

May 8, 2009

MAGAZINE about

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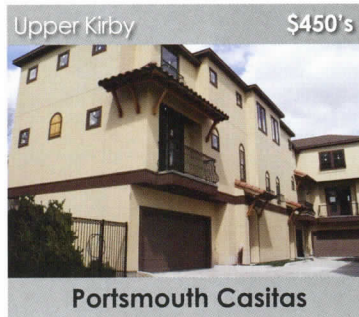
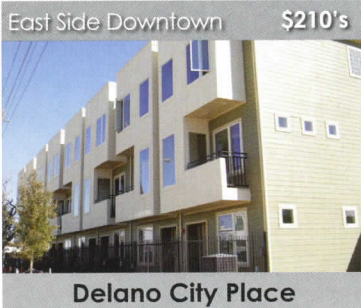


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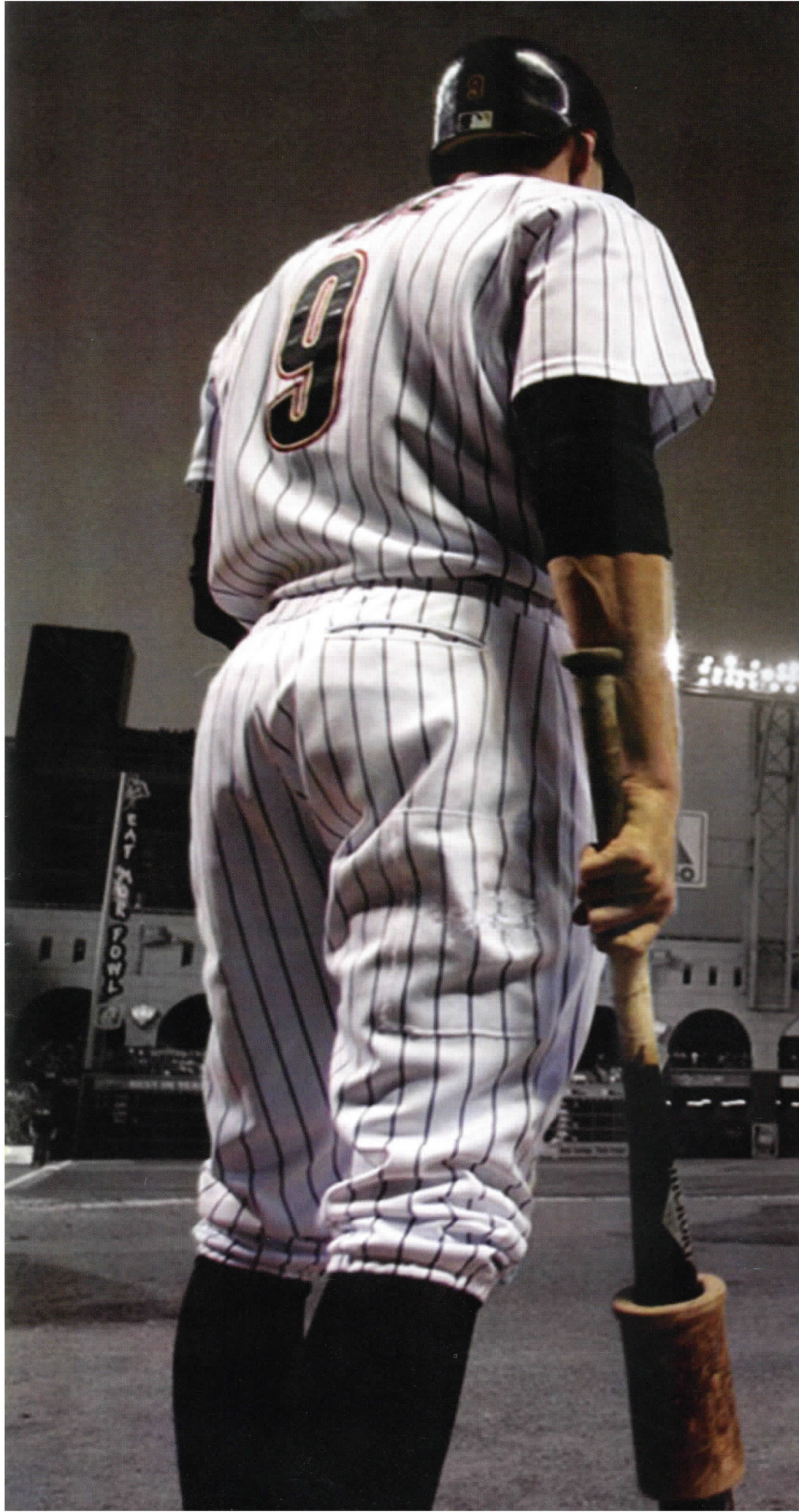
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CADE MICHALS

Publisher

cade@abOUTmagazine.net

WILLIAM CLEVINGER

President

bill@abOUTmagazine.net

CORY WITT

Marketing

info@abOUTmagazine.net

CHARLIE BUERGER

Publishing Advisor

charlie@abOUTmagazine.net

ANGEL GUERRERO

Fashion Director

angel@abOUTmagazine.net

AMBER COLLIER

Senior Graphic Design Manager

about@amberstardesign.com

PAUL STRICKIN

Events Photographer

kactuspt@comcast.net

abOUT Magazine

abOUT Publications

711 Hyde Park Blvd
Houston TX 77007

713-492-0485 Office
713-492-0493 Fax

www.abOUTmagazine.net

myspace.com/aboutmagazinehouston

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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

Dear abOUT Readers,

What a week it's been at abOUT Magazine. We have been so busy working on so many events for the community which has been so much fun. This past Sunday abOUT attended the auditions for Pride Idol and then rushed off to South Beach for the 1st Annual Dancing Bears charity event for the Osito Foundation. It was a great weekend.

Pride Idol 2009 is going to be a season to follow. Pride this year has done an outstanding job making the event better with each year. Now that it's year three, it's almost PERFECT! The judges on Sunday were warmed up and ready to GO! And so they did! Read more about PRIDE Idol in this issue.

The Dancing Bears charity event that followed Pride Idol was a blast. The WHO of WHO's in the community all were present, to support a charity that is just incredible! We have included some pictures of the event in addition to WET Galveston Beach pictures.

We have some exciting NEWS that I am dying to release about some very cool events we are working on here at HEADquarters, but I can't release it just YET! Stay tuned!

I want all of our READERS to go on-line and check out our amazing site. I am proud to say WE ARE THE ONLY community magazine with FLASH / VIDEO site. I mean it's almost PERFECT! :) Take a look and let me know what you think, I'm always open to suggestions to make something BIGGER and BETTER! It's simple to find: www.abOUTmagazine.net

Thanks for listening to my rants and raves. Till next time, THANK YOU ALL so very much for supporting abOUT Magazine. THANK YOU for supporting our advertisers.

Cade Michals

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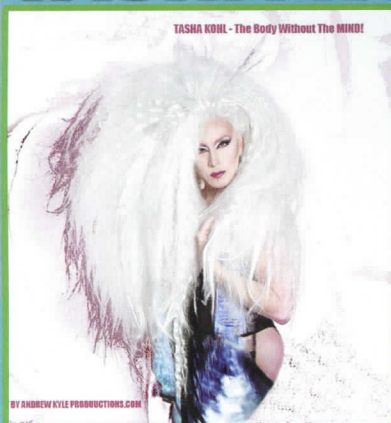
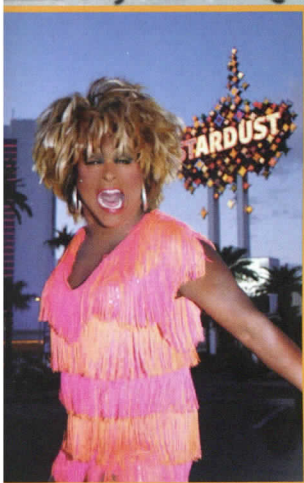
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INSIDE Pride Idol: A look into this year's event, the judges, and the contestants...

PRIDE IDOL, MAY 3RD AT WAREHOUSE LIVE

It

all kicked off for the third year, this past weekend, on May 3rd at Warehouse Live for Pride Idol. This year's competition, which is completely different than years past, is a welcoming stepping stone into June's Gay Pride month in Houston.

This year, hosted at Warehouse Live on the edge of downtown was great! Some contestants arriving as early as 6:40 am the day of, knowing the doors did not officially open till noon. If one has never ventured to Warehouse Live, it's a live music venue located on the eastern edge of downtown on St Emmanuel. Breaking the venue up, there is the actual hall, and a side venue, called "The Studio".

The atmosphere was very cozy, more rock star dressing room. Dim blue and red lighting, with deep valet chairs and couches for people to sit around the intimate stage, like almost waiting for a live acoustic version from Green Day. This was Pride Idol. The event continues at Guava Lamp on May 21st.

The Judges: Most people attending the Pride Idol events know little or nothing about the judges, except from what they hear while on a stage full of nerves. Pride Idol's judges create a unique circle of entertainment knowledge that allows them all, when together; converse on whether the performer before them has what it takes to promote Pride in the community

In the crowd at Warehouse Live this weekend, listening to the judges give their feed back to each participant trying to make the cut was hard. But then realization kicked in. Most people don't know how much of the weight actually sits on the judges. Having to let a singers hopes fade, telling someone they are not what's being looked for in the competition, or telling the boy that has been told all his life he's the next Elton John by his mother, to be hit with the hard fact that he couldn't carry a tune if he tried; is in fact a hard task to deliver.

Ernie Manouse:

Ernie is a television interviewer and journalist. He has also worked in radio and has often appeared in print. He currently hosts

InnerVIEWS with

Ernie Manouse, produced by Houston PBS. In 2005, Manouse received his fifth Emmy nomination as "Best On-Air Talent"

"Ernie is among the best interviewers I have ever experienced. His intellect, charm and charisma make for television that is informative and entertaining. In the course of conducting a superb interview, he conveys his talent, humor, intelligence, compassion, understanding and wit." -Walter Cronkite

Joey Guerra:

Joey has worked as a reporter and editor for many publications, including The Houston Voice, Go, Vibe Magazine, Amazon.com, and currently is a Music Critic for the Houston Chronicle. Joey has a journalism degree from the U of H with a minor in radio and television communications. While attending U of H, he was entertainment editor of the campus newspaper the Daily Cougar. His coverage for the Chronicle has included reviews for: Taylor Swift, Britney Spears, Beyonce and many more.

"I think communication is what will ultimately make me a good editor," Guerra said. "I love talking to readers, working with writers and simply moving forward to create a better, more vibrant product."

Frankie Quijano:

Frankie holds the title of Volunteer Director with the Pride Committee of Houston, the organization in charge of producing Pride Idol each year. Preparation and execution of the event rests solely on Frankie's shoulders, from the massive crowds wanting to participate, to location, to the sponsors of the event. His efforts in putting forth Pride Idol, has earned him extensive knowledge in entertainment preparation and the know-how of what the community seeks when voting for its Idol.

Vanessa Riley:

From London to Houston, Project Runway to Pride Idol, Vanessa has trotted the globe, as one of the world's hottest fashion designers. She's smart, She's witty! Vanessa owns the boutique Vanessa Riley of London in the Galleria area, and her time on

Project Runway gave her the bittersweet knowledge that one needs to possess to judge an individual on talent.

The Contestants:

With the new venue for auditions, and all the marketing done, the crowd arrived at Warehouse Live for the first of several appearances, if they were lucky to pass onto round two. If they passed the first round they were advanced to return the same day at 3PM for the final call back.

abOUT Magazine spotted several "to keep your eyes on" contestants. It will be extremely interesting to see who comes out of this alive. As it seems this year's competition is more intense than the past and the lineup of talent this year is amazing. **Make sure to stay tuned to abOUT Magazine and follow us on line at www.abOUTmagazine.net for all the latest on PRIDE IDOL 2009.**



Lady Gaga:

By: Cade Michals

**The EXCLUSIVE interview with abOUT Magazine.
Touring, the Gay's, and her life growing up in New York.**

One of the most successful pop artists of our time, selling millions of albums, and becoming one of the most recognizable faces around the world.

When Lady Gaga was a little girl, she would sing along on her mini plastic tape recorder to Michael Jackson and Cyndi Lauper hits and get twirled in the air in daddy's arms to the sounds of the Rolling Stones and the Beatles. The precocious child would dance around the table at fancy Upper West Side restaurants using the breadsticks as a baton. And, she would innocently greet a new babysitter in nothing but her birthday suit. It's no wonder that little girl from a good Italian New York family, turned into the exhibitionist, multi-talented singer-songwriter with a flair for theatrics that she is today: Lady Gaga.

Born on March 28, 1985, Lady Gaga whose' birth name is Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta, was raised in New York.

"Where are you now"? I asked Lady Gaga via blackberry. The past year has been a whirlwind for the Grammy nominated songstress. Her debut album, *The Fame*, has slowly begun to solidify her status as a new pop princess. "I am currently in Canada. I have a show in Toronto tonight" she answers.

As pop princess's do, Lady Gaga has hit the road with the high anticipated *The Fame* tour which she is headlining. "Yes I am headlining the *Fame* tour with three amazing bands, Chester French, White Tie Affair and Cinema Bizarre. It's so great to have them on the road with me. You should check them out Cade. They are great live bands and talented too". The tour is playing some of the best places to hear live music, Lady Gaga states. "I am playing everywhere from Wilten in LA to Terminal 5 in NY. All great venues to check out live music"

Lady Gaga is a girl who at age 4 learned piano by ear. By age 13, she had written her first piano ballad. At 14, she played open mic nights

at clubs such as New York's the Bitter End. "I grew up in NY. Even though I haven't been home for some time now, I still call it home. Love the energy and diversity. Of course I love the NY music scene. In fact, "Just Dance" came from memorable New York nights". At age 17, she became was one of 20 kids in the world to get early admission to Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. Signed by her 20th birthday and writing songs for other artists (such as the Pussycat Dolls) before her debut album was even released.

Of course I had to ask if she had ever been to Texas and what she thought. "Sure have and had a blast too. One of my personal favorite gigs was in Dallas. The Round Up..I think? A gay two step night. I just got in the middle of the dance floor and went for it. The boys went crazy. It went from two step line dancing to my disco stick...lol". Sadly for Houston, there is no date on *The Fame* tour for us. "Hopefully soon"! She says "I am focusing on the *Fame* Tour right now. I would love to be back and see you all soon".

Would you like to tell your Houston fans anything directly? I asked her on conclusion of the interview. "Thank you for all the love and support. Can't wait to be back in Houston and see you all...xo Gaga"

However, it's all because she knows and respects the hook above all. Every song on *The Fame* is beyond catchy and could easily ignite any dance floor across the world, but Lady Gaga's got an even larger plan in mind. She doesn't want to just be a part of pop culture; she wants to explore it inside and out. Lady Gaga adds with a wink in her eye **"And, now, I'm just trying to change the world one sequin at a time."**



community news

Montrose's RE/MAX CityView Co-Owner Honored as "Rookie Sales Agent of the Year"

Jeff Riley received his license little over a year ago in November of 2007. He started his real estate career with RE/MAX and has shown how a new agent with no experience can obtain strong training within the RE/Max organization can prevail. In his first year, Jeff closed approximately \$5.5 million in sales. During a time that most agents are complaining that the market is drowning them, Jeff proved that with hard work & determination along with a passion for real estate, anything is possible.

Jeff isn't letting his success make him complacent in 2009. He initiated the RE/MAX CityView's Miracle Night event, held each quarter and benefitting Children's Miracle Network and Texas Children's Hospital. The inaugural event was held on May 7, at Hotel ZaZa. Expect pictures in abOUT's May 29th Issue.



M2M Fashion Anniversary Fashion Show, Open Bar

M2M Fashion celebrates their 1 year anniversary of their newest location on Saturday May 9th. The lush new location located at 3704 Montrose Blvd (in the Starbucks strip center) will feature a male and female fashion show. The open bar should be AMAZING as who does not like to drink and shop? Let's not forget about their MASSIVE sale, on all our favorite products, and the special appearance by the **Houston Texan' Cheerleaders**. Music will be spun live by DJ Bobby Bliss.

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Please send all submissions to:
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by: **bill elevenger**

City Council District up for grabs: Community's Lane Lewis launches bid

Officially launching his electoral campaign, Lane Lewis welcomed guests last night to the Rainbow Lodge for the official kick off. The event attended by names such as Jay Allen, Scott Brogan, Jerry Vann, Schott Schilling, and Valerie Staples was a great success. abOUT Magazine spoke with Lane for a few minutes regarding his run for Council. "I've been a school teacher for Pasadena ISD for the past couple of years, and I would like to address the concerns of the neighborhoods", Lane said as one of his many reason to jump into the political arena. Expect more of an interview with the candidate in the coming weeks.



DISTRICT A

Larry Edwards aka Hot Chocolate rocked the OSITO Foundation House this weekend

Charles Armstrong threw open the doors of South Beach the night club this past Sunday May 3rd for the first ever "Dancing Bears" charity event for the Houston based Osito Foundation. Direct from Las Vegas for the live entertainment was Hot Chocolate, best known for his impersonation of Tina Turner. For a Sunday afternoon, SoBe was packed, and the food and drinks were delicious. Splash Photography was on hand to snap all the moments! The Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages, abOUT Magazine, Instinct Magazine, were all on hand to support this great cause. For more information on the Osito Foundation please visit www.ositofoundation.org and check out the great pictures from the event in this issue. (see pictures on next page).



Larry Edwards aka Hot Chocolate Rocked the OSITO Foundation House this weekend!

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Sunday: Drag Bartenders, The show is behind the bar

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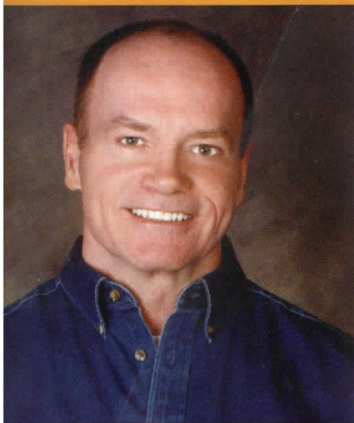
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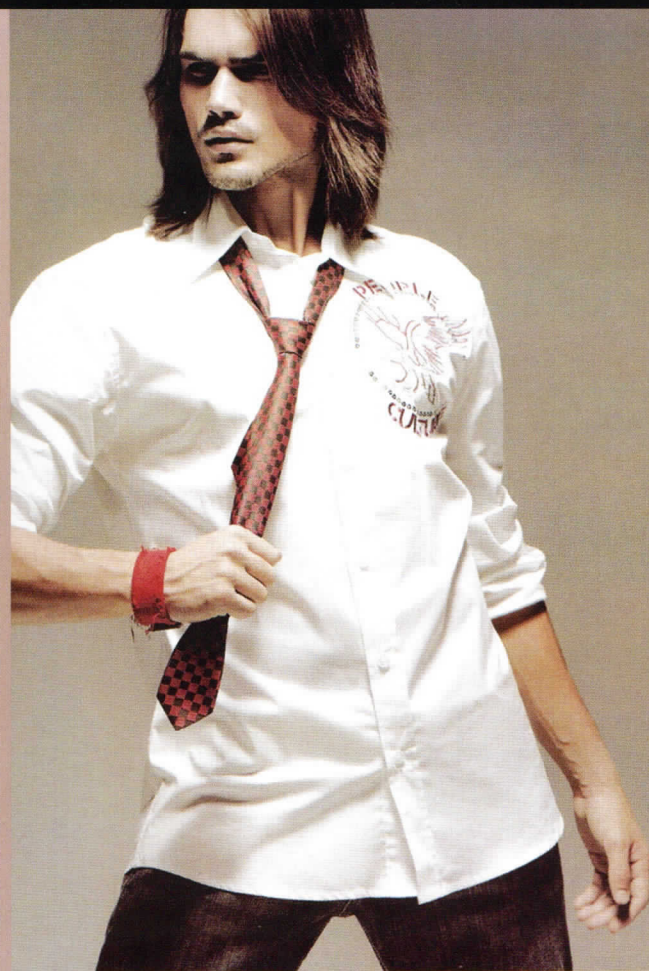


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about HIM



about her

Dude, You've Got Problems SERIOUS...

FIRST openly GAY Supreme Court Justice?

President Barack Obama is looking to advance diversity with his pick to replace retiring U.S. Supreme Court Justice David Souter — and early speculation has focused on whether he'll pick a woman, or perhaps the first Hispanic justice. But gay rights groups — disappointed that Obama didn't pick an openly gay man or woman for his Cabinet — are pushing him to put the first openly gay justice on the Supreme Court.

Within hours of word of Souter's departure, the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund was hailing the candidacy of a First Amendment scholar and former dean of Stanford Law School, Kathleen Sullivan. "Out lesbian a contender for Supreme Court," one of the group's web sites declared. Another Stanford law professor on the "frequently mentioned" lists, Pam Karlan, has been open about being a lesbian, colleagues and former students say. In response to an e-mail from POLITICO, Karlan expressed no reticence about discussing her sexual orientation, though she downplayed talk about being a possible nominee.

"It's no secret at all that I'm counted among the LGBT crowd," she wrote, using a common acronym for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community. As for the possibility she'd be nominated, Karlan said, "Given the landscape, I'm flattered, but not fooled, by having my name tossed around."

Gay and lesbian activists said they were excited that the two women are being publicly considered — and guardedly optimistic that one of them might be picked.

"I think the community was hopeful we would see the first openly gay or lesbian Cabinet secretary and that didn't happen, which was a little disappointing," Denis Dison of the Victory Fund said. "The same thing is happening now with the Supreme Court vacancy...It's not so much we want to check that box at the Supreme Court level, but that achievement would be breaking the glass ceiling in a huge way."

In March, Obama named an open lesbian, Emily Hewitt, to be the chief judge of the federal Court of Claims, but judges on that special court do not have lifetime tenure. He also nominated another lesbian, Maria Demeo, to serve as a D.C. Superior Court judge.

In all, Obama has made about three dozen appointments of openly gay or lesbian people below the Cabinet level, according to Dison, including Nancy Sutley, head of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, and John Berry, director of the Office of Personnel Management.

Still, in response to questions from POLITICO in recent days, White House aides declined to say whether sexual orientation was among the diversity factors the president planned to consider either with respect to a Supreme Court nominee, or judicial nominees more generally.

Early this month, Carl Joseph Walker-Hoover, an 11-year-old boy from Springfield, Mass., hanged himself after months of incessantly being hounded by his classmates for being "gay."

In March, 2007, 17-year-old Eric Mohat shot himself in the head, after a long-term tormentor told him in class, "Why don't you go home and shoot yourself; no one will miss you." Eric liked theater, played the piano and wore bright clothing, he had long been subject to taunts of "gay," "fag," "queer" and "homo." We should do something to get this insanity under control. I'm not just talking about combating bullying, which has been a national obsession ever since Columbine, and yet seems to continue unabated. I'm only partly talking about homophobia, which, though virulent, cruel and occasionally fatal among teenagers, is not the whole story behind the fact that words like "fag" and "gay" are now among the most potent and feared weapons in the school bully's arsenal. Being called a "fag," you see, actually has almost nothing to do with being gay. It's really about showing any perceived weakness or femininity — by being emotional, seeming incompetent, caring too much about clothing, liking to dance or even having an interest in literature. It's similar to what being viewed as a "nerd." "To call someone gay or fag is like the lowest thing you can call someone. Because that's like saying that you're nothing," is how one teenage boy put it to C.J. Pascoe, a sociologist at Colorado College. The message to the most vulnerable, to the victims of today's poisonous boy culture, is being heard loud and clear: to be something other than the narrowest, stupidest sort of guy's guy, is to be unworthy of even being alive.

The strain of being a teenager, and in particular, a preteen, no doubt accounts for much of it; people tend to be at their worst when they're feeling most insecure. But there's more to it than that, I think. Malina Saval, who spent two years observing and interviewing teenage boys and their parents for her new book "The Secret Lives of Boys," found that parents played a key role in reinforcing the basest sort of gender stereotypes, at least where boys were concerned. "There were a few parents who were sort of alarmist about whether or not their children were going to be gay because of their music choices, the clothes they wore," she said. Generally, she said, "there was a kind of low-level paranoia if these high-school-age boys weren't yet seriously involved with a girl." It seems it all comes down, as do so many things for today's parents, to status. "Parents are so terrified that their kids will miss out on anything," Anderegg says. "They want their kids to have sex, be sexy." This generation of parents tends to talk a good game about gender, at least in public. Practicing what we preach, in anxious times in particular, is another thing.

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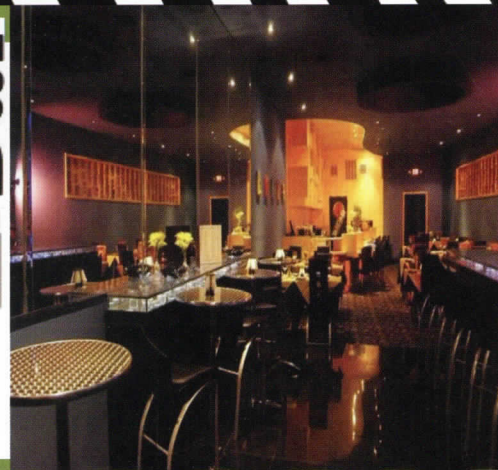


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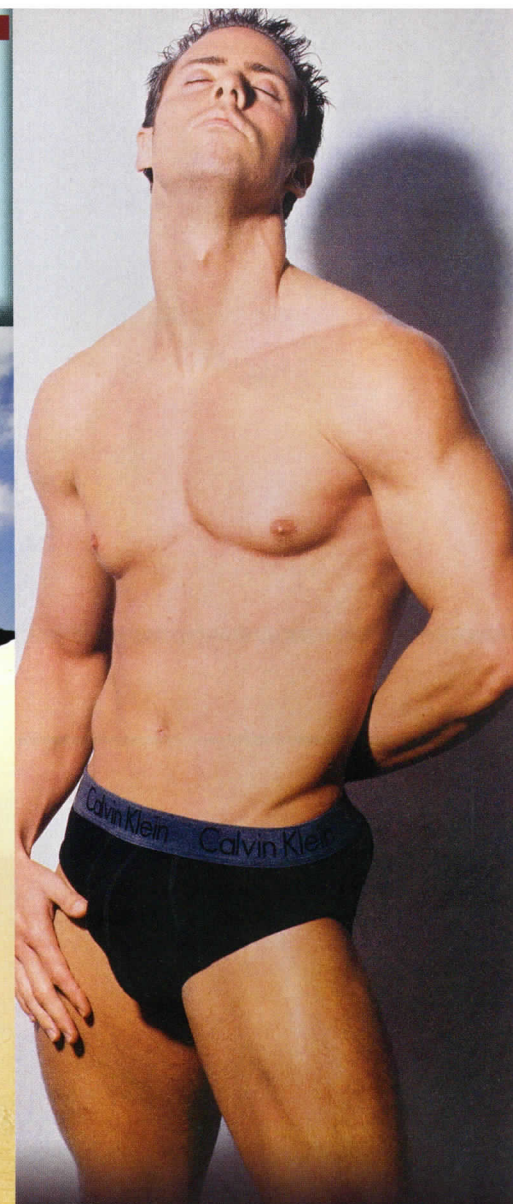
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