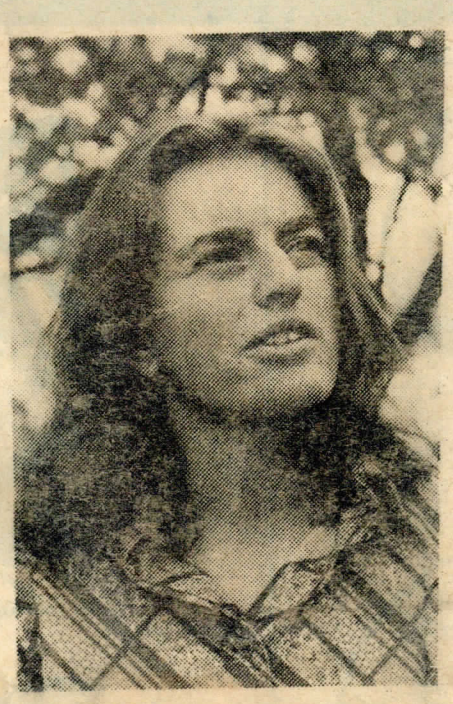
FREE - Take the Star Home

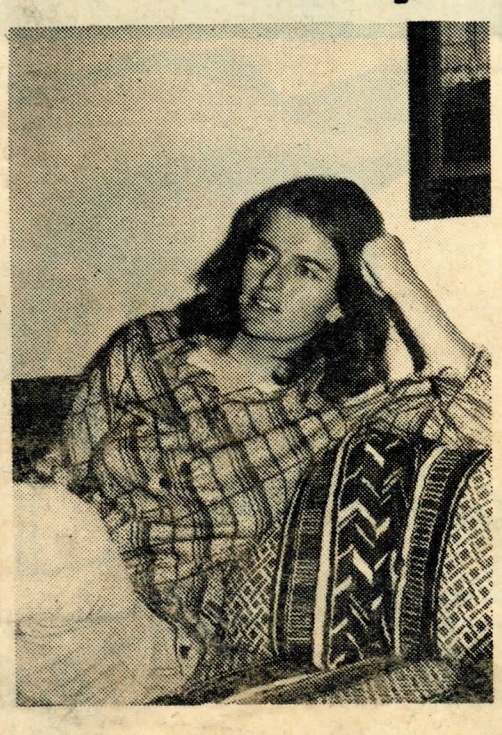
MONTROSE STAR

Issue #10, September 17-23, 1976

Write in Anderson, Tuesday







Gay activist Pokey Anderson is running as a write-in candidate for Montrose/Fourth Ward Development Neighborhood Commissioner. The Star urges you to take a pen to the polls Tuesday and vote for Ms. Anderson. This is an election that the gay people can win, since the overall voter turnout is expected to be very light. A heavy turnout by gays writing in Ms. Anderson's name can give her the victory.

Ray Hill speaks at City Council again

Gay activist Ray Hill spoke before the Houston City Council Wednesday, Sept. 15. Here is the text of his speech:

"Honorable Mayor Hofheinz and members of the Council.

"Last Wednesday, Officer John Freeman of the 'Chicken Hawk Task Force' of the Houston Police Department's Juvenile Division spoke before a Parents-Teachers Association meeting at the H.I.S.D. Administration Building. In his comments he characterized homosexual males and females as being primarily interested in very young children. This is not only false in so far as gay males are concerned, but is totally unprecedented in gay female sexuality according to all published research.

"Officer Freeman stated the strange statistic that 90% of homosexuals were caused to be so by being seduced by older persons. I teach a gay studies course, write and lecture extensively on homosexual behavior, and I am familiar with every book and research project on homosexual behavior published in the last two decades. The only similar statement I have ever heard came from Councilman Mann, a suspected homophobic lacking the credentials of a qualified sex researcher.

"The citizens in the gay community no longer get upset by the rantings and ravings of Councilman Mann. We've either developed an immunity to his abrasiveness or have grown to accept him as an oddity adding to the diversity of the colourful culture.

"But Officer Freeman and his partner, Officer Greenstein, are an altogether different matter. They claim to be assigned the responsibility of protecting young people from the seductive activities of gay people. But in actual practice they go from one public event to another, from one media forum to another, generally propagandizing inflammatory and false characterizations about the gay community as a whole.

"The very premise of the creation of this special task force is in grave error. Homosexual abuses of the young do occur, but every study of sexual behavior in this society has indicated that homosexuals are less frequently attracted to the young than are heterosexuals. The findings are supported by police and court statistics in every major city in the United States. I know of no similar task force for heterosexual abuses of the young. If one exists it does not spend as much of its time propagandizing.

"I would suspect that the creation of this task force was the result of the homophobic macho that sociologists call the 'Police Syndrome' and not by any real existing need.

"I have talked with Officer Greenstein on one of his many radio talk show appearances. He admitted that he had read no books on sexual behavior. I tried to speak with Officer Freeman only yesterday trying to determine the nature of his comments before the P.T.A. gathering. He said, 'I don't have time to answer any of your questions.' His superior officer, Captain Horton, curtly informed me that he was not interested in the inflammatory and false statements made by those under his charge.

"Time and time again spokespersons from the gay community come before you complaining of the abuses and reactionary homophobic behavior that has come to characterize the police department in this city. Repeatedly we have suggested activities to help generate better understanding between our community and the police rank and file. There has been no initiative or response from H.P.D., or, for that matter, City Hall. The only reaction to our attempts has been the creation of this propaganda arm of the bureaucracy designed to defame and libel our community. At what point in time is it going to be convenient for this administration to stop trying to defend ignorance and prejudice, and begin an effort to improve the circumstances endured by gay citizens?

"I do not suggest that any law be exempt from enforcement, nor do I know of any responsible member of the gay community asking non-enforcement of the laws, but we have the right to demand that what is said publicly about us be substantiated by fact. We have the right to demand that our tax dollars are not spent on an attempt to perpetuate and spread prejudices and ignorance that we are struggling to overcome.

"To utilize already overburdened police energy to generate public support for homophobia is like using city tax dollars to finance a membership campaign for United Klans of America. If you gentlemen do not see the analogy I suggest your vision is clouded by your own prejudices."

Waters, Lower address GPC

HOUSTON – The Sept. 15th weekly meeting of the Gay Political Caucus featured two guest speakers: Dr. Milton Lower, a psycologist who is presently serving as Montrose/Fourth Ward Development Neighborhood Commissioner; and State Representative Ron Waters.

Dr. Lower's one year term will end in January and this is the election next Tuesday in which the GPC has endorsed the write-in candidacy of lesbian activist Pokey Anderson.

Dr. Lower spoke to the GPC about the funds being granted the Community Development Area for the coming two years. He said that approximately $767,000 has been appropriated, of which half will go to the Fourth Ward and half to Montrose.

Those areas of community development which might benefit from the funds are: water systems, pollution control, environmental maintenance, libraries, health care facilities, fire protection, police protection, community service centers, housing, streets and sidewalks, recreation, transportation, and public utilities.

Dr. Lower stated his support of candidate Anderson and said that she would be a great benefit to the community.

Rep. Waters spoke of his commitment to work in the next legislative session toward the passage of gay rights and personal privacy bills. Specifically, he said he intends to introduce a bill to repeal the Texas Sodomy Statute, which he and a handful of other supporters will debate on the House floor.

Waters urged the GPC members to contact other gay rights organizations in the state to have them put pressure on their representatives to support the bill.

Waters pointed out, however, that he believes the actual chances of passage of the bill are "none," but he said, nevertheless, he is determined to keep trying.

He invited members of the GPC to come to Austin to testify before the House to show support.

The GPC urged its members to get out and vote for Pokey Anderson on Tuesday, Sept. 21, between 7a.m. and 7p.m.

If you do not know how to "write in a vote," ask the precinct judge, who should be glad to explain. You must bring your own pen.

Craig Thistleton

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Home of the Houston Motorcycle Club

Calendar

AUSTIN CLUBS

Fri. & Sat. nights, Sept. 17-18
After hours at the Austin Country to 4am.

Saturday afternoon, Sept. 18
Happy hour 5-7pm at the New Apartment and the Cellar.

Sunday afternoon, Sept. 19
Happy hour all day at the Cellar, and 3-5pm at the New Apartment.

Mon.-Fri. afternoons, Sept. 20-24
Happy hour 5-7pm at the New Apartment and the Cellar.

Wednesday night, Sept. 22
25¢ well drinks and canned beer, 10¢ draft beer, and drawings for prizes at the Austin Country. Free keg party starting 9pm at the Cellar.

Thursday night, Sept. 23
Show night at the Austin Country, 10pm, starring Alvenia & Kitty Grease, Jerry Vanover, Jan Russell & Allison.

HOUSTON CLUBS

Friday night, Sept. 17
After hours disco dancing at the Old Plantation and at the Depository. After hours Country Kitchen cooking at Levi's.

Saturday morning, Sept. 18
Happy hour 7am-noon at Sally's.

Saturday afternoon, Sept. 18
Happy hour 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch and 5-8pm at Sally's. Special prices on bloody marys and screwdrivers noon-7pm at the Inside Outside. Bar doubles $1 at the Locker 1-6pm. Beer bust 3-7pm at Levi's.

Saturday night, Sept. 18
Disco dancing to 4am at the Depository and at the Old Plantation. Levi's has after hours Country Kitchen cooking to 3:30am.

Sunday afternoon, Sept. 19
Special show at the Second Sun, 4pm, with Peaches, Melody Michaels, Maggie, Benji, Maya. Specials on bloody marys and screwdrivers 2-6pm at the Briar Patch and noon-7pm at the Inside Outside. Show off your tan at Mary's during the late afternoon and early evening. Beer bust at Levi's, 3-7pm.

Sunday night, Sept. 19
Nickel beer at the Depository. The Sunday Night Follies at the Old Plantation with Naomi Simms, Carmelita, Ernestine, Donna Day and Jennifer George, starting at 9:45.

Mon.-Fri. mornings, Sept. 20-24
Happy hour 7am-noon at Sally's and at the Inside Outside.

Monday afternoon, Sept. 20
Happy hour noon-7pm at the Barn, 5-8pm at Sally's, 5-7pm at the Second Sun and Mary's, 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch, 4-7pm at Levi's, the Locker and at the Inside Outside. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

Monday night, Sept. 20
No cover and 75¢ bar drinks at the Depository. $1 cover and 35¢ bar drinks at the Old Plantation.

Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 21
Happy hour all afternoon at Sally's, noon-7pm at the Barn, 5-7pm at Mary's and the Second Sun, 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch, 4-7pm at the Locker, Levi's, and the Inside Outside. Beer bust 11am-7pm at Our Place.

Tuesday night, Sept 21
Free movie tonight at the Locker. $2 night at Mr. Frizby's Baths. Talent night at the Old Plantation with $1 cover and 35¢ drinks. Disco dancing at the Depository with $1 cover and 45¢ drinks. Happy hour all night at Sally's.

Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 22
Happy hour 5-7pm at Mary's and the Second Sun, 5-8pm at Sally's, noon-7pm at the Barn, 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch, and 4-7pm at the Inside Outside, Locker, and Levi's. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

Wednesday night, Sept. 22
Buddy night at Club Houston with two lockers for the price of one, 8pm-midnight. The Wednesday Night Follies at the Old Plantation with Ernestine, Donna Day, Jennifer George, Naomi Simms and Carmelita, 9:45pm. 10¢ bar drinks with a $2 cover at the Depository. Hat & Color Night at the Locker with half price drinks for all those dressed correctly.

Thursday afternoon, Sept. 23
Happy hour 4-7pm at Levi's, Locker and Inside Outside, plus happy hour all afternoon at Sally's, 5-7pm at the Second Sun and Mary's, 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

Thursday night, Sept. 23
$1 cover and 35¢ drinks at the Old Plantation. $1 cover and 45¢ drinks at the Depository.

Friday afternoon, Sept 24
Happy hour noon-7pm at the Barn, 5-8pm at Sally's, 5-7pm at the Second Sun, 10am-6pm at the Briar Patch, 4-7pm at the Levi, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside, 5-7pm at Mary's, and 4-7pm at the Locker.

Coming up later

Girl's Football, Sat., Sept. 25, 8pm at Delmar Stadium, with the Houston Hurricanes against the Oklahoma Dolls. $3.50 adults, $1.50 children. Tickets on sale at Our Place.

The Duchess is moving right along with his plans to have the Brig opened shortly, at the corner of Grant of Fairview.

The Houston Motorcycle Club is sponsoring the Military Ball, Oct. 23, at the Levi, 2400 Brazos. There'll be a military band playing music from the 40's, plus a Red Cross station, and a U.S.O. show. More information on this later.

THE CAUSE IN HOUSTON

Sunday, Sept. 19
Worship services at 11am and 7:30pm at the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, 1214 Joe Annie.

Wednesday, Sept. 22
The Gay Political Caucus meets at 7:30pm at the M.C.C.R., 1214 Joe Annie.

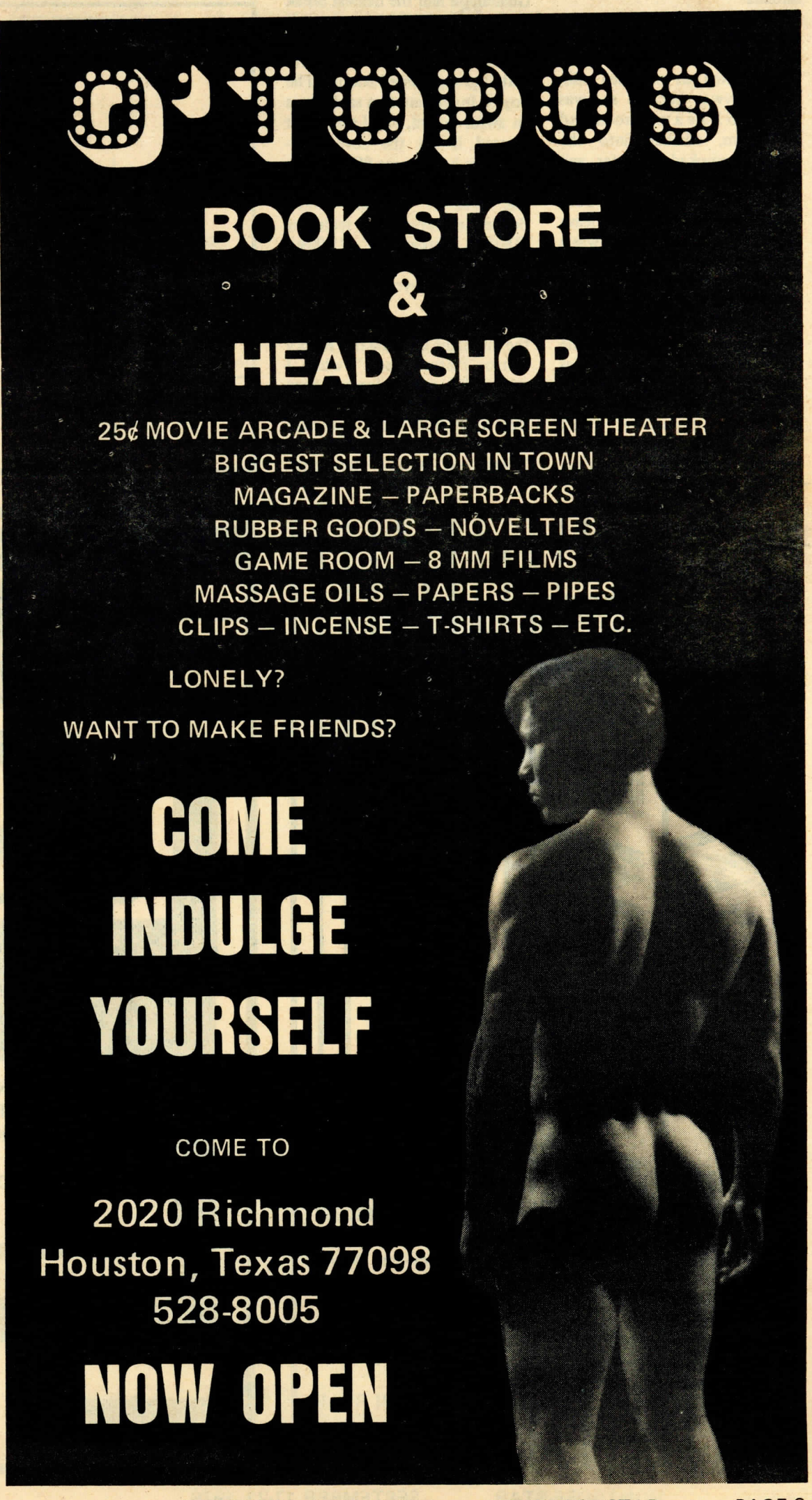
Activist Ray Hill hosts "Wilde 'n Stein" on KPFT, 90.1 FM, 9-10pm. Tonight's topic: street people, hustlers and police hassles. For more info prior to the show call 526-8523.

MCA staged at downtown hotel

"Miss Camp America Has Arrived!" was proclaimed by the protagonist for the spectacular held in Houston's Sheraton Lincoln Ballroom, Saturday, Sept. 11.

And indeed it did. The show proved it and the turnout of over 700 approved it. It was a grand show and certainly an event of gratitude to the gay community in that we can feel pride in achieving public recognition for a social function which was so well done in open public display.

The MCA years ago had a simple beginning of a few friends sitting together to watch the Miss America Pageant. Now, with the advent of a formal stage, it is strictly an audience/performers show. And it could not have been a better show. The feeling was one of casual excitement.



Mother's Column

Mother goes to Austin; city not the same

Last week was so rough for me that no amount of Vaseline, intensive or otherwise, could possibly have smoothed it out. I didn't even try! Three shattering incidents, my dears – Mao-Tse-Tung passed away into redbook heaven, my sister eloped off to Georgia with her exterminator and I was told at work to take my vacation and just not come back. Trauma, trauma, trauma (isn't that a Donna Summers song?) . . . obviously I was no longer desirable to the corporate queens at that daytime "substitute for living" I called a job. Shonda!

Anyway, I was far too traumatized to leave for Austin Friday night as planned, and Willa wanted an extended rain-check anyway because she was still ill, so I ate a mushroom and a Valium, climbed into the bathtub, smoked a reefer and passed right out. Wrinks for days! By morning we were both gadding about preparing to leave and departed about ten; it was a beautiful day for fucking, if you know what I mean (aren't they all); at least all the bugs were doing it, and smashing up against the staunch windshield of the convertible Karmann (alias Avenging Dreamboat Annie). Ugh. The men at the little station we stopped at didn't have a window wiper (the last customer had stolen it) so we made them use their tongues.

We arrived in beautiful Austinland in no time at all and went straight to Bunny and Michael's apartments, the infamous Bates Motel of Austin. Bunny came wobbling out past her coffee table littered with Tequila bottles and chewed-up limes and announced that Mona (another Houston gadabout) had been so wasted, and was now so lost, that she had to go get her and probably lead her home on a leash! Well, that's what you get for drinking!!!

Willa and I took off for Guadalupe and the nearest Steak 'n Egg, then did some quick shopping – I made a find, darlings, an album by a *cute* Dutch group named Alquin. The boy at Inner Sanctum said it was an awful record, and I said I just wanted it for the cover (surreal!), so he gave me 80% off the *cutout* price! And it's a dream, a real rock-em sock-em Roxie-Bowie extravaganza featuring "Darling Superstar," "Wheelchair Groupies" and "Nobody Can Wait Forever." At least I can't!!

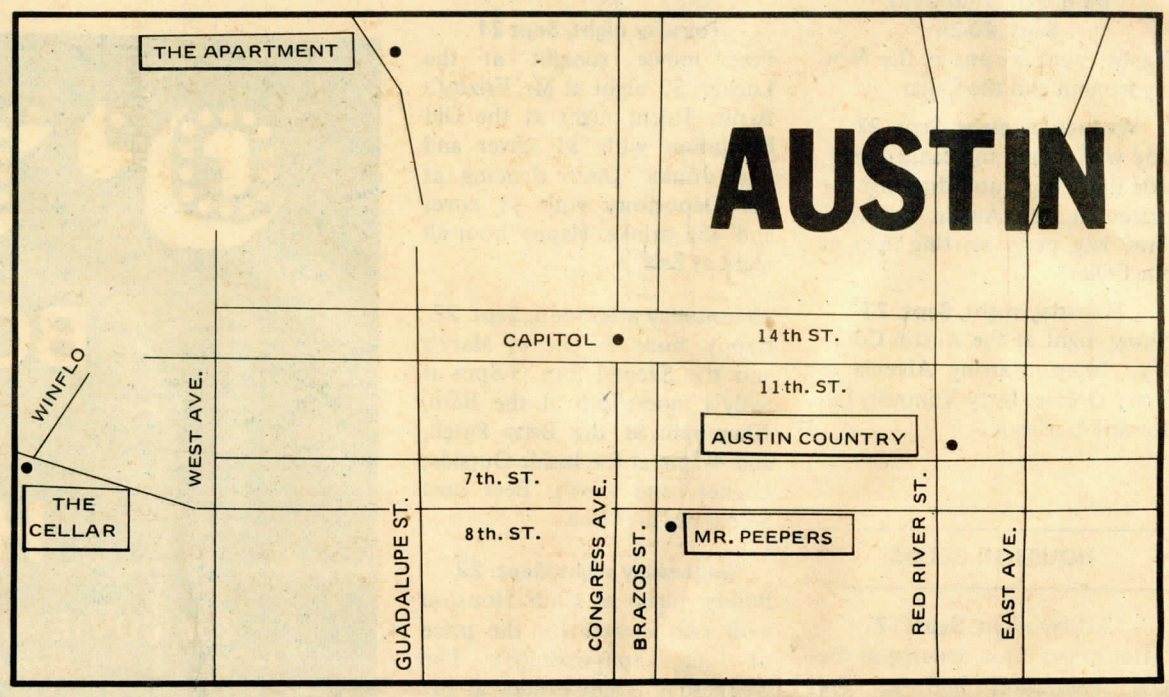
We were getting ready to see the midnight showing of "Rocky Horror Picture Show" when I rang up P.J. and Carlos, and they were so excited they invited us right up to their sweet Tennessee mountain home (only it was in Texas, on Mount Bonnell!). When Willa and I passed Luci Baines Nugent's fortress on Balcones we waved and cheered, and so did Annie, because her engine was now sounding like a distant football game! Willa swore she heard a UT game going on somewhere all day, but in the mountains? Dear! P.J. and Carlos have a wonderful eagle's nest overlooking Lake Austin, and it was already a soiree for six on their patio when we arrived, mostly the Castle Creek gang, including an old and dear friend of mine, the unfathomable Eddie!

They soon departed for a bigger party, and we skipped down the mount to Taco Bell for a quick bite to eat and then it was off to the movies! And what a movie!!! I was flabbergasted, and everybody should love it (or at least lust for it!!). The people sitting next to us had been so many times that they knew all the words to half the songs! Yeah, Rocky!!

From there we went straight to **Austin Country** and it was just hot! I was holding up the bar and had almost given up when a boy named Warren (he was the closest thing there to Rocky Horror) walked over and asked me if I wanted some ice. "Offer me *anything* and you have me made!" I said, and I guess he didn't consider that *too* straightforward because we ended up at his swankienda in Homo Heights and had a *time!* It was Scorpio Love (and need I say more). *All* morning.

I tried to peel myself off the sheets about one but sex was still on the menu so I had to forget it. We finally went to Marisol to eat, and as we were walking out the new Miss America's family was posing for pics in the parking lot! Austin is just wild (especially when you have an imagination!) I rushed back to Bunn's and Mona said, "Well, did you swim in their pool?" It turned out that *she* had been there *that* morning, but with Warren's *lover* (and that's another story). How droll.

continued on page 7



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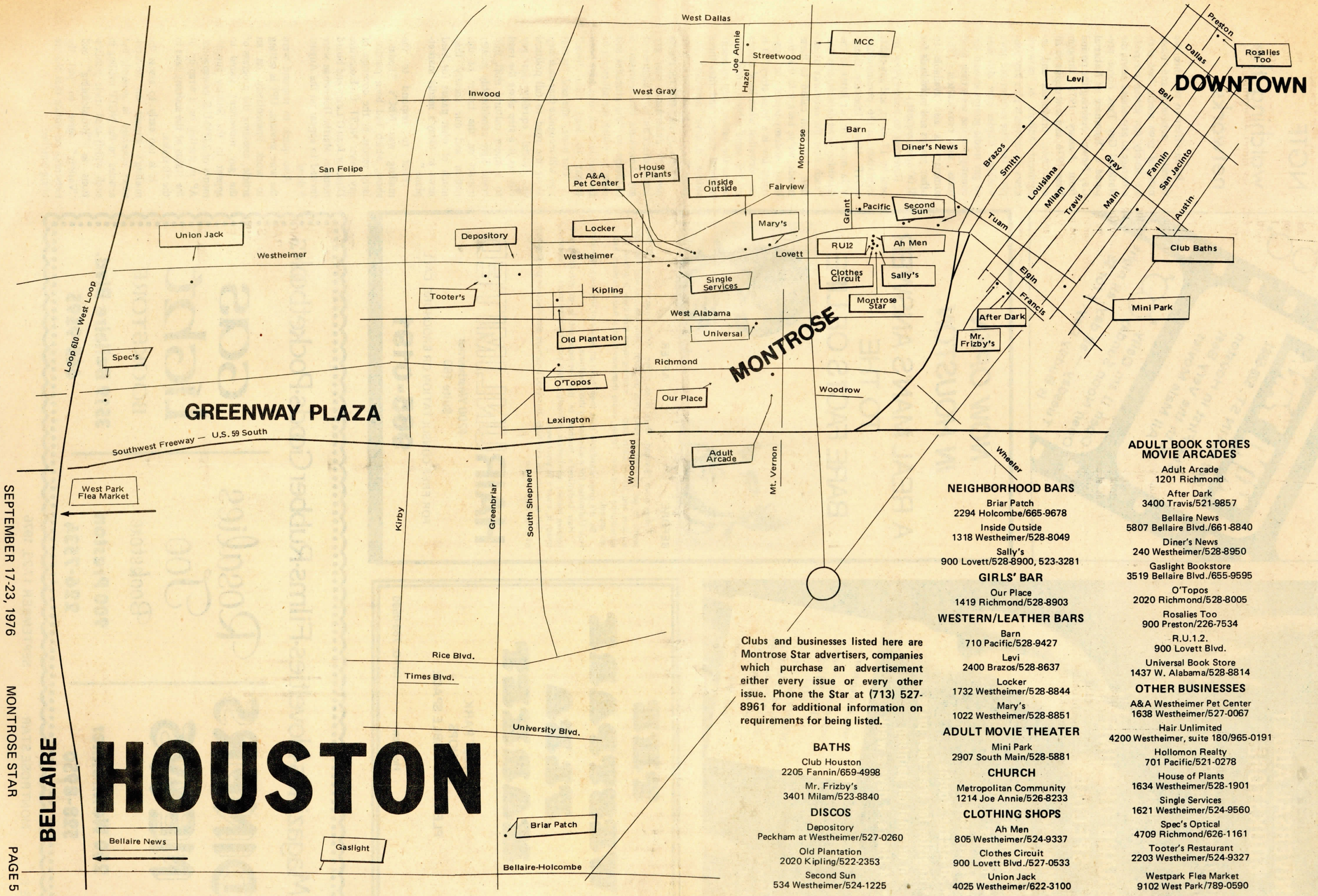
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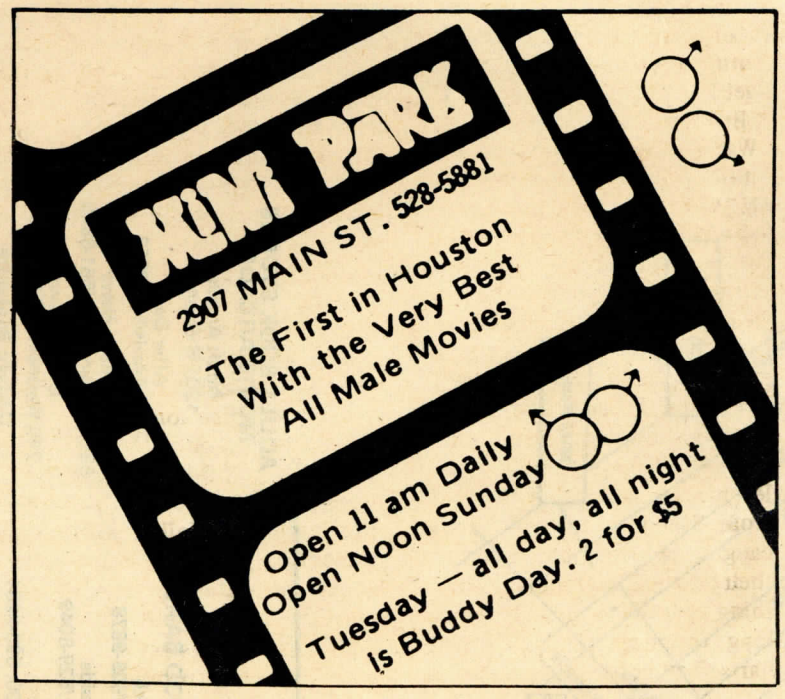
Single Services
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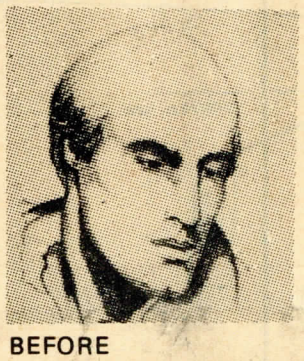
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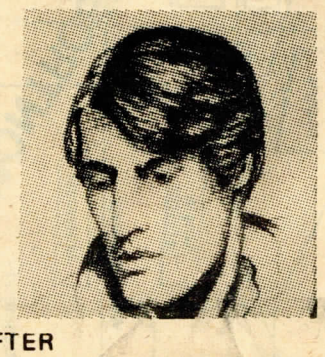
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NGTF watching the networks

In an effort to convince the television networks and other national news media that they are simply not giving adequate coverage to gay-related news, the National Gay Task Force prepared a "Summary of National Gay News," covering the period from January 1975 through June 1976, and sent copies to all executives, producers and assignment editors in network news departments plus key people at the wire services and news weeklies. Copies were also sent to gay media groups around the country for use with their local press and broadcasters. (The summary is also available to other groups and individuals for $1.00 upon request.)

Referring to sodomy-law repeal by 17 states, and gay-rights legislation in 36 communities, NGTF Media Director Ginny Vida noted in her letter to the television news departments that "each time the networks' attention has been called to these trends, we've been told that the latest sodomy-repeal or gay-rights law is a 'local story.' It is our viewsthat when local stories on the same subject proliferate across the nation, they represent national stories, and that these stories deserve network coverage."

Vida suggested that the media need to understand that gay issues affect not only millions of gay Americans but represent a challenge to "the attitudes and rules by which the adherents of the standard sex roles have been taught to lead their lives."

"Our hope," she said, "is that you will recognize that each step along the road to full political and social equality for gay citizens is a step along the road to a major cultural shift that could have considerably greater impact on the future of this nation and our society than much of what passes for hard news in today's media marketplace."

First to respond to the mailing was NBC's "Today" show, which had been particularly remiss in the coverage of gay news. NGTF Co-Executive Director Jean O'Leary and board member Martin Duberman were invited to appear on the August 5 show.

Also quick to respond were the wire services. UPI is setting to work immediately on an article, assessing the progress of the gay movement, slated to appear in the Sunday supplements of 2,000 U.S. newspapers. AP is starting on a wrap-up of the status of the sodomy laws in the 50 states.

It is too early to assess the mailing's impact on network news coverage in general, but articles on the NGTF mailing in such widely-read trade publications as "Broadcasting" and "Variety" serve to put the networks on notice that they're being watched.

continued from page 4

Willa came out and snidely inquired, "Well, how was Bernadette, the Blonde? Was he blonde all the way? Huh?" I said, "*All* the way, bitch," and was *not* amused. I scheduled a gang rendezvous for midnight and dashed back to Warren's.

Off we went to see Maximilian Schell's "End of the Game." (At the same theater that we saw Rocky at, no less, and in that very neighborhood! Don't you love coincidental happenings? It's all "only a movie," you know!) Warren and I raced from the show (it was divoon!) to the **New Apartment,** where the jukebox was playing "America the Beautiful," and then the **Pearl Street Warehouse,** where we ran into the gang who all left immediately for the **Country** (they were trying to forget they had just seen "The Big Bus").

Warren and I next walked to Castle Creek down the street (where P.J. and her gang worked) and Eddie let us in. Three nubile girls were doing wild dances in front of the stage where Forty-Seven Times Its Own Weight was jazzing it up, and then Eddie came over to tell me that P.J. had called and was coming over. When she got there she said, "Okay, why didn't you let me see a copy of the Montrose Star . . . *Mother?"* I was caught; a Houston friend of theirs named Skidoodle or something like that had called earlier long distance to read her the parts they appeared in last week and she was *dying* to read the rest. I just happened to have three dozen copies in the car, and after they read it through, decided not to sue. Phew!!! They invited me up to the house, so I dropped Warren off (he was exhausted), promised to be back (he didn't believe me, but so, who does?) and up I went. P.J. and Carlos were lounging around their moonlit den and we smoked and talked about "pacification programs" and the John Connally Memorial Brickway. (A 50-foot wall with a freeway on top to go from Brownsville to Dallas, with just those two points of entry and armed guards along the way — you know, the Houston-Austin exile movement is getting out of hand, so pack up quick, sweeties, or you, too, will be living in the most humongous city in the world. As for me, I'm staying, because *I love it!!)*

I finally made it back to Warren's about five and crawled into his bed, but as worn out as we were, sex was still not out of the question. I swooned until ten, then got up and called Willa, and she was bored, full of sex-glow (someone had picked her up at PSW) and nobody to radiate upon. So I picked her up and brought her back for a swim, a shower and breakfast. It turned out that the guy she went home with was a friend of Warren's whom I had met at PSW. (Willa had gone up to him and said, "Can you say 'familiar flamingoes' ten times without coming?" and he had said, "No, but if you hum a few bars I can fake it" and proceeded to talk about every movie in town — and Willa *loves* movies). It also turned out that he was a critic-at-large for one of Austin's leading newspapers, but I can't tell you which one just yet, at least not until I get some pending suits cleared up, but it is so *hot* that you are just not ready! So nuts to you unless you crack me!

I wanted to make a third drive up Mount Bonnell by day (it is *so* dark up there at night) so Willa and I headed for Balcones and were just in time to see a Johnson groupie — Blue Electra limo, blue hair — pulling out of Luci-Bird's drive. We waved and cheered (she was not

continued on page 10

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continued from page 7

amused) and continued on up to P.J.'s, where they showed us their wedding pics. P.J. was a scruptious bride in white satin, and matched beautifully with her sharp husband (in a suit, no less); it was a photog's delight. P.J. suggested I get the idiot's guide to VW repair for Annie and that we not leave until dusk because the weather had changed for the hotter and it was *steamy!* We went on to UT where Willa wanted to investigate the library computer system. (Sabotage, anyone?) Rota van Opal, the head data lady, must have been related to the German van Opals, you know, the *rich* ones, she was *that* sophisticated! We ate at the Texas Tavern, an on-campus hot spot, then dashed back to the Drag for last minute boy-watching and then went back to Bunny's for a nap.

We left Austin at eight and were making good time on 290 until just twenty miles out of Houston, and Annie just refused to budge – she had been bucking all evening and would not be tamed! Willa walked down the Hempstead Highway a piece to get some gas (hoping against hope that this was all that was needed, that Annie's gas gauge was broken now and nothing else was wrong, please!) and I was too exhausted to do anything but guard the car and eat an apple. We finally got her started – a police car pulled up and I guess Annie knew what we had hidden inside her – good girl! We arrived at Fort Vermont safely after all, and I'll have you know that Annie got me to TEC the very next morning so I could start raping the state. Oh, how I love my Annie!

Well, kids, wish me Happy Birthday this weekend – Momma's gonna turn over a new year, a new leaf and hopefully a new trick, if I can get my hands on something that looks like – well, I may be a mysterious woman, but everyone knows what I want!!! Honey, my love is alive!!!

University of Houston offers gay studies

Gay Studies is the newest way to fight ignorance about gay people. The University of Houston Sundry School offers the "Homosexual Experience," a course by and about gay people, their history, hassles and life style.

Katy Feller of the Gay Activists Alliance and Ray Hill teach the course on Monday nights, 7:30 to 9:30.

Registration for the eight week seminar-type course will begin Friday, Sept. 17, 5 to 9 p.m. for University of Houston students and faculty. Non-students can register Saturday, Sept. 18th, 10 to 5 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 19th, 11 to 5 p.m. in the Houston Room, University Center, or Monday through Wednesday at the Student Activities Desk, University Center.

Registration fee is $9.00 including a parking permit for non-students and there is a $6.00 charge for printing costs and materials used.

The class is limited to 35 students but a second class on Fridays will be offered if the enrollment justifies it.

For more information call (713) 749-1253.

Ray Hill



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Theater

'Butler' acting could stand a little improving

"What the Butler Saw," 1821 Lamar at Hamilton, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:30, through October 9. Tickets are $5.00 and $3.50 (students, $3.50 and $2.50). Tickets available at the box office, 1821 Lamar, & Foley's. Box office number: 658-0900.



British comedy is difficult. Farce is even moreso. New Texas Theatre forgot all about that and charged boldly ahead anyway Friday, Sept. 10 with the opening of "What the Butler Saw." The evening vacillated between sprightly surges of genuine delight and leaden attempts, mainly unsuccessful, at a genre far beyond the accomplishments of the group.

The play, by Joe Orton (a deceased English playwright), is a disorganized attempt a Wilde that only succeeded in being wild. Confusing motion with achievement, a zany series of fast exits, entrances and assorted disappearances into a large canopied bed onstage were supposed to delude the audience into thinking that this was true farce.

Unfortunately, Mr. Orton's lance was a feeble thrust with a broadsword when it should have been lightning fast jabs with an epee.

Given such a vehicle, Mr. Alfred Hyslop, the director, would have had to work mightily to achieve even modest success. The modest success he did achieve was due more to the talent of the performers than to any other single factor.

The play involves a lecherous psychiatrist attempting to seduce a young lady in a mental clinic. Funny? Wait, you haven't heard anything yet. Throw in an inspector from the National Health Service, a West Indian bobby, a nyphomaniac wife, assorted sniggers at transvestites, homosexuals, and God only knows what else, and you get the picture.

In the words of Queen Victoria, we were not amused. Titillated occasionally; startled into laughter; even occasionally, shocked at the poor taste of the language with great precision and has a beautiful body which she uses expertly. Joe Romano as the amorous bellhop really *seemed* horny. E.P. Ryan as the government doctor gives a great portrait of a truly dirty young man. And Tommy Janor Hollis doesn't have to act. He can just stand around with his drawers on, that's entertaining enough for one evening. But he can act, and very well, I suspect, given a proper chance.

I regret this much ado about what I consider nothing of any real substance. I hope that the group will select their new few pieces with a little more care.

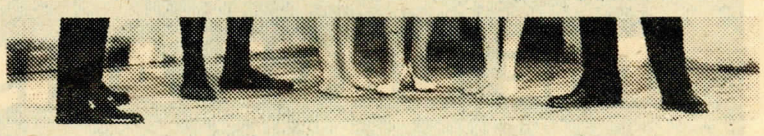
author, but not really amused.

So much for that. The real shame is that these very talented people should have wasted so much time and effort on this piece of triviality. Alfred Hyslop, for eight years the producer of the excellent "Captain Kangaroo," is an extremely talented and personable man. His New Texas Theater deserves the support of the entire community, and for a fourth season now has brought superb children's theater to Houston. Since April of this year he has begun to produce adult plays, and if the individual performances of the members of Butler's cast are any indication, he is training some very fine performers.

The trouble lies, I suspect, in the fact that children's theater, in direction, staging, timing, and almost every other facet of theater, is a very different animal from adult theater. With children, there is no illusion; what they see is real. There is no suspension of disbelief, there is simply no disbelief in the first place. That requires broader humor, more deliberate staging, than adult plays. This seemed to come out in the direction of "What the Butler Saw."

The play simply fell flat, it didn't sparkle, it had no zest or effervescence. Everyone in the play was admirable, especially Mr. Hyslop. His grimaces, his eyerolling, hiptwisting performances were a delight. Every single person in the cast, with only the possible exception of Dianne Wood as the would-be secretary-seducee, were marvelous. Miss Wood seemed constantly to exhibit symptoms of a pain that could only have been located in a region never mentioned in polite society. I don't knowswhat the hell her problem was. Maybe she can't act. It does happen. She's got a great bod, however.

Jennifer Hartsfield speaks the



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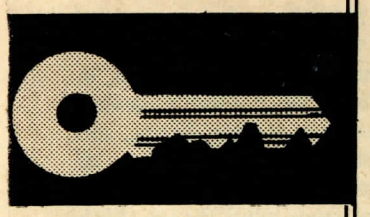
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Letters

GPC issues an appeal for more involvment

The foundation has been laid but the design efforts continue.

Gay activism in Houston has gotten off to a strong start. After a year of significant accomplishments in local politics, it is time to reassess where we wish to direct our attention and energy.

Much has been done. We have made the gay voter a credible force in local politics.

We have shown our political allies that we have the ability and resources to assist them in their election battles.

We have a massive mailing list through which we communicate with thousands of gay brothers and sisters.

We have established effective communication channels with the police chief and mayor.

We are working with other groups, both gay and non-gay, to enact a municipal non-discrimination ordinance protecting women, blacks, browns, handicapped, gays and many other minority groups.

With other political organizations in the state, some of which we helped form, we are attempting to repeal Penal Code section 21.06 which makes it a crime for consenting adults of the same sex to have sexual relations even in the privacy of their own homes.

We are doing our share to extend the federal civil rights bills to protect gays.

The list is not complete. There are many more projects that really need attention but our forces and energy were spread a little thin last year.

One current project which needs your assistance if it is to succeed, is of vital importance to the personal safety of all of us. There has been too much violence against gays that has gone unpunished. Some of it involves police personnel but much of it does not.

If you witness or are involved in an incident of police harrassment, please report to us as much information as you possibly can.

Particularly, we need to know names and badge numbers, what happened and where. Give us a written report so that we can more effectively deal with this problem through our police liaison contact.

If you request, we will treat your name as confidential, but we must have your phone number to verify the report and to obtain further information if needed.

Report all threats and assaults to the police. If you feel that the police have not acted on your complaint or have not treated you with the respect that you as a taxpayer deserve, report the problem to us using the same procedure.

The Houston Human Rights Defense Foundation, the litigating arm of the Gay Political Caucus, will evaluate this data carefully to determine what action is required to combat violence against gays. However, in order to do so effectively, it must receive reliable data from persons who witness or are victims of these incidents. Our address is 815 Hawthorne, Houston, TX 77006.

We have been able to accomplish what we have done largely through the hard work of just a very few people. We have been supported by many others who have given their time and money, but a handful of people, perhaps ten, in the Gay Political Caucus, have devoted several thousand hours to make all this possible.

Other organizations have had similar experiences. This year a very large number of these very few who have given so many hours to the Gay Political Caucus will not be able to devote anywhere near as much time as they have in the past.

New jobs, personal finances, lovers, national politics and a number of other very real factors are now competing for the time of many of the Gay Political Caucus' hardest workers.

A new crop of activists is needed for a variety of reasons. We need new ideas and approaches. We need new persons who have time to devote to these activities. This work is very rewarding but also demanding.

"Burn-out" is a common phenomenon. The more people helping, the less strain on everyone involved.

The question of where we go from here can only be answered by each of you. For the future of the Gay Political Caucus, or in fact gay activism in Houston, depends on you. Whether we have to trim back our objectives to voter registration, candidate screening and endorsement or whether we should do more is your decision.

In its short one year existence, the Gay Political Caucus has forged a well earned reputation both within and without the gay community for getting things done, and done well. We desperately need your help, your ideas, your money and, more importantly, your time, so that the Gay Political Caucus can continue to serve your needs.

Let's use that foundation to design a lasting force for positive change that helps each and every one of us to overcome the ugly effects of discrimination against gays.

Mort Schwab
Gay Political Caucus

TV cancels 'Snip' due to homophobic reaction

Dear Sirs:

I think that the following story is of interest to the gay community and am asking that you publish it in your newspaper. The item was broadcast on September 8 over KLYX Radio.

"The new NBC situation comedy 'Snip' never got started. The folks over at KPRC-TV have announced that the series will not start as advertised next fall. It was a new situation comedy being sent down by NBC which was supposed to be on the fall line-up, but it seems that some people have objected to a character who is portrayed as a homosexual hairdresser.

"One of those people is a member of District 16, Texas Hairdressers and Cosmetologists Association, Mrs. Dorothy O'Banon:

"'I called my state president and asked her about it and she said definitely she thought that that was the thing to do, is to try and stop it. So after I found out the proper names to contact that are in the upper echelon of the broadcasting company, then that is what I did, I wrote letters to all of them, asking them to please help us try to preserve the integrity and the reputation of our profession.'

"According to Channel 2 sources, 'Snip' might be aired next January when things cool down a bit."

I called KLYX and found out that the following statement is in the original story on file at the radio station but was not broadcast over the air:

"O'Banon says her group opposes having homosexuals or deviates of any kind depicted as hairdressers."

Manuel Lepp

Movies

Hollywood has many new ones soon

If you have noticed an absence of movie openings lately, you're not alone. It's for this reason that I thought we might take a sneak preview of what's in store for us from filmdom in the not-too-distant future.

Hollywood is really hot and heavy into sequels this year. In preparation now are "Jaws II" (Roy Schneider Moby Dicking it again), "Airport 77" (a plane is lost in the Bermuda Triangle with James Stewart and Jack Lemmon aboard), and poor Linda Blair has got the devil in her again in "The Heretic: Exorcist II".

Also from MGM are a new "Gone With the Wind" and a more up to date "Grand Hotel."

Streisand will top them all with her remake of "A Star Is Born," the old Judy Garland-James Mason flick. Never before in show biz history has anyone written, directed, produced and starred in their own movie. Kris Kristofferson co-stars.

Who will want to miss a new hairy beast atop the Empire State Building as "King Kong" lives again with Fay Wray out and Jessica Lange in.

For comedy fans, Marty Feldman is writing and directing Ann Margret in a spoof called "The Last Remake of Beau Geste."

For adventurists comes "Marathon Man," combining Dustin Hoffman, Roy Schneider and Laurence Olivier up to their necks in espionage.

A missile crisis, "Twilight's Last Gleaming," has Burt Lancaster, Melvin Douglass, Richard Widmark and Charles Durning caught up in the hostage of the U.S. President.

"The Cassandra Crossing" brings Sophia Loren, Ava Gardner, Richard Harris and O.J. Simpson aboard a European train plagued with terrorists and a fatal infectious disease.

In "Voyage of the Damned," an all-star cast including Faye Dunaway, Orson Welles, Max Von Sydow, Malcolm McDowell and Oskar Werner, portray a shipload of Jews fleeing 1939 Nazi Germany, which is a true experience.

On the lighter side, Liza Minnelli has bright hopes for her new venture, "A Matter of Time," directed by none other than Vincent Minnelli, her dad.

Glenda Jackson will hit the screen shortly with two at a time: "Nasty Habits" (a convent comedy in the Watergate vain) and "The Incredible Sarah" about the life of Bernhardt. I look for the latter to be the best.

Fellini's "Casanova" with Donald Sutherland as the famous seducer should be extremely interesting.

This looks like a banner year for movie biographies. "Bound for Glory" with David Carradine as folk singer Woody Guthrie, Gregory Peck playing the controversial war hero General Douglass MacArthur, Warren Beatty starting in on the untitled version of the life of the late billionaire Howard Hughes.

Ballet superstar Rudolf Nureyev in his first film role is taking on the story of great silent screen lover "Valentino."

Malcolm McDowell will play the title role in Gore Vidal's "Caligula."

But the most interesting will surely be the bio starring Anthony Quinn of "The Greek Tycoon" with the character's name being Aristotle Anestis. Playing opposite Quinn is Jacqueline Bisset, cast as guess who?

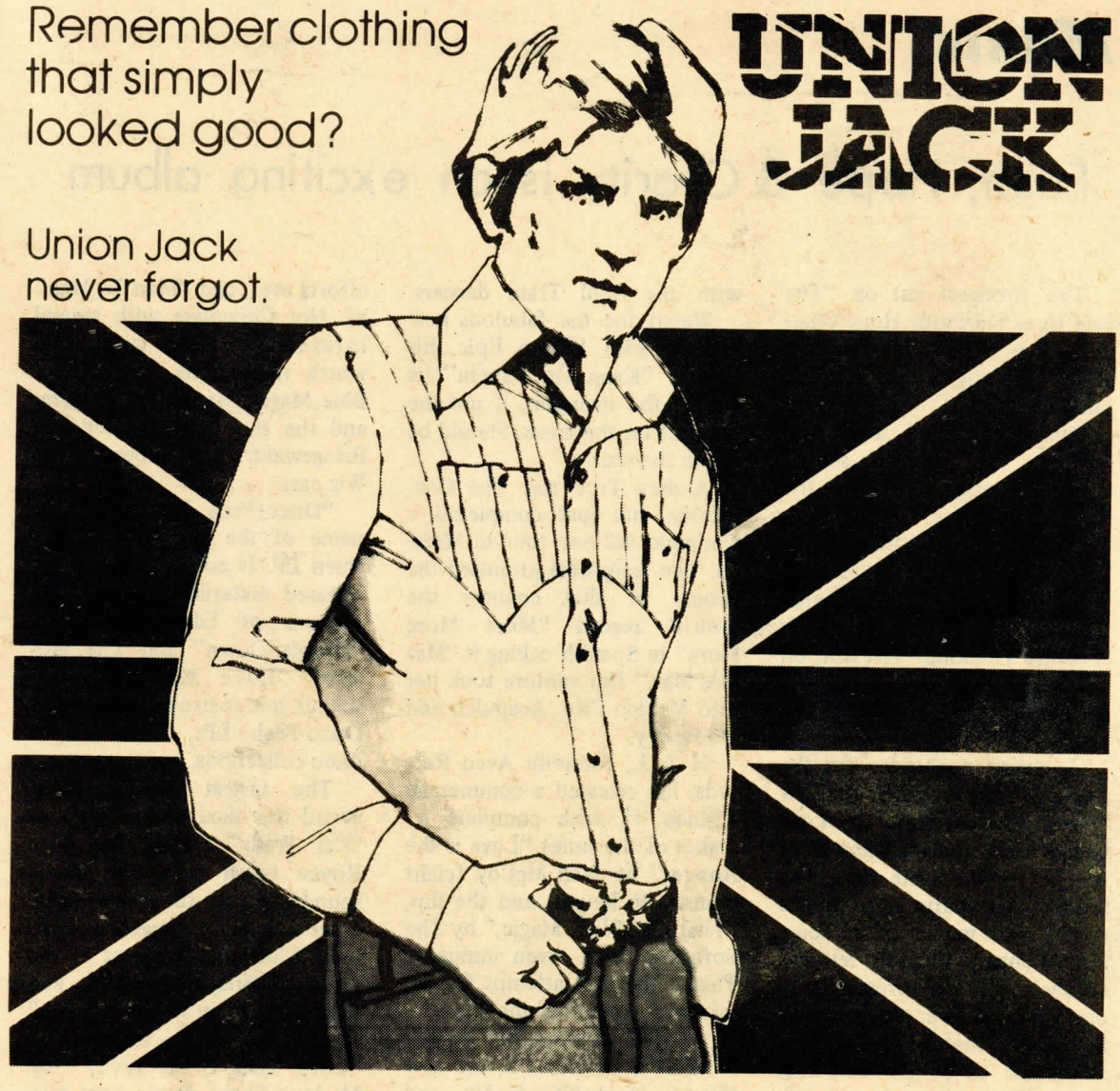
There should be something among all this to suit everyone's taste. So hold on, movie buffs. The best or the worst is yet to come.

Craig Thistleton

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Music

Faith, Hope & Charity is an exciting album



The strongest cut on "The Life Goes On/Faith Hope Charity" LP is "You're My Peace of Mind," running a little over six minutes. Again Van McCoy produced, arranged and conducted this exciting sound. Other suggested cuts are the remake medley, "Cherish-Monday Monday," done very nicely. "Life Goes On" starts off slow but gets going halfway through the cut. Another strong cut is "Positive Thinking," last song on side one. This sensational LP should prove to be one of the year's best.

A strong contender for the top spot next month is the new "Sweet Summer Suite" by Love Unlimited Orchestra taken from the LP by the same title. The lengthy Afro-Latin intro builds up the main impact of the song. 20th Century Records released advance 12-inch pressings to disco DJs all over the country, including Houston. This composition has to be the best that Barry White has done since "Love's Theme."

"Vickie Sue Robinson" is the title of her new album to be released by RCA by the end of this month. A new single, "Daylight," will be available this week. She appeared in the Jerry Lewis telethon last week, along with the Soul Train dancers.

Watch for the fabulous new Jackson Five LP on Epic this month. "Keep On Dancin'" is one of the strongest, if not the best cut on the track. Should be worth the wait.

Andrea True and The Connection has just completed a complete sell-out tour in Mexico. The songstress promised the people of that country she would record "More More More" in Spanish calling it "Mas Mas Mas." Her venture took her into Mexico City, Acapulco and Monterrey.

H & L, formerly Avco Records, has released a commercial 12-inch 45 with complete remakes of the tunes "Love is the Answer" by Van McCoy (eight minutes in length) and the flip, "That Old Black Magic," by The Softones (over seven minutes). This is the first attempt for the company at selling the big 45s.

Another commercial 12-inch 45 that is available is the new "Party Hardy/Stand Up and Shout" by Gary Toms without Empire. "Party Hardy" is very similar to "Blow Your Whistle," and is over nine minutes long.

Atlantic has just unloaded a bash of goodies. Among them: the "Jimmy Castor E-Man Groovin" LP, one of his best efforts ever; and "Man To Man" by Hot Chocolate with several interesting disco cuts. Also worth mentioning are LPs by Blue Magic, Manhattan Transfer and the very talented Dee Dee Bridgewater, a member of the Wiz cast.

"Disco-Tech No. 4" is the name of the just released Motown LP. It contains previously released material including long versions of Eddie Kendricks' "Boogie Down" and The Miracles' "Love Machine." Although not as strong as the other Disco-Tech LPs, it is full of disco collections.

The fastest moving single award this time around goes to "Car Wash" (MCA) by Rose Royce taken from the movie soundtrack of the same name composed and arranged by Norman Whitfield, producer of the group, Undisputed Truth, and their hit, "You + Me = Love." Runner-up prize belongs to "Love Has Gone Away" by Marlena Shaw. Many have mistaken her for Gloria Gaynor.

You will be hearing more and more of the disco instrumental remake of "Hello Stranger," the former Barbara Lewis hit back in '64. It's on Henry Street Records out of New York. The company has just sent a limited quantity of 12-inch pressings on clear vinyl to disco DJs. Word is it will be available on a single in about three weeks.

The new real live "Dolly," Dolly Parton, has a new album entitled "All I Can Do," also the title of her latest single. Best cut is "Shattered Image," a mere 2½ minute message stating, "Don't open my closet if your own is full of trash." Dolly wrote all the songs except two. There seems to be more of a progressive country rock in the latest recording. A great sound from one of the most admired ladies around.

Rock artist Rod Stewart recently picked up a "beautiful bird," as he calls them, at a night club in Melbourne, England. As they were getting ready to get it on in Stewart's hotel room, he came across the unexpected. The bird turned out to be a "he." Rod allowed him to stay overnight, making sure he slept as far as possible from him. When morning came Rod gave him a cup of hot tea and some taxi fare.

Just managed to listen to the brand new "Salsoul Nice and Nasty" LP before press time and believe me I will continue to listen to it for a long time. This exciting piece of vinyl will have you wanting more once you've heard it. It should be available in the stores about the end of the month.

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TO ANSWER one of the blind box ads that appear in this week's Classified, seal your message inside an envelope and write the code number on the outside. Then put that envelope inside a larger envelope along with $1 to cover handling and mail to:

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PERSONAL

Dominant master, 25, seeks obidient young slave for light to heavy dungeon games in Houston. Blind ad no. 241.

White female in Houston, 22, looking for gay or bi W/F to share good times with. Must be 20-30, responsible, sincere, attractive, neat and personable. No fats, S&M or drugs. All replies answered immediately. Blind ad no. 243.

White sincere male, 40. Been hurt twice by females. Desires guys. Capable of proving that males are best. Larry. (713) 526-6711.

Twiggy loves Lulu.

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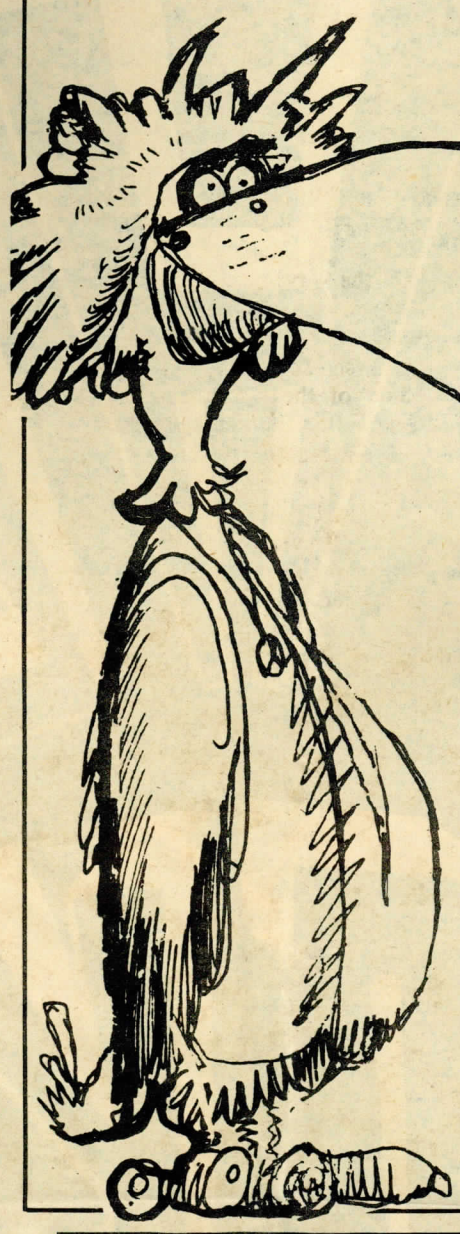
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