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YESTERDAY: KNOWLEDGE ★ **TODAY: POWER** ★ **TOMORROW: PROBLEM-SOLVING**
Bruce Sterling on Designing the Future ★ Where Is Malcolm Gladwell's Mind? What About Now?
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Spike Gillespie's Superbadass Web Site Knowbility
Plus: 'Alien Hominid,' Exploding Dog, Amalia Anderson, and More ★ p.60

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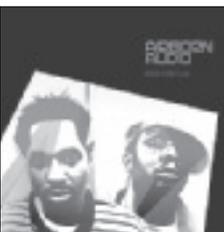
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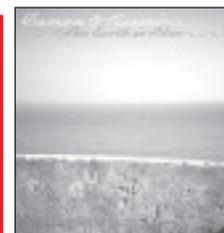
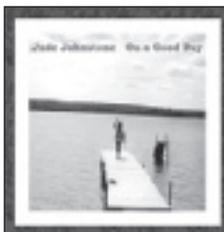
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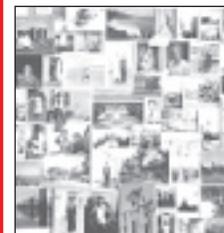
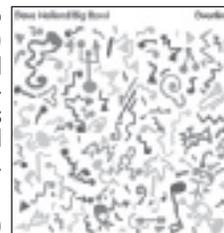
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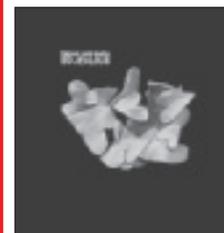
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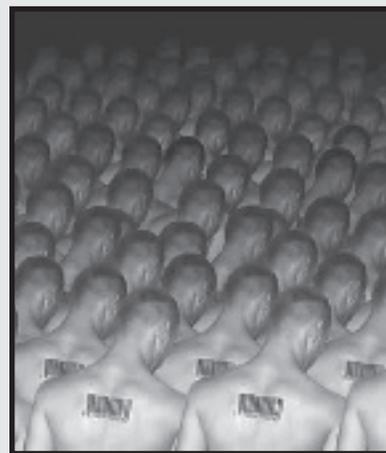
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by Louis Black

Please, Never Say “Relax”: That’s the theme of this column, which we’ll get to in our own convoluted way in just a moment. This is the first of three issues in which there is significant coverage devoted to South by Southwest 05. This time the focus is SXSW Interactive; next week is Film, and the week after covers not only SXSW Music but also includes the annual *Austin Chronicle* Austin Music Poll results. Then there are three special daily issues, after which we get back to our nice, normal weekly routine.

Legendary Broadway producer Jed Harris tells a story about the first time he met actress/writer Ruth Gordon. She was just another showgirl to him, but to woo her he took her to a restaurant outside New York City, a bit of a drive away. On the way there, they chatted, but it was nothing unusual. They got to the restaurant and were soon seated. It was during Prohibition, so I imagine special drinks were ordered along with dinner. When the food arrived, Gordon began to devour everything in sight. She had ordered huge quantities of food, vacuuming it all in as though she hadn’t eaten in months. No conversation, no flirting, just eating.

Harris couldn’t wait to get out of there and back to the city so he could ditch this woman. He went up to the cashier at the front to pay the bill. As he was paying he looked back over. There was Gordon standing, leaned back into a column by the table, a toothpick in her mouth, with a look of just pure contentment on her face. “In that moment,” he would say as he told this story, “I just completely fell in love with her,” or words to that effect.

On Saturday night, March 13, of SXSW 04, I leaned against the chain-link fence of a parking lot, staring out onto Red River, a third of the way down the block from Seventh Street. For a long time, I just stayed there, leaned back into the fence, watching all the folks hurrying by down in the street and on the sidewalks.

It was such a bittersweet moment. SXSW 04 was coming close to ending. Now of course, there’s always a sadness to that time. Still, the year had seen no counterfeit-wristband scare or similar crisis to take years off our lives. It had gone fairly smoothly, though “smoothly” here is a relative term. There had been any number of problems, mistakes, miscalculations, unforeseeable twists, hassles, and minor but stressful issues with which we had dealt. On our end, we’re always working, but most times things are swiftly resolved, and none had been too major. From the outside, SXSW 04 should have appeared like a smooth glide over calm waters; that was one of our goals and a crucial part of our jobs.

Managing Director Roland Swenson regularly and rightly reminds us “SXSW is not for you.” Our job is to make it run as smoothly as possible, by quickly solving problems – most importantly by anticipating them. We are not there to watch movies, attend panels, listen to speakers, and hear music.

But in the cool of the noisy, crowded Saturday evening, I was enjoying it. Still not listening to music or watching movies, but just soaking it in. Getting to feel some of what it must be like to actually attend SXSW. The people are the best part anyway: the people excited, electric, and alive. People from around the world caught up in the whirlwind that is SXSW, loving this town called Austin. This was as good as it could get for me: the clubs crowded but not packed, the streets alive with folks heading from venue to venue, movie theatre to movie theatre. There was music in the air, and you could smell the creative energy on the breath of the night.

I thought of just how much I love SXSW, how sad I was it was over and also how glad, because I could not have survived much more. I’m an old man. Plus, pleasure is intensified by imposing boundaries.

Now it’s just the nature of putting on a large event, but what you always notice and remember are the complaints and attacks, more than the praise or compliments. I thought about this. How, of course, as with any massive event, there were many legitimate criticisms of SXSW, but often complaining, criticizing, or disappointed people get ugly, personal, and overly derogatory in expressing them. As though you were out to get them, had intentionally done them, as they perceived it, wrong. So be it.

I’d be willing to bet that to the vast majority of people involved with putting on SXSW, it’s an avocation and a passion as much as a job. I don’t expect many of you to take this as anything but spin or jive or typical PR bull. Fine. But I have to say it. The intensity, intelligence, commitment, and deep sense of creative and professional satisfaction that most of the staff bring to their jobs are easily among the major reasons I love this event so much. Not just the music, movies, and media – not just the people, panelists, and artists – but getting to work with these people.

Last year I woke up in the hotel room one morning after too little sleep and turned on the TV while I finished some paperwork. A local news report featured a South Congress small-business owner talking about an event in her neighborhood. She made a point of noting, “This is being put on by the people who really are responsible for South by Southwest.” I’m sure she meant the people and the businesses of Austin, which are defining qualities of SXSW, as we’re always pointing out. But why

phrase it like that? I’m thinking, are these people – who are part of the fabric of Austin but also doing a very lucrative business off of the event – really the ones most responsible? Not the folks putting in 12- to 18-hour days, seven days a week for the past many months? Not the ones on phones, checking out venues, thinking about equipment, dealing with marketing and promotion, planning content, listening to 7,000 band submissions, watching more than 200 movies, improving and innovating the Web site, writing press releases, entering forms, and licking envelopes?

Many people who run events concurrent with SXSW, rather than acknowledging how the event brings in all these people, music, films, speakers, and so on, have to attack and denigrate it. Sure, that’s the way things operate, but sometimes it hits you just at the wrong moment. Oh well, it really is all about going on despite everything, isn’t it?

Well-meaning friends, co-workers, and loved ones often take the opportunity of whatever limited breaks you may take to urge you to relax. This is done with care and love. But most of those who run events don’t want to relax. Really. This isn’t ritual or superstition. It may seem that by relaxing you renew yourself and refocus your attention. But it’s not so. Relaxing is letting go, causing your concentration to slip, and you end up losing your place – and not doing so in one concern or project but dozens.

If you relax, you might miss something. You want to wake up in the middle of the night because something is nagging at the back of your head to go over one operation or another in detail, because maybe you’ll catch something you have so far missed. You want your stomach to always be turning, not nauseous but not calm, because that means you’re always reviewing, re-reviewing, and then coming at things from yet another angle. An event like SXSW works only if tens of thousand of details are all regarded as serious. Relaxing costs details. The tension is more professional than neurotic, more results-oriented than paranoid. What is needed is constant focusing, assessing and reassessing, considering and rethinking, to handle the avalanche of the petty to the imposing, the trivial to the crucial that makes up producing SXSW.

So, please, even in the most well-meaning way, never ask us to relax. Under the circumstances, it really is a bad idea and counterproductive. And just because we’re not relaxed doesn’t mean we’re not having fun.

SXSW starts next Friday. SXSW registration for all three events is still available.

SXSW Film passes are still on sale exclusively at Waterloo Video for \$58 inclusive.

SXSW Music Festival wristbands are currently not on sale, though a limited number will probably be made available to the public on Wednesday, March 16.

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POSTMARKS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or e-mail address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

'Chronicle,' Allow More Diversity

Dear Editor,
I will attempt to keep this criticism as constructive as possible regarding your columnist Ms. Baumgarten and her review of what I thought was a great film [*Diary of a Mad Black Woman*, Film Listings, Feb. 25]. We are all entitled to our opinions, but there are times when culture brings about a huge difference in the ways we perceive things. I think that this is definitely one of these instances.

I encourage your critics to not be so quick to dismiss future pictures with lines like "yet another black woman ... gets her groove back." I am a black woman who never tires of seeing something that I can relate to and that is factual to my life. It's no different than people who enjoy movies that relate more to a specific audience and culture simply because they understand it better.

I think the big picture here is understanding someone, something, or a way of life that is not like your own. Which in turn means most people who haven't gone through, witnessed, or even been around a broader spectrum of persons simply can't understand. I hate to say that Marjorie just doesn't get it, but she did make the comment that it targets urban black women (although I saw plenty of nonurban men and women alike enjoying and singing its praises). Maybe you would need to be an urban black woman or just a bit more up on what differences we all face to really get it.

I have not lost faith in the *Chronicle* or in Austin for that matter, even though in what is supposed to be one of the most diversified and cultured cities in Texas, I see little to no interest in the black community. Just please, please (if you even care and want to keep and gain a wide variety of readers) allow a more diversified array of writers', columnists', and critics' views to grace the pages of your paper. Thank you for your time.

Beverly Barnes

Ordinances Not Working

Dear Editor,
Re: "Business as Usual at the LCRA" [News, Feb. 25]. The quote by Bill McCann of the LCRA that the NPS ordinances currently in place "have been doing their job and will continue to do their job" is absolutely *not true*, and he and the LCRA know it. Lick Creek is their poster child for bad BMPs and one of the primary reasons that the NPS Ordinances are being reviewed for strengthening. Please, readers, don't forget us and don't forget that the Hill Country is getting ready to change forever. The Hill Country Alliance as well as the Guardians of Lick Creek are working feverishly to do what we can to preserve our water quality, our creeks, and the rural character we all love (except politicians and developers). Lick Creek is absolutely awful - you wouldn't believe the "before & now" without being appalled.

Pepper Morris
Vice-president, the Guardians of Lick Creek

Full Equity Partners

Dear Editor,
We're writing in reference to your story on the proposals to redevelop the old Seaholm Power Plant ["Beside the Point: Council Ponders Seaholm," News, Feb. 25]. We appreciate the kudos but also want to emphasize that we are not "potential partners," but full equity partners in this venture with Stratus Properties and Trammell Crow. We're fully invested in this effort and couldn't be more excited about the opportunity to create a new home for KLRU, *Austin City Limits*, and the Texas Music Hall of Fame, and build a world-class outdoor live music venue right in the heart of Austin.

Thanks again,
Willie Nelson
Freddy Fletcher
Pedernales Records

More of Tribute to Hunter S. Thompson

Dear Mr. Black,
I cannot believe that *The Austin Chronicle* gave such short shrift to the passing of Hunter S. Thompson ["Page Two," Feb. 25]. You indicated that any tribute (obituary) to him would be "obvious." Well, then state the obvious and allow something to be published. Spare us your meandering "tribute" (she's still alive) to Nanci Griffith ["There's a Light Beyond These Woods," Music, Feb. 25]. Nanci is a wonderful songwriter, but even I can read her lyrics on the CD. Obviously.

Barbara Frische

Texans Should Do It Right

Dear Editor,
In regard to Family Protective Services: Young and old people are being abused. Young and old are dying unnecessarily. We haven't provided enough competent caseworkers to handle their needs. Each of our caseworkers is now assigned approximately 74 cases. Our best caseworkers don't have a chance to do an efficient job. To meet national child welfare accreditation standards the caseload would be limited to between 12 and 15 cases. The national average is 20 cases. Our immediate goal should be to assign fewer than 20 cases to our caseworkers. Texans want to be better than average!

Many young and older citizens are sick and lack the health insurance needed to see a doctor. Every Texan should have health insurance, allowing preventive medicine and medical advice. Every Texan living in poverty should have access to a doctor provided through the state.

In regard to public education: The Robin Hood system for redistributing wealth solved many of the inequities and is approved by a majority of Texans. There should be some simple basic changes to make it constitutional. Another alternate solution is to adopt a simple state income tax where every family and business could pay their fair share. Most of the leading states use this taxing method. Texas should be *the leader!* Do not be hesitant about putting this to a vote. Let us drop the mantra "no new taxes" and adopt "Texans do it right."

continued on p.12

oops! In last week's "Let's 'Rumbo!' Right Now!" we incorrectly reported that *Rumbo* Managing Editor Antonio Ruiz Camacho is a native of Spain. In fact, he is a native of Mexico. The *Chronicle* regrets the error.



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In the end, let it be said by everyone that you were selfless and did everything possible to help and protect the sick and needy as well as planning good things for our youth and the future of Texas.

Sincerely,
Gene Thomas
Hurst

'I Don't Like (Insert Band)'

Dear Editor,
I don't have anything for or against Cruiserweight (I've never even heard 'em), but I'm fairly certain the *Chronicle* has featured other bands I don't particularly like ["Cruiserweight: Armed and Ready," Music, Feb. 18]. If I don't like a band, I'm pretty sure no one else likes them either - no one who knows what they're talking about, anyway - and people who do like them need to be told why they shouldn't.

Imagine my joy upon discovering a fellow arbiter of taste in "Postmarks," Feb. 25. Mr. Burnam's letter has inspired me to act.

In an effort to save valuable "Postmarks" real estate (along with some ink, and maybe a small part of a tree), I'd like to provide the following template for use by other equally verbose letter-writers with similar complaints:

"I don't like (insert band name), the band featured in your latest issue. Anyone with even the slightest bit of musical knowledge and/or taste will surely recognize their obvious lack of talent; if you actually *do* like them, I guess you're just too stupid to know any better. (Band name again), and all bands like them, should shut up and go away. In the future, you should only feature artists that I deem worthy, such as: (list of bands that meet the author's lofty standards)."

THIS MODERN WORLD

NOTHING TO SEE HERE
MOVE ALONG, MOVE ALONG

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT A CONSERVATIVE REPORTER ASKING A FEW QUESTIONS AT WHITE HOUSE PRESS BRIFFINGS?
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WHY CAN YOU ASK THE QUESTION LEFT?
THANK YOU, WASHINGTON

by TOM TOMORROW
WHO CARES IF HE WAS ACTUALLY A PRETEND JOURNALIST WHO WOULD NOT PAY FOR A PARTISAN REPUBLICAN MESSAGE?
JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE DOESN'T HAVE A JOB? OR ANY "MIDTIME EXPERIENCE"?
--IT DOESN'T MEAN HE CAN'T BE A BISHOP "REPORTER"!

WHAT DOES IT MATTER THAT HE APPEARS TO HAVE GAINED REGULAR ACCESS TO THE WHITE HOUSE UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME AND WITHOUT A STANDARD BACKGROUND CHECK?
THAT SORT OF THING HAPPENS ALL THE TIME!
WHITE HOUSE SECURITY PEOPLE ARE VERY EASY BUNDS!

AND SO WHAT IF A BACKGROUND CHECK WOULD HAVE REVEALED WHAT LIBERAL BLOGGERS SOON DISCOVERED--THAT HE APPARENTLY HAD A SECRET LIFE AS A TAV-DELINQUENT, PORN-SITE-OPERATOR AND MALE PROSTITUTE?
IT'S OUTRAGEOUS--THE WAY THESE BLOGGERS VIOLATED HIS PRIVACY, I MEAN!
HE'S GETTING SO A MAN CAN EVEN POST NAKED PICTURES OF HIMSELF ON THE INTERNET ANYMORE!

THESE S' ONLY ONE EXPLANATION FOR THE LIBERAL OBSESSION WITH THE STORY--
--THEY HATE GAY PEOPLE! --SP' WERE UNFAVORABLE S THE ONLY REAL SCHEDULE ITEM!
OTHER "I AM THAT" AND SCANDAL. WHATSOEVER!
NO, WRECK! HOW AT ALL!
GREAT, THEN.
TEP!

See how easy it can be to eliminate a couple of column inches' worth of pointless, overwrought blather? Thank you for your cooperation.
Wink-wink, nudge-nudge, Andy Doughy

Should Not Be in Constitution

Dear Editor,
Two competing versions of the Anti-Gay-Marriage Amendment - HJR 6 and HJR 19 - have already been referred to the Texas House Committee on State Affairs. These proposed amendments would write

discrimination for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Texans into our Constitution by banning marriage for same-sex couples. We have a tremendous opportunity to defeat these amendments *now*, before they have a chance to get on the ballot in November. Contact the legislative offices of the State Affairs Committee members below and urge them to *vote no* to keep unequal treatment for gay and lesbian Texans out of our Constitution. Or fax your legislators from the Web site www.saveourconstitution.org.

The committee members are: David Swinford (chair), 463-0470; Sid Miller (vice-chair), 463-0628; Dan Gattis, 463-0309; Byron Cook, 463-0730; Jessica Farrar, 463-0620; Jim Keffer, 463-0656; Trey Martinez Fischer, 463 0616; Mike Villarreal 463-0532; and Martha Wong, 463-0389. Your call will help the LGBT community of Texas have a voice in the legislative process. Use some of the following talking points and share your own story about how these amendments will personally affect you and your loved ones.

These amendments would put unequal treatment for gay and lesbian Texans into our Constitution! The Constitution should never be used to single out a group of people for discrimination, but that's exactly what these amendments would do. The Anti-Gay-Marriage Amendments would hurt real Texans in real ways. It would deny many Texas families and children access to health care, inheritance rights, and the ability to make life-saving medical decisions. No one wants the children of gay or lesbian parents to be put at risk because of the absence of strong legal foundations. Our Constitution is supposed to protect people, not hurt them. There are more than a thousand rights, protections, and responsibilities that come with marriage and that the Anti-Gay-Marriage Amendments would deny to gay and lesbian couples. We may disagree about marriage, but those disagreements do not belong in our Constitution.

Mike Rayburn

continued on p.14

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postmarks, FROM P. 12

'News of the Weird'

Dear Editor,

So, two years later, "Ms. Doe" wants to sue the makers of the adolescent cyber-game "boob show" for agreeing to photograph her brand-spanking-new, store-bought implants ["Block Those Cyber-Boobs! - Flasher Sues Game Makers," News, Feb. 25]? Guess she wanted some sort of photo-baseline for future sag documentation - hope the doc that did the job had a disclaimer for gravity.

Well, first off, her parents can't be depended upon for good judgment since they bought the pair for her as a gift, so why should little Ms. Doe be considered any more reliable? I mean, whatever happened with getting her a used car for her 18th birthday?

Jeez, what is it that this family seems to think that everyone else should be responsible for their bad judgment and then actually talk themselves into thinking this was a good idea?

What were the parents thinking little Ms. Doe would do with her store-bought boobs at Padre Island during spring break? Hide 'em? Wrap 'em up? Take a dip in the wading pool to see if they float?

This is "News of the Weird" material.

Bill Jackson

And We've Gotten Better Letters From Kids

Dear Editor,

"Romeo" was the best ["The 13th Annual 'Austin Chronicle' Short Story Contest," Books, Feb. 18]?! What a piece of shit. I've read better from elementary school kids.

Rich Lasher

Thanks for Griffith Coverage

Dear Editor,

I just read Louis Black's article about Nanci Griffith and the influence of her music ["There's a Light Beyond These Woods," Music, Feb. 25] (living in Wisconsin, I read the piece in the online version of the *Chronicle*).

I met my wife through our mutual interest in Nanci's music, and my involvement in an e-mail discussion list known as the NanciNet has introduced me to many good friends I would otherwise never have known.

Thank you for the cover article, and for Louis Black's fine fan letter. He said it much better than I could have done.

Bill Page
Kenosha, Wis.

Against Toll Roads

Dear Editor,

The Austin Toll Party has been maligned and misunderstood by both the *American-Statesman* and the *Chronicle*. Although I live in Elgin and don't dislike Mayor Wynn per se, I hoped their effort would make the mayor and other CAMPO board members see that citizens have power and won't take abuse without a fight. In a public countywide referendum, CAMPO's plan to tax already-built roads would have easily lost.

Commuters inside and outside Travis County and Austinites will pay dearly to drive through the "toll moat" around Austin. This expense, plus increases in costs of goods and services, will break some families, who can't even scrape up enough money for health care or car insurance, let alone \$60 to \$80 more per month per car in each household. Look at a good map and you will be appalled at the toll tax network CAMPO is trying to force on us.

This trend of governments to "sock it to the public" with new toll roads seems to be happening in many places in the civilized world, and is being fought against in other states and even in other nations by grassroots organizations like the Toll Party.

CAMPO wants to toll almost every local highway. It's an economic threat to many and will create as many traffic problems as it solves. CAMPO has ignored and continues to snub the public's opinion and is bullying us into an excessive network of toll roads.

Fancy Fairchild
Elgin

Galiza Is a Celtic Nation

Dear Editor,

As a Galego, I feel compelled to explain the presence of "incongruous Celtic" music that can be heard in the movie *The Sea Inside* [Film Listings, Feb. 25]. Galiza is a Celtic nation (www.celticnationsworld.com), and Galego is spoken by more people than those speaking Euskera. Not to mention that walking along Galician streets gives you the opportunity to hear some nice bagpiping.

I hope this helps to clarify the "incongruity" of the music.

José Cornado

Welcome Air America

Dear Editor,

Air America came to Maryland, D.C., and parts of Virginia only a few months ago. I think most people are surprised at the enthusiastic reception it received. I hear from so many people how much they enjoy it because it is so completely different from what has been offered to them. We need to hear lots of points

continued on p.16

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Arlene Montemarano
Silver Spring, Md.

Spoiler Alert!

Dear Editor,
In regards to *Million Dollar Baby*: If you have not seen this movie do not read this letter! I do not want to spoil the plot for anyone, but am I the only person in the world who has noticed this glaring inconsistency? By any boxing association standards in the world, WBA, WBC, whatever, this girl would have been awarded this fight victory. While laying paralyzed in the hospital she would have had the world championship belt, as some small consolation, to look at. I was very moved by this film and the deeper issues that are addressed beyond the boxing movie, but the girl won the fight, so give her the damn belt!

Pat McIntyre

Bush Language

Dear Editor,
Re: Bush's trip to Europe. I found myself laughing out loud imagining the look of utter consternation and bewilderment on the faces of the translators/interpreters as they struggled to process Bush's words (I cannot use the words "thoughts" or "sentences" here).

Mary Patrick

Leave Boy Scouts Alone

Dear Editor,
When in 2000 the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Boy Scouts of America, my hope was the Scouts could put their legal battles behind them and get on with the pressing mission of preparing boys for service

to God and country. But the harassment continues. The Boy Scouts have been booed at the Democratic National Convention, stripped of United Way funding in some parts, and sometimes denied the opportunity to use school facilities for their meetings.

As a former Scout and airman I am deeply troubled by this slap against the BSA. Scouting teaches the basic virtues of discipline, industry, courage, and integrity, and Scouts do not deserve harassment. They are simply standing firm for what they know is right.

The left's crusade against the Boy Scouts is errant. This nation was founded on the "Laws of Nature and of Nature's God," for God the creator is the source of our unalienable rights. George Washington, who probably understood the First Amendment better than does the ACLU, declared in a National Day of Thanksgiving Proclamation in 1789 that "it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor."

In the year 2000 the U.S. Department of Interior sought information on whether federal agencies that work with the Boy Scouts violate the Clinton administration's executive order banning discrimination against homosexuals by federal agencies. In response, on Aug. 31, the governor of Texas declared he was troubled that the memo appeared to suggest the administration would sever the federal government's relationship with the BSA. "I hope that President Clinton and Vice-President Gore respect the role the Boy Scouts play in our society and will not allow them to be shut out of federal funds."

We may hope the former governor, now commander in chief of the Armed Forces, will remember the wisdom of these words.

Gerard Kern

Pro-Cannabis

Dear Editor,
As a Colorado citizen who voted for Amendment 20 allowing people to use cannabis medicinally in my state, I agree with HB 658 ["Weed Watch," News, Feb. 25], protecting humans from attacks by the federal government. The government would like citi-

zens to think cannabis is a chemical weapon of mass destruction; in reality, Coloradans use the plant cannabis medicinally, following state law simultaneously, and it works: cannabis use has not increased, and the sky hasn't fallen.

It is also biblically correct to relegalize cannabis (kaneh boshm, before the King James Bible). The Bible indicates God created all the seed-bearing plants and said they were all good, on literally the very first page in Genesis 1:11-12 and 29-30. The only Biblical restriction placed on cannabis is that we use it with thanksgiving - see 1 Timothy 4:1-5, where it even describes who will promote its prohibition as those who have fallen away from the faith.

Truthfully,
Stan White
Dillon, Colo.

Swanson Answers His Own Question but Not the One Asked

Max [Minor],
I'd love to answer your question ["Postmarks," Feb. 25]. Actually, Bush, and Clinton before him, listed several reasons for action in Iraq, including 1) continued and vicious human rights abuses, 2) refusal to comply with the 1991 cease-fire agreements, 3) refusal to comply with 17 U.N. resolutions demanding specific actions and clearly warning of action if he continued to refuse, 4) firing on coalition aircraft patrolling the U.N., not the U.S., but U.N. no-fly zones. As for the WMD, I suggest anyone really interested read Hans Blix's report to the U.N. in January of 2003, just weeks before the war, in which he unequivocally stated that Iraq did in fact have "thousands of chemical rockets unaccounted for." Hans Blix was the chief U.N. arms inspector who was actually on the ground, in Iraq, inventorying weapons and overseeing their destruction prior to 1998. He said they were there as well, so perhaps your question might encompass more than just President Bush? Thanks for asking.

Carl Swanson

Clarifying the Question

Dear Editor,
Actually, Mr. Editor, Max [Minor] asked a question that was based on something that never happened ... the case for war was built on many things, not simply WMD ["Postmarks Online," Feb. 25]. But hey, I understand your need to denigrate anyone who doesn't agree with your own myopic personal view of the world. Sorry.

Carl Swanson

[Ed.'s note: Let me help here by clarifying the question by adding: How do you think "... the U.S. Congress and the American public [would] have reacted if Bush had truthfully built the case for his Iraq war by saying we want to spend a few hundred billion dollars and expend thousands of lives just so Iraq can hold democratic elections?"]

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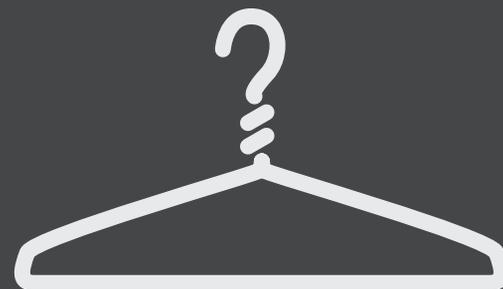
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NAKED CITY

edited by Lee Nichols

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ It's not up to the American Cancer Society or Lance Motherfucking Armstrong to tell me how to run my business. ”

– Bar owner Chip Tait, on the proposed **anti-smoking ordinance** that will appear on the May 7 ballot. (At press time, a federal lawsuit had been filed to block the vote.) See “Smoking Ordinance Headed for the Ballot,” p.26.

Headlines

- ▶ Sanity to arrive on AM talk radio – liberal talk network **Air America** debuts in Austin in mid-March. See our interview with Air America host Al Franken on p.64.
- ▶ The Supreme Court has outlawed the **death penalty for juveniles**, which of course has huge implications in needle-happy Texas. See “Beyond City Limits,” p.21.
- ▶ House Bill 2, the **school finance bill**, moved out of committee. See p.30.
- ▶ The **TRMPAC** campaign finance lawsuit finally got rolling this week. See p. 24.
- ▶ The Supreme Court heard arguments Wednesday morning from an Austin attorney trying to get a monument honoring the **Ten Commandments** removed from the grounds of the state Capitol. See “Beyond City Limits,” p.21.
- ▶ Three AISD schools that last fall received the lowest rating under the federal **No Child Left Behind** accountability system – LBJ High, and Burnet and Fulmore middle schools – have been removed from the “needs improvement” list. See p.27.

Austin Stories

- ▶ Even as students are struggling under the weight of their hefty, deregulated tuition, the University of Texas is sitting pretty on more than a hundred million unspent dollars. At least, that's how student group **UT Watch** saw it when their review of a comptroller's report found the Available University Fund, which collects the revenue from UT's investments, flush with \$111 million that should have been spent in the 2005 fiscal year. Not so fast, says UT. First of all, part of the AUF is designated as an emergency reserve, and the rest has been spent; it's just that the bills haven't worked their way through the system to show up in reports yet. And even if there were a big pot of AUF funds to spend, big-institution budgetary voodoo requires that money to be spent only in certain ways, unlike tuition, which can be spent on anything.
– Rachel Proctor May
- ▶ LBJ School of Public Affairs professor **Michele Deitch** has been named one of 18 new Open Society Institute Soros Senior Justice fellows for 2005. Deitch was selected for her proposals to curb human rights abuses in U.S. prisons and jails, according to a UT press release. She'll spend the year developing specific proposals for establishing an independent prison inspection process – currently, the U.S. is the only Western country that does not have a “formal mechanism for the routine, external review of its prison facilities,” Deitch said. She is also planning an April 2006 symposium to bring together international experts on prison oversight. Four other Texans have also been named 2005 OSI fellows – including Kenavon Carter, an ACLU lawyer, who will work on a project to reduce racial profiling by police, and Kristi Couvillon, a lawyer and social worker with the Texas Defender Service, who will work to ensure adequate representation for indigent defendants. For a complete list of OSI fellows, see www.soros.org.
– Jordan Smith
- ▶ On Friday, Feb. 25, Mayor **Will Wynn** and his wife **Anne Elizabeth** released a statement saying that after a separation of several months, they plan to divorce after 12 years of marriage. “It is with sadness that we announce today that we have decided to end our marriage,” the couple wrote. “Our parting is very amicable and based on continued mutual support and respect. Our greatest concern is, as always, for the
continued on p.21



Aerial view of the Stratus Corp. rendering for the Seaholm development

DREAMING DOWNTOWN

THE CONVERSATION RESUMES ON HOW TO REMAKE THE SECOND STREET DISTRICT BY MICHAEL KING

I don't envy the City Council members who are currently poring over corporate résumés, presentations, sketches, Power Points, and videos in an attempt to get their arms around the proposals for development of Block 21 and the Seaholm tract, the prize pieces remaining in the Second Street district and Seaholm master plans. I've been trying to do the same for a couple of weeks, without notable success, and slow as I undoubtedly am, I expect that's an argument for making certain the decision-making process is as deliberate and public as possible. There's a great deal at stake, and whatever teams and plans are chosen will largely determine the success or failure of the city's entire Second Street venture. Even those vying for the contracts are aware that if the various pieces are not assembled intelligently and as a whole, and integrated with transit and infrastructure plans, the whole district could founder.

The bottom line, of course, is money, and the most amusing moment thus far came when Daryl Slusher asked the assembled Block 21 presenters if they intended to ask for any economic incentives along with whatever financial offer (normally confidential) they planned to make. For some reason, the folks from the Endeavor/AMLI group blurted out their bid price – \$9.2 million, just above the city's minimum – and indicated that indeed they expected that any “cultural entity” included in the development would bring some kind of financial consideration. That prompted Howard Yancy of the Zydeco team to offer, half-seriously, “\$9.2 million plus one dollar” – only to be blown out of the water by Beau Armstrong of Stratus, which is waving a cool \$15 million at the city – and asking no incentives. (Any details of the various financial proposals are not yet available.)

Whatever the council thinks of the architectural and developmental pipe dreams contemplated by the three Block 21 teams – and they're a fascinating contrast in approaches – it's going to be difficult to disregard that \$15 million blinking at the bottom of the page. But it's also worth reminding ourselves that whatever happens to the heart of our city is a

very long-term commitment, with implications far beyond the immediate purchase price. Architect Juan Miró of the Zydeco group was the most eloquent in addressing what should be at issue as the city takes up the conversation. “This is a chance to really talk about all the things that we aspire to,” he said,

“and the values of Austin that we think are related to democracy, culture, entertainment, and civic pride.” It's good advice to keep in mind.

Seaholm Dreams

Moving over to Seaholm, the conversation promises to get both a little more abstract and more confusing. Nominally, the city has requested only “qualifications” – that is, credentials and experience for the four assembled development teams, which include a few of the same players as Block 21. But the Seaholm tract represents both more limitations (because of the buildings already on site) and more imaginative possibilities (because of the more interesting configuration and the power plant itself) than the square Block 21 (which is physically tethered to the new City Hall). In official theory, at least, the plans introduced to the council by the various teams don't even qualify as “proposals” – whatever is actually built on the tract is still entirely subject to further official and public discussion, and might in the end fail to resemble any of the current renderings.

continued on p.20

POINT
AUSTIN

PLACE YOUR BETS

THE GAMBLING ACTION HEATS UP AT THE CAPITOL

BY AMY SMITH

"This is not about our schools or our kids ... it is about the expansion of gambling, plain and simple."
— Florida Gov. Jeb Bush

Florida offers a ready preview of what lies ahead for Texas if a proposed constitutional gambling amendment goes to the voters in November. Keep an eye on Tuesday's election results in South Florida, where voters will decide on a high-stakes, emotionally charged proposal to bring casino-style slot machines to Broward and Miami-Dade counties, a measure that proponents say would add \$500 million in annual revenue to the state's education fund.

It is impossible to frame the Florida referendum as a partisan issue, because of the mix of strange bedfellows in each of the opposing camps. The same sort of unusual alignments are shaping up in the Texas Legislature, where liberal Democrats and conservative Republicans have formed alignments on both sides of the issue. But there is one major difference between the two states. While there is no mistaking where anti-gambling Florida Gov. Jeb Bush stands on the referendum, the position of fellow Gov. Rick Perry is less certain, the governor having gambled and lost on slot machines during last year's special session on school finance, which flopped ignominiously. Perry declared the matter all but dead in January, at the start of this session, and has continued to distance himself as he heads deeper into his re-election campaign. He has since indicated he would veto a Vegas-style casino bill, so the politically safe route points to letting voters decide on allowing slot machines at existing racetracks. That way, Perry and the rest of the legislative bunch can avoid any heat for literally expanding "the footprint of gambling" in Texas.

Education, Jobs, and ... Slots

In any case, two competing proposals, both authored by Houston Democrats, are on the table at the Lege: one by Rep. Sylvester Turner

that would allow video lottery terminals – slot machines – at race-tracks, and another, filed last week by Sen. Rodney Ellis, that would create Las Vegas-style casino operations across the state. Either measure would require a constitutional amendment that voters would decide Nov. 8. (Earlier this week, word came that Ellis and Turner won't have the floor to themselves on gambling, as a third bill – by a yet unknown sponsor – is expected any day. Also, big casino interests are said to be angling to kill all gambling bills in Texas as any expansion would cut into their business in New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Louisiana – all of which count on attracting Texans to those states.)

But back to the two existing bills. Both carry the promise of additional revenue for the state, and Turner's is specifically touted as a means of providing a much-needed cushion for education. But it is Ellis' proposal – billed as the

ON THE LEGE

Texas Economic Development and Job Creation Act – that is quickly gathering steam as the state's next Million Dollar Baby. Senate Joint Resolution 18 would create a Texas Gaming Commission (merging the Racing Commission and the Lottery Commission) to oversee a much larger gambling landscape – one that would include 12 major casino gambling operations, including seven in urban areas, two on Gulf Coast islands, and three in areas targeted for economic development and new job creation. Ellis, who joined Rep. Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth, for a media briefing Feb. 24, cited a study that economist Ray Perryman conducted projecting an annual gain of \$2 billion for the state and \$730 million for local governments once the casinos become fully operational. Additionally, the study estimated that the three-year construction phase of the casinos would create 250,000 new jobs.



DOUG POTTER

**"AFTER YEARS OF GRIDLOCK ON ANOTHER IMPORTANT ISSUE, IT IS TIME TO ONCE AGAIN GO TO THE VOTERS."
— SEN. RODNEY ELLIS, D-HOUSTON**

Ellis pointed out that Texas voters have made the final decision on many important yet contentious issues. "They voted on a statewide lottery and the right to carry a concealed handgun," he said. "After years of gridlock on another important issue, it is time to once again go to the voters." Ellis' proposal could spell trouble for horse breeders and racetrack owners who favor Turner's narrowly defined bill to allow for video lottery terminals only at racetracks and Indian reservations, as well as one location at each of nine areas around the state. Turner has said his bill would generate \$1.2 billion in new revenues.

Both bills give weight to early predictions that gambling would become a centerpiece of the session, particularly as lawmakers continue to grapple with the funding components of HB 2 – the leadership-driven school finance bill that has most Democrats, teachers, and

school administrators aligned on one side, and most Republicans and business groups on the other. The education bill is expected to move to the House floor this week or next.

Rolling the Dice

As in Florida, education groups may be all over the map on gambling if the issue moves beyond the Lege. Texas Federation of Teachers spokesman Rob D'Amico said TFT wouldn't oppose a gambling measure for general revenue

but wouldn't favor any proposal linking gambling revenue to education. "Additionally, we agree with arguments that gambling hits the poorest the hardest and can be an addiction problem for others," D'Amico said. "So tying gambling revenue to education funding could send the wrong message if anyone proposes something akin to 'gamble for our kids.'"

For all of the social costs associated with gambling, more states are rolling the dice on slot machines and the like to shore up cash-strapped budgets, said Mandy Rafool, a policy analyst with the National Conference of State Legislatures in Denver. Indeed, whether it's the lottery, bingo, or slots, the once unsavory vice has emerged from the shadows to become a respectable revenue generator in every state in which it's legalized except Hawaii and Utah, according to Rafool's findings. Slot machines at racetracks were the most common gambling-related proposals under consideration in 14 states last year, including Texas, she said, though she added that legislators now are more inclined to pass the matter on to voters rather than risk their political careers on a hot potato. That doesn't necessarily guarantee success for gambling interests, Rafool said, as voters rejected gambling proposals in several states last year. Given those odds, if they do succeed at the Capitol, the gambling industry can expect a tough, expensive fight in the Texas Bible Belt. ■

◀ 19 NEWS ★ POINT AUSTIN

In amusing practice, however, the teams came armed with a brace of grandiose proposed combinations of museum venues, concert halls, public plazas, train and bus depots, apartment complexes and hotels (I didn't see a space station in the mix, but there's still time), and it will be very difficult for the judges to precisely distinguish the singers from the songs. Since the city's official process includes a gag order on "lobbying" by the applicants, right now there's a lot of back-door and off-the-record buzzing going on instead, by applicants concerned that the procedure has effectively but clumsily morphed from a "request for qualifications" to a "request for proposals." (You can see the extent of the kibitzing from today's "Postmarks," where the Redheaded Stranger himself assures *Chronicle* readers that – pace a qualifying adjective in last week's "Naked City" – he is, with nephew Freddy Fletcher, a "full equity partner" of the Stratus team, ready and able to transform Seaholm into Willieville. God bless Texas.)

**"THIS IS A CHANCE TO REALLY TALK ABOUT ... THE VALUES OF AUSTIN."
— ARCHITECT JUAN MIRÓ**

So the fun has just begun, and not only the council but all of us get to weigh in on what we want the Downtown waterfront to become for the long haul, and whether these various private interests have what it will take to transform Second Street into a coherent, lively, community-oriented, citizen-friendly domain for decades to come.

Beside the Point ...

But the fun stuff will have to wait. Thursday's council meeting (today) takes up more mundane matters, like Brewster McCracken's attempt to get the city to do what the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization recently rejected – an independent study of the pending toll road plan that might at least generate some ways to limit the size and scope of it. With co-sponsors Jackie Goodman and Raul Alvarez, McCracken will likely pick up the majority here that was inconceivable at CAMPO, although whatever comes of the study may carry little weight with the regional planning team. Also on tap: the anti-smoking petitions (to be added to the May 7 ballot); revisitation of the Transit-Oriented Development Ordinance; a couple of vexed zoning cases, most notably the unresolved historic zoning case at 609 West Lynn and a brace of related Old West Austin tracts. ■

NEWS

well being of our two cherished daughters, of whom we intend to share joint custody. We ask our many friends in Austin to help us as we help our daughters through this family transition by respecting the private and personal nature of this change in our lives." Anne Elizabeth said that she would continue to support her husband's public service, and Wynn said he looks forward to a continued friendship and the support of his wife's "great works."

— Michael King

► **Schlotszky's** has hired a Dallas advertising agency, the Ward Group, to launch the deli's first 2005 national promotion, and recast the Austin-based deli in a new light under private ownership. The formerly publicly traded sandwich chain emerged from a messy Chapter 11 bankruptcy late last year after Dallas-based Bobby Cox Cos. acquired the company at auction.

— Amy Smith

► City Hall lobbyist **Sarah Crocker** could brighten the dullest zoning meetings simply by showing up. But her red hair and colorful attire were no match for her bootstrap land-use expertise on some of Austin's most complex zoning cases. Crocker closed the book on her caseload this week to pursue a semiwhimsical new life in Washington, D.C. Crocker worked her way up from gofer to independent consultant, learning the intricacies of zoning from venerable land-use queen Betty Baker, who chairs the city Zoning and Platting Commission. Unlike most development lobbyists, Crocker worked both sides of zoning cases, taking on controversial developer clients (the reviled and now dead Gotham Lofts project on Town Lake comes to mind), as well as neighborhood groups seeking to prevent certain projects. Crocker leaves Austin with her reputation — that of a user-friendly lobbyist in spite of her trade — still intact.

— A.S.

► Austin state Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos has filed legislation calling for the stretch of **State Highway 130** that will run through Williamson and Travis counties to be named after **Willie Nelson**. Willie's portion of the turnpike is scheduled to open in late 2007. Amendments we'd like to suggest: Drivers who can successfully croon all the lyrics to "On the Road Again" get their toll waived; and every gas station on 130 must carry "BioWillie" fuel (see our Jan. 28 issue).

— L.N.

► The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce last Thursday held the first annual **Opportunity Austin** Investors meeting, where they released the 2004 progress report for the five-year Opportunity Austin campaign, initiated in 2003 to create 72,000 jobs and bring \$14 billion to the area. To date, the Chamber credits the campaign with adding 6,100 jobs and a \$249 million payroll boost, plus the relocation of 31 companies to the area. In addition, the Chamber unveiled its new "Do Business" Web site, providing relocation info about Austin. The event's keynote speaker, Gov. Rick Perry, announced his request that the Legislature establish a \$300 million emerging technology fund, saying, "We need to be able to identify those emerging technologies being created in laboratories ... for us to become one of the premier states where this emerging technology needs to occur." Perry did not specify whether that meant clean energy production, which chamber President Kirk Watson has been pushing as part of the OA initiative.

— Daniel Mottola

► The UT Student Labor Action Project (you figure out the acronym) abandoned a drive to get **Taco Bell** kicked out of the student union. The group, which launched a boycott of the chain in 2003, turned tail when they saw the Texas Union Board planned not to boot The Bell but to recommend a "compromise": a ban on companies that get their tomatoes from Six L's Packing Company, whose alleged mistreatment of farm workers is the cause of the boycott. Since the Taco Bell franchise at the union doesn't get its tomatoes from Six L's, the compromise would have no tangible effect and gut the whole point of targeting Taco Bell in the first place, which is to convince the corporate giant to pressure all packing companies to treat their workers better.

— R.P.M.

Beyond City Limits

► On Tuesday, the U.S. Supreme Court **outlawed the execution of juvenile offenders**; as a result, 28 offenders on Texas' death row will be transferred to other units where they will serve life sentences. (Theoretically, since Texas has no true life-without-parole option, the inmates serving commuted sentences would be eligible for parole after serving 35 years in prison. But in practice, the chances of that happening are slim at best.) In a 5-4 decision, Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote for the majority that the practice violates the Constitution's Eighth Amendment protection against cruel and unusual punishment. Texas is one of 19 states that authorized the

death penalty for offenders under 18. Among those who are likely to make it off the row is **Robert Springsteen IV**, who was sentenced to death in Travis Co. court in connection with the infamous 1991 **yogurt shop murders** in North Austin.

— J.S.

► Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott was in Washington, D.C., on March 2 to argue before the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of the state's bid to keep a monument of the **Ten Commandments** on the grounds of the Capitol. The high court agreed to hear an appeal brought by homeless attorney Thomas Van Orden, alongside another similar appeal from Kentucky. Van Orden has argued that the placement of the monument — donated by the Fraternal Order of Eagles in 1961 — on the grounds has the effect of endorsing Judaism and Christianity to the exclusion of all other faiths. On Wednesday, Abbott argued in defense of the Big 10. The state accepted the statue to commend the Eagles' work with children, Abbott said in a press release, and it was placed on the grounds to "acknowledge the Ten Commandments' historical impact on American and Texan law and culture." (For more on Van Orden's case see, "Thou Shalt Not Sue?" Dec. 6, 2002.)

— J.S.

► A bill that seeks to limit the amount of influence one individual can have on the political process (think Houston home-builder Bob Perry) was filed this week by Rep. Mike Villarreal, D-San Antonio, with Austin Democratic Rep. Mark Strama signing on as co-author. HB 1104 would establish an aggregate **limit of \$100,000** on the amount a person can contribute, and how much a candidate can receive, during a single election cycle. In the 2002 cycle, for example, nearly half of all political contributions came from fewer than 400 donors, according to a study conducted by Texans for Public Justice, a watchdog group that tracks money in politics. "Texas is one of only 10 states that places no restrictions on how much a person can give to political candidates," Villarreal said. "So we have created a system where a handful of wealthy special-interest donors ... have a clear advantage in the political process."

— A.S.

► In the game of inside baseball, gay rights activists are claiming a 6-2 lead midway through the legislative session. The **Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas** points to six gay-friendly bills filed to date, including three news ones, vs. two anti-gay marriage bills, one of which has legs. New legislation filed by LGRL allies in the House includes a comprehensive civil rights bill (HB 1515, by Rep. Mike Villarreal, D-San Antonio); a state employment nondiscrimination bill (HB 1526, Rep. Eddie Rodriguez, D-Austin), and a bill prohibiting insurance companies from determining coverage based on sexual orientation or gender identity (HB 1557, Rep. Roberto Alonzo, D-Dallas). In other LGRL developments, more than 70 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students from across Texas converged on the Capitol on Monday to hone their lobbying skills on legislators and urge the passage of the Dignity for All Students Act (HB 376 and SB 201).

— A.S.

► According to a report released Feb. 23 by the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics, the nation's publicly funded **forensic crime labs** ended 2002 with more than 500,000 backlogged requests for analysis — a 70% increase from the beginning of the year. The study of 351 federal, state, and local labs during 2003 and 2004 is the first publicly funded census of lab operations. Together, the labs studied employ more than 9,000 employees and process nearly 2.5 million requests for forensic analysis each year — including DNA, fingerprint, ballistics, and drug analyses. Not surprisingly, over one million of those requests were for analysis of controlled substances; only about 2% were for DNA analysis. For the full report, see www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/cpffcl02.htm.

— J.S.

Happenings

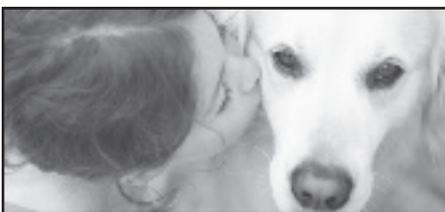
► UT-Austin holds its sixth annual **"Explore UT: The Biggest Open House in Texas!"** 11am-5pm on Saturday, March 5. More than 30,000 visitors are expected to participate in a day of free hands-on activities, performances, demonstrations, and lectures, and explore every corner of the campus. Free. Call 232-1229 or 471-7330 for info; for a complete schedule, see www.utexas.edu/events/exploreut.

► **Gary Chapman**, director of the 21st Century Project and a faculty member at the LBJ School, will speak to the Dripping Springs Democrats on Sunday, March 6, at 3pm on the patio of the Nutty Brown Cafe (on 290 West at Nutty Brown Road) on the topic of "Bringing Democracy Back to the People." Free, but RSVP to kathi@austin.rr.com. More info at assi.assi.net/dsdems.

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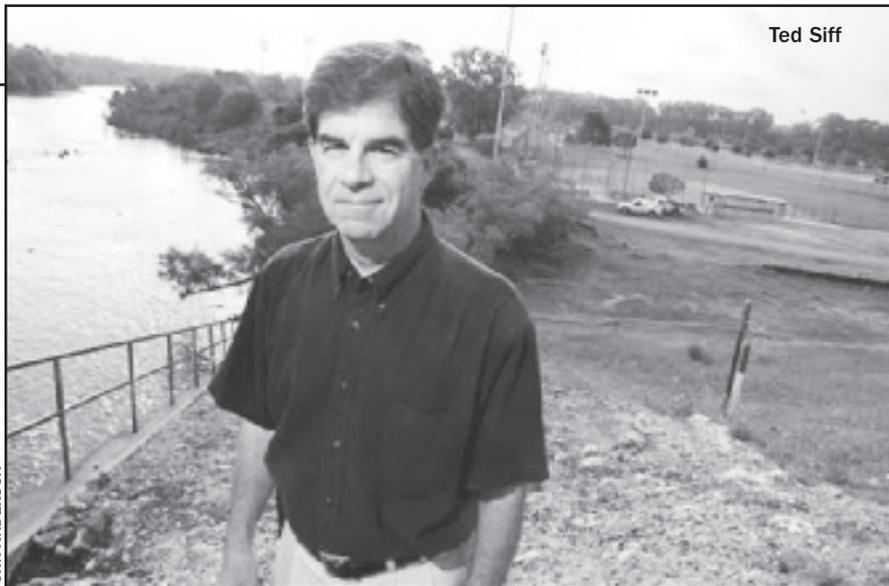
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JOHN ANDERSON

Ted Siff has resigned from the **Austin Parks Foundation** to return to his publishing roots, a profession he left in the early Nineties when he discovered that one could actually get paid for loving nature.

"I have two loves – parks and publishing," Siff said, sounding as though the two worlds were perfectly interchangeable. They are to Siff, who closed out his last week as the executive director of the Parks Foundation on Feb. 18 and two days later started his new job as chief operating officer of the **Texas School Administrators' Legal Digest**, a small publishing and conference-producing company. "I'm not going anywhere," he insisted. "I'm just changing jobs."

In other words, Siff will continue crusading for more open space on a voluntary basis, just as he did before he left publishing the first time. Siff's print years took in *Texas Monthly*, then a young magazine when he joined as associate publisher in 1976; he worked there until 1987. Siff has also run his own shop, a political newsletter called the *Quorum Report*, which publisher Harvey Kronberg has since developed into an online survival tool for politicians, lobbyists, reporters, and junkies.

In 1989, Siff got involved with **Citizens for Open Space**, then a fairly informal group of friends that included **Beverly Griffith, Brigid Shea** (both went on to become Austin City Council members), and **George Cofer**, now executive director of the Hill Country Conservancy. "Things were much more laid back then than they are now," he said. "We never got precisely a [designated] green space for the region, but certainly that is what's reflected in the **Envision Central Texas** plan." The ECT road map is a community-driven vision of how and where growth should be directed in Central Texas.

In 1991, Siff was hired to run the Austin office of the **Trust for Public Land**, where he began speaking out for more funding to improve what he viewed as a shameful scarcity of state-owned parks in Texas. During that stint Siff was also serving as a board director of the Austin Parks Foundation, a nonprofit that works to put a healthier shade of green on the city map. The foundation has played active roles in several successful city bond measures, including \$20 million for the Barton Creek Wilderness Park, \$40.5 million for the Destination Park and Green Space initiative, and

\$10 million for the ambitious Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Park in East Austin. When the foundation's executive director's position came open with the departure of Tim Fulton in 2001, Siff stepped in to provide a seamless transition as Fulton's successor. Under Siff, the foundation has furthered and initiated several innovative programs, including **Partners for Parks** (which works in tandem with the city's

Adopt-a-Park program) and the "wireless" parks endeavor that allows people to fire up their computers in the lap of nature. "We try to lead and be creative and initiate ideas," Siff said.

But don't think for a moment that Siff is leaving the "we" reference behind with his departure. Witness: "This [new job] doesn't diminish my interest one iota in parks. I'll always be a parks pal." — Amy Smith

NEWS



Rep. Dora Olivo, D-Rosenberg

Bill Seeks to Deemphasize TAKS Test

As public schools throughout Texas recover from last week's **Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills** tests, at least one legislator is considering ways to ease the drama surrounding the annual tests. Two new bills filed by state Rep. **Dora Olivo**, D-Rosenberg, (HB 1612 and 1613) open the possibility that public school students, all of whom currently must pass tests in third, fifth, eighth, and 12th grades to move up a grade or graduate, could be promoted through alternative measures. To Olivo, the bills will address the problem that schools spend too much time in test prep and not enough time in activities that encourage creativity, critical thinking, and other 21st-century-economy skills.

"It's not acceptable to turn our schools into testing centers, and forget that they're supposed to be learning centers," said Olivo, speaking at a joint NAACP-LULAC-ACLU press conference on Monday.

Olivo's bills would allow students who fail required tests to be promoted through assessments that include the students' grades in their regular courses and the decisions of teacher committees at their

schools – in other words, basically the same measures that were traditionally used to decide which students needed to be kept back. So those who believe the TAKS does a good job measuring student achievement are likely to see the bills as a return to "social promotion," which "objective," test-based measures were supposed to stop. However, critics say that a single test is a poor way to measure something so complex as learning. Some go even further: UT professor **Angela Valenzuela**, a longtime critic of high-stakes testing, argued that the agenda behind tests like the TAKS has little to do with student achievement and a lot to do with school funding. Tests like the TAKS, she said, are "a way to use numbers-based accountability systems to discredit the public schools and pave the way to privatization and vouchers."

In any case, bills that essentially gut the accountability system will likely have a hard time of it in the current Legislature; however, they suggest a growing desire on the part of the anti-TAKS crowd to stop complaining and start offering alternatives.

— Rachel Proctor May

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More Hearings on TOD

The first time it went before the City Council in February, Mayor Pro Tem **Jackie Goodman** recommended one more round of hearings on the **Transit-Oriented Development Ordinance** to make sure everyone had input into the process, but it was apparent that many of the people who showed up for those hearings last week were old hands on the ordinance, which is expected to return to council tonight (Thursday).

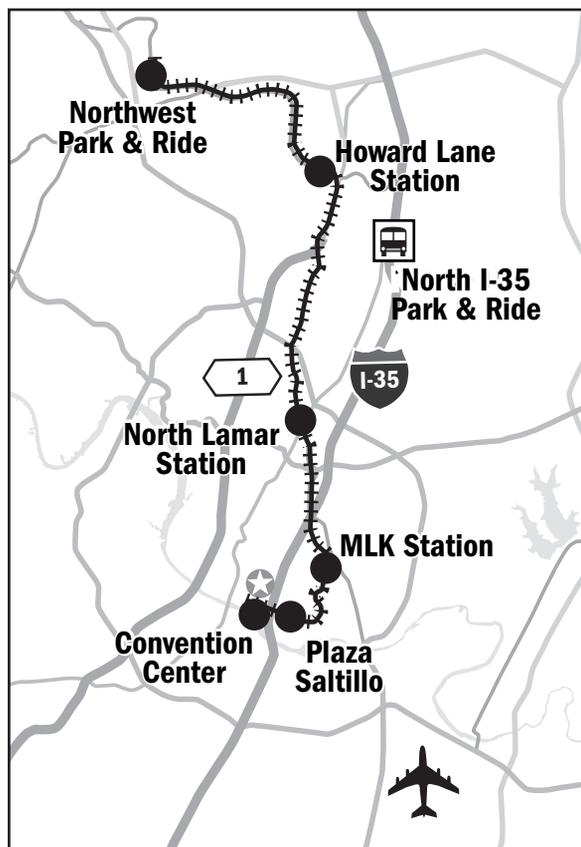
The city is proposing special TOD zoning around seven of the proposed transit stations, including six for the commuter rail line approved by voters last November. Last Thursday night, people like **Lori Renteria** came prepared to talk the nuts and bolts of the ordinance. Renteria wanted to talk specifics, such as 25% affordable housing around each station site rather than 25% accumulated affordable housing. Even though it may seem extreme now, Renteria said, places like the downtown station eventually could see a building torn down, and it would be right to insist that new development have affordable housing.

Renteria also mentioned non-conforming uses as a concern. Around the **Plaza Saltillo** area, homeowners have fought to

rezone nonconforming houses into conforming uses. Without that designation, it's impossible to pull building permits for improvements, Renteria said, and the new TOD zoning overlays could reverse some of those gains.

Others, like East Austin resident **Angela Miller**, wanted to make sure that single-family, owner-occupied housing was given priority. City staff clarified that the ordinance discourages large-lot single-family zoning but encourages denser single-family zoning categories.

Plans will be tailored for each station. For the station on Lamar, for instance, auto use is a desired use. For the Northwest Park-and-Ride zone, the size of the zone around the station could be changed, as was suggested



The Transit-Oriented Development Ordinance would affect seven zones throughout the city – six along Capital Metro's pending commuter rail line, and one on North I-35.

by one of the landowners in the area. The TOD zones are intended to complement, rather than contradict, neighborhood plans.

The first full-fledged TOD planning effort is already ongoing at Plaza Saltillo. **John Hodges**, who oversees Capital Metro's TOD efforts, said the ROMA design plan commissioned on Plaza Saltillo should be completed by the end of March. At that time the Capital Metro board will decide whether the plan is financially viable and whether to send out a Request for Proposals. Capital Metro also is considering a transit-oriented station plan around a node for Capital Metro's express bus service in South Austin.

– Kimberly Reeves

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TRMPAC FINALLY LANDS IN COURT

If nothing else, the closely watched **campaign finance trial** that opened this week in state district court could force Texas lawmakers to seek meaningful reforms and clarifications in the fuzzy laws governing the peculiar world of money and politics. Perhaps they'd like a little assistance from national campaign finance expert **Trevor Potter**, if the Legislature can forgive the lifelong Republican for testifying on behalf of five Democrats suing three associates of U.S. House Majority Leader **Tom DeLay**.

DeLay's political action committee, **Texans for a Republican Majority** – familiarly known as TRMPAC – stands accused of skirting campaign finance laws to ensure GOP victories in the 2002 legislative elections. The trial opened this week before visiting state District Judge **Joe Hart**, called out of retirement to preside. TRMPAC played a major fundraising role in the 2002 effort, drawing on large contributions from unidentified corporate donors, and in turn helped produce a GOP landslide that catapulted Rep. **Tom Craddick**, R-Midland, to the House Speaker's post.

TRMPAC treasurer **Bill Ceverha** is the first of three potential defendants to face allegations brought by the five plaintiffs who lost tight House races against Republican candidates who benefited from TRMPAC's involvement. One plaintiff, former Austin Rep. **Ann Kitchen**, who lost to now-sophomore Rep. **Todd Baxter**, was in the courtroom Tuesday taking copious notes on Potter's testimony.

Ceverha's attorney, **Terry Scarborough**, has framed his client's defense with a sour-grapes motif designed to show that Kitchen and company have little ground to stand on except their own unhappiness over the outcome of the election. Additionally, Ceverha, a former state representative from Dallas, has sought to distance himself from the day-to-day operations leading up to the election. He testified Monday that his treasurer's role was more that of a figurehead, rather than a strategist who might look for ways to circumvent state election laws, as the plaintiffs allege.

The civil lawsuit coincides with an ongoing criminal investigation by Travis Co. District Attorney **Ronnie Earle** into whether Republican PACs violated campaign finance laws. Ceverha's one-time co-defendants in the civil lawsuit, **John Colyandro** and **Jim Ellis**, have been indicted on felony charges stemming from the TRMPAC election project. Earle's probe also centers on Craddick's role in the effort. Craddick had been subpoenaed to testify this week, but attorneys on both sides brokered a deal that will keep him out of the courtroom. In exchange, Craddick's office admitted to distributing \$152,000 in checks to candidates.

The trial, which is expected to extend through this week, also featured testimony from **Bill Hammond**, executive director of the **Texas Association of Business**. Like TRMPAC, the state's largest business lobby group also played a heavy hand in the 2002 campaigns.



DOUG POTTER

On Tuesday morning, plaintiff's lawyer **Joe Crews** questioned Potter, the plaintiff's expert witness, on the intricacies of campaign finance laws before zeroing in on one of the key elements of the case – that TRMPAC sent \$190,000 in corporate money to the **Republican National Committee**, which in turn sent separate donations totaling the same amount to seven GOP House candidates. That circular process, Potter said, "raises obvious questions of whether this was money laundering."

Before the trial, TRMPAC lawyers had unsuccessfully sought to prevent Potter's testimony at trial, arguing that he lacked expertise in Texas laws. Potter has advised some of the nation's top GOP elected officials, including first President George Bush and U.S. Sen. John McCain. He is a former commissioner and chair of the Federal Election Commission, and he drafted the new federal McCain-Feingold law on campaign finance.

– Amy Smith and Jordan Smith

CAP METRO SWITCHES UT SHUTTLE PROVIDERS

During their regular monthly meeting last week, the **Capital Metro** board of directors tapped Ohio-based **First Transit Inc.** as its new subcontractor to run the **UT shuttle bus service**. First Transit will take over operation of the service on June

1, after the current contract with **ATC/Vancom** expires. First Transit's contract will run for three years with a pair of one-year extension options for a total cost of **\$44 million** with which the company will operate 87 buses along 16 fixed shuttle

routes and one fixed "Flyer" route. According to a Cap Metro press release, the proposal submitted by First Transit – which operates 120 transit systems, maintains 5,200 vehicles, and provides more than 100 million trips per year – outpaced competitors based on their proposed management structure and personnel plans, quality control plan, corporate experience, and past performance. (Price was "evaluated" but not "scored," the agency reports.) Cap Metro expects that First Transit will "retain a majority" of the nearly 200-driver UT shuttle workforce, and the "wages and benefits provided to employees under the contract are expected to meet wages and benefits received by current union employees," reads the press release.

It was a disagreement over wages and benefits that sparked a conflagration last year between ATC/Vancom management and UT shuttle drivers, who worked for the Cap Metro subcontractor for nearly two years without an employment contract. Although the contract lapse was caused by a number of factors, the length of the lapse was exacerbated by two ATC/Vancom proposals that failed to address driver concerns about low wages and substandard benefits. The shuttle drivers' employment terms paled considerably in comparison to the wages and benefits afforded

to the rest of the Cap Metro workforce under a contract with StarTrans, the quasi-independent company that officially employs Cap Metro drivers – an arrangement designed to satisfy federal law requiring employees get an opportunity to unionize and engage in employment bargaining. Currently, pay for UT shuttle drivers starts at \$9.45/hour, capping out at \$13, compared to starting pay of \$13/hour for StarTrans drivers, capping out at \$18/hour. Since the two sets of employees essentially work for the same company, the disparities just aren't fair, shuttle driver union past President **Cordie Ray** told the *Chronicle* last spring. Indeed, comparatively, UT shuttles carry more passengers per mile than do Cap Metro's city buses; yet the shuttle's ridership numbers are carried by Cap Metro in determining the amount of federal funding the agency receives. According to Ray, the cause of the disparity – and, ultimately, of last year's vocal dissent by the shuttle drivers and a group of UT students – was ATC/Vancom's 1998 lowball bid for the job. What exactly will happen under First Transit's management of the contract is as yet unclear, but Cap Metro president and CEO **Fred Gilliam** is apparently optimistic. "First Transit rose to the top of a competitive group of transit providers during the [proposal] review process," he said. UT's "students, staff, and faculty are important to Capital Metro, and we believe that First Transit will provide the quality of service our university customers expect and deserve." – Jordan Smith



JOHN ANDERSON

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Smoking Ordinance Headed for the Ballot

Some Austinites call smoking a personal freedom; others believe it violates their personal freedoms. National health officials view tobacco use as an epidemic, responsible for 5 million deaths a year worldwide. Wherever you stand, on the May 7 ballot, you will have the power to decide whether smoking should henceforth be allowed, or banned, in Austin's bars and clubs.

On Monday, City Clerk Shirley Brown's office certified that enough petition signatures were submitted by local group **Onward Austin**, in support of a far stricter **smoking ordinance**, to place the measure on the upcoming ballot. The new ordinance would outlaw smoking in nearly all public places – including bars, restaurants, nightclubs, live music venues, pool halls, and bowling alleys. Onward Austin, the ad hoc organization pushing for the changes (with support from the **American Cancer Society**, the **Lance Armstrong Foundation**, and several other nonprofits) successfully delivered the 36,764 signatures required under the city charter to bring the issue to voters. The group worked until Feb. 22 to provide additional names, after Brown found their original Feb. 1 filing was short 50 signatures of eligible Austin voters. Onward Austin's **Rodney Ahart** said the group turned in about 4,500 additional names after internally reviewing some 8,000 – officially re-igniting what Ahart calls a "volatile and polarizing" smoking ban debate.

Indeed, Austin's original smoking ordinance – sponsored by former Mayor **Gus Garcia** and approved just before he left office in 2003 – drew intense public scrutiny, primarily from Downtown club business owners. It was weakened after the 2003 election of dissenters Mayor **Will Wynn** and Council Member **Brewster McCracken**, losing its toughest restrictions before it took effect. The current ordinance prohibits smoking in establishments that make less than 70% of their revenue from alcohol sales, and requires bars and similar venues to obtain a \$300 annual city smoking permit. The ordinance came into effect in June of 2004, but the controversy hasn't cleared.

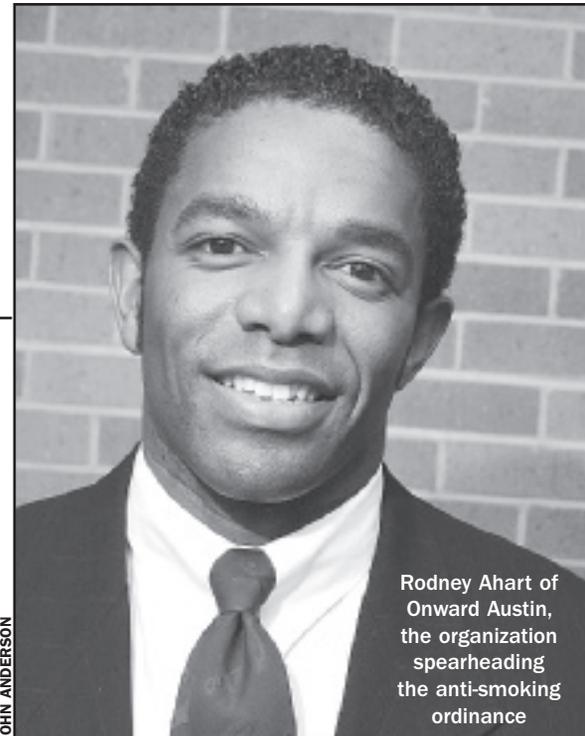
"It's a good thing for the public to have the opportunity to decide this," McCracken said last week. The council member most publicly opposed to the original ban's scope,

McCracken was central in revising the ordinance into its present form. He said, "The current ordinance successfully provides a strong majority of locations that are smoke-free – a bar is a place where you get to have your vices."

The Downtown brewery and taproom, Lovejoy's – where the slogan is "Celebrate your vices" – is among 25 watering holes listed as members of **Keep Austin Free**, a coalition of businesses opposed to the smoking ban. Owner **Chip Tait** said he believes the ordinance will drive many bars out of business. "Places like Antone's and [the] Hard Rock Cafe will survive ... little joints like Lovejoy's and the Horseshoe Lounge will take it in the ass." Clubs that don't have a patio or an option for outdoor seating, Tait believes, will ultimately suffer and fail, detracting from Austin's crop of original "organic local businesses." Tait doesn't mince words. "It's not up to the American Cancer Society or Lance Motherfucking Armstrong," he said, "to tell me how to run my business."

But Armstrong can tell the voters a thing or two about cancer. So can Onward Austin's Ahart, who is also government relations director for the American Cancer Society in Austin. "Secondhand smoke is harmful to public health. In passing a strong smoke-free ordinance, you enhance Austin's quality of life and improve Austin's overall health," Ahart said. He points to places like New York City, Boston, and El Paso, which have all enacted similarly broad smoking bans. Ahart cited studies conducted one year after the bans took effect, each finding no negative economic effects.

Recently, *The New York Times* also reported that the effects of NYC's smoking ban were less severe than many expected. Statistically, the *Times* cited positive economic indicators for restaurants and bars, including increased employment, an 8.7% increase in tax receipts since the ban was enacted in March of 2003, and a greater number of permits requested and held in the year since the ban took effect. As for Austin, said Ahart, "live music will be a primary concern. People go to hear a performer because they like their music and talent. We believe they will continue to do so." Overall, Ahart believes the ordinance will be "positive for businesses and good for the city."



Rodney Ahart of Onward Austin, the organization spearheading the anti-smoking ordinance

JOHN ANDERSON

Keep Austin Free spokesman **Paul Silver**, owner of 219 West Lounge and Restaurant, bluntly rejects Ahart's optimism about economic effects. He says the economic impact studies largely obscure economic effects by lumping every kind of food and beverage operation together, failing to separate family restaurants and chains from independent bars and music venues that are least able to overcome a drop in revenue. "We anticipate significant economic impact on Austin bars if the ban is passed," he said. At press time, several bar owners had sued the city in federal court in hopes of stopping the vote.

The economic impact argument – however valid it may be – is an inevitable talking point in the tobacco industry's decades-long campaign to subvert smoking bans. **Americans for Nonsmokers Rights'** Web site posts an internal Philip Morris memo (www.no-smoke.org/htmlpage.php?id=63) detailing 1994 plans to attack smoking bans with similar rhetoric, as well as other calculated tobacco strategies to fight anti-smoking efforts. But the economic stability of small local businesses will no doubt remain a central arena in the upcoming campaigns for and against the proposed ordinance – the specific language for which will need to be determined by the City Council. For more info, see www.KeepAustinFree2005.com and www.onwardaustin.org.

– Daniel Mottola

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TAKING THE TAKS IS HARD ... UNDERSTANDING THE RESULTS IS HARDER

The confusing world of high-stakes testing just got more confusing for Austin parents. On Friday, **Austin ISD** announced that three schools that last fall got the lowest rating of "needs improvement" under the federal accountability system known as **No Child Left Behind** do not actually belong on that list. In addition, the district as a whole and 20 other AISD campuses that received poor federal ratings were also bumped up a notch. Want to know why? Better find yourself a comfortable seat. The reasons behind the upgrade demonstrate one of the ironies of the NCLB testing system, in that even though high-stakes testing is supposed to be an objective, reliable measure of school performance, all-important ratings often come down to factors having little to do with academic quality.

"It's really hard to explain, especially because we have two ratings system in this state," said **Julie Lyons**, AISD's director of state and federal accountability. "It is so complex, and people don't really understand it."

It all has to do with the way school progress is measured under the federal accountability system, which analyzes the results of annual **Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills** tests in an entirely different way than the state does. Under NCLB, progress means "adequate yearly progress," which measures target passing rates for tested subjects, graduation rates, and – importantly – test participation. Schools can either "meet AYP" or "miss AYP"; failing to meet AYP in any area for two years in a row is what gets a school labeled "needs improvement."

However, NCLB also divides schools into separate subgroups according to ethnicity, limited English proficiency, and special education. Each subgroup within a school must meet AYP; each must also have 95% participation. This creates a situation not unlike the old rhyme where for want of a nail, the kingdom was lost.

Imagine a 10th-grade class of 1,000 students, 50 of whom are Hispanic. If on test day, just a handful of Hispanic students are absent, then the school would "miss AYP" for math participation of Hispanic students. If it happens two years in a row, the whole school

would "need improvement," which means its students are automatically eligible for transfer to schools with better test scores, with the district providing transportation. (As NCLB is phased in, sanctions against schools that need improvement may be even more dire.)

As a real-life example, **LBJ High** got on the "needs improvement" list because of two years of missing AYP in math participation. However, AISD examined the data and found a clerical error that accounted for a single extra student taking the test. That brought LBJ's math participation rate from 94.3% to 94.7%, rounding brought it to 95%, and the entire school was moved off the needs improvement list. In other words, getting kids to show up is sometimes half the battle.

"You've got to get the children to take the test, that's the message," said AISD Superintendent **Pat Forgione**. "We got the message."

The other half of the battle is dealing with special ed students. For years, the state accountability system has allowed any documented special education student to be tested under a "state-developed alternative assessment," or SDAA. But under NCLB, no more than 1% of students are allowed to take the alternative test, even though about 10% of Texas students are special ed.

Because of confusion over the two systems, the **Texas Education Agency** this year allowed school districts to appeal poor ratings that resulted from exceeding the 1% cap, if they could demonstrate that all the students tested as special ed met the SDAA guidelines. It was these special education and participation appeals which resulted in LBJ High, **Fulmore Middle**, and **Burnet Middle** being moved from the "needs improvement" list, and 20 schools and the district meeting AYP when it was previously ruled they had missed it.

While the improved ratings please AISD, no one is exactly overjoyed – next year's TAKS results, complete with the two competing sets of ratings, will be ready for quibbling over once again in August. And in the meantime, there's all the work that needs to be done at schools whose poor test scores no clerical error can explain away.

– Rachel Proctor May

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SCHOOL FINANCE BILL HEADS FOR THE FLOOR

The **House Public Education Committee**, dominated by Republicans, pushed the **school finance reform bill** out of committee on Tuesday, forcing a straight party-line vote on a bill that no group in the education community was willing to support.

That's the comfortable, predictable story everyone expects to read. Those evil, dastardly, heartless Republicans, hell-bent on world domination and knowing they could crush any opposition, railroaded the Democrats and the education community into a bill that no one liked. It's the kind of story that has been told dozens, maybe hundreds, of times at the Capitol since the Republicans took the reins in both the House and the Senate.

But wait and listen carefully to Tuesday's talk. Could it be that Chair **Kent Grusendorf**, R-Arlington, has softened his hard-charging, take-no-prisoners tactics a bit and thanked people who were so clearly about to oppose him? And as the reporters gathered around Vice Chair **Rene Oliveira** to talk about his vote against **House Bill 2**, was that a glimmer of regret in the Brownsville Democrat's eyes? Sure, it was slight, but, yes, there it was, a hint of real sadness in Oliveira's comments.

"What I tell my colleagues is, 'Don't be thinking about the fact that we are not getting funding, be thinking about the future of Texas,'" Oliveira told reporters. "Those children are going to be the future workforce of Texas, and they are going to be poorer, less educated, and less prepared to deal with the future economy of Texas."

They have a phrase for what Oliveira offered reporters after the House Public Education Committee vote on HB 2. They call it "genuine philosophical differences." Democrats truly, and sincerely, cannot support a school finance bill without significant additional funding. And Grusendorf told everyone involved that privately he was willing to compromise on almost any aspect of the bill, except for the funding. This was a stalemate waiting to happen. But in this case, a stalemate is an improvement on past performance, which would have been a shutout.

Sometimes it's hard to remember that sincere differences – with some amount of respect for the other side – ever existed at



Rep. Kent Grusendorf, R-Arlington

this Capitol, a post-Ardmore world so dominated by arm-twisting and vote-counting on each and every bill. Witness the debacle of HB 1 during the last special session, also authored by Grusendorf. The bill was walked through committee with little or no input from Democrats. When it became clear the Dems intended to use floor maneuvering to make their voices heard on the revenue measures, Speaker of the House **Tom Craddick**, R-Midland, yanked the bill from discussion and marched Republicans to a back room where each was browbeaten until he or she screamed "uncle" and punched the right button. It was not a pleasant sight for either side.

No one appeared gleeful, or even relieved, at this split vote on the school finance reform bill. Oliveira told reporters he considered HB 2 to be a bill that puts property tax relief, rather than school funding, first. Rep. **Harold Dutton**, D-Houston, voiced similar concerns. And Rep. **Scott Hochberg**, D-Houston, always the most cerebral of the committee's members, still has serious issues with the property-tax bills, seeing the rollback as simply exchanging a de facto statewide property tax of \$1.50 for a de facto statewide property tax of \$1.

The battle lines for HB 2 are easy to simplify: Conservatives love it because it adds more controls and little funding. It

signifies, as they say, "more dollars for education and more education for those dollars." That's a view shared by the Republican leadership. And the education community can't sign off on the bill because it's still unclear that the \$3.2 billion in new money will do anything more than cover the mandates prescribed by the bill. This is more than school leaders crying wolf. In some cases, superintendents say the numbers show they would be cutting again by the end of the biennium under HB 2, hardly the "long-term fix" for education funding promised by the Republicans.

Grusendorf warned the bill's opponents sternly, and rather frequently, during hearings that the \$3 billion on the table was an "all or nothing" proposition. If the education community didn't want it, other budget areas were ready to take it. In some cases, the response was that the cost and hassle of the bill far outweighed its benefits.

Consultant **Lynn Moak**, who spoke to the committee on Tuesday, estimated that more than \$2 billion of the new money would be eaten up by mandates required under HB 2. About \$400 million would go to textbooks. Another \$1.2 billion would go to teacher

over the formula issues to a subcommittee headed by Hochberg, the first real olive branch between Republicans and Democrats on the committee. And he accepted many of Hochberg's proposals, formula-related or not.

And on Tuesday Grusendorf made another big sacrifice – agreeing to consider bouncing the 35% cap on recapture that made Rep. **Dan Branch**, R-Dallas, the bill's best friend. This is tantamount to saying the concerns of property-poor districts were just as important as the concerns of property-wealthy ones, an acknowledgement most Democratic observers said would never happen.

Branch, who represents Highland Park ISD, agreed to capitulate. The committee agreed to some limits. It was a fascinating discussion to watch because so many Dems and equity advocates have insisted the wealthy suburban school districts were the real power behind most of the big ideas on school finance. Entertaining such a motion – which clearly made powerful committee members unhappy – limited a huge liability in the bill, but also indicated a willingness to meet in the middle.

"What I tell my colleagues is, 'Don't be thinking about the fact that we are not getting funding, be thinking about the future of Texas.' Those children are going to be the future workforce of Texas, and they are going to be poorer, less educated, and less prepared to deal with the future economy of Texas."

– Rep. Rene Oliveira, D-Brownsville

benefits. Subtract the requirements for mentoring programs and the now-unfunded \$500 in health care benefits for paraprofessionals on campus, and it's unlikely much new money for discretionary spending will be left over at the end of the day.

Unlike the HB 1 of days yore, Democrats did have a role in HB 2. Sure, Grusendorf made sure he still had the ultimate say on which amendments – euphemistically called "proposals" – were rolled into HB 2. But early in the process, Grusendorf handed

Partisanship is not out of the picture. Oliveira did call HB 2 a "Republican primary bill" intended to make officeholders look good rather than addressing the real needs of education. He also acknowledged that Democrats are working a full floor substitute for HB 2, one that is likely to provide more funding for education. HB 2, *aka "Roadmap to Results,"* is likely to go to the floor on Monday, to be followed shortly after by Rep. Jim Keffer's, R-Eastland, property tax relief bill, HB 3. – *Kimberly Reeves*

COSTELLO PUTS UP A (TOLL) ROADBLOCK

Toll road opponent **Sal Costello** has found one more way to zing the **Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority**, filing a temporary injunction to stop the delivery of \$250 million in bonds for U.S. 183-A. His lawsuit could cost the CTRMA millions.

That means that the CTRMA is facing opposition on two fronts now, even as Costello's **Austin Toll Party** (which attempted to recall pro-toll Austin City Council Members) fades. In addition to Costello's suit, this week the City Council is poised to pass a resolution to ask the city's financial adviser to study alternatives to the toll road plan, ways to put roads on the ground that would not require tolls.

Documents on the bonds, which the CTRMA sold on Feb. 16, require the CTRMA to verify, both when the

bonds were sold and when they are delivered, that there are no significant material claims or lawsuits pending against the CTRMA. That's now in jeopardy, a fact that the CTRMA acknowledges could cost the authority millions if the sale has to be repackaged.

According to Costello's lawsuit, filed on behalf of the **People for Efficient Transportation Political Action Committee**, the CTRMA is an illegal board with board members who have exceeded their terms under the provision of the Texas Constitution. Although the enabling legislation for the RMA designates six-year terms for board members, the Constitution states no one serving on a regional entity can serve more than two years. PET is asking the court to stop the delivery of the bonds.

"The illegal, unconstitutional CTRMA board should not be allowed to move forward with the bond sale, nor on the double tax toll plan," Costello said. "An illegitimate board should not be permitted to control the tolling of 50% of our metro highway lane miles, especially without an independent economic impact study showing the need for the plan. This is nothing more than a special-interest political power-play and is a recipe for disaster."

The U.S. 183-A bonds were scheduled for delivery on Wednesday afternoon. Attorney Brian Cassidy expressed confidence the injunction will fail. If not, the TRO could have serious implications to the cost of the U.S. 183-A project.

"We think we'll prevail on the merits of the case. This was obviously calculated to stop a project which had no other real opposition," Cassidy said. "It would be very costly to Central Texans if the transaction is enjoined."

– *Kimberly Reeves*

THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

SHOULD BOSSES BECOME CZARS?

How far would you let a boss push you? Maybe your boss keeps refusing to raise your pay and also cuts back on your health care. Still, jobs are short these days, and wages everywhere are low – so you stick it out. But what if the boss then has surveillance cameras put in to keep an eye on you at work, and also requires drug testing on the job? This invasion of your privacy angers you, but you still need the job, so you shrug it off.

But, next the boss wants to follow you out of the workplace and control what you do on your own time. If you do things after hours that do not conform to your boss' own particular beliefs, you're fired. Would you put up with that?

Believe it or not, more and more bosses are insisting that they have the right to monitor and regulate the activities of employees off the job, even perfectly legal activities. Howard Weyers is one such boss. He's honcho of Weyco, an insurance management corporation in Michigan. Howard doesn't like smokers, so he has instituted an anti-smoking policy.

Fine ... except that Weyers' policy outlaws smoking off the job as well as on. He has imposed random, mandatory breathalyzer tests on his 200 employees. Fail once – and you're fired. "You work for me," Weyer says, "this is what I expect. You don't like it? Go someplace else." For Howard, a former football coach, it's a matter of making people better, more virtuous even. He says he used to hone his football players "mentally and physically" – and, he says, "I think that's what we need to do in the workplace."

Excuse me, Howard, but who elected you our nanny? If he can be the no-smoking dictator, other bosses can dictate that employees can't have a beer after work, must go to a particular kind of church on Sunday, or can't have Democratic bumper stickers on their cars.

To fight back, call the National Workrights Institute: 609/683-0313.

THE SEC SURRENDERS

In 2002, America's corporate barons were on the lam, fleeing the wrath of a public that was outraged by the raw ugliness of CEO greed, which had suddenly erupted out of Enron, WorldCom, Tyco, and so many others.

You might recall that George W, feeling the political heat, loudly denounced the greed back then. To show his seriousness, Bush installed a new sheriff at the Securities and Exchange Commission, the agency in charge of protecting shareholders and the larger public from these out-of-control corporate chieftains. But 2½ years later, the CEOs are no longer running away – instead, they're running the SEC.

Signaling that the flag of reform has now been officially struck from the agency and replaced by the flags of the corporations it is charged with overseeing, the SEC recently capitulated on one of its key reforms. You and I would consider this a very mild – even meek – reform. It would've required that the boards of directors that supposedly serve as a check on CEO actions not be entirely chosen by CEOs. Instead, in board elections, large shareholders would be allowed to put forth their own independent nominees for a couple of board seats.

Good grief, shouted the CEOs in unison: The Bolsheviks are coming! Democracy, you see, is an idea that is abhorrent to corporate barons – and they mounted a massive lobbying campaign with Bush and Congress to get the SEC to stop this communistic encroachment on their totalitarian rule. Sure enough, in February, the SEC officials meekly ruled that this proposed reform had become "stale" with the passage of time, so they dropped it.

What we have here is a victory of corporate political money over the people's continuing outrage at CEO greed. Last year, Bush, flush with campaign cash from CEOs, joined their lobbying effort against shareholder democracy. And John Kerry, also immersed in CEO money, simply refused to raise the hot issue of corporate corruption – so reform became a political orphan, and now it's been killed.

Jim Hightower is the bestselling author of Let's Stop Beating Around the Bush, on sale from Viking Press. For more information, visit www.jimhightower.com.

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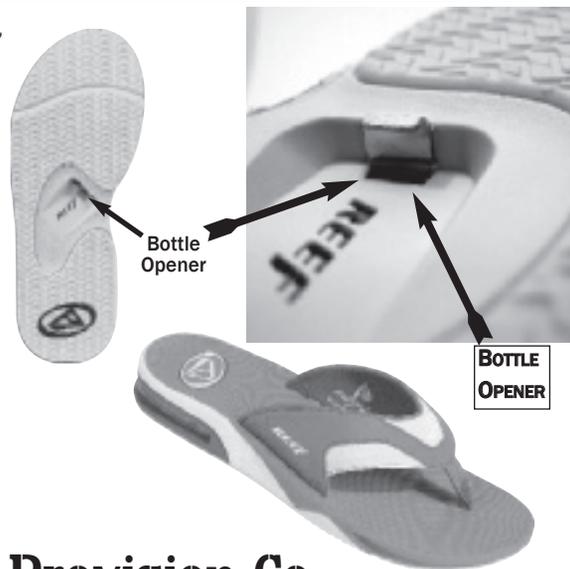
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SPAM ISN'T CHEAP

Austinite **Dewey Coffman's spam-fighting hobby** just got a lot more profitable. On Thursday, Coffman agreed to take a \$4,000 out-of-court settlement with spammer **Steve Miller** of Plano, whom Coffman had sued under the **Texas Electronic Mail and Solicitation Act**.

"He sent me one spam and it cost him, or I should say it cost his insurance companies, \$2,000 each," said Coffman. "I bet he'll think twice before doing it again." Coffman said he agreed to settle only because the Precinct 2 Travis Co. Justice of the Peace court in which he had filed the case was so backed up that he couldn't get a timely court date. But the experience hasn't deterred him from using the power of the courts to fight for the right of a Viagra-free inbox.

"This has inspired my attorney, that's for sure," said Coffman. "He's ready to roll." Coffman has already chosen his next target: UT student and ace spammer **Ryan Pitylak**. Coffman collected much of the evidence (i.e., mountains and mountains of spam) for the case that Texas Attorney General **Greg Abbott** filed against Pitylak in January; now he plans to use that same evidence in his own case. In addition, he said Abbott's decision to file charges under the **Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act** and the federal **CAN-SPAM Act**, in addition to Texas' anti-spam law, has set a precedent that will make his cases easier.

"Until now, it's been a matter of figuring out which laws to file under, but now the attorney general's office has blazed a trail," said Coffman. Now, he says, "we're going to file under as many laws as possible, as often as possible."

– Rachel Proctor May



JOHN ANDERSON



On Feb. 22, California Assemblyman **Mark Leno**, D-San Francisco, filed legislation (Assembly Bill 1147) that would legalize and regulate cultivation of **industrial hemp**. The California legislature passed a similar measure in 2002, only to have it vetoed by then Gov. Gray Davis. Leno's bill is one of more than 50 seeking to reintroduce industrial hemp – a strain of marijuana containing only trace amounts of THC, the main psychoactive ingredient in pot – that have been filed since the mid-1990s.

Cultivation of industrial hemp was legal until the 1970s – in fact, production was encouraged during World War II – when changes to the **Controlled Substances Act** made continued production untenable. According to a report released last month (titled "**Hemp as an Agricultural Commodity**") by the Congressional Research Service (an arm of the Library of Congress), the U.S. is the only "developed" nation in which industrial hemp is not already an "established crop." The CRS reported to Congress that more than 30 countries currently grow industrial hemp – for commercial production of fiber, seed, and oil, which in turn are made into a variety of consumer products, from carpet and auto parts, to cosmetics and food. Hemp proponents argue that the crop is good for the environment – among other benefits, it rejuvenates soil and grows readily without the use of herbicides. Predictably, the crop's main opponent is the **Drug Enforcement Administration**, which argues that authorizing industrial hemp farming would increase the likelihood of "covert production" of the narcotic form of the drug,

which would in turn hinder (ahem) the war on drugs. Industrial hemp production is not illegal per se, the report notes, but is regulated by the DEA, which is tasked with reviewing individual requests to grow the crop and with granting – or denying, or ignoring – the permits necessary to do so. Indeed, the DEA has only ever granted one permit, to growers in Hawaii, which has expired, and has yet to rule on a 1999 permit request filed by a North Dakota researcher.

Nonetheless, over the last decade there has been a renewed interest in growing the crop, the CRS reports. Since the mid-Nineties, 14 states have passed laws calling for scientific, economic, or environmental studies of the crop, and several have legalized hemp farming – despite the virtual ban, which hinges on the overbroad definition of marijuana under the CSA to keep production at bay. "The statute ... retains control over all varieties of the Cannabis plant by virtue of including [all strains] under the term 'marijuana' and making no distinction between the low- and high-THC varieties," reads the report. As such, all hemp products sold in the U.S. – from clothing to paper to food items – must be imported. Although U.S. Department of Agriculture data on importation is sparse, the CRS reports that in 2003, the U.S. imported at least \$7 million in hemp products. For more on industrial hemp, see www.votehemp.com.

– Jordan Smith



Hemp seeds

AUSTIN AGAINST WAR RESPONSE

In the Feb. 18 story "New Austin 'Spokes' Speak Out Against Tasers," activist Debbie Russell was quoted as saying she left the group **Austin Against War** because, "After dying over and over again, [AAW has] been existing in this sort of zombie state for over a year now. People stack meetings by bringing 10 people from their group to vote on a certain action. And people get discouraged because their voices aren't being heard." The *Chronicle* received the following response from AAW spokesman Will Martin, albeit too late to get into that article: "Austin Against War has been persistent in organizing many local antiwar events. We have always accepted the input of others, and made sure no one is left out of the planning process. Austin Spokes and AAW are two groups that are for the same causes, but the only thing the two organizations seem to be lacking is unity." – Lee Nichols and Diana Welch

PILL PUSHERS AND LOUNGE LIZARDS

In the footsteps of those JibJab boys, market watchdogs **Consumers Union** are presenting a hilarious song and Flash animation highlighting the greed and hypocrisy of prescription-drug pushers, and they've enlisted the innumerable talents of the **Austin Lounge Lizards** and Austin's own **Animation Farm** to do so. Consumers Union, the minds behind *Consumer Reports*, have the video and the Lizards' ribald MP3 at www.prescriptionforchange.com, showcasing the undesirable side effects of drugs of dubious value, and making a case for greater transparency in the drug industry. With the recent revelations regarding Vioxx, and drug company Merck's foreknowledge of its side effects being no laughing matter, the Web site also enables surfers to urge Congress to adopt legislation requiring full disclosure of drug trial results.



– Wells Dunbar

RIP ROBERT O. DAWSON Longtime UT law Professor **Robert O. Dawson** died from lung cancer on Feb. 26 at his family farm in Fentress. He was 65. Dawson founded UT's Criminal Defense Clinic in 1974 and in 2003 started the school's Center for Actual Innocence. He was a driving force behind the state bar's creation of a Juvenile Law Section in 1987 (the section's annual conference is named after him) and was responsible for rewriting the state's juvenile justice laws in 1973 and 1995. A memorial service is scheduled for April 2 at 2pm in UT's LBJ Auditorium. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, the Texas Center for Actual Innocence at the UT law school, or the Fentress-based American Association for Horsemanship Safety.

– Jordan Smith

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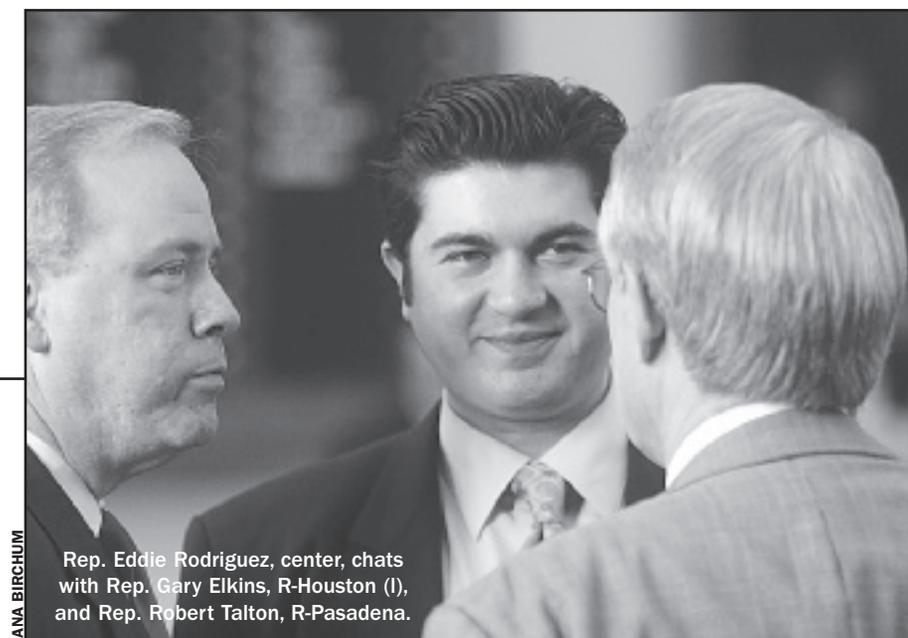
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LOOKING LIKE TEXAS

DISTRICT 51'S EDDIE RODRIGUEZ REPRESENTS THE FUTURE OF THE STATE'S PEOPLE AND POLICIES BY AMY SMITH



JANA BIRCHUM

Rep. Eddie Rodriguez, center, chats with Rep. Gary Elkins, R-Houston (l), and Rep. Robert Talton, R-Pasadena.

The northwest border of the 51st House District of Texas begins and ends roughly in the vicinity of Rep. Eddie Rodriguez's central East Austin neighborhood, a quiet, working-class enclave of tidy bungalows flanked on the west by I-35, on the east by the roundly detested Holly Power Plant.

From there, the district's boundary follows a wavering path east to the county line, takes a sharp turn south to Mustang Ridge, and then loops back around toward town with a western swing across South Austin before ending its sawtooth journey in Rodriguez's back yard. The district used to take in a larger share of progressive neighborhoods west of I-35, before a contentious redistricting flap (the 2001 legislative preview of the 2003 congressional donnybrook) displaced former Rep. Glen Maxey, who responded by recruiting his young aide – Rodriguez – to run for his House seat in 2002.

Rodriguez, 33, likes to say that the future of Texas will look a lot like his district – that is, predominantly Hispanic and economically precarious. “I know it sounds so much like a cliché, but it's so true,” he says. Like other members of the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, Rodriguez consistently points to statewide demographic trends to argue the necessity of putting more state dollars into public

As proposed in his HB 90, the average Texas family would see about \$40 less in monthly income, while realizing – because of corollary reductions in property taxes – a \$135 drop in monthly mortgage payments. Renters, Rodriguez concedes, wouldn't benefit as quickly, because property owners might be reluctant to reduce rates until market forces leave them no choice. The bill is pending in the House Public Education Committee, where its fate is pretty much already determined. “We're going to be passing on this because of a lack of courage to do what's right,” Rodriguez says. “And the kids are going to suffer for it.”

Maxey, for his part, is pleased that Rodriguez has persevered on the income tax fight. “He didn't have to take up that position,” he says, “but he has very doggedly set out with an issue that is intrinsically unpopular.” Maxey is confident the effort won't be in vain. “Before Eddie Rodriguez leaves the Legislature, I'm sure people will be telling him, ‘You were right, Eddie.’”

Despite a reputation for unabashed liberalism, Rodriguez, soft-spoken and with a seemingly ageless baby face, impresses his older colleagues as someone who was brought up to address grown-ups as “sir”

“It's very rare to find people willing to sail into the wind, and have the ability to move forward while sailing into the wind.”

– Former District 51 Rep. Glen Maxey on Rodriguez

education. “If we don't fund our schools adequately and equally,” Rodriguez points out, “Texas could very well look completely like my district – low to moderate income, a high dropout rate, little or no college ...”

Like his mentor, Maxey, Rodriguez believes a state income tax is the most viable approach to tackling the school finance dilemma, and even a few Republicans have privately come around to agreeing that, at the very least, the idea is worth exploring. But beyond tacit interest, Rodriguez says, “The political will just isn't there.” This session marks his third quixotic attempt to pass an income tax proposal in a decidedly anti-tax climate. Even with few funding options on the table, legislators remain more inclined to vote for a sales tax “because it's easy to do,” Rodriguez says. As the debate over House Bill 2 – the major public education bill – grows louder as it moves toward a floor fight, Rodriguez uses the increasing opportunities to pitch his income tax bill.

and “ma'am.” These kinds of manners go a long way in the time-honored traditions of the Legislature. During down time on the House floor, he can be seen striking up friendly chats with any number of far-right social conservatives. A particular favorite is Rep. Warren Chisum, R-Pampa, a senior member of this crowd, meticulously polite in manner himself, and also the most active filer of anti-gay legislation. This session Chisum has filed the so-called marriage amendment bill, which would effectively put a Constitutional lock on the state's existing prohibition on same-sex unions. Even as Chisum works against everything that Rodriguez stands for (not to mention the obstacles his ex-boss Maxey faced as the first openly gay Texas legislator), the younger representative concedes that he “thoroughly enjoys” talking to Chisum. “But do we ever talk about politics? Probably never.”

Rodriguez learned very quickly the value of building these types of relationships,

Maxey says. “Eddie knows that you have to keep your enemies as close as your friends in the legislative process.”

Houston Republican John Davis, who chairs a special House Appropriations committee on health and human services, points out that he and Rodriguez don't see eye-to-eye on most things – except in the area of care for those home-bound or hospitalized with debilitating injuries or illnesses. With Rodriguez taking the lead, Davis has signed on as co-sponsor of a resolution (HCR 48) urging Congress to eliminate the required 24-month Medicare waiting period for patients receiving benefits under the Social Security Disability Insurance. “Eddie,” says Davis, “surrounds himself with good people, he's reasonable, and he can articulate his position in a way that forces you to at least think about it,” says Davis. “In our business, a lot of your success depends on your demeanor or your personality – or as my wife says, ‘your tone.’ So you could say that Eddie has good ‘tone.’”

Republican Rep. Elvira Reyna, a staunch conservative from the Dallas suburb of Mesquite, recalls her first impression of the young freshman as “another liberal.” But it wasn't long before Reyna, who chairs the House Local and Consent Calendars Committee, saw another side of the liberal freshman that she liked – his willingness to listen to all sides of an issue. “One day he pulled me aside and said, ‘I just want to know why you think the way you think.’ We talked for a long time and afterward, we just decided we would agree to disagree in an agreeable manner,” she says. “I found that very refreshing.”

In the House, representatives measure how they square with the Speaker by their committee assignments. When the session opened on Jan. 11, Rodriguez's committee prospects appeared questionable after he cast a PNV – present but not voting – on the re-election of Speaker Tom Craddick. As expected, Craddick won overwhelmingly, despite four “no” votes – three more than the previous session. Later, Rodriguez met privately with Craddick to personally explain his nonvote. He told the Speaker he couldn't in good conscience vote for him in view of last session's congressional redistricting battle and drastic budget cuts to children's health insurance and other programs, all of which adversely affected his district. Craddick, according to Rodriguez, thanked him for his candor and wrapped up the conversation on a surprising note. “He said, ‘Let me know what [committee seats] you want.’”

Maxey chatted with Rodriguez a couple of days after his “white light” vote on Craddick. “I said, ‘Well, that could come back to haunt you, but I'm pleased you had the integrity to cast your vote in that way.’ Then he said, ‘Hey, I've got to go. I've got a meeting with the Speaker.’ That,” Maxey went on, “told me more than anything else about Eddie's political courage. For him to tell Tom Craddick to his face how the [budget cuts] affected his district ... very few people have the political maturity to do that. It's very rare to find people willing to sail into the wind and have the ability to move forward while sailing into the wind.”

When Craddick handed down assignments two weeks later, Rodriguez, to his own surprise, was assigned seats on two of the committees he requested – Pensions and Investments, and Urban Affairs. Neither is highly sought by most members, but Rodriguez says he wanted committee slots where he could actually benefit people in his district – retired school teachers and government employees on the first committee, and affordable-housing clients on the second. Between his two key issues – income tax and affordable housing – Rodriguez's best chance for success lies in his bill (HB 525) that would give cities the authority to establish Homestead Preservation Districts, enabling cities like Austin to keep housing affordable for inner-city, low-income families under pressure from downtown redevelopment efforts. “This is what I want more than anything this session,” Rodriguez says. (See “Eddie on the East Side,” p.36.)

A Taste of Politics

As a South Texas native, born and raised in McAllen, Rodriguez holds a special kinship to Valley representatives, one of whom is a distant relative by marriage. “I've known Eddie's family for almost 40 years,” says the

continued on p.34

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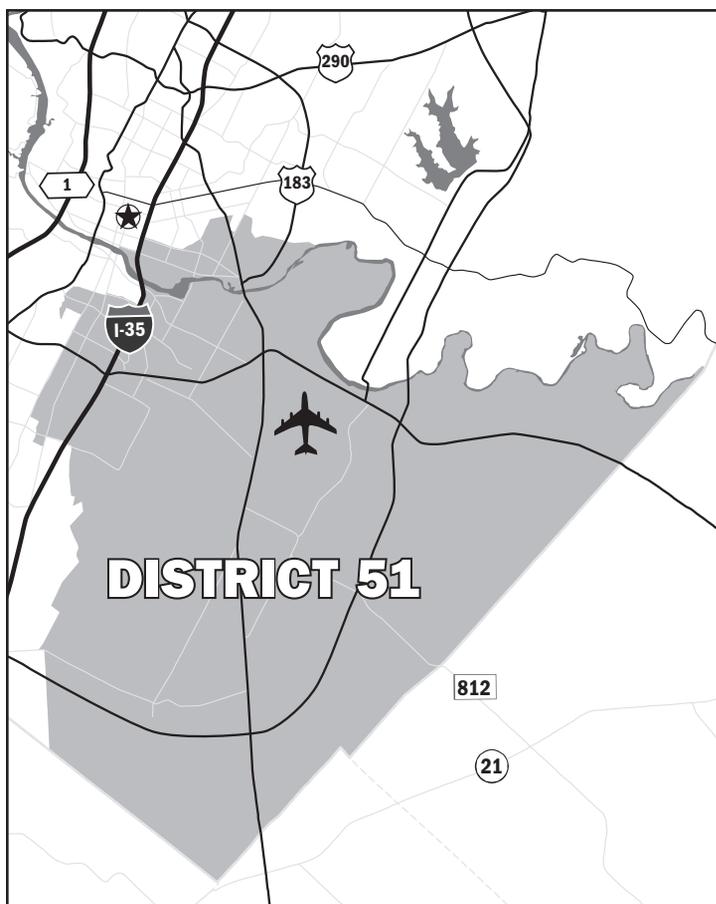
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THE FACE OF DISTRICT 51

POPULATION

Anglo	38,376
Black	13,890
Hispanic	78,060
Other	5,229
U.S. Native	78.1%
Foreign-born	21.9%
Noncitizen	17.6%
Speaks other than English	49.4%
Limited English	13.7%
B.A. degree or higher	18.0%
Did not graduate high school	35.8%
High school dropouts	23.9%
Per capita income	\$14,603
Registered voters	48,521
Spanish surname	21,167

Source: 2000 Census

newest Valley delegate, Rep. Juan Escobar, D-Kingsville, who was sworn into office the same day he joined House Democrats in Ardmore, Okla., to thwart congressional redistricting efforts. (Escobar replaced Rep. Irma Rangel, who died during the 2003 session.) “Eddie is one of those young people who came into politics at the right time,” Escobar says. “He represents the average person who works hard to get ahead, and he represents the person who wants to come to the U.S. for that very reason.”

Rodriguez, the oldest of two children, grew up in a middle-class family of two working parents; his father worked as a lab technician for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in nearby Weslaco, and his mother was a school attendance clerk. While his parents and relatives addressed one another in Spanish, English was the primary language spoken at home. If there was a drawback to that practice, Rodriguez says, it’s that today he understands Spanish better than he can speak it.

Life changed dramatically and traumatically for the family when, two days after Rodriguez’s 15th birthday, his mother died of complications stemming from an early bout with rheumatoid fever. “It was especially hard on my dad, trying to raise two teenagers,” he recalls. After graduating from high school in 1989, he left home to attend St. Mary’s University in San Antonio, majoring in

continued on p.36

EDDIE ON THE EAST SIDE: HB 525

Eddie Rodriguez didn’t grow up in East Austin, but he moved there as soon as he could – although not necessarily for the reasons that have attracted a growing number of other transplants to the area. The District 51 representative settled in six years ago to resume his place in the Mexican-American community culture he was raised on in the South Texas town of McAllen, in a neighborhood much like this one tucked neatly between East Cesar Chavez and Fiesta Gardens. “It feels homey and familiar, and keeping it that way is important to me,” he says. “People in the neighborhood see that slipping away.”

Fortunately for Rodriguez, the second-term Democrat is also in a position to try to reverse the unintended consequences of young professionals like him showing up on East Austin’s doorstep with moving vans. He has filed legislation that would give cities the tools to preserve the character of low-income neighborhoods suffering the economic side effects of downtown expansion and revitalization – the process commonly known as “gentrification.” The bill seeks to prevent the inexorable displacement of existing homeowners while providing new housing opportunities for low-income residents.

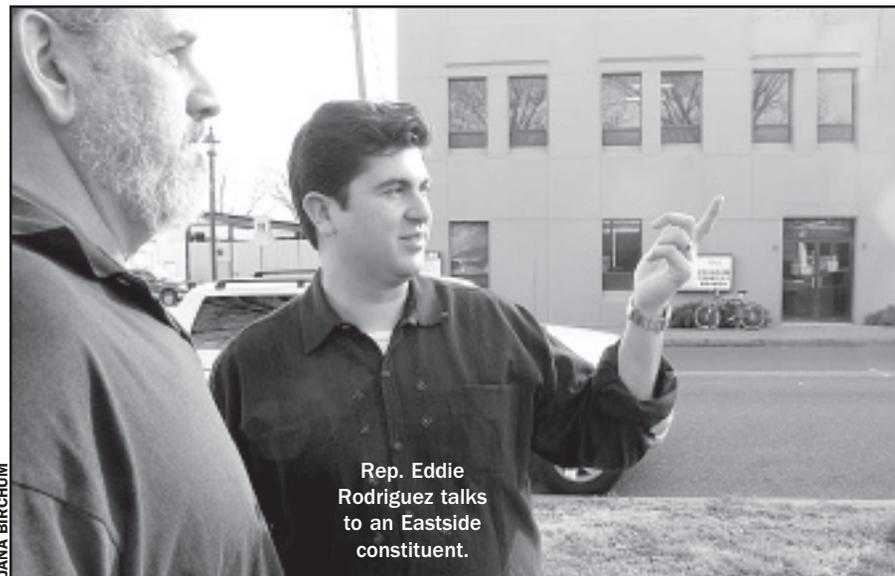
In Austin, ambitious housing plans come and go like so many pages on a calendar. But if House Bill 525 becomes law this session (a similar Rodriguez bill died in 2003), Texas cities would have the state’s blessing to explore different economic and development options. “This is a little experiment to see if the city is really serious about affordable housing,” Rodriguez said. He expects to file a revised bill when the proposal goes to a hearing before the Urban Affairs Commit-

tee, where Rodriguez recently gained a seat. In its current form, HB 525 would grant cities greater authority to:

- Create a homestead land trust – a nonprofit organization that would acquire land for affordable housing development. Residents who meet income requirements of 80% or below the area’s family median income would be eligible to buy or lease the homes, while the trust would maintain ownership of the tax-exempt land.
- Establish a tax-increment financing zone – revenue from the TIF fund would go to a land trust or another city-certified nonprofit for land acquisitions. Under this plan, residents would be eligible at 60% or below the median income.
- Create a homeowner land bank program – a quasi-government nonprofit that can acquire foreclosed land and resell it to another nonprofit or private developer for affordable housing purposes.

The plan isn’t perfect, Rodriguez says, but it’s a start. Even so, there’s no shortage of suggestions from Eastside activists on how to improve on the proposal. Rather than a land bank program, asks East Cesar Chavez neighborhood activist Lori Renteria, why not a program similar to what Chicago has in place? The Chicago model allows moderate-to low-income homeowners to borrow the funds needed to pay their tax increases and avoid foreclosure. Additionally, payment on the loan doesn’t come due until residents are ready to sell their homes, on their own terms.

But as Rodriguez points out, there are only so many things the state can do to eliminate some of the barriers between affordable housing and those who need it most.



JANA BIRCHUM

Rep. Eddie Rodriguez talks to an Eastside constituent.

The median income requirements for eligible housing participants are set at the federal level, for example, so if a family of four makes 80% of the median income, that’s \$56,000 a year – not exactly chump change. “How is that helping the working poor?” asks Susana Almanza, executive director of the grassroots nonprofit PODER. “When you’re bringing in higher incomes to the area, all you’re doing is gentrifying.” In traveling across the country to learn how other cities tackle the affordability issue, she says, she’s only seen two programs – one in Colorado and another in Vermont – that come close to serving the needs of the truly needy. The federal government is largely to blame, she says, “But I don’t see the cities challenging those standards.”

Last fall, Austin City Council members Raul Alvarez and Danny Thomas introduced an affordability proposal that would establish an East Austin Community Preservation and Revitalization Zone, or CP&R, that seeks to limit the adverse side effects of East Austin’s renaissance. Alvarez sees Rodriguez’s legislation serving as both a welcome economic tool and a complement to the city plan. As Alvarez and Thomas have proposed, the CP&R plan would provide economic incentives – mainly to developers who build mixed-use projects that include affordable housing opportunities within the proposed boundary area, which would take in I-35, Riverside Drive, SH 71, U.S. 183, and Manor Road. The council is expected to consider the plan in April. – A.S.



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JANA BIRCHUM

political science while working part-time at Henry's Puffy Tacos. "After a while, the [student] loans got to be pretty burdensome for me and my dad, so my dad asked me to transfer to UT," Rodriguez says of his move to Austin two years later. Once here, he got a taste of politics and was immediately hooked. He teamed up with Texas Victory Democrats to work for Bill Clinton's 1996 presidential victory, and was sent to his old Valley stomping grounds to coordinate get-out-the-vote efforts in Hidalgo, Starr, and Webb counties.

"That's how I met Glen," he says of his then future boss. At the time, Rodriguez's own political aspirations didn't include running for office; but he was certain that he wanted to be involved in politics. "I would always look up at the Capitol, this huge, beautiful building, and say, 'One of these days I'm going to work in that place.'" With Maxey's re-election to a third term in 1996, Rodriguez joined the staff, working for peanuts while holding down another job with the Travis Co. Democratic Party. By 1998, he had risen to Maxey's chief of staff and the party's executive director. In Rodriguez's view, he couldn't have asked for a more knowledgeable and politically savvy mentor than Maxey.

"Glen isn't the easiest person to work for," he says. "He had to put up with crap all the time [owing to some legislators' awkward, and occasionally blatantly offensive, reactions to their first openly gay colleague]. So of course he had to be tough. And he was tough on his staff." At the same time, Maxey empowered staff members with the freedom to craft legislation on issues they cared about. "That's when I learned that there was such a thing as a lobbyist," Rodriguez says, chuckling at the memory of his first "wacky, left-wing" tenants'-rights bill, intended to funnel first-month deposits into an interest-building escrow account. "Of course it died."

In interviewing prospective staff members, Maxey always started out with the

"I would always look up at the Capitol, this huge, beautiful building, and say, 'One of these days I'm going to work in that place.'" - Rep. Eddie Rodriguez

same question. "I would ask them if they wanted the job because it would be good experience, or because they wanted to save the world," he says. The ones who wanted to save the world usually landed the job. "Eddie told me he wanted to do something where he could make a difference in people's lives. He's doing this for the right reasons. There are very few politicians who are in it for the right reasons."

Rising Star?

By the time of the 2001 session, Maxey's 10th year, he began weighing his political options against the rise of the Republican Party and the likelihood of getting sliced (or packed) out of his district when the House took up redistricting. Ultimately Maxey decided against running for re-election, with the idea that Rodriguez would become his heir apparent - assuming he could beat Maxey's former opponent Lulu Flores, who was making a second run for the seat and quickly lining up commitments of support from key Democrats. The election results gave Flores the edge going into a run-off, but Rodriguez won the

match in spite of being out-funded. Once Rodriguez made the decision to run for his boss' old seat, he says, "No one could possibly talk me out of running, or convince me that I would lose."

It was with a similar mind-set that Rodriguez made several other life-changing decisions in 2004. He married longtime girlfriend Natasha Rosofsky, a budget analyst for the state; the two bought a house in the Holly Street neighborhood, only four houses down from their rental home in the East Cesar Chavez neighborhood; and, at the end of last year, Rodriguez decided to take the law school entrance exam (since accomplished), with the idea of applying to UT. Regardless of what happens on that score, he says he intends to stay put as the District 51 representative.

Like many freshmen who survive re-election to return to the Capitol, Rodriguez now enjoys the confidence that comes with advancing to the next grade level. His Republican buddies in the House won't like hearing this, but Rodriguez credits his trip to Ardmore as the most important character-building experience of his first term. "It

was probably the most memorable thing I've ever done," he says. "I was seeing Austin getting torn to shreds. I love this city, and they were totally screwing with my town, so of course I was angry. It was exciting to see Democrats taking action, actually doing something together. I was so proud to be a part of it."

In January, at first there was a sense that the bitterness of last session would spill over into this one. "It's much less partisan this time," says Rodriguez, "but that could change with [the education bill]. What I see happening instead is a real opportunity for rural Republicans [whose districts would see few benefits from HB 2] and the urban Democrats to get together on this one."

Where does Rodriguez go from here? For now, he says he wants to continue pressing for a state income tax, and he believes it is just a matter of time before Texas joins the majority of other states with such a system in place. But former Austin mayor Gus Garcia believes Rodriguez, like any politician worth his salt, will eventually seek higher office. "He needs to take it slowly though, because building a base takes time and effort. And that's what Eddie knows how to do," Garcia says. As he spoke, he lapsed with familiar ease into the voice of the sage elder hypothetically plotting the political career of a young up-and-comer: "He could go over to the Senate, if Gonzalo [Barrientos] decides to do something else. Or, he would have a good shot at Congress, say, if [U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett] decided not to run again. Eddie has contacts up and down the Valley, he knows the political culture down there, and he knows the political culture here."

Whatever direction Rodriguez takes, Maxey adds, he'll be on a mission to save the world. "With Eddie, it's not about the cameras, the press, or the accolades. If he never had a headline in the newspaper, he'd be very happy knowing that he was able to make a difference in someone's life." ■

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SURROUNDED BY SIGNS

BY MICHAEL VENTURA

Twenty years ago the woman I was married to intercepted a review copy I'd received of a new Los Angeles novelist. She devoured the book; when it was my turn to read it she said something like, "This guy is good. Really good." The book was *Days Between Stations*, Steve Erickson's first published novel. In my review I wrote, "Erickson is brilliant. Period." I also wrote that the only limits to what Steve Erickson might accomplish would be imposed by his character, for his gifts and his intellect were capable of greatness. Later, Steve and I met; over time, our friendship deepened. We became brothers-in-the-craft, comrades in the capital-"C" Chaos.

After the crackup of my marriage I moved into an apartment building in West Hollywood that had once been a hotel built by a movie studio in 1932 to house its starlets. From its rooftop you could see miles and miles of L.A. After Steve's first marriage ended, he took an apartment there too. He lived on the third floor; I lived on the third, then the first, then the third again, then the fourth. We shared the building with an exotic bouquet of L.A. types. An actress on the second floor played one of the witches on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*; when she wasn't a witch she was, in her own words, "a warrior for Christ." On the third floor lived a sometime Marilyn Monroe imitator, sometime comedienne, and full-time masseuse. A quick-to-anger Czech painter-actress lived on the first; she painted murals all over the halls. For a time the building was managed by a guy whose prize possession was a portrait of a mass murderer that he kept in his closet – hidden so as not to frighten his dates (or not to warn them). And there was a gay guy who supposedly was invited to any orgy that Madonna supposedly organized, and a dark diminutive lesbian who had a tempestuous off-and-on affair with the sexually ambiguous Marilyn comedienne-masseuse. Everybody but Steve was writing screenplays. More people were awake at midnight than at noon, herb smells drifted through the halls, and sexual crises and climaxes might be

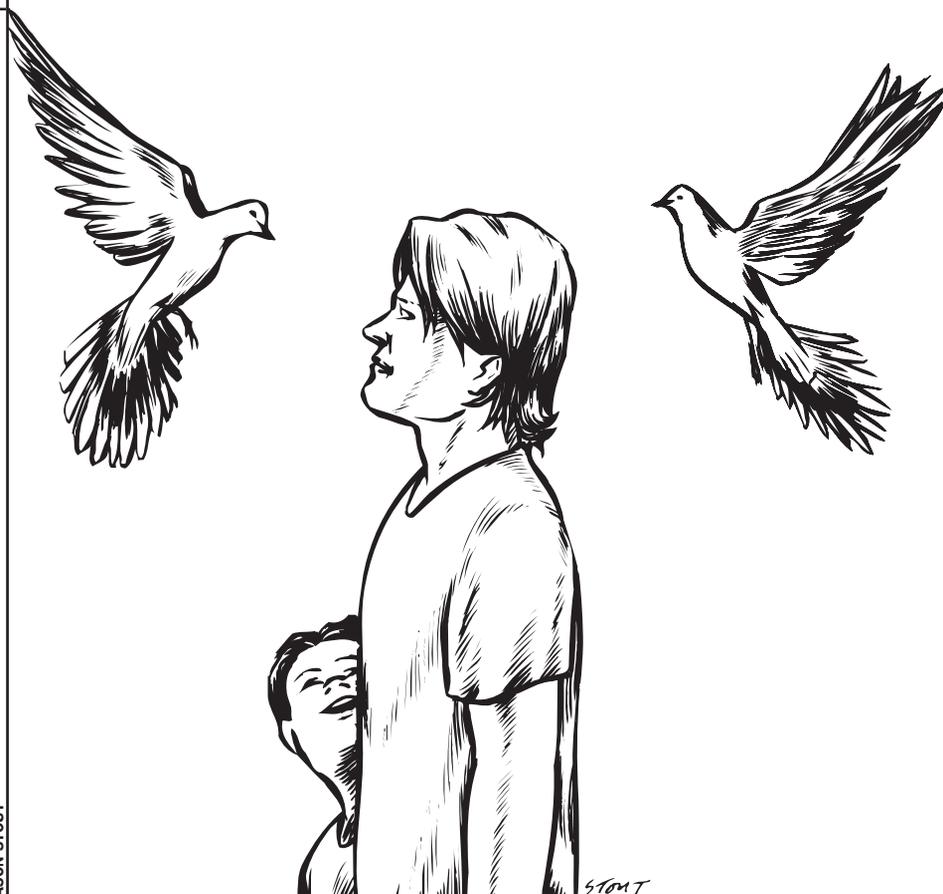
heard through the walls (or from the roof) at any time. There were also ghosts. Any building in which Steve and I were the sanest renters would naturally harbor ghosts.

That building appears in Steve's novels as the Hotel Hamblin. I'm here to tell Steve's readers that you might think he's exaggerating about the Hamblin, but, no, he's simply transformed its contexts; he's not exaggerating about its inhabitants.

I've appeared in Steve's books too, by name. (I'm afraid he didn't exaggerate about me either.) He appeared in my last published novel, not by name. Which is to say: Our friendship crossed the line from life to fiction; we became a part of each other's creations, which gives us each a special stake in the worth and fate of each other's work. But in what I'm about to say concerning his most recent books, remember what I wrote before I met him: "Erickson is brilliant. Period."

Reading Steve's last book, *The Sea Came in at Midnight*, I knew he'd broken through to another level of fiction. His characters had an immediacy, an authority, an integrity in the relationship of voice to action found only in the finest novels. A shining moon-glow passion radiated off each page, as though the book itself, quite apart from its writer, engaged the reader in a passionate and dangerous relationship in which everything is at stake. That novel, its characters and situations, sets up the new novel, published this month: *Our Ecstatic Days*. (You can read *Our Ecstatic Days* without having read *The Sea Came in at Midnight* – but why deny yourself the adventure of the first voice of the duet?)

Our Ecstatic Days is that rarest of creatures: a great novel. The first great American novel of the 21st century. What is the last novel I would unequivocally call great? Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*. The last American great novel? I don't want to start literary fights, so let's just say I'd have to go back a long way – decades – to find anything that approximates the achievement of *Our Ecstatic Days*.



JASON STOUT

Its pages turn themselves because Erickson has discovered the secret of creating a novel that is not a book but an organism. Proust did it. Joyce almost did it. Faulkner sometimes did it. Marquez did it. Yes, that's the company Steve's keeping in *Our Ecstatic Days*.

Let me be clear. This isn't a book review. This is a testimonial. I'm not about to summarize the story, and anyway, it defies linear summary, for this book enters into the core of capital-"M" Metaphor – Metaphor as a psychic reality that connects and binds all outer and inner realities. A sentence such as "She smells the dreams like wet ash upon the mattress" is set in a context that makes it not a sweet line of surreal poetry but a practical description of a real moment. In a surreal poem you dig but don't understand the line; in Steve's book you know exactly what it means. Steve works in labyrinths of metaphor. For instance: "Glowing melody-snakes that each sing their own song, swarms of them singing cacophonously in an apocalyptic lake that laps at the walls of The

Hamblin" – and as I read I'm certain I too saw/heard them when I lived there, and *that's* weird, and I write in the margin: "How does he conceive these things? We've known each other 20 years and I have no idea. He never discusses it, I never ask."

The incredible leaps of form that Steve accomplishes ... the passion that shines from every page ... the psychic links he makes between the Tiananmen massacre and 9/11 ... and it's so fucking primal, it's about love and God and chaos on the most primal of levels: the love of parents for their children, and the need of children for their parents. Things don't get more primal than that. In *BookForum* some ninny reviewer (who praised the book!) summarized the message of *Our Ecstatic Days* as "Lord, protect my child." But may it not be said that "Lord, protect my child" is the very basis of civilization? Especially when you realize that all the children are yours, if you are to call yourself civilized – every last one is your responsibility. I wrote up one page's margin

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and down another's: "You can protect your children from all but three things: You cannot protect them from who you really are. You cannot protect them from who they really are. And you cannot protect them from history. Aside from that - knock yourself out. And yet we try. We must. But the very civilization that was created to protect them is what now endangers them beyond all powers of protection, so our civilization has betrayed its purpose. And we all know that. And we're afraid." That's what *Our Ecstatic Days* is all about. Steve writes: "And so God's just one more Predator out there I have to protect my kid from."

A note I made toward the end of my second reading: "Often I'm moved to chills, often I'm thrown back on the essence of my own despair, a despair I've kept so private that I didn't know it even existed until page X. Fuck you, man. Thanks a lot. Now I know the inner address of a despair that I've kept secret from myself, and it might have stayed secret from everything but the grasp of great art, and there you went and did it, and, my brother, maybe one day I'll thank you for it, but not this day." But that was another night. This night, I thank him. For that's what great literature does: You don't lose yourself; you are thrown back upon yourself, stripped layer by layer until you must face what you'd much rather not, and so find yourself. That is when a great book asks you to be as brave as it is. That is its gift: A great book calls you past despair to dive back into the quick of your life. That moment of diving back is what Steve means by the "ecstasy" of his title.

"I promise you," writes Steve, "I absolutely promise you, that most of what we call, oh, history, happens for reasons that have absolutely nothing to do with why we think it happens."

By the time he makes that statement, toward the end of this masterpiece, you have no choice but to get it. You might not like getting it, but you get it. His characters are so savvy and so clueless. They understand everything but what's right in front of them. Just like you and me. We don't want to admit that, but Steve makes us admit it ... or ... you may make every rational excuse for dismissing his book and run, not walk, for the nearest exit supplied by your coziest complacency. For that's something else my friend will teach you, as he has taught me: just how many complacent exits you employ.

Beware your feelings about this book. For they will reveal you. That's what a great book does. Steve cautions (and you'd best listen): "You're surrounded by signs. Ignore none of them." ■

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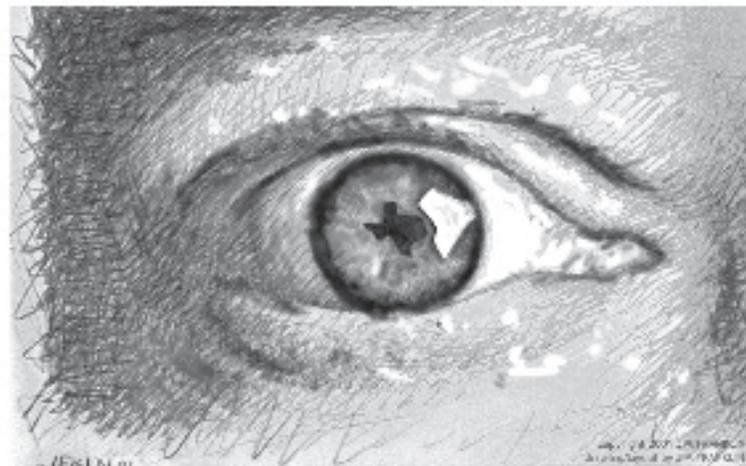
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Margo Sawyer, *Blue* (detail), 1998, Wood, tempera, gold and silver leaf on glass, Dimensions variable



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A FIRST FOR AUSTIN ART

NEW CITY HALL FILLED WITH LOCALS' VISUAL ARTISTRY BY RACHEL KOPER



Anne Elizabeth Wynn welcoming visitors in front of Young-Min Kang's *Hillerova's Faces*

Simply titled, "The 2005 Art Exhibition" made its debut in Austin's new City Hall on Thursday, Feb. 24. Anne Elizabeth Wynn, the city's first lady, worked hard to put together this showcase of paintings, sculptures, and photographs by 71 local artists, and with her personal knowledge of Austin artists and galleries, she's built a strong group show. It will remain on display in the building for a year, and visual art community leaders such as the Gerald Peters Gallery, David Berman, Mark Smith, Bill Davis, Sam Coronado, Judith Taylor, Art Amici, Mexic-Arte Museum, Wally Workman, Plan B Gallery, and others have taken responsibility for keeping City Hall looking good for the entire period. This level of cooperation bodes well for Austin's growing visual art presence.

Some pieces hang in the lobby, others in conference rooms, and some cubicles get blessed with colorful paintings. Some of the most successful works are the larger ones, which relate nicely to the bold architecture. The large soft sculpture *Pleasure*, by Kim Gaul of Austin Green Art, has tubular white appendages raining



RACHEL KOPER

Kim Gaul's *Pleasure* (l), dripping from balcony to balcony, Virginia Fleck's *Thank You, Hub, and Evil Eye* coloring the wall (r).

down three stories from balcony to balcony, the large glass windows nicely lighting the pink-tipped long arms. It's a whimsical piece, kind of fleshy but abstract, a big, approachable stuffed animal.

Bouncing across the tall limestone pillars in the lobby are three large, bright flower shapes by Virginia Fleck of D Berman Gallery. *Thank You, Hub, and Evil Eye* are made out of recycled plastic bags, cut and reassembled in a quiltlike pattern. Also recycling material is Faith Gay of D Berman Gallery; her *Seven Rocks for City Hall* uses polka-dot stickers, plastic, and tape to form groovy rocks. Tucked into a bland wood shelf, these bold bits of color are refreshing in the conference rooms.

Many of the paintings are tasteful and fine but have less impact in the cavernous building due to their intimate size. I was pleased to see the inclusion of the mural *Think/Thank*, by Nathan Nordstrom. His old-school graffiti "sloke" style transfers nicely to the gallery walls. He paints strictly on commission these days, and it's comforting to think that Anne Elizabeth Wynn knows this.

The artists I spoke with all applaud this new initiative. I hope that this is a trend: developing exhibition spaces and the necessary insurance to provide the public with glimpses of the art talent available in Austin. This city hall belongs to all of us, and now I can really recognize that. Drop by.

ON THE FUNDING FRONT

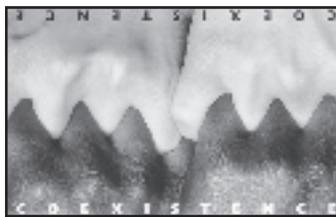
Spring has come early to some Austin arts institutions. They've seen lots of green sprouting in their yards the last few months. The symphony, Long Center, and Blanton Museum of Art have all announced high-dollar donations – signs that the long freeze on cultural philanthropy has begun to thaw? Could be.

The Austin Symphony Orchestra received \$1 million – one of the largest single contributions that it has ever received – from Frederick and Marilyn Addy. The donation, which will go into ASO's endowment fund, will underwrite appearances by major guest artists for the symphony's classical concerts.

The Long Center for the Performing Arts continues to inch closer to its \$77 million goal, with another \$2.1 million raised by the center between November and January. New center trustee Jeri DeAngelis, executive director of the Austin Chamber Music Center, and her husband pledged \$250,000. Nancy and Bob Inman upped their support from \$250,000 to \$500,000. The Austin Community Foundation contributed \$100,000, four anonymous gifts added another \$350,000, and more than \$222,000 in gifts and pledges came in through the Notable Women fundraising effort organized by Austin businesswoman Vickie Roan.

The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation has given \$250,000 to the Blanton Museum of Art to fund a classroom in the Education and Visitor Pavilion of its new two-building complex at MLK and Speedway. The classroom will be dedicated to art activities for children and families. The museum has raised almost \$72 million of the new facility's \$83.5 million cost. – R.F.

CULTURE FLASH!



As of this Sunday, March 6, look to the shores of Town Lake for more

than the usual civic bustle and natural beauty; look for a **dialogue about diversity and tolerance** among the peoples of this planet, via an unusual outdoor art exhibition from Jerusalem. **The Coexistence Exhibition** features 36 images of just that, coexistence, as interpreted by artists from across the globe and rendered on billboard-sized panels. Launched by Museum on the Seam, an institution in Jerusalem that promotes dialogue and understanding, the exhibition raises questions about how we live with one another and respond to one another's differences. It lands in Austin as part of Light/The Holocaust & Humanity Project, the new community initiative by Ballet Austin and the College of Education at UT-Austin to promote tolerance and education about the Holocaust. The arrival of the exhibition will be celebrated at Auditorium Shores from 2-5pm on Sunday, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring Mayor Will Wynn, Museum on the Seam curator Raphie Etgar, and community leaders at 3:30pm. For more information, visit www.balletaustin.org/light.

Heather L. Johnson is relaunching **"Cracks in the Pavement: Gifts in the Urban Landscape"** this year and **wants even more local artists** to create small, site-specific artworks that can be left around

the city to be discovered, taken, and kept by Jane and Johnny Q. Public. ("In Search of the Wild Art," June 18, 2004, austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2004-06-18/arts_feature.html.) She's calling for works made specifically with the relationship between artwork and environment and the experience of the viewer upon encountering the art in the landscape in mind. Works must be smaller than 10 by 10 by 10 centimeters and ready to install by June 3. Artists must install their own work and provide images of it installed for the Cracks in the Pavement Web site. Proposals must be e-mailed to artists@cracksinthepavement.com or mailed to: Cracks in the Pavement, 1405 Alguno, Austin, 78757-3301 by Monday, March 21. For more information, write info@cracksinthepavement.com or visit www.cracksinthepavement.com.

Belated congratulations to the comic wizards of the **Latino Comedy Project** for their profile on the nationally syndicated *American Latino TV*. The segment, broadcast on KEYE on Sunday, Feb. 13, packed a lot in four minutes, showing several clips from the troupe's performances and videos as well as interviews with LCP members. See for yourself at the company Web site, www.lcp.org.

The **Austin Fine Arts Festival** has "25 to watch" for 2005. That's the number of local artists and artisans chosen to show at "Art & Soul," as this year's festival is titled. Out of 700 submissions, the jury of Austin gallery owners, artists, and art professors tapped a total of 220 artists for the fest, which takes place Saturday, April 2, and Sunday, April 3, 11am-6pm, in and around Republic Square Park. For a full list of artists, visit www.austinfineartsfestival.org. – Robert Faires

DO IT YOURSELF BIENNIAL

HOW TO SHOWCASE ALL THE GREAT ART IN TEXAS ON A SHOESTRING BUDGET BY ROBERT FAIRES

The slide didn't look like much. On it were a couple of long black metal armatures, like those on a typical desk lamp, in front of plain vanilla walls. On the end of each armature was a small video screen, but as the screens were turned toward each other in the slide, only one was visible. It showed a human hand. That was it.

The jurors for the Texas Biennial didn't take much time looking at the image. There just didn't appear to be much need, and considering that they had to plow through more than 3,000 slides before they could call it a day, they needed to move on. The consensus was no, that this work didn't make the cut, and they were on to other slides. But Sara Kellner, executive director of DiverseWorks ArtSpace in Houston, called a halt to the judging and told her fellow jurors that they needed to reconsider the work from her home city. She was familiar with the artist, Serena Lin Bush, and had seen the piece in person. She knew that on the screens were hands signing to each other. Kellner's personal knowledge of the artist and the work made all the difference in the jurying of the show. As a result, visitors to the 2005 Texas Biennial, opening this week and running through March at five Austin galleries, will have the chance to experience Serena Lin Bush's *Speak Easy* for themselves.

You know, there's something reassuring about a statewide exhibition for Texas artists having such a personal touch in the selection process. It speaks to the character of the state, to the idea that even in the rarefied

THE WINE & CHEESE THANG

It wouldn't be an art exhibition without an opening reception, and the Texas Biennial is offering one for each venue. Alas, the first one, at the Dougherty Arts Center, was the night before this issue hit the streets, but you can still catch the rest over the following three nights. - R.F.

Thursday, March 3, 7-10pm
Eastside Artist Coop and Camp Fig

Friday, March 4, 7-10pm
Bolm Studios

Saturday, March 5, 7-11pm
Gallery Lombardi

realm of art, Texans will still speak up for one another, take a stand for someone they know to be of quality. According to Gallery Lombardi's Rachel Koper, one of the Austin gallery directors who has helped get this Texas Biennial off the ground (there have been predecessors, but more on that later), being able to say a few words about submissions was an important consideration. "I felt very strongly that it should be an open jury process," she says, "and that we should talk and we should pitch and if we knew something about the artist that we should [share that] instead of having this anonymous, quiet, tally-by-number thing." That attitude has a real Texan ring to it, but it also speaks to the fact that this biennial was being organized from the ground floor, by people



The 12 Texas Biennial jurors winnowed the field of submissions from 670 artists to 100 artists, then from that 100 to the 36 finalists. "Death by slides" is what Sara Kellner and Rachel Koper called it.

who make the art as well as show it, whose hands are calloused and stained with paint and who know intimately the sweat in the studio and the difficulty of getting recognition for one's work. They needed to have their say "because we are an artist-managed group instead of an institutional thing," adds Koper. "It's about getting to know each other, as artists from other cities but also as gallery people from other cities."

Other Texans had tried: at the Contemporary Arts Museum in Houston in 1988 and at DARE in Dallas in 1993, but neither effort ever made it to a second exhibition, and the biennial name had been sitting abandoned for a decade. Joseph Phillips of Bolm Studios says that he and one of his partners, Shea Little, had been joking around about the lack of a statewide biennial and the idea that they should start one. But the joke seemed a lot less funny when Arturo Palacios of the Dougherty Arts Center and Jon Lawrence of the Eastside Artists Coop came over and said they wanted to do a big juried show. They decided to go statewide because, as Phillips puts it, "Texas art has a distinct feel to it, especially the younger stuff that's coming out." So, hey, why not go for a Texas Biennial? Camp Fig and Gallery Lombardi signed on with Bolm, the DAC, and the EAC, and the five venues began plotting their version of the big Lone Star art show.

Being as these were all small, mostly independent art spaces, funding was an immediate concern. While they spent months seeking private sponsorship, big money was not forthcoming. As a result, they had to ask for artists to pay a \$30 fee to submit their work for consideration, a decision that has earned the organizers some heat from artists across the state. But Phillips insists, "There's no way we could have done this if we hadn't had a slide entry fee. It hurts to

say that, but it's the truth." They're hopeful that when they do this again – and they vow to do it again – the fact that they've pulled it off once will make it a little easier to shake money from the tree.

But that's the hazard of the do-it-yourself biennial, and this is nothing if not a DIY enterprise. Representatives of all five galleries agreed to serve on the jury, as well as to put out the word for submissions and find jurors from across the state who could help them ensure that the exhibition was truly representative of all of Texas. Phillips: "We had a basic understanding [of what was out there across the state] – we go to Houston and San Antonio and Dallas to see shows – but we didn't have a real, in-depth knowledge of what was going on in those cities, so we tried to get a sampling of jurors from around the whole state that could vouch for their home scene and say, 'You know, I know that guy. His work is good.'"

According to Koper, finding someone from the western tip of the state proved the most challenging. "When I called the El Paso Museum of Art and asked for suggestions for potential jurors, they laughed at me. She said, 'Someone from Austin is calling El Paso?' The response was really positive, but there was also shock, like this had never happened."

Supplementing the Austin crew (Phillips, Little, and Jana Swec of Bolm; Palacios of the Dougherty; Lawrence of the Coop; Koper of Gallery Lombardi, and Michael Sieben and Allison Sands of Camp Fig) were artist and writer Bill Davenport of Houston, Sara Kellner of DiverseWorks in Houston, Hills Snyder of the Sala Diaz Gallery in San Antonio, Ben Fyffe of the El Paso Museum of Art, Benito Huerta of the Gallery at UT-Arlington, artist Jimmy Pena from Corpus Christi, and artist Jeff Wheeler of Lubbock. They all came into town for the jurying, with



Harvest, by Celia Eberle



Speak Easy, by Serena Lin Bush



The Gathering II: Evening, by Peat Duggins

local art patrons providing housing. The process took place in the Dougherty Arts Center theatre, where prints were laid out on 40 tables covering some 2,000 square feet. Then there were more than 3,000 slides to view.

Phillips recalls, "We did a quick run-through, so we could gauge the feel and see what was out there, then we did another run-through and did a majority vote. It took eight votes to get to the next round. We took it from 670 artists to 100 artists."

Koper says that in the first round jurors chose artists rather than individual pieces. "We looked for consistency of presentation and style, and we narrowed it to 100 artists, which was actually 300 pieces. Then the second day, we went in and narrowed it down to 36 artists and about 70 pieces. 'Death by slides' is what Sara Kellner and I called it."

The final 36 artists come from a dozen Texas cities, but almost half of them live and work right here in the capital city, a fact that no doubt will raise a few eyebrows outside the city limits. "It's definitely Austin-heavy," Phillips admits, "but the pool that entered was also Austin-heavy." Statistics at the ready, Koper adds, "Two hundred seventy-five people [entered] from the Austin area. Fourteen were chosen. Out of the 90 from Houston, seven got in. So it's interesting to look at that ratio. San Antonio had four out of 46 [selected], so they actually had a higher ratio of accepted entries than anyone else."

Bolm Studios partner Jana Swec thinks the Austin jurors were actually tougher on the local artists than on those from other cities. "You knew more about their work," she says. "There were a couple of artists that I really like but I didn't wind up voting on because the pieces they submitted I didn't think were their strongest pieces. It's interesting. It made me look at a lot of people's work in a different way than I had been and judged it more harshly than I had been."

The flip side of the experience for the Austinites was the kick they got seeing how the jurors from other cities responded to Austin artists. "We all know Peat Duggins' work because of the Fresh Up Club," says Koper, "and it was really great to have all the out-of-town professionals look at it and go, 'Wow, that's great!' Jonathan Marshall, Peat Duggins, Jonas Criscoe - just emerging on the Austin scene, but all of us have been interested in their work and liking their work. These are young guys who really don't have representation yet, and it was great to see the hands shoot up from Houston, you know. There was a lot of unanimous feeling that, 'Oh, wow, that's great,' regardless of how old these guys are."

"It was interesting to see what people liked and what people were turned on by," adds Swec. "And it was interesting to see how well-rounded the show turned out because of the different styles everyone liked."

Indeed, the 2005 Texas Biennial has a real balance to it, of cities, of materials, of styles, of sensibilities. You probably couldn't look at any of it and see this state in it. But look at the people who put it together and the work they did, the heart they put into it, the personal touches, and you can sure see Texas all over. ■

The 2005 Texas Biennial runs through March 30 at five Austin art spaces: Bolm Studios, 5309 Bolm #10; Camp Fig, 305B E. Fifth; Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd.; Eastside Artist Coop, 2109 Cesar Chavez; and Gallery Lombardi, 910 W. Third. For more information, call 397-1469, e-mail info@texasbiennial.com, or visit www.texasbiennial.com.

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THE MAN WHO WOULD BE SWING

A NEW PLAY GIVES RAY BENSON THE CHANCE, FINALLY, TO CHAT WITH THE KING, BOB WILLS BY BARRY PINEO

THEATRE

Any Texas schoolchild will tell you that Texas was a republic well before it was a state, and the independent, hearty spirit that sets Texans apart is as alive today as when pioneers defended the walls of that tiny mission against Santa Anna's army.

Writer Anne Rapp is Texan through and through, born and raised on a farm in West Texas, and while Ray Benson is, as he says, "a Jewish kid from Philadelphia," he looks and sounds like what many outside the state imagine a Texan to be: big, burly, bass-voiced, a presence much larger than life. For the uninitiated, Benson, along with his band Asleep at the Wheel, is the foremost modern purveyor of Western swing, that joyful, exuberant dance music so closely identified with the fiddle and the steel guitar. Together, Rapp and Benson have penned a tribute to Bob Wills, the originator of Western swing, whose 100th birthday will be celebrated on March 6. I'll let them tell you why.

Ray Benson: Right here in this room, Casey Monahan of the Texas Music Office told me, "Bob Wills is having his hundredth birthday next year." And I went, "Oh shit. I gotta do somethin'." Because, you know, that's what Asleep at the Wheel is known for. I was going to do another Bob Wills tribute album, but I thought, "I can't get this album ready by March 6. What can I do?" We thought about a big tribute show or a television show, but Anne and I knew it wasn't gonna get done in the way we would want to get it done in the time frame and for the money. So I started thinking about a play. We sat down with Sarah Bird, a great Austin writer who had done a lot of research on Bob. We started talking about the time that I went to meet him, long ago. We had just put out our first record, and they wheeled



(l-r): Marco Perella, Elizabeth McQueen, Ray Benson, and Jason Roberts

him out, he's in a wheelchair. He was kind of slumped over, and they said, "He's not feeling well, we're going to take him back to his room." And that night he had a stroke, and he died two years later.

Anne Rapp: And he never spoke another word after that stroke.

RB: So I never got a chance to talk with him. And Sarah says, "There's your play. It's the conversation you never got to have."

AR: And we set it on a ride to Tulsa. What better place to do it than on the bus traveling? Ray had some questions he wanted to ask Bob, and he gets a few answers. And we find out Bob had some questions for Ray, and Bob gets a few answers.

RB: And it's historically accurate, so whatever scene we're playing, the music would have been played in that time period.

AR: In the course of it we learn the history of the songs that Bob played and wrote. It's not really a traditional play. And it's not really a traditional musical, because in a traditional musical, the music is written for the story. We hear some of Bob's songs, and some of them just underscore the scenes.

Austin Chronicle: So if this isn't a traditional musical or traditional play, what is it?

AR: We're doing our own little – it's more of a, it's like a musical or something.

AC: [Laughter.] It's a musical!

RB: Like a play and a musical!

AR: It's our own thing.

RB: I'd hate to see that written. A musical by Anne Rapp.

AR: That sounds awful.

RB: Just as long as you credit it to her.

[Considerable laughter.]

AR: And with this music, we were halfway there when we started. It's so powerful. But the other half is trying to show his amazing history and his connection with Ray.

RB: And how important he was to Texas and to Texans.

AC: I get the sense that, when you almost got to talk with him, you felt some kind of torch being passed.

RB: At the time I was 22 years old, so it never really sank in until much later. And sometimes people ask me, "How can a kid, a Yankee from Philadelphia, be carrying the torch of Bob Wills? You have to be born here." And I say, well, that's sort of like saying Van Cliburn can't be playing classical musical 'cause he's from Fort Worth.

AC: You both obviously have a great passion and love for your subject. Why do you feel this is so important to Texas and to Texans?

RB: This music really started to germinate during the 1800s, when the fiddle was what I call the lead guitar.

AR: The frontier fiddle, that was the main instrument when this area was settled.

RB: Because you could carry it easily and there were thousands of them made. Texas fiddling is its own little genre, it's not bluegrass, it's not old-time, it's not Appalachian. Marry that with the minstrel tradition, medicine shows, Mexican corridos, mariachis, those "Ah-haas!!" That's what's called a *grito*, it's what the Mexicans did when they vocalized, and still do today. Then you take the New Orleans-Mississippi Delta blues and what you call field hollers. Poor white



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music photos by Jana Birchum opening sunday march 6
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people would work with black people and be exposed to that culture every day, and that was the case with Bob. He was pickin' cotton, being exposed to this whole other culture. Add to that the popular music on the radio. You gotta think, in 1915, when Bob was 10, radio was just coming in.

Another thing about Bob is that his career follows the emergence of Texas from its rural beginnings to the industrial state it is now, based on oil-rich land. From the ranch dancing and bar dancing of an agrarian, rural economy to ballrooms. The oil started gushing and people all of a sudden had electricity, and they electrified their guitars. Bob Wills was in essence a jazz, blues, big-band leader who happened to start out in the string band tradition of Texas and then metamorphosed into this thing that is Bob Wills, this incredible form of music, which is probably the only original form of music that ever came out of Texas. When I play people video of Bob, they go, "Holy shit!" He was unbelievably dynamic. He was the Elvis Presley of his day. In an era when singers crossed their legs and sat there or just stood up and sang, he was prancing around like a peacock. Bob Wills was the antithesis of the white swing-band tightass, and here he was in a cowboy hat.

AC: So the history of Bob Wills is expressed in his music. And it's the history of Texas as well.

RB: Exactly. It's my history.

AR: Yours, too.

A Ride With Bob: From Austin to Tulsa runs March 3-6, Thursday-Sunday, at the State Theater, 713 Congress. For more information, call 866/443-8849 or visit www.gettix.net.

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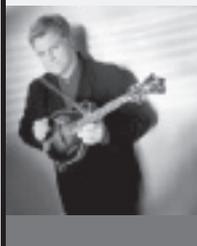
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Collating the Underexposed

CHRIS NICHOLAS AND AUSTIN'S STAPLE!
INDEPENDENT MEDIA EXPO BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

Got a comic book that's just itching for some attention, something beyond what's provided by your meager circle of ink-stained simpaticos? Feel like you've been snubbed by the popular media and their current graphic-novel hullabaloo? Like you're one of the overlooked multitude laboring in the shadow of *In The Shadow of No Towers*?

Tell it to Chris Nicholas, the man behind STAPLE!: The Independent Media Expo, the event that's providing a meeting place, a marketplace, a showcase for the folks who publish comics and zines and possible literary masterworks out of their own apartments.

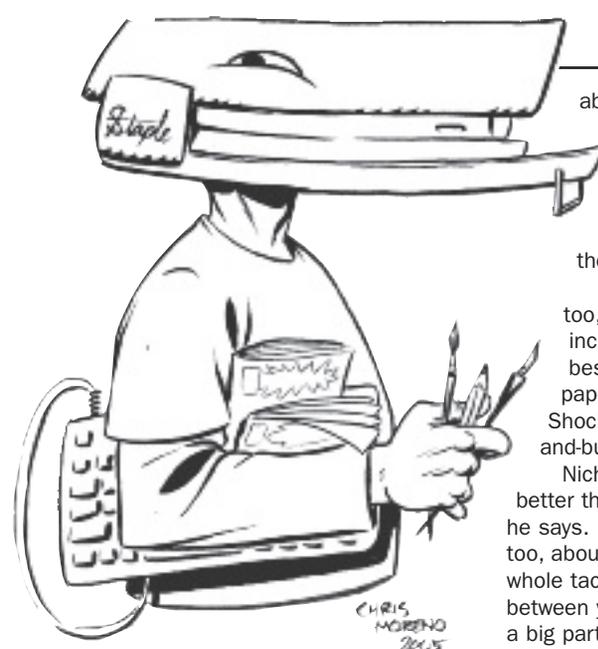
"It was difficult trying to find an audience for *You Chose Right the First Time*," says Nicholas, speaking of his and artist Dave Lamplugh's comic of noirish grit and crime. "And I knew other people doing indie comics who had the same experience. And other small press publishers in town, people who do zines of one kind or another, and we were always griping about where's the outlet or organization for this stuff. And I figured, why not stop bitching about the situation and actually do something?"

Nicholas, an affable guy who looks like somebody's just-out-of-rehab uncle, takes another drag from his second cigarette in 10 minutes. Marlboro Lights are what have kept him going through all the planning and organizing and running around.

"I got together with the folks from the Austin Zine Library," he says, "who I met at a MonkeyWrench Books benefit. And John Rubio of the Austin Sketch Group. And I contacted all the indie people I know, and anyone who had connections with any bigger-name comic creators. Anybody I could think of, to try to get this thing going and make it more than just small potatoes."

Terry (*Strangers in Paradise*) Moore is going to be at STAPLE!, signing books as a benefit for the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund. Scott Kurtz, creator of the online phenomenon *PvP*, will be anchoring a webcomics panel (featuring *Sequential Tart*'s Barbara Lien-Cooper, Lea (*Girlamatic*) Hernandez, and Aaron Romo of *Fairview High* fame). And STAPLE! sponsor Austin Books is flying in Shannon (*Too Much Coffee Man*) Wheeler from Portland to lend his aura of local-comics-boy-who's-made-damngood to the proceedings. No, the potatoes don't seem all that small – at least for Austin.

"We've definitely got a good program here," says Nicholas, grinding a darkened butt into his crowded ashtray. "Signings, panels, a chance to meet the creators, a chance to show off what's being done locally." He pulls another Marlboro from the half-empty pack, lights up. "That's the most important part," he says, taking a drag. "The community, the exchange of ideas and publications. We've got a lot of exhibitors for the event – we sold out



"I figured, why not stop bitching about the situation and actually do something?"

– Chris Nicholas

all the tables weeks ago – we've got creators, comics studios, zine publishers, a whole bunch of folks displaying their stuff. It's gonna be great. It's gonna be a party."

It's gonna be a party. At the Elks Lodge? "It's almost impossible, finding an afford-

able venue around here," Nicholas says. "I looked around for two months; everything was either too small or too expensive. Then I found the Elks Lodge listed online, and for my money, they're the best deal in town."

There are a lot of comics online, too, as evidenced by STAPLE!'s own inclusion of them. And aren't those the best deal in town, these days? Aren't paper comics, in this DreamWeaver-and Shockwave-mediated era, a little horse-and-buggy?

Nicholas grins. "The printed stuff looks better than a lot of webcomics out there," he says. "And there's something about paper, too, about holding a comic in your hand. The whole tactile sensation of feeling the pages between your fingers, all that stuff. That's a big part of STAPLE!: the actual, palpable objects that comics are."

"This expo is the biggest thing I've ever accomplished," he continues. "It's been a hell of a learning experience for me, a lot of groping through the dark and figuring out what needed to be done. But everybody's been pitching in – Gary Bartos and Nate Southard. Manton Reece, who designed our Web site. The Zine Library people, everybody, I couldn't even name them all. And the response has been really encouraging, from here and out of town, and, yeah, it's gonna be great. Like I said: It's gonna be a party." ■

STAPLE! happens from 10am to 6pm, Saturday, March 5, at the Elks Lodge, 700 Dawson. Admission is \$5. For more information, see www.staple-austin.org.

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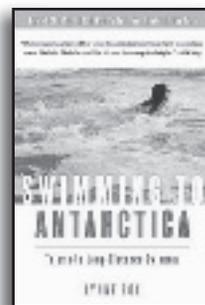
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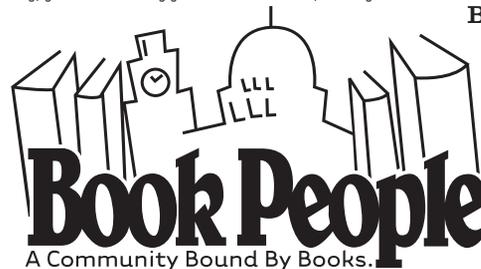
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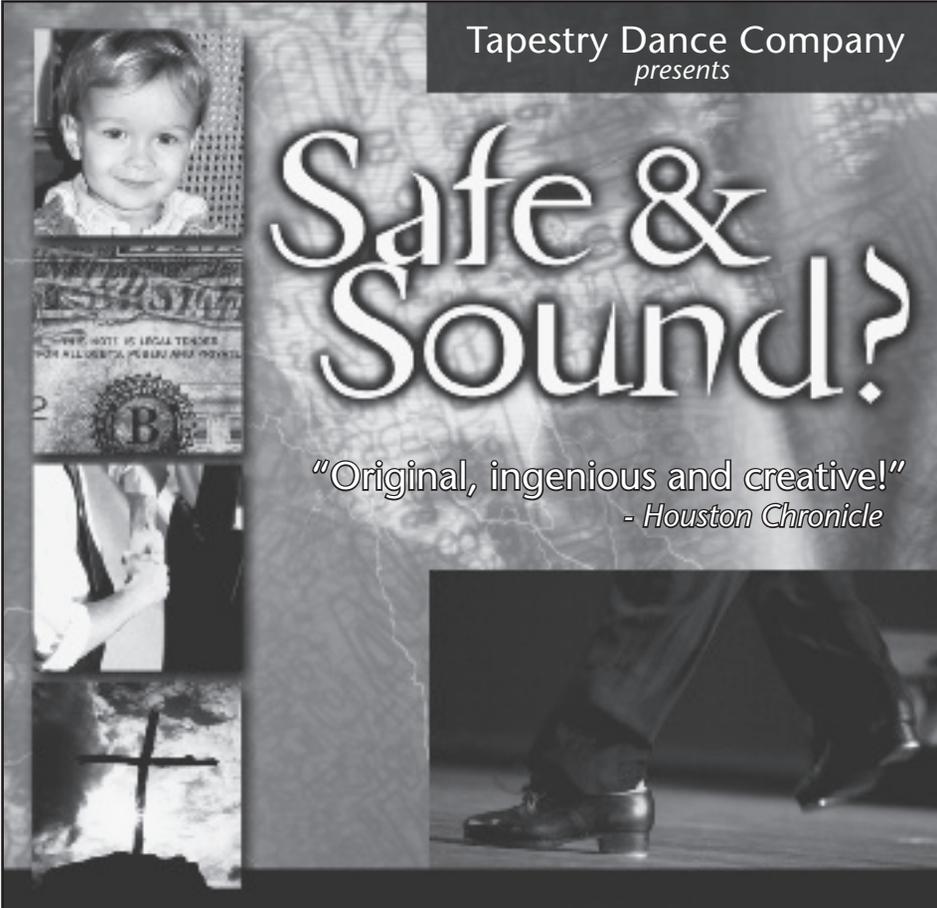
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after a fashion

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER



STEPHEN M. MOSER

OSCAR-RAMA: Preshow on **E!** is definitely a problem these days – almost enough to wish **Joan Rivers** were back, though not quite. We like **Kathy Griffin**, but the routine of the hideous **Star Jones** interviewing all the celebs while Kathy performs lame schtick from above did not work at all. Rumor says that there's been plenty of grumbling about how poorly Star handled the **Grammys** – putting all the focus on herself, yammering about her god-awful wedding, and even making sure her new husband was lurking around in many shots. But it was an especially gruesome **Oscar** moment when Star had the camera zoom in on her **Chopard** jewelry; you could see it was designed to hide some very unpleasant scarring on Star's cleavage. Kathy should have done the interviewing and sent Star home to work on her diction. We bestowed **Beyoncé** with the award for "Best Earrings," though the breastplate of diamonds looked absolutely bulletproof. She beat out **Virginia Madsen's** diamond pendulums and **Halle's** diamond spears. "Best Hair" was tough – **Scarlett Johansson's** wispy 'do was very pretty; we really liked **Penélope Cruz's** beehive (even though it dwarfed her); **Gwyneth's** tresses were beautiful (she looked really pretty all the way around this time) – but we think that overall, **Salma Hayek** mowed 'em all down. "Best Dress" is tough – Gwyneth's was gorgeous, **Renée Zellweger's** was stunning (but the jury's still out on her new dark hair and whether her make-up worked with it), **Emmy Rossum's** dress was lovely, **Catalina**

whats-'er-name was gorgeous, but our award goes to **Cate Blanchett**, who understands glamour like few others. On the downside, **Laura Linney** and **Drew Barrymore** have been expelled from the academy for relying too heavily on stylists who evidently led them down a garden path.

BACK TO SCHOOL: Sat., March 5: **UT** goes all out with Explore UT – an all-day event open to the public that features a myriad of free hands-on activities, performances, demonstrations, and lectures in more than 300 programs, including a full day of fashion-oriented events, among so many other great things to see and do. For complete information, see www.utexas.edu/events/exploreut.

FRENCH (HAIR)DRESSING: To me, the best thing that's come from France, besides the couture, is a hairdresser named **Thibault de Monterno** – but you can call him **T-Bo** for short. Yes, yes, we know what a bad rap the French have gotten in the last couple of years, thanks to you-know-who, but don't even think of calling him a Freedom Hairdresser. He's French and that's one of the best things about him. That and his haircuts. Said one eager client, "I'm a fool for a frog – never seen a bad haircut in France yet." T-Bo doesn't live in Austin, but he is married to an Austin girl in New York, and he became acquainted with Austin while visiting her family. Working out of New York's posh **Pashah** salon, and formerly with **Frederic Fekkai** for many years. T-Bo

now makes an appearance here regularly (about every three months), booking a few days of appointments and has developed a dedicated following. I made an appointment with him to see what all the fuss was about. And now I know. Though he's fairly pricey (haircuts are \$125), the man is a true god of haircutting. For info and appointments, send an e-mail to: tbcuts@aol.com.

SOCIAL DIARY: We certainly are in the midst of post-holiday fervor that promises to continue until it morphs into spring fever. We just saw **Barbara Chisholm's** knock-out performance in her fab one-woman show **Blown Sideways Through Life**, written by Claudia Shear and directed by Dave Steakley, at **Zach Scott**, and also attended the theatre's rockin' **Red Hot & Soul** fundraiser at the **Austin Music Hall** – great food, go-go dancers, music, and a wonderful auction make this event grow larger every year and is one of the most fun charity events of the year. The **Texas Film Hall of Fame** and many **SXSW** delights, of course, are on our plate; the stars will be out in force here in Austin, and we should have tantalizing gossip coming right up.

BIG IS BETTER I can certainly attest to the fine customer service at www.bigshoes.com. This Austin-based business has been online since 1998 offering men's sizes 13 and up, and recently opened their first retail store in the Market District, **Big Shoes**, at

The opening of Cirque du Soleil's **Varekai** was truly a magnificent spectacle to behold – both onstage and from the wonderful **Tapis Rouge Lounge**, where the champagne flowed and the guest-list dazzled. Pictured are (l-r): the Long Center for Performing Arts Executive Director **Cliff Redd**, Austin Film Society's Executive Director **Rebecca Campbell**, **Brilliant's** Lance Morgan, interior designer **Alfred Robinson IV**, huntress/oil heiress **Ashley Mizer**, and the glamorous socialite **Sherri Pullen**.

830 W. Third #1148 (391-9014). I looked into them since I too wear a hard size to find. Despite not having what I was looking for, they utilized their vast resources to help me out. My pleasant experience is hardly an isolated incident; their Web site is loaded with similar testimonials. Big Shoes is another example of former tech execs spinning their creativity into another kind of gold – and another example of the excellent retailing in Austin.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).

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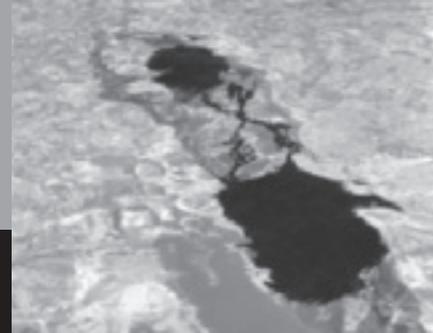


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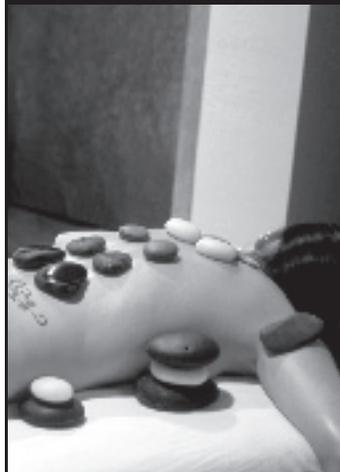
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THE RETURN OF THE FAJITA KING

AFTER 35 YEARS, SONNY FALCON IS STILL GETTING HIS SKIRT-STEAK STORY STRAIGHT BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

The hair and beard are now snowy white and he's maybe a step slower, but whether he's cooking for a party in a friend's back yard or delighting fellow tailgaters at the College World Series in Omaha, Sonny Falcon is once again very much in his element. Falcon retired from the food business more than a decade ago, but he's in come-back mode today. He and son John catered a Buddy Walk fundraiser back in the fall, and later this spring they'll collaborate on a new Fajita King restaurant in fast-growing Kyle. There couldn't be a more fitting location in which to stage a comeback, since Kyle is where Sonny Falcon began his trek toward fajita royalty 35 years ago.

Juan Antonio "Sonny" Falcon moved to Austin from Mercedes in 1959, and one of his early jobs was in the shipping-and-receiving department of the old Austin Meat Company. That was his first exposure to the butchering business. He and his fellow employees sometimes looked for creative ways to prepare and promote throwaway cuts and table trimmings, one of which was skirt steak. "We broiled some fillets of outside skirt that were pretty good, but they never caught on," he recalls of those experiments. In 1962, Sonny married Guadalupe Guajardo and went to work as the meat-market manager in her parents' popular East Austin neighborhood store, Guajardo's Cash Grocery, formerly at 809 Lydia. Guajardo's offered affordable cuts of meat for its Hispanic clientele and also sold some heads (for barbacoa de cabeza) and honeycomb tripe (for menudo). Sonny continued to tinker with his ideas for skirt steak preparations. Though he has since heard all the anecdotal evidence about skirt steak being prepared and called fajitas in the Rio Grande Valley as far back as the 1930s, Sonny maintains that both the dish and the name originated with him.

"I looked at that cut of meat and said to myself, 'It looks just like a belt,'" he says. "The first fajitas I ever saw, I made myself right here in the 1960s." According to Falcon's version of fajita history, he figured his new creation would popularize an affordable cut of meat and attract more business to the family store – if he could just get people to taste it. "Any time dad would cook fajitas in the back yard, all our friends would ask to come over," recalls son John Falcon. "Dad knew he'd come up with something great."

JUST EXACTLY WHAT IS A FAJITA?

The word "faja" is Spanish for belt or girdle and "fajita" is the diminutive form. In original Tex-Mex culinary parlance, fajitas are a dish with roots in the Rio Grande Valley made from a specific cut of meat: skirt steak. Considering the appearance of the meat – a strip about 18 inches long and about one inch thick – and its placement in the beef carcass beneath the heart and lungs, fajita (little belt) is a particularly apt nickname. There are only four skirts per beef carcass, yielding about 8 lbs. of meat. The two outside skirts are the diaphragm muscle from the forequarter and the two inside skirts are the secondary flank muscle from the hindquarter. For many years, butchers included the skirts in the "table trimmings" ground up for hamburger. Inside skirts are more likely to be tough and need meat tenderizer or a marinade of some kind of acidic liquid such as lime juice, beer, or salad dressing. For the utmost tenderness and palatability, Sonny Falcon swears by unseasoned, unmarinated outside skirts. He insists on a hot fire and instructs that butterflied pieces of meat should be turned regularly for six to eight minutes. "If they stay on one side long enough to get grill marks, you're not turning them often enough," says the master. Once the meat is done, cut thin slices against the grain, wrap a few slices in a warm flour tortilla, and serve with salt and hot sauce on the table. That's the genuine article, a real fajita. Everything else is tacos al carbon, chicken girdles, and shrimp belts.

– V.B.W.

Sonny approached powerful family matriarch Doña Soledad Guajardo with his idea to promote the market, and the prescient businesswoman gave him her blessing. He cut a deal to set up a concession booth at a weeklong outdoor event, and his fajitas made their commercial debut at the Dies y Seis celebration in Kyle in September of 1969. Though it was a watershed event in overall fajita



JOHN ANDERSON

According to Falcon's version of fajita history, he figured his new creation would popularize an affordable cut of meat and attract more business to the family store – if he could just get people to taste it.

history, sales of the new dish were hardly an overwhelming success. "We gave away little cards with maps to the store on the back, but I think our biggest night we only made about \$17," Falcon ruefully admits. Undeterred, Sonny began to work rodeos, fairs, and outdoor festivals on nights and weekends, hawking fajita tacos to ever more

continued on p.52

OPENING DAYS

As the *Chronicle* hits the stands today, Austin entrepreneur **John Mackey** and Mayor **Will Wynn** are breaking bread at the opening ceremonies for the new **Whole Foods Market** flagship store downtown at 525 N. Lamar. The opening was preceded by private media tours and public festivities touting the remarkable new store, the crown jewel of Mackey's giant Austin-based health-food grocery chain. Earlier this week, members of the *Chronicle* Food staff inspected all the amazing attributes of the new facility and attended the gala Block Party bash. We'll be sharing our reactions in an upcoming issue.

Whole Foods isn't the only home-grown Austin business celebrating a new location this week. Dinner-and-a-movie theatre-innovators **Tim** and **Karrie League** will unveil their eagerly awaited new outlet, the

Alamo Drafthouse South (1120 S. Lamar), on Monday, March 7, with a week of great film events. Join us at 7pm on Wednesday, March 9, for a special Eat, Drink, Watch Movies screening of the legendary Japanese film *Rashomon* enhanced with an eclectic menu designed by chef **Tyson Cole** of **Uchi** (801 S. Lamar, 916-4808). The \$50 reserved seat tickets entitle guests to an enjoyable evening of award-winning food and film benefitting the **Capital Area Food Bank**, plus a \$25 gift certificate from Uchi. Make reservations online at www.originalalamo.com.

FOOD-O-FILE
BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

EVENT MENU MARCH 4-10

If you've got the most unsightly kitchen in town and want to remodel rather than move, drop by the booth of Austin custom kitchen design firm **Kitchens by Chris Anne** (637-1744, www.kitchensbychrisanne.com) at the **Austin Home and Garden Show** this weekend to enter **Austin's Ugliest Kitchen Contest**. The winner will receive free design consultation and drawings plus generous discounts from various local vendors; Austin Home & Garden Show, Austin Convention Center, March 4-6.

The sixth annual **Explore UT** open house takes place this Saturday. Food-related events, including the Science of Food Production, Food Quality Testing, and Do It 5 Times a Day, will be presented. For more info, www.utexas.edu/events/

exploreut; Mary E. Gearing Hall, UT Campus 11am-4pm, Saturday, March 5.

🍷 Chef **Sean Fulford** of **Zin American Bistro & Bar** (1601 W. 38th #1, 377-5252, www.zinbistro.com) invites new friends and loyal patrons to join him at a monthly Chef's Table dinner featuring a five-course meal with wine-pairing suggestions by **Neil Turner**. The table seats 12 and reserved seats are \$75; 6:30pm, Tuesday, March 8.

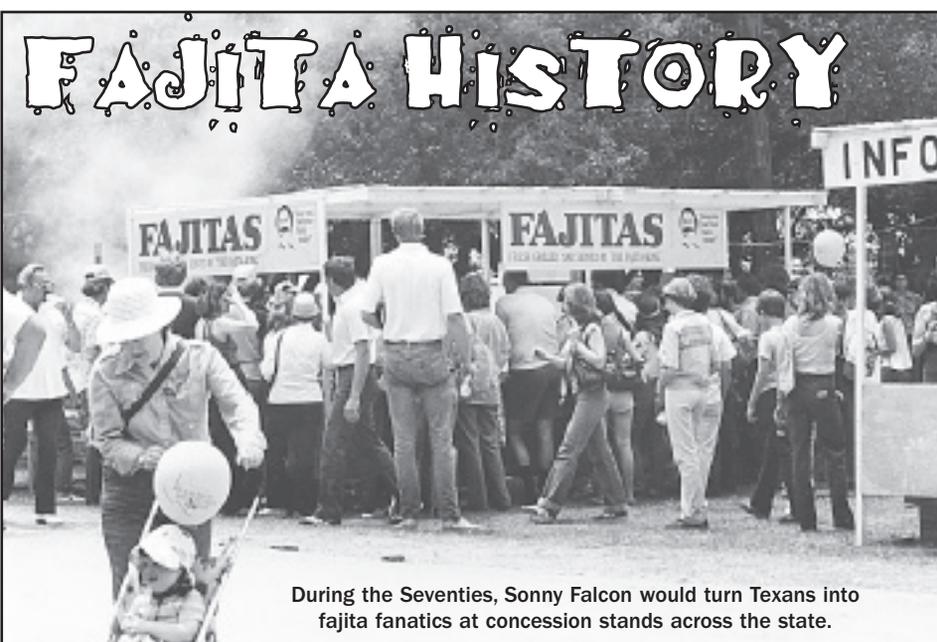
🍷 Concerned about the proliferation of genetically modified foods in the mainstream American food supply? Attend the free screening of a new documentary film, *The Future of Food*, offering "an in-depth investigation into the disturbing truth behind the unlabeled, patented, genetically engineered foods" finding their way onto our grocery shelves. Producer **Deborah Koons Garcia** will present the film and be available for a Q&A. For more info, go to www.saynotogmos.org and www.thefutureoffood.com; Texas Union Theatre, 24th & Guadalupe. 6:30-9:45pm, Wednesday, March 9.

One of the most interesting facets of the American culinary revolution of the past 50 years is our growing fascination with culinary history. It seems the more we learn about the ethnic melting pot that makes up the American table, the more curious we become about regional cuisines and the origin of specific dishes. Texas is the proud home of an authentic regional cuisine, and the provenance of Tex-Mex foods is currently a very hot topic with everyone from academic researchers to cookbook authors to magazine and newspaper food writers. In exploring the history of fajitas, several credible stories emerge, and all of them have roots in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. It only makes sense that several people from the same ethnic group with roots in the same geographic area would come up with similar cooking techniques and names for the raw materials at hand.

The first serious study of the history of fajitas was done in 1984 by Homero Recio as part of his graduate work in animal science at Texas A&M. Recio was intrigued by a spike in the retail price of skirt steak, and that sparked his research into the dish that took the once humble skirt steak from throwaway cut to menu star. Recio found anecdotal evidence describing the cut of meat, the cooking style (directly on a campfire or on a grill), and the Spanish nickname going back as far as the 1930s in the ranch lands of South and West Texas. During cattle roundups, beef were butchered regularly to feed the hands. Throwaway items such as the hide, the head, the entrails, and meat trimmings such as skirt were given to the Mexican vaqueros (cowboys) as part of their pay. Hearty border dishes like barbacoa de cabeza (head barbecue), menudo (tripe stew), and fajitas/arracheras (grilled skirt steak) have their roots in this practice. Fifth-generation McAllen rancher and cookbook author Melissa Guerra heard very similar stories in researching

FAJITA HISTORY

COURTESY FALCON FAMILY



During the Seventies, Sonny Falcon would turn Texans into fajita fanatics at concession stands across the state.

her first cookbook, *The Texas Provincial Kitchen*, and her upcoming work, *Dishes of the Wild Horse Desert*. Considering the limited number of skirts per carcass and the fact the meat wasn't available commercially, the fajita tradition remained regional and relatively obscure for many years, probably only familiar to vaqueros, butchers, and their families.

Fajitas appear to have made the quantum leap from campfire and backyard grill obscurity to commercial sales in 1969. Sonny Falcon, an Austin meat market manager, operated the first commercial fajita taco concession stand at a rural Dies Y Seis celebration in tiny Kyle in September of 1969. That same year, fajitas debuted on the menu at Otilia Garza's Round-Up Restaurant in the Rio Grande Valley community of Pharr, according to *Texas Monthly* con-

tributing editor John Morthland in a 1993 magazine story. Morthland writes that Garza never claimed to have invented the dish, but she did maintain a tradition of grilling skirt steak learned from her grandmother, a restaurateur in Reynosa, Mexico. At the Round-Up, fajitas were served on a sizzling platter with warm flour tortillas and mounds of condiments - guacamole, pico de gallo (chopped fresh onions, tomatoes, peppers, and cilantro), and grated cheese - for making tacos. In the Mexican ranching states that share a border with Texas, a similar dish called arracheras (grilled fillets of skirt steak) has been served for decades, according to cookbook authors Cheryl and Bill Jamison in *The Border Cookbook*.

We pick up the fajita trail in Houston in 1973, when a Rio Grande Valley native named

Ninfa Rodriguez Laurenzo opened a Tex-Mex restaurant on Navigation Boulevard called Ninfa's. She built a restaurant empire on a good bar business and the simple, tasty foods of her Valley heritage, including fajitas, sold as "tacos al carbon" and "tacos a la Ninfa." While Tex-Mex restaurateurs such as Otilia Garza and Ninfa Laurenzo were popularizing fajitas in Houston and the Valley during the 1970s, Sonny Falcon was introducing them to thousands of Anglos and Hispanics alike at his concession stands at rodeos, outdoor fairs, and festivals all over the state.

Perhaps the most unlikely character to spread fajita fame (and blur the real meaning of the word) was German-born chef George Weidmann. Weidmann was the opening chef of the Hyatt Regency in Austin in 1982, and it wasn't long before he recognized the commercial potential of a popular local Tex-Mex dish. The canny chef put "sizzling fajitas" on the menu of the Hyatt's La Vista restaurant, and soon sales of that signature dish made it the most profitable restaurant in the Hyatt chain. Weidmann spent the last 20 years of his career at the Austin Hyatt and was often called upon to travel to other properties to share his fajita secrets (he used the more tender sirloin) with other chefs in the chain. Fajitas remain a Hyatt menu mainstay to this day.

That brings us to the great irony of fajita success: The more popular the dish became, the less likely it was to be made from skirt steak at all. By the mid-1980s, fajitas were a fairly common dish in most Mexican restaurants and would ultimately become a popular Nineties fast-food item, thanks to Jack in the Box and Taco Bell. Increased demand often led Mexican restaurant operators to substitute other cuts of meat, and the addition of grilled items such as chicken, shrimp, and even vegetable "fajitas" blurred the line even further. - V.B.W.

◀ 51 FOOD ★ FAJITA KING

FOOD

appreciative crowds. He created fajita fanatics from Mercedes to Abilene, everywhere from BorderFest in Laredo to AquaFest in Austin. "The first year we'd work an event, some other food concession would be the top earner," says Sonny with pride. "When we came back the second year, we'd be number one." By the third or fourth year, the other booths were invariably serving fajitas, too. When Fajita Cook-Offs came into vogue, Sonny's tender, tasty beef was a perennial winner, although his competitors piled on the condiments and did every-

thing they could to learn his secrets. Sonny Falcon was so personally identified with the dish by the late 1970s that an Austin reporter christened him "The Fajita King," and the apt moniker stuck. (He now owns the trademark on that term. His request for a trademark on the word "fajita," however, was turned down.)

Sonny Falcon is hardly a one-idea kind of guy. In the mid-Seventies, he founded Diaz & Falcon Food Products with a brother-in-law, anticipating the growing market in prepared foods for Hispanic consumers

with conveniently packaged items such as barbacoa de cabeza and chorizo. In 1980, he opened a Fajita King kiosk near the ice-skating rink in Northcross Mall and had a good four-year run there before mall management's taste turned to uniform-clad national fast food chains. After Mrs. Guajardo's death, the various family ventures and properties were divided and sold off, and Sonny got out of the food business for many years.

Sonny Falcon's love for feeding people and his cooking skills never waned, how-

ever. He still has connections with the packing houses that sell the best quality skirt steak and his simple, straightforward cooking techniques still turn out a tender, flavorful fajita. "After the presentation he made to the Chamber of Commerce, everybody in town is thrilled he's coming down," says Kyle Mayor James Atkins. The Fajita King restaurant will be in Kyle's new Center Street Village shopping center and is slated to open in late spring. The kitchen will be open and Sonny and John will be manning the grill. The Fajita King is back! ■

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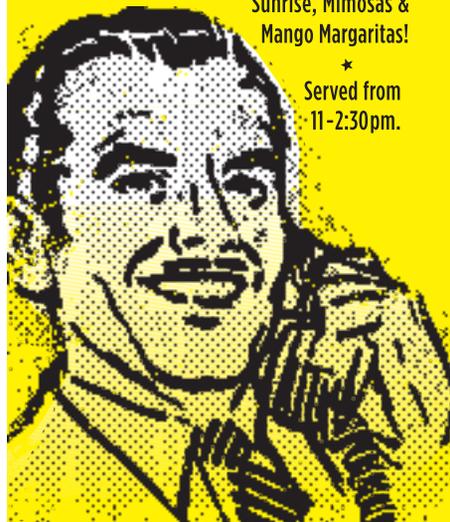
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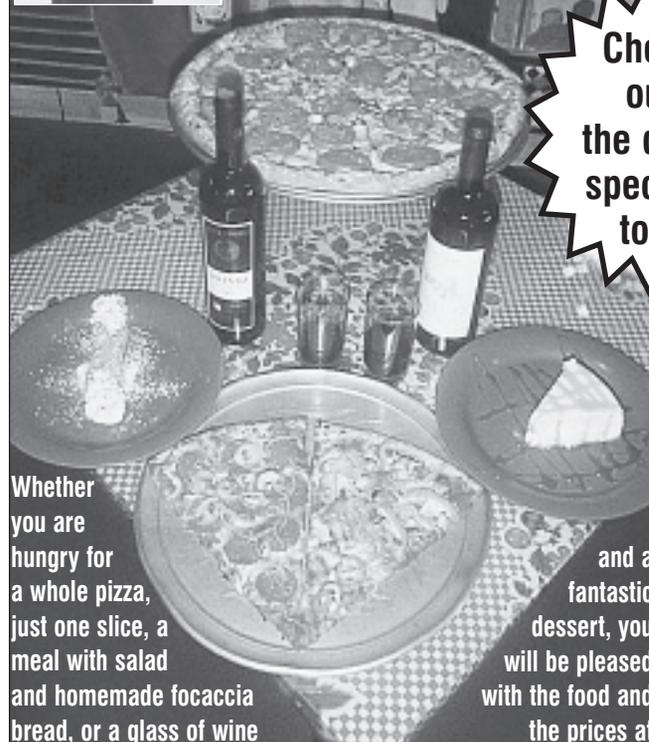


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STEAKHOUSE: SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE The perfect meal here is the 24-oz. Cowboy Ribeye along with their justifiably famous Wedge of Iceberg, slathered with a decadent blue cheese dressing. 300 Colorado, 495-6504 \$\$\$\$

EAST

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: EL CHILE CAFE Y CANTINA The bill of fare features some Tex-Mex dishes, several Interior specialties, and a number of good vegetarian options. 1809 Manor Rd., 457-9900 \$\$\$

SOUTH AMERICAN, TEX-MEX: EL ZUNZAL RESTAURANT A cozy, comfortable place serving Mexican and Salvadoran specialties. We recommend the *arroz con albondigas*, the *mariscadas*, and the *pupusas*. 642 Calles, 474-7749 \$\$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: GENE'S NEW ORLEANS STYLE POBOYS & DELI Shrimp, smoked sausage, oyster, and catfish po'boys share the stage with traditional deli favorites like turkey, ham, and roast beef. Look for daily soul food specials. 1209 E. 11th, 477-6600 \$\$\$

TEX-MEX: JUAN IN A MILLION Find one of our favorite "heart attack" breakfasts, gorditas with chorizo and fried eggs slathered with chile con queso. Arteries may harden around the room, but no one seems to care. 2300 E. Cesar Chavez, 472-3872 \$\$

TEX-MEX: LA MORENITA MEXICAN RESTAURANT By the smells and bright brick and tile interior you can guess what's on the menu, and that's just fine with the regulars. 2944 E. 12th, 472-4841 \$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: LOS COMALES TAQUERIA Expert purveyors of real Norteño-style dried meats and side dishes. Reliable interior dishes such as *puerco en chile colorado* and *pollo en mole poblano* round out the menu. 2136 E. Seventh, 480-9358 \$\$

TEX-MEX: NUEVO LEON RESTAURANT Cavemous, friendly restaurant offering cheap combination plates. Decorated almost exclusively in pink and green, adorned with Texas-shaped mirrors and many Christmas lights. Serious date potential. 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097 \$\$

BARBECUE: SAM'S BBQ Wonderful slow-smoked brisket, chicken, mutton, and hot sausage topped with a sauce that makes the meat sing. 2000 E. 12th, 478-0378 \$

TEX-MEX: TAQUERIA LOS ALTOS Great location, *conjunto* on the jukebox, and some of the best *enchiladas rojas* around. 3301 N. I-35, 236-1219 \$

TEX-MEX: VIVO COCINA MEXICANA Try their affordable San Antonio-style Tex-Mex fare and margaritas on the decks. 2015 Manor Rd., 482-0300 \$\$

LAKE

FINE DINING: EMERALD RESTAURANT This cozy, candlelit cottage with Irish lace curtains and imported Irish bone china has been known for its "continental cuisine" for more than 20 years. 13614 Hwy. 71 W., 263-2147 \$\$\$\$

FINE DINING: HUDSON'S ON THE BEND A lakeside fine-dining fixture for two decades, specializing in game of all descriptions: rabbit to rattlesnake, pheasant to frog's legs. The ambience is romantic, too. 3509 RR 620 N., 266-1369 \$\$\$\$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: SPRINGHILL RESTAURANT The daily buffet always features fried catfish, vegetables, and several choices for non-fish-eaters as well. 13212 W. Hwy. 71, 263-3244 \$\$\$

NORTH

ITALIAN: ANDIAMO RISTORANTE The personal warmth and hospitality of old-style restaurateur Giovanni Coccianta make this a special place to dine. Northern Italian specialties, good soups and homemade pastas, and a wine list coming in March. 2521 Rutland, 719-3377 \$\$\$

STEAKHOUSE: COOL RIVER CAFE Elegant steak house and grill with a ski-lodge atmosphere. Menu items have a Southwestern flair. Full bar available. 4001 Parmer, 835-0010 \$\$\$

JAPANESE, STEAKHOUSE: KOBE JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE Steak, seafood, and chicken come in a variety of freshly prepared grilling combinations with generous servings of appetizers and soup. 13492 Hwy. 183 N. #380, 288-7333 \$\$\$\$

PIZZA: OASIS PIZZA Start with crumbled feta, biting radish slices, and parsley garnishing a basket of hot flatbread. Kabob plates are another option, with tender meats and lightly charred vegetables. 14735 Bratton #105, 251-5777 \$

continued on p.57

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SEAFOOD: PACIFIC STAR RESTAURANT & OYSTER BAR An even mix of fried vs. broiled and a large palette of choices and combos. The perfect spot for seafood with a slightly Cajun lilt. **13507 Hwy. 183 N., 219-5373 \$\$\$**

INDIAN: SHALIMAR Fine Indian, Bangladeshi, and Pakistani cuisines for fans of South Asian dining. Their daily lunch buffet has an enormous variety of chicken, goat, and vegetable specialties. **9310 N. Lamar, 719-3700 \$\$\$**

VIETNAMESE: TÂM DELI & CAFE Authentic and exquisitely crafted Viet noodlehouse fare: particularly strong on appetizers, *bun*, *pho*, and desserts. Nice portions, good service, low prices. **8222 N. Lamar, 834-6458 \$**

TEX-MEX: TAQUERIA ARANDAS #4 Mexican breakfasts, sweet horchata, and the sunny red and white interior could whisk the fog out of anyone's morning brain. **834 Rundberg, 835-4369 \$**

STEAKHOUSE: TEXAS LAND & CATTLE COMPANY Casual, respectable food served up in super-friendly style. You'll leave with a full stomach and green still in your wallet. **14010 Hwy. 183 N., 258-3733 \$\$\$**

ITALIAN: TINTINNIO Contemporary Italian dishes with Mediterranean and European influences. Excellent appetizers, salads, pastas, and risottos. Full bar and many good wines by the glass. **9070 Research, 275-1206 \$\$\$**

STEAKHOUSE: WILDFIRE Cozy steak house and grill with a pleasant atmosphere. The menu features oak-grilled steaks, chicken, seafood, and wild game with an interesting Southwestern twist. **812 S. Austin Ave., 869-3473 \$\$\$**

NORTH CENTRAL

TEX-MEX: FREEBIRD'S WORLD BURRITO Fresh ingredients; a fun, casual atmosphere; and their patented "Bad Ass BBQ Sauce" make this place a must-try. Plan early for the lunch hour, when lines are out the door. **1000 E. 41st, 451-5514 \$**

STEAKHOUSE: J.C.'S BAR & GRILL Superlative cheeseburgers, and steaks that are above average, at slightly less than average prices. You definitely get your money's worth at J.C.'s, and you'll leave with a contented smile. **5804 N. I-35, 407-9393 \$\$\$**

JAPANESE, KOREAN: KIMCHI SUSHI Simply decorated Lincoln Village sushi bar also features a menu of Korean favorites. **6406 N. I-35 #2343, 453-4111 \$\$\$**

PIZZA: THE PARLOR Fine pizza, flowing pitchers, and a punk feel come together amid the strains of a stellar jukebox. **100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965 \$\$\$**

SEAFOOD: QUALITY SEAFOOD It's the place where all your favorite restaurants get their seafood, so you know it's the freshest. Great for lunch or an early dinner. **5621 Airport, 454-5827 \$**

THAI: THAI VILLAGE Enjoy a classy but still affordable meal and very artful food presentation. **6406 N. I-35, 452-3888 \$\$\$**

SOUTH

INTERIOR MEXICAN: CILANTRO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT This tiny restaurant serves tasty Mexican home cooking in a cozy and no-frills atmosphere. Not to be missed are the tacos doblados and the fabulous homemade flan. No liquor, but you can BYOB. **1025 W. Stassney, 707-1207 \$\$\$**

INTERIOR MEXICAN: CURRA'S GRILL The wizards whip up handmade corn tortillas while you sip margaritas. Don't miss the chile rellenos with pecan cream sauce, or for breakfast, the huevos machacado. **614 E. Oltorf, 444-0012 \$\$\$**

CAJUN/CREOLE: EVANGELINE CAFE Don't fill up on beer and the marvelous homemade potato chips with chipotle mayo for dipping, as po'boys, Cajun/Creole specialties, and fried seafood options await. **8106 Brodie #110, 282-2586 \$\$\$**

CHINESE: HUNAN LION Seek out the more unusual fare like Curried Singapore Noodles with shrimp and barbecued pork, the Hunan Soft-Shell Crab, Crispy Tea Smoked Duck, or the Firecracker Prawns. **4006 S. Lamar, 447-3388 \$\$\$**

TEX-MEX: LA FERIA This boisterous hotspot offers free tea with their lunch specials - we suggest the burritos. Live mariachi on Thursdays. **2010 S. Lamar, 326-8301 \$\$\$**

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: LA MEXICANA BAKERY & TAQUERIA Well known for its wide selection of inexpensive pan dulces, empanadas, and *galletas*. If your sweet tooth needs a root canal, try something from the taqueria. **1924 S. First, 443-6369 \$**

CHINESE: MARCO POLO Excellent fresh food, elegant presentation, reasonable pricing, and late hours all combine to give Austin a very San Francisco-like option for dim sum and Cantonese seafood dishes. **2200 S. I-35, 445-5563 \$\$\$**

TEX-MEX: MATT'S EL RANCHO This immensely popular Tex-Mex icon is a food-happy dispenser of giant margaritas, excellent enchiladas, and craving-curling quesadillas. **2613 S. Lamar, 462-9333 \$\$\$**

STEAKHOUSE: OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE Pedestrian fare for those lacking elevated taste. Nothing remotely Aussie about the place except the schtick. Bloomin' Onions are good, but bring your own dipping sauce. **4211 S. Lamar, 383-8024 \$\$\$**

BURGER JOINT: SANDY'S FROZEN CUSTARD & ROOT BEER The cool relief of a chocolate-vanilla swirl cone, the old neon sign, not to mention the sinful smell of decades of sublimely greasy burgers transport us back in time. **603 Barton Springs Rd., 478-6322 \$**

JAPANESE: SHOGUN Specialties of the house include *sukiyaki*, *tempura*, *teriyaki*, *teppanyaki*, *udon*, and *soba*. The menu also features some interesting salads. **1807 Slaughter #225, 292-1580 \$\$\$**

CHINESE: SUZI'S CHINESE KITCHEN Normally priced Chinese food that manages to surpass the mundane, sometimes by a good bit. Vegetarians: Try the eggplant in garlic sauce, but make sure you specify "without pork." **1152 S. Lamar, 441-8400 \$\$\$**

SOUTHWESTERN, TEX-MEX: TEXICAN CAFE This popular venue specializes in El Paso-style variations like stacked Santa Fe enchiladas. Excellent margaritas and Dos XX on tap. **11940 Manchaca Rd., 282-9094 \$\$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: ZAX PINTS & PLATES Find American bistro cuisine here: fluffy crab cakes, classic Caesar salad, and meaty burgers with blue cheese. Also known for a large selection of great beers on tap. **312 Barton Springs Rd., 481-0100 \$\$\$**

UT

JAPANESE: BANZAI SUSHI & GRILL Part of a new wave of world-wise fast-food eateries. Tasty, accessible, and inexpensive Japanese food is offered here. **3914 N. Lamar, 323-2151 \$\$\$**

THAI: MADAM MAM'S Fans and regulars are always borderline obsessed. The authentic Thai homestyle dishes served in this popular campus-area spot are "Mam's" family recipes. **2514 Guadalupe, 472-8306 \$\$\$**

CHINESE: THE MAGIC WOK Cheap lunch and affordable dinners that include soup and egg roll. **2716½ Guadalupe, 474-7770 \$**

AMERICAN CAFE: STAR SEEDS CAFE This institution has been around since the Armadillo days, when hungry cosmic cowboys restored themselves at its booths. Breakfast selections galore. **3101 N. I-35, 478-7107 \$**

FINE DINING: STARLITE White-clothed tables and a menu with Asian and eclectic, continental-cum-New American cuisine mean meals that you can taste and puzzle over without losing interest or appetite midstream. **624 W. 34th, 374-9012 \$\$\$**

THAI: THAI NOODLES ETC. HOUSE A good selection of Thai street foods, including Thai noodle soups, dry noodle bowls, and stir-fry noodles. **2602 Guadalupe, 494-1011 \$**

MIDDLE EASTERN: TOM'S TABOOLEY The kitchen offers tabbouleh, dolmas, baklava, gourmet coffee, and lots of surprising tidbits for lunch and dinner. Pick up some brined grape leaves to cook with at home. **2928 Guadalupe, 479-7337 \$**

TEX-MEX: TRUDY'S A wide range of Tex-Mex with a slightly contemporary twist, and fans are crazy about the chipotle salsa and chips. The half-pound burgers are tasty and massive, and they also offer chicken-fried steaks. **409 W. 30th, 477-2935 \$\$\$**

WEST

ITALIAN: BELLAGIO ITALIAN BISTRO Don't plan on arriving late and having a leisurely dining experience - they like to close the kitchen as soon as the dinner rush starts to slow down. **6507 Jester #105, 346-8228 \$\$\$**

TEX-MEX: HULA HUT Sure, it's got water and the hills, too, but the best view at this Polynesian-styled paradise is of everyone else. Try the Tubular Tacos. **3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 476-4852 \$\$\$**

FRENCH: LA MADELEINE Diners slide their trays down the cafeteria-style line to order quiches, salads, soups, and sandwiches on dense homemade bread and croissants. **3418 N. Lamar, 302-1486 \$\$\$**

AMERICAN CAFE: THE OMELETRY Before there was Magnolia or Kerbey Lane, there was the Omelettry, beloved for its eggs, flapjacks, and home fries. Same as it ever was. **4811 Burnet Rd., 453-5062 \$**

STEAKHOUSE: SALTGRASS STEAK HOUSE The casual, noisy atmosphere makes this an appropriate family steak house. The Denny's-esque menu also offers foods other than steaks, most of which have been heavily breaded, fried, and smothered in cheese. **2300 N. I-35, 238-0091 \$\$\$**

TEX-MEX: SANTA RITA CANTINA Fresh sauces, rotisserie meats, and a friendly atmosphere make this a welcome new addition to Austin Tex-Mex. **1206 W. 38th, 419-7482 \$\$\$**

INDIAN: SAROVAR INDIAN CUISINE This North Austin restaurant offers the most extensive Indian menu in the city, with pages of North and South Indian specialties. **8440 Burnet Rd. #100, 454-8636 \$\$\$**

TAKEOUT: SASHA'S RUSSIAN MARKET This grocery and deli offers a selection of blintzes, fresh-smoked and marinated fish, caviar, top-quality meats, and Russian breads. The daily lunch specials ensure a surprise treat for every visit. **5523 Balcones, 459-1449 \$**

CHINESE: SNOW PEA A couple of the standouts are the spider rolls and the spicy tuna rolls; the hamachi yellowtail has always been unfailingly fresh and succulent. **3706 Jefferson, 454-3228 \$\$\$**

JAPANESE: SUSHI SAKE They take their *sake* seriously, serving premium brands cold (as their makers intended). Second, they have a long sushi bar with some of the most beautiful fish in Austin. **9503 Research #500, 527-0888 \$\$\$**

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JOHN ANDERSON

THIS TOWN IS BIG ENOUGH FOR THE FOUR OF US THERE'S A NEW PLACE TO GET DRUNK, FULL, & FILMICALLY INFORMED, BUT IT'S STILL THE ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE



Just in time for South by Southwest 2005, Tim and Karrie League are unveiling their newest offspring, the 800-seat Alamo South Lamar (1120 S. Lamar). Thoughtfully located just across the parking lot from theatrical outfitter Big Bertha's Bargain Basement and right next door to the South Austin Gym – which is going to come in mighty handy after audiences gorge themselves on Alamo chef John Bullington's (late of Mars) updated menu – the newest spawn-of-Alamo opens Friday, March 4, with a ceremonial ribbon-cutting on the following Tuesday.

Designed by architect Richard Weiss, who also conceived the Alamo's Village, San Antonio, and Houston locations, the new venue sports six theatres with the largest, a 200-seater, boasting the single biggest (non-IMAX) screen in town at some 55 feet. There's also a mammoth parking lot perfectly suited to reformatting as a drive-in theatre via the Alamo's Rolling Road Show inflatable screen.

"The one thing we're really pleased about," says Tim "Too Big" League, "is the largest screen, which is not only big, but silver, too. That'll be our two-projector theatre so that we can do any kind of 3-D and make sure the image is really big and really bright."

Opening week is, not unexpectedly, a cavalcade of special screenings, including a must-see (trust us on this) showing of Brad Bird's *The Iron Giant*, with *Iron* scribe and *Secondhand Lions* director Tim McCanlies on hand; a brace of Richard Linklater's finest; and a screening of horror groundbreaker *Phantasm*, with newly arrived Austin resident and star Michael Baldwin on hand to comfort you if you freak out (evil interdimensional dwarves not included).

Next Stop Nowhere: Meanwhile, back at the Alamo's 409 Colorado downtown location, programmer Kier-La Janisse is bringing in Seattle-based film writer/curator Zack Carlson for I Was a Teenage *Quincy* Punk night, 9:45pm, Monday, March 7, which promises to be the wiggliest nostalgia trip since their Ramones-mania screening of *Rock 'n' Roll High School*. Die-hard punks (read: old) will recall with

a mix of fondness and horror the infamous 1982 episode of Jack Klugman's medical-examiner show, *Quincy*, which posited death by punk rock and reveled in the sort of faux-hawk cheesery that made clueless Eighties television all but tolerable (remember GBH on MTV? ... yikes).

But wait, there's more: Curator Carlson is also bringing in the equally legendary (but nowhere near as Klugmanned) *ChiPS* punk episode, the 1987 ABC Afterschool Special *The Day My Kid Went Punk*, and gobs more. Check out www.drafthouse.com for all the specs. – Marc Savlov

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MIDAQ ALLEY

(EL CALLEJÓN DE LOS MILAGROS)
Fox Lorber Films, \$19.98

The history of love and sex is full of true devotion, betrayal, homosexuality, prostitution, violence, and death. Jorge Fons' 1998 film has all of these, in a sometimes uncomfortable, sometimes unpredictable, but constantly engaging package. Adapted from a novel by Egyptian author and Nobel Prize winner Naguib Mahfouz, it directly follows the lives of three residents of Midaq Alley in Mexico City and indirectly reveals the lives of nearly all its inhabitants. The story is split into four parts, with the first three sections emphasizing each respective character in a *Pulp Fiction*-esque manner



that fills in the blanks of the preceding story. In the final act, all the stories come together with one happy, one tragic, and one ambiguous resolution. In the opening scene, Rutilio yells at his son Chava and Chava's friend Abel to stop acting like "queers," but in a twist, Rutilio himself becomes involved in a gay relationship. Meanwhile, Abel is actually in love with Salma Hayek's character, Alma, for whom he is willing to leave for the states to save money for their marriage. Alma is unpredictable, and though the reasons are not all together clear, she allows her life to spiral out of control until she ends up addicted to cocaine and working as a courtesan. The landlady, Susanita, has never been

DVD WATCH

married and falls for a bartender at Rutilio's bar, who goes from stealing from Rutilio to stealing from Susanita. Sprinkled among all of this is plenty of infidelity, abuse, escape, drugs, and, of course, sex. The character arcs are naturalistic and intense, Hayek's Alma especially: She is infuriating, inconsistent, and desperate to lose her virginity, and it seems that the more Abel loves her, the more she does things she knows will hurt him. Meanwhile, the bartender's seduction of Susanita is so sleazy that one can't help but feel repulsed by their match. Rutilio's short temper and desire for a homosexual relationship makes you wonder who he will push out of his life next. The emotions of the characters, as in life, are often irrational, unpredictable, and inexplicable, yet you are still compelled to see them through and find out what consequences await their decisions. The DVD itself is pretty basic, with little else to see aside from the movie. The film boasts more than 49 international awards, and one of the features allows you to find out exactly which ones, though it is doubtful that anyone would care too much to go through the list. "Special features" aside, the DVD still stands on the strength of the actual film, an intriguing look at relationships, familial structure, love, and lust. – Sarah Abdurrahman

ALSO OUT NOW

Miami Vice: Season One (Universal Studios): The first 22 episodes of the Eighties cop show. Combines two big trends of today – Miami and Eighties attire – all for around 60 bucks.

Malcolm X (Warner Home Video): This two-disc special edition of Spike Lee's biopic of the legendary civil rights leader features two documentaries and 10 additional scenes. – S.A.

FILM NEWS BY JOE O'CONNELL

No good deed goes unpunished. Just ask **Kevin Triplett** at **Mopac Media**, who came to the rescue of fellow film folk whose computers were damaged in a recent Guadalupe Arts Center fire. He may title his next movie *Breaking and Entering*, as that's what thieves did to his office, making away with a bevy of cameras and the Macintosh G4 computer on which he'd been editing his eight-years-in-the-making Blaze Foley documentary. He was cleansing one of those cameras of smoke damage for Picture Box Productions from that aforementioned fire.

"I was hoping to finish it within the year," Triplett says of his doc about the legendary singer-songwriter, which he'll have to begin editing again from scratch. "I still think I can get back on schedule despite this." And despite insurance that covers only a tiny fraction of the \$23,000 loss. Police have alerted pawn shops and Triplett is keeping an eye on eBay. "I've been real impressed with the film community, how they came out in support after the fire and now how they've come out in support of me."

Taylor-Made: A coming-attractions poster for Sandra Bullock's *Miss Congeniality 2*

adorns the Howard Theatre in downtown Taylor. A block away, Bullock herself has been busy filming scenes for the Truman Capote biopic *Every Word Is True*, in which she portrays author Harper Lee. Passersby have done double-takes at the 1950s-era pointy-finned automobiles parked in front of downtown shops hawking ancient washing machines and cool-cat tuxedos. Shooting continues in the Austin area through April.

No More Yankees, Ever: Joan Crawford as Scarlett O'Hara? It could've happened, and you can see the proof this Saturday as part of fun filmic events during Explore UT, which invites the community to explore the 40 Acres with myriad free events. Crawford's *Gone With the Wind* screen test will be shown at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center starting at 11am. Other coolness planned includes showcases of film faculty and student work, an examination of John Ford's Westerns, a basic editing course, and the (buhaha!) origins of the vampire. See details at www.utexas.edu/events/exploreut.

And the Rest: Related to unsung Alamo heroes Gregorio and Ana Esparza? MGU Productions wants to interview you on camera Friday, March 4, at Alamo Hall in San Antonio for posterity. Contact filmmakers at mguproductions@sbcglobal.net... Georgetown is getting a multiplex. Cinemark plans to open

a 10-screen theatre in Simon Properties' Wolf Ranch development at the intersection of I-35 and Highway 29 in July... **Stacy Schoolfield's** feature doc *Rescue Me*, about animal rescue volunteers, including gubernatorial candidate Kinky Friedman, is one of 10 projects selected for the Working Films at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art residency. Recent UT film grad **P.J. Raval** won the Student Heritage Award from the American Society of Cinematographers and will be profiled this spring in *American Cinematographer* magazine... **Brian Satterwhite** of Austin is wrapping the score for Houston-shot *Mr. Hell* with the aid of local musicians **David Neubert**, **Joanna Winters**, and **Katie Morrison**. Next up, Satterwhite scores **Nick Jayanty** and **Justin Gilley's** short, "Young Mutt," and **Mustafa Razvi** and **Robert Garza's** short, "Priya"... Syndicated courtroom television series *Judge Alex* begins shooting in Houston any day now... The Mexico-shot feature *Veritas*, about a comic-book hero who comes to life and starring Sean Patrick Flanery, Amy Jo Johnson, and Tyler Posey, is shooting a few additional scenes in Dallas... See the trailer to **Richard Linklater's** *A Scanner Darkly* at www.ifilm.com/ifilmdetail/2665143?htv=12&htv=12.

Send film tips to filmnews@austinchronicle.com.

GET VISIONARY WITH ME HERE

WE ARE NO LONGER PIONEERS OF THE DIGITAL AGE. WE'RE MINERS. BY BRUCE STERLING

I've gone to many a South by Southwest Interactive in my day, but this is the first time I've attended one from out of town.

This year, 2005, I'm the "Visionary in Residence" at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, Calif. Basically, I've become a designer futurist. I help to teach a class that's working on a Danish-sponsored design show in Copenhagen that's visualizing the year 2010. Doing this is even weirder than it sounds.

Since I'm a temporary Angeleno, I can now see SXSW Interactive from a new, exotic perspective. According to my design students, who itch to go there, SXSW Interactive is a distant, impossibly hip imbroglia where the pixelized crème de la crème is pushing the avant-garde hard enough to dent it. I never knew that before; when I lived in Austin, I naturally assumed that SXSW Interactive was some kind of overgrown geek accident. Sometimes, it even ended up inside my house. I used to throw the closing party for this gig. This year, that closing party will still take place, and, yes, I will be there hosting it, but, no, it's not at my house anymore. My party is being officially sponsored by the SXSW politburo at an undisclosed location. That's a wise precaution, for the last time I threw that party in my house, the Austin cops had to show up. They were perfectly nice cops – far cooler than Pasadena cops, who are real martinets, frankly – but, well, there were some noise complaints. It wasn't a boozy, orgiastic party: no nudity, no bongos. It's just that those digital media mavens from SXSW-I were *talking so loudly*, even at two in the morning, that they were audible to the innocent *two city blocks away*.

Things kinda got out of hand. The event's become too big and sophisticated for the pioneer ethos to last. Back in the Clinton years, the digerati used to merely trickle in, asking, "Uh, is this the cyberpunk's house?" Nowadays these cats have all got cell phones, Mapquest, and Google. So, last year they showed up on my doorstep in "flash mobs." A flash mob is a mobile, electronically connected gang, the human equivalent of Brazilian army ants. First, you get this lone scout who shows up, sniffing around and waving his antennae – "Hey, wait, there's free beer here!" – and out comes his phone-cammed cell phone from his ripstop nylon belt-pack: snick ... ka-snee ... whizz! Eight minutes later, his entire buddy list comes piling out from every corner of the compass in a fleet of yellow cabs.

You know the way bloggers go ape when they discover a gay prostitute in the White House press corps? It's just like that, except with beer.

So, alas, it's the end of an era when it comes to flinging open my Austin doors for random cyber passersby, but never mind that: Here in Los Angeles, nobody would dream of a crazy stunt like that in the first place. I'm currently living in a gated community built by an eccentric patent-medicine mogul in 1903. It's a belle époque Spanish, Moorish, multiple-cupola'd pile in Old Pasadena, and it looks like the Texas Capitol might look if, for a solid week, you drank nothing but patent medicine from the halcyon days of free-market narcotics. Except for the climate change – it's scarcely stopped raining since I got here, and they're thinking of renaming the place the "Wet Coast" – Southern California is a gorgeous place to live. By its very nature, it's just a favored corner of the planet. Not surprisingly, then, SoCal has three very grave problems with its quality of life: traffic jams, smog, and housing costs. Those are also Austin's core problems, of course. Here in L.A., however, these crises have been brutally ingrained into the very texture of society: Even the proverbial Little Old Lady from Pasadena drives her car like a flung javelin, and the gridlock is severe enough to turn the drive-by shootings into walk-bys. The very word "smog" was first coined here.

The city that can solve these problems is going to rule futurity.



JASON STOUT



I do expect to see these problems solved. They seem like "normality" to us, but I think they'll be beaten in the future. I don't yet know quite how, but I'm now in the belly of the beast when it comes to these particular challenges. At the place where I work, intelligent people fret over that stuff all the time. I'm starting to suspect that the 21st century's got some kind of cool, unsuspected twist here, something like a Google page-ranking algorithm for highways and traffic lights. Imagine a kind of Slashdotting for traffic jams. Get visionary with me here.

Did you ever notice how many of Austin's traffic intersections have those creepy little black videocams installed on the traffic lights now? If I were a partisan blogger, I'd cheerily tell you that they were reading your license plate number and running your tax records through Homeland Security. But this is a real publication, with ink, so I won't allege that. What I do wonder is: Why doesn't some machine, some kind of urban Cisco router, just count all the cars waiting, and turn the green lights on to maximize the flow? Couldn't Austin try something like that, in between installing solar panels? Do a trial run. Prototype it.

When you're a visionary at a design school, you get to thinking that way. It just can't be helped. It's an occupational hazard. It's like the creeping effect of designer minimalism. You know, "less is more," and all of that. There's a Design Within Reach store right around the corner here, and I could spend so much more on so much less than my

wallet explodes. There's a digital angle to this "less is more" stuff that is severely underappreciated. When I was formerly a Texan author-journalist type rather than a Californian "visionary," I naturally lived like a pack rat. Then I drove my hybrid electric across I-10 to the gloriously unfurnished Pasadena pad over here, and I suddenly realized that I can thrive with something like 8% of my former possessions. Not that I've lost them. Basically – and this is the point for SXSW-I attendees – they've all been digitized. They got *eaten by my laptop*.

There's an Apple Store a block away, where Mr. Jobs is selling iPods like Amy sells waffle-cones when it hits 105 degrees. So, where're all my records and CDs? They're inside the laptop. DVD player? Laptop. Newspapers? I read Google News in the morning. Where're my magazines? I read *Metropolis Online*, I write stories for SciFi.com. Where's my TV? I got no TV: Compared to Web surfing on broadband wireless, watching a TV show is like watching ice melt. I tried real hard to sit down and watch a television dramatic episode recently – it felt like watching Vaudeville, with a trained dog act and a guy juggling plates. TV is dying right in front of us. It's become a medium for the brainwashed, the poor, and the semiliterate. Where's my fax machine? Laptop. Mailbox? Laptop. Filing cabinet? Laptop. Working desk? Laptop. Bank? Laptop. Place of business? Laptop. Most people I deal with have no idea I'm here in California. They'd never think to ask me. Why should they? They send e-mail, they get what they want, game over.

My laptop is even a library now; I've taken to reading books as e-text. For instance, a freeware, public domain version of Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Silverado Squatters*. This is the amusing real-life tale of a sci-fi novelist (*Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, etc.) marooned in 1880s California. Stevenson shows up in an abandoned California mining camp, where he immediately sees and uses his first telephone. The good folk of Cali, these grizzled miner 49ers, are already hip-deep into high tech telecommunications.

California looks trendy, but it has deep cultural continuity. You can stroll the main drag of Hollywood, and it's Marilyn Monroe all the way. They're still retailing the sex appeal of a Tinseltown blonde *stone dead 40 years ago!* Man, even New Englanders aren't that thrifty. And those stars in the Hollywood sidewalks – I just saw one that belonged to Thomas Edison. By the standards of digital media, that was like spotting a live Diplodocus.

So, I'm a teacher, for a while. Now that I'm 50 years old, it does my old bones good to hang out with young people. I can even stand up in class and call them "young people" to their face, and they blithely nod and agree. And they no longer call it "new media" where I'm working; oh, no, it's "media design" now. Or it's just "design" and have done with it.

There used to be a big difference between media design and industrial design. I am watching that difference melt and vanish into air. There are young folks at my school making motorcycles, and you never see them touch a welding torch or a drive chain. They're making motorcycles on computers with a design program called SolidWorks, a kind of word processor for actual objects. They're not "computer guys." They're flat-out motorcycle guys, but of a new breed. Art Center has a big transportation school, and for them and their successors, that's simply what a motorcycle is. It's the interactive schematics for a motorcycle, and the thing with a kickstand is just a kind of hard copy.

I really have to wonder about a thing like that. So, I went to school to learn. Soon, it'll be time to party. ■

In addition to hosting the closing SXSW Interactive party of undisclosed time and whereabouts, Bruce Sterling will participate in the keynote conversation with WorldChanging Editor Alex Steffen at 2pm on Tuesday, March 15, in Room 17AB of the Austin Convention Center. See www.sxsw.com for more information.

SELF-FUNDED AND SELF-MADE TOM FULP ON 'ALIEN HOMINID'

In today's gaming climate of multimillion-dollar budgets and Hollywood-hyped projects, independently produced, 2-D flash-based games are lovingly referred to as "retro" Internet darlings that rarely see their names on red carpet or retail boxes. But every so often a Rocky Balboa emerges among the heavyweight contenders, slugging for a chance to strut its moves with the A-list crowd. So goes the story of *Alien Hominid*, a low-budget shoot-'n'-scroll action game from 26-year-old Newgrounds.com creator Tom Fulp. As a yellow-skinned, bug-eyed alien antihero crash lands into FBI headquarters, laser pistols, daggers, and streets explode in what might best be described as *South Park* meets *Predator*. As for what *Hominid* seemingly lacks in terms of 3-dimensionality and 7.1 Dolby sound, it charms on an entirely different level through the hand-drawn backgrounds of gifted illustrator Dan Paladin. Closer to Walt Disney than Pixar, Fulp based his game world on a fixed obsession with the far-gone Reagan-era of Eighties gaming. "I grew up with a lot of Odysee and Atari," Fulp recounts. "*Pitfall* was a lot of fun: The tunnel with the scorpion was so ominous and frightening to me." But fear of expanding his company's reign beyond its flash-based origins was no pitfall for Fulp, who inked a deal with PlayStation2 and GameCube to upgrade and transfer *Hominid's* wicked humor onto both consoles. What's more remarkable about this accomplishment is that Fulp's production house, the Behemoth, achieved it without any outside investment. "We weren't even sure if the final product would be approved for PS2 and GameCube, but we believed in the game so we had to give it a



Alien Hominid

shot," Fulp says. "It took 18 months and a lot more money than we expected, but in the end, we had an entirely self-funded, self-made game just waiting to be picked up by a publisher." With 6 million downloads of the flash-based version on the scoreboard, publisher O~3 Entertainment took a chance on the console version of *Hominid* and watched it fast become a critical and financial success. Wannabe game designers seeking guidance on the road to going gold might heed Fulp's life experience: "There were a million times during development where each of us was ready to bail, but none of us did, and that is the only reason we made it where we are." For a chance to listen in on a more detailed discussion of how Fulp fulfilled his model of independent development, check out the designer's free (no badge/pass required) discussion of his journey from Internet flash to console splash.

- Marcel Meyer

Ducking Bullets and Blowing Up Barriers: The Indie Development of Alien Hominid takes place at 7:30pm, Friday, March 11, in Room 17AB. The event is free, and requires neither a badge nor a pass. For more free/non-badge or nonpass SXSW Interactive events, see below.

THINGS TO DO FOR FREE (AND WITHOUT A BADGE) AT SXSW INTERACTIVE

To attend for free the following Interactive/Film Trade Show & Exhibition events, you *must* get an iF! Pass (www.sxsw.com/if_pass or available for free at Waterloo Video). Without iF! pass, cost to attend is \$25 (thus negating the free part). iF! events take place noon-6pm on Sunday, March 13; noon-6pm on Monday, March 14; and noon-4pm on Tuesday, March 15.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

LIVE INTERVIEWS AT STUDIO SX

As the SXSW program states, Studio SX allows you to watch live one-on-one interviews with some of your favorite speakers from SXSW Interactive and SXSW Film. Many of these interviews will be posted on the Web at www.sxsw.com. Studio SX is located at the northwest corner of the iF! Trade Show + Exhibition. Last-minute schedule updates will be posted on the signs located just outside this area, so be sure to stop by to see who else has been added to the lineup. *continued on p.63*

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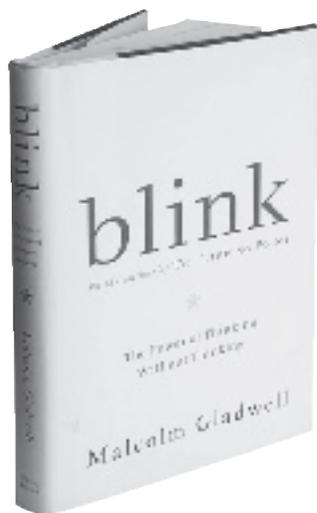
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New Yorker staff writer Malcolm Gladwell wrote his first book, *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*, with no “clear expectation of who would read it, or what, if anything, it would be useful for.” The book became a bestseller – and remains one four years later – but it would also transcend sales to become a phenomenon.

In the book, Gladwell writes that “ideas and products and messages and behaviors spread just like viruses do,” meaning that small changes can have surprisingly large consequences and that change need not be gradual: It can happen all at once, like a flu epidemic. He positions the most unlikely suspects as phenomena analogous to epidemics – as goes the flu, so goes, say, a fashion trend in New York, a rash of suicides in Micronesia, or the use of hybrid seed corn in Iowa. It’s a fascinating read, indulgent in its number of anecdotes, analogies, and examples, overflowing with little surprises, and apparently inspiring to countless people eager to mimic or manipulate the epidemiological curve.

The phrase “tipping point” began popping up everywhere – Donald Rumsfeld famously used it to describe the Iraq war, while the Roots recently borrowed it for an album title – and all over the world, people started using the book’s lessons to solve age-old problems. In California, the book inspired a professor to rethink ways to attract good teachers to troubled schools. In New Jersey, it inspired a new grant program, and in Washington, D.C., a new award program. And in December, hundreds of people gathered at a Tipping Point Conference in Scotland. Academics, politicians, and entrepreneurs came together for the purpose of “ushering a new era of confidence and optimism” into a country with high suicide and prescription drug rates and unnecessarily low life expectancy. Inspired by Gladwell’s book, the Scots plan to reverse a country-wide epidemic of low self-esteem.

“There’s a wonderful amount of really fascinating and important stuff out there, which most of us don’t have access to,” says Gladwell from his hotel room in Miami, as he winds down a tour to promote his new book, *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking* (Little, Brown, \$25.95). “My job is I’m a kind of interpreter. I find all this stuff



THE TIP-OFF

WHERE IS MALCOLM GLADWELL'S MIND? WHAT ABOUT NOW? BY NORA ANKRUM

and bring it to the attention of people who otherwise would never be able to find it.”

Gladwell’s books are irresistibly – to borrow a term from *The Tipping Point* – “sticky.” And by sticky I mean like when I was 5 and I’d just heard Annie sing “Tomorrow”: There was little hope of hearing anything else come out of my mouth for a long time. So, during the week that I read *Blink*, I sounded a lot like this:

Riding back from lunch with a co-worker: “Did you know that just seeing certain words can make you change your behavior? Did you know that ‘old’ and ‘Florida’ and ‘wrinkle’ can make you walk slower?”

At a friend’s house: “Did you know that there’s a psychologist who has a lab where he can observe a married couple talking for 15 minutes, and then predict with 90% accuracy whether they’ll get divorced?”

Walking with my boyfriend to get bagels: “Did you know that if you taste 40 jams and then rank them, your rankings will correspond to professional taste-testers? Did you know that if you’re instead asked to describe your reasoning as you rank the 40

jams, your rankings won’t at all match the professional ones? Did you know that that’s because explaining that decision can actually change what you think you thought?”

The did-you-knows are bound to start popping up at this year’s Interactive Festival, as Gladwell is giving the first keynote address.

Blink focuses on the “adaptive unconscious,” a place where we’re “capable of making very quick judgments based on very little information.” It’s a pretty exciting concept, but there’s a catch: We can’t be aware that we’re making these judgments, hence the “unconscious” part. And because we don’t know that we’re making these unconscious judgments, we might not be able to distinguish between the accurate ones – like one tennis coach’s eerie ability to call a double fault before it happens – and the dangerously inaccurate ones – like the South Bronx shooting of Amadou Diallo by policemen who mistook a wallet for a gun.

According to Gladwell, the Diallo shooting is emblematic of the kinds of unconscious prejudices we act on every day. Less

deadly examples include the phenomena of the Aeron chair and *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, both of which turned out to be enormously popular despite the fact that focus groups originally hated (or thought they hated) each. That’s a case where people’s first impressions mislead them. Their snap judgments didn’t match the opinions they later developed with more time to get used to new and different things.

Gladwell believes we can learn to benefit from the lessons learned in *Blink*. We can learn to mimic the good blinks, for instance, like the psychologist who can predict divorce – he parses out the most important information to reach a kind of representative sample of a couple’s entire relationship. Bad blinks, on the other hand, need counterweights. In the case of a new, unusual film, for instance, a film festival would be the counterweight. “These movies that are breaking new ground, they take some getting used to, you know? It’s like the Aeron chair,” Gladwell says. “You can’t give it to people cold and expect them to love it. You’ve got to warm up to it a little bit, and film festivals at their best are a process that warms up ideas for the mass market, and I think that’s a fundamentally important role.”

Gladwell’s talent is in transforming complex, slippery processes into ideas so sticky you can’t get rid of them. Even he can’t get rid of them. “Mostly what researching *Blink* has done is radicalized me,” wrote Gladwell in an e-mail follow-up to our interview, “in the sense that I think that we are far too cavalier when it comes to policing for bias. I now think all school children, for instance, should wear uniforms, because I don’t think any good comes of snap judgments that teachers make based on dress. I think that juries in criminal trials should never see the defendant. ... There is far too much potential danger ... in letting people draw unconscious inferences from what the accused looks like. I’m now militantly in favor of affirmative action. *Blink* has just made me realize that there is far more below the surface than we may imagine.”

Gladwell’s second book might well turn out to be as endlessly applicable as its iconic predecessor. Again he hopes to give people new tools for understanding the processes that affect them every day. In *The Tipping Point*, he wiped the chalkboard clean on problems like crime trends and smoking habits. By revealing a new way to think about them, he implied that there are new ways to resolve them. In *Blink*, he recasts first impressions as yet another new frontier of problem-solving.

“It’s very important to me,” Gladwell says, “to take complicated ideas and put them in a form that people can understand and use – or kind of let that start their own conversation.” It’s that conversation that has people seeing tipping points from California to Scotland, and it’s also what makes Gladwell particularly well-suited to speak at the Interactive Festival, where attendees might seek something more elusive than a label or a distribution deal. They’re seeking inspiration, something Gladwell tends to deliver.

Malcolm Gladwell will deliver the first SXSW Interactive keynote address at 2pm, Sunday, March 13, in room 17AB of the Austin Convention Center. For more information, see www.sxsw.com.



“My job is I’m a kind of interpreter. I find all this stuff and bring it to the attention of people who otherwise would never be able to find it.”

SXSW FILM FESTIVAL TRAILERS

Day stage, noon-12:30pm & 3:45-4:15pm

FREE CULTURE PERFORMANCE

Multimedia artist Colin Mutchler uses an acoustic guitar, laptop, and voice to mix music, video, and spoken word.
Day stage, 12:30-1:15pm

MEDIA SWAP

This experimental event taps into the collective energy, tastes, and creativity of SXSW attendees by locking them in a wireless room and letting data mayhem loose.
Day stage, 1:15-2pm

DJ: TREY LOPEZ

Day stage, 2-3pm

THE BAD SEX WITH NEAL POLLACK SHOW

Day stage, 3pm

GRANDE COMMUNICATIONS RECEPTION

Day stage, 4:15pm

SOUTH BY BOOKSTORE BOOK SIGNINGS

12:45pm: Dan Cederholm, *Web Standards Solutions: The Markup and Style Handbook*

12:45pm: Molly Holzschlag, *250 HTML and Web Design Secrets*

12:45pm: Eric Meyer, *Cascading Style Sheets: The Definite Guide*

12:45pm: Christopher Schmitt, *CSS Cookbook, Designing CSS Web Pages*

12:45pm: Dave Shea, *The Zen of CSS Design: Visual Enlightenment for the Web*

3:00pm: Malcolm Gladwell, *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking*

3:45pm: Neal Pollack, *Never Mind the Pollacks*

4:45pm: Dan Gillmor, *We the Media*

4:45pm: Sharron Rush, *Maximum Accessibility: Making Your Web Site More Usable for Everyone*

THE DIGITAL MEDIA ACADEMY

(All Sunday courses are geared to the Mac platform) 12:15-5:30pm

MONDAY, MARCH 14

LIVE INTERVIEWS AT STUDIO SX

SXSW FILM FESTIVAL TRAILERS

Day stage, noon-12:30pm and 3:45-4:15pm

THE FIFTH ANNUAL WEBLOG AWARDS

Day stage, 12:30-2pm

DJ: TREY LOPEZ

Day stage, 2-3pm

FUTURE OF PODCASTING

Day stage, 3pm

DEWEY WINBURNE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD TBA

AIR AUSTIN AWARDS

Day stage, 4:30pm

SOUTH BY BOOKSTORE BOOK SIGNINGS

12:45pm: Doug Addison, *Small Websites, Great Results*

12:45pm: Joe Clark, *Building Accessible Websites*

12:45pm: Kelly Goto, *Web ReDesign: Workflow That Works*

12:45pm: Carrie Bickner Zeldman, *Web Design on a Shoestring*

12:45pm: Jeffrey Zeldman, *Designing With Web Standards*

4:45pm: Molly Holzschlag, *250 HTML and Web Design Secrets*

4:45pm: Eric Meyer, *Cascading Style Sheets: The Definite Guide*

THE DIGITAL MEDIA ACADEMY

(All Monday courses are geared to the PC platform) 12:15-5:30pm

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

LIVE INTERVIEWS AT STUDIO SX

SXSW FILM FESTIVAL TRAILERS

Day stage, noon-12:30pm & 2-2:30pm

BLOGGING VS. JOURNALISM

Day stage, 12:30-2pm

ACCESSIBILITY SHOOT-OUT

Day stage, 2:30pm

SOUTH BY BOOKSTORE BOOK SIGNINGS

12:45pm: Tom Atlee, *The Tao of Democracy*

12:45pm: Christopher Breen, *Secrets of the iPod and iTunes*

12:45pm: Christian Crumlish, *The Power of Many*

12:45pm: Danny Franzreb, *New Masters of Flash*

12:45pm: Francis Preve, *Power Tools for GarageBand*

12:45pm: Dave Shea, *The Zen of CSS Design: Visual Enlightenment for the Web*

12:45pm: Glenn Smith, *The Politics of Deceit: Saving Freedom and Democracy From Extinction*

12:45pm: Nancy White, *Knowledge Networks: Innovation Through Communities of Practice*

3:15pm: Bruce Sterling, *The Zenith Angle*

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MURRY WOODS 10PM-1AM
MUSIC @ ANTONIO'S-JOLLYVILLE:
ROB ROY PARNELL 8PM-11PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH:

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\$5.50 BURGERS
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JOHNNY GOUDIE 8PM-11PM

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NOT SHUTTING UP ANYWHERE

THIS AL FRANKEN IS YOUR AL FRANKEN
BY SHAWN BADGLEY



“Aesthetics and values clash, especially in comedy, but I’m really trying to stay on a righteous path.”

Trio’s *Brilliant but Cancelled* came on the other night. As it turns out, many brilliant television shows have been canceled because of executive impatience with low ratings or, in the case of *Bridget Loves Bernie*, because a Catholic loved a Jew and they got married. Controversy. *Lateline*, an NBC sitcom starring Al Franken, was canceled in 1999 after 19 episodes. I don’t even remember *Lateline* – which probably says more about me than it does about the show, since we’ve established that the latter is brilliant – but apparently it used a mainstream format to satirize the business of mainstream news. People who do remember it (or have seen the complete series on DVD) posit that it might have been too incisive and intelligent for its own good. Regardless, it didn’t work.

Al Franken has likely been called incisive and intelligent, and, if he hasn’t, I’m calling him that right now. And Al Franken works. *Lateline*’s failure was a rare one in a career that has taken him from *Saturday Night Live* to scattered film work to publishing and criticism and activism to Air America Radio, where he hosts *The Al Franken Show*. Al Franken is going to run for Senate in 2008. There had been some speculation about an ’06 run with the announcement that Sen. Mark Dayton, D-Minn., would not seek re-election. But “there is no question that I couldn’t do it, because I have a commitment to Air America, and people have invested in Air America based on that commitment. If I would have said I’ll run in 2006, I wouldn’t be able to fulfill that commitment, and I think it would have been actionable,” he laughs. “2008 is something I’m very seriously looking at.”

Meanwhile, Air America is more than seriously looking at Austin as its latest market. The network will launch its progressive programming on KOKE 1600AM (recently acquired along with six other local stations by Border Media Partners) on Monday, March 14, with a live show from the State Theater. Not coincidentally, Franken will be at SXSW Interactive the very same day. He spoke of both reasons for being here and more by telephone from New York.

Austin Chronicle: Will the live show be part of your appearance at South by Southwest Interactive?

Al Franken: I don’t think so. I think I’m going to be interviewed by someone. Evan?

AC: Evan Smith. He’s the editor of *Texas Monthly*.

AF: Yes! That’s it. That’s him. The editor of *Texas Monthly* will be interviewing me. *Texas Monthly*. Evan Smith.

AC: I guess he’ll be in control of what you’ll talk about for the most part, but –

AF: Oh, no he won’t.

AC: Then what sort of things will you talk about?

AF: Probably we’ll be talking about the Bush administration, about Social Security, about the right-wing media: about our role in pushing back against those things at Air America. Where Democrats go from here. We could talk about Bill O’Reilly, Rush Limbaugh, and those guys. And Iraq. And the corruption of guys like DeLay. All of the stuff that sort of needs to be talked about now as much as we possibly can.

AC: I wonder if Senator DeLay has his ticket yet.

AF: Well, I don’t know. I don’t think he goes to Austin unless he’s indicted.

AC: Speaking of your role, and the role of Air America, I guess one thing that I’m curious about is if when you were a writer at

SNL you ever remotely envisioned –

AF: Doing this? No –

AC: I think at this point, and I don’t want to overstate it, but you and Jon Stewart and maybe Bill Maher are the ones that people toward the left are looking to in terms of fighting the good fight, as sort of potential secular saviors.

AF: That’s what I consider myself.

AC: How do you think all of this came about with you? Out of a perceived necessity?

AF: Actually, a lot of it did come out of necessity, oddly enough. There’s an evolution that you can track that starts with leaving *Saturday Night Live* and writing the Rush Limbaugh book and the progression that led to *Lies and [the] Lying Liars [Who Tell Them: A Fair and Balanced Look at the Right]*. From out of that just came ... I realized the necessity for somebody to just stand up and do radio and just try to establish some kind of foothold in this huge, vast right-wing terrain. To get an audience and try to get people listening in their cars, to accidentally listen, to have Uncle Bob listening when his liberal niece is driving and have him hear a couple of things and go, “Huh, that’s kind of interesting.”

AC: Are you convinced that radio is the most effective medium at this point in terms of the message you’re trying to get across? Is it going better than you thought?

AF: It doesn’t happen overnight, but we’ve been adding stations pretty fast lately and we are going to be adding Dallas. And Austin, as we talked about. And Brownsville. We have Corpus Christi, so, we’re beginning to have a Texas presence. I want to be everywhere. We’ve actually had a lot of success in pretty conservative markets. ... We’ve done really well in San Diego, which, you know, is the most conservative town in a pretty liberal state. ... It’s important at this point that we’re everywhere they are. It’s really important that we be in places like Austin, because I think there’s just a real demand for what we do there. But I want people all over to at least get the chance to hear us. ... We’re already on Sirius and XM. Our streaming numbers are extremely high. We’re, I think, the fourth most-listened-to radio on the Internet. The first one is some sort of dance music or something. Romanian techno. But just being in the running there with Romanian techno means that people are able to listen to us all over the world.

AC: Let’s talk about the world, or at least something kind of topical.

AF: Okay.

AC: In terms of our own instability, and, I don’t know, our anticipation of the end of the world and the current administration’s role in it, do you think that thinking people in this country are looking in the wrong direction? That is, is it maybe less about al Qaeda operatives and nukes and global security and more about Americans with deeply religious conservative tendencies successfully impeding technology and progress?

AF: Well, I don’t know. I think that you’re maybe making some false divides here. I don’t know that people who are maybe even right-wing Christian nuts can’t use the Internet.

AC: I was thinking more along the lines of stem-cell research, for instance. Science. The environment.

AF: Oh, yeah, well, that’s crazy. When you’re talking about fact-based policies versus faith-based policies, yeah, there’s a huge divide. You’ve just got to remember that this country was actually formed on the Enlightenment. ... Which really goes back to the founding fathers and how unreligious they were. I think every religion shares a prohibition against murder, so there’s really no problem there. [laughs] Now, you know, when you start getting to an issue like choice, an issue

like stem-cell research ... I mean, I can respect someone who believes that abortion is wrong, and doesn’t want anyone to get an abortion. I kind of can respect that, [laughs] but I can’t understand imposing that belief. I can’t understand, for example, prohibition on stem-cell research. I still don’t understand the anti-gay stuff. I don’t understand it from a religious point of view. The Bible says you can’t eat pork. It’s just like, you know, you’re not supposed to, I don’t know, touch the skin of a pig or something. Huh? [consults with Billy Kimball, his executive producer] Yeah. [laughs] You’re not supposed to wear a fabric made from two different animals. So, right away, say, you’re in the Super Bowl: You’re wearing your shoes, which are made from ... you’re touching a pigskin. Yeah, and you’re refusing to sell your own daughter into slavery. You’re just in complete violation, you’re making all kinds of mortal sins all at the same time. But the one they pick from the Bible is the gay one. It’s just kind of like, come on, guys, that’s your belief. I’m sorry. No one’s forcing you to be gay. Really. Honest.

AC: How dire is this? I mean, even joking about it, it seems that institutionalized, legislative violence against groups of people or against the exchange of ideas on the Internet or wherever, could become as dangerous as terrorism. How does that make you feel?

AF: There are all kinds of ways to go off the tracks. It’d be nice to stay on the tracks in terms of treating people with dignity, making progress curing disease, promoting tolerance and peace and understanding and joy. It’d be nice. But it is a scary situation, and that’s sort of what I, in my humble way, am trying to do: to keep these things on the tracks. I’m not always successful. I’m sure I’ve offended people and haven’t contributed to an understanding, you know, partly out of their own stupidity. Aesthetics and values clash, especially in comedy, but I’m really trying to stay on a righteous path. We all should.

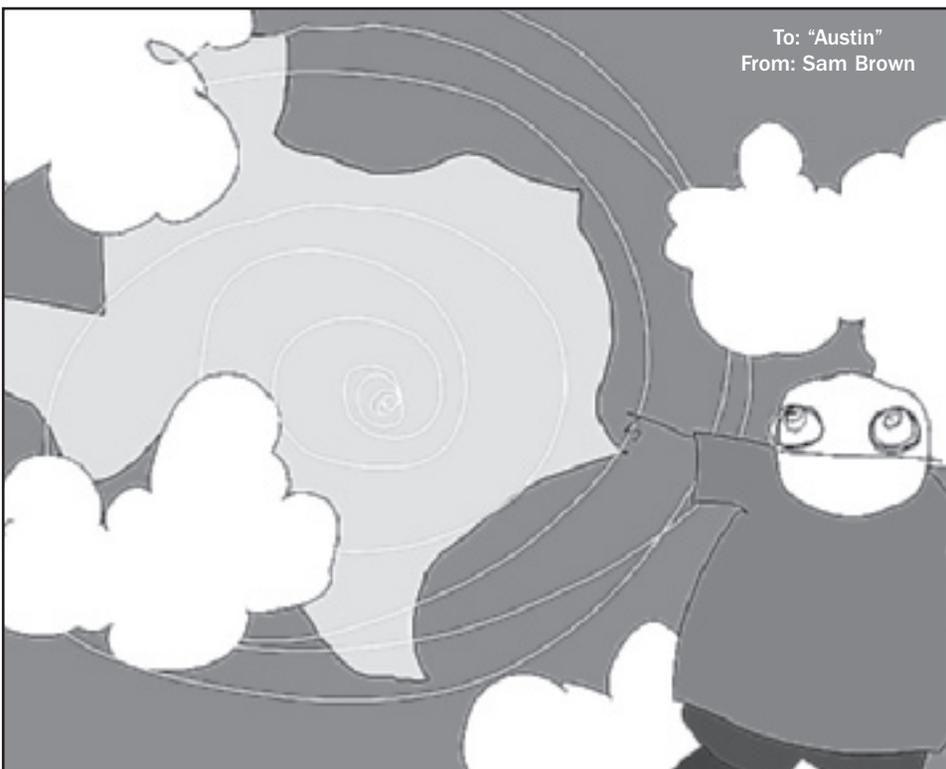
AC: So, when I called you a secular savior before, you’re more of just the conductor of the peace and goodwill express, maybe?

AF: I don’t know what I am. I’m just a guy trying to do a radio show and push back against these jerks. ■

A Conversation With Al Franken will ensue at 3:30pm, Monday, March 14, room 18B of the Austin Convention Center. Four and a half hours earlier, The Al Franken Show will hit the air live on KOKE 1600AM from the State Theater (719 Congress). For more, see www.thealfrankenshow.com and www.sxsw.com.

EVERYBODY'S COURT ARTIST

SAM BROWN ON EXPLODINGDOG.COM



I gave Sam Brown "Austin." He gave me three pictures: a portly stick figure pointing at an orange, cloudy Texas; a skinnier stick-man guitarist and his amp against a jagged sound-wave backdrop; and, last, what looks like a mean, green monster clobbering the signature stick figure with the words "I don't know anything about Austin" exasperatingly stamped beneath it all.

Perhaps I asked for too much in the name of SXSW. And maybe Sam Brown doesn't really get "Austin." But does anyone ever get Sam Brown?

Regardless, the effortless, speedy response to my request was impressive, colorful, and validating. Here's his stick-figure shtick: You give him a title, and, if you're lucky, he'll draw you a picture based, however obliquely, on that title and post it on his site, ExplodingDog.com. Responding to random e-mailed titles with single-lined, audaciously colored Photoshop renderings has made the 27-year-old Derby, Conn., art school grad a bit of a cult mystic over the past five years.

Kings used to be the ones who commissioned good art. Now, any average Joe with an Internet connection can inspire elegant, quality work. The artist otherwise known as Adam Culbert flirts along the fine line between sparse and bizarre, giving people what they want but rarely giving them what they anticipate. — Courtney Fitzgerald

Austin Chronicle: A lot of people don't get your cartoons. I sure as hell don't. What's going on there?

Sam Brown: I try to draw something you just wouldn't regularly expect. People look at my pictures and try to see a cartoon with a punchline — as they would *The Family Circus*. But they real-

ly don't understand my drawings until they look through a good amount and see themes and ideas repeated. Think of my drawings as if the title and picture are a frame taken out of a film. There's something before and something after, and you're just catching this one moment of time. Sometimes I look at them a week after I did them, and I'm like, "What was I thinking?" But it's all part of a larger picture.

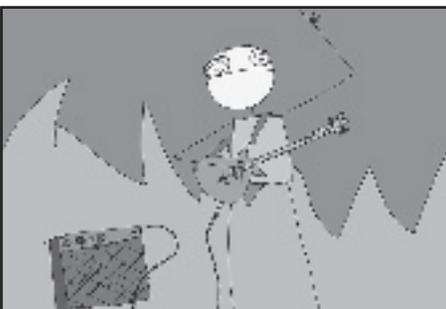
AC: Do you often disappoint people?

SB: People are usually pretty excited if I draw something for them. There are so many people I can't draw pictures for. So a lot of people get upset. Then they send the same title for days and days. Sometimes people e-mail me and say exactly what they want to be drawn: Like, "I want a guy with a blue shirt standing in this corner, give me this." They never get their stuff done.

AC: Someone told me to ask you why your drawings look like they've been scrawled by a gifted 8-year-old kid with cerebral palsy. No offense at all, but could you comment?

SB: The stick figures came about as just a simple way of representing an action. I like the idea of "genderless." When you simplify, you don't get caught up in details, which take away from an overall impression. There's a certain universality in simple. ■

Five Years of Exploding Dog: Sam Brown Discusses the Future goes down at 5pm, Saturday, March 12, room 18B of the Austin Convention Center. For more — including Brown's and others' status in the SXSW Interactive 2005 Big Bag Design Competition — see www.sxsw.com.



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3/13
4:00 PM The Life and Hard Times of Guy Terrifico
6:45 PM Somersault*
9:30 PM Layer Cake*

3/14
7:00 PM A Hole in My Heart*
9:30 PM The Edukators*

3/15
7:00 PM Lila Says
9:30 PM Kontroll*

3/16
6:30 PM The Ballad of Jack and Rose*
9:30 PM Saint Ralph

3/17
6:45 PM Tell Them Who You Are*
9:15 PM Old Boy

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WITH KNOWBILITY'S AIR-INTERACTIVE FOR THE ARTS AND A TEAM OF PROFESSIONAL DESIGNERS, I AM GOING TO HELP REINVENT THE INTERNET BY SPIKE GILLESPIE

JOHN ANDERSON

(l-r): Loop One's Elli Swift, James Fenelon, and Tim Thomas at work revamping SpikeG.com



In January, I received an e-mail from Teresa Ferguson, who works for the Athens Group and who hosts *Femme FM* on KUT. (She's got that honey-coated chocolate voice.) Teresa sits on the board of a local nonprofit called Knowbility, which works to promote Internet accessibility for disabled Web users by striving to remove IT barriers. Put simply, Knowbility creates virtual curb cuts.

Ferguson is chairing AIR (Accessibility Internet Rally) Interactive for the Arts 2005, one of two annual Knowbility contests. Web design teams pair with artists and nonprofit organizations to overhaul or create from-scratch sites that promote the artists' work and demonstrate accessibility. Winners are announced at SXSW Interactive. Teresa's e-mail was a call for artist participants.

Being chosen is a big honor. "Since 1998, the AIR program has created accessible Web sites for more than 200 local groups that serve the arts, human service, educational, and environmental needs of Central Texas," says Knowbility co-founder Sharron Rush. "AIR has trained more Web professionals in accessible design techniques than any other program in the nation — maybe in the world."

I begged to be picked. This project is an unbeatable deal: For a \$100 entry fee, artists receive a professionally designed site worth thousands. Because design teams are competing with one another, they go out of their way to make superbadass sites, since winning means big kudos and bragging rights.

I didn't make the initial cut, but at the last second a lucky 12th design team, Loop One, signed on, and I scored the new opening. At our first meeting, I explained my goals and projects, no doubt putting panic into my team members' hearts as I ticked off a formidable menu including my writing, music promotion of teen rock events and Southpaw Jones, my summer writing camp, my knitting addiction, and about a half-dozen other endeavors.

But the team — Tim Thomas, Elli Swift, James "www.redsite.com" Fenelon, and Michael Coker — smiled unflinchingly, arranging another meeting for the following night. I provided pictures, video, audio, ideas, and a brief history of my existing site. Originally built by Jason Levitt in 1995 (featuring me in a bikini back when that

was not a crime, plus some of my poetry), the site morphed a few times when different friends updated it. Loop One took my stack and headed out.

As per competition requirements, I met with Rush, who detailed Knowbility's goals, and demonstrated the need for accessibility through examples. Then I waited for my big unveiling. I felt like a contestant on *The Swan*, agreeing to a total makeover followed by public judgment. Meanwhile, Coker filled me on what was in store.

"The site we're building is a rocking new design that has 200% the daily recommended dosage of Spike personality and is likely to give you a visual orgasm," he said. "We aim to generate an overall more accessible Web site and to extend the target audience by making it easier for those with assistive technology to use and navigate. We promise to increase the SpikeG.com Internet experience for everyone by 14% or your money back! Some of the things we're doing to improve accessibility are moving away from the use of tables for layout, creating a layout whose core is based upon usability and not how it looks visually but giving it a professional-level visual design at the same time, making all of the audio/video media accessible for anyone, and using validated, standardized HTML that works across all platforms."

Ten days before deadline, I was ushered into the Loop One conference room, the lights were lowered, and there I was on the big screen, center of three design possibilities. Team leader James pointed out various features, and the rest of us discussed what we liked most (and least). I was most drawn to Option A. We tossed ideas back and forth, decided to incorporate elements from the other designs, and I sat there thinking just how rich this all was, my getting to call the shots, while they contemplated how in the hell to accommodate me in an accessible manner that would most impress the judges, all inside of the looming deadline.

Then it was get-even time. James gave me 13 homework assignments — essentially gathering and writing a ton of fresh content and images — and about 48 hours to meet this deadline. I didn't sleep much that weekend.

Meanwhile, all over the city, other teams were meeting with other artists and groups. Here's how it went down for some of them,

my competitors, the folks I hope to be consoling on March 14 when I proudly march away the big winner.

CHRISTA BLACKWOOD

Artist with Children's Photographic Collective

Our design team is called City of Austin 2. What's so terrific about these guys is that they all signed up for the project independently. They are Sheila Colbarth Harden, project coordinator; Nathalie Herrera, designer; Paul Frank; and Cecilia Dearen. They're bright and talented city-of-Austin working stiffs, lending their considerable skills to the AIR program. It's not as if they are lawyers making 250 bucks an hour and can afford to do pro bono work because their anti-bono work pays so much: They're just hard-working, high tech, conscientious Austinites.

This is our first real-deal Web site. A few years ago, we had a small site of a couple pages piggybacked onto a friend's business' site. He sold imported glassware from Europe. His site was GlassNow.com. So, we were GlassNow.com/cpc. Everyone thought we were connected with the burgeoning new post-communism countries of Eastern Europe.

It's truly been a collaborative process. I've written the bulk of the text, and they have designed the site. I showed the designer ideas from other contemporary art sites that I liked, and they incorporated a certain design sensibility based upon my suggestions and made something even more beautiful and compelling than I ever imagined.

ANN GRAHAM

Executive director with First Night Austin, a forthcoming annual celebration of the new year through the arts; collaborating with Vox Group and Go9Media

My first response to being selected was "What a windfall!" My second response? "Oh my gosh, what a labor of love for everybody, but what a wonderful opportunity!"

How we define ourselves on the Web site is how we define ourselves to the public. It's like trying to design a telephone answering service that is the best and works with the fewest steps ... and it's what we don't get any more: a real human being answering the phone and saying, "Hello, may I help you? Oh, yes, I know the answer to that!"

Think of how much time you've wasted on a telephone punching No. 2, then 9, then 7, then 5 ... and you still haven't gotten your questions answered.

Same thing with a bad Web site ... going from page to page and never finding your answers. Our challenge is how to give our public the answers they want with the fewest possible clicks and to entice them to become active participants. We have to go through this exercise anyway to be able to define who we are and what we do, and this is a way that forces us to do it with more clarity, more succinctly, and in fewer words.

NICK WEYNAND

TradeMark Media; overhauling a site for musician Wendy Colonna

Our Web development team has competed in AIR since 2002. I've known Sharron since we began competing, and she always puts together a top-notch program. This world has a serious lack of people like her. Before we started competing in AIR, we knew very little about accessibility. None of the sites we built were accessible. Now, we know a lot. We use all the section 508 guidelines [a section of the Americans With Disabilities Act that states, for instance, that alternative text needs to be used for all important images and that the layout of the site needs to be controlled with style sheets]. Wendy's old Web site is drab and doesn't have much functionality. We had her fill out our pre-project questionnaire to answer a bunch of questions about how she wanted the Web site to look and work. Afterward, we got together for a design session. During this brainstorming meeting, we hammered out everyone's ideas about the site. The deliverable produced was a Design Session Summary including a graphical site map, site notes, and areas where Wendy was to provide us content for the site. There was a full collaboration.

First and foremost, our team hopes to increase our accessibility skill set. I've had all my developers attend as much of the training as possible. We hope we finish this competition knowing a lot more about accessibility than we did before. Secondly, we hope to win and get a little exposure.

continued on p.68

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“Since 1998, the AIR program has created accessible Web sites for more than 200 local groups that serve the arts, human service, educational, and environmental needs of Central Texas. AIR has trained more Web professionals in accessible design techniques than any other program in the nation – maybe in the world.” – Knowbility co-founder Sharron Rush

KNOWBILITY'S AUSTIN AIR-INTERACTIVE CONTESTANTS

Those listed in the left column have collaborated with those on the right to create new and improved Web sites.

ARTIST/ORGANIZATION

John Pointer
 First Night Austin
 Network for Young Artists
 Children's Photographic Collective
 Wendy Colonna
 Austin Symphonic Band
 Tapestry Dance Company
 Rude Mechanicals
 Philippe Klinefelter
 Aaron Hamre Band
 KLRU
 Spike Gillespie

DESIGN TEAM

Coefficient Designs
 Go9Media – Encore
 City of Austin
 City of Austin – 2
 TradeMark Media
 Team Webmopac
 Dell Lunch Club
 St. Edward's University
 G-Team (Grande Communications)
 Go9Media – Encore
 Olive Design
 Loop One

SUZE KEMPER

Wrangler of schedules, assets, and talent at Olive Design; partnered with KLRU-TV

Jeremy Adam is leading design at Olive with Matt Sanders and David Nunez from Polycot Consulting on the back end. Jeremy Cox and Nick Munro have also contributed this year. Kierstan Schwab, VP for digital content, leads the team at KLRU.

We chose to refresh the kids section: updating content and graphics and optimizing for accessibility. This section hasn't been updated in a while, so it's going to look brand-spanking new. We've got a couple of delightful surprises up our shirtsleeves.

The current Kids Space was well ahead of its time when it was designed about five years ago. In fact, many leading stations across the country have borrowed the theme and the imagery. But KLRU is known for being a step ahead, so it's appropriate to update the look, the content, and the navigation at this point in time.

Olive Design has participated in Austin AIR since its inception. We're always excited to help Knowbility spread the word. The collaborative experience alone is worth the effort and a great reason for people to participate, in addition to all that you will learn. Successful design and programming for accessibility requires thought and preparation. It's a challenge to design and build 15-20 pages with audio and video assets in such a short amount of time. But that's what makes it fun, too – to see how much can be done well in the shortest month of the year. And I love a good adrenaline rush.

SUZANNE MAHONEY

Principal, Vox Group, an advertising and marketing group designing two sites – First Night Austin and Aaron Hamre Band – which are then being turned into sites by Go9, an interactive group

First Night is going to be a massive event, so we need to have a site that scales up pretty big. Because they are a brand-new organization, before we did anything else we had to establish their look and feel, an identity, a color palette, how they wanted to position themselves. The first two weeks were figuring out all that “who are ya?” stuff, before we could even think about what kind of site we wanted to build.

It is an incredibly short turn time. When we do a Web site normally for a client, minimally, you're looking at an eight-to-12-week time period. It reminds me a lot of finals week. You're not sleeping, you feel really panicked, you know it can't be as good as you want it to be because you don't have enough time.

We want to make a slamming, cool, totally badass site that's beautiful for folks who can see but really rich for folks who can't see. We're not using a lot of the real traditional stuff – Java scripting and Flash stuff – we're trying to do a lot of work-arounds on that.

We're going up against a bunch of other folks we run into in the market, so, of course, there's a lot of “We want to crush agency X. [pauses, laughs, disclaims] We don't really want to crush them. We want everybody to have fabulous sites.”

DAVE HIME

Go9; working with Vox Group on two sites: First Night Austin and Aaron Hamre Band

The Aaron Hamre Band is three really great guys originally from New Mexico, and they've been in Austin for a while and have a really compelling story and a whole lot of content on their existing site. They have tons of content, MP3s, video, a really attention-grabbing logo with flashing lightning and fire and all the kind of things you want from a latent Eighties rock & roll feel-good Austin transplant band. What they're looking for is to make the site accessible and also make it something that has a clean enough look that were a label interested in them, they could take a look at their Web site and not only get a sense of who they are, but also not have the feeling that they would have to sink a lot of money into redoing their Web site.

The process has been awesome. They came to us fully creatively juiced up and fully open to our ideas. They're completely ready to put their site in our hands, and that's so rare with an existing site – espe-

cially with creative people. We got them two designs they were really excited about. It was difficult for them to choose one, so we've sort of put them together in a true Frankenstein marriage that's turning out to be a love child rather than a monster.

I love the reality-show analogy: The one that works for me in terms of all this is *The Swan*. This is not that ugly a process, but, in the end, there is a beauty contest, but it's a contest where all the judges have their eyes closed.

The Knowbility AIR-Interactive for the Arts Awards will be announced at 4pm on Monday, March 14, at the Austin Convention Center's Day Stage. Other Knowbility panels include the following: Accessibility: Can't We All Just Get Along (10am, Sunday, March 13, with James Craig, Derek Featherstone, Ian Lloyd); How to Use Accessibility Guidelines, Standards, and Testing (3:30pm, Sunday, March 13, with Sharron Rush, Wendy Chisholm, Matt May, and Michael Cooper); How to Incorporate Stunning Multimedia Into Your Accessible Site (5pm, Sunday, March 13, with Bob Regan and Michael Jordan); and the Accessibility Shoot-Out (2:30pm, Tuesday, March 15, with James Craig, Kathy Keller, and Sharron Rush). For more information, see www.sxsw.com.

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IT DOESN'T END WITH THE INTERNET AMALIA ANDERSON ON OLD-FASHIONED ORGANIZING

MoveOn.org and Howard Dean proved that the Internet can be just as powerful a platform as any on-the-road campaign trail. Even so, according to Amalia Anderson, we've got major connectivity issues. DSL may be here, but the days of markers, poster board, and nonvirtual town hall meetings don't have to die. And they shouldn't. If we're not careful, the Internet could even be dangerous for democracy.

"I think Internet organizing and online outreach is a mixed bag," says Anderson, the 30-year-old Guatemalan-born, Minnesota-raised activist who worked to increase political participation as organizing director for Latino voters with National Voice during the 2004 election. She now works for the League of Rural Voters, where she continues to focus on building civic involvement in Latino communities via on- and off-line activism.

"On the one hand, the speed at which people can communicate, share information and resources is astounding," she continues. "On the other hand, there is a great deal about Internet organizing and online outreach that remains detached and impersonal. There will never be, in

my opinion, a substitute for 'real-time,' in-person, face-to-face relationship building."

What about communities that rely heavily on oral tradition? And what if you can't even afford dial-up? It's not exactly Jim Crow territory, but issues of discrimination could arise if overreliance on the Internet gets too high. Turning a critical eye toward the complications of power and accessibility might be the first step toward improving online grassroots efforts.

"There are huge power dynamics at play that are rarely if ever mentioned when it comes to Internet organizing," says Anderson, who believes that organizing – especially by "low-income communities, communities of color, and/or start-up organizations" – is born from a need to survive. "The Internet has really become yet another system. It does not exist in a vacuum and is vulnerable to all the forms of oppression that other systems manufacture and enforce. ... To truly use the Internet in promoting and protecting democracy would mean that it was used in a way that was accountable to the community and in culturally appropriate ways."

– Courtney Fitzgerald

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- 6:30 PM Digital Filmmaking Resource Group (films by digital filmmakers)
- 8:30 PM Austin Film Society (films made by filmmaker-level members)

SUNDAY 3/13

- 4 PM Austin Music Network student filmmakers
- 6:30 PM Reel Women
- 8:30 PM Digital Filmmaking Resource Group

MONDAY 3/14

- 6:30 PM Austin Film Society
- 8:30 PM Reel Women

TUESDAY 3/15

- 4:30 PM Motion Media Arts Center
- 6:30 PM Youth M.A.F.I.A Day Film Festival (Shorts produced by teens during Make a film in a Day Competition)
- 9 PM Austin Music Network student filmmakers

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SPECIAL SESSION

Thursday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m.

Repeats Sunday, March 6, at 12:30 p.m.

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About the rise of Texas Republicans in an exclusive interview with SPECIAL SESSION Host Paul Stekler. Also features commentary by Rove biographer Wayne Slater (Bush's Brain) of The Dallas Morning News.



Karl Rove



klru.org/specialsession

NELLIE BLOG

WHY MODERN-DAY MUCKRAKER ANA MARIE COX COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT HER CRITICS – OR EVEN, AT TIMES, HER AUDIENCE BY ROGER GATHMAN

The *New York Times* is famous for transforming the hip into the obsolete merely by doing a feature about it. So, deciding blogging was the zeitgeist (two years after it had become last year's zeitgeist), the *Times* sent a naïf down to check out the bloggers at the Republican convention last August. He returned with an article that reads like a geek mash note to one Ana Marie Cox, aka the "Wonkette," with her "peachy cream skin and eyes of a very bright blue,"

who he was able to take to "a very expensive dinner at a really nice restaurant in Soho," etc., etc. Naturally, that peachy cream skin was pictured on the magazine's front cover.

Chalk another one up for a woman who seems to either fascinate or infuriate. When her weblog (www.wonkette.com), which mixes a jaded sex-joke schtick worthy of a Catskill's comic, circa 1940, with D.C. gossip, debuted in January of 2003, *Slate's* media critic, Jack Shafer, bashed it in an article incoherently titled "The Heaving Pukes Who Write Gawker [a New York gossip blog whose media umbrella publishes *Wonkette*] and *Wonkette*." "I had Jack over to dinner a week before that article came out," Cox says, "and he didn't even hint to me then that he thought I was a menace to his children."

Cox's *Wonkette* has become a stable D.C. read, at least for the political-media set. She quickly established herself by outing Jessica Cutler, an intern to Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, who was writing a sex diary of her encounters with various political adjuncts. Cutler's five minutes of fame led to the inevitable *Playboy* offer of a centerfold ... but *Playboy* wanted Cutler to pose with Cox. The old line D.C. humorists – Art Buchwald

and Mark Russell – had never in their entire careers been approached to do nude layouts. Cox had clearly arrived.

Now her site lists an intern and several helpers. She has just sold a novel for a reported \$275,000. Even Cutler has reportedly written a memoir. Clearly, blogging has been very, very good to Cox.

Alas, the *Chronicle* wasn't about to spring for taking Cox to a very expensive dinner at a really nice restaurant in Soho, so we had to catch up with her by phone.

Austin Chronicle: Since this is the week after Hunter Thompson killed himself, the first question is obviously a compare and contrast between the new, or gonzo, journalists, and the blogging journalists.

Ana Marie Cox: Obviously, they did it better. The worst thing that can happen to a first-year journalism student is to read *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*. Or, for a music journalist, to read Lester Bangs. Because they get the idea that, as somebody said, to write you just "open a vein." Well, there's an art to bleeding. People need editors. Thousands of people write diaries, but very few people read diaries, because very few diaries are very interesting.

AC: Yeah, Joan Didion was vaguely part of that group, and she made sure we knew every pill she was taking –

AMC: Ah, but did she? Didion always stands on the sidelines, she always lets us know exactly what she wants us to know. Her essays, if you go back, are perfectly structured. I have learned a lot from Joan Didion. Also Harold Ross, the original editor of *The New Yorker*. You know, it started out as a comic magazine. I love Ross.

AC: So, what blogs do you think need editors? *Instapundit*?



"I get lots of letters. I read them. But I am very possessive – my blog is my blog. This might sound incredibly snobbish, but I don't read comments on blogs. I think writing is a one-way medium."

AMC: No. I don't have anything against mainstream. I'd love to write for mainstream media, I just never got on that gravy train.

AC: Your blog is bravely trying to maintain the sex scandal quotient in D.C., but really, there's been an appalling lack of juiciness in the capital lately. Why?

AMC: All of them. Not just *Instapundit* – besides, he doesn't really write, does he?

AC: I suppose the ethos of blog spontaneity is especially difficult if you want to be funny.

AMC: Funny isn't raw. Funny is very processed. I spend hours agonizing about synonyms for "penis."

AC: What do you think about the way in which blogs and their audiences interact? Your blog doesn't have a comments section. Why?

AMC: I get lots of letters. I read them. But I am very possessive – my blog is my blog. This might sound incredibly snobbish, but I don't read comments on blogs. I think writing is a one-way medium.

AC: So, you don't care about an audience?

AMC: I have a virtual comedy room. I try things out on people I know with instant messaging. Having your audience be part of the evolution of your thought, the way [Andrew] Sullivan does, that isn't my thing.

AC: I know you've been around on the Web for a long time before *Wonkette*. You worked for *Suck back in, what, 1995?* How did you start?

AMC: I was at Berkeley, in the graduate history department. And I was on the Berkeley radio, I had a show dedicated to zines, because I had a zine. And the editor of *Suck* heard me and contacted me.

AC: So, you were part of the garage punk ethos back in the early Nineties?

AMC: People really don't have sex here. They replicate mechanically. Maybe it is the fallout from Clinton, or maybe it is that Republicans are better at repressing these things.

AC: How about the recent scandal of Jeff Gannon, the supposed gay prostitute-cum-fake journalist. Do you think something good will come of that? A prostitution ring in the White House?

AMC: Right, Karl Rove, political genius of the century, is going to be caught running a prostitution ring. I don't think so. Actually, I'm for Jeff Gannon. I think bloggers should be for having bloggers ask questions of the president. Isn't that what we are for? More legitimacy for weblogging?

AC: You've gotten a lot of criticism. For instance, *Bob Somerby* at *The Daily Howler* has taken shots at you. How do you respond to it? How do you deal with it?

AMC: I haven't read a piece of criticism of me that wasn't already in my head. Bob has said that I am invited into mainstream media forums to represent the liberals, and I'm not a good liberal. You know, he's right. And he has said that I'm not a serious analyst. And he's right again. ■

Texas Monthly Editor Evan Smith will conduct *SXSW Interactive's* keynote interview with Ana Marie Cox at 2pm, Monday, March 14, room 17AB of the Austin Convention Center. For more information, see www.sxsw.com.

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MARCH TO MIDSEASON

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Lots of midseason premieres in March. So, without much fuss, here's what's coming up: New seasons of *The Amazing Race* (CBS), *America's Next Top Model* (UPN), and *Making the Band* (MTV) premiered this week. *Deadwood* (HBO) returns for a new season on Sunday. The much-anticipated "dramality" series *Fat Actress* (Showtime) premieres Monday at 9pm. **Kirstie Alley** stars as a parody of herself, a plump actress trying to work in appearance-obsessed Hollywood. If anyone is capable of deep self-deprecation for a laugh, it's Alley. Haven't received the screener yet, but I have high hopes for this one.



Fat Actress

I have less than high hopes for *Blind Justice*, the heavily promoted new cop drama that premieres Tuesday at 9pm on ABC. The very fine **Ron Eldard** stars as Jim Dunbar, a New York detective who is blinded in a shoot-out, the events of which are spectacularly shown in the pilot episode's opening sequence. He can see shapes and sometimes colors, but essentially, Dunbar is blind. His trusty dog Hank is there to help him find his way, but he's not interested in listening to books on tape. He wants to go back to work and prove that he still has what it takes to be one of New York's finest.

I saw a screener of this series months ago, apparently before the network decided to premiere it midseason. Then, as now, I find the whole premise hard to swallow. Though *Blind Justice* is a **Steven Bochco** Production (Bochco being someone who knows a thing or two about cop dramas), and Eldard gives an earnest performance, I just could not buy the premise.

Later in March: *Jake in Progress* starring **John Stamos**. "Same sex, different city"? I don't think so. More on that next week.

A new season of *Project Greenlight* (Bravo) premieres March 15, as does the fourth season of *The Shield* (FX), with **Glenn Close** joining the cast. The U.S. spin-off of *The Office* premieres March 23 on NBC. The very funny **Steve Carell** (*The Daily Show*) stars in the role that **Ricky Gervais** indelibly forged in the original BBC version. The pilot episode mimics the original series, but thereafter it's all original work. Good plan. When the knockoff of the BBC hit *Coupling* came to this side of the pond, scripted word for word, the series bombed. Some things just don't translate well, even in the same language.

What I'm waiting for in my mailbox: screeners of the aforementioned *The Office*, *Kojak* (USA) starring **Ving Rhames**, and *Eyes* (ABC), a new detective drama focusing on white-collar crime, starring **Tim Daly**, all scheduled for late March premieres.

As always, stay tuned.

TV on DVD Watch

Something old, something new characterizes the upcoming TV-on-DVD releases in the next few months. Scouring the back of the TV vault brings treasures like the original *The French*

Chef series from WGBH Boston and *Fat Albert and the Cosby Kids*, while the release of current series like *Joan of Arcadia* and *Entourage* do double duty in pleasing fans and enticing new viewers into the fold.

Here's a rundown of new releases due in the next three months:

March 1: *The Brady Bunch: The Complete First Season* (Paramount Home Video; four discs, 25 episodes)

March 8: *Fat Albert and the Cosby Kids: Volume 1* (Ventura Distribution; two discs, 12 episodes)

March 15: *Hogan's Heroes: The Complete First Season* (Paramount Home Video; five discs, 32 episodes)

March 22: *Doogie Howser, MD: Season 1* (Anchor Bay Entertainment; four discs, 26 episodes); *The French Chef With Julia Child* (WGBH Boston; three discs, includes 18 episodes from the original 1960 series); *Kojak: Season One* (Universal Studios; three discs, 22 episodes)

March 29: *The Lone Gunmen: The Complete Series* (Fox Home Entertainment; three discs, 14 episodes)

April 12: *The Bob Newhart Show: The Complete First Season* (Fox Home Entertainment; three discs, 24 episodes) *Harvey Birdman: Attorney at Law: Volume 1* (Warner Home Video; two discs, 13 episodes)

April 19: *The Jacques Cousteau Odyssey: The Complete Series* (Warner Home Video; six discs, 12 episodes); *Dynasty: The Complete First Season* (Fox Home Entertainment; four discs, 15 episodes)

April 26: *Highway to Heaven: Season One* (A&E Home Video; seven discs, 24 episodes)

May 3: *Star Trek: Enterprise: The Complete First Season* (Paramount Home Video; seven discs, 25 episodes); *The Partridge Family: Season 1* (Columbia Tristar Home Video; three discs, 25 episodes)

May 10: *Entourage: The Complete First Season* (HBO Home Video; two discs, eight episodes); *Joan of Arcadia: First Season* (Paramount Home Video; six discs, 23 episodes)

May 17: *Scrubs: The Complete First Season* (Buena Vista Home Video; four discs, 24 episodes)

May 24: *NewsRadio: The Complete First and Second Seasons* (Columbia Tristar Home Entertainment; three discs, 28 episodes)

E-mail Belinda Acosta at tveye@austinchronicle.com



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WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

BY CHRISTOPHER GRAY



JOHN ANDERSON

CHERRIES JUBILEE

Keeping a secret in Austin is hard enough as it is, but when it's a word-of-mouth **Spoon** show, it's flat-out impossible. By the time the local quartet took the Trophy's stage last Tuesday as **Cherries Etc.**, the place was predictably packed. As **Adoniram Lipton** and **Underwood** warmed up, half of Austin and **Interpol** singer **Paul Banks** filed in to watch the group preview songs from May's Merge LP, *Gimme Fiction*. "Welcome to our secret show," deadpanned frontman **Britt Daniel** (pictured) after methodical opener "The Beast and Dragon Adored." *Fiction's* "The Two Sides of Monsieur Valentine," "The Delicate Place," and "Sister Jack" also cropped up, falling somewhere between the well-scrubbed pop of 2001's *Girls Can Tell* and the pricklier stream-of-consciousness missives off '02's *Kill the Moonlight*. Daniel was in good spirits for the hourlong set, honoring a shouted-out request for "Car Radio," even if the stifling heat caused him to sit down during the valedictory "The Way We Get By." "I'm fucking dead," concurred sweat-soaked drummer **Jim Eno** afterward. Why choose the gritty South Congress dive to shake off the cobwebs? "I wanted to play somewhere nobody knew about," insisted Daniel while waiting in line for Interpol the next night. Better luck next time.

SMOKING OPS

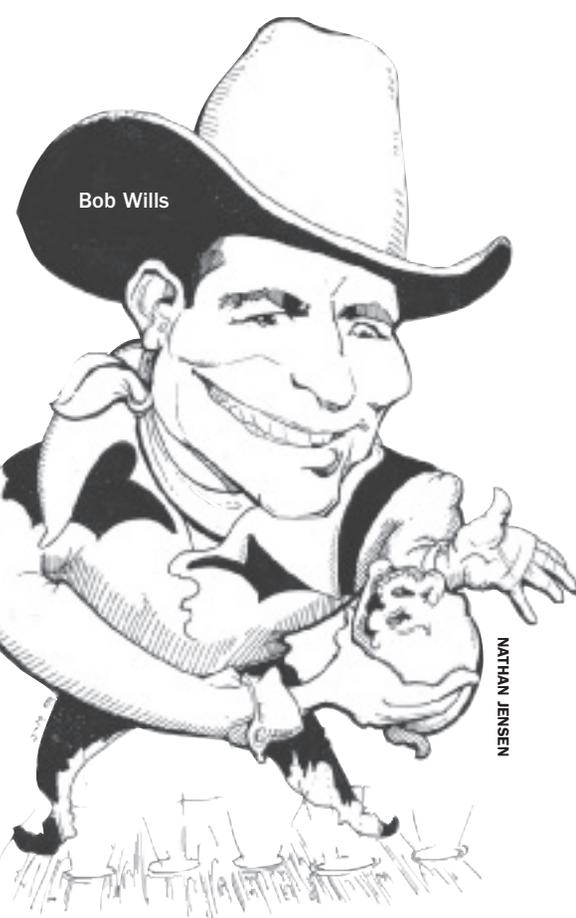
It's baaaaaaack! The city clerk's office announced Monday that Onward Austin, an anti-smoking group sponsored by heavy hitters including the **Lance Armstrong** Foundation and American Cancer Society, had gathered enough valid petition signatures to place a referendum banning smoking in bars and live music venues (but not separately ventilated restaurants or bingo parlors) on the ballot in May's municipal election. Many who derive their livelihoods from such places feel Onward's well-funded efforts smack of overkill, especially since Austin already has an ordinance that severely restricts public smoking. "For them to come back so soon, when our compromise just took effect last June, strikes me as a little disingenuous," says Elysium owner and former Air Quality Task Force member **John Wickham**. According to figures on KeepAustinFree.com, only 200 out of 46,000 local businesses permit smoking – that's well under 1% – and 400 bars are already smoke-free. Wickham's chief concern is the same as last year, that the loss of business sparked by the ban will start a ripple effect that could squeeze out many of the city's developing acts. Clubs, he says, "will have to be swinging for the fences and only book the more established bands. That's going to kill [Austin's] cultural vitality." And so it begins, again...

GUESS WHAT KUT MEANS IN DUTCH?

Some salty language during the **Gourds'** Lone Star State of Mind KGSR broadcast last Friday at the Saxon Pub caused the station to pull the plug 15 minutes early, and a lot more of said language afterward between the band and deejay **Kevin Connor**. The fracas started when engineer **Bobby Ray** heard something he shouldn't have and alerted Connor, who in turn warned the band. They continued, so Ray switched to a CD, and when Connor informed the band they were off the air, the fellas launched into an anti-KGSR diatribe that culminated in a Gourds-led chant of "KUT! KUT!" "I let a few fly," cops singer/bassist **Jimmy Smith**, ascribing his word choice to the heat of performance. "Trying to edit myself, it just didn't click." Smith reckons someone at the station should have noticed only one of his songs on new CD *Blood of the Ram* is curse-free, but maintains, "There was never any kind of intentional foul on my part." "We have to make a judgment that if something on-air is inappropriate we pull it off," acknowledged Connor Tuesday, adding, "I'm not going to say anything bad about the Gourds. That doesn't do anybody any good." Smith's confession notwithstanding, the band's lyrics can be notoriously hard to decipher in the best of times, so Saxon manager **David Cotton**, who was working the door, can't say for sure what was or wasn't said, but the incident became instant local legend either way. "I went out to dinner Saturday night," he notes, "and I couldn't get through the restaurant without people asking me about it."

WHAT MAKES BOB HOLLER

Bob Wills' 100th birthday, March 6, is about as big a milestone Texas music has seen since **Willie Nelson** hit 70. Lone Star outposts from Turkey to Jacinto City have planned observances, but the jewel is this weekend's *A Ride With Bob: From Austin to Tulsa*, the State Theater's **Ray Benson**-steered dramatization of Wills' life and music. Former **Texas Playboys** steel maestro **Herb Remington**, who will join Benson and **Asleep at the Wheel** at the State, was all of 20 at his 1946 Hollywood audition, which he thought was for the Fresno-based



Bob Wills

NATHAN JENSEN

band led by Wills' brother **Luke**. "I played a couple of tunes and Bob said, 'Hey, let's just keep this kid,'" says Remington, who today makes and ships custom steel guitars all over the world from his Houston headquarters. "I joined Bob at the height of his career – every record that came out was a hit." Half a century later, Texas audiences still swoon to "Panhandle Rag" and "San Antonio Rose." "It wasn't just a bunch of notes," Remington affirms. "We were making music."

♪ Yes, it's true: **Sound Team** is now on Capitol. The high-energy quintet signed with the home of **Radiohead** and the **Beatles** just after Christmas; the label gave them an option to license May's five-song EP to another label or release it themselves, with their nearly done full-length – which they've been recording with **Mike McCarthy** – following as soon as possible thereafter. "I think [Capitol] felt the future slipping out from under them, so they're trying to branch out into more underground areas," says Team member **Sam Sanford**. "It works out well for both of us."

♪ U.S. Marine Reserve Lance Cpl. **Trevor Aston**, an El Paso native and former Parish/Mercury bartender, was due to come home next month but died last week in a non-hostile vehicle incident, now under military investigation, in Iraq's Al Anbar province. Condolences to his family and friends; a memorial Web page has been set up at www.trevorastonusmc.com.

♪ Pop nightingale **Sarah Sharp** met the right person at SXSW Film last year, and soon enough she was in charge of choosing songs for the **Jason Lee/Crispin Glover** caper comedy *Drop Dead Sexy*. The film, featuring locals Sharp, **54 Seconds**, **Boombbox**, the **Crack Pipes**, **Bruce Hughes**, **Soulhat**, and many more, has its SXSW Film premiere March 12 at the Paramount.

♪ More fun film stuff: "TCB" predecessor **Ken Lieck**, featured in highly touted SXSW doc *The Devil and Daniel Johnston*, becomes the "Smut Keeper" to host A Star Is Porn, the Alamo Downtown's cockeyed but sex-free montage of porno spoofs like *Edward Penishands* and *A Clockwork Orgy* tonight (Thursday) through Saturday. Midnight shows only; raincoats highly recommended.

♪ Perverted Son Records may be defunct, but copies of the label's *Keep Frozen* compilation are still available at www.pervertedson.com. Label co-founder **Josh Chalmers** says the Web site will stay up until the domain comes up for renewal.

♪ Competing in the Austin Music Foundation's second Incubator program – for \$15,000 and expert advice toward making a new album – are **KJAE**, **Will Taylor & Strings Attached**, and **Debbi Walton & the Sweet Soul Vibe** (Category I); **Guy Forsyth, Rachel Loy**, and **Brent Palmer** (Category II); and **Pong, Kissinger**, and **Friends of Lizzy** (Category III). Finalists perform March 5 at Antone's and the Lucky Lounge. Good luck, all.

♪ Hot SXSW rumor of the week: the **Arcade Fire** and **Spoon** as special guests at Merge's March 17 Parish showcase. Better line up now...



Emo's recent Arcade Fire

MARY SLEDD

INSIDE ...
74 SXSW PICKS TO CLICK
80 SXSW RECORDS



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March 16 Austin Music Hall
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The *Chronicle's* annual SXSW teaser, "Picks to Click," spotlighting local acts showcasing at the ever-burgeoning Music Festival, has traditionally skewed toward newer talent, performers still in the first blush of a local buzz. Last year, that included now-favorite indie staples Sound Team and This Microwave World; the year before it was Los Lonely Boys, just prior to the release of their national debut. In 2005, with Austin's Red River district and venues like the Parish and Continental Club birthing and nurturing new rockers, six of our picks basically chose themselves. These are acts our Music staff is witnessing and raving about on a weekly basis. The seventh act had its sophomore CD land at the paper on the day the picking clicked. Already something of a vet on the local scene, this artist's new album made it clear they'd taken their talent to the next level. We'll let you



match name and circumstance in this case, but that's the P2C bottom line, no matter at what point in a career we check in with our local talent: These seven are ready for their close-up.

— Raoul Hernandez



ALL SHOWCASE TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Single Frame

Meet Austin's most enigmatic band.

Single Frame has been around nearly five years without slipping into a readily identifiable genre. Their songs are too slippery for post-punk, too straightforward for avant-garde, too arty for rock, and too rock for pure art. They reside in a peculiar crevice where Talking Heads feathered the nest and Fugazi incubated the eggs, a cozy little enclave that's warm and welcoming yet in minimal danger of being overrun by hordes of casual music fans. Single Frame forces listeners to do a little homework, and it pays off.

Drummer Adreon Henry, guitarist/bassist Brendan Reilly, and keyboardist Jason Schleiter, all of whom trade or share vocals — are no easier to read than their music. Quiet types seemingly disinterested in prevailing musical trends, their reputation as one of Austin's cutting-edge bands is growing. From a moderate local buzz, word has leaked to West Coast labels, New York remixers, and taste-making magazines like the Seattle-based *Resonance*, which celebrated Single Frame as ideal for the "post-everything" generation. All that, and they more or less started playing together by accident.

"It was a deal where there was a show coming up, we were all between bands, and basically we wanted to go to the show," says Reilly of their May 2000 bow supporting Denton's Centro-matic. "Actually, it went over really, really well. We were just messing around."

Single Frame's sound is almost, but not quite, accidental, like random collisions of musical electrons orbiting a stable but elusive nucleus. Their efforts could be graphed: a steady sine wave of regular rhythms and changes charted against a variable amount of sonic entropy. Yet dwelling on their mathematical precision makes them seem cold and lifeless. Quite the contrary, their fascination with the rough joys of pitting one sound against another, and seeing where the results land, gives the music a core of discovery, playfulness. They're somehow inscrutable and irresistible at the same time.

These contradictions first surfaced in record stores late in 2002, upon the appearance of *Wetheads Come Running*. Back then they were called Single Frame Ashtray, before Austin's smoking-ordinance follies convinced them to drop the latter word. Their free-flowing synthesis of art, rhythm, and noise was already intact. Tightly controlled minimalist passages gave way to captivating melodies and sudden bursts of seething passion.

Eventually, *Wetheads* caught the ear of Costa Mesa, Calif., label Volcom, which re-released the album last year and will issue follow-up *Body/End/Basement* in May. More so than *Wetheads*, *Body*



AUBREY EDWARDS

Single Frame's sound is like random collisions of musical electrons.

emphasizes Single Frame's willingness to think unconventionally — Henry recorded some vocals with his head in a bucket of water — without straying uncomfortably far from the beaten path.

"Current music seems like people are way more open-minded, because we had the Velvet Underground and things like that," reasons Henry. "They were considered extremely experimental, but you could take tracks off lots of things that are really big now and say that they sound like those first four records."

— Christopher Gray

SXSW showcase: Thursday, March 17, 1am @ the Co-op Bar



AUBREY EDWARDS

The Arm

"I always thought of the Arm as my rap band," explains Sean "Oh No" O'Neal with a straight face. "I want it to be a mix of N.W.A and the Screwdrivers. Rap rock has been perverted. A lot of times when I'm playing a show with the Arm, I think of Eminem in *8 Mile*. I think that I'm him, you know? You'll see me do little hand motions and shit, and I'm thinking that I'm doing a rap battle. In my head, that's what I'm doing. I'm in Detroit."

Welcome to the inner workings of Austin quartet the Arm. Four very busy men in jeans and white V-necks staking their claim on modern-day rock & roll and having a hell of a time doing it. In fact, four years ago, when this post-punk beast hatched, fun monopolized any future thoughts of the band.

"The original idea of the Arm was to see if we could put a band together in a week," O'Neal recalls. "'Let's see if we can make seven songs in a week and throw them out there.'"

From that house party sprouted the limb that tracked one of the best albums of 2004, local or otherwise. Now that original members and This Microwave World cohorts O'Neal (vox, keys) and Kevin Bybee (drums) have been joined by guitarist Alex Lyons, who produced that impressive debut and recently joined the local indie rockers in Zykos, and A Tiger Named Lovesick's Alex Ramirez on bass, freshly back from Tokyo, the Arm is unstoppable.

"We're out there to destroy every night," warns O'Neal. "Whenever we play a show, and we have to open for somebody, I think of us as these four ordinary guys that are going to come in off the street and kill your band."

Influenced by late-Seventies stalwarts the Birthday Party

and the Fall among others, the Arm employs clever sing-speak ("Good artists make, and great artists steal") over thick, funky basslines and crunchy riffs, all with Bybee's ass-shaking beats in the background. Already recording another album, these boys seemingly can't get enough of the Arm. What happens when four twentysomethings work, play, and hang out together every day?

"Every good relationship has its drama," admits Ramirez. "We could just go to an amusement park if it were going to be happy all the time."

That drama creates songs, infectious sounds easily sequenced alongside local limelights like Spoon and Trail of Dead.

That drama creates songs, infectious sounds easily sequenced alongside local limelights like Spoon and Trail of Dead. They still don't have merchandise, nor time to promote it if they did, but they practice until 3am nearly every night.

"The thing is, I'm not going to say it's just luck," Bybee refuses. "I think we're all really confident in what we're doing. I really believe in this band. I don't want to seem cocky, but I think that what we're doing is really fucking good."

And by God, it is.

— Darcie Stevens

SXSW showcase: Friday, March 18, 11pm @ the Blender Balcony @ the Ritz

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WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

The Sword

To watch the Sword play live is to witness some sort of ritual. The local quartet's songs start off slow and precise before turning into a completely different animal, rising up in a puff of smoke like some half-dragon/half-whale, which then pulls you into a fiery abyss where warriors with Nordic names battle black-cloaked banshees. In other words, their music is heavy.

The current lineup has been playing shows for almost a year, and guitarist/singer J.D. Cronise, guitarist Kyle Shutt, bassist Bryan Richie, and drummer Trivett Wingo have taken Austin by surprise with their bottom-feeding metal. Onstage, Cronise and Shutt deliver brain-melting guitar licks while Richie and Wingo crash into their respective bass and drums like meteors.

Inspired by Sleep, Slayer, and the Melvins, the four Swordsmen are stealth assailants, mutating from sludgy to melodic so discreetly it leaves a bruise. They make a conscious effort to slowly immobilize rather than whiplash.

"Our influences are numerous, and most of them are probably fairly obvious," Cronise says. "As far as my musical background, I'll just say that I always knew I'd have a band like this sooner or later."

Stylistically, there's a lot going on here. They've borrowed heavily from the sludge rock pantheon of sputtering riffs, howling vocals, extended buzz-saw jams, and booming drums, but also incorporate a fantastical storyline into their songwriting, as heard on songs such as "Barael's Blade" and "Ebethron." It's something those metal bands over in Sweden and Norway do so well, and something that also tends to slap bands as heavy as the Sword with certain labels.

"I think terms like [stoner rock] are basically musical stereotypes and therefore inherently negative," Cronise says. "The metal genre in particular seems obsessed with overcategorization. There are much more inaccurate terms to describe us than 'stoner rock,' but I prefer to call it just heavy metal."

Fair enough. In their short time together, the Sword have already played with noise heroes like Jucifer, Don Caballero, Mastodon, and locals Tia Carrera and Gorch Fock, and they plan on touring with ...Trail of Dead throughout April. In the meantime, their three SXSW shows should provide ample fodder for label grazers.



AUBREY EDWARDS

Inspired by Sleep, Slayer, and the Melvins, the four Swordsmen are stealth assailants, mutating from sludgy to melodic so discreetly it leaves a bruise.

"Being from Austin we think SXSW is great," Cronise replies. "We can go see a bunch of bands for free, play music, have a good time, and then go home and sleep in our own beds. We are very grateful that we were invited to participate."

That metalheads throughout the domestic tour circuit are bound to respond to the Sword seems a given. It's practically prophesized in the band's mission statement: "Its edge is made of metal so hard that it holds a razor sharpness even after repeated use in battle."

You can't argue with logic like that.

— Audra Schroeder

SXSW showcase: Saturday, March 19, 9pm @ Room 710

Patricia Vonne

She plays castanets, she works without a net, and the audience likes it better when she walks onstage. With the release of *Guitars & Castanets*, Patricia Vonne's second album stakes her claim on Texas border rock and mines a rich vein of golden Mexican rhythms.

"Being one of 10 children in San Antonio, there was always music in the house," says Vonne. "My mom would sing to us in Spanish and have us harmonize. My dad was a drummer in college, so he always had a kit in the house. They loved having mariachis come to our house. I also grew up listening to my brother's record collection of Cruzados, Lone Justice, and Johnny Reno. I always loved Southern rock and the diverse mix in the music I was hearing."

"My brother" is her elder sibling, director Robert Rodriguez, with whom she shares a close bond. The two work together as time and projects permit. Vonne's "Traeme Paz," a bonus track on her new album, was also featured on the soundtrack of Rodriguez's *Once Upon a Time in Mexico*.

Vonne and Rodriguez also co-authored her album's title track, a Spanish language version called "Guitarras y Castañuelas."

"I'm really proud of this song in particular," Vonne emphasizes, "because I co-wrote it with Robert, whom I enjoy writing with so much, and we wrote it for Alejandro Escovedo, who inspired it. Remember the song 'Castanets' that Al wrote? He'd let me join him onstage with my castanets, so this is my way of thanking him."

The castanets set Vonne apart. They're her instrument of choice, and their distinctive tone is a hallmark of her music. Novices to her shows may be surprised to see her sinewy swaying onstage as husband Robert LaRoche accompanies her on Spanish guitar. Her lanky, strikingly beautiful appearance suggests a haute couture



TODD V. WOLFSON

The castanets set Vonne apart.

model, and indeed a stint modeling inspired her to start her own band.

Guitars & Castanets will add many dates to Vonne's already burgeoning calendar. Her music takes her all over, an experience she treasures. "I traveled to Europe for the third time this past year," she notes. "I visited Norway, the Netherlands, and Germany. The audiences there are so wonderful and generous."

Yet there's no place like home for Vonne, who, like her brother, lives in Austin. The town's constant creative flow puts her on record in the fine company of Charlie Sexton and Jon Dee Graham as well as popular producer Carl Thiel. Songs like "Rebel Bride" transcend the singer-songwriter genre with a twist.

"The rhythm of the song was surf-inspired. I just love that drumbeat, and I envisioned a rebel bride! I'd always wanted to write a sexy, rockin' wedding song. A woman who knows what she wants. She lassos her man and they elope!"

The image is so theatrical as to suggest a broader scope for her songs. Patricia Vonne keeps one eye on her options.

"I'm always putting out feelers to film and TV for my songs, so we'll see."

— Margaret Moser

SXSW showcase: Friday, March 18, 8pm @ the Continental Club

The Real Heroes

"The record was meant to be a 'grower,' so to speak."

That's how Real Heroes vocalist/guitarist/founder Benjamin Hotchkiss describes the local quintet's year-old second album, *Greetings From Russia*. The dapper, articulate frontman isn't being lascivious; he's explaining how the band set out to record a tight collection of well-crafted pop songs that listeners would want to spin again and again as opposed to an artifice that gets deep-stacked after the novelty wears off.

It's been a "grower" year for the Real Heroes. Before *Russia*, the band spent the first half of the decade struggling to find its place on a music map defined by niche. "We were too rock for indie and too indie for rock," posits drummer Joey Spivey.

Put another way, they had crossover appeal. From "Elise, Elise," the Cheap Trick-flavored rocker that opens *Russia*, to the runway-ready Lou Reed/Sweet contagion, "Move That Strut," the band's painstaking diligence in putting the album together resulted in songs capable of resonating far beyond the Red River corridor.

"We decided to take it out of the normal avenues," explains Hotchkiss. "We just started playing events that your average punk band from Emo's or Room 710 wouldn't



AUBREY EDWARDS

It's been a "grower" year for the Real Heroes.

go do. It's a risk, because you could lose your crowd that way, but we've discovered that we thought we were weirder than we are."

Since making that decision, they've secured an invite to play the 2005 Austin City Limits Music Festival, played a live set on John Aielli's KUT show, *Eklektikos*, and garnered airplay from local rock mainstay KLBJ.

"They played 'Move That Strut' right before 'Jamie's Cryin,'" so I was in heaven," laughs lead guitarist Paul English.

Outside Austin, the Real Heroes played to full houses

in New York this summer after getting good ink from *The Village Voice*. There, the band was likened to retro-pop acts like the Strokes and Franz Ferdinand. While the latter comparison in particular left them puzzled, they're not losing sleep over it.

"It seems like the key to being considered modern is to rip off someone who wasn't famous," muses Hotchkiss. "I don't know. Maybe we just like bands that were too popular."

Anyone who's followed Hotchkiss' musical development through the Duckhills and Bongo Hate can zero in on the clever lyrics and short stops that delineate the Real Heroes from the bandwagon. However, *Greetings From Russia* avoids the quick guffaw in favor of more disciplined songwriting.

"There's still humor in the music," says Hotchkiss, "but it's more like Ray Davies does humor."

Going into SXSW, the band's confidence has grown with *Russia*'s gradual acceptance. English jokes that their odds "have increased by .5 percent," but the Real Heroes' cautious sense of optimism isn't a put-on.

"In a strange way, I feel kind of proud to be an unsigned band after this year with the way the album's gone," muses Hotchkiss. "It goes to show that if you work really hard on an album and make it the best you possibly can, then people might actually care."

— Greg Beets

SXSW showcase: Wednesday, March 16, 1am @ Tambaleo



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Shearwater

He didn't plan it this way. It just sort of happened. Despite the fact Jonathan Meiburg began his post-collegiate career as an English major, he's become the world's leading authority on the South American Striated Caracara, a falconlike endangered species native to the Falkland Islands.

Turns out a fellowship "to study community life at the ends of the earth" brought him to Terra del Fuego and the Falklands after college. While there, Meiburg worked as an assistant on a bird survey. The job changed his life.



TODD V. WOLFSON

It's the music grabbing fans and not necessarily just ornithologists.

"I saw these things and said, 'I never thought the world could be like this,'" he says.

Now Meiburg is writing his master's thesis on the South American Striated Caracara. Meiburg is also the driving force behind Shearwater, one of the most interesting bands to come out of Austin in a long time. You'll find bird art on the band's last two discs, 2004's *Winged Life*, which features the ocean bird the band takes its name from on the cover, and their recent EP, *Thieves*.

And yet it's the music grabbing fans and not necessarily just ornithologists. A cornucopia of instruments, guitars, Kim Burke's stand-up bass, violins, Hammond B-3 organ, pump organ, lap steel, vibes, Wurlitzer, sampler, glockenspiel, and piano create Shearwater's breathtaking sound-

scapes that teeter from curiously fragile to a mighty wail.

"We arrived at our sound by trial and error," Meiburg states. "It's partly because Thor [Harris] is such an interesting musician. He's been playing drums and vibraphone at the same time. He plays melodica, too. He brings an interesting palette to what we do."

Meiburg and co-conspirator Will Sheff are also in another Austin band, Okkervil River, which is more Sheff's vision. Meiburg acknowledges his songs are a lot less straightforward than Sheff's.

"We try to make an egoless kind of music," he explains.

"There's a narrator, but you have no idea who it is or what the aim of that person is. Will's songs have more of a narrative to them.

"Honestly, I'm amazed I get to work with such talented people. There have been times when I've looked around the room, wondered why they're still there, and realized they liked playing my music."

As for the future, it holds lots of touring; Okkervil will soon head back out on the road with the Decemberists,

and when that's done, Shearwater heads out. Meiburg would then like to start work on a new album.

"I'm thinking of declaring war on guitar on the next record by trying to not use it as much as possible," he asserts. "A banjo can do a lot of things that a guitar can do."

Meiburg says he's off to work on his thesis. Is he more a musician or a biologist these days?

"I'm more of a musician," he asserts without hesitation. "The science can wait just a little bit longer. I figure those birds waited 70,000 years in the Falklands for me to show up, so they can wait a few years more."

— Jim Caligiuri

SXSW showcase: Friday, March 18, 11pm @ Maggie Mae's

What Made Milwaukee Famous

"What made Milwaukee famous has made a loser out of me," crooned Jerry Lee Lewis, lamenting his love affair with Schlitz. Unlike the demon brew, Austin's version of What Made Milwaukee Famous won't leave you unshaven, smelling nasty, or estranged from your cousin/wife. What it will do is make you love rock again.

Despite the fact that the local quartet formed shortly after meeting in 2002, What Made Milwaukee Famous spent 2003 in obscurity, only playing out a handful of times. Surprisingly, this isn't something the young band obsesses over in teeth-gnashing frustration.

"You really need that first year to season yourself and get your live show down," says the effervescent John Farmer, the group's bassist. Keyboardist Drew Patrizi concurs. "There's not a big hurry," he shrugs. "We want to develop; we didn't want to get attention initially and not have anything to build on. It's good we've had some time to figure out what we're about."

Once they figured that out, WMMF cut their debut, *Trying to Never Catch Up*, recorded almost entirely on Patrizi's Mac and instant alienation for singer Michael Kingcaid's immediate neighbors. Nonetheless, *Trying* is a bona fide rock album that seethes with passion and anger, glistens with wit, and bounces with youthful energy. One of the more striking elements of the LP is Kingcaid's voice, which owes no small debt to the influence of Jeff Buckley.

"I've been singing ever since I was little," he explains. "I became a tenor in college; I was always a baritone. Jeff Buckley taught the world to sing because nobody knew you could do all these wild things with your voice. I learned things I didn't know I was capable of."

But where Buckley's music was often in service to his voice, the opposite is true for What Made Milwaukee Famous; while



TODD V. WOLFSON

"Trying to Never Catch Up" is a bona fide rock album that seethes with passion and anger, glistens with wit, and bounces with youthful energy.

Kingcaid's voice is impressive, it isn't the centerpiece of their work. The net result is solid rock topped by a voice that happens to be gorgeous.

This year marks the band's second SXSW showcase. Last year, the group played at B.D. Riley's, which only has a 50-person capacity (roughly). "At one point, I looked around and saw a circle of people around the window outside," grins Farmer. That was the high point of their festival. Needless to say, they've got slightly higher hopes for this go-round.

"The main thing we want is more exposure," says Patrizi. "Obviously, we want as many people to hear us as possible."

"Last year, we didn't have any buzz; nobody knew who we were, even though we got in," opines Farmer. "This year we've kind of built up a little buzz around Austin; people are starting to know our name, and ideally that'll help us with our showcase."

"The whole SXSW getting-signed thing is kind of a pipe dream — you can't bank on it," grumps Kingcaid. That said, he has one tiny little wish. "We deserve a label."

— Melanie Haupt

SXSW showcase: Saturday, March 19, 11pm @ the Velvet Spade

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ROKY ERICKSON

I Have Always Been Here Before: The Roky Erickson Anthology (Shout! Factory)

The 13th Floor Elevators' jug-pumping garage classic "You're Gonna Miss Me" may have been Roky Erickson's only national hit, but he's no one-hit wonder. *I Have Always Been Here Before* handsomely cements what music historians the world over have known for decades: Austin's Erickson is both a psychedelic music pioneer and gifted songwriter whose voice transcends genre. Starting with the Spades' 1965 single "We Sell Soul" and concluding with "I'm Gonna Free Her," the lead-off cut from Erickson's 1995 Trance Syndicate album, *All That May Do My Rhyme*, this 2-CD, 42-song set gathers it all. Eleven of the 'Vators' key tracks from 1966's *The Psychedelic Sounds of the 13th Floor Elevators* and 1967's *Easter Everywhere* are here, including the mind-bending "Slip Inside This House" and poignant "Splash 1." With both of these LPs being confirmed Texan and beyond touchstones, "Roller Coaster" and "Earthquake" are missed, but the sonic clarity of what's included is noticeably improved from the slapdash Fuel 2000 reissues. Following a three-year stay in the state mental institution to avoid a prison sentence for pot possession, Erickson returned to music with his 1975 Doug Sahm-produced solo debut single. Pitting the hard rock horror of "Red Temple Prayer



(Two Headed Dog)" against the wistful "Starry Eyes," this amazing single cut against the grain of prevailing tastes then, and it stands up today. Erickson's Eighties output continued in this vein, contrasting monster chillers like "Stand for the Fire Demon" with Buddy Holly-style sweet longings such as "You Don't Love Me Yet." The emphasis on Erickson's solo work drives home the point that he continued making vital music long after the 13th Floor Elevators. Best of all, his trust fund will be compensated appropriately this time. *I Have Always Been Here Before* is the long-overdue anthology Erickson deserves. **(Roky Erickson is a panelist on "Holy Fire: The 13th Floor Elevators' Quest for Enlightenment," Thursday, March 17, 4:15pm @ the Convention Center)** ★★★★★

— Greg Beets

★★★★★ Perfect ★★★★★ Great ★★★ Good ★★ Mediocre ★ Coaster

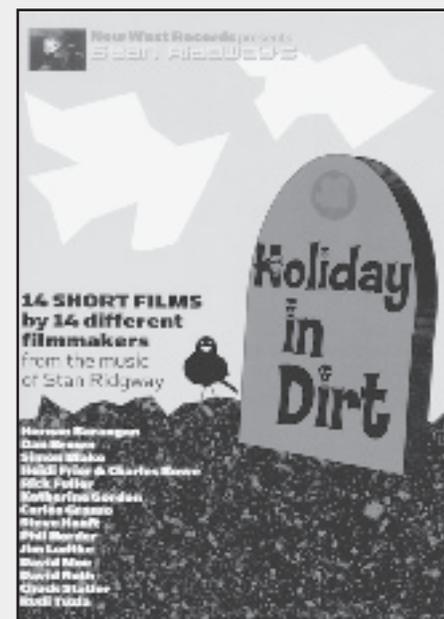
SXSW RECORDS

DVDnds

STAN RIDGWAY

Holiday in Dirt (New West)

L.A.'s Stan Ridgway, the avuncular neo-noir singer-songwriter formerly known as "that guy on the Mexican radio" has always had a penchant for cinematic flair. His best work, going back to Wall of Voodoo's "Call of the West" and moving through solo work like *The Big Heat* and *Mosquitoes*, plays like unrealized screenplays set to music, Billy Wilder on a bender with Ross MacDonald in Fifties Hollywood. Of late, Ridgway's music has lost some of its inherent darkness; there's nothing so lyrically melancholy as "Lonely Town" on his recent album *Holiday in Dirt*, although the siren song of sadness is never far away, either. This companion piece to that CD offers 14 short films/videos that vary wildly in quality and tone. Steve Hanft's "Bing Can't Walk," originally from the soundtrack to 1987 Tom Hulce anomaly *Slam Dance*, tangles a noirish narrative line with one of Ridgway's best, least-appreciated songs. Rick Fuller's "Beloved Movie Star," which crops up no less than twice here, is similarly entranced by the Los Angeles native's silver-screen backdrop, as is Carlos Grasso's "End of the Line," which parlays Ridgway's harmonica over a bilingual story of a struggling artist and his cracked and faded muse/landlady-from-hell.



While none of the short films come anywhere close to capturing the sheer naked poignancy of Ridgway's finest songs, they all nail the songwriter's obsessions with Hollywood's drifters, dime-store drunks, and dead-end kids. For the real deal, though, nothing beats the man in the flesh. **(Thursday, March 17, 12mid, Cactus Cafe)** — Marc Savlov

RACHEL LOY

Love the Mess

"Oh, you shouldn't have made me another mix CD. Now you're calling me again, but you call me first thing in the morning." So cautions Rachel Loy in her girlish, shimmering voice on "Love Me Too Much" from her local debut, *Love the Mess*. In doing so, Loy steps up and takes her seat on the long, long, long singer-songwriter bench. It's an impressive entrance, serving notice that Austin's youthful generation of songwriters and musicians raised in music camps are ready to rock & roll. Loy's songwriting — she composed all 13 tracks — is especially notable. She's firmly in the pop mold, unafraid of the occasional derivative influence; "Posers" owes melodically to the Violent Femmes' "Blister in the Sun," but her lyrical dismay is her own. Loy's voice has a pretty, airy tone to it, framed by Carl Thiel's expert touch as producer, and shining on "After the Storm." Despite her declaration on the title track, "I've been thinking maybe lately I would rather count my scars than just stop complaining," Loy obviously hasn't the thick skin of a veteran who's been through numerous marriages, cheating boyfriends, and the usual rumble-tumble of life lived. Yet as the sweetly sensual "Looking at Me" demonstrates, neither does she have faux-bravado or the pretense of experience about such things. In a wonderful way, it's truly refreshing the way Rachel Loy's 21 years are evident, reflected in a world where mix CDs are a measure of affection. **(Thursday, March 17, 8pm @ Momos)** ★★★

— Margaret Moser



KATHLEEN EDWARDS

Back to Me (Zoe)

Back to Me, the second album from Ottawa's Kathleen Edwards, brings to mind perennially underappreciated Cheri Knight, who made two fine albums produced by Steve Earle in the Nineties, as well as Lucinda Williams. Both Knight and Williams have a way about their songwriting and public persona that comes across as both physically strong yet emotionally sensitive. Musically, Edwards is working the same alt. country/roots rock vein as they do, but she does it in a way that tries for brave and perceptive and comes off as fussy and clichéd. This undercut her 2003 debut *Failer* too, even though it won Edwards critical acclaim from *The New York Times* and *No Depression* and landed her opening act slots for the likes of Bob Dylan, AC/DC (!), and the Rolling Stones. Nevertheless, the title track of *Back to Me* is a perfect example of what is lacking in her songs. It's a cousin to Lucinda Williams' "Changed the Locks," but instead of the narrator standing up to the bastard, she's thinking of ways to get him to return. The rest is marred by Edwards' rather unremarkable voice. She seems to have one gear; a breathy, slightly hoarse moan that weakens the force of her Tom Petty-influenced rockers, while getting dangerously close to somnolent on the quieter fare. **(Thursday, March 17, 12mid @ Caribbean Lights)** ★★

— Jim Caligiuri



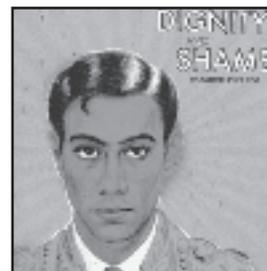
CROOKED FINGERS

Dignity and Shame (Merge)

With his fifth album as the bellwether of

Crooked Fingers, Eric Bachmann has put another long stretch of scorched road between himself and his former project, the Archers of Loaf. Each new album has ventured deeper into the dark corners of melancholy Americana, and *Dignity and Shame* is no different. Uniquely enough, it's a concept album of sorts, centered (ostensibly) around legendary Spanish bull-fighter Manolete and his lover. Opener "Islero" is named for the bull that gored Manolete to death, its "voice" a trumpet, which, despite the album's Spanish setting, winds up easily mistaken for Calexico-like flourish. The concept seems to have been checked at the door, however, as the following track, "Weary Arms," is a sharp little slice of featherlight rock, an ode to a paranoid hermit with "many enemies for reasons no one's certain of." Leave it to Bachmann to couch such a dark message in such a pleasant-sounding song. The concept is picked back up on "Andalucia," with a traveling matador wistfully bidding adios to his lover. Despite his Spanish mind-set, Bachmann has composed a song cycle that's distinctly American, earthy and working class. He's aided in the vocal work by Aussie siren Lara Meyerratken, who, in a nice little bit of SXSW serendipity, also appears on Ben Lee's current album; their chemistry is remarkable. While the concept fails to stand up over the album's narrative arc, the songwriting is solid as ever, and Bachmann and Meyerratken's combined voices will soothe even the angriest beast. **(Thursday, March 17, 12mid @ the Parish)** ★★★★★

— Melanie Haupt



GRAHAM COXON

Happiness in Magazines (EMI)

Fear! Loathing! Acrimony! It's been two years since Graham Coxon's old outfit Blur headlined a packed-to-the-rafters SXSW showcase at La Zona Rosa, and the bile between former bandmate Damon Albarn and Coxon has finally receded (a bit). At least it's off the front page of NME's Web site, thankfully replaced by the exhilarating barrage of guitarist Coxon's newest, a far superior offering than any of the four solo outings he's coughed up before. There's nary a clinker in the lucky 13 here, all of them considerably more polished than what's come before, fewer lo-fi barrel-scrapings with the occasional pearl amidst the dross and more toe-tapping indie rock shouters. Single "Freakin' Out" is what the late, great John Peel used to call a barn burner, a four-on-the-floor, angst opus that's as instantly memorable as anything in his former band's back catalogue, while "People of the Earth," with its distorted ranting and stop/start pace, recalls nothing so much as the Fall circa 1980. Produced, oddly enough, by Stephen Street (no stranger to Blur), *Happiness in Magazines* is a huge stride forward for Coxon, who here seems to have jet-tisoned his scattershot aural experimentation in favor of meaty melodies that actually stick with you. Even the bastardized spaghetti groove of "Are You Ready?" comes clean and proper and as memorable as a Leone fusillade. Ball's in your court, Albarn. **(Thursday, March 17, 11:15pm @ Stubb's)** ★★★★★

— Marc Savlov



Jack Johnson In Between Dreams



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In Between Dreams

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WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

Austin Music Commission Meeting

6 P.M., MONDAY, MARCH 7
AT THE NEW CITY HALL
301 WEST SECOND STREET, ROOM 1101

TOPIC/SPEAKER:

Preparing for SXSW
Commander Don Bredl,
Austin Police Department

THE AUSTIN MUSIC COMMISSION

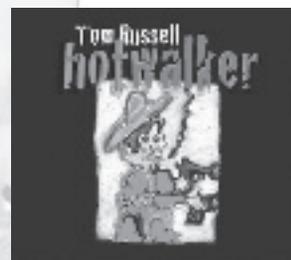
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WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

LEAD STORY

Some of the well-intentioned donations for victims of the December tsunami are bewilderingly inappropriate (such as ski jackets and Viagra), according to a February *Wall Street Journal* dispatch from Sri Lanka. Relief workers are being distracted by shipments of, for example, moisturizing gel, sweaters, women's dress shoes, arctic-weather tents, and thong underwear. Crucial medicines were in short supply, but not Valium, anti-depressants, or drugs with labels in languages that local doctors could not read. As the *Journal* wrote, some doctors "appear (just) to have unloaded their sample bins."

WORLD'S SHORTEST ATTENTION SPAN

A New York City jury in January awarded \$450,000 in damages to a professional dancer whose career was ended in 2001 after surgery by Dr. Andrew Feldman at St. Vincent's Hospital. In a pre-op meeting, the dancer described the discomfort in his right knee, and Dr. Feldman wrote a large "X" on the spot of the pain, but 20 minutes later, he mistakenly cut into the man's until-then-healthy left knee.

TACKY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

1) In December, Jean Eaton, mayor of the town of Albert Lea, Minn. (population 18,000), was arrested in what police charged was a spree in which she bought apparel from Marshall Field's department stores and then affixed their price tags to some older, used garments and "returned" them for refund. Police said a search of her home yielded evidence of tag switches totaling more than \$800 in store credit. 2) And in January, Canada's immigration minister, Judy Sgro, resigned after pizza parlor owner Harjit Singh accused her of renegeing on a deal she allegedly proposed: that she would help Singh with an immigration problem if he would deliver pizza and garlic bread to her campaign headquarters.

FINER POINTS OF LAW

1) Sergio Segundo Ruiz, 60, was hospitalized with multiple injuries in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, in January after being hit by a car while crossing a busy street, but he was nevertheless charged with interfering with traffic, and a police officer was stationed outside his room poised to arrest him as soon as he was well enough to leave. 2) In January, a judge

NEW WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



In a December Tampa Tribune feature, local Southern Baptist preacher Tom Rives was profiled in his part-time role as KoKoMo the Clown, enthusiastically delivering uplifting spiritual messages to kids and nontraditional church audiences. Said Rives (who estimates he has trained about 400 people for his clown troupes), "I don't think (preachers) should be going around with a Bible tucked under their arms and a scowl on their face." To his critics who say clowning is undignified, the Rev. Rives said, "I tell them that all Baptist preachers are clowns. I just went to class and got certified."

in Breda, Netherlands, officially ruled that a 46-year-old bank robber, who stole money worth the equivalent of \$8,400, could only be charged with a crime worth about \$6,100 because the court had to let the man offset the equivalent of \$2,300 that he paid for his gun, as a legitimate business expense.

LATEST RELIGIOUS MESSAGES

• In January, the Consumer Product Safety Commission turned down a petition from corporal punishment opponent Susan Lawrence to ban "The Rod," a 22-inch-long nylon stick marketed by an Oklahoma couple as an aid to Bible-based child-rearing ("spare the rod, spoil the child"). Vying for the same market are the 9-inch-long, polyurethane spanking paddles of a Bakersfield, Calif., man and wooden spank-

ing paddles of a New Kingston, Pa., man, both sold with an explicit Christian message. (Lawrence, who said she is a devout Lutheran, said corporal punishment of children is inconsistent with Jesus' teachings.)

ANOTHER ELECTION HEADED TO A SUPREME COURT

Ali Joho, who lost a close election for the parliament of Kenya in December, filed a petition two weeks later asking the country's high court to nullify the contest because the winner, Anania Mwaboza, was allegedly spotted with some supporters under a bridge on election eve, sewing up the eyes of three cows and then drowning them, in order to cast a spell on Joho's partisans. Allegedly, as part of the spell,

voters from out of the district appeared and voted for Mwaboza, and some polling places were opened late and closed early in order to frustrate Joho's supporters.

PEOPLE DIFFERENT FROM US

A jury in Nacogdoches, Texas, convicted Jerry Don Hartless in January of killing his former best friend, Billy Bob Wallace, during a group drinking bout one night along the Angelina River. According to testimony, Hartless believed that Wallace had stolen his boat motor but couldn't prove it. Then, that night, the group discussed a recent *Jerry Springer Show* featuring a black man claiming to be a member of the Ku Klux Klan, and the alcohol-fueled Hartless insinuated that Wallace's girlfriend, who was there, craved sex with black men. (All the drinking group were white.) When Wallace objected, Hartless shot him. A witness to the shooting was Wallace's adult son, Wild Bill Wallace (which is his actual birth name).

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

Northern Ireland's chief constable told reporters in January that the meticulously executed December robbery of Belfast's Northern Bank earned the thieves (who the constable believes are Irish Republican Army members) the equivalent of about \$50 million, but that because of a peculiarity of the U.K. banking system, Northern Bank can, and will, legally cancel and replace all the currency that was taken, rendering the stash, in the constable's words, "the largest theft of waste paper in the history of Northern Ireland." If the robbers hadn't taken so much money, the cancellation might not have been a worthwhile option.

READERS' CHOICE

Tammy Jean Warner was charged in February with negligent homicide in the 2004 death of her husband, Michael, who suffered acute alcohol poisoning (0.47 blood-alcohol level) caused by having ingested three liters of sherry wine, allegedly provided by Tammy via enema. The Lake Jackson, Texas, widow told reporters that she was only trying to help Michael (who she said had been addicted to enemas since childhood) and that he also did enemas with coffee, "castile soap, Ivory soap. He had enema recipes. I'm sure that's the way he wanted to go out (die) because he loved his enemas."

Send your Weirdest News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnews@earthlink.net. ©2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



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SXSW 2005 TOWN LAKE STAGE AT AUDITORIUM SHORES



The Gourds



Tribal Nation



Mau Mau Chaplains



Neville Brothers



Ian Hunter



Michael Martin Murphey



Alex Murdoch



Del Castillo



Savvy



Joe McDermott



SXSW presents 3 evenings of free concerts to benefit LUPE (Latinas Unidas Por El Arte) on the Town Lake Stage at Auditorium Shores in downtown Austin – Thursday March 17, Friday March 18, and Saturday March 19. All information is subject to change.



SATELLITE
RADIO



THURSDAY MARCH 17

GATES OPEN AT 5 PM

- Mau Mau Chaplains
- Tribal Nation
- The Gourds

FRIDAY MARCH 18

GATES OPEN AT 5 PM

- Alejandro Escovedo
- Ian Hunter
- Special Guests

SATURDAY MARCH 19

GATES OPEN AT NOON

- Savvy
- Joe McDermott
- Michael Martin Murphey
- Calvin Owens Blues Orchestra
- Alexi Murdoch
- Del Castillo
- Neville Brothers



FREE SHUTTLE TO TOWN LAKE STAGE
SXSW and Capital Metro have teamed up to provide free shuttle service from Austin High School (West Cesar Chavez) to the the Town Lake Stage shows on Auditorium Shores.

The Cap Metro SXSW Park-and-Ride shuttle will run every 7 minutes from the parking lot at Austin High School to Auditorium Shores.

Thursday: 5:00-11:00 PM
Friday: 5:00-11:00 PM
Saturday: 3:00-11:00 PM



this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM **ARTS, FILM,**
AND **MUSIC**) BY DIANA WELCH

Thursday 03

BILL HICKS RANT-OFF "What Would Bill Hicks Say?" is the theme of this night of live comedy, Hicks videos, and general rabble-raising, during which a mob of participants will sound off, two minutes at a time, about whatever rankles the living fuck out of them. And it'll raise funds for the Bill Hicks Foundation for Wildlife Rehabilitation. 8pm. Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research, 467-2333. www.billhicks.com.

BIKES ACROSS BORDERS OPEN BIKE SHOP 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective Warehouse, 300 Allen, 769-9691. Free.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS is offered courtesy of Manos de Cristo, a faith-based nonprofit. Call for specific times. *Manos de Cristo*, 1201 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-7454. Free.

INSIDE BOOKS VOLUNTEER NIGHT Help answer the 600 requests for books received each month from Texas' incarcerated. 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective Warehouse, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

LECTURE: HOW FOODS AFFECT YOUR HEALTH & EMOTIONS 7-9pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2276. Free. www.naturalepicurean.com.

NATIONAL COMMUNITY GATHERING FOR THE PREVENTION & AWARENESS OF EATING DISORDERS Inspired by the Elisa Project, a nonprofit founded in memory of Elisa Ruth McCall, Austin is one of 200 cities simultaneously hosting this event to celebrate healthy body image and lifestyle. 6:30-8:30pm. Ragsdale Center at St. Edward's, 3001 S. Congress, 328-0780. \$10. www.theelisaproject.org.

PET FOOD BANK BENEFIT CONCERT Donate pet food, a grocery gift card, or cash. (See Club Listings) 6-8pm. Opal Divine's Freehouse, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308. Free.

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION: SHAPING AMERICA'S FUTURE This year's Barbara Jordan Forum aims to familiarize future political participants, whether they be candidates or citizens, with things like grassroots organizing, voting rights and electoral reform, e-voting, youth voting, and felon enfranchisement. Speakers include Texas State Sen. Rodney Ellis; Texas State Reps. Mark Strama, Elliott Naishtat, and Dawna



"Light/The Holocaust & Humanity Project: Celebrate Coexistence" The traveling exhibition comes to town Sunday.

[SEE ARTS LISTINGS]

Dukes; Center for Voting and Democracy director John Anderson; and NAACP Communications director John White. Check the Web site for scheduling info. LBJ School of Public Affairs, Sid Richardson Hall, Unit 3, 2315 Red River, 471-3200. Free. www.utexas.edu/lbj/barbarajordanforum/home.htm.

ST. EDWARD'S CENTER FOR ETHICS & LEADERSHIP LECTURE SERIES: ETHICS AT THE INTERSECTION OF SCIENCE, MEDICINE, AND TECHNOLOGY "Is Human Nature Natural? Reflections on Nature as a Moral Appeal in Biotechnology Debates" by Andrew Lustig, Rice University. 7-8:30pm. Ragsdale Center at St. Edward's, 3001 S. Congress. Free. cel@acad.stedwards.edu.

THE STOREHOUSE Hungry? Broke? Jack and Sandra Cochrun, the Storehouse founders, invite anyone with a need for food to come and eat. 10am-2pm. The Storehouse, 111-A Ramble Ln. #120. Free.

WHOLE FOODS OPENING CEREMONY The Mayor is going to be there. 9:30am. Whole Foods Market, 525 N. Lamar, 391-8400. Free.

YOGA CLASS Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase. www.rutamaya.net.

THEATRE (See Arts Listings)
A Ride With Bob: From Austin to Tulsa The State Theater

VISUAL ARTS (See Arts Listings)
AMODA Ceremony Hall

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
Artworks, F8 Fine Art Gallery, the Space

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
I'm Not Scared @ Parlin 301 (UT campus), 7:30pm
Night and the City @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings)
My Education Beerland
-h Longbranch Inn

Friday 04

DIVERSEARTS FIRE RELIEF BENEFIT A night of live music and poetry. (See Litera & Club Listings) 8pm. Cafe Mundi, 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634. Donations accepted. www.diversearts.org.

SAVE THE HEART OF TEXAS! The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance hosts this regional summit on the conservation of the Edwards Aquifer, the sole source of drinking water for millions of Texans. Carver Community Cultural Center, 226 N. Hackberry, San Antonio, 210/207-7211. Donations accepted. www.aquiferalliance.org.

SNELL BUILDING OPEN HOUSE Everybody's invited to check out the new digs on East 11th and welcome the new tenants, including the nonprofit BIGAustin, the relocated Style Rite Beauty Salon, and Austin's newest Spanish-language newspaper, *Rumbo*. Noon-3pm. Snell Building, 1050 E. 11th. Free. info@austinrev.org, www.austinrev.org.

the young ones

A WOMAN CALLED TRUTH Second Youth Family Theatre's portrait of one of our country's most influential black women, Sojourner Truth, combines Truth's actual words with slave songs, spirituals, and folk songs of the period. Recommended for kids ages 7 & older. Through March 6. Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 10am & 3pm; Sun., 3pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 386-8292. \$10 (\$8, ages 12 and younger). www.secdyouth.com.

MUSIC & MAGIC with musician Joe McDermott and magician Cody Fisher. All proceeds go to the future Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas. Sat., March 5, 10-11:30am. St. Andrew's Episcopal School, 1112 W. 31st. \$15 (\$10, advance). swilder@seton.org, www.childrensaustin.org.

KIDGIT'S CLUB BOOK BLAST! Sat., March 5, 10am-3pm. Lakeline Mall, 11200 Lakeline Mall Dr., Cedar Park. Free, \$5 Kidgit Club Membership. blaire@dpwpr.com, www.simonkidgitsclub.com.

THE GREAT SAFETY ADVENTURE Children and parents become "safety rangers" on a quest to locate common safety hazards in this 1,000-square-foot traveling exhibit. Sat., March 5, 10am-4pm. Lowe's, 5510 S. I-35, 441-0329. Free. www.homesafetycouncil.org.

CHILDREN'S CONCERT by local "green kid music" folk songstress Laura Freeman, part of **Sunshine Gardens annual Plant Sale & Party** fundraiser. Sat., March 5, 10:30am. Sunshine Gardens, 4814 Sunshine, 458-2009.

READ ACROSS AMERICA Storytime plans a Seuss-tastic time full of silliness and rhyme. Sat., March 5, 11am. Barnes & Noble South, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493.

AUSTIN SCIENCE FUN DAY Sat., March 5, 11am-5pm. Texas Memorial Museum, 2400 Trinity, 232-5654. Free. www.austinsciencefunday.org.

SCULPTOR TO BE! HANDS-ON WORKSHOP For children ages 7 through 11. Sat., March 5, 1:30-3pm. Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, 605 Robert E. Lee. \$7.50. tours@umlaufsculpture.org.

YOUTH ACTIVISTS OF AUSTIN MEETING High school students made their opinions clear when they came out in droves on Jan. 20. YAA wants to do it again at the March 19th anti-war demonstration and are inviting all high school students to come strategize tactics to get the youth

out in the streets. Come one, kids! Save us! Sat., March 5, 3pm. Republic Square, 422 Guadalupe. yaaustin@email.com, www.YAAustin.tk.

MISS AUSTIN USA/MISS AUSTIN TEEN USA PAGEANT Sat., March 5, 7pm. John B. Connally High School, 13212 N Lamar, Pflugerville. missaustinusa@aol.com.

AUSTIN CIVIC ORCHESTRA: CHILDREN'S CONCERT Designed specifically for kids, with all sorts of great classical music tailored to shorter attention spans. Sun., March 6, 3pm. Austin Waldorf School, 8500 South View, 990-8ACO. \$8 (\$6, seniors, students; \$3, ages 12 and younger). www.austincivicorchestra.org.

LITTLE NEMO: ADVENTURES IN SLUMBERLAND From the makers of *Harry Potter* and *Fantasia* (see Special Screenings). Weekends through March 27. www.biggsadventure.com.

SPRING FAMILY FUN DAY features the game Apples to Apples. Join them for a story time, games, and prizes. Sun., March 6, 2pm. Barnes & Noble South, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493.

CREATIVE MOVEMENT PLAYDAY for girls aged 8-11 and their moms. Sun., March 6, 4-5:30pm. Body Vida Studio, 1115 S. Congress. \$15, pair. info@bodyvida.com, www.bodyvida.com.

Be sure to check our online listings for more fun stuff to do this week: plays, reading groups, classes, contests - you name it! austinchronicle.com

Saturday 05

AUSTIN-SAN ANTONIO COMMUTER RAIL COMMUNITY MEETING If you are at all interested in having a commuter rail between Austin and San Antonio, come check out some proposed project maps and discuss passenger rail options with the experts. 2pm. Burger Center, 3200 Jones Rd., 414-2096. www.asarail.org.

BENEFIT FOR MUSIC CO-OP & MONKEYWRENCH BOOKS Live music to help provide affordable housing to local musicians and keep the all-volunteer, collectively owned bookstore alive! Refreshments provided. (See Club Listings) 8pm. Rhizome Collective Warehouse, 300 Allen, 407-6925. \$3.

BLAST FOR JOHNNY! A benefit concert for Johnny Barnett, an elementary school student who was paralyzed in a car wreck last year. (See Club Listings) 7-11pm. Carlos'n Charlie's, 5973 Hi-line Rd. \$10. lorizinn@sbcglobal.net, www.johnnybarnett.com.

BUTTERFLY GARDENING WORKSHOP RSVP 10-11am. Westcave Preserve, 24814 Hamilton Pool Rd., 830/825-3442. \$5 (\$2, kids).

CASABLANCA GALA Celebrate the 20th anniversary of Travis County's child advocacy program. 7pm. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 459-2272. \$125. www.casatras.org.

CENTRAL TEXAS TRAIL TAMERS head to Pedernales Falls to help repair the trail to the swimming area. For more details and to sign up, contact Mark Henneke, 698-4381. Pedernales Falls State Park, 2585 Park Rd., Johnson City, 830/868-7304. Free.

COLLECTORS' EXPO 9am-5pm. Crockett Events Center, 6301 Hwy. 290 E., 451-3083. \$3 (free, 6 & younger). www.collectorexpo.com.

COMPUTER CLINIC Trouble with your computer? Bring in your laptop or CPU, and Computer Club members will diagnose problems and set you up with freeware to fight various computer diseases. 11am-3pm. Old Quarry Branch Library, 7051 Village Center Dr. Free. errolty@yahoo.com, www.ccaustin.org.

COWBOYS & CAVIAR Grand grub (we're talking caviar), a live auction (Trips around the world! Diamond jewelry! Sinatra's hand-rolled stogies! Dinner for 12 with ... Joe Millionaire?), Westerns drive-in style, and live music to benefit the Children's Advocacy Center. 6pm. Smithville

Riverbend Park, 101 Hwy. 71 W., Smithville, 512/321-6161. \$75 (\$12, concert).

EXPLORE UT: THE BIGGEST OPEN HOUSE IN TEXAS! A major event, with too much going on to list. Anyone even remotely interested in UT should take advantage of these events, from a sneak preview of the new Blanton to a journey back to the Watergate scandal. Check the Web site for full scheduling of events. 11am-5pm. Free. www.utexas.edu/events/exploreut.

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES Basic Computer Skills: 10:30am-12:30pm; Digital Photography II: 1:30-3:00pm. Daniel Ruiz Branch Library, 1600 Grove, 974-7400. Free.

GOSPEL SING OUT Sweet Charity of Austin presents this gospel extravaganza and sing-along to help out UT campus-area homeless. (See Club Listings) 4:30 & 8pm. University Avenue Church of Christ, 1903 University, 914-1610. \$7-12.

HUSTON-TILLOTSON COLLEGE'S PRESIDENT MASKED BALL Dinner, dancing, and a silent auction. (See Club Listings) 6pm. Hilton Austin Airport, 9515 New Airport Dr., 505-3072. \$100. www.htc.edu.

NIA JAM An introduction to martial, dance, and healing arts, designed for everyone. 10:30am. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st. Free. artichoketx@yahoo.com

SUNSHINE GARDEN'S ANNUAL PLANT SALE AND PARTY With hundreds of organic and heirloom plants, including vegetables, fruits, herbs, flowers and ornamental varieties, local vendors, and live music from Polkadillos, the Pistol Love Family Band, and a children's set by Laura Freeman. 9am-2pm. Sunshine Gardens, 4814 Sunshine, 458-2009. Free.

TSUNAMI BENEFIT CONCERT (See Club Listings) 12:30pm. The Vibe, 508 E. Sixth, 474-0632. \$5.

WAVE OF LOVE: PAGAN GARAGE SALE FOR TSUNAMI RELIEF 9am-3pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 921-0264. www.liveoakcog.org.

WILLIAMSON CREEK CLEANUP Help make way for an eventual trail to McKinney Falls! Snacks, refreshments, and lunch will be provided, as well as free 10-minute chair massages. RSVP 9am-2pm. Emerald Wood & South First. Free. nsanford@mac.com.



WINE & FOOD FOUNDATION: TAPAS COOKING CLASS with Chef Kevin Quinn. 2-5pm. Texas Culinary Academy, 11400 Burnet #2100, 327-7555. \$50 (\$35, members). www.winefoodfoundation.org.

YOUTH ACTIVISTS OF AUSTIN MEETING (See the "Young Ones") 3pm. Republic Square, 422 Guadalupe. yaustin@email.com, www.yaustin.tk.

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION: SHAPING AMERICA'S FUTURE LBJ School of Public Affairs, Sid Richardson Hall, Unit 3, 2315 Red River, 471-3200. Free. www.utexas.edu/lbj/barbarajordanforum/home.htm. (See Thursday 3/3)

SAVE THE HEART OF TEXAS! Carver Community Cultural Center, 226 N. Hackberry, San Antonio, 210/207-7211. Donations accepted. www.aquiferalliance.org. (See Friday)

STUDENT-ORGANIZED LATINO/A HERITAGE SYMPOSIUM Southwestern University, 1001 E. University, Georgetown, 512/863-6511. Free. www.southwestern.edu/latinoheritage2005. (See Friday)

CLASSICAL MUSIC (See Arts Listings) **Indian Classical Music Circle of Austin: The Lute and the Flute**

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts) **Art on 5th, Museum of Natural and Artificial Ephemera**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings) **Black Film Festival @ George Washington Carver Museum** (See www.soulcity.com/promo/abff.htm) **Faculty Film Showcase Screening @ CMA Auditorium** 2.320 (on the UT campus), 11am **Faculty Film Showcase Screening @ Texas Union Theatre**, 11am **Student Film Showcase Screening @ CMB, Studio 4D** (on the UT campus), 11am **The Show With No Name: Live @ Alamo Drafthouse** Downtown, 7:30, 9:45

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the GAY place

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

For more gay stuff, see Calendar online: austinchronicle.com.
Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

ARE YOU THE GAY? You're planning on going to see Margaret Cho anyway, right? June 10, at the Bass Concert Hall? Good, we'll see you there - in the front row! That's right, the saints at OutYouth have put together a special package, including a ticket to the fabulous show (guaranteed seating in the first 12 rows for full-frontal Cho), a Cho DVD, and VIP entry to a post-show reception with complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cocktails ... and Margaret Cho. That's right, she'll be among the masses, meeting, greeting, and signing whatever you put in her hands. Through June 10. 419-1233. \$150, Four ticket limit. outoutyouth.org, www.outyouth.org.

A MESSAGE FROM JUNIOR Between the name of one of Austin's hottest homo havens is a slash. Sidekicks/Xtreme. One slash divides a club: Ladies on one side with pool tables and sports on the telly; boys on the other with hump-me bass lines and dimmed lights. While this is not necessarily a formal boundary decided by the club, it's a rift that no one seems to be trying to heal. One slash that further defines the ever-present, ever-unnecessary line in the sand, our own Berlin wall of the gay community: Fags vs. Dykes. The Flannel vs. the Glitter. It's the battle of the sexes. And it ain't pretty. In a gay bar - a huge gay bar, where there is room enough for us all - why the throwback to grade school recess? Coming from the bowl-cutted tomboy who wasn't picked last with the guys, I just don't get it. Coming from that same chick, with a slightly better haircut these days, who has an absolute undying adoration for gay men (and who often gets mistaken for a cute little fag), I don't understand how a minority that knows what homophobia feels like, a minority so vast and so diverse, would run from that diversity rather than celebrate it. In a political climate worse than Austin's August, the more cracks we put in the foundation of this community (especially a blue one surrounded by a sea of red) the more detrimental. If we keep ungluing the bonds between us, we are giving up our strength, handing it over in a time where we need all the gusto we can get. It's not just men and women in the clubs, either. Craigslist posts pit the butchies against the lipstickers, the granola against the frat-bois. I ask, why oh why are we hating so much? We should revel in our individualism and find strength in our beautiful differences. So I'm pleading with you here: people of color, the crackers, tranny boys, tranny girls, flamers, jocks, visor-toters, the Prada posse, the young hot lez, the older, even hotter domestic lez, the working class, the upper crust, every letter of that sprawling acronym, all the way from the G to the Q, the whole freakin' gay community - we need to stop being so damn separatist and get our act together. Together. Together. Slash those slashes; tear down those walls. Unite. We can't afford not to.

- Kate Getty

WON'T YOU BE OUR NEIGHBOR? That's right. The Darling New Neighbors and friends (Ethan Azarian and Casting Couch) are rocking it Mr. Rogers style this weekend. Get it. Fri., March 4, 10pm. Hole in the Wall, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747.

LESBIAN SINGLES SPRING PARTY Spring is here, and with it, birds are chirping, hormones are racing, and the weather is simply ideal for a true fling. So get flung at the Lesbian Singles Events Association's annual Spring Part-aaay. There's a live band, DJ, dance floor, and room enough for intimate conversations and free massages. Get something started. Call for location and details. Sat., March 5, 7pm. 452-4110. \$15 (\$10, advance w/e-mail RSVP). Iseaclub@yahoo.com.

V-DAY AUSTIN 2005 What is V-Day, you may ask? A movement through benefit performances of Eve Ensler's beautiful *The Vagina Monologues*, which generates broader attention for the fight to stop worldwide violence against women. Amen. Is it working? You betcha. In its first six years, the V-Day movement has raised over \$20 million. Performances in Austin will benefit Transgender Advocates of Central Texas (TACT) and Codepink Austin. Make a world of difference. Put a little "V" into it. March 5-6, Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Play! Theatre Group, 1204 Cedar Ave. \$8, advance; \$10, door. vdayaustin2005@hotmail.com.

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Sunday 06

GARAGE SALE AND BBQ BENEFIT for Latina Mami, an East Austin-based nonprofit that helps Latina mothers and their children. 9am-2pm. *Latina Mami*, 5812 Berkman. info@latinamami.org.

HAITI: AN EXAMPLE OF DEMOCRACY DENIED Alan Pogue, *Chronicle* photographer and director of the Center for Documentary Photography, presents photographs from Haiti, where he visited shortly after the coup and, more recently, as part of a delegation with the National Lawyers Guild. 11:30am-12:30pm. *First Universalist Unitarian Church*, 4700 Grover. info@austinuu.org.

INSIDE BOOKS VOLUNTEER NIGHT Help answer the 600 requests for books received each month from Texas' incarcerated. 7pm-12mid. *Rhizome Collective Warehouse*, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

LIGHT/THE HOLOCAUST & HUMANITY PROJECT: CELEBRATE COEXISTENCE Part of a larger tolerance-building project that spans months, this community celebration features an internationally touring exhibit of 36-foot images of co-existence by artist's from around the world. (See Arts) 2-5pm. *Auditorium Shores, South First at Town Lake*, jwetherholt@christianpr.com, www.balletaustin.org/light.

ORGANIC FOOD GROWING WORKSHOP 9am-4pm. *American Botanical Council*, 6200 Manor. \$45; \$35, students. greencornproject@usa.net.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE EXTRAVAGANZA Activities (you get to play with fire trucks, EMS equipment, and cops stuff!) and games to promote Travis County law enforcement. Noon-6pm. *Star Hill Ranch*, 15000 Hamilton Pool Rd., 854-9773. Free.

ZILKER PARK KITE FESTIVAL Noon. *Zilker Park*, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700. Free. www.zilkerkitefestival.com.

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE'S CROP WALK 1:45pm. *Guerrero Colorado River Park*, 8200 Grove Dr., tx@churchworldservice.org, www.main.org/cropwalk. (See Saturday)

COLLECTORS' EXPO 10am-4pm. *Crockett Events Center*, 6301 Hwy. 290 E., 451-3083. \$3 (free, 6 & younger). www.collectsexpo.com. (See Saturday)

SAVE THE HEART OF TEXAS! *McCombs Community Cultural Center*, 226 N. Hackberry, San Antonio, 210/207-7211. Donations accepted. www.aquiferalliance.org. (See Friday)

VISUAL ARTS (See Arts Listings)
The Coexistence Exhibition *Auditorium Shores*

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
Auditorium Shores

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Black Film Festival @ *George Washington Carver Museum* (See www.soucliti.com/promo/abff.htm)
The Muppet Movie Sing-Along @ *Alamo Drafthouse Downtown*, 7, 9:30

Monday 07

ALLIANCE FOR A CLEAN TEXAS LOBBY DAY RECEPTION & TRAINING Big polluters spend millions of dollars to get what they want in Austin; the eco-wise will have to match that money power with people power. Learn how you can demand ecological responsibility from your legislators at this preparatory gathering for tomorrow's lobby day at the Capitol. 7-8:30pm. *University Presbyterian Church*, 2203 San Antonio St. Free. www.allianceforcleantexas.org, donna.hoffman@sierraclub.org.

AUSTIN AGAINST WAR'S VOLUNTEER NIGHTS Help prepare for an anti-war rally on March 19, commemorating the second anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. 7pm. 2107 *San Antonio*, 323-9778, aaw@austinagainstar.org, www.austinagainstar.org.

AUSTIN AREA QUILT GUILD 6:45pm. *Faith Lutheran Church*, 6600 Woodrow, 448-5152. www.aagg.org.

COLONIAL BRAZILIAN MUSIC CONCERT AND SYMPOSIUM 10am-5:30pm. *Thompson Conference Center*, Red River & Dean Keeton. cmms@mail.utexas.edu.

INTRO TO THE SHAMANIC JOURNEY 7-8:30pm. *The Life Dance Institute*, 3212 S. Congress. \$10. gstarnes@lifedanceinstitute.org, www.lifedanceinstitute.org.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS *Manos de Cristo*, 1201 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-7454. Free.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
The Iron Giant @ *Alamo South*, 7pm
Turkish Wizard of Oz @ *Alamo South*, 9:45pm

Tuesday 08

ALLIANCE FOR A CLEAN TEXAS LOBBY DAY OK, now that you're all geared-up with a fire in your belly from last night's prep session, head to the Capitol Grill for some entrenched activism. Then, enjoy a luncheon with your comrades at the AFL-CIO Hall. Lobby Day: 8:30am; Luncheon: noon. *Capitol Grill, Capitol Extension, Rm. E1.002; AFL-CIO Hall*, 11th & Lavaca, 477-1729. Free (donations accepted for lunch). donna.hoffman@sierraclub, www.allianceforcleantexas.org.

ART 101 with Mark Smith of Flatbed Press. 6:30pm. *Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum*, 605 Robert E. Lee. \$5 (free, members). membership@umlaufsculpture.org, www.umlaufsculpture.org.

AUSTIN IN ACTION LAUNCH PARTY The inaugural happy hour for this new social club for adventurous/outdoorsy types doubles as an **Emancipet** benefit. 7-9pm. *Baby Acazulco's*, 9505-B Stonelake Blvd. \$10. info@austininaction.com, www.austininaction.com.

AUSTIN SPOKESCOUNCIL MEETING 8pm. *Plaza Saitillo*, 401 Comal, 727-8363. www.austinspokes.org.

DELIBERATE DIFFERENCES: PROGRESSIVE & CONSERVATIVE ACTIVISM ON U.S. CAMPUSES with Pam Chamberlain of Political Research Associates. 3pm. *UT Gender & Sexuality Center, Dean of Students Office, the University of Texas at Austin, Student Services Building*, 100 W. Dean Keeton, Rm. 1.302, 232-9587, 232-4680. Free.

JOBS WITH JUSTICE MEETING Join this campaign for worker's rights and help strategize for a world where employees are actually treated like human beings. *Texas State Employees Union*, 2700-C S. First, 448-4225. Free. www.jwj.org/LocalCoal/TX.htm.

NEW ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY The mayor's at it again, this time with Linklater and Knowles by his side as he knights another local business. 5:30pm. *Alamo Drafthouse South*, 1120 S. Lamar. kier-la@originalalamo.com, www.drafthouse.com.

TEXAS ECOLOGY LECTURE SERIES In this seven-week series, scientists from the Memorial Museum cover the unique biological diversity of life in Texas. *Through March 29, Texas Memorial Museum*, 2400 Trinity, 471-2912. \$128-160. www.utexas.edu/cee/odyssey.

BIKES ACROSS BORDERS OPEN BIKE SHOP 6-10pm. *Rhizome Collective Warehouse*, 300 Allen, 769-9691. Free.

COLONIAL BRAZILIAN MUSIC CONCERT AND SYMPOSIUM 9:15am-4:45pm. *Thompson Conference Center*, Red River & Dean Keeton, cmms@mail.utexas.edu. (See Monday)

out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

SENTINELS OF THE TEXAS FRONTIER is a special exhibit on the Buffalo Soldiers, African-American soldiers who protected the westward migration during the Indian Wars of the late 19th century. *Through March 14, Fort House Museum*, 503 S. Fourth, Waco, 254/753-5166. www.historicwaco.org/fort.html.

OYSTERFEST salutes the brave person who ate the first oyster, and the Texas oyster industry, with plenty of food, entertainment, and arts & crafts. Remember, only eat oysters in months with an "r." *Thu.-Sun., March 3-6, Navigation Park*, Fulton, 361/729-2388.

NEEDLE ART EXTRAVAGANZA shows off quilts, needlepoint, embroidery, crochet, tatting, knitting, rug hooking, and other handicrafts. *Thu.-Sat., March 3-5, 9am-5pm, Courthouse Square*, Lampasas, 512/556-2224.

NORTH TEXAS IRISH FESTIVAL features some of the finest Irish and Scottish entertainers, including world-famous bands, award-winning dancers, enchanting storytellers, as well as international food and drink. *March 4-6, Fri., 6-11pm; Sat., 10:30am-11:30pm; Sun., 11:30am-8:30pm, Fair Park*, Dallas, 972/943-4624. www.ntif.org.

COUNTRY ANTIQUES SHOW & SALE offers furniture, Southwestern items, glassware, toys, jewelry, textiles, sports memorabilia, and more. *March 5-6, Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 10am-4pm, Kendall County Fairgrounds*, Boerne, 830/995-3670.

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION rekindles the spirit of Texas in grand fashion with music, chuck wagons, campfires, and two-alarm chili. *Sat. March 5, 11am-5pm, Luckenbach*, 888/311-8990. \$6. www.luckenbachtexas.com.

A TRIBUTE TO BOB WILLS is presented by the Sagebrush Band, who'll be performing songs of Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys. *Sat., March 5, Columbus Opry*, 715 Walnut, Columbus, 877/444-7339. www.columbusopry.com.

day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Charles Kincaid's Grocery Market in Fort Worth consistently gets listed as one of the best hamburger joints in not just Texas, but the entire U.S. Books, magazines, newspapers, television, and the Internet all have proclaimed that the former neighborhood grocery store holds a place in the upper echelon of the most American of American foods.

"We start off with a good cut of meat," says Morris Gardner, the store's manager. "It's all natural beef. No steroids. No hormones. We've been doing it that way for more than 40 years."

Gardner, who has been with Kincaid's since 1994, isn't hesitant about divulging the restaurant's secret to success. "We always use fresh meat," he says. "You won't find any prepackaged, frozen patties here."

Every day the crew grinds their own chuck and forms the quarter-pound patties. "It's not rocket science," Gardner says, "but it does take a great effort to produce a consistently good burger year after year." And the public seems to agree. Customers drive to the west Fort Worth location from all over the Metroplex to get one of those juicy hamburgers. In fact, hungry folks from all over the country seek out the burgers; some walk in carrying a copy of one of the several guide books that have included Kincaid's.

At first glance, the former grocery store doesn't look particularly special. The bright white building set off of the historic red bricks of Camp Bowie Boulevard is easy to miss among the storefronts and houses. Inside, the red-and-white-checkered tablecloths cover long picnic tables, and inflatable beer bottles and promotional dolls hang from the ceiling. In the very back of the store, the old butcher counter is where you place your order.

It was this butcher case that started Kincaid's Grocery on the road to success in the very competitive burger world. Charles Kincaid opened the neighborhood grocery store in 1946 selling Coca-Cola to the kids and Tide to their mothers. "It was supermarkets that put the mom-and-pop grocery stores out of business," Gardner says. That might be true for most independent grocers, but Kincaid's out-lived the A&P Grocery that once stood across the street.

The evolution from grocery store to burger joint happened slowly. It began in 1964, when the butcher, O.R. Gentry, fried some ground chuck leftover from the day before and sold burgers to the students from the nearby high school. As a grocery store, Kincaid's was always known for having a good butcher shop. "We're just continuing the tradition," Gardner says.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

At first Gentry sold only a few burgers a day from the meat counter – nothing compared to the 800 to 1,000 burgers that Gardner now sells. The butcher bought the shop in 1966 from Kincaid, and his reputation for hamburgers grew first by word of mouth and then by rave reviews in area publications. Eventually, Gentry was selling more hamburgers than groceries.

When the butcher and short-order cook retired in 1991, he passed the business on to his daughter and son-in-law. Recognizing the hard future for neighborhood grocery stores, the younger Gentrys discontinued the grocery business and concentrated on the cooked foods. They replaced the checkout counters in the front of the store with picnic tables and converted the three rows of grocery shelves into counters where patrons devour the burgers standing up.

Gardner says that quality has been the store's secret to success, yet the food is still competitively priced with the McChain burger joints. A cheeseburger at Kincaid's costs less than \$4, fries are less than a dollar, and a cold beer is \$3. The menu also includes grilled chicken sandwiches, chili, hot dogs, and onion rings, and is topped off with homemade banana pudding and Blue Bell milkshakes.

Kincaid's Grocery Market is at 4901 Camp Bowie Blvd., about seven miles west of downtown and four miles from Fort Worth's cultural district. "Folks can visit some of the world's top museums and then top it off with a greasy burger," Gardner says with a laugh. "Culture and fine dining in one weekend." The burger counter is open Monday through Saturday, 11am to 8pm. To place an order, call 817/732-2881.

716th in a series. **Day Trips, Vol. 2**, a book of *Day Trips* 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: *Day Trips*, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

DIAMOND WAY BUDDHISM MEDITATION MEETING 7pm. 2600 Penny Ln. #123, 371-9803. www.diamondway.org/austin.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS Manos de Cristo, 1201 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-7454. Free.

YOGA CLASS Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase. www.rutamaya.net.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Dazed and Confused @ Alamo South, 9:45pm
The Happiness of the Katakuris @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm
Waking Life @ Alamo South, 7pm

Wednesday 09

ALPHA COURSE: EXPLORING CHRISTIANITY
 This 10-week practical introduction to the basics of Christianity is open to all: atheist, agnostic, non-Christian, new Christian, doubters, and believers. Classes include dinner, film, and discussion. Registration requested. 6:15-7:45pm. Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church, 7127 Bee Caves Rd., 327-1116 x103. Free. www.alphacourse.org.

AUSTIN NORML MEETING 9pm. Opal Divine's Freehouse, 700 W. Sixth. info@austinnorml.com, www.austinnorml.com.

EAT, DRINK, WATCH MOVIES Celebrate the grand opening of the new Alamo, with a screening of the Kurosawa's classic *Rashomon*, and a four-course meal from Uchi. 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse South, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. \$50 (benefits the Capital Area Food Bank). www.originalalamo.com.

NATURAL EPICUREAN ACADEMY OF CULINARY ARTS COOKING DEMO Culinary program students' final projects. 6:15-6:45pm. 476-2276. Free. www.naturalepicurean.com.

PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS ON A SHOE STRING BUDGET Free marketing advice from Brett Lloyd Abbott of Y2Marketing. RSVP 11am. BankOne Building, Capital Plaza, 5407 N. I-35. sreams@capcitychamber.org.

YOGA IN THE PARK led by certified Yoga Yoga teachers. Noon-1pm. Republic Square Park, Fourth & Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS Manos de Cristo, 1201 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-7454. Free.

YOGA CLASS Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase. www.rutamaya.net.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Phantasm @ Alamo South Lamar, 9:45pm
Rashomon @ Alamo South Lamar, 7pm
The Black Panthers (in Israel) Speak @ Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 7:30pm

Thursday 10

AUSTIN HERB SOCIETY STUDY GROUP 7-9pm. Zilker Park Botanical Gardens, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 927-8478. \$3 donation for nonmembers. www.austinherbsociety.org.

CASA 101: VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION Intended to give an overview of the CASA program, the meeting offers a question-and-answer period and serves as the first part of the volunteer screening process. 9:30am-noon. CASA of Travis County, 6330 Hwy. 290 E. #350. casatc.casatc.org.

DAVID ROVICS Praised by the likes of Pete Seeger, Howard Zinn, Amy Goodman, SOA Watch, the Industrial Worker, and Global Exchange, this political

Sports

BY MARK FAGAN



THE MAIN EVENT

ROUND ROCK COLLEGE CLASSIC Featuring some of the best college-level talent in baseball (Rice, Nebraska, Texas State, USC, Texas A&M, and Notre Dame) at one of the finest parks in all of minor-league ball. See Web site for details. Fri.-Mon., March 4-7. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock. \$5 (adults), \$3 (kids and senior citizens) per day. www.roundrockexpress.com/college.

THE HOME TEAMS

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Softball Vs. Evansville: Fri., March 4, 6:30pm; Sat.-Sun., March 5-6, 1pm. Vs. UT-San Antonio (doubleheader): Wed., March 9, 5 & 7pm. Red and Charline McCombs Field. **Men's Tennis** Vs. Abilene Christian/South Florida: Sat., March 5, 1 & 6pm. Vs. Virginia: Tue., March 8, 5:30pm. Penick-Allison Tennis Center. **Women's Tennis** Vs. Wake Forest: Sun., March 6, noon. Penick-Allison Tennis Center. **Baseball** Vs. Rice: Wed., March 9, 6:15pm. Disch-Falk Field. **Women's Swimming** American Short Course Championships: Thu.-Sat., March 3-5, all day. Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center. www.texasports.com.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Volleyball Austin Jr. Volleyball: Sat.-Sun., March 5-6, 7am. Alumni Gym. www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm.

LONESTAR ROLLERGIRLS The A&E cameras will be rolling as the Rhinestone Cowgirls face the Cherry Bombs in the first regular-season bout of the year, as part of the upcoming reality show on the Lonestar Rollergirls tentatively titled – appropriately enough – *Roller Girls*. (See Club Listings) Sun., March 6, 7pm. Thunderdome, 1901 E. 51st, hangar 5, 799-2645. \$10. www.txrd.com.

RECREATION & FITNESS

RAINBOW ROLLERSKATING A semimonthly roller-skating event for the gay and lesbian community. Wed., March 9, 8pm. Skate World Northwest, 9514 Anderson Mill Rd., 258-8886. \$6. www.main.org/rainbowskate.

NIA 101 Deepen your experience of Nia in this special workshop. Learn the basics of Nia and the 52 moves. Sun., March 6, noon. NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 443-3013. \$20 (workshop only), \$40 (workshop plus three classes). www.niaspace.com.

SOFT-TIPPED DART LEAGUE Sign up for new league and/or dart tournaments. Thursdays, 8pm. Sam's Town Point, 2115 Allred Dr., 282-0083.

DRIVE, CHIP & PUTT JUNIOR CHALLENGE Introduce the kids to golf in this fun, free, and friendly environment. Sun., March 6, 1pm. Barton Creek Resort and Spa, 8212 Barton Club Dr., 329-4000. Free. www.thegolfchannel.com.

THE LIVER FOUNDATION OF CENTRAL TEXAS GOLF TOURNAMENT benefits the Liver Foundation of Central Texas. Sat., March 5, 2pm. River Place Country Club, 512/370-5422. www.lfct.org/pdf/golf_tournament_registration_form.pdf.

THUNDER HILL RACEWAY There are races every Saturday night at this paved oval racetrack in South Austin. See Web site for more details. Sat., March 5, 7pm. 24801 I-35, Kyle, 512/262-1352. www.thunderhillraceway.com.

BIG BROTHERS AND BIG SISTERS BOWL FOR KIDS SAKE A fun bowling fundraiser to help match children in the community with mentors. See Web site for details. Fri.-Sun., March 4-6. Highland Lanes, 8909 Burnet Rd. www.austinbowl.kintera.org.

folkie is being hailed as the last American protest singer. 7-9:30pm. UT Campus, Flawn Academic Center Rm. 21. Free. www.davidrovics.com.

HUIPILES PARTY Fawn over the new line and get drunk on their wine. 7-9pm. El Interior, 1009 West Lynn, 926-4900. www.elinterior.com.

MAPCON: POWER & WOMEN features Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison and more. See Web site for scheduling details. www.womenschambertexas.com.

BIKES ACROSS BORDERS OPEN BIKE SHOP 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective Warehouse, 300 Allen, 769-9691. Free.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS Manos de Cristo, 1201 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-7454. Free.

INSIDE BOOKS VOLUNTEER NIGHT 6-10pm. Rhizome Collective Warehouse, 300 Allen, 385-3695.

THE STOREHOUSE 10am-2pm. The Storehouse, 111-A Ramble Ln. #120. Free.

YOGA CLASS Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase. www.rutamaya.net.

FAMILYCONNECTIONS has volunteer opportunities for women interested in helping and supporting new mothers, children, and families. All volunteers will participate in eight-hour training and are asked to make a one-year commitment. Hospital visitor, parent-support caller, play-group leader, parent mentor, and helping-hand positions are available. *Family Connections*, 825 E. 53½ Ste. E-101, 478-5725 x218. www.familyconnectionsonline.org.

ETHICS IN BUSINESS AWARDS NOMINATIONS DEADLINE Nominate the "good samaritan" business in your community! Nomination criteria and forms are available from the Samaritan Counseling Center and online. Through March 11. Samaritan Counseling Center, 5425-A Burnet Rd. www.austinetics.org.

FAMILY ELDERCARE is in need of volunteers to work as Bill Payers and Guardian Advocates in order to maintain dignity, independence, and quality of life for the disabled and the elderly. *Family Eldercare*, 2210 Hancock Dr. funger@familyeldercare.org.

English football has been riding pretty high of late, with strong league play, great results in international competition, and three teams – **Chelsea, Arsenal, and Manchester United** – all ranked in the top 10 in the world. Heck, they've even got a movie in the **SXSW Film Festival** (the world premiere of *Hooligans*, starring Elijah Wood as a rabid fan of West Ham United, of all teams – kind of like being a Cubs fan, except you have to really choose the life, because London has a lot better teams than the Hammers to choose from – and yes, since you ask, it really is all about SXSW around here at the moment).

But I digress. Then came last week, and all of the big three lost in the **European Champions League** Round of 16. Nothing's decided yet, but barring a few turnarounds in the return leg next Tuesday/Wednesday, the Premiership faces the very real possibility of going from the maximum of four teams in the ECL Round of 16, to the minimum – none – in the final eight. ESPN2's game of the week is **Barcelona at Chelsea** (Tuesday, March 8, 1:30pm). – Nick Barbaro

Soccer WATCH

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

THE AUSTIN CYCLING ASSOCIATION has plenty of bicycling activities to offer this bike-loving city. Check their Web site for details. www.austincycling.org/rides.html.

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE'S CROP WALK raises money to feed Austin's hungry. Sat., March 5, 9:30am. Guerrero Colorado River Park, 8200 Grove Dr. churchworldservice.org. www.main.org/cropwalk.

TOWN & COUNTRY OPTIMIST 5K AND KIDS' 1K Awards for runners in the 5K will be presented for top three male/female runners in all age groups. All children in the Kids' 1K receive an award for crossing the finish line. Sat., March 5, 8am. T&C Soccer Fields, 419-5345. ursaustin.urscorp.com.

MILLION DOLLAR BIKE RIDE Standup for Kids, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to stabilize and improve the lives of homeless youth, is conducting the first annual nationwide Ride for Millions. The goal is to ride a million miles, raise a million dollars, and reach a million kids. Secure a sponsor, get to pedalin'. See www.standupforkids.org/ride4millions/rideformillionsmore.htm for details. Through May.

FIRST STEP TO FITNESS is free and fun for all ages and for all levels of physical ability, and you'll get cool stuff upon completion, including a free ticket for two games at the Round Rock College Classic. Sat., March 5, 8am. Dell Diamond, Round Rock. Free. www.ci.round-rock.tx.us/council/first_step_to_fitness.htm.

BAGELFEST 5K A neighborhood race in Northwest Austin to benefit Austin Jewish Academy and Any Baby Can. Sun., March 6. 735-8350. \$8-20. www.bagelfest5k.com.

THE CHILDREN'S CUP 10K & KIDS' FUN RUN benefits the future Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas. Sun., March 6, 8am. Cedar Park High School (Cypress Creek Road), Cedar Park, 512/338-8084. www.cpcf.org/cpcf_20050124_007.htm.

MARDI GRAS 5K Family friendly run/walk event with games and activities for all ages, with refreshments provided by Lucy's Cakes and HEB. Sat., March 5, 9am. St. Gabriel's School Grounds, 327-7755. www.mardigras5k.com.

HENDRICKSON HAWK HUSTLE 5K & 1K FUN RUN/WALK Raises money for Hendrickson High School. Sat., March 5, 9am. Hendrickson High School Football Stadium, 2905 FM 685, Pflugerville, 512/990-9406. \$20 (\$10, kids; \$50, family). www.pflugervilleisd.net/HHS/index.html.

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY RUN Enjoy the 5k course through downtown Austin. Sat., March 5, 9am. 16th and Congress, 472-7792. www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1199193.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Duck Soup @ Alamo South Lamar, 7pm
Forget Baghdad: Jews and Arabs – The Iraqi Connection @ Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 7:30pm
Get Carter @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm
Indie Music Video Festival – Austin @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm
The Terminator @ Alamo South Lamar, 9:45pm

CLEAN SWEEP CITYWIDE CLEANUP Join **Keep Austin Beautiful** in the biggest clean-up of the year: Plan your own project, or help others execute theirs! Through March 28. 391-0617. www.KeepAustinBeautiful.org.

AUSTIN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE needs volunteers to help with Web and graphic designing, translating, and clerical stuff in preparation for the celebration of poetry, music, and art honoring Archbishop Romero on the 25th Anniversary of his death. Through March 24. 474-2399.

MEET THE WORLD is looking for people of varying nationalities who currently live in Austin to visit local schools and share their culture with students. 420-2336. organise@organisethis.co.uk, www.organisethis.co.uk.



Ongoing Events

THE LILITH FUND is a nonprofit all-volunteer-run organization that assists women in exercising their fundamental right to abortion by removing barriers to access. They're on the lookout for volunteers to serve on their board of directors, work on their hotline, or both. 877/355-1463. www.lilithfund.org.

THUNDERING PAWS ANIMAL SANCTUARY in Dripping Springs is in need of volunteers to care for cats, help with special events, and perform other tasks. volunteer@thunderingpaws.org.

REFUGEE SERVICES OF TEXAS is seeking volunteers to help resettle refugees from around the world in Austin. They are also in need of furniture and household items. 472-9472. hannahgrey@sbcglobal.net.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Mary Moody Northern Theatre, through March 6

Running time: 2 hrs, 10 min

"Lord, what fools these mortals be!" Arguably the most familiar line from the most familiar of Shakespearean comedies, and by the time the fairy Puck gets to deliver it in this Mary Moody Northern Theatre production, we really see his point: young mortals chasing each other through the wood in the middle of the night; best friends trying to claw each other's eyes out; a moonstruck girl throwing herself at a guy's feet, latching onto his ankle, and letting him drag her across the ground, then stubbornly refusing his affection when it finally comes her way; a clutch of working-class rubes clumsily rehearsing a play; one guy babbling all his lines at once; another boasting that he can play any part and making a real ass of himself (OK, maybe he had a little help on that score). The point is, in director Lucien Douglas' staging of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, folly comes to the fore. It plays up how silly we can be when our oh-so-human feelings get the better of us, when we dash off chasing some dream.

To be fair to the mortals, however, they get more than a little help from their fairy critic. After all, it's Puck who slaps the donkey head on Nick Bottom and dabs love juice on the eyes of the Athenian boys, ramping up the foolishness of the young lovers to the fourth power. And Douglas keeps Bianca Malinowski's Puck in the thick of the action at all times, invisibly tugging on this lover's sleeve or seizing that lover's leg like a pesky briar that won't let them go. Malinowski's forest-green costume calls to mind Peter Pan, and her performance has a bit of the air of Neverland about it, too. Her cocky stance with arms akimbo, her self-satisfied laugh, the childish glee with which her Puck rolls on the ground and plays pranks all point to a Lost Boy, living for wild escapades and mischief, blowing razzberries at all things mature.

Come to think of it, the fairies aren't so immune to folly here themselves. When Titania gets her own dose of love juice from her



miffed hubby, Oberon – Aaron D. Alexander, with a storm cloud across his brow and thunder in his voice – Valerie Redd slinks after David Mireles' braying Bottom like a cat who needs some serious scratching. She and her handmaidens all boast curly blond tresses and diaphanous gowns, putting them somewhere between the nymphs of classical art and sirens of the 1950s silver screen, so when they kneel around Bottom, breathily attending to his every whim, it feels like some goofy post-war Playboy fantasy.

It's moments like these and Puck's horseplay and that comically tangled face-off among the four lovers that tend to draw you into the world of the play. The play's more sober side, while treated with fitting gravity by all the actors (and richly represented in 1920s-era evening attire by costumer Michelle Heath), comes off as rather cool and impersonal. The poetry, that other aspect of the play for which it's so famed, rarely sings. So we come back to the foolishness. The lovers – Lanella Zotter, David Gallagher, Angela Flowers, and Joseph Parks – are well-matched and play well off one another, particularly in the nicely choreographed fracas that opens the second act. And the Rude Mechanicals are all oafish enough to provoke our laughter yet innocent enough to stay endeared to us. This is most true of Mireles' bully Bottom, with his sweeping gestures and ingratiating smile. Foolish he may be – all of them may be – but in this solid presentation fools make for pretty pleasant company. – Robert Faires

songwriter Dick Price. Yes, the man who brought the world such infectious ditties as "Acid at the Drive-In," ("Pardon Me for Not Having) The Perfect Bourgeois Home," and the perennially popular "Encasing My Penis in Play-Doh," that man, a not infrequent component of Dr. Demento's broadcast anthologies, will tickle the ivories and your fun-bone simultaneously. While you check out his apartment. Oh yes! (Adult content: no one younger than 16, please.) March 4-26. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. 3309 Grooms, 470-1735. \$5-20. www.dickprice.com.

CLOSING

BLOWN SIDeways THROUGH LIFE In this autobiographical journey through the workplace, actress Claudia Shear details her 65 jobs, among them cook, waitress, "phone person," proofreader, and, most notably (and hilariously), warehouse receptionist. She was hired, she was fired (or quit), but through it all her energy and drive to work, to make good, to keep going, is more than evident – it's palpable. Embodying Shear's journey is Barbara Chisholm, and tour de force is an absolutely accurate description of what Chisholm does here. She holds the stage, and our attention, for almost two hours, and her energy and commitment to Shear's story never wane. Director Dave Steakley and his

crew of designers have provided her with another character, setting the place, time, and mood; rarely have I seen a show in which the technical aspects so ably accompanied an actor. My only complaint: Steakley has Chisholm consistently push the tempo, and on more than a few occasions things feel rushed. But throughout, Chisholm's very human vulnerability shines. (Barry Pineo) Through March 6. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$26-35. www.zachscott.com.

ONCE UPON A MATTRESS This perennial musical favorite's tearing up the pea patch in Georgetown, where director Mary Ellen Butler brings the whole singing, dancing fable to theatrical life once again. Through March 6. Fri.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469. \$18 (\$15, seniors; \$7, ages 18 and younger). www.thegeorgetownpalace.org.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM is by who? Who? Well, duh. And directed, here, by Lucien Douglas for St. Ed's – which means that there'll be an excellent cast of students performing this comedic romance of lovers and actors and fairies for your post-Valentine's enjoyment. Through March 6. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Mary Moody Northern Theatre at St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8484. \$15 (less in advance).

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the March 17 issue is Monday, March 7.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy.

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Jacqueline May, visual arts. art@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor.

brenner@austinchronicle.com.

WAITING is a world premiere from award-winning chick & a dude productions: Shanon Weaver's newest play, in which, in three separate stories, three sets of characters face (with much witty dialogue) their own mortality, fears, and regrets while waiting for what comes next. Part Sartre, part Beckett, and part Matheson. Directed by Melissa Livingston. Through March 9. Mon.-Wed., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY, 444-6920. \$12 (\$10, students, seniors, ACoT). chickanddude@hotmail.com.

ONGOING

ADULT ENTERTAINMENT is adult entertainment, all right, as Naughty Austin presents Elaine May's comedy about a group of washed-up porn stars trying to produce their own version of "really good porno – I mean, like, really good," with the assistance of a very classically literate Yale graduate. *Tristram Shandy* meets *Deep Throat*, perhaps? This'll definitely reverse your cowgirl, yup boy. Directed by Blake Yelavich. Through April 2. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. \$20-100. www.naughtyaustin.com.

ASF: OTHELLO AND DOG IN THE MANGER That's two different plays, mind you, from Austin Shakespeare Festival. The first is known to you – what Moor could you want? – and the second is David Johnston's new translation of Lope de Vega's 17th-century comedy of the Spanish Golden Age, in which a countess and her secretary fall in love. Not a bit like the Mary Gaitskill story, we imagine, but classic and funny. Fierce casts for both of these shows, staged in repertory through March 20, under the direction of Guy Roberts. **Dog in the Manger:** March 10, 12, 16, 18, 8pm; March 13, 7pm; March 20, 2pm. **Othello:** March 3, 4, 5, 9, 11, 17, 19, 8pm; March 6, 13, 2pm; March 20, 7pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 454-2273. \$25 (\$20, seniors, ACoT; \$12, students). www.austinplayhouse.com.

THE JINN is a new Kirk Lynn play ... but this world premiere isn't from the Rude Mechs: it's from the dirigo group. Ellie McBride directs a top-notch cast in this thoroughly modern, heartrending exploration of desire facilitated by a genie and a magic lamp. Is it clever, too? Well, of course: it's Kirk Lynn. But we've read the script, and by "clever" we mean "brilliant." Through March 12. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Sun., March 6, 8pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 371-0554. \$10-15 (pay what you can, Thursdays & Sundays). www.thedirigogroup.com.

UGLY MARIA "One act of sexual violence produces six individuals where once were two: the victim, the attacker, an angel, a demon, the Christ child, and the Anti-Christ." Um, whoa. And the show, written by Mark Farias and Josie Collier, and featuring original music by Carlos Villalreal, and not recommended for younger audiences, is from the Coda Theater Project. OK, then. Through March 12. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY, 826-2132. \$10 (\$1-6, according to dice roll, Thursdays). www.hydeparktheatre.com.

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL: VAREKAI Not like you need us to alert you to this show, but, hey, those mind-blowing circus artists are back in town with a new show to mark their 20th anniversary. You know where the old airport used to be? That's where these guys've raised their big top. Yes, and



Theatre

OPENING

A RIDE WITH BOB: FROM AUSTIN TO TULSA is a musical drama in two acts about the life and music of Bob "The King of Texas Swing" Willis. Featuring, live on stage, Ray Benson and Asleep at the Wheel, in a musical, theatrical celebration written by Benson and Anne Rapp, under the direction of C.K. McFarland and Sidney Brammer. March 3-6. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2:30 & 8pm; Sun., 2:30 & 7pm. The State Theater, 719 Congress, 472-7134. \$42. www.austintheatre.org.

THE FOREIGNER is Larry Shue's classic comedy in which a man overhears secrets when he pretends he can't speak English. It's revived here by the Way Off Broadway Community Players under the direction of Tracy Cathey. March 4-19. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Thu., March 17, 8pm. 10960 E. Crystal Falls Pkwy., Leander, 512/336-8966. \$10 (\$9, seniors, ages 18 and younger). www.wobcp.org.

AT HOME WITH DICK The Rubber Repertory presents a musical tour through the life (and home) of internationally acclaimed novelty

watching what they do is like watching Lorenzo Mattotti's wildest dreams of acrobats exploding in the space above your head, before your dazzled eyes, beyond your imagination's paler spectrum. Get those tickets now. *Through March 27. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 & 8pm; Sun., 1 & 5pm.* Note: No performance on Tue., March 22; additional performance (4pm) on Fri., March 25. *Mueller Airport. \$41-195 (\$28.75-136, children; student & senior discounts available).* www.cirqueusoleil.com.

GARDEN OF POMEGRANATES Dissociated Press, who, in part, brought us Robert Anton Wilson's *Wilhelm Reich in Hell*, presents "a nightmarish psychodrama of the darker side of the soul, as performed through Ritual Theatre." Written and directed by D.A. Jacobs and Paxton Knight for your Thelemic edification. *Through March 12. Saturdays, 8pm. Scarlet Woman Lodge, 10500 Newmont, 293-7071. www.scarletwoman.org.*

SLEEPING BEAUTY is a world premiere musical for all ages, conceived and directed by Vortex Producing Artistic Director Bonnie Cullum, based on the Grimm Brothers' fairy tale. Original text and music by Cullum, music direction by Content Love Knowles, and choreography by Toni Bravo and Heather Huggins complement the lighting design of Jason Amato and Ann Marie Gordon's elegant set. Featuring Emma McNairy as Sleeping Beauty. *Through March 25. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$5-25. www.vortexrep.org.*

AIDA Disney's take on this love story of ancient Egypt feels at times like the offspring of *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Lion King*, with material from both recycled in pursuit of another corporate hit. Still, the show creates some engaging characters and compelling drama, which the Zachary Scott Theatre Center delivers memorably. Director Matt Lenz opts for simplicity in his staging, the better to focus on the humans at the heart of *Aida*, where Kia Dawn Fulton stands proudly in the center. With a regal posture and voice beyond her years, Fulton makes *Aida* a radiant beacon of inspiration. The Egyptian princess Amneris makes an equally strong impression, thanks to Jill Blackwood, who shifts subtly and gracefully from stylish comedy to deep drama. Alas, Wade Carroll's fine voice and charm can't compensate for the weaknesses written into his role of the Egyptian captain loved by both *Aida* and Amneris. Consequently, this saga of love in the time of pharaohs can't quite evoke the timeless romance that inspires our wonder. (Robert Faires) *Through April 3. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$34-42. www.zachscott.com.*

AUDITIONS

LACUNA is a new play by Kimberly Burke, to be directed by Jonathan Mazer for UT's Cohen New Works Festival this April. Looking for: Minnie (mid-30s or older, either very large or very small; she's the matriarch and bearded lady in a traveling freak show); Coho (mid to late 20s; she's white, self-assured, and sexy; role includes brief nudity). Contact the director via e-mail for appt. jonmazer@aol.com.

OPEN CASTING CALL Austin Film Works is holding an open casting call for three short student films shooting this spring. Who are they looking for? Men, women, between the ages of, oh, late teens to mid-50s in some cases. Film work for *middle-aged* actors, even, hallelujah! Bring a headshot if possible. E-mail for more information. *Mon., March 7, 6-10pm. Austin Film Works, 701 Tillery. afwspring05castingcall@yahoo.com.*

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM unlike many others, we're told. Lots of *fabulous* nontraditional casting; which is to say, lots of *males* needed, even for female roles. (Although, this being Shakespeare, isn't that traditional? - Ed.) But you get the picture. Prepare a two-minute monologue and be ready to m-o-v-e. E-mail the director, Laurence Wensel, for more information. *Fri., March 11, 5-8pm. Sidekicks/Xtreme, 110 E. Riverside, 804-2707. oneiros1111@yahoo.com.*

THEATRE CALL BOARD

SPECIAL-NEEDS CHILDREN PROJECT Margery Segal of MS/Nerve Dance Company sends us this notice: "I'm doing a dance performance project in Austin between Feb.20-March 16, with mothers of children with special needs and mothers of children with ongoing health challenges. This phase of the

You're in for a night of novelty music that is almost *scarily* funny, in Rubber Repertory's *At Home With Dick*. Pictured: Dick Price. Not pictured: his apartment (*that's* part of the show). ▶

project is a creative process involving shared discussion, writing, interviewing, authentic movement, and drawing. Willingness to share and be supportive of the other people in the group so we have a safe and welcoming environment are the highest priority for participation ... The group may or may not perform. This will be decided by the individuals and the group and is not a requirement for participation." Call or e-mail for more information. 417-8139. msnerve@earthlink.net.

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Pauly Shore Pauly Shore! Pauly Shore! He whose coming was foretold! Yea verily, the veritable messiah of comedy! The living embodiment of supreme funniness! All bow down before the shining, scintillating fount of sophisticated wit and deeply, soul-scathingly meaningful humor that irrepressibly floweth from this redoubtable epitome of all that's worthy in modern man! Oh God! Oh God! Oh! My! God! (And his dad, Sammy Shore, opens.) *Fri.-Sat., March 4-5, 8 & 10:30pm. \$20.*

Open Mic Comedy Dying is easy, and suicide is painless, so if you want to try something really difficult, throw yourself in front of one of these open mics. Now, you don't have to do that yourself, comedy lover; you can sit back and relax with a cold one and watch local up-and-comers knocking themselves out humorwise for your benefit (and to benefit the Austin Children's Shelter). *Sundays, 8pm. \$2 (free, college students).*

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.estersfollies.com.

Esther's Follies celebrates with special guest **Rob Williams**, formerly one of those three infamous Flaming Idiots. He'll be performing as a member of the Esther's Follies troupe in all the sketches, as well as performing his sandwich trick, wherein he makes a bologna sandwich with his feet! And of course there's the usual impressive and laugh-a-minute roster of Esther's goodness, with Shannon Sedwick, magician Ray Anderson, and many others (including, yes, that stylish stalwart of stagecraft known as Matt Hислоpe). *Reservations highly recommended. Thursdays, 8pm; Fridays-Saturdays, 8 & 10pm. \$18 (student discounts available Thursdays & Fridays). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATER 617 Congress, 443-3688.

Micetro is where your ridiculously talented Heroes of Comedy compete for the audience's (and their own) pleasure. Who will be the Micetro ... and who will be the Goat? And who, for that matter, is the *Gorilla*? Maybe you can find that out during the Heroes' **Gorilla Comedy** show earlier in the evening. *Saturdays, 9 & 10:30pm.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116.

Trey Galyon is definitely the funniest taxi driver in Austin and, no, he doesn't do Travis Bickle impressions. Catch him out of the cab and on the Cheese Palace stage for a night of hilarity



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CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB

THE 20TH ANNUAL FPIA CONTEST BEGINS IN APRIL! Entry deadline is March 28th! 467-2333

PAULY SHORE
MAR 4 & 5
Come be a part of the action when Pauly films live for his new TBS show "Minding the Store!"

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that includes Doug Connolly and Chuck Watkins.
Fri.-Sat., 9:30 & 11:30pm, March 4-5. \$5.

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS! Austin's only all-female improvisational comedy troupe will conceive an entire music-driven narrative from audience suggestions. That's right: live music, laughs, a veritable tableau of artistic brilliance and spontaneous degeneration all wrapped up in an attractively X/X package. Fri., March 4, 9pm. *The Hideout Theater*, 617 Congress, 443-3688. \$6. [ggg.austnimprov.com](http://www.ggg.austnimprov.com).

Dance

TAPESTRY DANCE COMPANY: SAFE & SOUND? Tapestry is one of the country's most eclectic and versatile professional dance companies, performing a fun-loving and rhythmic mix of rhythm tap, jazz, modern and contemporary ballet. This outing is a journey of childhood, family, work, patriotism, religion, and, of course, politics wrapped around the concepts of being human, being an American, and just being. Fri.-Sat., March 4-5, 8pm. *Paramount Theatre*, 713 Congress, 469-SHOW. \$12-\$34. www.tapestry.org.

1,001 NIGHTS

ARARAT Beautiful belly dancing by a variety of talented *rak sharqi* aficionados will accompany your Mideast feast. Fri.-Sun., March 4-6, 7:30pm; Thu., March 10, 7pm. *Ararat*, 111 E. North Loop, 419-1692. www.araratrestaurant.net.

DESERT PASSION MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE THEATER: MONTHLY HAFLA Drakon, Leila, Rania, Samira, and Tamara are joined by guest dancers "Akasha Winds" in this alcohol- and smoke-free setting; Middle Eastern refreshments served at intermission. Fri., March 4, 8pm. *Casa de Luz*, 1701 Toomey, 750-7037. \$8 (free, kids). www.desertpassion.com.



TWO LEFT FEET

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS enjoy Latin, swing, and other dance music in a nonsmoking, alcohol-free venue. No partner required, and all ages welcome. Saturdays, 8pm. *Austin Recreation Center*, 1301 Shoal Creek. \$6 (\$4, members, students). **ABD classes** Each session lasts five weeks, and there are classes for beginners to advanced dancers. Tuesday & Thursday nights. *Hancock Recreation Center*, 811 E. 41st. Prices vary. www.austinballroomdancers.org.

ARGENTINE TANGO Beginners class for you who wish to dance that romantic dance. Fridays, 7-8pm. 32-DANCE. \$20 for 4 classes; or \$7 per class. www.dance-international.com.

MORE ON THE FLOOR Think there's more going on here than meets the feet? Phone the danceline to see what can set your body in motion: presentations, workshops, master classes, and more. 416-5700 x3262. Or check out the Movin' Easy calendar online. www.moveineasy.com.

GRACE STUDIO Is offering a pair of opportunities to dance or choreograph. **Ballet for Grownups** offers you springy adults the chance to learn the form from a serious teacher. **Choreographers wanted** to make dances for a new small ensemble group who wish to perform. Work should be ballet and modern based. Highly skilled dancers available, and space is provided. *Grace Studio*, 606 1/2 Mary. Call Elizabeth for more information: 448-1360.

◀ The girls, girls, girls of *Girls, Girls, Girls!* will perform a fully-improvised-from-audience-suggestions rock & roll musical at the Hideout this Friday.

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS meet every Saturday night to kick their heels up, traditional style. Beginners welcome; no partner needed. Frequent live music. Saturdays, 7:30pm. *Hancock Recreation Center*, 811 E. 41st, 453-7765. \$3. www.yastreb.com/tf/d/aifd.html.

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. With live music. Wednesdays, 7:30pm. *Hancock Recreation Center*, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. \$3. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm.

CONTEMPLATIVE DANCE PRACTICE Donna Starnes leads this musicless practice that alternates between stillness (meditation, solo movement) and community dance. Begin at any time. No experience required; just a willingness to play. Sun., March 6, 4-7pm. *NiaSpace*, 3212 S. Congress, 443-3013. Donations accepted. www.niaspace.com.

AUSTIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Great Celtic music at this weekly social dance. Come alone or with a partner; beginners always welcome (kilts optional). Thursdays, 7-9pm. *Quicksilver Dance Studio*, 8711 Burnet. First session free. www.austinscd.org.

MODERN JAZZ DANCE CLASS A stylized choreographic blend and technique class targeted toward the intermediate/advanced dancer. 8:30pm. *Tapestry Dance Company*, 507-B Pressler, 458-6336. \$10. www.tapestry.org.

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE WEEKLY DANCE This is one (Lindy) hoppin' regular event, as a couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. Admission includes a beginners' lesson at the start of the evening. Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. *Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom*, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$4 (\$2, members). www.austinswingsyndicate.org.

Classical Music

OPENING

LA TRAGEDIE DE CARMEN is just what all you Bizet-bodies have been waiting for: an operatic version of the classic, sung in French with English subtitles. Oui, oui, oui, oui – all the way home. March 4-6; Fri., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. *Ralph & Ruth McCullough Theatre, UT Campus*, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 477-6060. www.utpac.org.

LA FOLLIA AUSTIN BAROQUE: MASTER AND COMMANDER La Follia sails with Lord Nelson, performing music from Patrick O'Brian's epic series and the Russell Crowe blockbuster. Hear Locatelli, Haydn, Handel, Mozart, and others, with a nautical twist. Fri., Mar. 4, 8pm. *First Presbyterian Church*, 8001 Mesa Drive; Sat., March 5, 8pm. *First English Lutheran Church*, 3001 Whittis, 474-TIXS. \$14 (\$12, seniors, students). www.lafollia.org.

MARIACHI VARGAS This Mexican musical extravaganza comes to Austin for the first time since the troupe was founded ... in 1897! The 12-member ensemble from Tecalitlan has earned the title of "El Mejor Mariachi del Mundo" ("the best mariachi in the world" for those as yet unsure of themselves in expressions penned in our imminent national tongue). Sat., March 5, 7:30pm. *Bass Concert Hall, UT Campus*, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 477-6060. \$20-\$100. www.utpac.org.

EXPLORE UT Billed as "The Biggest Open House in Texas," this annual event brings tens of thousands of people to the 40 Acres (and environs) for a day of exploration in all disciplines, including the performing arts. March with the Longhorn Band, listen to music from Eastern Europe or south of the border. You can even see the absolutely fabulous costumes from UT's November production of *Cabaret* (which was rather excellent, we reckon. [That's because you directed it, smug! - Ed.]). For the head-spinningly full list of events, click on over to the ExploreUT Web site, click on Arts Adventures, and try to decipher the weird yet highly functional Schedule Builder. Sat., March 5, 11am-5pm. Free. www.utexas.edu/events/exploreat.

AUSTIN CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY: DALE KAVANAGH Between 1986 and 1988 Ms. Kavanagh was a top prize-winner in Spain's Segovia Competition, Italy's Gargnano Competition,

Single Wet Female

The Off Center, Feb. 25

Running Time: 1 hr 30 min

Have you seen the film *Single White Female*? If not, rent the 1992 suspense thriller. The plot: An executive businesswoman just out of a failed relationship seeks a reasonably well-adjusted roommate to supplement rent, only to realize that her choice of a home companion is a psychotic with ill intentions. Did you notice the homoerotic undertones, the sultry after-shower scenes, the choreographed catfights, and the irrational fear of being single? Observe the film through a queer eye, and you will locate the inspiration for Carmelita Tropicana and Marga Gomez's *Single Wet Female*, the second installment of the Rude Mechs' *Throws Like a Girl* series.

Twisting Hollywood plotlines, Tropicana and Gomez performed a Latina lesbian Hitchcock-edged show using camp as a theatrical device coated in mockery and invested in meaning. Personalities looped into numerous subtexts as Tropicana (historically known for her intentionally overfeminized, fruit-laden Cubana acts) played self-described "über-butcht" Camy, and Gomez played the "hyper-femme," power-suited Margaret. Showing off pink nails and branded fashion sense, Gomez's wide-eyed blankness and constant surprise lampooned those women we are apt to see roaming expensive boutiques looking for that nonexistent item to make them whole. Gomez's desperate plea for a roommate exposed her selfish longing for superficial comforts and unmitigated dependency. Camy, in an orange jumpsuit and slick-backed hair, followed the frail Margaret with tongue virtually panting out of her mouth. Desiring Margaret's approval, Camy resolved everyday conflicts in a sadistic fashion conveniently ignored by the impeccably dumb Margaret. When the pizza carried excess spice, burning Margaret's



virgin tongue, Camy handled the delivery boy with a circular slicing knife. When Margaret admitted her trainer was a "hottie," we soon heard screeching violins and noticed Camy's upturned eyebrows, suggesting another jealous murder was on the way.

Margaret, in pure vanilla manner, protested her Hispanic neighbors' loud merengue music, their bright clothing, expressive gesturing, and the wafting putrid smell of plantains. During stage breaks, another story unfolded on a projection screen, that of two babies, played by Gomez and Tropicana in bonnets and sucking on pacifiers. Baby Margaret marveled at two Barbie dolls, a blonde and brunette. The darker-haired one got her head ripped off by a nurse before the stunned baby's face. A glorified white culture trained the babies to reject themselves as Latinas and succumb to heteronormative prescriptive behavior. Conform to the norm (whatever that is), or else severe punishment shall be inflicted upon you. Thus, when the dainty lady Margaret takes advantage of the seductively soothing advances by Camy in

the bathtub, she denies herself memory of the experience. Nothing happened; nothing that she could permit herself to remember.

Camy's secret camera surveillance of Margaret's life peaked when she, and we, watched Margaret engage in coitus with her ex-fiancé Murray, played by drag king Murray Hill. Camy uselessly screamed and begged Margaret to stop the sexual encounter, not submit to male penetration. Camy tricked Murray into a libidinous fit as a ploy to murder him with a high-heeled shoe punched square in the eye. Stereotypes kill, or at the very least, get mightily uncomfortable when one does not adhere to the standards set by mystical hegemonies.

More than comedic farce, Gomez and Tropicana mounted a delectable feast of perversions, inversions, and subversions for the ravenously underrepresented.

- Heather Barfield

Canadian Dale Kavanagh does, oh, just a few complex and lovely things with strings in a concert from the Austin Guitar Society this weekend. ►



Switzerland's Neuchatel Competition, and First and Special Prize winner in Finland's Scandinavian International Guitar Competition. Phew! Canadian Kavanagh has since toured the world, resides in Germany, and comes to Austin for some more classical guitar fireworks. **Sat., March 5, 8pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 899-1118. \$30 (\$20, ACGS members, seniors, students; \$40, preferred seating). www.austinclassicalguitar.org.**

★ **INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC CIRCLE OF AUSTIN: THE LUTE AND THE FLUTE** Not only do these instruments have rhyming names, in the hands of two masters – N. Ravikiran on the Chitravina (21-stringed lute) and S. Shashank (flute) – they make beautiful music together. Hear this first-time pairing of these excellent musicians in a concert of Carnatic Indian music. **Sat., March 5, 6pm. Austin Waldorf School, 8700 South View, 448-6740. \$20 (\$10, seniors, students; free, ICMCA members). www.icmca.org.**

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC Great Organ Series: Bradley Hunter Welch Winner of the 2003 Dallas International Organ Competition, Welch performs works by Guillemant, Bach, Drischner, Albright, and more, on the mighty Visser-Rowland. **Sun., March 6, 3pm. Bates Recital Hall, 477-6060. \$14 (\$10, students).** **UT Chamber Singers: Missa de Nossa Senhora da Conceição** This will be the first time the Missa (Mass) has ever been performed outside of Brazil and the first time for it to be performed in its entirety since 1810; it's composer José Maurício Nunes Garcia's masterpiece. James Morrow directs the Singers, who are joined by soloists and full orchestra. The concert is the conclusion of a symposium, Music and Culture in the Imperial Court of João VI in Rio de Janeiro. **Tue., March 8, 8pm. Bates Recital Hall. Free. www.music.utexas.edu.**

AUSTIN CHAMBER ENSEMBLE: RAGS AND RICHES Pianist and UT graduate Richard Dowling returns to Austin to play Joplin, Gershwin, and more in an energetic afternoon concert. Dowling's performances have earned him induction as a Chevalier of the Company of Musketeers of Armagnac – not bad for a guy who plays ragtime. **Sun., March 6, 4pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 345-3399. \$20 (\$18, seniors, students; \$5, ages 12 and younger). www.austinchamberensemble.com.**

ALLEGRO CHAMBER TRIO In a fitting premiere for the River City, the trio – flutist Megan Meisenbach, violist Bruce Williams and harpist Mary Golden – performs *Rivages*, by Bernard Andres. Also on the bill: the trio's original interpretation of Bach's *Goldberg Variations* and harpist Marcel Grandjany's *Aria in a Classic Style. The Elegiac Trio*, by Sir Arnold Bax, and a masterful Claude Debussy sonata. **Sun., March 6, 7:30pm. St. Austin Catholic Church, 2026 Guadalupe., 477-9471. \$15 (\$10 students; \$7 high school and younger) at the door. www.staustin.org.**

NOONDAY LENTEN SERIES Six different organists play 30-minute programs on the church's new pipe organ by Canadian firm Casavant Frères. The concerts are free and followed by a complimentary light lunch. This week: Kathleen Thomerson, Organist, Mt. Olive Lutheran Church. **Wed., March 9, noon. Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church, 7127 Bee Caves Rd., 327-1116. Free. www.whpc.org.**

Visual Arts

EVENTS

UT AUSTIN hosts "Explore UT: The Biggest Open House in Texas!" Among other activities, they'll have numerous fun art projects for kids and a sneak peek at the new Blanton. Specifics available online. **Sat., March 5, 11am-5pm. www.utexas.edu/events/exploreut.**

GUADALUPE ARTS FIRE BENEFIT A few weeks ago, more than 75 artists lost their artwork, studio spaces, and materials in a fire at the newly renovated Guadalupe Arts Center/Vin Gallery at 1705 Guadalupe. The Austin Visual Arts Association and VU Austin will be accepting donations of art supplies now through mid-March in a donation drop box in front of the AVAA Building (large items may be left on the back porch.) Please bring new materials and items in good condition only. AVAA and several galleries in Austin, including D Berman and the West End Galleries, are also collecting donations at their gallery openings and First Thursday events. All monetary donations should specify "Fire Fund." (In related news, DiverseArts, which was devastated by the fire, desperately needs centrally located office space, computer equipment, office furniture, volunteers, and a lot more. Contact fire@diversearts.org to help.) **37th at Home Lane, 457-0075. www.avaaonline.org.**

★ **AMODA** This fascinating organization, the Austin Museum of Digital Art, provides a unified forum for electronically produced music, interactive, and visual artwork. Phil Niblock's experimental intermedia/touch-art forms are the evening's focus, with promotional artwork by Kathy Saucedo. **Thu., March 3, 8pm. 4100 Red River, 467-7756. \$12 (\$10, AMODA members). www.amoda.org.**

THE TEXAS BIENNIAL This new contemporary art initiative was founded in Austin by Bolm Studios, Camp Fig, the Dougherty Arts Center, Eastside Artist Coop, and Gallery Lombardi. More than 600 Texas artists competed for acceptance, and now the choices have been made and the exhibits are going up all over town. Opening receptions: **Thu., March 3, 7-10pm, Eastside Artist Coop, 2109 Cesar Chavez; Fri., March 5, 7-10pm, Bolm Studios, 5305 Bolm #10; Sat., March 5, 7-11pm, Gallery Lombardi, 910 W. Third. Exhibits: Through March 31. www.texasbiennial.com.**

WOMEN WRITE THE WAR In this literary event, Bee Pederson will read passages from this, her newest release. Afterward, she and a panel of women will talk about their personal experiences with the Iraqi war. The panel includes Amy Stevens, author of America's Hidden Heroes and wife of a soldier in Iraq. **Tue., March 8, 7pm. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.**

OPENING

THE SPACE: AMERICANADA is presented by the Canadian Club, appropriately enough, and features new work by I, Braineater; 12 Midnite; ManWoman; David Ostrem; the PopTarts; Andrea Tucker; and Holly Anderson. Always something weird and wonderful at the Space, and this weekend you can attend the opening reception: **Sat., March 5, 7pm. Exhibit: Through March 12. 4804 Airport Blvd., 740-7352.**

ARTWORKS now has abstract works by Austinite Rory O'Neal in "Red Hot." Reception: **Thu., March 3, 6-8pm. 1214 W. Sixth #105, 472-1550. www.artworksAustin.com.**

F8 FINE ART GALLERY presents "Getting in Touch," an exhibit of paintings by Michael Klung, metal and mixed media works by Randall Reid, photographs by Kristin Kritz, and Bromoil prints by Joy Goldkind. Reception: **Thu., March 3, 6-8pm. Exhibit: Through April 2. 1137 W. Sixth, 480-0242. www.f8fineart.com.**

2040 GALLERY The "Sky Above, Earth Below" show features new works by acclaimed artists Connie Arismendi and Stella Alesi, who share their affinity for nature and its connection with our spiritual well-being. Reception: **Fri., March 4, 6-8pm. Exhibit: Through April 30. 2040 S. Lamar, 912-0902.**

ST. EDWARD'S FINE ARTS CENTER "Exposed," the Photocommunications Senior Student Exhibit, is an eclectic mix of black-and-white and color photographic works by 11 senior students. Reception: **Fri., March 4, 6-9pm. Exhibit: Through April 3. 3001 S. Congress, 448-8400. www.stedwards.edu.**

MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA Their latest novelty exhibition, "Crystallization & Drift," explores how things come together and fall apart. See the Lifesize Cavern Grotto, Winter Forest Diorama, new loans from Austin collectors, and the usual old favorites! Reception: **Fri., March 5, 7-10pm. Tours by appt. 3405-A Cedar, 533-9906. www.mnae.org.**

ART ON 5TH Indulge your vices here with "Don't Drink and Draw," a display of whimsically booze-laden artwork by Michael Godard. **Through March 31. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.**

★ **THE COEXISTENCE EXHIBITION** is a large outdoor touring show featuring visual images of coexistence, as created by artists from around the world, and it's part of the current Light/The Holocaust & Humanity Project taking place around town in March and April. There will be a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony with Mayor Will Wynn, Rafie Etgar, curator of Museum on the Seam in Jerusalem, and other community leaders. Opening reception: **Sun., March 6, 2-5pm (ribbon-cutting, 3:30pm). Exhibit: Through March 31. South First at Town Lake, 442-2263.**

The Boulez Project

The Church of the Friendly Ghost, Feb. 28

In her June 20, 1971, portrait of Pierre Boulez for *The New York Times*, Joan Peyser dropped a bomb that, 34 years later, caused her subject a small amount of collateral damage.

The composer of uncompromisingly difficult music had just been appointed music director of the New York Philharmonic. Feeding concertgoers' anxieties, Peyser wrote: "Stravinsky's very recent death does not stop Boulez from criticizing him for using quotations of old music. He concludes [an article in the May 29, 1971, *Saturday Review*] with a plea for amnesia in composers. (Later he takes off from Stravinsky's use of the past. 'Creators,' he said, 'must look straight ahead. It is not enough to deface the Mona Lisa, because that does not kill the Mona Lisa. All the art of the past must be destroyed.')

"I'm sure my first thought was that it was a dumb thing to say," said Austin musician Josh Ronsen. "I don't think he meant it literally, but I don't know how he meant it." Ronsen took it at face value for the Boulez Project, in which he and four collaborators destroyed more than 100 items related to Boulez – recordings, books, a DVD – on Monday night.

Ronsen finds it hypocritical that Boulez didn't go far enough. "Bernstein was playing just old favorites, Beethoven and Mozart, what people wanted to hear. I think Boulez was saying you could expect different things from him. His



different things were kind of new to people who were used to Mozart and Beethoven, but his focus was on Stravinsky, Wagner, and Berg."

Ronsen took particular offense at a perceived swipe at the 1960s art movement Fluxus and Marcel Duchamp, whose *LHOQQ* adds a moustache to the world's most famous painting. "Something that is simple like Duchamp's *Mona Lisa*, he must hate that."

Ronsen admits an element of protest, but distances himself from similar protests. "They wanted the Beatles to leave the planet and the Dixie Chicks to leave the country,"

Ronsen said. "I'm trying to get people to tell me why this music is important."

As performance, the Boulez Project was carelessly assembled. The concert, which benefited DiverseArts, was scheduled to start at 7pm, but at that time performers were just beginning to set up turntables, CD players, and hand tools. Records and books were broken, torn, and blow-torched, drowning out a performer who was reading notes about Boulez's *Le Marteau sans Maître*, reminding us how silly we can look when we break things. Except for the occasionally tasty stray sound, there wasn't much of interest aurally, and there could have been, as John Cage proves in works like *Credo in US*. This was uninteresting fooling around, like "Revolution 9."

Using old music puts the project squarely in the sights of Boulez's initial criticism of Stravinsky. Does basing art on what one doesn't like from the past differ from swiping from what admires about it?

Last week, Ronsen admitted to having second thoughts: "I don't know if I knew then what I know now that I would do it, but I said I am going to do it, so I am going to go through with it. No one has convinced me not to do it." They would have raised hundreds of dollars for Diverse Arts had they sold the stuff on eBay.

I left with neither the sounds of Boulez nor the Project in my head, instead contemplating how the next-to-last verse of Bob Dylan's "My Back Pages" was apropos of both. "In a soldier's stance I aimed my hand at the mongrel dogs who teach ..."

– Jerry Young



1



2



3

- 1) This is *Fortune* by Celia Eberle, whose work is featured in the Texas Biennial. 2) This minimalist version of a Christmas tree is by Jason Makepeace, who's also part of the Texas Biennial. 3) *Wasted Youth* is by Matthew Rodríguez. Guess which show he's part of this week. Hint: The second word is "Biennial."

ONGOING

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY is a working studio and gallery of stained & leaded glass and mosaics artwork. 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.

ART ON 5TH Colorful kinetic sculptures by Frederick Prescott are now on display among the gallery's plethora of other collections. Through March 31. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru: paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos, 457-0171.

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.

BETH MCELHANEY GALLERY The wondrous Beth McElhane has not departed our fair city! Rather, she has moved, following the recent conflagration at Guadalupe Arts. Her handmade jewelry par excellence is still available at her new digs, which she shares with Pro-Jex Gallery in South Austin. 1710 South Lamar Ste. B, 477-5355.

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Featuring unique handmade glass art and jewelry made by the staff and friends of the studio. 5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.

BOB BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM "Drawn From Experience: Landmark Maps of Texas" is a show with a vast array of gorgeous historical maps, sure to please just about anybody – but especially your favorite amateur cartographers. Through June 5. 1800 Congress, 936-8746. www.storyoftexas.com.

CALZADILLA STUDIO GALLERY is now open for viewing by appointment, featuring the colorful works of, yes, Rick Calzadilla. 801 W. 17th, 567-3361.

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of an, we guess you might say, average South Austin home. Tours by appt. 4422 Lareina, 441-6906. www.keeppaustinweird.com.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY presents "Is This Drawing?" The community's sudden interest in drawing is again revealed in this exhibit, which explores the edges of the technique through the works of numerous talented artists. Through March 11. 3400 N. I-35, 486-1164.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. 6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.

D BERMAN GALLERY Susan Whyne's first solo exhibition at this gallery is coming up. Portentous, uneasy imagery reflects the artist's emotions from

the attacks of 9/11. The title? "Pocket full of posy (all fall down)." Gallery Talk: Sat., March 5, 1pm. Exhibit: Through March 26. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.

DESIGNERS' FINE ART SHOWCASE Come check out Florida based artist James Kitchens' relief sculptures in copper. The images serve as a reference point for the viewer to examine our relationship with the natural world and our shared mythological roots. Through Mar. 31. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111.

DIAZ GALLERY presents "New Expressionism," a show of paintings by Julie Freedman. Through March 31. Closing Reception: Fri., March 25, 7-10pm. 3507 S. First, 444-0013.

DIBONA STUDIO Here's a studio/gallery devoted exclusively to the work of Joyce DiBona, including her newest oil paintings and a recently completed sculptural tattoo series. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646.

ELSE MADSEN GALLERY A photo exhibit by the Texas Documentary Photographers showing people, places, and moods of Texas after dark. Artists include: Pierce Burns, Lucy Durfee, Rose Epps, Ann Gardner, BJ Smiley Goins, Mark Jamail, Mike McClure, Stephanie Routh, William Smith, and Kathy VanTorne. Through March 15. 411 Brazos #99.

FIRE ISLAND HOT GLASS STUDIO Specializing in functional and decorative works in glass for home and garden. Glassblowing demos: Saturdays, 9am-noon. 3401 E. Fourth, 389-1100. www.fireislandglass.com.

FRANÇOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY presents the photographic work of Kim François. 309-B Bowie, 320-0072.

FRESH UP CLUB In "Transcendental Damn," San Antonio-based artists Richie Budd and Michael Velliquette will exhibit together for the first time in Austin, featuring new solo and collaborative works. Wednesdays, 6-8pm, and by appt. Through March 23. 916 E. Springdale, in the Blue Theater.

G2 GALLERY is presenting a new show of photography: underwater, fashion, vintage, and erotic photography. 606½ Mary St., 431-7443. www.beautyrapage.com/G2show/about.html.

GALLERY SHOAL CREEK Well-executed urban figurative paintings by Milt Kobayashi are now gracing the walls of this reputable establishment. Through March 12. 1500 W. 34th, 454-6671. www.galleryshoalcreek.com.

HARRY RANSOM CENTER has two shows up: "Shooting Stars: The Golden Age of Hollywood Portraiture, 1925-1950," and "Fashioning Celebrity: Photographs of George Platt Lynes." Through March 27. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/HRC/HRHRC.

BLANTON MUSEUM Quick, before the move to their new facility, come see: "Marking Time, 1995-2005: Contemporary Art From Chile"; "European Paintings: Open Storage"; and "The Blanton Builds: A Look at Your New Museum." Through May 22. 2300 San Jacinto, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.

KATHY WOMACK GALLERY features original works by native Texan Kathy Womack. 411 Brazos #100. www.kwomack.com.

LA PEÑA In an early celebration of International Women's Day and Women's History Month, La Peña is presenting "Relentless Women – Mujeres Invencibles." Artists include Santa Barraza, Cecilia Colome, Cecilia Sanchez Duarte, Nivia Gonzalez, Terry Ibanez, Carmen Rodriguez, Susana Santos, Joanna Silva, Kathy Vargas, and Liliana Wilson. Through March 13. 227 Congress #100, 236-0610.

LB LIBRARY AND MUSEUM "Signs of the Times: Life in the Swingin' Sixties" is a history exhibit capturing the excitement of the Sixties in American popular culture. 2313 Red River, 721-0200.

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART has an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork and craft items on display. 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.

NORTH HILLS GALLERY "Stanza Four," paintings by Jerry Seagle, Austin artist and teacher. Reception: Sun., March 6, 12:15-1:30pm. 7050 Village Center Dr., 345-1743.

PHOTOGECKO STUDIOS presents an array of film/digital artist John Campbell's black-and-white photographs. Monthly First Thursday events debut new images along with live music. 1413 S. First, 797-9375. www.photogecko.com.

PRO-JEX GALLERY Now in its new location, this friendly, locally owned business offers original fine art photography and picture framing. 1710 S. Lamar Ste. C, 472-7707.

ROADHOUSE RELICS This is a vintage-neon gallery and studio located in the heart of Austin's art district. Artist Todd Sanders creates vintage-style neon signs, eye-popping carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture. 1720 S. First, 442-6366. www.roadhouserelics.com.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY'S HIRSCHI GALLERY presents "Visions Unveiled," an exhibit by art scene veteran Amy Lindsay-Joynt; she's created a delicate sfumato atmosphere in these intriguing pieces. Through April 15. 3400 N. I-35 (in the Peter Center).

TR RODRIQUEZ GALLERY "A Walk Through Nature." Diverse multimedia prints, sculpture, collage, and paintings by Nathalie Challulau. Reception: Fri., March 5, 6-10pm. 2700 W. Anderson #310, 465-9600.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK presents documentary photography by Dallas artist Misty Keasler, called "Guatemala City Dump: Life on the Rim." Through March 26. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.

SPACES

NAKED SINGULARITY New works by Trent Tate are now featured in a residential salon called the Looking Room. Through March 7. www.the-lookingroom.50megs.com.

CARR-AMERICA BUILDING Fred Campillo presents his paintings on the seventh floor. Through April 9.

CREATIVE ARTS SOCIETY The organization's first show of the new year will be at Chase Bank. 700 Lavaca. Through March 6.

JANA BIRCHUM not only shoots for your ol' Chronicle, she's also contributed photos to the likes of Newsweek, Texas Monthly, and People magazine. Terrific stuff, all of it, but now she's got a show called "Into the Soul of the Rhythm" that's specifically about the music scene. We say: Check it out. Opening reception: Sun., March 6, 3pm. Exhibit: Through March 31. Texas French Bread, 1722 S. Congress.

LAS MANITAS In "Rita Maria Contreras: Recent Work," the artist has her self-portraits and landscape paintings on display. Reception: Fri., March 4, 6-8pm. Exhibit: Through April 4. 211 Congress, 472-9357.

SPIDER HOUSE Vanessa Rossetto is showing a collection tackling such sacred cows as sexuality and pop culture with humor, playfulness, and color. Through March 6. 2908 Fruth, 480-9562. www.spiderhousecafe.com.

THE STASH David Ohlerking's hip, figurative paintings are on display here. Through Mar. 5. 2209-J S. First, 448-7707.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

AIPP SEEKS PANELISTS The City's Cultural Arts Division's Art in Public Places Program is seeking new members of the Art in Public Places Panel. Application deadline: Fri., March 5, 5pm. Submit to: City Hall, 301 W. Second #2030. www.ci.austin.tx.us/aipp/panelists.htm.

STONE CARVING WORKSHOP with Ukrainian master sculptor Vasily Fedoruk. More information on their Web site. Workshop dates: March 26-April 3. www.borsheimarts.com/workshop.htm.

THE AUSTIN FIREFLIES This group of glass-lampworking enthusiasts has a Monthly Bead Makers Gathering on the last Saturday of each month at 7pm. 5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770. www.austinfireflies.org.

DOUGHERTY ARTS CENTER is currently accepting applications for the use of Julia C. Buttridge Gallery space for exhibit dates in Jan.-Dec. 2006. Rental fee; no commission. The gallery is located in the Dougherty Arts Center, a multi-use facility managed by the city of Austin Cultural Affairs Division, Parks and Recreation Department. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty/gallery.htm.

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS CONFERENCE and the Public Art Network Pre-Conference are coming up in June. Arts professionals from all over the nation will experience Austin and discuss issues of importance to arts communities. Scholarship opportunities are available. Application deadline: March 25. www.americansforthearts.org/leadingthecharge.

CRACKS IN THE PAVEMENT: GIFTS IN THE URBAN LANDSCAPE seeks proposals for site-specific art works for its summer 2005 relaunch. Deadline: March 21. www.cracksinthepavement.com/html/hmpglinks/news.html.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

GUY FINLEY, director of the Life of Learning Foundation, presents his Let Go and Live in the Now. *Wed., March 9, 7pm. Barnes & Noble, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

LYNNE COX, record-shattering long-distance swimmer, presents her Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long-Distance Swimmer. Brave, brilliant, and maybe a little nuts, but damned inspiring. *Wed., March 9, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

SCIENTIFIC ANOMALIES INSTITUTE ARCHIVES & AUSTIN IONS Army Major Paul H. Smith discusses his new book, Reading the Enemy's Mind: Inside Star Gate – America's Psychic Espionage Program. *Tue., March 8, 6:30pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 847-0371.*

UTTER READING SERIES offers glimpses into the upcoming and ongoing work of the best local authors. See literary history in the making at Utter with poets Jenny Browne and Dave Meeker, and fiction writer Vicente Lozano. *Tue., March 8, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

INGRID KARKLINS is the next featured reader in this ACC literary program series. After 20 years as a professional musician, Karklins turned to poetry about four years ago and quickly took her place among Austin's more notable writers. Open mic follows; John Herndon hosts. *Mon., March 7, 7pm. Austin Java Cafe & Bar, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829.*

HISTORIAN JAMES E. CRISP presents his Sleuthing the Alamo: Davy Crockett's Last Stand and Other Mysteries of the Texas Revolution. *Mon., March 7, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

AN EVENING WITH EVELYN features Evelyn Waugh on screen, beginning with clips from a BBC interview with Waugh late in his life, then clips from "The Scarlet Woman," an amateur silent film on which he worked during his Oxford days, followed by The Loved One (1965), starring Robert Morse and Jonathan Winters. All to complement the Ransom Center's exhibition "Writing Among the Ruins: Graham Greene and Evelyn Waugh." *Sun., March 6, 6pm. Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. Free, but limited seating. www.hrc.utexas.edu.*

WRITING ON THE AIR guests are Barry Silverberg and Phyllis Blees, of the Austin Chapter of the American Creativity Association (and 2005 national conference national chairs); they'll discuss the upcoming International "Feel the Fire" Creativity Conference to be held in Austin March 30 through April 2. Hosted by Dillon McKinsey. *Sat., March 5, 4pm. KOOP Austin, 91.7FM.*

TEXAS NAFAS Iranian-American writer Zara Houshmand talks to the Austin Poetry Society about lessons brought to poetry from theatre and other disciplines, and reads her own poems. *Saturdays, 11am & 10pm, Channel 16.*

EAKIN MEMORIAL PROGRAM features Anne McCrady reading from her book, Along Greathouse Road. This is a Poetry in the Arts meeting. Open mic follows. *Sat., March 5, 2pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 453-7920.*

EXPRESSIONS 2005 invites you to remember Dr. Joseph Colin Murphey, Al Grierson, Floyd Freeman, Alii Aweusi, and Albert Huffstickler with readings and tributes to their work. Featured readers include Sylvia Manning, Susan Bright, Sue Littleton, Reggie Goodwin, Herman Nelson, Patricia Fiske, Dr. Marvin Kimbrough, Machel Dunlop, and other special guests. Songs by Gregg Gordon. A definite recommendation. *Sat., March 5, 7pm. Baha'i Faith Center, 4317 Airport, 926-8880. Admission is a plate of food for the potluck at the interval and cans of food for the Poets' Pantry. www.austinbahai.org.*

MOSTLY TEXAS Hear nationally acclaimed storytellers Doc Moore and Tim Tingle spin yarns of history and humor from Texas and the great Southwest. *Sat., March 5, 1pm. Barnes & Noble, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

KIM O'NEILL presents her How to Manifest Your Angels. Maybe a little demo? *Sat., March 5, noon. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

T. COLLIN CAMPBELL discusses The China Study, the most comprehensive study of nutrition ever conducted. *Fri., March 4, 7pm. Barnes & Noble, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

GESHE KELSANG GYATSO, an American Buddhist nun, presents her How to Solve Our Human Problems. *Fri., March 4, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble South, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493.*

DIVERSEARTS FIRE RELIEF BENEFIT The Lowstars return with WordJazz: Improv & Spoken Word. Special guest host Valerie Bridgeman-Davis with Ivanho, Thom the World Poet, Ricardo Acevedo, Patricia Fisk, Chandra Washington, Ron Horne, Love Robinson, and other special guests. This is to benefit the DiverseArts Fire Relief Fund. *Fri., March 4, 8pm. Cafe Mundi, 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634. Donations accepted. www.diversearts.org.*

SHARON BRIDGFORTH is the next featured reader for the Balcones Center for Creative Writing Visiting Writers series. Bridgforth is a poet, performer, and social-justice activist. Highly recommended. *Thu., March 3, 7pm. Austin Community College, 1212 Rio Grande, 223-3000.*

MARGOT LIVESEY, award-winning author of the story collection Learning by Heart and the novels Eva Moves the Furniture (a New York Times Notable Book of the Year), Homework, Criminals, The Missing World, and Banishing Verona, reads from and discusses her work. Sponsored by UT's Michener Center for Writers. *Thu., March 3, 7:30pm. Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 471-1601. www.utexas.edu/academic/mcw.*

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

AUSTIN ZINE LIBRARY LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS Come down to the Austin Zine Library on the Eastside and help look after 2,000 zines. Volunteers will help organize zines, facilitate check-ins (and outs), and generally watch over the place. They also need help passing out fliers and pamphlets around town. E-mail Josh for more: austinzinelibrary@yahoo.com.

AUSTIN WRITERS WORKSHOP is a group of screenwriters open to new members to read, discuss, and critique one another's work. The group meets twice monthly. *Mon., Mar. 7, 6:30pm. Barnes & Noble, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

TELL ME A TALE Listen to yarns spun by storytellers, or come tell your own story to a friendly

audience. Hosted by the Central Texas Storytelling Guild. *Tue., March 8, 7pm. Barnes & Noble, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

WINDSOR PARK'S BOOK CLUB is held captive by Ann Patchett's Bel Canto. *Tue., March 8, 7:30pm. Windsor Village Library, 5833 Westminster, 928-0333.*

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY E-THOLOGY In honor of the working woman. Take a few hours to listen to and express your inner voice; spend a morning writing and sharing instant poems or prose in a supportive space, then post the new work of your choice on a PVP Web site in honor of International Women's Day. Bring a laptop, a few extra disks or CDs, and a sack lunch. Space limited. Registration required. Partial scholarships available. *Sat., March 5, 10am-2pm. Plain View Press. 441-2452. \$30. sbright1@austin.rr.com.*

FREE WORKSHOP with authors Gen and Kelly Tanabe on their bestselling book How to Get Free Cash for College. *Thu., March 3, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble South, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493.*

CALL FOR ENTRIES

KENWOOD REVIEW, an online poetry journal, is accepting submissions for its Summer 2005 issue. Three to five poems per submission. www.kenwoodreview.com.

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT is an organization that sends books to prisoners in the state of Texas. And they need volunteers to participate in processing requests, replying to letters, sending packages of books, etc. Come on down to a Volunteer Night and lend them a helping hand. *Thursdays, 6-10pm; Sundays, 7pm-12mid. Through Feb. 28. Rhizome Collective Warehouse, 300 Allen, 385-3695. www.rhizomecollective.org.*

OPEN MICS

STARS POETRY presents a night of short-format work. Poets should bring pieces limited to 140 syllables or fewer (the length of a sonnet). *Sat., March 5, 7pm. Stars Coffee, 6539 N. Lamar, 377-3334.*

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry captains the crew that has all the best of stand-up, performance art, theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one electrifying evening. \$100 in prizes every week and an open mic precedes the main event. And remember: Mike's movie of the slam was destroyed in the Guadalupe Arts fire. Come see the slams and visit their Web site to see how you can help out. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091. www.austinslam.com.*

THERE'S AN OPEN MIC out in Pflugerville, for chrisakes. Every Monday. *Hanover's, 108 E. Main, Pflugerville, 670-9617. www.hanovers.net.*

HIDEOUT MIC Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 or canned food for Poets' Pantry. www.thehideout.org.

RED SALMON ARTS presents Cafe Libro's bimonthly series in celebration of International Women's Day, featuring Kim Curette. They invite women of the community to share their expressions celebrating women and women's issues. *Fri.,*

March 4, 7pm. Resistencia Bookstore, 1801-A S. First, 416-8885.

RUTA MAYA is collecting ballots for the National Underground Spoken Word and Poetry Awards, to be presented on April 16 in Maryland. (Ruta's entered to win the Best Venue award.) Everyone is encouraged to come out and cast a ballot. *Tuesdays, 6-8pm. Round robin: 6-7pm. Sign-up list: 7-8pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.freespeechchart.com.*

POETRY KARAOKE The Poetry Karaoke Orchestra backs your poetry on the porch, all kicked off by your host, Ivanho. Bring canned foods for the Poets' Pantry. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.*

NEO-SOUL LOUNGE is hosted by Love Robinson. Doors open at 7:30pm with the hottest sounds of Neo-Soul. *Wednesdays, 9pm. Sahara Nightclub, 900 E. Braker #170, 228-1940.*

XTREME POETRY SLAM is hosted by Slam superstars Chris Lee and Suzy LaFollette. \$100 in cash prizes every week, plus drink specials and cheap eats. 18 and older. *Mondays, 8pm. Sidekicks/Xtreme, 110 E. Riverside, 804-2707. www.sidekicksaustin.com.*

STARS POETRY features the mighty Steve Pressler. Always recommended. *Sat., March 5, 7pm. Stars Coffee, 6539 N. Lamar, 377-3334.*

WORLD BEAT CAFE Poetry round table hosted now by Kathleen Romana. *Wednesdays, 7-9pm. World Beat Cafe, 600 W. MLK, 236-0197.*

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! clouds breaking – pulled apart she is small – trembling – excited – what came to her like a ghost – like a soft radiance – a long willow trail – the dark river wrapped in thin mist – the long boats slowly gliding in shadow – the low murmuring of near words – a diffuse light – moon – sun – some star unknown or if I turned to you here & said – yes – would even that suffice to hold a single day or when the ghosts slide beneath your hand will I remember any place as beautiful as your eyes. Namaste. vaya con dios.

SCREENWRITER SEEKS PRODUCER and other experienced screenwriters for collaboration on works in progress. 361/767-3290.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

caught in the act of receiving the throat-kiss of death, the hobby-horse seems mainly shamed of the invasion of our gazes

aren't we all, perhaps a bit embarrassed when reduced to meat?

– Gerald Locklin, "Henri Rousseau: Jaguar Attacking a Horse, 1910," from the highly recommended Nerve Cowboy #18, edited by Joseph Shields and Jerry Hagins; available for \$5 from PO Box 4973, Austin, 78765.

OPENING

SLEUTHING THE ALAMO READING *Sun., March 6, 7:30-9pm. Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 Congress, 936-4649. Free, reservations required. www.storyoftexas.com.*

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film listings

Sky Blue

D: Moon Sang Kim, Sunmin Park; with Catherine Cavadini, Marc Worden, Kirk Thornton, David Naughton, Karl Wiedergott, Rebecca Wink. (NR, 90 min.)



This gorgeously dystopian South Korean film (alternately known as *Wonderful Days*) rivals and, at times, surpasses the best of Japanese animé. Lush may not be the right word for it, but Kim and Park's vertiginous cityscapes and the earthbound mortals who populate them are rendered

with an attention to detail that often makes *Sky Blue* look head and shoulders above most recent live-action sci-fi outings. Part *Blade Runner*-esque postapocalyptic dirge (these days, what Asian animé isn't?), part love story, and part Greenpeace eco-rant, *Sky Blue* succeeds best when it speaks least. (This Westernized, English-language version has been "redirected" by Park from Kim's original South Korean production which was a seven-year affair that brought together virtually all of the country's best and brightest animators.) Set in 2142, the world has been devastated by environmental upheaval. Inside the sprawling city of Ecoban, the survivors cling to a semblance of normalcy with the wealthy elites ruling over an underclass army of "diggers," who mine the carbon fields below the city. In between these two groups are the security forces who keep the peace and are also in charge of resisting incursions from the ranks of underground diggers who,



predictably, are none too happy with the status quo. With rebellion swelling in the ranks of the oppressed workers, security agent Jay and her boyfriend, Cade – one of the city's elite ruling class – are forced to reconsider this whole idea of selective slavery. Trying to describe the storyline here makes it sound straight out of Marx and Engels, but as with most animé, the labyrinthine plotting runs a close second to the visuals, which here combine traditional cel animation (for the characters) with startlingly lifelike CGI backgrounds. The result is a riveting, eco-wise epic that'll do fans of both Ralph Nader and Katsuhiro Ôtomo proud.

– Marc Savlov
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

BEAR CUB

D: Miguel Albaladejo; with José Luis García-Pérez, David Castillo, Empar Ferrer, Elvira Lindo, Mario Arias, Arno Chevrier, Diana Cerezo. (NR, 99 min., subtitled)

This Spanish movie (which debuted in Austin during the most recent aGLIFF festival) is a well-observed and canny drama. The story is inhabited by realistic and clearly drawn characters and situations. Director and co-writer Albaladejo relies on these attributes instead of taking the easy way out and turning his movie into a simple treatise on gay adoption. Pedro (Pérez) is a gay man who works as a dentist and parties with his friends at night. His promiscuity defines him, as does his social life among other bearish gay men (the hairy, non-hardbody types). His life changes when his flaky sister decides to go to India with her new boyfriend and leaves her 9-year-old son Bernardo (Castillo) in Pedro's charge. In short order, she is jailed for trafficking in drugs, and Bernardo's two-week visit turns into an indefinite stay. Without really realizing it, the two form a tight relationship as Pedro begins to curtail his nightly cruising and chide his friends for rolling joints in front of the boy and Bernardo happily cooks for the two of them and confides his precocious private thoughts to his uncle. Just as life begins settling into a new groove, a hitch comes along in the form of Bernardo's paternal grandmother, whose grief for her own dead son prompts her to want custody of Bernardo (whose mother has not previously allowed her to visit with the child). She holds some damning information over Pedro to force him to comply with her wishes. Yet, even here, where the movie could have made the grandmother into an evil villain, Albaladejo shows great restraint. By the end of the movie, everyone is not exactly the person they were to begin with, and that is the movie's charm. Two graphic sex scenes have been cut out of the film for this American release, probably wisely, for they would have required it to be rated NC-17, and there is nothing else in the film that makes such limiting categorization necessary. The two central performances are strong and believable, something that is seen too infrequently among child actors. *Bear Cub* purrs with uncommon emotion.

– Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★★ Dobie

BEWAFAA

D: Dharmesh Darshan; with Anil Kapoor, Kareena Kapoor, Akshay Kumar, Manoj Bajpai, Shamita Shetty, Sushmita Sen. (NR, 164 min., subtitled)

It's refreshing to finally be able to say that Bollywood has arrived in town (courtesy of Cinemark's Tinseltown South theatre, which has tentative plans to bring in more Indian movies in the future). *Bewafaa* (*Unfaithful*), a lengthy romantic tragicomedy bearing the most identifiable hallmark of the Indian film – namely, plenty of show-stopping musical numbers that seem to spring full-bore from characters' mouths with clockwork regularity. Love, oddly inappropriate laughter, and the ethical ramifica-

New Reviews

BAD GUY

D: Kim Ki-duk; with Cho Je-Hyun, Seo Won, Kim Yoon-Tae, Choi Duk-Moon. (NR, 100 min., subtitled)

Having achieved a fair amount of international success and attention with his last two films, *Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter ... and Spring* and *The Isle*, South Korean director Kim Ki-duk is now in the position of having some of his back catalog released on U.S. screens. Hailing from 2001, *Bad Guy* is coarser and more disturbing than his later films (although anyone who has seen the ending of *The Isle* might fairly wonder how that could possibly be the case). *Bad Guy* is a well-told tale that uses minimal dialogue, striking imagery, and vivid violence to weave a depressing portrait of obsessive love and a no-win battle of wills. This movie shares some themes with Kim's later two films: their shared water imagery and the idea that lust leads to death in the quotidian world. *Bad Guy* definitely begins with lust. Before the opening credits are through, Han-gi (Je-Hyun), a man with a grizzly scar slicing his neck, has gone up and kissed a young college girl he does not know. He has to be pulled off her by some soldiers, and when she demands an apology and none is forthcoming, she spits in his face. Thus the template for their love affair is set. Later, the girl, Sun-hwa (Seo), is set up to commit a crime by Han-gi's cronies and finds herself sold into prostitution to pay off her debt.

She resists at first, but eventually grows complacent in her new life. Meanwhile, Han-gi watches her through a two-way mirror, an activity he increasingly grows to dislike. Ki-duk's portrait of the red-light district and its habitués is vibrantly fascinating, and the two key performances are deft. However, the film's emotional dynamics grow scuzzier and scuzzier, despite some nice comic interplay among Han-gi's cohorts. Sun-hwa is like a victim of Stockholm syndrome, while Han-gi slowly loses the spitfire that originally caught his eye. As horrifying as it is to watch the forced prostitution, the manner in which the movie resolves its narrative conflicts brings little relief to the viewer.

– Marjorie Baumgarten
★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

BE COOL

D: F. Gary Gray; with John Travolta, Uma Thurman, Vince Vaughn, Cedric the Entertainer, André Benjamin, Steven Tyler, Robert Pastorelli, Harvey Keitel, Christina Milian. (PG-13, 114 min.)

Waiting a decade before trotting out a sequel to a hit film is relatively rare and usually bodes desperation on somebody's part, but this star-packed sequel to Barry Sonnenfeld's *Get Shorty* (1995) man-ages – just – to steer clear of the usual creative mismanagement by sheer dint of its packed-to-the-rafters script, courtesy of Peter Steinfeld (working from the novel by the always reliable Elmore Leonard). Director Gray (*The Italian Job*) and Steinfeld toss in everything, and then pile on more and yet more improbable plot devices until something, *anything*, sticks and gets

a laugh. As the film opens, Travolta's ex-Brooklyn enforcer Chili Palmer is sick to death of the film business he embraced in *Get Shorty*. He'd much rather be in the far more congenial music biz and gets his chance when pal Tommy Athens (James Woods in a brief cameo) is gunned down by the Russian Mafia, leaving his star diva-to-be (Milian) in the lurch. Taking her under his raven's wing, Palmer hooks up with Athens' ex, Edie (Thurman), while dodging unscrupulous scam-masters at every turn. It's a kick to see Travolta and Thurman tearing up the dance floor once more, but you could make a case that the former Vincent Vega is playing it a tad too cool here; half the time he appears positively glacial, more weary than hip, more hip than hop. Such is not the case with Cedric the Entertainer's bombastic parody of Death Row Records hardcase Suge Knight: Aided and abetted by no less than André "3000" Benjamin of Outkast, he simultaneously inflates and deflates the rap mogul's tarnished legend. Most winning, bizarrely, is the Rock as a wannabe rapper, chauffeur-cum-strong arm, and vainglorious gay man desperate to make it big in the movies. He's the most human of all the parodies here (and that's saying a lot considering virtually every single character is a parody of someone or something). It's a messy, overlong film, but it's impossible to take seriously and therefore more than a little entertaining.

– Marc Savlov
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

tions of what a responsible Hindi woman is to do when her beloved sibling expires during childbirth and leaves her stuck with twin daughters and a perpetually grieving husband are the main dishes of what unfortunately feels like a 20-course smorgasbord of tired and shopworn melodramatics. It's enough to make even Douglas Sirk think seriously about dialing down the schmaltz. As Anjali – the sister forced by fate to forsake her Montreal-based rock star drummer boyfriend Raja (Kumar) and move back to Delhi with her dead sister's husband – Kareena Kapoor radiates the sort borderline-hysterical mood swings that typify so many Bollywood characters. When she's not looking as if she just had a million-rupee makeover (in the morning, even), she's contemplating the unthinkable: secretly reuniting with the now-famous rocker Raja to pursue the path of true love. The politics of adultery are a hot topic in every culture, but *Bewafaa* glosses over the most emotionally resonant echoes in favor of rafts of insanely uncatchy songs and a surreal sidestepping of the meat of the story: the cultural conventions that require Anjali to marry her late sister's husband, an ultra-reserved businessman who sees the shade of his dead wife wherever he looks. It's like Britney Spears marrying Wally Shawn. Come to think of it, there's a movie in there somewhere. Just not this one. – Marc Savlov

Openings

- Bad Guy* (NR)
- Be Cool* (PG-13)
- Bear Cub* (NR)
- The Jacket* (R)
- The Pacifier* (PG)
- Sky Blue* (NR)

Ratings

- ★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be
- ★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
- ★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points
- ★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
- ★ Poor, without any saving graces
- ★ La bomba

CURSED

D: Wes Craven; with Christina Ricci, Portia de Rossi, Shannon Elizabeth, Joshua Jackson, Judy Greer, Jesse Eisenberg, Milo Ventimiglia. (PG-13, 96 min.)

Note to Wes Craven: Portia de Rossi is no Maria Ouspenskaya, although, come to think of it, she could probably pull off Evelyn Ankers. Her brief appearance in *Cursed*, Craven's much-plagued high school werewolf epic, is meant, I assume, as a homage to Hollywood's iconic gypsy fortune teller Ouspenskaya, who originated the genre archetype way back in 1941 in George Waggner's *The Wolf Man*. *Cursed* is teeming with homages, in-jokes, and minitributes to lycanthropes and other beasties past, most notably John Landis' *An American Werewolf in London* and most unlikely David Cronenberg's *Rabid* (lycanthropy as an STD, you see). That's what

you get when you hire former Dawson's Creek-er Kevin Williamson to pen the script, I guess. Craven and Williamson were obviously hoping to rekindle the magic they brought to the *Scream* franchise, which, with its self-referential humor and jokey asides, gave the horror genre a desperately needed shot in the severed arm some years back. Alas, *Cursed* is an unmitigated disaster from frame one, entirely lacking the wry wit of *Scream* (or even the bargain basement panache of *The Beast Must Die*) and any real scares whatsoever. Ricci and Eisenberg play siblings Ellie and Jimmy, who are attacked by a werewolf and promptly begin sprouting pentagrams on their right hands, while leaking wolfy pheromones all over the place. Über-nerd Jimmy is suddenly able to best the entire high school wrestling team (shades of *Teen Wolf*) and non-

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA

DINNER - DRINKS - MOVIES - EVENTS

GET READY FOR A WHOLE NEW ALAMO: ALAMO SOUTH LAMAR OPENS THIS FRIDAY!!!

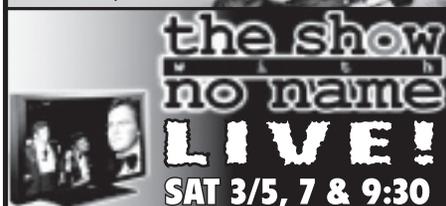


a star is born
Sex-Free Porno Versions of Hollywood Hits!
MIDNIGHTS DOWNTOWN
THURS - SAT



The MUPPET MOVIE
SING-ALONG!
SUN, 3/6 - 7 & 9:30

BUKOWSKI: born into this
"a loving tribute to a writer, his craft, & the idea of living and dying by one's own creed"
Tues 3/8, 9:45
Weds 3/9, 7:00



the show no name LIVE!
SAT 3/5, 7 & 9:30

DOWNTOWN - 4TH AND COLORADO

THU, MAR 3	HRC presents BRIT NOIR: NIGHT & THE CITY 7:00 FINDING NEVERLAND 9:45 A STAR IS PORN MIDNIGHT
FRI, MAR 4	THE SINUS SHOW: THE TERMINATOR 7:00 & 9:45 A STAR IS PORN MIDNIGHT
SAT, MAR 5	MIKE: BIRD PEOPLE OF CHINA 4:00 - FREE ADMISSION SHOW WITH NO NAME: LIVE! 7:30 & 9:30 A STAR IS PORN MIDNIGHT
SUN, MAR 6	MIKE: SHINJUKU TRIAD SOCIETY 4:00 MUPPET MOVIE SING-ALONG 7:00 & 9:30
MON, MAR 7	80s NIGHT: VALLEY GIRL 7:00 I WAS A TEENAGE QUINCY PUNK 9:45
TUE, MAR 8	AFS MIKE: HAPPINESS OF THE KATAKURIS 7:00 BUKOWSKI: BORN INTO THIS 9:45
WED, MAR 9	BUKOWSKI: BORN INTO THIS 7:00 SUPER HAPPY FUN MONKEY BASH 31 9:45 WEIRD WED (FREE) UP YOURS! MIDNIGHT
THU, MAR 10	HRC presents (the original) GET CARTER 7:00 2nd Annual INDIE MUSIC VIDEO FESTIVAL 9:45

SOUTH LAMAR - 1120 SOUTH LAMAR BLVD

BAD GUY	415	700	935	GRAND OPENING EVENTS: TIM McANLIES w/ THE IRON GIANT, WILEY WIGGINS w/ DAZED AND CONFUSED, UCHI presents RASHOMON, THE SOUP PEDDLER presents DUCK SOUP, MICHAEL BALDWIN presents PHANTASM & more, more, more!
BE COOL	400	735	1020	
FINDING NEVERLAND	355	740		
MILLION \$ BABY	330	705	1015	
ONG-BAK	445			
SIDEWAYS	345	710	955	
SKY BLUE	730	950		
SPIKE & MIKE 2005	1000			

VILLAGE - ANDERSON LANE WEST OF BURNET

BE COOL	100	355	700	955
CONSTANTINE	1240	350	715	1015
HITCH	105	405	720	1005
MILLION \$ BABY	1225	345	705	1010
VIDEOKE				MIDNIGHT (Fri - Free!)
ROCKY HORROR				MIDNIGHT (Sat)

\$5.75 MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM, \$5.50 STUDENTS, SENIORS, KIDS OVER 6 W/ PARENTS SHOWS WITH * SAT, SUN, TUES ONLY - NO PASSES - GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

ALL THREE ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LOCATIONS NOW BOOK PRIVATE PARTIES
DOWNTOWN & VILLAGE, 407-9531 - LAKE CREEK, 219-7802

ALAMO WEEKLY SPECIALS
MONDAY: BUDGET NIGHT!
CHEAP TIX: \$5.50 VILK - \$1 D.T. plus \$1 Popcorn and \$1 Sodas
TUESDAY
\$2 Domestic \$6 Burgers
THURSDAY
All Draft Pints \$2.50

18 AND UP ALL SHOWS - WWW.DRAFTHOUSE.COM - NO INFANTS
DOWNTOWN & VILLAGE: 476-1320 - LAKE CREEK: 684-8553

CONGRATULATIONS JAMIE FOXX



BEST ACTOR for Ray
VULCAN VIDEO
13329 Hwy. 183 N., Suite 600 936-0377 vulcanvideo.com

GALAXY

HIGHLAND 10 THEATRES
All shows before 6pm are Matinees. Children and Seniors now \$5.50 all day.
1-35 & Middle Fiskville Rd. • 512-467-7305
Highland Mall next to Outback Steakhouse
Showtimes: Fri, Mar 4 - Thurs, Mar 10

BE COOL ** (PG13)	12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
THE PACIFIER ** (PG)	11:55, 2:10, 4:30, 7:05, 9:20
DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN ** (PG13)	12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10
MAN OF THE HOUSE ** (PG13)	12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:30, 9:45
CURSED ** (PG13)	11:50, 1:55, 4:00, 7:35, 9:40
CONSTANTINE (R)	11:40, 2:15, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
SON OF THE MASK (PG)	11:30, 3:35, 7:40
BECAUSE OF WINN DIXIE (PG)	12:05, 2:25, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
HITCH (PG13)	11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50
BOOGEYMAN (PG13)	1:35, 5:40, 9:55
MILLION DOLLAR BABY (PG13)	1:15, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40

ONLINE TICKETING: WWW.GALAXYTHEATRES.COM

LANDMARK'S DOBIE

21st & Guadalupe • (512) 472-FILM
FREE PARKING IN THE DOBIE GARAGE
\$6.00 Mon-Thu with college I.D.
www.LandmarkTheatres.com

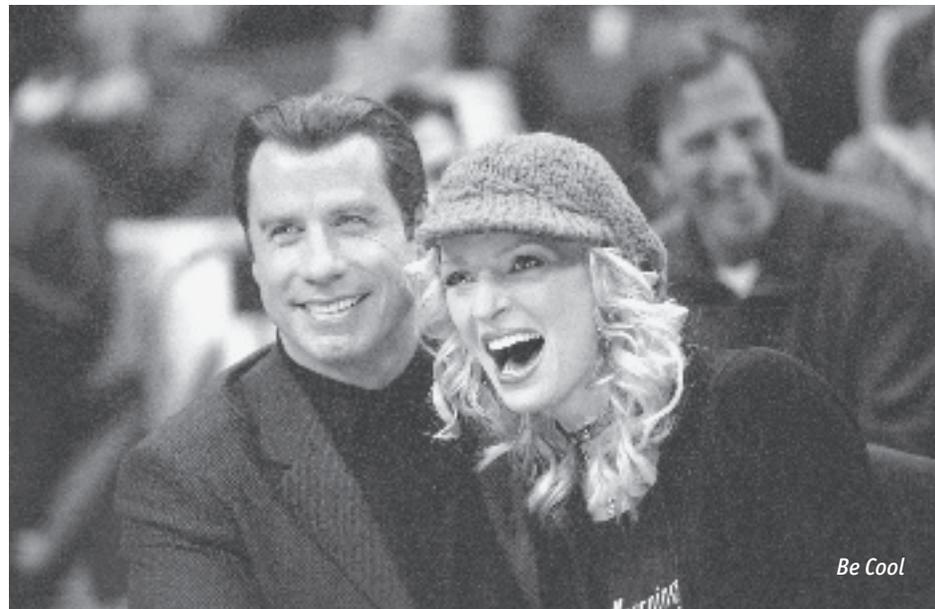
Bear Cub
Fri: (4:10) 7:10, 10:00; Sat/Sun: (1:10, 4:10) 7:10, 10:00
Mon-Thurs: 7:10, 10:00

SIDEWAYS
Fri: (4:00) 7:00, 9:50; Sat/Sun: (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 9:50
Mon-Thurs: 7:00, 9:50

IN THE REALMS OF THE UNREAL
THE MYSTERY OF HENRY DARGER
Fri: (4:30) 7:30, 9:40; Sat/Sun: (1:30, 4:30) 7:30, 9:40
Mon-Thurs: 7:30, 9:40

THE LIFE AQUATIC STEVE ZISSOU
Fri-Sun: (4:10) 10:10; Mon-Thu: 10:10

THE NOMI SONG
Fri, Mon-Thurs: 7:20; Sat/Sun: (1:20) 7:20
ALL CHILDREN UNDER 6 FREE W/ PAID ADULT ADMISSION!
RATTLE AND REEL! ALL FILMS EVERY FRIDAY AT NOON
SHOWTIMES FOR FRI, MARCH 4- THURS, MARCH 10
Bargain Showtimes in ()



Be Cool

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE DOWNTOWN 409-B *Colorado*, 474-1510. Seating begins one half-hour before showtime. Admission is 18 and up. AFS events are all ages.

Milke Matinee: *Bird People in China:* Sat, 4:00pm
Bukowski: Born Into This: Tue, 9:45pm; Wed, 7:00pm
Brit Noir: Get Carter: Thu (3/10), 7:00pm
AFS Milke: The Happiness of the Katakuris: Tue, 7:00pm
Music Mondays: I Was a Teenage Quinny Punk: Mon, 9:45pm
Indie Music Video Festival – Austin: Thu (3/10), 9:45pm
The Muppet Movie Sing-Along: Sun, 7:00, 9:30
Milke Matinee: *Shinjuku Triad Society: Part 1:* Sun, 4:00pm
The Show With No Name: Live: Sat, 7:30, 9:45
A Star Is Porn: Fri-Sat, 12mid
Super Happy Fun Monkey Bash 3: Wed, 9:45pm
Sinus Show: The Terminator: Fri, 7:00, 9:45
Weird Wednesday: Up Yours – A Rockin’ Comedy: Wed, 12mid
Eighties Nite: Valley Girl: Mon, 7:00pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 *Research*, 219-5408.
The Aviator: 12:05, 3:55, 7:55
***Cursed:** 1:30, 4:15, 7:40, 10:20
Finding Neverland: 12:40, 3:40, 7:40, 7:20, 10:10
Hide and Seek: 1:15, 4:00, 7:30, 10:15
Hitch: 12:10, 3:20, 7:05, 10:00
Million Dollar Baby: Fri, 7:00, 10:05; Sat/Thu, 12:00, 3:25, 7:00, 10:05
Sideways: 12:20, 3:30, 7:10, 10:20

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. *Lamar*, 476-1320.
Bad Guy: 4:15, 7:00, 9:35
Be Cool: 4:00, 7:35, 10:20
Opening Week Celebration: Dazed and Confused: Tue, 9:45pm
Opening Week Celebration: Duck Soup: Thu (3/10), 7:00pm
Finding Neverland: Fri-Sun, 3:55, 7:40; Mon-Wed, 3:55pm
Opening Week Celebration: The Iron Giant: Mon, 7:00pm
Million Dollar Baby: Fri-Sun, 3:30, 7:05, 10:15; Mon-Thu, 3:30, 7:05
Ong-Bak: The Thai Warrior: 4:55pm
Opening Week Celebration: Phantasm: Wed, 9:45pm
Opening Week Celebration: Eat, Drink, Watch Movies: Rashomon: Wed, 7:00pm
Sky Blue: 7:30, 9:50
Spike & Mike’s Sick & Twisted Festival of Animation 2005: 10:00pm
Opening Week Celebration: Sinus Show: The Terminator: Thu (3/10), 9:45pm
Opening Week Celebration: Foleyvision: Turkish Wizard of Oz: Mon, 9:45pm
Opening Week Celebration: Waking Life: Tue, 7:00pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. *Anderson*, 476-1320.
 Tuesday matinee “Baby Day” shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. AFS events are all ages.
Be Cool: 1:00, 3:55, 7:00, 9:55
Constantine: 12:40, 3:50, 7:15, 10:15
Hitch: 1:05, 4:05, 7:20, 10:05
Million Dollar Baby: 12:25, 3:45, 7:05, 10:10
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Videoke: Fri, 12mid

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 *Great Hills Trail* (at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays.
Bad Education: 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 9:45
Being Julia: 9:15pm
Bride & Prejudice: 11:55am, 2:30, 5:05, 7:45, 10:15pm
Hotel Rwanda: 1:00, 4:15, 7:10, 9:50
Inside Deep Throat: 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 9:55
Paper Clips: 12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:00
The Sea Inside: 12:50, 3:45, 6:55, 9:40
Sideways: 12:40, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30
William Shakespeare’s Merchant of Venice: 12:20, 4:30, 8:00

BARTON CREEK CINEMA (CINEMARK) *Highway 360 and Walsh* *Tartan*, 306-1688. Discounts daily before 6pm.
Andrew Lloyd Webber’s The Phantom of the Opera: Fri, 3:10, 6:30, 9:40; Sat-Mon, 12:00, 3:10, 6:30, 9:40; Tue-Thu, 3:10, 6:30, 9:40
Constantine: Fri, 3:05, 7:00, 9:45; Sat-Mon, 12:15, 3:05, 7:00, 9:45; Tue-Thu, 3:05, 7:00, 9:45
Finding Neverland: Fri, 2:00, 4:25, 7:15, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:25, 7:15, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu, 2:00, 4:25, 7:15, 10:00
Hotel Rwanda: Fri, 3:15, 6:45, 9:40; Sat-Mon, 12:20, 3:15, 6:45, 9:40; Tue-Thu, 3:15, 6:45, 9:40
***Man of the House:** Fri, 1:40, 2:20, 4:10, 5:00, 7:10, 7:35, 9:35, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 11:05am, 11:45, 1:40, 2:20, 4:10, 5:00, 7:10, 7:35, 9:35, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu, 1:40, 2:20, 4:10, 5:00, 7:10, 7:35, 9:35, 10:00
***The Pacifier:** Fri, 1:35, 2:25, 4:05, 4:50, 7:05, 7:30, 9:25, 9:55; Sat-Mon, 11:10am, 11:40, 1:35, 2:25, 4:05, 4:50, 7:05, 7:30, 9:25, 9:55
Ray: Fri, 2:55, 6:15, 9:30; Sat-Mon, 11:30am, 2:55, 6:15, 9:30pm; Tue-Thu, 2:55, 6:15, 9:30
The Wedding Date: Fri, 1:30, 4:00, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Mon, 11:15am, 1:30, 4:00, 7:20, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu, 1:30, 4:00, 7:20, 9:50

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) *Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360)*, 306-9190. Matinee discounts before 6pm.
Are We There Yet?: Fri-Sat, 2:55, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45; Sun, 2:55, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40
The Aviator: 1:10, 5:00, 8:30
***Be Cool:** Fri-Sat, 1:00, 2:25, 4:15, 5:05, 7:00, 7:50, 9:40, 10:25; Sun-Thu, 1:00, 2:25, 4:15, 5:05, 7:00, 7:50, 9:35
***Because of Winn-Dixie:** Fri-Sat, 1:50, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30; Sun-Thu, 1:50, 4:35, 7:05, 9:25
***Cursed:** 2:20, 5:10, 7:45, 10:05
Diary of a Mad Black Woman: Fri-Sat, 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 10:00; Sun-Thu, 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 9:55
Hitch: Fri-Sat, 1:45, 2:35, 4:30, 5:20, 7:15, 8:00, 9:50, 10:30; Sun-Thu, 1:45, 2:35, 4:30, 5:20, 7:15, 8:00, 9:45
***The Jacket:** Fri-Sat, 3:00, 5:25, 7:55, 10:15; Sun-Thu, 3:00, 5:25, 7:45, 10:10
Meet the Fockers: Fri-Sat, 7:10, 9:55; Sun-Thu, 7:10, 9:40
Million Dollar Baby: Fri-Sat, 1:15, 4:25, 7:20, 10:10; Sun-Thu, 1:15, 4:25, 7:20, 10:05
Pooch’s Heffalump Movie: 1:25pm
Sideways: Fri-Sat, 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20; Sun-Thu, 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
***Son of the Mask:** 2:10, 4:45
William Shakespeare’s Merchant of Venice: Fri-Sat, 3:30, 6:35, 9:35; Sun-Thu, 3:30, 6:35, 9:30

DOBIE THEATRE LANDMARK 2025 *Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor)*, 472-FILM.
Bear Cub: Fri, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00; Mon-Thu, 7:10, 10:00
In the Realm of the Unreal: Fri, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40; Mon-Thu, 7:30, 9:40
The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou: Fri-Sun, 4:10, 10:10; Mon-Thu, 10:10pm
The Nomi Song: Fri, 7:20pm; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 7:20; Mon-Thu, 7:20pm
Sideways: Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50; Mon-Thu, 7:00, 9:50

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 *North I-35 & Middle Fiskville*, 467-7305. Discounts daily before 6pm.
***Be Cool:** 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
Because of Winn-Dixie: 12:05, 2:25, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
Boogeyman: 1:35, 5:40, 9:55
Constantine: 11:40am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20pm
***Cursed:** 11:50am, 1:55, 4:00, 7:35, 9:40pm
***Diary of a Mad Black Woman:** 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10
***Hitch:** 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50pm
***Man of the House:** 12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:30, 9:45
Million Dollar Baby: 1:15, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40
***The Pacifier:** 11:55am, 2:10, 4:30, 7:05, 9:20pm
Son of the Mask: 11:30am, 3:35, 7:40pm

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 *Stonelake Blvd.*, within *Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183* in the *Gateway shopping center*, 416-5700 x3808.
The Aviator: Fri, 12:45, 4:35, 9:00; Sat-Sun, 12:45, 4:30, 9:00; Mon-Thu, 12:45, 4:35, 9:00
***Be Cool:** Fri, 11:50am, 12:40, 2:35, 3:40, 5:20, 7:15, 8:05, 10:10, 10:40pm; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 1:10, 2:00, 4:00, 4:50, 7:00, 7:35, 9:55, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu, 11:50am, 12:40, 2:35, 3:40, 5:20, 7:15, 8:05, 10:10, 10:40pm
***Because of Winn-Dixie:** Fri, 12:50, 3:35, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:25, 5:10, 8:05, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu, 12:50, 3:35, 7:20, 9:50
Constantine: Fri, 12:00, 3:00, 7:35, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 1:55, 4:45, 7:30, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu, 12:00, 3:00, 7:35, 10:30
***Cursed:** Fri, 12:00, 2:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:35, 9:15, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 4:40, 7:05, 8:10, 9:25, 10:30; Mon-Thu, 12:00, 2:10, 4:40, 6:50, 7:35, 9:15, 9:45
***Diary of a Mad Black Woman:** Fri, 12:25, 3:25, 7:00, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu, 12:25, 3:25, 7:00, 10:05
Finding Neverland: Fri, 12:30, 3:15, 7:05, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 12:20, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10; Mon-Thu, 12:30, 3:15, 7:05, 9:35
Hitch: Fri, 12:20, 1:00, 3:20, 4:00, 6:45, 7:10, 9:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 12:15, 2:05, 3:40, 5:00, 6:45, 7:55, 9:35, 10:45pm; Mon-Thu, 12:20, 1:00, 3:20, 4:00, 6:45, 7:10, 9:30, 10:00
***The Jacket:** Fri, 11:50am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:55, 10:35pm; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:25, 5:10, 8:05, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu, 11:50am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:55, 10:35pm
Regal Kids Weekend Matinee: Little Nemo: Adventures in Slumberland: Sat-Sun, 11:00am
***Man of the House:** Fri, 12:10, 2:45, 5:05, 7:45, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:15, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu, 12:10, 2:45, 5:05, 7:45, 10:20
Million Dollar Baby: Fri, 12:40, 3:45, 7:25, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:45, 6:55, 10:05; Mon-Thu, 12:40, 3:45, 7:25, 10:25
The Pacifier: Fri, 12:05, 12:35, 2:30, 3:10, 5:00, 7:00, 7:40, 9:25, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 12:10, 1:50, 2:45, 4:15, 5:20, 6:50, 7:50, 9:15, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu, 12:05, 12:35, 2:30, 3:10, 5:00, 7:00, 7:40, 9:25, 10:15
Pooch’s Heffalump Movie: Fri, 12:15, 2:25, 4:25; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 1:40, 3:45, 5:40pm; Mon-Thu, 12:15, 2:25, 4:25

IMAX THEATRE *Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress)*, 936-IMAX.
Bugs! 3-D: A Rainforest Adventure: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00; Sun, 2:00, 4:00
Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 1:00, 5:00pm; Sun, 1:00, 5:00; Mon-Thu, 10:00am, 1:00, 5:00pm
The Young Black Stallion: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 3:00, 6:00, 8:00pm; Sun, 3:00, 6:00; Mon-Thu, 11:00am, 3:00, 6:00pm

LAKELINE STARPOST *Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620*, 335-4793. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday.
Are We There Yet?: 12:25pm
***Be Cool:** 12:50, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50
***Because of Winn-Dixie:** Fri, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00; Sat-Thu, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:35
Constantine: 12:40, 4:20, 7:30, 10:10
***The Jacket:** 12:15, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
Regal Kids Weekend Matinee: Little Nemo: Adventures in Slumberland: Sat-Sun, 11:00am
Man of the House: 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:35, 10:00
***The Pacifier:** 12:00, 12:30, 2:20, 3:00, 4:40, 5:30, 7:20, 8:00, 9:40, 10:15
Pooch’s Heffalump Movie: 12:05, 2:10, 4:30
Son of the Mask: 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 10:40
The Wedding Date: 7:15, 9:30

METROPOLITAN *South I-35 at Stansney*, 447-0101.
Are We There Yet?: 12:05, 2:40, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
The Aviator: 12:40, 5:15, 9:35
***Constantine:** 12:20, 1:40, 3:00, 3:20, 4:20, 4:50, 6:45, 7:20, 7:50, 9:50, 10:15, 10:45
Cursed: 12:35, 1:45, 2:55, 4:45, 5:20, 7:15, 8:05, 9:55, 10:30
Hitch: 12:00, 12:30, 1:30, 2:50, 3:30, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00, 10:25
Regal Kids Weekend Matinee: Little Nemo: Adventures in Slumberland: Sat-Sun, 11:00am
Ong-Bak: The Thai Warrior: 12:50, 4:25, 7:25, 10:20
***The Pacifier:** 12:15, 1:00, 3:00, 4:40, 5:30, 7:10, 8:00, 9:40, 10:35
Sideways: 12:50, 4:25, 7:25, 10:20

MILLENNIUM THEATRE 1156 *Hargrave*, 472-6932. Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.
Blade: Trinity: Fri, 6:00, 8:00; Sat, 6:00, 8:00; Tue-Thu, 7:00pm
The Incredibles: Fri, 4:00pm; Sat, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:00; Tue-Thu, 4:00pm

ROUND ROCK 8 2120 *N. Mays (Round Rock)*, 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.
Be Cool: Fri, 1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30; Sat, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30pm; Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:50, 7:40pm; Tue-Thu, 1:50, 4:50, 7:40
Because of Winn-Dixie: Fri, 1:40, 5:00, 7:50, 10:15; Sat, 11:10am, 1:40, 5:00, 7:50, 10:15pm; Sun-Mon, 11:10am, 1:40, 5:00, 7:50pm; Tue-Thu, 1:40, 5:00, 7:50
Constantine: Fri-Sun, 7:20, 10:00; Mon-Thu, 7:20pm
***Cursed:** Fri, 2:10, 5:10, 8:00, 10:20; Sat, 11:50am, 2:10, 5:10, 8:00, 10:20pm; Sun-Mon, 11:50am, 2:10, 5:10, 8:00pm; Tue-Thu, 2:10, 5:10, 8:00
Hitch: Fri, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40; Sat, 10:20am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40pm; Sun-Mon, 10:20am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00pm; Tue-Thu, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00
***Man of the House:** Fri, 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 9:50; Sat, 10:50am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 9:50pm; Sun-Mon, 10:50am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:30pm; Tue-Thu, 1:30, 4:20, 7:30
Million Dollar Baby: Fri, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10; Sat, 10:15am, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10pm; Sun-Mon, 10:15am, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10pm; Tue-Thu, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10
The Pacifier: Fri, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:20; Sat, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:20pm; Sun-Mon, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00pm; Tue-Thu, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00
Racing Stripes: Fri, 2:20, 4:40; Sat-Mon, 12:00, 2:20, 4:40; Tue-Thu, 2:20, 4:40
Son of the Mask: Fri, 2:20, 4:40; Sat-Mon, 12:00, 2:20, 4:40; Tue-Thu, 2:20, 4:40

TEXAS UNION THEATRE *UT Campus; Texas Union, second level*, 476-6666.
The Future of Food: Wed, 6:30pm

TINSELTOWN NORTH *North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville)*, 512/989-8540.

Andrew Lloyd Webber’s The Phantom of the Opera: 9:40pm
Are We There Yet?: Fri, 2:00, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu, 2:00, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
The Aviator: 11:50am, 4:00, 8:15pm
***Be Cool:** Fri, 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 10:30, 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu, 1:00, 1:30, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:30
***Because of Winn-Dixie:** Fri, 1:25, 4:10, 6:55; Sat-Sun, 10:45am, 1:25, 4:10, 6:55pm; Mon-Thu, 1:25, 4:10, 6:55
Boogeyman: 7:35, 9:55
***Constantine:** Fri, 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 7:15, 9:45, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 9:45am, 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 7:15, 9:45, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu, 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 7:15, 9:45, 10:15
***Cursed:** Fri, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 9:40am, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20
***Diary of a Mad Black Woman:** Fri, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:55am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:30
Hitch: Fri, 12:55, 1:55, 3:50, 4:50, 6:45, 7:50, 9:45, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 9:45am, 10:50, 12:55, 1:55, 3:50, 4:50, 6:45, 7:50, 9:45, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu, 12:55, 1:55, 3:50, 4:50, 6:45, 7:50, 9:45, 10:40
***The Jacket:** Fri, 1:20, 4:15, 7:00, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 10:35am, 1:20, 4:15, 7:00, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu, 1:20, 4:15, 7:00, 10:00
***Man of the House:** Fri, 11:45am, 1:40, 2:20, 4:20, 5:00, 6:55, 7:25, 9:40, 10:10pm; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 11:45, 1:40, 2:20, 4:20, 5:00, 6:55, 7:25, 9:40, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu, 11:45am, 1:40, 2:20, 4:20, 5:00, 6:55, 7:25, 9:40, 10:10pm
Million Dollar Baby: Fri, 12:40, 3:50, 7:05, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 9:25am, 12:40, 3:50, 7:05, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu, 12:40, 3:50, 7:05, 10:15
***The Pacifier:** Fri, 12:00, 2:05, 2:35, 4:40, 5:10, 7:15, 7:45, 9:50, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 9:25am, 11:30, 12:00, 2:05, 2:35, 4:40, 5:10, 7:15, 7:45, 9:50, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu, 12:00, 2:05, 2:35, 4:40, 5:10, 7:15, 7:45, 9:50, 10:20
Pooch’s Heffalump Movie: Fri, 12:05, 2:10, 4:25; Sat-Sun, 9:50am, 12:05, 2:10, 4:25pm; Mon-Thu, 12:05, 2:10, 4:25
Racing Stripes: 11:40am, 2:10, 4:45pm
Sideways: Fri, 12:50, 3:55, 7:05, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 9:40am, 12:50, 3:55, 7:05, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu, 12:50, 3:55, 7:05, 10:05
***Son of the Mask:** 11:45am, 2:15, 4:35, 7:10pm
The Wedding Date: 9:50pm

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***Be Cool:** 10:00am, 10:55, 12:45, 1:40, 3:40, 4:30, 6:40, 7:15, 9:25, 10:00pm
***Because of Winn-Dixie:** Fri-Mon, 10:10am, 11:00, 1:00, 1:50, 3:45, 5:00, 6:55, 9:30pm; Tue-Thu, 1:00, 1:50, 3:45, 5:00, 6:55, 9:30
Bewafaa: 9:10pm
Boogeyman: Fri-Mon, 10:05am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 7:55, 9:35, 10:15pm; Tue-Thu, 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 7:55, 9:35, 10:15
***Diary of a Mad Black Woman:** Fri-Mon, 10:10am, 11:05, 12:55, 1:50, 3:50, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 10:05pm; Tue-Thu, 12:55, 1:50, 3:50, 4:40, 6:50, 7:20, 9:30, 10:05
Finding Neverland: Fri-Mon, 10:30am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00
Hide and Seek: 7:35, 10:15
The Incredibles: Fri-Mon, 10:15am, 1:00, 4:00pm; Tue-Thu, 1:00, 4:00
***The Jacket:** Fri-Mon, 10:25am, 1:05, 4:05, 6:50, 7:30, 9:20, 10:05pm; Tue-Thu, 1:05, 4:05, 6:50, 7:30, 9:20, 10:05
***Man of the House:** Fri-Mon, 10:35am, 11:30, 1:05, 1:55, 3:35, 4:55, 6:45, 7:40, 9:25, 10:10pm; Tue-Thu, 1:05, 1:55, 3:35, 4:55, 6:45, 7:40, 9:25, 10:10
Million Dollar Baby: Fri-Mon, 10:05am, 12:50, 3:45, 6:45, 9:4

MAN OF THE HOUSE

D: Stephen Herek; with Tommy Lee Jones, Kelli Garner, Vanessa Ferlito, Monica Keena, Christina Milian, Paula Garcés, Cedric the Entertainer. (PG-13, 97 min.)

Silly and implausible, *Man of the House* has a tenuous relationship with anything we recognize as the real world, even keeping in mind that this is a comedy and not a real cop drama. The film's relationship to Texas, however, is strong, and it's likely to be warmly welcomed in the Lone Star State, where a goofy story about a Texas Ranger and the UT cheerleaders he is sworn to protect is what we like to watch anyway, albeit with a bit more football. Filmed here in Austin and on the UT campus (by director Herek, a former UT student), *Man of the House* has the feel of a home-grown affair, as lots of locations and businesses from Threadgill's to Mangia Pizza are given their due in the storyline. Even Gov. Perry and his mansion get cameos in this movie. The movie does very little to set up the criminal activities that cause agent Roland Sharp to move into a house with five cheerleaders after they inadvertently witness a murder. The filmmakers seem wholly uninterested in the set-up that puts the story in motion. They just want to move as quickly as possible to scenes of craggy Tommy Lee Jones waking up in a bathroom hanging with women's undergarments or lamely posing undercover as an assistant cheerleading coach. And actually, this humor works better than it has any right to. The girls are perky enough and Jones dependable enough to persevere in this thing despite the odds of it working out. A romance between English professor Molly McCarthy (Anne Archer) and Sharp is perfunctory at best, as the girls whisper moves to Sharp through a hidden earpiece. Cedric the Entertainer has a tangential role, but one that allows him to show off his own cheerleading moves. (His giggles and the girls' giggles stand in marked contrast.) Jones, like Robert De Niro, has turned from drama to comedy in recent screen roles, and while that sometimes yields a very funny payoff, it is starting to look quite rote. Both Jones and De Niro are too good to have such mediocrity be the capstones of their careers.

— Marjorie Baumgarten

★ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE PACIFIER

D: Adam Shankman; with Vin Diesel, Lauren Graham, Faith Ford, Brittany Snow, Max Thieriot, Carol Kane, Brad Garrett. (PG, 91 min.)

I like Vin Diesel. I really do. He can be brusque and warm; he's got a slight lisp. He can breakdance. There's room for him in comedy. He seems sincere even when he's doing something risible, and this Disney family farce has plenty of risible tasks for him: pilot a jet ski in pursuit of "a group of Serbian rebels"; wrestle with Kane in full madcap mode as a Czech nanny; use baby powder, hula hoops, and a toddler play-tunnel as weapons. Is it funny? Not for a minute. Cross-pollinate *Kindergarten Cop* with *Home Alone 3*, and you still have a hardier hybrid than this Mouse mutt. Not even *Kid in the Hall* Scott Thompson, as a Birkenstocked drama coach making step-ball-change jokes, can pull this movie out of the vortex of suckitude. We begin with *The O.C.*'s Tate Donovan kidnapped on a boat and somehow end up with Diesel in charge of his kids (Snow, Thieriot, Morgan York, and two sets of baby twins) while their mother (plastically perky Ford) searches for a high tech McGuffin in Switzerland. Military flourishes dot the soundtrack while Diesel — a SEAL — whips off diapers and whips the family into shape. I suppose there is some pleasure to be had in watching Diesel make trips to Costco and train Fireflies in kung fu. There may be some pleasure to be had in watching the world of motherhood temporarily confound a Big Strong Competent Man. (Allow me to stress "temporarily.") *Gilmore Girls'* Graham is the perfunctory love interest, Garrett the perfunctory suburban villain. (Yes, this is the kind of movie in which a 7-foot-tall hairy man in wrestling garb barely registers.) The juvenile thespians are rather likable, as well. Thieriot demonstrates a certain vulnerability as the inevitably misunderstood sensitive adolescent son, and York is appropriately spunky as the aforementioned Firefly. But you never forget that these are Movie Kids living in a Movie Scenario. It makes sense that the script is so antic — it was directed by two alumni of *The State* — but the problem is that it's so synthetic, so absolutely by-the-book in its trajectory. Backstories will be exchanged in a revealing moment of candor on a balcony, and our hero will of course learn the true value of Family. Perhaps in some parallel universe this movie could be an edgier satire of how families live and how children are educated, and the intrigue



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HIDE AND SEEK	1:15	4:00	7:30	10:15
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plot could be fully realized as a big goofy joke, but Shankman (*Bringing Down the House*) isn't up for that. He walks the line between wholesome and wacky and ends up with the cinematic equivalent of a minivan.

– Marrit Ingman

★ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

First Runs

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

ARE WE THERE YET?

D: Brian Levant; with Ice Cube, Nia Long, Jay Mohr, Aleisha Allen, Philip Daniel Bolden. (PG, 92 min.)

Despite a title that practically cries out for disrespect from antsy filmgoers, the new Ice Cube picture (he stars as well as co-produces) is not as bad as it easily could have been. Cube plays a player, the unencumbered Nick, who at first considers Suzanne's (Long) two children (Allen and Bolden) a romantic encumbrance and chooses to remain in what he calls the "friend zone." Eventually, he changes his tune, electing to drive the kids to Canada when Suzanne has to travel to Vancouver. Of course, the car is in shreds before the end of the trip, but along the way everyone has nevertheless learned to love one another. Cube manifests his amiable side and shows he can headline a family picture; the children are less believable, and the humor and escapades are occasionally well-focused but more often rude and physically abusive. *Are We There Yet?* is better off left by the side of the road. (01/21/05) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE AVIATOR

D: Martin Scorsese; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Cate Blanchett, John C. Reilly, Kate Beckinsale, Alec Baldwin, Alan Alda, Ian Holm. (PG-13, 166 min.)

Scorsese's exhilarating rocket of a biopic focuses not on the decline of Howard Hughes (although the twitches and tics that finally brought him fully into the grip of lunacy escalate throughout), but on the man's rise and eventual plateau, his loves won, lost, and discarded, and the indomitable blue-steel drive that made Hughes Aircraft the flawed juggernaut that it was. The film has the glossy look and dynamic feel of one of Hughes' hyper-aerodynamic aviation prototypes. When Scorsese opens up and fires on all cylinders, *The Aviator* captures the seat-of-your-pants thrills of a true pioneer. DiCaprio is clearly at the top of his game as Hughes. John Logan's script makes much of Hughes' mother's-milk fixation, but the pop psychology takes a back seat to Hughes' far more palatable will to power. This isn't Scorsese's best work, but it's a clear return to form after the last decade's occasionally self-indulgent stumbles. *The Aviator* is bravura, classic Hollywood filmmaking. (12/24/04) – Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

BAD EDUCATION

D: Pedro Almodóvar; with Gael García Bernal, Fele Martínez, Daniel Giménez Cacho, Lluís Homar, Javier Cámara, Francisco Boira. (NC-17, 109 min., subtitled)

With *Bad Education*, the great Almodóvar delivers the finest movie of his career. In this film the Spanish director maintains his now-familiar visual style with its dazzling compositions and candy-colored palette, as well as his ripe characters bursting with their melodramatic lives and messy emotions. Yet in addition, Almodóvar here contributes his most elaborate and fully developed script, making *Bad Education* his most satisfying and well-rounded work thus far. The movie is a modern film noir, full of noir's standard deceits and double-crosses, its passions, desires, and seductions, and its crimes of the flesh and the lucre. However, this being an Almodóvar film noir, it would be foolish to "cherchez la femme": Here "la femme" is a male-to-female transsexual, and the story's forbidden sex is between a Catholic priest and his prepubescent male student. Playing three different roles in the movie – one of them the tranny Zahara – Bernal is spectacular. (02/04/05) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Arbor

The Happiness of the Katakuris

The Happiness of the Katakuris (2001)

D: Takashi Miike; with Naoto Takenaka, Tetsuro Tanba, Naomi Nishida, Shinji Takeda, Keiko Matsuzaka, Kenji Sawada. (NR, 113 min.) **Austin Film Society: Bloodbath and Beyond – The Films of Takashi Miike.** *Katakuris* is something of a departure for Miike, seeing as how it's chock-full of robust romance and – we kid you not – musical numbers. While this is ultimately a crazy meditation on family values and the like, it's still mind-bogglingly goofy filmmaking, at once deeply moving and deeply annoying. – Marc Savlov (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Tues. 3/8, 7pm; AFS members free, \$4 general admission (online reservations at www.austinfilm.org).



BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE

D: Wayne Wang; with AnnaSophia Robb, Jeff Daniels, Cicely Tyson, Dave Matthews, Eva Marie Saint, Courtney Jines, Nick Price, Luke Benward, Elle Fanning. (PG, 105 min.)

During one sun-dappled summer a cute girl (newcomer Robb) and a cute dog (dubbed Winn-Dixie) cure each other's loneliness, and through their companionship bring together the fractured inhabitants of a small Florida town. Based on the Newberry Award-winning book by Kate DiCamillo, *Because of Winn-Dixie* seems an unusual choice for director Wang, who, despite his success with the family-oriented book-to-screen adaptation of *The Joy Luck Club* and the recent Jennifer Lopez starrer *Maid in Manhattan*, generally tends toward adult fare. His new movie is truly family-friendly: It has a sincerity that should make it appealing to kids and their parents and also harkens back to the kind of old-fashioned movie that tells the heartfelt story of a kid and her dog. There are no big surprises, but neither is the admonition against working with children and animals appropriate here. *Because of Winn-Dixie* should provide a pleasant family outing free of any cinematic mange. (02/18/05) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

BEING JULIA

D: István Szabó; with Annette Bening, Catherine Charlton, Jeremy Irons, Michael Gambon, Shaun Evans, Miriam Margolyes, Juliet Stevenson, Bruce Greenwood, Rosemary Harris, Maury Chaykin. (R, 105 min.)

There are so few really great film roles written for middle-aged women that when one comes along and it's delivered forth in such spectacular fashion by the near-perfect Annette Bening, it's disappointing to have to note that the movie surrounding her is not equal to her performance. *Being Julia* is burdened with a few too many characters and subplots and a theatrical backstage story that, but for its fabulous title character, is pedestrian and predictable. At 45, Julia (Bening) is the reigning queen of the British stage (the story is set in 1938 London), as well as

the leading lady in her own life, for she, my dahlings, is the real thing: a dyed-in-the-wool drama queen. She brings to her life the same theatricality and calibrated histrionics she delivers nightly on stage. There's only one thing that can break through her emotional upper hand: love. Julia Lambert is a fool for love. (11/12/04) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Arbor

BOOGEYMAN

D: Stephen T. Kay; with Barry Watson, Emily Deschanel, Skye McCole Bartusiak, Tory Mussett, Lucy Lawless, Robyn Malcolm. (PG-13, 86 min.)

The childhood fear of closets and beneath-the-bed beasts comes in for a good cleaning in *Boogeyman*, but all director Stephen T. Kay (*Get Carter*) can manage is a jumble sale of hoary horror clichés enshrouded by glacial pacing and a penchant for underlighting sets, which, in the hands of a more skillful team, might work dreadful wonders but here seems wholly unrealized. The genuinely interesting backstory of the titular creeper is completely ignored in favor of tedious sequences involving the protagonist (*7th Heaven's* Watson) engaging in staring contests with every closed door he encounters. Watson plays Tim, a twentysomething who witnessed his father's abduction by the Boogeyman some 15 years previous. Director of photography Bobby Bukowski has a keen eye for creating angsty images, but Kay repeatedly torpedoed the fear factor via stuttery editing and whipcord camera movements that seem to be the hallmark of directorial indecision these days. (02/11/05) – Marc Savlov

★ Highland, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

BRIDE & PREJUDICE

D: Gurinder Chadha; with Aishwarya Rai, Martin Henderson, Daniel Gillies, Naveen Andrews, Marsha Mason, Alexis Bledel. (PG-13, 110 min., subtitled)

Stateside viewers hesitating to dip into the mighty waters of Bollywood cinema take note: Chadha (*Bend It Like Beckham*) has a film for you. It's got practically everything you could stuff in front of a camera, and you'll recall the plot from Jane Austen. *Bride* has its problems – you'd expect



Bad Guy

that with such a kitchen-sink approach – but in its many great moments, it's more vibrant, more kinetic, more fun than any Hollywood romance of recent memory. It starts off with a bang, with several lavishly staged song numbers in the Bollywood tradition. The comedy is broad and the acting larger-than-life. Sadly, the film loses much of its crackling vitality as the complications pile up. It's not so much that Austen's parlor yarn, with its ever so many delightful misunderstandings, is a mismatch for Bollywood storytelling. It's just that everyone stops singing and dancing, and the loss is palpable. (02/25/05) – Marrit Ingman

★★★ Arbor

CONSTANTINE

D: Francis Lawrence; with Keanu Reeves, Rachel Weisz, Shia LaBeouf, Tilda Swinton, Pruitt Taylor Vince, Djimon Hounsou, Gavin Rossdale, Peter Stormare. (R, 118 min.)

The Los Angeles-based Constantine (Reeves) polices the borders between heaven and hell, deporting wayward demons from the earthly plane in the fragile hope that he might buy his way back into God's good graces. Adapted from Alan Moore's groundbreaking DC/Vertigo comic title, *Constantine* is sure to divide the series' most rabid fans, but those who can set aside their preconceptions will discover one of the more artfully designed comic-based films in some time. Moore, famously, had his name pulled from the finished product, but for all its divergences from Moore's sacrosanct text, *Constantine* the movie is remarkably faithful to the book's grim tone. As always, the devil's in the details and *Constantine* is loaded to the tip of its pointy tail with splendid little flourishes and a sense of pacing that lets the surreal events mount with ever-increasing gravitas. Reeves pulls it off too, capturing the sheer, soulless exhaustion of a man who has nothing left to lose and everything to gain. (02/18/05) – Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN

D: Darren Grant; with Kimberly Elise, Steve Harris, Shemar Moore, Tyler Perry, Tamara Taylor, Lisa Marcos, Tiffany Evans, Cicely Tyson. (PG-13, 116 min.)

Like Stella a few years ago, this new movie tells the story of how yet another black woman (Elise), jumps back in the game and gets her groove back. The characters' journeys are different, as are the two films' storytelling techniques. However, both movies' target audience is the same: urban black women who yearn for a good suds and a laugh. *Diary of a Mad Black Woman* has enough suds to blow soap bubbles around anything in its path, but the movie's melodramatic strife is leavened with broad slapstick strokes, which creates a bizarrely uneven tone. Despite the film's hoary clichés and the bad drag of actor/screenwriter Tyler Perry (who plays three roles in the film), viewers seem to respond to Helen's ups and downs. Accomplished video director Grant makes a clumsy debut as a feature director, bringing little sense of oversight to the proceedings; however, the film provides a vivid showcase for Perry's instinctive talents. (02/25/05) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

FINDING NEVERLAND

D: Marc Forster; with Johnny Depp, Kate Winslet, Julie Christie, Freddie Highmore, Dustin Hoffman, Radha Mitchell, Nick Roud. (PG, 106 min.)

Based on actual events, the film focuses on the special relationship between British playwright J.M. Barrie and the Llewelyn Davies family, imagining how they inspired Barrie to create the stage work for which he is best known today, *Peter Pan*. Like his most famous character, the Barrie presented here refuses to fully join the world of adults; he would much rather play cowboys and Indians with the four fatherless Llewelyn Davies boys than deal with his loveless marriage or mull over his latest theatrical flop. While the melodramatic elements of *Finding Neverland* are interesting but predictable (be forewarned: This really isn't a film for kids, but rather one for the kids in adults), its artistic merit and entertainment value derive from how the film links its narrative to Barrie's imagining of a world in which sprinkled fairy dust empowers children to fly and live out an adventure beyond their wildest dreams. (12/10/04) – Steve Davis

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Tinseltown South

HIDE AND SEEK

D: John Polson; with Robert De Niro, Dakota Fanning, Famke Janssen, Elisabeth Shue, Amy Irving, Dylan Baker, Melissa Leo. (R, 105 min.)

Psychological thriller *Hide and Seek* dangles over the precipitous edge of awfulness a full 90 minutes before toppling into that abyss with the resounding clatter of Robert De Niro's ham-on-rye overacting. De Niro plays child psychologist David Calloway, who moves himself and daughter Emily (Fanning) to the wooded hills of upstate New York after the suicide of his wife sends the traumatized tot to Bedlam with a permanent thousand-yard stare. Once there, Emily spends her downtime with invisible friend Charlie, who may or may not be the source of all the latent rage in the house. Bad things happen in rapid succession, and eventually there's blood all over the bathroom. Director Polson manages to pull the hair-raiser strings fairly well for the first two acts, but it all falls apart at the end, and in such a loud and abrasive way that it makes Brian De Palma's *Raising Cain* look like a model of restraint. (01/28/05) — Marc Savlov

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Tinseltown South

HITCH

D: Andy Tennant; with Will Smith, Kevin James, Amber Valletta, Eva Mendes. (PG-13, 115 min.)

Will Smith has one of those most approachable faces in movies today — those sleepy eyes, that inviting grin, those ears! There's "nice guy" written all over it. In the bland romantic comedy *Hitch*, Smith is cast as a smooth operator known as Manhattan's "date doctor." But Smith's affable screen persona undercuts the character's edge; he's not the player you'd expect him to be. That's not to say that Smith isn't enjoyable to watch as he coaches the hapless Albert (James). Their interactions fare better than those between Smith and Mendes, his love interest. What should be a battle of the sexes is more like a brief skirmish without any of the tension that makes for an interesting — much less great — screen pairing. In the end, while both of these performers look great together, they really don't seem to belong together. And that's the biggest hitch in *Hitch*. (02/18/05) — Steve Davis

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Get Carter

Get Carter (1971) *D: Mike Hodges; with Michael Caine, Ian Hendry, Britt Ekland. (R, 112 min.)* **HRC Presents Brit Noir.** This taut and violent British crime drama was remade in 2000 with Sylvester Stallone. Director Hodges went on to make *Croupier* and *I'll Sleep When I'm Dead*. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Thurs. 3/10, 7pm.

HOTEL RWANDA

D: Terry George; with Don Cheadle, Sophie Okonedo, Nick Nolte, Joaquin Phoenix, Desmond Dube, Tony Kgoroge, Cara Seymour. (PG-13, 121 min.)

This scrappy, powerful, and shocking film benefits tremendously from the big screen, and while it's not a perfect film – for the first half hour or so it looks and feels suspiciously like a network movie of the week thanks to some odd directorial and cinematographic choices – it is most assuredly an important one. Best of all, though, is Don Cheadle, who carries the film on his slim shoulders with ease and turns in the finest performance of his career. Cheadle plays Paul Rusesabagina, the manager of the Belgian-owned four-star Hotel Des Milles Collines in Kigali, Rwanda, in 1994. In a matter of days, the country will be ripped apart by ethnic tensions. Despite the real-life horrors on which it's based, the film is particularly restrained, but no less effective for it. The most riveting scenes come not from the slaughter but from the rest of the world's seeming inability to care about it. (01/14/05) – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Arbor, CM Barton Creek

IN THE REALMS OF THE UNREAL

D: Jessica Yu; with the voices of Larry Pine, Dakota Fanning. (NR, 82 min.)

Say you have a neighbor – a “very poor ordinary man” who works as a janitor and is possibly schizophrenic, who has conversations with himself in different personae but barely manages eye contact. Now let's say that when he dies penniless at the age of 81, you're tasked with cleaning out his rented room. You'd find a 15,000 page manuscript and the accompanying illustrations, otherworldly images of fantastic creatures and epic battles painted, drawn, collaged, and overlaid on tapestry-like paper “canvases” 12 feet long – on both sides. This is Henry Darger's world, as painstakingly reproduced by documentaryarian Yu. Certainly this is a film for the brave; its animated crucifixions and child mutilations are unsettling, not in the least because they represent battling concepts of purest good and deepest evil in the mind of a devout man with a tenuous grasp on reality, one who repeatedly tried to adopt children of his own and was obsessed with vaguely sexualized little-girl iconography from advertisements and storybook illustrations. However, one need not necessarily appreciate Darger's art to enjoy Yu's sympathetic, intimate, and often breathtaking journey into the workings of his mind. (02/11/05) – Marrit Ingman

★★★★ Dobie

The Jacket



INSIDE DEEP THROAT

D: Fenton Bailey, Randy Barbato. (NC-17, 92 min.)

This documentary provides a lot of background information and period color, while arguing for *Deep Throat's* place as the breakthrough sex movie of all time. Released in 1972 to a Times Square porn house, *Deep Throat* soon became a cause célèbre when Nixonian legal emissaries shut down the movie and made buying a ticket to see it a hip act of defiance. Another theme permeating the film is that *Deep Throat* was the most successful independent movie of all time – made for \$25,000 and estimated to have made \$600 million. Yet for all the valuable reflections offered, there is also a vast pool of material that the filmmakers examine too casually (among them the mob involvement and the impact of feminism). Bailey and Barbato (*The Eyes of Tammy Faye*, *Party Monster*) have an innate sense for the hot topic, but here, as in their other documentaries, their fascination tends toward the superficial. (02/18/05) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Arbor

MILLION DOLLAR BABY

D: Clint Eastwood; with Clint Eastwood, Hilary Swank, Morgan Freeman, Jay Baruchel, Mike Colter, Lucia Rijker, Brian F. O'Byrne. (PG-13, 137 min.)

Over the years, Clint Eastwood has become the consummate filmmaker, and his directorial work in *Million Dollar Baby* affirms the truth of that statement. The movie's central relationship is between a grizzled manager/trainer who owns a run-down gym for wayward pugilists (Eastwood) and the determined young fighter he reluctantly agrees to show the ropes (Swank). You can't help but feel betrayed when the film executes an out-of-nowhere narrative left hook, but from that point on, the film transcends the rules of the genre and shows us, with an unvarnished simplicity, how human beings struggle to come to terms with the unthinkable. The three principals give natural and honest performances, and watching how Eastwood structures shots, directs actors, and paces scenes, you're struck – no, awed – by the economy and assuredness of everything he does; he doesn't seem content to rest on his laurels and give his audiences the tried and the true. For that reason, among many others, he and *Million Dollar Baby* are true champions. (01/28/05) – Steve Davis

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE NOMI SONG

D: Andrew Horn. (NR, 96 min.)

Once you've seen and heard Klaus Nomi, né Klaus Sperber, it's simply impossible to forget him, try though some people might. Looking like a wild-eyed, New Wave elf with a penchant for angular, outsized vinyl tuxedos, Nomi possessed a soaring tenor that frequently lifted off into a falsetto range. Although his career never took flight, Horn's endlessly fascinating documentary acts as a gateway for a whole new generation to discover this utterly unique performance artist. Informative and touching remembrances from the likes of ultra-hip artists Kenny Scharf, performance gadfly Ann Magnuson, and surviving scenesters, friends, and colleagues paint a verbal portrait of Nomi, a talented vocalist who merged his bizarre, ultra-androgyny with a futuristic fashion sense and ended up creating a

vibe so far out that no one in the recording industry quite knew what to do with him. Thankfully, *The Nomi Song* should go a long way toward recentering this striking creature's legendary status. (02/25/05) – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Dobie

ONG-BAK: THE THAI WARRIOR

D: Prachya Pinkaew; with Tony Jaa, Petchthai Wongkamlae, Pumwadee Yodkamol, Rungrawee Borrijindakul, Chetwut Wacharakun, Wannakit Siriput. (R, 101 min., subtitled)

With *Ong-Bak*, fans of martial artistry would do well to pay attention to Thailand's newcomer Tony Jaa, who melds Jackie Chan's populist man-of-action style to the loose-limbed acrobatics of that country's Muay Thai. There are no wires, no special digital effects, no behind-the-scenes tomfoolery of any kind. With *Ong-Bak*, what you see is what you get, and what you get is a revelatory lesson in gravity and how to defeat it. The joy of this insanely fun film is in watching the resourcefulness of director Pinkaew as he puts his star through a series of murderously athletic paces that are as contrived as they are exhilarating. Jaa and Pinkaew are the real deal. *Ong-Bak* would be far less agreeable if it were merely a tough-guy smash-'em-up, but Pinkaew and Jaa also infuse the admittedly goofy storyline with a genuine sense of heart. (02/11/05) – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Metropolitan

PAPER CLIPS

D: Elliot Berlin, Joe Fab. (G, 82 min.)

The events depicted in *Paper Clips* are by turns heartwarming, horrifying, amazing, and exactly the type of real-world improbability that the documentary form was created for. It's an only-in-America tale that encompasses the world, a history lesson, and a sociological examination all in one. In 1998, the middle school kids in the tiny Tennessee hamlet of Whitwell embarked on “the paper clip project,”

a clever means of teaching the incomprehensible horrors of the Holocaust. Along the way, their entire community receives a wholly unexpected lesson in the history of intolerance. The fact that all this is happening in a rural American fundamentalist community is lost on no one. Why this most mundane of office supplies? As the Whitwell kids discover in their research, paper clips were used by the Norwegians during World War II as a clandestine way to protest Nazi crimes. When affixed to clothing, they bore silent testament to the unfolding horrors, minuscule memorials so visually commonplace as to be utterly unremarkable to all but the wearers. (02/18/05) – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Arbor

POOH'S HEFFALUMP MOVIE

D: Frank Nissen; with the voices of Jim Cummings, John Fiedler, Nikita Hopkins, Kath Soucie, Ken Sansom, Peter Cullen, Brenda Blethyn, Kyle Stanger. (G, 67 min.)

We debated whether to bring our almost 3-year-old to this traditionally animated Disney featurette – it's so wispy and slight, it's hardly a movie, and was originally intended as a straight-to-video release. The reasons we decided against it, ironically, are all the reasons *Heffalump* is worth watching: It's not monumental filmmaking, it doesn't fashion a fantastic alternative universe from the top down, it's too comfortable and familiar and cozy to boldly declare “my first movie.” It's not big and bright and busy and boffo, it's not cutting-edge computerized entertainment for the whole family. And that, silly parents, is why *Heffalump* is a perfectly marvelous matinee option for young children. It's a sweet little story, from a kid's-eye view, about the anguish of being too little to do stuff, and its wee hero (Hopkins, as the voice of Roo) learns a great big lesson about accepting the Other, though not in a moralistic club-you-over-the-head-with-a-carrot fashion. (02/18/05) – Marrit Ingman

★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

Bear Cub



★ RAY

D: Taylor Hackford; with Jamie Foxx, Kerry Washington, Regina King, Clifton Powell, Harry J. Lennix, Bokeem Woodbine, Aunjanue Ellis, Sharon Warren, C.J. Sanders, Curtis Armstrong, Richard Schiff, Larenz Tate. (PG-13, 152 min.)

The music of Ray Charles is a national treasure, as is the artist's legacy. The same can't be said for Ray, the movie of his life, although the transcendent performance of Jamie Foxx as Ray Charles kicks this otherwise ordinary biopic into the realm of the extraordinary. The movie follows a pedestrian biopic path, recounting the early struggles of the artist, his dual addictions to heroin and women, and his ultimate redemption and embrace as a beloved American icon. Despite the movie's 2½-hour running time, Ray concludes well before Charles' death this past summer, making it seem like the movie's almost fairy-tale episode of Charles kicking heroin is the real end of this story: It's the kind of rise, fall, and redemption pattern that has become familiar to any casual watcher of television's *Behind the Music*-type shows. Nevertheless, no matter the movie's pitfalls, Ray, we can't stop loving you. (10/29/04) — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ CM Barton Creek

★ THE SEA INSIDE

D: Alejandro Amenábar; with Javier Bardem, Belén Rueda, Lola Dueñas, Mabel Rivera, Celso Bugallo, Clara Segura, Joan Dalmáu. (PG-13, 125 min., subtitled)

Among the obvious list of things that make moviegoers feel good, euthanasia typically would not make the cut. But that is indeed the sleight of hand of Spanish filmmaker Amenábar's *The Sea Inside*. The film chronicles the real-life 30-year battle of a paraplegic named Ramón Sampedro to end his life. Sampedro is played by the incomparable Bardem (*Before Night Falls*), a hulking actor who has brought tremendous physicality to his previous roles. That physicality is concentrated here, and it's extraordinary to watch an actor fully embody a role in which the canvas for conveying emotion is confined to the neck up. Amenábar and co-writer Mateo Gil sincerely explore the gray areas of the right-to-die argument. Understandably, a filmmaker tackling the retelling of a national hero must do so with great delicacy, but *The Sea Inside* presents not so much a hero as a saint in Sampedro. (02/25/05) — Kimberley Jones

★★★ Arbor

★ SIDEWAYS

D: Alexander Payne; with Paul Giamatti, Thomas Haden Church, Virginia Madsen, Sandra Oh. (R, 123 min.)

Who knows what might happen when men become uncorked? *Sideways* is a smart and delightful romantic comedy, yet in the course of creating his new charmer Alexander Payne has sheared off some of the rambunctious edges that made his previous films, *About Schmidt*, *Election*, and *Citizen Ruth*, such marvelous studies in social parody. Adapting from Rex Pickett's novel with his writing partner, Jim Taylor, Payne has created a sophisticated date movie about male midlife malcontents and the women who love them. And there is nothing wrong with *Sideways* that the inclusion of a few unimagined unpredictabilities wouldn't have improved. *Sideways* pleases but it does not surprise. The note-perfect ensemble cast is the key to *Sideways*' abiding charm, and it makes us recognize that Payne's work with actors may be his greatest talent. Payne has fun mocking the rituals of wine snobbery and the many pitfalls of men behaving badly. (11/05/04) — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Dobie, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

SON OF THE MASK

D: Lawrence Guterman; with Jamie Kennedy, Alan Cumming, Bob Hoskins, Traylor Howard, Steven Wright, Liam Falconer, Ryan Falconer, Ben Stein. (PG, 86 min.)

Squarely targeted at the movie-going demographic that finds culinary ecstasy in Froot Loops-and-Jolt Cola pick-me-ups, marathon PlayStation weekends, and CGI-everything, this semisequel to 1994's surprise breakout Jim Carrey vehicle retains absolutely none of its predecessor's manic charm, and instead relies almost entirely on a ceaseless barrage of everything-and-the-kitchen-sink humor. While it tries mightily to parrot the classic animated worlds of Tex Avery and Chuck Jones, it nonetheless falls flatter than Avery's libidinous Wolf post-steamroller on all counts. Director Guterman shoots every jittery sequence as though on a sugar-bender, with editing to match. If the film's nonstop CGI

effects were anything other than just plain bad, this might be salvageable. But for anyone who assumed Kennedy's experiment couldn't sink any lower than *Malibu's Most Wanted*, there are, it appears, ever deeper depths in the realm of comedic misfires. (02/25/05) — Marc Savlov

✦ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

SPIKE & MIKE'S SICK & TWISTED FESTIVAL OF ANIMATION 2005

D: Various. (NR, 0 min.)

Spike & Mike has always been a hit-or-miss program, and this year is no different, with a few genuinely brilliant pieces surrounded by examples of puerile fun. This year's pièce de résistance is Arthur de Pins' "The Crab Revolution," a stunningly original black-and-white animation about the fate of seaside crabs that is smart, distressing, and very French. Gore is big, and Mondo Media's "Happy Tree Friends" milks the severed tit of sorrow for all it's worth. Then there are the also-rans, like Bill Plympton's "Crazy Cock," a far cry from the animator's great "Plymptoons" days. Toby Grauberger's video game parody "Baby Hunter" feels less like a comic idea than a demo reel, while Eric Merola's "Fly Boy" leaves you wondering where the Black Flag is. There's no shortage of good animation here, but blood and butts don't necessarily translate into anything you'll want to screen more than once. (01/28/05) — Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

THE WEDDING DATE

D: Clare Kilner; with Debra Messing, Dermot Mulroney, Amy Adams, Jack Davenport, Sarah Parish, Jeremy Sheffield, Peter Egan. (PG-13, 90 min.)

Inexplicable Fantasy Romances for the Harried Modern Gal 101 is a more fitting title for this shameless mediocrity, although you'd likely lose no points for comparing it to kissing cousin *Pretty Woman*, which operated in the same fantastical universe where prostitutes and gigolos arrive without medical documentation but baring blazingly white choppers and butts to die for. *Will & Grace*'s Messing plays Kat Ellis, who hires a male escort to accompany her to her sister's wedding in England, with the aim of making her ex-boyfriend jealous enough to take her back. The movie lifts plot maneuverings from the battered (and frankly better) backstories book of Richard Curtis, the screenwriter behind *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, *Notting Hill*, and *Bridget Jones's Diary*. Messing and Mulroney, who have precious little chemistry between them, find themselves adrift in a sea of oddball relations, late-night make-out sessions that have all the erotic heat of a 1970s-era Tampax commercial, and last-minute revelations that seem forced beyond measure. (02/04/05) — Marc Savlov

★ CM Barton Creek, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S MERCHANT OF VENICE

D: Michael Radford; with Al Pacino, Jeremy Irons, Joseph Fiennes, Zuleikha Robinson. (R, 126 min.)

Shakespeare's thorniest play arrives in this new film format with most of its prickliness still intact. The poetry of Shakespeare's language is given the freedom to soar by director Radford (*Il Postino*), and as the moneylender Shylock, the famed scenery-chewer Pacino delivers a reasonably restrained and impressive performance. Yet no matter what is done to contextualize the play's inherent anti-Semitism, it cannot be divorced from the story without also severing its emotions and motivations. Radford takes pains to demonstrate the physical and verbal abuse to which Shylock is subject, which make the moneylender's venom and desire for retribution more understandable. Unexpectedly, it turns out that the anti-Semitic drama probably holds more fascination for modern audiences than *Merchant's* comedy, which is its real stock-in-trade. The movie — and the play — has long, drawn-out comic sequences that grow no better with time and distance. The movie brings the Bard's language to life, but it is hardly a freshman course. (02/11/05) — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square

Also Playing

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

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The Iron Giant

THURSDAY 03

A Star Is Porn In conjunction with pop-culture archivist Ken Lieck, the Alamo has compiled another original presentation. To begin, they gathered porn knockoffs of Hollywood blockbusters (i.e., *Edward Penihands*, *Whore of the Rings*, *Hannibal Lickter*, etc.). The sex scenes were then removed, thus revealing some of the most awful – and funny – dialogue committed to celluloid. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid.

Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (1998) D: Terry Gilliam; with Johnny Depp, Benicio Del Toro, Gary Busey, Christina Ricci, Cameron Diaz, Ellen Barkin, Tobey Maguire, Michael Jeter. (R, 119 min.) The legend of the gonzo journalist Hunter S. Thompson abides in the performance of Johnny Depp. (*) @Pedazo Chunk International HQ, 9pm; free.

I'm Not Scared (2003) D: Gabriele Salvatores; with Giuseppe Cristiano, Mattia Di Piero, Dino Abbrescia, Diego Abatantuono, Aitana Sánchez-Gijón. (R, 108 min.) **Il Circolo Italiano.** Sun-dappled sadism and sweet innocence merge in this psychological thriller that sees evil from a young Italian boy's point of view. (*) @Parlin 301 (on the UT campus), 7:30pm; free.

Night and the City (1950) D: Jules Dassin; with Richard Widmark, Gene Tierney, Herbert Lom, Mike Mazurki. (NR, 96 min.) **HRC Presents Brit Noir.** Widmark excels in this portrait of an American hustler who tries to control the wrestling racket in London. The film's focus on shadows and underworld losers makes this a noir classic. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

FRIDAY 04

A Star Is Porn @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid. (See Thu., 03/03)

The Boss Martians (2005) D: Russian Robot. **First Friday Party.** The Seattle band the Boss Martians show their new performance DVD taped during their 41-date European tour this fall. The DVD documents their show at Club Scene (a former Communist community center) in Novi Sad, Serbia. @Pedazo Chunk International HQ, 9pm; free.

The Terminator (1984) D: James Cameron; with Arnold Schwarzenegger, Michael Biehn, Linda Hamilton, Paul Winfield, Lance Henriksen, Rick Rossovich, Bill Paxton. (R, 108 min.) **Sinus Show.** As the cyborg from the future, the body-building

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the March 18 issue is Monday, March 7.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com

actor-turned-governor scores by combining his iconic physique with a compellingly told story that requires him to speak very little dialogue. Should leave plenty of space for the Sinus boys to provide their comic commentary. (For more on the Sinus Show see austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2001-08-10/screens_feature.html or www.mrsinus.com.) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45.

Videoke Act out scenes from various movies and win prizes. See www.drafthouse.com for details. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SATURDAY 05

A Star Is Porn @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid. (See Thu., 03/03)

Bird People in China (1998) D: Takashi Miike; with Masahiro Motoki, Renji Ishibashi, Mako. (NR, 118 min.) **Bloodbath and Beyond – The Films of Takashi Miike.** A salaryman and a yakuza are stranded in a remote village and become changed by their surroundings in this lyrical comic drama with a touch of magic realism. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 4pm; free.

Little Nemo: Adventures in Slumberland (1992) D: Masami Hata and William T. Hurtz; with the voices of Gabriel Damon, Mickey Rooney, Rene Auberjonois, June Foray. (G, 85 min.) **Regal Kids Weekend Matinee.** This Japanese anime film is dubbed with English-language voices and is based on the classic Winsor McCay animation character developed in the early part of the 20th century – not the recent Disney aquatic story. (*) @Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Metro, Westgate, 11am.

The Big Lebowski (1998) D: Joel Coen; with Jeff Bridges, Sam Elliott, John Goodman, Ben Gazzara, Jon Polito, Tara Reid, Steve Buscemi, John Turturro, David Huddleston, Philip Seymour Hoffman. (R, 117 min.) A case of mistaken identity embroils the supremely go-with-the-flow character of the Dude (Bridges) in an intersecting mix of kidnapping, pornography, German nihilists, sultry women, gumshoes, missing money, and missing toes. (*) @Pedazo Chunk International HQ, 9pm; free.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.) Austin Rocky Horror fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for 28 years straight. For more info see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

Offscreen

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a new, state-of-the-art screening room, and, lucky you, they're opening it up on a rental basis to the public, which means you can finally toss out that old Sony Watchman you've been thrusting in potential distributors' mugs for the past three years. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, a Surround Sound system, and supports Super 35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms – the works. They also have a "break room" suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. 322-0145. www.austinstudios.org.

New Alamo Drafthouse Ribbon Cutting Ceremony The Mayor's at it again, this time with Richard Linklater and Harry Knowles by his side as he knights this newest location of the cherished institution. Tue., March 8, 5:30pm. Alamo Drafthouse South, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. www.drafthouse.com.

The Show With No Name: Live Now that Austin's beloved access show is no longer on the air, the only way you can experience it is by attending these live shows. Charlie and Cinco have some new surprises in store and will also screen some viewer favorites, including the "Winnebago Guy," "Uncle Goddamn," and "Cocaine Cowboy" clips. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7:30, 9:45pm.

SUNDAY 06

An Evening With Evelyn This event features an evening of Evelyn Waugh on screen complementing the Ransom Center's exhibition *Writing Among the Ruins: Graham Greene and Evelyn Waugh*. The show includes clips from a BBC interview with Waugh late in his life, in which he discusses his work and its context; clips from *The Scarlet Woman*, an amateur silent film on which he worked during his Oxford days; and the mordantly funny *The Loved One* (1965), starring Robert Morse and Jonathan Winters. (*) @Harry Ransom Center, 6pm; free.

Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (1998) @Pedazo Chunk International HQ, 9pm; free. (See Thu., 03/03)

Little Nemo: Adventures in Slumberland (1992) @Metro, Westgate, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, 11am. (See Sat., 03/05)

Shinjuku Triad Society: Part 1 (1995) D: Takashi Miike; with Takeshi Caesar, Kyosuke Izutsu, Ren Osugi. (NR, 100 min.) **Bloodbath and Beyond – The Films of Takashi Miike.** Miike's first theatrical release tells the story of corrupt cops cracking down on a gang that sells children's vital organs on the black market. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 4pm; free.

The Muppet Movie Sing-Along (1979) D: James Frawley; with the voices of Jim Henson, Frank Oz. Chime in with the Muppets in their feature film debut. All the songs' lyrics will be subtitled on the screen, making it easy for everyone to join in. Owen Egerton, of the Sinus Show, and his wife Jody will host what they hope is one of many more classics sing-alongs. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:30.

MONDAY 07

Battle Royale (2000) D: Kinji Fukasaku; with Tatsuya Fujiwara, Aki Maeda, Taro Yamamoto, Masanobu Ando, Kou Shibasaki, Chiaki Kuriyama, Takeshi Kitano. (NR, 90 min.) Fukasaku's violence-soaked film about a government-sponsored survival-of-the-fittest contest among schoolchildren has caused storms of controversy. (*) @Pedazo Chunk International HQ, 9pm; free.

I Was a Teenage Quincy Punk D: Various. **Music Mondays.** Quincy punks are manifestations of the commodification and co-optation of punk rock as best exemplified by the infamous Quincy punk episode "Next Stop Nowhere," which will be screening here along with the CHiPs punk episode, an Afterschool Special, and more. Dress like a Quincy punk and win a Quincy button. Curated by Zack Carlson. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

The Iron Giant (1999) D: Brad Bird; with the voices of Jennifer Aniston, Eli Marienthal, Harry Connick Jr., Vin Diesel, Christopher McDonald, James Gammon, Cloris Leachman, John Mahoney, M. Emmet Walsh. (G, 86 min.) **Alamo South Grand Opening.** If its top-notch story weren't enough, *The Iron Giant* also boasts some spectacular animation and a great score. Screenwriter and Austinite Tim McCanlies will attend the screening. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm.

Turkish Wizard of Oz (1971) D: Tunç Başaran; with Zeynep Degirmencioglu, Süleyman Turan, Metin Serezli, Suna Selen, Ali Sen. (NR, 100

min.) **Alamo South Grand Opening: Foleyvision.** In Foleyvision, new sound effects, music, and dialogue are dubbed in over the original film – and performed live. (See austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2002-05-17/screens_feature.html for more info.) Here, a Turkish knockoff of the Hollywood classic gets the Foleyvision treatment. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 9:45pm.

Valley Girl (1983) D: Martha Coolidge; with Nicolas Cage, Deborah Foreman, Colleen Camp, Frederic Forrest. (R, 95 min.) **Eighties Nite.** This is one of the great teen romance movies: It's *Romeo and Juliet* played out between an L.A. punk rocker and a Valley girl. Cage has hardly ever been more soulful than in his performance here, and as the hippie parents, Colleen Camp and Frederic Forrest are a genuine hoot. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

TUESDAY 08

Battlefield Baseball (2003) D: Yudai Yamaguchi; with Tak Sakaguchi, Atsushi Ito, Hideo Sakaki. (NR, 87 min.) Japanese splatter sports comedy based on a manga. @Pedazo Chunk International HQ, 9pm; free.

Bukowski: Born Into This (2003) D: John Dullaghan. (NR, 130 min.) Every young writer goes through a Bukowski phase, but only the skid row author himself was "born into it," as this documentary shows. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

Dazed and Confused (1993) D: Richard Linklater; with Jason London, Wiley Wiggins, Rory Cochrane, Matthew McConaughey. (R, 103 min.) **Alamo South Grand Opening.** Linklater's high school chronicle is smart, funny, and wonderfully crafted and performed. Hosted by the film's wide-eyed freshman Wiley Wiggins. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 9:45pm.

The Happiness of the Katakuris (2001) See p.98.

Waking Life (2001) D: Richard Linklater; with Wiley Wiggins. (R, 97 min.) An animated journey through one character's dreams, *Waking Life* is perhaps the most beautifully realized melding of words and pictures yet. – Kimberley Jones Hosted by actor Wiley Wiggins and animator Bob Sabiston. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm.

IMAX Theatre

(For ticket prices call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see www.thestoryoftexas.com.)

Bugs! 3-D: A Rainforest Adventure (2003) D: Mike Sless; narrated by Judi Dench. (NR, 40 min.) Little Borneo bugs become big, three-dimensional insects through the powers of this IMAX spectacle. The film anthropomorphizes a green mantis and a butterfly to show viewers their life cycles and winds up turning the movie into a kid-friendly animal story rather than a more scientific or artistically rooted film. Fri.-Sat., 12, 2, 4, 7; Sun., 2, 4

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.) Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. The film won't do anything to bust the tried-and-true stereotypes about native Texans or the state's history, but here in Texas we tend to like it that way. Thu.-Sat., 10am, 1, 5pm; Sun., 1, 5; Mon.-Thu., 10am, 1, 5pm

The Young Black Stallion (2003) D: Simon Wincer; with Richard Romanus, Biana Tamimi, Patrick Elyas. (G, 45 min.) Envisioned as a prequel to 1979's beautiful adventure tale *The Black Stallion*, this new film is Disney's first narrative movie made expressly for the IMAX screen. It stars Austin teenager Biana Tamimi, who was discovered following an international talent search (for more on Tamimi's debut see austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2003-12-26/screens_feature2.html). The film also features incredible desert scenery and race footage. (*) Thu. (3/3), 11am, 3, 6pm; Fri.-Sat., 11am, 3, 6, 8pm; Sun., 3, 6; Mon.-Thu., 11am, 3, 6pm

Festivals

Black Film Festival

Austin's first Black Film Festival is a three-day event that showcases old and new films alike, as well as several family-friendly programs. The festival will also showcase the newly revamped Carver Museum and Cultural Center, which features a state-of-the-art theatre. Some of the films being screened include LisaGay Hamilton's directing debut, *Beah: A Black Woman Speaks*, a documentary that celebrates the life of legendary actress Beah Richards; *Wild Women Don't Have the Blues*, a documentary about the women's history of blues; and two Otto Preminger classics starring Dorothy Dandridge – *Porgy and Bess* and *Carmen Jones*. The festival is supported by Freescale Semiconductor and ProArts Collective. For the complete schedule see www.soulcity.com/promo/abff.htm.



Carmen Jones

Explore UT: The Biggest Open House in Texas A variety of free public events has been scheduled from 11am-4:40pm. There are three separate screening venues in addition to the classes Animate a Figure Using Flash, Learn to Edit, and Make a Film Without a Camera. A Student Film Showcase screens all day in CMB Studio 4D. Two different Faculty Film Showcases screen all day in CMA 2.320 (Auditorium) and the Texas Union Theatre. For a complete list of the offerings and the complete screening schedule see www.communication.utexas.edu/events/exploreut2005/index.html. (*) Sat., 11am

WEDNESDAY 09

Bukowski: Born Into This (2003) @Alamo Draffhouse Downtown, 7pm. (See Tue., 03/08)

Phantasm (1979) D: Don Coscarelli; with Michael Baldwin, Bill Thornbury, Reggie Bannister. (R, 87 min.) **Alamo South Grand Opening.** This delightfully inventive horror movie seen from the point of view of three kids showcases creepy flying spheres that suck out human brains. Hosted by lead actor (and new Austinite) Michael Baldwin. @Alamo Draffhouse South, 9:45pm.

Rashomon (1950) D: Akira Kurosawa; with Toshiro Mifune, Masayuki Mori, Takashi Shimura, Machiko Kyo. (NR, 88 min.) **Alamo South Grand Opening: Eat, Drink, Watch Movies.** Kurosawa's first big international hit also won an Oscar for Best Foreign Picture. (The accompanying meal will be served by chef Tyson Cole of Uchi, and proceeds will benefit the Capital Area Food Bank. The event is sponsored by *The Austin Chronicle*, the Alamo Draffhouse, and Austin Rent-All Party. Menu and advance reservations are available at www.draffhouse.com.) A \$25 gift certificate to Uchi is included with every ticket purchase. @Alamo Draffhouse South, 7pm; \$50.

Super Happy Fun Monkey Bash 3 The Alamo teams up with local Japanese-pop-culture enthusiast and archivist Tony Salvaggio to present the best of bizarre Japanese video oddities. The program includes strange, surreal animation, A-list American celebrities pimping themselves out in Japanese commercials, cruel and inhumane game shows, bawdy situation comedies, unexpected nudity, extreme pro wrestling, bizarre anti-flatulence products, nonsensical English phrases, supreme goofiness, and more. New material imported from Japan since last show. @Alamo Draffhouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

"The Black Panthers (in Israel) Speak" (2003) D: Eli Hamo and Sami Shalom Chetrit. (NR, 53 min.) **The Mizrahi in Israeli Literature and Cinema.** The Black Panthers in Israel are the social movement of second-generation Mizrahim – Jews originating from Arab and Muslim countries. The uprising of the Black Panthers in the early 1970s signaled an awakening of Mizrahi cultural consciousness that continues to this day. The movement took the Mizrahi/class struggle out of its local and nationalist Jewish framework, and linked it to the civil rights struggle in the U.S., third world Marxism, and the Palestinian struggle in Israel. In this film, key leaders in the movement speak of the Mizrahi struggle. @Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 7:30pm; free.

The Future of Food (2004) D: Deborah Koons. (NR, 89 min.) A documentary investigation into the disturbing truth behind the unlabeled,

patented, genetically engineered foods that have quietly inundated our grocery shelves. For more info see www.saynotogmos.org. Producer-director Deborah Koons Garcia (wife of Jerry Garcia) will conduct a Q&A after the screening. @Texas Union Theatre, 6:30pm; free.

Three Short Films (Japan, Korea, Thailand) Unknown. @Pedazo Chunk International HQ, 9pm; free.

Up Yours – A Rockin' Comedy (1979) D: John Hayes and Eddie Ryder; with George "Buck" Flower, Caleb Goodman, Colleen Meeker, Cindy Morgan, Dyanne Thorne. **Weird Wednesday.** Little is known about this nudie film, although it features the unforgettable "She Wolf Ilsa" Dyanne Thorne and ubiquitous hillbilly character actor George "Buck" Flower. @Alamo Draffhouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

THURSDAY 10

Battle Royale (2000) @Pedazo Chunk International HQ, 9pm; free. (See Mon., 03/07)

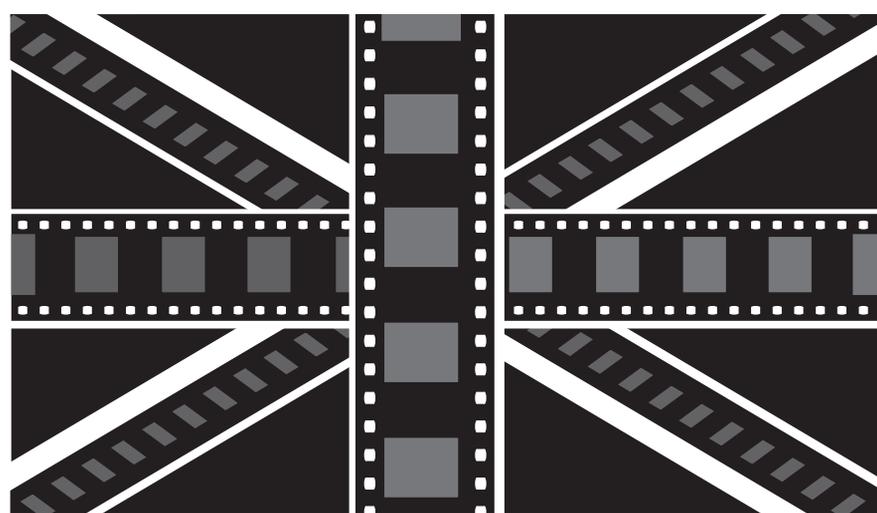
Duck Soup (1933) D: Leo McCarey; with Groucho Marx, Harpo Marx, Chico Marx, Zeppo Marx, Margaret Dumont. (NR, 70 min.) **Alamo South Grand Opening.** "Hail, Freedonia!" The Marx Brothers literally declare war, and no one is safe. Presented by the Soup Peddler. (*) @Alamo Draffhouse South, 7pm.

Forget Baghdad: Jews and Arabs – The Iraqi Connection (2003) D: Samir. (NR, 112 min.) **The Mizrahi in Israeli Literature and Cinema.** The film takes a painfully ironic look at five Iraqi Jewish writers, professors, and intellectuals caught in an identity clash. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with interviewee and advisor Ella Shohat. @Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 7:30pm; free.

Get Carter (1970) See p.100.

Indie Music Video Festival – Austin (NR, 90 min.) Music, technology, and art combine in this second annual presentation of the top videos submitted to the IMVF. DIY bands and filmmakers from Austin and around the world have their day in this collection of grassroots visions and sounds. Videos from bands such as KMFDM, the Locust, the Joggers, High Dials, and more are featured in this compilation, along with videos from locals Canoe, Handsome Charlies, Midlake, the Murdocks, the Octopus Project, Single Frame, What Made Milwaukee Famous, and Rockland Eagles. Live opening performance by the Octopus Project. For complete info see www.imvf.com. @Alamo Draffhouse Downtown, 9:45pm; \$7.

The Terminator (1984) @Alamo Draffhouse South, 9:45pm. (See Fri., 03/04)



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The Comas, VietNam EMO'S, FRIDAY 4

Quick, name the two principal songwriters in the Shins. Andy Herod and Nicole Gehweiler might not be on the tip of your tongue either, but their zero-gravity vocals at the pop heart of North Carolina's Comas are just as sweet. Ditto for 2004 sleeper *Conductor*, the fuzziest breakup album since Beck's *Sea Change*, which wasn't very fuzzy and didn't rock gleefully (or at all) like the Comas' "Invisible Drugs." The miasmic brooding of former Austinites VietNam and rocking outlook of current locals The Arm and Moonlight Towers included. — *Raoul Hernandez*

The ECFA Quartet Presents: The Eric Dolphy Project

CHURCH OF THE FRIENDLY GHOST, FRIDAY 4

Local saxman Carl Smith will augment ECFA with a bassist as they tackle the music of jazz firebrand Eric Dolphy in the first of a series of performances exploring the work of important jazz composers. ECFA's new lineup recalls Dolphy's bass and cello sessions with Ron Carter, and, indeed, "Serene," from that 1960 collaboration, will be performed as will tunes like "Miss Ann" and "Less" from a cross section of Dolphy's tragically short-lived career. New Texas Swing with Alex Coke and Tina Marsh opens. — *Jay Trachtenberg*

Soundcheck BY DARCIE STEVENS

OLETA ADAMS

One World Theatre, Friday 4

Tears for Fears' gospel diva and pop maven, Adams mixes genres into a soul gumbo. 7 & 9:30pm.

RICARDO LEMVO & MAKINA LOCA

Flamingo Cantina, Friday 4

Lemvo's unique take on Afro-Cubana songcraft inspired legions.

SPLIT LIP RAYFIELD

Continental Club,

Friday 4 & Saturday 5

Kansas quartet's psychobilly honky-tonk was born (and lives) for the Continental.

MARIACHI VARGAS

Bass Concert Hall, Saturday 5

Join the fifth-generation mariachis for traditional Mexican music from the 12-member ensemble.

THE STEPBROTHERS, JOHN SCHOOLEY'S ONE-MAN BAND

Carousel Lounge, Saturday 5

Ever thought that music needed a shot in the arm? Not with the Stepbrothers' soul and John Schooley's blues.

STEVE VAI & THE BREED

La Zona Rosa, Sunday 6

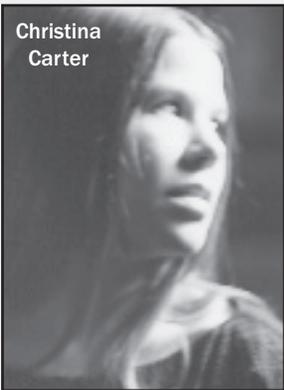
Return of the Shredder.

ALICIA KEYS

Bass Concert Hall, Sunday 6

Sold out.

Christina Carter



CHRISTINA CARTER

Church of the Friendly Ghost, Tuesday 8

Now a Kranky Records mainstay, Carter has played with Charalambides for more than a decade. Her solo tunes play to a simpler, purer aesthetic.

HERBIE NICHOLS TRIBUTE

Elephant Room, Thursday 10

Steve Geraci and Carolyn Cremona, of Brown Whörnet, lead their quintet through the catalog of another one-of-a-kind jazz composer.

LI'L CAP'N TRAVIS, PAT TODD & THE RANK OUTSIDERS

Continental Club, Thursday 10

The Cap'n heads the ship with Pat Todd, of Lazy Cowgirls fame.

Paul Westerberg

LA ZONA ROSA, TUESDAY 8

Since signing to Vagrant Records in 2002, Paul Westerberg has been surprisingly prolific. He's released five albums in that span, two as Grandpaboy. His songwriting remains wildly uneven, meaning Westerberg's songs just don't hit the mark as often they did when he was a Replacement. His latest, *Folker*, finds him in adult mode, talking love, marriage, and death, and while the songs are sincere, they're not quite "Left of the Dial." In person, though, Westerberg's got a great catalog, and he doesn't hesitate to use (or abuse) it. Word from the road says he's still as cranky and unpredictable as ever, but his fans wouldn't expect anything less. — *Jim Caligiuri*



Genuine Recordings Showcase

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH & SOUTH, FRIDAY 4

Genuine Recordings is a local collective cultivating Austin's still-flourishing old-time/bluegrass music scene. To that end, the stages at both Central Markets will be ringing with banjo, mandolin, fiddle, and that high lonesome sound from some of the latest and greatest in local acoustic-based bands. Featured at the north store are **White Ghost Shivers**, **Onion Creek Crawdaddies**, **Boxcar Preachers**, and **Cooper's Uncle**, while down south, **Laura Freeman**, **Brother James & the Choir**, the **Double Eagle String Band**, and **Giant City Jazz** mow down the local faithfuls. — *Jim Caligiuri*

I Love You but I've Chosen Darkness, Zykos, Single Frame EMO'S, SATURDAY 5

Here's your last chance to see some quality Austin bands before the rest of the world descends on our sleepy little burg. Topping the bill is the ever-fabulous I Love You but I've Chosen Darkness, who've perfected the marriage of gloom and glam.



The always lovely Zykos, one of the most intrepid bands in town, co-headlines, with emotive rockers from their eponymous disc, and Single Frame continues to capitalize on the solid slab of arty indie rock with their upcoming *Body/End/Basement* in the opening slot. Enjoy your elbow room while it lasts. — *Melanie Haupt*

Toots & the Maytals STUBB'S, TUESDAY 8

Classic reggae productions never go out of style. Within the past year Toots & the Maytals have blessed the SXSW and Austin City Limits music festivals with a dank freshness that harkens back to the Rastafarian highs of late-Sixties Jamaica. Accenting sticky island fun with an intensity harvested from gospel, Toots Hibbert reverberates stages with his lion's roar, beckoning dancers to march right out of the Babylon state of mind. The Maytals, meanwhile, pry souls free of petty distraction by way of majestic inspiration. — *Robert Gabriel*

Tom Russell/Peter Rowan

CACTUS CAFE/SAXON PUB, WEDNESDAY 9

Two old-timers, who haven't lost a step, on opposite sides of town will pose an interesting dilemma for local folkies. Tom Russell, who'll appear with sidekick/guitarist Andrew Hardin, has just released a hot new album, *Hotwalker*, another set of his great story songs. Meanwhile part-time Central Texan Peter Rowan is likely to lean more toward the bluegrass side of things, but is sure to tell some fine tall tales of his own. — *Jim Caligiuri*

'Chronicle' After Hours HOLE IN THE WALL, WEDNESDAY 9

It's almost time for SXSW, but not quite.

Before the shenanigans, join the *Chronicle* at the venerable Hole in the Wall for some of our best roots and blues acts. **Troy Campbell** starts things off at 7pm, followed by **Walter Tragert**, **Black Joe & Cool Breeze**, and **WT Special**. Enjoy drink specials from the Hole and free pie from Austin's Pizza. Not enough? A pair of tickets to Cirque du Soleil will be given away as well.

Tony Trischka & the Two High String Band CACTUS CAFE, THURSDAY 10

A banjo anecdote by Tony Trischka is equal only to its illustration on the instrument by one of its unparalleled masters. Like the one about an early expedition to one of the polar caps and the explorer who enchanted penguins with his banjo. Trischka played out just such a scenario at the Cactus last August, his jaw-dropping live prowess equal parts seminar, waltz, and foggy-mountain breakdown. Austin's acoustic string wizards Two High String Band open and, following a set by Trischka, jam with him. A penguin's delight. — *Raoul Hernandez*



Austin Hip-Hop Revolution II

ANTONE'S, THURSDAY 10

Following the success of January's initial Austin Hip-Hop Revolution, the next episode features a similar menagerie of talents from the local gene pool. MC-wise, **Bavu Blakes** brandishes thought-provoking tomes, **Tee Double** dizzies listeners with speedy freestyles, and ATX Records affiliates **Haps & Zeale 32** deliver under the guise of a fierce-yet-fun modus operandi. On the decks, the father of Austin hip-hop, **DJ Cassanova**, trades turntable routines with Dirty South hero **DJ Rapid Ric** and Urban Assault regulars **Kunal M** and **Tats**. Rounding out the elements, graffiti exhibitions by MSG Crew, Lifeless, and White Devil Design augment demonstrations by the B-Boy City dance troupe. — *Robert Gabriel*



IN-STORES

Friday: The **Deacons**, **Radio Failure**, **Shim Shams**, Cheapo Discs, 6pm; **Rock Bottom Choir**, Waterloo Records, 5pm
Tuesday: **Patricia Vonne**, Waterloo Records, 5pm

live music VENUES ▶ p.104

CLUB LISTINGS + roadshows ▶ p.108

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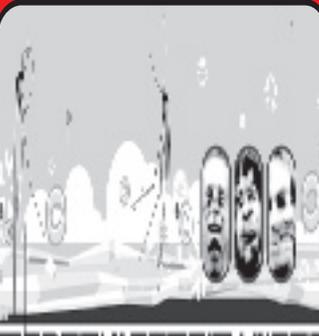
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Jon Dee Graham
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Hayes Carl 8:00pm HHr.: The Regulars 6:00pm




Sat. 5th

CAROLYN WONDERLAND 11:00pm
Omar & the Howlers 8:00pm

Sun. 6th

The Resentments 7:00pm
Walter Tragert 11:00pm **Matt Slusher** 12:00am


Mon. 7th

Bob Schneider's Lonelyland 8:30pm
Matt the Electrician 7:00pm **Brent Adair** 11:00pm

Tues. 8th

Monte Montgomery
WILL SEXTON 12:00pm **HAYES CARLL** 8:00pm
Happy Hr.: Denim 6:00pm

10:00pm

Wed. 9th

PETER ROWAN
 Non-smoking Show • Tickets onsale online at www.thesaxonpub.com • Doors at 7:00pm, show at 8:00pm
Dan Dyer 10:30pm **George Devore** 12:00am

Thurs. 10th

Guy Forsyth & Carolyn Wonderland
 playing together & seperately all evening

Fri. 11th

Bob Schneider & Guy Forsyth

Sat. 12th

South Austin Jug Band 11:00pm
The Greencards non-smoking show 8:00pm


coming soon:
 Mar. 15th, **Stan Ridgway / The Explosives**
 Mar. 16th, **Ian McLagan / El Jesus Horse / Tony Scalzo**
 Mar. 17th, **The Asylum Street Spankers**
 Mar. 18th, **Fastball / Judith Owen** *with Harry Shearer*
 Mar. 19st, **Stephen Bruton / Patrice Pike**
 Mar. 22nd, **Ray Bonneville / Dan Dyer**
 Mar. 26th, **W.C. Clark / Texas Johnny Brown**
 Mar. 30th, **Larry Joe Taylor, Keith Sykes, Matt Martindale**
 April 2, **The Red Elvises / Tommy Castro**
NO BADGES, NO WRISTBANDS REQUIRED!



live music venues

- 1920S CLUB**, 918 Congress, 479-7979
219 WEST, 219 W. Fourth, 474-2194
311 CLUB, 311 E. Sixth, 477-1630
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR, 3600 Presidential, 530-6508
ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR, 3600 Presidential, 530-6508
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH, 3600 Presidential, 530-6508
ALIVE, 415 E. Sixth, 469-7892
AGAVE'S RESTAURANT, 14100 Camino Real, Niederwald, 512/376-2782
ANTONE'S, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424
ANTONIO'S TEX-MEX CAFE & CANTINA, 11835 Jollyville, 257-2144
APPLE BAR, 120 W. Fifth, 322-9291
ARARAT, 111 E. North Loop, 419-1692
ARTZ RIB HOUSE, 2330 S. Lamar, 442-8283
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR, 16410 Stewart, 266-0331
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829
AUSTIN'S PIZZA, 1817 S. Lamar, 445-4455
B.B. ROVERS, 12636 Research, 335-9504
B.D. RILEY'S PUB, 204 E. Sixth, 494-1335
BACK ROOM, 2015 E. Riverside, 441-4677
THE BACKYARD, 13101 Hwy. 71 W., Bee Cave, 512/263-4146
BASS CONCERT HALL, UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 471-1444
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER, 1008 Water, Bastrop, 512/321-7907
BEERLAND, 711 1/2 Red River, 479-ROCK
BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 10010 Anderson Mill
BIG DAVE'S, 1113 RR 620 N., Lakeway, 512/266-2279
BIGSBY'S, 505 E. Sixth, 236-9800
BOOMERZ, 6148 Hwy. 290 W., 892-3373
'BOUT TIME, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339
BROKEN SPOKE, 3201 S. Lamar, 442-6189
BROWN BAR, 201 W. Eighth, 480-8330
BUSTER'S BBQ, 3927 RR 620 S, Bee Cave, 512/263-3999
CACTUS CAFE, Texas Union, UT campus, 475-6515
CAFE MUNDI, 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634
CANARY HUT PUB, 11005 Burnet Rd., 837-7117
THE CANARY ROOST, 11900 Metric, 836-6360
CAROUSEL LOUNGE, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790
CEDAR STREET, 208 W. Fourth, 495-9669
CENTRAL MARKET CAFE, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH, 4477 S. Lamar, 899-4300
CEREMONY HALL, 4100 Red River, 467-7756
CHARLIE'S, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481
CHEAPO DISCS, 914 N. Lamar, 477-4499
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE, 119 Cheatham, San Marcos, 512/353-3777
CHURCH OF THE FRIENDLY GHOST, 209 Pedernales, 220-1558
CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB, 9926 Circle, 301-4661
COFFEE CREATOR, 9402 Parkfield Dr., 719-4544
COMMON GROUNDS COFFEE HOUSE, 3720 Gattis School Rd., Round Rock, 512/238-1833
COMMON INTEREST, 8440 Burnet Rd., 453-6796
CONTINENTAL CLUB, 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444
COOL RIVER CAFE, 4001 Parmer, 835-0010
COPA BAR & GRILL, 217 Congress, 479-5002
COTTON CLUB, 212 E. Davilla, Granger, 512/859-0700
CUBA LIBRE, 409 Colorado, 472-2822
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN, 1 Woodcreek Circle, Wimberley, 512/847-5950
DAN MCKLUSKY'S, 301 E. Sixth, 473-8924
DONN'S DEPOT, 1600 W. Fifth, 478-0336
THE DRINK, 325 E. Sixth, 236-0050
THE DRISKILL, 604 Brazos, 474-5911
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILL, 301 E. Fifth, 472-1860
EGO'S, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091
EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE, 1302 S. First, 447-7445
EL SOL Y LA LUNA, 1224 S. Congress, 444-7770
ELEMENT, 301 W. Fifth, 480-9888
ELEPHANT ROOM, 315 Congress, 473-2279
ELYSIUM, 705 Red River, 478-2979
EMO'S, 603 Red River, 477-EMOS
ETERNAL, 418 E. Sixth, 476-0000
EVANGELINE CAFE, 8106 Brodie #110, 282-2586
FADÓ, 214 W. Fourth, 457-0172
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE, 605 Brazos, 478-3473
FLAMINGO CANTINA, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336
FLIP'S SATELLITE CAFE, 7101 Hwy. 71 W., 301-1883
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE, 1601 Barton Springs Rd., 322-9750
THE FOUNDATION, 307 W. Fifth, 472-4256
FRANK ERWIN CENTER, 1701 Red River, 471-7744
FRIENDS, 208 E. Sixth, 320-8193
GALAXY CAFE, 9911 Brodie Ln. #750, 233-6000
GIDDY UP'S, 12010 Manchaca, 280-4732
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON, 5434 Burnet Rd., 458-1813
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL, 730-A W. Stassney, 326-4466
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL, 2401 W. Howard, 255-8003
GREEN MESQUITE, 1400 Barton Springs Rd., 479-0485
GUADALAJARA RESTAURANT & CANTINA, 1525 Cypress Creek, 219-5244
HABANA CALLE 6, 709 E. Sixth, 443-4252
HANOVER'S, 108 E. Main, Pflugerville, 512/670-9617
HEADHUNTERS, 720 Red River, 236-0188
HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE, 800 Congress, 477-8968
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE, 617 Congress, 476-0473
HILL'S CAFE, 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300
HILLTOP TAVERN, 5996 Hwy. 21, Maxwell, 512/357-6731
HOLE IN THE WALL, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747
IRON CACTUS NORTH, 10001 Stonelake Blvd., 794-8778
JACK'S BACKYARD, 6901 N. I-35, 451-5008
JO'S HOT COFFEE, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800
JOHNNY FIN'S, 16405 Clara Van Trail, 266-2811
JOVITA'S, 1619 S. First, 447-7825
LA PALAPA, 6640 Hwy. 290, 459-8729
LA ZONA ROSA, 612 W. Fourth, 472-2293
LAS PALOMAS, 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #122, 327-9889
LONGBRANCH INN, 1133 E. 11th, 472-5477
LUCKY LOUNGE, 209-A W. Fifth, 479-7700
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 512/558-7399
MANUEL'S, 310 Congress, 472-7555
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261
MIDTOWN LIVE, 7408 Cameron, 451-5483
MOMOS, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848
MONO RIVER, 58000 RR 2322, 264-2064
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747
MOTHER'S CAFE, 4215 Duval St., 451-3994
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900
MULLIGAN'S, 900 RR 620 S., 263-3305
NASTY'S, 606 Maiden, 453-4349
NAT'S PUB, Lakeway Plaza, Lakeway, 512/263-2855
NORTH BY NORTHWEST, 10010 Capital of TX Hwy., 467-6969
NUOVO LEON RESTAURANT, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097
THE OFFICE LOUNGE, 1207 Leander Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-1137
ONE WORLD THEATRE, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500
OPAL DIVINE'S, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308
OSLO, 301 W. Sixth, 480-9433
THE PALLADIUM, 13800 Dragline, 989-7450
PARDNERS, 1110 Palm Valley, Round Rock, 512/244-1204
THE PARLOR, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965
PEDRO'S PLACE, 1601 Guadalupe, 472-2369
PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318
POODLE DOG LOUNGE, 6507 Burnet Rd., 465-9468
THE PUB, 1826 Mays, Round Rock, 512/246-8007
RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577
RAGGEDY ANNE'S, 2113 Wells Branch Pkwy., 251-9647
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Research, 335-5115
RED EYED FLY, 715 Red River, 474-1084
RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120
REDRUM, 501 E. Sixth, Ste. B, 275-6575
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB, 9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 342-7977
RHIZOME COLLECTIVE WAREHOUSE, 300 Allen, 385-3695
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder, 218-0813
ROOM 710, 710 Red River, 476-0997
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE, 11800 Lamar, 835-2414
ROY'S AUSTIN, 340 E. Second, 391-1500
RUTA MAYA, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637
SABA BLUE WATER CAFE, 208-D W. Fourth, 478-7222
SAENGERHALLE, 255 Saengerhalle, New Braunfels, 830/625-HALL
SAHARA NIGHTCLUB, 900 E. Braker #170, 228-1940
SAKE ON SIXTH, 621 E. Sixth, 478-8788
SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Alford, 282-0083
SAMPAIO'S, 2809 San Jacinto, 469-9988
SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM, 101 E. Main, Round Rock, 512/310-1200
SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552
SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 601-5 E. Whitestone, Cedar Park, 512/260-2060
SIDEKICKS/XTREME, 110 E. Riverside, 804-2707
SKY LOUNGE, 416 Congress, 477-3151
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
SPIDER HOUSE, 2908 Fruth, 480-9562
STARDUST CLUB, 11940 Manchaca, 280-8590
STARS COFFEE, 6539 N. Lamar, 377-3334
STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341
TAMBALEO, 302 Bowie, 472-3213
THE TAVERN ON THE GRUENE, 830 Gruene Rd., Gruene, 866/828-3761
TAZ COUNTRY, 2700 W. Pecan, Pflugerville, 512/990-5526
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THINGS CELTIC, 1806 W. 35th, 472-2358
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
THUNDERDOME, 1901 E. 51st, hangar 5, 799-2645
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
TUT'S BAR & GRILL, 12408 N. Mopac, 339-8788
UNIVERSITY AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 1903 University, 476-6088
UT CAMPUS, 476-6666
VFW CANTINA, 12921 Brodie, Manchaca, 512/282-5664
THE VIBE, 508 E. Sixth, 474-0632
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 542-0098
VIVO COCINA MEXICANA, 2015 Manor Rd., 482-0300
VUE, 416 Congress, Upstairs, 477-3151
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH, 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO RECORDS, 600 N. Lamar, 474-2500
THE WATER TANK, 7309 McNeil, 331-9831
WHISKY BAR, 303 W. Fifth, 481-8599
Y RESTAURANT & BAR, 7720 Hwy. 71 W., 394-0220
YOGI'S, 306 S. Main, Buda, 512/750-7300
Z-TEJAS GRILL, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355
Z-TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355
ZAX PINTS & PLATES, 312 Barton Springs Rd., 481-0100

Friday, April 8
Paramount Theatre
 bar at 6:30 PM
 show at 8 PM

For tickets call
(866) 4GET-TIX
 or visit AustinTheatre.org

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FLIPNOTICES
COFFEESPACE
CAFÉ

Thur 3 Cowboy Johnson ~ Roger Wallace & Teri Joyce 8pm

Fri 4
Scrappy Jud Newcomb
 Grubdog & the Modestos

Sat 5
Adam Carroll
Bill Davis 9pm

Sun DJ Tomas 4pm ~ Troy Dillinger & Friends 8pm
 Mon's Adoniram Lipton 8pm
 Tues' Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory 8:30pm
 Wed 9 Chadd Thomas & Crazy King's ~ Comedy Night 8pm

thur 10 Stephanie Fix ~ C.C. Phillips
 fri 11 Nathan Hamilton & No Deal ~ Will Barbee
 sat 12 Austin Collins ~ Coffee Sargeants

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 WWW.FLIPNOTICES.COM 480-TO-GO

SIXTH STREET

MAGGIE MAE'S

AUSTIN TEXAS

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 ENGLISH PUB & GALLERY FEATURING
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13' & 5' BIG SCREEN TELEVISIONS

CELEBRATE TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY
WITH AUSTIN'S NEW BREWERY



Live Music by
GRUPO FANTASMA
 ★★★★★★★★★★
John Mueller's BBQ
Handcrafted Beer
 ★★★★★★★★★★
 Special Screening of
Barbecue: A Texas Love Story
 ★★★★★★★★★★
INDEPENDENCE BREWING CO.
3913 Todd Ln #607, Austin
Off of east Ben White Blvd.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5 TH
2:00 - 7:00 pm
\$5 cover
 For more info:
www.independencebrewing.com

mother EGAN'S
irish pub

NOW OPEN FOR LUNCH 11AM EVERY DAY!

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB
 OPENING HOURS 11AM-2AM EVERY DAY.
 MOTHER EGAN'S IS NOW OPEN AT 11AM FOR LUNCH EVERY DAY.
 Weekdays from 4pm until 7pm try our!
 Happy Hour drink prices + 25 cent buffalo wings.
 Free Wireless Internet now available.
 Mother Egan's is an over 21 club.

VOTED
 BEST IRISH PUB,
 BEST BAR MENU
 & BEST PUB GRUB
 BY AUSTIN
 CITYSEARCH.COM
 2004

th 3/3
THURSDAY LUNCH SPECIAL
HAWAIIAN CHICKEN SALAD \$5.25
MOTHER EGAN'S BLUES JAM
 THURSDAY EVENINGS AT MOTHER EGAN'S 7:30-10:30
 ALL LEVELS WELCOME. ALL INSTRUMENTS WELCOME.
 THIS WEEK'S HOST STEVE SOUTH
 A BLUES SOCIETY OF AUSTIN EVENT

fr 3/4
FRIDAY LUNCH SPECIAL
TURKEY POT PIE \$5.25
HAPPY HOUR 4PM-7PM
 COME CHECK OUT OUR NEIGHBORS
ARTIST MARKET
 SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS EVERY WEEK
 MOTHER EGAN'S DECK IS AVAILABLE FOR
 PRIVATE PARTIES ON SATURDAYS!!!

sa 3/5
MOTHER EGAN'S HONKY TONK BRUNCH WITH
COWBOY JOHNSON
 12-3PM NO COVER
KARAOKE W/ EDIE 9PM-1AM

su 3/6
MONDAY LUNCH SPECIAL
FISH AND CHIPS \$5.25
TUESDAY LUNCH SPECIAL
CHEESEBURGER WITH YOUR CHOICE OF SOUP,
SALAD, STEAMED VEGETABLES, OR FRIES. \$5.25
MOTHER EGAN'S ALL NEW TRIVIA QUIZ
 COMPETE FOR A PLACE IN THE FINALS AND
 4 ROUNDTRIP TICKETS TO IRELAND
 EVERYONE WELCOME.
 MEASURING AUSTIN'S IQ ONE PINT AT A TIME!!!
 NO COVER. STARTS AT 7:30PM

mo 3/7
 tu 3/8
WEDNESDAY LUNCH SPECIAL
MINI SHEPARD'S PIE WITH YOUR CHOICE OF
SOUP, SALAD, STEAMED VEGETABLES, OR FRIES. \$5.25
TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT 7:30PM
 THIS TOURNAMENT IS FOR ENTERTAINMENT
 PURPOSES ONLY. NO COVER, NO ENTRY FEE,
 NO REASON NOT TO PLAY.

we 3/9
MOTHER EGAN'S TENTED, HEATED DECK IS AVAILABLE FOR
PARTIES. ASK ABOUT OUR SATURDAY NIGHT PARTY PACKAGE.
FOR MORE INFO CONTACT US AT 512-478-7747.
www.motheregansirishpub.com

715 W Sixth 512-478-7747

FRIDAY - 03/04 - 10:00PM

TABOO

SATURDAY - 03/05 - 9:30PM

the **FLAVOR CONDUCTORS**
www.theflavorconductors.com

WED 03/09
 10:00PM
FORTY THIEVES
www.fortythieves.com

EVERY THURSDAY
\$2
YOU HOLLER!



THE BACKYARD

LIVE OAK AMPHITHEATRE

SEASON XIII

HWY 71 WEST @ 620

TICKETS: (512) 469-SHOW • INFO: (512) 263-4146

WWW.THEBACKYARD.NET

Rascal Flatts

HERE'S TO YOU TOUR 2005

with special guest Blake Shelton

FRIDAY, MARCH 4 DOORS 6:30 • SHOW 7:30



WILLIE NELSON

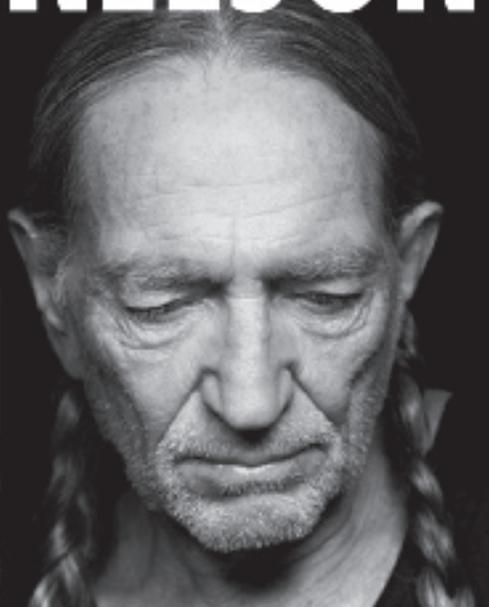
with special guests

MARY GAUTHIER
ARTIST ROBINSON

TWO NIGHTS!
MARCH 18 & 19

DOORS 5:30PM • SHOW 7:00PM

PRESENTED BY TEXAS ROADHOUSE



CONGRATS TO LLB FOR THEIR GRAMMY WIN!
BEST POP PERFORMANCE BY GROUP/DUO FOR 'HEAVEN'



LOS LONELY BOYS
WITH
OZOMATLI & CALEXICO

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4
DOORS 5:00PM • SHOW 6:30PM

BACKYARD PARKING IS LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF HWY 71 WEST AND RR 620.

TRAVELING ON HWY 71 WEST:

- PASS THE THE BACKYARD ON LEFT
- INTERSECTION OF RR 620 AND HWY 71, TAKE LEFT ON TO RR 620 AND INTO THE PARKING ENTRANCE
- PARKING ATTENDANTS WILL BE ON-SITE TO DIRECT FROM THERE

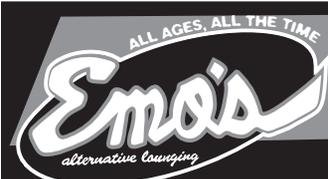
TRAVELING ON RR 620:

- INTERSECTION OF RR 620 AND HWY 71, TRAVEL STRAIGHT THROUGH LIGHT AND INTO THE PARKING ENTRANCE
- PARKING ATTENDANTS WILL BE ON-SITE TO DIRECT FROM THERE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL: 512-263-4146



A DIRECT EVENTS VENUE



ALL AGES, ALL THE TIME
603 RED RIVER
477-EMOS

OPEN FOR
HAPPY HOUR
FROM 8-10PM

THURSDAY, MARCH 3



7SECONDS

GROOVIE GHOULIES
THE BRIGGS • BLACK STAR BRIGADE
TICKETS AVAILABLE

FRIDAY, MARCH 4



THE COMAS VIETNAM THE ARM MOONLIGHT TOWERS

SATURDAY, MARCH 5
I LOVE YOU BUT I'VE
CHOSEN DARKNESS
ZYKOS
SINGLE FRAME

SUNDAY, MARCH 6 **CLOSED**

MONDAY, MARCH 7

DEMOLITION DOLLRODS
CRACK PIPES • THE SCORE
GHOSTWRITER

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

SAME DAY SERVICE
SHOTGUN DEMOCRACY (FROM UK)
THE GOLDEN RULE • NATCHET TAYLOR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

101X PRESENTS **ONLY \$1**
THE CUTAWAY
EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT • FRIENDS OF LIZZY
MUSIC AT 9:30PM

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

★★★★★ **EARLY SHOW** ★★★★★
DOORS 5PM, SHOW 5:30PM
THE UNSEEN
RAMALLAH
KRUMBUMS
BRAIN FAILURE
TICKETS AVAILABLE

LATE SHOW
FREE SHOW (\$5 MINORS)
FOR THOSE WHO KNOW
RACHEL GOLDSTAR (OF EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT)
DIAMOND CAVERNS

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

SPECIAL TWO-STAGE FREE SHOW
OUTSIDE
DUANE PETERS GUN FIGHT
THE ENDS

INSIDE
APPLICATORS
LOVE=DEATH
RITCHIE WHITES • THE PRICKIES
MUSIC AT 8PM (SUBTLE CANCELLED)

SATURDAY, MARCH 12
2 SEPARATE SHOWS / 2 SEPARATE STAGES
OUTSIDE



SOLILOQUISTS OF SOUND PAUL JARED

INSIDE
AT ALL COST
PLAYING ENEMY • SEA OF THOUSAND
THESE MEN ARE LIARS

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

★★★★★ **EARLY SHOW** ★★★★★
2-9PM
YEAST BY SWEET BEAST FESTIVAL
ROTTEN PIECE • SUSAN ALCORN • CHIMENEAS OF FT. WORTH •
BABY ROBOTS • VENISON WHIRLED • DOUG FERGUSON OF
AUSTIN THEREMONIC ORCHESTRA • JOMO • WILDERNEZZ

SONS OF HERCULES
PAT TODD & THE RANKOUTSIDERS
(EX LAZY COWGIRLS)
THE GOLDEN BOYS

MONDAY, MARCH 14



COMEDIANS OF COMEDY TOUR WITH PATTON OSWALT (KINGS OF QUEENS) BRIAN POSEHN (MR SHOW) MARIA BAMFORD ZACH GALAFIANAKIS

PLUS SPECIAL GUEST EUGENE MIRMAN
SHOW AT 9PM HALF PRICE WITH SXSW FILM BADGE
TICKETS AVAILABLE

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

FREE TWO-STAGE PRE-SXSW SHOW
OUTSIDE
THOSE PEABODYS
ELECTRIC EEL SHOCK • THE GOOD LOOKS
(JAPAN)
GOOD TIMES CRISIS BAND • THIEVES

INSIDE

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT
ATTACK FORMATION
THE ARM • SVENGALI
TBA • TBA
MUSIC AT 8PM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

FREE MUSIC FROM 12-6PM ON THREE STAGES
EMO'S AFTERNOON PARTY
(INSIDE AND OUTSIDE STAGES)
IODA PARTY
(ANNEX STAGE)
VISIT EMOSAUSTIN.COM FOR DETAILS

AND LATER IN THE EVENING ...
SXSW 8PM-2AM • VISIT SXSW.COM OR
AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM FOR DETAILS

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

FREE MUSIC FROM 12-6PM ON THREE STAGES
TEAM CLERMONT
ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY
(ANNEX STAGE)
D.I.W. / TAG
TEAM PARTY
(INSIDE AND OUTSIDE STAGES)
VISIT EMOSAUSTIN.COM FOR DETAILS

AND LATER IN THE EVENING ...
SXSW 8PM-2AM • VISIT SXSW.COM OR
AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM FOR DETAILS

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

FREE MUSIC FROM 12-6PM ON THREE STAGES
TRANSCONTINENTAL PARTY
(OUTSIDE STAGE)
CMJ / ROCK HALL / LOOKOUT RECORDS
"KILLER PARTY"
(ANNEX STAGE)

ACE FU / GSL PARTY
(INSIDE STAGE)
VISIT EMOSAUSTIN.COM FOR DETAILS

AND LATER IN THE EVENING ...
SXSW 8PM-2AM • VISIT SXSW.COM OR
AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM FOR DETAILS

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

FREE MUSIC FROM 12-6PM ON THREE STAGES
TAKE ACTION / FLOWER BOOKING PARTY
(ALL THREE STAGES)
VISIT EMOSAUSTIN.COM FOR DETAILS

AND LATER IN THE EVENING ...
SXSW 8PM-2AM • VISIT SXSW.COM OR
AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM FOR DETAILS

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

VISIT SXSW.COM FOR DETAILS

MONDAY, MARCH 21

CURE YOUR SXSW HANGOVER WITH ...
IMMORTAL LEE COUNTY KILLERS
DMBQ (JAPAN)
BLACKFLY REVELATION
SKULLENING • NERVOUS EXITS
MUSIC AT 9PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 22 **CLOSED**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

THE MOUNTAIN GOATS
BLACK MOUNTAIN
CRYSTAL SKULLS
TICKETS AVAILABLE



THURSDAY, MARCH 24
OUTSIDE - SEPARATE SHOWS

LIVING LEGENDS
J-LIVE
PIGEON JOHN
AZATAT & CELL
TICKETS AVAILABLE



INSIDE

RECOVER
ARMOR FOR SLEEP
SAY ANYTHING • CHASE PAGAN
TICKETS AVAILABLE

FRIDAY, MARCH 25
MASTODON



AND



THE HIDDEN HAND TICKETS AVAILABLE

SATURDAY, MARCH 26
LOWER CLASS BRATS
COMPLETE CONTROL • TBA
DAMAGE CASE • BLACK STAR BRIGADE
MUSIC AT 9PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 **CLOSED**

MONDAY, MARCH 28

ATMOSPHERE
W/FULL BAND
P.O.S.
GRAYSKUL
TICKETS AVAILABLE



TUESDAY, MARCH 29
DJ JESTER
ANTICON PRESENTS

SOLE PEDESTRIAN
DOSH
W/SPECIAL GUESTS
LEDERHOSEN LUCIL • CEE PLUS
MUSIC AT 9PM TICKETS AVAILABLE



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

WHITMAN
DYNAH • DARLING NEW NEIGHBORS
MYNA • PLINKO
MUSIC AT 9PM

THURSDAY, MARCH 31
TBA
OUR BLACK LOVESONG • HALLEY

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

★★★★★ **EARLY SHOW** ★★★★★
DOORS 6PM, SHOW 7PM
SPARTA
FIREKILLS • THIEVES OF ALWAYS
TICKETS AVAILABLE

LATE SHOW ... SPEND APRIL FOOL'S DAY WITH
NEIL HAMBURGER
PLEASEEASUR • OH, BEAST!
JOHN SCHOOLEY'S ONE MAN BAND

SATURDAY, APRIL 2
SPECIAL TWO STAGE SHOW

OUTSIDE
THE DECEMBERISTS
OKKERVIL RIVER

INSIDE
BAPTIST GENERALS • GLASS FAMILY
TICKETS AVAILABLE

SUNDAY, APRIL 3
THE HUMAN MARVELS
ROCK & ROLL STUNT SHOW
(FEATURING THE ENIGMA AND KATZEN)
TICKETS AVAILABLE

MONDAY, APRIL 4

FANTOMAS
THE LOCUST
TREVOR DUNN CONVULSION
TICKETS AVAILABLE



COMING SOON

- 4/5 RISE AGAINST (EARLY)* / ASOBI SEKSU (LATE) • 4/7 DEFIANCE • 4/8 HELL ON WHEELS BENEFIT • 4/9 DYNAMITE BOY (FINAL SHOW) / CRUISERWEIGHT • 4/11 SENSE FAIL (EARLY) / MC CHRIS (FROM ADULT SWIM/CARTOON NETWORK) (LATE)* • 4/12 Q AND NOT U*
- 4/13 FUCKING CHAMPS* • 4/15 LYRICS BORN / C.V.E.* • 4/16 MDC / VERBAL ABUSE* • 4/23 NOMEANSNO • 4/24 ALTERNATIVE PRESS TOUR W/STRAYLIGHT RUN (EARLY)* / EDDY JOE COTTON YARD DOG ROADSHOW (LATE) • 4/25 FROM ASHES RISE
- 4/26 AGNOSTIC FRONT* • 4/28 DAMIEN JURADO* • 4/29 BLACK KEYS* • 4/30 ...AND YOU WILL KNOW US BY THE TRAIL OF DEAD* • 5/1 THE GOOD LIFE / MAKE BELIEVE* • 5/2 RADAR BROTHERS* • 5/6 PONYS*
- 5/7 AKIMBO / THE SWORD (INSIDE) BRITISH SEA POWER (OUTSIDE)* • 5/9 ANGELS OF LIGHT* • 5/14 PINBACK* • 5/16 MANDO DIAO* • 5/21 AUSTIN AIR GUITAR CHAMPIONSHIP • 5/22 UNSANE* • 5/28 MELT BANANA

*TICKETS ARE SOLD ONLINE THROUGH www.emosaustin.com OR YOU CAN BUY THEM AT WATERLOO RECORDS

Drink
Dance
Lounge



Thursday - Saturday
Doors open at 9pm

Friday Nights

National and International DJs every week with Residents D-FUSE, Michael Anthony (bedrock records), Chris Lum, Johnny Invisible and more.

Bedrock



This Friday - March 4

Michael Anthony

www.bedrock.org.uk

with resident dj Johnny Invisible

\$5 before 10pm / \$7 after / \$3 Redbull Vodka

Fri 3/11 Scott Grey & Michaelangelo - Fri 3/18 Rob Nelson - Fri 3/25 MARCEL (amsterdam)

Fri - April 22nd - ADAM FREELAND (UK) tickets on sale now at www.groovetickets.com

Two **4** One Saturdays

SKY with dj Twist

VUE with Jason Jenkins

Two Clubs One Cover

private tables and booth reservations available

No Cover before 11pm / 21+ / Martini and Drink Specials all Night



RETRO THURSDAYS featuring one of Austin's RETRO Rage Originators **Jason Jenkins**

416 Congress Avenue - 512.477.3151 - www.skyaustin.com

club listings

Thu 03

1920S CLUB Margaret Wright (8:30)

311 CLUB Gilson Viator, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Dede Priest & the Altar Boyz (3:30)

ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR Johnny Gringo (3:30)

ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH John Burgess (12:30)

ALICE'S RESTAURANT Musicalicious Tribute to John Vandiver

ANTONE'S Trent Turner & the Moontowers, David Spann Band

ANTONIO'S TEX-MEX CAFE & CANTINA Tony C'de Baca (6:00)

AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier

BEERLAND Fires Were Shot, the Angelus, Adelaide, My Education

BIGSBY'S Amanda Cunningham & Jason Smith

BOOMERZ Jamie

BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Hummingbirds, Elizabeth McQueen CD Release

CEDAR STREET Gaila Trickey (6:00), Sauce (9:30)

CEREMONY HALL AMODA Series w/ Phill Niblock (8:00)

COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (7:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Mike Flanigin's B-3 Groove (6:30), Hellapeno, Wan Santo Condo, Pudge Zeppelin (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE SoundTrack (8:30)

COPA BAR & GRILL The Brew
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILL Bobby Doyle (7:00)

EGO'S Small Stars Revue, 2 Hoots & a Holler (8:30)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Cienfuegos (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Kris Kimura Bunch (6:00), Tucker Roundtree w/ Roscoe Beck (9:30)

EMO'S Black Star Brigade, the Briggs, Groovie Ghoulies, 7 Seconds

EVANGELINE CAFE Mandy Mercier (7:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Capt. Bringdown & the Buzzkillers, Bloodman Howlers, Uptown Creepers, Echo Squad, I Voted for Kodos, 12-Step Rebels

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Roger Wallace & Teri Joyce, Cowboy Johnson

THE FOUNDATION Coy West

GIDDY UP'S Dewey Lyon (4:00), Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson

HABANA CALLE 6 Eddie Warren

HANOVER'S Karaoke

HEADHUNTERS Kyle Driver, 3 Balls of Fire, Earthtone Players, Eric Tessmer Band

HOLE IN THE WALL Hackberries, Ole Yeller, King Tears (10:00)

JOVITA'S Jon Emery Band (8:00)

LONGBRANCH INN -h

LUCKY LOUNGE Wideawake (9:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE First Year French, This Will Destroy You, Oceanus, Clap! Clap!

PLEASE SEND US ANY NON-SXSW SHOWS BY MARCH 10

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

HELLO, CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is generally Monday, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159; or e-mail clubs@austinchronicle.com.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Steelbeam

MOMOS Rachel Loy, Stephen Clarke, Ryan Desiato, String Theory

MOON RIVER Devon Heath
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Blues Jam w/ Steve South (7:30)

NAT'S PUB Open Mic w/ Matt Dunham

THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Raquel

OPAL DIVINE'S Pet Food Bank Benefit w/ Beaver Nelson, Michael Fracasso (6:00)

PLUSH DJ Phytteen

THE PUB Karaoke w/ Al
REDRUM Down in the Mouth, Darling Sinister, Soul Strung, Ultra Hyde

roadshows

MARCH

THU 3

Adelaide, the Angelus, Beerland
Phill Niblock, Ceremony Hall
7 Seconds, Groovie Ghoulies, the Briggs, Emo's
John Popper, Ruta Maya
Murray Weinstock, Waterloo Records

FRI 4

Rascal Flatts, Blake Shelton, the Backyard
Split Lip Rayfield, Continental Club
Deceptikon, Elysium
The Comas, VietNam, Emo's
Ricardo Lemvo & Makina Loca, Flamingo Cantina
Oleta Adams, One World Theatre
Soveran, Redrum
Hayes Carll, Saxon Pub
Blue Runners, Stubb's

SAT 5

Mariachi Vargas, Bass Concert Hall
Jack Ingram, Cactus Cafe
Split Lip Rayfield, Kenneth Brian, Continental Club
Dryline, Redrum
Brothers Past, Stubb's

SUN 6

Alicia Keys, Bass Concert Hall
The Ben Wilson 5, Continental Club
Sisters in the Spirit w/ Yolanda Adams, Martha Munizzi, Juanita Bynum, Kelly Price, RiZen, Sheila E., Frank Erwin Center
Steve Vai & the Breed, Eric Sardinas, La Zona Rosa

MON 7

Demolition Doll Rods, Emo's
Stella Marins, December Drive, Redrum
Murray Weinstock, Threadgill's World HQ

TUE 8

Paddy Keenan & Tommy O'Sullivan, Cactus Cafe
Christina Carter, Church of the Friendly Ghost
Shotgun Democracy, Emo's
Paul Westerberg & His Only Friends, La Zona Rosa
Hayes Carll, Saxon Pub
Toots & the Maytals, Stubb's

WED 9

To What End, Beerland
Tom Russell, Andrew Hardin, Cactus Cafe
Javier Zercher, Elephant Room
Model A, Redrum
The Fight, Stubb's

THU 10

Otep, American Head Charge, Back Room
Tony Trischka, Cactus Cafe
Pat Todd & the Rank Outsiders, Continental Club
The Unseen, Ramallah, Brain Failure, Emo's
David Rovics, UT Campus
Hayes Carll, Waterloo Records

see austinchronicle.com for complete listings

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GUY FORSYTH 4:45PM
RACHEL LOY 5:55PM
LATER:
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MARCH 16
PARTY AT 8
BAND AT 11
NO COVER




BAND PHOTO BY TRACI SCODE

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WWW.ALLDAYIDRIVE.COM

Cactus Cafe

& Bar ★★★★★★ 475-6515
ACROSS THE STREET FROM UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Thur Mar 3
Tucker Livingston
Plus ★ Ray O'Hara
8:30pm

Fri Mar 4
CD Release Solace
Ana Egge
special guest ★ Danny Schmidt

SAT MAR 5
ACOUSTIC METAL TRIP
JACK INGRAM
special guest ★ Alex Mueslin from Holes & Bows

OPEN STAGE 7:30 PM SHOW UP
Hosted by Abi Tapia & Gary Graves

Tue Mar 8
Ireland's legendary piper
Paddy Keenan & Tommy O'Sullivan
8:30PM

Wed Mar 9
TOM RUSSELL 8:30PM
with Andrew Tardiff

Thur Mar 10
Aloft & Together ★ Bluegrass Blowout
TONY TRISCUKA 8:30PM
& Two High String Band

Fri Mar 11
Jimmy LaFave
TEXAS UNION THEATRE • 8:30PM
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Tickets: EB&E & Ervin Center 477-0000 or texasuniontheatre.com

Sat March 12
Refanant Ensemble 8:30PM
Part of SXSW Music Fest.

Sun Mar 20
ALEX ARBUCK 8pm

Wed Mar 23
QUETT BUTLER

Thur Mar 24
JOHN STALLONS
LARRY JOE TAYLOR
KEITH SYKES

Fri Mar 25
Ruthie Foster

Sat Mar 26
Darden Smith

Coming April 2
Guy Clark
Texas Union Theatre
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Fri Sat Apr 15 & 16
Kachopierce
Tickets: EB&E & Ervin Center 477-0000 or texasuniontheatre.com

Tue Apr 19
Richard Thompson
Texas Union Theatre
call EB&E & Ervin Center 477-0000 or texasuniontheatre.com

smoke free ★ all ages

5:30 ★ Ray O'Hara	4:15 ★ Paul Thom
5:45 ★ Suzi Stern	4:14 ★ Maura O'Connell
6:00 ★ Ray Hobzall	4:21 ★ Cheryl Wheeler
6:15 ★ Hammer on Trial	4:22 ★ Staid Cleaves
6:30 ★ Melanie	4:23 ★ Norm Montgomery
6:45 ★ Adrian Legg	4:25 ★ Steve Poltz

The Cactus Cafe is located in the Texas Union Building
Happy Hour 4-7pm Monday-Friday. Tickets at the door & all shows of open unless otherwise noted.
<http://www.cactuscafe.com> or www.texasuniontheatre.com
200 & Guadalupe 475-6515



FROM TEXAS' OLDEST INDEPENDENT BREWERY



SHINER

POETZL

SHINER TOP TEN TEXAS ARTISTS

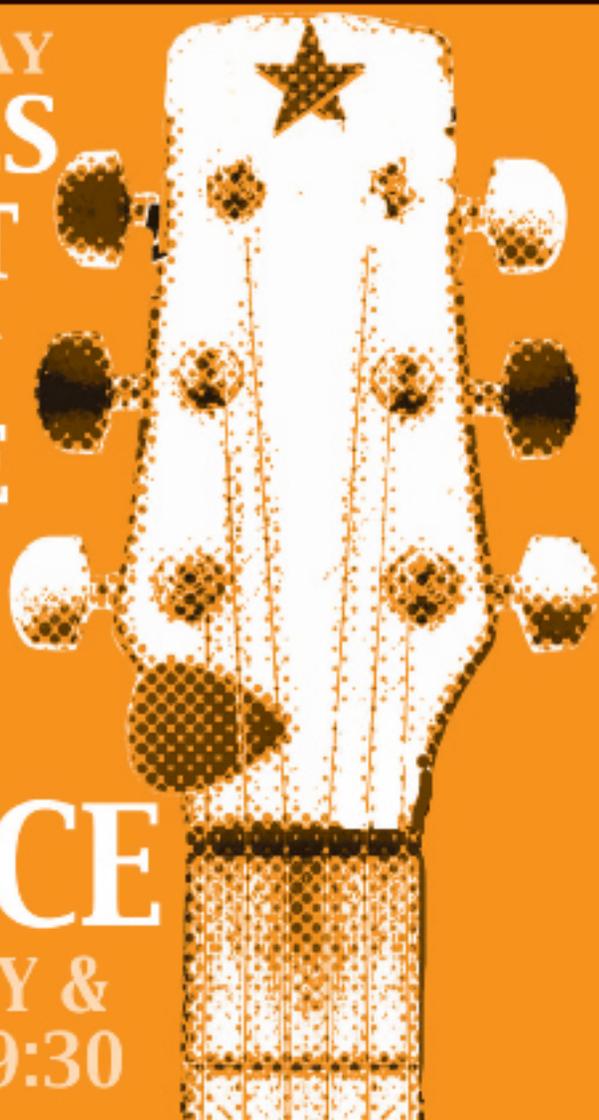


- 1) VARIOUS ARTISTS
KGSR Broadcasts v.12
- 2) VARIOUS ARTISTS
This Is Americana
- 3) PATTY GRIFFIN
Impossible Dream
- 4) RECKLESS KELLY
Wicked Twisted Road
- 5) LOS LONELY BOYS
Live at the Fillmore
- 6) LOS LONELY BOYS
Los Lonely Boys
- 7) RAY WYLIE HUBBARD
Delirium Tremolos
- 8) WILLIE NELSON
Songs
- 9) WILLIE NELSON
It Always Will Be
- 10) GEEZINSLAWS
Eclectic Horseman

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Shiner

WEDNESDAY
LADIES NIGHT
 NO COVER
 FEATURING:
JUICE
SAUCE
 THURSDAY &
 FRIDAY * 9:30



MARCH	Day	Happy Hour 6-8 *	Headliners 9:30
	thur	Gaila Trickey	Sauce
	fri	John Pointer	Sauce
	sat		Calico Kings
	sun	MONSTER BIG BAND	Les & the Funk Mob
	mon	Slow Train	East Side Kings
	tue		Trent Durham Band
	wed	Trent & Dave	Juice



Private Party Reservations: 236.8776
 208 W. 4th * Warehouse District * 495.9669

club listings << FROM THURSDAY

- REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB**
Marc Devine Trio w/ Denia Ridley (6:30)
- RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke**
- ROADHOUSE** Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
- ROOM 710** Vacation Gold, Good Times Crises Band, Magnet School, Velorum
- ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE** Dave Jorgenson
- RUTA MAYA** Guy Forsyth, Austin Daze w/ Cooper's Uncle, John Popper
- SABA BLUE WATER CAFE** Jeff Strange (10:00)
- SAENGERHALLE** Open Mic w/ Sean Palen & Gerald Dennison
- SAXON PUB** Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)
- SHENANIGANS** Billy D
- SKY LOUNGE** Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
- SPEAKEASY** King James (9:30)
- STARS COFFEE** Stardust Jazz Jam (7:00)
- TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Open Mic w/ Tony Fant
- THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Dimestore Poets
- TRIPLE CROWN** Aaron Franz, Warm Mittens, Aster, Spaniards, the Attention,
- THE VIBE** Danny Lopez, Stephanie King, the Mighty Orq, Moving Matter, Pivotal (7:00)
- VUE** DJ AM
- WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH** The Hudsons (6:00)
- WATERLOO RECORDS** Murray Weinstock (5:00)
- WHISKY BAR** DJ Ben Crave, DJ Jason, Canoe
- Z-TEJAS** Thomas Hughes & Mike Malone (6:00)

- ALICE'S RESTAURANT** Lawrence Glass, Tanto Qruuz, Family Jewels (6:00)
- ANTONE'S** Love County, 54 Seconds, Rock Bottom Choir CD Release (9:00)
- ANTONIO'S TEX-MEX CAFE & CANTINA** Rob Roy Parnell (8:00)
- APPLE BAR** Jazztronica & Cosmopolitan Grooves w/ DJ Starsign (10:00)
- AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR** Phil Greek w/ Jimmy Johns
- AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR** Acoustic Happy Hour (6:00)
- THE BACKYARD** Blake Shelton, Rascal Flatts
- BEERLAND** Ghostwriter, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral Five (7:00), the Applicators (9:30)
- BIGSBY'S** Travis Curtin & Lauren Dillon
- BOOMERZ** DHL
- BOUT TIME** DJ Kim Hicks
- BROKEN SPOKE** Cornell Hurd Band
- BROWN BAR** DJ Gray, Steven Ripley (9:00)
- BUSTER'S BBQ** Paul Cox (7:00)
- CACTUS CAFE** Danny Schmidt, Ana Egge CD Release
- CAFE MUNDI** DiverseArts Fire Relief Fund Benefit: Cuca Rocha, Word/Jazz Lowstars, MC Valerie Bridgeman-Davis, Ivanho, Thom the World Poet, Ricardo Acevedo, Patricia Fisk, Chandra Washington, Ron Horne, Love Robinson (8:00)
- CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke
- THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke
- CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Mad Cowboys (6:00)
- CEDAR STREET** John Pointer (6:00)

- CENTRAL MARKET CAFE**
Genuine Recordings Showcase w/ Cooper's Uncle, Boxcar Preachers, Onion Creek Crawdaddies, White Ghost Shivers
- CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH**
Genuine Recordings Showcase w/ Giant City Jazz, Double Eagle String Band, Brother James & the Choir, Laura Freeman
- CHEAPO DISCS** The Deacons, Radio Failure, Shim Shams (5:00)
- CHURCH OF THE FRIENDLY GHOST** Carl Smith's ECFA Jazz Project
- COMMON GROUNDS COFFEE HOUSE** John Wilson (7:00)
- COMMON INTEREST** Karaoke (7:00)
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** The Blues Specialists (6:30), Wayne "the Train" Hancock, Split Lip Rayfield (10:00)
- COOL RIVER CAFE** Sloppy Joe (9:45)
- COPA BAR & GRILL** Atash, Omar Lopez Experience
- DAN MCKLUSKY'S** Bobby Doyle (7:00)
- DONN'S DEPOT** The Station Masters
- THE DRISKILL** Kirk Hale, Suzi Stern, George Oldziej (6:00)
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILL** Abra Moore (8:00)
- EGO'S** Crawling With Kings, Dale Watson (8:30)
- ELEMENT** DJ 2DQ (10:00)
- ELEPHANT ROOM** Trés (6:00), Blaze (9:30)
- ELYSIUM** Josh Knowles, Deceptikon, Proem, Dillitex
- EMO'S** Moonlight Towers, the Arm, Vietnam, the Comas
- EVANGELINE CAFE** Texana Dames
- FADÓ** The Onion
- FLAMINGO CANTINA** The Flying Club, Ricardo Lemvo & Makina Loca
- FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Grubdog & the Modestos (9:00)
- GIDDY UP'S** Tim "Mule Train" Perry (9:00)
- GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL** Capt. Withit & the Subgeniuses

Fri 04

- 219 WEST** DJ Trace
- 311 CLUB** Dewayne Davis, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
- ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Brian Keene (3:30)
- ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR** Ron Welch (3:30)

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- FRI. MAR. 4 • 10pm • **TEXANA JAMES**
- TUE. • MAR. 8 • **BRENNEN LEIGH**
HAPPY HOUR 6:00-7:30pm
- WED. • MAR. 9 • 7PM • **MARTY CHRISTIAN**

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FRIDAY Mar 4
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FRI., MARCH 4 **CORNELL HURD**

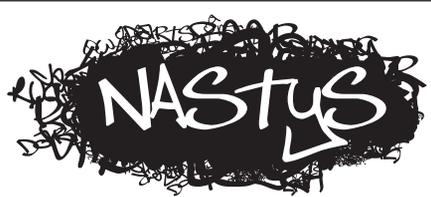
SAT., MARCH 5 **ALVIN CROW**

TUE., MARCH 8 **HARD TO MAKE A LIVING**

WED., MARCH 9 **WILL HARRELL**



PHOTO BY M. DAPRA



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FRI: **THE DEFENDENCE**

SAT: **MAX STALLING**

SUN: **MICHAEL JAMES** 4-8PM

MON: **THE HUDSONS**

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3/11: **TEXAS RENEGADE**

3/12: **ISLAND TEXAS**

3/22: **TODD SNYDER & FRIENDS**

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Ashlee Simpson 4/19/05 @ Austin Music Hall

FedEx Kinko's Classic
4/25-5/1 @ The Hills Country Club

Paul Westerberg 3/8/05 @ La Zona Rosa

Willie Nelson 3/18-3/19 @ The Backyard

Twelve Tribes 3/27/05 @ The Back Room

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Thursday, March 3
Happy B-Day Nick Free (Air Tight Alibi)
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DOWN IN THE MOUTH

Friday, March 4
NUMERIC PLAGUE
SOVERAN Allca, Tex.
VOWS IN ASHES
MEET FIST
SUNSET SHOWDOWN

Saturday, March 5
FIREKILLS
DRYLINE Dallas, Tex.
BREAKING AUTUMN
SKYLAR BLUE
POOKA

Sunday, March 6
THE SWEETHEARTS
LOS HISPANOS U.K.
13TH VICTIM
THE SKROTES

Monday, March 7
CONSIDER THE SOURCE
THE DECEMBER DRIVE McAllen, Tex.
THE YAMMASEE
STELLA MARINS Dallas, Tex.
WITHOUT A CHANCE

Tuesday, March 8
ELEVEN FINGER CHARLIE
EUPHORIA MORNING
BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIAL HOUR
FIRES WERE SHOT

Wednesday, March 9
PEEL
MODEL A Sacramento, Cal.
GREY HOLIDAY formerly See Ben Try
LOVE MAFIA JAZZ

Thursday, March 10
THE OCCIDENTALS
MISSING ZORI
THE WHEEL WORKS
EIDALON

Friday, March 11
MELANOMA
SUBJECT:DEFECT
9 DEEP
RIGG
KINETIK



Saturday, March 12
THE RIDDLIN' KIDS
AIR TIGHT ALIBI
DRIVER FRIENDLY
COURAGE UNDER CHAOS

Sunday, March 13
THE MICROPHONER
FAITH 257 San Antonio, Tex.
THE DIVING BELL
SECTION 8

03/14 Squares Are Best, This Providence (Seattle, Wash.), And Start West
03/15 Human Being Lawnmower, Bel And The Dragon (Fresno, Cali.),
Harm Harm, Various Artists

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Michael Strange Steven Pile
Erin Condo Don Turnley
Nelson Norwood Ryan Lentell
Katherine Edmonson & friends

every night, 5:30-8:30

Open mic every Wed.

Shows this week

Thursday 3/3
South Austin Blues Jam
Alan Haynes & Kim and her Blues Boys
Thursday late night
Toby Anderson, Nathan & Ace

Friday 3/4
Texcellerators

Saturday 3/5
Agave Tribe

Friday 3/11
Two Hoots and a Holler

Saturday 3/12
Shawn Pittman
CD Release Party

-Coming Soon-

Calvin Russell 5-ton Chickens
Eric Tessmer Icons
John Paul Dutton Warren Hood

10¢ Shrimp **ALL YOU CAN EAT FRIED SHRIMP AND CATFISH ALL DAY EVERYDAY**
25¢ Oysters

4-7 PM, EVERY DAY **\$13.95**

club listings << FROM FRIDAY

HABANA CALLE 6 Seth Walker, Crucial Prophet
HANOVER'S The Eggmen
HEADHUNTERS Charlie's Holy Happy Hour, Crucial Prophet, the Dickins, By Any Means Necessary, Deviant, Soul Strung
HOLE IN THE WALL Ethan Azarian, Darling New Neighbors, Casting Couch (10:00)
JOHNNY FINS DJ Your Way (7:00)
JOVITA'S Bill Davis, Shane Bartell (7:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim
LUCKY LOUNGE Primm
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Ashlyn Dane, \$5 Friend, Echoset
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (6:30)
MOMOS Furkloven, Gordy Quest, Guy Forsyth (8:00)
MOON RIVER Doc Pointer
NAT'S PUB Chris Tate Band
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Lana Anderson
ONE WORLD THEATRE Oleta Adams (7:00, 9:30)
OSLO DJ Kurv
THE PALLADIUM Vibe
PARDNERS DJ Dancin' Don (7:00)
PLUSH BLAKK w/ DJ J.A.M.O.N. (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Burtschi Bros.
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Clay Harrell (9:30)
THE PUB 8 Ball Down
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RAGGEDY ANNE'S Karaoke
REDRUM Sunset Showdown, Meet Fist, Vows in Ashes, Soveran, Numeric Plague
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Dana Clark (8:30)
RILEY'S TAVERN Wes Hayden
ROADHOUSE THR3
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Turtle Creek
SABA BLUE WATER CAFE Jeff Strange (10:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Jeff McCrary, Theo Alexander (8:30)
SAMPAIO'S Joel Shuler (7:15)

SAXON PUB The Regulars, Hayes Carl, Maggie Walters, Jon Dee Graham
SHENANIGANS Dash Kizer
SPEAKEASY Dysfunkshun Junkshun
SPIDER HOUSE DJ Jacob, Sun of Sultans, the Story Of (6:00)
STARDUST CLUB John Bendle
STARS COFFEE Jazz Improv Night w/ Jahrel
STUBB'S Blue Runners
TAMBALEO DJ Mel, DJ Jah Mighty
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Mojo
TRIPLE CROWN Callous Taoboys, Fighting Brothers McCarthy, Cheryl Murdock
TROPHY'S The Personals, Things That Go Pop, Awesome Cool Dudes
VFW CANTINA Open Mic w/ Poodle Lynn
VUE DJ AM
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE The Green Letters
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Jenny Reynolds w/ Jean Synodinos, Catherine Berry, Kerry Polk
WATERLOO RECORDS Rock Bottom Choir (5:00)
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.

WHISKY BAR DJ SeeNSay, DJ Hannibal Berretta
Y RESTAURANT & BAR Matt Hubbard All-Star Blues Band (7:00)
YOGI'S Open Mic w/ 70 Thru Selma (8:00)
Z-TEJAS Lucky Strikes (7:00)

Sat 05

219 WEST DJ Trace
311 CLUB Alan Haynes, Terranova (8:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Jackson, Jelly Jar (6:00)
ANTONE'S Jane Bond, South Austin Jug Band
APPLE BAR Jazztronica & Cosmopolitan Grooves w/ DJ Starsign (10:00)
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Judge & the Well-Hung Jury
B.B. ROVERS Bianca De Leon
BASS CONCERT HALL Mariachi Vargas
BEERLAND Blue Flames w/ the Oil Pan Sluts, Flametrick Subs w/ Satan's Cheerleaders
BIGSBY'S Triggerfish, Bright Shadow, Caliche Dust
BOOMERZ Insta-Gators
'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Brian Turner, Alvin Crow
BROWN BAR David Miranda (10:00)
CACTUS CAFE Jack Ingram
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE John Schooley's One-Man Band, the Stepbrothers
CEDAR STREET Kalico Kings (9:30)
COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Redd Volkaert (3:00), Kenneth Brian, Split Lip Rayfield (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Texas Unlimited (9:45)
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Mac Bynum (7:30)
DONN'S DEPOT The Recliners
THE DRISKILL Pat Griffin, Suzi Stern, George Oldzhey (6:00)



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THURSDAY Shawn Nelson & the Ramblers [10:00]

FRIDAY Hiphop, 80's, & FunkSoulBreaks [10:00]
W/ DJ MEL AND DAVID MIRANDA

Tambaleo

SATURDAY Roots, Funk, & Soul [10:00]
W/ THE MUMBO JUMBO DJ'S

WEDNESDAY Hip Hop Karaoke [10:00]
W/ DJ MEL AND DAVID MIRANDA

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Central Market show times:
6:30 - 9pm

Free Live Music on the Patio

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Westgate under the moon tower

Genuine Recordings Showcase @ both locations:

FRIDAY MARCH 4

5 pm - White Ghost Shivers
6 pm - Onion Creek
Crawdaddies
7 pm - Boxcar Preachers
8 pm - Cooper's uncle

FRIDAY MARCH 4

5 pm - Laura Freeman
6 pm - Brother James
& The Choir
7 pm - Double Eagle
String Band
8 pm - Giant City Jazz

SATURDAY MARCH 5

Rumbullion

paris in the 1930's

SATURDAY MARCH 5

**Mark Rubin's
Ridgetop Syncopators**

western swing

Future
North
Lamar
Shows:

Mady Kaye
Friday, March 11
Catavento
Saturday, March 12
Atash
Friday, March 18

Devine Trio with Ridley
Saturday, March 19
Albert & Gage
Friday, March 25
Gnappy
Saturday, March 26



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Central Park

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THURSDAY MARCH 3 / \$5

RYAN DeStato 11

STEPHEN CLARKE 9:30

RACHEL LOY 8

STRING THEORY 12:30

FRIDAY MARCH 4 / \$10

GUY FORSYTH 11



GORDY QUIST 9:30

FURKLOWEN 8

SATURDAY MARCH 5

**MICKY & THE
MOTORCARS** 12

BLACK WATER GOSPEL 10

BUSTER JIGGS 8

SUNDAY MARCH 6 / \$5

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EDDIE WARREN 12

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MONDAY MARCH 7

JOSEPH KING 10

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PARKER A WARSHAM 7

SOMETHING JOHNSON 8:30

NO COVER AFTER 9:15

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EVERY TUESDAY!

PATRICE PIKE 8

DANIEL LINK & SID CASSONE 10

GADGET WHITE 12

WEDNESDAY MARCH 9 / \$5

JAMES HYLAND 8

FROM THE SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND

WENDY COLONNA 9:30

W/ GUY FORSYTH

BRIAN KEANE 11

JOY DAVIS 12:30

W/ WAYNE SUTTON

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03/25

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\$2 LONESTARS & SHINER BOCKS ALL NIGHT!

SATURDAY, MAR • 5
JABARVY

—NO COVER • 8PM—

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TUESDAY: \$2 TECATE

WEDNESDAY: \$2 LONESTAR TALL BOYS • 1/2 PRICE SHUFFLEBOARD

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\$2 WELLS IN ORBIT ALL NIGHT

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THURS. 3/3: PATRICK FLEMING 9PM
 FRI. 3/4: DJ GERRY 10PM
 SAT. 3/5: BLAGGARDS 10PM
 SUN. 3/6: HOLD'EM AND OPEN MIC WITH MIKELE K.
 MON. 3/7: TEXAS HOLD 'EM 7PM
 TUES. 3/8: TEA MERCHANTS 9PM
 WED. 3/9: PUB QUIZ 8PM

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club listings ◀◀ FROM SATURDAY

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILL

Jack Dubal Quartet (8:00)

EGO'S Troy Dillinger, Seth Walker & the Differentials (8:30)

ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Living Proof (9:30)

ELYSIUM Haven: Goth Night w/ DJ Gothfather, DJ Sensoria

EMO'S Single Frame, Zykos, I Love You but I've Chosen Darkness

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE DJ Buckley

FLAMINGO CANTINA Hurt Street, Shawn Nelson & the Ramblers, Larry

FLIP'S SATELLITE CAFE Sheridan, Erik Hokkanen (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Slowtrain, Adam Carroll (9:00)

GALAXY CAFE Paul White Quartet (7:00)

GIDDY UP'S Sam Bentley Band (9:00)

GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Odd Man Out

HABANA CALLE 6 Will Sexton, Mikado

HANOVER'S Guy Forsyth

HEADHUNTERS Bad Rackets, Elvis on Speed, Natchet Taylor, Amplified Heat

HOLE IN THE WALL Summer Wardrobe, Youngmond Grand, Fighting Brothers McCarthy (10:00)

JOHNNY FINNS DJ Your Way (7:00)

JOVITA'S Brave Combo (8:30)

LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim

LUCKY LOUNGE AMF Incubator: Brent Palmer, Guy Forsyth, Rachel Loy (3:30)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Lone Star Porn Star, American Tragedy, Faceplant, 57 State

MOMOS Buster Jiggs, Black Water Gospel, Micky & the Motorcars

MOON RIVER Robin's Roux

THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Mr. K

OSLO DJ Chicken George (10:00)

PLUSH DJ Phytteen

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Wake Eastman, Pauline Reese

THE PUB Karaoke w/ Billy D.

REDRUM Pooka, Skylar Blue, Breaking Autumn, Dryline, Firekills

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB The SG Project (6:00), Marc Devine Quintet (8:30)

RHIZOME COLLECTIVE WAREHOUSE Music Co-op/ Monkeywrench Benefit w/ Yaup, the Scissorhands, the Shifties, Lonesome Heroes (8:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Dukes of Haphazzard

ROADHOUSE Capitol Suspects

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE The Stepsiders

RUTA MAYA Jellydots, Global Soul, Ghandiaia

SAMPAIO'S Bem Brazil (7:30)

SAXON PUB Omar & the Howlers, Carolyn Wonderland (8:00)

SHENANIGANS Johnston Bros.

SIDEKICKS/XTREME DJ Bryan Conrad, Nick Matthews

SKY LOUNGE DJ Abe, Paz Joaquin

SPEAKEASY Rayvon (9:30)

STARDUST CLUB The Big Nasty

STUBB'S Moving Matter, Brothers Past

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Spectra

TRIPLE CROWN Grupo Fantasma (10:00)

TUT'S BAR & GRILL Brigitte's Kiss

UNIVERSITY AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST Gospel Sing Out/Micah 6 Benefit: Sister Hallelujah, St. James Baptist Church Mass Choir, River City Pops Alumni Choir, Mary Jane Schwartz, Arise, the Bells of Joy, Julianna Smith, George Powell (4:30, 8:00)

THE VIBE Tsunami Benefit w/ Save Converse, the Scroats, Harvard Bound, Laughing Stock, Original Glitch, A Step Behind (1:00)

VIVO COCINA MEXICANA Cienguegos (7:00)

VUE DJ AM

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Bruce Jones & the Monotones

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Mando Saenz

THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.

WHISKY BAR DJ Prince Klassen, Vengo

Y RESTAURANT & BAR David Chenu Trio (7:00)

ZAX PINTS & PLATES Dimestore Poets (8:00)

AN Arabian NIGHT

Friday, March 4 '05
 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm
 BELLY DANCING
 Hooka pipe rentals * Arabic Appetizers

thurs The Nuthin' New All Stars 10:00-2:00

fri AN ARABIAN NIGHT 8:00-11:00
 DJ Chicken George 11:00-2:00

sat KJV (band) 8:30-10:30
 DJ Kurv 10:30-2:00

sun DJ Kurupt hip-hop to r&b

mon DJ In/Verse motown and funk

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AUSTIN COLLINS
RETURNS WITH
SLOAN BONFIELD
★ SAT., MAR. 12★
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HAPPY HOUR
EACH WEDNES.
W/ PTARMIGAN
★ FRI., MAR. 4★
THE GREEN LETTERS
★ SAT., MAR. 5★
MANDO SAENZ
★ FRI., MAR. 11★
COWBOY JOHNSON
★ SAT., MAR. 12★
MIKE AUSTIN

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Sat. 3-5 **ORCHESTRA SHATI**

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ROCK BOTTOM CHOIR
WITH 54 SECONDS • LOVE COUNTY

EARLY SAT MAR 5TH **AUSTIN MUSIC FOUNDATION INCUBATOR SHOWCASE**
FRIENDS OF LIZZY • KISSINGER • PONG
DEBBI WALTON • KJAE • WILL TAYLOR
FREE EARLY SHOW! 3PM TO 9PM

LATE SAT MAR 5TH **SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND**
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
JANE BOND

MON MAR 7TH **BLUE MONDAY**
ROSCOE • RILEY • DEREK • MIKE • FROST
Featuring MARK GOODWIN & MG3 WITH
SPECIAL GUEST TRIPY HORN WITH
ROB ROY PARNELL

THU MAR 10TH FREE!
AUSTIN HIP HOP REVOLUTION
A PRE-SXSW SHOWCASE FEATURING
BAVU BLAKES • TEE DOUBLE
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FREE ADMISSION ALL NIGHT!

FRI MAR 11TH **WAN SANTO CONDO**
WITH OUR BLACK LOVE SONG

EARLY SAT MAR 12TH **BOB SCHNEIDER & MITCH WATKINS**
SEATED • NON-SMOKING SHOW

LATE SAT MAR 12TH **Grady** WITH SILVERTIDE

TUE MAR 15TH **BOB SCHNEIDER**
WITH SHURMAN & RANDY C

FRI MAR 25TH **VALLEJO**
ALL DAY I DRIVE • BROKEN TEETH

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Friday, Mar. 4 (7:30 pm)

BIG BALLS

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Saturday, Mar. 5 (8 pm)

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BAT CASTLE **BY ANY MEANS**
NECESSARY
DISFIGURED

Sun., Mar. 6 **DAX** **Parkwood**
Sugarwall

3/8: POOL TOURNAMENT

3/9: KARAOKE W/ EDIE

Mar. 10 **MOBILE ACTIVATOR**
HOMIES **COLOR OF**
DARKNESS

Mar. 12 **BACKLIT SPINNING CHAIN**
REVOLVER **MORE FIRE**

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March 15 w/
FULL
SCALE
CRAZY ANGLOS
INDEX CASE
3/27: TWELVE TRIBES

101X ON TOUR NOW
March 29
CROSSFADE
THE UNSEEN

4/8: **TIGER ARMY, THE UNSEEN**
4/18 101X presents **BREAKING BENJAMIN**
THEORY OF A DEADMAN THE EXIES
4/19: **SOILWORK, DARK TRANQUILITY**
4/21: **BLACK LABEL SOCIETY**

Sun 06

219 WEST DJ Trace

ALICE'S RESTAURANT P.J. the
Cowboy Poet's Gospel Project
(11:30 am), Avenue Elle,
Slaves of Utopia (6:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Central Texas
Bluegrass Assoc. Jam (2:00)

AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Jazz
Brunch (11:00 am)

B.B. ROVERS Jollyville City Limits
Open Mic w/ Bourland, Austin
Songwriters Group Open Mic
w/ Hollis Webb (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S PUB Irish Tune
Session (8:00)

BASS CONCERT HALL Alicia
Keyes (8:00)

BEERLAND Disco Hospital

BETHANY UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH Shamrock II: Songs
& Scenes of Ireland (4:00)

BIG DAVE'S Corey Michaels (3:00),
Karaoke w/ Stormy (8:00)

BOOMERZ Raquel

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Steve

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CEDAR STREET Monster Big
Band (6:00), Les & the Funk
Mob (9:30)

COMMON INTEREST Karaoke
(9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Heybale!
w/ Redd Volkaert & Earl Poole
Ball (10:00), the Ben Wilson 5
(12:30 am)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly
Playboyz (5:00)

THE DRINK SHU (9:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILL
Mac Bynum (7:00)

EGO'S Bill Davis' Always Drunk
on Sunday (11:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Mark Goodwin
Trio

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro
Eighties w/ DJ Silver Cyber
Slut, DJ Spider Lily

ETERNAL Rick Harvey's Open
Auditions for Bands and
Songwriters

FADÓ Prize Mic

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Headtrip
w/ DJ Ali Elwakhi & DJ Josh
Sweet

FLAMINGO CANTINA AMN High
School Battle of the Bands

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE DJ
Tomas, Troy Dillinger (5:00)

FRANK ERWIN CENTER Sisters
in the Spirit w/ Yolanda Adams,
Martha Munizzi, Juanita Bynum,
Kelly Price, RiZen, Sheila E.
(5:00)

FRIENDS Blues Jam w/ Walter
Higgs & the Shuffle Pigs

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN
SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)

GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Ted Hall's
Blues Jam (7:30)

HEADHUNTERS Hatchetwork, Me
vs. Everybody, Blood of Patriots

HOLE IN THE WALL Dylan
Goodhue, Matt Hubbard, Ricky
Stein (9:00)

JO'S HOT COFFEE Sinner's
Brunch: Tina Rose & the Jo's
House Band (12:30)

JOHNNY FINS DJ Your Way (7:00)

JOVITA'S Alteza (6:00)

LA ZONA ROSA Eric Sardinas,
Steve Vai & the Breed (8:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Tucker
Livingston & the Wildcards
(10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE
Tsunami Benefit w/ Human,
Darling Sinister, Powderburn,
Subcore

MANUEL'S Marc Devine

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Gospel
Project, Imperial Golden Crown
Harmonizers (11:00 am)

MOMOS Chicks w/ Picks, Warren
Hood, Eddie Warren

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB
Honkytonk Brunch w/ Cowboy
Johnson (noon), Karaoke w/
Edie (9:00)

NAT'S PUB Open Mic w/ Big Jim

NUEVO LEON RESTAURANT
Mariachi Relampago (1:00)

THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke
w/ Mrs. K

POODLE DOG LOUNGE Sunny
Sweeney (9:00)

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/
Robert Wagner (10:00)

RED EYED FLY Don't Feed the
Pigs

REDRUM The Scroats, 13th
Victim, Los Hispanos U.K., the
Sweethearts

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/
Stephanie Briggs

ROADHOUSE Open Mic w/ Josh

RUTA MAYA Monster Big Band
(6:00)

SAXON PUB The Resentments,
Matt Slusher, Walter Tragert
(7:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/
Billy D

STARS COFFEE Obataallah (2:00)

TAMBALEO Rubinchik's Yiddische
Ensemble (8:00)

TAZ COUNTRY Karaoke w/ Big Al

THINGS CELTIC Celtic Song
Session (2:00)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ John
Forder Coley (8:00)

THUNDERDOME Texas Roller
Derby: Magically Delicious
Smoking Skunk Monkey, the
Addictions (6:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat
Pankratz & Holly Aiken (9:00)

THE WATER TANK Open Mic w/
Andy Lemaster

Mon 07

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR
Ron Welch (3:30)

ANTONE'S Rob Roy Parnell
(6:00); Mark Goodwin & MG3
w/ Bill Maddox; Roscoe, Riley
Osbourne, Derek O'Brien,
Frosty (11:00)

ARARAT Crying Monkeys (7:30)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah
Elizabeth Campbell & the
Banned

BEERLAND Al G., Tyler, Johnny
Walker (7:00), Karaoke (9:00)

BIGSBY'S Open Mic

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Steve

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CEDAR STREET Kevin Ahart
(6:00), Texas Eastside Kings
(9:30)

COMMON INTEREST Karaoke
(9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Paris '49
(6:30), Dale Watson & His
Lone Stars (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Kenny Luna &
Matt

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILL
Mac Bynum (7:00)

EGO'S Beth Garner Band (8:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Michael
Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

EMO'S Ghostwriter, the Score,
the Crack Pipes, Demolition
Doll Rods

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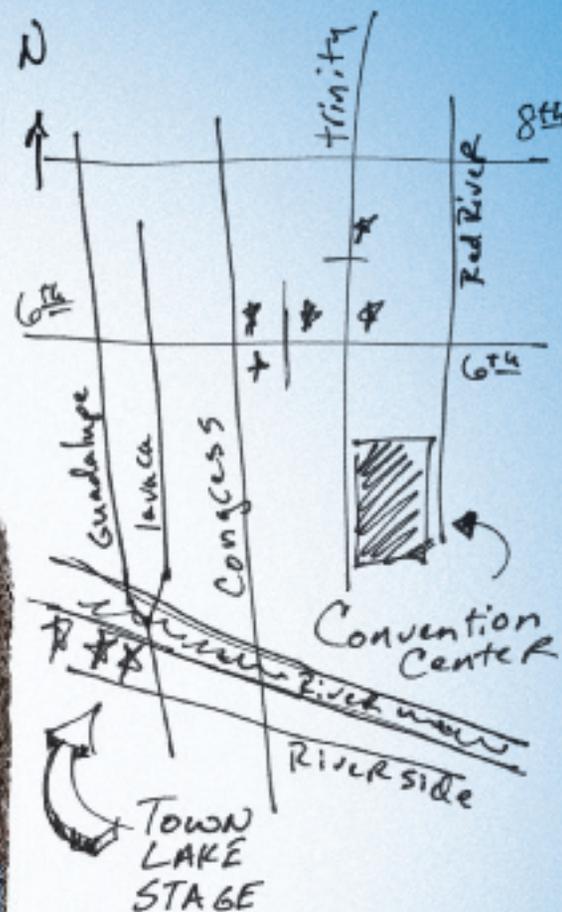
6:30pm. First set of the Day.
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From Denton.

8:00 Saw that guy from
that movie with that
girl from that TV Show.

9:18pm. Seen 5 Bands
4 venues
3 Hours
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club listings << FROM MONDAY

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE DJ AM
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Adoniram Lipton (8:00)
FRIENDS Catherine Denise, Eric Tessmer (7:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Billy Dee (9:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Marvin Boterra & Friends
HANOVER'S Open Mic w/ Corey Michael
HEADHUNTERS Bricks ATX
HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE Karaoke (7:30)
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Buzz Guerra (noon), Open Mic w/ Noah (7:00)
JACK'S BACKYARD Karaoke w/ Stars Across Texas (9:00)
LONGBRANCH INN Singer-Songwriter Night
LUCKY LOUNGE 54 Seconds (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE John Vineyard, Jared Francis
MOMOS Parker A. Worsham, Something Johnson, Joseph King
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson, Je Renee, Carl Koonce
NASTY'S DJ Mel, Baby G
REDRUM Without a Chance, Stella Marins, the Yammasee, the December Drive, Consider the Source
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Larissa
RILEY'S TAVERN Sam Sanchez
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D & Dan
RUTA MAYA Whip-In Happy Hour w/ Cooper's Uncle (4:00), Michael Shay, Marc Utter, Southpaw Jones (8:00)
SPEAKEASY James Gossett (9:30)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Dawn Maracle
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Murray Weinstock (8:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Pistol Love Family Band
THE VIBE Dancin' Bare (11:00)
THE WATER TANK Acoustic Jam Open Mic w/ Tony Fant

Tue 08

219 WEST Crucial Prophet
311 CLUB Alan Haynes
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Marty Christianson (3:30)
ARARAT Sergey (7:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam
B.D. RILEY'S PUB Open Stage w/ Johnny Fargo (7:30)
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)
BEERLAND Nasti Donk w/ Knife in the Water, Grand Champeen
BIGSBY'S Open Jazz Jam w/ Eric Hargett
BROKEN SPOKE Hard to Make a Living
BROWN BAR DJ Gray (9:00)
CACTUS CAFE Paddy Keenan & Tommy O'Sullivan
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CEDAR STREET Super Fantastic Duo w/ Seela Green (6:00), Eve Monsees & the Exiles (6:00), Trent Durham Band (9:30)
CHARLIE'S Margaret Wright
CHURCH OF THE FRIENDLY GHOST Christina Carter
COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Doak Short (5:30), Toni Price (6:30), Grady (11:00)
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Open Mic w/ Bonnie & Blythe (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILL Bobby Doyle (7:00)
EGO'S Redd Volkaert & Billy Dee (8:30), Stevie Tombstone (11:00)
EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE "Writers Who Rock" Songwriters Night w/ Christine Young, Melissa Mullins (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (4:00), Jon Blondell Quartet (9:30)
ELYSIUM Sappho's Isle w/ DJ Amerykah
EMO'S Natchet Taylor, the Golden Rule, Shotgun Democracy, Same Day Service, Hobbie

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh (6:00), Marty Christian (7:00)
FADÓ Tea Merchants (8:00)
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE DJ Toddy B, DJ J.A.M.O.N.
FLAMINGO CANTINA Los Bones, Head Panic, Holepunch, Without a Chance
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Jim Stringer
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Stop the Truck
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Open Mic (8:00)
HEADHUNTERS Karaoke Underground
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Josh (7:30)
HILL'S CAFE Leo Stokes
HOLE IN THE WALL Patrick Harkins, Kevin Brown, Chrissy Flatt, Eric Hisaw (9:00)
JOVITA'S Jon Emery Band (8:00)
LA ZONA ROSA Paul Westerberg & His Only Friends (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Boombbox w/ Carlos Sosa, John Pointer (11:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Neo-Soul Poetry Slam
MOMOS Patrice Pike, Daniel Link & Sid Cassone, Gadget White
NAT'S PUB Karaoke
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Billy D
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Justin
RED EYED FLY Don't Feed the Pigs
REDRUM Fires Were Shot, Bright Light Social Hour, Euphoria Morning, Eleven Fingered Charlie
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Denia Ridley (6:30)
RILEY'S TAVERN Bo Carter, Adam Lamar
ROADHOUSE Meter Peakers
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Collin & Friends
RUTA MAYA Poetry, Music Open Mic (6:00)
SAHARA NIGHTCLUB Improv Jazz
SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ David Novia (8:30)
SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM Jim Ivy's Jinxstreet Band (7:00)

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TUES 3/08 - PUNK ROCK NITE — DOORS 7:00, SHOW 8

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WEDS 3/09 - ROCK/POP — DOORS 8:30, SHOW 9

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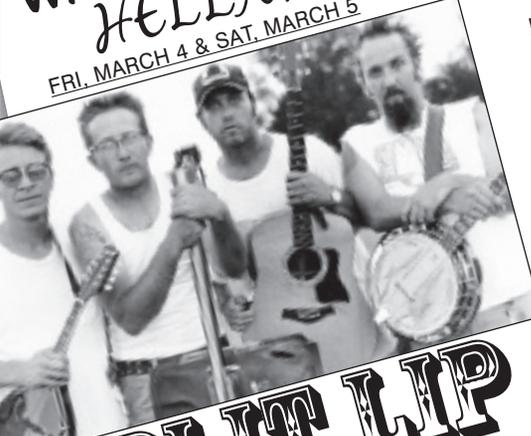
CONTINENTAL

THURS. MARCH 3
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W/ REDD VOLKAERT AND
EARL POOLE BALL
12:30AM **THE BEN WILSON 5**
9:30PM

WILSON 5

MON. MARCH 7
6:30 HAPPY HOUR **PARIS '49**
DALE WATSON

TUES. MARCH 8
HAPPY HOUR
TONI PRICE
PLUS **DOAK SHORT**

WEARY BOYS
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9
HAPPY HOUR
GARY CLARK JR.

10PM
JON DEE GRAHAM

RANSOM TULLIS AND THE LUXURY LINERS
THURSDAY, MARCH 10

LI'L CAP'N TRAVIS

PAT TODD AND THE RANK OUTSIDERS
FRIDAY, MARCH 11
12AM

DOYLE BRAMHALL
10PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 12
AFTERNOON MATINEE 3-7PM
BILLY DEE DONAHUE
JAMES McMURTRY

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-in a rare solo appearance-

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4/21 - **THE MAMMALS**

4/29 - **THE DERAILERS**

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5/19 - **MOOT DAVIS**

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WED. 3/16
(11am) **TROY CAMPBELL & friends** **FREE**
(4pm) **3rd COAST MUSIC SHOWCASE**

THURS. 3/17
JIMMIE DALE GILMORE
COODER GRAW, HAYES CARLL, DAYNA KURTZ
(show @ 1pm) **FREE**

FRI. 3/18
TODD SNIDER **FREE**
w/ surprise guest
SLAID CLEAVES
THE GREENCARDS
RICK TREVINO
ASYLUM STREET SPANKERS
SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND
(show @ 1pm)

SAT. 3/19
ROCKY ERICKSON
singing with The Explosives
MICHELLE SHOCKED
GRIS GRIS
CAROLYN WONDERLAND
SUMNER ERICKSON
-ICE CREAM SOCIAL-
(show @ 2pm)

AMN/ACTV SHOWCASE
WILLIS ALLEN RAMSEY
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RENEE WOODWARD
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 4/12 - DIZZIE RASCAL 4/15 - GLEN PHILLIPS / BLUE MERLE
 5/10 - MICE PARADE 5/13 - CARIBOU (manitoba) / Jr. BOYS
 5/17 - RAVEONETTES 5/18 - PERCEPTIONISTS .MR.LIF / FAKTS ONE / AKROBATIK
 5/25 - AUTECHRE 5/27 - PREFUSE 73 / BEANS 6/19 - JUANA MOLINA

club listings ◀◀ FROM TUESDAY

- SAXON PUB** Denim (6:00), Hayes Carl, Monte Montgomery, Will Sexton's All Star Band (8:00)
- SHENANIGANS** Karaoke w/ Rae Rae
- SPEAKEASY** KKQ (9:30)
- STUBB'S** Toots & the Maytals
- TAMBALEO** Laura Scarborough, Ohn (10:00)
- TAVERN ON THE GRUENE** Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jerry Martin & Sam Sanchez (8:00)
- TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Dawn Maracle
- TRIPLE CROWN** Elizabeth McQueen, Two High String Band
- TROPHY'S** Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis
- WATERLOO RECORDS** Patricia Vonne (5:00)
- THE WATER TANK** Karaoke w/ RJ
- WHISKY BAR** DJ Orthopedic, Chick Power Happy Hour w/ Jen & Laura (7:00)

- CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB** Karaoke (8:00)
- COFFEE CREATOR** Je Renee, Cherilyn, John Wilson (8:30)
- COMMON INTEREST** Karaoke (7:00)
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gary Clark Jr. (6:30), Jon Dee Graham (10:30)
- CUBA LIBRE** Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)
- CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN** Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee
- DONN'S DEPOT** Chip Dolan & Marvin Dykhuis
- THE DRISKILL** Kirk Hale
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILL** Bobby Doyle (7:00)
- EGO'S** Austin Poetry Slam, Shane Bartell's Love Seat
- ELEPHANT ROOM** Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Javier Zercher (9:30)
- ELYSIUM** Resurrection w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice, DJ Spider Lily; 80's Party w/ the Spazmatics
- EMO'S** Friends of Lizzy, Experimental Aircraft, the Cutaway
- FIREHOUSE LOUNGE** Centro w/ Richard Henry, Luis Ramirez
- FLAMINGO CANTINA** Jolly Science, Kazki, the Jetsuns, Squares Are Best
- FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings (8:00)
- FRIENDS** Trent Turner, John McVey & the Stumble (10:30)
- GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Justin Trevino
- GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL** Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier
- GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL** Karaoke w/ Echosystemz (8:00)
- GUADALAJARA RESTAURANT & CANTINA** El Mariachi y la Compania (6:00)
- THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Woode Wood's Solo Humor & Guitar (noon)
- HILLTOP TAVERN** Open Mic
- HOLE IN THE WALL** Chronicle After Hours w/ Troy Campbell, Walter Tragert, Black Joe & the Cool Breeze, W.T. Special (7:00)
- JOVITA'S** Aaron Hamre, Grassy Knoll Boys (6:00)
- LAS PALOMAS** Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)
- LUCKY LOUNGE** Primm
- LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Electric Mayhem
- MIDTOWN LIVE** Karaoke w/ Ro' Black (8:00)

- MOMOS** James Hyland, Wendy Colonna, Brian Keane, Joy Davis
- MOON RIVER** Karaoke
- MULLIGAN'S** Karaoke w/ Mr. K (9:00)
- NAT'S PUB** Feeding 5000
- NORTH BY NORTHWEST** Natalie Zoe & Beth Garner (6:00)
- OSLO** DJ Avatar
- THE PARLOR** Sonic Visions, Diasporic (10:00)
- PLUSH** Get Broke: DJ Merrick Brown, DJ Tyler, DJ Will B. (10:00)
- POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones
- POODLE DOG LOUNGE** The Stepsiders
- THE PUB** Karaoke w/ Trip
- RAGGEDY ANNE'S** Karaoke
- REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE** "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
- REDRUM** Love Mafia Jazz, Grey Holiday, Model A, Peel
- REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Marc Devine Trio (7:00)
- RILEY'S TAVERN** Scott Wood
- ROADHOUSE** Karaoke w/ Billy D
- ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE** Glenn Collins
- ROY'S AUSTIN** Combo Mahalo, Lucky Strikes
- RUTA MAYA** Abra Moore, Tom Freund
- SAHARA NIGHTCLUB** Neo-Soul Lounge & Poetry Reading Open Mic (7:30)
- SAKÉ ON SIXTH** Get Broke Wednesdays w/ Merrick Brown
- SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE & EMPORIUM** Blazt (7:00)
- SAXON PUB** Peter Rowan, Dan Dyer, George Devore (8:00)
- SHOOTERS BILLIARDS** Karaoke w/ Shawn the Kid (8:00)
- SPEAKEASY** The Brew, Salsa Lessons (9:30)
- STUBB'S** The Fight
- TAMBALEO** Hip Hop Karaoke
- TRIPLE CROWN** Bryan Crowell, Eradicator, Vex, Disfigured
- TROPHY'S** Nice Guys Never Get Laid (6:00)
- VUE** DJ AM
- WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Ptarmigan
- WHISKY BAR** Prince Klassen
- Y RESTAURANT & BAR** Songwriters Night w/ Jenni Lord, Melissa Greener, Mo Par, Eddie Maine
- Z-TEJAS** Stephen Doster & Friends (6:00)

Wed 09

- 1920S CLUB** Kimberly Pollini & Bill Forest (8:30)
- 219 WEST** The SG Project (7:00)
- 311 CLUB** Dewayne Davis (8:30)
- ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Moving Matter (3:30)
- ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH** Bill Passalacqua (1:00)
- AGAVE** Jackson Eli, Eric Tessmer (9:00)
- ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland
- AUSTIN'S PIZZA** Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)
- BEERLAND** DJ Timmy, Army of Jesus, Manikin, Signal Lost, To What End
- BROKEN SPOKE** Will Harrell
- BROWN BAR** DJ Manny
- CACTUS CAFE** Andrew Hardin, Tom Russell
- CAFE MUNDI** Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones, Bruce Hughes (8:00)
- CANARY HUT PUB** Karaoke
- THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke
- CEDAR STREET** Trent & Dave (6:00), Juice (9:30)
- CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle



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SHANE BARTELL
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SATURDAY 3-5 \$10
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 8:30-10:30PM

SUNDAY 3-6 6-8PM • NO COVER!
ALTEZA

TUESDAY 3-8 NO COVER! 8-10PM
JON EMERY BAND

WEDNESDAY 3-9 8-10PM NO COVER!
 the **GRASSY KNOLL BOYS**
 AARON HAMRE BAND

THURSDAY 3-10 8-10PM NO COVER!
 the **CORNELL HURD** band

FRIDAY 3-11 9-11PM \$10
RUBEN RAMOS

SATURDAY 3-12 8:30-10:30PM
SHELLEY KING

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 FLACO JIMENEZ 3/18
 THE GOURDS 3/18
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7pm: The Bearded Clam Diggers

UPCOMING SHOWS

3:10 Dale Witch, Speedcode, The Dicks, 3:11 The Dicks w/ Toilet Dicks
3:12 The Dicks w/ Free Range Bandz 3:15 Gorch, Rock, Beach, Mfga, ACD

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we 9

To What End (Sweden),
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fr 11

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MONDAY, MAR. 7	JAMES GOSSETT (9:30PM, FREE SHOW)
TUESDAY, MAR. 8	JAZZ NIGHT - KKQ QUINTET (9:30PM)
WEDNESDAY, MAR. 9	LATIN JAZZ WEDNESDAY THE BREW (9:30PM) Salsa Lessons (10:30PM)

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ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH Ginn Sisters (12:30)
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BACK ROOM American Head Charge, Otep
BEERLAND 00Spies
BOOMERZ Jamie
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes
CACTUS CAFE Tony Trischka & Two High String Band
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CEDAR STREET Gaila Trickey (6:00), Sauce (9:30)
COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (7:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Pat Todd & the Rank Outsiders, Li'l Cap'n Travis (10:00)
COPA BAR & GRILL The Brew
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILL Bobby Doyle (7:00)

EGO'S Small Stars Revue, 2 Hoots & a Holler (8:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Kris Kimura Bunch (6:00), Herbie Nichols Tribute w/ Steve Geraci, Carolyn Cremona (9:30), Steve Geraci/Carolyn Cremona Quintet (9:30)
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THE FOUNDATION Coy West
GIDDY UP'S Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson
HANOVER'S Karaoke
HOLE IN THE WALL Eve Monsees & the Exiles, the Stepbrothers (9:00)
JOVITA'S Jon Emery Band (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Daystar Thief (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Larry, Opposite Day
MOMOS Rachel Loy, Sarah Sharp, Ryan Desiato, Dead Rebels
MOON RIVER Devon Heath
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REDRUM Eidalon, the Wheel Works, Missing Zori, the Occidentals
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Trio w/ Denia Ridley (6:30)
RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
RUTA MAYA Guy Forsyth, Troy Campbell, Dave Madden (6:00)
SABA BLUE WATER CAFE Jeff Strange (10:00)
SAENGERHALLE Open Mic w/ Sean Palen & Gerald Dennison
SAXON PUB Carolyn Wonderland, Guy Forsyth (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy D
SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
SPEAKEASY King James (9:30)
STARS COFFEE Stardust Jazz Jam (7:00)
STUBB'S The Innocent, Tia Carrera, Masonic, Ignorance Park
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- We 9 Bryan Crowell 6pm
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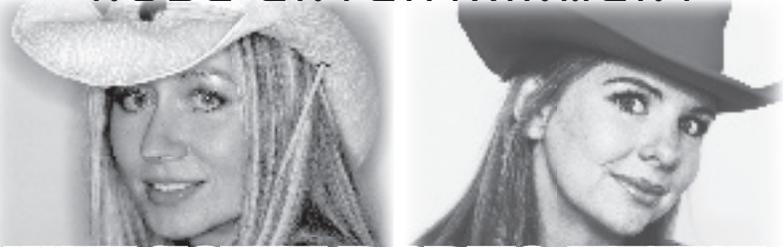
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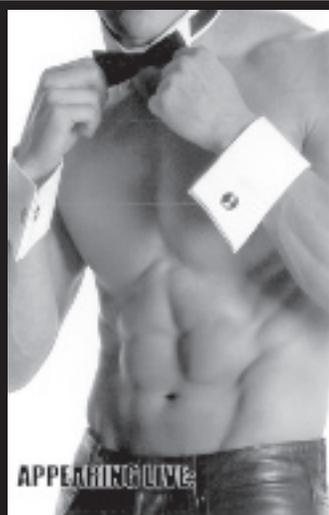
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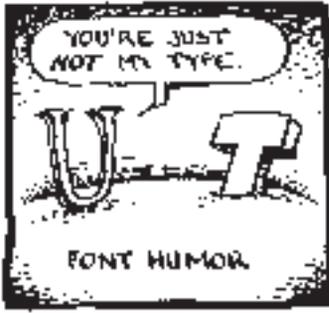
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In 1953, as a G.I. intercepting Russian Morse code transmissions, Johnny Cash became the first American to learn of Josef Stalin's death.

Some assert that the poisonous copperhead snake smells like fresh-cut cucumbers.

The Evans Gambit chess opening (1]e4 e5 2]Nf3 Nc6 3]Bc4 Bc5 4]b4), which is a variation of the Giuoco Piano (Italian for "quiet game"), is named after W.D. Evans, a Welsh sea captain who invented it in the 1820s.

2004 was the first year in 50 years that the U.S. did not run an agricultural trade surplus.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

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Friday 8:30-5PM, 8212 Barton Club Drive, Austin, Texas 78735. Email resumes to jobs@bartoncreek.com or fax your information to 512-329-4014. Website: <http://www.bartoncreek.com>
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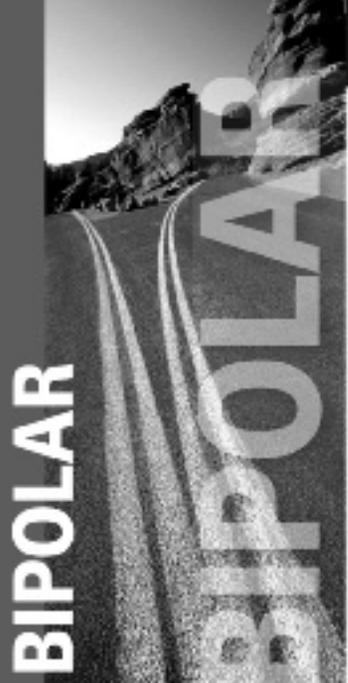
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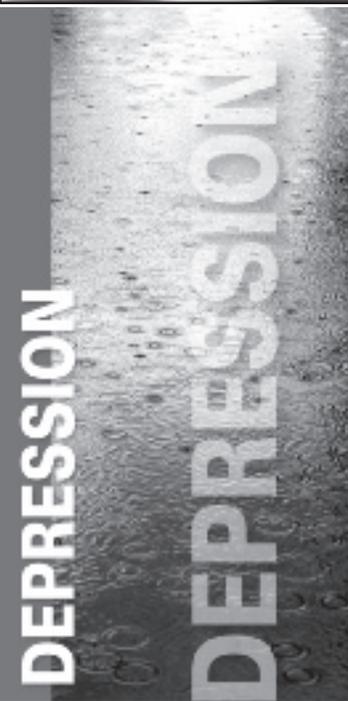
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CENTRAL \$599 Lake Austin Condo! W/D & Covered parking incl., fab views. 231-9888 http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm

CENTRAL \$333Saver! Historic Travis Heights, nestled by greenbelt. Gas cooking, huge 1-1 \$480, 2-2 \$680, townhome small yard \$825. Agent 750-1263.

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CENTRAL /Tarrytown. Tanglewood West Apartments. Large 1-1s, and 2-2s Available NOW! Pool, onsite laundry. Awesome location. On UT Shuttle. Starting at \$825.00. Call Lakequest at 481-8600.

CENTRAL 6th Street Living! Wood Floors, Greenbelt, Views. 1-1 \$595. Call Carol @ 512-680-0545. Agent.

CENTRAL 1403 Ashwood A. 2-1, beautiful, remodeled, 1940's downstairs home, hardwoods, tile bath, balcony access. 3 Min. UT, pets ok. \$795. 663-1967

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CENTRAL - \$8 403 \$\$ Nice! Small 1-1, 2-2, \$697. Now@ausapts.com, 512-258-8224.

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CENTRAL /Tarrytown. Two-story 2/2.5 TH on Enfield&Exposition w/ fireplace and balcony. Pool and laundry on-site. Avail NOW \$1100.00. Call The Taylor Company 512-481-8600

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CENTRAL Eclectic downtown lofts. Big Dogs OK! 231-1400 Broker.

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CENTRAL 51st street, 1-1 \$450, 2-2 \$700, gated, pool, great value. APARTEMENT EXPERTS North 339-4411 South 416-8100 agent

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CENTRAL All Bills Paid! Small Quiet Complex. 1-1's and 2-1's \$585+ Avail. Now. 231-9888 <http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm>

CENTRAL Clarksville, 1/1- \$595. CACH, Free cable/HBO (a \$50 value!). Small, quiet complex w/central plant filled courtyard. 1211 W. 8th. 472-8972

CENTRAL ASAP move-in, Clarksville apts, walk to shops in West Lynn, \$250 deposit, spacious 2-1 \$750. Chris Bee 236-1116, www.avignonrealty.com.

CENTRAL Ave A Efficiencies. Bright, sunny eff. w/re-modeled carpet, vinyl, countertops. Water pd. Laundry, parking, shuttle. No pets. \$350. 491-7277.

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CENTRAL Best Value in Austin! Recently renovated units conveniently located near UT Campus in Hyde Park. These units are priced to lease! Call 512-346-2946 for more info, chawkins@hudsonmanagement.net www.braeburnapartments.com

CENTRAL Best 78704 deal! 1br \$475, 2br \$625 featuring lots of natural light, W/D conn, private patios. Lush landscaping, superb mgmt. WL 480-3100

CENTRAL Cable Paid, ceramic tile, Gated, bus line, Large Floorplans, 1BR \$420, 2BR \$535 APARTMENT EXPERTS South 416-8100, North 339-4411. <http://www.apartmentexperts.com> Agent

CENTRAL CENTRAL MARKET UPTOWN. Most bills paid, free cable! 1-1, \$599, 2BR, \$799. Now@ausapts.com, 512-258-8224.

CENTRAL Cheap, Cheap, Cheap!!! \$325! 692-4525 <http://www.apartmentlocating.com>

CENTRAL Completely re-modeled apartment with tile upgrades. Modern appliances & free cable. 78704 neighborhood. STUDIO... \$375, 1BDRM... \$425, 2BDRM... \$495. Lowest price in years! Team Leasing 416-8333

CENTRAL Creek View/City view. walk downtown, private balcony, dogs OK, \$545+ Agent 785-4881

CENTRAL Exposition/Enfield, Great 2BR apt. Newly renovated. Near major bus lines. \$750 - must see. 417-9593

CENTRAL Funky 1-1 off 6th street over local business, hardwood, window ac, \$525/mo • 461-2355, Lynn.

CENTRAL Desperate campus/Hyde Park owners seek tenants. From \$395. LSL 326-5757.

CENTRAL Downtown, on 6th street, FREE gas/cable, wood floors, large dogs ok, 1-1 \$565 Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

CENTRAL Downtown/Congress restaurant & shopping district Flat. Custom Saltillo tile, exposed brick wall. 1BDRM Flat \$625! 2BDRM Flat (city skyline view)! \$800! Call Team Leasing 416-8333.

CENTRAL Enfield, 1/1 \$725, 1/1 w/ loft \$825. Assigned covered parking, Stackable W/D included, Call 469-0925

CENTRAL Downtown lofts and flats with wood/concrete floors, 1bd loft (hardwood floor) \$1445, 1bed garden style \$1045, 2bd loft (hardwood floor) \$2500, 2bd traditional \$1645, studio garden style \$1255, fitness center, roof top terrace, pool, direct access to hike/bike trail, shops, and eateries. Chris Bee 236-1116, www.avignonrealty.com.

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CENTRAL Hyde Park Studio, \$395. Free utilities plus \$99 first month's rent! Call Team Leasing 416-8333.

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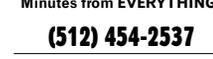
CENTRAL FashionAire Apartments @ 1405 W. North Loop 1/1's starting at \$525, apartment homes beautifully situated around courtyard with sparkling pool. Approx. 700 SF. 452-2245 for appt. (Beck & Co. R.E.S., Inc.)

CENTRAL HYDE PARK CHARM. Huge floor plan. 1/1s only \$525, 2BDs from \$675, gas/cable PABD, on UT Shuttle. Covered parking. Apartmentheadquarters.com 1-888-583-9393 or 442-9333.

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CENTRAL FREE RENT! \$45 moves you in!
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 1BDRM... \$625
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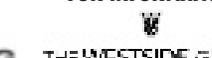
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CENTRAL Near Downtown/UT Cute, cozy 1/1 condo in small, quiet complex, all appl., reserved parking, greenhouse window, CA/CH, quiet property, cats welcome! \$525. 3206 King #202. Matthews Properties, 454-0099, Nancy 914-1233, nancylemons@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Owner Managed NW Hills! Gas & H2O pd. Credit no problem. \$550+ 231-9888 <http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm>



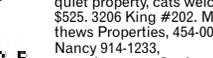
CENTRAL Hyde Park Village Bargain! 2/1 and 2/2 from \$795, pool & covered parking, 451-2599

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CENTRAL Near Downtown/UT Cute, cozy 1/1 condo in small, quiet complex, all appl., reserved parking, greenhouse window, CA/CH, quiet property, cats welcome! \$525. 3206 King #202. Matthews Properties, 454-0099, Nancy 914-1233, nancylemons@yahoo.com

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CENTRAL/UT CAMPUS - Red River Place: eff. \$395, 1/1 \$500
CENTRAL/TARRYTOWN - 2/2.5 Condo w/ fireplace, \$1100
NW/McNEIL - 2/1 garage, w/d conn., \$850
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THE COMMON LAW
 by Luke Ellis

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

LAW CAN BE FUN - ATTEND 'EXPLORE UT' AT THE LAW SCHOOL

Anyone interested in the law should think about attending Explore UT this Saturday on the UT-Austin campus. Explore UT is a free event that invites Texans to experience the rich resources of a world-class university. Law school dean Bill Powers is the chair of the open house, which offers more than 300 hands-on activities and presentations.

Visitors to Explore UT can attend activities throughout campus, including at the Law School, where participants can learn how to prevent identity theft, hear law graduates discuss the many careers available with a law degree, and listen to the history of the adoption of the U.S. Constitution by professor Calvin Johnson. They will also have an opportunity to hear Texas Reps. Patrick Rose (D-Dripping Springs) and Richard Raymond (D-Laredo), currently UT law students, discuss legislation at the Texas Capitol, and professor Douglas Laycock explain cases now before the U.S. Supreme Court on government displays of the Ten Commandments.

Children (and the young at heart) can serve as jurors in a mock trial where "Gold E. Locks" is the defendant and the Honorable Edward Prado of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals is the presiding judge, have their picture taken in the state-of-the-art Eidman Courtroom wearing a judge's robe and banging a gavel, and meet Judge Elena Diaz, Travis County justice of the peace. Law School staff will read books aloud in Spanish and English at law library story time. There will also be tours and a session on the law school application process.

Events will take place, rain or shine, between 11am and 5pm on Sat., March 5, at The UT Law School (727 E. Dean Keeton). Check out www.utexas.edu/events/exploreut for a schedule of all programs offered at Explore UT, including times and locations, directions to campus, and parking.

Next week we'll get back to addressing legal issues, so be sure to read "The Common Law" to find out who gets to keep the engagement ring when the wedding is called off.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

**APARTMENTS/
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CENTRAL Now Pre-leasing. Walk to UT. Eff. \$405 & 1/1 \$545. Available now. Call 469-0925 to see.

CENTRAL No Deposit/App. Creative floorplan featuring dry bar, private deck, W/D. Hidden and quiet! 1 BR from \$450, 2BR \$625. WL 480-3100.

CENTRAL PRICE REDUCED! Barton Hills 2-1.5 twnhm, unique floorplan. lots of light, great view, small yard, 2 decks, W/D incl. Walk to Zilker. 567-4276. http://www.gimmeshelterlocators.com

CENTRAL Quaint, wooded setting. Giant, private deck hidden by trees. Garden tubs, cathedral ceilings. Studios \$395, 1/1 \$445, 2/2 \$615. WL 480-3100

CENTRAL STYLISH - Large efficiency in a terrific community. Huge dressing room/closet. Glass enclosed porch. Covered parking. Walk to UT, downtown. 1700 Nueces. \$550. 451-0414. Avail. 4/1.

CENTRAL South Riverside, \$49 Move-In, All Sizes, 1BRs \$425, Bus Line. APARTMENT EXPERTS South 416-8100, North 339-4411. http://www.apartmentexperts.com Agent

CENTRAL Rosedale charmer 2/2 house. Upgraded cabinets, new carpet/vinyl. Deck, huge trees! \$1295mo. Call MRG 443-2526.

CENTRAL Shoal Creek Serenity! \$99 1st month. 1-1 \$485, huge 2 bedroom \$625. 692-4525 http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm

CENTRAL Exclusive downtown condo in heart of restaurant/shopping district. W/D included! 1/1 flat... \$725, 2BDRM Townhouse... \$875. Call TEAM LEASING, 416-8333.

CENTRAL On Town Lake Hike-and-Bike trail. Ceramic tile, modern appliances, free cable! Big 1BDRM \$455. Huge 2/2. \$555! Call TEAM LEASING. 416-8333.

CENTRAL Town Lake Towers w/dwntwn view. 2bds starting at \$600. Call to view. 512-765-3747. Texas Apartment Locators. dris@texasapt.com

CENTRAL Walk to UT. Gated community. Pool & basketball, \$449. Relocation Central 443-3000

CENTRAL Walk UT. Stylish 1-1. Small, west campus complex, open to view, 2514 Pearl #103. 924-3993

CENTRAL Walk to Central Market, FREE gas/trash, 1bd \$499, 2bd \$629. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

CENTRAL Walk to Town Lake, Bouldin Creek views, FREE gas/cable, \$250 deposit, large 1bd \$625. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

CENTRAL Zilker Park loft. 1bdm \$550. 2brdm, \$975. Call for appt, 785-DRIS. Texas Apartment Locators. dris@texasapt.com

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- We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.

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Austin Apartment Store

LAKE AUSTIN CONDO \$550

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- Any price range.
- Best specials.
- Fast friendly service.
- We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.

Give us a call at 828-4470.

NORTH \$99 Total move-in + look & lease! Great Arboretum location, W/D conn, lots of amenities. 1-1 starting at \$480. Agent 916-0916 http://www.gimmeshelterlocators.com

NORTH CENTRAL Half off 1 mo. rent, charming villa, spacious interior, big dogs ok, fitness/sauna facilities, 1-1 \$470, 2-1 \$594, 2-2 \$670, 2-2.5 \$715. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTH CENTRAL 14 days-1 month FREE rent! \$99 deposit, close to Highland Mall, w/d con, 1bd \$425, 2bd \$605, 2bd townhome \$645. Chris Bee 236-1116, www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTH Credit Solution! Large Pets OK! Eff. \$375, 1/1 \$415, 2 bed \$580 692-4525 http://www.apartmentlocating.com

NORTH CENTRAL 7801 Shoal Creek, near Anderson Ln, 1 Bdrm-1Ba, pool & laundry facility on site. Covered parking. \$525. 474-1470

NORTH CENTRAL No deposit, \$35 admin fee, \$300 off first month! Instant approval, wood floors, access to downtown, near Highland mall, pools/hot tubs, covered parking, 1bd \$470, 2bd \$600. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTH EZ Dwntwn access! \$0dep, \$0app, 1-1 \$400 W/D conn. 231-9888 http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm

NORTH Fabulous 4-plex! 2's \$515, 3-2 \$690 Paid H2O. Won't last! 692-4525 http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm

NORTH Great location, on 14 acres of wooded property, low deposit, eff \$375, 1bd \$415, large 1bd \$450, 2bd \$580, large 2bd \$599. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

CENTRAL Spacious 1/1 condo - deck, covered parking, CA/CH, beautiful landscaping, laundry on-site. Gas heating, cooking, hot water, water and garbage paid. Quiet community, \$525. 7801 Shoal Creek #255 (off Anderson Ln.), Matthews Properties 454-0099, Nancy 914-1233, nancyemmons@yahoo.com

CENTRAL UT Campus. Red River Place Aptmnts. Eff and 1-1s starting at \$395.00 Avail NOW!! Across from UT Law, Laundry on-site. The Taylor Company 512-481-8600

CENTRAL STUNNING DOWNTOWN LOFT, 9th floor, river view, balcony, many decorator features, all appliances incl w/d, 2/2, 1900 sf, controlled access, parking garage, rooftop pool. Guadalupe at Fifth St. \$2450. 451-0414

CENTRAL Truly Austin!!!! Cool Congress Living in the middle of it all! All bills paid \$545 + Apartment Experts South 416-8100, North 339-4411. http://www.apartmentexperts.com agent

CENTRAL Vintage Travis Heights neighborhood. Great pool/courtyard. Cable pd. \$299 move-in. Large 1/1 \$450, 2 bdrm \$575, townhomes \$750. LSL 326-5757.

CENTRAL Tarrytown, Spacious 2/2 apartment. Large kitchen with dishwasher, microwave, and plenty of cabinet space. Ceiling fans. Ceramic tile in bathroom. Lots of closet space. Assigned parking. On-site laundry. Pool. Includes BASIC CABLE! Avail. March. 451-0414

CENTRAL Walk to Campus! All bills paid. Free cable, Free DSL. Call Courtney, agt, for prices. 512-799-9698.

CENTRAL Walk to Zilker Park/Aud. Shores. Tile/stone floors, 2BD only \$900 plus 1 mo free. Call NOW! 258-8224.

CENTRAL Walk to Town Lake, Bouldin Creek views, FREE gas/cable, \$250 deposit, large 1bd \$625. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

CENTRAL Walk to UT, 1/1 condo, reserved parking! Water, trash paid, \$525mo. MRG 443-2526.

CENTRAL Zilker Park loft. 1bdm \$550. 2brdm, \$975. Call for appt, 785-DRIS. Texas Apartment Locators. dris@texasapt.com

EAST Eastside Commons Apts. 2401 Manor Rd, \$199 Move-In Special for 1/1 or \$299 Move-In Special for 2/2. Pool, spa, newly remodeled & under new management. Close to UT & Shuttle-great for students! 5% discount for Students Call 512-478-5353

ELGIN 2/1, early 1900's duplex, big windows wood-floors, ceiling fans. big trees great yard. \$575. 203-4879

LAKE AUSTIN WESTLAKE- near 360 bridge, eclectic Lake Austin waterfront cove, 2-1, plus ofc., plus loft. stone FR, concrete finished floors, hard woods, good pets considered, shared yard, boat slip optional. \$1395. Wendy agent, 916-0018

METRO Lowest Prices, eff's \$299, 1-1 \$350, 2 bed \$500, 3 bedroom \$620, 4 bedrooms \$800. APARTMENT EXPERTS North 339-4411 South 416-8100 agent

NORTH \$99 move-in, Artist Loft with skylights \$439, eff's from \$349, 1-1 \$419, 2 bedroom \$599. APARTMENT EXPERTS North 339-4411 South 416-8100 agent

NORTH 2-2/2 1204 sf townhome \$635, 676sf 1 bed \$399, 1036sf roommate plan only \$600. APARTMENT EXPERTS North 339-4411 South 416-8100 agent

NORTH 1st time renters, large dogs ok, w/d con, pools, fitness center, balconies, \$99 deposit/app fee, 1bd \$420, 2bd \$599. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTH Minutes Away From Downtown, 1/1 starting at \$495, Basic Cable & Trash Included. Call 469-0925.

NORTH W/D in all units, access to Mopac/I-35, 1-1 \$480 plus \$99 total move-in special, 2-2 \$689 plus \$299 move-in special, wood floors (+\$50). Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

RARE BARTON SPRINGS 78704!

STUDIO... \$439
1BDRM... \$549
2BDRM... \$639

Free gas cooking, plus 1 month free!

2 BDRM TOWNHOUSE \$555

Huge... Over 1,000sqft plus private deck!

Zilker Park 1BDRM, huge deck... \$609!
2BDRM FLAT... \$690!
Large pets welcome!
Call Team Leasing
416-8333

CENTRAL Spacious 1/1 condo - deck, covered parking, CA/CH, beautiful landscaping, laundry on-site. Gas heating, cooking, hot water, water and garbage paid. Quiet community, \$525. 7801 Shoal Creek #255 (off Anderson Ln.), Matthews Properties 454-0099, Nancy 914-1233, nancyemmons@yahoo.com

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Small, quiet owner-managed properties. Newer carpet & appliances. 1BDRM and STUDIO apartments from \$395. Same day move-in! \$199 deposit including app. fees!

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CENTRAL Walk to Campus! All bills paid. Free cable, Free DSL. Call Courtney, agt, for prices. 512-799-9698.

EAST Eastside Commons Apts. 2401 Manor Rd, \$199 Move-In Special for 1/1 or \$299 Move-In Special for 2/2. Pool, spa, newly remodeled & under new management. Close to UT & Shuttle-great for students! 5% discount for Students Call 512-478-5353

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NORTH Minutes Away From Downtown, 1/1 starting at \$495, Basic Cable & Trash Included. Call 469-0925.

NORTH W/D in all units, access to Mopac/I-35, 1-1 \$480 plus \$99 total move-in special, 2-2 \$689 plus \$299 move-in special, wood floors (+\$50). Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

TEAM LEASING

PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK!

CENTRAL

- Price drop! Hardwood upgrades, completely remodeled 700 sq. ft. 1 bedroom, \$400! 1,000 sq. ft. 2 bedroom, \$521! Free utilities.
- Exclusive downtown SoCo. Open studio, 1 BDRM \$750, all bills paid! 2 bedroom townhouse, washer/dryer included, most bills paid! \$875.
- 78704 studio flat. Cheap & central!! \$365
- Tarrytown/Clarksville small complex with hardwood floors, gas cooking & free cable. \$565.
- Classic, Bouldin Creek, hardwood floors, 1BDRM \$600, 2 BDRM flat \$695
- Industrial warehouse apartments, stained concrete floors throughout, open studio, \$439. 1 bedroom, \$539. 2 bedroom, \$649. Artist's Paradise! 4 bedroom, \$1099
- 1950's Downtown Congress studio flat, all bills paid, \$750!
- Hyde Park 1 bedroom, W/D connection, plus free high-speed internet, unbelievable! \$75

SOUTH CENTRAL

- Barton Springs, hardwood floors, 2BDRM, \$750! Free utilities!
- Travis Heights! Huge 1BDRM, 700sqft \$525. 2BD Townhouse \$700! Walk to Stacy Park! Lowest price in years! Plus \$99 first month!
- BIG DOG friendly apartments right behind Zilker Park & Barton Creek Hike and Bike Trails. HUGE private deck. 1 bedroom \$629. 2 bedroom \$690.
- Price Drop. washer/dryer connections in all units! 1 bedroom \$440. 2 bedroom \$625. Vaulted ceilings, private patios, pool and jacuzzi.
- Barton Hills Studio... \$439! 2 bedroom flat, \$639, rare find! Central living and free gas cooking!
- Huge 2 bedroom townhouse \$545 (over 1000 sqft!) Huge private deck!

CALL FOR SHOW!
416-8333

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Apartments NOW!

Austin's Relocation Experts
Current rental specials

\$99 move in! No rent 'til Jan 05! 2/2.5 TH \$600, 1bd \$425 Hike and bike trails, creekside views, 1bd \$475, 2bd \$650, big dogs OK.

\$75 moves you in! No Rent 'til Jan 05! W/D provided, gated, giant hot tub! 1bd \$460, 2bd \$699.

Budget special, easy credit, large 1bd, \$373, 2bd \$530. Nice & affordable 1bd. \$450, lg 2/2 \$640, W/D provided, gym, hot tub, move in specials.

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Unique, hardwoods, concrete floors, high ceilings.

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Specials as low as:

Efficiency.....	\$319
1 bedroom.....	\$408
2 bedrooms.....	\$599

All areas and price ranges **Call 828-4470**
Rebate subject to approval of all parties

Lone Star

OLTORF - Gated seclusion. No app/dep, w/d conn, from \$450

ZILKER - Split level loft, \$590, 2/2 \$900 with W/D

SOUTH LAMAR - Studio \$439, 1/1 \$549, 2/1 \$599

SOUTH CONGRESS - Loft \$535, 1/1 \$475, 2/1.5 condo with free cable \$875. All have w/d incl.

326-5757
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"Available 24/7."

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dris@texasapt.com

Featured Properties of the Week

Central Sexy 6th St. Lofts. 1BD \$560, 2BD \$795	North 2 Bdrm \$560 \$200 Gets the key!
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ALL TEXAS Apartment Locators

NORTH Pay rent w/credit cards! 2 bed \$485. Big dogs welcome. 692-4525 <http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm>

NORTH Rents slashed! Free Cable & HBO. 1/1 \$419; 2/2 \$624. 231-1400 Broker

NORTH Sparkling pools/spa, stained concrete floors, gas paid, metro bus, pets welcome, low deposit, 1bd \$472, 2bd \$546, 3bd \$700. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTH Victorian style townhomes. Low Move-In. 1/1 \$450; 2/1 \$550; 2/1.5 \$650. 231-1400 Agent

NORTH We locate what you want! Complete Inventory! Rebates up to \$150! Advantage Austin Locators 418-0594 or 877-418-0594 <http://www.advantageaustin.com>

NORTH Wells Branch Bargain. 1-1 \$390, 2-2 \$599. W/D connections. 231-9888 <http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm>

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\$99 MOVE IN
<http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com>

- Anywhere in Austin area.
 - Any price range.
 - Best specials.
 - Fast friendly service.
 - We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.
- Give us a call at 828-4470.**

NORTHEAST 1 mo. FREE rent, \$100-\$200 deposit, spacious floorplans, full size w/d con, minutes from downtown, on capital metro route, 2-1 \$575, 2-2 \$625, 3-2 \$699. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTHEAST \$99 move-in special, \$35 app fee, hill country retreat, fitness center, sports court, w/d con, remodeled interiors, eff \$449, 1bd \$499, 2bd \$689. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

AVIGNON REALTY

NORTHWEST West Mopac 1st 6 weeks free!! nice eff \$449, 1-1 \$499, awesome 2-2 with Washer/Dryer \$699. APARTMENT EXPERTS North 339-4411 South 416-8100 agent

NORTHWEST Luxury properties all amenities and with attached garages 1 bedrooms from \$499, 2 bedrooms from \$725, 3 bedrooms \$950. APARTMENT EXPERTS North 339-4411 South 416-8100 agent

NORTHWEST
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HARDWOOD FLOORS
WASHER AND DRYER INCLUDED \$550

See narrated video tour and thousands of photos and floor plans @ <http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com> or call 828-4470 for current availability.

NORTHWEST Arboretum small quiet community 1-1 \$399, 2-2 \$599, pool. APARTMENT EXPERTS North 339-4411 South 416-8100 agent

NORTHWEST Best prices 1-1 \$400, 2 bedroom \$499, 3 bedroom \$680. APARTMENT EXPERTS North 339-4411 South 416-8100 agent

NORTHWEST Best prices 1-1 \$400, 2 bedroom \$499, 3 bedroom \$680. APARTMENT EXPERTS North 339-4411 South 416-8100 agent

NORTHWEST Too good of a deal to pass up! A gated, luxury apt for only \$499. 1-1 w/study, \$650, 2-2 w/garage \$725. LSL 326-5757.

NORTHWEST 6 WEEKS FREE! Brand new luxury, high speed net. 1/1 \$525, 2bed \$625. 692-4525 <http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm>

NORTHWEST 3bdm-2 full bath, newly remodelled, Malaga condos. \$875/mo. No Smokers. 210-218-6229.

NORTHWEST Any Big Dog Welcome! Arbor 2-2 \$600! = W/D conn. Sport Court. 231-9888 <http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm>

NORTHWEST We locate what you want! Complete Inventory! Rebates up to \$150. Advantage Austin Locators 418-0594 or 877-418-0594 <http://www.advantageaustin.com>

NORTHWEST Cozy NW 4-Plex. Near Arboretum. Great Roomate plan. 2-2 \$595 231-9888 <http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm>

NORTHWEST Oversized TH's - Flats \$362, 2/2 1380sf \$679, 3-3 1618sf \$813. 231-9888 <http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm>

NORTHWEST Hardwood Floors! Far West area \$397! 692-4525 www.apartmentlocating.com

NORTHWEST Best Deal in NW Austin! Nearby shops/major employers/entertainment, pool/hot tub, fitness center, w/d con, no deposit, 1-1 \$435, 2-1 \$600, 2-2 \$655. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTHWEST \$200 off 1st Month rent! Arboretum, nestled in oak trees, near major employers/malls, 1bd \$455. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTHWEST Austin's oasis paradise, near Lake Travis, gourmet island kitchen, 1-1 \$540, 2-1 \$642, 2-2 \$777, 3-2 \$873. Chris Bee 236-1116. www.avignonrealty.com.

AVIGNON REALTY

NORTHWEST \$299 move-in special, great location, 1bd \$470, 2bd \$575 w/d conn, fitness center, pool. Chris Bee 236-1116. www.avignonrealty.com.

AVIGNON REALTY

NORTHWEST No deposit, \$15 app fee, \$50 admin fee, secluded paradise, heated spa, big closets, tennis court, 1bd \$449, 1bd w/study \$619, 2bd \$719. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTHWEST \$100-\$200 deposit, fitness center, covered parking, pools, tennis courts, sand volleyball, 1bd \$445, loft \$520, 1-1 study \$599, 2-1 \$849, 2-2 \$689. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTHWEST Great discounts upon application, condo design, golf course, fitness center, pool, 1bd \$449. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTHWEST ARBORETUM, \$150 deposit, washer/dryer, walking distance to shopping/major employers. breathtaking views of Austin Hill Country, 1-1 study \$650, 2-2 \$750. Chris Bee 236-1116. www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTHWEST ARBORETUM, \$99 deposit, washer/dryer, walking distance to shopping/major employers. breathtaking views of Austin Hill Country, 1bd + study \$665, 2-2 \$740. Chris Bee 236-1116. www.avignonrealty.com.

AVIGNON REALTY

NORTHWEST \$99 Move-in Special! Arboretum, nestled in oak trees, near major employers/malls, 1bd \$485. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

NORTHWEST Woodwind Village Townhomes \$99.00 Look & Lease!

Northwest townhomes with garages and fenced yards, microwaves, fireplaces. Trash paid. Yards maintained. Round Rock ISD. 2 & 3 bedrooms available!
12304C Abney 2-2.5-1 \$675
12312D Abney 3-2.5-1 \$725
8902D Schick 3-2.5-1 \$725
8912D Schick 2-2-1 \$625
Neighborhood Realty
257-7965 or 923-7685
NeighborhoodRealty.com

PEBBLE CREEK Lg. Dogs & Brkn lease OK! Jr. 1bd \$375, 2-1 \$580 231-9888 <http://www.apartmentlocating.com/main.htm>

SOUTH Beautiful huge 1-1, W/D incl, G-belt access. \$545. 2-2, \$745. Plus student discounts. 567-4276. <http://www.gimmeshelterlocators.com>

SOUTH Barton Hills Lofts & Efficiencies, skylights, pool, trees, small courtyard comm. Walk to Zilker. \$510-\$590. APARTMENT EXPERTS South 416-8100, North 339-4411.

<http://www.apartmentexperts.com> agent

SOUTH \$99 total move in. Starting at \$425. Minutes from downtown. UT Townlake, all the cool restaurants. Free cable, gas paid. APARTMENT EXPERTS South 416-8100, North 339-4411.

<http://www.apartmentexperts.com> agent

SOUTH
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LAKESIDE LIVING
minutes to downtown and university, great access to hike and bike trails, move-in special. See narrated video tours and thousands of pictures/floorplans for this property @ <http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com> or call 828-4470 for current availability.

SOUTH \$99 MOVE IN, MARCH or April. 1 bdrm, \$450. 2 bdrm, \$550. Wood decks. 785-3747. Texas Apartment Locators. dris@texasapt.com

SOUTH #1 Cool large 2/2 near Central Market. Small property, large closets, courtyard, cable paid, \$587! 693-7231 <http://Austinincool.com>

SOUTH Best Deal in South Austin! \$99 1st mo. rent, basic cable paid, on UT shuttle, eff \$375, 1-1 \$405, 2-1 \$495, 2-2 \$555. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

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See narrated video tours and thousands of pictures & floor plans to hundreds of properties at:

- <http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com>
- Anywhere in Austin area.
 - Any price range.
 - Best specials.
 - Fast friendly service.
 - We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.
- Give us a call at 828-4470.**

SOUTH
PRICE DROP! HUGE 15FT DECK!

Heavily wooded community. Studio, \$385. 1BDRM w/ oversized garden tub, custom cabinetry, cathedral ceilings. \$454 Rent!!!

2BDRM/2BA \$614!
OVERSIZED DECKS ON ALL!

Completely remodeled 1BDRM, huge 700sqft! Free cable, \$400!

HUGE 2BDRM Townhouse in 78704, large private porch, over 1,000sqft... \$495!
(Over 1,000sqft!)
TEAM LEASING
416-8333

TEAM LEASING

SOUTH 1,000 sq ft townhomes. \$495. Easy access to Hwy 71, I35 & MoPac. Studios \$450. LSL 326-5757.

SOUTH 2-2, free Joe Weider work out machine, jacuzzi. 6 month. lease available, \$629/month. 936-662-5751.

SOUTH 2BR/1BA in newly renovated building. Dish, washer, central air, tile, W/D hook-ups, frpl. Manchaca/ Slaughter \$600 417-9593.

SOUTH 1 month FREE rent! Spacious 2-2.5 townhome \$680 with 1250sqft, 3-2.5 townhome \$816 with 1450sqft, standard cable included, private fenced patio, 24-hour maintenance, beautiful landscape, small comfortable community. Avignon Realty 236-0002. www.avignonrealty.com.

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SOUTH CENTRAL
AWESOME PRICES & GREAT SPECIALS

Complete list of specials and availability. Free service with 1000's of pictures and floor plans

STUDIO...\$375
1-1...\$399
2-1...\$535
2-2...\$545
3-2...\$695

APARTMENT EXPERTS
416-8100

APARTMENT EXPERTS

SOUTH \$99 MOVE IN FEB OR MARCH. 2BD \$ 555 ON BUS LINE. 512-785-3747 Texas Apartment Locators.

SOUTH Barton-Zilker Eanes, Wooded hill-side living, big dogs ok, 1 br \$555, 2 br. \$640. Agent: 694-3899 <http://www.urbanAustinliving.com>

SOUTH Art deco apts, stained concrete floors, painted design walls, Jacuzzi bathtubs, UT Shuttle, 1bd \$539, 2bd \$599. Chris Bee 236-1116. www.avignonrealty.com.

WOODWIND VILLAGE TOWNHOMES
\$99.00 Look & Lease!

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NORTHWEST
Lowest prices Round Rock! 1-1 \$399, 2BD \$599, 3BD \$758
Attach garage best price! 1-1 \$525, 2-2 \$700, 3-2 \$930
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Town Lake and greenbelt trails right outside your doorstep.

AMENITIES INCLUDE:

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CONDOS FOR RENT**

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SOUTH Brand new apts, close to downtown, Town Lake hike/bike trails, dining, entertainment, shopping, major employers, 1bd \$630, 1bd+study \$699, 2bd \$820, 3bd \$965. Chris Bee 236-1116, www.avignonrealty.com.



SOUTH
\$99 TOTAL MOVE-IN!
(includes all deposits and 1st month rent!)

Completely remodeled.
LARGE 700SQFT 1BDRM.... \$475

HUGE 1,000SQFT 2BDRM... \$545
Modern appliances.

Resort-style pool & gameroom!
TEAM LEASING 416-8333



SOUTH Barton Springs 1BDRM \$580, 2BDRM \$645. Creekviews and huge private deck! Large pets welcome! Call Team Leasing, 416-8333.

SOUTH Big and cheap 1BDRM, \$365! Small courtyard, free gas cooking, vaulted ceiling and back porch! Call Team Leasing 416-8333.

SOUTHWEST On Zilker Greenbelt. Unique 3-story townhouse w/private garage entry, \$980. Call Team Leasing, 416-8333.

SOUTH ALL BILLS PAID, South Austin Convenience, Bus line, Shopping, Hike and Bike Trails, UT Shuttle available. \$520-\$600 APARTMENT EXPERTS South 416-8100, North 339-4411. www.apartmentexperts.com Agent

SOUTH CENTRAL Look/Lease special- \$99 deposit+ app fee, lakefront, city skyline views, no app fee, enjoy downtown living at its best, large 1bd \$650, 2bd \$725, 3bd \$900. Chris Bee 236-1116, www.avignonrealty.com.



SOUTH CENTRAL Best Deal in South Austin! Near shops/cafeterias, small dogs welcome, low deposit, no app fee, 1-1 \$499, 2-1 \$779. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.



SOUTH CENTRAL, heavily wooded, wrap around deck, Hollywood bath, \$394+ Agent 785-4481

SOUTH CENTRAL Small quiet community. Efficiencies \$395mo. \$99 total move-in! Giant Oaks, 515 Krebs. MRG - 443-2526.

SOUTH CENTRAL Travis Heights, FREE cable, UT shuttle, 1-1 \$599, 2-1 \$650, 2-2 \$799, 3-2 townhome \$1100. Chris Bee 236-1116, www.avignonrealty.com

SOUTH Desperate south-central property owners seek tenants. From \$399. LSL 326-5757.

SOUTH CENTRAL \$49 move-in special! Best kept secret near downtown, spacious interiors, nice views, 1bd \$485, 2bd \$646. Chris Bee 236-1116, www.avignonrealty.com.

HISTORIC TRAVIS HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD \$99 TOTAL MOVE-IN!
(Includes 1st month's rent, 1BDRM...\$540
2BDRM... \$650

1BDRM (W/D included) on Barton Creek Hike & Bike Trail... \$520!
Stained Concrete Floor 1BDRM... \$459!
2BDRM... \$549!
On Hike-and-Bike trail!
Team Leasing 416-8333



SOUTH CIRCLE THIS! \$129 total move in. 1-1 starting @ \$435. 2-2 \$595. Includes most bills. Big dogs OK. Mandy, 468-7891. http://www.gimmeshelterlocators.com

SOUTH GOING FAST! Luxury apartments. Select units, some w/yards & garages. \$99 MI with \$250 off 1st month rent. 1-1 \$632. Heather, 512-468-4030, agt.

SOUTH MOST BILLS PAID! \$99 move in. (+ app) Nice 1bdrms starting at \$415. Mandy, 468-7891, http://www.gimmeshelterlocators.com

SOUTH CENTRAL BIG DOG friendly apartments right behind Zilker Park and Barton Creek Hike and Bike Trails. HUGE private deck. 1 bedroom \$599, 2 bedroom \$690, Call Team Leasing 416-8333

SOUTH South Central/Travis heights, samll community studio... \$425. Walk to Stacy Park. Bouldin Creek small complex, hardwood floors. 1/1, \$650, 2/1, custom tile floors, \$650, (cable paid on both) Call Team Leasing, 416-8333.

SOUTH Gated Seclusion. No app/deposit. W/D conn. Most bills paid. 1 bdrm \$430, 2 bdrm \$625. LSL 326-5757.

SOUTH Lakeside, huge size 1BR \$445 & 2BR \$545, w/FREE CABLE, gated, hike & bike trail. APARTMENT EXPERTS South 416-8100, North 339-4411. http://www.apartmentexperts.com agent

SOUTH One Bedroom Apartment sublease in South Austin. Camden Briar Oaks. Contact for more information: 214-316-6337.

SOUTH ONE MONTH FREE! Lrg 1/1 700 + sq. ft. only \$495. Water, wastewater, trash, gas heat/cooking and hot water all PAID! Also Look & lease special. Credit Concerns? No problem! Agent 916-0916 http://www.gimmeshelterlocators.com

SOUTH Unique studio w/ large kitchen & patio. Park-like setting. Walk to shopping, restaurants, \$414 plus 1/2 mo. free. 1/1 \$502, 2/1 \$614. LSL 326-5757.

SOUTH Walk to Central Market. 1000sf townhome. New carpet. FP Balcony. \$199 total move-in. \$695. LSL 326-5757.

SOUTH Hip, modern S. Lamar apt \$595. Urban accents, concrete floors. FREE cable & high speed internet. WL 480-3100

SOUTH SOCO near St. Eds, 1 bedroom loftstyle townhome, w/tile floors, privately fenced patio yard, CACH, FP, good pets considered, 1/2 mo FREE. \$595. Agent Wendy, 916-0018

SOUTH SoCo Flats- \$425, Lofts- \$535, 2/1s- \$625, low dep. pets ok. Agent: 694-3899 http://www.urbanaustraliving.com

SOUTH Austin Charm. 1/1, \$475. Water & Trash utilities included. Available now. Call 693-4801 to see.

SOUTH Townhome, 2-1.5, some yards, W/D conn. Gated, FREE Cable \$550+ APARTMENT EXPERTS South 416-8100, North 339-4411. http://www.apartmentexperts.com Agent

SOUTH Urban Living, Guadalupe area, Downtown & South Riverside. All Bills Paid. APARTMENT EXPERTS South 416-8100, North 339-4411. http://www.apartmentexperts.com agent

SOUTH We locate what you want! Complete Inventory! Rebates up to \$150. Advantage Austin Locators 418-0594 or 877-418-0594 http://www.advantageaustin.com

SOUTH Sherwood Apartments @ 710 Oldford Rd. HUGE 1/1 and 2/1 starting at \$495 and \$595. Pool, attentive management, courtyards, tranquil living creekside! Ann 441-3174 Beck and Company R.E.S., Inc.

WEBSITE Browse our classifieds section online! austinchronicle.com

SOUTHWEST Luxury \$199 move in! W/D in every unit, Big Dogs OK, efficiencies from \$395 1/1 from \$475, 2/2s only \$550, pool, ice maker er, weightroom, balcony. 442-9333 / 888-583-9893 ApartmentHeadquarters.com

SOUTHWEST 4/2 Westcreek home. 2000 sq. ft. mother-in-law plan, FP, new paint & appliances, front/back decks, lg. backyard with shed, W/D & fridge incl. Pets neg. 6106 Morning Dew Dr. \$1195 Available now. 512-417-0254



LUXURY TRI-LEVEL TOWNHOMES

nestled in the hills of SW Austin, direct access garages, fantastic amenity package, Eanes ISD. See narrated video tour and thousands of pictures/floorplans for this property @ http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com or call 828-4470 for current availability.

Home Gallery

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Open House Sun. 1-3

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- 3 bedrooms
- 1.5 bath
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Great family home with many updates including pergo and tile flooring and a large sunroom. Centrally located near Central Market, medical areas, and state employers. \$229,500

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Small quiet complex, 706 West 22nd Unit 304, 1BD with large loft that could be 2nd BD, 3 blocks from UT, 1 block to UT shuttle. High ceilings, FP, balcony, all appliances convey, ready for move-in, 2 reserved parking places (1 covered). Also avail. for lease or lease purchase \$127,500. Call **Heritage Group Realty** at 476-5676.

SOUTHWEST, Custom built 4BR on approx. 2/3 acres. Workshop, Covered patio, Formal dining, Aprox. 2000sqft, \$199,900. MLS#3424130. CAPITAL PROP/GMAC 512-658-8035

Reduced \$8,000 - Great Cul de Sac Home in Buttercup Creek 3/2; Home is in wonderful condition; New Carpet throughout home; 1532 sqft. Home Warranty through October 2005; All appliances included - **Reduced to \$118,500;** \$0 down **\$900** a month (with approved credit). See this home on www.787homes.com or call Kyle with Hillhouse Realty, Inc. at 512-663-2925

GREAT SOUTH AUSTIN LOCATION

Minutes to Central Market & Shopping. Walk to elementary school, Grocery stores and shopping. New light fixtures and paint! Vaulted ceiling in the Living room. Spa room off of Kitchen. 2605 Aldford. Great investment property!

Call **Cindy Spears** at Lanier Realty (512) 825-4663. www.cindyspears.com

8721 Minot Circle (MLS 9608479) 3/2, 1 story, 1 owner home that has been kept in great shape, immaculately landscaped, recently painted, carpets and house cleaned top to bottom, sprinkler system, 4 ceiling fans, open kitchen, mother-in-law plan. \$174,500
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COME HOME TO HYDE PARK! 1909 Woodburn House, City Landmark, exquisitely restored family home with six bedrooms, 6.5 baths, (two large master suites), wrap-around porches. 4401 Avenue D. \$949,000
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\$0 Down! Payments as low as \$995 a month!

3 bed/2 bath only 10 minutes from downtown, green & smart built new home! Fabulous stained concrete floors, big front porch w/view, tile bathrooms & much more! Ask about \$5,000 down payment assistance from the city!

Call Chrissy NHS • 748-4650 • www.scouthomes.com

1401 Jennings Branch This white rock limestone home on 5 acres has views for miles. Nestled in a huge grove of oaks and located in Georgetown. Please view my website for details. MLS# 6717354. Priced at \$449,900.

Call Fred Meyers 517.2300 or visit www.fredmeyersaustinhomes.com

1307 CONCHO

DUPLEX. CENTRAL-EAST AUSTIN. \$199,900. 2/1 and 1/1. Hardwoods. Minutes to UT/Downtown. ML# 6987140. Total remodel. Area Specialist.
Agent: 512-469-5999

RE/MAX 11405 POLLYANNA

WALNUT FOREST New Construction. 3 bed/2 bath. All appliances included, fireplace, garage openers, sprinkler system, crown molding. Large trees and privacy fence in backyard. Beautiful home, must come and see! \$148,900.
Call **Sam • ReMax Downtown** at 845-1154 or email sam@myagentsam.com

JUST LISTED

1702 APACHE TRAIL, ROUND ROCK, TEXAS!
JUST LISTED! Spacious 3 br/2ba home with huge Master Suite with sitting area. Open floorplan with fireplace in great room, breakfast bar, oversized master bath with double vanity, formal dining room, deck in backyard, high ceilings, fans, CACH Walk in closets, Charming home. Security and water softening systems. Walk to Elementary School. Awesome residential area. Offered at \$169,500 plus \$3000 Decorator Allowance. Professionally marketed by: Brian Kerman, Habitat Hunters (512) 630-7356 www.briankerman.com

4601 CLAWSON

Area 10, ML#7115913. Drastically Reduced! Tastefully updated kitchen & bath, recently installed carpet & laminate, recent interior doors, paint & more!

Centrally located with easy access to downtown, 71, 360, IH35, Central Market & Yoga Yoga! 3BR/1B, \$140,309!
CALL CRISTINA VALDES AT 512-789-0309. VIRTUAL TOUR AT WWW.CRISTINAVALDES.COM

SOUTHWEST WESTLAKE near 360 bridge, eclectic Lake Austin waterfront cove, 2-1, plus ofc., plus loft, stone FP, concrete finished floors, hardwoods, good pets considered, shared yard, boat slip optional. \$1395. Wendy agent, 916-0018

SOUTHWEST Best deal in Southwest! 1-1 \$495, 2-1 \$595, duplex \$650, limited availabilities. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

SOUTHWEST Look/Lease special - \$50-100 off! W/D included, greenbelt views, gorgeous sunsets, porches/balconies, eff \$505, large 1-1 \$545, 2-2 \$765. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.



SOUTHWEST Look/lease - no app. fee/admin fees! Scenic/short drives to downtown/Zilker park/major employers/Barton Creek Mall, hike and bike trail, Eanes School District, Metro bus, big dogs ok, eff \$495, 1bd \$560, 2-1 \$640, 2-2 \$875. Chris Bee 236-1116, www.avignonrealty.com.

SOUTHWEST Indoor basketball court, aerobics center, studio \$588, 1bd \$615, 1bd study \$707, 2bd \$658, 3bd \$851. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

SOUTHWEST \$300 off March rent! \$300 off March, Greenbelt views, w/d con, fitness center, tennis court, hike/bike trails, 1-1 \$669, 2-1 \$799, 2-2 \$848. Chris Bee 236-1116, www.avignonrealty.com.



SOUTHWEST /Westlake Hills. Loft-style one-bedroom w/ study. Stacked W/D Conn, walk-in closets, vaulted ceilings. Eanes schools. Walk to nearby grocery and restaurants. Available February \$800.00. Call The Taylor Company, Inc. 512-481-8600.

SOUTHWEST
360/MOPAC
Washer/Dryer in all units!
Studio \$430
1 BDRM... \$499
2BDRM... \$630
Lowest price in years!

PRICE DROP
1 BDRM, W/D included.
50ft. from hike & bike trail, \$520!
TEAM LEASING
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SOUTHWEST Beautiful 1800 sq. ft. Victorian 2 story. 3/2-5 plus study. Hardwoods, gas FP, gourmet kitchen, deluxe master suite, home on park like setting. Large fenced yard with storage and tons of live oaks. 2358 Wilson St. \$1695/mo. Avail Now. Call 689-6862.



WEST Bee Cave 4 Plex 1-1 On 2 Stories. Carpet, vinyl flr. Backs to wooded area. Can you imagine. Ready for under \$650! Immaculate ready for immediate move in. CACH, frig. Pets ok! \$25/mo. Avail now! Contact Brian Kerman, Habitat Hunters (512) 630-7356 www.briankerman.com

HOUSE/DUPLEXES FOR RENT

CENTRAL 1 bdrm +loft (possible 2nd bedroom) at Burlison & Olton, hardwood and tile floors, ready for immediate move in. \$575 Call Pmt 476-2673 or 289-4261

CENTRAL \$495/mth. Tarrytown Duplex near Town Lake, newly remodeled Eff. hardwoods, W/D, DW, carport, SPM 478-5588

CENTRAL #1409 Irg-1rg. 1-1 avail. 04/05 \$725. *12512 Limmerick -3/2 hrdwoods available 03/20 \$995. Mason Properties. 343-0853

CENTRAL 2/1, 1950's style, huge front & back yard, hrdwd, EIK, CACH, detached garage, carport, \$1200/mo. avail 2/23. 512-451-9332

CENTRAL 3 bedroom 1 bath WD, AC, yard, stained concrete floors. Close to UT, \$800/mo. Pets ok. 294-4247.

CENTRAL 3/2 duplex, W/D conns., FP, carport, large roommate plan, 4 miles to UT 2 miles to SoCo & 6th St., walk to Town Lake & bus. \$895/mth. 326-9090

CENTRAL 78704: 2br dplx, \$675. 2-1.5 condo, \$800, walk to townlake, 2-2 w/gar, \$850. Pets OK. 627-6374.

CENTRAL 78704! Walk to Barton Springs, hike & bike trail, and Zilker Park! Spacious 2/1 with study, CA/CH, patio, all appliances, indoor W/D connections, covered parking, water paid. Small pets welcome! \$895! 1403-B Barton Hills. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rolando 731-6799, rollolex@yahoo.com

WEBSITE Get the *Austin Chronicle* every day! Check out austinchronicle.com, fresh every Friday, and available 24 hours a day!

CENTRAL March 4. Remodeled, 2-1, New hardwoods, paint, 3821 A. Maplewood. Avail. now! \$750. New Management, 476-6616 or 497-8282.

CENTRAL
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WELCOME HOME LEASING.com
554-2920 cell
450-1526 office
I also have other homes for sale!
WEST CAMPUS! CHEAP!

\$450 Water/Hot Water paid! Efficiency apartments at 709 West 26th St. Small older complex w/ character upstairs & down. Full kitchen, cool bath, onsite laundry.

4508 A AVE H - Hyde Park - 2/1 duplex, approx. 800 sq. ft., Trees, CACH, fridge, stove, DW, W/D conns., privacy-fenced courtyard. \$800

4601 B AVE H Hyde Park - 2/1 duplex, approx. 950 sq. ft., with vintage '70's look, stone patio, detached garage. CACH \$800

6507 HART - Far West - 2 story duplex with 2 BD with 1 full bathroom & 2 half bathrooms approx. 1000 sq. ft. near UT shuttle route. CACH, FP, fridge, stove DW, W/D conns., garage, privacy fenced yard & patio. Lawn maintained by owner \$875

6515 HART - Far West - 2/1.5 duplex with limestone front, FP, fridge, stove DW, W/D conns & privacy fenced yard. Lawn maintained by owner \$825

CENTRAL Available 4/30/05 Beautiful 2BR condo on Enfield. Stained Concrete in living and dining area w/ carpet in Bedrooms. Corner unit with great windows for natural light. Covered garage w/ 2 reserved spaces. Full size Laundry Hook-ups \$1,100/month Call Colin Armstrong, Realtor 512-261-0008.

CENTRAL new area near dwtwn, UT. Fully equipped luxury/view off study, \$1995. Broker, Call 615-3035, Http://SaraMadera.com.

CENTRAL EAST COTTAGE Effic., Hrdwd flrs, tile, AC, W/D, small yard 909 A E.13th st. \$550 +, 482-0896

CENTRAL Delwood! Huge, retro 2/1 duplex, hardwoods, CA/CH, 2 dining, large bedrooms, indoor W/D connections, large trees, yard mowed, small fenced yard, garage (shared). Most pets welcome! \$895. 1105-A Bentwood, Matthews Properties 454-0099, Nancy 914-1233, nancylemmons@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Shoal creek green belt area. 2-2-2, private yard, fireplace, close to medical centers. \$950. 453-9009 owner/agent.

CENTRAL Tarrytown, spacious vintage 1940's 1/1 in 4-plex. Large common yard. Plain outside - great inside. Lots of windows! Quiet neighbors. Cats welcome - no dogs! \$650. 2304-B Enfield, Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rolando 731-6799, rollolex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Hyde Park - quiet cottage community. Spacious 2-2 duplex, CA/CH, all appliances, new carpet/vinyl. Water & gas (heating, cooking, hot water) paid! Laundry on-site. Cats welcome! \$750. 4307 Caswell-B. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rolando 731-6799, rollolex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Tarrytown, quiet 2/1 duplex, large master bedroom, new carpet & vinyl, covered parking, fireplace, CA/CH, large fenced patio, all appliances, indoor W/D connections, outside storage. Small pets welcome! \$850. 2804-A Warren. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Nancy 914-1233, nancylemmons@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Rosedale, cute 2/1, hardwoods, lots of windows, W/D connections, yard maintained, huge country kitchen, 1 garage space. Cats welcome - NO dogs! \$850. 4600-A Rosedale. By appointment. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rolando 731-6799, rollolex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Unique 2/1 4-plex, saltlito tile throughout, vaulted ceilings, private courtyard, CA/CH, skylights, fireplace. Gas heating, cooking, hot water paid. NO W/D connections. Small pets welcome! \$850. 1603 Woodlawn. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rolando 731-6799, rollolex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Large 2/2 Hyde Park duplex, 4503 Ave B, CACH \$950. June 1st. No smokers. 479-6153, 658-4257

CENTRAL Beautiful, all new 4/2, 2100sqft, near downtown/barton springs, spacious, open floor plan, tile floors, travertine countertop, w/d, quiet street, \$1850 all bills paid.

Also available, new 3/2, tile floors, high ceilings, lots of light, covered back/front porch, fenced yard, new appliances including w/d \$1450/mo MUST SEE email for pics. jls_texas@yahoo.com 791-6499

CENTRAL Zilker Park area. Swanky, cozy, contemporary. 2-1 w/ garage, Hrd wds, CACH, granite counters. Must see to appreciate. \$1195. Wendy 916-0018

PROPERTIES FOR LEASE
9616 Nightjar 2-2.5 \$850
2410 Audubon, 2-1 \$990 Available now!
\$99 1st MONTH'S RENT
1500 A Braes Rdg. 2-1 \$695 Tile/No Carpet.

4701 Red River, 1 bdrm/EFF \$450
2041 Wimberly 4-3.5, \$3650
METRO REALTY
479-1300
www.utmetro.com

CENTRAL Shoal creek green belt area. 2-2-2, private yard, fireplace, close to medical centers. \$975. 453-9009 owner/agent.

CENTRAL Unique, very small efficiency duplex. Vaulted ceiling, new carpet, gas & water paid. Quiet, cottage community. Cats welcome - NO dogs! \$425. 4307-G Caswell. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Nancy 914-1233, nancylemmons@yahoo.com

CENTRAL University Hills Area nr. 290 & Berkman Cuts 3-2 home w/garage. Great yard, carpet, vinyl flr. Immaculate. Frig, W/D incl. WOW! Close to everything. CACH. Pets OK! Avail now! \$1030/mo. Contact Brian Kerman, Habitat Hunters (512) 630-7356 www.briankerman.com

CENTRAL 3BR, 2BA house, open kitchen, fenced yard, 2 living areas, fireplace, garage/storage, CA/CH, W/D. Near Manor/183/290, convenient and central, close to schools, shopping. Avail. to show/rent 03/01. \$950/month, pets okay with deposit. 6912 Dubuque, 587-6493.

EAST 1623 Canterbury 2BD/1BTH house, hardwoods, CACH, quiet street, \$750/month, dep. Call 478-7355

EAST 1617 Garden. 2BR/1.5B, house on large lot. \$1300/mo. Historical East Austin dwtwn area. Taste-fully remodeled. Hardwood & ceramic tile flrs, all appliances included, lots of windows & great decks. Walk to the lake and Mr. Natural!! Call Terry Parr, 512-789-8064.

EAST Large 3-2 fourplex, lots of tile, & new carpet! Pets okay. Avail immed. \$695. Call for specials, Monte Davis, Karen Borders, REALTORS 512-585-0043

EAST Small 2-1, remodeled, hardwoods, cut! Pet OK. \$550/mo. avail 4/1. 1307 Al-exander Ave, 78702. 457-0915.

LAKE TRAVIS Beautiful lake front spot. 2-2 mobile, big yard, trees, cove, dock. LTISD, \$800/mo, 261-7724.

LEANDER/ROUND ROCK Leander: 3/2/2 house in Block House CK. New paint, range, d-washer, vinyl. 2706 Tumlinson Fort \$895. RR: 2/1 1 dpx w/recent appliances, trees. 1105 Country Aire- \$595. RR: 3/2/1 dpx w/new floors, lawn svc. 2009/2005/2106 Redwing Way- \$700. Call P.R.E.M. @ 848-4400.

METRO
EANES PROPERTIES North/Northwest
12401 Los Indios #17
Newer, very nice Condo right off of McNeil & 183. 2 BD, 2.5 Bath. \$800/mth. \$600 Dep

South/Southwest
10301 Beard St. Brand New DR Horton Home in Bauerle Ranch. 3 BD, 2.5 bath + 3 living areas. Large fenced yard. \$1450/mth.
1709-B Matthews Ln.
Newer duplex with 3 BDs. 3/5 garage. \$1000/mth + \$750 dep.

4824 Norman Trail. House in Sendera Place. Lots of

MANSION FOR SALE
above Pease Park, 1508 Windsor Road. \$1.75 million. Magnificent home, recently renovated with state-of-the-art materials, craftsmanship, in this great central Austin neighborhood. ML# 3275624
Tom White, Realtor • 694-9632

NEW LISTING
\$0 DOWN
SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE TO OWN THIS BEAUTIFUL "GREEN-BUILT" HOME (COMPLETED 12/04) THAT'S LOADED W/ UPGRADES: 4 BEDROOMS, 2.5 BATHS, HARD TILE, BERBER CARPET, HIGH CEILINGS, LARGE MASTER DOWN, SPACIOUS & OPEN KITCHEN, FENCED AND MUCH MORE! DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS ONE!
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502 NELRAY
UT Area 3/2. Hardwoods. Nice Lot . \$244,900
ML# 6867344. Agent: 512-469-5999

Enfield. Beautiful two story, two bedroom condo. Stained concrete floors down, carpet in bedrooms upstairs. Corner unit with wonderful natural light. Covered garage with two reserved spaces. Minutes from downtown, UT, Lake Austin and Zilker. \$160,000
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The house is a 2 story with 1 bedroom & full bath down. 2 living, 2 dining. 4 BDs total, 3 full BTHs. Utility up. Large treed yard with deck. Fresh paint in & out. \$189,900 in Cherry Creek off of Slaughter/Westgate.
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NORTH

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NORTHWEST 3BR-2Ba. Foreclosure, \$103k. Call Rich, agent. 577-7049. http://www.meglino.com

NORTHWEST Mopac/Duval, 4 Bdrm, 1 story, large tree-house master. Immaculate. \$159,900. Realtex 250-1200

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SOUTH Foreclosure 3/2 \$94K, value=\$140k Investors Dream! Slaughter In yr 2001 762-2466 agt VIEW ALL FORECLOSURES http://www.home-recon.com

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NOTICES



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CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

Cause No. GN302670

TO: AGUERO REYES AND LETICIA M. ORTIZ DEFENDANT(S), in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the 4th day of APRIL, 2005, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of plaintiff(s) filed in the 201st Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 29th day of July, 2003, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number GN302670, in which CLARICE DURHAM PLAINTIFF(S), AND AGUERO REYES AND LETICIA MARTINEZ ORTIZ DEFENDANT(S) And the nature of which said suit is as follows: NEGLIGENCE: BRINGING AN ACTION AND PRAYER FOR JUDGMENT FOR DAMAGES IN A PERSONAL AUTO ACCIDENT THAT OCCURRED JANUARY 19, 2003 AT THE INTERSECTION OF 6300 LAKESHORE AND RIVER-SIDE DRIVE.

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LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

Cause No. GN403059

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF TAN HUA, DECEASED Defendant(s), in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. of the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the 21st day of March, 2005, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 200TH Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 15th day of September, 2004, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number GN403059, in which COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, INC. Plaintiff(s), and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF TAN HUA, DECEASED Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows: BEING A SUIT TO REMOVE CLOUD ON TITLE TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY TO-WIT: LOT SEVENTY (70), BLOCK "H", SPRINGBROOK GLEN SECTION TWO, A SUBDIVISION IN TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT OF RECORD IN VOLUME 102, PAGES 147-149, PLAT RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS.

ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, this the 1st day of February, 2005.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By /s/ Theresa Tran, Deputy REQUESTED BY: MICHAEL BALDASSANO 15000 SURVEYOR BOULEVARD, STE 100 ADDISON, TX 75001

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By /s/ Theresa Tran, Deputy REQUESTED BY: MICHAEL BALDASSANO 15000 SURVEYOR BOULEVARD, STE 100 ADDISON, TX 75001

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 24th day of February, 2005.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR County Clerk Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By Deputy: /s/ M Bryant

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

Cause No. FM501195

TO: RICARDO RODELA and to all whom it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 126TH Judicial District, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION filed in said court on the 25th day of February, 2005, and said suit being number FM501195 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In the Matter of the Marriage of JULIA RODELA AND RICHARD RODELA, ET AL, and In the Interest of MANUEL CHRISTOPHER RODELA, CHILD".

The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD'S interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD'S adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, this the 25th day of February, 2005.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe

P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By /s/ Joyce Machado, Deputy REQUESTED BY: SYLVIA GRIFFITH SANDERS P.O. BOX 80864 AUSTIN, TX 78708-0864 (512) 339-7780

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF RAMONA ARIAS, Deceased, No. 82581 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

GUADALUPE EURESTE alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 22ND day of FEBRUARY, 2005, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said JOHN LEE CONRAD, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate. Said application will be heard

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LEGAL NOTICES

CONTINUED

and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 24th day of February, 2005.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy: /s/ M Bryant

NOTICE

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Doors and Insulations, IFB E050052-DR
Opens: March 7, 2005 @ 11:00 a.m.

Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box

1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge. Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

NOTICE

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Park Concession Operations, RFS S050051-RG
Opens: March 14, 2005 @ 2:00 p.m.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Stokes Administration Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

NOTICE

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS IFB NUMBER: B050035-RV

Notice is hereby given that

sealed bids for the **Re-Work of Travis County Correctional Complex Bldg. 230** located in Del Valle, Texas, will be received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, at the **Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701 until 2:00 P.M., CST, MARCH 23, 2005**, then publicly opened and read aloud. **Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office, will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of bids.**

Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained from the **TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE** A refundable deposit of **\$25.00** in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County," will be required for each set of bid documents that is issued. **The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening.** Copies of plans and specifications may be viewed free of charge in the Travis County Purchasing Office. In addition, plans and specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms indicated in Exhibit 1.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT 10:00 A.M., CST, March 10, 2005 AT THE TRAVIS COUNTY CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX, ACTIVITIES BUILDING 230, 3614 BILL PRICE ROAD, DEL VALLE, TEXAS 78617.

A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment

until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Bidder should use lump sum pricing.

Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards.

The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

NOTICE Ananda Krishna Kurup Ramachandran, (Indian Passport #A2555010) holder, son of Col. T. P. Ramachandran Nair, and resident of 12410 Alameda Trace Cir, Apt 1728, Austin, TX 78727, USA and 10A4, Royal Crest Villaments, Jawahar Nagar, Trivandrum, India have changed my name to Ananda Krishna Ramachandran Kurup. All concerned may please note.

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned

is entitled to satisfy a owner's lien of the goods herein-after described and stored at the following addresses; And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following addresses to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on **Monday, March 14, 2005 at 2:30 P.M.** No one under 16 allowed. Auctioneer: Luther Davis, TX. Lic. #8325. Cash Only.

Uncle Bob's #231
8227 North Lamar
Austin, TX 78753
(512) 833-0855

#757 Eddie Young - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equipment.

Uncle Bob's #276
1251 County Rd. 170
Round Rock, TX 78664
(512) 310-0279

#5318 Ebony L. Knox - misc. boxes

#8206 Nita Patel - household goods, furniture, boxes
#8311 Amanda A. Taborig, desk, microwave, bike, misc. boxes

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE SHURCARD STORAGE CENTERS

Shurgard Storage Centers wishing to avail themselves to the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notice of public sale under said Act to Wit; this sale will be held on **March 23, 2005 beginning at 10:00 am at the Shurgard Storage Center located at 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, Texas.** This sale will continue to each designated address listed below after the completion of each location sale. The property in the storage units at each location in the tenants' name is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's lien. The property contents of all storage units sold at this sale are purchased "AS IS" "WHERE IS" for CASH to the highest bidder. Shurgard Storage Centers reserves the right to refuse any bid or to cancel any public sale advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials. All spaces contain household furniture unless otherwise noted.

SHURCARD STOAAGE CENTERS, 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748 (512)282-9990; Alex Nisbet, George Cox, Mark Duff, Phillis Burgess,

SHURCARD STORAGE CENTERS, 2121 IH 35 South, Austin, TX 78741 (512)693-9733; Tomi Hoover, Mwana Brightwell, Bea Tran, Arthur Redmon, Richard Arndt, Jeff Fisher, Swingles Furniture Rentals.

SHURCARD STORAGE CENTERS, 5220 US 290 West, Austin, TX 78735 (512)892-3037; Elizabeth Bowen, Jon Brink

SHURCARD STORAGE CENTERS, 6726 Bee Caves Road, Austin, TX 78746 (512)327-9113; David Lauer

SHURCARD STORAGE CENTERS, 13675 N. Hwy. 183, Austin, TX 78750 (512)249-0085; Domingo Bautista, Sharon Emery, Brooke Flynt

SHURCARD STORAGE CENTERS, 1517 Round Rock Ave, Round Rock, TX 78681 (512)255-7050; Joe Sharp, Jennifer Morrow, Mark Mendoza, Mark Aro.

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATIONS Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulations: **Maximum Prima Facie Speed Limits on Nuckols Crossing Road in Precinct Four.**

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by

this proposed action may make a written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATIONS Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulations: **Stop sign on Berardi Place at Dies Ranch Road, stop sign on Berardi Place at Corabella Place, stop sign on Trapini Place at Corabella Place, stop sign on Trapini Place at Orsobello Place, stop sign on Plaza Bella Way at FM 2769, stop sign on Di Santis Place at Fiorellino Place, stop sign on Campobasso Place at Fiorellino Place, and stop sign on Campobasso Place at Argento Place in Bella Vista Sections 4 and 5 subdivisions.**

Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas proposes the approval of the following traffic regulations: **stop sign on Magnolia Ranch Cove at Cameron Road in Magnolia Ranch Estates.**

Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas proposes the approval of the following traffic regulations: **stop sign on Turnbony Drive at Pearce Road, stop sign on Malibu Cove at Pappys Way, and stop sign on Lake in Greenhouses on Wake Austin Phase 1.**

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposed action may make a written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Executive Manager of Transportation and Natural Resources Department, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Texas Holdings, LTD., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas property code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, NO CHECKS, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale.

The property will be sold on the **23rd of MARCH, 2005** at each self-storage facility at which it is described below: NO CHILDREN PLEASE.

9:30 a.m. 23 MARCH, 2005 Public Storage @ 1033 E. 41st St., Austin, TX 78751

2045 NAILAH SANKOFA, TV, MATTRESS, MICROWAVE

3079 CATHY SPENCE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

3137 JOHNNY ROBINSON, DRESSER, BOXES, CLOTHES

3166 KAY ORNELAS, VACUUM, CLOTHES, CONTAINERS

4056 DIAHNDRA GRILL, LUGGAGE, BAGS, CONTAINERS

5040 WILLY BROWN, VACUUM, HEATER, BOXES

5085 STEVEN HERNANDEZ, DESK, PRINTER, SOFA

5116 SARAH GONZALES, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

10:30 a.m. 23 MARCH, 2005 Public Storage @ 10100 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753

B084 RENDA MERCER, TV, TRUNK, BOXES

C013 ROSALVA SIFUENTES, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

F001 ESTHER PARALES, DOG HOUSE, LADDER, TABLE

F006 RICHARD MONK, HOT-PLATE, COFFE MAKER, BED

11:30 a.m. 23 MARCH, 2005 Public Storage @ 937 Reini, Austin, TX, 78751

355 SHELIA HURICKS, CLOTHES, PAINTINGS, BOXES

519 DANIEL NORTHCLUTT, FIRE HYDRANT, CHAIR, MICROWAVE

701 BRIDGETT JAMES, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

12:30 p.m. 23 MARCH, 2005 Public Storage @ 8101 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

108 GERARD BELLO, II, HEATER, BACK PACK, BOXES

137 APRIL KING, MICRO-WAVE, BOXES, CLOTHES

176 THOMAS RITTEN-HOUSE, TENNIS RACKETS, TABLE, BOXES

317 MICHAEL SMITH, TRUNK, SPEAKERS, COMPUTER

517 LISA MURRY, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

578 R.D. MOFFETT, TABLE, BOOKCASE, DRESSER

1053 SANDRA WILSON, SOFA, TABLE, CHAIR

3121 LATITIA TURNER, DRESSER, MIRROR, NIGHT STAND

3214 RICHARD HAWN, GUITAR, FAN, MICROWAVE

1:30 p.m. 23 MARCH, 2005 Public Storage @ 8525 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

E050 LOUIS TORRES, JR., TV, BOXES, CLOTHES

H014 MILTON TODD, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

H049 BRENDA CARRINGTON, LOVE SEAT, SOFA, END TABLE

J019 SHARON BROWN, WINE RACK, CHAIRS, DRESSER

2:00 p.m. 23 MARCH, 2005 Public Storage @ 8128 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

C031 DEBBIE McCANDLES, GRANDFATHER CLOCK, LAMP, MIRROR

C068 CHENA SIMPKINS, CORVETTE

E073 RONALD CLARK, WASHER, CHAIR, TABLE

E110 JESSE GONZALES, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

F023 DONALD GREENWAY, STOVE, DISH WASHER, BOXES

F038 DEBRA A. WILLIAMS, WASHER, DRYER, CHAIRS

3:00 p.m. 23 MARCH, 2005 Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78758

B033 THAD KOONTZ, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

B047 CHRISTOPHER CAVAZOS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROBERT EDMOND ROWLEY, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 82,448, styled Estate of Robert Edmond Rowley, Deceased, (the "Estate") pending in the County Court of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on February 23, 2005, to Ronald Kenneth Rowley. Claims may be presented and addressed to the independent executor of the Estate in care of his attorneys at the following address:

c/o Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody
A Professional Corporation
Attn: Patricia A. Campbell
Post Office Box 98
Austin, Texas 78767

All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 23rd day of February, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,
GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY

A Professional Corporation
By: /s/ Patricia A. Campbell
State Bar No. 03714100
(512) 480-5600
(512) 478-1976 (fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BERTHA L. WILCOX, DECEASED

The administration of the estate of BERTHA L. WILCOX, Deceased has been commenced by the issuance of original Letters Testamentary to EVERETT SIMMONS, whose address is 4011 Cordova, Austin, Texas 78759, on January 11, 2005 by the Travis County Probate Court No. 1 acting in Cause No. 82226, styled IN RE: ESTATE OF BERTHA L. WILCOX, DECEASED, in which Court the matter is pending. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby notified to present them within the time prescribed by law, addressed to the representative of the estate at the address shown above.

Dated this 23rd day of February, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,
LAW OFFICE OF JOHN F. CAMPBELL, P.C.

1601 Rio Grande, Suite 405
Austin, Texas 78701
(512) 476-6036
(512) 478-8919 (Fax)

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF REBA C. CHAPMAN Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Reba C. Chapman, Deceased, were issued on February 23, 2005, in Cause No. 82,442, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to the estate's independent executor without bond, Terry Bert Chapman. All persons having claims against the estate currently being administered are required to present them

within the time required by law. Claims should be addressed in care of the representative's attorney, Lawrence A. Russell, 9951 Anderson Mill Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78750. Dated this the 23rd day of February, 2005.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of NEWELL A. MOORE, Deceased, were issued on March 1, 2005, in Docket No. 82509, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to ELOP H. SODERBERG, Independent Executor. The address of record is c/o Jim Dunlap, Attorney, 5910 Courtyard Dr., Ste. 105, Austin, Texas 78731. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Original applica-

Legal Directory

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BANKRUPTCY LAW CHAPTER 7 & 13 FREE CONSULTATION CALL FOR APPOINTMENT

Main office located in Port Arthur, Texas.
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Individuals can place a FREE ad online* at austinchronicle.com/class

Businesses can place an ad by calling 512/454-5767

*in key categories: Roommates, Items for Sale, Motor, Music Equipment, or Musicians Referral

Sale has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a MIXED BEVERAGE PERMIT, BEVERAGE CARTAGE PERMIT and FOOD AND BEVERAGE CERTIFICATE by CHIPOTLE TEXAS, LLC, a Texas limited liability company, d/b/a Chipotle; Chipotle Mexican Grill; Chipotle, Burritos & Tacos, located at 5400 Brodie Lane, Suite 1230, Austin, Travis County, Texas. Officers of said company are Colleen Crowe Simmons, President and Devin Oliver Cox, Secretary.

FOR SALE

Individuals can place a FREE online ad at austinchronicle.com/class

ITEMS FOR SALE

AIR COMPRESSOR Maibo X-84E, 10hp. Briggs & Stratton I/C, 32cfm@125psi, electric start, portable unit on wheels, has 8 air outlets. Exc. cond. \$3000+ new, \$750. 512-338-6730

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Central Texas' NEW Online Auction Service. User-friendly! No listing Fee! Visit us today: www.EBuyaustin.com REGISTER NOW!!!!

AMP 4 channel rockford amp. 137.5 Wattsx4 @ 2 ohm load. 275 Wattsx2 @ 4 ohm load bridged. 5 year warranty. Less than 100 hours play time. call Brent. 343-7896

BACKPACK Arc Teryx Bora 30 internal frame pack. Mod-erate use. Made in Canada. Lg. \$60.00. Leave message for Dave. 203-2776

BOOK Autographed 1st ed. of MEMNOCH THE DEVIL. \$60.00, in good condition. Anne Rice signed. E-mail juliangonzalez@sbcglobal.net for more detail.

BOOTS motorcycle gear-Icon Motorhead black boots for sale. Size 13. Brand New \$800. 512-736-4193/505-385-2653

CAMERAS 35mm SLR Cameras. Pentaxes: ZX-30, 28-80, auto focus/exposure, manual overrides, almost new. \$115 P30T like K1000, 35-70mm, 50mm, 135mm, Teleconverter, carrying case. Works great. \$110. Mark 243-0130

CARTRIDGES : 5 black ink cartridges and 1 color cartridge for Canon S200 or S300. Brand new. \$15 for all. 260-1528.

CHIMINAYA Beautiful cast-iron chiminaya for sale. MUST SEE TO BELIEVE! Located in Buda. \$75 Call 512-295-5472 or email mistymq@hotmail.com for info.

DIRECT TV FREE 4-ROOM DIRECTV SYSTEM including standard installation. 3 MONTHS FREE 50+ Premium Channels. Access to over 225 channels! Limited time offer. S&H, restrictions apply. 1-800-877-1251 (AAN CAN)

DOG ART The perfect gift for the Dachshund or Weiner Dog lover in your life. Custom paintings and/or themed paintings. Weiner of Oz, Vincent Van Weiner, Simpsons Weiner to name a few. Over 30 paintings to choose from. Named one of Austin's up and coming artists. Check out www.weensart.com for details or email weensart@hotmail.com

DUOGLIDER Graco, Excellent Condition. Very lightly used. \$80 OBO. Contact Cheryl 371-7928

EQUIPMENT Business equipment. Older Micros touch-screen register, adding machine, credit card processing equipment, Panasonic fax, file cabinet, heavy duty safe. 260-1528

EXERCISE BOWFLEX for sale: Always wanted, but could never afford. Now you can \$900 OBO. Call 512-762-6579

EXERCISE Life Fitness elliptical cross trainer Model 8500. Gym quality. New price \$3600. Asking \$1600. Like new, never used. Warranty avail. 512-933-0012

FENCE Never been used Petsafe Wireless Pet Containment Fence. Asking \$200. Contact dolly E-mail: dolly_s@rocketmail.com Phone: 512.422.8098

FLOOR MATS 5 heavy rubber floor mats for restaurant or bar. Black. \$15 each. 260-1528

FOLIO 1942 music folio from "Star Spangled Rhythm" feat. "That Old Black Magic." Has "V" with "Buy War Bonds and Stamps for Victory" in the bottom right corner. \$20. 512-804-1221

GARAGE SALE Multi family Sat. March 5 8AM-2PM. Furniture, Clothes, HH Items, Etc., 1403 Valleyridge Circle, 266-0116

GARAGE SALE Sat. 3/5 rain or shine. 8am-1pm. Electronic equip, furniture (desk, bed, cedar chest, etc), clothes, shoes, bedding, kitchen, bikes. 3746 Norman Loop, Round Rock (Forest Creek)

GARAGE SALE Neighborhood sale. Sat., March 5, 7 AM to 1 PM Dessau Road/FM685 at Stead's Crossing, then follow signs.

LAWNMOWER RYOBI Electric Lawnmower, cordless, good condition \$150 Anne 444-4843

LENS Like new Nikon F2. The fastest 200mm lens made. W/Nikon road case. Paid over \$4000. Used 2-3 times. Sell for \$1900. 512-775-4079

LIGHTS 2 nice Tiffany hanging lights - \$30 each. 4 brass hanging lights - \$5 each. 260-1528

MANUAL Clymer Harley Davidson Sportster Evolution 1991-2000 manual, new condition, \$30. 491-9084

MEMBERSHIP Gold's Gym less than half price! One year membership \$250!! 707-7793.

MISC 24 restaurant type chairs + tables, grill, 3 refrigerators, counter tops, oven, lots of other stuff make an offer 512-331-8335

MISC 6x6x3 rolling scaffold, 3x4 rolling materials dolly, truck rack steel. 250.75.25 respectfully, 899-1936 Robin.

MISC Dresser, décor, tables, vacuum, skis/boots, dishes, movie posters & more for sell - Yard sale 2/26, 7-11a or shop early 656-3337

MISC LCD Video Projector for home Theatre \$450, Cello \$175, Violin \$85, French Horn \$175, 16mm Projector \$50, Overhead Projector \$40. 779-7622

MISC Wicker bookshelf, Bentwood rocker, \$25 ea., Kerosene heater, fireplace tools, NordicTrack ski exerciser \$75, Little Tikes picnic table \$20, Convex security / driveway mirrors \$50-75. 294-6349.

MOVING SALE 3/5-3/6 all day at 606 E Austin in Round Rock. Women's clothes and shoes size 5, Housewares, BOOKS. Don't Miss!!

PHONE BRAND NEW Motorola V690 for sale, unlocked. \$80 accessories FREE. \$200. lalagurl@gmail.com!

PHONE Mint condition! LOTS of accessories, asking \$220 OBO! E-mail lalagurl@gmail.com or call (512) 218-1287 and ask for Jenn or Rich if ya want it!

PHONE Motorola i90 flip phone. With charger/clip case. http://www.nextel.com/support/user_guides/phones/i90c.shtml Retails over \$100 yours for \$40 Storey 845-1109

PHOTO 16x20 autographed Upper Deck Joe Montana autographed print from QVC. Black background w/ silver autograph. Matted and framed. \$150 Call 512-565-8361

RING 1/2 TCW 5 stone diamond ring. Mens sz 7, 2-tone 14ct gold and white gold. Never worn; pd \$1300- have receipts and expired warranty info. \$1000 OBO. 663-6462

SALON EQUIPMENT Merlin 4040 Phone System with 5 phones \$275, Cabinets \$25, Black Leather/Chrome Director's Chairs \$25/each, Receptionist Chair \$25 each, & Kaemark Styling Station \$1000. MUST SELL! Call 459-0667

SHED Cedar sided shed. Custom built, very solid. 8x12 foot. Looks great. Will deliver in Austin. \$1800 512-913-0112

SIGNS MGD Guitar neon. Works fine. Other bar signs, glasses, ceiling stuff. Fun for your home bar. 260-1528.

STEREO Car Cd 45x4w Deck Sony Pioneer, \$65ea. Rockford Fosgate Punch Amp \$75, 10" Sub woofers w/ case \$70, Kicker 700w Amp \$150, 779-7622

STEREO RACK Adjustable shelves, glass door, 45"Hx23"Wx15"D deep. \$15 448-4827

TRAILER Custom trailer for sale. 2 wheels, 5x3x3, good condition, \$275 OBO Marie 371-3001

TREADMILL Pro-Form 525 E Inclines with attached weight rack. Used one year. Paid \$540.00. Selling \$200.00. ca_finley@hotmail.com or 512-914-8707.

TV 32" Sony TV. \$175. 260-1528.

TV Sony 60" Big Screen TV with Remote control Great Picture \$600.00 OBO Cash & Carry call 507-1996 won't last

TV Panasonic PT-61SX60 61 in. Rear Projection Television Excellent condition! \$1000/ Best Offer - Must Sell! 512-762-5900

YARD SALE 4606 Bull Creek Rd. Sat. 8am. furniture, antiques, appliances, x-mas, comics, menswear, garden, deal-sweetners, oh so much more. Fun-Tastic!

FURNITURE/APPLIANCES

ARMOIRE - \$350 Solid Pine with clean finish. Three top shelves bottom has doors. 88.5 inches Length 62 inches Width, 18.75 Depth. E-mail for pics. simsants@excite.com

BED Cherry Sleigh Bed & Mattress Set. List \$1000, sac. \$400. 491-0840.

BED Craftmatic Adjustable bed, 80x30, massage&wave, 2 heating mattress pads, good cond. head/foot raise, 5yrs old. \$800 OBO. 512-990-7369

BEDROOM SET King Sided Waterbed Mattress. King Size Boyd Blossom Pillow Top Waveless, superb condition. Bought for \$700, sell for \$250 OBO.

BEDROOM SET 5 PC Qn Bedroom Set. Solid Wood, Warranty, Can Del. List \$1200, Now \$450. 491-0273.

BEDROOM SET 11PC Solid Wood Bedroom Set. List \$7500, Sacrifice \$1200. 491-0840.

CHAIR La-z-boy, tan, micro-fiber fabric. Excellent condition. Under 3 years old. \$200 440-8557

CHERRY DINING ROOM SET Table, China Cabinet, Chairs. List \$3000. Sac. \$750. 491-5239.

COUCH Cream colored Couch/Loveseat and overstuffed chair with ottoman. Very plush and comfy. \$350 OBO. Excellent Bravo II upright vacuum. \$20. 512-821-2237

COUCH Leather couch, will sell it for 30 bucks. Call 512-698-3309

COUCH Very new Italian Leather Couch w/ matching foot stool. Natural brown/burgandy color. Pd \$1,200. Need \$700 obo... moving. 799-1959.

CRIB Baby Crib, maple, converts to toddler, great condition \$150; portable crib, blue plaid, includes diaper changer, perfect condition, \$35, 479-6063

DINING room table w/ 8 chairs \$500 20 arm chairs, six armless chairs. Black wood, grey tile top, 2 removable leaves. Seats 6-10. Pics available. 512-656-5528

DINING ROOM SET Table, China Cabinet, 8 Chairs. List \$6000. Sac. \$1100. 491-0414.

DINING ROOM table w/ 4 chairs \$200, TV Magnavox 19" \$50, contact me at 417-0096

MISC Futon, Queen new \$175, Breakfast Table + 2 Chairs, Full size Bunk Beds with Mattresses. Crib, bedding and matching dresser. 257-7234.

MISC Heavy 4'x4' smoked glass-topped table-\$50, used pompasoon chair-\$10, used loveseat good condition-\$50. \$100 for all three. 922-3887

MISC Living Room Set / 2 Lamps - \$400 - Condition of all items is Excellent. NW Austin / McNeil and Farmer. Pictures at <http://jesusortilia.com/furniture.htm>

MISC Moving! All Maytag Appliances: 18.8 refrigerator (\$200), gas stove (\$250), gas dryer (\$40). Excellent condition. Must sell by 2/24. 512-586-1387.

MISC Office Furniture for sale. Cost \$20K Will sell for \$10K Call or email for more info. Call 352-333-2644 or email sbrownstein@ellisenv.com

MISC Portable dishwasher - kenmore, excellent condition. \$175. 2 couches (1 folds out to bed) - \$150. Electric dryer - \$100 OBO. 512.452.8588

MISC Queen bedframes w/ headboard \$50, 2 glass top intables \$50, light wood finish dresser \$50, or take all three for \$100 call 512-560-3936

MATTRESS Soft-Sided Waterbed Mattress. King Size Boyd Blossom Pillow Top Waveless, superb condition. Bought for \$700, sell for \$250 OBO.

MATTRESS Warehouse. Save \$100s on your new mattress. Starting at \$79 Twin/ \$99 Queen/ \$199 Queen pillowtop. We deliver anywhere. 512-636-7698

MISC 2 leather couches, coffee table, end tables, dark wood bed frame and large mirror dresser. Good Deals \$12-250-9554

MISC Amika full-size fridge \$400 (Blk, frost-free, ice-maker, avl. 3/25). 232-4469. Queen size bed w/ futon (\$125), wood frame (cherry). 512-232-4469

MISC Blk leather, modern Thomasville sofa, ottoman, & chair w/ clean tan stitching. IKEA wicker bed, steel, & glass end and coffee table. best offer. kate_chin@yahoo.com 512.773.1165

MISC Blk leather couch, loveseat, chair \$800 obo. Dining Rm. table w/4 chairs \$350 obo. Washer & Gas Dryer \$50/each 512-825-6754

MISC couches, 150 gallon aquarium, 55 gallon aquarium, misc other tanks, over sized chair, leather recliner 512-560-4522

MISC COUNTRY CHARM White wood with Butcher-block tops. China cabinet/ hutch - \$250, Rolling island with extension- \$200 Or best offer. Call 512-589-1576.

MISC Desk, Daybed, and Dresser Light Walnut finish. Glass top for desk and mirror for dresser. chrissater@sbcglobal.net 512-626-0920

MISC Dining Room table w/4 chairs \$200, TV Magnavox 19" \$50, contact me at 417-0096

MISC Futon, Queen new \$175, Breakfast Table + 2 Chairs, Full size Bunk Beds with Mattresses. Crib, bedding and matching dresser. 257-7234.

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MISC Office Furniture for sale. Cost \$20K Will sell for \$10K Call or email for more info. Call 352-333-2644 or email sbrownstein@ellisenv.com

MISC Portable dishwasher - kenmore, excellent condition. \$175. 2 couches (1 folds out to bed) - \$150. Electric dryer - \$100 OBO. 512.452.8588

MISC Queen bedframes w/ headboard \$50, 2 glass top intables \$50, light wood finish dresser \$50, or take all three for \$100 call 512-560-3936

MISC Queen size mattress/ box spring (\$100) and couch (\$125) for sale. Great condition. Call Kristi 512.963.3933.

MISC Used; all items mexican imports - good, solid condition. Armoire (Entertainment Ctr.) - \$350, Bookcase & Dress - \$250 ea. Will e-mail photos. 292-8028.

MOVING SALE March 5, 12-4. Full mattress + boxspring, couch, loveseat, recliner, bureau + mirror, kitchen appliances, bedding, dishes, cheap! \$101 Evans, courtyard of Redwood North apts

REFRIGERATOR Side by side Montgomery Ward Brand. \$70.00. Also, dishwasher \$40.00. You pick up. Both for \$100.00 OBO 512-484-2314 Melissa

REFRIGERATOR Kenmore Side by Side, 26 CuFt. With hand-dryer. Water/Ice in door \$225 345-2978 photos at z2mail.com/refrigerator

SOFA AND LOVE SEAT With Warranty. Only \$500. 491-0840.

SOFA Black Italian leather sofa (Natuzzi brand), like new, seats 3. Paid \$1800, will sell for \$750 obo. 512-689-7420

SOFA Comfortable, 7 1/2 ft sofa. Red, black, green, khaki stripes. From a non smoking/no pet home. Buyer must pick up from North Campus. \$250 OBO 320-0924

SOFA Leather Sofa & Loveseat! Sacrifice \$800. 491-0273.

SOFA like new leather sofa. medium/dark brown, soft leather, back cushions, like new, 1yr old. 500.00usd. email for pics and info to hawk@mail.com

SOFA/CHAIR Sofa, oversized chair, ottoman with reversible slipcovers, tan & green \$475 Dinette set white/pink, excellent quality and condition \$150.512-291-2191.

SOFA/LOVE/CHAIR/OTTOMAN Italian Top-Grain leather. Wrrnty. List. \$5500. Sac. \$1500. Will split. 491-5239.

STOVE O'keefe & Merritt stove 36" wide made circa 1950s. Needs some TLC but functions well. Makes the best pancakes around! \$650/ neg. call 512.731.6199 (I can email you a picture.)

TABLES 11 cafe tables, 24" light wood pattern tops w/ metal bases. Very sturdy for home or business. 260-1528.

VACUUM approximately a 1950's vintage Kirby vacuum in working condition. Along with complete set of attachments. 512-970-8242

WASHER \$150. white washing machine. Used 6 months. Bastrop area. 512-321-5699

WASHER/DRYER must sell washer & dryer \$125 for both. email me at louietrey@hotmail.com or call 296-9094.

WASHER GE washing machine for sale. Timing belt is broken. Will sell for \$60 you pick up. Machine was bought for \$340 Call 512-491-0507 Mon- Fri 12 - 1 Sat - Sun all day. or e-mail me TxAxNxDx11@aol.com

WASHER/DRYER Maytag ex-lpc capacity washer and dryer, white, \$300/pair. 512-257-8945

COMPUTERS

COMPUTER \$100 Compaq Presario 15" monitor, computer, and speakers are all one piece! Cd, Fd, 72MB, PENTIUM 1, & 98SE include keyboard & mouse 289-8853

COMPUTER Imac w/ Photo-shop, Illustrator, Freehand, Dreamweaver, Fireworks, iMovie, iTunes, etc \$500 OBO excellent condition-perfect for designers 512-750-8042

COMPUTER Sony vaio Desk top, 15 in. flat monitor, P4,80gb, DVD RW and Cd-rom, 4 USB ports. Call 833 9828 for more info. \$750 obo.

COMPUTERS NEED NEW COMPUTER Bad Credit - No Problem! Buy a new computer Now and pay for it later. New Computers and Laptops from \$20/month. Call Now 1-800-311-1542. (AAN CAN)

ELECTRONICS REPAIR 663-5051. REFURBISHED COMPUTER MONITORS. TV/STEREO

LAPTOP Dell laptop CPlA, 366mhz,6gig,CD/Floppy/Network/Modem, WindowsXP Office, Works like New. \$275. 670-1132

MISC PC Dell Dimension 4600 with Monitor, 2.4 GHz, HT technology, Intel, Optical mouse, keyboard, CD RW / \$475 DVD/VCR player -\$75, Printer/Scanner/Copier -\$75, 512-282-8641

SOFTWARE ProTools Digi001 recording studio Like new. Original box. Works/looks perfect. Everything included. Windows and Mac CD's both included. \$500 obo 818-281-4928

WEB ROUTER netgear 4 port cable/dsl wired router gateway for sale... model rp614... includes router, cable, power adapter, documentation... contact ripple_chips@hotmail.com

RECREATIONAL

BICYCLES three good bikes \$125, \$75, and \$50. Suspension Full, front and none respectively. Call matt for details 306-8566.

BIKE 2004 Bianchi Brava Road Bike 55cm Sora group, carbon forks, triple chain ring. Great bike. 5 months old. \$450.00 512-253-6733

BIKE 2004 Fuji Royale, size 21, ridden 100 miles, 27 speed ultragra, triple chain-ring, paid over \$1,000, will sell for \$750 Steve 751-2040 or srnrvr513@aol.com

BIKE GT Full suspension mountain bike. Shimano clipless pedals and components. Mavic rims. Other extras. Worth over \$1400. Sell: \$300 698-8255

BIKE TREK 4100 mountain bike (2002) 17.5" In-sync front shocks; Shimano components; Serfas seat; recent tune-up. 175.00 email: s.leigh@mail.utexas.edu

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BANKRUPTCY Hopelessly In Debt? **We Can Help!**
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Kachina is an energetic young girl who would enjoy taking trips to the park where she could play as much fetch as her little heart desired. If you are looking for a dog to go on walks with, then Kachina is your girl. She is very gentle and affectionate with children and when you bend down to pet her she will try to curl up in your lap. So come down and visit this pretty girl.

260-SPCA (7722)
CALL FOR HOURS
909 S. BAGDAD ROAD,
LEANDER, TX
www.centralexasspcas.com

Keeper is a sweet, energetic adolescent dog looking for a person or family who has time to spend with him. He is a Lab/Shar-Pei mix with lots of energy and enthusiasm. Keeper might also be a good candidate for learning agility as he likes having a "job" to do.

PET OF THE WEEK "KEEPER"

Austin Humane Society

124 W. Anderson Ln. • 512-837-7985

RECREATIONAL

CONTINUED

BIKE USED 2002 Specialized 15" ATB mtn. Bike w/ Shimano parts, *NEW* Kendra 28&21 tires, *Hune-up, *Shram chain, *Shimano crank. Sandy 326-5314.

DUMBLELL RACK 7 ft. com- great 2-tier dumbell rack in great condition. Solid welded construction. Best offer. 512-258-9527

GAME SYSTEM XBOX Brand new. With 3 popular games, DVD controller. \$150. 512-499-0766

GAME SYSTEM Cocktail-Table Style Arcade Machine plays 200+ classic games; PacMan, DonkeyKong, Tron, etc. Dk Stain wood \$2400. Lakeway Area. martin@brotherdream.com 286-8451.

KAYAK Loon 160T 2 person. Barely used (less than 5 times), includes 2 paddles. \$550. 512-657-6892

KAYAK Perception Acadia , Very fast, Great condition. Color is Yellow. Great for lakes, rivers, & camping. can fit lots of gear. Has Dry storage. 512-970-7475

POOL TABLE 84in Pooltable, comes with everything \$200 FozzBall table \$150 Paper_wrist@graffiti.net

POOL TABLE 8FT 1in. slate eliminator, black finish, burgundy cloth, over head bud lamp, many cue sticks, rack, table cover, 2 bar stools. \$900 firm leave msg. 512-463-3501

POOL TABLE Mahogany table, slate, green felt, claw feet. complete with cues, racks, balls, corner cue rack, table and hand chalk. all like new. pics chris@adranch.com, 512-587-5175

POOL TABLE Older Billard Table for sale in Hutto \$300 OBO 512-759-2097

SKIS K-2 model X-15. Fabulous top of the line, all-terrain shaped skis with Marker bindings. Includes hand shell flight/travel case with lock. Used twice. Over \$800 new. Must sell \$200 obo. 426-6591.

TRAVEL TRAILER 1995 Dutchmen 24 ft, 5th Wheel Travel Trailer. Sleeps 6. All appliances, water heater, furnace and air conditioner work. must sell. \$6000 (210) 658-5447 David.

ADOPTION SAVE ONE DOG - SAVE THE WORLD! Wanted: Super Homes for our Super Dogs! For Adoptions call Utopia Animal Rescue Ranch 830-589-7544 or check out our dogs at : www.utopiarescue.com

ADOPTION SAVE A LIFE ADOPT FROM A SHELTER PUPPIES Lots of 3-8 month old puppies, desperately seeking a great home! Several adult Pitt Bulls with sweet dispositions. Pitt Puppy, white male, 4 months old. Available at Lockhart Animal Shelter, \$20 adoption Fee. 376-3336, lv msg if no answer. Check our animals: www.petfinder.com

ADOPTIONS/RESCUE HUMANE SOCIETY SPCA of Austin (see Pet of the Wk ad!) Come visit our facility at 124 W. Anderson Lane, 1 block west of I-35 on Hwy 183! We have many loveable dogs and cats that need a good home! Call today: 512-837-7985 http://www.austinspca.com

BIRDS Trade a yellow Lovbird (unknown gender) for your male breeding cockatiel Lamar/Koenig area 458-4661 Tina

CAT Affectionate, attention-seeking kitty looking for single pet home. Current family has other furry pets. I want to be alone. 512-495-9958

CAT SIAMESE "Bobby Earl," big goofy 2-yr-old flame-point, indoors only, neutered, vaccs, loves people & other cats. Adoption fee. 796-4170

CAT Sweet, cuddly white kitty - I can no longer keep her due to my living situation, but I love this cat!!! She's 3 years old, loves to snuggle and play. Great with kids too. tres3417@yahoo.com 588-3417.

DOG Gentle, well behaved adult Pitbull needs a new home. If you could give him a permanent home call Trey at 586-4714

DOG PAWS OF AUSIN PA.W.S. of Austin is a local, non-profit animal rescue organization, established for the purpose of rescuing and providing refuge to stray and unwanted companion animals PA.W.S. of Austin rescues homeless and unwanted dogs from the city shelter and throughout the Austin area, and we focus on finding them new permanent and loving homes.

Check out our web site for profiles on dogs currently available for adoption: http://www.pawsofaustin.org or call us at (512) 288-9856

DOG Pomeranian/Toy poodle for sale. She is 10 months old, all black, and loves to be around people. \$100 OBO. mammajammin@hotmail.com

DOGS 1 Silver dapple male(\$200) and 1 Red dapple female(\$400) adult mini dachshunds. CKC registered. Not fixed. 830-634-7642

DOGS 1 have two wonderful dogs that I need to find homes for. One is a basenji mix, the other is a terrier mix. E-mail me for more info scarlettbegonia8@hotmail.com

LOST DOG LOST DOG CAIRN TERRIER Lost Cairn Terrier Feb 20 in Rosedale. "Chloe" Blonde. Pink collar w/ tag has all contact info. Call 512-323-2059. REWARD!

PUP BOXYER Beautiful Male Brindle pup. 10wks old, AKC,dewormed and first shots. Show blood line.400\$ 512-922-7407

PUPPIES AKC/CKC Siberian husky pups. 2F/5M, blue eyes. All shots and wormed. Parents on site. \$500. Corpus Christi. 361-299-6363 or 361-290-1325.

PUPPIES blue and red healer puppies,males and females, ASKING \$100.00 each. parents on site, please call 512-921-1478

PUPPIES Have 4 of them left. \$30 each or all for only \$80. Must get rid of! Have pics, Kyle insaneswirlie@yahoo.com (512)426-0344

PUPPY Beautiful 10 week old female Pit Bull mix puppy, last from a litter of 9. Call 512-801-7434 for details.

PUPPY FREE Male Choc lab mix 11 months old needs love & attention a yard a must has first shots and neutered weighs about 60 pounds. Serious inquiries only! 512-484-2314 MELISSA

SADDLE borelli saddleseat 17" from pommel to cantle or 20" from front rivit to cantle argentine leather \$300.00 512-868-6959

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-WWW.BESTTIX.COM
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DISNEY AREA VACATION 7 days, 6 nights, paid \$600, must sell \$199. Call 512-612-0139

TICKETS We "B" Tickets * Best Seats * Best Prices ** Nascar * Willie Nelson Sisters in the Sprit * Spurs * the Producers * Alicia Keys Pick Up/Mail order. 448-2303

WANTED TO BUY

BASS CAB Looking to buy a good quality 4x10 bass cabinet (Ampeg SVT, Mesa, GK, etc.). E-mail me at especmode@yahoo.com if you have one for sale

BIKE PARTS Serious Cash Buyer for bykes or parts in any condition. Interested in anything you have, everything depends on price. Email or call 512-663-4471 spirou39@earthlink.net

CAR 2 door brown hatchback wanted for scene in local film. one day use. call carolyn ASAP for details 826-1234.

CD'S/DVD'S We buy CD's and DVD's. Paying cash for LP's too! Cheapo Discs 10th & Lamar. 477-4499.

DISH-NETWORK EQUIPMENT \$\$\$CASHS\$ paid for used DISH-NETWORK equipment. Will pick up. Call toll free 1-888-569-2812.

DRESSER Wanted: white dresser or vanity with mirror. Will pay up to \$50 and pick up. Email with pictures: chihuahua23@netzero.net

LAWN MOWER under \$30, also used lawn equip. 512-565-8910

NIRVANA Seeking photos and video of rock band NIRVANA in Austin 10-21-1991, Waterloo Records and Liberty Lunch. Please call 560-4964.

PROJECTOR Hil Looking for a Super 8 projector, mute, preferably EUMIG, for US \$25+. Please call Johnny @ Sarah's : 512-928-4440

RECORDS Top dollar paid for PUNK vinyl, fliers, fanzines 1976 - 1983. Local and Texas bands of particular interest. toast@breakmyface.com

TRUCKS Wanting to purchase trucks, vans, SUVs or cars. Wreck, running or not. '88 or newer. Mike 796-4081

VENDING Looking for used vending machines. Ed 512-762-5563

MOTOR



Increase your exposure with a TOP CLASSIFIEDS ad. Call 512/454-5767 for details.

CARS FOR SALE

2002 Chevy Z28 T-Top. Very rare adult driven car with leather. 39,600 miles and new tires. If you've been looking for the right one here is your chance. Don't miss this one! \$18988 stk# 2080P Suzuki-Isuzu of Austin (512) 583-4000

AUTOS Find your next car here. Inventory for 40 local dealers. www.centralTXautos.com

BMW 528E '85 Parts 1985 & 87 For Sale 500.00 For both. they can be combined to make one good car.contact me at. kaylanclark@yahoo.com and leave Phone #

BUICK RIVIERA GS '71 Classic - Runs Great!! \$9000 - Black, 106K original Miles. 455 V8, Custom Interior, A/C Works Great, Viper Alarm - Contact for pictures. 512-507-0121

BUICK SKYLARK '97 4 Dr., AT, Momma's car, drives really tight & strong, clean, warranty, \$2850. Warranty? No problem. Call Jim at Auto Depot: 836-9767 or 402-1454 (nights & weekends 10pm)

CADILAC DEVILLE '98



Very low miles. Am the second owner. \$9,500.00 or pay the equity and assume loan. Payments are \$277.00 a month. 441-2454, 659-9614

CADILLAC DEVILLE '97 Great condition. Grey/blue. Never wrecked. Oil changed every 3,000. Leather. Twelve-CD changer. 75,000 highway miles. \$7,500 OBO. 474-5262.

CHEVY 2001 Tracker 4x4 ZR2. Beautifully maintained 4door SUV. 107,000 highway driven miles but looks like 40,000. If it didn't check out as a "10" we wouldn't even offer it for sale. Take a look @ \$7988 stk# 095583A. Suzuki-Isuzu of Austin (512) 583-4000

CHEVY BEL AIR '66 Daily Driver. Lots of new parts, CD player, plenty of room w/ 4 doors. Very reliable car. Few dents but no rust. Very solid! \$1600 447-1378

CHEVY IMPALA '66 4 door sedan. 327 Motor/350 trans. runs good. needs some work. \$700 OBO. 512 796 5124.

CHRYSLER SEBRING LXI '98 2 door coupe. Leather, new tires, new cd (Pioneer \$380), V6, auto, power locks/windows/seat, sunroof. 667-4244

CHRYSLER SEBRING JXI '96 Loaded, 1thr. interior, premium sound system-6 cd, auto, power brakes, steering, cruise, has new water pump, tires and timing belts. Solid and clean. \$3500 801-7950

DELOREAN DMC 12 '81 stainless steel, gull-wing, original owner, 10K, 5spd., immaculate, has many collector characteristics only available on limited number of DeLoresans, \$19,950, 512-345-3747

FORD CONTOUR '98 4dr,needs work \$800 obo Project \$3 Ford truck \$700 obo Daniel 447-3467

FORD MERKUR XR4TI '89



White, tan leather, 5 sp. A great 3-dr (hatch back), stereo, power windows, AC, cruise control, turbo, sunroof, \$3,400/best offer. 970-9025

FORD MUSTANG '66



2-door coupe, 289 V8 3-sp, black w/ red interior, garage-kept, Still has factory A/C and console. Serious restorers only. \$5,000 Firm. Call (830) 833-4707

FORD MUSTANG '00 Great car for Spring! 2000 Mustang, loaded, power locks, seats, doors, windows, cassette/cd, AC,Cruise, emerald green,\$6999.00 512-963-3501

FORD TAURUS Great car! Runs perfect! \$1000 obo. 697-9696 never been wrecked. great tires

FORD THUNDERBIRD '94 106K, Auto, 2door. Maroon. Radio. Power locks, mirrors and seats. Very good on gas. Has front end damage but runs great. A good car for mechanic. \$1200 or best offer please leave message for Nandy @ 512 825-8709.

FORD THUNDERBIRD '94 Maroon, 106K. Power Win/ Locks/mirrors/seats. Auto, front end damage, good mechanic car.\$800.00 o.b.o. 512 825-8709 nandym747@yahoo.com.

HONDA ACCORD '00 Sport Coupe, Red/Tan cloth. Only 38k miles. Excellent condition! Great student or commuter car! \$11,400. 512-818-4295

HONDA ACCORD LX '96 Dark green, only 82K, automatic, CD, spoiler. Has salvage history, runs great. \$4300. Kevin, 785-8980.

HONDA CIVIC EX '92 Red, Sunroof, 4 DR, Automatic, Power, 160K, Clean, Reliable, \$2750. Call 261-9726.

HONDA CIVIC '90 4 Dr., 5 sp., Minor paint glitches but runs perfectly \$1950. Call Jim at Auto Depot @ 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

HONDA CRX 91' Red, tinted windows, rims, car alarm, cd player, 171K rebuilt, \$3,500. 512-259-7520

HONDAS from \$500! Police impounds for sale. Chevy's, Jeeps, etc. For listings 800-749-8116 ext 7032

HONDA HYBRID '03



50mpg. Need to sell - family grew. 23,000miles, excellent condition. \$15850. 4 door sedan, 5 speed standard. CD player, power windows. Super low emissions standard. Clair or Juan at 323-5017

HONDA V45 MAGNA '84 clean, runs great \$1450. Call Jim at Auto Depot @ 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

ISUZU 2001 Vehicross. Radical design on this highly capable off road Baja racer. Only 26k miles on this 1 owner trade. Very rare. \$18988 stk# 301901A. Suzuki-Isuzu of Austin (512) 583-4000

JAGUAR XJ6 '95 Arrive in style. Garaged, prem sound, leather. 88000k, green/tan, Beautiful! \$6900. 422-3344

MAZDA 929 '93 Silver/Grey color w/roomy interior, leather seats, CCI, ac/heater, radio/ cass, runs good, 125K miles. Kelly Blue book - \$2700 - sell \$1800 OBO as is. 762-6339

MAZDA MPV 2003 LX. The only "non mom-mobile" crossover that functions as a mini van. The best of both worlds. Hauls 7 passengers and/or cargo galore! \$15988. stk# 600726A Suzuki-Isuzu of Austin (512) 583-4000

MAZDA PROTEGE DX '96 4 cyl, 5-speed, 35 mi +/gallon, 150,000 mi., great mechanical condition, great car for city driving. 512-507-8675

MAZDA PROTEGE '93 recent inspection, runs okay, will eventually need work or good parts car. \$600 firm. 322-9370

MERCEDES '82 Vintage Merc 240 Deisel 4 sp. 168K mi. Beautiful condition, runs well, \$1950, 825-9776

MERCURY COMET '60 Classic all-original, 4-door, 6-cylinder automatic, AC, very good condition, always garaged, under 56K actual miles, light green (almost white) exterior, green interior, \$4,995. 296-6500.

MERCURY MYSTIQUE '00 Like new, great condition, only 32K, V6 auto, golden color, PS/PB/PW/PL, always maintained. \$5900 OBO. 554-7273

MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE '01 GT, Auto trans, 6 cyl, sunroof, 67,500 miles. Great CD player, runs great. Transferable warranty, pearl white, \$10,000. 454-8280

MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE '01 Convertible, 57000, 4 cyl, 5 spd, great condition, \$11,00 or best offer. Evening: 512-260-9602

MITSUBISHI GALANT '99 silver, auto, power window, sunroof, mirror, door, 17 in. wheels, cruise cont., and more. \$5000 Okkie 228-0892

NISSAN MAXIMA SE '97 V6 3.0L runs great cd/mp3 player fully loaded needs some body work 140k miles OBO \$3500 512-565-6409

PLYMOUTH FURY III '68 classic with no rust and trans. Great shape for its age, and would be a great restoration candidate! Email for pics! keithfiala@austin.rr.com

PONTIAC BONNEVILLE '83 4 door, Runs good. NEW windshield, Battery, head-lights, R-tailight. needs few things 4 inspection. less than 50k on rebuilt motor. \$250 OBO 299-5908 call before 3pm.

RACE CAR Formula Vee SCCA open-wheel race car. Learn to race in the most competitive, economical class. \$6,900. 512-576-2540

SAAB 9000 '88 1988 Saab 9000 5spd. Everyday driver. High mileage but strong runner, cold AC (r134), CD, leather. \$1400.00 obo. Mark 512-292-8708.

SATURN '94 Saturn-5-speed, good tires, tinted windows, am/fm cassette, clean interior. Needs radiator \$1000.00. 833-6141

SUBARU OUTBACK '95 Legacy, 109k, 5 speed, 4 wheel drive, power windows, fog lights, great condition, \$4950, 512-419-0877

SUZUKI 2004 Aerio SX AWD. JUST REDUCED! A Toyota Matrix, Protégé 5 style crossover but with 155HP All wheel drive, and the remainder of a 7 year 100,000 mile warranty included at no cost. This was a Consumers Digest "Best Buy" in 2003 and 2004 and is a true Japanese import. An outstanding value at \$11988 stk # 1771p. 2 wheel drives also available. Suzuki-Isuzu of Austin (512) 583-4000 .

SUZUKI 2000 Vitara. How about 30mpg, convertible top, & 4 whl dr together in one package? 53,000 original miles. Great versatile configuration goes to the high country and the beach with unbeatable economy for this type of vehicle. Japanese quality as well for \$7988. stk# 2023P Suzuki-Isuzu of Austin (512) 583-4000

TOYOTA CAMRY '96 10k on new engine. 10k mi. \$7,500 OBO. David 835-5350

TOYOTA CAMRY '01 4 Dr., all power, AT, 33K miles, prior cosmetic body damage (repaired) LIKE NEW. 1 yr. Warranty. \$10,450- trade possible. Call Jim @ 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

TOYOTA COROLLA '96 White/Tan, 5 Spd, AC, 115K, Great Condition, \$4150 OBO call 339-6306.

TOYOTA COROLLA FX16 '87 150K. Runs Great! 5 Spd. 2nd owner. Maintained at Flamingo. New Parts. A/C needs fan repair. \$1,200 OBO. sblock@gmx.net or 512-423-2713.

TOYOTA COROLLA '99 4 Dr., auto, all power, 70,000 miles. Full warranty, \$6900 Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

TOYOTA MATRIX '03 like new, 32K miles. Could trade! \$10,950. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

TOYOTA COROLLA '99 4 Dr., auto, all power, 70,000 miles. Full warranty, \$6900 Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

TOYOTA COROLLA '96 White/Tan, 5 Spd, AC, 115K, Great Condition, \$4150 OBO call 339-6306.

TOYOTA COROLLA '99 4 Dr., auto, all power, 70,000 miles. Full warranty, \$6900 Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

VOLVO '92 cd player recently installed - blue 1992 volvo - new starter - recent tires - asking \$3000. Call to see 632-3105.

VOLVO 240 DL '82 240 DL. Burgundy, 150K Miles. Needs minor break work. Runs great. Reliable. \$800. 512-507-2128.

VOLVO 240DL '89 240 DL 5 speed, four door, excellent running condition. Asking \$1400. 796-9396 or headless@mml.utexas.edu

VOLVO 240DL '87 5-speed. Dependable, safe, and fun to drive. Grey exterior, tinted windows, runs great. \$1400, MUST SELL. 826-2760

VOLVO 244DL84 (2,000) Diesel, gun metal blue, rare engine, rebuilt engine ,transmission, fuel injection pump-fuel line, clean interior, good tires and new battery, needs TLC.\$2,499, 930-890-1087, 903-893-8176

VOLVO S40 '03 Black sedan, very good condition, 22,000 miles, a few minor dings, all records, \$15,000, call 512-422-8386.

VW BEETLE '65 Sweet looking project car lowered, centerline rims, sun roof, rack needs some work.. 1500 OBO + call Joe 512-258-5292

VW BEETLE '74 Parts less than 1 y.o. Carb, altern, motor fan, motor mounts, left and right transaxles. Rebuilt tranny 2/20/05. Runs great. Needs minor items. \$1700. 926-2533, 293-4694

VW BEETLE '68 1600cc Black, runs, new brake system, front end 95% redone, lots of new parts. \$2100 obo Call Jimmy @ 292-9821

VW GOLF 3 '97 80K in very good condition 2.0L 4DR hatchback / light brown / pioneer mp3.CD player. 3500 OBO + have after market parts if needed. 860-796-7152 pureice739@hotmail.com

FREE ADS Got a car you need to sell? Looking for a roommate? Want to unload that old refrigerator? Fax us your 30 word ad by Friday, 5 pm in Motor, Roommates, For Sale, or Musician's Referral & we will run it free for two weeks. Please include your name, address & phone number or the ad will not run. This offer is limited to non-business advertising only. Fax: 512-458-6910

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CAR TALK



by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

TOM AND RAY ANNOUNCE UGLIEST NEW CAR CONTEST

TOM: I think we can all agree that my brother and I know ugly.

RAY: Yeah, it's passed down from generation to generation in our family like the Kennedys pass down Senate seats.

TOM: And we've noticed something recently: There are some truly ugly cars on the roads these days.

RAY: We're not talking about the old, beat-up, smelly ones like my brother drives. We're talking about brand-spanking-new sheet metal (or sheet plastic), hot off the assembly line.

TOM: So, we got to wondering: Which new car - for sale today in the United States - is the absolute butt-ugliest? Which car would you drive only if you could wear a ski mask while behind the wheel?

RAY: We asked our radio listeners for nominations, and we've narrowed the field down to 10 deserving finalists. Your job, should you choose to accept it: Help us pick the winner. It's our first ever Uglyest New Car Contest.

TOM: Here - in no particular order - are the finalists, along with some actual words used by people who nominated them. Keep in mind that these are not our comments; they came from our listeners and readers.

RAY: The Honda Element: "A rollover would improve its looks." "Looks like a Soviet-era ice-cream truck." And "if they put a trunk on the front, they could call it the Honda Elephant."

TOM: The Pontiac Aztek: "One of our neighbors has a green one, which we call the 'toad-mobile' - which, come to think of it, is an insult to toads." "Looks like it was designed by two separate teams of engineers who started at opposite bumpers and worked their way toward the middle, each unable to talk to the other until they met at the center door post." And "was Pontiac taken over by a high-school shop class?"

RAY: The Hummer H2: "Proves yet again that money can't buy you looks." And "the automotive equivalent of Aunt Bertha."

TOM: The Chevrolet Avalanche: "Adorned with more plastic than Anna Nicole Smith." "Ouch."

RAY: The Dodge Magnum wagon: "Looks like a hearse. Are caskets an option?" "I'm so glad to see Daimler-Chrysler doesn't have minimum vision requirements for its engineers." And "the Welsh corgi of the car world - it wishes to be the big dog, but it's cut too short to the ground."

TOM: The BMW 5-Series: "With the granny-glasses headlights and awkward body creases, it looks like a Pontiac on acid." And "the taillights of a Subaru, the sides of a Ford Taurus and the angry front end of a Pontiac, all for only 50 grand!"

RAY: The Scion xB: "Did the cleaning lady take the plans for this out of the trash as a joke - and nobody noticed?" "Did they forget to take it out of its shipping crate?" And "looks like some sort of milk truck for a Shriner parade."

TOM: The Chrysler 300: "Did Chrysler have the head of a cow in mind when they designed this car?" And "who knew so many 'blue-hairs' were wannabe pimps?"

RAY: The Subaru Baja: "Someone needs to revoke Subaru's designer license." And "takes the term 'homely' to a whole new level."

TOM: And the Chrysler PT Cruiser: "So ugly, I get mad just looking at it." And "looks like something the Joker would be driving in a Batman movie."

RAY: Now, we know that some of you will vehemently disagree with some of these comments. And with the fact that some of these cars are even on the list. But remember, ugliness is in the eye of the beholder. Just ask my wife.

TOM: Right. One man's Jaguar is another man's Yugo.

RAY: So, what's your opinion? Ready to vote?

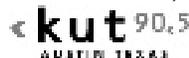
TOM: You can find the ballot, pictures of all the nominees, and more nasty listener and reader comments on our Web site, www.cartalk.com.

RAY: We'll announce the results in a future column.

Tom and Ray share secrets on how you can save tens of thousands of dollars on your cars over the next 20 years in their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.50 (check or money order) to Next Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Click in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on



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- Administer all treatments in a professional manner with respect for the client/patient confidentiality, boundaries, safety and privacy.
- Maintain honest and accurate records, a clean and professional work environment and high standards of personal hygiene.
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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY



by Rob Breznsy • for Mar. 6 - Mar. 11

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): In her book, *For the Time Being*, Annie Dillard says that throughout history many people have thought civilization was on the verge of collapse. Around 300 B.C., Hindus believed they were living in a “degenerate and unfortunate time” known as the *Kali Yuga* – the lowest point in the great cosmic cycle. In 426 A.D., the Christian writer Augustine mourned that the world was in its last days. In the 1800s, renowned Hasidic Rabbi Nachman grieved for the world’s “widespread atheism and immorality.” Dillard offers more examples, concluding, “There never was a more holy age than ours, and never a less ... There is no whit less enlightenment under the tree by your street than there was under the Buddha’s bo tree.” Go sit under that tree, **Pisces**. The time for your awakening is now at hand.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Jon Stewart, host of Comedy Central’s *The Daily Show*, is a big star now. But on his way to the top, he has sometimes had a laid-back attitude toward ambition. “As long as I can remember,” he has said, “I wanted to sleep late, stay up late, and do nothing in between.” Believe it or not, **Aries**, I suggest you adopt an equally leisurely approach in the coming week. The best thing you can do to serve your burning desires in the long run is to explore the healing mysteries of being a lazy bum right now.

Taurus (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Harvest time in March? That’s what the astrological omens say for you **Bulls**. During the next few weeks you’ll be reaping the fruits of all the seeds you’ve sown since your last birthday. One of the pesky weeds you didn’t uproot will also be reaching full bloom, but the tiny bit of blight it engenders will be vastly overshadowed by the richness of your rewards. I suggest you throw a party or two to celebrate your bounty, express gratitude to your helpers, and offer forgiveness to your doubters.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Events in the coming week may be difficult for some of you to deal with. They will include intense encounters with peace, love, joy, and understanding, as well as possible brushes with extravagant beauty, lyrical delight, and inspiring discoveries. There will be a dearth of storylines that feature betrayal, abuse, pettiness, greed, extortion, disease, and explosions. Therefore, **Gemini**, you should proceed with extreme caution if you’re a jaded hipster who’s suspicious of feeling really good. Ask yourself: “Am I ready to stop equating cynicism with insight? Do I dare take the risk that exposing myself to uplifting encounters might dull my intelligence?” If you doubt your ability to handle all the relaxing breakthroughs, you’d better take strong measures to evade them.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): “The average river requires a million years to move a grain of sand one hundred miles,” says science writer James Trefil. The work you’ve been doing on yourself these past two years, **Cancerian**, must sometimes have seemed as maddeningly gradual. The good news is that you are now in the last few months of this slow-motion, long-term project. If you can sustain your focus, you’ll finish up around your birthday, having created such a strong inner sense of sanctuary that you will forever after be able to feel at home in the world no matter where you are.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): I have a tricky assignment for you this week, **Leo**. It will require you to display an open-hearted curiosity as you live on the edge of your understanding. It will ask you to be cheerful and optimistic as you question as many of your certainties as you can. Your challenge is to embody the attitude suggested by Caroline Myss in this passage from her CD, *Spiritual Madness: The Necessity of Meeting God in Darkness*: “The moment you come to trust chaos, you see God clearly. Chaos is divine order, versus human order. Change is divine order, versus human order. When the chaos becomes safety to you, then you know you’re seeing God clearly.”

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): In the coming week, people may have a lot to tell you about what you shouldn’t think, how you shouldn’t act, and whom you shouldn’t hang out with. Their counsel will be useful mostly in its revelations about them. If I were you, I wouldn’t actually heed much of what they say. What you should trust, though, is your calm, lucid inner voice, especially when it gives you intuitions about what you shouldn’t think, how you shouldn’t act, and whom you shouldn’t hang out with. This is an ideal time to get clearer about the life you *don’t* want to live.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): Spankings can raise your intelligence, reports *The Weekly World News*. Experiments by the Lucerne Institute of Psychological Research showed that college students did better on their exams after having their buns whacked. Increased adrenalin flow may have contributed to this surprising phenomenon, the psychologists speculated. “The adrenalin combined with the endorphins generated to minimize the pain, and together they opened up previously underutilized neural pathways – turning them into IQ hyperlinks,” said one researcher. I bring this up, **Libra**, because you’ve got a big life test coming up. If I were you, I’d be willing to try innovative measures to make sure you ace it, including maybe even having a ping-pong paddle administered to your backside. The preparations that helped you through rites of passage in the past may not work this time.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): In the coming days, **Scorpio**, you will almost certainly become pregnant – if not by literally conceiving a fetus, then by germinating the metaphorical equivalent. Do you have any idea about what’s getting ready to sprout within you? I hope so, because if you do, it means you’re attuned to the secrets that have been ripening in the fertile depths. But if you don’t know anything about the new life that’s stirring, drop everything and find out. You need to be a fully conscious participant in the gestation.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): “Americans live inside their own private echo chambers,” says syndicated writer Matt Zoller Seitz, “endlessly revisiting things they already know they like and avoiding exposure to anything new and different.” Your assignment this week, **Sagittarius**, is to ask yourself if you fit Seitz’s description, and then – if you do – to escape your private echo chamber. So for instance, if you’re a tattooed pagan performance artist, attend a rodeo or NASCAR race; if you’re a Christian Girl Scout leader, listen to Ani DiFranco or Radiohead, or read Noam Chomsky’s radical critiques of American foreign policy. If you’re an atheistic intellectual, take a workshop in ecstatic Sufi dancing or a class in Buddhist meditation. I think you catch my drift.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): I’d love to see you reach out to the people who you think should have reached out to you by now. I’d love to see you heal rifts with former allies and rebuild bridges you burned down. Even if it feels like a slightly awkward compromise, I’d love to see you offer your services to X-factors and wild cards and loose cannons that aren’t exactly making the best use of their powers. How about it, **Capricorn**? Are you willing to bend a little to gain a lot? Can you imagine giving more slack to flawed possibilities, hoping that your largesse will help them fix their flaws?

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): The astrological omens are unambiguous: In the coming weeks, the entire universe will be conspiring to help you add to your assets, increase your value, and acquire more resources. Does that mean you’ll get a raise or inherit your great uncle’s ostrich farm? Does it mean you’ll enroll in a training program to upgrade your skills and expand your know-how? Or does it mean you’ll cultivate a previously underdeveloped part of your personality that will then become more attractive and desirable? I can’t say for sure, **Aquarius**. How it all unfolds will depend on your priorities – and on how aggressively you cooperate with the universal conspiracy.

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KEYBOARDIST 3 piece amateur smooth jazz band (female singer) needs keyboard player. Must enjoy practice/aim to tighten sound, play gigs, have fun. www.rcjg.com. 512-422-7631

KEYS/VOX Keys/4th voice needed for weekend Phish tribute band. Come jam with three competent musicians who love Phish music. Call 250-0057

MUSICIANS I have 10 years of experience taking drugs. I'll play whatever. I like Redd Kross, The Stooges, Buttholes, stupid stuff. poortristessa@yahoo.com

MUSICIANS Rhythm section sought for versatile rock band. Influences: Beck, Zepplin, U2, Nirvana, Prince, Pumpkins. Download samples of my music at www.streamload.com/sybil-film. Email: rmurphy5@austin.r.com.

MUSICIANS Bassist seeks others (21-28) to form, slow, heavy/chunky, dirty, STONER ROCK I.E. Kyuss, Helmet, Butthole Surfers etc. Looking for others who wanna smoke pot, drink beer and rock out! Serious only! Ben @ 791-6046

MUSICIANS Bassist seeks others (21-28) to form, slow, heavy/chunky, dirty, STONER ROCK I.E. Kyuss, Helmet, Butthole Surfers etc. Looking for others who wanna smoke pot, drink beer and rock out! Serious only! Ben @ 791-6046

MUSICIANS I am looking to join a band i have been playin drums for 10 years.i would like to be in a punk or hardcore or really anything i just want to play call me if i can help 512-557-4660

MUSICIANS Powerful alternative rock project with crossover potential seeks bass, drums, guitar. Pumpkins, Audioslave, STP Jane's, Perfect Circle, Floyd. www.cursingbirds.net

MUSICIANS wanted for punk band infl: exploited, unseen, misfits, descendents, propaganda, michael bolton serious PUNKS ONLY! call 652-8295

MUSICIANS if you like 12 x 5, Out Of Our Heads, England's Newest Hitmakers, and wanna start a band that sounds like that, call 217 5430

MUSICIANS Polish-American style, 1950's-60's Honky, Push musicians seek trumpets, clarinets and piano for FUN, recording and events. 444-4834 or lospinkys@earthlink.net

MUSICIANS bass,drums,2nd guitar and singer needed.my inf.sevendust,septultura,kills witch have wheels and job.dont be a flake. call rob at 339-0112 warburn69@austin.rr.com

MUSICIANS Bass & Drums Wanted by Singer/Songwriter/Musician for Alt/Punk/Out-law/Country/Rock Act!!! mcstorm69@hotmail.com

ORGANIST Looking for an organist 18yrs or under to join a band. If you know who Ray Marzarek or Lee Michaels is, call Chris at 249-7086

PEDAL STEEL player looking for band, sessions or gigs. Can double on guitar, dobro, triple neck steel, mandolin. Texas Honky Tonk/Western Swing, real country preferred. Steve: 440-7105 steeler@austin.rr.com

PEDAL STEEL Expd Nashville Pedal steel player seeks additional work. Toured and recorded live album with Gram Parsons & EmmyLou Harris. Toured and recorded with Joe Sun and several Opry artists. Google: Neil Flanz 512-383-0842.

PRODUCER Looking for talented singer/songwriters (all-styles) in need of a product to shoo themselves to labels, management, club owners, or potential band mates. I can help you with your dream. Visit: www.jbsproductions.net or call 512-238-0612

VOCALIST Established band Camisade replacing singer. Looking for passionate musician with professional attitude. More info: www.camisade.net/singer - info@camisade.net Brian: 560-0038

VOCALS Indie rock band needs vocals along the lines of Failure, Muse, Hum, etc. Contact Mike mparke80@gmail.com or 512/826-6533 for MP3s.

VOCALS Lead vocalist looking for serious, working country band. Haggard, Strait, Conway, Real Honky Tonk music ! 512-446-4198

VOCALS Loose Shoes, http://www.looseshoes.net/ a 7-PC band working band seeks female singer. R&B, Blues, funk. No egos/wannabes. solos, harmonies and duets. Good Experience, talent and attitude. Dennis 799-8734

VOCALS Working show band seeks female lead vocalist. 70's, 80's to current Top 40. Private events. Image, personality, attitude a must!! 779-8551

VOCALS Young singer able to play guitar. searching for a emo/screamo band ages 15-18. Great voice and great scream. contact me at staticdillinger@yahoo.com

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Women meeting men

men meeting women

men meeting men

SWF YOUNG 40, sophisticated, down to earth, fun, loves to travel, enjoys good food, wine and good company. Seeks true gentleman with romantic instincts for quality friendship or possible relationship. ☎5313

CALIFORNIA GIRL, LONG hair, brown eyes, fun, romantic seeks amazing guy, 38-48, with a great sense of humor, appreciation of eclectic music, control of temper, money for dinner. ☎5265

SWF SEEKING ALL the love the world offers. If that doesn't happen, once broken-up, I won't write letters detailing your faults or scratch a**hole onto your car. I won't sleep with any of your friends and/or relatives or call you in a drunken-rage reiterating reasons we should be together. ☎5250

GRAND OLD PARTY girl, 29, seeks cosmopolitan cowboy to share pitcher of Lone Star. Prefers Gruene Hall to Green Day, Rick Barnes to Mack Brown. Night on the town could help cure my ESPN addiction! ☎5248

OUTDOORSY, OUTGOING, ENERGETIC, 50-ish South Austinite seeks male who is spontaneous, fun, healthy, and appreciates every moment. I'm easy going, very attractive, and single, so check it out. ☎5251

SELF ABSORBED, CO-dependent dog lover, with severe Food Network addiction seeks fellow foodie/animal lover, for friendship, walks, good food, and companionship. Me: DWF, 41, 5'9", 180. You, surprise me! ☎5241

ENERGETIC, MODERN LIBRAN, 46, likes quantum physics, gourmet cooking, nature, spirituality, cats, brutal honesty, open communication, personal freedom, monogamous passion, Gwen Stefani to Buxtehude, financial stability, non-addicts. ☎5233

SWM, 30, WORKS too much. Seeking SWF, 25-35, petite to height/weight proportionate, to go on a long ride on my bike with me and whatever else we can think of. ☎5318

SPIRITUAL HIPPIE SEEKS loving soulmate. SWM, 45, tall, attractive, easygoing, spiritual, teaches TaiChi, loves pets, nature. Seeking lady, 35-45, beautifully spiritual, emotionally secure, heart of child. Cute, curvy real plus. ☎5317

SWEETHEART OF A guy seeks SF, race unimportant. Attitude and heart is...I'm 40is, cute, height/weight proportionate. I love music and dancing. ☎5299

MELLOW FELLOW: YOU'RE a lady with a special kinda itch, bored, forced to reminisce. Healthy, open-minded, don't mind being wooed? How about a date with a black dude, 33. ☎5301

GREAT DAD AND Austin runner DWM, 31, 5'10", honest, loves coffee, music. Seeking mature, honest, fit, laid-back woman, for music, coffee, outdoors, etc. Extra points if you're a runner. ☎5306

SWM, 40, 6'2", 210 lbs. I am nice, fun, friendly and clean. Seeking female for fun/friendship. Age, race, size unimportant. (Elgin/Manor area) ☎5309

VERY NICE HISPANIC male would like to find a nice prospect for camping, mountain bike rides, drum circle, outdoor soccer/volleyball. Friend-Girlfriend? You: Hispanic, Asian, White or Black, non smoking. ☎5316

THE LORD SAID ask and you shall receive. Christian male wanting to meet Christian female with Sodom and Gomorrah lifestyle. ☎5245

OFF BEAT MAN Have a custom motorcycle painting business. Believe that "Bush Is A Punk Ass Bitch". Creative and passionate Libra loves dogs, film and art. For interesting time call. ☎5268

ATTRACTIVE, PROFESSIONAL SWM, Round Rock gentleman, 51, 6', 185lbs., likes lake, hill country, movies, dining out, dogs, and smiley faces. Seeks same in SWF, 45-55. ☎5267

TALL (6'2"), WELL built (175lbs), good looking SWM, 43, non-smoker, seeks youthful (in attitude if not age), attractive SWF interested in personal growth with emphasis on relationship issues. ☎5263

WHERE ARE YOU? Seeking kind, compassionate SWF or SHF, 32-38, for friendship and love. Well treaded SHM, 43, seeks his happiness. Liberal, understanding. ☎5264

ARTIST IN DECLINE, 25, would like to meet a petite girl whose mouth waters at the astounding romance of each day. Be smart, hungry, and just a little bit cruel. ☎5246

SWM, 56, 6'2", 175, non smoking, good looking, affectionate, sense of humor, herpes, seeks affectionate SWF with same for relationship. I want you to call me. Let's talk and possibly meet. ☎5252

WM, 50, STILL believes, seeks the hope of love in someone to cherish. This songwriter is ready to write the love song of his life and needs you. ☎5305

SUMMERS COMING. SEEKING SWF Hippie (Hollow) Chick, animal lover, attractive, height/weight proportionate 45-55. Me: SWM, 6', 185, 54. Considered nice lookin'. Financially/Emotionally secure. Let the sun shine! ☎5253

HENRY MILLER SEEKS his Anais. Late 20's SWM, 5'9", 145 lbs. Starving artist looking for his muse. You: not looking for Dostoyevsky. ☎5234

WM, NON-SMOKING young 45, 5'11", 190, blonde/blue, educated, easy going, very romantic, clean, peaceful, pleasure to entertain with. Enjoys fine wine, kissing, cuddling, etc. Seeking similar F, age open. ☎5232

OPEN HEARTED GWM, 52, emotionally, spiritually and physically fit, living the best life he ever has. Seeking a similar, fabulous woman, 32-57 for loving, caring relationship possibilities. ☎5325

platononic

SGF SEEKING OTHER SGF to work out with, bicycle, run Town Lake, walk dogs, and other outdoor activities. Also open to coffee houses, movies, live theater, lunch/dinner. Looking for friends. ☎5244

messages

JE T'AIME. STILL miss you.

STINKO, HAPPY LATE 23. Make it count. Love !mine!

SHARON, LEAVE YOUR plejejo and come to me. Emilio

MT, IT'S YOURS 6 months to go. Cass

PIET, YOU ARE SMOKIN hot!

MET AT B-DAY after party. Blonde with dark haired friend. Exchanged numbers, wrote yours down wrong - call me.

YOU COULD ALWAYS move to Big Spring!! miss your smell.

DEVILGRRL: YOU ROCK. Glad to work with you. Respect! -Shtstabber

YOU HAD ME and you threw it away. Regret?

I DON'T BLAME you, I just miss you. - Miss Pantis

I'LL NEVER GIVE up on you. I love you -LN-

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, GARY! 13 years! Let's go to Canada and get married!! Love Rich

CHEFFREY AND THE gang. P&B PM class at TCA. I miss you guys! Hope you're havin' fun. -XOLEXO

KS, SKIP MEXICO. Write dirty with me here. LP

PAUL, I MISS you terribly. Can't deal with it. E

HAPPY 29TH BIRTHDAY SugarBooger, Wish you well. Love Boo.

DMD- CAN'T OUR wedding date come any sooner? NOW! JSC

MIDGE, HAPPY 23RD! You rock my face off. Love, Midge

CARI, I'M STILL in love with you. Sorry. N

DAVID, YOU ARE my lucky star. I love you. Pookiebear

DAM ASSMAN, HAPPY 21st! We are going to NY!

ALAMO BLONDIE, YOUR smile makes me melt. -Lethal

I LOVE YOU, PUNKin. You're the great- est. -Grace

G. REEVES, STILL the female Brian Kinney? Kidding. Hope ur ok. -N-

SARAH, WILL YOU join me at the circus? -Alvin

HAPPY 29TH BIRTHDAY,Gricelda! Best wishes for your best year!

MRS. LOVE COVERS a multitude of sin. Please be happy!

ERICA- THANK YOU for bringing me sooo many smiles xoxoxo-Lucynda

MISS GINA: STILL thinking of you. Sanchie

GRR, CAN'T WAIT to come home to you, Zero

ANGUS, WISH YOU'D said goodbye before you flew the coop.

B, YOU BROUGHT back the happy. Mad love, IZ

REGRET? I CAN'T cut out memories. U both suck. -D

MAYDAY, MAY THE road rise with you. Luv Heather

YOU BETTY BOP me Jen thanks for being a friend.

ALE G., MISSING the scent and taste of your fruit. Kev G.

ERIN, CLICK CLICK and lly. Love, Bert

STAN, DON'T BE too apprehensive. I don't bite (hard).

MY NAME IS Phillip. Now, where's that darn spider monkey?

CAROL, WILL YOU ever speak to me again? Cowboy

SOMEONE'S GOT A birthday coming up. Who's turning 29?

CHAD, 2 WEEKS to fall, 2 weeks to stall. Result? John

WHIT, MORE SORRY than words can say. Liv

CC-TAKE CARE of those lips, im gonna need them.

CARI: MY RAZZLE needs your dazzle. XOXO Jessi

C, I WISH I could feel you without dreaming. -C

I'VE COME TO resent you. You've been cruel and unfair.



flavor o' the week

YOU KNOCKED ON my door Monday night in the dark (2/7) and mentioned you liked the music I was playing (Elvis Costello/Burt Bacharach). Call me ☎5256

the Luv Doc

Bow Wow Festival
Sunday, March 6
Waterloo Park
www.bowwowfestival.com

Questions? Suggestions?
 email: luvdoc@austinchronicle.com

One of the cool things about dogs is that when it comes to meeting members of the opposite sex, they're pretty laid back. That's a good thing, too because it takes a certain amount of Zen to just walk up to another mammal (whether it be your species or some other, furless variety) and bury your nose in its crotch. In fact, bold, assertive gambits like that are almost exclusively limited to quadrupeds and a certain faux-Kahzakstani TV correspondent named Borat. For better or worse, most bipeds have found subtler ways to show interest in the opposite sex: the hair flip, the long stare, notes, cards, candy, flowers, but nothing says, "I want to make it with you" more emphatically than an enthusiastic leg hump, doggie-style. You could give that a try. You might even get lucky, but you're more likely to get maced, Tasered, or kicked in the groin. Most furless mammals need a little more romance - maybe some boxed wine or something off the value menu. Yes, it's exasperating having to think about the needs of others when yours are so pressing, but amazingly enough, that's precisely the type of thing most people find attractive in a potential mate. No one wants to sniff a selfish asshole, dog or human. Luckily most dogs are generous, enthusiastic companions. By and large, as long as you throw them a bone every once in a while, a dog (the real kind with fur and not the kind spelled with an "awg") will never leave you. This is one of the many reasons dogs are so attractive as pets, and having a dog for a pet is a good sign that you're able to think about something other than yourself. You could say the same thing about owning a cat, but cat owners also have a rather disturbing submissive streak in them - and let's face it, may be too easily entertained. They're also harder to meet. Ever see anyone out walking their cat? Dog lovers, however, are everywhere, trailing their charges around with little Ziploc baggies, waiting for them to make. This town is lousy with them, especially this Sunday when Waterloo Park hosts the Bow Wow Festival, an all-day festival for dogs and their owners featuring exciting events like doggie fashion show, a best doggie dancer competition, a dog-kissing contest, weiner dog races, and a chance to audition for Letterman's "Stupid Pet Tricks." There will also be music by Furry Murry and the Bow Wow Band, food (dog and otherwise), and beer. Plus the Bow Wow Festival benefits the Austin Humane Society. If that's not a good excuse to get out there and sniff some butts, what is?

LIAR AND cheater should not reference Hafiz love Poetry.

IT AIN'T NOTHIN' but a party. Everybody get loose!

MY SLEEVE KNOWS a couple of tricks for her embrace.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JAMIE. The best is yet to come. - Scott

KATRINA, YOU WERE the hottest thing at Cherry. -V

JIM! FISHING, FARM, morning ditties and omelettes. Mighty good man.

TONY, WE LOVE you. Your wife, Julia and Katie

THE PATHETIC RED Bear will always luv you, even after V-day CL

DAVID, I SAID I'd get over it. Still hasn't happened.

THE RITZ 2/10. You: Boston. Me: Smiling. Want to watch The O.C. sometime?

M: I KNOW you can't...Not a little?

FEBRUARY 12TH, RED and Pink Party. I stepped on your fins at the pinata. I froze in your gaze, an apology was all I could muster. Give me another chance? **5326**

KAREN, MISTRESS OF Piggie (sp.?). Have not seen you at Redbud Isle lately. Wanted to ask you to dinner. Hereby do same, Paul, Master of Mo (white pyrenees mix.) **5327**

2/19 CURVE'S GARAGE Sale. You bought my Christmas lights, but you stole my heart. When is your housewarming party? Let me be your personal trainer. Call **5319**

WESTON, IT'S THE temp. receptionist. Are you the mystery man who never asked me out? Wanna know how that story ends that takes place inside the pack of camels? Call **5320**

LA CASA PARTY 2/19. Aaron, you were the cutest neighbor and a good kisser. I lost your number, would like to see you again. **5321**

ELIZABETH: I TOOK a peek at your credit card -- can I get the rest of your digits? From: Guy at Tambaleo, Saturday night past. **5328**

2/22 FAR WEST Rockin' Tomato. You-blond haired vixen behind the counter, me goofy big brown haired carpenter-type. Kept catching your smiles, cuddle and a movie sometime? **5322**

ME: BLONDE, LIGHTLY dreaded ponytail, dark goatee. You: almost ran into me at Fresh Plus. We took identical routes home, laughed but never spoke. Cross paths again sometime? **5297**

YOU: UTAHN AT Barton Springs getting fuel, looking for work. I still can't help with that, but regret not suggesting we dine at Wantu 2 or elsewhere. Hope it's not too late. **5315**

2/14 DOCTORS WITHOUT Borders Benefit. You had on a pink tutu with little matching ones for your ankles. You said we should talk more after the show, but I forgot to get your number. Downtown Charlie Brown **5304**

CHILD'S ON STASSNEY 2/14. You: beautiful lavender haired girl, talked about shaving your head. Me: tall tattooed guy said don't do it. Changed mind, have razors. Call me! **5302**

AMY'S ICE CREAM 2/14. You: beautiful lavender haired girl, talked about shaving your head. Me: tall tattooed guy said don't do it. Changed mind, have razors. Call me! **5302**

SHELL, 32ND/LAMAR 2/16. Sorry I couldn't come with you, should have gotten your number. You have a beautiful voice, let's make sweet music. **5303**

YOU WERE AT Ego's Poetry Slam last Wednesday. You were the cutie on the front bench with the hurt foot. You left before I could talk to you. **5310**

RIVERFRONT BIKE TRAIL 2/13. You - watering dog with vintage Schwinn. Me - watering self, "nice bike". go for a ride? **5311**

CLUB DE VILLE. You- cute waitress wearing a brooch. I told you I would give you "A Shot in the Dark". Would you care to meet? Call **5312**

YOU'RE THE CUTE meat department boy at Randall's on Ben White. Me - girl in Chef outfit that comes in at night. Wish I got your name and number! Call **5314**

TUESDAY 2/22, 1:30; Dynast Listener. You: blonde, glasses, uniform? CUTE! I was at the round table next to you - petite, dark hair. Would have enjoyed a one-on-one conversation. Call **5323**

2/4 GAVIN CONCERT. DJ with British accent backstage. Need a date to another teeny bopper show? **5258**

2/18 FRIDAY NIGHT, Barton Springs. You: cutie in black hoodie. Me: Girlin white Lincoln that almost killed you. I owe you one. Call me. **5324**

JO'S 2/12, YOU: wavy Brunette with horn-rim spectacles and cutest smile ever, Guatemalan flowery handbag. I couldn't stop looking. Not shy, but you weren't alone. I think we'll marry. Coffee? **5269**

CUBRE LIBRE: YOU cute twin/UT law. Me: dentist with no clue, didn't get your. **5308**

PIZZA HUT MOPAC/Wells Branch. You: dark hair, getting pizzas. Exchanged looks, drove away in silver car. Me tall, thin, black hair, scruffy face, by car. Stopped me in my tracks... **5271**

WHOLE FOODS ON Friday. You were in a sweater, eating spring rolls. I was flipping through The Chronicle, waiting to talk. Let's try it again. **5255**

HUTCH- BRAZILIAN CARNIVAL 2/5. Did you want to get to know me? Call. - A **5257**

YOU KNOCKED ON my door Monday night in the dark (2/7) and mentioned you liked the music I was playing (Elvis Costello/Burt Bacharach). Call me **5256**

GINGER: I WANTED clean air. You dark owns oil. Screw pre-med. Your laugh made me grin like a banshee! I simply must talk to you again. **5259**

KATZ'S DELI, FAT Tuesday. You- Tall, dark hair, EMS Technician. Me- brownish hair, pink top and fishnets with girlfriends. Just wanted to tell you how handsome I thought you were. Call **5296**

2/9 HYDE PARK Post Office noon. You: Brunette in newer blue Saturn sedan, Me: walking dog. At stop sign then parking lot, dog distracted. I've seen you around, let's meet please! **5261**

TAMBALEO 2/11, I love rock and roll! Hottest girl in the joint! Want to get coffee and talk about Joan Jet? **5298**

I SAW YOU in Austin Diner with two hot girls. I wonder if you would like to go out with me. **5240**

WOLF CAMERA, CENTRAL Market. Tall, curly hair with stubble. Very handsome and artistic. Might we produce a little chiascuro (sic). Let's see what develops. Call **5262**

placing a personals or variations ad

Placing an *Austin Chronicle* personal ad is fun and simple! You can submit a free 30 word personal ad (10 words for "Messages" ads) Monday through Friday the following ways: **BY FAX:** 458-6910* **ON THE WEB:** austinchronicle.com/personals/form.html *if all else fails: **BY PHONE:** 454-5765 x137 * **IN PERSON:** 4000 N. IH-35 **REQUIRED INFO:** name, address, phone number (all ads may be edited for content). One ad at a time. Instructions on how to retrieve messages will be sent to you by mail. *We reserve the right to refuse any ad for any reason.*

responding to personals ads

Responding to an ad by phone: To listen and respond to *Austin Chronicle* Personal ads, call **1-800-284-0865** (Visa, MC, AmEx) or **1-900-226-0242** (\$1.99/minute, 18+). You will have the opportunity to browse through ads by category or to respond to specific ads using the four digit voice-mail box number that follows each ad. Responding to an ad with Mail Forwarding: Write the five digit Mail Forwarding Number in the center of a regular envelope and then write the following address beneath it: **P.O. Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765.** Ads with mail forwarding have a five digit number and this symbol: 

WE TALKED ABOUT Swiss cheese, you were finishing your shopping at the deli and we discussed Swiss cheese. Want to discuss more than cheese! Call me **5247**

2-6 DIAMOND SHAMROCK on Oltorf. You: Punk Siren in pink skirt and black top. Me: Speechless I should have said hi. Coffee? **5249**

ERIK-THE TAVERN: We shared dirty martinis and you stole my heart. I'll never look any further than your front door. Maybe we can share another dance to Billie soon? Please call! **5242**

EGO'S POETRY SLAM: Cute diva speaking about donuts. I'll be your co-captain any day. Shall we dip our socks in champagne? Please call **5235**

1/30 SEATTLE'S BEST Coffee Farmer. You're Jenna and you love my chai. Can I get you another? Call me **5236**

1/26 THRIFT STORES. You: cute girl with two friends looking at tapes. Me: with mom buying sombrero, also looking at tapes. Too shy to say anything. Was there something? **5237**

COFFEE MAN AT Bouldin Coffee, Conrad, you make my coffee a lot more enjoyable. You look mmm! Delicious! why aren't you on my menu? Call **5238**

VEGGIE HEAVEN 1/27. Stunning blonde with bright tattoos-we talked about our many pets. Let's go to the dog park together! **5239**



PLAYLAND SKATE CENTER, Feb 27. You: impossibly cute strawberry blonde. Me: blue shirt, dark hair. We shared several glances, but couldn't talk (kids). You do the BEST hokie pokie! Call! **5329**

YOU: CUTE in blue truck with 2 friends? Smiled at me. Me-Cute in black SUV. Shy, looked away, but smiled at last minute. Want to meet? **5330**

variations

WEALTHY SWM, LATE 30s, seeks very attractive female, 18-35, to spend time with when in Austin. Should enjoy travel, shopping, and dining out. **51131**

GOT PASS FROM wife! Wants me to describe to her sexual experience with another woman! HMM, 35, 5' 9", 175lb, hazel eyes! Prefer married woman!! No strings but just fun!! **51142**

ARE WE ALONE? MWC, drug/disease free, professional, educated, attractive. Looking for others who enjoy life au natural. Not swingers, just like to be without clothes. Let's be friends! **51134**

MC SEEKS BIW/HM. Please him while she watches and possibly joins later. Must be height/weight proportionate, drug/disease free, good looking. We are. Serious only. Pics a plus. **51078**

AUSTIN COUPLE, M/29-F/28 seek Bif any age for fun and pleasure. We are clean, laid back, and bored. We need someone to play with. Call us. **51127**

UNDERSEXED ESTHER'S FOLLIES actor, 24, seeks sexed literary woman with whom to blur the line between art and life. Let's fill the table with cake and presents. **51068**

DOMINANT MALE, EXPERIENCED and responsible, is currently interviewing submissive females. Attitude is of the utmost importance to this stern, yet caring Master. **51125**

HE LIKES THREESOMES. MHM and SWM looking for third guy to join in for a hot 3 way! **51079**

ARE YOU LONELY, fiscally secure...looking to spend time with a lady of model stature? Mega babe in search of mutually beneficial relationship. Sweet like sugar, be my daddy! **51136**

SINGLE WM, 6'2", 190, 34w, handsome, masculine and cool. Like the arts, music, hanging out and having a good time! Seeking a generous, wealthy sugar daddy to pamper me! **51141**

BLACK MALE, WELL endowed, seeks females/couples for fun! 34, attractive, discreet and good! Want to try a black stud? Then call me! **51135**

SUBMISSIVE SWM looking to explore service to a mistress. Beginner or experienced, let me please you any day of the week. **51130**

WELL ENDOWED WM, mid 20s. I have the best kind of fetish, the fetish for older women. Age/Race are unimportant. Clean, discreet, drug/disease free. **51137**

SWF, 36-24-36, GREEN eyes, Seeking well endowed, handsome blacksmith. Grease after work a must. Available anytime for erotic dominance pleasures. **51140**

BIMWC looking for third party. Bif in the Austin area preferred. **51070**

MWC SEEKING BIF. Must be discreet and love to be spoiled. We are for real and height/weight proportionate. You be too. Satisfaction guaranteed. **51144**

STRAIGHT, BI, MARRIED guys under 30 who are very handsome, friendly and enjoy adult videos with special attention. HM, 42, will deliver in a private, discreet setting. No strings. **51067**

CUDDLE PARTY? SWPM non-smoker, 49, offers private cuddle party for non smoking women under 45. This is a great stress reliever. Your limits respected. **51071**

GENEROUS PWM seeks attractive submissive female slave. Kind master needs part time attention. **51128**

SEEKING POWERFUL WOMEN who think their muscles are sexy and would enjoy showing them off to a witty, considerate, appreciative gentleman. Nothing weird or violent, just good clean fun. **51072**

BIWM, 33, 6', 150 lbs., looking for M/F couple to have fun with. Want to please and be pleased by you both. Disease free. Pics are always good. **51124**

ATTRACTIVE MALE HAS fantasy/fetish for busty, buxom female playmate, C-cup and up, for cleavage worship. Are you out there? Equal opportunity player, age/race unimportant. Submissives encouraged! **51129**

BIWM, 43, BOTTOM, fit, handsome. Seeking endowed top, up to age 45, for discreet fun. Height/weight proportionate only, race unimportant. **51133**

FIT, MASCULINE MALE, 29, seeks older, masculine, patient top for unique relationship. Please live in Austin, have your own place, be infection-free. Beefy/muscles a plus. **51126**

CALLING MEN WITH tats!! This guy would love to have some fun. I take over where your girlfriend, wife or boyfriend won't.... Satisfaction guaranteed. **51069**

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WM SEEKS GWM, 50-70, to introduce me to wild times. Am clean, healthy, nicely built. You must have a place to meet. Safe only. **51080**

M/F COUPLE. ASIAN female, 5'4", 115lbs., 34C. Hispanic Male, 5'11", 180lbs. You: couple or single woman, 25-40, attractive, height/weight proportionate, drug/disease free, ready for exotic erotic adventures. **51077**

WEALTHY, GENEROUS MWM, would like to meet personable female for enjoyable and rewarding relationship. **51066**

MUSCLE! BI WHITE muscle guy looking for muscle guys into being oiled, posing, flexing, muscle worship. Body pic required before meeting. Call with an email address. Serious only! **51143**

WM, 30'S, LOOKING for big girls (not obese), age 20-37, for nude oil wrestling and hands on fun. Casual, discreet, no strings. **51132**

DO YOU HAVE submissive erotic fantasies? Are you ready for a firm yet respectful Master who understands your needs and whose imagination exceeds your own? Put your vibrator down and the phone up. **51139**

PANTYHOSE. ARE THERE any ladies out there who still like showing off in pantyhose? **51074**

HC, 40'S, PROFESSIONAL and clean cut seek HM, 30-48, endowed, and clean who is into adult teasing and mischievous fun. Let's play, we're watching. **51075**

JUST BACK FROM a year in Iraq. SWPM, attractive, athletic, passionate, seeking passionate female for TLC and hours upon hours of fun. **51138**

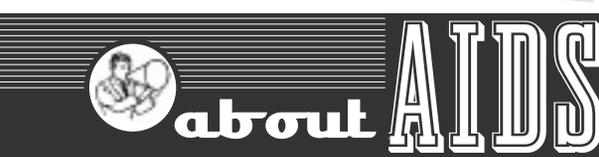
MWC MID-30'S very new to this. Need help from SWF or SHF. I got lucky and married a wife that wants to experience every mans fantasy. Can you help? **51076**

26 YEAR OLD Latino, well endowed and cute. Looking to satisfy an older woman. NO strings fun. All sizes and races. All women welcome. Prefer older than 45 but it's cool. **51081**

DOMINANT SWM, 48, 5'11", 185, easy going, sense of humor. Seeks Submissive SWF for long-term relationship. Into B/D, toys, role play. Must be medium to slim build, drug/disease free. **51065**

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Today's powerful anti-HIV treatments, while not a cure, are keeping HIV-positive people alive and healthier longer. But sometimes overlooked is the price that many HIVers pay in side effects from their "drug cocktails." Some effects are short-term, like diarrhea, muscle aches, and sleep disturbances. Others are long-term and potentially more medically dangerous: diabetes, bone damage, and metabolic disorders like lipodystrophy.

On Thursday, March 10, AIDS Services of Austin's Dining With the Doctor program will explain those side effects, from mild to maddening, and how to manage them so they aren't so disruptive. Our guest doc will be Dr. David Wright. Practicing at the Blackstock Clinic, Wright is one of the most respected HIV-treating physicians in the Austin area, with patients from all walks of life. He is also medical director of Central Texas Clinical Research, which tests experimental medications, especially related to HIV/AIDS. An engaging and good-humored presenter, Dr. Wright is one of the program's most popular guests.

The presentation will be given in English, but simultaneous translation will be provided for Spanish-monolingual attendees.

Dinner with Dr. Wright will be at 6pm on Thursday, March 10, at ASA, 7215 Cameron (just north of St. Johns). The evening is free, thanks to the generous sponsorship of pharmaceutical manufacturer Pfizer-Agouron. Seating is limited, so please let us save you a place: call ASA's reception desk at 458-AIDS (458-2437) or e-mail sandy.bartlett@asaustin.org.

- Sandy Bartlett
Community Education Coordinator, AIDS Services of Austin

Have questions about HIV or AIDS? Call the ASA Info-Line at 458-AIDS or e-mail Sandy.Bartlett@ASAustin.org

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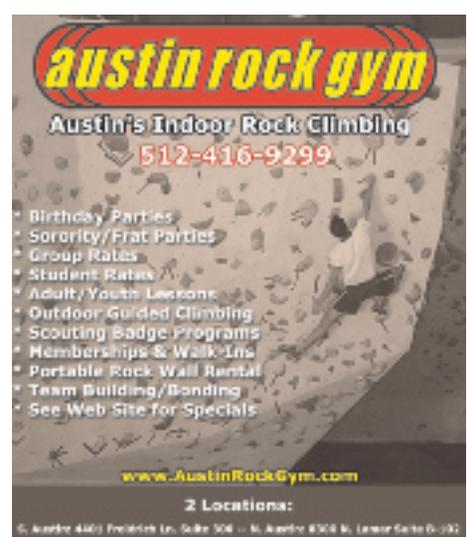
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