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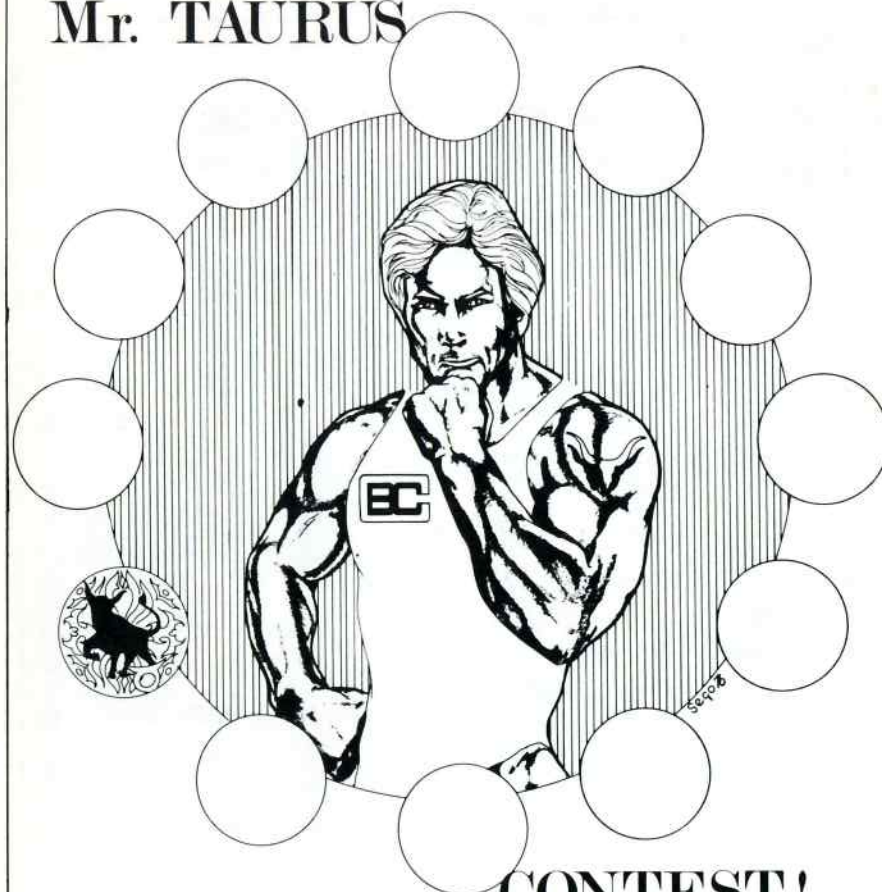


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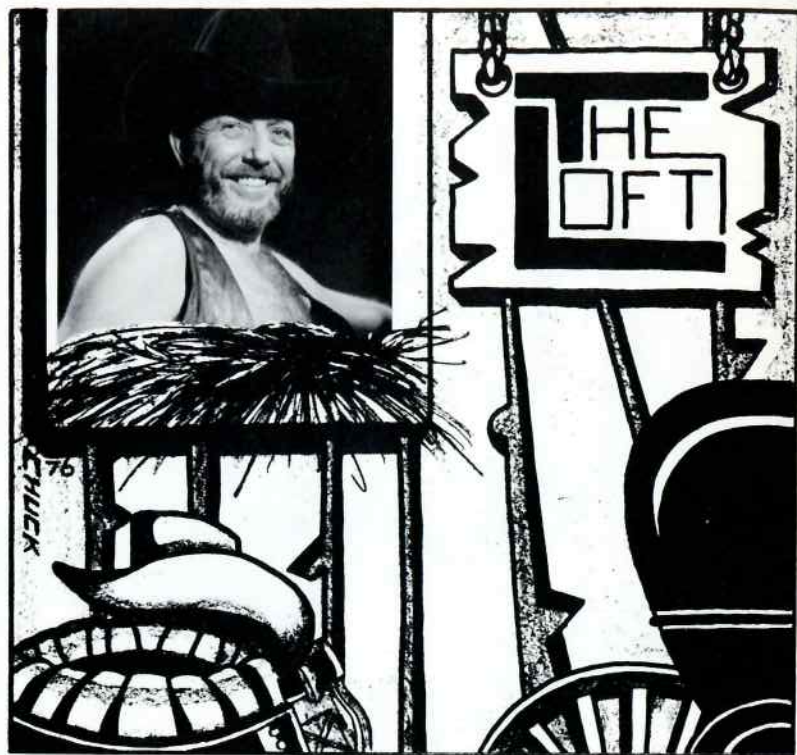
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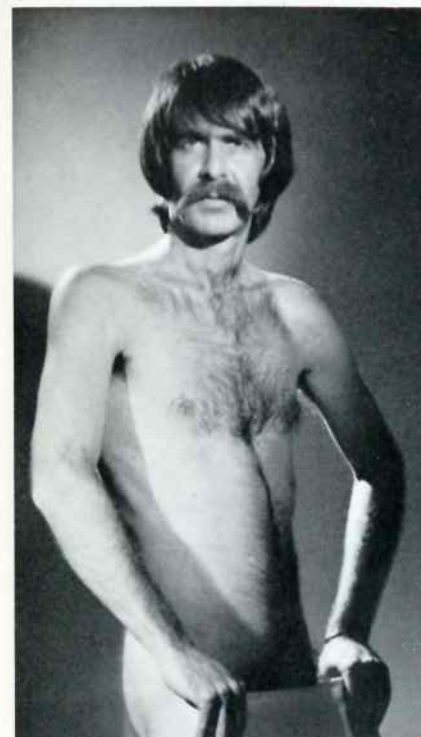
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Above: Escort's Dave. Cover: the Loft's manager, Nelson. Algren photos.

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The Locker — 1732 Westheimer

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AROUND THE STATE THIS WEEK

Friday, April 16, Houston

Master-Slave Auction, 10pm, The Locker. Winning Master receives \$100. Slave \$50. . . . Opening of Levi's, 2400 Brazos. Call bar for more information. . . . Birthday party for bartender Cookie, Hi There.

Saturday, April 17, Dallas

Car wash, Club Dallas parking lot, 12-5pm. Proceeds go to the Gay Crisis Line.

Saturday, April 17, Galveston

Show featuring Dawn Winters and Company. Dawn's first show after hospitalization. 10pm, Mary's II. Admission charge.

Saturday, April 17, Houston

Grand opening of the Loft, 9pm-2am. Special prizes given away every 30 minutes. . . . Mary's "Negrorama," 12-6pm. Some of the most sleazy Black drag queens in Houston. Admission to the patio is \$1, good all day. Hamburgers and barbecue will be served. . . . Movie "Gay Deceivers," 7:30pm, MCCR. Admission \$1.50.

Saturday, April 17, San Antonio

"Austin Hopping Drag Show," with guests from Austin, 10:30pm, Sundown Saloon. . . . Coronation of King Antonio LIV, Alamo, 7:30pm, free.

Sunday, April 18, Amarillo

Easter Sunday brunch, 1-3pm, Old Plantation.

Sunday, April 18, Dallas

Bloody Marys are 75¢ from 3-5pm at Bon Soir. Bring your own meat party at 5:30 (salad and fixin's supplied). 9pm on. 10¢ draw beer on the new patio. . . . Dallas Motorcycle Club's Easter Parade Hat Contest, 4pm, Chuck's. Prizes awarded to the winners. . . . Easter Parade Hat Contest with cash prizes, Service Station. Also, customer's will vote for the best bartender's hat. . . . Licking contest, 10pm, Sundance Kids.

Sunday, April 18, Galveston

Robert's Lafittes Easter Hat Party, 10pm.

Sunday, April 18, Houston

MCCR sunrise service, 6am, at the Inside Outside, with continental breakfast. . . . Easter egg hunt, Old Plantation. Prize eggs hidden all over the bar, all night. . . . All girl band, "Justice," 6-10pm, Lamp Post. . . . Beer bust all day at Odd's Place. Draft 25¢. Can beer 35¢. Girl's pool tourney with registration required by 6pm. . . . Easter hat parade, 3-7pm, Venture-N. \$50 cash prize for best hat. Drag show with Diana Wright and Veronica, 7-9pm. . . . Stuffed bunny rabbits to be given away every hour on the hour starting at 7pm, Depository. Grand prize is a 7-foot stuffed bunny rabbit custom made for the Depository. Special Easter buffet at 8:30pm.

Monday, April 19, San Antonio

River Parade, downtown San Antonio on the river, 7:30pm, free. . . . After hours at the Penny Pub.

Tuesday, April 20, Dallas

V.D. health clinic, 9-11pm, Bachelors Quarters.

Tuesday, April 20, San Antonio

Night in Old San Antonio, La Villita, 8-10:30pm, and again each night through Friday. Call for prices. . . . After hours at Penny Pub.

Wednesday, April 21, San Antonio

Coronation of Queen of Fiesta, Municipal Auditorium, 8pm, \$1.50-\$9.50. . . . Fiesta drag show, Hypothesis. . . . After hours at Penny Pub.

Thursday, April 22, Dallas

V.D. health clinic, Bayou Landing, 9-11pm. . . . Special benefit drag show for Miss Gay America, featuring former Miss Gay Americas, Encore.



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WEDNESDAY - FOLLIES AT 9:45pm - \$1 COVER - 60¢ BAR DRINKS
THURSDAY - \$1 COVER - 25¢ BAR DRINKS
FRIDAY & SATURDAY - AFTER HOURS - \$1 COVER

DALLAS

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TUESDAY - 90¢ MARGARITAS WEDNESDAY - 60¢ BAR DRINKS
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Thursday, April 22, Houston

First anniversary spiritual renewal service, 7:30pm, MCCR, with Rev. Jeri Ann Harvey from Oklahoma City and Rev. Ron Anderson from Ft. Worth.

Thursday, April 22, San Antonio

Fiesta drag show, Hypothesis. . . . After hours at the Penny Pub.

Friday, April 23, Houston

MCCR's first anniversary spiritual renewal service continued, 7:30pm.

Friday, April 23, San Antonio

Battle of Flowers Parade, downtown, 1:30pm. Free. . . . Fiesta drag show, Hypothesis. . . . After hours at the Penny Pub.

Dallas Gay Organizations

Gay Crisis Line — (214) 241-4118

Metropolitan Community Church. Sunday: worship services 11am & 7:30pm.

Houston Gay Organizations

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

Dignity. Thursday: meeting 8pm, St. Anne's Church, 2140 Westheimer. Call 529-8213 or 629-6428.

Gay Political Caucus. Wednesday: general public meeting, 7:30pm, MCCR.

Integrity. Thursday: meeting 7:15pm, MCCR.

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection. Sunday: worship services 11am, 7:30pm. Monday: Lambda AA and Transactional Analysis, 8pm. Tuesday: Bible study and Holy Communion, 7:30pm.

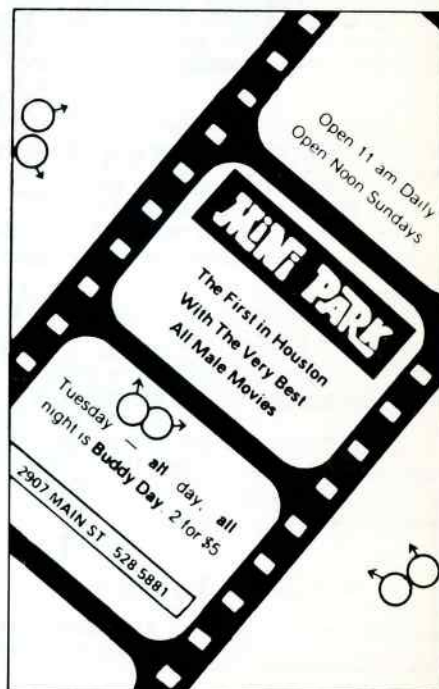
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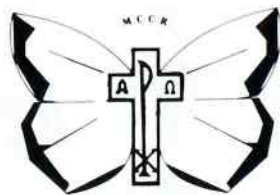
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OUR FIRST ANNIVERSARY SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Thursday — April 22, 7:30pm

Friday — April 23, 7:30pm

Sunday — April 25, 11am and 7:30pm

Featuring the Reverend Jeri Ann Harvey, Pastor of
Christ the King M.C.C., Oklahoma City, and the
Reverend Ron Anderson, Pastor of Agape' M.C.C., Ft. Worth

AND TO OUR

FIRST ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

Saturday — April 24, 7:30pm

Representative Ron Waters — Guest Speaker
Donations \$6.00

For Information Phone 526-8233



THE LOCKER FRI. - 10 P.M.

Sampling Texas

Time to dig out that old Easter bonnet, gang. All over the state, this is the week for colored eggs, big, furry bunnies, egg hunts, Easter parades — and all the cute and lovable things that go with the traditional Easter celebration — but with a gay touch, of course. Of course! (Straight people still haven't learned the art of pulling off a spectacular Easter morning brunch, huh.)

And on top of Easter, this is also the weekend for the spectacular Fiesta shindig in San Antonio. As Texas' answer to Mardi Gras, the Alamo City residents and bar owners pull out all the stops to make it the most decadent and delightful of events for the horny out-of-towner. (No one in the state lives too far away from San Antonio to make the trek not worthwhile.) Special events are planned city-wide. Unfortunately, most of them are of a nature that makes it unwise to elaborate at length in this column, since such information, if it got into the wrong hands, could serve as an invitation to uninvited guests in uniforms with badges and (gasp) guns.

On the tamer side, however, we will not that Mary Ellens will have a liquor license by Fiesta's opening celebration. (Poor Chris says she's a nervous wreck trying to figure out how to make all those exotic mixed drinks, which could turn out for the best — if she doesn't know how to make 'em, she sure as hell doesn't know how to water 'em down. Make a line, ya'll.) Also, the Penny Pub will be open for after-hours during Fiesta and the Hypothesis will feature spectacular shows. (Check Around the State This Week.)

This Week in Texas extends congratulations to Naomi Sims for coming out on top of the heap in the Miss Gay Texas Pageant, held in Houston at the Old Plantation. Should make all the folks over at Tooter's restaurant ecstatic, since they were sponsors of the Sims' triumph. Alan Allison, Miss Gay Dallas, walked away with first runner-up honors, while Janet, sponsored by Houston's Depository, copped the second runner-up award.

The ever-popular Westheimer Art Festival makes another appearance this weekend in Houston. The traditional "biggee" event kicks off on the 17th for a two-day run. Once again, the streets will be filled with hunky, semi-clad, beer-totin' numbers displaying big boxes and sex-starved looks of passionate lust. There's art for sale, too. Dirty Sally's will have their usual booth on the site, along with E.D. Lloyd. Sandwiches will also be available, under the Typhoon Tessie table. The Westheimer festival always provides lots to "eat" for those with lusty appetite. (There's food and drink, too.)

All you sinners who engage in the rampant "hanky-panky" that goes during the art festival (and all you sinners who engage in "hanky-panky" elsewhere) will be glad to know that you can "repent" by purchasing a ticket to the First Anniversary Banquet of the Houston M.C.C. Easter Sunday, the 18th, is the last day to get hold of one of the "going fast" tickets. The banquet will be held on April 24th with state representative Ron Waters as guest speaker. Amen.

Here are this week's Houston bar

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tidbits: Tricycle races are now being held on Tuesdays at the Old Plantation. Gitty-up! . . . All you chic gals will be pleased to know that new carpet and a new red-white-blue paint job will grace Just Marion & Lynn's. But don't let the new patriotuc motiff fool ya — they were bi-centennial even before the Bicentennial. . . . Over at the Lamp Post, there's a new all-girl band called "Justice" which features a hot new lead singer named Candy. You can get some "Justice" and Candy every Sunday from 6 to 10pm. . . . The Hi There is looking for talent for their popular Amateur Night event on Wednesdays. Meanwhile, the Thursday Steak Night and the show on Sunday continue to pack 'em in. . . . And finally, in Houston bar news, the Locker's gigantic Master-Slave sale will make its long awaited appearance on Friday, the 17th. I order you to go, you no-good, boot-licking . . . sorry, I got carried away.

Folks down Galveston way are getting fired up for the Dawn Winters & Company show that will be held on Saturday, the 17th, at Mary's II. The anticipation revolves around the fact that this will be Dawn's first show since his serious and very-extensive hospital stay. The city will pour out its "Welcome Home, Dawn," heart beginning at 10pm.

Some sound improvements have just been completed in Dallas. At Club Dallas, a new sound system has just been installed, while the exotic tri-level Music/Game Room is a sure-fire crowd pleaser. At the Service Station, a progressive country band called "Cactus Cafe" is tearin' things up on Sundays. Let's hear it for western boogie!!!

That's about it for this time around. Good luck on the Easter egg hunt and don't get your bonnet soiled. Cheers, gang.

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FRIDAY —
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SATURDAY —
 \$1 cover
 regular prices

SUNDAY —
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 Buffet, free Draft Beer, Show

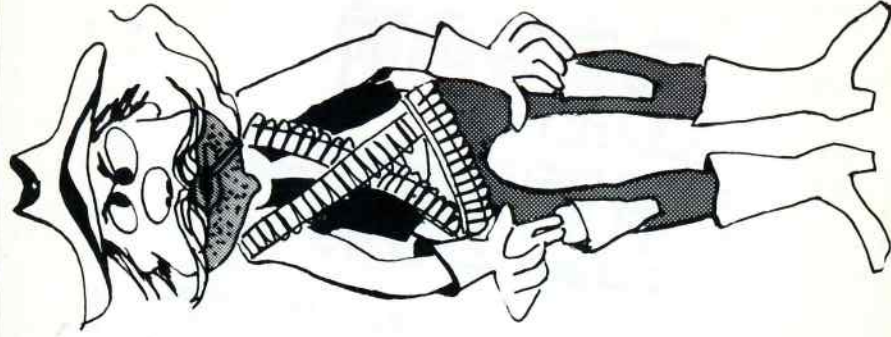
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| CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST 8-10am DAYTIME DISCOUNTS Lockers \$2 Rooms \$4 8am-4pm BUFFET from 4-7pm MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS Buy or renew at half price. Good for one full year. Free tickets for Sat. Color TV drawing | CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST DAYTIME DISCOUNTS 33% off regular admission NIGHT DISCOUNTS Lockers \$3 Rooms \$4 4pm-midnight MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS Half Price FREE PASSES Free future visit for outlaws whose membership card number ends with a "3" or "4", 4-9pm Free tickets for Sat. Color TV drawings | CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST DAYTIME DISCOUNTS 33% off DINNER served from 8pm MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS Half Price FREE PASSES Free future visit for outlaws whose membership card number ends with a "3" or "4", 4-9pm Free tickets for Sat. Color TV drawings | CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST DAYTIME DISCOUNTS 33% off BUDDY NIGHT Bring a friend, he gets his locker free MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS Half Price FREE PASSES Free future visit for bandits whose membership card number ends with a "5" or "6", 4-9pm Free tickets for Sat. Color TV drawings | CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST DAYTIME DISCOUNTS 33% off FREE LOCKER for members wearing CBC T-Shirt MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS Half Price FREE PASSES Free future visit for hombrs whose membership card number ends with a "7" or "8", 4-9pm Free tickets for Sat. Color TV drawings | CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST DAYTIME DISCOUNTS 33% off FREE ADMISSION ALL DAY If you have a Club Houston discount card, you get in free for showing it. MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS Half Price FREE PASSES Free future visit for trailhands whose membership card number ends with a "9" or "0", 4-9pm Free tickets for Sat. Color TV drawings | CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST 8-10pm MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS Buy or renew at half price. Good for one full year. DRAWINGS TONIGHT FOR TWO G-E COLOR TELEVISIONS |

Life With Vera

a serial by John Gardner

Continued from the previous issue

As unexpectedly as it had appeared, the police car with sirens blarring suddenly raced past Burt's car.

"Thank God! He wasn't after us," Burt sighed, as the color began to return to cleched knuckles grasping the steering wheel. "Close call, wasn't it? Wasn't it? David?"

The cop car may have been moving out of sight, but David had yet to regain his composure. He just sat there, speechless, making wheezing sounds not unlike those emitted by a teenager who has just downed his first shot of whiskey.

"Pull yourself together, David. Just a few more miles and we'll be in Galveston. We'll dump the body on the beach and get the hell out of here."

Vera managed to wheeze out a slightly gagged "Amen." But if he was praying, his prayers were obviously not going to be answered on this day. For just as they were rounding a curve, they came upon the police car once again. It was parked along side the road, with two other vehicles — a pickup truck and a school bus. The pickup was

on its side, the school bus completely overturned, with its "4-H Clubs of America" banner ripped from its side and now gracing an unsuspecting roadside shrub. Bodies were everywhere. Weeping and wailing for days.

Burt pulled off to the side of the road, joining other motorists blocked by the carnage. Everyone was running around in a panic, trying to do what they could to alleviate the situation. Burt was returning to a state of shock. Vera began a whole new round of wheezes.

"They're going to catch us! They're going to catch us!" Burt screamed. Vera wheezed out the same sentiments. With everyone running around, our heros were convinced that sooner or later people were going to notice their little AMC Pacer with the windows covered with old drag dresses and a corpse in the back seat.

"We've got to get the body out of this car!" Vera blurted, with an unexpected display of rationality.

"Get the body out!" Burt yelled incredulously. "With all these people around!"

"If we don't get him out, someone's going to see him. We've got to get him out — and put him

It's Fruitbasket Turnover Time!



Now, let's get one thing straight. (Well, nearly.) April is the first month fresh into Spring, and it's to breakups and divorces what June is to weddings. Through the long, cold winter months two people can get on each other's nerves, or something like that. So if you're fixing to split, why not with those unsightly split ends too? Come on down to Jodi's when the divorce is final and by the time June rolls around you'll be looking scrumptious.

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on the ground with all the other bodies from the wreck."

"He's dressed in a bathing suit!"

"This ain't no prom! You know he was too stiff to get into anything else! Besides, I've never dressed a person for a wreck. Now come on! Help me! We've got to get him out of the car!" Vera screamed.

Jumping out of the car, Vera climbed into the back seat.

"Here," Vera said, "cover him with this and we'll go lay him over there in that ditch."

Dragging the stiff corpse out onto the ground, which was no easy feat because its foot kept getting lodged between the bucket seats, the deceased was quickly covered with a sequin hoop skirt Vera once wore in a "Tribute to Tara" parade. They hastily placed their corpse beside the nearest available body from the wreck —

"You're just going to leave him here?" Burt asked.

"This isn't Computer Date Match. Besides, they don't make such a bad couple. For a blind date."

Burt and Vera raced back to their car, just as a cop with a clip board approached the ditch in which they had deposited the body. From the security of their car, our heroes heard a butch voice exclaim, "Good God! What the hell is THIS!!"

Continued in the next issue

El Jardin

WHAT
GAY
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Buffet 1 p.m.



Mr. Taurus Contest 3 p.m.



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Gay News Briefs

On January 15th of this year, a little item appeared in the San Antonio Express News concerning a program of bicentennial activities sponsored by the American Issues Forum Committee of San Antonio, an organization indirectly funded by the federal government. The item listed nine programs, including the discussion of issues pertinent to blacks, women, Mexicans, Indians — and one project for gays titled, "Gay in San Antonio — A Sense of Belonging." The Forum committee evidently felt that gay lifestyles in America were an issue, like other minority issues, which merited academic discussion. The "powers that be" in San Antonio evidently felt otherwise. And very soon the you-know-what was hitting the fan.

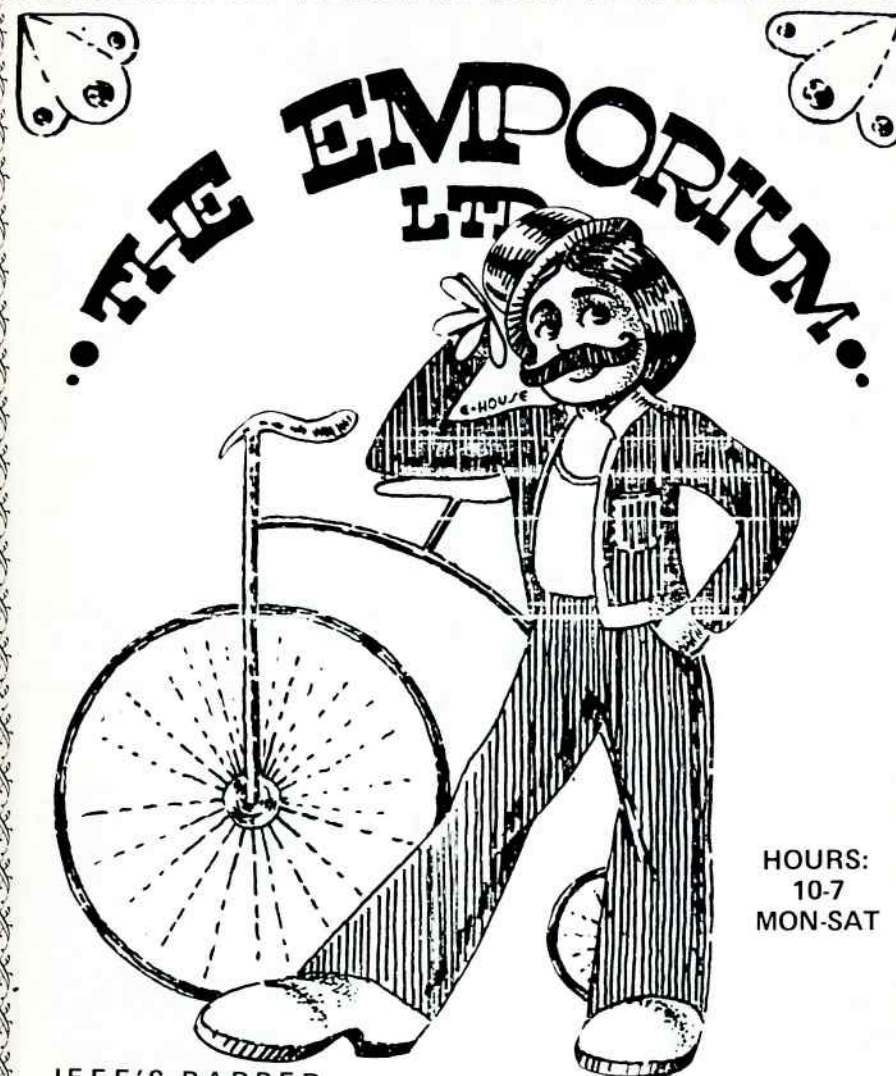
An inflamed and, as usual, uninformed County Commissioners Court passed a resolution lambasting the allocation of \$50,000 for the gay meeting. Their statement, in part, read: "The Court hereby voices its opposition to the allocation of tax dollars to a homosexual organization to attempt to validate the need for such socially unacceptable behavior . . . an irresponsible and socially unacceptable program that is the height of decadence." The commissioners went on to call for a formal investigation of the whole affair. The wisdom of the county commissioners can best be demonstrated by noting that in all of their formal protest

documents and legal paperwork, the amount of the grant is listed as being "\$50,000," when, in fact, the correct figure was \$5000. So much for the mentality of the "good ole boys."

By March 3rd, San Antonio News columnist Paul Thompson was warning that gays from all over the country were going to descend on San Antonio. The next day, the paper included a ballot for their readers to voice their opinion on the issue. The ballot ran again on March 5th. And as might be expected, the incorrect and adverse publicity given the gay meeting by the paper produced the desired negative response. Readers said they did NOT want gays to descend upon their city from all over the country. Unfortunately, that was never the issue to begin with. "Gay in San Antonio" is, and was always to be, an academic discussion of issues, a forum, not a hell-raising convention. But then, fears of a gay "plague" sell more papers than news of a small intellectual gathering.

The Forum would not be intimidated, however, and on March 11, announced that its small grant to the gay question was a good investment — and the project would not be withdrawn.

The papers were infuriated that they had not been able to produce a homophobic outcry to stifle the project and began a new series of anti-gay editorials. The San Antonio News continued its



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crys that the Alamo City would never recover if a gay person entered the city limits, while the San Antonio Express observed that the issue of homosexuality, unlike all other issues by other minority groups, did not deserve federal funds to finance a study.

By March 18th, the papers were giving coverage to San Antonio resident Mrs. Carolyn Ruggles, who speaks for "Women Who Want to be Women," an anti-women's-lib group. Mrs. Ruggles warned that the gay leaders are "trying to convince the world that homosexuality is normal and morally okay. I believe it is unnatural and immoral. If nobody protests this conference, our young people might start thinking there is nothing wrong with homosexuality." Mrs. Ruggles is now going door-to-door with her protest petition.

Conference coordinators Bettie Naylor and Kathy Deitsch stress that the May 1 program is going as scheduled, despite the outcry of those uninformed of its true nature.

"The conference purpose has been misinterpreted and misunderstood. It is not a gathering of gays at a homosexual convention. Rather, it is a day long event planned to address the question of 'how gay persons 'belong' in the human community."

Those wishing to attend the conference, which will be held at the Oak Hills Motor Inn, should write for registration information to: Conference, Box 2036, Universal City, TX 78148.

Both gay and non-gay persons of national prominence, including Massachusetts State Representative Elaine Noble and Karen DeCrow, president of the National Organization of Women, will be featured speakers and workshop coordinators.

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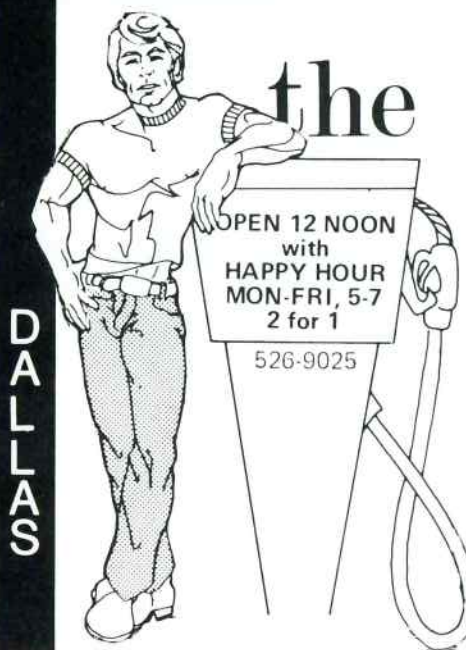


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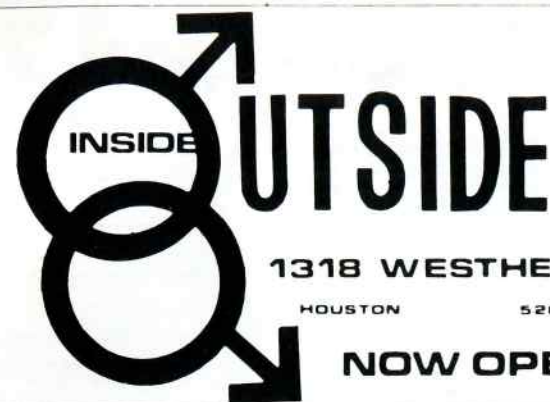
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