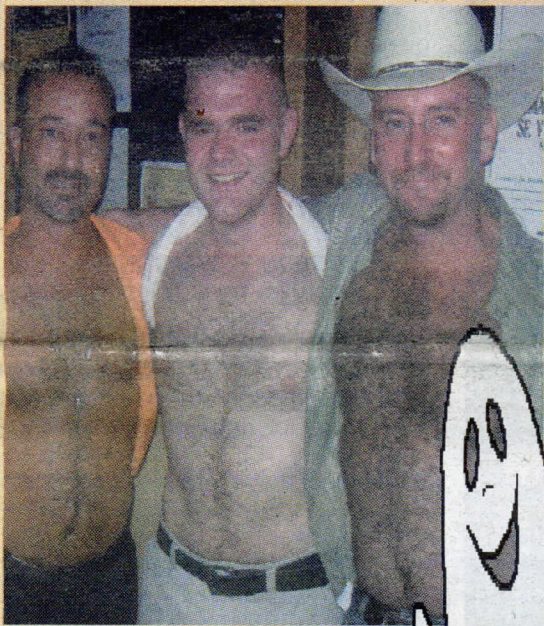


Houston Halloween 2006

montrose GEM

The Newspaper of Montrose Issue #50 October 27, 2006 713-529-2325 MontroseGEM @ Yahoo.com

The GEM on the Town



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Why Are We a Newspaper? p.4

The 611

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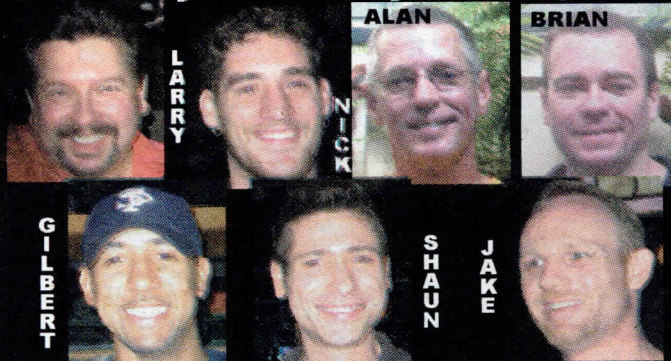


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Survey on Foley Shows No Impact on Gay Issues

PRESS RELEASE from Human Rights Campaign

The Human Rights Campaign has released a new nationwide poll that shows the aggressively coordinated attempts by anti-gay right-wing leaders and anti-gay groups to brand the Mark Foley scandal as a gay issue are a resounding failure.

The new, nationwide poll shows that, by a 2-to-1 margin, voters believe that "this type of behavior is typical of politicians" over "this type of behavior is typical of gay men." The poll also showed support for either civil unions or marriage for same-sex couples at 66 percent, which is consistent with other polls on the same question.

"Some right-wing leaders and politicians have tried to divert attention from the congressional leadership's failure to investigate Mark Foley's abhorrent behavior, and their cover-up in order to hold on to power, by insisting that his being gay was the central issue," said HRC President Joe Solmonese. "Conservative politicians have tried to promote prejudice against

gay Americans, rather than push for accountability in this scandal. Today's poll shows that Americans reject their outrageous claims."

Since this scandal was made public on Sept. 29, 2006, Tony Perkins, James Dobson, Pat Buchanan and other ultra-conservative leaders have spoken out numerous times to national media outlets pushing the idea that this is a gay issue, in an attempt to shift the public's perception of this inappropriate behavior and subsequent cover-up by the Republican leadership on gays.

Peter D. Hart Research Associates Inc. conducted a poll of 806 registered voters nationwide from Oct. 9-11, 2006. The results of the poll show that the attempt to scapegoat gay Americans has been an utter failure, as the American people continue to focus on the lack of leadership displayed by the Republican leadership through this scandal. The poll also finds the American people continue to believe gay and lesbian Americans deserve the same rights and protections as all Americans and their relationships deserve legal recognition.

The Human Rights Campaign has been monitoring what seems to be a coordinated effort to place blame on the gay community and equate Mark Foley's disgraceful behavior to the fact that he is gay. Following are some of the quotes spewed by conservatives in their failed public relations blitz to lay the blame on gays:

"The news is the Republicans have

formed a circular firing squad, and they're firing away. It's just insane, this atavistic spirit to find blame just before an election. They'd be better to say, 'Well, this man's gay, he does what gay people do, and so don't worry about it.'" —Pat Robertson on "The 700 Club."

"If the Republican House leadership is guilty of anything, it is of being too tolerant, of allowing Political Correctness, a fear of being called homophobic, to trump common sense. Whether we admit it or not, many male homosexuals have a thing for teenage boys, which is why so many of them wind up with black eyes when they try to pick them up." —Pat Buchanan.

"Democrats seeking to exploit the resignation of Rep. Mark Foley (R-FL) are right to criticize the slow response of Republican congressional leaders to his communications with male pages. But neither party seems likely to address the real issue, which is the link between homosexuality and child sexual abuse." —Tony Perkins, Message to Friends of Family Research Council.

"We are very concerned that the early warnings of Mr. Foley's odd behavior toward young male pages may have been overlooked or treated with deference, fearing a backlash from the radical gay rights movement because of Mr. Foley's sexual orientation." —The Arlington Group in a statement, Oct. 3

"For the sake of honest and open government, not to mention protection of the children, the secret Capitol Hill

homosexual network must be exposed and dismantled." —Right-wing blogger Cliff Kincaid, Oct. 9

"Where does post-modern American ethics place Mark Foley's homosexuality on a scale of 1 to 10, a 1 being just another gay guy and a 10 being a compulsive, predatory sex offender?" —Daniel Henninger, Wall Street Journal deputy editorial page editor.

"The fact that Americans find former Rep. Foley's alleged conduct reprehensible shows we have not bought into the false ideology that 'all sex should be celebrated' or that age of consent laws should be reduced as some special interest groups demand. Not all 'diversity' should be accepted and not all conduct or beliefs should be 'tolerated.' In the real world, there is such a thing as right and wrong." —Wendy Wright, president of Concerned Women for America,

"Here is the real problem. It has been known for many years that Congressman Foley was a homosexual. Homosexuals tend to be preoccupied with sex." —Paul Weyrich on "All Things Considered."

"I think that this—there's an indication, there's clear research that shows that homosexual men are more likely to abuse children than straight men. And when it comes to government, yes, I have a concern that any type of sexual deviancy is a problem." —Tony Perkins on "Hardball."



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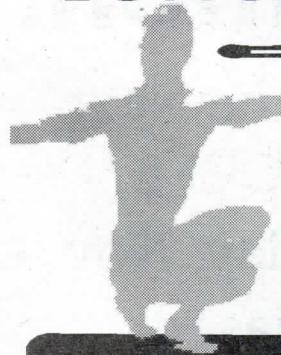
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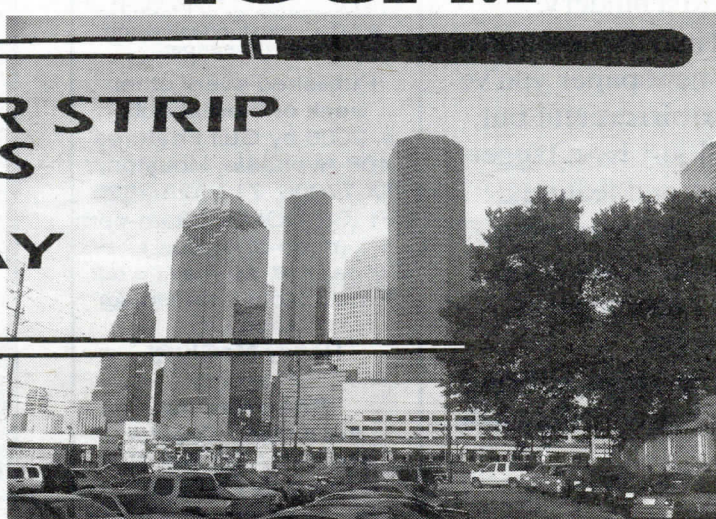
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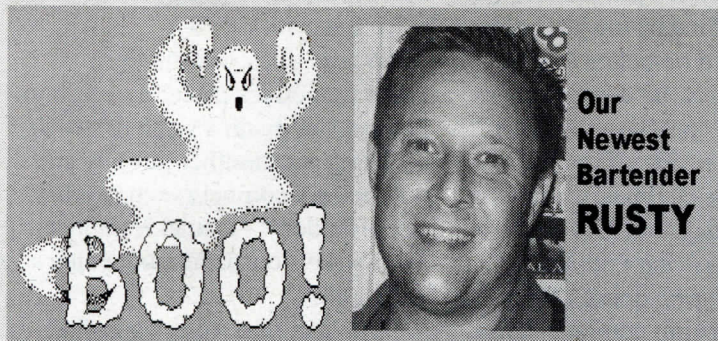
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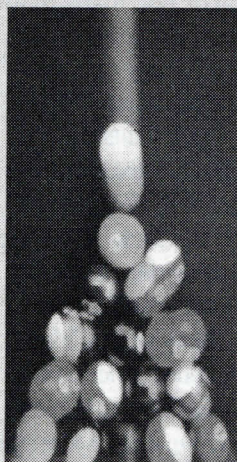
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Pride Townhall Meetings in November

PRESS RELEASE from Pride Houston

Upcoming Events:

Nov. 2 -Town Hall Mtg. I

Nov. 4 -Town Hall Mtg. II

Pride Houston has made a commitment to making Pride weekend a regional destination event, and we want your input. We'll be looking at a potential new location, a new date, and more! In order to gather feedback, Pride will host two Town Hall meetings at Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church: Nov. 2 at 7pm and Nov. 4 at 1pm. You can also take part in our online survey by clicking [here](#). We'll gather all your comments and use them as we plot the course for the future of Pride Houston. Go Halloween Shopping for Pride

Party Boy is donating 5% of Purchases to Pride Houston

Want to show your Pride when you're shopping for your Halloween costume and party supplies? Stop by Party Boy and take a look at their huge selection of theater-quality wigs, fangs, and more. When you check out, be sure to mention that you'd like your purchases to

be credited to Pride Houston. Party Boy will contribute 5% of your total to Pride. *Friends of Pride*

We're Kicking-Off Another Year of FOP Fun!

Friends of Pride is back and it's better than ever. All FOP members have a lot to look forward to this year: in addition to all the great benefits you've come to expect (the Wine Tasting, VIP festival tickets, VIP parade bleachers, etc.), you'll also be receiving VIP treatment and special surprises at every Pride Houston event. It's just one more way we can say thank you for supporting Pride.

Friends of Pride is a special membership organization that provides financial support for Pride Houston. By donating as little as \$75, you can become a member of FOP and receive great benefits. For more information, click [here](#).

Employment Opportunity with Pride Houston
Pride Houston is Seeking a Director of Operations

Pride Houston seeks full-time Director of Operations, a paid staff position. This Director manages our 100+ volunteers and 12 standing committees to produce Houston's annual Parade and Festival. Compensation package includes salary, health care coverage and performance-based bonus. For more information, see the Pride Houston website.

The 2007 Pride Festival and Parade will be June 23.

A Letter to Our Readers Why the Format Change for The GEM?



It is because the pros of the newspaper format, considering the Houston gay market at this time, far outweigh the pros of the magazine format.

The main reason for our change is because of opportunities that opened up with the demise of the Voice as a newspaper. Houston became the only city in America's (I would guess) top 50 markets without a local gay newspaper.

The magazine format, to many, has a more convenient format. But precisely because of that it was about 25% more expensive to produce as it needed an extra day (and the extra cost) to go to a bindery.

Our goal is now to make The GEM into the best (most informative, most entertaining) gay newspaper you've ever seen. We will continue to be that irreverent but serious publication you love. We will just have bigger pages and (eventually) far more news and features.

We will wear two hats. We will be the newspaper of the Houston/Galveston gay community, covering all-things-gay. And we will be "The Newspaper of Montrose," covering all-things-Montrose.

We will continue for about six more issues to bring you a new edition every other week. Then we will switch to weekly publication.

We're excited!

DVD RENTALS

MON.-SAT. NOON-8PM

SUNDAY 2-8PM

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montrose GEM

ISSUE # 50

OCTOBER 27, 2006
"The Newspaper of Montrose"
& "The Houston/Galveston
Gay Newspaper"

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Gay News & Bar Talk

By Henry

What's our number this issue? Oh, it's the 50th issue of the GEM. You didn't think we would make it this far. Well, we're just getting warmed up. Happy goblins to everyone.

Obviously, your GEM is in a different format starting this issue. That is all explained in a "Letter to the Readers" on page 4. But let me add, we need help! Get in on the ground floor because we're going to get big. We need a news reporter (parttime for now) and an additional advertising sales representative (expenses plus commission). Is this you? Call me.

Putting this issue together was tough. We have several press releases from local and national groups to fill the space. In future issues we'll shift to more local news.

Quickies

Gilbert of The 611 wished happy birthday to his partner, Chris. "You complete me, baby," said Gilby.

What's going on at the parking lot next to Mary's? We've been told that a couple of storefronts are going in.

Rest, Needles and Food

I have had plenty of time in the last two weeks to work on my "novel." As you may know, I was recently the guest of the VA

hospital for five days. What does one do lying in a hospital bed for that time? One mostly just lies there.

My roommate, Ron, was from Sugarland. We watched and rooted for the Detroit Tigers as they whupped the Yankees in the playoffs. Ron is originally from Detroit.

If you've ever been in a hospital you know the highlights of the day are the three times the meal cart comes down the corridor. We knew the sound of that rolling contraption. It was different than the blood-drawing cart or the blood pressure cart, each of which constantly prowled the hallways, darting into rooms, poking people, drawing gallons of red liquid out of the bodies of helpless victims.

But the food cart. It had a special squeak. We could hear it three rooms down.

"It's coming!" Ron or I would say. "The food is coming!"

We'd raise our beds, getting ready for its arrival.

I must say, the VA's food was pretty good. Breakfast was usually the same thing, French toast or scrambled eggs, juice, grits or oatmeal. But for lunch and dinner we had pork chops, spaghetti and meatballs, beef stew, baked chicken, etc. It was all salt-free but quite flavorful.

After I got out of the VA, Brian announces he's going to Oregon for five days.

So, in addition to putting out this Halloween edition of The

GEM, I was able to work on my novel. And what is this novel about? I'll tell you in a future issue. In fact, I'll show you in a future issue. (It's not about George W. and human beings from the future, as I mentioned in the last GEM.)

Now Turning to You

Okay, enough about me. Let's talk about *you*.

Did you enjoy your slippery, sloppy love fest last week? Oh, we all heard about it. There's no need to be shy.

I was told by one of the audience members that you were stunning in your red bloomers. And that idea of yours to do it in an arena in front of everyone was brilliant. No, I don't think that the \$20 cover charge was too much. They paid it, didn't they?

Is that tattoo of a horny devil on your left cheek a temp or is that permanent?

When is the next performance?

Casanova Nurse?

Ah, what's that, you ask. It ain't a what. It's a who. Casanova Nurse is a new weatherman at channel 39. That's CW39. The name is real, he says, given to him by his father.

Texas Quickies

Trustees at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth are embarrassed over some of their faculty and students. It seems they like to get the Holy Spirit and start speaking in tongues.

International Quickies

Ang Lee, Oscar-winner for his direction of "Brokeback Mountain," has joined the 2008 Beijing Olympics' creative team. His group is responsible for such things as the opening and closing ceremonies. Censors did not allow Brokeback Mountain to be released in China.

Stephen Spielberg is also a consultant even though he doesn't look Chinese to me.

The mayor of London is Ken Livingston, a never-politically-correct character frequently in the news. A British High Court judge recently ruled that Ken had the right of free speech when he compared a Jewish reporter to a Nazi death camp guard.

Ken was attending a party at the time celebrating the 20th anniversary of the election of Britain's first openly-gay lawmaker. Ken's Nazi comment was apparently delivered with sarcasm as he believed that the reporter was planning a hit job on him with an anti-gay story.

It's kind of like, "Okay, Senator, when did you stop beating your wife." And the Senator responds not with "I never have beaten my wife" but with, the questioner, "I stopped beating her when I discovered that *your* wife enjoyed it so much more."

The reporter works for Associated Newspapers, a British group that Livingston referred to as "a load of scumbags."

Come Join Us on the Ground Floor

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Reports Show More Americans Know Someone Gay

PRESS RELEASE from Human Rights Campaign

70 Percent of Heterosexual Adults Now Know Someone Gay; Having a Gay or Lesbian Family Member Raises the Typical American's Support for Full Marriage Equality by 17 Percentage Points WASHINGTON, Two studies are being released this Wednesday, Oct. 11, as Americans nationwide commemorate National Coming Out Day. The two new studies show that more Americans are becoming personally acquainted with gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people, and thereby are also increasingly becoming more supportive of equality. These two new studies quantify the GLBT march for equality moving in a direction of increased support for equal rights under the law as more GLBT Americans live their lives more openly.

"We have known all along that our country continues to head in the direction of equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans," said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese. "The reports released today provide us with even greater insight to how important it is for us to live our lives openly and honestly by telling our stories. As we continue to introduce our lives and relationships to Americans, more are responding in a positive way and being increasingly supportive of full equality under the law."

The first report is a national

survey conducted by Harris Interactive, in conjunction with Witeck-Combs Communications Inc., Sept. 7-14, 2006. The online poll of 2,932 U.S. adults (ages 18 and over) found that seven out of 10 (70 percent) heterosexual adults in the United States said that they know someone who was gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender.

Furthermore, 83 percent of those who self-identified as gay or lesbian considered themselves "out." In general, when asked if they considered themselves open about their sexual orientation, large majorities of gays and lesbians said they were "out" to their close friends (92 percent) and to their parents (78 percent).

Many gays and lesbians also said they were "out" to other relatives such as grandparents or cousins (68 percent), acquaintances and casual friends (68 percent) and co-workers and colleagues (66 percent). The second new report provides even further insight into what living openly as GLBT Americans means to the advancement of equal rights. Not only are more Americans becoming familiar with the lives of GLBT people, but as they become more familiar, they are more supportive.

The new report, titled "Coming Out' and Americans' Attitudes on Gay Rights," comes from the Hunter College Center for Sexuality and Public Policy. Conducted by Kenneth Sherrill, professor of political science at Hunter College, and Patrick Egan, visiting scholar, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics at Princeton University, the report draws upon the first-ever national archive of public opinion surveys about GLBT Americans. The archive, which is being developed through a partnership between Hunter College and the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, currently holds 120 public opinion polls on subjects relating to GLBT rights.

"As we prepare to mark National

Coming Out Day this October 11, the proportion of Americans who say that they personally know someone who is gay or lesbian is growing. Furthermore, a generation after the first National Coming Out Day, contact with people who are openly gay or lesbian continues to be strongly associated with the public's attitudes on key gay rights issues," said Sherrill.

This new report, compiling data from a wide variety of polling, found that, in 2001, having a gay or lesbian family member raised the typical American's support for marriage equality by 17 percentage points, and it raised the typical American's support for adoption rights for same-sex couples by 13 percentage points.

Using data from 2004, the report found that contact with gays and lesbians is associated with a 13-percentage-point increase in support for some sort of legal recognition of same-sex couples (either marriage or civil unions) among heterosexual Americans who are otherwise typical with respect to characteristics such as age, education and political party. Similarly, personal knowledge of a gay or lesbian person was associated with a 13-point decrease in support for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would ban marriage for same-sex couples.

"If seven out of 10 heterosexuals know someone who is GLBT, then many gays and lesbians are making their identity apparent as a natural part of their lives, just like their age, height, hair color or personality," said Mark Shields, director of the Human Rights Campaign's National Coming Out Project. "For most people, coming out or opening up to someone starts with a conversation. And for those interested in fostering strong, deep relationships with their friends and family, living openly often allows for closer relationships with the people they care about most."

DVD RENTALS

MON.-SAT. NOON-8PM

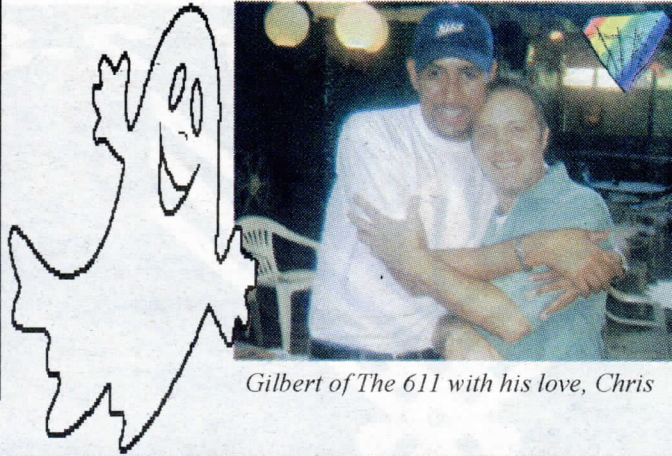
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BLACK HAWK LEATHER



Gilbert of The 611 with his love, Chris

Big Orange Moment for Virgo

HOROSCOPES by **HELGA**

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Bo! You will be honest about your needs during the "orange holiday season" and destinations in life will come vividly in view. And Helga sees several holiday party invitations heading your way. You will know where you are going.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your Halloween resolution is to search for a private place for self discovery. And a man in orange and black. Do not avoid large scale adventures and don't be scared to make changes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Magic will be all around you for the next week or so. Things and people you never thought of will appear in your outs-and-about. Dreams will come into view. You will be thinking of all this and seeking something else at the same time.

CANCER (June 22-July 22): Ask not what you can wear for Halloween. You can wear whatever you like. A Scorpio may help. Let the two of you close your eyes and create.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Halloween weekend will be remembered by you for some time. A Gemini may make it even more memorable. Others will put their trust in you if ... If what? I you act quite benevolent.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Consider this start of the gay party season. As you know, it runs continuously through L.U.E.Y. weekend. But let's take it one weekend at a time. Your silly side may show for the pumpkin parties. That will be good and may lead to a "big moment."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Just consider the bigger gay picture. Focus, snap and then frame it. A Scorpio will be in there with Halloween ghosts lurking behind.

Helga says to watch for two witches this week. One will be a good witch. Pick her. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): Business and pleasure can mix when you're all dressed up in orange and black. This is the start of the holiday season and it could be the start of something new for you. Helga says search for a Libra.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): It's your job, this season of the pumpkins, to help others keep their feet on the ground and not make too much of a spectacle of themselves. However, you will have a good time with a Capricorn during the costume festivities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Pick something this costume season to show off your assets. Before going out, make a phone call to your friend, of the sign Aquarius. And not only a phone call, but a real letter you will soon write.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take a chance on that revealing adventure you were considering recently. costume. Afterwards, It will be fun, work, fun, sleep.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In the mood for a ghost? A black cat? Maybe a witch? One will knock on your door in the next few days. And Helga sees you lightning up this coming November.

Helga's lottery results from last issue: Absolutely, positively nothing. Cumulative: Down \$92. Here are Helga's picks for Oct. 20 & 21, 2006. Mega Millions Friday: 17, 20, 25, 43, 42. Mega Ball: 45. Megaplier? Yes. And for Lotto Texas Saturday: 1, 9, 33, 29, 8, 30.

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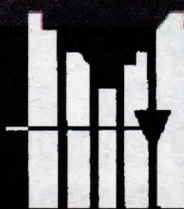
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News from the Caucus

PRESS RELEASE from Pride Houston

The HGLBTPC PAC will be working with the HERA PAC on new voter registration and block walks for Ellen Cohen in select Montrose precincts from now until the November 7 election. If you are interested in volunteering, please e-mail us at info@hglbtpc.org or call 713-521-1000.

Dates and times are Saturday, Oct. 28, and Saturday, Nov. 4, 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. Meet at the Community Center, 3400 Montrose, Suite 207

We are in need of volunteers to work on data entry to keep our database up-to-date. All you need to do is just show up! We look forward to seeing you Saturday, Oct. 28, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Chronicle Endorsements

House Dist. 134, Ellen Cohen – Cohen is the Democratic challenger to incumbent Martha Wong in this race. The outpouring of Cohen support by area voters signals a desire for leadership change in this district. Cohen is superbly qualified. As head of the Houston Area Women's Center since 1990, Cohen has brought needed attention to domestic and sexual violence while managing a multi-million-dollar organization serving some 6,000 clients a year. She says she'll work to put more money into public education and ensure it is well-spent.

House Dist. 137, Scott Hochberg – Hochberg, a Democrat, has represented his district with integrity and a passion for the concerns of his constituents for 14 years. His current legislative priorities include environmental quality issues and increasing Texans' access to health insurance. He decries the lack of cooperation between Republicans and Democrats in the capital in recent years and pledges to continue to work across party lines to get things done.

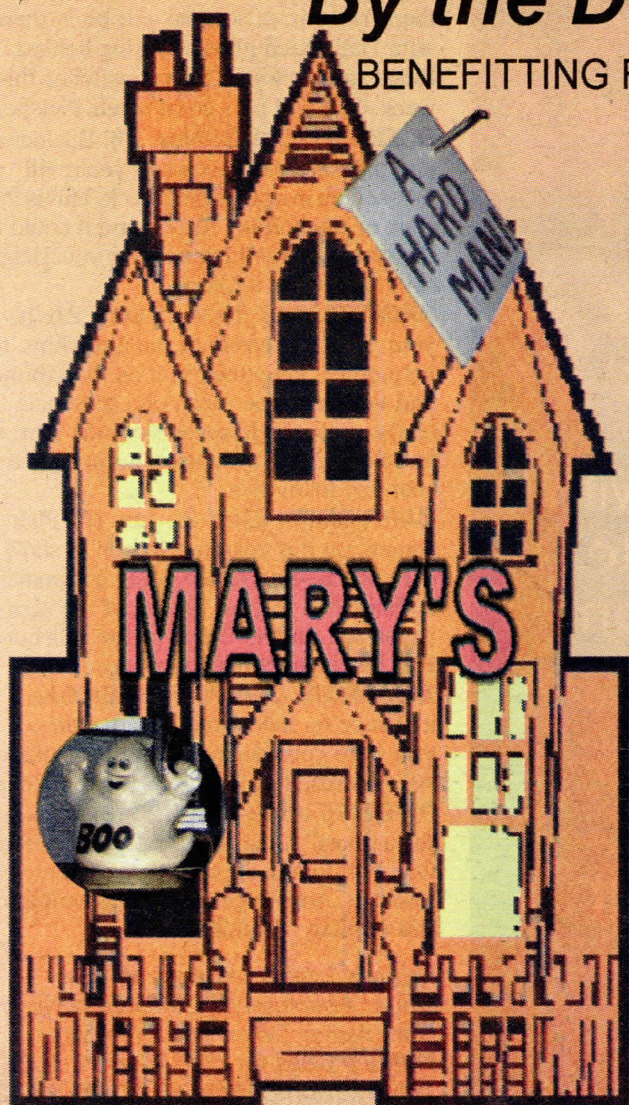
House Dist. 149, Herbert Vo -Vo is the Democratic incumbent in this race, which he is waging against Talmadge Heflin, who held this seat before his loss to Vo in the previous election. The Chronicle believes voters should stick with their latest choice. Vo has shown a refreshing willingness to work across party lines for the benefit of his constituents. Among his priorities for the upcoming session are improving air quality and increasing child health insurance coverage.

Wish List: Small Refrigerator, Microwave 17" or 19" LDC Computer Monitors Small Phone System 4 to 6 lines with or without voice mail.

The HGLBTPC meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. The monthly meeting is held at 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. Parking is available in the building garage. Please inform the parking attendant that you are attending a meeting at the Community Center. Visitors are encouraged to attend the monthly meeting to learn more about the HGLBTPC.



The National Bar
of Texas
1022 Westheimer
713-527-9669

*... Naturally***OPEN MON.-SAT. 7AM-2AM SUNDAY 10AM-2AM****Sat., Oct. 28, around 9pm****"TIARAS OF TERROR"****By the Debris Sisters****BENEFITTING RED RIBBON TOY DRIVE****Sun., Oct. 29, 5pm: 7th Annual****"BIG KNOBS AND
BROOMSTICKS"****With Host Ginger Vitis****BENEFITTING RED RIBBON TOY DRIVE****Tues., Oct. 31****THE NATIONAL
GAY HOLIDAY,
HALLOWEEN****Come By and Get Your Trick or Treat**



SoFonda's Punk in Patch
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2006
BRAZOS RIVER BOTTOM (BRB)
(2400 BRAZOS ST.)
8:00 PM

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1ST Friday of Each Month

Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5

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Decades

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Dennis

611 Hyde

Park Pub
611 Hyde Park
Tuesday 4-8pm
Quincy

E/J's

2517 Ralph
Wednesday 10pm-lam
Friday 10pm-lam
Rhonda & Lourdes

All Star News & Video

Emporium
3415 Katy Fwy.
Monday 4-8pm
Thursday 4-8pm
Jack

Inergy/Mango Lounge

5750 Chimney Rock
Monday 10pm-2am
Carlos

Brazos River Bottom

2400 Brazos
Thursday
8pm-Midn.
Lourdes

Mary's, Naturally

1022 Westheimer
Wednesday 4-8pm
Jack

Club Houston

2205 Fannin
Tuesday, 8pm-Midn.
Dennis

Midtowne Spa

3100 Fannin
Tuesday 10pm-lam
Carlos

Club Big Yo

9347 1/2 Richmond
Saturday 11pm-2am
Carlos

Ripcord

715 Fairview
Wednesday
9pm-Midn.
Jack

Cousins

817 Fairview
Thursday
8pm-Midn.
Jack

Viviana's

4624 Dacoma
Friday 10pm-lam
Carlos

Legacy

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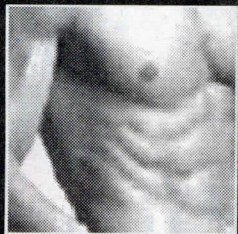
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www.montroseclinic.org
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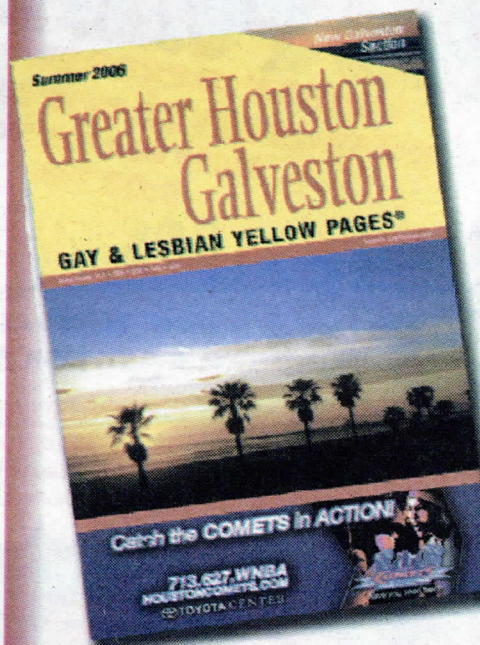
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Montrose Clubs

(All clubs are listed. Those with display ad receive an arrow & a box)

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EQUAL
Rights Alliance**

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Montrose Clubs

611 Hyde Park Pub 611 Hyde Park, 713-526-7070. Customers are a wide mix of all types. Open 7am (noon Sun.). One of the more popular bars for happy hour and into the night

Bartini 1318 Westheimer, 713-526-2271. Lots of soul. Shows on Thursdays & Sundays. Dancing nightly. Open 10pm

Brazos River Bottom (BRB) 2400 Brazos, 713-528-9192. Cowboys are here. Open every day noon-2am. Dancing at night. Various Sunday shows. \$2.50 drinks all day, all night Fridays

Bocados 1312 W. Alabama, 713-523-5230. Ladies nights on Wednesdays

Chances/G-Spot/New Barn 1100 Westheimer, 713-523-7217. This is the women's mega-complex. Three big clubs, interconnected. Chances opens 2pm. Women's band Sat. nights. Open mic night Thursdays

Club 1415 1415 California, 713-522-7066. Open for theme parties some nights. "The Dyke Show" Saturdays with Nancy Ford

Club Eve 2209 Richmond, 713-545-4574. Women's bar Thurs.-Sat. above Azteca restaurant

Cousins 817 Fairview, 713-528-9204. All types of customers, from the retired to the young. Drag shows Thurs.-Sun. Open 11am (noon Sun.)

George 617 Fairview, 713-528-8102. Your "Neighborhood Sports Bar." Open 7am (noon Sun.) with large morning crowd

La Cueva Tequila Lounge 2312 Crocker. Hispanic club specializing in tequila, of course

Decades 1205 Richmond Ave., 713-521-2224. A neighborhood bar. Open 11am (noon Sun.). Pool tables, darts, a great jukebox

EJ's 2517 Ralph, 713-527-9071. Open 7am (10am Sun. with breakfast). Male strippers most nights. Frequent shows and benefits

Griff's 3417 Roseland, 713-528-9912. Not a gay bar. Irish bar and a neighborhood institution

Guava Lamp 570 Waugh Dr., 713-524-3359. Open daily 4pm. Happy hour 4-8pm, piano playing sometimes, DJ other times

Helios Formerly the Mausoleum, 411 Westheimer, 713-526-4648. Eclectic customers, slightly gay. House was the home of Howard Hughes as a toddler. Open nightly,

every night has a different crowd and atmosphere

J.R.'s/Santa Fe 808 Pacific, 713-521-2519. Always a crowd. All types of people but generally younger. Open mid-day to 2am

Blur 710 Pacific, 713-713-529-3447. Nightly dance bar, Sunday Tea Dance, closed Mon. & Tues.

Lola's 2327 Grant, 713-528-8342. Not a gay bar but a Montrose neighborhood institution

Mary's 1022 Westheimer, 713-527-9669. The oldest gay bar in Texas, open 7am (10am Sun.) Good happy hour crowd. Frequent shows and community events on the patio, especially Sundays

Michael's Outpost 1419 Richmond Ave., 713-520-8446. Piano players nightly Tues.-Sat. plus Friday happy hour. Open 3pm (11am Sat., noon Sun.) Host of many community events

Montrose Mining Co. 805 Pacific, 713-529-7488. A butch bar. Lots of cruising. Crowd, mostly men, is of all ages. Draft beer on the patio

Numbers 300 Westheimer, 713-526-6551. (Not a gay bar.) Hosts occasional gay events

Prive 910 Westheimer, 713-522-2542. Slightly gay sometimes. Great music, good viewing of Montrose & Westheimer from the roof-top patio

Resurrection 711 West Gray, 832-816-6315. Slightly gay sometimes. Open only for after-hours.

Rich's 2401 San Jacinto, 713-759-9606. Dance club gay on Fri. & Sat., sometimes other times. After-hours weekends

Ripcord 715 Fairview, 713-521-2792. Houston's leather bar, open 1pm daily. Man-hunting crowds at night. After hours weekends

Slider's 1424-B Westheimer, 713-528-2788. Not a gay bar. Great daiquiris

South Beach 810 Pacific, 713-521-9123. Majordance club. Get there early to get ahead of the line. Open Wed.-Sun. with after-hours weekends

Tony's Corner Pocket 817 W. Dallas, 713-571-7870. Pool and other games, open noon daily. "How ya doin'?"

Galveston Clubs

3rd Coast Beach Bar 3102 Seawall Blvd., (409) 765-6911. Overlooking the Gulf. Frequent shows

Kon Tiki 315 Tremont, (409) 765-5805. Open mid-day to 2am. Dance club. Frequent shows

Pink Dolphin 904 Ave. M at Stewart Beach, (409) 621-1808. Patio overlooks

the Gulf. Open 10am-2am.

Robert's Lafitte 2501 Ave. Q, (409) 765-9092. A down-to-earth bar open 7am (10am Sun.). All ages of people. Drag shows Sat. & Sun. nights. Swimming pool

Undercurrent 2409 Market, (409) 750-8571. Open 2pm. Two dance floors, shows and strippers weekends

Outlying Clubs

within 100 miles

La Academia 5829 S. Gessner, 713-334-5422, dance club

Amazonia 11449 I-45 at Aldine Bender, N. Houston, 281-260-9885, 832-244-4354. Latin-flavored dance club with male strippers, impersonators

Club Big Yo 6305 Skyline, S.W. Houston, 713-953-0268. Women's club open Thurs.-Sun.

Copa 304 Orleans, Beaumont, (409) 832-4206. Dancing and shows

Chris' Crockett St. Pub 407 Crockett at Park, Beaumont, (409) 835-4243. Beaumont's general neighborhood, city-wide gay watering hole

Halo Video Bar 121 N. Main, Bryan, (979) 260-2437

House of Finesse 2912 Wentworth, near T.S.U. campus, 713-522-6074. Only open for special events

In-N-Out 1537 N. Shepherd, 713-589-9780. "MetroSocial" open daily 4pm

Inergy/Mango Lounge/Amnesia 5750 Chimney Rock, S.W. Houston, 713-660-7310. Latin-flavored dance club, Sunday impersonation shows

Mona Lisa 6101 Wilcrest at Harwin. Diamond Cut Sisters Thursdays

Ranch Hill Saloon 24704 I-45 N., #103, Spring, (936) 441-6426. Open 4pm Mon.-Thurs., 6pm Fri.-Sat., closed Sun.

Rainbow Room 527 Barren Springs, N. Houston, 281-872-0215. Neighborhood bar opens daily at noon, up past Bush airport

Toy's 5322 Glenmont, 713-632-2544, 281-451-2094. Open Tuesdays (shows and dancing) and Fridays ("girls night")

Viviana's 4624 Dacoma, 713-681-4104. Frequent impersonation shows

Private Clubs

Club Houston 2200 Fannin, 713-659-4998. Open 24 hours. Gym, pool, whirlpool, sauna. Private rooms and lockers

Midtowne Spa 3100 Fannin, 713-522-2379. Open 24 hours. Gym, pool, whirlpool, sauna. Private rooms and lockers

Holidays, Benefits & Other Occasions

Some dates are tentative. Email MontroseGem @ yahoo.com with additions and corrections.

Fri.-Tue., Oct. 27-31 Extended Halloween weekend

Sat., Oct. 28 Houston Leather Boys' bartend, Ripcord Beer Shack, 10pm

Sat., Oct. 28 NLA monthly membership meeting, 7:30pm, then members bartend 9:30pm-1:30am, Ripcord patio

Sun., Oct. 29 Daylight Savings Time ends, gain an hour



DVD RENTALS
MON.-SAT. NOON-8PM
SUNDAY 2-8PM
711 FAIRVIEW
713-LEATHER



BLACK HAWK LEATHER

bartends Mary's patio, 9pm

Sat., Nov. 11 Veterans' Day

Tues., Nov. 14 Houston GLBT Community Center night, Hollywood, 2409 Grant

Wed., Nov. 15 Houston Council of Clubs meeting 8pm, The 611

Wed.-Sat., Nov. 15--18 International Gay & Lesbian Leadership Candidate and Campaign Training, Houston

Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Day

Nov. 24 Biggest Shopping Day of the Year

Nov. 24 Galveston Harbor Parade of Lights

Dec. 1 World AIDS Day

Dec. 1 GALLO hosts World AIDS Day bi-lingual service, Bethel Church, 7pm

Dec. 1-3 Dickens on The Strand, Galveston

Dec. Annual Montrose Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, Mary's

Dec. 4 GALLO general assembly meeting, Resurrection MCC, 7pm

Thurs.-Sun., Nov. 2-5 Lone Star Rally 2006, Galveston

Fri., Nov. 3 Colt 45's benefit, "Country Stars, Duos and Groups," BRB

Sat., Nov. 4 Houston Leather Boys' Boys Night Out, 10pm, Ripcord

Sun., Nov. 5 Full Moon

Tues., Nov. 7 Texas and U.S. elections

Thurs., Nov. 9 Houston Leather Boys' membership meeting, 7:30pm, Ripcord

Fri., Nov. 10 GALLO presents Alicia Dos Amantes, E/J's, 8pm

Sat., Nov. 11 Houston GLBT Political Caucus community workday

Sat., Nov. 11 NLA

Dec. 25 Christmas

Dec. 29 Colt 45's benefit, "Hel-N's Birthday, Come Hell & High water, Anything Goes," BRB

Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

2007

Jan. 1 New Year's Day

Jan. 6 GALLO presents Dia de los Reyes Magos, Rosca de Reyes

Jan. 17 Houston Council of Clubs meeting 8pm, Ripcord

Feb. 4 Super Bowl XLI, Miami

Feb. 9-20 Mardi Gras Galveston

Feb. 12 Lincoln's birthday

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day

Feb. 17 Krewe of the Moons of Uranus 25th annual Galveston gay bus trip for Mardi Gras

Feb. 19 Presidents' Day

Feb. 20 Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday

Feb. 22 Washington's birthday

Feb. 22-25 Houston Council of Clubs 34th annual Let Us EntertainYouWeekend

Feb. 27-March 18 Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo

March 2-4 73rd annual River Oaks Garden Club's Azalea Trail

March 18th Annual Houston AIDS Walk

March FotoFest at 100 Houston sites

March Bayou City Art Festival, Memorial Park

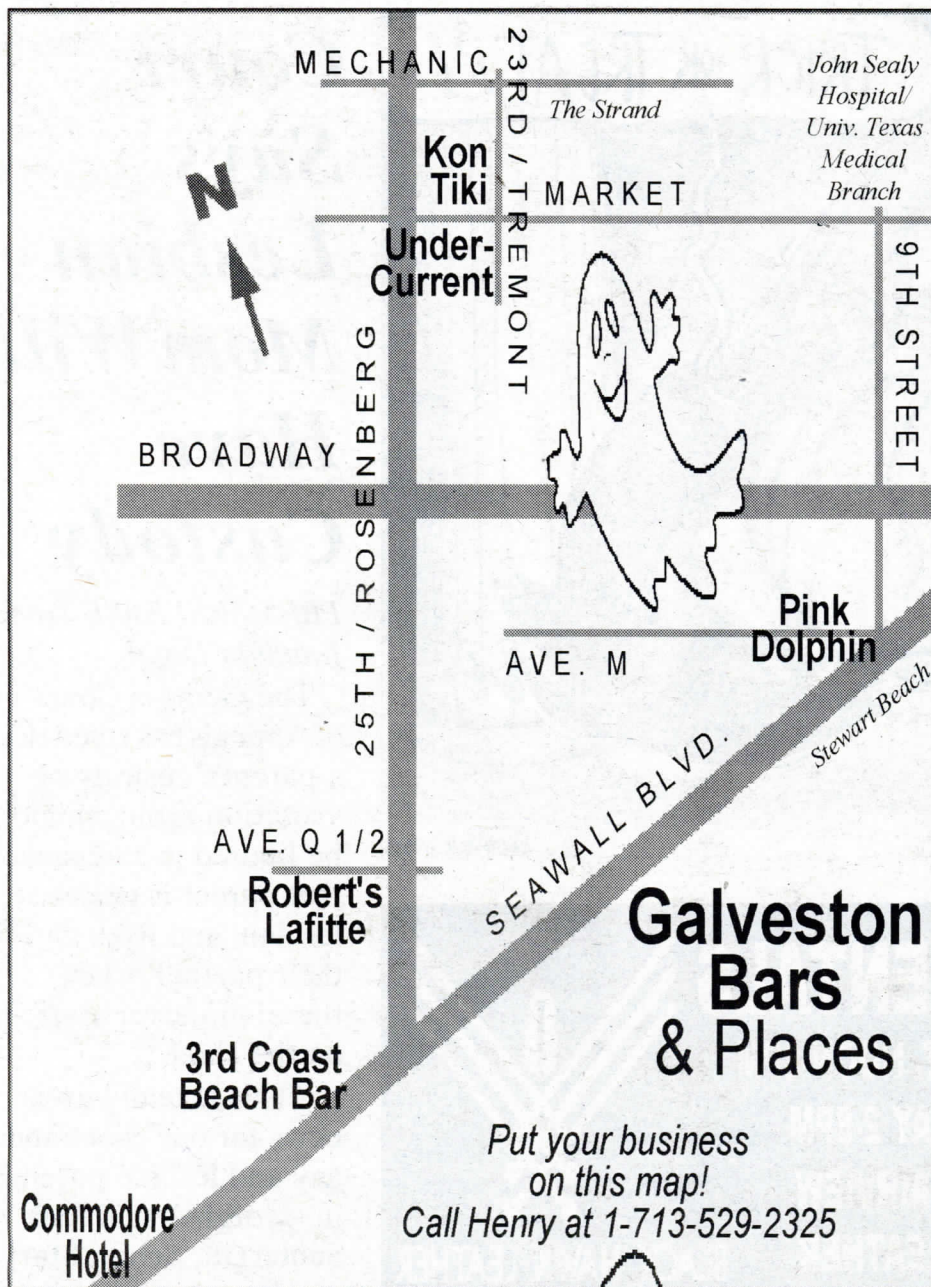
March 17 St. Patrick's Day

April NLA's Spring Iniquity XVI

April 40th Worldfest-Houston International Film Festival

April 18th annual Lone Star Volleyball Classic

April Houston International Festival



Statement on the Passing of Gerry Studds

PRESS RELEASE from Human Rights Campaign

Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese issued the following statement on the passing of former Congressman Gerry Studds:

"As the first openly gay member of Congress, Gerry Studds was a pioneer. And one of the many lessons he left is that one can lead an open and authentic life and do good. Gerry was one of the first to understand the fear and inequity faced by gay and lesbian service members and he worked tirelessly on their behalf. Equally important, he was beloved by the constituents of his coastal district for his advocacy on behalf of the fishing industry and the ocean environment. Gerry Studds understood that

the greatest contribution he could make to his community was to do an extraordinary job, and that his why he was resoundingly re-elected time after time until he chose to retire.

"To a younger generation who did not know Gerry Studds, we have an obligation to tell a story of courage, hard work and remarkable oratory whether delivered on behalf of the fisheries or the GLBT community.

"Gerry and his longtime partner, Dean T. Hara, married in 2004, shortly after same-sex marriage became legal in Massachusetts. We extend our deepest sympathies to Mr. Hara and to the other members of the family."

The Human Rights Campaign is America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender equality. By inspiring and engaging all Americans, HRC strives to end discrimination against GLBT citizens and realize a nation that achieves fundamental fairness and

Leadership Conference Coming to Houston

PRESS RELEASE from HERA

The International Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute Candidate and Campaign Training is coming to Houston Nov. 15-18.

Training Info

Learn More About the Candidate and Campaign Trainings. Apply to attend a training session. Deadline is Oct. 31. The Houston Equal Rights Alliance (HERA) is proud to serve as a local partner for the International Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute Candidate and Campaign Training and Conference hosted by the Victory Institute.

"(My victory) began with the expert Candidate & Campaign Training I received through the Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute, which provided the guidance, skills and support I needed to run for a seat that no Democrat had won in more than 25 years QZ and no woman had ever won."-Lupe Valdez, Dallas County Sheriff.

The Leadership Institute's Candidate & Campaign Trainings provide comprehensive, nonpartisan training to present and future openly GLBT candidates, campaign staff, and community leaders.

During the Institute's intensive four-day training in Houston, attendees will learn from top political strategists during the day and work with their peers on a complex campaign simulation at night. The simulation models a real campaign complete with district background, media information and voter files.

Similar to an actual campaign, trainees work long hours and compete against each other using the skills they have learned to build a strategy to win. To enhance the peer learning process, we conduct an extensive outreach effort to find trainees who have demonstrated leadership in their community and have great potential for public service.

The Institute's next training is November 15-18 in Houston, Texas at the JW Marriott located at 5150 Westheimer Road. The cost of the training is \$450.00, which includes four days of training, training materials, four nights hotel stay, and most meals (one dinner is on your own), as well as attendance at some of the events for our annual Leadership Conference where openly GLBT elected officials from around the country (and around the world) get together to network and discuss issues.

Helga Knows Your Horoscope

Be a Part of the Next

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Deadline

Saturday, Nov. 4

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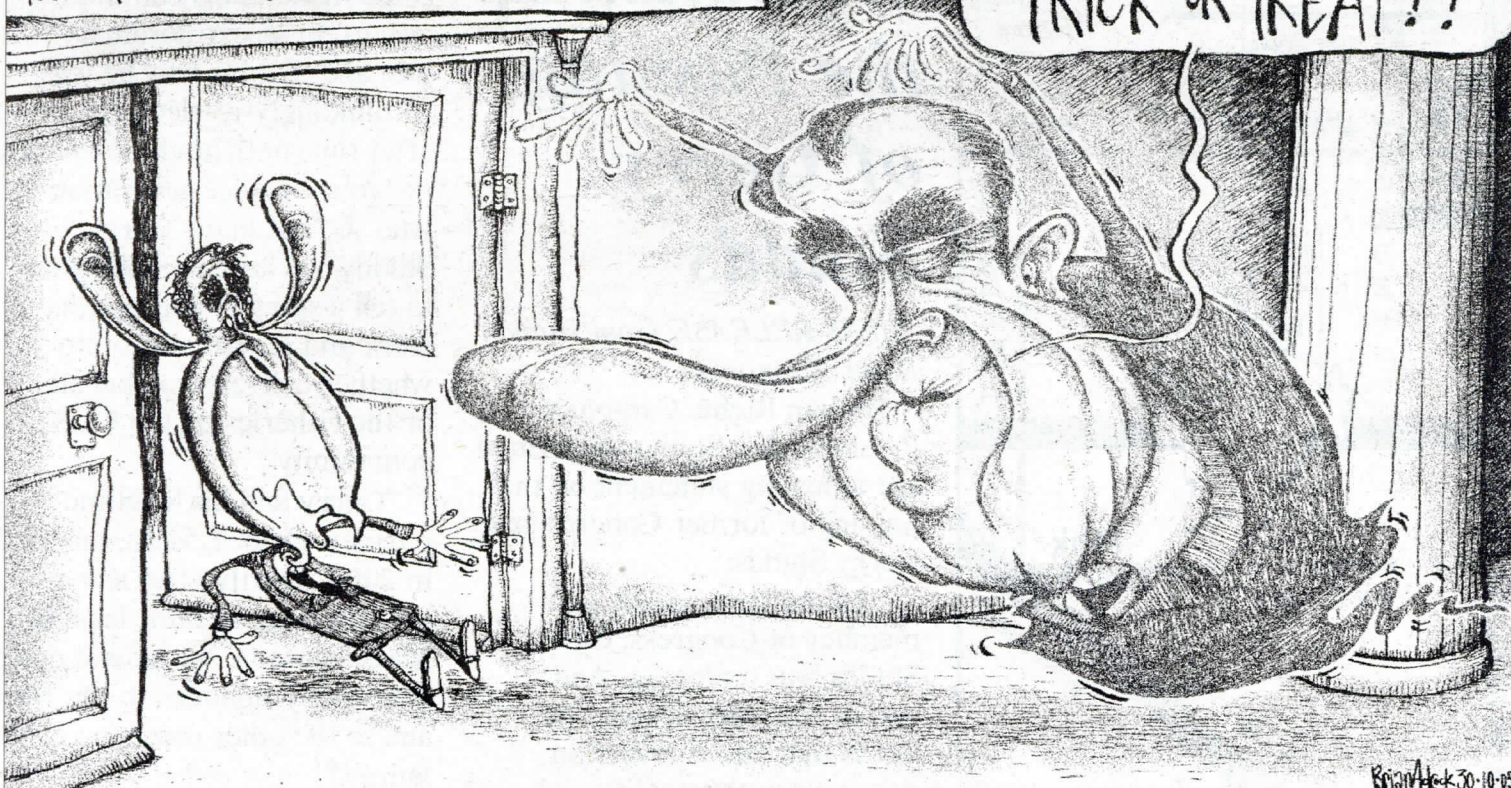
Thursday, Nov. 9

Call Henry or Brian

at 713-529-2325

THE GHOST OF PRESIDENTIAL SCANDALS PAST

TRICK OR TREAT?!



Kris Allen 30-10-05

Court Says Lesbian Mom Will Have Custody

PRESS RELEASE from
Lambda Legal

The Georgia Court of Appeals has ruled that a parent's custody or visitation rights cannot be limited just because that parent is gay or lesbian, and lives with their partner, when there is no adverse effect on the child.

"This is really great news for our client and gay and lesbian parents in Georgia," said Jack Senterfitt, Senior Staff Attorney in Lambda Legal's Southern Regional Office in Atlanta. "It means custody arrangements can't be challenged just because a parent is gay or lesbian."

Victoria Moses and Kelvin King had a daughter together. After the couple split, primary custody of the child was awarded to Moses. After Ms. Moses' partner moved into her home, King sued to change custody. A lower court did so, even though King had not paid child support for over a year and a half. Since the mother's relationship had no adverse effect on the child, the Court of Appeals reversed the lower court and said that the mother's custody rights should never have been changed.

The case is *Moses v. King*. To read the decision visit www.lambdalegal.org.

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Karadion

Raven St. James

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Black Velvet

Victoria Nichole

Ebony States

Ashley Houston

DVD RENTALS

MON.-SAT. NOON-8PM

SUNDAY 2-8PM

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Thank You for Reading The GEM!

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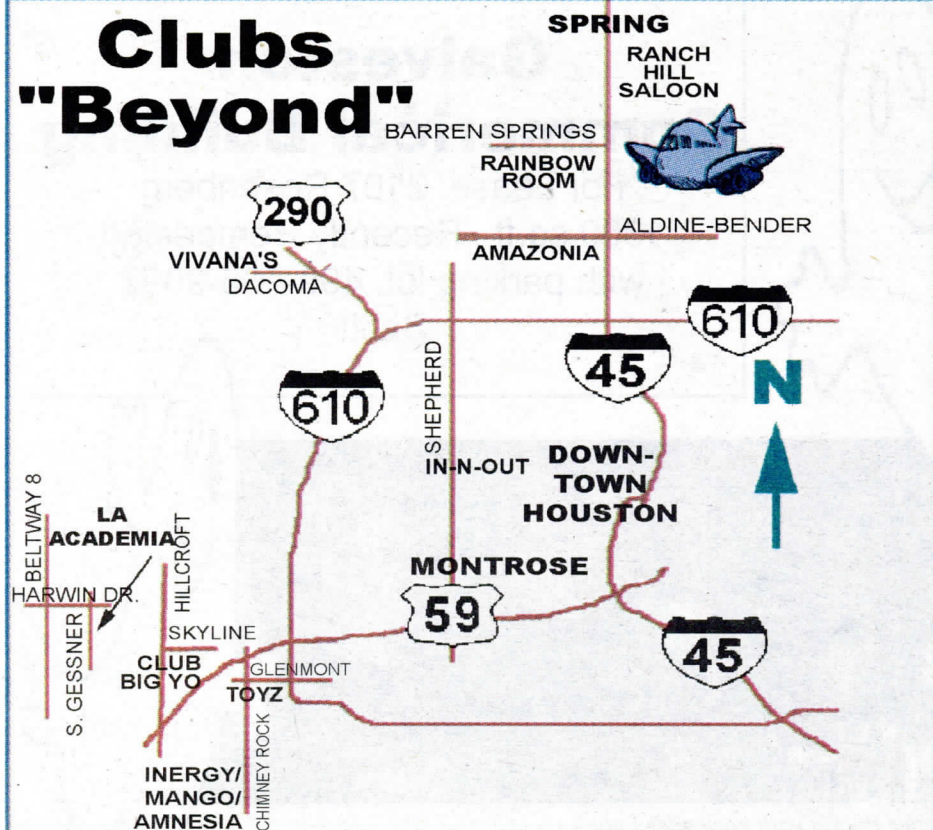
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Clubs "Beyond"



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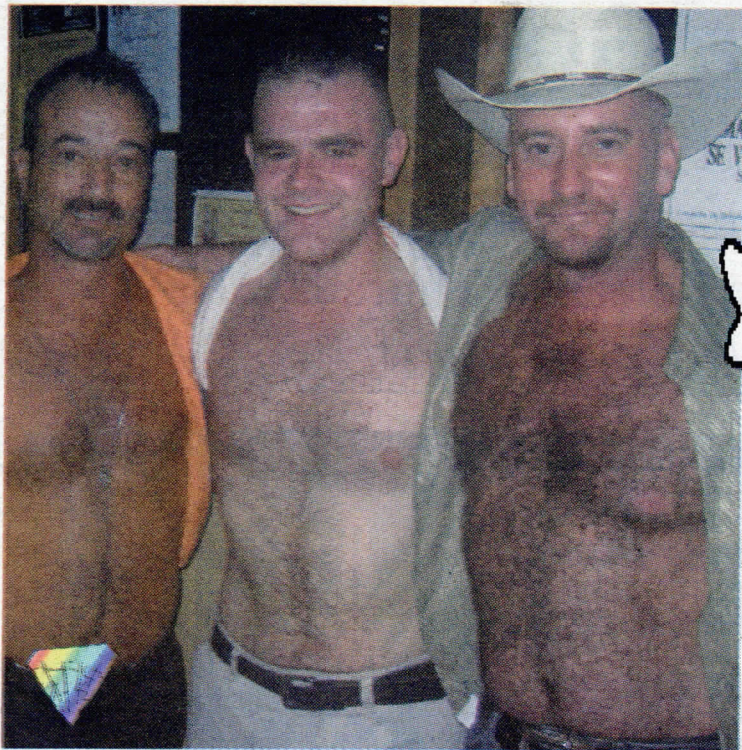
**Houston Hose vs.
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**Adriana Stone &
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Every Saturday 10:30pm

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David C., BRB tender of the bar, with shirtless friends



Tony of Tony's Corner Pocket with bartender Lulu



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FRIDAY,
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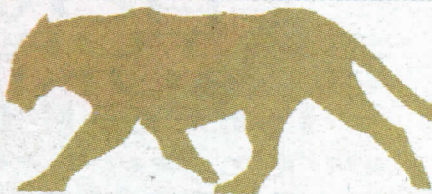


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