inside: Lovell confident about Houston council runoff ■ Kansas won't appeal *Limon* ruling ■ Celebrities say what they're thankful for ■ Filth

Volume 1 ■ Issue 47 ■ November 25, 2005

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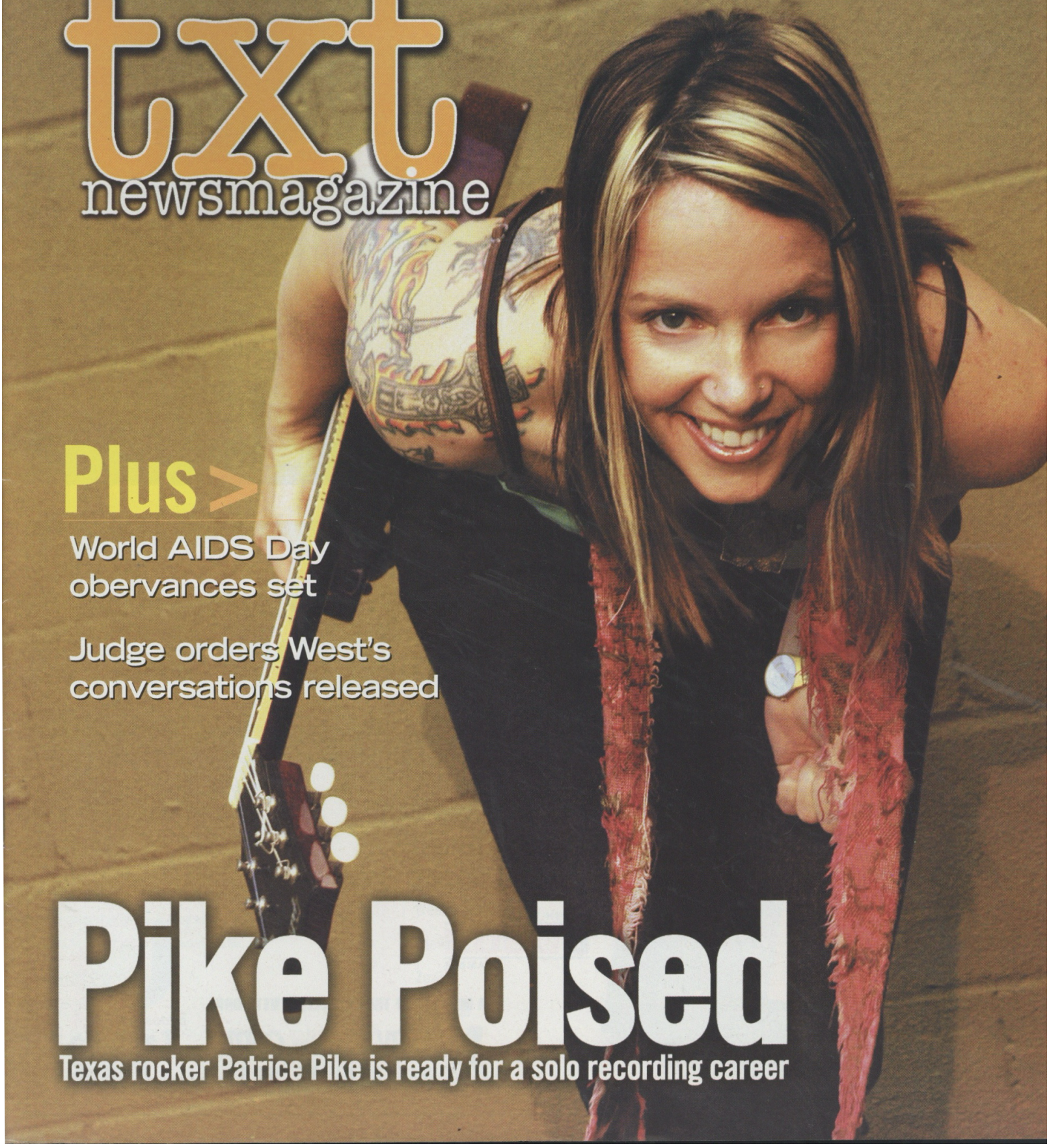


Plus >

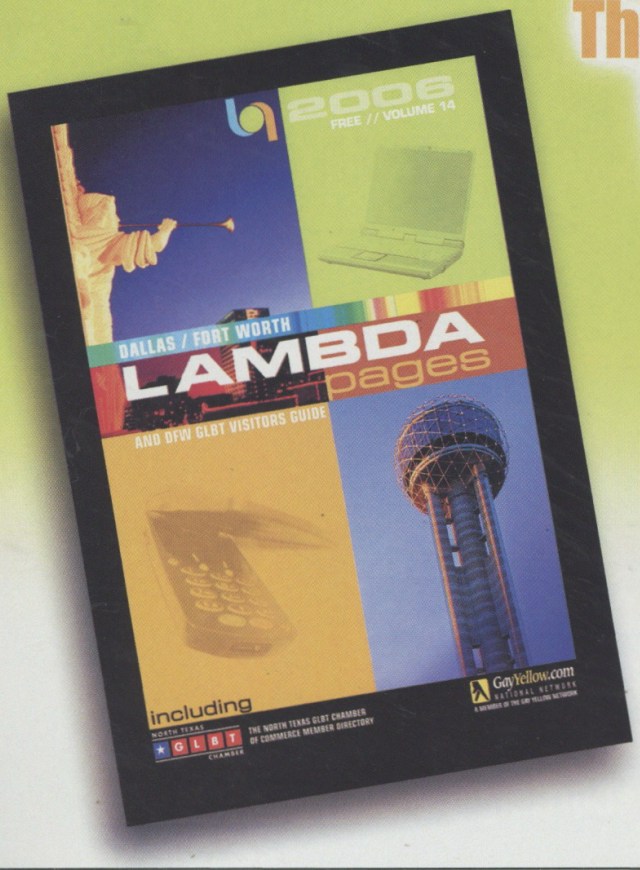
World AIDS Day obervances set

Judge orders West's conversations released

Pike Poised

Texas rocker Patrice Pike is ready for a solo recording career





The ABC's of GLBT Business

Coming December 1st — The 2006 DFW Lambda Pages

- Business Directory
- Visitors Guide
- North Texas GLBT Chamber Directory

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DALLAS FORT WORTH Lambda Pages









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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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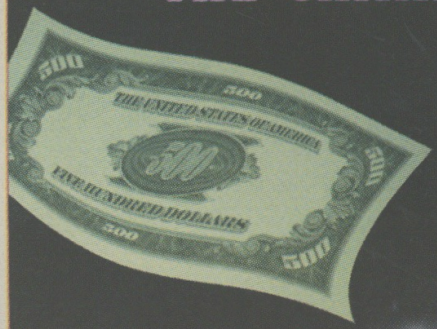

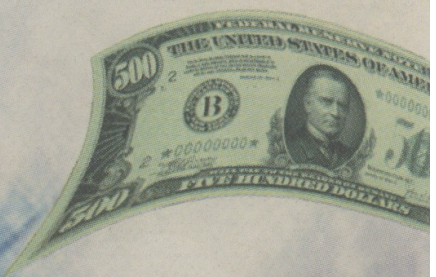

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World AIDS Day Events

Austin

• Dec. 1. Eighth annual Austin-area World AIDS Day Interfaith Service of Remembrance and Hope. Tarrytown United Methodist Church, 2601 Exposition Blvd. 7 p.m. The service will include music, prayers, poems, reflection and dance. It is a time to remember all the people who have died of AIDS, but it is also a service of hope and support to those who are living with HIV. For more information about the World AIDS Day service, visit Interfaithcarealliance.org.

• Dec. 1. Free HIV antibody testing will be available for all University of Texas students, staff and faculty. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. at SSB G1.406 and G1.116. Testing provided by Austin and Travis County Health and Human Services Department. No appointment necessary.

Denton

• Nov. 29. Moderator Cassandra Berry, associate vice president of equity and diversity, leads program including: Steve Dutton, executive director of Tarrant County Samaritan Housing; Deneen Robinson, Resource Center of Dallas, will speak on HIV 101; Ruben Ramirez, Resource Center of Dallas, on HIV rates in the Latino and African-American communities; and Luci Martin, Elaine Stephen and Sabrina Volpone, UNT students, and Mark Vosvick, psychology professor, on college students' sexual behavior. Free. University of North Texas, Biology Building, Room 170. 6:30 p.m.-9:20 p.m.

• Dec. 1. Continuation of Nov. 29 displays of faculty and student research and community resources. University Union, One O'Clock Lounge.

• Dec. 1. HIV testing will be offered in the UNT Student Health and Wellness Center. Sessions 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., with results available from 11 a.m. to noon. Afternoon session, 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., with results from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Dallas

• Dec. 1. A midday service of Holy Communion at Cathedral of Hope observing World AIDS Day. The service will be led by the Rev. Jo Hudson, senior pastor. Hudson will offer a message of faith and hope. The music ministry will provide special music, and an offering will be taken. The service begins at noon. 5910 Cedar Springs Rd. 214-351-1901.

• Dec. 1. Ring A Million Bells Campaign. Staff and residents at AIDS Services of Dallas will gather in Revlon Courtyard at 2 p.m. as a symbolic way of commemorating World AIDS Day 2005. Coordinated by Jerusalem AIDS Project in Israel. 214-941-0523.

• Dec. 1. Service of Awareness to remind people that AIDS is still an issue for all. The Rev. Steven Pace, executive director of AIDS Interfaith Network, speaks. 6:30 p.m. Grace United Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St. 214-824-2533.

• Dec. 1. Crisis 2005: The Increasing Impact of HIV and AIDS in Dallas. Luncheon, presentation and discussion. By invitation only. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. United Way of Metropolitan Dallas, 1800 North Lamar St.

• Dec. 1. Wine and hors d'oeuvres mixer to remember people who have died of AIDS and honor those living with HIV. Urban Market, 1500 Jackson St. 6:30 p.m. Open to the public. $5 donation suggested.

• Dec. 2. Day of Outreach, Prevention, Education and Testing for Latinos and Latinas. A cooperative effort of AIDS Interfaith Network and the Mexican Consulate. All day at the consulate, 8855 North Stemmons Freeway.

• Dec. 2-3. ArtRageous art show and sale at Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 2701 Reagan St. Artists will donate a portion of proceeds to support HIV programming at the AIDS Resource Center.

• Dec. 6. World AIDS Day service and community event. Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, 6-7 p.m. 9200 Inwood Rd.

Fort Worth

• Dec. 1. Interfaith Commemorative Service. McMillan United Methodist Church, 3401 Mountcastle Drive. 6:30 p.m. For information, contact the Tarrant County AIDS Interfaith Network.

Houston

• Nov. 28–Dec. 2. The AIDS Memorial Quilt. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m.-noon. Free. University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. 281-283-2575. Calzadiasjt@uhcl.edu.

• Nov. 30-Dec. 1. The AIDS Memorial Quilt. Free. University Center Arbor and UC World Affairs Lounge, 282 University Center. 713-743-5461. Ggillan@uh.edu.

• Nov. 30-Dec. 1. The AIDS Memorial Quilt. Free. Rice Memorial Center, Grand Hall, 6100 Main Street, CIC-MS 527. 713-348-6163. Griswold@rice.edu.

Lovell will stick with winning strategy for runoff

Lesbian candidate hopes to win Parker's former council seat

By Deborah Moncrief Bell
Contributing Writer

Sue Lovell, a businesswoman, community activist and out lesbian, said the same strategy that got her into the runoff will win the election.

"We're leading," Lovell said. "It is a winning strategy."

Lovell placed first in eight of nine council districts for the At-Large

HOUSTON

Position 2 Houston council seat. Lovell faces Jay Aiyers in the runoff, scheduled Dec. 10.

Grant Martin, a political consultant working for the campaign, said Lovell's support is broad-based and citywide.

"And that is how we will continue to run the campaign," he said.

Lovell has received endorsements from a wide range of individuals and groups. A short list includes the Houston GLBT Political Caucus, the Houston Association of Realtors, District D Councilmember Ada Edwards, Constable Reuben Davis and State Representative Dora Olivo. Davis and Olivo had previously endorsed Aiyers, but each rescinded the endorsement after the general election and endorsed Lovell instead.

Lovell says her strategy highlighting her accomplishments, which involved bringing people together regardless of race, ethnicity, class, gender, and sexual orientation to create jobs, strengthen families, protect neighborhoods, and improve quality of life. Lovell also touts her innovative ideas for tackling the city's important challenges.

Another part of Lovell's strategy was to seek every endorsement from every group — even those she knew wouldn't endorse her.

"I had a chance for them to meet me face to face and hear what I had to say," Lovell said. "While I did not get their endorsement, in some cases that group would choose not to endorse in that race at all, so to that extent it is a victory."

Lovell added that many of those groups know she will disagree with their positions on issues. "But they also gained the understanding that when I am in agreement they can count on me to be an advocate," she said.

Lovell said she believes people support her for two reasons.

"They know I can get the things that matter done," she said, "and they know they can trust me to tell the truth."

According to the latest campaign finance reports on file, Lovell's opponent spent $9.05 per vote to come in second. The Lovell campaign spent $1.67 to place first.

The runoff will require relatively expensive television ads, she said.

"I believe TV ads will be important in the runoff, and that is why I am asking my supporters to give as generously as they can in the next three weeks, " Lovell said. "Like every other campaign I need two things to win: money and volunteers."

Lovell is employed by The Mills Corporation, a real estate investment firm, as the director of the Mills Access to Training & Career Help Program.

Registered voters in Harris County can vote during the early voting period or on Dec. 10, even if they didn't vote in the Nov. 8 general election.

"Voting and asking your friends to vote — in addition to raising money so I can get my message out — will give us the victory," she said.



Sue Lovell was first among five candidates in the general election for Houston City Council At Large Position 2. Lovell won 45,000 votes but failed to get a majority, forcing her into a runoff with second-place finisher Jay Aiyers on Dec. 10.

RUNOFF ENDORSEMENTS

The following endorsements for Houston's Dec. 10 municipal runoff election were issued by the political action committee of the Houston Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Political Caucus. Early voting begins Nov. 28 and runs through Dec. 6.

Sue Lovell, City Council At Large, Position 2
Felicia Galloway-Hall, City Council District B
Anne Clutterbuck, City Council District C
Laura Salinas, City Council District 143
Natasha Kamrani, Houston Independent School District Trustee District 1

Houston

• Dec. 1. World AIDS Day Luncheon, honoring H. Joe Nelson III. Presented by Wells Fargo Bank; benefits AIDS Foundation Houston. 11:30 a.m. $250+. The Houstonian Hotel, 111 North Post Oak Lane. 713-623-6796, ext. 249.

• Dec. 1. AIDS Memorial Quilt, presented by J P Morgan Chase. Free. Houston J P Morgan Chase-Community Affairs, 717 Travis St., 2nd Floor. Ellen.bernard@chase.com.

• Dec. 1. Anonymous OraQuick HIV Testing, presented by Montrose Clinic. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Free. Montrose Clinic, 215 Westheimer Road. 713-830-3000. Montroseclinic.org.

• Dec. 1. Anonymous OraQuick HIV Testing, presented by Montrose Counseling Center. Noon-5 p.m. Free. Kroger, 3300 Montrose Blvd. 713-529-0037. Montroseccounselingcenter.org

• Dec. 1. Lighting The Way: Illumination Project 2005. Presented by Dominic Walsh Dance Theater, Hope Stone Dance and guests; benefits The Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative and Bering Omega Community Services. 8 p.m. $35-$60. Hobby Center for the Performing Arts, Zilkha Hall. 713-315-2525. Thehobbycenter.org.

• Dec. 1. Positive Transitions Resource Center grand opening for HIV-positive and at-risk transgender people. 2-5 p.m. Free. Houston Area Community Services, Joseph-Hines Clinic, 1710 West 25th St. 713-426-0027. Transhouston.com/wad.



In the United States someone is infected with HIV every 13 minutes. About half of all HIV infections to date in the U.S. have occurred in people younger than 25. One-quarter do not know they are infected.

• Dec. 1. Red Ribbon Chain of Remembrance Candlelight Observance, presented by Montrose Counseling Center. 6 p.m. Free. Montrose Counseling Center parking lot, 701 Richmond Ave. 713-529-0037. Montroseccounselingcenter.org.

By Ann Rostow
Senior Staff Writer

Spokane mayor drops in poll as recall election nears

Poll latest worry for West, who allegedly offered to trade City Hall jobs for sex

Spokane Mayor James E. West continues to fight for his job as he faces a Dec. 6 recall election. According to the Spokane *Spokesman-Review*, a poll of 1,105 likely voters suggests the embattled politician stands to lose his office by a 60 percent to 40 percent margin.

Last summer, the *Spokesman-Review* exposed the conservative mayor as a closeted gay man who used his city hall computer to surf Gay.com for dates. In the course of the investigation, the paper used a computer expert to trap West into pursuing a young man that the mayor believed was 18. Mayor West offered the expert an internship in his office, with the apparent hope that a sexual relationship would follow. Previously, West had tried to name another date to the Spokane Human Rights Commission, even though the man had no experience.

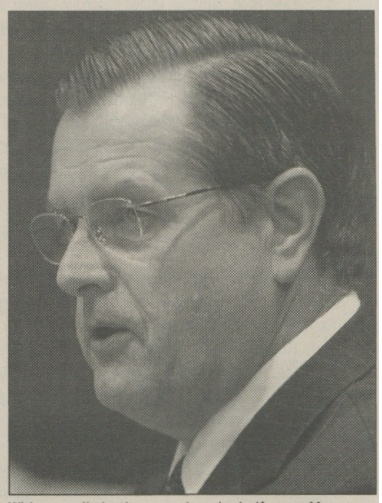
WASHINGTON

More serious allegations were lodged against West in a deposition offered in April by Robert J. Galliher, a convicted drug offender who is one of two men suing Spokane County for allowing a sexually abusive deputy sheriff to molest young boys in the 1970s. The deputy, David Hahn, killed himself in 1981. A short time later, another deputy implicated in the scandal committed suicide. But Galliher maintains that yet another deputy was part of the pedophile ring at the time: Jim West. Galliher's co-plaintiff, Michael Grant, has a similar memory of West, who was a friend of David Hahn, and who helped Hahn run a summer camp for boys.

West has flatly denied the detailed stories told by Galliher and Grant. As for the online dating, West maintains that his personal life should be off limits, although he has admitted fault. "I have made errors in my private life," he writes in the ballot pamphlet. "I apologized for those errors and I've asked for forgiveness. Vote no on recall so we can continue to make Spokane a better place to live and work."

Shortly after the *Spokesman-Review* article, city council members expressed dismay, but found themselves without the power to oust the mayor. Instead, they initiated an independent investigation, which ended last Friday. In a damning 18-page report, attorney Mark R. Busto concluded that West violated state law by offering a job on the Human Rights Commission to an unqualified friend. Busto also found that the mayor breached city employment policies in his "frequent and extensive use" of his work computer for Internet cruising.

On Nov. 17, in answer to a motion by the *Spokesman-Review*, a judge released much of the information on the mayor's city hall hard drive, including an index of the mayor's Internet visits. However, Judge Richard Miller did not release some 3,300 photos downloaded from the web, of which 100 are reportedly shots of nude men. Miller also blacked out the names and addresses of third parties.



With a recall election a week and a half away, Mayor James E. West took a tumble in a poll of likely voters. The poll suggests the embattled mayor stands to lose is office by a 60 percent to 40 percent margin.

Chief justice to release audio tapes on hearings

Hearings cover cases on abortion rights, military access to campuses

Chief Justice John Roberts will release audiotapes of two widely anticipated arguments on the mornings that the arguments are heard by the justices. On Friday, Roberts announced that he will issue tapes for the Nov. 30 abortion rights case, *Ayotte v. Planned Parenthood*, as well as Dec. 6 for the arguments in *Rumsfeld v. FAIR*.

NATION

Sometimes billed as a gay rights case, *Rumsfeld v. FAIR* is actually concerned with the extent to which Congress can attach strings to federal funds. In this case, a consortium of law schools (Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights) protested a law that forces schools that receive public money to welcome military recruiters regardless of a school's civil rights policies. Many schools refuse to cooperate with employers who discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, as does the military.

The uneasy truce that characterized the Clinton years fell apart during the post-September 11 Bush administration. Starting in 2002, the government began to crack down on institutions that were not fully cooperating with military recruiters, particularly law schools. The suits that followed, including the current litigation, claimed that the law and its tough application violated the schools' right to freedom of expressive association.



Chief Justice John Roberts will break with tradition and release audiotapes of two upcoming oral arguments. The widely anticipated cases involve abortion and the military's right to access on college campuses that object to the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

The Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit agreed with the law schools. But interestingly, gay rights advocates were not altogether pleased by that decision. Their wariness stems from the fact that the Third Circuit relied on *Boy Scouts v. Dale* in order to assess the law schools' right to freedom of expressive association.

The reasoning behind that 2000 U.S. Supreme Court ruling, which upheld the Boy Scouts' right not to admit gays, has been basically ignored in the last five years, GLBT lawyers note, and seeing it revived in another case now headed to the Supreme Court is disturbing. But however the case turns, the legal question is less about gay rights and more about the tensions between the federal power of the purse and the First Amendment rights of institutions that rely on public money.

Contact the writer: Ann@txtnewsmag.com

Minnesota stands up for gay and lesbian United Methodists

Church members, officials upset by two rulings from denomination's highest court

Minnesota's largest United Methodist church broke ranks with the denomination's top court last Sunday. In a service attended by over a thousand people, Rev. Bruce Robbins of the Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church issued an apology for two particularly anti-gay rulings issued October 31 by the denomination's Judicial Council.

MINNESOTA

In one, the Council defrocked a lesbian minister, Irene Elizabeth Stroud, who lives openly with a woman who is her life partner.

Stroud will continue to serve her German--town, Pa., congregation as a lay minister.

The Council's second decision was even more alarming to many church members. They reinstated a Virginia minister who had been suspended for a year without pay by his regional superiors. The Rev. Edward Johnson of South Hill, Va., was disciplined for refusing to allow an out gay man to become a formal member of his congregation. But the Council reversed that decision, ruling that a gay ban was within the bounds of pastoral discretion. The opinion provoked the Methodist Council of Bishops to issue a letter reaffirming the church's open door policy.

In Minnesota, Bishop Sally Dyck sent a letter of her own to her flock. "I am concerned that some pastors will refuse membership to those they deem unready due to sinfulness," she wrote. "Church membership is a gift that God extends to all who will accept it." Over this last weekend, the Associated Press reports, the regional officials have bought print ads reading: "Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors. The people of the United Methodist Church in Minnesota welcome everybody."



The United Methodist Judicial Council, the church's highest court, not only defrocked Irene Elizabeth Stroud. They also lifted the discipline imposed on the Rev. Edward Johnson, who had refused to let a gay man become a formal member of his Virginia congregation.

Speaking to the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, the director of the Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus, Stan Hill, described the service as inspirational.

"I couldn't believe my eyes. I looked out and all three balconies were full. And then I saw that people were standing. It was a watershed event."

Wringing meaning from the void: the week's news

Good news!

It's that time of year again. You thought I had nothing to say last week, and it's possible you had that same impression the week before. Well, welcome to Thanksgiving week — a black hole of weighty holiday mass so dense that no light can escape its pull. Needless to say, gay news is part of this metaphorical "light," destined to be sucked into a gravitational vortex until early January.



Ann Rostow

Adding to the seasonal dilemma are the shortened deadlines. I am obliged to write this column on a Monday, for a newspaper that carries a Friday date. Hence, nothing that happens in the intervening week can be captured in this "news" column. If not old, it will be at least middle aged before you encounter these written words.

Lambda Libs

For example, let's take the latest case of girl meets girl, girl loses girl, girl vows to make the rest of girl's life miserable starting by making sure girl never sees child again. (*Cue: evil feminine laughter.*) Do you remember those *MAD Magazine* notebook games where you would write a story by selecting one of several words or names to fit into the spaces? Let's do that for our latest lesbian custody news item. Oh, yes I realize these are important legal milestones. Let's do it anyway!

_____ (Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, National Center for Lesbian Rights, the American Civil Liberties Union) is going to bat on behalf of _____ (Cindy Parker, Sheri Blake, Therese Fairchild, Betsy Baker), a non-biological lesbian mother fighting for the right to _____ (seek custody, seek visitation, enforce a custody agreement, win financial support) of her child.

The plaintiff met her former partner, _____ (Sally Smith, Gennifer Talton, Denise Fairchild, Jane Baker) back _____ (a long long time ago, a few years ago, recently, when they were in high school). The couple had a child in _____ (1996, 1998, 2002, 2003), signing a legal pledge to _____ (share custody, love each other forever and ever and ever until the end of time, see that their son attended an Ivy League college, go for a 20 minute walk every morning without fail). When the pair separated in _____ (1997, 1999, 2003, 2004), the child's biological mother declared that her former partner _____ (had never been much more than a nanny, was the Devil's spawn, fed crystal meth to the baby and once gave it a bath in a saucepan when drunk, should not have joint custody in light of the state's new anti-gay constitutional amendment).

Give up? OK. It's Lambda. It's the Fairchilds. Bad mother, Denise, is trying to wriggle out of the couple's 2001 joint custody agreement based on Ohio's 2004 amendment banning same-sex marriage and whatever else the Bad Mothers and their sleazy lawyers try to imagine might be covered. Thus not only is this item yet another example of hate-filled-lesbians-who-abhor-the-women-they-once-adored, but it doubles as an example of constitutional-amendments-run-amok. What an illustrative piece indeed!

Clueless in Salt Lake City

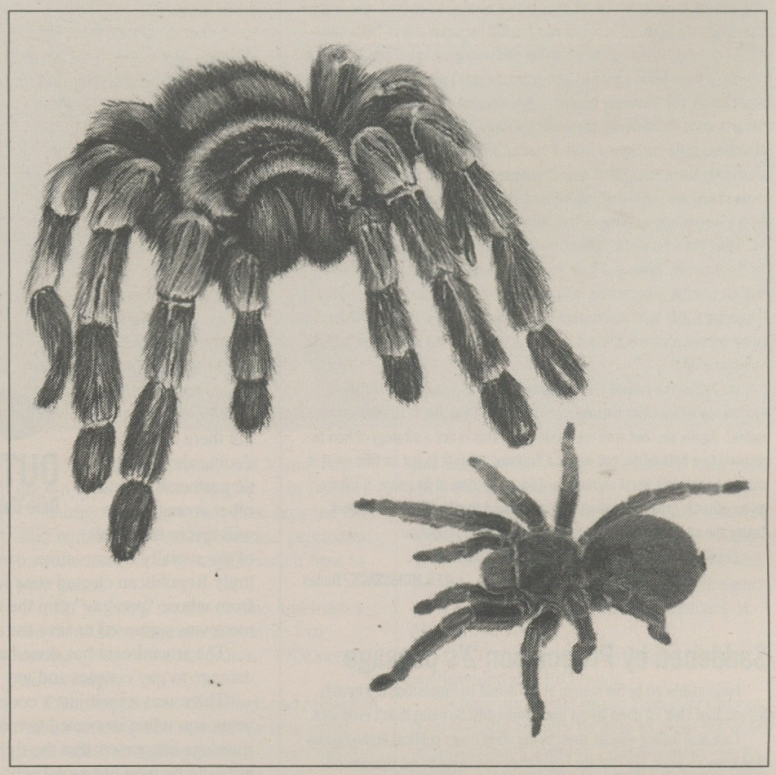
MAD Libs. That's what they were called. Oh, and speaking of anti-gay amendments, the faculty senate at Utah State University will vote on a domestic partner program Dec. 5. This is significant since the idea of offering partner benefits has been moribund, ever since Utah passed its own amendment a year ago, and has only now been revived, somehow.

You know, please don't get me started on the topic of The Amendments. I never know where to stop and I went on an amendment tirade just a couple of weeks ago. And the details of stories like the one about Utah are often too confusing for easy discussion. What exactly will the "Faculty Senate" be voting on? What is the "Faculty Senate?" What breathed new life into the idea in the first place? You see my problem. Better let it all rest until some clear-cut news headlines emerge from the Mormon citadels, n'est-ce pas?

Back stories

With that subject out of the way, I was able to breeze past a five-page article in the *Detroit News* that went into intricate detail about the Michigan amendment and its present status before the state appeals court. But we're not going there, so don't you worry your pretty little head about it. Instead, we're going to comment on a case now pending before the Israeli high court where couples married in Canada are seeking recognition. I'm reading a very skimpy *Newsweek* dispatch, but it reminds me that there was a marriage equality case pending before the South African high court quite a while back, and a marriage recognition case filed by two lesbians before Britain's highest court as well. What happened in those countries?

Let's check. I'm back. As far as I can tell, the South African Appeals Court decision in favor of two lesbians who wanted to marry was appealed to the Constitutional Court by the South African government. This tribunal, which has the final word on constitutional issues, heard arguments last May and has yet to rule. As for the British lesbians who were married in Canada, their case is expected to come before the UK high court next year. So there! We're up to speed and we haven't missed anything.



Along came a spider and sat down beside her. Ann freaked out and, her voice at the midway between fear and loathing, yelled, "I'm outta here!"

This is the sort of thing that wakes me up in the middle of the night. Where is the tarantula from last summer, I might wonder? Is it back in the house? Is it, even now, lumbering slowly up the blanket onto the foot of the bed? And what happened to that South African marriage case! That was argued ages ago!

Arachnaphobian nights

I forget whether I told you about the tarantula, a huge brown creature the size of a salad plate. I was watching TV in the fading light and I happened to look up and see it hulking up there on the white ceiling about twelve feet over my head. In one instant, I leapt to my feet, scooped up my pug, threw her in the other room, turned on the light and screamed. My mother was unimpressed, but I am the relative newcomer to Texas. In New York, Paris and San Francisco, where I spent a cumulative quarter century, we do not have terrifying giant spiders in our homes.

I suggested we call animal control, or at the very least get a male neighbor over to deal with it. My mother rejected that idea, and recommended instead that she knock it down with a broom, and I "catch" it in a small trash can. I stood there, trembling slightly, speaking in an eerily calm voice and trying to convey to her exactly why the notion that I would be able to approach this monster with a small trash basket was completely unrealistic.

The likely outcome would be that I would recoil in horror, while the spider would scurry under a large piece of furniture and vanish. I would promptly retreat to my room, pack and move to a hotel.

I'm not sure how I got on this subject. In the end, we caught it in an outdoor garbage can and my mother took it outside and left it on the deck. It was gone the next day, but I haven't slept soundly until a week or so ago, when my girlfriend saw it walking along the deck and brushed it over the edge back to the woods below.

It's been there this whole time!

Contact the writer: Ann@txtnewsmag.com

Letters

About the film *Hate Crime*

I went to the movie *Hate Crime* as part of the Out Takes Film Festival in Dallas. I know it was just a movie and I have no problem with the fictional nature of the film. But I want to make sure the overall message is clarified.

I won't ruin the film for viewers who haven't seen it, but the overall theme was revenge versus justice. It reminded me of the movie *Enough* starring Jennifer Lopez several years ago . In that picture, an abused wife, frustrated with the husband from hell who tracked her down only to further terrorize her, finally sought outside training and went back to kill him.

You'd think being a martial arts instructor that I would have enjoyed the Lopez movie, but it actually received a great deal of criticism from the martial arts world for conveying the wrong message. We consider the avoidance of violence to be the highest level of martial arts. I had a somewhat similar reaction to the message that *Hate Crime* conveyed. I also would caution those seeing the movie that gun ownership as a means of self-defense is far from a deterrent to violence. In fact, it usually invites more violence.

I love the action/adventure genre of film and am usually the first in line for these movies. However, I know how to distinguish fact from fiction and realistic combat defense from Hollywood's portrayals. I also am fully aware of the personal and legal ramifications that violence brings. Rarely do vigilantes escape justice in the end, even in a state that still recognizes "justifiable homicide."

Did I enjoy the movie? Yes, it was well-done and well-acted with some very reputable onscreen personalities. Would I advise people to see the movie? Again, yes, but with eyes wide open. This is not a strategy of how to respond to a hate crime, but rather a fictional attempt to put on film what is many gay people's worst nightmare. Like most films of its genre, it allows us a cathartic experience where we can live out that nightmare while not taking the message and strategy to heart, or worse, to action.

Enjoy the movie, but let's not ever multiply hate x 2.

JEFF MCKISSACK / Dallas

Saddened by Proposition 2's passage

I was saddened by the margin of our defeat on Proposition 2. I have to tell you that I felt let down by our own community. So many didn't even vote.

I am also feeling very let down by our other major political organizations that knew six years ago that the Legislature was trying to get this amendment on the ballot. Where was the long-term planning and voter identification back then? Where was the support of HRC? Where was the fundraising?

Was this fight not important enough to fund a major effort to campaign on television? Was six years not ample time to have a massive fight prepared?

After attending this year's Dallas-Fort Worth Black Tie Dinner, and after the president of the Human Rights Campaign, Joe Solmonese, failed to mention the Amendment fight in his remarks, it seemed clear that the Human Rigths Campaign wasn't really with us. I also ask why the DNC didn't pony up some major bucks. After all, most gay people are Democrats! Is their only focus to win a few seats in Congress, or retake the White House while we perish locally?

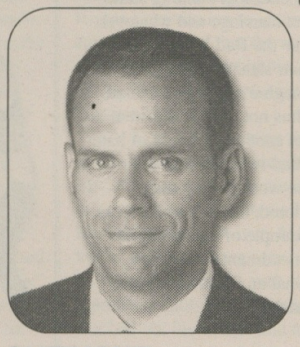
But gays in Texas are largely at fault or letting this happen. They did not vote. But, more important, they did not fight. The community failed to galvanize in a strong way to offer a huge grassroots army to get the word out. This was evident during bar-outreach when two-thirds of patrons told us they either can't or don't vote. If this issue can't galvanize gays and lesbians, what issue will?

ROB SCHLEIN / Dallas

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.

After the vote deep in the heart of Texas

What have we learned from the passage of a state constitutional amendment forbidding gay marriage?



OUTRIGHT
Dale Carpenter

With the huge loss in Texas, we're now 0 to 19 in popular votes on gay marriage. Not one of the 19 has even been close.

What do we do now? First, try not to despair. We need to take a long, historical view of all this. Second, try to learn something from the losses.

In the Nov. 8 election, 76 percent of Texas voters who cast ballots voted for a state constitutional amendment to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman. What more it might also be interpreted to prohibit — certainly civil unions, but there are also doubts about domestic partnerships and other arrangements — will rest in the hands of the socially conservative, overwhelmingly Republican elected state judiciary, from whose "pro-gay" grip the amendment was supposed to save the state.

The amendment has done lasting damage to gay couples and gay families.

There was a time just a couple of years ago when it seemed to many gay-marriage supporters that the fight would not only be won but won fairly quickly. Private companies, cities, and even states were moving to recognize gay relationships. The Supreme Court struck down sodomy laws. That was quickly followed by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruling extending marriage to same-sex couples. One national poll showed about 40 percent supported gay marriage, an astonishing figure given that the idea had barely reached the national consciousness.

But polls are never trustworthy on controversial social questions, and opponents of gay marriage had a trump card — the voters and their simmering anger at judicial activism.

Despite this backlash, we have to take the long view. Consider Massachusetts, the birthplace of gay marriage in the United States.

In the first half of the 20th century, Massachusetts banned contraceptives — even for medical reasons and even if used by a married couple. Birth control advocates tried in vain year after year to get the Legislature to repeal the law.

Finally, they succeeded in getting the issue put to a popular vote in 1942. During the repeal campaign they faced a barrage of attacks from the Roman Catholic Church. On Nov. 3, birth-control advocates lost by a large margin, 58 percent to 42 percent.

In 1948, they lost again in a referendum by an almost identical margin. Not until 1966 did the Legislature revise its contraceptives law to allow married people to get them, and then only in response to the Supreme Court's decision to strike down an almost identical Connecticut law the year before.

Today, the use of contraceptives is widespread and uncontroversial. And Massachusetts is one of the most tolerant states in the country.

The gay-marriage debate is not exactly like the birth-control controversy. Opposition to contraceptives was limited almost entirely to Catholics, whose faith taught that their use violated natural law; mainstream Protestant denominations had no problem with contraception. By contrast, opposition to gay marriage is broad and deep in all mainstream Christian denominations.

But progress can be made. While a majority of the Massachusetts Legislature voted for a proposed constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage in 2004, that had evaporated by 2005, when another vote had to be taken before the measure could go to voters. It failed.

Gay marriage supporters will lose many more battles. No serious constitutional scholar believes the Supreme Court will hold traditional marriage laws unconstitutional anytime in the near future.

That leads to the second question: What can we learn from our losses? For one, trying to change the subject doesn't work. Like all of the anti-amendment efforts before it, the No Nonsense in November campaign in Texas tried to make the vote about anything but marriage: primarily the irresponsibility of the Legislature and the sinister politics of the amendment sponsors. At the end, some opponents of the amendment were even warning that it *banned marriage itself.*

For voters, these ballot campaigns are about gay marriage. Until we're prepared to defend gay marriage on the substance, the voters will ignore us.

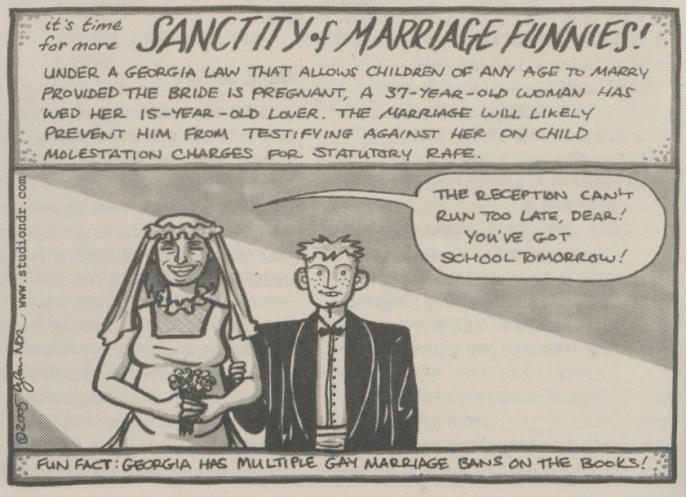
That's not to say we will start winning these campaigns by being more honest. Nothing could have saved us in Texas. But at least we can begin to inform voters about why gay marriage is a good idea.

The second thing we must do is enlist a broader spectrum of allies. Left-wing coalitions, like the one No Nonsense put together, are never going to win ballot fights over marriage. This means working especially hard to sign up as many moderates, conservatives, and people of faith as possible.

The race for gay marriage is far from lost. But it is a marathon, not a sprint. And it will require smarter running.

Dale Carpenter, a former official of Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, is a law professor at he 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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Pike's peak

After years of touring, bisexual musician Patrice Pike plans her first solo disc

By Joey Guerra

Patrice Pike has learned to take a little time.

After years earning her stripes for live performances, the Austin-based singer and songwriter has spent the last few years working on her first official solo disc, which promises to combine the best of her rock, folk, jazz and urban influences.

Before striking out as a solo artist, Pike toured the world and scaled the *Billboard* charts as lead vocalist and rhythm guitarist for the vibrant jam band Sister Seven. During its run, the Texas outfit released three independent discs and three major-label albums.

Sister Seven called it quits in 2000, allowing Pike to make music on her own terms. There have been various live recordings and collaborations with the Black Box Rebellion, but Pike is almost ready to introduce the world to her solo sound.

"For me, it's about the experience of morphing and changing and experimenting with different things. It's been good," Pike says, relaxing at the cozy Big Top lounge before a recent show in Houston. She is friendly, gracious and impossibly cute, her blonde-and-black hair nicely complementing the maze of tattoos that starts on her right arm and travels down her back.

"I've done it differently than any other record I've ever made," Pike says. "We would take different musicians and use them for different songs over the course of the last two years. I would work on it for two or three months, and then I'd go out on tour for two or three months. We won't know what it really is until I'm finished."

That laid-back attitude is reflective of Pike's overall outlook on life. She studied jazz, opera and traditional African-American spirituals at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts — known locally as Arts Magnet — in Dallas.

During her early years, Pike says she fiddled with violin, French horn and percussion instruments. She even taught herself how to play guitar.

"I'll probably noodle around and learn a couple of other instruments before I'm through. Maybe the accordion," Pike says with a laugh.

Pike dropped out of college and moved to Austin in 1992. Her motivation was equal parts rebellion and realization of her burgeoning musical ability.



IN THE CLUB

Patrice Pike performs Friday at 11:30 p.m. at Momo's, 618 W. Sixth St., Austin. She will perform in Denton, Dallas, Houston and Austin throughout December. Visit Patricepike.com for details.

"It's not very far to go from Dallas to Austin, but it was really different from a musical point of view," Pike says. "There was this energy going on in Austin. The music scene was just really starting to explode in terms of contemporary, young musicians. It just made sense — a good place to live, beautiful. I love the city."

The change in scenery fed Pike's musical creativity, but she also gigs regularly on the West Coast, and even around the world. She recently returned from a slew of performances in Amsterdam and performs regularly at Momo's in Austin.

The Texas tag has only helped her win worldwide fans, Pike says.

"There are Texas music fans everywhere. You wouldn't really be able to label the kind of music that I write as 'Texas music,' so to speak — but just the fact that I'm from Texas will pull in people who are fans of Texas music," she says.

In terms of sexuality, labels aren't really an issue for the singer. Her admission of bisexuality has been a point of interest with some journalists, but her approach today is refreshingly open and unapologetic.

"I want my work to be about the music — not that who I am on a personal level isn't important. A lot of people want to know who an artist is when they write their music, because it affects them in a personal way," Pike says. "Sexuality is, in a way, so much a part of a person's personal life. But also is just a part of who they are, in terms of what they're bringing to the world."

Pike's other interests, including religion and spirituality, are reflected in her many tattoos. The images include Hebrew lettering around her arm, Joan of Arc on her shoulder, a Celtic cross, Hindu goddesses and a Tibetan dragon. The scattershot blend of themes and imagery works and perhaps says more about Pike's personal philosophies than her music.

"It's sort of been my lifelong hobby — religious studies — even though I dropped out of college when I was a freshman," Pike says. "I'm interested in how people filter their questions about life."

Filth

By Billy Masters

Disgustingly offensive dirt; garbage; anything grossly indecent or obscene

Jennifer in, Fantasia out for *Dreamgirls*?

A sure sign that the year is coming to an end is when *Out* magazine hosts its annual Out 100 Party. This soirée coincides with the December issue of the magazine and celebrates the 100 most important and influential gay people over the past year — which means you won't find the name Billy Masters there (although most of you would be hard pressed to name even a dozen more famous gay men, I'm sure).

Last week, the NYC party brought out folks like **Melissa Etheridge**, **Rosario Dawson**, **Anthony Rapp**, **Lady Bunny** and **Marc Jacobs**. The Los Angeles edition was lots of fun, even if there was significantly less star wattage (the gathering attracted the usual crowd of reality show refugees, has-beens and wannabes).

I was so desperate for a story, I almost tripped little **Danny Pintauro** just to take a photo and report that he was falling down drunk — which he wasn't. I did spy a very sexy guy cruising me, who later came up and introduced himself to me as **Clay Adkins**, host of *The 50 Cutest Child Stars: All Grown Up* special on E! I wasn't sure if he knew who I was before he approached, which made it hard to tell if he wanted me to plug him personally or professionally. Either way, consider yourself plugged. It was also nice to catch up with producer **Sandy Stern** (*Being John Malkovich, Saved!*), who raved about **Craig Chester**'s *Adam & Steve*.


Hudson

Speaking of out celebrities, Q Television has hired some high-profile talent to break its rap of being Logo's poor cousin. Blond bombshell **Steve Kmetko** ended his exile from the small screen by guest hosting *QTN World News*. I'm told that the sexy stud is in talks with the network for a more permanent gig — assuming the network is around long enough.

Some news to shock musical-theater lovers is the report that **Fantasia Barrino** will *not* be playing Effie in the film version of *Dreamgirls*. Reportedly, **Jennifer Hudson** (who was the sixth runner-up when Miss Barrino won *American Idol*) has gotten the nod. "I was sure Fantasia got it, but they said they wanted me," Jenn said. "They said I was born for this."

No one has confirmed this report, so I'm gonna cover my oh-so-lovely derrière by saying, "I'll believe it when I see it" (didn't **Whitney Houston** claim to be cast in the film a decade or so ago?). Since the film is apparently starting production in January, we'll find out soon enough. It's also being reported that **Usher** has been dropped from the cast and will be replaced by **Omarion**.

Madonna has come to **Tom Cruise**'s defense. "I find it very strange that [Scientology] is so disturbing to people," she said. "It's not hurting anybody. If it makes Tom Cruise happy, I don't care if he prays to turtles." Where do you sign up for *that* religion? And do you have to wear a string or drink special water if you're praying to a turtle?

Thanksgiving is upon us, and that's always a good time to acknowledge the staff at Filth2Go. They are the ones who keep things humming along. Of course, thanks to the magazines and newspapers that continue to publish this column; we'd be nowhere without them. And thanks to you all. I wouldn't bother if it weren't for you.

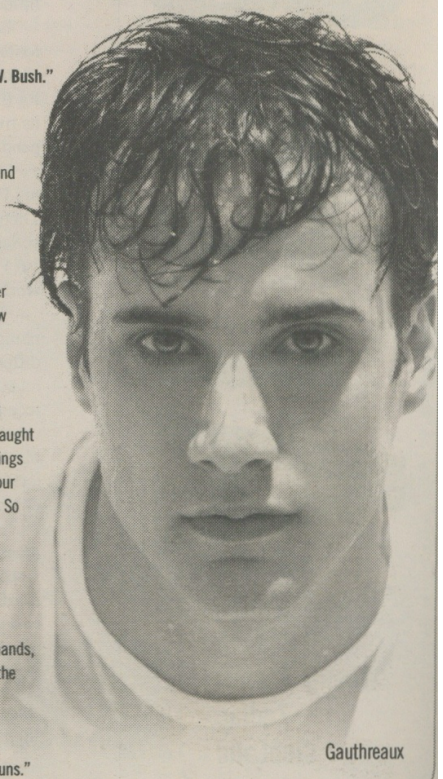
I'll keep answering your questions. Just drop me a note at Billy@filth2go.com and I promise to get back to you before I plug anyone at E!

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

quotes

Thanks a lot!

JOE GAUTHREAUX, circuit D.J.
"I am thankful that we only have a few more years of George W. Bush."


Gauthreaux

In time for the holidays, we asked some celebrities to finish the following sentence. "I am thankful…" Here's what they said.

LESLIE JORDAN, actor
"I am thankful for a God who loves me unconditionally and looks down with fatherly pride upon his handiwork, and rejoices that I am who I am and what I am!"

EVE ENSLER, playwright and performer (*The Vagina Monologues, The Good Body*)
"I am thankful for the women and vagina-friendly men in this world who have suffered enormous violence and who, instead of perpetrating it against others, have transformed it inside themselves to do good for women."

DEL SHORES, writer (*Southern Baptist Sissies, Queer as Folk*)
"We're living in some crazy times right now, but I have to say that I am thankful that gay rights are in the news, are being discussed and are being voted upon. This reminds me so much of the civil rights movement. Historically, civil rights have been fought in the court systems and ultimately prevailed. I remain optimistic, thankful that the fight is on!"

JIM PALMER, Houston artist and author (*Seven*)
"I am thankful that I can share what I love to do with so many people. And I am thankful for having so many wonderful people in my life that are as excited about what I am doing as I am."

JIM VERRAROS, gay *American Idol* finalist and recording artist
"I am thankful for my record and the support of the gay community in the music industry. Now we just got to get them to actually buy more copies!"

JASON STUART, actor/comedian
"I am thankful that I got to work with and see Mehki Phifer in shorts for a full week while working on the set of *Easier, Softer Way*, a film I have coming out next year."


Stuart

CHRISTIAN ANDREASON, Houston-based singer
"I am thankful for loyal and loving friends, finding courage I didn't know was there, a Jesus who adores gay people, sudden unexpected acts of kindness, that Madonna never gives up, that I hit a decade anniversary with my wonderful Jamie."

JASON & DeMARCO, Gay Christian recording artists
"We're thankful for the healing power of music and the love that connects us together with so many around the world. In times such as these, we are reminded time and time again of what really matters and how fragile life can be. We must focus on the positive and remember that we are all in this together and that we all need one another more than ever. How can we not be thankful when we are so blessed?"

AMBER, recording artist
"We do not really celebrate Thanksgiving where I come from, so for me it is not a tradition. But I was taught to be thankful every day of my life and always put things in perspective — a roof over your head, clothes on your back and your health are not to be taken for granted. So for me, Thanksgiving is every day, as we in the Western hemisphere are very blessed because we have opportunity and choice."

DEBBY HOLIDAY, singer ("Dive," "Half a Mile Away")
"I am thankful for the ability to dream and the hands, eyes, heart and mind to make dreams a reality. And the GOP getting its ass kicked in the elections."

PHIL HENRICKS, Manhunt.net executive
"I am thankful for friends and *Sex & the City* reruns."

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, November 25

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

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

HOUSTON

Basquiat, through Feb. 12. Museum of Fine Arts Houston, 1001 Bissonett St. 713-639-7300. Mfah.org.

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.

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.

Photography in Houston Galleries, presented by FotoFest, through Dec. 17 at various galleries. Fotofest.org.

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, November 26

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

14th annual Jingle Bell Run and Walk for Arthritis. 6 p.m. Baylor All Saints Medical Center, Sundance Square, 4th and Main Streets in Fort Worth. Registration, 6 p.m. $20-$25. 817-731-1760. FortWorthJingleBellRun.kintera.org.

HOUSTON

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

Day of hiking presented by Houston Outdoor Group. 8:30 a.m. Brazos Bend Park. BYO food and water. Lisa and Lori, 832-515-3660 or 1-800-792-1112.

SAN ANTONIO

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

Sunday, November 27

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Lutherans Concerned, GLBT affirming group. 7 p.m. King of Glory Lutheran Church, 6411 LBJ Frwy. 214-855-4998.

HOUSTON

Bering Omega Day, celebrating its history, mission and continued service. 8:30 and 10:50 a.m. Bering Memorial United Methodist Church, 1440 Harold St.

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



Basquiat, through 2/12

SAN ANTONIO

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

Monday, November 28

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

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

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 29

DALLAS/FT. WORTH

Brokeback Mountain preview, presented by North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce and the Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance. 6:30 p.m. $5. Cinemark at Legacy, 7201 N. Central Expressway, Plano. 972-665-2222.

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

HOUSTON

Zumba Fitness with Jerry Maese. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 p.m. Fitness Exchange, 4040 Milam St. 713-524-9924.

Wednesday, November 30

AUSTIN

Queertown, a Dallas-based sketch comedy group. 8 p.m. $15. Esther's Follies, 525 E. 6th St. 512-320-0553. Queertownusa.com.

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

HOUSTON

Photography in Houston Galleries, presented by FotoFest, through Dec. 17 at various galleries. Opening reception, 6-9 p.m. Vine Street Studios, 1113 Vine St. Fotofest.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.

Movie Night at the Center, presented by Diversity Center. 6-9 p.m. 531 San Pedro Ave. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

Thursday, December 1

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 Counseling Center, 701 Richmond Ave. 713-529-0037. Montrosecounselingcenter.org.

Gay and Lesbian Latin Organization general assembly meeting, 7-9 p.m. Golden Island Buffet, 901 N. Shepherd St. 713-710-0045.

Houston Outdoor Group general meeting and mail-out, 7:30-9 p.m. Don and Ray's, 713-522-7809.

SAN ANTONIO

Guys Talking. 6:30-8 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 2nd Floor. 210-223-6106. Diversitycentersa.org.

PFLAG San Antonio, 7 p.m. 121 W. Woodlawn Ave. Geocities.com/pflagsanantonio/chapter.htm.

San Antonio Gender Association, 6-8 p.m. Diversity Center, 531 San Pedro Ave. 210-223-6106. Pammartin.pam@gmail.com.

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.

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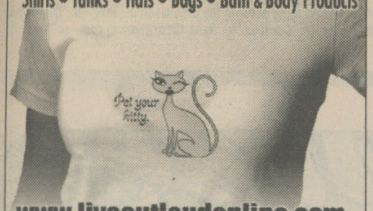

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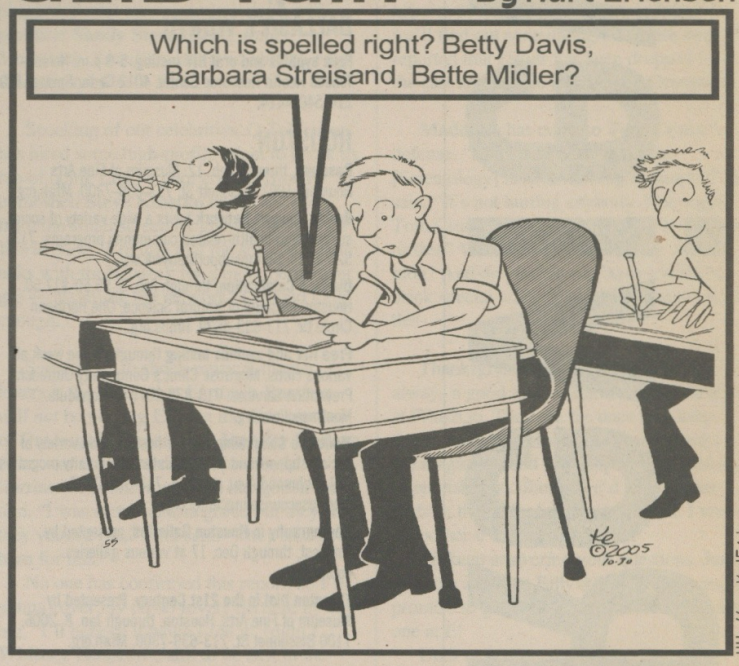
Toons

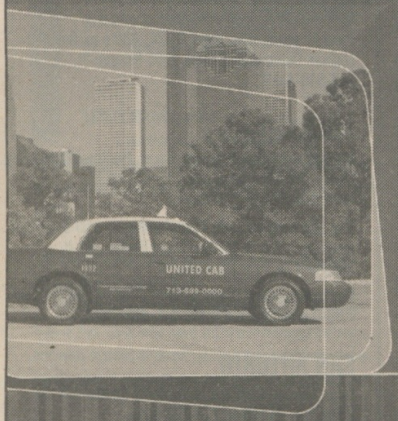
GLiB Talk

By Kurt Erichsen



Http://www.KurtErichsen.com

Jeffrey just ***knew*** he was going to flunk Divas 101

UNITED WE STAND, UNITED WE CAB!


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Sagittarius

Oh, that wacky Mercury retrograde! While the sun is going from Scorpio to Sagittarius, Mercury is backing up from Saj into Scorpio. Efforts at risque wit will backfire with hysterically embarrassing results. Review and get ready to adapt any ideological commitments.

SAGITTARIUS — November 22-December 20
Recent ponderings need revising. Go on a retreat where you can relax and clear your head — well, at least where you can relax! Your head won't clear for a while, so just let go of the noise, detach and meditate. It's all OK.

CAPRICORN — December 21-January 19
Don't let a little *faux pas* or social setback get you down too much. Everyone is a bit off now and again, and you know better than anyone how to learn from mistakes. Pay close attention, little goat, and you'll learn a lot!

AQUARIUS — January 20-February 18
Don't go looking for attention this week — you're bound to get more than you want without trying, and probably when you least want it. Admitting mistakes promptly is the best step toward fixing them and being right again.

PISCES — February 19-March 19
Avoid arguments — you just can't win this week! Keep your mouth shut and your mind open and you could learn a lot. An adventure will prove far more than you bargained for, but that could be a good thing. Don't be shy, just careful!

ARIES — March 20-April 19
Your sex life may be enviously busy, but it can easily spin out of control. If you must have affairs with four different people, make sure they all have the same name so you don't cry out the wrong one in moments of passion.

TAURUS — April 20-May 20
Misunderstandings with your partner may erupt with explosive fury, but they're not as bad as they seem. Allow a cooling-off period before trying to fix the problem. Where there is commitment, there is always a solution.

GEMINI — May 21-June 20
You're especially accident-prone right now. Just observe safety precautions more strictly than usual and you should be fine. Setbacks at work are to be expected. Treat them as lessons. You'll be able to move ahead soon.

CANCER — June 21-July 22
Your sense of humor is now a little too *outre*. Amusing yourself may be sufficient for the moment. If you enjoy getting weird looks, all the better. Go see some edgy movie in order to direct your crazy side in a constructive way.

LEO — July 23-August 22
Most accidents happen around the house, so you're safer staying out as much as possible. Family discussion will open lots of secrets — probably your own. Remember: There are some things Mom really doesn't need to hear!

VIRGO — August 23-September 22
Measure your words carefully. Written and verbal slips are nearly inevitable, so be ready to retract, re-iterate or paraphrase. Review basic techniques wherever needed. Any criticisms made now will come back to haunt you!

LIBRA — September 23-October 22
If money problems are beginning to come to light, take such a rude surprise as a blessing in disguise. Live for the moment — things could be worse down the road. Give the solution a few weeks to take effect. Easy does it!

SCORPIO — October 23-November 21
Anything you say can and will be held against you, Miranda, so be very careful. Mix-ups and reversals are making your life feel like a merry-go-round. All you can do is watch, learn and take it all in with good humor.

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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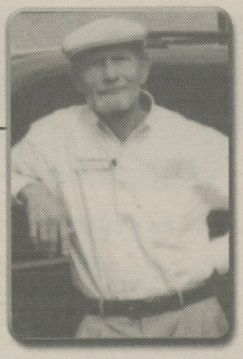



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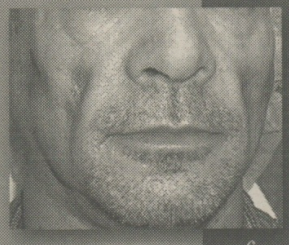
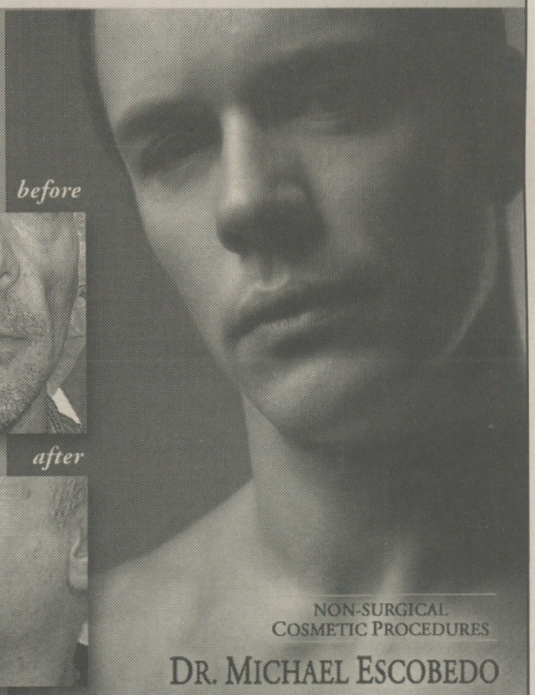

before


after



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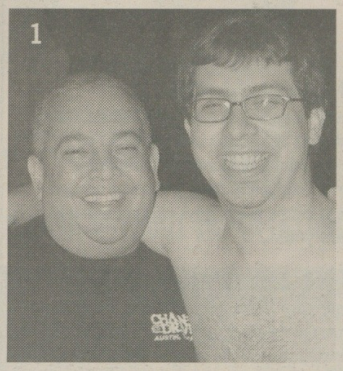
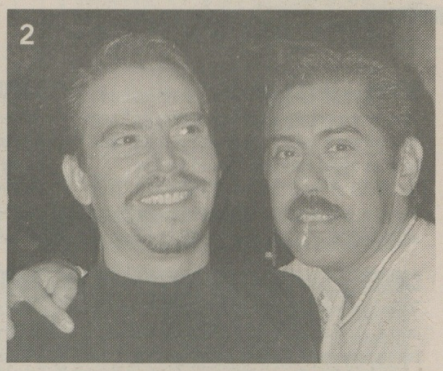
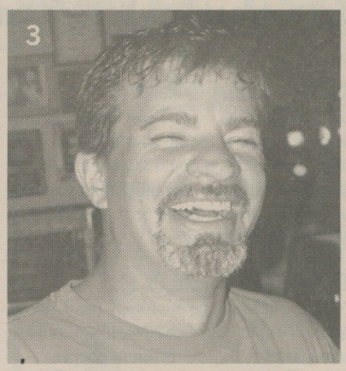
1. Mutt and Eugene at Chain Drive. 2. Jeff and Robert at Chain Drive. 3. Jimmie at 'Bout Time. 4. Roger and Fabian at Charlie's. 5. Michaella, Jenni, Marlow and Linda at Rain. 6. Eric, Mike and Bobby at Oilcan Harry's. 7. Mark and Tonya at Rain. 8. Andrei and Kiara at The Cock Pit. **Photos by Guillermo Garza**





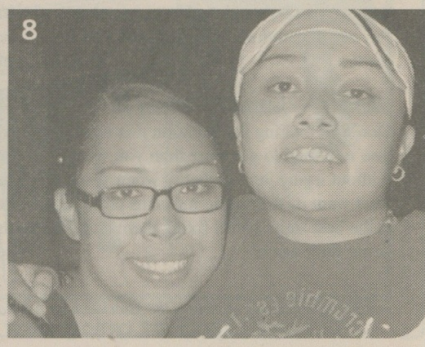












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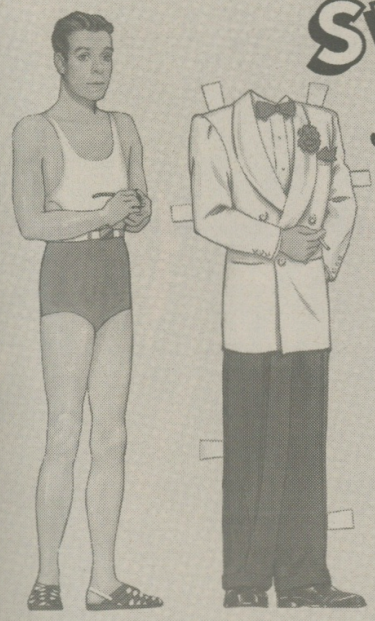

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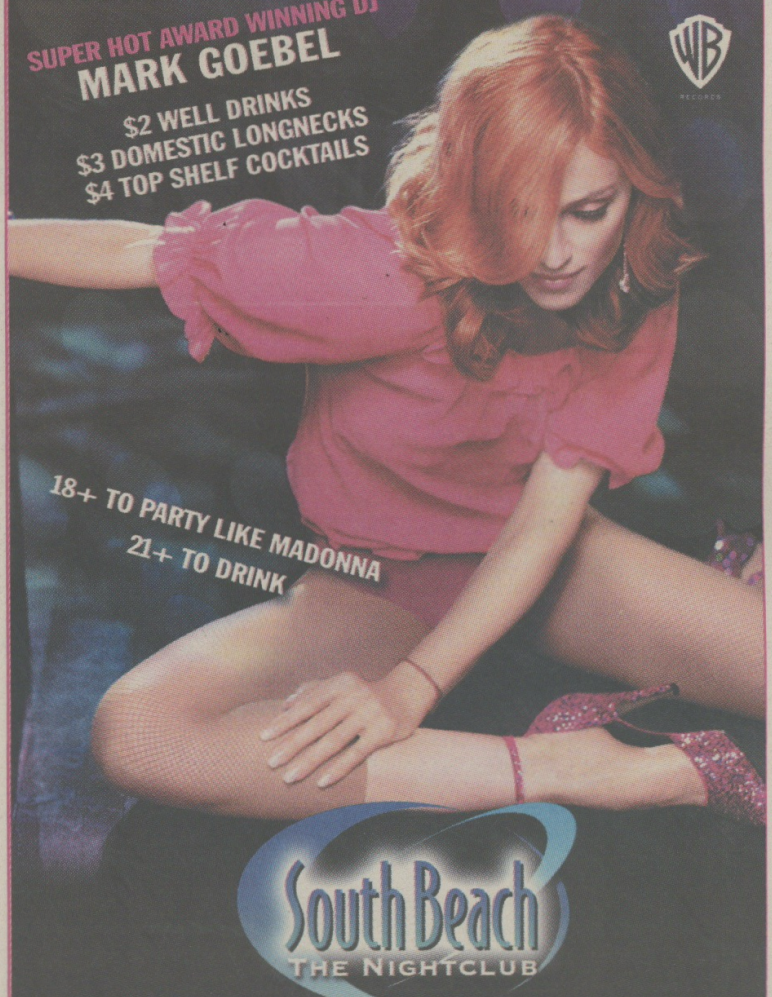

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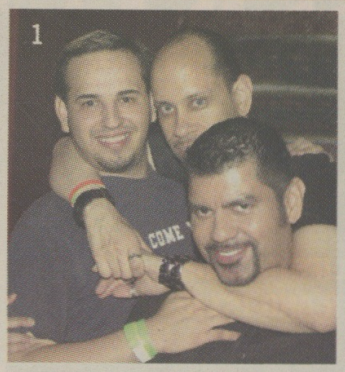

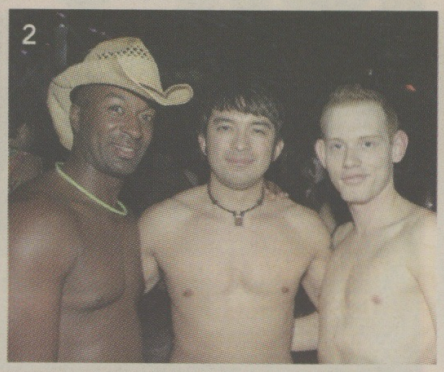





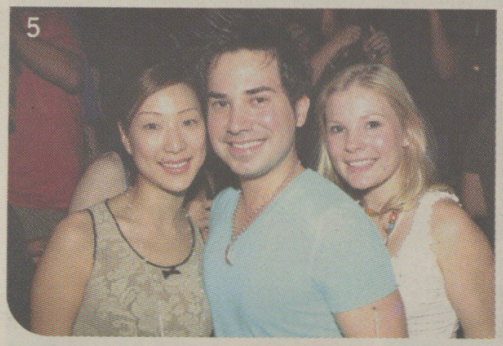

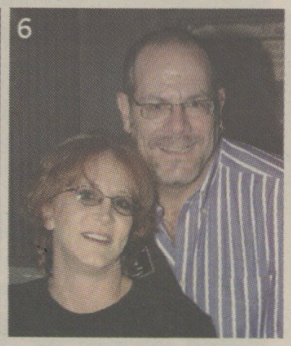

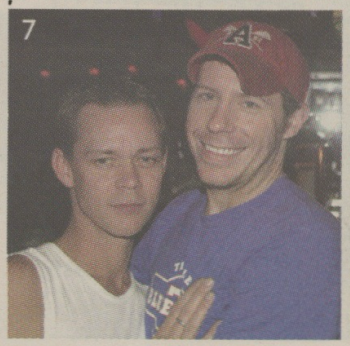

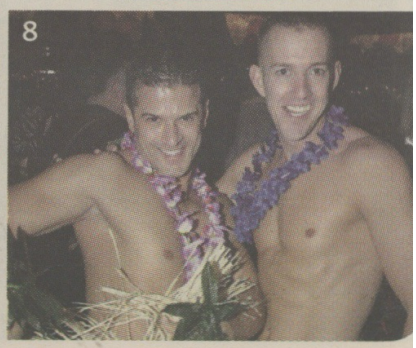

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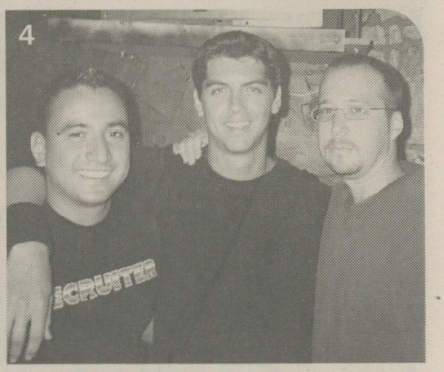
1. Ross and Joe at The Annex. 2. Ringo, Roland, Mark, Raul and Linda at Pegasus. 3. Miss Texas Continental Elite winner Sweet Savage at The Saint. 4. Angel, Mike and Scott at SA Eagle. 5. Zeke, Javan, Wally and Richard at Heat. 6. Jay at The Saint. 7. Mia at Heat. 8. Ed and Christy at Bonham Exchange. **Photos by Junior Hernandez**

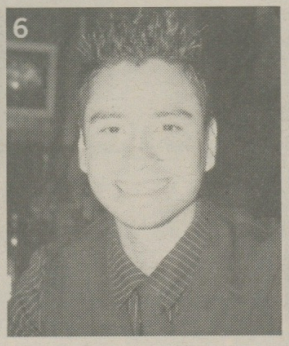


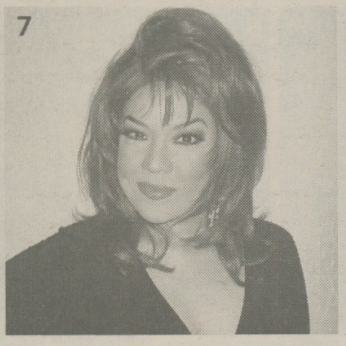




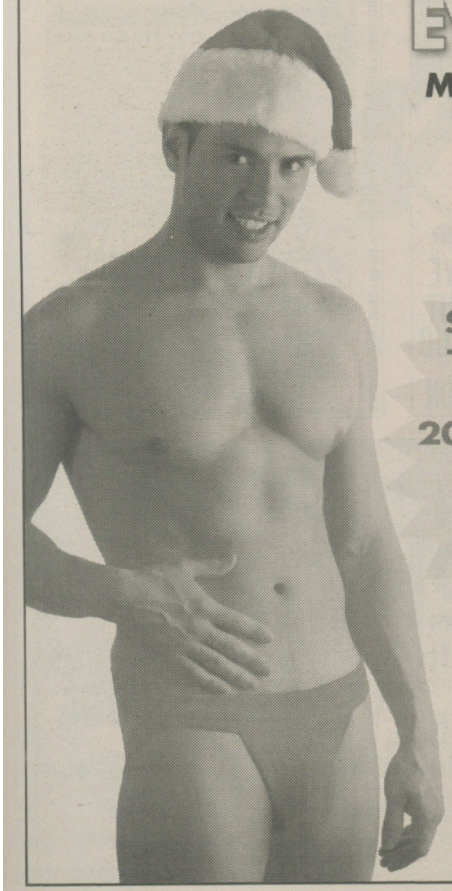












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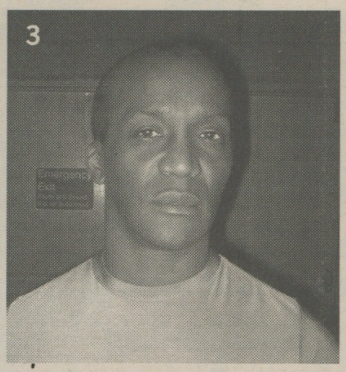
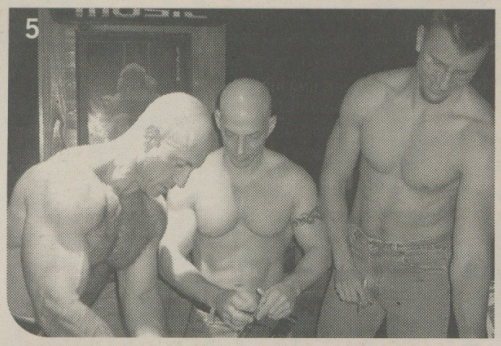
1. Heather and Alice at Buddies II. 2. Steven and Juan at The Rocket Bar. 3. Theron at Station 4. 4. Dwayne, Alex, Marty and Mark at the Hidden Door. 5. The Rugby Guys, Bryan, Shane and Rusty, at Throckmorton Mining Company. 6. Scott at JR.'s Bar & Grill. 7. Joel at Woody's Sports and Video Bar. 8. Michael, Lauren, Tiffany and Susan at Sue Ellen's. **Photos by Barbera Barker and Gregory Hayes**

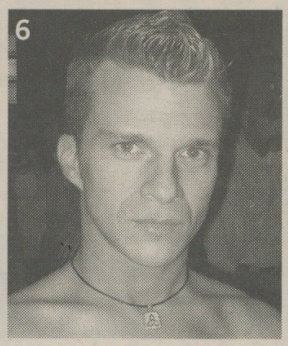
















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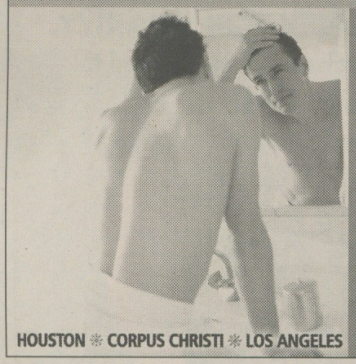

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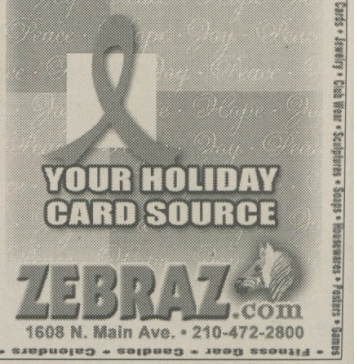

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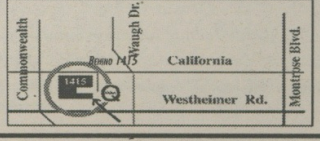

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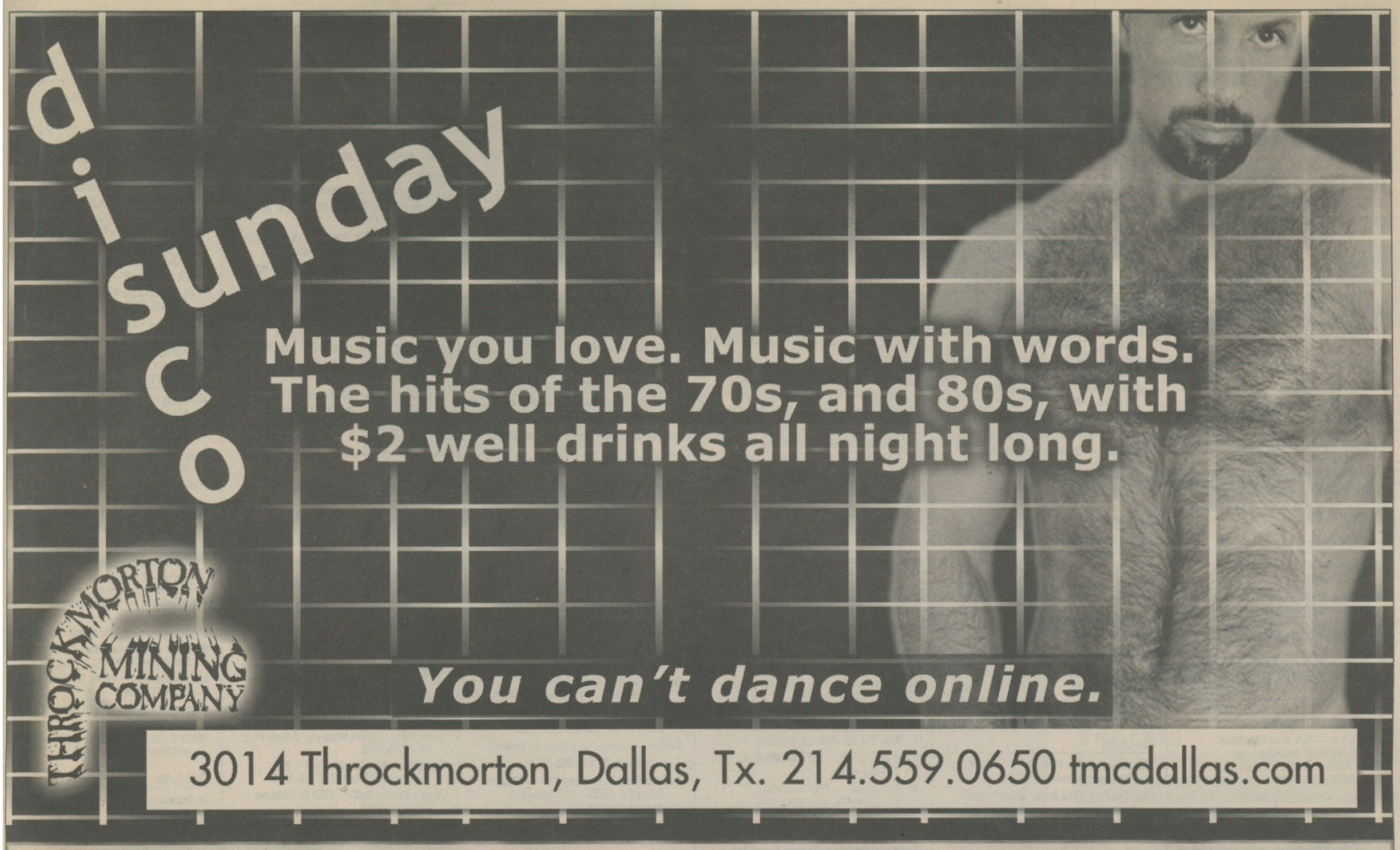
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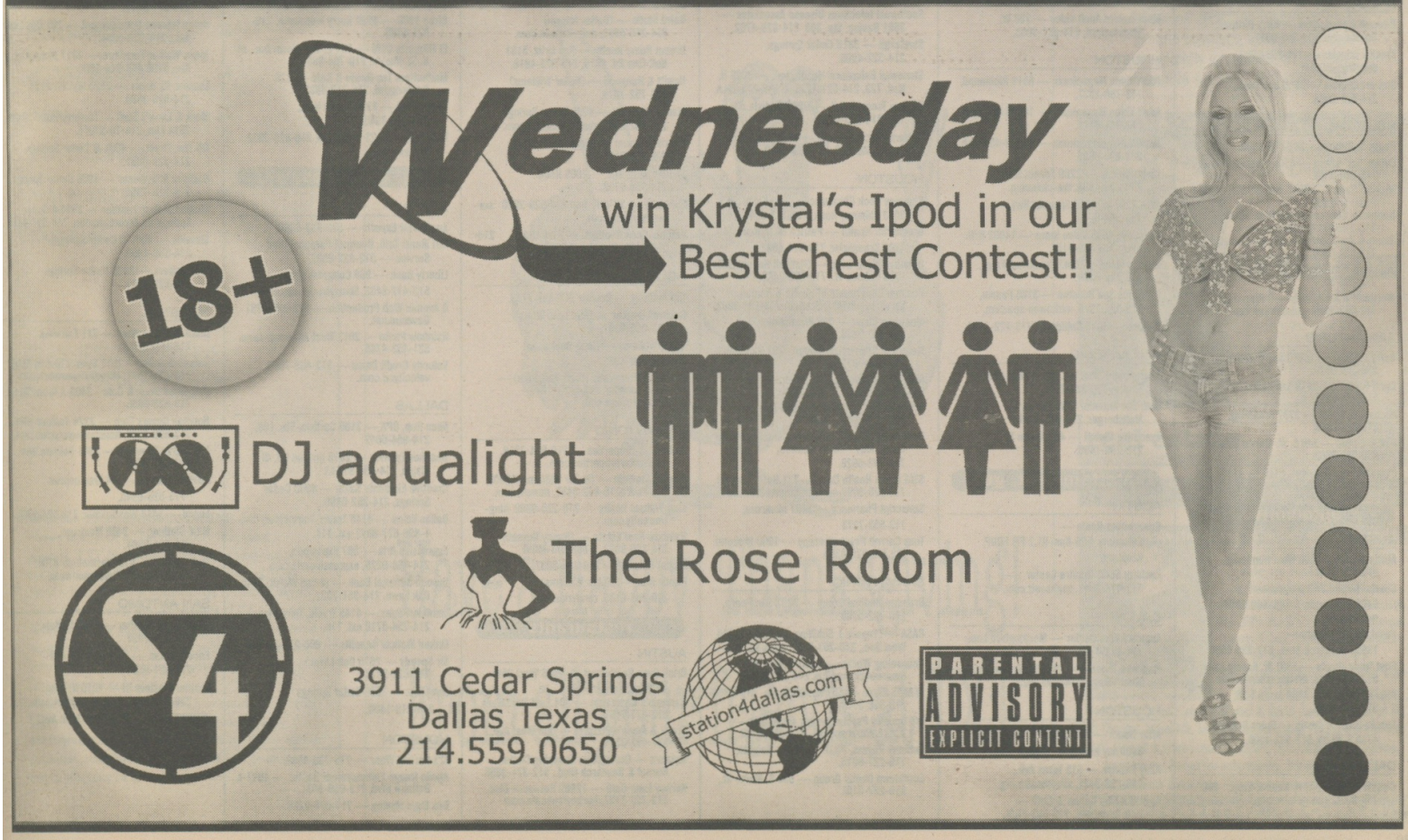
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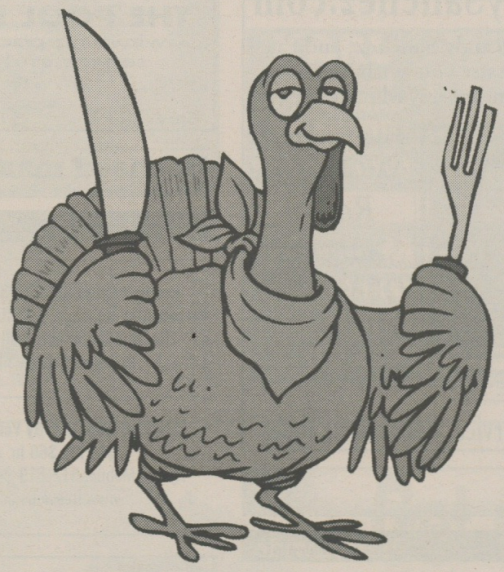

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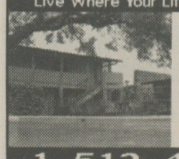

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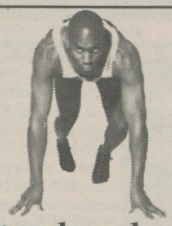

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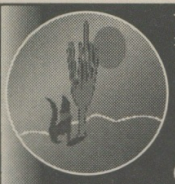

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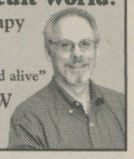

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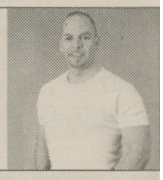

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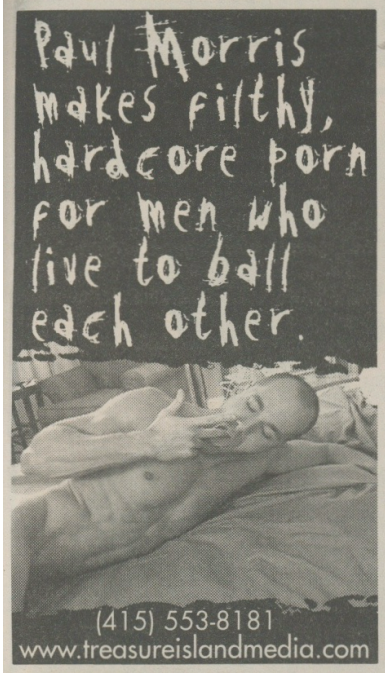



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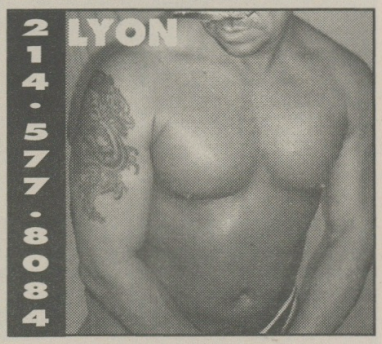

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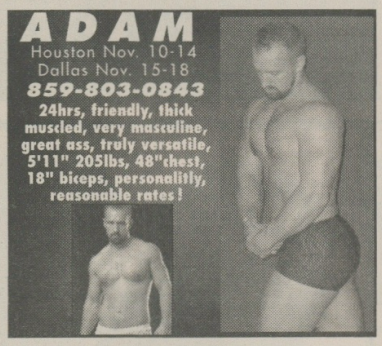



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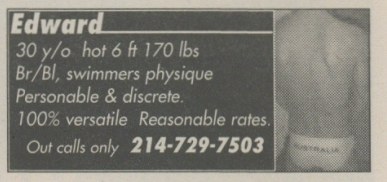



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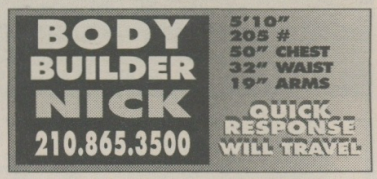

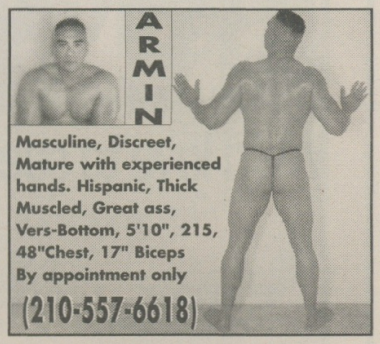

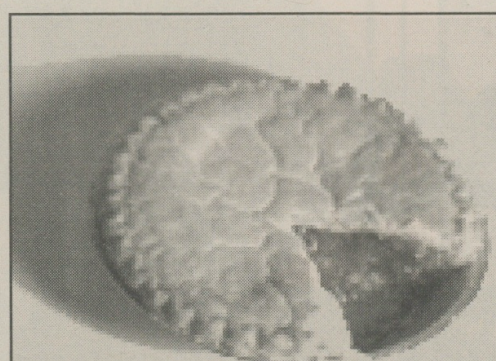

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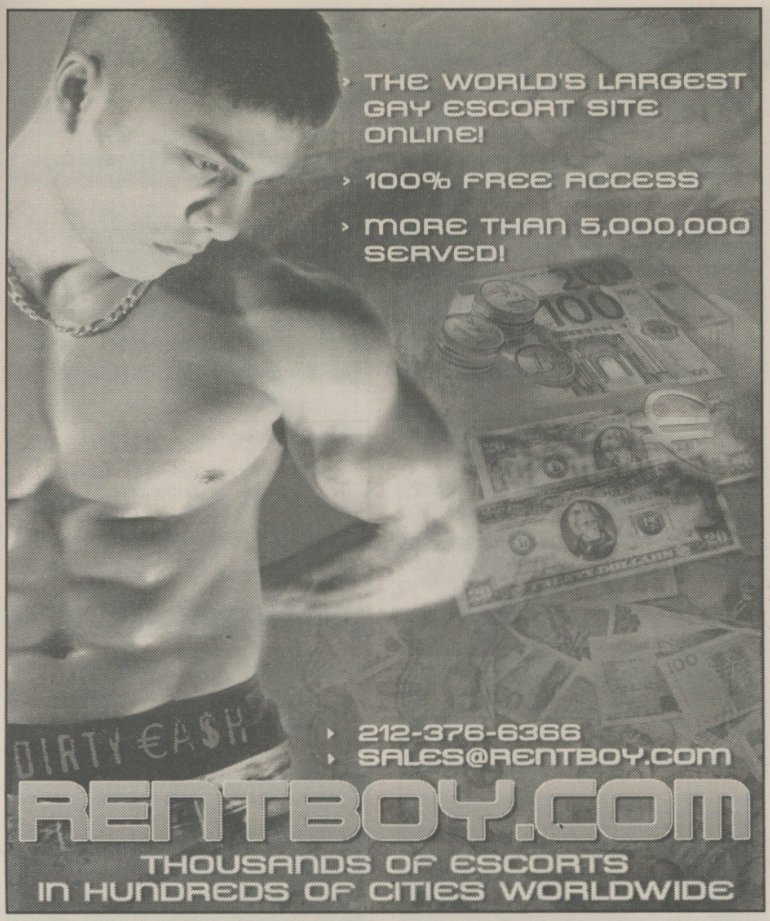
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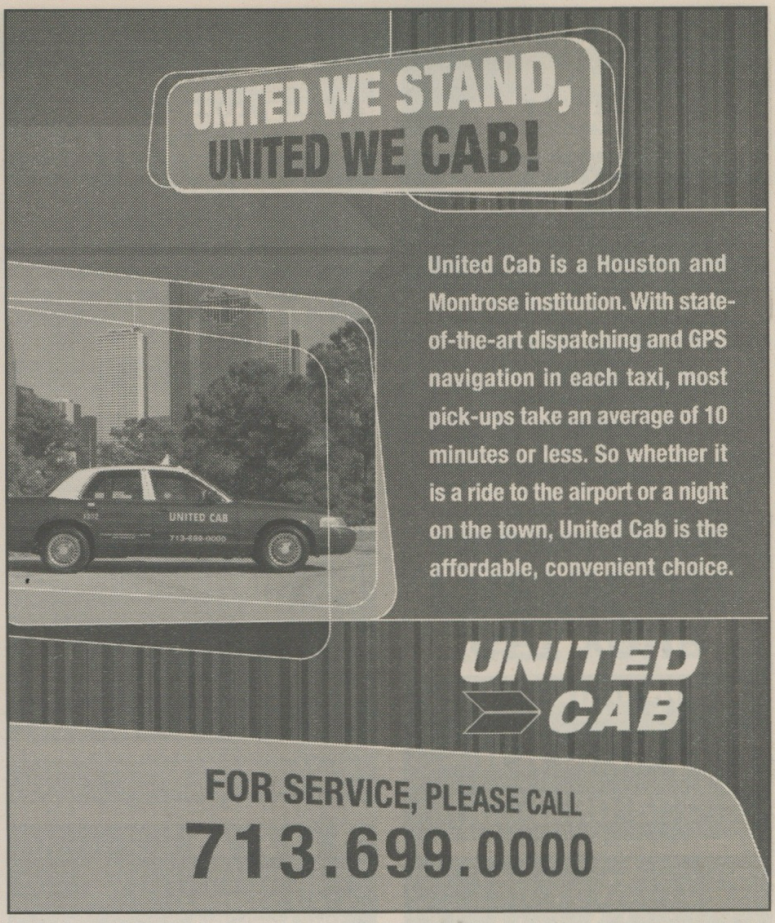
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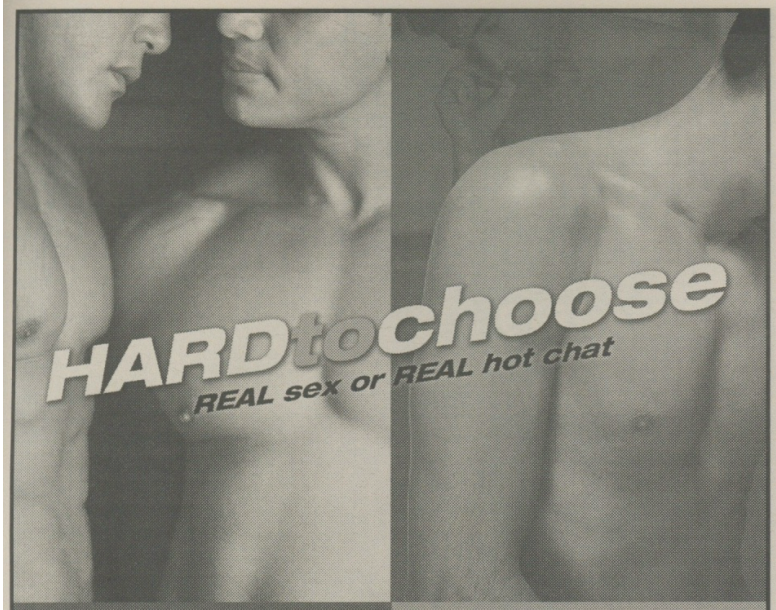

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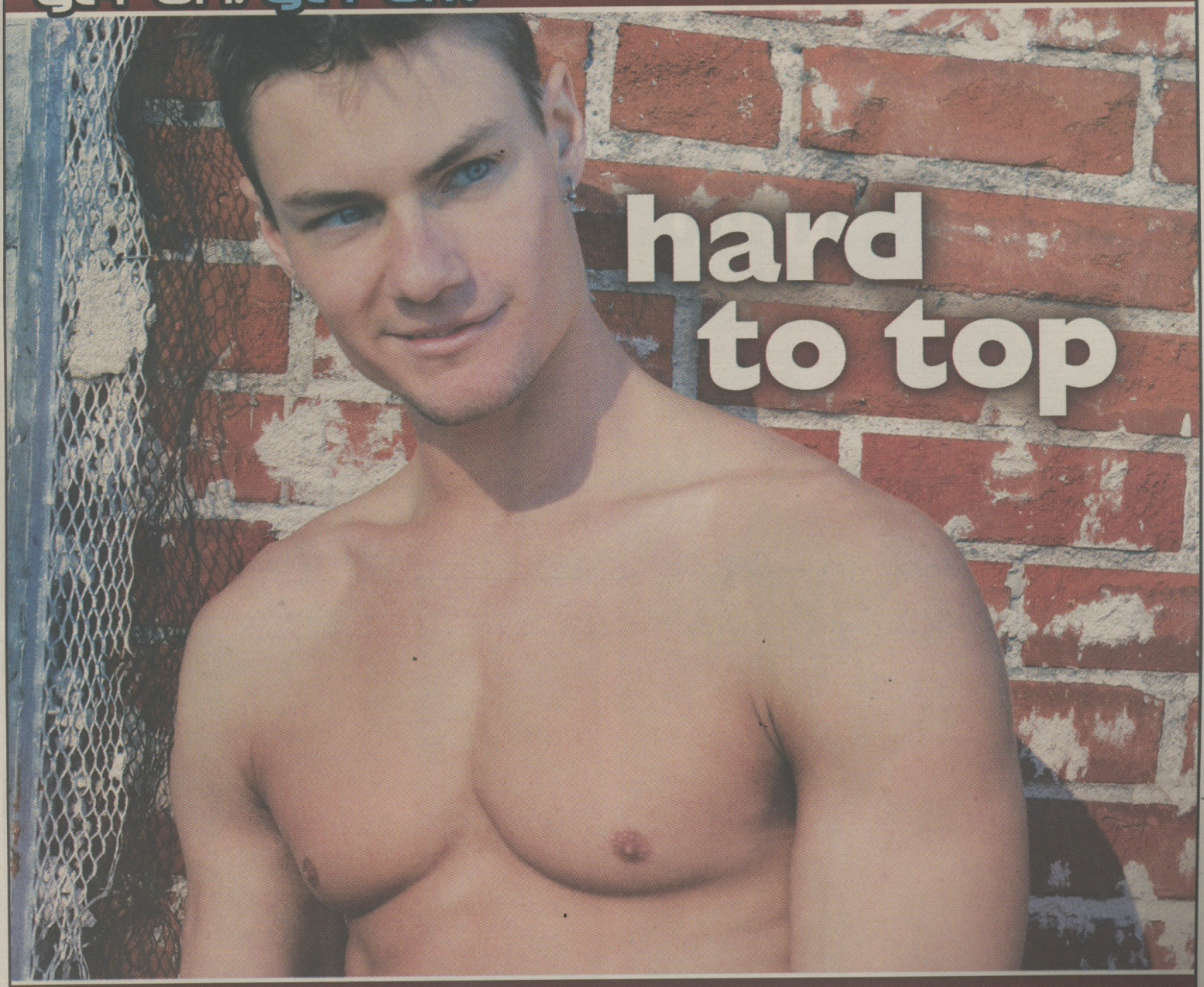

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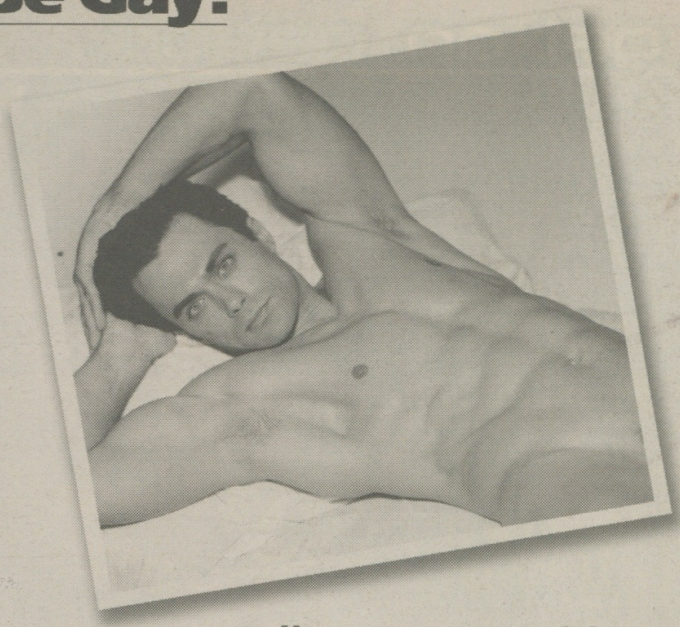

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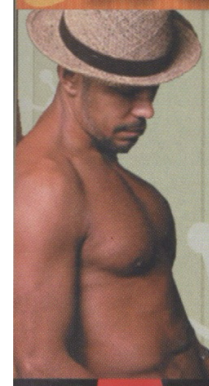

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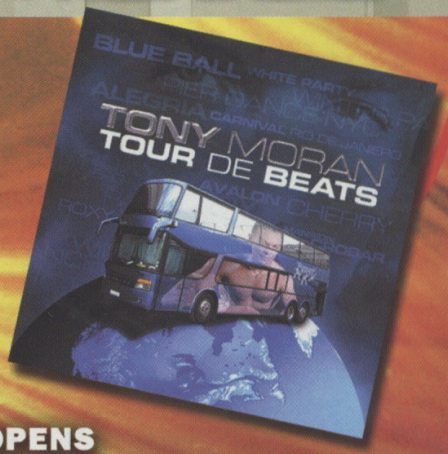

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