

HOUSTON FORUM

AS TEXAS TALKS

VOL. I, NO. 14
MAY 31, 1985

MR. SOUTHWEST DRUMMER CONTEST 1985

by T.L. Myers



EAGLE LEATHERS put together one of the most successful and entertaining events of the year this last weekend which raised \$3,315 for the KS/AIDS FOUNDATION OF HOUSTON. Prior to the Mr. Southwest Drummer Contest, the NATIONAL KS/AIDS VIGIL was held at the Reflection Pool at City Hall. The Vigil ran late which in turn delayed starting the contest. Once the show began, Houston was treated to a colorful and exciting *tour de force* of leather.

By 9 o'clock, *Rich's* was packed with people, people and more people. The crowd did not grow restless waiting for the show to begin, as happens at many

such events, because of the fabulous video system that lowers from the ceiling. The music blasted away as a sea of leather writhed on the dance floor.

A hush fell on the audience as the screen raised and a spotlight fell on the huge backdrop, the banner-bearing arm completed by the full figure of a man dressed in cap and harness. The spotlight focused on the banner which read MR. SOUTHWEST DRUMMER 1985—benefiting the KS/AIDS FOUNDATION OF HOUSTON. Bob Kennedy announced the beginning of the contest and then introduced MS. SOUTHWEST DRUMMER.

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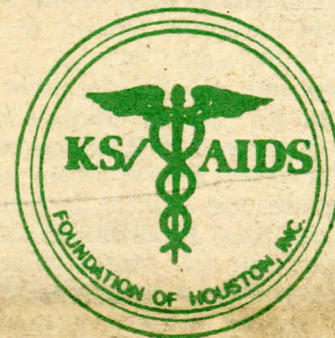
Maude and Contestants

KS/AIDS FOUNDATION'S OBLIGATION TO SHOW

There have been many interesting and valid points raised recently and the KS/AIDS FOUNDATION would like to take the time to help clarify these questions. In my position for several years now as a "leader" of the KS/AIDS Foundation of Houston, the two problems I face constantly are (1) raising funds to continually provide high-quality services and (2) recruiting manpower/volunteers/people to run the many activities and programs essential in providing these high-quality services.

Some people perceive that raising money and getting volunteers for AIDS work is easy because of the high visibility and media attention to the issue, along with the community's current concern about AIDS. Unfortunately, AIDS brings as many or more negatives as positives to these causes. For example, many people are still angry about the disease and many are still in denial; they wish the Foundation would just shut up and go away. Others are upset that the Foundation has not given the right research money to find the cure for AIDS. Members of the KS/AIDS Foundation Board have been ostracized from social groups and functions because their presence would "ruin a good party." I have had my life threatened by a patient I didn't even know because his drug therapy was not curing his *Kaposi's sarcoma*. So whoever thinks or perceives that help just keeps on rolling in needs to spend some time looking at the realities involved. Houston is special because we do not get any public assistance here like on the east and west coast for pro-

grams; even traditional sources of funding set up to help in this instance are afraid to touch AIDS because of having to answer to the public in a city of intolerance (Remember January 19!). All the money must be raised from the gay community, and it's not all that easy. For an "above-average—affluent" group, it's twice as hard to pull out funding as from the general public.



I wonder how many of the concerned and vocal community members who wailed over the loss of the recent so-called "gay-rights ordinance" referendum made any substantial contribution to this cause—and by substantial, I mean at least \$100.00 in cash and/or at least five hours per week of hard work in the basement of 3317 Montrose or on the streets. The same problems are reflected in the work of the KS/AIDS Foundation and in the political activities of GPC and the educational forums of CHE, and so on. The Gay Pride Parade is the perfect characterization of the gay community each year: a few of the

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MAJOR FEDERAL COURT DECISION ON GAYS' RIGHT TO PRIVACY

On Tuesday, May 21, 1985, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit issued its decision in the case of **Hardwick vs. Bowers**. The **Hardwick** case involved a challenge to the Georgia state sodomy statute, and is similar in many respects to the **Baker vs. Wade** litigation that has been brought by the Texas Human Rights Foundation (T.H.R.F.) to challenge the constitutionality of the Texas sodomy statute, Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code. In **Hardwick**, the Eleventh Circuit held that the Georgia sodomy statute infringed upon the fundamental constitutional rights of the plaintiff, an admitted sexually-active gay male, and therefore the State of Georgia must demonstrate a compelling state interest in restricting those rights and must show that the sodomy statute was a properly restrained method of safeguarding the state's interests.

In the case, the Atlanta police had arrested the plaintiff, Michael Hardwick, on August 3, 1982, because he had committed the crime of sodomy with a consenting male adult in the bedroom of his own home. Hardwick was charged formally, but the district attorney's office later decided not to prosecute the case. Hardwick then filed suit in federal district court seeking a declaration that the Georgia sodomy statute, which proscribed same-sex or opposite-sex acts involving the sexual organs of one individual and the mouth or anus of another, was unconstitutional under federal law. In his complaint, Hardwick stated that he was a "practicing homosexual who regularly engages in private homosexual acts and [who intended to] do so in the future." He was joined in bringing the suit by John and Mary Doe, a married couple acquainted with Hardwick. The Does claimed that they desired to engage in sexual activity proscribed by the statute but had been "chilled and deterred" by the existence of the statute and the recent arrest of Hardwick.

The federal trial court dismissed the lawsuit, holding that the Does did not have legal standing to challenge the Georgia law. The court held that Hardwick, although he had standing, had no legal claim in light of the 1976 **Doe vs. Commonwealth's Attorney** decision of the United States Supreme Court summarily affirming the dismissal of a case challenging the Virginia sodomy statute. Hardwick and the Does appealed the trial court's decision to the Eleventh Circuit.

A three judge panel of the Eleventh Circuit, in a split 2-1 holding, reversed the trial court. Writing for the panel majority, Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr. of Montgomery, Alabama, held that:

1. a plaintiff who had been arrested (but not prosecuted) under the Georgia sodomy statute had standing to challenge the statute's constitutionality;

2. a married couple who had intervened but who had never been arrested did not have standing as plaintiffs;

3. the summary affirmance of the Supreme Court in **Doe v. Commonwealth's Attorney for City of Richmond**, 403 F. Supp. 1199 (E.D. Va. 1975) aff'd without opinion, 425 U.S. 901, 96 S.Ct 1489 (1976), is presumed to have been on the standing issue and not on the merits of the right to privacy issue, and in any event, doctrinal developments subsequent to **Doe** have undermined whatever precedential effect that decision may have had;

4. the Georgia statute implicates a fundamental right of privacy ("the activity... is quintessentially private and lies at the heart of an intimate association beyond the proper reach of state regulations") protected by the Ninth Amendment and the concept of fundamental fairness embodied in the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; and

5. the State of Georgia, upon remand of the case for trial, must prove that it has a compelling state interest in regulating the behavior that the statute was ostensibly enacted to affect.

Judge Johnson's opinion was joined by Judge Elbert P. Tuttle of Atlanta, a senior judge who is remembered as one of the "Big 4" activist judges who wrote many decisions for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in the 1950's and 1960's putting an end to racial segregation in schools and public facilities in southern states.

Judge Phyllis A. Kravitch of Savannah, Georgia concurred in the majority's holding on the standing issues. She dissented on the merits, however, stating that she believes she would agree with the majority's holding that the Georgia sodomy statute should be tested under the "compelling interest" standard enunciated by the Supreme Court in its famous **Roe vs. Wade** decision involving the right to privacy and a woman's right to select abortion.

The **Hardwick** decision is significant for several reasons, according to a spokesperson for and a member of the Board of Trustees of T.H.R.F. First, it represents only the second time that a federal court of such a high jurisdictional level has ever addressed on the merits of the right to privacy of gay persons. The Supreme Court has consistently refused to consider appeals involving the constitutional right to privacy of gays. And only a handful of cases on the right to privacy issue have reached the federal courts of appeals (the federal courts one level below the Supreme Court in terms of authority). Last summer, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals in the **Dronenburg** decision rejected the constitutional claims of a gay man discharged from the Navy. The **Dronenburg** court held that gays enjoy no constitutional right to privacy. Last fall, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans heard the appeal in the Texas

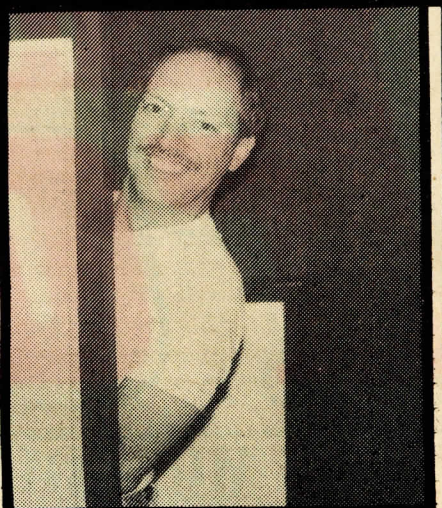
case; although the trial court, Judge Jerr Buchmeyer in Dallas, had ruled that Section 21.06 violated the rights of

equal protection and privacy of gay persons in Texas, the Fifth Circuit on appeal declined to reach the merits of the constitutional issues. Instead, the Fifth Circuit panel affirmed Judge Buchmeyer's decision on procedural grounds, holding that defendant and Potter County attorney Danny Hill had no standing to appeal the decision to the Fifth Circuit once the State of Texas, through its Attorney General, had declined to pursue an appeal. In short, in the only two previous federal circuit decisions involving the right to privacy of gay persons, the District of Columbia Circuit Court had ruled negatively on the right to privacy argument. The Eleventh Circuit's decision in **Hardwick** represents the first federal circuit court to consider and accept the proposition that a constitutional right of privacy extends to gay persons.

The timing of the **Hardwick** decision is also extremely important. In only a few weeks, on June 17, 1985, the Fifth Circuit will reconsider its earlier holding in the 21.06 case. Recently the 14 judges of the Fifth Circuit Court in active service vacated the ruling in the 21.06 case handed down by a 3-judge panel of the Fifth Circuit last fall. On June 17th, sixteen judges on the Fifth Circuit will hear oral arguments in the 21.06 case, a move that has serious implications for the gay community of Texas and for the gay movement nationwide. Because the Fifth Circuit 3-judge panel had disposed of the 21.06 appeal on narrow procedural grounds, the decision by the full court to reconsider the appeal came as surprise move to many court observers. The possibility exists that the full court could reverse Judge Buchmeyer's decision, with the effect that gay persons in Texas would again be criminals if they participate in sexual acts proscribed by Section 21.06.

The **Hardwick** decision of the Eleventh Circuit, although it is not binding on the Fifth Circuit, inasmuch as the two courts are of equal jurisdictional stature, may have much persuasive effect on the Fifth Circuit. Furthermore, the Eleventh Circuit's holding on the right to privacy puts that court into a square conflict with the **Dronenburg** holding of the District of Columbia Circuit, also a court of equal jurisdictional stature with the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits. Although the Supreme Court is not compelled to hear appeals involving cases in which there is a conflict of authority among the federal circuit courts, the Supreme Court is more likely to hear such cases to resolve the conflicts.

The **Hardwick** decision represents a major legal victory for gays in the federal courts.



Don Bye takes a bow.

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Amanda

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Thank heavens the long weekend is over, **Dear Fans!** Amanda has had the most trying times over the past **Memorial Holiday**, trying to get herself enraptured over entertainment. From one party to the next, we floated around **Texas** like some poor party spirit in search of a *permanent home*. While most parties were *tons of fun*, we have to say that the true height of our weekend was spent going down the **Guadalupe River** near **New Brunfels!** *Our poor body is still racked with pain, Dear Fans!*

It was the perfect day. There were no clouds, and the blue Texas sky simply dwarfed us as we hopped into **Kevin's** red Audi and sped off in the pretty early morning dawn with **Keith** and **Ralph** along. We had, of course, dressed for the occasion, wearing our finest **early morning pink tulle dawn dress** with the **sunspot glitter hemline**. Underneath, we put on our dearest **flesh colored one-piece Sally Field I-Can't-Believe-You-All-Like-Me** swimming suit with the matching **Tank Tread Beach Death** sandals for extra traction in raging river water.

We had heard lots about going down the Guadalupe, **Dear Fans**. Many of our dear friends have done it over the years, coming back with tales of fun and occasional bravery in the face of nature's *stolid odds*. Of course, last year, the water was so low that inner-tubes had to be *bounced* down the river, but we had sent **Sebastian** up during the week to check out the waters and his report was most satisfactory. So, we set out for the *wild wilds* in an Audi during dawn.

We were most dismayed when **Ralph** pulled out a *portable television* set and turned on the **Smurfs** in the back seat. He and **Keith** were glued to that damn thing for the entire trip—at least until the *makeshift umbrella satellite dish* on the roof of the car couldn't pick up anymore signals from **Houston**. We thought we would go nuts if we heard one more giggle from one of those sickening **Smurfs**. What ever happened to *real* cartoons like **Bugs Bunny**? And who ever heard of watching TV inside a moving car? Why, the thought of it makes Amanda's stomach *squirm*! There can be nothing more bizarre than watching a speeding car chase on TV while sitting inside a moving vehicle. And if the Texas scenery isn't enough to keep one occupied, why not just *fly*? Besides. *It's so bourgeois!*

When we got to our destination, we were amazed at how *crowded* it was. Thousands of tourists with innertubes and canoes and kayaks swarmed the roadside restaurants and motels, jostling for space in the lines to the rest rooms. At one point, Amanda had to pretend a *fainting spell* so that she could be carried to the ladies room. Once inside, we shoved the ladies out of the way and rushed to the appropriate facilities, then to the mirror to complete the application of our **Colorado River Weed Green eye shadow** and **I-Dare-You zink oxide lipstick**. Of course, we couldn't possibly get into the water without our **Space Baby pink bathing cap**.

When we reached the water, we were escorted to a large shed, where we picked our innertubes. **Kevin** found a very *architectural* looking tube with post modernist tendencies, while **Keith**

found a very posh and padded tube with comforting *fur lining* for his delicate skin. **Ralph** found a massive tube big enough to contain his *sense of humor*, and Amanda found an incredibly wonderful old black tube with at least seventeen different patches in assorted pastel colors.

"*Aren't you afraid it'll leak?*" **Keith** asked, toting our tubes to the waiting shuttle van.

"*Honey, the best rubber is used rubber!*" we said light-heartedly, sweeping our pink tulle in the breeze as we were hoisted onto the van.

The shuttle van looked like something the **Jews** would have boarded on the way to a *deportation train*, and Amanda was a little hesitant to get on, but threw her apprehensions to the wind as she saw the lithe and beautiful *van driver* in the *tight cutoffs*. We asked him if he had ever been to **Paris** and he said that he had been there once during a *tornado* and didn't care to go back. We didn't bother telling him that we had not meant **Paris, Texas...**

After a rather noxious and bumpy ride, we jumped out of the van and rolled our tubes to the rushing waters, where dozens of people were screaming as they sat down in their tubes and pushed off.

Amanda's little toes nearly curled back to her *thighs* as they entered the *frigid waters*. This was no lazy steamy bayou! This was a freezing cold spring-fed stream, and the water was like *freon* on our skin. We didn't whine about it, though, **Dear Fans**. Whining should be reserved for only the most boring trips, and if anything, this didn't look *boring*! So, we set our little fanny inside our innertube and pushed off. There were *mucho* stares and exclamations from the men on the other side as Amanda peeled off her pink tulle cape and exposed her *flesh-colored bathing suit*. From a distance, the flesh colored one-piece and light pink bathing cap make Amanda look like a *nude leukemia patient with wrap-around sunglasses*. But then, we were there to have fun and leave a *lasting impression*!

It didn't take long for Amanda to grow accustomed to the frigid waters, and soon the four of us were lazily floating down the river, anticipating our first *white waters*. We could hear the ominous thunder of fast water approaching, and although Amanda felt a certain *apprehension*, she masked it with a carefree titter as she sloughed another **Miller Light** in the most ladylike fashion. But before we could even set our little can down again, the current suddenly grabbed us and *threw us about* in the most violent fashion. As we gained speed, we clamped onto the little innertube as though it were our very life, screaming like a flaming gypsy who had danced a little too close to the fire. The shore became a complete *blur* as we sped by, and the white waters splashed and pounded us.

Fortunately, we had procured an innertube with a *fiberglass bottom*. We had originally done this to keep our derrier out of the water so that it would not *warp* beyond repair, but now we were thankful because it fended off the harsh blows of some very nasty rocks!

Then, like some evil monster, lurking

ahead, its jaws wide open, sucking in every helpless creature, the *falls* appeared. Our speed increased and before we could even begin to paddle to the shoreline, our innertube *catapulted* over the edge and Amanda found herself thrown into the cold and very violent waters.

Oh, **Dear Fans**, there is nothing more frightening than feeling your life ebb away as the waters pull you under! Try as we might, the grasping current under the falls kept *sucking* our little body to the deep, and our **Raspberry Stain fingernails** literally clawed the water in an effort to reach the top!

At one point, Amanda heard someone say; "*Someone save that woman! She's drowning!*"

"*I will!*" some masculine voice shouted. But then a female voice screamed: "*No, you don't! She ain't wearin' no swimmin' suit!*"

We silently cursed our flesh-tone one-piece, but at about that time, we were suddenly free of the undercurrent and our little body was *shot* from the *spot* like a bullet from a gun. Our three friends were just opening another round of beer cans as we paddled up, all torn and bruised in our little patched innertube.

"*Hey, girlie,*" some rather uncouth lad yelled from the shore, where he and about sixteen other long-haired men and women swung inside a massive *hammock* over the water, "*Why don't you put on something decent like a pair of cut-offs! Maybe then someone would save you when you drown!*"

"*Wit takes depth, Dear,*" we said as we regained our composure and paddled away.

Actually, the whole crowd along the river was so *strange*. There were campers and tents, with hundreds of long haired young men and women sitting around, smoking pot and *throwing beer cans into the water*. It was truly one of the most shocking things Amanda had ever seen! Back home in **South Dakota**, such goings on would have been banned immediately by the **park patrol**—but then we realized that there was no park patrol here! So, we kept silent and watched as raft after raft of impossibly drunken people floated down the river, talking very loudly and making rather rude remarks about Amanda's *suit*.

We were also rather impressed by the fact that there were so many groups of *men* there together, and they all seemed to wear *scarves around their necks*. Amanda doubts that she ever missed a trend, but this fashion had escaped her completely. In fact, Amanda had not heard anyone called a **Faggot** in years, but she did see one possibly gay man accosted as he was crossing a gravel road near the tube shed. A pickup truck drove by and several young men (*all sitting on each other's laps, of course*) yelled out the window—"Faggot!"

It was all rather fun, lounging in the river and basting in the sun, but Amanda was actually very glad to leave the place and get back to the confines of **Houston**, where she and her friends can be themselves without being over powered either by nature or by the *perverse idiosyncrasies* of those *who abuse it!*

Actually, we thought that the city of **Houston** should send out about two

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dozen basket people from the city to **New Brunfels** to pick up all the beer cans. It would be like *heaven* to them, and it would certainly make the poor place look like the fabulous natural phenomenon it is! As we sat in our nice dry **Sunset Orange capri pants** and **lime green tank top** at **Charlie's Coffee-shop**, across from the **Tower Theatre**, we thought of the beauties and monstrosities of Texas, and it never ceases to amaze us. Perhaps it is time for Amanda to travel to another *exotic* location. Then again, as we sat on the little porch and watched as a *black transvestite* looking like **Tina Turner** talked with an *aging police man*, we decided that perhaps we were watching the most exotic scenery that can be had anywhere in the world—*right here in Texas*.

VIEUX CARRE APARTMENTS

New Orleans-style
Courtyard with pool.

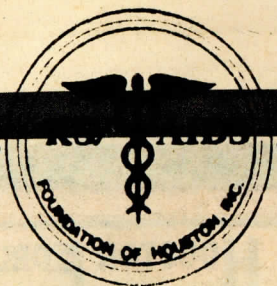
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(cont. from page 1)

same people out there in the streets sweating in their socks and a whole lot of people just out for the party, yelling and screaming and making judgements about the show from the sidelines. What we need is more people in the parade and less on the curb!!!

So I whole-heartedly agree that there seems to be only a small group of *exclusive* people providing the leadership on the issue of AIDS and countless other gay causes. If you take the time to circulate among the major organizations, task forces, committees and Boards of our community, you will see the same people doing the same work for different organizations: the *Marion Colemans*, the *Bill Scotts*, the *Sue Lovells*, and so on. Right here lies the heart of the whole matter—it seems that no matter how many speeches you give, no matter how many pleas for assistance you put out, no matter how many letters and articles like this one we write, no matter how many public meetings and open committee/Board meetings we hold, it is extremely rare that anyone *new* gets deeply involved for more than a week-and-a-half in any community activities. That is the problem!!!

There are exceptions! For example, the patient care buddies of the KS/AIDS Foundation now number nearly 200; yet at the same time, there is hardly anyone willing to do fund-raising, join the speakers bureau, audit the books, decide how to spend money on patient services, or decide how to solve the problem of providing private and group counseling for people with AIDS. People can serve on the Fund-Raising, the Community Affairs Committee, the Scientific Review Committee, and Financial Review Committee, the Social Services Committee, or one of a dozen committees if they want to. Here is where the decisions about how the money is spent is made; here is where understanding of what the Foundation does is gained; here is where the questions about income and expenditures can be addressed in detail. Here is where the community can become face to face with the "Foundation's Obligation to Show." All Foundation committee meetings and Board meetings are open to the public, yet hardly anyone ever shows up to ask question or make suggestions; the local gay media has *never* sent a representative to any Board or committee meeting of the KS/AIDS Foundation of Houston to obtain information about the Foundation's internal dealings and decision-making processes. Yet the Foundation certainly is one of the leading, most business-like, well-run community service organizations in town. Does anyone care?

Regarding financial disclosures is a standard business practice, which the Foundation provides—an Annual Report and Financial Statement. Each year, copies of the report are mailed to the media and approximately one hundred other organizations and businesses in the community. Notices are placed in the newspapers that any individual may obtain a copy of the document for their inspection. In four years, no one has posed any questions to us regarding our financial reports and few indi-

viduals have requested a copy for review. Does anyone read it? Again, do they care? I begin to wonder. (By the way, the Annual Report and Financial Statement is prepared by an independent CPA whom the Foundation pays since we have been unable to get a volunteer from the community to tackle this tedious task of record-keeping.)

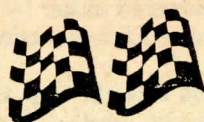
Regarding the McAdory House there seems to be a lack of understanding about the business dealings of the Foundation. Simply explained, The McAdory Social Services Center is a piece of rental property being leased to us at an extremely good price. We are not buying the property, so it is not "paid for" yet; all the money we raised during the past twelve months would not be enough to actually purchase the buildings. The monthly rental is, by the way, \$1,000.00 which is kindly covered by a monthly donation from the *Diana Foundation*. Food, transportation, financial grants to people with AIDS, and about a dozen other service



programs all come out of the McAdory Social Services Center budget. We maintain an operating budget of several months at a time in advance because that is as far ahead as we have been able to get. So in a nutshell, we raise funds to operate from month to month, most all programs such as McAdory House operate under-budget, and fund-raising is a continual process since we obtain no fees for service.

The big difference with the AIDS problem and the other "gay causes" is that, unfortunately, AIDS is here to stay. Referendums come and go; political seasons come and go; Gay Pride Weeks come and go—but AIDS just keeps on coming. The Foundation has to *keep* raising money and finding *new* volunteers *constantly* in order to continue providing the professional level of services that our community expects and demands. One or two fund-raisers a year, or even a month, doesn't cut it. Having a volunteer training program every once in a while is not enough. We have to have two fund-raisers a week and regular volunteer trainings once a month at least. All the time, we are risking the burnout of the same people who do all the work all the time.

The community has the right to know, but they must realize that they also have the obligation to find out, to provide input, and to make changes. So let's get started. Following is a list of the KS/AIDS Foundation of Houston's Committees and what they do, the names of the chair and his/her phone number. Get involved; help us meet the challenge. Let your right to know come face to face with our obligation to show.



Community Relations (newsletter, media/public relations) *Patrick di Battista*—520-9670

Education (public forums, brochures, speakers bureau) *Stuart P. Timm, M.D.*—464-0099

Scientific Review (research project grant review) *Peter W. A. Mansell, M.D.*—792-8265

Special Events (Gay Pride Week, Volunteer Recognition) *Bruce Felgar*—668-0124

PlaySafe Promotion (disease prevention campaign) *Mark Firner*—529-7681

Social Services (grants and loans to people with AIDS) *Tom Audette*—528-5535

AIDS Residence Center (several social service programs) *John Barnish*—528-5566

Mental Health Needs (counseling needs) *William A. Scott*—529-1913

People with AIDS (PWA) (local and national input) *Paul Rodenkirch*—526-6450

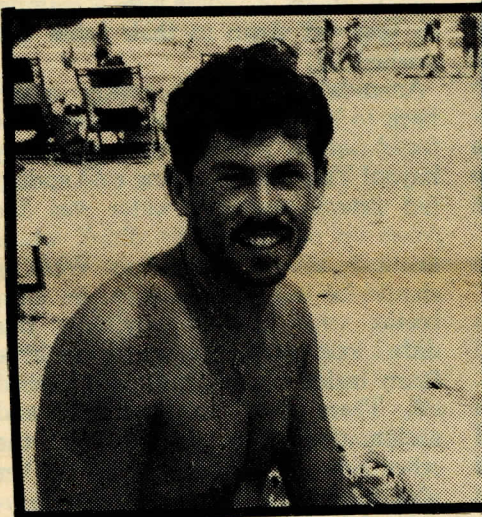
Human Resources (volunteer recruitment) *James F. Beecher*—529-1913

Fund-Raising (as the name implies) *Mark Firner*—529-7681

Financial Review (financial reports) *Jim Bob Smith*—529-1473

Nominations and Elections (as the name implies) *Sue Lovell*—862-2172

PLATTER CHATTER



by J.D. Arnold

Summer is now officially here and with it comes the party season. Kicking it off this year was the *Encore* party held at *Numbers* and featuring the heyday of disco. *Jimmy Spalding* managed to stir many happy memories with his excellent selection from those carefree days. Juneteenth is fast approaching and this year's party, hosted by *Randolf Parks* of the *Mining Company* and friends, looks like the biggest and best yet. Entitled *BLOWOUT 85* and being held at *Rich's* on Monday, June 17, the party will feature the music of four DJ's, including a spinoff between *Michael DeGrace* and *Eric Puyo*. The *teeshirts are an absolute must this year as they have been designed by local artist Danny Campbell* and printed by *T.N.T. Shirts*.

This week has seen many new releases worth checking out. *New Order* are back with a new album and single which should re-establish them as one of the premier progressive dance bands. The single *Perfect Kiss* is already one of my personal favorites, especially the mix on side 2 of the 12". *Albrecht's* vocals on the album *Low Life*, grates the nerves occasionally when he misses the notes, but overall I would highly recommend this album for the more progressive dance enthusiast.

Duran Duran are once again aiming at the pop charts with their most insipid offering to date. *A View to Kill* is the title song from the new James Bond movie and like the accompanying video, it makes me embarrassed that I ever liked them.

The record that held on to the number 1 spot in England for the past few weeks relates more to the U.S. than to my home turf. 19 by *Paul Hardcastle* refers to the average age of combat soldiers during the Vietnam War and, along with the video, supplies some explicit scenes and interview extracts from the war. Paul Hardcastle recently had his first hit on this side of the Atlantic with *Rain Forest*, a hypnotic jazz instrumental, 19 has Paul Hardcastle's unmistakable stamp on it but has a much harder edge than *Rain Forest*. Another big hit in England with a jazzy feel to it is the latest from the *Rah Band*. *Clouds Across the Moon* opens with a telephone conversation between planets before breaking into a beautiful after-hours winner produced and written by *Richard Hewson*.

Propaganda, a German group who made it big all over Europe last year with *Dr. Mabuse*, is being promoted by the same company that handles *Frankie Goes to Hollywood*. This should insure the success of their excellent new single, *Duel*. The 12" features two totally different versions of the song, the B side cleverly titled *Jewel* is much harsher and has a fun intro but is completely outshone by the hypnotic beauty of the A side.

John Sims, DJ at *Ray's 5 & Dime*, current favorite is the new album by *Natalie Cole* which features the hit *Dangerous* and is quite a comeback for the daughter of the late Nat King Cole. Tracks like *Your Car (My Garage)* and *Opposites Attract* should insure that this album is not a one hit wonder. *Randy Ryder of the Copa* is having great success with *Dead or Alive's* *Youthquake* album, especially *My Heart Goes Bang*.

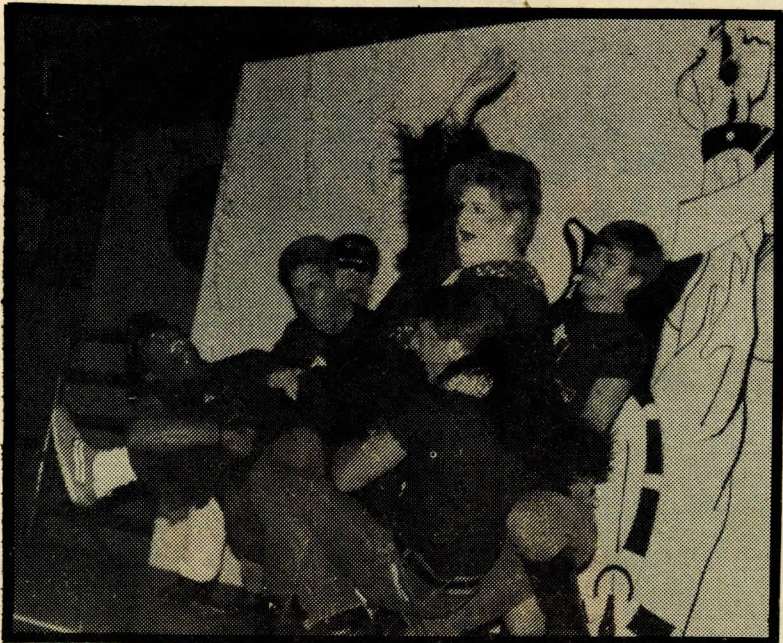
The self-proclaimed *Mother of Punk*, *Nina Hagen*, who originated behind the iron curtain in East Germany, has released a new album which includes the bizarre version of *My Way* which gave her recognition in the States about four years ago. New York has obviously been a major influence on Nina's style of music as has *Exstasy* or as Nina spells it, *Ekstasy*. The album entitled *Nina Hagen in Ekstasy* will upset the more religious of you with its irreverent version of *The Lord's Prayer*, but her version of *Spirit in the Sky* is excellent. Can't wait to see a video from this album!!

David Bowies released a remixed version of the album cut *Loving the Alien* which I thought was the best cut on the last album. With it comes his best video since *Ashes to Ashes* five years ago and he desires to win an award once again for artistic direction.

Gary Numan, who is making quite a comeback with *Bill Sharpe* on *Change Your Mind*, has produced a single for an ex-James Bond girl. *Pump Me Up* by *Carolyn Munro* should appeal to both the progressive and the after hours crowds with its swirling synthesizers and compelling sax break. The perennial *Amanda Lear* is back with another dance floor winner entitled *No Credit Card* which should keep her fans happy for the summer months.

(cont. on page 6)

MR. SOUTHWEST DRUMMER CONTEST 1985



(cont. from page 1)

The familiar lead-in *THEN THERE'S MAUDE* filled the air as the crowd held its breath in anticipation. Maude performed his opening number and worked into "I'm One of the Girls, but I'm One of the Guys" from "Woman of the Year". "One of the Guys" was performed with the contestants as backups which eventually led to their group effort of lifting Maude to the heavens. The effect was much like a defective Shuttle that never left the launching platform, as the group collapsed into a pile on the stage floor. Thankfully, they weren't near the edge, or there could have been one of the worst disasters since the *Hindenburg*.

After the opening number, Maude introduced the judges and then quickly moved on to the official introductions of the contestants. The contestants modeled their leisure and/or swimwear and quickly got the crowd calling for more.

From there, the show moved on to the judging of the Fantasy category. The first fantasy, by the Caligula Photo contestant—*Ted Lenz*, included the 'Caging of Maude' complete with handcuffing. *Louis Bradford*, Studio 13's contestant, opened a few eyes with his 'Flaming Fire Dance'. Then *Troy Marquis*, of the 611, wowwed the audience as the 'Beast Master'. *Alexander Hollar*, sponsored by Leather by Boots, raised eyebrows with his exotic 'Chain'em to a Rack and Work'em over with Hot Candle Wax' number. *Thomas J. Smith*, sponsored by the French Quarter, did a very surrealistic

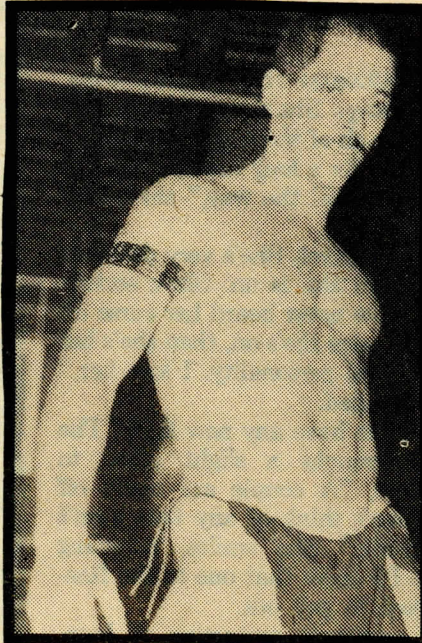
fantasy involving a hunter hunting, capturing and freeing a mythical beast—the unicorn. (At least that's what I think it was about. By this time the toddlers were kicking in and my



Joe Varvaro

comprehension factor was a little fuzzy.) *Joe Varvaro*, sponsored by Hooters, left little to the imagination as he whipped and shaved his fantasy subject to a frenzy. Believe me, that number whipped more than just his subject to a frenzy as the crowd screamed, yelled and otherwise raised the decibel level at Rich's to a hitherto unknown peak. The final number by *Peter Casares*, sponsored by Mary's ... naturally, also was quite a crowd pleaser. Peter was accosted by two

rather beefy police officers and suffered cruelly in their hands. Before it was all over though, Peter showed those two guys a thing or two about manhandling. One unidentified patron standing behind me innocently remarked, "No wonder guys are always having



Peter Casares

problems with the cops, they eat it up!" The crowd at Rich's cried for more, but alas the show had run out of contestants and Maude had to call intermission as she heavily panted (she wasn't the only one with accelerated respiration—believe me) her way through the last minutes of the first half of the program.

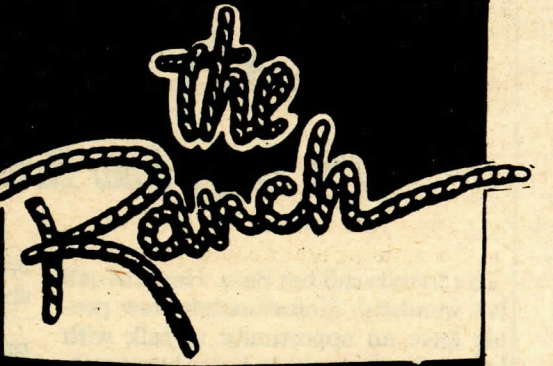
During intermission, the video once again descended from the heavens as the crowd jumped, gyrated and worked off the inevitable excitement created by those inspiring fantasies.

MARSHA CARLTON, singer extraordinaire, astounded the audience with several numbers including "All the Gold in California", "Nine to Five", and one other that escapes my memory at this time. The crowd screamed and stomped and clapped until she again returned to the stage for a second encore and did "Nine to Five" one mo' time.

I was impressed with the next section of the show as each contestant randomly drew a slip of paper with a question on it for judging the Leather/personality portion. Every contestant answered with clarity and intelligence, which lays to rest the old myth of 'all brawn and no brain'.

After another short intermission, *Bob*

(cont. on page 7)



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SAMANTHA SAMUELS

—The Baby, Joan Rivers and the Future—

Her friends call her Sam. Her fans call her wonderful. Unfortunately, few people have an opportunity to talk with her, in depth, to get to know how truly wonderful *Samantha Samuels* is.

Most of us have seen her perform, only to return again for a refreshing and different twist in her repertoire.

She jokes about her wide range of musical personalities. "I'm a Gemini. Schizophrenia runs in my blood."

In a mixture of contemporary, jazz, and theatrical numbers, she offers a diversified entertainment which pleases just about everyone. Her talents have won her acclaim from New York to San Francisco, where she just recently won the highly prized "Cabaret Gold Award."

Having recently returned from her European concert debut in Sweden, she is performing at Rascals this Friday and Saturday only, in what will be her Houston fairwell for 1985.

And, she is leaving us for a good cause. Sam is mothering her first child—and it's a boy.

This week, she talked with me about the latest addition to her traveling cabaret. She is quick to note that, while she will be stepping out of the limelight for a few months, she will be back.

"The last thing I want is for anyone to get the idea that this means the end of my career," she emphatically states.

Her feelings about a pregnancy were mixed initially. "I thought about it for a long time and I thought maybe it wasn't right for me to do," she admits. "I didn't have any real strong mothering instinct, nor did I feel my life was empty without it—none of that."

She paused as she attempted to verbalize her reasons for the change in her attitude. "I finally reached a point, after a few years of traveling, that I just did not want to become like those classic performers—being so 'me' oriented for my whole life; How do I look? What do my costumes look like? What does my music sound like? etc. etc."

"I was feeling that I was getting a bit tainted and a bit lonely. I was surrounded by friends and audiences of the classic cliché. At the end of the night, everyone seemed to go home with someone to love and I, on the other hand, was always alone."

She feels that the pregnancy will, among other things, accentuate her creative sensitivity. "I feel it will make me a better performer—loving people, sharing with people, having a home and having security," she explained.

Sam's involvement in show biz has taken her near the top of the ladder, a position which only makes her want to try harder and to become better. Among her accomplishments, she has produced a new record entitled, 'Samantha Samuels: All Dressed Up.'

She feels the record represents a bridge between her and her many admirers in her months away from Houston. The record is available at Downbeat Music in Montrose.

She also has become a regular lead for

Joan Rivers in her Los Angeles show.

"She's a bulldozer and a work-a-holic. She's non-stop. She's tough and I respect her for all of those qualities. She's been around for a long time and fought and struggled all the way," she observed of Rivers.

"She's in control. She's very different offstage than she is on. She's serious business. I've never heard her curse off stage, but, once she's on, then she's her character and personality. I love her," Sam concluded.

Does Rivers have any new lines? The question brought a slight blush to Sam's face. "A couple are really off color. I can't think of any that aren't really crude." She smiles, revealing nothing. I'll leave that one to the Rascals crowd to pry out.

Being extremely protective of Joan, the only thing she would tell is about the Rivers family's new dog, Spike. "I was holding Spike one day and I told her I was pregnant and she said, 'It's great when your pregnant but, look (pointing at her figure)—seventeen years later this is what you have.'"

Getting down to her future, she reveals some interesting plans. Among other things, she has a second album in the works, and plans to move into a bigger production.

"It's not to put down the small crowds," she is careful to say, "There is an excitement and an energy in these small rooms—with these noises, the glasses clinking, and all of that which makes magic. But, now I'd like to move on to a bigger production," she says.



SAMANTHA

You can sense a little sadness in her tone as she speaks.

"From where I am right now, to the future, I see Broadway more clearly, legitimate theatre, and recording. I'd just love to do something in movies."

"The thing that always stands out in my mind is that I will always be a live performer. I would like to change my performances and make them more concert oriented as opposed to very small, intimate, cabaret bar-type environments."

"I'd like to take the crowds that we've established over the years and push them into more of a concert situation where I can have eight or ten pieces behind me. Where we don't have to compete with the blenders and the cash registers," she laughs.

As she prepares for her final Houston performance, she is careful to thank her many friends and fans at Rascals. "I hope to be back, soon, happier, stronger, and thinner—much thinner."

by Gregg Russell

PLATTER CHATTER

(cont. from page 4)

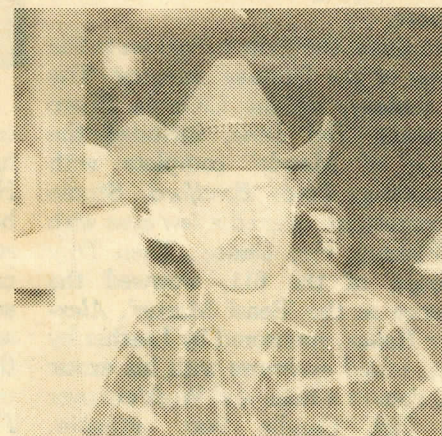
Sister Sledge, who had major European success with a remix of *Lost in Music* last year, has a new single out produced by **Nile Rodgers** which is a big disappointment to me. Entitled *Frankie*, it is a pretty weak offering from the collaboration that gave us the gay anthem *We are Family*. Other new singles worth checking out are: *The Lady Don't Mind-Talking Heads*, *King in a Catholic School-China Crisis*, *Hot Your're Cool-General Public*. Plus, there are a couple of

remixes worth mention: *Heaven by Eurogliders* and a remix of *Can't You See* by **Vicious Pink** (who's instrumental 8:15 to *Nowhere* creates screams on the dancefloor.)

If you missed **Jeani Tracey** at Rich's on Sunday, you missed an excellent show from a true soul sister. Jeanie certainly knew how to work a crowd with hits like *Don't Leave Me This Way* and *Man Hunt*.

Altogether, it's been an excellent start to summer musically, let's hope it's only a promise of things to come.

Keep Sizzling.



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MR. SOUTHWEST DRUMMER CONTEST 1985

(cont. from page 5)

Kennedy returned to the stage and awarded the door prizes. One interesting recipient of a one year's membership to *Pegasus* plus a six month free pass to the *French Quarter Theatre* was one of Marsha Carlton's lovely daughters. She was really surprised and delighted that she won. I wonder if *Pegasus* and the *French Quarter* will just as thrilled?! (snicker, snicker).

Immediately prior to the announcement of the winner, *Rich Mullins* addressed the audience and told of his experiences as Mr. Southwest Drummer '84. Then *Bob Kennedy* awarded a

special achievement award to Maude, making her the official *Ms. Southwest Drummer*. He then draped a leather banner with those words embroidered in steel studs across the front on Maude. Maude was practically speechless, which is saying a lot. If you've ever seen Maude in person—you'll know what I mean.

Finally, the fateful moment arrived as

they announced; Second Runner-up—*Mr. Troy Marquis*, then first runner—*Mr. Peter Casares*, and then an expectant hush fell over the crowd as they announced; **Mr. Southwest Drummer 1985—Joe Varvaro.**

The crowd went wild as they really made the acoustics quiver. The contest was over, they had a new Drummer and they were all drunk, what more could anyone ask?

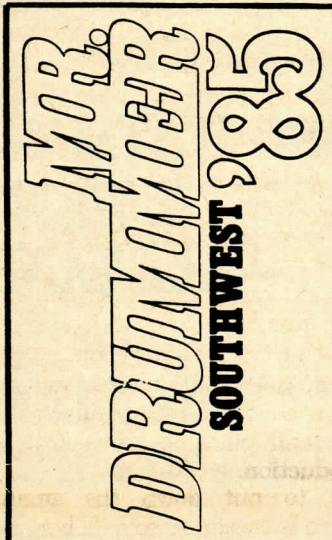
Houston Forum would like to thank Bob Kennedy, Rob Johnstone, Earl Long and everyone at Eagle Leathers for letting us participate in their benefit for KS/AIDS this year. We enjoyed it immensely (especially being able to sneak into the dressing room and check things out!!). It was great, guys, and, good luck to your contestant in San Francisco for the Mr. Drummer finals.



Troy Marquis, second runner-up, sponsored by 611 as the *Beast Master* in fantasy competition.



Rob and Bob of Eagle Leathers, sponsors of the Southwest Drummer contest during introductions.



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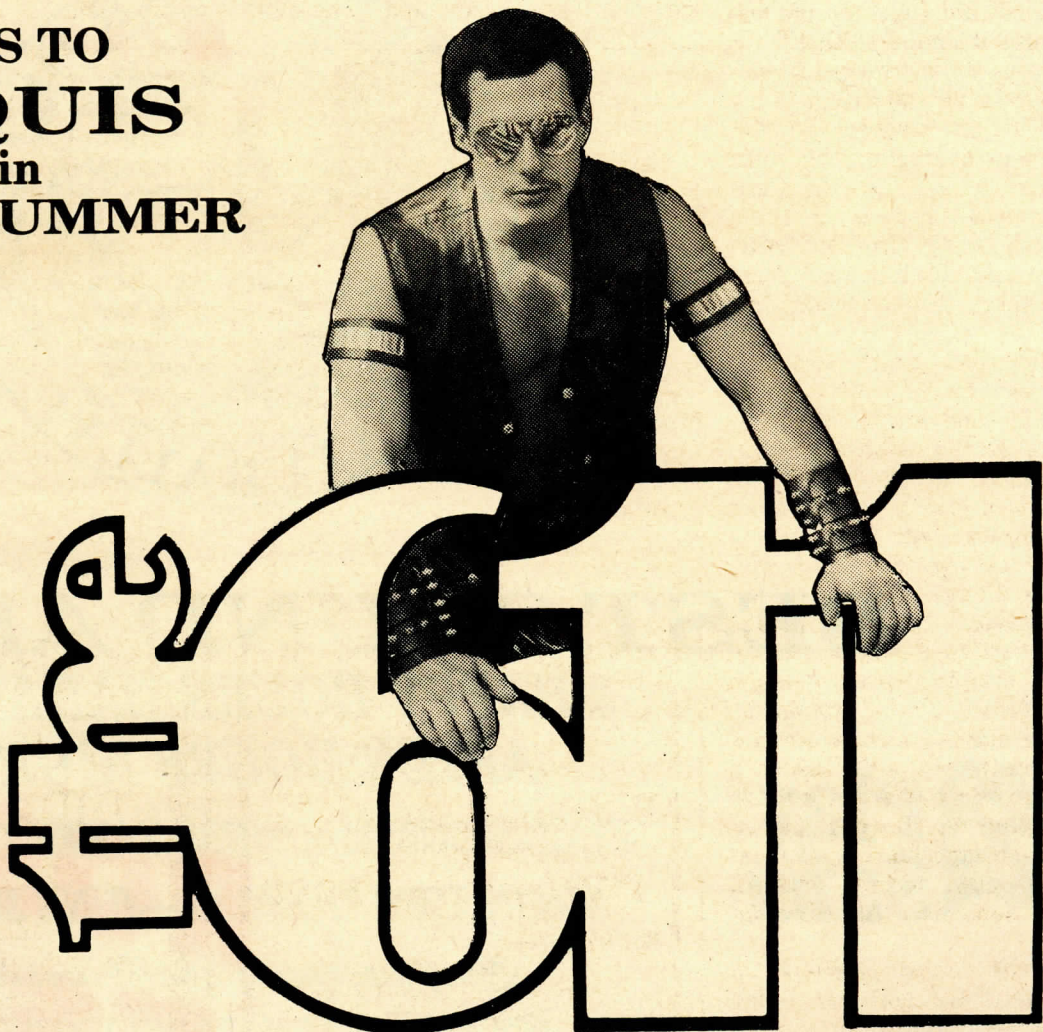
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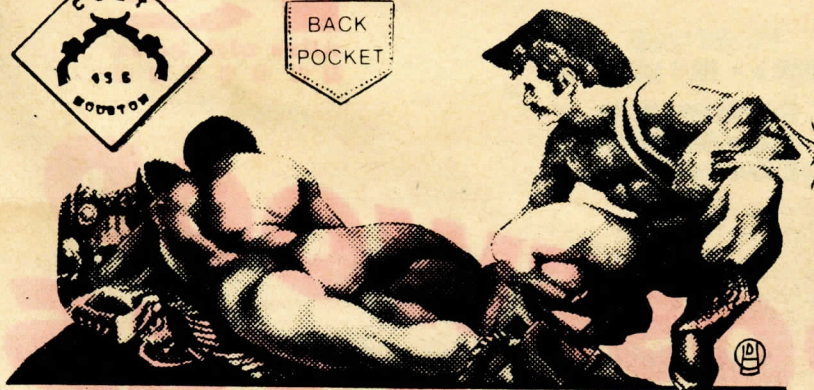
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cooking, table games, aerobics, senior citizen activities, music, drama, table tennis, and many more fun and learning experiences.

In addition, the Parks and Recreation Department will operate six open air sites at Carver, Cottage Grove, Grimes, Bricker, Santos Nieto, and Port Houston parks. Supervised outdoor activities will be conducted from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

For additional information call 641-7519.

Horoscopes

by Tamara

ARIES: Now is the time for you to take that much needed vacation. Saturn, the planet of travel, so even a short jaunt out of the city will be most enjoyable and help your mind clear.

TAURUS: Help yourself to whatever is given to you this week. Someone you know is going to offer something to you, and your natural tendency is to refuse. Don't refuse. Be generous to the giver and accept good naturedly.

GEMINI: The beginning of June holds many wonderful things for you. Memorial Day Weekend heated things up a bit, but your third house of love is in the direct path of Venus. One way or another, you are going to have fun this week!

CANCER: Keep your eyes on financial affairs this week. You have been preoccupied with certain pleasures lately, and your checkbook may be out of control.

LEO: Don't fall for false promises. Your naturally vital nature is to trust others, but there is a shadow in your chart this week, indicating a ruse.

VIRGO: Depression is something everyone goes through, and because of your naturally dissatisfied nature, this could be a rather rough week for you. Stay away from people who depress you. Say no for a change.

LIBRA: Your sex life is in need of adjustment. Because of your ability to feel for others, your own emotions are suffering, hampering sexual performance. The new moon may make things change, but give it until about the 6th to work.

SCORPIO: Life is too short to worry all the time. There are some financial matters that worry you this week. Try to relax and let the fates take care of you for a change. You demand too much of yourself.

SAGITTARIUS: A cowboy is in the stars for you this week. The west holds a big magnet to you, and you feel yourself drawn to it. Plan a trip to California or Colorado. Meet some cowboys. Or go kicker dancing and see what happens.

CAPRICORN: Your life is like a roller coaster. One week you're up, the next, you're down. This week, you are on a down swing, but don't dwell on the negative for a change. Think of the wonderful things in your life instead.

AQUARIUS: Venus hovers over your eighth house of family this week. Communicate with a loved one at home and you will bring great joy to you and whoever you talk to.

PISCES: Storm clouds are brewing for you this week because of something you have put off. Procrastination is something that doesn't sit well with active Pisces, so get yourself in gear and take care of business.

HOUSTON - A PLACE TO FLEE, OR BE?

By Jeff Bray

Many of us remember those almost delirious days about five years ago when a worker could quit his job and find another in less than a week - sometimes within hours! At the beginning of the '80's, Houston was the phenomenon of the nation. It was some sort of Oz, where the nation's beleaguered unemployed flocked in thousands to settle and find work. The city became the topic of frantic news commentaries, special television documentaries, government demographic and economic research projects and widespread myth making.

Famous authors came to the city, seeking inspiration. Some of them found it, while others left, throwing their hands into the air in confusion, saying that there was no real city at all - just a mirage of concrete and steel lying along the side of a dismal backwater bayou. International celebrities came to bask in the in the growing entertainment industry generated by stories of Clark Gable's one-time residence and the fact that Lynn Wyatt ruled over a glittering galaxy of River Oaks wealth and glamor. Houston society, long in the shadow of southern gentility, suddenly became national and international news, with juicy murders and mesmerizing tales of fabulous wealth and extravagance.

Meanwhile, the energy industry huffed and puffed and consumed the nation in an orgy of mergers and wildcatting business techniques that expanded their pocketbooks to the point of almost imperial glory. Massive skyscrapers began to pop up like the money slots on old cash registers. One after another, energy companies stretched their prestige and influence in enormous public and private expenditures. Houston's skyline became a world famous architectural phenomenon, attracting the genius of the age in design and layout. The city became Art. It's phenomenal development was attracting even great social philosophers like Thomas Wolfe, and while their evaluations were not terribly positive (they rarely are), it added prestige to the bustling, booming city.

Then, suddenly, in 1982 - CRASH!

Houston suffered the worst slump it had ever experienced since its development as a swampy bayou village in the 1840's. Almost every area of commercial development was adversely affected by the slump, and thousands of people were laid off from their jobs.

Many of these people left the city and went off to other areas. Many stayed behind and "stuck it out." For those who stayed, the economy has been a constant source of anxiety and concern. The energy industry was grievously hurt. There would be no more incredible - almost mindless - spending as in the "good ole days." Departments were pared down, people were let go. Some companies filed Chapter 11 and never came up again.

Times have gotten better since those dismal days of '82 and '83, but the city is still in a state of change. Houston no longer seems like the boom town it used to be. The media gives it rather depressing coverage, both nationally and locally. People now talk of leaving Houston - of going off to Dallas or Austin. Those are the new boomtown, they say, with an almost frantic glimmer in their eyes. It's the same old "Gold

Rush" mentality that has been part of the American culture since the beginning. It's always better on the other side of the fence. If you don't like it here, you can always go somewhere else. But is it really the thing to do? Are times really that good elsewhere? And even more importantly; are times really all that bad here in Houston?

Ron McMonagle, chief labor market analyst for the statistical branch of the Texas Employment Commission think that Houston has a very strong job market, but maybe people just aren't properly informed.

According to McMonagle, the unemployment rate in Houston is presently at about 7.8 percent, which isn't too bad when compared to the national scene. He says that the Houston unemployment statistics are actually improving, although rather slowly. If there is a noticeable increase in unemployment, it is because there are now so many students hoping to enter the job market at this time.

McMonagle says that the Houston job scene is better since the slump in '82 because the department's statistics show a marked increase of employed wage earners and salaried positions. As far as he can see, there are not that many jobs being lost in Houston, although there seems to be some career changing and location changes.

When asked about the recent negative stories done about Houston in national and regional publications, McMonagle says: "You have to look at the employment scene at a certain angle. Houston has suffered very little over the years compared to other cities in the country. Most economies go through down cycles, and nationally, the average is about one down cycle every three years. Houston had a down cycle in '74 and one in '82, which is not bad when compared to other cities. In fact, Houston averages one down cycle every 15 years or so, which is really quite remarkable."

The myths about Dallas and Austin are partially founded on truth, according to McMonagle, but those cities are just as susceptible to the same economic downturns.

"Dallas has a very strong dependence on the defense industry," he says. "Because of increased defense spending by the government, their economy is on an upswing, but that can change at any time - then they'll be going through a downswing."

"Austin is really growing right now, but they suffered an increase in unemployment last month. Still, they should expect good growth in the next several years."

McMonagle says that the increase growth in these cities does not detract from the growth of Houston. Instead, it shows an increasingly healthy statewide economy as Texas becomes more attractive to new business. "None of the other cities are growing at the expense of Houston," he says.

There are a couple of major industry events being courted by Texas business institutions, according to McMonagle. The proposed naval base near Galveston, and the General Motors' Saturn plant are two big carrots dangling in our faces. Should the Houston area get one or both of these opportunities, it will provide a dramatic shot in the arm for the economy.

"These big industries always attract a swarm of smaller service industries," McMonagle says, "and that would in

turn strengthen the whole business community and improve the employment picture."

At this time, based on prevailing statistics from the Texas Employment Commission, the medical field is an excellent area to be looking at, along with the trade and service sectors of the economy. Medicine, law, accounting, advertising and a host of other related service industries are on an upswing nationwide, especially as automation and the computer begin to take over the industrial sector. This is one reason why downtown Houston is beginning to look like an exclusive club for lawyers, accountants, bankers and advertising executives. Every major modern city is finding the central business area evolving into such service-oriented industry on a highly professional level.

More than anything, according to McMonagle, we need to realize that Houston is a very large city with a very diverse economy. The media has tended to blow the energy industry's hardships way out of proportion because that segment of the economy only occupies about 20 percent of Houston's total industrial and economic base. In another five years, energy will encompass only about 15 percent of the city's economy as the city continues to grow and diversify.

So, while Houston may never again have that sparkle it had in the late 70's and early 80's, it is still a very viable place to make a living. Many who are unemployed blame it on the city itself, but unemployment is really a numbers game. The trick is to be at the right place at the right time.

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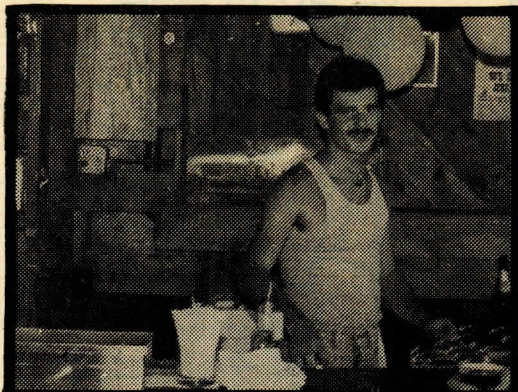
Out and About

May 31, 1985, HOUSTON FORUM. Page 11

Pink Party At Mary's... naturally



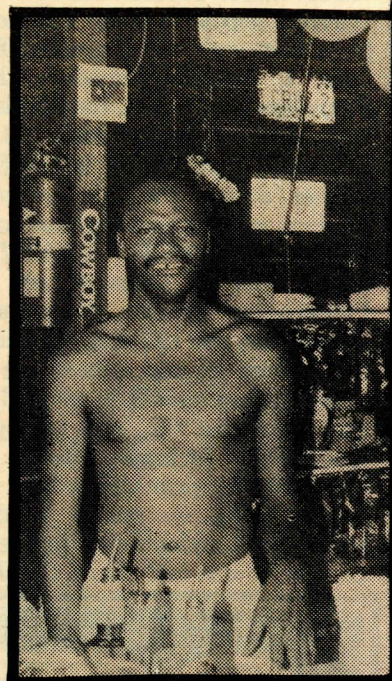
Beauty & the Beast!



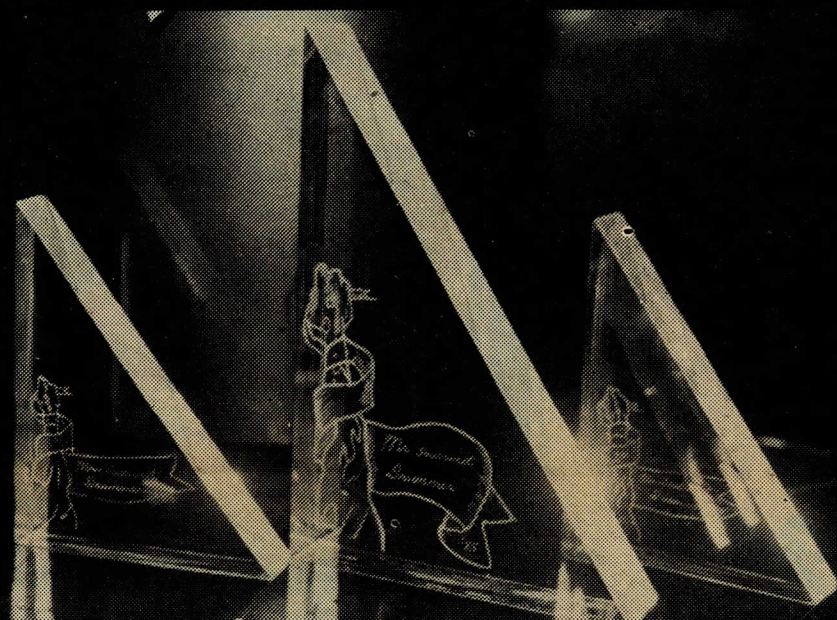
At least one man in the crowd!



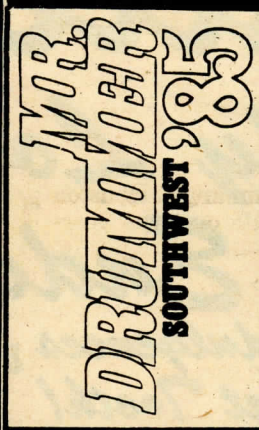
Mary's own sleeze.



I don't know nothin' 'bout no pink



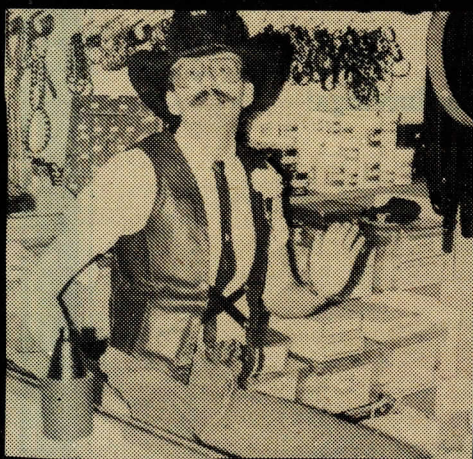
S.W. Drummer Trophies



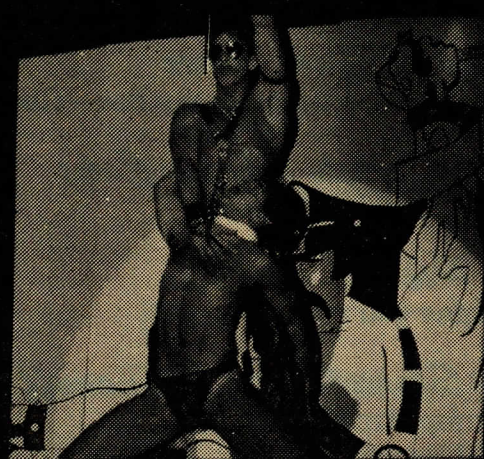
The Contestants



Kibbles & Bits...



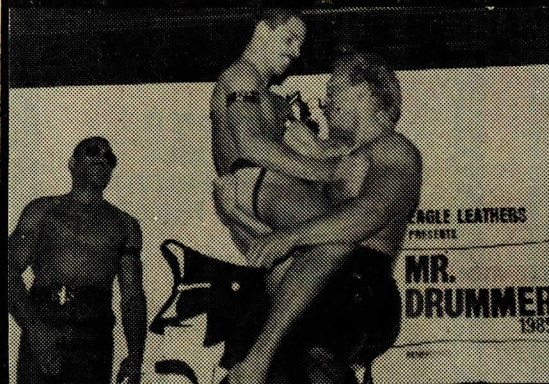
Earl of the Eagle



Joe & Ted in fantasyland



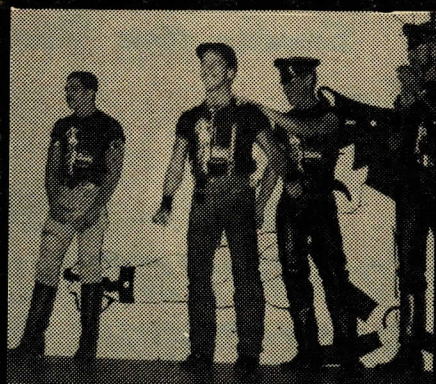
Allan Pearson of the BRB



PIG OUT!!!



Mr. SW Drummer '84



The Winner Joe Varvaro



Joe & Ted Caligula Photo

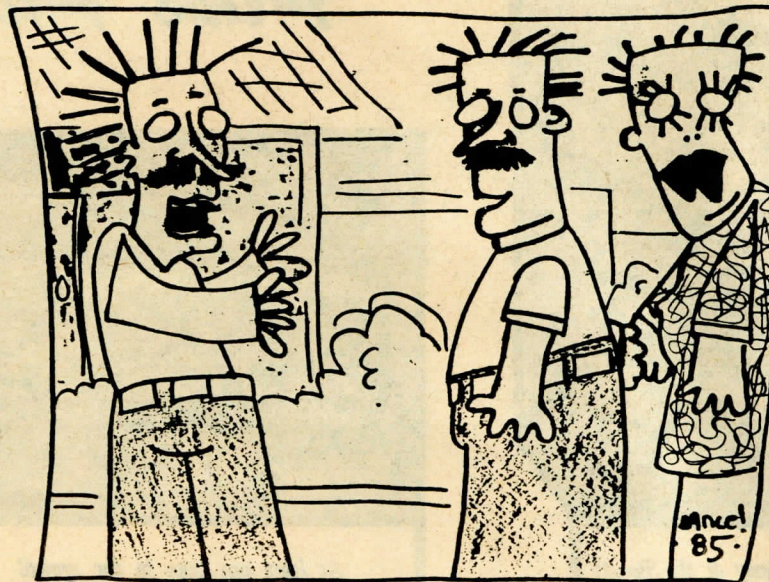
MAIN STREET TO REVIVE THE ACTRESS

Main Street Theater will revive Max Pearson's popular comedy *The Actresses* for a four-week run beginning Friday, June 7, to run Thursdays through Saturdays at 8:30 p.m. (no Sunday performances) through June 29. *The Actresses*, a comedy set in the English theater during the late seventeenth century, was the opening production of this season's *NEW VOICES/DIFFERENT VIEWS* series of new plays. Playwrights Pearson is a longtime Houstonian and has many productions of his work in and around the city.

The production will be revived intact from its earlier run, directed by Patti Bean. Fritz Dickman, Phillip Hafer, and Kent Johnson will play a trio of actors trying to put a production together in London following the fall of Cromwell (who had closed the theaters

years before) and the restoration of the Monarchy. Their efforts are aided by a wealthy patron, played by Michael Sirois, who intends only that the women's roles in the plays be played by women, an innovation on the English stage and an inconvenience for Johnson's character, Cecil Weatherby, who had been the "leading lady" of the company in years past. Others in the cast include Minay Miller, Ginny Lang, and Monica Giraud as the would be actresses, Barbara Sims as a serving girl who proves to have the real dramatic talent, and Les Neal as a rival actor. Maurice Tuttle completes the cast as an Italian scene painter.

For further information, call 524-7998. For tickets, please call the Box office at 524-6706.



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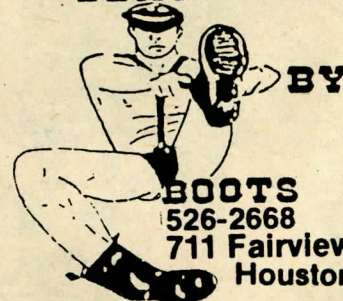
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CELEBRATING ONE
YEAR OF BUSINESS

The AIDS Vigil held at Houston City Hall on Monday, May 27, was totally inappropriate in a couple of ways. First, it was held on Memorial Day, a day traditionally reserved to remember our nation's war dead. I heard not one mention of one single person who may have died while defending our nation's principles. Even though our military denies access to openly Gay men and Lesbians, I'm sure there must be hundreds, probably thousands, of us who have surrendered our lives during a national conflict. Second, and most important, is the fact that this vigil, which was intended to remember those within our community who have died of AIDS, was completely christianized without any regard for the religious or non-religious affiliations of those who have died or those attending. The AIDS Vigil turned out to be nothing more than a christian church service, complete with clergy and prayers. By christianizing this event, the coor-

dinators essentially excluded those of us who have philosophies outside christianity. In my case, I have no religious affiliation whatsoever and find any religious exercises offensive. Events, such as the AIDS Vigil, being conducted on public, tax-supported property, should remain totally secular. An event like the one held Monday evening would have been far more appropriate had it been conducted within the confines of a church. By secularizing such events, no one is offended, thus increasing attendance.

My hope is that someday our Gay organizations and leaders will leave god, Jesus, religious hymns, and prayers out of OUR public events. There are an over abundance of churches within which to conduct such purely religious ceremonies like the one held Monday night.

Don Sanders
Houston, Tx.

(ed note: the above article was printed exactly as received and no changes have been made in the text or printing.)

DEAR MAGNOLIA!

(Editor's note: The infamous Magnolia Thunderpussy, star of stage, screen and practically every tearoom, bookstore and den of iniquity in town, was, if not born again, at least conceived again, some years back. In an effort to mend her truly evil ways and make some attempt at amends, she has undertaken, as her life's work, a column of advice to the lustlorn. Magnolia, who has done everything it is possible for any known combination of persons, sexes and warm—and—cold blooded animals to do to and with one another, has decided to turn her will and her life over to the dispensing of advice to those who have problems. Anyone with a romantic, sexual, affectional or emotional problem would write to: Dear Magnolia, Houston Forum, 3317 Montrose, Houston, Texas 77006. Everyone who writes will receive a reply from Magnolite to: Dear Magnolia, Houston Forum, 3317 Montrose, Houston, Texas 77006. Everyone who writes will receive a reply from Magnolia.)

Dear Magnolia:

I'm having a terrible time with my boy friend. We've only been lovers for a few months now, and I finally convinced him to move in with me. The trouble is that he's an awful slob. We're talking dempsy dumpster time, Maggie. His side of the bedroom has

already been condemned twice by the board of health. I'm far from Mr. Clean myself, but there are limits. I love this man and don't want to spend the rest of my days walking around the house with a broom and dustpan picking up after him. How can I get the message across to him without ruining my relationship?

Trashed Out

Dear Trashed:

A mere bag of shells, my dear, fret no more. Just get yourself a couple of 55 gal. drums, the kind that the Department of Streets uses downtown, with signs like "Don't Be A Litterbug!" and put them on his side of the bedroom. When he sees them, maybe he will realize that he has transgressed. If that doesn't work, try driving a front loader into the bedroom and pick up a few piles of his garbage. Hints like that never fail.

Seriously, just wait until you've got your arms around his manly chest and he's expecting what only you can give him, look deep into his eyes, and whisper sensuously, "I know you love me, and I love you, and if it's possible, I'd love you even more if you could manage to pick up after yourself. Would you please try for me?" If he doesn't burst out laughing, he just might take the hint. It's surely worth the try.

As I understand it, today's supermarkets are a fairly recent thing. That you could go to a single store and buy garden fresh vegetables, dairy items, meats and staples, and more recently, oil for your car or a fresh pair of socks, would have been unheard of in grandmothers day. When she wanted vegetables, she went to a produce market. For clothing, a drygoods store. The milk and eggs were delivered to the door by the dairy man, as was the bread. When she wanted meat, she called the butcher, or for special occasions for a really nice piece she went to the meat market and selected it herself. Often as not, if she were a good customer, if the butcher knew her well, he'd put in some liver for the cat.

Liver has come a long way, baby, as you know if you've bought any lately. Granted, it's made the journey without the assistance of some of you, who I'm sure would just as soon not even have a cat if you had to bring a piece of liver into the house. However, there was many an old pussy in grandma's day that owed a lot to the butcher boy!

There seems to be no middle ground concerning liver. One either loves it, or will not eat it under any guise. It seems to be not in the taste so much as the texture, from all that I can gather. I have one particular friend who absolutely refuses to come to dinner for fear of another attempt of mine to feed him liver disguised as something or another.

Liver is recommended eating for many reasons. It has no fat, it's full of vitamins and minerals, and is almost pure protein. (for those of you that

aren't getting enough lately.)

Many kitchen wizzards tend to over cook liver feeling it should be well done. This is one meat that toughens the more it is cooked. The trick is to get it just done and no more. My mother, bless her, felt that if you cook anything long enough it would eventually get tender. Not so. I can well remember those meals of little dried leather like slices of eat-it-it's-good-for-you liver. I'm surprised I even like it today!

The Italians have a way with liver. The most popular way to prepare it is called *Fegato Venezia*. This is not a slur on faggots, dearie. Fegato is Italian for liver, so this is Liver Venetian style.

In a deep skillet heat a little olive oil. When is hot, throw in some chopped celery, a stalk or three, some chopped onion, two or three green ones for color and half a yellow one for flavor, a couple of cloves of garlic and half a bell pepper, also chopped and, if you have them, a few sliced mushrooms. Sprinkle all this with some basil, a little oregano, and some rosemary. Shake the pan and stir about five minutes. Add to this about two pounds of fresh calves liver, which you have cut into strips and lightly dredged in flour. You may have to add a little more oil to the pan at this time to enable the liver to slide around as you stir it. When it is brown on both sides, add just enough red wine to make a sauce. Let it simmer two or three minutes and serve it on a bed of rice. Delizioso! If you get stuck with a non liver loving lover, just get a cat.

Till next time, Don't burn your buns

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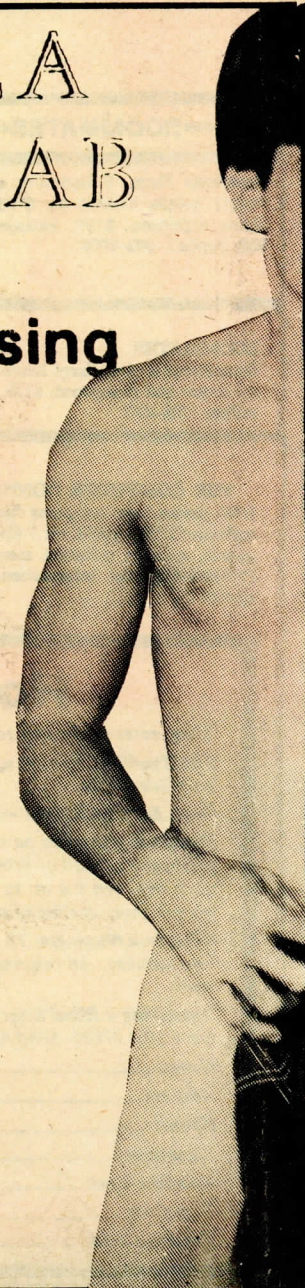
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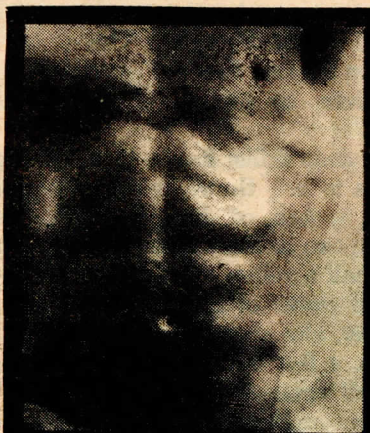
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Blind Box Numbers: To receive confidential responses to ads, purchase a blind box number. All responses will be forwarded by mail. Blind boxes are \$3 per week.

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Tired of the bars, bookstores and baths? What are you, unpatriotic? There IS an alternative. For a limited time, you, yes YOU can be a charter member of J/OU (J/O Unami-nous). No need to go home from the bars, alone and rejected. Now you can meet new friends, doing what you used to do alone—together! J/O can be a fun social activity as well as a way to trim your horns. After all, everybody does it, they just don't talk about it. Get together with J/OU and learn new techniques, compare performance, and sneak a peek at how the other guy does it. Don't wait, write today. Box number 10-A.

KINKY

Yes, I'll admit it, I'm kinky. Not sick, or truly weird, just kinky. Like toys? So do I! Like to talk about about and exchange drawers, jocks and porn? Like to talk dirty on the phone and take things in hand at the same time. CAN WE TALK? REALLY talk? Write to me at Box 10-D.

ORDINARY

Let's face it, I'm ordinary. No designer body, no hooter of death, not even the most beautiful face in town. However, I CAN s--- the chrome off a bumper hitch, and that oughta count for something. If you're into just plain folks who enjoy an evening of relaxation, talking, fooling around, and getting it on, drop me a line. Try it, you'll probably like it. Box 8-B

HORNY?

Of course you are, admit it! Of up're a reasonably healthy man anywhere between 18 (let's keep it legal) and death (hopefully not TOO close to death), you probably get horny. So do I. Let's cut the bullshit and get together and do something about it. Never mind all the fantasies you drool over in the bars, this one is for real. Write and let's discuss it. Whatever happened to f---buddies? This one's for YOU. Box 7-A

ARABIAN KNIGHTS

Middle eastern? Sons of Islam, disciples of the Prophet—you're my type. If you enjoy someone who really digs Arabs, we can make beautiful couscous together. I'm middle-aged, and once had this brief fling with a Lebanese lad. I've never been the same since. Isn't there a camel jockey out there somewhere with a sense of humor who'd like to get better acquainted? Your Lawrence of Arabian is waiting! Write to Box 7-C.

PUERTO RICAN PALS

Everything's great in America! Hot, hunky, horny PR's, wherever you are, there MUST be at least one of you out there in Houston who needs tender, loving care. FR, GR, hot, willing and waiting to meet you. How about a line or two. You'll never regret it. Write Box 8-D.

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American Gay Atheists—P.O. Box 66711 77266-527-9255
Astro Rainbow Alliance—520-9451 (Voice)—520-0552 (TTY)
Avondale Association—P.O. Box 66054 77266; meets 7:30pm second Thursday @ Women's Christian Center—310 Pacific
Azulao Wormy's Magazine—6130 SW Fwy. #335—266-5237
Bayou B'u Singers—Robert Moon-Dir.—209 Stratford—863-3084
Bering Memorial United Methodist Church—1440 Harold—526-1017; svc. 10:50am Sunday.
Choices Unlimited—P.O. Box 70996 77270—529-3211 (Gay Switchboard) meets 1:00pm, third Sunday, Masterson YWCA, 3615 Willie; "Social Mixer", 7:30pm alternate Fridays; Sunday Brunch 12:30pm third Sunday.
Christian Church of the Good Shepherd—1707 Montrose—svc. 1:00pm Sunday
Bible Study 7:30pm Thursday
• Church of Christian Faith—217 Fairview—529-8005—svc. 10:45am Sunday & 7:15pm Wednesday—Bible Study 7:30pm Wednesday—Choir Practice Wednesday after Bible Study
Citizens for Human Equality—P.O. Box 3045, Houston, TX 77253—680-3346
• City Hall—901 Bagby
Clippers—342-6502
Crisis Hotline—228-1505
Diana Foundation—P.O. Box 66523 Houston, TX 77266-6523
Dharma Study Group—406 Avondale—524-9554
Dignity—523-7664—3217 Fannin @ Elgin; mass 7:30pm Saturday.
Gay Political Caucus (GPC)—P.O. Box 66664, 77266—521-1000; meets 7:30pm, first, third & fifth Wednesday @ 3217 Fannin @ Elgin.

(Hou)Gay Pride Week Committee—P.O. Box 66821, 77266—Stan Ford/523-7644 or Cathy Lenahan/868-6256; meets May 22nd @ Kindred Spirits 4902 Richmond Ave.; Houston Gay Pride Week June 13-23; National Gay Pride Day, "Alive With Pride In '85", June 28.
Gay Switchboard—P.O. Box 66591-77266—6591—529-3211—Information—TTY—AIDS Hotline.
Greater Montrose Business Guild—522-9333
Integrity—Episcopalian—439-1209
KPFT Radio—FM 90—526-4000
KS/AIDS Foundation—524-2437
Lambda Center—Gay AA—521-9772
Lutherans Concerned—453-1143
McAdory House—524-9816
• MCCR—1919 Decatur—861-9149
• Montrose Clinic—804 Hawthorne—528-5531
Montrose Counseling Center—900 Lovett—529-0037
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Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns—526-2584
Parents & Friends of Lesbian & Gays—464-6663

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• Leather by Boots—711 Fairview—526-BOOT
• Leather Locker—611—611 Hyde Park—524-7355
• Legends Hair Design—906 Westheimer—527-0188
• Lionel Hair Design—3220 Yoakum—526-4494
• RW Key & Lock—1612 Westheimer—526-2657
• (The) Roman—2602 Whitney—522-8576
• Ron's Hair & Skin—1310 Hawthorne—521-3000
• Safeway—1938 W. Gray—529-4319
• Silverlust—2715 Waughcrest—520-5440
• Skate Escape—2017 S. Shepherd—520-5553
• Studz Adult News—1132 W. Alabama
• Taft Automotive—1411 Taft—522-2190
• Texas Junk—215 Welch—524-6257
• TexEscort—524-9511
• Timeless Taffeta—1623 Westheimer—529-6299
• Tire Place—1307 Fairview—529-1414
• TLC—2421 Bissonnet—524-5860
• Tommy's Barber Shop—2154 Portsmouth—528-8216
• Union Jack Clothing—1212 Westheimer—528-9600
• Up One Western Leather—BRB—2400 Brazos—524-5737
• Ventrano's Supermarket—529 W. Alabama—528-2394
• Walgreens Drug Store—3509 Montrose—520-8000
• Walgreens Drug Store—1940 W. Gray—526-2161
• Warwick @ the Park Hair—Warwick Hotel—5701 S. Main—lower lobby—526-1991 ext. 1209
• Waugh Drive Liquor—1402 Welch—529-9964
• West Alabama Liquor—608 W. Alabama—528-2306
• Westheimer Flea Market—1733 Westheimer—528-1015
• Westheimer Interiors—1727 Westheimer—520-8800
• Wilde and Stein Bookstore—1103 California—529-7014

BAR OWNER'S SPONSORING 21.06 AWARENESS DAY

The bar owners of Texas have announced an unprecedented project to coordinate a statewide effort to support the 21.06 case. On June 9, 1985, between 4 and 6 p.m., all B.O.A.T. members will be hosting a beer bust to educate the community about the urgency of the 21.06 case and to raise necessary funds for it.

In 1982, Federal Judge Jerry Buckmeyer ruled statute 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code as unconstitutional. This historic decision was the first time that

a federal court so vigorously attacked a state law that singled out the gay people for unconstitutional purposes. This law had made homosexual people criminals by virtue of their sexual orientation. The decision to declare it unconstitutional was a landmark in the cause for gay rights in America.

Many gay people thought the 21.06 matter was settled in September, 1984 after an appeals court panel let stand Judge Buckmeyer's decision. Unfortunately, another appeal was made by

those who lost the decision and hence the rehearing. This sobering turn of events means all aspects of the case are before the Fifth Circuit again - not just the appeals panel decision.

"The serious nature of this situation require a response from our community", stated Bunch Brittain and Bettie Naylor of the Bar Owners Association of Texas. "B.O.A.T. has decided to respond by sponsoring a 21.06 awareness day. It is important that every member of our community

know and understand what this case is about. The outcome will greatly affect our lives for years to come. B.O.A.T. is proud to support such an important and historic effort."

The states major gay activist groups will be providing staffing to help the bars in this effort. Members of the Houston Gay Political Caucus, Dallas Gay Alliance, Alamo Human Rights Campaign, Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus, the Lubbock Lesbian/Gay Alliance and others will be assisting the bars to maximize the effect of this effort.

SPECIAL—

ETHYL

GAS

Reg. 20⁹⁵

Sale 17⁵⁰

The image shows two VHS tape covers. The left cover is for 'FALCON' and features a man's face. Text on the cover includes: 'FALCON', 'VIDEO PAC 24', 'HEAVY ACTION! 6 HOT MEN!', '• AUDITIONS', '• THE BOOK', '• WATERCOLORS', '• CHROMES', 'With Music & LIVE-ACTION SOUND', 'FEEL THE FANTASY in ...', 'STYLE', 'VHS', 'TIME: 90 MINUTES', and 'Starring Todd Baron • Tim Kramer, Leo Ford • Art Williams, Ron Pearson • Cal Driver'. The right cover is for 'COVERBOY' and features a shirtless man. Text on the cover includes: 'COVERBOY'.

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