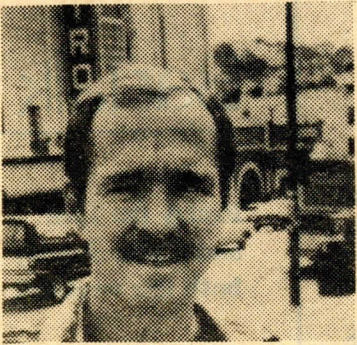




Leonard Matlovich to run for Harvey Milk's old post. Story on page 3.

STAR NEWSPAPER CHAIN

montrose★star

Houston's Free Weekly Gay Newspaper / Issue #135 / April 13, 1979

City Hall rally was peaceful, exciting, and hopefully productive — but crowd was small

HOUSTON — Seven hundred jubilant gay people Tuesday, April 10, attended a rally at City Hall to celebrate being homosexual and to pointedly protest certain alleged activities of the Houston Police Department.

The highlight of the two-hour gathering appeared to be the playing of a tape-recorded message from U.S. Rep. Mickey Leland (D.-Houston), who apologized for being unable to attend

but issued a call for more activism on the part of minorities, especially in trying to force single-member City Council districts.

Representatives of the Houston Hispanic community also spoke, urging a coalition of minorities to work to bring about changes in the police department.

Local activists Ray Hill and Steve Shiflett served as podium moderators at the event. Representatives

of the American Civil Liberties Union were on hand to observe any civil violations by police officers or hecklers, but they said they observed no violations or received any complaints.

The popular "Disco Grandma," an elderly woman adopted by the gay

community, spoke to the group, urging them to act "now" on their demands for civil rights and better police relations.

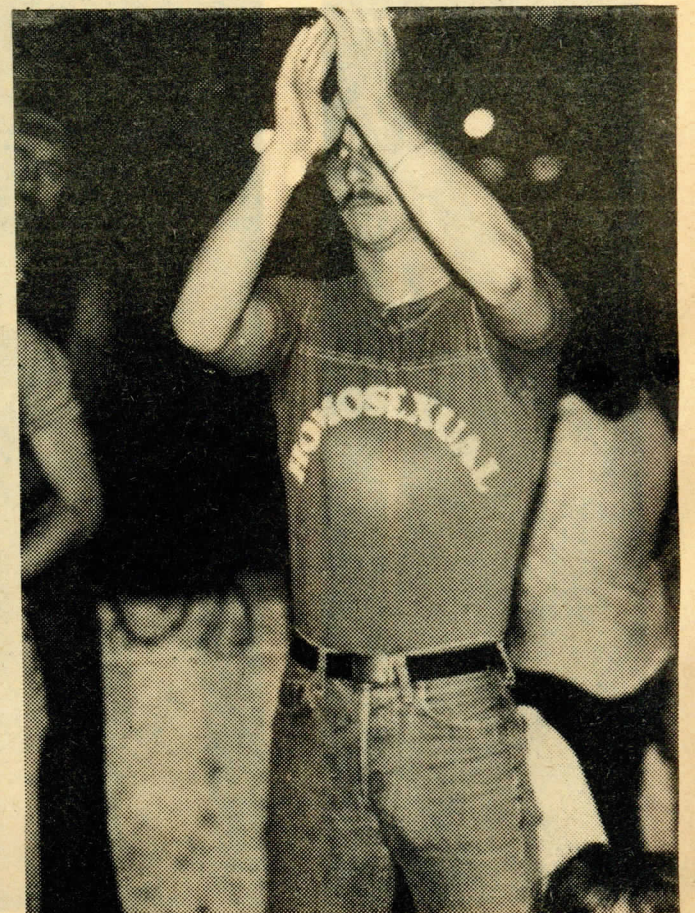
Outside of the tape-recorded message from Congressman Leland, there was no participation by any elected officials, which was an obvious disappointment to the organizers. However, both the U.S. Congress and the Texas Legislature are in session at this time of the

year.

Two of Houston's three network TV stations sent camera crews and each broadcast a short news item on the event. Neither daily Houston newspaper provided coverage.

Organizers were hoping for a much larger turnout, especially since the weather was pleasant. Several gay clubs in Montrose closed during the two hours, to encourage their customers to attend.

See related
editorial on
page 12



High school says no to gay date

CUMBERLAND, R.I. — The Cumberland school system has twice turned down a seventeen-year-old boy who wanted to take another boy to a high school junior prom.

The school system said April 10 that it had decided against granting Paul Guilbert a hearing on his request because the boy's father opposed the plan and not because homosexuality was an issue.

Guilbert, who says he is gay and claims the support of the state chapter of the National Gay Task Force, said he will continue his fight for the right to take a male, a student at another school, to the May 4 prom.

Guilbert said he planned to appeal the decision to the state commissioner of education, and, if necessary, to the state or federal courts.

United Press reported that both the American Civil Liberties Union and NGTF are withholding help because Guilbert is a minor and his parents do not want the organizations to get involved.

However, Michael B. Dollinger, executive director of the Rhode Island chapter of the ACLU said that his group's legal screening committee would discuss whether to take on the precedent-setting case.

"My impression is that his parents did not want all sorts of publicity, but that they are aware of and accept the fact that he's gay," Dollinger told UPI.

Guilbert was first turned down by Principal Richard B. Lynch when he tried to buy

tickets for himself and his male date several weeks ago.

Cumberland students are not allowed to go to the prom alone and are must furnish the names of their dates when they buy the tickets.

Guilbert attended classes at Cumberland High School April 10 for the first time since accounts of his request were published. He said his fellow students jeered him.

"It was kind of sick," he told reporters.

School Superintendent Robert G. Condon said the school system acted on legal advice. "All we were doing is abiding by the request of the parents with respect to a minor child," he was quoted by Associated Press as saying.

The boy's father opposes having his son go the prom with another male. The father asked

the school committee, in writing, to cancel the hearing, scheduled for April 12, and the administration agreed, Condon said.

"You can't interfere with the instructions of the parent," school attorney V. James Santaniello was quoted as saying. "If the father tells the boy not to go to the dance, there's nothing we can do about it. I think his fight is with his father and not with us."

GOT AN OPINION?

We want to hear about it. The Star has expanded its editorial section and we want you to participate in it. Let us know your thoughts on items of interest to the gay community. Write: "Letters to the Editor," Montrose Star, P.O. Box 70282, Houston, TX 77007.

BarTalk

**Friday the 13th
and Easter Sunday
both this weekend**

Bar Talk appears as a matter of courtesy to Montrose Star advertisers.

Well. This is Bar Talk for the weekend of April 13-15 — a weekend that includes a Friday the 13th. And it's also Easter weekend.

The big news this weekend is that an official opening date for the new Copa Disco has been set. It's definite now: The Copa will open 8:00 p.m., Friday, April 20, which is one week from the time most of you will be reading this.

Here's a riddle: What word that will describe the opening of the Copa has both an "X" and a "Z" in it. It's a common word. Well, fairly common. You've heard of it. The answer farther down in this column.

Now here's other news of things going on in the social side of the gay community:

- The Houston Gay Volleyball League starts Sunday, May 6, Cherryhurst Park, 1:00 p.m. Come and root for your favorite team.

And then, and every Sunday thereafter, after-game specials at Mary's, naturally, for all volleyball players.

Speaking of Mary's, they encourage you to attend the church of your choice this Easter Sunday, then join the boys at Mary's for after-church specials.

- The Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, the granddaddy of Houston gay churches, will hold its first worship services in its new building Easter Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

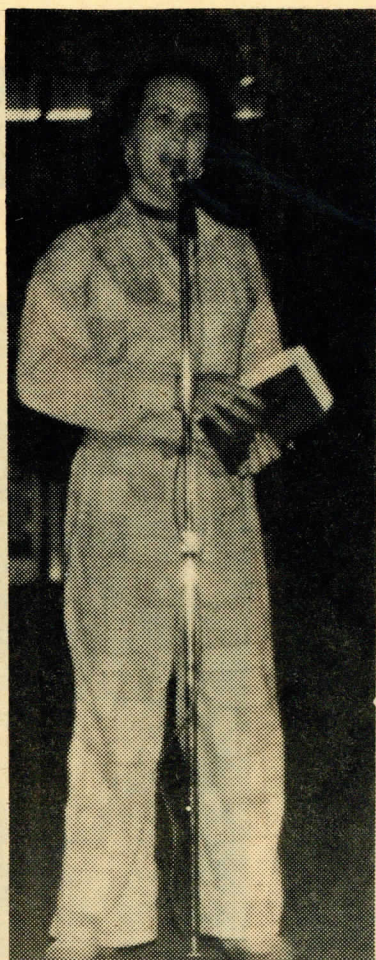
Rev. Ron Larson and the friendly MCCR congregation invite you to join them, especially if you don't have a regular church home. They'd really like you to consider making your home at MCCR, 1919 Decatur.

There is, however, a full range of religious experiences in Houston for gay people. Please check the article elsewhere in this issue for more information.

- This is the weekend for the "Blazin' Saddles," the second anniversary of the Mustangs. Events include registration at the Brazos River Bottom at 8:00 p.m., Friday. That's where it all starts out and unless you register there

TO PAGE 9

Rally Hot Shots



Leonard Matlovich considering political race for Milk's old seat

SAN FRANCISCO — Whatever happened to Air Force T/Sgt. Leonard Matlovich, the decorated Vietnam veteran who, in 1975, challenged the U.S. military hierarchy by announcing his homosexuality and demanding he had a right to stay in the Air Force?

Well, Matlovich is currently making plans to run for a position on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors (equivalent to the Houston City Council). The post he's seeking is the one formerly held by Harvey Milk, currently held by Harry Britt. Britt, also gay, is expected to seek reelection and other gay people may enter the race. It's shaping up as quite a race.

Matlovich is also currently 1) dating a Chicago man, 2) continuing his court fight regarding his dismissal from the Air Force, and 3) participating in the gay lecture circuit, "telling

gay (people) they have to stand up and be counted." He reportedly earned \$6000 last year on this circuit, which included an appearance in Houston.

How has his fight with the Air Force progressed?

In 1976, a federal court upheld his discharge and the American Civil Liberties Union dropped his case, saying they feared more adverse rulings in the appeal process and that would hurt the cause of gay



Matlovich

rights. Matlovich decided to appeal anyway, telling Newsweek, "I'm a fighter, not a quitter."

It paid off. Four months ago, Matlovich won, with the court agreeing that he had been unfairly dismissed from the military.

Matlovich does not expect the military to give up. "I have no doubt it will go on another four years."

Once the appeals are all exhausted and should Matlovich end up the final winner, will he rejoin the military? He refuses to say, but his entry into the San Francisco political scene seems to indicate he would not.

Matlovich, on the other hand, says he moved to San Francisco not to enter politics but to find a lover. He claims, however, that "a lot of people called and pleaded with me to run (for elected office)."

Matlovich seems happy, living in his small apartment in the gay Castro district, with his war mementos and a photo taken of him sitting in President Carter's desk at the White House — a photo arranged with the help of former White House aide Midge Costanza when President Carter wasn't around.

Do you need to talk to Leonard Matlovich? He's listed in the book and says he gets calls all the time from people seeking advice.

"I do whatever I can to help."

Conn. Legislature nixes gay rights

HARTFORD, Conn. — The Connecticut House April 12 overwhelmingly defeated a bill that would have outlawed housing and job discrimination against gay people, bisexuals and persons who live together.

It was the sixth straight year

the Legislature has rejected either a gay rights bill or a proposal incorporating gay people's rights.

Under the proposal, no one could be discriminated against on the basis of their private sexual behavior.

Horoscope

Life is a game of checkers, Aquarius

DATES THE SUN ENTERS THE SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC: Aries the ram (March 21), Taurus the bull (April 20), Gemini the twins (May 21), Cancer the crab (June 22), Leo the lion (July 23), Virgo the virgin (Aug. 23), Libra the balance (Sept. 23), Scorpio the scorpion (Oct. 24), Sagittarius the archer (Nov. 22), Capricorn the goat (Dec. 22), Aquarius the water bearer (Jan. 20), Pisces the fishes (Feb. 19).

ARIES: Take time to go barefooting, Aries, for the cool almost-summer grass under your tootsies will have you feeling like a chicken again. Fling your bones under a tree and just watch the ants work and the worms wiggle. The wonders of nature surround you. Summer soon welcomes you.

TAURUS: Current lifestyle comes into question. A frank discussion is in order and you must instigate it. You deal from position of strength if you put all cards on the table. In final shuffle you wind up with the pot.

GEMINI: Get mandatory tasks done and then hang out sign: 'Gone Fishin'. April is for enjoying. Tell one who would have you hot-footing it day and night to go shimmy up a waxed rope.

CANCER: Each of us must sometimes play the fool and this just happens to be your week. Still, weekend can be unusually productive. Don't be flabbergasted when you arrive at a new state of awareness through backdoor entrance.

LEO: A lie mixed with a little truth is difficult to determine. Offer may be made. What you see ain't necessarily what you gonna get, so be foxy.

VIRGO: Summer is almost here for sure and that means a smile on your face. This weekend is a whirly one. You hum through it in tune with the universe. Weekend closes on key of D-sharp for dream, drama and drollery.

LIBRA: Abandon yourself to these days of near-summer by getting out of doors and tramping

in the woods. But don't go pogo. Take friend/lover with you. Salute the coming summer with the toss of a Frisbee or Yo-Yo. At heart you are a child and Mother Nature loves you.

SCORPIO: Because you love home and family, more than any other sign, you are sometimes known as the great parent of the Zodiac. Self-doubt is your weakness, however, and must be watched, for it can lead to depression. In this almost-summer season, you move into new, demanding cycle.

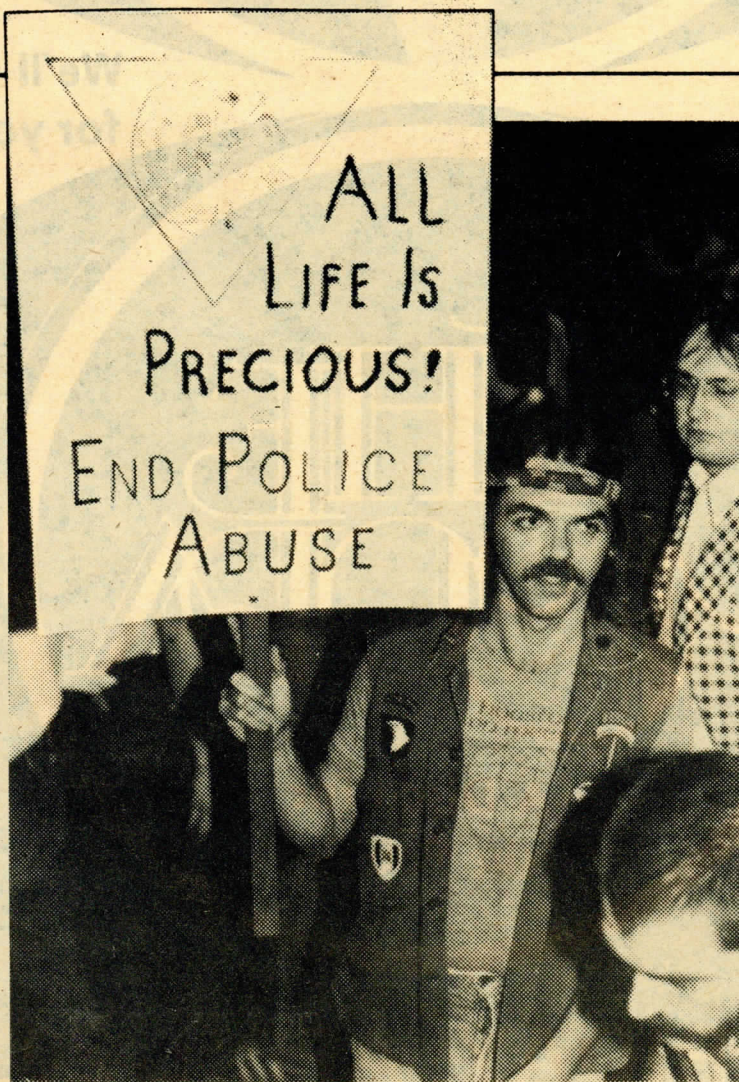
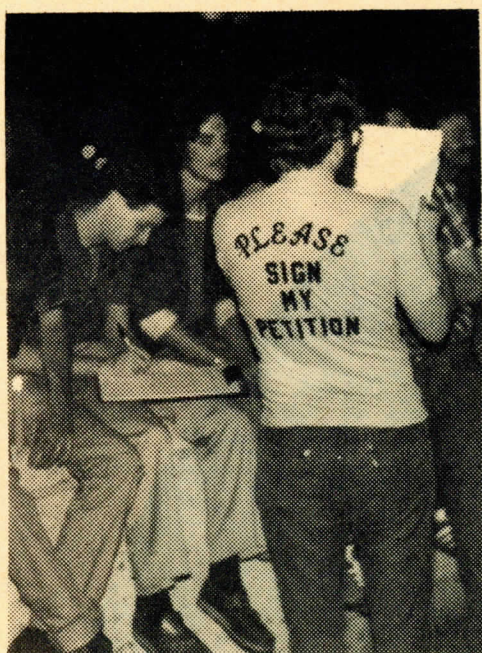
SAGITTARIUS: Outside forces may pull you in wrong direction so keep one eye on your rearview mirror at all times. Conserve time, energy. Don't permit Gloomy Gus to grab onto you and sap your strength. Weekend of determination.

CAPRICORN: Tatty old memories return. Fight the blues with whatever is handy. You may think your lot is bitter but not so. On last day, the sun warms your cute buns and your faith is renewed. Thank heaven.

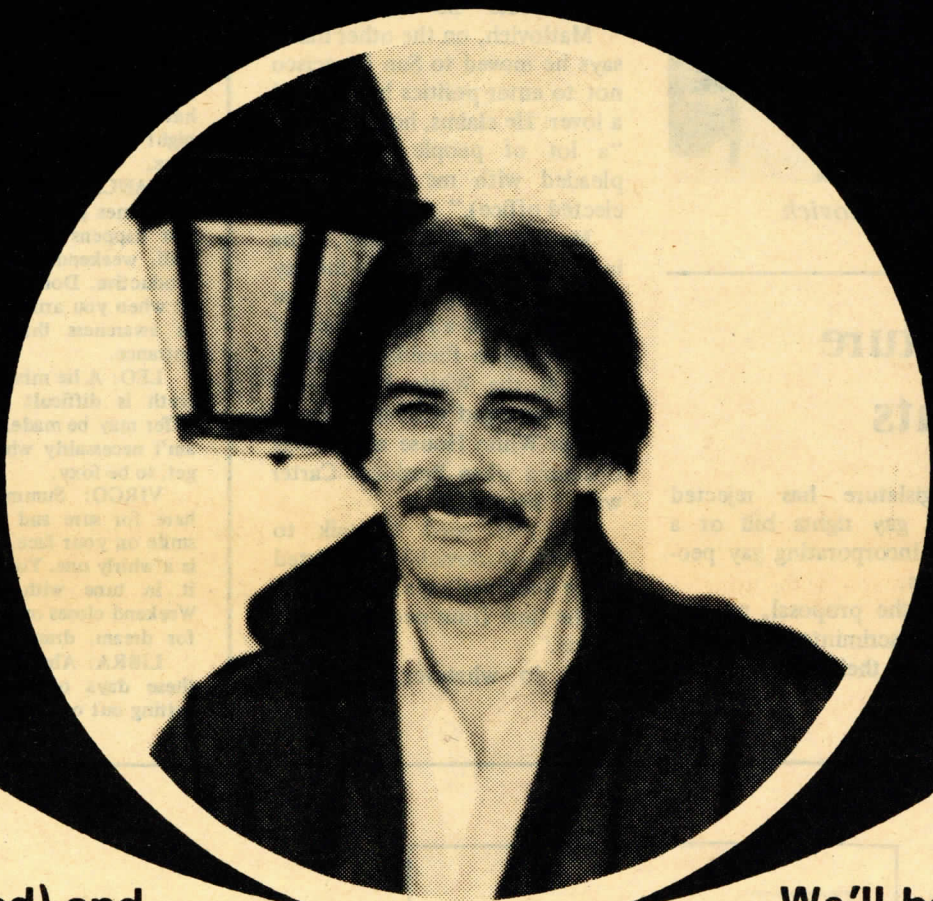
AQUARIUS: Life is not a bowl of cherries; it's a game of checkers. Surrender one to take two; don't make two moves at one time; move up, not down; and when you get to top, you can move as you like.

PISCES: You must change your ways concerning personal matter. True, "once an error is learned, it is hard to unlearn," but it is not impossible. Strength and inspiration come from unexpected source. Weekend cuddles to a close.

Rally Hot Shots



IT'S A NEW NAME
A NEW DISCO
BUT THE SAME MAN



Gene Howle (pictured) and
his partner, Lynn Ganey

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CODA

A Disco for
the People

OPENING FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 8:00 PM

Sister Sledge on top with "We Are Family"

The Montrose Star reviews the new albums:

PANIC by FRENCH KISS on Polydor, #PDI-6197

Disco master producer Simon Sousann has again come up with what will be another Arpeggio sound-alike, monster album.

This one is by his latest group, French Kiss, consisting of Lamarr Stevens, Muffi Durham and Yvette Johnson. I don't

know where Simon was able to find so many people who have identical voices, but here they are.

Side one spins off with the title cut, "Panic," and it's possibly the best one out of the bunch. He uses plenty of handclapping, tambourines and even a police siren... and then there's a break on this track that may even take you back to Love and Kisses' "I Found Love."

The next three tunes are combined into "Save Me Suite/We're the Right Combination/Right Combination Suite" and these songs sound very much like "Love and Desire" and "Runaway" put together... so very much that it's weird. ("Love and Desire" is actually blended with "Runaway" on the Arpeggio LP.)

Side two has the same kind of uptempo beat. Cuts one, two and three are very danceable. Cut four, titled "Mischief," is purely instrumental with heavy strings and a driving beat.

—O—
DOIN' IT by ALMA FAYE on Casablanca, #NBLP-7143

Alma Faye is the latest female artist to join Casablanca and it seems to be paying off already. She's generating excitement in an assortment of locales.

Side one starts with string rhythm and all three cuts here are quite danceable. "Don't Fall in Love" is the strongest.

Side two is a bit slower but

not the kind that puts you to sleep.

Alma Faye may remind you of Evelyn "Champagne" King.

—O—
THE TWELVE-INCH SCENE

Shirley Bassey's world famous song, "This is My Life," has been remixed and spiced with a terrific dance beat, making it one of the week's top picks. ... Capitol Records has

finally released "Haven't Stopped Dancing Yet" by Gonzalez on a twelve-inch disc. ... TK Records has got a winner on their hands with the new "Ring My Bell" by Anita Ward. ... "Ain't No Stopping Us Now" by McFadden and Whitehead on Philadelphia International is a kind of funky Peaches and Herb-type record. ... And "Are You Ready For Love" by the

Spinners is a bit too slow, in my opinion, for uptempo disco lovers.

Finally: it's official now. The opening date for the new Copa Disco is Friday night, April 20, 8:00 p.m., at 2631 Richmond Ave., Houston. See you there.

And thanks for reading the column this week. See ya next time.

RAM ROCHA

The Montrose Star surveyed the Houston gay discos this past week and determined that these songs generated the greatest audience reaction:

- 1 We Are Family — Sister Sledge
- 2 Dancer/Dance to Dance — Gino Soccio
- 3 Fire Night Dance — Peter Jaques Band
- 4 Forbidden Love — Madleen Kane
- 5 Got My Mind Made Up — Instant Funk
- 6 Makin' It — David Naughton
- 7 Take Me Home — Cher
- 8 Dance With You — Carrie Lucas
- 9 Bang a Gong/All Right Now — Witch Queen
- 10 (Everybody) Get Dancin' — Bombers
- 11 Knock On Wood — Amii Stewart
- 12 Keep On Dancin' — Gary's Gang
- 13 Ultimate — Ultimate
- 14 Grace of God — Machine
- 15 At Midnight — T-Connection
- 16 Great Expectations — First Choice
- 17 Countdown — Dan Hartman
- 18 Wings of Love — Celi Bee
- 19 In the Navy — Village People
- 20 Do You Think I'm Sexy — Rod Stewart

Don't call her an "old goat"

NEW YORK — Actress Hedy Lamarr filed separate \$10 million lawsuits April

11 against the company which publishes the San Francisco Chronicle and

against the National Enquirer, charging they called her "old and ugly" and a "two-headed goat."

Hartford council reverses mayor

HARTFORD, Conn. — The Hartford City Council voted 6-2 April 9 to override Mayor George Athanson's veto of an ordinance barring discrimination against gay people.

The measure, which takes effect immediately, also prohibits discrimination

against former criminal offenders.

The vote was the third attempt by the council to pass such a measure.

Mayor Athanson vetoed the ordinance April 3.

The new law forbids discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, race,

color, age, religion, national origin or sex.

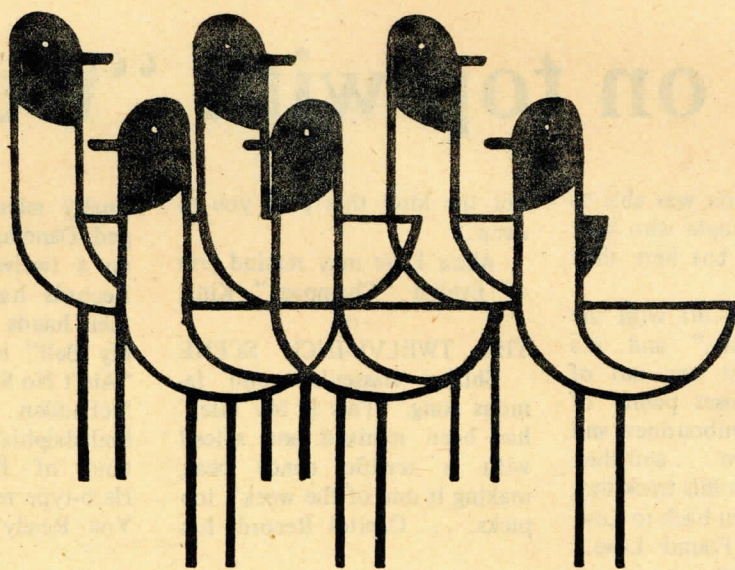
The mayor was against the measure reportedly because he thought it to be vague and discriminatory since it singled out specific groups for protection and did not apply to the hiring of teachers.

Rally Hot Shots





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Directory

Wondering where to shop & spend time? These businesses are involved in your lifestyle.

ADULT MALE ARCADES

Adonis News - 1407 Richmond
Adultz News - 714 W Alabama
Asylum - 1201 Richmond
Oscar Wild - 3400 Travis - 528-8491
Studz News - 1132 W Alabama

ADULT ALL-MALE THEATER

French Quarter - 3201 Louisiana - 527-0782

BARS

After Dark (disco) - 6250 Westpark - 978-7895
Baja Sams - 402 Lovett - 527-9866
Barn (western) - 710 Pacific - 528-9427
Brazos River Bottom (country/western) - 2400 Brazos - 528-9191
Briar Patch - 2294 Holcombe - 665-9678
Copa (disco) - 2631 Richmond - open soon
Cove (disco) - 2912 S Shepherd - 524-0170
Dirty Sallys - 220 Avondale - 529-7525
Exile - 1011 Bell - 659-0453
Galleon - 2303 Richmond - 522-7616
HiLite Ranch - 6800 S Main - 528-8730
Inside/Outside - 1318 Westheimer - 527-9071
Just Marions & Lynns (women) - 817 Fairview - 528-9110
L'Amour (women disco) - 227 Westheimer - 528-7831
Lampost (women) - 2417 Times Blvd - 528-9110
Locker (leather/western) - 1732 Westheimer - 528-8944
Marions Too (women) - 109 Tuam - 528-9097
Marys (western/leather) - 1022 Westheimer - 528-8851
Midnite Sun (disco) - 534 Westheimer - 526-7519
Montrose Mining (western) - 805 Pacific - 529-7848
Ms Take II (women) - 2047 Marshall - 528-3533
Numbers (disco) - 300 Westheimer - 529-5599
Old Plantation (disco) - 2020 Kipling - 522-2363

Our Place - 1419 Richmond - 528-8903
Pink Elephant - 1812 Leeland - 659-0040
Ram Rod - 5110 Airline - 691-9928
Silver Phoenix - 304 Avondale - open soon
Venture-N - 2923 Main - 522-9019

BATHS

Club Houston (CBC) - 2205 Fannin - 659-4998
Midtowne Spa - 3100 Fannin - 522-2379
The 2306 (macho) - 2306 Genessee - 528-6235

NEWSPAPER

Montrose Star - POB 70282, zip 77007 - 529-8188

ORGANIZATIONS

Affirmation (gay Mormons) - 669-0955
Agape Church - 1519 Kipling - 528-1000
Bay Area Gays - POB 985, League City 77573 - 332-1647
Crises Hotline - 228-1505
Data Professionals - c/o 509 Euclid - 861-8384, 721-1677, 529-6631
Dignity (gay Catholics) - 667-1936, 528-7644
ERA Support Committee - c/o 1902 Colquitt #16C - 524-0982, 864-8569, 521-9295
Episcopal Integrity/Houston - POB 66008, zip 77006 - 526-0555, 521-0690
Executive & Professional Assoc - 1735 Commonwealth - 523-2025
Gay Chicano Caucus - c/o 2001 Branard #8 - 523-9416, 521-9295, 523-9695
Gay Political Caucus - 1423 Holman - 526-2668, 526-9719
Gay Pride Week Coordinating Committee - c/o 1301 Richmond #B8 - 522-5408
Gay Professional Writers - POB 13612, zip 77019 - 861-3451
Gay Resource Svcs - Box 309, Univ Houston - 749-3489
Gay Speakers Bureau - 819 Richmond - 664-6459
Homophile Interfaith Alliance - 729 Manor - 453-1143
Houston Committee - 4801 Wiprecht - 524-0082, 527-7298
Human Rights League - POB 3624, zip 77001 - 523-6969

Institute for Mental Development (counseling) - 741-6313

Integrity/Houston (social, political) - 819 Richmond - 523-2025, 526-5921, 529-7014, 694-1732

Lambda Ctr for Alcoholics - POB 25363, zip 77005 - 521-9772

Lambda Social Club - c/o 1st Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin - 526-1571, 433-8380, 528-1311

Lesberados - obtain address from women's bar
Lutherans Concerned - 429 Manor - 453-1143
Metropolitan Community Church of Resurrection - 1919 Decatur - 526-8233

Montrose Activity Ctr - 1423 Holman - 521-1254, 522-4244, 526-9719

Montrose Counseling Ctr - 900 Lovett - 529-0037

Montrose Sports Assoc - 1656 Harold #4

Montrose Patrol - 819 Richmond - 529-7014

Off the Wall Productions - POB 14643, zip 77021 - 524-0342, 522-8881

Operation Documentation - 526-2879

Society of Gay Engineers - 528-6820

Texas Gay Task Force - c/o 1906 W Alabama #2 - 526-3376

Univ Houston Gay Studies Program - Univ Houston Sundry School - 453-1143

Wesleyan Fellowship Society (gay Methodists) - c/o 5707 Westward #11 - 981-6858

Wilde & Stein radio program - KPFT, 419 Lovett - 526-4000

RESTAURANTS

Angelos Pizza - 224 Westheimer - 528-7851

BPs - 1322 Westheimer - 527-8845

Baja Sams - 402 Lovett - 527-9866

Brasserie - 512 W Alabama - 528-8744

Chapultepec (Mexican) - 813 Richmond - 522-2365

Dons LePatios - 428 Westheimer - 523-5595

Front Runner - 1525 Westheimer - 528-8474

House of Pies - 3112 Kirby - 528-3816

Lee Garden - 224 Westheimer - 526-2683

Mabel McGowans - 708 W Alabama - 528-8885

Pips Great Expectations - 212 Westheimer - 528-2731

Spirit - 243 Westheimer - 522-0583

SERVICES (COMMERCIAL)

Apollo Hair Systems - 7320 SW Fwy - 988-4084

Brazos Realty - 2416 Brazos - 526-0909

Disco 94 KRLY request line - 780-0694

Jim Holomon Realty - 521-0278

T Lynns Electrolysis - 978-6785

Norris (hair) - 3303 Autley & 2021 S Post Oak Rd - 526-6266, 627-0000

Prestige Travel - 3205 Montrose - 522-1922

Reeds Keys - 1612 Westheimer - 523-2927

J Ross (realty) - 1911 SW Fwy - 521-1254

S/H Construction - 1919 Harold - 529-6615

Paul Stewart Assoc (advertising) - 528-5655

Top of Stairs (hair) - 528-4659

V&J TV Repair - 521-1139

SHOPS & STORES

The Bookstore - 1728 Bissonnet - 527-8522

Byman Furniture - 1401 S Post Oak Rd - 961-1813

DaArlas Disco - 215 Westheimer - 524-5187

Eagle Leather - 1022 Westheimer in Marys - 522-0651

Etc - 300 Westheimer in Numbers - 522-7988

Facets - 1412 Westheimer - 523-1412

Guenther Flowers - 2030 W Alabama - 523-2828

Hodge Podge - 1338-A Westheimer - 522-6585

House of Plants - 1634 Westheimer - 529-1901

Manhole (clothing) - 1983 W Gray - 522-1089

On Consignment (antiques) - 4721 Richmond - 840-8301

Pet Shop & Bird Clinic - 3118 Smith - 529-7266

Q-1 Leather - 2400 Brazos at Brazos River Bottom & 1732 Westheimer at Locker - 527-9044

Rams Records - 521 W Alabama - 529-2559

Specs Eyewear - 4709 Richmond - 626-1161

Union Jack (clothing) - 4025 Westheimer - 622-3100

Wilde n Stein (bookshop) - 819 Richmond - 529-7014

Is someone left out? Any corrections? Call the Montrose Star at 529-8188.

Rally Hot Shots



916176

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year

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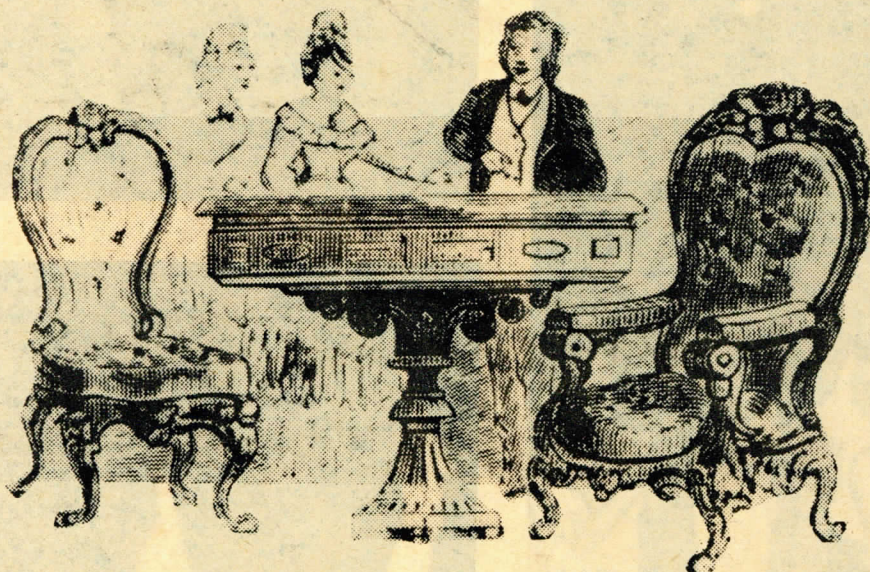
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This weekend: Friday the 13th and Easter Sunday

FROM PAGE 2

there you're going to miss a full weekend of parties, surprises, dinners, shows, etc.

• The Mustang Band will not be performing at the Exile this weekend, of course, because of the Mustang anniversary ... and all the guys at the Exile wish the Mustangs a happy second.

They will be back next weekend at the Exile.

And, by the way, here are the correct times for happy hour at the Exile: 4:00 to 6:00, Monday through Friday afternoons. 75¢ well drinks and 50¢ beer.

• There's just so much going on this weekend, it boggles the mind. (Boggle, boggle!)

The Montrose Activity Center will stage a tea dance Sunday, 4:00 to 10:00 p.m., with admission \$9 at the door. Proceeds go to benefit our community center: the Montrose Activity Center. Your DJ will be Roy Thode from Fire Island's Ice Palace.

You can save \$3 by getting tickets in advance from Mary's, Midtowne Spa, Studz News, the Brasserie, the Locker, Mabel McGowans, Venture-N or the Club Baths.

• KRRLY, Disco 94, is to be congratulated for featuring special tapes by leading disco DJ's. Among the tapes frequently featured are those of Frank Collins.

• Now a note for your looks. Spec's Opticians is having their fourth anniversary sale, through the end of the month.

This is a good time to do something nice (and save some money) for your eyes.

• Urban Camouflage at 4412 Montrose is now open and this is an interesting new gay business venture. They are a collection of shops and sell many unusual items ... plus they sell and RENT street roller skates.

(Attention, entrepreneurs: If you'd like to start a little shop of some kind and are looking for a location for it, check with these guys. They've still got some space left.)

• Chapultepec Mexican Restaurant is coming up with a new menu shortly. The food at Chapultepec is always good.

• The new Sound Warehouse on Farnham (Shepherd at Greenbriar) made the front cover of a very recent Billboard magazine (the industry paper of the music business) with its new disco room — a room separated from the rest of the store where all the disco albums are kept and played.

• Speaking of music, Ram's Records on West Alabama is celebrating its first anniversary for the next two weeks. Many albums have been specially priced for this event and Ram and Craig will be having mucho unannounced specials and goodies at the store.

• Tejas Motorcycle Club is just back from a Matamoros bash. They had to stop off in Victoria and get shots, we understand.

• If you're going to San

Antonio for Fiesta, watch out. The Roving Reporter will be there looking for a good story. And this time she has a camera.

• Figured out yet what fairly common word, which will describe the opening weekend of the Copa Disco, has both an "X" and a "Z" in it?

Well, here's a hint: it's a twelve-letter word, and it doesn't start with either letter, so you can't just go the dictionary and just start looking under "X" or "Z".

Another hint farther down. • What lucky Colt 45 recently had a hunky mountaineer?

• The Brazos River Bottom has started its steak night on Wednesdays now that the weather is nice again. Bring your own meat.

(Gee, I wouldn't touch that line with a ten-foot hot dog.)

Also the BRB will be having a country music festival the first weekend in May with bands playing continuously and lots of other stuff.

• David Howard is a new bartender at the Exile, working Monday and Tuesday nights. He's president of the Texas Riders.

• The Mustang Band is going back to New Orleans in May for Tiger's birthday party.

• At Ms. Take II, last week's pool winner was Bill Mayhew. Pete Crabtree came in second.

The Ms. Take II Shooting Stars softball team plays Paul's Pasta Pushers at 8:00 p.m. Friday night at Dunlavy Field.

Everybody's invited to come out and root for Ms. Take II.

• Here's a personal note. Ms. Peaches has changed her name to Mrs. Peaches James Allen, H.M.C.

• The Old Plantation is host the Miss Gay Houston pageant next weekend (Sunday, April 22) with \$1000 in prizes and many trophies.

The O.P. will be bringing back the regular Sunday night shows starting the week after, with regulars Donna Day, Rachael Wells, Hot Chocolate and Charlie.

• On Consignment is having a spring sidewalk sale this Saturday, 10:00 a.m. until late.

If you haven't been to this store, 4721 Richmond Avenue, you really owe it to yourself to drop by. It's made up of

neat people and neat merchandise, especially antique furniture at unbelievable prices.

Because all the stuff there is on consignment (Ah, ha! That's where they got their name!) you're likely to find some super bargains in antique furniture.

• Well, now, here's the answer to the riddle of what word that describes the opening of the new Copa Disco has both an "X" and a "Z" in it.

(We're really tempted not to tell you and make you wait until next week, but we won't be cruel.)

The word is (da, dah!) "Extravaganza."

And the opening Next Friday, April 20, 8:00 p.m., of Gene Howle and Lynn Ganey's Copa will certainly be an Extravaganza!

Houston disco concert schedule:

DISCO ARTISTS CONCERTS IN HOUSTON

Sat., April 14, Hofheinz Pavillion
BARRY WHITE

Mon., April 16, Summit
DONNA SUMMER
with BROOKLYN DREAMS

Sun., April 22, Summit
ROD STEWART

Sat., May 5, Music Hall
POINTER SISTERS

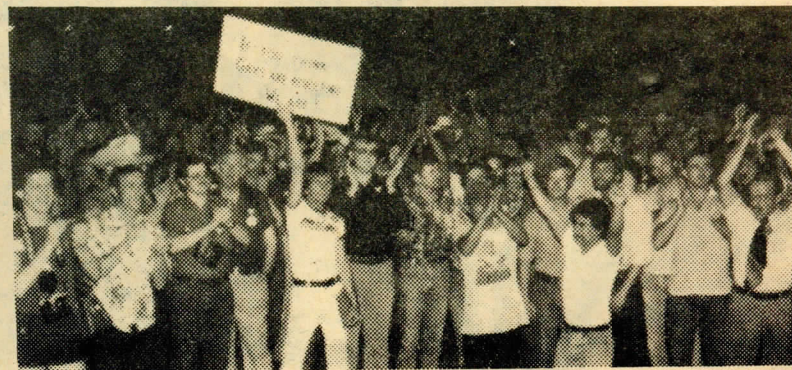
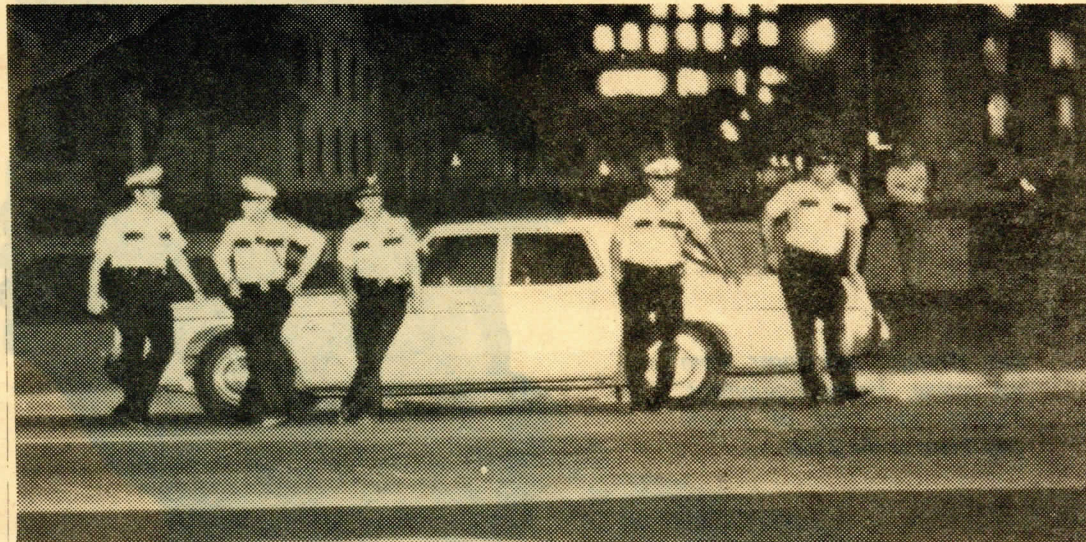
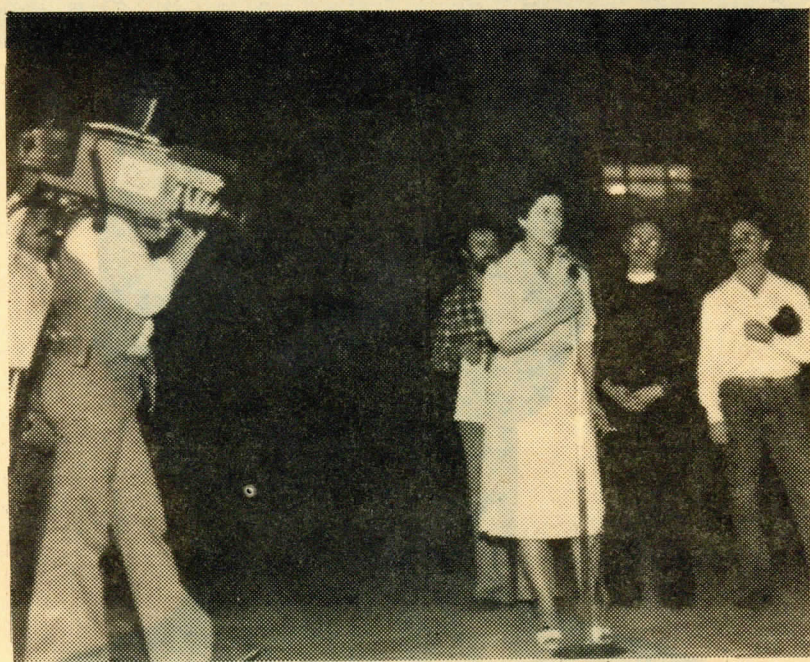
Wed., May 9, Summit
DIANA ROSS

Thur.-Sat., May 10-12,
Celebrity Circle
THE JACKSONS

Thur., May 24, Summit
(not confirmed)
VILLAGE PEOPLE
and GLORIA GAYNOR

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Rally was a success

True, only about 700 people showed up where we needed a minimum of 2000. But what was lacking in numbers was made up in enthusiasm. It was a group of 700 "hot" individuals.

We served our notice! We publicly announced for all downtown to hear that, yes, there *is* a mental problem within the Houston Police Dept. — a problem with the attitudes of not just some and certainly not all, but *many* Houston policemen.

We publicly let it be known that from this moment on — we, the gay people of Houston, are going to, as individuals and as a group, report *each* and *every* violation of our civil rights by Houston policemen.

We are going to 1) report it to the police themselves, 2) report it to the politicians, 3) report it to the press, and 4) report it to federal authorities who are investigating the Houston Police Dept.

And we're going to court!

You — yes, You — do *not* have to take a single instance of police abuse.

Why does a Houston policeman call you a "faggot" or push you around or even beat you? Why? Because he *thinks* he's going to get away with it. He *thinks* there's nothing you can do (or will do) about it. He *thinks* that it's going to be his word against yours and they're (the courts) going to believe *him*. What he *really* thinks deep down, of course, is that we're just a bunch of fairies that will shout, after the beating or after the abuse, "Please, mister policeman, don't beat me no more. I'll be a good faggot."

Well, we've got the last word in this, because we know that we, the gay people of Houston, from now on, are going to report and pursue corrections through the courts on every single instance of police abuse. We're not going to let a simple name calling and certainly not any beating go unchallenged.

We're damn mad and this lack of respect to gay people by certain homophobic Houston policemen is going to come to a screeching halt.

Need a church?

Looking for a regular church home, or just looking for religious advice? Here's a list of gay people in Houston who want to help:

A Cappella Chorus (gay Church of Christ members), 774-2368

Affirmation (gay Mormons), 669-0955

Agape Church, 1519 Kipling, 528-1000

Dignity (gay Catholics), 667-1936 or 528-7644

Episcopal Integrity (gay Episcopalians), P.O. Box 66008, Houston 77006, 526-0555 or 521-0690

Homophile Interfaith Alliance, c/o 729 Manor, 453-1143

Lutherans Concerned (gay Lutherans), c/o 429 Manor, 453-1143

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, 1919 Decatur, 526-8233

Wesleyan Fellowship Society (gay Methodists), c/o 5707 Westward #11, 981-6858

In addition to MCCR and Agape, several "straight" churches in the Montrose have many gay members and special events for gay people. They include Bering Memorial Methodist at 1414 Harold and First Unitarian at 5210 Fannin. You will feel welcome at all four of these churches.

Hey, What's Happening?

The Montrose Star welcomes letters to the editor about all subjects — controversial and tame. Write the Editor, Montrose Star, P.O. Box 70282, Houston, TX 77007

Vannelli is "king of the gypsies"

Houston was the stage April 8 for a fine musical event with the third concert appearance of Gino Vannelli — this time in the Summit.

Gino Vannelli is one of those rare musicians who defies normal categorization. His music is sophisticated and powerful. Yes, powerful. The synthesized instrumentation is always flawless and with three large keyboard synthesizers the music sounds as if they have a full symphony orchestra.

Vannelli's voice is powerful, also. He has been referred to as a modern day Caruso, even though the music is not operatic.

Vannelli's first album, *Crazy Life*, was produced by Herb Alpert and has been somewhat successful but does not really exemplify his ability. His following five albums are co-produced by Gino and brother Joe Vannelli. These albums in order are: *Powerful People*, which is excellent; *Storm at Sunup*, also excellent; *Gist of the Gemini*, which is fair; *Pauper in Paradise*, an excellent production in which side two is a modern symphonic suite

recorded with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra; and his newest offering, *Brother to Brother*, which is also a truly fine production.

Though Vannelli does not get much airplay or public recognition, he has a devoted following and his latest album is already a platinum seller after just a few months.

My first encounter with his music was in a restaurant in New Orleans named Lautrec's, 514 Toulouse. This restaurant played his music exclusively and generated a lot of interest in him with its clientele.

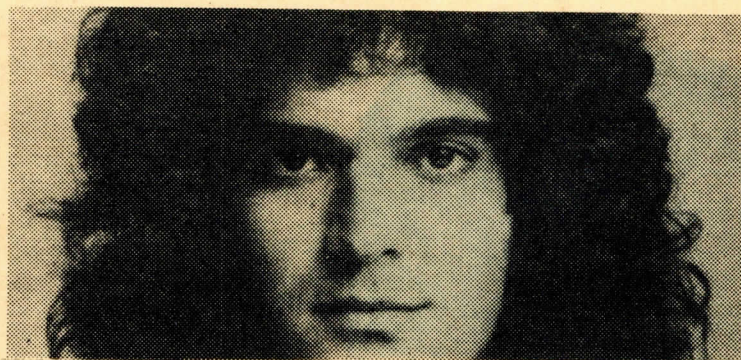
New Orleans is Vannelli's

adopted American home town (he's Canadian) and his love for it and the Deep South is evident in many of his lyrics.

Vannelli himself is a very dynamic performer on stage. He does not have the raw sensual appeal of a Jagger but does have a strong masculine, controlled image on stage that can be every bit as appealing. (He looks like a gypsy and conjures images of that kind of life.)

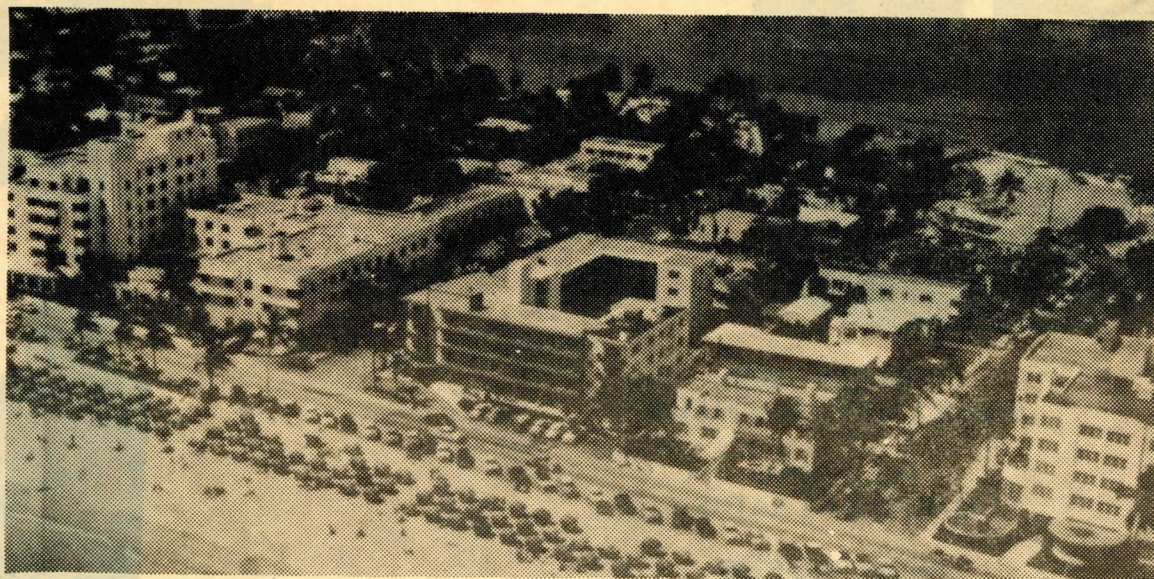
Vannelli is quietly establishing himself and his music in the minds of discriminating music fans and looks forward to a big future making beautiful, powerful music.

CHARLES CLINTON



Gino Vannelli

Travel



In 1962, this picture from the Fort Lauderdale City Publicity Department, had the following caption: "Mid-winter finds Fort Lauderdale Beach lined with hundreds of gay beach cabanas." Little did they know that it would literally come true.

Bob Damron reports back from Ft. Lauderdale

George Hamilton was very young and so were most of us when *Where the Boys Are* was released. As you remember, I'm sure, it's a movie about winter-weary Midwesterners and East Coast college kids. You also remember, I'm sure, that it's a very straight movie about a very straight Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Things have changed. Ft. Lauderdale now is a much bigger, gayer city. Today, Flori-

da's extremely popular "Gold Coast" resort is a curious combination of beach boys, millionaires, ballyhoo and bagels.

Warm sea breezes scent the night air as do the sun-burned bodies of the boogie bunch. Palm-studded beaches, flamingo gardens, intercoastal canals, exotic restaurants, luxury resorts, hydrofoil cruises, jai alai games, water boggin and other aqua sports attract more than a million tourists annually.

When Barry Manilow scored his big hit, *At the Copa*, he probably knew what he was singing about: The Copa at U.S. 1 and S.E. 28th ... a super disco — a gay disco.

The Copa is packed nightly until 5:00 a.m. Now, other Lauderdale bars must close at 2:00 a.m., but the Copa is just outside the city limits, as are some other clubs, and they stay open much later.

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 15

**Look, Charlton.
Don't ham it up!**

**Hello. My name is Moses. You remember
me from the movies? (I'm also in the Bible.)**

**Well, anyway, I invite you to attend the
church of your choice this Easter Sunday.**

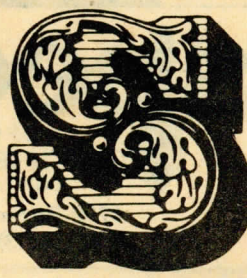
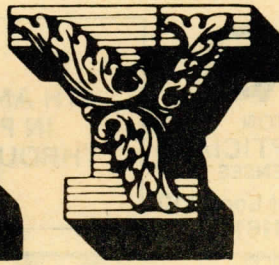
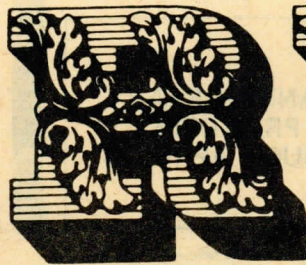
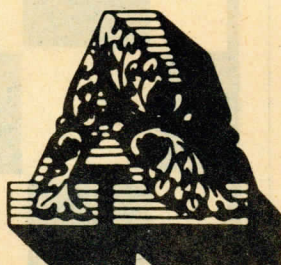
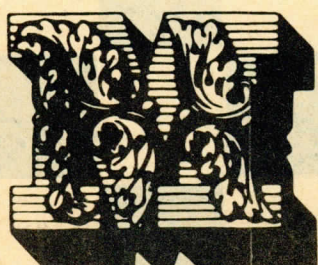
Let's praise Jesus!

**Then, after the services, join me for a cocktail
at Mary's (naturally). They're having Happy
Hour until 2 along with other specials.**

**And, oh yes. I'm not really
Moses. I'm Charlton Heston.**

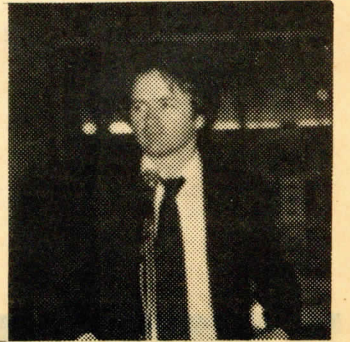
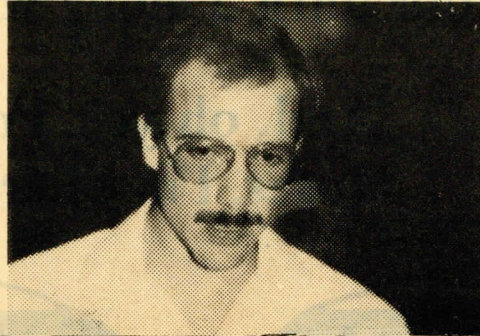
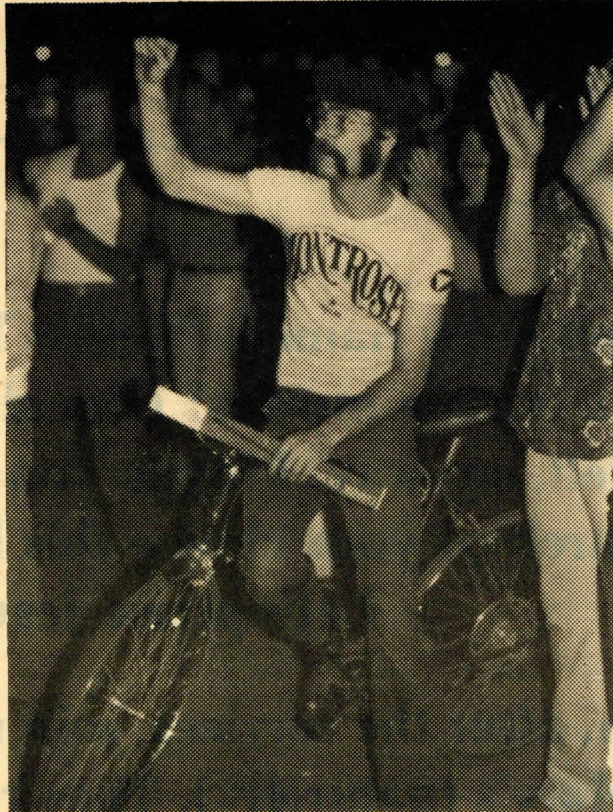
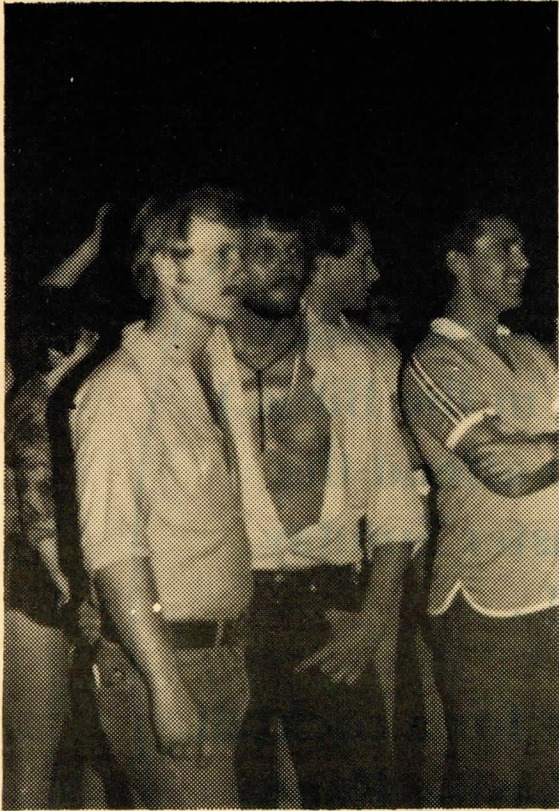


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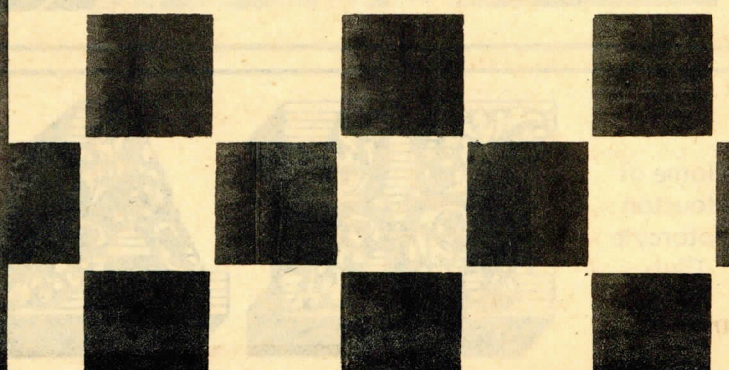
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TRAVEL

FROM PAGE 12

Among those other clubs is the new and good-looking Thirteen Buttons at 1440 S.E. 17th Street Causeway. It has everything and more that its sister club by the same name in Miami has except for the "back room."

Another promising newcomer is Zelda's at 4050 N.W. 9th Ave.

The Marlin Beach Hotel is the largest and oldest complex, but not what it used to be. However, the Poop Deck Restaurant and the Lower Deck Disco at the Hotel still do well and afternoon tea dances are especially popular. The hotel rooms at the Marlin Beach are pleasant and adequately maintained.

A new place which I have heard good reports about but not yet visited is the Oasis Motel, 1200 S. Miami Rd.

Other accommodations available include the Bela-Mar, Blue Atlantic, Galt Riviera, Pipeline Guest House and Premier Motel. The Grenell Arms is not recommended.

I usually stay at the Holiday Inn-Airport, which is convenient to the Hallandale, Hollywood and North Miami clubs, as well as Ft. Lauderdale's.

Lefty's at 710 N. Federal Highway (that's U.S. 1) in Ft. Lauderdale is a hot, macho, cruise bar, but followed closely in popularity by the Everglades at 1931 S.E. Sixth Ave.

Others include Tacky's at 2509 W. Broward, the Tunnel Bar, the Grotto and the Saloon.

Ladies prefer the Odds and Ends, 3148 N.E. Twelfth Ave.

The Gym/Club Lauderdale at 901 S.W. 27th Ave., is still the top baths and they're adding a bar to be called Helen's Hole. The Gym is private, but honors other membership cards, and will also accept California, New York or Canadian I.D. cards.

Forget the Club House Baths, but the Locker Room in nearby Hollywood can occasionally be rewarding.

Best of the new gay restaurants is the Sandpiper at 2135 W. Davie Blvd. If the quality of their food eventually matches the attentive service, it will indeed be good.

Other worthwhile gay-oriented eating establishments include Ambience, Tony's Italian Villa and Vel's Anchor House.

For you galloping gay gourmets, if you've got the loot, Lauderdale has the (straight) restaurants. I like Cafe de Geneve, Creighton's, Dante's, Dome of the Four Seasons, Down Under, Le Beaujais, Le Cordon Bleu, Le Cafe de Paris, Maikai and the Round Table.

They claim the fun never sets here in the land of shipwrecks and coconuts, and it is probably true. So what, if it's somewhat plastic.

(If you really want the "men," you can always drive down to Miami... or better yet, Key West, the Fire Island of the South.)

But Lauderdale's your place if boys are your bag, because, after all, as the movie and song said, this is *Where the Boys Are*.

BOB DAMRON

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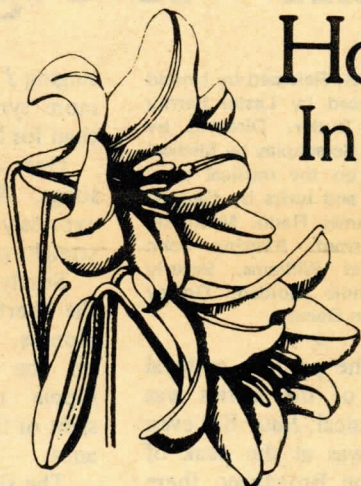
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6:30 am - Sunrise Services in the park across from
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Pancake breakfast Following Sunrise Services
(in the new church building)

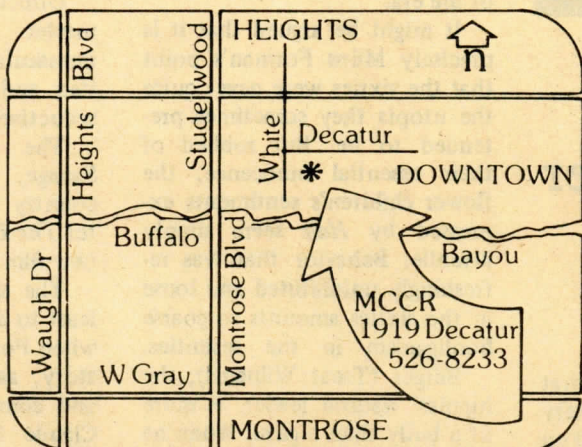
9:30 am - Adult Sunday School

10:45am - Easter Worship Service (Communion given)

7:15pm - Special Easter Cantata:

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"Movie Movie" is a celebration of old studio formulas

MOVIE MOVIE, rated PG. Released by Warner Bros. Executive producer Martin Starger. Produced and directed by Stanley Donen. Written by Larry Gelbart and Sheldon Keller. Starring George C. Scott with Trish Van Devere, Red Buttons, Eli Wallach, Harry Hamlin, Ann Reinking, Kathleen Beller, Barry Bostwick, Art Carney, Barbara Harris and Rebecca York.

—o—

George Burns delivers a prologue to *Movie Movie* in which he informs the audience that they are about to see a couple of old-fashioned movies. He notes that, among other things, the boy will get the girl in the end of these stories, and there will be no dirty language ... or behavior.

The prologue, though it's amusing, is totally extraneous. It's impossible to mistake what *Movie Movie* is about. In every respect the film's two segments perfectly capture the spirit of Hollywood's golden age.

In its celebration of the old studio formulas, the two segments of *Movie Movie* share a number of locations and actors. Each episode is an affectionate light parody of a genre film.

"Dynamite Hands" is a boxing picture about a nice kid

who's good with his hands, and his messy entanglement with the corrupt world of the ring. "Baxter's Beauties of 1933" is a backstage musical featuring a gregarious producer and his long-lost daughter.

Every moment of both stories reflects a dozen clichés, and that's the fun of *Movie Movie*. This film doesn't pull any punches. There are no ugly surprises.

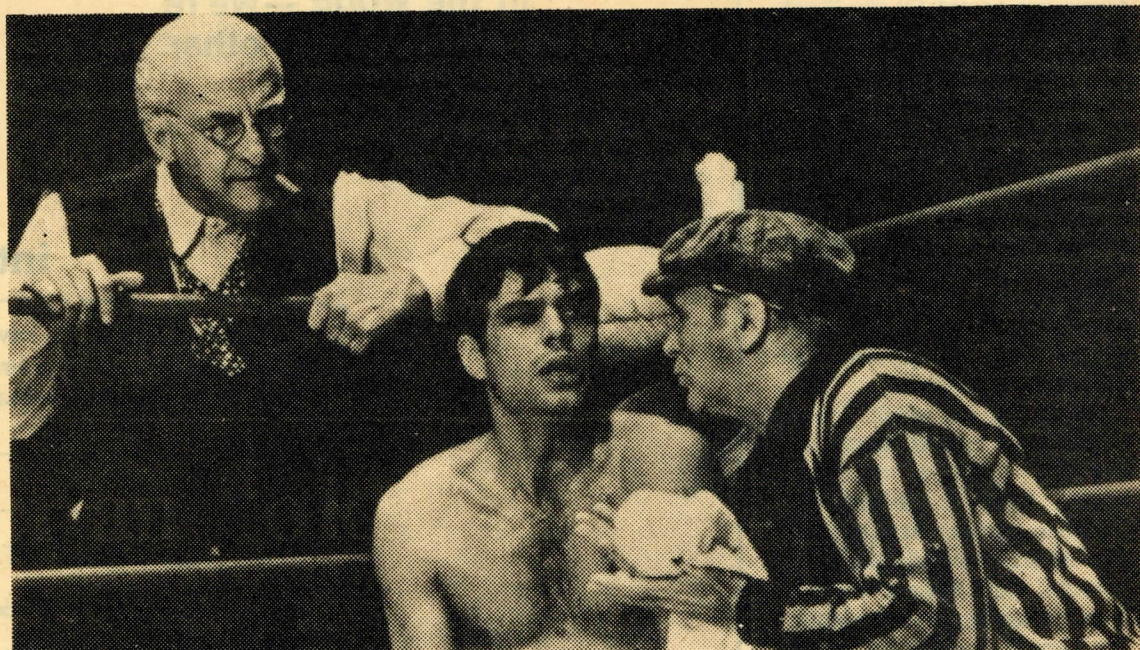
If the point of *Movie Movie* is to restore our faith in happy endings, it nearly succeeds.

"Dynamite Hands" features, in the role of Joey Popchik, an unknown young actor with precisely the right bearing for the part of a kid who dreams of becoming a lawyer, but is forced to take to the ring to earn money to save his sister's sight.

Harry Hamlin as Joey has not only an athletic build, but an appealing natural earnestness. He goes through the corny paces of a "good" kid who strays from the true path with a delightful sincerity that pulls us right into his story.

George C. Scott plays Joey's salty manager; Trish Van Devere

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 17



George C. Scott, Harry Hamlin and Red Buttons in "Movie Movie"

"Hair" is big embarrassment

HAIR, rated PG. Released by United Artists. Produced by Lester Persky and Michael Butler. Directed by Milos Forman. Screenplay by Michael Weller based on the musical play, "Hair." Book and lyrics by Gerome Ragni and James Rado. Music by Galt MacDermot. Starring John Savage, Treat Williams, Beverly D'Angelo, Annie Golden, Dorsey Wright and Don Dacus.

—o—

Among the premier cultural phenomena of the sixties was the rock musical, *Hair*. But even when *Hair* was at the peak of popularity on Broadway, there were those who felt it was an artificial, contrived reflection of the times — hippies and their anti-establishment culture were neatly packaged for purposes of mass consumption.

In its current form, as a phantasmagoric film by Academy Award winning director Milos Forman, *Hair* stands at an even greater distance from its subject.

This *Hair* is thoroughly infected with the disillusionment of the seventies. None of the idealism of the sixties, which was, after all, one of the counterculture's key components, has found its way into this reflection of the era.

It might be argued that it is precisely Milos Forman's point that the sixties were never quite the utopia they sometimes pretended to be. But robbed of their essential innocence, the flower children's sentiments expressed by *Hair* seem simply juvenile. Behavior that was refreshingly uninhibited and loose in the sixties amounts to coarse hooliganism in the seventies.

Berger (Treat Williams), the hippies' natural leader, is more of a bully than a guru. When he disrupts a snobbish upper-class dinner party, shocking the guests by dancing on the dinner table

singing *I Got Life*, one feels far more sympathy for his victims than for him.

One of the musical's best songs, *Sodomy*, is performed expressly to shock some hapless straight girls.

Sorely absent is any sense of the libertine's delight in his own hipness. In focusing relentlessly on the aggressiveness of the hippie movement, *Hair* loses sight of that movement's exuberance.

The slender story (screenplay by Michael Weller) is that of an Oklahoma farmboy named Claude (John Savage), who passes through New York before being drafted into the army. There he meets Berger and his friends, who proceed to indoctrinate him into the loosely styled hippie way of life.

The major subplot involves Claude's crush on a society debutante (Beverly D'Angelo).

Claude eventually submits to the army's call; his new-found hippie friends, however, aren't content to see him sent to Vietnam. The story climaxes with their attempt to rescue him from a desert military base.

Director Milos Forman is a master craftsman, and *Hair*, immaculately photographed, edited and choreographed, has a seductive big picture sheen.

The performance by John Savage, perfectly cast as a country boy, confirms him (after *The Deer Hunter*) as a major new film actor.

The sequences that have the least to do with hippies per se — when Forman is simply telling a story, as he does when Berger and company set out to rescue Claude from the army — are most effective.

This glossy extravaganza of a movie is brought to its knees,

however, in sequences meant to convey, in song and dance, the spirit of the times. Frequently, one admires the technical virtuosity with which a sequence has been mounted, while squirming in embarrassment at its facile meanings.

The song *White Boys, Black Boys*, in which black girls sing about their love of white boys and white girls express their similar feelings for black boys, has been cross-cut with scenes set at a draft board. What we get are black draft board members campily voicing their love for a nude white boy standing before them while white draft board members likewise examine a black draftee. It's snappily edited, briskly sung and cleverly conceived — but it's also typical of the film's embarrassingly glib up-the-establishment antics.

In other instances, a song is staged imaginatively but the effect is confused. The title song, for example, is set at New York City's notorious jail, The Tombs, a curious setting for a song about freedom of expression.

Milos Forman undoubtedly intends to jar his audience with such imposing contradictory effects. But *Hair* is too bitter to work as nostalgia; it's too aware of its social context to work as pure song and dance; its targets are too obvious for it to stand as a serious piece of historical revisionism.

Toward the end of the film Berger cuts his hair so that he can sneak onto a military base. His friends stand around mournfully, and he asks, "How does it look?"

One is tempted to shout out, "Much better!"

SETH CAGIN



Christopher Plummer as Sherlock Holmes

James Mason, Chris Plummer are charming in "Murder"

MURDER BY DECREE, rated PG. Released by Avco Embassy Pictures. Produced by Rene Dupont and Bob Clark. Directed by Clark. Screenplay by John Hopkins. Starring Christopher Plummer and James Mason with Donald Sutherland, Genevieve Bujold, David Hemmings, Susan Clark, Anthony Quayle, John

Geilgud and Frank Finlay.

—o—

It is painfully obvious that the Sherlock Holmes mystery *Murder By Decree* isn't based on one of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's original stories.

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 18

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MOVIE MOVIE FROM PAGE 12

is his loyal girlfriend. Ann Reinking is the "fast" woman who helps lure him into the clutches of the wily gangster, played by Eli Wallach.

Add a few other characters from central casting — Joey's mom, pop and sister, the trainer's assistant and the gangster's henchmen — and "Dynamite Hands" has all the elements of an All-American success story.

Humorous punning dialogue, delivered dead pan, helps keep the story moving at a brisk clip.

Equally devoted to tried-and-true formulas, "Baxter's Beauties of 1933" relates the dream story of a Broadway chorus girl who finds fame, family and love all on one magical night. Rebecca York is spotlighted, displaying a sure grasp of the demands of her part as Kitty, the starry-eyed chorus girl whose modesty belies a mighty talent.

Barry Bostwick, who made an impression as Brad in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, is the handsome composer of the show that rockets Kitty to stardom; his boyish charm does no less for her heart than his songs do for her career.

Back in key supporting roles are George C. Scott and Trish Van Devere. Scott is the Broadway producer Baxter. Terminally ill, he seeks to produce one last hit to benefit his daughter, who has been secreted away in a girls' home, unaware of her father's identity.

Van Devere is the long-term, vain and demanding star of Baxter's company.

Barbara Harris contributes a performance as a tough showgirl whose unspoken love for Baxter never tarnishes though she is constantly pushed into the background by Van Devere.

Movie Movie was produced and directed by Stanley Donen, whose distinguished Hollywood career goes back nearly to the thirties. Donen's firsthand knowledge of the genres he parodies in *Movie Movie* undoubtedly accounts, in large measure, for the film's success. The man who made *Singing in the Rain* knows how to stage the kind of rousing, old-time song and dance sequence that climaxes "Baxter's Beauties of 1933."

The script by Larry Gelbart and Sheldon Keller supplies Donen with an ideal structure for this nostalgia trip.

The actors, impeccably cast, clearly delight in the broad characterizations they are offered here.

Some viewers may resist what is undeniably a glib retreat to movie mannerisms that once carried far more conviction than they possibly can in the present, no matter how successfully they're imitated. The film's saving grace, however, is that it makes no excuses for its nostalgic mission.

Movie Movie, thankfully, keeps the old-fashioned simplicity it celebrates in the past where it belongs. The film is a true escape and an entertaining one.

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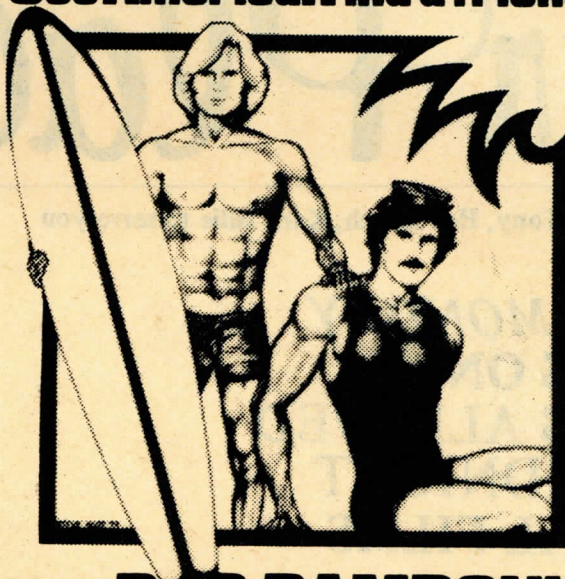
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MURDER FROM PAGE 12

Murder By Decree can boast several qualities, including an appropriately foggy sense of atmosphere and delightful characterizations of Holmes and his sidekick, Dr. Watson, by Christopher Plummer and James Mason, respectively. Utterly lacking, however, is the ingenuity that was Conan Doyle's trademark.

What fun is a Sherlock Holmes case that the audience can solve well in advance of the renowned detective himself?

The clever premise of the film is to pit the fictional Holmes against the historical criminal Jack the Ripper. If only *Murder By Decree* didn't give itself away with its title. We know from the outset that the crown is involved with the crime.

It is quickly revealed to us that highly placed government officials are covering up the Jack the Ripper murders; we are dealing with a Victorian Watergate.

Even though Holmes and Watson are not privy to the title of their own story and know nothing of Watergate, we can't help wondering why they are so slow to catch on to the conspiracy.

Another contrivance Conan Doyle would never have permitted is the use of a psychic as Holmes' key informant. Donald Sutherland plays the part colorfully, but the conception itself is all wrong. Sherlock Holmes is not supposed to rely upon ESP for help; he's supposed to solve his case by means of rigorous intellectual analysis.

A final fundamental problem is that even after Holme's lengthy explanation of the case at the end of the film, major questions remain unanswered.

Despite these failings, which along with Bob Clark's plodding direction make it impossible for *Murder By Decree* to generate any suspense, the film does contain a few tricky twists of plot and a couple of nicely staged scenes.

Holmes traces one informant to an insane asylum, where she has unjustly been committed to keep her silent. Genevieve Bujold delivers a startling performance as the poor woman at the center of the monstrous conspiracy; her scene is skillfully mounted to horrifying effect against the backdrop of a ward in a nineteenth-century mental institution.

Chief among this film's charms, however, are its original portraits of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson. These two legendary crimefighters have been domesticated.

They live together, work in much closer collaboration than usual and display affection for one another heretofore unknown. Christopher Plummer's Holmes is unexpectedly urbane; James Mason's Watson is a bit priggish but good-natured in the end.

These two fine actors, at least, maintain the tradition of an intelligent Sherlock Holmes yarn, even while all around them *Murder By Decree* falls in on its own soft-headedness.

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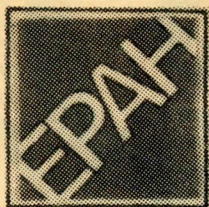
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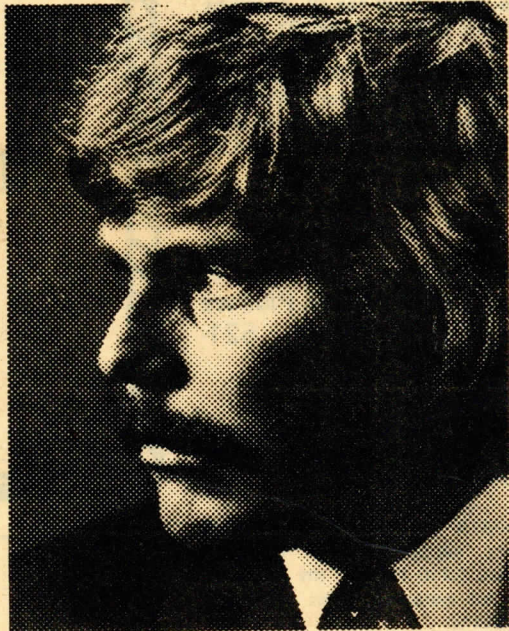


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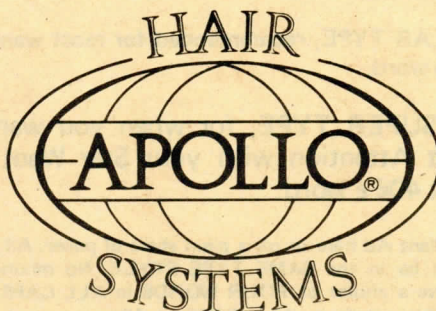


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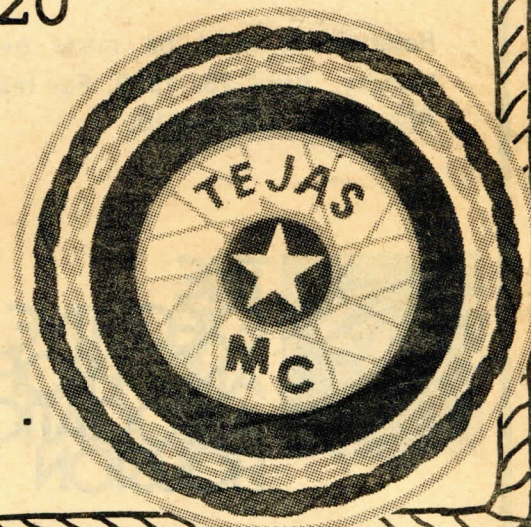


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