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JULY 1996

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THE NEWS

FROM AROUND THE REGION, THE COUNTRY & THE WORLD

Anti-Lesbian Bias Being Considered in Slayings

Washington, DC - Attorney General Janet Reno has assured the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) that investigators are considering anti-lesbian bias as a possible motivation in the slaying of Julianne Williams and Lollie Winans. In a letter to NGLTF executive director Melinda Paras, Reno stated investigators are "... pursuing all motives, including the possibility that the crime was motivated by the sexual orientation of the victims."

Williams and Winans were found murdered in Virginia's Shenandoah National Park on June 1. Many in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community and others familiar with the nature of hate crimes fear the killings could have been an anti-lesbian hate crime. This fear stems from the fact that the women, according to press reports and friends of the women, were lesbians; robbery was not involved in the crime; and no other motive has apparently been established. Also, the Appalachian Trail was the site of the 1988 murder of Rebecca Wight. Wight was murdered, and her partner, Claudia Brenner, was seriously injured after being shot because they were lesbians. The Task Force contacted Attorney General Reno by letter on June 7 when concerns were raised that the possibility of a hate crime was not being seriously considered by investigators. These concerns stemmed from a con-

versation with an FBI official involved in the case and from various statements to the press by investigators that indicated the possibility of anti-lesbian bias was being prematurely dismissed. Executive Director Melinda Paras issued the following statement in response to the Attorney General's letter:

We are gratified and relieved that the Justice Department is examining all possible motives in the tragic murder of Julie Williams and Lollie Winans. With Attorney General Reno's assurance that anti-lesbian bias is being seriously considered, the Task Force is now able to express confidence in the investigation to our community and all involved in the struggle against bias violence. NGLTF will, of course, continue to monitor the investigation with vigilance. We do not know if Julie and Lollie were killed because they were lesbians. We do know, unfortunately, such a possibility is all too real. We also know it is important that all hate crimes be identified accurately and honestly by the media and the criminal justice system. Silence about such crimes feeds the apathy and ignorance that often surrounds them. Silence around hate violence and the possibility of such violence also ignores the other victims of these crimes - whole communities who live in fear and danger as a result of individual anti-gay attacks.

Shirley Lesser of Virginians for Justice, a statewide organization that advances equal justice gay, lesbian bisexual and transgender citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia, issued the

following statement in response to the Attorney General's letter:

Virginians for Justice (VJ) is pleased that Department of Justice listened and responded in a timely fashion to our concerns. Though individual investigators assured us that all possible motives are being pursued, we are relieved to have this officially confirmed by the Attorney General. VJ will continue to work closely with the Virginia State Police and the investigative team to ensure a quick resolution to this case.

Oregon Group Abandons Signature Drive

Portland, OR - The Oregon Citizens Alliance, a radical right-wing group, has announced they will abandon their drive to gather signatures for another ballot measure asking to write discrimination into the Oregon Constitution. The decision came as no surprise to anti-discrimination advocates in light of the US Supreme Court's ruling in *Romer v. Evans*. The ruling struck down a discriminatory measure (Amendment 2) passed in the state of Colorado.

"It's not often that Lon Mabon and the OCA make our day!" declares Julie Davis, Executive Director of Basic Rights Oregon, an organization that advocates basic legal rights for all Oregon citizens. "While the high court's ruling affirms our belief in the judicial system, recognition of the legal rights of all Oregonians won't happen in the courts alone. We've got a lot of educating to do throughout the state. Recent surveys show that 80% of the public doesn't know that IT IS CURRENTLY LEGAL TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST GAY MEN AND LESBIANS IN OREGON."

"The decision of the OCA to abandon this year's pro-discrimination measure is a good sign," says Eric Fishman, Co-Chair of Basic Rights Oregon Steering Committee, "but it's important to remember that the US Supreme Court's decision in *Romer* didn't happen in a vacuum. Numerous groups have been working in Oregon and nationally organizing, litigating and educating people about basic legal rights."

Basic Rights Oregon will move forward aggressively with the planning and implementation of a six-point program that includes:

The Fair Workplace Project - a state-wide educational program that includes a fully produced seven minute video featuring former Attorney General Dave Fohnmayer, retired Oregon Supreme Court Justices, Oregon business leaders and testimonials of local workers who have experienced employment discrimination telling the truth about their experience in the workplace.

Changing the legal status of lesbians and gay men in Oregon. Oregonians can still be discriminated against in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations and credit simply because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation. Neither the US Supreme Court ruling in *Romer* nor the OCA's decision to abandon its 1996 ballot box attack have an effect in these areas. In Oregon protections against discrimination exist in only four Oregon Cities — Ashland, Corvallis, Eugene and Portland. Basic Rights Oregon will be working with other organizations to change Oregon law so that discrimination is no longer legal anywhere in our state. This will be done through a combination of educational, legislative and electoral efforts.

Continuing efforts to identify base of supporters through voter identification calls, pledge card drives and outreach work from Pendelton to Astoria, from state fairs to church meetings.

Developing leaders and training local or community organizers to assist with Basic Rights Oregon's ongoing projects on a statewide basis and identify and train campaign workers.

Building on existing coalition by expanding and strengthening relationships with other organizations, religious institutions, businesses and other potential allies.

Educating supporters about other dis-

crimatory ballot measures including those aimed at women's reproductive freedom, immigrants, affirmative action and public education.

Basic Rights Oregon exists to advance and protect human rights. It is building the broadest possible coalition to counter the activities of groups such as the Oregon Citizens Alliance; and to defeat attempts to deny basic rights through the electoral process. The organization includes a full-time professional staff and a wide array of business, labor, education, religious, gay and lesbian organizations and more than 5,000 committed volunteers throughout the state. 

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A large, high-contrast black and white photograph showing a woman's face in profile, looking upwards. A hand is applying lipstick to her lips. The image is grainy and has a high-contrast, almost graphic quality.

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AND ONE PLACE
TO GO**

WHAT'S GOIN' ON

A MONTHLY LISTING OF SPECIAL EVENTS ALL AROUND THE AREA

DALLAS - The **Hope Counseling Center** is a non-profit program of **Cathedral of Hope MCC** offering individual, couples and family counseling and Lesbian Support Groups facilitated by licensed professional therapists. For more information, call (214) 351-5657.

SAN ANTONIO - The **Gay and Lesbian Community Center of San Antonio** has an immediate need for volunteers to help at the Center, located at 923 East Mistletoe. Community-minded individuals are asked to donate four hours a week. Help is needed with office work, fundraising, the Hotline, computer data entry and peer counseling. For more information or to provide assistance please call (210) 732-4300 and leave your name and phone number, or drop by the office from noon to 8 PM.

DALLAS - The **Oak Lawn Soccer Club** is a lesbian/gay soccer club, fielding teams in local leagues and national and international tournaments. They are looking for players of all skill levels. Call (214) 942-3566 or e-mail to: astrojet@aol.com for more info.

HOUSTON - The **Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents Group** will have "Water Fun" days for their family activity on July 20th and August 11th. They also have a new phone number you can call for more information: (713) 666-8260. The **HGLP** offers support

groups for gay parents and their children and fun activities for gay families.

AMARILLO - The **Amarillo Lesbian Gay Alliance** will hold its **Queer Dinner Club** on Thursday, June 11th at **Los Insurgentes (Celia's)** at 7:30pm and on Thursday, July 18th at **Italian Delights** at 7:30pm. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information about the **Dinner Club** and other **ALGA** events, call the **ALGA Information Line** at (806) 373-5725.

OKLAHOMA CITY - **Herland Sister Resources** is looking for volunteers to serve on the Board, keep Herland open on weekends, improve the grounds and building, write for the newsletter and lots of other tasks. All are invited to attend the monthly meeting (4:30pm on the 3rd Sunday of each month). To volunteer call (504) 521-9696 or stop by 2312 NW 39th.

OF INTEREST TO ALL

Mark your calendars now for the weekend of October 11-13 for the **2nd Annual IYG National Youth Festival**. This year's festival will be held in Washington, D.C. where IYG will host the first ever **Gay Youth March on Washington**. The theme for this year's conference is "Free 2b Me." The weekend will coincide with the **Names Project Foundation's** display of the entire **AIDS Memorial Quilt on the National Mall**. For more info or to register, see the IYG web site at <http://>

www.youth.org/loco/iyg or call (317) 541-8726.

tion, write P.O. Box 819, Provincetown, MA 02657 or call (508) 487-3684.



The **9th Annual Provincetown Harbor Swim for Life and Mermaid Brunch AIDS Benefit** is scheduled for Saturday, September 7th. This is a 1.4

mile open water swim to benefit AIDS and gay/lesbian organizations. Many other activities are planned for the weekend including the **Celebration of Life Concert**. For swimmer registration, pledge sheets and more informa-



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DEAR AGNES

ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT LOVE,
RELATIONSHIPS & PERSONAL PROBLEMS

This Dear Agnes Column appeared in the
first issue of Dimensions in July 1986

Dear Agnes,

I am ready to run away from home, My lover is 40 years old and I am 39. She does not work and further more, she hasn't worked in a couple of years except for a bartending job here and there, mowing someone's lawn or doing small maintenance jobs for friends. These jobs of hers last from one to six months and then there are long lapses in-between when she does nothing until I throw a fit and insist that we need the extra money. Is there something wrong with her? I can't imagine not having my own money. It doesn't seem to bother her. I work in a highly professional position and it really irks me to come home and find she hasn't done anything all day. I know she is a bright woman and capable of handling a job. Up until 2 years ago she was working as a professional in her field at \$25,000 per year. One day she threw a fit and just walked off the job. This situation in driving a wedge between us and I'm not sure what to do about it. I love her very much and I don't want to leave but I can't take it much longer.

Confused

Dear Confused,

The first thing on the agenda is to convince her to go to either a counselor or a career counseling center. She apparently has problems dealing with the reality of responsibility. Some people can only take so much responsibility

per day, or year, or decade and then they just quit. In all likelihood, she will get another job in her field sometime in the future without counseling. However, it is probably just the same cycle starting over again.

I strongly suggest counseling in this instance. A person cannot grow to their full potential unless they are willing to take responsibility for themselves and the person they would like to become. You will probably need to consider counseling as a couple. You seem to have built up a grudge about this situation that will not be easily reconciled and which will only hinder you lover's progress towards independence.

Dear Agnes,

I have been living with a beautiful woman for the past five years and we have a wonderful life together except for sex. I am a very sexual person. When we first started living together we were very compatible but for the past 2 years there has been a sharp decline in our sex life. I have tried talking to her about it but she seems to avoid the question or just tells me there is nothing wrong with us. When we do have sex, she takes the directors chair and I find I don't enjoy it very much. I am at wits end, I cannot tolerate this situation much longer. A two month holding period is now in effect. What should I do? What can I do?

Deprived

Dear Deprived,

It is normal for any relationship to go into a sexual decline from time to time due to stress, depression, or pre-occupation with other problems. There may be a problem in her life of which you are unaware. Try talking with her about other aspects of her life (other than your relationship). Sex is one of the hardest areas to discuss within a relationship. Frequently, partners fear talking about negative sexual feelings. This fear is based on how your partner "thinks" you will react. The fear you might leave the relationship and/or seek a new sexual partner. Explain to her that you understand she may have these fears and that you understand. This approach could open her up and get her

to talk about her feelings. Counseling for couples can help, provided you are both willing to go and air your feelings. Sex is certainly not the most important aspect of a relationship but it is one of them.



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THEN & NOW

A short history of the women's & gay right's movements of the 20th century that first ran in the April 1993 issue of Dimensions

There are those who believe that "you can't really appreciate where you are going until you understand where you've been."

As I write this, events leading up to the historic '93 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation are just beginning. The March itself won't happen for another week. In the midst of all the excitement, I thought this would be an appropriate time to look at where we came from. So here it is — a short history of both women and the lesbian/gay community in the 20th century.

1900s & 1910s

At the beginning of this century women in most states were the property of their husbands (or fathers, brothers or other close male relatives) with no legal control over their own earnings, children or property. Women were not allowed to vote, one fourth of the states did not allow wives to make contracts, and women could not enter into business partnerships without male consent.

But, it wasn't all bad news. From 1890 until the beginning of World War I, the women's movement was alive and well. By 1900 twenty percent of women were employed

outside the home and beginning to dominate professions such as nursing and teaching. Out of 369 occupations listed in the census of 1890, women could be found in all but nine. Although the federal government didn't give in until the '20s, many municipalities allowed women to vote in local elections as early as the 1900s and four states (Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, and Idaho) allowed women to vote in state and federal elections. By 1914 six additional states had given the vote to women.

Lesbians and gay men were isolated by a largely rural population and homosexuality was rarely mentioned outside the realm of church or medical journals. There were a few pockets of gay life in the larger cities, evidenced by the opening of San Francisco's first gay bar, The Dash, in 1908. By and large, lesbianism was not thought to be possible, thus the advent of "Boston Marriages", close "friendships" (with definite romantic overtones) formed by middle class women.

1920s

On August 18, 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment gave women all over the U.S. the right to vote. With this victory came a definite

downturn in the Suffrage movement — with no great cause to unite them and bring in new members, women drifted from the movement. The “New Woman” waited until later to marry, wore shorter skirts, smoked cigarettes and generally had more freedom. The freer morals of the '20s brought increased freedom for women as well as homosexuals. Many homosexual men had encountered the relative freedom of gays in large European cities during the first World War and brought this expanded view back to the States with them. The growing shift of the population from rural to urban also helped things along.

1930s

The Great Depression brought severe setbacks to women's employment opportunities. With fewer jobs to go around, many women were forced out of the job market. Those that did hang on to their jobs were often faced with wage and hour cuts. When an advertisement for 150 jobs as soap demonstrators was advertised in St. Louis, over 1,000 women stormed an office building to apply for the jobs.

Homosexuals were also affected by the Depression. With urban areas being especially hard hit, the small gay communities that had formed in the twenties were forced to focus on economic instead of emotional needs. As a result, they retreated further underground so as not to lose hard earned jobs, apartments and family support.

1940s

More than 6 million women went to work for the first time with the advent of World War II. In the media, women at work were pictured as positive role models. Many state governments repealed legislation that prevented women from working in “dangerous” positions to encourage women to work in war plants. Women were also seen in military uniforms.

This explosion of women in the work force gave lesbians the opportunity (many for the first time) to make a comfortable living without the aid of a man. Many women discovered that they were lesbians during this time.

1950s

The attitudes of Senator Joseph McCarthy and the House UnAmerican Activities Committee influenced both the women's and the gay communities. The overriding conservatism of the decade did not allow for any radical action by women's organizations. Many women did not re-enter the work force after World War II and the media image of women shifted from “Rosie the Riveter” to the perky housewife.

Persecution of homosexuals came into vogue with massive military purges and fear of communism. The early fifties saw the first forerunners of our modern gay organizations founded in California — West Coast-One, Inc., the Mattachine Society, and, in 1955, the first lesbian organization, the Daughters of Bilitis. The groundwork for the gay rights movement had been laid.

1960s

The advent of “the pill” and the civil rights movement both played a role in bringing feminism back to the forefront of national politics in the sixties. More and more women were moving into the work force out of economic necessity. The National Organization for Women was founded in 1966. Women were not only expressing their discontent, they were translating it into action. The number of Lesbian and Gay activists were growing all across the country. They were beginning to realize that maybe they weren't the ones who had a problem, and that only by changing the attitudes of those around them would they ever be accepted. Then in 1969, on Friday, June 27th, the gay movement erupted. The Stonewall Inn, a

WHAT A WORLD, WHAT A WORLD BATHROOM HUMOR

BY NANCY FORD

Who would believe it? It's been ten years since *Dimensions* hit the hot little hands of the collective Texas lesbian. Since that time, Tasha and the gang have brought you pieces of information and enlightenment every month — poetry and prose and newswatches and stuff that you might not miss until it's not here anymore. With that in mind, I would publicly like to thank Tasha and her support system at *Dimensions* for providing me with such an excellent forum to communicate with you. And now, on to the funny stuff —

It's summer! Time for pool parties! Time for the beach! Time for SPF 983! Time to get out of the sun, and into a cool, dark movie theater, which means — it's time for summer blockbuster movies!

Being a Texas-transplanted biological product of the Midwest (which explains the excess corn and ham in my DNA,) I have decided to bypass at least one of this season's smash hits: *Twister*. Granted, I've never had a tractor fly through my windshield, but I have lived through plenty enough real-life tornadoes as a child to balk at paying \$7.50 to sit through a fake one as an adult.

I wish this *Twister* were a tribute to the popular board game. Now, there's a childhood memory that bears replaying. More than just Candyland with choreography, the original *Twister* provided millions of us less-than-athletically-gifted children of the 60s the semblance of physical exertion and competition without the embarrassment of wearing some dorky team uniform.

Undoubtedly, the success of *Twister: The Movie* will result in a resurgence of curiosity in *Twister: The Board Game*. Introduced in 1966 by Milton Bradley, the smelly, plastic tarp-with-dots promised "to turn the human body into a vital component of play." It was the most popular new game of the 60s (not including playing Dodge Ball at Kent State,) and sold more than 3 million units its first year.

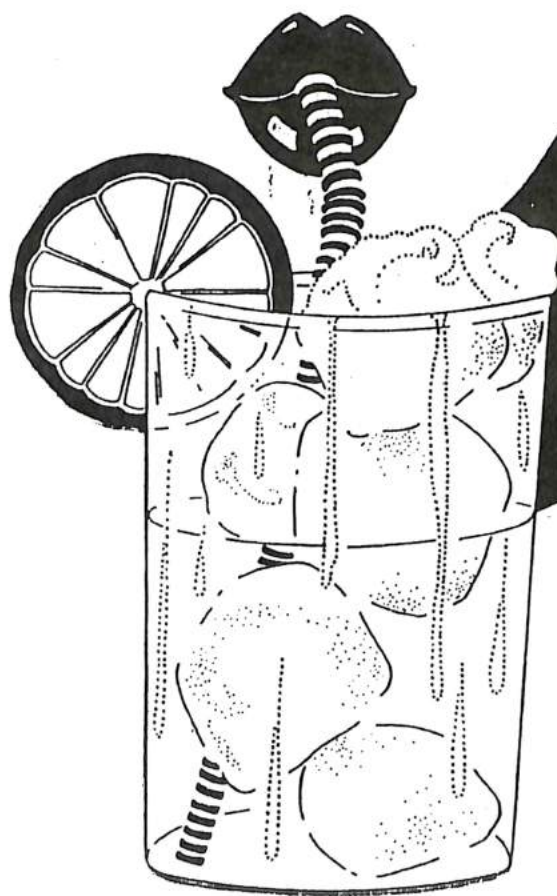
You may be wondering how I came to be such an authority on such an inane subject. First of all, it ain't brain surgery, which explains much of its appeal to me. These *Twister* facts and many more like them can be found in a fascinating book dubiously entitled *Uncle John's Bathroom Reader*, published by St. Martin's Press.

Love the book, hate the title. But I swear, this book is really neat. It contains quick, one-or-two page bits of information, obviously designed to be absorbed in the span of a couple or so minutes, that might not ever come up in conversation. But then again, they might, and you want to be ready, don't you? *UJBR* also contains the following pearls which I couldn't resist passing along to you.

According to one survey, 2/3 of men in America believe in love at first sight. Fine, but do these men have revolving charge accounts with U-Haul?

In 1987, a 1,400-year-old still-edible lump of cheese was unearthed in Ireland. My question is, how was this cheese determined to be "still edible?"

Nexus



Where The Girls Are.

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gay bar in Greenwich Village was raided by the police — and patrons decided to fight back. The fight moved into the streets and was soon joined by people on the street and from other bars in the area.

1970s

Feminism was growing steadily in both numbers and appeal in the early seventies. Women formed feminist theatre troupes, rock groups and made feminist movies. Ms. magazine went into publication. The Supreme Court gave women the right to choose an abortion in 1973 with the decision in Roe v. Wade. By 1975, 32 of the required 38 states had passed the ERA amendment.

The San Francisco gay community held the first Gay Freedom Day Parade in 1970 to celebrate the anniversary of the Stonewall riots. In 1972 the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from their list of mental disorders. In 1975 California legalized homosexuality. Harvey Milk was elected supervisor of San Francisco in 1977 and was fatally shot by ex-supervisor Dan White in 1978.

1980s

Three of the bastions of almost exclusively male domain were broken when Sandra Day O'Connor was appointed to serve on the Supreme Court in 1981, Sally Ride became the first woman crew member of a space flight in 1983 and Geraldine Ferraro became the first woman on a major party presidential ticket. Women moved into the medical and law fields and started their own businesses in unprecedented numbers. More and more women were winning elections at all levels of government.

The gay community was (and continues to be) hit hard by the onset of the AIDS epidemic. Anti-gay violence increased as fear of the disease grows. The Supreme Court upholds the right of States to make sodomy a crime with Bowers vs. Hardwick. Despite these setbacks and hardships, the gay move-

ment continues to gain momentum and win small victories in States and municipalities nationwide.

The eighties saw the birth of the AIDS Quilt, Gay TV, National Coming Out Day, the Gay Games, the first March On Washington and the National Museum of Lesbian & Gay History.

1990s

Although we still have our share of problems, both the women's and gay movements are making headway. The passage of Amendment 2 in Colorado and the fight over Proposition 9 in Oregon led to ever increasing violence against gays in those states. On the positive side, with the election of Bill Clinton we have seen the first female attorney general, and the first openly gay cabinet appointees. Although Clinton's "gays in the military" proposal was extremely controversial with both the gay and straight communities, at least it brought the issue into the open.

The second March on Washington happened on April 25, 1993. Some estimate that more than one million people attended.

In the past few years we have seen legislation aimed at suppressing lesbian and gay relationships and we have seen the Supreme Court overturn such legislation. We have watched and waited to see if lesbian/gay marriage will be made legal in Hawaii, and we will continue to watch to see how the American public responds if it is.

THE FUTURE

It's up to us. The future is what we make it. Both the women's and gay community have seen ups and downs over the past 96 years and that trend will surely continue far into the 21st century. But, without the help and support of us all, both will have a hard time gaining recognition and support.



Wouldn't the plastic wrapper have disintegrated by, say, around the time of the Potato Famine? Speaking of which, how did said cheese escape consumption during the Potato Famine? Has the phrase *au gratin* no Irish/English equivalent? And why would we listen to anyone who would volunteer to eat a 1,400-year-old lump of anything? Most importantly, why am I yammering on and on about this?

Elvis collected statuettes of Joan of Arc and Venus de Milo. Let's think for a moment about this, shall we? Joan's arms were bound to her sides, and Venus had no arms at all. *Run, 'Cilla!*

The average human being has seven sex fantasies a day. And at \$2.99 a minute, that's a lot of cash.

A shark lives for about 100 years. Seldom, though, do they continue to smoke cigars, drink martinis, chase decades-younger women, or play Vegas will into their nineties. Long live George Burns. Based on this criteria, I'm not convinced ol' George wasn't a lesbian.

If a room contains 100 American women, four will probably not be wearing panties. If the room were in my neighborhood, four of the women will probably not be women.

There is a town in Newfoundland, Canada called Dildo. Please choose no more than one joke from the following selection:



Travel Agent to Customer: "I'll be happy to help you with your flight reservations to Dildo. Will that be one way or two way?"

Road Comedian from Noisy Phone Booth to Friend: "Can you speak up? I'm playing Dildo and can't hear a thing."

What is their high school mascot — the Fighting Dildoes, the Flying Dildoes or the Flaming Dildoes? for that matter, is the plural *dildoes* or *dildos*? What is their chief export? Do they celebrate the Dildo Festival every summer or the running of the dildoes in the spring? Do they crown a Miss Dildo? How's the tourist industry there? It frightens me how much I want to visit, just to get the T-shirt.

Tarantula spiders have been known to live for over two years without eating. Now we know why they're so mean.

An average person laughs about 15 times a day. I hope today finds you way above average.



Nancy Ford is a Houston-based writer and comedian who does all her own stunts.

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THE COFFEE CLUB

LESBIANS IN THE ARTS • BOOKS, MUSIC, MOVIES, ETC.

THIS MONTH, TASHA SUMNER INTRODUCES:

All She Wanted

BY APHRODITE JONES

Side Tracks

by Teresa Stores

The first book we'll look at this month is **All She Wanted** by *New York Times* bestselling author Aphrodite Jones. The book is an in-depth look at the circumstances surrounding the murder of Teena Brandon and two of her friends.

Twenty-one-year-old Teena Brandon was living as a man in the town of Falls City, Nebraska. She was on the run from the law for forging checks and hiding from her family. Brandon was

an instant success with the girls of Falls City. "He" had many girlfriends and even became engaged to one woman. Some of these girls knew the truth; some didn't. But when Brandon started to date Lana Tisdel, his luck ran out. On Christmas Eve, two of Lana's ex-boyfriends learned the truth about Brandon's gender. They took her to a deserted parking lot, beat and raped her, and threatened her life if she went to the

police. Less than a week later, after the police had put out a warrant for the two men's arrest, Brandon and two other friends were found shot to death in an isolated farmhouse. One perpetrator is now on death row; the other is serving three consecutive life terms for the murders.

All She Wanted is based on exclusive interviews with Brandon's family, friends and the murderers. The book is an intriguing look at one young woman's turmoil about her sexual identity and orientation and is well worth reading.

All She Wanted is available for \$6.99 at bookstores nationwide and is published by Pocket Books, a division of Simon & Schuster, the publishing operation of Viacom Inc.

Next, we'll look at **Side Tracks** by Teresa Stores. The story begins in the middle of the Great Depression when Maxine McCarthy loses her New York factory job and realizes she must leave to avoid more beatings from her step-father. Around the same time in Florida, Josephine Lee wins a scholarship to a Northern College, but her preacher father refuses to let her go, insisting that she must marry and have children.

Both girls run away from home to "ride the rails" as hoboes. To do this, they disguise themselves as boys. After a chance meeting in a boxcar "Joe" and "Max" decide to travel together, each believing the other is really a boy.

Side Tracks is an entertaining novel of two girls growing up and learning from each other. This is great novel filled

with interesting characters. It gives an intriguing look into the life of the "hobo."

Side Tracks is available from your local bookstore or by mail for \$10.95 from Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302. Complete catalogs are available upon request.



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QUIZ

How Big A Bitch Are You?

This Quiz originally ran in the March 1987 issue of Dimensions and is our most popular ever. Answer the questions and follow the instructions to find out if you're a bitch!

1. You feel most irritable:
(check as many as apply)
 - a. in the morning
 - b. at night
 - c. in late afternoon
 - d. before your period
 - e. Mondays
 - f. during a full moon
 - g. when you drink
 - h. 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
 - i. when you are hungry
2. You are most bitchy with:
 - a. other bitches
 - b. people who have power over you
 - c. people you have power over
 - d. lovers, friends, relatives
3. When you someone tells you unsavory gossip about a friend, you:
 - a. dig for all the details
 - b. pass the news along to everyone you've ever known
 - c. refuse to discuss it
 - d. wonder if they talk about you behind your back
4. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
 - a. The greasy wheel gets the grease
 - b. Do unto others...first!
 - c. Understanding is the key to forgiveness
 - d. Silence is the fastest healer
5. The only reason you would be unfaithful to your lover is:
 - a. Revenge!
 - b. You have the afternoon off and nothing better to do
 - c. Love
 - d. Lust
6. During a fight with your lover, you:
 - a. throw things
 - b. verbally abuse her
 - c. Cry
 - d. Leave, slamming doors all the way
7. How would you rate yourself on the following?
(E-excellent, S-satisfactory, F-fair, U-unsatisfactory)
 - a. Relationships with other women
 - b. Appearance
 - c. Sex life
 - d. Job or Career
 - e. Home environment
 - f. Personality
 - g. Charisma
8. Your best friend's lover, whom you are very attracted to, asks you out. You:
 - a. Turn her down

- b. Turn her down and call your friend to tell her about it
- c. Go out with her and then call
- d. Go out with her and suggest an affair

9. Your lover is 2 hours late for your birthday party. You:

- a. Throw a drink in her face when she comes in the door.
- b. Hook up with the most attractive woman at the party
- c. Go ahead and party, after all, it is your birthday
- d. pout all night long

10. You have problems with: (check as many as apply)

- a. strong food cravings
- b. migraines or headaches
- c. an addiction to caffeine
- d. an addiction to cigarettes
- e. Insomnia
- f. bingeing on sweets
- g. frequent bloating

Scoring

Give yourself points as follows:

- 1. a-g 1 point, h-4, i-1
- 2. a-4, b-3, c-1, d-2
- 3. a-3, b-4, c-1, d-2
- 4. Agree/Disagree
- a 4 1
- b 5 0
- c 2 3
- d 2 3
- 5. a-3, b-4, c-1, d-2
- 6. a-4, b-3, c-1, d-2

7.E S F U

- a. 1 2 3 4
- b. 4 1 2 3
- c. 1 2 3 4
- d. 1 2 3 4
- e. 1 2 3 4
- f. 4 1 2 3
- g. 4 1 2 3

8. a-2, b-1, c-3, d-4

9. a-3, b-4, c-1, d-2

10. One point for each checked

If You Scored:

106-74 points

Bitchy? Yes! Manipulative? Of Course! Everyone is fair game when you're on the rampage. Mom, Dad, the Boss, Friends, Lovers...all are a target! Of course, you get lots of respect, but you don't inspire much affection. You can be very aggressive if anything or anyone stands between you and something you want, no matter how small. You do have a softer side but you don't let it show very much. If you did you might find yourself with better relationships with everyone in your life.

73-41 points

You tend to keep your bitchy side to yourself but when something triggers your anger, watch out! Once you're mad you let the chips fall where they may and give no thought to the consequences. This tendency to hold everything in and then explode can get you into trouble and you may feel more than a little guilty once it's out of your system. Don't worry, you've got to release tension somewhere and besides, life would be very boring without an occasional emotional outburst!

40-10 points

You are the nice one. Too nice. You let people walk on you until your own self-confidence falters and on come the tears, buckets of them. Stand up for yourself once in awhile, not only will you feel better about yourself but about everyone around you! You may shock some people at first with your new self, but they'll have much more respect for you in the long run.



HOROSCOPE

The following article on the Chinese Horoscope originally ran in the second issue of Dimensions in August 1986.

The Chinese Horoscope is not based on the sun signs but instead, on the moon or lunar years. Instead of the month of birth, these signs are based on the birth year. The cycle is divided into 12 signs that change yearly.

THE YEARS & THEIR SIGNS

Year Sign

1948	RAT	1954	HORSE
1960		1966*	
1972		1978	
1984		1990	
1949	BUFFALO	1955	GOAT
1961		1967	
1973		1979	
1985		1991	
1950	TIGER	1956	MONKEY
1962		1968	
1974		1980	
1986		1992	
1951	CAT	1957	ROOSTER
1963		1969	
1975		1981	
1987		1993	
1952	DRAGON	1958	DOG
1964		1970	
1976		1982	
1988		1994	
1953	SNAKE	1959	PIG
1965		1971	
1977		1983	
1989		1995	

**The year of the Fire Horse occurs once every 60 years in the year of the Horse. In this century, the years 1906 & 1966 are the only years of the Fire Horse.*

Rat

The Rat may at first seem charming and fun loving, but beneath this dashing exterior is a quick tempered aggressiveness and constant recklessness.

You can always find a Rat at a sale "saving money" on things she will never use. However, the money "saved" is probably not her own. She is often happier living off those around her than making it on her own.

The Rat will be sentimental about anything in her past. Honesty is her greatest asset.

The best romantic partners for the Rat are the Dragon and the Buffalo. She should avoid the Horse and the Cat.

Buffalo

The Buffalo hides behind a plodding facade, but underneath you will find a quick and creative mind. She is the inspirer of confidences but likes to be alone quite often. She is likely to be engaged in the fanatic pursuit of outdated ideals.

The Buffalo is subject to violent fits of temper. It is best not to cross her. She demands fidelity from a lover and will, herself, remain faithful.

She is a hard worker and will prosper in business and agriculture. She should avoid careers in sales or politics.

The Buffalo will work best in romantic situations with the Rat and the Rooster. She should watch out for the Monkey, the Tiger and the Goat.

Tiger

The Tiger is rebellious. She is the ring-leader and always the first to jump into any situation. You would be well advised to think things over before following her. Her love of being on the edge often leads to her downfall.

The Tiger likes to be the boss and hates to take orders from anyone.

The Tiger will make a great boss, army chief or possibly a gangster. Anywhere she is in the lead suits her perfectly.

She will have good relationships with the Horse, the Dragon or the Dog. She should stay away from the Snake, the Monkey, the Buffalo and the Cat.

Cat

Cats are the happiest people. They are good company and have a great many good qualities. However, they are also superficial and that means their good qualities are superficial also.

The Cat is a great party goer and hostess. She has great taste in clothes and all other material things. She loves to show off her intelligence and culture.

She is not easily provoked.

She is adept at handling money and will probably do well in any aspect of trade. Politics are also good to the Cat.

She will prosper in relationships with the Goat, the Pig and the Dog. She will be unhappy with the Rooster, the Rat and the Tiger.

Dragon

The Dragon is direct and honest even at the expense of others. She is also gullible. She can be demanding because she expects perfection in everything.

She will be a success wherever she goes. She is often loved but loves herself little. She is in great demand as a lover but will disappoint many lovers. Many Dragons stay single all their lives because of their self-sufficiency.

In love, the Dragon will work best with the Rat, the Snake, the Rooster and especially the Monkey. Bad times will come with the Tiger and the Dog.

Snake

The Snake has great intuition, almost a sixth sense. She makes her decisions quickly and sticks by them.

She keeps her pocketbook close to her and gives her help in works rather than money.

She is lucky in money matters but she's just a little stingy.

She is fairly lazy and should avoid professions where she must work too hard.

Snakes tend to have a "wandering eye" when it comes to affairs of the heart.

She will be happy with the Buffalo and the Rooster but should avoid the Pig and the Tiger.

Horse

The Horse is tops in sex appeal. She loves to be around lots of people and is a wonderful companion, but a bit of a gossip. She is always popular.

She has a terrible temper and is very impatient. She can be immature and has a tendency to be very selfish.

She can make it in any career involving people (lots of them). She has the ability to sway a crowd and does best in politics.

She will be happiest in relationships with the Goat, the Dog and the Tiger. She should stay away from the Rat.

•The Fire Horse occurs only every sixty years (1906, 1966, 2026, etc....) and has all these qualities but they are much more pronounced.

Goat

The Goat is a pessimistic worrier. She can also be elegant, charming & artistic. She is always certain something better is just around the next corner. She has no sense of time and often irritates the people around her with her lateness.

She often takes advantage of those around her; sometimes even living off of them. She can adapt herself to living with the minimum amount of security. She inevitably leaves all major decisions to others in her life.

The Goat will do well in the arts, as a carpenter or other craftsman. However, she dreams of a rich lover so she doesn't have to work at all.

She will do well with the Cat, the Pig and

continued on page 31

THE DIRECTORY

A LISTING OF SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES & CLUBS

ALBUQUERQUE, NM (area code 505)

organizations

Sister Source Cooperative & Lesbian Resource Line
144 Harvard SE • 268-2116

AMARILLO, TX (area code 806)

organizations

Lesbian/Gay Alliance • PO Box 9361 79105 • 373-5725
MCC of Amarillo • PO Box 1276 • 372-4557

ARLINGTON, TX (area code 817)

organizations

Gay/Lesbian Association of UTA
P.O. Box 19348-77, UTA St. 76019 • 794-5140
Trinity MCC • 331 Aaron Ave., Ste 125 • 265-5454

AUSTIN, TX (area code 512)

clubs

Nexus • 305 W. 5th • 472-5288

organizations

Affirmation (Methodist) • 7403 Shoal Creek • 451-2329
Austin Latino/a Lesbian/Gay Organization
PO Box 1350 78787 • 290-6107
Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus • P.O. Box 822 78767 • 474-0750
Center for Battered Women • (Lesbian Group) 385-5181 or 928-9070
Gay/Lesbian Student Association at UT Austin
458-3971 • Box 275 Texas Union 78712-7338
Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby • PO Box 2579 78768 • 474-5475
Lesbian Mothers - Karen • 339-8508
Live Wire Productions • PO Box 141202 78714
Metropolitan Community Church • 1100 Springdale Rd. • 929-3660
Oasis Ministry • 5555 N. Lamar Blvd. #L101 • 441-9191
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 331-8445
Sapphires • Lesbian Social Group • 450-0659
Meeting Address • 825 E. 53 1/2 St., Ste E103
Mailing Address • 201 W. Stassney, Ste. #321 78745-3156
Waterloo Counseling Center • 507 Powell 78703 • 322-9654
Texas Human Rights Foundation • P.O. Box 49740 78765 • 479-8473
AIDS Legal Assistance 1-800-828-6417
The Treehouse (Lesbian Mothers Support Group)
607 Nueces St. 78701 • 477-5822

ATHENS, TX (area code 903)

organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 675-8326

BANDERA, TX (area code 210)

accommodations

Desert Hearts Cowgirl Club • Women's Guest Ranch
HC 3, Box 650 78003 • 796-7446

DALLAS, TX (area code 214)

businesses

Business Delivery Systems • 14902 Preston Rd. 75240 • 733-1108

clubs

Sue Ellen's • 3903 Cedar Springs • 559-0707

organizations

Affirmation • PO Box 225831 75222 • 948-1546

AIDS Resource Center • P.O. Box 190712 75219
Asians & Friends • PO Box 9142 75209 • 492-3339
Cathedral of Hope MCC • 5910 Cedar Springs Rd. • 351-1901
Community Church & College of Divine Metaphysics
4001 Live Oak #401 • 826-7110, Ext. 401
Congregation Beth El B'nai • P.O. Box 191188 75219 • 497-1591
Couples Metro Dallas • PO Box 803156 75380 • 504-6775
Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance
P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 528-4233 • FAX 522-4604
Dallas Gay/Lesbian Historic Archives • P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 821-1653
Dallas Gay Youth Group • 300 Turtle Creek Plaza #116 • 307-7203
Dallas Names Project • PO Box 190669 75219-0669 • (214) 520-SEWS
Dallas Outdoors • P.O. Box 35474 75235 • 278-5270
Dallas Tavern Guild • 3900 Lemmon Ave. #220 • 526-5292
Dignity/Dallas • PO Box 190133 75219 • 226-4101
Foundation for Human Understanding • 528-4233
Gay/Lesbian Gardeners • PO Box 190552 75219 • 339-0787
GLAAD/Dallas • P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 526-GLAD
Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus • 2727 Oak Lawn • 528-2811
Lesbian/Gay Democrats of Texas • 521-5342 ext. 229
Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition • P.O. Box 224424 75222 • 828-9882
Lesbian Resource Center • 1315 Skiles • 821-3999
Lesbian Visionaries • PO Box 191443 75219 • 521-5342 X 844
LIL (Lesbian Info Line • 521-5342 ext. 298
SPROUTS (coming out group) • 521-5342 ext. 256
TWIGS (the wynn in gay society) • 521-5342 ext. 269
The New Vision (newspaper) • 521-5342 ext. 255
Metropolitan Republicans • P.O. Box 191033 75219 • 941-8114
Oak Lawn Community Services 4300 MacArthur • 520-8108
Oak Lawn Symphonic Band • P.O. Box 190973 75219 • 966-1751
PFLAG/Dallas • Helpline 556-6640
Imperial Sovereign Royal Court • P.O. Box 190464 75245 • 521-8446
Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship • 416-1358
White Rock Community Church • 722 Tenison Mem. Rd • 320-0043
Wormyn Together • 3920 Cedar Springs • 528-4233

DENTON, TX (area code 817)

organizations

COURAGE, Lesbian Gay Student Org.
P.O. Box 5067 76203 • 382-3813
Harvest MCC • 5900 S. Stemmons 76205 • 1-800-497-HMCC
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 387-1491

DRIPPING SPRINGS, TX (area code 512)

accommodations

Recreation Plantation • Campground • HCO1 box 40-A 78620 • 894-0567

EL PASO, TX (area code 915)

organizations

Lambda Services • PO Box 31321 79931-0321 • 24 hour line 562-GAYS
MCC El Paso • 916 Yandell • 542-1227
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • Spanish & English • 591-4664

FT. WORTH (area code 817)

organizations

Agape MCC • 4615 SE Loop 820 • 535-5002
Affirmation (Methodist) • 478-7837
Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Arlington • 870-1555 or 535-7188
Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition of Tarrant County • 263-9006 or 860-0326
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 498-5607/498-4855
RESPECT • 828 Hardwood Rd. • Hurst, TX 76054
Tarrant County L/G Alliance • 3327 Wintrop, Suite 243 76116 • 763-5544

GROESBECK, TX (area code 817)

accommodations

Rainbow Ranch Campground • Rt. 2, Box 165 76642 • 888-875-7596

HOUSTON, TX (area code 713)

businesses

Inklings Bookshop • 1846 Richmond • 521-3369

clubs

Ranch • 9218 Buffalo Spwy. • 666-3464

Ms. B's • 9208 Buffalo Spwy. • 666-3356

XTC • 9212 Buffalo Spwy. • 666-3356

organizations

AIDS Foundation • 3927 Essex Lane • 623-6796

AIDS HOTLINE • c/o Switchboard • 529-3211

Gay/Lesbian Students University of Houston • 4800 Calhoun • 529-3211

Gay/Lesbian Switchboard • PO Box 66591 77266 • 529-3211

Houston Gay & Lesbian Parents • 980-7995

Houston Gay Political Caucus • P.O. Box 66664 77266 • 521-1000

Integrity • P.O. Box 66008 77266-6008 • 432-0414

Kingdom Community Church • 614 E. 19th • 862-7533

Lambda ALANON • 1214 Joanne • 521-9772

Lesbian/Gay Students-Univ. Houston Clear Lake • 2700 Bay Area 77058

LTN Houston • Lesbian Teacher Network

PO Box 1835 • Bellaire, TX 77402 • 529-3211

Metropolitan Community Church Of The Resurrection

1919 Decatur • 861-9149

Montrose Counseling Center • 701 Richmond 77006 • 529-0037

Montrose Pool League/Billiards • P.J. 863-8482

The Movie Club • 867-9454

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 867-9020

PWA Coalition - Houston • 1475 W. Gray #163 • 522-5428

The Women's Group • 529-5871

Womynspace • P.O. Box 980601 77098-0601

Women's Softball League • 6431 Pineshade • 868-6256

LUBBOCK, TX (area code 806)

organizations

Lubbock Lesbian/Gay Alliance & Wild Wide West Prod.

P.O. Box 64746 79464 • 791-4499

MCC Lubbock • 5502 34th St. • 792-5562

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 799-8529

South Plains AIDS Resource Center (SPARC)

4204-B 50th St. 79413 • 1-800-627-7079 • 796-7068

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Affirmation: United Methodists for Lesbian/Gay Concerns

PO Box 1021 • Evanston, IL 60204

AIDS Action Council • 729 Eighth St. S.E. Suite 200

Washington, DC 20003 • (202) 547-3101

AIDS 800 • 1-800-221-7044

Conference For Catholic Lesbians

PO Box 436, Planetarium Station • New York, NY 10024

GLAAD/USA • 80 Varick St. #3E • NY, NY 10013

Hate Crime Line • 1-800-347-HATE

Gay & Lesbian Parents Coalition International (GLPCI)

PO Box 50360, Washington, DC 20091 • (202) 583-8029

Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund

PO Box 21567 • Seattle, WA 98111 • (206) 325-2643

Lesbian Teachers Network (LTN)

PO Box 638 • Solon, IA 52333

National Gay Alliance for Young Adults, Inc.

PO Box 190426 • Dallas, TX 75219 • (214) 307-7203

National Gay/Lesbian Clearinghouse

666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012

National Gay/Lesbian Task Force

1517 U Street NW • Washington D.C. 20009 • 202-332-6483

Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-Flag) • 1-800-4-FAMILY

The Fund for Human Dignity

666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (area code 405)

organizations

Oasis the Community Center

2135 NW 39th 73112 • 525-AIDS

Herland Sister Resources, Inc.

2312 NW 39th 73112 • 521-9696

SAN ANGELO, TX (area code 915)

organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 944-4323

Concho Valley Gay/Lesbian Alliance

P.O. Box 750 76902 • 653-2956

SAN ANTONIO, TX (area code 210)

clubs

Bonham Exchange • 411 Bonham • 224-9219

Nexus San Antonio • 8021 Pinebrook • 341-2818

organizations

Deaf Rainbow • 804-1904 TTY

Dignity/San Antonio • 202 N. St. Mary's • 349-3632

Integrity/San Antonio

PO Box 150006 78212 • 684-4920

Gay & Lesbian Community Center • O Box 15857 78212 • 822-3533

Lesbian Gay Switchboard • 733-7300

LISA (Lesbian Information SA) • 828-LISA (5472)

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 822-4135

River City Living Church • 202 Holland 78212 • 822-1121

SALGA - San Antonio Lesbian/Gay Assembly

P.O. Box 12614 78212 • 697-3266

SALSA - San Antonio Lambda Students Alliance

PO Box 12715 78212 • SALSA Line 736-4329

Student Pride Soiree • PO Box 12715 78212 • 736-4329

San Antonio AIDS Foundation

PO Box 120113 78212-9313

SHERMAN, TX (area code 903)

organizations

AIDS Resource Center of Texhoma • 813-1272 or 800-525-6381

Alliance for Life • PO Box 1695 75091 • 892-9049

HIV/AIDS Services • PO Box 1695 75091 • 463-7258

WACO, TX (area code 817)

organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 750-7211

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P.O. Box 856
Lubbock, TX 79408



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Property of the Center

Chinese Horosc

continued from page 24

She will do well with the Cat, the Pig and the Horse. No other sign does well with the Goat, especially the Buffalo and the Dog.

Monkey

The Monkey is the most mischevious and fun of all the signs. She is a practical joker and can be very devious.

She will read everything that comes within her grasp. She has a good memory and remembers everything.

She is very inventive and has great problem solving ability. She will lie, as long as she knows she can get away with it.

The Monkey will succeed in any profession. She has good chance of becoming famous, or at least well known within her field.

She will make a good partner for the Dragon and the Rat. She would be well advised to stay away from the Tiger.

Rooster

The Rooster is a boastful dreamer and likes to be flattered. She speaks her mind to the point of rudeness.

She likes to be noticed and may have a tendency to dress flashily. She is very conservative in politics and all other areas of her life.

She is very independent and never confides in anyone. She loves to dream, but due to her conservatism, has a very limited imagination. She has a tendency to make promises that are bigger than she can keep.

The Rooster has a reputation for being able to find money in the most unlikely places.

She will be happy with the Buffalo, the

Dragon. She should stay away from the Cat and other Roosters.

Dog

The Dog is a worrier — always on alert. She is an introvert, extremely cynical and very sharp tongued. She looks for faults in everything.

She doesn't like to be around people and gives the impression of being a "cold fish" in the bedroom. She isn't really cold, only lacking in confidence. She is the most honest and faithful of all the signs. She can keep a secret to her deathbed.

She will be happiest with the Horse, the Tiger and the Cat. She would be wise to avoid the Dragon and the Goat.

Pig

You can trust a Pig in all matters. She is a good sport, always understanding her own faults and those of others. She is incredibly sincere.

She is a great companion and will be alot of fun once she lets her hair down. She can be very obstinate underneath the deceptive appearance of compli-
ance. Once she has come to a decision, nothing will change her mind.

She would do well to settle down with the Cat but must stay away from the Snake and the Goat.



**Let Us Know
What You Think!**

**Send e-mail to:
visions782@aol.com**

Friends Fest '96

OCTOBER 4, 5 & 6

at *RECREATION PLANTATION CAMPGROUND* in *DRIPPING SPRINGS, TX*

LIVE MUSIC • SINGLES DANCE

MOVIE UNDER THE STARS

& MUCH, MUCH MORE!

Camp under the stars, swim in the spring fed swimming pool,
enjoy hot showers. RV hookups available.

Registration is: \$30 thru June 15, \$35 thru Aug 15, \$40 thru September 15 & \$50 at the gate

To register, send your name, address & phone to:

Stacy Spencer, Recreation Plantation c/o Friends Fest '96, 9650 Pursley Rd., Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Please, NO PETS. If you MUST bring them, you will be charged \$25 at the gate. No Exceptions

Directions:

Take 290 West of Austin to Dripping Springs traffic light. At the 4th Street past light, turn left onto Co. Rd. 190 (after 2 miles, road changes to 220). Stay on 220 6 miles to Co. Rd. 190. Turn right on 190, 1/2 mile turn left onto road past rock entrance. Follow road 7/10 mile to deadend at campground.

for more information & reservations, call:

512-894-0567