

PERSONALITIES

"I'm continuing to evolve," says Martha Davis, an icon of the '80s music scene with The Motels. She now lives in Oregon and continues to write and perform.



"My gay fans have always been incredibly loyal," says Davis. "I don't remember when it started but they've always been there for me. I think they are there for the music — and they have been with me forever."

still plays guitar, piano and plenty of other instruments even though she can't read a lick of music. She's also written musicals that she hopes at some point see the light of day.

"I love musicals," says Davis. "(Stephen) Sondheim is a god and *Sweeney Todd* is my all-time favorite."

Maybe a love of all things Broadway makes Davis such a hit with queer folks, but it's likely something that goes much deeper.

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As far as her own sexual orientation, she considers herself straight, but has messed around with women. "I think sex is sex," says Davis. "And I love sex. It's good for



everybody."

Lately, through the encouragement of local friends like Balloons On Broadway's Ron Pitt, Davis has put herself more "out" there, making local appearances at this year's Red Dress Party, Pride celebration and even an unscheduled stop at the hirsute "Beartown" where, late in the evening, she threw herself into the middle of a dance floor full of hairy bears.

So does she ever still feel like she "walks the loneliest mile"?

"I'm continuing to evolve," says Davis. "I might be alone as far as a partner is concerned but this community has been incredibly welcoming and loving. I've made some incredible new friends and met musicians to collaborate with. My life is fabulous." **JO**

Martha Davis and The Motels with Charm Particles and UHF, Fri., July 24, 9:30 p.m., Dante's, 1 SW Third Ave., \$13 advance, \$16 door, 21+, 503-226-6630.

Local gadfly and writer Byron Beck was devastated when he found out "Only The Lonely" was written about him. Years of therapy, vodka sodas and blogging at www.byronbeck.com have helped him get over it.

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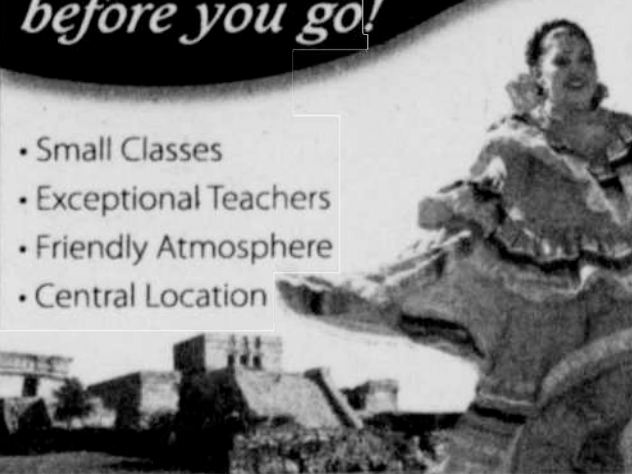
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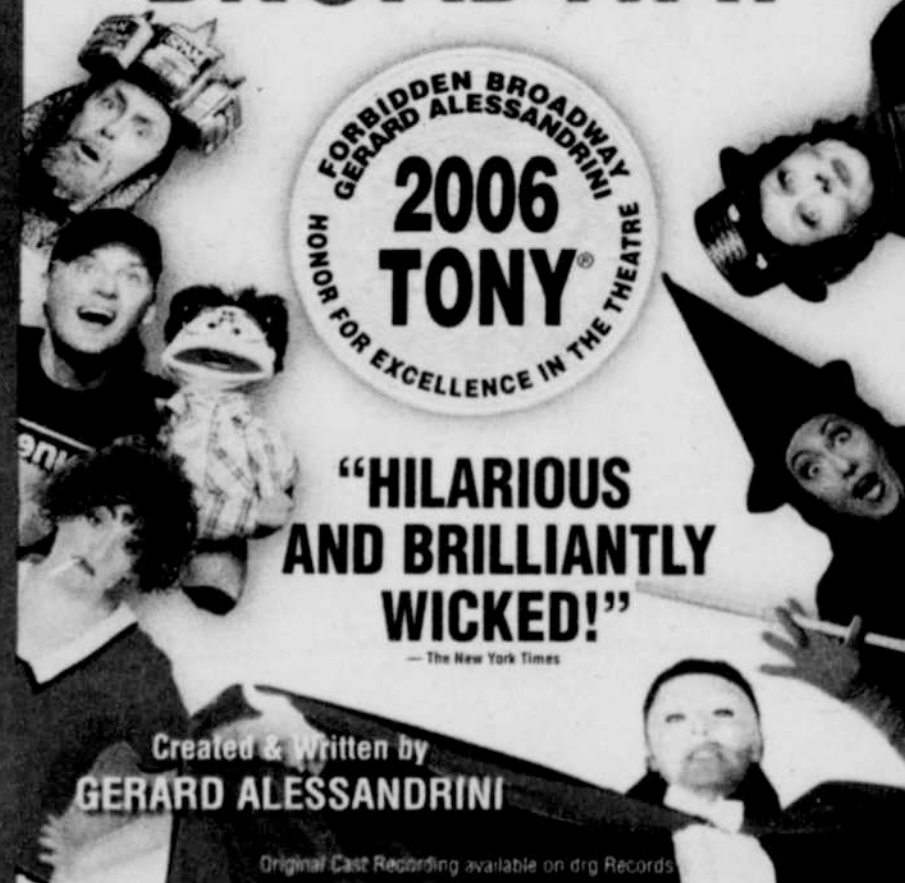


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