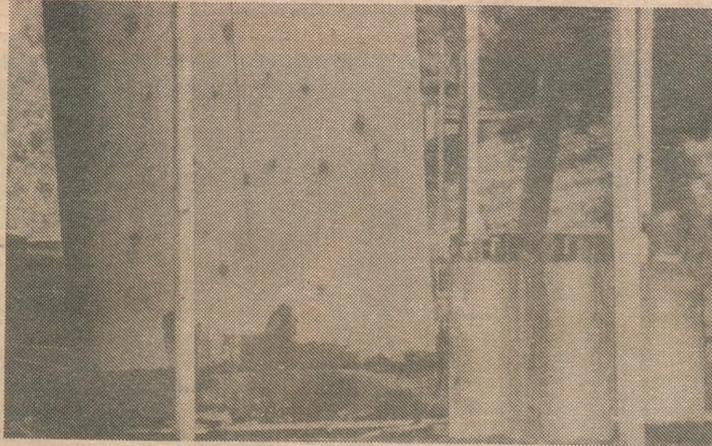


Part of the ruins of the Snakepit in Dallas, destroyed by fire last weekend.

DON RITZ PHOTO



Dallas Gay Club Burns Following Opening Night

By Joe Baker
Montrose Voice Dallas Bureau

Big Mike stood in the middle of the debris—surrounded by soot, charred timber and ashes. The pungent smell of four men's dream gone up in smoke still filled the air.

"Welcome to the Snakepit," he said, "or what's left of it."

The words came slowly.

"Over there, near that far wall, that's how he got in. Probably came right

through the window or just tossed something through it. It didn't take long."

Big Mike Rasmussen's flashlight focused on the liquor rack behind the long, narrow bar covered with shattered glass and assorted rubble.

"We will have to throw all that booze out," he noted. "It wouldn't be safe to drink. You know what I just got today? Our liquor bill. All down the drain."

The light from Mike's flashlight quickly

continued page 6

MONTROSE

V O I C E

The Newspaper of Montrose
Issue 119, Published Weekly

Friday
February 11
1983
Good Evening
★★

Forum Hears Speakers on City Jail, Blood Donations and AIDS

By Hollis Hood

Citizens for Human Equality heard Houston City Councilman Jim Greenwood's recommendations for improvements to the city jail; Bill Teague of the Blood Center and Nathan Smith of the National Hemophiliacs Association on blood collection; plus an AIDS update from Mike Wilson of M.D. Anderson during its regular meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 8, in the Watson de Nagy Gallery.

Councilman Greenwood cited several areas he considered problems at the jail including lack of a fire evacuation procedure plan, weaknesses in the clerical aspects and lack of space for holding prisoners.

Greenwood said he has been involved in jail research for several years and served on a commission to set jail standards at the county level, so it seemed a waste of his expertise "not to get involved" in trying to improve the Houston facility.

He noted that the jail has no smoke detectors, fire alarm system, exits are padlocked and the key is not readily accessible, there are no self-contained breathing apparatus available to inmates should there be a fire and that the fire extinguishers were "behind the filing cabinet in the office" making them inaccessible should the fire start in that area.

"They (officers) seemed to be uncertain as to what to do in case of fire," Greenwood said. There was no definite plan. No one knew who was appointed to call the fire department to report the event should it occur, he said. Greenwood did his research on the jail in both daylight and dark, with a "guided tour" and in singular observation, talking with the officers.

The building has passed fire inspection because, as Greenwood put it, the fire inspector had been dealing with it in terms of what complied with the building codes, not necessarily in the life safety aspect which was the focus of Greenwood's recommendations.

He was told that there was no risk of fire at the jail. "I have found that that's usually the last thing that's said before what

they said couldn't happen strikes with a vengeance," Greenwood said.

In his recommendations, he proposed that breathing equipment be purchased and that a system be initiated for officers to know exactly how to respond to emergencies.

Prisoners do a lot of waiting at the jail, he said, "before they are booked, before they are taken to the cell block, before they can make their call and before they are bonded out." "It might be two to three hours before someone gets booked into the jail," he said. "I don't know if this is from a weakness in the procedure," but the system seemed replete with duplication and unnecessary steps. First he observed that officers should not wear guns inside the security portion of the jail, and that holding conditions were very crowded.

"You have 25-30 people locked together, all in different states of sobriety, and hostility for all offenses who don't want to be there and are probably in there for exhibiting some kind of anti-social behavior. You wish that they're going to be less-anti-social under those circumstances, but I don't think that is going to happen," Greenwood said.

The councilman said one way to quell the overcrowding was to take prisoners that would be transferred to the county directly there, take inebriates to a detoxification center and issue tickets for minor offenses that require jail now. Although the jail was designed to be only a temporary holding facility and wasn't supposed to be a hotel, Houston has outgrown the 1950s building.

The idea of building command stations—a self-contained unit including jail space and courts on site—is being carefully looked at at City Hall, Greenwood said, and that's why nothing has been done about the obsolete downtown facility. Using this concept the officer's would have more time on patrol instead of so much time shuttling prisoners back and forth in one centrally located jail.

Greenwood ruled out the suggestion that instead of having the jail patrolled



CHE president Steve Shiflett and Houston City Councilman Jim Greenwood

that a TV monitor system be put in because it might involve an invasion of privacy, "and you really can't hear someone call for help at the other end of the hall."

Sensitivity to gay persons is present at the chief level and in the mayor's office, Greenwood said. However, some officers have a very distorted idea of what gays are all about. He offered the alternative of having a course taught on gay lifestyle "without the fanfare—public publicity, so that we teach them something before they decide they shouldn't learn it."

The answer to questions regarding police harassment, Greenwood said that no person should be subjected to indignities. "Gays are human beings entitled to the same rights as other citizens—and to having a better city."

NATHAN SMITH, president of the National Hemophiliac Association, stated that if impurities were in blood transfusion products, such as the agent which causes AIDS, that hemophiliacs would be an early warning system for society because they use the blood products in such high concentrations. Any trend in contamina-

tion would be reflected in that group first. "If you look at all considered," he said, "we know very little" to prove that the disease is not transfusibly transmitted. For that reason, he said high risk groups such as gay males, Haitians and intravenous drug users should not donate blood.

One acknowledged problem is that symptoms of AIDS may not show up for as long as two years, and if the person has it and donates, society will encounter AIDS (taking for granted it is transfusibly transmitted). Smith noted that if the gay population is suffering for example one in 1000 deaths, the hemophiliacs would be suffering four to ten times that amount. In hemophiliacs the disease has been found in children and old men as well, he said. "Our right to live is important," Smith said.

Bill Teague of the Blood Center said that organization has determined that insufficient medical and scientific evidence is shown to exclude "sexually promiscuous males" (50 or more partners per year) from donation. He said he doesn't believe it is a disease per se, but an infectious syndrome. He drew the analogy of AIDS and early

continued page 7

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 13

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FROM 6 TO 8PM



NUMBERS

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MARDI GRAS WEEKEND AT NUMBERS
TEA-DANCE SUNDAY 20TH

Court Again Hears Appeal from Union Jack Owner

Oral arguments in the second appeal to the New Orleans Fifth Circuit Court in Richard Longstaff's case petitioning for naturalization are scheduled for the week of March 21, stated an announcement from the Texas Human Rights Foundation.

Oral arguments in the second appeal to the New Orleans Fifth Circuit Court in Richard Longstaff's case petitioning for naturalization are scheduled for the week of March 21, stated an announcement from the Texas Human Rights Foundation.

Longstaff, owner of the Union Jack stores in Dallas and Houston, applied for naturalization in 1975. In 1977, an Immigration and Naturalization Service Examiner recommended that Longstaff's petition for naturalization be denied due to his homosexuality. That recommendation was subsequently reversed.

In March 1979, Longstaff's petition was denied by Fifth Circuit Court Judge Joe Estes. The court record was unclear as to the exact reason for the denial of the naturalization petition, said THRF.

In December 1980, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals sent the case back to the trial court to determine if Longstaff had violated the Texas Homosexual Conduct Statute (21.06), and if he had violated that statute, whether this would serve as a bar to Longstaff proving he was of a good moral character, which is a requirement for naturalization.

Judge Estes heard the case again in early 1982. He found that Longstaff had violated the code and that the violation proved he was not of good character. In addition, the judge determined that Longstaff had entered the country illegally because he failed to indicate on the visa application in 1965 that he suffered from "psychopathic personality"—he was gay. Brian Bates of Tidwell and Associates of Dallas appealed that decision.

"I have never been arrested or convicted of a crime," said Longstaff. "My application for citizenship had been denied solely for the reason that I am a gay person. I am outraged, not so much personally as for the slur that it casts on all gay people."

Although it has been a long and difficult battle, Longstaff said, he will continue until he wins. "It is not so much my personal battle, but that of all of us," he said.

M. Robert Schwab, president of THRF, which sponsored the challenge, said that the judge's decision was clearly "erroneous."

"In an almost identical fact situation, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals decided in RE: Nimitz, that it was unconstitutional to deny a person a naturalization solely on the basis of fact of being gay. If Judge Estes' ruling is allowed to stand, it would prohibit any gay person from legally entering this county at any time. This is unacceptable," said Schwab. The attorney noted that 21.06 has since been found to be unconstitutional.

Montrose Library Location Announced

Construction on a Montrose Public



Richmond at Mandell, site of proposed Montrose Library.

Library at the corner of Mandell at Richmond will begin in early 1984 if all goes as planned, Councilman George Greanias told a Neartown group recently.

"It is budgeted to as a capital expenditure for next year," he said. The process of land acquisition has already begun.

The design concept of the facility will be very important, the councilman said. Planners hope to be able to reflect the architectural attitude of the neighborhood so that the building will blend into the whole. A park space is planned near the building, he said.

Death at Baths Ruled Suicide

The cause of death of Andrew Eugene Hamilton, 28, of 5414 Elm, whose body was found Jan. 30 in a private room at the Midtowne Spa, 3100 Fannin, has been ruled suicide.

Dr. Martha Marttioli made the ruling, according to a representative of the Harris County Medical Examiner's Office.

Hamilton's body was discovered when an employee went to tell him his time was up. Police had discounted robbery as a motive because his belongings were intact.

Circumstances concerning the suicide were not known.

Montrose Mouth

Forum on AIDS

Mark it on your calendar. "AIDS Update 1983," a forum on AIDS, will be presented by Dr. Peter W.A. Mansell in the Statesman "A" Ballroom of the Sheraton Houston Hotel Tuesday, Feb. 22, 8:00 p.m.

Mansell is an associate director of the cancer prevention division of M.D. Anderson Hospital. This event is being co-sponsored by Citizens for Human Equality and the Kaposi's Sarcoma Committee of Houston.

A cash bar will be available beginning at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 792-3020.

20th Century Fox's "Making Love" is on HBO this week Saturday at 8pm, Sunday at 3:40am and Thursday at 1:30am. It's on The Movie Channel at 7pm Friday (tonight) and 1am Saturday.

Here's the seven-day party calendar from the VOICE—seven excuses for seven parties over the next seven days.

(Friday) Feb. 11: It's Thomas Edison's birthday. He was born in 1847. Thanks to him, the phonograph was invented, which eventually led to Diana Ross, of course.

(Saturday) Feb. 12: Charles Darwin and Abraham Lincoln were both born today, both in 1809.

(Sunday) Feb. 13: Happy New Year. The Chinese New Year starts today.

(Monday) Feb. 14: Of course, it's Valentine's Day, luv.

(Tuesday) Feb. 15: The first movie version of "Dracula" was released today in 1931. Today is also Mardi Gras Day.

(Wednesday) Feb. 16: It's Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, when Catholics are supposed to moderate everything. So have a toast with the nearest Catholic.

(Thursday) Feb. 17: It's certainly a day to remember. In 1876 the first canned sardines went on the market.

After being closed for three weeks for remodeling and technical problems, Rascals Restaurant and Cabaret has re-opened. Manager Ed Elliott says super entertainer Stephanie Parker will be entertaining in the cabaret through Feb. 26.

For more on Stephanie, check out "Montrose Live" elsewhere in this issue of the VOICE.

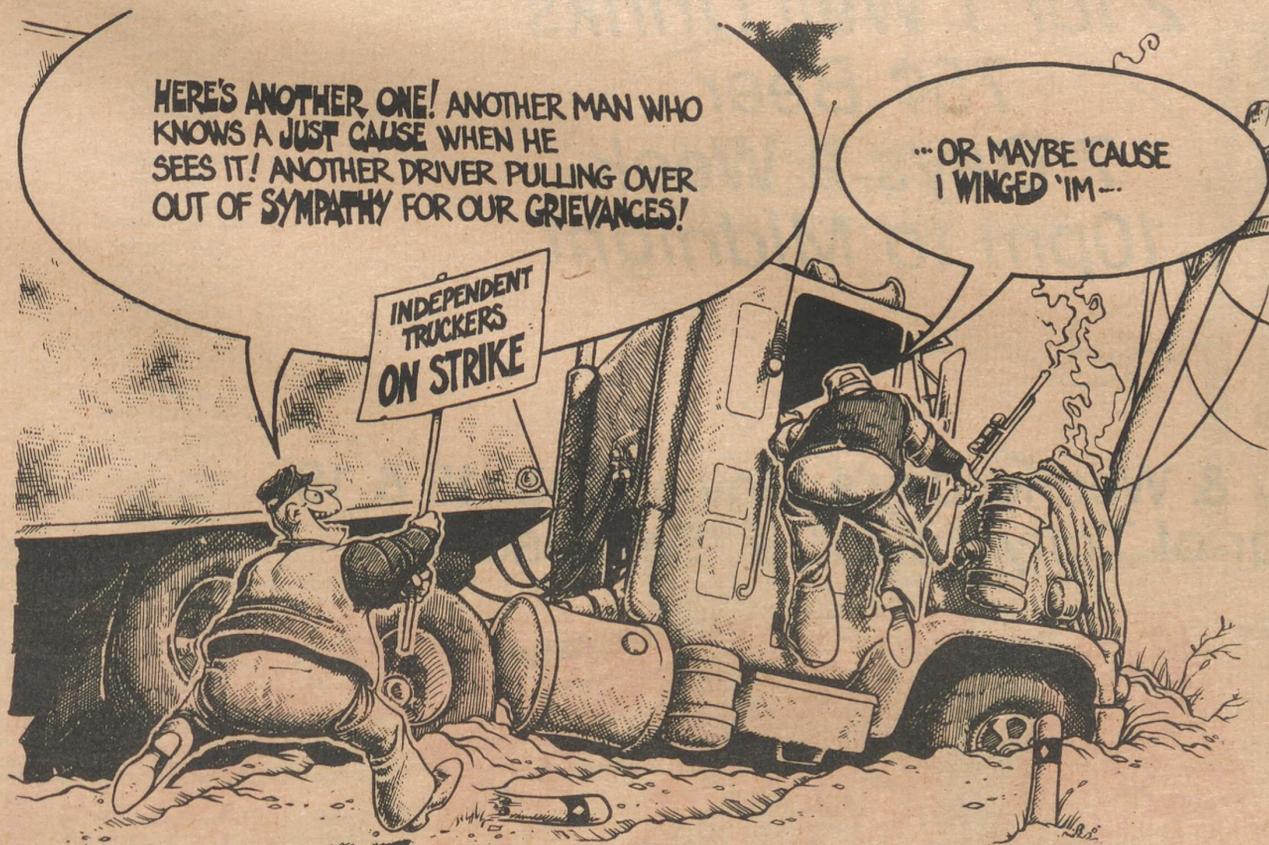
There's a new place for breakfast in Montrose: Frankies at Montrose and Westheimer. They're been there for years (formerly as Princes) but now they're serving breakfast.

Names in the News: Rick Neil is now officially president of Houston Gay Switchboard, Inc., and Clayton Munger is VP.

Mardi Gras Madness in Houston next weekend is the time we host out-of-towners here. It's traditionally a time when Houston's leather clubs entertain brothers on their way back home after spending Mardi Gras in New Orleans. This year's big party, of course, is on Albany, top of the Officer's Club.

Well, Monday is Valentine's Day. Don't forget to get your love something special. For those of you who don't have a love, Mary's is sponsoring a "Lonely Hearts Party" Saturday and Sunday, so perhaps by Monday you'll will have found someone special.

The Copa is having a Valentine's Day benefit Monday for the Muscular Dystrophy Association—with dozens of guest stars.



BEN SARGENT
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**This Saturday & Sunday,
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Lonely Hearts Party

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NGTF and others at press conference in New York Jan. 27

NGTF, Others, Present United Statement on AIDS Blood Donor Policies

The National Gay Task Force and more than 50 other organizations and representatives from the gay community nationwide held a press conference Jan. 27 in New York to issue a statement on national blood donor policy and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

The statement was presented by Virginia M. Apuzzo, executive director of

NGTF.

It urged groups such as the National Hemophilia Foundation to work toward finding the cause and cure of AIDS rather than making blanket recommendations that all homosexuals be barred from donating blood.

Montrose Influences MTA

Susan Stem, who makes her office (but not her residence as stated in the Jan. 28th issue of the VOICE) in the Ross Sterling house at 4515 Yoakum, stated in a letter that, "We have recently been told that Metropolitan Transit Authority has changed its plans so that no part of their system will encroach on our property."

The rails, not the station, were planned to be in close proximity to the location, but now through Robert and Susan Stem's efforts with MTA, "the closest they can come to the house is in fact the south property line." (The station will be located at Montrose and the Southwest Freeway.)

Stem observed that the proposed rail system "might actually be less noisy than the freeway is now."

She stated that if they, hopefully, can influence MTA's plans, Yoakum Blvd. will

become a *cul-de-sac* ending at the freeway with a full-height wall south of the property which would block the view and noise of the train, and end any prospect of that historic corner bearing any increased traffic from the station.

Mansell to Speak on AIDS

"AIDS Update 1983," a forum on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, will be presented by an associate director of the cancer prevention division of M.D. Anderson Hospital. Dr. Peter W.A. Mansell's address in the Statesman "A" Ballroom of the Sheraton Houston Hotel is to be Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 8:00 p.m.

The presentation is co-sponsored by Citizens for Human Equality and the Kaposi's Sarcoma Committee of Houston.

Women's Group to Have 'Rap' Session

A fledgling Houston women's group will have a "getting to know you rap session" on Feb. 19, Sunday, 1:00 p.m., in the Fred Paez Community Service Center, 401 Avondale, said group spokeswoman Joe Flyer.

Flyer said that many women have already met through the Gay Switchboard referrals and that the group plans a potluck supper for February 12 at a residence in east Houston. (Call the Switchboard, 529-3211, for reference numbers.) "Surprise us, don't shock us," she said, but bring your specialty dish to share.

The purpose of the group, she said, "if it must have a purpose," is to help alleviate the geographical isolation that lesbians may feel in a large city. The group is also intended to provide support (emotional, mental and psychological) for the persons who attend. "It's for all lesbians," Flyer said, "regardless of color, race, age, shape, size, single or coupled, that's not important. What is important is that we feel welcome, we feel here is a place we can feel at home. Meet and recharge to go out the next week and fight the good fight again—face the world."

She said she believes the group will be of assistance to women just coming out, as

well as to women who "don't really want to go to a bar, but might not want to limit their social life to just going to church either."

She said they don't want to duplicate any other organization such as NOW or the GPC.

She commented that in their recent first event outing several women said they would like to bring their children, and that at some meeting or events, children would be welcome.

Booze on the Rocks

Liquor distributors are crying in their beer over dried-up booze sales.

The *Wall Street Journal* says the recession has caused a seven percent drop in the number of gallons sold, and people who still buy spirits are turning to cheaper brands.

Says one distributor, "If it's a choice of putting food or liquor on the table, most people will choose food." But unseasonably warm winter weather in some areas could help boost business.

Was Gay All Along

International Gay News Agency

An enlisted seaman apprentice who had told a naval hearing last fall that she was not a lesbian acknowledged in a recent newspaper interview that she was indeed homosexual.

Robin Bruce, 23, of Las Vegas, said in the interview that she received an honorable discharge but that she intends to go to court to fight the military regulations that prohibit homosexuality.

Bruce denied being a lesbian throughout the investigation aboard the San Diego-based submarine tender Dixon because she was placed in the bind of being subject to dismissal for telling the truth. "That's what the Navy wanted to hear," said Bruce to a reporter for the *San Diego Union*.

A three-member panel of officers recommended Bruce's discharge last October after a six-hour hearing involving 20 witnesses.

Bruce was among 12 women and several men who were prosecuted for alleged homosexuality aboard the Dixon. One other woman has been discharged and two others recommended for discharge.

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United Feature Syndicate

CHE Forum Hears about City Jail, Blood Donations & AIDS

continued from page 1

research in hepatitis.

The first case of hepatitis was found in an aborigine, and after long medical study, scientists were able to identify and subsequently find a vaccine for the infectious agent. His organization has asked persons in high risk groups as carriers of hepatitis not to donate blood because definite scientific evidence exists linking it to blood transmission, but until such evidence exists for AIDS, they will still take blood from gay males.

"However, should we find tomorrow that there is a clear link between AIDS, we will have no qualms about asking the sexual preference of the donor."

HE SAID 50% of AIDS described has been found in New York, and no reported case can be directly linked to transfusion.

Various blood gathering organizations have formulated the following policy regarding the syndrome: 1) Re-enforce education to physicians that transfusion is always dangerous, 2) Promote atologous tranfusion (being transfused with one's own blood taken prior to surgery) 3) Not encourage donations from the high risk groups.

At this point he said he considered questioning males, or anyone else, about sexual preference an invasion of privacy. Although the issue may not appear significant, if answers indicating homosexuality were given, those answers become a matter of record. As a matter of record they can be requested in court, etc., so anonymity could not be guaranteed.

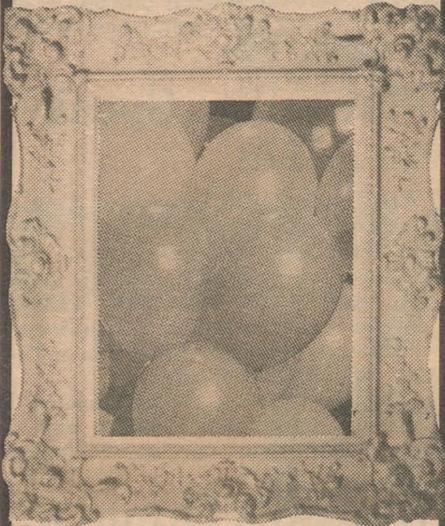
"I am as concerned as all to get out this," said Teague. "I have dedicated my life to the health care profession." He said he believed that the gay community is as concerned about it as any group, and will probably be the driving force behind finding a prevention, if not a cure. "I cannot believe that when faced with a potential problem they will not implement a self-screening program that will keep the risk donor from giving."

We have spent years fighting for respect and dignity," said one attendee, "and something like this comes along and adds fuel to the fire" noting that the gay community suffered much adverse publicity because of the hemophiliac press release.

Mike Wilson of Cancer Prevention at M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute said that a total of 1025 cases have been reported nationwide to date to the Communicable Disease Center. "100 of those have been in the past month, "so the number is shooting up," he said. Of the 1000-plus cases, 394 are dead, and of those persons diagnosed two years ago, 74% are dead.

CHE president Steve Shiflett coordinated the program.

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15-19

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Dallas Club Burns Following Opening Night

continued from page 1

centered on what was once a DJ booth. "The fire never got that far, but everything is gone just the same," he continued. "The smoke and heat really did a number. Destroyed all the records, tapes, turntables, lights, speakers and other equipment. Nothing left."

Outside, DJ Jimmy Spaulding waited. "It makes me sick to go in there," he said, pointing to the tin and wood structure that was the home of the Snakepit dance bar for only one brief, but glorious, night.

"I had a lifetime in those records and tapes," Jimmy explained. "They were me. I've been spinning records for 12 years. It was a great collection. You wouldn't believe some of the things I had. Now, there's nothing. Half of that stuff I'll never be able to replace."

The Snakepit: Born February 4, 1983; Died February 5, 1983.

And so another gay bar has joined the growing list of homosexual clubs in Dallas that have fallen victim to arsonists. Another dream that tried to be snuffed out.

"It was a dream all right," says Mike, who together with Jimmy and two other former Sundance Kids bar employees, John East and Jim Bigley, pooled their life savings to open the Snakepit.

"I've been in the bar business for 15 years, and I always wanted to have my own place. About six weeks ago everything finally came together. The other guys and I were able to raise the money we needed to give it a try.

"I can't tell you what a feeling it was. We were going to give Dallas the kind of man's dance bar that we've heard our gay customers at Sundance talk about for years. Great music, no frills, no cover. It was going to be just what a lot of gay men have always wanted. A dance bar for

men."

For the past six weeks, the four new businessmen and their staff worked feverishly to ready the Snakepit for last Friday night's opening. The site the men had selected for their business was the former Lil' Landing near Chelsea Square at the end of Routh Street.

Friday night, hundreds and hundreds of gay men poured into the Snakepit. It was an instant success. It looked like Mike, Jimmy, John and Jim had a sure winner on their hands.

But then, only about an hour and a half after the bar closed at 5:00 a.m. Saturday, somebody tampered with that success. An arsonist hit the Snakepit.

"We were pretty confident from the start that our formula was going to work," Mike said. "But we were also cautious. We anticipated that somewhere down the line there was a good chance that we were going to run into some trouble.

"Anyone who lives in Dallas knows the history of gay bars around here. When the competition gets too stiff, there always seems to be a fire. Somebody doesn't like competition."

Mike said, however, that he never thought for a moment that their bar would be torched after only one night.

"Whoever did it, or whoever paid somebody to do it, must have been plenty scared about us being a success," he continued. "The person wanted to make sure we didn't have a chance to get established."

"But his ploy is not going to work. Our dream is not going to be burned out that easily. We will rebuild. We will open again. We will serve Dallas' gay men. We will be a success."

"When I got the call from the fire department early Saturday morning, I was just sick. Then I got furious and angry. And the rest of the morning, as we sifted

through the rubble, I cried."

"But we have insurance, and the man who owns the building has insurance. We will put the Snakepit back together. We are determined not to let anybody scare us out of the gay bar business."

Dallas Fire Department officials say they, too, are tired of the arsons connected to the city's gay bar business.

"Someday a bar is going to be torched when there are still people inside it," said an investigator. "The gay community better decide pretty quick if it is going to continue to let this sort of thing go on."

"Do gay people have to die inside a burning bar before those with information start cooperating with us? We want the person or persons responsible for these bar fires very badly. We are ready to conduct a full-scale investigation, but we need help from the gay community."

Switchboard Announces Leadership

Rick Neil is the new president of the Gay Switchboard of Houston, Inc., board of directors, with Clayton Munger vice president and Dee Lamb secretary.

The selection of new officers and permanent board of directors was announced at the first official board meeting Jan. 31.

Board members are Pokey Anderson, Ted Boya, Eric Charizio, Marion Coleman, Charles Gillis, Kendall Hamilton, David Hinkle, Jerry Kaufman, Glen Razak and Hank Renteria.

"With the selection of this fine dedicated group, we have now built the foundation for a service organization that will be a valuable asset to the community for many years to come," Neil said.

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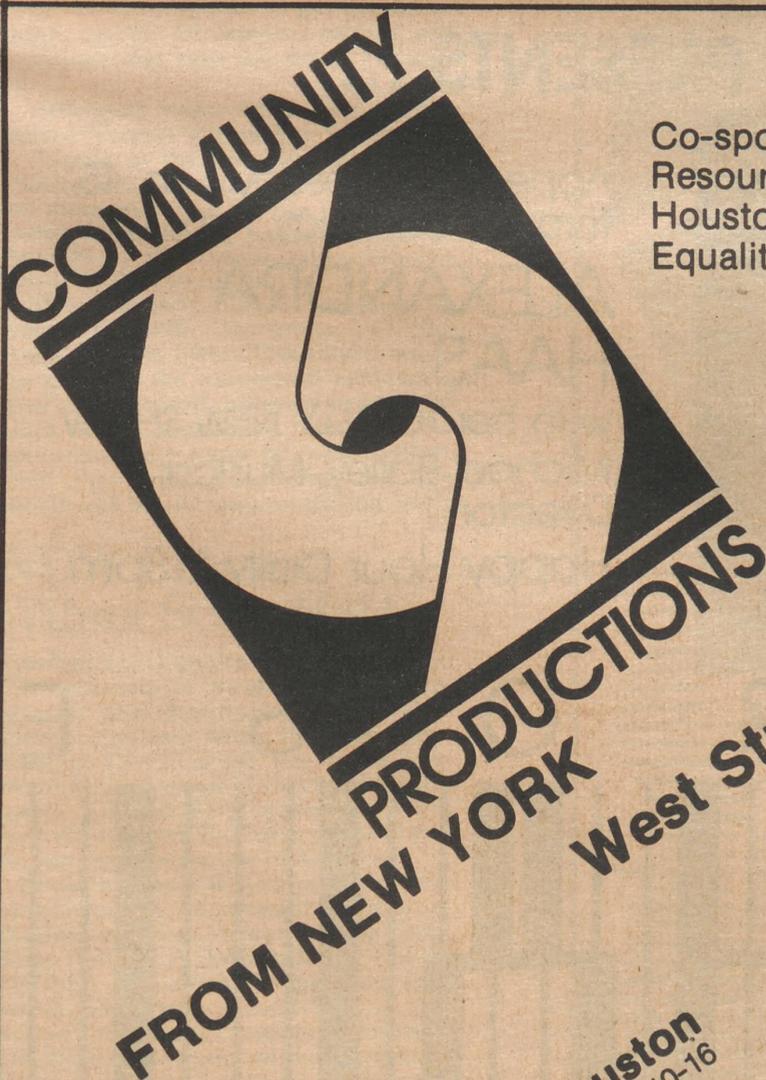
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In Houston, for further information and ticket reservations call (713) 680-3346, or write Community Productions c/o Citizens for Human Equality, PO Box 3045, Houston, TX 77253.

They Say It Never Works

By Patrick Franklin
Stonewall Features

My lover, partner, spouse, and/or significant other and I just celebrated our seventh anniversary together. That's not a milestone for anyone else, and it's no great record in the marital sweepstakes. Yet while we were getting mellow and reminiscing, we realized that most of our heterosexual friends who got together during that same time are now divorced or separated.

Gay couples aren't supposed to stay together. It never works, they say, and we're too flighty, too sensation-oriented to last. In a country where the heterosexual divorce rate approaches 50%, all the reinforcements that gay people get for living together are negative ones.

So, this week, I am celebrating Valentine's Day by furnishing you with a few examples on the other side of the coin; here are some of the great gay pairs who made it despite heavy opposition and strong public disapproval.

Gertude Stein and Alice B. Toklas have to lead the list, not only as one of the most inseparable of gay couples and as the most publically identifiable pair, but as an example of devotion in the most trying circumstances. They lived together for over 40 years, in the face of opposition and derision from relatives and the world press. Their relationship survived two world wars—in the middle of the combat.

They made lives for themselves of dignity and dedication; yet they had their own moments of great intimacy. "Woojum" (Gertrude) and "Pussy" (Alice) are great examples of devotion and love to us all.

At the same time, in Paris, another great relationship was shaping up. The great rivals, socially, of Stein and Toklas were Natalie Barney and Romaine Brooks, who

established a glittering literary salon that attracted the names of the times. Though Brooks and Barney enjoyed an understanding that allowed each of them some forays into forbidden pastures, each came back to the other—this time for 55 years! In the United States, that would have earned them a congratulatory telegram from the President. In gay life, it should at least merit our admirations.

The tragic story of Oscar Wilde and Lord Alfred Douglas perhaps does not belong here. Yet it should be remembered

another again, it was a very short time before they met in Italy to take up the torch once more.

Without the "help" of people who had their own axe to grind, Wilde and Douglas might have gone on to live together for years afterward. But that story, as we know, ends more unhappily.

Society, which claims to place such importance on continuing relationship, gets in the way of gay ones when it can. Somerset Maugham, irascible and nasty as he was, still inspired complete devotion from his "secretary," Gerald Haxton.

They met in 1914, and lived together until 1944. Haxton's early indiscretions made it impossible for him to live in England, where he was officially termed a sex-

Haxton, far more gregarious than his famous lover, was the person who actually gathered the material which Maugham used in his famous stories. Strange and edgy as the affair must have been, it takes more than habit to make two men live together for three decades.

Nearer to our time is the example of Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears, an apparently happy arrangement that gave us the benefit of their cultural offspring. Britten, England's most capable modern composer, wrote many songs and operatic roles with his lover, tenor Peter Pears, in mind. One of the most effective of those works is the cycle "Michaelangelo Sonnets," a setting of the Italian's love poems to his lover, Tommaso di Cavliero.

Again, this pair stayed together for many decades until the death of Britten in 1976. One indication of the recognition their relationship gathered was the letter of condolence sent to Pears at that time.

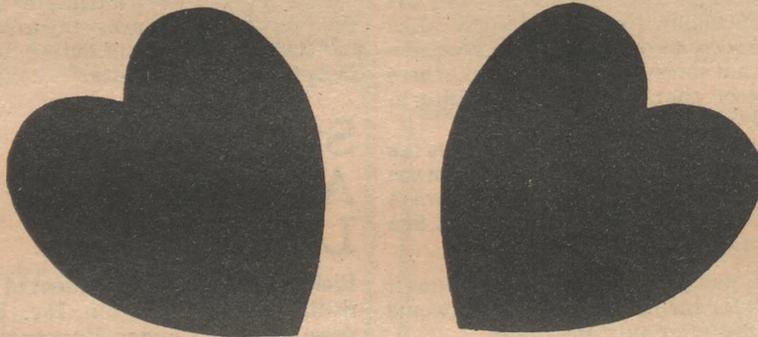
From Harmodius and Aristogeiton, the pair of lovers who went to death together in the sake of Greek freedom, through Hadrian, who built 14 cities in honor of his dead favorite Antinous, to W.H. Auden and Chester Kallman, we have the example of great love and sharing.

We may not have the financial considerations of community property to hold us together, or the legal recognitions of a marriage certificate. We may not have the plight of our children to remember to keep a failing marriage going despite its lack of affection. But those things are not what makes a great love story.

Possibly, even finer examples are right around you, right now. Some of the bravest lovers are your neighbors, those men and women who make their lives together for years without great fame or great wealth.

On this Valentine's Day, my lover and I salute them, and we plan on being our own examples for the next 30 years.

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that their affair was a long-lasting one, too, and that Wilde regarded his trial as an affair of honor, at least in part, to clear the name of his handsome lover.

There were nasty moments later when "friends" tried to poison the memory of one for the other. Wilde denounced Douglas in "De Profundis," his recounting of his trial and imprisonment. But, despite prohibitions on their ever seeing one

another again, it was a very short time before they met in Italy to take up the torch once more. Without the "help" of people who had their own axe to grind, Wilde and Douglas might have gone on to live together for years afterward. But that story, as we know, ends more unhappily. Society, which claims to place such importance on continuing relationship, gets in the way of gay ones when it can. Somerset Maugham, irascible and nasty as he was, still inspired complete devotion from his "secretary," Gerald Haxton. They met in 1914, and lived together until 1944. Haxton's early indiscretions made it impossible for him to live in England, where he was officially termed a sexual offender. For that reason, he and Maugham made their home in the south of France for most of their lives together, which seems like little hardship. Yet the intervention of the Second World War, when they were forced to leave their home, forced a decision to come to the United States rather than England, where Maugham would have been more comfortable.

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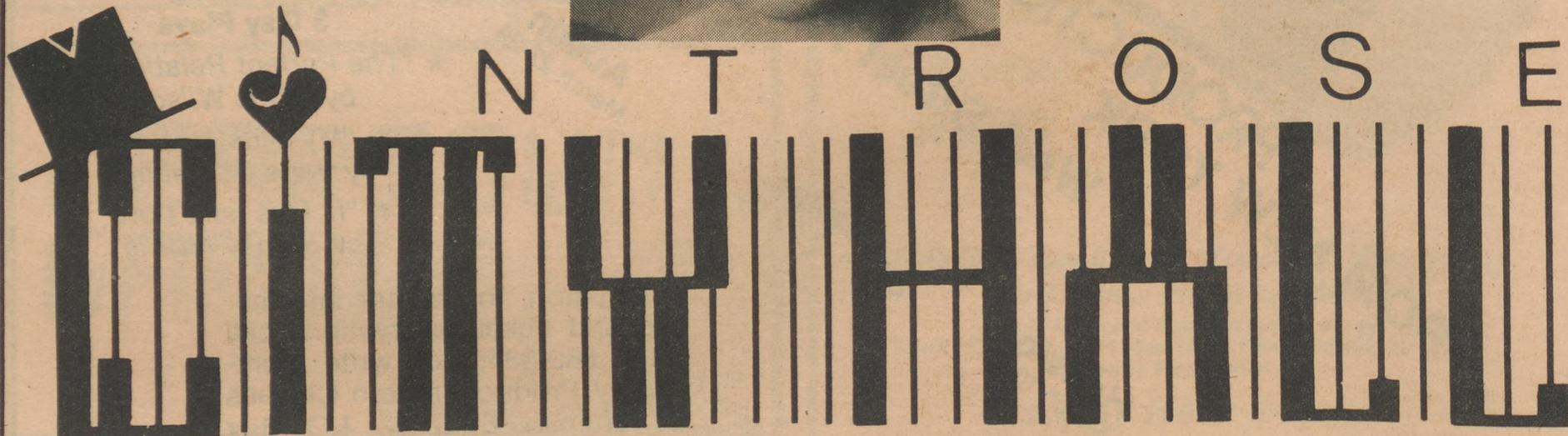
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Catholic Monsignor Attacks Pro-Gay Report

International Gay News Agency
 Monsignor Peter Armstrong, the new chairman of the San Francisco Catholic Commission on Social Justice, said on February 3 that a controversial church report on the status of gays and Catholicism "holds the church in contempt" and the task force that wrote it should be disbanded.

The original 155-page report, issued in July, severely criticized "the oppression" of gay people by the Catholic Church, suggesting that the church include education about gays in its schools, provide support groups for gay priests and lesbian nuns and facilitate adoptions by gays through church service agencies.

The report was written by a 14-member Task Force on Gay/Lesbian Issues, about two-thirds of whom were gay, and was "accepted and endorsed" as a "working paper" to spur dialogue on gay issues.

The Commission on Social Justice is a body appointed by the archbishop and mandated to look into how to apply "Catholic teachings to real life," and has been active with such issues as the nuclear freeze and the civil war in El Salvador.

Monsignor Armstrong said the report was one-sided with no consideration of the traditional church teachings on homosexuality. He said the Task Force—appointed to look at violence against gays—"went far beyond its mandate" in discussing theological issues of whether homosexuality should be viewed as an acceptable lifestyle.

"There's the problem," said Armstrong. "You have the teachings of the church which simply say we can't support homosexuality as an alternate lifestyle. That's not the Judaic-Christian tradition."

Among the report's 54 recommendations that Armstrong said he "can't live with" are the proposals for gay adoptions, equal benefits for same-sex couples, and language that calls the church "oppressive."

Armstrong wants the Task Force dissolved "because they've done their work."

Sources on the Commission on Social Justice see Armstrong's appointment as an attempt to "reel in" the commission, especially after the national attention brought by the intense debate brought about by the gay report.

The commission at its last meeting voted 8 to 3, with 1 abstention, not to disband the Task Force. "The church would be saying to the homosexual community that they wouldn't listen any more," said Jack Kelly, commission member. "The gay community wants full participation. Now they're being excluded—and this would look like we were continuing that."

NOW Presents Wilma Scott Heide

The National Organization for Women at the University of Houston will present (gratis) the distinguished feminist speaker, Professor Wilma Scott Heide, on Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 8:00 p.m. in the Fort Worth Room, University Center (4800 Calhoun). This will be to honor the 163rd birthday of Susan B. Anthony, one of the earliest feminist leaders in America.

Heide, a "feminist-at-large, out of the closet humorist," is professor of Women's Studies and Public Affairs at Sangamon State University, Springfield, Ill. She is the third national NOW president and board chair whose commitment to the women's movement is expressed through her upbeat humor and wisdom in articulating the important issues concerning women, stated a press release.

A civil libertarian and civil rights activist, Heide is attributed with singlehandedly convincing the Pittsburgh Human Rights Commission to revise the ordinance prohibiting sexual discrimination.

Consequently the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Pittsburgh law that made segregating "help wanted" ads by sex illegal.

She has served on the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and succeeded in changing Pennsylvania's Human Rights Law to prohibit discrimination on a sexual basis. She was involved in including the ERA in the Pennsylvania constitution, and led a group to Washington demanding that the Senate Judiciary Committee consider equal rights for women.

"She is known for her ability to translate complex issues on her feminist position into witty, quotable language. She has broad experience on platforms at universities as well as Congressional hearings and at political rallies," a spokesperson said.

There will be a reception (\$3) following the speech.

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Change in Houston Police Questionnaire Subject of Debate in Dallas

By Doug Weatherford

A announcement Feb. 3 by the Houston Police Department that it would no longer question potential police recruits about their sexual orientation promptly sparked debate in Dallas over the same issue.

The subject light up the phone lines of radio talk show host Mel Bailey of WFAA Feb. 4.

Before talking to callers, Bailey had a conversation with Dallas Gay Alliance Vice President Bill Nelson, beginning the discussion by noting that there was a "big difference between Houston and Dallas."

Nelson stated that he was "certainly against Dallas' position," and he said he thought it was "very unfortunate that Houston has taken the lead in this particular area, since I'm afraid their police department was never known for its progressive tendencies, and here they are ahead of Dallas."

Bailey then said that perhaps the change in Houston's city administration, along with some sort of government pressure from the Justice Department in Washington due to the Houston police's abuses of civil rights in the past, might account for the changes. Nelson said, "Well, that may very well be the explanation for it. If it is, I think their (Houston's) actions for getting a new mayor and changing police chiefs was certainly beneficial for their city."

Bailey asked if there might be any case in Dallas that might bring itself into the courts so that the judges and juries can decide whether this is unfair or fair for the Dallas police department to say, "Yes, we have questions (on the applications for employment). We will find out if someone is gay, and we will not allow them to become a member of our police department.' What about that?"

"Judge Buchmeyer's ruling last August," retorted Nelson, "should take care of that—the 21.06 case in which he ruled that any questions about sexual orientation were a matter of privacy, and an invasion of privacy in this state, and that those kind of questions were illegal. As you know, that is being appealed in the Fifth Circuit (Court) in New Orleans. And when that is upheld in New Orleans, then the position that the Dallas police department is taking, I would presume, would be illegal at that point, rather than just unethical."

Nelson also said that on Friday, DGA president Mike Stewart had been in contact with assistant city manager Levi Davis, who had been "reviewing those very questions we're talking about now" for several weeks, and that it would be decided probably during the month of February whether the specific questions applying to sexual orientation would remain on police department applications. "You see," Nelson asserted, "it's not a question of the police department making that decision here in our city ... (and many such) decisions are administrative (in nature—i.e., made in the city manager's office)."

Bailey wondered whether "you guys (DGA) are looking for someone to test the courts once again."

Nelson answered, "Well, we're not actively seeking someone to do that. I am aware of several cases where people have been refused employment in Dallas, in the police department in particular, because they admitted to being homosexual. And I don't think there'd be any difficulty at all in finding someone who would take it to court if that were necessary. I'm very confident, though, it won't be necessary. I think those questions will be removed in Dallas in a matter of weeks."

Nelson expressed his interest in hearing what the people of Dallas had to say on the subject. "I think that most people believe,

in this city, that you shouldn't be asked questions that don't relate to your job when you are being employed. And certainly questions of (sexual) orientation do not relate to being a police officer, so they shouldn't be a part of the employment process."

Bailey then took questions from area listeners on this and a variety of other topics on his open line, one exchange of which is reproduced below:

CALLER: I was calling to comment on the homosexual police officers in Houston, and your program director informed me of how ignorant I was of Texas state law. Goodness gracious. My comment was going to be, "If homosexuality was against the law, sodomy was against the law, would homosexual officers be arresting homosexuals?" And she informed me that Judge Jerry Buchmeyer (ruled that) sodomy is no longer illegal in the state of Texas. Is that right?

BAILEY: What is no longer illegal, as specific to gays, is their acts of love, and their consortium along those lines is not to be considered illegal. It may be immoral to some people, but it is not to the courts illegal.

CALLER: Okay. Then that would be in the privacy of their own domicile, or something like that?

BAILEY: Yes.

CALLER: What if two males or females were engaged in some type of sexual activity and were caught, let's say, in a parked car or someplace that might be considered semi-public?

BAILEY: They would be treated like a heterosexual couple doing the same thing.

CALLER: Right. Would a homosexual police officer arrest these two men or two women, or whatever? That's my question.

BAILEY: Would a heterosexual officer arrest a man and a woman in the convertible in the park?

CALLER: Yeah. I think that they would.

BAILEY: I think that you've answered your question.

CALLER: Gosh! Well, my biggest concern was my ignorance of the law. I had no idea that sodomy was no longer illegal.

BAILEY: We're one of the last states with that on the books. It's now been taken off.

CALLER: Well, okay. It kinda lets you know which way we're going, doesn't it?

BAILEY: That's your word, not mine. Thank you.

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Monthly News Feb 9, 1983

Forty Years in the Movement: Jim Kepner

By Phil Nash

While sexual variation has been evident in virtually every culture throughout history, most theorists believe that the gay culture which has developed in the U.S. and some western European countries in the last 20 years is unlike any other manifestation on earth at any time.

Our history, of course, is difficult to trace; right up to the present most gay men and lesbians live most of their lives in the shadows. Much of our history is reconstructed from scraps of writings or from clues in public documents. Others have been gathered from shreds of tales told by parties removed from actual circumstances.

Until recently, American society's punishment for being a non-heterosexual was too cruel to allow the whole truth to take its place in history. The few notable exceptions hardly constitute a complete understanding of how gay persons have come to assume a higher level of visibility in the last quarter of the 20th century.

Our history is special to Jim Kepner. Through his life, Jim has discovered our history in books, collected it, talked about it, and even preserved it. He has witnessed and even created substantial contribu-

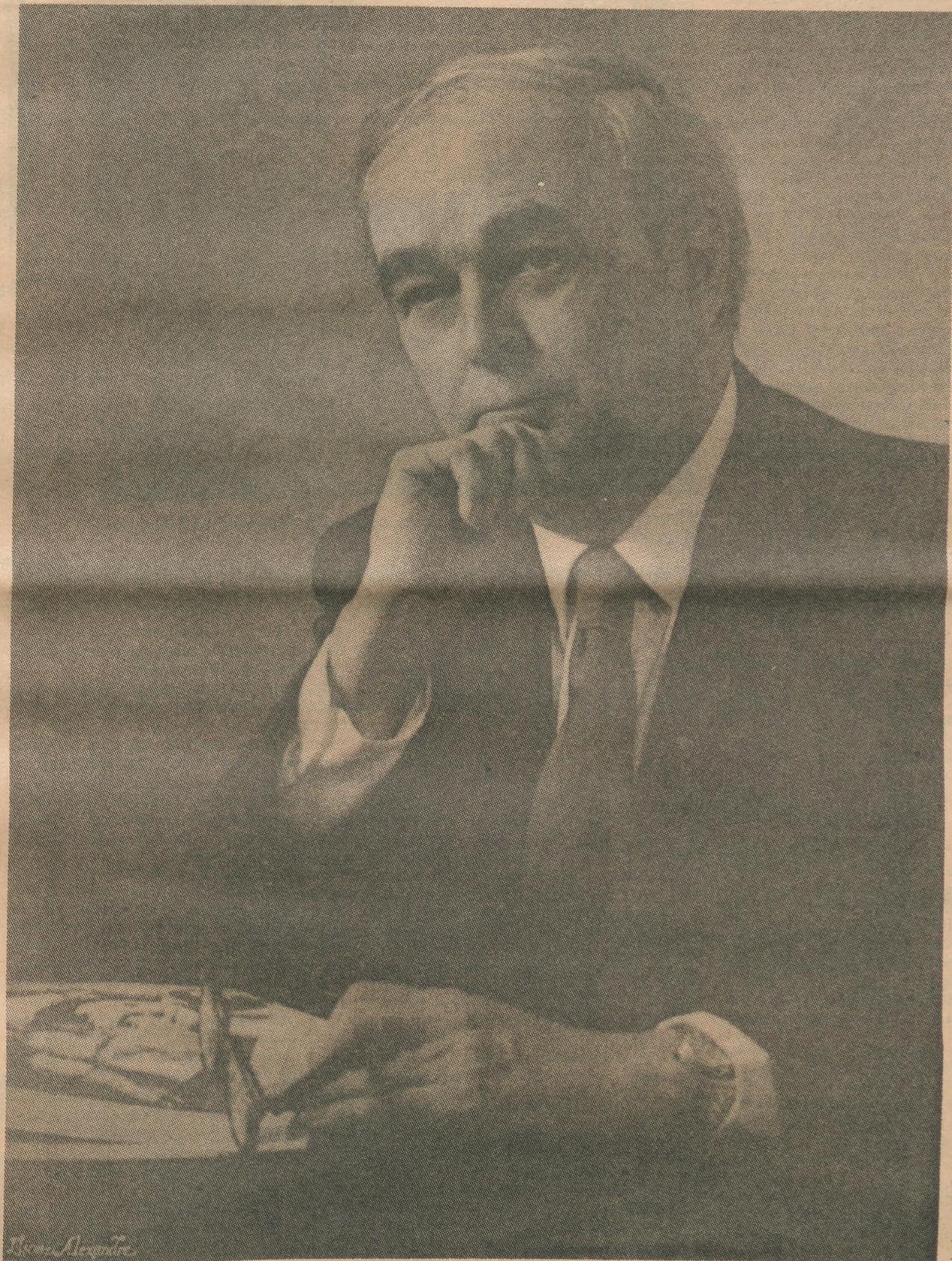
Former Texan heads the National Gay Archives

tions to it. Kepner is the director of the National Gay Archives in Los Angeles, the repository of a magnificent lifetime collection of books, papers, journals, pictures and other items that link contemporary gay Americans to their historical roots.

Soft-spoken and personable, Kepner has a gift of being able to speak eloquently and authoritatively for hours on end. His love of our history is evident; our interview was punctuated with many digressions that revealed intimate knowledge of names, places, and times where fragments of activism began to illuminate some of the shadowy crevasses of a sexual and social milieu that has grown to a powerful movement.

The life of Jim Kepner is itself a study of the progress of gay visibility in our culture. Recovering speedily from a successful cancer surgery this spring, Kepner offered a lengthy interview which included reminiscences of his childhood in Galveston, his San Francisco "coming out" period in the 40s, pre-Stonewall activism, and well-grounded observations on the question to which his research has so diligently been applied: "Who are we?"

EARLY REMEMBRANCES: Jim



Artist's interpretation of Kepner taken from 1981 Los Angeles Gay Pride Week Book, obtained through Texas Gay Archives, Houston

Kepner was an eight-month-old founding child when he joined the family of a Galveston railroad worker. In his teens, he remembers going out on a triple date with two other boys and three girls shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. After the girls were dropped off, he said he noticed that all three of the boys relaxed. Their conversation turned toward homosexuality.

Ignorant, Kepner asked what that was. His friends told him that this was a way that sailors at sea "got their rocks off"

with each other. Kepner said that at that moment he first found a definition that applied to some of his innermost feelings.

But by no means was this his first "gay" remembrance. Kepner believes that early perceptions are as important a "rite of passage" as coming out. He remembers a Fourth of July celebration on the beach in Galveston when he was three or four years old. A tall, handsome stranger held the little boy aloft so he could see a fireworks display. In the background, Kepner distinctly remembers hearing a song play-

ing, with the words "Dear old pal of mine."

He remembers vividly sensing that it was wrong for him to be picked up by a strange man, but loving every moment of being held in those strong, friendly arms. He can still quote the complete lyrics of the song.

Kepner also remembers feeling a mystical camaraderie with a tomboy friend of his at age six. She protected him from the neighborhood bullies, and he said that he felt a strong alliance with her because "we were breaking the same rules even though

we were different." At age nine, he remembers noting the hypocrisy between what his Sunday School lessons said about loving one's neighbor while knowing that Galveston's racial minorities were not welcome at his church.

A job transfer took Kepner's father to San Francisco in the early 40s. Kepner followed in 1942. "I was one of the greenest things that showed up on earth," he chuckled. He confessed that he had to be told how to cruise by a woman—the only person with whom he had discussed having gay feelings. When he finally scored sexually, he remembers it as an "is-that-all-there-is?" experience. Sex baffled him; he had expected something much more romantic.

Undaunted, he sneaked tricks into the small apartment he shared with his father and his sister between the time she left for school and the time his father came home from work.

His woman friend told him about the old Black Cat bar in San Francisco. "I went walking up to the Black Cat one night sailing on a cloud of idealism—going out to join my brothers and sisters—and the San Francisco police force beat me to the door.

I had already read about gay bar raids, so I had a vision of mounting my white charger and going to save my brothers and sisters. But that wasn't what I did. I hid in a doorway across the street feeling like shit. The first view I got of my brothers and sisters was about 15 handsome longshoreman types and about 12 or 15 drag queens. All the longshoreman types looked about as guilty and shame-faced as I felt, and all the drag queens were scrapping like hell. I can still remember one of the drag queens shouting, 'Don't shove, you bastard, or I'll bite your fucking balls off!'—and that made me feel better in a perverse way.

THE ROOTS OF ACTIVISM: In the 40s, Kepner said that the word gay was widely used in three different ways. One of those was simply as a synonym for homosexual. Another was using the word in a "fishing expedition" by dropping it appropriately into a conversation to see if the listener would respond to the key word by using it himself.

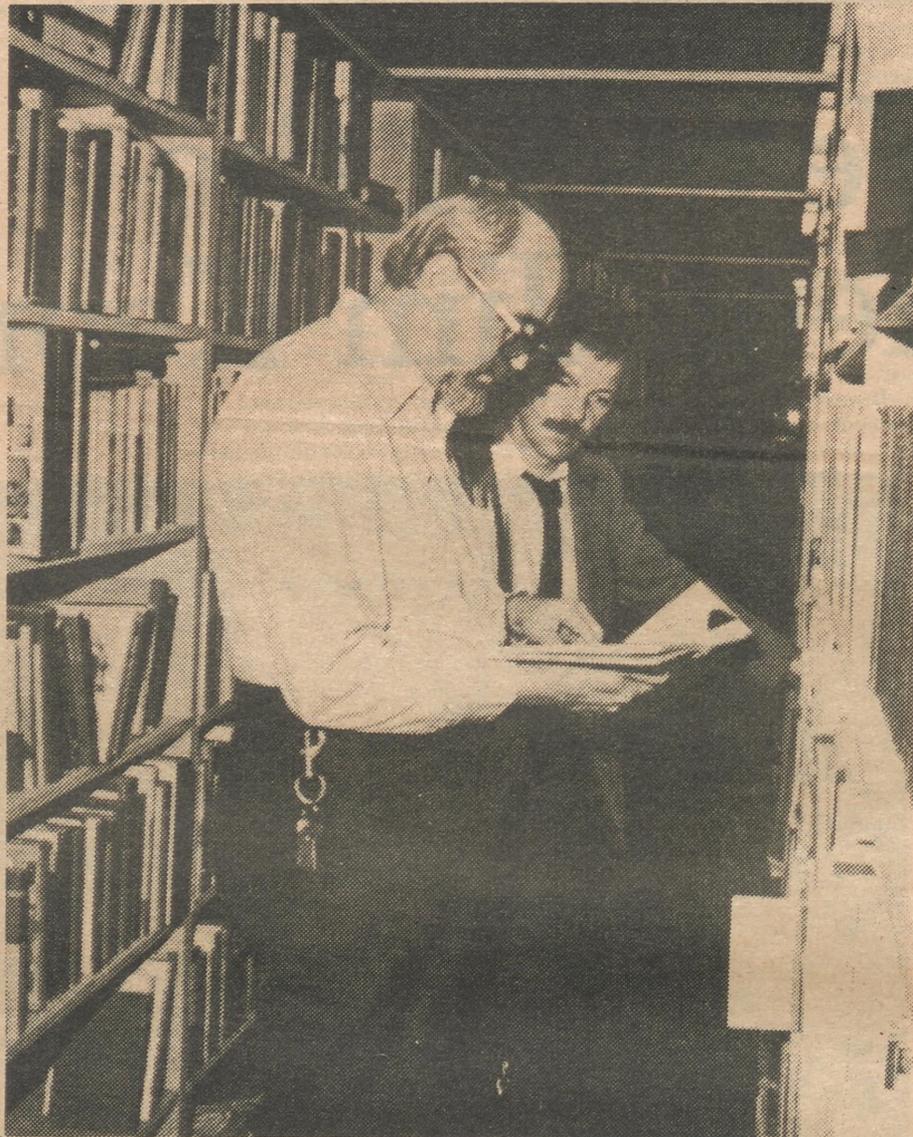
This would be used to break the ice with interesting strangers in ambiguous social circumstances. A third meaning of gay was used among the open drag queens in a militant sense. "Gay" meant being open—which invariably meant to be at least a cultivated swish, if not an out-and-out drag. The open queens rejected the term "homosexual," a clinical term they found offensive.

Kepner says "gay" has been used in the language since the 1880s to mean men-loving men and women-loving women, although the references are often ambiguous and easily interchanged with the conventional meaning of the term. Lesbians also accepted the term "gay" when he was a young adult, says Kepner. The rejection of "gay" by feminist lesbians for the more exclusive "lesbian" is a relatively recent phenomenon.

Kepner remembers the 40s in San Francisco as a "heady, open time." He recalled riding to work across San Francisco Bay in a ferry boat on which "gay guys and gay gals" segregated themselves into one area of the ship for early morning camaraderie.

In San Francisco, Kepner was involved in precursor movements. Many gays, unable to divulge their sexual identities, become involved in artistic, literary and political movements. Kepner found many kindred spirits in science fiction clubs. Some of his friends were involved in the politically radical peace movement or in communist organizing. Kepner himself was ultimately tossed out of the communist party for being gay.

"If you find another avenue of expression, it frequently postpones coming out. And there were a whole bunch of avenues of expression that many gays found as alternate identities—places where gay feelings could find expression. That enforced the closet. The survival of a cause was tied up with making sure it was not



Kepner (forefront) with Don Amador in the National Gay Archives, Los Angeles

known that there were any queers involved."

He began an extensive collection books which made reference to gays. His first collection, along with a large collection of science fiction, was thrown out by his father in a fit of rage. His second attempt at book collecting became the foundation of the archive he now directs.

During the 40s, Kepner contributed to Sappho, a literary publication which enjoyed wide readership among science fiction fans. In a poem he once referred to the time in which "The nameless love will be known in the land." The reference to Oscar Wilde's "love that dare not speak its name" was a significant one to many science fiction readers who revered Wilde at least as an artist and perhaps as a courageous forerunner to publicly-proclaimed gay love.

From 1943 to 1953, Kepner expressed enthusiasm for starting a gay organization and a publication. This was shared by some of his science-fiction associates. One of the reasons he didn't fulfill his dream was because open gay society at the time was dominated by queens. The prevalent theory was that a gay male embodied a woman's soul suffering the misfortune of being locked in a man's body. To be openly gay meant being an outrageous camp queen.

"In my gut, I felt male... not much male, but male nonetheless. I probably learned to swish a bit more than I remember. I went back into the closet then for a while because it was difficult to be an open gay without being effeminate. Not to be effeminate was regarded as 'trying to be trade.'"

THE MATTACHINE ERA: The Mattachine Society was founded by Harry Hay in Los Angeles in 1950. Kepner, who lived a few blocks away from Hay, knew nothing about the meetings of Mattachine until 1952. The group was initially a very small, tightly-knit group of like-minded people, most of whom had been goaded about their homosexuality in other radical political groups.

Mattachine was conceived to demonstrate to other social movement groups

that gays could be a socially responsible minority—a development that would dispute the commonly-held Marxist assumption that homosexuality was a disease of the decadent bourgeoisie and western indulgence in hedonism.

In April, 1953, the original Mattachine began to crumble, according to Kepner. It had begun as a "mystic lodge" with like-minded members who were in constant communication. When the organization began to open its meetings to a wider membership, it grew to immense proportions and developed very quickly in California with many groups started in other American cities.

But the groups were mainly very conservative. "Mattachine types were in many cases more straight than anyone else in the McCarthy era. There were certainly no queens." Ultimately, the bulk of the founders were thrown out of the organization, due partially to some well-publicized local witch hunts.

"To most gays, if any other gays were being accused of being Stalin's agents, the last thing they wanted was to be in an organization with any communists in it. Mattachine went from being an underground radical group to an above-ground group advocating coming out to bosses and families, but otherwise conservative. It had a loyalty oath to God, church and the local supermarket."

Back in San Francisco in 50s and 60s, Kepner was involved with One, Inc., a long-term gay organization. He served for many years as editor of the group's magazine, begun in 1953.

Our interview did not cover many specific activities during the post-McCarthy era through years before the Stonewall riots in New York. Kepner summarized this period of activism as characterized by a unified (but in his opinion erroneous) belief taken for granted by gay activism.

"We all know what we want—get the police off our back so we can live in suburbia, just like our straight neighbors, look like them and be accepted. Most gays took for granted that society would never change—that the prejudice against us is

so deeply rooted that it can't change, and if we speak out, we'd be arrested immediately."

Kepner was involved in three nationally-coordinated meetings which took place in 1966 and '67. They were sponsored by the National Conference of Homophile Organizations. The first was in Kansas City in 1966 followed by a second larger one in San Francisco the same year. A third was held in Washington, D.C., in 1967. Altogether, there were about forty organizations involved, about half of which came from the West Coast and the other half from the Boston to Washington urban corridor. A few groups from the central part of the country were represented.

Kepner characterized the participants as having the singular goal of having all barriers removed from preventing them from becoming just like their non-gay counterparts.

Kepner, who had gained recognition for his writing and organizing with One, addressed the conference on a pet topic of his: "My chief concern then was getting a clear recognition of our diversity. We don't understand ourselves until we understand our diversity. As we grow up, we adjust to whatever difference we find in ourselves—and it may be the same difference to start with—and at practically every moment of our lives, we make adjustments to this condition. We may resist it... we may resent it and go on with it... we may totally flaunt it and just say 'fuck-off'... or we may try to conform to it and agree with it."

"And these adjustments may change from moment to moment and from year to year. We have those double adjustments and out of this we have the commonality because we get busy when we come out just looking for a trick because we have already gotten into the definition of gayness as something we do rather than something we are. So that makes for an enormously divisive element in our community."

Kepner believes that there is such a thing as a gay community. "There has always been, even in the most repressive periods, some community. In New York and Long Island in the 1700s there were descriptions of hordes of 'frivolous young men' wandering down on the battery picking up sailors."

Kepner believes that his efforts haven't been in vain. "I think we've gotten to the point of the general recognition of this diversity being a characteristic of our community."

ON STONEWALL: "Some of the older gays like to downgrade Stonewall because they say 'we were doing all these things before.' But Stonewall made an enormous change," Kepner asserts.

But contrary to popular opinion, modern gay liberation didn't exactly begin at Stonewall on June 28, 1969. Kepner cites a San Francisco group, Vanguard, which formed in 1966 with primary impetus from street hustlers. The group "had all the chief attributes of the later gay liberation-type groups." "Gay Power," a slogan thought developed in reference to the Stonewall riots, had actually been used in the first issue of *The Advocate* in September 1967. The headline read "Gay Power Comes to Washington, D.C." referring to a delegation of gays, including Kepner, who went to visit congressional representatives during the Washington, D.C., meeting of the National Conference of Homophile Organizations.

Kepner summarized the dramatic changes wrought by Stonewall thus: "If I had been asked in 1957 or 61 or 62 how long it would take to get from here to there, I would probably have said 200 years. But I went to a statewide Democratic council meeting in the fall of 1971 and introduced a couple gay rights resolutions and got an enormous storm of negative reaction—but we did manage to push them through by guilt-tripping people."

"We hadn't really changed the conscience of the California Democratic party. I felt, 'if we can keep this up, by about '88 or '89, we may be able to get the subject discussed on the floor of the Democratic National Convention and in another 12 years get an openly gay dele-

gate to the Republican convention.' But by the next year, in 1972, nearly every major Democratic candidate had some stand on gay rights, and now, of course, it is a taken-for-granted issue."

THE ARCHIVES: Of his job as principal collector and director of the Gay Western Archives, Kepner says, "It zeroes in on trying to find the spiritual core of things. I think it is essentially a different kind of spirit that lets us reject the gender roles—that makes us survive in every species and in every society whether repressive of non-repressive, whether somewhat patriarchal or somewhat matriarchal, whether fascist or communist or capitalist or what have you."

"There is probably some inner core ... probably innate ... possibly touching on such crazy things as racial memory or reincarnation ... I don't even know what to mean by the word 'spirit'—I think there are things in us that somewhat transcend

the attitudes of mechanistic science.

Kepner says he thinks that homosexual acts may be merely a secondary manifestation of another nature. "The Gnostics (a religious movement that existed just prior to and immediately after Christ) believed that there were two types of people in the world: those that contained a spark from the original light in a primordial battle between the god of this world (darkness) and the god of the spirit world—and the others who were merely putty.

Those who have the spark grow up varying to the degree of how strong the spark is and how strong the clay encasing the spirit is. And it is sort of an analogy for how we grow up as gays. The object of the Gnostics was a reunion in a promiscuity of love. And Christianity (after the Gnostic influence) has been re-defined by heterosexuals as a cover for heterosexual marriage.

Christianity originally had the Gnostic

view that the purpose of love was to reunite everybody. There was a love feast in the early Christian church which was trying to spread this kind of love so that it broke down the boundaries of just two people—they created the kind of love that moves out toward everyone. And that takes practice. In the main, Christianity pays lip service to universal love, but in Gnosticism, you had what most closely approaches a gay religion."

Kepner has worked for most of the recent past at the archives without salary. It is a labor of love which he started four decades ago to answer the still-complex question, "Who are we?"

The project is sponsored by generous donations of charitable gay groups such as the Imperial Courts of Los Angeles, a few gay bars, approximately 500 members, some donors, and occasionally through job programs such as CETA.

Tens of thousands of books line the

shelves of the library, and rows of filing cabinets contain clippings, newspapers, banners, flyers, buttons and other movement memorabilia. It is the largest collection of such material that exists.

Donations of money or materials to the National Gay Archives and the Natalie Barney/Edward Carpenter Library may be addressed to 1654 North Hudson Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90028.

Natalie Barney (1876-1972), an American heiress, was known as "Empress of the Lesbians" in Paris, where she lived. She encouraged like-minded women to restore the isle of Lesbos to its former glory. Gertrude Stein was reportedly shocked at Barney's openness.

Edward Carpenter (1844-1929), an Englishman, was brought out by Walt Whitman's writing and Greek sculpture. He wrote about gay themes, labor, and mystical subjects. Considered a feminist, he scandalized snobbish friends by having relationships openly with men of the working classes.

Phil Nash, the author of this article, once worked for a Texas gay newspaper, "Contact," about 1974. Today he lives in Denver and contributes to Denver's gay newspaper, "Outfront," where this article originally appeared.

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The Montrose Voice—and only the Montrose Voice—has massive circulation in the gay community of Houston.

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Where the Boys Are

By Bob Damron

Where the Boys Are is an old movie that really put Ft. Lauderdale on the map. It's a trivial tale of winter-weary kids who converge here during Easter vacation week in search of fun in the sun ... and starring a very young George Hamilton.

Since then all of us have grown a lot older, and Lauderdale has grown a lot bigger. Although it's population is only 150,000, a million plus annual tourists makes it seem a lot larger. Sprawling all over southwest Florida's fabulous "Gold Coast," this beach-version Babylon can produce some maddening traffic jams.

Ft. Lauderdale is quite accurately referred to as the nation's largest yacht basin. Honeycombed by the Intercoastal Waterway, rivers, bays, canals and inlets, it is a city where boats rival cars as a means of transportation. If you don't happen to have a yacht handy, you will need a car.

Today, this extremely popular resort is a curious combination of beach boys, billionaires, ballyhoo and Bronx bagels. Palm-studded beaches, flamaingo gardens, jai alai games, sightseeing cruise boats, water slides and other aqua sports are among the many attractions. Now to get down to specific names for gay tourists.

For smart shops, boutiques and cafes visit elegant Las Oas Avenue, a sort of Rodeo Drive-By-the-Sea.

For many visitors, the Marlin Beach

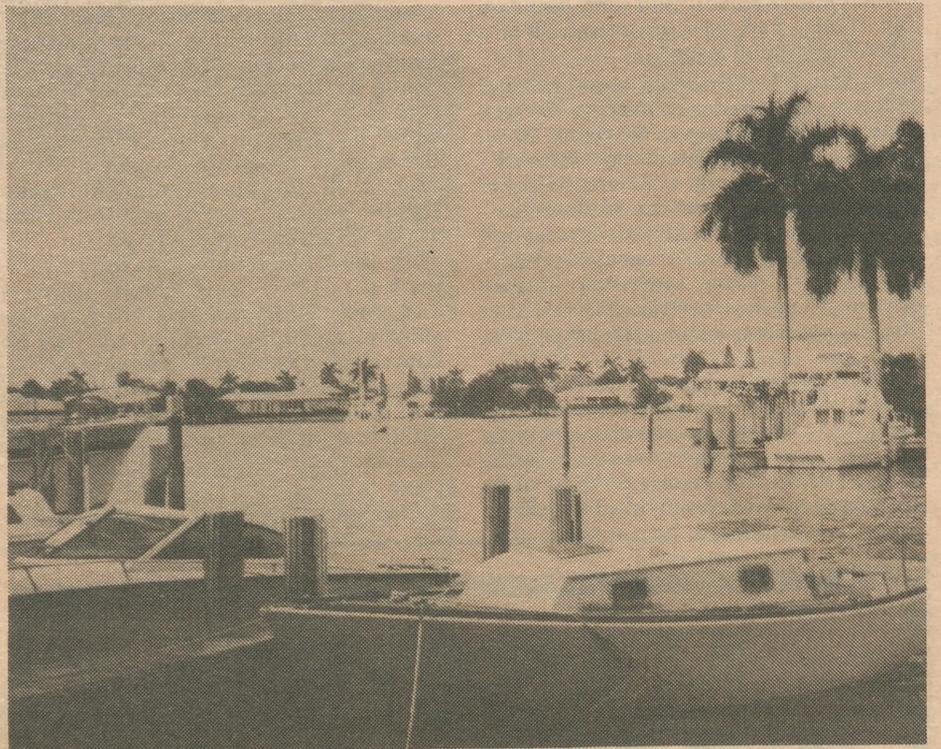
Hotel at 17 South Atlantic Blvd. in Ft. Lauderdale Beach is "the" place to stay. This complex features several bars, a good restaurant, shops, swimming pool and a daily afternoon T-dance at the Lower Deck Disco. The hotel rooms range from modest to very pleasant suites. Pretty preppies and ex-preppies are all over the place.

Other variable lodgings can be found at the Oasis, Ocean Walk Apartments, Midnight Sea, Lauderdale Manor and Valencia Resort. Being neutral, I stay at the Holiday Inn-Airport.

I think that Backstreet, downtown, at 101 S.W. 2nd Ave., is just about the most impressive disco in America. Brilliantly illuminated at night, it resembles a mini-Disneyworld. Some locals feel that Backstreet is overly expensive, and somewhat un-responsive to the gay community, but don't miss it, or the busy Etc. Boutique near the main entrance. Judge for yourself.

The Copa at U.S. Hwy. and S.E. 28th St. has been a solid favorite for years. Unfortunately, the beautiful recent disco "Heaven" did not make it, and has gone to "hell" with a non-gay crowd.

In less than a year, The Roof Top at 3101 N. Federal Hwy. has become something of a phenomena, and the most popular penthouse gay lounge and restaurant I know of jam-packed during the cocktail hour. It has three bars, piano entertainment and several dining areas. Some older patrons,



The Intercoastal Canal in Ft. Lauderdale

middle-aged professionals and available youngsters make for a very cruisy combination.

Besides here and the Poop Deck at the Marlin Beach, the best gay restaurants are Richard's and The Regatta. For mixed dining try Jimmy January's, Sir Nicholas and Thimbels. Excellent non-gay gourmet restaurants include Cafe de Geneve, Casa Vecchia, Dante's, Down Under, Il Giardino, La Reserve, Le Cafe de Paris, Le Dome of the Four Season, Mai Kai and the Fisherman.

The busiest women's bars are Top's and 2025 Pembroke in nearby Hollywood, but other potential Ms. Florida's can be found at Shangra-La and Ye Olde Tavern. Lefty's at 710 N. Federal Hwy. is a macho cruise bar. The Everglades, Grotto and Saloon have been here forever, and so have most of their customers. Johnny's Village Inn is a haven for hustlers.

For action guys, try Boots, which adjoins the hot Gym-Club Lauderdale Baths in the rear of 2708 S.W. 9th St., or Tacky's at 2509 W. Broward. The latter is open until 4:00 a.m., whereas bars in Lauderdale proper close at 2:00 a.m.

I suggest avoiding the bookstores, which have been subjected to frequent police raids.

For current openings, pick up a copy of *The Weekly News*, Florida's gay newspaper, or *Out in Style* or *David*, the state's two gay entertainment magazines.

The Club Bath Chain is opening a new bath soon at 400 W. Broward.

It is said that "the fun never sets" here in the land of ship-wrecked coconuts, and I won't dispute that. So what if it is some-

what plastic? The kids are still here, by the thousands, and now there are also bars around catering to more mature men and women. I like Ft. Lauderdale on each visit, but if you don't, you're only a few minutes from nearby Miami, or a hop, skip and a jump from wonderful Key West.

But if young guys are your bag you won't be disappointed in Ft. Lauderdale. For above all, this is still "where the boys are."

Damron of publisher of the "Bob Damron Address Book," a guide to gay spots in America. It is available at area bookstores and leather shops.



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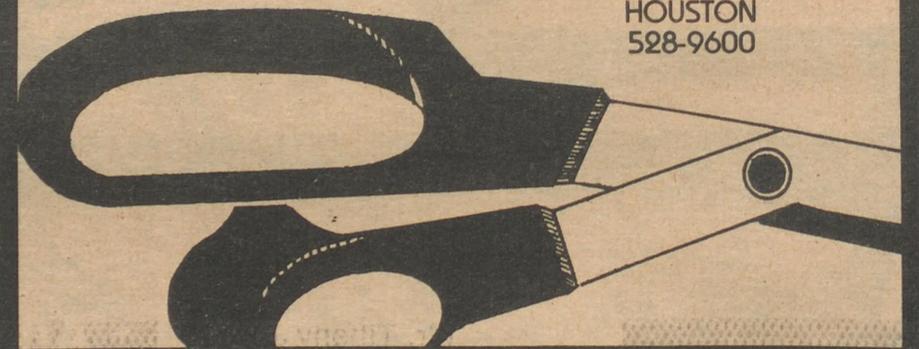
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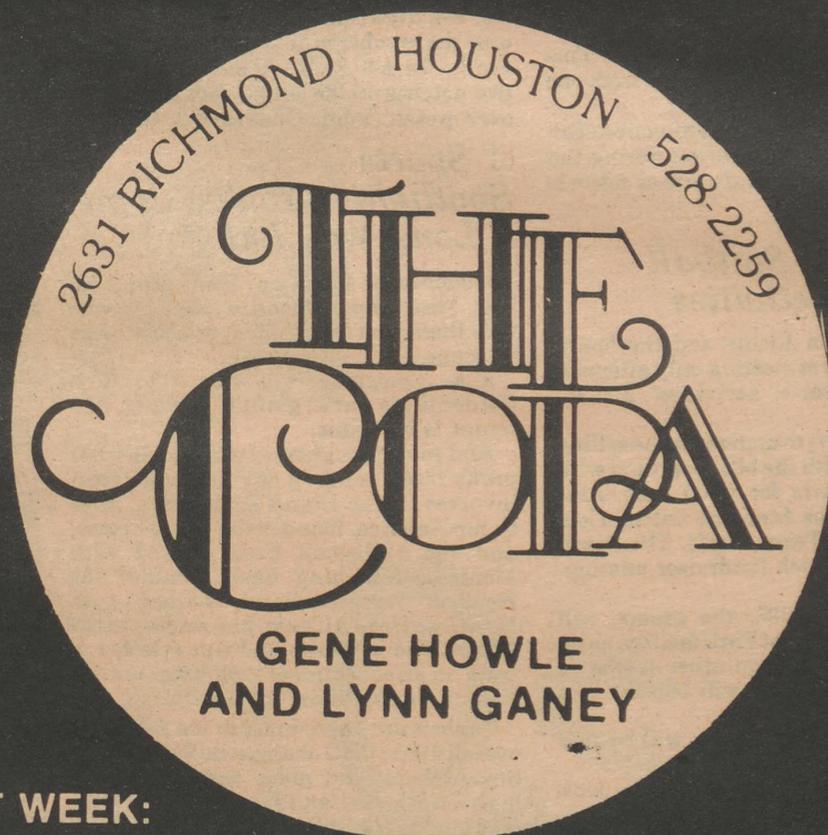


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Sports and Family—Everybody Wins

By Eddie Chavez

During my involvement in sports, there have been times that I have seen my peers, and friends rise to a need of our fellow sportsman. From prayers, to their last cent, the sports community has acted unselfishly.

1983 is not going to be any different. Tuesday morning, a sports member received a phone call from her ex-husband to inform her that he had accidentally shot their daughter. She was mistaken as an intruder.

Shocked and bewildered, she goes to the hospital with her friend. The 48 hour nightmare begins.

A seven-year-old princess lays on her bed before going to surgery, somewhat able to hear, her body reacts to mom and dad's voices. It's a good sign.

Even after surgery, good signs appear. Able to recognize her parents, she talks, points and flexes her feet. If she's going to be okay, we'll know in the first 48 hours.

Meanwhile in the Montrose community and in people's heart, as eyes swell and eyes become teary, family, friends, and members of the Metropolitan Community Church are on bended knees praying for this young soul.

At work and at a home, the phone does not cease to ring; people do not cease to care, and hope is eternal.

At deadline, little princess is reportedly "doing fine." The night before as her mommy and her friend kept watch, a little voice says, "Hey mommy, what do you have to drink!"

The wait still goes on, the prayers still continue, the battle for life will be won and everybody wins.

□ Cash Tournament For Monday Bowlers

President Mike Steiniger has announced a cash tournament for Monday Night bowlers.

Approximately 40 teams plan to compete. The cost is \$10.00 per person, \$50.00 per team, with a 100 percent return. This number of teams will pay places from one through seven.

The cash winners will be announced Friday, March 25, at the Marriott during the buffet dinner as an end of the year celebration.

□ Women's Softball Outlines Activities

President Martha Richie and the board adjourned their first meeting only after outlining this year's activities for its members.

The group plans to undertake the selling of 13 oz. mugs with the MSA logo and with a list of the sports for \$5.00 each. Also included are logos from the Oilers, Cougars, U.T., and Texas A&M. The board approved the no risk fundraiser unanimously.

On March 12, 1983, the groups will reserve the Cherryhurst Park facility, as its members, will challenge other teams at volleyball. Concessions will be sold as a fundraising effort.

The pre-season tournament will be held on March 26 and 27.

A committee was also formed to look into the possibility of hosting a State Tournament in Houston during July or August.

□ Volleyball to Meet

Lincoln High School gym, Taft at Dallas, will host the first meeting of the MSA Volleyball League, Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m.

Interested persons may call Royce at 880-2930 for more information.

□ Sports Spring Affair Planned

MSA United Racquetball will be hosting an Early Spring Affair, Saturday, March

5, 1983 at the Barn. Along with a yard sale, food, and raffle tickets will be sold.

"Goods and prizes will be announced in a later issue," says Don Rodriguez. "This is a good chance to clean up your garage. Donations will be welcomed by calling 432-7851," he concluded.

□ Third Annual Spring Tennis Open

The light switch at the Homer Ford Memorial Tennis Center will be turned on Friday evening, March 25th for the Third Annual Spring Tennis Open. The three-day event will feature players from Galveston, Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Dallas, Ft. Worth and area suburbs.

According to Lester Vela, tournament director, the club will expand its levels of competition from Divisions A through D for both singles and doubles. The single elimination tournament will award trophies in first and second places.

"The cost is \$10.00 for singles and \$10.00 for a doubles team. The deadline has been set for March 21st," Vela concluded.

□ Montrose Tennis Players Return for Action

Sunday's bright sunshine brought many Montrose Tennis Club members to the courts of the Homer Ford Memorial Tennis Center to work on their game as the club's first tournament open nears.

Numero uno Rich Ryan defended his spot against newcomer (and semifinalist to the U.S. Openly Gay Tournament) Tim Calhoun. Number three Bobby Hopkins came on top against Galleon softball wiz Don Kessler in an action-filled match.

Ron Landrum came back after hibernating to win his first match against David Garza, 6-0, 6-0, while Lester Vela returned to the ladder knocking off Army Alabanza 6-2, 6-4. Newcomer Donald Conner took over the number nine spot by beating Rich Corder 6-4, 6-3. Richie Robicheaux jumped two notches on the ladder with his victory over myself (Eddie Chavez) 6-3, 1-6, 6-4.

□ Sports Spotlight—'You've Come a Long Way Baby'

Remember the Hi-Camp? Some people do. The Miss Camp America pageant was held there, and one of our sports jocks was on stage.

Miss Louisiana was her title, Rich Corder is his name; golfing, bowling, and tennis is his game.

And some thought that was just another pretty face! Certainly not, for he has been involved in the Diana Foundation, Miss Camp America, founded the Booze Cruise, and the Folleyball Fest; worked with Montrose Marching Band, founded the Houston Concert Band; worked with Montrose Health Clinic, has ranked in the Who's Who in Texas and was selected to work on an educational exchange team for Rotary International for Australia.

Corders accomplishments are *Bowling*, overall 1981 IGBO champions for the CBC Steamrollers, 2nd place regular season, high team series, and summer champions for Monday Night Bowling for the Galleon team; *Tennis*, 1982 Runnerup Division B Spring Open, 1982 Houston Class C Winner; *Golf*, low net overall champion of the American Institute of Bankers in a fall tournament, and won a trophy for coming closest to the hole; *Sailing*, won second place in boating for the Houston Yacht Club.

A graduate of the University of Texas, Corder has been a Certified Public Accountant for 15 years.

As a two-year president of the Montrose Tennis Club, Corder uses his administrative mind to keep the club going.



The Briar Patch Blossoms champion bowling team

"I'd like to be remembered working for the improvement of life quality for my friends and myself."



Rich Corder

Houston Pocket Billiards League

STANDINGS

Following Feb. 8 competition

DIVISION A	DIVISION B
1—Marion & Lynn's Finest (12-3—138)	1—Lazy J #1 (13-2—140)
2—Lazy J #2 (12-3—130)	2—Barn #1 (12-2—133)
3—Mary's #1 (11-4—128)	3—Barn #2 (11-4—116)

Feb. 12: Board of Directors meeting 3pm, Le Cue Billiards, for all teams & captains

MSA Thursday Night Mixed Bowling

STANDINGS

Following Feb. 3 competition

A DIVISION	B DIVISION
1 Barnyard Animals	1 Natives R Restless
2 Briar Patch Blossoms	2 Thursday Knights
3 Rockettes	3 Tidy Bowlers/BWMT
4 Mar&Lynn 5 Alive	4 BriarPatchPacesetters
5 Seagulls	5 Five Pins

MSA Monday Night Bowling

STANDINGS

Following Jan. 31 competition

A DIVISION	C DIVISION
1 The Other Men	1 The Hole
2 Queen Pins	2 Sisters of Mercy
3	3 Alley Cats
B DIVISION	D DIVISION
1 Bushwackers	1 Copa
2 Bowlerinas	2 Barnyard Hoers
3 Briar Patch 2	3 5 Easy Pieces
HIGH GAME	HIGH SERIES
Butch Irish 243	Gerald Hagan 642
Charlie Dierkes 236	Butch Irish 626
Kenny Kenner 235	Charlie Dierkes 616

Rolloffs begin Feb. 14

Montrose Tennis Club Challenge Ladder

Following recent competition

A LADDER

1 Rich Ryan	6 Donny Kelley
2 Jim Kitch	7 Robert Arriaga
3 David Robcheaux	8 Randall Dickerson
4 Bobby Hopkins	9 Donald Conner
5 Jon Colbert	10 Rich Corder

B LADDER

1 John Ryan	6 Fernando Villalobos
2 Ron Landrum	7 John Garcia
3 David Garza	8 Richie Robicheaux
4 Lester Vela	9 Eddie Chavez
5 Army Alabanza	10 Terry Rich

DOUBLES LADDER

1 Ryan/Ryan	6 R. Ryan/Corder
2 R. Ryan/Hopkins	7 Garza/Casillas
3 Kitch/Colbert	8 Corder/Garcia
4 Robicheaux/Elliott	9 Arriaga/Rich
5 Houston/Green	

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Stephanie Parker performing through Feb. 26 at Rascals

Stephanie: Little Lady, Big Voice

Although she looks as if a strong wind would blow her away, the petite and spritely Stephanie Parker has a voice that can fill the hall with music. Stephanie will be at Rascals through Feb. 26 for three shows nightly of her new presentation "Leading Lady" accompanied by Lee LaForge.

Stephanie became interested in performing from the influence of her family, particularly her mother who had a love for the music of Ella Fitzgerald and Harry Belafonte. Her first job was at the age of 15 on the TV show called *Tearama Dance Party* in Washington D.C.

From there she went on into radio and to music and dance training at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. Her career led her to Broadway where she was part of the original touring group for *Hair*, *Godspell* and *Catch a Rising Star*. Her penchant for theater has taken her all over the world, and for a while she lived in France.

She knew from the beginning she wanted to be an entertainer. "I knew I wasn't going to be a legal secretary. I feel that I am fulfilling the role that God has given me bringing joy and tears and unity to people through my creativeness," said the triple Gemini.

She likes the crowd at Rascals (this is her third time there) because they appreciate entertainers, she said. "They will actually stop the chatter and listen to you." And her new show will certainly gain a lot of attention with its catchy, brisk and vibrant Broadway hits.

Stephanie belts out *New York, New York* with the vigor of Ethel Merman and could put a cat to sleep with the soft lullaby tones of the quieter numbers.

Stephanie attributes much of her new act to her accompanist Lee LaForge. "He makes me feel good about it, and tells me 'I'll take you no place, but to the top.' He is a very disciplined musician. He brings out

my best and makes me see that I am an instrument that should not be abused. He made me give up cigarettes so I could put more of my voice into the act."

Also featured in the mini-production is Vincetta Williams, 11-year-old Little Miss Houston talent winner, who sings one number with Stephanie.

"This is a cabaret town," said LaForge. "Get hip Houston. You have talent coming here from Los Angeles, New York and even London. You've got some of the best right here."

Stephanie and LaForge are planning a tour beginning in March, so before some of the best leave—catch them at the new redecorated Rascals.

□ Houston Playwright to Direct 'Sister, Sister' at Tower

Sister, Sister by Houston playwright Celeste Colson-Walker will again be presented in its native city at the Tower Theater on Feb. 18 and 19.

Sister, Sister has always caused a stir, even at its premiere performance in 1978 at the Arena Theater (then the Houston Music Theater). The show, a comedy about an "enlightened" man trying to solve his "problem" by marrying his girlfriend and bringing her home to live with him and his first wife, opened on what is considered the worst nights for anyone even remotely connected with theater—a Monday and Tuesday.

But through blind faith and perseverance, the newly formed Writer's Clinic theater group presented one of the most successful stage productions in Houston's theater history. It boasted of the largest group to ever attend a live theater production, the largest group to attend a live theater production on a dark night and the

Writer's Clinic was the first local, as well as the first black group, to ever perform in a Houston professional theater, as well as in the Arena itself.

The Writer's Clinic is a non-profit organization which produces original work of its members.

Colson-Walker, who played the leading lady in 1978, is directing, Bill Calhoun and Donna Barnes of CABA production are the producers and the Writer's Clinic will again perform. Reservations are required at 664-6175. Performances begin at 8:00 p.m.

□ Women's Music Festival to be Feb. 13

Local musicians will share their talents in solo performances and band numbers in a Women's Music Festival to be held at Kindred Spirits, 5245 Buffalo Speedway, on Sunday Feb. 13 from 2:00 p.m. to midnight. It will feature guest artists Gayle Marie and Jan Martinelli celebrating the release of Marie's new album "Night Rainbow."

Open mic performers will be followed by guest sets beginning at 5:00 p.m. with



(top to bottom) Gayle Marie, Kat Graham and Linda Aum Rhyne will perform at Women's Music Festival

Ruth Huber and Gail Lewis from Austin. Another Austin group, Nancy Scott with Lisa Rogers and Janet Smith, will be featured at 9:00 p.m.

The Kindred Spirits' musicians will entertain from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This group includes Harriet Reynolds, Rawlyn Ruffin, Lyra-Kat Grahm and Linda Aum Rhyne (whose songs will be signed for the dead by Van Gunn), and Susan

Christian.

Ad Lib, a five-piece jazz band that was a favorite in Houston at Mums, will have a reunion playing for the event at 10:00 p.m. The band is composed of Linda Synnott on trombone and flute, Cris Mendez at the piano, Cherry Wolf on drums, and Jan Martinelli on base.

The Dance Band featuring the talent of Gayle Marie on piano and vocals; Jan Martinelli on bass; Kat Graham on guitar, mandolin and vocals; Linda Aum Rhyne on guitar, percussion, drums and vocals; and Cherry Wolf on drums and percussion, will begin 11:00 p.m.

Gayle Marie will be performing from her new album songs of "fantasy, poetry, rhythm and message," ranging from jazz to folk, blues and country pop.

Doors open at 1:00 p.m.; cover before 5:00 p.m. is \$2.00 and after 5:00 p.m. is \$3.00.

□ Houston Pops

The Houston Symphony Pops Series will bring the Great White Way to Houston on Sunday, Feb. 13, 8:30 p.m., in the Music Hall, 810 Bagby, in a "Salute to Broadway" featuring selections by Bernstein, Gershwin, Porter, Hammerstein, Kern and Rodgers.

This will be under the direction of Maestro C. William Harwood and will feature soprano Karen Hunt and tenor Steven Cole.

Numbers include the Overture to *Dandide*, "Showboat," a Sondheim medley, and several selections from "Carousel" and "Oklahoma."

Tickets are \$4 to \$15 at Ticketron, Houston Ticket Center, Jones Hall and or charged by calling 227-ARTS.

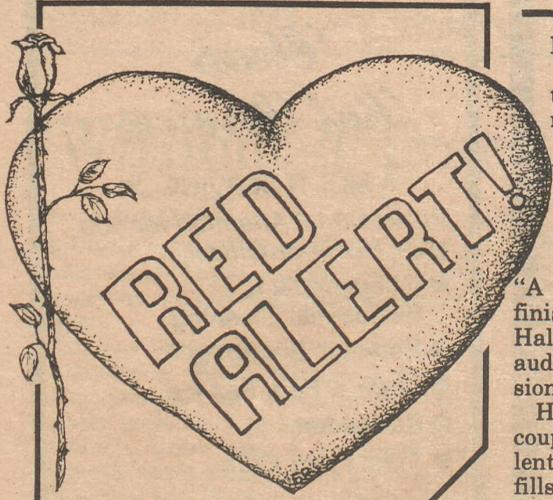
□ Montrose Writer's Comedy to Premier

Antigone in the Pines, an original comedy by Montrosian Max Pearson, will have its world premiere March 4 and 5 as part of the Theatre Southwest's series of dark-night presentations.

Directed by Marie Pearsall, the play is about an ill-fated staging of the ancient Greek tragedy *Antigone* by a small, over-ambitious amateur theater in present-day



Director Marie Pearsall and playwright Max Pearson



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Admission to this workshop production is free, but reservations are required, the director said.

For reservations, call 667-8490. The theater is located at 6830 Wilcrest Dr.

□ **Marc at City Hall**

"A Chicano Man," Marc Allen Trujillo, finishes an engagement at Montrose City Hall Feb. 12, Saturday, but has left audiences there with the definite impression they would like to see more.

He sings with an intensity of emotion coupled with professionalism that is excellent. Doing much of his own material, he fills the house with melody and intonation. Winner of the grand prize for his song "Hollywood" at the American Song Festival, distinguishes him already as an artist in his own right.

With trembling shout he radiates the notes, and then quietly serenades the listeners in Spanish—who could not listen to this all night?

Hailing from Los Angeles, and lately from New York, Marc brings a cosmopolitan air to his act that makes him unique. He has been defined by Bette Midler as an "extraordinary singing and performing talent ... gut churning sensuality and charisma."

□ **Last Chance for 'Use of the Hall'**

Main Street Theater's second production of the season, *For the Use of the Hall*, a contemporary comedy by playwright Oliver Hailey, will run Thursdays through Sundays until Feb. 12 in the theater, 2540 Times Blvd.

This warm comedy about survival and the human spirit revolves around the absurd struggles to preserve body, mind and/or dignity of five offbeat characters who seek respite from personal disaster by breaking into a summer retreat.

Tickets are \$6 for Thursday and Sunday and \$7 for the Friday and Saturday performances and may be purchased at the boxoffice.

□ **Dallas Theater to Present Houston's 'Bent'**

Houston's Stages' producing-director Ted Swindley has been invited to recreate his production of Martin Sherman's Holocaust drama *Bent* for Stage 1, an emerging professional theater company in Dallas.

It is to open March 2 and run for five weeks at the Greenville Avenue Theater.

Founded in 1979, the company is affiliated with the theater department at Southern Methodist University and is headed by Jack Clay, SMU professor. The company exclusively produces new and recent American plays never before seen by Dallas audiences.

Swindley's Houston production of *Bent* at Stages set box office records during its sold-out run of 28 performances in March and April of 1982.

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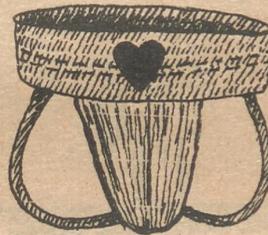
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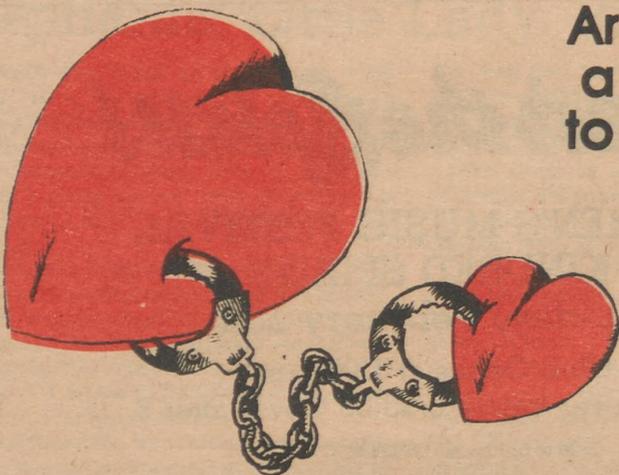
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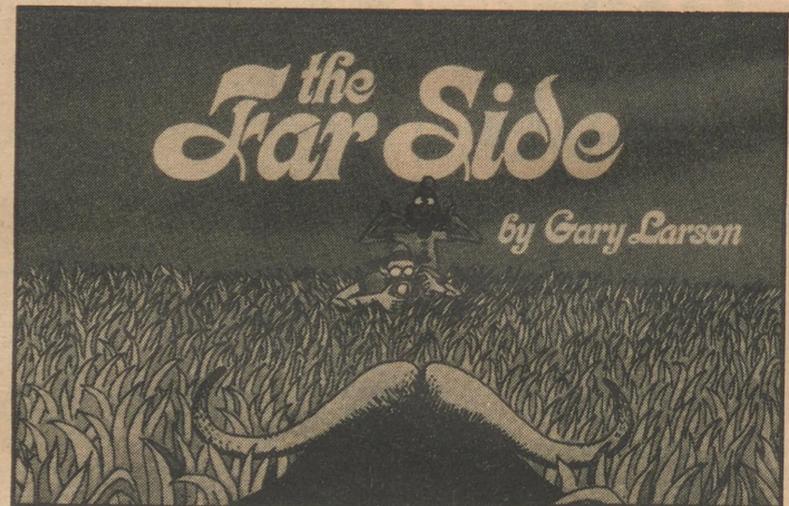
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"Sure - but can you make him drink?"

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'Without a Trace' Reminiscent of Boston Incident

By Hollis Hood

One brisk morning in a metropolitan area, a six-year old boy started off to school—he never arrived, just disappeared without a trace.

Stanley Jaffe's production of the 20th Century-Fox release *Without a Trace* is built around this incident—one that closely parallels a happening in Boston some six years ago. A youngster was abducted while waiting near his home for the school bus. He was never seen again, but police claimed they uncovered his photo when a house used to headquarter the Man-Boy Love Association was raided.

Without a Trace deals with the possibility of such a kidnapping.

Based on the novel *Still Missing* by Beth Gutcheon, the play revolves around the reactions of the child's mother, Susan Selky, portrayed by Kate Nelligan (*Eye of the Needle*). "I wrote the story from the mother's point of view, an approach that puts you in the center," said Gutcheon. "You need to know what it feels like. Therefore I concentrated on the very strong story line of a woman whose child is missing and who wants him back."

Susan, a professor of English at Columbia University, returns from work and waits for her son to come home. He doesn't, and the events that follow test everyone's mental and emotional capabilities.

"It's all the things that actors want to find on their doorstep," said Nelligan. "It's an extraordinary part; Susan is an emotionally and morally gifted woman with an abundance of dignity and intelligence. She's extremely happy, well adjusted and delightful woman to whom something shocking happens. She deals with it in a way that is quite extraordinary and human. That provides a lot of scope for an actress."

"And most satisfying to me is that she is bright," continues Nelligan. "It's awfully nice to have to reach for a character's mentality rather than stoop for it. She's a smart woman, someone who can master herself to do things that other people couldn't do in the same situation."

From the beginning Susan is convinced she will regain her son. She agrees to interviews with the stereotypically unfeeling press because "someone might see Alex and bring him back, if I don't consent they won't see it." Unfailingly her solutions to challenges are simple, obvious and profound.

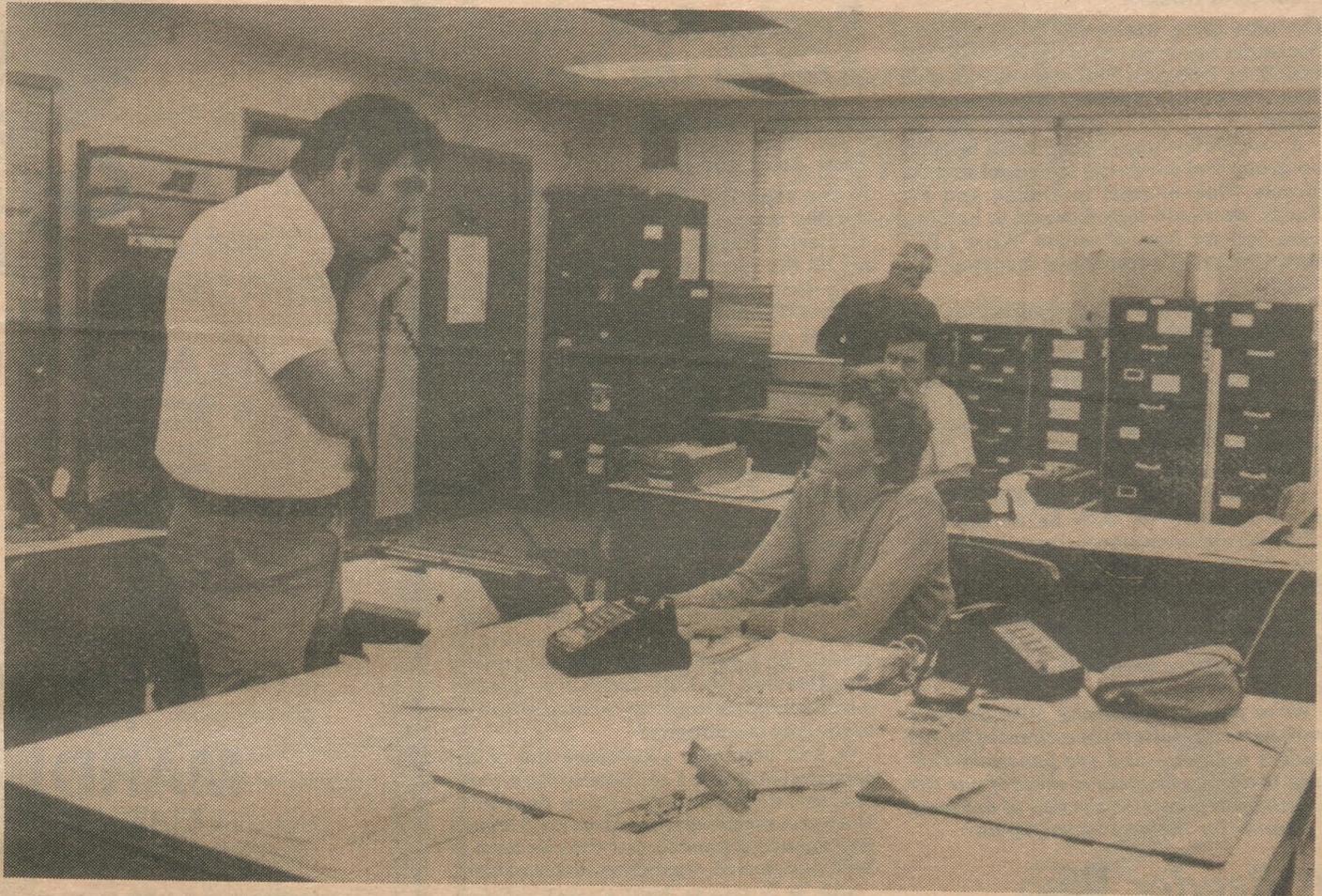
Her unerring determination evokes admiration from Judd Hirsch (*Ordinary People*) who plays the veteran police detective Al Menetti. Her reaction to the situation compels him to continue to search for the boy months after his disappearance.

The movie also stars David Dukes (*Only when I Laugh*) as Susan's estranged husband and Stockard Channing (*Grease*) as her neighborhood friend. Keith McDermott is Phillippe, Susan's gay houseboy suspected by the police of the child's murder.

The investigation inevitably leads to Phillippe who is taken into custody while in the company of a 14-year-old male hooker from his apartment which Menetti describes as "filled with all kinds of kinky shit."

Susan talks to Phillippe at the detention home and he explains the bizarre circumstances that have caused his indictment. Following her own instincts, Susan rejects Menetti's evaluation of Phillip's guilt. "Don't you understand," she questions "Phillippe loved Alex." "Lady," answers Menetti, "that's what I'm afraid of."

Susan then tries to interpret her feelings in an article for submission to a magazine, but it is turned down because "our readers just are not ready to deal with the homosexual issue."



Judd Hirsch (left) plays the police detective and Kate Nelligan is the mother of the missing boy

PHOTOS COURTESY 20TH CENTURY-FOX

Susan's depth of isolation and sustained unrequited rage each day brings an attitude that her friends can only call neurotic, but her audience can only label heroic, as she redoubles her efforts to find her son. The movie weaves the disparities of life in law enforcement, press and human relationships with golden threads of conviction, determination and hope, culminating in the definitive quote "God forgive me the little jokes I play on you, and I will forgive the big one you have played on me."

Compelling, dynamic and stark are words I consider trite in movie media hype—but in this case no other words will do. This presentation is compelling, dynamic and stark and everything but trite in its characterizations. Stanley Jaffe has surpassed his previous greats, *Kramer vs. Kramer* and *Taps*, in emotional interplay. It's hard to sit through this one—wear long sleeves, or bring a Kleenex. Melodrama it is not—reality it could very well be.

International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival Accepting Entries

Entries are now being accepted for the Seventh Annual San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, June 20-25, 1983.

Presented at the Castro and Roxie Theaters in San Francisco and at the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley, the 1982 festival included some 50 films screened to audiences numbering more than 7000.

Held each year during San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Celebration, the festival brings together the best in feature, documentary and short film by and about lesbians and gay men. Awards will be presented to outstanding films in those cate-



Kate Nelligan with Danny Corkill, who plays the young boy.

gories. Deadline for entries is May 1, 1983. Formats accepted are 35mm, 16mm, super-8 and 3/4-inch video cassette.

The festival was established by Frameline, a non-profit film collective, to develop an audience for lesbian and gay cinema and to promote a demand for quality productions and wider exhibition both with and outside the lesbian and gay community.

For more information and entry forms contact: Frameline, P.O. Box 14792, San Francisco, CA 94114 (415) 861-5245.

Clash of the VCR's

American like their home video entertainment gruesome. The most popular videocassette of 1982—both in rental and sales—was the film *Clash of the Titans*, followed by *An American Werewolf in London*.

Billboard magazine's list of the year's top 50 videocassettes features a number of horror films, including *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, *Halloween Two*, *The Howling* and *Mommie Dearest*.

A Letter from the Lambda Bicycle Club

From John Hubert

The past three weeks the Wilde & Stein Bookstore has been out of the MONTROSE VOICE by 6:00 p.m. Perhaps you can give them a few extra copies of your fine publication.

If your Dallas paper could run a brief on our group and our desire to help a Lambda Bicycle Club to start in Dallas and Ft. Worth, we would look forward to helping them. All for free, of course. Write LBC, Paez Center, 401 Avondale, Houston, TX 77006.

Also our first affiliated group is the Club Ciclistico Lambda of Bogatá, Colombia. Dr. Juan Maldonado of the Instituto Lambda de Colombia started it as a means for gay Colombians to come out of the closet. It represents the first gay sports organization in Colombia, if not in all of South America.

The Houston LBC has been giving them encouragement. As soon as we have 20 affiliated clubs we plan to request that the Gay Olympic Committee include bicycling events for the 1986 Games.

Editor's note: Sorry about the short supply of VOICE's at Wilde n' Stein. We'll try to do some shifting around to get them more copies.

We're presently printing 9000 copies a week (which results in an estimated 24,400 readers a week)—and are generally running out of papers now at most of our 130 distribution points on the day of delivery.

Thanks for making us so popular.

A Reader Who Disagrees with Joe Baker

From James W. Foot, San Francisco

I am writing in response to the column by Joe Baker which ran (last week), "The Enemy of the Gay Movement." As far as I am concerned, the only "enemy" under discussion here is Mr. Baker.

This is actually an old and hoary issue, one that those of us who have followed the gay press for any amount of time had thought dead. It seems, however, that it is necessary to enlighten yet another person.

First, where the age of consent (this is an issue of obvious concern to NAMBLA) is concerned, a goal of several gay rights organizations has been to seek to lower it. In Europe, most countries have set the age at 15.

Second, NAMBLA was able last month to utterly disprove any allegations against them (connected with the alleged kidnapping of a New York boy). As far as I am concerned, the constitutional rights of the NAMBLA members was endangered, not those of any minors.

Third, the gay rights movement, however much it may not like certain groups, cannot exclude any sexual minority from its efforts for liberation. Not ANY. What if I decide that because I am not into S&M, the gay rights movement should not support sexual freedom for participants in S&M encounters? And so on—the list goes on.

People like Mr. Baker should take care where they allege to speak for the gay community as a whole. They should do better research, and if all they have to say is ignorant bigotry, they they shouldn't say it.

And One Who Agrees With Him

From W.C. MacPherson, Dallas

Reference your (column) on Joseph Sobran (last week). I agree completely with your comments on NAMBLA (I have two young daughters, ages 14 and 17, who

I feel need a few more years of maturation before they choose sex partners) and on the infamous right-wing columnist from Los Angeles, Joseph Sobran, whom I had to read in the *Los Angeles Times*, editorial section, when I lived there.

Reader Says We Are On the Verge of Division

From Neil Isbin

In San Francisco, the political influence of the gay community has suffered because of internal fragmentation. In Houston, we are on the verge of a similar division.

To deny that there are serious problems in the GPC is to deny reality. The formation of a coalition of liberal Democrats, Libertarians and conservative Republicans into the Ad-Hoc Committee of Concerned Caucus Members demonstrates the problems are both real and serious.

Does anyone disagree that a lesbian/gay rights agenda should be the primary objective of the GPC? Does anyone disagree that our endorsements should be based on reason and not emotion? Does anyone disagree that an endorsement based on reason should be able to withstand criticism, by defending the endorsement on the issues and not resorting to emotional, personal attacks? Does anyone disagree that the GPC needs to do a better job communicating to its membership and to the gay community?

It has been one year since the police department killed Lee Harrington's proposal for education in the Police Academy. Does anyone disagree that we need a positive agenda for action and that we need to hold our elected candidates accountable?

But is it fair to hold elected officials accountable if we do not lobby them? At an educational CHE forum on Tuesday, Councilmember Jim Greenwood spoke about conditions at the city jail. Responding to a question, Mr. Greenwood admitted that the GPC has not lobbied him for education in the police department.

Furthermore, can we really expect the GPC leadership to lobby for such programs when the current president (and former chair of Gay Pride Week) feels that the gay community must make a choice—a choice between confronting the police while lobbying for education or cooperating with the police in order to have a nice parade? I don't think we need to make that kind of choice.

It is time for the GPC to stop playing games of machine power politics in which we are afraid to confront politicians, sell our endorsements too cheaply, misinform the gay community and attempt to silence dissenting opinions in the name of unity. Unity is important, but absolute unity at the expense of suppressing free speech and free press is too high a price to pay.

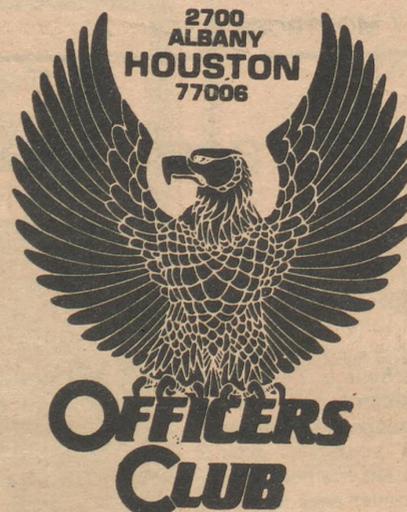
By focusing on principle process, attitude and structure, we can overcome our problems—but only if we recognize both their existence and identity.

Shortly after the November elections, I asked then-Vice President Terry Harris if he regretted any of his actions during the campaign. He responded that he would not do anything differently and the election results (victory of Mark White) confirmed and justified GPC actions and decisions.

In last week's GPC elections, the leadership won re-election by over a two-to-one margin. Will the leadership interpret the election results as a mandate, confirming community confidence and trust and say the only problems are "troublemakers" like me? Or was the opposition strong enough to awaken both the community and the leadership to the reality and seriousness of the problems before us?

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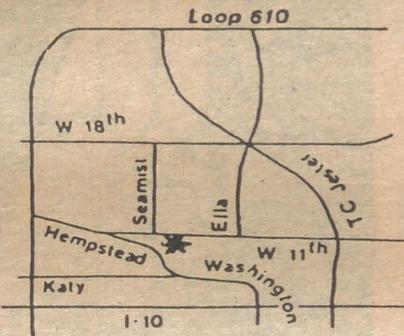
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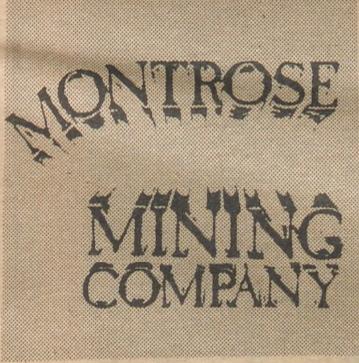
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I've Changed My Mind

By Joe Baker

I might have made a mistake. Last week in writing about the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) and right-wing nationally syndicated columnist Joseph Sobran, I said I didn't know who I dislike the most.

I guessed it was probably NAMBLA, however, for feeding right into the hands of people like Sobran who are convinced all homosexuals are child molesters.

But I hadn't even gotten the column out of my typewriter when I picked up the next morning's newspaper—and there was Sobran spreading his lies and hate again.

I couldn't believe it. Once a week is bad enough, but seeing his garbage in print twice a week is more than I can stand.

So why do I read him? I feel it is imperative that we know what our enemies are saying and writing about us. And believe me, we do have enemies in the media.

All of us have an obligation to monitor these hate-mongers, and take them to task when they spread their lies, misinformation and half-truths.

Sobran is your typical conservative columnist. He is against abortion because it is "killing," but favors capital punishment because obviously it is OK to "kill" when conservatives want to.

He's against birth control information for teen-agers but at the same time is against giving aid to unwanted babies of teen-agers when they are brought into the world.

He's against the Equal Rights Amendment because of all the silly and trite reasons other conservatives give—it would legalize homosexual marriages and require uni-sex johns.

I'm sure as far as Sobran is concerned, every problem and evil in the world is somehow connected to homosexuality.

As a national columnist, Sobran is entitled to his opinions, but as a professional journalist, he has an obligation to print the truth.

The credibility of every newspaper reporter and columnist is on the line every time writers like Sobran resort to scare tactics to get their messages across.

When they make unsubstantiated statements, they show their ignorance, but at the same time they continue to perpetuate myths and stereotypes.

I can live with the fact that Sobran doesn't like homosexuals or approve of homosexuality. But come on, mister, let's fight fair!

Do your homework. Check your facts. Think about the outlandish and hateful things you are saying.

Allow me to share some of the "pearls" from Sobran's mouth:

- "Children are vanishing. How many of them are winding up in the arms of perverts who think they are merely exercising their sexual rights?"

- "Simply from the standpoint of public health, the community has legitimate interest in discouraging homosexual activity."

- "A number of homosexual groups have already shown an interest in children that casts serious doubt on claims that homosexuals aren't interested in child molesting."

- "It is common for gay rights groups to include in their agendas the demand that all age of consent laws be abolished."

- "One of the amazing facts about the movement is the extent to which it has found support within religious bodies."

- "Nobody really knows the difficulty of tracing government money. But it is indisputable that taxpayers are being forced to subsidize homosexuality."

- "It is true that some parents whose children have proclaimed themselves homosexuals have formed support groups. This is more a touching tribute to the lengths to which parental love will go than the evidence that homosexuality is really accepted."

- "This interest collides with the homosexual movement's desire to proselytize."

- The gay rights movement includes people who want to make child molesting legal."

- "In short we have fallen for a lot of bad arguments, even dishonest arguments, often made by people who wanted desperately to reach a certain conclusion." Had enough?

As I pointed out in last week's comment, unfortunately, there are some homosexuals who are sexually interested in children. We have never denied their existence.

But there are also heterosexuals who are sexually interested in children. Sobran forgets this. He would rather make it look as if all homosexuals desire children, and

sweep the heterosexual portion of the problem under the rug.

Sobran does not lump all straights together, and a credible journalist would not lump all gays together either.

For some reason—outdated research clippings, no doubt—Sobran also has decided that a defunct group called the Gay Activists Alliance is the leading gay rights group in the United States and that NAMBLA's leader, David Thorstad, is the spokesman for the gay rights movement.

The Gay Activists Alliance was never a national gay rights group and has never spoken for the movement. It was a local New York City outfit, and a weak one at that.

I venture to say that it doesn't even exist today, and if it does, the entire membership could probably meet around my kitchen table. Sources tell me that GAA's

weak voice was snuffed out at least five, if not ten, years ago.

And as for Thorstad, yes, he was a member of GAA and *liked* little boys back then, and still does. But the man is a nothing, and certainly not representative of the typical homosexual then or now.

Doesn't Sobran read the gay press or even the establishment press? If he did, he would know what gay rights groups are the true leaders in the movement.

One final comment, regarding Sobran's statement "that taxpayers are being forced to subsidize homosexuality" because there have been a few government grants to gay centers and some funding for AIDS research.

There should be a hell of a lot more money funneled to us. Or, has Joseph Sobran forgotten that homosexuals pay taxes, too?

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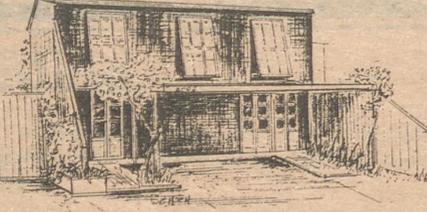
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OUT IN TEXAS is the new statewide gay entertainment guide debuting in March.

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Watch for our "COMING OUT PARTIES" in March at clubs all across the state.

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'VD' Does Not Necessarily Stand for Valentine's Day

By Harvey Thompson, M.D.
Stonewall Features

Cupid's arrows may be laced with more than love. There are now enough sexually-transmitted diseases (STD's) for a disease-a-day plan this month. You might say that in a large city like Dallas, you could have a different lover and a different disease each night. Here's a list of what to avoid, day by day.

February 1—*Syphilis*: a delicate corkscrew-shaped organism that begins its infection on the skin, then spreads through the body over weeks, months, years.

2—*Gonorrhea*: an infection caused by *Neisseria gonorrhoea* that is usually limited to the site of inoculation with resultant secondary inflammation and pus.

3—*Chlamydia*: a protean infection that manifests itself in different ways, but most commonly known as a major cause of non-specific urethritis, or NSU. This is usually a diagnosis of exclusion (when it's not gonorrhea).

4—*Shigella*: a bacterium that usually causes severe diarrhea with an abrupt onset and high fever shortly after oral contamination by fecal material.

5—*Salmonella*: a bacterium that also causes diarrhea, symptoms similar to shigella. Less common as a venereal disease since it requires a larger inoculum.

6—*Campylobacter (fetus sp. jejuni)*: This bacterium is increasingly recognized as another bacterial cause of diarrhea and requires specific antibiotic treatment different from the previous two bacteria.

7—*Hemophilus Ducreyi*: Chancroid is uncommon, but it happens. It's characterized by ragged, tender ulcers of the genitals with sore lympho nodes.

8—*Calymmatobacterium Granulomatis*: This rare infection (a few dozen cases in the United States last year) is called granuloma inguinale, and appears as distinct ulcers in the perianal area.

9—*Gardnerella Hemophilus*: this organism has changed its name three times, but continues to cause a malodorous vaginal infection that produces a little associated discharge.

10—*Listerial Monocytogenes*: Man can carry this bacterium in his intestines, infecting others through fecal contamination. Results may be blood poisoning or even a rare form of meningitis.

11—*Neisseria Meningitidis*: This "cousin" of gonorrhea can cause symptoms similar to the urethritis seen in GC.

12—*Strep Infections*: Not commonly included among STD lists, but strep pharyngitis and pyoderma (skin infections) occasionally seem to be sex-related.

Now, after spending nearly two weeks with only the bacteria, you can graduate to the viruses:

13—*Herpes Virus*: Both types I and II can cause genital blisters or even rectal infections. Herpes is more a disease of the media, selling lots of magazines and air time; its importance in the gay community pales in comparison to some of the other STD's listed here.

14—*Pox viruses: Molluscum Contagiosum* are small dimpled bumps a few millimeters in size that are usually self-limited, and found about the genitalia and perineum.

15—*Papovavirus*: Venereal warts are caused by this virus, occurring about the ano-genital area, and resisting treatment. No one is certain about just how contagious they are, although you'll read otherwise.

16—*Hepatitis-A*: This RNA virus is NOT the same as the cause of the more serious Hepatitis-B. It is fecally transmitted, and has no chronic form nor carrier state.

17—*Hepatitis-B*: This DNA virus is the type transmitted by fluid exchange and does have serious chronic forms and a car-

rier state. It could be eradicated if everyone susceptible took the vaccine.

18—*Cytomegalovirus*: This virus may be a culprit in the current AIDS problem (see below). It is ubiquitous in the gay community, but can probably cause a mononucleosis-like state for which there is no treatment.

Better than halfway through the month, but there are more hazards than bacteria and viruses!

19—*Trichomonas Vaginalis*: This protozoa causes an itchy, malodorous vaginal inflammation in women, but can equally cause irritation and burning in the urinary outlets of either sex.

20—*Entamoeba Histolytica*: This parasite can live happily within the colon of the host, or, at its worst, can cause bloody diarrhea and fever.

21—*Giardia Lamblia*: This parasite lives higher up in the small intestine and cause frequent loose bowel movements.

22—*Candida Albicans*: When it's in the mouth, candida is called "thrush." In the vagina, it's called a "yeast" infection. When it causes skin infection beneath the foreskin or on the head of the penis, it's called "balanitis." When it infects a person with AIDS, it's an "opportunistic" infection. In any case, it's still the same fungus.

How about a few little friends you can see?

23—*Pthirus Pubis*; Crabs are those freckles that move who picnic in the pubic forest.

Less For More

Pacific News Service

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In an effort to hold down prices, the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company is test-marketing Winston, Salem, Camel and Vantage in packs of 12 smokes instead of the usual 20.

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24—*Sarcoptes Scabies*: This mite gets under the skin and moves about, causing intense itching which gets worse at night.

25—*Enterobiasis*: Pinworms infect ONLY humans, causing anal itching when the ingested egg hatches in that area, and larvae begin to migrate about.

26—*Trichuris Trichuria*: The human whipworm has been found in about 2% of gay men; it is often asymptomatic, but can cause weight loss and diarrhea.

27—*Strongyloidiasis*: A roundworm infection of the upper intestions that can cause cough as it passes through the lungs or abdominal symptoms when the adults females lodge in the mucosa of the bowel. 4% of gay males are said to carry this.

But the big news in the gay community is our own syndrome:

28—*AIDS*: Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome is of unknown cause, possibly the result of a yet-unknown virus or the onslaught of all-of-the-above on the immune system. It seems to be sexually transmitted in a fashion similar to Hepatitis-B—through blood recipients, IV drug abusers, gay sex. Some conditions associated with AIDS are:

Kaposi's Sarcoma: This formerly rare cancer must be added to the list of sexually-transmitted diseases, though it could be just opportunistic on the background of AIDS.

Pneumocystitis Carinii: Again, this "gay pneumonia" is probably not actually sexually transmitted, but strikes those AIDS patients who haven't the normal defenses to resist this otherwise ubiqui-

tous organism.

Mybacterium-avium Intercellularae: An "atypical" TB organism found frequently among AIDS victims.

Cryptosporidium: A parasite causing diarrhea in animals lately noted in humans, especially among AIDS patients who can't seem to control the festation.

Taking care is the best way to avoid any of these. If you're manifesting any symptoms, stay home. Even at the most selfish, you'll avoid spreading something that might just make the great circle and come right back to you. And, it seems that the more stress you place on your immune system, the more likely a candidate for AIDS you may become.

Like they say on *Hill Street Blues*—Be careful out there!

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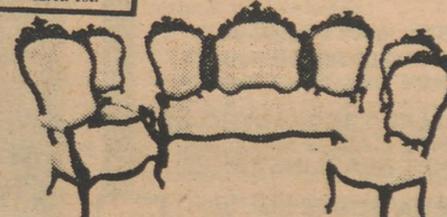


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Seven Day Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					FEB 11	FEB 12
FEB 13	FEB 14	FEB 15	FEB 16	FEB 17		

For additional information or phone numbers for events listed below, look for the sponsoring organization under "Organizations" in the Montrose Classified.

Selected Events through 7 Days

- **FRIDAY:** Community Coffeehouse 7:30pm-midnight, 3405 Mulberry
- **FRIDAY:** Lambda Alanon meeting at First Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin
- **SATURDAY:** Lincoln's birthday
- **SATURDAY:** Lambda Bicycle Club meets, then tours, from Bacchus, 523 Lovett, 11am, unless raining
- **SUNDAY:** Gay Pride Day in New Orleans, "Alive and Aware"
- **SUNDAY:** Chinese New Year
- **SUNDAY:** Montrose Clinic's women's emphasis program begins
- **MONDAY:** St. Valentine's Day
- **TUESDAY:** Mardi Gras
- **TUESDAY:** MSA/Volleyball games 7:30 p.m., Gregory-Lincoln School, 1101 Taft
- **WEDNESDAY:** Ash Wednesday
- **WEDNESDAY:** MSA/Pocket Billiard competition, various locations
- **THURSDAY:** Wilde 'n Stein gay radio show 7:30-9pm on KPFT Radio, FM-90
- **THURSDAY:** MSA/Mixed League Bowling, 9pm at Stadium Bowl, 8200 Braesmain

Selected Events in Future Weeks

- **IN 1 WEEK:** Let Us Entertain You Weekend Feb. 18-20
- **IN 1 WEEK:** Organizational meeting for new lesbian group, Paez Center, 401 Avondale, Feb. 20, at 1 pm
- **IN 1 WEEK:** George Washington's birthday, Feb. 21
- **IN 1 WEEK:** 'AIDS Update

1983' forum in Statesman "A" Ballroom, Sheraton Houston Hotel, Feb. 22, 8pm

- **IN 2 WEEKS:** Second Houston Pocket Billiards League tournament, Feb. 26, Cue and Cushion, 3116 So. Shepherd
- **IN 3 WEEKS:** Gay Pride Week Committee meeting March 6, 2:30pm, Kindred Spirits, 5245 Buffalo Speedway
- **IN 6 WEEKS:** Palm Sunday, March 27
- **IN 7 WEEKS:** Good Friday, April 1
- **IN 7 WEEKS:** April Fool's Day, April 1
- **IN 7 WEEKS:** Easter, April 3
- **IN 8 WEEKS:** Neartown's "April in Montrose," Yoakum St., opens Apr. 9, lasting to Apr. 16
- **IN 8 WEEKS:** Academy Awards Apr. 11
- **IN 10 WEEKS:** 1983 Southeastern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men opens in Atlanta, lasting to May 1
- **IN 11 WEEKS:** Gay Press Association national convention, Warwick Hotel, Philadelphia, Apr. 29-May 1
- **IN 11 WEEKS:** Gay Night at Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey Circus, Madison Square Garden, New York, to benefit AIDS research
- **IN 12 WEEKS:** South Central District MCC Conference opens May 11 in Dallas, lasting to May 14
- **IN 15 WEEKS:** Memorial Day, May 30
- **IN 17 WEEKS:** Gay Pride Week begins in Houston, June 16 (date tentative)
- **IN 18 WEEKS:** 7th Annual San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival opens June 20, lasting to June 25
- **IN 19 WEEKS:** Houston Gay Pride Parade and GPC Rally June 26 (date tentative)

NOTICE

BUSINESS OWNERS: (1) We list free each week in this directory (a) business establishments serving as distribution points for the VOICE, (b) display advertisers, (c) Houston gay bars & private clubs and (d) community organizations.

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● Grand Central Pipeline Roommate Service—1115 Barkdull—523-3223

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GAY BARS

- Bacchus—523 Lovett—523-3396: live entertainment
- Baja's—401 Lovett—527-9866: restaurant, live music
- Barn—710 Pacific—528-9427: country
- Brazos River Bottom—2400 Brazos—528-9192: country
- Briar Patch—2294 W. Holcombe—665-9678
- Catch-1 Disco—4965 Martin Luther King
- Chicken Coop—535 Westheimer—526-2240
- Copa—2631 Richmond—528-2259: disco with shows
- The Deep—2212 Converse—528-8234
- Different Drum—1732 Westheimer—528-8528: leather
- Dirty Sally's—220 Avondale—529-7525
- E/J's—1213 Richmond—527-9071
- Exile—1011 Bell—659-0453: country
- Galleon—2303 Richmond—522-7616
- Gay Boy International (G.B.I.)—1419 Richmond—528-8903
- Grant Street Station—911 Fairview—528-8342
- Hole—109 Tuam—528-9128
- J.R.'s—808 Pacific—521-2519
- Just Marion & Lynn's—817 Fairview—528-9110: lesbian
- Keyboard—3012 Milam—528-6988
- Kindred Spirits—5245 Buffalo Speedway—685-9756: predominantly lesbian
- Lazy J—312 Tuam—528-9343
- Loading Dock—1735 Westheimer—520-1818: leather dance bar
- Mary's—1022 Westheimer—528-8851
- Midnite Sun—534 Westheimer—526-7519: disco, shows

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- Miss Charlotte's—911 W. Drew—528-8840: country
- Montrose City Hall—1318 Westheimer—630-0303
- Numbers 2—300 Westheimer—526-6551: disco
- Officer's Club—2701 Albany—523-4084
- Pink Elephant—1218 Leeland—659-0040: with shows
- Ranch—6620 1/2 Main—528-8730
- Rascals—2702 Kirby—524-6272: restaurant, live music
- Ripcord—715 Fairview—521-2792
- Rocky's—3416 W. Dallas—528-8922: lesbian
- Twins—535 Westheimer—520-0244: lesbian disco
- Venture-N—2923 Main—522-0000

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ORGANIZATIONS

- SELECTED NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS—
- Gay Rights National Lobby—POB 1892, Washington, DC 20013—(202) 546-1801
 - National Gay Rights Advocates—540 Castro—San Francisco, CA 94114—(415) 863-3624
 - National Gay Task Force—80 5th Ave., New York, NY 10011—(212) 741-5800
 - NGTF's Crisline—(800) 221-7044 (outside New York State)
- A Capella Chorus: (Montrose) Church of Christ ACUL—1236 W. Gray—524-5925
 - American Leathermen (social club)—meets at Different Drum, 1732 Westheimer—528-8528: club night Wed.
 - Astro Rainbow Alliance—520-9451 (voice)
 - Bering Memorial United Methodist Church—1440 Hawthorne—526-1017: service 10:50am Sun.
 - Black & White Men Together (BWMT)—529-5006, 747-9812
 - Christian Church of the Good Shepherd—1707 Montrose; services 1pm Sun., Bible study 7:30pm Thurs.
 - (Montrose) Church of Christ—c/o 401 Avondale—777-9286; services 12:30pm Sun.
 - Church of Christian Faith—413 Westheimer—529-8005; services Sun. morning & evening & Wed. evening; Bible study Mon. & Tues. evenings; choir practice Wed. evening
 - Citizens for Human Equality (CHE)—609 Fannin #1301—236-8666; board meeting 2nd Tuesdays; 'AIDS Update 1983' forum in Statesman "A" Ballroom, Sheraton Houston Hotel, Feb. 22, 8pm, 792-3020
 - Colt 45's (social club)—meets at Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos—528-9192
 - Community Coffeehouse—subgroup of I/H Inc.; meets 7:30pm Fridays at 3405 Mulberry
 - Community Gospel Center—1700 Montrose—523-6018
 - Cong. Aytz Chayim—meets at MCCR, 1919 Decatur—552-1340, 688-8997: service & social 8pm 2nd & 4th Fridays
 - Conroe Area Gay Women—756-0354
 - Crisis Hotline—228-1505
 - Dial-a-Gay-Atheist—524-2222: Gay Atheist League of America
 - Diana Foundation—2700 Mason—524-5791
 - Dignity—meets at Catholic Student Center, 1703 Bolsover—520-9269, 528-7644; meetings 7pm Saturdays
 - Families & Friends of Gays—464-6663, 524-5982; meets 2pm 3rd Sundays at Presbyterian Center, 41 Oakdale, behind First Presbyterian Church, 5300 Main; affiliate I/H Inc.
 - 1st Unitarian Church—5210 Fannin—526-1571: service 11:15am Sun.
 - Frontrunners—c/o Fred Paez Center, Avondale at Taft—520-9258

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This Week's Features

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Greenspoint/FM1960 Area Far-Away Friends—821-9681
 Gay & Alive Sharing Experience (GASE)—528-1311, 528-0891
 Gay & Lesbian Archives of Texas: affiliate of I/H Inc.
 Gay Atheist League of America—524-2222
 Gay Hispanic Caucus—2722 Newman #12—521-0037; meets 3rd Thursdays.
 Gay Italian Group—526-9844
 Gay Nurses & Physicians of Houston—c/o GPC—521-1000
 Gay Political Caucus (GPC)—POB 66664, 77266—521-1000; meets 4600 Main #217 7:30pm 1st & 3rd Wednesdays; election of executives and board members Feb. 2
 Gay Pride Week Committee: meets 2:30pm, March 6, Kindred Spirits, 5245 Buffalo Speedway
 Gay Switchboard—529-3211; affiliate I/H Inc.
 Greater Montrose Business Guild—contact through Montrose Voice; meets 7:30pm, 1st Tuesdays, community room, Liberty Bank, 1001 Westheimer
 Hepatitis Hotline, project of GPC's Medical Committee—521-1000
 Homophile Interfaith Alliance—729 Manor—523-6969
 Houston Area Gay & Lesbian Engineers & Scientists—526-7386; meets 7pm 4th Wednesdays
 Houston Community Clowns—862-8314
 Houston Data Professionals—meets in East Room, Holiday Inn Central, 4640 South Main—523-6922; meeting 7:30pm 2nd Tuesdays
 Houston Human Rights League—c/o 401 Avondale—523-6969
 Houston Motorcycle Club (social club)—c/o Mary's, 1022 Westheimer—528-8851
 I/H Inc.—POB 16041, 77222—694-1732, 529-7014; affiliated groups are Families & Friends of Gays, Community Coffeehouse, Interact, Gay & Lesbian Archives of Texas, Gay Switchboard, Montrose Symphonic Band, Montrose Cloggers; board meeting 7:30pm 1st Thursdays (varied locations); educational forum 7:30pm 3rd Thursdays
 Integrity/Houston (formerly Episcopal Integrity)—526-0555; meeting 7:30pm 2nd Tuesdays at Autry House, 6265 Main, & 4th Tuesdays at varied locations
 Interact, educational subgroup of I/H Inc.—POB 16041, 77222—529-7014, 694-1732
 KPFT Radio, FM-90—419 Lovett Blvd.—526-4000; "Wild 'n Stein" gay radio show Thursdays, 7:30-9:00pm
 Kaposi's Sarcoma Committee: 'AIDS Update 1983' forum in Statesman "A" Ballroom, Sheraton Houston Hotel, Feb. 22, 8pm, 792-3020
 Lambda Alanon—meets at 1st Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin—521-9772; meeting Fri. evening
 Lambda Bicycle Club—Paez Center, 401 Avondale—868-2711, 523-9061; meets, tours 11am Saturdays, unless raining, at Bacchus, 523 Lovett
 Lesbians & Gay People in Medicine—665-4760; meeting 7:30pm 1st Saturdays
 Lutherans Concerned—meets at Grace Lutheran Church, 2515 Waugh—521-0863, 453-1143; meeting 2nd & 4th Tues. evenings
 Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR)—1919 Decatur—861-9149; potluck dinner 7:30pm Sat.; services 10:45am & 7:15pm Sun. & 7:15pm Wed.; membership inquirers class 7:30pm Mon.; Alanon meeting 8pm Mon.; Alcoholics Anonymous meeting 8pm Mon. & Thurs.
 Montrose Art Alliance—c/o 401 Avondale—521-2461; meets 2nd Thursdays
 Montrose Chorale—527-9454

Montrose Cloggers: affiliate of I/H Inc.; meets Friday eves Bering Church Activities Bldg., 3405 Mulberry
 Montrose Civic Club (Neartown Association)—meets at Liberty Bank Community Room, 1000 Westheimer, 522-1000; meeting 7:30pm 4th Tuesdays; "April in Montrose" festival Apr. 9-16
 Montrose Clinic—104 Westheimer—528-5531; open 6-10pm Fri., 1-5pm Sun., 6-10pm Tues. & Thurs.; weekly women's emphasis program begins Feb. 13
 Montrose Counseling Center—900 Lovett #102—529-0037
 Montrose Singers—meets at MCCR, 1919 Decatur—528-0550
 Montrose Sports Association (MSA)—622-3304; Video Party, the Galleon, 2303 Richmond, 4pm, Feb. 5
 Montrose Tennis Club—Jim at 527-9178
 MSA/Bowling—plays at Stadium Bowl, 8200 Braesmain—960-1518, 961-1523; games Mon. & Thurs. evenings
 MSA/Pocket Billiard League—222-0200, 699-3333; league play Wed. nights various locations; second tournament, Feb. 26, Cue and Cushion, 3116 So. Shepherd
 MSA/Softball—523-8802 days, 523-0413 eves
 MSA/Women's Softball League—728-8371
 MSA/Volleyball—880-2930; games 7:30pm Tues., Gregory-Lincoln school, 1101 Taft
 Montrose Symphonic band—meets at Bering Church, 1440 Hawthorne—527-9669; meeting 7:30pm Tues.; affiliate I/H Inc.
 Mustangs (social club)—meets at the Barn, 710 Pacific—528-9427; club night Thurs.
 New Freedom Christian Church—912 W. 11th—591-1342; services 10am Sun, 7:30pm Wed.
 Operation Documentation: project of GPC
 (Fred) Paez Community Center—401 Avondale
 Recreational Land Fund Committee—project of Mustang Club
 Rice Univ. Gay/Lesbian Support Group—524-0724
 Texas Bay Area Gays—332-3737; meeting Thurs. evening
 Texas Gay/Lesbian Task Force—869-7231, 868-6901
 Texas Human Rights Foundation—1519 Maryland—526-9139
 Texas Riders—c/o Mary's, 1022 Westheimer—528-8851
 Unitarian/Universalist Gay Caucus—c/o 1st Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin—520-9767, 528-5842; meeting 3rd Sun. afternoons
 Wesleyan Fellowship—864-8899
 Westheimer Colony Arts Association—908 Westheimer—521-0133

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A Disturbed Peace To Give Blood, Or Not to Give Blood

By Brian McNaught

The gay male community, rocked by the rapid spread of strange life-threatening illnesses, now must face an additional challenge. It has to do with our blood.

We are about to be told by some people and encouraged by others to keep our blood to ourselves. One or the other, our response to this chilling request will have significant repercussions.

The explosive issue revolves around AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), that group of rare illnesses which has an extremely high mortality rate (40% and climbing) and which is affecting large numbers of gay men (nearly 600 to date). Some non-gay people have been affected too, like Haitians, intravenous drug users and hemophiliacs. No one knows for sure what causes AIDS but most evidence now suggests the involvement of a transmissible agent.

Public attention had been minimal until a 20-month-old baby contracted AIDS. The infant had received blood from a "healthy" gay man who later died of AIDS. More cases involving blood transfusions were identified, including those of the hemophiliacs, and the spotlight became focused on our blood. (Haitians and intravenous drug users are already prohibited from giving blood for other reasons.)

The issue is complex and emotional. It is complex because there are so many variables and unanswered questions. It is emotional because no responsible person wants to suggest to at least 11 million men that there is something wrong with their blood.

I was forced to deal with the complexity and emotionalism of the issue as I prepared the final draft of a public health brochure on AIDS aimed at local gay men. Seemingly never-ending phone calls were made from across the country to strongly lobby both for and against the inclusion of a statement of caution on gay men donating blood.

The arguments made were pretty clearly either medical or political. The majority of doctors, most especially the gay physicians, felt that we had the responsibility to eliminate any possible source of AIDS. If evidence suggests that gay men who have been diagnosed as healthy can nevertheless transmit the AIDS agent through a blood transfusion (the incubation period is seven months), then we have the moral obligation to protect the lives of healthy blood recipients by voluntarily withholding ours.

Many politically-oriented people saw asking gay men to refrain from giving blood as a premature, unworkable gesture which "blames the victim" for the disease. They said it would also take the responsibility for a solution off the backs of the multi-million dollar blood industry which ought to be devising a means of screening blood rather than screening donors.

They likewise suggested that any effort on the part of the community to screen itself would be misinterpreted by the public as a recognition that there is something wrong with all gay blood.

I have attempted to do justice to the arguments I heard. Ultimately, I decided against including a reference to blood transfusions because I believe it was premature (no group had formally asked the community to refrain from giving blood) and because the predictable controversy over its inclusion would have distracted all attention away from the valuable information we were providing on AIDS.

Perhaps by the time you read this column, we will have been formally asked by the Red Cross and others to voluntarily refrain from donating blood. An early January meeting of the Red Cross, the Centers for Disease Control, the National Gay Task Force, the Hemophilia Foundation and other concerned parties failed to reach agreement on a solution to the transfusion issue.

The Red Cross anticipated having a policy by the middle of January which would treat AIDS like hepatitis by asking prospective donors if they have had any contact with AIDS. Regardless of what approach is taken by the medical community, it seems certain they will be asking for our cooperation.

As we wrestle with this issue, we must presume that all parties concerned are operating in good faith. It's a tough issue with no clear and easy solution. Some of my concerns have already been articulated in the positions of both the medical and the political spokespersons. And I have others.

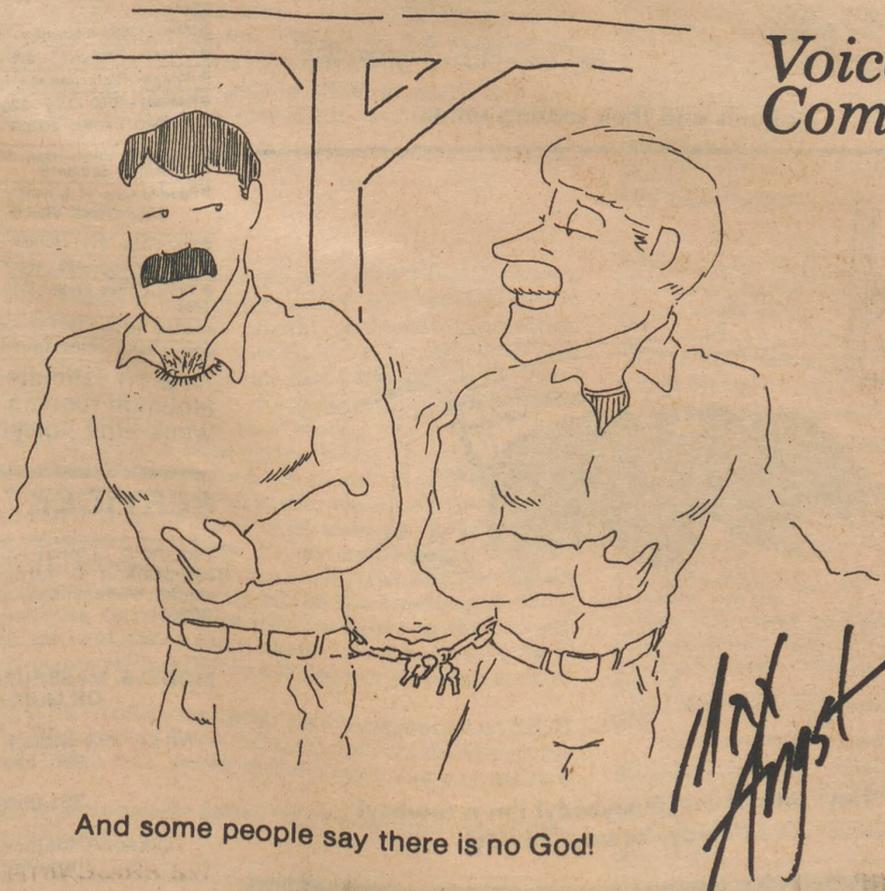
To state the obvious, there is no such thing as "gay blood." The word "gay" embraces a multitude of people, some of whom claim to have had up to 1500 same-gender sexual encounters and some of whom are celibate monks in Trappist monasteries.

Is their blood the same? Is it different than that of the heterosexually-married man who stops off on a Friday night for a "quickie" at the baths and comes in contact with the "transmissible agent"? Do we ask all gay men to refrain from donating blood or do we ask all men who have had a homosexual experience? Kinsey suggests that would amount to 37% of the male population!

Suggesting that the gay male community voluntarily refrain from giving blood sets us up for an inevitable failure for which we will be criticized. It presumes there is a "gay male community" and it presumes there is an effective means of reaching that community. It further presumes there is a voice of authority which can motivate the "gay male community" to do one thing or another.

To those who suggest we refrain from giving blood in order to spare the lives of others, I suggest such a plan is not without its own victims. If such a sweeping request was publicly made, I would be concerned about its impact on the young gay person who is struggling with his gay identity.

Sensationalized press reports about "bad gay blood" would undoubtedly affect his shaky sense of "normalcy." Likewise, the



Voice Comics

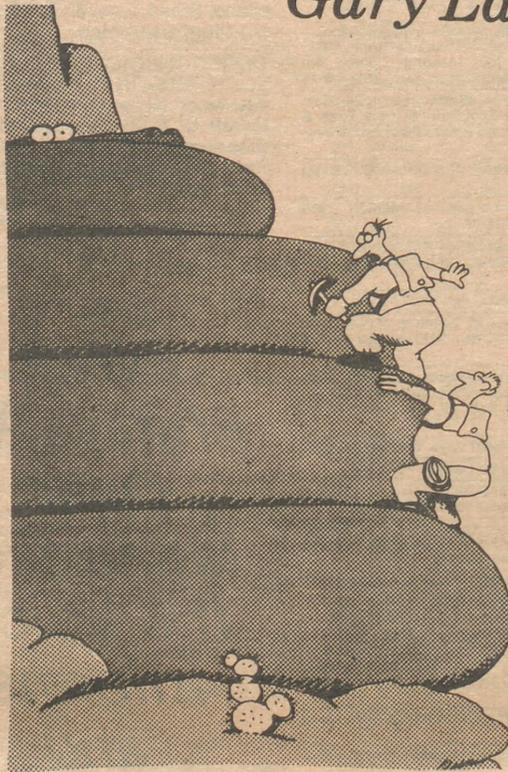
And some people say there is no God!



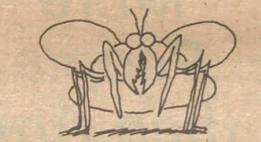
Carl shoves Roger, Roger shoves Carl, and tempers rise.



Gary Larson



"Freeze, Earl! Freeze! ... Something rattled!"



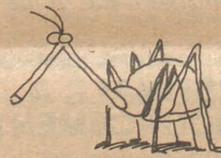
"ch-ch-ch-ch-ch..."



"Er-ucka, er-ucka"



"eeeeeeWA-WA-WA"



"iki-iki-iki-iki-iki"



"KEE-o, KEE-o"



"hey, bay-BEE... hey, bay-BEE"

Animals and their mating songs



"Hey! Look at me, everybody! I'm a cowboy! ... Howdy, howdy, howdy!"

BODY MASSAGE. Your place or mine, afternoons or evenings. Bruce, 521-2009.

GWM, 28, looking for friends for dating. Relationship oriented, but friendship first. I'm 5'10", slim, clean shaven, don't smoke or use drugs. I enjoy movies, sports, backgammon, travel, video, etc. Prefer similar type, hopefully someone who's looking for more than the bar scene has to offer. Write with recent photo (will be returned). Suite 174, 8690 S. Gessner, Houston, TX 77074.

Your fantasy can be real. TexEscort. 751-9000.

GWM seeks friends, acquaintances, possible companion-lover, who are Greek-versatile, 22 to 35, white, under 175, sincere, varied interests, clean, average to above average appearance, non-smoking. Clones are ok but no beards. Please write, if possible with photo. Ad 118-A, c/o Montrose Voice.

Got a question? Call the Gay Switchboard, 529-3211

'Montrose Live' each week in the Voice is your guide to Montrose entertainment

The Voice has more news, more Houston readers, more Houston advertising

PRIVATE GAY CLUBS

- Box Office—1625 Richmond—522-1625: male
- Club Houston Baths—2205 Fannin—659-4998: male

'Montrose Voice' advertiser

- French Quarter Theater—3201 Louisiana—527-0782: male

'Montrose Voice' advertiser

- Midtowne Spa—3100 Fannin—522-2379: male

'Montrose Voice' advertiser

- 2306 Club—2306 Genessee—528-6235: male

There's more Montrose sports coverage in the Voice

RESTAURANTS

- Baja's—402 Lovett—527-9866
'Montrose Voice' advertiser
- Brasserie Two—1322 Westheimer—526-0355
- Chapultepec—813 Richmond—522-2365
'Montrose Voice' advertiser
- D'Amore's—219 Westheimer—520-1864
- Frankie's—Montrose at Westheimer—529-7896
- Greek Island—302 Tuam—522-7040
- Gyro Gyros Sandwich Shop—1536 Westheimer—528-4655
- Harrar's Ethiopian Cuisine—428 Westheimer—526-2895
'Montrose Voice' advertiser
- Hong Thong—424 Westheimer—528-8275
- House of Pies—3112 Kirby—528-3816
- International Club Restaurant—243 Westheimer—523-2795
- Jade Dragon—224 Westheimer—526-2683
- Kountry Kitchen—Kirby at S.W. Fwy.—520-7246
- 9'ers—1303 Westheimer—528-8823
- Omar's—808 Lovett—528-3569
- Perky's—Richmond at Kirby—524-0075
- Rascals—2702 Kirby—524-6272
'Montrose Voice' advertiser
- Salon Et Vous wine & coffee bar—1336 Westheimer—522-3416
- Spud-U-Like—416 Westheimer—520-0554
'Montrose Voice' advertiser
- Star Pizza—2111 Norfolk—523-0800
- Steak 'n' Egg—4231 Montrose—528-8135
- Tim's Coffee Shop—1525 Westheimer—529-2289
- Villani Italian—2907 W. Alabama—522-8852
- Wine Seller—1408 Westheimer—528-3878

Now an estimated 24,400 Houston readers each week—the Voice!

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Finishing Touch—custom design remodeling & furniture, cabinets, decks. References, estimates. 981-9209.

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751-9000

TexEscort. Major credit cards honored.

JACKET LAPELS AND TROUSER LETS NARROWED. Professional General Alterations, Montrose area. 520-8100.

Add style to your lifestyle. CALL LIMOUSINES d'ELEGANCE AT (713) 523-4352.

TAX RETURNS professionally prepared, accounting system procedures and bookkeeping. CPA. 780-8524.

Relax and enjoy the BodyWorks massage. Evenings and weekends. Call Bill, 526-2470. Gift certificates available.

BALLOONS—LET'S CELEBRATE. You mean you've never sent anyone a balloon bouquet? We have a Valentine's special if you call and make arrangements before Feb. 12. Call 552-1460.

LESBIAN & GAY COUNSELING. INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES, GROUPS. Dr. Nanette Bruckner, Psychologist, 523-2180

APARTMENT MOVING. Quality service, low rates. 552-1403.

MOVING, Hauling. Quality service. Movemasters, 521-3155.

- Creative Source—702 Avondale—529-5005 'Montrose Voice' advertiser
- Fitness Exchange fitness center—3307 Richmond—524-9932
- Francisco's Hair Design—901 Richmond—523-0438
- Hairliners hair replacement—710-A Hawthorne—520-7730

- Houston Guest House lodging—106 Avondale—520-9767
- Icenhower Beauty School—327 Westheimer—520-7972
- James D. Kristian, Ph.D. hypnotherapist—977-2485 'Montrose Voice' advertiser

Support, join your community organizations

- Kwik-Kall Mail Boxes—3317 Montrose—522-1896
- Legends Hair Design—906 Westheimer—527-0188 'Montrose Voice' advertiser
- Lionel Hair Design—3220 Yoakum—526-4494
- Montrose Voice newspaper—3317 Montrose #306—529-8490
- Private Postal Systems mail boxes—1713 Westheimer—529-3020

ONLY the Voice saturates Montrose each week with over one hundred distribution locations

- Jim Reed, locksmith—1620 Commonwealth—523-2927
- Salondaniel hair care—1626 Cherryhurst—520-9327
- Travel Tech travel agency—5719 Kirby—522-8227 'Montrose Voice' advertiser

Your dependable, unbiased source of community news in Montrose—the Voice

SHOPS & STORES

- All-Star Adult News—1407 Richmond—528-8405
- All That Glitters gifts—4325 Montrose—522-6976
- Aquatic Isle pet shop—2011 SW Fwy.—526-6940
- Asylum Adult Bookstore—1201 Richmond
- Ball Park Adult Bookstore—1830 W. Alabama
- Basic Brothers clothing—1220 Westheimer—522-1626
- Got a question? Call the Gay Switchboard, 529-3211
- Bed House—2115 Norfolk—523-8278 'Montrose Voice' advertiser
- Blue Iris—3618 S. Shepherd—523-1827
- Boom Town Blooms flowers—3210 S. Shepherd—526-8110
- Cone Dancewear—4704 Montrose—522-1673
- Diner's Adult News—240 Westheimer—528-8950
- Doubrava-Jones, the Manhole clothing—1983 W. Gray—522-1089
- Downbeat Records—2117 Richmond—523-8348
- Dramatika gifts—3224 Yoakum—528-5457
- Facets gifts—1412 Westheimer—523-1412
- Frame of Reference framing—1533 Westheimer—520-0710

'Montrose Live' each week in the Voice is your guide to Montrose entertainment

- Friday's Florist—1338 Westheimer—524-6518
- Hart Bros. Antiques—2030 W. Gray—524-2979, 523-7389
- International Gift Baskets—2015-A S. Shepherd—522-2538
- Kirby Newstand—3115 Kirby—520-0246
- Montrose Jewelry and Loan—1216 Westheimer—529-5841
- Oh Boy! Leather Goods—912 Westheimer—524-7859
- Old English Furniture—1138 W. Gray—521-9145 'Montrose Voice' advertiser

- Plant House—812 Westheimer—529-6050
- Q-1 Leather—408 Westheimer—527-9044
- Record Rack music—3109 S. Shepherd—524-3602

The Voice has more news, more Houston readers, more Houston advertising

- Shoe Warehouse—2024 Westheimer—524-6606
- Sports Locker clothing—311 Westheimer—520-6555
- Studz Adult News—1132 W. Alabama
- Texas Caravan & Armadillo Flowers—2115 Dunlavy—520-7019
- Timeless Taffeta clothing—1623 Westheimer—529-6299
- Totality Store—1121 W. Gray—526-8780
- Treyman gifts—407 Westheimer—523-0228
- Tropical Fish Imports—7008 Woodridge Dr.—645-7472
- Union Jack clothing—1212 Westheimer—528-9600 'Montrose Voice' advertiser

- Westheimer Flea Market—1733 Westheimer
- Westheimer Interiors—1727 Westheimer—520-1357
- Wilde & Stein book store—802 Westheimer—529-7014: gay

'Out in Texas' starts March 2

Fortunes

By Tycho

For Friday evening, February 11, 1983, through Friday evening, February 18, 1983:

ARIES—In your sign this week: *The Moon, from Tuesday evening to next Friday morning, Feb. 15-18.* If you and your partner have been considering throwing an orgy, now's the time! Actually, sex isn't the only activity that's right right now. Any kind of group activity could be good for you and yours. You'll feel especially close to your No. 1, but you feel the need to be with others.

TAURUS—Look who's the heavy, the topman, king of the mountain! Rough and ready is what you are. Don't fool around with lambs and chickens; a Leo or a Scorpio is just what you need this week. Pick a partner who can match your incredible intensity!

GEMINI—Using your creative powers to make something new of something old will leave you with the feeling that things are going all right, that you know what you're doing. There's a surety now that isn't always there for you. If you were a breeder, you'd get pregnant.

CANCER—You're learning the joy of your own identity. You're growing up, no matter how old you are. Wild and crazy may have appeal, but you're drawn to the warm, strong and secure. Sound good? Is good. Tycho's going to look up his Cancerian friends this week.

LEO—Changes, changes, changes. Leo's got 'em. Rarely content to do anything in a small way, you're up for the big time—the big event—the big one. What and who you do this week could affect the entire year in a big way.

VIRGO—Ah, Virgo, the eternal student; you could learn a lot about discipline this week! If you know a good teacher, seek him out. You know that learning's what you like to do. Learning about *learning* really turns you on.

LIBRA—In your sign this week: *Pluto.* Stop worrying. Lighten up, and the world of magic and wonder could come rushing in. Following that could come the world of good fortune—and beyond that? Bring yourself to be your own best friend and find out.

SCORPIO—In your sign this week: *Saturn.* Brothers and sisters can be related by blood or by experience. In either or both cases this week, you are drawn close to those people in your life. You can learn a lot from each other just by sharing being together. Togetherness takes on special meaning.

SAGITTARIUS—In your sign this week: *Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune.* Everything's moving pretty fast right now. Life becomes electric—and you may be in for some shocks. Defining yourself as part of another person's life is an issue; take some of your surprises to heart and learn more about a life together.

CAPRICORN—In your sign this week: *Mercury (leaves Monday morning).* Taking a position—and not just the easiest one, either—is important. Work on the best way to say what you mean and mean it. "This is how it is, and this is the way to move." Decisiveness plus action equals real life results.

AQUARIUS—In your sign this week: *The Sun (all week), the Moon (leaves Sunday morning) and Mercury (enters Monday morning).* Emotional tides are high. Move with those waves, not against them. Let their beauty and strength move you to shore. An old memory might take you under for a moment, but the sun's shining, and you'll get right back on. Body and soul surfing? Something like that.

PISCES—In your sign this week: *Mars and Venus (all week) and the Moon (from Sunday morning to Tuesday evening).* The real flesh-and-blood world is right where you want it to be, and where you want to be. People with heads or tails in the clouds need not apply. Being alive is its own reward, and being in love with someone that feels the same way is more than words can say.

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Montrose Classified Advertising Rates

You have a choice of these styles:

10¢ per regular word or 15¢ PER ALL CAPITAL WORD in 6-point type, as shown here. (If using few words in this size or if centering on a line, compute at 80¢ a line, using maximum 7 regular words or 5 ALL CAPITAL WORDS to a line.)

25¢ per regular word or 40¢ PER ALL CAPITAL WORD in 8-point type, as shown here. (If using few words in this size or if centering on a line, compute at \$1.50 a line, using maximum 5 regular words or 3 ALL CAPITAL WORDS to a line.)

30¢ per regular word or 45¢ PER ALL CAPITAL WORD in 8-point bold type, as shown here. (If using few words in this size or if centering on a line, compute at \$1.50 a line, using maximum 4 regular words or 3 ALL CAPITAL WORDS to a line.)

Individual or few words in any one size should be computed at the per line rate.

You may freely mix ALL CAPS and lower case words, and regular and bold words, provided they are all the same type SIZE (6, 8 or 10 point). Simply compute each word individually. You may NOT mix type SIZES on the same line.

THERE IS A MINIMUM charge of \$3 per classified ad.

BLIND BOX NUMBERS can be assigned for \$2 per week extra.

Run the same classified 4 weeks in a row and deduct 15%.

If your classified is lengthy, you may want to consider running a "display" ad instead. Call our advertising sales department for information.

WRITE OUT your ad on a plain sheet of paper. Include your name, address, check and signature, and mail or bring it to the Montrose Voice, 3317 Montrose #306, Houston, TX 77006. Ads received by 5:30pm Tuesday will be in that week's newspaper.

ALL CLASSIFIED ads must be paid in advance. Sorry, but we cannot bill and cannot accept classifieds over the phone.

A Disturbed Peace
continued from page 25

same sensationalized reporting would unquestionably fuel the fires of hatred of the young punks who roam city streets with baseball bats in search of gay skulls to crack. Can we count these as AIDS casualties.

Other victims of such a plan include those people who need adequate supplies of blood. The American Red Cross and other blood banks have become dependent upon the generosity of the gay male community for blood supplies and they readily admit they will be hard hit if gay men do refrain from giving blood.

Do the handful of AIDS cases which are suspected of being caused by blood from an infected gay person justify eliminating major supplies of blood and indicting the blood of an entire group of people?

For these and other reasons, I hope the gay male community is not formally requested to refrain from giving blood. If we are, I encourage caution before our local gay leaders jump on the bandwagon. If our motivation is political, do we really have to prove to the non-gay community that we care about their health? Is it not an insult to suggest that gay people with AIDS would knowingly infect another person?

If I was a regular blood donor and, after reading literature on AIDS, believed I was at high risk of being infected, I would decline giving blood. But it is the "high risk" factor and not my being gay which is the issue.

Let the medical experts clearly define "high risk" and adjust their donor policy accordingly.

©1983 BRIAN McNAUGHT. McNaught, who lives in Boston, is a long-time gay activist in the Catholic Church. His monthly column appears here and in other gay newspapers.

An open letter to the gay community on hepatitis B

Hepatitis B, a serious disease, may be sexually transmitted

Sexually transmitted diseases among the gay community are epidemic. Herpes has recently received a lot of attention; gonorrhea and syphilis are well known; but the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently issued a major recommendation for the prevention of another sexually transmitted disease: Hepatitis B. In their *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, the CDC stated: "Susceptible homosexually active males should be vaccinated [against hepatitis B] regardless of their age or duration of their homosexual practices."

Gay men are at a high risk of contracting hepatitis B

In one study, from 51% to 76% of 3,816 gay men seen in five sexually transmitted disease clinics had evidence of past or present hepatitis B infection. Once infected, there's a 6% to 10% chance of becoming a carrier—capable of passing on the virus. The CDC estimated there are nearly 1 million carriers in the United States and that 100,000 of these carriers are gay men.

The hepatitis B virus can be passed on by contact with contaminated body fluids

such as saliva, urine, semen, and blood. The hepatitis B virus can be transmitted through tiny breaks in the skin or contact with mucous membranes. This can occur during intimate sexual contact and can lead to hepatitis B for the partner of an infected person. Although most patients recover and over half contracting hepatitis B do not get symptoms, there is no specific treatment and no known cure for hepatitis B infections.

Hepatitis B may lead to even more serious complications

For those who do get symptoms of hepatitis B, a mild or severe "flu-like" sickness may continue for weeks or months. Ten percent of all infections become long lasting (chronic) with potential complications that are sometimes more serious than those of other sexually transmitted diseases. The serious complications include the chronic carrier state, chronic active hepatitis, chronic persistent hepatitis, cirrhosis, and even cancer of the liver. Every year almost 4,000 carriers die of cirrhosis. In addition, carriers have a risk 273 times greater than that of the general population of contracting a usually fatal form of liver cancer.

Now this serious sexually transmitted disease is usually preventable by vaccination with the new hepatitis B vaccine

After more than a decade of research and development, a new vaccine is available for prevention, *not treatment*, of hepatitis B. In clinical studies, the vaccine was highly effective in preventing hepatitis B infection and was generally well tolerated. No serious adverse reactions occurred in these studies.

The vaccination regimen consists of a series of three injections, the first two a month apart and the third, six months after the first. To be effective, the vaccine must be given before a person gets hepatitis B. The vaccine helps prevent the disease: It is *not effective as a treatment*. We suggest that you consult your doctor to determine if you should be vaccinated.

For more information about hepatitis B and the vaccine to prevent it, contact your doctor, clinic, or the American Liver Foundation. 998 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009 (201) 857-2626.

This message is brought to you as a public service by
The American Liver Foundation

Why you should consult your doctor or clinic

The vaccine helps protect against infection caused by hepatitis B virus. This virus is an important cause of viral hepatitis, a disease mainly of the liver. Even mild forms of this disease may lead to serious complications and aftereffects, including liver cancer. There is no specific treatment for viral hepatitis.

Vaccination is recommended for persons who have a higher risk of becoming infected with hepatitis B virus because of frequent, close contact with infected people or exposure to body fluids from such people. It will not

protect against hepatitis caused by viruses other than hepatitis B virus.

No serious adverse reactions were reported in over 6,000 individuals receiving the vaccine in clinical trials. The most frequent reaction was soreness at the point of injection; less common local reactions included redness, swelling, warmth, or formation of a hard, lumplike spot. The local effects were usually mild and lasted no more than 2 days after vaccination. Occasionally, low-grade fever (less than 101 °F) occurred. When it did, it usually lasted no longer than 48 hours following vaccination. In

rare cases, fever over 102 °F was reported.

More generalized complaints including malaise, fatigue, headache, nausea, dizziness, muscle pain, and joint pain were reported infrequently. Rash was reported rarely. As with any vaccine, broad use may reveal additional adverse reactions.

Your doctor or clinic knows what special care must be taken when administering the vaccine and in determining who should receive the vaccine. The vaccine is not intended for persons who are allergic to any of its components.