

# the best of **H** 2006 htexas

ANNUAL  
TEXAS

Where to eat, what to do and how to look the part – all the best the Bayou City has to offer.

By Phaedra Friend

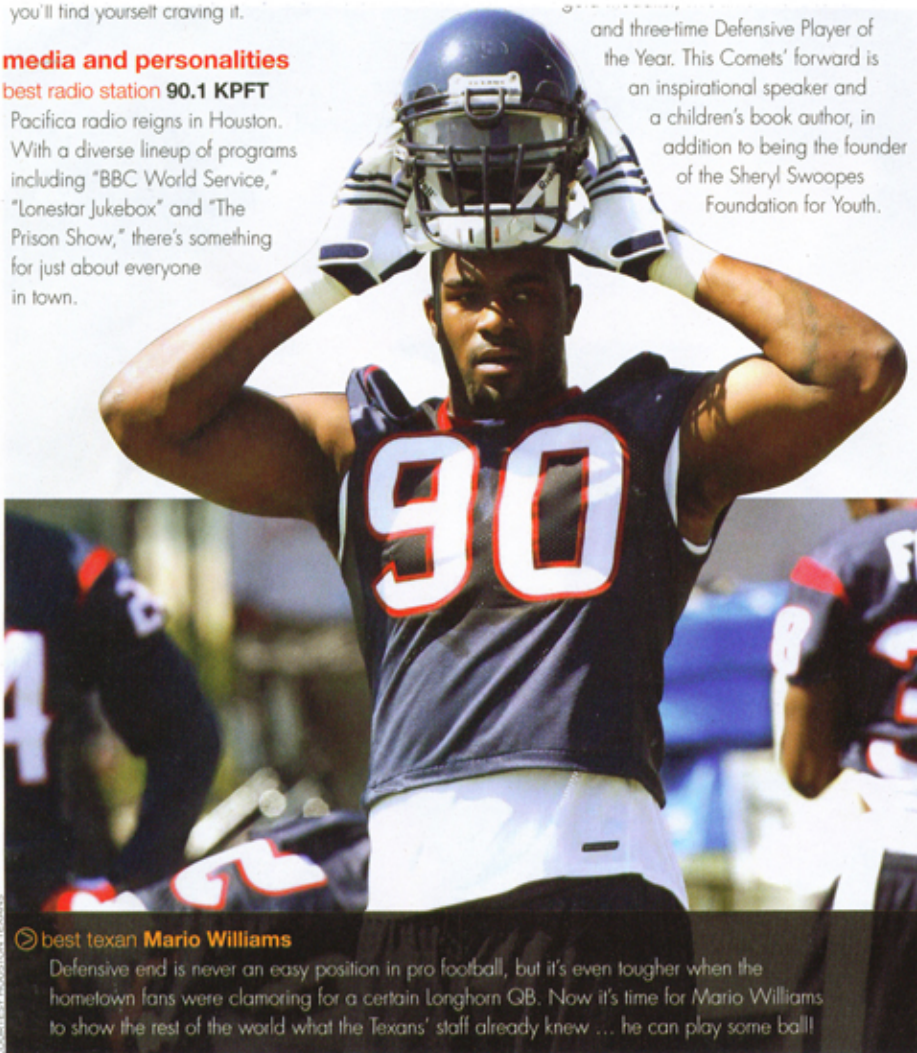
you'll find yourself craving it.

## media and personalities

### best radio station **90.1 KPFT**

Pacifica radio reigns in Houston. With a diverse lineup of programs including "BBC World Service," "Lonestar Jukebox" and "The Prison Show," there's something for just about everyone in town.

and three-time Defensive Player of the Year. This Comets' forward is an inspirational speaker and a children's book author, in addition to being the founder of the Sheryl Swoopes Foundation for Youth.



### best texan **Mario Williams**

Defensive end is never an easy position in pro football, but it's even tougher when the hometown fans were clamoring for a certain Longhorn QB. Now it's time for Mario Williams to show the rest of the world what the Texans' staff already knew ... he can play some ball!

### best salon **Cut Loose**

A good haircut doesn't have to be a stuffy experience. Cut Loose infuses the best cuts, colors and styles in town with Montrose quirkiness. Stylists are fun, funky and daring – don't be surprised if you see Mohawks, pink hair and lots of tats.

### best spa **Trellis**

Tourists and locals alike flock to this haven in the Houstonian Hotel for a bit of R&R.

### best tan **Tanning Spot**

For that sun-kissed look, whether it's in a bed or by spray, the Tanning Spot will give you all-over color.

### best gym **Houstonian Lite**

With the most state-of-the-art equipment and coolest classes, Houstonian Lite caters to the downtown business person, especially with lunchtime classes.

## living

### best apartments **The Bel Air**

The Allen Park Inn is no more (sniffle, sniffle), but it's been replaced with an unbelievable apartment building. Just a hop, skip and a jump from downtown, The Bel Air's façade, complete with a waterfall, takes apartment living to the next step.

### best condos **The Royalton**

Is that a helicopter landing pad or a gigantic fruit bowl on the top of this Allen Parkway high rise? All we know is the Rockets seem to like living here, and the concierge is amazingly helpful (especially to lost editors!).

### best new neighborhood development **South Fork**

Celebrating easy Texas living, South Fork near Pearland has attracted so many new residents, it's impossible not to mention.