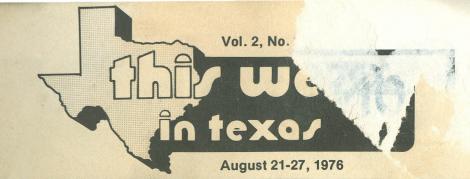
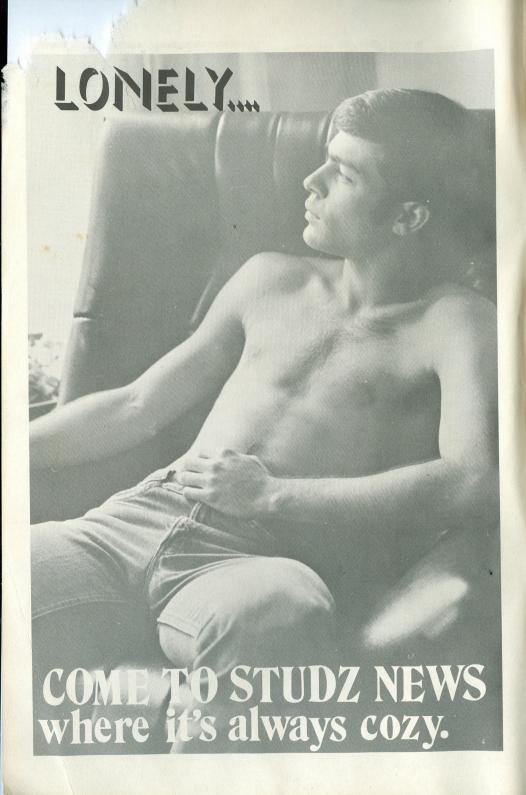


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# THE HORN-IT

Drag Show Aug. 20, 10 p.m.
Featuring the Horn-It's own
Kris Kountry and Mya, Nikita,
& the Gum Sisters

1430 Aldine Mail Rd. — 442-9459 Houston's Only Northside Gay Bar 11am-2am, closed Sundays Dancing Nightly

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#### **COVER PHOTO**

Ron Barry, Bartender at Houston's Locker

> photographed by Sam Osuna

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# **NEWS UP FRONT**

The Service Station in Dallas is knocking 'em dead with their live band, Curtis Hall and the Cactus Cafe. Word has it that the Sunday night group is practically the hottest entertainment around the state, playing a variety of music from country and western to rock.

#### PAUL STEWART ILL

Glen Andre, owner of Houston's Second Sun, informs TWIT that Paul Stewart, who has been ill at Veterans Hospital, is making a super improvement and should be back on his knees in no time. This decorative figure-piece of the Second Sun has been missed. (By the way, if you're looking for a good day-time Westheimer bar, cruise by the **Second Sun** and give it a try. Who knows? You might even like it.)

#### DALLAS BAR HELPS GGS

Friday, August 27, Crew's Inn II and the Dallas Motorcycle Club are co-sponsoring a benefit show for the Galveston Gav Society in an attempt to raise money towards the defense of the victims of the July 4th raid at the Kon Tiki. Dusty Shelton will star in the show, and although no cover will be charged at the door for the performance, contributions and tips will all be sent to the legal defense fund in our Island City. TWIT takes its hat off to the sponsors and participants of the show, and wishes more Texas cities could find time to hold similar benefits.

#### SAN ANTONIO PAGEANT

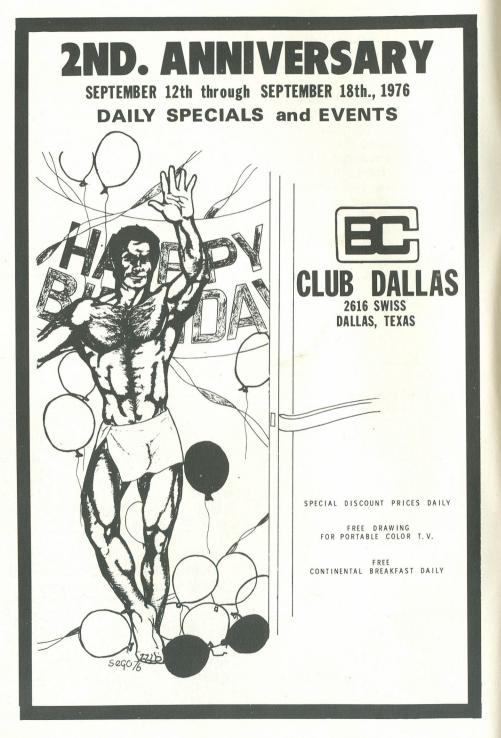
The Alamo City will host the 4th Annual Miss Gay Southwest Texas Pageant on Sept. 4th and 5th at the fabulous Sagittarius Club on 3000 North St. Mary's. The event will be emceed by Miss Parthenia of San Antonio and Miss Jeanette of Houston. Prizes include \$200.00 for 1st place, \$100.00 for 2nd place, \$75.00 for 3rd place, and \$25.00 for Miss Congeniality. TWIT will be watching with eager eyes to see the outcome of the competition. We hope that you will, too!

#### CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S BENEFIT

Showtime at the **Encore** draws near as Dallas bartenders don their heels and flats and pumps to perform for the Crippled Children's Benefit this Thursday night (August 26th) at 9:30 pm. A \$1.00 cover will admit you into what promises to be the funniest drag show of the season. It's an event you won't want to miss. **AND** it's a chance to show the straight community that gays can act in a positive way towards betterment of the entire community.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY, RAY!

TWIT would like to extend a hearty birthday greeting to Ray Hardin, co-owner of Villa Fontana, Bachelor's Quarters, and the Entre Nuit of Dallas. (Don't think of yourself as getting older, Ray. Think of yourself as improving with age . . . like a piece of cheese or a fine wine.)



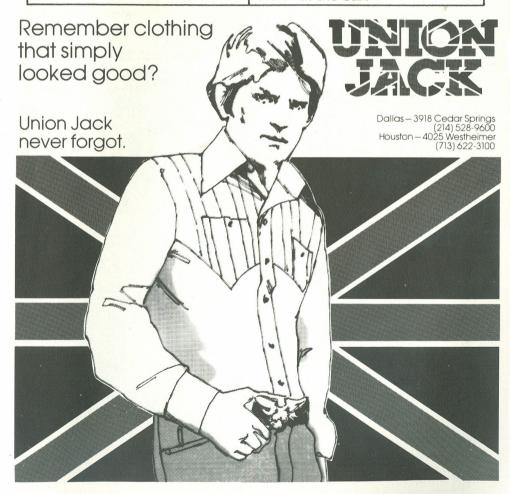
#### **News**

#### SHONDA! SHONDA!

Up North (Houston, that is), the Horn-It tips the iceberg on T.G.I.F. with another sensational drag show. So mark Friday, August 20th, 10:00 pm, on your social calendar for show time. The Horn-It's own Kris Country and Mya, Nikita, and the Gum Sisters have been busily rehearsing and buying gowns. The show promises to be a huge success.

#### **AUSTIN CONTEST**

Now that the bartenders, waiters, and staff of Austin Country have recovered from a scandalous weekend party at you-knowwho's, the lakeside city has pulled out all the stops in a mammoth search for... are you ready? MR. UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS. The search is being conducted under the careful scrutiny of Austin Country, and those interested in details should contact manager Jerry or Keith at the bar.



#### New/

#### **NEW MANAGEMENT**

The Ram Rod Lounge of Dallas has recently undergone new ownership and management changes which, TWIT hopes, will increase the popularity of this great cruisy cocktail bar. Jointly run by the good folks of Houston's Filling Station, the new managers have announced the inauguration of "Ramrod Hour' between 5 and 7 pm. Sunday thru Saturday. Well drinks and beer can be purchased at the disgustingly low price of 50c with pool tournaments every Wednesday night at 8! Can you afford to pass it up?

#### **LEVI BAR CHANGES SPURS**

Remember the fun you had at the ol' Golden Spur down on Brazos Street in Houston? Well. my dear. Levi's has recaptured that Texas feeling with the introduction of new manager Bob Jones (transplanted Houstonian from Oklahoma) and an array of humpy bartenders (Jeremy, Stan, and Don) that will keep you cummin' back for more. If you're looking for fried chicken (chef Ron holding down the front burner at Miss Vi's), or just a chicken, or even a strong cowboy to romance you, run on down to Levi's and catch the action!

#### **NEW STUD IN BARN**

Notice to all of the friends of Steve, who (as Stella) has mixed drinks in all the nice bars in the Rice-Shamrock area: Steve is now being very butch and popping tops at The Barn. So, y'all come see him in his new stable.



MONTROSE KEY AND LOCK COMPANY ROBERT WISEMAN

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## news

#### LARGE, LARGER, LARGEST

It's that time again for the always popular MISS TEXAS AT LARGE PAGEANT, the contest to end all contests, the contest that eliminates anyone from entering if they weigh less than 200 pounds. This year's event comes off at the **Old Plantation** on Tuesday, September 14th at 9:30 pm. Prize money totaling \$250.00 plus trophies will spark the laugh-filled evening of glitter. Pick a category (see the OP ad) and pick up an entry blank at the OP in Dallas or Houston.

#### CALENDAR CORRECTION

A slight correction from last issue's Calendar concerning the weekly Steak-Out at Chuck's: all interested meat should be brought to 3019 North Haskell on Sunday evenings (6-8pm), not Wednesday, as earlier advertised. So make plans to drop by after a sweaty weekend at Lake Dallas and enjoy the patio scene with all the hunky members of the Dallas Motorcycle Club.

#### **REST AREA RESPITES**

Keep On Truckin' on Highway 59 near Livingston where you will find a padded glory hole northbound. Latest reports indicate that many a student from Stephen F. Austin College (or a farmlad from a nearby pasture) wanders through for the usual action. Meanwhile, our central Texas reporter says that the brick t-rooms surrounding Lake Belton near Copperas Cove are yeilding many a lonely, horny soldier from nearby Fort Hood!!

#### HAIR, HAIR, & MORE HAIR

TWIT's roving reporter was in the neighborhood of Hair Unlimited and talked to handsome manager George Joseph concerning their Summer Hair Special. It seems that they've got a sale and . . . welll, the old hairline has been thinning a bit. Hair Unlimited has been in the U.S. and Canada for nine years. Their new replacement center is at 4200 Westheimer. We recommend Hair Unlimited to all you "thin" Texans as an alternative to baldness.

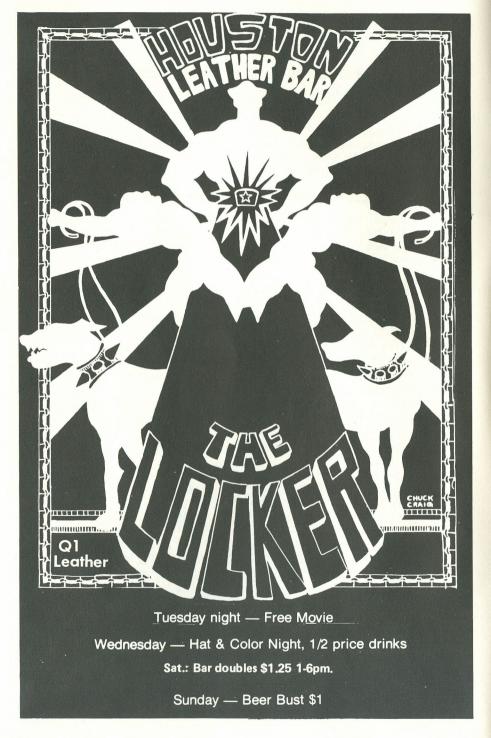


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# STARSCOPE

#### FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 20-26

FOR ALL SIGNS: This weekend starts with a Moon (emotions) in Cancer (home) which may cause gays to either stay close to loved ones and home or do some entertaining in the home. Sunday the Sun (vitality) leaves Leo (outgoing) and enters Virgo (details and cleanliness) causing a period of being antiseptic and tidy plus being somewhat critical. It should be a very interesting week. So, let's look at everyone's love life!

VIRGO (August 24-September 23): Socially and romantically this has been your month. You may now find yourself winding up August traveling and away from your love.

LIBRA (September 24-October 23): August winds up with you more wound up over several love interests. Mars (sex and energy) enters Libra (partners) Monday night at 11:56 pm August 23rd giving you the drive to pick a mate!

SCORPIO (October 24-November 22): Lucky Jupiter is now departing your 7th house of marriage. Hurry up and tie the knot as soon it will be too late.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 22): Lucky Jupiter makes one of those nice entries into your 7th house of marriage resulting in the time being right to find the perfect mate.

**CAPRICORN** (December 23-January 20): A trip could yield a new romantic interest as supportive planetary influences make an angle to your house of love affairs.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19): At last, at 4:27 am Monday Aug 23rd, beneficial Jupiter arrives in your 5th house of love affairs. Three days later on the 26th Venus (love) and the Moon (emotions) connect in your favor. He might be a Cancer which is ruled by the Moon.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): Good ol' Jupiter now enters your 4th house of the home, making that aspect of your life nicer. My God! Pisces has even been out raising a bit of hell lately thanks to Neptune.

AIRES (March 21-April 20): Write this down. Monday, August 23rd, give or take a day, you could meet Mr. Right what with that Mars (sex) Jupiter (luck) aspect operative.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): To put it simply, September would be a good time to seek divorce. But the stubborn bull may not let go.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Thursday, August 25th, Mercury (talk) touches Jupiter (beneficial) nicely. This could be act one for meeting someone you'll see again.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): True love is found right in your own backyard as August winds down. Look again.

LEO (July 24-August 23): Saturn (older) in your first house (personality) is maturing your love values. Jupiter (luck) now in the 11th house (friendships) ushers in a time for meeting a new buddy who could become a partner.

Girls & Boys Welcome





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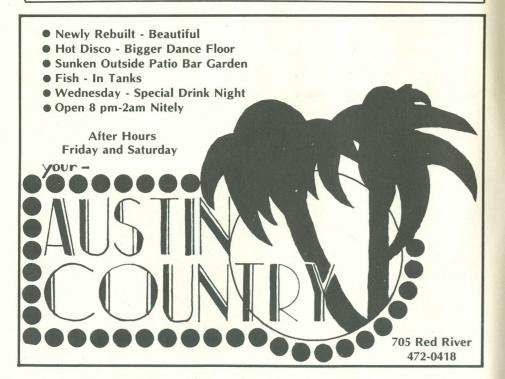


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# LIFE WITH VERA

A Soaper by John Gardner

"Tell me how this sounds, Burt? 'If You've Just Had A Rough Day With The Grim Reaper, Come And Relax At Vera's Final Fling Funeral Shop."

"No good. No good at all," Burt quietly admonished.

"How about, 'Vera's—Let Us Fill You In On A Good Plot?"

"T, terrible!," Burt screamed. "I don't know how you plan to make any money if you don't start taking this business seriously!"

"I am! But you've got to put in a colorful touch here and there. My God, it's bad enough that all of our customers have just had a death in the family, we don't have to make things worse by giving a dreary funeral! They say funerals are for the living, so let's LIVE!"

"Why can't you get it through your head—a funeral has got to have dignity!"

"Whaddaya mean? Our funerals will be loaded with dignity. The drapes are from Neiman's, the rugs are genuine Oriental's, and I buy all the flowers retail. What could be more dignified than that!" Vera explained, as he stuck a pose not unlike that of Gloria Swanson on downers.

"I'm just afraid you're not going to get anywhere with this. Naming it 'Final Fling' was a mistake. But if you plan to write advertisements like the ones you're spewing out today, I don't see any hope whatsoever." Burt pleaded.

"I don't believe it! A gay person wants a gay funeral. What could have more logic than that. And my funerals are going to be downright festive. Nothing is going to make me change the way things are now."

"But where are your customers? Where are the people? I don't see any lines outside. Doesn't that tell you

something?"

"Of course it does! I'm not blind to the obvious facts."

"That's good."

"It tells me that gay people don't die as often as straight people. But someday, somewhere, sometime, a gay dude is going to drop dead. And I'm going to be ready. It's my commitment. My calling."

"I don't believe what I'm hearing,"
Burt cried.

"Oh sure. Although you'd swear that all those old faces around town have been here forever, one of these days one of them is going to topple over. Opportunity is going to knock at any moment!"

The phone rang, with Vera springing toward it and clutching it firmly even before the first "ring" had been completed.

"That's opportunity now, I bet."
Vera boasted.

"I thought you said opportunity was going to knock."

"She was in such a hurry to make us happy she decided to phone ahead. 'Hello. Vera's Final Fling Funeral Shoppe! You Drop, We Hop!' Can I help you? Yes I am the owner. You're who? You represent who? The State

help you? Yes I am the owner. You're who? You represent who? The State of Texas? I don't think we can accommodate that many people. Oh! You're with the government! Well, honey, why didn't you say so. What kin I do for ya?''

"A State inspector!" Burt muttered fearfully.

"Yes, it is a funeral parlor," Vera explained to the caller. "A license? Oh, course I have a license. I got it after Driver's Education. And I've never let it expire. I was Valedictorian of my driving class, you know. Well, you may not care—but Mom was tickled pink. A what? For where? A

Continued on page 16

# THE BRASS RAIL

Dallas' Newest Afternoon Bar

Opening August 5 2513 N. Fitzhugh

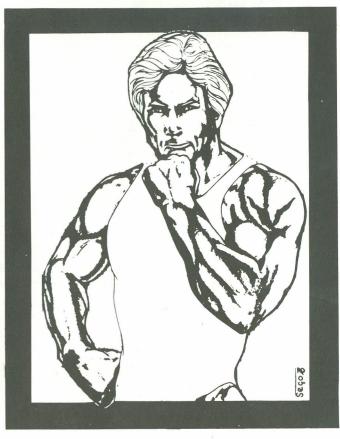
Open 2 p.m. - 2 a.m. Daily

Mixed Drinks

Free Drinks from 8 'til 9 p.m., Thursday, August 12.

Bob, formerly of TJ's and the Ramrod

Terry's
MAIL
BOXX



2515 & 2517 N. Fitzhugh Dallas

Sunday, Aug. 22 All the Well Drinks and Beer You Can Hold—\$3 Cover

Fitzhugh's Newest Cruise Bar with Dancing, Games, & Patio

# VERA

license to run a funeral parlor?"

"Oh, no. Oh, no." Burt breathed, feeling ever-faint.

"A funeral parlor license! For what! I drive a Vega. This funeral parlor is much too big to drive. I'd get lousy gas mileage and it'd be hell on the U-turns. To run a business? You have to have a license to run a business?"

"Oh, no. Oh, no." Burt breathed again, definitely approaching faint-hood.

"Well why didn't you say so! That's no problem. As soon as I get my first customers I'll be down there and pick up one of those. What? Well don't you feel that's sort of tackey? Whay should I have to get a business license when I haven't done any business yet? But I promise that when I get my first customer I'll be right down. I'll even cancel my hair appointment if I have one that day."

Burt was now assuming your basic 'slump stance.''

"You want to come here, you say? Well, that's awful nice of you, honey. But if you're going to be nice enough to give me a license, I don't mind comin' down to pick it up. No need for you to drive all over town in this heat. Besides, I know those State-owned cars ain't even air condition. But thank you anyway."

Burt began to totter.

"You can't give me a license until you can inspect the place? I see. Like a seal of approval? Well, that makes sense. Sure, come on over! We rehearse our 'Best of Broadway' funeral at four. No, wait. That's no good. How silly of me. I forgot that Phoebe said she couldn't make it tonight and we'd have to work on the 'Moonlight and Roses' ceremony. It uses less people, but it's still stunning. Yes, that would be divine. You'll just love it I know."

Burt's knees buckled . . .

"See ya at four? Good. I'll be looking forward to your visit. Oh, yes, I'm sure you'll be most impressed. I guarantee it'll be something like you've never seen before."

His body weight shifted forward . . "By the way, honey. You like

drapes from Neiman's?"
And he hit the floor.

"Bye, bye. Burt what are you doing? Get up off the floor! He's coming in two hours. Call all the girls we've got to get ready! And tell Fannie to bring her steam iron. Some of the costumes are starting to wilt. Get up, Burt! This is no time for a nap! I need you to make punch. And play the part of the preacher. This is it, kid. Dress rehearsal. It's show-time!!"

HOUSTON'S LARGEST WESTERN BAR (under new management, Bob Jones)

A DECENT DRINK
AT A REASONABLE PRICE

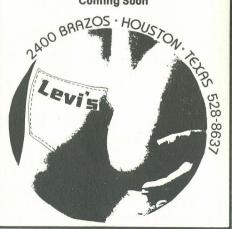
(in air conditioned comfort or out on the patio)

GOOD DRINKS GOOD TRICKS GOOD TIMES

\$1.00 BEER BUST:

SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 3-6 P.M.

Texas Riders Registration, Sept. 3
UNIFORM MILITARY BALL
Coming Soon



Miss Vi's Country Kitchen

"Hot Meals for Hungry Men — At Poor Girls' Prices!"



Serving Dinner Monday thru Friday, 7 - 9:30 p.m. and After Hours Breakfast Friday and Saturday, 2 - 3:30 a.m. Afternoon Snacks Sunday, 3-7 p.m.

## MEN-U

Monday

Sandwiches: Levi Burger (½-lb. ground steak with all the trimmings-\$1.75, or BLT with chips-\$1.45.

Tuesday

"Pink Plate Special" — Chicken "fit for a Queen and big enough to fill a horse"-\$2.50.

Wednesday

"Miss Thing's" World Famous Spaghetti Dinner with salad and garlic bread - \$1.95. "Seconds if you can." Thursday

Miss Vi's Pan Fried Po'k Chops with mashed taters, cream gravy, vegee, bisquits, and sliced 'maters - \$2.25.

Friday

Sandwiches for dinner. After hours breakfast 2-3:30 a.m. with omelettes, Leviburgers, BLT.

Saturday

No dinner (Miss Vi's girls got to get their rest). After hours breakfast 2-3:30 a.m. with omelettes, Leviburgers, BLT.

Sunday Sandwich Snacks, 3-7 p.m.

For Dessert [to fill that last hole] try Miss Vi's Pies! Your Chef (Miss Vi Herself): Ron

COME DINE WITH MISS YI









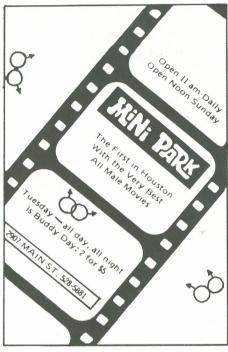


# CRUISE CAMERA

Houston's GAA hosted this August 15 Benefit Bash for the University of Houston Child Care Center. Proceeds will be donated to the center's building fund for a ''winter playhouse.''







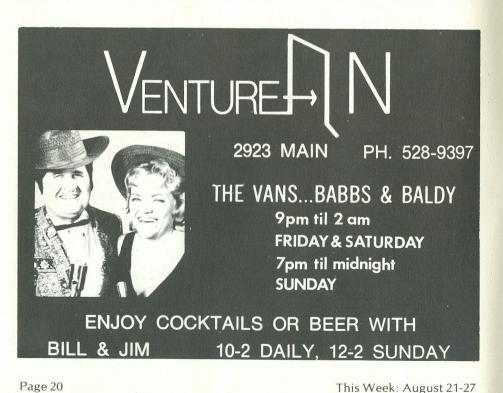
THE MONTROSE ACTIVITY CENTER IS COOPERATING WITH A MEDICAL STUDY FOCUSING ON

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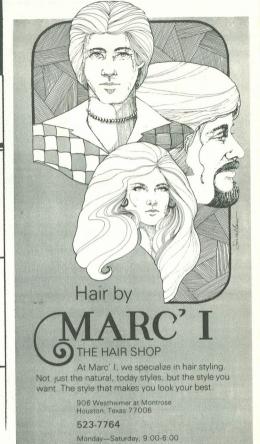
Openings for Masseur & Masseuse. No experience necessary. Will train. Apply in person. Amazon Massage Studio, 10,000 McCullough, San Antonio.

#### HAIRBENDER

Experienced hairdresser with following needed by leading Montrose beauty salon. Top pay. Marc I. 906 Westheimer, 523-7764. Ask for Tim.

#### SPIN THAT WAX

Disc Jockey needed at Austin Country. Experience helps. Call 472-0418 after 8 p.m. Ask for Keith.



# MARYS 8

Galveston 2502 Q1/2 STREET

At the Corner of Rosenberg and Q1/2 Street 763-9334

We just had to go back and see if Lake Dallas over at Queen's Point could be hot two weeks in a row. It was very hot indeed as the Cruise Camera captured some picnic blankets on a magic carpet ride somewhere out in the ether between Dallas and Fort Worth. Sorry, but our reporter didn't get any phone numbers from these gay

# Lake Dallas over at Queen's Point could be hot two weeks in a row. It was very hot indeed as the Cruise



Mixed Drinks



# **CREWS INN**

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Singles Pool Tournament Every Sunday 4 p.m. Come Have A Drink

With Ernie

REVIEWS

#### Theatre

Four Houston playwrights contributed wit and fancy to Theatre Suburbia's latest summer offering, FOUR BY FOUR. Unfortunately, though, these contributions were not as consistent as the varied directions they undertook. Usually polished and professional, they plays were reinforced under sometimes laborious scripts by mostly pleasing performances.

The first, Eddie Cope's Inside Story, had a plot straight from a 1950 situation comedy minus the sight gags. It concerns a frantic young couple who work for rival newspapers and try to out-scoop each other before the next day's impending deadline. The piece was stylishly directed by Bonnie McFerren, but kept us vawning throughout.

Henry Klussman's Survivor from Leningrad suffered from B.A. Mather's poor direction as well as a poor script. The story centers around a fallen general in East Germany (circa 1962) and his inward struggles concerning the impervious Berlin Wall.

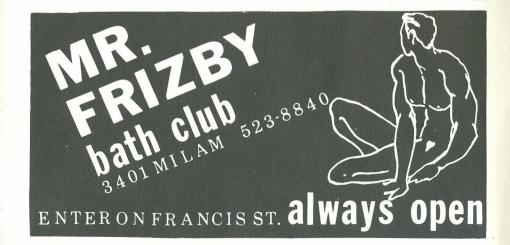
One begins to suspect Klussman's attachment to this peculiar evesore in history as something of a fetish.

Showing considerably more promise was M.L. Pearson's The Sandflea, in which a young girl falls desperately in love with a vampire and they take a beachhouse in Galveston to spend the summer together. Jean Montgomery directed the well-intended script with all the sensitivity of parent to child. There were lots of laughs, and lots of precocity.

The evening of plays closed with Albert Green's An Elucidation on the Psychology of Happiness. Brilliantly directed by Ray McFerren, Elucidation was more of a lecture than a play. but the laughs came fast and quick as the five polished actors whipped through Green's comic dialogue and left us drained, and satisfied.

FOUR BY FOUR is, to say the least. an interesting distraction. It is, to say the most, a promising respite in Houston theatricality.

by Tom Goreman



526-9025

Proudly Presents Labor Day Spectacular

"ONCE UPON A STAR"

Starring the original Ron Sue cast:

Sabre Garth Ronnie Sue Terry Hartfield Sal E. Marie **Sherry Powers** Big Larry Fran

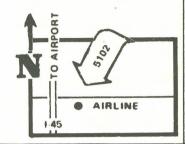
2 Star-Filled Nites:

Saturday & Sunday September 4-5 Showtime 10 P.M. \$2 Cover

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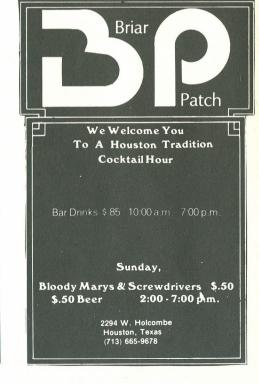


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900 Lovett Blvd./Houston OPEN 7 A.M. to 2 A.M.

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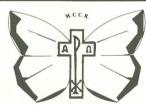




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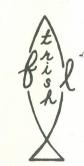


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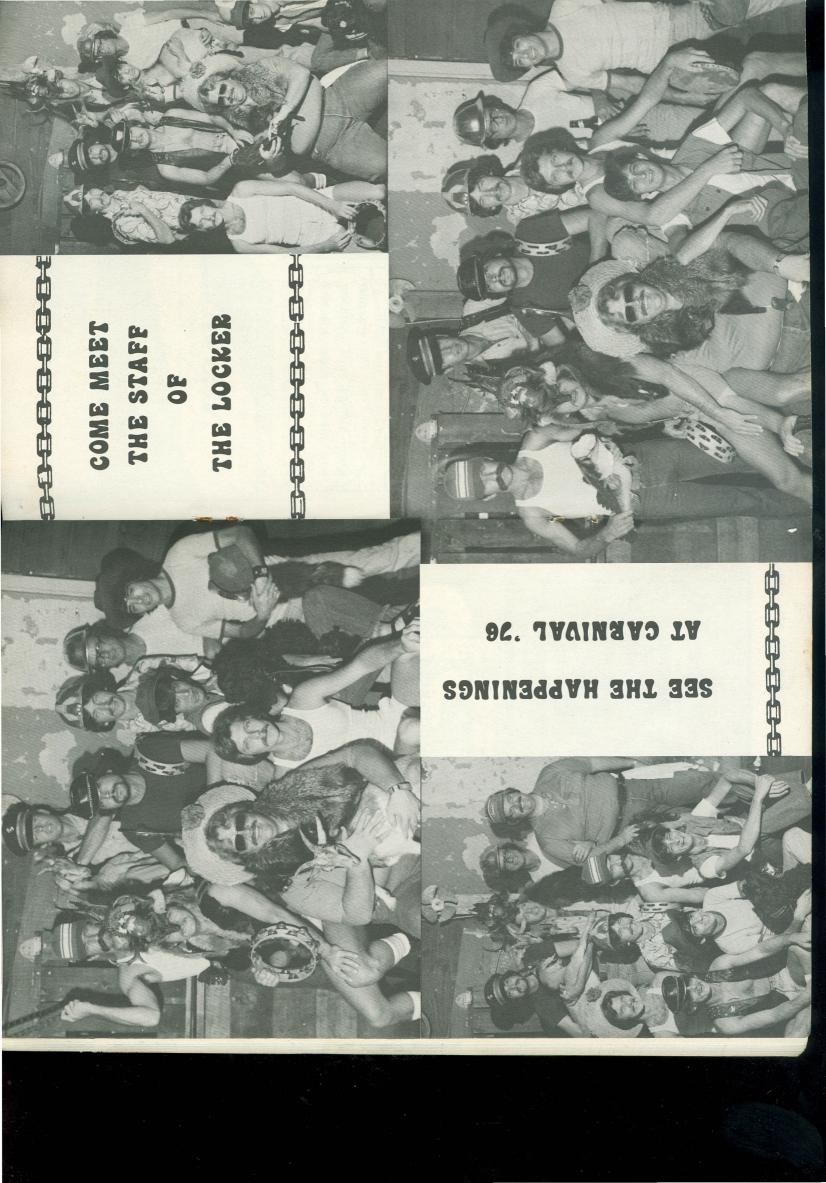
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is looking forward to

LABOR DAY

and a real old-fashioned

**COUNTRY BARBECUE** 

in the

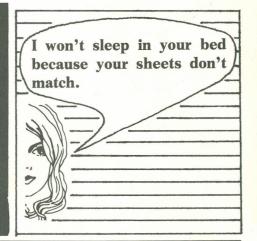
#### **BARN YARD**

Starting at 7 a.m. Monday, Sept. 6

Y'ALL COME!

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Where the "Unusual is Usual" in

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# 

Editor's Note: From time to time we will use this space to run articles or comments submitted by our readers concerning new organizations or events of special interest. All material submitted becomes the property of TWIT, and we reserve the right to alter the copy to fit our editorial and layout requirement.

We've Come a Long Way, Baby . . .

... but we've got a long way to go. From my point of view, I can see the progress gay people have made in the last fifteen years. I have a pretty clear picture of the gains we've achieved, and I can make a reasonable estimation of the weaknesses and strengths that will make a difference in the immediate future. What follows is an overall description of the state of gay liberties. More than anything else, it is an appeal for your involvement.

In the early sixties, gay people were a large group of potential citizens who were beaten into the dark corners of society by scientific bullshit from psychologists and psychiatrists who said that we were sick (And we believed it). This was compounded with religious bullshit that labeled us as the ultimate sinners (we went for that, too). Our legal standing was the same as other criminals and while we complained to one another about this. the laws stayed on the books with our passive acceptance. As far as the rest of society was concerned, we did not exist at all except as child molesters, characters in jokes, or manic-depressive individuals who were not sure what kind of plumbing they had been born with.

But there were a handful of women and men (perhaps one in every 10,000) who rejected all or part of the bullshit and mythology. They fought against the odds to struggle out of our closets to do something about our sorry state. It paid off.

The small group that took on the sexual research establishment was

able to rip the foundation from under the psychologists and psychiatrists. Homosexual behavior is now known to be a natural response to a natural attraction experienced universally. Humans who are not aware of both homosexual and heterosexual attraction within themselves are likely to have poor self-awareness. Those who hate or fear homosexuals (homophobes) are now recognized as sociopaths in need of treatment.

Another group defied the religious establishment and exposed the soft belly of prejudice that lay under organized religion. The Biblical condemnation of homosexuals has now been shown to have been interpretive and traditional rather than literal. Embarrassed theologians are burning midnight oil trying to redefine the religious notions that have oppressed us since about 600 AD.

The laws that make us criminals have been removed from the books in some states. In each case, the credit must go to a very few. Civil rights legislation has passed in some local and state governments but this progress has so far been quite small.

Very little has been done to combat the prejudice, ignorance, and mythology held by the general public. The job requires mass education, and a handful of people just cannot handle the workload alone. Fewer than 20% of gay Houstonians have ever heard of Katy Feller, Pokey Anderson, Gary Von Ootegham, Hugh Krell, Jerry Miller, or me. Either we are not doing our jobs well or no one is listening.

continued on page 38

# FICTION

#### GORDON! GORDON!

#### by Max Baumgardner

Cohen smiles expansively at the camera. She is hanging on to the side of a spaceship that's being hurled through outer space by an unknown power source on Beta-5.

Inside of the spaceship, Flash Gordon sits at his control panel and checks his instruments for malfunctions.

FLASH:

Repairs made, Dale?

DALE:

Repairs made. The hydrolizer was damaged by a radiation belt near Saturn, that's all.

FLASH:
Good. Come on back in. We have a lot of work to do. (Cut to Cohen.)
DALE:

But it's so beautiful out here, Flash! I can almost see God Himself smiling at me. (Orchestra cue.) And you know what, Flash? This is the first time in my life I've ever felt important. (Camera pan out. Orchestra begins intro to Cohen's song. Cohen looks defiantly at the camera. She sings.) \*\*Something wonderfullll . . . Something marvelouuuuuuuus . . Something beautifull!!!!!, is meeeeee! \*\* (Timpani, Switch to camera two. Pan out. Meteors whisk by.) \*\* Something special in my life has taken charge . . . Something special in my life that's by 'n large the most wonderful thing that could hap-

Good morning.

on the telescreen.)

pennnnn . . . to meeeeeeee! \*\* (Cut

to Flash, smiling fondly at her image

Today is screening day. I am bored. After seventeen weeks of shooting, I am bored and tired and sick of the moon. I suspect that the film will be a

financial success, though I doubt its critical draw.

Critics. I hate them. They destroyed me in FULVERSON-50. They said terrible things about me in BONDAGE.

Good morning. Hello.

My lover made the mistake of directing this fiasco. I call it a fiasco because it will surely mar his otherwise flawless reputation in the film industry. No one is going to appreciate, in this day and age, a musical extravaganza based on the antiquated tales of Flash Gordon. NO ONE.

The publicity releases state: THE FIRST MOVIE EVER FILMED IN OUTER SPACE! We have all been run through the mill with ad campaigns that take up, it seems, more of our time than the actual filming. I am sick of it.

The editor of the film is a maniac named George Swineson who does not like me and will probably do his best to make me look as ridiculous as possible in the final prints.

The star of this film is the sensational Sandra Cohen. (Ha.)

I don't know. I'm rambling on about nothing. I'm sick of it all. I'm sick of breathing heated air and drinking water that tastes like pee and eating food that smells like shit.

Do I sound bitter?

Smile.

Wait a minute. Footsteps. I . . .

"Hello, Marc."

"Hello."

"Tired?"

"Well. About everything. Where have you been?"

"Fighting with Swineson."

"I want to go home, Sol. I hate the moon."

"No one said this was going to be a vacation."

"But still it should be fun. That's why we're in the business."

"I don't know about the business anymore. Things are changing. Movies are passe now. Theatres are shutting down by the thousands. And for our Backers to think that this one final 'epic musical' will revive it as an art form is . . . well, is as much a fantasy as Sandra Cohen's tits."

We have an agreement these days, Sol and I. We have agreed to tread very lightly on each other's feelings. We know each other's soft spots, and we avoid them.

Sol is an established, respectable producer/director. At thirty nine years old he boasts seven films (eight, if you include this sham), five of which have received nominations at Cannes. Three of which have won. Impressive?

I am not so established, not so respected. I've never received an award. I've never even received a nomination. At twenty seven, I find my acting career on the serious wane. Sol has taken me on in hopes that I can emerge to overnight superstardom, with Cohen as my vehicle. He's convinced that with one good film to my credit I can get back in favor with the Backers (Why he chose GOR-

DON! GORDON! I'll never know). There's a lot riding on this film. I hope we can pull it off.

Sandra Cohen has hated me from the beginning. I don't know why. She was threatening to withdraw her contract if Sol co-billed her with a big name. That's how he managed to slip me into the picture. I would certainly pose no threat to her. I mean, who in their right artistic mind would notice Marc Stalinsky with her on the screen. HER. She-God. It's incomprehensible.

Do I sound bitter?

An example. A perfect example. The first day of shooting, Cohen showed up early (about ten minutes). I showed up late (by about fifteen minutes). Actually I had been delayed in make-up, but SHE-GOD wasn't interested in details.

"So you're 'it.' Jesus! I heard you was the director's boyfriend. You better fuckin' be good!" Then a catty smile. "But not too good, of course."

"Hello, Ms. Cohen. I'm looking forward to working with you."

"Yeah. My ass. What the hell are you doing coming in so fuckin' late?"

"That, Ms. Cohen, is none of your fuckin' business."

Continued on page 35

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# CRUISE CAMERA





Some hot new shows are happening at Houston's Lamp Post as these Cruise Camera pictures testify. Captured here are highlights of last Sunday's Super show with Shawna Havden, emcee. plus Julie the stripper and Jackie the singer with guitar.



This Week: August 21-27

# 

Sandra Cohen's eyes narrowed. She scowled and said, "You're on my piss list, Stalinsky. I'm gonna make this picture hell for you."

And she did. At every turn she made me look inexperienced, unqualified, and incredibly foolish. She got two of my best songs cut, a few of my monologues shortened, and four of my costumes remade to suit her taste.

And Sol allowed this to happen!

He had been dying to direct Cohen for years, had seasonally bid for her contract, sent numerous letters to her agents, even sent her a few original scripts.

And now. Now that he finally had her he was allowing her to shit on me.

And now. Tonight.

The screening is over. Everyone saw it. Everyone liked it. Everyone but myself, that is. ("Sandra Cohen made the film." "I've never seen her so electrifying." "We have a new Barbara Streisand on our hands." "She's saved the film industry from disaster!")

I admit with queasy stomach that she was good. Sensational, as a matter of fact. And me? Well, the critics will no doubt have a field day tomorrow. I can just imagine what they'll say: "Stalinsky melted admirably into the background." "Stalinsky lacked style, he never developed beyond . . " "Stalinsky limped through with his usual . . " "Stalinsky could not keep up with . . " "Stalinsky seemed embarrassed .

Well, goddamit, I was embarrassed. I AM NOT FLASH GORDON. I CANNOT PORTRAY FLASH GORDON EFFECTIVELY. I CAN'T. I can't.

Maybe I'm losing my mind. (What a pleasant thought:)

Sol and I are having dinner later this evening. I'm anxious to hear what he has to say about it all . . .

"Hello, Marc."

"Hi."

"Have you ordered drinks?"

"Yes."

Silence. Thick, heavy silence. Drinks are brought. Then:

"Marc, you weren't that bad."

I tensed and took a healthy slug from my Stinger. "Have you gotten any flack from the critics?"

"Well." There was doubt in his eyes. "Peters is going to be kind. Thackle probably won't say much about you at all."

"And Reiser?"

"Reiser may sting a bit."

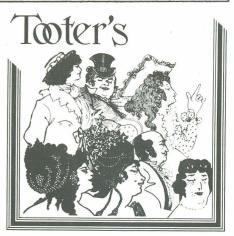
"Well he SHOULD sting! I was awful."

"Marc . . ."

"I looked terrible next to her."

"You weren't that bad."

There was applause. Cheers. I turned to see what was happening and Sol reached out and touched my



... the party moves to

# Toter's Restaurant

2203 Westheimer at Greenbriar Houston

## Reen

hand. Sandra Cohen had entered the restaurant. Her escort was Swineson. My face burned with anger. The applause grew, became deafening. Sol gripped my hand tighter.

"Marc, it's over. It's done. Forget

Cohen and Swineson waltzed graciously through the aisle of admirers towards our table. OUR table.

"What have you done?" I demanded hoarsely.

"They're joining us, Marc. Now don't get excited."

"EXCITED!?"

"It was all arranged by the Backers. The columnists will be here tonight."

"Fuck the Backers!" I pulled away from him and headed for the EXIT light.

"Marc!"

People were muttering amongst themselves, but I didn't care. I couldn't care. I was beyond caring about anything.

"Going somewhere?" Sandra Cohen loomed before me, all smiles and charm. Swineson snickered evilly.

I was confused. "Going?"

"Well . . . you seem to be in a rush."

"Yes. A rush. Well." A dead silence consumed the restaurant. Everyone was straining to hear my answer. "Well, I forgot something at the . . . I . . ."

Sandra Cohen began to laugh. I stood frozen in shame. "Ladies and gentelemen," she announced to her audience. "Flash Gordon, if you will excuse him, is about to make his exit. His spaceship is double parked."

Cameras clicked. The restaurant patrons laughed and applauded Ms. Cohen's extemporaneous display of wit.

As I entered the vacuum tube that

descended twelve levels to our apartment quarters, I wondered briefly if Sol would follow me. But I didn't hold my breath. I realized that he had other things on his mind.



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## 

Part of the problem can be laid on the doorstep of the mass media. Television, newspaper, and most radio decision makers see us as side show freaks, few in number, with the problems we deserve. Is it any wonder then we are not taken seriously? Even the politicians who are now giving us lip-service (but stop short of any serious consideration of our complaints) will not long continue to do so unless we can demonstrate some measurable, real strength.

It no longer bothers city administrators when Ray Hill complains: nor do they pay any more attention to the other "spokespersons" from our community. If you have been waiting safely in your closet for a modern Moses to lead you safely out . . . forget it! He ain't comin'. We, collectively, are the Moses of gay liberation. When the gay lawyer, gay doctor, or gay middle class businessman or woman realize that they too are the target of homophobia, prejudice, and ignorance and begin to actively respond to each incident of harrassment, then we will begin to show progress.

If a bar or bookstore is raided and needless arrests are made, hundreds of outraged citizens should literally tie up city hall phone lines complaining. Those arrested should demand the jury trials they are entitled to, and then sue for redress of any excessive police action. Hardy souls should refuse to post bond and insist on speedy trials. All witnesses should meet and write out their observations to be used in court. And dozens of people should fill the Wednesday morning city council agenda in loud complaint

We have a literal alphabet of gay support organizations: GAA, GPC, MCCR, CCC, UHO, Integrity/Hous-Continued on page 42





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Jim Hollomon agent

This Week: August 21-27

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# BOX 22104

Box 22104: Congratulations on your great publication! I was wondering if you were at all able to possibly help me out. First-let me give you some background about myself. I am lesbian. Considered very, very intelligent, especially very elaborate and active in drama, and your finer arts (painting). I've got "men" chasing me constantly. However with my cunning personality I am able to surpass them without any hint towards my "Homo" ways.

O.K. so you're probably thinking I've got a terrifically bloated head. You're damn right I do! I ought to. I'm extremely feminine with qualities that men seem to literally "drool" over. Now my avid letter reader, to get to my very basic, but delicate point. I'm only 17 years old. Too young to attend gay bars regularly. Too young for most women to accept. Ah, what the hell. The ones I do meet at those bars are mostly too, too old for me (or at least that's what "they" say!). Or I find them very frustrated with themselves.

Shoot I'm just young, and gay, and an extreme extrovert. I "love" women! Do I have to wait five months (my 18th birthday is in December) before I can even experience my first "love affair" with a woman? I'm even willing to travel, if thats what it takes to find what I want. So, my friend, this is where you come in. At least I hope! Please, can you give me any lead to a gay youth organization of any type? If it's against your policy, I understand. However, at least I found a little sympathy, from what I gather. If you can give me no clue than all I ask is your "Blessing" in me. You see I'm so determined that I'm going to form one myself if that's what it takesIII

Again "Congratulations" in a fine publication of such an informative magazine as "This Week in Texas."

Stay Free, Mary

Editor: Into a Wednesday morning hangover I stumbled . . . And there was this kind of weird letter from one of our readers in San Antonio. I don't know. Maybe I'm hallucinating on my veast tablets. Needless to say, it iolted me headfirst into what started out as a rather unproductive day.

Lliked It.

But about your problem. I don't know. I can sympathize with you, sure, but I don't know if I can help you. Later this morning when my eyes open up a little. I'll make a few calls. The only thing I can think of right off the bat is the MCCR of Houston. It's a church. A gay church. They hold a Saturday morning rap session, and possibly you could get in with them and get introduced around.

You said something about travel (which leads me to believe you are not in school). You'll have a better chance at falling in love in a larger city. Let's face it. There are more gay girls in Houston and Dallas than San Antonio.

So far as I know, the only "gay youth organizations" in existence at this time are those associated with colleges and universities. Perhaps if you're just out of high school and on your way to college, you should check around at your prospective campuses to be sure that there is an active gay organization associated with the school you eventually select. At the University of Houston, there is a very "involved" group of gay students who call themselves the Gay Activists Alliance. Their address and phone number are listed in our guide, and you can see pictures of some of their activities elsewhere in this issue.

Tell you what. If you can see your way to ever visit Houston, write and let me know and I'll make arrangements to have you put up somewhere. Make it on a weekend and I'll take you over to MCCR and introduce you to everybody. I also know some gay girls connected with the GAA

# **BUDDY NIGHT**

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A dip in the nude is as close as your nearest Club Bath swimming pool—in this case the Club Houston's sunny new pool and patio are the scene of much toweled and untoweled activity. It's fun—and the Sunday afternoon crowds are hot and humpy. Also adding to the cruise appeal of Club Houston is the mirror wall in the weight room.









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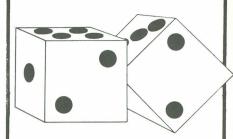
This Week: August 21-27

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ton, Dignity . . . etc. And if you are waiting for an organizational officer to tell you to help do what you already know needs doing, you have two options: (1) Keep waiting, or (2) Get off your duff, contact these people, and get some help.

Your talents, your wisdom, your energy, your money, even your point of view is needed all over town. We do not have a selective service system to draft you. You'll have to volunteer. Do it now! The future can be as bright as your willingness to get involved... or as dark as your closet.

-Ray Hill



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CAMERA

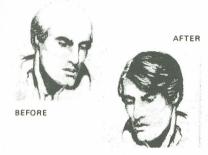


Seven Houston motorcycle clubs participated in the cross country run, "Prairie Fire." The run was co-organized by three Chicago clubs, and photographed by Cal Martin.

This Week: August 21-27

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Times have changed. Ours is an active, virile, masculine world that seems to get younger as time goes by. And while exercise and diets and suntans and Italian knits help . . . nothing more strikingly improves your appearance than hair. Today, more than ever before, hair is fashion, hair is sex appeal.

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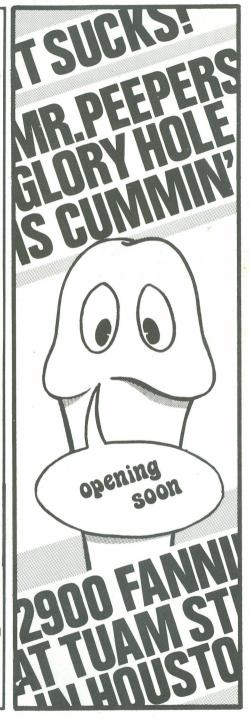
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# COUNTRY

# Black Reat

new hourswed thru sat 2am, sun thru tues 12am

This Week: August 21-27

# CRUISE

They came from all over the U.S.A. to Houston for the 25th Annual Invitational "Bullet" Softball Tournament. The place was Memorial Park. The players were girls, girls, and more girls. TWIT's Cruise Camera captured these Sunday Shots as the teams went into the finals. To all those responsible for this exciting sports event, This Week In Texas tips ve ol' ball cap. And, congratulations to the winning team, the Peppers from California, pictured here.





# **BARTENDERS' DRAG SHOW**

a benefit for The Crippled Children's Charities

Thursday, August 26, 9:30 pm

At The Encore in Dallas \$1.00 Cover at the Door

All Proceeds go to the benefit of the Crippled Children's Charities

Ad Courtesy of CREWS INN



Weight Requirement:

Judging Categories:

200 lbs. Minimum

Gown, Sportswear or Swimwear, Talent

Prizes:
Miss Texas at Large —
\$150 and Trophy

Miss Runner Up — \$75 and Trophy

2nd Runner Up —

\$25 and Trophy

3rd Runner Up — Trophy CALENDAR TEXAS

#### AUSTIN

Wednesday, August 25

 Special drink night at Austin Country, 8 pm 'til 2 am. Bar Drinks 25c; beer 10c. \$2 cover at the door.

#### EL PASO

Wednesday, August 25

 Benny sings and plays the piano at the Apartment.

Saturday, August 28

 Benny sings and plays the piano at the Apartment.

#### FORT WORTH

Tuesday, August 24

• Free food with special drink prices at the 500 Club, 8-10 pm.

Wednesday, August 25

• 500 Follies present "Midweek Madness" at 9:30 pm., 500 Club.

Friday, August 27

 Country Western night at the 500 Club. Special drink prices if you wear western hat.

#### DALLAS

Sunday, August 22

- Old Plantation Drag Show with Jann Russell and the Pantomaniacs plus the Living Dolls!
- Free Draft Beer at TJ's, 7 pm-8 pm.
- Free Draft Beer at Sundance Kid, from 7 pm til the keg runs dry.
- Cook-Out at Club Dallas, 2-5 pm.
   Everything supplied for Larry's tasty trollburgers.

• Free Beer at the Olive Branch Saloon, 5-7 pm.

• Steak-Out at Chuck's, 6-8 pm. Chuck's supplies the trimmings. All you have to bring is your meat.

Tuesday, August 24

- Buddy Night at Club Dallas two for the price of one, 6 pm 'til 2 am.
- \$1.00 Day at Bachelors Quarters.
  10c Draft Beer at the Encore at 10 pm.

Wednesday, August 25
• Drag Show at the Bayou Landing.

Drag Show at the Bayou Landing
 Thursday, August 26

10c Draft Beer at the Encore at 10 p.m.

Live Band at the Jugs, 8-11 pm.
 HOUSTON

#### Friday, August 20

Drag Show at the Horn-It, 10 pm.

 Babbs and Baldy performing at Venture Inn 9 till 2. No cover.

Saturday, August 21

- Babbs and Baldy performing at the Venture Inn 9 till 2. No cover.
- Beer bust at Levi's, 3 to 6 pm. \$1.00.
- "Saturday's Child" rap session from noon til 2 pm at the MCCR.

Sunday, August 22

- Drag show at the Old Plantation with Ernestine, Jennifer George, Naomi Sims, Donna Day, and Carmellita.
- Beer bust, The Loft. 4-7pm. \$1.00.
- Babbs and Baldy performing at Venture Inn 7pm till midnight. No cover.
- Beer bust at Levi's, 3-6 pm.-\$1.00; 75c if wearing western hat.
- · Jambayla at The Barn, 1 pm.
- All lockers, \$2.00 each, 8 am-4 pm, at Club Houston.

Monday, August 23

 Happy Hour, Monday thru Saturday, noon till 7 p.m. Hi Lite Ranch.

#### Tuesday, August 24

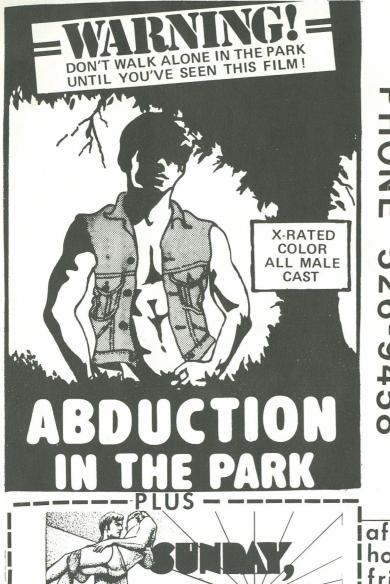
• Free movie at The Locker, 9:30 pm.

#### Wednesday, August 25

- Gay Political Caucus meeting at 7:30 pm at MCCR.
- Super drag show with Ernestine, Jennifer George, Carmelita, Donna Day and Naomi Simms at the Old Plantation, 9:30 pm.
- Buddy Night at Club Houston two for the price of one (lockers), 4 pm-midnight.

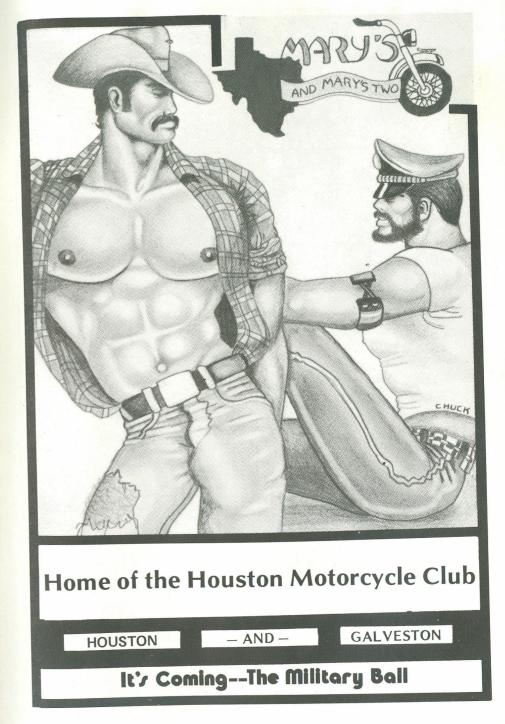
#### Thursday, August 26

 Country and western band at Just Marion and Lynn's, 9:30 pm. No cover, no minimum.



00 SIM





# SUPPORTERS

Listed here are bars, baths, bookstores, retail shops, and services which **This Week in Texas** recommends to our readers. Each week we are in touch with each of these establishments, so our listing is both accurate and dependable. If you are travelling in Texas, we think you'll find that these merchants welcome your business and will give you the best value for your money.

AMARILLO LOUNGE Old Plantation — 1005 N. Filmore — 372-5081

ARLINGTON CARPET & CLEANING Germany's Carpet & Upholstery — 469-6439

AUSTIN BOOK STORE
Mr. Peepers — 213 East Sixth Street

AUSTIN CHURCHES
Metro Community — 408 W. 23rd — 444-5121

AUSTIN LOUNGES

Austin Country — 705 Red River — 472-0418
The New Apt. — 2828 Rio Grande — 478-0224

AUSTIN ORGANIZATIONS Gay Comm. Svcs.—2330 Guadalupe—477-6699

COLEMAN THEATRE
Oak Drive Inn—N. on Hy. 84, Old Abilene Hwy

DALLAS ADVERTISING CONSULTANT Sego — 4519 Gaston Street — 821-9079

DALLAS AIR CONDITIONING
Day & Night — 5710 Marquita — 826-8300

DALLAS ANTIQUES Mike's Things—3136 Routh, Ste. 104—748-0210

DALLAS BATHS
Bachelor's Quarters — 1225 Skiles — 823-0432
Club Dallas — 2616 Swiss Street — 821-1990

DALLAS BOOKSTORE
Lobo Book Shop—3917 Cedar Spr.—522-1132

DALLAS CHURCH Metro. Community—3834 Ross Ave.—826-0291

DALLAS CLOTHING Emporium — 3921 Cedar Springs — 528-7241 Union Jack — 3918 Cedar Springs — 528-9600

DALLAS HAIR SALONS Tonsorium — 2900 N. Henderson — 823-1410 Union Jack — 3918 Cedar Springs — 528-9600

DALLAS LOUNGES
Bayou Landing — 2609 N. Pearl — 742-3269
Bon Soir — 4527 Cole Street — 526-9432
The Brass Rail — 2513 N. Fitzhugh —
Chuck's — 3019 Haskell Street — 526-9329
Crews Inn — 3220 N. Fitzhugh — 526-9320
Crews Inn II — 3115 Live Oak St. — 824-9043

Encore — 4516 McKinney Street — 526-9328 Entre Nuit — 3116 Live Oak St. — 823-0423 Jugs — 3218 North Fitzhugh Street — 526-9283 Old Plantation — 1807 N. Harwood — 651-1988 Olive Branch — 2822 McKinney — 823-0921 One Way In — 2509 N. Fitzhugh — 824-9227 Service Station —3215 N. Fitzhugh — 526-9025 Sundance Kids — 4025 Maple St. — 526-9173 Swamp Trash—3014 Throckmorton — 526-9184 Terry's Mail Boxx — 2515 - 2517

N. Fitzhugh Avenue — 824-9126 Terry's Ranch — 4117 Mapie Street — 526-9302 T.J.'s — 3307 McKinney Street — 526-9368 Tool Box — 1804 North Harwood — 748-2054 Villa Fontana — 1315 Skiles Street — 823-0372

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DALLAS PICTURE FRAMES
Coddington — 3921 Cedar Springs — 528-7241

DALLAS PLUMBING Bill Taylor Plumbg.—5710 Marquita—826-4300

DALLAS RESORT El Rancho Vista — P.O. Box 24731, Zip 75224 DALLAS THEATRE

The Hayloft - 4100 Maple - 526-9458

EL PASO LOUNGES

Apartment — 804 Myrtle Street — 544-7175 Pet Shop — 800 E. San Antonio — 532-9721 Time Machine—207 E. San Antonio—532-0820

FORT WORTH LOUNGES

Aub's — 1308 Saint Louis Street — 927-9220 Bailey St. Wherehouse—259 Bailey — 335-0232 500 Club — 506 West Magnolia St. — 335-0692

FORT WORTH RESTAURANT Aub's — 1308 Saint Louis Street — 927-9220

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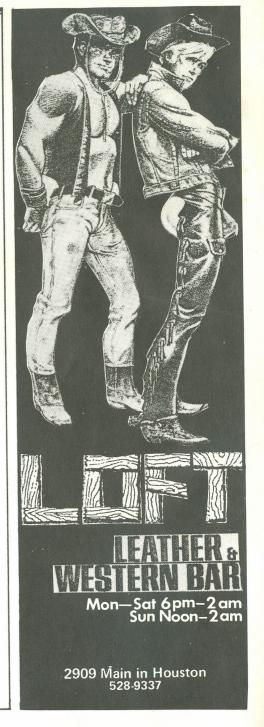
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