

HOUSTON

**HAPPY
RENEW
YEAR!**

THE BEAUTY ISSUE

*H-Town's Sexy Seven on
What's Pretty Now*

*Face Forward! Makeup for a
Daring New Decade*

*Hair Apparent? Houston's
Mane Mogul for Guv?*

& Top Texas Spas

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Gen-Next fitness guru
Hank Richardson at CityCentre's Hotel Sorella

— (OVERHEARD) —

“Lynn! You know this story already. Thanks for sitting through it again.”

—*Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson to pal Lynn Wyatt, grateful for the Houston grand dame's patience at a Neiman Marcus tea last month. During the event—which promoted Brit perfumer Clive Christian's No.1 fragrance and 'The Young Victoria,' a film her ex-Royal Highness produced—Fergie made apparently redundant remarks about Queen Victoria.*

Bill White and Farouk Shami at the opening of Shami's new Chi USA Houston headquarters in July

Q & A

Hair Apparent?

You've built a billion-dollar business, added thousands of jobs to the American marketplace, and still have a full head of hair. Now what? If you're Houston-based beauty mogul **Farouk Shami**, whose biz makes Chi products like the new single-pass iron (below), you run for governor. We caught up with the candidate on his 67th birthday, a few hours after he filed paperwork to run in March's Democratic primary against outgoing Houston Mayor Bill White. —*Peter Barnes*



Bill White's popular. How will you beat him? I am the most popular person in the state of Texas. I've been in every city and every small town, pitching my product. **Is Texas ready to elect a Quaker-educated Dem raised in the Middle East?** If we can have a President who is black, the people are ready for a governor who is brown. And Texas is browning quickly, faster than any state. **You've offered to serve for \$1 per year.** I'm running for governor to serve the people, not to make money. I don't need the money. I'm not paid by special interest groups like the rest of those people who run for offices. **A politician needs good hair; just look at Rick Perry.** What do you do to keep your stately crown in gubernatorial condition? Well, I use what the governor uses—Farouk System products. We need a governor with good hair and somebody who knows hair, not somebody without hair. **Countless women have you to thank for their manageable hair. Does that give you an edge in the election?** Oh absolutely. I'm a problem solver. **Your Lamborghini's red, your boots are red, much of your wardrobe is red. Will all that red be a problem running for the party represented by blue on the political map?** I am a colorist ... and we will turn the state from red to blue.



Nightclub Cardio at Pravada

FITNESS FILE

Shake It Up!

Get off the treadmill and onto the dance floor. *Houston* magazine first reported in June about then-new **Nightclub Cardio**—freestyle hip-hop and step aerobics at Pravada nightclub—which has since become so popular that founder Jennifer Brugh says she's expanding locally and launching in L.A. Now, new classes of the same ilk are heating up hot gyms like **FIT** (1532 W. Gray St., 713.529.1515), which introduces a hip-moving hula-hoop fitness class, **BodyHoops**, Jan. 16. The River Oaks gym has also added **Zumba**—fast and slow movements to Latin music. Similarly, Midtown's three-story **24 Hour Fitness** (3201 Louisiana St., 713.401.0182) has **Hot Hula**, a core workout incorporating Polynesian dance to drumbeats. Two left feet? No worries, says FIT's Kelley Davidson: “You can be a total goofball, have fun, and get a great workout!” —*Jody Palmer*