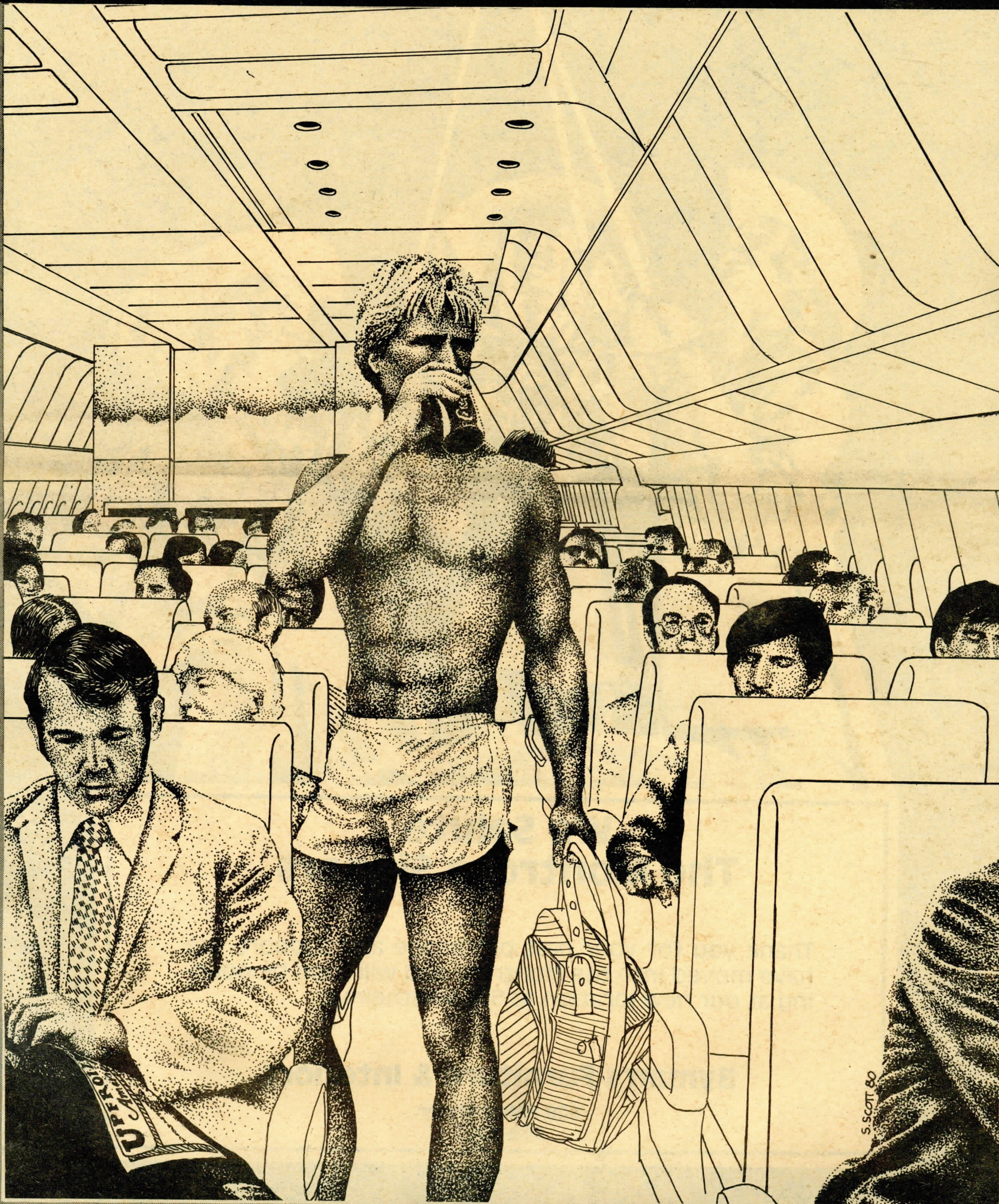
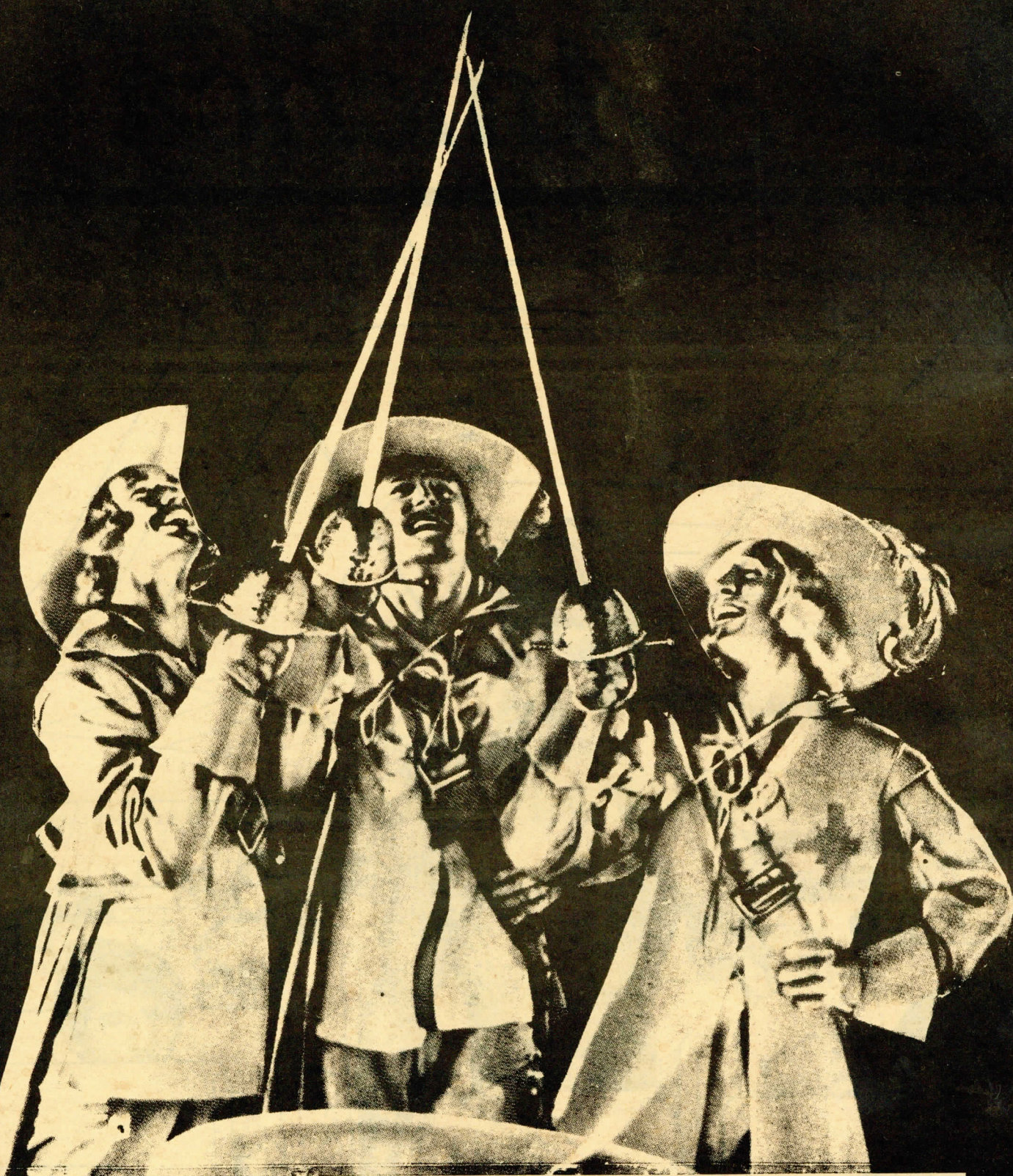


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HOUSTON, TEXAS EDITION

VOL. 1 ISSUE 12 JUNE 6, 1980





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Newsfront

Anti-Gay Organizations Engaged in Conflict

The Organization "Concerned Citizens Against the Sexual Orientation Ordinance" have found themselves in conflict with their former friends, Moral Majority, who recently staged a Washington, D.C. march. The following release was mailed by Concerned Citizens recently. It suggests the beginning of a division and thus a weak link between the organizations:

Concerned Citizens has attempted to share and coordinate various campaign responsibilities with the newly formed Moral Majority. We had both agreed to a plan that would make the Moral Majority responsible for the media campaign and we as Concerned Citizens would conduct the precinct work. Now the Moral Majority has informed us they will no longer coordinate efforts and

desire to conduct both precinct and media work. This may have a devastating effect on the campaign. It could split our forces and usurp our effectiveness, inevitably leading to defeat. We must hold together as Concerned Citizens and not allow this divisiveness to occur.

Because of our previous agreement with the Moral Majority, Concerned Citizens has geared its entire campaign effort for precinct walking. Much sacrificial giving of time and money has gone into preparation for this specific part of the campaign, all of which will be wasted if we fail to retain your support.

If the Moral Majority contacts you for volunteers to do precinct walking we hope you will give prayerful consideration before deciding which group to support.

Democratic Convention Hearings at Shamrock

Houston, TX—The Southern Regional Hearing of the 1980 Democratic National Convention Committee, Inc. took place at Houston's Shamrock Hilton Hotel May 29th. This was the last of the four regional hearings at which speakers on a variety of issues present their "cases" to the Committee and to the public prior to the

Democratic National Convention. From the regional hearings a platform is drafted to offer to the Democratic candidate for president. According to Mary Spotts Pou, Co-Director of the National Convention Project, who attended the meetings, the candidate is expected to support whatever the platform includes.

Bettie Naylor who served as lobbyist for Gay Rights in the last session of the Texas Legislature, spoke in support of gay rights along with State Senator Joe Bernal. Naylor submitted a comprehensive report which analyzes the effects of politicians who publically support gay civil rights. Naylor said that there is only one known case in the last decade where support of gay rights lost a politician a job. That case occurred over six years ago in Boulder, Colorado, she said.

Montrose Shooting

Houston, TX—A man was shot and killed by police outside of the Midnight Sun Disco early Wednesday morning.

Jerry John Barela and an unidentified companion were asked to leave the bar, located at 534 Westheimer, after they had been fighting with each other. Both men returned to the bar with guns, according to police.

An employee, Michael L. Kilpatrick, was shot by Barela as he entered the bar. Police in the vicinity arrived shortly after the shot was heard.

The police positioned themselves behind their car and called for the two men to freeze. When Barela turned around with his gun in hand, one of the officers fired the single fatal shot.

The management of the Midnight Sun refused to comment on the incident except to say that they agreed with the police statement.

—THE MONTROSE SINGERS—
perform at the Tower Theatre, June 5 and 6. They will also perform June 25 at the First Unitarian Church at 7:30 for "A Day of Remembrance." One June 29 they will be at Spotts park along with the Montrose Marching Band beginning at 7:30 after the Gay Pride Parade.

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Cover illustration by
Steve Scott

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Publisher
GARY J. VAN OOTEGHEM

Editor
CRAIG P. ROWLAND

Administrative Assistant
RICHARD HEBERT

Graphic Design and Production
LARRY VAN PARIS

Production Assistant
JACK STALNAKER

Contributors
DAVID FAGAN, JIM LLOYD
E. J. OWENS, RUTH RAVAS
JACK STALNAKER, RUE STARR II
ART TOMASZEWSKI

Photocontributors
GREG DAY, DAVID OSBORNE
JACK STALNAKER, J. HARDY WILLIAMS

Correspondents

Washington D.C.
LARRY BUSH

San Francisco
GREG DAY, DAVID OSBORNE

Cinema Correspondent
BRENT NORTUP

Computer Operation
CHARLES BOTTS

HOUSTON
(713) 521-9822—521-1016

Sales

SAN FRANCISCO
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Filmfront

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK. Directed by Irvin Kershner. Story by George Lucas. Screenplay by Leigh Brackett and Lawrence Kasdan. Photography by Peter Suschitzky. Music by John Williams. Released by 20th Century Fox.

By Brent Northup

Film's galactic fisherman has changed his bait from eyesight to insight, but his catch will be as impressive as before.

In 1977 George Lucas created *Star Wars*. His ten million dollar movie introduced moviegoers to a new visual language of hyperspace and laser swords. We were so carried away by the singular newness of his vision, that we returned again and again to re-experience these delicious unfamiliar sensations.

Fanatics viewed the film upwards of one hundred times. One Harvard student wrote to Lucas claiming that nobody on campus was taken seriously unless they had seen *Star Wars* six times.

As much a fairy tale as a space fantasy, *Star Wars* hooked us both with its simple good-defeats-evil power and with its complex effects.

A few hundred million dollars later, Lucas realized that his imagination had penetrated the poetic arteries of nearly everyone.

But other filmmakers sensed this, too. The race to jump on Lucas' interstellar

coattails began in earnest: *Close Encounters*, *Dark Star*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *Buck Rogers*, *Battlestar Galactica*, *Space 1999*, *Alien*, *The Black Hole*, *Star Trek*, *Message From Space* (the Japanese version) *Star Crash* (the Italian version), and finally the satirical *Hardware Wars* with Oggy Ben Doggy.

Quite soon we were hyper-spaced out.

Lucas knew this and adjusted his plans accordingly. Rather than trying futilely to find a new way to dazzle our

scenes, he would build a nine film galactic mythology, not unlike Tolkien's *Ring Trilogy*.

Star Wars was retitled *Star Wars: Part IV—A New Hope*. The next film would be *Episode V—The Empire Strikes Back*. Then *Episode VI—The Revenge of the Jedi*.

That would conclude the middle trilogy.

Then he would jump back twenty years to explain in three films the roots

of the Rebel-Empire struggle.

Finally he would lightspeed forward 40 years to conclude the Wars. All in all he would fashion a 40 year mythology destined to consume the rest of this century. Lucas' life would move from sunrise to twilight before his saga ends.

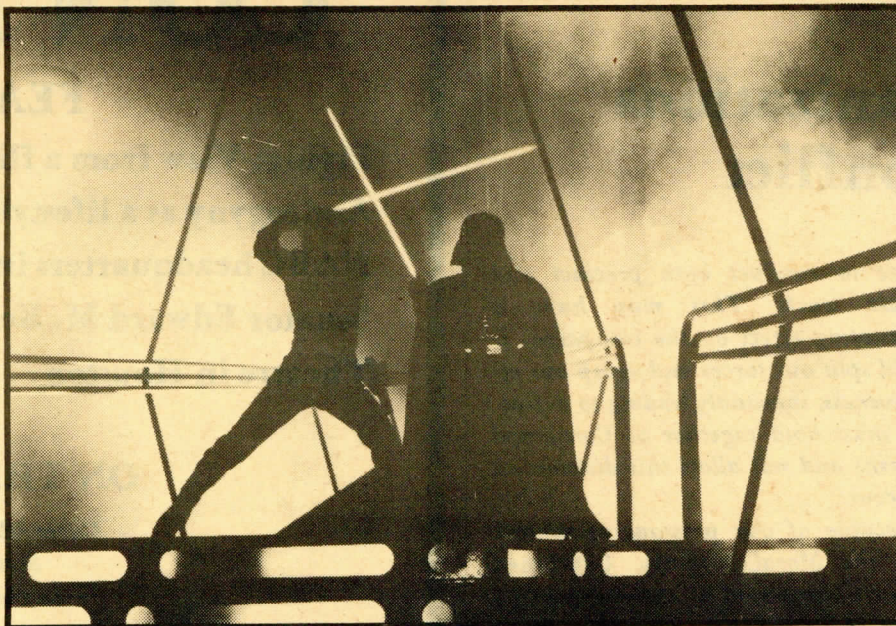
With this masterplan in mind Lucas now could film *Empire*. He would not direct, but instead would act as the omnipresent force that guides production. He remained primarily in San Francisco as *Empire* was created in England and Norway. But his long distance phone bills appreciably raised A.T.&T.'s stocks. Every week in the mail he received videotapes of every frame shot the week before.

His goal for this film was clear: To reach behind his viewers' eyes to their minds and to hook their curiosity for the remaining seven films.

The Empire Strikes Back is thus a transitional teaser laced with fairy tale mythology. At film's end a silent voice called out, "Tune in again in three years . . . and three years after that . . . and . . ."

Because he chose not to rely exclusively on special effects, Lucas' *Empire* is as original, and perhaps even more powerful, than *Star Wars*.

Continued on page 15



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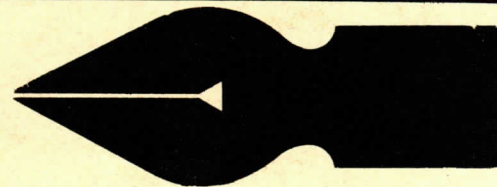
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Editorials



Proud To Be:

Gay Pride Week Calendar

If... Yes, You'll Ride on the wings of Pride. Nowhere is there a more eloquent testimonial to men's and women's struggle for Self as this combined celebration and Sharing Spirit of Human Freedoms.

Friday 20 June—City wide kick-off celebration. Check with your local bar, business or organization. See local advertisements.

Saturday 21 June—M.S.A. Softball Leagues Houston Police and Fire Department game at Memorial Park Field at 1:00 p.m. followed by annual picnic in Memorial Park until 7:00 p.m.

Sunday 22 June—An on the beach celebration in Galveston at 1:00 p.m. Buses leaving Montrose at noon. Call 523-6969 for more information.

Monday 23 June—At 7:30 p.m. First Unitarian Church at 5210 Fannin (at Southmore). An exciting in-depth look at Gay People, where we've been and where we're going.

Tuesday 24 June—Rainbow Day for the physically challenged. . . Open House at the Montrose Activity Center (Holman at LaBranch) from noon until 6:00 p.m. For more information on scheduled evening events call 523-6969.

Wednesday 25 June—National Day of Remembrance. An Inter-Faith service at the First Unitarian Church at 5210 Fannin (at Southmore), 7:30 p.m. In commemoration for those who died in Nazi atrocities and those unjustly imprisoned for being Gay.

Thursday 26 June—Gay Young Peoples' Day. Early evening events scheduled to celebrate the experience of our city's young gay men and women. For more information call 523-6969.

Friday 27 June—Minorities Day. Fiesta '80. An outdoor extravaganza complete with live music and refreshments sponsored by the Gay Hispanic Caucus—2504 Mason 8:00 p.m. until midnight.

Saturday 28 June—A series of educational workshops concerning the everyday interests of Gay Men and Lesbians. These workshops will be held throughout the day at the University Center on the U of H Campus. Call 749-3489 for information.

Sunday 29 June—Second Annual Gay Pride Week Parade down Westheimer from Shepherd to Bagby. A colorful expression of our Pride as Gay Houstonians and a two-mile conclusion to a week of celebration. Parade starts at 3:00 p.m. Rally at Spotts Park. Sponsored by the Gay Political Caucus, this rally features entertainment, speeches and much more starting at 7:30 p.m.

A Farewell

Since the inception of UpFront America (and its predecessor UpFront) about 26 months ago, I have had the privilege of heading up a fine team of men and women who collectively have improved journalistic and graphic standards in newspaper publishing. I believe that this evolving team has much to be proud of. Even with the keen competition, we charged in because we believed there was a need for a publication such as ours. We still believe this. Only now, it's time for new leadership within this paper and it's time for older leadership to step aside. This column represents my last official function as Publisher. I've enjoyed my tenure in office and the memories of it will remain with me for a good portion of my remaining life, I am sure. But for me, it's time to move on. For UpFront America, it's time to progress onward to its next stage of development. With new investors [including, soon, employee participation in ownership] and new management, I believe the paper can achieve anything it chooses to tackle.

The new publisher will be announced in the next issue, our Gay Pride issue. I believe you will be pleased.

For the remainder of my last column I would like to comment on a few individuals and organizations that I will no longer longer have an opportunity or forum to do so in.

I would like to thank Jim Farmer [Mary's Lounge], Bill Ramsey [J. Ross Management], Warren Duncanson [Byman's Furniture and Interiors], and Jim Reed [Reed's Keys]. Each of these men has advertised and supported this paper religiously since our beginning. Without their support we would not have made it. A very special thank you is expressed to Marty Benson [Midtowne Spa] who granted me sufficient funds to start this paper even though I had only an idea. And thank you to my past and present staff who I not only had the opportunity to work with, but have grown to love, appreciate, and admire for their individuality and creativity. You have become my friends and I love you all. My pride in this paper is nothing more than a reflection of admiration for your combined talents.

Finally, a few personal comments not related to anything above. With Gay Pride Week just around the corner it is timely to reflect on what Gay Pride is about. It is not just something homosexual. It encompasses much more. It reflects an attitude and understanding about human relationships. Perhaps more than any other minority group, we understand the need for all people to live peacefully together. Success may require decades, not just years. Huge amounts of both human and financial resources will be required. Mobilizing into strong voting blocs, such as demonstrated by the GPC, is essential. Just as essential as the vote is strong financial support which our civil liberties enemies already have in place. We need more people like Jim Farmer who has set an example of being generous by returning a much above average portion of his gay-related business income back into the community in support of community events and organizational support. All these ingredients are necessary for long-term success. All of us must help and try to make it work.

Farewell

Publisher

Newsfront

Announcements:

The Highway Construction for Women Program, Special Programs Training Division, Texas Engineering Extension Service, a part of the Texas A & M University System is sponsoring two recruiting days. Women interested in non-traditional jobs with the highway construction industry should apply: Call Casey at 521-9321 for information. The dates for interview will be Monday June 16 and Tuesday June 17 between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

On Sunday June 8th, 2:30 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, 1919 Decatur at White—off of Washington east of Studemont—Families & Friends of Gays will present a panel devoted to "Understanding Special Needs of our Gay Sons and Lesbian Daughters." The panel will include Rev. Charles Larson, Pastor of MCCR and Lee Harrington, Acting President of Houston Gay Political Caucus. FFG's monthly meetings are open.

INTEGRITY/Houston, Texas' oldest active gay organization, will present a special showing of "Because We Care: A Brief History of INTEGRITY/Houston" and "Thursday's Child: Homosexuality" for the Houston Chapter of DIGNITY, an organization for gay Catholics, on Thursday, June 12, 8 p.m., at Newman Center of Rice University.

Johnny Peden, Vice President of INTEGRITY/Houston, reports that the two filmstrips were requested at a proper lead-in to Gay Pride Week 1980 because of "Because We Care's" historical background relating to Houston's gay movement and the national history involved in "Thursday's Child."

Mr. Peden also reports that INTEGRITY/Houston will hold a GPW '80 "preparation" meeting on Thursday, June 19, 8 p.m., at 3405 Mulberry, to prepare for the organization's Gay Pride Week Activities. All are encouraged to attend.

Beginning in June, Integrity/Houston will resume meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. General meetings will be held on the 1st Thursday at 8 PM and its educational forums will take place on the 3rd Thursday. The forums will be preceded by new member orientation sessions at 7 PM. All meetings are at 3405 Mulberry.

The Houston Gay Political Caucus has endorsed the following Democratic candidates for the June 7th run-off election:

**Paul Colbert—Rep. Dist. 80
Clint Hackney—Rep. Dist. 84
Volly Bastine—State Board Ed.**

**Dist. 18
James Kuhn—Criminal Court #10
Ed Landry—County Civil Court #10
Anne Greene—County Chair**

Orange Juice Turns Sour

Miami, Fla.—Singer Anita Bryant has filed for divorce, newspapers have proclaimed across the land. She said when she decided to seek the divorce she cried out, "Hey, God, I'm not perfect. Do you still love me?"

The 40-year old anti-gay crusader also announced her resignation from Anita Bryant Ministries, an organization founded to preserve family values and offer help to homosexuals. She will remain active with her second organization, Protect America's Children.

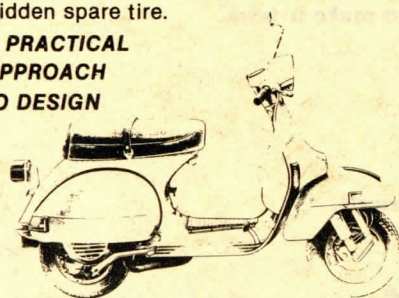
Bryant told the Dallas Morning News that "I come from a broken home and have been so concerned about my own family that divorce has not even been in my vocabulary. It's against everything I ever believed in."

In the divorce suit, Bryant claimed that husband, Bob Green had conspired with others "to control me and use my name and reputation to build their personal careers instead of my ministry."

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Houston Gay Pride Week 1980

June 20-June 29

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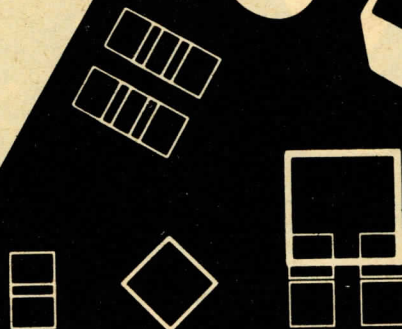
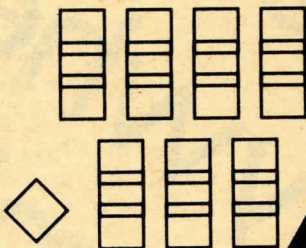
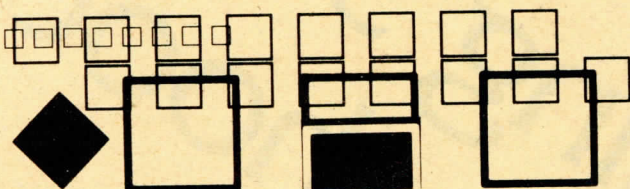
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OUR BROTHERHOOD IN THE SKIES

By Craig P. Rowland

Boarding a Hughes Air West flight to Houston from Los Angeles recently I was stunned for the first time at the thought of an airplane ride. The intrigue had little to do with my observation that the yellow paint was faded, dirty, and peeling on the vehicle which was about to take me to outer space. I fantasized that the neglected coating was an indication of the degree of attention paid to whatever was beneath the surface. Was the fare, which was far cheaper than any other airline offered, due to the relatively minimal need for funds to pay mechanics and the others who maintain planes? My interest reached beyond such practical concerns because I had consciously decided to *not* take any of the impending experience for granted.

What I had originally expected to be another, dull two and a half hours trapped in a claustrophobia producing winged pod of people was replaced by two and a half hours of "How unbelievable." Having almost no knowledge of mechanics it was an easily achieved attitude. How could so many tons of fabric, metal, and flesh even get off the ground? How could the thing travel at 30 thousand plus feet at 500 miles per hour and almost instantly drop you in another climate and culture?

I really didn't want to know the answers to those questions. Answers would have ruined my preoccupation with being impressed with the apparent magic. Since it was a mid-week, off-hours flight there were many vacant seats and therefore no one was nearby distracting me into a boring reality with conversation about the technological advances that would sensibly explain how we were able to cruise above the clouds.

I thought about how especially unrealistic an airplane ride can be. The clouds totally eliminated any trace of the real world below. It was gray and murky on the ground, but up there the sun was brilliant and the terrain was nothing but puffy, white fiction. I gazed out the window and dreamed of ridiculous worlds that don't exist.

One of the few educational moments I have experienced watching television was a "Charlie's Angels" re-run in which Kate Jackson saves a load of passengers from a crashing death. A wacked-out head stewardess drugs the pilot and co-pilot and then trips in the cockpit, banging her head on the control board, knocking herself out. No one who knew

how to fly the plane was left conscious, but Kate, through the miracle of radio contact with the ground, learns that the plane on its own knows how to get within 50 feet of the landing strip, facing the right direction, from a point hundreds of miles away. Only at that point did the human factor need to enter for the landing.

A telephone call to Eastern Airlines verified the accuracy of this astounding ability.

It was only when the male flight attendant arrived at my side with a bag of peanuts, a Coke, and the look "Try me" instead of "Fly me" that I was jolted back from ABC to some other form of reality. I felt a moment of shame for assuming automatically that "X" plus "Y" equaled "Z" [i.e., "male" plus "flight attendant" equaled "gay"]. My desire to prove another stereotype unjustified went out the porthole. It seems to be true that male flight attendants are more likely to be gay than are, for example, male administrators of tool die companies. There really are hairdressers, florists, and waiters, as well as flight attendants that we can count on.

My curiosity grew and I wanted to find out what life really is like for those who fly for their food. *UpFront America* contacted Bruce Remington, a flight attendant for British Caledonian Airways and asked him to tell us.

by Bruce Remington

Today we fly more than ever before and therefore come face to face more often with that unique race of people—the in-flight attendants. The lifestyle imposed by the job is singular, and the hours, the constant living out of a suitcase, and the total absence of routine is confusing. It agrees with some while others leave after a couple of months having found the reality far removed from what was imagined.

Why do we do it? Initially we are attracted by the opportunity to travel without having to spend a cent. The good money and generous days free are a very pleasant extra. What we did not know about were the eight, nine, and ten hour flights through the night with the four, five, or six hour time change at the end. Nor did we know about cleaning the john at two o'clock in the morning after someone decided to throw up in the hand basin instead of the toilet. Then there are the drunks who are totally convinced they are sober and then walk into another bulkhead. You

just hope they don't notice there is no gin mixed with the tonic, ice, and lemon. Yet we carry on and take solace in the sun that blasts the Copacabana beach, or the cheap shopping in the Hong Kong markets. The glamour is mixed with the mundane and dirty.

Many of the guys who slide you that unappetizing meal tray or check your seatbelt are gay. The lifestyle suits us. The average straight would smart at some of the more domestic chores involved: Cleaning out ovens, washing dishes, making endless pots of tea and coffee. . . For myself, I believe I am a frustrated actor who seeks his audience on a full DC 10—nearly two hundred and fifty people—not a bad crowd. I love the attention, the eyes focused on me, and I see this as part of the gay mentality. We love to be on stage.

I wonder sometimes if the passengers realize that so many of the men who serve them are homosexuals. Would they react bitterly as so many of the pilots do? But then, the cockpit is no impenetrable citadel of heterosexuality. In my first month of flying I passed a cup of tea to a captain who, as he took it from me, remarked on how strong my hands looked. I believe the majority of passengers pass the hours in ignorance of this. Those who are a little more worldly realize that if anything goes wrong the attendant, gay or not, will be the one who saves them. Of course there are the aggressive ones but this is not induced by a reaction to sexuality but by the passenger's insecurity in a strange environment. I remember one male passenger asking me if it was true that all stewards were "queer". I replied that if he touched my rear once more he would find out.

A good looking passenger in the cabin helps pass the flight time and is sure to get better service. Here there can be some rivalry between the stewards and stewardesses, but when his eyes meet yours and you realize he's gay, too, the women retreat in exasperation. Unfortunately, it does not happen too often and despite determined efforts I have yet to join the infamous five mile high club.

After the first few visits to a city, during which you complete all the tourist trips, you discover a routine. Shopping and sunbathing consume a great deal of the day. You have a list for each city, an almanac of what's cheap and where. You discover a favorite spot on the beach or by the hotel pool, your favorite restaurants and bars. Unfortunately,

there isn't a gay scene everywhere. But in Rio we visit the Satao disco, or in Lisbon the Bric-a-Brac. Visiting Houston without stopping at Mary's for a beer followed by a dance at Numbers is incomplete. You make friends and visit them in their homes, or fall in love only to experience the pain of a long distance love affair.

As always you must return to a plane load of passengers who are usually reasonable. Occasionally someone will act haughty or show a lack of common sense. Two famous stories illustrate the point:

A rather expensively dressed lady sitting in first class had been somewhat irritating throughout the flight. She pressed the call button and asked the attending stewardess, "What is the situation like for domestics in England?" The stewardess replied, "You shouldn't have any difficulty finding a position, madam," and walked away.

Another involves a steward piled high with meal trays who reacted sharply to a woman who had tried to thrust yet another tray in his direction. He looked her straight in the eyes and remarked, "Madam, I have testicles, not tentacles."

Relations with the rest of the crew vary. The gay stewards react as if we all belong to some sort of brotherhood. The straight stewards can be resentful but only because they have to prove themselves straight as they are often assumed to be gay. They also fail to understand why many of the stewardesses prefer our company and clubs to theirs. Yet I have some very good friends that are straight and fly. The women (and I have never come across a gay stewardess, although probability suggests there ought to be a few) are generally inquisitive. They want to know how you meet other gay men, what you do, when did you realize that you were gay. . . Several have accompanied me to the gay discos and not one has failed to revel in the unique atmosphere with sighs of "What a waste."

I have come across little acrimony in the aviation business. However, if for some reason all gays were fired from their positions most airlines would grind to a halt within a few hours. That is reason enough for the lack of discrimination. It is a strange life, but one that becomes addictive as the months pass. It is almost guaranteed that if you come across one of the "brotherhood" he will still be with the airline five years later.

ANDROGYNY

By Eric Ian

Imagine how surprised Europeans were in 1493 when Columbus returned with the news that the rest of the world was just across the ocean! Well, men and women of the 1980's are going to be equally surprised to learn that the rest of their personalities are just across their heads—in the other half of their brains and minds.

Androgyny—the New World of sexual self identity—is about to be discovered by the mainstream of society within the next few years, predicts John-David Schonbrook, director of the National Androgyny Center.

"Until now," Schonbrook explained during an interview in his San Diego, California office, "men have been handed a restricted list of characteristics and told: This is what it means to be a man; if you stray from this list, you're queer or, at best, unmasculine.

"Women have been given another list and told: This is what it means to be a woman; if you try to be anything on the other list, you're unfeminine or, worse, a freak, or a castrating female.

"The same treatment is given lesbians and homosexual men. Behave outside the norm and you're called a "bull dyke" or a "swishing fem."

What's interesting, Schonbrook pointed out, is that when you put these two lists together, you get a complete human being. "One of the cruelist things we've been doing to ourselves for thousands of years," he said, "is teaching children and adults that to be OK you must be only half human. In fact, pre-assigned sex roles, based on which plumbing system or reproductive organs you're born with, are unnatural, self-denying and highly dangerous to the individual, social groups and the planet at large."

Androgyny Defined

As defined by the Androgyny Center, androgyny is awareness of oneself as a complete human being, free to flow between so-called "feminine" and so-called "masculine" qualities, tapping into both left and right brain functions when appropriate. "The Women's and Gay Liberation movements have shown us that people need to express

other behaviors than those traditionally allowed for men and women," Schonbrook said, elaborating. "And this is backed up by recent scientific research into left- and right-brain functioning. This research has given us proof of our androgynous origin and purpose."

Biologists and psychologists have discovered that the brain's left hemisphere directs qualities traditionally restricted to the men's list: Verbal and written communication, auditory perception, logical and mathematical thinking, long-range planning, assertiveness and an analytical approach to dealing with life and its challenges. The brain's right hemisphere seems to direct behavior traditionally described as female: Receptivity, visual perception, spontaneity, social skills, intuition, physical grace, parental inclinations, etc.

"More and more, we're finding we can be more whole by using the complementary skills of both brain hemispheres," Schonbrook stated. "By beginning a thought/intuition, say, in a spatial, non-linear environment—the right brain—the thought can be more creative, fuller, more original in concept. Then, passing into the left brain, the thought becomes logically tabulated and acted upon. An androgynous, or holistic, thought process has taken place."

"We all know people who we describe as predominantly left brain. These are people who often attack life like soldiers attacking a machine gun nest. Men have been trained to approach life this way, and many women trying to make it in the business world are adopting the same style. We also know people who we'd say are almost totally right brain. That is, they're very creative, spontaneous, loving and childlike, yet can't seem to get things done in the world, because their means-end sense is underdeveloped. It doesn't make sense for us to be half human anymore."

"Look at the Castro Street Clones, or the Village People. In our struggle for liberation we have taken a step backward. We've denied the total self—opting instead to be one extreme example of ourselves.

"I may be highly criticized by so-called authorities within the gay community, but if

you look at the women's liberation movement—with all its ups and downs, with all its offshoots, from merely wanting freedom from household drudgery to the extreme of bull-dyke lesbian man-haters—women today, liberated women, are probably the most balanced of any sub-group within the two genders. They've evolved through the Women's Liberation Movement to a point—a beginning point—where it's OK, even desirable, to be a whole person. They may retain their so-called femininity—if they desire—while developing their assertiveness, logic, left brain, if you will, all the attributes generally confined and attributed to the male gender.

"Many gay men and, of course, most heterosexual men are still in their preassigned sex-role prison. They have adopted the Marlboro image of masculinity and it just doesn't work. Gay men are moving through that—as did the women's movement. Everywhere you look you see men's rap groups—gay, straight and bi—being formed across the country. Five years ago there were perhaps 20 in our whole nation—now there are over 600 men's groups providing a safe space for men to experience their whole self—their androgynous being."

Historical Perspective

Some anthropologists reason that at an early stage of human evolution, where hunting was a primary food source, it may have made sense for the physically larger males of the species to deal with the outside world, and develop those skills necessary for hunting and food-gathering, as well as protecting the group. The physically smaller females would stay behind in safety, especially since the technology at the time wasn't up to easing the burdens of menstruation, child-rearing and cooking.

"Now, it's not only unnecessary, it's harmful to the individual and the human race, psychologically, socially and ecologically," Schonbrook said. "Whenever a human being is restrained from certain types of behavior, when that behavior isn't of itself harmful to others, individual and social trauma results. The phenomenon of self-alienation, of people

ANDROGYNY

disowning important parts of themselves, has long been recognized as a major fundamental symptom of individual unhappiness.

"On a social level, look what the failure to be androgynous does to relationships. Warren Farrell, author of *the Liberated Man*, and a member of the Androgyny Center's advisory board, was recently quoted in a major newspaper article on male emancipation. He said, 'We train men to be attractive to women by being as much unlike women as possible. We train women to attract men by being as unlike men as possible. We call them opposite sexes. We say opposites attract. They do attract. They just can't live together.'"

"So we have the phenomenon," Schonbrook said, "of women becoming liberated, i.e., discovering capabilities they'd been denying, and leaving the men they'd been living with, thinking they have no alternative. And we have men who, once they discover their so-called 'female' side, feeling they can no longer relate to women. None of that is necessary, and an additional tragedy is that hanging out only with members of one's own sex doesn't help either. There's no evidence that homosexuals and lesbians are more androgynous than heterosexuals or bi-sexuals, nor that homosexual relationships allow for the expression of the whole person more than heterosexual ones."

We asked Schonbrook why people resist becoming androgynous, if it's so beneficial personally and socially.

"Well, besides the general pressure to conform, which faces all original thinking," he replied, "people have particular misconceptions regarding androgyny. Remember that this issue goes more deeply, perhaps, than any other personal growth issue; it's about one's self-identity."

"One confusion is between androgyny and bisexuality. People are afraid that these are the same thing, or that one leads to another. And bisexuality is very frightening, to gay and straight people alike. Actually, the two concepts are completely different. Androgyny is a matter of personality balance and wholeness, as I said earlier. When a person is well advanced toward becoming androgynous in his or her personality, it's much easier to know what choice of sexual preference will be most

satisfying. Some of the most androgynous people I know are heterosexual and happy that way. Others are homosexuals and others lesbians and content with those choices. And I know many bisexuals who are not very androgynous at all."

Nor does androgyny imply transvestism, either, Schonbrook emphasized. "Again, it's a matter of individual choice," he said. "An individual woman may like dressing in what have been traditionally called men's clothes. An individual man may feel the same way about what have been traditionally called women's clothes and cosmetics. And their comfort in trying out these behaviors may increase as they become more androgynous. Not because androgyny makes them cross-dressers. Rather, it allows them more freedom to do what they naturally want to do, once artificial cultural restrictions are lifted."

"In western society, women's clothing and make-up for the past 150 years have been more elaborate and colorful than men's although this has been slowly changing since the 1960's. At other times, though, men's clothing has been at least as dramatic as women's. This has also been true in non-western cultures. Were those men less men? Does it make sense even to ask that question? I don't think so."

"There is nothing in becoming a whole person that dictates anything in particular you will do. Not what clothes you'll wear, what job you'll take, whether you'll have children, get married, become a vegetarian, religious, non-religious, a Democrat, a Republican or an anarchist. It *will* open up possibilities you have been denying yourself, letting you make much more satisfying choices."

Symposium Coming To Town

One way people can experience their own growing androgyny, Schonbrook suggested, is by attending their first **International Symposium on Androgyny**, June 27, 28 and 29, 1980, in San Diego. The Symposium will be sponsored by the Center and its publication, **androgyny review**. "This will be an experiential conference, not a series of speeches," Schonbrook stated. "Experts in androgyny and left/right brain research from all over the world will be presenting workshops in which participants will actually participate, and discover parts of themselves they may

have been neglecting—or not knowing completely—all their lives."

"I admit this can be a frightening prospect. Growth and newness are often scary. I'm sometimes scared myself at the comfortable limitations I have to abandon in order to become more androgynous. Still, I wouldn't live any other way."

At presstime, the Symposium has been divided into three categories:

Left/Right Brain Functioning. Dr. Julian Jaynes, of Princeton University, England's Dr. Peter Russell, Bulgaria's Dr. Georgi Lozanov are invited to lead workshops in this subject area.

Physical Forms of Achieving Androgyny. Representatives of various body work schools—Feldenkrais, Rolfing, Polarities, Heller Method, Riley Method. Oscar Aguado's *The Form*, and others—will deliver presentations on physical androgyny.

Psycho-Socio-Sexual. Workshops in this area will be led by Warren Farrell, PhD (author of *The Liberated man*), Dr. Irv Katz (noted hypnotist and sexuality specialist), Margo Woods (author/teacher of the erotic) and others from the fields of counseling, therapy, writing, etc. Workshops will range over child-raising, sexual awareness, androgyny, erotic lifestyles, cross-dressing, transsexuality, pre-assigned sex roles and more.

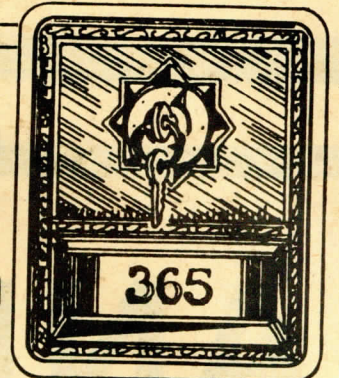
Uncategorized are such figures as Peter Caddy, co-founder of Findhorn, Scotland's famous alternative community; Elizabeth Stratton, well-known psychic healer and psychologist Jean Houston.

Aside from individual workshops, presenters will participate in full panel discussions in each of the above fields, enabling a broad spectrum of views to be aired at one time.

The First International Symposium on Androgyny will be held at the Bahia Hotel in San Diego's beautiful Mission Beach community. Discount room rates are available for the event. The Androgyny Center is keeping registration rates as low as possible for this event. While there were over 40 workshops scheduled at press time, the total weekend will cost only \$110 per person.



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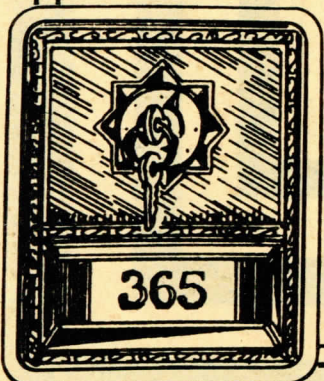


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NABC Headquarters In Houston

By Leah Stokes

We did it. Houston is the national headquarters for the National Association of Business Councils, Inc. (NABC) which is essentially the gay chamber of commerce.

The Executive and Professional Association of Houston (EPAH) hosted the first national convention of NABC at the Houston Oaks Hotel May 16, 17, and 18 during which interim officers were replaced by elected officers holding one-year terms. By-laws were established and ratified, and Houston was elected national headquarters. NABC is a non-profit organization established "to promote the common business interests of its members and to promote the acceptance of gay business and business councils in the business and professional community at large."

Houston, we are honored by our election and have great reason to feel pride over this quantum leap into a responsible and professional position of national prominence. To date Houston's gay profile, while active, has been without clear definition. We now have the opportunity of the decade and perhaps of a lifetime to project ourselves on a national level as a positive, forthright,



Leah Stokes

reliable, and powerful community. Be attentive to these descriptions and let us be careful to maintain a high standard quality of action with regard to our reliability and sensitivity, and therefore credibility. The responsibility of our position implies an enormous amount of commitment to cohesive positive movement and it is incumbent upon us to conduct ourselves in such a manner as is

beyond reproach. All too often the term "powerful" has been misinterpreted to power hungry. Gross abuse and corruption of position have sometimes taken place thereby vitiating any and all positive and progressive purpose.

NABC is comprised of member organizations or chapters from coast to coast. Our local Houston chapter is EPAH. The convention was attended by eight voting and eight observing chapters. In order to have voting status a group must consist of at least 20 members and pay dues to the national association based on the number of members. There are 22 gay business organizations in the U.S. and Canada of which we are aware, however only eight have joined the national thus far. That figure is expected to increase rapidly.

NABC's by-laws are somewhat unusual in that they provide for a gender rotation of the presidency and therefore NABC has five elected officers: President H. Gerald Schiff, a New York CPA, President-Elect Jean O'Leary of Los Angeles, former Co-Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force—now in real estate, Vice President Arthur Lazere, a San Francisco CPA, Treasurer Jack Campbell of Miami, owner of Club Baths International, and Secretary Leah Stokes, owner of a dental laboratory in Houston.

One joins a local chapter first, the chapter joins the national association then members are automatically members of NABC giving access to

banking and advertising discounts, a soon to be printed national gay yellow pages, a credit union, and group insurance. The focus of NABC is business and not political, much like that of the National Chamber of Commerce. Though apolitical, should the civil rights of this organization be infringed upon the executive board of NABC will confer and take a position of support.

An example of such support has already occurred in connection to the Santa Clara Valley Coalition for Human Rights.

That organization is campaigning for the retention of ordinances passed by the City of San Jose which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

In a letter to NABC dated May 15 Coalition President Jerry Schiff said, "I wrote to request on behalf of the Coalition, campaign contributions from the Association and its individual members in whatever amounts can be offered."

NABC voted to endorse the Coalition which means that on a local level it receives publicity at the very least plus individual financial support. Jack Campbell has already raised \$8,000 in Miami alone for the Coalition.

Many projects have been proposed such as a scholarship fund, blood drives to insure members availability of blood in light of the epidemic proportion of hepatitis in our community, a business directory of gay and and gay supporting businesses, and a non-alcoholic recep-

Continued on page 15

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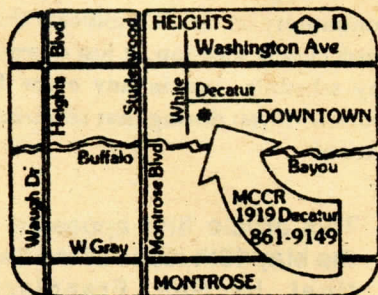
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Edward M. Kennedy

An Interview

By Larry Bush

Edward Kennedy, it was widely believed, was one day going to be President of the United States. In 1972 and 1976 he resisted the calls of his supporters and stayed with his Senate career. In 1980, with Jimmy Carter facing the lowest popularity ratings of any incumbent president and Democrats panicking over the prospect of a Republican take-over of the White House, the time looked like it had finally come, and Edward Kennedy filed his candidate fees and made his bid.

Six months later it is clear that the Democratic nomination was not Edward Kennedy's for the asking. But that has not been the only myth dispelled by the glare of primary campaigns. Edward Kennedy has shown that he is no pampered candidate but is equal to the job of a long and hard campaign ordeal. If he has fallen far short of locking up the Democratic nomination, he has not sulked over the rejection. While Carter has disdained his party's nominating process as an interference with the job of being President, Edward Kennedy has hit the trenches of party politics.

When the Democratic campaign closes, Edward Kennedy will have considerably more than just his dignity to cling to, though he certainly deserves that. Win or lose, Kennedy can lay claim to leadership of a Democratic constituency that can't be ignored. If nothing else, that troubles Jimmy Carter, whose claims that Kennedy's fight hurts Democratic chances in the fall elections are most easily understood to mean that Carter much prefers getting liberal Democratic votes by default than by campaign.

In 18 years as a Senator, Kennedy never had been faced with an outright vote on gay issues. He had, as a junior member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, floor managed a 1965 revision of the immigration act that incorporated House language that insured gays be barred from entering the country. That provision received virtually no attention in the Senate, however, and it is unclear at this late date if Kennedy was even aware of its intent.

More to the point, however, was that Kennedy had carved out a role as a civil rights leader and had not directly addressed gay rights issues. While his campaign insists that he supported the gay position on California's Proposition Six that would have barred gay school employees and their supporters, the fact was that the support was limited to inclusion of a postcard urging rejection of

Prop Six in a packet with a letter from Kennedy that took positions on the other campaign issues that year.

It was the Great Liberal Silence, buttressed by private conversations with key campaign aides that Kennedy could be trusted on gay issues. It also was not enough to win gay support outside the limited circle of people who talk with campaign aides.

But if that was the situation six months ago, it too has changed. Today Edward Kennedy can be credited with making the greatest and most open outreach to gay voters of any Democratic candidate outside Jerry Brown, and he has taken outspoken and public positions favoring gay rights. If any candidate can be said to be openly acknowledging the clout of gay voters and the importance of their concerns, it is Edward Kennedy.

"Senator Edward Kennedy has more consistently sent representatives to gay forums than any other candidate," reports Tom Bastow, leader of the National Convention Project to get lesbians and gay men elected delegates on either the Democratic or Republican slates. "He had people there in Iowa at the first caucus of the year, and in Georgia the only front page coverage the Kennedy campaign got was when they sent representatives to the gay political club in Atlanta."

In a political campaign, the fact that Kennedy hears a message about gay voting strength seems to take precedence over his stand on gay issues, strong as that stand is. He promises to sign an executive order barring discrimination throughout the government, including the military, early in his administration. He pledges support for a gay rights plank at this year's Democratic convention. He says he supports the objectives of the Senate gay rights bill and Cranston's bill to lift the immigration ban on gays, and his lack of cosponsorship, explained in terms of diverted attention to the campaign and concerns about legislative strategies, isn't seen as discrediting that support.

The litmus test has been his commitment to court gay voters, dispelling the idea that he is uncomfortable with their issues or their visible support. He has sent his family to campaign in gay bars and neighborhoods. He meets with gay community leaders, and has had his state committees seek out open gays to run as delegates on his slate.

Those delegates appear to face a decidedly uphill fight to deliver the nomination to Kennedy, but his unstin-

ting effort to continue makes it clear that he will not desert them at the convention. As top Kennedy strategist Peter Edelman puts it, "Any successful action depends on that kind of symbiotic relationship between a candidate and his or her supporters."

THE INTERVIEW

Larry Bush: What are you hearing about gay issues in your campaign?
Kennedy: I think people are interested and they are increasingly aware of the issues which are involved that have been raised by gays across the country. I've found, when I've had an opportunity to explain my position, an increasingly positive response. These issues are being raised in television and radio interviews, and in meetings. I've found that people have been responsive and positive, and I think it's been encouraging that there's an increasing awareness about the concern of gays, and there's an increasing responsiveness to eliminating many of the aspects that discriminate against gays.

LB: Have you been surprised to see gay issues move more into the mainstream?

Kennedy: I'd say that one of the real advantages of a campaign, in getting out as I have been for the past six months, is that you're much closer to people and their concerns, the human considerations of issues. You feel those, much more clearly than you can in isolated circumstances whether in a Senate chamber or a Rose Garden. As I've been across the country, talking with different groups, meeting with different people, hearing different expressions, responding to both the logic and the compelling nature of their position has been of value to me, and hopefully as an instrument of public policy I hope I'll be able to see some progress made.

LB: Have you shifted your own position as a result of these contacts?

Kennedy: I think I've been much more sensitized to the human considerations of the issues. What motivates my public life, what motivated me in this campaign, is the human aspect of policy questions. It isn't the rate of inflation, it's the anxiety that elderly people feel they can't make ends meet. In traveling the country you feel that and sense that. I think that's been true of other issues as well. It's the humanization of issues which I find a very powerful force in motivating me. I respond to human anxiety and anguish and discrimination. I think that's certainly been true of gay issues.

LB: Since you have said you support both Sen. Tsongas' bill (protecting employment rights of gays) and Sen. Cranston's bill (on immigration), why haven't you cosponsored those measures?

Kennedy: I've indicated my support of the Cranston legislation and the Tsongas bill. For example, in the areas of immigration, as a member of the Select Commission (President Carter's appointed body to recommend immigration reform) I've had these issues raised in the Boston hearing, and got

positive commentary about these issues. I'm hopeful we can find ways and means of achieving these legislative objectives and I would support those programs.

I've also indicated my support of the Tsongas bill. I'd like to see how I could, either as a legislator or as a President, be able to achieve the objectives of that bill in a way that carries through the goals of that legislation. I'm committed to those and will continue to work for them.

LB: Do you see gay votes making more of a difference in the 1980 campaign than in 1976?

Kennedy: Of course, I wasn't a candidate, but the thing that has impressed me is that they have been very much involved in the process, completely, and willing to do all the aspects of the process. What they're doing, which I think has been very encouraging, is sensitizing the whole process to their needs. They're not looking for credit, just recognition for the movement. But there's a whole group of people who are involved, working in the political process, sensitizing people to these concerns, and I think that's good.

LB: If it should happen that you return to being Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman, will gay issues get more of your attention?

Kennedy: Yes. I would like to work with the community on those areas. I think there would be important contributions to be made. We all need help and assistance in identifying potential areas. We (Senators) are all generalists in the Senate in a sense, but we're responsive, and one broad area is the issue of human rights, I consider that to be all inclusive, and certainly includes the aspirations of gay people and I would welcome the opportunity to work with the community.

LB: Are politics maturing to recognize that discrimination rather than gays is the real issue?

Kennedy: I think it has to. I'm always interested as I travel in the progress that's been made. I'm also troubled by the distance we have to go in the whole range of different areas.

I've indicated I would sign at an early part in my administration an executive order, all inclusive and all comprehensive, and cover all the agencies, and I will certainly work on the immigration aspect.

LB: When the new Immigration commissioner comes before your committee for approval, will you personally chair the hearing to insure gay concerns are voiced?

Kennedy: I can't give you the assurance that I will be there. It just depends on the timing. But I will work with the community on this. I'll indicate that I'll work closely with you. It just depends on my schedule, but in any event I will work with you during that confirmation process.

This article first appeared in the May 16th issue of the *Sentinel* in San Francisco, reprinted here by permission of the *Sentinel*. Copyright trademark 1980 *The Sentinel*.

Empire Strikes Back

Set on the ice planet Hoth and the jungle planet Dagobah, **Empire** adds new concepts and creatures to an old rivalry. Dinosauric tanks, intergalactic calf-roping, carbonitic hibernation, antactac camels and Peter Lorre gurus keep our visual imagination sparkling.

Reaching beyond eyesight to insight Lucas adds long rituals of passage for Luke Skywalker. He meets his Jedi Master (created by muppeteer Frank Oz) and struggles to gain control of the force. The guru prophetically warns him, "This is a dangerous time for you; you will be tempted by the dark side of the force."

Lucas also adds romantic threads to Princess Leia's formerly emotionless robes. Will she fall for too-good-to-be-true Luke and/or too-crude-to-be-good Han Solo?

A new hereditary twist leaves us yearning for the early years; an unexpected hibernational kidnapping leaves us yearning for the later years.

Fisherman George's barbed hooks are sinking deeply into our galactic gills.

Lest anyone fear, R2D2, C3PO, Chewbacca and the rest are as charismatically present as ever. All of the original stars—Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher, Alec Guinness—return. Lucas even adds one new human: Billy Dee Williams as Lan-

do Calrissian, the two timing boss of a mining colony.

Our vulnerable heroes struggle as much to keep their spirits secure as to keep their X-winged fingers intact.

To insure that the relationships kept pace with the spaceships, Lucas hired director Irvin Kershner whose previous films **Loving You**, **The Film-flam man**, etc. focused on human, not special effects.

"It's not enough that the machines work," said Kershner. "The acting has to be true."

Empire will not win any Oscars for acting, but at least Kershner's sequel passes the threshold of believability. Harrison Ford is, again, the strongest.

Surviving Norwegian blizzards and avalanches, Kershner crafted **Empire** into a delightfully addictive tale. Boston Pops conductor John Williams added a rousing score. The effects team, while allotted less time than before, used their moments to stage thrilling encounters.

Kershner's twenty million dollar production filled eight London soundstages with 64 different sets. One set covered 1.25 million cubic feet. Han Solo's **Millennium Falcon** was constructed at full-size at one studio and then conveyed 250 miles to London in 16 sections.

NABC

tion during Gay Pride Week to provide career counseling and positive role models for young gay people.

Certainly many who are interested in EPAH, NABC and their purposes will have realistic concerns about public identification with a gay-related organization. We cannot all come out without expecting repercussions to ourselves and/or our businesses. One can join EPAH, however, and be assured that his or her name will not appear on any lists available to anyone other than the officers.

An experience my lover had in 1975 has increased my sensitivity to such problems. L.A. Jackson owned a dental lab in Texas. An employee, the daughter of an influential dentist, was asked to leave due to an inability to perform her duties. Within hours, Jackson's business was seriously hurt. She lost four of her seven accounts within days. Though not out publicly as a Lesbian at the time it is suspected that the girl's father used his professional clout and suspicion of her being a Lesbian to get both Jackson's existing contracts cancelled and to block future work. She lost an estimated \$24,000 in receipts and almost lost the business. This, in addition to the emotional strain was a frightening package.

Jackson's feelings are best stated in her own words:

"I can understand, and believe me I can understand, the importance of keeping yourself closeted because you can't live without money. A person goes out to pursue a career and it doesn't matter what that career might be, it's what you believe in and enjoy doing. Losing that is not going to be overcome overnight. In my particular situation I don't know whether it was just perseverance, ignorance, or my guardian angel that managed to get me through six months during which my receipts dropped \$24,000.

"Had there been a local gay professional business group where there were attorneys, other dentists, and accountants, that I could have gone to it would have been much easier. This is why I feel so strongly in favor of the local chapters and national association."

Some problems cannot be remedied overnight but some changes in attitude *can* happen overnight. The bottom line is that Houston is ready to step forth and accept a role of leadership in the United States in the effort of cohesiveness in the '80's between women and men, gays and straights. The '80's can and should be a decade of unity for mutual benefit.

For information regarding NABC or EPAH contact Gay Information Exchange: 520-5084 or write Leah Stokes, c/o NABC, 1911 Southwest Freeway, Suite 100C, Houston, TX 77098.

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By Art Tomaszewski

This summer when you're stuck in the city, you can always escape to one of Houston's numerous theaters. The season will see some premiers as well as some productions of some standards.

Houston's best known and flashiest (in appearance) theater, the Nina Vance Alley Theatre, is dark for the summer. Their annual summer film festival will occupy the main theatre until the fall season.

Houston's dinner theaters will be in full swing this summer. There is guaranteed to be at least one Neil Simon play running in one of the dinner theaters at all times, but this summer will see two of the popular comedies running simultaneously.

The Odd Couple is currently running at the Windmill Dinner Theatre in the Town and Country Village Shopping Center. This production stars Sherman Hemsley, of TV's "The Jeffersons." The production runs through June 29.



Main Street Theatre's
The Great Nebula of Orion

The Marietta Dinner Theatre located in the Dunfey Houston Hotel is presenting Neil Simon's **The Last of the Red Hot Lovers**. The next production will be Simon's **The California Suite**.

The Cabaret Theatre in the Shamrock Hilton is showing the musical **Zorba** through July 2.

If you're looking for fresh comedy with a little local flavor, check out the Comedy Workshop's current production, **Expensive at Half the Price**.

The Comedy Workshop is a group of talented young men and women that write, direct and star in their own comedy revues.

Expensive at Half the Price is probably the Comedy Workshop's funniest production to date. The first half of the show is a series of skits that take irreverent jabs at a variety of subjects, primarily inflation and life in modern suburbia.

The second half is an "operetta" that tells the story of a freezing Yankee that comes to Houston looking for work. He goes through a series of hilarious trials and tribulations until he finally becomes a "native Houstonian." This is told in the "Brecht-Weill" style. They go so far as to sing a song about Jim McConnm entitled "Mac the Con," to the tune of "Mack the Knife."



Comedy Workshop's **Expensive At Half The Price**

On Stage In Houston

Expensive at Half the Price is the funniest show in town and it is located right in Montrose at the corner of Shepherd and San Felipe. Hang around after the show—the cast does improvisations based on suggestions from the audience. In the Comedy Workshop Annex (right next door) local stand-up comics do their thing seven nights a week. Wednesdays and Sundays are audition nights, so anything can be expected to happen.

The Equinox Theatre, 3617 Washington at Heights, continues to bring new and unusual theatre to Houston. The current production of Tom Eyen's one-acts, **Why Hanna's Skirt Won't Stay Down** and **Who Killed My Bald Sister Sophie?** run through June 7.

Razzle, a musical revue by Houstonians Scott and Vivian Holtzman will premier July 10 and run through August 10.

The Main Street Theatre at Autry House, 6265 S. Main, is currently showcasing the world-premier of **The Survival of Kitty McDowell** by Texas playwrights Jack Weeks and Diana Pascal.

The production runs through June 21.

Starting June 25 the Main Street Theatre will present Harold Pinter's haunting drama, **Old Times**. It will run through July 26.

Stages, 709 Franklin at Louisiana, will be showing their current production of Edward Albee's **A Delicate Balance** through June 8.

Stages will open on June 28 their pro-

duction of **Marco Polo Sings a Solo**, a "futuristic comedy" by Pulitzer prize-winner John Guare.

On July 16 Stages will open **After the Rain** by John Bowen. This "futuristic drama" will run in repertory with **Marco Polos Sings a Solo**. Each play will run on alternate nights for the remainder of the summer.



Main Street Theatre's **Celebration**

The newly reformed Reunion Theatre will present the world premier of a collaborative work entitled **The Man in the Moon . . . An Apostrophe to the Sun**.

The solo performance takes place at dawn on the hill overlooking Miller Outdoor Theatre during Gay Pride Week on June 22.

Seth Dennis Santos, an Austin playwright wrote the script to this multimedia "celebration of the summer solstice." Local artists have designed face masks and costumes, and musicians have composed new pieces specifically for this one time only production.

The Miller Outdoor Theatre has an entire season of free entertainment:

Der Fledermaus, Strauss's comic opera presented by Houston Grand Opera—June 13-14, 17, 20-21, 24-28; 8:30 p.m.

Blues Festival featuring such blues immortals as Willie Mae "Big Mama" Thornton, Muddy Waters and a host of others—June 18, 2:00 p.m. and 7 p.m.; June 19, 6:00 p.m.

Juneteenth Celebration, June 19, 11:00 a.m.

The Houston Symphony will present a series of free concerts in July:

Moonlight Madness, July 1, 8:30 p.m.

Mozart, Copland and Dvorak, July 2, 8:30 p.m.

All Tchaikovsky Concert, July 3, 8:30 p.m.

Children's Concert, July 5, 11:30 a.m.

All Beethoven Concert, July 5, 8:30 p.m.

Program to be announced on July 9.

Ima Hogg Competition Winners, July 10, 8:30 p.m.

Western Theme Night, July 11, 8:30 p.m.

Music/Laser Light Show, Concert, July 12, 8:30 p.m.

Bye Bye Birdie, the popular musical presented by Theatre Under the Stars, July 21-26, July 28-August 2, 8:30 p.m.



Main Street Theatre's **The Survival of Miss Kitty McDowell**

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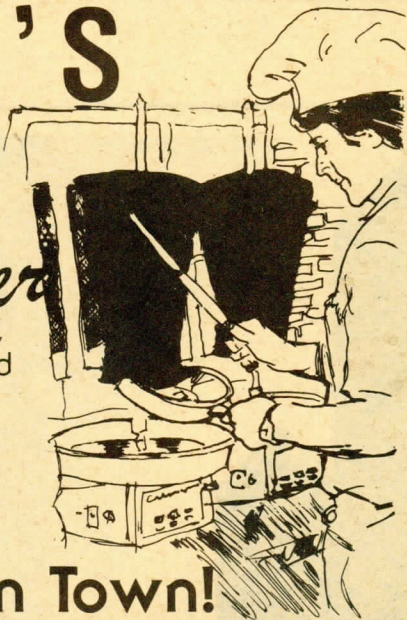
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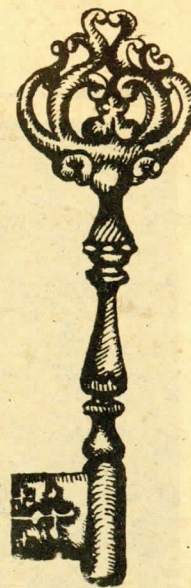
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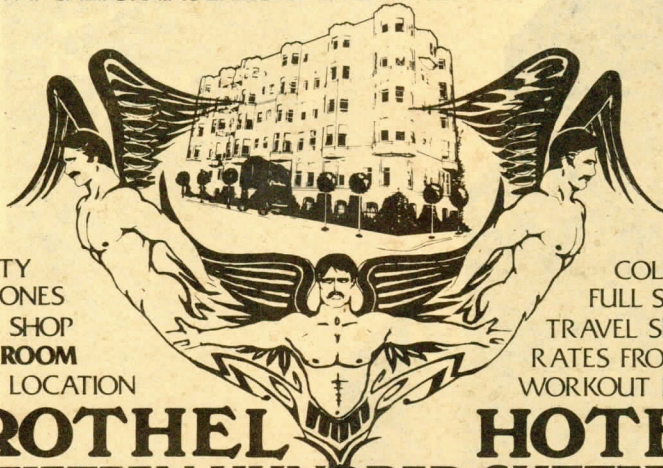
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