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Paul Bonin-Rodriguez

The acclaimed actor and writer returns to San Antonio to perform the latest installment of his Texas Trilogy series



February 3 - 16, 2005

Volume 1, Issue 11

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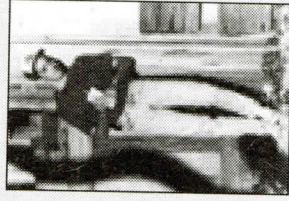
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How to Ruin a Friendship



DATELINE

By Jennifer Parello

I met Greg at his condo last Wednesday before our dinner date. As he spent hours in front of a mirror slathering himself with some type of Dorian Gray potion in preparation for our supper at the I-Hop, I reclined on his couch and flipped through a magazine filled with pictures of men in their underpants.

Greg has the decency to keep his hard-core porn well-hidden from fragile lesbian eyes. But he considers the underpants magazine acceptable coffee table material because it has self-help articles scattered among the photos of men who have what appear to be cocker spaniels stuffed in their Jockeys.

I have many gay men friends, and I am not easily shocked by their antics. But there was one article in the underpants magazine that caused me to scream in disbelief. I ran into Greg's bedroom and shook the magazine in his face.

"Does this really happen?" I asked, showing him an article titled "The Benefits of Having Sex with Your Friends."

"Yeah, all the time," he said with a shrug.

In fact, he told me, a friend had come to his place the night before to watch a movie. The movie was bad, they were bored, and it was too early to go to the bars. So they killed some time by having sex.

"Don't lesbians have sex with their friends?" he asked innocently.

I clutched my chest and collapsed on his bed. But then I remembered it was the same bed where he had had sex the night before with his friend. So I jumped up and wiped their sex germs off me.

"Don't even joke about that," I shuddered. And then I told him what happened when two of my friends slept together five years ago.

Leslie and Donna had been friends for 10 years when they slept together. They got really drunk one night and landed in bed with a thud. The next morning, neither one could remember whether they had had sex. But, just in case, they called all their friends together for a healing circle.

They told us that they were not attracted to each other and they would never sleep together again. And - they assured us - they would enter therapy immediately.

"But that doesn't change the fact that we have betrayed you all by sexualizing our friendship," Donna said.

The healing circle nodded heartily in agreement. Several people voiced concern that Donna and Leslie's behavior would put us all at risk of having spontaneous sex together. This was quickly followed by accusations about past inter-friendship flirtations.

One of my friends accused me of having batted my eyes at her one soggy evening at a wine bar. I patiently explained that after a couple glasses of Merlot, I'd flirt with a goat. That touched off a discussion about whether I should be allowed unsupervised visits with any of my friends' pets.

After several hours of hand-wringing and recriminations, it was agreed that none of us could be friends anymore. In addition, we all needed therapy - both as a group and individually.

"What happened to Leslie and Donna?" Greg asked.

"They ended their friendship that night, too," I said, sadly. "But," I added brightly, "we all still go to therapy together."

Jennifer Parello is a nationally-syndicated humorist and journalist.

Dear Helen



By Helen D'Saque

Dear Helen: I let a friend move in with me after he lost his job and his unemployment ran out. This was seven months ago. He still hasn't found a job. He expects me to buy his drinks out at the clubs and his cigarettes too. He never has any money for any household bills but is able to make daily visits to various restaurants (mostly fast food). At least I don't have to pay for that, as I eat out mostly myself and don't keep much food in the house. What really has me irritated now is that I have decided to drop my weekly maid service and asked him to help with some of the cleaning. It would seem that cleaning the bathrooms or even vacuuming is beneath him. What should I do? *Troy in Austin, Texas.*

Dear Troy: Your poor troubled soul. The first thing you should do is email me when you are going out to the clubs, as I work up a powerful thirst writing this column. The answer to your dilemma is quite simple. Remind your "friend" of The Golden Rule: "He who has the gold makes the rules." Then, get the Hoover out and tell that little vacuum virgin that it's time to pop the cherry. If he doesn't like it, then tell him he can get out of your house and go self-fornicate.

Dear Helen: In my group of friends, there is an individual who constantly embarrasses me in front of everyone - spilling the beans about my personal business and secrets. How do I make him stop? *Keith in Dallas, Texas.*

Dear Keith: Oh sweetie. I see this sort of problem all the time. Didn't your mother ever tell you that it takes two to tango? You already know that this person can't keep two beans in their mouth, so have you considered being more discrete and just not telling him about your business in the first place? Remember, the three

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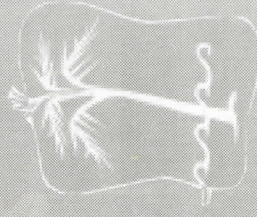
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The Storyteller Returns

San Antonio's Paul Bonin-Rodriguez returns to the stage with his new play *Fringe and Fringe Ability*

By Rob Faubion

For most gay small town Texans, John Roy Hobson represents their Everyman. He's the queer kid who got out, survived the strangulation of the Bible Belt mentality, and still has the scars to remind him of the trials that made him stronger. Johnny could be the Central Texas spokesman for diversity and tolerance - except that he's fictional.

Johnny Hobson - the one-time sissy boy Dairy Queen worker and budding fashion designer from the fictional town of Cedar Springs - is the creation of award-winning actor and playwright Paul Bonin-Rodriguez. The saga of Hobson

continues in February when Bonin-Rodriguez returns to San Antonio's Jump-Start Performance Company to perform his new stage production *Fringe and Fringe Ability*.

Hobson was first introduced to audiences in 1992 in Bonin-Rodriguez's *Talk of the Town*. The epic continued with two more chapters: *The Bible Belt & Other Accessories* (1993) and *Love in the Time of College* (1994). Known collectively as *The Texas Trinity*, Bonin-Rodriguez has performed the trilogy to great acclaim throughout the nation and in Canada. Considered one of the

leading gay artists in the nation, Bonin-Rodriguez is back from a three-year hiatus as a doctoral candidate in the Performance as a Public Practice Program at the University of Texas at Austin. The accomplished writer, performer and dancer has earned a nationwide reputation during the last decade for consistently creating theater and performance works that combine humor, poignancy and social relevance.

In *Talk of the Town*, audiences first met the 15-year-old Johnny Hobson, a Judds fan who finds love, lust and Lady Bird Johnson at the local Dairy Queen. Examined in a serialized, narrative form, the hilarious and poignant coming-of-age and coming out story touched audiences with a collective understanding of what it was like to be the odd-man-out.

In *The Bible Belt and Other Accessories*, Johnny joins forces with his African-American Home-Economics teacher, Ms. Dove, and his

Chicana feminist best friend, Delinda Domingo, to create a ragtag team of defiance and accomplishment. Johnny creates a fashion weapon - an actual belt of Bibles - and together they confront a conservative religious movement that has penetrated and infected their school.

Love in the Time of College is the darkest of the three plays in *The Texas Trinity*. John leaves Cedar Springs on a Greyhound bound for the University of Texas at Austin, where he learns that even in the city one can hear the call of the wild.

Now more than a decade later, John's life as a successful flight attendant and custom home accessories designer is brought to a halt by his mother's ill health. Returning to Cedar Springs, he resolves to make the most of the ill-fit and commits himself to putting the heart back in the heartland, to rescuing compassion from the toxic strangle of conservatism and to having a little fun

Continued on Page 11

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GROOVE LIVES

By Chris "DJ Dig'm" Mason

It no longer matters if her debut album is any good or not. It no longer matters whose sister she is. She has come out of that shadow.

Her widely publicized bad performances over the last few months have truly spoken for themselves. Nevertheless, this girl, like the Energizer Bunny, just keeps on going - somewhat relentlessly, too - simply shrugging off the Orange Bowl incident and that SNL thing.

But really, why should she care about being included in somebody's Ten Worst Dressed List? Her debut album has sold more than three million copies world wide, and she's booked to play the Verizon Wireless in Houston on April 17th as well as the Austin Music Hall on April 19th, both part of her current tour.

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Some folks are okay with this; others are not. The ones who are not okay with this have begun to mobilize against her. They truly have it out for this rockin' wannabe, super cutie Ashlee Simpson.

And I quote, from their web site: "To: Geffen/DGC Records and JT Simpson Entertainment - We, the undersigned, are disgusted with Ashlee Simpson's horrible singing and hereby ask her to stop. Stop recording, touring, modeling and performing. We do not wish to see her again."

She cannot match the sound of her voice that can be found on her CDs when she sings live. She simply yells the words (sometimes the wrong ones) into the mic.

We are so sickened by her 'performing' that we are taking this opportunity to demand that she stop. Sincerely, The Undersigned."

So really, cast your vote today at <http://www.petitiononline.com/StopAsh/petition> and be a part of history! Whatever man.

I say, have faith in Ashlee Simpson. Coming from such an obviously dysfunctional family, there has gotta' be some way cool art in there somewhere. The children of privileged suburbia are a messed-up bunch, but don't ever underestimate them artistically. Just give them time.

Oddly enough, the events transpiring today will either keep this girl around for another decade, or they could erase her from our reality completely in just a few months. Doesn't matter if you hate her or love her. Doesn't matter if you sign the petition or not. Only time will tell. And VH-1.

An American Idol, Ashlee Simpson is so not. Regardless though, she does deserve some props. Outside of sister Jessica's shadow, she really seems to be trying to do her own thing. And something different.

Continued on the Next Page

She is performing practically every night of the week throughout her tour. That shit ain't easy - even if you are singing to backing tracks. Madonna can testify to that - she and Janet are the guiltiest of that crime next to the late Milli Vanilli!

At least she doesn't have her sister's hair. That's at least one huge plus for Ashlee's side, right? Be sure to drop by www.AshleeSimpsonMusic.com and give her album *Autobiography* a listen before you judge!

Deep in the heart of Texas, that's the groove lines for now. Remember, life may not always be the party you had hoped for, but while you're here you might as well dance!

Chris "DJ Dig'm" Mason is a journalist and DJ who spins at Rain in Austin and Halo in Bryan/College Station.

Dear Helen

(Continued from Page 5)

fastest ways to spread news is telephone, tele-fax, and tell-a-fag. As for your friend, he should be old enough to know that a secret is something that you tell one person at a time.

Dear Helen: My boyfriend and I just celebrated our first anniversary, and everything is great except for one argument that we have several times a week. It regards the stick of butter. I like to keep the butter out in a covered dish so that it is soft and spreads easily, and my boyfriend thinks it should be kept in the refrigerator - except when being used - to keep it fresh. How can I win this argument? *Likes It Soft in San Marcos, Texas.*

Dear Softy: Congratulations on your anniversary. It is amazing that this is the only problem that the two of you have. Why don't you just get a fresh box of butter - they usually come in four sticks. You can each have your own stick. He can keep his hard and you can keep yours soft. Then after you have completed this task, you can

write me back and tell me what the real issues are in your relationship.

Dear Helen: I just found my boyfriend's diary and accidentally read it. I counted 22 instances where he cheated on me in the last six months. He has even been taking some of the guys to lunch first. Should I confront him? *Mark in Austin, Texas.*

Dear Mark: Good Heavens! Sound like your boyfriend has been around more times than a spin top, seen more ceilings than Michelangelo, and had more traffic than the Holland Tunnel. First, I am intrigued on how you "accidentally" read the diary. Did it just jump out at you and start turning its pages by itself? I would not confront him directly. At least not right away. A game of cat and mouse can be enjoyable if played right. Just drop little hints that would suggest that you know what's been going on. An example would be to mention that you had heard about a great lunch special at (insert restaurant name from diary). Then mention that one of your friends thinks it is so good that they have been going there several times a week. Don't be too time specific about these imaginary lunches, as it will make your wandering boyfriend sweat trying to determine if he has been caught. Now, I would suggest that you clean the place up as usually; when the diary is "found," then closets and dresser drawers seem to somehow get all messed up in the process. After you have made him squirm enough to give you satisfaction, then you can confront him directly. Just keep in mind that when he starts telling you that he is sorry, he is not sorry about the cheating. He is just truly sorry that he got caught.

Helen D'Saque is a Texas socialite who has dedicated her life to helping her fellow man. Email your letters and requests for advice to DearHelen@ShoutTexas.com.

Ask a Psychic Anything

By **Psychic Norbert**

I would like to welcome everyone to our new psychic corner where you can "Ask a Psychic Anything." I would like to clear the air about psychics - the real ones. I hate to break the news to you all, but there are many false psychics out there, and only a few good ones who really help those who want to know "what can I do better."

As for the legitimate ones, some seers are clairvoyant with the ability to see things. Some can hear and see things from "the other side." "Some seers have both abilities. Psychics and mediums channel from "the other side."

I am a psychic healer. With my abilities, I can hear, see, and feel things from those who have already passed on. Many times, I see like a double-exposure photograph, so I have to pay attention to separate this dimension's vision from the high dimension's vision.

And I want you to understand a very important thing: I have never used - nor ever will have to use - any form of drugs to increase my psychic abilities; it would not help in any form. We become more sensitive to this world as we become older - or as I put it, we become more spiritual - and the more spiritual you become, the more you are able to see.

Being a psychic comes with a lot of responsibility. The absolute confidentiality to all my clients is paramount. You can't buy your clients' trust; you have to earn it. With that said, he we go to answer a few of our readers' questions.

Question #1: A young lady asks if her house on South Lamar in Austin is haunted, because she feels things are missing or have moved from their places only to reappear again somewhere else in the house.

Norbert: No, your house is not haunted. You have two guides around you: Grandma (who has passed

on) comes to visit around 4:30 a.m., and you have an older man who is like an uncle-figure (who has passed on as well). They are like family to you, in the spirit world. They come to protect you while you are asleep, like protective spirits from the other side; don't worry - you are not in any danger.

Question #2: What is the difference between ghosts and spirits?

Norbert: Ghosts are entities who have not yet passed to Heaven, because they don't know they are no longer alive. Spirits live on the other side, like we all will once we are done with our journey in this life.

Question #3: Every where I look, I see white spots - like little flashing lights. Is something wrong with me?

Norbert: Thank you for your question - no, nothing is wrong with your eyesight. You simply see angels around you, and that is a great thing!

Question #4: Every so often, I feel like someone is following me. But when I turn around, I see no one at all.

Norbert: I'm very glad that you asked me this question. It is alright to be careful, but in this case you are just sensing your spirit guide around you, who is always with you to protect and help you. We all have them!

I just want to say "thank you all" for your interest. I look forward to hearing from you again, and if you ever see me drop in for a visit. We will talk more soon - good luck to you all in your life journeys.

Psychic Norbert answers your questions once a month in this new column. Email him at Psychic@ShoutTexas.com.

Paul Bonin-Rodriguez

Continued from Page 7

as the planner for the County Fair and Livestock Show Exposition.

Fringe is also the first of the Johnny stories to not be performed solo. Joining Bonin-Rodriguez onstage is veteran Jump-Start Performance Company actress Lisa Suarez as "Delinda Domingo," the Chicana feminist best friend who has only been referenced on-stage up until now.

As a core member of the Jump-Start Performance Company, Bonin-Rodriguez holds an affinity for the San Antonio theatrical mainstay. Jump-Start has hosted several of his world premieres, including *Quinceañera*, the 1997 multidisciplinary performance ritual he co-created with Michael Martinez and Beto Araiza to celebrate survival during the first 15 years of the pandemic AIDS crisis. *Quinceañera* was subsequently featured at the Inroads Festival of Americas and the Intersections Conference at UMass Amherst.

When not holding the spotlight on stage, Bonin-Rodriguez teaches writing, performance, and collaboration as tools to artists of all abilities and age. He has twice been named a Tennessee Williams Fellow at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, and served as an instructor at Palo Alto College.

Fringe and Fringe Ability plays for two weekends: Saturday and Sunday, February 5th and 6th, and Friday through Sunday, February 11th through 13th. Friday and Saturday shows begin at 8 p.m.; Sunday shows are at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and \$9 (students and seniors). Jump-Start Performance Company is located in Building B in the Blue Star Arts Complex, on the corner of South Alamo and Probandt.

There will be an opening night gala on February 5th, featuring desserts, drinks and a chance to bid on decadent, blue-ribbon pies and cakes. Tickets for the gala are \$20. For more information or to make reservations call (210)-227-5867.

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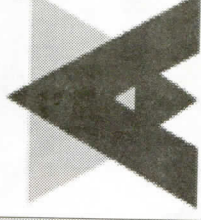
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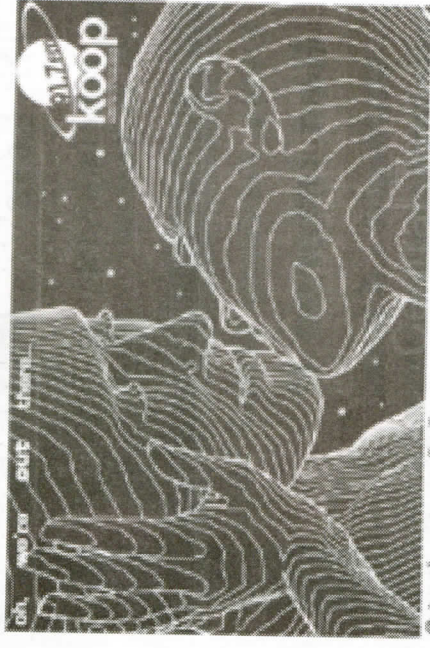
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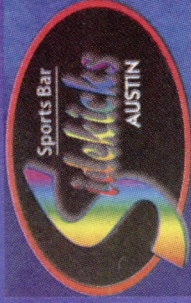
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- Lots of Beads

- Big Girls Fat Tuesday Show

Wednesday, 9th - Carmen Miranda's Birthday

Check the website for updates and complete event information



Kings N Things

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Friday, February 11th
9 p.m. in Xtreme

Friday, February 11th:

Red Inferno II

Midnight - 4 p.m.

Saturday, February 12th:

Roller Girls Awards Party

7 p.m. - Midnight in Xtreme

Check Our Website for More Details on All Our Upcoming Events:
www.SidekicksAustin.com

Valentine's Day

Monday, February 15th

In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their Valentines would be. They would wear these names on their sleeves for one week. To wear your heart on your sleeve now means that it is easy for other people to know how you are feeling.

Some people used to believe that if you saw a robin flying overhead on Valentine's Day, it meant you would marry a sailor. If you saw a sparrow, you would marry a poor man and be very happy. If you saw a goldfinch, you would marry a millionaire.

Think of five or six names of boys or girls you might marry. As you twist the stem of an apple, recite the names until the stem comes off. You will marry the person whose name you were saying when the stem fell off.

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THEMUSES

Central Texas Arts Events

The Capital City Men's Chorus honors the month of February with their annual celebration of love in song - the Sweetheart Cabaret - on February 12 at the Austin Women's Club, located downtown at 708 San Antonio. Set in the beautiful and historic Evans Chateau, the romantic evening begins with a silent auction. Doors will open at 6:45 p.m. allowing guests may mix and mingle before the first course of a four-course dinner is served at 7:30 p.m.

Cabaret-style entertainment begins shortly thereafter, with solo and small-ensemble performances by members of the Capital City Men's Chorus. Lending her own voice to the entertainment will be guest emcee Karen Kuykendall, Austin's star of stage, cabaret, radio and screen. Tickets are \$60 and may be purchased from any chorus member, as well as on-line and by phone. For tickets or more information call (512) 477-SING (7464) or visit on-line at www.CCMCAustin.org.

Ballet Austin lights up the stage with works from three award-winning choreographers in *Director's Choice*, which runs February 11th through the 14th at the Paramount Theatre, downtown at Congress and 8th. Grab your sweetheart and enjoy the production as Thaddeus Davis presents *Let the Fools Stand in Line*. Gina Patterson debuts a new work entitled *Free to Fly*.



and Stephen Mills presents the ever-popular *The Naughty Ones*. Ticket prices range from \$15 to \$59, and are available by calling (512) 469-SHOW.

The Austin Cabaret Theatre continues their Legends Series with Klea Blackhurst in her dynamic tribute to Broadway's Grande Dame - Ethel Merman - in *Everything the Traffic Will Allow...The Songs of Ethel Merman*. Billed as "funny, touching, bawdy, subtle (yes, subtle!) and vastly entertaining," Blackhurst's performance promised to set your toes a-tappin' and your heart soaring with two performances, February 4th and 5th. For tickets and information, call (512) 453-ACTS or visit www.AustinCabaret.org.

The VORTEX Repertory Company at 2307 Manor Road will create a decadent evening of gods and goddesses, magic and mayhem, beauty and fantasy, costumes and decadence, feasting and dancing for their annual Dark Goddess Ball on Saturday, February 19th from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dozens of Goddesses from the many years of Dark Goddess performances will be re-uniting at The VORTEX for this fabulous fundraiser and evening of bacchanalian revelry.

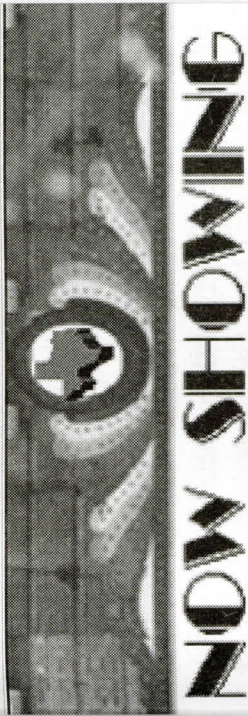
Dress as your favorite deity and enjoy fine food and drink, a silent auction, tarot readings, music by Bellevue Jubilee and DJ Chet Polo, plus Rob Nash performing as a Mystery Goddess. Live fire performers, wandering troubadours, and a blazing bonfire and round out the scene. Admission is \$20 in advance, \$25 at gate, and \$10 for starving artists. For reservations and information, call (512) 478-5282.

Over in Lockhart, the always fun Gaslight Theater at 204 North Main presents *Who's In Bed With The Butler?* The comedic farce plays Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. until February 13th, with a Saturday matinee on the 5th at 2 p.m. Tickets are only \$10, or splurge for the incredibly cheap \$16 Show and BBQ Dinner. Call (512) 376-5653 for reservations.

The Shoestring Shakespeare Company and the Vexler Theatre team up for a splash new production of William Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*, now playing through February 19th. Set in New York City's Little Italy in 1945, the play features 1940's costumes and music to create a unique and hilarious version of one of Shakespeare's most popular plays.

Shrew plays Thursdays through Sundays at the Vexler Theatre, 12500 N.W. Military Highway at Wurzbach Parkway. Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$13 for seniors and military, and \$8 for students. For reservations, call (210) 302-6835 or visit www.Vexler.org.

Finally, the Alamo Street Theatre, at 1150 South Alamo Street, invites you back to 1946 for Clearly Cole, where you are in the audience for a live radio broadcast tribute to the music of Cole Porter. Featuring evergreen standards such as "Let's Misbehave," "Begin the Beguine," and "De Lovely," the production will feature special guest entertainers, a dinner buffet, and a Valentine's weekend candlelight dinner. The show plays Fridays and Saturdays through February 26th, with dinner at 6 p.m. and the show immediately following. For reservations and more information, call (210) 271-7791.

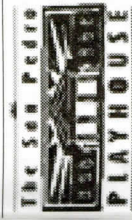


Cantus Holiday Concert, February 18

Hogg Memorial Auditorium

Tickets (512) 477-6060 or utpac.org

Aida - Elton John and Tim Rice's Smash Hit Musical
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Route 66

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Capital City Men's Chorus presents **Sweetheart Cabaret**
Saturday, February 12th at 7 p.m.

The Austin Women's Club, 708 San Antonio - Tickets: \$60
For tickets or info: (512) 477-SING or www.CCMCAustin.org

Paul Bonin-Rodriguez's "Fringe and Fringe Ability"

The further adventures of Johnny Hobson from the renowned actor
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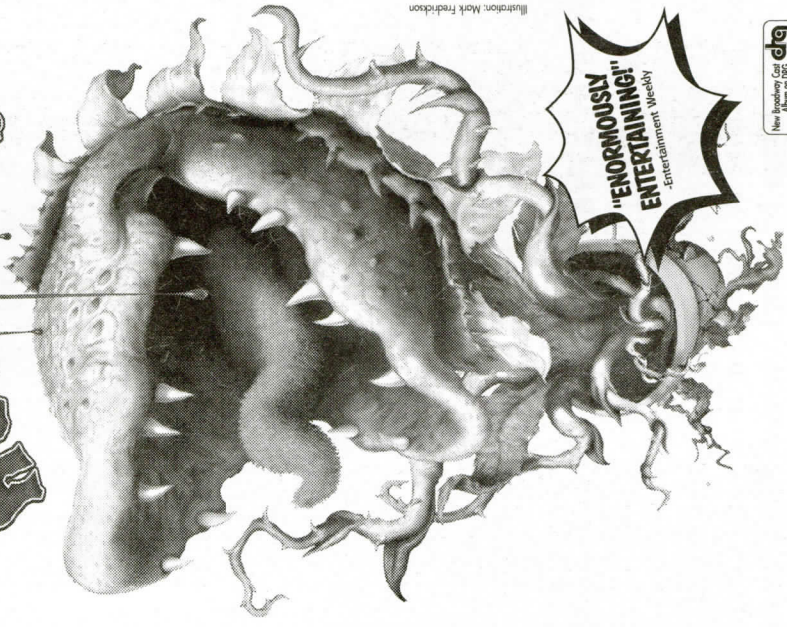
February 19th - An Evening of Bacchanalian Revelry

The Dark Goddess Ball

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MOVIES
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The Austin American Statesman

Austin Happenings

ArtErotica Gets Hung February 12th

Austin's sexiest Valentine's fund-raiser returns February 12th for the third annual ArtErotica, benefiting Austin AIDS Emergency Fund. Hosted by the Octopus Club, the event takes over the Ion Art Warehouse, 409 Radam Lane, at 9 p.m.

"The art is from local artists who are donating their pieces," said Bonnie Prudencio, Marketing Coordinator of Blue Shoe Marketing. "The pieces can be anything the artist thinks is erotic - from the very obvious to the very subtle."

Beer and wine will be provided at the event, as well as a wonderful selection of deserts. Organizers promise great dance music and encourage "appropriate" dress.

Advance tickets are \$25 and are available at AIDS Services of Austin, Lobo Bookstore and Waterloo Records. Tickets are \$35 at door. For more information, visit www.OctopusClub.org or call the ArtErotica hotline at (512) 496-2465.

Austin's Premiere Drag King Troupe Is "Bringing it Back with Love"

Following a short hiatus, the girls that are boys are returning to share their love with Central Texas. Kings N Things, Austin's much-lauded drag king troupe, takes to the Xtreme Nightclub stage, 110 East Riverside, on Friday, February 11th, at 9 p.m. for their Valentine's show.

The troupe recently returned from a successful performance at the 6th Annual Drag King Extravaganza in Chicago. Performing before a sold-out crowd of 1,200, the Central Texas entertainers received a standing ovation for their Broadway-like choreography and amazing production numbers.

Tickets for "Bringing it Back with Love" are \$10. Doors open for be at 9 p.m., and the show will begin immediately afterward. For more information visit on-line at www.KingsNThings.org.

ALLGO Celebrates Two Decades of Success at Annual Baile de Amor

The Austin Latino/Latina Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Organization (ALLGO) presents one of their most exciting special events of the year - their 20th Annual Baile de Amor Dance and Silent Auction. The event fills the Ballroom at the Red Lion Hotel, 6121 N. IH-35, on Friday, February 11th, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

"The event is meant to celebrate not only the romantic love in our community during the Valentine's Day Weekend, but the strong community ties that hold us together and make us a unified and diverse portion of Central Texas' vibrant population," said David Garza, Development Director. "During the past 20 years, ALLGO's efforts have given a powerful voice to LGBT communities of color in Central Texas, while also providing a space where individuals can grow, learn, thrive and socialize."

The nation's oldest standing organization dedicated to LGBT people of color, ALLGO provides crucial case management services for individuals living with HIV/AIDS. ALLGO also sponsors a year-long arts season featuring theatrical plays, poetry readings, artist workshops and visual arts exhibitions.

Baile de Amor will feature feature non-stop dancing, a cash bar, a silent auction, and special performances from both 2005 Miss ALLGO Des'ree Diva and 2005 Mister ALLGO Amedeus York. Individual sponsorships are available starting at \$50, complete with special benefits such as bottles of champagne, boutonnières, beverage tickets and priority seating.

General admission tickets are \$25 per person in advance and \$30 at door. For tickets and information, call Star Tickets at (512) 469-SHOW, or call ALLGO at (512) 472-2001, or visit their offices in person at 701 Tillery Street.

San Antonio Happenings

The L Word Premiere to Benefit HRC

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) is partnering with Showtime to celebrate the season premiere of *The L Word*, the cable channel's lesbian-themed series. The San Antonio viewing party will take place on Sunday, February 20th at 6 p.m., at The Bonham Exchange, 411 Bonham Street.

Local organizers say last year's event was a huge success. They anticipate that this year's screening will prove to be equally as exciting.

Admission is free. For more information, email smtourk@yahoo.com.

Citlali, the First Chicana Superhero, Arrives at the Esperanza Center for Valentine's Day

Just in time for the most romantic day of the year, Citlali - muscular, morena, and bien sexy - is coming to the Esperanza Center, 922 San Pedro, on Saturday, February 12th at 7 p.m. The world's first Chicana superhero arrives for a one-woman art exhibit *Tlasohltla: El Amor Tiene Muchas Caras*. (*Love Has Many Faces*), a celebration of love that is much more than hearts and flowers.

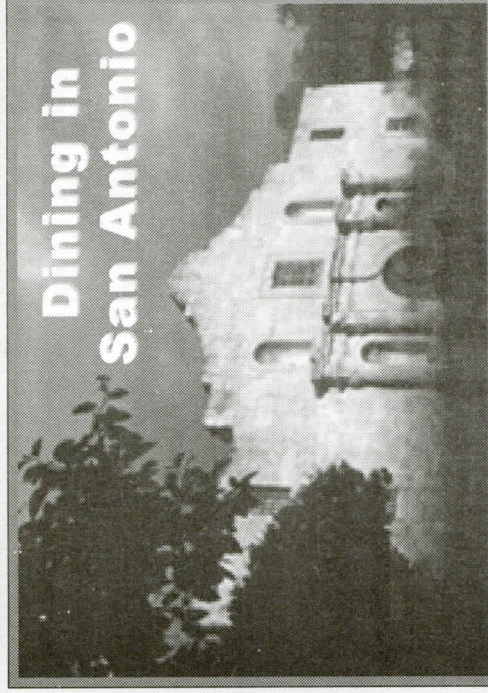
Citlali, an Aztec term of reverence translated as "reach for the stars," is known for sporting a red bandana accentuating her panterescas-eyes and long black hair, tight green pants and a skinny top emblazoned with an indigenous woman standing on a crescent-moon. Citlali is the creation of Deborah Kuetzpalin Vasquez, a visual artist and activist who has revolutionized the classic male comic-book stereotypes, inventing a superhero for the Latina community.

Born of indigenous goddesses, Vasquez created Citlali as a ferocious beauty, a woman made sensual because she is fearless and loving. Citlali protects and defends women, her cultura and Mother Earth.

Working in a mix of traditional materials, Vasquez brings Citlali to the Esperanza Center to show that love has many faces, "Tlasohltla" - in Citlali's super-defiant eyes - is worth fighting for.

Tlasohltla: El Amor Tiene Muchas Caras opens at the Esperanza Center on Saturday, February 12th with a reception at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

The Esperanza is located at 922 San Pedro, one-half mile north of the downtown library. For more information, contact the Center at (210) 228-0201.





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Boogeyman

"7th Heaven" Star Should Have Kept His Closet Door Closed

Grade: D-

As children, we were always told stories about monsters living underneath our beds or bed bugs biting us in the middle of the night. But one fear that has haunted children for centuries is the story of the Boogeyman coming out of their closet.

So, the thought of a movie about the Boogeyman would be a decent scary film if it had a cool storyline. In the 1980's, a series of *Boogeyman* films were released with disappointing results. This particular version, though, is not related to those films. It stands alone... in the dark... and unfortunately, stays there.

I wish I could say after watching this film, you, too, would be afraid to sleep with the lights off; however, I'm sorry to disappoint you. The movie starts off good, but it becomes so confusing and cheesy that it makes you feel like you could have written a better storyline. The only saving grace for this film is its scary scenes.

Barry Watson (*7th Heaven*, *Sorority Boys*) stars as Tim Jensen, a young man who - at the age of eight - was traumatized by the disappearance of his father. Even though everyone tells him his father left town, Tim dreadfully remembers the night his father disappeared - the night the Boogeyman took his dad.



Tim (Barry Watson) confronts his childhood fear in the forgettable film *Boogeyman*.

The Reel World

By Ryan Stevens

I know what everyone is thinking. At first glance

of this film, you may assume it is going to be another *My Best Friend's Wedding*. Maybe it's because the lead actor in the film was also the lead actor in *My Best Friend's Wedding*. Maybe it's because the lead actress has long red hair similar to Julie Roberts' hair (without the curls). Maybe it's because the movie is centered around a wedding, and the lead actress is trying to rekindle a previous relationship.

Alright, there are a lot of similarities between the two films, which may lead people to expect a lot from this film - but please don't. *My Best Friend's Wedding* is a lot funnier, a lot wittier, and a lot better than *The Wedding Date*. However, *The Wedding Date* is not a horrible movie - it's just not at the same caliber as *My Best Friend's Wedding*.

The *Wedding Date* stars Debra Messing (TV's "Will & Grace") as Kat Ellis, a single woman who is attending her sister's weekend wedding in London. Kat only has one major obstacle to overcome: she does not have a date to bring, and her ex-fiancé is going to be the best man at the wedding. To make her former lover jealous, Kat shells out \$6,000 and hires a male escort named Nick Mercer, played by Dermot Mulroney (My Best Friend's Wedding, Copycat), to fly to London for the wedding and pose as her new boyfriend.

From the moment they arrive in London, both Kat and Nick are the talk of the town. Everyone, including Kat's mother Bunny (Holland Taylor - *Spy Kids 2 & 3*, *Legally Blonde*), are shocked to see Kat with a boyfriend - let alone a handsome and charming boyfriend. Even Kat's ex-fiancé Jeffrey becomes so jealous that he begins to realize he made a mistake by leaving Kat.

Everything seems to be going Kat's way until the night of her sister's bachelorette party, when Kat gets drunk and makes love to Nick. By morning, Nick realizes he is in love with Kat. But unfortunately, Kat doesn't remember anything that happened the previous night. As the weekend continues, Kat and Nick begin to get closer, but Kat has to decide if her feelings for Nick are stronger than her feelings for Jeffrey.

The Wedding Date

The Wedding Date Offers Few Laughs, But Is Satisfying

Grade: C

Amazingly enough, this film was not as cheesy as it sounds. Regrettably, the film was not as funny as director Clare Kilner was trying to make it out to be. I was really expecting the film to have more laughs. However, if you are into chick flicks, this film will still satisfy you. Debra Messing plays her normal "Grace Adler" role, which is really all you can expect from her character. As always, Holland Taylor does a good job at playing the obnoxiously outspoken mother who always speaks what is on her mind. And Dermot Mulroney gets a chance to show off his naked body and to prove that he is worth every bit of that \$6,000.

Don't expect this movie to be like *My Best Friend's Wedding*, because it's not. However, if you are in the mood for a romantic light-hearted comedy, *The Wedding Date* may be to your liking.

The *Wedding Date* is 1 hour and 28 minutes and rated PG-13 for sexual content including dialogue.

Ryan Stevens is an industry insider and journalist.



Kat (Debra Messing) and Nick (Dermot Mulroney) get up close and personal in *The Wedding Date*.

COCKTAIL CALENDAR

Mondays

HEAT (SA) - Shady Lady hosts College Night with the Wet Boxer Calendar Boy Contest, plus \$1.50 well drinks and domestic beer and no adult cover all night

Oilcan Harry's (Austin) - Martini Mondays with \$5.50 gaint specialty martinis from open to close

Pegasus (SA) - Karoke on the outside patio; \$1.50 well drinks and \$1 non-premium longnecks all day/all night

Rain (Austin) - \$2 domestics and Showtunes videos

Rainbow Cattle Company (Austin) -Pool tournament and Retro Music night

The Saint (SA) - All male dancer revue at 10:30 p.m., plus 75 cent well drinks all day/all night

Sidekicks (Austin) - Burger and Football - \$3 burger, chips and draft, Monday Night Football on the big screen

Silver Spur Saloon (Austin) - Happy Hour all day and all night and \$3 premium drinks, plus free pool

Xtreme (Austin) - Burger and Football - \$3 burger, chips and draft, with Monday Night Football on the 8' by 10' screen, followed by the Date With Destiny show at midnight

Tuesdays

HEAT (SA) - Pauletta Leigh host Talent Night with \$1.50 well drinks and beer

Oilcan Harry's (Austin) - "S.I.N." Service Industry Night

Pegasus (SA) - Darts tournament, karoke on the outside patio; \$1.50 well drinks and \$1.75 non-premium longnecks all day/all night

Rainbow Cattle Company (Austin) -Beginner Dance lessons at 8 p.m., Ladies Night 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Rain (Austin) - \$2.50 wells and classic videos

The Saint (SA) - Amatuier Night, plus \$1.75 well drinks and domestic longnecks

Sidekicks (Austin) - Weekly Pool Tournament at 8 p.m. with a \$5 buy in and cold hard cash for the winner

Silver Spur Saloon (Austin) - \$2 Tuesdays, with \$2 well drinks and domestic beer open to close

Xtreme (Austin) - Karaoke with Steve and Ian from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Wednesdays

HEAT (SA) - Hot male dancers and 75 cent well drinks all night

Oilcan Harry's (Austin) - Brian and Licious host "Malebox," plus \$3.25 Jack and Skyy and \$2 selected beers

Pegasus (SA) - Pool tournamnet; \$1.50 well drinks and \$1.75 non-premium longnecks all day/all night

Rain (Austin) - Happy Hour all night long, with Showtune Happy Hour and DJ Dig'm spinning 10 p.m. - close

Rainbow Cattle Company (Austin) -Karaoke with Michael T. from 9 p.m to 1 a.m.

The Saint (SA) - Dance Contest, 50 cent well drinks, and no cover before 11 p.m.

Sidekicks (Austin) - Prime Timers Happy Hour, Steak Night from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Silver Spur Saloon (Austin) - Happy hour all day and night, plus Amateur Strip Contest at 11 p.m.

Xtreme (Austin) - Steak Night from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., live music on the Xtreme stage from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by by "Fresh Face" with Desree Diva on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

Thursdays

HEAT (SA) - Erica Andrews and the ladies of HEAT entertain with their weekly theme night, complete with \$2 well drinks and domestic beers

Oilcan Harry's (Austin) - The Muscle Mechanics male dancers at 10:30 p.m. and midnight, plus DJ Bang spins

Pegasus (SA) - Steak night 6-8 p.m.; \$1.50 margaritas/ rocks, \$1.50 well drinks and \$1.75 non-premium beer

Rain (Austin) - \$3 call drinks, Michael Clay live at Happy Hour, and 80's hits with DJ Dig'm 10 p.m. - close

Rainbow Cattle Company (Austin) -50 cent well drinks at happy hour;Tejano Night 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The Saint (SA) - Boxer Night, with the staff in boxers, plus \$1.75 well drinks and domestic longnecks

Sidekicks (Austin) - Prime Timers Happy Hour, followed by Karaoke with Steve and Ian at 9:30 p.m.

Silver Spur Saloon (Austin) - Beginner dance lessons at 8 p.m., plus \$1.25 well and \$2.25 domestic beer

Xtreme (Austin) - Hip Hop Night with DJ LL plus Goldie Haynes' big show at midnight

Fridays

HEAT (SA) - Male dancers, plus \$1 Brain Freezes and \$1.75 beer and well drinks until 11 p.m.

Pegasus (SA) - Karoke on the outside patio, DJ Jakester spins, plus \$1.50 well drinks and \$1 non-premium longnecks all day/all night

Oilcan Harry's (Austin) - Boys and Buffet with a happy hour buffet and Muscle Mechanics dancers

Rain (Austin) -Showtune Happy Hour, then DJ Dallas spins 10 p.m. - close

Rainbow Cattle Company (Austin) - Men's Night with \$1 longnecks all day and all night

The Saint (SA) - Boyz Night Out with Erica Andrews' "Wonder Woman Show", with 50 cent well and \$2 call drinks 9-11 p.m, then \$1 well drinks until 2 a.m.

Sidekicks (Austin) - Free Buffet at Happy Hour plus Red Hot Weekend: \$5 cover gets you \$1 well drinks and domestic longnecks, plus hot male dancers

Silver Spur Saloon (Austin) - Texas Holdem Poker at 10 p.m., plus hot country music and male dancers

Xtreme (Austin) - Free Buffet at Happy Hour plus Red Hot Weekend: \$5 cover gets you \$1 well drinks and domestic longnecks, plus hot male dancers

Saturdays

HEAT (SA) - The country's top DJs and entertainers, plus \$1.75 beer and well drinks until 11 p.m.

Oilcan Harry's (Austin) - DJs Licious and Bang spin "Network" featuring the hottest dance sounds

Pegasus (SA) - Karoke on the outside patio; DJ Jakester spins inside; \$1.50 well drinks all day/all night, \$1 non-premium longnecks until 9 p.m., \$1.75 after 9 p.m.; \$2 Super Bloody Marys 2-7 p.m.

Rain (Austin) - DJ Filthy Rich doing what Filthy Rich does best, spinning 10 p.m. - close

Rainbow Cattle Company (Austin) -\$1 well and domestic beer for happy hour, then the best in country and western music and dancing all night

The Saint (SA) - High Energy Dance with 50 cent well and \$2 call drinks 9-11 p.m, \$1 well drinks until 2 a.m.

Sidekicks (Austin) - Free Buffet at Happy Hour, plus Red Hot Weekend with hot male dancers

Silver Spur Saloon (Austin) - Latin Night with DJ Nini, \$2.50 wells, dom. and imports, plus \$1 draft on the patio

Xtreme (Austin) - Happy Hour buffet and Red Hot Weekend, plus hot male dancers and dance music

Sundays

HEAT (SA) - Super Sundays with Shady Lady, Erica Andrews, Pauletta Leigh & Janet Andrews, \$1.50 well and \$2 beer and no adult cover before 10 p.m.

Oilcan Harry's (Austin) - Pride Sundays, with at \$2 Beer Blast and \$1 mimosas from 2 - 7 p.m., Cookout on the patio with Margie, and \$2.50 domestic beer and well vodka from 7 - 11 p.m.

Pegasus (SA) - Trash Disco; Cookout on the patio to benefit local charities; \$1 non-premium longnecks and \$1.50 well drinks all day/all night, and \$2 Super Bloody Marys 2-7 p.m.

Rain (Austin) -The T-Dance starts January 16th with Hedda Layne during Happy Hour; Dig'm spins 10 pm-close

Rainbow Cattle Company (Austin) -Level II dance classes, Latin Night 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.

The Saint (SA) - Tea Dance with \$1 domestic longnecks and \$1.75 well drinks all day/all night

Sidekicks (Austin) - Sunday afternoon football on the big screen, Pool Tournament at 8 p.m.

Silver Spur Saloon (Austin) - Great drink specials and free computer access

Xtreme (Austin) - Show night; check the on-line schedule for upcoming events (see below)

Legend:

HEAT - 1500 N. Main, San Antonio; (210) 227-2600, www.heatsa.com

Oilcan Harry's - 211 West 4th Street, Austin; (512) 320-8823, www.oilcanharrys.com

Pegasus - 1402 N. Main, San Antonio; (210) 299-4222, www.pegasus-sa.net

Rain - 217-B West 4th Street, Austin; (512) 494-1150, www.rainon4th.com

Rainbow Cattle Company - 305 West 5th Street, Austin; (512) 472-5288, www.rainbowcattleco.com

The Saint - 1430 N. Main, San Antonio; (210) 225-7330, www.thesaint-satx.com

Sidekicks - 110 East Riverside Drive, Austin; (512) 804-2707, www.sidekicksaustin.com

Silver Spur Saloon - 113 San Jacinto, Austin; (512) 457-8010, www.dicksaustin.com

Xtreme - 110 East Riverside Drive, Austin; (512) 804-2707, www.sidekicksaustin.com



Stargazer

by Psychic Norbert

Aquarius (January 20- February 18) My dear Aquarian, as an air sign, this week would be good to get some fresh air. It will be good weather - a little windy - so keep a light jacket with you all the time so you don't get sick or catch a cold. This week it is okay to lend a hand to a friend.

Pisces (February 19- March 19) As the water sign, it is okay to express your feelings - let it out and have some fun this month. Your days and nights are yours, but how about a little exercise? Move a little, take a group walk, or try running - why not make it happen this week?

Aries (March 20 - April 19) You are a fire sign, your are motivated to help others but not yourself. It is time to start building your own future for once. Open a company, start working for yourself; you have the savings, so don't wait for bad times to come close to you. Work on your depression; an air sign can help.

Taurus (April 20- May 20) You are a water sign - loyal, but stubborn. This month, watch your diet. Slow down the eating but not your activities. Get over of yourself and stop asking "is he/she good or bad for me;" don't audit others until you do the same for yourself.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) You are an air sign like Libras and Aquarians. I'm very proud of all of you, but you still need to learn to let go of the past. Every time you get up high on Jacob's Ladder, you step one rung down again. Climb as high as you can - your abilities are unlimited and you have the vision. You can do it, so go for it!

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) As a water sign, you hold too much back; you have to let go of your feelings. Just let the damn thing go down the drain - you'll be just fine. Why not go out of town by yourself and take a journey - I promise the kids won't burn the house to the ground. It will be just like shopping - I know you love buying things (sometimes things you don't even need). Getting away for the weekend would be a great release for you.

Leo (July 23 - August 22) As a fire sign, you may still need an air sign to fan your fire. Don't be afraid to move forward - you have not let the past go and it's still in your present; why is that? You don't have to just tolerate life; you can actually enjoy it. You should enjoy life one day at a time, day by day. Look up an old friend.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22) As an earth sign, you do often listen to air signs - this is good, as they can help. This week, focus on becoming more child-like - like the good Lord said - but get over your childhood. Change is good - it might be hard at first, but change is very good. Help a friend or research new furniture for your living room.

Libra (September 23 - October 22) We Libras are an air sign. Your feet represent "the walk of life," so keep moving forward. No matter how much it hurts, don't look back - leave the past as an experience, which you don't need to feel or do anymore. Do everything with meditation - I think you get the picture.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21) As a water sign, you show lots of promise. So if you think that people are not treating you right at work, open your eyes and ears, send out a few resumes, and find another job - if I had a job opening, I would hire you. Good luck with your search!

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21) As a fire sign, this week don't let your work eat you up. When you feel overworked, stop and spend some quality time with friends and family. It may be a big task at first, but do it - see, you're feeling better already.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19) As an earth sign, you should start your yearly check up. Start with a dentist and move on to a full physical. You must take care of yourself; you must take care of your body. How are your eating habits? Check your cholesterol. If you are over 40 years old, a good diet will lead you to a good healthy life.

Norbert was born as a psychic and has been practicing professionally for 16 years. Norbert can be reached for a private reading, by appointment only, at (512) 420-8067, through his website at www.PsychicNorbert.org, or at PsychicNorbert@ShoutTexas.com

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FOR SALE (San Antonio) - XXX Male porno tapes for sale. Some are old, 30 for \$100; San Antonio area, email: donaldbcarter@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE (Central Texas) - DVDs of the Jan. 9th La Cage: Austin in Vegas show and Miss Continental Texas Plus 2005 pageant; \$10 each. Email robbare65@yahoo.com

EMPLOYMENT (San Antonio) - Work from home! Now hiring a San Antonio-based *SHOUT Magazine* classified display and word advertising sales representative to service existing accounts and solicit new accounts. Generous commission paid in exchange for dedication, motivation, and professionalism. Exceptional communication skills, ability to cold call via email and telephone necessary. We are looking to hire the right person to start immediately, so forward your resume via email to editor@shouttexas.com.

PERSONALS

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