

Texas high school student wins battle to start gay-straight club

by Kristin Hays
HOUSTON

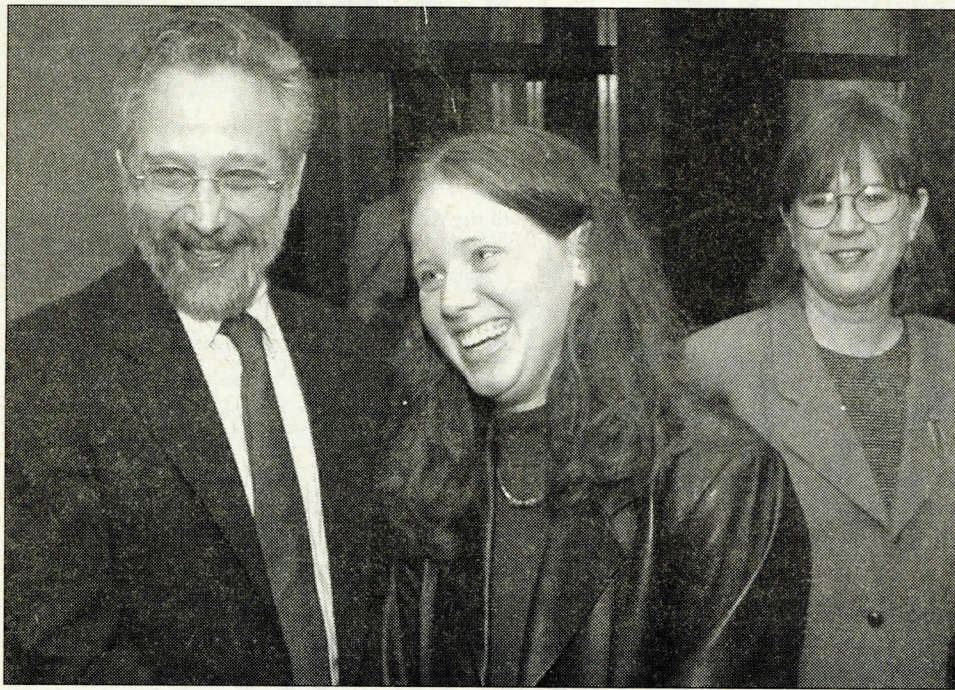
A school district settled a federal lawsuit Wednesday in a deal that will allow a 17-year-old student to establish a gay acceptance club at her suburban high school.

"We're going to be able to work toward spreading tolerance throughout the school," the student, Marla Dukler, said alongside her parents and attorney.

The 1984 federal Equal Access Act ensures the right to form non-curriculum clubs in schools that receive federal funding. Such clubs at Klein High in Houston include Christian athletes, chess players and anglers.

Dukler and 16 classmates applied to establish a "gay-straight" club last October. The district said the club application presented it as a support group to promote tolerance and nondiscrimination regardless of sexual orientation.

More on STUDENT on Page 7



Marla Dukler, center, a 17-year-old high school junior at Klein High School, smiles along with her parents Malcolm and Holly after a news conference Wednesday, March 5, 2003 in Houston. Dukler won her battle to establish a gay-straight club at the suburban Houston high school when the school district agreed to settle her federal lawsuit, both sides announced Wednesday. (AP Photo/David J. Phillip)

Gay foster parent bill referred to House Committee on State Affairs

by Terri Rimmer

The Texas House of Representatives referred HB 1911 to the House Committee on State Affairs on March 12th, which if passed will result in gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender foster parents losing their foster children on the basis of sexual orientation.

David Peavy of stopHB194.org is requesting that anyone privy to the number of children placed in foster care homes headed by unmarried individuals and the number of foster care parents (and foster-to-adopt parents) who are unmarried contact him at info@stopHB194.org.

All are urged to contact their senators to oppose the passing of HB 1911 immediate-

ly via their email addresses by accessing Peavy's organization's website at StopHB194.org and clicking on the News icon at the top of the page.

Peavy states that many of the reasons to oppose HB 1911 are the same for the opposition of HB 194 which, if approved, would prevent gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals from adopting children – a shortage of foster parents, a waste of money and it's harmful to children among other reasons cited.

With Texas facing the most serious budget crisis in the history of the state, Peavy said Representative Robert Talton, who filed HB 1911 keeps introducing bills

to create new, expensive programs that disqualify willing, loving, foster parents on the basis of what Talton feels constitutes a "proper family environment." Peavy added that Talton's proposed bill is a "blatant example" of the ignorance of the foster care system.

All of the professional child welfare organizations have denounced any laws that would permanently remove groups of people who could assist in fostering and/or adopting children, according to Peavy.

HB 1911 would allow the state of Texas the authority of preventing Texans from caring and/or adopting their own relatives.

More on BILL on Page 7

Quick GUIDE



Capital News

Major groups are giving exposure to 2004 Democratic presidential hopefuls.

8



Q-Worm

Reviews of the new book *Touching Feeling: Affect, Pedagogy, Performativity*

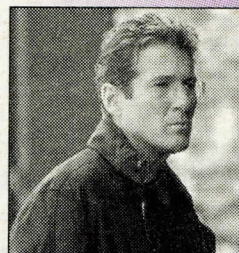
11



On TV

Simon says contestant should "drop a few pounds!"

13



Hollywood

Richard Gere's up for prison and Mr. Hollands new opus!

14



Movies

Reviews of the new movies *Cradle 2 the Grave* and *Laurel Canyon*.

15

And More!

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“Common Bond” to perform at Samaritan CoffeHouse

FORT WORTH

The nationally acclaimed Washington, D.C. female duo Commonbond will perform March 21st at the Samaritan Coffeehouse as part of their Midwest tour.

The 8 p.m. performance at the Coffee House Gallery at 609 S. Jennings is hosted by Samaritan House, a non-profit residential facility for homeless and low-income individuals with special needs.

Award-winning acoustic folk singer and songwriters Ashley Miller and Mary Beth de Pompa of Commonbond will give partial proceeds from their free event to benefit Samaritan House. The team weaves tales about love, friendships, sex, and all the related sentiments that go along.

Miller and de Pompa will also perform March 22nd at Texas Christian University (TCU).

The self-professed shy girls, who have been compared to the Indigo Girls and Bonnie Raitt, were scheduled to perform at the Iowa Women's Music Festival but the terrorist attack of Sept. 11, 2001 prevented it. They have performed at the National Women's Music Festival and the 2002 Ithaca NY Women's Festival and rocked a sold out Ram's Head Tavern on July 6th.

Commonbond's style has been described as “blues edged rock” by Our World Magazine.

They met in 1992 when de Pompa, then part of a lesser-known duo, passed through Miller's college town in the Blue Ridge Mountains. In 1994 Miller and de Pompa formally united and began touring and recording full-time.

Christian Piatt of the Samaritan House said his agency was excited about the pair performing in Fort Worth.

“Samaritan House is thrilled to have Commonbond join us for our little event,” said Piatt. “Their support of our efforts speaks to how far we've come from setting up thermoses in the Samaritan House dining hall and hanging Christmas lights from the rafters. We're excited to have such special guests and I personally encourage everyone to make sure they take advantage of this very special event.”

The group's compact discs are distributed by CD Street, Ladyslipper Music, Harmony Ridge, and Goldenrod Music.

They are members of the American Society of Composers, Authors, the Washington Area Music Association, the Songwriters Association of Washington, Women N Rock, TAXI, and the North American Folk Alliance.

The *Washington Post* calls the pair's fourth CD, their most recent released last July, “Chasing Solace” – ‘wonderful.’ The Chasing Solace tour visits the mid west this month.

Their music has been aired on numerous radio stations from Tennessee to Connecticut to Kentucky to New York among many others.

In 2001 Commonbond released “A Commonbond Christmas” which included six timeless Christmas classics and one original and can be purchased online at CDStreet.com along with their other CDs including 1998's “Naked Soul Dance,” a collection of 14 distinct tracks spanning pop, folk, rock, country, and soul scenes, 1996's “Colors of Life,” recorded live at the Birch mere, and 1994's “Super Elastic Acoustic” compiled of the band's first effort of songs.

MP3 files are coming soon as well.

Commonbond performed in February in North Carolina, Utah, Virginia, Ohio, Georgia, Tennessee and Maryland and in January in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Illinois, and North Carolina.

On Sept 1, 2002 they performed at the Midwest Women's Autumnfest in Dekalb, IL and at the Aqua Girl 2002 Weekend May 16-19 in South Beach, FL featuring famous lesbian comedian Suzanne Westenhoeffer.

The group is scheduled to perform at the Calliope Fest in Hollywood, FL with Ani DiFranco March 29th, at the Susquehanna Music and Arts Festival with The Kennedys on May 10th in Darlington, MD, and on May 24th at the CampOut Virginia Music Festival in Ferncliff, VA in addition to numerous other concerts scheduled between now and Oct. 18th.

For more information on the band, access the group's website at commonbondweb.com, write to them at P.O. Box 27276, Washington, DC 20038, or call 703-802-9148. ▼

Letters

Inside

U. S. News

Ethics complaint filed against Rep. Lindner.

4

Judge grants divorce to two Beaumont men.

5

Appeals court says lesbian can sue over denial of fertility care.

6

Lesbian Notions

Antidiscrimination ordinances can help us find gay friendly places to live.

9

Q-Scopes

Take a stand, Virgo!

12

Q-Puzzle

Which queer is witch!

18


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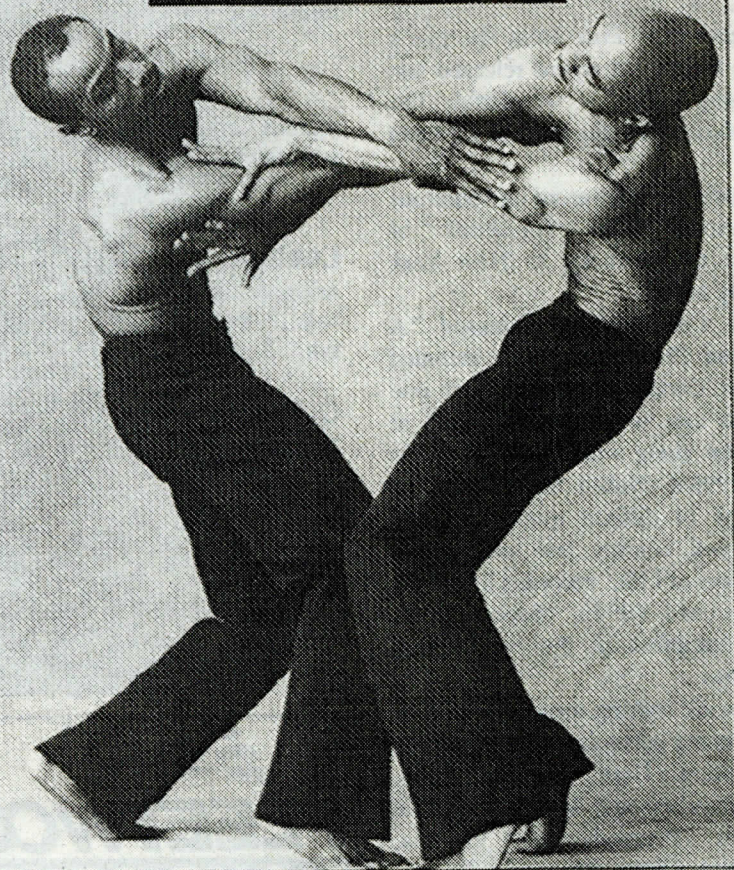
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U.S. News

Ethics complaint filed against Rep. Lindner

ST. PAUL

Democratic lawmakers filed an ethics complaint against Rep. Arlon Lindner on Tuesday, alleging that his remarks questioning whether homosexuals were persecuted by the Nazis have brought disrepute to the House of Representatives.

House Speaker Steve Sviggum said he believes the Corcoran Republican has a "good heart," but added that he and others in the caucus were offended by remarks Lindner made on the House floor Monday, including statements that the chamber's two black lawmakers called racist.

Sviggum said he strongly considered but rejected thought to strip Lindner of his position as chairman of a tourism and economic development committee. He said he'll expedite the ethics hearing and take back the post if the committee recommends that action.

Lindner first made remarks questioning whether Nazis persecuted homosexuals last week while discussing a bill of his that would repeal the state's human rights amendment that protects gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Minnesotans from discrimination in employment, housing, education and other areas. His bill also would remove sexual orientation as a protected class in hate crimes laws.

Lindner defended and strengthened his statements this week, saying he is concerned the human rights law allows homosexuality to be taught as an acceptable lifestyle in schools.

"What I am trying to prevent is the Holocaust of our children getting STDs, AIDs and various other diseases that's going to affect their lives the rest of their lives," he said on the House floor Monday.

"If you want to sit around here and wait until America becomes another African continent, well then you do that, but I'm going to do something about it."

It was the statement concerning Africa that Minneapolis DFL Reps. Keith Ellison and Neva Walker, the House's two black members, called racist.

Ellison joined fellow freshman Rep. Ron Latz, DFL-St. Louis Park, in filing the ethics complaint.

The complaint, also signed by House DFL Leader Matt Entenza, says Lindner's words violate a House rule

prohibiting conduct that "violates accept norms of House behavior" and another barring conduct that "tends to bring the House into dishonor or disrepute."

Both Sviggum and Gov. Tim Pawlenty said they don't support Lindner's bill, but each said they could support a more narrowly targeted version. Pawlenty said in a news conference he does not think the protections should extend to cross-dressers, for example.

The chairwoman of the ethics panel, however, is one of a handful of supporter of Lindner's full bill.

Rep. Sondra Erickson, R-Princeton, declined to comment on whether her views toward the bill would affect her judgment on the ethics review. Sviggum said he's confident it would not. Pawlenty called Lindner's remarks "deeply troubling."

Entenza said the image created by Lindner's statement, together with the hate crimes bill, works contrary to the goal of the committee he heads, to make the state more inviting to visitors.

Two years ago, Lindner criticized a visit to the Legislature by the Dalai Lama, saying Buddhism is a cult and "incompatible with Christian principles."

The year before, ethics charges were brought against him, but ultimately dismissed, for a speech in which he said one Jewish lawmaker's words represented those of the "irreligious left."

Lindner continued to defend himself and said he won't apologize for the remarks. "I think there's always both sides to every issue and I'd like to see both sides," he said. What he meant, he said, is that he has ordered the book "Pink Swastika" on the Internet, and wants to read it before making further judgments.

The book posits that the Nazi regime was rooted in homosexuality, something Minneapolis DFL Rep. Karen Clark, who is a lesbian, described as an attempt to portray gays not as victims of the Holocaust, but as perpetrators.

Lindner said he's confident he will prevail in any ethics panel review, but he wasn't as certain about his post as chairman of the Economic Development and Tourism committee.

"He gave me the chairmanship," Lindner said of Sviggum. "He can take it away." ▼

Judge grants divorce to two Beaumont men

BEAUMONT

The state of Texas may not recognize gay marriages, but that didn't stop a judge in Southeast Texas from granting a same-sex divorce earlier this week.

Judge Tom Mulvaney of the 279th District Court signed a divorce decree on Monday for Beaumont residents Russell Smith, 26, and John Anthony, 34. Smith and Anthony were granted a license of civil union in Vermont in February 2002. The Vermont Legislature approved civil unions in 2000, giving domestic partnerships many of the benefits of marriage.

Mulvaney said the case was a first for him and others in the legal profession said they thought it was the only such divorce in the state.

Smith, who petitioned for the divorce, said getting the divorce in Texas was expensive and strenuous. But getting the union dissolved in Vermont would have required Smith or Anthony to live in that state for at least a year before a final divorce hearing, the Beaumont Enterprise reported in Friday's editions.

Smith said he had to get a legal divorce for financial reasons. The couple did not file joint income tax returns, but they did have joint auto and life insurance. The two also ran several businesses together and the division of their assets and properties was done by agreement.

Smith's lawyer, Ronnie Cohee, said that because the Vermont union was legally

binding, it needed to be legally dissolved. She said her legal justification relied on the U.S. Constitution's full faith and credit clause, which requires states to recognize marriages from other states.

Since Vermont legalized civil unions in 2000 there have been 5,328 unions and 14 of those have ended in dissolution, said Bill Apao, the director of public health statistics for the Vermont Health Department.

Cohee also said that even though Texas law refers to a husband and wife when talking about marriage, state law refers to "parties" when addressing dissolution.

Richard Carlson, a law professor at South Texas College of Law in Houston, said that because the divorce was sought by agreement, appeals in the case are unlikely. But if an appeal was made to a higher court, Carlson said he would expect that court to simply not recognize the marriage as binding.

Although Vermont recognizes civil unions, no state sanctions gay marriages. Some cities have municipal ordinances that recognize partnerships for purposes of employee benefits, Carlson said.

Courts in Hawaii and Alaska approved gay marriage, but their legislatures later passed constitutional amendments limiting marriage to couples of the opposite sex. Massachusetts' highest court debated a case Tuesday that could make the state the first state to legalize gay marriages. ▼

ACLU files appeal on university system benefits decision

HELENA

An appeal to the Montana Supreme Court has revived a legal challenge of the university system's policy denying health insurance benefits for partners of gay employees.

The suit, filed more than a year ago by two lesbian couples, was dismissed in November by District Judge Thomas Honzel of Helena, who said the policy was not unconstitutional.

The American Civil Liberties Union, which said at the time that it planned to challenge Honzel's decision, announced the appeal Tuesday.

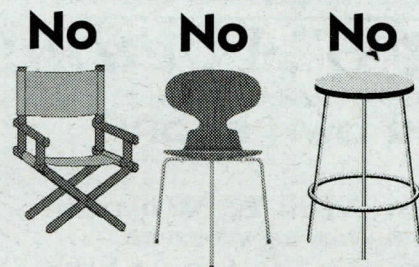
Honzel's decision said the university system's policy is based on the marital status of employees, not on their sexual orientation, and that is a "reasonable and objective standard" for determining who qualifies for employment benefits.

The appeal asks the Supreme Court to examine claims by Carol Snetsinger and her partner Nancy Siegel, and Carla Grayson and her partner Adrienne Neff.

Snetsinger and Grayson, who work at the University of Montana, sued the university system in February 2002 and charged that it unfairly denied their domestic partners health insurance offered through the university.

UM offers health insurance only to employees, their spouses and children. Heterosexual couples who are not married, but file an affidavit of common law marriage, can also qualify.

Homosexual couples, however, are barred by law from marrying. Consequently, they cannot obtain health insurance for their partners through the university system. ▼



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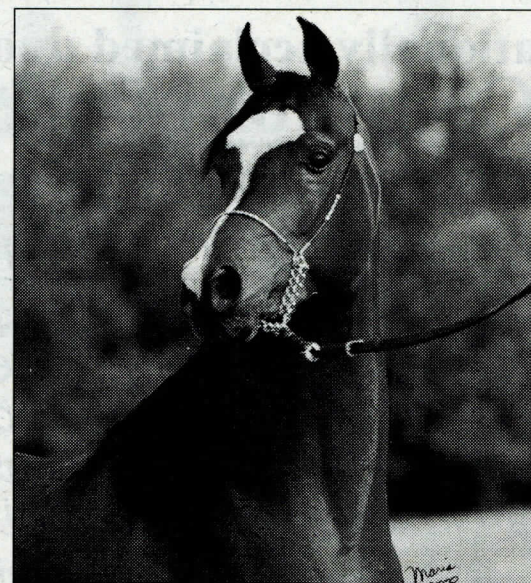
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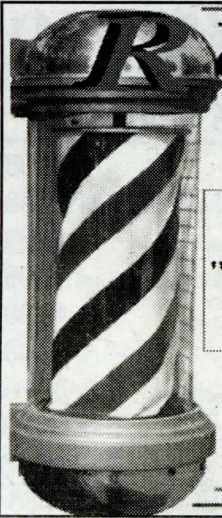


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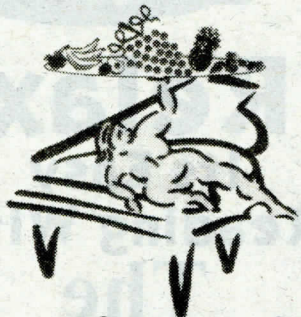
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U. S. News

Appeals court says lesbian can sue over denial of fertility care

SAN DIEGO

A California appeals court ruled Tuesday that a lower court erred when it dismissed a woman's lawsuit claiming her health care providers acted unlawfully when they refused to provide infertility treatments to her so she and her lesbian partner could start a family.

The 4th District Court of Appeal ordered Guadalupe Benitez's case returned to lower court for trial.

The case brought by Benitez was among the first in California to apply the state's civil rights law barring anti-gay discrimination to health care.

Benitez, 31, alleges two doctors at North Coast Women's Care Medical Group in Vista refused to inseminate her because of their religious beliefs about gays.

A trial court dismissed her case, ruling that the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, which regulates employee benefits plans, bars a state civil rights claim against doctors whenever the doctors' services are paid through an employer-provided health plan.

But the appeals court ruled the act does not apply if the denial of treatment was for non-medical reasons.

"We reverse because we conclude ERISA does not pre-empt the state claims alleged by Benitez," the ruling said.

The justices did not address the religious allegations made by Benitez.

Benitez's attorney, Albert C. Gross, said the appellate ruling will give Benitez her day in court.

"The Court of Appeal recognized ... they could not shelter themselves with the Employee Retirement Income Security Act to avoid facing the responsibility of their acts of discrimination and breaches of con-

duct," Gross said.

Benitez began 11 months of infertility treatment, a procedure covered by her health care plan, at North Coast Women's Care in 1999.

One of her doctors, Christine Brody, told Benitez at the start of the treatment that her religious beliefs prevented her from helping a homosexual conceive a child by artificial insemination, but said other physicians at the practice would be able to help her, according to the lawsuit.

In July 2000, Benitez alleged, she was told that both Brody and another doctor, Douglas Fenton, were unable to help her because they did not feel comfortable with her sexual orientation. Benitez sued in 2001 in Superior Court in San Diego.

But the doctors have said Benitez was aware when she began her treatment that her lifestyle went against the religious beliefs of her treating physicians.

The two doctors referred Benitez to an affiliated doctor with the intention she return for her obstetrical care.

Attorney Carlo Coppo, who represents the doctors, said the decision was a combination of religious and clinical reasons. He said the women's center had not performed a third-party insemination, except for married couples, in more than a decade.

"We feel comfortable when the case goes back for discovery and trial, the court will find there were clinical and religious issues in the decision," he said.

After the doctors allegedly refused to provide the infertility treatment, Benitez said, she was forced to go outside her medical plan and pay for insemination out of her own pocket.

Benitez gave birth to a baby boy a year ago. ▼

Bill to prohibit gays from adopting will not go forward

DES MOINES, Iowa

Legislative leaders said Thursday that a bill that would prohibit gay or lesbian couples from adopting children won't make it to the Senate this session.

The bill would have prohibited the Iowa Department of Human Services from allowing an openly gay couple from adopting a child or serving as foster parents.

The bill created a firestorm of protest, said Sen. Joe Bolkcom, an Iowa City Democrat.

"I'm still getting e-mail today," he said.

The bill was considered by the Senate Human Resources Committee on Feb. 23 but did not come to a vote after a large group of gay rights supporters showed up to hear the debate.

"I don't think it ever had support in this chamber," Bolkcom said. "It's just an exercise I think in terrorizing families in this state with what is a crazy idea."

Senate Majority Leader Stewart Iverson, R-Dows, confirmed Thursday that the bill will not be reintroduced. ▼

Feature

BILL

Continued from Page 1

The cost of HB 1911 would affect even more foster care homes because of the cost to the state for placing such children in temporary shelters, according to a 1999 economic study. Many children in the care of the state of Texas are never reunited with their families or adopted, according to Peavy.

A June 2002 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) review cited Texas for a lack of foster homes and the retention of foster homes as a problem and a reason for the state's inability to achieve stability and permanency for children. HB 1911 would reduce an already limited number of foster care homes available for children.

Peavy said if legislators really cared for the well-being of Texas children, they would focus on solving the state's problem of a lack of foster homes and the retention of foster homes rather than removing children from stable homes and placing them in temporary shelters.

The 2002 Health and Human Services (HHS) Review of Texas' foster care program found that it failed to meet "substantial conformity" with national standards. Peavy said in contrast to what HB 1911 implies, HHS has stated that the Protective Regulatory Services (PRS) is in "substantial conformity" with national standards for foster care parents.

On Feb. 19th HB 916 that would limit the ability of gay couples to adopt advanced to committee.

The Defense of Marriage Act is also on a

fast track through the legislative session and it now has both a Senate bill number – SB 630 – and a House bill number – HB 38.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)'s Fort Worth chapter has been active in lobbying to fight the pending anti-gay legislation. The group meets the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church at 1959 Sandy Lane in Fort Worth. PFLAG will also walk in a team for the 11th Annual AIDS Walk Fun Run on March 22nd at the Trinity Park Pavilion benefiting the AIDS Outreach Center (AOC). For information on PFLAG, call the chapter at 817-428-2329 or access their website at pflagfortworth.org.

On March 16 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender citizens and allies from across Texas will descend on the state capitol for a "Rally for Youth/Rally for Our Families" where they will speak out against the attacks on the community. On the following day a breakfast will be held at 8 a.m. at the Capitol Grill which includes a short training to familiarize participants with lobbying and the legislative process in general.

The Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby of Texas (LGRL) holds its own lobby day during each legislative session of the Texas Legislature but this year's event holds "special significance in light of the heavily conservative makeup of the lawmaking body and the dangerous bills making their way through the legislature" according to Sharon Salih, editor of the PFLAG Fort Worth chapter newsletter.

To sign up for the Lobby Day call LGRL at 512-474-5475. ▼

STUDENT

Continued from Page 1

The settlement allows for the club to be established and protects a district policy that requires written parental permission for students to participate.

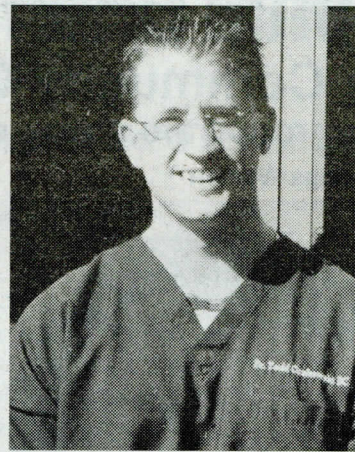
Dukler said all applicants have parental permission. She also said about 200 students signed petitions supporting the club, many of them heterosexual.

Dukler said she has experienced harass-

ment and taunting at school for being a lesbian, and she hopes the club will help alleviate such behavior.

"We'll see some opposition," she said. "But by educating the students and faculty, it will be a lot easier for me to walk the hallways and for students coming after me to walk the hallways." ▼

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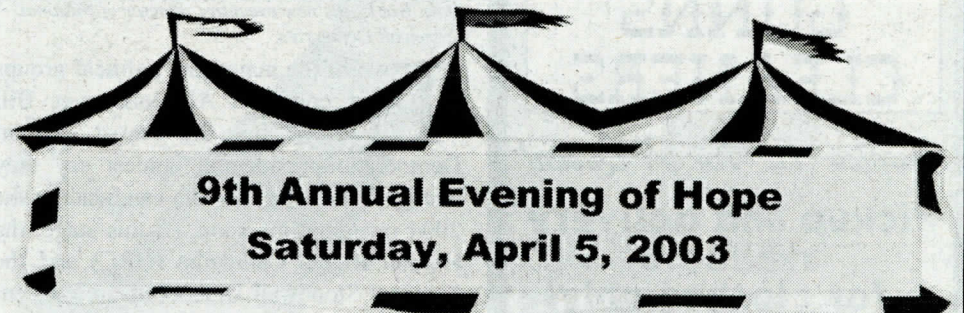
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Capital Letters

Gay Community Checks Out Presidential Candidates Major groups are giving exposure to 2004 Democratic presidential hopefuls.

by Hastings Wyman



Dave Noble, the new executive director of National Stonewall Democrats.

Two of the major gay political groups that endorsed Al Gore over Bill Bradley in the most recent Democratic presidential contest say they have no plans to endorse a candidate in the 2004 race anytime soon. At this stage, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and the National Stonewall Democrats are concentrating on giving the candidates exposure to the gay community.

The strategy not only helps gay activists and voters make up their minds about the candidates, but it also creates an incentive for the candidates to give full consideration to gay concerns. So far, there are nine candidates for the Democratic nomination, most of them with some degree of support for gay issues.

HRC, the nation's largest gay political group, is providing a number of forums to the Democratic presidential contenders by inviting them to speak at the organization's dinners or other events across the country. HRC has hosted Sen. John Kerry (Mass.) in San Francisco and Chicago, former Gov. Howard Dean (Vt.) in Los Angeles and Philadelphia, and Sen. John Edwards (N.C.) in Atlanta. Former House Speaker Dick Gephardt (Mo.) and Sen. Joe Lieberman (Conn.) each addressed a recent HRC

national dinner. Others are likely to follow, especially since the Democratic field is likely to grow. (In addition, HRC does have some Republicans on its board who are likely to be active in the Bush re-election effort.)

Another gay political organization with a large stake in the presidential campaign is the National Stonewall Democrats, which is encouraging its members and clubs to become familiar with all of the contenders. Dave Noble, Stonewall's new executive director says, "We have members taking a look at all the candidates," adding that the organization "will be working hard whoever the nominee is." However, don't be surprised to see local Stonewall affiliates, especially in very important Iowa and New Hampshire, jump onto someone's bandwagon before the nomination is a done deal.

In addition, "Capital Letters" has learned that a number of gay leaders will soon have an opportunity to get a closer look at all of the Democratic presidential candidates. Scott + Yandura, a Washington consulting firm, will soon host a series of seven or eight briefings so that each of the presidential candidates can meet with some 40 gay leaders - the executive directors of national gay organizations and others. While the firm won't comment, insiders say three or four of the candidates have agreed to appear at the briefings and the others are expected to sign on soon. Scott + Yandura is owned by Marsha Scott, who was a Clinton White House gay liaison, and Paul Yandura, a major Democratic fundraiser in the 2000 campaign.

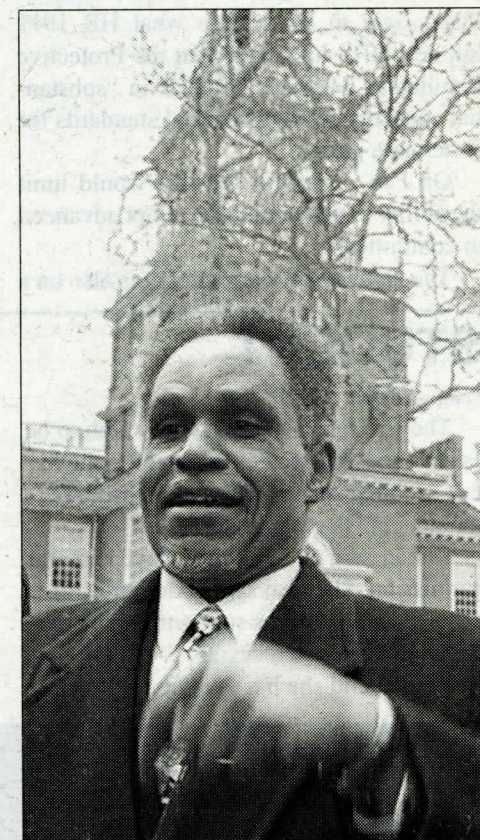
Philadelphia Gays Split Again

Four years ago, Philadelphia was the site of a mayoral contest that seriously split the gay community. The Democratic primary was won by John Street, a city councilman who, among other failings, opposed domestic partnerships for city employees. In the general election, a number of gay politicians - not just Log Cabin Republicans - lined up behind the GOP's Sam Katz, who lost by 2 percentage points. An unstated but significant factor in the split was race. Most African Americans - gay and straight - stuck by Street, who is black, while most white voters, perhaps including a majority of white gay voters, supported Katz, who is white.

The 2003 campaign looks like it will be a repeat of the last election. At least two liberal Democrats on the Philadelphia city council - both with pro-gay records - are

supporting Katz. Several Democratic gay activists who did not want to go on the record say many gay voters, including many community leaders, are quietly backing Katz again this year. Katz backers contend that the mayor has avoided Gay Pride and other community events, while Katz openly courts gay voters "much like (former Mayor Ed) Rendell (D)," says Philadelphia Log Cabin president John Partain. For example, Katz not only attends Gay Pride events, but when a court recently overturned the city's domestic partnership law, Katz voiced his support for the embattled policy at a town hall meeting.

In Street's favor, even though he had a somewhat antigay voting record on the city council, he has been inclusive as mayor. In particular, when the ruling came down declaring Philadelphia's domestic partner law unconstitutional, the city's legal office, which reports to the mayor, appealed it. Moreover, Street is not ignoring gay voters in his re-election effort - he has tapped gay activist Micah Mahjoubian to serve as his campaign liaison to the gay community. ▼



Mayor John Street conducts a news conference in front of Independence Hall Thursday, Feb. 27, 2003, in Philadelphia.

Hastings Wyman publishes *Southern Political Report*, a nonpartisan biweekly political newsletter. He can be reached care of *The Fort Worth Ally* or at HWymanSPR@aol.com.

Lesbian Notions

Relocating? There oughta be a law Antidiscrimination can help us find gay friendly places.

by Paula Martinac

When my partner began conducting a nationwide search for a new academic job in women's studies, we both decided to veto any city or state that seemed too risky for same-sex couples. According to our rating system, much of the Deep South was a "no," while states with gay antidiscrimination laws, like Wisconsin, were a "yes." But the recent introduction of a bill to remove sexual orientation from traditionally progressive Minnesota's human-rights law raises the question of how accurate a barometer laws are in determining which places are "safe" for gay people. And furthermore, what can gay people do when we find our once-secure environments suddenly turning hostile?

Although it's not foolproof, finding out about gay rights laws when you're considering a move is, in fact, a good starting point - even if you're not convinced that such laws are necessary. A local or state antidiscrimination ordinance tells you first of all that there's an out, politically active gay community, one that's organized and persistent enough to lobby for the legislation and get it passed, no matter how long it takes. (In liberal New York state, it took 31 years.) The existence of a gay rights law also indicates that the local community has cultivated straight allies in powerful places.

However, both the existence of antidiscrimination laws and the lack of them can be deceiving. For example, some states with gay rights laws do not allow second-parent adoptions, so lesbian and gay couples with children have to consider family laws, too, when they change their state of residence. On the other hand, in Illinois and Pennsylvania, states without antidiscrimination laws, second-parent adoptions are legal. Consider also that in Iowa, which does not have a statewide gay rights law, the legislature recently extended domestic partner benefits to its state workers, a move designed to make the state more competitive as an employer - and one that seems notably progressive for a conservative Plains state.

In addition, a city, county, or state that looks gay-friendly may, in fact, be seething below the surface. Oregon was once an attractive destination for lesbians looking for affordable land, but in the early '90s it exploded in antigay violence, brought on by the religious right-sponsored Ballot Measure 9. More recently, in 2000 Vermont became the first state to enact gay civil-unions legislation, making it seem like nirvana to same-sex couples, many of whom rushed there to get hitched. But an alarming

number of Vermont cars and trucks sport "Take Back Vermont" bumper stickers, a chilling reminder of the strong and organized opposition to the state's historic pro-gay law.

Another big problem with using pro-gay laws as a barometer of "safety" is that legislation depends so heavily on the political ground, which is always shifting. If you have any doubts about how quickly a political landscape can change, just think about Berlin in the early 1930s, which quickly went from a haven for gay people to the center of a fascist state that incarcerated them.

In the 2002 elections in this country, there were wide political swings in both directions. Minnesota, the land of such liberals as Eugene McCarthy and Paul Wellstone, provides one dramatic example - extremist Republicans who view homosexuality as "a violation of God's law" have gained strength in the legislature and are threatening the state's gay rights law. But in the same year in another locale, New Mexico experienced a Democratic shift in its state government. Now that traditionally conservative state is on the brink of outlawing antigay discrimination, after more than a decade of struggle over the issue.

Unfortunately, many of us don't think about shifting political ground until it's too late - until we're facing down an antigay initiative or until socially conservative elements have taken control of our city council or state legislature. If my partner and I move to a city or state that suddenly becomes repressive for gay people, we've concluded that instead of leaving we would become politically active. "How far can you run?" asked gay activist Scott Seibert in the documentary "Ballot Measure 9". Indeed, unless all gay people want to pile into San Francisco, there's nowhere in the country that's politically ideal.

If you haven't seen "Ballot Measure 9", it's worth watching for its portrayal of how a good environment can turn bad - and more important, what can be done if that happens. (Also instructive is Arlene Stein's nonfiction book about 1992 Oregon, "The Stranger Next Door".) In that infamous confrontation, gay activists found that two strategies were especially important: coming out, and working in coalition with straight citizens who didn't approve of political changes that made their state look bad. The good thing is, these broad tactics can be implemented by gay people in other locations, even before political landscapes shift. ▼

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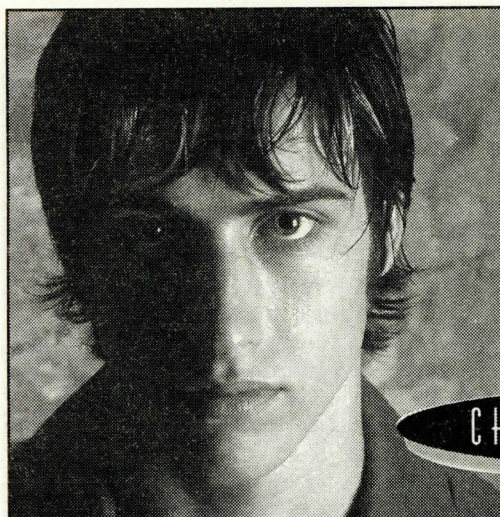
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Dining

Palermo's dishes out great Italian "A taste of Italy in the heart of Fort Worth."

by Curtis Smith

A group of friends ask, "Where do you want to go for lunch?" You need an accommodating place for a business meeting. Your partner wonders when the two of you can have a pleasant meal out or to pickup and bring to your own intimate spot. I usually only review restaurants on a personal level, by frequenting the places I like, tolerating or completely avoiding those I don't. What a joy to be able to review a restaurant I have already had the pleasure of visiting.

Palermo's Italian Café is conveniently located in the Fairmont Area and Hospital District, moments south of downtown Fort Worth. They are only a few dance steps away from the majority of our Gay Clubs. They are very supportive of the GLBT community, advertising in "The Ally" and prominently displaying posters supporting various groups including an upcoming AIDS service organization's fun run. They have a variety of old-world style lunch and dinner selections all at inexpensive and moderate prices. If you compare your Italian experiences to the national chain "warehouse or garden" varieties, you will agreeably discover Palermo's as an authentic and genuinely delightful change.

Upon entering, you can make yourself at home by simply picking your own table. An interesting change from the stiffness of having to wait to be seated by some "gum-chewing" coed at one of the nationally ran restaurants. You are politely and efficiently greeted in the uncluttered and clean environment, which has a relaxing air, not a forced ambiance.

Unfortunately Palermo's is working to receive their liquor licenses, meanwhile, if you BYOB they will provide glasses, corkscrew and set-ups, graciously. First gaze of the menu you are overwhelmed with many wonderfully intriguing choices. One local magazine chose Palermo's "New York Style" brick oven baked pizza as the best in the west.

The Business Lunch Specials of various homemade baked pastas or spaghetti seem to fly out of the kitchen, served before you can finish the accompanying fresh hot garlic rolls and crisp dinner salad. If you're short on time and think that fast food is your only reasonable economic choice, think again. Palermo's can get, you and your

party timely in and out, even during their busiest lunch runs. While still making you feel like you've taken the time to visit your favorite grandmother. The reasonable price of \$5.95 sure beats some dried out value meal.

My favorites are the baked lasagna and the pasta combo, which includes lasagna, manicotti, cannelloni, and ravioli served piping hot combined in the individual baking dish. The tomato sauce is a wonderful blend of spices and there is an abundance of warm melted cheese. The salads, antipasto, hot and cold submarine sandwiches are served fresh and just as timely and moderately priced.

For a truly unforgettable pleasure take your significant other to Palermo's for your evening dining. By all means order the Stuffed Mushrooms for an appetizer, these wonderfully filled caps are nestled in a sweet rich cream sauce, with a hint of garlic and other herbs you will find yourself dipping your bread into the sauce so as not to waista a precious drop. My partner ordered the Tortellini Michelangelo, a cheese-filled pasta with mushrooms in a thick cream sauce. The tortellini was perfect in texture with a delicious cheese center and the dreamy sauce was a wonderful compliment. I ordered the Veal Alla Panna, three thin, but sizable slices of veal sautéed with mushrooms, shallots and a brandy cream sauce that kept my lips smacking. My entree came with side spaghetti and more of those plump garlic rolls.

If you still have room they serve an assortment of traditional Italian desserts including, cheesecake, cannoli and tiramisu. What a better way to top off your taste extravaganza. Don't forget they also have a children's portion of many of their baked pastas and spaghettis for only \$3.99.

Palermo's is open six days a week, Monday thru Friday from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM and Saturday 12:00 Noon to 10:00 PM. Most menu items are available for take out during those times. They are very accommodating to almost any size of group, but you may want to call ahead. Palermo's Italian Cafe, 1000 W. Magnolia, Fort Worth, TX 76104, (817) 878-2400. Prices \$5.25 - \$13.99.

Q-Worm

"Touching Feeling" is stimulating Too stimulating to shun that is.

by Richard Labonte



Touching Feeling: Affect, Pedagogy, Performativity

by Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick.
Duke University Press
195 pages, \$18.95 paper.

Check the index of most any study of gay literature, queer theory, or homosexual culture published in the past 20 years, and you'll probably find the pioneering thoughts of Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick cited. With good reason. Her earlier works include *Between Men*, *Epistemology of the Closet*, and *Tendencies*, each a sizzling, expansive exploration of the gay affect on the contemporary Western world. There are shards of her brilliant gaze on gays in *Touching Feeling*, too, pages where she invokes the sexual philosophy of Michel Foucault and explores the rectal fixations of Henry James. (Indeed!) But the focus for most of this unselfish, self-revealing book has shifted inward. These collected essays brush, with a graceful, soulful touch, across such topics as how illness (her own cancer) shapes her teaching, or shame provokes queer empowerment, or paranoia (her own fears) fires up intellectual daring. Sedgwick, a queer-identified straight academic, is a challenging, truly original thinker. Her muse - borne by electric, almost erotic language - is too stimulating to shun merely because it's not simple.

Brothers and Others in Arms: The Making of Love and War in Israeli Combat Units

by Danny Kaplan. Harrington Park Press,
278 pages, \$19.95 paper.

Unlike several of this publisher's recent military-themed titles, which are mainly fantasy fodder for guys with a yen for men with guns, *Brothers and Others in Arms* offers substantial food for thought. The first third of Kaplan's insightful study consists of first-person interviews with Israeli combat veterans. With slangy vernacular intact, these voices are more ruminative than naughty in nature - but they leave no doubt that homosexuality and homoerotic play are an integral component of the Israeli military environment. Building on the factual yet often emotional anecdotes, Kaplan - a military veteran and an Israel-based psychologist focusing on gay experiences - uses the academic tools of cultural, historical, and sociological analyses to contrast the more tolerant Israeli take on gays in the military with the hidebound hypocrisy of the U.S. experience. Among his many substantive (and heavily footnoted) observations is that queers in the Israeli ranks - even in the showers - don't diminish unit morale or combat effectiveness; both suppositions, of course, are at the hysterical core of American military homophobia.

Featured Excerpt:

Unlike other Western armed forces, the IDF (Israeli Defense Forces) is constantly in the thick of combat, thus making a stronger case for examining the influence of gays in combat units on military effectiveness. Since 1993, Israel - together with all the NATO militaries except the United States, Turkey, and Greece - has boasted a progressive policy on the subject of gays in the military. Soldiers are not asked about their sexual orientation, and officially no discrimination is allowed in the placement of gay service men and women.

-from *Brothers and Others in Arms*, by
Danny Kaplan

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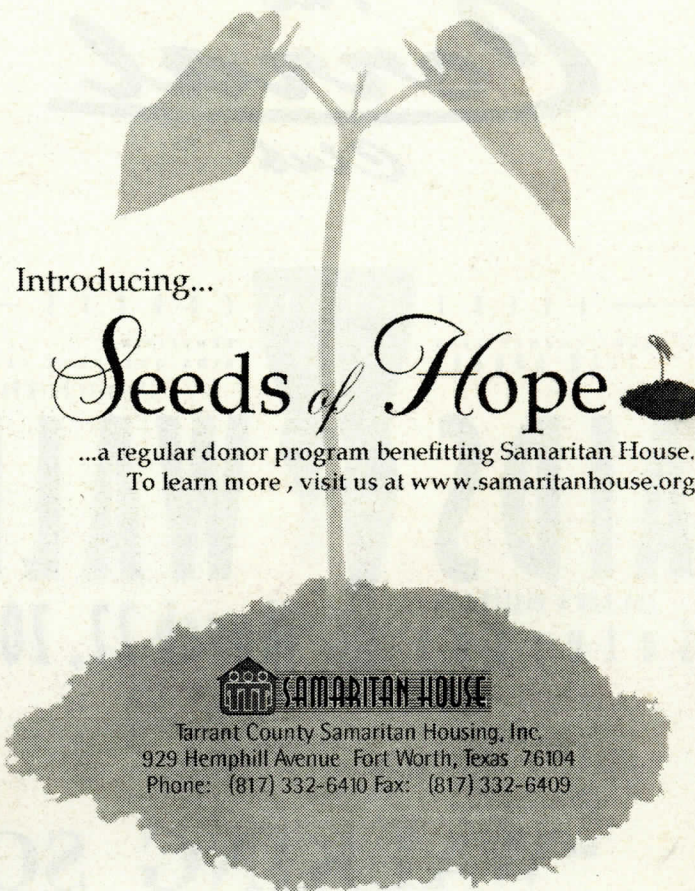
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Q-Scopes

"Take a stand, Virgo!"



ARIES

March 21 to April 20

The Sun moves into your sign on March 20 and brings you plenty of good luck and good love. You're able to change a relationship with a Sag for the better. Call it a truce with an ex and move on.



TARUS

April 21 to May 20

Mars is currently stirring up your house of philosophy, sweetie. You're starting to see the world in a new way, and that's a great thing. Your old ideas were getting tired, anyway. A Libra can provide you with the sexual and intellectual inspiration you need.



GEMINI

May 21 to June 21

It's time to calm down and lay back (and perhaps lay down with a Pisces). You may have too many romantic possibilities to choose from in mid-March. Let them fight over you, darling. You don't have to do a damn thing.



CANCER

June 22 to July 22

This is the right time for you to ask yourself, "How much do I love my day job?" If you're feeling ambivalent or in a total state of ennui, now is the time (before Saturn forces you) to make the necessary changes. Make it better or leave. An Aries is there for you - don't worry!



LEO

July 23 to August 22

Your inner circle is getting smaller, but those relationships are getting stronger. You and a Libra could really bond this week. But don't make a move unless you really mean it. Uranus in your house of love means that you must give and take only the best.



VIRGO

August 23 to September 22

The Sun shifts into your marriage house on March 20, which means that all important relationships will seem serious and committed. It's not the time to be casual with your promises or your sweet body. Make a promise you can keep to a Scorpio.

By Jill Dearman

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LIBRA

September 23 to October 22

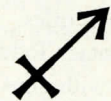
Mars is currently traveling through your house of home and family, making this a fantastic time for you to set up a cozy little shack for yourself. If you're already happy in your home, you can still make it prettier. A Cancer in your life is turned on by your uses of enchantment, incense, and mood music.



SCORPIO

October 23 to November 21

Uranus has begun a funky transit through the most creative sector of your chart. Draw with your less-dominant hand (and produce even more creative things with that so-called weaker paw). Go against your strengths, and find true power under the tutelage of a Gemini.



SAGITTARIUS

November 22 to December 21

You need to do something to relax this week, sweetie. Take up yoga or meditation. Find the mind-body connection. Then pounce on a Scorpio with all your might. It's a week of extremes, so please don't get caught in the middle. Find more sensual and seductive ways to communicate.



CAPRICORN

December 22 to January 19

Mars in your sign gives you extra energy and chutzpah, darling. Use it to make your life that much more meaningful. Get out of a tedious work routine and breathe new vision into your career. A Leo is watching every breath you take.



AQUARIUS

January 20 to February 18

Things are not what they seem as Uranus and Neptune conjure up miracles and madness in your sign. Perhaps you need to read into the symbolism behind your life's victories and crises. Your personal stock is climbing in late March. A Leo wants part of the action.



PISCES

February 19 to March 20

Uranus in your sign makes this a fascinating time to be you. You can do anything you set your mind to if you have the guts to make a fool of yourself (and I know you do, honey!). A Cancer will be there to catch your fall.

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"WALKING SO OTHERS MAY LIVE"

Michigan native performs on American Idol

Paula praised Gracin's performance while Simon said Gracin should lose a few pounds

By Lynn Elber



Simon Cowell, left, Paula Abdul and Randy Jackson are ready to judge a contestant on Fox's hit reality show "American Idol" in this undated publicity photo. (AP Photo/Fox, Ray Mickshaw) 2003FOX BROADCASTING

A Marine and father of two sang "Baby, I need Your Lovin'" by the Four Tops on Tuesday as he hopes to advance in the *American Idol* competition on the Fox television network.

After 22-year-old Westland native Joshua Gracin's performance, judge Paula Abdul praised Gracin for keeping his voice consistent, adding, however, that his performance wasn't the best she'd seen him sing.

Judge Simon Cowell echoed Abdul's comments, adding he didn't like the necklace Gracin was wearing and that he thought Gracin should lose a few pounds. To that comment, Gracin dropped to the stage floor and pumped push-ups Marine-style as the audi-

ence screamed and cheered.

Gracin is one of the top twelve finalists vying to be the American idol. He now lives in Oceanside, Calif. with his wife and daughter.

In an honor to Motown, contestants Tuesday sang songs that legendary songwriter Lamont Dozier penned, including *How Sweet It Is To Be Loved By You*, *Can't Hurry Love* and *Where Did Our Love Go*.

The series relies on three judges and viewer voting to whittle down its pool of contestants to the finalist who gets a record deal. Performance shows appear each Tuesday at 8 p.m. EST, followed by shows in which votes are tallied and contestants find if they advance each Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. EST.

The formula proved to

be a smash hit for Fox last year, when Kelly Clarkson was chosen the first "idol."

In an interview on the show's Web site, Gracin said he never had formal musical training but is interested in a music career. Until now, he has performed in choirs, at school and at fairs. Gracin said his idol is his wife and high school sweetheart, Ann Marie.

In an interview broadcast on Tuesday's show, Gracin said people warned him about being so young and having the responsibilities of a family and military career.

"Every time, someone tells me I can't do something, I go out and do it," he said. ▼

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Hollywood

Richard Gere's Up for Prison A possible movie-musical role for Richard Gere

By Romeo San Vicente



© 2002 - 20th Century Fox

Golden Globe-winner Richard Gere was conspicuously absent from this year's list of Oscar nominees for his role as slick lawyer Billy Flynn in *Chicago*. But now rumor has it the actor may be looking at yet another prison musical. *Chicago* songwriters John Kander and Fred Ebb are hoping to get their musical version of *Kiss of the Spider Woman* to the big screen, and the duo have their sights on Gere to portray Molina, a gay man behind bars in a South American jail. In the moving story, Molina befriends - then falls in love with - his cell mate, a political prisoner named Valentin. Ebb recently told the press he'd love for Gere to star because "I'm crazy about him. He's my new favorite actor." The role could give Gere good Oscar karma - after all, William Hurt won Best Actor for playing Molina in the 1986 nonmusical version of the film, which was adapted from gay novelist Manuel Puig's novel.

Diesel-Powered "Dolls"?

Miramax has secured the movie rights to the musical comedy *Guys & Dolls*, as well as to the collection of short stories by Damon Runyon on which it is based. Rumor has it that XXX hunk Vin Diesel is itchin' to burst into song as Nathan Detroit, who was played by the considerably less brawny Frank Sinatra in the 1955 movie. The plot centers on New York City gambler Detroit's bet with fellow craps junkie Sky Masterson that he can't get the next "doll" he sees - who turns out to be a Salvation Army missionary - to fall in love with him. The queer producing team of Craig Zadan and Neil Meron (*Chicago*, TV's *The Music Man*) is in place for the remake, and by securing the rights to the source material, they have the

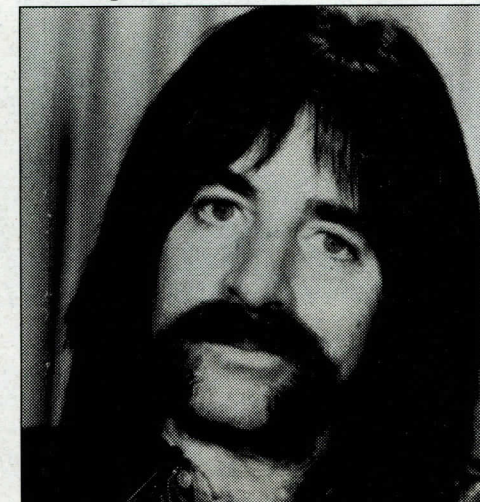
option of updating the story from its original '20s setting.

Mr. Holland's New Opus

Emmy Award-winning homo director Todd Holland, who helped create *Malcolm in the Middle*, is back in business with the Fox Network - but this time he's going mystical. Holland, who has also directed episodes of *Felicity*, *Relativity*, and last year's David E. Kelley bomb, *Girls Club*, is shooting an as-yet untitled one-hour pilot about a slightly unbalanced woman (played by Canadian hottie Caroline Dhavernas) who hears voices from the inanimate objects in her Niagara Falls gift shop and uses the information she gets from them to improve the lives of others. Initially titled "Maid of the Mist", the pilot is being described as a cross between "Donny Darko" and "Amelie".

Gee! Men Singing!

Harry Shearer, the voice of Smithers on *The Simpsons* - and of Mr. Burns, the object of Smithers' affection - has dusted off an old project about one of America's favorite closet cases. At this year's Aspen Comedy Festival, Shearer and co-writer Tom Leopold brought in a packed house for a staged reading of their comedy *J. Edgar! The Musical*, featuring Kelsey Grammer, John Goodman, and Michael McKean. The play explores the love affair between legendary FBI director J. Edgar Hoover and his longtime "assistant," Clyde Tolson. *J. Edgar!* was first performed on L.A. public radio about 10 years ago, but with the success of campy Broadway hits like *The Producers* and *Hairspray*, Shearer decided to revisit it. *J. Edgar* will hopefully make its way to the L.A. stage soon. ▼

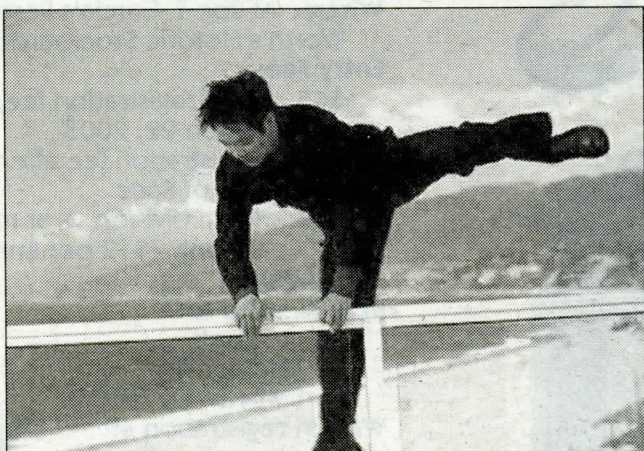


Harry Shearer, the voice of Mr. Burns and his admirer, Smithers of the *Simpsons*. ©2000 MGM Home Entertainment

Movies

Cradle 2 the Grave

Martial arts dynamo Jet Li teams with rapper DMX in this exceptionally convoluted urban kung fu caper. Li, whose dramatic range consists of exactly one facial expression, plays Su, a Taiwanese government agent looking for the precious "black diamonds" recently pilfered by professional thief Tony (DMX) and now in the hands of a powerful crime lord. When a brutal arms dealer subsequently kidnaps Tony's daughter, he grudgingly joins forces with Su to track her - and the jewels - down. Those looking for competent storytelling will want to steer clear of this flick, but anyone seeking an intense



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adrenaline rush shouldn't be disappointed. As proven by the frenzy of fights and fireworks on display, with a big enough budget, filmmakers can make even the worst script look good onscreen. In the end, though, it's nothing more than cinematic bling-bling.

Grade: C-

Kinsey Scale: 1

Early on, a run-in with a gay security guard during a heist results in an impromptu homo impersonation by a jewel thief. But after that, the action is strictly hetero. ▼

Laurel Canyon

Uptight Harvard med-school grad Sam (Christian Bale) brings his equally uptight girlfriend, Alex (Kate Beckinsale), home to Los Angeles during his summer internship, where they think they'll have his unconventional mom Jane's house up in leafy Laurel Canyon all to themselves. But Jane (Frances McDormand) is producing a record for her bad-boy Brit lover (Alessandro Nivola), so the whole group has to co-exist uncomfortably in the searing L.A. heat. Things get tense when Alex becomes fascinated with Jane's artistic

lifestyle, and even more tense when she realizes the bisexual Jane has other talents besides producing albums. Meanwhile Sam is facing his own temptations, thanks to a seductive co-worker (Natascha McElhone). Sexy, thoughtful, and incredibly well-acted, the film takes what could very easily have been a one-dimensional look at a mother-son relationship and gives it both heart and soul.

Grade: A-

Kinsey Scale: 6

The openly lesbian Cholodenko first made gay waves with her super-sexy 1998 film debut, *High Art*.

The seduction of Miss Priss Beckinsale by the earth goddess McDormand couldn't get much hotter. There's a very steamy threeway during an evening swim, in which Nivola bares his lovely bum as the two women get sapphic. Bale played probing journalist Arthur Stuart in *Velvet Goldmine*, while Beckinsale made a name for herself in the campy and gay-friendly *Cold Comfort Farm*. Oscar-winning McDormand has played gay several times, including in *The Butcher's Wife*, as a struggling lesbian shoe salesperson. ▼

Top 10

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cradle 2 the Grave 2. Old School 3. Daredevil 4. How to Lose a Guy in 10 days 5. Chicago 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. The Jungle Book 2 7. Shanghai Knights 8. The Life of David Gale 9. Gods and Generals 10. The Recruit
--	--

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Q-Puzzle

"Which Queer Is Witch?"

Across

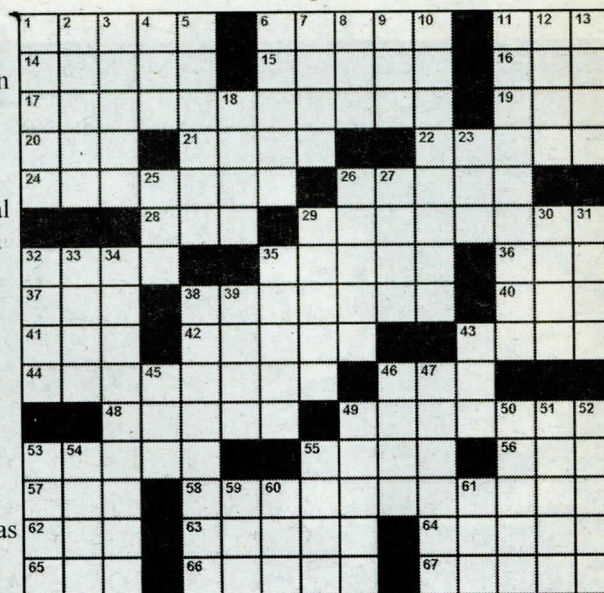
- 1 Nickname of "Beat It" singer
- 6 Lake ballet dancers
- 11 Part of PMS
- 14 "The Wizard of Oz" scorer Harold
- 15 Noodle
- 16 Earhart's milieu
- 17 Tabitha actress who grew up to become a queer activist
- 19 Vehicle from Uranus, perhaps
- 20 Gaydar, for example
- 21 Rita Mae Brown's "Pay ___"
- 22 Plays Sheehan's sport
- 24 Emulates Todd Oldham
- 26 Streep of "The Hours"
- 28 Columbus circuit-party color
- 29 Cold-cock
- 32 Edna, for one
- 35 Line from Lerner
- 36 Beatty of "Roseanne"
- 37 Carnival locale
- 38 Evans who played Samantha's eccentric father
- 40 Eminem's mentor Dr. ___
- 41 Rene Auberjonois on "Deep Space Nine"
- 42 Eva Gabor's "Green ___"
- 43 Worker at the bottom
- 44 Counties in Capote's home state
- 46 Skeptical ejaculation
- 48 Rob of "Melrose Place"
- 49 "Talking to My Angel" singer Etheridge

- 53 Bonehead
- 55 Foam at South Beach
- 56 Cocks and bulls
- 57 Fashion accessory for a butch lesbian
- 58 Second Darren portrayer
- 62 Travel org.
- 63 Madonna collaborator William
- 64 Use a rubber
- 65 Poet McKuen
- 66 Sandy Dennis' "___ Habits"
- 67 Submit (to)

Down

- 1 Worn out
- 2 Come to attention
- 3 Shows appreciation for 49-Across
- 4 He's a real doll
- 5 Like a nervous Nelly
- 6 Gay rodeo accessories
- 7 Blemish of a witch less attractive than 34-Down
- 8 Biter of Caesar's girlfriend
- 9 Ordinal for John Nash
- 10 Pray like Will before dinner?
- 11 Campy comedian who played Uncle Arthur
- 12 ___ Raff ("Rocky Horror" character)
- 13 Greek love
- 18 "A Beautiful ___"
- 23 Olive with a little salt?
- 25 Land of singer S. O'Connor
- 26 Niles' ex
- 27 Sean and Debra's costar
- 29 Burning hot piles

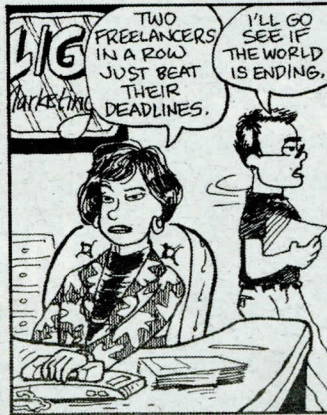
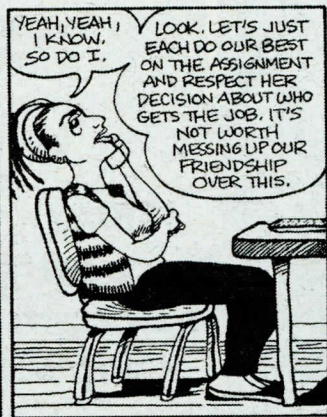
- 30 Brett Easton Ellis' "Less Than ___"
- 31 "Exit to ___" (Rosie flick)
- 32 Go down
- 33 Elton John Broadway musical
- 34 Agnes who starred as Endora
- 35 Seduces
- 38 Hairy Log Cabin party symbol?
- 39 BenGay target
- 43 First letter of the F-word, for Socrates?
- 45 Homoerotic ending
- 46 Greek queen of heaven
- 47 Oscar Wilde's partner Douglas
- 49 Like a long-closed closet
- 50 Bundle of faggots
- 51 Kate Calloway's "Sixth ___": A Cassidy James Mystery"
- 52 One that comes out in late summer or fall
- 53 "Sex and the City" creator Darren
- 54 Hello from Madonna's grandparents
- 55 "The Kids in the Hall" bit
- 59 "I Got Rhythm" writer Gershwin
- 60 "Some of My Best Friends" network
- 61 Would-be master's test



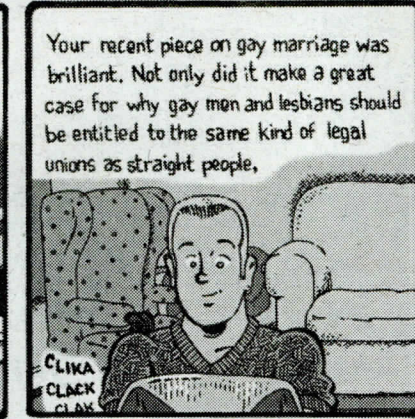
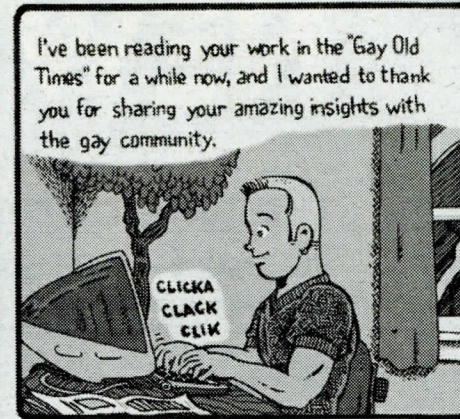
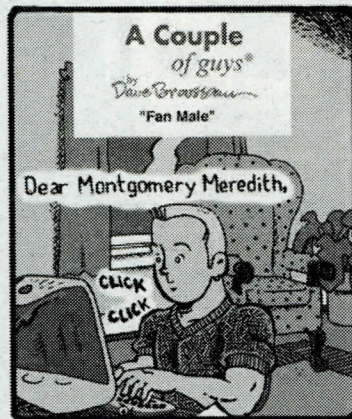
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Solution to last week's Q-Puzzle

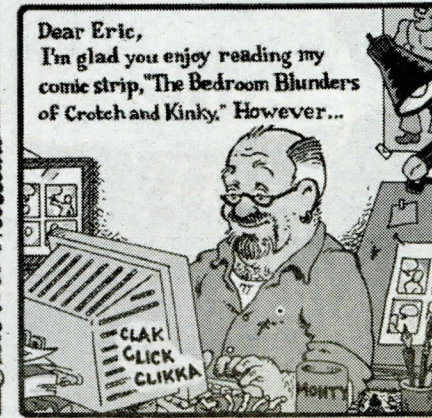
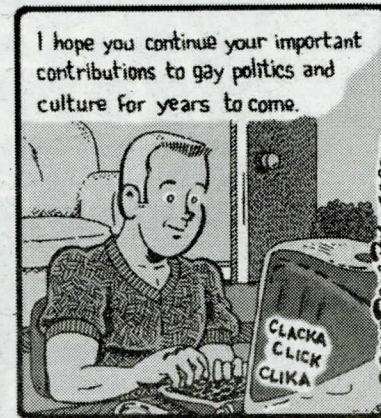
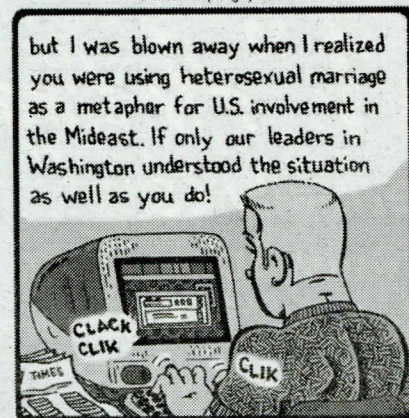
bitter girl



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*Denotes where you can pick up "The Ally"

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817-335-1994
- *AIDS Outreach Center (Arlington)**
401 W. Sanford, Arlington, TX 76011
817-275-3311
- *AIDS Resources of Rural Texas**
1105 Santa Fe #109, Weatherford, TX 76086
817-596-3022
- *Health Education Learning Project**
909 W. Magnolia Ste. 2, Ft. Worth, TX
817-332-7722
- RedLine Project**
817-460-9920 www.redlineproject.org
- *Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network**
200 W Magnolia Ste 201, Ft. Worth TX 76104
817-870-4800
- Tarrant County HIV Testing & Counseling**
817-871-7346
- TX AIDS Health Fraud Information Network**
800-758-5152
- TX Human Rights Foundation AIDS Legal Resource**
800-828-6417
- *Samaritan House**
929 Hemphill, Fort Worth, TX 76104
817-332-6410
- Tarrant County Lesbian and Gay Alliance**
1219 6th Avenue, Ft. Worth, TX
817-877-5544

Legal / Political Organizations

Texas Human Rights Foundation
512-479-8473

Religious Organizations

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817-535-5002
- *Angel of Hope Christian Church**
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817-920-7767, www.angelofhope.org
- *Celebration Community Church**
908 Pennsylvania Ave Ft. Worth, TX
817-335-3222, www.churchhome.org
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- *Fellowship of Love Outreach**
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- *First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church**
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817-451-1505
- Fort Worth Church Project**
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817-596-4851
www.fortworthchurch.com
- *Trinity MCC**
1846 West Division #305, Arlington, TX
817-265-5454
- *Westside Unitarian Universalists Church**
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817-292-3337

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- Lambda Alcoholics Anonymous**
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- NAMES Project**
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Ft. Worth, TX 76104
817-33-NAMES
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817-428-2329
- Fort Worth Parents Group for Lesbians and Gays
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- Cowtown Leather Men**
817-536-8051
- Fort Worth Men's Chorus**
817-228-2120
- Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Arlington**
P.O. Box 365
Fort Worth, Texas 76101-0365
emperor24@icfwa.org : empress24@icfwa.org
- Lambda Faculty and Staff (UTA)**
P.O.Box 19129
Arlington, TX 76019
817-273-3922
- Leadership Luncheon Forum**
817-877-5544
- Longhorn Bowling Assoc. of FW**
817-358-6322
- Tarrant County Gay Pride Week**
P.O. Box 3459 tcgpa@mail.com
Fort Worth, TX 76113
- Texas Gay Rodeo Association**
P.O.Box 786
Fort Worth, TX 76101
- Trinity River Bears**
P.O.Box 2206
Fort Worth, TX 76113
817-284-4294

Student Organizations

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P.O. Box 60111
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817/294-5101
www.glsentarrant.org
glsentarrant@hotmail.com
- Gay and Lesbian Association of UTA**
P.O.Box 19348-77
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817-794-5140
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Texas Wesleyan University
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Fort Worth, TX 76129
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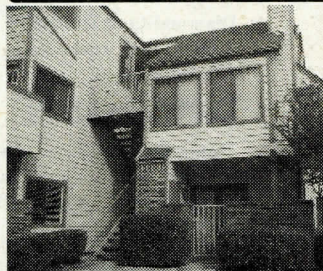


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