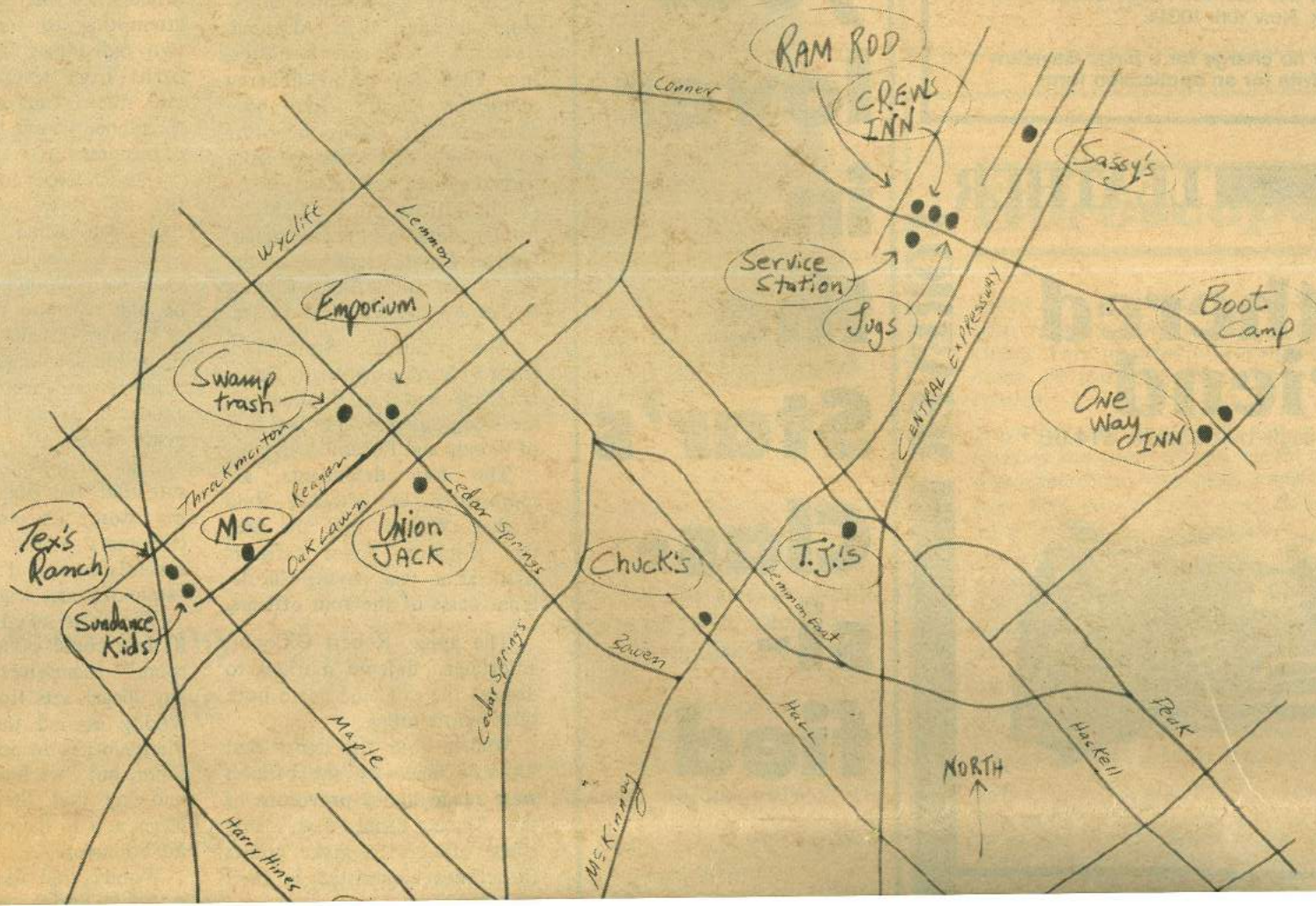
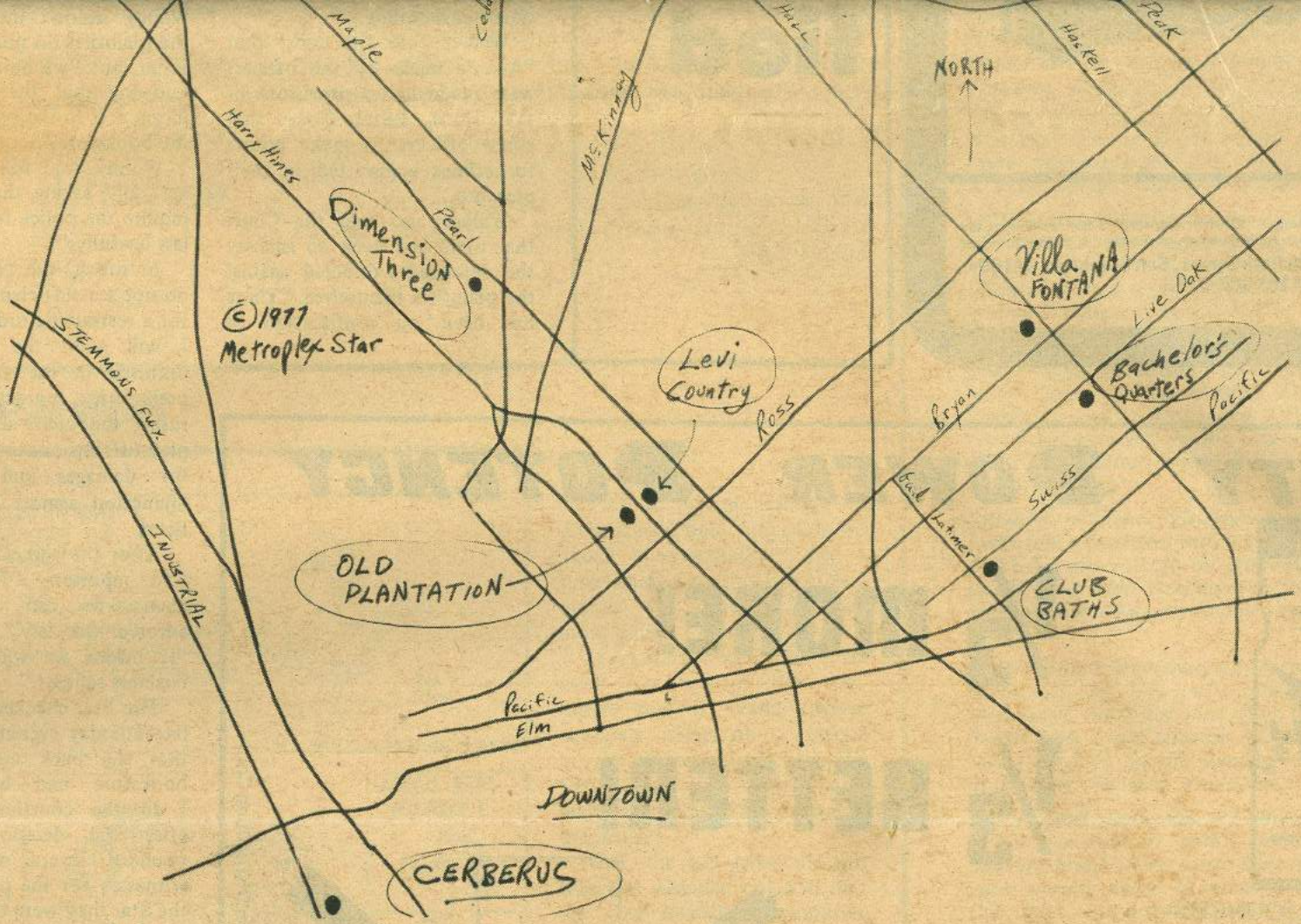
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Issue 16, thru August 5, 1977

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Gay bookstore denied police harassment injunction

A U.S. district court judge Tuesday, July 26, denied a motion for a preliminary injunction against four Houston Police Department officers filed by Studz News.

Studz, a gay-oriented bookstore at 1132 West Alabama, owned by Montrose Ventures, Inc. filed for a preliminarey injunction against four vice squad officers, asking the court to prohibit the officers from harassing their business.

The officers are Joe Skipper, former captain of the vice squad, William Brown, sergeant of the vice squad and officers Charles R. Barney and Wayne F. Hosea.

The plaintiffs, Studz/Montrose Ventures, owned by James D. Cagle and Jim D. Chappell, are represented by the law firm of Woody and Rosen.

The four defendants, are represented by attorney Reid Walker. Walker told the Star the Houston Police Officers Association was paying the defense costs of the four officers.

The judge, Robert O'Conor, entertained defense motions to dismiss the suit, and heard both sides before ruling.

Walker told the court that "Arrests made by the officers were made under provisions of the Texas Penal Code that allow officers to make arrests for crimes committed in their presence."

property, films, magazines, film-viewing devices, or any other property."

Clyde Woody, representing the plantiffs, told the court, "We are alleging that these four officers, for whatever reason, are attempting to bankrupt these two individuals. We have affidavits from several individuals that these four officers have threatened to put these men out of business."

The defense contended that the officers were merely doing their job when they visited Studz 11 times in three months, each visit culminating in arrests of one or more persons. Most of these arrests have been for public lewdness, homosexual conduct, prostitution, indecent exposure, or interfering with a peace officer.

The plaintiffs allege in the suit that the police have kept the store, its employees and customers under such strict surveillance that it amounts to a "state of police seige."

The judge asked the plaintiffs if they could police the "back room" themselves to prevent any illegal acts from occurring. Woody assured the court that the plaintiffs do police the back room, but "we have no way of knowing that there were any illegal acts in the back arcade of the bookstore."

Woody told the court, "We are only asking that the court



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sides before ruling.

Walker told the court that "Arrests made by the officers were made under provisions of the Texas Penal Code that allow officers to make arrests for crimes committed in their presence."

Walker also told the Court that there had been no acts by the defendants directed against the plaintiffs themselves. "There has been no confiscation of

Woody assured the court that the plaintiffs do police the back room, but "we have no way of knowing that there were any illegal acts in the back arcade of the bookstore."

Woody told the court, "We are only asking that the court require the police to enforce the law lawfully."

In ruling, the court said, "I do not see sufficient harassment for a restraining order, therefore I will grant the motion for dismissal of the motion for a preliminary injunction." In so ruling the court did allow the plaintiffs to continue their suit for damages and permanent injunction against the four officers.

After the suit, Officer Hosea told reporters, "The decision means we can continue to enforce the law." Cagle said, "It means we will be out of business tonight."

The Star checked with Studz late Tuesday evening, and found that the back arcade of the bookstore had been closed.

In the courthouse hallway after the decision was announced, several observers and witnesses for the plaintiffs told the Star they were threatened by Hosea. He is alleged to have told Paul Burditt, Lane Moore, Joe McGill, Steve Murphy and Mike Iles, "Get a good look at us because you are going to see us again. Remember us because we will see you all tonight."

The Star checked with Studz Wednesday morning and was told that the vice squad had not visited the store after the court announced its decision Tuesday evening.

Fred J. Williams

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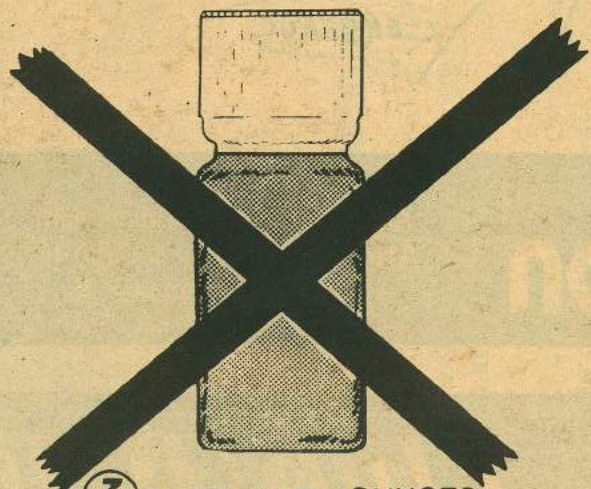
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Celebrating the gay male lifestyle

Former Richie Family producer Jacques Morali and teammates have produced an instant hit from New York City's newest studio, Sigma Sound.

The LP, "Village People," by the all-male group of the same name, will capture you with intensity as it tells about the gay lifestyle in San Francisco, Hollywood and on Fire Island.

"Fire Island" is the first cut and kicks off with a throbbing drum rhythm and moving percussion. On the flip there's a tribute to the California gay communities . . . lasting ten minutes and very danceable.

This is an upfront, gay male album . . . "an idea whose time has come," says Record World.

The album's jacket was photographed by the

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Henry McClurg, publisher; Don Okray, office manager; Richard Raiehle, production manager; Roy Hall, Dallas bureau manager. Writers: David Danglo, Ram Rocha, Fred J. Williams. Photographer: Louis Johnston

Horoscope

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Advice for the week: Play with friends but do business with strangers. Message clears. Enticing deal of questionable nature may be made. Be wary, Ari. Emotional/financial fruit is ripe. Pluck it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Give priority to that which touches the most private corner of your life, Taurus. Many sacrifices have been made in the name of freedom. This week it's your turn. Be a brave bull. Colorful week charges to a noisy finale.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Toe-to-toe, nose-to-nose confrontation due. Cash is involved. Self-interest (what else?) may turn minor drama into old-time brouhaha. Advice: Talk softly but carry a big shtick. You will understand.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Old truth sashays into view wearing a new face. The dawn of understanding arrives. Finally. Week of personal reflection ends, Moonbaby, on key of D for druthers. (You get yours.)

LEO (July 23-August 22): You long for more freedom, Leo, but chains that bind are of your own making. So, what else is new? Begin to think of freedom as a way rather than just a goal. Message clears. Week snuggles to a torrid close. Well, it is August, you know.

the gay male lifestyle

Hollywood and on Fire Island.

"Fire Island" is the first cut and kicks off with a throbbing drum rhythm and moving percussion. On the flip there's a tribute to the California gay communities ... lasting ten minutes and very danceable.

This is an upfront, gay male album ... "an idea whose time has come," says Record World.

The album's jacket was photographed by the famous New York male erotica studio – Colt.

Ram Rocha

Figleaves



"It's a typical reaction of persons who hold a lot of myths about homosexuality," said a spokesman for the Gay Community for Concern in Freemont, Calif.

It all started when the Freemont city beautification committee said it would engrave anyone's name on a plaque in the Freemont Bicentennial Grove (the city's central park) who contributed $50 or more to the project.

Well, the gay group did just that and whipped out $50. But the City Beautiful Committee lived up to its promise and engraved the gay group's name, along with all the other contributors.

Now some community leaders are up in arms. "You don't advertise a weakness," said Sister Pierre Eymard of the Dominican Convent in Mission San Jose.

"Most kids would assume that if it's not legitimate, the city wouldn't put the name on the plaque," said Councilman Tony Azevedo.

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VIRGO (August 23-September 22): It's out of the chorus line and into the spotlight, Virgo. Are you prepared? If not, you'd jolly-well better start getting prepared. Study your lines. Know your cues. Possible replacement warms in wings. Waiting. Hoping. Don't bollix it.

LIBRA (September 23-October 22): If you have any grand plans for seeking new, greener pastures this week, Libra, you should know that you are being observed by one at a distance. This polecat has 20-20 vision and a mouth like the Grand Canyon. What more can I say without having this message sound like a bloody warning?

SCORPIO (October 23-November 21): Unusual bird (with fancy feathers) may try to invade your territory. Don't for one minute be intimidated, Scorp. Squawk loudly. And often. And don't go flying off into the blue leaving your nest unguarded either. Week ends with a flap.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 22): Secret fear is not real, Saj, it is just another one of your internal recordings. Don't just turn down the volume, pet, click it off! New cycle shaping up. Get ready. When you throw old habit out the window, new purpose marches in the door. Honestly. You'll see.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 19): Good week to put your mind in "park". Find a shady nook (near a babbling brook?) keep a cool drink handy and just snooze your worries away. If snoozing doesn't come easily, Cap, then read a trashy novel. Or just daydream. Tell those who nag to go sit on their Sunday hats.

AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18): Excess emotional baggage you've been dragging around must be dumped. NOW. Once you accomplish this, Aquari, you discover hidden energy source. On last day you bask in warmth of sincere compliment as well as the August sun.

PISCES (February 19-March 20): Closed door can be opened. But you must turn the knob first. Along with the fresh summer breezes come the inevitable mosquitoes. No matter. On last day, Pisces, curl up with a good book (or friend) and put subordinate in charge of swatting.



Cerberus

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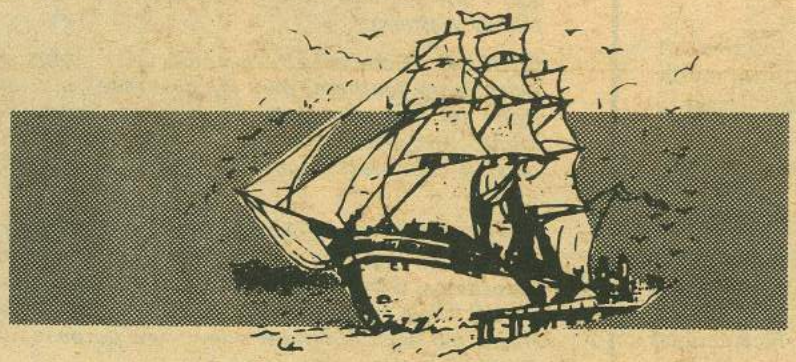
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RAM ROD





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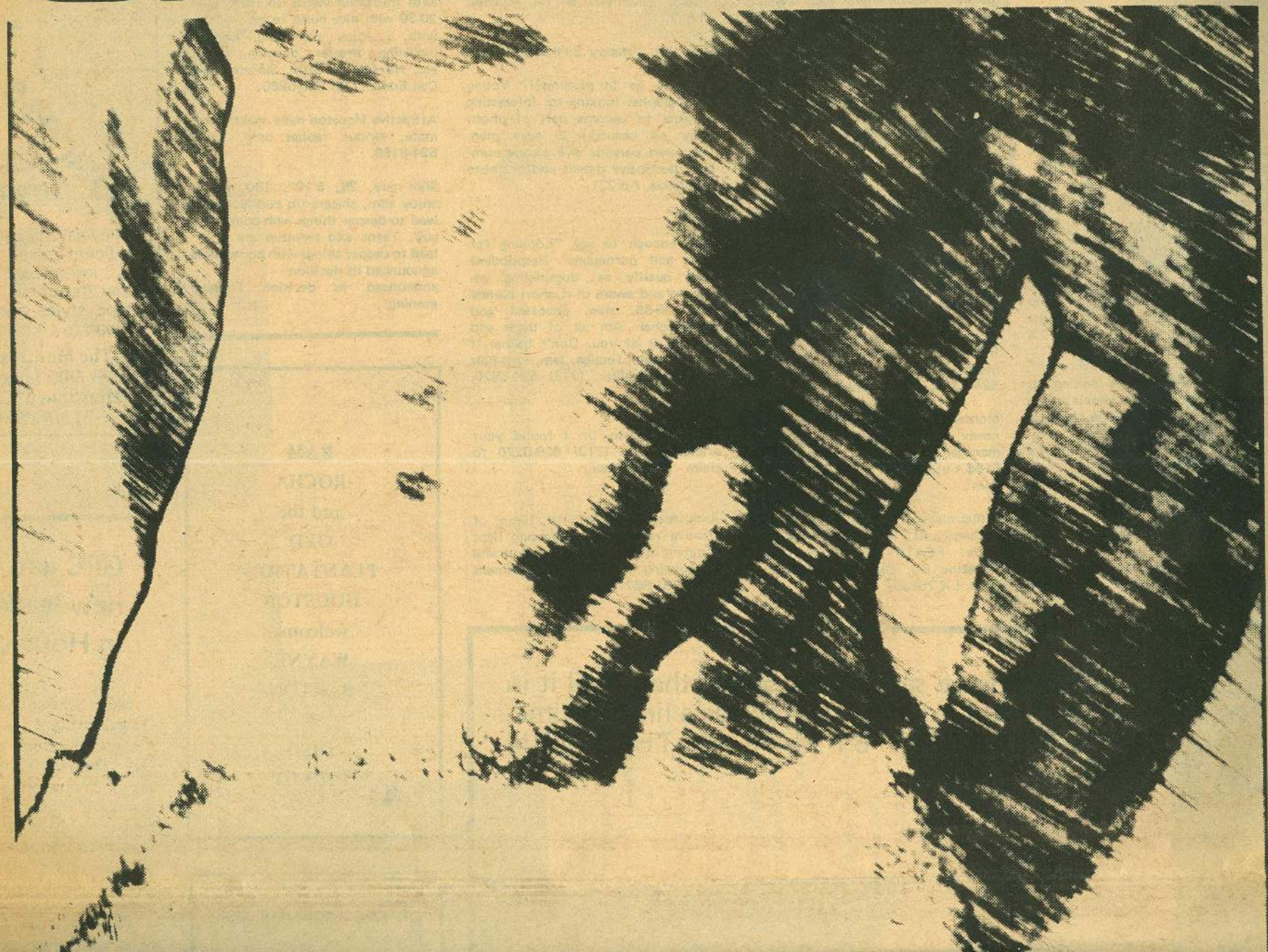
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Attractive Houston male seeks roommate, serious replies only. (713) 524-8160.

Slim guy, 26, 5'10", 130, would enjoy slim, sincere j/o buddy. Could lead to deeper things with compatible guy. Teens and twenties are group preferred. Jim, 4506 Montrose, Suite 200, Mail Box 206, Houston, TX 77006.

Very submissive w/m is looking for an attractive dominant female in the Houston area. I am sincere and you will be rewarded for your time in answering this by a very submissive male. Blind Box 216.

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Wanted, position as valet. Have experience in running and maintaing a household. 24, 5'8" Blonde, blue eyes, no strings. Salary open, will relocate. J.H., 625 St. Philip, apt. 10, New Orleans, LA 70116.

Planning a trip to New Orleans? If so and can not find a place to stay write to 625 St. Philip, apt. 10, New Orleans, LA 70116.

Attractive w/m, 29, 5'5" blonde hair, blue eyes, medium slim build, well endowed. Would like a modeling job, fashion modeling prefered. If interested please contact me at (713) 526-6040 or 524-9295 & leave message. Ask for Gene. (At work 524-8718, 12 midnight to 8am)

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Dear Jay: "Happy Birthday." Doug.

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GPC gets new leaders in Houston

Mort Schwab and Gary Van Ooteghem have announced they are retiring from the Houston Gay Political Caucus because "it is necessary to have fresh ideas and energy" in the organization, said Schwab. Both have been instrumental in forming the group and guiding its growth during the past few years.

"GPC has become a broad-

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ideas and energy" in the organization, said Schwab. Both have been instrumental in forming the group and guiding its growth during the past few years.

"GPC has become a broad-based effective, credible force in the community. . . . Our retirement is not the result of any policy or personality conflict. It is rather a statement of faith in the ability and strength of GPC and the community," said Schwab, in a prepared statement.

"The organization should not become identified in the minds of others as the reflection of the ideas and personality of its leadership. One of the key operating principles underlying our involvement in GPC from the very start was that we would help lay the foundation of the structure of GPC, and then allow others to carry on the work as they saw fit. GPC has many eager volunteers, seasoned workers, a solvent treasury with a good cash flow, well developed procedures and a huge number of supporters in the community," Schwab continued.

He stated that plans for the next few months, under Don Hrachovy, the current president, include another massive voter registration drive, screening of candidates for mayor, city council and other offices, distribution of 10,000 pamphlets endorsing candidates who pass the screening, and another fund-raising effort.

Schwab is resigning to devote more time to his practice of law while Van Ootehgem will be spending more time in his CPA business.

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