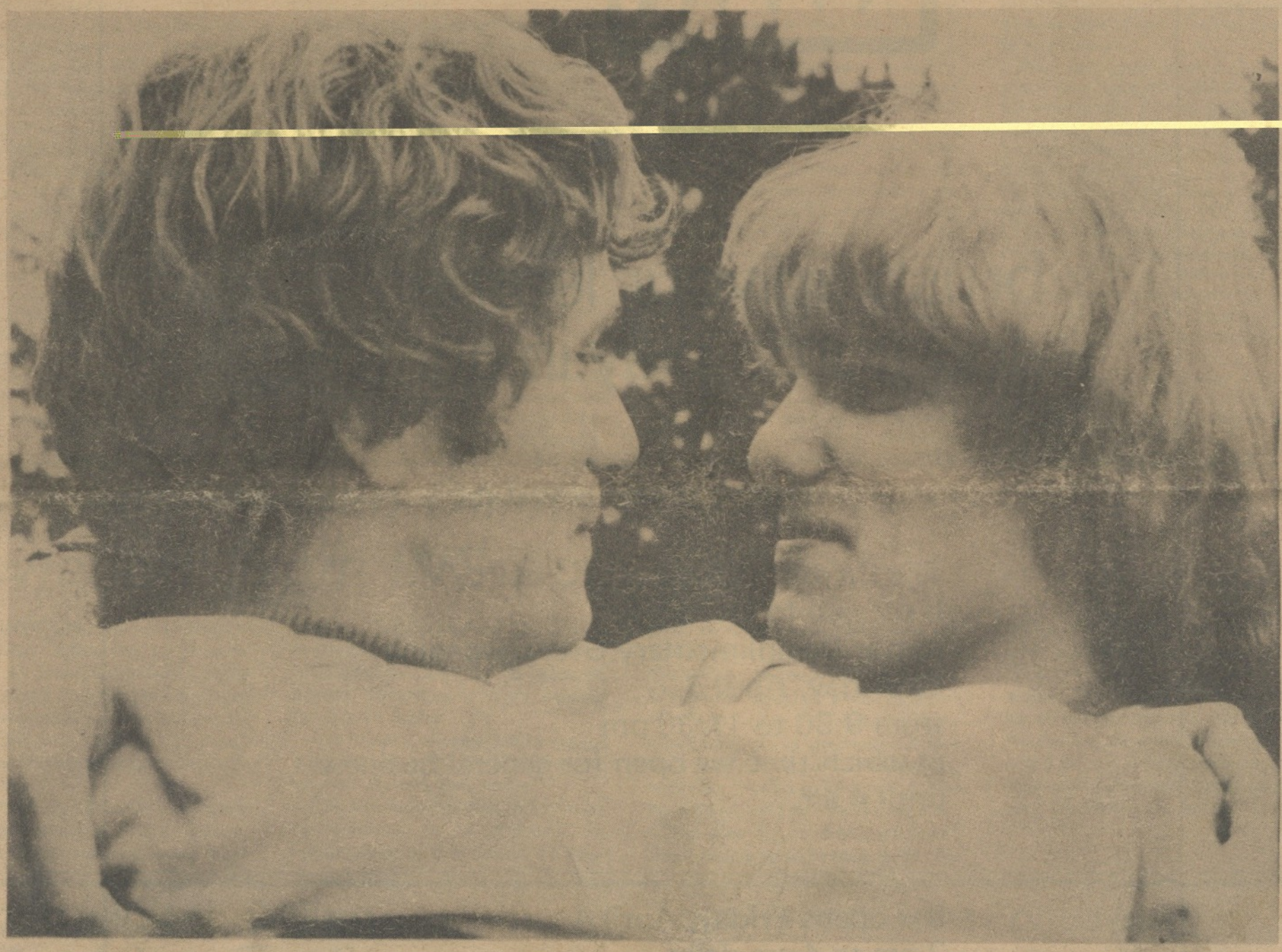
METROSTAR

THE DALLAS - FT. WORTH GAY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER / #16 / APRIL 3, 1980



'The Consequence' Fine Movie

By Roy Hall
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

We had read a couple of reviews of *The Consequence* before seeing it at a special screening recently, and we still didn't know what to expect. The film runs the gamut of experiential movie-making in certain ways, and it is one which we could write on at such great length that the average reader would simply skip this review altogether.

Please don't; there'll be talk about this movie. Despite an overworked plot and moments of weakness, *The Consequence* is not a movie to be ignored. We confess that, because we're accustomed to the home-grown variety of movie, the subtitles left us somewhat distracted for a while. It might be an advantage to read the plot first and then ignore the subtitles. Of course, if you understand German fluently, it doesn't matter.

A note of warning: The movie takes place first in Switzerland. Everyone found this confusing, so, when you go be aware that the movie starts with the hero, Martin, going to prison in Switzerland for having an affair with a fifteen-year-old boy. Without this information you can expect confusion when the [illegible] later moves to Germany.

The role of Thomas, [illegible] man disenchanted with [illegible] home life who seeks [illegible] arms of Martin in hi

See Page Ten

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NATIONAL

Bisexual couple have 'come a long way' and they feel good

By Daniel Curzon
IGNA

SAN FRANCISCO - It was Alice's 35th birthday when I interviewed her and her husband in San Francisco. She's blond and slender. He's Barry, dark and slender. Together they make Barry and Alice -- a bisexual couple.

They've come a long way, they feel, since the early days of their 13-year-old marriage. Alice said that Barry, since admitting his homosexual side, has become more spontaneous, less passive, more joyful, and more interesting. Barry said that Alice has become, since accepting the lesbian part of herself, softer, more open to people, and less competitive with women.

They have gone public with their sexual biographies in their Prentice-Hall book *Barry and Alice* because they want to educate the public about the realities that are often denied by traditional role expectations and behavior. When asked why they don't keep such information to themselves, their reply is: "We're not ashamed! It's not something anyone should be ashamed of!"

But in the mid-seventies they did feel ashamed--also very isolated and very odd. They hope their book will help others feel less alone. Thet don't feel that their relationship is as "unusual" as talk-show hosts would have it. It's only "unusual" because people have been afraid to disscuss it until now.

They want to prevent others from suffering the way they did. When Barry had his first adult homosexual experiences, he felt that he should go into therapy in order to stop. Alice went with him. Unfortunately they had a therapist who tried to get Barry to be totally heterosexual.

They survived all that, and they began to learn, as Barry puts it, that "sex is good for you." Alice dicovered that she hadn't lost her husband; she learned how to give herself "permission" to explore her repressed homosexuality.

Now both of them have a "primary relationship" with each other, but they also have lovers on the side, both brief ones and some that have lasted several years. Alice spoke of having learned not to be offended by what Erica Jong called "the zipless fuck," something difficult for many women to learn because it goes against everything they've been taught.

They usually meet the lovers of the other person, to curtail jealousy and resentment. They in fact often become friends with these people. It's part of Barry and Alice's attempt to bring honesty instead of deception to their marriage.

Probably there has been a logical development in this couple's life together that reflects the history of the past 20-25 years in America. They were both in the Peace Corp, both have been active in the women's and the anti-war movements. Barry is a lawyer who has been involved in civil rights causes. Alice is a writer who has championed liberal ideas.

Barry feels that society and religion have used sexual repression to control people. Very arbitrary rules have been set up, not to accomodate the human beings involved, but the nations in which they dwell.

They hope that their child, now seven, will grow up in a more liberal world. They do not bombard him with bisexual rights speeches, but they [illegible] him to their side-lovers and to their gay and bisexual friends. They make it clear that sometimes people prefer as lovers those of the same sex.

According to Barry, their child one day came home from school and said about him and his school chum: "Daddy, when we grow up, Billy and I are going to be homosexuals."

What they really meant isn't clear of course since "faggot" is still a pretty negative word in most schools. But perhaps it signals a far different attitude toward homosexuality that can result from early chilhood training.

I asked Barry and Alice if they ever have problems with VD and--yes, Virginia--even crabs. They said it's been known to occur. But it's something they can live with--and get taken care of. They find the satisfactions of their longterm relationship plus their other relationships more satisfying than the narrower lives that they used to live.

Sometimes people accuse them of being "self-indulgent," but their response is, "Why shouldn't people have as much [illegible]"

Bill S2210 Would Delete 'Sexual Deviation' From INS Act

WASHINGTON, DC — (IGNA) - Companion legislation to Senator Cranston's Immigration bill (S 2210) has been introduced in the US House of Representatives. This bill would delete the term "sexual deviation" from the Immigration and Naturalization Act.

The bill (HR 6303) was introduced by Representatives Julian Dixon, Anthony Beilenson, and Henry Waxman, all Democrats from California, to counter the recent decisions of the Immigration Service to prevent known homosexuals from visiting the United States.

In a "Dear Colleague" letter urging other Members of the House to cosponsor the bill, they wrote:

"We are disturbed that INS resources continue to be expended in enforcement of this policy. To continue to deny aliens entry into the United States solely on their sexual orientation, in the words of the late William O. Douglas, 'would be tantamount to saying that Sappho, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Andre Gide, and perhaps even Shakespear, were they to come to life again, would be deemed unfit to visit our shores."

The Gay Rights National Lobby urges people to write their Representatives to support this legislation. GRNL lobbyist Steve Endean said, "While it is merely a matter of common of sense to end the outdated policy of barring lesbians and gay men from entry, the political reality is that it will be very difficult to secure passage of this legislation--and cconstituent pressure is the key."

San Francisco Billing United Artists Overtime in Police Dept. Overtime

SAN FRANCISCO — (IGNA) - The city of San Francisco is billing United Artists for the overtime paid police for supervising the demonstrations over the controversial movie *Cruising*.

"As soon as we get the official figures, we will sent them a bill," Mel Wax, press secretary for Mayor Dianne Feinstein, said. "If it weren't for them, we wouldn't have the expense."

The bill could run between $41,000 and $130,000.

The press secretary acknowledged that the decision to bill the film's distributor is unprecedented.

He said that the company was unwilling to delay the showing until the situation could be defused. "United Artists purposely put out [illegible]ery violent, provocative film."

Transamerica Corporation spokeswoman Jane Hall said that Feinstein's action "smacks of politics."

Tom Hyden, Jane Fonda host a Gay Western Week-end at 200 arce Ranch

SANTA BARBARA, CA — (IGNA) - Jane Fonda and Tom Hayden were hosts at a "Gay Western Week-end" at their 200 acre Laurel Springs Ranch, a mountaintop spread outside Santa Barbara.

The week-end long party was a political fundraiser for the Campaign for Economic Democracy founded by Hayden and his wife to foster cooperation between the citizen organization and the gay community.

[illegible] three days and two nights featuring a hoe-down, barbecue, softball, swimming and hiking.

Sam Hurst, the CED staff director described the 1 to 2 million homosexual voters living in Californi[illegible] emerging political constitue[illegible] the party as part of "an attempt to build a politica[illegible] ship with a respected cons[illegible]

Hurst said CED works [illegible] the Gay Community S[illegible] of Los Angel[illegible]

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To Learn About Gay Awareness Photographer Turns to Camera

LOS ANGELES - (IGNA) -- A gallery in Los Angeles, Cameravision, recently held *Gay: A Photographic Essay*, an exhibition of photographs of gay men and lesbians.

The photographs, most of them taken 10 years ago, are by Anthony Enton Friedkin, son of David Friedkin, who wrote the sreenplay for *The Pawmbroker*.

He told the Los Angeles *Herald-Examiner*: "I started taking the pictures when I was 19 or 20 because of a personal desire to know more about gay people and gay awareness. It was something I didn't understand at all, but I realized that homosexuals were considered outcasts and adjusted their lifestyles around that. I was attracted to their sense of freedom and their control of their destinies."

Friedkin acknowledges that his images are not representative of the enitre gay community, but only of the people that he found most interesting--personally and photographically. He also notes that the gay movement is substantially different today from what it was when he shot the pictures ("They have asserted themselves so magnificently!"), so a viewer should not assimilate these photographs as a contemporary vision.

Friedkin's subjects range from female impersonators to male prostitutes to homosexual singles to Chicano gays to lesbian lovers. Even the most outrageous men in drag are presented without a freakish quality. The photographer recognizes the power of the photograph to glorify or indict.

In this show he has restrained the editorial potential of his medium. The view he presents is a candid, random one.

One of the characters in the exhibit is Jim Aguilar, a young man from East Los Angeles. He has beautiful, delicate features and long brown hair, a contrast to the harsh barrio grafitti in the background of many of the pictures. In some pictures he looks lonely and in others he appears proud, confident, and handsome.

One of the most joyous pictures is an action photo of a group of lesbians playing football. The photograph operates on the stereotype of gay women as devoid of womanly traits, yet the gaiety and camaraderie of these athletes are distinctly feminine.

One of the first photographers to shoot in Watts after the riots, Friedkin has turned to a number of other communities for inspiration. His most recent work includes series on the denizens of Beverly Hills, surfers and their lives out of the water, and the backlots at Universal studios.

"Photography," he said, "is a way for me to create the fossils of my time."



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LOCAL

Pioneer Activist

Steven Craig Childers in Dallas Recently on Job Discrimination Case

A Dallas pioneer activist, 29-year-old Steven Craig Childers, was in Dallas last weekend for his lawsuit in US District Judge Robert Porter's court. Backed by the Civil Liberties Union, Childers is suing the Dallas Police Department, Donald A. Byrd, and Tom Lockenmeyer for nearly $100,000 on grounds that they discriminated against him in employment.

Childers was an employee of the Dallas City Water Utility Department for over six years, near the end of which he took civil service exams for an opening in the police department's stolen property division, passing the tests with the highest scores ever received.

He was interviewed by Lockenmeyer and never informed of the results of the interview. Subsequently, he took the test a second time, achieving an even higher score, and was given a second interview with Lockenmeyer.

According to Childers' testimony, Lockenmeyer then told him that his "gay activist activities with Metropolitan Community Church" were the reason for his un-employment.

The suit originally included the water department on the grounds that individuals with less seniority and qualifications were given promotions while he was passed over despite a good work record; however, the water department was subsequently dropped as a defendant.

In a memorandum to the head ;of the water department, then Chief of Police Don Byrd (now candidate for sheriff) defended the decision not to hire Childers by quoting the Police Code of Conduct, Section 13, Paragraph G, which reads: "No employee shall cohabit with any type of sex pervert of the same sex."

In testifying, defendant Lockenmeyer admitted readily that, had he not been aware of Childers' sexual orientation, he would have hired him. He also admitted that individuals were being hired at that time who were known marijuana users, although use of marijuana within the limitations specified was, according to statute, a more serious crime at that time.

During the triasl the attorney for the defendants asked Childers whether he had engaged in sexual activities with a certain individual known to be a close associate of his at that time. Objections from Childers' attorney were overruled.

Childers also pointed out that at his first meeting with Lockenmeyer the first question he was asked was "Tell me a little about your sex life and religion."

According to Childers, one of his primary concerns when the case was filed was the religious implications that being a member of Metropolitan Community Church would make someone ineligible for certain types of work and label them a gay activist.

Childers, a charter member of MCC-Dallas since 1971, was active in the church as a deacon, assistant editor of the *Channel* (one of Dallas' earliest gay-oriented papers, edited for three years by *Metro Star* associate editor Roy Hall), and coordinator of MCC's prison ministry.

Childers recalled to the *Star* one case he remembers of a young man he visited in the county jail who was sentenced to twenty years for oral sodomy, another mute testimony to the attitude locally toward gay citizens.

Childers also told the *Star* that he has made two trips back for this case and has lost two jobs because of it. He presently lives in California.

Attorneys Fred Time and Ken Harter, who represent Childers in the lawsuit, have indicated that a verdict should be handed down within the nest two months.

National Lesbian Survey Conducted

Traditionally, research about lesbianism has been conducted by non-lesbians. However, Ronda Carlson, a lesbian,is conducting a national survey to determine how lesbians define themselves and their communities.

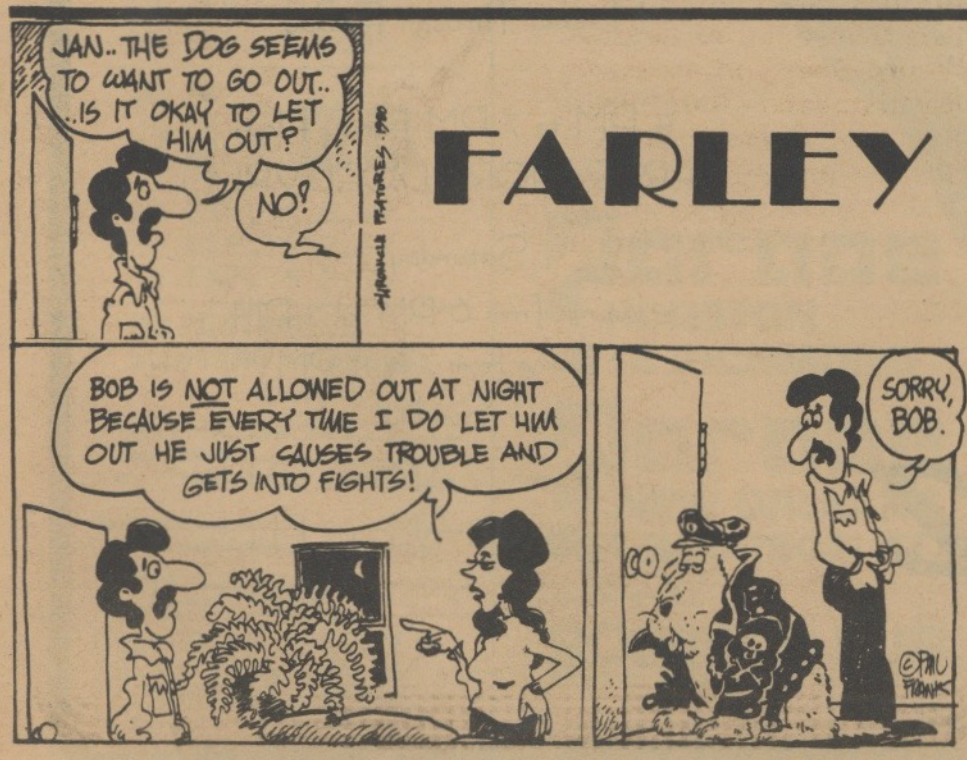
She is in need of lesbians willing to complete a questionaire (about one and one-half hours to fill out)

The questionaires and all correspondence will be kept strictly confidential, but it is hoped that a distillation of the results will eventually be published.

It is not necessary to be "out", either publicly, or to family and friends in order to participate. All that is required is the willingness to take some time to explain what being a lesbian means to you.

Carlson recently completed a Master's degree in Social Work and this research is a continuation of a survey done for thesis.

For a questionaire, write: Ronda Carlson, 3014 Millmar Drive, Dallas, Texas 75228



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Sun. March 30 -- DeMar's -- Roasting of Sonnie & Barbie Doll
Mon. March 31 -- The Other Place -- Miss Tarrant County
Tues. -- April 1 -- The Tender Trap -- Bartender's Drag Show
Thurs. -- April 3 -- The Downtowner -- MCC Benefit Show
Fri. -- April 4 -- Corral -- Outgoing party for Sonnie
Sat. -- April 5 -- Fort Worth Bar Hop
Sun. -- April 6 -- DeMar's -- Coronation

STATE

One Million Expected at 'Washington for Jesus' March

April 28 and 29 are the dates that the National March on Washington for "righteousness and morality" is scheduled. "Washington for Jesus" and "One Nation Under God" are striving to have one million supporters attend the two day event. Their literature claims "Washington for Jesus" will be a unique experience. "For once," organizers say, "the city of Washington, DC will not be the site of a demonstration, a march, or a protest. Instead, it will be blessed with a once-in-a-lifetime celebration of the Lordship of Jesus Christ."

Although organizers claim this is not a political event, they do plan to "visit all members of Congress in the love and the name of the Lord." Too, state coordinators are organizing grassroots involvement by Congressional districts and city/county coordinators by precincts.

The Texas Gay Task Force recommends meeting US representatives and senators in their district offices, and setting an appointment during March or April; if that is not possible. Also to meet with their staff members.

The religious leaders have said, "Our purpose is not to build a political organization. Our purpose-first is to glorify God in the land again and to commit our ways unto rightoeusness. And, secondly, to remain active and vocal.

God has called us to be watchmen, and watchmen sound the alarm. We feel that will be our main ministry throughout this nation. We will remain informed in order to warn. We feel this nation ios set apart by God for a particular work in this world.

That's why we'll call it "One NAtion Under God."

The Washington events will be televised by the Christian Broadcasting Network and the PTL Network.

Further information can be gained by contacting the Texas Gay Task Force, P O Box 2036, Universal City, Texas 78148, (512) 655-3724; or the Gay Rights National Lobby, 930 F St, NW #611, Washington, DC 20004, (202) 462-4255.

Alamo City Gays to Hear, Endorse Candidates

The newly formed Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club in San Antonio will sponsor a Candidates Night April 1, 1980 at Horizon House, 8610 Jones Maltsberger Road, 7:30 PM.

All 72 Democratic primary candidates have been invited to attend.

"The Candidates Night has all the makings for a big success," says Deitsch, Political Action Chair. "This event is the first all out effort on the part of Alamo City gays/lesbians to show the candidates our strength.

The Eleanor club will endorse candidates at a meeting called for April 3.

Some 20,000 endorsement cards will be printed and distributed following the endorsement meeting. Fiesta in San Antonio offers us an excellent opportunity to reach large numbers of gay voters."

"At this time, we are expecting about twenty-five percent of the primary candidates to seek our support," Deitsch continued. "I expect that congressional, legislative and several county wide races will dominate the club's endorsements. We have had a number of candidates come to us this year asking for our help in their election bids."

Following the April 3 endorsement meeting, Eleanor members and others supporters plan to work actively in the endorsees' campaigns.

"I believe we can make a significant difference in several races on May 3. We will have the entire month of April to get out the word and actively solicit support for our candidates", Deitsch concluded.

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National Convention Project Encourages Gay Vote

Presidential primaries bring the gay community opportunities to elect themselves delegates to the precinct, state and national conventions.

'Gay Vote '80' is Texas Gay Political Caucus's contribution to the National Convention Project that has been set up to accomplish this end, as well as obtain gay rights sections in the party platforms.

Texas GPC can get you involved by:

- Registrating you to vote,
- Inviting you to this Gay Vote '80 kickoff on April 3,
- Inviting you to attend the Delegate Selection Training Seminar, Saturday, April 12 at MAC,
- Identifying you as being interested through the Telephone Tree.

Texas GPC's Telephone Tree is the mechanism to get gays out to vote on May 3.

TGPC has created has created a system to identify area coordinators who in turn talk to their friends and GPC voters in their neighborhoods.

In 1978 GPC coordinated efforts to obtain eight state and one national delegate.

This year Texas Gay Political Caucus can more than double this because there will be low voter turnout due to the lack of interest in the primaries. Therefore gays can easily outnumber other participants through organized bloc voting.

Want to be a delegate?

It's easy - call Texas Gay Political Caucus for more information at 526-2668.

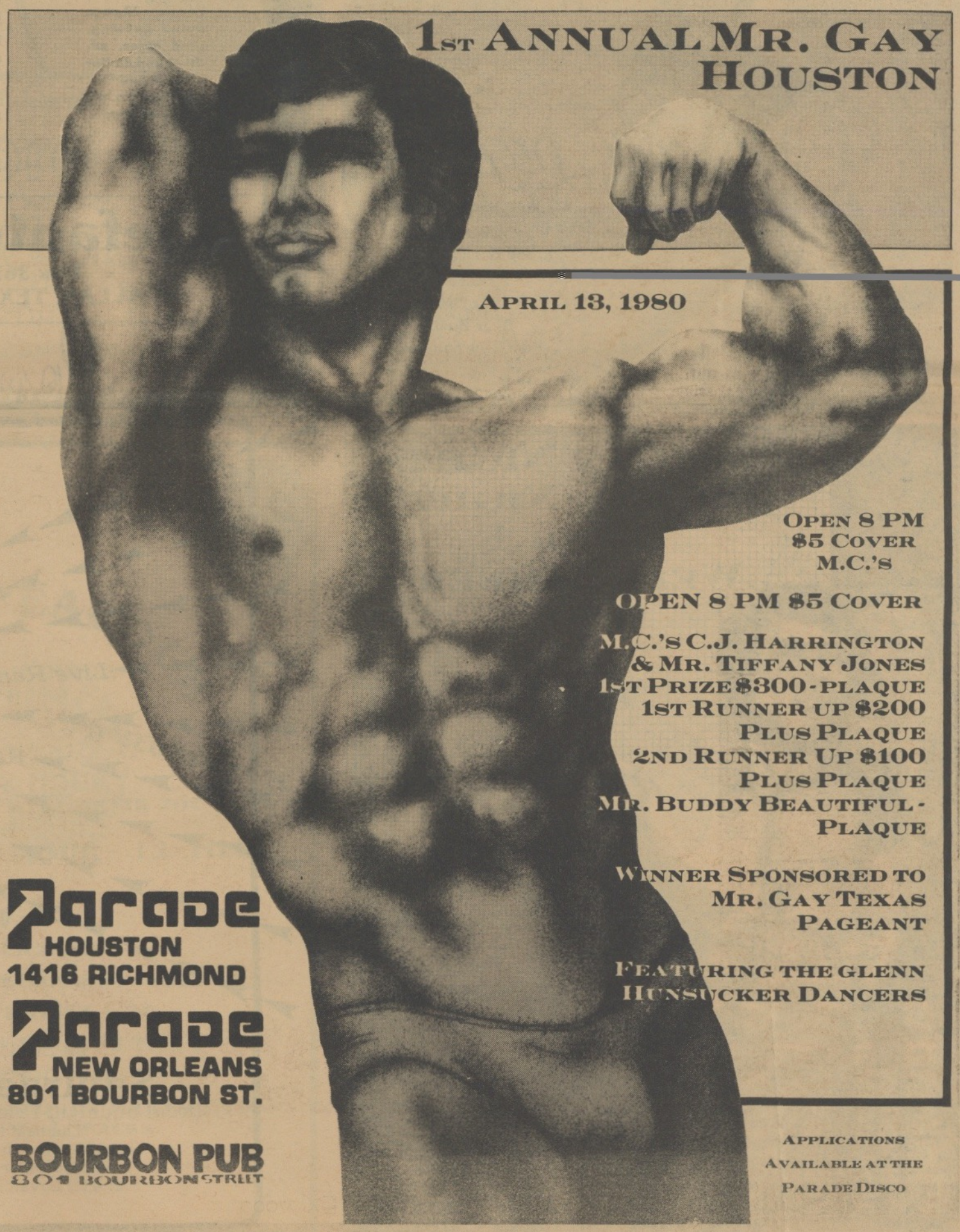
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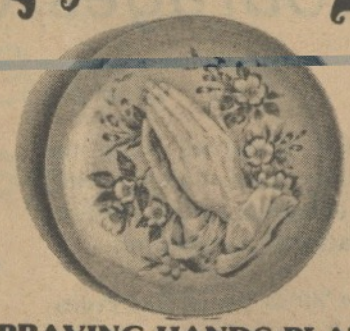
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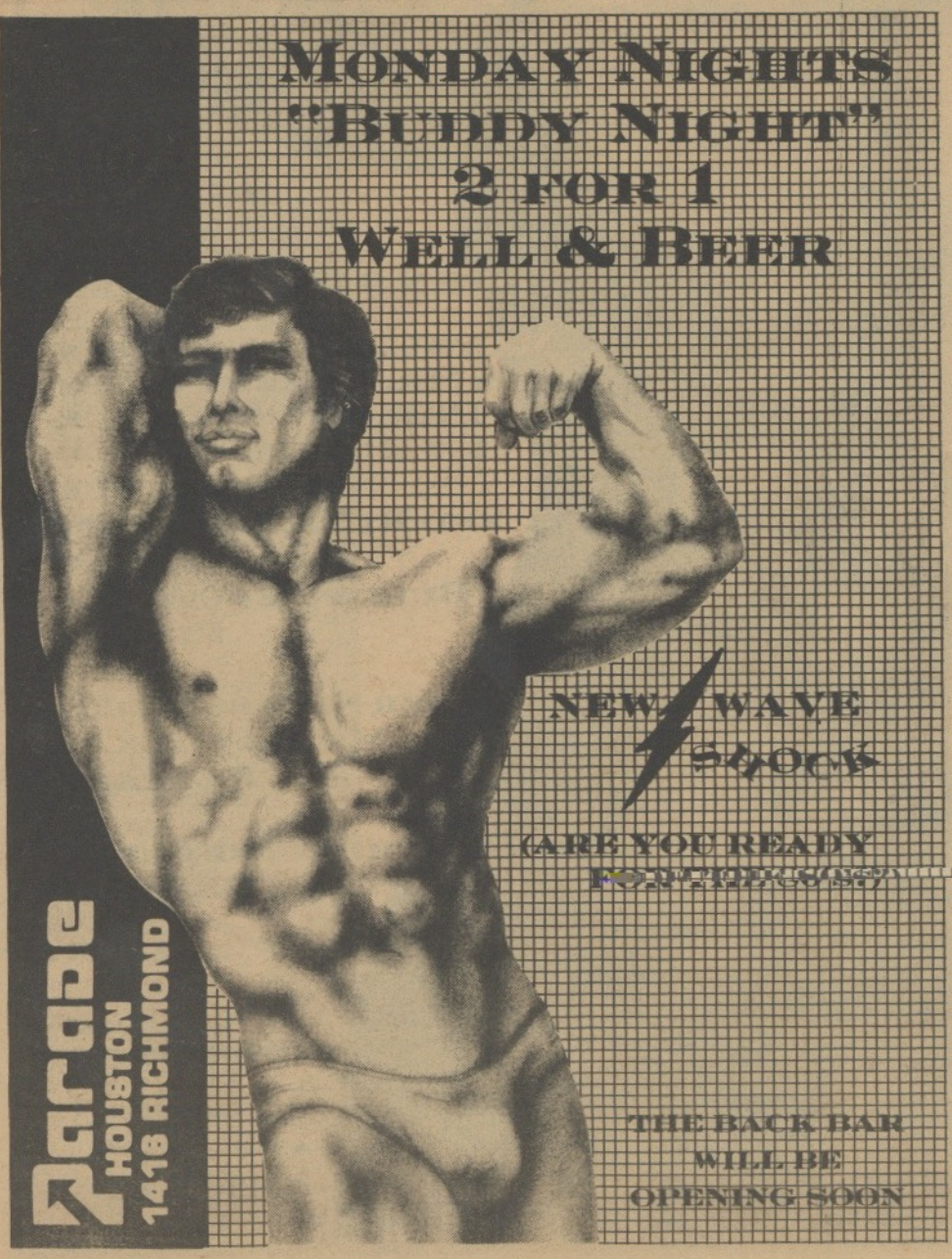
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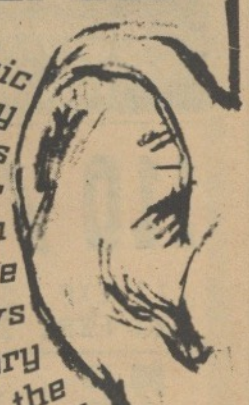
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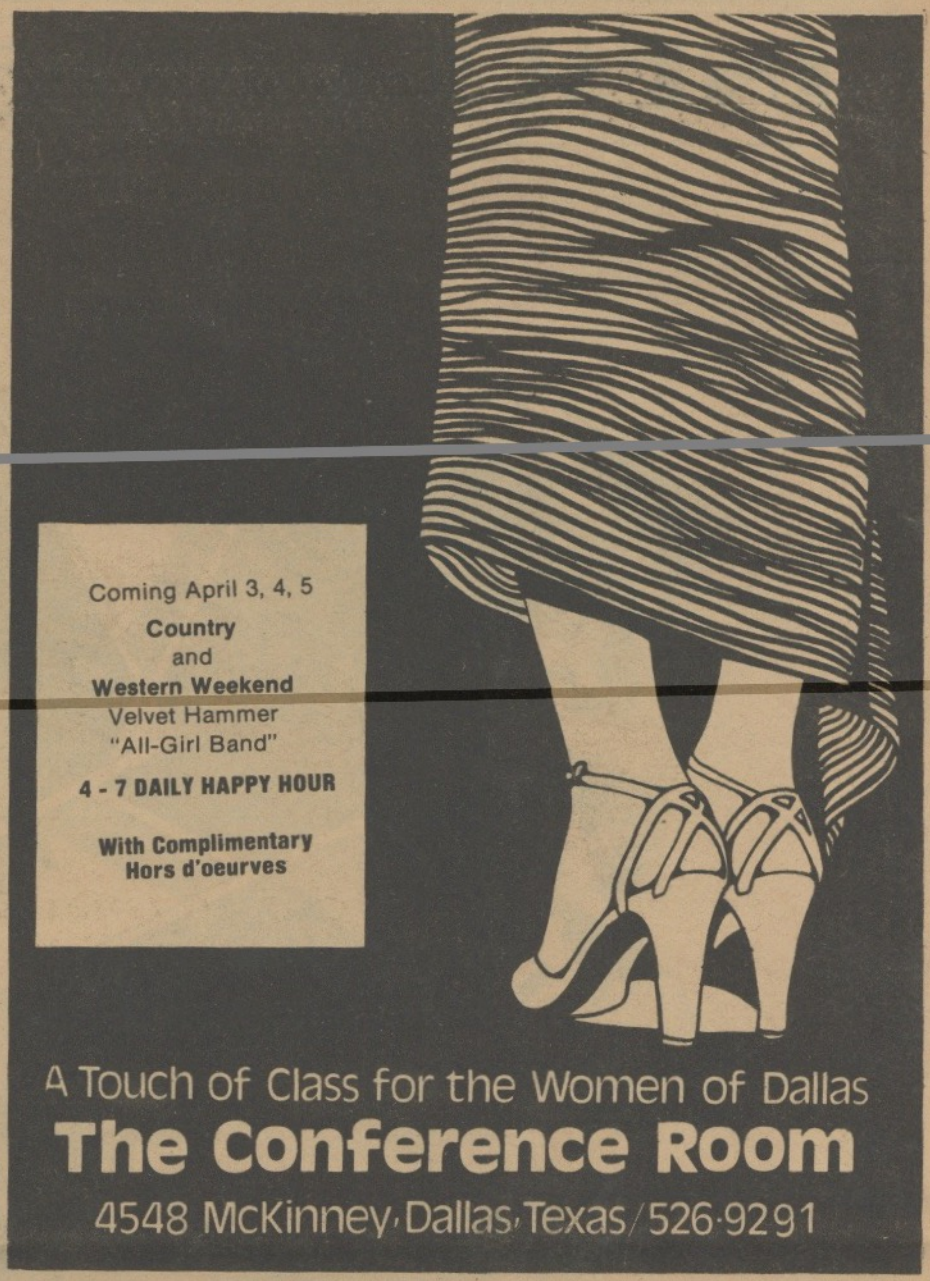
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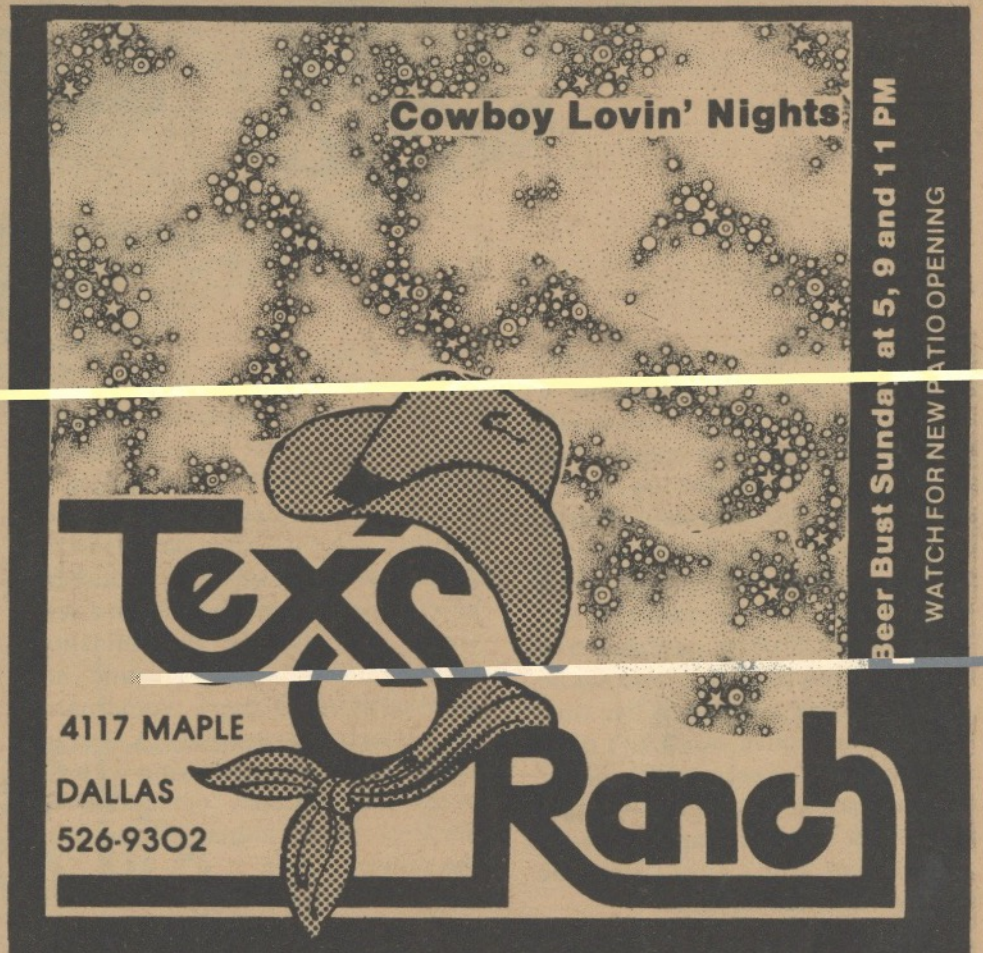
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CINEMA REVIEW



difficult one inasmuch as it could have made or broke the movie. It must carry from the innocently boyish passion he displays on his first encounter with Martin on to the young rebel in the reformatory where his parents have sent him because he persists in stating that he is gay and is living with a known homosexual and finally to the broken, confused and disoriented old man of 21 who has no place to go and nothing to live for.

As we mentioned, we didn't quite know what to expect in the movie. The implication existed that it might be erotic in nature, along the lines of *Fortune and Men's Eyes* (which we would love to see again).

It isn't.

The love scenes are so well done, so tasteful and yet so unaffected and sincere that you could almost take your mother along. (I did say almost.) In fact, we might suggest that you urge your straight friends to see the movie; it can't help but beat *Cruising* for honest impact.

We could have done without a couple of scenes in the movie. One brief scene, lasting less than a minute, shows Martin in prison engagng in preliminary sexual fondling with another prisoner after he learns his parole has been cancelled because his letters from Thomas have been discovered. We thought his infidelity, while acceptable to gays (and not necessarily to all gays), would upset the straights somewhat. A second scene shows Martin buying with his body some phoney credentials he needs to help Thomas escape from the reformatory.

In the character of Thomas there is a subtle undertone of self-destruction. When he first sneaks into Martin's cell for a night of passion, he announces that his father will kill him. Subsequently he faces up foolishly to the vicious Diethelm at the reformatory, and finally he returns to the reformatory voluntarily after his escape has gone sour, even though it is not a hopeless cause. He is caught on a downhill plunge from which there is no escape.

Martin, the older of the two lovers, impresses his own choices across the movie's actions. He attempts to tell Thomas not to wait for him, and when Thomas ignores his request, he engages in casual sexual contacts without apparent guilt.

He forces Thomas into quitting his job, brings him to a forcible confrontation with his homophobic parents, engineers his escape from the reformatory and introduces him to a supposed friend who is to arrange for papers allowing him to live in Germany, out of reach of his parents and the reformatory authorities.

Likewise, it is Martin who goes to meet Thomas who has not advised him of his release from the reformatory, in an attempt to recapture the magic of their beginnings together.

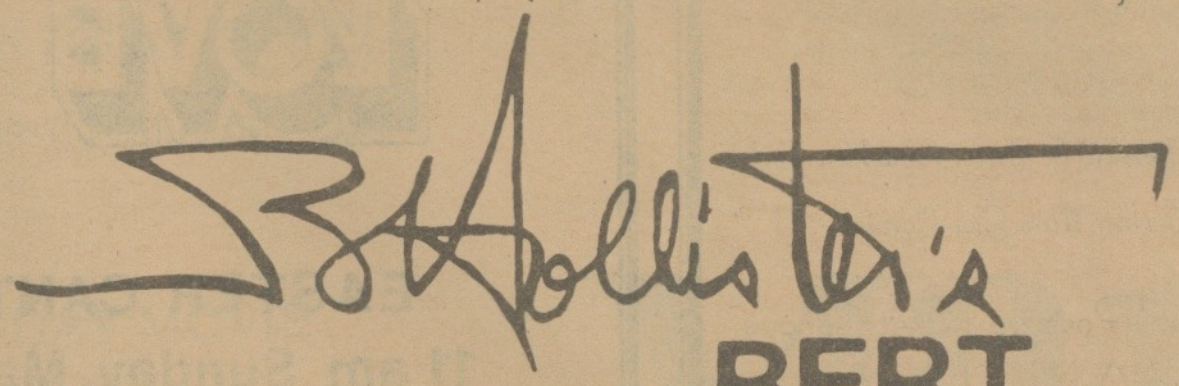
The filmaker has presented a picture of several types of gays: Martin, whose stability enables him to cope despite the adversities which arise; Thomas, caught in a pattern of self-destructiveness and unable to free himself or permit himself to be freed; and the supposed friend of Martin, out to get anything he wants by fair means or foul, just as long as he gets laid.

The black and white film lends starkness to what might have lost impact in color. We also noted the "Babette" scene, in which the reformatory youths drag an unwilling Thomas with them to take turns with a young woman who appears to be retarded but more than willing. The contrast between the brutal, animalistic "straight" sex and the tender, loving scenes between Thomas and Martin is shattering and may add emphasis to the argument the film makes for the genuineness of gay love.

We recommend that our readers take advantage and see this film during its Dallas premiere.



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The fifth Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men will be held August 1-3, 1980 in Memphis at the Holiday Inn Rivermont, overlooking the Mississippi River.

The Rivermont, with large meeting facilities, is ideal for the many workshops, keynote speakers and other activities now being planned.

Registration information will be mailed before May 1.

Participants will be encouraged to stay at the hotel, but provisions will be made for the unemployed and low-income individuals. (Day care will be avilable, also.)

Exhibit space is available free on a limited basis for individuals wishing to sell arts and crafts (first come, first served--so reserve your space now.) A flat $25 fee will be charged per exhibit table for commercial exhibiters. No commission will be taken from sales.

For further information contact:
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(This number will change in June.)
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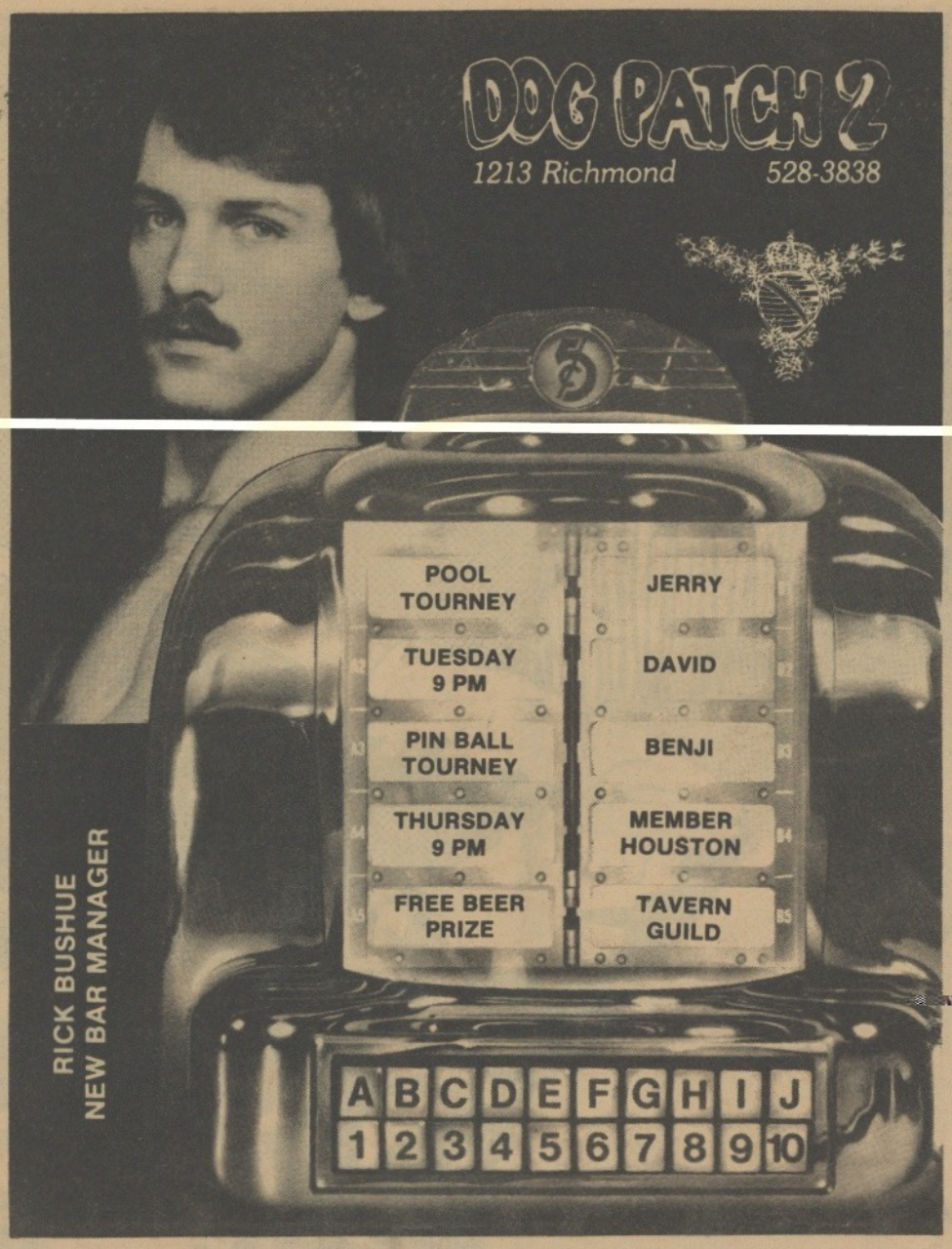
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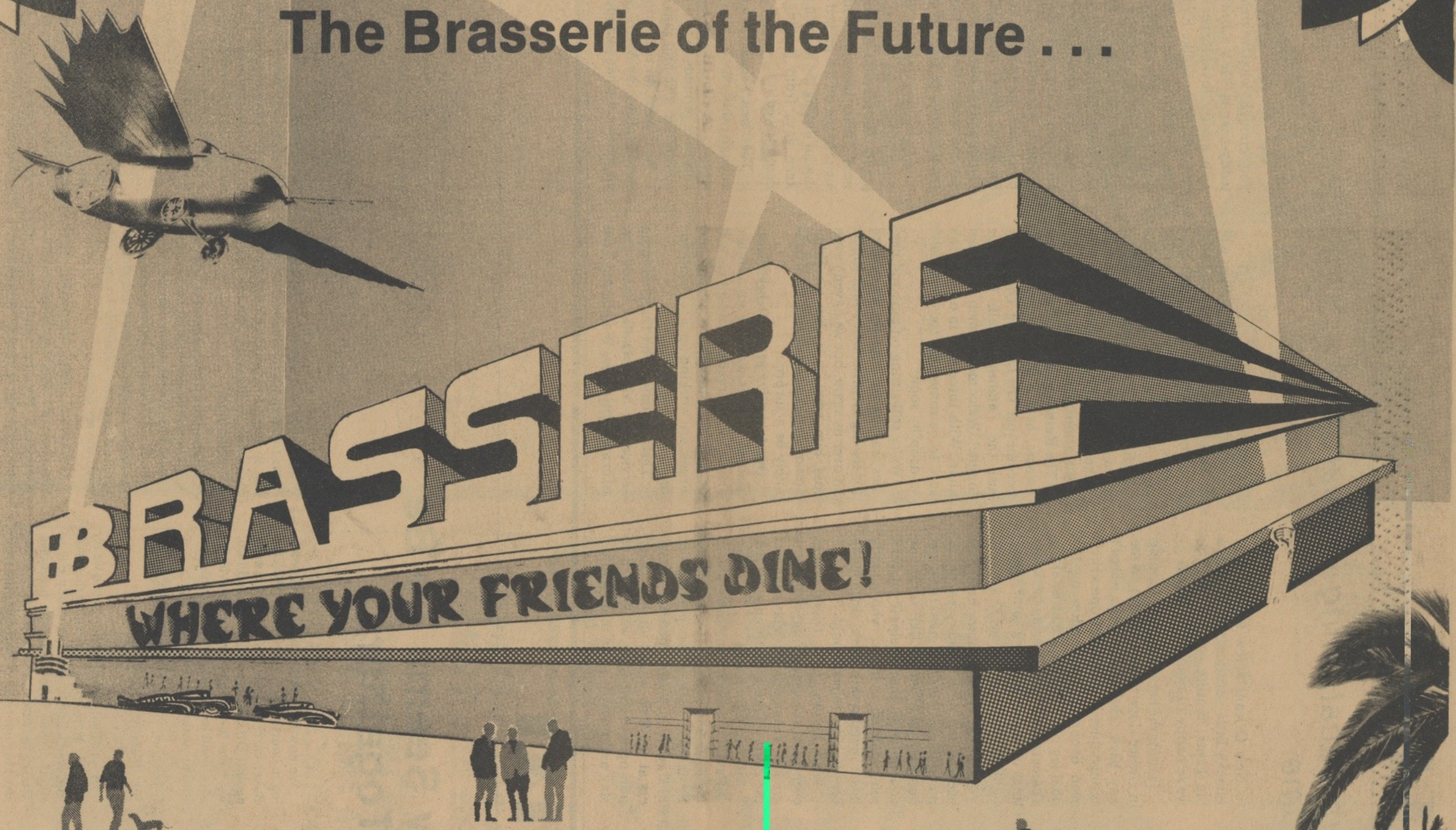
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METRO BEAT

Elmer of '651 Club Vacationing in Search of Tanzanian Big Game

By Roy Hall
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

For our first item of news, what about the **Official Miss Gay Dallas Pageant**? That will be taking place at the old **D-III** show bar on April 1 and 2, Tuesday and Wednesday. Since (as we have mentioned before, we believe) the pageant has been opened to contestants from adjoining counties where it was formerly Dallas only, we could have a number of pleasant surprises in store for us. Naturally, the *Star* will be there to catch the action for our readers.

It's the **Imperial Coronation** Week in Ft. Worth, as well, with the coronation to take place Sunday, April 6 at **DeMars Restaurant**. The tow benefits we've been telling you about for **Agape MCC** in Ft. Worth have been reshuffled around, however, and now we have one benefit Thursday, April 3 at the **Downtowner**.

Tuesday and Wednesday are clear for Ft. Worth gays to come to Dallas and cheer for their own in the Miss Gay Dallas Pageant those two nights.

And the owner of Ft. Worth's **651 Club** (as well as Dallas' **Wild Crowd Saloon**), **Elmer**, is going on a little trip. Now: We went for a major vacation (a working vacation, to be sure) to New Orleans a few weeks back. Elmer's little vacation will take him big game hunting (with a camera, we're happy to note) in Tanzania.

Just for the heck of it, he's stopping in Greece (love those Greeks!) on the way back, and (as if there weren't enough queens in the Metroplex) he's even dropping by London on the final leg of his trip. Since he is taking a camera, maybe he'll bring back pictures of some of that big game - especially in Greece.

Speaking of big game, have you been to the new Tuesday parties at the **3116** on Live Oak (guess the street number)? We would like to advise you, however, that it helps if you get a referral from a friend who already has a membership there, since membershipis by referral only.

Who knows, your friend might even want to come along! And there are free weenies on Tuesday nights at the party - with or without mustard.

Moving right along . . .

Pavillion fans are anxiously awaiting their return to the luxurious **Baja** Restaurant. The group playing last Friday when we dropped of the papers at the **Baja** wasn't all that bad in our opinion; in fact, we wanted to stay and enjoy it some more. Unfortunately, duty called.

We understand that **Pavillion** will be back next weekend, so hold unto your hats, because the general consensus is that they're really something. If they're better than the group we glimpsed, we're going to put an extra strength battery in our pacemaker and toddle on down to lap up some atmosphere soon.

The **Raintree Landing** has changed owners, held a grand opening, and become just **The Landing**. Did we say just the Landing? Well, bite our tongue! Welcome, women and men alike. With three bars in one, there's sure to be something for everybody, so drop by soon!

We're still sitting on pins and needles waiting to drop the bombshell for the big surprise. Our editor will be all over us again, but we haven't even told him what it is, but we think you're going to like it, and it will definitely be a surprise.

Derek the DJ at the **Other Place**, assures us he is working on another article for our readers, and bikers will be glad to know that **Carmine** and **Frank** are working up a schedule for more columns for you.

This Sunday, don't forget evening services at **MCC-Dallas**, with **Dr. Morman Pittenger**. We just can't tell you enough what a treat this old teddy-bear is. He's a british theologian, a witty, lovable speaker, a lot of fun, and he looks like Father Christmas without the beard. Ho, ho, ho - don't miss it. The church if located at Reagan and Brown, and the time is 7:15 PM (After all, he came all the way from Cambridge to talk to you!)

And **MCC** also has beg plans with an Easter Cantata (that's something musical, we understand) which will, by chance, be held on Easter (April 6). Both **MCC** and **UCC** (United Community Church) are gearing up for the week prior to Easter, sometimes known as Holy Week.

Back to the wrecker war, mentioned in last week's issue: We understand that severtal bars on Fitzhugh near Travis have chipped in to buy signs to put on the moped shop parking lot during the hours it is closed to keep gays from parking there and being towed.

The new signs are expensive enough that is a wrecker driver decides to run one down the police can have grounds to take him off the streets and give him time to cool off.

Next week all the action starts, so keep reading the **Metro Star** to keep in touch on what's happening!

EDITORIAL

Dallas Finally Seems To Be Getting Act Together

By Roy Hall
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

"The eyes of Texas are upon you."

And, so it seems, so are the eyes of the entire nation. Our old friend Steve Childers, who worked so diligently with us when we were editing the *Channel* (so many years ago), telephoned us a few ;days ago and announced that he had to talk to us. The story of Steve's lawsuit is in this issue.

Steve told us that Dallas is becoming the big gay surpise of the year, confirming what we had already heard. Long known for backward ways, Dallas is coming alive and becoming aware of gay rights for the first time.

We now have three major cases pending in court - the Childer's case, the Don Baker case, and the George Lee lawsuit against Officer Danny Cain. In addition, we have the Doug Greeson conviction which will hopefully be overturned soon so that justice can be done.

In short, Dallas is finally getting its act together.

A lot of us, no matter how much we try and cry, are going to hide out in the closet and wait patiently for somebody else to do the work and make the headlines. Unlike the little red hen, of course, those working out front cannot limit the fruits of their labors to themselves. In a way, it's a shame.

But if you're interested in getting the rights to which you're entitled but unwilling to work for them, you still have a conscience to live with. We can nag at that conscience.

Meeting eith Steve again reminded me more forcefully just how far we've come. I know I took what was for me a big step back in 1972 when I decided that I was not going to hide behind a pseudomun when editing the *Channel*. I never suffered for my decision.

I won't say others won't suffer when they come out to fight in the open against oppression. But this time, if you get knocked down, a slowly uniting community stands behind to catch you or pick you up.

I'm proud of the way our awarenwss is growing. I'm glad for the opportunity to help spread the news through this paper. I can remember when the big accomplishment of the year for the DGPC was a picnic in Exall Park.

If you do nothing else this week, register to vote. It won't cost you a dime, and it may mean a great deal to you sooner than you think. Then, on the second Monday (April 14), go to the DGPC meeting at MCC—Dallas and find out how Project '80 is going to win us representation with political power.

We have a plan. You can help make it work. It's time the gay community stood up and let their voice be heard - for freedom!

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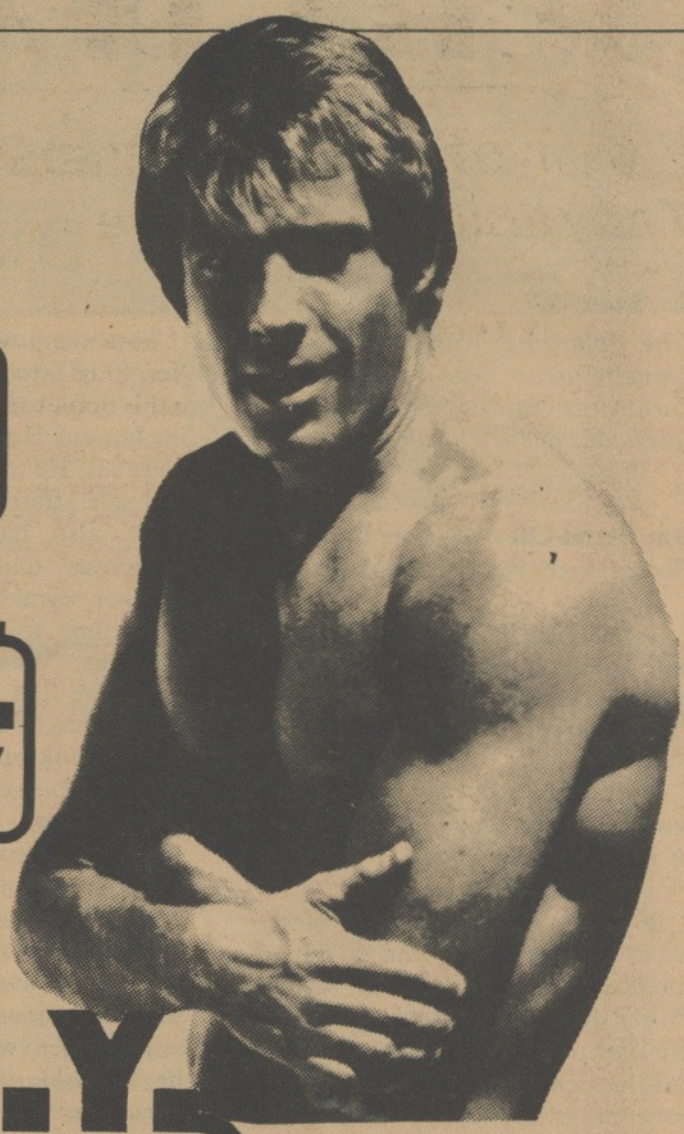
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Tyrone Power

Book Explores the Actor's Bisexuality in 'Photoplay' Prose

(The following was reviewed by Daniel Curzon, whose 'Among the Carnivores' was picked as one of the best books of 1979 by 'the Advocate')

'The Secret Life of Tyrone Power' By Hector Arce, Bantam Books, $2.75.

If you like *Photoplay* prose and find anything and everything about movie stars facinating, you'll like Hector Arce's biography of Tyrone Power.

I must confess that I read every word, even the overly long genealogy of the actor's ancestors.

But then I'm a sucker for Hollywood glamor, false and manufactured as it is. The fact that Tyrone Power didn't have a terribly exciting life and made few memorable films hardly seems to matter. We eat up such things anyway.

Thus the power of movies.

Yet, to be direct, the primary interest n this book comes from *one* aspect of the famous Hollywood star -- he was bisexual. He married three tmes and had side affairs with women.

He also had male lovers and numerous male tricks. The biographer seems to contradict himself from time to time by saying such things as, "What's more, he had come to realize that, while he desired sex with males, he didn't feel comfortable with the concept of an exclusive emotionl and sexual commitment to another man.

"His sensitivities were primarily directed to women."

Well, Mr. Arce, tell me how a Hollywood star of the last generation could have lived openly in a homosexual relationship and survive. Even you state elsewhere in the book that he, "risked losing everything should it become public knowledge . . ."

Is it any wonder then that his male lovers were secretive and uncommitted?

To give Arce his due, he's quite good on the studio commercialism that made Tyrone Power a commodity to be exploited for as long as his box office appeal held up, only to be shunted aside when he was no longer useful to the powers that were. Or to the ficke public for that matter.

Arce likewise takes a cold look at the hopeless trash that most of Tyrone Power's movies actually were. Hence we are left with 'glamour' that is based on junk.

I was also pleasantly surprised that Arce would be so blunt as to account for the anti-gay taboo in the film world (a taboo that's still strong, to judge from the way the author refuses to name names where famous homosexuals are concerned) by mentioning that many decision-makers in movies are Jewish -- with the resulting long history of taboo about the "abomination of abominations."

The worst part of the book is a smug intolerance for gay behavior, an attitude very much akin to the same repression that the author shows to have been the major obstacle to Tyrone Power's greater satisfaction in his personal life. Arce can't seem to overcome a desire to 'explain' homosexual traits.

It's from 'a chemical imbalance within the fetus,' you see, or maybe it's from 'weak or absent fathers and domineering, frustrating mothers.'

Or Power was a bisexual because he was both a 'mama's boy and a chip off the old (man's) block. UGH!

Maybe someday we will get to the point where biographers will not more 'analyze' the causes of a person's sexual behavior than they do his skin color. By the looks of this book we are not there yet.

JUGS

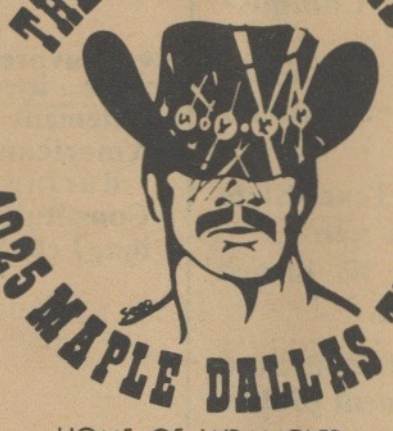
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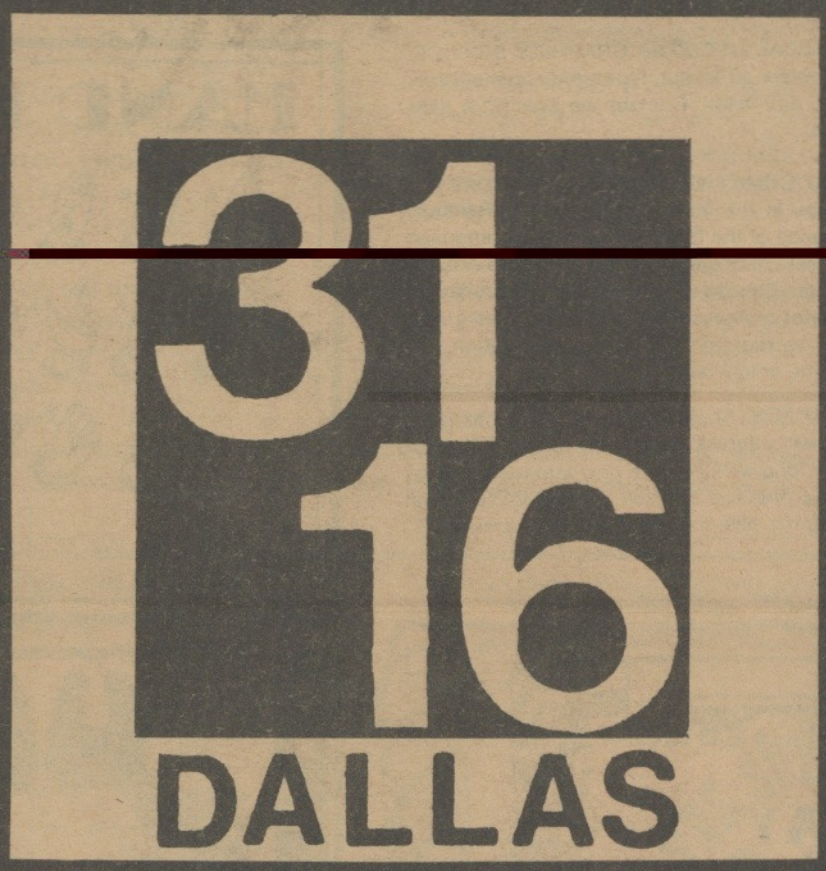
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