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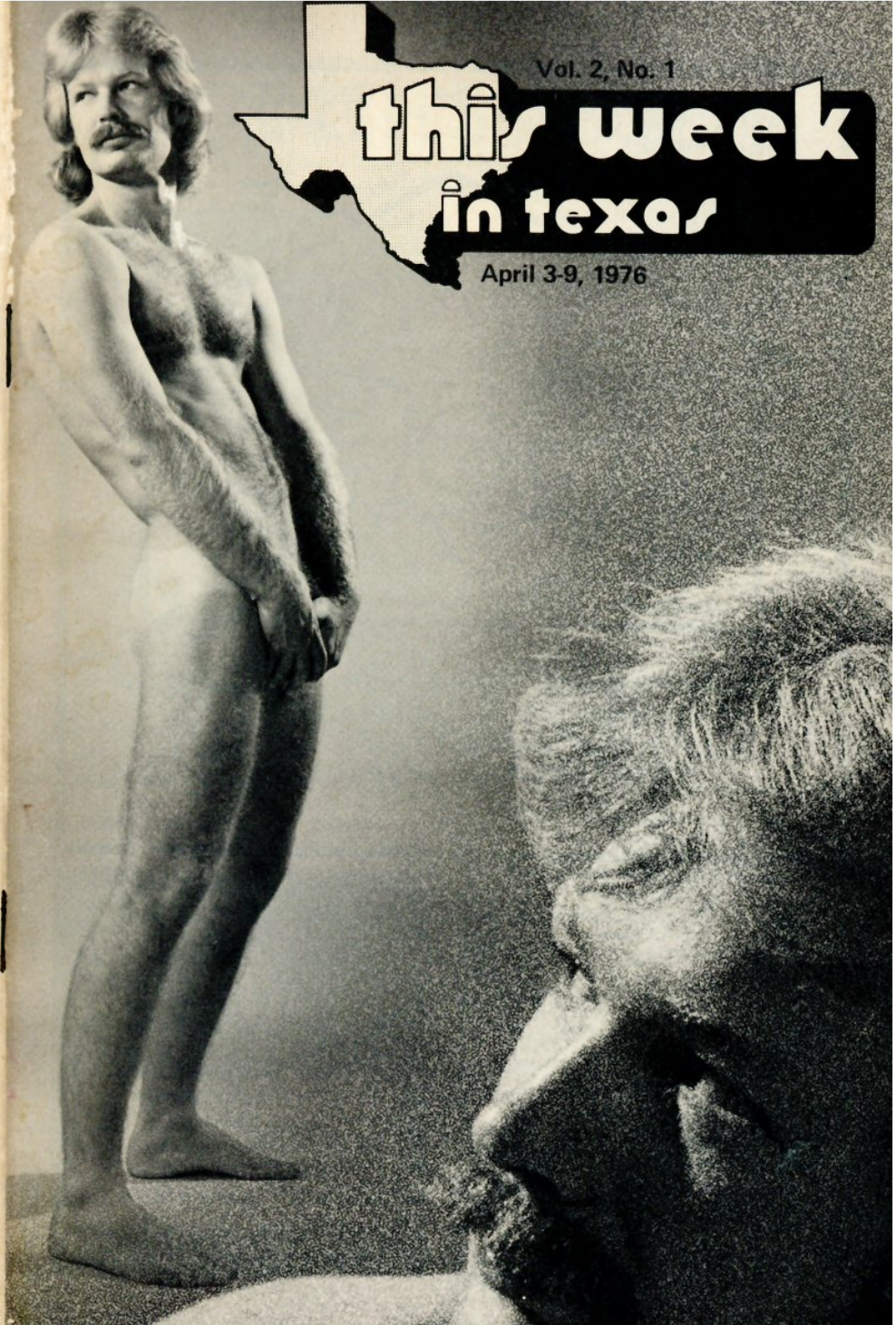
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Vol. 2, No. 1

**this week
in texas**

April 3-9, 1976



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Shown here and on the front is Bruce Eden of Corpus Christi. Primus photos.

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This Week in Texas is published weekly at 2110 Lexington, Houston, Texas, by This Week in Texas, Inc. Opinions expressed by columnists are not necessarily the opinions of This Week in Texas or its staff. Publication of the name or photograph of any person or organization in articles or advertising in This Week in Texas is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such person or organization. Advertising rates available on request. Phone (713) 527-9111 9am-5pm or write This Week in Texas, P.O. Box 22104, Houston, TX 77027. Subscription rate per issue: 50 cents. Back issues: 50 cents each. Payment must accompany all orders. First class postage paid at Houston, Texas.

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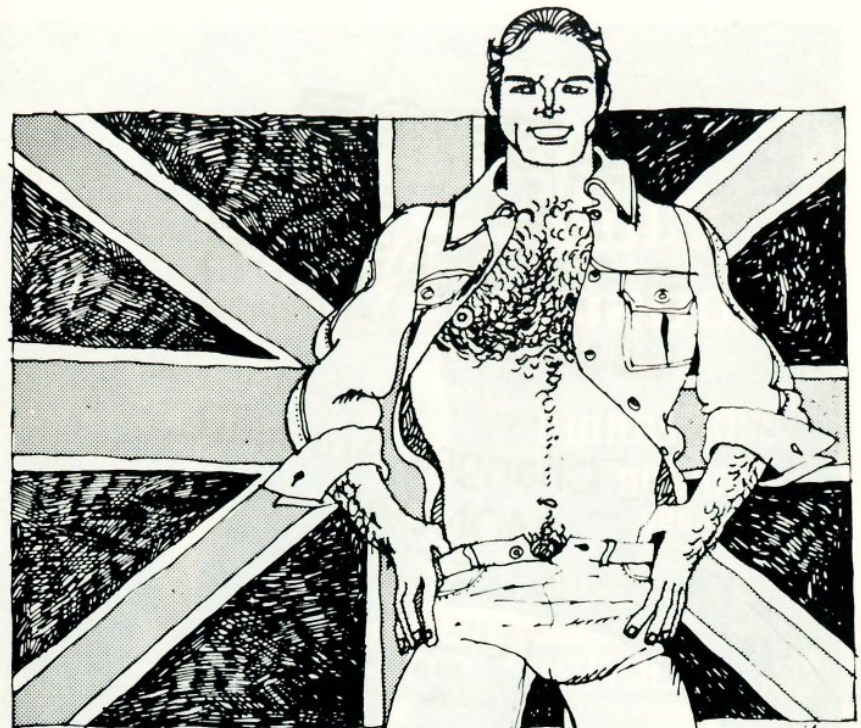
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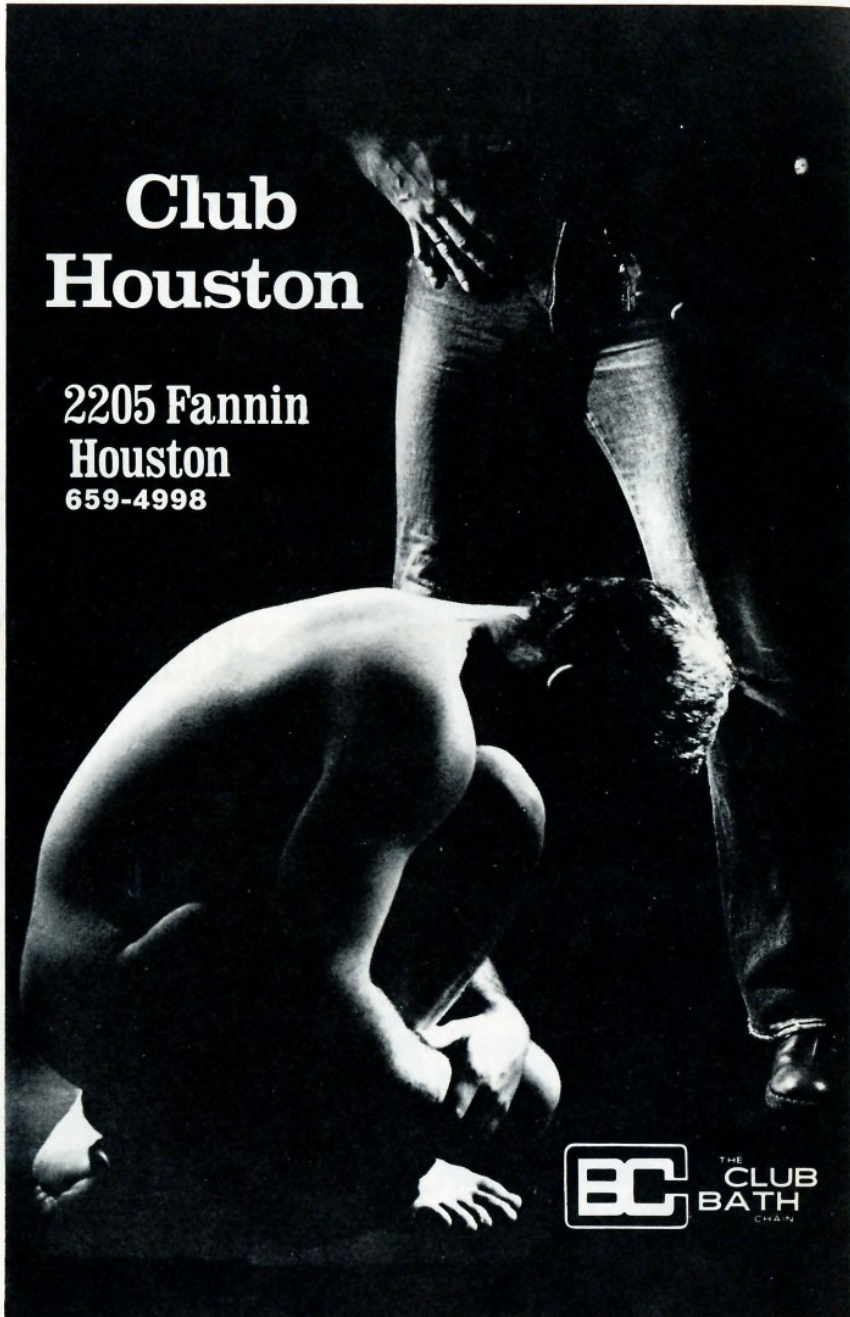
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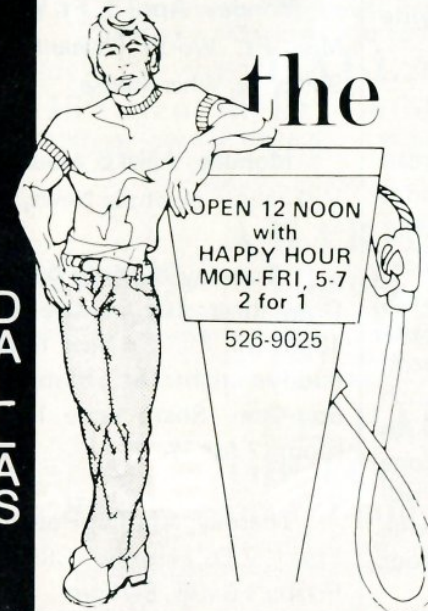
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DALLAS



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AROUND THE STATE THIS WEEK

Friday, April 2, Houston

Free V.D. health clinic, 9pm-midnight, Old Plantation.

Saturday, April 3, Dallas

Car wash for Gay Crisis Line at Club Dallas from noon to 5pm. One dollar donation per car.

Saturday, April 3, Odessa

Girls' band, "Mercee," Skylite Lounge. \$2 cover.

Sunday, April 4, Dallas

Special guest speaker Dr. Norman Pittenger, professor at Cambridge University, at the Dallas MCC evening service. . . . The "Licking Contest," Sundance Kids, 9:30pm. Call bar for more information. . . . 25¢ draw beer, T.J.'s, 5-8pm. . . . Olive Branch Saloon turns back to the 1930s with the big band music. Everyone dressed in the 1930s clothes will be entitled to 25¢ draft, 50¢ wine punch, \$1 well drinks plus door prizes.

Sunday, April 4, Houston

Special guest Mr. Veronica, plus two girls C.C. and L.S.P. join the regulars at the Hi There, 5-9pm.

Monday, April 5, Dallas

Slave auction at Terry's Ranch, 10pm.

Monday, April 5, Ft. Worth

Miss Ft. Worth Pageant, 10pm, Bailey St. Warehouse.

Monday, April 5, Houston

V.D. clinic at Studz News, 4-7pm.

Tuesday, April 6, Dallas

Draw beer 10¢ at the Encore, 10pm til ? . . . New hours for buddy night at Club Dallas, 6pm-2am. Share same locker or room (2 for 1).

Tuesday, April 6, Houston

Free V.D. Health Clinic, Mr. Frizby's Baths, 8-10pm.



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SUNDAY - 60¢ BAR DRINKS MONDAY - 10¢ DRAFT BEER
TUESDAY - 90¢ MARGARITAS WEDNESDAY - 60¢ BAR DRINKS
THURSDAY - CHAMPAGNE 50¢ A GLASS

AMARILLO

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MONDAY - 10¢ DRAFT BEER TUESDAY - 90¢ MARGARITAS
WEDNESDAY - 60¢ BAR DRINKS THURSDAY - POOL TOURNAMENT
FRIDAY & SATURDAY - \$1 COVER
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Wednesday, April 7, Dallas

Free V.D. Health Clinic, Sundance Kids, 9-11pm. Also new hours on beer bust, 10pm til midnight. . . . Pot-luck dinner, 6:30pm, Dallas MCC. . . . Special drag show starring Alan Allison, Miss Gay Dallas, at 10pm at the Encore. \$1 cover.

Thursday, April 8, Dallas

Free V.D. Health Clinic, Club Dallas, 8-11pm. . . . Draft beer 10¢ at the Encore, 10pm til ?

Houston Gay Organizations

Christ's Communion Church. Sunday: refreshments 10am, worship 11am. Tuesday: ministerial staff 7:30pm, CFC meetings 8:30pm.


Dignity. Thursday: meeting 8pm at St. Anne's Church, 2140 Westheimer. For further information call (713) 529-8213 or 629-6428.

Gay Political Caucus. Wednesday: general meeting open to the public at 7:30pm at the MCCR building.

Metropolitan Community Church. Sunday: worship services 11am, 7:30pm. Monday: Lambda AA and Transactional Analysis, 8pm. Thursday: Integrity meets at but is not affiliated with MCCR, 7:15pm. Tuesday: Bible study and Holy Communion, 7:30pm. Friday: Lenten Service, 7:30pm.

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Sampling Texas

The Oscars may be over for another year, but for the Texas gay community the expectant feelings of spectacle and hoopla goes on. Not for the Academy Awards — but for the Miss Gay Texas 1976 Pageant. And if you don't think that's a big deal, you ain't playin' with a full deck, honey.

The event will be held on April 10th and 11th at the Old Plantation in Houston, but at this very moment preparations are continuing all around the state as dozens of hopeful contestants "strut their stuff" in living room rehearsals. It's truly a statewide event, with all major (and a lot of minor) cities preparing to ship their hopefuls to Houston with the ardent desire of having the state trophy come to rest in their hometown.

The lucky person who will eventually walk away with the top honor will tote home not only the trophy, but a \$200 prize and a trip to the Miss Gay America contest as Texas' candidate for top honors there.

Several organizations are providing transportation for those who wish to come to Houston. In El Paso, for example, a bus will be



chartered to the Bayou City. Those interested should call the Pet Shop in El Paso for further details.

In Dallas, the Miss Gay Dallas Committee and the Encore are sponsoring a bus for the first 43 persons to sign up for the trip. The cost from Dallas is \$40 — but that includes not only transportation, but also a hotel room for two nights plus tickets to the show for both nights. The Dallas excursion departs Saturday morning April 10th. For more details on this, call the Encore in Dallas.

At this time, the only remaining tickets (for those not part of the charter trip) are the standing room only tickets that cost \$2 per person. The Old Plantation in Houston will be open at 5pm Saturday and Sunday for preliminary judging. All in all, the crowd for the Miss Gay Texas Pageant is one from which you will not want to be excluded. It's a REAL event! Be there!

In other notes, word from El Paso also includes notification that the Diamond Lil is moving to a new location. But it won't be hard to find — it's only two blocks further south.

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5 P.M. - 7 P.M.

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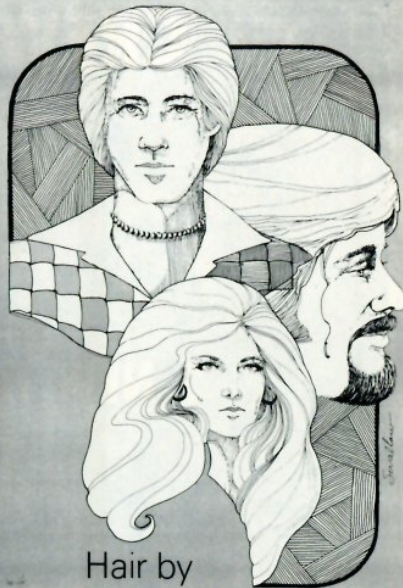
**"Come Get Drunk
With Helen"**

OPEN AT 8 A.M.

In Dallas, all you outdoor types will be pleased to know that a new patio is now in preparation at Chuck's. Get it on, get it on! Something new at the Olive Branch Saloon, too. At the O.B.S. they're currently running a "back in time" gig. Each week, the mood and activity at the bar reflects a bygone era. Check Around the State This Week listings for relevant information on this week's "historical" specials. It's a great deal for those of us who are too young to remember what the 40s or 50s were like. (And if you believe that, I've got some authentic splinters from George Washington's false teeth I'd like to interest you in.)

And finally in Dallas, good old Club Dallas is now working on a new sound system and a new "music room." (Anybody for a "hum" job?) It's going to be interesting to find out when they're going to be able to do renovation work, since the place is **PACKED** 24 hours a day. But manager Larry Woelich says come hell or high water, the work will be completed by May 1st. And God knows, when Woelich promises — he delivers. Maybe that's why Club Dallas is always jammed, huh.

Just the thought of Club Dallas makes me too hot to think, so I will close. Now where did I put that towel?



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Life With Vera

a serial by John Gardner

continued from previous issue

Vera hadn't been lying. This was a real emergency. Not because Vera sounded frantic on the telephone. Not because Vera had begged him to come over. But because Burt had rang Vera's doorbell, Vera answered even before the first chime was completed. For Vera to answer the door with that much speed did, indeed, indicate that some disaster of major proportions was underway.

"Okay, what's up?" Burt asked. "And it better be good. I've just abandoned a fantastic Sunday morning trick to come over here. What's the problem."

"Remember those brown striped sheets I bought at Foley's last week," Vera nervously probed.

"You brought me over here to talk about sheets!"

"No," Vera retorted, "but I thought it might be easier to tell you my problem if I started at the top."

"Skip the top – and the middle, get right down to the bottom of the problem. I'm in a hurry," Burt snapped.

"I used my brown stripped sheets to cover him up," Vera

explained. "I think my blue sheets would have been more flattering to his skin tone, but they were in the laundry."

"What the hell are you talking about. You're not making any sense. Snap out of it. You sound like Mary Hartman."

"The dead man, Burt. I'm talking about the dead man."

"What dead man!"

"The one in the bedroom. The one I brought home last night. The one who has gone to seek his final reward, but left his body under my Foley's sheets."

"You brought home a dead man!" Burt exclaimed.

Burt knew that Vera occasionally went in for some pretty kinky sex, but not even in his most vivid imagination did he dream that Vera was into carting home dead ones.

"Would you listen to me!" Vera injected. "I did not bring home a dead man. But he's dead now."

"What did you do!"

"Nothing. Or at least nothing I can remember. I don't really remember what happened. I just know that he was alive and kicking one minute. I went to the bathroom to put on a new face. And when I came out he



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wasn't breathing."

"And he's in your bathroom right now!"

"Is this my apartment?" Vera asked.

"Yes."

"Is that the door to my bedroom?"

"Yes."

"So anything that's behind that door is in my bedroom. Right?"

"I was afraid you'd say that. In that case, there's a dead man in my bedroom."

"Are you sure he's dead?" Burt implored.

"If he's not dead, he's the only person I know who can hold his breath for two hours, make his heart stop beating and turn blue on a whim. What am I going to do, Burt?"

"Did you call the police?"

"Police!! What do you expect me to tell them? Besides, they get so touchy. And all those questions. They have to know every little detail."

"Little detail! You've got a dead man in there! You call that a little detail!"

"Don't yell! I need help! I've got to get him out of here."

"Get him out of here? What are you going to do? Put his clothes on him and set him out on the curb?"

"Why not! He's stiff enough. We could stand him up outside the Farmhouse. Maybe he'd just get

lost in the crowd," Vera reasoned.

"Where have you been. The Farmhouse is just as dead as he is."

"Okay, let's prop him up outside the Old Plantation."

"Are you crazy! How long do you think it would be before someone noticed that he wasn't moving."

"Yeah, just my luck. Some dizzy queen would take one look at him and ask him to dance. He's very good looking. Or was. Nothing ruins a good complexion like dying."

"And what about the smell?" Burt asked.

"We'd dip in in Chanel No. 5 before we go?"

"No!" Burt answered.

"Will you help me?" Vera asked.

"No!" Burt answered.

"Do you have a better idea?"

"No."

"If I begged you would you help me?"

"No."

"If I pleaded?"

"No."

"If I threatened to tell the government about the tricks you pull on your income tax returns?"

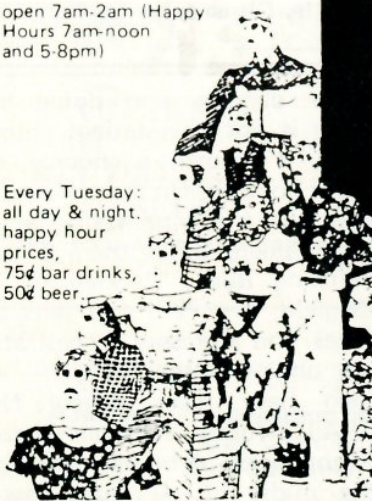
"You get his clothes. I'll bring around the car," Burt muttered.

Vera was doing it to him again.

"God help us all," Burt sighed.

continued next issue

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The Screen Shop

"The First Nudie Musical" reviewed by Christopher Savitch

From the very start, all concerned knew that "The First Nudie Musical" would be a sure-fire hit, not necessarily a BIG hit, but a hit, nevertheless. The film, done by an independent production company and released, upon completion, by Paramount, had been done on the lowest of budgets. Add a title that has a guaranteed audience potential to a film done on a low budget and there is no way anyone is going to lose money. So it was with "The First Nudie Musical." However, as it often happens, a certain "we're on a showstring budget" attitude ultimately prevails on the set, discouraging all involved, no matter how high had been the original aspirations. Soon the entire effort bogs down into a mire shared by high school talent shows.

The movie, which sets its aim on spoofing our puritanical heritage and attitudes toward sex, falls short of the mark. But given the cliched and overworked premise of the sexual spoof, it is doubtful that any effort in this area could prove fresh. It is in the movie's subplot, however, that all the sparkle and originality lies — that subplot being the movies themselves. To see five naked house-

wives dancing and doing high kicks is not devastatingly funny. Sure, it's worth a chuckle, but that's about it. On the other hand, you put a full orchestra behind the women, build them a stage befitting Busby Berkley or Flo Zeigfeld, give 'em top hats and canes, and a brassy orchestration not unlike "Hello Dolly" — and then have them dance! Now THAT'S funny. A dancing beaver is not funny. A beaver dancing in the midst of all that class is HYSTERICAL! The true spoof is not sex — but movies.

Cindy Williams of "Happy Days" and "Shirley and Laverne" fame co-starred in this effort prior to her recent small screen success. Other than that, excepting a small cameo role by Williams' friend Ronnie Howard, the film is a showcase of unknowns. And a few of them show up pretty well.

More than anything else, "The First Nudie Musical" is a one-man show — and the man is Bruce Kimmel, who wrote the script, wrote the lyrics, co-directs and stars. Whew! The basic plot concerns the effort of an industrious young man to save his father's movie studio by turning out a class skin flick, a skin musical, no less. It's a long way from




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Garland-Astaire-Rodgers fare. But it has its moments.

One of the most delightful sequences in the movie is a sequence in which our small, plump, virginal heroine wins an audition and gets cast in the nude musical. She has never had sex, won't have sex on film, and probably will never have sex in her entire life, though not for a lack of desire. However, she gets the part in the musical because she can provide the "innocence" our hero needs to give the movie "style." Once she gets the part, she goes singing out of the auditorium and proceeds to sing as she walks all over town, finally ending up on a cliff above glittering Hollywood just as the sun goes down — just as the music reaches a peak for her singing finale. It's much like a Stiesand performance of "Before the Parade Passes By" or "Nothing Can Stop Me Now." The fact that the words to our heroine's song concern making porno films is worth a million yocks!

Also worth mentioning is the "Dancing Dildos" production number, the auditions for "Best Faked Orgasm" and the running gags about doughnuts. It should be noted that the film is somewhat sexist. The nude male anatomy gets little or no show amidst all the prancing vaginas. But who's counting? If you've seen everything else in town, "Nudie Musical" is worth a ticket price.



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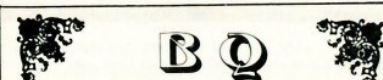
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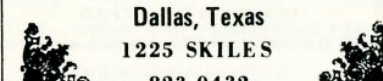
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