

women's pro football team hits houston with hurricane force

Houston Breakthrough

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50 cents

2000 years of tradition broken

Women entering the priesthood



Marilyn Jones

Once ordained, **REV. HELEN HAVENS** will administer all of the sacraments of the Episcopal Church.

By Suzanne Gray

On September 16, 1976, Helen Havens sat in a hall jammed with three thousand people. Flanked by close friends, she listened for four hours to debate over an issue she had labored on for five years. She sensed a quiet conviction of what the outcome would be. The auditorium, however, was far from calm. Tensions crackled in the air. Then the speeches were over. The crowd became completely silent for five minutes of prayer.

The Reverend John B. Coburn, President of the House of Deputies, stood before the General Convention of the Episcopal Church being held in Minneapolis and read the decision to sanction the ordination of women to the priesthood. He read the vote: "Clerical order--60 dioceses for, 37 against and 12 divided. Needed for passage 37. Lay order--57 dioceses for, --58. against 12 divided. Needed for passage-- 57."

It was an historical moment. Two thousand years of tradition had just been broken.

Following the request of house leadership, the vote was accepted in prayer with pleas for reconciliation by both sides of this bitterly divisive issue. For Helen Havens it was a moment of subdued joy.

The Reverend Helen M. Havens, President of the Episcopal Women's Caucus, and Assistant to the Rector at St. Francis Church in Houston is an articulate woman, full of gentle charity and incredible strength. Her conviction of the wholeness women would bring to the priesthood has impelled her relentless crusade.

The Episcopal Women's Caucus was formed in 1971 to affirm the role of women at large in the Church. Its aim has been to educate through communication and Havens and her husband have traveled and worked tirelessly in that effort.

The National Coalition for Women's Ordination grew out of the Caucus in 1974, to work specifically for the acceptance of women priests at the 1976 General Convention. Reverend Patricia M. Park, also a deacon, and co-chairperson of the Coalition, attributed success of the ordination decision to the Coalition's efforts, and to pressure resulting from irregular ordinations of 15 women priests.

On July 29, 1974, eleven women, acting on beliefs that could not be ignored or delayed any longer, defied the hierarchic dictates of the Episcopal Church, and were ordained priests in a controversial ceremony in Philadelphia. It rocked the Church. Their ordination left a wake of great hope and deep despair; joy and sorrow; clarity and confusion. Many feared the Church would rift apart.

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LIBERTY GALA

ACLU's theme for this year's liberty gala is "Women's Rights."

Frances Farenthold will be the keynote speaker at a reception on October 23 at the home of James Calaway, president of the Texas Civil Liberties Union.

"We will celebrate the women and men everywhere who have participated in this effort to achieve equal rights for women," Calaway said.

"And, we will drink a toast to the ACLU for having played a significant role in most sex discrimination cases that have reached the Supreme Court in this decade," he added.

The gala is also a benefit for the local ACLU to raise operating funds for its activities and programs in the coming year.

All contributors will receive a free poster on the theme of women's rights by artist Trudy Sween.

If you would like to celebrate the role of the ACLU in the women's rights movement and lend support to a victorious fund drive, do not miss the liberty gala at 17 Courtlandt Place on Saturday evening, October 23.

UT nurses testify against Regents

By Dolly McClary

UT nursing educators and students scored a few points recently in their battle to re-establish their University of Texas System School of Nursing (UTSSN). As a direct result of their success at publicizing, organizing and politicizing their fight, State Representative Fred Head (D-Athens), chair of the House Higher Education Committee, agreed to hold public hearings on the matter at a meeting of the Medical Education Subcommittee in Austin on September 9.

House Speaker Bill Clayton charged Head with the responsibility of studying the effects of the UT Board of Regents' March 26 decision to abolish the UTSSN, and of making recommendations to the legislature. "I'm sure the physicians would not want to have a nurse to be dean of the medical school, but in effect, that's what we have now--phy-

sicians heading our nursing schools through their positions as presidents of the local health science centers," testified Dr. Evelyn Redding, faculty member at UT-Houston.

The most disturbing effect of the decision was the serious setback to the professional and educational autonomy of the nursing profession.

Dr. Frances Moncure, another member of the Houston faculty, described one immediate effect in her testimony. "Dr. Charles Berry, President of the UT Health Science Center in Houston, warned the faculty on the Houston campus not to air their views on the system's dissolution to the news media," she said. "He told us he is keeping a file on all who have done so."

Berry's ultimatum seems to have had its effect on acting Dean Dorothy Otto of the Houston campus. During the

committee hearing, Chairman Head questioned if Otto anticipated any problems under the new structure. Her only re-

sponse--punctuated by long periods of silence--was to state "I could work with them."

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Dr. Evelyn Redding and **Dr. Frances Moncure**, UT-Houston nursing school faculty, testified in the September 9 legislative hearing.

Editorials

Regents or kings?

"The time has come, the people said, to speak of many things: of rash decisions, power plays, and regents who act like kings."

"With deep apologies to Lewis Carroll," Mavis Pennington, a Houston nurse described (*Chronicle*, "Viewpoint" June 9) the University of Texas System School of Nursing (UTSSN) debacle as growing "curiouser and curiouser."

What is really curious to us is that the language of "Jabberwocky" used by the Regents was swallowed up by the six nursing school deans who have remained safely "neutral" through the entire controversy.

From the Regents' March 26 decision the deans accepted the UTSSN abolishment as an act of God rather than men and dutifully worked for an "orderly transition" by September 1.

At the September 9 Austin legislative hearing called to study the reorganization, Vice-Chancellor (promoted from Deputy) Walker closed his testimony by saying the "reorganization was working well because of the willing cooperation and hard work of our nursing school deans."

Dean Hawkins from San Antonio said "it would be a marvelous challenge" and Acting Dean Dorothy Otto from Houston said "I can live with it."

A tactic verbalized in the Frank Erwin days, Regent historians will recall, is to pay your administration well (nursing school deans earn approximately \$40,000 a year). Strengthen your administration, Erwin's law goes, and you'll weaken the power of the faculty.

Thus, because the deans did nothing to publicly question or challenge the authority of the Regents, it fell upon the Texas Nurses Association to file an unprecedented lawsuit against the Regents last May.

Because the administrators of the nursing schools have been silent in protest, it has fallen on the faculty and students to fight for the integrity of their patient-oriented profession.

The brave voices who have spoken up have done so at great professional and personal risk. As TNA attorney Charles Babb reminded legislators at the September 9 hearing, "Some of the nurses risked their careers by testifying today. In fact, when they return to work tomorrow morning, they might not have a job."

Two Houston faculty members who testified, Dr. Frances Moncure and Dr. Evelyn Redding, received a summons to appear before their new administrator, Dr. Charles Berry, president of the UT Health Science Center. Houston's Acting Nursing School Dean Dorothy Otto, who now functions as an intercessor to the president, told Moncure it was called "to discuss your appearance at the hearing." The memo read: "to discuss differences of opinion regarding the operation of the school."

Houston *Post* medical reporter Mary Jane Schier, who has avoided coverage of the UTSSN story like the plague, took this opportunity to call Redding and ask if it were true that she and Moncure were going to be fired. The attorneys for the nurses, knowing Schier's loyalties and biases, regarded the call as further harassment.

After the nurses' attorneys called the Texas Attorney General's office and that office called Berry, the meeting was cancelled.

Redding and Moncure have been targeted by the medical hierarchy, along with Mildred Dayton at UT-Houston, because they have chosen to take a stand and have remained committed since the "Save Our School" days. "There is no neutrality in the illegal abolishment of the school," they have steadfastly articulated.

They have challenged the irresponsibility of Berry's statement last March 12 when he said "I do not believe in higher education for nurses. It only makes the health care delivery system more expensive for professionals (i.e., physicians)."

They have challenged—and proved wrong—Regent-physician Joe Nelson's "Report" that UT nurses are "so poorly prepared to perform as bedside nurses and to assist in the care of the sick that UT . . . hospitals have to put UT graduates through six weeks of clinical training."

They have challenged the accusation that something is wrong in nursing education to cause the heavy turnover of nurses in hospitals by suggesting that something may be wrong inside the hospitals to cause the nursing shortage.

In fact, they have effectively challenged every reason given by Walker and the Regents for the dissolution. They are now working with a lobbyist employed by TNA to pass a bill in the next legislature to protect the autonomy of nursing education and practice in Texas.

We are the beneficiaries from the struggle to save UTSSN and we are calling for an end to the harassment of those nurses who are speaking for the consumers of health care in Texas.

We are calling on our legislators in the next session to study the "curious" power of the UT Regents who arrogantly destroyed what, until recently, was the best nursing school system in the country.



letters to breakthrough

The article you wrote in a summer issue on the Memorial City Shopping Center rapist was excellent. You gave a physical description of the man and an account of his habitude in the attacks he made, long before any of the other media did.

I am sure it would be very helpful for other women to be able to read about these "neighborhood rapists". . . The reason these guys can get away with these repeated attacks is because women aren't informed on who, where, how, or what to look out for.

Thank you for informing me.

KELLY BAKER

Editor's note: We hope to receive the cooperation of the Houston Police Department in continuing to provide such information.

Would you please stop putting pictures of "sexy" women into "Dead Pans." I see these fantasies of men everywhere I go. PLEASE—I don't have to look at this perpetrated reflection of myself in a paper I read to read about women in the Texas area. Run the photos of the MEN who create these photos.

LURA HIRSCH
Stamford, Ct.

Editor's note: We empathize with your reaction; we're sick of "cheesecake" too. Entries are submitted by readers who find them offensive and want them stopped. Also, the sexism of Texas Monthly covers [Breakthrough, January 1976] may not have been apparent over a 3 yr. period until we ran nine covers together. We are not averse to showing photos of the men responsible for sexism. Our June/July "Dead Pans" featured members of the UT Board of Regents and the UT Deputy Dean.

Mattel's Baby Brother Tenderlove is admittedly a bold step by a doll manufacturer to put genitals on a doll. It is not surprising that some criticism has been leveled at Mattel. However, the criticism is based on the genitals as being offensive. My own criticism of Mattel is for not also making a Baby SISTER Tenderlove with female genitals.

Our lack of proper sex education leads to the myth that a male has a penis and a female has NOTHING. Up to now, male and female dolls have both had nothing. This was easier for me to explain to my 4-year old as a consistent, societal hang-up about genitals. Now, in dolls, she will see the myth of females having nothing and males having something.

Mattel, your Baby Brother Tenderlove stands as blatant male chauvinism until you make a female counterpart. I intend to boycott your doll until then.

RON COX
Summit, N.J.

I just fired my gynecologist. Not because he was incompetent, but because I did not like his attitude toward me.

Here is a copy of the letter I sent him. I hope other women will be encouraged to talk straight to their doctors and stop settling for less than the best in health care.

NANCY KERN

Dear Dr:

The last (and only) time I came to your office you correctly diagnosed a yeast infection and prescribed the proper treatment for me. But you failed to tell me what type of infection I had or anything about it. Fortunately, the pharmaceutical company enclosed information about monilia with the medicine I bought.

You did not tell about the medicine. I am not saying you prescribed the wrong drug, but the next time I want to know in advance at least the name of the drug. A doctor should say how the drug works and any possible side effects.

A gynecologist should answer all my questions fully, without hesitation or embarrassment. You were elusive when I asked you direct questions about my infection. I felt that you were embarrassed and did not respect my intelligence or interest in my own health. This made me uncomfortable in your office.

I wrote this letter because I felt you deserved to know why I will not return to your office.

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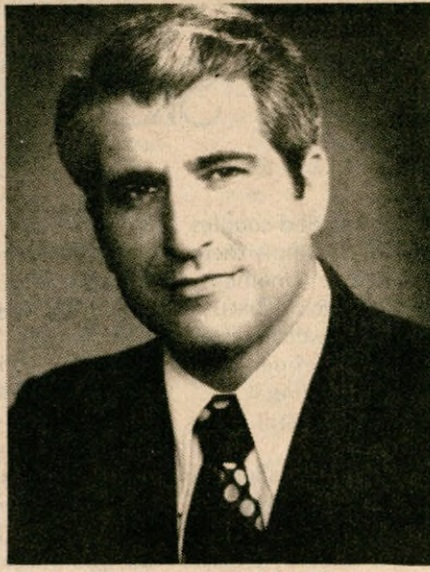
Breakthrough polls area candidates



BOB ECKHARDT



JANIS POOL



BOB GAMMAGE



GENE JONES

Bob Eckhardt, candidate for reelection to the U.S. House of Representatives, District 8. Served 10 years in Congress and 8 years in the Texas House of Representatives.

Eckhardt has been targeted by the oil companies because he has consistently supported regulation of the oil industry and is against any sudden price decontrols. His opponent is a special interest (oil) candidate. Nick Gearhart (beware of name confusion. Remember Yarborough—Yarborough?) is running from outside his district. (He lives in River Oaks).

1. Unemployment and high prices face my electorate daily.
2. The availability of jobs with an adequate salary is the greatest problem facing women in the 8th District. I will continue to support the enforcement of equal opportunity, as well as legislation which provides funding for day care centers, adequate health programs and full employment.
3. Yes. I interpreted the Supreme Court's decision as saying that the government should not involve itself more than absolutely necessary in this matter which is essentially a medical, moral and perhaps religious question to be resolved by a woman in consultation with her doctor and anyone else she chooses.
4. Yes. The constitutional guarantee of equality is the highest expression of a democracy.
5. Adequate child care at a reasonable cost is essential to working mothers. I supported legislation in 1971 (which was vetoed by Nixon) to aid Day Care Centers and I will continue to do so.

Health

1. The way to end abuse in the Medicaid program is to supplant it with a comprehensive system of National Health Insurance. Many people who need assistance cannot get it because of "cracks" in the law which are due to income limitations, whereas others get assistance through frauds or administrative laxity even though they should not be receiving it.

2. I support the Health Maintenance Organization Act of 1973 (PL 93-222) in the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee on which I served and I supported it on the House floor.

Editor's Note: In early September Houston Breakthrough sent questionnaires to area political candidates in the November 2 election. Our intention was to publish all responses.

Republican responses were so light that we decided to focus on four key contested races -- two Congressional [Districts 8 and 22], one Senate [District 7] and one county [Precinct 3].

Despite our repeated efforts to contact the Republican candidates in these races we could not get them to meet our "extended deadline." Finally, Nick Gearhart's office told us, in effect, that he wasn't interested in women's issues. It appears that neither were Dr. Ron Paul, Walter Keith or Bob Eckels. Questions were:

1. What are the one or two greatest problems facing your electorate?
2. What are the one or two greatest political, social, or economic problems facing specifically the women in your constituency? If elected, what kind of legislation will you sponsor or work for to help women in these areas?
3. Do you approve of the Supreme Court position on abortion? Why or why not?
4. Do you publicly support ratification of the ERA? Why or why not?
5. What is your position on government support to day care programs for children?

In specific questions to county, state and national candidates we focused on one area -- health. In our opinion it is the number one issue or crisis in this country, particularly the way it affects women and the poor. Thus, we asked the following questions:

To U.S. Representatives:

1. How do you plan to help correct abuses in the Medicaid program?
2. Would you support legislation to encourage the development of health-maintenance organizations?
3. Would you support a bill for nationalized health insurance? If so, whose sponsored-bill?

For State Legislators:

1. Do you feel that the UT Board of Regents acted illegally in dissolving the UTSSN?
2. Would you support a bill to allow the nursing profession to control nursing education?

For County Commissioners:

1. Would you support a nurse member on the Hospital District Board of Managers?
2. Are you in favor of combining city and county health departments?

3. I support the Kennedy-Griffith Bill, which was renamed the Kennedy-Corman Bill when Griffith left Congress.

Bob Gammage, candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives seat, District 22. Served in the Texas Senate, 1973-1976 and Texas House of Representatives, 1971-1973.

Gammage's opponent is another special interest candidate (medical establishment). Dr. Ron Paul is heavily back by the American Medical Association (\$15,000 contributions) and the Texas Medical Association (\$15,000 contributions) and many \$1,000 contributions (the new legal limit) from individual doctors. Paul is a favorite of the right wing lobby. His financial campaign manager ran for Vice-President of the American Party this year. Paul won in last Spring's special election over Bob Casey's seat. His voting record in Congress was singled out and praised recently in *Thunderbolt*, the KKK national magazine.

1. The total lack of House representation in Congress. The economy.

2. Economic opportunity: prohibitions and penalties for discrimination in credit lending, hiring, and promotion practices.

3. I am personally opposed to abortion, but support the U.S. Constitution as interpreted by the Supreme Court. This question is a matter of personal moral choice.

4. Support. It's right--for all people.

5. I have consistently supported day care assistance to those who could not otherwise afford it--preferably through private programs, where available.

Health

1. Monitoring of procedures--costs by health care professionals and institutions.

2. I sponsored the state's HMO legislation -- National Health Insurance should be cost-effective and rely upon the private sector as much as possible.*

Gene Jones, candidate for the Texas Senate, District 7. Served two terms in the Texas House and is the incumbent State Senator.

His opponent Walter Keith, owner of a janitorial cleaning and supply company, ran unsuccessfully in several local races in the past. Dr. Ron Paul's efforts and money have helped Keith by virtue of some overlapping in strong Republican precincts.

1. Keeping taxes down/tax reform and equitable financing of public education.

2. Availability of adequate child care facilities. I will work for an appropriate level of state funding and regulation of such facilities. Also, sex discrimination in state employment, particularly in high salaried positions. I will actively seek remedies for such instances of discriminatory practices.

3. Within that position it is possible at the state level to provide for certain restrictions on abortion. While it is certainly not necessary to consider a constitutional amendment in reference to this issue, there are some rights which need to be considered and protected:

a. I support a "conscience clause" preventing medical personnel from being compelled to participate in abortion.

b. I am opposed to the expenditure of public funds for abortions.

c. I cannot support abortion on demand in the final trimester of pregnancy.

4. Yes.

5. As a means of encouraging mothers (or fathers) to seek employment or job training as an alternative to reliance on other forms of public assistance, funding day care centers

is certainly a more desirable and more productive expenditure of tax dollars.

Health

I certainly question the authority of the Board of Regents to dissolve a system created by the Texas Legislature. I will support legislation designed to afford nurses professional autonomy and control over their education.

Janis Pool, candidate County Commissioner, Precinct 3. Twenty years as a community activist. Experiences range from organizing foster parents in St. Louis to reform the Missouri Child Welfare Department to organizing neighbors in the Westador sub-division in Harris County to lay down a speed bump for the safety of their children. When Commissioner Eckels sent "3 men, a gradall and a dump truck" to scrape up the speed bump, claiming it was a road hazard. Pool decided to run against him. Pool attended Commissioner's Court meetings without fail to study the manner in which they handle county business. This has reinforced her belief that a citizens' advocate is needed on the court.

1. Flood control--the more concrete we pour, the more we risk flooding. Also, the county needs ordinance-making power to enforce state regulations.

2. The County Commissioners feel no responsibility for the lack of a county Affirmative Action program. As a county we presently violate federal laws. Also, a salary scale to equalize wages so that women of all income levels can become more economically independent.

3. I believe in freedom of choice. The Hyde Amendment cuts out federal funds to poor women. It now means that "freedom of choice" will not apply to women without means.

4. Absolutely.

5. I support it simply because there are parents that absolutely have to work and day care programs would insure that children would be properly cared for and protected. I am particularly worried about children left alone -- the "latch key" children. Hopefully, the government would set quality standards for day care centers.

Health

1. Yes, definitely.

2. Yes. I would like to see other departments like parks and recreation also combined.

attending an anti-abortion assembly

Morning sickness all day long

By Karen Barrett

Thin soup and Welsh rarebit at a table in the Emerald Room of the Shamrock Hilton. There were three male students from the University of St. Thomas, a University of Houston art instructor, a gynecologist who has her office in the Montrose area, and two high school girls.

I chose to eat my lunch at this particular table because I was curious about the young women. I wondered about their youthful support of the anti-abortion movement. But the

Of course, if married couples asked the doctor to supply them with contraceptive methods, she admitted, she would discuss it with them. She realized after all, "only the most refined men are capable of controlling it..." What was it? I was still more intrigued.

Someone asked if abortion had been a problem when she was going to medical school. Heavens, no! She'd never even heard of it back then. Not until after she had graduated from Baylor College of Medicine in 1952 and become a resident at a Boston hospital.

finitely more shameful and unmentionable than a woman blinded by a roto-rooter abortion. [Dr. Kenneth Edelin was the Boston doctor who was recently convicted of manslaughter of a fetus.]

Anyway, when this local gynecologist's unspeakable practices came to light, he was defrocked, well, he was asked to resign from his hospital--after all, you never lose your license, the physician told us.

Here I remarked that I was frightened as a patient to think

the apparent double suicide in a squalid apartment. The only truly significant feature of the case, however, was the revelation that both doctors had been barbiturate addicts for years, had been prone to bizarre behavior and had been allowed to treat thousands of women before any glimmerings of a possibility of disciplinary action had become evident.

Everyone looked uncomfortable. I had thought I was making an earnest observation with which all these right-minded people would concur. But it seemed I had stolen the

nastiness. The art teacher hastily pointed out that it was all highly academic--they are so disorganized over there that they can't even manage a census, she said. How can they hope to enforce population control?

The mounting tension at the table was eased by the introduction of the speaker, Father Paul Marx, professor of theology at St. John's University in Minnesota and author of *The Death Peddlers*. One of the St. Thomas students murmured confidentially that he was glad we were going to get to hear one

luncheon was short on such insight; both girls were shy and diffident. The doctor, a very vocal woman, proved to be the most fascinating person I encountered all day.

The St. Thomas students, certainly the most wholesome youths I'd encountered in years, were deferential and ingenuous to the gynecologist. When one student asked her about her activity in the movement, she said without a trace of self-consciousness that it had all started when St. Joseph's Hospital set out to find "a White, Anglo-Saxon Protestant woman gynecologist" to give Pro-Life speeches around the city.

She smiled sweetly at the Catholics at the table and said that as for the Protestant part, she didn't really feel, being a Baptist, she had ever exactly protested the Catholic faith. Although her own religion did not forbid contraception, she didn't think much of it. Her parents hadn't used contraception ever and had only had three children. Right away I was intrigued. But I bit my tongue to keep from asking unseemly questions about her parents' sex life.

There was no need for population control, she said, what with all the floods and earthquakes and famines and wars and such which had controlled populations naturally since the dawn of time. The art teacher tentatively interposed that war wasn't exactly natural, but that didn't give anyone pause.

Karen Barrett covered the Third Annual Texas Right to Life convention, September 10-12, in Houston, from the perspective of "a pregnant pro-abortionist."

"Then, of course, Massachusetts was a strongly Catholic state, contraception was totally illegal, and so I found myself cleaning up after hundreds and hundreds of criminal abortions." The doctor sailed on majestically, smoothing out any ripples her narrative might have caused.

"Of course, you always hear about all those girls dying from kitchen-table abortions. But don't you believe it. They rarely do. I saw a girl just two years ago in Houston who'd had a man--he wasn't even a doctor, he was a plumber--squirt Phiso-hex into her uterus. Now, Phiso-hex gets into the bloodstream; it has a peculiar affinity for the optic nerve--that abortion caused her to go totally blind. But it didn't kill her."

"Tell them about the suicide," said the art teacher. "Oh no, not while they're eating..."

"Do tell us," I insisted (what after all could be more disturbing to our digestion than a uterus full of Phiso-hex?).

It seemed there was a local gynecologist, a former classmate of hers and performer of numerous abortions, with whom the doctor had many times debated the issue in public. Well, it had lately come to light that this man was guilty of things like the Edelin case.

"The who case?" I asked innocently. Everyone looked embarrassed. The art teacher whispered something about suffocating premature infants. It was obviously something in-

that a doctor could be guilty of flagrantly unethical practices for so long without losing his/her license or being called to account, the Marcus brothers case being the classic example. Everyone looked blank, so I hastened to explain: Cyril and Stewart Marcus were a pair of twin doctors who both specialized in gynecology, and were regarded as fertility experts in New York. They made national headlines last year when they were found dead under lurid, mysterious circumstances. The yellow journalists made much of

spotlight in order to mutter treason against the medical profession or against fertility experts or something.

The doctor went back to her story: After his dismissal, her old school chum/adversary attempted suicide unsuccessfully, leaving a note addressed to her which said, "... I love you; keep up the good fight..." She related how she had discussed the poor man at great length with his psychiatrist, who told her how guilty the other doctor had felt about aborting all those babies. This story was told with so much glee that I had to refrain from grinding another ax with respect to the medical establishment--the issue of confidentiality. What the hell business did that shrink have discussing his patient's guilts and fears with her, anyway?

The population explosion was of no consequence to this gynecologist. "It's a new thing," she pronounced, "... and, imagine, they're trying to legislate the number of children a woman can have in India now. What if a woman likes large families and decides to have fifteen children? It's her decision, even if the neighbors are bothered by their noise or by toys in the yard..."

"In India, it isn't so much a problem of toys in the yard," I interrupted. "Children are dying in the streets, daily!"

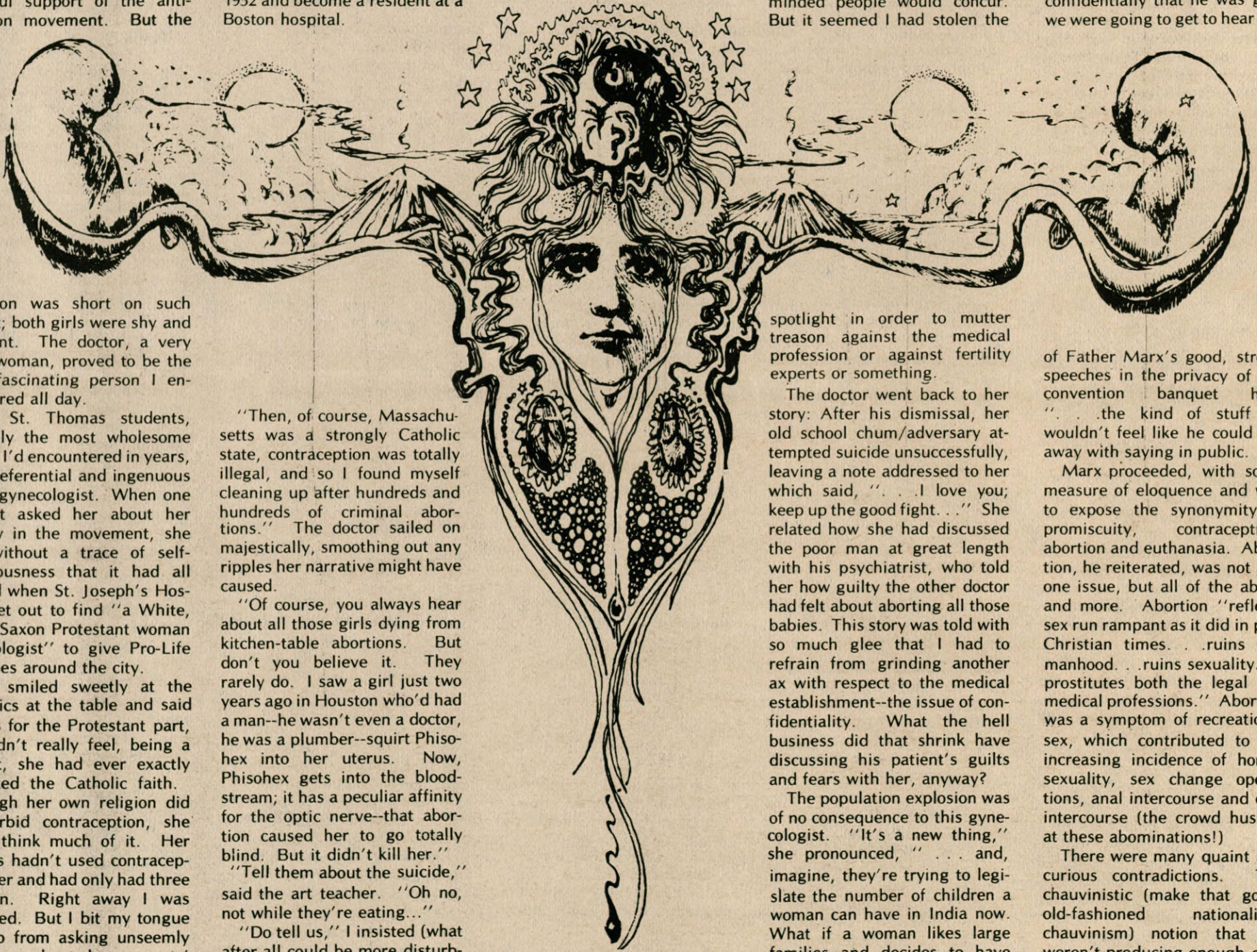
She looked baleful. "Well even so, how can we claim to be a democratic country and then go tell them how many children to have?"

"Oh, did we propose that legislation? I could have sworn it was the Indian government," I responded with just a touch of

of Father Marx's good, strong speeches in the privacy of the convention banquet hall, "... the kind of stuff he wouldn't feel like he could get away with saying in public..."

Marx proceeded, with some measure of eloquence and wit, to expose the synonymy of promiscuity, contraception, abortion and euthanasia. Abortion, he reiterated, was not just one issue, but all of the above and more. Abortion "reflects sex run rampant as it did in pre-Christian times... ruins womanhood... ruins sexuality... prostitutes both the legal and medical professions." Abortion was a symptom of recreational sex, which contributed to the increasing incidence of homosexuality, sex change operations, anal intercourse and oral intercourse (the crowd hushed at these abominations!)

There were many quaint and curious contradictions. The chauvinistic (make that good, old-fashioned nationalistic chauvinism) notion that we weren't producing enough children to replace ourselves, that we might someday soon be reduced to doing what the Swiss and numerous other European countries were doing--hiring, gasp, *foreign workers*. The specter of our race dying out was constantly juxtaposed with the notion of thoughtless extermination of the old, discarded by the young. I kept wondering, if the average national age was indeed rising yearly due to an insufficient birth rate, why this majority of the elderly would sit back and allow itself to be exterminated?



Graphic by Prairie Jackson



The Equal Rights Amendment and International Women's Year, I learned from this address, are intimately involved with the anti-life syndrome. "You won't attend a women's liberation meeting without finding they're always talking about getting abortions."

I learned too that Jimmy Carter had revealed abortionist sympathies and that once you can kill the unborn, you can kill anybody. I was told to withhold my taxes as long as there is federal funding for abortions. Marx claimed that in the last year in America, there had been more abortions than the sum total of the deaths from all the wars in our country's history.

I kept wanting to ask him if concern for human life should extend to the victims of wars, of capital punishment? Should we have withheld taxes during the Vietnam war? But Dr. Marx never acknowledged my up-raised hand.

The contradictions floating around this convention crystallized for me while I watched a film titled *The Committee* after lunch. This short feature showed nine white-coated committee of experts who were engaged in deciding "who should be allowed to live" by gesturing thumbs up or down at a series of photographs flashed in front of them. An unctuous narrator asked by what yardstick we could decide who was to live and who was to die. Social status? Ethnic group? Respectability? Usefulness? Age? We see the committee giving thumbs down to pictures of black kids, poor kids, old people, foreigners. The implication was that abortion is a means of weeding out deviants and undesirables, or imposing some narrow standard on the population. This from people who can't tolerate gays or feminists.

For all the naivete and sophistry contained in their ideology, I must concede an impressive sophistication to the conventioners in the area of

political techniques. I attended two workshops (on the manipulation of party politics and how to lobby for a constitutional amendment) which would have been valuable to any special interest group. They are aware of the political and financial pressures which may be brought to bear on legislators, of the apathy and ignorance which keeps people from the polls, making it possible for a handful of determined people to have their way.

The fine points of hounding Congress, the value of finding "key people" -- civic leaders, legislators and wealthy campaign contributors -- to plead one's cause, the process of electing convention delegates and composing resolutions: all these were intelligently expounded and it became very clear that an organized, vocal minority could acquire a lot of clout.

I encountered overt sexism only of the tritest sort. The political experts spoke uniformly of *congressmen* and the need to get "the wife and kids to help" in campaigning and described precinct conventions as "separating the men from the boys."

No one talked about women's issues, not even Mildred Jefferson, the lucid, appealing black doctor from Harvard who heads the National Right to Life Committee, the only woman speaker I heard. She talked exclusively of doctors and patients and ethical commitments instead.

Dr. Mathew Talty, an elderly male gynecologist who co-hosted a workshop with Dr. Jefferson, made such remarks as "The trauma of unwanted pregnancy is *nothing* to that of abortion. . . a woman who has had an abortion will always wonder if she's *worthy* to have a baby."

This sort of undocumented assurance was typical of the information offered for the audience to swallow whole; meanwhile we were constantly warned of the false allegations and misinterpreted statistics employed by the pro-abortion legions. Propaganda, it appeared, was the exclusive weapon of the enemy -- it was even

discussed in one workshop how best to refute the Gallup and Harris polls which had stated that a majority of Americans favored abortion. Claims of the pro-lifers, however, were articles of faith which required less scrutiny.

It was the illogic, the isolation, the smugness, which offended me. Crowding, starvation, child abuse -- none of these were refuted as problems related to the abortion issue; they were simply not acknowledged. I was actually told that women don't become pregnant from rape or incest and are only fertile for twenty-four hours each month.

Above all, the men and women who attended this convention in equal numbers seemed devoid of compassion.

I watched the Catholic kids at my table nodding and clapping as Dr. Marx held forth on the evils of premarital sex ("carelessness with God's gifts" -- the first step in a pattern of disregard for human life) and wondered if these eighteen-year-old males were so well insulated as not to desire to "express love in this unnecessary physical manner" or if they believed that "if you have intercourse with a girl, you can never trust her again," as Marx said.

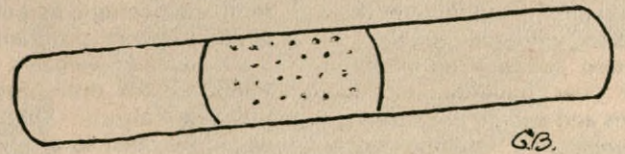
I wondered how the two high school girls were convinced that an unwanted pregnancy was something that stood outside their lives' possibilities. Might they not find themselves at twenty-four in my shoes, frightened enough to question their convictions?

The Pro-Life issue seemed to be the rallying cry for a bunch of people who wanted to talk conservative politics and moralize. What should have been a humane and moving cause came across without humanity.

If I had had any inkling of sympathy or broad-mindedness in the group, I might have been moved by the zeal around me. Instead, I felt that these people had as little concern for my ordeal, as little awareness of the world in which millions of women like me face unwanted pregnancy, as Marie Antoinette is reported to have had for the peasants who were without bread.

message from ppch:

Band-aid surgery



By Glenda Ridens

Laparoscopic tubal ligation or *band-aid surgery* is a surgical procedure in which the fallopian tubes are either cauterized, or sealed with silastic bands. At present the procedure must be done in a hospital under local or general anesthesia; it can be done on an out-patient basis and takes less than an hour to perform.

This permanent female sterilization procedure has been growing in popularity since the late 1960's. Planned Parenthood Center of Houston has been referring patients for band-aid surgery since the Spring of 1974. To date, PPCH has counseled and referred 759 women.

The total cost of laparoscopy can be as much as \$700 for hospital and physician's fees. All hospitals accept insurance, but because laparoscopy is an elective procedure done on an out-patient basis, many insurance policies do not cover it. For this reason, PPCH has a cash-pay program set up with the hospitals. Under the cash-pay program, patients without insurance can obtain the surgery for \$325-\$350, depending on the hospital.

PPCH also participates in the federally funded program known as Title XX. This program is designed to help women who have low incomes and cannot afford the laparoscopy. Women who cannot be served by the above means are aided by the PPCH Auxiliary or by a Houston foundation which contributes funds specifically earmarked for this purpose.

During a typical month the laparoscopy counselor interviews and refers about 40 women, sends out about 120 bro-

chures and receives about 300 phone calls for information. Most women hear about the program from friends and/or relatives who are served by PPCH.

Generally a woman who is interested in a form of female sterilization begins by calling PPCH and requesting information. She is sent a brochure that explains the procedure, answers most of the questions a woman asks about laparoscopy, outlines the cost of the procedure and lists the doctors to whom patients are referred.

After reading the brochure, the woman calls for an interview appointment. The interview usually requires an hour to complete.

By the time she has set up an appointment, the woman, in most cases, has made a definite decision to follow through with the procedure. However, one of the most important points that is stressed throughout the interview is that the laparoscopy is permanent; thus, after the interview occasionally a woman decides she isn't ready for the procedure. In this case, she will usually decide to continue the method of birth control she is using at that time. If not, alternative forms of birth control are discussed and she and the counselor will try to find the method best suited to her needs.

PPCH believes that a person has the right to know all she or he can know before making choices and decisions. Laparoscopy is an alternative choice for a woman if she wants to discontinue her reproductive life. It is for this reason that we offer the laparoscopy counseling and referral service.

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YWCA shelters women in crisis

By Ann Harris

"Women, and often their children, who are homeless in Houston because of crisis in their lives have far too few places and people to turn to for help right now. No one doubts the need for such housing and supportive services, although comprehensive, exact statistics are difficult to determine," stated Peggy Kirkendall, chairwoman of the recently formed Committee on Crisis Housing for Women and board member of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) here.

"We get about 100 calls a month at the Y alone," reports Elizabeth Otey Terry, associate executive director for the local chapters, "and we're only one of several groups receiving these pleas for help. Currently there are only about eight small facilities, often specializing in a particular type of need, such as drugs, alcohol or ex-offenders. Beds are few in these places and the length of time a woman is allowed to stay is often too short for her needs or too long (ranging from six months to six years) to free space rapidly enough for others needing it."

The referrals and counseling services the present facilities offer are usually at a paraprofessional level and not available

around the clock, according to Terry and Kirkendall.

They propose a center to offer temporary refuge, as well as in-depth support programs, tailored to each woman's needs. Follow-up for every person is planned, also. The center would be open to any woman, even if she brings children.

Any suggestion that the crisis center might duplicate the existing facilities exasperates Terry.

"Women's needs are so great in their troubles that there can't be duplication of services. We don't even have 200 beds in Houston, and if a family is involved there are only a handful."

The Committee on Crisis Housing for Women grew out of the YWCA program development committee chaired by Hanni Orton. YWCA officials called on other concerned persons.

Among the diversified group are representatives from 15 other women's organizations, such as Women in Action, the Houston Rape Crisis Coalition and the Southwest Chapter of the National Organization for Women; also, the Harris County Sheriff's Department, Child Welfare, TRIMS and Texas Research Institute, as well as individuals from religion, real estate, and law.

Nikki Van Hightower, women's advocate for the mayor's office, is also active in the issue.

Task forces of the committee are wrestling with the problems of locating a building or land, funding, programs and policy, arousing community awareness and documenting specific cases of women in Houston who have needed such low-cost, temporary housing and help.

"We're at a very exciting time--the brain-picking stage. We're learning a lot, fast. The response so far has been excellent," Kirkendall commented. The task forces are drawing on expert help.

"For example, we're in touch with centers across the country, trying not only to find out what they're doing, but also to anticipate possible problems and thereby avoid them ourselves." They are also investigating ways to avoid the same woman having to return repeatedly.

"The real trick will be to get all the datelines synchronized for the various complex components of the project so the funds, building, personnel, services will all mesh at the required time," noted Terry.

Eligibility guidelines, the number of persons who can be served and stringent licensing requirements are yet to be considered.

Because a woman's crisis often comes from or is com-



Nancy Landau

ELIZABETH OTEY TERRY

pounded by her economic dependence, Kirkendall envisions an expansion of the present YWCA programs of career development, job training, personal growth, and financial planning (insurance, taxes, credit, real estate, wills and legal rights.)

"We're looking not just at the situation in 1976, however. We're trying to project what will be demanded in 1996 so that the housing we provide for crisis will be flexible enough to adapt to women's changing needs in the future," Terry said.

The concern for crisis housing for women is a natural outgrowth of the Houston YWCA's philosophy and program, begun in 1907.

"We are the oldest women's movement in the world," Terry claimed. "And we're completely separate and different from the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association). The YWCA does allow men to take classes as associate members, but they are not thereby given voting rights in determining how the group is run."

"Perhaps in some women's views the YWCA has become stereotyped in recent years as tame and apart from controversy, but it has many giant steps to its credit which were considered very radical at the time," Kirkendall and Terry said.

One of the first "controversial" steps the Y took was to provide living quarters for single women displaced by the social conditions caused by the Crimean War. The YWCA later became an accepted lifestyle for "respectable" women. The need then was for shelter and protection in a structured setting, with a parlor to entertain "gentlemen friends"--and a curfew, Terry said.

Today's woman needs shelter and protection, too, but in new ways and for new reasons.

Although a YWCA is automatically looked to as a source of low-cost rooms, Houston has

no such facility. Two years ago, financial pressures forced the organization to give up the Ben Milam Hotel as its quarters.

As another example of the Y's innovative and radical reputation, Terry shares a favorite story:

Because women were excluded from universities, and even some high schools, the YWCA offered typing classes to help women become financially independent. Not only was this considered immoral, because her ankle might be exposed as she operated the typewriter foot pedal, but the classes were judged to be too strenuous for women to endure.

The local chapters give classes in crafts, physical activities and leisure-recreation interests. Also included are cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, transactional analysis, signing for the deaf, and skills courses such as typing and shorthand. "Women's Liberation and Literature," a seminar on the conflicting role of mother-wife woman, and a presentation by the feminist theater group, "Stand Up Sisters," on October 27, are also scheduled for the fall.

Suggestions or information concerning crisis housing, especially in documenting actual cases, should be directed to Elizabeth Otey Terry (523-6881) at the Downtown YWCA, 3515 Allen Parkway.

Membership fees in the YWCA are low and privileges are reciprocal at facilities around the world. The organization states it is a "movement that recognizes each woman as a person with her own inalienable rights," which the YWCA has been fighting for during the past 118 years. In 1976 the first priority is "to thrust our collective power toward the elimination of racism wherever it exists and by any means necessary."

Terry pointed out that as racism is conquered, women become freer to unite against sexism.

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EYEWITNESS NEWS



'Y' branch is blossoming

By Rosalind Soliz

Several years ago the gym at the M.D. Anderson-Magnolia Park "Y" in Houston's East End was used exclusively for boys' athletic activities. That would be expected if the center were a YMCA, but it is not. The center at 7305 Navigation officially operates as a YWCA. The emphasis on boys' programs at a facility designed to benefit the community's women is the result of a quirk in the Y's history.

The center's director, Angela Serna, recounts: "About 40 years ago the community asked the YMCA to build a center to provide boys' athletic activities to keep the boys off the streets. The YMCA declined but the YWCA accepted," Serna says.

To some extent, the center has kept the boys off the streets. "In fact, it's been their hang-out." An after dark inspection finds few girls at the center. "They go home early to do their homework," Serna says. But reported crowds of boys in and around the building, located in a high crime area, make evening visits to the center less than inviting for a young woman.

And where did that leave the girls of the predominantly Mexican-American community? "They had dances and bazaars," says Serna. Restricting the woman's activities to domestic work was a cultural norm in the community. "Mexican women have worked beside their husbands in the fields and fought beside them in the Mexican Revolution," Serna notes. But it is part of the culture to identify the male with physical strength and the female with the emotional and psychological strength that binds the family, Serna adds. Thus, the emphasis on physical activities for the community's males.

But things are changing. "The Magnolia branch has been going through a transition that started as early as 1971," Serna says. That transition was pushed by women like KTRK-TV newsreporter Elma Barrera, then a Magnolia YWCA employee. Women among the staff and membership were oriented toward having athletic activities. "They realized they could participate in basketball, volleyball and other sports and began demanding sports programs."

The Magnolia YWCA is trying to meet the demands of its women. "The girls now use the gym 50% of the time," Serna says proudly. But this was allowed with reluctance from the boys and the community.

"This is what I'm up against," says Serna when talking about the community's attitude towards its girls. She led the way to a trophy case. Serna pointed to an inexpensive-looking trophy about a foot tall. "That is the (community's) annual girl-of-the-year award," she said. "And that," she said, pointing to an impressive trophy about three-feet tall, "is the boy-of-the-year award."

Serna knows she cannot immediately change the community's attitude. At this point she just wants to see more significance and encouragement given to girls' achievements. "I want to be sure girls get the opportunity to do things other than housework." Sports activities teach girls how to be more independent, according to Serna. That allows persons to break away from submissive, passive roles regardless of sex, she adds.

That break is important. Although Serna's interest in girls' activities reflect her feminist ideals ("I never made a conscious change to become feminist—I always was one"), she also strongly believes in the expression of human rights.

Human rights is one reason Serna wants to push additional girls' activities as well as programs for the rest of the membership. Serna, who has been with the branch for a year, adds she is optimistic but realistic about what she can do for the center, which services a low-income Mexican-American community, where wage earners are factory or domestic workers.

"The girls now use the gym 50% of the time [at the Magnolia YWCA]. . . But this was allowed with reluctance from the boys and the community."

In more affluent areas the Ys draw operating capital from membership dues and fees charged for special activities. Accessibility is no problem for members in these areas where the two-car family is the rule.

However, the Magnolia branch has the smallest membership, according to Serna, and produces the least income of the Houston Ys.

Despite some limitations the Magnolia YWCA does offer the usual gamut of Y activities: tap dancing, ballet, swimming, gymnastics and other classes.

Serna's greatest concern is in expanding programs that serve needs unique to the Spanish-speaking community, or as she puts it, "the ones needed for survival."

For the youngsters that means bi-lingual, bi-cultural preschool classes. Serna notes today it is essential that Mexican-Americans and other minorities learn to live within the "dominant" culture yet retain pride in their heritage. Social problems often result when this is not done. Children who do not learn conversational English have language problems and subsequent employment difficulties. On the other hand, children who master the language and are successful in the Anglo-American world, sometimes turn their backs on their heritage.

Survival courses for the community's adults, continues Angela Serna, mean additional classes in English as a second

language, GED instruction and preparatory classes for the citizenship test. These courses are practical and offer pride in self-development.

Surprisingly, that is what the community's women get out of the very popular cake decorating class. The participants are mostly women whose work centers around the homes. It gives the women a feeling of pride and achievement when they can be creative, produce a professional-looking cake and bring home a little money when they sell the cakes, Serna says. The success of the class shows a need for more such courses for the Mexican-American women in Houston's East End.

Serna is the first Mexican-American woman executive branch director in Houston.

Actually, being a first or in a unique position is not a rare experience for Serna. She has several firsts and achievements behind her.

Serna has degrees in Education and Spanish from the University of Texas and Pan American University and is now working on her master's degree.

Before she reached her teens, Serna's parents decided to settle in Archbold, Ohio to provide a home and other comforts for Serna and her younger brother and sister. In Archbold, the Sernas were something of an oddity. Extremely few Mexican-Americans permanently settled in the area. They came and went according to the crops, Serna says.

Under those conditions Serna grew up in an undemanding cultural environment. There was no visible Mexican-American community pressuring her to conform to traditional standards. And not being an Anglo-American she was not expected to conform to that community's ways, either.

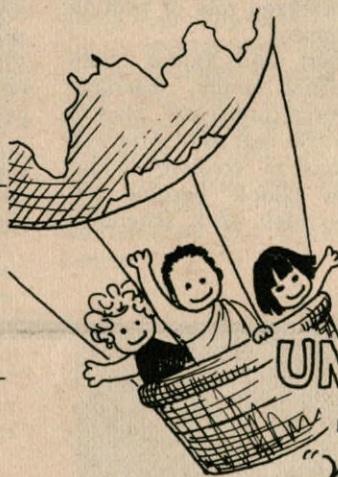
If being Mexican-American was an oddity, being Mexican-American, educated and a female is another unusual combination. She encourages women to seek careers but adds, "it's a lonely world for Mexican-American women who are educated." She says career-oriented Mexican-American women sometimes have to make sacrifices to get ahead. At times, these women feel social pressures, questioning decisions to forgo marriage and a family for a career.

"I chose to work in Houston because I wanted to pick an area where I could work with blacks, whites and browns; adults, preschoolers and young people."



Rosalind Soliz

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ALONENESS

By Jeanne Gibbons

Being alone, by chance or by choice, can offer opportunities for creative growth according to counselors Mary Jane Hurlbert and Jan Burke.

Inspired by Marilyn Doyle's multi-media presentation entitled *Aloneness*, these women are offering a "Creative Aloneness" workshop at the First Unitarian Church to assist persons in developing assertiveness communication skills and increased self-awareness. They hope to de-mythologize aloneness and togetherness and explore alternatives to aloneness.

"Knowing that I am afraid of aloneness has caused me to examine my behavior," explains Burke, "and to become

aware that I have to make other choices."

Men and women--married and single--can be lonely say Hurlbert and Burke, and often either sex assumes that the other deals with aloneness better. Both counselors have worked with men who resented the socialized male role of choosing and initiating actions and with women who resented their socialized role of waiting to be chosen.

Hurlbert and Burke, both professional family, marriage and divorce counselors, plan to identify the real and imagined limitations to creative living: the way people become addicted to roles, work, schedules

and even other people, including children.

They are also planning other workshops to be held at the First Unitarian Church, on "The Power To Choose" and "Transitions."

The "Creative Aloneness" workshop begins October 5 at the First Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin, from 9:30-10 on five consecutive Tuesday evenings. For information and/or reservations for the class, call 527-0712 or write Mary Jane Hurlbert, 3303 Louisiana, Suite 211G, Houston 77006. The fee is \$35 for members of the First Unitarian Church, \$40 for non-members and is payable at the workshop.

Nurses from all over south-east Texas will gather October 29 at the Astroworld Hotel to discuss the sex role problems of professional health care.

"Nurses have yet to . . . overcome their feminine socialization enough to feel it is appropriate to ask what they are getting in return for all their services," Dr. Janet Chafetz told *Breakthrough*.

Chafetz will speak about "social programming for a feminine profession" at the conference sponsored by the Texas Nurses Association, District 9. The meeting, called "A New Era: Power for Professional Change," is open to non-members.

Chafetz says the role of the nurse now is that of helper and stroker but lacks authority. The nurse is always subordinate to the doctor.

Neither of the two most common stereotypes of nurses--the Cherry Ames sweet, docile little girl looking for a doctor husband and the Hot Lips Houlahan sexy bitch--resembles real nurses.

All women's roles are defined as selfless helpers of others, Chafetz says.

Nurses are just beginning to learn--as teachers have--that it is neither unprofessional nor unfeminine to be concerned with pay, fringe benefits, working conditions and status in the profession. Given its high educational requirements, it is only because it is a predominantly female field that nursing has remained so poorly organized, poorly paid and low in prestige.

For more information about the meeting and registration fees, call the Texas Nurses Association at 523-3619.

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By Linda May

Mother, career woman, student, lover, feminist, Jew--how can the Jewish woman juggle the roles and still retain her individuality?

Ann Wolfe, a community relations specialist from the New York office of the American Jewish Committee, was the keynote speaker at the first of eight lectures dealing with the "Jewish Woman: Who Is She? Where Has She Been? Where Is She Going?" (see box for October schedule.) Wolfe's topic was "To Be Female and Jewish: Double Jeopardy?"

Over 75 women from ages 20 to 80 came to explore, assess and re-examine themselves.

Wolfe's thesis: "laws and values and behavior patterns have shaped woman's self-image and the way men see her and relate to her." Wolfe indicated that the Jewish woman is influenced by her Jewish traditions, whether or not she has chosen to practice or live by them. It is what Wolfe called the "collective Jewish memory" that might, indeed, put the Jewish woman in jeopardy.

Wolfe turned to Biblical text as the source for stories regarding the esteem and respect the Jewish community accorded its women. She referred to the ritual cleansing required after menstruation and childbirth, noting that if a girl child was born, the mother required two cleansings. She recalled the daily prayer by men, thanking God that they were not born a woman. If a woman touched the Torah, the sacred scrolls had to be burned.

Wolfe retold the story of Lilith, Adam's first wife, who wanted equality, and became vengeful when that was denied her; and of Eve, who succumbed to temptation, and was viewed as a defiler and weak. Thus were women perceived as willful, devious and foolish.

Amendment. Economically, in terms of equal pay and advancement, the women favor the ERA. However, in terms of socialization, they oppose it. They feel that family structure would suffer; further, the women strongly believe in differentiation of the male and female

value staying home, house-keeping and mothering. Wolfe asks "did the Jewish woman change, or were values changing to change our perception of Jewish women?"

Within the larger Jewish community, women have additional conflicts. As young women look forward toward role they see the women still functioning largely away from the decision making process, except for the wealthy. The women continue to play a "subsidiary role, with less visibility, yet are the structural support," says Wolfe. Statistical evidence supports her observations: of the Jewish Federation Boards, for

example, 21% of the members are women, 16% of whom serve on the executive committees, mostly as secretaries.

Wolfe made it clear that "the use of a strong feminist movement can be a force for change within the Jewish community."

Throughout the talk, women in the audience were noticeably agreeing and disagreeing with Wolfe. Now it was their turn. The women formed three discussion groups, and ideas instantly began pouring forth. Guilt, seemingly the prerogative of the Jewish woman, evidenced itself early. Many women shared the fact that they had, indeed, sublimated their needs. By opening their minds, however, they admitted that if their "inner time bombs" weren't defused early, the eventual explosion would be catastrophic. The problem remained of how to communicate this urgent sense of personal fulfillment to the family. Be honest with yourselves, said one woman, "and face it, you only do what you really want to do!" Responses came, one on top of the other. Options was the key word of the day--it was allowing for options that enabled the women to hear each other without being critical.

Some women were perplexed over the fuzzy line between "decision maker" and "guide" in terms of their children. How to guide without instilling guilt within the children became a theme with which most women identified. As one person said, "I tell the boys they can be anything they want, but I'm not sure I really mean it."

Wolfe concluded the morning by suggesting that the women have an honest confrontation with themselves. "Sit down--alone--and think hard about what's going on around you. Be honest . . . if what you are doing is not fulfilling your potential, then it's not OK."

The collective consciousness of the women was, indeed, being raised. There is a far more profound discussion going on today than ever before.

"Even Golda Meir is referred to as a loving grandmother . . ."

Wolfe reviewed the names of the many famous Jewish men who were writers, scientists, and musicians, and wondered aloud where the Jewish women had been. She noted that it was only when "rebellion and change occurred that women broke through," mentioning Anna Freud, Henrietta Szold and Golda Meir. Szold's activities (founder of Hadassah and resettler of homeless children) are rationalized in history books in sexist terms: "God made her childless, so that she could be the mother of thousands." Even Meir is referred to as a "loving grandmother," nurturing qualities emphasized to make their non-traditionalism "kosher."

A re-examination of religious textbooks is urgent. Some books refer to the most significant religious event in a boy's life as his Jewish study and consequent bar mitzvah, and a girl's as her marriage. The sabbath is seen as the woman's responsibility, and she is pictured baking the traditional challah (bread).

The collective memory Wolfe speaks of is woven throughout the fabric of orthodox conservative and reform Judaism. A better understanding of it is seen through the eyes of some orthodox women who have begun to speak out regarding ratification of the Equal Rights

roles. This reminder of the traditional Jewish woman's role as helpmate tells the Jewish feminist something about herself. Not embracing the tradition does not relieve the struggle. The Orthodox woman and the ardent feminist have the same roots.

Even divorce, Wolfe explained, was on a man's terms: disliking a woman's cooking or seeing someone more beautiful were legitimate grounds for divorce. And, financial settlement depended on the "offense." It was marriage and motherhood that gave woman status, for it was then that "man transformed woman into a useful vessel."

With such a history, is it any wonder why the Jewish woman may be having some difficulty today? As descendants, both women and men carry with them many of those values, myths and traditions.

Moving away from Biblical writings, Wolfe told of the woman's role in shtetl life, where she handled the family finances, became the home manager, and worked in the marketplace, while her husband perused Jewish studies--considered the more worthy endeavor.

As Jews immigrated to the United States, many pushed up and out of their ghetto existence. The woman began to

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Programming **PATS**: To Ch. 39 for its South by Northwest series, five half-hour documentaries on Black involvement in history from the late 1700's to the early twentieth century; to Ch. 11 News for their recent series on abused children; to Ben Baldwin, KTRH Radio, for his panel discussion on Title IX and its implementation (or lack of it) in HISD; to the women of KPFT Radio for 24 hours of women's programming on September 22 and for instituting 10 hours of women's programming per week at the station.

*

And He-e-ere's Jan! **PAT** Jan Carson, Ch. 13 Eyewitness News reporter and part-time anchor, who is doing a super job in her new capacity as co-anchor for that station's 6 o'clock weekday news.

*

What's in a name? Oshman's has been touting their new line of Nike athletic shoes, for "distance running or training, road racing, cross country track training, basketball or tennis." Apparently the store does not expect women to participate in any of the above activities, since they are carrying only the men's and boys' sizes. (Nike also makes women's shoes). We solely conclude that those heels at Oshman's are a shoe-in for a **PAN**. Oh yes, Nike is the Greek deity of victory--female, to boot.

*

If you want to know what's happening locally in the UT nurses' fight to save their school, you'll have to look further afield than the Houston dailies. The Chronicle had a short article on the attempted intimidation of Houston nursing faculty members by Dr. Charles Berry (now in charge of the Houston school) but from the Post, continuing silence. **PAN** their hides. Award-winning journalist Brenda Stone, formerly a medical feature writer on the Post, now writes for the American Medical Association's News. **PAT** Stone for an in-depth article in the News, in which the Texas nurses state their case. Stone attempted to discuss the issues with Dr. Nelson (chairman of the Regents' medical affairs committee and member of the Board of AMA). He refused.

*

Judy Weissler (Chronicle Washington Bureau) rates a **PAT** for a well-written article on the findings of Catherine Hawes, a political scientist, and five other Senate investigators who uncovered "rampant" fraud in the Medicaid program by posing as participants. Hawes is still "angry and horrified" at the callous treatment, roach-infested clinics and filthy bathrooms she encountered during months of impersonating an impoverished woman in "Medicaid mills" from coast to coast. Hawes hopes that all the publicity about the investigation will change some minds about government rip offs. "Most people think it's only welfare mothers who are stealing from the system," she said, adding that maybe now people will realize that where there is abuse and fraud, it also occurs at the provider level.

*

PAT the League of Women Voters for its customary thoroughness and impartiality in arranging the televised debates between the major parties' presidential and vice-presidential candidates (three between Ford and Carter, one between Mondale and Dole), and for its insistence that at least one women journalist serve as panelist or moderator for each debate.

PAT the Women's Division of the United Methodist Church's Board of Global Ministries, which has sponsored a monitoring project on sex role stereotyping in prime-time TV. The project, which points up the underrepresentation and stereotyping of women on TV, is part of that group's "ongoing effort to eliminate sexism in church and society."

*

Latest papal poop **PAN**ned. In a recent letter to the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, Pope Paul VI reaffirmed the Catholic Church's opposition to the ordination of women as priests. There are apparently three fundamental reasons: the example of Christ, who chose only men as his apostles; the constant practice of the Church, which has imitated Christ in choosing only men; and his "living teaching, which has consistently established that the exclusion of women from the priesthood is in harmony with the plan of God for His Church."

*

The Federal Council on Wage and Price Stability earns a **PAT** for its recent report on innovative programs by unions and business to reduce health care costs. In one experiment, two New York unions attempted to cut down on unneeded and expensive surgery by getting a second opinion when one doctor says an operation is necessary. One-third of all operations recommended were found unnecessary by another surgeon. **BedPAN**-of-the-month to the health establishment, which has vigorously resisted business and labor's efforts to cut medical costs.

*

The Houston Post has been running an ad for Post carriers, complete with three drawings of carriers in action, all obviously young, bright, pleasant, energetic -- and male. Deliver a **PAN**, Post-haste. (Typhoid Mary must have given us all a bad name.)

*

Reel off a **PAT** to the Second International Festival of Women's Films, held recently in New York. The festival, co-directed by two screenwriters, Kristina Nordstrom and Leah Laiman, and attended by over 70 women directors from around the world, showed a total of 125 films, including nine feature films which had their U.S. premieres. Why a women's film festival? "We realize we may be creating a ghetto of women's films this way," said Nordstrom, "but it is badly needed. After the last women's film festival here, in 1972, we thought all the problems would be solved and there would be a market for women's films. But there isn't. So we wanted to let the public know that there are women making good films, and the producers know that there is an audience that will come to see these films."

*

A transatlantic **PAT** to our Irish sisters. Approximately 20,000 Catholic and Protestant women met recently on the bridge which divides Londonderry to demand an end to the sectarian violence in Northern Ireland. This was the first of four peace marches that was not disturbed by IRA supporters, who had previously called the women "traitors to Ireland." This time the IRA issued a statement saying it respected the women's right to demonstrate for peace, but cautioned them not to "call for peace at any price." The women came from all over Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic to attend the rally.

AP reports that a Canadian government manual, prepared for training new staff members at the Yellowknife Correctional Institute, describes Indians as lazy, sex-oriented dreamers and drinkers. The publication said some Indian traits come from "his Mongol origin" and calls Orientals uncreative. "Having nothing that is his, neither glorious past nor culture nor religion nor country, he feels insecurity and seeks all the possible means of evasion: dreams, drink and the ready pleasures of the flesh." **PAN** such Waspish racism.

*

A tit-for-tat **PAT** to Dr. Lise Fournier, president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada and president of the Canadian Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. During a speech to her colleagues (as reported by Ruth Winter, Los Angeles Times Syndicate) Fournier said she was once told a woman might possibly become President of the United States, but only after her menopause when she would not be subject to emotional upheavals. "I agreed wholeheartedly," Fournier reported, "and suggested that, for the same reason of security, in view of the fact that men are often indiscreet sexually and are prone to fall for female spies, no man should be elected President of the United States until he has first been castrated." Would this mean an end to inaugural balls?

*

"'Cathouse' For Dogs Cleans Up," reads the heading in Moneysworth. The article goes on: "A cathouse for dogs has opened here and business is booming. Joe Scaggs, proprietor of the Greenwich Village establishment, says that for \$50 he will provide your mutt with a female companion in a state of artificially-induced heat, and a resident photographer to preserve the memory of your Fido in action. 'We guarantee complete satisfaction. If a dog can't perform, we'll bring the female to his home, his own territory, where he feels more secure.' Business is so good that Scaggs is planning to open more cathouses. 'We're even having bumper stickers printed that read: 'Get a little tail for your dog.'" Scaggs grosses a **PAN**.

*

Troubled (State Rep.) Waters deserves a **PAT** for his recent appearance before City Council, when he charged the city with doing nothing to stop the "rapid disintegration" of the Fourth Ward, part of Waters' district. "The mayor could support the building of low cost housing and parks. The mayor could apply for federal, state and local funds . . . Drive through the Fourth Ward," he urged Hofheinz and the council. "Look at the streets and sewers in need of repair. You should use your influence to make the place liveable -- instead, it's a living coffin." Administer a **PAN** to Hofheinz who replied that the area is a poverty pocket with very serious problems. "It would be unintelligent for us to put the area at the top of our list of priorities." It is also unintelligent to neglect the needs of the voters who put one in office.

*

Mary Lu Abbott (Houston Chronicle) did a **PAT**icularly fine job of reporting (Sept. 14) on Houston's pace-setting innovations in the fight against rape. Linda Cryer, administrator of the city's rape treatment, detection and prevention center, is personally responsible for major changes that have been made in the past year. For the first time, doctors, hospital staffs, emergency medical technicians, nurses, police officers and the district attorney's office are working together on collection of evidence. Other cities have developed similar kits, but Houston's is unique in two ways: involvement of all key personnel in rape cases and distribution throughout the county, now in 18 hospitals. The kits are also available to private physicians. **PAT** Linda Cryer for her ongoing efforts on behalf of rape victims.

Dead Pans



Lawmakers look at wife beating

BY MIKE ROYKO
© 1976, Chicago Daily News

I RECOGNIZE that we have a critical shortage of new social problems. It's our own fault. During the 1960s we went through them as if they were inexhaustible, being shocked, doing studies, enacting laws and making even the mildest form of misery illegal.

But have we become so desperate for a juicy new problem that we are now ready to accept that wife beating is everybody's problem, something that society as a whole must brood about?

I had always believed that when a man beat his wife it was something they must work out themselves, with the help of a cop, a judge, relatives and a couple of divorce lawyers.

But apparently that's not enough. An Illinois commission has just finished holding hearings, during which experts tossed around all kinds of shocking statistics to prove that women are on the verge of being rendered extinct by ham-fisted males.

They told horror stories about women who get punched more often than a time clock. Everybody is doing it, they said, from wealthy professional men down to the lowest menial.

And so the experts want laws that will provide new penalties for husbands who thump wives, public shelters to be established for women who flee, public funds to be used to compensate wives for their suffering, and greater compassion and concern by cops, judges you and me.

Now, I suppose, the commission will rush back to Springfield to create new laws, set up a new state agency to enforce them, allocate funds, and otherwise let their social conscience run amuck.

However, the most shocking fact to emerge from these hearing seems to have been overlooked. And if it wasn't, I don't

know what could be done about it anyway.

And that is the amazing number of really dumb women there are in our society, if the experts' testimony is to be believed.

For example, somebody from the National Organization for Women said that in half of all household murder cases, the police had been called at least five times in the past.

This statistic was meant to show us that somehow society has failed to protect these women despite repeated danger signals.

But what I find remarkable about that statistic is that the women apparently couldn't take a hint.

You would think that after the fifth time the police had to be called to protect them from a domestic caveman they might have begun to suspect that the marriage was in trouble.

If somebody pounded on my head so much that I had to call the cops five different times, I don't think I would want to make breakfast for him again.

One expert told about a woman who was regularly beaten for several years. The husband would chase her with a knife and she would roll herself up in a rug to avoid being wounded.

The experts explained that women endure the abuse because they can't get jobs, or they have no place to go, or their religion forbids divorce, and so on.

Well, nobody has ever promised that divorce is a rose garden. And maybe being a waitress in a truck stop isn't the best job in the world, but it beats rolling up in a carpet

If a women's religion forbids divorce, there isn't much society can do to protect her. If she prefers being punchy in this life in hopes of an unmarked face in the next, that's her choice.

Maybe members of a congregation should demand that the church provide karate lessons to wives or the women might get drunk and beat up the clergyman now and then to show him what they endure to please God.

Some charge that the police don't take wife beating seriously enough. That may be true, but I'm not sure it is their fault.

After a cop is called by the same woman a dozen times, he begins wondering if she is taking her own welts and bruises seriously. If so, what's she still doing living with that lunk?

And if you spend any time in the police courts, you will see a familiar scene repeated over and over again.

There she is, in the house dress, with the black eye or swollen lip and the story of how he came lurching in after spending half the paycheck and pow.

And there he is, with his hangover red eyes, his jailhouse stubble and a Neanderthal frown on his face.

The judge asks what she wants done? Should he toss the beast in jail? Give the word.

"Gee," she says, "he'll lose his job. Just make him promise not to do it again."

So off they go to rest before the next round.

Before we are stuck with any new laws and new agencies, the state commission should remember - you have to give divorce a chance to work. Or, as a poet said:

"Love means not having to say: 'Don't kill me.'"

Appeared in the *Houston Chronicle*, Sept. 28, 1976

Submitted by Beth Kendrick and Alice Rickel, Houston Chapter, National Organization Against Sexism in the Media.

ACLU

As reported in *Greater Houston
ACLU-The Activist's Quarterly*.

ABORTION:

This situation involved a young girl attempting to get an abortion without parental consent. After a number of phone calls it was determined that if a girl lived at home and did not have funds to pay for an abortion, to receive the service free or for a reduced rate she must have some evidence of the parents' income. There are a number of places where women can obtain abortions without parental consent if they have money. This gal did.

Attorney: Jo Ann Doughtie

CREDIT DISCRIMINATION:

This case involves a denial of extension of credit for home improvements. The company has discounted the woman's income in determining her eligibility for credit. Also, they want the woman to have a longer credit history than her husband. We will challenge this discrimination on the basis of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act which is a federal statute.

Attorney: Patti O'Kane

BEVERLY McCABE v. MASTERCARD; BEVERLY McCABE v. BANKAMERICARD:

These cases will be filed on the basis of the Texas Discrimination Act. These companies refused to issue a credit card in the woman's name even though she qualified for credit, and sent them to her husband in her husband's name instead.

Attorney: Patti O'Kane

CAMILE LUPRETE v. CITY OF PASADENA:

Our plaintiff has had a life-long ambition to be a police-person. Just when she thought she had succeeded, her hopes were dashed. Camile is a karate expert, an excellent marks-person, has taken courses in law enforcement, and had cadet training in the Police Academy. She was taken off radio patrol and put on a desk job. When she complained, she was fired. Since then she has been working on various security jobs. This case is ready for trial and we are awaiting a setting.

Attorney: Elliott Tucker

A PERSON BY ANY OTHER NAME—?

A local jewelry company would not issue a credit card to a woman who was using a name other than her husband's, i.e., her own name. This matter was handled by negotiation and the company reconsidered, issuing a card which has the birth surnames of both husband and wife, as the couple wanted.

Attorney: Patti O'Kane

NO HYPHENS AT DPS?

The Department of Public Safety refused to issue a driver's license to a woman who wanted to hyphenate her name and her husband's name. The DPS claimed not to have the means to hyphenate and that the woman should take them to court. The DPS found a hyphen in their typewriter and the license was issued.

Attorney: Patti O'Kane

IN RE LYNN ERICKSON:

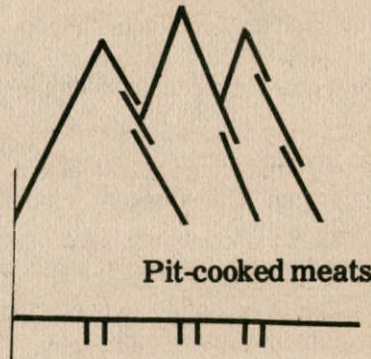
We are appealing from a State District Judge's decision refusing to change the name of a woman (who had been married for 10 years) to her birth surname. She can begin using any name she desires, but she wants judicial recognition of the change. This is discretionary with the judge; this case is on appeal for abuse of judicial discretion.

The judge stated that he thought it was immoral for a woman to have a name different from her husband's! He further stated that a husband has a property right in his wife and at common law the wife was required to take the husband's name.

Attorney: Patti O'Kane

BIG TIMBER BAR-B-Q

Brittmore
and
Old Katy Road



how to choose a doctor

Getting good health care from your doctor depends on you. The Houston Women's Health Collective offers the following guidelines to help you find a good doctor and prepare yourself for a visit to the gynecologist.

BEFORE YOU GO

Shop Around. The health collective has on file names and descriptions of doctors other women have recommended. The County Medical Association can provide you with the names of doctors in your area.

When you **call the doctor's office**, make sure s/he offers the services you need and find out how much it will cost. For example, some private physicians do not do gonorrhea cultures. And many general practitioners do routine pelvic exams including pap smear for a lower price than most gynecologists. You might also ask whether or not the doctor will allow you access to your chart.

Make a list of all your problems and questions to take with you, along with this article.

Read the booklet "Pelvic Examinations" or pages 121-122 in *Our Bodies, Our Selves* for a description of a routine pelvic.

Plan to **bring a light and mirror** if you are having a pelvic and want to see inside your vagina and the outside of the cervix (neck of the uterus).

Ask a friend to come for support and help in asking questions, especially if you are very sick and feeling weak and confused.

WHILE YOU ARE THERE, EXPECT AND ASK FOR

Time to describe your symptoms or problems thoroughly. You know more about some things, like where and how much you hurt, than any doctor.

An explanation **in a way you can understand** of what is happening during the exam, including looking at the instruments if you are curious.

A diagnosis and explanation of your condition, including results of tests.

A description and explanation of all treatment, including how long it will take, **and** alternatives s/he may know of. Knowing about your treatment includes identifying drugs, their side effects and contra-indications. Ask for generic drugs which are the same chemically, but usually not as expensive as brand name drugs.

The **right to decide what happens to your body**. The doctor should have your permission to carry out treatment, and should stop any procedure at your request. In the case of surgery, you usually should get a second opinion.

AFTERWARDS

Shop around for your prescription. Call drug stores and ask about prices and available sizes.

Call back for lab results and ask what they mean. For example, find out what class a pap smear is and what that means. You may need another pap smear.

Call back **if the treatment is not working** as soon as it should or if you are reacting to a drug.

Share your experiences with other women. Write the Houston Women's Health Collective in care of *Breakthrough*, or call 526-7406 or 523-6994.

If you are not satisfied, call or write the doctor and complain; let her/him know why if you decide to stop going there. Call or write the County Medical Association if you wish to register a complaint.

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Arts and Reviews



BONNIE BRAMLETT

A choice record

Lady's Choice--Bonnie Bramlett (Capricorn Records CP0169).

Like many other American women, Bonnie Bramlett is, she says, rediscovering herself--after several ups and downs during her musical career. With her ex-husband she was part of Delaney and Bonnie, and was in some circles the queen of "blue-eyed soul" after Janis Joplin. Investigating her artistic identity apparently meant a search into general roots, and her latest album includes eleven of the best rhythm 'n blues pieces of the last twenty years.

Bramlett has been singing professionally since she was 13. She started working in her native St. Louis with Albert King, Chuck Berry and Little Milton.

"I grew up listening to the great women R&B artists, like LaVern Baker, Ruth Brown, Etta James," she says. "And of course Tina Turner was probably the biggest influence on me. She was the only singer to spend a lot of time working with me, and teaching me how to sing soul music."

At 18, Bonnie went on the road, working with various bands including Cannonball Adderley's. Friends and musicians on early Bramlett discs (and Delaney and Bonnie cuts) included Leon Russell, Rita Coolidge, Eric Clapton, and

Gregg Allman. She worked with George Harrison and recorded with the then unknown Average White Band.

The album is a healthy, erotic statement of women's freedom. Bonnie especially brings new meaning to the Porter-Hayes hit, *Hold On, I'm Coming*, and Hank Ballard's *Let's Go*.

While a lot of these songs were written by men, most of rock music and progressive country songs are written by men because of discrimination against women artists (especially composers and musicians). But Bonnie does get Valerie Simpson's wonderful, bluesy *Let's Go Get Stoned* on here, with its amused resignation (*Now you know my baby he won't let me in/I got myself a few pennies/I'm goin' to buy myself a bottle of gin/Then I'm goin' call my friends on the telephone/And say, 'Let's go get stoned.'*)

And there's a fine soulful interpretation of Gloria Jones'/ Pamela Sawyer's *If I Were Your Woman*, in which Bramlett brings her full repertoire of down-home sounds to lay out the message (*If I were your woman... You'd be weak as a lamb*). If you're into this kind of music, Bonnie's exploration of musical self is a nice place to visit.

ain't no man can put a chain on ZOE

By Kit van Cleave

"I can't separate womanhood from my music," says feisty feminist songwriter Natalie Zoe, "because it's always been so intertwined. I wrote my first song at 17, and it was a feminist song, *Ain't No Man Can Put A Chain On Me*."

The lyrics read:

*I wander about and do
what I please,
Making love and friends
with ease,
And if I have a child,
A bastard shall be,
Because ain't no man can
put a chain on me.*

"I got involved in feminist activities at 17, when I was still in high school," she points out. "Later, at University of Wisconsin, I got into a lot of radical activity and found I had an emerging feminist consciousness. Now I'm less political and more musical, but I'll never move away from that powerful, creative source."

Zoe is just back from New England, where she worked with feminist filmmakers Julia Gibson and Joan Walden. Together, the two produced the first film from Me, Too, Productions, a series of vignettes called *Rose*, showing the daily life of a woman from feminist perspectives. Zoe wrote the soundtrack music and two songs for the film.

Natalie has made Houston home, moving here from Austin (where she was a hit with two bands of her own, Natty Bumpo and All You Can Eat) to be closer to recording studios. She had a big following in Austin; fans would sing along with her songs *A Little Bit Shy* or *46 Candles*. She had a few pieces recorded in a John Stuckey album; Bonnie Raitt and Doug Sahm encouraged her to record.

At 22, Zoe looks like Bette Midler. Like Midler, she's also enormously talented, an earthy yenta and foxy lady whose first notes make people stop talking and start listening. And she works seriously at both guitar and theory.

Zoe says experience has taught her that success for women in music today still depends largely on making friends with men in powerful positions.

"I think women are expected to fall into line, play the games, do roles. I'm always being told, 'Don't come on so strong, don't wear pants onstage, don't be forward, loud, aggressive.' Music managers see self-assertive women as aggressive because the women have their own ideas about how to make their own music," she says.

Some Houston club owners will not hire female musicians at all, thus creating another barrier to women's music.

"Being a woman and playing my own music, most of which is feminist, does set me apart, makes me different from what is happening musically in town," she points out. "Sometimes there are hassles with male musicians, and female musicians here often do not have sisterhood."

"I first started writing songs that I wanted to hear," Natalie says today. "I got tired of role-playing love songs like *Behind Closed Doors*. I never moon over a man. My songs, I think, are statements about communication, strength of being a woman, confusion, sorrow, joy. But I don't write or sing sappy love songs. I leave that to women who have men directing their careers, like Olivia Newton-John and Karen Carpenter."

Recently having been contacted about the possibility of cutting a record, Natalie says that if the negotiations finalize, she'll put her own songs on as the major cuts. One certain inclusion is *There's More To Life Than Loving A Man* (1973).

*I think about you
constantly,*

*Your lovin's on my mind,
I'll be with you whenever
I can,*

*But you know this music
takes up all my time.*

And another song sure to be recorded is Zoe's *Stuck in Topeka* (1974).

*And I can't hop a freight--
It's too dangerous if I
get found,
I'll be manhandled,
There'll be no escape.
But don't they know,
I won't let them push
me around?*

"It's getting easier to make a dent in the music/recording system," Zoe says, "but it's still difficult to get in, get co-operation and support, and do feminist songs while fighting to stay an individual. I expect more and more women to follow Blossom Dearie's example and form their own recording companies. Then we can control the music, production and employment. Won't that be terrific?"



Bill Dominguez

NATALIE ZOE



*Antiques
*Quilts *China

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HISD girls' athletics left at the post

By Jan Cunningham



Elizabeth Bennett of the Houston Post is to be commended for her recent series of articles* on Title IX and the Houston Independent School District.

Despite the assurances of Joe Tusa, HISD's Assistant Superintendent for Athletics, Health and Physical Education, and others interviewed in the series, progress is not being made at HISD in developing an acceptable program for interscholastic athletics for girls.

Rather, female students and their parents are being provided with "secondary" and relatively inexpensive programs which hold little interest for the students.

Aside from an interview with Irma Cuellar, a physical education teacher at Jackson Junior High School who, last spring, filed a sex discrimination complaint against HISD, most of Bennett's material concentrated on the views of Joe Tusa and Sarah Steelman, Assistant Principal at Westbury High School.

Both referred frequently to "an extensive study" that was made in HISD in 1973. Tusa and Steelman gave the impression that things were progressing nicely in HISD insofar as compliance with Title IX in the high schools was concerned. (They do admit non-compliance in the junior high schools.)

However, the "extensive study"--a Report on Expansion of Girls' Athletic Program, compiled by the Task Force for Expansion of the Girls' Athletic

Program (of which Steelman was a "co-chairman")--is, in most instances, directly contrary to the quoted statements by Tusa and Steelman.

Contradiction: Speaking of women's sports, Tusa stated that before the 1974-75 school year there was "very little emphasis on women's sports because of women themselves."

Fact: According to the 1973 Task Force Report: 95% of the 1,319 parents responded affirmatively to the following question:

With proper guidance and leadership, would you approve of your daughter's participation in...basketball, softball, etc...on a competitive basis at the senior high school level?

As for the students' lack of interest:

Of 2,342 girls participating in the study...92.8% [reported that they] benefitted from participation in sports.

And the teachers:

The results taken of the entire physical education staff indicate that 93% are willing to attend inservice workshops for coaching purposes.

Contradiction: Speaking of basketball, Tusa said, "It's not feasible to offer the sport for girls now. There's only one gym at many of our schools which makes it difficult for all to play... We (the boys' basketball teams) would not be competitive any longer if gym time had to be divided and I think

our teams are the best in the state."

Fact: According to the Task Force Report, 12 of 23 HISD senior and junior/senior high schools have separate gyms but that has very little to do with why basketball isn't offered to the girls. The real reason appears on page 9 of the report:

The dates of the University Interscholastic League Girls' Basketball Plan overlap with the date for the University Interscholastic League Boys' Basketball Plan and this presents a conflict regarding the use of gymnasiums and field houses.

Virtually the same reason was given for the failure of HISD to provide girls with an interscholastic volleyball program.

Contradiction: Sarah Steelman addressed herself to the interests of the students in the Post series: "One thing the study told them," says Steelman, "was that more girls on the senior high level wanted track and field and golf. The needs more or less reflected the ethnic areas; track and field reflected the inner-city areas and golf, the suburban areas."

Fact: Not so according to the Task Force Report:

Girls participating in the HISD Survey on Interscholastic Athletics were asked to rank activities not offered in the existing program that they would like to see included. The results were as follows:

1. Badminton
2. Softball
3. Basketball
4. Bowling
5. Tumbling/Gymnastics
6. Track & Field
7. Golf

These findings were based on an activity receiving the largest number of first, second and third place votes. It was clearly evident that bad-

minton was the first choice and softball the second. Bowling received more first place rankings than basketball, but basketball was the second and third choice of more girls than bowling. Golf received more last place votes than any activity.

Basketball, insists Steelman, was not among the leading activities of interest of those surveyed.

It is obvious that there is a great discrepancy between the desires of parents and students and the desires of HISD.

The girl students are currently being offered programs that will take away as little as possible (i.e., money or facilities) from the well-established on-going boys' programs. And they are being offered programs in which they have expressed little or no interest!

Tusa thinks the boys' programs are the best in the state and to Superintendent Billy Reagan, "The problem is money. If we don't come up with any other solution, we'll be faced with reducing the boys' programs."

"And what about the girls' P.E. programs?" Bennett asked Tusa.

"We give them anything they want," he says. "All they have to do is ask for it."



* "Today" Sept. 5-7, 1976

Big 2 News

With Sara Lowrey, Larry Rasco, Doug Johnson and Bill Worrell



Best Sellers presents a continuing series

"Captains and the Kings"

Taylor Caldwell's giant story about a poor Irish immigrant and his road to success starring Richard Jordan, Patty Duke Astin, Ray Bolger, Henry Fonda, Celeste Holm, Barbara Parkins, Vic Morrow, Joanna Pettet, Katherine Crawford, Ann Sothern and Robert Vaughn.



6PM in **2** Country

Thursdays at 8 in **2** Country

'Hurricanes' gear up for pro football

By Jan Cunningham

From the sidelines the Houston Hurricanes look like a small Texas high school football team. Dressed in standard football padding and helmets and sporting assorted jerseys, shorts and football pants, the Hurricane backfield runs and reruns intricate hand-offs and passing drills. The linespeople slug it out in the "pit." The linebackers pursue the running backs with ferocity.

Up close though, any resemblance between the Hurricanes and 99.9% of the football teams in Texas is quickly dispelled. Beneath all that padding are 25 Houston women with one thought in mind—to make the Houston Hurricanes a member in good standing of the eight-team Women's Professional Football League.

That's not simple. In professional sports it's not merely a matter of getting together a team, finding a coach and a sponsor and joining a league. Professional sports is, after all, big business.

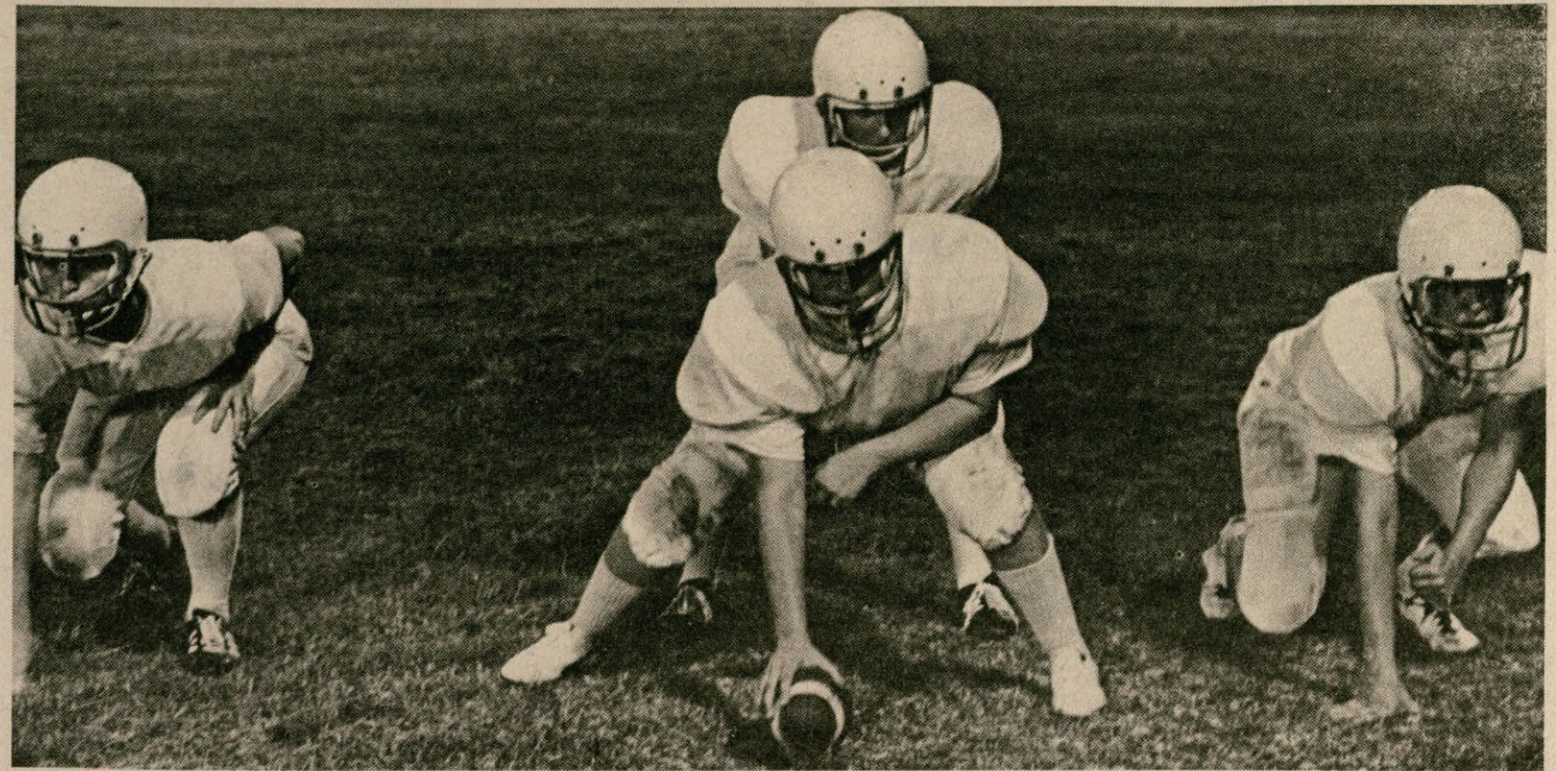
Like the NFL, the WPFL has stringent financial entry requirements for teams. Under the current WPFL set-up a team must exhibit financial responsibility by purchasing a \$10,000 franchise. (A real bargain compared to NFL franchises, which cost millions of dollars.)

At this point the \$10,000 is the largest obstacle facing the Hurricanes. Without the franchise the Hurricanes cannot become official members of the league which includes established teams in Toledo, Dallas, San Diego, Los Angeles, Oklahoma City and New York.

However, until they can come up with the \$10,000 there is an alternative. They can play exhibition games with league teams or with other teams which are trying to get established, like San Antonio and Tulsa.

These exhibition games are important. They are a gauge of the local support the team can expect. Local support puts the bread and butter on the table.

Even if the Hurricanes do find a franchise underwriter (it's a tax write-off, folks),



Marilyn Jones

HOUSTON HURRICANES

they still face fearsome financial burdens. Under the present league format the home team pays for travel and housing for the visiting team. This wouldn't be too much of a problem if Houston were playing Dallas but, (all of the games are scheduled on weekends so that league players can return to their "other" employment during the week) a game between the Hurricanes and San Diego could be very expensive for the Hurricanes since San Diego would have to be flown to Houston. Naturally a team that isn't generating support at the gate is not going to be in any position to play in a home and away series with the well-known league teams.

In addition, teams must be properly uniformed and equipped. Hurricane members now assume the burden individually at a cost of between \$75 to \$125 per player. They must finance adequate publicity for the team and pay rent for practice facilities and game facilities. And they certainly should provide major medical coverage for all the team members. All this before the players can become "professionals"—that is,

make money.

But the Hurricanes continue, full of enthusiasm and looking forward to their first year in the league.

The team was started by Marty Bryant, who read a *womenSports* article on their 1975 Sportswoman of the Year, Linda Jefferson of the Toledo team, and wrote the WPFL to get assistance in establishing a team in Houston. Several letters and phone-calls later, league officials provided Marty with all the assistance they apparently could muster: "Put an ad in the local newspaper."

The present Hurricane roster represents the healthy and fit who answered the ad and survived the first rigorous weeks of training. Hurricane members had reasons for joining as diverse as their jobs, which range from student and teacher to welder, printer and homemaker.

Quarterback Gwen Flager went out for the team because as a small girl in Louisiana and Alabama her athletic opportunities were very limited. Dodie King joined because her six brothers always got to play football and she never did. Several

members of the team, like Marty and Renee Becham, played softball together this summer in the Northeast Houston League.

Coach Richard Perry coaches the team because his wife plays. A veteran of coaching in boys programs in Europe, Coach Perry feels that the only difference between male football players and female players is that the females have less background in the sport.

The Hurricanes will play their first game in Houston on October 23, against San Antonio at Houston's Delmar Stadium at 8 p.m. Admission is \$3.50 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

Breakthrough will print their season schedule as soon as it is made available and will keep you up-to-date on their games.

The support of the Houston feminists is vital to the Hurricanes. Those who have

worn themselves to a frazzle over Title IX and the inequities in all sports programs for women should see the formation of the WPFL as the beginnings of the change they seek.

Many can help the Hurricanes. The financially able can provide the franchise fee. Anyone can certainly attend their home games at Delmar with husbands, lovers, children and friends. Some don't want to go to the games but will buy tickets and give them to someone who would enjoy the games. Those interested in playing football will go out for the team. A doctor, advertising person, printer or what-have-you can help the team.

Anyone wanting more information on the Hurricanes should contact Gwen Flager at 460-5032.

Roots Reveals

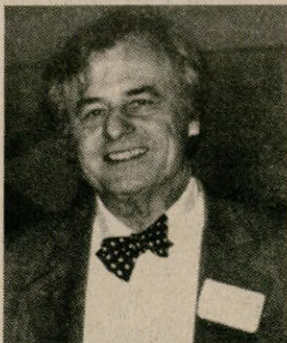
With a Continental jerk, **Katie Sandwina**, the strongest woman weightlifter, raised 286 pounds for the greatest overhead lift in 1911. She unofficially lifted 312½ pounds and reportedly once shouldered a 1200 pound cannon taken from the tail board of a Barnum and Bailey Circus wagon. Born January 21, 1884, the German weightlifter stood 5'11" tall and weighed 210 pounds.

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Bob Eckhardt

Paid for by Bob Eckhardt Campaign Fund, J. Edwin Smith, Treasurer.
A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463.

Big sisters / little sisters are friends



UNEMPLOYED?
UNDEREMPLOYED?

Read



MARCY AND SUZETTE

By Susan Socher

Marcy needed a special friend--someone to talk to, someone to have fun with, someone who would care. Suzette is that special friend, her Big Sister. Marcy and Suzette became "sisters" through Big Sisters of Houston.

Big Sisters, a program within this city's Big Brother Agency, was started here in Houston in January, 1971. Big Sisters focuses its attention on girls between the ages of 8 and 16, from single parent families. Through this program Little Sisters receive friendship and help from their Big Sisters--mature and responsible adults who volunteer to help these girls.

Big Sisters was started in this country twenty years ago on the premise that growing up is a challenge to today's youth. Many women who feel the commitment to help young girls meet this challenge become Big Sisters, spending their time and energy building supportive friendships with their Little Sisters. These friendships help

Little Sisters to gain self-confidence, to discover career goals, to become responsible adults.

Most Big and Little Sisters build their relationship by spending time together each week. They share everyday things--walks in the park, picnics, shopping trips, gardening. And both Big and Little Sisters agree it takes time and effort to build the special one-to-one friendship that the program encourages.

To help these relationships grow and develop the Big Sister staff provides professional supervision. This guidance is only available because of the support of the United Fund and from the Houston Association for Big Brothers. Because of their help Big Sisters has grown from 35 matches in 1971 to 165 assigned Little Sisters today.

Seventy-six Little Sisters still need Big Sisters. Minority children make up the majority of these unassigned girls. Women interested in learning how they can help can contact Big Sisters, 1010 Banks, 529-4627.

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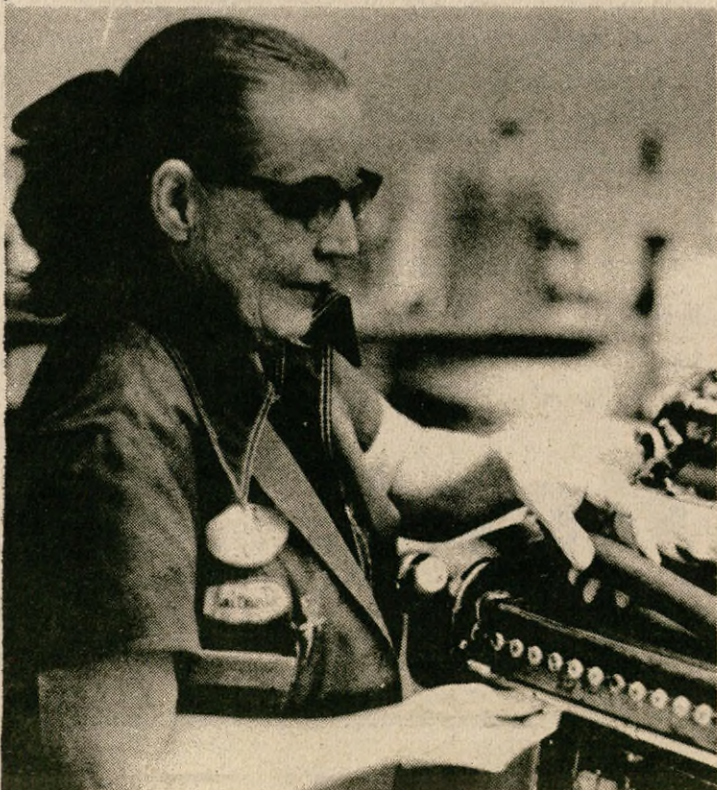
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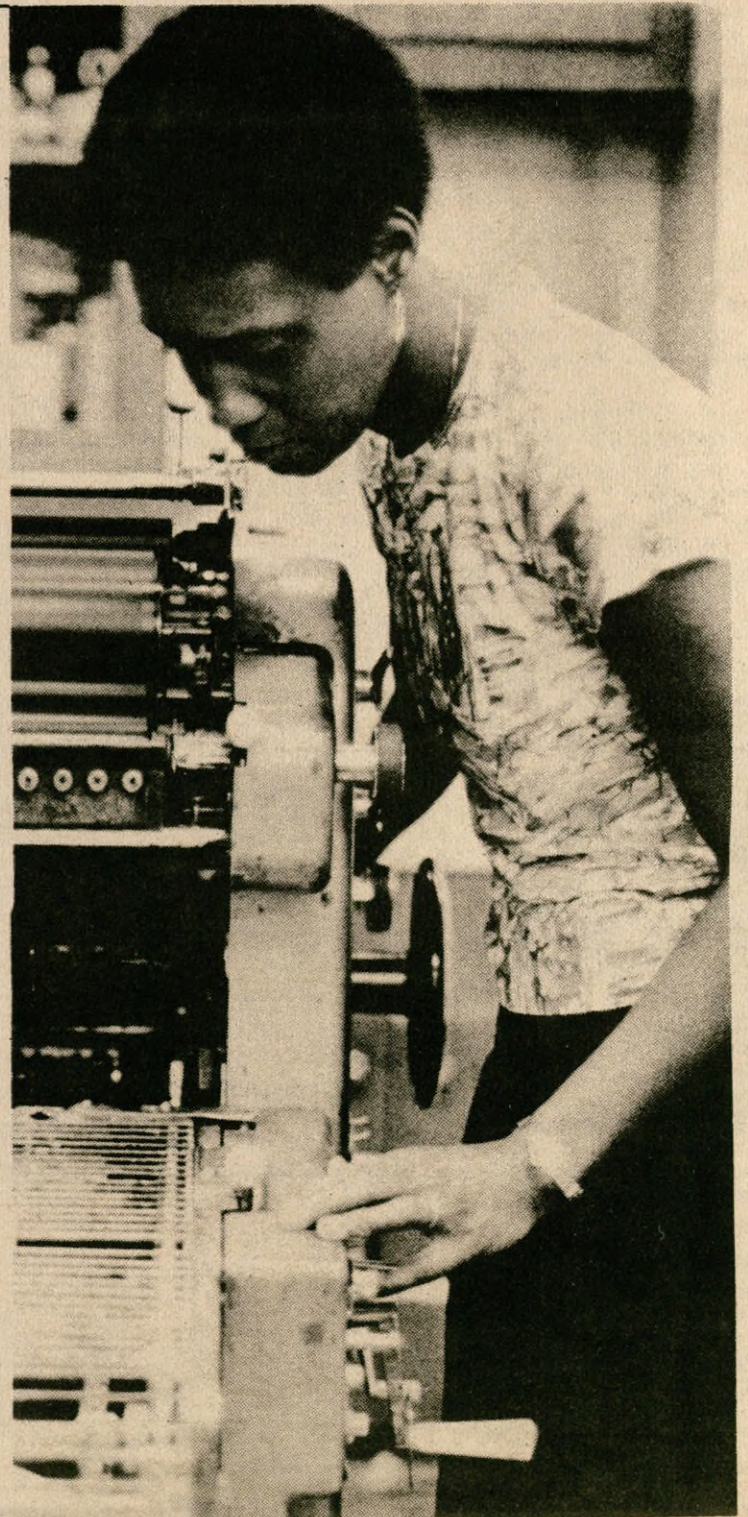
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Ruby Sanders
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4101 San Jacinto
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PRIESTS continued from page 1

Reverend Carter Heyward, one of those women, feels that the ordination wasn't simply an event, but part of a process-- a process of renewal. Following the Philadelphia ordinations, four other women were ordained in separate ceremonies. Havens praised these "women of untold courage," and added, "I hope that history will acknowledge their courage and their genius."

At the 1976 Convention, the House of Bishops voted to offer these 15 women priests conditional ordination. This would be, in effect, a re-ordination. Most, if not all, of the women have rejected this suggestion out of hand because they believe they are validly ordained priests.

The Bishops later agreed to the possibility of a "public event" which would include "an opportunity" for the women to declare their loyalty to the Church "anew." It would not repeat laying on of hands.

William Stringfellow, chief counsel for the 15 women priests, has said that this would be acceptable if all participants in the service repeated their vows, not only the 15 women.

As part of a recent change in attitude, this triennial convention reflects the Episcopal Church's growing recognition of and respect for women in the Church. The ordination of women to the Diaconate was approved in 1970. In that year also women were accepted as delegates to conventions. In 1973, the question of women's ordination was narrowly de-

feated in a vote before the House of Deputies.

This year, in a Celebration of the Eucharist at the General Convention, three women--two deacons, one of whom was Havens, and one lay delegate--participated in the Mass. The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Presiding Bishop were celebrants of the service in a display of unity in the Church.

It is also significant that the resolution on women priests was admitted as canonical change, as opposed to a constitutional revision, which would have required final approval at the 1979 Convention.

Although opponents fear a drastic breach in Catholic-Episcopal relations, the following message from the Women's Ordination Conference, a Roman Catholic group, was read

to the General Convention:

"We rejoice with all our Episcopal brothers and sisters. Our joy is doubled knowing that, because of our ecumenical bond, this work of the Spirit in your Convention hastens the day when women will be ordained in our communion."

These past six years have been tumultuous ones, and great strides have been made in the acceptance of women in all areas of the Church. The Convention's decision leaves no winners or losers, but a victory for all men and women--clergy and lay--Reverend Fred Hannon, Church of the Resurrection explained.

The general feeling in Houston is one of hope and expectation. The Diocese of Texas delegates voted 7-1 in favor of the change, which will become

effective January 1, 1977. Bishop J. Milton Richardson cast a yes vote. Reverend Jeffrey Walker, Christ Church, sees it as a "great step forward for the Church." Even those opposed to the decision accept, albeit painfully, the will of their Church. Reverend Thomas Bagby, St. Martin Church, agreed, but added, "I personally wouldn't care to have one on my staff."

In the Texas diocese there are three women deacons. Neither Gladys Hall of Baytown nor Betty Fuller of La Grange seek the priesthood at this time. Havens hopes for ordination next summer. She feels that women can offer the priesthood a new dimension of feminine richness. And her son, Mark, can hardly wait to introduce her as 'My mother, Father Havens.'

NURSES continued from page 1

The six nursing school deans, cognizant of the fact that they must now depend on the continued approval of their respective presidents to maintain their deanships, presented a neutral position paper.

Testifying on behalf of the Regents, the newly-promoted Vice Chancellor E. Don Walker stated, "Our reorganization is working well . . . because of the willing cooperation and hard work of our nursing school deans."

It was widely rumored that the deans met with Walker and the Regents the night before the September 9 hearing to prepare their position paper.

Despite the original reason given by the Regents to dissolve the UTSSN--to save UT \$300,000 -- Walker never mentioned this fact in his testimony.

Dr. Redding and Luci Johnson Nugent did speak to that issue.

Redding pointed out the increased costs of the accreditations process--from \$22,000 for the System to approximately \$133,000 for six separate campus accreditations.

Johnson testified that with the abolishment of the System came the abolishment of the Development Board which she formerly chaired. The Board raised approximately \$500,000 annually.

Walker also neglected to mention other evidence that

was used to strengthen the Regents' case--a "Report on the UTSSN." In this so-called "two-year study," Walker and the Regents charged that UT nursing graduates were so ill-prepared "as bedside nurses" that they had to go "through at least six weeks of clinical training at UT hospitals (M.D. Anderson and Hermann) before they could be entrusted to attempt to take care of hospitalized sick people."

Mildred Dayton challenged these assertions in her testimony. The Houston faculty professor quoted Helen Sommer, Assistant Director of Education at M.D. Anderson, as saying that the hospital never conducted clinical training programs specifically for UT graduates.

"What they did have," Dayton refuted "were orientation programs attended by all nurses new to M.D. Anderson."

Barbara Roosth Frank, a graduate of UTSSN, gave strong opening and closing testimony on the objective of the System's curriculum to prepare a nurse willing to make decisions, assume responsibility and accountability for her/his actions.

Frank asked Committee members what type of nurse they would like to have caring for them in the emergency room: one that would say "Doctor, what should I do?" or "Doctor, come assist and di-

rect." She asserted the UTSSN produced a graduate that acted on behalf of the patient.

A 1974 graduate from the Houston campus reaffirmed the excellent clinical competency of the UT graduate nurse. Happy Barnett said that although no one could take away her education, she expressed regret for students in the future who may not receive the same kind of patient-centered education.

Many witnesses spoke directly to the tension between two major groups within the health care delivery system: the doctors and the nurses. Dr. Armando Cuellar, a physician from Weslaco, Texas, stated that M.D.s have not kept up with the changes in nursing education and practice since their own medical school days. He acknowledged that his own perceptions of nurses had been limited until his two daughters graduated from the UTSSN and until he attended a UTSSN continuing education program.

Addressing himself to the controversial question of doctors vs. nurses and the attendant issues of professional autonomy, Chancellor Walker emphasized that the Regents' decision did not put nursing education back under the control of doctors. He stated that "all six deans will determine their own academic program."

In making that statement, he ignored the July 9 motion by Regent Joe Nelson, M.D. to the Regents, stating that "the Board of Regents authorize and direct that nursing education in the University of Texas System shall place major emphasis on training nurses for direct patient care . . ."

Walker further avoided mention of the ill-founded contentions contained in the "Report" and instead couched his defense of the Regents' decision in terms of the "anachronistic" nature of UTSSN, stating that it had become a "burden" to UT, and maintaining that this "re-organization" was done to be consistent with the rest of the UT structure.

At this point, a faculty member turned to a state legislator in the hearing room and said, "In that case, M.D. Anderson is also an anachronism and should be placed under the Health Science Center."

At the conclusion of Walker's testimony, Chairman Head

found it fitting to express his appreciation for everyone's presence and testimony, but singled out Walker for special thanks because "we all know how busy you are." The remark did not go unnoticed by witnesses and observers who had interrupted their schedules and traveled from the far corners of the state to participate in the hearings.

In his summation, Charles Babb, attorney for the Texas Nurses Association, pointed out to Head and Committee members that "some of these nurses risked their careers by testifying today. In fact, when they return to work tomorrow morning, they might not have a job."

The question of whether the Regents had the authority to abolish the UTSSN created by the Texas legislature in 1967 is currently under litigation, with attorney Babb representing the TNA in their suit against the UT Regents.

That legislative interest in this controversial issue is growing was evidenced by the presence of several state legislators during the hearings. State Representatives Lance Lalor (D-Houston), Gonzalo Barrientos (D-Austin), Ben Reyes (D-Houston) and Wilhelmina Delco (D-Austin) were present, as

well as the aides of Senator Gene Jones (D-Houston) and Representative Gene Green (D-Houston).

Senator Jones wrote Head, "This decision will not only adversely affect the nursing profession and the development of sound nursing education in the state of Texas. The interests of the entire state health care delivery system, patients included, will be seriously thwarted."

After the hearing, nurses stated that they intend to win the battle for nursing autonomy in Texas.

In fact, Texas nurses are meeting with measurable success in their efforts to publicize their plight, to organize themselves for action, and to educate and activate themselves politically.

The development of their visibility and credibility as an important political interest group to be reckoned with in the state legislative arena has been made apparent to political observers in the state--not only by the impressive show of support and the strength of their arguments on September 9 but, perhaps more significantly, by the fact that the hearings were held in the first place.


STATE REP. Ron Waters
Your Representative in Austin.

"It's just such a privilege to have him as our Representative! There just aren't many like him -- with his integrity and honesty." -- Gertrude Barnstone

"What impressed me most about Ron was that he came to our county convention and said he is for the ERA because it is right -- regardless of political pressure. Ron has the integrity to vote his conscience." -- Donna Duerk

"Ron Waters is obviously out of step with many of the other Texas state representatives. Hopefully they'll see the light and eventually catch up!" -- Pokey Anderson

"When I was assistant coordinator of Texans for ERA, Ron's office became my second headquarters. While it's relatively easy for an



urban Representative to be pro-ERA, few are dedicated enough to offer such day-to-day tangible services. Ron was second only to Sarah Weddington in active support for ERA." -- Debra Danburg

We support Ron Waters because he has supported us.

Pokey Anderson	Gloria Guardiola	Poppy Northcutt
Betty Barnes	Peggy Hall	Carolyn Nichols
Gertrude Barnstone	Susan Heavey	Jan Pierce
Marjon Bryan	Brenda Lewis	Mary Ross Rhyne
Donna Duerk	Ann K. Lower	Juneau Shepherd
Debra Danburg	Sharon Macha	Alice Shrader
Jim Davidson	Keith McGee	Olga Soliz
Cilia Estrada	Lynn Mutchler	Kay and Cliff Whyburn

If you can help in the campaign to reelect Ron Waters, call 527-9130 or stop by headquarters, 2506 Bolph, Suite 103A.

Vote Tuesday, Nov. 2

Faid by Ron Waters Campaign Committee, 2506 Bolph, Suite 103A, Houston, Texas 77006, Jim Evans, Campaign Chairman

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Texas Monthly Magazine
July, 1975

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'Moby Jane' wheels in

By Inez Crawford

Travelling in their big van Moby Jane, two storytellers will arrive in Houston around Oct. 25. Nancy Schimmel and Carole Leita tell stories solo, in tandem and with puppets.

Their stories are for all ages and come from all over the world. They involve their audiences in singing, acting out stories or learning simple traditional crafts and games that go with the stories. They also teach workshops in storytelling.

Schimmel and Leita tell stories in which the stars are female as often as male. A children's librarian for eight years, Schimmel is acutely aware of sex role stereotyping in children's books.

The daughter of Malvina Reynolds, Schimmel plays guitar and recorder. She teaches storytelling, and performs for adults and children at fairs and festivals.

Leita juggles. She has performed in little theatre. She was co-editor of *Booklegger Magazine*, which reviews alternative press books.

Leaving San Francisco on April 9, the pair travelled across the northern part of the country. Houston is on their homeward path through the South.

Listen for them on KPFT Pacifica Radio on Monday, Oct. 25 from 8-10 p.m.

They will lead a workshop at the Peden YWCA, 1120 Clematis Lane, on Oct. 28, at 4 p.m. It costs only \$2, or \$1.50 for members.

A couple of other appearances are planned. For more information, bookings, etc., call 665-3213 for their schedule.

A guide to Women's Businesses in Houston

A comprehensive listing of Houston area businesses which are managed by women or at least 50% owned by women.

Listings are now being gathered and verified. If you would like to be contacted, fill out the form below and mail. Or jot down someone you know, and we'll contact her. There is no charge to be listed.

Thanks to continuing support from the women of Houston, we anticipate publishing the guide in the near future. Watch for the announcement in your local feminist media.

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To and from

Announcements

Want to celebrate the New Year Oct. 31, in synchronous ritual with women across the U.S.? Call Prairie, 862-7390, after 6 p.m. One of the rituals will be a fire burning with each woman throwing into the fire a symbol of something she would like to be rid of for the rest of the year. The energy from the fire will be directed to Sisters Everywhere.

Houston Moonlight Bicycle Ramble, a casual, two-hour fun and recreational bicycle ride. Sunday, Oct. 24. Fee: \$1. Information: 497-0981 or 526-7011.

Women's Group at First Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin, meets Sundays, 10 a.m. Oct. 3: Nikki Van Hightower "The Women's Movement: Crises and Accomplishments"; Oct. 10: Carol Powell "Women in Religion"; Oct. 17: Glenna Cloud, Women's Health Collective, gives slide presentation; Oct. 24: Alice Rickel, KPFT; Oct. 31: Betty Sue Green, astrologer.

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"Women Are News" t-shirts from Houston Breakthrough. Sizes S (32-34), M (36-38), L (40-42) and XL (44). Brown silk-screen on natural. Send \$6 (tax & postage included) to P.O. Box 88072, Houston 77004.

Children

Communicating with Kids. Find out how your relationships with children can be more meaningful and rewarding. Cora Root Peden YWCA, 11209 Clematis Ln. Call 723-4752. Oct. 6, 13 and 20.

Classified Ads/Information


Reach 45,000 readers monthly with a classified ad in Houston Breakthrough. Ads run 20 cents per word (min. 15 words). Women's groups and non-profit groups may run free ads of announcements or services. Any workshop or seminar with registration fee in excess of \$10 must pay per-word rate. Subscribers seeking employment may run free ads (up to 25 words). All copy should be typewritten, double-spaced. Ad copy deadline: 20th of each month.

Courses/Schools

Seeking Self-Realization? Have you ever wondered what your level of ego development is? Are you conformist? hedonistic? impulsive? autonomous? Dr. Kelvin Ryals, winner of the Teaching Excellence Award at UH, with the Kent State experience behind him, will answer these questions in a course he is offering at Developmental Education Services. Many of Dr. Ryals former students have commented that this course changed their lives. At the UH his classes had waiting lists that were a testament to his dynamic, sometimes controversial presentation. Pre-registration is required. Ten two-hour sessions, starting Oct. 31, \$50. For additional information call 524-6637.

Dance classes based on a philosophy of natural movement springing from an inner source. Janice Marie 524-3653.

The Humanities Institute of the Jewish Community Center, presents "Man and Woman--The Relation of the Sexes" on Thursdays, 7:30-9:30, beginning Oct. 7, taught by Donald S. Lutz, Ph.D., Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Political Science, UH. Also "19th Century English Literary Women" on Fridays, 9:30-11:30, beginning Oct. 8, taught by Julia Wolf Mazow, Ph.D., with the Dept. of English, UH Woodlands. Call Lorraine Brown, 729-3200 for fees and additional information.



JACKSON 6-2691

915 RICHMOND AVE.
HOUSTON, TEXAS

UH Continuing Education Center, Part II "Women in Supervision on Oct. 12 & 19. "The Career-Minded Secretary" on Oct. 13. "Apartment Communities: Individual/Family Development" on Oct. 7. For information call Dr. Alice Whatley 745-4185.

Self-Help Classes starting Oct. 18 on Monday nights. Call Houston Women's Health Collective at 523-9317 or 526-7406.

Employment

Sex discrimination. If you feel you are being discriminated against because of your sex, in hiring, firing or promotion in a job by an employer, contact Women's Equity Action League (WEAL), 667-8556 and they will help you file a charge with the EEOC.

Tele-Image, Inc., a new videotape production facility, is compiling a list of free-lance media people for use in future productions. Employment on a part-time basis only. If interested write or call (214) 245-3561, Tele-Image, Inc., 2225 Bellline, 321, Carrollton, Tx. 75006.

National WEAL is collecting resumes of women to recommend for possible appointment to public office either paid or volunteer at the national level. If you would like to be considered, please send your resume to Kay Whyburn at 2234 Goldsmith, Houston 77025. (Include fields you would be interested in on a separate sheet.) She will send them on to National WEAL. Please do not be modest. You are qualified. Consider some of the "turkeys" currently serving in Washington.



Films/Theatre

"Move Sisters Move!" Stand Up Sisters!, feminist theatre group composed of women and men of diverse experiences, presents a view of womanhood through a collage of music and readings. At YWCA, 3515 Allen Parkway, Oct. 27, 8 p.m. \$1.50 donation.

Gemini Productions' next film: *Woman to Woman*, Dec. 3, First Unitarian Church. Put on your calendar!

Garage Sale

A "Help Us Make It Through The First Year"--benefit for Houston Breakthrough the second Saturday and Sunday of each month: Oct. 9 & 10, Nov. 13 & 14, and Dec. 11 & 12. Donations may be brought beforehand to 1708 Rosewood. We will pick up larger items. Women's groups are welcome to participate "flea-market" style for their own fundraiser. Call for details, 526-6686. See you Oct. 9 & 10 at 1708 Rosewood.

Getting Involved

Houston Area Feminist Federal Credit Union needs help from its members to run the office at 2418 Travis. If interested call B.L. at 465-3928.

Houston Breakthrough will enthusiastically welcome anyone with car who can help circulate the newspaper during the month. Help us get the word out. Call 526-6686.

Girls' basketball coach needed at Magnolia YWCA. Call Candy Freeman, Athletic Director, 926-2601.

Rape Crisis Coalition will hold a training program for victims advocate volunteers beginning Oct. 2. The program will be held at 1-5:30 p.m. on five consecutive Saturdays. Attendance at all five sessions is necessary to become an advocate. Advocates provide crisis intervention counseling to victims and their families by phone. They also accompany victims to the police station, hospital or courts. Both male and female advocates are needed. If You are interested, call Crisis Hotline, 228-1505.

CURE wants to hear from people who can offer transportation or who need rides to prisons. Call 529-6388 or attend meeting Oct. 19 at TSU Law School, 7:30 p.m.

Anyone willing to help with ads for Houston Breakthrough. 15% commission. Call 526-6686.

Health

Aaron Women's Clinic, 6565 DeMoss, offers a broad spectrum of services and birth control. Speakers and educational services are provided at no charge to special interest groups through the speaker's bureau. Aaron Women's Clinic is continually working to find new alternatives to offer women. Please call for further information 774-9706.

Author Kate Millett (*Sexual Politics and Flying*) will present a talk on "Female Sexuality" at Agnes Arnold Hall at the UH campus at 8 p.m. on Nov. 18. Her visit is being sponsored by the UH Dept. of Women's Affairs and The Program Council. Her talk will highlight a two-day Women's Health Seminar on campus: "Biological Aspects of Women's Health" (Nov. 17) and "Psychological Aspects of Women's Health" (Nov. 18). For more info call UH Women's Advocate Diane Escobedo, 749-1366.

Women's Health Meeting, Oct. 12 at 7:30 p.m., will discuss self-help and midwifery. Sponsored by HWHC and HOME. Call 526-7406 or 523-9317.

Massage for Women: to explore inner spaciousness and balance energy. For appt. call Beth Kendrick, 523-0368. Donations accepted.

Media

KPFT/Pacifica invites your input at the KPFT Women's Meeting at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday at 419 Lovett Blvd. The "Sugar and Spice" (Saturdays 9-10 a.m.) program welcomes community participation. Call Alice Rickel at 526-4000 or 528-0397.

Political

Equality Month Party Auction. Sponsored by The American Assoc. of University Women and the League of Women Voters to raise funds for ERA campaign in unratified states. Saturday, Oct. 16, 8 p.m., at Hattie Thurlow's, 13307 Kingsride, 468-3600. Bar-Food--Auction--Prizes--Heated Pool--Fantastic People (You!)

Meet the candidates for County Commissioner, Precinct 3, Janis Pool and Bob Eckels. Oct. 5 at Spring Branch-Memorial YWCA, 1102 Campbell Rd., 9:30-12 a.m.

Candidates and Issues Forum--Oct. 9, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Come meet the candidates who will be on the election ballot for county, state, and federal offices from the American, Democratic, La Raza, Republican and Socialist parties. YWCA, 3515 Allen Parkway.

Old Fashioned BBQ and Political Rally at Busch Gardens, Oct. 19. HCWPC fundraiser. If you can help, or want information, call Julia Donoho, 621-1096 or Donna Duerk, 665-8682.

Services

Dressmaking & Alterations: Euna 524-4489.

Workshops

Register for workshops offered by Family Services Center. "Human Sexuality," "Communication," "Self-Assertion for Women," lots more. Call 524-3881 for information.

"Women and Management." This workshop focuses on new roles working women are assuming and the special problems they face as they advance in management. The leaders will be Drew Scott (co-author with Dorothy Jongeward of two Addison-Wesley books: *Affirmative Action for Women: A Practical Guide* and *Women as Winners: Change Through Transactional Analysis*) and Beth Stecker, Associate Director of Interface and organizational development consultant. Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 10 & 11, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Fee \$150. For additional information and reservation call Interface at 626-7990.

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HOUSTON
RAPE CRISIS COALITION
Volunteer 228-1505 or 524-5743

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Special rates for classified listing of women-owned businesses and services: \$12 for 2 lines (6 mos.), \$18 for 3 lines (6 mos.) and \$24 for 4 lines (6 mos.). Please send copy and check to Breakthrough by the 20th of each month.

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P.O. Box 88072 526-6686

SOUTHWESTERN
ARTS REVIEW
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