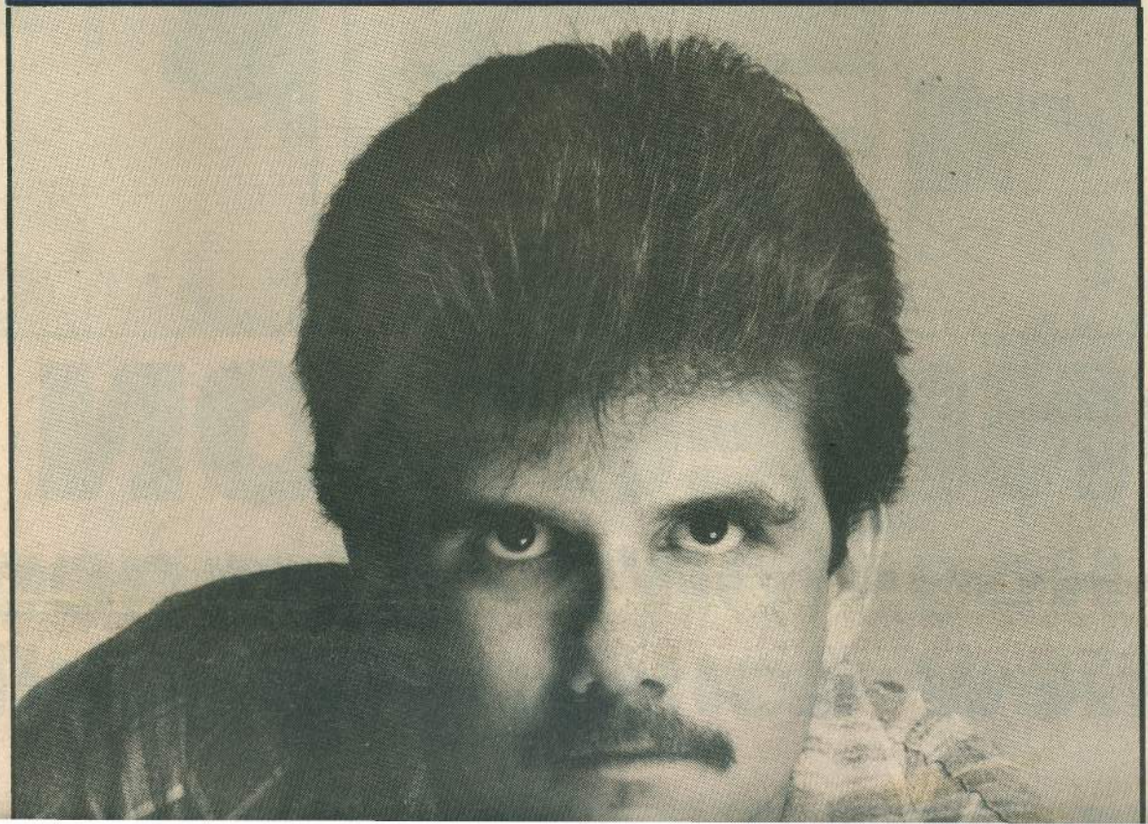
Volume 3, Number 27

TEXAS FORUM

"The Best Revenge Is A Great Lifestyle"



July 3, 1987

Derek Diestel

TEXAS FORUM

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TEXAS FORUM is published by Houston Forum Weekly News Publications, Wesley Randall Brown, owner.

LET'S GET REAL

It's Just Something Lite

By Randy Brown

In the midst of all the political, emotional, physical and psychic upheaval that we are all going through, I started thinking about "lite." I'm not talking "light" but "lite" as in Lite Beer. Do you know that if you say "lite" over and over, it's pretty much like saying "light" over and over, but if you write it, it looks funny.

Now, this may seem a bit stupid for the topic of an editorial, but my brain is buzzed out from Gay Pride, bar raids, health issues and on and on and on. Sometimes we just need to lighten up. We need to go Lite. If we could bottle life, I'd order a Lite Life. Heaven knows that today I have a Lite Brain. And, with any luck, I'll go through the day with a Lite Heart.

One of the reasons that I'm so Lite-Headed today is that I spent time garage saling with my mother last Friday.

I got this wonderfully stupid hat that has two bills, each pointing a different direction. On the front, it reads, "I'm their leader. Which way did they go" I'm wearing it in the office today, and the staff is exchanging looks that seem to indicate that they think I have lost it entirely. What I need today is a Lite Staff.

Another great thing that I got was an Oral Roberts U. Prayer Tower ring. It is of the shiniest goldish kind of metal in existence, meaning that the only gold involved in making the thing was given to Oral and he kept it. What I really love about the ring is that it's multi-colored. The face of the ring is dark blue, and it has the prayer tower in light (lite) blue and yellow. It's really exciting and cost a nickel.

Also coming home with me for one nickel was a Rex Humbard prayer key that I put on a chain so that I have the option of wearing around my neck always. I doubt that I will exercise that option, but it's comforting to know that it's there. The people that I bought these wonderful items from were an old couple—he had had seven heart attacks and she had gout—and they were selling everything they owned and moving next to a hospital. The fact that they were selling off the trinkets that they got for sending in certain amounts of cash to TV evangelists says a lot about how much prayer helped them through their time of need.

If we could bottle life, I'd order a Lite Life.

Besides buying great items for small change, I also went fishing with my dog. No, I did not use him for bait; I used him for pointing. He was supposed to indicate to me where the fish were so I could cast my line in that direction, but we would get so excited when he saw a fish in the water that he would jump in after it. Needless to say, I was not the most successful fisherman alive this past weekend, but I *was* one of the wettest.

Actually, I don't mind not catching fish. You see, when you hook a fish, then you have to deal with it, and I don't really like that part. I like to toss my hook in the water and sit there. To me that's fishing. You might say that I'm into Lite Fishing.

However, I did manage to hook a couple a big ones—fish that is. First of all, I pulled in a rather large wide-mouth bass that was kind of enough to slip off the hook itself once I put it back in the water, saving me the trouble of trying to get the hook out so that I could let it go. Right after that, I snagged a massive catfish, and I was not about to deal with unhooking a catfish, so I cut my line and tied it to the dock and waited for my sister to come and unhook the fish for me, so I could let it go. She managed to do the deed without resorting to pliers, which I thought was very butch of her.

After that, I decided to just feed the fish without the hooks as it was much less trouble, and I just tossed the bait in for them. My dog had a blast trying to jump all those fish.

It was great to be at the lake, because being at the lake is a series of projects. You don't just go fishing. You have to get the pole, you have to fix the tackle, you have to make the iced tea, you have to find the right hat, you have to get the bait, you have to transport the color TV to the dock, you have to coat yourself with Off.

And, if you're going boating, you don't just go boating. You have to get the life jackets, you have to pack the beer in the cooler, you have to make sure you have gas, you have to load the color TV on board, you have to calm the dog down, you have to coat yourself with Off.

Going swimming is a series of projects also. You have to change your clothes, you have to find the right towel, you have to inflate the raft, you have to get twelve people to go with you, you have to find a safe place on shore for the color TV, you have to pack the beach ball, you have to coat yourself with Coppertone.

And the best part of it all is that while you are doing all these things, you have no time to think of business. All you have time for is the series of projects. Fishing, boating and swimming are time-consuming, thought-denying activities that give you the perfect excuse not to really do much of anything at all, while giving the appearance of being busy.

But, now I'm back from fishing, boating and swimming. I have my souvenirs from the garage sales, and I am back at work, looking for the *purpose* of this editorial.

I don't think there really is one. Apparently, this is just what you would call a Lite Editorial.

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BEHIND THE FRONT COVER

Derek Diestel

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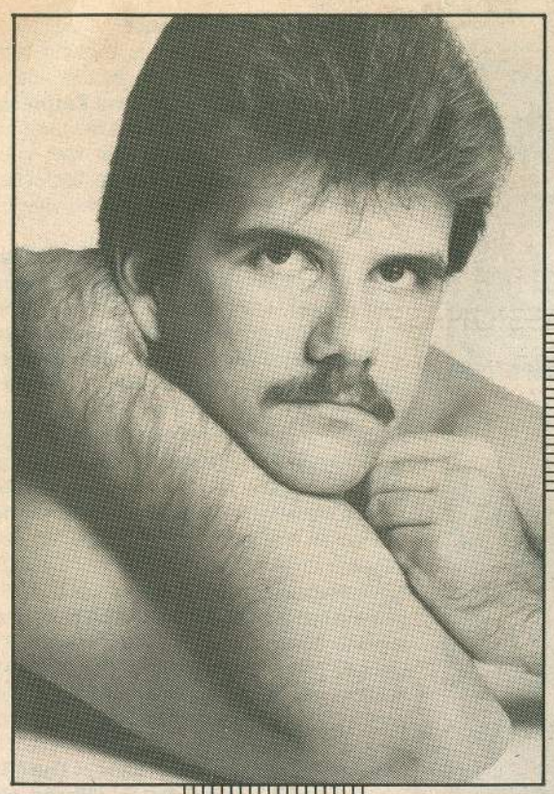
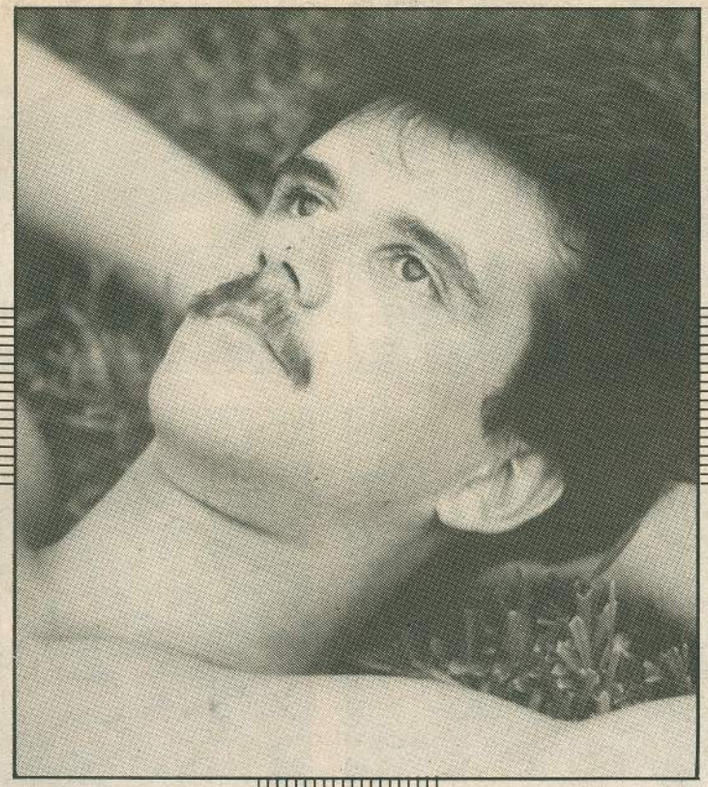




Born: Sealy, Texas.
Sun Sign: Libra.
Color hair: Brown. **Eyes:** Brown.
Favorite kind of man: Single.
Favorite political figure: George Washington.
Favortie leisure activites: Swimming and tennis.

Current projects: I'm a dancer with Fantasy in Motion and a student at U of H.
Future project: I want to get my degree in computer science and pursue a career in that field.
Message to *Texas Forum* readers: Live life the best you can, because you're here for such a short time.

CAN WE TALK?

AUSTIN . . . by Garland West

SPARKLERS AND ROCKETS!

Well, Austin, a thorough update is definitely in order! And what better time to do it than on a weekend celebrating freedom!

This Saturday, the festivities begin with the **Eleventh Annual Austin Fourth of July Picnic,** which will be located at the south end of **Pease Park** instead of the previous city park location. So, come on out and feel free to enjoy free beer, hot dogs, hamburgers, other picnic food, soft drinks and, of course, music, volleyball and whatever other games are in demand. This sparkling event is sponsored by some of the nicest folks in the city: **Badlands, Boathouse, Crossing, Hall's, Nexus, Petticoat Junction, Rupert's Corner, Sally's Apt.** and **Snuffy's Saloon.** Donations will benefit **AIDS Services of Austin,** so set your alarm clocks and be ready to flame from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at what promises to be Austin's best Fourth of July gay picnic yet!

Also on tap in the Capitol City, **Zilker Park** will offer the **Beach Boys** in concert, and **Auditorium Shores** will be filled with the sounds of the **Austin Symphony** on Independence Day, 1987.

And, one of the hottest parties in Austin for the Fourth will be the **Chain Drive's Leather and Liberty party,** from 9 p.m. until whenever. Chain Drive has it's own niche in the Austin marketplace, considering it is the only bar of it's type in the city. It is also the only bar in Austin to fly the colors of **Gay Pride Week,** so we've heard. (If this is not true, drop us a note!) The ***Texas Forum's*** own **Randy Brown** went back to Houston after being here in Austin with a glowing report of the hospitality and camaraderie of Chain Drive, and asked us to say hello to **Donald.** Hi, Donald!

THE PARTY CONTINUES

With a never-say-stop attitude, many

While we're name dropping, we'd like to say: **Dale Owens** of **Uncle Charlie's.** We really don't have anything of substance to say. but we like to see his name in print! (We love ya, Dale!)

PARTY DOWN!

Did everyone have a great time at Nexus' **First Anniversary Party** or what? If answered "or what" you weren't there. If that weren't enough, **Wanda's** Talent Show took place on Wednesday. While we're on Nexus, let's not forget the Fourth of July **Wet Buns Contest!** And we're not talking soggy whole wheat either!

In the meantime, there is a sense of party hardy in this town, and I hope we all remember to play safe, drive safe and enjoy the holidays in one piece!

HOUSTON . . . By Elroy Forbes

GOOD NEWS

The non-gay media caught on! For the first time that I can remember, the Houston media actually understood our **Gay/Lesbian Pride Week** message! To view **Channel Two, Eleven, Thirteen** and **Twenty-six** was incredible. They all mentioned the lack of floats in the parade and the pledge of our community resources to AIDS research. First Channel Two seemed to pick up on the slogans and signs. Channel Thirteen's **Doug Brown** said that this year was a more serious Pride Celebration with worthwhile goals and pledges. He seemed to be impressed with the parade and the PWA's as Grand Marshalls. Then on Monday, Channel Twenty-six aired interviews with **Ray Hill, Bill Reason, Ernie Douglas** and back to Ray. The bit emphasized the conservation of resources and energy to a much larger cause: AIDS research.

Montrose Art Alliance hosted Men and Women Together.

Gay Fest '87—could you believe what a grand event it was? Now it can be refined and improved. but great entertainment, great booths, great information, great reunions, great people watching and centrally located to everything.

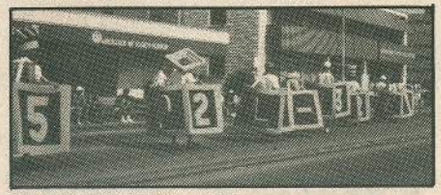
I really want to thank the **GPC, G/LPW, HOBO** and the endless lists of helpers. We had **The Guide,** a real **Pride People Parade** and our very own festival. Thanks to Ray Hill and **Debrah Bell, Annise Parker, Alan Pierce, Jack Valinski, Mark Stevens, Charles Armstrong, Jay Allen, Pat Gandy, Movemasters, Jeff Cochran, Randy Jobe, Joe Wilson, David Lozano, Miller Lite, Budweiser, Brazos River Bottom, Euphoric Heat,** all the entertaines and more than a hundred more names.

MEN & WOMEN TOGETHER

Montrose Art Alliance did something new with their seventh annual Pride event: the public selected the winners. You can visit the gallery and show at 1006 Missouri Street until July 17 to view first **Don Nail's** "Conflict" (first place), **Liz Allen's** Ode to Harry and Claire' (second place), **Mary Bautler's** "Waterfall" (third place) and the honorable mentions of **Ruben Coy** and **Barbara Lloyd.**

PRIDE EVENTS

Although the police and vice failed to show at the Art show and most of the remaining events, crowds did come to Tuesday and Wednesday **Gay/Lesbian Film Festival** at the **River Oaks Theatre.** The



Gay/Lesbian Switchboard number.

National Day of Remembrance with **Houston Interfaith Alliance** at **MCC Church** drew a good crowd.

Gulp, the gay musical, played to capacity crowds Friday. The **Montrose Symphonic Band** with the **Oaklawn Band** and **MCCR Choir** drew large crowds as did the ever-popular **Baile Gay/Lesbian Hispanics Unidos** party at the **Brookhollow Marriott.** And the parade and Fest were great successes. FYI: *Gulp* continues at **Kindred Spirits** on Mondays and Tuesdays.

FOURTH OF JULY

When I was little, pre-Stonewall days, the Fourth of July was the summer event. This year there are events again. **Miller Theatre** hosts the **Houston Symphony Orchestra** in the ever-popular "1812 Overture" with cannons and fireworks . . . **Venture-N** will hold a benefit for **Stone Soup** and **Omega House** with an art and antique class automobile show and then **Gala Ball, Intergalactic** live entertainment and special surprises. The fun is from noon until 6 p.m. and breaks for your change of finery to start up a your favorite space creature by 8:30 p.m. . . . Watch for continued **611** Friday promotions . . . **The Garden Party** will be held at **Mecca** on July 26 to benefit the **AIDS Foundation Houston . . .** Until next week may Good News guide you toward tomorrow.

Ft. Worth/Arlington . . . By John Birdshot

THEY'VE GOT YOUR NUMBER

The hot item being discussed in Ft. Worth is the discovery by **Tarrant County Gay Alliance** of an advertisement placed in the personal ads of an area gay publication by **Ft. Worth Police.** At least the TCGA's investigation revealed the phone number and address to be that of the Police Investigation Division of the Ft. Worth Police. Is this advertisement to be used for entrapment or harassment or other purposes? The TCGA has requested the Ft. Worth City Council to conduct an independent investigation of this activity.

ON AND OFF THE COURT

The **Ft. Worth Court** is buzzing with excitement and anticipation as this year's election nears for **Emperor** and **Empress.** Election is July 12 with Coronation set for

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And, one of the hottest parties in Austin for the Fourth will be the **Chain Drive's Leather and Liberty party,** from 9 p.m. until whenever. Chain Drive has it's own niche in the Austin marketplace, considering it is the only bar of it's type in the city. It is also the only bar in Austin to fly the colors of **Gay Pride Week,** so we've heard. (If this is not true, drop us a note!) The ***Texas Forum's*** own **Randy Brown** went back to Houston after being here in Austin with a glowing report of the hospitality and camaraderie of Chain Drive, and asked us to say hello to **Donald.** Hi, Donald!

THE PARTY CONTINUES

With a never-say-stop attitude, many bars and individuals are going to keep up the freedom spirit throughout the weekend, including the irrepressible Snuffy's/Badlands, who are having their **Second Annual Beach Party** on July 5. By the way, the very next day, Sunffy's will be offering C&W dance lessons every Monday at 9 p.m., as well as hosting a weekly pool tourny. Dancing on the balls of your feet could get confusing!

Before we lose sight of the Day of the Red, White and Blue, some mention must be made of one of our favorite advertisers (as well as the informal Austin office of our editor, **Billie Duncan).** Yes, yes, it's true—the **505** is having a spectacular Fourth of July blowout, with hot dogs, watermelon and other festive foods. Actually, 505 is a food kind of place. **Scooter** told us that his birthday cake was, in fact, served on Snoopy plates, and everyone ate, drank and made Mary! And we can't forget **Daddy Wayne's** Texas-shaped burgers are not the only food specialty. No, no, no, my dears, **Rob Wheeler's** sauteed mushrooms are right up there in culinary heaven!

NAME DROPPING

We're not sure if the Big Apple is really ready, but Texas is about to invade in the persons of **Randy Minton** and **Dale William** of the Boathouse and **Chet Green** of Hall's. The excuse for the trip is to attend a new music seminar July 12 through 15, so that they can keep up with *all* the latest, discly speaking. Rumors that the **Marriott** has taken out extra insurance coincide with the fact that this Texas trio will be gracing that establishment with their presence. Bon voyage, and remember the Alamo!

Grand Marshalls. Then on Monday, Channel Twenty-six aired interviews with **Ray Hill, Bill Reason, Ernie Douglas** and back remaining events, crowds did come to Tuesday and Wednesday **Gay/Lesbian Film Festival** at the **River Oaks Theatre.** The

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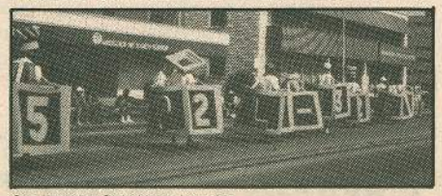

Gay/Lesbian Switchboard number.

TGRA beauties at Gay Fest dunking booth.

Randy Jobe with Pacific People.

Gay Fest '87. GPC sells shirts.

Here comes Rainbow.

Oak Lawn Symphonic Band moves down Montrose.

TGRA surrey.

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ON AND OFF THE COURT

The **Ft. Worth Court** is buzzing with excitement and anticipation as this year's election nears for **Emperor** and **Empress.** Election is July 12 with Coronation set for July 18 at Metro Center Hotel. Get your tickets early as a large turnout is expected with dignitaries pouring in from the various Courts around the country.

On the scene, be sure to visit**The Corral** where bartender **Bob Cook** whips up a mean Bloody Mary and quips with the customers. Bob is graciously and wittily assisted by **Ricky Martinez.** The Corral, besides being the home of the **Cowboy Leathermen** is noted for its many benefits, for example this last Monday's benefit drag show for the **PWA Dream House.** Right up the street you'll find the **Lumber Company's** hospitality a special treat and **The 651** action a show in itself, especially those dancers struttin' their stuff after their Country & Western Dance Class Workshop. **D.J.'s** is gearing up for its **Fourth of July Spectacular** with benefits going to the PWA Dream House, while **Partners** and **The Vickery Station** will treat you to great music and dancing, not to mention their heavy doses of friendliness.

In fast growing Arlington, relax at **The 651** while cocktail slingers **Ralph (Marge ala mode) Kimbrough** brews your favorite concoction and **Cliff (Mae West) Glissen** keeps you in stitches. Rumors are that 651 Arlington is preparing for major expansion and remodeling to enhance this Arlington oasis.

DALLAS . . . By John Birdshot

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

Gay Pride Week may be over, but the memories are forever, some bittersweet,

CAN WE TALK?

some nostalgic, some tearful, some hilarious. From **Razzle Dazzle** to **Crossroads Carnival** to the **Candlelight March** sponsored by **OLCC,** it was a most memorable week. I hope you participated in and enjoyed the wonderful and often touching events. A tribute is surely due all those who helped in so many ways to make Gay Pride a reality in Dallas.

RESOURCES

OLCC has inaugurated its *P.S. . . . A Special Love* campaign for safer sex seminars in individuals (hosts) homes. This is a super new way to meet people, learn safe sex techniques and have a wonderful evening. Start paying attention, you'll be hearing much more about this concept.

The need to solve the lack of mental health services available to PWA's and their families has been addressed for some time now by OLCC, **AIDS Resource Center** and others. An outgrowth of this is the establishment of community based support groups focusing on issues pertinent to this population. Two groups will begin the first week of July. One is **Anxiety and AIDS** for people who have tested positive and for the worried well. The other is for heterosexual family members entitled "TLC for Family Members of PWAs." Check with OLCC for further information, dates, times and places.

THE FESTIVE FOURTH

And now, boys and girls, get ready for the Fourth of July. There will be excitement, fun and special events in just about all of your favorite watering troughs. Althought too many to enumerate, some major happenings will include the **Annual Pig Roast and Luau** at the **Hideaway Clubs,** which is sure to be the social event of the day! Larry at the bar said that the staff will be dressed in colorful attire and customers are welcome to deck out in island garb, but that they weren't handing out grass skirts! He also said that it's going to be a real pig-out because they'll be having a real roast suckling pig! Add to that the drink specials and their regular fine entertainment (Bernie Siben at 9:30), and it's a night not to miss.

Also planned around town are a spectacular celebration at the **Village Station** with **The Headliners** on stage, the **Penny Hamilton Show** at **Ovations,** an evening of superb music vocalized as only Penny can do. At **John L's, Trella Hart** is sizzling hot as she thrills her new and old fans with her silky stylizing, and **Lee Aldridge** is riveting with his Dallas debut of his cabaret show.

Candlelight March is ready to start. We'll never forget.

At the corral, Bob Cook and Ricky Martinez serve up patrons Lucille (?), Larry, Frank and Raymond.

Hunks support John Lemmons efforts at Carnival.

Playful cocktail slingers Ralph Kimbrough and Cliff Glissen at the 651 Arlington.

Friends and loved ones gather to start Candlelight March at end of Gay Pride Week.

Dallas imports! Lee Aldridge of Houston entertains John L's patrons, and Bernie Seiben works magic at the Hideaway.

Tramps, which should be known as the bar with a heart, tips off its summer schedule of benefit shows and parties with a Sunday BBQ with proceeds going to the PWA House. Of course, there will be a Fourth of July Party Saturday at Tramps with their ostentatiously glorius **Red Dress Party** July 18th, a benefit for the OLCC and **PWA Coalition.** Tramps has 3 other benefits already scheduled for August. Meanwhile,**The Trestle** continues to gather food supplies in vast quantities for AIDS Resource Center. By the way, The Trestle's Fourth of July events include festivites Friday and Saturday with its **Leather Explosion.** I wonder how you detonate leather? Well, I have an idea or two, don't you? Make this Fourth a winner and register for a 3 day - 2 night all expense paid trip sponsored by **Back to Basics** and **Lyle's Deck** on South Padre. While registering at Back to Basics for the Saturday drawings, treat yourself to their summer close out sales in both Dallas and Austin locations.

Looking for new places to dine? Try **Jerry Smith's Pirate's Pub** for divine New England recipes from Jerry himself. The price is right, service exemplary and the menu—well, shiver me timbers, lads. Right next door is the **Blue Mill** serving an excellent variety of meals at modest prices with live music to relax you while you wine and dine. The newest restaurant I found is **Larry Franklin's The Registry** located on Maple, next door to the ever popular **Circuit.** The Registry will be opening soon with an Italian, American and Ethiopian cuisine available for your choosing, and will have a pub to accomodate you as well as a patio for dining.

Did my eyes deceive me, or has the parking lot been greatly expanded between the **Arena** and Tramps? Hooray for big favors.—a vast improvement.

SAN ANTONIO . . By Jackie Oh!

Just look for the pictures! Gay Pride Week in S.A. has left me speechless!

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FAST COPY: SOME OF THE NEWS THAT MIGHT BE FIT TO PRINT

By "Perfectly" Frank Carello

Stupid People Tricks

Santa was fined $300 for criminal mischief in Houston. Well, Thomas McMann, who has played Santa many times, was fined, but it's still a major disappointment to those who believe in the old fat guy.

And there may be no Santa for the Houston Oilers if Jacksonville convinces the team to pull up goalposts and skidaddle to Florida. Love ya Blue will take on a whole new meaning. Actually, I'd like to keep the Oilers in Houston and send owner Bud Adams to Florida—or Siberia—or Mars.

Harvey Thorpe and his girlfriend swam for eighteen hours after the fishing boat they were on capsized about 600 miles northeast of Rio de Janerio. Thorpe said that he saw Death sitting on the capsized boat, so he talked his girlfriend into swimming off with him, rather than clinging to the overturned boat like the others. No other survivors have been found. What I want to know is how he recognized Death. Was his picture on the local post office wall? All I know is that swimming off like that would usually be a stupid move.

A *really* stupid move, however, is jumping off the Efiffel Tower with an elastic cord tied around your feet, so that you stop about 10 feet before your head smashes into the ground. That's what New Zealander Alan John Hackett did last week. He now wants to do it off the Stature of Liberty. What a yo-yo.

But everyone wants to have a good time. Look at the National Guardsmen who bit the big one in that copter crash. Now, reports are coming out that they were joy-riding like crazy, careening about the sky and flying so low over the trees that they parted them with the downdraft like a skilled barber parts a head of greasy hair. Aren't these the guys who are supposed to be responsible for protecting us in times of emergency? Hmmmm.

Drugs, Drugs, Drugs

Sometimes the people who are supposed to know the most about drugs, like the cops who have to deal with the laws concerning them, show an amazing lack of understanding of people who actually do drugs. Recently in Texas and Oklahoma, there has been a letter circulated pointing out that dealers of LSD are aiming their product at little kids because some blotter acid they've seen had cartoon characters printed on it! And then there was some wrapped in Mickey Mouse paper. Obviously, they've never done acid, or they'd know that adults can still enjoy cartoons, innocence and silliness as much as kids. Besides, who in his right mind would bother to sell LSD to kids? They're already on a natural trip, and they don't have any money anyway.

Some people should not *ever* do acid, however, especially people who don't know that they're doing it. But if the U.S. Army doses you, you have no recourse, according to the Supreme Court, who disallowed a suit by a soldier who had been used as a drug guinea pig in the 1950s. This is the same army that sent radiation through our guys to see the results. Makes you kind of wonder who the bad guys are.

Those Crazy Heterosexuals

That poll that said half of all heterosexual marriages were doomed to divorce has been getting a beating. It seems the statistics only took in to account one year of marriages and divorces, and paid no attention to all the unions that have survived for on and on. But if you look at the news of how some couples relate, it's a wonder that heterosexuals even consider marriage at all.

Former honeymooners T. Cullen and Priscilla Davis of Ft. Worth have had what is purported to be their last day in court, with a hung jury unable to decide if he was indeed the man who shot three people, killing two (including her 12-year-old child from a former marriage). Of course, Davis (Mr.) is now a born-again Christian, so we know that he couldn't lie, right?

Another fun couple is San Antonio's Carolyn Sue Huebner and her hubby. Seems Carolyn got overworked so she decided to try to have her husband killed. It happens to all of us, I guess.

In Big D, those Texas sweethearts, John and Mrs. Tower are splitsville, with the major issue being her money. Now, you don't suppose that cash could have been an enticement for the marriage in the first place, do you? She's saying that he's been beating the bushes with other flowers, but he's a Republican, and we all know that Republicans don't do that sort of thing.

Taking the cake, though, for heterosexual nonsense is the man in Lima, Peru, who locked up his wife in a medieval chastity belt whenever he left so that she wouldn't fool around. The rusty lock on the belt dug into her flesh, and she died of infection. Of course,

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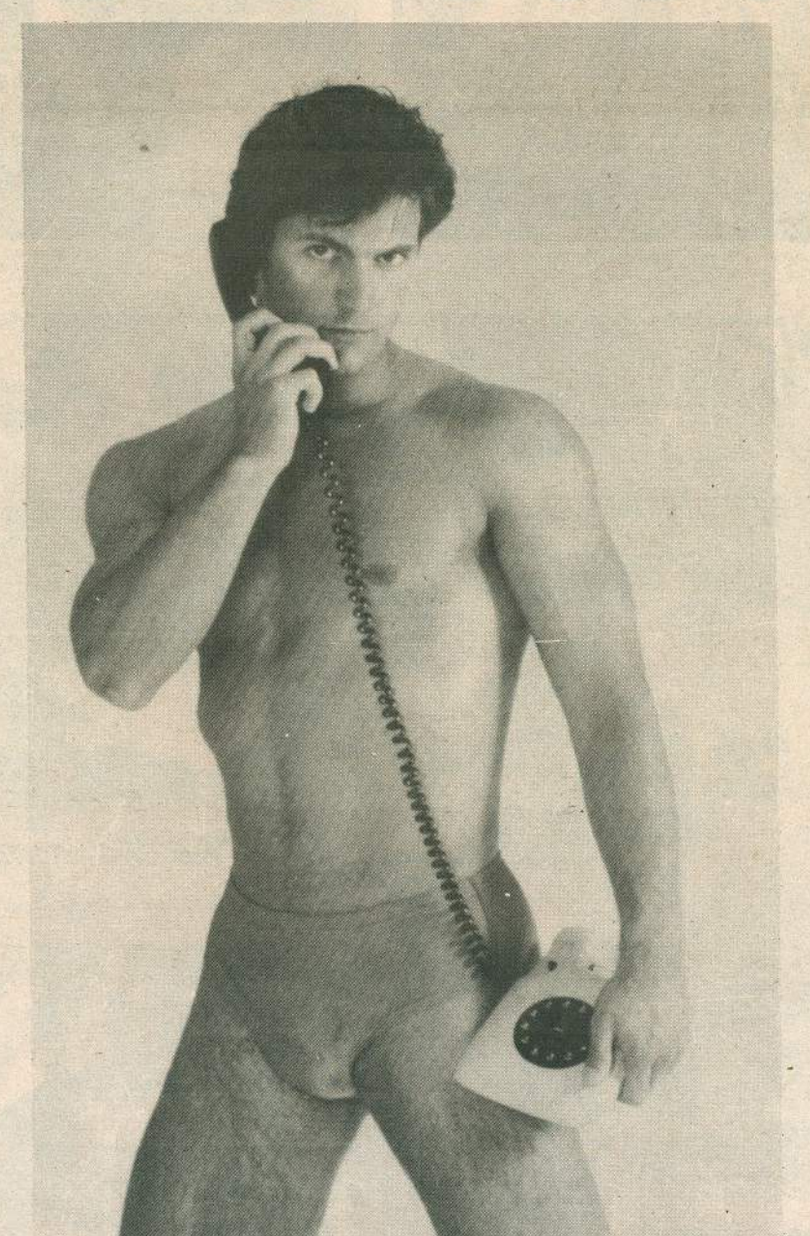

A service charge of $2.00 + toll if any. No credit cards are necessary. You must be 18 years of age to call.

Carolyn Sue Huebner and her hubby. Seems Carolyn got overworked so she decided to try to have her husband killed. It happens to all of us, I guess.

In Big D, those Texas sweethearts, John and Mrs. Tower are splitsville, with the major issue being her money. Now, you don't suppose that cash could have been an enticement for the marriage in the first place, do you? She's saying that he's been beating the bushes with other flowers, but he's a Republican, and we all know that Republicans don't do that sort of thing.

Taking the cake, though, for heterosexual nonsense is the man in Lima, Peru, who locked up his wife in a medieval chastity belt whenever he left so that she wouldn't fool around. The rusty lock on the belt dug into her flesh, and she died of infection. Of course, maybe all is not lost; perhaps he's into necrophilia.

One couple who is not fond of the dead is the Haneys of Houston who are suing the developer who sold them their home, because they found out that there's a dead body buried there. Since there seems to be no hint of marital discord in this relationship, I guess the family that screams together, teams together.

Biggest breakup in the country, though, is the divorce between Oliver North and the conservative Republicans. Ahhhhhhwwww. Just the pairing that you thought would never be put asunder.

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Unique Interiors From
One Home To Another
Try Treasure Hunting at Houston's
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10% off
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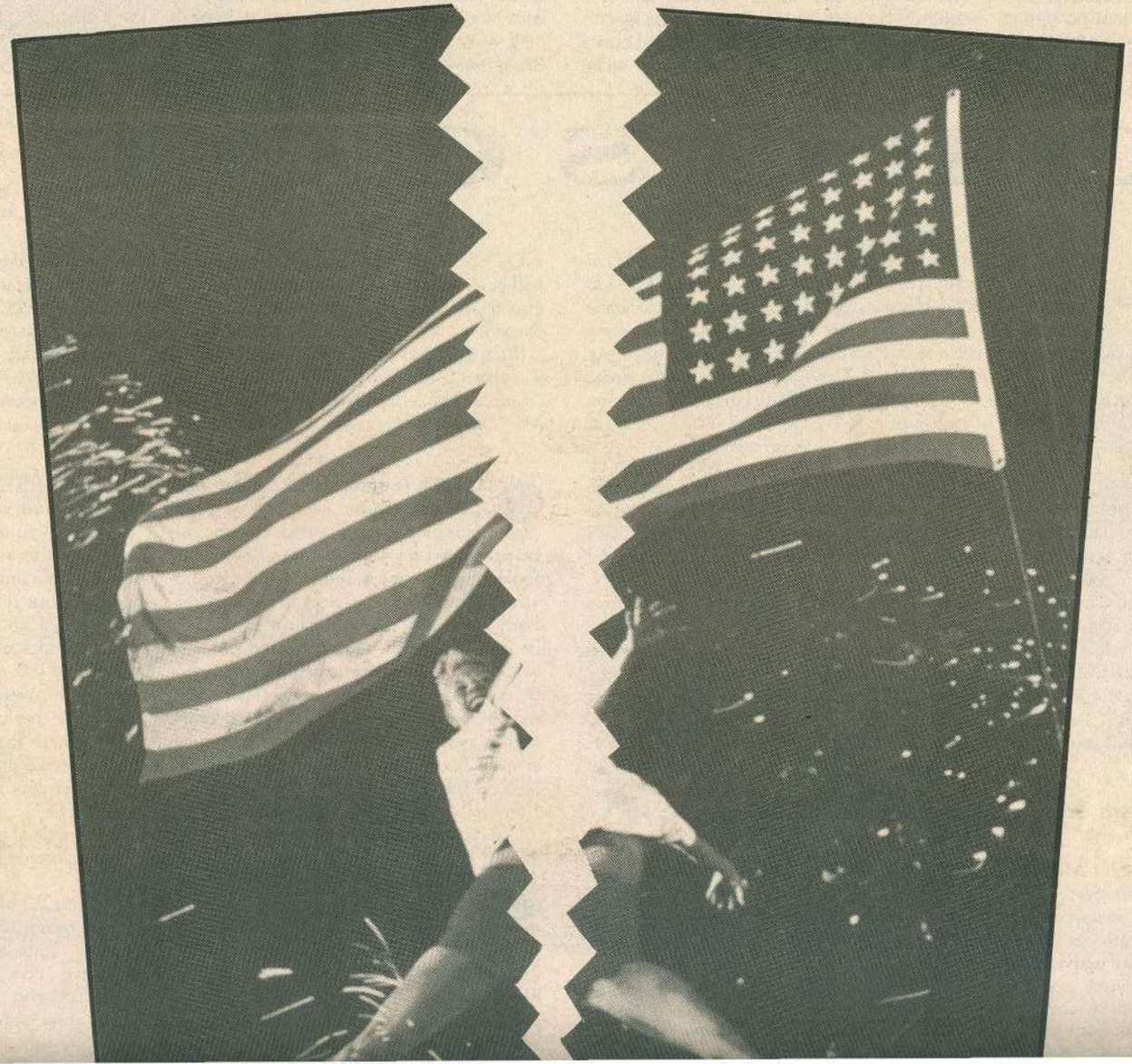
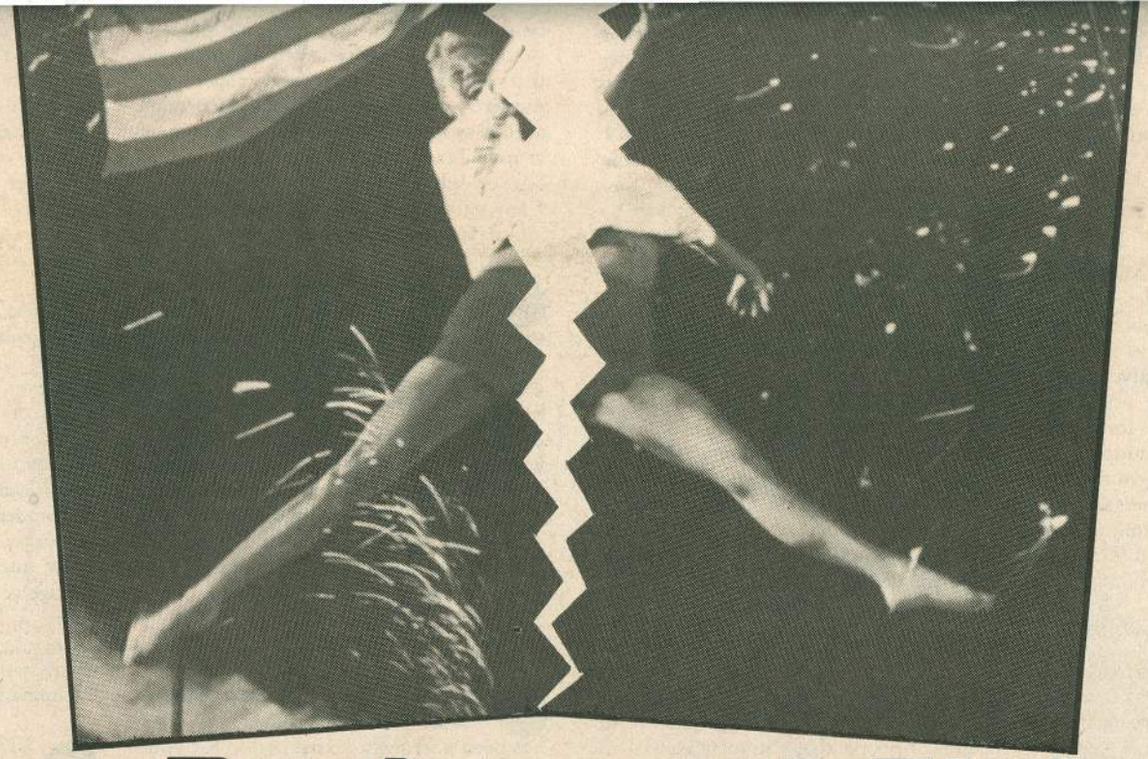
High as the flag on the Fourth of July!





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Newsbits

Condoms for Inmates Condemned

WASHINGTON—Condoms will not be provided to federal prison inmates, according to Assistant Surgeon General Robert Brutsche, who also serves as medical director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Saying that homosexual sex is against prison regulations, Brutsche indicated that he cannot condone condoms within the prison system. He also said that a plan for separate prisons for inmates who have tested HIV positive has been discussed within the Reagan administration.

Test May Lead to AIDS Vaccine

STOCKHOLM, Sweden—Swedish researchers have developed a new AIDS test with a synthetic substance that not only detects both HIV antibodies, but may lead to perfecting techniques in the field that could be used to develop a vaccine against AIDs.

Houston to Host National Bowling Tournament

With teams from Houston, Dallas, Ft. Worth, Austin, New Orleans, Los Angeles and Atlanta, the Second Annual Texas Invitational Tournament promises to bring bowling excitement to the Bayou City. Featuring a four-team format, the tourney will kick off with singles play at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, July 4, at Stadium Bowling Lanes, 8200 Braesmain and continue that day with doubles starting at 2 p.m. Play will conclude with the team events, 10 a.m., Sunday.

Registration will be from 7 p.m. to midnight at Viscount Motor Lodge on the Southwest Freeway, and various bars and organizations around the Montrose will be offering the bowlers specials and discounts.

Show Quote of the Week

"Here's to living, loving each day of our lives."

—lyric from the **Group Theatre Workshop's** production of **John Glines'** *Gulp!*

HOROSCOPES

by Jack Marvin, AMAFA

This July 4th weekend should certainly prove interesting for any of you in the romantic mood Why? Both planets that govern love are changing signs this week. VENUS leaves talkative GEMINI to enter homebody CANCER, while energetic MARS exits homebody CANCER and enters romantic LEO. Both of these planets are comfortable in each of these signs and, chances are, you can develop a spiritual as well as a sexual relationship during this period. Please remember that we are still under the MERCURY retrograde which means "miscommunication". Therefore, when you meet someone during this weekend, ***listen carefully*** *to what they are saying and also* ***think carefully*** *before you speak. For all of you who don't care about this silly romance stuff, I'm sorry, but I write it as I see it, and this weekend and next week, romance and sex will be high on everyone's thoughts.*

NOTES: *PISCES will experience some emotional problems on Friday, but VIRGO and GEMINI will be on ego-trips. GEMINI and LEO will be down on Saturday while CAPRICORN will feel emotionally fulfilled. AQUARIUS, LIBRA, TAURUS, and PISCES will have a great day on Sunday, but happy-go-lucky SAGITTARIUS will be bottomed-out (no pun intended...) along with ARIES. SCORPIO, VIRGO, and LEO will feel great on Monday, while ARIES will recover on Tuesday. CAPRICORN will again feel good on Wednesday. SAGITTARIUS will be "on top" (again, no pun...) along with AQUARIANS on Thursday. All of which is preparing us for the Full MOON next Friday.*

+++++

ARIES ***(March 21 - April 20):*** Some of the concern about your neighborhood will begin to disappear and you will want to spend more time at your home instead of being "out-and-about". You will actively pursue someone who can fit into your current "homebody" scheme. Don't try to push your ideas over on anyone, however, since MERCURY is still retrograde. If you are still having a tendency to gain a few pounds, work them off at Parkway Athletic Club. Don't gamble until after July 15th.

* Favorable Days: 7th
* Unfavorable Days: **3rd, 4th, 5th**

TAURUS ***(April 21 - May 20):*** Since VENUS is your ruler, its new placement will make you more aware of the people who live around you and in your near neighborhood. You will actively seek someone who will share your home or apartment with you. This will last for about the next two months. Again, I caution you concerning all areas dealing with communi-

CANCER ***(June 21 - July 20):*** Generally, you should continue building on your high from the New MOON from a week ago which will reach a stressful climax next Friday with the Full MOON. With VENUS entering your sign, you may have a tendency to over-emote and dote over someone you just met. Avoid this as you will certainly run them away. The miscommunication tendency is still very strong and will remain so until after July 15th. You will aggressively pursue increasing your financial worth and assets. This is favorable.

* Favorable Days: 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th
* Unfavorable Days: none

LEO ***(July 21 - August 21):*** There will be much activity and energy in improving your outer self and wanting attention from others. Don't go overboard and get on other's nerves. Remember, MERCURY is retrograde and you can still be plagued by problems with miscommunications or misunderstandings. This is a favorable time for you to get in touch with

LIBRA (September 22 - October 22): Look your very best at your place of employment. Granted, you should be promoted on your merit and not your looks or appearances, but, if you spruce-up your wardrobe and shape-up your outer body (including face and hairdo), you will be in the forefront for a raise and promotion. Also, get involved with organizations that benefit the community. There are numerous volunteer as well as social organizations around in each of the communities around Texas. You will be on an emotional high on July 4th.

* Favorable Days: **3rd, 4th, 5th**
* Unfavorable Days: none

SCORPIO ***(October 23 - November 22):*** This is really a time for you to aggressively pursue your career which will end on a very favorable note. To go along with this, you should work to enhance your knowledge of your current occupation. The more you learn, the more you earn. The next several months are very

CAPRICORN ***(December 21 - January 19):*** Confusion still abounds in your private life, but that's not the case otherwise. There will be some difficulties in communicating with a future partner, but remember that this will pass after July 15th. You may have been toying with the idea of becoming involved with a lover and it is now coming to pass. By the end of this weekend, you will move into a favorable period for commitments (Oh, how I hate that word!). Sexually, you'll really be wild since aggressive, sexual MARS will enter your house of sex ruled by dominate LEO.

* Favorable Days: 4th, 8th
* Unfavorable Days: none

AQUARIUS ***(January 20 - February 18):*** You are really going to pursue quite aggressively a partnership. However, I do not feel that this is really the time for you to become involved with another person. This is, incidentally, an excellent time for you to become involved

fit into your current "homebody" scheme. Don't try to push your ideas over on anyone, however, since MERCURY is still retrograde. If you are still having a tendency to gain a few pounds, work them off at Parkway Athletic Club. Don't gamble until after July 15th.
* Favorable Days: 7th
* Unfavorable Days: **3rd, 4th, 5th**

TAURUS ***(April 21 - May 20):*** Since VENUS is your ruler, its new placement will make you more aware of the people who live around you and in your near neighborhood. You will actively seek someone who will share your home or apartment with you. This will last for about the next two months. Again, I caution you concerning all areas dealing with communication. Listen carefully to what others say and avoid being abrasive in your communications with others. Financial difficulties should be ending.
* Favorable Days: 5th
* Unfavorable Days: **6th, 7th,**

GEMINI ***(May 21 - June 20):*** The romantic mood may be slipping from you since you will have VENUS exiting your sign and entering CANCER. But, what this will mean is that you will begin to place more emphasis on your assets and your financial worth. These things were not so important in the past, but they will take on more importance as the month progresses. Activity will center in your near neighborhood. You may pursue a sexual relationship with someone in your apartment complex or who lives nearby.
* Favorable Days: 3rd, 6th
* Unfavorable Days: 4th, **8th, 9th**

have a tendency to over-emote and dote over someone you just met. Avoid this as you will certainly run them away. The miscommunication tendency is still very strong and will remain so until after July 15th. You will aggressively pursue increasing your financial worth and assets. This is favorable.
* Favorable Days: 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th
* Unfavorable Days: none

LEO ***(July 21 - August 21):*** There will be much activity and energy in improving your outer self and wanting attention from others. Don't go overboard and get on other's nerves. Remember, MERCURY is retrograde and you can still be plagued by problems with miscommunications or misunderstandings. This is a favorable time for you to get in touch with the beautiful you that is located inside of you. By this I mean that now is the time for you to rid yourself of some of the mental trash that has been cluttering your mind.
* Favorable Days: 3rd, 6th
* Unfavorable Days: 4th

VIRGO ***(August 22 - September 21):*** Romantic entanglements with friends or people that you socialize with in organizations are certainly options in your near future. When you are working with others to plan events that will benefit others or organizations, you may meet the person that you have wanted to meet for some time. This is also a time for you to actively work on getting the clutter out of your mind. This may require some individual or group therapy, but do it. You may also pursue some secret goals.
* Favorable Days: 3rd, 6th
* Unfavorable Days: 4th

body (including face and hairdo), you will be in the forefront for a raise and promotion. Also, get involved with organizations that benefit the community. There are numerous volunteer as well as social organizations around in each of the communities around Texas. You will be on an emotional high on July 4th.
* Favorable Days: **3rd, 4th, 5th**
* Unfavorable Days: none

SCORPIO ***(October 23 - November 22):*** This is really a time for you to aggressively pursue your career which will end on a very favorable note. To go along with this, you should work to enhance your knowledge of your current occupation. The more you learn, the more you earn. The next several months are very favorable for you to pursue a promotion as well as an increase in salary. Make certain that you just lay your plans during this period. Openly pursue them after MERCURY goes direct (after July 15th).
* Favorable Days: **6th, 7th**
* Unfavorable Days: none

SAGITTARIUS ***(November 23 - December 20):*** Even though this has been a strongly sexual period for you, your relationships have really lacked something. Got any ideas? Love. You have really not had the romantic sexual involvement that you require. Guess what? On Sunday, romantic VENUS enters your house of sex, and this certainly implies that a really deep romantic encounter will occur. Incidentally, this will really be a great time to travel. You will be motivated to travel—and this could turn out to be a "honeymoon"...
* Favorable Days: **8th, 9th**
* Unfavorable Days: 5th

after July 15th. You may have been toying with the idea of becoming involved with a lover and it is now coming to pass. By the end of this weekend, you will move into a favorable period for commitments (Oh, how I hate that word!). Sexually, you'll really be wild since aggressive, sexual MARS will enter your house of sex ruled by dominate LEO.
* Favorable Days: 4th, 8th
* Unfavorable Days: none

AQUARIUS ***(January 20 - February 18):*** You are really going to pursue quite aggressively a partnership. However, I do not feel that this is really the time for you to become involved with another person. This is, incidentally, an excellent time for you to become involved with your work and health. During the remainder of this month, you will be very favorably looked upon by your boss or those interested in your talents. A career change is still in the air. By this I do not mean a "job" change, but a complete change in your career.
* Favorable Days: 5th, 9th
* Unfavorable Days: none

PISCES (February 19 - March 20): You may have felt somewhat lazy at your job for the last several months, but now is the time for you to buckle down and get to work. You will be in the limelight and people will appreciate the work you are doing—it's about time. Also, work on your health and diet. The Parkway Athletic Club has great facilities as well as helpful instructors. You may have actively pursued romantic encounters for the last several months just to face rejection. That will all change as you are about to meet someone who will care for you as much as you care for them.
* Favorable Days: 5th
* Unfavorable Days: 3rd.

QUESTION: *"I would like to have my Horoscope done, but I am worried that the Astrologer will be able to tell Iamgay. What are the signs that you look for in a Horoscope to tell if someone is gay or not?"* **W W R**

+++++

ANSWER: Various forms of this question have got to be my most frequently asked question. This has been discussed and researched frequently, and you certainly will get many different opinions on this question. But, first of all, make certain that when you go to an Astrologer, that you use an accredited one and not one dressed up like something out of a 1930's movie. **An Astrologer cannot even tell the SEX of someone by their chart, much less their sexual preference.** You could cast a horoscope of a rock, a tree, a garage or even a telephone pole—and there certainly isn't much sexuality associated with these objects. All too often, the "Pseudo-Astrologers" or mis-educated Astrologers misunderstand exactly what a horoscope **is** and what it **is not.** Because the planet URANUS deals with the odd and the unusual or NEPTUNE deals with the unsure, if someone has either of these planets prominent, they are mistakenly interpreted as being gay or having gay tendencies. A gay person would consider gay sex quite normal and certainly not "odd or unusual" and most gay people that I have been around were quite "sure" what they wanted in bed."

JM, AMAFA

If you have any questions, address them to JACK MARVIN, AMAFA, 1238 West Bell, Houston, TX 77019. Phone number: (713)520-5206. Please include your birth date, birth time, and birth place, if known. If you are asking a compatibility question, please include the above information for the other person, if known. Your questions will be answered as time and space permits. JM

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XXX RATED

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BIG GUNS

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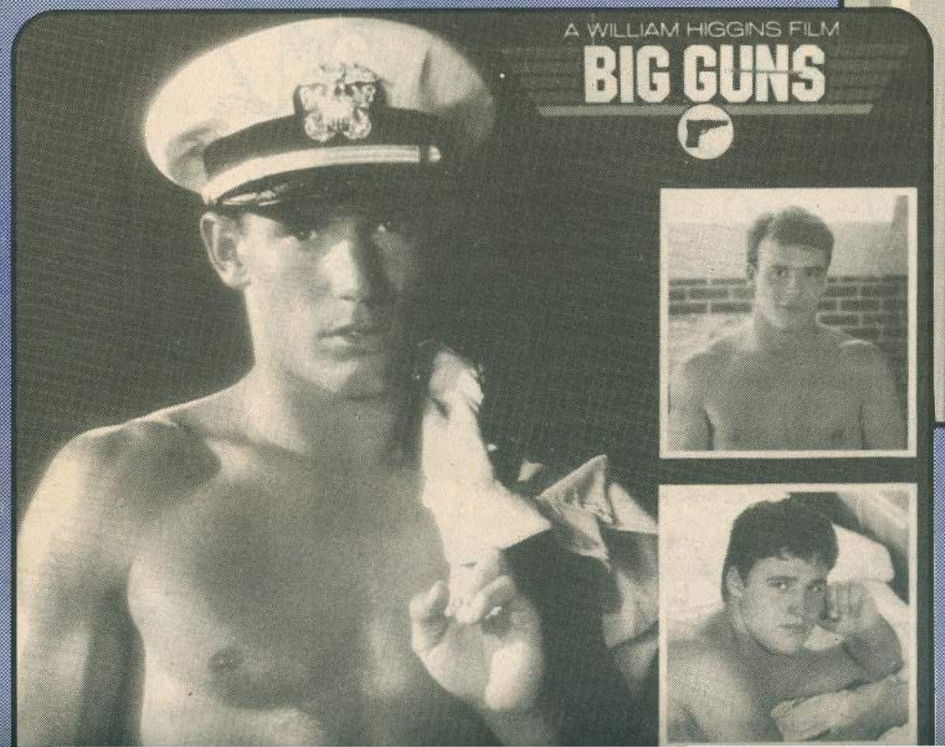
are big and beautiful!"



BEST FRIENDS

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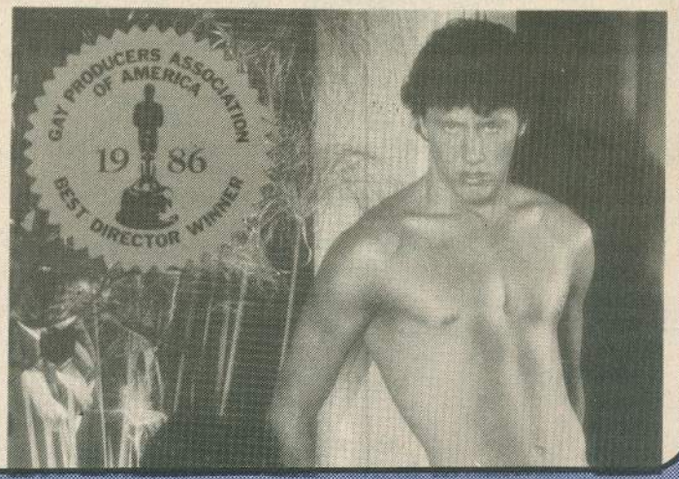

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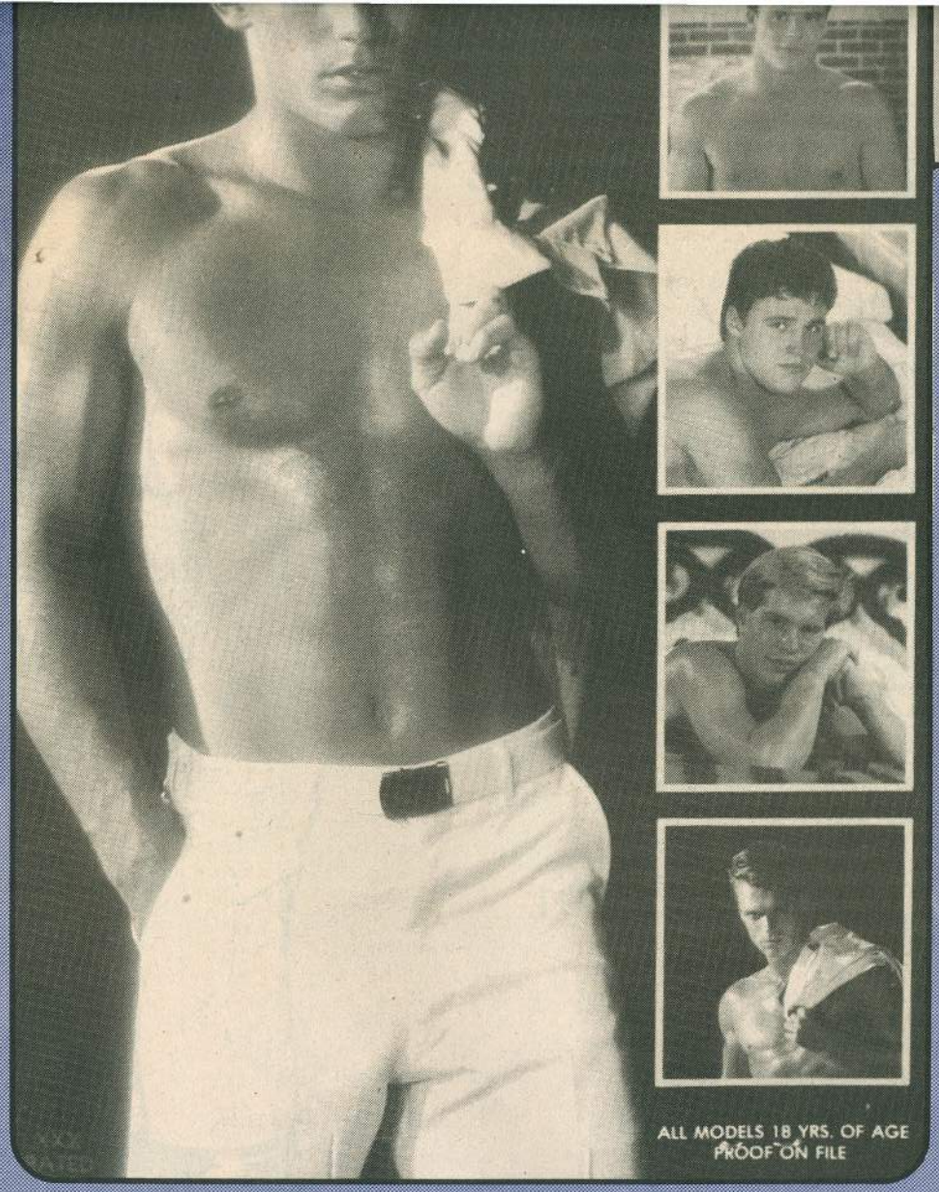

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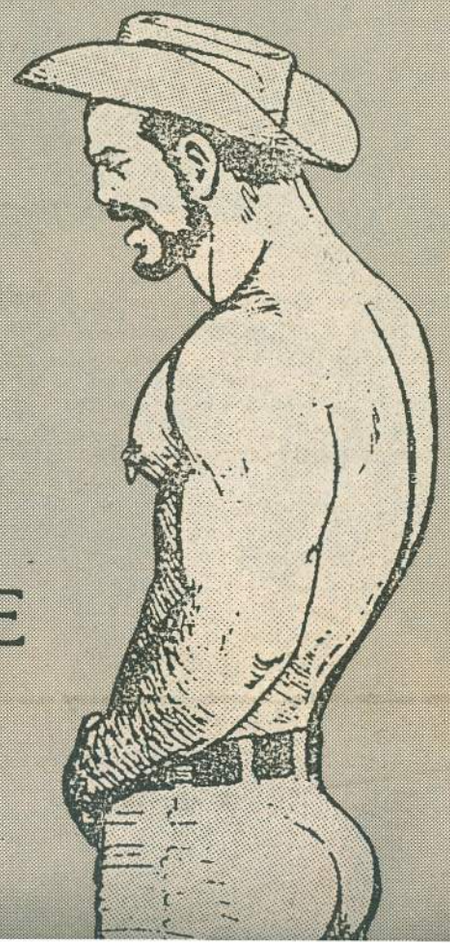
Monday—Saturday 4—8 p.m.
$1.00 Well Drinks $1.00 Longnecks



ALL NEW SUNDAY TEA DANCE

Frank Benge D.J.
All You Can Drink
Draft Beer 4—8 p.m.

$1.00 Well Drinks $1.00 Longnecks

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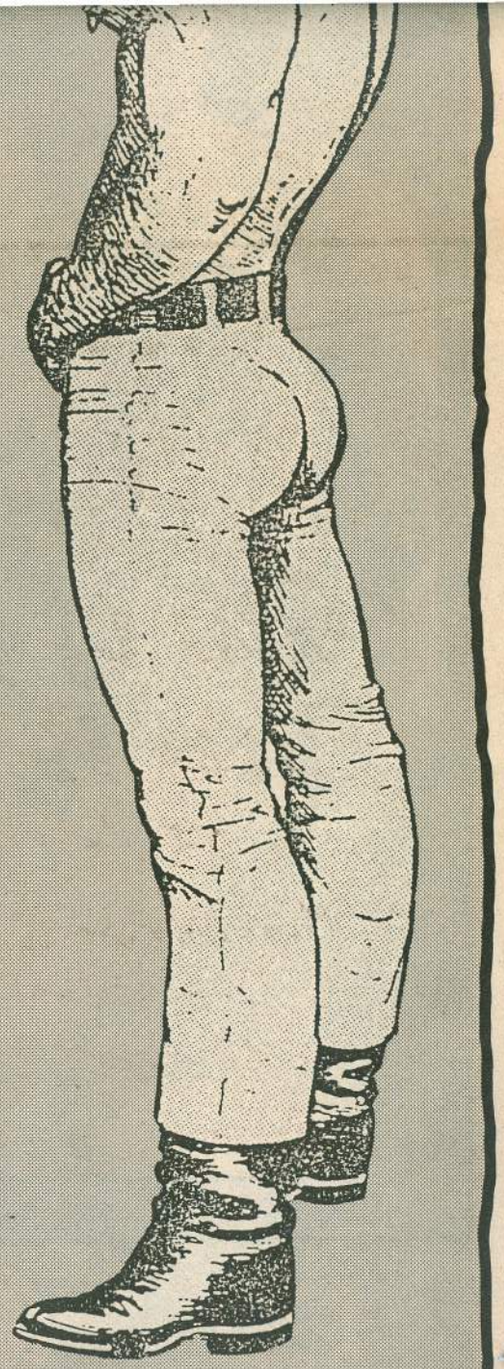

ALL NEW

MONDAY—BRING A FRIEND OR BEST ENEMY

For Happy Hour Prices

Buy your first well drink for $1.50

and the second for a nickel! 8 p.m.—2 a.m.

THIS SUNDAY

4TH OF JULY WEEKEND

1ST ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF!

To benefit the SATG AIDS FUND

3—8 p.m. on the patio.

1418 North Main • San Antonio • (512) 227-2623

$1.00 Well Drinks $1.00 Longnecks

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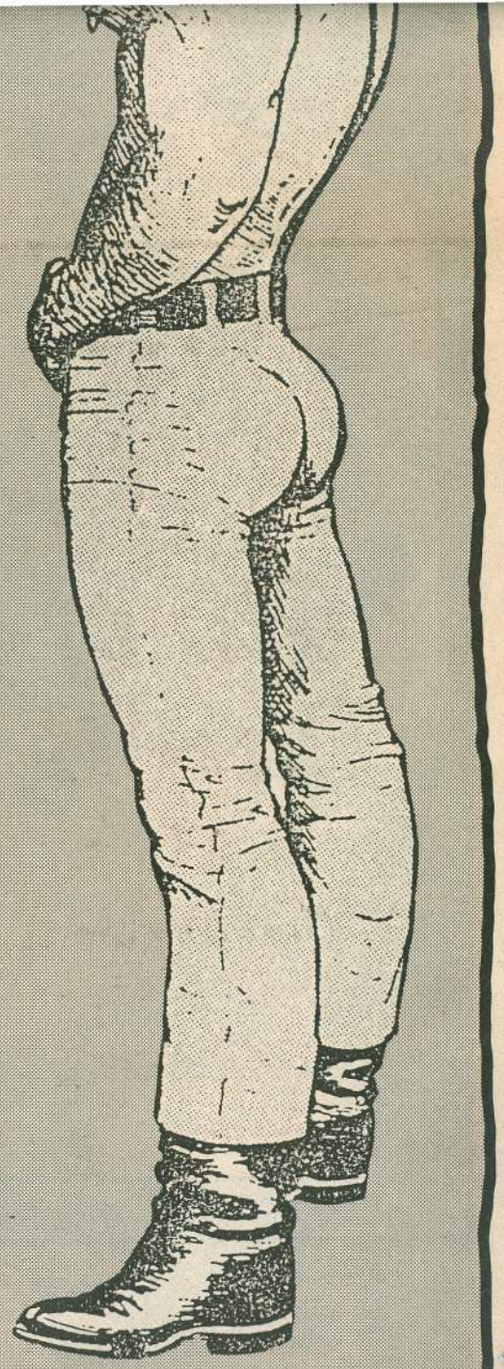

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AMANDA

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A Gay Pride Adventure

By Amanda B. Recondwith

It has been such an exhausting week, Dear Fans! Amanda wore herself simply ragged during the Gay Pride weekend, lighting strange fireworks that turn into unnatural undergarment bags when set off, and drinking drinks that have very alien colors.

Many of our Dearest Fans from San Antonio were in town, thanks to our EPAH friends and their foreign exchange practices. We have never been a total isolationist, you know, but we certainly do approve of improved relations from one city to the next. Perhaps one day, we will try to bring the same ambience between Dallas and Houston, although that would take some diplomacy on a truly Churchillian scale.

In Houston, we noticed that there would be no floats in the parade, so we decided to watch from a covered spot high above, where no one would bother us in our little party repose. We wore our most dazzling electric aluminum reflector jump suit with a SunShield Saturn hat and ProtectoLip lip sheen that made us look rather like a mirror ball at the roller rink. We were with some of our dear friends, who take great pleasure in partying and celebration. Of course, our accountant and our physician were close at hand, because one never knows when one will need financial and/or medical attention—the two go so hand in hand, you know. We also dropped in and said hello to our friend, Lynn, of appearances, on The Curve. where parade droppings were blowing in through the door ways and into every crevasse and cranny.

Later, we accidentally lit a passing missile transport trailer that happened to be stalled on Memorial Parkway. Our friends in Washington say that a mysterious flash was sighted by satellite over the Arctic tundra, but nobody knows what it was or where it came from. Our friends in Houston were merely impressed by the flaming trail as it went off, and disappointed that it didn't explode over them, thinking it was a dud. Thank God!

We wore our most dazzling electric aluminum reflector jump suit with a SunShield Saturn hat and ProtectoLip lip sheen that made us look rather like a mirror ball at the roller rink.

Looking for some mischief, Amanda took off with her friends, Kirby, Bruce and Calvin, and explored the tunnels of Greenway Plaza, drawing moustaches on movie posters, and replacing the Greenway Plaza architectural model with a replica model of Jim and Tammy Bakker's Wonderland. We then retired to TCBY to yogurt, where we met several other friends from San Antonio and Austin, who were totally puzzled by the door latch and couldn't enter or exit properly.

After dripping chocolate ice cream all the way down into our ample cleavage, we retired to our home for an after celebration celebration, which was visited by the masses, many of whom have to work on Mondays (poor souls). David W. came by, still basking in the success of his fabulous Saturday night soiree, which reall WAS the event of the summer. We wore our most outrageous peacock patterned party pumps with matching blouse and polypropyline hobble skirt, and when we fell down, we were sat upon by several men who thought we were a new form of lawn furniture.

Overall, Dear Fans, Amanda sincerely enjoyed the Gay Pride festivities. We know that the community is under some harsh realities in the coming years, but it's always nice to know that so many of our dear friends are healthy and happy, and so incredibly handsome!! Next week, we fly off to Dallas for a look at the retail scene, then, later, we will be basking in Corpus Christi, just to see if our Number 5,487.009 sun screen works. Ta Ta!

Newsbit

Fired Nurse Sues Over AIDS Issue

HARTFORD, Conn.—Rose Feshler, a nurse who was fired after refusing to care for AIDS patients, has filed a suit against Hartford Hospital, charging that she was not trained for such work and alleging she was dismissed "improperly and unjustifiably."

Houston's Friendliest Country & Western Bar

The

VENTURE-N-HOUSTON

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PEOPLE'S FORUM

Dallas Support Groups Formed

from Mary Grigby, OLCC

In May of this year, representatives from several service providing agencies met to discuss the lack of mental health services available to Persons With AIDS (PWAs) and their families. An outgrowth of this meeting was the establishment of community based support groups focusing on issues pertinent to this population.

It was decided that the groups will be 1½ hours per week for eight weeks and will run once a quarter. Each group will have two mental health professionals as facilitators who will be volunteering their time to this project. The suggested structure for the groups is one-half hour of educational material and one hour of group interaction.

Two groups will begin the first week of July. One is "Anxiety and AIDS" for people who have tested positive and the worried well. This group will meet on Thursday nights from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m., beginning July 9th in room 215, Epworth Hall of Lover's Lane United Methodist Church. The church is located at the intersection of Northwest Highway and Inwood Road.

The other group is for heterosexual family members and is entitled "TLC for Family Members of PWAs" and will be held on Tuesday nights from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. beginning July 14th. This group will also be meeting in room 215, Epworth Hall of Lover's Lane United Methodist Church.

The plans are to expand to other group topics and to the minority communities. The groups will be held in different parts of the city to make them accessible to all. No fees will be charged for either group. For further information, contact Mary Grigsby at 351-1502 or Scott Allen at 521-5191.

Juneteenth Ad Draws Charge of Racism

from D. Benson, San Antonio

What will a publisher do for the almighty dollar? Answer—be a part of something that is blatantly *Racist*. Or maybe your *true* colors are showing. I am referring to Vol. 3 #25 in which you published an ad sponsored by Mary's. The ad concerned a "Juneteenth" celebration there. The ad was tasteless, insulting to black people, and an embarrassment to our community.

In my opinion, you lack journalistic integrity and common sense.

Our community does not need your newspaper in San Antonio if you lack perception in racial matters. You did more harm than any Klu Klux Klan because we did not expect this from you.

I will never pick up any more copies except to throw them *all* in the trash can and I will certainly encourage others to do the same.

Your anger is understandable, but no one ever solved a race problem by closing off the lines of communication. At the Texas Forum we have set race relations as one of our target areas and have run many editorials and stories on the problem of race relations. Thank you for the comments on the Mary's ad, and we hope you continue to express your opinions in this space. Please read the story on the ad in last week's Newsbits section; you were certainly not the only one who complained. Editor.

Showbit

A Summer Shakespearience

Martin Rayner, playing The Fool, bends the ear of **Earle Hyman,** who plays King Lear, in the 1987 Shakespeare Festival of Dallas. ***The Cosby Show*** fans will recognize Hyman as **Bill Cosby's** father, but Hyman has long been a lauded Shakespearean actor.

Generally regarded as Shakespeare's greatest pinnacle of dramatic expression, ***King Lear*** will be presented free of charge from July 7-19 in the **Dallas Fair Park Bandshell.** Curtain is 8:15.

Showbit

A Fiery Texas Fourth: Pyrotechnics Are In

All around the state, fireworks will be going off, in Houston, **Foley's,** the **Heritage Society** and **Parks Department** will present the world-famous **Grucci** family's fireworks display at downtown Houston's **Sam Houston Park.** Beginning at 6 p.m., "Good Old Fashioned Fourth of July Celebration" includes games and a wide variety of entertainment. Admission is free and Foley's is offering free parking in their garage at Travis and Lamar. **KFMK** (98FM) is simulcasting the fireworks music. This promises to be a mini Rendezvous.

In Austin, the **Austin Symphony** will present a live concert and fireworks display in **Zilker Park.** Take your blankets and a picnic supper for a romantic fourth in the park. Be there at 8 p.m.

In San Antonio, **Alamo Plaza** is the center of festivities that will begin on July 3 at 6 p.m. and end with an explosive fireworks display on the Fourth. Don't miss this multi-faceted festive holiday event, sponsored by Target 90 and Miller Lite. Admission is free.

In Dallas, **KZPS** (92.5FM) is sponsoring "Fourth Fest", a fireworks display in **Elgin B. Robertson Park** at **Lake Ray Hubbard** at 9:15 p.m. Also, **UT Dallas** at Campbell and Floyd, is exploding fireworks at 9:30 p.m. Admission is free for both events.

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Showbit

Lois and Clark Were Never This Good

Faster than you can say "speeding bullet," folks down San Antone Way are dropping their Alamo souvenirs and running wildly through the streets all the way to the **French Connection** to catch an act more powerful than a locomotive. Powered by accompanist extraordinaire **Richard Askin** and the vocal virtuosity of **Kim Yvette,** who is able to leap forgotten octaves in a single breath, this train runs so smoothly and sweetly that even **Superman** could not stop it from smashing into the Realm of Hits.

From 9-1 on Thursday and Saturday evenings at the French Connection in San Antonio, ordinary mortals can catch the best act this side of Krypton.

NETWORK

Peer Pressure

By Jeff Bray

Another hot steamy Houston morning, and I was walking down the street past the towering Allied Bank Plaza, wondering what it would be named once they merged with Interfirst across the street. Maybe they'll just put a skyway attached to both buildings and name the whole thing the AlFirstInteBank or something.

The sidewalks were wet with their morning washing, not that you can really define pristine granite and marble as being true sidewalk material. As I watched my reflection in the wet granite, I overheard a man as he walked behind me.

"I don't mind AIDS, per se," he said. "But who is going to come to the office and tell his peers? I think I'd just take a leave of absence and go visit my parents or something. It shouldn't be so terrible, should it?"

When I got to the next corner, I turned and saw the man walk away with another well-clad businessman. they both wore the customary blue suit, much like my own, and they carried brief cases, quite like mine. From a distance, you'd probably think they were discussing the Astros or the weather. Who would think that such a topic is being discussed so casually on such a beautiful morning, with all the fabulous glittering architecture and well dressed parade surrounding us?

What about our peers? Who are they? We work hard for our money. We ride the elevators up and down until we feel the bends coming on. We traverse the tunnels of downtown in cool splendor, racing for our lunch dates and rushing for xerox copies of legal documents, real estate vouchers, oil and gas results and stock market readings. Yet, underneath it all is this strange tension, where we all share a common bond of embarrassed silence and shame. It's our sex lives, and what we prefer, and how we go about getting it.

Sex is something we see every day, although we're taught from day one not to notice it. We see it in the secretaries' tight skirts as they hobble along the streets in high heels. We detect it under the folds and seams of the well fitted suits of the men as they walk along. We notice it, even though we may not be aware of it, and now the unspeakable disease is becoming more prevalent, and all these beautiful people are threatened, and the tension shows the failure of the so-called "Sexual Revolution" of the past two decades. That revolution was a revolution of banter, without any substance. The real revolution will come from the ordinary masses, who suddenly find themselves unable to hide their preferences or their sexuality, because a deadly virus is forcing them from the closets, the board rooms, the kitchens, the suburbs, and every other place where the truth finds it so convenient to hide undetected.

Yet, underneath it all is this strange tension, where we all share a common bond of embarrassed silence and shame.

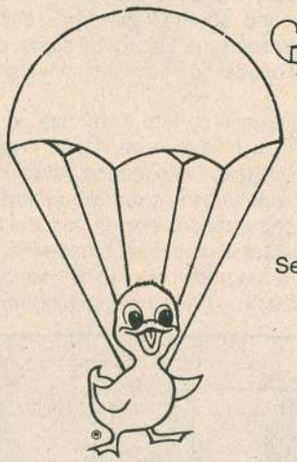
Someone killed himself recently. He planned it very carefully. He knew exactly what he was doing. He took a trip to Louisiana and overdosed, and while that seems tragic in itself, the real tragedy is that he did it because he found out he had the AIDS virus. He was a well known doctor, respected in his field. He couldn't stand the thought of his peers knowing of his sin, so he went to Louisiana and committed suicide. You see, in Louisiana, they don't do post-mortems. No one would know, except for us, his friends.

Our peers? Such pressure. Such tension we force upon ourselves, all for a little thing called respect. But respect is all we ask for in this world, and it is the worst crime of the 20th century that it has been denied intermittently to the Armenians, the American Indians, the Jews of Europe, the Spanish, the Arabs of Palestine, and the Blacks of America and South Africa. That denial ran along racial, easily defined lines, but no longer. AIDS recognize no peer.

Newsbit

Whitmire's Budget Nixes More AIDS Funds

HOUSTON—Mayor Kathy Whitmire's 1988 budget proposal contains no new money for AIDS education, despite complaints from activists and some elected officials. Councilman George Greanias has suggested programs that would not cost the city much more money and would help curb the spread of AIDs. The criticism of the city's commitment to deal with the AIDS crisis began in May when City Health Director James Haughton said that AIDS was not Houston's only problem.



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town in cool splendor, racing for our lunch dates and rushing for xerox copies of legal documents, real estate vouchers, oil and gas results and stock market readings. Yet, underneath it all is this strange tension, where we all share a common bond of embarrassed silence and shame. It's our sex lives, and what we prefer, and how we

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WHAT A WORLD!!

A Modern Guide to Bar Raid Etiquette

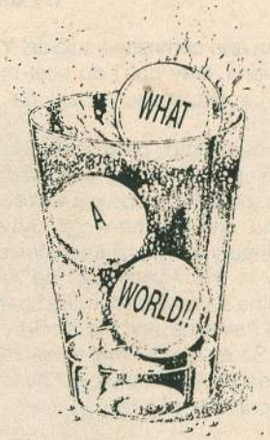
By Nancy Ford

The Lord moves in mysterious ways—almost as mysteriously as do those people who protect and defend for a living.

My personal experience with the police has been somewhat limited. My father was a policeman until I was four-years-old. When I was five, my parents got a divorce, and my father got a new job. To this day I wonder whether or not the two events were related. It happens.

My next noteworthy exposure to the Crew in Blue was when I was 16½ years old. Hot summer night. Grandparent's Buick. 35 MPH zone. Peer pressure from the back seat. Speeding ticket in front of the Dairy Queen It happens. More recently, a city officer drew a bead on me in the home of friends. These friends, prior to my arrival and unbeknownst to me, had been involved in major Dyke Wars. (*Definition:* "An argument between two or more women at which time said women do not behave as civilized women.") Knowing there was a gun on the premises (a handy home accessory in that particular neighborhood), concerned neighbors had called the police. It happens.

It needs to be noted that the two officers dispatched to that one-bedroom battleground conducted themselves in an impeccably professional and non-judgmental manner. When it was clear that the only reason I was on the scene was to collect a previously promised cocktail, the officer responsible apologized for taking aim at me, adding that I looked strangely familiar to him. "Sure, " I thought. "We all look alike at the end of a steel barrel." Imagine my embarrassment and shame when he realized where he'd seen me before: on stage, performing at a local comedy club. I love show biz.



But whether—by fate or by fortune, for some reason I have never been present during a Bar Raid. I've escaped harrowingly narrowly, watching in my rear view mirror as uniforms and weapons entered a door I had exited only seconds before. It happens.

Pretty lucky, don't you think? Unfortunately, most of us have a way of running out of luck at the most inopportune moments, the same way most of us have a way of running out of time, patience, and/or excuses.

Knowing this, I feel an urgent need to be prepared. When faced with my debut Bar Raid I want to be familiar with the accepted standard of conduct. What is considered proper etiquette at a Bar Raid? What does one wear? Is it appropriate to bring a date? Do the salad forks go on the right or the left?

Very little research into this matter showed me that there is no predisposed set of rules. Miss Manners and Emily Post won't touch it, probably not even with yellow rubber gloves.

Therefore, as a service to you, the readers of this column who, like myself, don't want to be caught in your first raid with your pants down, the following guide has been compiled:

DON'T—Try to initiate sparking conversation by asking the officer(s)
a)if you may buy him/her a shot.
b)to dance.
c)how much he/she knows about class action suits.

DON'T—Fall limp to the floor yelling "Hell no, we won't go! Get out of 'Nam." Wrong era.

DONT— Give into the urge to do your impressions of Foster Brooks or Dudley Moore's *Arthur.*

DON'T— Question the officer concerning the length of his/her nightstick.

DON'T—Try to perpetuate your image of "Class Clown' by chaining the axle of a squad car to a fire hydrant. Pranks like that only work in movies like *American Grafitti* and *Porky's Revenge.*

DON'T—Put anything in your mouth. Not even a breath mint.

DON'T—Shout through the door as the police are leaving "Thanks for coming. Now that you know where we are, don't be a stranger."

Conversely—

DO—Remain calm.

DO—Vote responsibly at every election.

DO—Inform appropriate figures of authority if you're treated in an unfair or threatening manner.

It happens.

Newsbits

Olympic Committee Given Power Over "Gay " Olympics

WASHINGTON—The Supreme Court, by a 5-4 vote, has given the U.S. Olympic Committee absolute control over any use of the word "olympic," including the right to bar the organizers of the Gay Olympics from using the word.

Showbit

FORUM DIRECTORY

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The Politics of AIDS

The third Texas production in six months of **Larry Kramer's** powerful docu-drama *The Normal Heart* opens tonight at Austin's **Acting Studio. Different Stages** closes its season with a shocking insight into the AIDS epidemic, as the founder of the New York **Gay Men's Health Crisis Center** challenges city and federal political ennui while personally confronting the issue in a too-close-for-comfort relationship. **Mark Flores** and **Joel Crabtree** (pictured above) star in this poignant play that raises many more questions than it answers. As one character in the play says, "Whoever thought you'd die from having sex?"

The Normal Heart runs through July 25 at Austin's Acting Studio, 5811 Burnet Rd., Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. July Fourth's performance offers a two-for-one ticket discount. July 9 and 10 performances will benefit the **AIDS Services of Austin.** For further information and reservations, call (512)452-5989.

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Female Dance Review

The best in female exotic dancers

Doors open at 10 p.m.

Admission $2.00

Special thanks to ***Pam Collins***

SATURDAY

Live Chicago Recording Artist

Loetta Holloway Performing her hits:

- *Love Sensation*
- *Crash Goes Love*
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- *Relight My Fire*

and her newest single *So Sweet*

Doors open at 10 p.m.

Admission $5.00

SUNDAY

All Male

Dance Review

Free Beer Bust

Doors Open

at 10 p.m.

Admission $3.00

. . . freestyle & house music . . .

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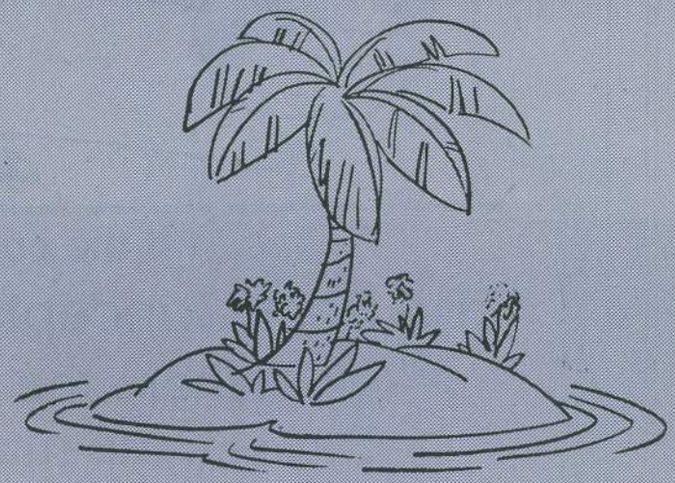

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