

Houston Breakthrough

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“This is a crime against women” Stones promote violence

The Rolling Stones cancelled their U.S. concert tour due to “poor sales” of their latest album “Black and Blue.”

And in Los Angeles, a group called Women Against Violence Against Women (WAVAW) took credit for the Stones’ decision to cancel—and subsequent economic loss.

Women Against Violence Against Women, a coalition of feminist individuals and groups, organized a successful national boycott against the record album and its distributors Atlantic Records, because the promotion for the record depicted a smiling bound and beaten woman saying, “I’m Black and Blue from the Rolling Stones—and I love it.”

“This campaign exploits and sensationalizes violence against a woman for the purpose of increased record sales,” said Julia London, Los Angeles coordinator of WAVAW. “The ad contributes to the myth that women

like to be beaten and condones a permissive attitude towards the brutalization of women.”

A focal point of WAVAW’S protest was the billboard—advertising “Black and Blue”—that went up in June on the Sunset Strip area of Los Angeles. The coalition of WAVAW sent out strong releases demanding its immediate removal. A wave of phone calls from outraged people flooded Atlantic Records and Ryan Outdoor Advertising offices. A delegation of women from WAVAW visited Atlantic Records and Ryan in Los Angeles on June 21. The billboard came down the next day.

But not before some unknown protester climbed on top of the building where the billboard was located and wrote “This is a Crime Against Women.”

L.A. photographer Barbara Malarek took a photo of the billboard and told *Breakthrough* she

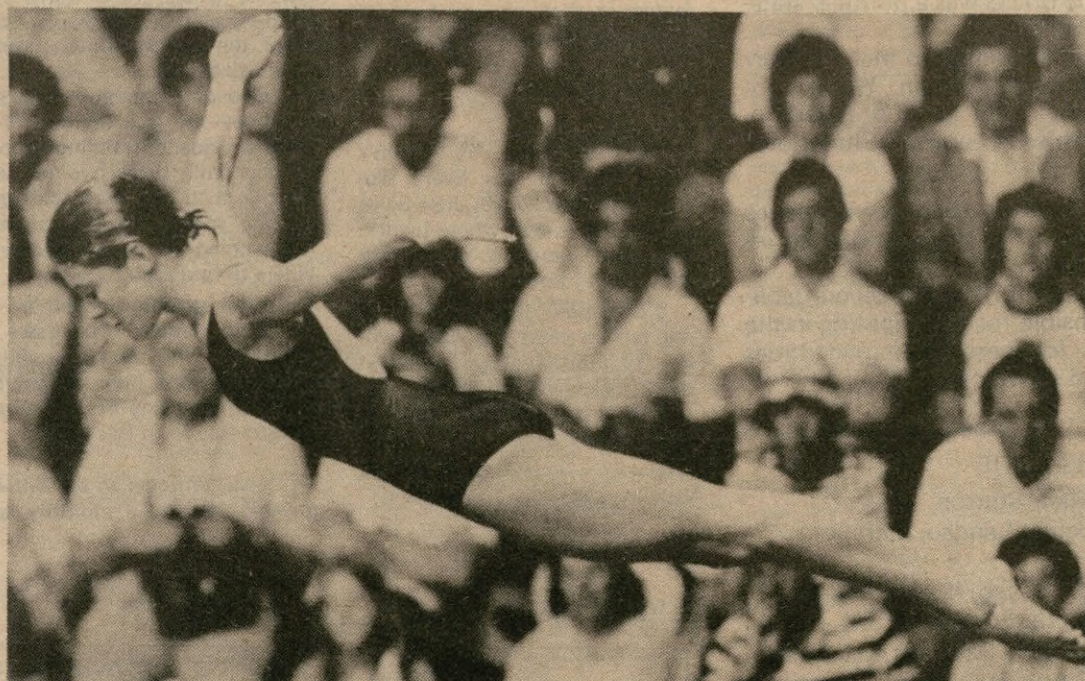
Continued on page 13



Barbara Malarek



NADIA COMANECI



JENNIFER CHANDLER



SUSAN BABASHOFF

Why U.S. women couldn't win

By Jan Cunningham

“Herstorians” writing the story of the Olympic games in Montreal will have to call 1976 the “Year of the Women.” Women have finally come into their own, sharing the spotlight, the glory, the medals and the accolades of their countrypeople with their male teammates.

Led by Kornelia Ender with world records in the 100 and 200 meter freestyles, the East German women swept all but two gold medals in swimming. They often finished with third place times that eclipsed men’s records of only eight years ago.

In Gymnastics, the Russian women held on to the team medal, but 15-year-old Nadia

Comaneci of Romania proved more powerful than the full Soviet team. She scored seven perfect 10’s and captured the all-round title, the balance beam, the vault and the uneven parallel bars.

In track, it was again the East German women, being pushed strongly by the Russians and tiny West Germany, while

the Soviets again dominated the field events. The showing of the

U.S. team was dismal. The subjects of massive pre-Olympic publicity, they simply failed to live up to expectations. The U.S. women won only three gold medals and a handful of silver and bronze.

Jennifer Chandler took the

Springboard diving event. The U.S. 400 meter freestyle relay team of Kim Peyton, Wendy

Continued on page 13

Editorials

Ideas and images of woman's masochism, the secret desire of women to be raped and brutalized, are abhorrent to all women.

No woman craves humiliation, degradation and violation of her bodily integrity. Author Susan Brownmiller emphasizes in her book *Against Our Will* that it is *against our will*.

Yet the Rolling Stones capitalized on that myth with their album "Black and Blue" and their mad money men at Atlantic Records promoted and exploited an image of a smiling, bound and beaten woman.

"Can you imagine seeing a billboard," asked a self-defense instructor and director of a rape crisis program in California, "where the Stones, partly-clothed and spread-eagled, have their testicles and body tied with rope?"

Betty Brooks, who recommended the role reversal, also suggested that the Stones do a benefit concert with proceeds to rape crisis centers and to victims of rapes and beatings "as a sign of care and concern for women."

The Los Angeles members of a coalition group called Women Against Violence Against Women and their coordinator, Julia London, are real heroes to us in other parts of the country. Through their well-organized efforts they stopped the Stones' billboard campaign from going any further. WAVAW organized so successful a national boycott against the "Black and Blue" album that the Stones' canceled their U.S. tour.

Another hero to us all is the unknown California woman who climbed on top of a Sunset Strip roof in the middle of the night to deface the billboard, writing "This is a Crime Against Women."

The campaign against the Rolling Stones is the second major success for the new WAVAW group in California.

In March, WAVAW took on *Snuff*, a film which depicted the sexual assault, mutilation, murder and dismemberment of a woman. The advertising carried a racist slogan, "The film that could only be made in South America where life is cheap," saying, in effect, that the lives of non-whites, particularly women, are less valuable and more available for exploitation.

The film opened in twenty theaters in Southern California and closed in less than a week, again because of the strong and well-organized efforts of WAVAW to bring the issue of porn-violence to the attention of the film-going public. Their main point was that every person who pays to see this film is supporting violence against women.

Another group called "Women Outraged by *Snuff*" sabotaged four theaters in Los Angeles during the short-lived run. They hurled bricks and broke lobby and box office windows. Attached to the bricks was a political statement which read:

"We will not allow male film pimps to make money selling dismemberment and murder of women. We will not allow women's blood to be shed in the name of entertainment. We are outraged by this barbarism. Shut down *Snuff* or we'll do it our way."

Like Brownmiller, we believe that porn-violence should be legally banned because "it is the undiluted essence of anti-female propaganda."

We are not calling for censorship, but for accountability. We hold the media responsible for participating in the degradation of women and for perpetuating attitudes which tolerate the brutalization of women.

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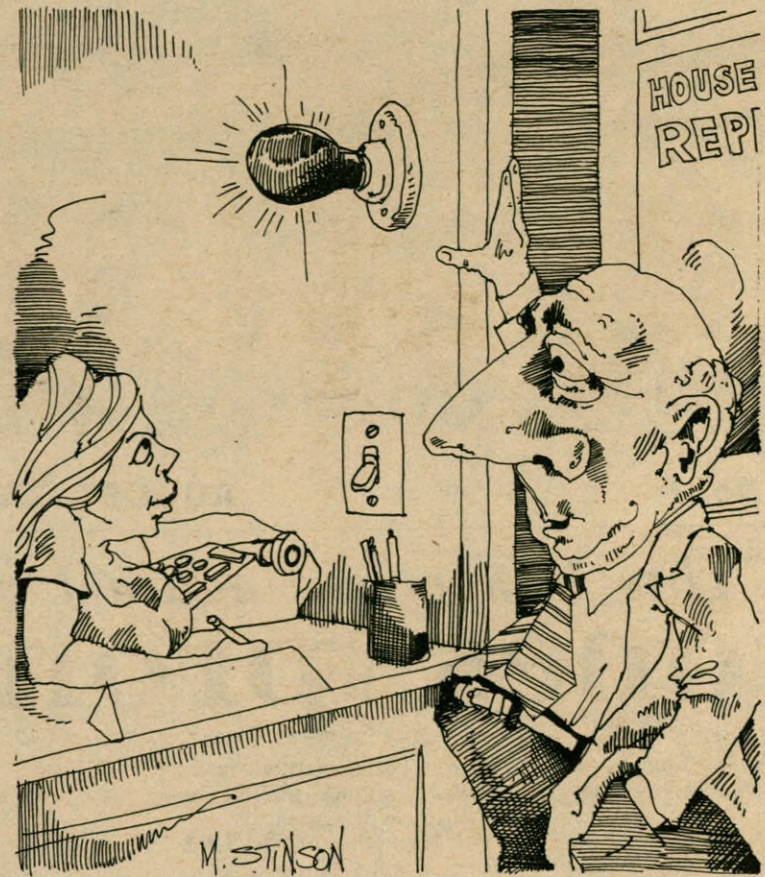
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... and, that turns on the red light — it's standard equipment

Letters to breakthrough

I've just moved to Houston and would like to have the name of a feminist-recommended gynecologist. Does any woman's group in Houston have a medical referral service?

WENDE SCHAUB

Editor's note: *The newly-formed Houston Women's Health Collective is circulating a questionnaire specifically on gynecologists and obstetricians. Breakthrough is reprinting the questionnaire and hopes that every woman reader clips it out and sends it to the Health Collective so that we may have an up-dated referral service. In the meantime, you may call the Collective at 523-9317.*

I have Nancy R. Smith's poem "A Man For Every Woman" (*Breakthrough*, June-July) on my office wall where I work. I've also xeroxed copies for other men I know.

Somehow this poem made me realize what the whole women's movement is about—I don't feel so excluded now. It's really human liberation—why not call it that?

PAUL LYNDON

Editor's note: *We do.*

It is becoming rapidly apparent by now that the more conspicuous feminist demonstrations and public confrontations are subsiding. To those who depend on the mass media for their opinions, it might appear that those "nasty, noisy libbers" have sweetly retreated, back to the "good life" of Pillsbury Bake-offs and such.

But we know better. We are digging in for the long battle, the battle that's been fought since way before our grandmothers were born. Instead of flailing away at symptoms now, we are starting to take the initiative, to methodically dismantle, piece by piece, the sources of our second-class citizenship.

One of our major obstacles is money—the lack thereof. Toward the goal of building stronger economic bases, women are starting their own businesses and making special efforts to seek out women consumers and providers to find each other.

I'm putting together a Guide to Women's Businesses in Houston. We hope to publish in the fall, and hope to include listing from many *Breakthrough* readers (see form this issue).

Also, I'm glad to see *Breakthrough* starting a monthly ad-

vertising listing for women's businesses.

I hope both of these projects, each in its own way, can help the women of our community take control of our own economic lives.

POKEY ANDERSON

I thought your coverage of the UT Nursing School plight was excellent since you not only spotlighted the current situation, but successfully identified the relationship between the action of the regents and the attitude of doctors towards nurses (i.e. refusal to acknowledge them as autonomous professionals).

The preposterous arrogance revealed in Dr. Berry's statement "I do not believe in higher education for nurses" makes it hard to believe he was exposed to any himself.

I have a B.S. in Nursing and worked long enough to have been fully aware of the power struggles nurses always seem to lose.

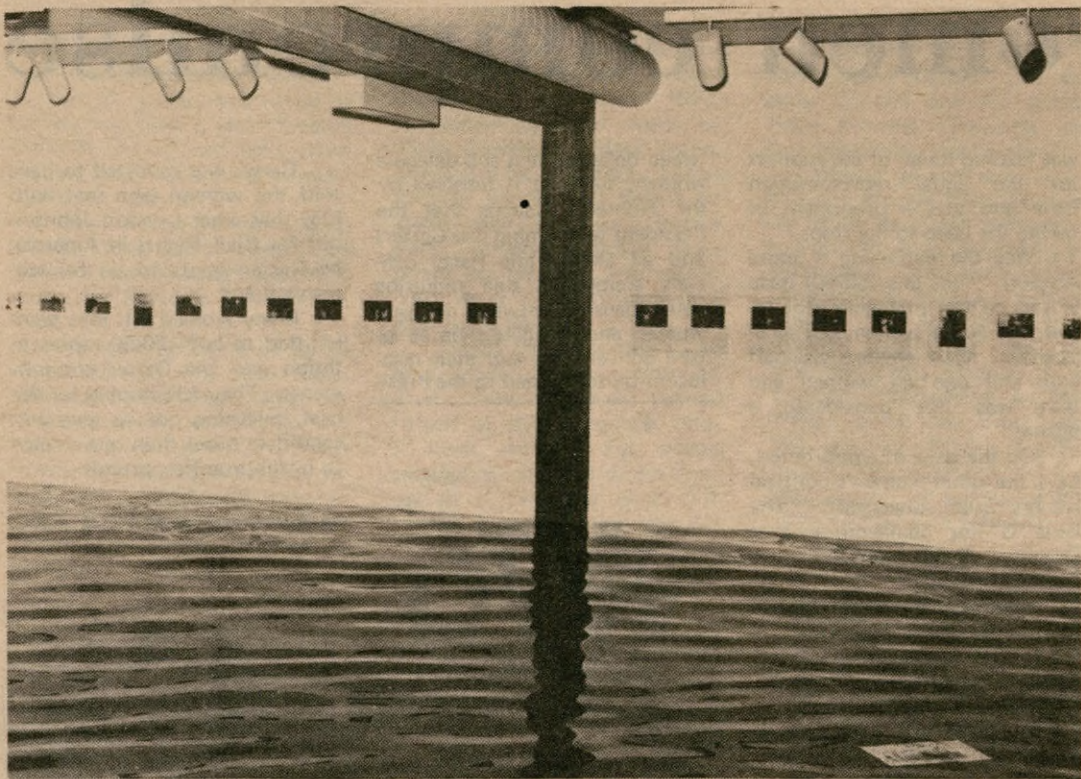
I hope we don't lose this one.

BEVERLY HEBERT

Doonesbury



by G.B. Trudeau



CAM exhibit of Suzanne Paul's photographs taken by Paul after flood water level receded.

Flood destroys museum

By Janice Blue

Astrologer Betty Sue Green looked at her daughter's chart early last June and told her not to make any plans until after the 17th. "I don't know what's going to happen but it has to do with water," she said.

Her daughter, Joannie Whitebird, is curator of Poetry and Performing Arts at the Contemporary Arts Museum.

CAM's director, James Harithas, received a similar reading and warning from Green and is said to have told the museum's board, "We are not making any plans until after the 17th on the advice of my astrologer."

And then it happened.

On June 15 the Contemporary Arts Museum was complete-

ly destroyed by flood waters.

Over 600,000 gallons of rain and sewage water swept down CAM's delivery ramp rising to nearly 10 feet in the lower level of the gallery, the area which housed the art collections and archives, and the museum offices, classrooms and bookstore.

It all began around 4:00 in the afternoon.

A wall clock found floating the next day had stopped at 4:45.

Whitebird talked about being spared the trauma of witnessing the actual destruction of the museum.

"I'm a poet—I couldn't have stood it."

The staff who experienced it was "completely heroic" in Whitebird's words. Everyone frantically tried to save original works of art. At one point they

opened a trap door leading from the upper to the lower gallery and some dove into the water to retrieve art pieces, passing them to staff on the upper level.

"Harithas and those on the lower level risked their lives because they were swimming in water covering electrical circuits torn out of the wall," she said.

The only non-cement wall in the warehouse space tore into shreds from the onslaught of water. The dance floor in the classroom buckled and burst from the strength of another wave. And thirty foot crates, storing paintings and sculpture, bounced off the walls while the staff tried valiantly to rescue the art and to avoid getting injured in the darkness.

Poet Whitebird came to the museum the next morning and described the scene of disaster.

Janice Blue



JOANNIE WHITEBIRD

"It was still and dark. The water was waist deep. We were all coughing from breathing the toxic sewer water and getting bruised from bumping into file cabinets and broken crates. At one point or another, everyone broke down and cried."

The museum scrapbook from 1946 was the first thing she came upon in the mud. Then she picked up Terry Allen's framed paper collage, only to have the work disintegrate. She was left holding the frame.

Whitebird remembers very little after that, except being taken to a doctor where she and all the staff had tetanus shots.

She was hospitalized soon after that. All of her hospital expenses were paid by the museum.

Whitebird speaks warmly of the relationship amongst staff members, something like that of a "museum family" with Margaret Prince, CAM's assistant director (who had been with the museum over 10 years), almost the matriarchal figure. The curators and other staff members, like brothers and sisters, have their differences, Whitebird says, but are bound together by their deep feelings for the museum. And Harithas, she feels, is fair and democratic in his role as museum director.

"I feel especially sorry for Harithas," Joannie Whitebird says. "He lost his entire art collection and art library. To an artist, that is his life."

He was overheard on the phone saying to someone, "I've got an I. Rice Perrera that melted into a Dorothy Hood."

Strangely, only four objects were not damaged in the flood: Harithas' cow skull which to him, an Easterner, represented Texas; his mirror cross by artist Forrest Prince which never left the wall; and a set of fragile, spun-glass keys given to Harithas by Yoko Ono.

The other article to survive the flood was Joannie Whitebird's poetry file. It was sitting on a file box on top of a desk that floated to the ceiling—never getting a drop of water.

It will be months before the museum will be able to re-open.

CAM's education department, directed by Ann Bunn, arranged temporary classroom space within 24 hours of the disaster for Roberta Stokes' dance class, Adrienne Montgomery's animation-filmmaking class and Carolyn Dahl's art class.

Ann Robinson of Robinson Galleries donated one of the temporary office spaces for the museum.

Photographer Suzanne Paul, who had a one-woman show in the lower gallery at the time of the flood, photographed the aftermath to help the museum gain publicity for its restoration.

"I did it," she said, "because the museum is one of the few places to give Texas artists, women artists and minority artists a place to exhibit their work or read their poetry."

Citizens march on City Hall

"Is flood control a woman's issue?" a reporter asked a woman member of Citizens for Flood Control for Harris County as the group of 70 marched in broiling sun in front of City Hall recently.

"You'd better believe it," she said emphatically. "Most of us are homemakers. Guess who has to clean up after the home is filled with muddy, filthy water?"

It's still considered women's work to remove the mud, worms and dead snakes to restore the house to liveable conditions. And months later the women are still scrubbing off the mildew.

The women, their husbands and children were protesting the lack of adequate drainage and the lack of responsiveness of city and county governments to the problem of flood control. Some of the residents said their homes had flooded more than four times in three years.

In the most recent flooding on June 15—almost a year to the date of the last major flood—the Pleasantville area, Medical Center and Contemporary Arts Museum areas received extensive damage.

The citizen demonstrators say they have made appeals to

local government officials but the story always comes back "it will take at least three years to begin digging" and that's only in Sims Bayou, the area allocated \$15 million in last September's bond election.

Prominent among the demonstrators was Helen Hopkins who had led a three-year effort to obtain flood control for Sims Bayou.

After the June 15 flood, Hopkins received calls from neighbors and friends all over Houston asking her what they could do to get the attention of local officials.

She reminded them that a mass meeting, calling for similar action, on June 23, 1975—which attracted almost 500 angry and distressed homeowners—had almost no effect on public officials.

"This kind of non-reaction was what prompted me to run for Frank Mancuso's city council seat last year," she said.

Hopkins gave incumbent Mancuso a good race, polling nearly 40% of the votes.

So this year, again, Hopkins began recruiting individuals and contacting groups whom she felt would be sympathetic to taking part in a citizens assembly which

she stresses is "a first amendment right." That is how the City Hall demonstration, which was held July 24, got started.

"The problem which exists here in Houston and in Harris County is one of failure of the city to provide proper drainage as the city grew," Hopkins outlines.

The city encouraged growth and building permits were issued before proper drainage was checked out according to Helen Hopkins.

The demonstrators had strong words for E.B. Cape, Director of Public Works, whom they feel, through either "incompetence" or "indifference," allowed this disaster to happen.

And, Hopkins warns "We are looking at a real disaster. Early in the 1900's, over two-thirds of the county was under flood waters. With the incredible rate of building and four to six feet of subsidence (sinkage) since that time, a Carla in 1976 would mean water on the second floor at City Hall."

It was apparent to most of the citizens leaving the demonstration that that would be the only way to get attention to the problem—and that might be too late.

While the federal government is deciding whether a museum is eligible for disaster assistance, the museum is desperately in need of funding.

Contributions may be sent to:

CAM Flood Relief
Southern National Bank
P.O. Box 2529
Houston 77001



Candace Richter

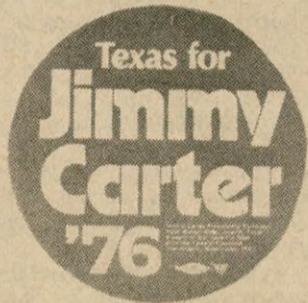
Homemaker members of Citizens for Flood Control in Harris County hold a "kitchen cabinet" meeting to discuss their citizens' march on City Hall. Seated left to right: Ann Kirby, Helen Hopkins, Bea Williams. Standing left to right: Ruth Bramlett, Kathleen Loughmiller, Brenda Howsen.

Convention women compromise

By Tom Rowan

"Hi! My name is Jimmy Carter and I'm running for President."

This announcement from the nominee came as no surprise to 4,977 delegates and alternates who had worked or negotiated to come to the Democratic Convention in New York City. According to the cynical media, and as interpreted by its millions of myopic followers, there were no surprises generated by this gathering of the faithful waiting to be led back to the promised land. Unless, of course, you were female.



One of the significant events and about the only behind-the-scenes excitement was the move by the Democratic Women's Caucus to advance their demands for feminist and social issues.

Just across the street from Madison Square Garden, the Statler Hilton Hotel was both the headquarters for the convention and the location of the planned Sunday afternoon and Monday morning Women's Caucus meetings.

The Women's Caucus focused on three major topics: the Platform, the Rules and also attempts to obtain specific commitments from Governor Carter on feminist and social related issues. Jimmy Carter was so determined to have a smooth-appearing convention that he was receptive to several negotiated compromises.

THE PLATFORM:

The Platform Committee, consisting of 154 members, 48% of whom were women, had worked prior to the convention on the goals and policies to be espoused by the Democratic party.

HUBERT WHO?

THE RULES:

At the June 18 meeting of the Rules Committee, Jane Patterson, committee member from North Carolina, submitted minority report number three on behalf of the Women's Caucus. The initial feminist version specified that "...the National Convention shall require equal division between delegates, men and

women..." at the 1980 National Democratic Convention. The Rules Committee instead supported (by a 66% to 46% vote) a substitute resolution, offered by Gov. Averell Harriman, promoting equal division with implementation promoted by state parties.

By the time of the first Women's Caucus meeting on Sunday, July 11, a negotiating team of 40 had been called together by Carter to discuss the rules minority report. This was an effort to solidify this support of female delegates, but more importantly, to avoid a public floor fight on the issue.

At the July 11 afternoon meeting of the Women's Caucus, Brooklyn Congresswoman, Bella Abzug reported that "President elect" Carter was committed to passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and that he promised to recruit more women for leadership in his campaign and in the Democratic Party. Carter is reported to oppose a system of actual or implied "mandatory quotas."

NOW National President, Karen de Crow, took a floor mike to respond that she too was at the meeting with Carter and felt that women should be unyielding in their demands for 50-50 representation. A straw vote supported that position

martha was right

unanimously. As previously planned, the Women's Caucus was to meet again on Monday morning. Coincidentally, Carter called for the second meeting with a smaller group of women at the same time. Gov. Carter was hoping to compromise on the language and to eliminate the minority report altogether. Meanwhile, back at the Statler Hilton, several hundred of the Women's Caucus were becoming entangled in endless parliamentary motions and feeling ran strong for support of the equal representation, or 50-50, issue.

However, many prominent as well as elected women were pragmatically in favor of agreeing to the pending Carter compromise.

Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-NY) was quite resolved in her belief that the pending compromise was the best arrangement that could be obtained at this time. She argued that a Democratic presidency, plus significant gains for women, were worthy of political compromise. Distressed at the thought of a floor fight when actual voting strength on women's issues was unknown, Rep. Chisholm commented that "Compromise is the highest of all political arts...(We) should have learned our lesson from the...1972 campaign!"

Gloria Allred, alternate delegate from California and spokesperson for the California National Women's Political Caucus,

was leading much of the support for the equal representation issue and was a proponent of taking the issue to the floor.

Was she endorsing a quota system? "No, this (50-50) issue would be the first step, not towards a quota system, but to equality. God created one-half men and one-half women and that was not considered a quota!"

On the issue of compromise, have the other women's political leaders been subverted? "The issue is not compromise-it is equality. The (negotiators) have lost their focus..."

With only a few minutes left before the room had to be vacated, the negotiating team entered; the microphone was hastily turned over to Rep. Abzug.

"Our demands have been responded to in full," Abzug reported. She briefly outlined nine points on which Gov. Carter had made concessions. Most of these were more specific than previous commitments and several new items had been added. (See box below.)

Because of the shortness of time and suddenness of exposure to these nine Carter Commitments, it was decided to adjourn until the next morning (Wednesday) and at that time, with copies of the new proposal in hand, and delegates notified of the meeting so that a larger consensus would be available, vote acceptance or rejection of these points.

Following the events of that day, word went out from the Carter organization to female Carter delegates to be present at the next day's meeting to vote for Carter's proposal. Before a crowd that packed the Hilton's meeting room, the assembled delegates and supporters heard impassioned endorsement of the Carter position from Abzug, Chisholm, Friedan and equally powerful, articulate support of 50-50 representation from Karen de Crow. When the vote was taken, they endorsed the nine commitments and thus pulled the Women's Caucus into harmony with the other smooth-flowing convention activities.

SISTER

As a precaution, however, Gloria Allred of California proposed and received approval of a resolution which states "if at the 1978 mid-term convention there is not equal representation be-

tween delegate men and delegate women, then be it resolved by the Women's Caucus that the President (presuming it is Carter) and all Democratic Party officials support a rule requiring equal division between delegate women and delegate men at future conventions and their resolution be forwarded to the Presi-

Carter was reported to have told the women who met with him that what Lyndon Johnson did for Civil Rights in America, he-Carter-wants to do for women's rights.

Many women felt they were entitled to both 50-50 representation and the Carter commitments. They left hoping for the best, resolving not to give any candidate more than one chance to fulfill promises, promises.



dent and Party Chairperson."

As a postscript, Allred was asked why she and others capitulated after developing such a strong stance on the 50-50 issue. She felt that significant gains had actually been offered, but also "it has strong support from elected women officials-in fact, support came from all directions-too much to wage a floor fight."

No analysis is complete without numbers and percentages. But we'll keep it simple and brief.

There were actually 1,036 (34%) female delegates and 740 (39%) alternates. This figure is less than the 37% representation in 1972 but still above the 13% represented back in 1968. Three-fourths of these women are employed outside the home (mostly teachers); 37% have run for public office and 21% now hold public office.



Victoria Woodhull formed her own political party and ran for President of the United States in 1872.

I. The Democratic Party

A. Rules Report: Recommended Language Changes: "It is hereby resolved that consistent with the traditions of the Democratic Party that the Calls to the 1978 Mid-Term Convention and future Conventions shall promote equal division between delegate men and delegate women from all states and territories. The National Party shall encourage and assist State parties to adopt provisions to achieve this goal in their delegate selection plans."

B. Women's Division: The Women's Division, which will not be subservient to the Chair of the Party, will be strengthened by adequate staff and funding enabling it to promote and implement feminist objectives.

C. Commissions and Committees: All Commissions and Committees of the Democratic Party will have full representation of women, including the Winograd Commission and Judicial Council.

II. The Campaign and the Administration

A. Equal Rights Amendment: Governor Carter committed himself to making the passage of the ERA a major part of his campaign. He also stated that he would use his office, if elected President, to secure ratification.

B. Strategy Committee: The Democratic Women's Caucus will establish a Strategy Committee representative of its constituencies. Governor Carter has agreed to consult personally with a smaller representative group from this Committee.

C. High-Level Posts: Governor Carter stated that the Women's Caucus can depend on his appointment of women to Cabinet posts, throughout the judiciary system, and that women will be a part of the Committee that will propose names for the judicial posts. His judicial appointments will be on merit, quality, and not as political pay-offs. He also stated that he would seriously consider a woman for the next opening on the U.S. Supreme Court.

D. Talent Bank: The Democratic Women's Caucus will help to set up a Talent Bank of women listing their areas of expertise and skills, for consideration to key posts.

E. Working Women: Governor Carter expressed his commitment to compensatory action, necessary for women, as well as minorities, to overcome patterns of past discrimination in employment.

F. Legal Barriers: Governor Carter stated that a major portion of his commitment to the nation is the elimination of the remaining legal barriers against women.

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How Ray helped Carter

This article appeared in the July 10 issue of *Majority Report* and is reprinted with their permission.



Elizabeth Ray has probably never met Jimmy Carter. And, no one is even attempting to spread a rumor that she is working for his presidential campaign. But, there is a theory being circulated that some of the hints she has been dropping around the media have effectively scared off Carter's only serious challengers, Senators Hubert Humphrey and Ted Kennedy.

Some observers of the presidential campaign say that Kennedy and Humphrey have bailed out rather than risk winning a place on the ticket and following the career-path of Thomas Eagleton.

The documentation is flimsy: *The Chicago Tribune* claimed on June 2 that Ray told the Justice Department that she had secretly tape-recorded intimate interludes with 13 representatives and two senators—one of whom she described as "a well-known senator whose pillow talk in Miss Ray's apartment reportedly revolved around the adventures of his grandchildren." Jack Anderson said in his June 14 column that Ray had repeatedly called his office boast-

ing of relationships with Humphrey and Kennedy, among others. *The National Star* ran a feature in its June 15 issue entitled, "New Sex Scandals Are Set to Rock Washington." The *Star* reports that the Ray case has Kennedy, "who's had his share of trouble with women in the past...keeping his head down and working hard to stay out of sight until this storm blows over."

In response to reporters questions, Humphrey said that he might have had lunch with Elizabeth Ray once, but he issued a "100 percent denial" of any relationship.

On the other hand, the timing of the case is interesting. On May 13, a story was played up in the press about a study of call girls presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association which revealed that 60% of their clients were politicians and powerful executives who preferred "kinky sex" to intercourse. The newspapers usually added a paragraph linking these "facts" to the upcoming Democratic National Convention and the expected crackdown on streetwalking.

Then in the May 23 *Washington Post* came Ray's allegations that "I can't type, I can't file, I can't even answer the phone." Hays was her only target at the time. Carter had lost

the Nebraska primary on May 11, the Maryland primary on May 18 and the Oregon primary on May 25, and the distraction, at least, was a help. For one thing, Rep. Hays was to run as a favorite son on behalf of Humphrey in the Ohio primary on June 8. Humphrey was expected to come out of the closet after the June 8 California primary. Counting on Carter's downhill trend to continue, Humphrey supporters set up an "unauthorized" Humphrey for President headquarters in Washington D.C. just prior to May 25. Said one Humphrey aide, "Obviously, when push comes to shove, this is a stop-Carter movement."

Also on May 25, Ted Kennedy told reporters "I cannot stop speculation" that he would run for President if drafted. *The Daily News* reported that "Smiling broadly, Kennedy said that there was no basis in fact to reports that he was involved in a move to stop the drive of Democratic frontrunner Jimmy Carter of Georgia." On June 3, Carter lost to Church in Montana and to "uncommitted" in Rhode Island, while winning to Udall in South Dakota.

With all this scandal in the breeze, Carter looks refreshingly dull. In fact, Carter's official advisor on women's affairs, Mary E. King, succeeded in urging Carter to mention to several wri-

ters that he has never been unfaithful to his wife. According to an article entitled "Feminist Candidate Jimmy Carter" by Patrick Anderson in the July issue of *Playgirl*, one Carter aide said of the candidate's conjugal purity, "That's just how he is. He loves his wife, he doesn't care who knows it, and if there's some political mileage in it that's all the better."

Carter's appeal to women is like his appeal to everybody else...it's not exactly based on the issues. Carter is not trying to claim a better position on discrimination or day care, although it would be easy to come up with a better position on abortion than to be both for it and against it (which alienates both sides). He's making a calculated play for the women's vote, but on an emotional level. He has a lot of "strong women" around him (his mother the RN, his sister the Faith Healer, his wife who won an award from NOW, Mary King who wrote a feminist article for *Liberation Magazine* ten years ago). In fact, if Carter would toast his own English muffins, Jerry Ford would have nothing over him (Ford's pretty shaky on abortion, too).

This is all very fine for the woman voter who tests for feminism by promises and percentages. Those seeking to rearrange the real power in this country

know there is less to fear from sex in government than from business in government or religion in government. And, less to fear from mistresses-on-the-payroll corruption than from the grand schemes of the multinationals behind Carter.

Carter poses as an outsider. Yet his major supporters, Clark Clifford, Averell Harriman and Ted Sorensen are all active members of the elite's elite—the Council on Foreign Relations (the only real constituency of the CIA). The power represented by the CFR is responsible for the creation in the U.S. of a permanent government...a government that excludes women and other real "outsiders"...a government that makes a mockery of "presidential elections."

Before women make any real gains, we will have to topple the CFR along with the entire corporate superstructure. Carter is only the shell of the peanut, no purer than Nixon. He is attempting to seize control of the government on the distorted values of suicidal America: sex is evil, religion is good.

Nancy Borman

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Texas targeted for texts

By Marjorie Randal

Two little boys and a man fish from a motorboat. A small girl wearing a ruffled nightie stares wistfully alone at a window. A woman uses a magnifier to apply make-up. A man uses one in an experiment.

Enter the world of Texas schoolbooks. It is a world where men and boys move, create, fix, work and achieve. But women and girls watch, wait, seek help and weep.

Texas may be the most important state in a national fight to rid children's texts of this insidious view of "the way it's spozed to be." That's because Texas is one of only about a dozen states to adopt a list of approved public school texts at the state level. And since it is one of the most populous states, Texas is a pretty big schoolbook customer.

So what goes on at Texas Education Agency (TEA) hearings like the one set for August 16-18 in Austin is very important to the big publishing houses. Failing to get a third grade arithmetic text approved in Austin can have more impact on a New York publisher than anything any reviewer could ever say.

Sexism in American textbooks is rampant. We all looked at these books for years, but few of us could see that. As youngsters we read of male characters doing practically everything that was successful, fun, or even interesting. Maybe we thought that women and girls would have their turn on another page. But page after page, book after book, year after year, we never got our turn.

Joy Senter of Friendswood, a collector of old textbooks, wrote an article last year detailing her findings that the frequency of male representation and pre-empting of active roles has increased from the 1940's. Only recently has the trend started to reverse with the rising consciousness of sexism generally.

Since the early 1970's, feminists have been publishing studies of sexism in teaching and library materials and lists of non-sexist books for kids. Texas has been the scene of increasing activity in reviewing of texts for sexual bias during the past five years.

Texas has maintained a long-standing process for citizen input into textbook selection. The TEA requires each publisher who submits a book for adoption to put a copy in each of 20 cities around the state for public inspection. In TEA jargon, a person "protests" a book's adoption by filing a "bill of particulars" by a certain date. The publisher must then respond in writing to each bill. Finally, the TEA conducts hearings before the State Textbook Selection Committee--15 teachers, most of whom were appointed for their honor, not their expertise.

Texas feminists first testified before the TEA on the level of sexism in textbooks in 1972.

After the committee makes its selections, the individual school districts make their choices of specific titles. Any books a district wants which are not on the list must be bought with local funds.

Texas feminists first took advantage of this input procedure in 1972. Women including Kay Whyburn of Houston wrote bills of particulars on American history texts. The next year, some 25 women and a handful of men from Houston, Dallas, San Antonio and Austin wrote bills. And nine testified at the hearings.

By 1974, a "Continuing Task Force on Education for Women" had been formed by some Houston area members of NOW. Some 150 persons wrote more than 400 bills, and 24 per-

sons testified. It was a big year for textbook adoption--more than 700 items.

But 1974 was also the year Linda Eichblatt opened her newspaper one December morning to discover that she was named a defendant in a \$30 million suit by Economy Publishers of Oklahoma City. Economy alleged Eichblatt conspired with a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and an independent witness to criticize the publisher's books for too much violence. The brief said that Economy's suit had nothing to do with their criticism of sexism. Four months later, Economy dropped their suit but only after attempting and failing to get defendants to agree not to counter-sue.

Last year, the Task Force first presented college professors as "expert witnesses"--lucky tactical development, since the publishers also first introduced their "expert" academicians.

Last year, a significant reduction could be seen in the level of sexism in the books up for adoption. By then, three of the big publishing houses--Holt, Rinehart and Winston, McGraw-Hill and Scott, Foresman--had issued guidelines on reducing sexism in their products. But some firms were still sorely lagging on making revisions due to the sizable expense.

This year some 275 books are up for adoption. They cover several high school subjects, languages, dictionaries and one category labeled "fundamentals of the free enterprise system."

NOW has again co-ordinated a comprehensive review of the list, this time with 133 persons filing 277 bills, by July 9. Some reviewers found their books non-sexist and did not write bills. Others discovered new permutations of sexism.

There are some publishers being criticized for the first time this year. It is hard to predict the flavor of the coming hearing. But NOW will be prepared. Its Task Force will rendezvous in Austin the night before the opening to map strategy.

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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Clock repairpersons
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Computer programmers
Concrete finishers
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Insist on individual files

By Marjory Barnhart

"You have a charge account at Neiman-Marcus? In your own name?" The employee at the Credit Bureau of Greater Houston was incredulous.

After the Equal Credit Opportunity Act went into effect October 28, 1975, many women went ahead and established a separate credit file, one apart from their husbands. Women wrote and called the credit bureau (652-3434) and reported their employment background, bank account numbers and oil company and department store charge card numbers.

While the provision splitting credit files from family units is included in the ECOA, the section regarding individual credit files will not become effective until October, 1976.

During the present year of transition, the credit bureau is still maintaining family unit files. Under this system all account information is filed under the husband's name. If a woman had credit before her marriage, those records are marked with an asterisk. The credit for those accounts goes to the husband unless she specifi-

cally calls the credit bureau and requests her own file.

It is to her advantage to do so. In the event of separation, divorce, or the husband's death, a woman can suddenly find that she has no credit. Some stores automatically ask a recently widowed woman to return her charge card. Separated or divorced women have also had a rude awakening to discover that after years of hard work, there is no record of their financial contribution.

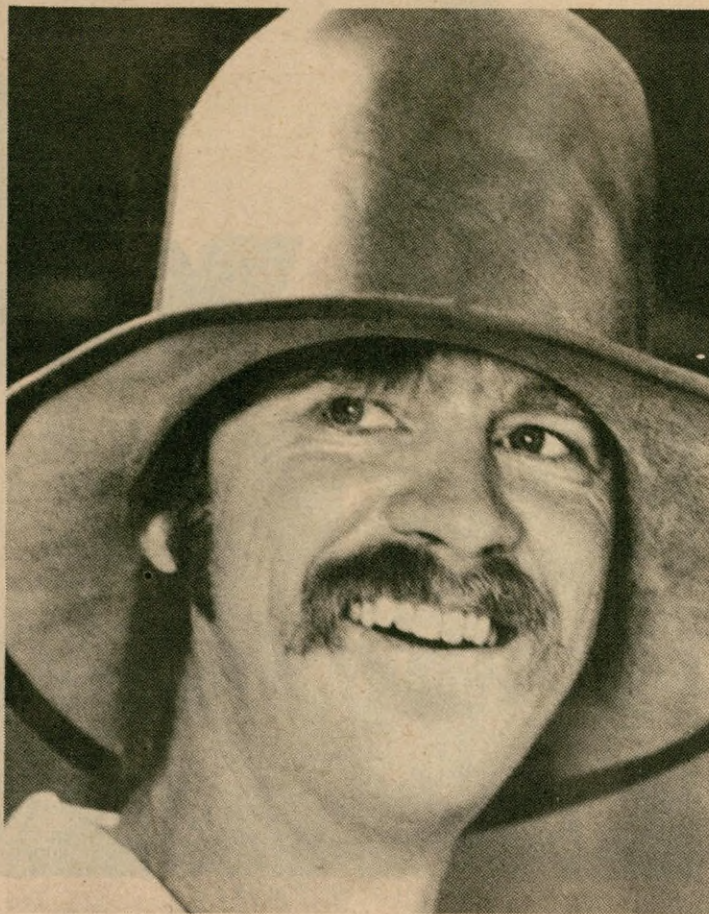
Before the ECOA went into effect, creditors limited accounts to one member of a family. Now both spouses can obtain credit if they prove financial responsibility. This could be a great advantage to the businesses. A working couple with two charge accounts at the same store has increased purchasing power.

Laura Oren, president of the Houston Area Feminist Federal Credit Union, favors separate files because they give businesses a more realistic picture of contribution of the wife to the family's economy. "In effect," she says, "you are making business rational. Why throw away an account that would be a good risk?"

The proposed changes would be a disadvantage mainly to the credit bureaus, who would face a new filing system and additional paperwork without monetary profit. The plan was to require creditors to mail out a form in November, 1976, asking joint account holders if they wish to have separate files. The law would also apply to mortgage bond holders. Both spouses could request individual records.

Creditors see these new requirements as an unnecessary expense. Resistance to the plan has caused hesitation on the part of the Federal Reserve Board. More letters are needed regarding the amendment to the ECOA. The Houston Area Feminist Federal Credit Union (HAFFCU) urges public comment on this matter. When writing, cite Docket R-0038 and write to:

Secretary
of the Board of Governors
Federal Reserve Board
Washington, D.C. 20551
Send copies of your letters to:
HAFFCU
2418 Travis
Houston, Tx. 77006



GARY HILL

A man on our side

By Mary Lu Abbott
Reporter, Life Style
Houston Chronicle

Editor's note: We never met Chronicle reporter Gary K. Hill, but we wished we had. His by-lines would surprisingly appear in the Life Style section on stories that ranged from house-husbands to feminist law firms. He earned a "pat" in the last issue of Breakthrough for an article he wrote on gains girls and women were making in athletics.

At the time of his death in early June, Hill was writing a story on the opening of Women's Hospital, a facility offering family-centered maternity care. His Life Style colleague, Mary Lu Abbott, completed his last assignment.

To us, Hill was a man on our side, someone sensitive to our issues. We will miss his by-lines.

We asked Mary Lu Abbott to share her feelings with us about him.

Chronicle reporter Gary K. Hill was a rare man, one who dared to show that he cared about others.

He died struggling with an intruder in his home.

Ironically, Hill was the type who would have sat and listened to the burglar's tale of woe.

Hill came to the *Chronicle* copy desk from Fort Worth in 1972 and transferred into the Life Style section as a feature writer two years later. Fellow male reporters ribbed him about working on "the women's pages." He volleyed the joshing well because he thought the Life Style stories showed sensitivity. He liked to write about people more than events.

He was the first man ever assigned to Life Style and we women loved to refer to him as "our token male." He enjoyed our teasing—he was big enough to take it in fun.

Hill was a West Texas cowboy at heart and disliked the city, its frantic pace, its closed doors, its fight-for-yourself atti-

tude. He liked to take time living. And so he saw a story in nearly everything, even the common-day lives and activities: the ice cream man in Montrose, kids and sno-cones, marbles that once fascinated children.

Hill wrote a lament over the disappearance of lightning bugs in the city and the carefree childhood days of chasing the little "flashing lanterns."

Hill was into consciousness-raising beyond the point of sexism—he was trying to tune into all thoughts. He was on the trail to a better self, constantly seeking reasons for his actions, trying to establish meaningful relationships with his family and friends.

He was a women's rights advocate, outspoken and incensed at discriminatory practices. He was irate when he heard some women could not get library cards in their own names. To some, the problem was minor, but to Hill it was worth spending time to help change.

Those whom Hill wrote about often became his good friends, like the truck driver he hopped a ride with to New Mexico for a story on the asphalt cowboy. He always listened the extra minute, even the added hour, to gain a closer glimpse at a person's inner self.

Hill couldn't take just one quick glance at a story, his editor says. "He examined all angles, like holding dice in his hand and seeing all their sides. It was painful to him to extract what was the best angle to tell. He had to un-entangle himself." To him, every tidbit of a person's life was important.

One day a couple with a young child wandered into the *Chronicle* office. They were stranded in Houston, without money and were having trouble with Travelers Aid in getting transportation home. Hill listened to all their troubles, asked questions and wrote a story. He intervened personally with Travelers Aid to assure their help and, thanks to him, they soon were on their way home.

They survived their encounter with the city. Gary K. Hill didn't.

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Cover model talks to feminists

By Marsha Recknagel

The "best li'l ole honey in Texas,"* Brenda Davis, has discovered that life in the Houston ad world is not always sugar and spice.

Speaking with a lively animation that comes from her years of teaching deaf children, Davis, 25, who has appeared on the cover of *Texas Monthly* on three occasions,* talks about her modeling career.

"I have learned that not everyone is sincere and trustworthy," explains Davis, who found that out the hard way.

When she first started modeling, a photographer took stock photos (similar to test shots) of her. A year later her pictures began to appear on the covers of national confessional magazines. One of the cover photos was headlined "I'm pregnant with my brother's baby--and the worst is yet to come." She sued the photographer who sold her photos (for \$100 each without her permission) to these magazines.

More recently she posed for a health spa ad which appeared in both daily papers over the past months. She had agreed to the ad but not to the bold headline on a profile figure of herself which read, "I want your body. And, I want it now."

Davis could not believe that the *Post* and *Chronicle* would even run "such tasteless ads." She protested by having her female attorney write a strong

letter of warning to the health spa owner.

"I see why feminists were repulsed. I was repulsed," says Davis, who is beginning to realize that feminists have been offended by much of her modeling work.

For two years she has been the calendar girl for a local utility ad, which resembles the WWII pin-up calendars, with Davis pictured seductively over the ad's appeal to call "the Cutest Little Number in Town."* This is actually the number to call for information on the location of underground power lines before any construction begins.

"At first I was scared to show the calendar to my parents, especially my father," grins Davis, who says that now her parents have the utility calendar hanging on their wall. And even her grandparents have it on their wall in Louisiana.

"I want it understood," she says "that I feel the calendar is an excellent piece of work--done with class. And, I will continue to do it if asked."

Thumbing through her portfolio, Davis muses over her various modeling jobs. "They (feminists) would probably not like these," smiles the brown-eyed woman, referring to the photographs that range from cheesecake to sophisticated evening wear shots, from jewelry and the sleek high fashion look to lolling in a bathtub with few bubbles, to the mother role ads, depicting Davis, with her hair pulled back and high-necked dresses stirring soup with photographic hands.

Does she see herself as a sex object? Thinking for a second, she replies, "No, I have just never really thought about it before. I lived at home through college. Then dated for two years and got married."

"I want to tell feminists that this is my job, it is hard work and I take pride in it."

But the women's movement has helped boost her confidence, claims Davis, who believes the movement has given her courage in her career. Maybe an ironic viewpoint from the woman whose picture on July's *Texas Monthly* greets you from the newsstand with a sexy, c'mon stare.

"I want feminists to understand that my *Texas Monthly* work has helped my career, not hindered it--and I want to do more covers."

She also has a desire to use her past work as a springboard to radio and television.

She laughs, recalling a beauty pageant she entered five years ago in Beaumont, Texas, to win a college scholarship. She did a pantomime act and then faced the judges for the two big questions, one funny and one serious. She answered the humorous one and had the people laughing. "Great! That went well," thought Davis. Then the judges asked her what she

thought of the feminist movement. Feminist movement? She had no idea what that meant and while she struggled with a response, she saw her boyfriend, now her husband, squirming down in his seat.

To the astonishment of the audience she replied, "Well, I like looking feminine. Dressing up. Being lady-like." She found out later she had blown it!

But that was years ago and she now knows who feminists are and refers to them as the elusive "they" who criticize her work and take offense at some of her photographic poses.

"I want to tell the feminists that this is my job, it is hard work and I take pride in it. I am professional," emphasizes Davis, whose usually high voice lowers to a sterner tone at this.

"But in the last few months I have become more aware," she explains. "I watch the television commercials, seeing the women happily scrubbing floors. I could never do that." Yet asked if she would portray the stereotypical housewife in commercials, there is no hesitation. "Of course. If I could get national coverage. That's a lot of money," replies Davis, who put herself through college working as a Sears clerk.

Like other experienced and professional models, Davis raises her fee (per hour rate) in hopes of sifting out "sleazy" ads from "classy" ads. As a professional model she wants to be taken seriously. She carefully checks out all aspects of each assignment before she agrees to model. And she has learned to say 'no.'

She is amazed at the long way she has come from the sheltered girl who arrived in Houston with a new husband and a degree in speech and hearing therapy a few years ago.

There is a feeling that comes from talking with Davis that she has come a long way. In the confessional magazines and health spa ad she felt exploited. For the first time she could identify with feminists. And she took it upon herself to warn other models about the photographers and ads.

"I wanted to talk to *Breakthrough*," says Davis, "because I don't think they will rip me to shreds as I feel the ad did."

As I leave, Davis leaves me with a parting word. "I never meant to offend anyone with my work," she said, "and my husband, who is in real estate, hires women. Tell them he even hires women painters," she adds as an afterthought.

**Texas Monthly* cover (July 1976). Davis appears with the *TM* editor who says "Hi! I'm Richard West with the best li'l ole honey in Texas..." He is sitting and holds up a jar of honey. She is standing and holds onto his knee...

*In addition to *TM*, July 1976, Davis was one of the three stewardesses on the December 1975 cover (see *Dead Pans*, *Breakthrough*, January 1976) and she posed for an illustration of a waitress on the May 1976 cover (see *Pats & Pans*, *Breakthrough*, May 1976).

*See *Dead Pans*, *Breakthrough*, April 1976.

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MEMO...RABILIA

Meanwhile back in Houston, KTRK-TV news director Walt Hawver thought he did a good thing in commending his news staff in a memo for a one-hour "Eyewitness Texas" program which aired in June.

He mentioned the three segments of the magazine show: one on beach erosion along the Gulf (by Jan Carson and Frank Ambrose); another on the Guatemalan earthquake tragedy (by Elma Barrera and Phyllis Deter) and another segment by Dave Glodt and Dana Millikin on the Texas longhorn trail ride.

In the memo Hawver said,

"You could have hardly not noticed, but I will say it anyway. Seventy percent of this program was filmed and edited by our two intrepid women photographers, the other 70 percent was reported by our five women reporters. Frank and David were in the best company."

Hawver got a memo back from Channel 13 news reporter Frank Agraz and someone posted a copy of it in the newsroom.

Agraz pointed out that "it is a recognized fact of organizational politics that to improve product, management praises

work of people who do praiseworthy effort" and added that "the Equal Employment Opportunity Act says there should be no discrimination between people of different colors, sex, ethnic background, etc."

And, Agraz then asked his boss, "Will I have to undergo a sex change operation to get recognized in a memorandum that officially goes to Kenneth Johnson, General Manager, and to all employees of KTRK-TV? Since women are doing such a wonderful job, will the next step be to hire all women?" (Someone scribbled in on the memo "good

idea.")

Agraz felt Hawver violated "the spirit of the EEO Act" because "you single out one segment of your staff, to the exclusion of the rest."

"Why should their femininity have anything to do with their output?" Agraz concluded.

Well, this laid the ground for some long pent-up feelings from some of the women on the staff who replied to Agraz:

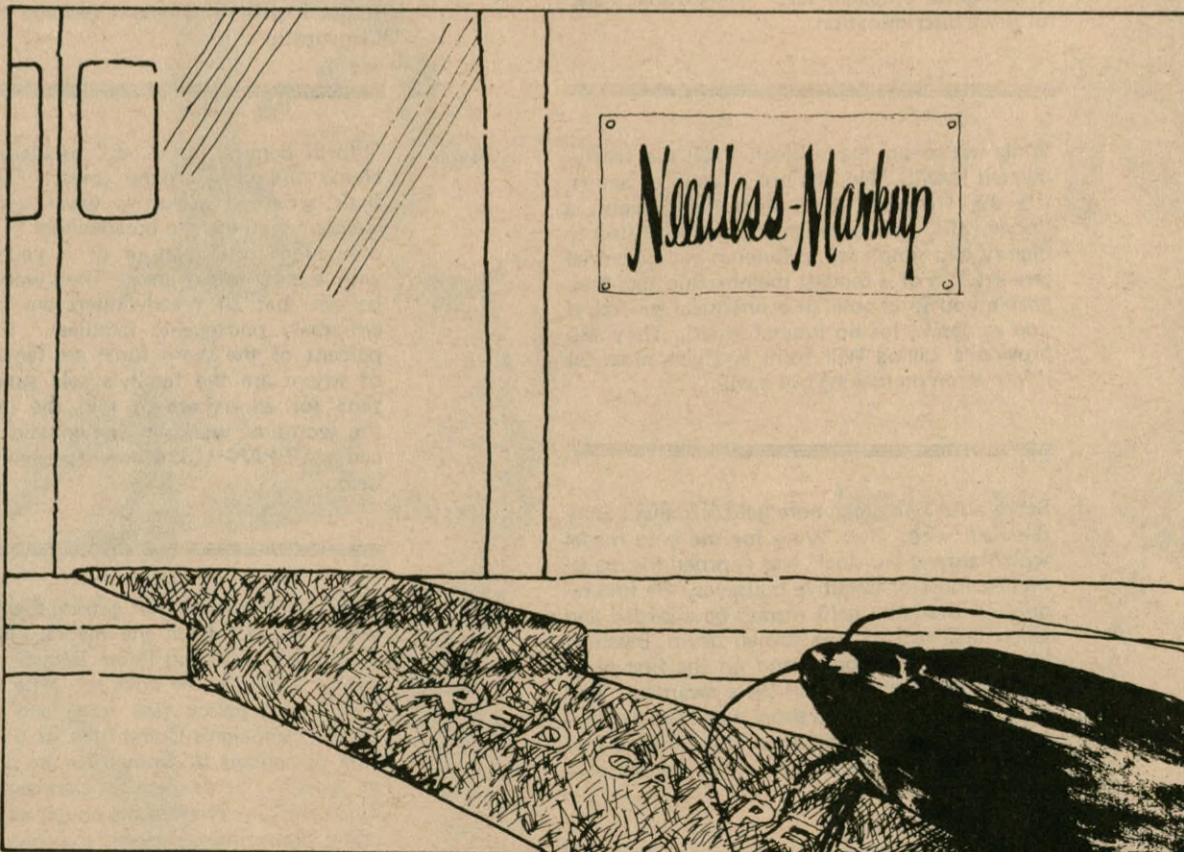
"Heretofore, whenever any kind of praise was given, it was all directed toward men, because only men were hired. (And no man objected to that.)

"Then women were discovered and we were told by members of the staff that we were hired because, and only because, we were women. (And no man objected to that insult.)

"Now comes the time for praise. (And a man objects.)

"Yes, perhaps a sex change operation would be best...Then some of the men would know what it feels like."

The KTRK women had the last word.



It is memos like the one from *Texas Monthly* publisher Michael Levy to his staff and the one from KTRK-TV news reporter Frank Agraz to his boss that make you lament the passing of the *Houston Journalism Review*. They would have had a ball.

In October 1973, in an *HJR* story on then nine-month-old *Texas Monthly*, publisher Levy was quoted as saying, "I'm out to make a buck and things look good."

Well, today things don't look so rosy for Levy. He dashed off a memo to his editorial staff which got into the office of *The Texas Observer*.

According to the *Observer's* account, the memo (dated May 24) singled out references to Neiman-Marcus in the June issue which Levy considered "gratuitous insults."

One was in Harry Hurt's article on cockroaches in which he said, "All that remains is for

Neiman-Marcus to recognize the potential market in cockroach chic."

Hurt was not too far off if Houston viewers recall the five minutes of free panhandling Stanley Marcus did on pet rocks

on KPRC's "Scene at 5" show around Christmastime.

Another reference made light of a "headline-typo" competition saying "Neiman-Marcup Investigated On Pricing Policy."

Levy began by saying "I

continue to be stunned at the lack of total regard and due respect on the part of the editorial staff to the real world environment this magazine must operate in.

"Take a look through the June issue. On pages 7, 32 and 53 you will see large ads from Neiman-Marcus. These ads are important to *Texas Monthly* not just because of the revenue they bring in. They are also critical to the advertising look... With Neiman's in the book, the others (advertisers) have come in."

Molly Ivins (former *Observer* editor now with the *New York Times*) must have enjoyed reading the next part.

"If your principles cannot tolerate such a harsh reality, I suggest that you leave publishing in general and join a religious order or *The Texas Observer*."

Monthly's editor William Broyles is reported to have answered Levy that the memo in its tone was "obscene," and to have "disappeared on a vacation of unspecified length."

It is interesting that while Levy is sensitive to one big advertiser, he is insensitive to the Texas feminists, many of whom are privately boycotting the magazine because of the regular appearance of its sexist covers.

In fact, it is Levy, say some of his staff and some ad people, privately, that likes the "tits and ass" look of so many of the *Monthly* covers.

Anyone for sending Levy a memo?

Pats and Pans

Ken Callaway (Sunday Sportsman's Show, Ch. 11) was commiserating with his fellow killers of wildlife. "How many of you have gone out and hunted wild game and brought it home and the little gal didn't know how to cook it properly?" To remedy this sad state of affairs, the intrepid adversary of savage ducks and geese and other feathered fiends is putting together a game cookbook. A PANtry full of birds to the Sunday Sportsman.

Credit a PAT to the Houston Area Feminist Federal Credit Union, which reached the break-even point after six months and expects to declare its first dividend this quarter.

PAN the sexist writing style of Zarko Franks, former reigning city editor at the *Chronicle*, for a report from the Democratic National Convention on "The Carter People." In an interview with five males and one female on the Carter staff, the only physical description given to the males is that one is Black. Not so with the female aide, "a Barnard graduate named Isabel Hyde, 27, who works under a big sign that says 'Issues.' Big eyes. Long legs. She looks like little girls should when they grow up. The sign says issues so we test her: How does Carter stand on...." No wonder so few women have been on the city desk side at the *Chronicle*.

PAN Mary Jane for a Schier waste of space. The *Post* medical writer continues to be the champion of the medical establishment. In reporting the "latest flap" among scientists who disagree on the risks of breast x-rays to premenopausal women, Schier devotes an inordinate amount of space to the views (and qualifications) of three medical experts in Houston, who say "no unnecessary risks," "extremely safe" and "women shouldn't be alarmed." Only one doctor with an opposing viewpoint was quoted (no qualifications given). Women need all the information they can get on both sides of controversial health issues. Anyone for investigative journalism from the *Post*? And while we're at it, whatever happened to Brenda Stone?

Sign a PAT to New York Lt. Gov. Mary Ann Krupsak, who brought along an interpreter to translate her opening speech at the Democratic Convention into sign language for the deaf. Krupsak has long been interested in the problems of the deaf. "They can't participate in this kind of a meeting without an interpreter," she said about the two million deaf people in this country and the 15 million whose hearing is impaired.

One of the reasons given why women athletes do not earn as much as their male counterparts is that "the women don't bring in the crowds, the men do." Not so. During the Olympic telecasts, ABC's ratings jumped several points whenever the women gymnasts performed. (In New York from 49 percent of the viewing audience to 52.5 percent, in Chicago from 46 percent to 53.5 percent and in Los Angeles from 57 percent to 63 percent.) PAT the women who performed so well, especially Romania's Nadia Comaneci, with seven perfect scores and three gold medals.

It has been said that undergoing a vasectomy makes a 'vas deferens' in a man's ability to have children. Baylor College of Medicine researchers are looking for volunteers (healthy men between the ages of 20 and 40) to test a possible male birth control method that would be safe, effective and reversible. The program will involve weekly injections of testosterone to determine if the male hormone is acceptable, feasible and low in toxicity as a male contraceptive. The Baylor project will be conducted by Drs. Glenn Cunningham and Peter Kohler. Testosterone has been recognized as a suppressor of testicular function since the 1930's, but, said Cunningham, "scientists didn't follow through with those early leads as far as a male contraceptive." Maybe because most scientists are male and don't run the risk of pregnancy? A better-late-than-never PAT to the project.

Life magazine's Special Reports (which has no major women editors) has devoted a whole issue to women who have made a difference in American life. Another case of 'lumping it.' Would we ever see a national publication devote only one issue to the males who have made a difference? Not in a *LifesPAN*.

We know we are strong, we are invincible, but Forest Park Cemeteries seem to think we are also immortal. They are running an ad in local papers headed "Your Widow." They can help with a plan to "make things a lot easier for your wife." You should be aware that "your death will be a very difficult experience for everyone in your family. Particularly your wife...she will have to make...decisions no wife is ever quite prepared for." PAN Forest Park for grave discrimination.

While we're on the subject, PAT the newly-created HAMS. No, it's not a group of actors, it's the Houston Area Memorial Society, a "non-profit, non-sectarian society dedicated to dignity and simplicity in funerals and memorial services." For a modest membership fee, they enable you to choose an economical funeral, if you so desire, (or no funeral at all). They also provide a Living Will form and give practical information on making out a will.

Score a PAT to small bore gold medalist Lanny Bassham who, after tying for the gold medal with Margaret Murdock, was awarded the medal for the most consecutive bullseyes. He first requested that two gold medals be awarded and when that request was turned down, Bassham insisted that Murdock stand on the first place podium when the medals were awarded. Said Bassham, "I wanted to show that I felt her performance had equaled mine...There was no way she deserved to stand lower while the national anthem was played."

PAN the Merchant Marine Academy for blanket discrimination. A female cadet who was caught in bed with her fiance was asked to resign. Her fiance was allowed to graduate. PAT Maryland Senator J. Glenn Beall (the cadet is one of his constituents), whose demands for an explanation resulted in her reinstatement. Let's hear it for uniform treatment of males and females in service academies.

PAT the three women clerks who overpowered three armed bank robbers at a savings bank in Kazakhstan, Central Asia, and held them captive until police arrived, according to *Pravda*. Caught them Red-handed.

The U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development rates a PAT for its recently-completed two-year study on "Women in the Mortgage Market," which proves that lenders are discounting women's earning power and are guilty of sex bias. The income growth and stability of single women was on an even par with that of the traditional male-headed, one-earner family; the income growth patterns for women family heads fell within eight or nine percent points of their male counterparts.

Kathy Wilcox, volunteer firefighter in Friendswood, wrote a letter to the *League City News Citizen* thanking local landowner and banker Walter Hall "for his annual slap in the face to the area women firefighters and ambulance personnel..." Apparently Hall hosts a barbecue every year for "our hardworking and deserving volunteers"--the male ones, that is. "He has made it quite clear to area fire chiefs...that female members cannot attend. Mind you, these are not Ladies' Auxiliary or wives, but very active members of fire departments and ambulance crews." And guess who was operating all the area fire stations and ambulances while Hall was barbecuing for all the male volunteers? Right. PAT Wilcox for volunteering her views in public. Fire off a PAN to Hall.

PAT to the Chief. President Ford has ordered a review of the entire U.S. Code to eliminate unfair sex-based provisions. He promised to put a top priority on the problem of the "widening earnings gap between men and women." At a reception honoring the National Commission on the Observation of International Women's Year, Ford said that laws discriminating against women "are all equally unjust, all equally demeaning to Americans and all equally inconsistent with the American philosophy of equality." He said he hopes to see the Equal Rights Amendment become part of the Constitution soon.

"Worth coming home to," proclaim the U.S. Home billboards around town. The latest in their series of attractive wives and children welcoming home the breadwinner is a vaseline-on-the-lens type picture of a young woman with a baby in her arms. They would have us believe that all breadwinners are male (with extremely photogenic families). In fact, 43 percent of the work force are females, many of whom are the family's sole support. It's time for advertisers to join the real world--the world of working women and child care centers. PAN U.S. Home for being way off base.

Here's a King who's not getting the royal treatment, at least from the media. Mary King, along with husband Peter Bourne, is one of Jimmy Carter's key advisors. She steers Carter's health policy task force and directs the Carter campaign's Committee of 51.3 Percent (the percentage of women in the population--at least); he is deputy campaign director. When NBC interviewed the couple at the Democratic Convention, they were introduced as Dr. Peter Bourne and his wife, Mary King. Bourne's name flashed immediately on the screen, while hers did not appear until almost the end of the interview, although most of the questions were addressed to her. In an article put out by the New York News Service, again we meet "Dr. Peter Bourne and his wife, Mary King," in spite of the fact that her activities rated six times the space of his. This kind of discrimination should rate the media a sPAN-King.

Dead Pans

12 Port Isabel-South Padre Press, Thursday, January 29, 1976



TAKING ADVANTAGE OF A SUNNY DAY on South Padre Island is Julie Bjerre from South Padre Island. The Island offers visitors or residents sun, surf, beach combing and sun bathing, with its sub-tropical conditions.



BEING ONE OF THE SUNNIEST AREAS in the United States attracts bright smiles from girls like Eloisa Martinez of San Benito to the South Padre Island Beach. (Staff Photo)

Submitted by
Ida Morris
Laguna Vista, Texas

THE BROWNSVILLE HERALD—Wednesday, March 5, 1975—PAGE 5A



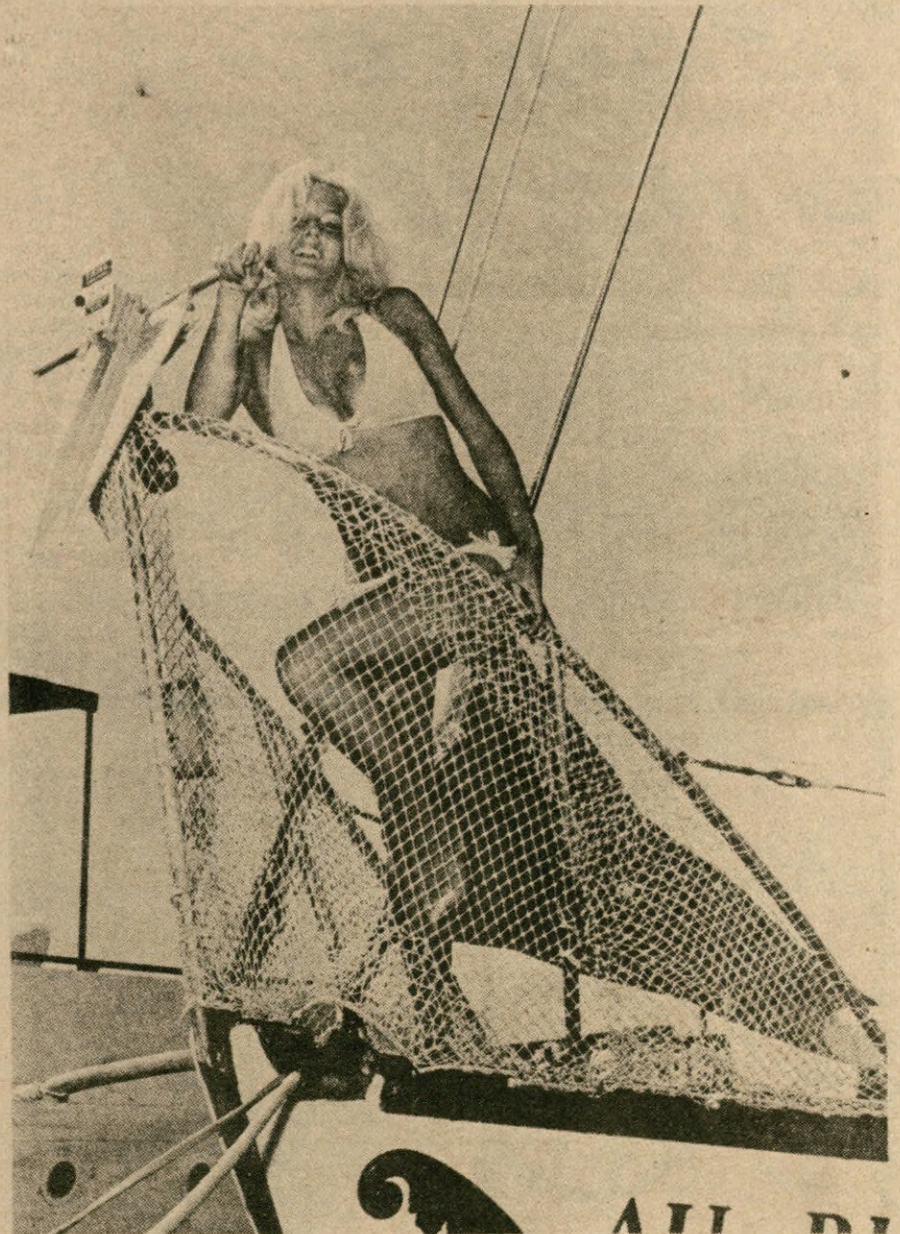
PAGE 8D—THE BROWNSVILLE HERALD—Sunday, April 27, 1975

WHILE MANY NORTHERNERS are suffering through a cold, rainy spring, they can envy Jill Jones whose graceful curves decorate a pool on a warm day in Nassau, Bahamas.



EDA TELAC causes head turning among young and old men alike on Australian beaches. Young ones check her out for the more than obvious reason, and old ones take a second look because of Eda's resemblance to yesteryear's screen queen Rita Hayworth.

8 Port Isabel-South Padre Press, Thursday, October 23, 1975



PRETTY PAM THOMASSON COULD SERVE as a bow ornament on just about any boat she comes across in the Laguna Madre area. Pretty girls are just one of the many sights to be seen around the beaches of South Padre Island.



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Janis Pool, right, holds strategy meeting with campaign workers.

Pool heckles Eckels chances

By Ellen Munger
and Marjory Barnhart

Janis Pool wants to see Harris County be responsible for itself. That's why she is the Democratic Party nominee for Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 3.

Home rule is needed, even if it takes special legislation for Harris County. The present system of county government in Texas was originally designed for rural communities and small populations.

"Changes must take place constitutionally," Pool states. But the cry for change will only be heard in Austin when the elected official's cry is as loud as his/her constituents'. She must be willing to assume the needed responsibilities of progressive county government such as ordinance-making powers."

Right now the county commissioner has no ordinance-making or enforcement powers. Allocating funds is the prime

function of the commissioners at present yet most of the planning in Harris County is done by the City of Houston. Pool wants to see more planning done by the county "that's not done by mortgage bankers." (This will be difficult since the county planning budget was cut from \$25,000 to \$12,500.) But the credibility of its spending policies is only one area that Pool addresses.

A commissioner approves subdivision drainage systems, and the flood control district would be Pool's most important area of concern. She cites an example of 100 houses draining into a single ditch. "We can't wait until somebody important enough has his home float away."

Another main focus of Pool's campaign is the West Belt, which does not look as if it will ever be built. Pool talked with homeowners in the fast-growing area who feel that a four-lane road, and not a 14-lane highway, should be built. They don't want to wait until the time it takes two hours to get downtown. She feels that the future of Houston depends on solving county problems NOW.

Her persistence in attending every session of commissioner's court, where Pool feels she has observed the lack of a true forum for the public, is one of the qualities which has won the endorsement of the Harris County Women's Political Caucus and its state organization in Austin. The local caucus voted to canvass voters on a one-to-one basis in the SW Houston area (one of five areas in Precinct 3). They hope to acquaint voters with Pool and her issues.

Pool is finding widespread support from the woman voter, and her quick wit and intelligent approach to issues has won her the support of Republicans and independents as well as her own party. She vows that she will be readily available to the people, giving credence to her main campaign slogan "She listens."

Listening to voters complain about "the rocks in their shoes" is a unique feature of this grassroots candidate. Since March, Pool has conducted a series of workshops to find out the needs of Harris County residents who, if she is elected, will be her constituents. Many of them want to see a citizens' task force begin a comprehensive reassessment of county criminal justice functions. And Pool would like to see them have access to a telephone hot line for obtaining basic information about county services and for centralizing citizens' complaints.

Pool first considered running for the office during a family conference at the dinner table with her husband Scott and their children Smiley, 10, Paige, 15, and Tricia, 17.

Janis' mother Pat Orr helps with the organization of the home, giving Pool more time to spend in her civic involvements. that they are supporting me because I was the only one who had the nerve to file," Pool says. She says she's through paying homage to bad government which she feels is like "feeding the alligator and hoping it'll eat you last."

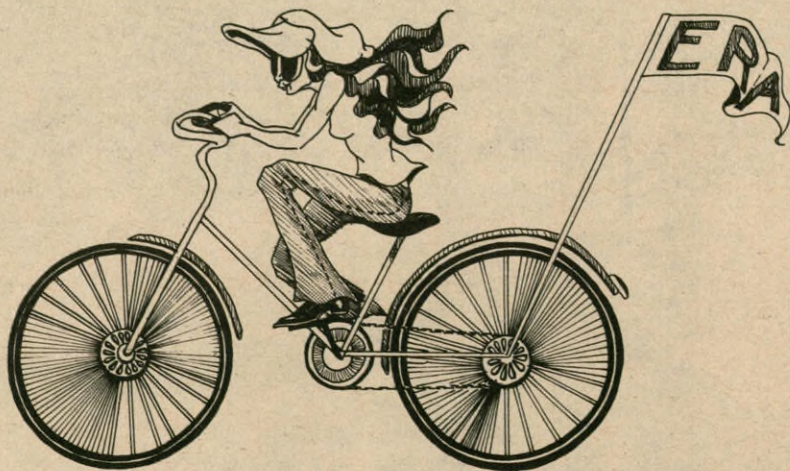
"It gripes me that people should fear my opponent, Bob Eckels. I find it very frightening that fear prevails among the public. No one should be afraid to express his or her views of county actions to an elected official. People act as though the world had conceded Precinct 3 to Bob Eckels. Well, no one should have that much power and go unchallenged."

Pool has long been involved in civic and church organizations pouring her energies into fields ranging from drug abuse to community action.

In announcing her candidacy, Pool, a native Houstonian, explained, "I have filed for office because I am free to care. I office for any personal gain. I simply want to see that every resident receives the basic county services to which s/he is entitled and for which s/he has paid."



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DANIEL BOONE CYCLES

5318 Crawford

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JOY BOONE and SARAH PIPAS
Women who know bicycles

OLYMPICS continued from page 1

Boglioli, Jill Strekel and Shirley Babashoff set a world record, and Lu Ann Ryan took a gold in Archery.

The gold medal U.S. Equestrian team also had a woman, Mary Anne Tauskey. The U.S. Gymnastics team finished sixth overall and sent only one member to the all-around finals.

In the field events, the only U.S. medal-winners were high-schooler Kathy McMillan with a silver in the Long Jump and "Kate the Great" Schmidt with a repeat bronze medal in the Javelin. The U.S. women's crew rowing in their first international competition, took a silver, as did the U.S. women's Basketball team, Joan Lind in the single sculls, and Margaret Murdock in the three position small bore rifle competition.

To understand what happened to the United States women's Olympic team to make this year one of their worst ever, consider three factors.

First is the attitude toward women athletes that prevails in the U.S. That subject has been covered thoroughly by the feminist press recently. Until American girls and women are given the same physical education and athletic opportunities as boys and men, the United States will never again have a competitive women's team.

In East European countries such as East Germany and the Soviet Union, female athletes already get the same training and coaching as men. Asked by Jim McKay why U.S. women swimmers were not going better, ABC commentator Donna DeVerona

suggested women may perform better in the future because of the new Title IX anti-discrimination rules.

If a budding athlete survives the apathy and/or hostility of the educational system and prove herself to be of Olympic caliber, she must confront the second factor limiting Olympic success, the governing bodies of athletics in the United States, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the Amateur Athletic Union and the American Olympic Committee.

Chauvinism again prevails, and the prospective Olympian soon finds herself a second class citizen. She does not receive equal training, coaching, facilities, nor anything else.

The men's teams train under atmospheric conditions similar to those under which they will compete (as happened in the 1968 Olympics where the men trained in Oregon while the women trained in New England). The men's teams travel to Europe for pre-Olympic meets so that they can measure their performance against their future competitors. The women, if they are lucky, compete against their teammates.

The list of inequities is long. But there are some things that an Olympian may be sure of when she places herself in the hands of the governing body of Olympic sports. She is chaperoned. She has to take a "sex test." She receives the second best coaches (the best go to the men), and she is not allowed to speak freely about the conditions under which she labors. Anne Henning, outspoken U.S. women's speed skating coach, was severely censored last winter for such a "lapse."

The third factor in the success or failure of the U.S. women's teams is the media. They are responsible for bringing the Olympics to millions, and their attitudes strongly influence perceptions of the games.

Their treatment of the women's teams has been uniformly poor. Before the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City, the U.S. media kept two entirely separate sets of scores for the Olympics, the men's and the women's. The reason was that a combined score, with the extremely strong Soviet women's teams, would

have shown the U.S. not as strong as the media pretended. The U.S. men traditionally dominated their events, but including the women's scores would make the communist countries look stronger.

In 1968, this changed as the communist countries began to field stronger men's teams. Suddenly the U.S. men needed the medal production of the women to keep them in first place. The "sex test" was also introduced in 1968.

The Soviets caught on to single scoring first and immediately elevated their women's programs. As a result they "won" the 1972 Munich Olympics. East Germany, Romania and others jumped on the bandwagon, and the results were evident in Montreal.

Even though the women's medals were needed for an American victory, the U.S. media continued to treat the women's team as an afterthought. Invariably, pre-Olympic meets for men received extensive coverage while the women's pre-Olympic meet results were relegated to the back pages in tiny print.

And when women were mentioned, *Sports Illustrated* writers and ABC commentators assured the world that U.S. women would perform better than ever. The truth was that they were, if anything, weaker than ever.

U.S. record holders like Shirley Babashoff, Jan Merrill, Francie LaRue, Debra Sapenter and Jane Fredrichs became, in the eyes of the media, potential gold medal winners. Although these were American record holders, theirs were below the World records--sometimes way below. In fairness, the media hyped the men's track and field team, too.

Since the great things expected of them failed to occur, ABC soon began devoting less and less time to covering the women.

Legislation alone will not cure the problems faced by American women athletes. Laws will not change the attitudes of the U.S. Olympic Committee or the media. Help is not on the way. Woman's fight for equality in athletics has just begun.



The Houston Women's Health Collective is compiling a referral service. Our goal is to know which doctors women are going to and what quality of medical care women are receiving. We are particularly interested in OB/Gyn doctors, but also are taking information on GP's, dentists and any doctors who are outstanding--good or bad. Our files are open to anyone who is looking for a doctor.

Every woman has had a bad experience with a doctor. We are interested in your horror stories but we are particularly interested in locating good doc-

tors so that we can help every woman find a doctor to whom she can relate.

In addition to our doctor survey, we have information on low-cost clinic health care in Houston. We ask every woman who reads *Breakthrough* to participate in our referral service. Make copies of our questionnaire for your friends to fill out. We want doctor referrals from every woman we can reach.

Please mail completed questionnaires to:
Houston Breakthrough, Doctor Files, P.O. Box 88072, Houston 77004.

DOCTOR SURVEY

Name of Doctor _____

Office Address _____

Type of Doctor: OB/Gyn _____ GP _____ other _____

Fee for the first visit _____ Date of most recent visit _____

Why did you consult a doctor? Routine pap smear _____ Vaginal infection _____ Birth control _____ other _____

Did doctor take a thorough medical history from you? _____

Did doctor do a pap smear? _____ If not, why not? _____

Did doctor advise you to have a pap smear done every year? _____

Did doctor explain everything she or he did to you, answering all your questions to your satisfaction? _____

Did you feel comfortable discussing your symptoms with this doctor? _____

Did doctor encourage you by her or his attitude and words to learn more about your body and the health problem for which you sought the doctor's advice? _____

If doctor prescribed any drugs for you, did she or he identify and describe the drugs to your satisfaction? _____

Did doctor fitting a diaphragm show you how to insert it properly and check to see that it is in place to your satisfaction? _____

Did doctor inserting an IUD discuss its risks with you? _____

Did doctor prescribing the Pill discuss known harmful side effects and risks with you? _____

Did doctor do a breast exam? _____ Did she or he show you how to examine your own breasts for lumps and advise you to do it monthly? _____

Did doctor discuss nutrition or exercise at all in relation to your health problem? _____

Will this doctor administer birth control to any woman who asks for it? yes _____ no _____ married women only _____ adult women (over 18) only _____ don't know _____

Does this doctor take medicare and medicaid patients? yes just medicare _____ just medicaid _____ neither _____

Did you feel comfortable discussing your symptoms with this doctor? _____

Did doctor say or do anything sexually offensive to you? If so, please elaborate _____

Do you plan to return to this doctor? _____

Do you recommend that other women seek the advice of this doctor? _____ Why or why not? _____

We welcome all of your comments. Please attach additional paper.

Thank you for your part in helping Houston women get better health care. Mail your completed questionnaire to: Houston Breakthrough, Doctor Files, P.O. Box 88072, Houston, 77004.

STONES continued from page 1

had passed by the billboard every time she drove down the Strip. It disturbed her and one day, on the way to a concert, she saw the words "This is a Crime Against Women" in bold red letters.

"Although I was late for my date, I turned around and got the photo. Good thing, too," Malarek said, "because the sign was gone by 6:00 the next morning. Atlantic works fast."

But the ad image continues to be used to promote the album and record stores in the Houston area are still carrying the album, although many admit "sales are going down."

Also, locally, the Houston Organization Against Sexism in the Media, formed as a direct result of the Rolling Stones' "Black and Blue" album and its promotional campaign. They are supporting a national boycott of the album and all the Atlantic and Warner Communication, Inc. products, including Electra, Non Such and Warner Brothers Records and Wonder Woman Comics.

The Houston OASM said in a release that they are currently involved in a massive phone-calling and letter-writing petition and in a general educational campaign on sexism in the media and on the "Black and Blue" album in particular.

Beth Avocado-Blossom, one of the Houston OASM coordinators, said one of their most successful campaigns was the harassment of local Atlantic Records distributor, John Dunaway, who told her and *Breakthrough* that he was no longer with the company and to "please leave me alone. You're driving me crazy."

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Portia's Law

Discrimination against women by the insurance industry in coverage, availability, underwriting practices and rating is as pervasive as is discrimination against women in employment. The form and extent of discrimination varies from one kind of insurance to another, with perhaps the worst record in the area of health and disability insurance. Several well documented government reports show that on the whole, the insurance industry has both neglected women as prospective clients and dealt with them less favorably than with men.

A great deal needs to be done to remedy these forms of discrimination by the insurance industry. Because private insurance activity is not considered to be tied closely enough to the state to fall under the "State action" requirement of the ERA, those states passing such an amendment would still not be able to use it to eliminate sex discrimination in insurance. However, it should be recognized that the practices of insurance companies (e.g., whom they will insure, premium rates, cancellations of insurances) are largely unregulated today. Therefore, in order to reach the present sex discriminatory practices in the insurance industry, a federal statute or a series of state statutes must be enacted specifically to regulate the industry.

Some states have passed, and numerous others, including Texas, are considering legislation to prohibit sex discrimination in underwriting and availability. The Texas State Board of Insurance has proposed a series of Rules relating to unfair discrimination practices based on sex or marital status in insurance policies, and are inviting inter-

By Patti O'Kane

ested persons to submit written comments on the proposals to Doug Barnert, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, State Board of Insurance, 111 San Jacinto, Austin, Texas 78786, before the Board's September hearing. Also, anyone who wishes to testify in person at that meeting can do so by contacting Mr. Barnert.

The following is a list of the proposed Rules, Sections 059.21.21.104-059.21.21.108:

Oral contraceptives would be covered.

104. UNDERWRITING

Availability of any policy may not be denied to an insured or prospective insured on the basis of sex or marital status of the insured or prospective insured. Specific practices prohibited by this rule shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(A) No insurer may deny coverage to females gainfully employed at home, employed part-time or employed by relatives when that coverage is offered to males similarly employed.

(C) No insurer may exclude from prescription drug benefits oral contraceptives when all other prescription drugs are covered.

(D) No insurer may deny, under group policies, coverage to eligible husbands of female employees, when dependent coverage is available to eligible wives of male employees.

(E) No insurer may deny disability income policies to women employed in high risk

classifications when coverage is offered to men similarly employed.

(F) No insurer may deny maternity benefits to insureds or prospective insureds purchasing an individual policy when comparable family coverage policies offer maternity benefits.

1105. POLICY TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The amount of benefits payable, or any term condition or type of coverage may not be restricted, modified, excluded, or reduced on the basis of the sex or marital status of the insured or prospective insured. Specific practices prohibited by this regulation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(A) No policy may treat complications of pregnancy differently than any other illness or sickness under the policy. For the purpose of this rule, complications of pregnancy shall be defined as pregnancy complicated by concurrent disease or abnormal conditions significantly affecting usual medical management, such as, but not limited to extra uterine pregnancy, severe toxemic disorders, severe puerperal sepsis, severe hemorrhage, or any complication of pregnancy requiring delivery by caesarean section.

(B) No policy may restrict, reduce, modify, or exclude benefits based solely upon the genital organs of one sex.

(C) No policy may apply arbitrary waiting periods to maternity benefits in such a way as to exclude coverage for premature births when normal maternity benefits are included in the policy. Medical evidence of the prematurity of the baby may reasonably be required.

(D) No disability policy may offer lower maximum monthly benefits to women than to men who are in the same risk classifications.

(E) No disability policy may offer more restrictive basic benefit periods and more restrictive definitions of disability to women than to men. Normal pregnancy is not considered to be a disability.

(F) No policy may establish different conditions by sex under which the policyholder may exercise benefits options contained in the policy.

(G) No insurer may limit the scope and/or amount of coverage an insured or prospective insured may purchase based on the insured's or prospective insured's marital status.

1106. RATES

Any rate, rating plan, or rating classification filed by an insurer which includes a differentiation on the basis of sex or marital status must be justified in writing by the insurer to the satisfaction of the Board. All rates shall be based upon sound actuarial principles, a valid classification system, and must be related to the actual and proven loss statistics.

1107. CONVERSION

A person covered under a group plan as a dependent shall be considered to be a member of the group. If a dependent spouse loses group coverage due to a change in marital status, the dependent spouse shall be considered to have been a member

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\$12.50 per week Partial Disability

Pays

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10 Days \$2.00

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5613.

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of the group and therefore be eligible for continued coverage under the group conversion plan.

1108. CONTINUANCE OF COVERAGE

In individual policies, if a person loses coverage due to change in marital status, that person shall be issued a policy of equal terms having the same effective date as the policy under which coverage was afforded prior to the change in marital status.

Normal pregnancy should be considered a disability.

The regulations will apply to individual and group policies issued or issued for delivery in this state and administered by all types of insurance companies. They address themselves to an area long neglected in insurance, and certainly make a good start at equalizing insurance practices; but they don't go far enough. In employment rights litigation, courts in all the states are prohibiting the exclusion of pregnancy and maternity related disabilities from disability income and sick leave plans. The Texas regulations should likewise prohibit the exclusion of the entire medical costs of pregnancy, childbirth, abortion and sterilization, and not just complications due to pregnancy, from standard single person health policies and require that those risks be spread over the insured population of the state as a whole. Likewise, the final rules should consider pregnancy as a disability so that it will be covered under disability plans. There is no reason to distinguish between pregnancy and other temporary disabilities, and certainly no reason to distinguish between

pregnancy and "normal pregnancy." (Reg.105E)

While it is important that insurance companies be required to justify their rating systems when they charge different premiums on the basis of sex, there are difficulties with a regulation that allows companies to make such a justification on the basis of "sound actuarial principles" or "a valid classification system." Although the insurance industry would have consumers believe that the sex division in the actuarial tables is a logical and precise way of calculating premiums and payments, those who have carefully studied the tables say that the insurance classification system is nothing more than "sex discrimination on sex discrimination."

Constitutional litigation has not yet yielded any final decisions on the merits of the sex based rating question. A number of states have enacted laws which prohibit discrimination in coverage and underwriting policies, however, and persons sending comments on the Texas Rules might propose that the Board look more closely at the sex based tables to ensure that not only will unfair practices in insurance relating to sex discrimination be declared illegal in the State of Texas, but also that the "statistics" used to buttress these procedures will no longer be accepted as "sound actuarial principles."

Just as Blacks lobbied in the early part of this century to eliminate race based actuarial tables, so too must women work for the elimination of these more subtle forms of insurance discrimination, as well as the more blatant examples that are still practiced by the insurance industry in Texas today.

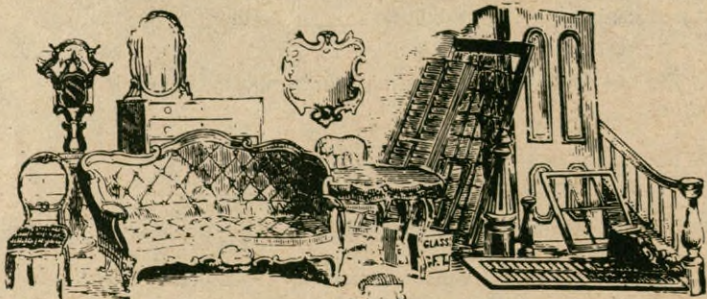


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Arts and Reviews



Marilyn Jones

Hair Becomes Handles



Peggy Moore, Houston Potter

Work expresses inner growth

By Beverly Hebert

Peggy Moore is a Houston artist whose creations speak expressively to women.

Her pottery, reflections of her own growth as an artist, communicates energy, liberation and ultimately—peace.

"Women have gotten much more excited over my work than men. I think that says something. My women figures are liberating—they have strength and energy of force. I've seen women's faces—excited, they would turn to their husbands or grab them and say 'Look at that!' And the husbands would be sort of dead pan, and then the women would get quiet.

"Men who do turn on are generally sensitive and compassionate. I think women see themselves in these figures with the same capacity for peace and energy."

Has her art been influenced by the women's movement, by other people's awareness of women's problems and strivings?

"My involvement has been very non-intellectual. I've been influenced, not only by women, but by friends in our lives who have struggled to free themselves. That kind of person is stimulating to me."

As for her own struggle, the age-old dilemma of woman being wife and mother, and maintaining her identity, she relates:

"I knew I didn't want to get married until I had found out what I really wanted to do." She also decided to have a child after reaching "a certain level of competence and security with my art...I knew I could pick it up again. Pottery is very time-

consuming and immediate; the clay, once it has dried, can no longer be molded. You have to constantly work within its limits and demands. It's a real test of nerves and endurance to finish working on two or three important pots, when family responsibilities hover all around you. I'm fortunate because Barry, my husband, has always been very supportive."

Looking thoughtful, she continued. "There is the recurring guilt that as a mother you're not spending enough time with your child. I have to deal with this issue more than any other. I block out one or two activities we share a day, added to general errands where we go together. Then the rest of the time I let her clearly know she is on her own. There was a long, difficult period when this was painful to us both. Now, at age five, she accepts this time apart; sometimes she even comes into the studio and makes her own creations."

"Did becoming a mother change you?"

"Tremendously, more than anything else. I never felt so much a part of the human race before. It filled a gap and my work really changed after Clara was born. Some days it is the most freeing feeling in the world to leave my pots and to take her to the zoo. If a day comes when I've planned to work but Clara gets sick and can't go to school, rather than getting angry, I let go of everything, concentrate on just taking care of her, and end up loving the day.

"There is a freedom in concentration, as all one's energies can go into the work and not be

consumed by preoccupations about what one ought to be doing. I give myself whole to what I'm doing at the moment. I strive for harmony, clarity, yet flexibility to be open to moments which offer themselves, to avoid rigid routine or obsessive action. I am really aware that each day of my life is different from any other day."

"How did you find your medium of expression?"

"I always had an interest in art and knew I had talent, but in college I majored in English. When I got out of school, I took a job at an art gallery and a night school course in pottery at the Museum of Fine Arts. I had already studied photography, a little sculpture, painting. My

"A book, a dance or a piece of music or a relationship will move me so, I want to express this feeling in clay."

father thought I'd never stay with anything.

"I just went nuts over the pottery. I was devouring it. I loved it so much."

For several years she made utilitarian mugs, goblets, planters and bowls, but finally moved from keeping stock inventory into developing a unique art form.

Behind her, on a shelf, panthers follow peacocks in a circular chase, a snake coils around the handle of a teapot, and women dance in the most unique pot of all, their long legs flowing over into a pattern on the side of the bowl, their hair making winged handles.

Occasionally she does variations on a theme, but she never duplicates a pot. Buyers do request exact replicas, but it is impossible to produce them because a potter cannot repeat the same shape on the wheel or the identical lines and glazes.

"There are pots that cannot be improved upon. The butterfly, animal, or human figure flow out of the pot itself. On a single pot I might add an abstract design, or a drawing, or a bas relief sculpture, or I might elaborate with coils or slabs or carving. Those are ways to work with the pot in its wet stage. After it's bisque fired, I may spend hours hand painting them for the final glaze firing."

Moore's work has its beginning when she clearly sees a mind image which she later executes. Describing how this happens she says:

"Creativity flows like an automatic reflex. A book, a dance or a piece of music or a relationship will move me so, I want to express this feeling in clay. Having worked years on the techniques, now I am free, confident enough to make these images real. I don't have to think about throwing, centering, tooling. It's so exhilarating because I get this idea and I can get it out—no stumbling—go at it quickly. I get high!

"Sometimes when I'm doing yoga, I'll see a design. There are days I go in the studio and I know it's going to be good, but not always. Generally, the best things come when I've been out in the studio working for two or three hours. What I do in the studio is surprising to me. I mean literally, the moment I do

it I'm stunned!"

As she talks about creative inspiration, it becomes apparent that ideas which seem at first to leap spontaneously into her mind, actually have a prior conception in a total way of being that stems from a deep openness to nature and to people. That openness extends outside her own work and family. There are times when she purposefully removes herself from home.

"I leave my little nook and go on a trip by myself, or out to the country, or I visit someone who really means a lot to me—and it's this very thing society tells you not to do, but I come back a more creative wife and mother too. If you have this feeling of freedom and self-control and awareness, you can express it in anything you do." (Moore's work can be seen at the Du Bose Gallery, 2950 Kirby.)

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Women writers' works explored

By Barbara Huetz

"I remember a day in the early 60's, sitting in a Buffalo (N.Y.) beauty parlor getting my hair frosted, reading *The Feminine Mystique* and thinking, when half of the color was stripped off my hair, 'My God, whatever am I doing to myself.' Not only that—I was already pregnant with my second child.

"It's a funny story," relates Dr. Julia Mazow today, "but it's also very sad. I don't mean to imply that at that exact moment I saw the light and everything came crystal clear because it didn't."

From that time, however, Mazow has been interested in women's issues, literature, history and psychology. She was very grateful when the women's movement came along, because it legitimized feelings she was having about herself as a woman.

"I felt I wasn't totally crazy," she recalls, "or at least if I was, so were a lot of other people."

"I remember my junior year at college, experiencing a great sense of panic at what I would be doing after graduation. I felt there were few options open to me," says Dr. Mazow, an instructor in the English Department at

the University of Houston, and who also conducts courses on women writers at the Jewish Community Center (JCC). She is very candid about recalling her lack of self-confidence during this period.

"It wasn't until graduate school," she says, "that I even opened my mouth in class. When I did, I would come away with a headache, thinking I talked too much, as if I knew only a finite amount that I'd better not use up."

Her third and youngest child was three-years-old when Mazow completed her disserta-

tion, received a one-year terminal contract at the U of H and contacted the JCC with a course proposal on women writers.

The JCC told her they had had a woman instructor for a literature course but that no one had signed up for it. So women who really wanted to join her course got on the phone and called people.

And last summer Mazow conducted her first class there, consisting of 15 women.

"I can see certain women, who have been in the course over the last year, progress in terms of expressing themselves

better or just taking chances with their ideas," relates Mazow. "I'll throw out a question and someone will stab at an answer, then quickly ask if that was what I wanted, when, in fact, I don't have an answer in mind. There is no one answer. Any reaction or interpretation is valid as long as it is logically supported."

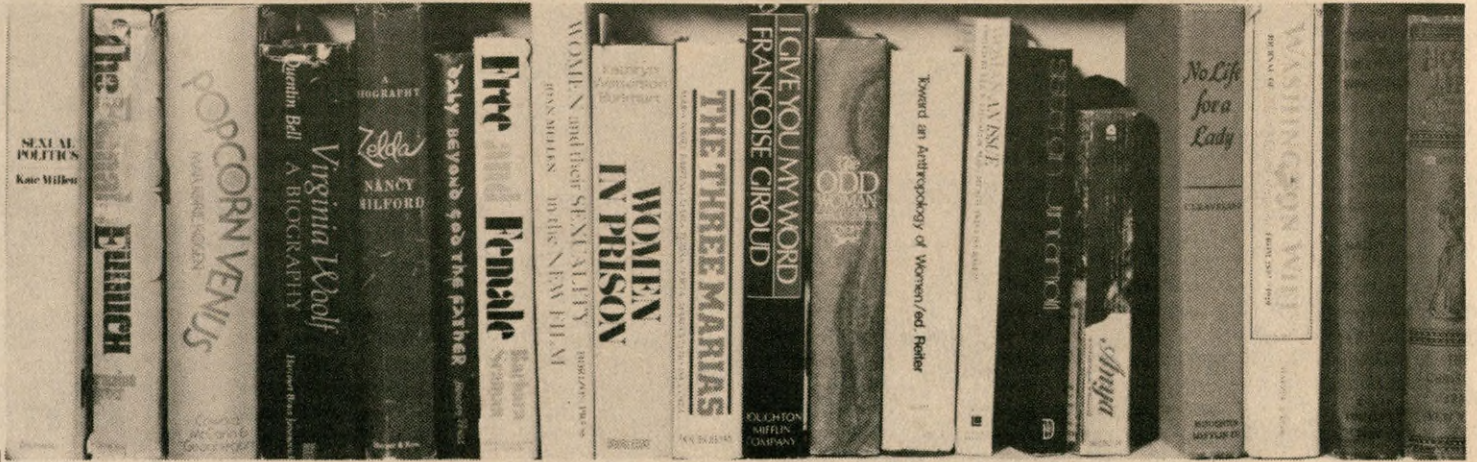
Students of Mazow feel that she succeeds at provoking them to think and at providing a creative verbal interchange of ideas.

"She inspires you to use your mind on an intellectual level," says student Michele

Owen, "which is very important for those of us whose communication is mainly with our children. I learned to appreciate a book as a book—for its character development and writing style, for example—without the influence of my prejudices about the subject matter."

And another student, Linda Held, adds, "One of the themes that I found pertinent throughout the books selected was the transition from the dependent woman to the woman as totally independent of men in forming opinions of herself."

Mazow believes there is a lot of value to a lecture, but feels that any kind of education should be a radicalizing experience, something that changes you or your thinking. Not everybody agrees.



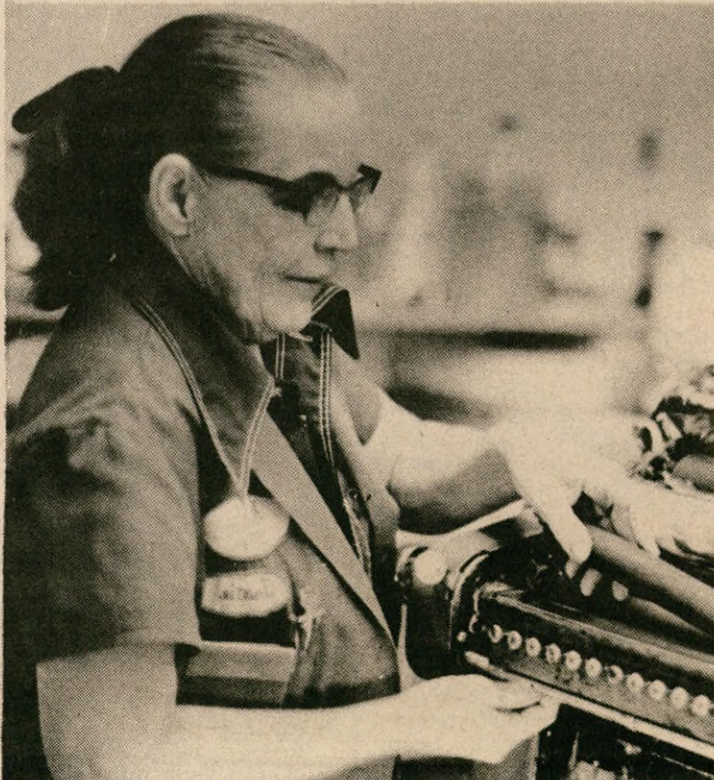
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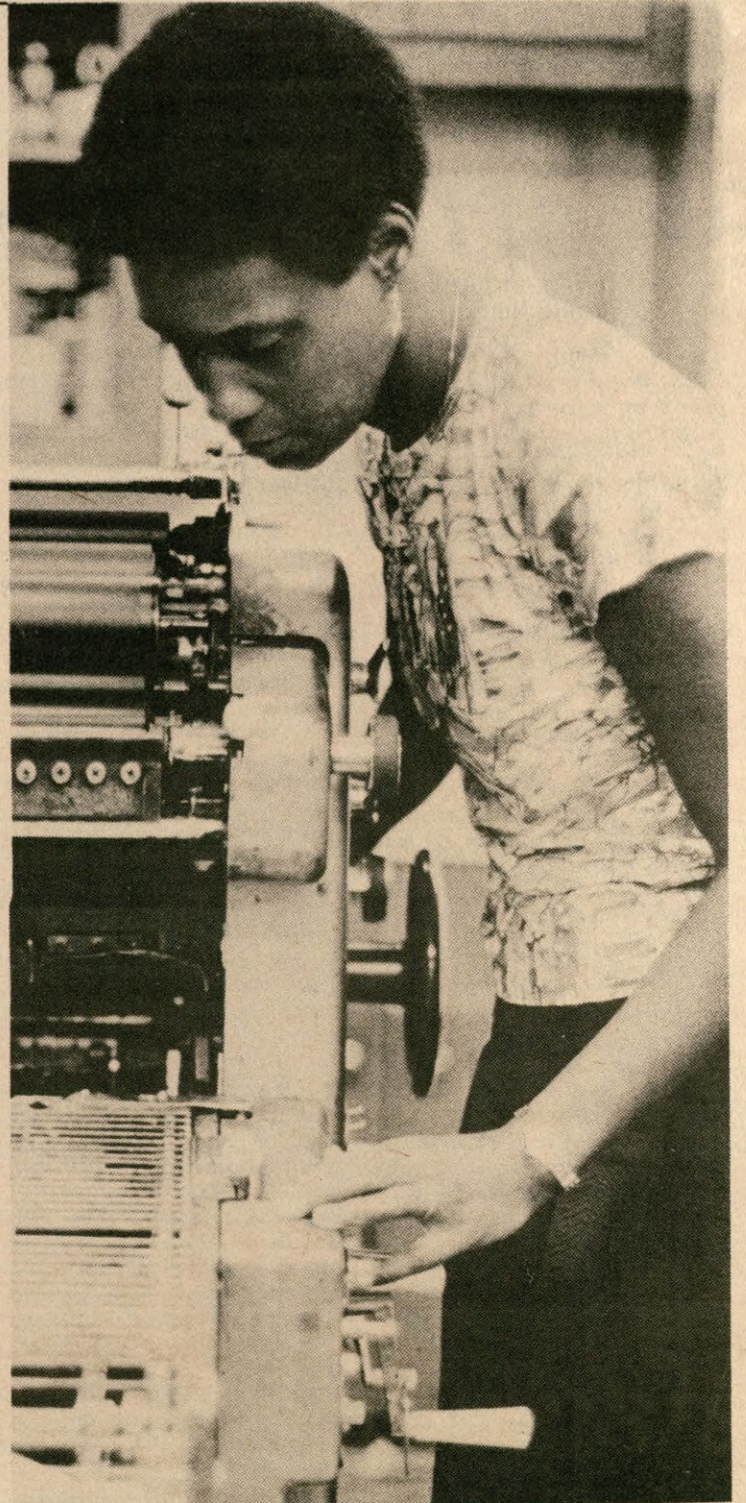
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"Some think of education as a receiving process. You buy a bill of goods, you write it down, you have it and it's yours forever. But it's not really yours in any way that is going to make a dent in your life."

And dents are made with books like Nikki Giovanni's *Gemini*, June Arnold's *Sister Gin* and Gail Godwin's *The Odd Woman*.

"I want books to be things that will jolt you into something—not necessarily anger or frustration—but something that will have an impact. I want them to make a difference on your life. And they must be good novelistically. We should be able to discuss style and be critical."

"The book that got the most negative response in class was *Gemini*, (printed in 1972) an autobiographical work by Nikki Giovanni, a Black writer. There is a lot in it about hatred towards whites and hatred towards Jews, as Jews. People were literally slapping their books on the table and asking, 'Why do we have to read this? What's the point?'"

"Well, it's interesting to see how people define themselves. That's how Giovanni defined herself at that particular time. I went through her poems chronologically and typed them up to present the class with some sense of a person who was moving, who was not the same as when she wrote the book."

And she adds, "This is what's been written. If you deny it, you end up reading Anne Morrow Lingbergh over and over again...and so what?"

Mazow, an avid reader, consciously chooses her class reading list in her belief that education should be an awakening experience. Diversity is very important to Mazow. Her fall reading list for her women writers course at the JCC includes 19th century works, such as *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley, Mary Ann Evans' (alias George Eliot) *Mill On The Floss* and *Cranford*—about a little village made up mainly of spinsters—by Elizabeth Gaskell.

"Ellen Moers, in her *Literary Women*, points out that women writers in the 19th-

and even 18th-century, were reading each other. For each major writer there are one or two minor women writers who influenced them. Mary Grunten, for example, who wrote a book called *Self Control*, had a great influence on Jane Austen.

"One of the things I'm finding out," says Mazow, "is that there are hundreds of books by women that haven't been read. The Feminist Press, for one, is picking up on many that are out of print or that were never printed."

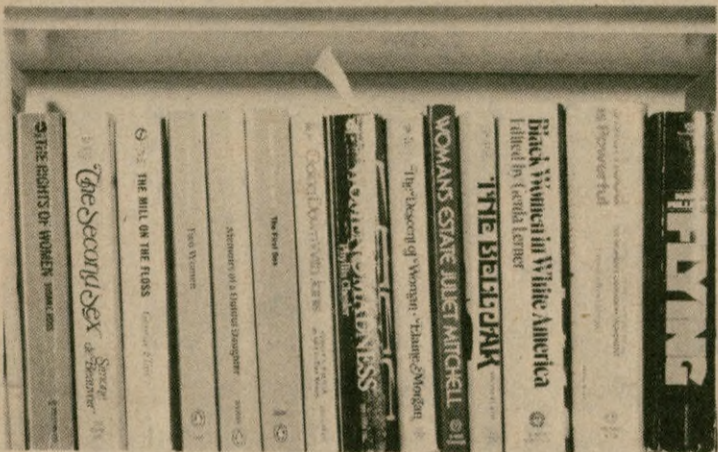
From the numbers of women attending classes like Mazow's on women's literature, it is apparent that women of today are combining their search for a sense of tradition with themselves as women.

their introspective search, to gain a more distinct view of

"Contemporary women writers have received negative criticism," says Mazow, "because some of their fiction has an autobiographical component—and so-called 'confessionalism' has a bad name."

"A lot of autobiographies are being re-discovered because they were not considered serious literature. I would like to teach a class of just women's autobiographies because I think one gets a strong sense of our struggle to create and express ourselves from these works."

"There is a tremendous tradition of women's literature—it's such a rich, rich field. As women, we owe it to ourselves to look at our own history as expressed through literature."



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Margo St. James, founder of COYOTE, second from left and participants at the First World Meeting of Prostitutes.

Meeting becomes "media event"

By Katherine Davenport

The First World Meeting of Prostitutes, held in Washington recently, was a media event which quickly drew more reporters than participants. The timing and location were perfect. The meeting hit the capital June 23-27, during a fairly slow news period. And after Wayne Hays-Elizabeth Ray had become the second recent "Congressional sex scandal," the press corps was hungry for stories about illicit sex.

The meeting was originally set for the Sheraton-Park but was moved to the Wellington Apartment Hotel in Georgetown at the last minute. Margo St. James, founder of COYOTE (Call Off Your Old Tired Ethics), said the Sheraton-Park cancelled because a group of judges had met there a week earlier.

The more pleasant but smaller Wellington was overwhelmed. "I can't take care of the regular guests for all this junk," a front desk employee was overheard saying.

Several excellent shorts and documentaries about women were shown. Most dealt with prostitution and women in prison. COYOTE's stated intention was to bring "to the general public a clearer picture of prostitution in America-providing information, real life situations, human sensitivity stories-that will lead all who see these films to the conclusion that prostitution in America should be decriminalized-that the present laws on prostitution are unjust, discriminatory and oppressive."

Among the more outstanding documentaries were *Woman To Woman*, an award winner about hookers, housewives and "other mothers," directed by Donna Deitch (rental: Donna Deitch, 17 Ironside, Venice, CA

90291); *Mustang: The House That Joe Built*, a portrait of the inner workings of a legal brothel in Nevada, directed by Robert Guralnick; and *Self-Health*, a film made by the San Francisco Health Center "which provides clear and enlightened instruction on methods of examination of one's body."

On Thursday evening a "Congressional Reception" was held at the Wellington. Senators and Representatives were invited to attend this combination cocktail party and press conference; few of them appeared, but the place was packed with the press and on-lookers.

The big day was Saturday which started with a "Luncheon with the Lewd and Loyal" given by Margo St. James. Guest speakers included Florynce Kennedy, Ti-Grace Atkinson, Fr. DePaul Genska and economist George W. Hilton. Margo and Flo played the "lewd," Ti-Grace, Fr. Genska and George the "loyal."

Atkinson, an early supporter of prostitutes in the movement, spoke first. "Identifying people by what they do is dangerous. The broader our movement, the more women we have in it with different experiences. Prostitution is the one institution that is connected, without question, to class and economics."

New York's welfare office recently revealed Atkinson's files to the press (reportedly for money) and the word rapidly spread around the world that she was on welfare.

"Welfare makes you think about prostitution, the state, etc.," she said. "There is no way to deal with prostitution without taking on the state. Prostitution rips away the veil of benevolence."

After this talk, St. James announced that COYOTE is starting a legal defense fund, the Virginia Woodhull Legal Defense Fund, named after Virginia

Woodhull, who ran for President in 1868. She then introduced George W. Hilton, Professor of Economics at UCLA, who delivered an address from his paper, "The Prohibition of Prostitution: An Economic Analysis."

The final speaker was Fr. DePaul Genska, a Franciscan priest who works New York streets from 1-7 a.m., talking with prostitutes and paying them for their time. He works with Scapegoat, an organization started by former prostitute and madam, Marie Maggu. One Scapegoat project is providing child care for prostitutes.

"I have been obliged to remain a whore since my arrest and official labeling in 1962."

The next event was billed as the Afternoon Caucus, a "discussion of a model law, de-criminalization, a Woman's Slate and resolutions to be taken to the Democratic and Republican conventions." The Oxford Universal Dictionary defines a caucus as a "private or preliminary meeting of members of a political party, to select candidates for office, or to concert measures for furthering party interests..." What actually happened was more like a confrontation/encounter group, perhaps the first of its kind. The group included prostitutes and vice squad representatives, feminists, porno stars, assorted radicals and, of course, the ever-present media.

The first person to address the group was Dr. Janus of the New York Medical Center. He and Dr. Bess, also present, recently released the results of their study detailing personal investments lawmakers have in

prostitution. According to their findings, 60% of politicians "habitually" patronize prostitutes. Dr. Janus defined a habitual "John" as one who uses the services of a prostitute once, twice or three times a week. Unfortunately the two doctors rushed away, so there wasn't much time for discussion.

St. James revealed that she had been a domestic servant for seven years, and that she had been radicalized by Florynce Kennedy.

"I have been obliged to remain a whore since my arrest and official labeling in 1962 (although I won an appeal the next year)," St. James wrote in an editorial in *Coyote Howls*. "As late as 1973, I had been refused other kinds of employment. I was fired from a volunteer fire lookout job in the National Park Service two days before I was to report for duty due to the publicity in California about my whorganizing...even though Sen. Jackson and the bureaucrats knew of my shady past beforehand. It's these kinds of experiences that radicalize people."

Awards were presented for Trick of the Year.

Two local vice squad officers introduced themselves, and two streetwalkers they'd brought along came to the front to answer questions. Hostility was building between the men and the women in the room, between the feminists and the officers. Some of the press were angry because they were asked not to photograph or tape people who were speaking.

"Nobody needs pimps," an officer commented.

"Nobody needs pigs," some women shouted. The officer looked genuinely hurt.

To conclude, St. James read Dr. Jennifer James' U.S. resolution passed at the Brussels Crimes Against Women Conference last March.

Three hours later the "Bicentennial Ball" got underway at Bixby's Warehouse on Connecticut Ave. Once again, the media dominated the scene. A show was put on for them which included a presentation of awards for Trick of the Year. The nominees were JFK ("posthumorlessly"), Howard Hughes, Jack Nicholson, Frank Sinatra and Rep. Wilbur Mills. The Winner-Jack Nicholson, "and all the boys in blue and men of the cloth engaged in equal enforcement dragnets."

For Pig of the Year, the nominees were Ed Davis, (Chief of Police, L.A.), *Hustler* magazine, the U.S. Supreme Court (for the Virginia decision that practically allows cops to peer into your home and arrest you if you are not in the missionary position), and Rep. Wayne Hays. And the Winner-Ed Davis.

For Pimp of the Year, the nominees were Joe Conforte (Nevada brothel owner), Hugh Hefner, Rev. Moon, and Werner Erhard. This award was given to all of the nominees until St. James gave in to the audience and awarded it to Rev. Moon.

For Hooker of the Year, the nominees were Jackie Onassis, Elizabeth Ray..."award for courage," Barbara Walters, Xaviera Hollander and Sally Stanford, an ex-madam elected Mayor of Sausalito. And the Winner was Barbara Walters.

The award for Closet Queen of the Year went to Pope Paul VI, and the Clap Award of the Year went to Margaret Housen "for winning the suit against the man who gave her VD, which rendered her sterile-mixed blessings."

A Sunrise Parade around the White House was scheduled for 5:30 a.m. Sunday. What happened there is anybody's guess.

To and from



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Announcements

AAUW is looking for nominees for our 2nd annual outstanding Women of the Year Awards. Four women from the greater Houston area will be selected and honored at a dinner in November. Anyone may submit the name of a woman who has contributed to society by her community or professional involvement. Send a brief letter to Edwina Milner, 12711 Memorial Drive (77024)

A Party! Houston WEAL Fundraiser to benefit "North Carolina ERA United," August 28, 8 p.m., at the home of Kay and Cliff Whyburn. The party will also honor National Woman's Day (August 26), the 56th anniversary of the suffrage amendment at 2234 Goldsmith.

Pageant of American Women will perform at 7:30 pm at The First Unitarian Church on August 26 in observance of National Woman's Day. Admission is free but donations are appreciated.

ERA Debate Round 2 (Pro side) will take place before the Westbury Civic Club on Sept. 10 at 7:30 p.m. Look for meeting place in next issue of *Breakthrough*.

Buttons & T-Shirts, etc.

"A Woman Without a Man is Like a Fish Without a Bicycle" buttons, 50cents plus 13 cents postage—46 other sayings plus t-shirts, feminist jewelry, etc. Send 13 cents for brochure to FERNE, P.O. Box 113 T.C.B., West Orange, New Jersey 07052

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



(backview)
Houston Breakthrough
(on front)

Courses/Schools

Enroll your child (ages 5-11) now at Pearl School, 528-6002. School hours 7:30 a.m.—10 p.m.

Register for fall classes at UH Sundry School, Sept 18-22. Courses on back-packing, women's self help, child abuse, feminist theater, how to teach children about sex, and a divorce seminar. Much more. Call 749-1253.

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Classified Ads

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.

Employment

Need a job? Contact Texas Employment Commission (527-0711). A majority of Houston's employers list their openings with TEC.

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 charge with the EEOC.

A "Women's Employment Forum", a series of monthly seminars for professionals who help women with their vocational decisions, begins Sept. 15. The purpose is to encourage a greater variety of career choices for women. Sponsored by the Vocational Guidance Service. Call 659-1800.

KTRK-TV needs Assistant to Community Relations Director; someone with fluent Spanish, clerical skills, 50 w.p.m. typing speed, 2-3 yrs. college experience or equivalent. Deadline Aug. 16. Contact Linda K. Brown, 666-0713.

KTRK-TV also has an opening for executive secretary to the General Manager. Contact Nancy K. Duke before Aug. 31 at 666-0713.

A "Women's Career Development Group" will assist women in examining vocational goals and choices. Group members career goals and feelings concerning the work world will be explored in a supportive group environment. Groups will be forming in October but call now for information and reservations. Tana Blair or Sharon Ziegler at the Vocational Guidance Service, 659-1800.

IRS seeking applicants for 33 tax assistant positions. Starting salary \$664 per month. Contact Philip Brand, 226-4138.

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FILMS

An evening of women's films and dance is planned for Friday, August 13 at 8 p.m., First Unitarian Church. See films by Jan Oxenburg—**Home Movie and Comedy in Six Unnatural Acts**. Ticket donations are \$2 advance and may be purchased from Abraxas, Just Marion & Lynn's, and University Boulevard Bookstore.

Free

United Farm Workers has a position paper on the Rodino "illegal alien" bill available from P.O. Box 15415, Houston 77020. Enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Be an informed ERA supporter. Send for a list of questions and answers on the subject to 1122 Gloucester. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Garage Sale

Breakthrough garage sale Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 11 & 12, from 9 a.m.—6 p.m. in Gertrude Barnstone's garage, 1401 Harold. Any and all donations welcome. Bring articles Thursday and Friday.

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.

Harris County Women's Political Caucus needs a photographer to take shots of meetings and members for development of public relations file. Call Olga Soliz at 524-5005, evenings.

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.

Pointblank Times, Houston's lesbian/feminist publication needs willing and committed writers-reporters, layout artists or patrons to help *PBT* continue being an important communication link to the Gay Women's Community. Drop a note to P.O. Box 14643, Houston 77021.

Political

A woman on the Court? A reality if you help Janis Pool, candidate for County Commissioner, Pct. 3. Call her home headquarters at 444-2129 and volunteer your time before the November election. Paid for by Janis O. Pool Campaign Fund, R.G. Pope, Treasurer.

Rent/Sale

Ground floor space available in *Breakthrough* house, 1708 Rosewood to compatible business or community groups. For details call 526-6686.

Workshops

September workshops of special interest to women at the Continuing Education Center, UH will be 1) Review for GRE/SAT (vocabulary enrichment, math refresher and study techniques); 2) Basic Real Estate Math, and 3) Women in Supervision: Listening/Confronting (part 1). Call Dr. Alice Whately, 749-4185 for more information.

The Police-Community Relations Institute is holding a conference on Aug. 23-26 at Texas A&M University. It is co-sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The theme of the conference is on victims of crime. Registration is \$125.

A "Creative Aloneness" seminar begins August 31 and continues for five consecutive Tuesday evenings at The First Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin. Counselors Mary Jane Hurlbert and Jan Burke hope to assist persons experiencing aloneness, by choice or by chance, deal better with it by breaking down the myths of togetherness and aloneness. Men and women, married or single, may sign up for the seminar by calling 527-0712 or by writing Burke or Hurlbert at 3303 Louisiana No. 211 G (77006).

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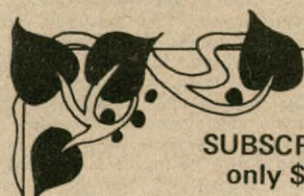
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