ISSUE #27 - JANUARY 14-20, 1977 - FREE

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MONTROSE STAR

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MOVIE REVIEWS

Mother's Column

Parables from the Cave

MUSIC & DISCOS

people and places

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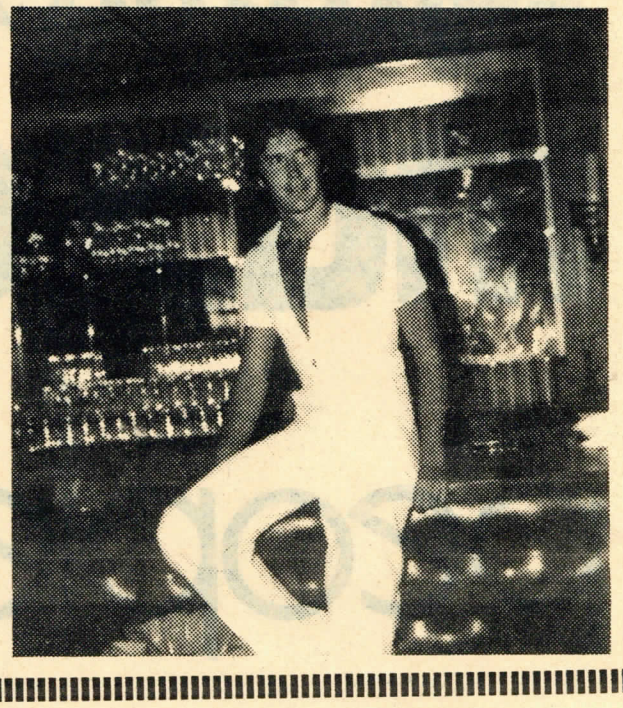
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Mother's Column

Momma goes out on the town and catches the drag shows



I really should have made a heavier effort to see darling Carol Channing's show in Florida, "The Beds Before Yesterday." You see, it was directed by Lindsay Andersen, who also directed the movie "O Lucky Man." Oh, and that song I amused you with two weeks ago from the film "Skidoo," in which Carol co-starred with Jackie Gleason and Groucho Marx, and Harry Nilsson wrote the music. So there!

Many of you showgoers out there probably haven't yet treated yourself to the **Hot Lips Review,** the new show at the Loft on Main Street in Houston, now adding a hint of cabaret to the downtown circuit. It's nothing like the whiskey-laced shenanigans at the Exile, but since it's downtown, it's just as risque.

Mona Bone and I were so drunk the night we made our kickoff weekend bar tour 1977 that we didn't know who was who in the show, but we did know it was quite unusual and kept exchanging strange looks. I guess they announce the names of these brazen lovelies at the beginning and the end, which I always seem to miss!

But it is marvelous entertainment. **Jeannette McDonald** singing "San Francisco" complete with earthquake sequence; exotic dancing; a country blonde singer with glittered eyebrows (black) and a sock-it-to-me delivery that is a gas; a triple feature "You Gotta Have a Gimmick"; duets with a deliciously snakey bearded man; and a relentless pace (although they really should knock out all those two-bit encores, honey, I mean the play's the thing).

In one segment Saturday night all the drag queens honored a couple of good guys celebrating their 23rd anniversary together. I think that's hot – I never made it that far with my husband. You see, we had a very strange and wonderful relationship – he was strange and I was wonderful.

Meanwhile, back at the Old Plantation Sunday night, it was business as usual. **Jenny George** was making all kinds of "remarks" (just before intermission) about "that show on the other side of town." I don't think she meant Hot Lips; I do think she meant **Tiff's** show at the Depo, the one **Donna Day** recently escaped to (and by the way, dear Donna looked drunk and smashing as ever last Friday night).

Speaking of drunk, Jennifer went on to say things like "long gowns and long black gloves" and "think back about five years ago – or should I say ten" then came out later to do a number straight out of 1965 (minus the gloves again just to save face).

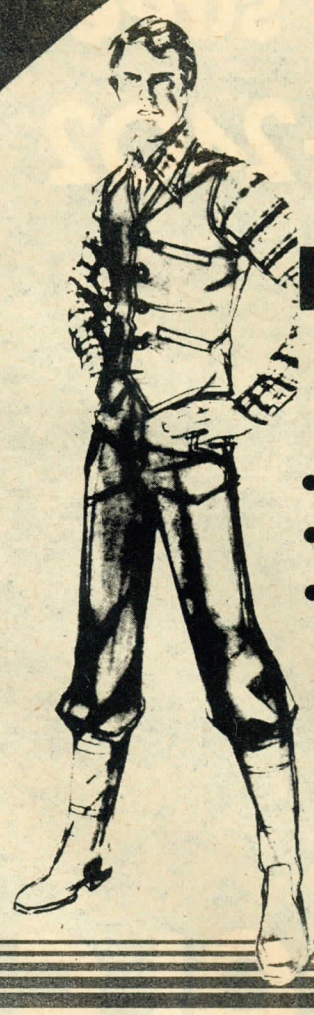
Maude and **Di-Gel** were the guests, and God knows what **Candy Delight** was (raunchy, maybe – like I said, business as usual).

Needless to say, I love them all, and root my guts out for them (although I often get a naughty thrill reminding some of them about appearing at the Club Rendezvous – now that was the ultimate trash, and my favorite historical drag episode).

Drag is on the rag; beware, my love.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A STAR

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Mother's Column

continued from previous page

Most Conspicuous Change of Life by an International Star in 1976: Elizabeth Taylor (who can do no wrong).

First runner-up: Marisa Berensen (who can).

Most Embarassing Movie of 1976: The Sailor Who Fell From Grace With the Sea.

Most Embarassing Thing About It: Sarah Miles.

Most Bestiality in a Stag Show: "Equus."

First Runner-Up: "P.S. Your Cat Is Dead."

Most Unique Movie of 1976: Starlight Slaughters.

Most Antique Movie of 1976: "The Marquise of O."

Most Physique Movie of 1976: "Stay Hungry."

Most Outrageous Movie of 1976: "Female Trouble."

Best Record Collection of 1976: Stevie Wonder Songs in the Key of Life (a real heavy).

Best Excuse to Stay Home Saturday Night: "Saturday Night Live."

Best Mothers on Television 1976: Alice, Maude, Carol Burnett, Cher Bono and dear departed Grandma Dexter.

Best Non-Mother on Television: Mary Tyler Moore.

Best Television Show in Sixteen Parts: "Sybil."

Sexiest TV Couples (or How Television Separated the Men from the Girls): Starsky & Hutch, Laverne & Shirley, the Fonz & Cunningham.

Most Malicious Gossip: Truman Capote.

First Runner-Up: Rona "Rooter" Barrett.

Best Drag Queen: How can one choose from such a myriad of lovelies?

Best Party 1976: Pineapple Picture Award Party.

Tackiest New Year's Eve Party 1976: Those who were there, know.

Most Perspicacious Column of 1976: Honey, I'd be perverted not to give myself an award – after all, it was my idea!

I'LL NEVER SHUT UP

A new book chock-full of women's humor has come out called "Titters" and it is that funny! It features a Sylvia Plath cookbook (recipes full of poison and an illustration of a woman with her head in the oven), and take-offs on Lillian Hellman ("Pimento") and Erica Jong ("Fear of Fucking").

Also, a parody of "True Confessions," called "Fake Confessions" shows a cover model that looks like Liz Ray – the tatoo on her arm reads "Born to Raise Children." Articles include "My Bad Karma" by **Rose Kennedy** and "Strange Voices Commanded Me to Send Gerald Ford a Pair of Wax Lips" . . .

"The Advocate" scooped the casting list for the movie version of the "The Wiz" (Oz with soul). Playing the Dorothy character? **Diana Ross.** Surrender!

Saturday night at Levi's became quite a scene when the fifty hunks in the Patio Party Room suddenly got the buzz (that alarm system is a wonderful idea!) and for three seconds became a fifty-zipper orchestra before making a mass exit. But it wasn't the police – it was just time to surrender drinks. Okay, boys, pull 'em back down!

Dorothy Malone recently advertised her availability in a Hollywood trade paper. "I have two strapping teenage girls to support," she explained. Sounds hot, Dorothy.

Actress-model **Marisa** "Cocaine Lil" **Berensen** is now doing a Cutex commercial. Well, it looks like she uses it on her face . . .

Here's the trash on **Jill Clayburgh,** star of "The Silver Streak": she left New York in 1973 when she lost a part in David Rabe's play "In the Boom Boom Room" to **Madeline Kahn** (who was a hit). But now Jill's got the playwright (she moved back to New York and into his apartment). And for five years prior to that, she was Al Pacino's lover. Just thought you might like to know.



Wouldn't Jan-Michael Vincent make a terrific Tarzan in the new version by Bob Towne ("Chinatown")? All it takes is a lioncloth, darling!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Jacqueline Bisset, in one of those trashy gossip magazines:

"Give me ballsy men! Not macho, but ballsy. Women need madness in their lives, and if you're making something grow with a man, a madness comes out of it, and energy . . . Like, if you have an obsession about a man, sometimes you have to go to bed with him to be able to get over it."

I'm sure the other Jackie feels the same way. Until next week, chaps and straps for everyone!



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Calendar

Midnite Sun opening Saturday

AUSTIN

Club Austin is open, complete with gym, whirlpool, steam-room, private rooms, showers, and stereo sound system. Gene Saxon, former manager of Club Houston, is the Austin manager. The Club Bath Chain club is open around the clock, at 308 West 16th. Check the Star's Austin map in the centerfold for a better idea of how to get there.

The Gay Community Services men's rap session is held each Friday at 7:45pm. Call 477-6699 for more info.

NEW ORLEANS

Club owners: Call the Star in Houston to have your events listed here in the Calendar. Dial 1-713-527-8961. Support the Star and we'll support you. Bob Castle and Mike Penton represent the Star in New Orleans. One of them will be calling on you shortly to find out your club's plans for Mardi Gras.

Fri. & Sat. nights, Jan. 14 & 15
Disco dancing at the Parade above the Bourbon Pub till 6am or later.

Mon. afternoon, Jan. 17
Happy hour 3-5pm at the Golden Lantern and 5-7pm at the Chopping Block.

Tues. afternoon, Jan. 18
Lockers are just $1 at Club New Orleans all afternoon. Happy hour 3-5pm at the Golden Lantern and 5-7pm at the Chopping Block.

Tues. night, Jan. 18
Lockers continue until midnight for just $1 at Club New Orleans.

Wed. afternoon, Jan. 19
Happy hour 3-5pm at the Golden Lantern and 5-7pm at the Chopping Block.

Wed. night, Jan. 19
Buddy night at Club New Orleans, where you and a friend can share a locker at a 2-for-1 price.

Thurs. afternoon, Jan. 20
Happy hour 3-5pm at the Golden Lanter and 5-7pm at the Chopping Block.

Thurs. night, Jan. 20
Lockers only $1 at Club New Orleans 6:30-7:30pm.

Fri. afternoon, Jan. 21
Hot hors d'oeuvres and free champagne 5:30pm at the Chopping Block. Happy hour at the Golden Lantern 3-5pm.

Fri. night, Jan. 21
Disco dancing till 6am or later at the Parade above the Bourbon Pub.

Coming up later

The new super disco opens in a few weeks at Pete's old location. Watch the Star, possibly next issue, for the official announcement.

Mardi Gras is getting closer. The Star will have complete coverage starting shortly, including a list of the parades and a list of the balls being put on by gay krewes.

DALLAS

Club managers: Ken Amburn represents the Star in the Metroplex. To reach Ken, dial us direct in Houston at 1-713-527-8961. One phone call can get your club's events listed here in the Calendar and get you a place on the Star's map in the centerfold.

Fri. night, Jan. 14
After-hours disco dancing at the Old Plantation.

Sat. night, Jan. 15
Free birthday and anniversary party at Swamptrash. After-hours disco dancing at the Old Plantation.

Sun. morning, Jan. 16
11am worship services at MCC.

Sun. afternoon, Jan. 16
50¢ bloody marys noon-2pm at Swamptrash. Bloody marys and screwdrivers 75¢ 1-8pm at the Bon Soir, along with happy hour 3-8pm. Cook out 2-5pm at Club Dallas. 10¢ draft beer 4-7pm at the Villa Fontana. Bring your own meat and come for brunch at Crews Inn II.

Sun. night, Jan. 16
Pool tourney 7pm at Crews Inn II. Buffet and beer bust 7-9pm at the Old Plantation, followed by Jann Russell and the other O.P. entertainers on stage. Worship services 7:30pm at the MCC.

Mon.-Fri. mornings, Jan. 17-21
Happy hour 10am-noon at Crews Inn II.

Mon. afternoon, Jan. 17
Happy hour at Crews Inn II 5-7pm and the Bon Soir 5-8pm.

Mon. night, Jan. 17
Dart tourney 7:30pm at Crews Inn II. 15¢ draft beer with no cover at the Old Plantation.

Tues afternoon, Jan. 18
Admission is only $1 all day at Bachelor Quarters Baths. Happy hour 5-7pm at Crews Inn II and 5-8pm at the Bon Soir.

Tues. night, Jan. 18
Buddy night at Club Dallas 6pm-2am when 2 get in for the price of 1. Chili cookout at 7pm at Crews Inn II. Special low price on margaritas tonight at the Old Plantation.

Wed. afternoon, Jan. 19
Discount card day at Club Dallas where you get a free locker with the purchase of a discount card. Happy hour at Crews Inn II 5-7pm and Bon Soir 5-8pm.

Wed. night, Jan. 19
Half price drinks at the Old Plantation.

Thurs. afternoon, Jan. 20
Happy hour at Crews Inn II 5-7pm and Bon Soir 5-8pm.

Thurs. night, Jan. 20
Free movie at Swamptrash. 75¢ tequila sunrises at the Old Plantation.

Fri. afternoon, Jan. 21
Happy hour 5-7pm at Crews Inn II and 5-8pm at the Bon Soir.

continued next page

WE'RE OPEN

BC

CLUB AUSTIN

308 W. 16th

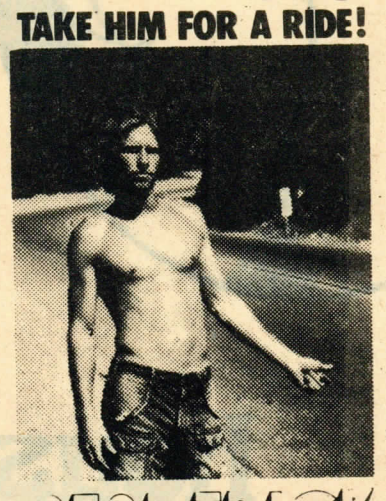
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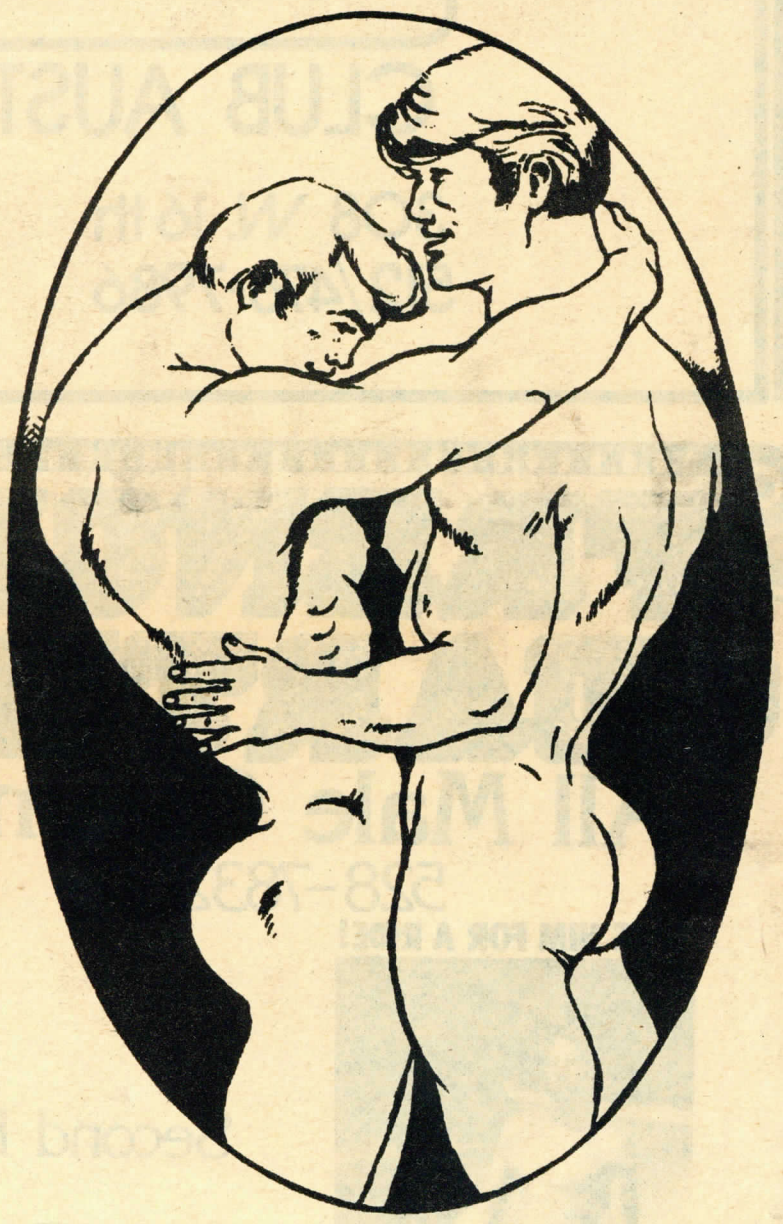
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OPEN SOON IN SAN FRANCISCO!

Calendar

continued from previous page

Fri. night, Jan. 21
After-hours disco dancing at the Old Plantation.

HOUSTON

Club managers: call 527-8961 to place items in the Calendar.

Thurs. night, Jan 13
Dinner is served at Levi's 6-10pm. Happy hour continues all night at Sally's. $1 cover at both the Depository and the Old Plantation with 35¢ drinks at each. Shiner's beer 40¢ 11pm-2am at Zither's.

Fri. morning, Jan. 14
Happy hour 7am-noon at the Inside Outside and Sally's. Lockers are half price at Club Houston starting 8am. Happy hour starts 10am at the Barn.

Fri. afternoon, Jan. 14
Lockers continue half price at Club Houston thru 4pm. Happy hour continues thru 7pm at the Barn, noon-7pm at Levi's, 4-6pm at Zither's, 4-7pm at the Briar Patch and Inside Outside, 5-7pm at Mary's, 5-8pm at Sally's.

Fri. night, Jan. 14
Levi's serves breakfast midnight-3:30 am. After-hours disco dancing to 4am at the Old Plantation and Depository.

Sat. morning, Jan. 15
Happy hour 7am-noon at Sally's.

Sat. afternoon, Jan. 15
Rap session at MCCR noon-2pm. Special prices on bloody marys and screwdrivers noon-7pm at the Inside Outside. Beer bust at Levi's 3-6pm. Happy hour at Sally's 5-8pm.

Sat. night, Jan. 15
The all new Midnite Sun opens the doors at 7pm, with free drinks 8-10pm. The Depository presents Tiffany Jones, Donna Day, Jerry Vanover and Eartha Kitt starting 11pm, followed by after-hours disco to 4am. After-hours dancing also at the Old Plantation. Levi's serves breakfast midnight-3:30am.

Sun. morning, Jan. 16
Lockers $2 starting 8am at Club Houston. Worship services 11am at MCCR.

Sun. afternoon, Jan. 16
Lockers continue at $2 till 4pm at Club Houston. Jambalaya is served at the Barn starting at noon. 50¢ bloody marys, screwdrivers and beer 2-7pm at the Briar Patch. Beer bust starting 3pm at Levi's. Dart tourney at 4pm at Zither's. 25¢ bar drinks and draft beer 4-7pm at the Inside Outside with $2 cover. The Montrose Activity Center starts taking auditions (and will continue through Tuesday doing so) for its next production, "El Grande de Coca Cola," a musical extravaganza, to be staged in March, with information available by calling 526-2668.

Sun. night, Jan. 16
The Old Plantation opens 6pm with a beer bust and free buffet, followed at 9:30 by the Sunday Night Follies with Jennifer George, Jessica, Carmelita, Ernestine and Naomi Simms. Worship services at MCCR 7:30pm. Randy Walls' survivors party is 9pm-midnight at Sally's with happy hour prices. Tiffany & Co. are on stage at 10pm at the Depository, along with 5¢ draft beer and disco dancing downstairs.

Mon.-Fri. mornings, Jan. 17-21
Happy hour 7am-noon at the Inside Outside, Sally's and the Midnite Sun. Lockers are half price at Club Houston starting 8am. Happy hour starts 10am at the Barn.

Mon. afternoon, Jan. 17
Lockers are half price thru 4pm at Club Houston. Happy hour continues thru 7pm at the Barn, noon-7pm at Levi's, 4-6pm at Zither's, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside and Briar Patch, 5-7pm at the Midnite Sun and Mary's, 5-8pm at Sally's. Beer bust at Our Place 5-7pm.

Mon. night, Jan. 17
Our Place presents "The Other Side," a country-western band starring Trisha, Lana and Lorie, 8:30pm-midnight. No cover and 50¢ drinks at the Depository. $1 cover and 35¢ drinks at the Old Plantation. Shiner's beer 40¢ 11pm-2am at Zither's.

Tues. afternoon, Jan. 18
Lockers half price through 4pm at Club Houston, but buy a discount card anytime today and get a free locker. Happy hour continues non-stop at Sally's, thru 7pm at the Barn, 4-6pm at Zither's, 4-7pm at the Briar Patch and Inside Outside, 5-7pm at Mary's and the Midnite Sun. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

Tues. night, Jan. 18
Happy hour continues all night at Sally's. Dinner is served at Levi's 6-10pm. The Lambda Social Club meets 7:30pm at the 1st Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin, room 12. Pool tourney 8pm at the Inside Outside. Houston Area Dart Association league play starting 8pm at Zither's, followed by Shiner's beer special 11am-2am, just 40¢. Depository skate night at the Carousel Roller Rink on Katy Fwy. 9-11pm, plus, at the Depository itself, $1 cover and 35¢ drinks. 35¢ drinks and $1 cover also at the Old Plantation.

Wed. afternoon, Jan. 19
Lockers are half price at Club Houston till 4pm, when it switches to buddy night where 2 get lockers for the price of 1. Happy hour continues thru 7pm at the Barn, 4-6pm at Zither's, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside and Briar Patch, 5-7pm at Mary's and the Midnite Sun, 5-8pm at Sally's. Beer bust 5-7pm at Our Place.

Wed. night, Jan. 19
Buddy night continues at Club Houston to midnite with 2 lockers for the price of 1. Steak night at Levi's starting 7pm. Pot Luck dinner starts 8pm at the Barn. 10¢ drinks with $2 cover at the Depository plus Amateur Night upstairs at 10:30pm. $1 cover at the Old Plantation with 35¢ drinks. "Wilde 'n Stein airs 9pm-midnight on KPFT, FM-90. Shiner's beer is 40¢ at Zither's 11pm-2am.

Thurs. afternoon, Jan. 20
Happy hour continues non-stop at Sally's, thru 7pm at the Barn, noon-7pm at Levi's, 4-6pm at Zither's, 4-7pm at the Inside Outside and Briar Patch, 5-7pm at Mary's. Lockers are half price at Club Houston to 4pm. Beer bust at Our Place 5-7pm.

Thurs. night, Jan. 20
Happy hour continues all night at Sally's. Dinner is served at Levi's 6-10pm. Dart tourney for cast 8pm at Zither's, followed by Shiner's beer 40¢ 11pm-2am. $1 cover at the Old Plantation and at the Depository, each with 35¢ drinks.

Coming up later

The next meeting of the Gay Politcal Caucus is Feb. 2, 7:30pm, at the Inside Outside.

Typhoon Tessie's opens shortly. The Star will have the date printed in this section shortly.

Uncle Charlie's, a disco-restaurant, opens very shortly. Possibly we'll have an announcement in next week's Star.

The Silver Bullet will open in the next few weeks in the Montrose section. It's being built by the same people who put out Bullet poppers. Watch the Star for an announcement soon.

Auntie Mame's Eatery opens in a few weeks next door to the Briar Patch. Watch for their ad in the Star.

A giant birthday party will be held at the Barn in February. More on this in their ad elsewhere in this issue.

Bob McCubbin, author of "The Gay Question, a Marxist Analysis," will speak 7pm, Jan. 25, in room 89 at the 1st Unitarian Church on Fannin. Call 861-9684 for more info.



It's Birthday Time
for
Ronnie Sheffield
Gentle Ben
Steve
Jimmy
André



BIG BIRTHDAY BLAST AT THE BARN

FEB. 5TH

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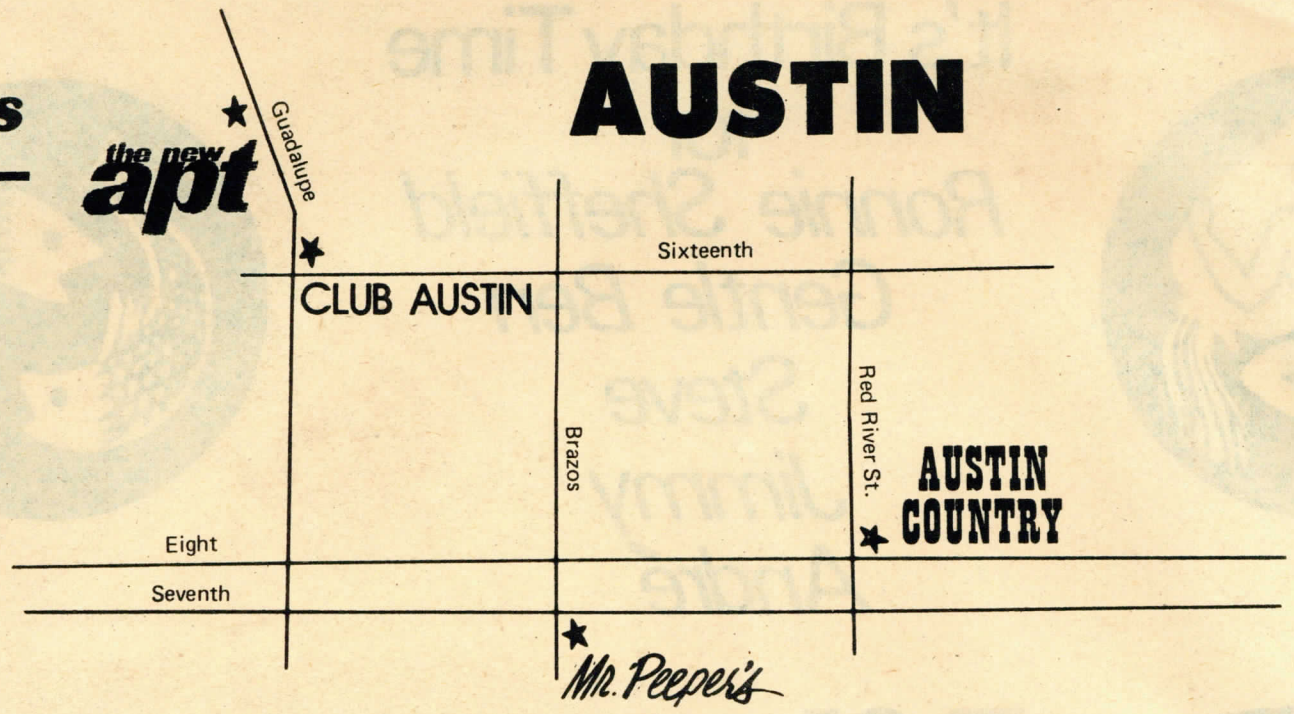
HALF A BARBECUE BEEF WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS !!!

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The Maps

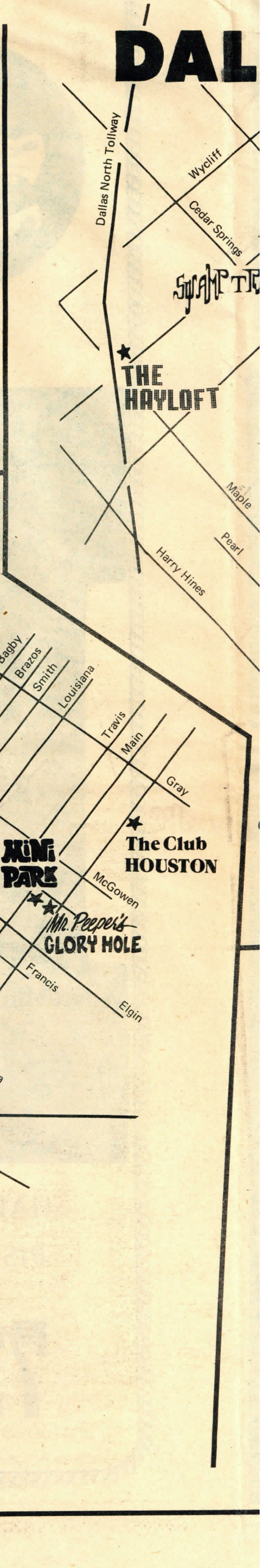


There's only one way for a club to get on these maps. Advertise! And any club can afford it, even the smallest, since advertising rates in the Star start as low as $15. That one $15 ad will get a club a "place on the map," listings in the Star Calendar, and coverage by the Star of the club's special events. It's the best advertising bargain in Gay America.

Of course, ad prices range up to several hundred dollars. And our art department is one of the best equipped art departments of any gay publication in the country. Most of the ads you see in the Star were drawn up by our artists. Even some of the ads you see in other publications were produced by the Star.

Advertising is our only source of income, since the papers are furnished to clubs and readers free.

If you're a club owner or manager that's not on the map, call us in Houston at (713) 527-8961. We really DO want you on the map and in the Star's Calendar.





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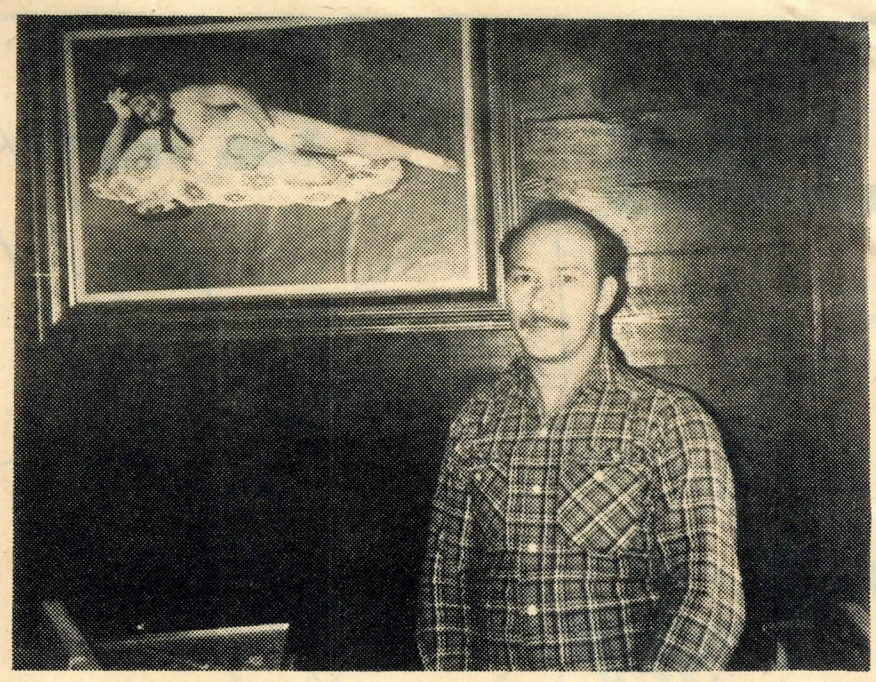
8 Performances Weekly



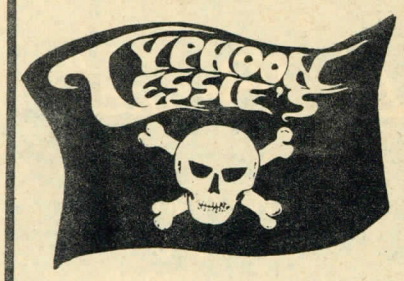
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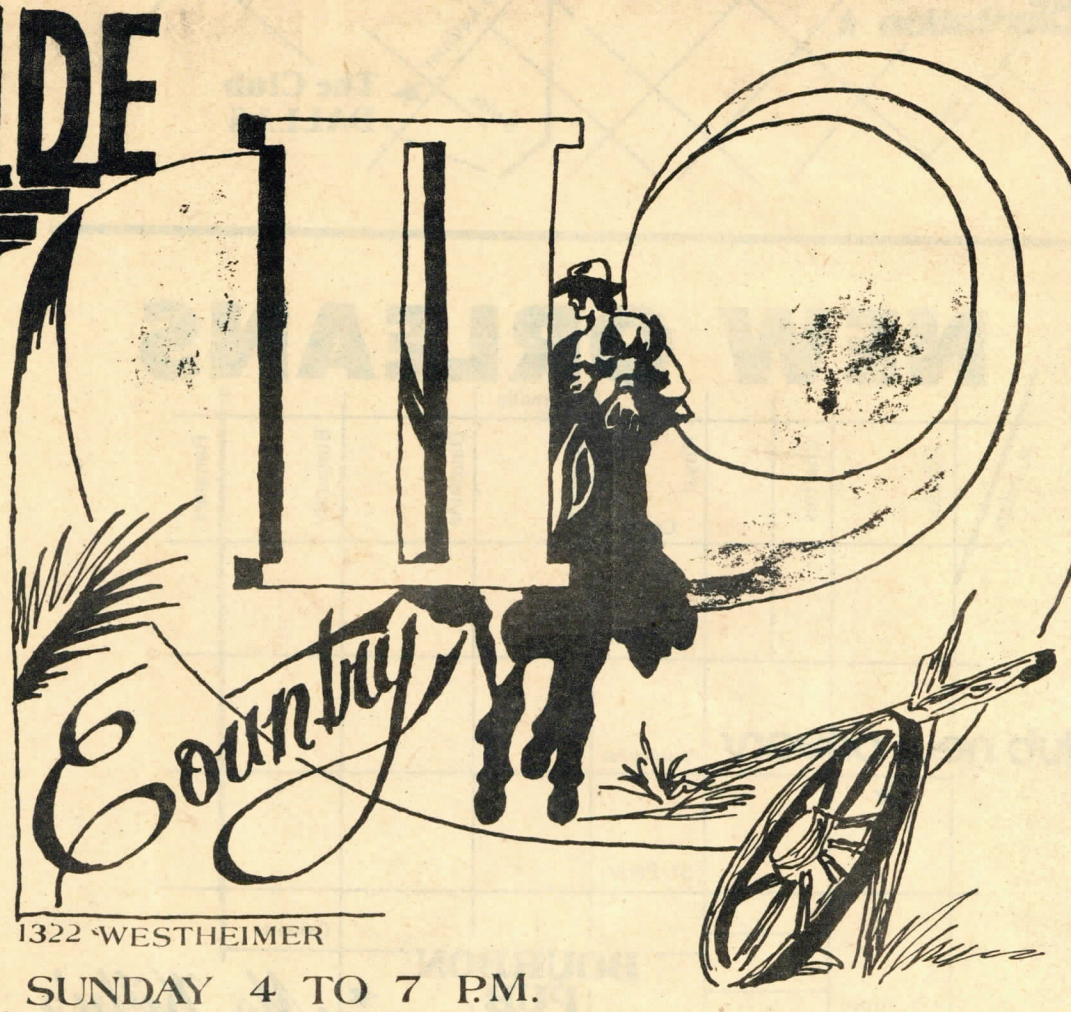
WED. POT LUCK
8 PM

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HOUSTON

INSIDE OUTSIDE



1318 WESTHEIMER



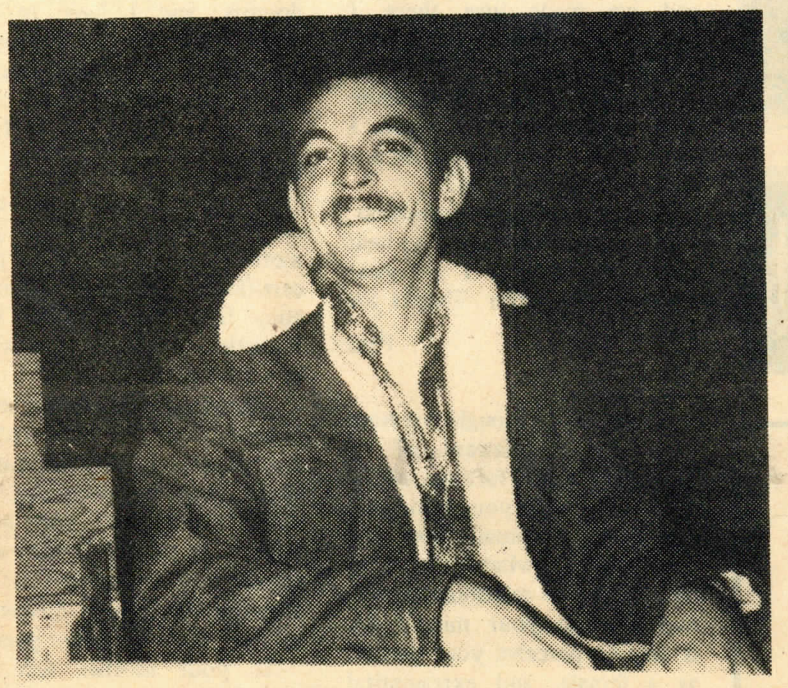
1322 WESTHEIMER

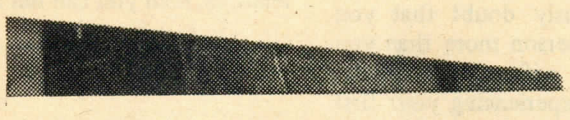
LIQUOR BUST EVERY SUNDAY 4 TO 7 P.M.
$2.00 COVER CHARGE
ALL SINGLE BAR DRINKS & DRAFT BEER 25¢ EACH

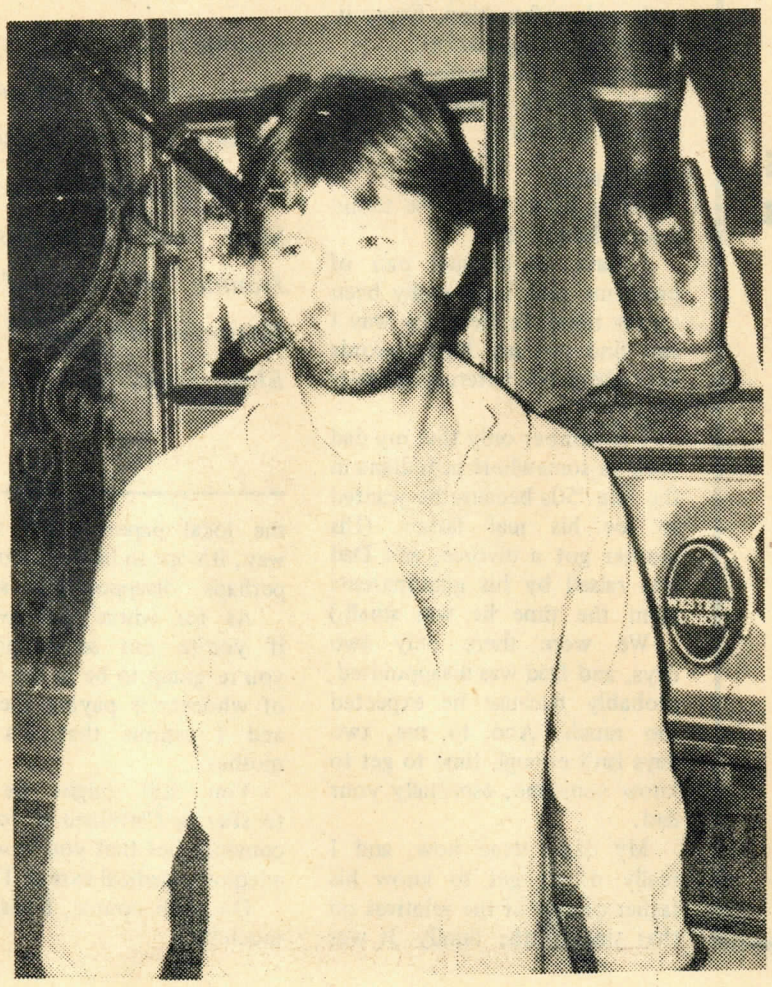
JOIN US THIS SUNDAY!!!!



Captured, live! in the wilds of the Montrose section of Houston. Three new bars opening. Shown above and at the far left on the opposite page are scenes from the new Midnite Sun. Directly below is one of the great-looking workers at the new Silver Bullet. And at the far bottom and on the right on the opposite page are two dudes from Uncle Charlie's.







DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE!



THE CLUB HOUSTON
2205 FANNIN ST.
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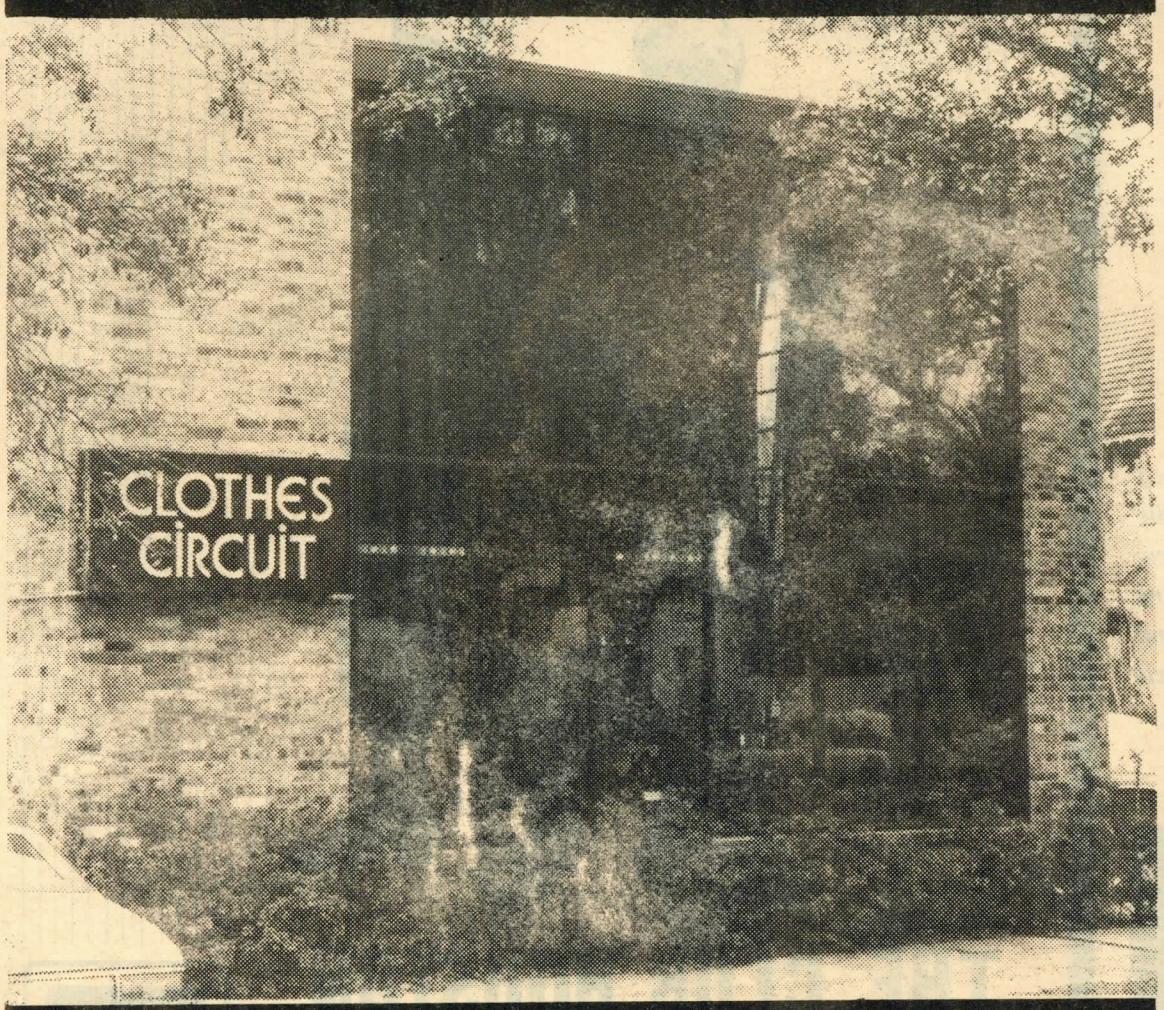
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Jeannie's Lamp

He was married and straight but is now dating a transvestite

Dear Jeannie:

I'm married and I have one kid. I'm very good-looking, and I like to mess around with women besides my wife.

I used to be against gays until one night on my way home from work, a gay transvestite flagged me down on the a corner in Chicago. I thought it was a female at first until he spoke to me. I did not know what to do or say back to him after he'd gotten into my car.

I sat behind the wheel listening to his voice and looking at those great legs and moist lips, and I found myself getting turned on to him. I then kissed him and found myself totally excited, so I drove him home and we made love there. I enjoyed every minute of kissing and hugging him.

I'm now picking him up from there several nights a week. I think I love him more than my wife. What should I do?

If you have any suggestions, I'll be more than happy to hear them. The sooner I get your answers, the better. Thanks for your help.

Paul

Dear Paul:

It sounds as though you have been either unaware of or repressing your feelings about other men until you found one dressed as a woman. Now you are engaged in what I assume to be a guilt-free relationship with him because your mind's eye is able to perceive your partner as a female, and extramarital activities are more socially acceptable than are gay activities.

I seriously doubt that you love this person more than you do your wife. More likely, you are experiencing your first male-male infatuation. Enjoy it, but stop kidding yourself.

Despite the external trappings, clothes really do not unmake the man!

Dear Jeannie:

After some time, I've found your column again.

I have an unusual pair of problems that have really been on my mind. Is there any way I can find out my birth records and where my paternal relatives are?

I remember only that my dad took us somewhere in Indiana in the late '50s because he wanted to see his real father. (His mother got a divorce, and Dad was raised by his grandparents from the time he was small.)

We were there only two days, and Dad was disappointed, probably because he expected too much. And to me, two days isn't enough time to get to know someone, especially your dad.

My dad's dead now, and I really didn't get to know his father or any of the relatives on that side of the family. It was only a few years ago that I got to see my younger second cousins on my mom's side of the family. I've only seen my paternal relatives once, and I was only 13 or 14 and really didn't get to know them like I should.

My other problem isn't too big except I don't know how to tell my mother that I want to stay where I am.

I love Toledo, which is where I was told I was born, but my heart is here in Cleveland where my friends and doctor are. This is like a second home to me, and the people are warm and friendly here. Besides that, Cleveland has the best schools and health centers and the best (and most handsome) doctors, and I have to stay under a doctor's care because of a nervous condition due to convulsions when I was a child.

Larry

Dear Larry:

It's easy enough to get a copy of your birth records: if your mother doesn't have your birth certificate, you can obtain a copy from the Dept. of Vital Statistics in the city in which you were born.

Tracking down your relatives, however, can be both tedious and expensive. If your mother won't help by providing you with information, you might have to seek the services of a private detective, skip tracer, or someone else whose business it is to find missing persons.

If your mother *will* give you some information about the location of your paternal relatives, then you can run ads in the local papers there. Either way, it's apt to be a difficult and perhaps disappointing search.

As for where you live ... if you're not self-supporting, you're going to be at the mercy of whoever is paying the bills, and I assume that it's your mother.

You still might be able to stay in Cleveland if you can convince her that you won't get adequate medical care in Toledo.

On both counts, I wish you much luck.

Jeannie's Lamp is a syndicated column from Jeanne Barney and is copyright 1977. All rights reserved. Send your questions for Jeannie in care of the Montrose Star, 900 Lovett Blvd., Houston, TX 77006.

Cinema

'Network' is actually believable, and should be nominated for an Oscar

"Network" is a ridiculous motion picture. It's not plausible or feasible and it borders on the insane.

With the above taken into account I would recommend it highly for all those who realize the lunacy that we suffer through every day. Would you like to sit back, relax, and watch two hours of people getting *their* share?

More readers are switching to the Star! Why? One reason is because the Star has the best writers. Come, join the switch to the Star.

Paddy Chayefsky has written one of Hollywood's most brilliant and complicated screenplays. The dialogue is very close to genius. Put that together with the master direction of **Sidney Lumet** (who paced it faster than a speeding bullet) and the beautiful photography of **Owen Roisman** (who brings in each scene to impecable focus).

Add to the roster four lead actors and dozens of supporting



cast members who shine like freshly polished silver and you come up with an outstanding film.

Peter Finch is superb in his passionate portrayal of a TV network news anchorman who is canned because of low ratings and then, through his crazed prophet of doom and anger, brings the stations' ratings up to number one. He is able to serve up a mixture of madness and reality so that the two become one in the same.

Fay Dunaway hasn't failed yet to light up the screen and seems to work more than all the other stars put together. She is perfect in her role of an ambitious career woman program director. She is able to strip herself of everything except her drive for success, which doesn't leave her much left with which to feel like a woman (or feel human for that matter).

William Holden looks terribly old but is still in tune with his acting. He plays the news director who has somehow managed to retain some intrapersonal feelings. When he tries to keep the network from exploiting his best friend, newscaster Finch (who is obviously unbalanced eventhough he is gathering the viewing public in like lost sheep), he is given his walking papers. He then in menapausal frustration leaves his wife of 25 years to pursue an affair with Dunaway until he realizes she can't feel anything except the fluctuation in the numbers of her rating charts.

Robert Duval's flashing performance as one of the network's chairmen and chief throat slitter is right on the money. His ruthless behavior really sets the tone for the entire movie. In his character's mind nothing matters but the corporate enterprise.

Whether people's lives are destroyed is of little significance. All that's important is that an increase in profits can be reported to the stockholders meeting. The way in which this is presented leans toward farse but it is none-the-less believable, because, in so many aspects of our society, it is factual.

"Network" is the Guliver's Travels of 1976. It is truly a poignant social comment on the state of humanity and was certainly well taken by this viewer. It should also be up front in contention for best picture when the Oscar nominations are announced in the near future.

Criag Thistleton

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Music

Billboard's disco dee jay of the year picks the Trammps as the album of the week

Atlantic Records sent me the new copy of the **Trammps** "Disco Inferno" LP, neatly packaged in a plain white sleeve with the words "Spend New Year's Eve with the Trammps" written on it. And that we did. The album is much stronger than the last one, "That's Where the Happy People Go."

The title cut is the most energetic one of all. It starts with the usual fast pacing Trammps disco music and introduces the exciting vocal style of **Jimmy Ellis.** He sings all about going to a disco and getting off to the sounds there. This specific cut lasts nearly ten minutes.

Two other cuts, "Starvin'" and "Body Contact Contract," are just as exciting as the title cut. They are loaded with heavy instrumentation and flamboyant vocals.

"Don't Burn No Bridges" is filled with penetrating drum sounds similar to those used by the Salsoul Orchestra in many of their recordings. There is a fabulous break that features the drums and guitar together.

"You Touch My Hot Line" is very Philadelphia-sounding and not as fast as the rest of the other cuts but very danceable.

The fastest cut is "I Feel Like I've Been Living on the Dark Side of the Moon." The arrangements on this cut are so unique, utilizing many instruments including the saxophone and flute. It also has some fine clapping.

Over all, the task the Trammps undertook to record this monster album is unlimited and they have succeeded at it completely. This LP should be the biggest for the group.

"Daddy Cool" by **Boney M** (Atco) is finally starting to roll down the tracks. This genuine single is taken from "Take the Heat Off Me" LP. Boney M is a one-man, three-woman group from Germany.

United Artists Records has released the "Enchantment" LP. It includes two giant hits, "Come On" and "Ride and Dance to the Music."

Just out is the new LP by **Tender Aggression** titled "Fly Disco, Fly" on Morningstar. It has ten tunes, basically instrumental with occasional female vocals. Tender Aggression is a newly-formed group of musicians who gained their disco experience in the studios with Donna Summer, Silver Convention and other giants of the disco scene.

Two commercial disco discs have appeared on the shelves recently. "Dancing Queen" by **Carol Douglas** on Midland is the most surprising. The flip is the version of "In the Morning" from the "Midnight Love Affair" medley. It is unfortunate Carol's version of "Dancing Queen" wasn't released before Atlantic released Abba's version. Not only does this cut have a dancing disco beat but it is much longer.

The other disc is the long-awaited "You + Me = Love" by **Undisputed Truth** with the flip being "Let's Go to the Disco" on Whitfield. Why the label finally released this one I will never understand. In my opinion they have created a problem for themselves. The album "Method to the Madness" containing both long versions has also been released, thus probably hurting LP sales.

De-Lite Records has reportedly announced plans to discontinue the commercial disco-disc of "Open Sesame" by **Kool and the Gang** due to declines in album sales. The LP does not contain the long version.

Michael Kunze and Sylvester Levay, producers for Silver Convention and others, have produced and arranged **Herbie Mann's** incredible new album "Bird in a Silver Cage" for Atlantic. The album contains only six tracks but they are all long and satisfying. **Penny McClean** appears as a back-up vocal on one cut.

Ram Rocha

More readers and advertisers are switching to the Star! Why? One reason is because the Star has the most to read each week — nearly three times as much to read as the other publication. Come, join the switch to the Star.

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Male Movies

New column starting this issue gives reviews of the skin flicks

(Editor's note: Theo Thunderthighs, a psuedonymous nitwit who begins in this issue to review the movies at the two all-male cinemas in Houston, expresses opinions that are solely his own, and for which this paper certainly disclaims all responsibilty, as well as knowledge, for that matter. He will, we guess, be appearing regularly until we can find a better way to get the job done.)

So who were you expecting, already, Rona Barrett? You'll take me and like it, dammit!

All right all you cinema saps, here's the rundown on the local dirty movie scene. No offense. If dirty bookstores have now attained status, not to mention *panache* (look *that* up in your Funk & Wagnall's), why shouldn't Dirty Movies? It's time the porny peepers came out of the closet, so to speak, and acquired the stature they deserve. Well, a little better than they deserve, we hope.

We'll be viewing these skin flicks each week, and reporting to you on just what you can expect from the local palaces of Eros. A word before we begin. The movies shown at the two all-male movie houses should not in any way be considered comparable in quality to what you might see at your corner movie theater. They make no pretense to that level of achievement.

On the other hand, they have carved out a market for themselves, and fill it quite well. Further, the quality of the prints and the actors has steadily improved, and continues to improve from year to year. We may yet see the time when the rating system is revised and movies will be what they are, of consistent quality, regardless of subject matter. Until that time, comments like this one will continue to be necessary.

The French Quarter, at 3201 Louisiana, this week features "Stak Trick," featuring Tim Christy, with Clay Grant. This is a Hand in Hand Films presentation, in full color and sound, feature length. Also appearing on the same bill is "Left Handed," which has not been previewed.

"Star Trick" is the story of Tim Christy, gay superstar, who comes to California from a nothing town in the Panhandle (which one: Oklahoma or Texas?) to achieve fame as a gay stripper. This he accomplishes, and in the process piques the interest of several abductors who are hot for his bod. There follows a quickie kidnapping, and next we see Tim tied spread eagle to a bed, awaiting the lustful wishes of his captors. (Pant, pant!)

It is at approximately this point in the drama that we learn that Tim is straight. *Straight!?* Yes sir, honest Injun, no foolin', through a series of flashbacks we learn that Tim is a closet straight, with a real girl friend and all, and is merely using the gay world for money so he and his chick can get married.

Foul! Well, you can imagine that his kidnappers have a somewhat difficult time believing his protestations of straightness when they enter the room, one at a time, to work their respective evil ways on Tim.

Worse, they don't pay any attention at all to Tim's claims of being straight. The first tormentor is a gorgeous hunk of guy with a great build (complete with mustache). He proceeds to skillfully end any further pious maunderings and does about everything to Tim that a person can do. Hunk got my personal Oscar for the day. Too beautiful for description.

Hunk was followed in short order, as well as short arms, by Jock, who stripped neatly and gave Tim more of the same. Tim, of course, writhed groaningly.

Finally, Tender entered the room. Tender actually talked with Tim, would you believe it, and believed Tim's story. They made love slowly and carefully, while meanwhile, out in the other room, Hunk and Jock proceeded to *get it on!* They had no doubts at all about their own sexual preference, and they got after it with a vengeance, providing the most erotic scenes in the movie, and two beautiful bodies interacted sexually in a way guaranteed to give a marble statue an erection.

The color and the sound in this one are good, and the bodies are very good. A two plus on the old cockmeter.

The Mini Park, at 2907 Main, is featuring "12 at Noon," a series of five incidents that are strung together to make a feature-length movie. This, too, is in full color and sound.

"Noon" opens with a tea room orgy, complete with glory hole, into which enters a jogger, all unsuspecting, who discovers the typical dirty young junior executive leering through a glory hole big enough to ship cattle through.

Well, *any*way, before you know it, the Typical Young Executive is just hauling away on the jogger hard enough to make his ears bleed and his eyes cave in, when enter, *surprise!*, a lumberjack type, who gets in on the action. Some people have all the fun.

Well you get the picture. All the bods, not so incidentally, are super.

Cut now to a service station, where a customer invites a

continued next page

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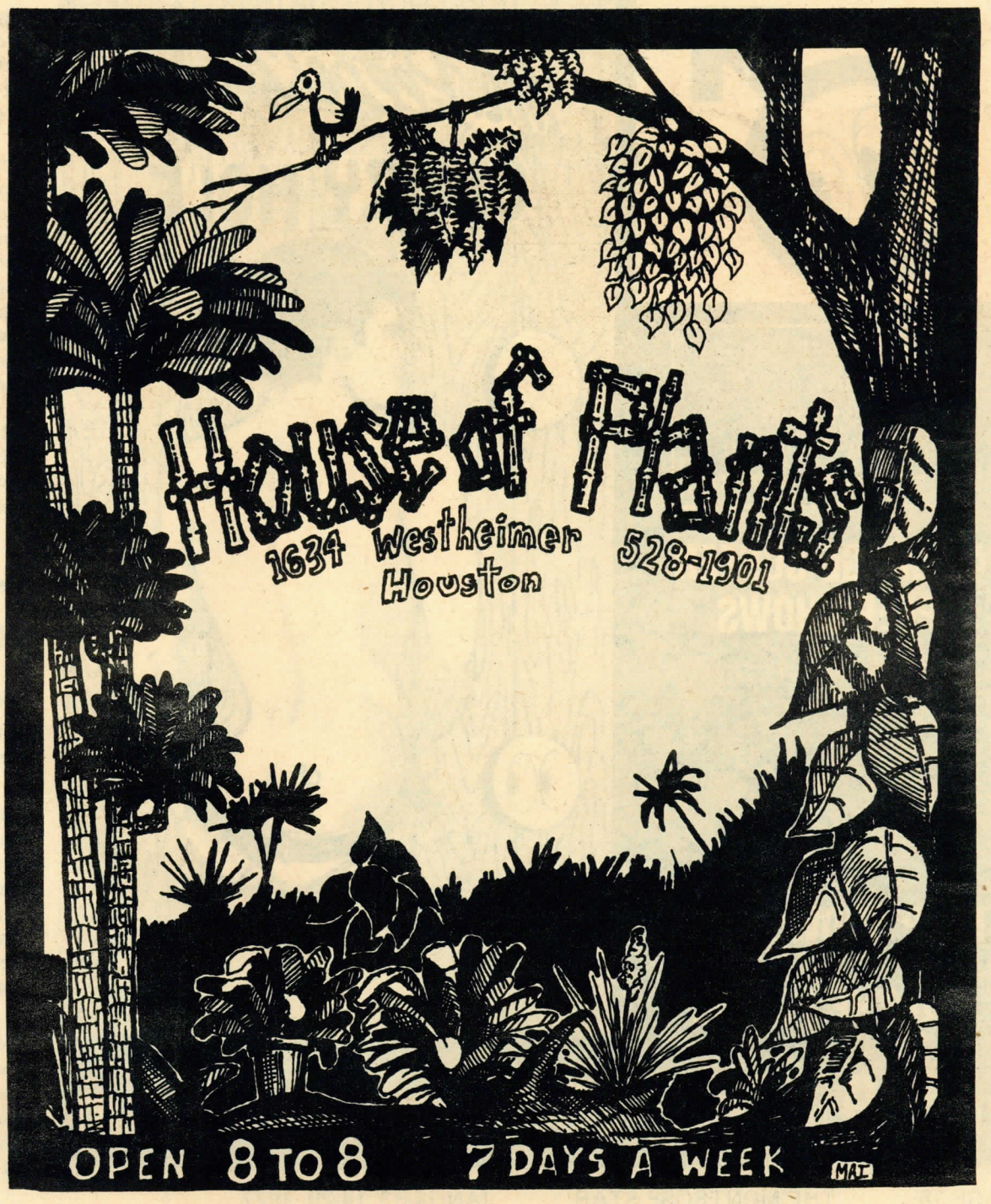
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Parables from the Cave

Houston is a gay mecca

Houston is a microcosm of gay life in America, perhaps more than any other city. The reason for this is that so many people are moving to Houston, and a lot of them are gay.

It is estimated that the gay population of Houston is perhaps 250,000 – and that's a lot of queens, for *any* city.

However, most of them are not the home grown variety. They come from all over this broad land, and the mix makes for some very pretty people. Take it from one who has traveled around, the men in Houston are some of the best looking anywhere.

If you don't believe it, take the gay tour sometime, and then form your own opinions about it.

The mix and variety of types of gays in Houston provides an interesting opportunity to study trends in gay life in America. As one who is old enough to have been around from when gays were either closeted or all but ostracized, and gay was definitely not good, the options available to gays in Houston shed a great deal of light on what is happening to gay life in America as a whole.

First of all, Houston, contrary to much popular opinion, is a very liberal city. It has discarded its redneck image, along with other trappings of provincialism, primarily because of the greatly increased size and sophistication of the population.

Much of this increase has come about as a result of the prominence of Houston as the world capital of *oil,* in all its forms. With this has come all the service industries to the oil industry, and over and above that, a startling trend of major companies of all types are moving their home offices to the Houston area.

There are many reasons for all this, but the bottom line to it all is that there are many people from many different parts of the country crowding into Houston at once.

The ideological mix all this provides makes for a liberal, educated, affluent citizenry, one which looks tolerantly at most things, and that includes life-styles, read G-A-Y.

A good example of this is the recent attempt by a group known as the Community Standards Coalition, which seeks as its primary goal the elimination of obscene reading material from stores and libraries, and curtailment of pornography in general. The mayor and the district attorney, no doubt reflecting the opinions of their constituents, are cool to the whole movement, to say the least.

The public library considered the complaints of the group about some of the books available at the library, then decided that the books the group found offensive were *not* pornographic. Bluenose puritans seems to get short shrift in Houston.

Gays visiting Houston from such cities as Miami, Atlanta, and even San Francisco and New York find the city incredibly vibrant and attuned to gay awareness and resources.

Houston, for example, boasts the largest local gay political group in the country, the Gay Political Caucus. The national co-chairperson of both the National Gay Task Force and the Gay Rights National Lobby (actually the same person) resides in the Houston area.

Gay bars, discos, bookstores, baths and even dart pubs abound in Houston, providing an endless variety of gay social life in the locality.

If all this were merely indicative of an isolated gay community, it would hardly be worth describing. But much of what is happening concerning straights and gays and their comprehension of gay lifestyles and the visibility of gays in the professions and occupational status is being written in this southwest city, and these happenings will be described in subsequent columns.

Al Hofstedter

Male Movies

continued from previous page

hitchhiker into his auto to get his hitch hiked a little further.

Switch now to a motel where a beautiful young hustler and a Typical Young Executive (gad, they get *all* the action!) engage in some plain and fancy you-know-what. No particular creativity about this one, but beautiful bodies on both entrants.

And now to the Camp Department. A young dude in the kitchen preparing lunch for his boss, who remains throughout a disembodied voice on the intercom. In the course of lunch preparation, the youngster gets turned on by his boss's voice on the intercome, which Boss forgot (?) to turn off, as he does his trick up in his room. What the kid in the kitchen does to a cantaloupe and in the whipped cream (*not* a pun) must be seen to be believed.

Finally, we get to the big scene, a threesome out in the woods involving three very hunky fellows, who engage in the usual plus a little water-sports. All very macho, very well done, and orchestrated to the sound of beautiful groans and moans. A one and a half for this one from the cockmeter. Good color, good bodies, thin plot.

Theo Thunderthighs

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All classified advertising in the Montrose Star is 10¢ a word with a $2 minimum per ad, except ROOMMATE WANTED and FRIENDS categories, which, for a limited time, are free.

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Houston: Position open for gay male dental receptionist/assistant. Experience necessary. Call Ray Hill at MCCR. 526-8233.

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Houston: Classic 1965 Continental, white, w/black vinyl top. New paint, top, tires, battery. Cold A.C., stereo, outstanding mechanical condition, very reliable. A rare find. $1500, firm. 627-1595.

Houston: 1967 Classic Cadillac Coupe de Ville. Bred with 1976 Yellow Cab. License KHG-713. Can be seen in Sally's parking lot.

FOR RENT

Houston: In the Heights. One bedroom, carpeted, air, bills paid. $215 mo. 861-1184. Leave message.

Houston: Efficiency in the Heights. Partially furnished. Bills paid. $110. 851-1184. Leave message.

Houston: 2 bedroom duplex. Montrose area behind the O.P. Stop by and look. 2004 Harold.

Houston: Medical Center - South Loop - Stella Link. 2 bedroom, electric kitchen, dishwasher, central air conditioning, carpet, drapes. Bills paid. $250. 526-8790.

FRIENDS

Houston: My bear, you are always welcome and when you return I will even let you eat crackers in bed if you wish. We've had some really fine times. Let's not rely on the past. I still love you. Editer.

Houston: Gay? Got a drinking problem? Know someone who has? Want to do something about it? There are others in the same boat who can help! Call 528-5107.

Houston: 21-yr-old needs roommate for my apt. or will move to yours if close to Montrose or Galleria. Ad 327.

Houston: 2 attractive well-built guys, both with blond hair, blue eyes, look for roommate to share completely furnished 3-bdrm. apt. Includes washer, dryer, dishwahser, covered parking, no deposit, no utility bills. $150. 965-0554 after 6pm.

Houston: Roommate wanted for 2 bdrm. house in Montrose. Remodeled, all new, electric appl. Must be mature, stable. No dope heads or alkies, prefer someone professional. 526-0525 for Ron.

Houston: Roommate wanted for 2 bdrm., 2 bath condominium near Northwest Shopping Mall. Must be employed. I have color TV, grand piano, microwave, & nicely decorated pool & tennis courts. 681-8986.

Houston: If you can relate to a lover relationship, and would appreciate a warm, wonderful Libra, write and I'll get in touch. I'm 5'8", brown hair & eyes, and am hoping for a mature man who's got it all together. Ad 507.

Dallas & Houston: Very desirable executive engineer living in New York City is fortunate to travel to Houston and Dallas every month. Am looking for young slim Spanish, Italian, Black or dark complexion stud to share goodies with while there. Send details and photo to occupant, 61-15 43rd Ave., apt. 4-A, Woodside, Queens, NY 11377.

Houston: Need roommate immediately to share 1 bdrm. apt. Your share $65 mo. Age group 18-25. Or share your apt. in Montrose. Joe. 527-9177.

New Orleans: Young dude looking for fun & games in exchange for residence in New Orleans during Mardi Gras. 6'1", 150 lbs., 26, hot Latin lover. Ad 506.

Houston: Share 2 bdrm., 1 bath apt. Your part of rent: $100 mo. Montrose. Call Paul 526-0921 after 6pm.

Houston: Dickenson area. Male, 25, needs roomate to share 2 bdrm., full equipped townhouse. 534-3745 after 6pm.

Houston: Young passionate Cajun is here again and still in need of older type lover. So far I guess it is all rumor that "everything is bigger in Texas." Still looking for Mr. Right, who loves sex, parties, drinks and smokies. I can still be observed on the circuit 9am-5pm. Still love my baggy jeans and checkered shirt. Ad 504.

Houston: Sharpstown area. 1 mile off S.W. Fwy. at Beechnut. Male, 29, has very nicely-furnished 2 bdrm., 2 bath apt. Balcony at poolside. Need roommate 20-30. Share rent only, month-to-month basis with security deposit. Your rent: $140. Available Feb. 1. 771-7909.

The Texas Free Press now has over 500 current gay classified ads. Check with your local bookstore for the new issue. Dealer inquiries invited. Lewis Service Co. (713) 526-6711.

Galveston Bay: Need someone 18-35 to share life. Will make right person very happy. Write John, box 5255, San Leon, TX 77539.

Houston: Gay activist Ray Hill is seeking an attractive, intelligent, even-tempered young man for secondary relationship partner/acitvist apprentice. Interested persons should submit photograph, resume, description of personal habits, and political/social beliefs to ad 262. Typing ability and lots of spare time helpful. All applications will be considered by selection committee.

Houston: Businessman wants companionship with others 23 and under. Possible permanent live-in arrangements can be worked out. Ad 500.

Houston: W/m looking for lover who likes dancing, bars & fun. Am looking for male 18-29. S&M welcome. Am looking for right person to take care of. Will answer all replys with phone included. Ad 505.

Houston: Houseboy wanted. Neat appearing, personable. Must be willing to cary his part of work load around apt. such as some cooking, laundry, and keeping the apt. clean. Own room & board to start. This is not a fulltime job so you may hold down a fulltime or part time job on the side. Ad 501.

Houston: Middle-aged executive seeking young, handsome, well-built gay youth 18-25. Employment possible for sincere, attractive person. Right person cannot be a doper or alcoholic. Must like the better things in life, not the fast disco scene. Ad 502.

Austin: Male dance student in great need of parton for furtherance of ballet dance training. Please, O great saint, send me some deliverance. 3207 French Place, apt. A, Austin, TX 78722. Phone 474-5608. Ask for Justin.

Austin or Houston: Young passionate w/m, with blond hair, seeks financial help in completing education. Willing to work to compensate. Living in Austin at present but want to move to Houston. Ad 503.

Houston: Male looking for roommate for 2 bdrm. apt. near Galleria. Call Frank anytime. 524-4352.

Houston: W/female roommate wanted for 3 bdrm. studio for man & wife. Spring Branch area. $100 mo. 464-2081.

Houston: Forties, fun, festive and fit. Cuddly, lovable, absolutely and incorrigibly crazy and not ashamed to admit it. Need someone younger, terribly bright and aware that he doesn't know it all, but willing to learn. Would help if he were attractive and liked to dance and fool around a lot. Object: fun and games. Ad 261.

Houston: W/m, 21, blond hair, blue eyes, 5'5", 115 lbs., well built, athletic student, would like to share your apt. Please call Joe. 965-0554.

More readers and advertisers are switching to the Star! Why? One reason is because the Star already has the most readers according to our research and the momentum is building.

Watch out for inflated figures. The Star estimates its readership using a conservative formula. We honestly have an estimated 14,000 readers each week.

Come, join the switch to the Star.

Mr. Classified Order Form

Use this form to place a classified with Mr. Classified by mail. Put one *word* on each line, count the words, send 10¢ per word (15¢ per word for bold type) to Mr. Classified, the Montrose Star, 900 Lovett, Houston, TX 77006. *Or, after you've figured out your ad, you can phone it in to (713) 527-8961, 9am-6pm weekdays, noon-6pm Saturday.* There's a minimum charge of $2 per ad. *You may pay for as many weeks as desired, deducting 10% if paying for 5 to 9 weeks, 15% if paying for 10 to 14 weeks, or 25% if paying for 15 or more weeks.* Photos may be run along with your classified for an additional charge of $5 per week. We'll run the photo as large as space will allow.

For a limited time, all classifieds appearing in the "Friends" section are free. To qualify, the ad must not be commercial in any way. No items or services can be offered for sale through "Friends."

Use additional paper if necessary. *Deadline for issue released Friday is Tuesday noon.*

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