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SUSTIVA fits the way you live because you take it just once a day. Bedtime dosing is recommended during the first few weeks to improve tolerability of nervous system symptoms. It can be taken with or without meals, however high-fat meals should be avoided. There's no need to drink lots of liquid.

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SUSTIVA is generally well tolerated, with no long-term toxicities observed.

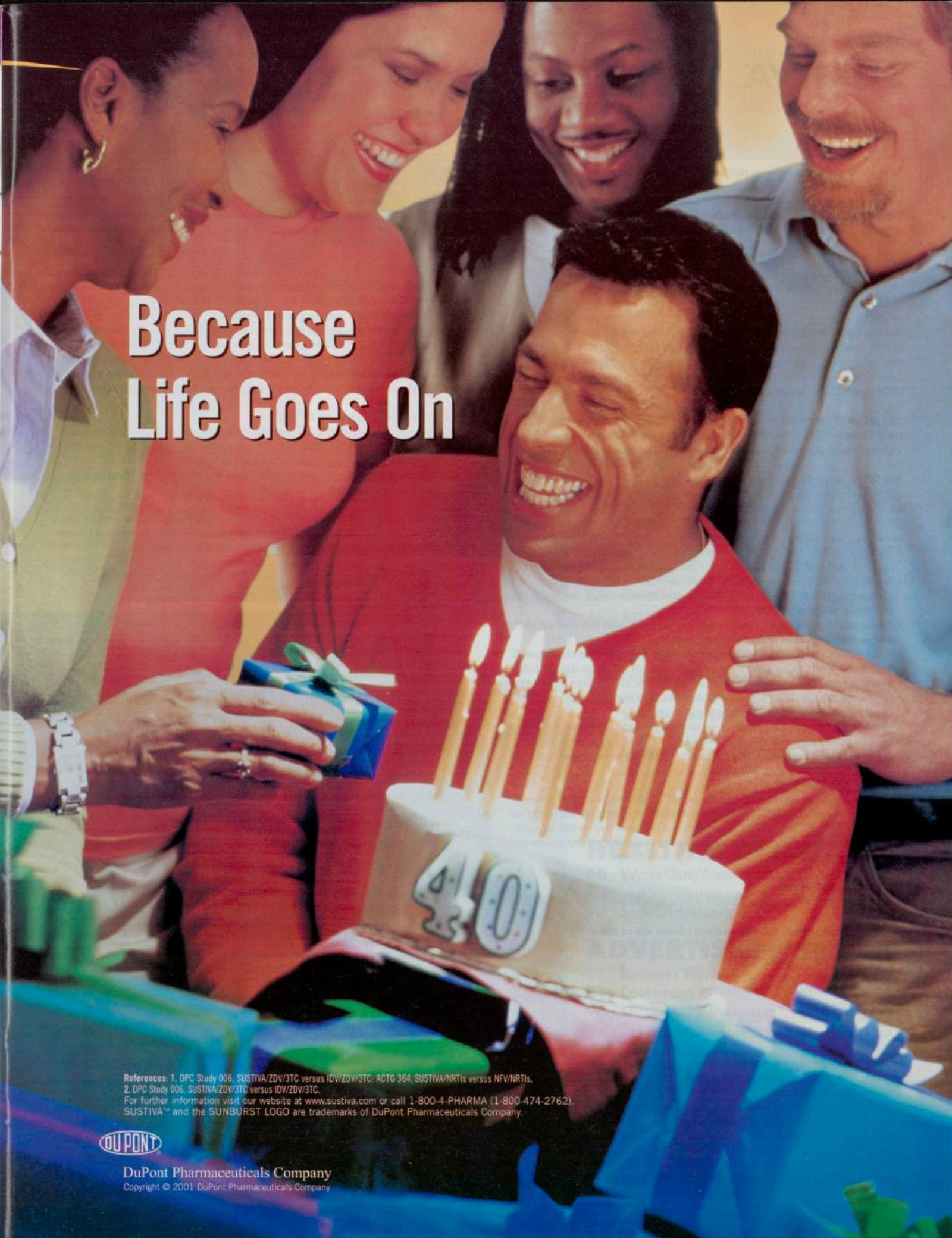
SAFETY INFORMATION

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting SUSTIVA. They tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. If you have these symptoms, you should contact your doctor immediately to discuss your therapy. There have been a few reports of suicide, but SUSTIVA has not been established as the cause. Mild to moderate rash is a common side effect of SUSTIVA. Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in animals given SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA should not be taken by patients who are also taking any of the following: Hismanal® (astemizole), Propulsid® (cisapride), Versed® (midazolam), Halcion® (triazolam), or ergot derivatives as there is the potential for serious and/or life-threatening side effects.* See Patient Information about SUSTIVA on the following pages.

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References: 1. DPC Study 006, SUSTIVA/ZDV/3TC versus IDV/ZDV/3TC; ACTG 364, SUSTIVA/NRTIs versus NFV/NRTIs.
2. DPC Study 006, SUSTIVA/ZDV/3TC versus IDV/ZDV/3TC.
For further information visit our website at www.sustiva.com or call 1-800-4-PHARMA (1-800-474-2762).
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Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk, or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had Hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Some patients have had thoughts of suicide and a few patients have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness. You should contact your doctor immediately if you think you are having these symptoms, so your doctor can decide whether you should continue to take SUSTIVA.

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few

weeks. If you have these side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have severe depression, strange thoughts or angry behavior. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA**:

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA**:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

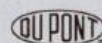
How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

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Photo & design by David Parnell



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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CULINARY KUDOS

We had dinner at the Estancia Grill when we last visited Houston and found it exactly as your article stated [DineOut, "Culinary Anthropology," December OutSmart, by E.J. Arnell]. There were six of us and we all ordered a different dish. Now I want to go back and try them all over again. They were cooked to perfection, especially the salmon. We congratulate this new restaurant for having such outstanding management and chefs. It was truly a delightful culinary experience.

—Dr. and Mrs. James L. Wilson
New Braunfels

JUDY AND ARUN INSPIRING

I rarely write letters, but after reading the articles on Judy Shepard and Arun Gandhi [December OutSmart], I'm putting pen to paper (actually, I'm putting fingers to keyboard) to let you know that the interviews were inspiring and so appropriate for the holidays. While I'm writing, I must say that the articles on the lesbian filmmakers [Sharon Ferranti and Lauren Johnson], the openly lesbian thespian [Susann Fletcher], and singer Jane Olivor made for interesting and fun reading. Keep up the good work.

—Joel Bolen
via the Internet



JUSTICE, WHAT JUSTICE?

I just heard the news report that Justice Alberto Gonzales of the Texas Supreme Court has been named White House Counsel by temporary Governor George W. Bush. I am sure as I write this Dale (Evans) Carpenter is scratching quill to parchment in an effort to remind us that when the sec. 21.06 [the so-called sodomy statute]-related Morales v. Texas case reached the Texas Supreme Court, Justice Gonzales voted (in the minority) to hear the case. The other members of the court took the position that the Morales case was a civil case asking the Texas Supreme Court to rule a criminal law unconstitutional. They suggested that the more appropriate forum for this case and its objective was the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals on the other side of the lobby. I had thought a direct criminal appeal

Letters

was a preferred approach even before the Texas Supreme Court rejection. Young, capable Mitchell Katine is currently shepherding a direct criminal appeal on its way to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

Dale will no doubt suggest that the Gonzales vote to hear the case was in some way favorable to gay and lesbian interests. I found no positive conclusion to be drawn at the time, yet others began a movement to send thank you notes to the dissenting judge. No one knows whether he would have held the statute being tested constitutional or un, had it reached hearing and decision. I suspect he was ready to "pour us out" (a legal term meaning "not good news").

Oh, for those who think I should have called George W. Bush the President Elect, well he isn't really, not to those of us who think all the votes should be counted.

—Ray Hill
Houston

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In&Out

News IN our community & OUT in the nation

Briefs compiled by Ann Walton Sieber

HAIL, HAIL

Community Center



The Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center is making queer dreams come true: Talking with the center's new president, **Tim Brookover**

Guided by the leadership of Maria Minicucci over the past year, the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center really seems to be going strong—and has every indication that it's going to keep doing so with the election of Tim Brookover as the new president. We're happy to report that "your queer home in Houston," as they call themselves, is an exciting place to be right now.

Having only moved into their comfy home in March 1998, this past year really saw the community center getting into the swing of creating its own programs. "2000 saw a big expansion in programming," says Tim, "which brought more people to the center and made

the center really more of a presence in the community." Emanating from the community were numerous new groups and forums: the Lesbian Coming Out group, Power Dating for Men, lesbian film night and lesbian game night; panel discussions on hate crimes, race, bi-racial couples. The racial forum was so energizing that a discussion group has continued to meet monthly. Likewise, the center was packed with men the night of author Hal Kooden's discussion, and plans are in the works to have a regular group meet (see sidebar "New at the Community Center" on page 10).

The community center is so successful that they are →

Chamber of Commerce



Getting to know **Michael Tolleson**, the new president of the Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce . . . and the inclusion of BT

The Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce (GHGLBTCC) elected Michael Tolleson as their new president, succeeding Debra Hunt. Sara Rook will be vice president, Rick Taylor is the new secretary, and Rene Guerra was re-elected as treasurer.

You may have noticed another change at the chamber, an extra "BT" in its already mouth-filling acronym. "If we really want to be a leader in the community, we have to make sure we serve all the community," Tolleson says of the inclusion of Bisexual and Transgender in the chamber's name.

"Long ago we talked about gay and lesbian and we talked

about a lifestyle," he said. "Now we realize it's something we're born with, and [we're learning] to really take that to heart, and to take to heart anybody else who is covered by that umbrella."

The chamber's purpose is to strengthen the economic base of the gay community. Established businesses help newer businesses, gay and gay-friendly establishments can network and work together. They hold monthly meetings with topical speakers, plus stage the monumental Empower business expo in October. The chamber has about 150 businesses as members, including corporate members, such as Shell, Compaq, and Chase. →



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In&Out

Tim Brookover/Center

continued from page 34

strongly considering moving to large quarters. "Everybody loves our comfy home," says Tim. "But the way we support ourselves is by renting out space to community groups. More groups would like to come in, but we don't have the space." Currently the center serves as home to H.A.T.C.H., the Pride committee, Q-Patrol, the Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce, the Houston GLBT Political Caucus, the Black LG Coalition, the Texas Human Rights Foundation, and the GL Switchboard. The community center's board is going to be spending the year looking into finding a new home. (The meetings are open, and they welcome input, ideas, and/or participation.) The Han-Net e-mail discussion group has been conducting a poll on top queer priorities in Houston, and finding a new home for the community center has so far been voted among the top three priorities.

Although Maria Minicucci will no longer be president of the community center, she will stay quite involved, as she remains as head of programming, and her partner, Deb Murphy (D.L. Murphy to *OutSmart* readers), will be serving as vice president. Coming on as new president, Tim Brookover has been integrally involved in the community center for the past several years: He has been tirelessly sending out information to the media, as well as organizing many of the center's programs and social events.

Tim was born in Galveston and grew up in Humble, where his father started his own Lutheran congregation. Tim has spent his entire adult life in Houston, and

brings his witty sophisticated goofiness to every project. Tim's background is in media and he's been editor of more magazines than you could shake a recycling bin at—among them, *Houston Home & Garden*, *Ultra*, and *City Fitness*. He's been in the grants department at the Museum of Fine Arts since 1995, and currently writes food criticism for *My Table*, as well as the occasional piece for *OutSmart*. He lives in the Heights with his partner, Albert Mata.

In addition to Deb Murphy, other new board members are Kay Dayus, David L. Groover, Michael Locke, and Debbie Maurelli. In addition to Tim and Maria, the other returning board members are Don Hauboldt, Ron Helaire, and Bruce Turner.

The Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center is located at 803 Hawthorne. For more information on any of their programs, or to volunteer, call 713/524-3818. ■

Michael Tolleson/Chamber

continued from page 34

"We need to make sure we're seen as viable forces, that we are strong economically, and that we support each other," Tolleson says. "And not only in the community, but to the straight community as well."

Mike came on the chamber board to fill the place vacated with the death of Richard Weiderholt in April.

Mike grew up in the small town of Devine ("pronounced just like the star of a John Waters' film," he says), a half hour's drive southwest from San Antonio. Rather unexpectedly for a small town in Texas, Devine seemed to have quite a sizable gay population—so much so, Mike said his fa-

ther once joked that somebody needed to do some research, see if there was something wrong with the water. Outspoken and energetic, Mike left and spent most of the '80s in New York City, and the '90s in Pennsylvania, before returning to Texas in 1998 to be closer to his sister and his two nephews. "I'm half-Hispanic, and family means a lot to us," he says. "My family is very accepting, and they shaped me to be who I am."

Michael has his own business, Michael Tolleson Design, which employs about 20 people. Mike has also become quite involved in Bering United Methodist Church; although he'd not attended church for 20 years, Bering lit something up in Mike, and he's now head of the evangelistic committee, and serves on several others. He says that Bering's message of inclusiveness has had a great impact on him and his vision for the chamber.

In looking at the chamber's upcoming year, Mike says he wants to emphasize inclusiveness and exposure, making sure everybody in the community knows about the chamber, and that small businesses know how they can benefit from its services. The new chamber board of directors are Gary Baumann, Larry Broughton, Ian Leffler, Sara Rook, Rick Taylor, and Michael Tolleson. They will join ongoing board members Marion Coleman, Mike Fleming, Rene Guerra, Debra Hunt, and Randy Mitchmore.

The next chamber meeting will be Tuesday, January 9, 7 p.m. (6 p.m. social time), Sonoma. For more information about the chamber, call 713/523-7576, or look at their website at www.ghglcc.org. ■

NEW AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER

by Tim Brookover

FRIDAY MOVIE NIGHT

Premiering January 5, the First Friday Movie Night program will feature double bills with a gay or camp spin. The features this month salute Cary Grant and Paul Newman, two January birthday boys and legendary leading men. The 1938 comedy *Bringing Up Baby* stars Grant (rumored to have been more than roomies with stunning Randolph Scott... hmmm) and gay fave Katharine Hepburn. Newman, an avowed gay-rights supporter, smolders in the 1958 *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, based on gay writer Tennessee Williams's

play and co-starring gay champion Elizabeth Taylor and that famous slip. Complimentary popcorn will be served. The \$4 admission includes one free soft drink; additional beverages will be available at a nominal cost. 7 p.m.

HAWTHORNE MEN'S CLUB

The overwhelming response to author Harold Kooden's recent lecture on *Golden Men: The Power of Gay Midlife* has inspired the formation of the Hawthorne Men's Club. This new group will meet the third Friday of every month to continue the discussion of thriving at all ages

and explore other topics, both significant and diverting. A guest speaker will start the evening, and plenty of social time will follow. Light snacks will be served. 7 p.m.

DINNER AT THE CENTER

Supper with the Family: Bring your favorite prepared dish the third Sunday of every month for Dinner at the Center. This regular potluck supper will provide a convivial, chosen-family atmosphere for chatting, gossiping, and, of course, noshing. Call ahead to indicate what dish you will bring. 6 p.m.

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Local Briefs

**MONTROSE CLINIC
+ BODY POSITIVE**

Two of the bedrock AIDS organizations in the Houston community have decided to merge: Montrose Clinic and Body Positive Wellness Center. Although they will both continue in their separate locations, they will have just one director, one board, and one set of finances. Katy Caldwell (of Montrose Clinic) will be the executive director and Pete Sharpe (Body Positive) will be the chairman of the board of directors.

Both organizations have been phenomenal stories of caring and endurance. Originally founded as an STD clinic in 1981, Montrose Clinic became Houston's first alternative HIV testing site in 1985. The clinic now serves more than 14,000 people a year with HIV testing and counseling, STD screening and treatment, education, case management, and outreach. Since 1989, the clinic has provided community-based HIV drug research, with over 80 clinical trials bringing life-saving drugs to more than 900 Houston-area residents. Through the years, the clinic has operated out of a series of buildings—and survived some fiery controversies. It was truly a feat when the clinic moved into its current \$2 million home at 215 Westheimer in 1995.

Likewise, Body Positive/Houston has been a case study in work and caring. Established in 1988 by local physicians, mental health professionals, and community leaders, Body Positive set out to provide Houston's HIV community with "practical tools to extend and improve the quality of their lives." In 1997, largely through the vision of Nelson Vergel, Body Positive expanded its program to include the wellness center, in which clients are provided with the opportunity to take an active role in managing their HIV

disease through weight training, nutritional counseling, massage and chiropractic programs, and other programs of support.

You can reach the Montrose Clinic at 713/830-3000 and the Body Positive Wellness Center at 713/524-2374.

**NEW FACILITY DEDICATED
TO LGBT MENTAL HEALTH**

Of interest is the opening of a mental illness treatment center specifically addressing the GLBT community. Called Alternatives, the clinic has both inpatient and outpatient services for the treatment of mental illness, depression, anxiety, sexual compulsivity,

grief/loss, and substance abuse. Alternatives is located in the Bellaire Medical Center, and opened November 27. Alternatives, Inc. is the mother company, and already has clinics in California, Philadelphia, and Denver.

Why a clinic devoted just to the gay community? "In a traditional treatment setting," says Shreda Paire, RN, BSN, who is program director at Alternatives, "most GLBT have an extremely high failure rate due to the fact that they are not free to talk about issues of sexuality, relationships, and the non-traditional family, which can be detrimental to an otherwise successful treatment plan."

Shreda says she has worked with Bellaire Hospital to create a "safe, open, and honest environment for the healing process to begin, without the fear of homophobia, discrimination, and judgment." Alternatives is starting with an emphasis on inpatient care, although they are working with the Montrose Counseling Center to also provide outpatient services. Lesbian therapist Lara Holin, LMSW, LCDC, is head of programming at Alternatives, and the medical director is Jason Baron, MD, who is working with psychiatrists on staff at Bellaire Hospital and elsewhere.



Shreda Paire

Santiago Garcia

April 20, 1969, El Salvador — November 15, 2000, Houston

Santiago, the short time we had together was filled with a lifetime of love. You chose to go when you were happy and young and beautiful. All is forgiven, but my heart will cry for you forever. You were my dream come true. I will love you until the end of time.

Jeffry

Alternatives, Inc. was founded in 1993 by Frank Boudewyns and Michael Ralke, life partners who have been working together treating chemical dependency and psychiatric disorders in the GLBT community for over 25 years, including at the Christopher Street treatment center in Minneapolis in the '70s, at the Los Angeles GL Community Services Center in the '80s.

In their literature, they write: "Alternatives believes that GLBT people deserve treatment services conducted in an atmosphere where issues can be addressed, freely and openly, with professionals who have special sensitivity, experience, and expertise. Special attention to issues of homophobia, HIV, AIDS, gay/lesbian identity, history, heritage, and pride are an integral part of providing quality service."

For more information, please call 1-800/DIAL-GAY or 713/512-1150.

FREE RABIES SHOTS

The Spay-Neuter Assistance Program is offering free rabies examinations (along with a \$5 veterinarian exam fee). "Rabies is truly frightening because it is contagious to people," said Courtney Forbes, SNAP's medical director. "We know that it has been found recently in Texas, but it can be prevented in dogs and cats with a yearly vaccination." Rabies in Texas is an ongoing state health emergency, according to the Texas Department of Health; the last human death from rabies in the U.S. occurred in a man from Houston. Bring your dog or cat to SNAP's wellness clinic, 1801 Durham (at the I-10 access road). Clinic hours are Wed. & Thurs., noon–9 p.m.; Fri.–Sun., 9 a.m.–6 p.m. The normal charge for this vaccination is \$10.

**THE YEARBOOK
YOU NEVER HAD**

Sent to us from a PFLAG friend: "The PFLAG Reno chapter has started a national GLBT yearbook. Right now it's just started, but we want the yearbook to grow bigger than the AIDS Quilt (we'd like to see the AIDS Quilt stop growing!!!! Maybe this resource can help by helping more young people realize *they are not alone!*) If you are a gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered adult, join PFLAG Reno's *National GLBT Yearbook*, an online gallery of the middle and high school yearbook pictures of GLBT adults. It's free. It's fun. It's anonymous. It matters. Check it out at <http://www.pflagreno.org/safeschools/yearbook.html>." →

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Introducing New Videx[®] EC



Ask Your Doctor!

VIDEX[®] EC
(didanosine) delayed-release capsules
enteric-coated beads

Please see following page for brief summary of prescribing information, including boxed warnings.

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VIDEX® EC (didanosine)

VIDEX® EC (didanosine) Delayed-Release Capsules
Enteric-Coated Beadlets

Brief Summary of Prescribing Information, 11/00. For complete
prescribing information, please consult official package circular.

WARNING
FATAL AND NONFATAL PANCREATITIS HAVE OCCURRED DURING
THERAPY WITH DIDANOSINE USED ALONE OR IN COMBINATION
REGIMENS IN BOTH TREATMENT-NAIVE AND TREATMENT-EXPERIENCED
PATIENTS. REGARDLESS OF DEGREE OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSION,
VIDEX EC SHOULD BE SUSPENDED IN PATIENTS WITH SIGNS OR
SYMPTOMS OF PANCREATITIS AND DISCONTINUED IN PATIENTS WITH
COMBINATION WITH STAVUDINE, WITH OR WITHOUT HYDROX-
YUREA, MAY BE AT INCREASED RISK FOR PANCREATITIS.

LACTIC ACIDOSIS AND SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATO-
SIS, INCLUDING FATAL CASES, HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH
THE USE OF NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES ALONE OR IN COMBINA-
TION, INCLUDING DIDANOSINE AND OTHER ANTIRETROVIRALS
(SEE WARNINGS).

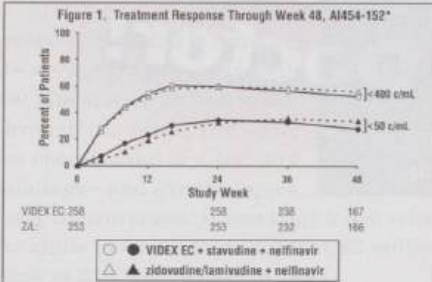
INDICATIONS AND USAGE

VIDEX EC in combination with other antiretroviral agents is indicated
for the treatment of HIV-1 infection in adults whose management
requires once-daily administration of didanosine or an alternative
didanosine formulation. (See Clinical Studies, PRECAUTIONS:
Frequency of Dosing, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION.)

There are limited data to date to support the long-term durability
of response with a once-daily dosing regimen of didanosine.

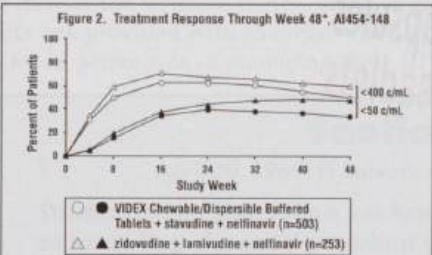
Clinical Studies: Once-daily dosing of didanosine produces a phar-
macokinetic profile that is substantially different from that observed with
twice-daily dosing of didanosine (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY in full
prescribing information). Further, VIDEX EC and the VIDEX buffered
formulation produce substantially different pharmacokinetic profiles when
dosed once daily. Therefore, controlled clinical trials were conducted with
both formulations to evaluate the safety and efficacy of once-daily dosing
of didanosine. There is no available long-term clinical information that directly
compares the efficacy of the two once-daily didanosine formulations. A small
clinical study that was conducted to address this issue was not inter-
pretable due to the small number of patients who completed the study.

Once-Daily VIDEX EC Study: Study A1454-152 is an ongoing, 48-week,
randomized, open-label study comparing VIDEX EC (400 mg once daily)
plus stavudine (40 mg twice daily) plus nevirapine (750 mg three times
daily) to zidovudine (200 mg twice daily) plus lamivudine (150 mg twice
daily) combination tablets plus nevirapine (750 mg three times daily) in
511 treatment-naïve patients, with a mean CD4 cell count of 411 cells/mm³
(range 39 to 1105 cells/mm³) and a mean plasma HIV-1 RNA of 4.71 log₁₀
copies/mL (range 2.8 to 5.9 log₁₀ copies/mL) at baseline. Patients were
primarily males (72%) and Caucasian (53%) with a mean age of 35
years (range 18 to 73 years). The percentages of patients with HIV RNA
<400 and <50 copies/mL, and not meeting any criteria for treatment failure
(eg, virologic failure, discontinuation for any reason, or AIDS-defining
event) through 48 weeks are shown in Figure 1.



* This analysis includes all randomized patients through Week 24
and after that point is restricted to patients whose randomization
date allows for 36 or 48 weeks of follow-up. The number of patients
at each point is indicated below the figure.

Once-Daily VIDEX Buffered Tablet Study: Study A1454-148 was a
randomized, open-label, multicenter study comparing treatment
with VIDEX Chewable/Dispersible Buffered Tablets (400 mg once
daily) plus stavudine (40 mg twice daily) and nevirapine (750 mg three
times daily) versus zidovudine (300 mg twice daily) plus lamivudine
(150 mg twice daily) and nevirapine (750 mg three times daily) in 756
treatment-naïve patients, with a mean CD4 cell count of 368 cells/mm³
(range 80 to 1568 cells/mm³) and a mean plasma HIV-1 RNA of 4.69
log₁₀ copies/mL (range 2.6 to 5.9 log₁₀ copies/mL) at baseline. The per-
centages of patients with HIV RNA <400 and <50 copies/mL and not
meeting any criteria for treatment failure through 48 weeks are shown
in Figure 2.



* Percent of patients at each time point who have HIV RNA
<400 or <50 copies/mL are on their original study medication
(except stavudine-zidovudine switches), and have not experienced
an AIDS-defining event. For the differences between treatment
groups at 48 weeks, p<0.05 by Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test.

R ONLY

CONTRAINDICATION

VIDEX EC (didanosine) is contraindicated in patients with previously
demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity to any component
of the formulation.

WARNINGS

1. Pancreatitis

FATAL AND NONFATAL PANCREATITIS HAVE OCCURRED DURING
THERAPY WITH DIDANOSINE USED ALONE OR IN COMBINATION
REGIMENS IN BOTH TREATMENT-NAIVE AND TREATMENT-EXPERIENCED
PATIENTS, REGARDLESS OF DEGREE OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSION.
VIDEX EC SHOULD BE SUSPENDED IN PATIENTS WITH SIGNS OR
SYMPTOMS OF PANCREATITIS AND DISCONTINUED IN PATIENTS WITH
COMBINATION WITH STAVUDINE, WITH OR WITHOUT HYDROX-
YUREA, MAY BE AT INCREASED RISK FOR PANCREATITIS.

When treatment with life-sustaining drugs known to cause pancreatic
toxicity is required, suspension of VIDEX EC therapy is recommended.
In patients with risk factors for pancreatitis, VIDEX EC should be used
with extreme caution and only if clearly indicated. Patients with advanced
HIV infection, especially the elderly, are at increased risk of pancreatitis
and should be followed closely. Patients with renal impairment may be
at greater risk for pancreatitis if treated without dose adjustment.

The frequency of pancreatitis is dose related. In phase 3 studies with
buffered formulations of didanosine, incidence ranged from 1% to
10% with doses higher than are currently recommended and 1% to 7%
with recommended dose.

2. Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis

Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, includ-
ing fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside
analogues alone or in combination, including didanosine and other
antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity
and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. Particular
caution should be exercised when administering VIDEX EC to any
patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have
also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment
with VIDEX EC should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical
or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced
hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in
the absence of marked transaminase elevations).

3. Retinal Changes and Optic Neuritis

Retinal changes and optic neuritis have been reported in patients
taking didanosine. Periodic retinal examinations should be considered
for patients receiving VIDEX EC. (See ADVERSE REACTIONS.)

PRECAUTIONS

Frequency of Dosing: VIDEX EC should only be administered once
daily. There are no data on the use of VIDEX EC dosed more frequently
than once daily.

There are limited data to support the long-term durability of
response with a once-daily dosing regimen of didanosine. Therefore,
the preferred didanosine dosing regimen is twice daily with a VIDEX
buffered formulation. Once-daily dosing with VIDEX EC should be con-
sidered only for adult patients whose management requires once-daily
administration of didanosine or an alternative didanosine formula-
tion (see Clinical Studies). Consult the prescribing information for
VIDEX buffered formulations and Pediatric Powder for Oral Solution
for information on twice-daily dosing.

VIDEX EC should be taken on an empty stomach.

Peripheral Neuropathy: Peripheral neuropathy, manifested by numb-
ness, tingling, or pain in the hands or feet, has been reported in patients
receiving didanosine therapy. Peripheral neuropathy has occurred more
frequently in patients with advanced HIV disease, in patients with a history
of neuropathy, or in patients being treated with neurotoxic drug
therapy, including stavudine (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

General:

Patients with Renal Impairment: Patients with renal impairment (crea-
tinine clearance <60 mL/min) may be at greater risk of toxicity from
didanosine due to decreased drug clearance (see CLINICAL PHARMA-
COLOGY in full prescribing information). A dose reduction is recommended
in these patients (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Patients with Hepatic Impairment: It is unknown if hepatic impair-
ment significantly affects didanosine pharmacokinetics. Therefore,
these patients should be monitored closely for evidence of didanosine
toxicity.

Hyperuricemia: Didanosine has been associated with asymp-
tomatic hyperuricemia; treatment suspension may be necessary if clinical
measures aimed at reducing uric acid levels fail.

Information for Patients: (see Patient Information Leaflet in full
prescribing information).

Patients should be informed that a serious toxicity of didanosine, used
alone and in combination regimens, is pancreatitis, which may be fatal.

Patients should also be aware that peripheral neuropathy, manifested
by numbness, tingling, or pain in hands or feet, may develop during ther-
apy with VIDEX EC. Patients should be counseled that peripheral neuropathy
occurs with greatest frequency in patients with advanced HIV disease or a
history of peripheral neuropathy, and that dose modification and/or
discontinuation of VIDEX EC may be required if toxicity develops.

Patients should be informed that when didanosine is used in com-
bination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of
adverse events may be higher than when didanosine is used alone.
These patients should be followed closely.

Patients should be cautioned about the use of medications or other
substances, including alcohol, that may exacerbate VIDEX EC toxicities.
Patients should be informed that the preferred didanosine dosing
regimen is twice daily with a VIDEX buffered formulation because there
are limited data to support the long-term durability of response with a
once-daily regimen.

VIDEX EC is not a cure for HIV infection, and patients may con-
tinue to develop HIV-associated illnesses, including opportunistic
infection. Therefore, patients should remain under the care of a physi-
cian when using VIDEX EC. Patients should be advised that VIDEX EC
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 long-term effects of VIDEX EC are unknown
at this time.

Drug Interactions (see also CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Drug
Interactions in full prescribing information):

Drug interactions that have been established based on drug inter-
action studies are listed with the pharmacokinetic results in CLINICAL
PHARMACOLOGY: Drug Interactions (Tables 3-5) in full prescribing
information. The clinical recommendations based on the results of
these studies are listed in Table 1.

Table 1

Established Drug Interactions Based on Studies with Buffered
Formulations of Didanosine and Expected to Occur with VIDEX EC

Coadministration Not Recommended Based on Drug Interaction
Studies (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Drug Interactions,
in full prescribing information for Magnitude of Interaction)

Drug	Effect	Clinical Comment
allopurinol	↑ didanosine concentration	Coadministration not recommended.

Alteration in Dose or Regimen Recommended Based on
Drug Interaction Studies (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Drug
Interactions, in full prescribing information for Magnitude of Interaction)

Drug	Effect	Clinical Comment
ganciclovir	↑ didanosine concentration	Appropriate doses for this combination, with respect to efficacy and safety, have not been established.
methadone	↓ didanosine concentration	Appropriate doses for this combination, with respect to efficacy and safety, have not been established.

↑ indicates increase.
↓ indicates decrease.

Coadministration of VIDEX EC (didanosine) with drugs that are known
to cause pancreatitis may increase the risk of this toxicity (see WARN-
INGS: Pancreatitis). Predicted drug interactions with VIDEX EC are
listed in Table 2.

Table 2

Predicted Drug Interactions with VIDEX EC

Use with Caution, Risk of Adverse Reactions May Be Increased

Drug Class	Effect	Clinical Comment
Drugs that may cause pancreatic toxicity	↑ risk of pancreatitis	Use only with extreme caution. ^a
Neurotoxic drugs	↑ risk of neuropathy	Use with caution. ^b

^a Indicates increase.

^b Only if other drugs are not available and if clearly indicated.

If treatment with life-sustaining drugs that cause pancreatic
toxicity is required, suspension of VIDEX EC is recommended
(see WARNINGS: Pancreatitis).

^c See PRECAUTIONS: Peripheral Neuropathy.

Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis: Lifetime carcinogenicity stud-
ies were conducted in mice and rats for 22 and 24 months, respectively.
In the mouse study, initial doses of 120, 800, and 1200 mg/kg/day for
each sex were lowered after 8 months to 120, 210, and 210 mg/kg/day
for females and 120, 300, and 600 mg/kg/day for males. The two
higher doses exceeded the maximally tolerated dose in females and
the high dose exceeded the maximally tolerated dose in males. The low
dose in females represented 0.68-fold maximum human exposure
and the intermediate dose in males represented 1.7-fold maximum human
exposure based on relative AUC comparisons. In the rat study, initial
doses were 100, 250, and 1000 mg/kg/day, and the high dose was low-
ered to 500 mg/kg/day after 18 months. The upper dose in male and
female rats represented 3-fold maximum human exposure.

Didanosine induced no significant increase in neoplastic lesions in
mice or rats at maximally tolerated doses.

Didanosine was positive in the following genetic toxicology assays:
1) the *Escherichia coli* tester strain WP2 uvrA bacterial mutagenicity assay;
2) the L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma mammalian cell gene mutation
assay; 3) the *in vitro* chromosomal aberrations assay in cultured human
peripheral lymphocytes; 4) the *in vitro* chromosomal aberrations assay
in Chinese Hamster Lung cells; and 5) the BALB/c 3T3 *in vitro* trans-
formation assay. No evidence of mutagenicity was observed in an
Ames *Salmonella* bacterial mutagenicity assay or in rat and mouse *in vivo*
micronucleus assays.

Pregnancy, Reproduction and Fertility: Pregnancy "Category B".
Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits at doses
up to 12 and 14.2 times the estimated human exposure (based upon
plasma levels), respectively, and have revealed no evidence of impaired
fertility or harm to the fetus due to didanosine. At approximately 12 times
the estimated human exposure, didanosine was slightly toxic to female
rats and their pups during mid and late lactation. These rats showed
reduced food intake and body weight gains but the physical and func-
tional development of the offspring was not impaired and there were
no major changes in the F2 generation. A study in rats showed that didano-
sine and/or its metabolites are transferred to the fetus through the
placenta. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant
women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predic-
tive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only
if clearly needed.

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal out-
comes of pregnant women exposed to didanosine and other antiretroviral
agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established.
Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-258-4263.

Nursing Mothers: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants
to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV. A study in rats showed
that following oral administration, didanosine and/or its metabolites were
excreted into the milk of lactating rats. It is not known if didanosine is
excreted in human milk. Because of both the potential for HIV trans-
mission and the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing
infants, mothers should be instructed not to breast-feed if they are
receiving VIDEX EC.

Pediatric Use: The safety and efficacy of VIDEX EC in pediatric
patients have not been established. Please consult the complete pre-
scribing information for VIDEX buffered formulations and Pediatric
Powder for Oral Solution for dosage and administration of didanosine
to pediatric patients.

Geriatric Use: In an Expanded Access Program using a buffered
formulation of didanosine for the treatment of advanced HIV infection, patients
aged 65 years and older had a higher frequency of pancreatitis (10%)
than younger patients (5%) (see WARNINGS). Clinical studies of
didanosine, including those for VIDEX EC, did not include sufficient num-
bers of subjects aged 65 years and over to determine whether they respond
differently than younger subjects. Didanosine is known to be sub-
stantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of toxic reactions to this
drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because

elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care
should be taken in dose selection. In addition, renal function should be
monitored and dosage adjustments should be made accordingly (see
DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: Dose Adjustment).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

A SERIOUS TOXICITY OF DIDANOSINE IS PANCREATITIS, WHICH
MAY BE FATAL (see WARNINGS). OTHER IMPORTANT TOXICITIES
INCLUDE LACTIC ACIDOSIS/SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATO-
SIS, RETINAL CHANGES AND OPTIC NEURITIS, AND PERIPHERAL
NEUROPATHY (see WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS).

When didanosine is used in combination with other agents with
similar toxicities, the incidence of these toxicities may be higher
than when didanosine is used alone. Thus, patients treated with
VIDEX EC (didanosine) in combination with stavudine, with or with-
out hydroxyurea, may be at increased risk for pancreatitis, which
may be fatal, and hepatotoxicity (see WARNINGS). Patients treated
with VIDEX EC in combination with stavudine may also be at increased
risk for peripheral neuropathy (see PRECAUTIONS).

Studies of VIDEX EC and a buffered didanosine formulation yielded
comparable safety profiles for both formulations. Selected clinical
adverse events that occurred in clinical studies of didanosine dosed
once daily in combination with other antiretroviral agents are pro-
vided in Table 3.

Table 3

Selected Clinical Adverse Events from Combination Studies of
Didanosine Dosed Once Daily

Adverse Events	Percent of Patients*			
	VIDEX EC+ stavudine+ neftravir n=255	zidovudine/ lamivudine+ neftravir n=250	Buffered Tablet+ stavudine+ neftravir n=482	zidovudine/ lamivudine+ neftravir n=248
Diarrhea	54	56	70	60
Nausea	21	35	28	40
Headache	20	16	21	30
Peripheral Neuropathy	20	8	26	6
Symptoms/Neuropathy	13	18	12	14
Vomiting	10	10	13	16
Rash	<1	*	1	*
Pancreatitis (see below)	<1	*	1	*

* Percentages based on treated patients.

* Median duration of treatment 43 weeks in the VIDEX EC+stavudine+
neftravir group and 39 weeks in the zidovudine/lamivudine+
neftravir group.

* Median duration of treatment 48 weeks.

* Zidovudine/lamivudine combination tablet.

* This event was not observed in this study arm.

In clinical trials using a buffered formulation of didanosine, pan-
creatitis resulting in death was observed in one patient who received
didanosine plus stavudine plus nevirapine, one patient who received
didanosine plus stavudine plus indinavir, and 2 of 68 patients who received
didanosine plus stavudine plus indinavir plus hydroxyurea. In an early
access program, pancreatitis resulting in death was observed in one
patient who received VIDEX EC plus stavudine plus hydroxyurea plus
ritonavir plus didanosine plus efavirenz (see WARNINGS).

The frequency of pancreatitis is dose related. In phase 3 studies with
buffered formulations of didanosine, incidence ranged from 1% to
10% with doses higher than are currently recommended and 1% to 7%
with recommended dose.

Selected laboratory abnormalities that occurred in clinical studies
of didanosine dosed once daily in combination with other antiretrovi-
ral agents are shown in Table 4.

Table 4

Selected Laboratory Abnormalities from Combination Studies
of Didanosine Dosed Once Daily

Parameter	Percent of Patients*									
	A1454-152 ^a					VIDEX A1454-148 ^a				
	VIDEX EC ^b stavudine+ neftravir n=255		zidovudine/ lamivudine+ neftravir n=250		Buffered Tablet+ stavudine+ neftravir n=482	zidovudine+ lamivudine+ neftravir n=248				
	Grades 3-4 ^c	All Grades	Grades 3-4 ^c	All Grades		Grades 3-4 ^c	All Grades			
SGOT (AST)	4	40	4	17	3	42	2	23		
SGPT (ALT)	4	39	4	20	3	37	3	24		
Lipase	3	18	<1	8	7	17	2	11		
Bilirubin	<1	7	<1	3	<1	7	<1	3		

* Percentages based on treated patients.

* Median duration of treatment 43 weeks in the VIDEX EC+stavudine+
neftravir group and 39 weeks in the zidovudine/lamivudine+
neftravir group.

* Median duration of treatment 48 weeks.

* Zidovudine/lamivudine combination tablet.

* >5 x ULN for SGOT and SGPT, ≥2.1 x ULN for lipase,

and ≥2.6 x ULN for bilirubin (ULN = upper limit of normal.)

Observed during Clinical Practice:

The following events have been identified during postapproval use
of didanosine buffered formulations. They are reported voluntarily
from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be
made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to their seri-
ousness, frequency of reporting, causal connection to didanosine, or
a combination of these factors.

Body as a Whole: abdominal pain, alopecia, anaphylactoid reac-
tion, asthenia, chills/fever, and pain.

Digestive Disorders: anorexia, dyspepsia, and flatulence.

Exocrine Gland Disorders: pancreatitis (including fatal cases) (see
WARNINGS), sialadenitis, parotid gland enlargement, dry mouth,
and dry eyes.

Hematologic Disorders: anemia, leukopenia, and thrombocy-
topenia.

Liver: lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS);
hepatitis and liver failure.

Metabolic Disorders: diabetes mellitus, elevated serum alkaline phos-
phatase level, elevated serum amylase level, elevated serum
gamma-glutamyltransferase level, elevated serum uric acid level, hypo-
glycemia, and hyperglycemia.

Musculoskeletal Disorders: myalgia (with or without increases
in creatine kinase), rhabdomyolysis including acute renal failure and
hemodialysis, arthralgia, and myopathy.

Ophthalmologic Disorders: Retinal depigmentation and optic neu-
ritis (see WARNINGS).

OVERDOSAGE

There is no known antidote for didanosine overdosage. In phase 1 stud-
ies, in which buffered formulations of didanosine were initially
administered at doses ten times the currently recommended dose,
toxicities included: pancreatitis, peripheral neuropathy, diarrhea, hype-
ruricemia, and hepatic dysfunction. Didanosine is not dialyzable by
peritoneal dialysis, although there is some clearance by hemodialysis
(see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Pharmacokinetics in full pre-
scribing information.)

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Dosage:

Adults: VIDEX EC (didanosine) should be administered on an
empty stomach.

VIDEX EC Delayed-Release Capsules should be swallowed intact.

The recommended daily dose is dependent on body weight and is
administered as one capsule given on a once-daily schedule as outlined
in Table 5.

Table 5

Dosing of VIDEX EC Delayed-Release Capsules

Patient Weight	Dosage
≥60 kg	400 mg once daily
<60 kg	250 mg once daily

Pediatric Patients: VIDEX EC has not been studied in pediatric
patients. Please consult the complete prescribing information for VIDEX
buffered formulations and Pediatric Powder for Oral Solution for dosage
and administration of didanosine to pediatric patients.

Dose Adjustment:

Clinical and laboratory signs suggestive of pancreatitis should
prompt dose suspension and careful evaluation of the possibility
of pancreatitis. VIDEX EC use should be discontinued in patients
with confirmed pancreatitis (see WARNINGS).

Based on data with buffered didanosine formulations, patients
with symptoms of peripheral neuropathy may tolerate a reduced dose
of VIDEX EC after resolution of the symptoms of peripheral neuropathy
upon drug interruption. If neuropathy recurs after resumption of
VIDEX EC, permanent discontinuation of VIDEX EC should be considered.

Renal Impairment: Dosing recommendations for VIDEX EC and VIDEX
buffered formulations are different for patients with renal impairment.
Please consult the complete prescribing information on administration
of VIDEX buffered formulations to patients with renal impairment.

In adult patients with impaired renal function, the dose of VIDEX EC
should be adjusted to compensate for the slower rate of elimination.
The recommended doses and dosing intervals of VIDEX EC in adult patients
with renal insufficiency are

National & International Briefs

**SOULFORCE, DIGNITY
TO PROTEST AT VATICAN**

LOS ANGELES—Leaders of the religious group Soulforce and the gay and lesbian Catholic organization, Dignity, will be joined by supporters in a protest at the Vatican over the Catholic Church's exclusion of gays and lesbians.

"On January 5, the Eve of Epiphany, we will tape—not nail—our demands for inclusion on the doors of the Vatican," said Mary Louise Cervone, head of Dignity/USA. "Over 2000 years ago, the Magi carried gifts to Jesus which were graciously accepted on the day we celebrate as Epiphany. However, 2000 years later, the Church will still not accept the gifts and talents that we bring as gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people of deep and profound faith."

Although Soulforce is a nonviolent protest group that looks to Gandhi and Martin Luther King as role models, Mel White, head of the organization, said he is ready to go to jail during the protest if necessary.

"As we begin the new millennium, we will risk misunderstanding and arrest in Rome to help end centuries of spiritual violence against God's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender children," White said.

**MINISTER FINDS LOOPHOLE
IN MARRIAGE BAN**

CHICAGO—The Rev. Gregory Dell, the pastor at Chicago's Broadway United Methodist Church who was suspended for officiating at a gay and lesbian wedding in defiance of church rules, says he's found a loophole in those rules that will let him again marry same-sex couples.

Getting married outdoors is the way, Dell says.

United Methodist Bishop C. Joseph Sprague agrees and the two clerics say the church rules are against officiating at such ceremonies inside United Methodist churches, but nothing in church law prohibits them being celebrated outside.

As a result, Dell says Broadway United's weddings—same-sex and opposite-sex—from now on will all take place outside the church itself with identical ceremonies.

**CHICAGO COPS ALLEGEDLY
ATTACK MAN OUTSIDE BAR
OVER HUG**

CHICAGO—Gay rights advocates are calling on Chicago officials to investigate a reported assault of a straight man, Jeffrey Lyons, allegedly by a group of off-duty police officers.

The *Chicago Tribune* reported that three officers allegedly connected with the brutal assault had been reassigned to desk duties, but that other officers remained on active patrol.

According to Lyons' account of the incident, he had met a male friend at a straight bar shortly before it closed. Outside, as the bar was closing, the two friends were hugging as they said good night to each other. One of the officers who had been inside told the men to "get that faggot shit away from my truck." After a brief verbal exchange between the officer and Lyons, the officer began attacking Lyons.

Lyons says other officers leaving the bar as it closed joined in the attack and he was eventually beaten unconscious. He suffered several broken and fractured bones, and →

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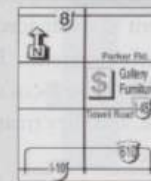
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victimized by the Nazis during World War II under laws that the country kept on its books until 1969.

The resolution was part of an endorsement of a report that calls for paying compensation to an estimated 5,000 to 10,000 gays and lesbians the Nazis shipped to concentration camps because of their sexual orientation.

The resolution states, "The parliament is convinced that the honor of the homosexual victims of Nazism must be rebuilt and apologizes for the harm done to homosexual citizens up to 1969 in their human dignity, their opening out, and their quality of life."

It is unknown how many gays and lesbians sent to concentration camps may have survived.

HISTORIAN DOCUMENTS CASTRATIONS IN NORWAY

OSLO, Norway—Norwegian historian Per Haave told a national television program that more than 400 people—most of them gay men—were castrated by the government between 1934 and 1969 as part of a "crackdown."

Haave said he had documented 414 people who had been castrated through official Norwegian health records.

"Castration was to prevent sexual crimes," Haave said. "But it quickly took on a much broader scope. There were many homosexuals. Many."

He said that about 50 women had also had their ovaries removed as part of the same program by the government trying to curb sexual crimes.

Haave said that people sent to prison for sexual crimes—including antigay laws at the time—as well as homosexuals who were routinely put in mental institutions were the targets of the government-backed castration program.

\$280K AWARD IN SLANDER SUIT

ATLANTA—A jury in suburban Cobb County, Ga., has awarded \$280,000 in damages to Tony Middlebrooks after his ex-boss, Todd Wolff, called an Atlanta area morning radio talk show and said Middlebrooks—as well as the DJ on the show—was gay.

Middlebrooks was fired the day before Wolff called the station in December 1998 and

told DJ Jimmy Baron on air that Middlebrooks had said the two had had a sexual affair. Baron replied that he is heterosexual.

But Middlebrooks, who is married, sued for slander, charging that Wolff's statements amounted to accusing him of adultery and promiscuity. Middlebrooks' attorney noted during the case that he was not suing because being gay wasn't acceptable, but because of the implications of any extramarital relationship in his marriage.

During the suit, Wolff said his statements were intended as "a joke," but the jury didn't think it was funny and awarded Middlebrooks \$30,000 in actual damages and \$250,000 in punitive damages.

CANADIAN BOOKSTORE WINS HIGH COURT RULING

TORONTO—Canada's Supreme Court has ended a 16-year battle between the Little Sister's Bookstore in Vancouver and Canadian customs officials by striking down part of the nation's customs laws and agreeing with Little Sister's that it had been unfairly targeted because the store carries gay and lesbian materials. →

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In a 6-3 ruling, the nation's high court ruled that the Canada Customs Act unfairly forces businesses importing books, magazines, videos, and other material to prove the material isn't obscene instead of requiring the government prove that material it seizes violates national obscenity laws.

The court ruling let obscenity laws stand, but customs agents now must prove in court that material they confiscate coming into the country does in fact violate those laws. Ironically, the three justices in their dissenting opinion weren't supporting either and wanted to scrap Canada's entire customs act.

The majority opinion also noted that Little Sister's suffered "excessive and prejudicial treatment" from customs officials and that many of the books seized by customs officers had been brought into the country by bookstores with primarily straight customers without any problems.

"We feel enormously vindicated," said Janine Fuller of the Vancouver store.

ANTI-RAPE GROUP SAYS TRANS WOMAN "UNFIT" TO VOLUNTEER

VANCOUVER—The Vancouver Rape Relief Society is having to explain to the province's Human Rights Tribunal why Kimberly Nixon, a transgendered woman, is unfit to serve as a rape counselor with the agency.

The anti-rape group says women who have just been sexually assaulted might be traumatized if they showed up at its center and found Nixon, whom they said "looks like a man wearing a woman's dress."

Nixon signed up for training with the anti-rape center in 1995 after ending a relationship with a man who had emotionally and physically abused her. She

also told the agency at the time that she had been sexually assaulted after her gender reassignment operation.

But the anti-rape group said Nixon has never had to deal with the full impact of rape because she has never had to worry about a possible pregnancy following a sexual assault.

The British Columbia Human Rights Commission is backing Nixon in her charge of discrimination.

HIV EXPLODING IN RUSSIAN CITY

IRKUTSK, Russia—Agence France Presse reports that HIV infections in the Russian city of Irkutsk have skyrocketed in the past two years from 37 in 1998 to more than 7,500 this year.

Dr. Yulia Rakina, a researcher studying HIV among the region's residents, told AFP that the actual number could be as much as six times higher because so many people refuse to get tested in the Siberian city.

Health officials say the soaring infection rate is largely the result of widespread injection drug use in the area.

Officials with UNAIDS say so much of their funding is spent simply on testing people that little is left over for prevention or education efforts.

MCC TO CONVENE IN TORONTO IN 2001

TORONTO—The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC) will hold its annual conference in Toronto next year July 1-7 as the church continues to struggle with issues of growth.

With some 300 churches in 15 countries around the world, more than 225,000 people attend services at MCC churches each year. Church delegates at the conference will address issues of regional reorganization and MCC's international growth. →

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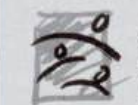
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CHRISTOPHER ROBIN A DRAG QUEEN?

TORONTO—A whimsical study of "Winnie the Pooh" in the "Canadian Medical Association Journal" suggests that the A.A. Milne children's classic is charged with "seriously troubled individuals," including the boy Christopher Robin who, the authors say, may have a gender identity disorder.

The authors, tongues firmly in cheek, note that Christopher Robin, the youth with the Prince Valiant haircut is "wearing dresses" although they said due to his youth there may be a "potential for change with time."

Asked what their study indicates about the widespread popularity of the Pooh tales, one of the authors said it may mean we love the denizens of this childhood fantasy, warts and all. "It could also say that our group has lost its collective mind."

UNICEF'S GRIM REPORT ON HIV AND CHILDREN

NEW YORK—UNICEF reports that among the 34.3 million people worldwide

with HIV/AIDS, 1.3 million are children under the age of 15.

The organization's annual report on the global status of children indicated that the overwhelming majority of these infected youngsters contracted HIV from the mothers during birth or via breastfeeding. Most of them, the report grimly concluded, will die of AIDS-related illnesses or complications before they become teenagers.

Sub-Saharan Africa is the area hardest hit, the UNICEF report noted, with 70 percent of the world's HIV infections, 80 percent of AIDS deaths, and 90 percent of AIDS orphans.

HONG KONG NIXES ANTI-BIAS MEASURE

HONG KONG—News sources report that Hong Kong city officials will not introduce legislation to bar discrimination based on sexual orientation because it's "not the right time" for such a measure. Leo Kwan Wing-way of the municipal home affairs office told gay rights advocates that political support for such an anti-bias measure simply doesn't exist. Kwan said, "It takes time."

PROTEST OF AUSTRIAN RIGHT LEADER'S VISIT WITH POPE PLANNED

ROME—Italians in large numbers promised to protest in the streets over a planned meeting between Pope John Paul and Austrian neo-fascist leader Joerg Haider.

Gays, progressives, Jews, college students, union leaders, and others said Haider's visit with the pope "is a step backwards because it legitimizes a politician who makes xenophobia and racism his *raison d'être*."

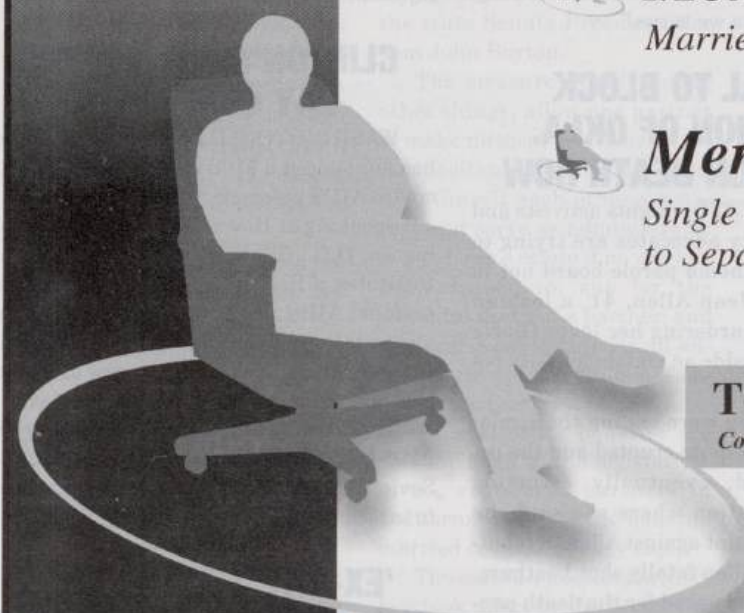
Haider is governor of a south Austrian province. His praise of some of Adolf Hitler's policies forced him to resign a post in the Austrian national government, but he has been reelected governor of the province twice. The Italian government said there was no way it could prevent Haider from entering the country because of his elected position.

PAPER SETTLES BIAS SUIT WITH LESBIAN EDITOR

LOS ANGELES—Cynthia Frazier has settled a long-standing job dispute with her →

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Don't Ask for the Dead Man's Golf Clubs: What to Do and Say (and What Not to) When a Friend Loses a Loved One
Author, Lynn Kelly, who was widowed at the age of 34, offers advice on how people can offer comfort to friends who are grieving. Inside this book are sincere and helpful suggestions derived from the hundreds of people she interviewed who had lost spouses, children, parents, siblings and grandparents.

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former employer, the *Palisadian Post*, for an undisclosed amount. Frazier was forced out of her post as an associate editor at the weekly paper six years ago after her sexual orientation became known at the community newspaper.

After eight years of positive employment with merit raises and favorable reviews, Frazier suddenly found herself the object of harassment at work, passed over for promotions, and eventually discharged in 1993.

BELLSOUTH ADDS PARTNER BENEFITS PACKAGE

ATLANTA—BellSouth Corp. has announced it is adding a domestic partners benefits package to take effect July 2001 for the same-sex partners of the firm's management employees. The benefit does not extend to union employees and unions will have to negotiate for the new benefits in regular contract reviews with the firm.

The BellSouth package will include health insurance coverage, life insurance, and family and medical leave benefits.

In announcing the new program, Jere Drummond of BellSouth said, "We know that to remain competitive, we must attract and retain a work force that reflects the diversity of the communities we serve."

APPEAL TO BLOCK EXECUTION OF OKLA. LESBIAN ON DEATH ROW

OKLAHOMA CITY—Rights activists and anti-death penalty advocates are trying to convince an Oklahoma parole board not to execute Wanda Jean Allen, 41, a lesbian found guilty of murdering her lover Gloria Jean Leathers outside an Oklahoma City police station in 1988.

The two women were ending their relationship when a dispute erupted and the police were called, eventually escorting Leathers to a station where she said she would file a complaint against Allen. But outside the station, Allen fatally shot Leathers.

Prosecutors had asked for the death penalty in the case partly because of a threatening note Allen had already written to Leathers, and partly because of a previous

manslaughter conviction that they argued made her a continual danger. At press time, Allen was slated to be executed by lethal drug injection on January 11.

CLINTON'S WORLD AIDS DAY COMMENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—President Clinton has announced a \$100 million strategy to increase AIDS research around the world.

Speaking at Howard University in Washington, D.C., Clinton outlined the National Institutes of Health's strategic plan for international AIDS research, increasing funding and training in more than 50 countries worldwide and increasing access to new drugs and prevention methods in poorer countries.

The president noted in particular the AIDS epidemic's toll in Africa and the former Soviet Union and said the disease is a threat to international security.

'EX-GAY' PASTOR SUES N.C. NEWSPAPER FOR BIAS

RALEIGH, N.C.—Timothy Wilkins, who describes himself as an "ex-gay" and claims

he was fired from the *Raleigh News & Observer* because of anti-Christian bias, is taking his case to court on Dec. 11.

Wilkins has been direct-sales supervisor at the daily paper for 14 months before he was fired in 1997. Wilkins says he was let go three weeks after the paper ran a feature report about his ex-gay ministry, CROSS (Created for the Opposite Sex).

He claims he lost his job because of his religious beliefs. But the paper says he was fired because of poor work performance.

EXPANDED BENEFITS BILL FOR CALIF. PARTNERS INTRODUCED

LOS ANGELES—Carole Migden, a lesbian member of the California state Assembly, has introduced a measure that would broaden the rights of domestic

partners registered in the state. The bill has the important co-sponsorship of the state Assembly Speaker Bob Hertzberg and the state Senate President Pro Tem John Burton.

The measure would, among other things, allow one partner to make medical decisions for an incapacitated partner; let partners inherit each other's property and serve as administrator of a partner's estate if no will has been drawn up; sue for the wrongful death of a partner; and use sick leave to care for an ailing partner or the child of a domestic partner.

Several other benefits are also included in the legislation, giving registered partners in California many of the benefits married couples already enjoy.

The state's domestic partners law took effect at the beginning of the year, but carried few actual benefits because of political opposition. →

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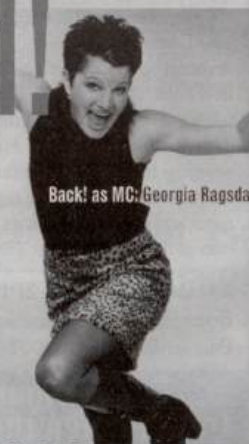
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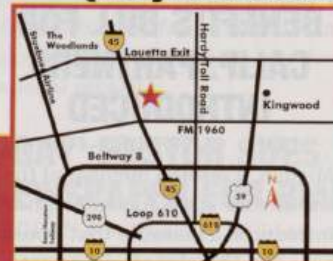
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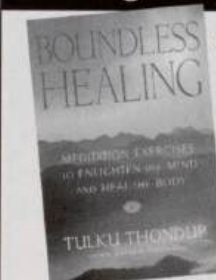
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DOCTORS MISSING STD EDUCATION WITH TEENS

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Hundreds of public health experts at the National STD Prevention Conference were told that a new survey of more than 15,000 high school students from around the U.S. indicates that only 43 percent of teenage girls and 26 percent of teenage boys discuss pregnancy prevention or sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) with their doctors during routine exams.

"Health care providers are missing very important opportunities," said Dr. Judith Wasserheit of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The CDC survey also indicated that older teens and those who are sexually experienced are more likely to have discussed STDs or pregnancy with their physicians, compared to younger teens or those who have not yet had sex.

The study was presented at the conference, which is sponsored by the CDC and the American Social Health Association.

CALIF. BROTHERS FACE MURDER TRIAL NEXT YEAR

REDDING, Calif.—Matthew and Tyler Williams, two brothers charged with murdering two gay men and suspected in a series of fire bomb attacks at area synagogues, will face their initial trial Sept. 19, 2001—more than two years after the July 1999 killings.

The Williams brothers are accused of murdering Winfield Mowder and Gary Matson, a well-liked gay couple in this rural Northern California area. The two had been shot in the back of their heads with a shotgun.

Matthew Williams, the elder brother, has several times told police and reporters that he believed he was doing "God's work" in killing the two gay men and quoted biblical passages to justify the killings.

Matthew Williams stunned this small community when he received a religious ordination while awaiting trial through a mail-order "Bible school" and publicized it through a paid ad in the local daily newspaper.

Matthew has repeatedly said that his younger brother, Tyler, did not commit the killings, but both men face capital murder charges in the case.

Investigators said they found racist and anti-Semitic literature in the home the Williams brothers shared. Federal authorities say the two men are the prime suspects in a series of arson bombing of synagogues and at

least one clinic that does abortions in Sacramento as well.

CANADIAN MCC TACKLES MARRIAGE ISSUE

TORONTO—The Metropolitan Community Church in Toronto says it will use an archaic tradition of publishing banns to marry same-sex couples.

The Canadian government says, however, that banns or not, such marriages would still not be legal in the country because they would not be registered.

Publishing banns—which is actually an announcement over several weeks of a couples' intention to marry—dates back to before governments registered vital statistics of citizens' lives and church records were authoritative.

The Toronto MCC says it will revive the largely disused tradition so it can marry gay and lesbian couples who cannot get marriage licenses through the government because Canada defines marriage as being between a man and a woman.

Brent Hawkes, MCC's pastor, says refusing to recognize published banns would be unconstitutional. Ontario provincial law, he says, specifically accepts publishing banns as an alternative to registration. No other province, however, recognizes the practice.

Several couples around the country are in the process of challenging the government's refusal to recognize same-sex marriages as a violation of their basic civil rights. The country already recognizes domestic partnerships with many—but hardly all—of the benefits married couples enjoy.

The church says if the government won't recognize published banns, it will take the question to the courts as well.

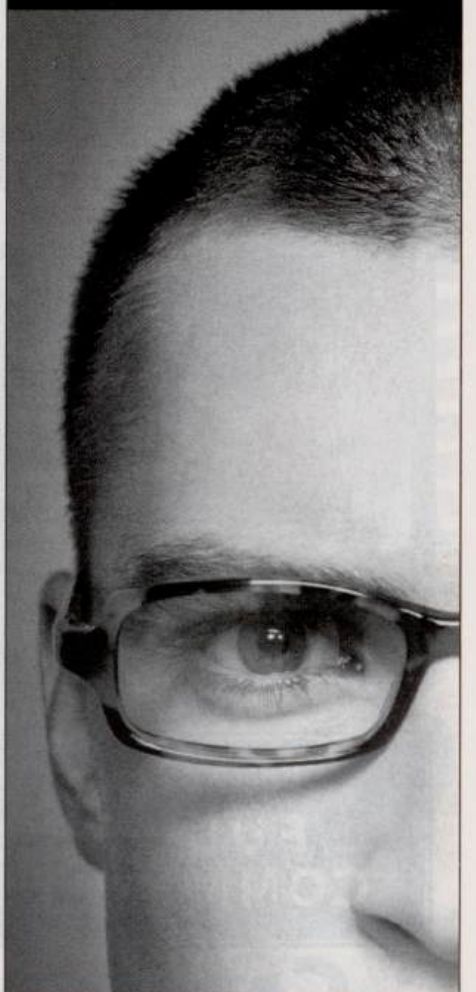
MINN. CHURCH ORDAINS LESBIAN PASTOR

ST. PAUL, Minn.—The Reformation Lutheran Church of St. Paul, Minn., has unanimously voted to ordain Anita Hill, a lesbian, as a pastor at the church.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church prohibits ordaining sexually active gays and lesbians.

But John Whalen, copresident of the St. Paul congregation, made it clear that the decision was intentional. In a statement Whalen said, "The path we've taken is consistent with our understanding of what it means to be Lutheran and our commitment to inclusive ministry." ■

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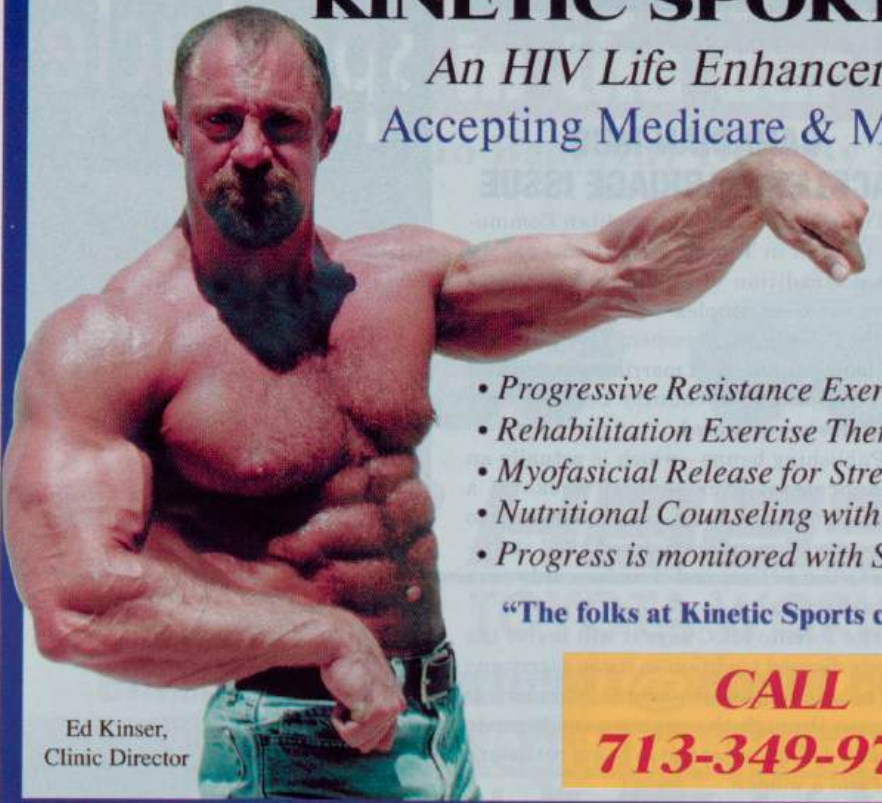
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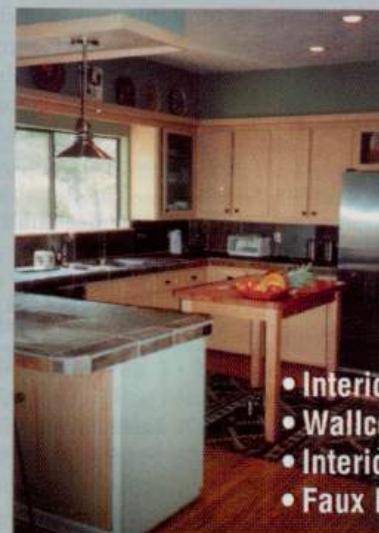
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Business News

In an effort to guarantee that all Texas youth have equal access to public education, the **Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby of Texas** and **State Representative Harryette Ehrhardt** have introduced two bills to the Texas Legislature this session to protect students and staff from discrimination "on account of ethnicity, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, or national origin."

Verbal and physical harassment, bigotry and hate are all present in our schools, yet no Texas law currently guarantees protection from such discrimination. To emphasize the real need for these bills, the Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby is gathering stories from people who have themselves suffered harassment in the schools. Stories of harassment and discrimination will help to educate legislators and others about the importance of this proposed legislation. To submit a first-hand account of such discrimination, e-mail your story to "stories@lgrl.org."

Why is this issue important to all Texans? The statistics alone show quite clearly the effects of discrimination on students, both gay and straight. 28 percent of gay youth drop out of school because of discomfort in the school setting. Gay and lesbian youth are two to six times more likely to attempt suicide than other youth. Heterosexual students who are harassed because someone believes they are gay are three times as likely to skip school for fear of their safety. Clearly, school is not a safe place for many students.

Producers of **Bacardi Rum** celebrate the gay community by launching a new ad campaign, **Tom, Dick & Harry by Day, Bacardi by Night**. The one-page ad, targeted to the gay marketplace, are appearing in magazines at the present time. Bacardi officials said the ad campaign is an acknowledgment and affirmation of Bacardi's dedication to people "in the life."



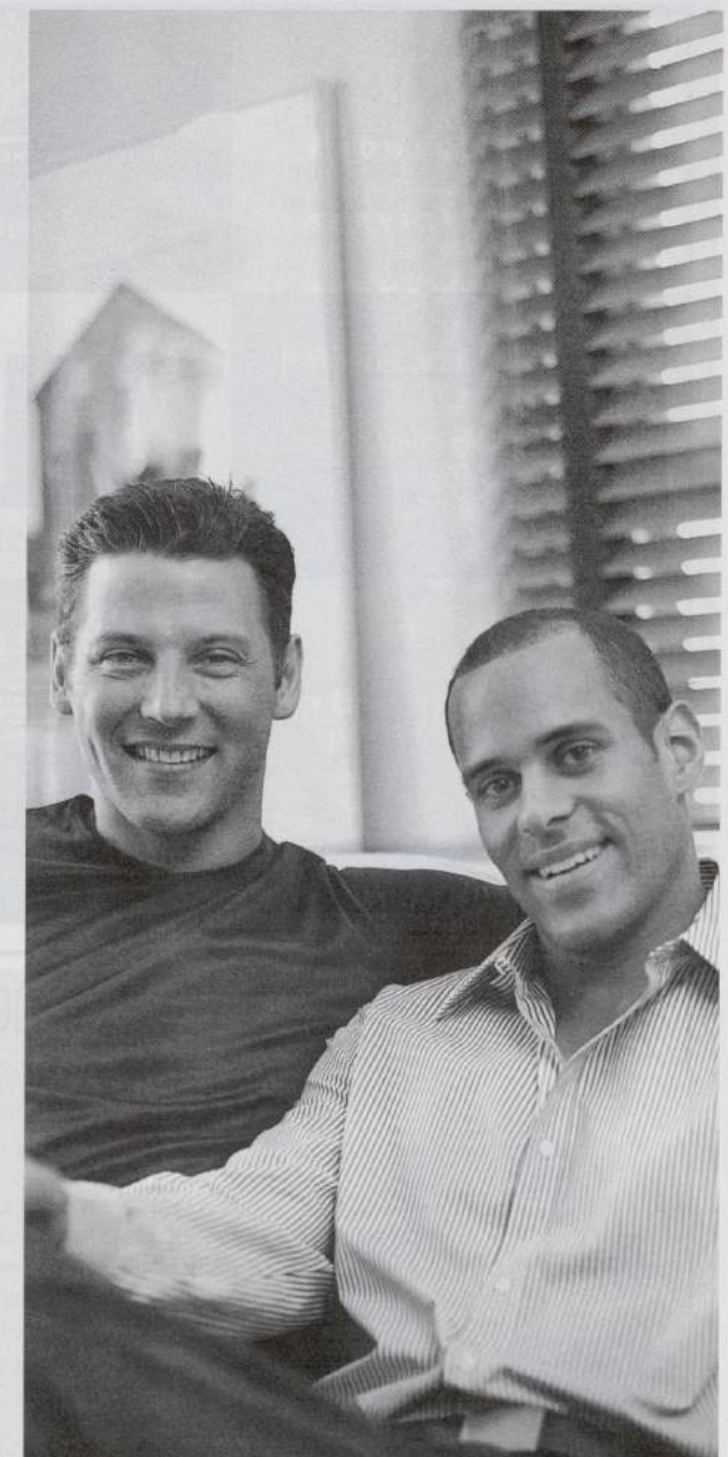
According to one Bacardi marketing executive, the ad features Bacardi drag divas Kitty Meow, Fantasy, and China Girl in this humorous, Tom, Dick & Harry presentation. "The Tom, Dick and Harry ad is not [necessarily] gay-specific; rather, it celebrates one of the fun aspects of the gay genre. What is gay-specific about these ads is the drag queens you see are actually Bacardi drag queens—that is, the company has worked with celebrities Kitty Meow, Fantasy, and China for several years at key

national gay events. That's the beauty of this ad—it's real. Uninvolved models or actors were not hired; neither was a fictitious story created about [them]. Bacardi's goal in creating the ad is relevancy, to be relevant to a market that treats the brand. This effort, combined with the hundreds of events supported nationwide, clearly indicates the company's enthusiasm in being an integral part of the gay community."

TrueLink, Inc., a provider of online credit reports, today announced a strategic alliance with **gfn.com**, the Gay Financial Network, provider of online financial and business news, information, and services to the gay and lesbian community. TrueLink's consumer website, will provide gfn.com users fast access to their individual credit reports and an analysis that includes a score that measures credit strength.

"It is now widely recognized that the gay market is a lucrative one, and the community is increasingly being targeted by corporate America for their purported wealth," said Schubert. "It is our mandate at gfn.com to bring all gay and lesbian individuals to the financial table and to empower our community with financial knowledge and service, as evidenced by our treatment of debt issues, and by this important relationship with TrueCredit.com."

Credit report data impacts a consumer's ability to buy a new car, rent an apartment, secure a loan, or qualify for other kinds of credit. Visitors to the gfn.com site will now have the convenient option of purchasing a TrueCredit.com credit report while seeking business and financial news, information, and services. →



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Business News

continued from page 31

Rainbow Law website has introduced a new service to gay and lesbian couples who want to protect their relationship in case of sickness or death of a partner and protect themselves in the event of a breakup. Rainbow Law uses the information you provide to them on their secured website to create high quality, custom estate-planning documents and living-together agreements that are legally binding in every state in the U.S.

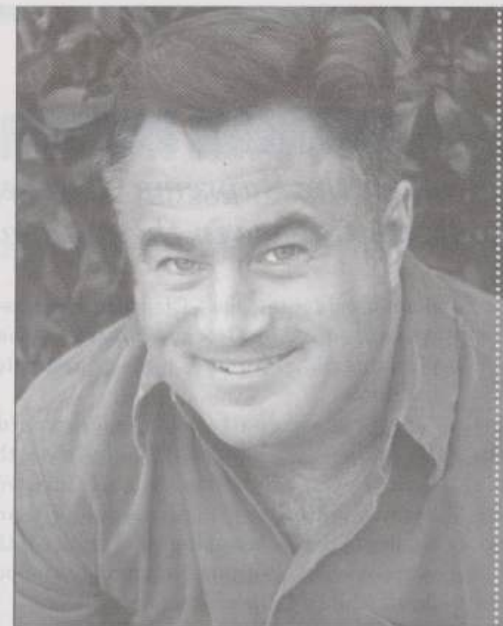
According to Rainbow Law, without a trust or will, a court decides who inherits your estate. The documents in Rainbow Law's trust package are designed to put the power back in the individual's control, not the court's, avoiding the expense of probate and helping to ensure that one's property goes where one wishes. They also provide protection against bad relationships in which a lover leaves one "holding the bag." Because the laws in most states do not recognize lesbian and gay relationships, there is little to do to legally protect oneself after the fact. However, most courts will honor a living-together agreement and in equity will determine that the parties intended to be fair when they signed the agreement before witnesses and a notary.

Rainbow Law documents can be purchased separately or as a package. Documents available include a trust, will, durable power of attorney, Living Will, designation of healthcare surrogate for each partner, and living-together agreements.

Rainbow Law is a St. Petersburg-based company which is owned and operated by Carrie Stone and Elisia Ross, her life partner. Carrie, an attorney, created these documents for their relationship and wanted to share them with the lesbian and gay community. More information can be obtained by visiting the company's website at www.rainbowlaw.com.

Did you resolve to make the new year one of greater health, more peace of mind and less stress? Here is some help. The renowned healing instructor, **Tibetan Lama Tulkus Thondup**, is making his second trip to Houston and teaching from his new book, *Boundless Healing*, which furthers the work of his recent international bestseller, *The Healing Power of Mind*. For anyone seeking to become healthier, happier, and more peaceful, this is a rare opportunity to meet and receive teachings on healing from one of the world's great Tibetan masters. Tulkus Thondup will be signing copies of his new book on Saturday, February 3 at 2 p.m. at Barnes & Noble Bookstore located at 3003 West Holcombe. On February 3-6 he will present several lectures and workshops entitled "Simple Meditations to Enlighten the Mind and Heal the Body." For locations and time, call 713/222-2331 or you can visit the Dawn Mountain website at www.dawnmountain.org.

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*What happens when the Supreme Court elects a president?
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In a fractured 5-4 decision on December 9, a majority of the U.S. Supreme Court stayed the Florida vote count ordered the day before by the Florida Supreme Court. Just three days later, on December 12, the same majority reversed the Florida Supreme Court's decision and remanded the case to the Florida court. By doing so, the majority ended Vice-President Al Gore's quest for the presidency.

Lest individuals think that a majority of the U.S. Supreme Court swooped down at the last minute with no motives of its own other than to save the American public from political warfare and a Constitutional crisis, they should consider the following:

- Justice Antonin Scalia's sons worked as lawyers at two of the law firms hired by George W. Bush's campaign to work on the Bush v. Gore appeal. (Scalia did not recuse himself and ruled for Bush.)

- All five of the justices who voted to stop the recount were appointed by Repub-

lican presidents. One—Clarence Thomas—was appointed by George W. Bush's father. (Thomas did not recuse himself and ruled for Bush.)

- Scalia recently told *Washingtonian Magazine* that he would likely leave the United States Supreme Court if Gore won because a Gore presidency would kill any chance of Scalia becoming chief justice if the current chief, William Rehnquist, stepped down while a Democrat was president.

- While the court was considering the Bush v. Gore appeal, Justice Thomas's wife was accepting applications by individuals interested in landing positions in a Bush White House.

While these tidbits may not pass the smell test, they would not be worth mentioning if the Supreme Court had not forsaken its own steadfast tradition of issuing unanimous or near-unanimous opinions in highly politicized cases to instill the public's confidence in the court's impartiality. For example:

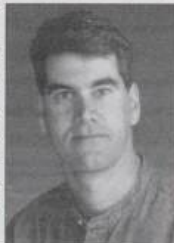
- In 1954, in *Brown v. Board of Education*, a unanimous Supreme Court ruled that the "separate-but-equal" doctrine was unconstitutional and stopped the segregation of children in public schools solely on the basis of race.

- Twenty years later, in *Roe v. Wade*, a 7-2 court ruled that criminal abortion laws, which outlawed all abortions except to save the life of the mother, were unconstitutional.

- In the midst of the Watergate crisis in 1974, in *United States v. Richard M. Nixon*, a unanimous court ruled that President Nixon was required to turn over

continued on p. 36

Writing from the liberal end of the spectrum, Houston attorney Daryl Moore has a general practice and is board-certified in civil appellate law. He can be reached at DarylMoore@outsmartmagazine.com.



A MILLION GAYS FOR BUSH

Hard to believe? Here are some reasons why . . . and reasons why it could be good news for the whole gay community if the Dems take our vote for granted

Gays are abandoning the orthodoxy of the gay civil rights establishment. Defying the near hysteria against George W. Bush generated by many gay political organizations and leaders, and despite a propaganda barrage for Al Gore in the gay media, more than a million gay voters backed Bush in the presidential election. Further, the number of gay Republican voters appears to be growing. What does this mean for gay rights?

First, consider the numbers. About 103.8 million Americans voted for a presidential candidate on November 7. According to a national exit poll, 4 percent of these voters, or almost 4.2 million, were willing to self-identify as gay. Of the self-identified gay voters, 70 percent said they voted for Gore and 25 percent said they voted for Bush.

That comes out to just over one million gay votes for Bush, enough to deliver Florida (which is still under dispute, as of this writing) and New Hampshire. Even conceding

Florida to Bush, a Gore win in New Hampshire would have been enough to elect him. So if Bush wins, it's plausible to say gay voters made the difference.

But even the one million total likely underestimates the actual gay vote for Bush. This is so for two reasons. First, the social stigma attached to homosexuality reduces the number of gays willing to "come out" to pollsters. It's likely that a disproportionate number of these uncounseled closeted voters, because they are less connected to the attitudes of the gay civil rights establishment, support Republicans.

Second, even among openly gay voters, the social stigma attached to voting Republican reduces the number willing to admit they backed the politically incorrect candidate. No one wants to be compared to a Jewish Nazi or a black Klansman, as gay Republicans have been. So a million gay votes for Bush is a floor, not a ceiling.

Further, the gay Republican vote is growing. In 1992, after Pat Buchanan declared a "culture war" against gays and others, the GOP got just 14 percent of the gay vote. In 1996, when Bob Dole requested the endorsement of the Log Cabin Republicans, the GOP got 23 percent of the gay vote. This year, when Bush actually met with gay Republicans, it stands at 25 percent.

The hand-wringing about this development has already begun. Columnist Michelangelo Signorile asks, "Why are many gay people easily sucked in?" He suggests two

Writing from the conservative end of the spectrum, former Houston resident and law professor Dale Carpenter began his column for OutSmart in 1994 and has won three Vice Versa awards for excellence in gay writing. Now living in Minneapolis, he can be reached at OutRight@aol.com.



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LeftOut continued from page 34

his tape-recorded conversation to the special prosecutor. (Rehnquist recused himself because he was appointed by Nixon.)

• In 1997, in *William Jefferson Clinton v. Paula Corbin Jones*, a unanimous court ruled that President Clinton could be sued and forced to stand trial while in office. (Neither Ruth Bader Ginsberg nor Steven Breyer—both Clinton appointees—recused him/herself, but both ruled against Clinton.)

The court's deftness for avoiding charges of partiality and political partisanship evaporated, however, with the issuance of its opinion in *Bush v. Gore*. Three of the justices, Rehnquist, Scalia, and Thomas, found numerous reasons to stop the recount. Sandra Day O'Connor and Anthony Kennedy disagreed with these three but still voted to stop the recount because the December 12 deadline—which was imposed by the court in the majority's opinion—would pass before a constitutional court could be completed.

Four of the justices—two of whom were appointed by Republican presidents—pointed out that the majority's conclusion that "a constitutionally adequate recount is impractical is a prophecy the court's own judgment will not allow to be tested." In other words, the dissenters criticized the majority for stopping the vote count three days before the December 12 deadline, and then declaring Bush the winner because a count could not be completed by the majority-imposed deadline.

Ironically, when the majority stayed the vote count on December 9, Justice Scalia noted that the count had to stop

because to permit it to go forward would "cast a cloud upon the legitimacy of Bush's election." By stopping the count in a fractured opinion, however, the court has cast a much more serious cloud of illegitimacy upon the court itself.

Several recent polls reflect that a majority of Americans have stated that their confidence in the impartiality of the U.S. Supreme Court was seriously shaken by the majority's decision to inject itself into a presidential election by stopping the Florida vote count. Perhaps Justice John Paul Stevens' prediction in his dissent will be right, and "time will

LeftOut: "By stopping the count in a fractured opinion, the court has cast a much more serious cloud of illegitimacy upon the court itself."

OutRight: "A million gay voters walked into their polling places and decided that, on balance, Bush was the better choice."

one day heal the wound" to the public's confidence in the court that was "inflicted by the court's decision." We can only hope. ■

OutRight continued from previous page.

explanations. One is that gay activists should have made the case for Gore "more forcefully." Yet it's hard to imagine how gay political groups could have pushed harder for Gore. Millions of dollars were spent warning gays that their civil rights—and their very lives—were in danger if Bush won. In fact, it appears there is an inverse relationship here: As the Republican Party tones down its antigay rhetoric, gay activists ratchet up their anti-GOP rhetoric.

Signorile also suggests gay activists should have made their case "without the condescending attitude that, as lackeys for →

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ZERIT® (stavudine) for Oral Solution

Brief Summary of Prescribing Information, 8/00. For complete prescribing information, please consult official package circular.

WARNING
LACTIC ACIDOSIS AND SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS, INCLUDING FATAL CASES, HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH THE USE OF NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES ALONE OR IN COMBINATION, INCLUDING STAVUDINE AND OTHER ANTIRETROVIRALS (SEE WARNINGS).
FATAL AND NONFATAL PANCREATITIS HAVE OCCURRED DURING THERAPY WHEN ZERIT WAS PART OF A COMBINATION REGIMEN THAT INCLUDED DIDANOSINE, WITH OR WITHOUT HYDROXYUREA, IN BOTH TREATMENT-NAIVE AND TREATMENT-EXPERIENCED PATIENTS, REGARDLESS OF DEGREE OF IMMUNOSUPPRESSION (SEE WARNINGS).

INDICATIONS AND USAGE
ZERIT® (stavudine), in combination with other antiretroviral agents, is indicated for the treatment of HIV-1 infection (see CLINICAL STUDIES).
CLINICAL STUDIES
Combination Therapy: The combination use of ZERIT is based on the results of clinical studies in HIV-infected patients in double- and triple-combination regimens with other antiretroviral agents. One of these studies (START 1) was a multicenter, randomized, open-label study comparing ZERIT (40 mg twice daily) plus lamivudine plus didanosine to zidovudine plus lamivudine plus didanosine in 202 treatment-naïve patients. Both regimens resulted in a similar magnitude of inhibition of HIV RNA levels and increases in CD4 cell counts through 48 weeks. **Monotherapy:** The efficacy of ZERIT was demonstrated in a randomized, double-blind study (A455-019, conducted 1992-1994) comparing ZERIT with zidovudine in 822 patients with a spectrum of HIV-related symptoms. The outcome in terms of progression of HIV disease and death was similar for both drugs.

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

1. Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis/Hepatic Failure: Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including stavudine and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. In addition, deaths attributed to hepatotoxicity have occurred in patients receiving the combination of ZERIT, didanosine, and hydroxyurea. Particular caution should be exercised when administering ZERIT to any patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with ZERIT should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations). An increased risk of hepatotoxicity, which may be fatal, may occur in patients treated with ZERIT in combination with didanosine and hydroxyurea compared to when ZERIT is used alone. Patients treated with this combination should be closely monitored for signs of liver toxicity. **2. Peripheral Neuropathy:** Peripheral neuropathy, manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the hands or feet, has been reported in patients receiving ZERIT therapy. Peripheral neuropathy has occurred more frequently in patients with advanced HIV disease, a history of neuropathy, or concurrent neurotoxic drug therapy, including didanosine (see ADVERSE REACTIONS). **3. Pancreatitis:** Fatal and nonfatal pancreatitis have occurred during therapy when ZERIT was part of a combination regimen that included didanosine, with or without hydroxyurea, in both treatment-naïve and treatment-experienced patients, regardless of degree of immunosuppression. The combination of ZERIT and didanosine (with or without hydroxyurea) and any other agents that are toxic to the pancreas should be suspended in patients with suspected pancreatitis. Reinstatement of ZERIT after a confirmed diagnosis of pancreatitis should be undertaken with particular caution and close patient monitoring. The new regimen should contain neither didanosine nor hydroxyurea.

PRECAUTIONS
Information for Patients (See Patient Information Leaflet, I): Patients should be informed that an important toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be aware that peripheral neuropathy is manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in hands or feet, and that these symptoms should be reported to their physicians. Patients should be counseled that peripheral neuropathy occurs with greatest frequency in patients who have advanced HIV disease or a history of peripheral neuropathy, and that dose modification and/or discontinuation of ZERIT may be required if toxicity develops. Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be informed that when ZERIT is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of adverse events may be higher than when ZERIT is used alone. An increased risk of pancreatitis, which may be fatal, may occur in patients treated with the combination of ZERIT and didanosine, with or without hydroxyurea. Patients treated with this combination should be closely monitored for symptoms of pancreatitis. An increased risk of hepatotoxicity, which may be fatal, may occur in patients treated with ZERIT in combination with didanosine and hydroxyurea. Patients treated with this combination should be closely monitored for signs of liver toxicity. 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. 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 long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time. Patients should be informed that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that HIV-infected mothers not nurse newborn infants to reduce the risk of postnatal transmission of HIV infection. **Drug Interactions:** Zidovudine may competitively inhibit the intracellular phosphorylation of stavudine. Therefore, use of zidovudine in combination with ZERIT is not recommended. (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY in full prescribing information). **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility:** In 2-year carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats, stavudine was noncarcinogenic at doses which produced exposures (AUC) 39 and 168 times, respectively, human exposure at the recommended clinical dose. Benign and malignant liver tumors in mice and rats and malignant urinary bladder tumors in male rats occurred at levels of exposure 250 (mice) and 732 (rats) times human exposure at the recommended clinical dose. Stavudine was not mutagenic in the Ames, *E. coli* reverse mutation, or 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). 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 sternebra, 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. The data 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. **Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry:** To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to stavudine and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-258-4263.

Nursing Mothers: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV. 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. Because of both the potential for HIV transmission and the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants, mothers should be instructed not to breast-feed if they are receiving ZERIT (stavudine). **Pediatric Use:** Use of stavudine in pediatric patients is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of stavudine in adults with additional pharmacokinetic and safety data in pediatric patients. Adverse events that were reported to occur in 105 pediatric patients receiving ZERIT 2 mg/kg/day for a median of 6.4 months in study ACTG 240 were generally similar to those reported in adults. Stavudine pharmacokinetics have been evaluated in 25 HIV-infected pediatric patients ranging in age from 5 weeks to 15 years and in weight from 2 to 43 kg after I.V. or oral administration of single doses and twice daily regimens (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Table 1 in full prescribing information). **Geriatric Use:** Clinical studies of ZERIT did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 years and over to determine whether they respond differently than younger patients. Greater sensitivity of some older individuals to the effects of ZERIT cannot be ruled out. In a monotherapy Expanded Access Program for patients with advanced HIV infection, peripheral neuropathy or peripheral neuropathic symptoms were observed in 15 of 40 (38%) elderly patients receiving 40 mg twice daily and 8 of 51 (16%) elderly patients receiving 20 mg twice daily. Of the approximately 12,000 patients enrolled in the Expanded Access Program, peripheral neuropathy or peripheral neuropathic symptoms developed in 30% of patients receiving 40 mg twice daily and 25% of patients receiving 20 mg twice daily. Elderly patients should be closely monitored for signs and symptoms of peripheral neuropathy. ZERIT is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of toxic reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, it may be useful to monitor renal function. Dose adjustment is recommended for patients with renal impairment (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: Dosage Adjustment).

ADVERSE REACTIONS
Adults: ZERIT therapy has been associated with peripheral neuropathy, which can be severe, is dose related, and occurs more frequently in patients being treated with neurotoxic drug therapy, including didanosine, in patients with advanced HIV infection, or in patients who have previously experienced peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be monitored for the development of neuropathy, which is usually manifested 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, patients may tolerate resumption of treatment at one-half the dose (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). If neuropathy recurs after resumption of ZERIT, permanent discontinuation of ZERIT should be considered. When ZERIT is used in combination with other agents with similar toxicities, the incidence of adverse events may be higher than when ZERIT is used alone. Pancreatitis, peripheral neuropathy, and liver function abnormalities occur more frequently in patients treated with the combination of ZERIT and didanosine, with or without hydroxyurea. Fatal pancreatitis and hepatotoxicity may occur more frequently in patients treated with ZERIT in combination with didanosine and hydroxyurea (see WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS). Selected clinical adverse events that occurred in adult patients receiving ZERIT in a controlled monotherapy study (Study A455-019) are provided by percentages as follows: ZERIT 40 mg twice daily (n=412)—Headache (54), Diarrhea (50), Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy (52), Rash (40), Nausea and Vomiting (39); and zidovudine 200 mg 3 times daily (n=402)—Headache (49), Diarrhea (44), Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy (39), Rash (35), Nausea and Vomiting (44). Study A455-019 had a median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks and a median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks. Pancreatitis was observed in three of the 412 adult patients who received ZERIT in a controlled monotherapy study. Selected clinical adverse events that occurred in antiretroviral naïve adult patients receiving ZERIT from two controlled combination studies are provided by percentages as follows: START 1—ZERIT+lamivudine+indinavir (n=100) with a duration of 48 weeks—Nausea (43), Diarrhea (34), Headache (25), Rash (18), Vomiting (18), Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy (18), zidovudine+lamivudine+indinavir (n=102)—Nausea (63), Diarrhea (16), Headache (26), Rash (13), Vomiting (33), Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy (7), START 2—ZERIT+didanosine+indinavir (n=102) with a duration of 48 weeks—Nausea (53), Diarrhea (45), Headache (48), Rash (30), Vomiting (30), Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy (21), zidovudine+lamivudine+indinavir (n=103)—Nausea (67), Diarrhea (39), Headache (37), Rash (18), Vomiting (35), Peripheral Neurologic Symptoms/Neuropathy (10). START 2 compared two triple-combination regimens in 205 treatment-naïve patients. Patients received either ZERIT (40 mg twice daily) plus didanosine plus indinavir or zidovudine plus lamivudine plus indinavir. Pancreatitis resulting in death was observed in patients treated with ZERIT plus didanosine, with or without hydroxyurea, in controlled clinical studies and in postmarketing reports. Selected laboratory abnormalities reported in a controlled monotherapy study (Study A455-019) are provided by percentage with the following parameters: ZERIT 40 mg twice daily (n=412)—AST (SGOT) >5.0 x ULN (upper limit of normal)—11%, ALT (SGPT) >5.0 x ULN—13%, Amylase ≥1.4 x ULN—14% and zidovudine 200 mg 3 times daily (n=402)—AST (SGOT) >5.0 x ULN—10%, ALT (SGPT) >5.0 x ULN—11%, Amylase ≥1.4 x ULN—13%. Data presented for patients of Study A455-019 for whom laboratory evaluations were performed. Study A455-019 had a median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks and a median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks. Selected laboratory abnormalities reported in two controlled combination studies, START 1 and START 2 are provided Grades 3-4 presented first by percentage as follows: (Grades 3-4) START 1—ZERIT+lamivudine+indinavir (n=100)—Bilirubin >2.6 x ULN (upper limit of normal)—7%, SGOT (AST) >5 x ULN—5%, SGPT (ALT) >5 x ULN—6%, GGT >5 x ULN—2%, Lipase >2 x ULN—6%, Amylase >2 x ULN—4%, zidovudine+lamiv-

udine+indinavir (n=102)—Bilirubin >2.6 x ULN—6%, SGOT (AST) >5 x ULN—2%, SGPT (ALT) >5 x ULN—2%, GGT >5 x ULN—2%, Lipase >2 x ULN—3%, Amylase >2 x ULN—1%. Percentages for (Grades 3-4) START 2—ZERIT (stavudine)+didanosine+indinavir (n=102)—Bilirubin >2.6 x ULN—16%, SGOT (AST) >5 x ULN—7%, SGPT (ALT) >5 x ULN—7%, GGT >5 x ULN—8%, Lipase >2 x ULN—5%, Amylase >2 x ULN—8%, zidovudine+lamivudine+indinavir (n=103)—Bilirubin >2.6 x ULN—8%, SGOT (AST) >5 x ULN—7%, SGPT (ALT) >5 x ULN—5%, GGT >5 x ULN—2%, Lipase >2 x ULN—5%, Amylase >2 x ULN—2%. Percentages for (All Grades) START 1—ZERIT+lamivudine+indinavir (n=100)—Total Bilirubin—65%, SGOT (AST)—42%, SGPT (ALT)—40%, GGT—15%, Lipase—27%, Amylase—21%, zidovudine+lamivudine+indinavir (n=102)—Total Bilirubin—60%, SGOT (AST)—20%, SGPT (ALT)—20%, GGT—8%, Lipase—12%, Amylase—19%. Percentages for (All Grades) START 2—ZERIT+didanosine+indinavir (n=102)—Total Bilirubin—68%, SGOT (AST)—53%, SGPT (ALT)—50%, GGT—28%, Lipase—26%, Amylase—31%, zidovudine+lamivudine+indinavir (n=103)—Total Bilirubin—68%, SGOT (AST)—20%, SGPT (ALT)—18%, GGT—12%, Lipase—19%, Amylase—17%. **Observed During Clinical Practice:** The following events have been identified during post-approval use of ZERIT. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to their seriousness, frequency of reporting, causal connection to ZERIT, or a combination of these factors. **Body as a Whole:** abdominal pain, allergic reaction, and chills/fever. **Digestive Disorders:** anorexia. **Exocrine Gland Disorders:** pancreatitis (including fatal cases) (see WARNINGS). **Hematologic Disorders:** anemia, leukopenia, and thrombocytopenia. **Liver:** lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), hepatitis and liver failure. **Musculoskeletal:** myalgia. **Nervous System:** insomnia. **Pediatric Patients:** Adverse reactions and serious laboratory abnormalities in pediatric patients were similar in type and frequency to those seen in adult patients.

OVERDOSSAGE
Experience with adults treated with 12 to 24 times the recommended daily dosage revealed no acute toxicity. Complications of chronic overdose include peripheral neuropathy and hepatic toxicity. Stavudine can be removed by hemodialysis; the mean ±SD hemodialysis clearance of stavudine is 120 ± 18 mL/min. Whether stavudine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis has not been studied.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
The interval between doses of ZERIT should be 12 hours. ZERIT may be taken without regard to meals. **Adults:** The recommended dose based on body weight is as follows: 40 mg twice daily for patients ≥60 kg and 30 mg twice daily for patients <60 kg. **Pediatrics:** The recommended dose for pediatric patients weighing less than 30 kg is 1 mg/kg/dose, given every 12 hours. Pediatric patients weighing 30 kg or greater should receive the recommended adult dosage. **Dosage Adjustment:** Patients should be monitored for the development of peripheral neuropathy, which is usually manifested by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. These symptoms may be difficult to detect in young children (see WARNINGS). If these symptoms develop during treatment, stavudine therapy should be interrupted. Symptoms may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, patients may tolerate resumption of treatment at one-half the recommended dose. 20 mg twice daily for patients ≥60 kg and 15 mg twice daily for patients <60 kg. If neuropathy recurs after resumption of ZERIT, permanent discontinuation of ZERIT should be considered. **Renal Impairment:** ZERIT may be administered to adult patients with impaired renal function with adjustment in dose by patient weight as follows: Creatinine Clearance (mL/min) of >50 (≥60 kg) 40 mg every 12 hours and <60 kg 30 mg every 12 hours; Creatinine Clearance (mL/min) of 26-50 (≥60 kg) 20 mg every 12 hours and <60 kg 15 mg every 12 hours; Creatinine Clearance (mL/min) of 10-25 (≥60 kg) 20 mg every 24 hours and <60 kg 15 mg every 24 hours. Since urinary excretion is also a major route of elimination of stavudine in pediatric patients, the clearance of stavudine may be altered in children with renal impairment. Although there are insufficient data to recommend a specific dose adjustment of ZERIT in this patient population, a reduction in the dose and/or an increase in the interval between doses should be considered. **Hemodialysis Patients:** The recommended dose is 20 mg every 24 hours (≥60 kg) or 15 mg every 24 hours (<60 kg), administered after the completion of hemodialysis and at the same time of day on non-dialysis days. **Method of Preparation: ZERIT for Oral Solution**—Prior to dispensing, the pharmacist must constitute the dry powder with purified water to a concentration of 1 mg stavudine per mL of solution, as follows: 1. Add 202 mL of purified water to the container. 2. Shake container vigorously until the powder dissolves completely. Constitution in this way produces 200 mL (deliverable volume) of 1 mg/mL stavudine solution. The solution may appear slightly hazy. 3. Dispense solution in original container with measuring cup provided. Instruct patient to shake the container vigorously prior to measuring each dose and to store the tightly closed container in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.

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

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 & dark orange	BMS 1966	30	0003-1966-01
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967	40	0003-1967-01

ZERIT® (stavudine) 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 and in the DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION section of this insert. ZERIT for Oral Solution (NDC No. 0003-1968-01) is available in child-resistant containers that provide 200 mL of solution after constitution with water.

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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Revised August 2000

Gore, they often possessed." That would be welcome, but it's not likely gay activists are capable of it. The very idea that gay voters have been "sucked in" by the sinister Republicans, as Signorile puts it, suggests gay activists think these voters are too stupid or too ignorant to appreciate their real interests.

Signorile's second explanation for the large gay Republican vote is that gays, unlike more reliably Democratic voters, "aren't disproportionately poor and marginalized." What a pity. If the preconditions for monolithic loyalty to the Democratic Party are poverty and marginalization, we can be forgiven for straying from the fold.

Here's a simpler explanation: A million gay voters walked into their polling places and decided that, on balance, Bush was the better choice.

There are plausible and defensible reasons for that choice. Perhaps gay issues were peripheral to these voters; they may have considered taxes and the future of Social Security more immediately relevant to their lives. Or perhaps many of them concluded that, while Gore was better on gay issues, he was actually unlikely to get anything done on them. Or perhaps on the issues on which Gore was said to be preferable—like employment discrimination protection and hate crimes laws—they disagree with the wisdom of the policy. Or perhaps they were so disgusted by the Clinton-Gore administration's two great gay-rights legacies—the antigay military exclusion and the Defense of Marriage Act—that they decided to punish the Democrats.

It's not that these gay Bush voters are stupid, it's that they dissent from the approved gay view of what's important in the world. It's not that they don't care about gay rights, it's that they define gay civil rights on their own terms. It's not that they're easily sucked in by deceptive Republicans, it's that they've been taken for granted by the Democrats. I know this is hard for gay activists in Washington, D.C., to believe, but not every gay person wakes up thinking life would be great if only Congress would pass a hate crimes law.

The Democrats are in no immediate danger of losing their gay majority. Only two minority groups—blacks (90 percent for Gore) and Jews (79 percent for Gore)—are more steadfast. By most accounts, a 70 percent endorsement is still a landslide.

But it's increasingly clear that at least a significant minority of the gay vote is up for grabs. That should make both Democrats and Republicans work harder for our support. Whatever your politics, it is a welcome development. ■



Dave Page
Account Manager

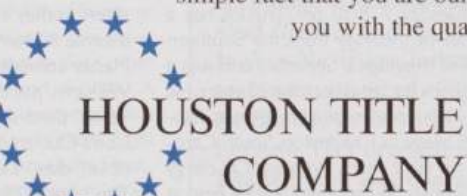
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Calendar of Events

Deadline for OutSmart's February issue is 5 p.m., Friday, January 12.

JANUARY

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (Wed.)

HIV Testing. The Montrose Clinic offers free confidential HIV testing and counseling every Wednesday, 6-9 pm @ the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. Center: 713/524-3818. Clinic: 713/830-3000. **PLEASE NOTE:** Free & confidential HIV/AIDS testing is also available from 2-4 pm on the 10th & 24th in Conroe at Northwoods AIDS Coalition, 1414 South Frazier, Ste. 106. More info: 936/441-1614.

5 (Fri.)

Screen Gems. Premiering in January, the first Friday Movie Night program will feature double bills with a gay or camp spin. The features this month salute Cary Grant & Paul Newman, two January birthday boys and legendary leading men. The 1938 comedy *Bringing Up Baby* stars Grant (rumored to have been more than roomies with stunning Randolph Scott...hmm) and gay fave Katharine Hepburn. Newman, an avowed gay rights supporter, smolders in the 1958 *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, based on gay writer Tennessee Williams's play and co-starring gay champion Elizabeth

Taylor and that famous slip. Complimentary popcorn will be served. The \$4 admission includes one free soft drink; additional beverages will be available at a nominal cost. 7 pm @ the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne, 713/524-3818.

6-9 (Sat.-Tue.)

Bible Abuse. Dr. Rembert Truluck, author of *Steps to Recovery from Bible Abuse*, will present a workshop on the book title, Saturday, 10 am-3 pm; preach at 9 & 11 am services on Sunday; and present a seminar on "Why Religion Has Failed" on Tuesday, 7-8:30 pm. Truluck has a doctor of theology from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and was a Southern Baptist pastor for 20 years. He was also a professor of religion at Baptist College in Charleston, South Carolina, for eight years. He has MCC clergy credentials. All programs will be held at Resurrection MCC Church, 2025 West 11th Street. Copies of Truluck's book may be ordered from Resurrection Inspirations bookstore by calling 713/861-9149, ext. 116.

9, 11, 16, 18 (Tue. & Thu.)

FreshStart. Wanna quit smoking?

FreshStart consists of four 1 1/2-hour sessions held during a two-week period and range from 12-15 persons. Participants must pre-register with a \$20 deposit, which is refunded after completion of all four classes. 6-7:30 pm @ 6301 Richmond. To register or for more info on smoking cessation methods, call the American Cancer Society at 713/266-2877.

9-14 (Tue.-Sun.)

A Tuna Christmas. The holidays may be over, but laughing till you pee is never out of season. Join the Tuna characters as they attempt to cope with the traumas & dramas of the holiday season. Master comedians Joe Sears and Jaston Williams portray all 24 denizens of Texas' third-smallest town, where the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies. Tickets \$11-\$36 (Tue.-Thu.) and \$28-\$48 (Fri.-Sun.). 8 pm, Tue.-Fri.; 2 & 8 pm, Sat.; 2 & 7 pm, Sun. @ Galveston's Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice, 409/765-1894.

11 (Thu.)

For Art's Sake. The ongoing partnership between the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center and the Posi-

INFO NEEDED FOR YOUR EVENT LISTING: a few lines of info about your event; date/time; cost; location/address; organization name; AND two phone numbers—one for OutSmart to reach you for questions and one for OutSmart readers to get more info on your event. **Mail info to:** OutSmart Magazine, 3406 Audubon Place, Houston 77006. **Fax info to:** 713/522-3275. **E-mail info to:** calendar@outsmartmagazine.com. **NO LISTINGS CAN BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE DATE—FRI., JAN. 12.**

tive Art Workshops continues with the 3rd annual installation of photographs by artists living with HIV/AIDS. Positive Art Workshop Exhibition, which opened in December at the Glassell School of Art, features black-and-white Polaroids accompanied by text written by the artists. The January 11 reception honors the artists and Patrick Palmer, who recently marked the 10th anniversary of the weekly art program he began. 7 pm @ the center, 803 Hawthorne. More info: 713/524-3818.

12 (Fri.)

Elvis Lives! Elvis Aron Presley has another birthday on Jan. 8, and Comedy-

Sportz-Houston is here to celebrate. The King of Rock 'n' Roll will be honored with games & suggestions straight from Graceland. And if you dress up like the King, they'll knock \$2 off your admission price! (The young Elvis only, please...they don't want to disgust anyone.) If you're unfamiliar with ComedySportz-Houston, they are an improvisational comedy troupe. 7:30 & 10 pm @ Lambert Hall, 1703 Heights Blvd. Admission is \$10. Info/reservations: 713/868-1444.

12 (Fri.)

Borders Beatsles Fest II. Featuring the *Complete Idiot's Guide to the Beatles*, Borders is hosting another Beatles trivia contest to coincide with a January Beatles movie release. 7 pm @ Borders, 3025 Kirby at W. Alabama. More info: 713/524-0200.

12-14 (Fri.-Sun.)

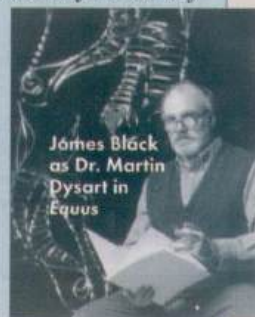
The Canadian Brass. It's the 30th anniversary of the world-renowned ensemble, whose appeal & popularity bridges the gap between musicians & audiences through education & humor. Tickets \$22-\$76. Fri. & Sat. at 8 pm, Sun. at 7:30 pm @ Jones Hall, 615 Louisiana. More info: 713/224-7575 or visit www.houstonsymphony.com.

13 & 14 (Sat. & Sun.)

Sound and Fury. Ten years after its invention, the cochlear implant is still as controversial as ever. The device, which allows those who are deaf to hear, is hailed by some as a miracle of modern science, while the deaf community sees it as the death of their culture. This profoundly moving documentary presents both sides of this fiery issue by focusing on the Artinian family, a microcosm of this raging debate, and how the hearing brother decides to implant his deaf son with the device, and how his deaf brother refuses to accept it for his children. Hailed by the *New York Times* as a "powerful, insightful, important, and emotionally wrenching" film, *Sound and Fury* raises profound questions about cultural identity within and outside the community. \$5 (students/seniors \$4). 7 & 9 pm both nights @ Rice Media Center, University Blvd. & Stockton Dr., entrance #8. Info: 713/348-4853 or visit www.ruf.rice.edu/~cinema.

14 (Sun.)

Marathon. The 29th annual Compaq Houston Marathon begins and ends in front of the George R. Brown Convention Center and passes through many of Houston's ethnically diverse neighborhoods. Approximately 7,000 runners are expected for the 26.2-mile race. Divisions include open, masters, and wheelchair categories for men and women. 7:15 am is the wheelchair start; 7:30 starts the Compaq run; and 7:45 starts a Houston Cellular 5K fun run. The website address for the marathon is www.compaqhoustonmarathon.com. Marathon hot line is 713/957-3453; 5K hot line is 713/957-3757.



James Black as Dr. Martin Dysart in *Equus*

Also at the Alley: *Equus*

Winner of the 1975 Tony Award for Best Play and named by the Drama League as one of the top 10 plays of the 20th century, *Equus* is a powerful examination of hypocrisy, sexuality, and the nature of worship by the author of *Amadeus*, Peter Shaffer. When a psychiatrist investigates what would drive a 17-year-old boy to blind six horses, he finds himself face to face with his own demons. **Jan. 12-Feb. 10** at the Alley. Tickets (previews \$19-\$35; performances after Jan. 17 range from \$32-\$49) can be purchased at the Alley box office or by calling 713/228-8421.

tions to critical and audience raves. • *Follies* director and Alley Theatre resident company

actor Paul Hope has reassembled a dream team of local thespians representing three generations of actors who have graced Houston stages over five decades. "I always wanted to do a project with a great number of people from Houston's theatrical community," says Hope, who produced the original production. "I just started calling the people I'd considered for the fan-



Actor/director Paul Hope: his dream team does *Follies*.

tasy cast I always put together in my head." Hope's fantasy cast became a reality when his core ensemble jumped at the opportunity to reunite with their peers in this landmark musical about a reunion of entertainers; some had not seen each other in 30 years. • 8 p.m., Monday, **January 29** @ the Alley Theatre, 615 Texas Ave. A limited number of VIP tickets—including admission

Back by popular demand, a production of Stephen Sondheim and James Goldman's *Follies* featuring an all-star Houston cast of more than 30 actors with an on-stage chorus will be presented for one night only. • Set in 1971 at the fictitious Weisman Theatre on the eve of its demolition, *Follies* tells the "first and last reunion" of the Weisman girls, performers in impresario Dimitri Weisman's *Follies*, staged annually in the years between the two world wars. This theatrical engagement was first presented in August at Ova-

Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Center for AIDS: Hope and Remembrance Project, founded in 1995 as the first, and remains the only, AIDS organization exclusively providing treatment and research information to persons with HIV/AIDS, their caregivers, and healthcare providers in the greater Houston area. The center acts as a catalyst for the creation and the establishment of innovative HIV/AIDS research in Houston and advocates for the entire affected population, ensuring that Houston's regional needs are factored into the national, and now international, dialogue about HIV/AIDS.

THE WARDEN

Ally Sheedy in a Man's World

If you don't remember Ally Sheedy's award-winning performance in *High Art* (or if you simply missed the 1998 film), her character was a drug-induced lesbian and a rather depressing and weak one at that. (FYI: Sheedy's real mom is a lesbian.) Then in 1999, she went stage-bound as Hedwig, a German transsexual rock singer, in the acclaimed off-Broadway musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. • No drugs, lesbianism, transsexualism, or singing for Sheedy in the title role of her new TNT original film *The Warden*. Her character, Helen Hewitt, is "strong at times, weak at times,"

Sheedy says, "and all around just a very complex character, which is what drew me to the role." • When the film begins, Hewitt is an assistant warden at a women's correctional institution, and she is struggling to balance the demands of her job and her troubled marriage. When a riot breaks out and one inmate is killed at a neighboring all-male, maximum-security prison, Hewitt is called in to help deal with the aftermath. She is soon appointed the first female warden at the institution. • "When she gets to the prison," Sheedy says, "the story becomes twofold. There is the issue of her dealing with the prison being out of control. The secondary issue is my character grappling with her own ambition, and the question always looms as to whether she is doing things for the right reasons or is she letting her ambition get in the way and influence her decisions. There is the outer conflict of the prison that always exists as well as

Ally Sheedy in prison

her inner conflict." Hewitt also faces unexpected obstacles, including a staff who doesn't think she is up to the job and superiors who don't want her to succeed. "From the research that I've done and from what I've learned," Sheedy says, "the job of a warden is 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A warden is always on call, even if they are doing the job properly." Try juggling that with a relationship and a child. • Not knowing who to trust, Hewitt plows forward with the murder investigation, risking her life and her career not only to uncover the murderer but also to expose a scandalous cover-up within the corrections system. • *The Warden*, which co-stars Lindsay Crouse (nominated for an Academy Award for *Places in the Heart* and for an Emmy for *Between Mother and Daughter*), premieres Sunday, **January 14** on TNT at 7 p.m. with encores at 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. —Blase DiStefano

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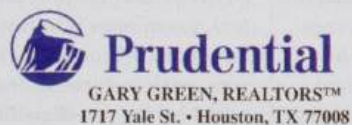


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Susan Kelly Broz

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enjoy cake and punch, both spiked and unspiked: \$10 donation benefits programming throughout the month. 8 pm @ the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. More info: 713/524-3818.

20 (Sat.)

Jekyll & Hyde. The ultimate story of true love and the epic battle between good and evil, this powerhouse musical will make you "mad" with luscious songs. Tickets \$14.50-\$55. 3 & 8 pm @ Galveston's Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice, 1-409-765-1894.

20 & 21 (Sat. & Sun.)

Easy Rider. Considering the low budget (under \$400,000) and the controversial nature of the '60s counterculture it depicts, the initial success of *Easy Rider*, directed by Dennis Hopper in 1969, was quite surprising. What isn't surprising is the continued appeal of the film classic, which depicts two Harley-Davidson-riding misfits (Peter Fonda & Dennis Hopper) speeding and smokin' their way through a conformist & corrupt America. Jack Nicholson has a memorable role as an ACLU lawyer that the pair encounters on their ride. 7:30 pm on Sat. and 7 pm on Sun. in the Museum of Fine Arts' Brown Auditorium, 1001 Bissonnet. \$5 admission (\$4 students/seniors). More info: 713/639-7531.

21 (Sun.)

Supper with the Family. Bring your favorite prepared dish the 3rd Sunday of every month for Dinner at the Center. This regular potluck supper will provide a convivial, chosen-family atmosphere for chatting, gossiping, and, of course, noshing. Call ahead to indicate what dish you will bring: 6 pm @ the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. For more info: 713/524-3818.

22 (Mon.)

Celebrating 1-Year Anniversary. Bering Support Network's gayDAR members, friends, and visitors are invited to celebrate their 1st anniversary. GayDAR (Dream*Affirm*Restore) is a wellness community of 22 to 35-year-old GLBT persons interested in making healthy connections & personal growth. GayDAR meets on Mondays at Bering Memorial UMC, 1440 Harold St., Room 218, at 7 pm. To RSVP/more info: Russ at 713-526-1017, ext. 206 or e-mail rbmumc@clearsail.net.

27 & 28 (Sat. & Sun.)

Cab Calloway's Legacy of Swing. Jazz singer and bandleader Cab Calloway was the King of Swing. From "Minnie the Moocher" to "Blues in My Heart" to "St. James Infirmary," Big Band 2001 salutes the music of Mr. Hi-De-Ho himself, as performed by his daughter Chris Calloway. Tickets \$14.50-\$26. 2 & 8 pm on Sat. and 2 pm on Sun. @ Galveston's Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice, 1-409-765-1894.

28 (Sun.)

Super Duper. Looking for a big-screen television for Super Bowl-watching? The Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center will turn on its hulking set for gridiron fans or people who just like to watch the commercials (or the cheerleaders ... or the men in tight white pants ...). Bring your favorite snacks to share with fellow fans. "Survivor" enthusiasts may want to linger after the game for the premiere of the Australian outback saga. 5:25 pm estimated kick-off time @ the center, 803 Hawthorne. For more info: 713/524-3818.

31 (Wed.)

Commemorating Roe v. Wade. Frank McCourt, winner of the 1997 Pulitzer Prize for *Angela's Ashes*, is the featured speaker for the Planned Parenthood's annual pro-choice luncheon. The event commemorates the 28th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. McCourt will read excerpts from his book and share childhood memories. Noon in the Westin Galleria Ballroom, 5060 W. Alabama. For tickets (\$50)/more info: 713/831-6519.

PLANNING AHEAD

FEBRUARY

Feb. 2 (Fri.)

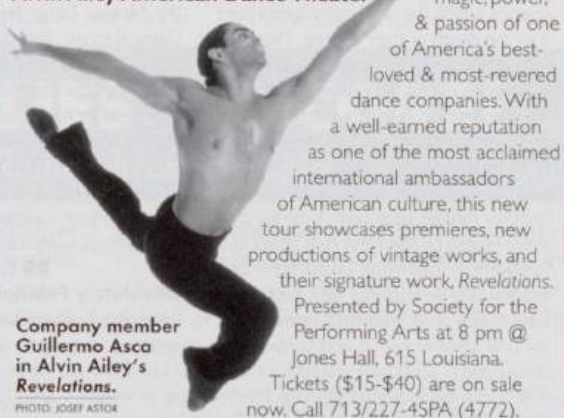
Impressionist Visions. In this concert, Da Camera, the producer & presenter of innovative ensemble music, explores historical parallels between Impressionism in music & painting. In addition to piano sketches by Liszt, Debussy, & Ravel, the program includes Fauré's *Piano Quartet in C Minor* and Debussy's *Sonata for Flute, Viola and Sharp*. 8 pm @ Wortham Center's Cullen Theater, 500 Texas Ave. Tickets (\$22-\$33) are available by calling Da Camera Music Center at 713/524-5050 or online at www.culturefinder.com.

Feb. 5 (Mon.)

Inspirational Teachers: Short Films includes Christopher Mitchell's film *Mr. Jinnah: The Making of Pakistan*. The film tells the forgotten story of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah, who believed in human rights, women's rights, minority rights, and the rule of law. *No One Believes the Professor*, directed by Farjad Nabi, in-

Feb. 16-18 (Fri.-Sun.)

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater



Company member Guillermo Asca in Alvin Ailey's *Revelations*. PHOTO: JOSEF ASTOR

Share in the magic, power, & passion of one of America's best-loved & most-revered dance companies. With a well-earned reputation as one of the most acclaimed international ambassadors of American culture, this new tour showcases premieres, new productions of vintage works, and their signature work, *Revelations*. Presented by Society for the Performing Arts at 8 pm @ Jones Hall, 615 Louisiana. Tickets (\$15-\$40) are on sale now. Call 713/227-45PA (4772).

Feb. 7 (Wed.)

A Little Day Music. Da Camera's free lunchtime performance series features the Marian Anderson String Quartet. Da Camera encourages concertgoers to bring & enjoy their lunches while listening to the music. Noon in the Grand Foyer of Wortham Theater Center, Texas at Smith. Info: 713/524-7601, ext. 15.

Feb. 9 & 10 (Fri. & Sat.)

All Clytemnestra on the Western Front. Michelle Spencer's reorganized version of Homer's epic poem is a tour de force one-woman show. In *A Techno-Feminist Reconstruction of the Illiad*, the narrative unfolds as the homebound Clytemnestra has video phone con-

versations with Agamemnon, Helen, Penelope, & Aegisthus—all of whom are played by Spencer. DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway. Info: 713/335-3445.

JUNE 5-10 (Tue.-Sun.)

Royal Dame. We know that this is a bit early to inform you of an event that won't take place till June, but this is not just any event. *Dame Edna: The Royal Tour* makes its way to Houston for what promises to be one helluva hilarious week. Tickets won't go on sale till probably the end of April, but stay tuned to *OutSmart* so that you can get the best seats in the castle ... uh, house ... to see the straight married man dressed in "royal" drag.



PERFORMING ARTS

◆ **Born Yesterday.** A hard-boiled millionaire hires a tutor for his brassy mistress, only to realize the girlfriend and the tutor have fallen in love. Fridays, Saturdays, & Sundays, Jan. 19-Feb. 10, @ the Country Playhouse, 12802 Queensbury, 713/467-4497.

◆ **Camp Logan.** A theatrical drama based on the 1917 courts-martial and execution of 19 black soldiers, *Camp Logan* delves into the world of the early military and discovers men who are sleeping with the enemy. It probes into the lives of the black soldiers who rose up in arms against the discrimination they encountered in 1917 while stationed at Houston's Camp Logan. This gripping drama reveals how war gives rise to unlikely heroes. Jan. 26-Feb. 27 @ The Ensemble Theatre, 3535 Main Street, 713/520-0055.

◆ **Equus.** Winner of the 1975 Tony Award for Best Play and named by the Drama League as one of the top 10 plays of the 20th century, *Equus* is a powerful examination of hypocrisy, sexuality, & the nature of worship by the celebrated author of *Amadeus*, Peter Shaffer. When a psychiatrist investigates what would drive a 17-year-old boy to savagely blind six horses with a metal spike in a stable in rural England, he finds himself face to face with his own personal demons. Jan. 12-Feb. 10 @ the Alley Theatre, 615 Texas Ave. Tickets to preview performances are \$19-\$35; tickets to performances on or after the Jan. 17 opening range from \$32-\$49. Tickets can be purchased at the Alley box office or by calling 713/228-8421.

◆ **Eyes for Consuela.** The Houston premiere of Sam Shepard's *Eyes for Consuela* begins with a disheveled, middle-aged Henry waking from a nightmare into the dreamlike reality of remote Mexico, a torpid limbo. Henry is a lost soul from the American middle-class

who has abandoned his wife in snow-bound Michigan and finds himself alone in a vine-shrouded "hotel" among lizards, snakes, & ghosts. Tickets \$14 (students/seniors \$10). Fridays & Saturdays at 8 pm, Sundays at 2 pm, Jan. 19-Feb. 24 @ Actors Theatre of Houston, 2506 South Boulevard, 713/529-6606.

◆ **Fiddler on the Roof** is back on tour with Theodore Bikel as Tevye, the humble milkman who struggles to preserve his family

traditions in the face of a changing world; Bikel has played the role of Tevye over 1,600 times in his career. Winner of nine 1965 Tony Awards and the recipient of the 1965 New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Musical, *Fiddler* opened on Broadway on Sept. 22, 1964; a generation later, it remains the ninth longest-running show in Broadway musical history. Jan. 23-28 @ Jones Hall, 615 Louisiana. Tickets (\$30-\$55) can be purchased at all Ticketmaster outlets and online at Ticketmaster.com; to charge by phone, call 713/629-3700. Please note: The 2:00 matinee on Saturday, January 27, will be captioned for the hearing impaired; the TDD# for tickets is 1-800-755-6244.

◆ **Houston Grand Opera (HGO)** revives its delightful production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*. Two couples are manipulated and tricked by the crafty old Don Alfonso and a maid into believing that their lovers cannot be faithful. • HGO also presents its first performance of Borodin's Russian epic, *Prince Igor*. Set in 12th-century Russia, Igor Sviatoslavich leaves his wife in the care of her brother and sets out with his army against a Tartar tribe from Central Asia. Prince Igor & his son are captured in battle, but the prince is assured that he is a guest and not a captive. • *Così fan tutte* runs Jan. 19-Feb. 10; *Prince Igor* runs Jan. 26-Feb. 11. • Each opera: \$22-\$200; tickets available by phone at 713/227-ARTS, in person at the Wortham Ticket Center (in the Wortham lobby), or online at www.houstongrandopera.org. Both operas: Wortham Center's Brown Theater, Texas at Smith.

◆ **Old Wicked Songs.** Stephen Hoffman, a young pianist troubled by artistic block, travels to Vienna and enlists the help of an elderly singing instructor to help him return to the stage. The student-teacher relationship evolves, though not without conflict, as Stephen and his instructor, Josef Mashkan, clash not only over musical style & technique but religion & history. Ultimately, Stephen's journey of self-discovery &



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rejuvenated passion for music help the instructor come to terms with his own past. Jan. 19-Feb. 11 @ Stages Repertory Theatre, 3201 Allen Parkway. More info: 713/52-STAGE.

♦ **The Soft Dances.** By women, about women, but for everyone, *Soft Dances* traverses the female experience through dance & theater. Driven by the creative talents of Myrna Renaud, *Soft Dances* will include the use of spoken & sung words in Spanish, Portuguese, & English. Choreographer, writer, designer, composer, & director Renaud will work in complete collaboration with her three invited performers Rosa Cuellar Juarez, Sandy Dunn, & Luci Dabney. "These are the women who have nurtured my way in the past 23 years of my Texas experience," says Renaud. The evening length dance/theater piece will be about friendship, maturity, freedom, ambition, spirituality, & more, according to Renaud. Residency: Jan. 14-Feb. 4. Performances: Friday & Saturday, Feb. 2 & 3, 8 pm @ DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway. More info: 713/355-3445.

♦ **Visiting Mr. Green.** The elderly retired Mr. Green wanders into traffic and is almost hit by a 29-year-old corporate executive. The young man is charged with reckless driving and given a community-service sentence of helping Mr. Green once a week for six months. Parental discretion. Jan. 12-Feb. 17 @ The Little Room Downstairs Theater, 2326 Bissonnet, 713/522-LRDS (5737).

PERFORMING ARTS

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

♦ **The Courage of Mandy Kate Brown.** Follow the journey of a young slave girl traveling the famous Underground Railroad as her courage creates a bridge between two warring countries. For 1st-8th grades. Jan. 27-Mar. 3 @ Stages Repertory Theatre, Allen Parkway at Waugh Drive, 713/52-STAGE.

♦ **Emily Saves the Houston Symphony.** The imaginative & fun Platypus Theatre is back by popular demand with a new program & zany puppets. Find out how Emily restores musical order out of chaos! For children ages 4 to 13 and their families. Sat, Jan. 13 (10 am with pre-concert activities beginning at 9 am; and 11:30 am with post-concert activities beginning following the concert) @ Jones Hall, 615 Louisiana. Tickets: \$13 adults, \$8 children in reserved seating (main floor, box seats, & grand tier), and \$8 adults, \$4 children in general admission seating (mezzanine & balcony).

RADIO

♦ **After Hours** Saturdays, midnight to 3 am. Featuring the QMZ (Queer Music Zone) with Jimmy Carper. KPFT 90.1 FM.

♦ **Lesbian & Gay Voices** Mondays, 8-10 pm. Features, news, music, interviews, reviews, and commentary. KPFT 90.1 FM, 713/526-4000.

ART/PHOTOGRAPHY

♦ **Art Classes for People With HIV: The Art League of Houston** is offering free art classes for people with HIV. The ongoing course meets every Thursday & Friday from 1-4 pm at the Art League, 1953 Montrose. Mixed media projects for the artist and non-artist. Constructive art-making in a relaxed atmosphere. Focus is on the healing power of art. More info: 713/523-9530. **The Museum of Fine Arts Houston** is offering free art classes for those with HIV/AIDS. Patrick Palmer begins his 9th year offering art in-

struction. Abstract painting, linoleum-cut greeting cards, & ceramics are some of the media offerings for the fall semester. Class is limited to 16. Everything is free, even lunch! The classes meet at the Glassell School of Art every Friday, 1-4 pm, 5101 Montrose Blvd., room 202. For more info: 713/639-7500 or 713/526-1118.

♦ **Art-o-mat.** DiverseWorks joins a network of sites throughout the U.S. serving as hosts for a national project known as Art-o-mat. Artists T. Clark Whittington and George Doles III, residents of the tobacco town of Winston-Salem, founded the Art-o-mat project in 1997. Their mission was to create an outlet where artists can expose their names & works to people who would otherwise not see it. They worked under the premise that art should be progressive, yet personal & approachable. What better way to do this than with a heavy cold steel machine? Whittington has refurbished an old cigarette vending machine specifically for DiverseWorks. The group Artists In Cellophane, as well as Houston-based artists, have filled the machine with original works of art that can be yours to keep for a mere \$3-\$5. The machine will be refilled with new art monthly. DiverseWorks will keep it filled to meet your demand. Through June 2001 @ DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway, 713/223-8346.

♦ **Humanoid** is a whimsical, colorful, strange presentation of works by 12 artists whose art is inspired by, although not necessarily representative of, the human form. Flesh, orifices, body parts, & other-worldly characters inhabit the works. Somehow, skewed realism, bulbous abstraction, melodrama, vibrating colors & patterns, and melancholy find common ground through shared carnality & wry wit. Jan. 12-Feb. 24 @ DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway, 713/223-8346. Opening reception: Friday, Jan. 12, 5-7 pm.

♦ **Pleasurescape** is a new installation by award-winning designer Karim Rashid, who is internationally recognized as one of the most innovative designers working today. His vision for the future is one where furniture & space merge. Jan. 25-Feb. 25 @ Rice University Art Gallery, campus entrance 1 at the intersection of Main Street & Sunset Blvd. The opening reception on Jan. 25 (5:30-7:30 pm) will feature Rashid at 6 pm. Refreshments will be served. More info: 713/348-6069.

♦ **Positive Art.** The photographs in this exhibition were taken by participants in the Positive Art Workshops of the Glassell School of Art. The workshops target adults who are HIV positive. Participants were

encouraged to make images and keep journal entries that revolved around issues of self or that described a sense of place. The resulting work is a fascinating insight into the lives, feelings, thoughts, & poetry of people who have been afflicted by HIV. The exhibition travels from its December home at the Glassell School of Art to its new home at the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center and is scheduled to go up the first week of January and will probably hang around till the spring at the center, 803 Hawthorne, 713/524-3818.

Untitled, by D.C.C., black-and-white Polaroid.

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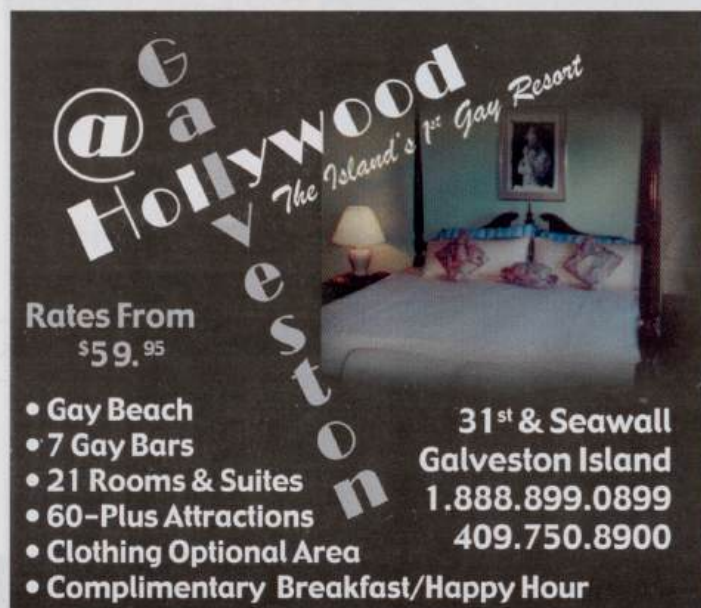
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Kate Clinton (comedian)

(The Advocate, 12/19/2000, Kate Clinton)

I told a friend of mine that if the unthinkable happened and W was elected, I was going to let my hair grow. She said, "Oh, great, two really unpleasant things." . . . I cannot go through another campaign with mostly white boys talking with other white boys about other white boys. . . . Meanwhile, let's see this crisis as an opportunity. Imagine the possibilities of a "Bush and Dick" administration. We're on comedy cruise control for the next four years!

Richard Gere (actor)

(Us Weekly, 10/23/2000, Nina Burleigh)

Nina Burleigh: In 1994, when your four-year marriage to Cindy Crawford was on the rocks, you ran an ad in the *London Times* refuting a rash of newspaper articles that said you were gay and that your marriage was a sham. Do you have second thoughts about the way you handled that now?

Richard Gere: I don't know. It was complicated legally. . . . In order to win a defamation lawsuit, you have to prove that the articles were malicious in their intent. So by running this ad, everyone knew our version of the truth and anyone who printed the opposite of that after it ran would be extremely liable. And it worked. The articles stopped.

So why did you decide to respond at that point?

It was harassment. At first, I wasn't taking the stories seriously. I mean, I know the truth. It's much easier to say "Well, it's just wrong, forget it." But in this case, we were having emotional issues in the marriage and the stories exacerbated them. So Cindy and I decided to try to stop the articles. Before then, I had never made a statement about tabloid stories. I didn't care. But she was involved, I was involved, the situation and rumors had gotten out of control. We had to do something. But would I do the same thing today. Probably not.

Meredith Vieira, Star Jones, and Joy Behar (talk-show hosts)

(TV Guide, 12/2/2000, Ileana Rudolph)

Ileana Rudolph: Who was your favorite guest [on *The View*]? **Meredith Vieira:** Dr. Laura [Schlessinger]. We really enjoyed her [laughter].

Star Jones: She did not like us. She went on the radio show the next day. . .

Joy Behar: And said we were bitches.

Jones: But Dr. Laura would never use that word.

Bill Clinton (ex-president)

One year ago this month (January 19), Bill Clinton became the first president to utter the heretofore unmentionable "sexual orientation" in a state of the union address: "Discrimination or violence because of race or religion, ancestry or gender, disability or sexual orientation, is wrong and ought to be illegal."

Queer Ques

Compiled by Blase DiStefano

Kelly (female dog)

(Entertainment Weekly, 12/8/2000, Josh Wolk)

EW [Entertainment Weekly]: catches up with Kelly, Hollywood's hottest new canine star, fresh off her gender-bending turn as Max in *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas*.

Josh Wolk: Was it tough playing a guy through this whole movie?

Kelly: Well, Linda Hunt did the same thing in *The Year of Living Dangerously*, and she won an Oscar. (Note to Academy!) But she got to wear clothes, so she had a leg up, as it were.

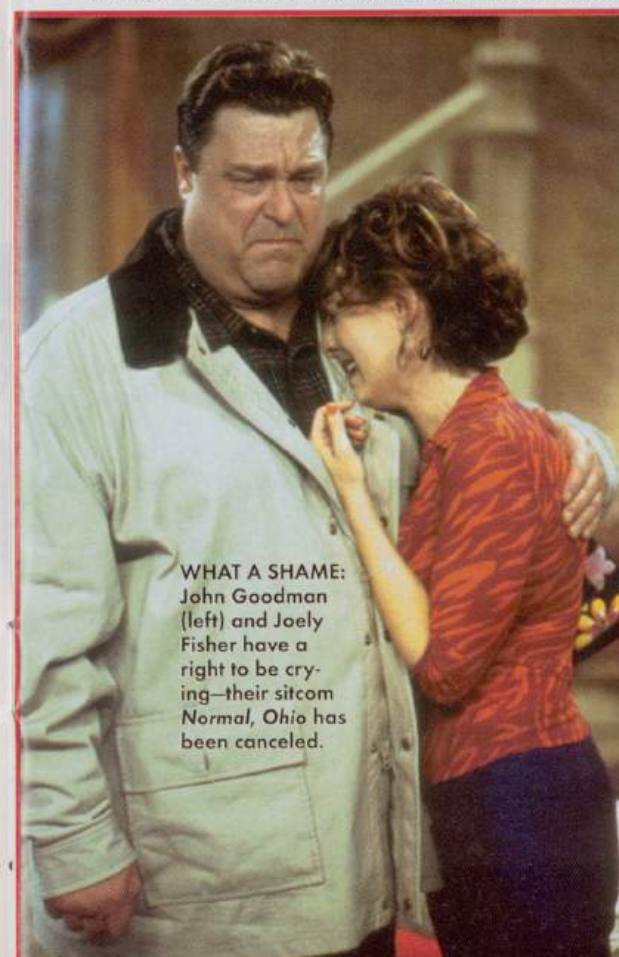
John Goodman (actor)

(The Advocate, 12/19/2000, Bruce Vilanch)

Bruce Vilanch: People have always been screaming for a show in which the gay character is not just *the gay character*—and now we've got one [Goodman plays Butch in the Fox sitcom *Normal, Ohio*, which was canceled last month]. But after *Will & Grace*, there will no doubt be people who feel Butch isn't gay enough.

John Goodman: Well, I made a choice. I didn't want to swish around and be stereotypical . . . not that that's what they do on [*Will & Grace*]. But as an actor . . . I had to draw on what I remember. When I first moved to

New York I moved in with a gay man. He put me and my girlfriend up for a couple of years—put up with us too—and he was not the stereotype at all. He'd take me to gay bars, and all I really remember was thinking how stupid I was to be "askerd" as I was, 'cause there was no reason to be, and I kinda learned a lot there. Anyway, when I went to college we were famous for our musicals, and I think that about says it all right there. That and the fact that I was kicked out of a production of *The Madness of Lady Bright*. I guess I've always been in conflict!



WHAT A SHAME: John Goodman (left) and Joely Fisher have a right to be crying—their sitcom *Normal, Ohio* has been canceled.



WHAT A DOLL: The Mattel Cher is coming soon. Inset: Jack (Sean Hayes) plays with the Cher doll in a recent episode of *Will & Grace*.



The Cher Doll

(Entertainment Weekly, 12/2000, Joe Dziemianowicz)

[In November], Mattel's miniature replica of [Cher] was featured in an episode of *Will & Grace*. . . . [The doll] won't be in stores until May. . . . But at least one of the diva's disciples won't be shelling out \$39.95 at Toys "R" Us. Cocreator [of *Will & Grace*] Max Mutchnick snagged the prized prototype (estimated value: \$60,000) that Mattel presented to the *W&G* cast. "It's in my DNA to want a Cher doll," says the openly gay Mutchnick. "She's on a shelf in my office."

Mel Gibson (actor)

(Entertainment Weekly, 12/8/2000, Rebecca Ascher-Walsh)

Rebecca Ascher-Walsh: Does a woman want to be valued more by women friends or by her male partner?

Mel Gibson: Her male partner. If she's heterosexual. [Gibson, in the same article:] "I just preferred the experience of working with women [in *What Women Want*] to working with all the guys I usually work with. You don't have to go out in some stinky field and get all sweaty and run up a hill." With *What Women Want*, the actor says that escapes to the gym notwithstanding, "It was like I was one of the girls."

The Real New Year's List

Predictions and hopes and fears (oh, my!)—sometimes it seems the more we resolve we're going to change, the more we stay the same

by D.L. Murphy

I have spent the past month reading everyone else's hopes, fears, and predictions for the New Year. Boring, boring, and boring—most of the things these fearless forecasters talk about is of approximately zero interest to me. I figure I'm not terminally unique, so I bet the following are more in line with what real people are interested in. Read on, beloved reader:

1 First and foremost, I hope that this is the year that everyone makes sure his or her inner child is potty-trained.

★ I am afraid that grownups will continue to use "being in therapy" as some kind of get-out-of-jail-free card for bad behavior.

★ I predict that grownups will continue to act like children.

2 I hope that manners become popular again and that simple courtesy and thinking-of-the-other-guy become trendy behavior. (Remember "random acts of kindness and senseless beauty"?)

★ I fear that "hunh?" will become considered a proper response to a polite question.

★ I predict that we will continue our "me first" free-for-all. (How long do you wait before entering the intersection once the light has turned green?)

3 Speaking of not green, I hope everyone stops bitching about Bush being president and, instead, actually decides to do something about it, like giving five hours of your time each week or 5 percent of your income to organizations that work to make our community someplace we actually want to live. This seems to be a realistic alternative to letting Bush define our reality.

★ I am afraid that Bush's presidency will return us to the Eisenhower years (Happy Days, my ass). And that, as a result, I will have to wear a dress and pearls to go to work in my at-home office.



The future of gay television?
Lisa Simpson (left)
and Bobby Hill (above).



★ I predict that everyone will continue along pretty much as they are now.

4 I hope I get magic powers and can, among things I will not mention in this magazine, cast a spell upon my somewhat less than Martha Stewartesque house so that it becomes self-cleaning, self-repairing, and self-propagating. Note: There is a woman in

Ithaca, New York who legally changed her name to Self-Cleaning Oven. Think about it.

★ I fear that someone else will get these powers and use them in ways not to my liking.

★ I predict that no one will be given magic powers.

5 I hope that everyone uses his or her existing powers to make sure there is a place at the table for everyone in the GLBTQ (Queer) community.

★ I fear that a conservative backlash, and the resulting drop in funding, will set us at one another's throats, making it impossible to eat, much less sit, at the same table.

★ I predict that we will all continue to struggle toward righteousness.

6 I hope I finally get it together enough so I can always find my sneakers. And my wallet. And my car keys. And, most especially, my glasses. Before one of my housemates tells me they are on top of my head (again).

★ I fear that the aging process will accelerate exponentially, leaving me just a pile of drooling mush.

★ I predict that Mother Nature will operate at her own pace, in her own way. And that we foolish humans will act as though sheer force of will can change natural law.

7 I hope our community gets it together enough so that existing organizations mentor newly formed, struggling organizations.

★ I fear that the number of community organizations will decrease, leaving only the Log Cabin Republicans and Bunnies on the Bayou for entertainment. Note: This is not a criticism of Bunnies.

★ I predict that the number of community organizations will stay about the same, will act about the same, and will do about the same.

8 I hope the Fox network kicks Lisa Simpson or Bobby Hill right out of that closet. Providing a gay role model for children may be the only useful thing network TV ever does.

★ I fear that the Fox network will do something stupid, like have Waylon Smithers finally get into bed with Mr. Burns.

★ I predict that we will never predict what will happen next with network television.

9 I hope that I win the lottery. And then use some of the money to make all of these wishes come true. Except for the magic powers part, I don't think we can buy them. But money, in sufficient amounts, can make magic happen. Remember this when you do this year's budget. (What do you mean, you don't do a budget, or worse yet, don't give anything back to your community?)

★ I fear that I will win the lottery, changing my life in ways I don't even want to consider.

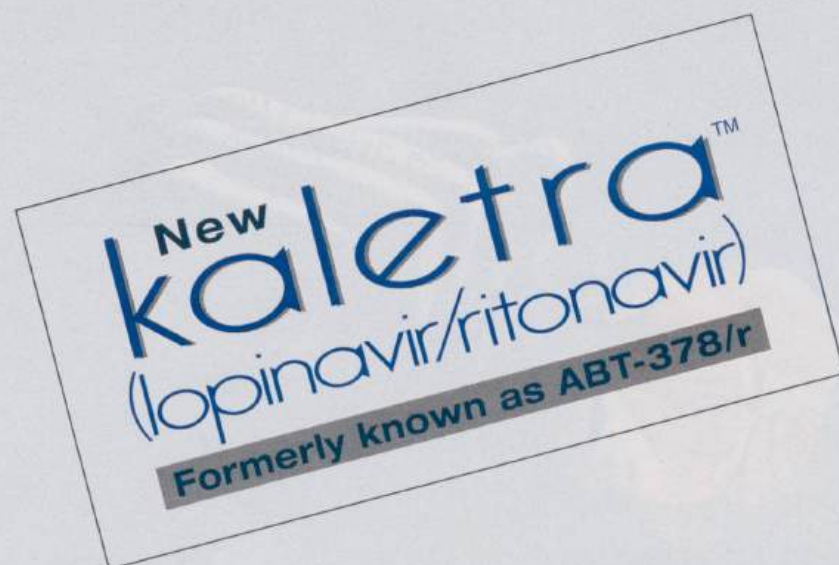
★ I predict that I will not win the lottery (I would have to buy a ticket first, right?).

Happy New Year, all. ■

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KALETRA™ is for the treatment of HIV infection in combination with other antiretroviral (ARV) agents. This is based on analyses of plasma HIV RNA levels and CD₄ T-cell counts in a controlled study of KALETRA of 24 weeks' duration and in smaller, uncontrolled, dose-ranging studies of KALETRA of 72 weeks' duration.

At present, there are no results from controlled trials evaluating the effect of KALETRA on the clinical progression of HIV.

KALETRA helps fight HIV

New KALETRA, when taken with other HIV medicines, has been shown to reduce the amount of HIV in the blood and increase the number of CD₄ T-cells. However, KALETRA is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time either. Individuals taking KALETRA may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection.

Over 24 weeks, most patients found that they could stay with a KALETRA-based regimen. Only 2% of 326 patients stopped taking KALETRA because of drug-related side effects (12% stopped for other reasons).

KALETRA is taken twice daily—in the morning and evening. Your healthcare professional will tell you how much KALETRA to take. KALETRA is to be taken with your choice of food, but there are no rules on what you eat or how much liquid you drink. KALETRA is also available as a liquid.

Safety considerations

KALETRA should not be used with ergotamine, ergonovine, dihydroergotamine, and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine® and others, Halcion® (triazolam), Hismanal® (astemizole), Orap® (pimozide), Propulsid® (cisapride), Rythmol® (propafenone), Seldane® (terfenadine), Tambocor™ (flecainide), Versed® (midazolam).

Taking certain drugs with KALETRA could create the potential for life-threatening side effects. Always talk to your doctor or pharmacist before starting new medications.

KALETRA should not be taken if you have had an allergic reaction to KALETRA (lopinavir/ritonavir) or any of its ingredients.

Pancreatitis and liver problems have been reported in patients receiving KALETRA. In some patients taking protease inhibitors, increased bleeding (in patients with hemophilia) and diabetes/high blood sugar have occurred. Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients receiving ARV therapy. Some patients receiving KALETRA have had large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol, which should be monitored before and during therapy.

The most commonly reported KALETRA-related side effects of moderate severity are: abnormal stools, diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea.

For more information about KALETRA: Call 1-800-441-4987 toll free.

Ask your doctor or other healthcare professional.

Please see adjacent page for Patient Information.

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 **Abbott Laboratories Inc.**
North Chicago, IL 60064

KALETRA™ (lopinavir/ritonavir) capsules (lopinavir/ritonavir) oral solution

ALERT: Find out about drugs that should NOT be taken with KALETRA. Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

Patient Information KALETRA™ (kuh-LEE-tra) Generic Name: lopinavir/ritonavir (lop-IN-uh-veer/rit-ON-uh-veer)

Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking KALETRA. Also, read it each time you get your KALETRA prescription refilled, in case something has changed. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor when you start this medicine and at check ups. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about KALETRA.

What is KALETRA and how does it work?

KALETRA is a combination of two medicines. They are lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is a type of medicine called an HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor. KALETRA is always used in combination with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. KALETRA is for adults and for children age 6 months and older.

HIV infection destroys CD4 (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops. KALETRA blocks HIV protease, a chemical which is needed for HIV to multiply. KALETRA reduces the amount of HIV in your blood and increases the number of T cells. Reducing the amount of HIV in the blood reduces the chance of death or infections that happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

Does KALETRA cure HIV or AIDS?

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

Does KALETRA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

KALETRA does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take KALETRA?

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
- Dosing in children from 6 months to 12 years of age: Children from 6 months to 12 years of age can also take KALETRA. The child's doctor will decide the right dose based on the child's weight.
- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.
- Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?

It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

What happens if I take too much KALETRA?

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA should be kept out of the reach of young children. KALETRA liquid contains a large amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

Who should not take KALETRA?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

Can I take KALETRA with other medications?*

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA.

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA: Dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine, and others
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Orap® (pimozide)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Rhythmol® (propafenone)
- Seldane® (terfenadine)
- Tambocor® (flecainide)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.
- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning

to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.

- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions, between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

Medicines that require dosage adjustments:

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together. You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

- If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.
- Efavirenz (Sustiva™) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.
- If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.
- A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:
 - Phenobarbital
 - Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
 - Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)
 These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.
- Other Special Considerations:** KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.
- If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA:** Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

- This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.
- The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that are thought to be drug related are: abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.
- Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.
- Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.
- Changes in body fat happen in some patients getting anti-HIV medicines. These changes may include increased fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast and abdomen (stomach area). Loss of fat from the face, legs, and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.
- There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

- If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant:* The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.
- If you are breast-feeding:* You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.
- If you have liver problems:* If you have liver problems or are infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.
- If you have diabetes:* Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.
- If you have hemophilia:* Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

How do I store KALETRA?

- Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
- Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

General advice about prescription medicines:

Talk to your doctor or other health care provider if you have any questions about this medicine or your condition. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you information about this medicine that was written for health care professionals. Do not use this medicine for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share this medicine with other people.

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GrooveOut

by Chris Sill

HE LOVES HIM (YEAH, YEAH, YEAH)

Out and singing about it,
Anthony Rapp is on his way
to being the next gay icon

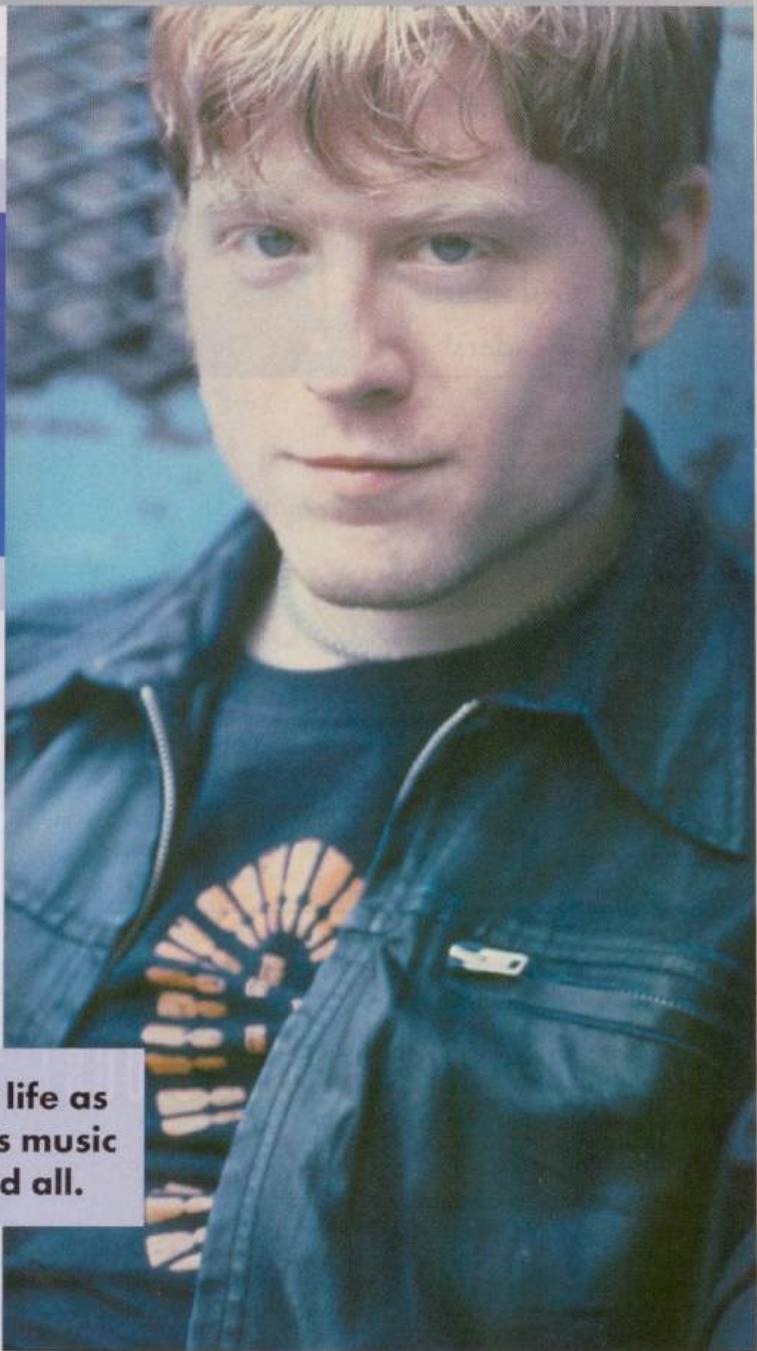
There is something liberating about publicly hearing a man declare his love and desire for another man . . . especially when it comes in the form of song. Although gay musicians have been expressing themselves for years, their work usually lacks the essential pronoun that identifies their true feelings. We never hear mainstream gay artists like Elton John or Melissa Etheridge crooning over "him" or "her." Be it a record label's cowardliness to allow such lyrics or the artists' own reluctance to sing them, love songs to and from gay men and women are seldom heard. One must dig deeper to find CDs with entirely gay content. Unquestionably, the Internet has eased the search for gay and lesbian artists, while at the same time giving artists an unclogged route to distribute their own product.

Such is the case with openly gay singer/songwriter Anthony Rapp.

Look Around, his first solo CD, is self-produced, self-released—and honestly and refreshingly

self-explanatory. It's quite simple really. Rapp lives his life as an out gay man and his music reflects it, pronouns and all. If Mr. Rapp's name sounds familiar, it should. He is best known for originating the role of Mark Cohen, the narrator in Broadway's smash hit *Rent*. Other Broadway credits include *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* and *Precious Sons*. On the screen, Rapp has played parts in films such as *Road Trip*, *Twister*, and *Dazed and Confused*.

With *Look Around*, Rapp takes a decidedly different musical course than his previous theatrical style. Here he steps into the hetero-dominated world of rock and roll. Where others may fear to tread, Rapp boldly goes with no inhibitions. "I want to create honest, open music that explores emotions and issues," he says. Rapp succeeds on many levels. Musically, *Look Around* covers quite a bit of territory. The opening jam "Living Alive" is nothing short of a gay rock anthem. "Human Tornado" revisits the new wave/alternative days of the early '80s. And "Room to Breathe" floats in an acoustical bliss of guitar and cello. Relating to Rapp's issues is something no lesbian or gay man will have difficulty with. From the guilt-ridden "Lesson Number One" to the comedic but truthful "Out Out Damn Spot," Rapp shoots straight from his queer heart and hits the bull's eye. The sweet love song "Just Some Guy" holds all the innocence and realness that any Smiths song ever



Anthony Rapp lives his life as an out gay man and his music reflects it, pronouns and all.

contained. Says Rapp, "The song is very gender-specific. This is a love song from one guy to another. It's the kind of song I would have liked to hear when I was growing up."

Look Around is a significant accomplishment for an openly gay artist, one that deserves the attention and support of the community it so richly represents. Rapp is well on his way to becoming the next gay icon. He has no qualms about it either. "I think I have a responsibility to present images that break down boundaries and stereotypes," he declares. "I'm obviously of the mind that coming out is a positive choice." Liberating indeed. ■

Anthony Rapp's Look Around (Paigow Productions) can be found online at <http://www.disgraceland.com>.

Chris Sill spins tunes at Rich's and can be reached at csill@infohwy.com.



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A Taste of Houston

Tapas-style reviews
OutSmart Restaurant Guide

A note about our "tapas" dining reviews: You may have noticed that our advertisers are listed in our tapas section. Biased? You bet! By advertising in *OutSmart*, our advertisers are indicating that the business of the gay & lesbian community is important to them—and that's important to us at *OutSmart*. Of course, there are many other excellent and supportive restaurants out there, and we rotate mention of them into our tapas section.

Beck's Prime

Multiple locations.
These upscale burger joints have been touted as the best in Houston, although many complain of inconsistent hamburgers, which sometimes taste like ground sirloin and other times like a prefab from Sam's. But there's no denying their unforgettable fries, the thick, skin-on kind that can be cooked extra crispy on request, nor their dessert-sized mocha shakes. And the Alpine Chicken sandwich—basted in hickory barbecue with sautéed onions, mushrooms and Swiss cheese—makes you wish you were bulimic so you could just keep on eating. \$

Café Chino

6140 Village Pkwy (b/w Amherst & Times)
713/524-4433
600 Travis (tunnel level @ Texas)
713/223-1011
Houston Chronicle food editor Ann Criswell was dead on when she referred to Café Chino's ethereal seared green beans as "a little slice of heaven." Owner Eddie Chen prides himself on his glass-enclosed kitchen and piping hot wok, and he should: each dish is meticulously prepared, and try as they might no other restaurant can duplicate those famous green beans, or that wonderfully textured cashew shrimp and chicken. And, contrary to its Hunan label, Chen added sushi to his already winning menu early last year. \$\$

Chianti

1515 South Post Oak Lane
713/840-0303
Sequestered in a little pocket of Tanglewood, this Italian sleeper exudes quaint—from the streamlined rustic Italian food to its sunken greenhouse of a dining room. Befitting its setting, the menu offers classic garden-variety Italian, except for the extraordinary stuffed artichoke, Insalata Caprese, and a spinach- and ricotta-stuffed ravioli lounging in a butter-sage pool with a simplicity that's almost startling. It's available for private parties in arguably the most picturesque setting in Houston (picturesque save for the ultra-hip martini bar tacked on to its western hip). \$\$

Estancia Grill

414 West Gray
713/807-1111
An open grill is the focal point of the kitchen at this casual upscale eatery. Already known for its Argentinian dishes, the new menu features cuisine from all of the Americas including Mexico and other Latin American countries. The bar menu serves up mouth-watering tapas. Also served are pastas, steaks and seafood entrees along with a variety of soups, salads and sandwiches all of which reflect the bold flavors of South America. Best of all, chef Greg Webb promises to dish up some of his favorite items, most notably the Opal Duckling. The atmosphere sparkles with simple elegance and the service is attentive. \$\$

Gugenheim's Delicatessen

1708 Post Oak Blvd. (@ San Felipe)
713/622-2773
Open wide and you still won't be able to close your mouth around one of these famous triple stackers. Where else but this New York clone can you order a beef brisket "jaw-breaker" and have enough left over for the next two nights? Giant matzo balls, crispy potato pancakes served with dollops of sour cream and apple sauce, cheese-filled blintzes, and the flakiest knishes to rival either of those other coasts. Knishes, blintzes, you ask? Don't ask. Just eat! \$

Java Java

911 11th Street
713/880-5282
A comfortable neighborhood restaurant that exemplifies the homey Heights, serving breakfast, lunch, and weekend dinner specials. Thursday is chicken fried steak night, Friday is seafood, and Saturday is prime rib. With a mural outside and the purple medley of painted plaster walls and rustic cement floors, owner Matt Parson has created a cozy "just settle yourself in" atmosphere. The menu offers healthy sandwiches, burgers, and pastas, and a salad bar worth visiting. A new covered patio is filled with tropical plants "from the yards of everybody who works here," says longtime waiter Richard. "We're all plant freaks and I said it doesn't make sense to go spend a lot of money on plants when we all have more than we know what to do with." \$

continued on page 58

DineOut
by E.J. Arnell

DAILY SURPRISE!

Another day,
another new and delicious dish
at the Daily Review Café



Give us this day our daily roasted pork loin stuffed with spinach, feta, cherries, and roasted walnuts, accompanied by herb-roasted red potatoes, sautéed green beans, and port wine herb jus.

Ever walk into your kitchen feeling hungry but not knowing what you feel like eating? Unaware of what food you have to cook with, you rummage around in cupboards and the bottom of your fridge, find a few things, and end up creating something tasty and fresh. This is the way the kitchen staff at Daily Review Café begins their workday. First they take stock of what is available and then use their imagination and experience to come up with the daily specials. Half of their menu changes every day.

This could be risky, but it's the kitchen at Daily Review that makes this restaurant so popular. Everything that I have eaten there was at least good and most things were excellent. Executive chef Anthony Bolt studied at the Art Institute of Houston in the culinary program and has hopped

around the state cooking at several restaurants including Mark's American Cuisine. Working together with owner Janice Beeson, they encourage the staff to be creative with everyone feeding off each other's enthusiasm.

This intimate café hides in a residential neighborhood. Townhouses may create its shade, but the food creates its charm. The atmosphere is casual with subtle cozy details—like the fresh flowers and tea candles on every table, or the tiny gold wasps printed on the burgundy fabric of the bench seats. When the weather permits, try sitting in their shaded patio, overlooking a grassy yard; right there in the garden grow herbs and lettuces that are used in the kitchen.

Of the four salads that they offer on a regular basis, I am familiar with two. One is the baked goat cheese salad, which makes a lovely appetizer plate. Baby field greens are topped with spiced pecans,

warm cheese, roasted garlic, and grilled apples and bread. It's a wonderful smorgasbord of flavors and textures. The other is the classic Caesar salad, which has a tangy anchovy dressing with a nutty creamy flavor, tossed with crisp cold romaine lettuce leaves and crunchy garlic croutons, then shaved reggiano cheese is added on top. It's very satisfying with a glass of bold red wine.

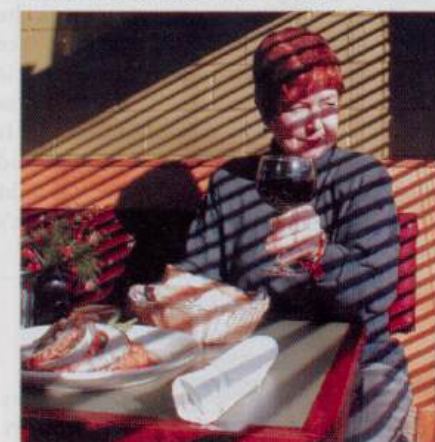
Which brings me to the bar. Cheers to the fabulous collection of domestic and international

For a perfect bite, I stacked my fork with a few greens, added a morsel of seafood and then dragged it through the rich and spicy remoulade.

brews. There are over 20 types to choose from, including one of my favorites: Fat Tire Amber Ale. Their wine list is equally impressive and very reasonably priced. It has been voted one of

Houston's Ten Best Wine Lists by *My Table* two years in a row. The majority of the wines are Californian, but the ones by the glass are a great selection of the total list, representing Italy, Spain, France, Argentina, Germany, and New Zealand.

On a recent visit one of the items that we tried was the appetizer of pecan crab and crawfish bayou cakes served with Creole remoulade sauce and baby field greens. Given Daily Review's rotating menu, it may not be there when you go, but I want to tell you about it both because it was so tasty and also because it will give you a good idea of what they create. The presentation of the dish was downright pretty: The golden cakes sat on a little puddle of sauce with the greens fanned out to one side. I paused to admire the food art and then jumped in to experience goodness. Large succulent hunks of



Longtime Houston restaurateur has found her place in the sun at Daily Review.

ALL DINEOUT PHOTOS: B.J. SMITH

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**Garden party:
Daily Review
has the best
patio dining
in town.**

rich and spicy remoulade. Excuse me, I need to go and eat something. . .

. . . OK! That feels better, now I can concentrate. The classification of food at the Daily Review is "contemporary American," according to owner Beeson. What does that mean? It means that you will see familiar foods prepared in creative ways. Salmon is usually on the menu, as is chicken, pork, beef, a vegetarian plate, soups, pizzas, and pastas. They have a variety of foods, they just don't go crazy with the number of dishes; the one-page menu has about 20 items, most of which change daily. The beauty of this approach is the freshness of the food and the creativity of the dishes. It also keeps regulars coming back.

Let's talk about Tony's Southern Fried Chicken, which is only on the menu on Wednesdays. For the mid-week blues, this is the comfort food. Be prepared for the enormity of the dish. Half of a fresh chicken is double-dipped in buttermilk and peppery breading; the result is a crunchy mahogany encasement for the tender juicy chicken. The chicken is stacked on top of tart mustard greens sautéed in duck drippings and scallion mashed potatoes; tarragon ham gravy circles the statue; and pecans halves are generously sprinkled about. It's jam-packed with calories, to be sure, but would it really be comforting if it wasn't?

Another must-try is the organic 100-percent pure Hereford beef that the restaurant orders special. The beef is always on the menu; although the way it is prepared and the accompaniments change, the quality and the flavor are consistent. We had grilled tenderloin, seared perfectly to produce that gorgeous deep outer color, and a slight crunch. Inside it was medium rare, and so tender

you can use your knife backward, upside down, or not at all. It was served on a BBQ reduction sauce, butter smashed potatoes, grilled asparagus, and topped with crispy onions. Feel good—eat beef. This is the all-American plate.

The desserts are prepared on the premises, as is the bread. With a decaf cappuccino in hand, I set out to sample three of the six desserts. Above and beyond my favorite was the creme brulee served with fresh berries. It's hard to find a restaurant in Houston that doesn't serve this dessert, so I am sure that you have tasted a few of the offerings out there. Try the one at Daily Review and let me know what you think, because according to my taste buds, it's the best I've ever had in this city. The smoothness of the custard is incredible as is the crunchy caramelized top; the flavor is subtle, but intensely rich, and the fresh cool berries are the ideal balance. On the other side of the scale is the dessert for those of you whom I'll never quite understand—people who don't actually like sweets. Enter the shortbread biscuit with Huckleberry sauce and creme fraiche. The dense mild biscuit is slightly sweeter than a tea biscuit but less sweet than a typical shortbread cookie. It has an absence of taste. The cream and sauce do little to jazz it up, but for the right person and with a spot of tea, I'm sure it's really quite lovely. ■

Daily Review Café

3412 West Lamar (@ Dunlavy)
713/520-9217

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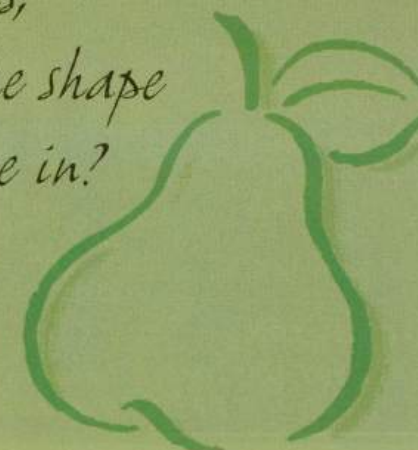
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A Taste of Houston

Tapas-style reviews
(continued from page 54)

Mings

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The friendly fast-food Chinese eatery in the heart of the Montrose. Serving up stir-fries, crispy green beans, and killer egg rolls, Ming's has taken on landmark status in only four years as a late-night chopstick feast on their patio under the stars has become an essential part of the Montrose repertoire. Their staff always cheerful and welcoming, Ming's has endeared itself to the community—and many a GLBT organization has benefited from their donations. \$

Mosquito Café

628 Fourteenth Street, Galveston
409/763-1010

This trendy, sleek little cafe offers a welcome break from the typical Galveston fried seafood scene. Gay owned and operated, the Mosquito offers fresh gourmet salads, sandwiches, and pasta, and has a beautiful patio dining area with oh-so-Southern iron furniture and umbrellas and lots of tropical island flowers. Located within walking distance of the Strand. \$

Niko Niko's

2520 Montrose
713/528-1308

Dishes up authentic Greek food with Kalamata olives as salty as they get. Caters as much to vegetarians as meat lovers. Grab a chicken and spinach pita on the go or chat outdoors over a plate of humus. Bring your own ambiance—everything's plastic except the food. \$

Oscar's Creamery

1201 Westheimer
713/521-1808

Cyber-space and dairy. Who knew what a wonderful combination it would make? The folks at Oscar's Creamery, that's who. Priding themselves on the best damn vanilla ice cream (even calling it "vanilla" seems a shame) this side of Brenham, Oscar's also boasts a wide and ever-changing variety of specialty flavors to tease, tantalize, and thrill your palate. After recently adding an internet bar, you can order up a double waffle cone of mocha fudge coffee ripple and go online to see where, exactly, they find the mocha fudge coffee cows it comes from. \$

Riva's

1117 Missouri St. (Montrose)
713-529-3450

In one of the most verdant and restful eatery atmospheres we know of, the brothers Silboey bring you Italian cuisine so unusually well seasoned you'll notice the pasta as well as the sauce. The simple dinner salad is alive with fresh vegetables and a tangy vinaigrette and a pleasant forecast of things to come. These men know herbs, and their fish dishes will make seafood converts out of diehard carnivores. And pastry chef Pierre kneads up some tasty little numbers. \$\$

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3615 Montrose
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Sawadee

6719 Wesleyan (@ Bellaire Blvd.)
713/666.7872

The name alone will trigger a Pavlovian response once you've tried this quaint West U. hideaway. Everything on the Thai menu is delicious, but some dishes are so beyond description, you'll be hard pressed to stray once you've found your favorites. Mine include the beef or chicken with basil and peppers as well as the lemongrass coconut soup. Then again, the curried chicken is just spicy enough to induce little beads of sweat on my forehead, and the spring rolls, well...excuse me while I drool. \$\$

Urbana

3407 Montrose (@ Hawthorne)
713/521-1086

Sleek minimalist decor, and a classy menu that offers everything Texan and beyond, with barbecue-grilled shrimp, Cornal-seared tuna, richly marinated steaks, light pastas, ingenious salads, and interesting deviations on popular '90s sides like mashed potatoes and portobello mushrooms. \$\$

Ziggy's Healthy Grill

2320 W. Alabama
713/527-8588

Ziggy's was always healthy and wholesome, but now that the three new owners are doctors, you know you're in for a guiltless gourmet experience. Although the decor is still a bit on the utilitarian side, we seek out Ziggy's when we don't feel like being embarrassed about our urge to eat healthy—you can even ask to see their binders with the nutritional contents of all their dishes. Both healthy and yummy, they offer comfort food like lean meatloaf, sweet yam fries, and pecan acorn squash; we especially love Ziggy's baked veggie sandwich and buffalo burger. They've all sorts of wild game burgers (known for being way lower in fat than regular cow beef)—even such exotica as ostrich, antelope, caribou, or kangaroo! Their latest offering is the Tuesday happy hour, with fresh blueberry margaritas and discounted appetizers. \$

The cost guide reflects the average cost of dinner with one drink and tip. Deduct about 25 percent for average lunch prices.

\$	\$15 and below (inexpensive)
\$\$	\$16 to \$30 (moderate)
\$\$\$	\$31 to \$50 (expensive)
\$\$\$\$	\$51 or more (very expensive)

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BEYOND RESOLUTIONS

*The secret
of good health:
how to take
those dreams
of what we want
most in life—
and make them
a reality*

In planning how we're going to be healthy this new year, what we must first do is find balance. This is easier said than done, because we must begin with an honest look at what our current situation is and evaluate what we actually want our lives to become. Then, we need to take steps in the direction that will lead our lives to positive change, and thus an even keel.

It can seem a large task. Take, for example, a young businesswoman or man who wants to have good health, an athletic body, and a little extra energy to burn with friends. These are admirable goals. Yet, the reality is that this person works 10- to 12-hour days, then rushes to the health club, completely skips dinner, has a few drinks to relax, sleeps very little during the week, and then on the weekend does nothing but "vegetate" in order to get ready for the next round. Would you say that this person's life is in balance?

The ancient Greeks would cringe to see such a common violation of their credo: "Know thyself, and everything in moderation." Whether through excessive or restrictive eating, addictive television viewing, compulsive shopping, an all-consuming drive for monetary gain, or an unhealthy obsession with sex or the Internet, we live immoderately. Is it any wonder then when we feel sluggish and fatigued?

The good news is that once we have taken steps toward balancing our lives with healthy activities, we can build momentum. In time, decisions we make will reflect the good intentions within us and ultimately materialize into concrete actions with true benefits to our health and spirituality.

**"What the mind can believe,
the body can achieve."**

One way to achieve moderation is through meditation and self-reflection. The mind and body are interactive and influence each other. Set aside a specific time each day to dwell on what you believe to be important. Then ask yourself if you are actually pursuing that goal.

When gauging priorities, it is extremely important to be completely honest. For example, do you claim that meaningful relationships are important to you and then

spend all your spare time on the computer or in front of the television? Do you say your health is vital but insist on participating in activities (like smoking) that have been proven to be detrimental to good health? Do you say you want a more stress-free life and then turn right around and dish another heaping helping of commitment to your already-too-full plate?

Too many times we insist that there are just too many things that "have" to be done, all right now. As a result, we skip meals, lose sleep, and even go long periods of time without having a simple calm conversation with someone really important to us. All of this urgency is a result of our vain, frantic pursuit of... what?

**What does "adventure"
mean to you?**

Those glitzy objects and fast-paced activities that relentlessly compete for our attention are inevitable. It is here that we must decide which items or activities are important and beneficial to our overall well-being. If you can redefine adventure to mean taking a long walk along the sea wall—alone or with someone you care about—just to hear the waves crash, instead of the "adventure" of



**Fitting in fitness doesn't
have to be an elaborate
thing. It can simply be play.
Do what brings a smile to
your face and heart.**



another night spent at the clubs till closing, then you're on the right track.

So many times we find ourselves running from one hectic situation to another and find that instead of being rejuvenated, we are simply exhausted. However, when we can find pleasure in small daily activities, such as walking around our neighborhood visiting with neighbors, we can also find that these activities require no advance planning and no tedious attention to detail. Instead, the little energy expended for them returns in a ten-fold uplifting of the spirit. All that is required here is an ability to be mindful of our surroundings. You've heard the saying, "Sometimes you've gotta stop and smell the roses"? Well, when we actually do, we can find ourselves completely surprised by the contrasting serene experience and the recharging force that only nature can provide.

Stop trying.

The body is capable of many things. It can heal itself, grow in strength, move, feel, and, yes, even deteriorate. "You begin to die the moment you are born" is what I remember most from a professor's lecture in biology class. However, the

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trick is to live life in a way that will allow us to have no regrets for the actions taken or omitted on the day we close our eyes for the last time.

Do you want to make a healthy change in your lifestyle? Then do it! There is always going to be "something" that will try to come between you and what is important to you. "I'd like to try to exercise," "I'd like to try to stop smoking," "I'd like to try spending more time with my partner/friends/family" are all nice things to "try." But if you don't look at and deal with the reality of what is preventing you from actually achieving those goals, then you really haven't "tried" anything at all.

Fitting in fitness doesn't have to be an elaborate thing. It can simply be play. You don't have to join a gym or buy equipment. What you do need is to find activity that is locomotive and enjoyable to you. Do what brings a smile to your face and heart. If it's nature, then try one of our local hiking trails. If it's children, then take them to a park and join in on their games. Dance. Skate. Swim. The list is endless.

The powerful thing about achieving fitness is that once it is learned, and anchored firmly as an actual part of your life, its benefits are far-reaching and will impact every other angle of your life. Your health will expand exponentially. A healthy heart, spirit, mind, and body are achievable. As you decide what focus you want your life to take, you must take time to listen intently to your internal signals—and then vigilantly watch that these goals are not lost in the scramble of everyday chores and all those urgent yet minor catastrophes. Together, these skills will help you understand the power of healthy choice and create energy for action. Discovering how to rejuvenate yourself is not instantaneous, however. In fact, this skill is as ongoing and ever-changing as life itself. So, if life itself was never meant to stand still, why should you?

I encourage you to let yourself be child-like in your approach toward fitness. Don't postpone play and laughter. Don't squelch that part of you that innately knows how to have spontaneous fun. Instead, remember that it is "fun" that most completely recharges us and provides the resources needed to sustain health and happiness in our adult world. ■

John-Aaron is a nationally certified personal trainer, member of the International Assoc. of Fitness Professionals, and owner of Muscle Mechanics, a personal fitness training and nutritional guidance facility. For information, e-mail Musclemech@aol.com.

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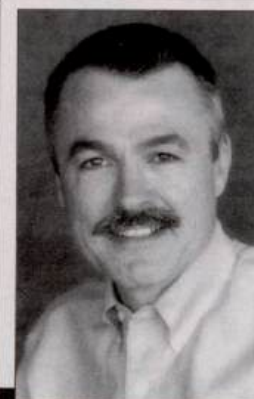
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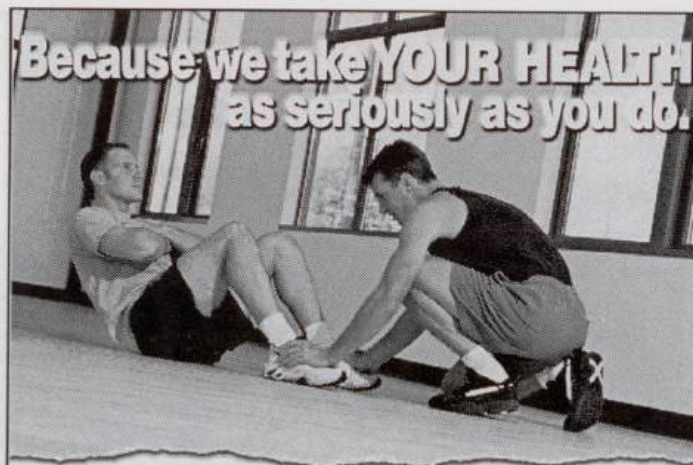
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Oh My Stars!

Lilly Roddy looks to the sky
to give us a special sneak peek into our astrological future



T

his is going to be an especially active year for the mutable signs: Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces. So, if you are one of these signs or have a planet in one of the

signs, you can expect your life to be anything but boring. The reason is that most of the outer planets are going to be in mutable signs this year. This will keep most of you dancing long after the music has stopped.

Also, we are going to have Venus and Mars retrograde this year, in addition to Mercury's retrogrades, which it normally swings into three times a year. Mars and Venus go retrograde about every two years, but not necessarily in the same year. In particular, Mars will be retrograde in Sagittarius, one of the mutable signs—which only adds to the mix of energy around those mutable signs.

Venus will be retrograde March 8–April 19 in the sign of Aries. When Venus, planet of commitment, is retrograde, it makes for increased focus on problems that exist in relationships, bringing to the surface all that junk that you normally ignore. Mars' retrograde in Sagittarius is May 11–July 19. Not a good time to start new projects . . . or to repress your anger. Physical problems can show up at these times, especially if you are a mutable sign.

Our good friend Mercury will be retrograde February 3–25 in both Pisces and Aquarius; June 4–28 in Gemini; and November 1–22 in Libra. Mercury retrograde is always about reviewing your previous decisions. If you are one of those signs or have planets in those signs, you will be even more strongly affected by the Mercury retrograde. And for you mutable signs, take note that Mercury is retrograde in Gemini, its rulership sign and one of the mutable signs. This will add to the mix of craziness that I mentioned earlier.

The eclipses this year are January 9 in Cancer, June 21 in Cancer, July 5 in Capricorn, December 14 in Sagittarius, and December 30 in Cancer. Having the eclipses in Cancer and Capricorn tend to indicate issues around family, career, and the unconscious psychological motivations that create security in our lives. You know the nagging questions: What will my mom, dad, neighbors, grandmother think? Will they still love me?

In looking at the planets, know that Jupiter brings growth and optimism (which can veer into exaggeration and overindul-

gence). Saturn is concerned with career, social obligations, and responsibility; it's the planet of doing the right thing, as well as repression and even being paralyzed. Uranus seeks the unusual and eclectic, while Neptune seeks the spiritual . . . universal love. Pluto explores the depths and involves the realization of power and rooting out of decay.

At particular periods this year the planets line up and make connections to each other—these times are definitely going to be intense for all of us, but especially those mutables: Be on the lookout during the first half of March, the early part of May, the middle of July, and the beginning of August. These times will certainly affect the Internet, Internet-related businesses, magazines, newspapers, courts, lawyers, schools, and all of the medical industries and their peripherals. People may feel very disenfranchised or that they are not being heard. The truth will come in many forms this year. And truth may contradict itself, especially during the times I have mentioned. Expect to hear more from all groups—mainstream, religious, GLBT, street gangs, skinheads, African-Americans, women, and anyone who feels that they have been left out of considerations by the groups in power. As Bette Davis said, "It's going to be a bumpy ride."



Capricorn

(Dec. 22–Jan. 19)

JUPITER Your work life is going to be extra busy this year—you are getting everything in its place and looking for ways to improve how your office or workplace runs. You are open to new ways of doing things, and especially with connecting to the global culture in

your workplace. You will be the elf of good cheer and optimism—as well as a candidate for manager of the year. This is a great time to seek promotions. After mid-year, your interest turns to relationships. You are open and ready to have one. If you are in one, then you are ready to renew those embers. If you are not in one, then you will be hungry to commence. Get out your best hat—you will be noticed.

SATURN The motif of making the workplace more productive and efficient is continued here, and likely to intensify at the end of April. Even if you are not the owner of the business, you will have a leadership role. Part of your motivation is to reduce the stress in the workplace and in your life in general. If health issues arise, please address them as soon as possible. You are more physically sensitive right now; you are affected by things you could normally ignore. Just as you're getting the workplace in order, you may find yourself strongly motivated to get your physical body into efficient running order. Since Saturn is likely to be in this area of your life for the next two years, you will have plenty of staying power to finish any diet or health program.

URANUS/NEPTUNE Money and resources are influenced by these two planets this year, and how you respond will depend on how flexible you are. These planets stimulate you mentally and spiritually—they generally want you to look at your talents and resources and come up with innovative and ingenious ways to improve. Taken from that viewpoint, how could you possibly resist? If you are not very flexible and responsive, you may find the things you counted on slithering through your fingers as you try and tighten your grip. This would be a great time to re-market yourself or your business. You may want to look into a business coach to help you renew your game plan. And remember, asking for help is not a sign of weakness. *Not* asking for help is the real sign of weakness.

PLUTO You are on a long-term spiritual search, seeking ways to add meaning to your mundane life. This is especially intense for those of you born January 2–6. Some of you may even decide to dedicate your life work to improving the planet—such as improving the healthcare system, making the stock market more assessable, putting the government on the Internet, or chal-

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lenging rigid and excluding religious tenets. On the more mundane level, you might consider working on a newsletter: Your thoughts and ideas need to have a broad reach this year.



Aquarius

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

JUPITER This feeling of creativity that has been surging through your body continues through the first half of the year—in every area of your life. In relationships, you are finding interesting ways that you and your lover can relate. In business, you are creating new ways to market your products or your skills. In therapy, you are able to feed your inner child (and for sure, she is plenty hungry). By mid-year, you guide all this creative energy into becoming the cheerleader for improving work conditions and creating healthy work environ-

ments. You will be able to get lots done because others will want to help you. This is a great year to engage in exercise and new health plans. Or you might teach others how to improve their lives through health with a spiritual content.

SATURN This year you and your children come to a new understanding. You are going to construct a new set of boundaries that you both can live with. You will expect them to be more adult and they will expect you to let go of that early parental role that has you in charge of their life decisions and see you as more of an equal. This is connected to using your creative skills in another way. You will want to take what you do and put it out in the real world so that it can be examined and judged. This is the year to make an investment and take a risk in yourself. You normally shy away from what the public thinks because you like us to believe that it is not important to you. This year, that idea will be hard to sell even to yourself. You'll be seeking tangible results from projects—if they don't produce substantial consequences, sayonara.

URANUS/NEPTUNE Let me divide this into two sections. Uranus is influencing those of you born February 8-14, which

means increased awareness will lead to boredom, which will instigate some necessary change. So, you don't have to be an astrologer to see the sacred symbols on the cave walls. Embrace growth and change... or have it thrust upon you. You are especially resourceful and can really let people see just how smart you are. Those of you born January 25-30 are taking a deep dive into the ethereal pool of cosmic oneness. You are seeking and will find your connection with the goddess, god, the monad, the crone, or whatever you call it. Don't be surprised by your hermit-like periods. This is normal even though your friends will wonder what has happened to you. You are extra, extra, extra, extra, etc. sensitive. It will not be possible to ignore things you normally could. Consider a trip to a mountaintop, beach, or isolation chamber.

PLUTO Friends and groups who once were important to you are under review and maybe, just maybe, renewal. You are really wanting to find a common connection of truth with those people with whom you spend your valuable spare time. Your bull-manure factor will be exceeding low this year. This is most true for those of you born February

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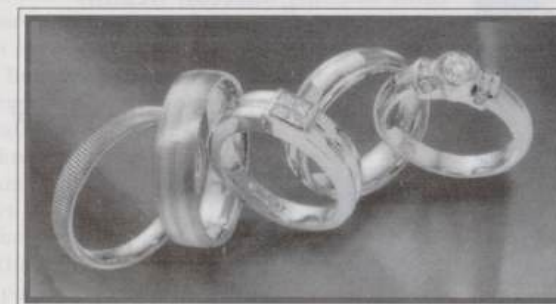
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1-6. You may be in charge of exposing the rotten undercurrents of a group that supposedly does good things. Cutting off the decaying limbs and preparing for the re-growth. And ultimately, that is the real purpose of your work. You are to help with the rebirthing process of the organizations and friends that you have. You are showing them a part of themselves that they have always avoided seeing. Some, unfortunately, will not survive the surgery.



Pisces

(Feb. 19-March 20)

JUPITER The first half of the year is the time to spend with your family, healing any problems or issues from the past. Everyone—even Uncle Bill—is ready to make amends. This is just a good time to get your home and family into better shape. Under this planetary influence, you could move, redecorate, or add on to your existing dwelling. You will want to travel and add to your knowledge base of other places on the planet. The later half of the year, your creative cycle is very strong. For some this could show up as more projects at work, more writing, painting, and even the possibility for children in your life. This will help to bring some sense of hope and acceptance to any part of your life that seems to be lacking.

SATURN The lovely lady of responsibility enters the area of home and family for the next two years. And your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to find out just where your boundaries are. Typically, I say that the mermaids and mer-men have large boundaries. You feel drawn to help others even if these others don't ask for your help and try to resist—and this is not really the problem. The real problem is not knowing how much to take on and when to stop. This year, exquisite Saturn will show you the fences that you need to construct in your life and to clearly remember that the reasons that you help others is so that you feel better. Oh, they feel better too, but that is not the core motivation for your actions. Just a dip in the pool of selfishness for those fish types. Come on in, the water's great! No, really!

URANUS/NEPTUNE Swimming around somewhere in your cosmic unconscious, these two planets are looking for fun and adventure on the etheric plane. You can think of it as a kind of reordering of your intangible philosophy that keeps you connected to the earth plane. This will probably show up initially as feeling that there is something lacking in what you connect to now, such as your church, worship group, or temple. You will be looking for something much broader that is able to fasten all the religious and spiritual tenets into one package. You ultimately may be the person who ends up doing this for us. Since most groups are not really good at introspection, they may not be able to do it for you. However, this will not keep you from going on the journey. And this is one of those times when the journey is more important than the actual destination. Be sure to bring your party dress. You will need it.

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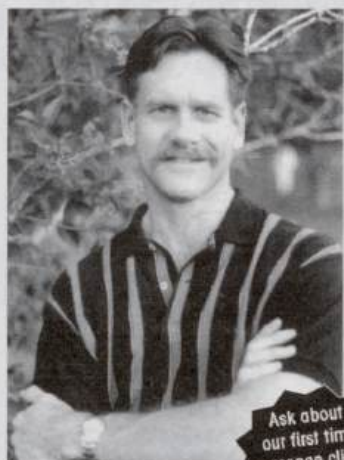
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PLUTO Let's focus this on those of you born March 1-6. This is the time in your life when you are given incredible power to examine what drives you toward the career direction that you have. The problem with this laser vision is that you may well see holes that you didn't see before. And many of you will feel compelled to seek alternative career paths. Others will wait for the rug to be pulled from under your feet and then you will feel compelled to seek alternative career paths. In the real world, this looks like the company you're working for being bought out, downsized, pruned, and reconfigured—and you are not sure you want to stay for the whole ride. Family issues are really tugging at you and those may be the deciding factors that guide your decisions. March and July are really the bugaboo months. Wear your body armor during those times.



Aries

(March 21–April 19)

JUPITER Jupiter stimulates your desire to communicate this year. Although you will want your life to be busy and active, you may be easily bored, particularly with activities that you have been doing for a while. This is a good year to write books, e-mails, letters . . . or letters to the editor. In July, Jupiter enters your solar fourth house of family and home, causing you to get energized to make improvements in these areas. You may move this year—or at least move your furniture around. This can help to heal those ancient family wounds that no one has wanted to touch. It will certainly increase your desire to travel and see new places. Contacts with people from other cultures could be especially beneficial the last half of the year.

SATURN Your money supply has not been as fluid as you are used to for the last two years; as the year begins, your normal resources have been cut off and you are trying to find ways to compensate. You will feel a lot more open and financially secure toward the end of April. After April, you

will shift your focus to how you use your time and energy. Whatever you spend your time on—whether it be an activity or a person—you want there to be a sense of purpose and even compensation. Simply put, you will not be wasting your time this year.

URANUS/NEPTUNE Group activities will not have the draw they once did in your life. You're getting bored, and are starting to look for different friends and unconventional activities. In fact, some of what you once liked about your friends could be the very things that drive you away. You may leave organizations you've belonged to for years, or at least think hard about their purpose in your life. Your children, no matter what age they are, may seem further away from you. And even if you have young ones, you may question why you chose to become a parent in the first place. You are looking for a suitable place for your ego to feel at home, where your presence makes a difference. You will not settle for less.

PLUTO You are in a mood to learn new things. As you explore different parts of the world and different cultures, you might find yourself feeling drawn to the computer and Internet. In fact, the strong attraction you feel toward such things this year may seem downright obsessive to others. You are probably being pulled in by past-life experiences. This would be a great year to travel, go back to school, or even consider living in a totally new area. You are sure ready for an adventure.



Taurus

(April 20–May 20)

JUPITER You have been doing some intensive thinking about what you want to do with your money and resources this year. You want to get more from your current investments, and also make better use of your skills and talents. The beginning of the year is a good time to think about asking for a raise or increasing the fees you charge your clients. At mid-year, you are much better at communicating than you

have been in quite a while. You could be quite busy, so watch your commitments. You will be in a more creative mood and, fortunately, you will have some focus to be able to use that energy.

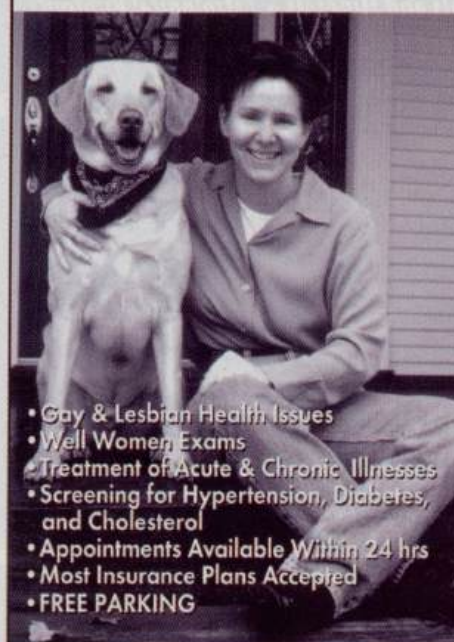
SATURN At the end of April you really come to terms with what you want to do with your money. You will be using your resources in a very cautious way. You will not tolerate those who take advantage of your good nature or do not appreciate you. Overall, you are evaluating what and how you use your time and money. If you have financial problems, this year you will want to have those problems off your back—and you will work hard to do that. Borrowing money may be more difficult; you may have to count more on yourself and less on others. Watch out for that feeling that you have to prove yourself to others. That is a trap connected to your childhood and getting your parents' approval. Choose your judges carefully.

URANUS/NEPTUNE There is a continued review of whether or not your career choice is right for you, especially for those of you born April 25–29 and May 9–16, or if you have planets in this area of the zodiac. You are really questioning whether or not your work is fulfilling. If not, then boredom and disinterest are sure to follow. This will be true even if you are making good money. In fact, this is even more true if you are at the top of the hierarchy in your company. Some of you may be withdrawing socially and looking for deeper spiritual fulfillment within all activities in your life. There could be forces beyond your control—such as mergers or buyouts at your company—that are making you rethink your life.

PLUTO You are also looking deeply into what constitutes emotional satisfaction. In this journey, as you re-examine what life really means to you, you are also reconsidering just what relationships are versus what you thought they were supposed to be. This area of your life could feel empty, even if you have an ongoing partnership. On the surface, you might be disagreeing with your partner about money. Or that one of you is holding back on some level of emotional connection. Or that you don't have the same values in common that you thought you did. Whatever the manifestation, this is just an indicator that you are wanting more for yourself in relationships than you were capable of accepting in the past. Accept the process and upgrade your relationship.

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Gemini

(May 21-June 21)

JUPITER Relationships and business have all picked up for you over the past year—and this will continue through the first half of 2001. You could easily think that you have almost no time for yourself, not even for romantic encounters. You are meeting lots of people, but you don't have the time for anything to really develop. You will begin to get a grip on this situation, but that won't be till the end of April when Saturn enters the picture. You have not been in the best of places for relationships for the last two years. But this year you don't want to be alone, and will put a lot of effort into getting a partner. Old lovers from the past could resurface from May through July. Don't cast them out so quickly. There could be some potential there.

SATURN Saturn enters your sign after a 28-year absence. This will be a time of reviewing long-term goals and directions. You will be ending a lot of things in your life that you have outgrown. You want to be more in control of the direction your life takes, and some of you will end up being your own boss this year. Others of you will be promoted in your current job, becoming more of an authority figure. Be sure that you don't try to do all the jobs, but become a good administrator. Relationships that you don't have use for or that don't serve a purpose in your life, you will get rid of. Relationships that have significance, you will want to renew and intensify. In business relationships, you will want to be treated as an equal. In romantic relationships, the long-term vision has to be renewed. Some of you might seek to legitimize your relationships with public ceremonies.

URANUS/NEPTUNE You are blending your new life philosophies with those from your youth, integrating the new with the old. As you see the world with new eyes, you don't see a conflict between ideas but bridges that join the two sides together. This will certainly improve your creative potential. And you may have to give up the idea that you are an outsider—you are now a part of the system that you once felt abandoned by. You have more of a public persona this year. Your words will have more impact on others. You may

even be called upon to speak to your community or to teach others. Be sure to include some travel and vacation in this year's plans. You will not be able to work as tirelessly as you did last year.

PLUTO Visiting your relationship house, Pluto continues to transform relationships past anything that you once knew. You are seeking truth here that may well make others uncomfortable. Once upon a time you were the light butterfly that went from flower to flower seeking the pollen from each. Now your sagacious and abstract concepts rise to the surface and you seek union with those rare flowers that bloom once a century. Nothing light satisfies you—even your play has become much more serious. Some will wonder where that scattered girl, that young innocent, that maiden of the fluff went. She is still there but keeping company with the Queen of Darkness and Lilith, wise women of the old world. Now, go out and try and find a date who has those qualifications.



Cancer

(June 22-July 22)

JUPITER The first half of the year you are in preparation for a big coming-out party in July. So, take the time to get all your papers, documents, and brain dysfunctions in order. You are looking at how the universe works and it is just about time for you to share that information with the rest of us. Write, take some time to retreat, and get a break from your routines. In July, Jupiter enters your sign for the first time in 12 years. Time for growth, personal expansion, and letting shine that nurturing aura that you have been working on. You will draw positive experiences; people just want to be around your magnetic personality. Be careful whom you let on your magic carpet ride. You will feel like you have the energy to conquer the world—don't overextend or overcommit yourself. Make sure you want the job.

SATURN It is time for you to put into words just how you think the universe works. You have been considering this concept for quite a while. You will begin to challenge others and their more traditional value system and their effectiveness in the real world. Even though you see the holes in their beliefs, be

gentle—you don't want to make enemies who will seek you out later. The other part of your making order in the universe is that you will start tackling your closets, your files, your whole life, and putting it in order. A lot of things in your life are in piles—it is time to figure out just where they need to go.

URANUS/NEPTUNE This continues to be a thought-provoking year for the Moon Kids.

You are redefining just what real intimacy means to you and facing your own illusions and rationales. What makes you get up every day? Although resources may seem distant or just out of your reach, you are tapped into a deeper sense of consciousness. You need to find a transcendent connection, as the previous influences will not drive you around the block as they used to. Unresolved conflicts will come up so that you can unravel them. Relationships, personal or business, are not so easy. You are called upon to give more support than you ever have in the past. And you are not as detached and separate as you once were. You can't hide your feelings... and you should not even try. Can you just let your partner peek at you without your Cancer mask?

PLUTO Every day the journey begins with a whole new map and new set of destinations. You are more conscious of every detail in your life, reviewing your habits, sorting out what you want and why. It is as though you are watching yourself be yourself in a mirror. Your life seems surreal. At work, there is a sense of constant change around you. This could grow even stronger toward the middle of February. Work conditions could be tense if you are trying to figure out the best plan for everyone. What is your responsibility to others and them to you? Unfavorable conditions will turn up very quickly this year. Because these work tensions may take their toll on your body, take care to keep a good handle on your health.



Leo

(July 23-Aug. 22)

JUPITER For some of you, this year can be a great time to get back into groups and organizations. Most of you have been



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guarding this part of your life and have pulled away from groups and friends over the last couple of years. Now you are feeling the need to get back in. You had lost your sense of self over the last couple of years trying to be a pleaser to everyone you met and then feeling resentful because you were not appreciated. You have been considering each person, every employer, client, or boss with a very discerning eye. You have seemed more distant and grumpier. Now you will be better at nurturing those groups than ever before because you will not forget to nurture yourself first.

SATURN The theme of group leadership continues with Saturn making her presence known at the end of April. You have been establishing yourself as a tough cookie over the last year. You have had some confrontations with your superiors and really questioning why you need to prove yourself. Hopefully, you got the lesson that the proof was for you, and not them. You may have even decided to take your career direction in your own hands. In May, it becomes time to promote yourself and your work. This is a great time to put yourself out there in front of groups, join community organizations, become an activist. At work, don't be afraid to take on those tasks and chair those committees. Your actions are visible and others are watching.

URANUS/NEPTUNE For sure, these are the planets that have been keeping your relationships vacillating. You are on a roller-coaster ride and you might as well enjoy it because you are not getting off. Your BS levels in all relationships, business or personal, are at an all-time low—just forget about doing any pretending about your feelings this year. This can be a very threatening time in relationships that you have a long history with. They have to change or they will come

to an end. This will require participation of both partners to make it better, which means you have to be more open and let your partner know exactly how you feel. Otherwise, you will continue to be in that controlling role that you complain so much about. It is an especially confusing time about relationships in general. You are looking for a stronger mental and spiritual connection. I hope you find it.

PLUTO Your children are going to want to grow up this year and be on their own; they don't want your guiding hand on top of their heads any more. I know you do it because you love them and don't want them to step in the same holes that you did. But how will they learn to believe you know what you're talking about if they don't conduct a little first-person exploration of those pitfalls? You are not supposed to be directing the path of others, but activating your own creative forces. This same analogy applies to your businesses, your ideas, or your employees. You have to let them go this year and see if they have learned what you taught them. And take that same energy and apply it to your own personal projects. Otherwise, you will be in combat with those who you want to help the most. Look for this test to come up between May and July. And don't stay up all night studying for it... it won't help.

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Virgo

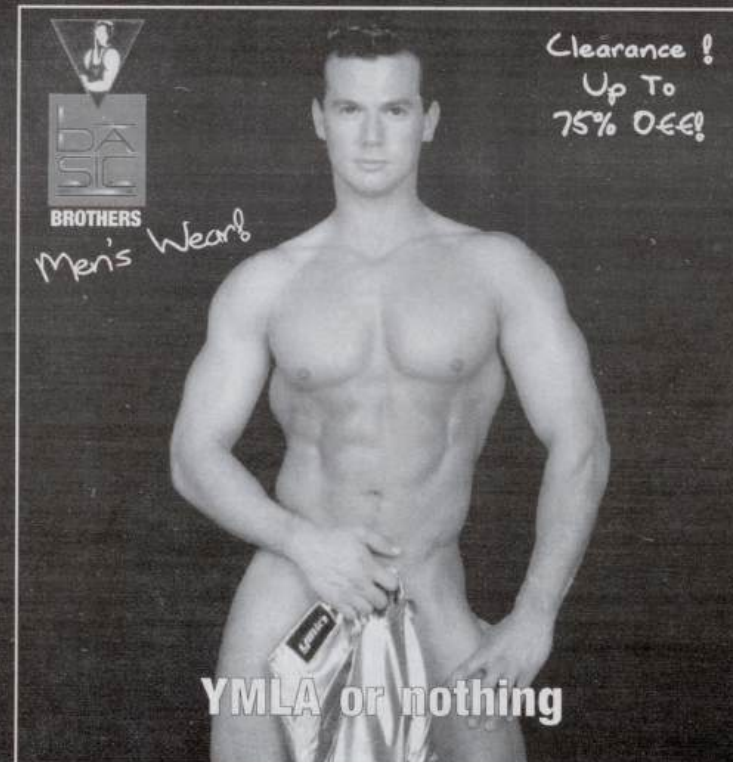
(Aug. 23–Sept. 22)

JUPITER Career is a major theme for you this year, with help from two different planets. One is good old Jupiter. Jupiter, planet of growth and expansion, enters your career sector after a 12-year absence, bringing lots of opportunities. You may just want to consider starting your own business this year. Even if you stay with your current company, you can expect promotions and raises—as well as some rather large projects that will test your skills and abilities. Travel associated with business will be favored this year too. Some of you will even consider going back to school to be a student or a teacher. By mid-year, you will be more oriented toward a community- or business-association; you may be asked to take on a leadership role. This is a very opportune time for you—if there is a knock, answer the door.

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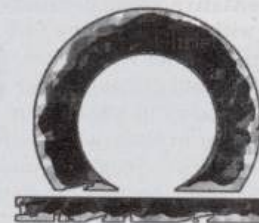
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SATURN Saturn is the other planet that moves into your career sector at the end of April, helping you get a handle on the possibilities that come your way. Saturn is concerned with future outcome, getting you the most from the energy you invest. So, you cannot make a wrong decision this year as long as it is associated with taking some action. Saturn *can* make you act so cautiously that you do nothing. This is obviously the wrong choice. Saturn wants you to not make any wrong decisions. That is why you will be conservative with your choices during this year and even the next. You will want more for yourself at work, and others will expect more from you. This is the year to prove your self-worth. Just make sure that you choose yourself as the final judge.

URANUS/NEPTUNE These planets have been stimulating you to do things differently in your work life. You are somewhat bored with your routines, both at work and home. You might find yourself redecorating your office, getting new computers, or working different hours. As you give up some of the set hours that you have developed for yourself over the past years, you may feel erratic and off base—try to develop a sense of work based on your intuition. Also, your work *has* to have a purpose to it. It must make the world a better place for everyone to live. This is part of the spiritual connection that is coming through, as you insist on feeling connected to others on a daily basis; this will put you much more in touch with your emotions and feelings. This is somewhat different for the Virgos, but you can learn to adapt. You always do.

PLUTO Your home environment has been undergoing a change for many years, and this year will be no exception. In fact, this area of your life will be intensified from the middle of February through early September. With all this energy, you may move, buy new appliances, or get some remodeling done. Your home could become a

social center. Old family issues will come to the surface as you try to stake out your individuality. Those who live with you may show some resentment, especially if they feel their territory is being infringed upon. Take your family on some new adventures and look for new ways to express those feelings. Don't lock them up. That only makes them more explosive, chiefly in March and July.



Libra

(Sept. 23–Oct. 23)

JUPITER You should be feeling very upbeat as the year opens. You are good at finding solutions to problems; your intellect and brain are working well. You seem to see how things connect and are creating real balance and harmony in your life, as opposed to just talking about it. You are open to new people and new experiences. The first half of the year is excellent for traveling for pleasure. The last half is good for business travel. Anything that expands your sense of your mundane reality will attract you. You might want to attend some conferences, classes, or seminars, as you are open and ready for learning. In the last half of the year, you begin to focus on your career area—and you should do well. You will be a magnet of sorts, attracting good fortune. If you are interested in promoting your business, getting a promotion in your current company, or looking for a new place to work, the last half of the year is the best time to do that.

SATURN You can get a lot done this year without a lot of effort: Not much is blocking your path. You are in a mood to learn, including subjects that have a practical value. The only really difficult times are from the early part of March through the middle of April, when there may be some relationship difficulties. Most of this is about realigning your goals and plans for the future that you share with your partner. You will have a great ability to see the larger picture and not lose yourself with the small stuff. So, this should not bring an end to your partnership, unless it is agreed upon by both parties.

URANUS/NEPTUNE Children could be problematic this year. They are really wanting to explore different parts of

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themselves and to express their freedom. So, your kids are not going to do what is expected, but what *they* want to do. Internally, this is a call from your inner child for freedom and artistic expression. You are trying to connect to that spiritual side which wants expression without intent. Otherwise, your children will have to act as rebels so you don't have to.

PLUTO Getting your message across clearly, concisely, and expressing the truth as you see it will be important for you this year. You could even be argumentative from February through September if people don't agree with you. You may feel threatened by others if their opinions differ from yours. Road rage looms. A course in anger management might help a lot. But mostly you will not want to waste your time or energy this year in trying to explain what should really be common sense—you just expect people to understand. This may also bring smarter and wiser people into your life to help you make important decisions. Just remember that your intellect may feel challenged by others; if you get defensive, you may miss the benefit of their good advice.



Scorpio

(Oct. 24–Nov. 21)

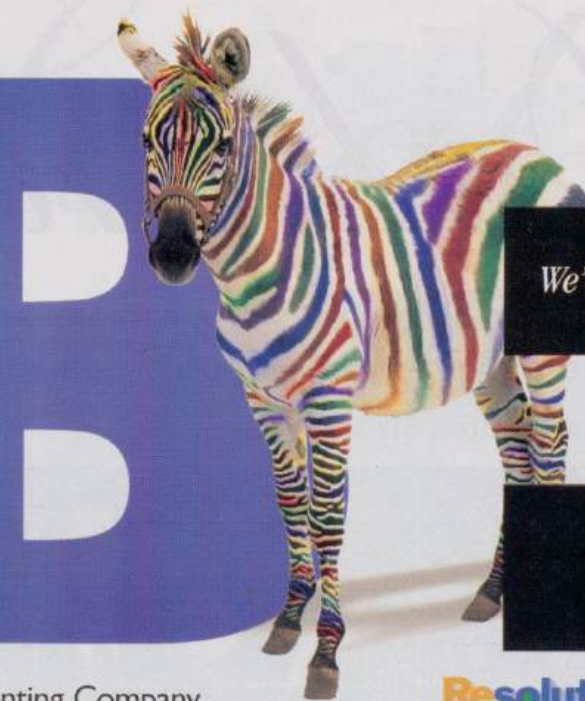
JUPITER One of the larger themes that both Jupiter (planet of expansion) and Saturn (planet of contraction) will bring into your life is that of dealing with other people's resources. Initially, Jupiter will bring you lots of options. This could be new investment opportunities. You could get loans for expanding your business or buying a new home. Your partner may get a raise or promotion that could bring more money into your life. Later in the middle of the year, you will want to enlarge your education and your knowledge base. You will be drawn back to school or adult education classes. You are also interested in expanding your normal social base to include different kinds of people, especially those from diverse cultures.

SATURN Saturn joins Jupiter in the same area of your horoscope. Now, Saturn is much more concerned with *doing* something with the opportunities; she is there with her guilt to make you worry and fret about not using your resources to their fullest extent. In your relationship, the emphasis may be on financial security rather than intimacy. This could be a deterrent to your sexual life together. Just remember to keep the checkbook out of the bed. If you do feel a distance creeping up between you and your partner, address the problem early. If not, it may create some chasms that by mid-year could prove impossible to leap across.

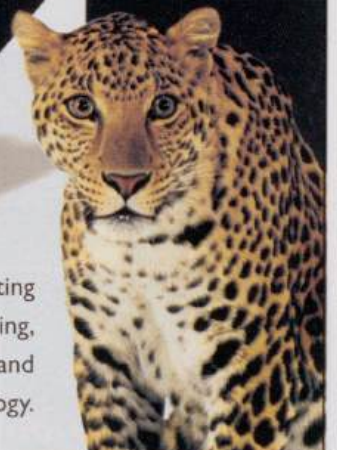
URANUS/NEPTUNE You dream of the possibility of the home you have always wanted. This year your home must reflect the inner security that you have always craved. Your home must be an escape from the demands that society places on you, and a respite from family pressures. Otherwise, you will feel trapped and won't feel you have any place to go that you feel safe or feel you can get away from

continued on page 92

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LOOKING
BACK
AT 2000

Dalton's

Preserving memory, loving people through the lens of a camera—on the prowl with Dalton DeHart, compulsive photographer and Montrose community treasure

by Ann Walton Sieber



Oh, my yes, oh, my my yes." Dalton DeHart is flipping through a pile of his photographs from 2000. "Oh, Roy Green, isn't he a panic?" he says, pointing to a grinning muscular man in a Mardi Gras mask. "I just love him. Now that's Grant Martin, of course. There's Sharon Montgomery. Miss Brunjes and company. Brian Keever. Oh, what a doll. Do you know Kevin Davidson? He's wonderful. . . . That's a horrible picture of that sweetheart there. . . . I don't know who that queen is. . . . Michael and Richard, they are princes, absolute princes." Clumps of smiling men face the camera, drag queens strut, social groups from glossy to boozy mingle and pose and primp and beam.

"Oh, now, that Ray, he is just too wild for the West," Dalton says, as I pull out a beautiful picture of Ray West performing in the Miss Camp America show last October. He's wearing a green sequined bathing suit, black evening gloves that come above the elbow, and

on his head a large gold ball with green ostrich feathers. Behind his long legs, the other dancers are red blurry streaks. "He is just one of my favorite people," Dalton says. "Oh, my yes, he will do anything. I love Fay Ray."

Dalton and I are selecting a mix of pictures to represent a year of Dalton's ramblings with his famous camera. For the past 14 years, Dalton has made it his personal business to attend every function of Houston's gay community that he can fit on his dance card. Halloween Magic. The Black Tie Dinner. *Naked Boys Singing*. Empower. T-dances at Rich's and Sonoma. Christmas Songfest. Stewart Zuckerbrod's baby-naming. Panel discussions, holy unions, drag contests, leather contests, music festivals, receptions, fundraisers, galas, worship services, bar crawls, birthday parties, going-away parties, memorials, protests. Dalton attended 284 functions in 2000 (as of December 18, when we had to cut off our count and go to press), which often meant going to two, three, four, or even more events on weekend

evenings. He shot 1,125 rolls of film, a total of 41,625 pictures, costing him thousands of dollars. He shot 858 pictures of Halloween Magic alone. 925 pictures of Miss Camp America (1,140 before he pulls out the bad ones). He numbers every single picture, so that he can find photos taken years prior. One mother tracked him down to get a photograph he'd taken of her son several years ago at the Montrose Softball League. She wanted to enlarge it and use it at his memorial. This sort of thing happens a lot. "You really captured who he was," she told him. And he's been doing this since 1986.

I don't remember meeting anybody else who does what Dalton does—for the gay community, or any community, for that matter. I guess you could call the picture-taking a hobby. But it's moved from hobby, to calling . . . to ministry. (And maybe on to obsessive addiction, as Dalton jokes frequently about needing to start a 12-step chapter, call it Photographers Anonymous.) In presenting a

continued on page 90

Dec. 9 7 p.m. ▼ Guava Lamp 8 p.m. ▼ John Robinson's Party 10 p.m. ▼ Dame Edith & Jim's Party 12 a.m. ▼ Magnolia 1:15 a.m. ▼ Rich's



Social Year



▲ Jan. 1 New Year's Eve Party



▲ Jan. 5 HGLPC Meeting



Dalton DeHart's Photos for the Year 2000

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Eve party at Landy Bauman & Kent Ferguson's
- 1 Celebrate 2000 with Carlos Reyes & Steve Chrisenberry
- 5 Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus (HGLPC) meeting to elect officers, Lovett Inn
- 6 EPAH (Executive & Professional Association of Houston) membership meeting
- 8 Krewe of Olympus Mardi Gras kickoff, Ensemble Theatre
- 14 Gene Mikulanka's gathering

FEBRUARY

- 20 EPAH Rodeo Fling, BRB
- 20 Body Positive Mardi Gras Masquerade Madness Ball, Rich's
- 29 Ex-Mo Equality Rally, downtown

MARCH

- 11&12 LUEY Weekend (Let Us Entertain You bar crawl): EJs, Ripcord, Mary's, Pacific Street, show at Rich's, finale at Mary's
- 12 AIDS Walk, AIDS Foundation of Houston
- 17 "Bringing in the Green," Montrose Counseling Center fundraiser, hosted by Jeff Brown & Jerry Reeves
- 18 Human Rights Campaign (HRC) gala with guest Maya Angelou, Westin Galleria
- 19 Birthday for Jerry Ramsey, Sonoma's
- 19 T-Dance at Rich's
- 24&25 "Night in Black Leather" w/Dr. Tony Mills, Body Positive fundraiser, Venture-N
- 25 Gay Men's Chorus concert, Jewish Community Center
- 26 Miss Camp America Deb-U-Not Ball, Sonoma's
- 26 Oscars Party, River Oaks Theatre
- 26 Oscars Party, hosted by Ernie Manouse & Jerry Jagers
- 31 PFLAG/H.A.T.C.H. Spring Fling, Warwick



▲ Jan. 8 Krewe of Olympus



▲ Feb. 20 EPAH Rodeo Fling



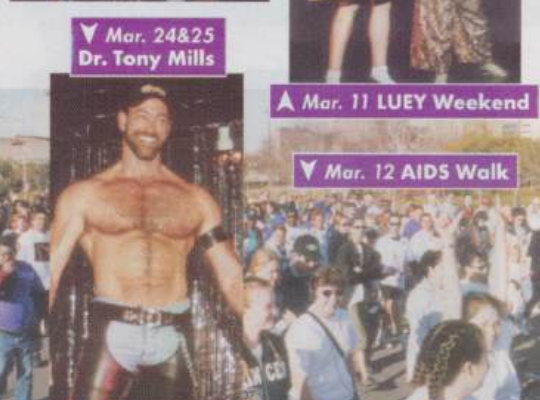
► Feb. 20 Mardi Gras Madness



▲ Feb. 29 Ex-Mo Equality Rally



▼ Mar. 18 HRC Gala



▼ Mar. 24&25 Dr. Tony Mills

▲ Mar. 11 LUEY Weekend

▼ Mar. 12 AIDS Walk



▼ Mar. 25 Gay Men's Chorus

LOOKING BACK AT 2000



▲▼ Apr. 23 Bunnies on the Bayou



▲ May 21
Ron & Nassim's
Pool Party



Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
▲ May 31 ▼ May 26

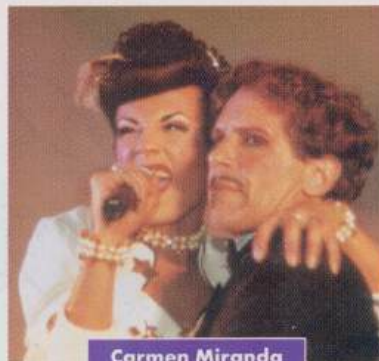


APRIL

- 1 Carmen Miranda contest, hosted by the Houston International Festival, Rich's
- 2 Bad Boys T-Dance, Sonoma
- 15 Mr. Prime Choice, Ripcord
- 16 Hillbilly theme birthday party for Derk Harmsen & G. Roane at Sonoma, followed by T-dance at Rich's
- 16 Carmen Miranda contest, at Houston International Festival
- 18 EPAH dinner meeting
- 22 Joe Havalac birthday party
- 22 Jungle Lust VIII, hosted by the BC/BC (Bayou City Boys Club), Polo grounds
- 23 Bunnies on the Bayou, Wortham Center, followed by performance at Rich's
- 28 EPAH rush party

MAY

- 6 Daniel Malachowski & Thomas R. Chelena ceremony, Hyatt Regency
- 10 Jon Erickson's farewell party, Rich's
- 11 Frank Berry interior design show, Houston Community College
- 12 Opening of photography show from the Positive Art Workshop, students of Patrick Palmer, Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center
- 13 Lean On Me Foundation presents money to Bering
- 17 EPAH dinner meeting
- 20 Urvashi Vaid reception, co-hosted by the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force and the community center
- 20 Richard J. Wiederholt Celebration of Life, Brownstone Restaurant
- 21 Krewe of Olympus fundraiser, community center
- 21 Nassim Joseph and Ron Duffee's Pool Party, followed by party at Rich's
- 24 Harvey Milk birthday celebration with film screening and panel discussion, including guest Cleve Jones, co-hosted by OutSmart and the community center, at the Glassell School
- 24 Body Positive fundraiser, hosted by Stewart Zuckerbrod
- 26 Gay & Lesbian Film Festival Kick-Off, Alley Theatre
- 26 Montrose Softball League Lone Star Classic
- 27 Rainbow Rangers' international C&W dance competition, Radisson Astrodome Hotel
- 28 White Party, Sonoma/Rich's/Pacific Street
- 28 HG&L Film Festival: Aurora Picture Show
- 31 HG&L Film Festival: Diverse Works, screening and discussion of *The Wrong Body*



Carmen Miranda
▲ Apr. 16 ▼ Apr. 1



▲ May 6 Malachowski & Chelena Ceremony



▼ May 20 Richard Wiederholt Celebration of Life



▲▼ Apr. 22 Jungle Lust



◀ May 24
Harvey Milk Showing



◀ May 26
Montrose Softball League



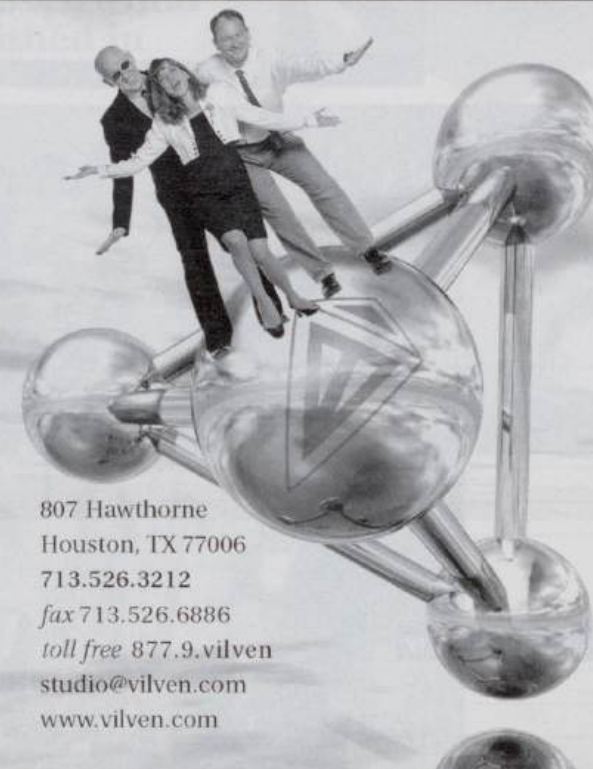
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LOOKING BACK AT 2000



◀ Jun. 24 Gay Pride Parade



◀ Jun. 29 EXPRESS Theatre



▶ Jul. 15 Gary Van Ooteghem



◀ Jul. 24 Hate Crimes Panel

▶ Jul. 30 Garden Party



JUNE

- 3&4 HG&L Film Festival: *Surviving Friendly Fire*, Rice Media Center
- 4 People With AIDS Holiday Charities fundraiser, Lovett Inn
- 7 Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus Meeting, Lovett Inn
- 9 Pride kick-off party, Lovett Inn
- 10 Hollyfield Foundation Awards
- 11 Pride Interfaith Worship Service, special guest Rev. Dr. Janie Spahr, Bering
- 12 Employee turnabout show at JR's
- 13 Pride participation mandatory meeting, Multi-Purpose Center
- 15 Gulf Coast Archives and Museum opening
- 17 Gay Men's Chorus of Houston concert, Jewish Community Center
- 17 H.A.T.C.H. Prom, Lovett Inn
- 18 Colt 45's 24th Anniversary Stone Soup fundraiser, BRB
- 19 Pride Grand Marshal's reception, BRB
- 19 Glen Holt & Ray Hill on *Gay & Lesbian Voices*, KPFT
- 20 Pride Gospel Concert at Community Church
- 23 "Disco Inferno in Montrose" test run of the giant disco ball over Montrose & Westheimer
- 24 Pride Parade: Preparation/"Nellie Ribbons" party before parade/walking the parade route/Pride Parade/trophies awarded/post-Pride Parade party at Rich's, performer Tina Cousins
- 24 EPAH Pride Party
- 29 EXPRESS Children's Theatre reception, 20 Sunset Blvd.

JULY

- 1 Fourth of July Early, hosted by Ernie Manouse & Jerry Jagers
- 2 Boy of Montrose Contest, Ripcord
- 2 Marqus performs at Rich's
- 4 July 4 celebration hosted by Nassim Joseph and Ron Duffee
- 4 "The Big Bang" fundraiser for Body Positive, Scott Gertner's Skybar
- 9 An Uncommon Legacy, Warwick
- 9 PFLAG/H.A.T.C.H. Scholarships presented, Christ Church Cathedral
- 11 Houston Gay & Lesbian Caucus meeting, Lovett Inn
- 12 Gay Men's Chorus of Houston concert, with Shola Cantuorosa chorus, JCC
- 14 Dr. Laura protest, Channel 2
- 15 Yard sale to benefit Houston transgender community, Suzanne Anderson Properties
- 15 Celebration of Life - Gary Van Ooteghem, Alley Theatre, reception Debra Danburg's
- 15 Krewe of Olympus Bastille Day, community center
- 15 Grand opening of Purgatory, Galveston
- 18 Dianas present money to Casa de Esperanza & AssistHers
- 21 PRIDE party to thank sponsors
- 22 Birthday Bash benefit, at the Sycamores
- 22 "Wigs on Fire" benefit, Rich's
- 23 "July Resort Casual Bash" community center fundraiser, Riva's
- 23 Sean Carter birthday fundraiser for Body Positive, at the BRB
- 24 Panel on Hate Crimes, community center
- 26 Gary Massee birthday party, BRB
- 30 The Garden Party, Sonoma's
- 30 The Denim Party, BRB



▲▼ June 11 Interfaith Service



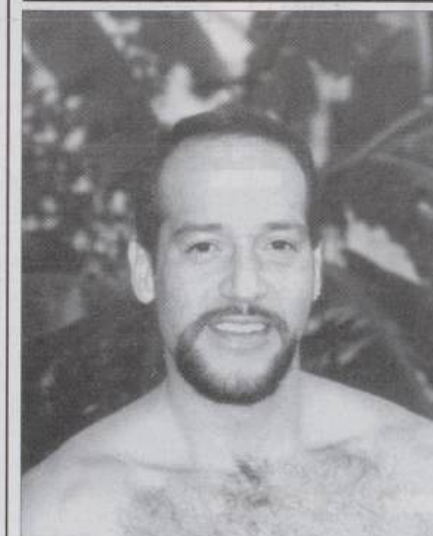
▼ June 15 GCAM Ribbon-Cutting



▲▼ Jul. 9 Uncommon Legacy



MONTROSE MASSAGE

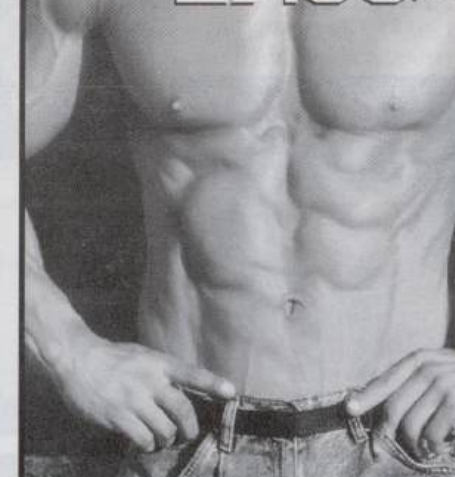


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LOOKING BACK AT 2000

▼ Aug. 11 Mr. Gay USA
& Mr. Texas



◀ Aug. 18 & 19 Bering & Friends



▲ Aug. 6 Naked Boys Singing



◀ Sep. 14 AssistHers



◀ Sep. 17 Sean & Jarel Ceremony



▼ Sep. 28 Drag King



▼ Sep. 22 AIDS Action Foundation



AUGUST

- 4 Bobby Birch party
- 5 Montrose Softball League awards banquet, Treebeard's
- 6 Christening of Jay Allen & Ken Long's daughter
- 6 *Naked Boys Singing*, Theater Beinenue
- 9 HRC viewing of *But I'm a Cheerleader*, Angelika Film Center
- 10&11 Mr. Gay USA, dance party at Sonoma and Pacific Street, contest at Rich's
- 13 Black Tie Dinner ticket sales
- 16 Pacific Street party after *Rent*
- 17 LTR Cloverdale Foundation presents money to Center for AIDS, Houston Buyers' Club, PFLAG
- 18&19 Bering and Friends present *The Wedding*, followed by cast party
- 19&20 Miss Gay USA Pageant at Rich's
- 20 Miss Camp America ticket sales, Guava Lamp
- 20 Halloween Magic kickoff, Alley Theatre
- 26 Barry Bertin birthday party
- 27 Smokin' Hair Day at Chances
- 27 HRC gathering hosted by David Muck & Cole Martelli
- 27 "Poetry, Passion, and Politics," community center
- 30 Kristine W, Sonoma

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Ernie Manouse birthday party, Sonoma
- 1 Pre-party for Red & Black Party in Canada, Rich's
- 2 Holy union Micaela Ortega & Dolores Yante, Resurrection MCC, followed by reception at Mela's Tejana Country bar
- 3 Studio 54 party at Rich's
- 6 Community night at Scudiero's Bar
- 10 Dr. Laura protest, Channel 2
- 10&12 Tracy Gray on fund-raising, Hollyfield Center & Chamber of Commerce
- 14 *One Tit, A Dyke, and Gin* benefit for AssistHers, Theatre New West
- 15 Miss Camp America dress rehearsal, Wortham Theater
- 16 Miss Camp America
- 17 Follyball Fest hosted by Bill Bridges, followed by party at Rich's
- 17 Sean Carter & Jarel McNeil holy union, Wortham
- 18 Kickoff party for Deborah Hope's All About Entertainment business, Rice Hotel
- 18 Madonna CD release party, Pacific Street
- 21 Rehearsal of Jeff Stryker's show, Ashland Street Theater
- 21 "Art for H.A.T.C.H.," hosted by Jeff Brown & Jerry Reeves

- 22 AIDS Action Foundation 2000 Houston Leadership Dinner, Tony's
- 22 Madonna CD Release Give-away Party, Rich's
- 23 Birthday party Carolyn Roberts, Mary's
- 23 Kristine W. at Pacific Street & Rich's
- 24 Misfits Lockdown 2 benefit, Rehab club
- 25 "Teens Speak Out," moderated by Debra Duncan, Barnes & Noble
- 27 HRC member reception at La Columbe D'Or
- 28 Drag King contest, The Barn
- 29 Racism Forum, community center
- 29 Slim, comedian at Mausoleum
- 30 Birthday party for Landy Bauman at Bienvenue

OCTOBER

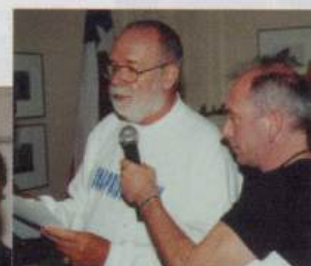
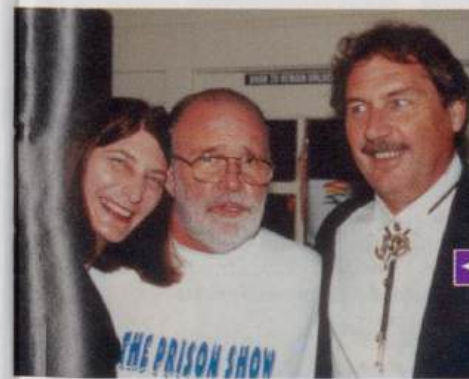
- 1 New building dedication for Resurrection MCC
- 3 Black Tie "GQ Live" at Saks Fifth Avenue
- 8 Empower 2000, George R. Brown convention center
- 9 Alexis and Lynn holy union at Club Rainbow
- 13 Patrick Palmer art studio opening
- 13 Unity Party at the community center
- 13 H.A.T.C.H. Awards Banquet, Grace Lutheran
- 14 Miss Camp America crowning, Pacific Street
- 14 Gray Party, BRB
- 14 Kristine W. at Rich's
- 15 Drummer Boy Contest, Mary's
- 17 EPAH dinner meeting with guest Richard Laub of Little Room Downstairs
- 19 Art opening for Jeffrey Ronquillo, La Strada
- 20 Fantasy Ball, Magnolia Ballroom
- 21 Ray Hill at 60, community center
- 21&22 Halloween Magic, Hornberger Center
- 22 Westheimer Street Festival in Exile (on Allen Parkway)
- 22 *Naked Boys Singing*
- 26 Jeff Stryker dress rehearsal
- 27 HRC Liberty Club hosted by Annise Parker, with special guest Mayor Lee Brown, City Hall
- 28 Lean on Me Foundation money given to Bering, BRB
- 28 Israeli city councilwoman Michal Eden at the community center
- 28 Women's Festival, Garden in the Heights
- 28 "Outrage" fundraiser, Rich's
- 28&31 Halloween costumes



▲ Sep. 16 Miss Camp America



◀ Oct. 9 Alexis & Lynn Ceremony



◀ Oct. 21 Ray Hill at 60

October photos
continued on next page

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LOOKING BACK AT 2000



◀▶ Oct. 21 & 22
Halloween Magic



◀▶ Oct. 8 Empower



◀ Nov. 11 Black Tie



▶ Nov. 5
Stewart Zuckerbrod



▼ Nov. 30 Names Project



▼ Nov. 22
Turkey T-Dance



▼ Nov. 1 Jeff Stryker



▶ Nov. 17
Poetry, Passion,
and Politics

NOVEMBER

- 1 Halloween Magic thank you party
- 1 Jeff Stryker cast party, JR's
- 5 Stewart Zuckerbrod baby-naming celebration, Post Oak Doubletree
- 5 T-Dance with cast of *In Gay Comedy*, Sonoma
- 5 Gulf Coast Archives and Museum fundraiser and presentation of Victoria Lust's memorabilia, Decades
- 8 G&L Chamber of Commerce meeting, Sonoma
- 9 EPAH membership meeting
- 10 Rubio and Kidd perform at Rich's
- 11 Black Tie Dinner, George R. Brown Convention Center
- 11&12 "Combustion" all-night circuit party, at Numbers, followed by lunch at La Strada
- 12 EPAH Military Ball, Pacific Street
- 13 Harold Kooden at Community Center
- 15 12th Anniversary Celebration of Body Positive, Stages
- 17 "Poetry, Passion, and Politics 2," at the community center
- 18 National Gay & Lesbian Task Force reception for Elizabeth Toledo, Sonoma
- 19 Resurrection MCC service
- 19 Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus 25th Anniversary and awards ceremony
- 19 Assistance Fund gala, Neiman Marcus
- 21 EPAH dinner meeting
- 22 Turkey T-Dance, Rich's
- 26 Protest against media bias at Channel 13
- 28 Remembrance Ceremony for Murdered Transgenders, City Hall
- 30 Center for AIDS: Installation of art by Mary Hawkins and the presentation of Scott Awards
- 30 Names Project marches to Menil and dedicates new panels

DECEMBER

- 1 World AIDS Day, Day of Remembrance, AVES, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church
- 1 Names Project's Tree of Remembrance, Stages
- 1 Appreciation of Body Positive volunteers, hosted by Pete Sharp
- 2 Gay Men's Chorus of Houston Christmas concert, RMCC
- 3 HRC table captain's party
- 3 A Christmas Songfest, Hornberger Center
- 3 Ron and Nassim's Christmas Party at Rich's
- 3 Lovett Inn open house
- 5 2000 Black Tie Gala proceeds distribution party
- 6 Center for AIDS Holiday Schmooze, 20 Sunset, hosted by Richard Maier & Michael X. Flynn
- 7 Soundwaves Food Drive benefitting Stone Soup Pantry (AFH) with DJs J.D. Arnold & Chris Sill
- 9 Guava Lamp first anniversary party
- 9 John Robinson holiday party
- 9 Gary Evans & Jim Humble holiday party
- 9 Magnolia 2000 holiday party, Magnolia Ballroom
- 10 Misfits MCC/LUEY fundraiser, Ripcord
- 10 EPAH holiday party
- 10 Mary's Christmas tree lighting
- 10 PWA Holiday Charities Fundraiser, BRB
- 16 Tim Cagle Christmas party
- 17 Christmas party and toy drive for the *Houston Chronicle* Goodfellows's program, hosted by Bruce Bell, Richard Ray, & Darnell McDonald
- 18 Pacific Street's annual citywide bartenders Christmas party, with 104 FM's Maria Todd
- 18 OutSmart Christmas party, Lovett Inn
- 18 Rich's employees and special guests Christmas party

More December photos (!) in SceneOut on page 100



▲ Nov. 28
Transgender Remembrance Ceremony



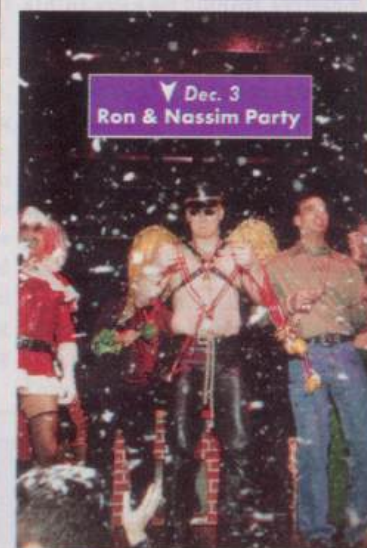
▲ Dec. 6 Center for AIDS
Holiday Schmooze



▲ Dec. 3 Songfest



▲ Dec. 1 AVES



▼ Dec. 3
Ron & Nassim Party



▲ Dec. 3
Tree of Remembrance



◀ Dec. 7
Soundwaves



▼ Dec. 10 PWA Fundraiser

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Dalton DeHart

continued from page 81

year's review of the Montrose social scene as seen through Dalton's camera, we thought it could serve as memory food, as well as a map of the Montrose social scene, a social calendar (and you can practically use it as a calendar, since so many of the community's events are on an annual rotation). Of course, it is not completely inclusive—the bias is definitely toward the events and parties with men.

I tease Dalton that there ought to be an honorary chair named for him at the Gulf Coast Archives and Museum—he is active with GCAM, and has told them he'll leave his photos and negatives to the archive when he dies. Over the past decade and a half, Dalton's visual record has become the community memory.

"You are a phenomenon," I say to him.

"And I like to count that as a positive thing," he says in his self-deprecating Southern drawl, "although sometimes I say *Oh, me*." He covers his face in fake despair.

I asked Dalton if I could accompany him on one of his nights of making the social rounds. He said sure, and we planned for December 9, a Saturday during the holidays when he had four stops on his agenda: two parties, the Magnolia Ballroom's holiday party, and then on to Rich's, where Dalton needed to get some beautiful boy shoots for *Eclipse*. That afternoon he called me to say the owner of the Guava Lamp had also asked him to stop by and photograph their anniversary party. I had to pass on the bar function, so I teamed up with him at 8.

Both of the parties were in sumptuously elegant settings—John Robinson's suite at the Beaconsfield, a preserved historic hotel on Main complete with doorman and elevator operator, and Jim Humble and Gary "Dame Edith" Evans grand showpiece in the Westmoreland area.

We make our way slowly through the crowded rooms at the parties, Dalton nodding and smiling (click), here a kiss, there a "now let me see" (click), "Wait for me!" (click). Everywhere Dalton goes, men clump together and smile, lovers snuggle and face the camera, groups band together and disband to make way for other groups to clutch, wait for the click, and disband. It's like walking through life with a series of panorama postcards unfolding before you. Dalton introduced me to about a million people (about 999,000 of them men)—all marvelously friendly and gracious. Not only does Dalton know just about everybody, he also knows who is okay with having his or her picture published in *OutSmart* or the *Voice*, and who isn't. We go from room to room until we've photographed every person there, and then we go on to the next event.

In case you were wondering, Dalton does have a regular job, in fact more than a regular job—he's a professor of English and composition at San Jacinto College and is head of the program for remedial reading and writing. He could put "Dr." in front of his name if he were thataway inclined, which he's not. He's of a certain age which he'd prefer to not get too specific about, but he is approaching early retirement.

Dalton grew up in Buna, a small town the other side of Beaumont. He first taught at the high school in Buna, then Lamar University, moved to Illinois to pursue his doctorate, and returned to Texas in 1980 to teach at San Jacinto College in Pasadena. For the next decade, Dalton lived in Pasadena, photographing Pasadena civic events, the Strawberry Festival, high school football games—and slowly started making the weekend drive into Montrose. He moved into the city in 1992, into a scenic condominium on Timmons, where he lives by himself. He loves running into his students when he is out at community events; although they

can sometimes be pretty surprised and pleased, he's never found any to be embarrassed. "If I'm in JR's, then they know I'm not going to have a problem with them being in JR's," he says.

In looks, Dalton strikes me as a "sandy" person—his hair, his easy-flowing manner, his tall will-o-the-wisp stature, his unobtrusive professor's cardigans. He is what people are referring to when they say they love Southerners. He is frank and honest, yet never sharp; ever genial, he serves as a natural social lubricant, without making it seem like work at all.

Back at Dame Edith and Jim's party, we're making our circuit through the many festooned rooms, including the spacious bathroom suite, where a cheery group poses first in the shower (fully clothed) and then in the jacuzzi, and then back to the shower again, a slightly different group amassing themselves. ("I still have my clothes on!" "Well, take them off!" "No cigarettes in the shower," "Oh, get in there, honey," "Wait for me!") I am sitting down resting my feet when something rushes past, flapping me in the face. It is the black leather jacket of a comely young man, lithe and blonde, who has just dashed by and deposited himself front and center amidst the nest of joking men in the sunken tub, his long

black leather-clad legs draping themselves oh-so-picturesquely over the tiled rim. Dalton obligingly snaps, laughs, snaps again. "Oh, that's good. Very good."

After about four hours of party cheer, smiling so much I wonder if I'll have muscle strain in the morning, I realize I am done in. It is midnight, and I tell Dalton I am ready to go home. "Oh, that's perfectly fine," he says in his ever-genial voice, letting me off at my car as he continues to two more major events.

The following week, we regroup in the *OutSmart* office, where Dalton and I spend hours and hours and days and days poring through photographs, picking the few out of the thousands. Right now, the year 2000 is interesting to look at, but it still looks normal. In another five or 10 years, it will start to look odd and memory-stirring—the clothes, the activities. In the photos, people we know will look a little different, a little more smooth-faced, dark-headed. In 15 years, the 2000 pictures will look downright dated. The young men in the tub will still be handsome, but no longer young. Some may be married (maybe to each other), some may have left Houston, some may not be with us at all. In 20 years, these photos of Dalton's will be more precious than gold. ■



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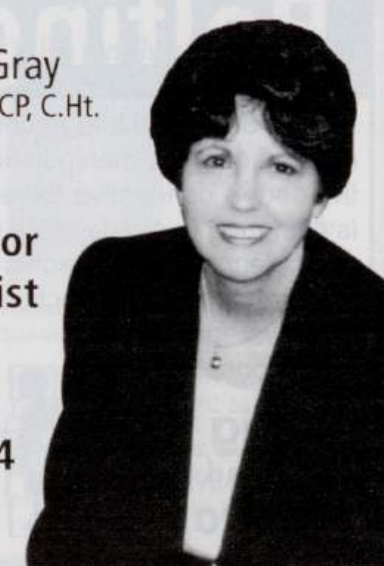


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Scorpio

continued from page 78

the grind of daily existence. So, you could either: 1) Move. 2) Fix up the old same place. 3) Rid yourself of all your possessions and live the life of an aesthetic. You may also begin feeling restricted and enslaved by your family, pressured to conform to *their* idea of who they want you to be. Just explain to them that you want to be who you are. If they don't accept it, you



Sagittarius

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

JUPITER Your relationships and social life are on the upswing the first half of this year. If you are in a relationship, you will find it is easier and that life just seems to flow. Your partner could be getting a promotion at work and adding to the general improvement in your relationship. If you are not involved, this will bring people into your circle of influence. This is a good year to promote your business or yourself. Others will be drawn to you because of your magnetism. You will be drawn to people from different cultural backgrounds: Keep that passport updated. By mid-year you should be ready for a more active sex life. You will want to make those emotional connections that bind at the wrist and ankles. Investments in foreign stocks and currencies could be profitable this year.

SATURN Saturn also repeats the theme of

don't have to feel challenged by this. You just may want to find another place to live.

PLUTO This year you really look at how you use your resources and talents. You will be wanting more for what you do and to be appreciated at a better rate of return than before. You may start having problems with some places where you have become comfortable and that supply you with financial security—you may not be able to count on those assets. This may give you some strong impetus to

relationships this year, except she wants you to have a solid, committed, socially recognized, future-oriented relationship. If you are in an existing partnership—with a lover, a life partner, a significant other, wife, husband, or a legally binding limited partnership—you will want to upgrade the contract that you originally signed on with. You can look at this as a mid-course correction in your romantic cruise through the Panama Canal. If you don't have this sense of future happy ports of call with your partner, you will be looking elsewhere. If you are not involved, you will take a serious look at who is around you and evaluate the possibilities. You may even take an intensely pragmatic approach to finding a partner; you are interested in someone who wants to commit and not just someone who wants to date.

URANUS/NEPTUNE Your intellectual interests need to be piqued this year. You are somewhat bored with your routines and normal intellectual intrigues. You may have a strong focus on high-tech gadgets; the computer or the Internet could take you places you have not considered before. And you will be interested in seeing the habitual cycles in your life through different eyes. You will also find yourself drawn to activities that increase your soul awareness of your immediate environment.

find alternative sources and solutions for your money mysteries. You will also learn just exactly what others think of you and how much value they place on your friendship or love. This may come as a harsh blow to some of you in August or November as you find that you are not as appreciated as you would like to be. Others of you will take this information and find people who *do* admire you and your talents, some of whom will want to invest in your future and in your businesses. Be sure to be open to those options.

Tai Chi or yoga might be just the ticket, as you are very interested in finding a sense of the "flow" around you. Religion and spiritual pursuits could also grab your interest. You might want to plan some getaways that have a retreat-oriented approach. A visit to Tibet would be nice... or a week in Santa Fe. You want to be in a place where you are more in contact with the current rather than having to paddle your way upstream.

PLUTO When this planet comes into contact with your life, you are getting ready for the cosmic enema. She will have the strongest effect on those of you born December 3 through the 10th. It is actually very simple. Everything that you thought you were, that you considered important, or that you wanted to be around forever is subject to intense scrutiny and review. And everything that you have outgrown or that doesn't really belong to you will find its way out of your life. You can think of this as an adventure or a roller-coaster ride that doesn't seem to have an end. Part of the good/bad aspect of this has to do with how much you participate in the process rather than being dragged along. March and July could be intense. Try to remember it is not supposed to be stable. ■

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EC Houston is a part of ECWR, a nationwide ministry of Christ-centered, Bible-believing, evangelical Gay and Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Christians. ECWR is not a church, but a network of groups of friends whose primary purpose is to provide reconciliation, integration and opportunities for Christian growth for Christian lesbians and gay men. **We are both pro-Christian and pro-gay!**

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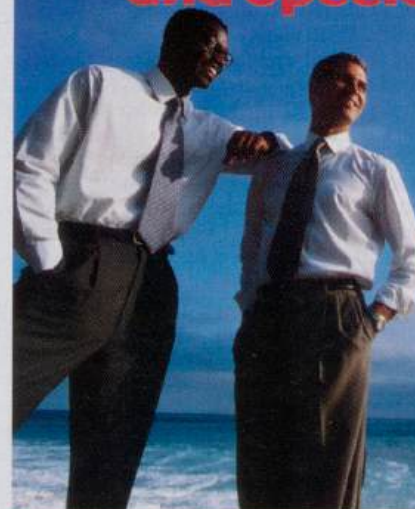
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by Lilly Roddy

Ah, January! That lovely time of the year when we make all those New Year resolutions to make improvements to our lives. The time of the year when we feel so hopeful about making ourselves anew. I am just resolving to do two things I know I can do this year. One, drink more coffee and two, eat more chocolate. Because at the beginning of the next new year, I will have been very successful.

On the 9th of this month we have the second part of the eclipse cycle. The first part was in December. This one is in Cancer and will incline us to want a closer connection to family. Even if we don't have those connections with our family, you will bring that into your life through friends. Both Jupiter and Saturn go direct on the 25th and 24th respectively, which should make things go a bit faster in our lives. Good days this month are the 5th, 6th, and 11th. Those are great days for self-indulgence. Days with tension are the 1st, 9th, 13th, 17th, 20th, 22nd, 24th, 25th, and the 27th. So the last part of the month is definitely rugged going.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Yes, this is your birthday month, that time when the sun makes its yearly cycle through your sign—the end of last year's cycle and the beginning of the new year's cycle. The first part of the month is a great time for review of what you accomplished and what you wanted to accomplish. The later half of the month is good for putting your new aims and endeavors into play. You will be more conscious of finishing things that you start this month. Normally, you are a person who judges herself by what you do—this month, you are even more conscious of that.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You are in a rest-and-retreat mode this month. Even though it is the new year and all, you are not ready to embrace this yearly renewal time. You are more sensitive than usual and everything seems to bother you more; your psychic receptors are turned up to maximum. You may want to avoid those large crowds and crowded restaurants—these sort of places just seem to drain your energies. You can focus on your work and you may work best when you are alone. You will want to come first in your own life, and you will not find it easy to share space, time, or creative considerations with others. You pull out of this somewhat by the end of the month, but you are still very introspective.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Friendship and business and community associations are important to you this month. You are playing an important role in other people's lives and you are going to be appreciated for this part of you. Normally, you just get in there and help people; you don't give it a second thought and you don't necessarily seek others' gratitude for what you do. But this month, that acknowledgment will come your way and it may surprise you. Don't be afraid to accept the leadership role they are offering you. You may feel that you could be overwhelmed by the re-

sponsibility. But as the year progresses, your boundaries get stronger and you will become a better delegator.

Aries (March 21-April 19) You are ready to start the year off with a running start as you focus this month on your future security and career. Practicality will be your watch-word and you will appear to be in a no-nonsense mood to others. You want to be recognized for what you do at work. By mid-month, you are more social and ready to spend time with friends. You will still be in a career mood, so business associations, networking, and breakfast meetings would be very good for you. Even though the holidays have come to an end, you are still ready to be with your friends.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Relationships are front and center for you as the New Year begins . . . and with plenty of fireworks, as your relationships call out for adventure and excitement. You can achieve this by changing those routines or engaging in verbal combat. The choice is yours. If you don't have a romantic partner, you will find yourself trying to make that happen. Your career continues to be unsettled as the month begins; you will have a couple of false starts or feel that you are taking two steps forward and one step back.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) You are back into your busy phase. I hope you enjoyed your brief rest during the holidays. Oh, you didn't get one? Well, you had better plan well over the next two months as you will continue to be busy, and maybe even a couple of notches busier. You are in a good place and good things are happening to you. You feel that you have to make the best of this time just in case things slow down. This is a good time to market yourself or your work. Your charisma is strong. Relationships need some tending to. You or your partner will feel that a sense of distance has developed between you. Take some time to get reacquainted.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Relationships are in the spotlight for you this month. You are really wanting to have some stability and a strong sense that your relationship is moving in the direction that you want it to. This can be a great month to get away and plan for the future. You will want some sense of assurance that your partner is as committed as you to your alliance. This will affect business partnerships as well as romantic ones. Your creativity and your sexual energies are flowing. You can channel this into your relationship, or into your work, or both. You may be in the mood to try some different approaches.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Time to get the workplace in order for the new year. You really want to use your time productively this month and you don't want to feel that you are wasting your time. Coworkers could expect you to take the lead and show them the way. Taking more of the "boss" role is a good way for you to shine. Home may be a bit uncomfortable this month as small irritations really get under your skin. It would be a bad time to visit your parents or to be too close to your own children. They will be very demanding and you may feel that you are not able to be yourself.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Your creative skills are on the upswing this month. You are able to find solutions to problems more easily, market yourself and your products better, or just get along better with your own children. Your communication skills are improved as well; you seem to be able to get your message across in a very direct way. Relationships also get easier after the 3rd, although you may want to take a break from your partner right around mid-month, as one of you could be feeling pretty jealous or possessive. If you are not involved with someone, this very same energy will make you attractive to others and could easily draw someone to you. If you choose, you could use this in business as well.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Home and family themes continue as the new year begins; you are really wanting a solid foundation. With this year's eclipse phase, you are really wanting to create a strong sense of security in the home and in your career. You will find yourself focusing on this even when you are not trying. You will probably have to take a stronger role in your own family—you might even find yourself taking care of your own parents, a role switch. Even with this, it will be extra easy to spend money this month. You are in an impulsive "let's buy" mode. Best to watch those investments and stick to a conservative mode; this is not the time to take a risk.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) Your energy levels and desire for fun and adventure are very strong for the next two months. January is a good month for you to take some risks and invest your courage. You will not want to wait or let others go first. This is definitely a "me first" month. This could be a great time for exercise programs, diet and health regimes, or visiting the doctor for a checkup, as you are more physically conscious and aware of your body. You are also more likely to be the initiator in the bedroom. If you don't find a socially acceptable outlet for this energy, then you are going to be cranky, irritable, and argumentative. Your sleep patterns could be erratic as well. Look for some battles to engage in.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Money and personal resources take the spotlight this month—you are very aware of where your money is. This would be a good time to get your bills paid and your financial information together and organized, perhaps assessing how much you make and how much you charge your clients. And you will not want to be ignored by others. If you are not acknowledged for what you do and who you are, you are not going to be a happy camper. Sights, even unintentional, will affect you. You will want to be careful who you allow to judge you. You could take to heart what the guy at the gas station says, and he may not be a good judge at all.



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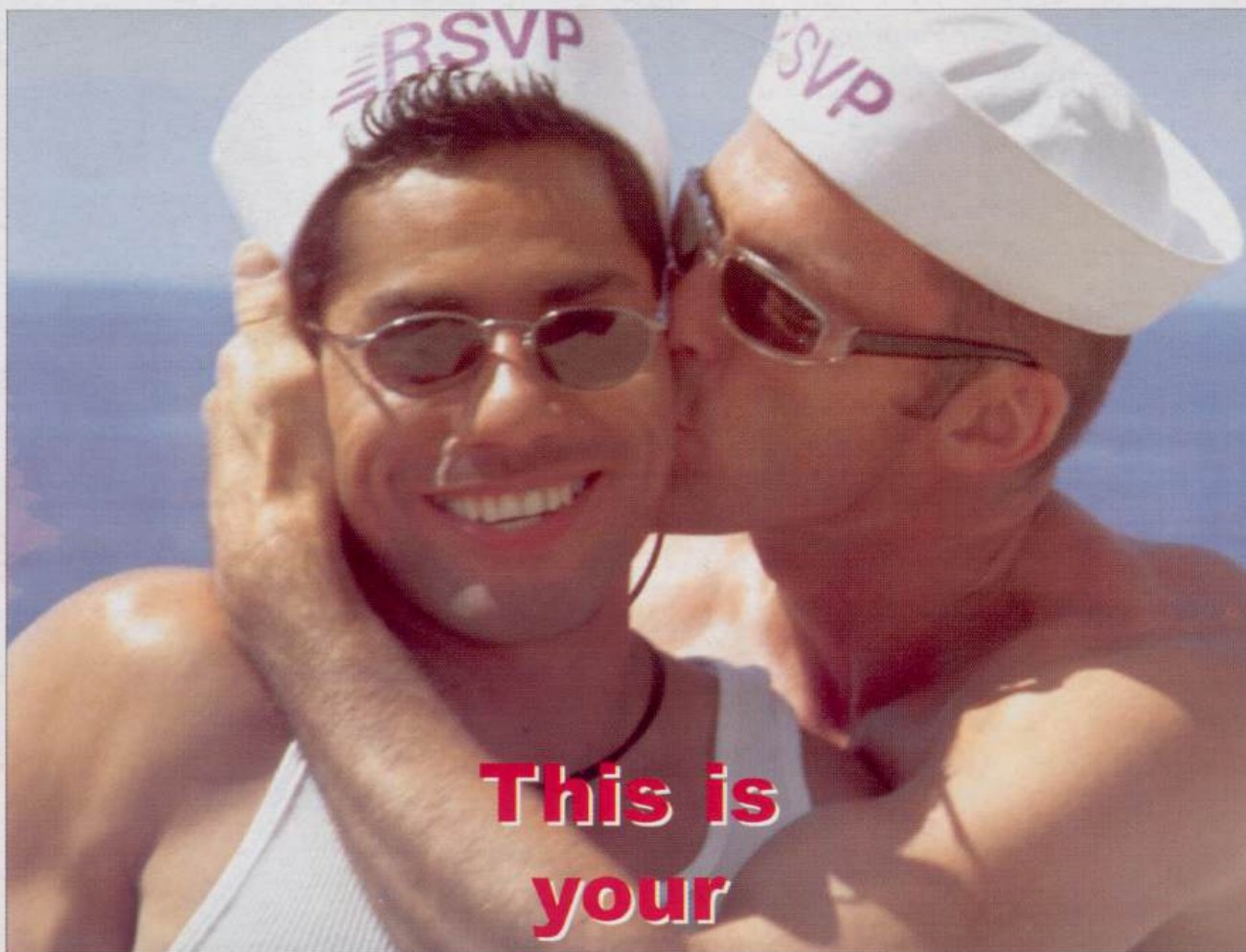
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