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eclipse

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southern steam



We got sssssssteam heat. While SF still goes without the proper facilities for a hot, steamy encounter, the South offers a bevy of fine bath-houses with buckets of wet and wild options.

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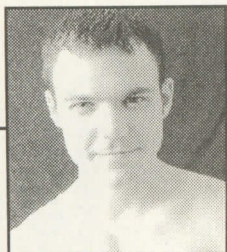
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scene and heard

houston

by mark goebel

The Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star of Houston held elections for Empress XVI earlier this month. If you are unfamiliar with the elections, here is the 411: the Court's co-presidents are called "Emperor" and "Empress" and the group is one of only a few organizations in the gay world that opens its elections to the entire community. There were no candidates for Emperor, but three fabulous candidates for Empress: **SELENA ST. JOHN**, **STELLA LINK SEVILLE** and **LEXY BROWN**. The court is an international system, which raises tens of thousands of dollars for charity, and the Houston Court raised more than \$200,000 in the last five years. Results of the elections will be announced this weekend. For more information, contact **SEAN CARTER** at carter721@aol.com. You should also drop Carter a congrats on his new title as **MR. BRB 2000**. It was a close race, but he pushed it over the edge with his talent number "Boogie Till The Cows Come Home."

The buzz on Houston's new club **HYPERIA** is that it's making a big splash. The venue features a unique mega club vibe that is a staple in bigger cities across the world. Add to that unique quality Hyperia's incredible sound system, blinding light-show, two huge dance floors and three bars, and you can understand the hype. The club has started to heat up on Saturday nights, and features an incredible group of



TERRY SULLIVAN

Sara Selber, executive director of AIDS Foundation Houston, received a \$3,266 check from NLA: Houston officials Dennis Watson (left) and Brian Kever for AFH's recent Toy Drive.

DJs, including **MICHAEL DEGRACE**, **MIKE SNOW** and **LEROY PETERS**. Hyperia is open Friday and Saturday from 9 p.m. to 4 am, with no cover from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, call 713-224-HYPE or <http://creative.xor.com/hyperia>.

DINING OUT FOR LIFE, a national fund-raising event for AIDS service organizations, is set for March 16 in Houston. Restaurants that participate will donate a portion of the day's proceeds to the **BODY POSITIVE HOUSTON WELLNESS CENTER**. More than 25 restaurants took part last year and raised more than \$8,000. Set aside a meal on March 16 to eat out and support this charitable event. Contact Carlos Arcos at 713-867-3183 for more information.

Following in that vein, **BABA YEGA RESTAURANT** will host its 14th annual Valentine's Day Weekend AIDS fund-raiser on Feb. 12-13. The restaurant will donate 30 percent of all sales that weekend to local AIDS charities. Over the past 14 years, the restaurant has donated tens of thousands of dollars to several groups. Call 713-522-0042.

Also coming up Valentine's Day weekend is **THE HOUSTON LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNI-**

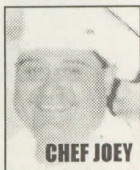
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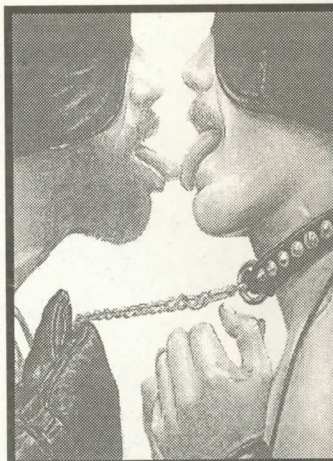
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TY CENTER'S Sweetheart Party on Feb. 11 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. You can bring a date, or stop by and score a date while standing in line to purchase raffle tickets benefiting the center. A \$10 donation includes refreshments and will support the center at 803 Hawthorne. Call 713-524-3818 for more information.

DENNIS WATSON, president of National Leather Association: Houston, presented AIDS Foundation Houston with a \$3,266 check earlier this month, which represented the funds raised by the group during AFH's Red Ribbon Toy Drive last month. NLA has been raising funds for children with HIV for eight years, but this is the first year that they teamed up with AFH—with tremendous success.

A very unique bar has opened in the Downtown district that needs to be discussed. **DEAN'S** celebrated its grand opening last month to rave reviews. The twist to this club is a true-to-form throwback to the 1940s. Everything from the bartender's dubs to the chairs, even the martini glasses are straight out of the swing decade. The place has a grand elegance about it. Check it out from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. at 316 Main Street. For more info, call 713-227-DEAN.

CLUB INERGY has organized a Miss Gay Teen Universe contest on Feb. 11-12 and is looking for some divas in training. If you think you have the moves to don a Catholic school girl uniform and lip sync to a giddy pop song, stop by Club Inergy and find out when your 15 minutes of fame will begin.

The **SCOOBY DOO CREW** production brings us "Dank!"—a grand scale rave festival. This huge party, to be held at the hip **ORBIT ROOM**, 2524 McKinney, on Feb 12, will feature three separate areas that will boast at least five DJs each, a Lillith fair of sorts for local spinning talent. Part of the Scooby Doo Crew, as well as a DJ performing that night, will be **COSMIC CAT**, known for his work at **PICASSO** and with **M-PUSSYCAT**. Check out www.scoobydoocrew.org or call 713-935-2093 for details.

If you have any hot gossip, or just some info you want included in the next column, drop me a line at markg@coolmail.net.

EUPHORIA

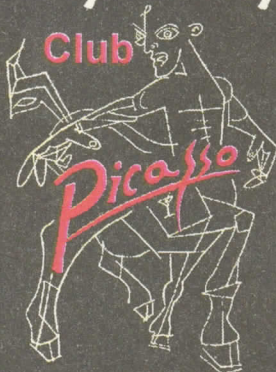
Main Entry: eu-pho-ria
Pronunciation: yu-'fOr-E

Etymology: New Latin, from Greek, from euphoros, *healthy*; from eu- + pherein, *to bear*

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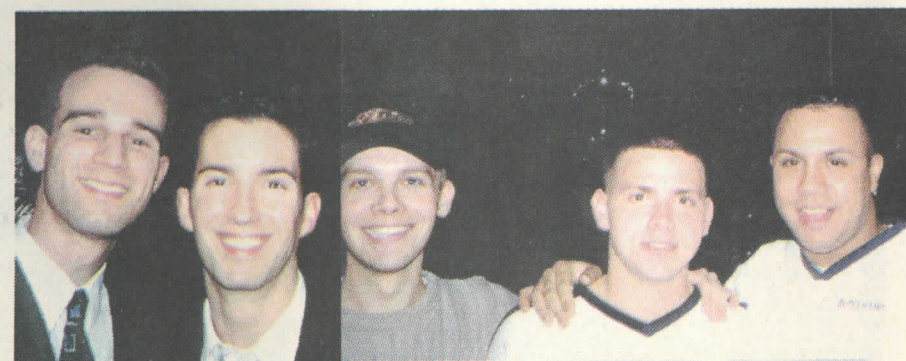
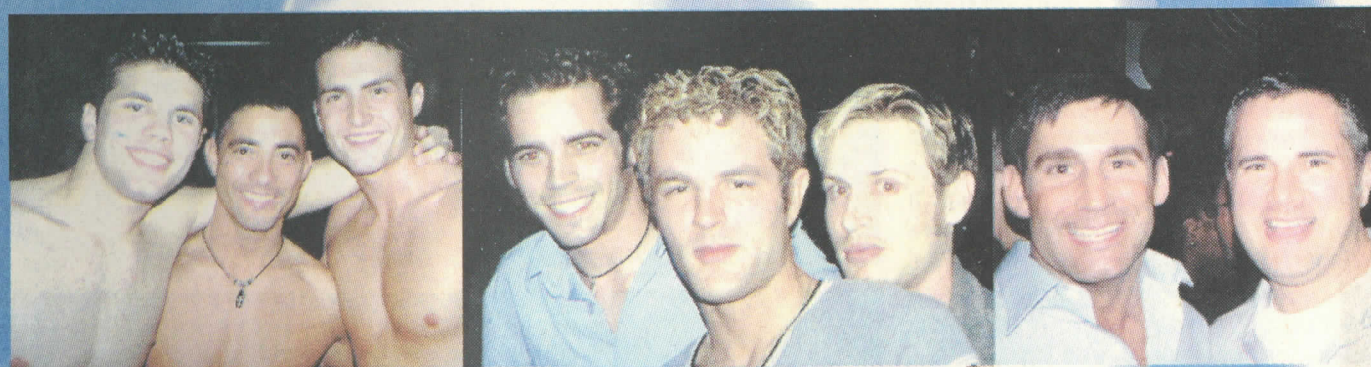
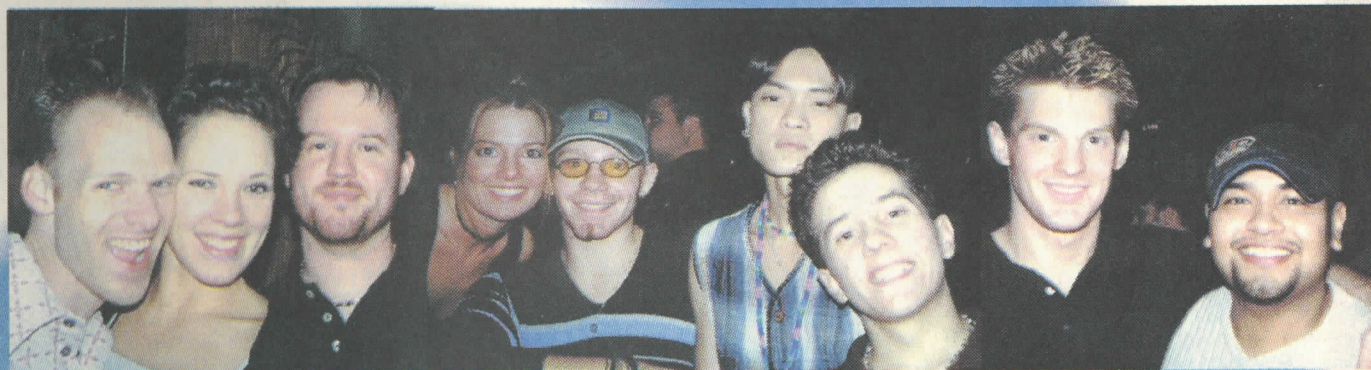
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CALENDAR**

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nitelife

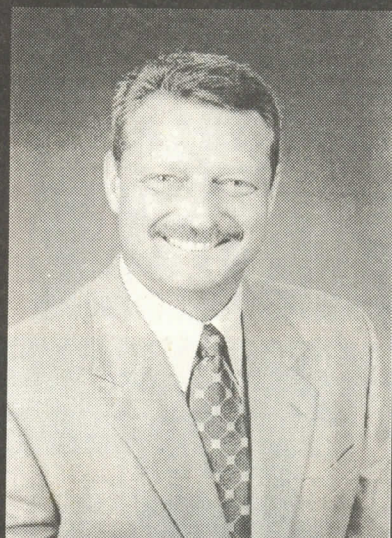
the houston scene



first row: Craig, Lisa and Jeff at Rich's;
Todd and Darren at Guava Lamp;
Mark, Chad, Rich and Frank at Rich's
second row: Michael, Craig and Pete at
Rich's; Michael, Michael and Jay at
Picasso; Jameson and Mark at Rich's
third row: Richard, Bart, Matthew
and Felix at Rich's; George, Ted and
Kevin at Michaels; Lawrence, Thad and
Jay at Rich's
fourth row: Randy and Jeff at Picasso;
Sam, Jerry and Darren at Picasso

photos by mark goebel

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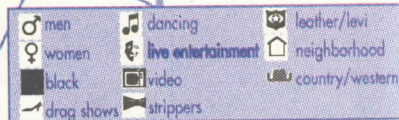
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