

OutSmart

JUNE 1998 • ANNUAL PRIDE ISSUE

Houston's Gay & Lesbian Monthly Magazine

PICTURES OF PRIDE

Some of the friendliest, freakiest,
and funniest members of the family.

lily tomlin blooms

alexis arquette looms

grethe grooms (for congress)

Letters to the Editor

TRANSFIXED

I really appreciate the diversity of voices I read each month in *OutSmart*. As usual, I found parts of Mr. Dale Carpenter's article on LGRL insightful and interesting ("LGRL and the Coming Republican Majority in Austin," May 1998). I support LGRL with my dollars and believe in its work.



No organization is exempt from criticism, however, and community groups may often benefit from a thorough critique. While it has done reasonably well at a difficult task, LGRL has room for improvement.

I am the first to decry our community's over-identification with the Democratic Party. I find it extremely alarming that LGRL has not a single Republican out of a 27-member board. Of course, the followup question is, *How many Republicans have sought a seat on the board, which is based on organizational affiliation and willingness to fund-raise?*

Continued on page 50

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Warm greetings to everyone taking part in the 1998 Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration.

As Americans, we can be proud of our diversity. Striving together, people of different ethnicities, backgrounds, races, beliefs, and sexual orientation have contributed to the success of our nation, reflecting the profound truth that this rich diversity is one of our greatest strengths. But we must face the reality that sometimes our differences divide us; sometimes the voices of hatred and prejudice drown out the harmony in our national life. Events like the Pride Celebration help us to recognize anew that working in the spirit of community is not a hope but a necessity, and that our individual dreams can only be realized by our shared efforts.

Our ideals and our history hold that the rights guaranteed us as Americans are inalienable. They are embedded in our Constitution and amplified over time by our courts and legislature, and I am bound by my oath of office and the burden of history to reaffirm them. Our nation stands to lose if we let prejudice and discrimination stifle the hopes or deny the potential of a single American. And we stand to lose when any person is denied or forced out of a job because of sexual orientation.

I commend each of you for your dedication to working for an America that celebrates our diversity, builds on our strengths, and fulfills our fundamental values of mutual respect and compassion. Working together, I am confident that we can enter the 21st century as one America.

Best wishes for a wonderful celebration.

—Bill Clinton
President of the United States of America



Send your letters and comments to: *OutSmart Magazine*, 3406 Audubon Place, Houston, TX 77006. Fax: 713/522-3275. Or you can e-mail us at: Letters@OutSmartMagazine.com. Please include a phone number for verification.

Pictures of Pride



Dani Harley



Steven Foster



Tere Ferruolo



Mari Chee



Greg Jen



Melissa Valenzuela



Blase DiStefano

Take some of the hippest, hottest members of the family. Subject them to the rigors of a highly glamorous photo shoot (imagine a phone booth with a Brownie camera). Ask them to answer soul-baring questions. Persuade them with coffee and homemade ice cream (thank you, Amy's Ice Cream!). What do you get? A pretty fun patchwork of pictures full of personality. So check out the pages of our June issue to get a closer look at some of your special siblings. To all our special guests, thank you. And to you, our readers, Happy Pride 1998 from your friends at *OutSmart*.

Happy Pride Week From Your Favorite Squeeze.

Great choices at Toopees' Juice Bar: Apple, Orange, Lemon, Grapefruit, Ginger, Celery, Beet, Tomato, Spinach, Garlic, Jalapeño, Cucumber, Parsley.

On June 21, treat Dad to a great meal and a comfortable atmosphere for a memorable Father's Day.



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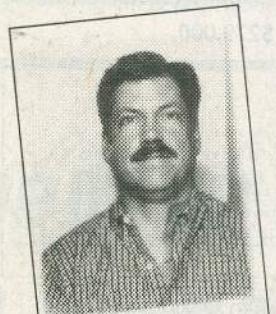
And, of course, coffees:

cappuccino, espresso, latte, iced, Vietnamese, Thai—
we've tried to come up with every coffee, milk, or flavor
combination possible, but if you don't see something, just ask!

Pictures of Pride

Shaunte Angelo Whole Latte Trouble

Years Out: Since 1992. The Meaning of Pride: Well, it's Pride Month! I really feel a stronger sense of the gay community in June. Mom & Dad: Dad was, *I don't like it but I'll accept it*. Mom was, *Oh that's great! RuPaul or Radiohead?* I like Radiohead, but I'll have to go with the diva. Oversized Shirt or Lace? Shirt. Unless I'm entertaining. Believe—Bill or Monica? I think Bill's a little shady, but no one cares. If he's getting a little on the side, I think that's great. But I do think she probably got screwed over a little bit. Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed? You can find me at La Strada. Pottery Barn or Home Depot? Pottery Barn. Shaunte Angelo percolates at the Montrose Starbucks.



Charles Armstrong Raising The Bar

Years Out: Since a Christmas drag show, 1973. The Meaning of Pride: A sense of family, a sense of people working to belong. A need to see other like-minded individuals. Mom & Dad: Dad's deceased. Mom is very loving of her son and her son-in-law! Boxers or Briefs? Briefs. Believe—Bill or Monica? Let's just say I hate Ken Starr. Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed? Still in bed. Pottery Barn or Home Depot? Home, looking lovely and that's a stretch. Charles Armstrong and his battalion of bars have been lifting gay spirits for years.

further! Nate delivers with style and class on her new album *Situation Critical*. Take this verse from the album's title song, "...you might not ever think that what you do makes a difference, but if you'd only try, you might save someone's life. So what you gonna do?"

Her cause is crystal clear. She's asking us to look inside ourselves and find the love that will heal us and the world. Is that asking too much? What's great about Nate is that she doesn't bring you down with these questions, she lifts you up. Her messages always have a positive feeling of hope, that in the end everything will be OK. "Found a Cure," topping the dance charts for three weeks, is proof of this: "How many times before have you been left alone and you feel confused do you have the strength to keep trying when the walls just keep on closing in, but you got everything that you need inside your heart if you just believe, things ain't always what they seem."

Ms. Nate ignited gay pride celebrations all around the world last year with the album's first number-one dance single, "Free." She has always been a supporter of gays and lesbians. This album lets her explore more than dance beats and rhythms. The soulfully tender slow jam, "It's Crying Tim," finds Nate in a blue mood over lost love, while "Release the Pressure" funks things up a bit. *Situation Critical* is the strongest album to date for house music's truest diva. Will it save the world? Probably not, but it will make us all feel better while trying.

Chris Sill spins tunes at Rich's and pushes dance records on club kids at Atomic Music.

Project CAESAR wants to take this opportunity to thank the community for all of its support and participation in the past year. With your help, Project CAESAR was able to reach over 15,000 gay and bisexual men with education and outreach. It is at this time every year that we like to reflect back upon where our community is today and where we want to be tomorrow. We have come a long way, but we still have far to travel. Remember that pride is a lot more than a sticker on the back of your car. It is pride in your friends and family and pride in who and what you are. Pride Day is literally **EVERY DAY**. Make that commitment not only for yourself, but for the community we all share.

Project CAESAR

AIDS Foundation Houston, Inc.

713.623.6796

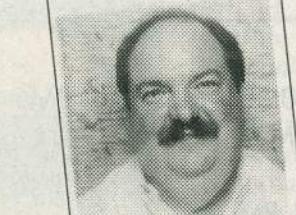
e-mail: education@aidshelp.org

Pictures of Pride

Mahlon Banda Copy Cat

Years Out: I never came out, I was just there. **The Meaning of Pride:** It's great. I pity the people who still have jobs, family, whatever, where they have to lie about themselves.

Mom & Dad: Very cool with it. **Nature or Nurture?** I think you're born with it. **Boxers or Briefs?** Briefs, definitely. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** I think it takes two to tango. I believe both of them. **Cooler—RuPaul or Radiohead?** Radiohead. RuPaul needs a replacement. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** Bed. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Home Depot. You can't get dungeon supplies at Pottery Barn, can you? **True original Mahlon Banda is co-owner of copy.com.**



Bob Boutil Grand Master Flash

Years Out: 25 years. **The Meaning of Pride:** To me, being gay is a fact of life. It's not something you hide, it's not something you go out of your way to shout about. It's a fact of life. **Mom & Dad:** Not a problem. They accept me and love me for how I am. **Nature or Nurture?** Definitely nature. I have no doubt in my mind. **Boxers or Briefs?** Briefs. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** I would prefer to believe Bill Clinton. That's all I'm gonna say. **Cooler—RuPaul or Radiohead?** Hm, what a choice! RuPaul. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** Maybe both. Maybe I'm having brunch in bed. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Home Depot. That one's an easy one. **Grand Being Marshal?** It's wonderful. Sometimes I feel like there are a lot of other people who deserve the honor as much as me. **Bob Boutil (with Jackie Doval) is this year's Pride Grand Marshal.**

OutSmart: You've got a great name. Were you named after actress Alexis Smith?

Alexis Arquette: [Laughs] No, my mother's side of the family is Russian. I was named after the last emperor-to-be of Russia, but he didn't really make it, because they were all killed off. Well, let's hope that doesn't happen to you.

[Laughs] Yeah.

So what was the first film you ever made?

The first thing I ever did was *Down and Out in Beverly Hills*. I played the friend of the son, at the end of the film.

Was *I Think I Do* enjoyable to make, or was it hard work?

It was great and a lot of fun. It was hard because we had a tight budget—independents are always a stretch.

Do you fluctuate between the two—commercial and independent?

Yeah. I usually do them for the same reason—because I like the script. But it's a lot easier when the budget is bigger, because of the perks. But sometimes you work harder on the lower budgets because you really want them to work.

When I interviewed your brother David, I asked him about you, but I was cautious. I said, "I don't know that your brother Alexis is out, but I've heard that he's gay. If he is, are you cool with that?" He said, "Totally. Alexis is a complete individual, and his whole life is an open book. A little while ago, I met his girlfriend . . . and they're talking about buying inflatable furniture together. Lex is a free spirit and the most creative person I've ever met. I talked to him about it once, and he said, 'You know, the only people I tell my sexuality to is if they wanna fuck me.'"

[Both laugh] Is that what you said?

Yeah, my usual pat answer.

Well, if I said I wanted to "do it" to you, would you tell me your sexuality?

[Laughs] Well, I only know you from over the phone.

Well, but still . . .

You can understand that response, right?

Oh, yeah.

There's no reason to discuss it really, unless you're gonna [pause] do it.

[Laughs] Right, and I guess we're not. Okay, then, if a loaded gun was pointed to your head, would you label yourself a bisexual?

Um, oh God, that's even worse than gay.

Well, do you think that bisexuality even exists?

I think it's a lot more common than gay, quite frankly. Not active, it's probably not self-aware bisexuality.

But it just seems . . .

You've got the most options.

Yeah, when you meet somebody, it doesn't matter what sex they are. Bisexuality seems so normal.

In a better world . . .

Yeah, in a perfect world, so . . .

Well, I'm not gender specific when it comes to desire. I have an affinity for the gay community because so much of the humor that I think is funny is from the gay community—it has a gay aesthetic in it.

Maybe when growing up, when you get a lot of shit for

Pictures of Pride

Jeffrey Bules State Farmboy

Years Out: Since I was 17, so a long time. **The Meaning of Pride:** Without sounding eloquent, being really, really happy with who I am, never questioning my sexuality. Never having doubt about what I am or what I do. **Mom & Dad:** Completely cool with it. **Nature or Nurture?** That never crosses my mind. **Cooler—RuPaul or Radiohead?** I would say Ru because of the crossover. **Boxers or Briefs?** Depends upon the moment. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** I've not talked to either of them. I'm gonna stay with that. **Sunday—at Brunch or In Bed?** At church. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Since I just bought a house, probably both. **Jeffrey Bules is an agent with Rob Schmerler. You're in good hands...**



Jackie Doval Baby Grand

Years Out: My parents outed me, about 13 years ago. **The Meaning of Pride:** That the fear of being who I am in front of people is gone. **Mom & Dad:** We haven't spoken for about a year now. **Democrat or Republican?** Democrat. **Big T-shirt or lace?** Lacey underwear. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** I didn't inhale either. **Sunday—at Brunch or In Bed?** In church. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Oh, Home Depot! **Grand Being Marshal?** It's an honor. I've been the Susan Lucci at this for a long time now. **Jackie Doval (with Bob Boutilier) is this year's Pride Grand Marshal.**

I don't think there was any reason I wasn't with guys other than boys probably weren't aware of their sexuality if they weren't gay, and if they were aware of it, they were just too shy to act on it, which is a shame, because at that age when you're young . . . I'm sure that there are a lot of people out there who have relationships with other boys that are same-sex when they're that age and really get kind of close to someone you know, like a friend or whatever . . . but with the relationships I had with boys at that age, we didn't communicate a lot about that aspect, we just didn't talk about the sex we had. You know what I mean?

Yeah, exactly.

We had friendships and there was sex, but we didn't speak of it. Now when I think about it more and more, what I want in a relationship is just a friend I can have sex with and not have to talk about it. [Both laugh] Not ever have to talk about it, not have to deal with it, just do it, and just be friends afterward.

Do you believe in monogamy?

I believe in the ideal of it. I don't believe anyone is really living it. People are full of shit when they say *Thoughts are one thing, but actions are another—you can look but you can't touch*. I think if you're sleeping with someone every night, and they're the only one, if you're not thinking of them, and every night you come home with a different mental image of who you saw on the subway or at work or on TV, it's just as bad, 'cause you're not being with that person in the long run.

In reality that's not really monogamy. *Continued on page 77*

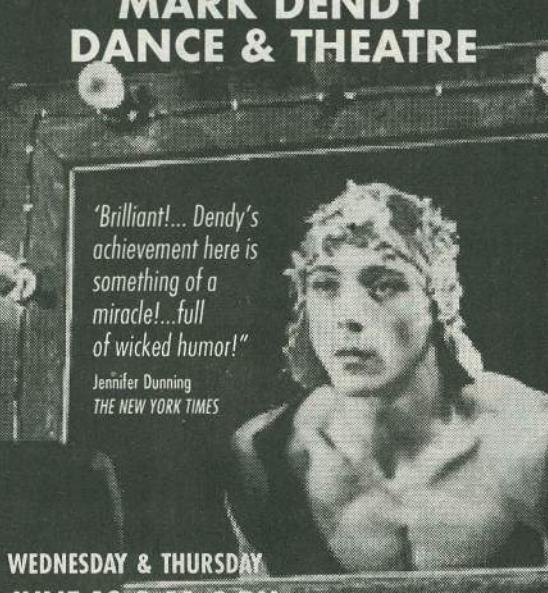
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Pictures of Pride

Kenny Enalls Oh My God, They... (ah, you know the rest)



Years Out: About 12 years. **The Meaning of Pride:** Having no regrets, no excuses. **Mom & Dad:** My mother's cool, but *Don't throw it in my face*. **Nature or Nurture?** Oh, it's nature. **Boxers or Briefs?** Neither! [laughs] **Believe—Bill or Monica?** [whispers] Monica! **Cooler—RuPaul or Radiohead?** RuPaul, but only because I had lunch with her. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** In bed. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Bed. **Kenny Enalls works at Soundwaves Montrose and is to die for.**



Julie Finch She's Been An Ad, Ad Girl

Years Out: For about 12 years. **The Meaning of Pride:** I'm always real proud of our community for how far we've come in the last five, 10 years. It seems like a lot of positive things have happened in the years since I first came out. **Ellen's Last Show—Sweet or Sucked?** I enjoyed it. I didn't think it was a laugh riot, but I liked how she treated the whole thing. **Mom & Dad:** They are wonderful. A lot of my friends want to adopt them, I think. **Democrat or Republican?** Fiscally, I'm a Republican. But for social issues, obviously, I'm more democratic. **Big T-shirt or Lace?** Oh, big T-shirt. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** Oh, I think probably she is [telling the truth]. **Julie Finch is a writer-producer with Fogarty/Klein. Her quirky vocal enthusiasms made Garden Ridge Pottery bloom.**

Continued from page 40

as one of her male characters, Rick, on Murphy Brown]

M.P.: You probably never thought that when you were doing *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe* that you would go and do Rick on a national sitcom like that.

L.T.: No, I didn't. Actually, I did Rick in *Appearing Nitely*. He was a prototype for that kind of fellow.

M.P.: Does Rick have chest hair?

L.T.: Actually you couldn't see it, but I stuck a little hair coming out the top of his T-shirt, but you couldn't really see it. He was sort of bastardized. They got the idea to do it a little late, and then you only have a couple of days to put it together. And I actually used Tommy Velour's hair, and I combed it differently.

Blase DiStefano: Guys dress up in drag all the time. I wondered what it's like for you to dress up and have a hairy chest, 'cause Tommy Velour had a hairy chest, right?

L.T.: Oh yeah, absolutely. Well, it's all theatrical, you don't really have a sense that you have the hair on. I just feel like I'm trying to be Tommy. Tommy's so magnanimous. He's a star, not like the other guys. Did you ever see Purvis Hawkins, the guy I did on *Lily for President*?

B.D.: Yes.

L.T.: I loved Purvis. We were like mad for Purvis. Tommy looked like he was 5 foot nine, and Purvis looked like he was 6 foot four. I don't know how that happened.

B.D.: You once joked with an interviewer about Ernestine being gay or bisexual.

L.T.: What did I say?

B.D.: You said maybe she could be gay or bisexual, maybe she could come out.

[Handily, an interruption discontinued that line of questioning, but Tomlin made a rather nice segue.]

L.T.: I just got offered a part in a movie, but if I take it, I have to go to Florence for three months. [Tomlin gets a loud "aw" from the entire room.] I would be playing a lesbian. It's a wonderful role. It's set in World War II and taken from Mussolini's memoirs.

B.D.: You gotta do it.

L.T.: I want to, but I have to leave my animals.

B.D.: I'll take care of them.

[Laughter from room]

L.T.: I want to go. Can you imagine—things could be worse than going to Florence for three months.

M.P.: What do you want to be in 10 years? Do you want to retire? Where do you think you'll be in 10 years?

L.T.: I don't know. I wish I had some words of wisdom to depart. I don't. . . . I'd rather talk about the center, because that's what I'm here for, to bring them attention.

M.P.: What do we need to keep doing?

L.T.: How did the species evolve? I don't know that the species is ever gonna evolve if we're totally materialistic and everything is sexualized and objectified, and everybody is completely stressed out, and money is the most important

Continued on page 45

Pictures of Pride

Keith Fondon Prodigal Son

Years Out: About five years. **The Meaning of Pride:** To me, being able to wake up in the morning and not care what society has to say about you . . . rich, poor, gay, straight. **Mom & Dad:** The reason they don't know is because I don't choose to tell them. **Nature or Nurture?** You're born with it. God deals you a hand of cards and you play the hand you're dealt. **Boxers or Briefs?** Neither. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** Let's go with Bill. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** It all depends on who's gonna be at brunch. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Liquid Lounge. **Keith Fondon wisely returned to Houston from San Diego.**



Stephen Ford Weed Whacker

Years Out: Since I was 25. **The Meaning of Pride:** No matter who or what you are, you can still stand tall and be proud of yourself. **Mom & Dad:** They're awesome. **Ellen's Last Show—Sweet or Sucked?** It was a letdown, but I didn't think it sucked. **Boxers or Briefs?** Boxer briefs. **Cooler—RuPaul or Radiohead?** Who's Radiohead? **Believe—Bill or Monica?** I think they both have a little bit of fib going on there. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** Home, drinking my coffee. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** I'm probably hitting both of them. **Stephen Ford is a landscape architect with TW Landscaping. The grass doesn't grow under his feet.**

Pictures of Pride

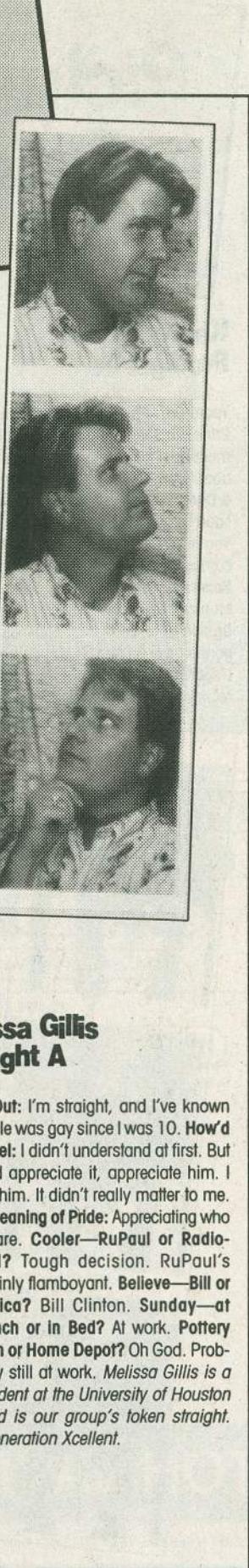
John Frels Man of the House

Years Out: Since spring break, 1984. **The Meaning of Pride:** I think it goes beyond being gay, or straight, but being who you are. **Mom & Dad:** My father passed away, but when I came out to my mother, she said she thought we'd be better friends than we'd ever been. And that she better get invited to every one of my parties. **Boxers or Briefs?** Briefs. **Cooler—RuPaul or Radiohead?** RuPaul. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** I say Monica. **Sunday—at Brunch or In Bed?** I'm in bed. **John Frels** is the owner of Mortgage Associates and has been making Houston feel right at home for years.



Melissa Gillis Straight A

Years Out: I'm straight, and I've known my uncle was gay since I was 10. **How'd You Feel:** I didn't understand at first. But I could appreciate it, appreciate him. I loved him. It didn't really matter to me. **The Meaning of Pride:** Appreciating who you are. **Cooler—RuPaul or Radiohead?** Tough decision. RuPaul's certainly flamboyant. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** Bill Clinton. **Sunday—at Brunch or In Bed?** At work. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Oh God. Probably still at work. **Melissa Gillis** is a student at the University of Houston and is our group's token straight. *Generation Xcellent.*



Boop - Oop - A - Doop



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Prom Night '98

Time: 8-11 p.m.
Cost: \$20
Sponsor: Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals
Beneficiary: HATCH
Address: The Lovett Inn, 501 Lovett Blvd.
Contact Phone: 713-942-7002
Break out the taffeta and the tuxes! This sixth annual prom is one of our biggest fund-raisers. Put on your dancing shoes and enjoy Prom Night '98.

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

Pride Day in the Park

Time: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Cost: \$20 advance ticket; \$34.58 at the gate
Sponsor: The Pride Committee of Houston
Beneficiary: The Pride Committee of Houston
Address: Astroworld, 9001 Kirby
Contact Phone: 713-529-6979
Is that family or *family*? Join us at Astroworld to find out!

Pride Sunday I

Time: 12-11 p.m.
Cost: Free
Sponsor: JR's Bar & Grill with the Santa Fe Bar & Patio
Address: JR's Bar & Grill with the Santa Fe Bar & Patio, 804 & 808 Pacific Street
Contact Phone: 713-529-2519
Be part of this huge party with 99 cents well vodka/juice/drinks and karaoke.

MONDAY, JUNE 15

"Bustin' With Pride" Employee Turnabout Show with Special Guests

Time: 9 p.m.
Cost: Tips to performers
Sponsor: Charles Armstrong Investments and JR's
Beneficiary: 800 Pacific Employees Emergency Fund and Charity
Address: JR's Bar & Grill with the Santa Fe Bar & Patio, 804 & 808 Pacific Street
Contact Phone: 713-529-2519

I Am Never Upset For the Reason I think-Seminar

Time: 7-9 p.m.
Cost: Requested donations at the door
Sponsor: Patrick J. Vachon
Beneficiary: The Pride Committee
Address: 1712 Fairview
Contact Phone: 713-524-1771
Our upsets of today as well as our style of dealing with them are firmly grounded in our experiences of the past. Join us in identifying some of these issues as well as your personal defenses.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

Mandatory Meeting (for all parade participants)

Time: 6-9 p.m.
Address: 2700 Albany, Suite 300
Contact Phone: 713-529-6979
If you want to be part of the parade this year, you must attend this meeting.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

Sharing HOPE

Time: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Cost: Requested donations of \$5-10
Sponsor: Hope Center Youth and Family Services
Beneficiary: Clients of STEPS Program (18-21-year-old homeless youth)
Address: 3118 San Jacinto
Contact Phone: 713-524-1992
Learn about the agencies of the Homeless Youth Network, which provide for the health and well-being of all youth in Houston, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender.

Tapping Your Inner Resources

Time: 7-9 p.m.
Cost: Requested donation at door
Sponsor: Norris G. Lang, Ph. D
Beneficiary: The Pride Committee of Houston
Address: 1712 Fairview
Contact Phone: 713-524-1771
Join us as we explore options in the use of hypnosis and visualization to bring peace to mind, body, and spirit.

JUNE 17-21, 1998

Tim Miller Performing Skirts and Skin

Time: 8 p.m., June 17-19; 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., June 20; and 6 p.m., June 21
Cost: \$20
Sponsor: Theater LaB Houston
Address: 1706 Alamo
Contact Phone: 713-868-7516
Performance artist Tim Miller presents his one-man show about being gay in the 1990s.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

Legal, Financial and Tax Planning for Gay Couples

Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Cost: Free, pre-registration is required
Sponsor: Julie LaRue, L.U.T.C.F./The Acacia Group
Address: 9 Greenway Plaza, Suite 3000
Contact Phone: 713-888-3500
For your legal or financial questions the buck stops here.

Financial Strategies for Gay Men and Lesbians

Time: 7 p.m.
Cost: Free

Pictures of Pride

Tobin Hellums HR Puff & Stuff

Years Out: I've never been in. The Meaning of Pride: The freedom to be the person we were born to be. Mom & Dad: My parents are so great about it. Boxers or Briefs? Boxers. Cooler—RuPaul or Radiohead: Well, RuPaul's more fabulous. Believe—Bill or Monica? I suppose Bill would have my vote. Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed? Probably in church. Pottery Barn or Home Depot? Home Depot. That's where all fags want to be. Tobin Hellums is a Human Resources Consultant. At last, someone in HR on our side.



Tonya Grant Grant & Rave

Years Out: To my family, 20 years. To my clients, I'm kinda still in the closet, but I don't lie anymore. The Meaning of Pride: Since I moved to Houston, I've realized what a wonderful gay community we have. Mom & Dad: When I first came out, they wanted to take me to a psychiatrist. But now they're cool. Democrat or Republican? I voted for Reagan, then I voted for Clinton. Does that tell you anything? Ellen's Last Show—Sweet or Sucked? It sucked. Cooler—RuPaul or Radiohead? I don't know who Radiohead is. Believe—Bill or Monica? I don't care. Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed? In bed. Or working in the yard. Pottery Barn or Home Depot? Pottery Barn. Tonya Grant is a mortgage broker at Point Mortgage. You'd be so nice to come home to...

Address: The Outpost, 1419 Richmond
Contact Phone: 713-524-9216
This is your cue! Enter, stage right, and play a part in this pool tournament to raise money for Pet Patrol.

Time Travel

Time: 8 p.m.
Cost: \$12
Sponsor: Gay Men's Chorus of Houston
Beneficiary: G.M.C.H.
Address: 17 Street and Heights Blvd.
Contact Phone: 713-521-7464
Let's do the time warp! Be here for a retrospective of 20th century music.

Construction Party '98: Building Pride

Time: 9:30 p.m.
Cost: \$25 advance ticket; \$30 at the door
Sponsor: Outrage and The Pride Committee of Houston
Beneficiary: Milan House, Steven's House, The Assistance Fund, and other Houston area HIV/AIDS charities
Address: The Hanger, Polk at Roberts in the Warehouse District
Contact Phone: 713-706-2508
This year's official pride party is based on a construction theme, so put on your tool belt, grab a hammer, and start banging to the beat!

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

Rainbow Fishing Club
Time: 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$20 deposit and \$40 ticket at boat
Sponsor: Rainbow Fishing Club
Address: Pier 19, Galveston
Contact Phone: 713-523-6381
Join us for a 12-hour deep sea fishing trip on the 85' New Buccaneer!

Pride Day at the Wortham

Time: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Cost: Free, pre-registration is required
Sponsor: Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection
Address: The Wortham Theater Center, 500 Texas
Contact Phone: 713-860-9149
Come and experience a musical celebration of pride with guest speaker Rev. Mel White.

Pride Sunday II

Time: 12-11 p.m.
Cost: Free
Sponsor: JR's Bar & Grill with the Santa Fe Bar & Patio
Address: JR's Bar & Grill with the Santa Fe Bar & Patio, 804 & 808 Pacific Street
Contact Phone: 713-521-2519
Help us close out the first week of pride with a huge party!

Phoenix Magic Tournament

Time: 2 p.m.
Cost: \$15
Sponsor: Phoenix Comics and Games
Address: Phoenix Comics and Games, 2424 Montrose

Contact Phone: 713-524-1150
This will be a standard closed-deck Magic: The Gathering tournament, using Tempest edition cards. For your entry fee, you will be given one sealed deck and two expansion packs, and there will be a 30-minute card trading and deck building session before the tournament begins.

Pride and Justice Workshop

Time: 5 p.m.
Cost: Free
Sponsor: Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection
Address: The Wortham Theater Center, 500 Texas
Contact Phone: 713-861-9194
Rev. Mel White will be giving a presentation on "Soul Force," which includes principles from Jesus, Ghandi, and Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Time Travel

Time: 7 p.m.
Cost: \$15
Sponsor: Gay Men's Chorus of Houston
Beneficiary: G.M.C.H.
Address: 17 Street and Heights Blvd.
Contact Phone: 713-521-7464
Let's do the time warp! Be here for a retrospective of 20th century music.

Community Dance Outreach Rangler Pride Show

Time: 8-9 p.m.
Cost: Free
Sponsor: Rainbow Ranglers Dance Club and the Cultural Arts Council of Houston, Harris county
Address: Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos
Contact Phone: 713-880-0670
Come watch us strut our stuff and dance with pride in this county-western exhibition.

MONDAY, JUNE 22

Grand Marshal Reception

Time: 7 p.m.
Cost: Free
Sponsor: Royal, Sovereign, and Imperial Court of the Single Star
Address: Gentry, 2303 Richmond
Contact Phone: 281-587-5429
Come and join us in congratulating and honoring this year's Pride Parade Grand Marshals.

Listen To Me Like You Really Care

Time: 7-9 p.m.
Cost: Donations accepted at the door
Sponsor: Patrick J. Vachon
Beneficiary: The Pride Committee of Houston
Address: 1712 Fairview
Contact Phone: 713-524-1771
Learn how to effectively communicate in your personal and professional relationships.

Tuesday, June 23 Financial Strategies for Gay Men and Lesbians

Time: 7 p.m.

Pictures of Pride

Rachel Olsen Teacher's Pet

Years Out: A little over two years. **The Meaning of Pride:** Believing in myself and being who I want to be, basically. **Mom & Dad:** They're fine, actually. A little shocked at first, but now they're great. **Democrat or Republican?** Democrat, definitely. **Nature or Nurture?** You're born. **Big T-shirt or Lace?** Sexy, lacy lingerie. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** Monica Lewinsky, but that's fine. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** Hopefully, in bed. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Pottery Barn. **Rachel Olsen** is majoring in education at St. Thomas University. Soon, yet another reason for pro athletes and teachers to switch salaries for awhile.



Adrian Porter Broadway Baby

Years Out: Forever. **The Meaning of Pride:** For everyone coming together for a month, it's great. But I think we should show that pride every month. **Mom & Dad:** Everyone's happy. I've been very fortunate. **Boxers or Briefs?** I like briefs, but I love to see my husband in boxers. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** He's handsome. I would've given him some, too. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** In church, then brunch, then bed. In that order. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Home Depot. **Adrian Porter** is an actor. More dramatic on the boards than Louganis.

Pictures of Pride

Debbie Ratliff Compact Discs

Years Out: Nine years. **The Meaning of Pride:** That you're not ashamed of yourself. **Mom & Dad:** I'm not out to my family. Uh-uh! They're Quaker. **Nature or Nurture?** Nature. Yeah, I always knew. I had a little girlfriend in kindergarten. **Cooler—RuPaul or Radiohead?** RuPaul. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** Brunch. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Pottery Barn. **Debbie Ratliff is the manager of Soundwaves Montrose. Debbie is what happens when Sassy & Sexy get together and have a child.**



Louis Ray Pet Shop Boy

Years Out: Five, six years. **The Meaning of Pride:** Just being happy with who I am. **Mom & Dad:** They're fabulous with it. **Boxers or Briefs?** Boxers. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** Monica Lewinsky. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** In bed lately. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Pottery Barn. **Louis Ray is a veterinary assistant. Dr. Doolittle? Hell, do a lot.**



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Pictures of Pride

Keith Russell House Boy

Years Out: All my life. **The Meaning of Pride:** We offer so much to society. As you look at a tapestry, all the colors we bring, it's a pretty picture. **Mom & Dad:** It's never been brought up. **Democrat or Republican?** I vote for who's right. Is that PC? **Boxers or Briefs?** Boxer briefs. They make you hang better. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** Monica Lewinsky, but we wanna see what it's all about. **Sunday—at Brunch or In Bed?** In church. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** I always have a hard-on in Home Depot. **Keith Russell is a mortgage broker at Point Mortgage. You'd be so nice...**



Vickie Shaw Funny Girl

Years Out: Four years. **The Meaning of Pride:** So many people aren't proud of being gay and they hate themselves. This gives those people a chance to see that a lot of us are not sorry, we're not weird, that it's okay. And it gives us a good excuse to have a party. **Mom & Dad:** Mom and Dad are still not cool with it, but they're getting better. **Big T-shirt or Lace? T-shirt. Believe—Bill or Monica? Monica. Sunday—at Brunch or In Bed? Bed. Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Home Depot. I love the smell of fertilizer in the morning. **Comedienne Vickie Shaw will be laying 'em out at the Laffstop on August 9.**



Queer Science

by Simon LeVey

Nature Vs Nurture

Genes aren't everything! From a "born-that-way" advocate like myself, that may seem like a surprising admission, but it's true: for most aspects of our psychological makeup, including our sexual orientation, genes are no more than about half the reason why we end up the way we do. So what else is involved?

One possible factor that's been looked at is birth order. MIT psychologist Frank Sulloway, who created quite a stir with his 1996 book *Born To Rebel*, believes that early- and late-born children develop in fundamentally different ways, because they are exposed to different family dynamics. Early-born children, he says, tend to be ambitious defenders of the status quo, while late-born children have to carve out their own niche, often developing an unorthodox or creative personality in the process.

If Sulloway is right, one might expect gay people to be later-born, for homosexuality is certainly unorthodox, at least in our society, and gay people are often credited with being unusually creative. The question of gay people's birth order had been studied extensively by Ray Blanchard and Tony Bogaert at the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry in Toronto. From their reviews of previous scientific literature, as well as from a number of studies they have carried out themselves, they conclude that there is indeed a connection between birth order and sexual orientation, but their interpretation of this finding is quite different from what one might expect.

Their basic finding is that, in a large number of studies, gay men are on average slightly later-born than straight men. Male-to-female transsexuals, as well as gender-nonconformist boys (who will probably become gay men), are even more likely to be late-born. Lesbians, on the other hand, have the same average birth-order position as heterosexual women.

Looking more carefully at the data for gay men, Blanchard and Bogaert observed that their relatively late birth order was due to an excess of older brothers, rather than older sisters. In fact, for every older brother a boy has, his chances of becoming gay are increased by about 33 percent. But since the prevalence of male homosexuality is only about 4 percent, a boy would have to have at least 11 older brothers before he had even a 50:50 chance of becoming gay. So the birth-order effect is really quite a weak one.

Sulloway himself has noted the connection between birth order and male sexual orientation. In his book, he suggests that later-born boys are freer to experiment sexually, and that this may lead them to experience homosexual attractions that their older brothers never discover.

Early-born children, he says, tend to be ambitious defenders of the status quo, while late-born children have to carve out their own niche, often developing an unorthodox or creative personality in the process.

Pictures of Pride

Alex Stutler Rice BeefCake

Years Out: Seven years. **The Meaning of Pride:** I am the way I am, I have no problem with it, no one else should either. **Mom & Dad:** Mom and Dad are pretty cool with it. Dad, though, is *don't-ask-don't-tell*. **Nature or Nurture?** I can't remember a time when I wasn't, so I'd have to say nature. **Democrat or Republican?** Democrat, for social reasons. **Boxers or Briefs?** Neither. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** Neither. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** In bed. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Home Depot. **Alex Stutler is a stage manager at Rice University. And why hasn't Page Parkes called you yet?**



Polo Vigil Drug Lord

Years Out: Almost two years. **The Meaning of Pride:** It's kinda hard to say. It's not that you're *proud* to be gay, it's more like *Why are you blond?* It's just a fact. **Nature or Nurture?** I think you're born that way. **Mom & Dad:** My mom knows. She's comfortable now with the issue. **Boxers or Briefs?** Boxers. **Believe—Bill or Monica?** Being a man, we're all liars, I'll have to go with Monica. **Sunday—at Brunch or in Bed?** In bed. **Pottery Barn or Home Depot?** Probably Pottery Barn. **Polo Vigil is a criminal chemist with HPD. He checks the drugs that come in and, no, you can't have any.**

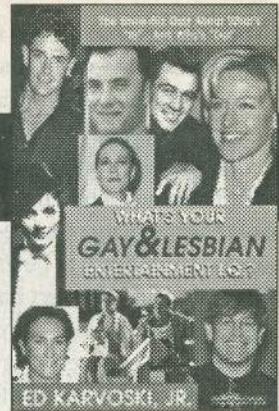


ReadOut by Blase DiStefano

What's Your Gay & Lesbian Entertainment I.Q.?

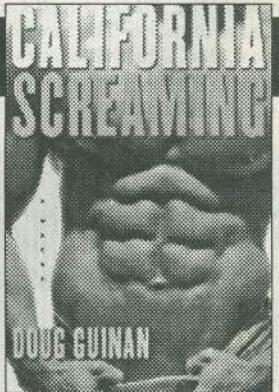
by Ed Karvoski Jr.

Who made her film debut by playing a lesbian in *The Group* (1966)? Who appeared on the cover of the first issue of *Entertainment Weekly* in February of 1990? Who said, "Being a man one day and a woman the next is not an easy thing to do"? Who said, "I like them all—men I mean. And a few chicks now and then"? Don't panic—to answer these questions in *What's Your Gay & Lesbian Entertainment I.Q.?*, you're at least given choices in order to make an educated guess. The 569 queer questions are divided into 20 appropriate categories, including "A Kiss Is Just a Kiss" (onscreen kisses between same-sex stars); "Musical Notes" (gays in music); "Speaking Out" (quotes from celebrities); and "TV Drama Queens" (playing gay on TV). Of the 20 sections, four are inexplicable entries (thankfully, they're short): "Bar Hopping" expects you to match the bars with the film in which the bar appears; "Channel Surfing" wants you to identify the network on which TV shows aired; "Places" hopes you'll know the birthplace of actors/actresses; and "A Very Good Year" thinks you might actually possess the knowledge of the year of anything gay-related, like the model year of Corky's Chevy truck in the film *Bound* (if you know that answer, you've got way too much time on your hands). Nevertheless, it's fun and informative. The rating scale: The Victor/Victoria Victory Award (400 or more correct answers); The Ellen DeGeneres "Yep, I'm Gay" Award (300-399 correct answers); The Rupert Everett "Best Friend" Award (200-299 correct answers); The Mariel Hemingway Personal Best (But No Cigar) Award (100-199 correct answers); and The Bad Drag Show Award (0-99 correct answers). I'm Rupert Everett's "Best Friend." (Kensington Publishing, \$13)



California Screaming by Doug Guinan

Kevin Malloy, an off-and-on fashion photographer and a ridiculously gorgeous hunk, is picked up by wealthy record mogul Brad Sherwood, a thinly disguised David Geffen. The improbable pair initiate a relationship which on the surface appears to be based on money and looks—Brad's money and Kevin's looks. Beneath their jaded exteriors, however, both are yearning for more, as are the other characters who inhabit *California Screaming*, a few of whom include: Leon Delvalle, Kevin's roommate, who dreams of being a set designer on a soap; Shane Dunne—Kevin and Leon's next-door neighbor—a flight attendant; and Rob Erikson, an ex ice-skating star and Brad's longtime friend. *Screaming* is, well, screaming with stereotypes: (Italics for emphasis, though easily overused, in this book warrant them!) This book has got the gym, the sex, the narcissism, but author Doug Guinan—who calls his debut work "a book proudly without any redeeming social value whatsoever"—has pulled off what seems almost impossible: an interesting, funny, sexy, touching fictional story about stereotypical gay men. (Simon & Schuster, \$23)





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Barbara Winston

HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL

1998 PRIDE PARADE

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PFLAG Houston

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<http://www.pflagtx.org>

**We don't want you in a closet.
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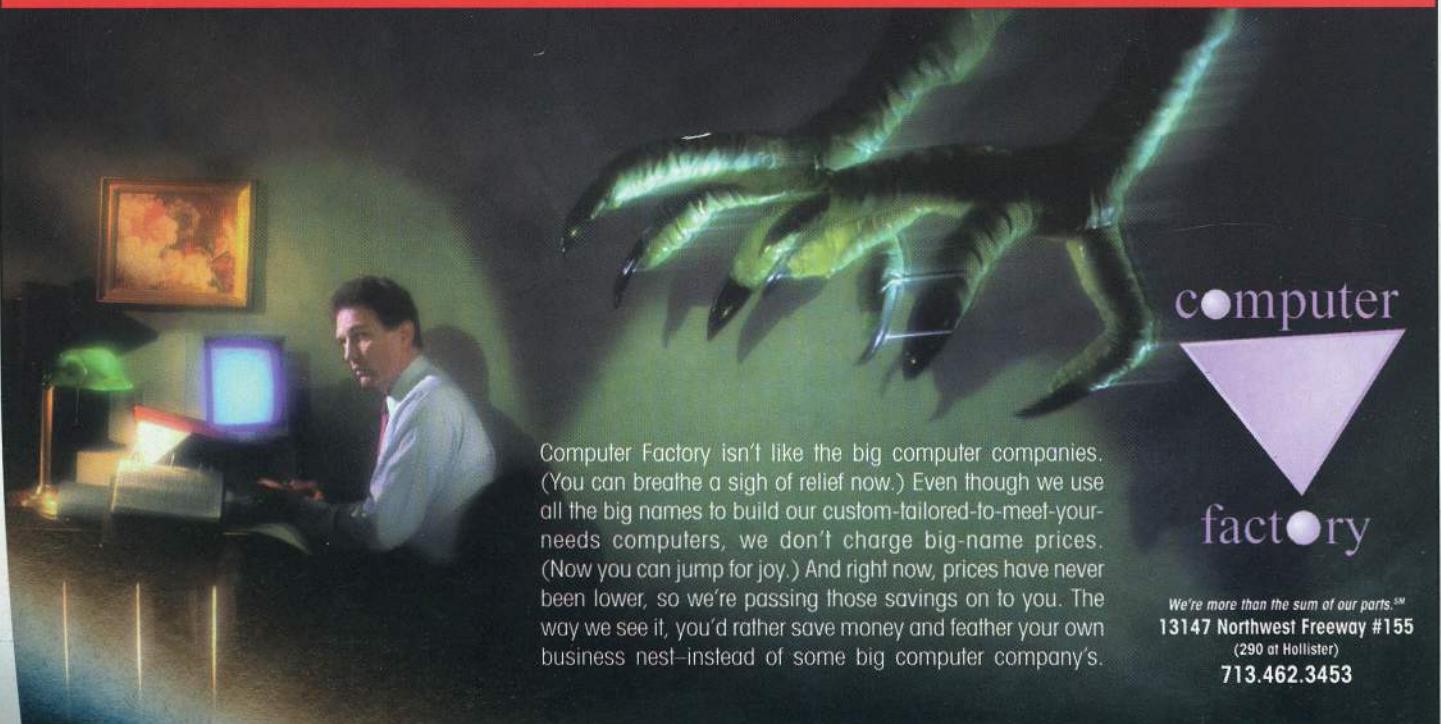
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