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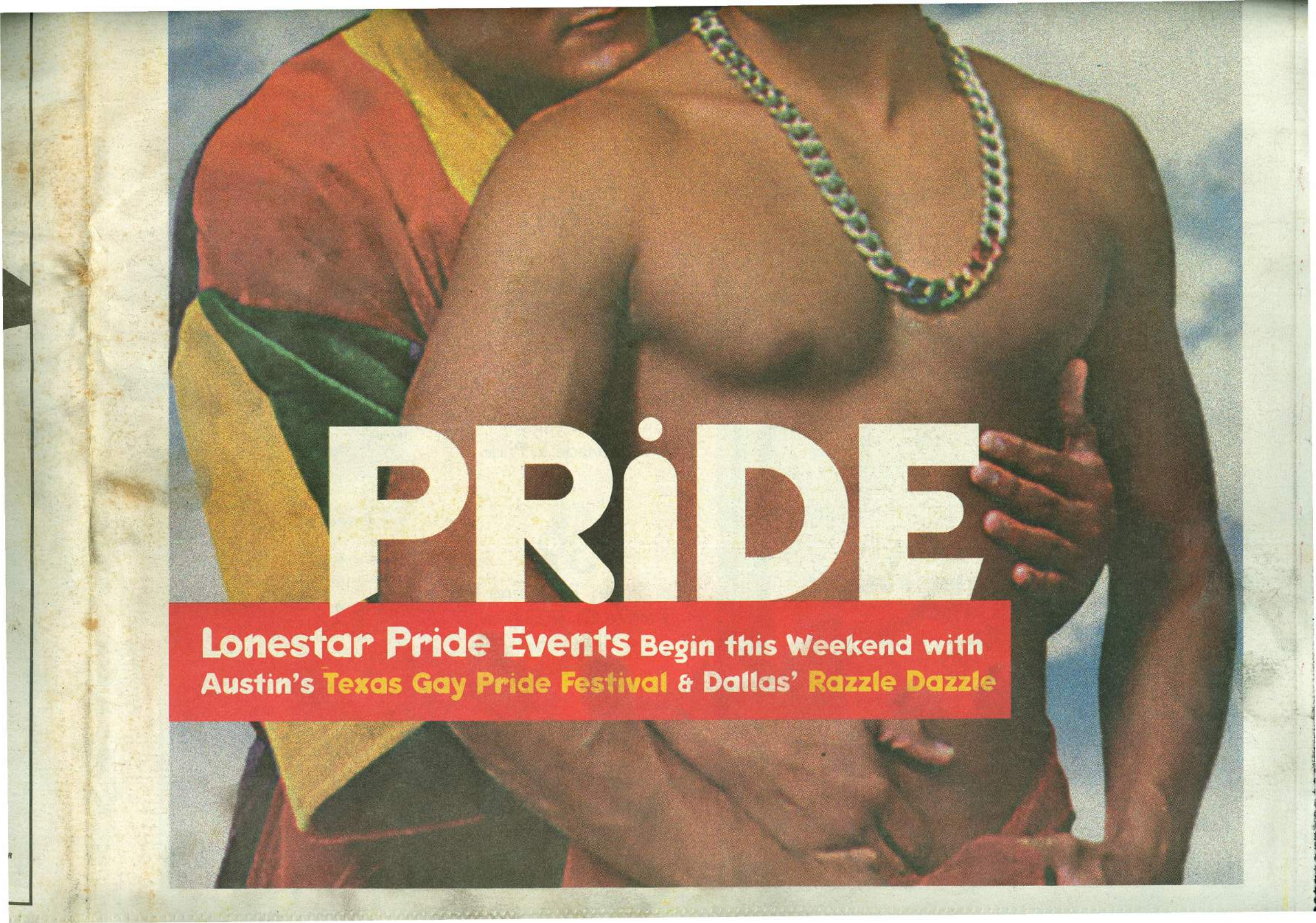
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Vol. VI

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THE TEXAS TRIANGLE, a publication of Angle Media, Inc., is published every Thursday. Estimated readership 60,000. Subscription rates are \$39.00 (26 weeks) and \$78 (52 weeks). Advertising deadlines are Thursday noon (week before publication) for make-ready ads, Friday noon for classified advertising and calendar items, and Monday noon the week of publication for camera-ready ads. THE TEXAS TRIANGLE is protected by copyright and may not be reproduced in whole or part except by permission obtained by contacting THE TEXAS TRIANGLE directly. Credit must be given to THE TEXAS TRIANGLE. The views of THE TEXAS TRIANGLE are expressed in editorial only. Views expressed in letters to the editor and other submissions are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the owners or management of THE TEXAS TRIANGLE. THE TEXAS TRIANGLE reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted for publication. Unsolicited submissions cannot be returned. THE TEXAS TRIANGLE is not responsible for damages due to typographical errors except for the cost of revising and replacing advertisements containing error. Advertisements designed and created by THE TEXAS TRIANGLE for the advertiser remain the property of THE TEXAS TRIANGLE. Advertisements and designs can be released for a \$250 licensing fee. THE TEXAS TRIANGLE cannot be responsible for claims made by advertisers, but readers are requested to report any fraudulent or deceptive advertising. The use of the name or likeness of a person or entity in THE TEXAS TRIANGLE in advertising or editorial content does not imply any particular sexual orientation or political affiliation. © 1998 THE TEXAS TRIANGLE



Dallas Anti-Abortion Group to Protest Disney's 'Gay Day'

ORLANDO, Fla. - Operation Rescue, an anti-abortion, anti-gay group known for their angry confrontations and civil disobedience, are planning to stage protests inside Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom during the annual "Gay Day" celebration there in June, the group's leader says.

More than 100,000 gay and lesbian tourists are expected to visit Orlando this first weekend of June for a three-day celebration at several of the area's theme parks, including Disney World.

And, according to a report from Reuters news agency, so will Operation Rescue and the Rev. Philip "Flip" Benham.

"We'll be there. We'll be inside the park and we'll make ourselves known," Benham said in an interview with Reuters from his Dallas, Texas home last Tuesday.

"If they think they're going to just drive by us at the gate, they're wrong. They'll get the same thing inside the park that they get when they show up at the abortion clinics."

While Operation Rescue's abortion clinic protests are not generally violent, they are often "heated" and have led to a large number of arrests across the nation. Last year, Benham himself was arrested

outside of Disney World for obstructing a public street.

But his threat to take his protest inside of the "Magic Kingdom" is, according to local officials, unprecedented. Police are scheduling three emergency response teams to be ready in case of trouble.

The annual Gay Day events are sponsored by gay rights groups and other gay-owned businesses, not by the Disney Co. or the theme parks. But that hasn't stopped several conservative Christian groups, including the Southern Baptists, from publicly denouncing the company and calling for mass boycotts of Disney products.

"Sometimes this stuff really tries my patience," said Roy Disney, vice chairman of the company founded by his uncle Walt, in a recent interview with Reuters. "We're here for everyone. What do these people expect us to do?"

Benham, a 50-year-old ordained minister with the Free Methodist Church, expects the company to "Repent."

Commenting to Reuters on Benham's planned protest inside the park, Disney spokesman Bill Warran stated: "Our policies would not allow that type of activity in our parks."

Arkansas Law Against Homosexual Acts Challenged in Court

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - An attorney arguing last Friday against an Arkansas law banning homosexual sex said that the courts

nization that Goldberg represents, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund of New York. The group is challeng-

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Arkansas Law Against Homosexual Acts Challenged in Court

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - An attorney arguing last Friday against an Arkansas law barring homosexual sex said that the courts would never tolerate such a law if it applied to sex between people of different races instead of homosexuals, MSNBC reports.

The lawyer in the case, Suzanne Goldberg, told MSNBC that this was only one analogy she offered Pulaski County Chancellor Collins Kilgore in a hearing last Friday morning. The hearing was on a motion filed by the state attorney general's office to dismiss a lawsuit filed by the orga-

nization that Goldberg represents, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund of New York. The group is challenging Arkansas' law banning homosexual anal and oral sex. Kilgore reportedly took the motion under advisement but gave no indication when he might rule on the request for dismissal.

Arkansas is one of six states with sodomy laws limited specifically to homosexual conduct. The others are Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Maryland.

Missouri Court Rejects Same Sex Marriage Ban

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. - The Missouri Supreme Court last week overturned a Missouri law banning same-sex marriages, UPI reports

The ban was adopted in 1996 in the wake of a Hawaii ruling that would legalize same-sex marriage in that state.

Writing for a unanimous court in last week's decision, Justice Ann K. Covington said the title of the bill was too broad and "could define most, if not all, legislation passed by the General Assembly." The bill onto which the ban

was tacked was titled, "relating to certain incorporated and non-incorporated entities."

Following the decision, State Attorney General Jay Nixon stated that the decision does not mean gay couples can legally tie the knot. Missouri law, he said, still specifically defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

Supporters of the ban have promised they will push for new legislation next session.

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Second MCC Church Is Target of Bomb Threat, Phelps Pickets SF MCC

LOS ANGELES, CA -- For the second time in two months, a congregation of the predominantly gay Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) has been the target of a bomb threat.

Metropolitan Community Church of Bournemouth, England has received anonymous bomb threats which are under investigation by local police.

Fundamentalist religion may have played a role in the bomb threats. According to the Rev. Neil Thomas, senior pastor of MCC Bournemouth, a local fundamentalist church has recently condemned the predominantly gay MCC church. Tensions were further heightened when three members of the fundamentalist church moved their membership to Metropolitan Community Church.

The Rev. Troy D. Perry, founder and moderator of UFMCC noted, "These threats are still another reminder of the important work we have yet to accomplish on behalf of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered persons. This marks the second bomb threat against UFMCC congregations in the past two months. Over the past 30 years, more than 20 of our churches have been victimized by arson or firebombing."

"I call upon all people of goodwill to uphold the Rev. Neil Thomas and the congregation of Metropolitan Community Church of Bournemouth with their love and prayers during this time," Perry added.

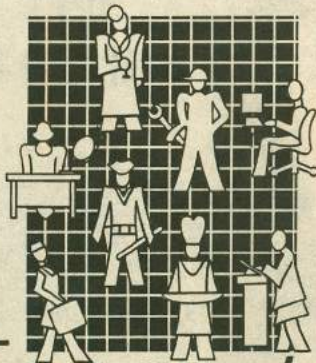
faced another threat this past weekend.

The Rev. Fred Phelps, pastor of Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas and notorious anti-gay crusader, announced he would picket of Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco on Sunday evening, May 31st.

Phelps, primarily known for picketing the funerals of AIDS victims with signs reading "God Hates Fags" and "Thank God for AIDS," has labeled the Metropolitan Church a "self-proclaimed sodomite church." In fliers faxed to media he has manipulated Bible scriptures saying "Sodomite holy communion is not eating bread and drinking wine, but eating feces and drinking semen." He adds, "San Francisco fags are brute beasts - dogs eating vomit."

In response to the planned picket, the church's pastors, Rev. Jim Mitulski and the Rev. Penny Nixon, scheduled a special service for Sunday morning, just hours before Phelps were to arrive. The pastors believed the most powerful and effective response to Phelps would be a strong demonstration of Christian love and compassion. The services, they said, [would] explore a response that is consistent with church values and the spiritual teachings of a religious tradition of non-violence.

"Shame on Fred Phelps. Shame on anyone who claims to represent God and yet promotes a message of hate and intolerance," Rev. Perry said about the planned picket. "For too long, organized religion has attempted to erect barriers between

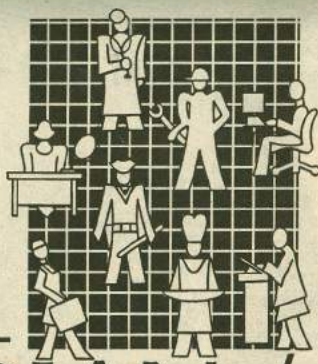
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"I call upon all people of goodwill to uphold the Rev. Neil Thomas and the congregation of Metropolitan Community Church of Bournemouth with their love and prayers during this time," Perry added.

In April, the 3000-member Cathedral of Hope Metropolitan Community Church in Dallas, Texas, the world's largest predominantly gay and lesbian congregation, was the target of a bomb threat posted on the Internet. The threats are under investigation by the U.S. FBI.

In related news, another MCC church

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UFMCC is an international Christian denomination with an inclusive membership of an estimated 42,000 individuals worldwide. UFMCC is composed of 300 congregations in 15 countries.

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New Study Shows AIDS Virus Can Outsmart All Treatments

STANFORD, Calif. - In a new study released this past Sunday, researchers at Stanford University are warning Americans that the AIDS virus may very well have the potential to "outsmart" virtually all of the drug treatments now approved in the United States to treat it.

The study was published in the June 1 issue of *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

"There is a problem with drug resistance, and we can't fool ourselves," Stanford University's Dr. Robert Shafer told the Reuters news agency. Shafer is the lead author of the study.

According to the Reuters' report, Shafer's team found that patients who have been previously treated with multiple drugs to tackle HIV, the virus which causes AIDS, can develop full resistance to all available medications. These results seem to indicate a developing "split" in the AIDS epidemic.

"There are the newly infected patients, who have benefited tremendously from powerful new drug combinations that can effectively shut down viral replication," the researchers said in a news release.

"And then there are the patients with HIV strains resistant to one or more drugs. The potent new drug combinations may not work in these individuals, for whom new approaches are needed."

"This study confirms many of our

substituted new drugs as they appeared, including the new class of protease inhibitor drugs which have shown promising results in preventing viral replication.

Shafer told Reuters that the study revealed a high resistance to five drugs, including three of the so-called "miracle drugs," the protease inhibitors. In addition, the study found a lower level of resistance to three other drugs, known as reverse transcriptase inhibitors.

"Over the six months, (the viral samples) were stable, they replicated well, and the (patients') viral loads remained high," Shafer said.

He said that although his study focused on only four patients, he had subsequently genetically sequenced viral samples from 400 patients in the San Francisco area and found largely similar results.

"We have to realize that there is so much cross-resistance," Shafer explained, "while there may be 11 approved drugs and three to four in the (drug development) pipeline, there really aren't 14 or 15 different options."

"The academic community has to face that and convince the drug companies of that. Unless we recognize the fact that certain things aren't going to work, there won't be the incentive to go back and develop new drugs."

Speaking to reporters last Thursday, San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Derek Gordon was equal

John S. Butler

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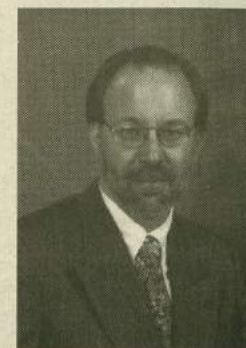
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"And then there are the patients with HIV strains resistant to one or more drugs. The potent new drug combinations may not work in these individuals, for whom new approaches are needed."

"This study confirms many of our worst fears about the long-term ability to control HIV with currently available treatments," said Derek Gordon, director of communications for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. "For those of us living with HIV, and those of us fighting to end HIV/AIDS, this is a wake-up call: the epidemic is not over."

The researchers conducted genetic analyses of viral samples taken from four patients infected with HIV-1, the most common U.S. strain of HIV. All of the sampling patients had been on HIV drug treatment for between four and nine years.

They also tested 11 different drugs against the viral samples to determine whether the samples were susceptible to treatment.

All of the patients had initially taken the drug AZT and then added or

remained high," Shafer said.

He said that although his study focused on only four patients, he had subsequently genetically sequenced viral samples from 400 patients in the San Francisco area and found largely similar results.

"We have to realize that there is so much cross-resistance," Shafer explained, "while there may be 11 approved drugs and three to four in the (drug development) pipeline, there really aren't 14 or 15 different options."

"The academic community has to face that and convince the drug companies of that. Unless we recognize the fact that certain things aren't going to work, there won't be the incentive to go back and develop new drugs."

Speaking to reporters last Thursday, San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Derek Gordon was equally concerned about the future of AIDS treatment.

"Our concerns are three-fold," he said. "First, our government must reinvigorate its commitment to fully funding AIDS research as well as care and support for those living with HIV; second, prevention efforts are more important than ever, particularly if multi-drug resistant strains of HIV are developing; and third, we must continue to impress upon the pharmaceutical industry the importance of continuing aggressive research and new drug development until we have a cure."

Information for this article was obtained from reports made by the Reuters news agency and the BusinessWire's Health Wire report.

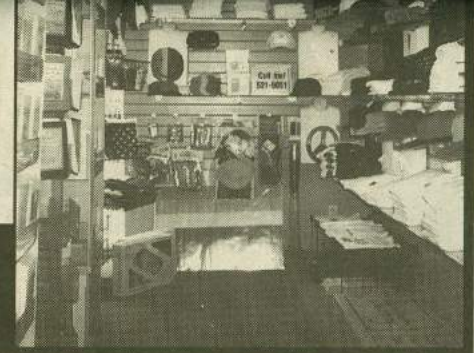
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Baptists Bearing Signs Greet DFW Gay Prom-Goers

DALLAS-- Despite being greeted by shouting protesters, gay and lesbian students are calling the first Dallas prom held especially for them, a great success.

The first annual Over the Rainbow GAYla, an alternative prom designed specifically for Dallas' gay, lesbian, transgendered and questioning youth was held Saturday May 30, at the Dallas Grand Hotel.

About 50 teens came from as far away as San Angelo to the GAYla, but most of the attendees live in Dallas and the surrounding suburbs. Sponsors from PFLAG Dallas and other organizations outnumbered prom-goers but teens who did attend seemed to be having the time of their lives in spite of the protesters outside the hotel.

Interviewed on all of the metroplex 10:00 p.m. Saturday television news broadcasts, prom attendees were quoted as saying "We're having a wonderful time," and "Those people out there need to wake up and smell the coffee, we don't have a disease."

The students were speaking of a group of about 20 protesters from Heritage Baptist Church in Rusk County who showed up to voice their condemnation of the event, saying par-

ents who let their kids go to such gatherings expose them to bad influences.

The protesters waved signs at the students as they entered the hotel warning them of their demise for practicing homosexuality. The signs they carried read "Wicked!" and another warned, "See what they did in Sodom and Gomorrah!"

Dallas City Councilman John Loza was among the chaperones. He defended the event saying teenagers have to carry enough baggage in adolescence without having to feel their value in society is diminished because of their sexual orientation.

Dallas organizers plan to turn the night into an annual celebration and hope the opposition dies down in the future. Other alternative proms are planned throughout Texas in the coming days with OutYouth Austin's 8th Annual Alternative Prom scheduled for Sat, June 6, 7 p.m. to midnight at Saengerrunde Hall and the following week in Houston a prom sponsored by Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) is slated for June 13, 8-11 p.m. at The Lovett Inn.

United Press International contributed to this story.

AOC Director Resigns After Ten Years

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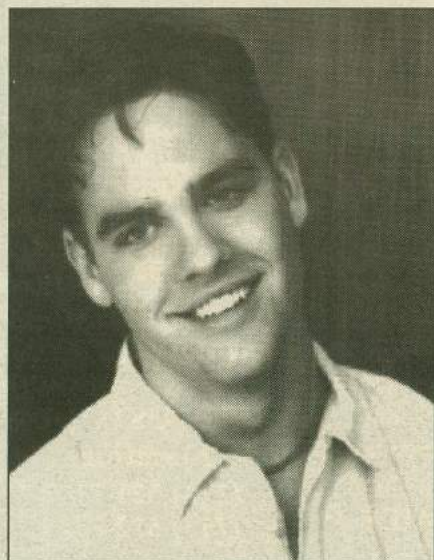
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outnumbered prom-goers but teens who did attend seemed to be having the time of their lives in spite of the protesters outside the hotel.

Interviewed on all of the metroplex 10:00 p.m. Saturday television news broadcasts, prom attendees were quoted as saying "We're having a wonderful time," and "Those people out there need to wake up and smell the coffee, we don't have a disease."

The students were speaking of a group of about 20 protesters from Heritage Baptist Church in Rusk County who showed up to voice their condemnation of the event, saying par-

Dallas organizers plan to turn the night into an annual celebration and hope the opposition dies down in the future. Other alternative proms are planned throughout Texas in the coming days with OutYouth Austin's 8th Annual Alternative Prom scheduled for Sat, June 6, 7 p.m. to midnight at Saengerrunde Hall and the following week in Houston a prom sponsored by Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) is slated for June 13, 8-11 p.m. at The Lovett Inn.

United Press International contributed to this story.

AOC Director Resigns After Ten Years

FORT WORTH, - Thomas Bruner, founding executive director of AIDS Outreach Center, Tarrant county's primary HIV education, services and advocacy organization, has tendered his resignation to be effective July 2, 1998.

Bruner, along with his life partner Kevin Hendrick, will move to Portland, Oregon, where he will assume his new post as Executive Director of Cascade AIDS Project (CAP), the leading HIV organization in the state of Oregon.

"All of us at CAP are extremely pleased and very excited with the results of our Executive Director search," said Jeff Miller, CAP Board President. "Thomas Bruner will bring many years of experience as both a dynamic leader of a sophisticated community based AIDS organization, and a highly visible community leader."

Bruner began his tenure with AOC in March 1988, becoming the organization's first and only paid employee of what had been an all-volunteer service since its founding in 1986. Today, AOC is one of the largest and most sophisticated HIV organizations in the Southwest.

Currently the organization has over 50 staff members and 1,200 volunteers that

educate and serve 35,000 youth and adults every year. Last year, they opened their fourth location in nearby Southeast Fort Worth, joining existing locations in Fort Worth's medical district, Arlington and Bedford.

Under Bruner's stewardship, the organization's budget increased from \$40,000 in 1988 to \$3.6 million in 1997, including \$2.4 million in cash and \$1.2 million in in-kind gifts. As a result staff grew from one to 51, and volunteers increased from 30 to 1,200.

Programs developed under Bruner's leadership included: youth services, targeting children ages 6 to 13 who love someone with HIV; public policy advocacy, educating and lobbying elected officials about HIV issues; employment advocacy, helping people with HIV return to the workforce; and prevention education, teaching HIV-infected people how not to infect others and HIV negative men at risk how to remain uninfected.

"Thomas Bruner is without peer in the AIDS services arena," said AOC President Roy C. Brooks. "His departure, which the Executive Committee of the Board has known was a possibility for the past year, is



a great loss to both the AIDS Outreach Center and to this community. We wish him well."

In addition to his professional work, Bruner, 36, has been an active community volunteer, serving on the boards of Jubilee Theater, Contemporary Dance/Forth Worth, Leadership Forth Worth and Forth Worth Human Relations Commission. He is an ambassador with the Forth Worth Museum of Science and History, served on former Mayor Kay Granger's Vision Coalition Committee of 100, and volunteered as a camp counselor for three summers at E. Tesoro de la Vida, Camp fire's grief camp for children.

A vocal advocate for fair treatment of gays and lesbians, Bruner worked with the Tarrant county Lesbian/Gay Alliance to fight the discharge of gay military personnel at Carswell Air Force Base, lobbied the *Star Telegram* to increase coverage of gay/lesbian issues, founded the Tarrant County Lesbian/Gay Leadership Luncheon, was the first openly gay person ever appointed to a city board or commission and lobbied the Fort Worth Police Department to appoint a liaison to the gay

community.

"This has been - and no doubt will continue to be - a tough move emotionally. I've grown up professionally at AOC, and have come to know and love many wonderful people in this area," Bruner said. "Tarrant County has been a marvelous place to live, work and play. And of course, it is the place where I met Kevin two years ago this month."

Bruner contends his work in the AIDS field has taught him the importance of doing what you want to do while you are able to do it.

"As I prepare to leave, I have one remaining hope: that this community will soon extend that affirmation and inclusion to the same people while they are alive and well, rather than waiting until they are sick and dying," Bruner said. "Therein, I have found, lies the ultimate lesson of this nightmare disease."

AOC's Board is in the process of assembling a committee to lead the 'search for a new executive director. In the interim, an acting executive director will be appointed and announced soon.

Lesbian Scholarship Foundation Seeks Nominees for Annual Award

HOUSTON - The Uncommon Legacy Foundation, an organization that assists lesbians with scholarships, has begun its selection process for an honoree to bestow its prestigious Extra Mile Award to at this year's annual awards brunch.

The annual award honors one woman from Houston who has gone the "extra

mile" to believe has been an ardent supporter of women's issues and had an impact on the betterment of the community. All nominations should be submitted to 1400 Hermann, #15G, Houston, TX 77004 no later than Midnight, June 15, 1998.

The nomination committee will select one woman who will receive the award.



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The annual award honors one woman from Houston who has gone the "extra mile" for the community. Last year's recipient, Tori Williams, was honored for her body of work with AssistHers and numerous other organizations.

Individuals, clubs or organizations may submit a name of someone they

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The nomination committee will select one woman who will receive the coveted award at this year's brunch featuring Margarethe Cammermeyer as the keynote speaker. The event takes place at the Four Seasons Hotel located at 1300 Lamar Street, June 28 and is open to the public. For additional information, call 713-522-8064.

Volleyball Tournament to Raise Funds for Austin's Gay Film Festival

AUSTIN - The 11th Annual Austin Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival (aGLIFF) is hosting a Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament to raise money to support the renowned film festival.

The Tournament is one of several events that take place throughout the year to help raise awareness and funds for the film festival. Teams of 6 players (3 men, 3 women) will compete for prizes. The entry fee for the event is \$60 per team. Deadline for entry is Monday, June 8. The Tournament will take place at 'Bout Time, a neighborhood bar, on June 20 and 21.

Meanwhile, aGliff is accepting film

submissions for the festival which will run this year from August 27 through September 10. With Austin becoming such a hotbed of filming activity, festival organizers are hoping to draw even greater numbers of entries from local and regional filmmakers.

Entry categories include narrative features, short films, documentaries or animated projects with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender subject matter. Deadline for entry is July 17 and it must be accompanied by a submission form. Formats should be either 35 mm or 16 mm film, or 1/2 or 3/4 video formats. For more information, call 512-476-2454.



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Chamber of Commerce Newest Tenant at New Community Center

HOUSTON - The latest tenant to lease space in Houston's Lesbian and Gay Community Center (HLGCC) is the Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (GHGLCC).

"We're thrilled," said Anita Renteria, president of the Chamber. "We see our office space as a real milestone in the growth of our organization. We think it's important that GHGLCC be a cornerstone member of the Center and believe that it will be a benefit to our member businesses as well."

The office will be used for the organization of the chamber's Empower '98 exposition of gay and lesbian friendly business, which will be held at the George R. Brown Convention Center in November.

"Empower '98 is excited to have a home," said Debra Phinney, Chair of

Empower '98. "I think the exposure from being housed here will be a great advantage to the success of Empower '98 and in turn to the success of the Center."

The Community Center has been designated as the beneficiary of the proceeds from Empower '98.

"We are pleased to have the Empower '98 exposition office located at the Center," said Carl Riedl, president of the Center. "The involvement of the Chamber with the Community Center has been instrumental in the development of the Center. Ultimately the Community Center is a small business and we need to draw on the skills of chamber members."

For information concerning the Community Center, contact Kevin Davidson at 713-661-2195.

Fourth of July Weekend Event Generates Excitement

HOUSTON - Thousands of out of town visitors are expected to descend upon the Bayou City over the 4th of July Weekend for a weekend of events under the auspices of "Red, White and You," according to organizers.

The event, the first of its kind in Houston, is a combined effort between Body Positive, Houston and the Houston chapter of City of Hope. Incorporating the traditional Independence Day theme of Red, White and Blue, organizers created a theme that also ties

York, Miami or LA. Why not Houston?"

The event kicks off with the aptly titled "Blast Off," a welcome/get acquainted party Friday, July 3 to be followed July 4 with "Big Bang," celebration on the rooftop of 3400 Montrose. The locale will provide participants a panoramic view of Houston's skyline and the city's renowned fireworks displays. The event continues with "Red, White and You" later that evening.

"Lost in Space," an after-hour dance event to be held at Rich's will conclude the Saturday evening, Sunday morning events.

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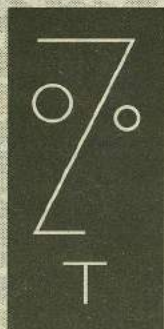
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Convention Center in November.

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The event, the first of its kind in Houston, is a combined effort between Body Positive, Houston and the Houston chapter of City of Hope. Incorporating the traditional Independence Day theme of Red, White and Blue, organizers created a theme that also ties

in Houston's alternative moniker as "Space City."

"Houston has never hosted a weekend series of entertainment events. As the fourth largest city in the U.S., it seemed like an idea whose time has come," said Anthony Bianchi, President of Body Positive. "Typically these events happen in New

York, Miami or LA. Why not Houston?"

The event kicks off with the aptly titled "Blast Off," a welcome/get acquainted party Friday, July 3 to be followed July 4 with "Big Bang," celebration on the rooftop of 3400 Montrose. The locale will provide participants a panoramic view of Houston's skyline and the city's renowned fireworks displays. The event continues with "Red, White and You" later that evening.

"Lost in Space," an after-hour dance event to be held at Rich's will conclude the Saturday evening, Sunday morning events. A Sunday champagne brunch and dance party later that evening will conclude the weekend charity fund-raiser.

Beneficiaries of the weekend of events include the City of Hope National Medical Center and Beckman Research Institute of HIV/AIDS research programs and Body Positive's Wellness Center.

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Former Sen. Goldwater Dead at 89

PHOENIX (AP) - Barry Goldwater, the fearlessly blunt Republican conservative who lost the 1964 presidential election in a landslide after being portrayed as a nuclear war-monger but whose ideas were later embraced during the Reagan years, died Friday, May 29. He was 89.

Instantly recognizable because of his white hair and black horn-rimmed glasses, Goldwater espoused a fiercely individualistic - even libertarian - brand of conservatism.

During the 1990s, his support for abortion and gay rights alienated some conservatives so much that a few GOP activists in Arizona talked openly about removing his name from state Republican headquarters. He was contemptuous of the Christian right.

"He had no use for religious conservatives," said Bruce Merrill, a friend and former pollster for Goldwater's Senate campaigns. "He felt the true conservative should defend the individual from government intrusion."

In 1993, Barry Goldwater came out in support of allowing openly gay people to serve in the military. During the controversy he called his party's opposition "just plain dumb."

"You don't need to be 'straight' to fight and die for your country," he said. "You just need to shoot straight."

Goldwater, whose grandson is gay, continued his support for equal rights by publishing a July 1994 *Washington Post* editorial asking Congress to pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), which would protect gay Americans from job discrimination.

"Barry Goldwater envisioned an

able conservative principles such as respecting individual rights. Many of today's right-wing politicians, who mistakenly call themselves conservatives, can learn a lot about true conservatism by studying Barry Goldwater," said Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Executive Director Elizabeth Birch.

"It's time America realized that there was no gay exemption in the right to 'life, liberty and the pursuit to happiness' in the Declaration of Independence. Job discrimination against gays - or anybody else - is contrary to each of these founding principles," Goldwater wrote in his editorial.

Carpenter Defeated in Oregon

PORTLAND - Rep. Chuck Carpenter, the first openly-gay Republican to win office in history, narrowly lost his re-election bid to Bill Witt, an anti-gay right wing Republican. Carpenter lost by 54 votes out of more than 6,000.

"This is a wake up call for the whole gay and lesbian community across the country, despite their political affiliations," said Richard Tafel, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans. "The gay community cannot let one more gay Republican be out-spent by the far right ever again. You have to support the troops at the front."

Carpenter was known nationwide for his leadership as a state representative, particularly in pushing the Oregon Employment Non-Discrimination Act through the House by shutting down the chamber for three days in 1997. The measure failed to be enacted into law by only one vote in the state Senate.

Tafel praised the strong support Carpenter received from the Gay and Lesbian

ted to Chuck, and they set an example for every other non-partisan gay organization to follow," Tafel said. "They recognized the crucial importance of this race, and we were proud to be partners with them in this effort."

California Assembly Passes Transgender Crime Bill

SACRAMENTO - California lawmakers passed legislation that promises to strengthen prosecution of gender-related hate crimes. The bill's language makes clear that hate crimes will include victims who dress like or behave like the opposite sex.

Lawmakers sent the bill by Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica), to the Senate on a 49-11 vote, according to UPI.

In related news, the Assembly also passed another hate crimes bill, by Assemblyman Wally Knox (D-Los Angeles), on a 53-6 vote. It would require mandatory life imprisonment without parole in murders related to victims' gender, sexual orientation or disability. Currently the law grants them parole after 17 years.

The bill is sponsored by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, which says hate crimes against homosexuals have been increasing in recent years, and tend to be more violent than those against others.

ACT UP Founder Dies of AIDS Related Complications

WASHINGTON - The Founder of ACT UP (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power), Steve Michael, died last week of AIDS related complications. He was 42.

the intensive care unit at Washington Hospital Center, according to Wayne Turner, his partner of seven years. Turner said he gave the order to disconnect Michael from life support after his condition severely worsened.

"A political funeral will be held on Thursday, June 4, in Lafayette Park in front of the White House at 12:30 p.m.," said Turner, who made arrangements with federal authorities. "This will be his last White House protest."

In lieu of flowers, donations and condolences, which are much appreciated, should be sent to ACT UP/Washington, 408 "H" Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002.

Des Moines Denies Gays Legal Protection

DES MOINES, - The Des Moines City Council rejected by a margin of 4-3 a proposal that would have added sexual orientation to the city's human rights accord, which bans discrimination based on race, gender and religion.

"This isn't about what's right or wrong," Councilman Chris Coleman said in voting against the proposal. "It's about what's appropriate for us to pass in a law that affects our entire community. And I don't think this reaches the level of the other protected classes."

Council's vote came after several months of debate between council members and members of the city's Human Rights Commission, who first recommended the change last February.

"It means that we just start over again," said John Schmacker, a Human Rights Commission member and president of the Gay and Lesbian Resource Center. "City Council members come and go, but the gay

He had no use for religious conservatives," said Bruce Merrill, a friend and former pollster for Goldwater's Senate campaigns. "He felt the true conservative should defend the individual from government intrusion."

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Tafel praised the strong support Carpenter received from the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund in his re-election effort.

"The Victory Fund was totally commit-

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Activists Urge Disney 'Buy-Cott'

ORLANDO - Gay activists are urging gay supporters nationwide to discredit opponents of Disney's pro-gay policies who are boycotting the corporate giant by participating in a 'buy-cott,' June 6, 1998.

The concept is simple. Organizers are asking all gays nationwide to purchase merchandise at Disney Stores throughout the country with \$2 bills (as in 'queer as a...') in an effort to let Disney know the community is supportive of their efforts and demonstrate the power of "gay money."

The American Family Association, a religious right group that opposes Disney's gay-friendly policies plans to beef up their boycott in protest.

"We have many more on our side who are participating in the boycott," reads AFA literature. "We don't think we have the option to walk away from the challenge. If Disney doesn't hear from us and only hears from the homosexuals, they will most certainly discount our concerns in the days ahead."

The AFA is encouraging its members to contact their local Disney Store on June 6th and let each store, approximately 350 nationwide, know that they refuse to patronize their store "everyday" of the year.

Covey Institutes Same-Sex Non- Discrimination Policy

WASHINGTON - Three months after best-selling author Stephen Covey apologized for attending a fund-raiser for opponents of same-sex marriage in Hawaii, he has added "sexual orientation" to Franklin

Covey, according to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC).

Covey, the author of 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, is the company's co-chairman.

"We are pleased to see the Franklin Covey Company demonstrate this commitment to basic fairness and workforce diversity," said Kim Mills, HRC's director of education. "The company has taken the important next step beyond Mr. Covey's apology for his speech in Hawaii, for which we commend it."

Franklin Covey Chief Executive Officer Jon Rowberry announced the changed policy to employees attending a company-wide meeting in Salt Lake City last week.

"People who do not belong to the prevailing religion, who are not male, or who have lifestyles different than the majority, have often felt out of place, if not disrespected, in our company," Rowberry reportedly said. "That simply has to stop. If you find yourself evaluating someone on any basis other than their ability to perform the job they have in an excellent way, consider yourself on thin ice."

School Frightened By Pin-Pricks

VALPARAISO, (AP) - A 15-year-old student who claimed to have the AIDS virus was suspended for pricking 10 classmates with a safety pin she said was contaminated with her infected blood.

"Now you have AIDS," she told the victims, Superintendent Roger Luekens said last Wednesday.

Luekens declined to say whether the youth has been tested for the virus that caus-

her daughter had tested negative for HIV last fall.

After her suspension last Friday, the student threatened to bring a weapon to school, said Luekens. A guard has been hired to patrol school halls until June 10, the last day of the year, he said.

"The kids are scared and I am too. We're all afraid of what's to come," said Judy LaHayne, the mother of a child who was stuck.

Luekens said affected students were being referred to doctors for testing.

Health officials said blood-borne infections could be transmitted through pin pricks, but the risk of getting hepatitis B, a suspected link to liver cancer, is greater than HIV.

Student Arrested for School Bomb Threats, Hate E-Mail

NEW YORK - A 14-year old Long Island youth was arrested last Wednesday, charged with harassment after allegedly sending e-mail messages which threatened to blow up his school and kill teachers and students, police said told the Reuters news agency.

According to the report, the boy used his home computer to send physical and sexual threats against various school administrators, teachers and students at his middle school.

The computer messages, received by the school on May 13 and 14, reportedly included bomb threats coupled with racist, anti-Semitic, sexist and homophobic threats directed at school officials and fellow students.

Police arrested the youth at his home but found no bomb making materials. He was released into his parent's custody after being

formally charged.

The messages contained hate material, with references praising Hitler and U.S. far-right Republican politician David Duke of Louisiana.

"I'll kill you all, die, die die," and "I hate NMS (Northport Middle School) ... it's gay. Die, die die," were just two examples of the messages released by police.

A court date was scheduled for June 5.

Park Patrols Up After Michael Bust

BEVERLY HILLS, (AP) - Things have been a little tenser in ritzy Beverly Hills since pop star George Michael's arrest in a public park.

The California town has increased patrols by park rangers and undercover police since the 34-year-old British singer was arrested last month for committing a lewd act in the restroom at Will Rogers Memorial Park.

It turns out that the 83-year-old park near the Beverly Hills Hotel is listed on an Internet site as a place to cruise for sex, said Stephen Miller, director of the Beverly Hills Recreation and Parks Department.

"Somebody who wants to come here based on what they see on the Internet can be assured that they're going to spend a little more time than they planned in Beverly Hills," Miller said. "A lengthy police hotel stay, so to speak."

A gay activist said he considered the increased patrols to be selective enforcement.

"We believe police are applying a double standard and are targeting gay men for arrest for conduct for which heterosexual men are not arrested," said Jon Davidson, a supervising attorney at Lambda, a lesbian and

are participating in the boycott reads AFA literature. "We don't think we have the option to walk away from the challenge. If Disney doesn't hear from us and only hears from the homosexuals, they will most certainly discount our concerns in the days ahead."

The AFA is encouraging its members to contact their local Disney Store on June 6th and let each store, approximately 350 nationwide, know that they refuse to patronize their store "everyday" of the year.

Covey Institutes Same-Sex Non-Discrimination Policy

WASHINGTON - Three months after best-selling author Stephen Covey apologized for attending a fund-raiser for opponents of same-sex marriage in Hawaii, he has added "sexual orientation" to Franklin Covey Company's non-discrimination poli-

have often felt out of place, if not disrespected, in our company," Rowberry reportedly said. "That simply has to stop. If you find yourself evaluating someone on any basis other than their ability to perform the job they have in an excellent way, consider yourself on thin ice."

School Frightened By Pin-Pricks

VALPARAISO, (AP) - A 15-year-old student who claimed to have the AIDS virus was suspended for pricking 10 classmates with a safety pin she said was contaminated with her infected blood.

"Now you have AIDS," she told the victims, Superintendent Roger Luekens said last Wednesday.

Luekens declined to say whether the youth has been tested for the virus that causes AIDS, citing privacy laws. Her mother said

Hate E-Mail

NEW YORK - A 14-year old Long Island youth was arrested last Wednesday, charged with harassment after allegedly sending e-mail messages which threatened to blow up his school and kill teachers and students, police said told the Reuters news agency.

According to the report, the boy used his home computer to send physical and sexual threats against various school administrators, teachers and students at his middle school.

The computer messages, received by the school on May 13 and 14, reportedly included bomb threats coupled with racist, anti-Semitic, sexist and homophobic threats directed at school officials and fellow students.

Police arrested the youth at his home but found no bomb making materials. He was released into his parent's custody after being

since the 34-year-old British singer was arrested last month for committing a lewd act in the restroom at Will Rogers Memorial Park.

It turns out that the 83-year-old park near the Beverly Hills Hotel is listed on an Internet site as a place to cruise for sex, said Stephen Miller, director of the Beverly Hills Recreation and Parks Department.

"Somebody who wants to come here based on what they see on the Internet can be assured that they're going to spend a little more time than they planned in Beverly Hills," Miller said. "A lengthy police hotel stay, so to speak."

A gay activist said he considered the increased patrols to be selective enforcement.

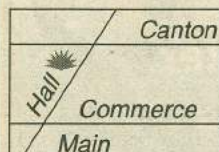
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By Rex Wockner
Contributing to this week's report:
Terry Abrams, Jess Durfee.

Israeli Wigstock Ends In Civil Disobedience

Israel's annual Wigstock drag festival ended in civil disobedience May 22 after police tried to shut down the party at sundown when the Jewish Sabbath began.

Organizers earlier had obtained permission to continue the festival at Independence Park until 8:00 p.m.

About 2,000 of the 10,000 revelers blocked the intersection of Tel Aviv's HaYarkon and Jabotinsky Streets for two hours then marched to Rabin Square.

Four protesters were arrested, including the head of Hebrew University's gay student union. They were released from custody around 2:30 a.m.

The Association of Lesbians, Gay Men and Bisexuals in Israel (Agudah), whose AIDS project, known as Belah Do'egot, organized Wigstock, praised the protesters.

"In spite of the fact that the demonstration was illegal, the Board takes great pride that, after 50 years of oppression and silence, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and HIV+ members of the community openly participated in the first unified protest of its kind in

Israel," Agudah said.

"The Board hopes that this demonstration will make it clear to those in Israel who threaten freedom of culture, belief and love, that we will not surrender to those who try to enforce prohibitions contrary to our values."

Mexico Appoints Bisexual Cuban Ambassador

Mexico's new ambassador to Cuba, Pedro Joaquin-Coldwell, is openly bisexual, reported San Francisco's Bay Area Reporter (BAR).

A native of Cozumel, Joaquin-Coldwell is a lawyer who has worked as secretary of tourism, director general of the National Tourist Development Fund, head of a government refugee-aid agency and head of the Dialogue in Chiapas group, BAR said. He also was governor of the state of Quintana Roo, where Cancun is located.

Nova Scotia Couples Win Pension Benefits

Civil-service and teacher pension plans in the Canadian province of Nova Scotia will recognize same-sex partners, the govern-

ment announced May 26.

The decision resulted from complaints filed with the provincial Human Rights Commission.

In April, Ontario's Court of Appeal cleared the way for Canada's largest union to pay pensions to gay partners by rewriting the definition of "spouse" in the federal Income Tax Act.

Petitioners Demand Repeal Of Section 28

The British gay group YouthSpeak delivered petitions signed by 25,000 people to the Prime Minister's residence May 26 demanding the repeal of Section 28 of the Local Government Act.

The 10-year-old law prohibits city officials from "intentionally promot[ing] homosexuality" and bans schools from teaching "the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship."

"The Labour Party has repeatedly committed itself to repealing Section 28 when appropriate time is found in Parliament," said YouthSpeak Chair Chris Morris. "We believe that time can be found in the next Local Government Bill and so we're calling on [Prime Minister Tony] Blair to act on his promises and end this culture of intolerance."

"Section 28 has cost lives," Morris said. "Young people are often denied information about safer sex which leaves them open to abuse and exploitation. Low self-esteem and bullying have also been shown to lead to teenage suicide and drug abuse."

Salvadoran PWAs To Sue For Drugs

People with AIDS (PWAs) in El Salvador are planning to sue the government health-care system for access to AIDS treatments.

At present, the system lacks antibiotics and antifungals to treat opportunistic infections, does not check the status of PWAs' immune systems (via a CD4 cell count), and offers only AZT to fight the virus itself. AZT only works against HIV in combination with other antivirals.

"The right to life and health are in our Constitution and we will obtain these rights," said AIDS activist Odir Miranda. "It is not possible after so many years of paying health-care premiums that now that we need the system's services, they deny them to us simply because for them we are not people who deserve the opportunity to live."

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Behind the Scenes: Candid, Honest and Trustworthy

In this, the second of a two-part series, Annise Parker discusses her own thoughts on the first 100 Days.

By J.C. Michelak
TRIANGLE Staff

HOUSTON - The first 100 days of a politician's public service is commonly referred to as the "honeymoon" period, primarily because scholars, critics, and pundits alike generally reserve judgment until the

public servant is able to familiarize themselves with the position.

Houston City Councilwoman Annise Parker garnered accolades for her performance in the first part (of a two part) 100 Day Review, as reported in last week's edition of the *Texas Triangle*.

This week, Parker laments on the trials and travails of a city councilwoman. She offers a candid assessment of the hot issues that have arisen so far during her tenure and shares her views on a few subject matters the community may or may not want to hear.

The Campaign

Parker won her race in a virtual landslide against a well funded Republican business lobbyist. She ran a tough, aggressive campaign and in the process reached out to all of the city's diverse constituents. Critics in the gay community argued, however, that Parker did not talk enough about gay issues on the campaign trail.

"I didn't talk about gay issues on the campaign trail. You wouldn't win," said Parker. "In order to win citywide, you have to have a message that appeals to the masses. I didn't campaign as a gay activist, I couldn't be elected as a gay activist - nobody can, not even in a district race."

The Mayor's Executive Order

Houston Mayor Lee P. Brown promised the gay community on the campaign stump that he would issue an executive order barring discrimination in city employment based on sexual orientation. And, much to the surprise of many, Brown delivered.

"It took a lot of us by surprise," Parker said. "The mayor had pledged to do it; he simply fulfilled his pledge."

Parker maintains however that she was somewhat disappointed the mayor had not informed her of his decision. "While there is no requirement that he notify me or anybody in the community, it would have been easier to deal with from a political and media standpoint if we'd had a 'heads up' on it.

"As a councilmember who needs to work in collaboration with the mayor, I need to know about things and I need to have communication about things that are going

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INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ZERIT (stavudine) is indicated for the treatment of HIV-infected patients who have received prolonged prior zidovudine therapy.

The duration of clinical benefit from antiretroviral therapy may be limited. Alteration in antiretroviral therapy should be considered if disease progression occurs while receiving ZERIT.

CLINICAL STUDIES

Study AI455-019 was a multi-center, randomized, double-blind trial of ZERIT Capsules vs zidovudine for the treatment of HIV-infected adults with CD4 counts of 50 to 500 cells/mm³ who had received at least six months prior zidovudine treatment. ZERIT was administered in dosages of 40 mg BID for patients weighing ≥60 kg, and 30 mg BID for those weighing <60 kg. The zidovudine dosage was 200 mg TID.

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

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

Table 1 -- Incidence of Disease Progression		
	First AIDS - Defining Event or Death*	
	ZERIT	zidovudine
6 months	4.4%	5.7%
12 months	10.4%	14.1%
18 months	18.5%	23.3%
24 months	26.6%	31.8%

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

CONTRAINDICATIONS

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

WARNINGS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. This complication occurred in 19 and 24 percent of the 11,764 patients with advanced HIV disease who received the two dose levels of stavudine in the Parallel Track Program[®]. In patients with less advanced HIV infection in the zidovudine comparative trial, peripheral neuropathy occurred in 13 percent of ZERIT-treated patients as compared to 4 percent of zidovudine-treated patients.

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

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

Pregnancy

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

Nursing Mothers

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

Pediatric Use

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

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

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

The terminal elimination half-life after oral or intravenous administration of stavudine was approximately one hour. The mean ± SD total body clearance after intravenous infusion was 247 ± 94 mL/min/m². The mean ± SD apparent oral clearance was 333 ± 87

Laboratory abnormalities reported in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study AI455-019) are shown in Table 4.

Table 4 Controlled Clinical Trials: Incidence of Adult Laboratory Abnormalities		
Lab Tests (units)	Study AI455-019 ^a	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
AST (SGOT) (≤5.0 x ULN) ^c	11	10
ALT (SGPT) (≤5.0 x ULN)	13	11
Bilirubin (≤5.0 x ULN)	2	2
Anemia (<8.0 g/dL)	•	3
Neutropenia (neutrophils <750/mm ³)	5	9
Thrombocytopenia (platelets <50,000/mm ³)	3	3
Amylase (>1.4 x ULN)	14	13

* This abnormality was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.

^a Data presented for patients for whom laboratory evaluations were performed.

^b Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

^c ULN = upper limit of normal.

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

OVERDOSEAGE

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

HOW SUPPLIED

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

Table 5				
Product Strength	Capsule Shell Color	Markings on Capsule (in Black Ink)	Capsules per Bottle	NDC No.
15 mg	Light yellow & dark red	BMS 1964	15	0003-1964-01
20 mg	Light brown	BMS 1965	20	0003-1965-01
30 mg	Light orange	BMS	60	0003-1966-01

patients who have received prior zidovudine therapy. The duration of clinical benefit from antiretroviral therapy may be limited. Alteration in antiretroviral therapy should be considered if disease progression occurs while receiving ZERIT.

CLINICAL STUDIES

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

The study enrolled 822 patients with a median baseline CD4 count of 235 cells/mm³ (range: 10 to 735 cells/mm³), and a median duration of prior zidovudine treatment of 38 weeks (range 11 to 356 weeks). Fourteen percent of subjects had AIDS at baseline, 50% had HIV-related symptoms and 36% were asymptomatic.

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

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	First AIDS - Defining Event or Death*	
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WARNINGS

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

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

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

PRECAUTIONS

Information for Patients

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

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

Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy.

Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time. They should be advised that ZERIT therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

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

Laboratory Tests

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

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

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

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

post-implantation loss noted at 216 times the human exposure with no effect noted at approximately 135 times the human exposure. An increase in early rat neonatal mortality (birth to 4 days of age) occurred at 399 times the human exposure, while survival of neonates was unaffected at approximately 135 times the human exposure. A study in rats showed that stavudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. The concentration in fetal tissue was approximately one-half the concentration in maternal plasma. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, stavudine should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

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

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

ADVERSE REACTIONS

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

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

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

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

Table 3 Selected Clinical Adverse Events in the Phase 3 Controlled Clinical Trials ¹		
Adverse Events	Study A1455-019 ²	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
Headache	54	49
Chills/Fever	50	51
Diarrhea	50	43
Rash	40	35
Nausea and Vomiting	38	44
Abdominal Pain	34	27
Myalgia	32	35
Insomnia	29	31
Anorexia	19	22
Allergic Reaction	9	8
Pancreatitis	*	*

* This event was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.

¹ Includes all clinical complaints.

² Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

ALT (SGPT)	13	13
(≤5.0 x ULN)		
Bilirubin	2	2
(≤5.0 x ULN)		
Anemia	*	3
(<8.0 g/dL)		
Neutropenia	5	9
(neutrophils <750/mm ³)		
Thrombocytopenia	3	3
(platelets <50,000/mm ³)		
Amylase	14	13
(≤1.4 x ULN)		

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20 mg	Light brown	BMS 1965 20	60	0003-1965-01	
30 mg	Light orange & dark orange	BMS 1966 30	60	0003-1966-01	
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967 40	60	0003-1967-01	

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

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

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

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Adapted from: P4577-04
Revised October 1996

The Mayor's Executive Order

Houston Mayor Lee P. Brown promised the gay community on the campaign stump that he would issue an executive order barring discrimination in city employment based on sexual orientation. And, much to the surprise of many, Brown delivered.

"It took a lot of us by surprise," Parker said. "The mayor had pledged to do it; he simply fulfilled his pledge."

Parker maintains however that she was somewhat disappointed the mayor had not informed her of his decision. "While there is no requirement that he notify me or anybody in the community, it would have been easier to deal with from a political and media standpoint if we'd had a 'heads up' on it.

"As a councilmember who needs to work in collaboration with the mayor, I need to know about things and I need to have communication about things that are going to really affect my core constituency. So, it would have been nice to have been better prepared - but I'm absolutely thrilled that he did it."

Parker assigned two staff members who literally lived in the mayors media room for two days.

"We didn't have media kits available, we didn't have the information, the background stuff. My staff had it but it wasn't ready to roll out, so they ended up spending a lot of time educating people on the mayor's staff and helping deal with media."

Brown announced his decision with little fanfare. A subsequent public hearing was scheduled to debate the executive order before a city council session, however, the mayor issued the order prior to the meeting, thereby making it the law of the city.

"Interesting enough it was 30 to one of people who came out in support and one person who spoke against it and that person was from our community as much as we like to pretend not," Parker said. "The far right didn't show up. I'm not sure why that is, but if the mayor had done the Clinton thing and had a formal public hearing to debate the



issue, I do think the far right would have showed up.

"This is something he didn't need any permission for, it was an executive order signed by the mayor and [a public hearing] wasn't going to change his mind, so he didn't waste his time pretending it was.

"In some ways it was kind of refreshing that the mayor didn't make a big deal out of it," Parker added. "He didn't get a bunch of his gay support behind him and have a press conference. I admire the fact that [he] just did it and ... didn't do the political thing - put it out there and let everybody beat it to death.

"[Former Mayor] Bob Lanier wouldn't have touched this with a ten foot pole. He had been approached about non-discrimination policies and domestic partners benefits. I remember seeing him at an EPAH (Executive Professional Association of Houston) meeting when he was asked about it publicly and said he wouldn't touch it, not in his lifetime."

Transgender Inclusion

Parker has long been an advocate of transgender issues and she credits the transgender community with playing a significant role in her victory. She was particularly concerned about whether or not the mayor's executive order was inclusive of transgendered individuals.

"I insisted from the beginning that the transgendered community be somehow included in this ordinance," said Parker. "I would have preferred that they would be specifically listed in a nondiscrimination ordinance by sexual orientation or gender identity. They weren't listed in that way but they are included. It's written as 'sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation.' We passed it by the lawyers, they

So, there was a lot of communication back and forth - again it would have been easier to have done that in advance."

The Gay and Lesbian Community

"I've state [it] before publicly - we all know I couldn't have gotten elected with just gay votes. To be brutally frank, it was the African American community that got me elected," Parker said. "The entire gay community could have stayed home and I still would have gotten elected. It's a fact, but the gay and lesbian community and the transgendered community is my core constituency."

While Parker's "frank" admission may raise the ire of some, it is not surprising to many city officials. City Councilmen Chris Bell, a friend of the community, has repeatedly warned Houston's gay leaders that the dismal showing of gay support delivered at the polls will not push other politicians to form alliances with the community.

"Our community should be ashamed. It is disgraceful," Parker said. "Particularly when you look back at two decades of our movement and how hard we have fought to get basic rights so we don't end up in jail ... and insane asylums getting shock treatments for being gay.

"We have fought so hard and it's very frustrating that we would rather hang out in the bars and sip cocktails and cocoon in the suburbs and ignore what goes on in the rest of the city. It's one thing to gain political power and it's another to hold on to it.

"I know that it was gay money that got me elected, I know it was particularly lesbian and transgendered volunteers that got me elected, but the votes in the ballot box were from the African American com-

Gay Liaison

Mayor Brown, again delivering on a campaign promise, announced his appointment of a gay liaison. The ensuing brouhaha over his appointment subsided as fast as it arose. At issue was that the mayor's choice, Matthew Eastus, was a relatively unknown individual in the community with little to no experience in gay activism or political landscapes.

"It was a legitimate question," Parker said, concerning the community's puzzlement. I didn't know the mayor had started looking for a liaison. I was not the first to know and I asserted myself a little bit on that. Again, this is a core constituency, it's a respect issue."

Parker maintains that she works well with the mayor, they get along and that she believes the mayor considers her an ally on council. She said she told him she wanted to at least be consulted on the liaison selection process before he reached a decision.

"I was being forwarded resumes and I had an opportunity to present those ... we went through the list of names that my office and his had compiled and I gave him my analysis of the positives and negatives of each one. And, I confess, I did not know Mr. Eastus at all, so I told the mayor that I would see what I could find out. I did, reported back

and we did consult on it. I didn't 'pick' the liaison, I gave the mayor advice."

While Parker agrees that Eastus did not have a lot of credibility, he also didn't have any baggage. She believes Eastus has an incredible opportunity and that he is quite competent and very bright, not to mention nice and hard working.

"He is not as knowledgeable about our community as I would have wanted," Parker said. "When the mayor indicated he was going to appoint him, I sat down with Mr. Eastus, had my staff draw up a list of organizations and contact people, and he immediately jumped into it. He can create his own position and that's good for the mayor because he doesn't seem to have his own political agenda."

Parker argues that we forget to realize that this is the mayor's liaison not the gay and lesbian community's liaison. His job is to advise the mayor on issues in the community, she said, but it is also his job to represent the mayor to our community.

"There are plenty of organizations that represent the community and they have access to the mayor and they have access to me and I have access to the mayor," said Parker.

And that's just the first 100 days ...

Fit For A Queen.

Houston) meeting when he was asked about it publicly and said he wouldn't touch it, not in his lifetime."

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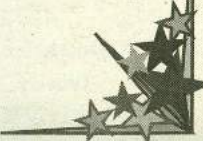
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Ginger Leigh

Sunday, June 7, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Sunday Gospel Brunch
with Peyton Brothers

Friday, June 12, 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Anna Egge

Saturday, June 13, 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Deb Yager and

Despite Protests By Religious Right, First Corpus Christi Pride Parade a Success

By Katrina C. Rose
Contributing Writer

Shoreline Drive became Rainbow Road for a few hours last Saturday afternoon as Corpus Christi held its first ever Pride Parade, though not without protests. No incidents were reported,



Part of the crowd (in the shadow of one of the Omni Towers)

though, and the parade organizers - the Coastal Bend Gay Pride Alliance - were extremely pleased. The parade featured a dozen or so floats with about 150 participants ranging from gay veterans to transgender activists to a lesbian wedding party in a long white limousine.

The crowd seemed a bit sparse at the beginning of the parade route. However, the numbers of supporters grew as the parade moved along. With a substantial number of people taking advantage of the shadows cast by the Omni Hotel towers to avoid the near 100 degree heat, a real Texas-sized crowd viewed the festivities closer to the end of the route.

A few pairs of young white males had roamed the sidewalks during the parade carrying signs with the usual litany of homophobia catch-phrases - "Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve" - but a more organized group of older anti-gay protesters camped out at the end. Amid signs decrying "homosexuals who sodomize children," one woman angrily called the parade participants "abnormal creatures" and "devils" while a nearby man declared that "This is the result of Bill Clinton being in office."

The thought of such protests - the parade had been a hot topic on talk shows in the area during the week before - perhaps did keep a few participants away. However, some realized that fear had to take a back seat to making a statement. Anna Reyes said, "It was a decision that was hard to make," but felt



Some of the fine, upstanding young



Some of the parade organizers with Wendy Lee (second from left), head of the parade committee.

good about having participated.

Another woman who felt more than good about having participated was the Grand Marshall: Houston attorney and national transgender rights activist Phyllis Randolph Frye who, as her own counter-protest to the radical religious right, proudly carried both an American flag and a Bible. After the parade, at a celebration at the Zodiac Bar, Frye heartily congratulated all of the parade participants and thanked the parade organizers for choosing her to be Grand Marshall, noting that this was the first pride parade either in Texas or the U.S. to so honor a transgendered person.

"History in the making" was one of the themes of the parade.

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The end of the route, however, also saw the most vocal and vitriolic of the

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San Antonio's War of Words Continues

Dan Castor Responds...

Here we go again. Instead of spending valuable time fighting the very many, very organized very well-funded anti-gay forces of the radical right in San Antonio, I am having to set the record straight again, wasting time and energy responding to lies, distortion, personal attacks on my character and professional libel.

But this is the last time I rehash the past. There is a new philosophy developing in the gay community of SA, one of moving forward, positively, working together to accomplish goals we agree upon, and treating each other with respect. This is the last time that I waste valuable time and energy...and I will never attack anyone's character, I will only defend my own.

Now here are the facts...

Fact: The Pride Picnic existed for more than six years before there was even any SALGA.

Fact: The SALGA (San Antonio Lesbian and Gay ASSOCIATION) that exists today is not the same SALGA (San Antonio Lesbian and Gay ASSEMBLY) that produced the Pride Picnic for some eight years.

Fact: In early 1997, The board of the old SALGA (the Assembly), voted to dissolve the group and nullify their membership in order to silence moderate and conservative critics. They then created the new SALGA (the Association), keeping the acronym, the money and the Pride event that belonged to the old SALGA.

report is available to anyone upon request from the Unity Foundation.

Fact: The 1998 Pride Picnic is again being sponsored by the Unity Foundation with all of the past years groups involved and our committee has grown to include the Texas Gay Rodeo Association, Hope-Action-Care, Inc., and Texas CPR.

Finally ... I am a professional fund raiser and special event coordinator. I have worked as a professional fund raiser for nearly ten years with a variety of non-profit organizations including the Autistic Treatment Center, the San Antonio Symphony and the San Antonio AIDS Foundation. The old SALGA even hired me two years in a row, 1992-93, to produce the Pride Picnic.

My reputation of professional accountability has been unfairly attacked, fortunately this is against the law and my attorney will respond appropriately. I do not seek monetary gain but will access our system of justice to stop this character assassination.

... We will defeat the enemies of equality and fairness for gay people only when we stop fighting amongst ourselves and work together to achieve common goals. See you at the 16th Annual Pride Picnic, June 13th at Travis Park!

*Dan Castor, San Antonio
16th Annual 1998 Pride Picnic
Coordinator*

And It Continues...

In his letter to the editor, former San Antonio Lesbian & Gay Assembly (SALGA) co-chair Brad Veloz continues his long history of distortion, lies, and

SALGA board members refused. Then at a 1994 LGBT Community Conference at San Antonio College, Jim Isaman and I publicly called on the SALGA Board to account for the monies. They still refused.

The community's outrage over this lack of accountability grew after the 1995 and 1996 Pride events. Many leaders felt that SALGA's stonewalling was a bit more than suspicious.

Veloz states in his letter that Dan Castor and other community leaders "chose to carry out their mission of destruction and lies against SALGA." Nothing could be further from the truth. Community leaders were surprised but not shocked when in December 1996 the old SALGA Board canceled elections, eliminated the membership, re-appointed themselves, kept all the money and started a new organization using the same acronym: SALGA, but with a new name, the "San Antonio Lesbian & Gay Association."

This corrupt maneuvering by Veloz and the old SALGA Board was meant to avoid the legal responsibility to provide an accounting to the public and members of an organization as required by the Texas Nonprofit Corporation Act. In fact, on April 4, 1997 the new SALGA officers (same ones as the old SALGA) stated in a letter to me, "SALGA as the Assembly no longer exists and all memberships expired as of December 1, 1996. Therefore, your membership is no longer valid. You are not a member of the SALGA Board and therefore have no right to such records."

At that point 21 organizations and individuals asked the Unity Foundation to sponsor the Pride Picnic. On April 29,



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Fact: When more than 25 activists representing a variety of groups came together last year to question the new SALGA's tactics...we were all labeled racists and left with no questions answered.

Fact: Only then did nine legitimate organizations come together under the Umbrella of the UNITY Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, to sponsor a legitimate 1997 Pride event. Those organizations are: The San Antonio Equal Rights Political Caucus, The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of San Antonio, The Log Cabin Republicans, The San Antonio AIDS Foundation, The Wellness Connection, The Metropolitan Community Church, the River City Living Church, Cheer Dallas and the Human Rights Campaign

Fact: I was contracted by the UNITY Foundation to produce the 1997 event, and donated my entire fee back to the benefiting organizations.

Fact: All proceeds from the Pridefest were distributed to the benefiting groups and a detailed financial

accountability has been unfairly attacked, fortunately this is against the law and my attorney will respond appropriately. I do not seek monetary gain but will access our system of justice to stop this character assassination.

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And It Continues...

In his letter to the editor, former San Antonio Lesbian & Gay Assembly (SALGA) co-chair Brad Veloz continues his long history of distortion, lies, and character assassinations to camouflage his own corruption and mismanagement of past San Antonio Pride Picnic funds.

On Sunday June 15, 1997, the day of SALGA's last pride event at Sunken Gardens, I was one of six community leaders who passed out a flyer entitled "Where is our pride picnic money?" We were not escorted out of the park as Veloz claims. Veloz and his cronies asked the park police to halt the distribution of the flyers. We complied; but Veloz and his comrades still have not answered the question. Where are the thousands of dollars raised from past Pride Picnics?

San Antonio's annual Pride Picnic was started in 1982 by a handful of volunteers. In 1992 it was turned over to the old San Antonio Lesbian & Gay Assembly, then a community based democratically elected organization. After the 1992 and 1993 picnics, community leaders privately asked the old Assembly Board to make an accounting of the monies raised from the events.

ed themselves, kept all the money and started a new organization using the same acronym: SALGA, but with a new name, the "San Antonio Lesbian & Gay Association."

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At that point 21 organizations and individuals asked the Unity Foundation to sponsor the Pride Picnic. On April 29, 1997 the Unity Foundation Board of directors formally approved the establishment of "PrideFest Committee" as an entity under the Foundation's corporate non-profit charter and IRS 501(c)3 tax exemption. This legally returned the Pride Picnic to the Community after those handful of self-appointed people on the new SALGA Board attempted to steal it.

At a May 1, 1997 Town Hall meeting, a last ditch effort was made to get the SALGA Board to make an accounting of pride picnic receipts from 1992 through 1996. A special committee of the community, chaired by The Reverend Roy Stewart, was created to meet with the new SALGA Board. The committee later met with Veloz, SALGA female co-chair Dulce Benavides and other SALGA officers at MCC San Antonio. Second verse same as the first.

Instead of being forthright with an accounting of funds, the SALGA officers and their allies at the Esperanza

Continued on page 18

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▼ DISABILITY

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Continued from page 17

Peace and Justice Center (SALGA's parent organization) labeled community leaders as "racist and sexist." To this day there has not been an accounting; nor has SALGA or the Esperanza opened their books as formally requested and as required by law. Wonder where our money went?

Therefore on June 14, 1997 the 15th annual San Antonio Pride Picnic was sponsored by the Unity Foundation and nine legitimate organizations. Unity made a complete accounting of all proceeds and expenses of the 1997 Pride Picnic in eleven days. This is something SALGA refused to do for 5 years!

Veloz and his cronies owe an apology to the San Antonio LGBT community in general and Dan Castor individually for their malicious and libelous propaganda. Dan Castor is an honest person. Veloz' continued attempts at character assassination are patently false as anyone who has worked closely with Castor, the Unity Foundation, and the Pride Picnic Committee knows.

Ted Switzer

San Antonio, Texas



A Limit to Tolerance?

Dear Hope Johnson,

I find your March 5 cover ("Passing Judgment" - a feature on Supreme Court Justice Raul Gonzalez and his son Jaime, who is a now a member of an ex-gay group) and accompanying two page spread offensive. Why didn't you limit Dell Myrle to 300 words? If you had, the first word edited should have been "tolerance," in the fourth from last line in

Dell's text.

As far as the mislabeled "Catholicism" is concerned ... I doubt you are ready for "Bloodline of the Holy Grail" by Laurence Gardner or "The Tomb of God" by Richard Andrews and Paul Schellenberger. To unseal the door of your mind, you might read "The Passover Plot" ...

To limit my output to one page (forget the "300 words" bit) [Ed. Note: we request letters be 'short' for purposes of publication.] I shall act as if you are both open-minded and fair-minded...

If you are interested, I am willing to expand on matters ... If you don't give a damn, then you might as well close up shop and start warehousing "sex toys." ... Bigotry and IN-"tolerance" have taken millennia to reach their present state. Do you expect to let further millennia pass before equality and justice MIGHT "happen?"

Bill Bates, San Antonio

Attorneys General

I think it's great that Dan Morales is slapping the Governor with a \$25 [million] fine for tortious interference in the tobacco settlement.

Now if only Janet Reno will appoint a special prosecutor to investigate the special prosecutor Starr.

Dan Petit, Austin

Dear Editor,

I could jump through hoops with 100 to 200 words, but the bottom line is PLAIN and SIMPLE, Austin needs a civic performing arts facility. At the same time the needs concerning all the other groups have to be addressed. I sincerely hope the City Council with the support of all citizens come up with good solutions and a performing arts facility.

Gloria Hooper, Austin

We Listen To You

Have a complaint, comment or suggestion? Send your thoughts to:

Letters to the Editor, Texas Triangle, 611 W. 6th St., Austin, TX 78701 or via email to TxTriangle@aol.com.

All letters must include your full name, city of residence, and either a daytime phone number or email address for verification. We reserve the right to edit letters for space, objectionable material, and clarity.

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Passing the AIDS Activist Torch

By José Orta

What has happened to AIDS activism in the late '90's?

Conversations with various HIV positive individuals across this country has uncovered a sad state of affairs in activism in 1998. And yet it should be apparent that grass roots AIDS activism is needed now more than ever: services are still not available to all who are infected; medications are available to only 50 percent of those requiring them; federal funding of needle exchange programs continues to be banned; HIV/AIDS prevention education programs continue to face barriers, especially in our schools; and the epidemic continues to spread at an alarming rate in our communities of color. It seems new blood (pardon the pun) is needed to once again focus attention on the AIDS epidemic. And now is the time to pass the torch of AIDS Activism to a new generation.

A great many of the activists who laid the groundwork for Austin's HIV positive community have passed away. Many died prior to the discovery of the highly-effective protease inhibitors, which became widely available during 1996. Though they are gone, individuals like Paul Clover, Ramon Hernandez, Roy

Gonzalez, Sylvia Gonzalez, David Powell, and many others, helped create the infrastructure of AIDS Service providers that equal, if not exceed, similar services in other cities. And while the HIV positive community is eternally grateful to those deceased and living for these splendid services, there is still more that must be done. We cannot rest on the laurels of previous activists. We must remember their struggles, celebrate their accomplishments, and mobilize to safeguard the services they helped create.

Other activists have left the grassroots struggle to become part of the 'mainstream.' They now lead local organizations and state or national agencies created to cope with the HIV/AIDS epidemic. In one sense, they have graduated from grassroots activists to professional "paid" positions. While these 'graduations' are part of the evolution of activism, we have to remember that, once a person enters an organization, they are expected to "toe the company line." Such expectations make it difficult to challenge that organization's policies, programs or funding priorities. Though these individuals are undoubtedly doing good work, grass root activists are still needed to dramatize the plight of the HIV community, to gauge how the system is responding to the needs of

the infected from the outside, and to challenge organizations to do more.

The advent of new drugs, creation of various AIDS organizations, the changing face of the epidemic to the working poor and people of color, and other trends have siphoned away the willpower and immediacy that our activism once had. There are many of us who continue to face AIDS related conditions that do not allow us to be as active as we once were. That is a part of this terrible epidemic. More frightening, however, is how many activists have given up grass root activism due to disillusionment. Disillusionment ultimately leads to complacency and it is infectious. You only have to look at the newly infected to see that such complacency abounds. The sense of urgency and fear are gone - replaced by a sense of status quo and not rocking the boat. Lost is the history of our struggle, the genocide and politics that gave birth to the current safety net of AIDS service organizations. What will be our fate in the years to come if these treatments do not last or treatment funding is cut? Only a few are willing to face the fact that we could be facing a total dismantling of the system that so many fought to create, and that leaves very few individuals able and willing to continue the work.

It's a tough spot for individuals still embracing grass roots activism in the AIDS epidemic. Some believe that AIDS activism is dead. I don't. Those of us with HIV who have a sense of our history and the skills honed through years of hard work must be willing to mentor and train the newly infected. Now is the time to lay the groundwork for the next stage of AIDS activism. We must insure that the AIDS social service fabric not be unraveled, but work to continue improving the systems now in place. We need to look at ways of introducing and promoting the AIDS social system model to other medical conditions and create allies with those individuals fighting for their lives against diabetes, breast cancer and other diseases. We must face the fact that the face of AIDS has changed and we must be willing to be more inclusive of people of color in our decision making bodies. Finally, we must be willing to pass the torch on to a new generation of HIV infected - a new generation that is not only nurtured by the new treatments available, but supported by the old ways of direct action, organizing, lobbying and standing up for their lives. The torch must be passed before it flickers and dies - taking with it the dreams, hopes and work of all those activists who so proudly held the torch in the past.

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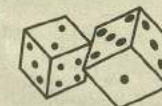
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Profound Thoughts from a Friend Across the Pond

By Katrina C. Rose
Contributing Writer

Miranda Elliot is an accountant in London. She identifies as transsexual but, due to the logistics of her life, her gender transition is confined to cross-dressing for the time being. The most important way I identify her, though, is as a good friend.

I met Miranda on AOL in the spring of 1996. We chatted occasionally that spring. Just as a lark, I mentioned that I'd be in England that summer and asked if we could get together to say 'hi' in person. She not only liked that idea but also suggested that we make it to a London TG club - the Way Out Club. She also pointed me to a great wig shop where I got the reddish-brown hair that folks have seen me wearing for the last two years or so (replacing the dark thing I wore early in '96.)

The following paragraphs are Miranda's responses to my questions as to whether she wanted to be included in an article on TG parents that I was putting together to pitch to Alternative Family Magazine. I was particularly interested in the reactions she faced in the U.K., and how this impacted upon Miranda's perceived responsibility for her daughter's moral and religious education. Due to the word limit, I couldn't work in the discussion of TG parents in the U.K. that I had hoped to. However, Miranda's comments were too eloquent to fall victim to the 'delete' key:

"There are many ways to define the people we know - we, as humans, always

come to know either within ourselves or other people, or other people's impressions conveyed to us - 'he's a snake in the grass' or 'he's a kind and generous man'. Or, in a somewhat less complex manner, 'he's fat' or 'he's short' or 'he's quite bald'. These definitions are all subjective (generosity, fatness, shortness and baldness are all relative ideas).

"These character traits, these definitions, contribute to the impression (or image) other people have of us. To some degree, being remembered by people who succeed us is a form of everlasting life - the consequences of our thoughts and actions, and the effect they have on other people (sometimes profound, often not) is how we will be remembered by not just these people, but also our children.

"My daughter is four years of age - she is the Tao 'uncarved block' - receptive to new ideas, unconditional in her love and almost objective in her perception of other people."

Miranda hopes that her daughter's perception of her will never devolve into mere labels. "How will I achieve my everlasting life with her, her children and her children's children? Not, I hope, for narrowly defined, almost clinical observations that are merely unromantic statements of fact - I don't want to be remembered as an accountant (who passed all the exams), or as someone who fought against the curse of multiple sclerosis (and the painful, inconvenient impairments this leaves) and not as someone who was transsexual."

"These three facets do in themselves

do, but neither alone nor together do they define who I am. I wish for something more fanciful from my daughter - to be remembered as someone she loved, someone who made her happy and someone who left her mind open to new ideas and experiences, both of which now seem to be valuable but all too rare commodities."

Until I'd read that, I had no idea that my friend suffered from MS. I asked her about it later:

"Oh god I'd forgot about that... I wrote what I wrote in the pub, and I was trying to latch onto things that people

said about me, as a way of explaining me to strangers. With my family in particular, that one comes up all the time, and it's the totally wrong image...! A diagnosis is a devastating thing to happen, but many people make it worse by treating it as some sort of 'club' they're in...!"

She added that the point of mentioning it was that people use MS as a way to define her without ever having met her - just like people do with a thing called transsexualism.

Don't judge her by MS or TS. She's just Miranda - a proud parent.

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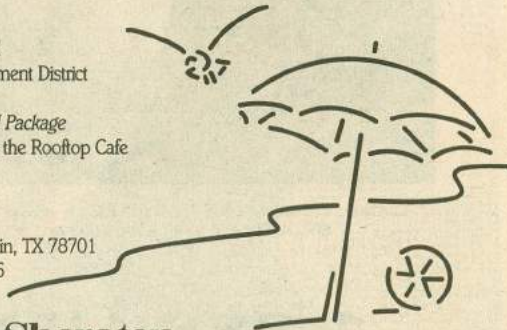
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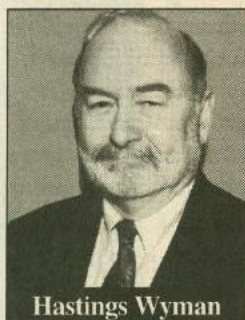
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Capital Letters

Big Apple's Fruit Basket Turnover



Hastings Wyman

State Senator Catherine Abate is running for the Democratic nomination to oppose gay-hostile Attorney General Dennis Vacco (R), leaving a vacancy in gay-heavy Greenwich

Village. Openly gay Gotham city council member Tom Duane (D) is the favorite for Abate's legislative seat, in both the September 15 primary and in the General Election. That'll mean a special election in February to replace Duane on the city council. At last count, nine openly gay politicians were considering that race. In the nearby Upper West Side, another Democratic state senator is stepping down and openly gay Danny O'Donnell - brother of Rosie - (why am I not surprised?) - is in a three-way Democratic primary with two straight

liberals. Rosie recently hosted a \$1,000 a pop fundraiser for the bro.

Hawaiian Friend in Tough Race

U.S. Rep. Neil Abercrombie, a Hawaii Democrat has been an outspoken advocate of gay rights, with a Human Rights Campaign (HRC) rating of 100 percent. Abercrombie was especially vociferous in opposing the ban on gays in the military back in 1993. He has even gone out on a limb and advocated legalization of same-sex matrimony, especially controversial in the state where it all started. Moreover, the Asian recession has reduced Japanese tourism, so the Aloha State's economy is suffering - along with incumbent politicians. Abercrombie, a free spirited iconoclast, ran close races in 1994 and '96 and now he's trailing state House Minority Leader Quentin Kawananakoa (R), a well-financed member of Hawaii's ex-royal family, by 40 percent to 43 percent in a GOP poll. Kawananakoa, however, must first defeat state Rep. Gene Ward in the September 19 primary, which could get down and dirty.

The More the Gayer

In addition to higher-profile openly gay candidates for statewide office in California, Massachusetts, Minnesota and Vermont, there are at least three others with a reasonable shot at victory. The shoo-in among them is also from Vermont, state Auditor Ed Flannigan (D), who was already reelected in '94 after he revealed he was gay. Further, in New Mexico, openly lesbian Liz Stefanics (D) has been endorsed by the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund in her race for the state's Corporation Commission. Finally, in New York, Buffalo city council member Barbara Kavanaugh is in a crowded Democratic primary field in her bid for lieutenant governor.

Charlotte: A Small Step Forward

In the Mecklenburg County Republican primary last month, voters defeated GOP incumbent county board member George Higgins, one of the "Gang of Five" right-wingers that defunded county arts programs because

of gay content.

Moderate ex-city council member Tom Cox defeated Higgins for the GOP nod. The downside is that the chances for Andrew Reyes, the openly gay Democrat who faces Cox in



Democratic Congressman Neil Abercrombie faces a tough race in Hawaii.

November, were weakened since he's no longer challenging the religious right's candidate. And two other Christian conservatives were renominated in hard-fought primaries.

Hastings Wyman has been a DC insider for more than three decades. He publishes the Southern Political Report, a non-partisan biweekly political newsletter. He can be reached care of this publication or at HWymanSPR@aol.com. For more of Capital Letters, visit www.gay.net

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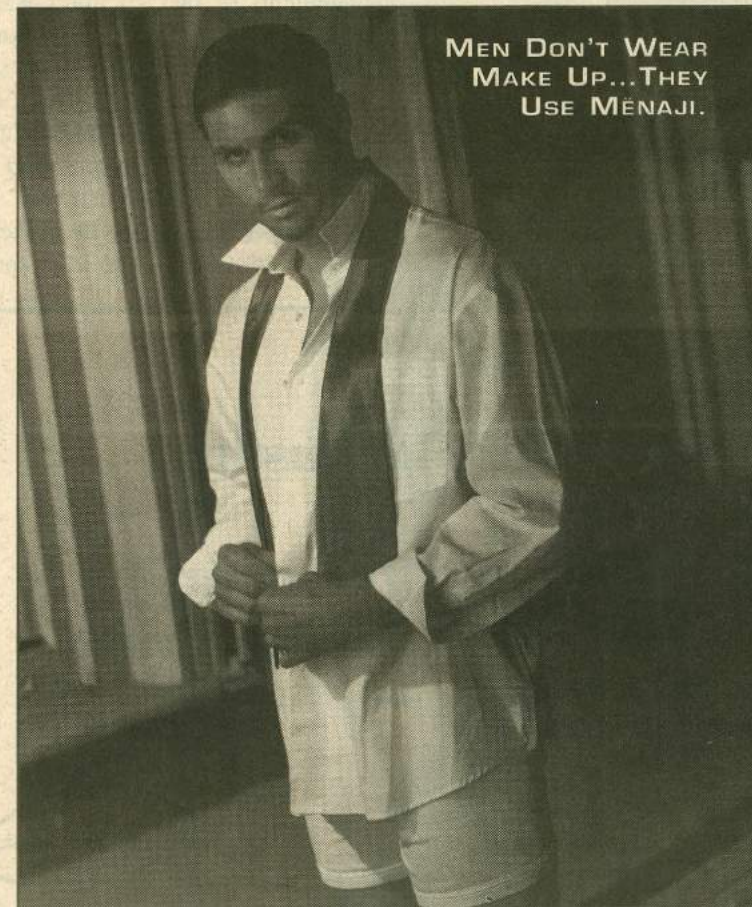
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AMANDA

Amanda B. Recondwith

A STAB AT THE PUNJAB

Well, Dear Fans, it seems this summer is hotter than usual for more than just one reason. Yes, as if El Nino wasn't enough to keep the rain from falling while the sun beats down upon us as mercilessly as a leather waitress at the Ritz, it seems half of Asia is about to become enveloped in fire.

Amanda can't help but think of all kinds of amazing signs that India would one day put the whole world at risk. Of course, we usually thought of that country as starting some terrible global Malthusian population disaster that would overcome the world, but now we have to think of them as more than just the napkin dangling from the Himalayas. Ask any elderly British military veteran who served in India during the Raj and he'll tell you the Indians are a very peaceful and gentle people when they're not killing each other over religious differences. They can make the Israeli and Palestinian conflict look like the squabbling of two elderly Bridge players. They can make the Irish Problem seem like spilled sand in the playbox. And now they

can even make the Cold War seem like the Good Ol' Days when all we had to worry about was hitting our foreheads on our school desks as we practiced "Duck-And-Cover" drills.

Yes, Dear Fans, there was a certain romanticism about the Cold War, because it was a conflict between two very different philosophies. You could die a Capitalist or a Communist. Americans liked to throw in the usual religious rhetoric to make it seem deeper than it really was, but the bottom line was that the Cold War was basically a conflict of interest. And besides, even Russian soldiers could be kind of cute while they goose-stepped across the Kremlin grounds.

India and Pakistan have no such romantic notions, and their conflict is one of unrequited hatred on a scale so vicious and so seething that it's hard for most Americans to imagine - unless we think of tax time or ex-lovers. Because we have always had everything available to us, we can't imagine people killing each other over something as generally ridiculous as religion. And we are so generally ignorant of Indian history that some of us can blithely link Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam all in the same lump.

We remember in college when the Hari Krishnas were handing out those fabulously illustrated books. You know. The ones with

the brilliant pictures of Krishna and Shiva and all the other bizarre Hindu gods. Frankly, we've never understood how nuclear physicists can still worship a blue elephant with fifteen arms and a four foot tongue, but to each his own, right? Well, not according to them! We must remember that the Indian

gods are a very vicious lot. They're not like our Western Apollo or Athena. They're far more primeval than that, and they follow a pattern devoid of human reasoning. They follow the patterns of Nature, which are exquisitely cruel and never benign. India is very happy with its gods and their philosophy of supreme pleasure mixed with supreme violence. They play off each other and form a balance in which mankind has miraculously survived and flourished for thousands of years. But we cannot forget that ancient Indian literature tells of the develop-

ment of the ultimate weapon, so horrible that it could destroy the world. You must take it seriously when even a Jewish nuclear physicist named Oppenheimer quoted from none other than the "Bhagavadgita" as he saw the first atomic explosion. Amanda has a very dark feeling about what this all may lead to, but we will go no further. Instead, we will keep pushing Sebastian to finish sewing our nuclear flash fuschia sweat-pouch shimi-sheathe for the upcoming Gay Pride festivities.

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I Kid You Not

By Beren deMotier

See You In The Movies

There must have been a blue moon. And perhaps the hissing of snowballs flying through the red blaze of Hades. Because I actually got to go out to a movie with a girlfriend the other night.

Not "Girlfriend" girlfriend. That girlfriend cheerfully bathed, read to and put to bed our sullen six year old and wailing preschooler shortly after I left (the door not closing quick enough to extinguish their anguished cries as I walked away). I knew they would survive without me for a few hours, but another few hours of them and I wasn't sure I would survive. There are days when homemaking seems a fool's pastime.

So we went to a movie, my friend and I. She's a great gal. It's nice to have friends with whom one can discuss things like shoes, raising well-adjusted boys, and the baser aspects

of childbearing. Someone to whom you can say the words, "they sewed me up like a patchwork quilt" and know that she understands.

Actually, I guess there must have been two blue moons this spring because a couple of months ago I took this same friend to see *Titanic*. Her first time, my second. I know this could get me thrown out of the "I'm-beyond-popular-culture" club, but hey, I love to cry. And since I'm not quite a six on the Kinsey scale I'm torn over which star I'd like to be versus "be with"; Leo, beautiful, androgynous, and so unthreatening that Kate Winslet had to tell him what to do with those pretty hands or Kate the dish herself. Though, corset-fetishists be damned, what I really want is Kate dressed up in his clothes, he had the nicer wardrobe.

But since we'd exhausted our *Titanic* appetite, we saw *Object of My Affection*, which I'd been dying to see. Hadn't read the book, had read half a dozen movie reviews. Deep bonding relationship between straight pregnant woman and gay man. Had to see it.

Good thing I love to cry. Jeez, what a heartbreaker. And Jennifer Aniston (cute enough to eat by God!) and those quivering lips.... Anyways...

But it was more than just cute twenty-somethings. I thought it was pretty refreshing. For once the gay central character wasn't wearing a dress, and the movie actually got to address the concern many gay men have when coming out, that fatherhood may not be able to be part of their lives. The characters were complex, George, the main guy was decent, sweet, yet carnal enough to be a real man, and he didn't turn straight just to have a simplistic ending. I liked it.

Of course, I like a lot of movies. The wife and I are becoming, in our approaching middle age, quite the video hounds. Though we may be homebound by our lifestyle choice of parenthood, slavery to home repair and refusal to pay the going rate of seven dollars an hour to a babysitter, we are not at a loss for entertainment. And though we like to see just about anything from "shoot-em-up and chase-em-down" to sensitive costume drama, it's sure nice to see your occasional gay man or lesbian on that silver screen, even if it's only lighting up a bedroom.

In the old days (you'll never catch me saying "the good old days"), when we were coming out, your choices were limited, especially for us girls. You had *Personal Best*, *Desert Hearts*, *Lianna* and maybe *Entre Nous* if you were in the know. Plus *The Hunger* for the umpteenth time just to get a sight of Susan Sarandon in that T-shirt and Ann Magnuson up against a chain-link barrier.

All of which was an improvement over what there was before that of course! Louise Brooks dancing with a woman in Pandora's Box or Garbo in a suit are all very nice but not much meat on them bones.

It's different nowadays. It might take

months to catch up on every gay cinematic depiction available now (something I'm sure budding gay teens are doing right now in homes across America during these short hours between schools out and parents home). And they're not all small independent films that came and went without a fuss and bypassed your local multiplex. It used to be you couldn't drag straight America to see us on the screen, now we're big numbers. Not that everyone's thrilled with how we're being depicted. I wasn't so hot on the guys in *The Birdcage* and I thought their son should be hung upside down by his thumbnails for his disloyalty. And I could do without *Chasing Amy*'s portrayal of sex with men equals "love" and sex with women equals "just sex". But at least we've got some variety. In *Primary Colors* Kathy Bates gets the cutest girl and in *The Full Monty* the love affair between two men is so taken for granted that it is the poster child for full integration into the family of man. Heck, even lovely Leonardo diCaprio played a gay role in *Total Eclipse* and that used to be the kiss of death to a film career. Now even Tom Selleck will do it.

But back to *Object of My Affection*... The best moment in the film for me was when George, the main character, stood on the sidewalk watching as a father played catch with his son. He was held spellbound by the sight, knowing it was something he'd always wanted to be a part of, and never thought he would get to. I'm predicting a wave of movies about gay men and lesbians involved in parenting. Somewhere in *The Advocate* recently I read that 57% of lesbians are mothers, (compared to 63% of straight women), and over 30% of gay men. That's a lot of moms and dads at the video store!

And maybe even taking advantage of a few blue moons.

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My Queer Life

By Michael Thomas Ford

Where Have All the Flowers Gone?

It's official - romance is dead.

The tragic event occurred at 9:36 last Tuesday night. That was when a group of friends and I were sitting around in a bar after a reading that several of us had taken part in. Basking in the glow of post-performance relief, we were knocking back a few beers and talking about all of those important things that people talk about when they're slightly buzzed. We had already discussed which childhood comic book heroes we'd had crushes on, what our favorite songs of the 1970s were, and the relative appeal of corduroy pants. Now it was my turn to choose a topic for debate.

"Here you go," I said after thinking for a minute. "I want to talk about flowers."

"Flowers?" said my friend Anna. "What about them?"

Truth be told, I wanted their advice. I was thinking about sending flowers to a man I had recently met and was considering asking out, but I wasn't entirely sure it was the right thing to do.

"Say you meet this guy," I theorized. "At a party or something. He seems really nice, and you have a great conversation. A couple of days later, you get flowers from him and a note saying he really enjoyed talking to you and would like to maybe have dinner or coffee or something."

"How did he get my address?" asked my friend Jackson suspiciously.

"What?" I said. "I don't know. What

"I just wouldn't want any of you giving out my address or phone number to some guy who wanted to stalk me," he said.

"Who said anything about stalking?" I said. "It's just flowers."

"I don't know," said Anna, taking a drag on her cigarette. "It sounds like too much commitment to me. I mean, I feel like I owe a guy sex if he buys me dinner. Starting with flowers would be like asking me to swallow on the first date. I'm not ready for that."

"He just wants to have dinner!" I said. "No one even mentioned sex."

"It's always about sex," said Jackson bitterly. "No one sends flowers just because he's a nice guy. He wants sex. And if he wants sex, why can't he just call me and ask to come over? Why send flowers? What's that supposed to mean, anyway?"

"It doesn't have to mean anything," I explained in exasperation. "He likes you. He wants to tell you that, and he wants to ask you to dinner. What's the big deal about flowers? They're romantic."

"It's just sort of creepy," said Anna. "You know, desperate and clutchy and all that."

I couldn't believe what I was hearing. Granted, it's a well-established fact that I am the world's worst dater. But even I would be thrilled if someone sent me flowers. You know, as long as I liked him. But even if I didn't, I wouldn't turn him in to the local sex crimes unit. Apparently, my friends felt differently.

"I don't like all that flowers and cards crap," said Jackson. "Next thing you know, he'll be calling my dad asking for my hand in marriage. I prefer your standard gay date - go to dinner and then go home and have

Maybe exchange numbers if you want to do it again. That's it."

"Amen," said Anna.

"But you're a straight girl," I protested. "You're supposed to love all that romantic stuff."

"No one I know does," she insisted. "That's all just a cover-up for getting you into bed. Any girl I know would be really suspicious if some guy sent her flowers. He's trying too hard. It's like not waiting a day to call someone back."

"Well, I don't believe you," I said. "There have to be some men left - and women too - who want romance. There have to be some people left who like being courted."

Anna and Jackson looked at each other and laughed cruelly.

"This is why you never go out with anyone," said Jackson. "You haven't learned the rules yet. Just screw em and get out. That's how it's done. If you happen to find one you want to keep around, don't blow it by sending him flowers or singing beneath his window or whatever stupid thing you have in mind. It'll just backfire. You have to play hard to get."

"You are a bitter queen," I said. "And I'm going to prove you wrong. Both of you."

The next day, I called up the local florist and sent the man I was interested in a dozen roses with a card that read, "I've enjoyed getting to know you. How about dinner on Friday?"

Then I waited. I knew he'd call. After all, since we'd met we'd spoken several times on the phone and had great conversations. He was smart, and funny, and all of those things men generally aren't these days. Surely he would understand that

ister.

He did call, about an hour after the roses arrived. I was out walking the dog, and came home to find the message light blinking.

"Hi," said his voice on my machine. "Thanks so much for the flowers. They're really, um, nice. Look, about Friday. I guess I should have explained that I'm, um, not really ready to date anyone seriously."

It went on, but we needn't get into the grisly details. Suffice it to say, it was not a joyous moment and it involved the phrase "still be friends."

That Friday, instead of going out with my would-be beau, I went out with Anna and Jackson. "You win," I said as soon as we sat down. I told them what had happened.

"See," said Anna jadedly when I was finished. "It never works. You scared him."

"You should have just sent him e-mail saying you wanted to savage him if it was convenient," suggested Jackson. "That's more to the point."

Before I could argue, the waitress appeared at our table, interrupting our discussion. "Here you go," she said, setting down a votive candle. "For my favorite customers."

She smiled at us and left. As she walked away, I picked up the candle.

"And just what's this supposed to mean?" I said, blowing it out. "I bet she just wants a bigger tip"

"See," said Anna, patting me on the back. "Now you're catching on."

Michael Thomas Ford is currently on a reading tour for his book "Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me & Other Trials from My Queer Life." He welcomes e-mail at

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or
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and follow the Pink Pride Signs

More Than A Celebration PRIDE in the 90's

Donna Red Wing,
Human Rights Campaign National Field Director

"I really think [Pride] is a celebration of both self and community. For me, it's about our dignity and our worth and our personal power as lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, or transgendered people. Within that public celebration, what I hope, is that we really understand that we are very precious, that we are miracles of survival, and that's the face we show our friends and our neighbors and the people we live among. If that's what Pride is for me, I hope that's what it is for a lot of people"

"Next week I'll be keynoting the Pride event at my old hometown of Wooster Massachusetts. Talk about 'coming home!' I'll be looking for my old gym teacher, and my old drama teacher!"

Cathy Renna,
GLAAD Director of Community Relations

"Pride is a powerful time: it provides an opportunity to rejoice in our commonality and for individuals both within the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, and without, to come together to celebrate our diversity."

"Pride gives us strength through visibility, too. Few are the times in contemporary America when entire neighborhoods are flooded with individuals from within our community. This visibility provides communities at large and otherwise isolated individuals with a glimpse of a vibrant, positive community which can be instrumental in the dismantling of prejudice and discrimination."

"The continued growth of Pride celebrations throughout the country and the world has been a testament to our dedication to community."

Rebecca Isaacs,
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Political Director

"Pride celebrations are an important statement about our communities. Our challenge is to use these gatherings to advocate and mobilize politically as well as celebrate. Pride is a time for us to show our strength, to be proud, to

TEXAS Proud! Your Guide to Pride™

Saturday, June 6

The Womyn's Pride Dance, hosted by LGRL, will take place from 7 p.m. to midnight at Fiesta Gardens. The evening will feature a live band as well as a DJ. It'll cost you a \$10 admission charge to get in the gate but we've been told the rest is free - food, drinks and entertainment. How could you resist, Ladies?

Sunday, June 7

Third Annual Texas Pride Power Brunch - 11:30 a.m. til 2 p.m.

The Austin Lesbian Gay Political Caucus will once more host the Texas Pride Power Brunch at the Hacienda adjoining Fiesta Gardens. The "movers and shakers" of gay politics, society and culture in Texas will gather for wonderful food, live music and a chance to meet our supportive friends in local and state government. Tickets are \$20 per person and brunch tickets will get you free admission to the Texas Gay Pride Festival.

Texas Gay Pride Festival- Noon to 7PM

Featuring non-stop music provided by Trish Murphy, Terri Hendrix, Quatropaw, 10" Maria, Sheri Frushay, Miss Xanna Don't and the Wanted plus Rachel Cruz, Handful, Austin Baptist Women, Susan Colton, Capitol City Men's Chorus, Diamella, Lara Linette & Mandy Woods, Groove Tea, Bon Terra, Barbara Lewis and BLuRry.

BOOTHS

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Other booths will be hosted by the Lonestar Directory, Names Quilt, ALLGO/INFORME-SIDA, HRC, Out Youth Austin, AIDS Ride, Lesbian Avengers, Texas Human Rights Foundation, Prime-Timers, Cornerstone, Log Cabin Republicans, MCC- Austin, the Austin Gay & Lesbian International Film Festival plus and many more. And keep an eye out for the members of Row Team Austin as they give an exhibition on the shores of Fiesta Gardens.

Admission is \$4

Food provided by various vendors. Beer provided by Miller Lite, Coors and Budweiser. Texas Gay Pride Fest is proudly sponsored by LGRL of Texas, Coors Light, the Texas Triangle, Miller Lite, Whitehead Chiropractic, 107.1 KGSR and that other paper - the Austin Chronicle.

Other PRIDE Activities

rejoice in our commonality and for individuals both within the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, and without, to come together to celebrate our diversity."

"Pride gives us strength through visibility, too. Few are the times in contemporary America when entire neighborhoods are flooded with individuals from within our community. This visibility provides communities at large and otherwise isolated individuals with a glimpse of a vibrant, positive community which can be instrumental in the dismantling of prejudice and discrimination."

"The continued growth of Pride celebrations throughout the country and the world has been a testament to our dedication to community."

Rebecca Isaacs,

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Political Director

"Pride celebrations are an important statement about our communities. Our challenge is to use these gatherings to advocate and mobilize politically as well as celebrate. Pride is a time for us to show our strength, to be proud, to regroup, reenergize, and recommit ourselves as individuals and as a community to gaining full equality for all gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people."

Carol Clark,

Chair of Houston Lesbian and Gay Pride 1998

"[Pride is] an inspiring event: it celebrates the awareness of being gay and lesbian. It allows us to 'take over the streets' for a day or so. I think it allows people who don't have the opportunity to participate in gay and lesbian events - for whatever reasons, whether they're still in the closet work-wise, or if they have custody of children they're concerned about - the opportunity to do so during this time. And it's a place to celebrate our history."

"It's grown, not only in Houston but certainly all over the world, and it's going to continue to get larger and larger. The thing that's also encouraging is that more and more we are getting other people involved with the growth of this, whether they're totally gay or gay-friendly."

"This year four or five corporate businesses who have domestic partnerships are joining us. Last year it was a big breakthrough when we had Texas Commerce Bank. This year we're having Shell, Southwestern Bell; I find that very encouraging because I think that really throws us into the mainstream. We are everywhere. I like that growth - that's very exciting for us."

Baptist Women, Susan Colton, Capitol City Men's Chorus, Diamella, Lara Linette & Mandy Woods, Groove Tea, Bon Terra, Barbara Lewis and BLuRry.

BOOTHS

Of course, we'll be there - so stop by our Texas Triangle booth and register to win a FREE TRIP FOR TWO and place a free Personals ad. You can also win free CD's from Arista Records, Triangle T-shirts and more.

Other booths will be hosted by the Lonestar Directory, Names Quilt, ALLGO/INFORME-SIDA, HRC, Out Youth Austin, AIDS Ride, Lesbian Avengers, Texas Human Rights Foundation, Prime-Timers, Cornerstone, Log Cabin Republicans, MCC- Austin, the Austin Gay & Lesbian International Film Festival plus and many more. And keep an eye out for the members of Row Team Austin as they give an exhibition on the shores of Fiesta Gardens.

Admission is \$4

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Other PRIDE Activities

Thursday, June 4

The Psychic Cowboys will perform live at the Rainbow Cattle Company, 303 W. 5th St.

Friday, June 5

Rainbow Cattle Company, - free buffet, country dancing and more until the wee hours.

Oilcan Harry's - happy hour 2-10pm, dancers 6-8pm, buffet 5-8pm and of course after hours dancing.

Rhythm House - Ginger Leigh will perform 7-10:30pm.

Chain Drive - Austin's Leather haven features Friday night drink specials.

Charlie's - \$1 drinks, dancers 6-9pm.

Saturday, June 6

The Forum - Extended happy hour noon-9pm with manager's specials.

The Edge - An all out Luau will start at 9pm with a King and Queen crowning at midnight and \$3 premium tropical drink specials.

'Bout Time - Miss Universal Thang Finals will be held at 10pm.

Rhythm House - Charlie Burton will perform 7-10:30pm.

Sunday, June 7

Rainbow Cattle Co. - Benefit show, Proud Loud for Project Transitions. Call for time.

Oilcan Harry's - Tea Dance with \$1 Mimosas, \$2 Bloody Mary's, cookout on the patio, 5-8pm and dancers 6-8pm.

The Forum - cookout on the roof starts around 5pm, 75 cent drink specials throughout the night, \$1.25 draft beer all day.

Rhythm House - the Peyton Brothers will perform during their Sunday Brunch, 11-3 with drink specials all day- \$2 Bloody Mary's and Mimosas, \$9.95 all you can eat.

Chain Drive - Beer Bust & Cookout, 5-9pm.

Charlie's - Cookout 4-8pm, dancers 6pm til close, 25 cent draft beer (Colonel Bob's Natural Light) and no cover.

Rainbow Cattle Company - 303 W. 5th St, 472-5288

Oilcan Harry's - 211 W. 4th St, 320-8823

The Forum - 408 Congress, 476-2900

The Edge - 213 W. 4th St, 480-8686

'Bout Time - 9601 N. I.H. 35, 832-5339

Rhythm House - 624 W. 34th St, 458-4411

Chain Drive - 504 Willow St. 480-9017

Charlie's - 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481

TEXAS PROUD!

Celebrating How Far We've Come, Understanding How Far We've Yet to Go

An interview with Dianne Hardy-Garcia, LGRL Executive Director and the woman behind the Texas Pride Fest

By Nancy Ford
TRIANGLE Features Editor

**Okay, Texas, it's
June - time to pull
Out your Pride.**

As cities across the state plunge headlong into a series of celebrations and events umbrella'd under the term "Pride," we thought we'd look beyond the parades and parties to what pride really means for the state's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community. Who better to consult than LGRL Executive Director and Federation of States co-chair Dianne Hardy

Republicans to Lesbian Avengers to the Court! "It's a great day to bring people said. "There are places that don't have Pride [celebrations] - Victoria, Lubbock, Cedar Park, Angleton - so they get to come in and be part of this."

Last year over 4,000 people attended the Festival, and at least 5,000 are expected this year. In addition to an outdoor power brunch, an arts and crafts area, community booths, and (of course) beer, "We have some great live music - probably the biggest names that we've ever had...that are giving their time to us. The music's going to be fantastic," she promised. Even amid promises of all that hot music and cold beer, Hardy Garcia's

Hardy Garcia has the opportunity to glean insight from other states' lobbyists legislatures to vote favorably on gbt issues, and additional ways to raise funds to finance that swaying. "There's a real difference between state work and national work, or state work and local work," Hardy Garcia explained. "State level organizations are tremendously underfunded. We spend about \$40 million on the national movement," she

importance of increased grassroots activism due to what she calls the cur-saying 'Send stuff back to the states. Let the States decide.' When you don't have a really strong, effective lobby to fight this anti-gay stuff that we're facing right now and living through right now, it's really hard. There's no defense." "When we formed the Federation we thought, 'It's in the best interest of not just only state organizers in the community, in the grassroots movement, it's also a time that the national movement invests in the state organizing, because it's about them, too.' If we're not strong, they're not going to be as strong," she predicted. Unfortunately, she knows what she's talking about.

**"Pride has to be more
than just a nice, fun**

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As cities across the state plunge headlong into a series of celebrations and events umbrella'd under the term "Pride," we thought we'd look beyond the parades and parties to what pride really means for the state's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community. Who better to consult than LGRL Executive Director and Federation of States co-chair Dianne Hardy Garcia? This weekend the Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby of Texas (LGRL) hosts two events at Austin's Fiesta Gardens that are designed not only to promote Pride, but to help replenish LGRL's ever-dwindling coffers. The first is a women's dance scheduled for Saturday night. "Before the guys get mad, let me tell you why it's a women's dance," Garcia hurried to explain. "Austin doesn't have a women's bar anymore; women who are trying to find the community are having a really hard time. So we're doing a women's dance so women have a chance to get together," she reasoned, deftly adding, "Guys, the bars have promised me there are Pride Celebrations in every [gay] bar in Austin. The guys will have plenty of places to go."

The second celebration is the actual **Texas Gay Pride Festival**, scheduled for Sunday from noon to 8 p.m. at Austin's Fiesta Gardens. The Festival offers glbt individuals and friends from all over Texas an opportunity to gather in our capitol for two days of entertainment, food and beverage, and queer communion. Hardy Garcia anticipates the fest guestlist to include "everybody from gay acupuncturists to Log Cabin

Republicans to Lesbian Avengers to the Court! "It's a great day to bring people said. "There are places that don't have Pride [celebrations] - Victoria, Lubbock, Cedar Park, Angleton - so they get to come in and be part of this."

Last year over 4,000 people attended the Festival, and at least 5,000 are expected this year. In addition to an outdoor power brunch, an arts and crafts area, community booths, and (of course) beer, "We have some great live music - probably the biggest names that we've ever had...that are giving their time to us. The music's going to be fantastic," she promised. Even amid promises of all that hot music and cold beer, Hardy Garcia's thoughts never drift far from her grassroots legislative efforts. Those who attend Texas Gay Pride Fest will leave Austin's Fiesta Gardens with more than just the satisfying afterglow of spending the day with like-minded revelers.

"The Texas Gay Pride Festival is unique in that the money raised helps fund LGRL's efforts in the Texas legislature," Hardy Garcia explained. "Pride has to be more than just a nice, fun day. It should be about celebrating how far we've come as a movement, but also investing in the future of the movement," she insisted. Hardy Garcia also hopes those who attend the Pride Fest will leave with a renewed sense of political urgency - even those who do not consider themselves to be 'political.' "I talk with my staff about this all the time. It's heart-breaking to us when people say 'I'm not political.' The thing is, when we're dealing with our community, our being gay is political. It just has to be. We just are not treated the same way," she observed.

In her capacity as co-chair of the nearly two-year-old Federation of States,

Hardy Garcia has the opportunity to glean insight from other states' lobbyists legislatures to vote favorably on gbt issues, and additional ways to raise funds to finance that swaying. "There's a real difference between state work and national work, or state work and local work," Hardy Garcia explained. "State level organizations are tremendously underfunded. We spend about \$40 million on the national movement," she

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Dianne Hardy Garcia, LGRL Executive Director
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said, adding that grassroots state organizations budgets collectively total about \$3.5 million. "We knew we really needed to try to get better resources into state organizers' hands. So we formed the Federation in an attempt to do that, to better negotiate our positions, and then also try to bring attention to the fact that we needed a stronger statewide movement," she said.

Hardy Garcia further stressed the

importance of increased grassroots activism due to what she calls the cur-saying 'Send stuff back to the states. Let the States decide.' When you don't have a really strong, effective lobby to fight this anti-gay stuff that we're facing right now and living through right now, it's really hard. There's no defense." "When we formed the Federation we thought, 'It's in the best interest of not just only state organizers in the community, in the grassroots movement, it's also a time that the national movement invests in the state organizing, because it's about them, too.' If we're not strong, they're not going to be as strong," she predicted. Unfortunately, she knows what she's talking about.

Both California and Washington state have lost their lobbies in the last year because of underfunding. "Here are two huge states that should be absolutely able to fund a lobby. But they were so underfunded they just couldn't keep their doors open," Hardy Garcia said. How is it possible that two such large states with such vast glbt populations would be unable to fund a rights lobby? "I think it's an example of how people think about politics. People know what's going on on the national level," she replied. "They can watch C-SPAN. Most people tend to follow a little bit of their local political stuff, but sometimes they forget about the power of the State." "The State does everything for us," she said. "The State determines whether or not you're a criminal; the State determines whether or not you have the right to have a family and what your family rights will be; the State determines what kind of health care funding you're going to get and how much you're going to pay in taxes. "We cannot expect that we're going to invest [only] one-tenth of the money in state

TEXAS

organizing that we put toward national, and then expect we're going to have huge, great responses," she reasoned. "It's got to be about raising more money for statewide organizations and getting people involved. That's why we're doing the 'Equality Begins At Home' actions," Hardy Garcia said.

On May 2, two hundred people came to Austin from all over the state to attend the first organizing meeting of "Equality." "The whole idea is to get all the states to simultaneously do an action on the same day, in the same period," she said.

On March 21, 1999 LGRL will sponsor Texas' Equality Begins at Home March on the Capitol. "It's going to be a week-long period of actions. Each state will pick what is relevant for them. Our action will be about family issues," she said. She anticipates upcoming anti-gay adoption legislation, proposed by Warren Chisum (R-Tampa), will be particularly hard to stop, "because it plays into the myths about gays and kids," she said. "That's why the extreme right and [perennial gay rights opponent Rep. Warren] Chisum are proposing this. He knows he can generate the most emo-

tion." "On the other hand, it's going to give us the chance to talk about our real family values," Hardy Garcia added optimistically. "I heard of a gay man in Texas who adopted eleven of his sisters and brothers; I've heard of lesbians adopting their own grandchildren; I've heard of all sorts of really generous acts that gays and lesbians have done to take care of their families and show what real family love is all about."

Hardy Garcia isolates two other major areas of concern facing the glbt in the upcoming Texas legislature: Hate Crimes and HIV/AIDS funding. Hate crimes, she says, are "a constant issue. It's quarterly that someone's murdered in Texas in some hate-related incident," she said. According to Hardy Garcia, the majority of hate crimes in Texas are racial in nature (60 percent), but right under that, at 17 percent, are crimes based upon sexual orientation. "There was someone murdered in Amarillo last week. It hasn't been classified as a hate crime yet, but apparently people saw him at the bar with this guy. It looks a lot like a hate-related incident. At the same time in Amarillo a guy had his window one was killed in El Paso. It's awful.

"We cannot ever let Hate Crimes go," she promised. "If we don't talk about it, no one else will. It'll continue to be at the top of our list. It's got to be. These lives are just too important to let these people pass without everybody knowing what happened to them."

Regarding HIV funding, Hardy Garcia says she is optimistic about new drug treatments that have helped so many people with AIDS and HIV. "The point we're at now is 'Are we going to have money for that medication. Is the state going to match?'" she wonders. "It's going to be really important in the upcoming November elections that our community's involved and knows what is at stake. If we lose the majority in the House and don't at least maintain our majority in the Senate, then we're going to be in for a tough time with HIV funding. A lot of our federal money is tied up with matching money, so we need the Texas Legislature to allocate appropriately. It'll be our job to try to get [voters] out, and tell them why it's so important to vote."

Even as early as June, in the middle of all the

Pride parties, despite the dancing and the beer and the booths and the parades, it is evident that Hardy Garcia never drifts far from her political passion. "Those issues make us political animals," she insisted. "And it's a good thing. Politics is a beautiful thing." Despite all the Warren Chisums, the lack of funding, and general voter apathy Hardy Garcia faces on a daily basis, she maintains a remarkably positive attitude. "So much joy has come to me with being political. You can actually change things," she remarked with a hint of self-surprise. "And you get to see all the courageousness of people. For all the politicians that are hurtful, there are so many who are great," she said genuinely. "Last session, so many legislators who are not gay carried pro-gay pieces of legislation," she said. "Texas was one of the few states to defeat an anti-[gay] marriage bill. That was an incredible thing. That happened because now when our issues come up, forty people go to the microphone now, when we used to have just one or two. "We have to keep that history in perspective - that's why I say Pride is also about celebrating how far we've come."

Urvashi Vaid,

Director of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force's Policy Institute

"I don't know what [Pride] does for other people anymore. Every year at Gay Pride I try to take time to remember why we still need a political movement, and why we still need moments in the calendar like Gay and Lesbian and Bisexual and Transgendered Pride, because we con-

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

★ THE WHITE HOUSE ★

GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE CELEBRATION, 1998

Warm greetings to everyone taking part in the 1998 Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration.

As Americans, we can be proud of our diversity. Striving together, people of different ethnicities, backgrounds, races, beliefs, and sexual orientation have contributed to the success of our nation, reflecting the profound truth that this rich diversity is one of our greatest strengths. But we must face the fact that sometimes our differences divide us; sometimes we are pulled apart by prejudice and discrimination. We must face the fact that sometimes we are pulled apart by prejudice and discrimination. We must face the fact that sometimes we are pulled apart by prejudice and discrimination.

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"I don't know what [Pride] does for other people anymore. Every year at Gay Pride I try to take time to remember why we still need a political movement, and why we still need moments in the calendar like Gay and Lesbian and Bisexual and Transgendered Pride, because we continue to be a people who are deeply stigmatized despite all the great progress we have made. So I always use it as an opportunity to take stock of my own work in the movement, where I think the movement is, where it's going, and on a personal level, just to take stock. It's a celebration of where we've come from, but also a sense of gearing up for the time ahead. It doesn't stop.

I have never been one to see pride as purely a time of celebration. That was not the original focus of it - it was a protest. It was a strategy that our community invented to counteract the centuries of shame and neglect and invisibility. That's why we came up with the idea of gay and lesbian pride, coming out of the historical experience we had, and also the very individual experience we have of isolation, of invisibility. Pride was an opportunity to say 'Hey look! We have self-esteem. We're proud of who we are as gay people. And we're not going to be silent anymore!'"

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As Americans, we can be proud of our diversity. Striving together, people of different ethnicities, backgrounds, races, beliefs, and sexual orientation have contributed to the success of our nation, reflecting the profound truth that this rich diversity is one of our greatest strengths. But we must face the reality that sometimes our differences divide us; sometimes the voices of hatred and prejudice drown out the harmony in our national life. Events like the Pride Celebration help us to recognize anew that working in a spirit of community is not only a hope but a necessity, and that our individual dreams can only be realized by our shared efforts.

Our ideals and our history hold that the rights guaranteed us as Americans are inalienable. They are embedded in our Constitution and amplified over time by our courts and legislature, and I am bound by my oath of office and the burden of history to reaffirm them. Our nation stands to lose if we let prejudice and discrimination stifle the hopes or deny the potential of a single American. And we stand to lose when any person is denied or forced out of a job because of sexual orientation.

I commend each of you for your dedication to working for an America that celebrates our diversity, builds on our strengths, and fulfills our fundamental values of mutual respect and compassion. Working together, I am confident that we can enter the 21st century as One America.

Best wishes for a wonderful celebration.

Bill Clinton



PROUD!

Texas PrideLine: High and Low Points in Texas' Gay History

The 1990's brought gay and lesbian issues to the forefront of the political and judicial spectrum. As a result, gays have witnessed successes the community never thought imaginable, and endured the setbacks that are all too familiar. To be sure, many of the successes that have occurred legislatively or through judicial renderings have stemmed from years of valiant effort from activists during the previous decades. Without those efforts, the gay and lesbian community would not have accomplished the milestones reached in the last decade of the twentieth century. The 1960's saw the uprising that began with the Stonewall Riots in New York. During the 1970's, gays made their presence known and their activism was visible in all walks of life. But it was the decade of the 80's that was, arguably, the most difficult period in gay history. The tragedy of AIDS and its devastating toll on the gay community brought a lobbying effort the likes of which the community had never embarked upon. It was the decade of unity and organization. Following is a timeline of events that have occurred during the past decade:

1988

- THE STATE'S HIGH COURT REFUSES TO RULE ON THE CONTROVERSIAL MORALES V. MORALES CASE.

1989

- THE LEGISLATURE PASSES THE AIDS OMNIBUS BILL, THE FIRST BILL THAT ALLOCATES STATE FUNDING FOR AIDS RELATED ISSUES.
- THE LEGISLATURE FAILS TO REPEAL SECTION 21.06 OF THE TEXAS PENAL CODE, COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE "SODOMY LAW."

1992

- TEXAS' FIRST STATEWIDE GAY AND LESBIAN NEWS PUBLICATION, **THE TEXAS TRIANGLE**, DEBUTS.

1993

- THE STATE LEGISLATURE AGAIN TRIES TO REPEAL THE SODOMY LAW. ALTHOUGH THE BILL PASSES IN THE SENATE, IT WAS OVERWHELMINGLY DEFEATED IN THE HOUSE.
- THE LEGISLATURE PASSES A HATE CRIMES BILL AS A RESULT OF A SPATE OF RECENT MURDERS TARGETED AT INDIVIDUALS BASED ON RACE OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MOST NOTABLY THE EXTREMELY VIOLENT MURDER OF PAUL BROUSSARD NEAR A LOCAL NIGHTCLUB IN MONTROSE, A PREDOMINANTLY GAY DISTRICT OF HOUSTON. THE BILL IS CONSTITUTIONALLY VAGUE AND HAS NOT BEEN USED.
- THE FIRST DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP REGISTRY OPENS IN TRAVIS COUNTY TEXAS.
- THE 3RD COURT OF APPEALS RULES THAT THE STATE'S SODOMY LAW IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL IN THE CASE OF ENGLAND V. DALLAS. MICA ENGLAND WAS DENIED A JOB IN THE DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT BECAUSE SHE VIOLATED THE STATUTE. TO DATE, THAT IS THE FINAL DECISION IN THIS CASE.

1995

- THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE HEARING IS HELD ON EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION. THE BILL DOES NOT GET OUT OF COMMITTEE.



RAZZLE DAZZLE DALLAS

CELEBRATES 20TH YEAR

Dallas' largest fundraising street party celebrates its twentieth anniversary on Saturday June 6th with the kickoff of the 1998 Razzle Dazzle Dallas extravaganza.

The anniversary celebration will be out in the street for its fourth year as Cedar Springs Road is blocked off for party-goers. When the gates open at 8 pm, this year's event will feature DJ's, dance floors, carnival booths, (our own Triangle Psychic booth), live bands, beer and a casino tent. More than 10,000 people are expected to grace the pavement of Cedar Springs.

"Razzle Dazzle gives the people of Dallas the chance to celebrate life," said Evilu Pridgeon, 1997 president of the Razzle Dazzle Dallas board of directors. "We want people to be proud of who they are and to praise the forward movement we've made in civil rights and in the better treatment and better quality of life for people with AIDS."

In 1978 Razzle Dazzle started as a party with a group of friends and has moved to different spots over the years. Before 1990, Fair Park hosted the event. From 1990 to 1992 the event relocated to Dallas Market Hall where it

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- THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE HEARING IS HELD ON EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION. THE BILL DOES NOT GET OUT OF COMMITTEE.
- A RENEWED ATTEMPT AT STRENGTHENING THE CURRENT HATE CRIME LAWS IS ATTEMPTED. THE MEASURE PASSES THE SENATE AND IS DEFEATED IN THE HOUSE BY TWO VOTES.

1996

- DALE CARPENTER, THEN-PRESIDENT OF LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF TEXAS, FILES A LAWSUIT ON THE GROUP'S BEHALF AGAINST THE STATE GOP FOR REFUSING TO GRANT THE GAY GROUP A BOOTH AT THEIR CONVENTION, AFTER INITIALLY ACCEPTING THE ORGANIZATION'S CHECK AND APPLICATION. THE MATTER IS EVENTUALLY TAKEN TO THE STATE SUPREME COURT AND SETTLED.

1997

- YET ANOTHER ATTEMPT AT STRENGTHENING HATE CRIME LEGISLATION FAILS. THIS TIME THE BILL NEVER GETS OUT OF COMMITTEE.
- THE FIRST COMMITTEE HEARINGS ON NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION IS HELD. NOTHING DEVELOPS AND A BILL DOES NOT COME OUT OF COMMITTEE.
- STATE LEGISLATURE DEFEATS STATE'S VERSION OF FEDERAL DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT (DOMA), INCREASES HIV MEDICATIONS FUNDING.
- DALLAS ELECTS STATE'S FIRST OPENLY GAY REPUBLICAN, JOHN LOZA, TO CITY COUNCIL. LOZA'S ONLY SUPPORT FROM GAY AND LESBIAN GROUPS COMES FROM LOG CABIN DALLAS, PROMPTING CONTROVERSY OVER DIVERSITY IN GAY COMMUNITY.
- VETERAN GAY RIGHTS ACTIVIST ANNISE PARKER WINS LANDSLIDE ELECTION AS HOUSTON'S FIRST OPENLY GAY CITY COUNCILPERSON. PARKER'S WIN PUTS HER IN NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT BECAUSE HER AT-LARGE CITY COUNCIL SEAT REPRESENTS 2 MILLION HOUSTONIANS.

1998

- HOUSTON MAYOR LEE P. BROWN SIGNS AN EXECUTIVE ORDER BARRING DISCRIMINATION IN CITY EMPLOYMENT BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION. ORDER IS REFUTED BY RIGHT-WING CITY COUNCILMEMBERS AND SUBSEQUENTLY CHALLENGED IN COURT BY CITY COUNCILMAN ROBB TODD AND RELIGIOUS RIGHT LEADER STEVEN HOTZKE. A DECISION IS EXPECTED AFTER THE 98 ELECTIONS.
- HOUSTON MAYOR LEE P. BROWN APPOINTS CITY'S FIRST GAY LIAISON, BAKER AND BOTTS ATTORNEY MATTHEW EASTUS. GAY LEADERS HAVE MIXED REACTION. AT ISSUE, EASTUS' POLITICAL AND COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE.

(CONTRIBUTING TO THIS ARTICLE WERE DIANNE HARDY GARCIA AND RAY HILL)

COVER PHOTO - PRIDE MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE AT ZEBRA'Z - 1-800-788-4729

Dallas extravaganza.

The anniversary celebration will be out in the street for its fourth year as Cedar Springs Road is blocked off for party-goers. When the gates open at 8 pm, this year's event will feature DJ's, dance floors, carnival booths, (our own Triangle Psychic booth), live bands, beer and a casino tent. More than 10,000 people are expected to grace the pavement of Cedar Springs.

"Razzle Dazzle gives the people of Dallas the chance to celebrate life," said Evilu Pridgeon, 1997 president of the Razzle Dazzle Dallas board of directors. "We want people to be proud of who they are and to praise the forward movement we've made in civil rights and in the better treatment and better quality of life for people with AIDS."

In 1978 Razzle Dazzle started as a party with a group of friends and has moved to different spots over the years. Before 1990, Fair Park hosted the event. From 1990 to 1992 the event relocated to Dallas Market Hall where it took on a yearly theme. In 1993, Razzle was transformed into an all-night Deep Ellum dance party at The Bomb Factory.

"In 1993 we took a survey and found that people overwhelmingly wanted the party back on the street so that's what we did," said Barbara McCaffe, chair of last year's party committee. "The out in the street party is the most popular event, second only to Halloween," said McCaffe. "Everybody seems to like the street atmosphere the best. It's real festive and a big party."

Tickets for this year's event are \$10 in advance (\$15 at the entrance) and can be purchased at the Kroger on Cedar Springs and at participating AIDS organizations.

Razzle Dazzle organizers are hoping to raise several hundred thousand dollars this year for North Texas AIDS service organizations throughout the state including Oaklawn Community Services, AIDS services of Tarrant County, and Foundation of Human Understanding.

For more information call

(972) 407-3553

fect embodiment of Mary Ann Singleton.

While we're on the subject of Mary Ann, in the alternate universe of 28 Barbary Lane, how do you envision Mary Ann Singleton now?

I imagine that the cruel realities of the media world in New York have buffeted her to such a degree that she may have won back some of her humanity. I have never seen her as the roaring bitch that a lot of readers tend to think she becomes. Maybe [it's] because I've always used bits of myself in sketching in the characters. But, I did lean on the more ambitious sides of my personality in writing about them.

If you were still writing a newspaper serial today, what events would you chronicle?

In the first place, I think a lot of it has to do with the fact that there are a lot of people like me, who are out of the closet and impatient with the fact that our lives have not been recorded. Hollywood's current fascination with it stems directly from one thing, the fact that several big movies like *The Birdcage* and *In & Out* have made money. That's the only reason they're exploring this territory. It would be foolish to kid ourselves otherwise.

"Tales Of The City" is a slightly different bird, it's always required a struggle. In part, I think, because I've been unwilling to compromise about the subject matter or to compromise when it comes to the depiction of same-sex affection. What I'm most proud of, about "Tales Of The City" in both of its edi-

one's ever seen on television

So, part of the reason for this new surge of gay cinema is profit, and the other part is idealism on the part of gay film-makers and writers who want to have their stories told. I've been struggling to get this one told ever since 1979. I'm eternally thankful I didn't sell out, back in the early eighties when the networks would have turned it into another "Three's Company."

[As far as what events I'd cover,] I would go for the same material I've always gone for, which is my own life and its milieu. I would be attempting to report the workings of the heart, as much as possible. Those are the only things I'm really an expert on. I think it's always dangerous to wander outside of your field of expertise.

Do you ever imagine yourself living anywhere other than San Francisco?

I occasionally entertain fantasies about Great Britain, but they never last for very long, in spite of the fact that I have a large number of friends there. The biggest turn-offs are the fact that the weather is opposite of the weather in San Francisco and there is a certain complacency about the class system and politics in general that would drive me up the wall. There's no other place in the United States that I would choose to live.

What is the status on the film of "Maybe The Moon?"

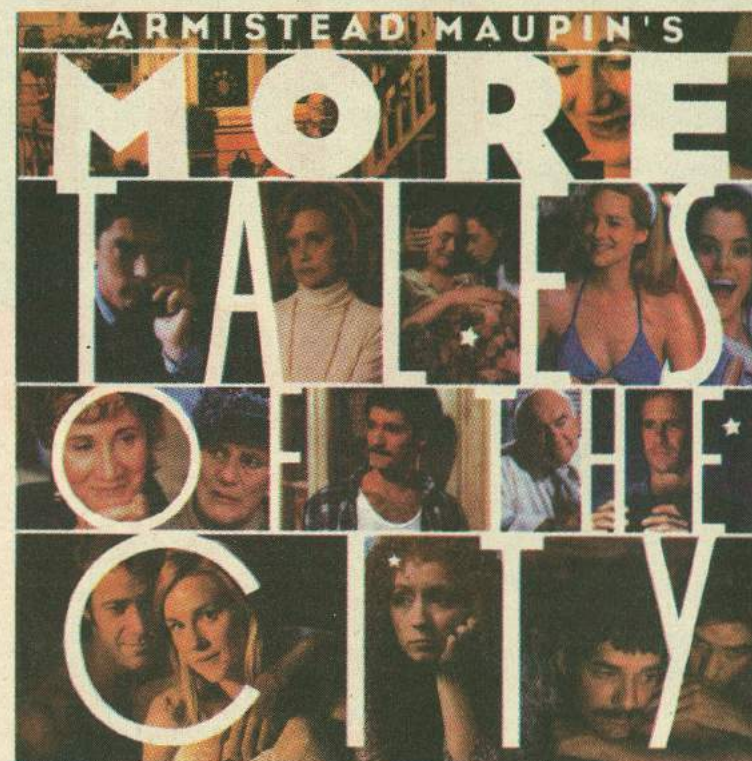
Limbo is probably the best word for it. It's still being shopped around. We're having a very difficult time raising the money for it. Largely because the central

of psychological suspense story. I've always loved the movie *Vertigo* and always wanted to tell a story that struck those kinds of chords. That's what I'm attempting to do with this novel.

I know there are a lot of people looking forward to watching "More Tales Of The City" when it airs on Showtime on June 7th and 8th.

People who are genuinely serious about wanting to see the rest of my books translated to film should call up and order Showtime, if only for the month that the show is airing. I've talked to far too many people who have said, 'I'll wait until it comes out on video or

I'll tape it off of a friend's cable.' If you do that, you won't be casting your vote for the continuation of the series. I know it's sort of a pain in the ass, but I don't want to hear anybody complaining afterwards, when we don't get to do number three (laughs).



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"Tales Of The City" is a slightly different bird, it's always required a struggle. In part, I think, because I've been unwilling to compromise about the subject matter or to compromise when it comes to the depiction of same-sex affection. What I'm most proud of, about "Tales Of The City" in both of its editions, is the fact that we have full-fledged love scenes between people of the same sex. "More Tales" begins moving, as I did in the novel, into the realm of lesbian romance. We not only have a so-called "lesbian kiss," - I hate that term - we have a kiss between two women that is quite unlike anything any-

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What is the status on the film of "Maybe The Moon?"

Limbo is probably the best word for it. It's still being shopped around. We're having a very difficult time raising the money for it. Largely because the central character is a little person and Hollywood always thinks in terms of bankable stars.

What can you tell me about your new writing projects?

It's a novel. I'm not really spilling many of the beans at this point. It's a sort

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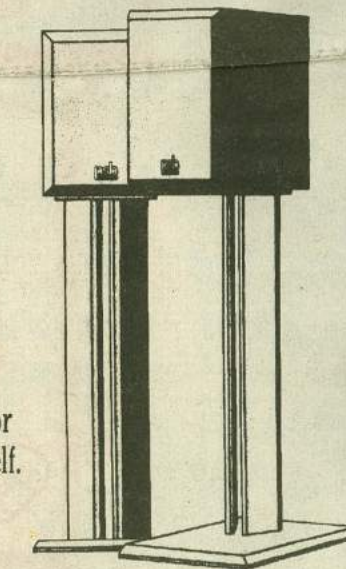
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On Stage: Pondering The Demise of Broadway's 'Side Show'

NEW YORK (AP) - When the entire cast of the Broadway musical "Side Show" walked on stage Jan. 3 for its final performance, the audience rose for a 10-minute ovation.

They shouted and screamed, cheering wildly as stars Alice Ripley and Emily Skinner became Violet and Daisy Hilton, real-life Siamese twins who were vaudeville headliners in the early 1930s.

"It is an actor's dream to be applauded even before you perform," said Derek Jacobi, who was sitting in the Richard Rodgers Theater that night. The British actor, who has had his own share of huzzahs in everything from "I, Claudius" to "Cyrano de Bergerac," wept.

"In my entire life, I have never seen anything like it," he told producer Emanuel Azenberg. Jacobi was not alone. Even a few hard-boiled stagehands were seen crying.

The final curtain fell 30 minutes late, primarily because of the tumult. After 91 performances and a loss of \$7 million to its investors, "Side Show" was gone, but not forgotten.

"It was the most triumphant closing you ever saw," its composer, Henry Krieger, says now with a rueful laugh.

"To me, the last two weeks of 'Side Show' were the most joyous of my career," Ripley says. "We knew we were going down. It was a slow descent, but it was just so wonderful because it seemed as if we had finally found our audience."

In the six months since it closed, affection for "Side Show" among its fans and other theater buffs has not diminished. "The Lion King" and "Ragtime" may be Broadway's biggest musical hits this season, but "Side Show" has the potential of show-biz legend.

"There's even more of a mystique about the musical because it was a good show," Ripley says. "It wasn't an artistic failure that everybody just laughed at, like some other shows you could think of that closed quickly."

"Side Show" certainly had its fans. They were energetic supporters, onstage and

off, who were touched and moved by the musical and were determined to tell friends and even strangers about it. Its stars and its composer even worked the discount ticket line in Times Square, trying to drum up business.

Why the enthusiasm, the commitment to a musical that has achieved almost cult status, a description many of its creators dislike?

"We really are an old-fashioned musical," Krieger says. "We have a rich score. We have a story you can follow. It's colorful and very person-

al. I think it fills a void because in a lot of musicals today, spectacle has taken over."

"Side Show" tells the story of outsiders, carnival freaks among others, who deal somehow with life's adversities.

"Side Show" speaks to a lot of people's inner feelings about themselves," Krieger says. "We had a large gay following, but that

was not the only audience, by any means. Anybody who feels they were born into outsider status is going to hear this show. It will resonate.

"We may not have drawn the ticket buyers that we needed to draw, due to a lack of promotional finesse, but those who came were moved and, in many cases, we were told it was a life-changing experience."

Among the most determined fans, according to Krieger, was Eric Engel, a 34-year-old business analyst who works on Wall Street. Engel saw the show four times, the first during preview performances last fall.

"You know when you find something good, you just want to go out and tell everybody," Engel says. "'Side Show' just grips you by the heart, digs in and doesn't let go, even after you have left the theater."

With so much support, why did the musical fail to find a larger audience?

"There is no question that there was a preconception of grotesqueness," Azenberg says. "We heard that from focus groups which said, 'Yes, I heard the show was good, but I am not going.'"

The producer said older theatergoers

See "Side" on page 47



Alice Ripley and Emily Skinner as Violet and Daisy Hilton.

unified diversified electrified
HOUSTON LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE 1998

EVENTS

**The
Construction
Party '98:
Building
Pride**

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

This year's official Pride Party is based on a construction theme, so put on your tool belt, grab a hammer, and start banging to the beat! Come help us build a foundation of pride that we can all proudly stand on.

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HOUSTON LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE 1998

Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride 1998 Kick-Off Party

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

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

Pride Jamboree

Saturday, June 13th, 10am
Memorial Park

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

Pride Day In The Park At AstroWorld

Sunday, June 14th, 10am

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

PRIDE KICK-OFF WEEKEND

OTHER FABULOUS EVENTS

The Construction Party '98: Building Pride

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

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

Pumped Up On Art

Friday, June 26th, 7pm
711 William Street Gallery

Footwear of the rich and famous is coming out of the closet for this unique social and fundraising event. Local artists provide their time, talents, and materials to create works of art using celebrities' shoes or "pumps" as the centerpiece.

1998 Pride Parade

Saturday, June 27th, 9pm
Westheimer & Montrose

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

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The Pride Committee of Houston is proud to announce a schedule of over 60 events for Pride 1998! Pick up a copy of the Pride Guide or contact us at 713.529.6979 or www.pridehouston.org for more information.



Minnelli III, Cancels Tour

LONDON - American singer-actress Liza Minnelli has been forced to cancel a five-concert tour of Britain due to illness, her doctor told reporters last Friday.

According to a report from news agency Agence France Presse, the 52-year-old has been advised by her New York doctor that she needs a long period of rest.

"Ms Minnelli is suffering from chronic pain due to arthritis, fatigue and exhaustion," said her doctor, Peter Green.

"Therefore she has been advised to rest for no less than a month."

Minnelli's last public appearance was at the funeral of Frank Sinatra last week, where she looked overweight and tired.

Minnelli reportedly became depressed after mixed reviews for her U.S. concert tour last year and for her



brief stint in the Broadway musical "Victor/Victoria."

Minnelli, who has been treated for alcohol and drug problems, was to have played shows in Manchester, Birmingham and three nights at London's Royal Albert Hall between June 5 and 12.

Ticketholders are being offered refunds.

Carol Channing Files for Divorce

NEW YORK (AP) - Carol Channing, the 77-year-old stage and screen actress, has announced that she has filed for divorce from Charles Lowe, claiming that they had sex only twice during their 41-year marriage.

The petition by Channing, best known for her roles in "Hello Dolly" and "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," was filed last Tuesday in Los Angeles District Court.

According to court papers, Channing said that shortly after she and Lowe wed in 1956 he informed her that he was impotent, the Post said.

Channing claims that during their marriage, Lowe, 86, regularly humiliated her in public and that he has physically assaulted her.



"It doesn't matter to me that I didn't have (sexual) relations. That's incidental. The important thing is my freedom," Ms. Channing said.

Channing also said that Lowe, her second husband, had set up his own production company early in their marriage and funneled all her earnings into his accounts.

Ms. Channing said it took the perspective of years to finally decide to end the marriage and she

hoped her example would encourage other women in similar situations to act quickly.

"I want to talk to them because I am 77 years old and it took every minute of those years for me to finally realize what I was in the midst of," she said.



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- ▼ One of his most popular characters from Kids in the Hall is Buddy Cole, a philosophizing barfly, for which he has written an autobiography titled *Buddy Babylon*, due in June from Dell Publishing



Sing Out!

TCC, TWCD Performance To Benefit Austin's University Baptist Church

By Paul Jacobs
TRIANGLE Staff

Just in time for Pride, Austin will have the privilege of hearing an outstanding and unusual performance by the renowned Turtle Creek Chorale.

The Chorale performance is a benefit concert, taking place at the University Baptist Church (UBC). The Chorale will be joined by The Women's Chorus of Dallas, both groups under the leadership of Dr. Timothy Seelig. Over 300 voices will present a program of various numbers ranging from classical to pop to inspirational, including chorus favorites such as "The Awakening."

This is truly an historic occurrence for the Chorale. Two years ago, both they and The Women's Chorus were refused performance rights at the First Baptist Church of Dallas. And it was only this year that Austin's University Baptist was 'ostracized' by the Baptist General Convention of Texas for their inclusion of gays and lesbians in the

church community. But that hasn't stopped UBC Pastor Larry Bethune. "We are just a group of old time Baptists who have learned God's love knows no barriers," he explained.

Seelig and the Turtle Creek Chorale were ecstatic to receive the invitation from Pastor Bethune to sing for the benefit. "The choruses have sung in all of the major venues in the world from the Meyerson to Carnegie Hall to the great halls of Europe, but never in a Southern Baptist Church" said Seelig. "We are grateful and excited."

The Capital City Men's Chorus from Austin will also perform at the church, which is located at 2200 San Antonio Street. The concert is scheduled to begin at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 7th. Technically, admission is free, but there is a suggested \$10.00 donation. All proceeds from the performance will go towards the refurbishing of the large oak doors at the church entrance, which are in need of repair due to age, weathering and vandalism. For more information or tickets, call 512-478-5889.

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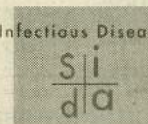
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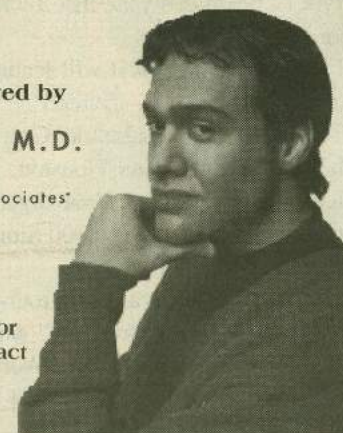


This study is being conducted by
Nicholaos C. Bellos, M.D.

Southwest Infectious Disease Associates



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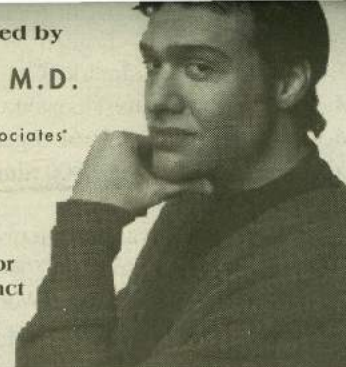
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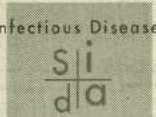


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SUPPORT GROUP FOR HIV POSITIVE MEN & WOMEN

This ongoing group provides a safe, supportive, and nonjudgmental environment. Come and express concerns, ask questions, be cheered in your victories, and be with others who know what it's like to be where you are. Open to male and female, gay and straight: all are welcome.

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Houston Opens Second Annual Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

By Nancy Ford
TRIANGLE Features Editor

They promised they'd do it again, and now they are. Last weekend, organizers opened up Houston's Second Annual Gay and Lesbian Film Festival with a showing of Brian Sloane's *I Think I Do* at Stages Theatre. But that was only the beginning.

"This year we've tried to take what we've learned, and become more organized," said Travis Mader, one of the festival's curators. "Last year was our first time, and we were amazed at how well it did. We're expecting, with the degree of organization, extra effort, and the addition of the advisory board this year, that it will be even more successful."

This year's festival will feature 14 different events divided between DiverseWorks, Landmark Greenway 3, Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and Rice Media Center. And festival organizers are expecting more than the 6,000 film fans they entertained last year.

"No other festival has a four-weekend, four-venue type of structure," said Mader, who also works with Diverse Works. "A lot of festivals have two weeks [of] film after

film after film. You'll never get to see all of them, because they're playing concurrently.

"The great thing about this festival is that it's four weekends, and the films are not playing concurrently. You could see every one of them if you wanted," Mader added.

Tickets for most of the screenings will cost approximately \$7. A price Mader considers "reasonable. It's what you'd pay at a normal theatre. I think last year there was some confusion with tickets being different prices at different venues. We've tried to make them more standardized this year."

A brief listing of screenings and showtimes follows. More information (although we can't imagine what more you'd need) is available by calling the festival hotline at 713-914-5038 or visiting the festival website at www.neosoft.com/~travism/filmfest.htm

Second Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
May 22-June 14
713-914-5037 or 713-914-5039

Evening of Short Videos
Fri. May 29, 8pm
DiverseWorks - 713-228-0914

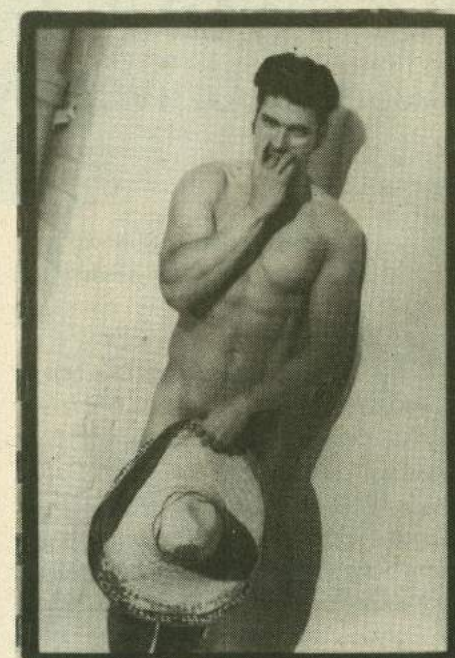
QUAC Mix-up Video

Sat., May 30, 8pm
DiverseWorks

Panel Discussion - A Houston Gay and Lesbian History
Sun., May 31, 7:15-8:30pm
DiverseWorks

Out of the Past
Fri., June 5, 7:30pm and Sun., June 7, 5pm
Museum of Fine Arts Houston - Brown Auditorium
Winner of the Audience Award at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival, this film explores how the construction of history informs both individual and national identity and makes a strong case for the importance of an inclusive version of the American past.

The Silver Screen/Color Me Lavender,
Fri., June 5, 8:45pm and Sat., June 6, 1pm
Museum of Fine Arts Houston - Brown Auditorium
Directed by Mark "Rock Hudson's Home Movies" Rappaport, this film is an exploration of the way Hollywood dealt with or ignored issues of homosexuality during its so-called "Golden Age."



Mike Ruiz stars as Carlos in *Latin Boys Go to Hell*.

American Cowboy
Sat. June 6, 9:15pm and Sun. June 7, 6:30pm
Museum of Fine Arts Houston - Brown Auditorium

Continued on next page

THE BEST
SEAT IN TOWN

"A gay 'Four Weddings and a Funeral'...
Hysterically funny and very smart."

Anita Gates, THE NEW YORK TIMES



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Continued on next page

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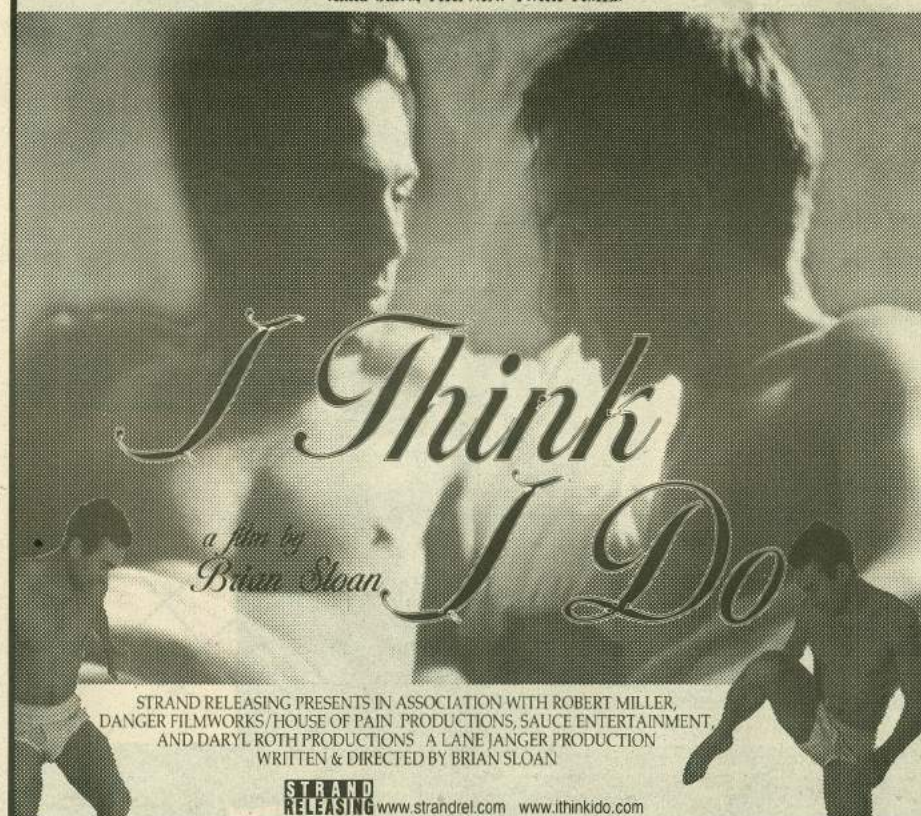
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Anita Gates, THE NEW YORK TIMES



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Continued from previous page

Directed by Austin filmmaker Kyle Henry, *American Cowboy* documents three months in the life of former lambada dancer and hand model Gene Mikulanka in his quest for rodeo stardom.

The director will attend the June 6 screening. Also Showing: **Horse Dreams in BBQ Country.**

Latin Boys Go to Hell

Sat. June 6, 9:15pm and Sun. June 7, 8pm
Museum of Fine Arts Houston - Brown Auditorium

Directed by Ela Troyano, this low-budget film was the Official Selection at both the Berlin and London Gay & Lesbian Film Festivals in 1997. Though it creates havoc with stereotypes of the Latin macho, whether gay or straight, ultimately it is a story of loss of innocence and first love.

I, The Worst of All

Fri. June 12, 9pm and Sat. June 13, 5pm
Rice Media Center - 713-527-4853

This film is described as "a magnificent portrayal of the 17th century Mexican poet Sister Juana Ines de la Cruz, one of the greatest poets of the Spanish language."

Female Closet

Fri. June 12, 7:30pm and Sun. June 14, 5pm
Rice Media Center

Directed and edited by "The Doyeene of Dyke Video" - Barbara Hammer. Documentary uses archival photographs, home movies, interviews, and other visual materials to explore the closeted lesbian histories of artists Alice Austen, Hannah Hoch, and Nicole Eastman.

Also Showing: *The Love Thang*, directed by Mari Keiko Gonzalez.

Peoria Babylon

Sat. June 13, 3pm
Rice Media Center

This zany Houston premiere was written and directed by Steven Diller and is presented, ironically enough, by Montrose Pictures.

Series of Shorts: Girl Talk

Sun. June 14, 5pm
Rice Media Center

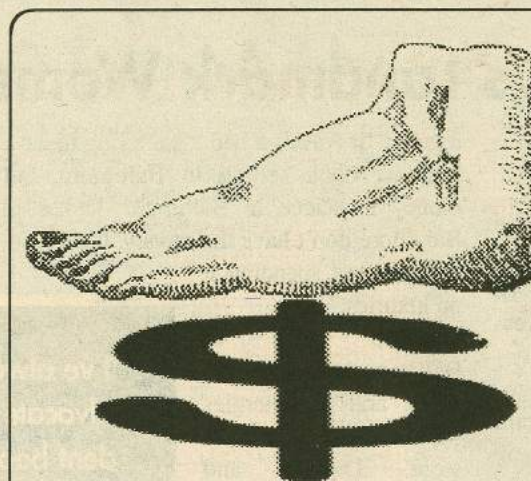
A series of vignettes that touch upon the rules which circumscribe lesbian relationships. Films include *Nancy's Nightmare* by Azain Nurudin; *Lesbian Impress Card* by Ingrid Whilhite; *Joystick Blues* by Lisa Ginsburg and Michalk Goralsky; *Ich and Frau Berger* by Heidi Kull; *You Can Open Your Eyes Now* by Arlene Sandler; *Dangerous When Wet* by Diane Bonder; *Fingered* by James Raymond; *Stafford's Story* by Susan Muska; *Malamut* by Heidi Kull; and *Just a Love Thang* by Mari Keiko Gonzalez.

Paul Monette: The Brink of Summer's End

Sun. June 14, 7:30pm
Rice Media Center

This Houston Premiere, written and directed by Monte Bramer is a provocative and personal biography of writer and gay rights activist Paul Monette, author of "Borrowed Time: An AIDS Memoir." The film won the Audience Award in the Documentary Competition at the 1997 Sundance Film Festival. Bramer will attend both screenings.

Also Showing: *The Cost of Love and Proust's Favorite Fantasy*, directed by Richard Kwietniowski (of *Love and Death*).



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Washington DC's Landmark Women's Bookstore Gets New Owners

By Andrea L.T. Peterson
Contributing Writer

In 1993 when Jane Troxell, Marjorie Darling, Rose Fennell, and Susan Fletcher bought Washington, D.C.'s landmark women's bookstore, the store's 20-year presence and value to the women's community - locally and nationally - entered a new stage.

Almost six years later, Lammas, again changing hands, is gearing up for the new millennium. "Three weeks after we bought the store," says Troxell, currently the sole owner of Lammas Women's Books and More, "we had the National March on Washington." Many Naiad authors and Naiad founders Barbara Grier and Donna McBride were at the store for a major book signing. "It was quite a beginning - bringing in \$90,000 in four days." In just nine months, she explains, Lammas's new owners realized a \$15,000 profit. They were on "a huge roll, with authors in the store [for readings and signings] all the time."

There was so much money floating around, the owners decided to buy the women's bookstore in Baltimore, bringing the Lammas tradition into that city. "It was a big mistake," says Troxell, though she has no

regrets. "It wasn't a bad idea, trying to save feminist book selling in Baltimore, but money is scarce in Baltimore. Dykes in Baltimore don't have the money. If they do, they are not spending it on luxuries."

The store in Baltimore closed in 1996, and all energies went back into the D.C. store. Darling and Fletcher, Troxell explains, were suburbanites who "hated the city." They had left Lammas and the D.C. area for Alaska. When Troxell and Fennell's eight year relationship ended in '95,

Troxell lost her partner and Lammas lost its book keeper/accountant - adding a major financial strain to the now-struggling store.

"Owning the store alone" did play a part in the decision to sell the store, and by January of this year, Troxell's mind had been made up. She would sell Lammas. "When you are behind the financial eight ball," she says, "there's not a lot you can do. It's so hard to be creative and do all that needs to be

done when the store is financially depleted." It's more of a "creativity" than a financial decision, she says. Aware that she will "miss the customers, the crazy things that go on here, and my staff," she says she "won't miss the long hours or the financial worries."

And, for Troxell, there is definitely life after Lammas. Having traveled a good bit these past few years to Mexico and Puerto Rico, she is looking forward to more travel. By January of next year she will be heading for Latin America - compliments

of the Peace Corps. "Memories," she says, from her time at Lammas, "are the precious gems I will take with me."

Nearly three years ago the future course of Lammas was being cosmically arranged. When Denise Bump first came to Washington from Santa Fe, New Mexico, she became involved first as a volunteer, then more recently as a part time employee of Lammas. "I've always been an advocate

of independent bookstores," says Bump. A "believer in independent stores in general," Bump also believes strongly in "small community minded business ownership."

Bump, part of a very business oriented family, went to college aspiring to take the business world by storm, eventually as CEO of a company. Early on she realized that she "did not have the consciousness to be in the corporate world." She found her "niche in the liberal service oriented path." Lammas, the kind of small, community minded business with the kind of energy not found in larger chains, is "perfect," she says, "for my business mind and liberal heart to work together."

A special education teacher in Washington, D.C.'s school system for the past three years - and in New Mexico before that, she is looking forward to channeling her energies and applying her skill in a new area - business. She was "one of the first people" Troxell told about the decision to sell Lammas, and Bump was interested from the start. She began to canvas the community for investors. One of the store's customers, Sylvia Colon, proved to be just what the future Lammas needed. Colon had first come into the store months earlier—the first time

"I've always been an advocate of independent bookstores". A "believer in independent stores in general."

Denise Bump, new owner of Lammas



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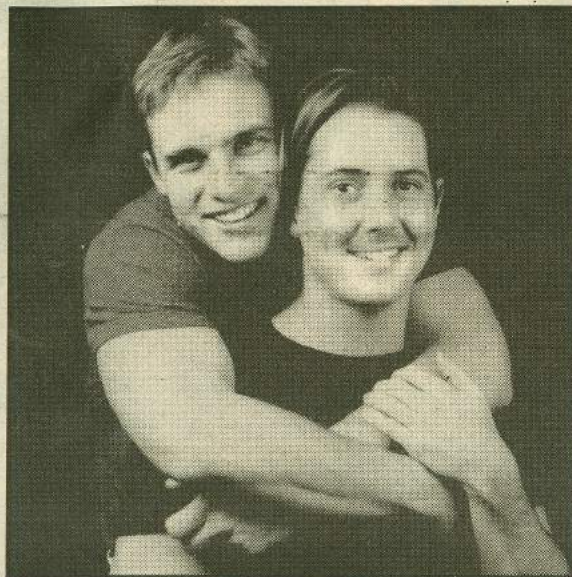
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she could get there when the store was still open. She bought hundreds of dollars worth of books and Troxell, amazed, sent her a thank you note.

The following Sunday Colon returned, again buying arms full of books. And again, Troxell sent a thank you note. Gradually Colon became more involved in the store, bringing office supplies and offering to copy the store's newsletter. "She's a warm, gracious, funny, shy" person, says Troxell. Long story short: Colon will be Bump's sole investor. And the good news is she's willing and able to invest not just financial support, but also time and energy. She'll do the store's books and manage its Internet website.

And Troxell couldn't be happier. Of the new team, she says, "they have the right intentions, the right energy - the physical and emotional energy to carry their dreams out." According to Bump, there immediate dreams are realistic and manageable: "network with community organizations, invite more local artists to showcase their work in the store, increase the inventory, and plan more diverse events for our diverse community."

"Owning a business in the Washington women's community is something I've wanted to do for a long time," says Bump, "and taking ownership of Lammas is a nat-

ural progression on my journey." Her past experience in the store has given her a good understanding of what it takes to run a business like Lammas. Hence, she will be the "front runner," handling the day to day operations, while Colon maintains the books and the store's website.

"Transitions are never easy," says Bump, "and they take energy to get through. Fortunately I have found support from friends, the community, and a good book help tremendously." And while Troxell expresses her gratitude for all of the community support the past years, Bump "is looking forward to having that same support."

New plans for Lammas include the Tuesday night movie night, discussion groups, and eventually, an exclusive lesbian dating service. Among the specific upcoming events is a Kate Clinton reading/signing and a Leslea Newman reading/signing in June. Starhawk is scheduled for August, and August is a big month for Lammas. The second is the store's silver anniversary. Bump says much is being planned to commemorate and celebrate the big 25th year event.

"The community will be well pleased with what's going on," says Troxell. Bump and Colon and Lammas are, she says, "a good match."

PBS' "In The Life" Assists Tijuana AIDS Organization

ACOSIDA (Alliance Against AIDS), a Tijuana-based clinic that treats people with AIDS, reports that it has received over five dozen inquiries from those wanting to help the organization due to a recent "In the Life" story shown nationally on public television in the U.S.

The vital work of ACOSIDA was featured on the February 1998 edition of "In the Life," America's lesbian/gay television series shown on PBS.

ACOSIDA provides homecare, education, and medicine to AIDS patients in Tijuana. It stocks more than 500 different medications including reverse transcriptase inhibitors, protease inhibitors, and the most modern antibiotics - all donated from friends

and relatives of persons with AIDS.

The recent "In the Life" story has generated more than 70 calls from people in the U.S. wanting to donate drugs and assistance to ACOSIDA, including one man pledging to provide 2000 AZT pills. These drugs are sent by family members of people who have died of AIDS, or by people whose prescriptions have changed.

It is illegal to pass these drugs on to others in the United States. ACOSIDA puts the drugs to use in Tijuana where the drugs are too expensive for the patients.

For more information about ACOSIDA you can call (in the U.S.) 619-697-9440 or contact them via e-mail at Fredscholl@compuserve.com

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June 5 - June 7

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Saturday, June 6, 1pm

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Friday, June 5, 8:45pm

Saturday, June 6, 2:15pm

American Cowboy

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Sunday, June 7, 5pm

Latin Boys Go to Hell

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SPRING '98



JUNE 4, 1998 • THE TEXAS TRIANGLE • 46

Theatre Workshop Announces Auditions for Shores' 'Sordid Lives'

HOUSTON - The Group (Theatre Workshop), the company that produced last fall's highly successful comedy, "End of the World Party," will be holding open auditions for Del Shores' "Sordid Lives."

This is the fourth comedy of small-town Texas life by Del Shores, who is perhaps best known for his award-winning comedy "Daddy's Dyin' Who's Got the Will?" "Sordid Lives" ran for over a year in Los Angeles to sold-out houses. It was nominated for over 30 local theater awards, which included 14 wins from Drama-logic.

Director Joe Watts is looking for a cast of eleven, comprised of 6 females (aged 30-55) and five males (aged 25-55). One female role requires singing and playing guitar, and one male role is that of a transvestite. 'Good' Texas accents are a plus. Reading will be from the script and actors will be compensated.

Auditions for "Sordid Lives" will be held Saturday and Sunday, June 13 -

14, from 2-5pm at The Actors Workshop, 1009 Chartres (behind George R. Brown Convention Center), where the play opens for a seven week run on July 31, 1998.

The theme of unconditional love, acceptance, and "coming out," along with the wicked comedy, hit a nerve with LA's traditional mainstream audience as well as the gay community (GLAAD nominated "Sordid Lives" for Best Play). The *Los Angeles Times* said of "Sordid Lives": "...unequivocally hilarious, a riotous, gut-busting romp that plumbs the Texas-size peculiarities of its magnificently offbeat characters with piercing wit and great good humor."

"Sordid Lives" ran last year at Circle Theatre in Fort Worth, home to Shores and the Southern Baptists, and broke all house records. It was voted "Best Play of the Year" by the *Fort Worth Weekly*.

For more information call Joe Watts at 713-522-2204.

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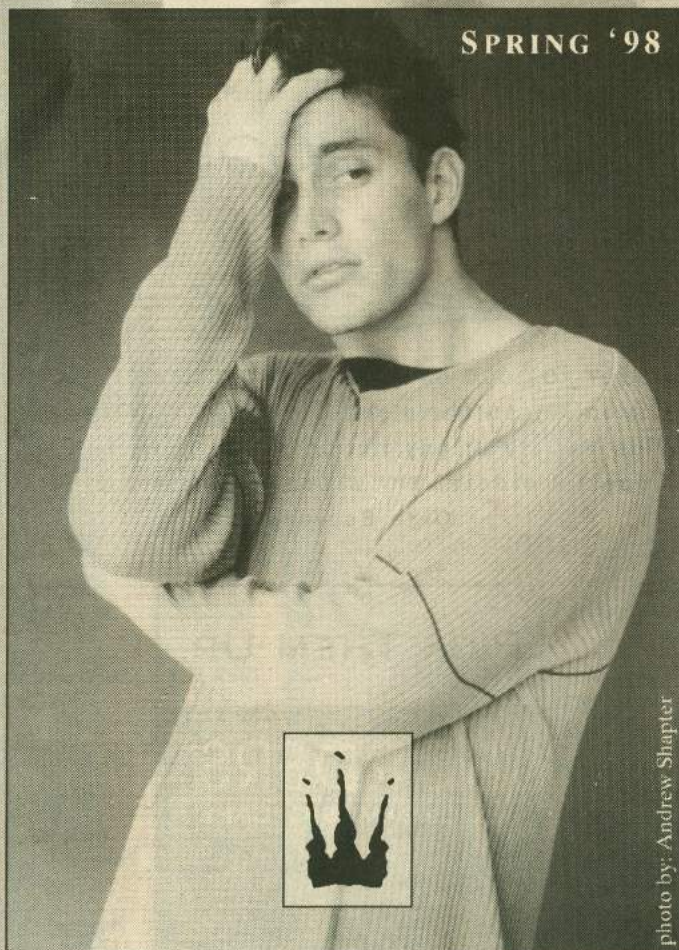


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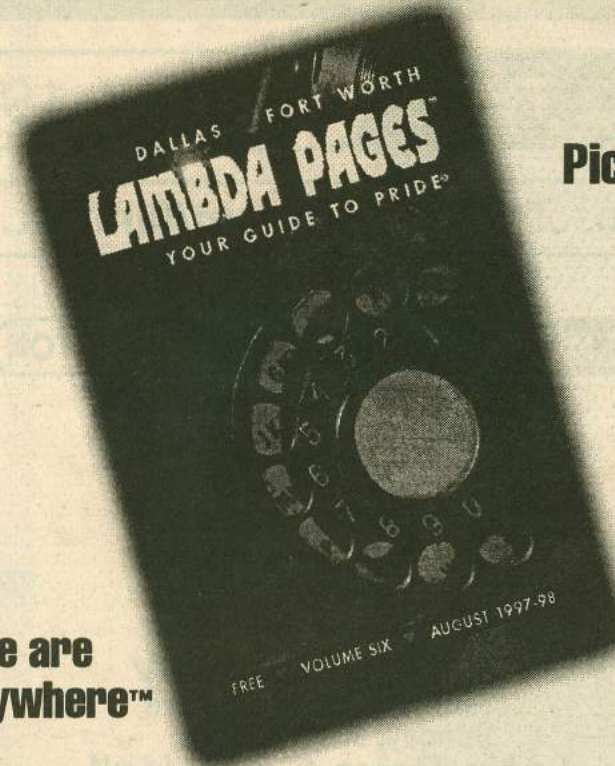
Auditions for "Sordid Lives" will be held Saturday and Sunday, June 13 -

of its magnificently offbeat characters with piercing wit and great good humor."

"Sordid Lives" ran last year at Circle Theatre in Fort Worth, home to Shores and the Southern Baptists, and broke all house records. It was voted "Best Play of the Year" by the *Fort Worth Weekly*.

For more information call Joe Watts at 713-522-2204.

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AUSTIN

ART

American Masters: Sculpture from Brookgreen Gardens- America's foremost traditional and figurative sculptors of the last 150 years and their landmark works. June 12- August 16 on the First Floor of the Blanton Museum, 23rd & San Jacinto.

PERFORMANCE

The Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas announces its **3rd annual Statewide Gay Pride Festival** on June 7 at Fiesta Gardens, noon-7pm. Featuring Trish Murphy, Terri Hendrix, Quatropaw, 10" Maria, Sheri Frushay, Miss Xanna Don't & the Wanted, Handful, Capitol City Men's Chorus, Austin Baptist Women and many more!

The Turtle Creek Chorale and The Women's Chorus of Dallas will perform a benefit concert at the University Baptist Church, 2200 San Antonio St. on Sun, June 7 at 3pm. 512-478-5889.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Project Transitions announces its **third annual "Texas Swing" Fundraiser-** an evening in celebration and support of individuals and families living with AIDS. Fri, June 5, 8pm-12:30am, Saegerrunde Hall & Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto. Live music by Alvin Crow, dancing, dance lessons, cash bar for beer, wine, and liquor set-ups, silent and live auction and BBQ. Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. 454-8646.

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TEXAS

JUNE 4 THROUGH JUNE 14

Out Youth Austin, in conjunction with Pride Weekend, will host "Hollywood Stars," the **8th Annual Alternative Prom and Variety Show Gayla**. Variety Show begins at 7pm and the Prom takes place 9pm to midnight. 512-708-1234.

The **10th Annual Mostly Music Marathon and Almost Anything Silent Auction**, benefiting AIDS Services of Austin, will take place on Sat, June 6, noon until midnight at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover. 512-452-6168.

In the Life will air its gay pride special, **American as Apple Pie** on Sun, June 7 at 9:30pm on KLRU Too Channel 20.

DALLAS

THEATRE

Cara Mia Theatre Co. and Soul Rep Theatre Co. present **Ambient Love Rites**, the second installation of their Cafe/Negro Arts Series. June 2-6 & 11-13 at the Ice House Gallery. 972-386-

MUSIC

The Dallas Symphony presents the **sixth annual free African-American Festival Concert** on Fri, June 5 at 8pm in the Meyerson Symphony Center. 214-692-0203.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Positive and Personal invites you to join us for our **Annual "Beach Party"** held at The Brick Bar, 4117 Maple Avenue at Throckmorton, 8pm-midnight on Tue, June 2. All HIV+ positive couples and individuals are invited to attend. Great people and great music by DJ Chet Green. Don't Forget to Wear Green!

DFW Gay & Lesbian Rollerskating Club- have a good time meeting other gays and lesbians, meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month, 8:30-10:30pm at The Forum Roller World, corner of Pioneer and Great Southwest Pkwy. \$4 at the door. Next meeting June 10. Call 214-836-7362 for more information.

for the collection. Through August 16. 3501 Camp Bowie Blvd.

PERFORMANCE

Sordid Lives, the scandalously funny R-rated comedy returns to **Circle Theatre** for a limited engagement fundraiser event on Sat, June 6 at 8pm. Buckets of beer, tumblers of tea and spicy "Texas caviar" will kick off the evening. Performance begins at 8:30 followed by an after-theatre dessert buffet. 817-877-3040. Runs through June 28.

Fort Worth Men's Chorus celebrates its **Fifth Anniversary Concert** on June 6 at 7:30pm in Ed Landreth Auditorium on the TCU Campus. General admission tickets are \$10; reserved seating is \$20. 817-731-0122.

HOUSTON

PERFORMANCE

Benefit preview performance of **Fit to be Tied**, a critically acclaimed off-Broadway comedy by Nicky Silver on June 4 at Stages Repertory Theatre, 3201 Allen Parkway. 713-52-STAGES for \$20 tickets. Benefits the Caucus PAC Campaign War Chest, LGRL of Texas and NGLTF.

Young stars of the international opera world will apply their talent to a **benefit performance for Omega House**, a residential AIDS hospice on Sun, June 7 at 7:30pm- **An Evening of Art Songs and Arias** will bring the musical and visual arts together at The Menil Collection art museum, 1515 Sul Ross. 713-523-7110.

The Turtle Creek Chorale and The Women's Chorus of Dallas will perform a benefit concert at the University Baptist Church, 2200 San Antonio St. on Sun, June 7 at 3pm. 512-478-5889.

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WOW- Women Out in the Wilderness will be going to Schlitterbaun on June 6. Also, a trip to go tubing in San Marcus is in the making. Call Karen at 451-6329 for date and time.

The 10th Annual Mostly Music Marathon and Almost Anything Silent Auction, benefiting AIDS Services of Austin, will take place on Sat, June 6, noon until midnight at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover. 512-452-6168.

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DALLAS

THEATRE

Cara Mia Theatre Co. and Soul Rep Theatre Co. present **Ambient Love Rites**, the second installation of their Cafe/Negro Arts Series. June 2-6 & 11-13 at the Ice House Gallery. 972-386-9198.

Plano Repertory Theatre will present a special **one week engagement** of A.R. Gurney's play **Love Letters**, June 11-14. 972-422-7460.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Positive and Personal invites you to join us for our **Annual "Beach Party"** held at The Brick Bar, 4117 Maple Avenue at Throckmorton, 8pm-midnight on Tue, June 2. All HIV+ positive couples and individuals are invited to attend. Great people and great music by DJ Chet Green. Don't Forget to Wear Green!

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FORT WORTH

ART

New Harmonies: Masterpieces Across the Collection at the Amon Carter featuring a combination of paintings, sculptures, prints and photographs

HOUSTON

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Main Street Theater presents **Hay Fever** by Noel Coward at Chelsea Market, June 11- July 19. 713-524-6706.

Mark Dandy Dance & Theater at DiverseWorks- Bessie winner Mark

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Dandy as the mad half and Lawrence Keigwin as the virtuoso in a sexually charged duet for the 2 Nijinskys. June 10-13. 713-228-0914.

FILM

The 1998 Houston Gay & Lesbian Film Festival will run through June 14. Call the 24-hour hotline to listen to a recording greeting with the film schedule or dial the number from a fax machine to receive a fax with the program schedule. 713-914-5037. If you would like to volunteer for the festival, call 713-789-5304.

Wilde, the biographical tale of the playwright Oscar Wilde during his period of self-discovery will open at the Greenway Theatre on Fri, June 5. 713-626-0402.

Rice Media Center has announced that the director **Monte Bramer** will be attending both screenings of his film **Paul Monette: Brink of Summer's End** on June 13th & 14th at 7:30pm at Rice Media Center located at Rice University, Entrance #8, off University Blvd. A reception for the director will be

held at Boulevard Bistro, 4319 Montrose on June 14, 4-6pm prior to the 7:30pm screening.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride-1998 Kick-Off Party on June 12 at 8pm. FREE. **Pride Jamboree** at Memorial Park on June 13, 10am-6pm. FREE. 713-529-6979.

Houston Outdoor Group will take a **Guadalupe Rafting Trip**, June 5-7. Call 713-529-6661 for information.

Galmiche Full Service Salon announces it's "**Salon-a-thon**" on Mon, June 8 to benefit the new **Body Positive Houston Wellness Center**, a community-based, non-profit program open to all HIV positive individuals regardless of financial status. 3910 Kirby Drive, suite 101B.

SAN ANTONIO

PERFORMANCE

Los Pregoneros Del Puerto is the first of the Sonidos Del Sur: Festival of Mexican and Mexican-American Music

concert series at the San Antonio Museum of Art. Part of the Art Among Us/Arte Entre Nosotros Performance Series. Sun, June 7, 2pm. Free with Museum admission.

Lesbian comedian **Marga Gomez** will appear at the San Antonio Rivercenter Comedy Club during the **Latino Laugh Festival** June 11-14. Marga's performance "It's Who You Know" will be on Sat, June 13 in Act One-Scene Too at 8pm at the Empire Theatre. 210-229-1420.

ADVOCACY/ SUPPORT

HIV Testing & Counseling at the Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 3126 N. St. Mary's on Sun, June 14, 1:30-2:30pm.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

The Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Alamo Empire will hold a "**Tales of the City**" **Premiere Party** to benefit the San Antonio Aids Foundation on June 4 at 7pm at the San Antonio Library, 600 Soledad. **June 7- Pink Ribbon Campaign Show**, 10pm at Petticoat

Junction. **June 13- Pride Picnic** at Travis Park, look for their dunking booth.

SEND INFORMATION ABOUT EVENTS OR
HAPPENINGS TO:

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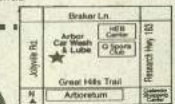


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This Directory is published as a service to our community. If you would like to list your group or organization, please fax information to JULIE @ 512-472-8154.

Deadline for submissions is Friday before publication.

A Directory of Gay & Lesbian Organizations

AUSTIN

Advocacy & Politics

Ad Hoc (Alliance to Defeat Human Oppression & Condemnation). 512-793-2049.

Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus. 512-474-0750.

Lesbian Avengers. 512-918-3084.

Log Cabin Republicans of Texas. 512-467-9797.

Texas Human Rights Foundation. 512-479-THRF.

THRF AIDS Legal Resource Project Hotline (statewide, bilingual). 800-828-6417.

University Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bi Concerns 512-708-0943.

Business

Austin Gay/Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. 512-472-8299.

Choral Groups

Capital City Men's Chorus. 512-477-SING.

Services & Support

AIDS Services of Austin, 825 E. 53 1/2. 512-458-AIDS.

ASA HIV-Negative Support Group (for gay & bisexual men). 512-406-6106.

ALLGO/Informe SIDA. 512-472-2001.

Bisexual Women's Support Group. 512-370-9573.

City of Austin Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinic. 512-469-2075.

Cornerstone Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1117 Red River. 512-708-1515.

HIV Wellness Center, 4301 N. IH 35. 512-467-0088.

Out Youth Austin 1117 Red River. 512-708-1234.

PFLAG - Austin. 512-302-FLAG.

Project Transitions. 512-454-8646.

Waterloo Counseling Center. 1524 S. IH 35, Ste 218. 512-444-9922.

Social Groups

Adventuring Outdoors. 512-344-2114.

Austin Gay & Lesbian Pasta Society.

Monthly dinners. 512-445-5304.

Bisexual Network of Austin. 512-370-9573.

Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Reading Group. 512-708-8119.

Girls' Night Out (social/dance) 512-339-0748

Heart of Texas Bears. 512-344-2114.

National Leather Assn., Austin. 512-703-8927.

Prime Timers Austin (middle aged & older gay & bisexual men). 512-282-2861.

SapphFire (Bringing the Lesbian Community Together.) 512-323-2476.

Single Austin Lesbian Social Alliance. (SALSA!) 512-837-5807.

The Tribe (social/networking group for

Leadership Forum. 214-521-4765 or 972-326-7960.

Business

Dallas Tavern Guild. 214-521-0638.

Women's Business Network. 214-712-8976.

Stonewall Professional & Business Assn. 214-526-6216.

Choral Groups

Positive Voices (Christian & HIV-positive). 214-351-1901 x 202.

Turtle Creek Chorale. 214-526-3214.

The Women's Chorus of Dallas. 214-520-7828.

Media

Metro Gay Media. 214-824-3544

Sin Fronteras. 214-826-8869.

Musical Groups

Oak Lawn Band. 972-497-1458.

Professional Organizations

GLEAM (American Airlines employees). 214-521-5342 x 812.

Gay & Lesbian Employees at EDS. 214-447-0941 or 972-521-5475.

GLOBE (government employees). 972-907-9152.

LEGEND (for people working @ Texas Instruments). 214-343-3084 (legend@ti.com).

North Texas Assn. of Physicians for Human Rights. 972-233-3100.

Religion & Spirituality

Bethany Presbyterian Church 4523 Cedar Springs Rd. 214-528-4087.

Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs. 214-351-1901.

Services & Support

AIDS Resource Center Hotline. 214-559-AIDS.

CallOut Teen Infoline. 214-520-7433.

Circle of Light (empowerment group). 214-942-3062.

Dallas Gay & Lesbian Alliance, 2701 Reagan. 214-528-4233.

Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 2701 Reagan. 214-528-9254.

Hope Counseling Center. 214-351-5657.

HIV/AIDS Group for African-Americans. 214-371-1900.

Lambda Group of Alcoholics

Anonymous. 214-522-6259.

Lambda Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous. 214-241-5442.

Lesbian Health Initiative, YWCA of Metropolitan Dallas. 214-821-9595 x 2324.

Lesbian Resource Center. 214-821-3999.

Life Tree Counseling Center. 214-386-5433.

The Men's Gathering (African-American men). 214-521-5342 x 876.

The NAMES Project Dallas (AIDS Memorial Quilt). 214-520-SEWS.

Nelson-Tebedo Community Clinic, 4012 Cedar Springs. 214-528-2336.

Oak Lawn Community Services, 4300 MacArthur. 214-520-8108.

PFLAG - Dallas. 214-348-1704.

Peer Support & Empowerment for HIV-Positive Women. 214-559-4899.

Straight Spouses. 214-521-5342 x 234.

Sprouts (support for women questioning their sexuality). 214-521-5342 x 256.

Social Groups

African-American Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Coalition. 214-521-5342 x 226.

Club Francaise Gai de Dallas, 214-660-

2049.
Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus.
512-474-0750.
Lesbian Avengers. 512-918-3084.
Log Cabin Republicans of Texas. 512-467-9797.
Texas Human Rights Foundation. 512-479-THRF.
THRF AIDS Legal Resource Project
Hotline (statewide, bilingual). 800-828-6417.
University Alliance for Gay, Lesbian, Bi
Concerns 512-708-0943.

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Austin Gay/Lesbian Chamber of
Commerce. 512-472-8299.

Choral Groups

Capital City Men's Chorus. 512-477-
SING.
Tapestry Singers - Women 512-836-1500.

Professional Organizations

Gay, Lesbian & Straight Educators
Network. (GLSEN) 512-323-2329.

Religion & Spirituality

Affirmation (Methodist). 512-451-2329.
All Saints Holy Catholic Church (gay-
affirming), 4301 N. I-H 35. 512-280-
9151.
Integrity Austin (Episcopalian). 512-445-
6164 or 447-4779 (v/tdd).
The Kingdom Seekers in Christ Jesus
1811 S. Congress. 512-443-5940.
Lutherans Concerned of Austin & Central
Texas. 3001 Whitis. 512-832-4159.
Metropolitan Community Church of
Austin, 1117 Red River. 512-708-8002.
Open Circle at University Baptist Church
(gay-affirming), 2130 Guadalupe. 478-
8559.
Unity Church of Positive Prayer, 9603
Dessau. 512-836-6372.
University Catholic Center Gay Men's
Group. 512-476-7351.

Social Groups

Adventuring Outdoors. 512-344-2114.
Austin Gay & Lesbian Pasta Society.
Monthly dinners. 512-445-5304.
Bisexual Network of Austin. 512-370-
9573.
Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Reading Group.
512-708-8119.
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0748
Heart of Texas Bears. 512-344-2114.
National Leather Assn., Austin. 512-703-
8927.
Prime Timers Austin (middle aged &
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SapphFire (Bringing the Lesbian
Community Together.) 512-323-2476.
Single Austin Lesbian Social Alliance.
(SALSA!) 512-837-5807.
The Tribe (social/networking group for
gay men). 512-434-3280.
Women Out in the Wilderness. (outdoor
adventure group) 512-477-6002.

Sports & Fitness

Austin Frontrunners (running & walking
group). 512-473-8334.
Austin Gamblers Bowling League. 512-
719-4737.
Team Austin (Gay Games - Amsterdam
1998). 512-453-8878.
Texas Gay Rodeo Assn. 512-833-0747.

DALLAS

Advocacy & Politics
Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance. 2701
Reagan, 214-528-4233.
Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against
Defamation. 214-521-5342 x 816.
Human Rights Campaign Federal Club,
Dallas Chapter. 972-699-5889.
Lesbian/Gay Democrats of Texas. 214-
521-5342 x 229.
Lesbian & Gay Political Coalition. 214-
357-1660.
Log Cabin Republicans. 214-877-4154.
National Black Gay & Lesbian

Musical Groups

Oak Lawn Band. 972-497-1458.

Professional Organizations

GLEAM (American Airlines employees).
214-521-5342 x 812.
Gay & Lesbian Employees at EDS. 214-
447-0941 or 972-521-5475.
GLOBE (government employees). 972-
907-9152.
LEGEND (for people working @ Texas
Instruments). 214-343-3084
(legend@ti.com).
North Texas Assn. of Physicians for
Human Rights. 972-233-3100.

Religion & Spirituality

Bethany Presbyterian Church 4523 Cedar
Springs Rd. 214-528-4087.
Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs.
214-351-1901.
Congregation Beth El Binah (Jewish).
972-497-1591.
Dallas Affirmation (Methodist). 214-528-
4913.
Dallas North Unitarian Church. 972-867-
6510.
Dignity/Dallas (Catholic). 214-521-5342
x 832.
First Unitarian Church of Dallas. 214-
528-3990.
Gay & Lesbian Affirming Disciples
(Disciples of Christ). 214-946-2184.
Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus. 214-
528-2811.
Honesty-Texas (Baptist). 214-521-5342 x
233.
Integrity (Episcopalian). 214-521-5342 x
242.
Metropolitan Community Church-Oak
Cliff, 214-941-5769
St. Mary Holy Theotokos Orthodox
Catholic Church. 214-943-8601.
Seventh Day Adventists Kinship. 972-
413-1358.
White Rock Community Church. 214-
320-0043.

Lesbian Resource Center. 214-821-3999.
Life Tree Counseling Center. 214-386-
5433.

The Men's Gathering (African-American
men). 214-521-5342 x 876.
The NAMES Project Dallas (AIDS
Memorial Quilt). 214-520-SEWS.
Nelson-Tebedo Community Clinic, 4012
Cedar Springs. 214-528-2336.
Oak Lawn Community Services, 4300
MacArthur. 214-520-8108.
PFLAG - Dallas. 214-348-1704.
Peer Support & Empowerment for HIV-
Positive Women. 214-559-4899.
Straight Spouses. 214-521-5342 x 234.
Sprouts (support for women questioning
their sexuality). 214-521-5342 x 256.

Social Groups

African-American Lesbian, Gay &
Bisexual Coalition. 214-521-5342 x 226.
Club Francaise Gai de Dallas, 214-660-
0100
Couples/Metro Dallas (committed
gay/lesbian couples). 214-521-5342 x
464.
Dallas Gay Deutschklub. 214-324-8085.
Dragonflies (gay Asian men). 214-521-
5342 x 852.
Flying "W" of Dallas, Inc., 214-265-7149
Gay & Lesbian Parents Coalition
International-DFW, 214-521-5342x808
Gay & Lesbian Singles. 214-328-6749.
Leadership Lambda Toastmasters, 214-
712-6430
Lesbian Visionaries. 214-521-5342 x 844.
Men of All Colors Together. 214-521-
4765.
The Metroplex Crossdressers Club. 214-
264-7103.
Out Youth Dallas (gays & lesbians, age
18-24), 214-521-5342 x 260.
Prime Timers (older gay men & their
admirers). 972-504-8866.
Rainbow Garden Club of North Texas.
214-358-0323.
Rice University Gay & Lesbian Alumni
Assn. 214-942-9537.
SMU Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Student



Organization. 214-768-4792.

Ujima (lesbian, gay & bisexual African-Americans). 214-521-5342 x 828.

Umoja Hermanas (lesbian & bisexual women of color). 214-943-8750.

Sports & Fitness

Cheer Dallas. 214-922-9229.

Dallas Frontrunners. 972-774-6440.

Dallas Independent Volleyball Assn. 214-521-5342 x 804.

Different Strokes Golf Association, 214-521-5342x466.

Gay & Lesbian Swim Club. 214-821-1653.

A League of Our Own (bowling). 214-871-9044.

North Texas Women's Sports Assn. 972-441-3494.

Oak Lawn Soccer Club. 214-942-9537.

Pegasus Softball Association. 214-358-6002.

Team Dallas. 214-521-5342 x 800.

Texas Gay Rodeo Assn., Dallas. 214-526-1115.

Trinity River Aquatic Club. 214-821-1653.

FORT WORTH

Advocacy & Politics

Fairness Coalition, 817-763-5544.

P-FLAG, 817-498-5607 or 498-4855.

Business

Tarrant County Lesbian/Gay Alliance, 817-763-5544.

Choral Groups

Fort Worth Men's Chorus, 817-731-0122.

Religion & Spirituality

AIDS Interfaith Network 817-927-2437

Homeless, 817-870-1937.

Tarrant County NAMES Project, 817-33-NAMES.

Tarrant County Public Health Dept. AIDS Helpline, 817-871-7346.

Social Groups

First Friday Fort Worth (lesbian social networking), 817-485-0134.

Gay/Lesbian Youth, 817-338-4551.

Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Arlington, 817-261-3558.

Leadership Forum, 817-763-5544.

Second Saturday Social (for men), 817-795-1376.

Tarrant County Gay Parents, 817-656-8056.

UT Arlington Gay/Lesbian Association, 817-794-5140.

Women of Vision, 817-370-7473.

Sports & Fitness

Lone Star Bowling League, 817-695-4849.

Longhorn Bowling Association, 817-624-2151.

Texas Doubles Bowling, 817-477-1832.

Texas Gay Rodeo Association, 817-496-1333.

HOUSTON

Advocacy & Politics

Houston Area National Organization for Women. 713-665-8669.

Log Cabin Republicans - Houston. 713-529-9100.

Business

Greater Houston Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, 1109 Hyde Park, #178. 713-523-7576.

Houston Professional Men's Assn. 713-

Franciscan Ministry), 1509 Fairview. 713-522-8182.

Lutherans Concerned (@ Grace Lutheran). 713-869-4218.

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, 1919 Decatur. 713-861-9149.

Mishpachat Alizim (Jewish), 713-748-7079

Services & Support

AIDS Foundation Houston. 713-623-6796. Hotline: 713-524-AIDS.

Family Hospice Houston 701 N. Post Oak, #450. 713-290-1746.

The Hollyfield Foundation 713-523-6900. Houston Area Women's Center, 1010 Waugh. 713-528-6798. Hotline: 528-2121.

Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center. 713-867-7904.

Montrose Counseling Center, 701

Richmond. 713-529-0037.

The Names Project Houston (AIDS Memorial Quilt). 713-52-NAMES.

Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. Houston. 713-867-9020.

People With AIDS Coalition, Houston. 3400 Montrose, #106. 713-522-5428.

River Oaks Health Assn. (housing & support for HIV+ people), 1414 W. Clay. 713-528-0145.

Survivors of Loss. Tuesdays, 7 P.M. @ Sharpstown General Hospital. 713-778-2677.

U.S. Mission (a homeless shelter), 810 Branard. 713-942-0355.

Social Groups

African American Lesbian & Gay Alliance. 713-523-5950.

Garden & Yard Society (gay/lesbian gar-

713-768-8793.

Houston Outdoor Group. 713-526-7688.

Houston Women's Flag Football League. 713-315-9368.

Lambda Rollerskating Club. 713-933-5818.

Montrose Ice Picks. 713-522-3687.

Rainbow Fishing Club. 713-523-6381.

SAN ANTONIO

Advocacy & Politics

Log Cabin Republicans, 210-828-8899. (cyclist@earthlink.net)

Business

Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. 3126 N. St. Mary's St. #4

Choral Groups

Alamo City Men's Chorale, 210-495-7464.

Religion & Spirituality

Aquarian Truth Center of Light, 210-690-2349.

Dignity (Catholic), 210-558-3287.

Metropolitan Community Church, 210-734-0048.

St. Sergios & St. Bacchos Orthodox Mission, 210-697-3264.

Services & Support

AIDS Resource Center, 210-222-2437.

Collaborative AIDS Services of San Antonio (CASSA):

University Health Systems-Facts Clinic- 210-358-3710,

Wellness Connection Inc.- 210-732-3111,

University of Texas Health Science Center Dept. of Psychiatry- 210-567-4666.

Gay & Lesbian Community of San

Pegasus Softball Association, 214-358-6002.
Team Dallas, 214-521-5342 x 800.
Texas Gay Rodeo Assn., Dallas, 214-526-1115.
Trinity River Aquatic Club, 214-821-1653.

FORT WORTH

Advocacy & Politics
Fairness Coalition, 817-763-5544.
P-FLAG, 817-498-5607 or 498-4855.

Business

Tarrant County Lesbian/Gay Alliance,
817-763-5544.

Choral Groups

Fort Worth Men's Chorus, 817-731-0122.

Religion & Spirituality

AIDS Interfaith Network, 817-927-2437.
Affirmation (Methodist), 817-656-8056.
Agape MCC, 817-535-5002.
Aquarian Center of Light, 817-370-0178.
Celebration Community Church, 817-695-1792.
Dignity (Catholic), 817-283-8588.
Evangelicals Concerned, 817-472-9008.
Fellowship of Love Outreach, 817-921-LOVE.
First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist
Church L/G/Bi Concern Group, 817-451-1505.
Honesty (Baptist), 817-923-8487.
Lutherans Concerned, 817-924-3966.

Services & Support

AIDS Outreach Center - (817) 335-1994
Incest Survivor Support Group, 817-335-4330.
Lambda AA, 817-921-2871.
Lambda Group Co-Dependents
Anonymous, 817-370-7473.
Pediatric & Family HIV/AIDS Project,
817-536-1160.
Positive Action Coalition of Texas (free
legal referrals), 817-921-6054.
Samaritan Housing Center for HIV+

Sports & Fitness

Lone Star Bowling League, 817-695-4849.
Longhorn Bowling Association, 817-624-2151.
Texas Doubles Bowling, 817-477-1832.
Texas Gay Rodeo Association, 817-496-1333.

HOUSTON

Advocacy & Politics
Houston Area National Organization for
Women, 713-665-8669.
Log Cabin Republicans - Houston, 713-529-9100.

Business

Greater Houston Gay & Lesbian Chamber
of Commerce, 1109 Hyde Park, #178.
713-523-7576.
Houston Professional Men's Assn. 713-869-4543.
LiB - A Women's Empowerment Group.
713-529-0077.

Choral Groups

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. New
members welcome. 713-521-SING.
Heartsong Women's Chorus. 713-947-1488.

Professional Organizations

AWARE, Southwestern Bell Employees
Group for Lesbians & Gays. 713-239-7929.
National Gay & Lesbian Journalists Assn.
713-528-1793.

Religion & Spirituality

Bering Memorial United Methodist
Church, 713-526-1017.
Covenant Baptist Church, 713-668-8830.
Dignity (Catholic), 713-880-2872.
First Unitarian Universalist Church, 5200
Fannin, 713-526-5200.
Integrity Houston (gay & lesbian
Episcopalians), 713-528-6771.
Kolbe Project (a Catholic Reconciling

Center, 713-867-7904.
Montrose Counseling Center, 701
Richmond, 713-529-0037.
The Names Project Houston (AIDS
Memorial Quilt), 713-52-NAMES.
Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians
& Gays, Houston, 713-867-9020.
People With AIDS Coalition, Houston.
3400 Montrose, #106, 713-522-5428.
River Oaks Health Assn. (housing & sup-
port for HIV+ people), 1414 W. Clay.
713-528-0145.
Survivors of Loss, Tuesdays, 7 P.M. @
Sharpstown General Hospital, 713-778-2677.
U.S. Mission (a homeless shelter), 810
Branard, 713-942-0355.

Social Groups

African American Lesbian & Gay
Alliance, 713-523-5950.
Garden & Yard Society (gay/lesbian gar-
dening club), 713-862-3922.
Gay & Lesbian Hispanics Unidos, 713-813-3769.
Houston Area Teenagers Coalition of
Homosexuals, 713-942-7002.
Houston Gay & Lesbian Parents. Child
care provided, 713-284-4939.
Just For Us (a group for kids grades 6-12
who have gay or lesbian parents, spon-
sored by HGLP), 713-284-4939.
National Leather Assn., Houston, 713-861-2598.
Prime Timers Houston, 713-867-3903.
Roundtable, the Houston Philosophy
Forum, 713-779-8620.
Sisters (social/support group for African-
American lesbians & friends), 713-801-4254.
Streetwise Houston (HIV+ youth, age 13-
21), 202 Tuam, 713-524-5757.
Twenty Something (gays & lesbians in
their 20s), 713-315-6786.

Sports & Fitness

Front Runners (running group), 713-522-8021.
Houston Chain Gang Bicycling Club.

7464.

Religion & Spirituality

Aquarian Truth Center of Light, 210-690-2349.
Dignity (Catholic), 210-558-3287.
Metropolitan Community Church, 210-734-0048.
St. Sergios & St. Bacchos Orthodox
Mission, 210-697-3264.

Services & Support

AIDS Resource Center, 210-222-2437.
Collaborative AIDS Services of San
Antonio (CASSA):
University Health Systems-Facts Clinic-
210-358-3710,
Wellness Connection Inc.- 210-732-3111,
University of Texas Health Science
Center Dept. of Psychiatry- 210-567-4666.
Gay & Lesbian Community of San
Antonio, Inc., 210-732-4300
Jewish Family Service Support Group for
Gay Men, Lesbians & Their Families,
210-349-5481.
MACT/SA, 210-736-3948.
(mactsa@aol.com)
P-FLAG - San Antonio, 210-822-4135.
San Antonio AIDS Foundation, 210-225-4715.

Social Groups

Bexar County Bears, 210-697-2175.
(bcobearssa@aol.com)
Deaf Rainbows, 210-804-1404.
Happy Foundation, 210-227-6451.
Llego (Latino/Latina Lesbian & Gay
Organization), 210-733-7547 or 735-3648.
Men of All Colors Together, 210-736-3948.
Young Lesbians, 210-236-9475.

Sports & Fitness

Alamo City Wranglers (square dancing),
210-493-5805.
Gay/Lesbian Tennis League, 210-735-3709.

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AIDS WALK • Annise Parker • Jack Valenski

Quote/Unquote

By Rex Wockner

"Now that I'm out about my homosexuality, I'm gonna be shouting my mouth off about having the same rights and being treated the same way as every other person on this planet. All of us are human beings, and we should not be denied the same kinds of things that the greater portion of straight society receives. That's got to be the next step on this journey for me. I'll stand up for it and make my voice heard for equal rights."

— Rob Halford, lead singer of the heavy metal group Judas Priest, to the *Advocate*, May 12.

"It's [the cancellation of "Ellen"] very sad. First of all, I think [the network] didn't support the show. They put these parental warnings on it and that sent the message that she was doing something wrong. People were saying it was too gay. I thought the show was absolutely hysterical. I don't think it was too gay at all, in the same way that "Friends" isn't too heterosexual."

— Gay comedian Jason Stuart to the *Charlotte (N.C.) Observer*, May 8.

"If many of our [gay] spokespeople are to be believed, equality with straight America is best won by demonstrating that we can be monogamous spouses, tidy neighbors and loyal soldiers. ... True gay liberation is not about gay people conforming, but rather about the whole world transforming."

— Editorial in the national gay magazine *The Guide*, May issue.

"A vagina, I think, is first and foremost [what I look for in a woman]. That's the most important thing in a woman. I tend to like vaginas with teeth, that's what I call them; I tend to like very bitchy women. I find myself most attracted to smart, sarcastic, bitchy women."

— Comic Lea DeLaria to *Los Angeles' Lesbian News*, May issue.

"Mickey Mantle -- FBI kept a file on the Yankee slugger. Did Hoover hope 'switch hitter' meant something else?"

— Listed under "Losers" in *Newsweek* magazine's "Winners and Losers" column, May 18.

— Rex Wockner's "Quote/Unquote" is archived from mid-1994 onward at <http://www.qrd.org/qrd/www/world/wockner.html>

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NEW GROUND FOR GAY & LESBIAN VISIBILITY

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E-mail: TVMontrose@aol.com
Phone: 713.523.6302

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— Rex Wockner's "Quote/Unquote" is archived from mid-1994 onward at <http://www.qrd.org/qrd/www/world/wockner.html>

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