.net/~bihouse.

Latino and House music, with S2 wells and domestics. Amazonia: Amazonia.com

Professional Men's Happy Hour. 7 p.m. Meteor, 2306 Genesee. 713-521-0123.

Talent Night with host, Cookie La Cook. 10 p.m. Bartini, 1318 Westheimer Rd. Clubbartini.com.

SAN ANTONIO

M2: A Peer Support Group for Young Men. 6 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd floor. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

Taco sale, presented by Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of The Alamo Empire. 6-8 p.m. \$3. Benefits Diversity Center. The Annex, 330 San Pedro. 210-223-6957.

Women's Support Group discusses relationship issues, facilitated by Sally Chilson, MA, LPCL. 6:30-8 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd Floor. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

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Summer barbecue. 1-4 p.m. The Club, 2205 Fannin St. 713-659-4998.

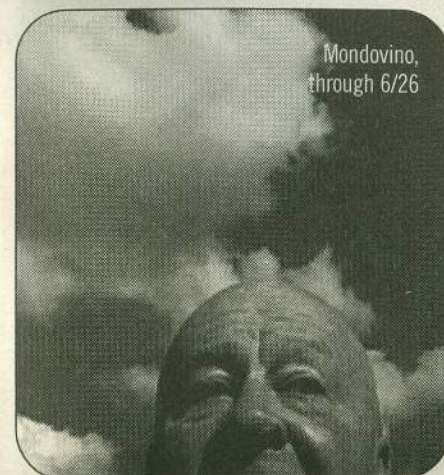
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SAN ANTONIO

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Sidewalk Sale. The Saint, 1430 N. Main. 210-225-7330. Thesaint-sabx.com.

Super Sunday Show. Midnight. Heat, 1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600. Heatsa.com.



Public Library, 4100 Cedar Springs. 214-219-1908.

HOUSTON

Big Money Pretty Boy Amateur Strip Contest. 10 p.m. E/J's, 2517 Ralph St. 713-527-9071. Ejsbar.com.

Food Addicts In Recovery. 7-8 p.m. Bering Methodist Church, 1440 Harold St. 713-523-7361. Foodaddictsinrecovery.com.

Lesbianas Latinas L2 Night with free pool, drink specials, and \$250 cash and prizes in a piñata. 9 p.m. Amazonia, 11449 I-45. 281-260-9885. Amaoniacclub.com.

Queer Voices. GLBT radio with Jack Valinski, Deborah Bell and various GLBT co-hosts. 7-9 p.m. KPFT-FM 90.1.

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SAN ANTONIO

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Tuesday, June 28

AUSTIN

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Texas Hold 'Em Tournament with great prizes. 7:30 p.m. Rain, 217B W. 4th St. 512-494-1150. Rainon4th.com.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Dallas Fort Worth Primetimers Prime Diner. 6:30 p.m. Mario & Alberto's, 12817 Preston Rd. 972-504-8866.

Dallas FrontRunners run on the Katy Trail. 6:30 p.m. Meet at Knox Street entrance.

Journey Out youth group for ages 16-22. 7 p.m. Cathedral of Hope Congregational Life Center, 5910 Cedar Spring.

The Producers, presented by Casa Manana, through June 26. Saturday, 2 and 8 p.m. Sunday, 2 p.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. \$25-\$85. Bass Performance Hall, 235 Commerce St. in Ft. Worth. 817-212-4280.

HOUSTON

Academia del Amor, a Jesse Love production, with DJ William Fuentes. Amazonia, 11449 I-45. 281-260-9885.

Center for AIDS Information & Advocacy presents A New Definition of AIDS: Trends in Survival and Mortality, a service provider training. 10 a.m.-Noon. CFA, 1407 Hawthorne St. 713-527-8219, ext. 108.

prizes. 9 p.m. Heat, 1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600. Heatsa.com.

Wednesday, June 29

AUSTIN

I've Got Something to Say! open mic. Sidekicks, 110 E. Riverside Dr. Sidekicksaustintx.com.

Safe Space. 7 p.m. University of Texas, Jester West Fireplace Lounge. Demeureguy@yahoo.com.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Rainbow Roller Skating. 8 p.m. \$5. Forum Roller World, 1900 S. Great Southwest Prkwy., Grand Prairie. 214-478-2649.

Teen Project. 909 W. Magnolia St. Ft. Worth. 817-332-7722.

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HOUSTON

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Café con Leche, with Los Mocosos CD release party. South Beach, 810 Pacific. 713-529-SOBE. Southbeachthenightclub.com.

Discussion about Sculptra treatment for facial wasting. 7 p.m. Free. Skin Renewal Center, 1512 W. Alabama. RSVP: 713-533-0800. Nuturehealth.net.

Karaoke. Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh Dr. 713-524-3359.

Karaoke, with \$1.50 well drinks. 7 p.m. Bartini, 1318 Westheimer Rd. Clubbartini.com.

OutSkate Roller Skate Club. 8 p.m. \$5. Zenith Roller Rink, 8075 Cook Rd. 281-933-5818. Dobie367@aol.com.

Professional Women's Happy Hour. 7 p.m. Meteor, 2306 Genesee. 713-521-0123.

SAN ANTONIO

2015 Place presents karaoke. 9 p.m. 2015 San Pedro. 210-733-3365. 2015place.com.

Free HIV Testing with BEAT AIDS. 4-7 p.m. 531 San Pedro Ave. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

King Mary's Bridge Club presents party bridge and free lessons. 6:45 p.m. \$4. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 210-223-6106. Kingmary.org.

The Boys of HEAT with .75¢ well drinks. Heat, 1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600. Heatsa.com.

Thursday, June 30

AUSTIN

4th Annual Mommie Dearest Roast, presented by aGLIFF. 7 p.m. \$8-\$10. Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, 409 Colorado St. 512-476-1320. Agliff.org.

Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas volunteer night. 6-9 p.m. Lgri.org. 512-474-5475.

Uua.org/ga/prog.html.

\$4 presents DJ's Inzo and Phinatik. \$5 for 21+. 3911 Cedar Springs Rd. 214-559-0650. Caven.com.

The Best Little Hoedown in Texas, the 12th Annual Convention of The International Association of Gay/Lesbian Country Western Dance Clubs. Presented locally by Texas Twisters through July 4. Registration: \$95. Fairmont Hotel, downtown Dallas. Benefits Resource Center of Dallas and Youth First Texas. Hoedown2005.com.

HOUSTON

Ibiza Night with DJ Nacho. Amazonia, 11449 I-45. 281-260-9885. Amaoniacclub.com.

BiNet Houston. 7 p.m. Hobbit Cafe, 2243 Richmond. 713-467-4380. Flash.net/~bihouse.

Latino and House music, with S2 wells and domestics. Amazonia: Amazonia.com

Professional Men's Happy Hour. 7 p.m. Meteor, 2306 Genesee. 713-521-0123.

Talent Night with host, Cookie La Cook. 10 p.m. Bartini, 1318 Westheimer Rd. Clubbartini.com.

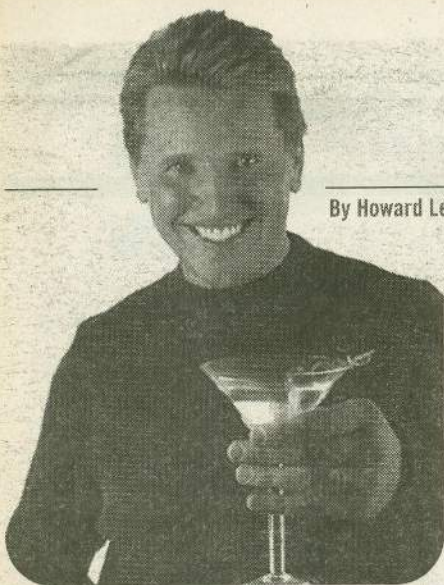
SAN ANTONIO

M2: A Peer Support Group for Young Men. 6 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd floor. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

Taco sale, presented by Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of The Alamo Empire. 6-8 p.m. \$3. Benefits Diversity Center. The Annex, 330 San Pedro. 210-223-6957.

Women's Support Group discusses relationship issues, facilitated by Sally Chilson, MA, LPCI. 6:30-8 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd Floor. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.





By Howard Lewis Russell

AskHoward

How to do the wrong thing right

Like Michael Jackson, Howard shows concerns for the young

Dear Howard,

I'm 20 and just OK-looking, but I seem to be a magnet for older guys. I don't understand why, but they come up to me at the bar, buy me drinks and after we get to talking, they all say the same thing, down to the exact wording: "You're not like other guys your age — you're different, you're special." Howard, what the heck precisely does that mean? Have you ever heard a stupider pickup line? Bar none, they all use it. It's like they all

have the same cheesy handbook or something. Am I really that much of a gullible twinkie?

Billy, The Kid

Kid, they all said it to me when I was 20, and they'll all say it to our great nephews when they're 20. The progression of cheesiness is quite amazing, actually. By 25, the line morphs into, "You're funny, dude, I like you." By 30, it's, "You here alone, man? You into partying?" By 35, it's, "Lemme guess — your boyfriend's out of town, too?" By 40, it's... well, there is no "by 40." If you're still night-crawling the bars by 40, then you're the one delivering the lines — the designated keeper of old-fart perpetuity.

Dear Howard,

I'm a teenager. How old are most guys when they have sex together the first time? How old were you?

Tommy

That's between me and God, Tom. Unfortunately, there is no *Handbook for the Horny Boy* out there to guide one, and I'm certainly not going to provide you with any answer other than the stock, "Celibacy is a virtue, and sex is forbidden until you turn 17.

Furthermore, sex is a sin, always, unless you're married."

Try to stifle your laughter, Tom. My only advice is, play responsibly.

Dear Howard,

I graduated from high school this year. I don't want to be gay, but I've more or less accepted that I am. I don't want to lead girls on anymore from here. I'm tired of feeling pressured all the time. What do I do? I just dumped my latest girlfriend because I told her I needed space. Man, I'm such a liar. I feel like I'm going crazy. I picked up your magazine on my way out of the Angelika Theater. It's the first time I ever even saw it. The questions you answer seem kind of gay, so that's why I'm asking.

Trey

I appreciate your frankness. Gay people seldom bring up the 900-pound gorilla in the room — that they wonder whether life would be easier if they had been born straight. Ninety percent of the battle is just owning up.

You're right in not leading girls on. It gets easier from here on out, I promise. You're going to be fine. Gay isn't so hard, actually. Like everything worthwhile, Trey, it just

takes getting the hang of it.

Dear Howard,

I am the eldest of triplet brothers. Not 15 minutes separate our births. I am gay. My two "younger" brothers are not. We all just turned 21 recently, so I think our sexual leanings are pretty much not going to change at this point. What I want to know, is, why are they both straight and not me?

Reginald

As tempted as I am to blow this question off as fake, Reginald, I'm going to give you the benefit of my doubt. On second thought, I'm not. Triplet gay siblings? If you'd stuck with twins, I probably would have been snookered, but not by triplets — especially those who are 21. You should have made yourselves 25 — lies never end in 5. Lies will end in any number *except* 5. The 15 minutes apart, though, was masterful.

HAVE A QUESTION FOR HOWARD?

Do you have a question for Howard? Send e-mail to askhoward@bntnewsmag.com, or write to Ask Howard, P.O. Box 191362, Dallas TX 75219

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Like Michael Jackson, Howard shows concerns for the young

Dear Howard,

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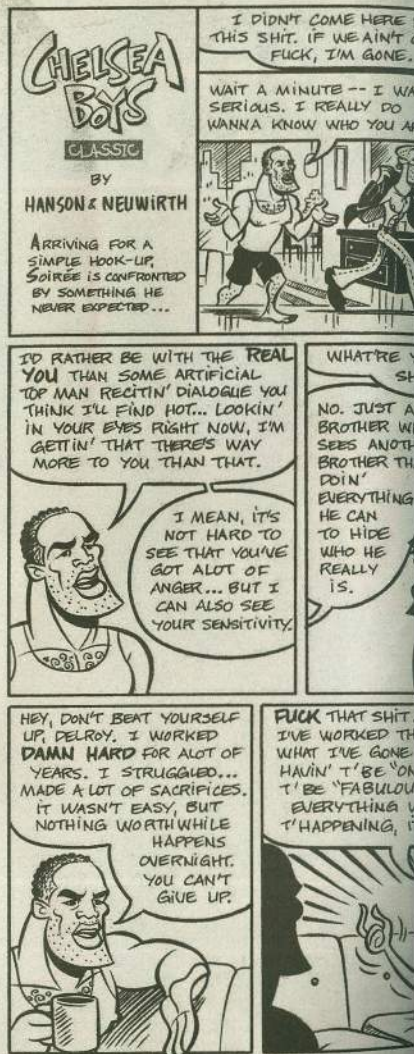
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Mercury is conjunct Venus in Cancer
opposing Jupiter in Libra lights up the

CANCER — June 21-July 22
Look at how your control issues come up
work and think about how to cooperate better. When you have the opportunity to lead
you'll find it best to keep a careful eye on others to work

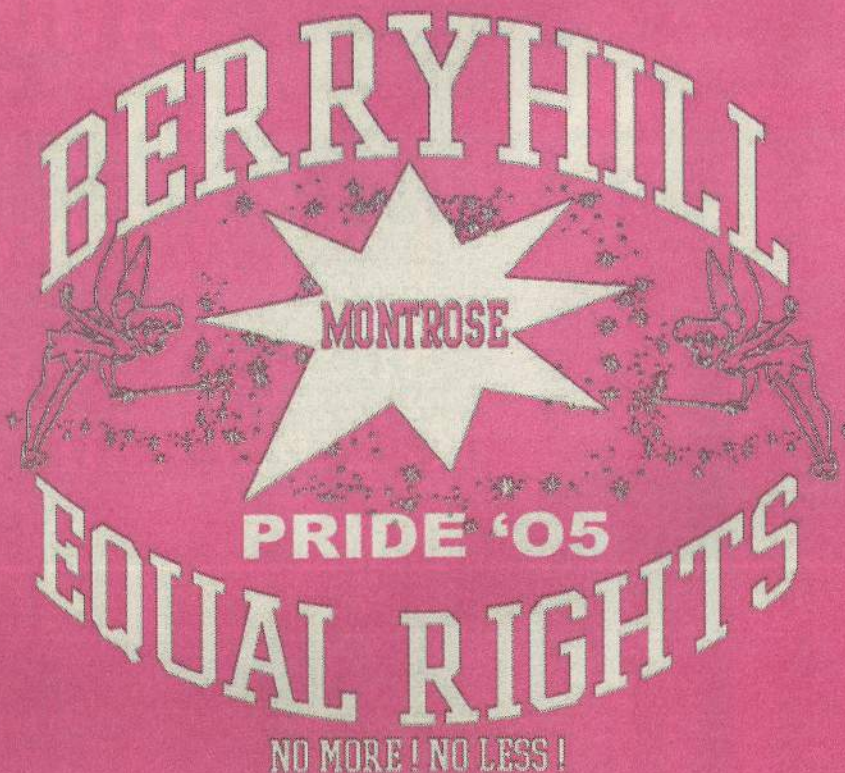
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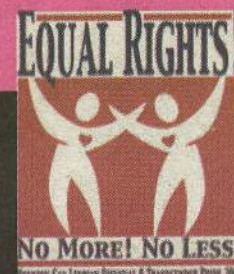
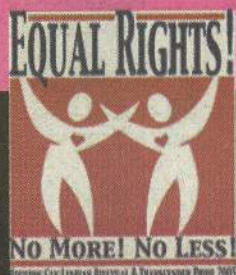
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Mercury is conjunct Venus in Cancer
opposing Jupiter in Libra lights up

CANCER — June 21-July 22

Look at how your control issues come to work and think about how to cooperate better. When you have the opportunity to work with others, you'll find it best to keep a careful eye on them from a distance, allowing others to work on their own way.

LEO — July 23-August 22

Keep a notebook by the bed. Your dreams — especially the disturbing ones — are often potent sources of creativity. Not that you need encouragement, but this is an excellent time to practice your skills as a writer.

VIRGO — August 23-September 22

Erotic opportunities surround you, but at what cost to a friendship? Invite some of your best friends over for dinner and open up discussion to politics and philosophy. The evening will prove very educational and very enlightening!

Jack Fertig, a founding member of the Association

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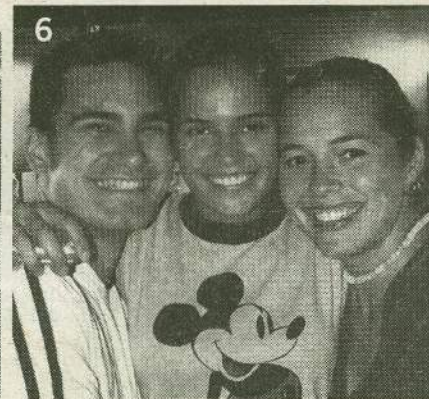
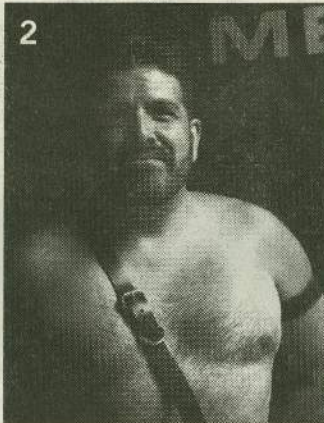


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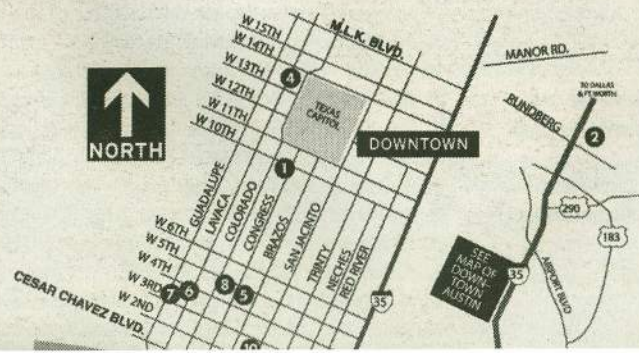
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austin

1. Jennifer and Kevin at Austin Pride Festival. 2. Roger at Chain Drive. 3. Austin Babbist Women at Austin Pride Festival. 4. David and Rob at Austin Pride Festival. 5. Stonewall Democrats Robert, Steve, Jim and Jeff at Austin Pride Festival. 6. Stephen, Sabrina and Ellen at Sidekicks. 7. Stephanie, Kayla and Kayla at Charlie's. 8. Philip, Sean and Robbi at Fabric. Photos by Guillermo Garza



NightSpots



B&K's Kick-Ass Sound

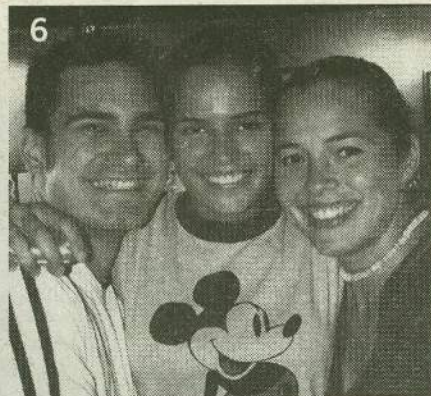
The AVR507 A/V receiver offers hefty construction and hefty performance that trounce the competition.



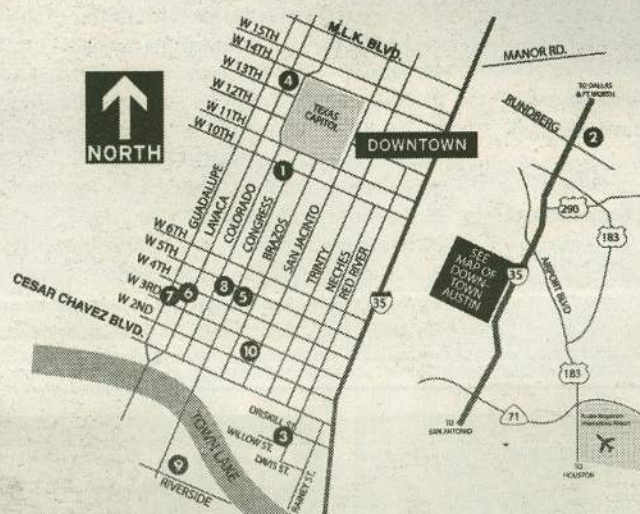
"I'm buying one," proclaimed one of our long-time sales guys after his first audition of the 507. Compared to all of B&K's competitors he's heard, he says the 507 "sounds bigger, is much clearer, offers better clarity, is very strong, features an excellent"

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Beyond



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2. 'Bout Time—9601 N. I-35. 512-832-5339
3. Chain Drive—504 Willow St. 512-480-9017
4. Charlie's—1301 Lavaca. 512-474-6481. Charliesaustin.com
5. Fabric—101 W. 5th St. 512-322-9333.
6. Dilcan Harry's—211 W. 4th St. 512-320-8823
7. Rain on 4th—217 W. 4th St. 512-494-1150
8. Rainbow Cattle Co.—305 W. 5th St. 512-472-5288
9. Sidekicks/Xtreme—110 E. Riverside Dr. 512-804-2707.
Sidekicksaustin.com
10. Silver Spur Saloon—113 San Jacinto. 512-457-8010

B&K's Kick-Ass Sound

The AVR507 A/V receiver offers hefty construction and hefty performance that trounce the competition.



"I'm buying one," proclaimed one of our long-time sales guys after his first audition of the 507. Compared to all of B&K's competitors he's heard, he says the 507 "sounds bigger, is much more dynamic, offers better clarity, is easier to set up, features an excellent remote and is easier to use overall." Strong praise indeed for a very strong receiver.

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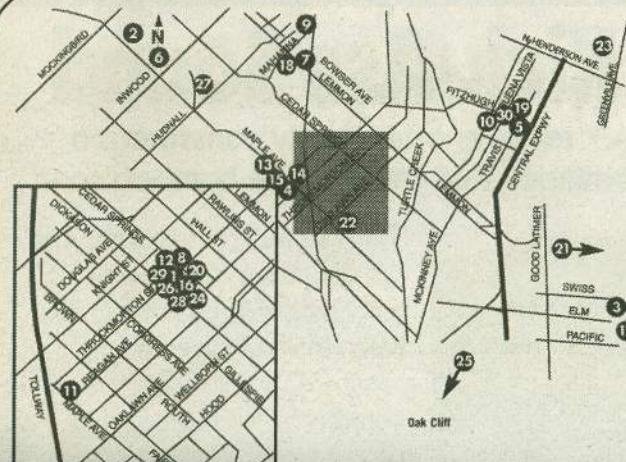
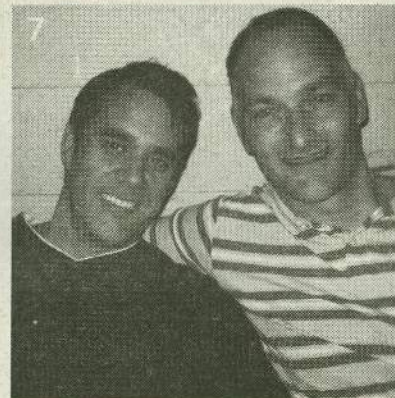
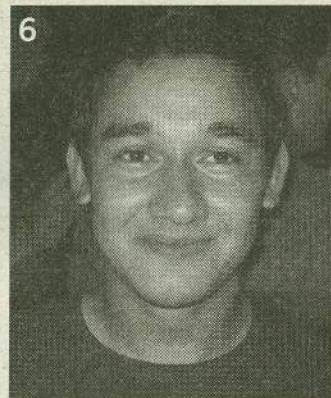
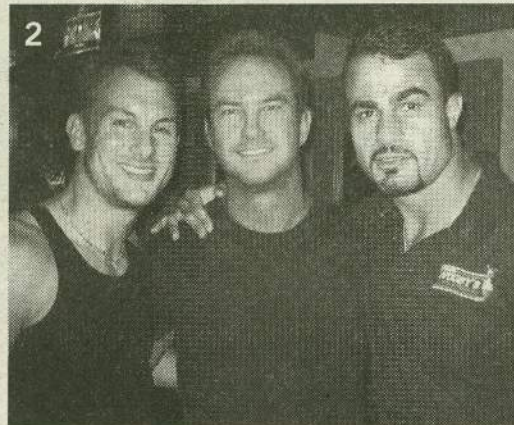
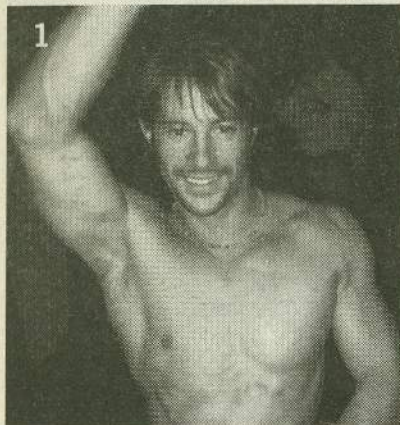
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1. Ryan at Crews Inn. 2. Blake, Mark and Joel at Woody's Sports and Video Bar. 3. Obsession at JR's Bar & Grill. 4. Julian and Courtney at Sue Ellen's. 5. Steffan and Waylan at Buddies II. 6. Bennie at Havana. 7. Tom and Mark at Bill's Hideaway. 8. Miss Gay Dallas contestants at the Round-Up Saloon. Photos by Christian Colbert and Gregory Hayes

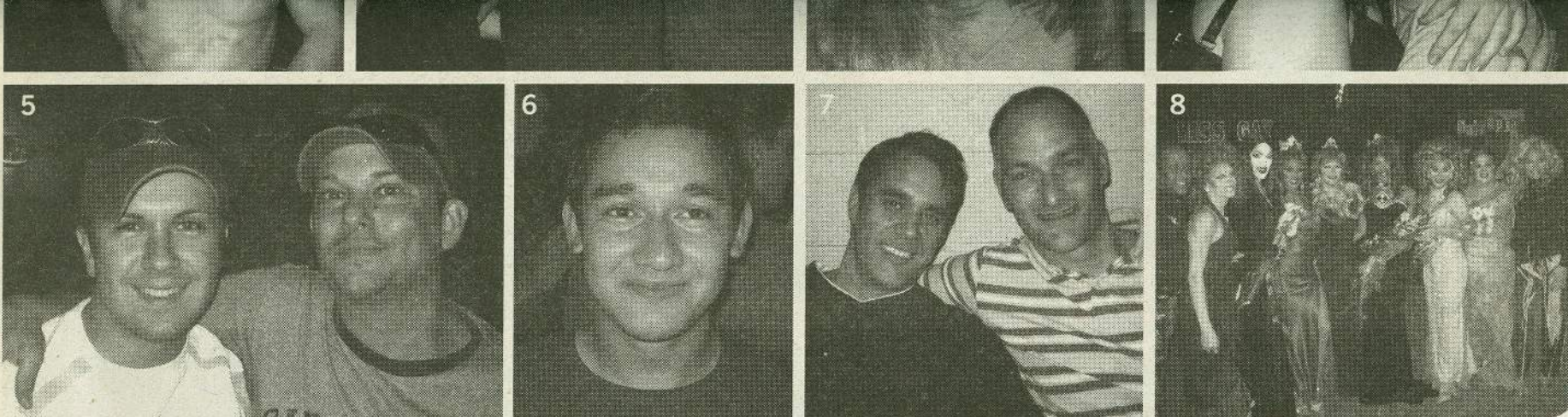


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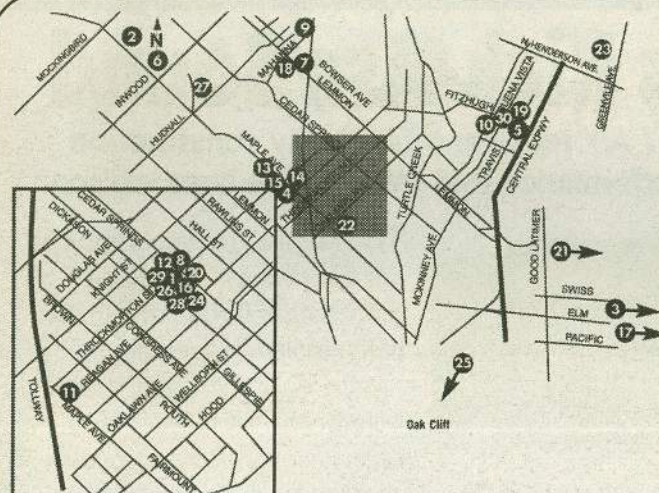
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2. Bamboleos—6102 Maple Ave. 214-358-2515. Bamboleos.com
3. Blue—1933 Elm St. 214-880-0888. Bluevip.com
4. Buddies II—4025 Maple Ave. 214-526-0887. Buddiesii.com
5. Crews Inn—3215 N. Fitzhugh. 214-526-9510
6. Dallas Eagle—2515 Inwood, #107. 214-357-4375. DallasEagle.com
7. DeWayne's Oasis—5334 Lemmon. 214-528-6234. Dewaynesoasis.com
8. Havana—4006 Cedar Springs. 214-528-5766
9. Hidden Door—5025 Bowser. 214-526-0620
10. Hideaway Clubs—4144 Buena Vista. 214-559-2966. Billshideaway.com
11. Illusions—4100 Maple. 214-252-0552
12. JR's—3923 Cedar Springs. 214-559-0650. Caven.com
13. Joe's Place—4117 Maple. 214-219-JOES
14. Kaliente—4350 Maple Ave. 214-520-6676. Kaliente.cc
15. Mickey's—3851-A Cedar Springs. 214-219-6425. Mickeysdallas.com
16. Minc—813 Exposition. 214-370-4077
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18. Maleboxx—5006 Lemmon Ave. 214-219-880X
19. Pub Pegasus—3326 N. Fitzhugh. 214-559-4663
20. Round-Up—3912 Cedar Springs. 214-522-9611. Roundupsaloon.com
21. Seven—2505 Pacific. 214-887-8787. Sevendallas.com
22. Side 2 Bar—2615 Oak Lawn. 214-528-2026. Side2bar.com
23. Soul II Soul—5628 Sears St. 214-828-1800
24. Sue Ellen's—3903 Cedar Springs. 214-559-0650. Caven.com
25. The Pavillion—325 Centre St. 214-941-2145
26. Throckmorton Mining Co.—3014 Throckmorton. 214-559-0650
27. Tin Room—2514 Hudnall. 214-526-6365
28. Station 4—3911 Cedar Springs. 214-559-0650. Caven.com
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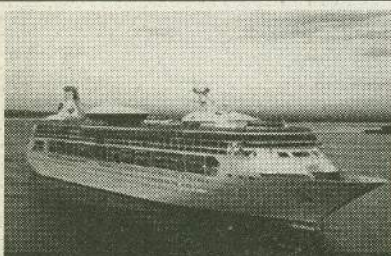
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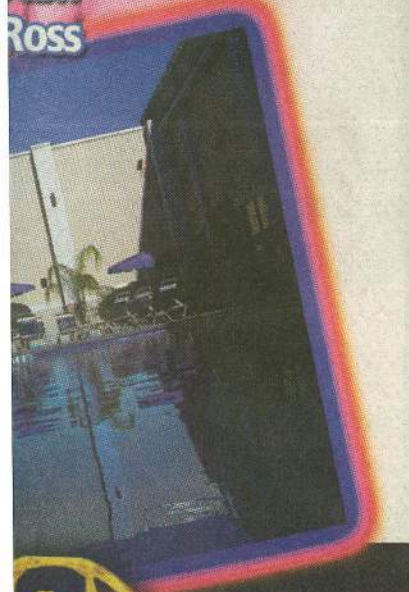
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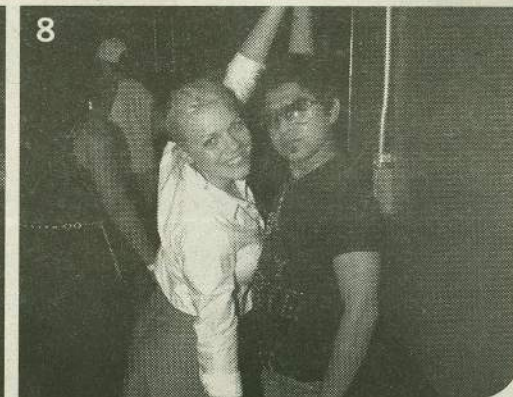
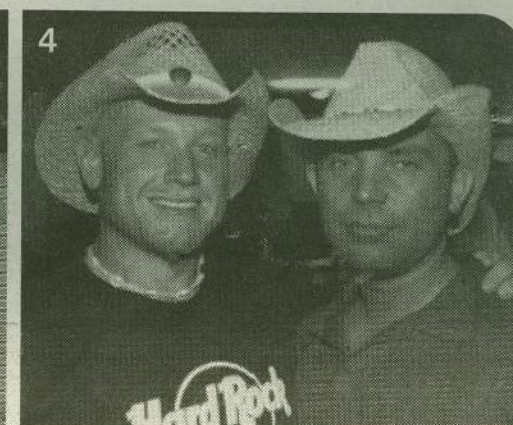
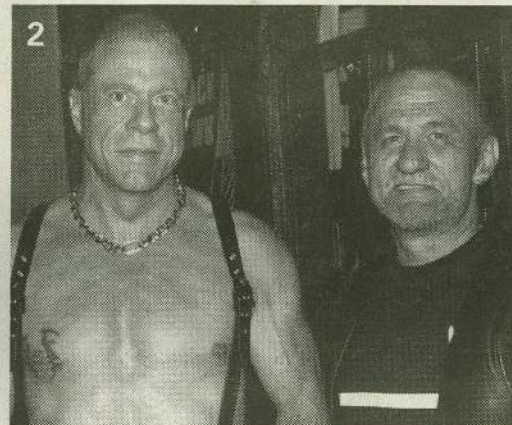
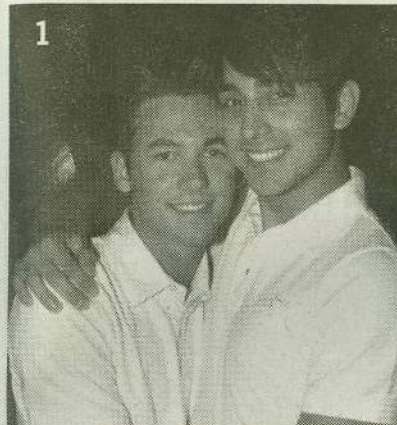
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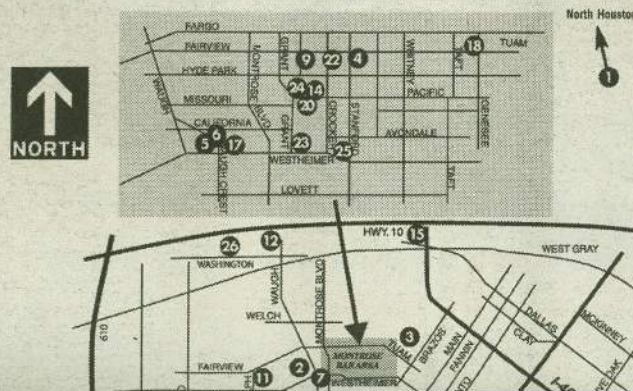
houston

ClubLand

1. Andrew and Marc at South Beach. 2. boy Rich and Daddy Bob at Ripcord. 3. Jackson and John at The 611. 4. Brian and Roy at Brazos River Bottom. 5. Johnny and Kenny at Guava Lamp. 6. Lupe and Rashawn at South Beach. 7. Denny and Frank at JR's Bar & Grill. 8. Towhee and Randy at Chances. **Photos by Paul Stricklin**



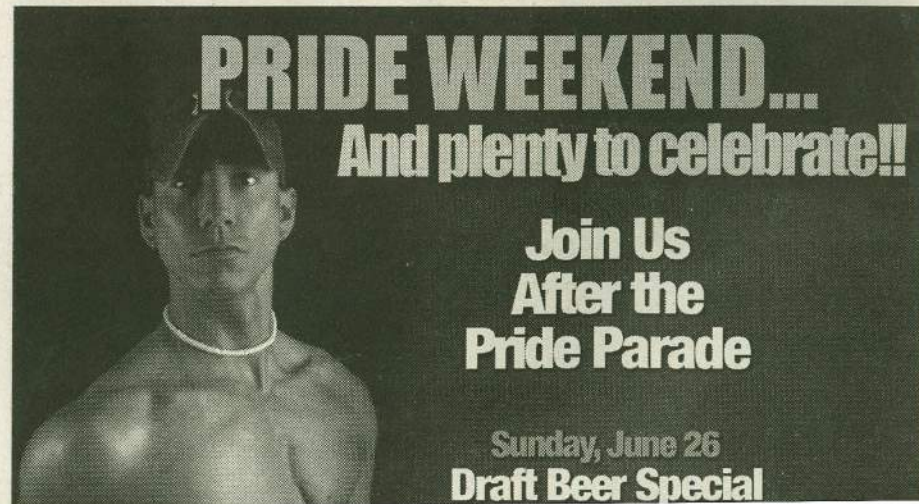
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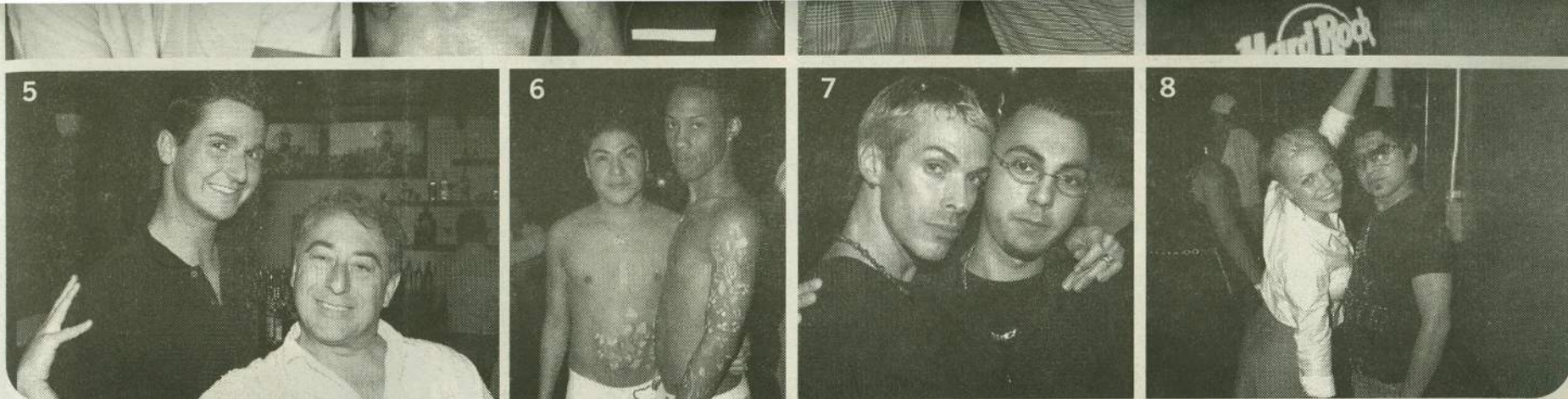


JB

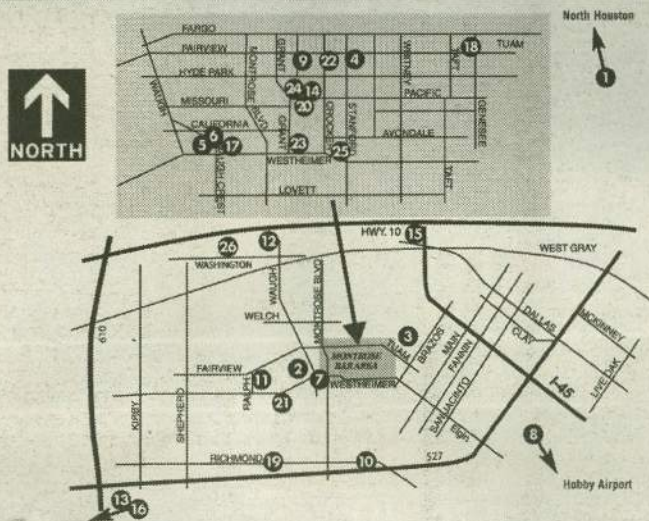
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3. Brazos River Bottom—2400 Brazos. 713-528-8192
4. Brick's II—617 Fairview. 713-528-8102
5. Chances/G-Spot—1100 Westheimer. 713-523-7217. Chancesbar.com
6. Club 1415—1415 California. 713-522-7066
7. Club Rainbow—1417 Westheimer. 713-522-5166
8. Club Xcape—8101 Airport Blvd. 713-454-0775
9. Cousins—817 Fairview. 713-528-9204
10. Decades—1205 Richmond. 713-521-2224
11. E/I's—2517 Ralph. 713-527-9071
12. Guava Lamp—570 Waugh. 713-524-3359
13. Inergy—5750 Chimney Rock. 713-666-7310. Clubinergy.com
14. JR's—808 Pacific. 713-521-2519. JRsBarandGrill.com
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17. Mary's—1022 Westheimer. 713-527-9669
18. Meteor—2306 Genesee @ Fairview. 713-521-0123. Meteorhouston.com
19. Michael's—1419 Richmond. 713-520-8446
20. Montrose Mining Co.—805 Pacific. 713-529-7488
21. Rainbow Room—527 Barren Springs.
22. Ripcord—715 Fairview. 713-521-2792. Ripcordjournal.com
23. Santa Fe Bar & Patio—804 Pacific. 713-521-2519
24. South Beach—810 Pacific. 713-529-S0BE. Southbeachthenightclub.com
25. 611 Club—611 Hyde Park. 713-526-7070
26. Viviana's Nite Club—5219 Washington. 713-862-0203

PRIDE WEEKEND... And plenty to celebrate!!

Join Us
After the
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Sunday, June 26
Draft Beer Special
From 9 pm – 12 am

Coming Sunday, July 3
TALENT CONTEST
12:30 AM

\$150.00 FIRST PRIZE
\$100.00 SECOND PRIZE

VIVIANAS

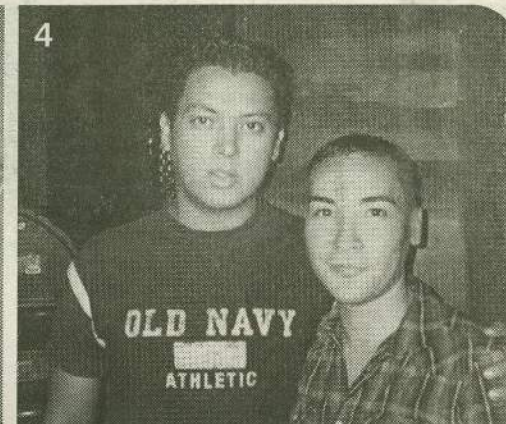
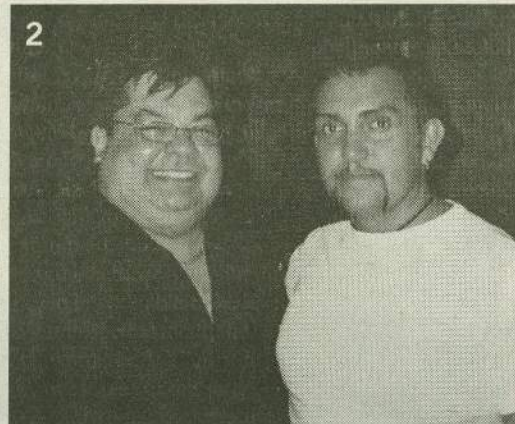
5219 Washington Ave. • Houston, Texas • 713-862-0203

san antonio

ClubLand

1. Gene and Freddy at The Annex. 2. Rene and Ruben at Heat. 3. R.J., Billy and Tina at Heat. 4. Rick and Joey at SA Eagle. 5. Jeff, George, Bobby and Caesar at The Annex. 6. Bethany at Bonham Exchange. 7. Giovane at 2015 Place. 8. Tersa Mathews at The Saint.

Photos by Junior Hernandez



402 Austin St. • San Antonio • 210-299-1400

**JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
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LEATHER BY BOOTS HAS JOINED
THE LEATHER MASTERS FAMILY!

**GRAND OPENING @NOON
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2525 Wycliff Ave. #124 - Dallas, TX 75219 - 214.528.3865
Leather By Boots WILL BE OPEN regular business hours during the transition & remodeling!

2 HOT RETAIL STORES IN TEXAS!

**Leather
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with Leather by Boots
214.528.3865

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in The SA Eagle
210.226.5601

**YOUR HEADQUARTERS
GOOD FRIENDS, C
AND JUST LOTS**

**COMING
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**EVERY SUNDAY
\$1.00* WELLS & ICE
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\$1.25 WELLS & \$1.75
LONG
\$1.00 LONG**

**EVERY
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LONG
\$1.00**

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JULY 1 - 4**

WITH A BUFFET ON JULY 4TH

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New Downtown Location

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Health Club**

www.bartalksa.com

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San Antonio**
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210.226.5601

**We're excited to NOW BE IN DALLAS, so
join us at The Dallas Eagle for
a PRE-Grand Opening PARTY!
SATURDAY JULY 2 @10:00 PM**
Special Guest Appearances, Giveaways,
DRINK SPECIALS & MUCH, MUCH MORE!
GET READY FOR ONE HELL OF A PARTY!!

SHOP ONLINE for HOT, HIGH QUALITY products at:
www.LEATHERMASTERS.com
AOL KEYWORD: LEATHER MASTERS

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\$1.00 LONG

EVERY
\$1.50 WELLS & \$1.75
LONG
\$1.00

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LONG
\$1.00

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www.the
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associations

arts

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aGLIFF
512-799-6327 Agliff.org
Austin Baptist Women
512-291-1563 Babbistwomen.com
Capital City Men's Chorus
512-477-SING
Cmcaustin.org

DALLAS

Oak Lawn Symphonic Band
214-621-8998
Oaklawnband.org
Turtle Creek Choral
214-526-3214
Turtlecreek.org
The Women's Chorus of Dallas
214-520-7828
Twcd.org

FORT WORTH

Q Cinema GLBT Film Festival
817-462-3368 Qcinema.org

HOUSTON

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston
713-521-7464 Gmch.org
Houston Gay and Lesbian Film Festival
713-225-2205 Hgfff.org
Houston Pride Band
713-862-9491
Houstonprideband.org

SAN ANTONIO

Alamo City Men's Choral
210-495-SING
Acmc-texas.org

gibt advocacy

AUSTIN

Austin Lesbian & Gay Political Caucus
512-474-0750
Human Rights Campaign
Hrc-austin-comms@austin.r.com
Log Cabin Republicans Austin
512-467-9797
AustinLogcabin.org
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force
512-332-6483, Ngltf.org
Soulforce Austin
Soulforceaustin.org
Stonewall Democrats of Austin
512-383-1754
Stonewallaustin.org
Texas Freedom Network
512-322-0545
Transgender Advocates of Central Texas
512-448-6354 Tactx.org

DALLAS

Dallas & Fort Worth Federal Club
214-428-3332
Dfwfc.org
Dallas Stonewall Democrats
214-676-7751
Stonewalldemocrats.org/dallas
Dalla-Fort Worth Steering Committee of the Human Rights Campaign
972-733-5075
info.dallasfw@hrc.org
Lamba Legal
214-219-8585
dcoleman@lambdalegal.org
Log Cabin Republicans Dallas
214-346-2115

gibt advocacy

SAN ANTONIO

American Veterans for
Equal Rights - San Antonio
210-845-1638
Aversanantonio.org
Human Rights Campaign
Hrc-sa@satx.r.com
Log Cabin Republicans San Antonio
Lcrsa@yahoo.com
Stonewall Democrats of San Antonio
210-494-7442
Sdsatx.org

health

AUSTIN

AIDS Services of Austin
512-406-6167
Asaustin.org
ALGO Inform SIDA
512-472-2001
Allgoinc@adl.com
David Powell Clinic
512-479-6121
Cl.austin.tx.us
Project Transitions
512-454-8646
Projecttransitions.org
Texas AIDS Network
512-447-8887
Texasids.net
Wright House Wellness Center
512-467-0088
Thewrighthouse.org

DALLAS

AIDS Arms
214-521-5191
Aidsarms.org
AIDS Interfaith Network
214-943-4444
Aidsinterfaithnetwork.org
AIDS Resource Center
214-559-AIDS
Rcdallas.org
AIDS Services of Dallas
214-941-0523
Aidsdallas.org
Nelson-Tebedo Health Resource Center
214-528-2336
Rcdallas.org/nthrc.html
Pride Institute-DFW
817-404-2205
Prideinstitute.com

HOUSTON

AIDS Housing Coalition
713-864-1795
AIDS Foundation Houston
713-623-6796
Aidshelp.org
AssistHers
713-521-4628
Assisthers.org
AVES
713-626-2837 Aves-health.org
Bering Omega Community Services
713-852-2551
Beringomega.org
Center for AIDS
713-527-8219
Centerforaids.org
Lesbian Health Initiative
713-603-0023
Lhihouston.org
Montrose Clinic
713-830-3000

service

DALLAS

Cathedral Business Network
214-351-1901
Cathedralofhope.com/cbn
Collin County Gay & Lesbian Alliance
214-521-5342
Ccglia.org
Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance
214-528-4233 Dglia.com
Dallas Gay and Lesbian Bar Association
214-540-4460 Dglba.org
Dallas Transgender Alliance
Geocities.com/dtgalliance
Lambda Pride Toastmasters
972-365-0773
Lambdapride.com
Leadership Lambda Toastmasters
214-219-1908
National Coming Out Project
214-521-5342
Comeout.org
North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce
214-520-4488 PO Box 223564 75222
Northtexasgbltchamber.org
SMU Spectrum
People.smu.edu/spectrum
United Court of the Lone Star Empire
Impcourt.org/cis/chapters
/dallas.html
University of North Texas Ally Program
Unt.edu/ally
University of North Texas Lavender Circle
Orgs.unt.edu/lavendercircle

HOUSTON

An Uncommon Legacy Foundation
713-520-1142
Houston Black Tie Dinner
Houstonblacktiedinner.org
Bunnies on the Bayou
Bunnies.org
Colt 45's, Inc.
713-526-6077
Colt45s.org
HATCH
713-529-3590
Hatchyouth.org
Diana Foundation
713-639-2000
Gulf Coast Archive and Museum
of GLBT History
713-227-5973 Gcam.org
Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce
713-523-7576
Ghglcc.org
Houston GLBT Community Center
713-524-3818
HoustonGLBTcommunitycenter.org
Houston Women's Group
713-529-8571
Houstonwomensgroup.com
Imperial Court of Houston
713-226-2220
Spacecityempire.org
Pride Committee of Houston
713-529-6879
Pridehouston.org
PWA Holiday Charities
713-526-4641
Royal Sovereign Imperial Court of Single Star
Impcourt.org/cis/chapters
/houston.html
Stonewall Lawyers Association of Houston
713-227-1717
Slagh.org

SAN ANTONIO

Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Alamo Empire
210-641-2986
Impcourt.org/cis/chapters
/sanantonio.html

social

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social

DALLAS

DFW BiNet
www.dfwbi.net
Dallas Transgender Alliance
Geocities.com/dtgalliance
Dragonflies of Dallas
Dragonfliesofdallas.org
High Tech Happy Hour
Majordomo@list.li.com
Prime Timers of Dallas Fort Worth
Primetimers-dfw.org
North Texas Radical Faeries,
Groups.yahoo.com/group/NTRadfae
SMU Spectrum
People.smu.edu/spectrum
Stonewall Professional & Business Association
214-521-5342 ext. 1721
Southern Ladies Under Tremendous Stress
(S.L.U.T.S.)
2701 Reagan, St., 214-521-5342 ext. 1720
United Court of the Lone Star Empire
Impcourt.org/cis/chapters
/dallas.html
Women's Business Network
972-949-4355
Womensbusinessnetwork.org

FORT WORTH

Meadowbrook Rainbow Neighbors
Meadowbrooknews@webtv.net
Rainbow GLBT Nurses
817-346-8314
Rainbownurses@sbccglobal.net
Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association
Tcgpwa.org
Trinity River Bears
Trinityriverbears.com

HOUSTON

BiNet Houston
713-467-4380 Flash.net/~bihouse
Gays & Lesbians Organized by Orgullo
713-710-0268 Globohouston.org
Houston Big Men's Club
713-337-5833
www.houstonbigmensclub.com
Houston Prime Timers
713-867-3903 Primetimerswww.org/houston
Rainbow Rantlers
Rainbowrantlers.org
WIPsociety
281-564-0615 WIPsociety.net

SAN ANTONIO

Diversity Center
210-223-6106 Diversitycentersa.org
King Mary's Bridge Club
210-223-6106, Kingmary.org
San Antonio Prime Timers
830-980-8744
Saprimetimer049@aol.com
Texas Tradition Cloggers
210-535-6155
Texastraditioncloggers.com

spiritual

AUSTIN

Affirmation (Methodist)
512-451-2329
First Unitarian Universalist Church
512-452-5168
Integrity Austin Episcopal
Geocities.com/austintegrity
Kingdom Seekers in Christ Jesus
512-322-0049, Whosoever.net
Lutherans Concerned
512-832-4159
MCC Austin at Freedom Oaks
512-291-8601
Mccaustin.com
Metropolitan Community Church of Austin
512-291-8601
Mishpachah Am Echad
512-451-7018

spiritual

DALLAS

Disciples of Christ
214-946-2184
Faith Community Church
972-530-3900
First Unitarian Church of Dallas
214-528-3990, Dallasuu.org
MCC of Greater Dallas
888-212-4763
MCCGreaterDallas.org
Sanctuary of Love
214-520-2260
White Rock Community Church
214-320-0043
Whiterockchurch.org

FORT WORTH

Agape Metropolitan Community Church
817-535-5002
Agapemcc.com
Jubilee Fellowship
214-520-3223
JubileeTX.org

HOUSTON

Bering Memorial United Methodist Church
713-526-1017
Beringomega.org
Community Gospel Church
713-880-9235
Communitygospel.org
Congregation Beth Israel
713-771-6221
Congregation Mishpachah Alizim
866-841-9139
Mishpachah@onebox.com
Covenant Church
713-688-8830
Covenanthouston.org
Dignity/Houston
713-880-2872
Dignityhouston.org
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston
713-526-5200
Firstuu.org
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
713-528-3269
Office@gracelutheran-houston.org
Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan
Community Church
713-528-6756
New Covenant Christian Church
713-984-5806
Northwoods Unitarian Universalist
Church of The Woodlands
281-298-2780
Northwoodsuu.org
Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church
713-861-9149
Resurrectionmcc.org
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
713-528-6665
Ststephenshouston.org

SAN ANTONIO

Abundant Grace in Christ Jesus
210-445-5156
Dignity/San Antonio, St. Ann's Church
210-340-2230
First Unitarian Universalist Church
210-344-4695
LGBT Interweave
210-344-4695
MCC San Antonio
210-472-3597, Mccsa.org
River City Living Church
210-822-1121
Rclic@rivercitylivingchurch.org
Travis Park United Methodist Church
Travispark.org

sports

AUSTIN

Adventuring Outdoors

sports

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Friday Night Out Bowling League
972-702-0058
Oak Lawn Soccer Club of Dallas
214-366-2565
Oaklawnsoccerclub.org
Team Dallas Aquatics
TeamDallasAquatics.com
Texas Gay Rodeo Association - Dallas
214-346-2107 Tgrg.org
Texas Twisters
972-993-2021 Texastwisters.org

HOUSTON

FrontRunners
713-522-0899
Home.swbell.net/latarthon/houfr.htm
Houston Area Women's Rugby Club
832-741-7125
Houstonrugby.org
Houston Invitational Tournament
Texasinvite.com
Houston Roughnecks Rugby Club
Roughnecksrugby.org
Houston Women's Softball League
713-502-5799
Lone Star Volleyball Association
713-717-5782 LSAV.org
Montrose Soccer Club
Montrosesoccer.org
Montrose Softball League
713-867-3913
Montrosesoftballleague.com
OutSkate Roller Skate Club
281-933-5818
Dobie367@aol.com
Texas Gay Rodeo Association
713-523-7663 Tgrg.org

support

AUSTIN

PFLAG-Austin
512-302-PFLAG
Pflag-austin.org
Out Youth
512-419-1233 Out@outyouth.org
Waterloo Counseling Center
512-444-9922 Waterloocounseling.org

DALLAS

Gay & Lesbian Switchboard
214-528-0022
Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Support Network
972-669-5777 Glssendallas.org
Lambda AA
214-267-0222 or 214-887-6699
Lambda Group of Al-Anon
214-363-0461
Dallasal-anon.org
PFLAG Dallas
214-233-0977 Pflagdallas.org
Positively Young
972-283-0468
Pride Institute
817-404-2205 Prideinstitute.com
Purple Light Trans Support
Goldiepard.com/purple
Resource Center of Dallas
214-528-0144
Resourcecenterdallas.org
Youth First Texas
214-879-0400
Youthfirsttexas.com

HOUSTON

Bering Support Network
713-526-1017 Beringumc.org
Community Awareness for
Transgender Support
281-624-7056
Donald R. Watkins Memorial Foundation
713-528-1748
Donaldrwatkins.org
Gay & Lesbian Switchboard Houston

commerce

accommodations

AUSTIN

A Summit House Bed & Breakfast — 1204
Summit, 512-445-5304,
Summit.home.texas.net
Pine Canyon Bed & Breakfast Spa — 358
Pine Canyon Dr., 512-302-0185.

DALLAS

Hotel Za Za — 2332 Leonard St.,
214-468-8399, Hotelzaza.com.
The Melrose — 3015 Oak Lawn Ave.,
214-521-5151, Melrosethotehdallas.com.

HOUSTON

Gar-Den Suites — 2702 Crocker St.
800-484-1036 (code 2669).
Holiday Inn Select — 2712 S.W. Frwy.,
713-523-8448.
Kilworth Manor — 109 Stratford,
713-520-5526, kilworthmanor.com.
The Lovett Inn — 501 Lovett Blvd.,
713-522-5224, 1-800-779-5224.
Montrose Inn — 408 Avondale, 713-520-0206,
800-357-1228.

SAN ANTONIO

Arbor House B+B — 109 Arciniega,
210-472-2005.
Christmas House Bed & Breakfast — 2307
McCullough, 1-800-268-4187.
The Painted Lady Inn — 620 Broadway,
210-220-1092, thepaintedlady.com.

attorneys

AUSTIN

John Butler — 816 Congress Ave., #1100,
512-472-3887, johnbutler.com.
Susan J. Dasher — 1107 Nueces,
512-478-0834.
Bruce S. Fox — 404 West 13th Street,
512-444-4FOX, brucefox.com.
Martha Pitkin — 11782 Jollyville Rd.,
512-219-4022.
Willie and Dasher — 1107 Nueces,
512-478-0834.

DALLAS

Birdwell & Associates — Jerry Birdwell,
Tim Menchu, 214-357-3311.
English & Associates — 1201 Main St.,
214-528-4300.
Frankel Douglas — 214-353-8033
douglasfrankel.com.
Stewart Charles — 3500 Oak Lawn,
214-521-3804.

HOUSTON

Peggy S. Bittick — 281-485-3500.
Calvin "CJ" Braun — 8100 Washington Ave.,
713-880-3366.
Nechman, Simoneaux and Frye, PLLC —
713-227-1717, nsflaw.us.
Simon & Associates — 401 Studewood,
713-524-6000.
Walker & Patterson, PC — 4815 Dacoma,
713-956-5577.
Weisblatt & Associates — 2 Riverwat,
713-552-0686, weisblattlaw.com.

auto

DALLAS

Classic BMW — 300
289-9999, class
Freeman Mazda —
E. Airport, Irving,
John Eagle Honda —
214-904-3247, E
Saturn of Mesquite —
I-635 at Oates, I

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Gillman Subaru South
Houston Pkwy., 7
Jeff Haas Mazda —
Katy Rd., 713-93
John Eagle Acura —
281-589-0600, j
Land Rover Houston
713-293-6100.
Mike Calvert Toyota —
558-8100, mikes
Planet Ford — 2040
1-888-251-9135.
Sterling McCall Toyota
Southwest Frwy.,

SAN ANTONIO

Benson Honda/Mazda
210-34-1356, tor
North Park Subaru —
Tom Benson Chevrolet
Pedro, 210-341-

entertainment

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Adult Video Megaplex
512-442-5719.
Midtowne Spa Austin
512-302-9696, m

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Alternatives of New F
Mockingbird, 214
Club Dallas — 2616
the-club.com.
Midtowne Spa Dallas
214-821-8989, m
Mockingbird Adult Vi
Mockingbird, 214

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Adult Video Megaplex
713-780-1827.
Adult Video Megaplex
713-944-8111.
Adult Video Megaplex
261-820-8999.
Club Houston — 220
713-659-4998, th
Eros 1207 — 1207 S
713-944-6010.
Executive Adult Video
Frwy, 713-462-51
Midcity Video — 204
713-522-3530.
Midtowne Spa Houston
522-2370, midtow
Q Video — 1415 Cal

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Q Cinema GLBT Film Festival
817-462-3368 qcinema.org

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Gay Men's Chorus of Houston
713-521-7464 gmch.org
Houston Gay and Lesbian Film Festival
713-225-2205 hglff.org
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Houstonprideband.org

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Acme-texas.org

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Human Rights Campaign
Hrc-austin-comms@austin.r.com
Log Cabin Republicans Austin
512-467-9797
Austin.logcabin.org
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force
512-332-6483, nglft.org
Souforce Austin
Souforceaustin.org
Stonewall Democrats of Austin
512-383-1754
Stonewallaustin.org
Texas Freedom Network
512-322-0545
Transgender Advocates of Central Texas
512-448-6354 Tactb.org

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Dfwfc.org
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Stonewalldemocrats.org/dallas
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Human Rights Campaign
972-733-5075
info.dallasfw@hrc.org
Lamba Legal
214-219-8585
dcoleman@lambdalegal.org
Log Cabin Republicans Dallas
214-346-2115
Dallas.logcabin.org
Stonewall Democrats of Dallas
214-328-4906
Stonewalldemocrats.org/dallas

FORT WORTH
GLSEN Tarrant County
817-294-5101 Gisentarrant.org
PFLAG Fort Worth
817-428-2329
Pflagfortworth.org
Tarrant County Stonewall Democrats
817-913-8743
Tarrant@stonewalldemocrats.org

HOUSTON
American Veterans for Equal Rights-Houston
Aver.us
Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus
713-521-1000
Hglpc.org
Houston Stonewall Democrats
2203 Bancroft, Suite 12, 713-621-5751,
houstonstonewalldemocrats@yahoo.com
Human Rights Campaign
Info.houston@hrc.org
Log Cabin Republicans Houston
Shari2600@yahoo.com
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force-Houston
713-426-3128
Old Lesbians Organizing for Change
Oloc.org

1512-472-2001
Algoince@adl.com
David Powell Clinic
512-479-6121
Cl.austin.tx.us
Project Transitions
512-454-8646
Projecttransitions.org
Texas AIDS Network
512-447-8887
Texasaid.net
Wright House Wellness Center
512-467-0088
Thewrighthouse.org

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AIDS Arms
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Aidsarms.org
AIDS Interfaith Network
214-943-4444
Aidsinterfaithnetwork.org
AIDS Resource Center
214-559-AIDS
Rcdallas.org
AIDS Services of Dallas
214-941-0523
Aidsdallas.org
Nelson-Tebedo Health Resource Center
214-528-2336
Rcdallas.org/nthrc.html
Pride Institute-DFW
817-404-2205
Prideinstitute.com

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AIDS Housing Coalition
713-864-1795
AIDS Foundation Houston
713-623-6796
Aidshelp.org
AssistHers
713-521-4628
Assisthers.org
AVES
713-626-2837 Aves-health.org
Bering Omega Community Services
713-852-2551
Beringomega.org
Center for AIDS
713-527-8219
Centerforaids.org
Lesbian Health Initiative
713-603-0023
Lhihouston.org
Montrose Clinic
713-830-3000
Montroseclinic.org
Montrose Counseling Center
713-529-0037
Montrosecounselingcenter.org
People With AIDS Coalition
713-522-5428
Pwac.org
The Assistance Fund
713-529-4788
TheAssistanceFund.org

SAN ANTONIO
AIDS Foundation San Antonio
210-225-4715 Txsaa.org

service
AUSTIN
Austin Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
512-472-8299
Agicc.com
Center for Women's Business
512-472-8522
Gay & Lesbian Students Association
512-458-3992
Lesbian Bisexual Gay Student Association
512-475-6664
Lesbian/Gay Pride Commission of Austin
512-479-9431
United Court of Austin
512-336-8388
Impcourt.org/icis/chapters/austin.html

Unt.ally
University of North Texas Lavender Circle
Orgs.unt.edu/lavendercircle

HOUSTON
An Uncommon Legacy Foundation
713-520-1142
Houston Black Tie Dinner
Houstonblacktiedinner.org
Bunnies on the Bayou
Bunnies.org
Colt 45's, Inc.
713-526-6077
Colt45s.org
HATCH
713-529-3590
Hatchyouth.org
Diana Foundation
713-639-2000
Gulf Coast Archive and Museum
of GLBT History
713-227-5973 Gcam.org
Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce
713-523-7576
Ghgccc.org
Houston GLBT Community Center
713-524-3818
HoustonGLBTcommunitycenter.org
Houston Women's Group
713-529-8571
Houstonwomensgroup.com
Imperial Court of Houston
713-226-2220
Spacecityempire.org
Pride Committee of Houston
713-529-6979
Pridehouston.org
PWA Holiday Charities
713-526-4641
Royal Sovereign Imperial Court of Single Star
Impcourt.org/icis/chapters
/houston.html
Stonewall Lawyers Association of Houston
713-227-1717
Slagh.org

SAN ANTONIO
Diversity Center
210-223-6106 Diversitycentersa.org
King Mary's Bridge Club
210-223-6106, Kingmary.org
San Antonio Prime Timers
830-980-8744
Saprimetimer049@aol.com
Texas Tradition Cloggers
210-535-6155
Texastraditioncloggers.com

spiritual
AUSTIN
Affirmation (Methodist)
512-451-2329
First Unitarian Universalist Church
512-452-6168
Integrity Austin Episcopal
Geocities.com/austintegrity
Kingdom Seekers in Christ Jesus
512-322-0049, Whosoever.net
Lutherans Concerned
512-832-4159
MCC Austin at Freedom Oaks
512-291-8601
MccAustin.com
Metropolitan Community Church of Austin
512-291-8601
Mishpachah Am Echad
512-451-7018
Tejas Web
Tejasweb.org
Trinity United Methodist Church
512-459-5835 Tumc.org
The Gathering Place Worship Center
7801 N. Lamar, Ste. F-25, 512-323-9501
GatheringPlaceWorshipCenter.org
Unity Church of Austin
512-447-7772
University Baptist Church
512-478-8559 ABCAustin.org

social
AUSTIN
Austin Family Pride
512-682-6988
Austinfamilypride.home.att.net
Austin Gay Lesbian Leather Social
AustinGayLeatherSocial.org
Austin Latino Lesbian/Gay Organization
512-472-2001
Bisexual Network of Austin
512-370-9573 Main.org/binetaustin
Central Texas Boys of Leather
Cibol.org
Heart of Texas Bears
heartoftexasbear.org
Heart of Texas Hoedowners
Hoedowners.org
Long Yang Club
Longyangclub.org/newsite
/directory.htm
National Leather Association
512-703-8927
Prime Timers Austin
512-282-2861
Ptastex@yahoo.com
Rainbow Rollerskaters
512-296-0381 Main.org/rainbowskate
SapphFire Group for Women
SapphFire.org
Screen Queens
Movies.groups.yahoo.com/group
/screenqueens/
Texas Hill Country Faeries, Elves & Satyrs,
Groups.yahoo.com/group/thcfes/

DALLAS
Cathedral of Hope
214-351-1901
Cathedralofhope.com
Celebration Community Church
817-335-3222
Celebration-community-church.com
Christian Gays in Fellowship
817-446-1555
City Church
214-559-4021
Citychurchdallas.org
Community Unitarian Universalist Church
972-424-8989
Uuplano.org
Congregation Beth El Binah
214-521-5342 Bethelbinah.org
Crossroads Community Church
972-669-5777
Dignity/Dallas (Catholic)
214-521-5342

713-880-9235
Montrose Softball League
713-520-5526, kiworthmanor.com
Montrose Softball League
713-867-3913
Montrosoftballleague.com
OutSkate Roller Skate Club
281-933-5818
Dobie367@aol.com
Texas Gay Rodeo Association
713-523-7663 Tgra.org

support
AUSTIN
PFLAG-Austin
512-302-PFLAG
Pflag-austin.org
Out Youth
512-419-1233 Out@outyouth.org
Waterloo Counseling Center
512-444-9922 Waterloocounseling.org

DALLAS
Gay & Lesbian Switchboard
214-528-0022
Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Support Network
972-669-5777 Glsendallas.org
Lambda AA
214-267-0222 or 214-887-6699
Lambda Group of Al-Anon
214-363-0461
Dallasal-anon.org
PFLAG Dallas
214-233-0977 Pflagdallas.org
Positively Young
972-283-0468
Pride Institute
717-404-2205 Prideinstitute.com
Purple Light Trans Support
Goldleopard.com/purple
Resource Center of Dallas
214-528-0144
Resourcecenterdallas.org
Youth First Texas
214-879-0400
Youthfirsttexas.com

HOUSTON
Bering Support Network
713-526-1017 Beringumc.org
Community Awareness for
Transgender Support
281-624-7056
Donald R. Watkins Memorial Foundation
713-528-1748
Donaldrwatkins.org
Gay & Lesbian Switchboard Houston
713-529-3211
Gayswitchboardhouston.org
Hollyfield Foundation
713-523-6900
Hollyfield.org
Kolbe Project
713-861-1800
Kolbeproject.org
Lambda Houston Alcoholics Anonymous
713-521-1243
Lambdahouston.org
Montrose Counseling Center
713-529-0037
Montrosecounselingcenter.org
PFLAG Houston
713-467-3524
Pflaghouston.org

SAN ANTONIO
Club Poz San Antonio
210-341-0133
ClubPozSAT@aol.com
Diversity Center Spectrum
210-223-6106 Info@glccsa.org
Diversity Center Transgender Support Group
210-223-6106
Christielee@glccsa.org
PFLAG San Antonio
210-655-2383
Pflag-sanantonio@webtv.net

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Diversity Center Transgender Support Group
210-223-6106
Christielee@glccsa.org
PFLAG San Antonio
210-655-2383
Pflag-sanantonio@webtv.net

automotive
AUSTIN
Austin Subaru — 200 West Huntland,
512-454-9489.
Charles Maund Volkswagen — 8400
Research, 1-800-440-1999, maund.com.
David McDavid Acura —
13553 Research Blvd., 512-335-5555.
First Texas Honda — 1301 W. Koenig Lane,
512-381-1333, firsttexas-honda.com.
Gillman Subaru — 6809 South I-35,
512-444-6044.
Suzuki-Isuzu of Austin — (Jules Gollins)
4738 S. IH 35, 512-583-4000.

DALLAS
Advantage Auto Lease — (Marty Malliton) 400
Chisholm Pl. Ste. 100, 972-423-0723.

SAN ANTONIO
Arbor House B+B — 109 Arciniega,
210-472-2005.
Christmas House Bed & Breakfast — 2307
McCullough, 1-800-268-4187.
The Painted Lady Inn — 620 Broadway,
210-220-1092, thepaintedlady.com.

attorneys
AUSTIN
John Butler — 816 Congress Ave., #1100,
512-472-3887, johnbutler.com.
Susan J. Dasher — 1107 Nueces,
512-478-0834.
Bruce S. Fox — 404 West 13th Street,
512-444-4F0X, brucefox.com.
Martha Pitkin — 11782 Jollyville Rd.,
512-219-4022.
Willie and Dasher — 1107 Nueces,
512-478-0834.

DALLAS
Birdwell & Associates — Jerry Birdwell,
Tim Menchu, 214-357-3311.
English & Associates — 1201 Main St.,
214-528-4300.
Frankel Douglas — 214-353-8033
dougfrankel.com.
Stewart Charles — 3500 Oak Lawn,
214-521-3804.

HOUSTON
Peggy S. Bittick — 281-485-3500.
Calvin "CJ" Braun — 8100 Washington Ave.,
713-880-3366.
Nechman, Simoneaux and Frye, PLLC —
713-227-1717, nsfaw.us.
Simon & Associates — 401 Studewood,
713-524-6000.
Walker & Patterson, PC — 4815 Dacoma,
713-956-5577.
Weisblatt & Associates — 2 Riverwat,
713-552-0686, weisblattlaw.com.

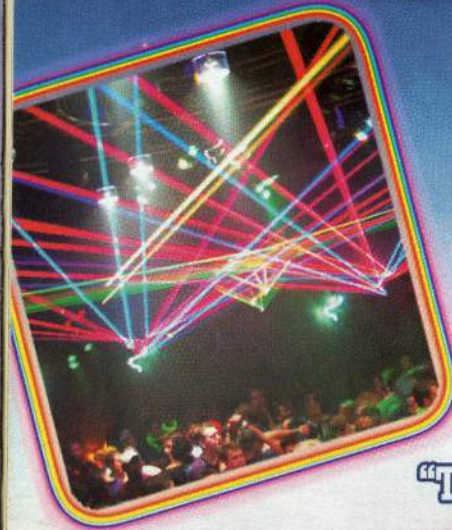
SAN ANTONIO
Barry L. Efron — 10010 San Pedro Ave.,
210-366-9676.
Carol Bertsch — 1919 San Pedro Ave.,
210-735-9911.
Michael W. White — 3737 Broadway,
210-821-5283.
Neil A. Calfas — 540 S. St. Mary's Street,
210-212-6969.
Pearsall Legal Services, PLLC — 11103 San
Pedro, 210-340-8290.

entertain
AUSTIN
Adult Video Megaple
512-442-5719.
Midtowne Spa Austin
512-302-9696, i
DALLAS
Alternatives of New
Mockingbird, 21
Club Dallas — 2616
the-club.com.
Midtowne Spa Dallas
214-821-8989, i
Mockingbird Adult V
Mockingbird, 21

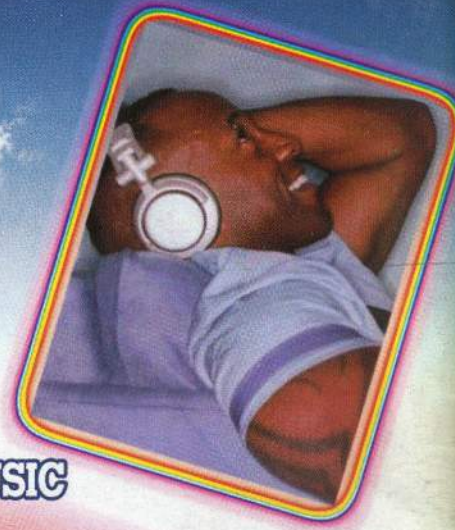
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Adult Video Megaple
713-780-1827.
Adult Video Megaple
713-944-8111.
Adult Video Megaple
281-820-8999.
Club Houston — 22
713-659-4998, t
Eros 1207 — 1207 I
713-944-6010.
Executive Adult Vide
Frwy, 713-462-5
Midcity Video — 20
713-522-3530.
Midtowne Spa Houst
522-2370, midto
Q Video — 1415 Cal

SAN ANTONIO
Alternative Clubs, In
Elmira, 210-223
Club San Antonio, 13
Maltzberger, 210
Executive Club II —
210-299-1400.

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AWARD WINNING DJ JIMMY SKINNER - EARLY • SUPERSTAR DJ/PRODUCER DEMARKO - 10:30PM UNTIL 5AM
18+ TO PARTY • 21+ TO DRINK

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Setting The New Standard For Houston
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cool the dance floor by 20 degrees

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