inside: Semantic glitch: enough to sink constitutional amendment? ■ Kansas court says Romeo and Juliet law covers gay teens

Volume 1 ■ Issue 43 ■ October 28, 2005

txt newsmagazine



A Super Weekend

Halloween delights with real-life ghosts and ghoulish parties

HALLOWEEN
CRAZY WORLD

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29TH
GUEST DJ BRETT HENRICHSEN
OF MASTERBEAT

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18+ TO PARTY 21+ TO DRINK

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31ST
HALLOWEEN NIGHT

AWARD WINNING DJ JIMMY SKINNER

AFTER HOURS UNTIL 5AM • 18+ TO PARTY 21+ TO DRINK

COSTUME CONTEST AT 1AM CASH, TROPHIES AND PRIZES

THE 800 PACIFIC HALLOWEEN STREET PARTY
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29TH AND MONDAY, HALLOWEEN NIGHT

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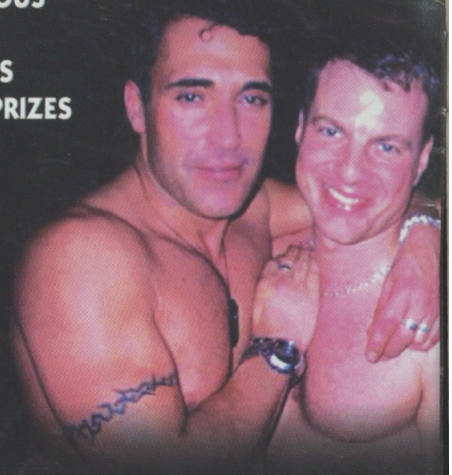
South Beach
THE NIGHTCLUB



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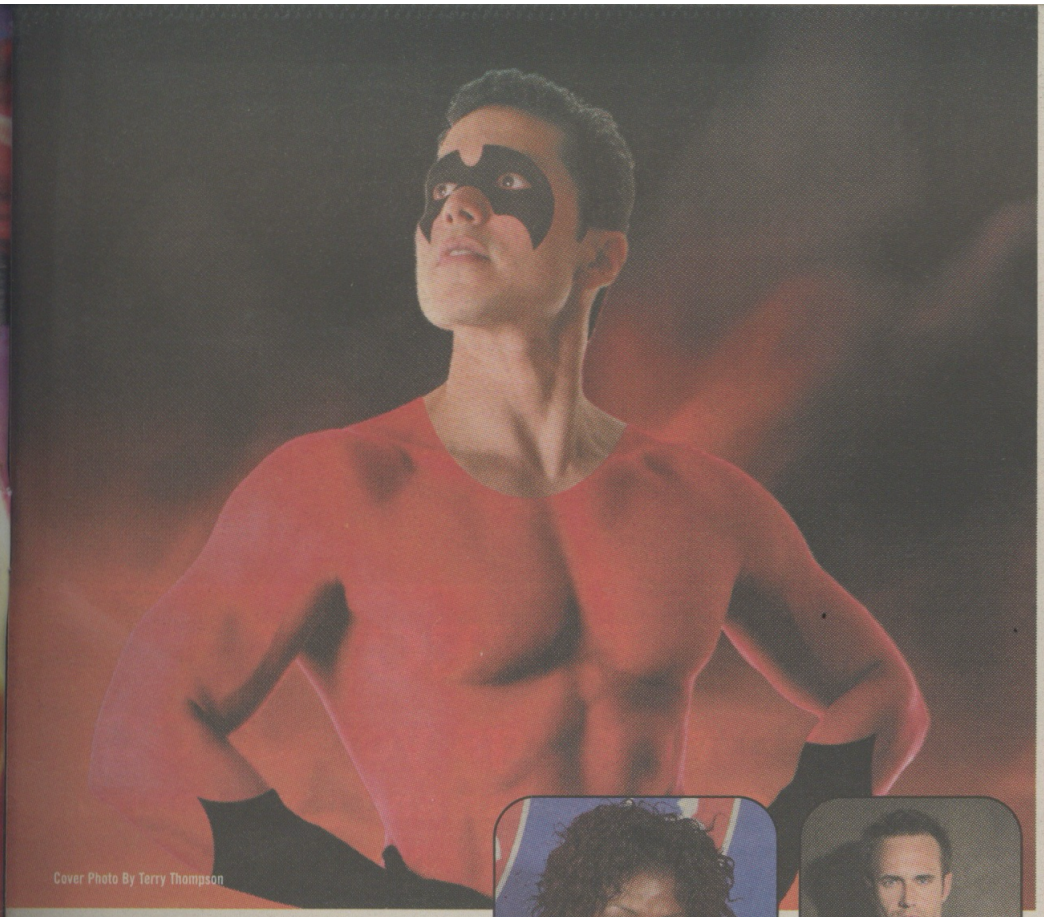

Cover Photo By Terry Thompson







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TXT Newsmagazine accepts submissions of news articles, feature articles, opinion pieces, interviews and reviews within specified word counts. All communication about submissions is by e-mail with the managing editor, Nancy Ford. A copy of our guidelines for submissions may be obtained by e-mailing the managing editor at nancy@txtnewsmag.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

In an attempt to provide a weekly report of the highest possible accuracy, credibility and integrity, TXT Newsmagazine acknowledges its mistakes large and small. We accept comments from readers about published material that may require correction or clarification. Comments should be reported to the executive editor by e-mail at vercher@txtnewsmag.com. Corrections and clarifications will appear as needed.

LETTERS

Keep letters brief and address only a single issue. For more details, see the details on this week's Perspectives page.

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Newsbriefs

DENTON

Noted women leaders will highlight UNT's multicultural leadership seminar

The Division of Equity and Diversity at the University of North Texas will present "Developing Multicultural Leaders: Women who are Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and their Allies." The seminar begins at 7:30 a.m. on Nov. 4 in the Silver Eagle Suite of the University Union.

Featuring keynote speaker Lupe Valdez, a lesbian who is the first woman to be elected sheriff in Dallas County, the seminar will be moderated by Patricia Nell Warren, the author of the classic gay novel *The Front Runner*. Kate Kendell, executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, will also speak.

Registration fees begin at $45, with forms available online at Unt.edu/ally/Womens_Seminar2005.html.

A free pre-seminar event featuring Sharon Bridgforth and Alison Bechdel begins at 6 p.m. on Thursday in the University Union Lyceum. Bridgforth is a noted author and performance artist. Bechdel is creator of the popular comic strip, *Dykes to Watch Out For*.

HOUSTON

Rice panelists to discuss HIV in African American community

Because AIDS is the most prevalent killer of African-Americans between the ages of 25 and 44, Rice University's Baker Institute Student Forum will present "AIDS Off the Radar: The Black American Epidemic" Saturday.

Organized by Rice graduate student Mark Little, the discussion will address numerous aspects of how AIDS impacts the black community, with a question-and-answer session following each session. Panelists will include policymakers, health-care workers and community and spiritual leaders, with representatives from Houston City Council, the City of Houston HIV Prevention Program, AIDS Foundation Houston, Brentwood Baptist Church, Houston NAACP, the office of State Senator Rodney Ellis, University of Alabama, the Warren Corporation and others.

Open to the public, the free conference begins at 9:45 a.m. and runs until 2 p.m. at Rice University's Baker Hall. Preregistration for the program is not required. Rice University is located at 6100 Main St.

Sodomy case judge says arrest in 'Lawrence' case was set up

In her new book, *Sex Appealed*, a former Texas judge claims that *Lawrence v Texas*, the landmark 2003 case that culminated with U.S. Supreme Court striking down Texas's anti-sodomy laws, was based on pre-arranged arrests.

The case was originally assigned to Judge Janice Law's criminal court in Houston in 1998. "Rumors circulated immediately in the Harris County, Texas courthouse that the arrests were a set up, that the defendants invited their arrest," Judge Law said in a story on Lifesitenews.com.

"If the set up were known during the case's five year appeal journey from my court, then the defendants would not have a right to privacy claim, and the U.S. Supreme Court may never have heard the case, or may have decided it differently," Judge Law said.

'D-List' diva Kathy Griffin to host Houston Black Tie Dinner

Celebrity-slamming comedian Kathy Griffin, star of the Bravo Network's reality TV show, *My Life on the D-List*, will be the guest host at this year's Houston Black Tie Dinner. With its theme, "Bright Lights, Big City," this year's gala will also feature music and dancing by Rotel and the Hot Tomatoes. The evening begins at 7 p.m. on Nov. 12 at Hotel Inter-Continental, 2222 West Loop South.

Since its inception 13 years ago, the Houston Black Tie Dinner has raised more than $1.6 million for Houston-area gay and lesbian health and service organizations. This year's beneficiaries are AIDS Foundation Houston, Bering Omega Community Service, Uncommon Legacy Houston, Casa de Esperanza, AssistHers and the Montrose Counseling Center.

For tickets, visit Houstonblacktiedinner.org.

Women's basketball star Sheryl Swoopes comes out

By Nancy Ford
Staff Writer

In a move that pleased many Women's National Basketball Association's fans — but surprised few — Houston Comets Sheryl Swoopes has stated publicly that she is a lesbian.

The Olympic gold medalist came out Wednesday in an interview with ESPN's *The Magazine*.

"Sheryl Swoopes is a real hero on and off the court," Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese said in a written statement.

One of the key players on the Houston team since the league formed in 1996, Swoopes was recently named the WNBA's Most Valuable Player, an honor she had received twice before.

In the ESPN interview, Swoopes said, "Some people might say my coming out after just winning the MVP award is heroic, and I understand that.

HOUSTON

And I know there are going to be some negative things said, too. But it doesn't change who I am. I can't help who I fall in love with. No one can."

Swoopes has an eight-year old son from a marriage that ended in 1999. Alisa Scott, a basketball coach, is her partner.

"It's frustrating to keep everything inside and not be who I want to be. I'm sure life is not going to be easier for me just because I'm coming out," Swoopes said. "But at least I'll be free."

Contact the writer: Nancy@txtnewsmag.com



Sheryl Swoopes

Campaign signs opposing Proposition 2, endorsements crop up in a variety of places

Organization hopes to prompt voter turnout with tailgate parties

By Nancy Ford
Staff Writer

As the Nov. 8 election draws closer, signs opposing Proposition 2 are becoming more visible in Houston neighborhoods. Bethany Christian Church, located at 3223 Westheimer Road, has placed two signs on its lawn in Houston's River Oaks neighborhood.

"There's a volunteer that's been focusing on the communities of faith," said April Ayers, vice president of the Houston Equal Rights Alliance. "There's actually a number of churches that are with us on this."

Ayers believes there are many opinions beyond the GLBT community about what is right or wrong.

"In spite of these differences, we can all agree that the government does not

TEXAS

have the right to legislate how we live in our own homes," she said.

Proposition 2, the proposed amendment to the Texas Constitution, would

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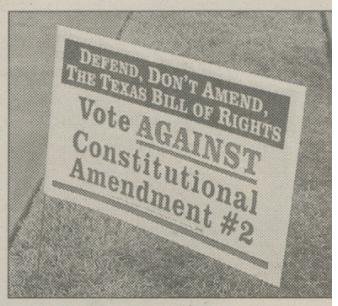

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Signs opposing Proposition 2 are becoming more visible around Houston, including this one spotte on the lawn of Bethany Christian Church.

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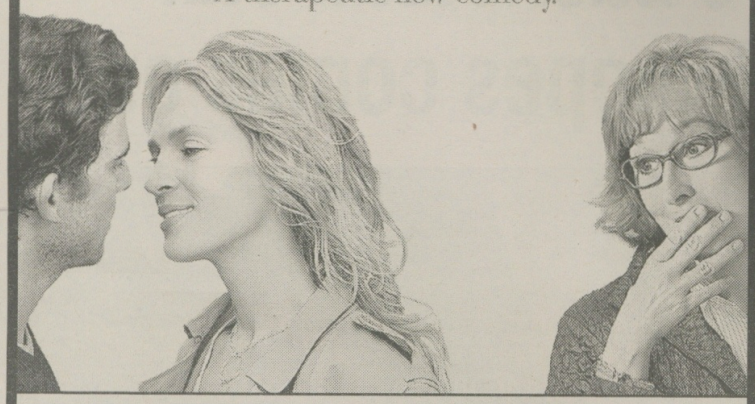

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From Page 5

prohibit same-sex marriage and anything "identical or similar to marriage"

"The proposed Constitutional Amendment 2 is simply a way to remind us that we are not truly equal in the eyes of the law. If the proposed amendment is passed, it will affect every generation to come," Ayers said.

More signs dot the front lawn of the West Gray Multi Purpose center, where early voting is being conducted, many touting candidates who have been endorsed by Houston's GLBT Political Caucus's political action committee.

Houston Equal Rights Alliance will host a tailgate party for early voters Saturday in the center's parking lot, located at 1475 W. Gray Ave. The party begins at 8 a.m. and runs until 2 p.m. with State Representative Garnet Coleman, a Democrat of Houston, speaking at noon.

A similar party is planned at the center on Nov. 4, from 3 to 7 p.m.

"We can win, but only with the support of the whole community," Ayers said. "Get out and vote, remind friends and family to vote, and then join us for a celebration in true gay pride style."

2005 ENDORSMENTS

The following endorsements were issued by the political action committee of the Houston Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Political Caucus:

Bill White, Mayor
Annise Parker, Controller
Peter Brown, City Council at Large, Position 1
Sue Lovell, City Council at Large, Position 2
Ron Green, City Council at Large, Position 4
Mike Stoma, City Council at Large, Position 5
Felicia Galloway-Hall, City Council District B
Hermann Litt, City Council District C
Ada Edwards, City Council District D
Adrian Garcia, City Council District H
Carol Alvarado, City Council District I
Laura Salinas, City Council District 143
Richard Cantu, HISD Board of Education, District 1

The caucus recommends a "no" vote on Proposition 2.

Contact the writer: Nancy@txtnewsmag.com

GLBT Business Convention cancelled

Low sign-ups force organizers to call off twice-plagued event

By Tammye Nash
Staff Correspondent

Officials with the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce scrambled this week to organize the National GLBT Marketing Conference to fill the void left by the last-minute cancellation of the 2005 National GLBT Business Convention.

DALLAS

The convention was originally scheduled for New Orleans, but was transferred to Dallas after Hurricane Katrina hit. The Dallas event was cancelled this week because of low registration numbers, according to Michael Lamb, publisher of *Echelon* magazine, the presenting sponsor.

"We held on until the last week before the conference expecting a last-minute influx of people registering. But when we were just one week away and we only had 32 people registered, we decided we had to cancel," Lamb said.

North Texas Chamber president Leo Cusimano said his organization decided to sponsor the marketing conference on Monday to take advantage of speakers who had been slated to participate in the convention and had already made travel arrangements.

"We were presented with the opportunity to create a forum for the leading marketing experts in our community, and we decided to take advantage of that opportunity," Cusimano said.

The event will be an in-depth one-day conference designed to highlight the latest techniques and case studies on GLBT marketing and advertising, Cusimano said. It will feature presentations by marketing specialists from around the country, including Bob Witeck of Witeck Combs Communications, Dawn Miefert of Merge Media, Matthew Skallerud of Hyperion Interactive Media, Vance Lancaster of the Point Foundation, Barb Elgin of Be A Success Enterprises and Stephen Macias of Here TV.

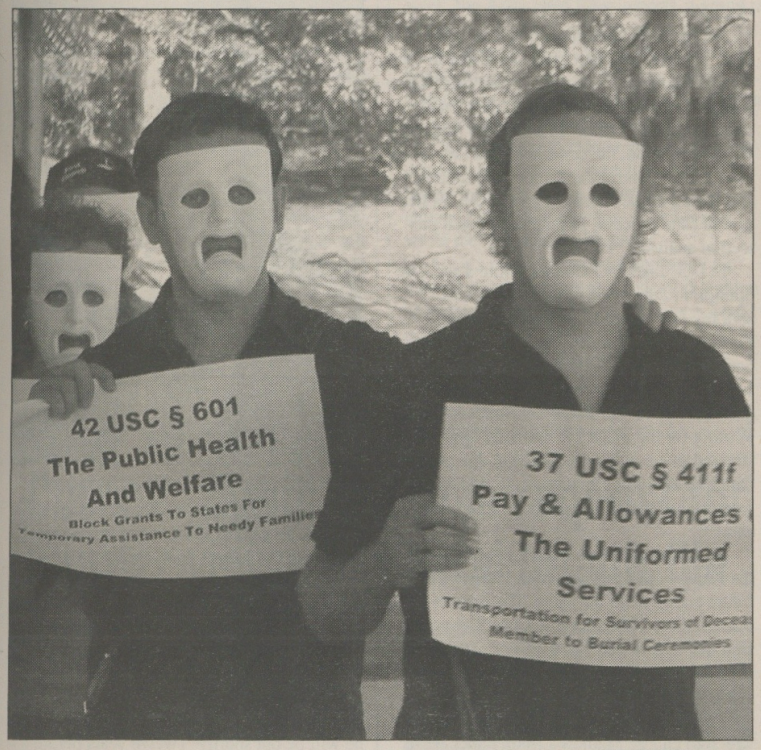
The conference begins at 8:30 a.m. Monday at the Wyndham Anatole Hotel in Dallas, and will end by 5 p.m., Cusimano said. The registration fee is $35 per person, including lunch, and participants can register at the door on the day of the conference.



Dawn Meifert, president of Merge Media, will join Bob Witeck of Witck Combs Communications, Matthew Skallerud of Hyperion Interactive Media and other experts who will make presentations at the one-day National GLBT Marketing Conference on Monday in Dallas.

Contact the writer: Nash@dallasvoice.com

Foundation holds rally against Proposition 2



NANCY FORD/TXT Newsmagazine

Illustrating the tragedy facing Texans if voters pass Proposition 2, nearly 100 demonstrators gathered in Houston's Spotts Park dressed in black. They donned masks and carried signs detailing the 1,138 federal marriage rights passage of the proposition would deny to same-sex couples.

Masked protestors carry signs detailing rights withheld to same-sex partners

By Nancy Ford
Staff Writer

On Sunday, nearly 100 people, most of them dressed in black, gathered under picture-perfect skies in Spotts Park near downtown Houston to call attention to the upcoming vote on Proposition 2.

On Nov. 8, Texas voters will decide the fate of the measure, which proposes a constitutional amendment which would prohibit gay marriages or anything identical or similar to marriage.

Speakers included Jerry Simoneaux and Christopher Bown, partners and founders of the Foundation for Family and Marriage Equality, who stressed the 1,138 rights and protections automatically bestowed on married partners of the opposite sex that Proposition 2 would deny same-sex families.

Participants dressed in black and wearing white 'tragedy' masks filed through the structure and up the side of the hill overlooking the park. Simultaneously, children of the participants played and chased each other, oblivious to the political demonstration taking place all around them.

Opponents said the amendment does nothing to change Texas's standing marriage law, which currently prohibits same-sex couples from receiving a marriage license. It also pro-

HOUSTON

hibits recognition of marriages or civil unions of same-sex couples, regardless or whether the ceremony was legally performed in another state or country.

"This amendment does nothing to protect families," Simoneaux said. "Basic protections that others take for granted such as wills, powers of attorney, the right to make medical decisions for our spouses and our children, second-parent adoptions, and employee benefits for domestic partners."

Besides writing discrimination into the Texas Constitution's Bill of Rights, the amendment would also jeopardize the rights of opposite sex couples in a common law marriage, opponents said, by putting them in the same position as same-sex couples.

Contact the writer: Nancy@txtnewsmag.com

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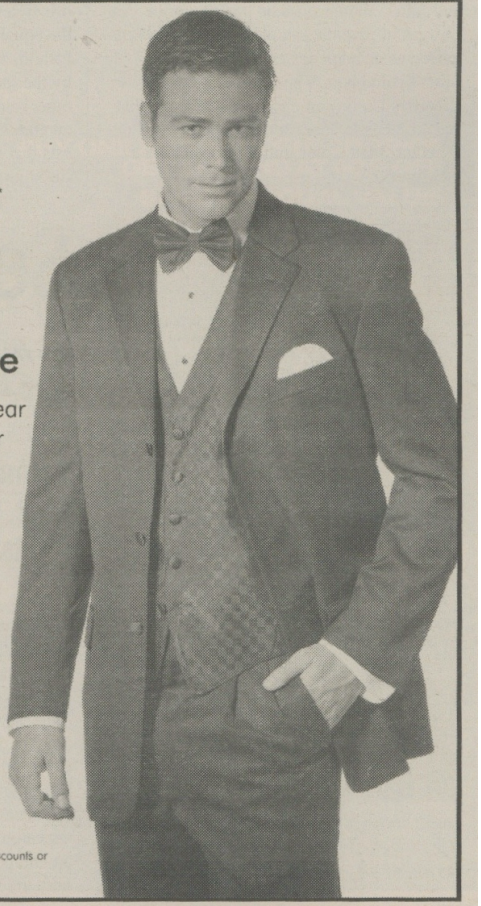

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By Ann Rostow
Senior Staff Writer

Romeo and Romeo covered under Kansas law

Ruling frees Limon after serving nearly 5 years of 17-year sentence

KANSAS

The Kansas Supreme Court has delivered the last word in a long-running challenge to the state sentencing law known as "Romeo and Juliet." The statute relieves teenagers of most penalties for criminal sodomy with other teens around their own age. But it applies specifically to teens caught in consensual heterosexual situations. In a unanimous decision released Friday, the justices struck the section of the law that limited its reach to boy/girl malfeasance.

The case of *Kansas v Limon* began with the criminal conviction of Matthew Limon, a young man accused of having oral sex just after his 18th birthday with a boy of nearly 15. Both boys were students at an institution for developmentally disabled kids. According to court records, both functioned at about the same level intellectually, somewhere on the border between slow and mildly retarded.

Because Limon did not qualify for Romeo and Juliet, and because he had two prior charges of juvenile sex offenses, he was sentenced as an adult sex criminal to over 17 years behind bars. The American Civil Liberties Union came to his defense in what the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Project Director, Matt Coles initially considered a "no brainer."

Even with two strikes against him, if Limon had been caught with a girl he would have faced no more than 15 months in jail. The ACLU did not contest the state's right to punish underage sex. They argued instead that the huge disparity in sentencing for gay and straight teens violated the right to equal protection under the law.

In 2002, the Kansas court of appeals disagreed, upholding Limon's sentence based on the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Bowers v Hardwick*. Handed down in 1986, Bowers upheld Georgia's right to criminalize gay sex.

After the Kansas Supreme Court declined to review the Limon case, the ACLU petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court for review. For months, there was no word from Washington either way. Then, in late June of 2003, two days after the High Court struck *Bowers v Hardwick* along with the Texas sodomy law, the justices told the Kansas appellate court to reconsider Limon in light of the newly articulated legal reasoning in *Lawrence v Texas*.

Surprisingly under the circumstances, the court of appeals managed to come up with the same result even without the Bowers precedent. In a fractured decision, the two-judge majority said *Lawrence* had been decided on principles of due process and did not apply to the equal protection question presented in Limon. The two cases were also distinguished by the fact that one involved adults and the other minors. The court then gave credence to an embarrassing list of proposed state interests that might justify a special punishment for homosexual sex, including promoting parenthood, preventing sexually transmitted diseases, and protecting the sexual development of children.

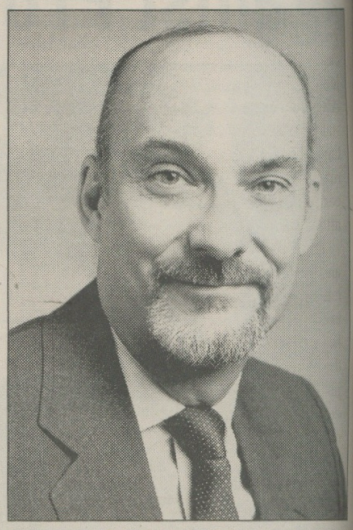
As Matthew Limon continued to serve his time, his case was once again appealed to the Kansas Supreme Court. This time, the justices accepted review, and last week, they finally ruled in Limon's favor. In a strongly worded 19-page opinion, the court held that *Lawrence* does indeed control the Limon case, noting that the Lawrence court "signaled the application of [due process] principles to equal protection analysis."

In fact, Justice O'Connor wrote a separate opinion in *Lawrence*, striking the Texas sodomy law on equal protection grounds. Further, Justice Kennedy indicated that the court could have ruled on either theory, but selected the Due Process Clause in order to deal a deathblow to *Bowers v Hardwick*. Writing for the majority, Kennedy also stressed that equal protection and due process "are linked in important respects, and a decision on the later point advances both interests."

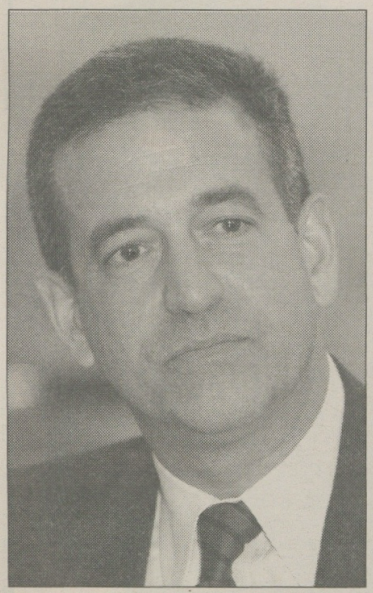
By taking an expansive view of *Lawrence*, the Kansas opinion helps pave the way for future courts to do the same. The justices also reiterated the U.S. Supreme Court's conclusion that a state may not disfavor a particular class of people based solely on the moral views of the majority.

The Kansas court gave the state 30 days in which to charge Mathew Limon under what can now be termed the Romeo and Romeo law, or take other action to remedy his situation. According to the ACLU, it may take a few weeks to extricate Limon from jail. "When it does happen," writes Matt Cole, "Matt Limon will have spent four years longer in prison because he is bisexual... But he will be out shortly. Twelve years before the state of Kansas would have released him."

Coles added: "I don't remember the last time I felt so good about a case."



HAPPY DAYS American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Project director, Matt Coles, says he can't remember the last time he felt so good about a case, after the Kansas Supreme Court redefined the state's "Romeo and Juliet" law to cover cases between young people of the same sex.



Senator Russell Feingold, a Wisconsin Democrat, believes that passing the federal marriage amendment would be "an extreme and unnecessary reaction."

Senators still toying with federal same sex marriage amendment

Vermont lawmakers ask Frist, Hastert for federal rights for partners

NATION

Kansas Senator Sam Brownback, the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee's constitution subcommittee, held hearings last week on the federal marriage amendment, a proposal to amend the U.S. Constitution with a ban on same-sex marriage. Only three of the nine subcommittee members attended the hearing, which appeared to be an opportunity to keep the amendment simmering on a legislative back burner.

A federal amendment requires a two-thirds majority in Congress, followed by ratification by 38 state legislatures. Last year, the amendment failed to win a simple majority in the Senate.

Wisconsin Senator Russell Feingold, the only Democrat to attend the Oct. 20 hearing, was not impressed. "As time has passed since the Massachusetts court ruling" legalizing same-sex marriage, he said, "I think it has become clear that passing a constitutional amendment would be an extreme and unnecessary reaction."

That kind of language avoids the question of whether a federal amendment would become "necessary" in the event that other states followed Massachusetts' lead. The Washington Supreme Court is now overdue to rule on a challenge to state marriage law that was argued back in March. In the summer of 2004, two lower courts in Washington both ruled that state marriage law unconstitutionally discriminated against same-sex couples, and should be struck.

Observers say the high court could go either way. If indeed the justices come down in favor of marriage rights, the ruling could not be appealed further and couples would be free to get married on the west coast of the United States as well as the east. Presumably, such a decision would renew the calls for a federal "solution" from opponents of marriage rights.

Once the Washington justices rule, all eyes will turn to New Jersey, where Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund filed written briefs with the state supreme court last

Continued, Next Page

From Previous Page

Friday. The New Jersey freedom-to-marry case has slowly risen up the Garden State's judicial ladder since its launch in June 2002. After losses before the lower court and the state appellate court, the challenge has finally landed before the justices, who would normally be expected to hold oral arguments early next year and decide several months after that.

Meanwhile, marriage cases in New York and California are pending before state appellate courts, while challenges to marriage law in Connecticut and Maryland are in even earlier stages. It seems certain that a second and third court ruling in favor of same-sex couples is not far away, and that the national debate over marriage equality will consequently continue.

Looking back at that debate, it was just six years ago that the state of Vermont was ground zero in the culture wars, alive with dissent over court-ordered civil unions. Last week, the Associated Press reports, a group of 97 out of 180 Vermont lawmakers sent a letter to House Speaker Dennis Hastert and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, asking Congressional leaders to bestow federal rights on Vermont civil union partners.

"We urge you to extend the same federal statutory benefits and protections offered to married couples to those couples who have entered into a state sanctioned civil union," wrote the Vermont lawmakers.

Such a move "would not constitute the equivalent of establishing a federal definition of marriage," they went on. "Rather it would enable these individuals to exercise all of the benefits and privileges intended in a state civil union law."

Contact the writer: Ann@txtnewsmag.com

Coroner fights defense request for murder victim's mental health file

From Staff and Wire Reports

In Colorado, Montrose County officials said Monday they are fighting a subpoena from a defense attorney that could force them to turn over a gay homicide victim's confidential mental health records.

The subpoena seeks records now in possession of the county coroner on Kevin Hale, 36, who died in June from a neck injury. Those documents include Hale's mental health records, Young said.

Attorney Harvey Palefsky subpoenaed the records as part of his defense of Adam Hernandez, 21. Hernandez and Jason Todd Fiske, 24, are charged with murder and robbery in Hale's death.

The coroner said state law allows him to obtain someone's mental health records if he needs them to determine the cause of death, but he said the law bars him from giving the records to anyone else.

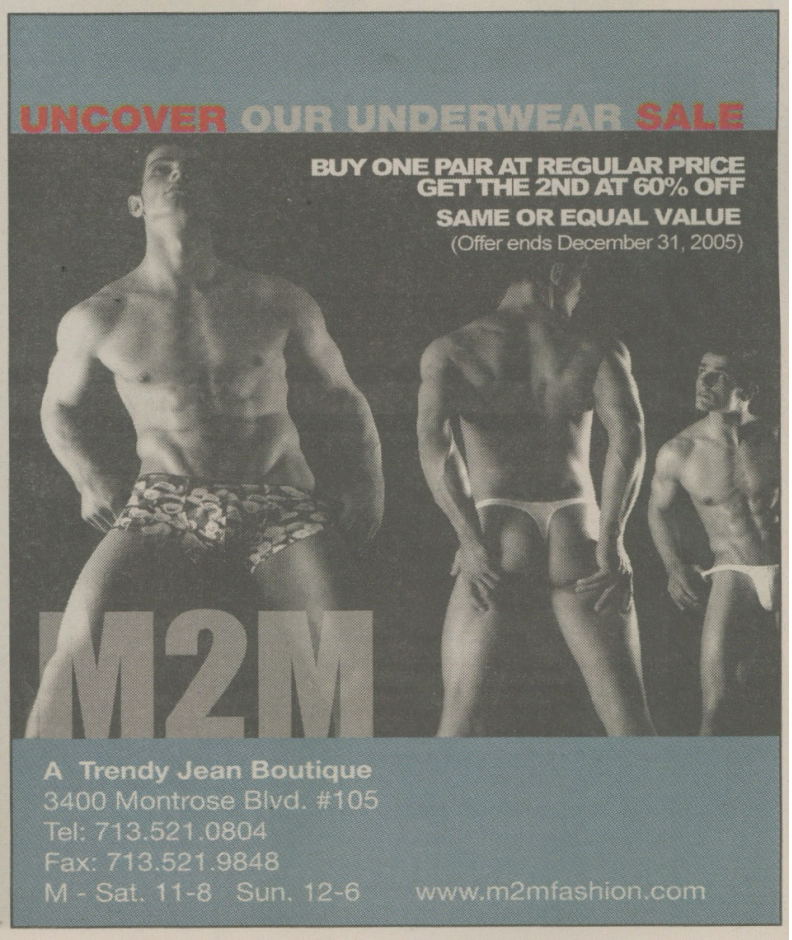
The coroner obtained the records to learn whether Hale's prescription drugs played a role in his death. The investigation determined that drugs did not play a part, he said.

The coroner turned the records over to Montrose County Judge John Mitchel. A hearing was scheduled Wednesday on whether the records will be turned over to the defense, but the outcome of the hearing was not available by the *TXT* weekly press deadline.

Hale had told police he had been threatened because he was gay, and the Colorado Anti-Violence Program has asked that Fiske and Hernandez be charged with violating the state's hate crime law. Prosecutors said they are still investigating.







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Miers faces doubts from those on both the right and left

Senator says if vote held today, Supreme Court nominee would lose

From Staff and Wire Reports

A Democratic senator who sits on the committee that will consider Harriet Miers' nomination said Sunday that President Bush's Supreme Court choice lacks the votes now to be confirmed, saying there are too many questions about her qualifications.

"If you held the vote today, she would not get a majority either in the Judiciary Committee or the floor," Senator Charles Schumer of New York said. Schumer said of the 18-member committee, "There are one or two who said they'd support her as of now."

But the chairman, Senator Arlen Specter, Republican of Pennsylvania, rejected the notion that Miers' nomination was in trouble. Specter said most senators are waiting for the hearings before making up their minds. "There are no votes one way or another" right now, he said.

Miers, a longtime Bush confidante who has never been a judge, was nominated to replace retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Democrats have expressed concerns about whether the current White House counsel could sever her close ties to Bush and rule independently once she were on the bench.

Miers has also served as White House deputy chief of staff for policy and White House staff secretary.

Senator Russ Feingold, a Democrat of Wisconsin and also a member of the Judiciary Committee, met with Miers for about an hour Tuesday and said he was unable to determine whether Miers could pursue her own conscience as a justice.

"I couldn't get much from her about how she'd be independent from the White House," Feingold said. "I told her we'd be pursuing that at the hearing."

The nomination has troubled some conservatives who say it was a risky choice because Miers was a blank slate on issues such as abortion and gay rights.

But Republican Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison rejected suggestions from some conservatives that the White House was considering whether to withdraw Miers' nomination.

Hutchison said the former Dallas lawyer is highly qualified and deserves to present her case. Confirmation hearings are set to begin Nov. 7.

"She is the only one whose entire career is in private practice," Hutchison said, in contrast to the current justices. "I can't imagine not having someone with practical real-world experience."

Republican Senators Sam Brownback and Lindsey Graham have asked the White House to release more information on the nonlegal work Miers has performed there over the past five years.

Brownback, a Judiciary Committee member, cited concerns he had about Miers' views on affirmative action following reports that she supported diversity and numerical set-asides when she was president of the State Bar of Texas.

"I do think we're going to have to see more information — not attorney-client privilege type information, but more information of the work product that she was involved with at the White House that was not of a legal nature but that's of a policy nature," Brownback told *Fox News Sunday*.

Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy, the ranking Democrat on the committee, agreed. "The president has based that decision based on what he's seen her do in the White House. We ought to at least know what she did in the White House," he said.

Another committee Democrat, Senator Dianne Feinstein, said she needs to hear more evidence that Miers can rule independently of the president, including administration decisions involving executive power, the fight against terrorism and the role of international law.

"I asked her whether she would recuse herself. She wouldn't answer that question. For me, that has to be yes," said Feinstein, who appeared with Specter on CBS' *Face the Nation*.

Asked if he found Miers impressive in any way during the one-hour meeting he had with her Tuesday, Feingold responded, "She's a person I'd be comfortable voting for for District court," but that the bar is much higher for the Supreme Court.

Feingold could be an important swing vote on the Judiciary Committee becuase of his knack for sometimes bucking his party on nominations. He was one of only htree Democrats on th ecommittee to vote to confirm Chief Justice John Roberts.

Feingold stressed that he has not made up his mind on how he will vote on Miers.

The senator said he asked Miers about a range of issues, including the Commerce Clause, the role of precedents, her judicial philosophy and separation of church and state.

"In some areas, we got very little response," he said. In others, such as the Commerce Clause, Miers talked in more detail about the narrowing power of Congress, but didn't tip her hand about her views, Feingold said.



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Talk of the town — Is God mad at us?

The first item on my news list is titled, "Is God mad at us?" Our friend Jerry Falwell posed the question, which he believes lies on the tips of tongues "on street corners and in classrooms, beauty salons and coffee shops all over our nation." Other paranoid points to ponder include: "Is the end of the age upon us?" "Is God judging Planet Earth?" and "Is the Second Coming of Christ at hand?"



Ann Rostow

Golly. Let's hope not.

I'm not really worried. God is clearly not mad at Texas, considering we escaped major damage during Hurricane Rita, and in His wisdom He has ranked the Longhorns number one in the BCS polls. Oh, you think He has nothing to do with University of Texas football? Jerry Falwell disagrees.

"Since God is the creator and owner of the universe," writes the reverend, "nothing happens without His direction or His permission." Given this observation, the more appropriate questions might be: "Is God mad at the University of Southern California?" "Is God judging Oklahoma?" and "Is Vince Young the second coming of Christ?"

In case you're wondering, Falwell's "honest answer" is a refreshingly modest "I do not know." However, "these are dark days," he warns. "We must be prepared for His imminent return while we share the Gospel in tandem with our mercy ministries of feeding the hungry and clothing the naked."

Mercy! Sign me up for that second ministry, and fetch me my tape measure. Quick, before He returns!

The plot thickens

Before we leave the comforting embrace of the religious right, I have a couple more delusional items to share. First, the folks at Focus on the Family are wondering whether the ABC television show *Commander in Chief* is part of a plot to familiarize the country with a female president in order to pave the way for Hillary Clinton's election in 2008.

"The show," writes James Dobson's organization, "has many speculating whether the real goal us not just entertainment, but to prepare viewers to more easily accept a Clinton candidacy." (Sing with me! Hey, You! Get offa my cloud!)

Not a prayer

I was reading along in another Focus on the Family newsletter, when I encountered the inexplicable headline: "See You at the Pole Rescheduled After School Notified of Law." It turns out that "See You at the Pole" is an official student prayer movement, culminating in an annual day of praying around school flagpoles. It began in 1990 (in Texas *bien sur*) where one Saturday night God "penetrated the hearts" of a group of teenagers "like never before."

According to the Pole website, "the students were broken before God and burdened for their friends. Compelled to pray, they drove to three different schools that night. Not knowing exactly what to do, they went to the school flagpoles and prayed for their friends, schools and leaders."

Sounds like an X-cellent adventure, indeed. And the evening evidently spawned a whole new chapter in Christian youth activism. But I do wonder what their parents said when they came home "broken by God" at three in the morning.

"But Mom! He penetrated my heart!"

"Do you have any idea what time … He penetrated what?"

"The Lord! It was the Lord. He showed me to his pole."

"What pole? Where's your sister?"

Down east drama

All right, let's get serious. Now, everyone knows Texas is facing a vote on an amendment to outlaw same-sex marriage and other legal ties, but there's another gay-related election scheduled for Nov. 8. Specifically, it is yet another attempt to repeal Maine's gay rights law. Yes, I know! Here we go again.

Close observers of Blueberry State politics will recall that Maine has passed a gay rights bill three times in the last several years. The first two times, voters repealed it, once in a special election in February of 1998, and again (by a hair) in November 2000. Dogged activists and friendly politicians, however, have rammed the damn thing through yet again. And maniac conservatives have rallied round the reactionary referendum once more, looking for a three-peat. Polls say they won't succeed this time, but polls said as much both in 1998 and in 2000, so we'll see.

See you at the poll

Meanwhile, all eyes will probably be on Texas that Tuesday evening, as a handful of Lone Star voters straggle off to the ballot boxes to cast their vote for, um, nothing. That's just about what you will find on the ballot unless you live in Houston where you've got a mayor's race. Elsewhere, it's just a bunch of boring propositions, including the one that activists now insist will outlaw not just gay marriage, but marriage in general throughout the state.

This absurd red herring is our latest tactic in the delicate dance that passes for a civil rights movement here in the Bad Baseball State. And you know what? It might work. The good guys held a press conference on Monday featuring several heterosexual couples who claim the proposed anti-gay amendment is worded badly and will inadvertently dissolve their marriages as well. Why take the risk, they warn insanely?

"An activist judge could use this questionable language to end marriage as we know it," said one woman.

There's something creepy about gay activists using the jargon of the extreme right as part of a highly deceptive political strategy, but who are we to judge?

Oh, what the hell. Let's judge! It reflects our spineless inability to advocate for marriage equality in the public square, and it demeans our cause. There. I feel better now. Oh, and the KKK is coming to Austin to demonstrate in favor of the amendment on Nov. 5. I hope they wear their sheets and hoods.

When you add everything up — the low turnout, the Klan, the confusing "save marriage, vote no" campaign message — we just might pull a rabbit out of the hat here. I'd sacrifice my ethical qualms for a victory.

So sue me

What else is there to report? How about the New Jersey man who was arrested for pasting a homemade bumper sticker on the car of a lesbian town leader in Long Hill? The yellow sticker depicted a man, woman and a child. It read, "Marriage is for the benefit of children," and "No gay marriage in New Jersey."

According to the *Daily Record*, police used a fingerprint to trace the sticker to one George M. Dengler.



ERIC KLUTH/Clovis News Journal

Clovis High School students pray during the "See You at the Pole" observance in Clovis, N.M. About 100 students turned out for the morning prayer event before the start of school.

"It was stupid to put it on there," Dengler admitted later. The 51-year-old faces up to 18 months in jail for harassment and bias intimidation against Gina Genovese.

And finally, how about New York philanthropist, J. David Enright IV, who is suing the Catholic Church in Albany along with a bishop and a pedophile priest for $5 million? Enright, 51, says the priest abused him when he was a 7-year-old at Camp Tekawitha, and turned him gay as a result.

Reacting to the news, a Utah doctor informed readers that "one study" found 46 percent of gay men had been molested, as had 22 percent of lesbians. I guess one man's molestation is another man's first love. As for the lesbians, you know they wanted it. OK, technically they might say "no" at first. But just tekawitha grain of salt. If you're persistent, they'll come around in time.

Contact the writer: Ann@txtnewsmag.com

Letters

The downside of coming out

Interesting article by Patrick Guerriero. I agree that there is strength in numbers when it comes to battling the homophobic right and conservative gay professionals lurk inside many of America's closets. But let's be clear, coming out at work — or being forced out, as was my experience — is no picnic.

I was the financial accounting manager for the Port of Houston Authority when I was getting harassed by a subordinate who lost out to me for a promotion. After returning from a sick day to hear that he had been walking around the office, claiming that I was out "banging my boyfriend," I formally reprimanded him for insubordination. Unfortunately, this failed to curb his behavior (which was likely encouraged by my own supervisor's dismissive behavior) and I was finally forced to file a grievance. The result? I was terminated the next day for "nonperformance of job duties."

Never mind that I had worked at the Port for six years, receiving two promotions, one nomination for employee of the year, and favorable evaluations. Suddenly it was to their benefit to take my job away from me with no severance pay and attempt to ruin me professionally.

And just what can an employee do in the state of Texas when you are fired for being gay? Not a damn thing. That's right, nothing — and believe me, I tried! Unless you are a member of a protected class (being female, a minority, over the age of 40, etc.) there is nothing you can do. When I applied for my unemployment benefits, the Port even tried to prevent me from getting that. Fortunately, I won that battle; but in terms of the war, I lost, big time!

I do not disagree with Mr. Guerriero's premise. But understand this: outing oneself at work can come at the expense of a professional reputation and even a badly needed paycheck and should be thought through very carefully. Without a safety net (and right now the gay community has none) the consequences can be very harsh.

In today's environment, harassment of gay employees is just as acceptable as gay children being accosted by bullies on the schoolground. It speaks volumes to the kind of society that we live in. Sad.

Steve Miller/ Houston

No Nonsense means just that

Dale Carpenter's editorial in the Oct. 14 issue of *TXT* is an example of irresponsible leadership. Dale considers himself a leader in this community, yet, instead of helping to battle the Texas marriage amendment, he turns against the community and attacks one of our own.

Dale claims that the Texas marriage amendment will pass by at least 65 percent. This information is not based on any facts or data. While Dale might know Minnesota politics, he has been out Texas politics for years. The poll numbers that are based on real data show that the votes are so close either side could win.

To add insult to injury, Dale calls No Nonsense in November inept without bothering to talk to anyone with the campaign and finding out what it has achieved. I don't have the room to list the campaign's long list of wins, but it's impressive that every major newspaper in Texas has come out in opposition to the amendment. In addition, the campaign has managed to get some unlikely supporters in the communities of faith, including the most respected and renowned African-American pastor in Houston, the Rev. Bill Lawson.

Every vote counts, as was evident in the legislature when they tried to get this on the ballot. Had we had one or two more votes in the Texas House or Senate, we would not be voting on this issue Nov. 8. I am confident that at the end of the day, Texans, and most importantly Houstonians, will step up to the challenge and go to the polls to vote against amendment 2.

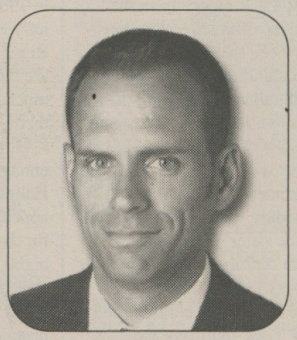
I am also confident that on Nov. 9, Dale will be singing a different tune.

April Ayers/ Houston

To submit a letter We welcome and read all letters. We print a few that are representative of the many. Additional letters are on the TXT web page. Shorter letters and those addressing a single subject are more likely to be printed. Letters are edited for length and clarity. When submitting a letter, include your full name, street address and day and evening telephone numbers for verification purposes. Letters should be e-mailed to Nancy@txtnewsmag.com, or they may be faxed to 713-529-0327, or mailed to Letters from Readers, TXT Newsmagazine, 4617 Montrose Ave., Suite C229, Houston, TX 77006. All letters become the property of TXT Newsmagazine.

Three cheers for National Gay and Lesbian Task Force

Houston commercials present the best case so far for gay marriage



OUTRIGHT
Dale Carpenter

If we do better than expected when Texans vote on an anti-gay-marriage amendment on Nov. 8, much credit should go to the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force. The Task Force is airing seven ads on Houston-area television stations. They are the first-ever to defend the idea of gay marriage, and they do so on essentially conservative grounds.

In contrast to the badly flawed, Texas-based "No Nonsense in November" campaign (which I criticized in detail two weeks ago in this column), the Task Force ads are right tactically and substantively. They could provide a template for future marriage-amendment campaigns.

Tactically, the ads are exactly right. They are being aired in Houston, which should be the center of efforts to defeat Amendment 2. All of them depict actual Houston residents speaking against the amendment.

Turnout in the state for this election is expected to be very low, perhaps under 10 percent of registered voters. Yet turnout in Houston, where municipal elections are being held the same day, should be disproportionately high. Urban Houston voters are somewhat more socially tolerant than voters elsewhere in Texas. Four years ago, they almost defeated an effort to ban same-sex domestic partners benefits for city workers.

The Task Force's limited resources are thus being spent wisely. By contrast, the No Nonsense campaign is based in Austin, 160 miles away from the center of the action. Yard signs produced by No Nonsense have been scarce, even in Houston's gay neighborhoods.

Substantively, the ads are impressive. Four of the seven feature gay couples. In one, a minister sits beside her partner and says: "God loves us like everyone else, and wants the same thing for us as God wants for God's straight children." Her partner adds that when she proposed, she intended a "long-term commitment." The picture fades to black and the following message appears in stark white letters: "How would you feel if you couldn't marry the person you love?"

In another of the gay-couple ads, two men are described as "Together for 18 years." A third gay-couple ad describes a woman as "Committed to partner, Anita, for 21 years." She tells us hers is a family "in every sense of the word."

The two most effective of the seven ads feature parents talking about their love for their gay son and their hopes for his future. In one, the mother emphasizes her religious beliefs. "My entire Christian faith can be summed up with Jesus Christ's two new commandments," she says, "which was to love God and to love each other. He didn't say, 'Love each other unless they're gay.'"

In the other ad, the same mother delivers an eloquent description of the meaning of equality. "My children want the same thing their father and I wanted," she begins. "A home, a community, a church, friends, a job…." Here the father chimes in, "and someone who loves them." "And someone who loves them," she repeats. Describing her son's relationship with his partner, she closes by saying, "I hope they're together forever." The screen fades to black with the message, "Gay people want what we all want."

The Task Force ads are simple and powerful. They don't talk about abstract "rights." They don't list all the legal benefits of marriage, as if this were a struggle over the tax code. There is nothing post-modern about them. There's not a single sexual liberationist in sight.

Instead, the ads emphasize the needs of real gay families, including the children they're raising. They highlight long-term commitment by gay couples. They use religious faith, spoken by religious people, as an argument against the amendment. And they focus on the similarities — not the differences — between gay and straight Americans.

Most significantly, they begin to make the positive case for gay marriage. They are not shy or apologetic about it. They do not say that the amendment is "unnecessary" because gay marriage is already banned (although that's true). They don't complain about how broad the amendment is (although it is very broad). They don't warn about Machiavellian politicians pushing the amendment (although that's a big part of the reason this is even on the ballot). They are not in the least politically partisan.

Like it or not, when these anti-gay-marriage amendments reach a ballot, most people do not vote on these sorts of legal and political-insider issues. They vote on marriage.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's strategy is a dramatic — and needed — departure from the losing anti-amendment campaigns everywhere else in the country. By contrast, the No Nonsense campaign has avoided the "M" word like the plague and has been partisan Democratic in an overwhelmingly conservative and Republican state.

Where the state-based campaign is a tired rehash of losing themes from other amendment fights that have danced around gay marriage and left our side dispirited, the Task Force's ad campaign is refreshingly honest and principled. The amendment, it says simply, should be defeated *because gay marriage is good*.

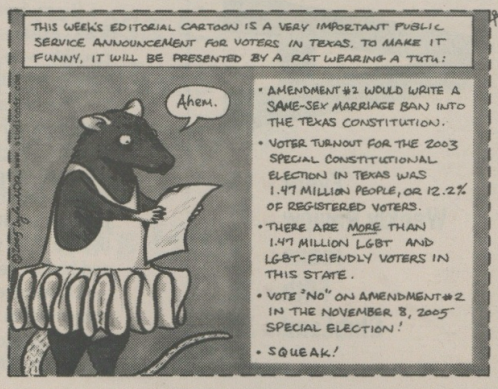
For Texas, it may be too little, too late. But if tried elsewhere, this straightforward message might help us pull closer. At the very least it begins the long-term process of convincing Americans there is nothing to fear from gay marriage.

Marriage. Commitment. Families. Children. Faith. I never thought I would see this day, but the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is making the conservative case for gay marriage.

The NGLTF ads can be viewed at Thetaskforce.org/media/epress.cfm.

Dale Carpenter, a former official of Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, is a law professor at the University of Minnesota. Some of his previous columns can be viewed at the Independent Gay Forum (www.indiegayforum.org).

Contact the writer: Outright@aol.com



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Things that go bump in the night

From mystical mirrors to tours of old haunts, queer Texans have ghost stories aplenty



As if Galvestonians haven't had enough to scare the daylights out of them this year, a frightful specter has presented itself for their horrific Halloween pleasure.

The Island Jewel Bed and Breakfast, recently opened by Forest Riggs and his partner, Brian Becker, may have a ghost story of its own to tell.

Although they don't know whose ghosts haunt the place just a few blocks from the seawall, its history provides several options.

"The house survived the Great Hurricane that decimated the island on Sept. 8, 1900," says Riggs. Though other houses were piled up against it, the Island Jewel was left standing unscathed in a pile of rubble.

The Island Jewel was built in the early 1860s by then-prominent Galveston jeweler John M. Jones. (Adding to the ominousness: Jones's wife was the sister of Jacques Offenbach, the 19th century French composer of *Orphée aux Enfers*.) In the mid-1800s, Jones, his wife and three small children fled their home in New York, fearful of the impending Civil War. The family journeyed to Galveston via New Orleans by ship, somehow avoiding the Union Army's blockade, and settled on Avenue M.

Riggs, a former Houstonian who had been living in Santa Rosa, Calif., for nearly 10 years, opened the Island Jewel with Becker this summer — just in time to re-pack their truck with their most precious possessions and evacuate when Hurricane Rita threatened them in late September. One of the possessions that they were forced to leave behind was a prized family heirloom: an ornate, 100-year-old mirror.

When the men returned from a hellish, 26-hour round-trip evacuation to nowhere, everything at the inn was as they had left it, in place — except for that mirror, Riggs says. But rather than laying shattered on the floor, they found it nestled safely on a nearby Victorian loveseat, with pillows on each side of it.

"There's no possible explanation," Riggs says. "The pillows are normally on the sofa, yes, at each end. But this mirror is under the stairs."

Riggs doesn't believe the enchantment — if any exists — resides in the mirror itself, but possibly with an entity that is, for some vain reason, attracted to mirrors.

"We had another thing happen similar to that. A mirror in the hallway fell one night, upstairs," Riggs says. Hurrying upstairs to see what had happened, the men discovered another very old mirror sitting upright against the wall, totally intact "about four feet down the hall from where it would have crashed and broken on the floor," he says.

Do members of the Jones family still look at themselves in the mirrors that hang where they once entertained the giants of early Galveston industry? Are they now looking outward to welcome visitors to their home that now welcomes gay and lesbian visitors from across the country?

"Everybody that I've talked to has said there's so much supernatural and metaphysical activity going on down here, because of the hurricane in 1900. A lot of the bodies were never found," Riggs says. "Properties are old, yet there's so much living going on in them."

If that tale isn't enough to whet your Halloween holiday appetites, Riggs says that for the first three or four nights he and Becker stayed in the house, they heard constant walking upstairs.

"It sounded like women's heels, or leather heels," Riggs says. "Several times we've heard a falling sound upstairs, like somebody falling and hitting the wood floors. We've gone up there and there was nothing."

Another inexplicable incident occurred one night while they were sitting on the front porch.

"Avenue M is very beautiful," he says. "It's one of the prettiest ones after dark — the oak trees make an arbor over the street."

INFO

Island Jewel Bed and Breakfast, 1725 Avenue M, Galveston. 409-763-5395; Islandjewelbnb.com.
Austin Ghost Tours, Austin. Through Nov. 12. $10-15. Mulitiple tours available; reservations required. 512-853-9826. Hauntedtexas.com.

While they were outside, "we could have sworn we heard horses' hooves and people talking," Riggs says. "We couldn't understand what they were saying, but it sounded like a small crowd of people passing by, clippetty-clopping and talking. But there was nobody on the street."

Even Zena, their dog, took note of the phenomenon.

"She got all eerie for that one — her hair stood up," Riggs says. "And she won't even go in the one room upstairs. She doesn't like going upstairs. There's been some strange stuff."

— Nancy Ford

Austin's warehouse district is well-known to most self-respecting members of the GLBT community, and the entertainment corridor of neighboring 6th Street has a national reputation. But Austin's downtown watering holes and hotels may be drawing a kind of crowd few know about.

Dare we say it? Some believe that revelers from beyond the grave still haunt Pecan Street. Twenty witnesses have seen ectoplasm climb the walls in an old Guy's Town bar. And we're warning you: if you stay in the old Driskill Hotel avoid Room 427 (a suicide victim haunts it) and don't visit the ladies room on the second floor (unless you want to be surprised by the specter of a three-year-old girl).

These are just a few of the facts you'll learn from Austin Ghost Tours, a company that offers walking tours of the creepiest of Austin's paranormal past.

At the Buffalo Billiards parlor on 6th (formerly Pecan Street) and San Jacinto street, things move when no one is around. A chalk cube sitting on a rail one minute will be gone the next. Sometimes in the morning, after the tables have been brushed and covered, and the parlor has been locked down and shuttered for the night, the manager comes in to find the balls in play and the cue off its rack.

Guy's Town used to be called the warehouse district — an area renown for drinking and women, a haven where Austin's married men could walk confidently into the dry goods store on what's now Fourth Street, sneak through a tiny opening and enter a den of gambling and booze. The dry goods store

is now Spaghetti Warehouse. The back room is the B-Side bar, an extension of the Bitter End. Watch out, all who enter here.

Shadowy figures have watched the late-night bartender as he shelved the glasses, spinning around only to see a ghostly darkness slip around the corner. Items vanish and reappear. One night, B-Side patrons watched a wet pulsing mass hang on the ceiling for an hour or so, then disappear. And no, there was no leaky pipe at fault.

Perhaps most disturbing of all, downtown Austin was the scene of one of the most horrific serial killings in American history, the grotesque murders of seven women and one man over a year's time in 1884 and 1885.

He chose his victims, stalked them and attacked them at night in their homes. He drove an ice pick through the sides of their heads, a technique that left them alive but unable to scream or resist. He then raped and tortured them, and pulled out the pick in a manner that made them bleed to death.

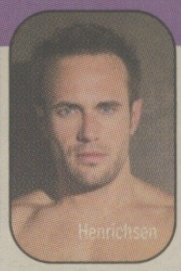
The killings stopped as suddenly as they began, and the helpless Austin city fathers erected 31 high-intensity light towers in order to create a sense of security in the beleaguered town. Seventeen of these "moonlight towers" still operate, their original purpose long forgotten. Tell me: Do they make you feel safe?

— Ann Rostow

event

Spellbinders





If there's such thing as a gay national holiday, Halloween is it: the costumes, the parties, the mischief — it's all so, so… *fabulous*. This weekend, there are plenty of queer Halloween-related events.

CONTESTS

Costumes are optional, but why wouldn't you dress up for a party — especially when prizes might be involved?

Rain in Austin has chosen a "super heroes" theme for its parties this weekend.

Mickey's in Dallas will broadcast its contest on the World Wide Web, but you have to be there to enter on Saturday beginning at 11 p.m. And down on Cedar Springs Road on Saturday, the Caven Enterprises clubs — **JR.'s Bar & Grill, Station 4, Throckmorton Mining Company** and **Sue Ellen's** — host the annual street party, complete with costume contests. You can come back for more on Monday, Halloween Night.

JR.'s Bar & Grill and **South Beach** in Houston are holding a street party on both Saturday and Monday, with Kofi hosting the contest each night. **Guava Lamp**'s contests are on Saturday and Monday.

Meteor starts even earlier with a super hero-themed party on Friday (the bartenders will all try their best to look like your fantasy crusader). At **Viviana's**, the annual event arrives on Sunday with cash going to the best-dressed guest. Sunday is also contest time at **EJ's**, which provides ghostly drink specials all night.



Bonham Exchange in San Antonio offers a different party Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday with drink specials and a costume contest every night except Sunday. **Heat**'s Scary Fairy Block Party arrives Sunday, and Shady Lady hosts a costume contest on Monday.

MUSIC

In Dallas, D.J. Ric de Barros spins at **Club One** on Saturday for Vamp from Fierce Party. **Purgatory** welcomes the annual Goth Ball on Halloween Night, with D.J.s and more.

Circuit legend Warren Gluck leads the charge at **Rich's** in Houston, spinning Saturday at the Beads and Balls Party. The outdoor stage at **South Beach** and **JR's** welcomes hot D.J. Brett Henrichsen on Saturday and D.J. Jimmy Skinner on Monday for Crazy World. Late night on Saturday, Spoiled Boyz presents Joe Gauthreaux for Bewitch'd: The Halloween Ball at **Hue**.



New Socio-Cultural Events by The New York Times and Special Events at Villa Vizcaya, Casa Casuarina -Versace Mansion-
The Raleigh Hotel, The Hotel, Hotel Victor, Nikki Beach, The Lincoln Theatre and Regal Theatre.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Weekly Review

To submit an event listing All listings of upcoming GLBT meetings and events and of arts openings should be sent to the managing editor, in the Houston office. They must be received no later than noon on Monday to be included in Friday's newsmagazine. We prefer to receive them earlier. They may be e-mailed to Nancy@txtnewsmag.com, or faxed to 713-529-0327, or mailed to TXT Newsmagazine, 4617 Montrose Blvd., Suite C229, Houston TX 77006.

Friday, October 28

AUSTIN

Bent, by Martin Sherman. Presented by Dash Mammoth Theatre through Oct. 29. 8 p.m. $15. Benefits Project Transitions. Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale Ave. 512-627-5031.

Desi Queers on the Mic: An Evening with D'Lo and Dulani, presented by Center for Asian American Studies. 7 p.m. ALLGO'S Tillery Street Theatre, 701 Tillery St. 512-232-6427. Allgo.org.

Haunted Disco Halloween Party, presented Q-Austin. 8 p.m. Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale Rd. 512-420-8557. Mp_austin@sbcglobal.net.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Count Dracula, adapted by Ted Tiller. Presented by Mesquite Community Theatre through Nov. 12. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 2:30 p.m. $8-12. Mesquite Arts Center Black Box Theatre, 1527 N. Galloway Rd. in Mesquite. 972-216-8126. Mwctweb.org.

Free syphilis and oral HIV testing, 5-9 p.m. Nelson-Tebedo Health Resource Center, 4012 Cedar Springs Rd. 214-540-4414.

HOUSTON

Bering Support Network hosts a wide variety of social, support and health-related community programs. 713-526-1017. Beringsupportnetwork.org.

Diana, A Celebration, through Feb. 5. $9.50-$17.50. Houston Museum of Natural Science, One Hermann Circle Dr. 713-639-4629. Hmns.org.

Free HIV and syphilis testing throughout the week at various clubs. Montrose Clinic's Community Outreach Prevention Services. 713-830-3070 for schedule. Montroseclinic.org.

Get Your Tail Out and Vote! tailgate party, presented for early voters by Houston Equal Rights Alliance. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. W. Gray Multi Service Center, 1475 W. Gray Ave. Hera.org.

Halloween HIV Testing Day, with results in 20 minutes. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Montrose Clinic, 215 Westheimer Rd. 713-830-3000. Montroseclinic.org.

Halloween Madness, presented by ICOH, the Space City Empire. 8 p.m. Benefits AIDS Foundation Houston's Camp Hope. Mary's, Naturally, 1022 Westheimer. 713-527-9669.

Houston GLBT Caucus voter ID project volunteer data entry work sessions. Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Houston Pride, 1415 California, Suite 110. 713-529-6979. Jvalinski@hglbtpc.org.

Montrose Counseling Center hosts a wide variety of social, support and health-related community programs. 701 Richmond Ave., room 15. 713-529-0037. Montrosecounselingcenter.org.

Phone bank to help defeat Proposition 2, presented by Houston Equal Rights Alliance and No Nonsense in November, though Nov. 8. 6-9:30 p.m. Houston GLBT Community Center, 3400 Montrose Blvd. Suite 207. Hera.org.

Silence, by Moira Buffini. Presented by Stages Repertory Theatre, through Nov. 6. $25-$35. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sunday 3 p.m. 3201 Allen Parkway. Stagestheatre.com.

Thornton Dial in the 21st Century. Presented by Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, through Jan. 8, 2006. 1100 Bissonnet St. 713-639-7300. Mfah.org.

SAN ANTONIO

Alamo City Men's Chorale seeks new members; call for audition. 210-654-7549. Acmc-texas.org.

Saturday, October 29

AUSTIN

3rd Annual Lazarus House Halloween party, 8 p.m. $10. 4106 Austin St. 713-526-5071. Thelazarushouse.org.

3rd Annual The OZ Parties' Halloween party. 9 p.m. $5-$10. 8435 Jamestown Dr. Benefits AIDS Services of Austin. 512-406-6408. Theozparties.org.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Battlegrounds concert and festival to help defeat Proposition 2, presented by Collin County Young Democrats. 4-8 p.m. $5. Bob Woodruff Park, San Gabriel and Merriman Dr. in Plano. 214-675-3002. Collinyds.org.

HOUSTON

AIDS Off the Radar: The Black American Epidemic panel discussion, hosted by the Baker Institute Student Forum.9:45 a.m.-2 p.m. Rice University's Baker Hall, 6100 Main St. Rice.edu/maps.

Bewitched Ball, presented by Hillary Woest. 8 p.m.-1 a.m. $30+.Historic Magnolia Ballroom, 715 Franklin St. Bewitchedball.org. Benefits local GLBT organizations.

Block walks to defeat Proposition 2, presented by Houston Equal Rights Alliance. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Also, Oct. 26-28, 5-9 p.m. Houston GLBT Community Center, 3400 Montrose Blvd., Suite 207. Hera.org.

Crystal Meth Anonymous meets Saturdays and Mondays through Wednesdays at various locations. Cmahouston.earthlink.net.

Patrice Pike headlines the rescheduled Houston Women's Festival, noon-10 p.m. $12-$15. Jones Plaza, 601 Louisiana St. Hwfestival.org.

Tejano Brew Ha-Ha, presented by Gay and Lesbian Latin Organization. 8:30 p.m. $5. Benefits GALLO. La Cueva Tequila Lounge, 2312 Crocker St. 832-203-8574.

SAN ANTONIO

Spectrum Youth Outreach 7 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro, 2nd floor. 210-223-6106. Info@diversitycentersa.org.

Sunday, October 30

HOUSTON

HATCH youth group. 6-9 p.m. Call for location, 713-529-3590. Hatchyouth.org.

SAN ANTONIO

POZ Outlook Social Group, 4-6 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd floor. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

Prayers for Justice and Compassion, a candlelight prayer service and reception for equal marriage rights. 5 p.m. Spirit of Peace Church United Church of Christ First Unitarian Universalist Church, 7150 IH-10. 210-403-9084. Spiritofpeacechurch.org.

Monday, October 31

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Leadership Lambda Toastmasters. 6:30 p.m. Oak Lawn Public Library, 4100 Cedar Springs. 214-219-1908.

National GLBT Marketing Conference 2005, presented by North Texas GLBT Chamber. 8:30 a.m. Wyndham Anatole Hotel, 2201 N. Stemmons Fwy. 214-540-4488. Northtexasglbtchamber.org.


Patrice Pike, 10/29

HOUSTON

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston rehearsal. 7-10 p.m.

Resurrection Metropolitan Church, 2025 W. 11th St. 713-521-SING. Gmch.org.

Queer Voices, GLBT radio with Jack Valinski, Deborah Bell and various GLBT co-hosts. 7-9 p.m. KPFT-FM 90.1

Tuesday, November 1

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Journey Out youth group for ages 16-22. 7 p.m. Cathedral of Hope Congregational Life Center, 5910 Cedar Spring Rd.

Wednesday, November 2

AUSTIN

Safe Space. 7 p.m. University of Texas, Jester West Fireplace Lounge. Demeureguy@yahoo.com.

HOUSTON

Dia De los Muertos fundraiser, presented by Gay and Lesbian Latin Organization. 7 p.m. Canned good contributions benefit Resurrection MCC food pantry. La Cueva Tequila Lounge, 2312 Crocker St. 832-203-8574. Houstongallo.org.

Houston GLBT Political Caucus monthly meeting. 7 p.m. 3400 Montrose Blvd., 2nd floor. 713-521-1000. Hglbtpc.org.

SAN ANTONIO

Free HIV Testing with BEAT AIDS. 4-7 p.m. 531 San Pedro Ave. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

King Mary's Bridge Club. 6:45 p.m. $4. Diversity Center 531 San Pedro Ave. 210-223-6106. Kingmary.org.

Thursday, November 3

AUSTIN

Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas volunteer night. 6-p.m. Lgrl.org. 512-474-5475.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Fuse for young men, ages 18-24. 7:30 p.m. Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 2701 Reagan St. 214-540-4410.

HOUSTON

Coming out support group. 6 p.m. Montrose Counselin Center, 701 Richmond Ave. 713-529-0037. Montrosecounselingcenter.org..

PFLAG Houston sharing group, 7:30-9 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church's Chatham Room, 1805 Alabama St. 713-46P-FLAG.

SAN ANTONIO

Women's Support Group with Sally Chilson, MA, LPCI. 6:30-8 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd Floor. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

Toons



GLiB Talk

By Kurt Erichsen



Adam and Steve are going as Bette Davis and Joan Crawford for Halloween this year

October 28 – November 3, 2005

zodiac

Scorpio

Don't be lax with your prophylaxis! The love goddess, Venus, lines up with sex bomb Pluto while lucky Jupiter goes into Pluto's sign, Scorpio. With Sun in Scorpio trine to Uranus, anything can happen. You might discover new erogenous zones!

SCORPIO — October 23-November 21

Jupiter brings good luck to your sign, but mostly as blessings in disguise — until he passes your sun. That's the day to buy lottery tickets. (Call your astrologer!) In the meantime, adversity promises rewards along the way.

SAGITTARIUS — November 22-December 20

What do you want from your friends now? With daring and charm you can get almost anything. What do you want from life in the long run? New perspectives on that eternal question are the best things your friends can give you now.

CAPRICORN — December 21-January 19

Despite the Cappy stereotype, you have a very wild, passionate side that's now threatening to explode, illuminating or demolishing your reputation. Pick the time and place, or you may be as shocked as those around you.

AQUARIUS — January 20-February 18

Your forceful, passionate arguments will open people's eyes. You'll find yourself elevated on a throne of praise or dangling out on a limb. Holding back doesn't help, but reading your audience more carefully will.

PISCES — February 19-March 19

The stars are making you sexier and sexier! This, too, shall pass, so make the most of it while you can. Be careful at work, where displaying erotic charisma could get you into trouble, but sublimating it could propel you ahead.

ARIES — March 20-April 19

All's fair in love, war and politics. You're open to brilliant new insights and strategies. Charm, wit and seduction will serve you better than your usual frontal attacks. The other side is using the same tactics. *En garde!*

TAURUS — April 20-May 20

Your seductive powers are at their heights. With more focus on work, you could sublimate that energy productively, getting greater cooperation from colleagues and supervisors. Results won't be what you expect — they could be much better!

GEMINI — May 21-June 20

A struggle with your partner should lead to greater intimacy. Everybody's getting a little sexier. Your humor and creativity should be allowed freer reign in that direction. See the movie *The Aristocrats* if you need any help.

CANCER — June 21-July 22

Exercise garments are irresistibly sexy on you right now. Medical fantasies are also hot — hello, nurse! If there's any family drama looming over the holidays, grab that bull by the horns right now! You'll never get better results.

LEO — July 23-August 22

Your roar alone can vanquish any foe, and your purr can seduce any friend. The results of those efforts will be different, probably better than what you aimed for. Be very careful to say what you mean and mean what you say.

VIRGO — August 23-September 22

You are about to get some very surprising spendaholic impulses — perhaps rising to the level of compulsions. If you can stop, think and figure out what's behind them, you'll end up with more insight as well as more money.

LIBRA — September 23-October 22

Jupiter in your sign has you looking mahvelous, dahling! That lasts a bit longer as he goes into Scorpio, adding a sexy depth to your now-heightened charm. Play with that erotic allure and be as happily surprised as those around you.

Jack Fertig, a founding member of the Association for Astrological Networking, became a professional astrologer in 1977. He can be reached for consultations at 415-864-8302 or at Starjack.com.

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Filth

By Billy Masters

Disgustingly offensive dirt; garbage; anything grossly indecent or obscene

From Ryan to American, it's a week of Idols

When I was in my 20s, a quickie weekend jaunt to New York wouldn't faze me. A decade later, it's still a breeze — it just takes me longer to recover.

I was in the Big Apple to attend Standing Ovations IV, a benefit for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. Director **Richard Jay-Alexander** put together quite a cavalcade of stars. Although **Adam Pascal** and **Anthony Rapp** were great in their *Rent* duet, the crowd went nuts when Rapp and **Jessica-Snow Wilson** sang "Downtown" from *Little Shop of Horrors*, joined by the original trio of urchins — **Jennifer Leigh Warren, Sheila Kay Davis** and **Leilani Jones**.

Anthony and I met online back before *Rent* opened on Broadway, but another reunion took place that weekend — a *Making Porn* reunion. One of the performers in the benefit was actor **Paul Pecorino**, who did a fab job on "Sweet Transvestite" in full *Rocky Horror* regalia. And porn star **Ryan Idol** was sitting at my table. Paul toured in the show (often with Ryan), and I also have been in the play. Small world, indeed.

The new season of *American Idol* may not be hitting the airwaves until January, but many former Idols have been in the news. Last week I bumped into the lovely **Ryan Starr** at Fiesta Cantina in WeHo. She was with some friends to sing at the legendary Karaoke With Kenny evening.

Aside from being on *American Idol*, Ryan had also been a cast member on *The Surreal Life*. Another Idol will be in this new season of *The Surreal Life*. We hear that ousted contestant (and self-proclaimed **Paula Abdul** lover) **Corey Clark** will be added to the house to stir up some trouble.

Two seasons ago, *American Idol* came down to **Diana DeGarmo** and **Fantasia Barrino**, and now both have musical theater projects in the works. If you can believe it, Diana is about to star as Maria in the American Musical Theatre of San Jose's production of *West Side Story*. yeah, when I think of fiery Latinas, I think of Diana DeGarmo!

Another ousted Idol, **Frenchie Davis**, did well with her first musical theater foray — *Rent* on Broadway! She went on to play Effie in a mini-tour of *Dreamgirls*. And Fantasia is inching closer to nabbing the role for the film. As I reported earlier, Barrino wowed director **Bill Condon** but had yet to get the blessing of DreamWorks. After three screen tests, she still appears to be the favorite, although no formal announcement has been made.

The *Dreamgirls* cast will also include **Beyoncé, Jamie Foxx** and **Eddie Murphy**. Oscar-winner Foxx has gone on record to say, "If Fantasia does the movie it's completely in the stratosphere. It's nuts."

Speaking of *American Idol*, our first e-mail comes from Roger in Coral Gables who



writes: "I loved your Emmy report — particularly the stuff about Paula Abdul. I'm glad she's happy, and the photos of the guy she was with were so hot. What do you know about this Dante guy? He looks like he should be doing porn, not Paula!"

My readers certainly have an eye for talent! **Dante Spencer** is definitely hot — which isn't surprising for someone who's modeled for International Male and Undergear. Spencer is also a fervent Scientologist and is allegedly high up in the hierarchy.

In 2000, he was the second runner-up in the Mr. World pageant. And he's also tried his hand at acting. Last year, he appeared in Los Angeles in a play called *Blade to the Heat*, playing a boxer who finds himself attracted to another man. Although Dante is a proud heterosexual, he had no problem posing for the cover of L.A.'s gay publication *IN Los Angeles*.

Steve in Los Angeles tells me that a certain columnist was recently on the radio and outed an actor I won't name here. He asks, "What's your opinion on this, Billy?"

There's been a lot of discussion lately about outing. While it's certainly not a capital offense, I think that just saying "so-and-so is gay" for no reason is stupid, lazy and uninteresting. If, on the other hand, someone's sexuality is integral to a story, and if the subject is in the public eye, and if the intent is not to simply go after them for sport, then the story is fair game.

Often you hear people say that they lost an arm and a leg in some deal. I guess **Heather McCartney** is ahead of the game — she still has her arm, but she's lost her leg — for the second time. A couple of weeks ago, **Paul McCartney**'s wife stormed **Jennifer Lopez**'s office to give her a DVD showing how animals are killed for their skins (something tells me the lovely Latina had better things to do).

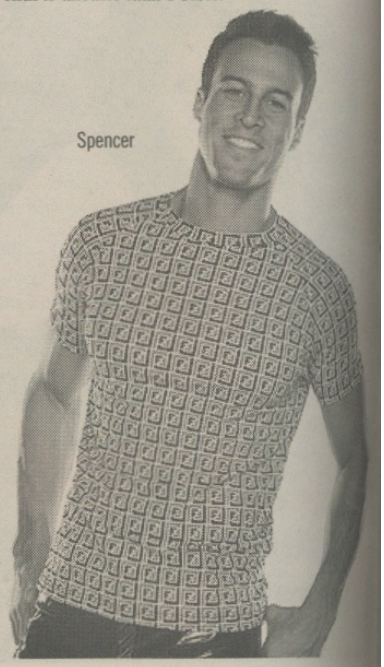
Now, I'm not exactly sure how this happened, but in the ensuing scuffle with J-Lo's goons, Heather became separated from her prosthetic limb. When she called Jenny's office to inquire if anyone found her leg, the person on the other end asked, "Can you describe it?" Yeah — it looks like a *leg*!

Could it be that a certain well-groomed studser has gotten a bit too big for his britches? So say sources on the set who tell me that the diva-like behavior from this lilting lad earned him a title we dare not publish in this family-friendly column. Let's just say that the ladies titter when referring to "him" as "her." And the guys on the set stopped letting him join in any reindeer games. Of course, that's no longer an issue.

When I can tackle such diverse topics as *American Idol*, outing and Heather McCartney's leg, it's definitely time to end yet another column.

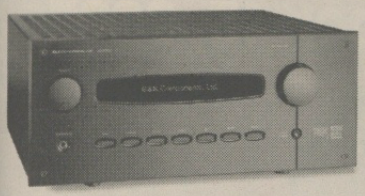
There's so much in store at Filth2go.com as we prepare to shake things up a bit. But no matter what changes occur, one thing that won't change is how easy I am to get hold of. Just e-mail your questions to me at Billy@filth2go.com and I promise to get back to you before I figure out if I can send Heather her leg back via FedEx!

Until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.


Spencer

B&K's Kick-Ass Sound

The AVR507 A/V receiver offers hefty construction and hefty performance that trounce the competition.



"I'm buying one," proclaimed one of our long-time sales guys after his first audition of the 507. Compared to all of B&K's competitors he's heard, he says the 507 "sounds bigger, is much more dynamic, offers better clarity, is easier to set up, features an excellent remote and is easier to use overall." Strong praise indeed for a very strong receiver.

B&K's sonic excellence stems from meticulous attention to design details and tank-like construction, guaranteeing spectacular sound for many, many years. Give a listen to the 507 soon. It can be an amazing upgrade to your current system, or as the rock-solid base for a new surround system. Both 5.1 and 7.1 units available. Come in soon.

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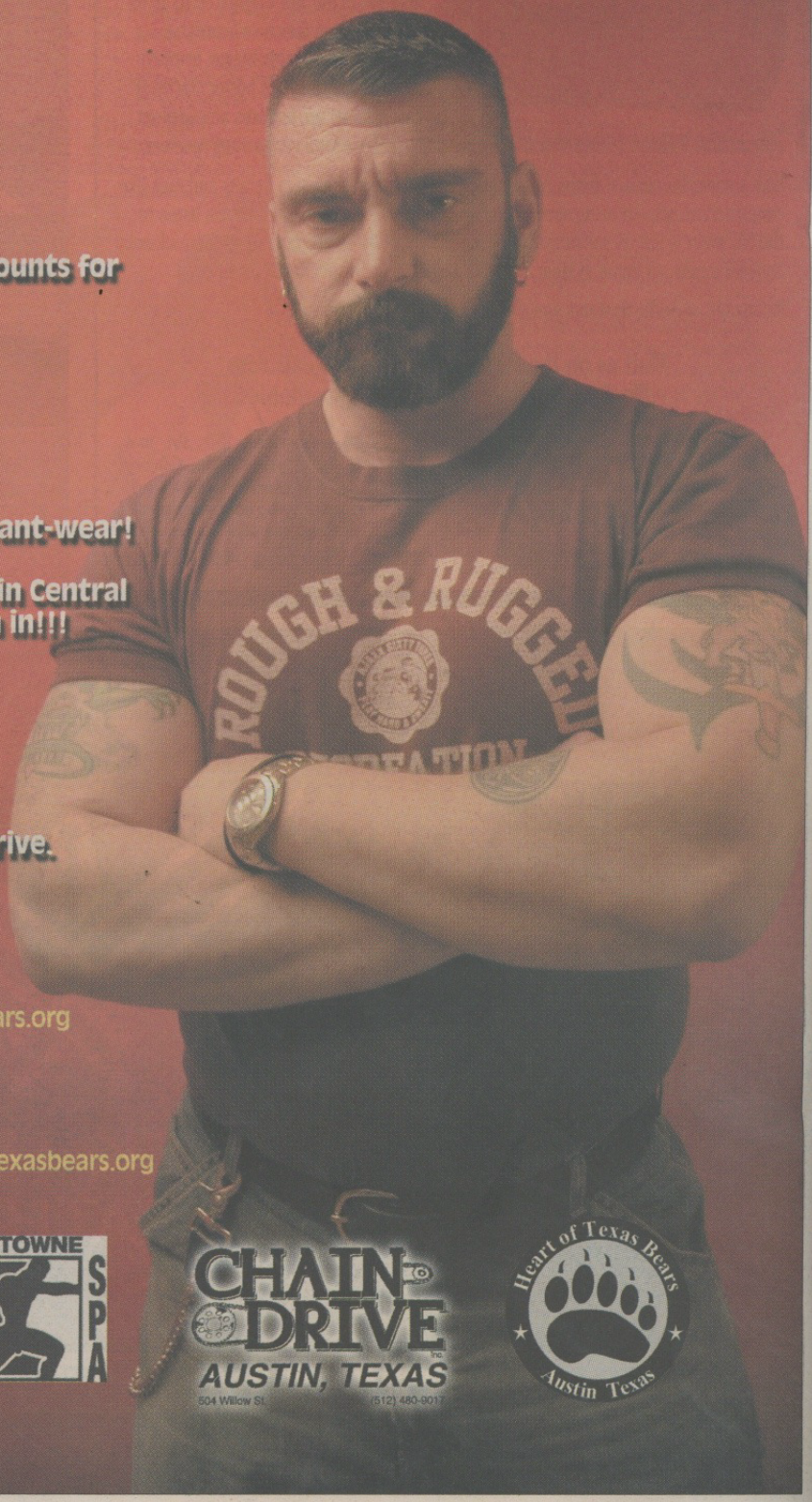
Heart of Texas Bears UnRun II

Friday, November 11- Sunday, November 13, 2005



SCHEDULE of EVENTS

Friday
4-9pm - Registration @ Chain Drive
9pm- til ? Bear Party @ Midtown Spa (Discounts for UnRun Registrants only)

Saturday
MR. HOT BEAR CONTEST:
Catagories: Mr. HOT Bear, Mr. HOT Grizzly, Mr. HOT Polar & Mr. HOT Cub
Swimwear, Bar-wear, and whatever you want-wear!
10:30pm
Door Prizes. This is the Biggest Bear Event in Central Texas. Come early because we can pack em in!!!

Sponsored by: Midtown Spa Austin, Chain Drive, Tapelenders Video Austin, The Leather Chest

Sunday
2-6 pm - Beer Bust and Farewell at Chain Drive.
Food available from the Central Texas boys of Leather!

Applications are available @ www.heartoftexasbears.org
Chain Drive
TapeLenders Video Austin
Midtown Spa – Austin
for more information contact: treasurer@heartoftexasbears.org

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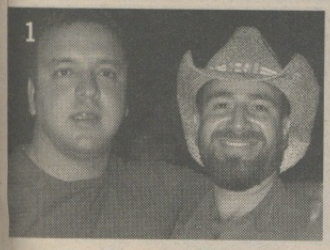
CHAIN DRIVE AUSTIN, TEXAS
504 Willow St (512) 480-9017

Heart of Texas Bears Austin Texas

ClubLand

austin

1. Jimmy and Mark at Chain Drive. 2. Anthony, David, Lori, Brian and Shipley at Fabric. 3. David and Rich at 'Bout Time. 4. Pete, Jaime and Brandon at Charlie's. 5. Sean at Chain Drive. 6. Hedda Layne at Rain. **Photos by Guillermo Garza**





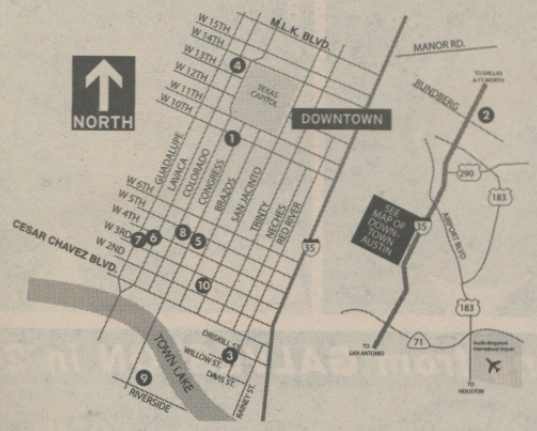




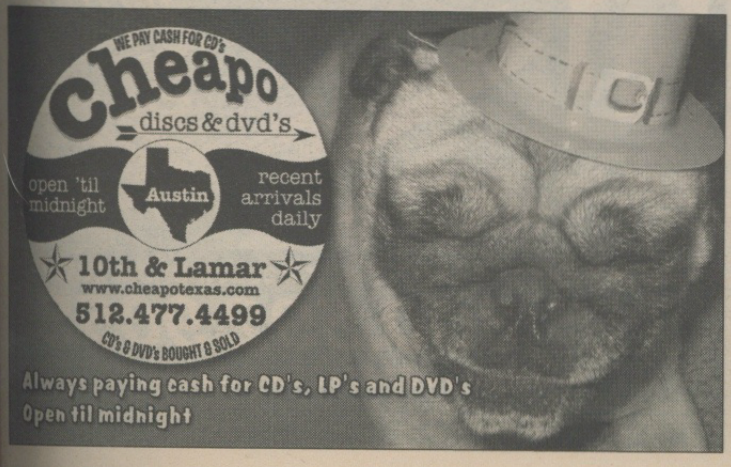




NightSpots



1. 1920's Club—918 Congress Ave. 512-479-7979
2. 'Bout Time—9601 N. I-35. 512-832-5339
3. Chain Drive—504 Willow St. 512-480-9017
4. Charlie's—1301 Lavaca. 512-474-6481. Charliesaustin.com
5. Fabric—101 W. 5th St. 512-322-9333.
6. Oilcan Harry's—211 W. 4th St. 512-320-8823
7. Rain on 4th—217 W. 4th St. 512-494-1150
8. Rainbow Cattle Co.—305 W. 5th St. 512-472-5288
9. Sidekicks/Xtreme—110 E. Riverside Dr. 512-804-2707. Sidekicksaustin.com
10. Silver Spur Saloon—113 San Jacinto. 512-457-8010

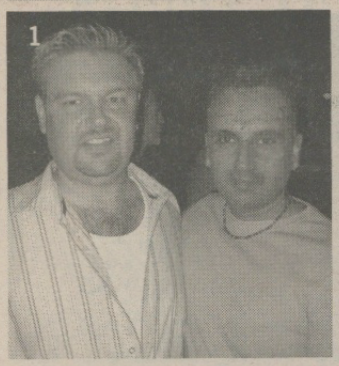




ClubLand

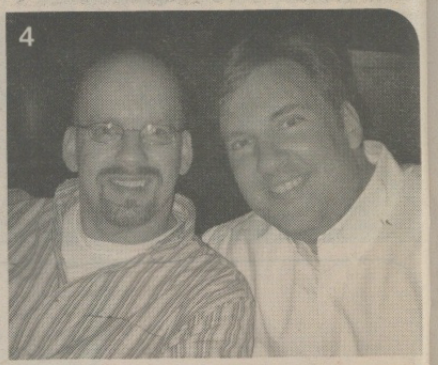
dallas

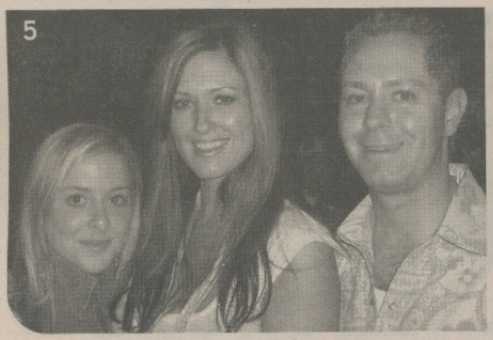
1. Chad and Obaid at Throckmorton Mining Company. 2. Christopher and Alex at the Dallas Eagle. 3. Lauren and Megan at Buddies II. 4. Greg and David at Illusions. 5. Amber, Danielle and Lawrence at Sue Ellen's. 6. Adam at the Cross Bar. 7. Alex at the Hidden Door. 8. Kassira at Bill's Hideaway.
Photos by Barbera Barker and Gregory Hayes

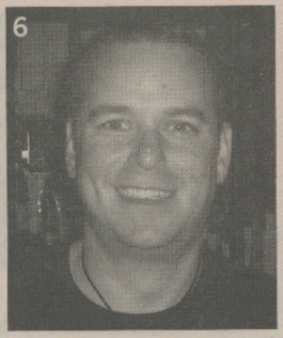


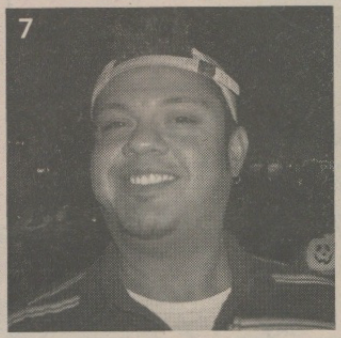














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ROUND UP AWARDS 2005

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See the results for your city in the December 9th issue of TXT Newsmagazine.

Favorite Restaurants

best breakfast spot
best 24-hour restaurant
best brunch
best vegetarian
best Greek
best Asian
best Italian
best Mexican
best Sushi
best Pizza
best Seafood
best Steakhouse
best Margarita
best burger
best patio
best place for people watching
most romantic restaurant
best restaurant to take family to
best bar-be-que
best buffet
best take-out food
best Caesar salad
best fast food
best coffee house
best new restaurant
best Waitstaff

Favorite Bars & Clubs

best all-around bar
best leather
best lesbian
best dance
best cabaret/piano
best c&w
sexiest staff
friendliest staff
best off the beaten path
best happy hour
best martini
best theme night
best drag show
best club dj
best karaoke
best after hours
best place to shoot pool
best weekday hangout
best straight bar

Favorite Retail

best pet adoption
best video rental
best adult video rental
best bookstore
best furniture
best art gallery
best apparel
best piercing/tattoo studio
best gift store/boutique
best toy store for adults
best second-hand/consignment shop
best full-service grocery store
best antique shop
best computer/high tech store
best jewelry store
best health food/nutritional store
best leather shop
best liquor store
best tux rental
best athletic apparel/equipment
best cellular service
best auto dealership
best eyewear/optical shop
best music store

Favorite Places

best bed & breakfast
best weekend getaway
best neighborhood to live in
best park
best bike/walking trail
best hotel
best bath house

Favorite Services

best hair salon/barber
best hair stylist
best massage
best gym
best personal trainer
best tanning salon
best medical practitioner
best dentist
best chiropractor
best veterinarian
best mechanic
best home repair
best mortgage company
best bank
best insurance agency
best real estate agency
best real estate agent
best travel agency
best airline
best florist
best cosmetic surgeon
best apartment locator
best attorney
best photographer

Favorite Community Endeavors

best annual fundraising event
best GLBT activist
best glbt organization
best thing to happen to GLBT community this year
worst thing to happen to GLBT community this year
best local politician/elected official
best state politician/elected official
best place of worship

Favorite Arts & Entertainment Venues

best radio station (general)
most glbt friendly radio station
best TV station (general)
most glbt friendly TV station
best independent film theater
best mainstream movie theater
best local stage production
best touring stage production
best local entertainer (drag)
best local entertainer (other)
best live music venue

Favorite Fun Things

best festival
best local sports team
best tourist destination in your city
best glbt "family" website
best glbt "adult" website
best place to meet someone who's responded to your personal ad



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Compliments of TXT Newsmagazine!

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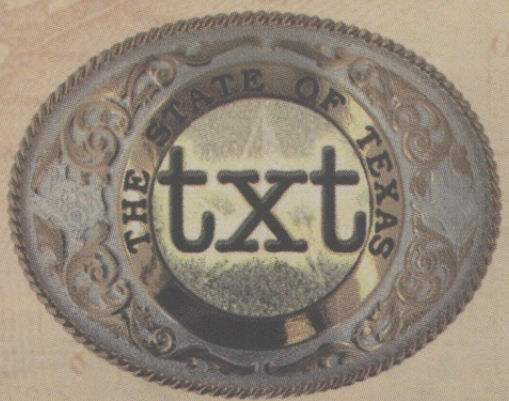


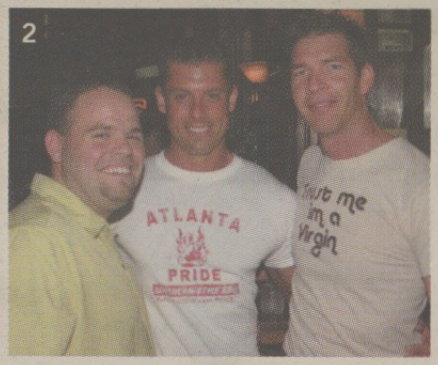
The Round Up Awards and winners of the two round trip tickets will be announced in TXT Newsmagazine and online at TXTNewsmag.com. All entries must be received by Nov. 11; results will be announced on Dec. 9. One entry per person. One winner will be drawn and two round trip tickets ($1,500 value) will be awarded. TXT Newsmagazine is owned by Qtexas Publishing Company LLC. Employees of Qtexas Publishing Company are not eligible to win.

ClubLand

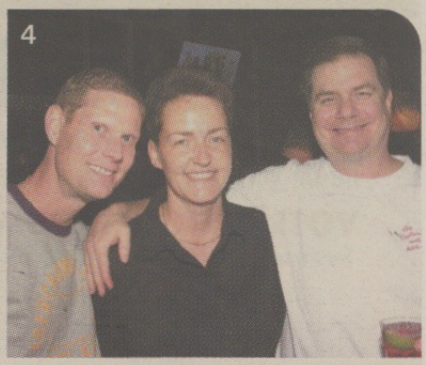
houston

1. David and Kobi at South Beach. 2. Jeremy, Dwayne and Keith at JR's Bar & Grill. 3. Mikey and Dominic at Brazos River Bottom. 4. David, Michael and Fran at Guava Lamp. 5. Jack, Tony, Keb and David at Rich's. 6. Jacob, Clay and Chad at South Beach. 7. Myra, Kristin and Chenessa at Club 1415. 8. Steve, Mike and Michael at Meteor. **Photos by Paul Stricklin**

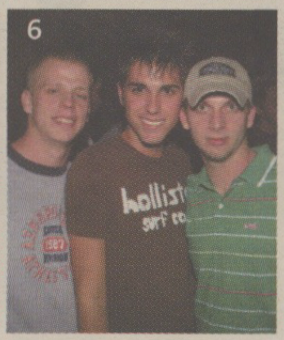


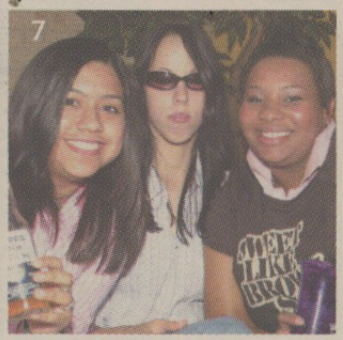




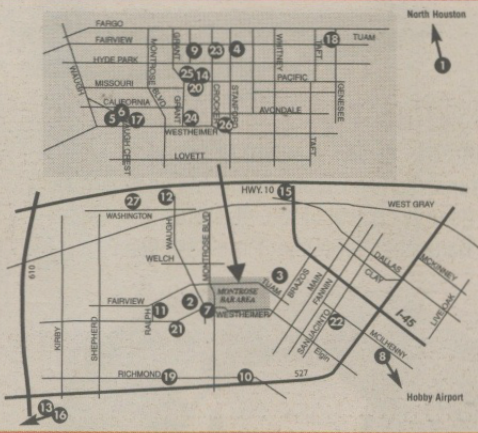












NightSpots

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2. Bartini—1318 Westheimer. 713-526-2271. Clubbartini.com
3. Brazos River Bottom—2400 Brazos. 713-528-9192
4. Brick's II—617 Fairview. 713-528-8102
5. Chances/G-Spot—1100 Westheimer. 713-523-7217. Chancesbar.com
6. Club 1415—1415 California. 713-522-7066
7. Club Rainbow—1417 Westheimer. 713-522-5166
8. Club Xcape—8101 Airport Blvd. 713-454-0775
9. Cousins—817 Fairview. 713-528-9204
10. Decades—1205 Richmond. 713-521-2224
11. EJ's—2517 Ralph. 713-527-9071
12. Guava Lamp—570 Waugh. 713-524-3359
13. Inergy—5750 Chimney Rock. 713-666-7310.Clubinergy.com
14. JR's—808 Pacific. 713-521-2519. JRsBarandGrill.com
15. Keys West—817 W. Dallas. 713-571-7870
16. Mango Lounge—5742 Chimney Rock. 713-666-7472
17. Mary's—1022 Westheimer. 713-527-9669
18. Meteor—2306 Genesee @ Fairview. 713-521-0123. Meteorhouston.com
19. Michael's—1419 Richmond. 713-520-8446
20. Montrose Mining Co.—805 Pacific. 713-529-7488
21. Rainbow Room—527 Barren Springs.
22. Rich's—2401 San Jacinto. 713.759.9606. Richs-houston.com
22. Ripcord—715 Fairview. 713-521-2792. Ripcordjournal.com
23. Santa Fe Bar & Patio—804 Pacific. 713-521-2519
24. South Beach—810 Pacific. 713-529-SOBE. Southbeachthenightclub.com
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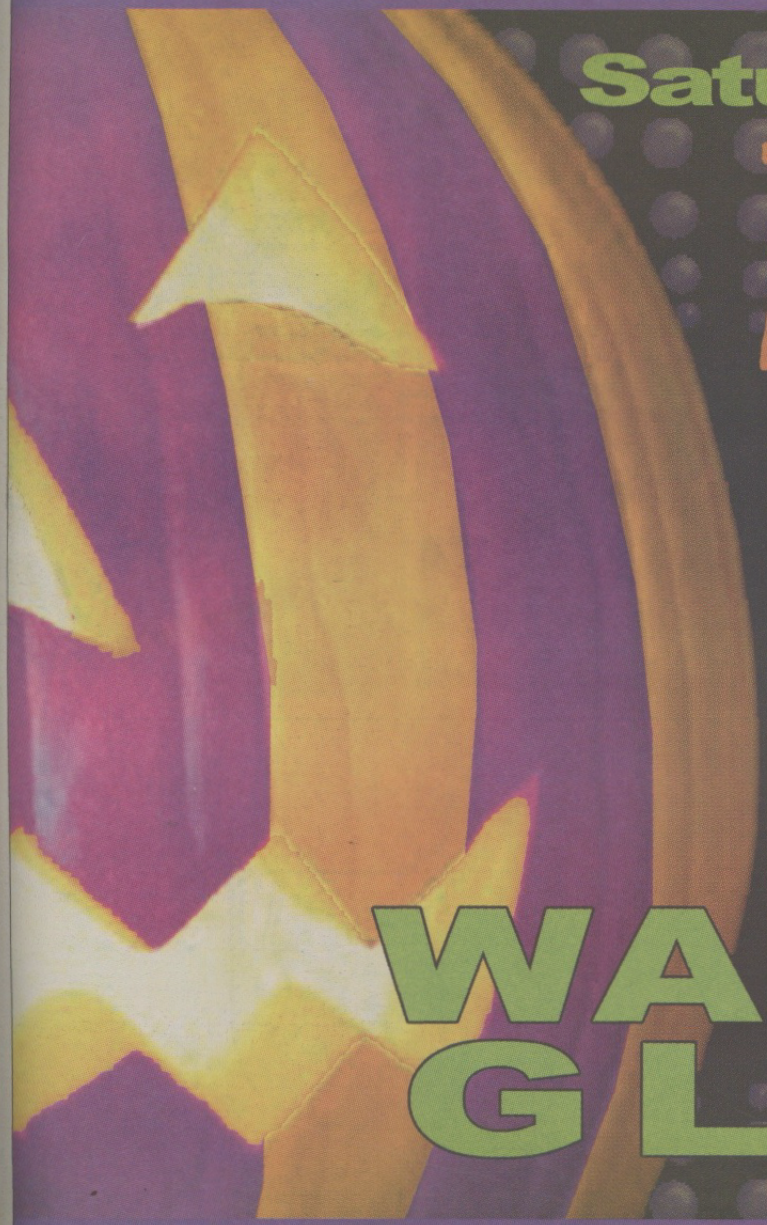

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ClubLand

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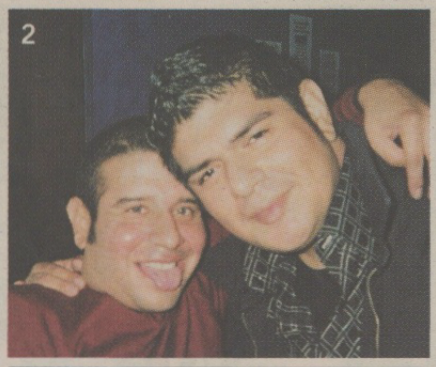
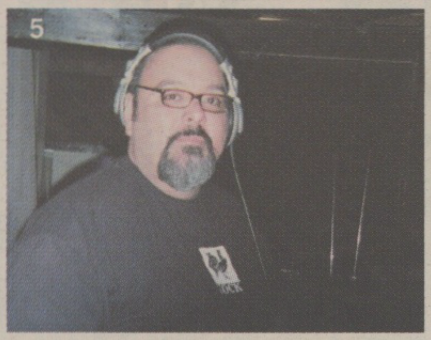
1. Nick and D.J. Jimmy Smith at Heat. 2. Mario and Anthony at The Saint. 3. Mikayla at The Annex. 4. Keana, Tylar and Roland at The Annex. 5. Mark at SA Eagle. 6. D.J. Andrew and D.J. Angel at Bonham Exchange. **Photos by Junior Hernandez**













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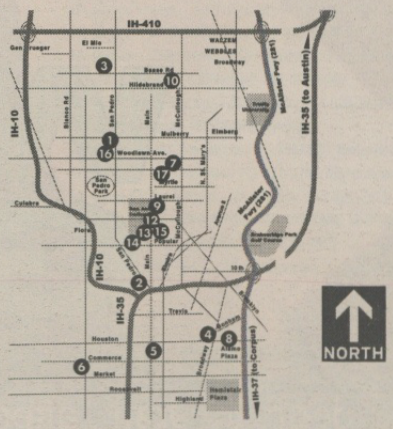

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2. Annex—330 San Pedro. 210-223-6957
3. Bermuda Triangle—119 El Mio. 210-342-2276
4. Bonham Exchange—411 Bonham. 210-271-3811
5. The Boss—1006 DFW Blvd. 210-534-6600
6. Club Cachondo—1022 Buena Vista. 210-212-9349. Clubcachondo.com
7. Cobalt—2022 McCullough. 210-734-2244
8. Gotham—Third @ Alamo (Downtown). 210-527-1707
9. HEAT—1500 N. Main Ave. 210-227-2600
10. TAGZ—5307 McCullough. 210-828-4922. Tagzsa.com
11. The 106—106 Pershing Ave. 210-820-0906
12. The Pegasus—1402 N. Main. 210-299-4222
13. The Saint—1430 N. Main. 210-225-7330, Thesaint-satx.com
14. SA Eagle—1010 N. Main. 210-226-2529. Satxeagle.com
15. Silver Dollar—1418 N. Main. 210-227-2623
16. 2015—2015 San Pedro. 210-733-3365
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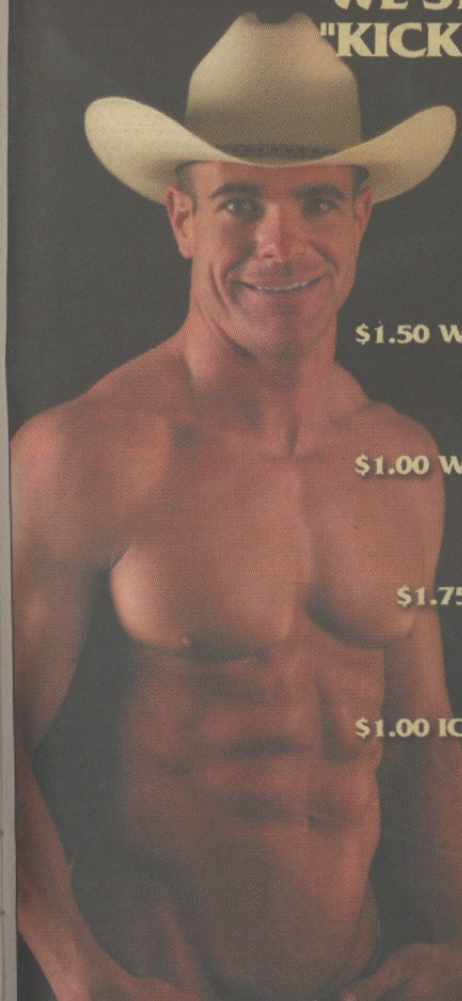

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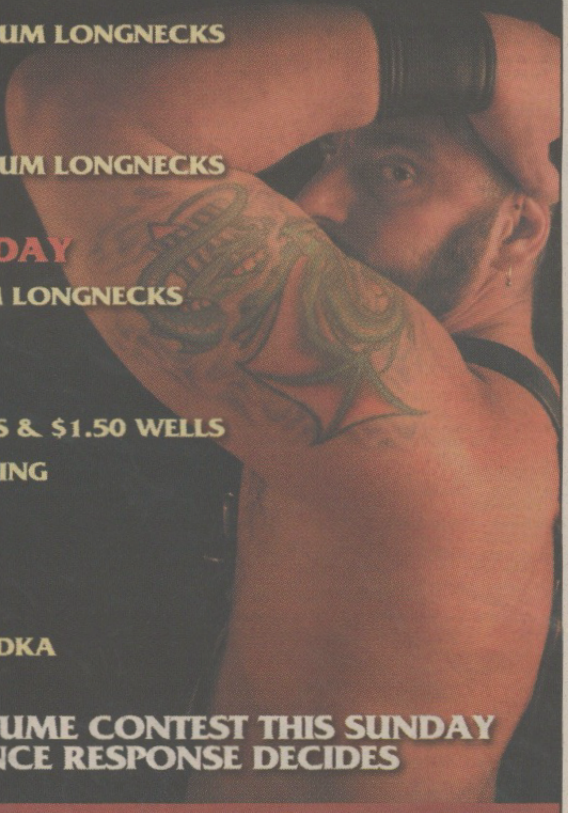

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Hotel Za Za — 2332 Leonard St., 214-468-8399, Hotelzaza.com.

The Melrose — 3015 Oak Lawn Ave., 214-521-5151, Melrosehoteldallas.com.

HOUSTON

Gar-Den Suites — 2702 Crocker St. 800-484-1036 (code 2669).

Holiday Inn Select — 2712 S.W. Frwy, 713-523-8448.

The Lovett Inn — 501 Lovett Blvd., 713-522-5224, 1-800-779-5224.

Marriott Hotel Downtown Houston — 904 Dallas St., 832-366-1000.

Montrose Inn — 408 Avondale,713-520-0206, 800-357-1228.

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Arbor House B+B — 109 Arciniega, 210-472-2005.

Emily Morgan Hotel — 705 E. Houston St., 210-225-5100, Emilymorganhotel.com.

The Painted Lady Inn — 620 Broadway, 210-220-1092, thepaintedlady.com.

attorneys

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John Butler — 816 Congress Ave., #1100, 512-472-3887, johnbutler.com.

Bruce S. Fox — 404 West 13th Street, 512-444-4FOX, brucefox.com.

Martha Pitkin — 11782 Jollyville Rd., 512-219-4022.

Willie & Dasher — 1107 Nueces, 512-478-0834.

DALLAS

Birdwell & Associates — Jerry Birdwell, Tim Menchu, 214-357-3311.

Frankel Douglas — 214-353-8033 dougfrankel.com.

Stewart Charles — 3500 Oak Lawn, 214-521-3804.

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Nechman, Simoneaux and Frye, PLLC — 713-227-1717, nsflaw.us.

Simon & Associates — 401 Studewood, 713-524-6000.

Walker & Patterson, PC — 4815 Dacoma, 713-956-5577.

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Carol Bertsch —1919 San Pedro Ave., 210-735-9911.

Michael W. White — 3737 Broadway, 210-821-5283.

Neil A. Calfas — 540 S. St. Mary's Street, 210-212-6969.

Pearsall Legal Services, PLLC — 11103 San Pedro, 210-340-8290.

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Austin Subaru — 200 West Huntland, 512-454-9489.

Charles Maund Volkswagen — 8400 Research, 1-800-440-1999, maund.com.

David McDavid Acura — 13553 Research Blvd., 512-335-5555.

First Texas Honda — 1301 W. Koenig Lane, 512-381-1333, firsttexashonda.com.

Gillman Subaru — 6809 South I-35, 512-444-6044.

Suzuki-Isuzu of Austin — (Jules Gollins) 4738 S. IH 35, 512-583-4000.

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Classic BMW — 300 N. Central Expy., 866-289-9999, classicbmw.com.

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Freeman Mazda — (George Johnson), 1800 E. Airport, Irving, 972-438-2121.

John Eagle Honda — 5311 Lemmon Ave. 214-904-3247. EagleHonda.com.

Saturn of Mesquite — (Miki Holtz) 15900 I-635 at Oates. 1-800-723-0714.

HOUSTON

Gillman Subaru Southwest — 10575 W. Sam Houston Pkwy., 713-776-6310.

Jeff Haas Mazda — (John Griffin) 11222 Old Katy Rd., 713-932-6004.

Jim Jard Auto Group — 26525 S.W. Freeway, 281-342-4200.

Land Rover Houston — 7019 Old Katy Rd., 713-293-6100.

Mike Calvert Toyota — 2333 Loop 610 713-558-8100, mikecalverttoyota.com.

Planet Ford — 20403 Interstate 45 North, 1-888-251-9135.

Sterling McCall Toyota — (Alexis) 9400 Southwest Frwy., 832-816-5718.

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Benson Honda/Mazda — 9100 San Pedro, 210-34-1356, tombenson.com.

North Park Subaru — 210-308-0200.

Tom Benson Chevrolet/Isuzu — 9400 San Pedro, 210-341-3311, tombenson.com.

entertainment, adult

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Adult Video Megaplexxx — 7111 S. I-35, 512-442-5719.

Midtowne Spa Austin — 5815 Airport, 512-302-9696, midtowne-spa.com.

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Alternatives of New Fine Arts — 1720 W. Mockingbird, 214-630-7071.

Club Dallas — 2616 Swiss, 214-821-1990, the-club.com.

Midtowne Spa Dallas — 2509 Pacific, 214-821-8989, midtowne-spa.com.

Mockingbird Adult Video — 708 W. Mockingbird, 214-631-3003.

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Adult Video Megaplexxx — 5819 Richmond, 713-780-1827.

Adult Video Megaplexxx — 10006 Gulf Frwy., 713-944-8111.

Adult Video Megaplexxx — 8100 I-45 North, 281-820-8999.

Club Houston — 2200 Fannin St., 713-659-4998, the-club.com.

Eros 1207 — 1207 Spencer Hwy., 713-944-6010.

Executive Adult Video Store — 14002 N.W. Frwy, 713-462-5152.

Midcity Video — 2043 Southwest Frwy., 713-522-3530.

Midtowne Spa Houston — 3100 Fannin, 713-522-2379, midtowne-spa.com.

Q Video — 1415 California, 713-522-4485.

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Alternative Clubs, Inc. ACI — 827 East Elmira, 210-223-2177.

Club San Antonio, 13900 Jones — Maltsberger, 210-545-2101.

Executive Club II — 402 Austin St., 210-299-1400.

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Queerwaves Radio — Saturdays 4:30-6pm 91.7 FM KOOP, koop.org.

Zachary Scott Theatre Center — 512-476-0541, zachscott.com.

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Angelika Film Center — Mockingbird Lane 214-841-4700.

Magnolia Theater — 3699 McKinney Ave. at West Village, 214-520-0025.

HOUSTON

After Hours — 713-526KPFT, www.kpft.org Saturday midnight - Sunday 4am

Alley Theatre — 615 Texas Ave., 713-228-8421, alleytheatre.org.

Angelika Film Center & Café — 510 Texas Ave., 713-333-FILM.

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Greenway Theater — 5 Greenway Plaza, 713-629-5129, landmarktheatres.com

Houston Grand Opera — 713-228-OPERA, 1-800-626-7372.

Houston Symphony — 615 Louisiana St., 713-224-7575, houstonsymphony.org.

River Oaks Theatre — 2009 West Grey, 713-528-4608, landmarktheatres.com.

Theatre Under The Stars — 713-558-8887, tuts.com.

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Awesome Tickets — 120 Broadway, 210-226-5136.

Encore Video — 1031 North East Loop 410, 210-821-5345.

Majestic Theatre — 210-224-9600.

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Dr. Jeanne Galloway, ND — 512-695-2342 4104 Medical Pkwy. #113.

Jay M. Erwin-Grotsky, LMSW-ACP — 512-451-7222.

Michael Escobedo, M.D. — 512-347-9794, lazrsmooth.com.

Michael F. Lessner, DDS — 2907 Duval Street near UT Campus, 512-472-5633.

Silva Psychiatric Care — 3101 Bee Cave Rd., #310, 512-327-3810, silvapsych.com.

Waterloo Counseling Center — 3000 South I-35, 512-444-9922.

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Advanced Skin Fitness — 3601 Routh St., SOTA Bldg., 214-521-5277.

Alan Maedgen, D.D.S. — 3838 Oak Lawn #177, 214-559-7266, Maedgensmiledesigns.com

Carole Ann Boyd, D.D.S. — 4514 Cole, Ste. 905, 214-521-6261. drboyd.net.

David Brand, M.D. — 801 N. Zang Blvd., 214-941-4000.

Dr. Mark Hayes — 3100 MacArthur, 972-258-6400, www.tylock.com.

Pride Institute — 817-404-2205 Pride-institute.com.

Southwest Infectious Disease Associates — 3801 Gaston, Ste. 300. 214-828-4702.

StatScript — 3818 Cedar Springs, 214-522-4006.

Stonewall Behavioral Health, Inc. — 3626 N. Hall, 723, 214-521-1278. 1-888-828-TALK.

Eugene Tseng, D.D.S. — 3003 Carlisle, Ste. 106, 214-855-0789.

Uptown Psychotherapy — 4144 N. Central Expwy, Ste. 520, 214-824-2009.

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Greenbriar Health — Patrick McNamara, MD, 4101 Greenbriar, 713-524-4837.

Holmes Chiropractic — (Randall Holmes, DC) 1235 N. Loop W., 713-862-2440.

Houston Department of Health & Human Services - 8000 N Stadium 713-794-9092.

Montrose Clinic — 215 Westheimer, 713-830-3000.

Montrose Counseling Center - 701 Richmond, 713-529-0037.

Skin Renaissance Laser Center — 106 Westheimer, 713-942-SKIN.

Bruce W. Smith, D.D.S. — 1006 Missouri Street, 713-529-4364.

Southwest Houston Women's Center - (Myrtle Oates, MD) —4747 Bellaire, 713-779-6626.

STAT Home Health Care — 711 Hyde Park Bd. 713-520-9997, www.stathomecare.com

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Tony Carroll Psychotherapy — 1006 Missouri St., 713-529-4364.

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CASA — (Yvonne J. Schilling, MS, LPC) 11230 West Ave., 210-203-2057, casa-sa.com.

Counseling Works — (Joan Wells, LPC) mooreworks.net/cw, 210-203-2057.

FFACTS Clinic — 507 North Leona, 210-358-3710.

Hill Country Psychotherapy Associates — 11118 Wurzbach Rd., 210-558-0409.

Anthony Rogers, Ph.D. — Alamo Heights, 210-227-6815.

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Allstate — (RJ Muszynski) 4032 Cedar Springs Rd., 214-521-2212.

Allstate — (Peter Fisher) 5934 Royal Lane, Ste. 252, 214-361-9870.

Steven Graves Insurance — 3500 Oak Lawn, Ste. 270, 214-599-0808.

The Swartz Agency — (Farmers) 111 S. Story, Irving, 972-256-0922.

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Allstate Insurance — 13231 Champion Forest Dr., 281-895-8181.

Dale Englefield — (Farmers) 888-439-1700.

Elijah Kabalka (Farmers) — 6575 W. Loop South., 713-661-7700.

Rob Schmerler - 6575 W. Loop South, 713-661-7700, schmerleragency.com.

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Parker Insurance — (Progressive) 210-649-2111, 1-866-649-2111.

real estate

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Barnes Jennie — 512-917-4746, moreland.com.

Bollew Scott (Fresh Perspective Lending Team) — 512-328-2225, freshperspectivelending.com.

Copper Eric — 512-350-3921, EricCopper.com.

Nelson Julie (Keller Williams) — 512-848-5881, thenelsonproject.com.

Presidio Group Realtors — (Ron Redder) 512-657-8674, presidiogroup.com.

Re/Max Downtown — (Geroge W. Hughes) 115 W. 8th St., 512-940-4894.

Tebbetts Eric (2K Mortgage) — 2700 Bees Caves Rd. #120 — 512-306-1616, 2kmortgage.com.

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Dream Home Realty — Ray Ortiz, 5151 Belt Line Rd. #610, 214-923-4818.

Hewitt & Habgood — (Keller Williams) 214-752-7070.

Master Realtors — 4235 Cedar Springs. 214-902-9999, masterrealtors.com.

Morris & Moore — (Coldwell Banker) 972-588-8163.

Shelter Mortgage — 2605 Routh. 214-365-0708.

Surrealty — 3615 N. Hall 214-520-2020 surrealtyhomes.com.

Virginia Cook Realtors — 2626 Cole, 214-292-0000, virginiacook.com.

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Keller Williams — (John Buchanan) 832-969-4352.

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Amberstar Properties — 210-614-7818, amberstarproperties.com.

Timothy DeWein — (Keller Williams) 12500 San Pedro210-842-8452, dewein.com.

King William Realty — 210-225-0009, king-wmrealty.com.

Rainbow Real Estate — (Nancy Russell) 210-860-5092, 1-888-GAY-MOVE.

Hagan Retzloff — 210-286-8032.

Randy Rice — (Keller Williams) 210-844-0102, randyrice.com.

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Brick Oven Restaurant — 1608 West 35th Street, 512-453-4330.

Carmelo's Ristorante — 504 East 5th Street, 512-477-7497.

Frank & Angie's Pizzeria — 508 West Ave., 521-472-3534

Gelato's — Crossroads Shopping Center, Burnet & Research Blvd., 512-371-9858

Kerbey Lane Café — 12602 Research Blvd., 512-258-7757, kerbeylanecafe.com.

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Hut's Hamburgers — 807 West 6th Street, 512-472-0693

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Black-eyed Pea — 3857 Cedar Springs, 214-521-4580.

Bronx — 3835 Cedar Springs, 214-521-5821.

Busters Mexican Grill — 4001 Cedar Springs, 214-443-0999.

Cafe Brazil — 2221 Abrams, 214-826-9522, 3847 Cedar Springs, 214-461-8762.

Chan Thai — 312 W. 7th St., 214-948-9956.

Cuidad — 3888 Oak Lawn, 214-219-3141.

Hunky's — 4000 Cedar Springs, 214-522-1212.

Marco Italian — 4000 Cedar Springs (facing Throckmorton), 214-526-3636.

Monica Aca Y Alla — 2914 Main St., 214-748-7140.

Tico Tiko Diner — 2525 Wycliff @ Tollway, 214-443-0255, ticotikodiner.com.

Tillman's Corner — 324 W. 7th St., 214-942-0988.

HOUSTON

Azteca's Bar & Grill — 2207 Richmond, aztecasbarandgrill.com.

Baba Yega — 2607 Grant Street, 713-522-0042.

Barnaby's Café - 604 Fairview, 713-522-0106.

Berryhill — 3407 Montrose, 713-523-8226

Carmello's Italiano — 14795 Memorial, 281-531-0696.

Hollywood Book & Cafe — 2409 Grant, Ste. A, 713-523-8855

Niko Niko — 2520 Montrose Blvd., 713-528-1308.

Pang Tai's Stirfry Bistro — 10811 Westheimer, 713-975-7821.

Pepper Tree Veggie Cuisine — 3821 Richmond, 713-621-9488, peppertreeveggie.com

Senor Ritas — 2409 Montrose at Hyde Park, 713-529-8559.

Wasabi Japanese Steakhouse — 908 Congress at Travis, 713-226-7210.

Ziggy's Healthy Grill — 2202 W. Alabama, 713-527-8588.

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Circa 1900 — 3920 Harry Wurzbach, 210-821-5600.

El Milagrito Café — 521 E. Woodlawn Ave., at N. St. Mary's, 210-734-8964

Madhatters Tea House & Café — 320 Beauregard, 210-212-4832

Tong's Thai — 1146 Austin Hwy., 210-829-7345.

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services

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Apartment Experts — 512-633-6860

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Liberty Bank — 900 Congress Ave., 512-472-5433, libertybanktexas.com.

Q Avenue Web Production — 512-228-6751 Qavenue.net.

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Velocity Credit Union — 512-469-7000, velocitycu.com.

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Expressive Arts — 507 Exposition, 214-468-9229, expressivearts.com.

Inwood National Bank — (Brian Walsh) 3848 Oak Lawn, 214-351-7322.

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Al's Formal Wear — 713-730-4889.

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services

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Concierge Travel — 713-661-2117, 877-775-9616, conciergetravel.cc.

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All County Plumbing — 210-509-0204, allcountyplumbing.net.

Patricia A. Bauer, CPA — 13214 Huebner Rd., 210-345-1040.

Leon Valley Veterinary Hospital — 6701 Bandera Rd., 210-681-1391.

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Tan Island — 18360 Blanco Rd., at Loop 11604, 210-499-4436.

shops & stores

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Tapelenders — 3926 Cedar Springs, 214-528-6344.

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Hollywood Book & Café - 2409-A Grant Street, 713-523-8855.

Houston Buyers Club — 3224 Yoakum Blvd, houstonbuyersclub.com.

I.W. Marks Jewelers — 3841 Bellaire Blvd., 713-668-5000.

Leather Forever—604 Westheimer 713-526-6940.

Liquid — 1417 Westheimer, 713-524-3960.

M2M Clothing — 3400 Montrose, 713-521-0804.

Male UWear — 415 Westheimer #104, 713-527-8499, Maleuwear.com.

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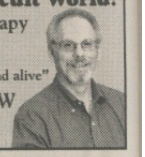

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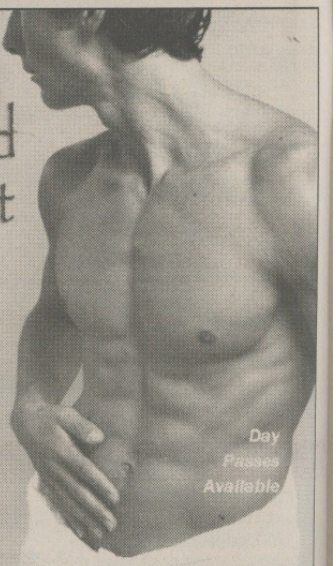

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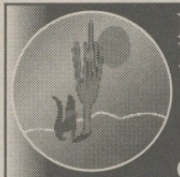

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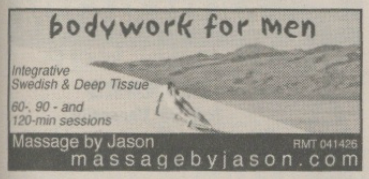







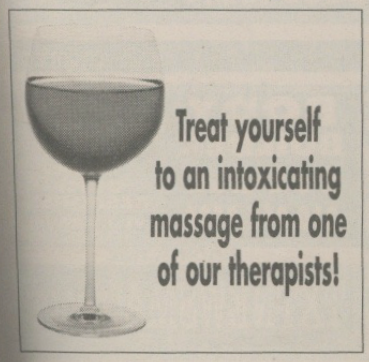

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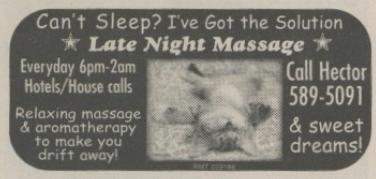

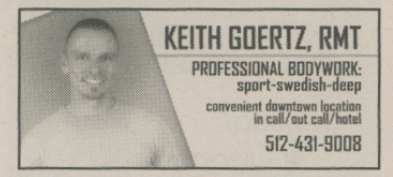

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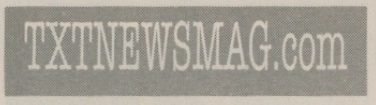

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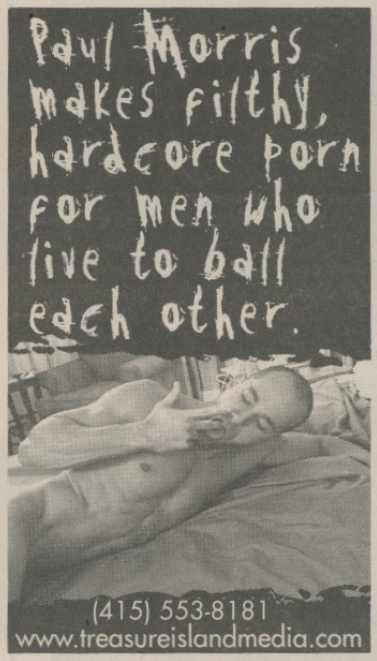





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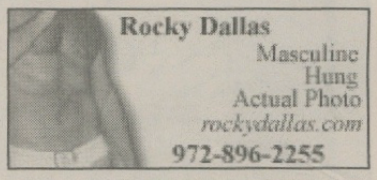



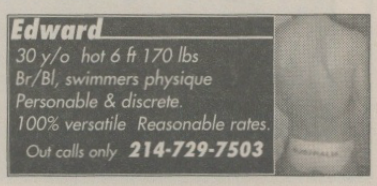

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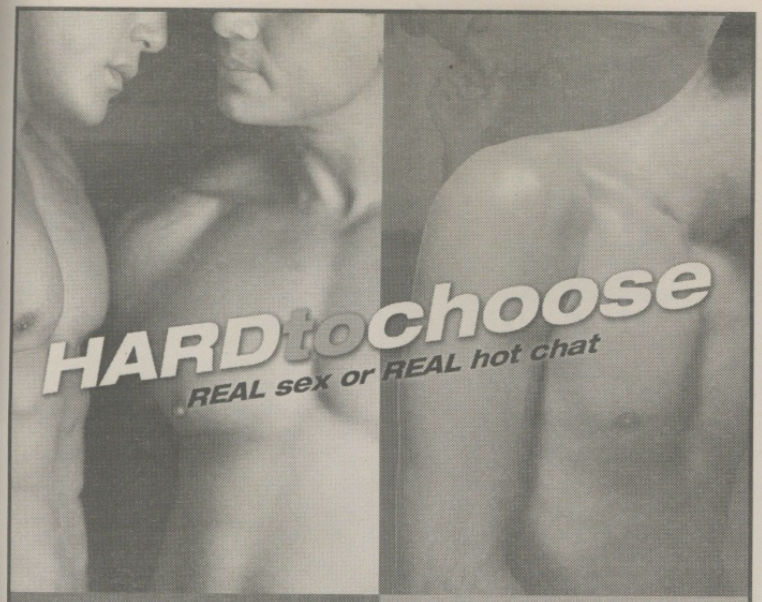

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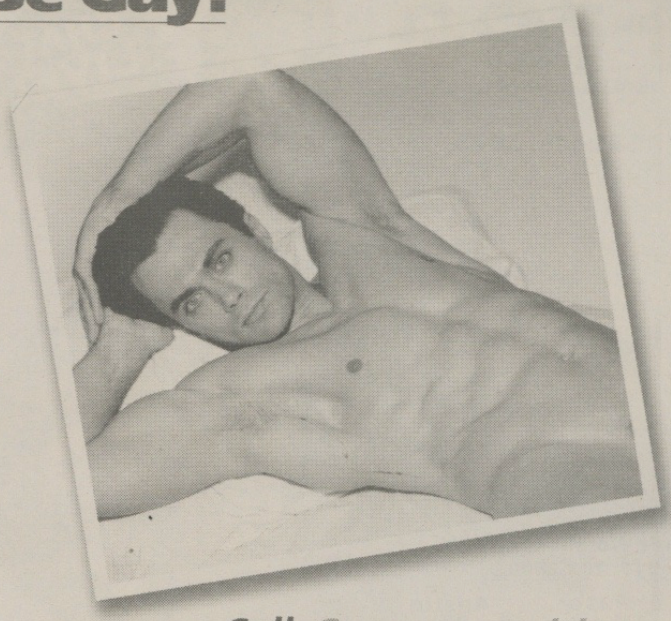

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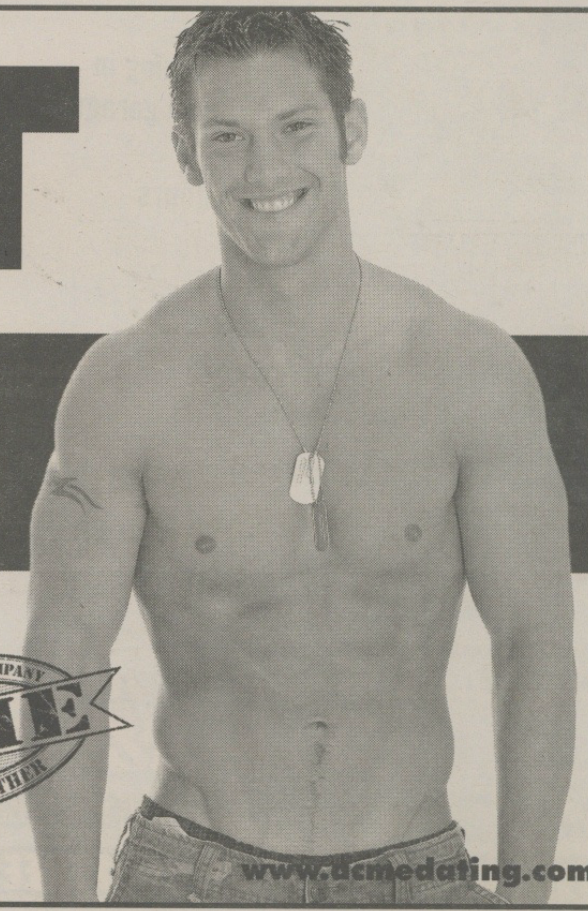

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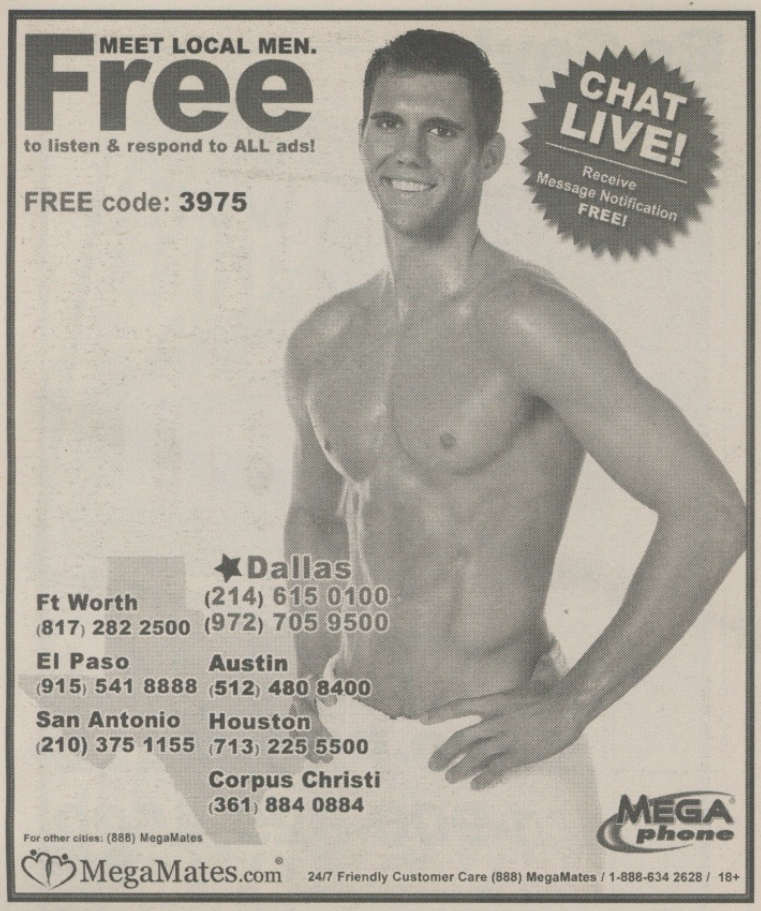
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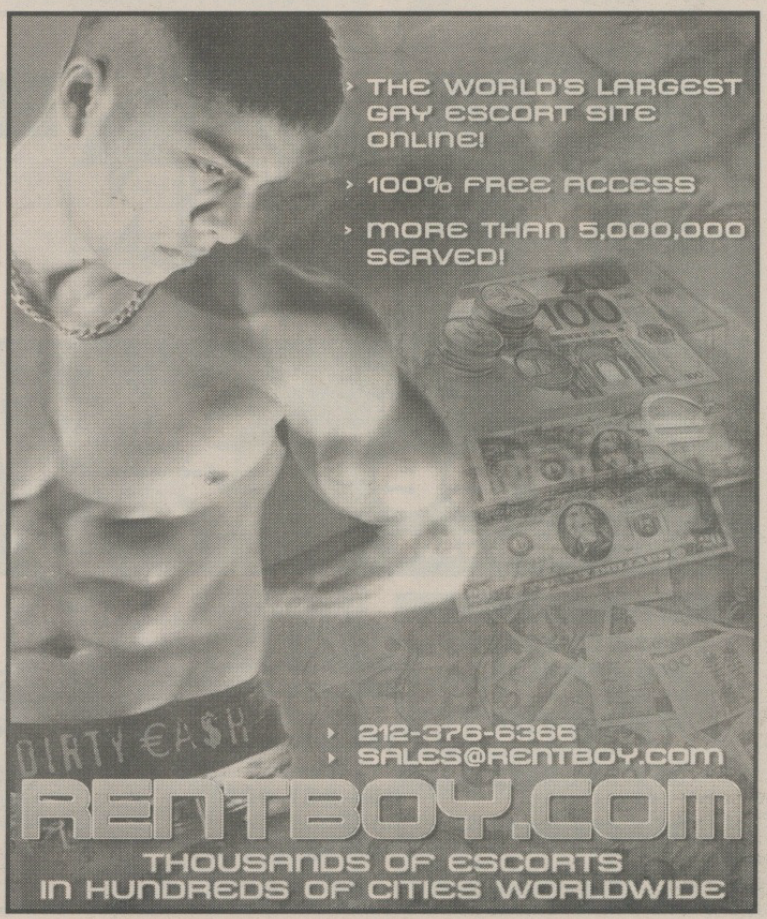
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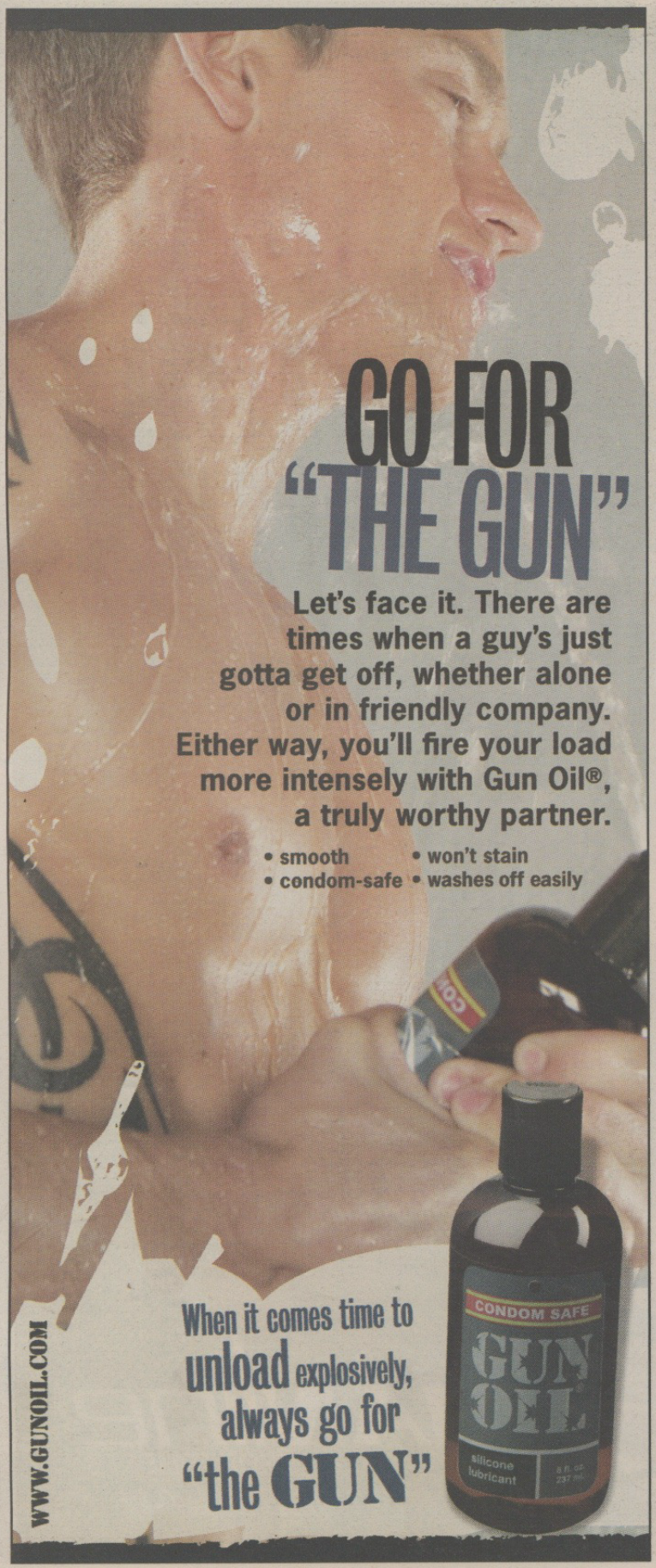
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