

The gayification of John Michael Colgin

College student turned performance artist has something to say

His one-man show 'Would You Like Guys with That?' plays this week at UT Dallas

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Established 1984 | Volume 28 | Issue 37

FREE | Friday, January 27, 2012

FORGING NEW ALLIANCES

Giancarlo Mossi organizes a GSA Summit in Dallas so other students can have the lifesaving resource he never did.

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Giancarlo Mossi at Youth First Texas. Photo by David Taffet. Cover design by Kevin Thomas.

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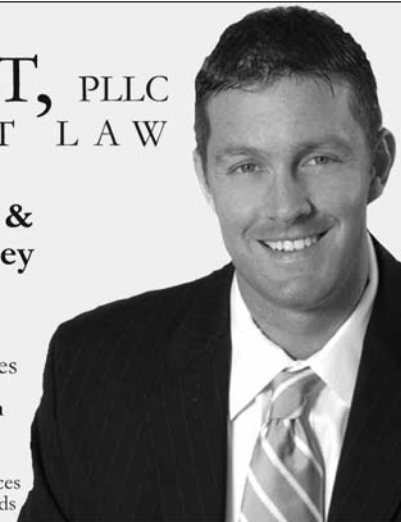
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Araguz gets 50 days in theft case

According to WTAW, Nikki Araguz, the transgender widow fighting for the legitimacy of her marriage in court, was sentenced in an unrelated case to 50 days in jail after pleading guilty to theft. The charge stems from the theft of a Rolex watch last year.



Araguz has also paid \$2,800 in restitution.

Under a previous plea agreement Araguz would have received 15 days in jail. As previously reported, Araguz arrived late to the sentencing hearing scheduled for State District Judge Vanessa Velasquez to sign off on that deal. Velasquez responded to Araguz's tardiness by delaying sentencing and revoking Araguz's bond.

Due to a quirk of the Harris County Jail's booking system Araguz was originally booked into jail under her male birth name. Jails across the country use a "special person number" (SPN) system to track inmates. SPNs are assigned for life and are linked to finger prints. According to Ray Hill, a Houston-area LGBT activist who has followed the case closely, when the Harris County booking clerk entered Araguz's fingerprints into the system her SPN from a previous arrest under her male name came up. The Harris County Jail retained that information despite her legal name change. Araguz has since been assigned a new SPN number and her record now correctly identifies her legal name.

Araguz is the widow of Wharton firefighter Capt. Thomas Araguz, who died in the line of duty last year. Capt. Araguz's ex-wife and mother have sued to claim the portion of his survivor's benefits reserved for the spouses of slain firefighters, claiming that since Nikki Araguz was identified as male at birth the marriage was invalid under Texas' laws prohibiting the recognition of same-sex marriage. Mrs. Araguz's birth certificate identifies her as female, as does her state-issued identification. The case is proceeding through the appeals process.

Hopefully Araguz's sentencing on the theft charge signals the end of this criminal case which has become an unwelcome distraction from the important civil case regarding her marriage. Win or lose Araguz's fight to defend the validity of her marriage will affect every person in the state of Texas who has changed their legal gender marker. Maybe we, as a community, can now focus on the very real threat to civil rights this case presents.

— Daniel Williams

A&M adds gender identity, expression to policy

Texas A&M University President Dr. R. Bowen Loftin issued a memo Jan. 20, reaffirming the university's commitment to non-discrimination in employment. Historically this memo is issued annually and has in recent years included sexual orientation among a list of attributes that have been the historical basis of discrimination and which the university vows not to use to discriminate in employment. This year's memo is a little special, however. For the first time in the school's 141 year history, Texas A&M has committed to employment nondiscrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression. From the memo:

"... the university has developed an Affirmative Action Program that documents the policies, practices and procedures to support equal treatment for all applicants and employees and assure, in good faith, equal access and affirmative action for women, minorities, individuals with disabilities and veterans at all levels of its workforce. It is our policy to not discriminate in employment opportunities or practices on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, veteran status, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law. Furthermore, we will maintain a work environment free from discrimination of the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression."



The memo applies only to the employment practices of A&M's main campus in College Station, not to students or employees at any of the other A&M system campuses. Last month the Texas A&M Student Senate passed a resolution encouraging the university system to adopt a system-wide non-discrimination policy for students, staff and faculty that included sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression. Student Senator Andrew Jancaric, the driving force behind that resolution, greeted the news of Loftin's memo excitedly. "President Loftin has shown a great deal of leadership, particularly given the proximity of this release to the legislation passed by the Student Senate. Because of that leadership it will make changing that policy at the student level much more easy," said Jancaric. "It's a really important statement coming from the president of our university, which I believe will have great weight with the system's board of regents."

— Daniel Williams

Out & Equal honors Parker

Out & Equal Workplace Advocates will honor Houston Mayor Annise Parker and Golden State Warriors President Rick Welts at its Leadership Celebration on March 14 in San Francisco.



In October, Out & Equal held its week-long Workplace Summit at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas. Because of rave reviews, the group plans to return in the next few years. Welts was among the speakers at the Dallas convention.

Now in its fifth year, the Leadership Celebration is a fundraising event that includes a hosted reception and dinner. Parker and Welts will be recognized as role models and inspirations in the movement to achieve equality in the workforce.

To attend the San Francisco event, register online.

The 2012 Workplace Summit will be in Baltimore on from Oct. 29-Nov 1.

— David Taffet



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Rawlings to meet with LGBT leaders

Protest planned outside City Hall over mayor's refusal to sign marriage pledge

JOHN WRIGHT | Senior Editor
wright@dallasvoice.com

Activists from GetEQUAL plan a rally outside Dallas City Hall on Friday night, Jan. 27 to call on

Mayor Mike Rawlings to change his mind and sign a pledge in support of same-sex marriage.

Meanwhile, Rawlings is set to meet privately Saturday, Jan. 28 with a group of 20-25 LGBT leaders to discuss his decision not to sign the pledge.

However, LGBT activists said this week that their beef with Rawlings, who took office last summer, now extends beyond the pledge itself.

They said they've been very alarmed by the language and tone Rawlings has used in defending his decision not to sign the pledge in the

media.

Most recently, on Wednesday, Rawlings told WFAA-TV that the marriage pledge — signed by about 80 mayors across the country, including from all eight cities larger than Dallas — was an example of “getting off track” and that the issue of marriage equality is not “relevant to the lion’s share of the citizens of Dallas.”

“Sadly I think the more he talks about this in the press, the more he digs in as completely out of touch,” said Patti Fink, president of the Dallas

Gay and Lesbian Alliance. “He’s really pissing off our community. We really have a much deeper, more profound problem than this pledge. ... This mayor is naive. We’re not irrelevant, and we are a part of the lion’s share.”

Fink noted that DGLA issued a rare warning against voting for Rawlings in 2011.

“We certainly hoped that he would prove us wrong when we put a warning on him last year, but I fear that perhaps that warning was well

■ RAWLINGS, Page 9

Cedar Springs gets flashier

Crosswalk lights, signs represent 1st phase of pedestrian safety plan

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

City crews have begun implementing a three-part plan to make Cedar Springs safer for pedestrians with the installation of new signs and crosswalks. The short-term plan should be completed over the next few weeks.

Then, engineering studies will be conducted in February to determine whether additional traffic signals are needed and whether a turn lane should be removed. If warranted, that work will be done in June.

A long-term study will include the possibility of adding a center island with trees and wider sidewalks, and reducing traffic to two lanes.

On Wednesday, Jan. 25, the Cedar Springs Merchant Association discussed the safety improvements during its first monthly meeting of the year, which was attended by Paula Blackmon, Mayor Mike Rawlings’ chief of staff.

In response to four traffic accidents involving pedestrians that included two fatalities within two months, the city has been working to find solutions to improve safety in the entertainment district, which the Merchant Association now refers to as The Strip on Cedar Springs.

“We want to see The Strip become the international destination that it should be,” said ilume developer Luke Crosland. He said ilume 2, to be built on property diagonally across from ilume, could break ground



SIGN, SIGN, EVERYWHERE | New signs on Cedar Springs Road warn pedestrians to use crosswalks, above, and cars to watch for pedestrians. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

within the next few weeks. Crosland favors the two-lane approach to make the area more pedestrian friendly and more attractive. He mentioned that The Strip does \$30 million in alcohol sales annually and he’s about to invest \$55 million in construction there — and he expressed frustration with the city for not paying closer attention to an important economic engine.

The short-term solution for traffic and pedestrian safety is almost complete. That plan began

with the installation of additional street lighting early in January.

New crosswalks have been painted at Knight Street, with eye-level yellow warning flashers added at Knight and Reagan streets. For the first 30 days, the lights will flash constantly to warn drivers of pedestrians in the area. After that, they’ll be activated by buttons.

“No pedestrian crossing” signs were installed in the middle of the block in front of Kroger and ilume. Additional police enforcement has also begun. On Thursday morning, police cars were patrolling Cedar Springs Road after Buli owner Robert Clauson and others at the meeting asked for additional patrols.



Also this week, a push to educate pedestrians got under way. The effort includes fliers distributed by Cedar Springs merchants to explain the pedestrian crossing lights and encourage everyone to cross only in marked places.

The last item on the first phase of the plan is the lighted crosswalk near the Round-Up

■ FLASHIER, Page 8

online extra

The Cedar Springs Merchant Association is running a contest to design a new logo. For more info or to enter, go to TinyUrl.com/8yb7uj8.



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The Dallas Museum of Art is supported in part by the generosity of Museum members and donors and by the citizens of Dallas through the City of Dallas/Office of Cultural Affairs and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

Image (detail): Jean Paul Gaultier, *Punk Cancan* collection, cancan-style ruched tulle strapless dress with "whirl of legs" lining, haute couture spring/summer 2011, photograph © Patrice Stable/Jean Paul Gaultier

FLASHIER

From Page 6

Saloon, which will be raised 6 inches to slow traffic. Yield bars will be painted in the street in advance of the crosswalk to distance vehicles from pedestrians.

In February, a study will be conducted to determine whether traffic signals are needed at Knight Street and Reagan Street. The study is expected to show that a signal is needed at Knight Street. The signal has already been paid for and would be installed in June.

The study is also expected to call for the removal of the island and turn lane on the southeast corner of Cedar Springs and Douglas.

Cedar Springs Merchant Association Executive Director Scott Whittall said the study may determine that from Reagan Street onto Cedar Springs would be safer as a right turn only from either direction.

The plan also calls for looking for "opportunities to install trees or other vegetation to calm traffic."

CSMA formed two committees. One will be to create a long-term traffic plan for The Strip. The second is to create a plan for where taxis can stop to pick up fares along Cedar Springs Road.

Whittall announced upcoming events on Cedar Springs including the March Wine Walk

and Easter in the Park. The Merchant Association took over that event last year with just a few weeks notice when its longtime sponsor, the Turtle Creek Association, pulled out.

Whittall said that word-of-mouth about last year's reintroduction of Razzle Dazzle Dallas was strong. He expected twice as many people to attend this year's main event on June 9. An announcement about entertainment will be made soon.

He also announced a new marketing campaign. He said that the entertainment district's Facebook page was taken down and will be reintroduced in March after a new logo is chosen from a contest the merchants are holding.

The group is marketing the area as The Strip on Cedar Springs, which is how it is now most commonly known. Since Crossroads Market closed, few continue to refer to the area as The Crossroads.

Whittall compared The Strip's Facebook fan page to that of Bishop Arts District. BAD has more than 17,000 fans, while Cedar Springs had just a few thousand. He said that was because the page was called the Cedar Springs Merchant Association, which sounded like it was a trade group rather than an entertainment district.

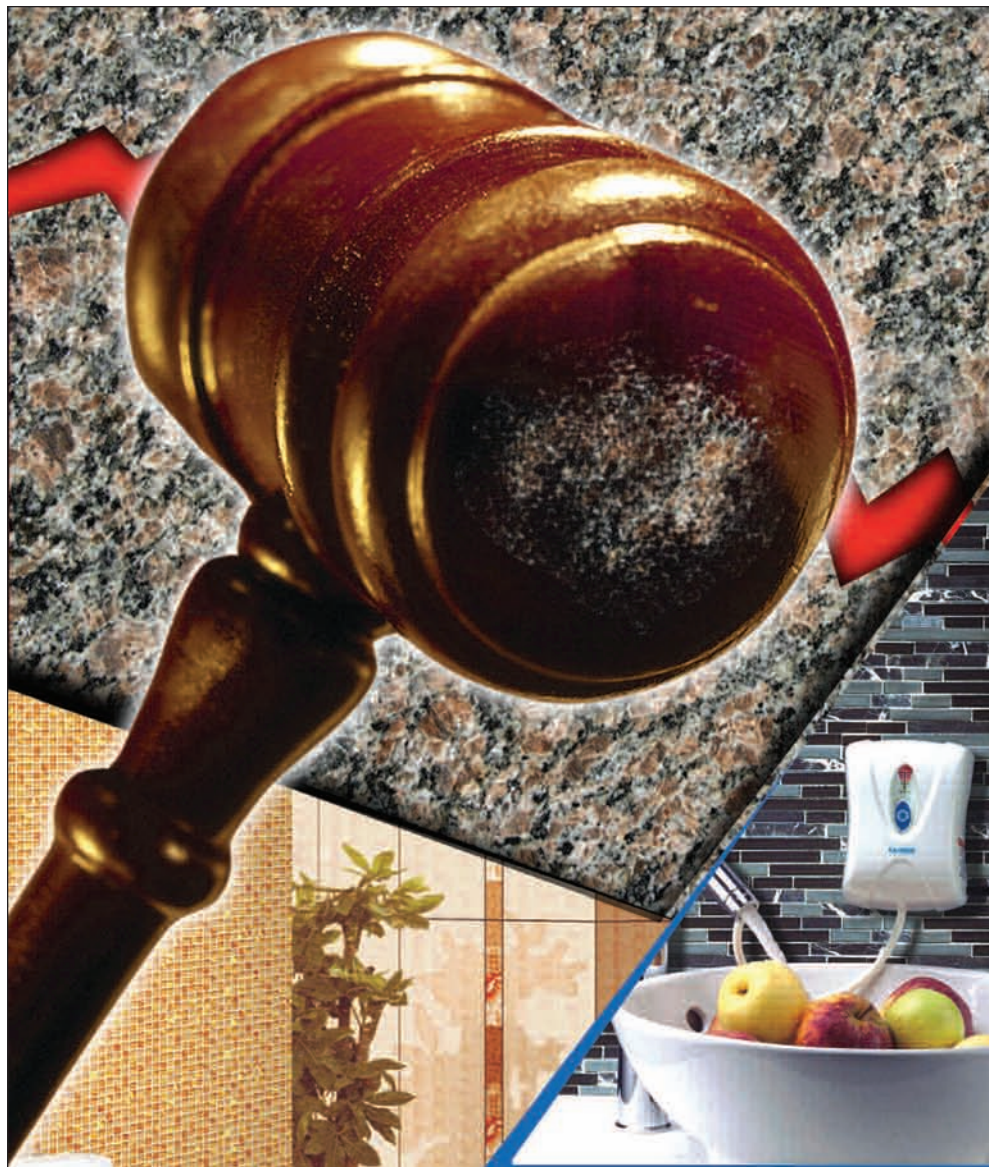
The logo contest-winner will be named at Easter in the Park and the new The Strip on Cedar Springs Facebook page will be launched then.

pet of the week

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Stewie is a sweet brindle terrier mix who, despite the name, is a girl dog. She's 1½ years old and full grown at 42 pounds. Stewie is gentle, affectionate and eager to please. And because she's been at Dallas Animal Services for more than 45 days, her adoption cost is just \$42.50.

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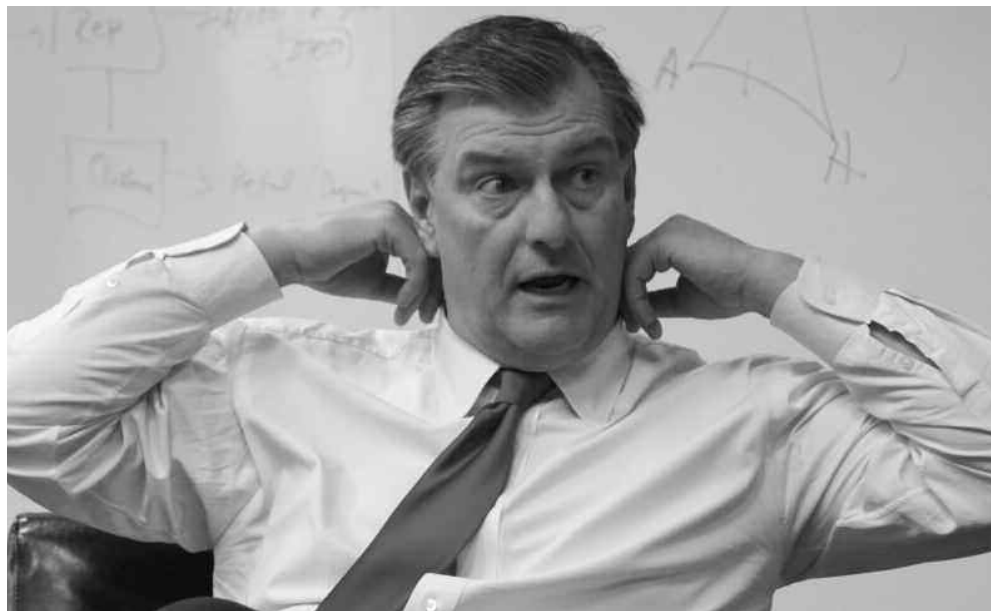
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STRAINED RELATIONS | Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings, shown during an interview with Dallas Voice last year, is under fire from the LGBT community for not only failing to sign a pledge in support of same-sex marriage — but also for his handling of the controversy. (Brent Paxton/Dallas Voice)

■ RAWLINGS

From Page 6

justified, because it certainly appears from this encounter that he puts business before civil rights, which was the essence of our warning," Fink said.

Paula Blackmon, Rawlings' chief of staff, said he wasn't available for comment Thursday. Rawlings told Dallas Voice last week that although he personally supports marriage equality, he didn't sign the pledge because he wants to avoid social issues that don't impact the city.

Daniel Cates of GetEQUAL, which is organizing Friday night's protest, also questioned Rawlings' handling of the controversy. On Monday, Blackmon told Dallas Voice that Rawlings was skipping a "Meet the Mayor" community meeting in Kiest Park because it would be unfair to subject other residents to an LGBT protest. "He just does not want to put them through that," Blackmon said.

Cates called such language "damaging and destructive" and said it was an example of "thinly veiled homophobia."

Rawlings' decision to skip the Kiest Park meeting appeared to backfire when residents who showed up called him "cowardly" for dodging the protest.

"I think he's got the worst PR team on earth," Cates said.

Cates said Friday night's "Sign the Pledge" rally, set for 7 p.m. outside City Hall, will include speakers and a chance for people to address personal notes, including family photos, to the mayor. Cates said he planned to hand-deliver the correspondence to Rawlings at Saturday's meeting.

"The goal is really for our mayor to finally have his policy match what he says his personal views are," Cates said. "We are going to continue to apply pressure, and that can stop whenever he wants."

Cece Cox, executive director and CEO of the Resource Center, organized Saturday's invitation-

only meeting between Rawlings and LGBT leaders.

Cox said she reached out to the mayor's office last week after his explanation for not signing the pledge "sent up about 100 red flags."

Saturday's meeting, which is closed to the media, is scheduled for an hour and a half. In addition to the marriage pledge, Cox said she hopes to address other LGBT-related city issues including transgender health benefits, pension benefits for the domestic partners of employees, nondiscrimination requirements for contractors and mandatory diversity training.


Pam Gerber, one of Rawlings' prominent LGBT supporters during last year's campaign, said she's willing to give him the benefit of the doubt and she hopes something positive will come out of the meeting.


Gerber noted that even though neither DGLA nor Stonewall Democrats endorsed Rawlings, he appeared at a gay Pride month reception his first day in office and later rode in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade.

"If he absolutely will not sign it, then how do we leverage this opportunity to bring something good about for our community?" Gerber said. "I'm not 100 percent confident that he won't change his mind, because he is a good man who is incredibly well-intentioned. But if that's the case, then we need to be pragmatic about it and figure out how to move forward and make gains for the LGBT community, instead of looking at the whole thing as all or nothing."

Fink seemed less optimistic, and she said no matter what, it's unlikely the conversation will end this weekend.

"This is an education hill we must climb together as a community and engage him as much as possible," Fink said. "He is not leaving us behind because we are going to be pulling on the cuffs of his trousers every step of the way, and he will not marginalize the LGBT community of Dallas."

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coverstory

Forging new Alliances

Giancarlo Mossi organizes a GSA Summit in Dallas so other students can have the lifesaving resource he never did

DAVID TAFFET | Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Giancarlo Mossi said that after spending time in hospitals and institutions for destructive behavior such as cutting, the day he attended a Youth First Texas meeting in Collin County was the happiest day of his life.

Mossi believes he might not have attempted suicide if his high school had a Gay Straight Alliance where he could have talked to other students. He credits a Plano police officer with saving his life.

As a child, Mossi was raped and abused. By the time he reached high school, he said he couldn't take it anymore and began "cutting," making large gashes in his arms. He was hospitalized several times.

After one suicide attempt, the police officer handed him a card from the Youth First Texas.

"You're like me, aren't you?" Mossi asked the officer. The officer said he couldn't answer but flashed a big grin.

In the hospital, a licensed therapist outed Mossi to his mother and recommended "reparative therapy" to make him straight. When it was time for him to be released, his mother refused to pick him up.

Although Mossi has since reconciled with his mother, he lives with a gay couple who took him into their home.

Mossi graduated from Plano Senior High School. He recently began acting classes and has a new job. He knows not every LGBT student can get to the YFT centers in Dallas and Collin County, so he wants students in high schools throughout North Texas to have access to Gay Straight Alliance clubs on their own campuses. And he wants existing GSAs to flourish.

To help accomplish his goal, Mossi is coordinating a GSA summit at YFT in Dallas on Feb. 4.

Andy Marra, a spokesman for the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, said there were at least 360 GSAs in Texas when the last national survey was taken in 2009. GLSEN is in the process of conducting a new national count.

GSAs are especially important in a conservative state like Texas where, according to GLSEN, 88 percent of students who identify as gay or lesbian have been verbally harassed, 46 percent physically harassed and 23 percent assaulted.

Equality Texas Executive Director Dennis Coleman said GSAs let LGBT kids know they're not alone.

"GSAs give them a support system, a safe place to be," Coleman said. "Not just LGBT kids but their friends. And if they're not getting support at home, they have a group they can turn to."

But Mossi said starting GSAs in some schools isn't as easy as it should be.

When he was in 10th grade at Vines High School in Plano, he spoke to administrators about starting one there. The principal told him he'd need a faculty sponsor.

Mossi said finding a sponsor can be tricky in a school whose principal opposes having a GSA. Teachers without tenure are afraid of losing their jobs. Others don't want to make waves. And some are afraid that if they sponsor a GSA, teachers, parents and students will assume they're gay.

But Mossi broached the subject with a number of teachers and found one willing to sponsor the group. So he proudly went back to the principal with the name.

The principal told him he would need 100 signatures from students stating they wanted to have such a group in their school. Mossi collected the 100 signatures

and presented them to the principal. That's when the principal told him it was too late in the year to start a new club and he'd have to wait for the next year. The principal knew Mossi would be leaving Vines to attend Plano Senior High for his last two years of school.

By the time he got to Plano Senior High, Mossi was active at Youth First Texas, where he made many new friends, and devoted his time to performing with Dallas PUMP!, a youth chorale.

Although Mossi's experience wasn't unusual, some schools are more supportive of GSAs. Dawson Ray said when he and his friend Shelby Friedman formed a GSA last year at Greenhill School, a private K-12 school in Addison, they met with "zero controversy."

He said two teachers immediately agreed to sponsor the group and the only question the administration had was "when we'd meet and what room we wanted."

He said the group is called True Colors because the school has a rule against student groups having affiliations with national organizations. But he said True Colors is regularly referred to as the GSA.

Each week, 50 to 60 students — more than 10 percent of the 440 high students at Greenhill — attend the GSA meeting.

■ ALLIANCES, Next Page

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Giancarlo Mossi (Photo illustration by Kevin Thomas)

■ **ALLIANCES**, From Previous Page

He said the group holds discussions on various topics, participates in events such as the National Day of Silence and brings in speakers. When British rugby star Ben Cohen was in Dallas for gay Pride Week last year, he spoke to the Greenhill GSA. Earlier this week Cohen sent the group a check for \$2,500 for club activities.

Truett Davis attends Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in downtown Dallas. He said his GSA has about 40 to 50 members and was already in existence when he came to the school.

Davis said his group sets up booths at school activities. At one, the GSA officiated mock weddings and had students sign a petition for marriage equality that was sent to Congress.

Although Booker T. is considered a safe school for LGBT students, Davis said some students' families aren't accepting and the club is a place for those students to talk about their situation.

Both Davis and Ray are planning to attend next week's GSA Summit at YFT.

"I hope to get some programming ideas," Davis said.

Ray agreed. "I want to see what other GSAs in the area are doing," he said. "What problems they face. Offer suggestions to us."

While some students face little resistance in forming GSAs, other schools have openly op-

posed allowing the clubs on campus. Under federal law, that's illegal.

The federal Equal Access Act passed in 1984 stipulates that any public secondary school that allows non-curriculum-related clubs to meet on campus cannot discriminate due to the content of the proposed discussions. To get around this, some schools have gone so far as to disband non-curriculum-related clubs, from the chess club to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Some administrators don't want the word "gay" used in a school group name — sometimes out of their own prejudice, sometimes out of fear of parent or community reaction. They require students to change the names of GSAs to a euphemism such as the Tolerance Club. But this is also against the law. (Greenhill is a private school, so the Equal Access Act doesn't apply.)

At R.L. Turner High School in Farmers Branch, students formed a GSA in April 2011. While they encountered no resistance from the school district, Farmers Branch Mayor Tim O'Hare attacked the group on Twitter saying, "Friday, R.L. Turner H.S. Hosts 1st meeting of the RLT Gay-Straight Alliance an org. that promotes homosexuality and transgender lifestyles," and "To our children. It is sponsored by a teacher at Turner. Parents of CFB kids and members of the community: what do you plan to do about it?"

Although a mayor in Texas has no power over

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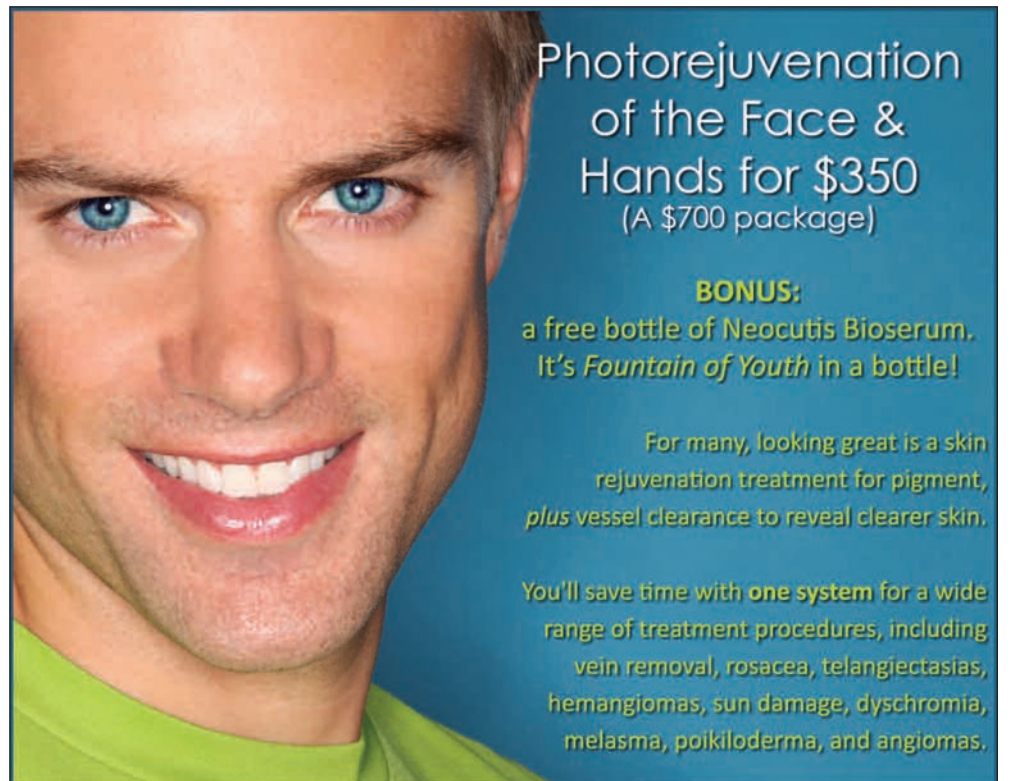
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coverstory



Truett Davis



Ray Dawson

ALLIANCES

From Page 11

an independent school district, vocal opposition from an elected official can be daunting for a group of high school students.

But the Carrollton-Farmers Branch School District did respond to the mayor and made it clear what they planned to do about the GSA — they planned to support it. Angela Shelley, a CFBISD spokeswoman, told Dallas Voice at the time that the group had already met three times and that it wasn't the district's first GSA.

But she said, "The GSA met all the requirements, they have a great mission and a constitution, and they're an active group."

And she said that despite the mayor's protests the district didn't want to become another Flour Bluff. Earlier in the school year, when a GSA formed in Flour Bluff, a school district in Corpus Christi, it made national news.

When 17-year-old student Bianca "Nikki" Peet tried to start the GSA, the district denied her application. To keep the group from meeting, Superintendent Julia Carbajal announced she would disband all extracurricular clubs.

Hundreds of pro-LGBT protesters gathered at the school.

After the American Civil Liberties Union intervened, threatening to file suit against the district, the superintendent relented and allowed the group to form. The faculty sponsor backed out, however. Instead, the principal "monitored" the meetings and the ACLU promised to monitor the situation.

But once the group began meeting, there was little to monitor. Gay and straight students met and discussed issues of interest to them.

In Keller, a Facebook group appeared in October 2011 called Abolish the GSA, Gay-Straight Alliance, at Keller High School.

When the school district learned about the Facebook group, it issued a statement that said, "Keller ISD prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or any other basis prohibited by law."

But discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity isn't prohibited by law.

The founder of the Facebook group wrote that it was not intended to be a hate group and when he saw the reaction to it, he took it down. But he vowed to continue battling the GSA unless a conservative, straight group was also formed. Had he been serious about it, nothing would have stopped his group from finding a sponsor and petitioning the school.

As a result of the controversy, the Keller GSA grew and had to move from a classroom to a lecture hall to accommodate all of the students who wanted to show support or participate.

Meanwhile, Mossi is on a one-person campaign to bring students together for the Feb. 4 meeting. He has contacted restaurants and coffee shops about providing lunch, coffee and snacks. He pulled together a list of contacts and made calls. He sent fliers to schools he knows have GSAs. He contacted the media to help spread the word. And he researched topics and put together curricula to make the Summit a worthwhile meeting.

He said he expects about 40 to 50 students, representing almost as many GSAs across North Texas, to attend. Students who would like to participate don't have to already belong to a GSA. He said he hopes some teens who attend have no clubs in their schools and will go back and form one.



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HOW TO START A GSA

1. Follow Guidelines

Establish a GSA the same way you would establish any other group or club. Look in your Student Handbook for your school's rules. This may include getting permission from an administrator or writing a constitution.

2. Find a Faculty Advisor

Find a teacher or staff member whom you think would be supportive or who has already shown themselves to be an ally around sexual orientation issues. It could be a teacher, counselor, nurse or librarian.

3. Inform Administration of Your Plans

Tell administrators what you are doing right away. It can be very helpful to have them on your side. They can work as liaisons to teachers, parents, community members and the school board. If an administrator opposes the GSA, inform them that forming a GSA club is protected under the Federal Equal Access Act.

4. Inform Guidance Counselors and Social Workers About The Group

These individuals may know students who would be interested in attending the group.

5. Pick a Meeting Place

You may want to find a meeting place which is off the beaten track at school and offers some level of privacy.

6. Advertise

Figure out the best way to advertise at your school. It may be a combination of your school bulletin, flyers and word-of-mouth. If your flyers are defaced or torn down, do not be discouraged. Keep putting them back up. Eventually, whomever is tearing them down will give up. Besides, advertising for your group and having words up such as "gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or questioning" or "end homophobia" can be part of educating the school and can actually make other students feel safer — even if they never attend a single meeting.

7. Get Food

This one is kind of obvious. People always come to meetings when you provide food!

8. Hold Your Meeting

You may want to start out with a discussion about why people feel having this group is important. You can also brainstorm things your club would like to do this year.

9. Establish Ground Rules

Many groups have ground rules in order to insure that group discussions are safe, confidential and respectful. Many groups have a ground rule that no assumptions or labels are used about a group member's sexual orientation. This can help make straight allies feel comfortable about attending the club.

10. Plan For The Future

Develop an action plan. Brainstorm activities. Set goals for what you want to work towards. Contact Gay-Straight Alliance Network in order to get connected to other GSAs, get supported, and learn about what else is going on in the community.

Source: GSAnetwork.org

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Beaming with Pride



GLOWING NEW SHOWROOM | Dante Walkup, left, and Mark Reed recently moved Wiedamark Lighting to a new showroom and warehouse on Harry Hines Boulevard. (Patrick Heffman/Special to the Voice)

Gay couple Mark Reed and Dante Walkup fulfill their decade-old dream of installing LED lights on Reunion Tower

lights themselves. They order the fixtures from China and Taiwan, then resell them to retailers who install them for companies looking to add a splash of color to their venues.

After several years on Oak Lawn Avenue near Maple, Wiedamark recently relocated to Harry Hines. Their new digs are easy to ignore by day but lit up in turquoise, emerald and ruby at night. Inside, it seems more like an art gallery than a commercial space.

Over their reception desk hangs four large lime-green letters spelling "LOVE." A wall-size LED screen in their conference room displays an unfurling rainbow, its bows opening up like the pages of a book. But the colorful hallway in the back contains the real wonders: sculpted walls that seem to breathe in the golden-to-violet light, dance floor tiles that change color with each step and a mirrored lounge with a glistening ceiling of twinkling LED stars.

Interiors, exteriors, landscapes, pools, bars, bathrooms — you name it, they can put lights in it.

They've provided resort lighting in Jamaica and highlights at the Maya Bar in New Zealand, just to name a few. A wealthy Saudi Arabian once wanted them to install high-end lights in his palace. Instead of traveling to his home country, they invited him to meet them during a trip to Vienna.

Reed and Walkup say that in their nine years of business they have never made a single cold call. As one of the first online shippers of LED equipment, the customers found them.

Their first year in, the Hyatt Hotel hired them to light its Christmas party, giving Reed and Walkup the perfect chance to share their Reunion Tower idea with Hyatt's head of engineering, Brett Killingsworth. The idea instantly intrigued him.

In many ways LEDs were better than the tower's older, 130-watt bulbs: LEDs use a fraction

■ BEAMING, Next Page

DANIEL VILLARREAL | Contributing Writer
editor@dallasvoice.com

When Mark Reed and Dante Walkup became a serious couple in 2000, they agreed they wanted to have fun in their 50s. But to do that they'd want to leave their respective jobs as a furniture salesman and a psychologist and start their own business.

Having spent the last year installing LED lights around their Las Colinas home, the couple decided they'd use their sales and communications skills to start an LED lighting company — a relatively new business idea at the time.

They converted their three-car garage into a warehouse and turned their basement, bedroom and kitchen into workspaces for them and five other employees.

Since then, Wiedamark has grown into a \$3.5 million dollar company with about 300 retailers internationally and a brand new showroom and warehouse on Harry Hines Boulevard. But from their very first year, Reed and Walkup knew they wanted to put their business on the map by updating one of Dallas' most iconic buildings — they wanted to refit Reunion Tower with their LEDs.

If you've ever been on Cedar Springs, chances are you've probably seen some of Wiedamark's lights. The fiberglass chandelier hanging over the bar at Sue Ellen's, the mood-lighting wall sconces in the Rose Room at S4, the colored lighting at the Legacy of Love Monument — that's all Wiedamark.

Reed and Walkup don't usually install the

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HIGH LIGHTS OF THE JOB | A technician from Ropeworks installs one of the 259 new fixtures. (Frank Huster/Special to the Voice)

■ **BEAMING**, From Previous Page

of the energy, stay cool to the touch and can last up to 10 times longer than old-fashioned bulbs. But unfortunately for Reed and Walkup, 2004 technology had not yet advanced far enough to make LED lights visible on the tower from miles away.

So immediately, Reed and Walkup's team began working on an improved LED design that would take five years to complete.

To help make the light more visible from a greater range of view, they fitted a spherical dome onto a flat-surfaced LED, creating something resembling the Jetsons' space car.

At 4 a.m. one day, Walkup took the prototype and held it off the top of Reunion Tower while Reed checked whether he could see it clearly from four different locations several miles away. He could.

But the prototype had a major design flaw — it couldn't keep out rainwater. A high-pressure water test left its circuit board drenched, something that would cause it to fail in a storm.

So over the next few years, they bolted the LED dome to a hexagonal metal base which increased the size and weight while preventing seepage. But even then, their design corroded when exposed to salty air conditions.

Frustrated with their failed attempts, Reed and Walkup turned to an engineer friend for help. He streamlined their design into a lighter, less clunky model made entirely of non-corrosive stainless steel. And best of all, it kept out rainwater.

Sixteen weeks later, they had manufactured all the lights they needed.

But now that they had a workable design, they

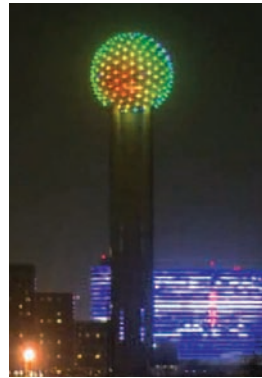
had an even bigger task ahead — installing 259 lights on the tower's 118-foot geodesic sphere, all without endangering their workers or dropping the 20-pound fixtures onto someone 560 feet below.

Seattle's Space Needle, Mount Rushmore and the Hoover Dam all need regular maintenance and inspection by certified professionals willing to work hundreds if not thousands of feet off the ground.

The group who does this kind of work is Ropeworks, a team of certified technicians from Reno, Nev., trained in rope access, tower climbing, rescue and fall protection. After seeing Ropeworks' presentation, Reed thought they could best handle the high wind speeds and low temperatures atop Reunion Tower in the fall.

So from Oct. 30 through Nov. 21, from 5 a.m. till 6 p.m., seven days a week, four certified master electricians from Ropeworks rappelled from the top of the tower and hung along the dome's 260 intersecting aluminum struts to disassemble the tower's old fixtures and install Wiedamark's new ones.

The Woodbine Development Co. (which owns the tower) hoped to keep the new lights secret



SHINING DEBUT | The tower was fittingly awash in rainbow colors on New Year's Eve.

until a surprise showing 15 minutes before New Year's Day. But on Nov. 21 at 4:30 a.m., a Dallas photographer captured some footage of Wiedamark testing the lights.

The photographer then sent photo and video footage to WFAA-TV and the Dallas Observer.

By the next morning, everyone knew that for the first time in its 33-year history, the Reunion Tower had new lights.

"I was happy [the news] was out," says Walkup. "We couldn't talk about it in public, but our friends had known about the project for a long time. [Waiting for the unveiling] was like being pregnant for nine months, but then having the birth delayed to 10 months, then 11 months, then 12 months. And all this time you're just waiting for it to finally happen."

On New Year's Eve, Reed and Walkup stood on the ninth floor balcony of their friend's downtown condominium, the unlit dome of Reunion Tower clearly in view. Then the dome lit up at a quarter till midnight, a digital countdown on the ball ticking off each second.

Then, at midnight sharp, the Reunion Tower dome sparkled in an ecstatic wash of reds, greens, blues, and purples while Reed, Walkup and the rest of Dallas rang in the New Year.

After a 10-minute light show, the numbers 2012 encircled the dome in bright yellow until 5 o'clock that morning.

Mentioning the new Omni Hotel and the other colorful LED-lit projects that have joined the Dallas landscape in the last few years, Walkup notes: "Dallas is a colorful city. We want to make it an exciting place to live and colored light helps people recognize that. Light is modern and fresh. It conveys youth. Dallas, a city of young ideas." ■



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'They got ugly in their bones'

Despite another gay teen suicide, right-wingers in Tennessee want to give kids a license to bully LGBT youth under guise of religious liberty

My family tree's roots spread in two directions. My father's side of the tree spreads toward Eastern Europe and my mother's side into the hills of Tennessee. I mention this because having those Tennessee roots has given me a fondness for that state and its beautiful scenery and its people — most of them. Unfortunately, it also contains some of the ugliest people I've ever met. Not physically ugly, but deeper. As my hillbilly grandfather would say, "They got ugly in their bones."

The people I am talking about are the strange citizens of the Volunteer State who feel it is their God-given right to verbally and physically abuse anyone they feel is worthy of their scorn. They are bullies, plain and simple, and they are doing it under the guise of religion.

As the Tennessee Legislature takes up a bill (HB 1153) to protect bullying as religious expression, comes the news of yet another teen suicide in the state. Phillip Parker, 14, of Gordonsville is the latest in a series of suicides directly related to being mercilessly bullied for being gay.

You would think the good lawmakers of Tennessee would have some sympathy for these poor children, but it seems more than one state representative sees it differently. Republican John Ragan noted the statistics showing higher suicide rates among LGBT youth and said that therefore, it had "more to do with his own proclivities and behavior than anything to do with schoolmate bullies...."

Blame the victim!

To be fair, some in the state are calling for a stop to the fatal bullying. There is an opposing law (SB 1621) also being considered that is designed to eliminate bullying and provide "a safe and civil environment ... for students to learn and achieve high academic standards."

This law has powerful adversaries like the Family Action Council of Tennessee. This group, a branch of Focus on the Family, are the same folks who last spring tried to push through a "Don't Say Gay" bill. These same kind folks also overturned a local ordinance in Nashville that protected LGBT workers from discrimination.

So what the heck is it with Tennessee? Well, they are not alone. Already another "license to bully" bill is moving through the Michigan Legislature. And of course here in Texas there are a whole bunch of ugly people who are incensed that we have moved a series of anti-bullying laws through the Legislature. Of course one of those groups is the Plano-based Liberty Institute, an affiliate of Focus on the Family. They are already screeching about free speech and how these laws impinge on



BULLIED TO DEATH | Phillip Parker, 14, who took his own life last week due to anti-gay bullying, was the second Tennessee teen to do so in as many months.

their freedom of religion.

So my question is this. How the heck does bullying a teenager so mercilessly that he takes his own life rather than face the continued abuse constitute "religious expression"? The right wing talks



Hardy Haberman
Flagging Left

about the slippery slope of offering protections to LGBT youth as "special rights," but I seriously doubt if the shoe were on the other foot they would see it that way.

Imagine if my religion called for me to make animal sacrifices in the public square. Imagine if my religion said I should close all tattoo shops and barber shops. Imagine if my religion said the bank had to forgive all debts every 49 years. After all, those are all in the Bible along with a whole lot of other things that would seem even stranger.

Imagine if my religion called for me to make animal sacrifices in the public square. Imagine if my religion said I should close all tattoo shops and barber shops. Imagine if my religion said the bank had to forgive all debts every 49 years. After all, those are all in the Bible along with a whole lot of other things that would seem even stranger.

No, the right wing is not worried about "special rights." They are specifically concerned with denying rights to LGBT people. We have become

the bogeymen for a generation of far-right fundamentalists who can't seem to find anyone else to blame for their problems. These people must have someone to blame because of their warped view of religion and the "will of God." When you try to take the Bible literally, you run into all kinds of problems, not the least of which is the need to find scapegoats. After all, why else would their lives be so difficult if it weren't for someone standing in the way of getting their just rewards from God?

I have noted the anger of the religious right previously, and the bullying that manifests itself in our schools and playground is just the next generation of that anger acting out. Though I started by focusing on Tennessee, I assure you that the problem is everywhere and it won't be stopped easily.

I am pretty sure nobody can change the warped attitudes some of these people have toward LGBT folk, but I do know that we can provide legal protections to assure that under the law, everyone has equal rights. If the right believes that their freedom of speech extends to bullying and abuse, then it's time for some serious education in what it means to have a civil society. There is enough ugliness in the world without trying to create more.

Hardy Haberman is a longtime local LGBT activist and a board member of the Woodhull Freedom Alliance. His blog is at DungeonDiary.blogspot.com.

Mayor's misstep on marriage pledge shows how far we've come

Laura Miller, who became LGBT icon, opposed gay unions during 1st campaign 10 years ago

The signing of a pledge in support of same-sex marriage by some 80 mayors attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors' recent meeting in Washington, D.C., represents a powerful, almost astounding stride in the LGBT community's march to equality.

Only one big-city mayor created a controversy by refusing to sign the pledge, and that unfortunately was Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings, who probably regrets the decision now. His decision not to sign the pledge — even though he later claimed he personally supports marriage equality — set off a bone-jolting controversy in Dallas as LGBT activists reacted to the news.

Rawlings cancelled a planned appearance at a neighborhood meeting because of activists' plans to demonstrate against him, and all of the city's newspapers and television stations began covering the story. The Dallas Morning News, which is infamous for its conservative takes on many progressive measures, praised Rawlings for resisting pressure to sign the pledge.

As a result of Rawlings thwarting activists' plans to confront him at the neighborhood meet-



Laura Miller

ing, GetEQUAL scheduled a "Sign the Pledge" rally at City Hall.

There was a time when LGBT activists would have given the mayor a pass on the marriage equality issue, but that has long since passed. In declining to sign the pledge, Rawlings used the excuse that he was practicing a policy of avoiding social issues unrelated to city government.

That excuse had previously worked for former Dallas Mayor Laura Miller when she chose not to address the issue of marriage equality. At the same time, she managed to achieve something close to sainthood in the eyes of Dallas' LGBT community because of her support of a nondiscrimination ordinance addressing sexual orientation and gender identity passed in 2002.

When Miller first campaigned for mayor she and all of her opponents declared in a candidate's forum that they opposed same-sex marriage, but they all declared support for the nondiscrimination ordinance. That apparently was enough at the time to gain the trust and support of LGBT activists, especially after it was learned she had a gay uncle and a lesbian stepsister she loved and supported.

Miller, who served as mayor from 2002 to 2007, later gave more support to the LGBT community's pursuit of marriage equality by speaking out against Texas' constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage that voters approved in 2005. She also began supporting marriage equality during her speeches at Dallas' glittering Black Tie Dinner.

Today, Miller says that she "supports gay marriage 100 percent," and she adds that "it will be legal nationwide sooner than later. Young people today don't give it a second thought and support it fully."

As the mother of two daughters and one son, Miller knows her stuff. She declined to comment on Rawlings' decision not to sign the pledge, but it's a pretty good bet that if Miller were in his shoes today she would have signed that pledge — policy or no policy.

Rawlings made a terrible error in judgment when he refused to sign the pledge along with the mayors of other big cities such as New York City, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Seattle, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Boston, San Diego, Portland, Denver and the list goes on and on. What's worse, Texas mayors from Austin, Houston and San Antonio signed the pledge.



David Webb
The Rare Reporter

If Rawlings had simply signed the pledge, it likely would have been reported by the Dallas media, there would have been a few stones thrown at him by conservative conscientious objectors and then it would have been forgotten. But

now, it will continue to rage as a full-scale controversy for an undetermined amount of time.

At this point it seems like the best course of action for Rawlings to take would be to just sign the pledge, seeing as how he is already on record as supporting marriage equality. That action might stir up resentment among conservative constituents, but at least it would put Rawlings on the winning side of the debate.

The fact of the matter is that marriage equality will indeed one day be the law of the land, no matter how much that irks those who would prevent it if they could.

David Webb is a veteran journalist who has covered LGBT issues for the mainstream and alternative media for three decades. E-mail him at davidwaynewebb@hotmail.com.



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RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK'S POLL:

How important is it for Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings to come out for same-sex marriage?

- Very important : 65 percent
 - Somewhat important : 14 percent
 - Not important at all : 21 percent
- 286 Votes cast



Youth in revolt

College kid-slash-performance artist John Michael Colgin hopes to make a splash — one awkward moment at a time

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com

For John Michael Colgin, homophobia is an easy term. Too easy. When people start using it as a label, Colgin sees it as losing its weight.

"It gets people off topic so easily," he asserts. "That's where the struggles begin."

Colgin, just 22, is a ball of pent-up energy. He squirms in his chair trying to find that right comfort level and yet his enthusiasm when talking about his one-man show *Would You Like Guys With That?* keeps him on the edge of his seat. He punctuates his sentences with lively gestures and a multitude of facial expressions. He's eccentric in personality, but passionate.

"The show is sometimes about transformation," he says. "As a gay man, when you don't have role models, the only thing you associate with 'gay' is what you're shown. So from beginning to end in the show, the sexual identity thing is going on."

In his piece, Colgin's main character (himself, really) is a snobby kid, the product of private-schooling and a sense of entitlement; he becomes

even more judgmental when he attends college in Stillwater, Okla. But then he goes to work at McDonald's as a kind of social experiment, he begins to see the world anew: Just because he hates small-talk with his co-workers, he discovers that listening to different music doesn't mean you're not a human being.

"I did my research on people who seemed so different than me," Colgin says. "After the first time I performed it, I learned that I could really reach people with my voice. Every thing is so authentically true in my head as in the show."

He created the show while attending Oklahoma State, but had to convince the group there called SODA (Sexual Orientation Diversity Association) that he had a viable piece. In a shrewd move, he previewed what he said was a 70-minute show with a 10-minute micro-version. They were impressed, and he got a \$500 grant.

Only he hadn't actually created the remaining hour's worth of material. That's when he got to writing.

Even now, he says, he doesn't work from a fixed script, instead coming up with an outline

and rehearsing it until the rhythm becomes second nature.

When he came home to Dallas, he had to start the process all over again.

"Going to theaters and spaces here, I was forced to convince people again that my work had value to it," he says. "It was frustrating but part of my mission statement is to go to non-theater groups. My show doesn't need perfection in lighting or stuff, it's just about bringing the work to people who won't get to see it."

He performed *Guys* at Nouveau 47's Theatre Appresh in November, a sort of guerrilla performance night. It got him some notice. One local critic called it "focused, fresh and engaging ... with gritty humor, pathos and an honest, dark conviction fit to delight Lenny Bruce." Someone from the Cathedral of Hope attended after reading Dallas Voice's Instant Tea blog and liked it enough that Colgin was invited to perform there later this spring.

They were probably responding to the same charisma that makes Colgin a challenging interview. He bounces around so much — physically and narratively — that when he talks about com-

ing out, it's not always clear he's talking about himself or his show ... or whether there's a difference. Maybe it doesn't matter; for Colgin, performing *is* his reality.

"There is stuff that makes me ashamed and uncomfortable, but it's worth telling onstage," he says. "I learned the people who piss you off are usually the people who remind you about yourself. The self-realization is onstage."

He even turns his breaks from the interview to do an impromptu segment from his play, he goes for it full-force. In a cramped office, as his character recounts the pleasure of sneaking a peek at his teacher's breast (he hadn't realized he was gay yet), Colgin simulates an orgasm.

"I'm freakin' naked up there," he exclaims. "I never felt more clear than right now."

Still, Colgin's performance isn't just about coming out, but more a confession (he admits to being particularly hurtful to gay kids to mask his own feelings) and apology. It's about putting his young, confused life on display.

"You want other [gay] kids to see you can be happy," he says. "I was ugly in the closet. I knew I was unbearable to some people. When I came out at 21, my writing started and now I can see the me I wanna be."

WOULD YOU LIKE GUYS...

Galerstein Women's Center,
800 W. Campbell Road on the
UTD campus, Richardson. Jan. 30.
5:30 p.m. UTDallas.edu.

ABOUT FACES | John Michael Colgin goes from snobby private school gay-baiter to out-and-proud McDonald's worker in his one-man show 'Would You Like Guys With That?' (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

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Man up

Glenn Close's Oscar-nominated role as a gender-bending Irish butler with a secret fuels the fascinating 'Albert Nobbs'

HIDDEN LIFE | Glenn Close received her sixth Oscar nomination — alongside nominated co-star Janet McTeer, opposite — playing a gay woman living as a man in turn-of-the-century Ireland in 'Albert Nobbs.'

Twenty-four hours before The Golden Globes ceremony, where she was in the running for best actress in a drama for *Albert Nobbs*, Glenn Close is doing some last minute press from her Four Seasons hotel room in Los Angeles. While she ultimately didn't take home a statuette the next night, Close's performance is a bona fide winner — and represents "closure and joy" for a passion-project 30 years in the making.

Playing a woman who for decades has camouflaged herself as a man to work as a hotel butler and survive in 19th century Ireland, Close, who also produced and co-wrote the film (and its Globes-nominated, Sinéad O'Connor-performed original song, "Lay Your Head Down"), turns in a vulnerable, kindly, enigmatic and multilayered performance — quite literally so, with subtle facial prosthetics to butch up her features. *Nobbs* also co-stars Janet McTeer as Hubert, a swaggering lesbian whom also poses as a man, and Mia Wasikowska as Helen, a beguiling maid to whom Albert takes a romantic shine.

Albert represents a polar opposite of the role that has come to define Close in recent years: Iron-fisted, manipulative lawyer Patty Hewes on the DirectTV series, *Damages*, which wraps its fifth and final season this year.

Via telephone — before she learned of her Oscar nomination earlier this week — Close discussed gender-bending, wrapping up *Damages*, and a whole bunch of queer stuff. ■

— Lawrence Ferber

Albert Nobbs is now playing at the Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station.

Dallas Voice: You first played Albert Nobbs in a 1982 off-Broadway production of the play and have toiled for years to bring a film version to screen. Do awards matter to you, both for this performance specifically and in general? Glenn Close: In what way? It sounds kind of disingenuous when I talk like this, but I honestly think that you're almost a winner when you're nominated and the whole craziness around who wins and doesn't win I just can't buy into. For the winner, yes, it's wonderful, and it would be wonderful to win everything, particularly because this is the most I have been invested [in a film] and it was an incredible journey for me. But the journey itself had great closure and was challenging and satisfying in every way. So I don't feel like awards would change that. Of course, I would love for a lot of people to see it. That's where the nominations are very helpful.

Were you a fan of movies about gender-bending characters, like *Yentl* and *Victor Victoria*, before *Nobbs*? Yeah. I remember seeing *Yentl* onstage with Tovah Feldshuh [in the 1970s]. It blew me away. But those were different from *Nobbs*. What was really important to us was to make the characters in the movie not seem oblivious for thinking this character is a man. I wasn't convinced that Julie Andrews was a man, and I don't think necessarily that Barbra Streisand was the most convincing of men. It was very important for us to be authentic and find ways of subtly changing Janet's and my faces so that would be believable to the people within the story.

Did you and Janet have some fun with it when you were in your male drag? Yeah. Janet accosted Brendan Gleeson, whom she'd played opposite as Lady Churchill in the HBO series *Into the Storm*, and he didn't have any idea who she



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was! I tell you, it would have been fun to get all duded-up and walk through Dublin. But I just didn't have time to. I liked being Albert. I liked surprising myself every time I passed a mirror, and to be on the set looking like a guy is different from just acting.

The scene in which Janet's character Hubert, whom Albert initially thinks is a biological man, catches her and realizes she's a woman is so painful. Albert looks so scared. Was that a tough scene for you to act? No. I just had to think of how dire it would be for Albert if she was discovered and thrown out. She thinks her life is over and wouldn't have a job. I think one of the hardest scenes for me was when I asked Helen out for a walk for the first time, because I didn't know what to do with my face. Albert is starting to look up more than she ever had, but it's still not comfortable for her to look into people's eyes. The tricky thing about the whole part was the dilemma of somebody who has been stoic and behind a mask all those years — how much does she show on her face as she starts to look up and out at the world again?

Did you consider adding a new character, a young woman pretending to be a teenage boy, so you could cast Justin Bieber in it? Think of the box office dollars that would reap! [Laughing] Ah, Justin Bieber. He'd probably be very good at that. I don't know if it would be convincing in a period movie in Victorian Dublin, but you never know!

While researching the time period in which *Nobbs* takes place, did you learn whether living as a male was typical for lesbians to do back then? My research mainly turned up women who did this either to fight in wars, have a job or go on adventure. And then there are cases of people who married women, and the women found out later [their husbands] were women and not men. So I don't know. It was a mixture, and whether they were lesbians are not, homosexuality

was against the law. I'm not sure whether lesbianism was also against the law, but it was certainly considered aberrant and something to hide.

You famously played lesbian military vet Margarethe Cammermeyer in the 1995 TV movie, *Serving in Silence*. When 'don't ask, don't tell' was repealed, was it a big moment for you? And did you two talk about it? Yes, it was, definitely. I was in touch with Grethe when that all happened and I would've loved to have gone to D.C. for that, but I just wasn't able to. We talked about how proud we were that, back then, we did *Serving in Silence* and to think of the time that's gone by since and the lives [military policy and DADT] affected in an unfortunate way. But thank God DADT doesn't exist anymore. Not that everything's going to change, but at least it has on the books. I think, ultimately, [gender and sexuality] shouldn't matter. I've said this about our film. In some ways, gender should be irrelevant. It shouldn't matter who someone is connected to and finds love and a life with. I hope [full federal equality] will come to be a reality for the LGBT world.

You've called Patty Hewes the role of your life. What can you tell us about this last season of *Damages*? Oh, it's a good, juicy season. Patty goes after a WikiLeaks guy, like Julian Assange. She's prosecuting him and Helen is defending him, so it's pretty good.

Does the season come to a conclusive, all-tied-up end, or does it leave things open so there could be a *Damages* movie later down the line, a *la 24*? I don't know necessarily how our writers are going to end the season. We've had some general conversations about it, but knowing them I doubt it would all be in a tight and nice package with a bow.

If you were in a legal pickle, would you want Patty to represent you? Absolutely! We couldn't afford her, but I'd like her to represent me, yes.

You lost Oscars in the past to two other gay favorites, Cher and Jodie Foster. Are you hatin' on them? Funny, I didn't think of that. I don't hate them at all. Are you kidding me?

It would be great to see you three together in a project. Oh, that would be wild. That would be good.

 online exclusive

For a review of *Albert Nobbs* — and to read more about the Oscar nominations — visit DallasVoice.com



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A-‘Ledge’-dly, a thriller

A month into 2012, and already a contender for worst movie of the year

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor

jones@dallasvoice.com

It's a mitzvah when the movie studios get the worst movie of the year out of the way early — and kind of canny. Cause once you see **Man on a Ledge** (if you even bother), every movie that follows it will look so good by comparison. It's rather genius, really, like burning your partner's toast so your omelet seems tastier.

The title says it all, doesn't it? We don't know much about Nick (Sam Worthington), other than he's a former cop who got sent to the big-house for some reason, and has now escaped and

stepped onto the ledge of a building on Madison Avenue. He is both determined that the cops not know who he is, yet actively courting folk-hero status with the people in the street. A hostage negotiator (Elizabeth Banks) serves some function, I'm not sure what. There's a smug TV reporter (Kyra Sedgwick), too, just so you know who to hate for doing their job.

Sam Worthington got off to a propitious movie

career: His first three roles (in *Terminator: Salvation*, *Clash of the Titans* and *Avatar*) made him a household name, if not face, and last year he took on a "prestige" picture, *The Debt*, which wasn't very good but looked like it *might* be, so props for that.

By now he should be realizing that lucky casting and good hair will only take you so far. He's expected to carry *Man on a Ledge*, despite the "all-star" cast (with "star" having the same definition it does on *Dancing with the Stars*). Worthington is, after all, the title *Man*, who doesn't seem suicidal but appears to have nothing to lose... unlike the audience, which loses nearly two hours of its life. He goes for being twitchy, since he doesn't get to move around much.

As a Donald Trump-like real estate mogul and professional blowhard, Ed Harris appears positively skeletal; I don't think it's because he's supposed to remind of the villainous Skeletor, either. He's gaunt and frail, and he moves as if his entire body is in a cast. You don't so much want him to get his comeuppance as you do an MRI.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
MAN ON A LEDGE
 Sam Worthington, Elizabeth Banks, Ed Harris. 110 mins. Rated R. Now playing in wide release.



GO AHEAD & JUMP | Sam Worthington gives a tic-filled performance in the execrable 'Man on a Ledge.'

Edward Burns, inarguably Hollywood's most boring actor, plays a rough-and-tumble cop, because, I mean, what's a cop movie without someone who can be a sexist asshole to the women in the movie? *Man on a Ledge* doesn't miss many clichés: Its plot is needlessly complex (an elaborate heist, reliance on precise police procedures, a series of "planned" coincidences) but also nonsensical (if any one of the Rube Goldberg-esque plans varies even slightly, the entire thing collapses; even if they accomplish their task, they prove nothing), as well as, for example, a beautiful girl stripping down to her bra because, you know, guys like to see that kind of thing. (The men also make crudely homophobic jokes, just to prove they are "real men.") Gaps in logic and

cheesy objectification and bigotry are the least of its problems however. The director, Asger Leth, and scripter, Pablo A. Fenjves, find it necessary to make *every single scene* a conflict between *some* characters, as if that will mask the lack of overall dull idea underlying it and a climax that's flabbier and less exciting than an obese person marathon.

On the continuum of bad quasi-mysteries about complicated capers with hidden motives, *Man of a Ledge* is about on par with *Inside Man* and a few steps below *Law Abiding Citizen* and nowhere near the original *Talking of Pelham 1-2-3* (though about the same as the remake). It may make you think about other films, but it's best not to think about (or see) this one. ■

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ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

West Hollywood, The Castro, P'Town, Chelsea, Key West, South Beach: The names alone of these locales are synonymous with gay culture. But just as Dallas boasts two gayborhoods in Cedar Springs and Oak Cliff, so does Los Angeles claim two queer desti-



HOT IN THE CITY | The salsas at Light My Fire in the Farmers Market have provocative names like Anal Angst and Colon Cleanser, making them popular with a gay crowd. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

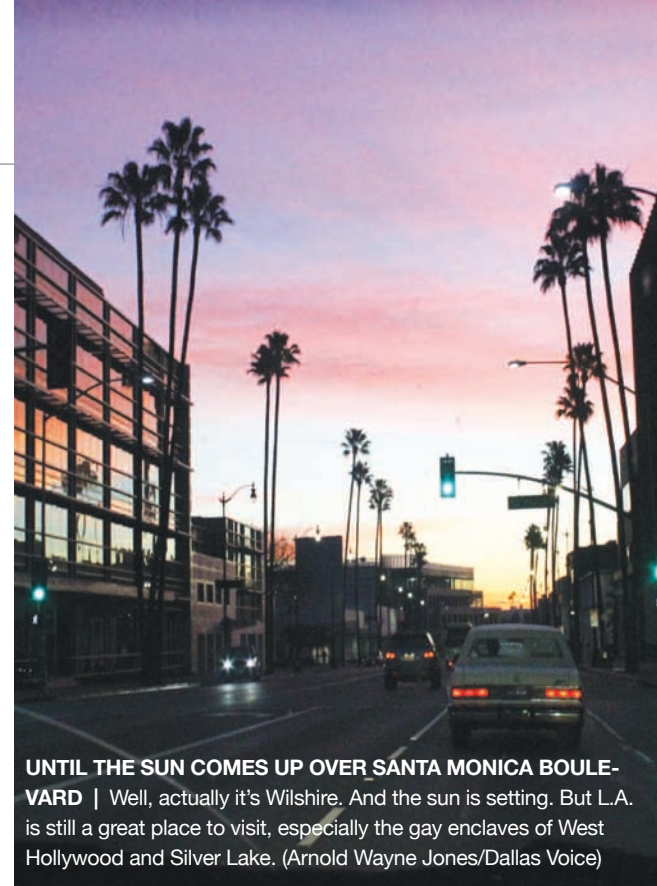
nations. The Silver Lake district — east of WeHo and abutting the hills of the San Fernando Valley — is one of the most populous gay ZIP codes in America. And if you have a car, there's no reason you can't enjoy both on the same trip.

The car requirement isn't merely a suggestion. L.A. has notoriously insufficient public transportation (watch *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?* for the backstory) and everything is pretty spread out — traffic is more congested than a kindergarten in January.

WeHo — centered mostly along a mile-long strip of Santa Monica Boulevard (the old Route 66) — deserves its reputation as queer central: Simply put, it is one of the gayest towns in America (its police cars are even decorated with rainbow colors). Crammed with shops, restaurants, gyms and clubs within two square miles, its population has remained fairly constant for 50 years (last census, about 34,000), but you could spend an entire day walking around without running out of things to do (while barely ever seeing a straight person).

A big Starbucks (known as "the gay Starbucks") has benches that look out on the strip for great people-watching opportunities. If you want more than coffee and a scone, though, Basix is an essential stop, with brunchy items available much of the day (try the delicious blackened ahi tacos).

For lunch (or dinner or even late-night bites), two unmissable eateries are right next to each other. Hamburger Haven is an institution *a la* Hunky's: a burger joint with a devoted following. The buns are grilled on the classic "sassy cheeseburger," and thick cut



UNTIL THE SUN COMES UP OVER SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD | Well, actually it's Wilshire. And the sun is setting. But L.A. is still a great place to visit, especially the gay enclaves of West Hollywood and Silver Lake. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

fries are must-haves; next door, Bossa Nova serves what it calls Brazilian cuisine, though its large portioned pasta dishes are the main staples with locals. Both are open well into the early morning hours, and for good reason: They are across the street from two popular gay clubs.

"Welcome to the fabulous Abbey, where the drinks are cheap and the boys are cheaper," one local jokes. Now 20 years old, The

■ VALLEY, Page 24

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■ VALLEY, From Page 23

Abbey truly is a legendary club. Designed to conjure a cloisters, it attracts a wide range of types (including straight clubbers) caught up in its energy, shirtless bartenders and go-go boys and girls.

Next door, Here Lounge is a unique and fun spot, a sports bar where you don't watch sports so much as fantasize about athletes. Even gay Angelenos marvel at their theme nights, like Hooker Casino on Saturdays and Stripper Circus on Wednesdays.

There are almost too many other clubs to count: Revolver, one of the oldest gay bars anywhere (it recently returned to its original name); Gym, a sports bar; Rage, where the young guys hang out; Trunks; and many more.

You can venture further out, though, and still have a great time. South of WeHo, The Grove and the abutting Farmers Market are great destinations, not only for shopping but for their history.

The Grove is a lovely, new, high-end outdoor shopping center (weekdays, Mario Lopez films exteriors for *Extra* here) with everything from Abercrombie & Fitch to Crate & Barrel. Next door, the Farmers Market — founded in 1934 — offers almost the opposite experience: Old-school charm. Stop by Loteria for some excellent tacos, or satisfy your craving for heat at Light My Fire, where hundreds of salsas (some with names like Colon Cleaner and Anal Angst) are for sale.

Into the Silver Lake area, a good pre-clubbing dinner stop is Malo along West Sunset Boulevard. For California Tex-Mex, it serves a super spicy house hot sauce with its chips (the sauce also accents the cheese chili rellenos), and the house infused tequilas are great. Try also the tres leches cake for dessert — one of the best anywhere.

When done there, haul over to The Eagle L.A., a predominant leather and Levi bar in town (emphasis on the word "dominant"). Skeevier than its Dallas counterpart but spacious and fun, it attracts an enthusiastic bearish clientele (a surprisingly popular subculture in



ISLE OF PALMS | Even in winter, Los Angeles stays sunny most days, though at night you'll want a jacket. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

slick, Botox-happy L.A.). Incredibly crowded on big nights like Mr. Eagle, it's a fun place even on an off-night with muscular, nearly naked bartenders. (In L.A., it's legal for porn to play in bars, and while not all take advantage of that, The Eagle sure does.)

Faultline, not too far away, is a rougher leather bar, and the straight club Little Temple is a gay-friendly spot to see interesting live music.

You don't need to get the totally "gay" experience to enjoy L.A., either. West of WeHo, Beverly Hills is the famous enclave of the wealthy, with pricey boutiques and lovely homes worth a drive. The city is also loaded with interesting architecture from the 1930 through the '50s, which you can enjoy in WeHo, Silver Lake or even the San Fernando Valley.

"The Valley" has a reputation as the pimply-faced stepbrother of central L.A., but there's interest there, too ... and even some celebrity sighting opportunities. Aroma Cafe in the Studio City area is a large, hipster-friendly outdoor bistro that's ideal for hangover brunches, but just as good for a completely sober breakfast, especially for one of the huge omelets or an unusual but tasty version of chilaquiles. (It's also across the street from the Italian restaurant where the murder Robert Blake was accused of took place.)

Tool around slowly in Studio City or Burbanks, and you can see some of the facilities where TV shows like *Will & Grace* were shot. You might even see some celebs walking around or getting their dry-cleaning. That's Los Angeles for you.



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L+S music

Teen-age dream

Imperial Teen sheds its skin (again) to reveal fresh genius on 'Feel the Sound'

RICH LOPEZ | Staff Writer
lopez@dallasvoice.com



Spring comes early this year — at least it feels that way with **Feel the Sound**, the new CD from Imperial Teen. The disc dwells in a happy pop universe that is wonderfully tough to escape from. By the 11th track, Imperial Teen succeeds in conjuring up an aural place of magic that doesn't skimp on deep

lyrics.

Sound plays with the refreshing splash of a debut album, though it's the band's fifth. Optimism mixes with confidence and fun beats so brightly, it made me want to take the CD to everyone I knew to ask if they had heard of "this new band" ... although the San Francisco quartet has been around for 15 years. But with each album, they seem to strip away a layer that brings up a newness that demands attention.

Imperial Teen's 2007 album *The Hair, The TV, The Baby and The Band* had more hints of rocker attitude with a stronger emphasis on heavy guitars and acoustic ones amid a mod-pop landscape. Here, they haven't lost their instrumentation, but the music shines without reliance on one over the other. They do love a stabbing beat, but the melodies rise up like a quilted blanket surrounding each member (all of whom sing vocals).

The opener "Runaway" plays like Mates of State with a rapid beat and falsetto-like har-

monies. Nostalgia rings from the sound as if it might play over a Time/Life infomercial for some '70s AM radio collection, but production is solid and it keeps a modern feel.

With two gay members (Roddy Bottum and Will Schwartz), there is a strong queer sensibility to the album without becoming distractingly Pride-crazy. Maybe it's an unfair generalization, but really, who but a gay guy would write lyrics like *Pumped up pecs and sticky skin / Floors unswept and walls are thin* in the ridiculously enjoyable third track "Last to Know."

Where the songs may sound simple and up-beat, the lyrics never falter in their hooks and every single track is a delightful listen. *But the hand that feeds the bark / Affidavit after dark* may not make sense in "Over His Head," but they are interesting enough to keep you listening — that's half the battle in any pop album.

For a band with strong alt-rock roots (Faith No More, The Dicks), *Sound* is a beautiful surprise. Their delivery goes from gentle in "All the Same" to sexy in "Out From Inside" surrounded by rich, up-tempo textures.

Imperial Teen somehow manages never to annoy, either. Usually, an album where song after song bleeds into each other seamlessly, the repetition can drown you. Here, the band tempers the breathing of its creation. Tracks ebb and flow with rapid-fire backdrops and easygoing grooves with variations on the same beat. They didn't strive for the "album ballad" or "the dance song CD." Rather, *Feel the Sound* succeeds magnificently as a strong idea that never veers from its intentions. ■

IMPERIAL EFFORT | With two gay male members, Imperial Teen gets away with a lot of sassy lyrics without ghetto-izing itself as 'queercore' rock or Pride pop.

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All entries must be received by Jan. 28; results will be announced on March 16. One winner will be drawn and two round-trip tickets (\$1,500 value) will be awarded. Dallas Voice is owned by Voice Publishing Co., Inc. Employees of Voice Publishing Co., Inc. are not eligible to win.



Friday 01.27

See more Seymour

It's not enough that Jane Seymour is a famous actress and is fabulously beautiful, but she paints, too. Talk about winning the talent and genetic lottery. The former Bond girl and Emmy-award winner comes to Dallas to display her works and show the town what A-list really means.

DEETS: Wisby-Smith Fine Art, 500 Crescent Court, Ste. 146. Through Sat. 6 p.m. Wisby-Smith.com.

Friday 01.27

Del-iver us from evil

Del Shores returns to Dallas for one more go-round of his *Sordid Confessions*. He goes for the jugular with stories about his life that are crass and comical. He'll also be taping the shows for his DVD release of *Confessions* so that his rants on Southern Baptists, Hollywood and maybe even a teeny bit about his recent break-up will be preserved for all time.

DEETS: The Rose Room (inside S4), 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. \$10-\$30. DelShores.tix.com.



Saturday 01.28

Bigger is always better

Cattle ranchers, oil men and love triangles all make for an epic story of Texas. The DTC celebrates its current show with the gala event *Giant: The Celebration*. You'll feel truly Texan with the wine stroll, Texas food and live local music.

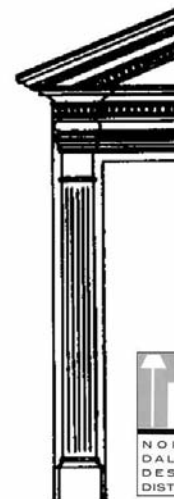
DEETS: Wyly Theater, 2401 Flora St. 6 p.m. DallasTheaterCenter.org.



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calendar

MONDAY 01.30

COMMUNITY

Living the Questions is a course seeking relevance for Christianity in their own lives. Northaven UMC, 11211 Preston Road. 8:30 p.m. Through Feb. 13.

DFW Prime Timers play bridge every week at 1 p.m. Call 972-504-8866 for details.

FRIDAY 01.27

COMMUNITY

DIVA New Member Clinics. The clinics are for new members to learn and improve on skills prior to the season. Advantage Sports Complex, 4302 Buckingham Road Fort Worth. 7 p.m. DIVADallas.org.

Oak Lawn Group for Gays Lambda meets. St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 6525 Inwood Road. 6:30 p.m. Call 214-868-7350 for more information.

MUSIC

The Features, Girl in a Coma, Johnny Beauford performs. The Prophet Bar, 2548 Elm St. 8 p.m. \$10. TheProphetBar.com.

TUESDAY 01.31

COMMUNITY

QLive! Open Mike Night. Percussions Lounge, 426 S. Jennings Ave. 10 p.m. QCinema.com.

Q's Day Potluck. Weekly casual LGBT gathering. The Corporate Image, 5418 Brentwood Stair Road, Fort Worth. 7 p.m. 817-446-3395.

Stop Smoking psycho-educational group by the AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 02.01

COMMUNITY

El Sol, meets. AIDS Outreach Center, 400 N. Beach St., Fort Worth. 2 p.m. AOC.org.

BROADCAST

Lambda Weekly. LGBT radio for North Texas. This week's guest is counselor Candy Marcum. 89.3 KNON-FM at 7 a.m. LambdaWeekly.com.

SATURDAY 01.28

COMMUNITY

Dallas FrontRunners. Runners and walkers at all levels welcome. Meet at the recreation house at Sunset Bay at White Rock Lake Park. 8 a.m.

Fuse: Core Group for gay men ages 18 to 29. Resource Center Dallas, 2701 Reagan St. 2-5 p.m. 214-540-4435. DFWFuse.com.

THURSDAY 02.02

COMMUNITY

F.A.C.E., support group for those impacted by HIV/AIDS in any capacity. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. CathedralOfHope.com.

Brokeback Dallas. Support group for gay men married to straight women. St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church, 6526 Inwood Road. 7:30 p.m.

Choir and orchestra rehearsals. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. CathedralOfHope.com.

SUNDAY 01.29

COMMUNITY

First Community Church of Dallas services. The church is open and affirming. FCC of Dallas, 9120 Ferguson Road. 11 a.m. FCCDFW.org.

Dignity Dallas Roman Catholic liturgy. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 6 p.m. DignityDallas.org.

Resounding Harmony weekly rehearsals at Oak Lawn UMC, 3014 Oak Lawn Ave. 7 p.m. ResoundingHarmony.org.



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CELEBRITY BIRTHDAY

By Jack Fertig



Greg Louganis turns 52 on Sunday. The diver won gold medals at the 1984 and 1988 Olympics. Now he coaches up-and-coming divers. Louganis also competes in dog agility contests and wrote a second book, *For the Life of Your Dog*. His first book, *Breaking the Surface*, recounted his coming out and his HIV diagnosis and was a New York Times bestseller.

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

Flirtatious impulses prove a bit too extravagant. Remember, one perfect rose is more elegant than a dozen. Don't dwell on the past. Think about the future and how to get there.

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 19

With your co-ruler Neptune coming to stay the next 14 years, you will feel more in tune, a mixed blessing. Focus and shield your sensitivity. To care for others effectively, care for yourself first.

ARIES Mar 20-Apr 19

Weird insights make you wonder how much you know yourself. Pushing yourself harder makes things tough on those around you. Ask why you do that and whether it's really necessary.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

Who are your friends really? The answers are surprising. Focus on the good. As much as some people may deserve your wrath, be careful not to say anything you'll regret later.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

There is a middle ground between needless controversies and sweeping important issues under the rug. Blowhard, diplomat or sycophant? The role you choose will brand you for a long time.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

What friends say about your sex life is none of their business, but it may be true. Being sensitive, open and patient with others helps to improve your reputation, in ways you don't expect.

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

Work on your relationship karma. Find new, creative ways to do that. Being nice to your friends is too easy. Reach out to new people. If you have someone special do something special.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Personal relationships get more complex. Your efforts at charm and rationalization to clear the air are beside the point. Welcome the magic and mystery. It can do you a lot of good.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

When self-improvement becomes competition, look at what inner demons are feeding that. Meditation and self-examination bring out your deep, inner beauty.

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Arguments at home are about stresses outside. Home should be where you can discuss your agitation and get better insights. Stay calm and focused and it could be.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 20

Humility, charity and a bit of self-deprecating humor are key. A critical review of recent career moves can suggest new directions, but don't change quite yet.

CAPRICORN Dec 21-Jan 19

Worries about your career are not entirely unfounded. Watch out for new opportunities. They will cost you, but may be worth the price. Look ahead and think carefully.

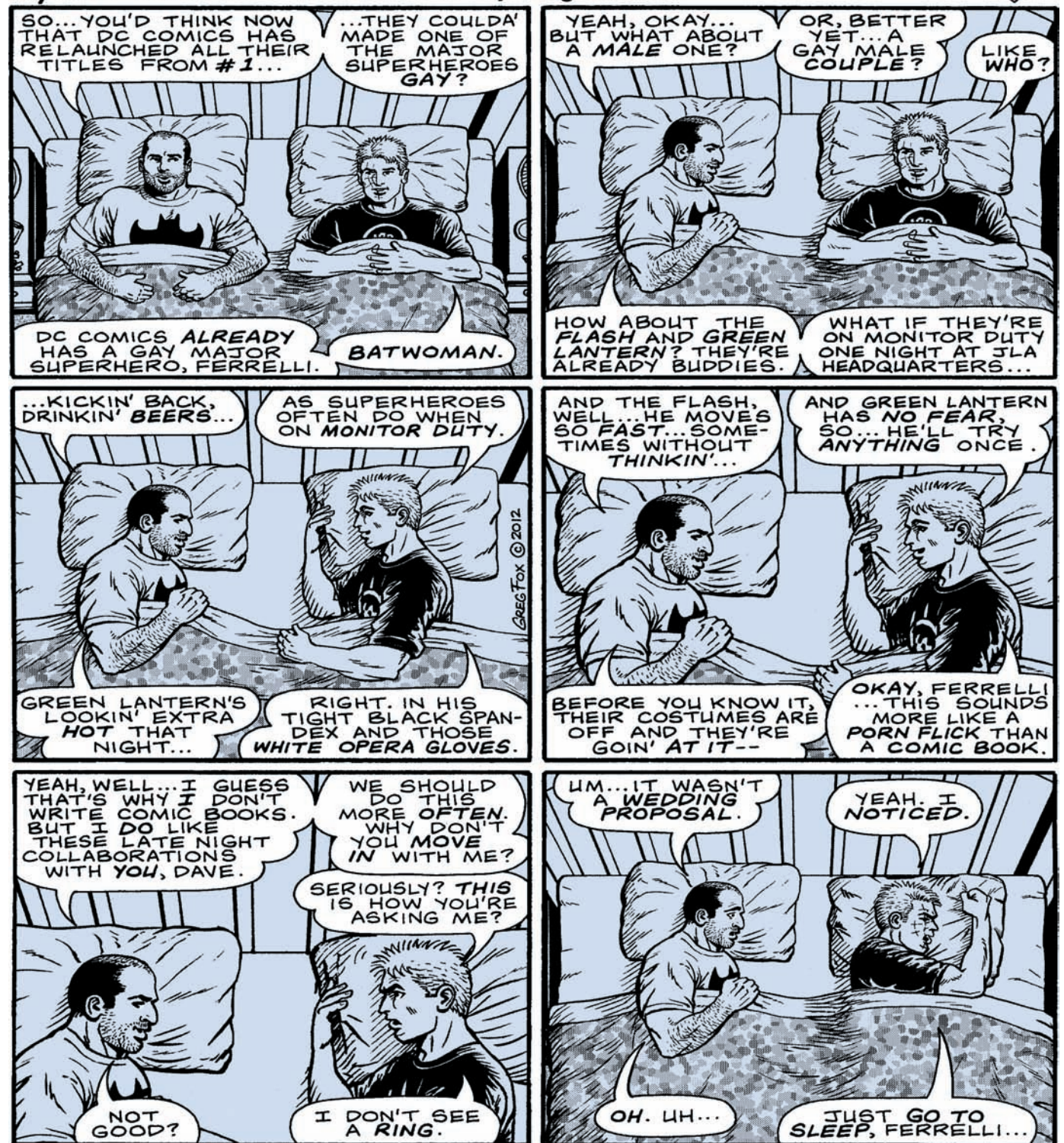
THIS WEEK

Neptune coming home to Pisces this Feb. 3 brings 14 years of heightened mysticism, romanticism, sensitivity, passions and decadence. The last time around (1848-1862) was the height of the Romantic era and the beginning of the spiritualist movements.

Jack Fertig can be reached at 415-864-8302 or Starjack.com

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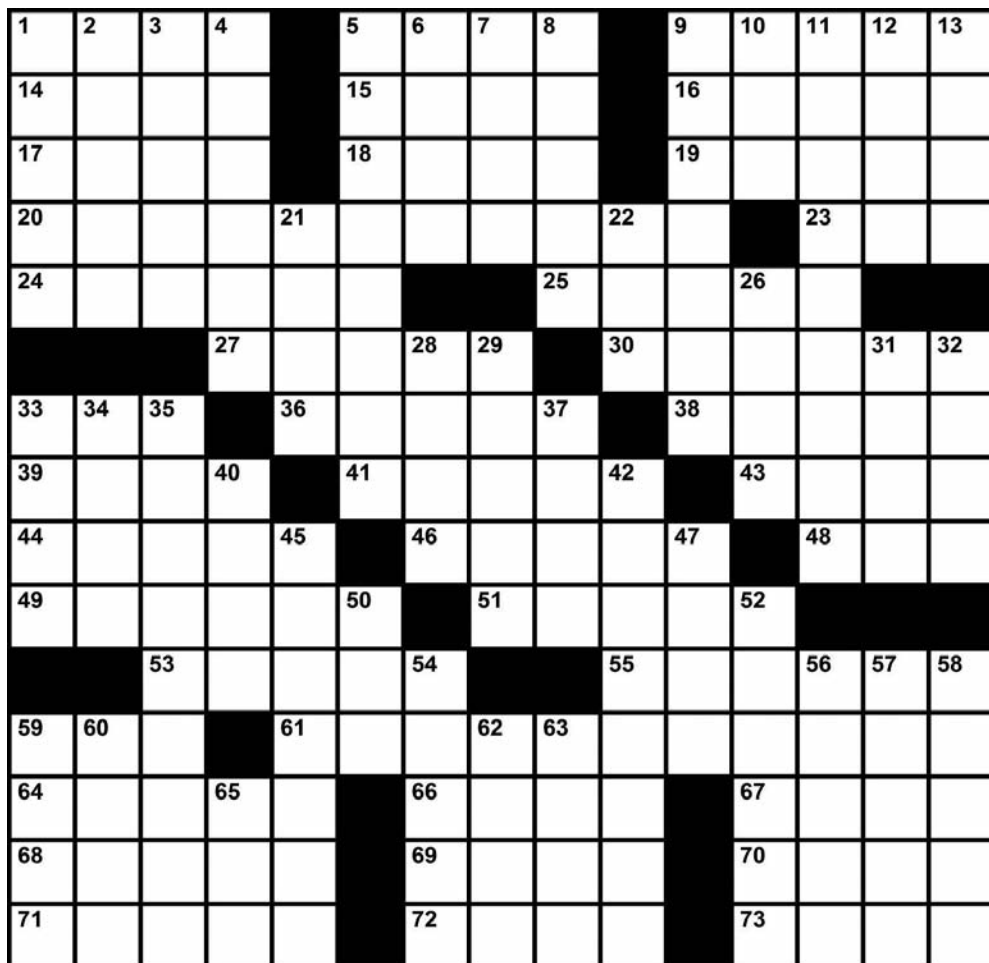
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Eight

Solution on page 28

Across

- 1 Cathedral of Hope area
- 5 Nintendo rival
- 9 Tuesday to 50 million Frenchmen
- 14 "Boys Don't Cry" character
- 15 Parka feature
- 16 You blow them among the reeds
- 17 Processes wine or cheese
- 18 Person in opposition
- 19 Lord Byron, for one
- 20 He plays a lawyer in "8"
- 23 "Norma ___" (Field film)
- 24 Next to bat, to Billy Bean
- 25 Come together
- 27 Disney Uncle
- 30 Handle on a streetcar, for Williams?
- 33 JFK's successor
- 36 See-through material brand
- 38 Was excessive with the mouth
- 39 "Six Feet Under" creator Ball
- 41 Conductor Boulanger
- 43 Trust, with "on"
- 44 Less nuts
- 46 Evans of "Dynasty"
- 48 "Breakfast on Pluto" actor Stephen
- 49 Symbol of discipline
- 51 Queer, to straights

- 53 Mine bonanzas
- 55 Bride's family, to the other bride
- 59 In-case connector
- 61 Former "Star Trek" star in "8"
- 64 Paul of "Hollywood Squares"
- 66 Time for cowboys to shoot off
- 67 At deuce
- 68 Designer's job
- 69 Guy under Hoover
- 70 Flying fisher
- 71 Threesome member for Dumas
- 72 S&M root
- 73 Calendar boxes

Down

- 1 You must remember this
- 2 One who kneels before Apollo
- 3 He was a real dummy
- 4 South Pacific island
- 5 "Hairspray" director Adam
- 6 Many, many moons
- 7 Rock music style
- 8 St. Lo "so long"
- 9 Beach partner
- 10 Red Cross system
- 11 He plays a supporter of marriage equality in "8"
- 12 Crème-crème filling
- 13 Chin stroker's words
- 21 Tops a cupcake
- 22 Split one in the locker room
- 26 Peter or Paul but not Mary
- 28 Continent-separating range
- 29 When repeated, a "Funny Girl" song
- 31 Part of a play
- 32 Irish pop singer
- 33 Avoid premature ejaculation
- 34 Not so exciting
- 35 She plays an opponent of marriage equality in "8"
- 37 U.S. Supreme Court count
- 40 DVD recording software
- 42 That's Rich!
- 45 "South Pacific" composer
- 47 Isn't informal
- 50 "Look at Me, I'm Sandra ___"
- 52 Tickled pink
- 54 What Melissa Etheridge puts out
- 56 "The Seven Samurai" director Kurosawa
- 57 Put a condiment on it
- 58 Slaws and salads
- 59 Vinick portrayer on "The West Wing"
- 60 Nikita's no
- 62 Caesar's city
- 63 Stick it in the slow ones
- 65 Whoop-de-___



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This Paper is 100% RECYCLABLE



Dominique and friends at Station 4.



Shyla, Nancy and Daisy at Sue Ellen's.

What's going on? We're glad to tell ya, so check this out **Loretta Davenport** is your Sunday night host for **The 2012 Untouchables** show at the **Brick**. Sing out loud at **Monday Night Karaoke** with new host **Jazsmyne Kelli** every week **The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force** holds a **Kick-off Party** Saturday at **Woody's**. They'll be giving away passes to the big **Winter Party Festival** at **Miami Beach** in Feb. Now that's pretty major Lesbi-rockers **Responsible Johnny** headlines a night of jams at **The Phoenix Project** alongside **A Disco for Ferns**, **Penny Arcade** and **Dropped Cause** **Station 4** goes a little retro Friday night at **Glow** with DJ **Frankie Ice**. Get there early for free glowsticks. Woot! ... **Electro Fest** at the **Lizard Lounge** goes down Friday night with **Paul Anthony** and **Exodus**. Dutch hardstylists and hottie brothers **Showtek** headline Saturday night **The Kathy Corbin Band** performs Friday night at **Sue Ellen's**. Community faves **Ciao Bella** will play Saturday and **Anton Shaw** and **the Reason** finish out the weekend on Sunday Hang out with **Voice of Pride** winner **Mel Arizpe** as she hosts **Tittie Tuesdays** karaoke at the **Round-Up Saloon** This is the big weekend for leather. **The Dallas Eagle** hosts **Mr. Texas Leather 2012** throughout the weekend. We're pulling for our own **Mr. Dallas Eagle 2012 Major Seven** to bring home the win. **DJ Paul Kraft** takes over music duties on Saturday night's **Dance Your Ass Off**. And Mr. Texas Leather caps off the weekend with **Gospel Bingo** on Sunday Who knew? ■

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREGORY HAYES. FOR MORE PHOTOS, VISIT DALLASVOICE.COM.



Isaac and Bo at the Tin Room.



Chris and Shane at the Round-Up Saloon.



Richard and Mark at Alexandre's.



Lee at Pekers.



Manny and Gus at JR.'s Bar & Grill.

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9:00pm - 2:00am

WEDNESDAY

\$3.50 Pinnacle Vodka

Dallas' Hottest Dancers
DJ Mickey
9:00pm - 2:00am

THURSDAY

\$3.50 Pinnacle Vodka

Pizza & Poker
7:00pm - 10:00pm

Dallas' Hottest Dancers
9:00pm - 2:00am

FRIDAY

\$3.00 Long Island Teas

Dallas' Hottest Dancers
5:30pm - 10:30pm

Hip Hop Fridays
10:00pm - 4:00am

Valet starting at 5:30pm

SATURDAY

Poker

3:00pm - 6:00pm

Dallas' Hottest Dancers
7:00pm - 10:00pm

FREQUENCY

10:00pm - 4:00am

SUNDAY

\$2.00 Monopolowa & Mimosas

12:00pm - 8:00pm

Poker

3:00pm - 6:00pm

Dallas' Hottest Dancers
6:00pm - 10:00pm

THE UNTOUCHABLES

11:30pm - 2:00pm



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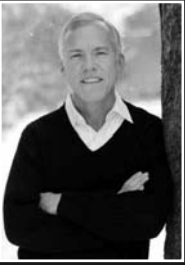


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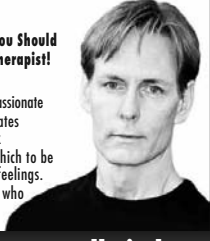
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