ISSUE #20 - NOV. 20 - DEC. 2, 1976 - FREE

900 Lovett Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77006
(713) 527-8961

MONTROSE STAR

Thanksgiving at the 'Eager Arms'

by Ed Martinez

At this holiday time of the year, when families gather, and loved ones join to celebrate their togetherness and rejoice in their love for one another, do we ever stop to think about those less fortunate, those who, perhaps, do not have, or cannot join, a family?

Specifically, as Thanksgiving is upon us, let's stop for a moment and think about those who have less to give thanks for than some of us.

I work as a night clerk at a commercial hotel. We hear much about the vaunted superiority of the Houston economy, and its incredible ability to provide jobs for the thousands of persons that flock to the metropolis each month. All of this is true. Houston *is* probably

sits the Hot Sheets Hotel. Obviously not its correct name, since the libel laws in Texas tend to be rather strictly enforced.

Into the mildewed and yellowing walls of this hotel come the young, the hopeful, the hopeless, and the comers. Which is often hard to distinguish, but they're all there, overlaid with a rich mosaic of characters.

A commercial hotel caters to permanent residents, railroad men, truckers, and the odd transient. The traveling salesmen stay at motels on the freeways, and the affluent stay at the more up to date hotels.

The Hot Sheets Hotel, or the Eager Arms, as it is sometimes referred to in lighter moments, is an old hotel, built in the twenties before the advent of the automobile, with no

of a three pronged cane, and marches up to the desk to assure everyone that she does not wish to complain, but a) her room is too cold, b) her hip kills her when she gets cold, and c) when are they ever going to turn the heat on? She does this while swearing that she will be sure to take care of everyone at Christmas time. What Mrs. R. does not realize is that, because of the nature of hotel work, hardly any of us will probably even be here at Christmas, and in any event we could not possibly care less. Mrs. R. does not mean well, she's just a crabby old bitch. When Mrs. R. gets up to her room, she proceeds to call down with clockwork regularity complaining about her cold room. After the second or third call I have the operator unplug



superiority of the Houston economy, and its incredible ability to provide jobs for the thousands of persons that flock to the metropolis each month. All of this is true. Houston *is* probably the strongest economy in the U.S., but the U.S. economy is going through a few tailspins right now, and although Houston is less affected than some other areas of the country, it does not exist in an economic vacuum, and there are holes and hollows in the job situation in Houston. I know. At present, I am "between positions," as we euphemistically say when we don't want to say we're looking for a job. I'm sure I'll find one, but in the meantime I do what I must to survive. Right now that means clerking at a commercial hotel in downtown Houston. And therein lies our tale, a tale of the soft underbelly of the glamorous, super-rich Houston economy.

Not far from celebrated River Oaks, where the spectacularly wealthy live in arbored seclusion, within spitting distance (if you're a good spitter) of the dozens of skyscrapers in downtown Houston that are proof positive that this is a with-it, make-money town, proud of its wealth and not afraid to show it,

The Hot Sheets Hotel, or the Eager Arms, as it is sometimes referred to in lighter moments, is an old hotel, built in the twenties before the advent of the automobile, with no parking facilities, trapped in the labyrinth of downtown traffic.

The large, high-ceilinged lobby houses a stage filled with unpaid actors, performing their parts with faithful regularity, unconscious of the often compulsive nature of their behavior.

Here we find Mrs. M., who feels it her God-given mission in life to spend every waking moment seated in the lobby, noting the comings and goings of everyone. At times she can no longer restrain herself, and leaps up and begins to dust, furiously, improving on the handiwork of the cleaning staff. She extends her benevolence to the Coke machines, the coffee machines, and at times even delivers herself of a lecture or two, to me about the pathetic state into which the hotel has fallen. She means well.

Regularly into the arena comes Mrs. R. Mrs. R. could not possibly be as old as she looks, as she would have been present at the Creation. She clumps along determinedly with the aid

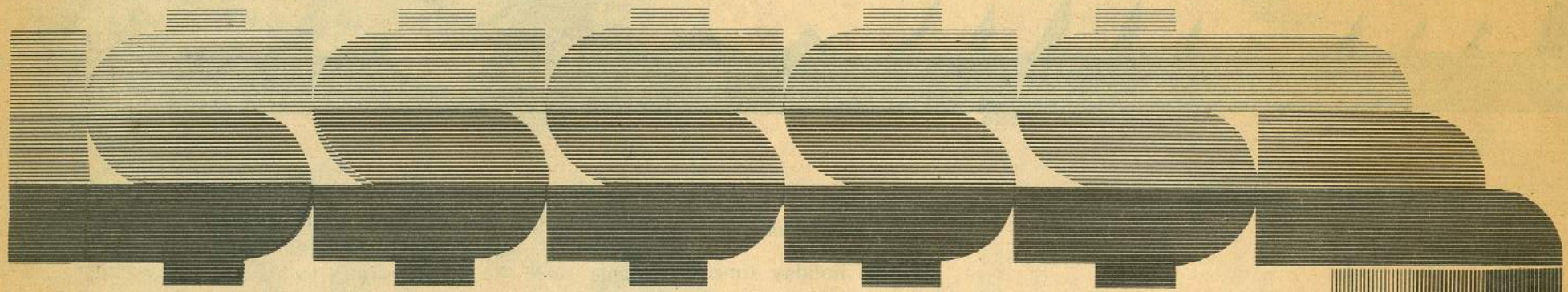
bitch. When Mrs. R. gets up to her room, she proceeds to call down with clockwork regularity complaining about her cold room. After the second or third call I have the operator unplug her phone so the old crone can't get calls in *or* out. Screw her *and* her damned Christmas presents.

And now comes Herman. Herman is one of the legion of gays who inhabit our humble hostelry. This hotel really should be called the Lavender Arms, both because of the number of gay guests and the number of gay employees.

Hot Sheets Hotel is not unique in this, however, as many gays gravitate naturally to the service professions, i.e., hospital work, the airlines, hotels, social work, and the ministry. Gays actually enjoy serving and helping other people. Straight society, take note. There may be a lesson of some sort here.

Herman drinks, poor thing. He's a pleasant drunk, though. He trips lightly up to the desk with his trick of the evening, usually the nelliest thing east of Brownsville, and delivers him up for us to evaluate. Herman swears that he likes butch numbers. The butchest thing he ever captured was an un-

continued on page 3



celebrate

THANKSGIVING AT THE DEPO$ITORY II

THANKSGIVING AT THE DEPO$ITORY II

$1 COVER

NICKEL DRAFT BEER

FREE TURKEY BUFFET



401 MCGOWEN

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continued from page 1

Thanksgiving at the Eager Arms Hotel

employed drag queen with smeared mascara. Herman is confused. They swish off merrily to the elevators. Tomorrow morning Herman will come down bitching to high heaven about the watch (or money or jewelry) he was relieved of during the night by his grand passion. He loves it.

About this time a railroad crew comes charging in. These men stay at the Hot Sheets because their company pays for it. They stay at a ridiculously low rate, and feel they are entitled to treatment one would normally expect only at the Hyatt Regency. They are very loud in their complaints when they don't get it.

I smile a lot and humor them as much as possible, but basically it boils down to this: if they can't take a joke, fuck 'em. And some of them are a joke. Redneck, bigoted and arrocitizens from all over the world who have made this city their home. Word gets around. There's money to be made here.

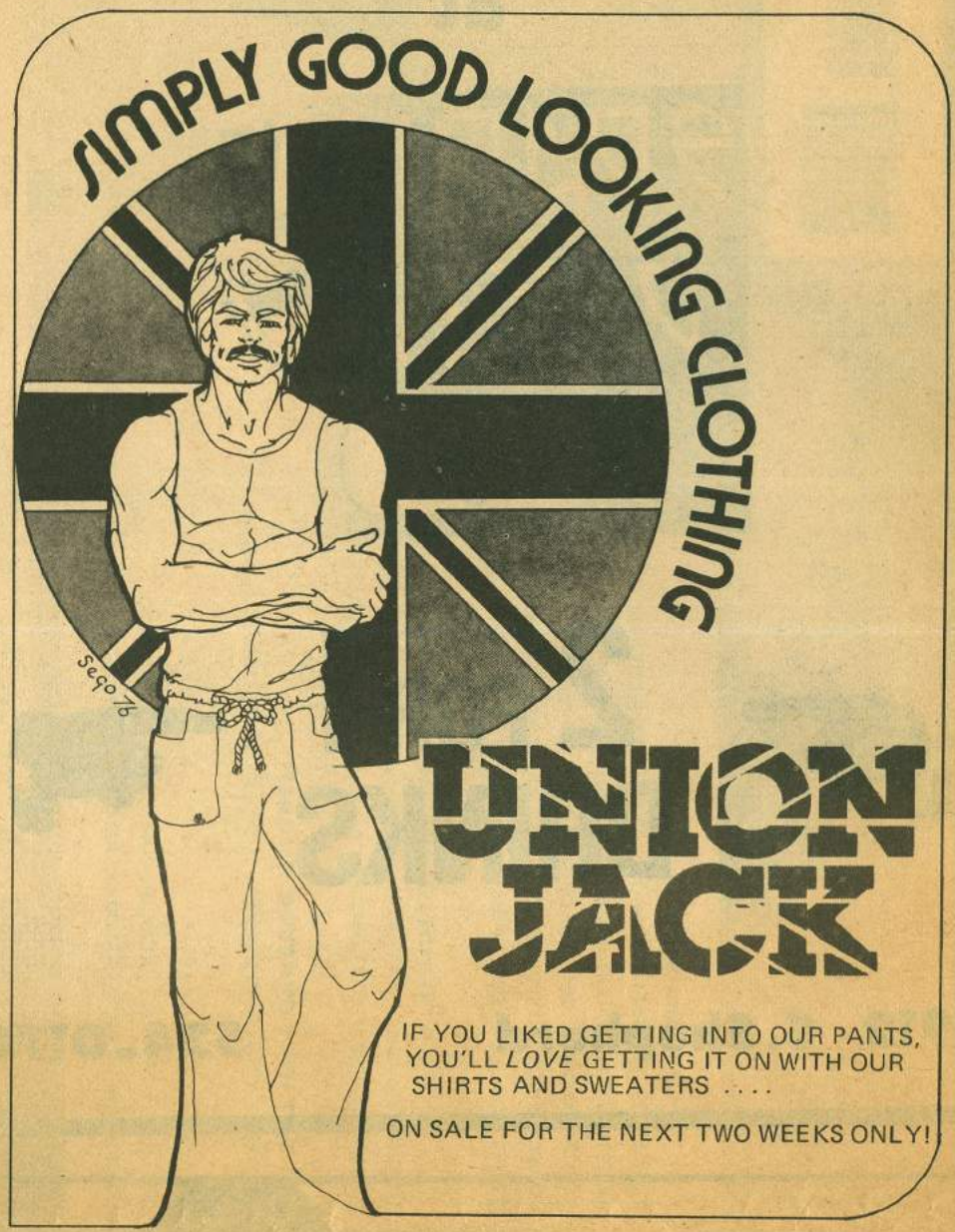
Seamen stay at the Hot Sheets Hotel. There never were men as beautiful and serendipitous, altogether, as the Greeks. Since Ulysses the Greeks have plied the seas, and their beauty has always been legend. Not all the seamen are Greeks, but the Greeks far surpass the rest in charm.

And Vietnamese. A number of Vietnamese refugees stay in the hotel, whole families in one single room, at exorbitantly inflated rates. Will we ever cease our timeless rape of these childlike, innocent people? Enough of what we did to their homeland, we continue to exploit them as refugees in our own country.

But not all the Vietnamese are refugees. There comes to our doors the Dragon Lady. Her real name is unpronounceable, and all but unspellable. She vehemently denies being Japanese, which she looks, has a Paris address, and speaks the French language elegantly, and with great pleasure. Her daughter travels with her, and is English educated. She reeks of the graft and corruption and putrescence that made the war in Vietnam a stench in

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DALLAS 3918 CEDAR SPRINGS 528-9600



HOUSTON

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I smile a lot and humor them as much as possible, but basically it boils down to this: if they can't take a joke, fuck 'em. And some of them are a joke. Redneck, bigoted and arrogant. Most of the railroad men are very nice guys. It's the assholes that stand out, unfortunately, as always. But some of them are handsome men, still young enough to have kept their looks, and their open minds. Soon enough they'll be like their elders? All too soon, in fact. They stay only a very short time, usually only a matter of hours. They know they'll soon be called out to work, so they sleep, if they can, or they roam the hotel, looking for . . . what? Other railroad men to drink with in the bar, a woman, possibly off the streets, or another man, perhaps, aware that the anonymity of the encounter will protect their masculine image. A lot of hanky panky goes on in the old Hot Sheets. We just smile and pretend it didn't happen, when we find out about it, which is seldom.

And the foreigners. Houston is truly becoming an international city, attracting people from everywhere with its port, its commerce, and the large number of elegantly, and with great pleasure. Her daughter travels with her, and is English educated. She reeks of the graft and corruption and putrescence that made the war in Vietnam a stench in men's nostrils. The Dragon Lady is no refugee by any stretch of the imagination. She got out of Vietnam and fled to exile in France before her unfeeling countrymen from the north stretched her lovely neck, in fact. She is an arrogant cunt, and demands, and gets, a great deal of service. Such are the fortunes of war.

The pace quickens. A train crew comes in, the phone announces that Miss T. has discovered a bag of empty beer cans outside her door, and this is the second time it has happened, a young man recently thrown out of the hotel for possessing grass slips up the elevator with his butch lover, taking advantage of the confusion, a train crew comes barging out of the elevator to check out, two hookers try to sneak up the elevator and are cut off at the pass by the alert operator, three people impatiently demand change, two want their mail, and the beat goes on.

Happy Thanksgiving from the Hot Sheets Hotel.

ON SALE FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS ONLY!

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4025 WESTHEIMER Highland Village Center, 622-3100

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Thanksgiving Night
at

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OPPORTUNITY

Calendar

Here's the complete Thanksgiving Schedule

HOUSTON CLUBS

Wed. night, Nov. 24
Beer bust starting 7pm at Sparkle Plenty. After hours disco dancing tonight at the Old Plantation. $2 cover and 10¢ drinks tonight at the Depository, with after hours. Buddy night at Club Houston, with two lockers for the price of one, 8pm-midnight. Hat & color night at the Locker with half price drinks for all dressed correctly plus a midnight drawing for a gobbler.

Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 25
Happy hour 7am-noon at the Inside Outside and Sally's, and starting to 10pm at the Briar Patch.

Thanksgiving afternoon, Nov. 25
Thanksgiving party at Our Place starts at 4pm. Happy hour 4-7pm at the Locker and the Briar Patch and 5-8pm at Sally's. Special prices on bloody marys and screwdrivers 12-7pm at the Inside Outside. Bar doubles for $1 at the Locker 1-6pm.

Sat. night, Nov. 27
Disco dancing afterhours at the Old Plantation, Sparkle Plenty and the Depository.

Sun. afternoon, Nov. 28
Lockers are only $2 8am-4pm at Club Houston. 50¢ bloody marys, screwdrivers and beer 2-7pm at the Briar Patch. 25¢ bar drinks and draft beer 4-7pm at the Inside Outside with a $2 cover.

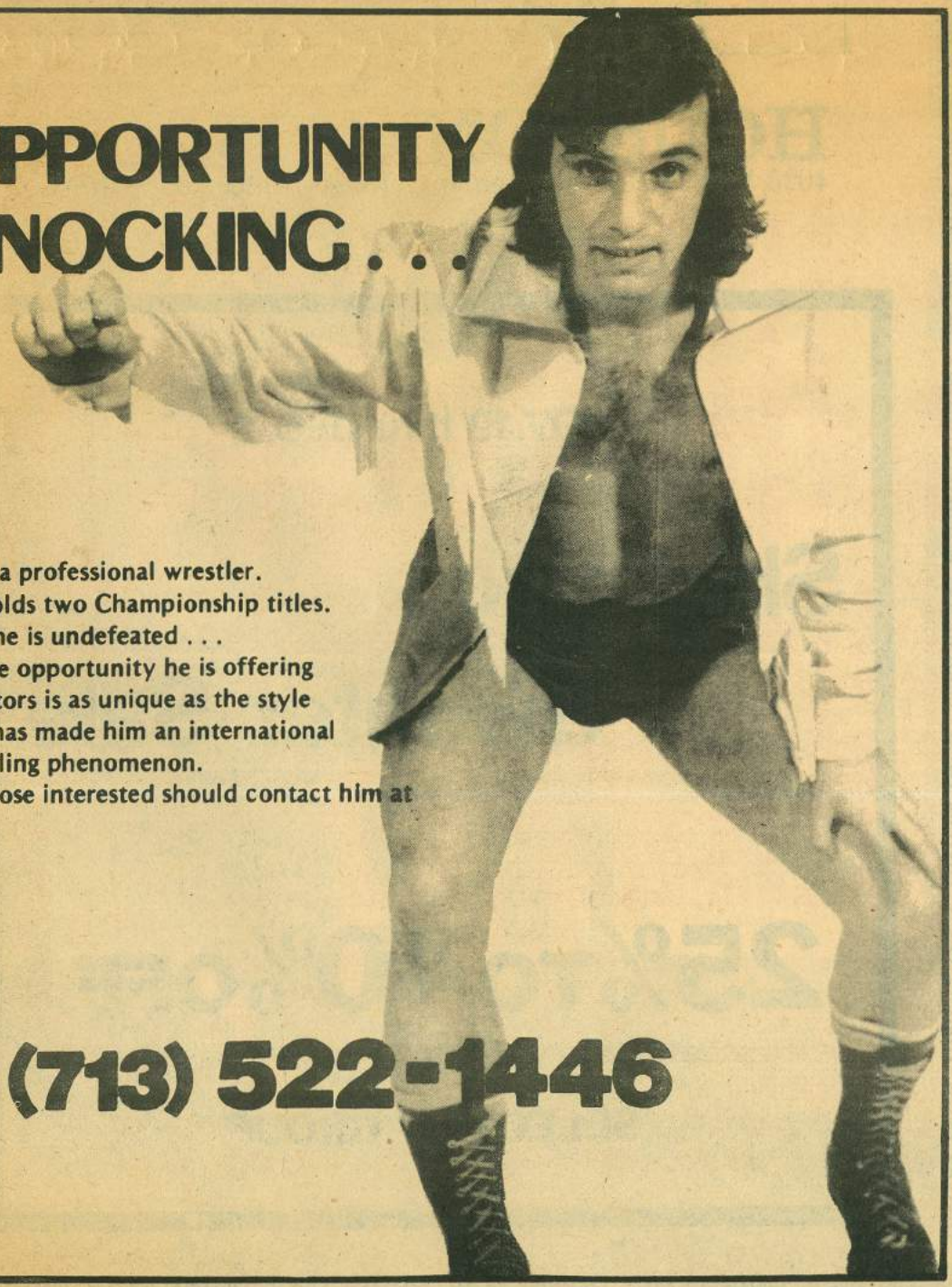
Sun. night, Nov. 28
Beer bust at the Locker starting 7pm with $1 cover. 75¢ well drinks all night at Sparkle Plenty. The Old Plantation opens early, 6pm, with a beer bust and buffet, lasting to 9pm, followed by the Follies at 9:30. Randy Walls' survivors party with happy hour prices goes on at Sally's, 9pm-midnight. Nickel beer at the Depository tonight.

Mon.-Fri. mornings, Nov. 29-Dec. 3
Happy hour 7am-noon at the Inside Outside and Sally's. Happy hour starts 10am at the Briar Patch.

Mon. afternoon, Nov. 29
Happy hour 5-8pm at Sally's, 5-7pm at Mary's, 4-7pm at the Locker and the Inside Outside, and continuing through 7pm at the Briar Patch. Beer bust at Our Place 5pm-7pm.

Mon. night, Nov. 29
Leather night at Mr. Peeper's Glory Hole. Drawings for prizes at the Locker. No cover and 75¢ drinks at the Depository. $1 cover and 35¢ drinks at the Old Plantation. $3 cover and free

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKING . . .



He is a professional wrestler.
He holds two Championship titles.
And he is undefeated . . .

The opportunity he is offering investors is as unique as the style that has made him an international wrestling phenomenon.

Those interested should contact him at

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Inside Outside and Sally's, and starting to 10pm at the Briar Patch.

Thanksgiving afternoon, Nov. 25
Thanksgiving party at Our Place starts at 4pm. Happy hour 4-7pm at the Locker and the Inside Outside, non-stop at Sally's, 5-7pm at Mary's, through 7pm at the Briar Patch. Thanksgiving dinner starting 4pm at the Old Plantation.

Thanksgiving night, Nov. 25
Happy hour continues all night at Sally's. Thanksgiving dinner continues to 9pm at the Old Plantation, followed by disco dancing to 4am. Thanksgiving at the Depository includes turkey buffet, nickel draft beer and after hours. Sparkle Plenty celebrates Thanksgiving night with 2 for 1 drinks.

Fri. morning, Nov. 26
Happy hour 7am-noon at Sally's and the Inside Outside, and starting at 10pm at the Briar Patch.

Fri. afternoon, Nov. 26
Happy hour 5-8pm at Sally's, through 7pm at the Briar Patch, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside, 5-7pm at Mary's, 4-7pm at the Locker.

Fri. night, Nov. 26
After hours disco at the Old Plantation, Depository and Sparkle Plenty.

Sat. morning, Nov. 27
Happy hour 7am-noon at Sally's and happy hour starts at 10am at the Briar Patch.

Sat. afternoon, Nov. 27
Happy hour continues to 7pm at Place 5pm-7pm.

Mon. night, Nov. 29
Leather night at Mr. Peeper's Glory Hole. Drawings for prizes at the Locker. No cover and 75¢ drinks at the Depository. $1 cover and 35¢ drinks at the Old Plantation. $3 cover and free well drinks at Sparkle Plenty.

Tues. afternoon, Nov. 30
Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place. Happy hour non-stop at Sally's, 5-7pm at Mary's, through 7pm at the Briar Patch, 4-7pm at the Locker and the Inside Outside.

Tues. night, Nov. 30
Western night at Mr. Pepper's Glory Hole. Happy hour continues all night at Sally's. Free movie, "Soldier Blue," at the Locker. $1 cover and 35¢ drinks at the Old Plantation. Pool tourney at 8pm at the Inside Outside. Depository skate night at the Carousel Roller Rink on Katy Freeway 9-11pm. No cover at Sparkle Plenty with double drinks the same price as single drinks.

Wed. afternoon, Dec. 1
Happy hour 5-7pm at Mary's, 5-8pm at Sally's, through 7pm at the Briar Patch, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside and the Locker. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

Wed. night, Dec. 1
Beer bust at Sparkle Plenty. 35¢ drinks with $1 cover at the Old Plantation. 10¢ drinks with $2 cover at the Depository. Buddy night at Club Houston with 2 lockers for the price of 1, 8pm-midnight. Hat & color night at the Locker with half price drinks for all dressed correctly.

continued on page 6



LIQUOR BUST EVERY SUNDAY 4 TO 7 P.M.

$2.00 COVER CHARGE

ALL SINGLE BAR DRINKS & DRAFT BEER 25¢ EACH

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NEWLY REBUILT – BEAUTIFUL
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WEDNESDAY: SPECIAL DRINK NIGHT
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DALLAS OP HOUSTON

The Old Plantation



continued from page 4

Thurs. afternoon, Dec. 2

Happy hour 4-7pm at the Locker and the Inside Outside, non-stop at Sally's, 5-7pm at Mary's, through 7pm at the Briar Patch. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

Thurs. night, Dec. 2

Happy hour continues all night at Sally's. $1 cover at the Old Plantation with 35¢ well drinks and 75¢ margaritas. $1 cover at the Depository with 45¢ drinks. $2 cover and 25¢ drinks at Sparkle Plenty.

Fri. afternoon, Dec. 3

Happy hour 5-8pm at Sally's, through 7pm at the Briar Patch, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside, 5-7pm at Mary's, 4-7pm at the Locker.

Coming up later

The Old Plantation birthday party, Dec. 6-12, will feature a week of special prices, many prizes, and some surprizes. More on this in the next issue.

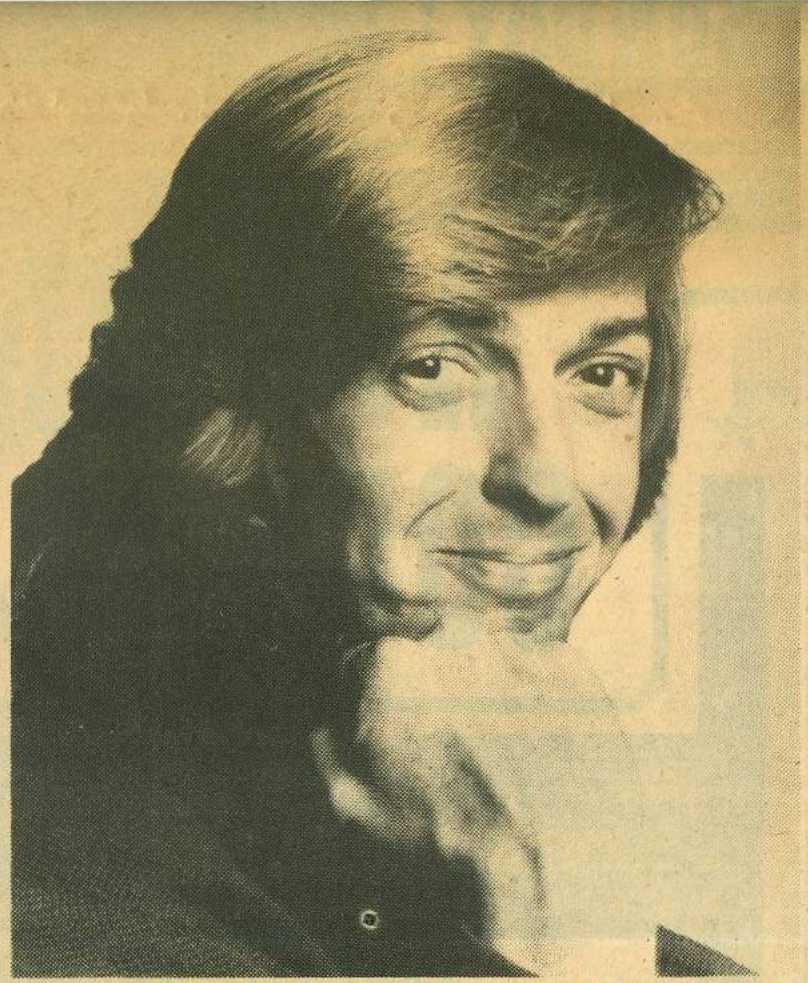
Michael Greer entertains at the Old Plantation, Dec. 12-14, in a special roadshows performance. Check the OP's ad elsewhere in this issue.

The Midnight Sun plans an opening in December, but still no exact date has been set. More on this new disco in a future issue of the Star.

DALLAS CLUBS

Wed. night, Nov. 24

After hours at the Old Plantation. Half price well drinks at Dimension 3.



DALLAS: DEC 5, 6, 7

HOUSTON: DEC 12, 13, 14

SHOWTIME 9:30pm

MICHAEL GREER

SPECIAL ROADSHOW PERFORMANCE

Reserved Seating SUN – FREE BUFFET

sun mon tues
3.00 2.00 2.00

General Admission
2.00 1.00 1.00

Dallas
1807 N. Harwood

Houston
2020 Kipling

issue of the Star.

DALLAS CLUBS

Wed. night, Nov. 24
After hours at the Old Plantation. Half price well drinks at Dimension 3.

Thanksgiving afternoon, Nov. 25
Turkey dinner at the Old Plantation starts at 4pm. Happy hour at the Bon Soir 5-8pm.

Thanksgiving night, Nov. 25
10¢ draft beer at Dimension 3. Turkey dinner continues to 9pm at the Old Plantation, followed by disco dancing and after hours.

Fri. afternoon, Nov. 26
Happy hour 5-8pm at the Bon Soir.

Fri. & Sat. nights, Nov. 26&27
After hours disco at the Old Plantation and after hours movies at the Hayloft.

Sun. afternoon, Nov. 28
Cook out 2-5pm at Club Dallas. Bloody marys and screwdrivers 75¢ 1-8pm at the Bon Soir with happy hour also 3-8pm.

Sun. night, Nov. 28
Half price well drinks at Dimension 3. Free hot dogs and draft beer at the Old Plantation 7-9pm followed by Jann Russell, the Living Dolls & Alain Allison at 9:30.

Mon. afternoon, Nov. 29
Happy hour at the Bon Soir, 5-8pm.

Mon. night, Nov. 29
15¢ draft beer at the Old Plantation. 2 for 1 canned beer at Dimension 3.

HOME DELIVERY
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the STAR

Tues. night, Nov. 30
75¢ tequilla sunrises at Dimension 3. Buddy night at Club Dallas when 2 can get in for the price of 1, 6pm-2am. Tonight's the night for 90¢ margaritas at the Old Plantation, plus an "all you can eat" dinner at Munchies Restaurant in the OP.

Wed. afternoon, Dec. 1
Happy hour at the Bon Soir 5-8pm. Discount card day at Club Dallas, where you get a free locker with each purchase of a discount card.

Wed. night, Dec. 1
Half price drinks at the Old Plantation and half price well doubles at Dimension 3.

Thurs. afternoon, Dec. 2
Happy hour at the Bon Soir 5-8pm.

Thurs. night, Dec. 2
10¢ draft beer at Dimension 3. 75¢ tequila sunrises at the Old Plantation.

Fri. afternoon, Dec. 3
Happy hour 5-8pm at the Bon Soir.

Coming up later
Michael Greer presents special roadshow performances at the Old Plantation, Dec. 5-7. More on this in the OP's ad elsewhere in this issue.

AUSTIN CLUBS

Wed. night, Nov. 24
25¢ well drinks and canned beer, 10¢ draft beer at the Austin Country, with a $2 cover.

HOME OF THE TEXAS RIDERS

WHERE MEN
MEET MEN...
THE LOCKER



HOUSTON LEATHER BAR
1732 WESTHEIMER 528-8844
LEATHER SHOP BY GATOR
Drawing Every Monday for Prizes-7PM

Get your gobbler at the LOCKER
Midnight-WED., NOV 24
TICKETS AVAILABLE ALL DAY FOR MIDNIGHT GOBLER DRAWING

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AUSTIN CLUBS

Wed. night, Nov. 24
25¢ well drinks and canned beer, 10¢ draft beer at the Austin Country, with a $2 cover.

Thanksgiving night, Nov. 25
Jann Russell, Alain Allison and the Grease Sisters perform at the Austin Country, 10pm, followed by disco dancing.

Fri. & Sat. nights, Nov. 26 & 27
After hours disco at the Austin Country to 4am.

Sat. afternoon, Nov. 27
Happy hour 5-7pm at the New Apartment.

Sun. afternoon, Nov. 28
Happy hour 3-5pm at the New Apartment. Austin Country opens early at 4pm.

Sun. night, Nov. 28
Buffet and free beer bust starting 6pm, along with disco, at the Austin Country.

Mon.-Fri. afternoons, Nov. 29-Dec. 3
Happy hour at the New Apartment 5-7pm.

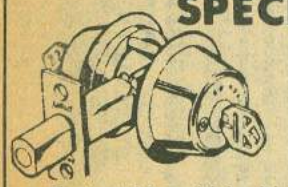
Tues. night, Nov. 30
Old movies and a beer bust along with disco dancing at the Austin Country.

Wed. night, Dec. 1
25¢ well drinks and canned beer, 10¢ draft beer at the Austin Country, with a $2 cover.

Thurs. night, Dec. 2
Jann Russell, Alain Allison and the Grease Sisters entertain at the Austin Country, 10pm, followed by disco dancing.

Drawing Every Monday for Prizes-7PM
Get your gobbler at the LOCKER
Midnight-WED., NOV 24
TICKETS AVAILABLE ALL DAY FOR MIDNIGHT GOBLER DRAWING
HAPPY HOUR
MON ⟷ FRI
½ ALL DRINKS 4 - 7

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Jeannie's Lamp

Another letter about gay stereo-types

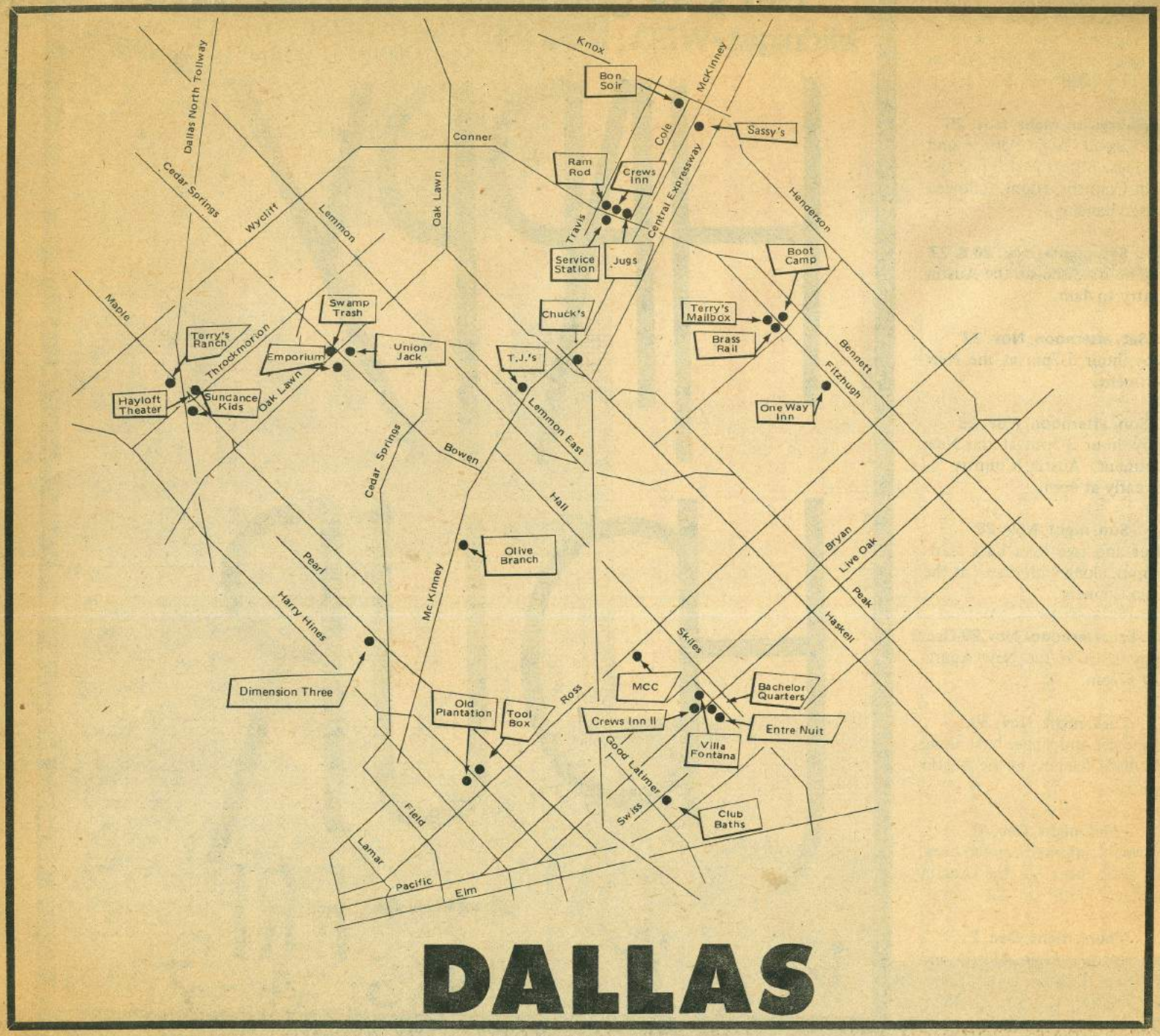
Dear Jeannie:

I want to help clarify what I think John meant in his recent letter when he said, "most of those guys are really fags."

He was undoubtedly referring to the 90% of people you see in gay bars and the affected mannerisms which they tend to project. These people are so incredibly stuck-up that they turn or

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He was undoubtedly referring to the 90% of people you see in gay bars and the affected mannerisms which they tend to project. These people are so incredibly stuck-up that they turn or walk away from me if I try to talk to them. And I can't be *that* bad-looking, because girls always try to pick me up at school.

Also, I believe you're wrong in stating that no "gay male would allow himself to be used strictly at and for your convenience." I'm gay, and I would. Really, I'd travel a hundred miles for the opportunity. In fact, I'd be *entirely stoked* at the prospect of meeting someone who wouldn't charge me money to go to bed with him.

So, please, don't turn John off like that.

Steve

Dear Steve:

Jesus! I must really be out of touch. Or going to the wrong bars. The places I frequent, 90% of the people are friendly, outgoing and interested in quicky sex, friendship and long-term relationships . . . although not necessarily in that order.

As for the rest, here's a

follow-up letter from John himself . . .

Jeannie:

I'm writing in response to your reply to my previous letter.

Frankly, I was surprised by your interpretation of what I was trying to say. Perhaps it was a failure on my part to communicate my feelings to you. If so, I most sincerely apologize for my lacking in that area. In order to set the record straight, and to attempt to absolve myself from your wrath, I'll try to clarify things.

First of all, I never said nor meant to imply that I wanted a gay male, or any guy for that matter, at my beck and call, to satisfy my every desire and then to toss aside until the next time I got the urge. That's cheap, shallow, demeaning and disrespectful to the person as a human being and serves nobody any good at all. It's just the type of thing I was trying to get away from.

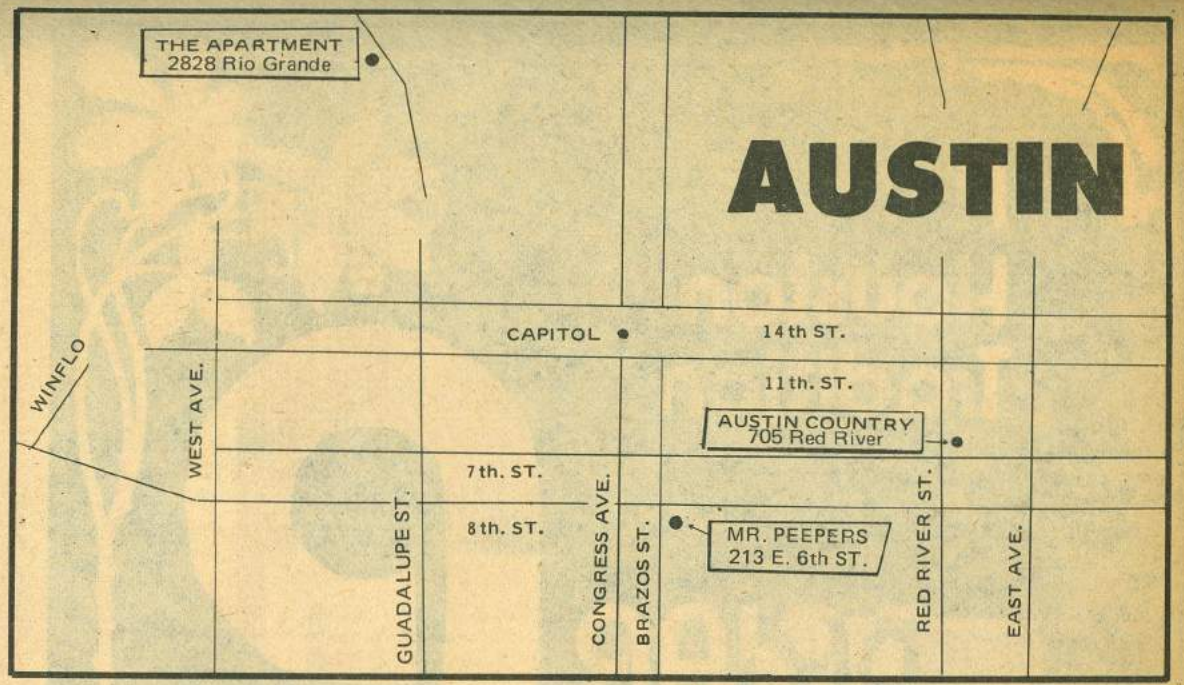
I was merely trying to say it would be nice to have a really close friendship with another guy with whom I could share intimate sexual feelings and desires. A relationship built on give and take is the only way to build a lasting, sual and a real turn-on. They're something to be proud of, not contorted and mocked. Maybe this is a matter of personal preferance or my ignorance of the gay world as it really is. Be that as it may, I have to base my conclusions on what I've seen and *that's* what I've seen. Stereotyping? Maybe.

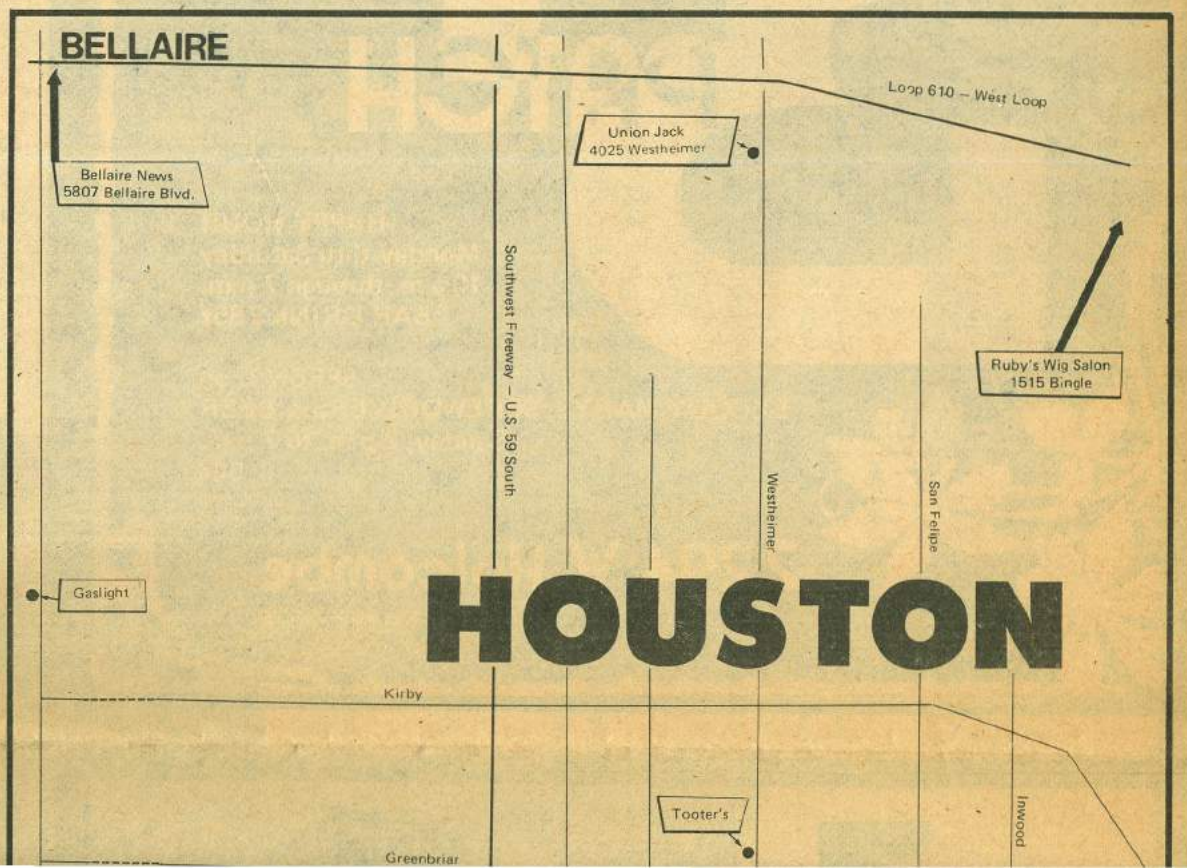
Sex to me is a very important part of living, not to be taken lightly. It's a means of physical expression of the desire of two persons, mental beings (souls, if you will), to communicate in the closest way possible for human beings. One-night stands provide momentary physical pleasure but leave the soul unsatisfied. It's that hollow, empty feeling so many people have. If it's true that it's a meeting of the minds that counts, what difference does it make what sex each other is? Again, it's the old device of societies and morals that screw up something that should be natural.

I hope I did a better job this time of getting my point across, and I hope you understand. I'm really not a bad guy, you know. Sincerely (and I mean that),

John

Dear John:





have a really close friendship with another guy with whom I could share intimate sexual feelings and desires. A relationship built on give and take is the only way to build a lasting, meaningful friendship. It can't be all one way or the other.

I don't feel I could limit myself to just a male-to-male affair. I believe that it's possible for a person to have close relationships with members of both sexes at the same time. Since male and female both have so much to offer, why limit yourself to one or the other? (As an example, fictional though it may be, "Saturday Night at the Baths," a bisexual film of a year or two ago was excellent.)

As for looking for partners in the "swinger" type groups, all they are are "meat markets" in most cases and not my style.

Then, in referance to fags, I again find myself apologizing. That word is very negative and crass; a poor choice under the circumstances. What I meant by that was that I don't like guys who walk around with limp wrists, lisps and feminine mannerisms. As far as I'm concerned, the male body is beautiful and male mannerisms are sen-

point across, and I hope you understand. I'm really not a bad guy, you know. Sincerely (and I mean that),

John

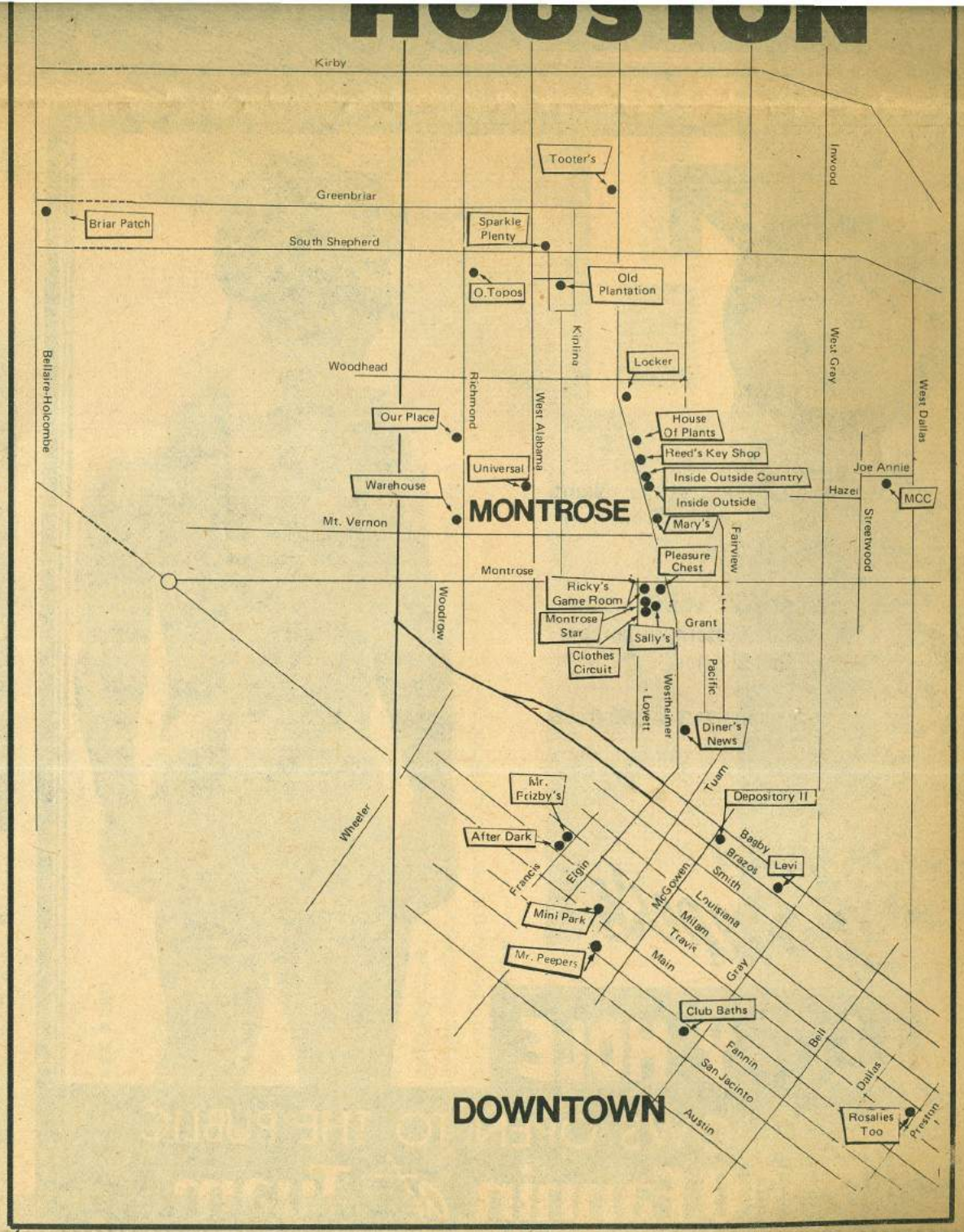
Dear John:

You were right; it *was* a breakdown in communication . . . and you have gained not only absolution, but my respect as well. You're not only "not a bad guy," but you're pretty all right.

As for bisexuality, it's in us all and is not something to be condemned but to be applauded . . . if it's properly exercised. Like all sexuality.

You will probably appreciate one of Gore Vidal's better remarks. ". . . (many) cannot accept the following simple fact of so many lives (certainly my own): that it is possible to have a mature sexual relationship with a woman on Monday, and a mature sexual relationship with a man on Tuesday, and perhaps on Wednesday have both together (admittedly you have to be in good cond iton for this)."

This is a syndicated column, copyright 1976 by Jeannie Chesley Barney. Send your questions for Jeannie, c/o The Montrose Star, 900 Lovett Blvd., Houston, TX 77006.



continued from page 10

it). The gist of it all was that this tribe of African hunters was told years ago by the British government that their territory was now a preserve, so they spend their days on barren soil being hungry, bickering in this awful language and just being nasty in general, swooping down on the least bit of food like vultures.

All I can say is, God Bless America!!

STARS AND HAIR-DRESSERS FOREVER

I just heard the soundtrack of **Barbra Streisand's** new movie "A Star is Born" and it is very hot! Even Kris Kristofferson sounds good. Here's the gossip: half-dozen songs and you'll make $60 million, so the producers really never felt they had a loser. But Barbra was worried.

"If this isn't a success, Jon and I are finished – we'll never work together again!" she confided. Oh, well, her hair hasn't been looking so hot lately, anyway.

Barbra will probably be up for Best Actress, Best Movie (she's also executive producer. Jon is billed as 'producer') and Best Music, because she wrote some of it, along with Paul Williams, Leon Russell and Ruper Holmes. It looks like a winner, and it's going to play the Alabama, right in the heart of bar land!!



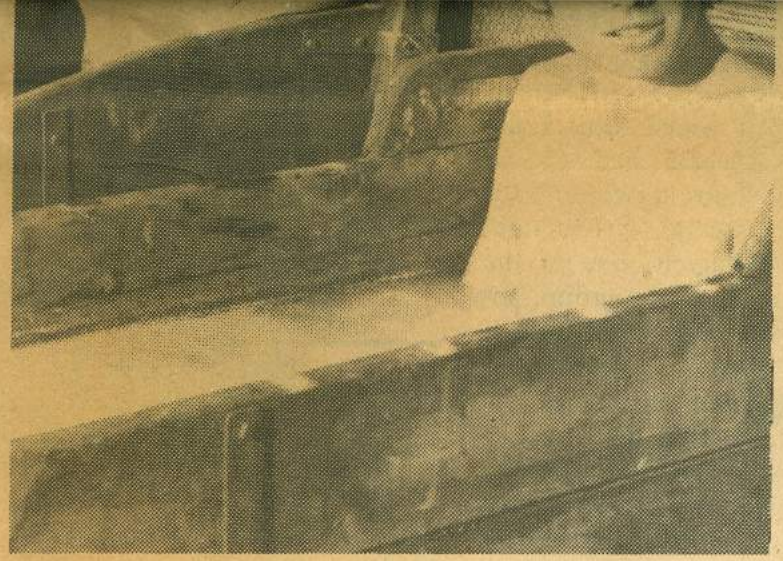
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. . . and thank you for the Club Baths (thou shalt never be horny) . . .

According to Frank Pierson, director of "A Star is Born," the reason it tookso long to make was because Jon Peters and Barbra (a hairdresser and his hair) could not stop bitching at each other and everybody else long enough to get going. What they did go through was a string of writers and directors just to shoot the film, and the, according to the National Enquirer, took the film home and edited it themselves in the kitchen (on the butcher's block?).

Anyway, according to Frank, the last but not least director, the film is to die for! Besides, all you need on film is Barbra singing a

HOT LINE, HOT LINE

Here's some hot phone numbers for you:

800-424-9393. That's the number you call for free mechanical advice when your car screws up somewhere. It's sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Council. I think that's just wonderful.

Also you can now call in for your daily horoscope. It's a free service in New York City (it will cost you the price of long-distance, area code 212) and there's a different number for each sign. Aries is 936-5050, Taurus is 936-5151, Gemini is 936-5252, Cancer is 936-5353 on down to Pisces,

continued on page 14

659-4998 houston texas

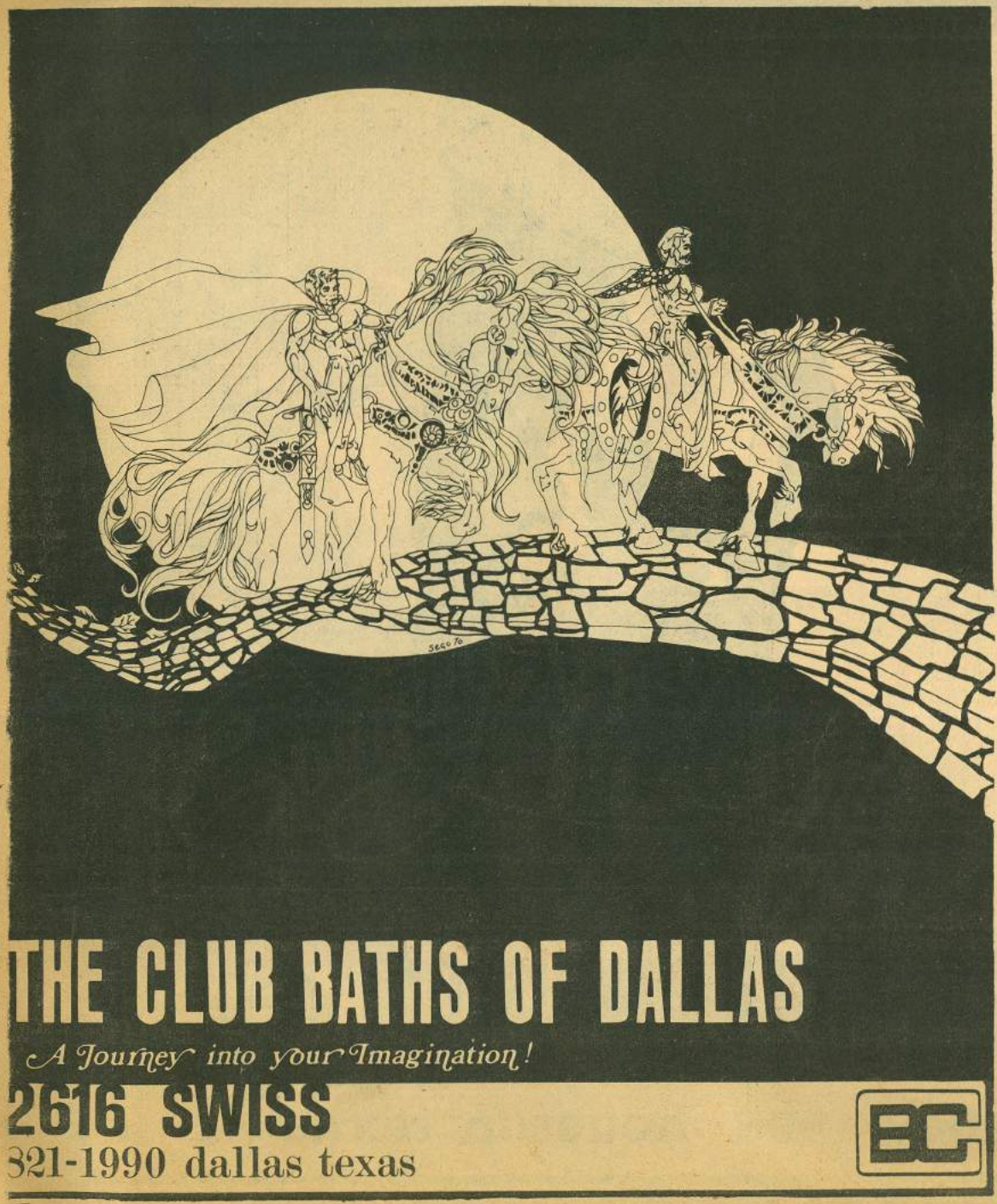
YES, WE ARE MOVING TO
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SAME HOURS

Sally's

SAME SPECIALS

At the end of every prayer there is an
AH MEN



Review

Equinox' 'Lion in Winter' heavy drama, hard seats

There are certain plays that should be performed in a college or university setting. They are important plays, they should be seen, the students need the experience of having acted in them, the audiences need the pleasure of viewing them, and they are, in fact, usually done there. The classic French dramatists, oftentimes Greek tragedy, and frequently even Shakespeare fall into this category.

When asked why Equinox Theater had chosen "The Lion in Winter" for

frequently chosen her life as a subject for plays and books.

This is what is known as an environmental production of the play. This is an increasingly popular technique in the theater, in which the audience surrounds, or is on stage with, the actors. In this particular production, the audience is seated adjacent to the performers on narrow benches and over them on a narrow walkway, lending an air of immediacy to the audience's participation in the event.

Unfortunately, it also makes for some of the most uncomfortable seating I've ever experienced. Producers, like after dinner speakers, should always remember that the mind can only absorb what the fanny can withstand. My fanny reached its absorption point well before the end of the play, making it difficult to concentrate on what the performers were doing.

The play deals with the efforts of Henry II's attempts to hold his fledgling country together in the twelfth century at a time when England and other national states in Europe were having a hard time evolving into the clearly defined countries they have since become. No longer parts of empires, they strug-

2616 SWISS
321-1990 dallas texas



matists, oftentimes Greek tragedy, and frequently even Shakespeare fall into this category.

When asked why Equinox Theater had chosen "The Lion in Winter" for their second production, Judy Olbrych, one of the founders of the group, answered, "Why not?" Which is as good an answer as any.

This does not change the fact, however, that it seems an odd choice for a group just starting out and trying to attract a following. This play seems to be one of those in that classification described above: a very good play that should be left to university drama departments.

Vivian and Scott Holtzman, a husband and wife team well known in the Houston area, take the leads in this costume drama in an effort to lend support to Equinox Theater. The play, as those who saw the movie with Katherine Hepburn know, deals with the lovely Eleanor of Aquitaine and her trials and tribulations in keeping her throne and her lands through her tempestuous life and marriage to Henry II of England. The mother of Richard the Lionhearted and the treacherous John as well as several other children, she has always fascinated historians and writers have when England and other national states in Europe were having a hard time evolving into the clearly defined countries they have since become. No longer parts of empires, they struggled for a sense of nationhood. In the process, there was confusion and divided loyalty among both subjects and princes.

The Lion in Winter, by James Goldman. Equinox Theater, 5505 San Jacinto, Houston Contemporary Dance Theater Bldg. Performances Fri., Sat. and Sun. at 8:30 p.m. Nov. 26 through Dec. 11. Tickets at box office and at Warehouse Tapes, $3.50.

Henry has this problem with Eleanor, a French queen, as he seeks to forge his England into a nation. In the process, we see the forces that press in on him as he struggles with his sons, Geoffrey, Richard, and John, diverse and ambitious, each seeking the throne. They are his sons, but also his rivals. Their mother, Eleanor, also plots against Henry, who, while her husband and her former lover, is also her antagonist in her ceaseless struggle for power.

Henry becomes conscious of his age, and seeks to control events from beyond the grave by controlling the succession.

The beauty of this per-

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formance lies mainly in the symbiotic magnetism between Henry and Eleanor. The husband and wife relationship between the two leads tends to comparisons, usually invidious, with other husband-wife performers, so we won't pursue that.

However, Vivian and Scott Holtzman are polished actors. Scott Holtzman has a marvelous voice and bearing. His movements, gestures, and resonance as he threatens, cajoles, bluffs and bullies his way through the part are simply magic.

Vivian Holtzman takes her best lines and scenes in complement to this charisma of her husband's. The two together are something to see. Vivian Holtzman seems a bit too Betty Davis for my taste at times. The pirouette, the pause, and flamboyant gesture seem at times overdone. However, period drama cries out for this sort of thing and it takes almost genius to resist the impulse to supply it on stage and to go for greater subtlety. It is really almost asking for too much to require it of Mrs. Holtzman in this part.

Kim Keithley, as might be expected after his performance in "Fortune and Men's Eyes," did a convincing job as Richard Coeur de Lion, and Doug Holmes was chillingly evil as Geoffery.

James Norris unfolds

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Kim Kerney, as might be expected after his performance in "Fortune and Men's Eyes," did a convincing job as Richard Coeur de Lion, and Doug Holmes was chillingly evil as Geoffery.

James Norris unfolds marvelously as the weak and traitorous John. What could have been a one dimensional part expands into a study in his hands.

Tommy Hulsey brings stature to the part of Philip, King of France, as a young man whose stage presence is commanding.

The set, by Steve Roberts *etal*, wanders all over the room, with elevations and ramps galore. It seemed suited to the sense of the play, however.

The costumes showed great skill, with what must have been extensive research into the clothing of the period. Clouds of velvet and what seemed like acres of hopsack swathed the actors in appropriate vestments for this historical piece. Jon Grogan and Creath Robinson of the Clothes Circuit, get the nod for this.

This play is well worth seeing. Take a throw pillow with you when you go. It would be a shame to let fanny fatigue ruin your enjoyment of this fine play.

Ed Martinez

across the street

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8 Performances Weekly



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Mother's Column



. . . and thank you for Elizabeth Taylor . . .

continued from page 11

which is 936-6262. Isn't that stupid?

LEGIT GOSSIP (I SWEAR!)

Scientists at the University of California have come up with a "sober up" pill for when you get drunk, which reduces the effect of alcolhol by 50% after 30 minutes. The main drug is called L-Dopa, and it acts like adrenalin, stimulating chemicals in the brain to reverse the effect of five or six drinks too many . . .

Disco madness has caused several concert clubs to sing the bankruptcy blues in Austin, according to the Texas Sun. Everybody's going disco-a-go-go since it's all a matter of a cheap night out compared to anything else . . .

Artist Mary Kelly of London is exhibiting her three-year-old's recently-soiled diapers at the Institute of Contemporary Arts there. Next to each diaper is a list of what the baby ate the day the work was produced . . .

Well, that really takes the cake!! I don't know why I didn't think of that when I was having my litters!

I hope all you turkeys get eaten this weekend.



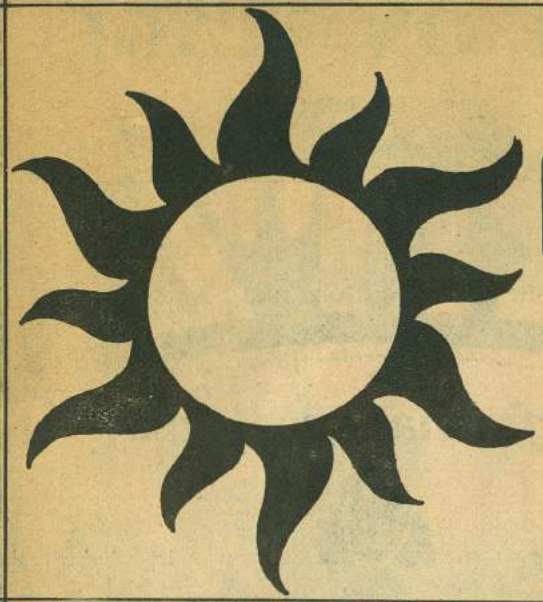
. . . and thank you one more time from Mother, bless my little heart!

Watch for OPENING!

. . . and thank you for Elizabeth Taylor . . .

I hope all you turkeys get eaten this weekend.

. . . and thank you one more time from Mother, bless my little heart!



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PHOTOS can be run along with your Classified for an additional charge of only $5. We'll run the photo as large as space will permit.

If you call in your ad from outside of Houston, it's still a good bargain. For example: a two-minute call from Dallas weekdays prior to 5pm costs only 77¢. After 5pm Monday through Thursday it's only 54¢. And after 5pm on Friday and all afternoon on Saturday it's only 47¢. So, from Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin and other points in Texas, call your Classified in by DIALING DIRECT to (713) 527-8961. It'll cost you less than a dollar in long distance.

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HELP WANTED

Houston: Need someone experienced in promotion sales to promote book I have published. Great future involved. 733-6690, ask for Bobby.

FOR SALE

Houston: By owner: Several pieces of low rent income property. Real money makers. Owner will finance. 526-0909.

Houston: Sofa and chair, speakers, amplifier, typewriter. All like new, reasonable. 526-0837.

FOR RENT

Houston: 403 W. Gray, unfurnished, 3 bedroom house. Brick fireplace, large sunporch, fenced yard. Children and pets welcome. $300 a mo. $100 deposit. 526-0909.

ROOMMATE WANTED

Houston: Male roommate wanted, at least 25 or older. Must move in. Call Charlie between 4pm & 6pm. 790-1426.

Houston: Wanted w/fm to share my 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment in Spring Branch area. Very comfortable, desire a neat responsible female age 21 to 30, whom is successfully employed or student. Your share of rent $115 a mo. Would prefer feminine type. Call after 6pm, 683-8736.

Huntsville: W/m 19, moving to Houston, needs roommate in Houston immediately. Prefer w/m age 20 to 25. Must be honest. Call after 5pm, 295-6211, ext. 1824. Ask for David H.

Houston: Wanted w/m to share my 2 bedroom house, near Hobby Airport. Your share $100 a mo., plus utilities. 649-1498.

Pasadena: Need roommate to share my apt. by Dec. 1st, in Pasadena area. Close to San Jacinto College. Your share $75 a mo. Call evenings 6 to 11pm, 479-9876, Patrick.

Houston: Male roommate wanted to share large 1 bedroom apt. near San Felipe & Loop 610 (Galleria area). Partly furnished. Your share $80 a mo., utilities paid. Before Dec. 1. Call before 11pm, 627-2087.

Dallas: W/m roommate wanted in my age group (25 to 35), to live in Oak Lawn area. Call John, 522-5877.

Houston: Southwest, 1 mile off S.W. Freeway, responsible male 20 to 35 to share new 2 bedroom, 2 bath, balcony at pool side. Very nicely furnished. Available 12-5. Your ½ $150 plus security deposit. Includes phone and all bills. 771-7909 after 6:30pm.

LOST & FOUND

Houston: Lost: Wallet at Mary's bar, Sunday, Nov. 21. Reward. Call 527-8961.

PERSONAL

Houston: The Texas Free Press now has over 500 current gay classified ads. Check with your local book store for the new issue.

Yes Virginia, There is a Tejas M.C.

looking, speaking and acting, masculine, but not really "butch." Like both active and passive roles, but can't get off to S&M, B&D, fats, fems, "showers," or "lunches." 1-night stands are alright, but looking for lasting, sincere relationship. Enjoy music, dining, dancing, theater, movies, swimming, and the out-doors. Please sends address, phone and photo revealing or not) and I will return in kind. Pen-pals OK. All sincere letters will be answered. Let's get together. Blind box ad 316.

Austin: male dance student in need of patron for furtherance of training. Contact me at 3207 French Place, apt. A, Austin, TX 78722 or phone (512) 474-5608.

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Houston: Excellent Masseur on 24 hour call to pamper your needs. Contact Butch. 222-7949. Discretion, please.

Houston: Traditional Swedish massage. California trained, licensed professional masseur and massage instructor. Full credentials and references. Physicians referrals welcome. Outcalls only. 627-2087.



wish not to put your address or phone number in print. We'll forward all replies immediately, or you can arrange to pick them up at the Star's office at 900 Lovett in Houston. Blind box ads cost an extra 40¢ since it takes four extra words to state the blind box number in the ad.

TO ANSWER A BLIND BOX AD: Seal your message inside an envelope, write the blind box number on the outside of the envelope, put the envelope and $1 to cover handling and postage inside a larger envelope and mail to the Star at the above address. You may include as many responses to blind box ads as desired in one larger envelope. A single $1 covers postage and handling for forwarding for the whole batch.

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683-8736.

Huntsville: W/m 19, moving to Houston, needs roommate in Houston immediately. Prefer w/m age 20 to 25. Must be honest. Call after 5pm, 295-6211, ext. 1824. Ask for David. If no ans., keep trying.

Yes Virginia, There is a Tejas M.C.

Houston: Need to find a place to stay by Dec. 1st. If anyone needs roommate in Montrose area, give me a call. I am responsible and honest. Call Joe from 10am til 4pm, 784-0297. If no ans. leave message or call back.

Houston: Young w/m deisres roommate under 28, in Memorial area. Your apt. or mine. Call Bill Mac, 526-6711. No fats, no fems.

Houston: The Texas Free Press now has over 500 current gay classified ads. Check with your local book store for the new issue.

Yes Virginia, There is a Tejas M.C.

New Mexico & West Texas: Two Guys looking for a butch friend. One is 36, 5'8" and 230 lbs. The other is 52, 5'10" and 160 lbs. Interested ins active and passive French and Greek. If interested send revealing photo. Married ok if can travel occasionally. Friendship first. Blind box ad 283.

Houston: W/m; 25; 6', 175 lbs, dark brown, very curly hair, hazel eyes. Fairly good-looking, hung better than average. Into deep, hot relationships with men 18-35. (Experience preferred, not re-quired.) I am straight-



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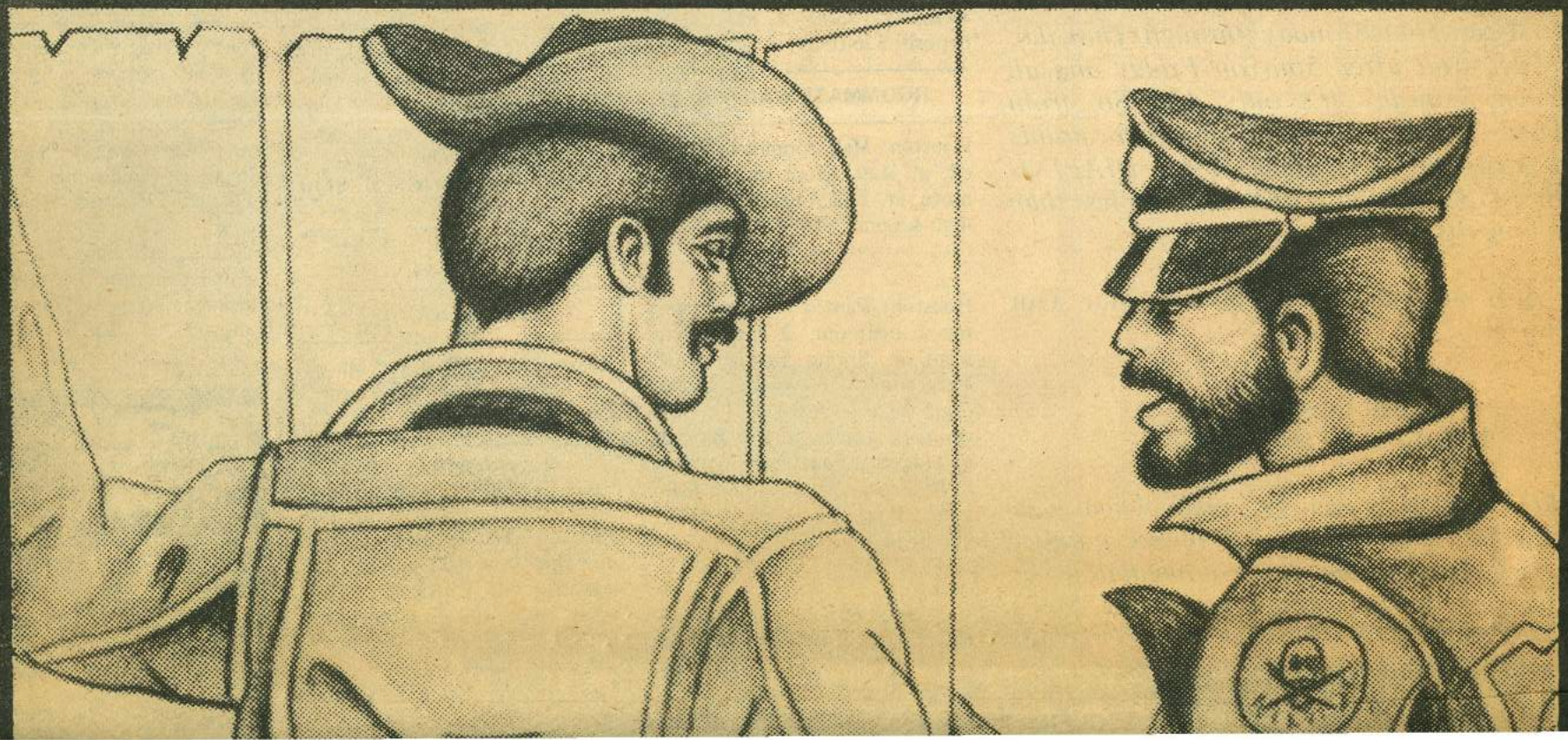
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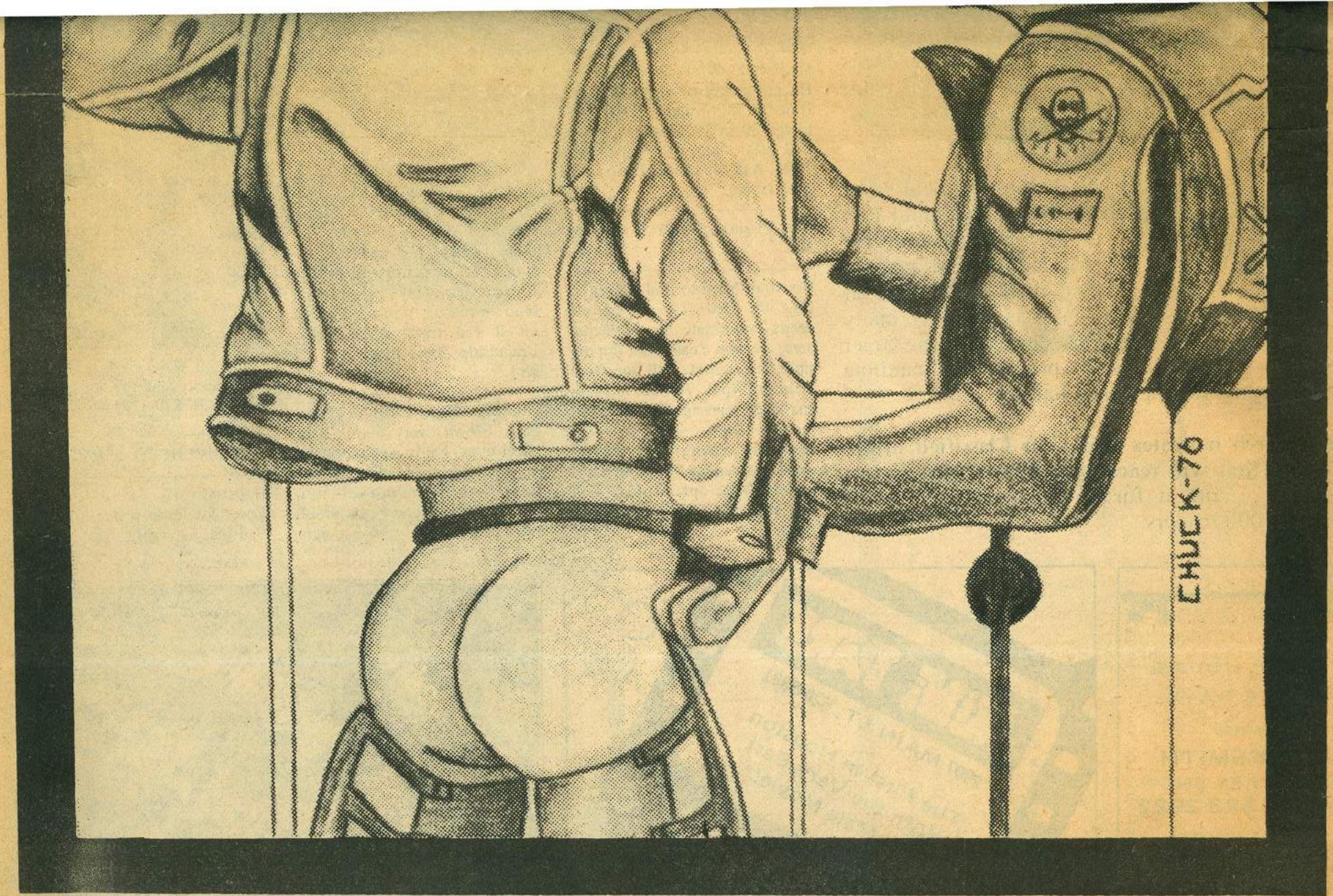
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