

# Zombies on the loose? Yes! See page 13

STAR NEWSPAPER CHAIN

# MONTROSE★STAR

The South's Free Weekly Gay Newspaper / Issue #138 / May 10, 1979

## Back to the White House, but this time reserved for "Third World" gay people

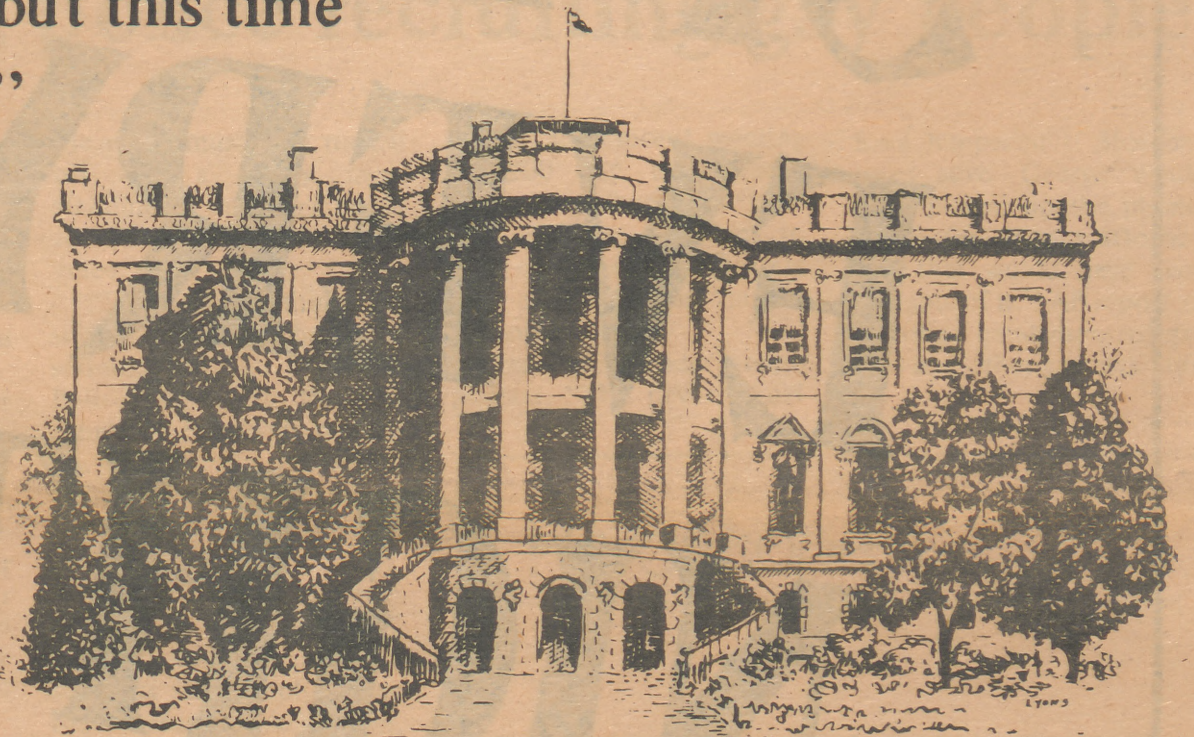
WASHINGTON — Representatives of racial minorities within the gay community have arranged for a meeting at the White House to air their concerns and priorities, reporter Don Michaels writes in the Washington-based gay newspaper, The Blade.

Jane Wales, Coordinator of the White House's Public Liaison Committee, has invited representatives of Latin, Asian, American Indian and black gay people to meet with her on Tuesday,

June 5, in her White House office, Michaels reports.

The meeting was set up as a result of a letter to Wales from the National Coalitions of Black Gays (NCBG), headquartered in Columbia, Md. NCBG co-coordinators Delores Berry and A. Billy S. Jones wrote to Wales Jan. 26 requesting that she provide NCBG with "an opportunity to discuss our concerns, organization, goals, philosophy and projects with you."

Wales responded, in a



## Federal gay rights bill now has 43 cosponsors

WASHINGTON — The 1979 Federal Gay Civil Rights Bill (H.R. 2074), introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives earlier this year by Reps. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) and Ted Weiss (D-N.Y.), has already garnered more cosponsors than any previous version of the bill, reports The Blade, the Washington gay newspaper.

The legislation, which has regularly been introduced in every session of the House since 1974, attracted a total of 43 sponsors by the time the "first batch" of cosponsors was filed in early April, according to Steve Endean, executive director of the Washington-based Gay Rights National Lobby.

Endean, who expects the total number of cosponsors to approach fifty when a

second group of sponsors is added to the bill shortly, said he is very pleased with the number of cosponsors of the 1979 bill.

"Our relative success has surprised a number of public interest lobbyists who didn't believe we would fare very well in this Congress. The 96th Congress is widely perceived, probably correctly, as being less receptive to progressive or controversial legislation than was its predecessor," Endean told Blade reporter Steve Martz.

One reason for Endean's satisfaction is that the 43 cosponsors of the bill — there were 39 last session — include thirteen new sponsors, seven of whom are serving their first terms in Congress.

"There was a point when

Feb. 26 letter, "I would be happy to meet with you ... as soon as is mutually convenient."

The June 5 date was recently agreed upon.

Events prompting NCBG's call for the meeting trace back to mid-December of last year, The Blade reports, when the White House called a conference on human rights but failed to include any representatives from the gay community. The National Gay Task Force immediately sent a letter to President Carter requesting that gay community representatives not be overlooked in any future human rights forums.

NCBG then followed with their letter requesting a meeting to acquaint Wales and the White House with the special concerns of Latin, Asian, American Indian and black gay people that they feel are not adequately represented by established gay groups such as the National Gay Task Force.

"We are not yet comfortable with NGTF or GRNL (Gay Rights National Lobby) acting as spokespersons for third world gays," Jones told reporter Michaels. "Their structures — which are geared toward the one-issue perspective of sexism against the gay community — do not reflect adequate concerns for third world gays," he added.

NCBG hopes that the meeting will serve to sensitize the White House to the issues concerning racial minorities within the gay community, who, Jones pointed out, are faced with oppression as homosexuals and as racial minorities, both within and without the gay community.

Although a formal agenda has not been finalized, Jones expressed the feeling that a promise should be exacted from Wales that a minority gay representative be included in any future White House conference on human rights. In addition, Jones feels the group should

seek White House endorsement for the Conference of Third World Gays to be held in Washington in mid-October, as well as for the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, to be held Oct. 14.

Jones told the Blade that he also hopes that the group's agenda will include a call for White House endorsement and support for the federal gay rights bill. (See related story.)

The group that will attend the White House meeting will be composed of a minimum of two Latin, two Asian, two American Indian and two black gay people.

There are about thirty gay organizations in the U.S. composed of minorities and NCBG is asking that each submit a list of items it feels should be included on the White House meeting agenda. A final agenda will then be drawn up and submitted to the White House, according to Jones.

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 4



# MIDNIGHT SPECIALS EVERY NIGHT

**MARY'S**

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## BarTalk

This is Bar Talk for the weekend of May 4-5-6, presented as a courtesy for Montrose Star advertisers.

Women, women, women. Let's talk about the gay girls first.

The business at Club L'Amour is booming — and not just on weekends. For example, the club has 25¢ drinks on Thursday nights and that's packing in the girls.

Ms. Take II, on the other hand, is a little quieter — on purpose. It's a great place to sneak away to take your honey or to perhaps meet a new one. Ms. Take II reports very good business over the past few months, and with summer here, it's getting even better. Velvet opens the club at 4:00 p.m. now, every day, even Sunday, and she says the outside patio is now open everyday too.

Naomi and Kaye's Our Place continues rolling along with a nightly fun crowd, especially on Thursdays when it's women only — no guys, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m., with Happy Hour (50¢ drinks) and entertainment by Shannon and Susan.

—o—

Now, on to the boys: Mary's has a midnight special each night. They'll not announce it until midnight, so you never know what it's going to be — but we guarantee it'll be a special worth your while. You know Mary's.

—o—

Dirty Sally's big first anniversary weekend is not this weekend, but next, May 12 and 13. There will be gads of prizes, something every hour, with the grand prize being a round trip for two (you and your date/lover/husband/whatever) to Las Vegas, which will include four days, three nights, air fare, lodging at the Flamingo Hotel, and all meals. And if that ain't enough, they're giving away TWO such trip packages. So if you don't win on the first drawing, hang around.

The Mustang Band will also be performing there (next weekend AND this weekend) along with Dirty Sally's Sunday Beer Bust, 3:00 and 9:00 p.m. And, by the way, Louis Garcia is back again at Dirty Sally's. He sure gets around!

—o—

This is the weekend for the Brazos River Bottom's

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 8

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## MONTROSE STAR

# Life goes on in San Francisco; White on trial, police recruiting gay people

SAN FRANCISCO — Ex-supervisor Dan White wept May 2 as San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein testified in a low voice that she heard shots in City Hall last Nov. 27 and knew he was involved.

White is on trial for the murders of Mayor George Moscone and gay Supervisor (councilman) Harvey Milk.

Ms. Feinstein, who became acting mayor after the slayings and was later elected to the office by the supervisors, told the jury she first thought White had taken his own life.

But when she heard more shots follow the first, she realized White could not have killed himself.

The defense concedes White shot the two men, but is attempting to show that White, who ran for the Board of Supervisors on a law-and-order (and anti-gay rights, many claim) campaign, suffered from mental illness and that the slayings were carried out in a moment of rage over what he believed was a political injustice to him.

White had resigned as a supervisor, but changed his mind and wanted to be reappointed by Moscone. But Moscone had told him he was going to name someone else.

The city's gay community appears now to have shaken off its grief but not its commitment to political activity, following the death of Milk, the first homosexual elected to the Board of Supervisors and the highest-ranking, openly-gay person in political office in the U.S. at the time.

At the Midnight Sun, a gay bar on Castro Street, the revelry stopped when

the disco music was turned off and a young man, standing on the stairs, began to speak in a loud, clear voice.

"Look. I know this might sound amusing, but I'm serious. The San Francisco Police Dept., for the first time ever, is actively recruiting officers who are homosexual. Please take one of the leaflets and give me a call," he said.

Outside the bar, two men unfurled a sign against a bank building across the street. It read simply: "Gay Rights March, Washington, D.C., Oct. 14, 1979."

They were two small gestures, but highly symbolic ones, for San Francisco's large and politically active gay community.

A consortium of gay rights groups now is working to fulfill a dream of Milk's — a massive march on Washington "to end all social, economic, legislative and judicial oppression" against gay people.

While the San Francisco Police Dept. actively seeks gay recruits, the Sheriff's Dept. announces it already has twelve openly gay deputies.

"We're quite satisfied with how the recruitment effort has gone," said Les Morgan, who is assisting the Civil Service Commission in the recruiting. He said 330 gay people have requested information.

But there are grumblings in the community, partly because Mayor Feinstein does not have the overwhelming popularity among gay people her late predecessor had.

Police Chief Charles Gain, who supports the gay recruiting drive, was heavily

booed at a recent meeting of 200 gay businessmen when he defended as "proper" pending civil suits to shut down six gay theaters and bookstores as "public nuisances."

One gay leader complained, "This never would

have happened if Moscone were alive. George would have picked up the phone, called the district attorney and that would have been the end of it," AP reported.

Police harassment of gay bars and other gay establish-

## Horoscope

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take advantage of this early-summer lull to complete big project. In other words, get out of the hammock and into the harness. There's work to be done! Work, work, work! On last day, you marvel at what your aching back hath wrought.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your sense of what is fair and right has been clouded by your desire to be a banner waver. Some causes are lost. Leave them to wander on their own. On last day, use your banner as a flag of truce and have tea with a former foe.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The seashore is covered with shells but few have any real treasure inside. Sift carefully. By weekend's end you find perfect "pearl" — a mate or an idea, whichever. "Don't cast pearls before the unappreciative." You enjoy it first.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Things around you are heavy, heavy, heavy. Somewhere in your spirit, there is a lodestone of sadness which attracts even more grief. Put it aside. Without the bitter, there would be no sweet ... and vice versa. On last day, you get some sugar.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You feel like you're being chased by three witches with a kettle. The stroll down easystreet should be sweet, sweetheart, not a mad journey from pillar to post. So glide, you'll arrive. On last day, witches turn into a partner for the ball ... and you have one!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Like a basket of cherrybombs, you are calm, cool and collected until lit. Then Pow ... to the moon — pretty, but cold and

lonely. On last day, keep fire extinguisher ready but allow self three "fizzles" and a bang!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Complications are about to be revealed. Relax. If everything were as simple as ABC, the world would be a big kindergarten. There is still time for a few games, however. On last day, you play hide 'n' seek and you're it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There is so much red tape around you that it looks like May Day in Moscow. Cut path through the middle with swift, sure strokes. Advice of expert is not helpful now. On final day, replace sword with bottle-opener and uncap a few.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Do a flip-flop. You're headed in the wrong direction, for sure. There's another road open that is better for you to travel. On last day you go to the discos and cupid winks. You capitulate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your problem is like an onion: layer after layer after layer. The tears are many but the peeling persists. On last day, you feel like a petunia in a you-know-what. Cheer up and keep peeling.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Steady does it. You're on course. Expect a smooth sailing this weekend as you ride the waves with ease. On last day, look for friendly port to fly a flag of welcome.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Head for the beach or the fields ... or the hills, if need be. Just go. Last day finds you "off on the road." Probably not to Morocco — but maybe Shreveport? Yes, there really is a Shreveport.



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## FEDERAL BILL FROM PAGE 1

I was afraid we were going to have fewer cosponsors than last year," Endean told Martz. "Six of last year's sponsors did not return to the House and a number of others were slow to come back on the bill. The large number of new sponsors has been gratifying."

Only two of the 43 cosponsors are from the South: Mickey Leland (D.-Texas), a freshman from Houston, and William Lehman (D.-Fla.), a veteran congressman cosponsoring the bill for the first time this year.

While this year's legislation does have a record number of cosponsors, its fate is not expected to be radically different from that of its predecessors. No version of the bill has ever been reported out of committee, nor have hearings ever been held on the legislation. That is not likely to change during this Congress, reporter Martz said.

One gain that is expected is that consultations — closed briefings for members of Congress and their aides — will probably be held by one of the two committees to which the bill has been jointly referred.

Endean believes this step is preferable to hearings at this point, because these briefings would be presented by proponents of the bill, while hearings would be open to opponents as well. Endean wants to avoid letting the Christian fundamentalist lobby take potshots at the legislation this year, an occurrence which could intimidate potential sponsors.

"Federal legislation is at least five-to-ten years down the road," Endean was quoted as saying. "I think we have a real chance to attain it, but we are going to have to take one step at a time."

Another advance expected this year is the introduction of a companion bill in the U.S. Senate. Although gay rights legislation has been repeatedly introduced in the House, a similar bill has never been formally introduced in the Senate.

Endean told the Blade that he expects that newly elected Senator Paul Tsongas (D.-Mass.), a cosponsor of the measure when he served in the House, will be the principal sponsor. Endean hopes the bill will attract three or four additional sponsors, including Senate Majority Whip Alan Cranston (D.-Calif.).

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**SAN FRANCISCO**  
FROM PAGE 3

ments has been practically non-existent for several years in San Francisco. In the past four months, however, a half-dozen bars have been closed by the state liquor board and now civil suits are threatening theaters and bookstores.

Harry Britt, a gay former minister appointed by Feinstein to complete the remaining year of Milk's term, said he discerns "an anti-gay backlash in San Francisco."

Britt said the statewide defeat last fall of Proposition Six, which would have required the firing of gay public school teachers had it passed, left some activists "feeling like we got it made. We don't. There is still anti-gay violence. Three people were stabbed two weeks ago near Castro. There still are politicians trying to buy us off."

"There is an awful lot of work to do," he said.

**Relatives force out lover**

NEW YORK — Although the two gay men lived together ten years, one is not entitled to keep the cooperative apartment they shared upon the other's death since the property is in the deceased's name only, Housing Judge Ferdinand Pellegrino ruled, according to a May 3 UPI story.

The judge ordered Stanley Saul to move out of the apartment of the late Philip Perl, whose relatives filed suit to recover the property.

UPI reported that Pellegrino rejected Saul's claim that he was a "family member," entitling him to buy the co-op stock.

**Here's blood test sked**

HOUSTON — The City of Houston's health clinic has announced the May schedule for free blood tests at gay clubs.

Friday, May 4: 2306 Baths, 10:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.

Thursday, May 10: Club Houston Baths, 9:30-11:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 20: The Locker, 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 24: Brazos River Bottom, 10:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

The city's health department also offers free and confidential testing for venereal disease daily at the City Health Clinic, 1115 N. MacGregor, phone 222-4201.

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# DONNA!

The Montrose Star reviews the new disco albums:

**BAD GIRLS** by DONNA SUMMER on Casablanca

The Empress of Disco has done it again ... with the help of famed producers Giorgio Moroder and Pete Bellote. Her new LP (the seventh) is all the more remarkable considering she has turned rockish in a couple of songs.

This double album package contains more explosive material than any other disco LP currently on the market. And, folks, it contains pictures of Donna's backup singers, the Brooklyn Dreams ... and Giorgio too.

Much of the material is danceable and she handles the slow stuff with sheer style and guts.

Side one has the already-played-to-the-ground cut, "Hot Stuff," followed by "Bad Girls" (the title cut), "Love Will Always Find You" and "Walk Away." The entire side blends together and delivers a message.

Side two begins with "Dim All the Lights." Donna starts here with a beautiful, slow-tempo song and builds it up — her voice having much character but lacking a little polish — and this shows just how far Donna can go with the proper production.

Again, like in side one, side two is continuous with "Journey Into the Centre of Your Heart" (one of my favorites, already), "One Night in a Lifetime" (a tiny bit too slow for dancing but making a great use of horns), and "Can't Get to Sleep Tonight" (on the same vein as "One Night").

Side three is basically candlelight material. This, I believe, is the best Donna has done since the hit of "Winter Melody" from the *Four Seasons of Love* LP. Giorgio is using music here that would attract such singers as Crystal Gale and Emmy Lou Harris.

And finally there is side four, which I consider the best one for dancing. "Our Love" is a different-tempo song that just about matches everything on a deejay's agenda.

The next big one is "Lucky," which is similar to "I Feel Love" with its electronic disco-paced beat. Both "Lucky" and "Our Love" are a hair too short for me and could have been longer.

The last cut on side four, "Sunset People," has a catchy, synthesized rhythm beat.

*Bad Girls* is a marvelous combination of hard work and charisma from which Donna emerges triumphant.

—o—  
**STARS** by SYLVESTER on Fantasy, #F-9579.

This is an impressive followup to his gold album, *Step II*, from last year. The award-winning

singer will surely gain new fans with what promises to be a slow-moving-at-first-but-finally-topping-the-charts LP.

*Stars* offers a unique menu of hardcore disco with a little gospel thrown in.

"Body Strong" is the best standout power dance cut. It has a genuine disco, rocking sound that carries memories of Sylvester's "You Make Me Feel (Mighty Real)."

Next there is the classic, "I, Who Have Nothing," released previously as a twelve incher. It has already gained much popularity.

"Stars," the title cut, is much faster than the previous cut and has a constant energy buildup.

"I Need Somebody To Love Tonight" is inbetween the mellow and the swinging. It features Sylvester's vocals at his best.

Watch for this LP to become another smash for the talented San Francisco singer.

—o—  
**POUSSEY!** by POUSSEY! on Vanguard, #VSD-79412.

Do you remember Boris Midney's USA-European Connection and the Beautiful Bend LP's? Well, listen to this one for it has a lot of similarity.

This group's producer, arranger and conductor is Alphonse Mouzon and he is in no way related to Boris but he *has* used much of the genius's techniques.

*Poussey!* (pronounced Poo-Say) seems destined to be a major hit at key discos. The album has a never-ending, driving beat aided by irresistible vocals.

Although the album has only four cuts, they are satisfying and entertaining, especially track one on side A that has the girls singing, "Where did you learn to funk like that." Sounds good on the dance floor.

—o—

**HERE'S ESTHER, ARE YOU READY?** by ESTHER PHILLIPS on Mercury.

The title for Esther's latest effort is very appropriate for she has given us an album that will awaken her past fans and perhaps gain her new ones. Although known more as a blues and jazz singer, she gives us a couple of surprises with some nice disco songs.

Most of the material is old but Esther uses her inspiring, sweet, unchallenged style that brings such songs as "Mr. Melody," "Philadelphia Freedom," "Our Day Will Come" and "Oop do Oop" (my personal pick hit) back to life.

The Mercury label has never released a commercial twelve-inch disco disc but now is the time (Are you listening, Mercury?) with "Oop do Oop" backed with "Our Day Will Come" to expose this talented woman on the disco scene.

—o—

**THE TWELVE-INCH SCENE**

Anita Ward's *Ring My Bell* (TK-124) has got to be one of the year's biggest sellers. Houston stores are reporting 1200 discs in just two weeks. ... Motown has a gold mine on its hands with Bonnie Pointer's *Heaven Must Have Sent You*, one of the best renditions ever of this early Motown classic. ... *Je Survivrai (I Will Survive)* by Regine on Prism is a neat version of Gaynor's giant. ... Warner Bros. has picked up the rights to *Cuba* by the Gibson Brothers, formerly on the Mongo label. This is a very-New York, salsa-flavored record that has crossed over. ... *Have a Cigar* by Rosebud on Warner Bros. has been around for quite awhile but finally is picking up steam. It's fast and has catchy lyrics. ... "How Could This Go Wrong" by Exile, also on Warner, should do well but it is a little on the rock side of disco. ... "Night Dancing" by Taka Boom (Chaka Kahn's younger sister) delivers a powerful dance tune.

—o—

**SHORT CUTS**

Hundreds of Houstonians will get to see Gloria Gaynor and the Village People May 24 at the Summit. ... SMI Records has a hot LP out now titled *Rocket to the Top* by Mantus. I was promised a copy for review; it never got here but I understand it's great. ... Epic Records will finally release Patti LaBelle's *Music Is My Way of Life* on a twelve-incher. ... Charo's new record, *Stay With Me*, is available as a twelve-incher and has been remixed.

Next column I'll take a look at new LP's by Madeleen Kane, Carrie Lucas, the Trammps, Mike Theodore and more.

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WASHINGTON — In its first action involving the disco world, the Food and Drug Administration re-

called a disco laser light show on grounds the beams could harm the eyes of dancers if aimed improperly, UPI reported May 3.

The FDA said the manufacturer, Bill Graham Presents Inc., FM Productions, of San Francisco, agreed to correct the system.



**BAR TALK**  
FROM PAGE 3

Country Music Festival. They're having continuous live music from 2:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Saturday and Sunday.

This is also the weekend for the Mr. Houston Pageant at the Old Plantation, sponsored by Union Jack and TWT. (Never heard of 'em. Must be one of those new publications.) It'll be Sunday, 10:00 p.m.

—o—

The Copa, Houston's hot

new disco, has two special shows coming shortly: Naomi Sims with Pzazz in a presentation called, "All That Jazz." Guaranteed to excite. It'll be Wednesday and Thursday, May 16 and 17.

Then, a few days later, the Copa will host the Miss Gay U.S.A., Texas Pageant (the contest to decide who will represent Texas in the next Miss Gay U.S.A. Pageant). This will be spread over a two day period, Sunday and Monday, May 20 and 21.

And a reminder about the Copa: the nightly boogie crowd has been getting better and better each night. More and more of Houston's hunkiest are discovering the Copa.

—o—

This is also the climax weekend (well, it's the truth) at Club Baths during their sixth anniversary celebration. Saturday they'll have a free patio buffet (1:00 to 3:00 p.m.) and a drawing for a TV set (9:00 p.m.). And if cash is low and you just gotta go to the

tubs (we know the feeling), they've got \$1 mini-lockers 24-hours at least through Saturday night.

—o—

Numbers Disco will present Hot Star Carrie Lucas ("Dance With You") in concert Thursday, May 10. Boogie.

—o—

Now we turn to the "No Names Please" gossip.

Is there a new romance in the Mustang Band?

What ever happened to the acting first lady of the Texas Riders? Is it back to

the Colt 45's?

Who is the new hunk working as a bartender at the Exile? (It's Jerry.)

And Bowsy Wowsy is out on the limb again. It seems like Bark Bark just can't keep a pet. (Red hanky?)

(Now folks, don't call us at Bar Talk to ask for explanations. We just report what we hear. We don't try to understand it.)

—o—

Elsewhere in the exciting world of the Zoom Zoom Gang: Daddy Dean is now working over at the Midnite Sun ... Bobby Bockman is having a birthday (yes, another one) ... and this newspaper will shortly be a weekly part of New Orleans, like it is now of Houston, so does that mean we'll have twice as much of this rambling as we do now? Yes it does, unfortunately. See ya'll in New Orleans next week for the Mr. Gay New Orleans Pageant at Le Bistro.

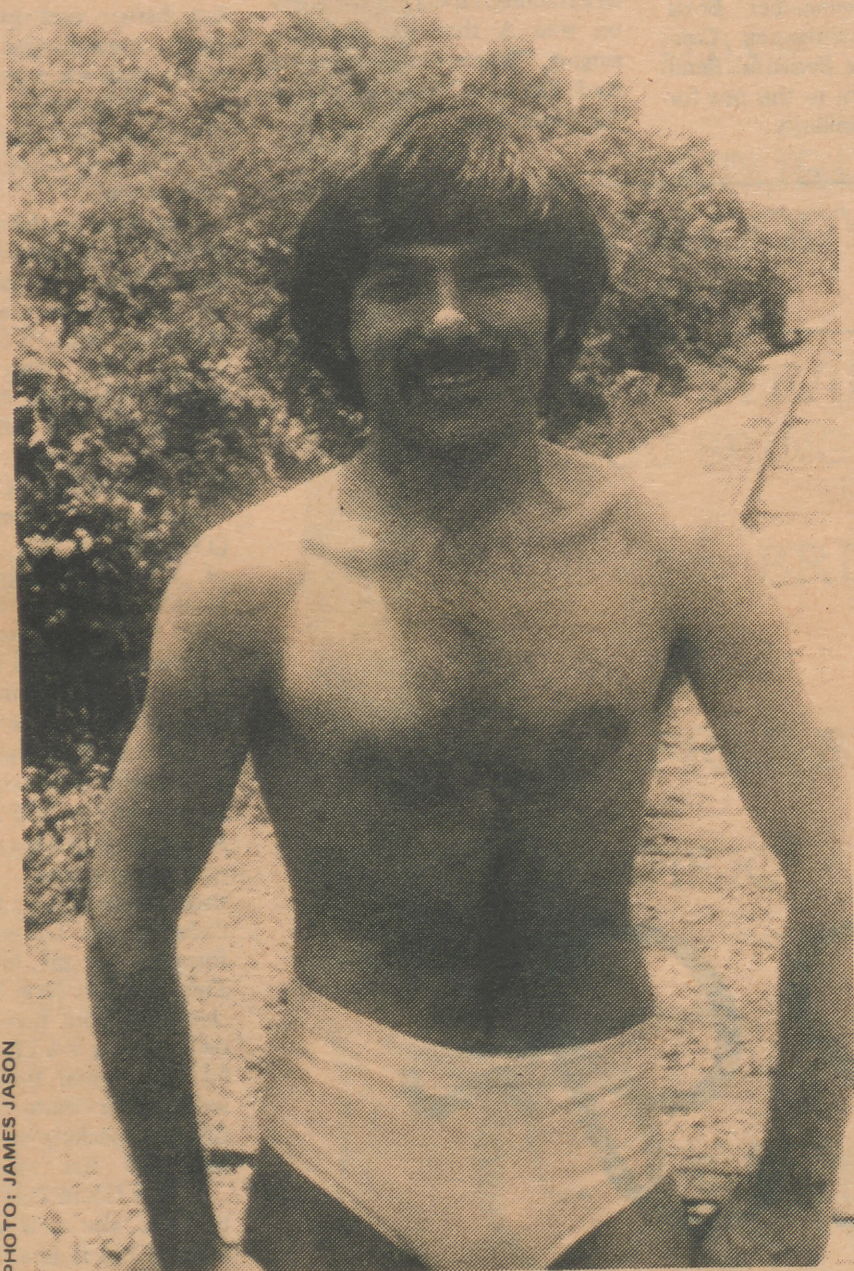


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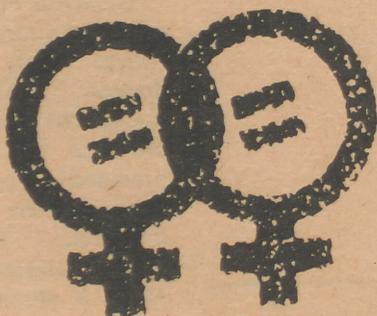
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## In memory of Andre LeJeune

The Houston Gay Pride Week calendar of events sounds like a complete waste of time, energy and money.

Let's take a look at what our infantile leaders consider important to the rest of us.

First is that earth-shattering announcement that Disco Grandma will reign over the week's activities. She's cute, but besides being a token novelty, what has she done for gay causes?

Why not bestow this honorary position on someone like Ray Hill for his continuing, genuine contributions to gays?

The choice of Disco Grandma (Mary Thelma) as a symbol of gay pride is insulting and silly, and it establishes a mediocre-to-absurd tone for the rest of the week's proposed foolishness.

Of the many major flaws in the proposed calendar, one of the most self-defeating aspects of the ill-planned week is the contrived segregation of gay subfactions into specially-appointed days. We are to have a women's day, a church day, a minorities day and a youth day.

What about alcoholics' day, S&M day, scat and fist days, wrinkle day, chicken queen day, or even a tearoom-golden shower-drag queen day? Male day? How about police appreciation day?

Or what about combining youth day with chicken queen day? That should be festive!

Perhaps the best combination would be a combination women's-drag queen day so the lesbians in butch drag can be insulted by "those nellie queens" in women's clothing.

While all of these tiny, politically-disjointed groups are celebrating their days, the rest of us will probably be getting proudly drunk in the bars.

When unity in the gay community is paramount, why has the committee tried its best to separate us into categories? Only limited minds would contrive such a foolish tactic.

Another fault in the committee's plans is the forced insertion of religious beliefs on the rest of us. Picking the MCC over the other gay-oriented religious groups is a classic case of mixing church and state affairs. What are Integrity, Dignity, liberal Catholics and other groups supposed to do during the hopelessly protestant memorial service at MCC? Perhaps the bookstores will have a candlelight special.

The most obvious fault of the calendar is the division of political events over several days.

A SINGLE rally at the reflection pool protesting police tactics brought only embarrassingly minimal support from Houston's huge gay closet. Most of the gay businesses competed by not closing during the event. (Thank goodness for folks like Marion and Fanny.)

Not even the less than one thousand gays at the last rally will have the energy or desire to attend the numerous rallies, parades, vigils and marches planned. Political attention span is about as long-lived as a hit of stale poppers.

A wiser decision on the committee's part would be to combine the sure winner of the week, the picnic, with a well-planned, massive parade/march to City Hall for a candlelight rally. This single, unified event, coupled with a total closing of gay establishments for the duration, could be an extremely effective display of gay pride.

Money for gay political events is hard to come by. Yet, NOT ONE FUND-RAISER is scheduled for the week. Passing the hat doesn't cut it; lesbians don't want dirty drag queen money; most of the River Oaks queens need their cash to keep them warm at night with hustlers.

Not only is money needed to foot the bill for gay pride week, but for future ventures like the march on Washington. Why aren't money-raising events planned? Or is Carol

## Writer not happy with Pride Week plans

Fennema picking up the tab?

It should be obvious to the planning committee that major re-vamping of their simple, short-sighted plans is needed. If they refuse, perhaps an effort to boycott their silly schedule should be instituted. This writer hopes that such measures are not needed, as a MEANINGFUL Gay Pride Week would be a memorable and well-deserved series of events.

Houston gays deserve better planning from our leaders.

ROGER GORTON

(Editor's note: Mr. Gorton, a respected Houston gay playwright, has misinterpreted the purpose of the proposed Gay Pride Week calendar of events. I leave it to interested readers to write in for next week's Star, either in support or in opposition. This newspaper, for one, is in support of the work of the Gay Pride Week coordinating committee. Ms. Fennema and her group have, at the very least, given the rest of the community a starting-out point for organizing the best week ever in gay Houston.)

## Reader can't believe writing this letter

Montrose Star:

What can I say. I can't believe I've broken down and started this letter. I guess so much has happened I just figured maybe you all could help.

I'm an eighteen-year-old female just out of high school. I'm on my own now and before I left I'd figured I might as well as tell my family the truth - that I couldn't marry the guy they had picked out for me because I'm gay. Well . . . like I said, I'm on my own.

I've gone out every night looking for some beautiful woman to spend some time with and hoping that that special someone would show up.

The only thing I've learned in the bars and clubs was how many drinks I could put away. I'm at eight cans in a two-hour night.

Hey, don't laugh. Their are those who can do A LOT better than that. But, like I said, I'm eighteen and I never dreamed my life would be this way. In school I was runner-up for "Most Beautiful" twice, so you know I'm not ugly. I don't understand why I have trouble finding someone like me, who could relate to me. Maybe people think I'm a bitch and that's why no one talks to me. I can't believe what's happening to me. I've now got more crow's feet on my face than a corn field.

In high school as a cheerleader I was on the field but the only way I could get on the field now is as a goal post because I'm now so skinny.

People say we should be honest. I spent my younger years in a closet; I should have never come out.

Where do I go now? I'm an alcoholic. Why don't the gay brothers and sisters help their own? I hope that when that day comes for the gay people, we're all not out on skid row. Why can't the gay bars have talent contests, dating games, wet T-shirt nights, etc., where they can really get people together. All they have are beer busts, two-for-one nights and drink and drown nights. I'm sure that there are people who would like to be in a dating game (like the one on TV where the people are straight).

If the straight bars and discos can do it, why can't the gay.

And by the way, where can I go now?

NAME WITHHELD

(Editor's note: Your problem, my friend, is not because you're gay. Feeling left out or being unable to meet others is a problem people in all areas of society encounter. Researchers even say that "good-looking" people have the problem more than others. I suggest you try a change of scenery, such as getting involved with GPC, MAC, MCC or other groups. Their phone numbers are all listed elsewhere in this paper - and there, you'll find a whole world of new people. Write the Star back in a few weeks and let us know how you're doing.)

## "Hey guys . . . you're looking real fine"

Editor:

My lover and I, and another gay male couple next door, have watched the Montrose Star's ups and downs for the past few years and we wanted you and your staff to know we really like the direction it's going now.

We aren't activists because of families and jobs. We do contribute financially to gay liberation projects. All of us have discussed really coming out as Harvey Milk urged. No decision yet but we feel we must do it sooner or later.

There's not much choice if we want our rights.

We like especially the news items of both local and national interest, the new editorial page and comments, the very funny and appropriate cartoon and interview with "Chief Cauldron," the book reviews because we read a lot, and the disco, movie and art columns even if they often do take up too much space which might be used for

other things.

The horoscope is always good even if it isn't taken too much at heart. We all are bar and disco goers on occasion and that column lets us know what's going on.

My lover, Jack, and I think we know your book reviewer, who also writes other things and whose photograph appeared recently in The Advocate and another Houston gay publication. Is he the same Hank Bonney who was an activist and writer in California a few years back? We couldn't decide from the photos whether it was the same person or not.

If it is, he's hot . . . and not just as a writer either.

Keep up the good work. We need all the info we can get.

NAME WITHHELD BY REQUEST

(Editor's note: Your letter made our day. Thank you. And yes, it is the same Hank Bonney.)



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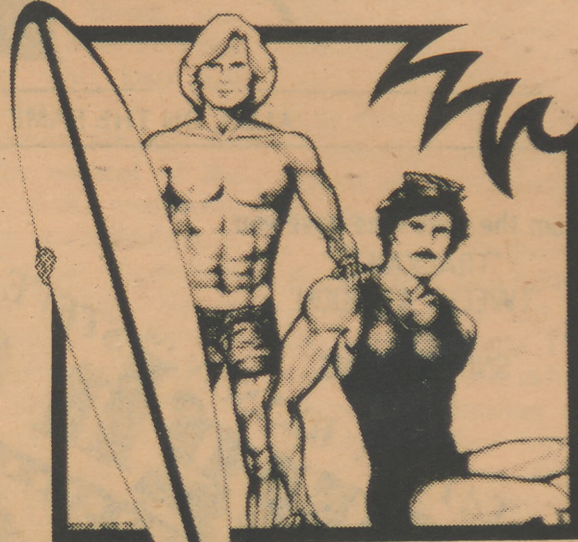
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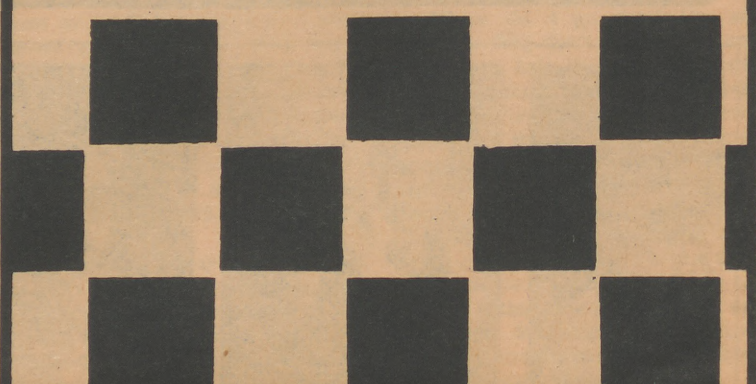
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## Zombies on the loose? Yes!



DAWN OF THE DEAD, not rated. Released by United Film Distribution Company. Produced by Richard P. Rubinstein. Written and directed by George A. Romero. Starring David Emge, Ken Foree, Scott Reiniger and Gaylen Ross.

*Living Dead*, which has since come to be regarded as a horror classic. *Dawn of the Dead* is a sequel to *Night* which confirms Romero as an important American artist.

Pittsburgh-based filmmaker George A. Romero first terrorized movie audiences and surprised critics in 1968 with *Night of the*

that has characterized the director's work has been sacrificed. But Romero more than compensates for any such loss with a devastating blend of horror, humor and social satire that should leave movie audiences gasping in amazement.

With *Dawn of the Dead*, Romero has come up with

The new film is far more lavish than anything Romero has done before, and some of the grittiness

what may come to be regarded as another classic.

*Dawn of the Dead* is a sequel not in the narrow sense that it sticks with the characters and story line of its predecessor, but in that it retains the premise of *Night of the Living Dead*. That premise is that the dead have returned to earth as cannibalistic zombies.

In *Night*, Romero's zombies were terrifying, but it seemed that eventually society would be able to contain them. In *Dawn*, the zombies have provoked massive civil disorder; though there are bands of survivors, the zombies are beyond control. Romero projects a third zombie film in which the zombies will become completely dominant.

In relating this middle episode of the zombie trilogy, Romero focuses in on a band of four survivors who find refuge from the zombies — and from other marauding survivors — in a gigantic shopping mall.

When the characters discover the zombie-filled mall, one of them asks, "Why do they come here?"

"By instinct," his friend replies. "This was once an important place to them."

The startling image of a well-stocked, modern shopping center populated by zombies is not only funny, it introduces the film's central theme: material wealth is of no value to beings who have lost their humanity.

The heroes struggle furiously for control of the shopping mall, eventually securing it as a hiding place, establishing for themselves a life of plenty. Rarely have material compensations seemed less adequate than in Romero's dark vision of a consumer's dream gone crazy. For, once the characters have claimed the wealth of the shopping mall for themselves, they have to worry constantly that those on the outside will try to take it from them. And given all of the material goods they could ever use, their lives are overtaken by boredom and a sense of futility.

As interesting as *Dawn of the Dead* is on this political, allegorical level, as

a devastating critique of the American consumer society, the film's truest claim to success lies with its cinematic agility and its bold, sophisticated mastery of horror and suspense.

The first requirement of a schlock horror film, after all, is to deliver thrills, and nobody does it like Romero. The pacing, rapidly shuffling gore with humor and action with visual beauty, is exquisite.

And Romero doesn't cut away as hungry zombies take huge bites out of their living victims.

There's no denying the sensationalistic aspect of such violence — it's certain to be a turn-off for some viewers — but this is sensationalism that serves a purpose, jarring an audience from its complacency, demanding a viewer's attention. Moreover, it's comic book violence which, for all its explicitness, never seems real.

Throughout *Dawn of the Dead* there are images, moments and scenes that strike deep. In the middle of battle, a zombie and a survivor pause to gaze at one another through a glass door in some kind of wistful mutual recognition. A bunch of survivors turn zombie hunting into a combination community picnic and safari. A survivor delights in smashing a TV set while on a rampage, as if betrayed by the fact that no signal is being broadcast for it to receive.

Without exception, the action sequences are intense and surprising.

The four principal actors, David Emge as a helicopter pilot who monitors traffic for a Philadelphia TV station; Gaylen Ross as his girlfriend, a technician at the station; and Ken Foree and Scott Reiniger as deserting members of the Philadelphia police force SWAT squad, all build characters that are unusually full-bodied for a horror film.

George Romero has the visual and rhythmic sense of a born filmmaker, and he knows how to milk a popular-form horror film for all it's worth.

*Dawn of the Dead* should take America by storm.

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Texas Oldest Country/Western Bar

FRIDAY NIGHT, 9 to 1

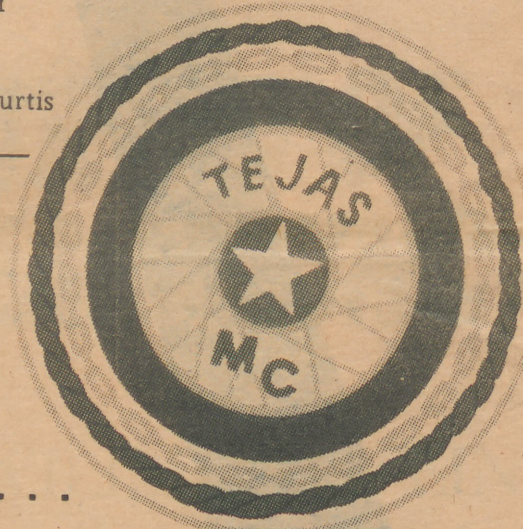
## MUSTANG BAND

A SPECIAL HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
TO BOBBY BOCKMAN

from staff of the Exile  
Bernice, Sonny, David, Jerry, Tony and Curtis

Happy Hour  
Monday-Friday, 4 to 6  
50¢ beer, 75¢ well

and home of . . .



## advertise

You have a choice of three tpestyles with your Star Want Ad. This is ECONOMY TYPE, at 20¢ per word. It's your best bargain, especially for lengthy Want Ads.

This is REGULAR TYPE, recommended for most want ads. The rate: 30¢ a word.

And this is SUPER TYPE, for when you want to get the Most Attention with your Star Want Ad. The rate: just 40¢ a word.

Write out your Want Ad here or on a plain sheet of paper. All words in your ad must be in the SAME TYPE STYLE. No mixing. NO BOLDs. You have a choice of FOUR WORDS in ALL CAPS at no extra charge. Other words in ALL CAPS at 10¢ per word extra. BLIND BOX NUMBERS will be assigned for \$1 extra charge, per week, if requested. Once want ads are ordered, THEY MAY NOT BE CANCELED. Minimum rate per Want Ad: \$2.00. Display ads are available on the Want Ad page. Inquire to Star Advertising Sales Office.

Mail to MONTROSE STAR  
P.O. Box 70282, Houston, TX 77007  
Or PHONE IN YOUR AD  
(713) 529-8188, 10am-7pm daily