

**The Houston Post or the Houston Chronicle.
Who covers gay news best? Special
investigative report, page 9**

MONTROSE V O I C E

The Newspaper of Montrose,
Issue #60, Published Weekly

**Friday
December 18
1981**

Good Evening

Montrose weather tonight: Fair
and cold with a low of 30°.

Saturday: Sunrise 7:11AM.
Continued fair and cold with a
high of 48°. Sunset 5:25PM.



PHOTOS BY EDMARTINEZ



The spirit of Christmas in Montrose

Show above is the "before" and the "after" of the Montrose Community Christmas Tree in the 1000 block of Westheimer last weekend.

District C City Councilman-elect George Greanias (with microphone) speaks as Gay Political Caucus board member Larry Bagnieris Jr. (center) and out-going District C Councilman (and City Controller-elect) Lance Lalor look on during the official lighting ceremony Sunday night, attended by several hundred on-lookers.



**Police group
newspaper
does satire
on gay cops,
then decides
to try and
hide it**

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**Last
September's
arrests at the
Drum was
proper, judge
says**

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**Boys Town
Gang even
had the cops
toe-tapping**

Montrose Live, page
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**Switchboard
to start this
week**

Montrose News,
page 3

Baja's

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Two suspected "gay cancer" cases here found false

By William Marberry

Though one person recently died of Kaposi's Sarcoma, there are no other known cases of the disease in Houston. Two recently suspected cases proved to be immunological suppression diseases with similar symptoms, but were not Kaposi's Sarcoma, which is often referred as the "gay cancer."

Since 1975 there have been 54 cases of Kaposi's Sarcoma reported in the state of Texas according to sources at M.D. Anderson Hospital, where the Cancer Prevention Section is closely monitoring Houston for any new cases.

Medical alert bulletins have been issued to Harris County physicians about the disease as a precaution following the first and only, recent Houston case.

Causes of Kaposi's Sarcoma are unknown, but certain factors reoccured often in the New York, San Francisco and Atlanta outbreaks, the most suspect contributors being: a frequent history of sexually transmitted diseases; use of recreational drugs, especially "poppers"; heavy use of prescribed medications which reduce the body's natural immunology; and a generally run-down condition.

Symptoms of the disease are reddish or purple skin lesions especially about the ankles and neck that are quite unique in appearance, swollen lymph glands, pneumonia, colitis, and/or strange sores or infections which do not heal except very slowly.

Kaposi's Sarcoma is easy to misdiagnose, so for this reason it is important to consult a doctor if there is any doubt or suspicion of the disease, doctors said. Though chances of contracting the disease are extremely remote, the most susceptible group is gay males between the

ages of 20 and 40.

Doctors Richard and Robert O'Brien, associated with the Montrose Clinic, recently produced a special program on sexually transmitted diseases which they presented before a CHE hosted forum and will be repeating at a later date. The program presents the interrelatedness of lifestyle and disease, with a strong emphasis on prevention.

Switchboard to start service

The Gay Switchboard of Houston (GSH) will begin service on Tuesday, December 22, its director announced, and will conduct an information and fund-raising drive in several Houston bars this weekend, Dec. 18 and 19.

"The Switchboard's number, 529-3211, will be staffed on Tuesday through Saturday evenings from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m.," said Rich Neil, GSH director. An answering machine will operate the remainder of the week, he said.

This Friday and Saturday night, GSH volunteers are scheduled to be in 16 Houston Clubs from 9:00 p.m. till midnight to answer questions about the Switchboard's service and to collect donations.

"We want to let the community know the kinds of information it can receive from the GSH and get more ideas about what the gay community wants from us," Neil explained.

GSH has announced it will operate as a crisis intervention and referral service and information clearinghouse. It plans to offer telephone counseling service, collect information about social and political events of interest to gay people and maintain a directory for medical and legal referrals.

The Switchboard is accepting volunteers for its second training class in January. Those interested in the organization's activities may contact Neil at 270-6286 or write GSH, P.O. Box 3624, Houston, TX 77001, he said.

Montrose Voice

the newspaper of Montrose

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Phone (713) 529-8490

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Montrose Mouth

Yes, Marguerite

Montrose nightclub entertainer Marguerite got a surprise Dec. 6 when the Montrose Pub hosted a party in her honor for her birthday.

Said Marguerite, "I wish there was some way I could tell them how much I love them and thank them for what they did."

You just did.

Last Wednesday's GPC meeting turned out to be, well, rather unusual.

25 members of the organization showed up for the regular twice-a-month meeting ... but not a single officer or board member was there. So, no meeting could be conducted.

Those 25 who were there weren't too happy about it, but they worked on their mailing list.

Did Andy Mills, conductor of the Montrose Symphonic Band, actually fall off the podium at last Sunday's Montrose Christmas Tree lighting ceremony?

Seems so, but Andy quickly jumped back up, baton in hand, and hardly missed a beat.

The lights were switched on by Houston City Councilman Lance Lalor, representing Montrose, as Councilman-elect George Greanias looked on.

The Houston Chronicle provided photo coverage of the event in next day's paper, after the MONTROSE VOICE advised them it would be one way of improving their image in the gay community.

Here's our drunk joke of the week. (And you have to be drunk for it to be funny).

Imagine after a night out on the town, you're sitting in your favorite bar, just about closing time, and all of a sudden you realize, "Gee, I'm still sober."

Do you ask your bartender for a refund?

(Not funny? Read it again next time you're drunk.)

Our very own Billie Duncan, editor of our "Montrose Live" page each week here in the VOICE, goes live herself starting this week by playing Isadora Plum, the fairy godmother in "Beauty and the Beast" at the Chocolate Bayou Theater.

Elsewhere, on the live theater circuit, reviewer Billie says there's been dramatic improvements in "Women Behind Bars" playing Monday and Tuesday nights at Babylon. Story to follow, if those guys will ever come through with the photograph they promised.

This is your last chance to get a 25-word Christmas greeting in next week's paper for just a dollar. Write out your greeting on plain paper, attach a dollar or a check, and mail to Montrose Voice, 3520 Montrose #227, Houston, TX 77006.

Or drop it by our offices just about any afternoon.

The VOICE is having its annual Montrose business appreciation Christmas party this weekend, where the owner and employees of the VOICE salute those who operate businesses in the neighborhood.

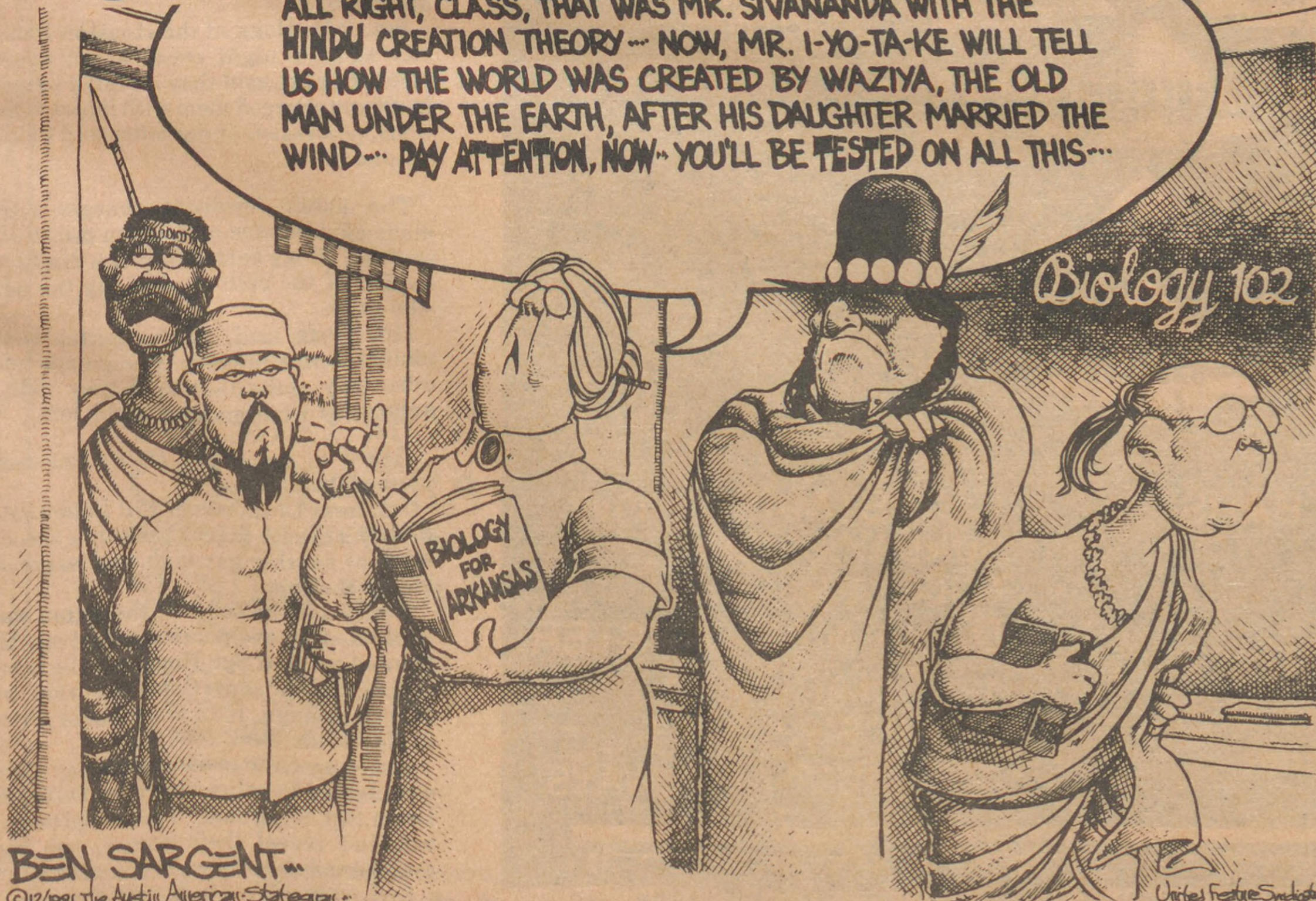
Our ace cartoonist, Max, has a special custom drawing for the event, to be given out in person.

The Montrose Symphonic Band wooed them last Friday with its annual Christmas concert at the Bering Church. Highlight of the evening was Russian Christmas music by Alford Reid.

Sargent

ALL RIGHT, CLASS, THAT WAS MR. SIVANANDA WITH THE HINDU CREATION THEORY... NOW, MR. I-YO-TA-KE WILL TELL US HOW THE WORLD WAS CREATED BY WAZIYA, THE OLD MAN UNDER THE EARTH, AFTER HIS DAUGHTER MARRIED THE WIND... PAY ATTENTION, NOW... YOU'LL BE TESTED ON ALL THIS...

Biology 102



BEN SARGENT
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Dec. 25

Police group's newspaper tries to hide edition with gay satire

The newspaper of the Houston Police Officers Association, *Badge and Gun*, attempted to destroy all copies of its December issue after some members objected to an article on its back cover that ridiculed gay people.

Admitting that it was certainly "bad timing," with a new "pro-gay" city administration about to take over, the board of directors of the HPOA voted to reprint the issue with a general Christmas story replacing "The Gay Centurions," written by Juvenile Division

Officer Alan Johnson.

The article described what it said would be a typical night on the beat in Montrose if gay people were allowed to become police officers.

The group was unable to retrieve all 4000 copies and some fell into the hands of reporters.

Buddy Williams, editor of *Badge and Gun*, told a Houston Chronicle reporter that several officers had contacted him and said the article was "beneath the dignity" of the publication.

The article portrayed gay cops as having "lisping, giggling voices" and of making "sensuous eyes at flaming drag queens" as they patrolled Montrose.

"It's unfortunate that some police officers still group gay men all into one stereotype basket," said Lee Harrington, president of the Gay Political Caucus. "I know several police officers on the force who are gay, and they're the hardest working, most efficient, police officers there. And they happen not to be effeminate."

The HPOA is the largest of Houston's several independent police associations or unions.

Drum raid was proper, judge says

Rejecting arguments that police acted with "improper motivation," County Court at Law Judge Jack Treadway Dec. 14 refused to dismiss public lewdness charges against nine customers of the Different Drum, a gay male leather bar at 1732 Westheimer.

The nine, and others, were arrested the night of Sept. 9, five days after police officer Kevin McCoy was acquitted of being criminally negligent in the slaying of gay activist Fred Paez a year earlier.

Defense attorneys Debra Danburg and Clyde DeWitt III argued that the arrests were simply a "show of force" because of the acquittal of McCoy and were meant to "send a message" to the gay community, the Houston Chronicle reported.

The nine cases are set for trial Jan. 18.

Danburg, who is the legislative representative for the Montrose area, was quoted by the newspaper as saying, "Police protection has been minimal and police harassment has been active (in Montrose)."

Sgt. P.M. Hogg of the Houston Police vice squad's night crew, which supervised the raid, said they arrested 18 men in all and charged them with liquor violations, possession of narcotics and public lewdness.

The public lewdness charges were made against men arrested in the "fort" or "loft," Hogg said, which is a dimly-lit section of the club overlooking the outside patio.

Sgt. Hogg said, "We've gotten complaints from numerous civic groups and other gay clubs that said they didn't approve of what goes on in the loft."

Asked to name gay clubs that complained, he declined.

Different Drum owner Bill Bailey said he didn't believe that either a civic association or another gay club was responsible for the raid.

Bailey said he believed the action was instigated by the police themselves. He pointed out that Sgt. Hogg was the same officer which supervised the raid on Mary's Lounge, 1022 Westheimer, prior to Gay Pride Week 1980.

Asked again to reveal which gay clubs complained to police about the Different Drum, Sgt. Hogg said, "I promised them I wouldn't reveal their names, you can understand that."

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 3:00 PM

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 4th WARD PARTY
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MONDAY:
 LEATHER & POOL TOURNEY
 NIGHT
 AFTER HOURS NIGHTLY

**MARY
 CHRISTMAS**

Alabama politician may not get the feminist vote

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PNS)—We can safely assume that Alabama Senator Jeremiah Denton won't be courting the feminist vote when he runs for re-election.

As reported the *New York Times*, during debate on a provision in the new Criminal Code which would make it a crime for a husband to rape his wife, Denton explained that "a little coercion" from the man in the family isn't all that bad.

In the Senator's words: "Damn it, when you get married, you expect a little sex."

Government splits legal hairs over Asian fear of beards

HONOLULU (PNS)—The story of the bearded customs man has finally come to an end.

The hairy tale begins two years ago, reports the *Washington Post*, when a Honolulu Customs Inspector was ordered to shave his new beard because, the Customs Service said, it is a known fact that Orientals are afraid of bearded men in uniform.

A bearded customs agent, the government said, could cause innocent tourists to act like drug smugglers, resulting in all sorts of problems.

The man complied, billing Uncle Sam \$2.75 for a shave. The government refused to pay, leading to an 11-month legal battle over whether Asians break out in a sweat at the sight of a bearded customs agent.

Finally, an arbitrator told the government to cough up the two dollars and seventy five cents. The taxpayers, however, are stuck with the Feds' legal fees.

Drums Along the Potomac

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PNS)—Anthropologist Jack Weatherford has spent years studying African tribal chiefs and American politicians—and he says there's not much difference between the two, reports the *Los Angeles Times*.

Both, he says, are so obsessed with ritual and ceremony that they forget to do their jobs.

For example, lawmakers are excessively polite during congressional debate: they'll refer to a colleague as "the gentleman," even if they're talking about a sworn enemy, and if they ever get around to passing an important bill, the President doesn't simply sign it, he uses a different pen for each stroke, so the congressmen get a souvenir to take home.

There's even the congressional equivalent of the witch doctor in senators like Ted Kennedy and Larry Pressler, who Weatherford claims aren't too effective, but put on a good show.

Weatherford makes some suggestions about reforming Congress, in a book he wrote after working on the staff of Sen. John Glenn.

If we want efficient lawmakers, he says, we should cut down on ceremony, stop sending members of political families to Congress and, above all, elect more women.

In most societies, Weatherford says, women have less regard for ritual: they do the hard work, while "men are the ones with excess time to devote to status games."



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A GIFT AND CARD SHOP

HOUSTON GUEST HOUSE

DOWN-HOME COMFORT
IN THE MONTROSE



Ridin' off to Houston and need a place to hang your Stetson? The same neighborhood that voted for Barbara Jordan, making her the first black elected to Congress from the Confederacy since Reconstruction, now has another example of progressive social thinking: a gay guest house.

Located on a quiet, tree-lined street smack dab in the middle of Houston's gay Montrose district, the Houston Guest House has all the advantages of a genteel Southern home—and then some. The handsome Victorian has been freshly painted and refurbished, with seven guest rooms decorated in styles ranging from traditional American to High Tech and Western. There's also a bunkhouse that accommodates four.

Besides the lush landscaping, swinging porch chair and overhead fans (remember, it's a hot town), the guest house has its own spacious sundeck and swimming pool. There's always coffee going in the comfortable lobby area, which also has a

TV. The friendly staff members are always around to offer helpful advice on local activities. Operator Stewart McCloud is clear about what he wants the Houston Guest House to be. "We value the traditional western values of openness and self-sufficiency, along with a friendly sense of community," he says. "We don't want Houston to become another San Francisco or New York."

The down-home atmosphere of the guesthouse is apparently valued by local gay groups, who use the place for social and fund-raising events. The feisty frontier spirit is obvious when McCloud notes proudly, "Houston is goin' someplace where no place has ever been before." Houston Guest House is clearly part of that trend.

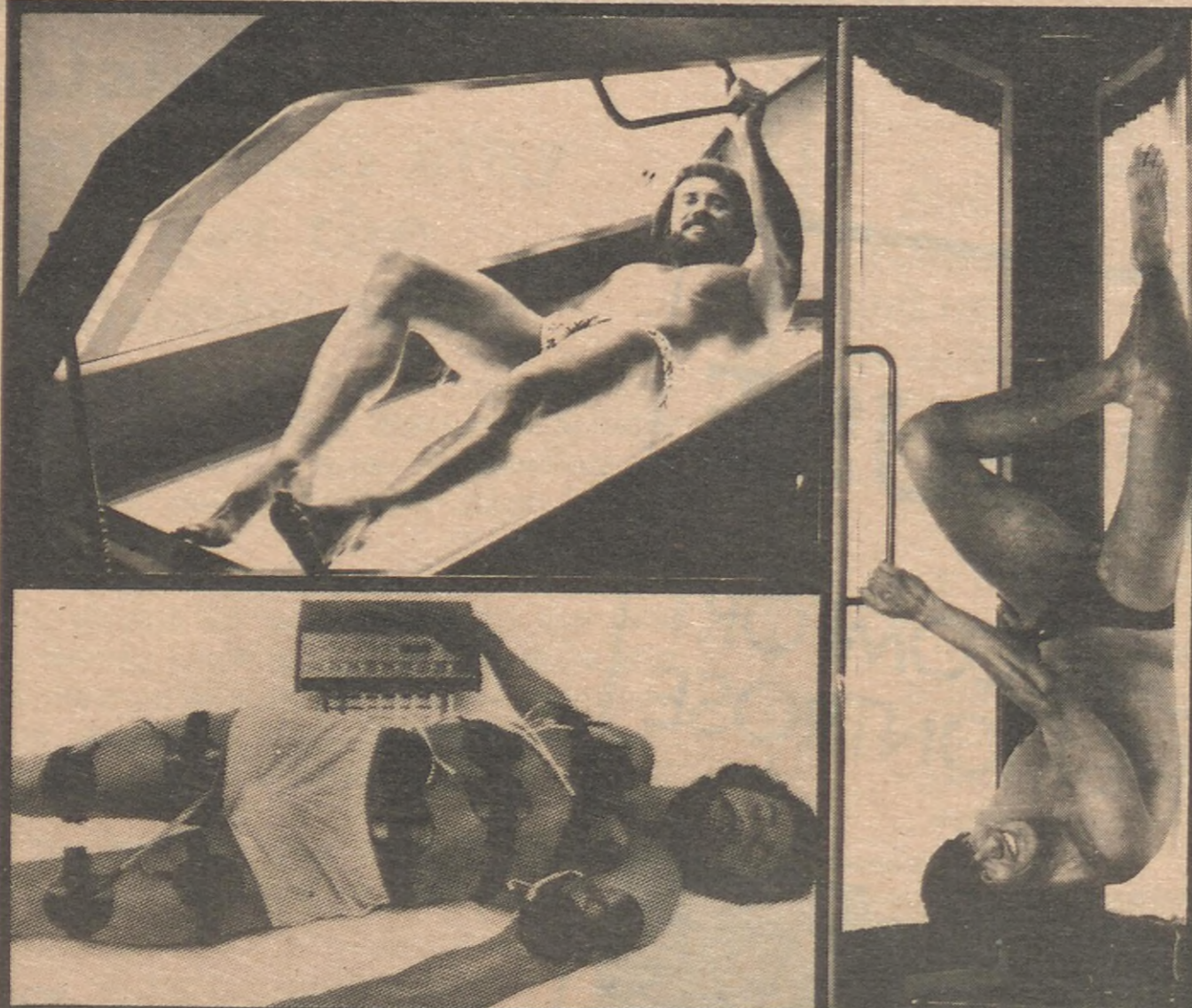
[Houston Guest House, 106 Avondale, Houston, TX 77006; (713) 520-9767. Rooms with baths \$40, rooms with shared baths, \$30. Major credit cards accepted, reservations advised.]

The ADVOCATE, September 17, 1981

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for 1982"*

Rick Hardy and
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Houston Guest House



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Houston's Gay Rights Movement: A Comparison of Media Coverage by the Houston Post and the Houston Chronicle

By Richard Burckhardt Jr.,
University of Houston

© 1981 by Richard Burckhardt Jr.

■ Introduction

In late 1969, a little-known bar in New York City called the Stonewall Inn made history when New York police raided it and began a three-night-long riot.

You see, Stonewall was a gay bar, and after years of oppression and harassment, the patrons of this obscure bar could take no more and fought back. Gay men in business suits, drag queens, lesbians, and friends of the homosexuals fought the city police with bricks, sticks, rocks, high-heels and whatever else they could lay their hands on.

Thus began the current Gay Liberation Movement.

I say "current" because gay liberation, to the surprise of Jerry Falwell and company, is not a unique product of the late 1900s. For example, there was a massive gay movement in Germany during the late 1800s and early 1900s which rivaled the current one in size and scope, only to be wiped out by Adolph Hitler.

There have, of course, been gays and gay political movements throughout history, but only recently has the general public in America been made aware of this. This is probably due to the fact that the American news media has also been slow to report on anything gay-related that did not involve mass murders and the like.

Stonewall was the catalyst that began the modern Gay Liberation Movement, which, in turn, has spawned coverage in the media. Conflict was the key ingredient.

The modern gay movement came on the heels of the era of the Vietnam War and Women's Liberation Movement.

In fact, the Gay Liberation Movement began as a protest movement, similar to the women's rights and anti-war movements. It replicated the tactics of confrontation and picketing that were so much a part of the late 1960s.

This made for wonderful copy for the news media, which used it as a type of novelty news which would soon disappear, just like the anti-war movement.

It didn't disappear, however. It became bigger, more powerful, and more sophisticated. Gone are the placards denouncing the police as "pigs." Gone are the long-haired, flower-carrying radicals. Gone are the stereotyped interior decorators and hairdressers with limp wrists and pink poodles.

Today's Gay Liberation Movement consists of a more "within the system" type of approach. Gay activists are very often conservative business-types, striving for a more professional type of approach.

The news media, on the other hand, is still printing Stonewall-type stories which consist of confrontation, protests, and sensationalism.

Some newspapers are more fair and objective when it comes to coverage of the gay rights movement. My purpose here will be to compare coverage by the Houston Post and the Houston Chronicle of local gay activities and to give some indication of the type of story that the papers tend to print.

For this study, only locally written articles have been used, with the exception of one wire-service piece dealing with Houston's gay community. Also, with the exception of two examples of lesser stories dealing with police relations, only major articles were included. Among

them were: 1) coverage of the 1980 and 1981 Gay Pride Week activities, 2) articles dealing with police relations with Houston's gay community, 3) coverage of the recent city elections, and 4) coverage of miscellaneous events related to this study.

I also wish to make clear that this study is being prepared in the standard new essay/opinion piece form. My reason for this is that most of the so-called studies that I have been exposed to that deal with the news media tend to be nothing more than over-blown opinion pieces. The only difference being that these "studies" made use of (actually over-used) charts and graphs which the layman probably ignores anyway.

(Research to support a conclusion will be presented.)

■ Chronicle/Post Comparison— An Analysis

The 1981 city elections in Houston, which sometimes slumped down to the level of who could sling the most mud, have brought to the forefront an issue that many people would like to ignore—gay rights.

The endorsement of Kathy Whitmire by the Houston Gay Political Caucus brought on a rash of articles by the Houston Chronicle and the Houston Post which centered around the opposition of certain conservative elements in the city to the very existence of gays. By emphasizing the gay issue, the two newspapers sidestepped the real issue of the campaign—Whitmire's qualifications to serve as mayor of the nation's fourth largest city.

This seems to be the rule that the press in this town goes by. Both newspapers tend to ignore the city's gay community until some point of conflict or confrontation arises. Good deeds by the city's gays go unnoticed. The two papers are always there, however, when such things as murders, police clashes with gays, and political mudslinging occur.

Probably the most obvious example of where Houston's dailies are coming from stems from the almost total absence of coverage of Houston's 1981 Gay Pride Week activities, which included a parade along Westheimer Road. One local TV reporter estimated that 50,000 were lined along Westheimer to watch the event. Later that night, the same reporter estimated that 10,000 people attended a rally sponsored by the Gay Political Caucus in Spotts Park near downtown.

Both of these events were held on Sunday, June 28, 1981. The following Monday, the Post ran an article on gay activities around the country. However, only a column-inch or so was given to the Houston parade. The Chronicle didn't even acknowledge the existence of a Gay Pride Week.

Neither paper saw the parade and rally as being very newsworthy, despite the estimated participation by as many as 60,000 Houstonians. Nor did either paper see the gay community's successful closing of Westheimer Road for the parade as newsworthy, although both papers have given extensive coverage to the Westheimer Colony Art Association's festivals.

It seems ridiculous to me that neither of these accomplishments by Houston's gay community was given adequate coverage. It seems particularly ridiculous because I was a student intern at the

Chronicle at the time of the parade and rally and the newsroom was buzzing about them on Monday. It was obvious to me that the Chronicle reporters thought that *this was news!* Why wasn't there any coverage?

In contrast, the 1980 Gay Pride Week activities were given fairly good coverage by the Post and at least some coverage by the Chronicle. But what happened to 1981?

Kuyk Logan, managing editor of the Post, explained that his paper tries to give the most thorough and objective coverage that it can on gay activities. When comparing the Post's past coverage to the Chronicle's, this would appear to be true.

Logan said, however, that the Post has no standard policy that it goes by when covering gay issues. What the Post is able to cover, he said, is all a matter of what kind of news day it is.

"We are going to call the shots as we see them," he said. "If there's a story there, we are going to print it. Some days we are going to do better than others, of course."

"The Gay Political Caucus is a very active organization and it represents a significant number of people in the city. A lot of people don't realize that there are a lot of people who are either interested in it or involved in it. So, it has become something that needs to be covered. A few years ago, we didn't know what it was. Now, we are covering it."

Logan's remarks seem to hold true. The Post has given the city's gay community more and better coverage than the Chro-

Are changes in the wind?

Since this article was written, the Chronicle has hired a new City Editor, who apparently has the permission of "higher ups" to provide greater coverage of news pertaining to the Houston gay community.

Covered in the past 10 days have been stories on the satire on gay people in the Houston police association's journal, a lengthy wire service story on the "gay cancer," and photo coverage of last weekend's lighting of the Montrose community Christmas Tree.

The Houston Post in the past ten days has covered none of these subjects.

nicle in the past. The Post's reason for the small amount of Gay Pride Week coverage this year, according to Logan, was that it was a busy news day. Even with the Post's past work to back up this reason, however, there appears to be too many holes in that excuse for it to hold water. Something that attracts up to 60,000 citizens to one location is *news*, and should be treated as such by any responsible journalist.

Figuring out what the Chronicle's reasoning is takes a little more digging. No one at the Chronicle wants to talk about it, which gives me my first clue as to what their problem appears to be. Other clues

were found through the study of the paper's coverage of gay issues and their ideological viewpoint as expressed in editorials and political endorsements.

Although both papers still tend to emphasize conflicts when printing gay-related pieces, the Chronicle tends to be as tight-lipped as possible on anything but the most negative topics.

For example, the Chronicle gave an equal amount of coverage to the shooting death of GPC secretary Fred Paez by an off-duty Houston police officer as the Post did. However, when a conference of 5000 members of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches met at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel, the Post covered it. The Chronicle ignored it. In fact, the wire services gave more space to this gay church conference than the Chronicle did, despite the proximity of the conference to the Chronicle!

Another example of the Chronicle's indifference to gay issues comes from a period of conflict (what else?) within the GPC organization. The group became factionalized between two leaders. Before it was all over, both leaders were out and a new one was in. The Post gave it full-page feature treatment. The Chronicle ignored it.

Even when both papers cover the same things, the Post tends to give better background and more information.

In 1979, a Christmas service held by members of the gay community on Westheimer was raided by Houston police officers who claimed that the service violated a city ordinance which required such activities to have a proper permit for the sound system. What should have been covered by both papers as a nice, positive activity by 200 gay citizens was instead turned into a typical "police against gays" story. The Post gave it full story treatment while the Chronicle whittled it down to a little snippet to fill a couple of inches of extra space.

When I combine this type of coverage to the editorial stands that the Chronicle has taken in the past (pro-Reagan, pro-conservative, etc.), and then add the type of positive comments that I heard made by Chronicle reporters during my internship there, I can only come to the conclusion that the Chronicle's indifference to the city's gay community stems from the upper echelon of the paper.

In other words, the publisher, or the president, or someone of absolute authority at the paper has a real problem with homosexuality and prevents the paper from giving the type of coverage of gay activities that are newsworthy that a responsible, objective news agency would give. Only those stories in the "cops versus gays" genre get past his/her little red pencil.

It is interesting to note, however, that although gay activists in Houston say that they look to the Post for the best coverage of their activities, the paper caused a stink in 1976 when it refused to carry several "Doonesbury" strips because the subject matter dealt with a gay character. Even though the strip was handled in good taste, the Post refused to carry it while that subject matter was used. This just goes to show that things have changed a bit in five years.

Another thing that both papers are guilty of is the constant reference to such things as "homosexual murder," or "homosexual assault." If headlines are going to be that specific, I would expect to see things like "vegetarian bites dog," or "alleged heterosexual found dead in brothel." You never see "Catholic rapes girl" in a headline either. But both papers just love to stick some type of reference to gays in sensational stories about murders and the like. It sells papers, but it also leaves the impression that all gays are homicidal maniacs.

More recent coverage, particularly that

Please turn to next page

Comparing the Post and Chronicle

Continued from previous page

of the recent mayoral election, gives further examples of the attractiveness of conflict and police when it comes to gay-related stories by the Houston dailies.

Hardly a day went by during the final weeks of the election that the endorsement of Kathy Whitmire by GPC did not appear in both papers. While both papers ran stories which included controversy over the endorsement, the Chronicle ran one particularly pertinent story which dealt with a letter that the Houston Police Patrolman's Union sent out to 500 ministers. The letter condemned Whitmire for her support from the gay community.

The Chronicle happened to pick up on

this story because one of the Chronicle's editors happens to go to Bering Methodist Church, a Montrose church which supports gay rights. The pastor, Rev. Ron Pogue, blasted the HPPU in his sermon the Sunday after he received the letter. It made a perfect "cops against gays" story, so the Chronicle ran it.

The problem is that, while both papers were telling us all about how the GPC had endorsed Whitmire as opposed to the Ku Klux Klan endorsement of her opponent, Jack Heard, both papers failed to tell us much about the issues of the campaign. Instead, we got "gays against somebody" stories. It is just too easy to keep this type of conflict in the limelight, and it makes such great copy!

It is ironic that the contemporary gay movement began as a confrontation between police and gays at Stonewall. It would appear that the major dailies of Houston would like to keep their coverage at the same level as it was in 1969. Very little effort seems to be made to get away from what must be "formula" stories about gays by now.

In contrast to local coverage, Newsweek printed a story on "Gay Power in Macho Houston" last August which stressed the influence and organization of the Gay Political Caucus. During the election, the New York Times News Services carried a similar piece dealing with the significance of the gay vote in the run-off.

With Houston's gay community being touted as "second only to San Francisco" in political weight and proportional numbers, it would appear that Houston's

papers, particularly the Chronicle, are missing the boat. As long as the substance of the issues are overlooked and the conflicts between gays and police or gays and fundamentalists are what is presented to the public, the public will continue to be cheated of the *real* stories. The recent elections in Houston proved that without a doubt.

So, if information on what the real issues facing Houston and its gay community are what you are after, Houston's dailies, particularly the Chronicle, are probably not the best sources of information. But, if you are looking for information on which cop called which gay activist what dirty name, or what gay activist is charging which police officer with harassment, the Post and the Chronicle will probably fill the bill. Mudslinging, conflict, and controversy are where they are at.



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MIDTOWNE



Boys Town Gang at the Parade

Reviewed by Billie Duncan

"Disco, to me, is a place to go to have a good time," says Mike Widsor, talent manager of the Boys Town Gang. The Gang did a 1:00 a.m. show last Saturday at the Parade, 1416 Richmond.

The Parade is one of three really major disco dance places in Montrose. When a group like the Boys Town Gang comes in to do a "show," the audience knows what to expect: a group of people singing live to pre-recorded music.

The groups (or singles) do it to promote and hopefully sell their records. The clubs like it because they get an extra zip for the evening. The crowds like it because they get to see some of the performers that they dance to "in the flesh."

So the promoters of the group are heavy into visuals. They have based the look of the group on several popular images. Robin Charin, the lead vocalist, is the hot and biting mistress of trash. Jackson Moore is the soulful, soul-sister. Tom Morley is the disco darling with his crew-cut, black shoes and socks, black plastic gym shorts, and lithe body.

Don Wood is the macho, macho man complete with hard-hat. And Keith Stewart is the standard handsome, youngish guy who looks like he could go both ways.

The group is a put-together group. They were thought up, hired and written by Mobey Dick Records, headed by Bill Motely. They all have talent, and like talented people are wont to do, they all want to make it big.

The road to success seems studded, however, with little promo spots sung to canned music at various discos across the country, some of them faltering badly in the wake of new wave and the resurgence of rock. The sudden recent proliferation of "Country" clubs has not helped, either.

Mike Widsor feels very hopeful, however. "It's a good time for the product. Everyone says disco is dead. It's not dead. It's getting very much alive again."

The decline in disco was due to the market being flooded by "bad music," according to Mike. He says that the newer groups are more innovative and are bringing out quality music.

"You now have horns, strings, paino. Who ever thought there would be piano in disco?" Besides the production questions in the music, Mike touched on the psychological reasons why people like to disco. "People in America are lonely. Disco gets them in a hyper mood. It makes them get loose."

The get-loose lady of the Gang, Robin Charin, chimed in, "The purpose of disco is to party." Robin also supplied the VOICE with the invaluable information that she has a gold persian cat named Jason, and she claims, "He's the only



Boystown Gang on stage at the Parade.

man in my life."

Robin is a north-type person who says that she loves Houston. "When I saw this town, I was so impressed. There was no building older than 10 years old."

The off-beat charm of Robin Charin comes across even in the confines of the Gang's promo spot in front of the end bar at the Parade.

Even though they did not do the rather ribald long version of "Cruising the Streets," Robin managed to put enough sex and violence into her patter to satisfy all but the most jaded. "Stick that big sausage in me," is not the height of subtlety. And the visuals for, "I Like The Double Action," caused sighs of contentment from some of the staunchest voyeurs.

The two Houston policemen standing

cross-armed at stage right added to the ambience of the show. The blond maintained rather well, catching himself everytime he started to smile, but his brunette partner was less controlled. As the beef got to him, he started, well *bouncing* just a bit to the music.

He would stop when he realized what he was doing, but that old toe was tapping more than once.

A third Houston policeman was asked by the VOICE reporter after the show how he liked it. He smiled, "It was great. I loved the music."

So, if you want to catch the act that had the HPD tapping its toes last Friday, be sure to see Boys Town Gang the next time they are in town. If you cannot wait to hear them, they have a new album coming out on Jan. 1, called "Disc Charge."

Main Street Theater taking Scrooge to the Tower

Main Street Theater's production of *A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley*, Israel Horowitz' adaptation of the familiar Charles Dickens Christmas classic, will be presented for six performances at the Tower Theater at 1201 Westheimer, Monday through Wednesday, Dec. 21-23, the Main Street group announced.

There will be two performances daily, at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. and tickets for all performances are \$5.00, obtainable at the Tower box office or a Ticketmaster Outlet.

The production is directed by Theodore Luedemann and features Steve Garfinkel as Scrooge and Kent Johnson as Marley. Sheila Mayhew plays the Ghosts of Christmas Past and Present, and Charles Tanner is featured as Bob Cratchitt.

An ensemble of eight completes the cast.

The production is in its second season of presentation at Main Street Theater at Autry House, and closes its run there Saturday, Dec. 19, before the move to the Tower.

Roger Evans' delightful storybook set will be enlarged for the Tower run, with lighting by Patrick Higgins.

Chocolate Bayou's 'Beauty and the Beast'

Beauty and the Lonely Beast, Elisabeth Harder's version of the classic fairy tale will be presented at the Chocolate Bayou Theatre, 1823 Lamar as a special Christmas presentation.

The romantic characters of the Beast and Beauty are backed up by the comic antics of a scatter-brained father, two pushy sisters, and a wacky fairy godmother.

The play opens Saturday, Dec. 19, and plays two weeks on Sundays at 2:00 p.m. and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

Montrose Art

returns next week with a story on the Rachel Davis Gallery

Live Theater This Week Near Montrose

(Friday, Dec. 18, through Thursday, Dec. 24)

Back Alley Tales, musical, 8:30pm Friday and Saturday, 5pm Sunday at the Ensemble, 1010 Tuam, 520-0055.

Beauty and the Beast at Chocolate Bayou Theater.

The Belle of Amherst by William Luce starring Colleen Kelly as Emily Dickinson 4pm Saturday and 3pm Sunday at Stages, 709 Franklin, 225-9539.

Blues in the Night 10:30pm Friday and Saturday at Stages, 709 Franklin, 225-9539.

Main Street Theater's A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley Friday and Saturday evenings at Autry House, 6265 Main, 524-6706 and 2 and 7pm Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at Tower Theater, 1201 Westheimer, 522-2452.

James Clouser and the Space/Dance/Theater's A Dream of Shepherds and The Seasons 8pm Friday and Saturday at Stages, 709 Franklin, 225-6210.

House of Blue Leaves at the Alley Theater's arena stage, 8:30pm Friday, 4 and 9pm Saturday,

2:30 and 7:30pm Sunday, 8:30pm Monday, 8pm Tuesday, and 8pm Wednesday and at 615 Texas Ave., 228-8421.

Nutcracker by Houston Ballet 7:30pm Friday, 2 and 7:30pm Saturday, 2pm Sunday, 7:30pm Monday, 2 and 7:30pm Tuesday and Wednesday at Jones Hall, 615 Louisiana, 227-2787.

The Red Blue-Grass Western Flyer Show at the Alley Theater's large stage, 8:30pm Friday, 4 and 9pm Saturday, 2:30 and 7:30pm Sunday, 8pm Tuesday, 8pm Wednesday and 8:30pm Thursday, at 615 Texas Ave., 228-8421.

Theater Under the Star's Scrooge at the Music Hall, 810 Bagby, 222-4461.

Women Behind Bars (drama) 8:30pm Monday and Tuesday at Babylon, 300 Westheimer, 526-6551.

Nightclub Entertainment This Week In Montrose

(Friday, Dec. 18, through Thursday, Dec. 24)

JAZZ

Robert Ceballos Group 9pm Sunday and with Sally Mayes 9pm Friday, Saturday, Wednesday and Thursday at Las Brisas, 614 W. Gray, 528-9959.

Paul English Group evenings except Sunday at Cody's,

3400 Montrose, 522-9747.

Philip Settle Band 9:30pm Friday-Saturday and Tuesday-Thursday; and **Mickey Mosley Band** 9:30pm Sunday-Monday at Birdwatchers, 907 Westheimer, 527-0595.

PIANO

Linda & Larry Petty 9:30pm Friday; **Pam McCarthy** 9:30pm Monday; and **Michel Lerin** 9:30pm Tuesday-Thursday at Rascals, 2702 Kirby, 524-6272.

Alexandra Haas 9pm except Sunday and Monday at Baja's, 402 Lovett, 527-9866.

Phil Looney 4:30pm daily; **Bill Hudson** 8:30pm Friday-Saturday; **Tom Williams** 8:30pm Sunday and Tuesday-Thursday; **Virgil Dixon** 8:30pm Monday and **Lee LaForge** 8:30pm Dec. 25 at Keyboard, 3012 Milam, 528-6720.

Marguerite Friday-Sunday afternoons and Monday evening at Montrose Pub, 1318 Westheimer, 523-0035; and with **John Day** 9pm-midnight Friday, Saturday and Wednesday at Pavilion, 523 Lovett, 523-3396.

Mickey Rankin evenings except Monday at Montrose Pub, 1318 Westheimer, 523-0035.

Gloria Reyes Sunday afternoon and **Charlie Poole** 9pm Tuesday and Thursday at Pavilion, 523 Lovett, 523-3396.

COUNTRY & COUNTRY/ROCK

Flying Blind Band Friday-Sunday and Wednesday evenings at Miss Charlotte's, 911 W. Drew, 528-8840.

Terry Ann Melton & the Texas Home Grown Band 5pm Sunday at Gay Boy International, 1419 Richmond, 528-8903.

Mustang Band 9:30pm Friday and Saturday, 8:30pm Sunday; **Ab & the Rebel Outlaws** 9:30pm Wednesday and Thursday at Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos, 528-9192.

GUITAR

"L" 9pm Friday and **Irish Folk** 9pm Wednesday at the Parlour, 2402 Mandell, 529-8069.

Karen Wiltz 6pm Friday; **Reynolds & Rand** 6pm Monday-Tuesday and Thursday; and **Rawslyn Ruffin** 6pm Wednesday at Kindred Spirits, 5245 Buffalo Speedway, 665-9756.

IMPRESSIONISTS

Donna Day and **Coco** Sunday evening at the Copa, 2631 Richmond, 528-2259.

Little Bobby Sunday evening at Exile, 1011 Bell, 659-0453; 9pm Tuesday at Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos, 528-9192.

"Playgirl Follies" with **Laura Lee Love**, **Lana Kane**, **Eydie Mae**, **Jill Jordan** and **Jerisca** 10:30pm Saturday at Pink Elephant, 1218 Leeland, 659-0040.

Brandi West, **Hot Chocolate**, **Naomi Sims**, **Dana Manchester** and **Charlie** 11pm Sunday at Babylon, 300 Westheimer, 526-6551.

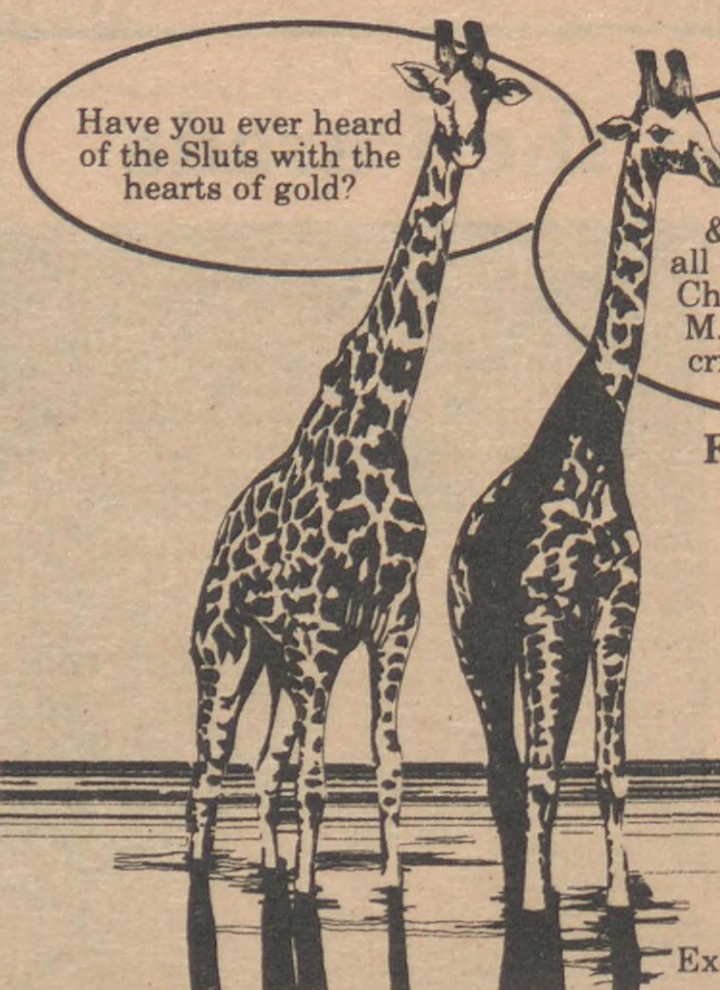
MISCELLANEOUS

Thundulations bellydancing 9:30pm Sunday at Twins, 535 Westheimer, 520-0244.



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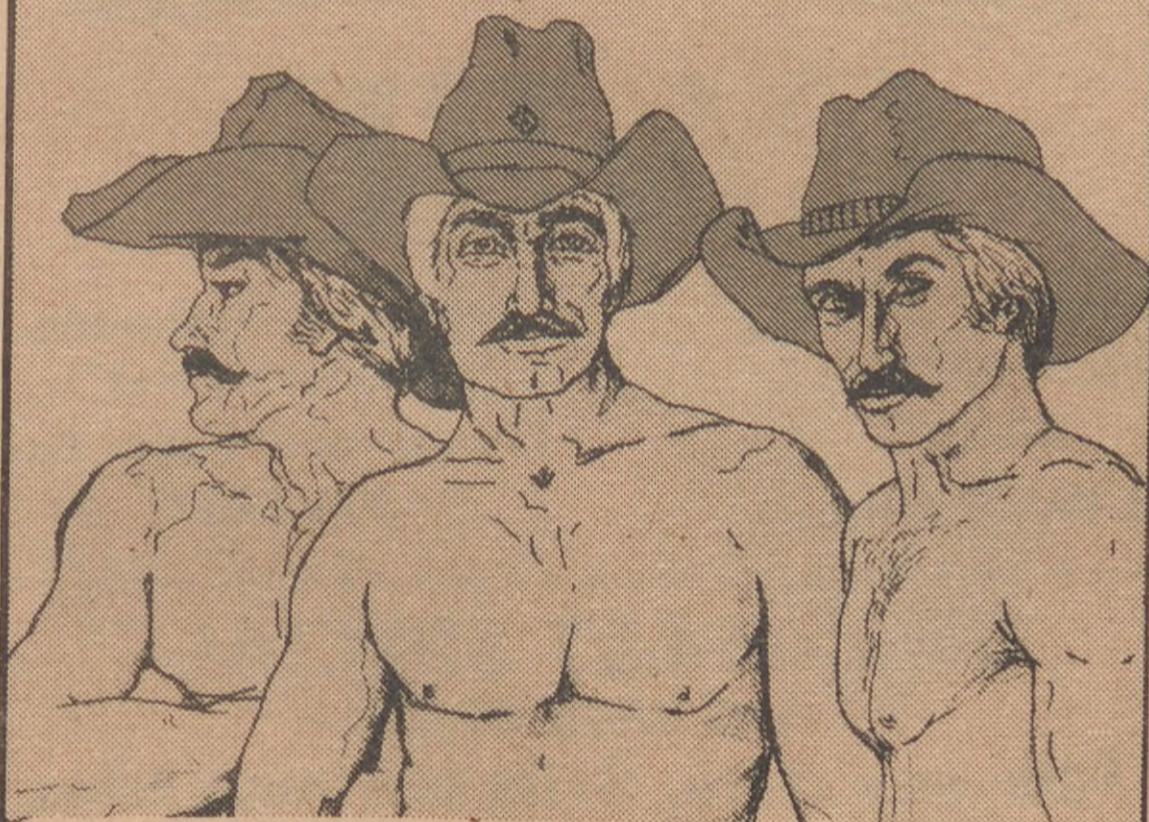


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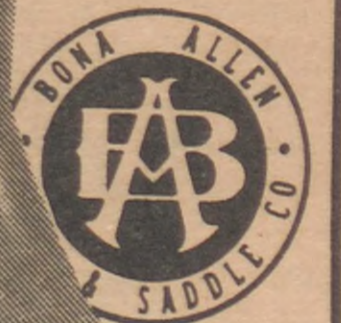
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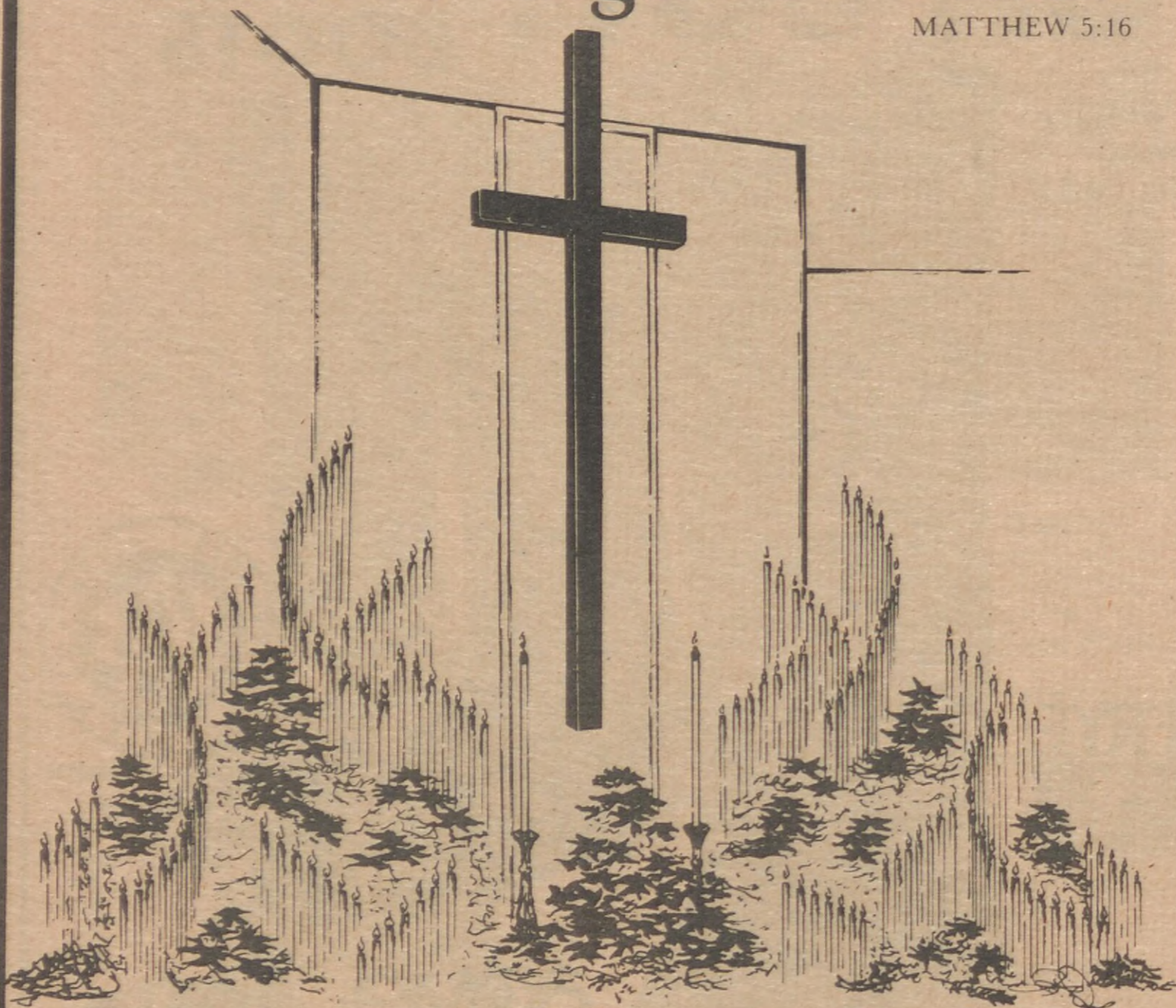
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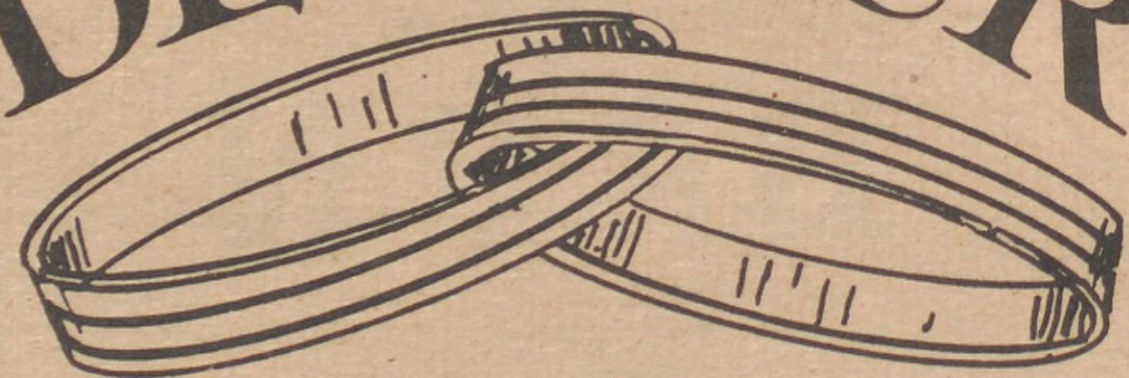
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Frisco or Bust

By Randy Alfred

San Francisco dedicated the new, \$126.5 million Moscone Convention Center earlier this month. The intended centerpiece was the giant, column-free, underground exhibition hall: 880 feet long, nearly 300 feet wide, six acres of space, capacity of 19,000 people.

That's not what people have been talking about, though. Topic A all over this City has been the bust of San Francisco's late mayor, George R. Moscone, by sculptor Robert Arneson. Ex-Supervisor Dan White assassinated Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk in their offices on November 27, 1978, three months after construction of the convention center began.

Actually, it's not the bust that's controversial. It's the pedestal.

Base Motives: The polychrome ceramic sculpture rests on a columnar pedestal on a balcony in the Moscone Center's entrance hall. The pedestal is inscribed with painted, graffiti-like markings that recall details of Moscone's life and circumstances of his death.

No one is objecting to the references to the late mayor's school ties, pastimes, favorite expressions, and suchlike. The brouhaha centers on the numerous inscriptions that recall the bleak November in 1978—assassinations and aftermath.

These include: "Monday, November 27, 1978, shortly before 11 a.m. . . ." a sketch of City Hall captioned "leaky as a sieve" (a contemporaneous reference to security at the building), "Oh Danny Boy!," "White," the outline of a body, the impression of a gun, "Smith & Wesson," "Chief's Special," "Bang Bang Bang Bang Bang" (White shot the mayor five times), some bright red drops, and a cross marked "Holy Cross Cemetery" (Moscone's burial site).

References to "the gay issue" include: "Tolerance for Deviants" (a favorite White phrase, misspelled on the pedestal), "Harvey Milk, Too!," "Gay," and "Castro."

The aftermath of the double-slayings is recorded by: "25,000 Pay Tribute at City Hall" and "Feinstein Becomes Mayor." The word "Twinkies" and the outline of one recall the junk-food, diminished-capacity, sugar-craze defense which netted White a conviction on the reduced charge of manslaughter. "Eight Years" marks his sentence for the crime, although it'll really only be five years and six weeks, what with time off for good behavior.

A riot ensued when the verdict was announced, and sculptor Arneson commemorates that with just two words: "Bloody Protest."

Statue of Limitations: Moscone's widow, his successor, and others don't like it and will probably get it removed, returned to the sculptor in exchange for a less controversial rendition, or placed in a museum. They claim it's not what the Art Commission ordered. "Bad taste" is the most often heard term from that quarter.

Eschewing the philosophy that memorial art must be judged differently from other art was *S.F. Examiner* political columnist Bill Barnes. He found it "a bold statement" about a "morbidly compelling" chapter in the city's history. It ought to be viewed, he thought, but not as the center of attention in a convention facility for out-of-towners.

At the public dedication of the center on Dec. 2, the pedestal (but not the bust) was veiled in red cloth. Even now, security guards are keeping locals and out-of-towners alike beyond reading distance from the sculpture. City officials report that threats have been made against the statue.

Bad Taste, Eh? I like the bust and the pedestal. If you want bad taste, how about killing Moscone and Milk? At City Hall, no less—very bad taste. It would be bad taste to forget how Moscone died and why the convention hall is named after him.

It would be bad taste to ignore the fact that Milk was killed the same day and for the same reasons: irrational hatred and homophobia. And it would be bad taste to forget White's trivialization of his motives with the Twinkies defense.

And it's very bad taste for Dianne Feinstein to censor reminders that she became mayor on the heels of a police coup.

Conventional Opening: First group to use the new Moscone Center after the dedication was the American Academy of Dermatology. That was fitting: new facilities always develop a rash of problems.

Yolk's On You: Much has been said and written recently of homo-erotic themes in the work of photographer F. Holland Day (1864-1933). For some reason, everyone's overlooking the man's consummate contribution to the culinary arts: F. Holland Day's Sauce.



ORGANIZATIONS

ATTENTION ORGANIZATIONS: Call the Voice with your organization's news and meeting dates, 529-8490, afternoons.

A CAPELLA Chorus: part of (Montrose) Church of Christ.

ACLU—1236 W. Gray—524-5925

AMERICAN LEATHERMEN (social club)—meets at Different Drum, 1732 Westheimer—528-8528: club night Wed.

ASTRO Rainbow Alliance—651-9577

BERING Memorial Methodist Church—1440 Hawthorne—526-1017: United Methodist worship service 10:50am Sun.

BETWEEN TWO Worlds—529-1913: meets every other Thurs.

BLACK & WHITE MEN Together (BWM)—529-5006, 747-9812: Christmas party 8pm Dec. 19; Christmas eve open house 7pm Dec. 24.

(Montrose) CHURCH OF CHRIST—520-K Westheimer—777-9286: worship services 12:30pm Sun.

CHURCH OF CHRISTIAN FAITH—413 Westheimer—529-8005: worship services Sun, morning & evening & Wed. evening; Bible study Mon. & Tues. evenings; choir practice Wed. evening.

CITIZENS FOR HUMAN EQUALITY (CHE)—609 Fannin #1301—236-8666: Board meeting second Tuesdays.

COLT 45'S (social club)—meets at Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos—528-9192

COMMUNITY COFFEEHOUSE—project of Interact

CONG. BETH CHAIM—meets at MCCR, 1919 Decatur—529-4876, 524-5180: service & social 8pm second & fourth Fridays.

CONROE AREA Gay Women—756-0354

COURT OF THE SINGLE STAR—meets at Pink Elephant, 1218 Leeland—659-0040

CRISIS HOTLINE—228-1505

DATA PROFESSIONALS—meets at La Quinta Motor Inn, 4015 Southwest Fwy.—522-7809, 523-6922: meeting second Tuesdays.

DIANA FOUNDATION—2700 Mason—524-5791

DIGNITY—meets at Catholic Student Center, 1703 Bolsover—528-7644: meeting 8pm Thurs.

EPISCOPAL INTEGRITY—meets at Autrey House, 6265 Main—520-8298: meeting 7:30pm second Tuesdays.

FAMILY & FRIENDS of Gays—meets at MCCR, 1919 Decatur—664-5339: meets second Sundays.

FIRST UNITARIAN Church—5210 Fannin—526-1571: worship service 11:15am Sun.

FM1960/Greenspoint Area Far-Away Friends—821-9681

FM 1960/GREENSPOINT Far Away Friends will meet Sun., Dec. 20, 7:30pm. 821-9681.

FM1960/GREENSPOINT Far Away Friends will have a Christmas dinner Christmas Day. New members welcomed! 821-9681.

GAY & ALIVE Sharing Experience (GASE)—529-2691

GAY ARCHIVES of Texas: project of Interact.

GAY ATHEISTS League of America—522-7531, 524-2222

GAY HISPANIC CAUCUS—529-4484

GAY ITALIAN Group—526-9844

GAY NURSES & PHYSICIANS of Houston—c/o GPC, 4600 Main #217—777-2287: free venereal disease testing at Club Baths, 2205 Fannin, 9pm-1am Sat.

GAY PEOPLE in Medicine—522-7360

GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS (GPC)—4600 Main #217—521-1000: general business meeting 7:30pm first Wednesdays; educational forums 7:30pm third Wednesdays.

GAY SWITCHBOARD—529-3211: service begins Tues.

HEPATITIS HOTLINE—Jim or David at 777-2287: a project of GPC's Medical Committee.

HOME COALITION & Oral Majority—1409 Oakdale—521-0196

HOMOPHILE INTERFAITH Alliance—729 Manor—523-6969

HOUSTON COMMUNITY CLOWNS—862-8314

HOUSTON HUMAN RIGHTS LEAGUE—523-6969

HOUSTON MOTORCYCLE CLUB—c/o Mary's, 1022 Westheimer—528-8851

•INTERACT/Houston (I/H Inc.)—3405 Mulberry—529-7014, 694-1732: Community Coffeehouse 7:30pm-midnight Fri.; general business meeting 7:30pm first Thursdays; educational forum 7:30pm third Thursdays.

•KPFT Radio, FM-90—419 Lovett Blvd.—526-4000: *Wilde 'n Stein* gay radio show 10pm-midnight Thurs.

LAMBDA ALANON—meets at 1st Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin—521-9772: meeting Fri. evening.

LESBIANS & GAY PEOPLE in Medicine—665-4760: meeting 7:30pm first Saturdays.

LUTHERANS CONCERNED—meets at Grace Lutheran Church, 2515 Waugh—521-0863, 453-1143: meeting second & fourth Tues. evenings.

METROPOLITAN Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR)—1919 Decatur—861-9149: pot-luck dinner 7:30pm Sat.; Christian worship services 10:45am & 7:15pm Sun. & 7:15pm Wed.; membership inquirers class 7:30pm Mon.; Alanon meeting 8pm Mon.; Alcoholics Anonymous meeting 8pm Mon. & Thurs.; Christmas Eve candlelight service 10:30pm Dec. 24; Christmas Day dinner 10am-6pm Dec. 25.

MONTROSE (Symphonic & Marching) BANDS—meets at Bering Church, 1440 Hawthorne—527-9669: meeting 7:30pm Tues.

MONTROSE CIVIC Club (Near town)—meets at Bering Church, 1440 Hawthorne—522-1000: meeting 7:30pm fourth Tuesdays.

MONTROSE CLINIC—104 Westheimer—528-5531: open 6-10pm Fri., 1-5pm Sun., 6-10pm Tues. & Thurs.

MONTROSE COUNSELING Center—900 Lovett #102—529-0037

MONTROSE PATROL—520 Westheimer—528-2273

MONTROSE SINGERS—meets at MCCR, 1919 Decatur—527-9669

MONTROSE SPORTS ASSOCIATION—961-0816

Montrose Sports BOWLING—plays at Stadium Bowl, 8200 Braesmain—961-5409: winter bowling league games 9pm Mon.

Montrose Sports FLAG FOOTBALL—529-4149

Montrose Sports TENNIS—529-7467

Montrose Sports VOLLEYBALL—526-6061

MUSTANGS (social club)—meets at the Barn, 710 Pacific—528-9427: club night Mon.

OPERATION DOCUMENTATION: project of GPC

RICE Univ. Gay/Lesbian Support Group—524-0724

SUNDANCE CATTLE COMPANY (social club)—c/o Wildwood Saloon, 1504 Westheimer—850-9390: club night Wed.

TEXAS BAY AREA Gays—332-3737: meeting Thurs. evening.

TEXAS GAY TASK FORCE—529-7014, 522-1659

TEXAS HUMAN RIGHTS Foundation—1519 Maryland—526-9139

UNITARIAN/UNIVERSALIST Gay Caucus—c/o 1st Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin—528-5842: meeting third Sun. afternoons.

WESLAYAN FELLOWSHIP—864-8899

WESTHEIMER COLONY ARTS Association—908 Westheimer—521-0133

PERSONALS

FM1960/GREENSPOINT Far Away Friends welcome you to Houston. 821-9681.

RIDE NEEDED to DETROIT over Christmas holidays. Share expenses. Call Eric, 270-6637, PM. Be persistent.

BI/WHITE MALE, young, very attractive, seeks singles 18-30. No drags. Not kinky. Would like to meet gentlemen to 6'5" height, muscular & attractive; also ladies to 5'6" height and nice looking. 6pm-11pm. 864-9693.

HUNG OVER? If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, that's ours. Two new Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) groups are now meeting. Mondays, 8pm. Brothers & Sisters, with open speaker. Thursdays, 8pm. Growth Group, with open discussion. Also, Alanon group (for friends, lovers, relatives of the alcoholic) meets Mondays at 8pm. Where? MCCR, 1919 Decatur. Come on by.

THE BODYWORKS, therapeutic and relaxing massage. William Carpenter, nationally certified Massage Technician. 522-0947 days, 665-3884 eves.

MERRY CHRISTMAS to all my far-away friends. Ray, FM1960/Greenspoint, 821-9681.

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PUBLICATIONS

•MONTROSE VOICE—3520 Montrose—529-8490

The Voice is the leader in Montrose. Call for display advertising information.

Deadline for next issue: Tues., Dec. 22, 1pm. Call 529-8490 for display advertising. Next issue to be released Thurs. evening, Dec. 24.

RECORDS & TAPES

•DOWNBEAT—2117 Richmond—523-8348

•INFINITE RECORDS—528 Westheimer—521-0187

See our ad elsewhere this issue.

•RECORD RACK—3109 S. Shepherd—524-3602

RESTAURANTS

•A MOVEABLE FEAST—3827 Dunlavy—528-8905

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•BAJA'S—402 Lovett—527-9866

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Champagne brunch 12-3pm Sun.

•BRASSERIE—515 W. Alabama—528-8744

•CHAPULTAPEC—813 Richmond—522-2365

•DECATUR CAFE—708 W. Alabama—528-8837

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Breakfast special 7-11am daily.

•GREEK ISLAND—302 Tuam—522-7040

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•HOUSE OF PIES—3112 Kirby—528-3816

•JADE DRAGON—224 Westheimer—526-2683

•MARCELLO'S Ice Cream—1521 Westheimer—522-6994

See our ad elsewhere this issue.

•PAVILION—523 Lovett—523-3396

See our ad elsewhere this issue.

•RASCALS—2702 Kirby—524-6272

•RAUL'S BRASS RUBBING—914 W. Alabama—529-0627

See our ad elsewhere this issue.

•STAR PIZZA—2111 Norfolk—523-0800

See our ad elsewhere this issue.

•STEAK 'N' EGG—4231 Montrose—528-8135

•TIM'S Coffee Shop—1525 Westheimer—529-2289

SHOPS

•ALL THAT GLITTERS—4325 Montrose—522-6976

•DRAMATIKA—3224 Yoakum—528-5457

•FACETS—1412 Westheimer—523-1412

•SHEER FANTASY—1401 Westheimer—528-3325

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•TREYMAN—407 Westheimer—523-0228

TAXI

UNITED Cab—759-1441

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•VIDEO ENVIRONMENTS—1988 W. Gray—526-4327

See our ad elsewhere this issue.

ARIES: There are some things you can compromise on and others that you just can't. Your principles this Christmas fall into the latter category; stick to 'em. Days include a meeting, a test and end with some super romantic hijinks.

TAURUS: Capitalize on your assets this Christmas week. Efforts will be rewarded. Your holiday social calendar is active, too, while romance is an unexpected guest. Something unexpected will give you points to ponder and later days strike your fancy.

GEMINI: Don't base your actions on what you think other people expect of you. Your own set of standards and ethics is perfectly fine; follow it. Holidays hum by in key of C, for Cupid, conspiracy and cohorts. What a chorus!

CANCER: Some holiday promises are easier made than kept. Try not to make any more than you can reasonably and happily follow through on. Good news is on the way. Days close with spice.

LEO: You and another can come to a valuable meeting of the minds this Christmas holiday. Some compromise will be necessary, but not as much as you might think. Days hold a confidential story, an unwanted piece of mail and end with grins.

VIRGO: Make the most of romantic and creative possibilities. Someone in a position of authority can be of great help to you. Think positively. You're not taking a chance when you bet on yourself this Christmas, as you're a sure thing!

LIBRA: Crossed wires could result in a misunderstanding in week ahead. Don't jump to conclusions and try not to take instant offense at what is said. Later, a holiday decision, two appointments and an initiation all make you hop.

SCORPIO: Normally, you're not one for making waves. You prefer to stick with the status quo or the traditional, especially during Christmas. Someone may be counting on your staying true to form. Wouldn't it be interesting to surprise?!

SAGITTARIUS: Although you like to run the whole show, this Christmas week you'd do well to take only one major role. This will give others a chance and keep you from being overloaded. The holidays cast romantic glows and days will end quietly.

CAPRICORN: Lots to do this final week before Christmas, and not enough time to do it in. Emotions are apt to flare and tempers may be easily sparked. Do pay special attention to a certain loved one. Watch for news and company to arrive.

AQUARIUS: You're majestic, generous, sweet-tempered... but a bit lazy. If you see something in your personal life you don't like, do something about it. You've got the power.

PISCES: It's fine to make long-range plans, as long as you don't ignore the immediate needs right in front of your eyes. Be practical. Put down your binoculars a minute and check out the immediate Christmas scene with a magnifying glass.

Last Word by Henry McClurg

What I should of said was ...

The article that appeared in the Houston Police Officers Association journal about a night on the beat in Montrose as a gay cop would have been humorous had it been written by just about anyone other than a Houston police officer.

Most anyone else would have written the article from a point of comedy. But the officer who wrote it may have done so from a point of ignorance—and perhaps even from a point of malice.

On the positive side though, it was progressive police officers—not afraid of redneck peer pressure—who recognized the ignorance contained in the article and sought to have the thousands of copies of *Badge and Gun* quickly destroyed. They were successful except for a few hundred copies, some of which slipped into the hands of the media.

I want to look deeper into this though. There are people in Houston who talk and act like people described in *The Gay Centurions*. And yes, some of these people are gay.

But so what? They too are citizens, fellow human beings on this planet earth. They too deserve nothing but full and total respect from all government employees.

Any police officer, or any other government official, who ridicules any citizen or group of citizens while working as a government official should be quickly removed from the government payroll.

Of course, the police officer who wrote the story supposedly did so on his own time and the Houston Police Officers Association is a private organization, and it's newspaper should enjoy the same freedom of the press that this publication enjoys.

Nevertheless, constant joking about "queers" is common among many police officers while on duty.

Come on guys. *Grow up*. Get over your own sexual insecurities, stop worrying about gay cops on the police force, and let's all work together to fight crime in Houston.

We've got one of the world's greatest cities in the making here.

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