Sex Phone Services Still in Business
Utility Commission Issues Temporary Ruling, inside

Your GPW Logo—

Pride Committee Makes it Official News, inside

NEWS FROM THE HEALTH CRISIS
- Hormone Shows Promise of Treating Cancer, AIDS
- Catholic Dilemma: AIDS Prevention Without Condoms

A DJ & His Oldies Feature, inside

INSIDE: MORE NEWS THAN WE'VE EVER HAD!
Committee Rejects Night Gay Pride Parade

By Sheri Cohen Darbonne
Montrose Voice

Participants at the second planning meeting for what is now to be called Gay/ Lesbian Pride Week '87 decided against considering the option of holding a nighttime parade, over the enthusiastic promotion of supporters of the concept and meeting chair Ray Hill, who urged delaying the vote.

Larry Bagneris, who has been pushing the evening events idea as a way to avoid the summertime heat and revitalize the parade, said the idea was intended as "something different to stir up some excitement." Channeling the parade route into the site of another Montrose event would also keep post-parade spending in community businesses, he suggested.

Lights on parade floats would give the celebration a "whole new look" and would attract more television coverage, Bagneris stated. He said the problem of obtaining a waiver or amendment to a city ordinance prohibiting the activity could probably be resolved "quietly" in City Hall.

"There was an ordinance six years ago that said we couldn't have a parade on Westheimer at all. We managed to obtain a waiver or amendment if approved by a regular meeting," Bagneris added.

But Debbie Holmes, a member of the Montrose Symphonic Band, commented that while the band was the parade unit most likely to suffer the worst effects of the heat, performers would have difficulty seeing their music at night. Mary Walters of the Lesbian Mothers group, said security after dark posed a special problem for people with children.

Responding to questions about security during the parade, Bagneris said, "We pay taxes ... we should demand (police) protection."

Scott Clark asked what kind of protection would be available for people having to walk several blocks to their cars after the parade. Bagneris quipped that the committee would provide the same type of service that was available in previous years following rallies at Spotts Park: "Namely nothing. We can't afford it!"

Bagneris noted that Westheimer was well-lit and that there would be many people on the streets after the events. A proposal to allow those interested to investigate the possibility of a night parade was defeated by a show of hands at the well-attended meeting.

"Thank you very much," Bagneris remarked after the vote. "You've saved me a lot of work."

Regarding a festival on Pacific Street, suggested as an alternative to the Spotts Park rally, Sue Lovell noted that not all gay businesses were located there and suggested the committee arrange some sort of shuttle transportation to carry revelers to various businesses in the area. The festival discussion will be resumed at a subsequent meeting.

"Come Out and Celebrate Pride" was selected as the theme for this year's celebration after the committee viewed artist's interpretations of three different themes. The other themes incorporated in the five designs shown were "Celebrate" and "Proud and Free."

David Lozano submitted the winning logo design, incorporating two dancing figures against a lambda character and rainbow. The rainbow flag and lambda are symbols suggested by the National Conference of Gay Pride Planners to be used in pride week logos.

A motion to include the word "lesbia-n" in all future official references to the celebration week also passed by a show of hands vote. The proposal, introduced by Deborah Bell, includes a provision to alternate positioning of the words "gay" and "lesbian" each year, with this year's event to be called "Houston Gay/ Lesbian Pride Week" while next year's will be denoted "Lesbian/ Gay."

Bell, who is vice president of the state chapter of the National Organization for Women, is active in the Texas Lesbian/Gay Leadership Conference and Womynspace, and Hill were elected co-chairs of this year's pride week planning organization.

Jack Valinski was chosen as media coordinator and Lloyd Powell as outreach coordinator, both by unanimous acclamation. Selection of a parade chair was made by volunteers or suggestions. Bagneris declined nomination for the position, saying he had to be out of town too often to coordinate the parade plans this year.

The body voted to authorize Hill to spend reserve funds from last year to arrange printing logo t-shirts early, in hopes of having them available to distribute during the Houston Festival and Westheimer Colony Art Festival.

Montrose Homes Sought for Housing Program

Sheltering Arms, an organization which provides support services for the elderly, is seeking Montrose-area participants for its shared housing program, according to Annette Allen, case manager for the program.

The service, which operates in much the same way as a commercial roommate matching service, attempts to place individuals in need of an affordable living situation in private homes.

The only requirement is that one of the people in the arrangement be elderly or handicapped, Allen said.

The program has existed about 18 months, with 15 matches having been made, Allen said.

Currently, only five people are going through the placement process although about 50 homes across the city are available.

People offer space in their homes for a variety of reasons, Allen explained.

Elderly persons living alone, for example, sometimes offer space free of charge for the benefit of companionship and assistance with household chores, she said.

At the other end of the spectrum are those who are looking for a renter, who tend to ask average rates for a room or larger area in their home.

Allen said she tries to talk these people into lowering the prices.

In Montrose, both living space and people to move in are needed, Allen said.

Many people who have entered the program have expressed an interest in living here, she said.

Participants in the program are required to provide three character references and a medical statement from a doctor ascertaining their ability to care for themselves, Allen said.

A screening interview is also conducted to determine financial situation, why the person is interested and what type of person they would feel comfortable with.

After the screening, arrangements are made for participants to contact each other, Allen said.

If two agree on a living arrangement, the case manager meets with the people and draws up a contract between them.

If problems later arise with compatibility, participants are urged to contact Allen.

Sheltering Arms charges a $25 matching fee for the service, which can be waived under special circumstances, Allen said.

Sheltering Arms is a non-profit organization working primarily with the elderly and adult children of aging parents.
Hormone Shows Promise of Treating Cancer, AIDS

By Larry Doyle
UPI Special Writer

CHICAGO—A major development in the fight against cancer and AIDS may be a genetically engineered protein that cannot cause either disease but can strengthen the immune system, a scientist said this month.

“We’re very excited,” said Nicholas Plotnikoff, a neuropharmacologist with Oral Roberts University School of Medicine in Tulsa, Okla. “This drug appears to work and has no toxic side effects at all as far as we can determine, which is virtually unheard of.”

While the drug—methione enkaphalin—cannot cure either cancer or AIDS, it can enhance the body’s ability to fight the diseases and prevent infections that often accompany them, Plotnikoff said Feb. 15.

Plotnikoff discussed results of clinical trials of the hormone at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Other researchers at the protein drug symposium touted genetic engineering as providing doctors with new tools to treat tumors, heart attacks and wounds.

The development of techniques to transfer DNA into bacteria has made it relatively easy to produce enzymes, regulating factors and other proteins in large quantities, said Wolfgang Sadee, professor of pharmaceutical chemistry at the University of California at San Francisco.

“These proteins open up an entirely new approach to therapy,” he said, “and also provide novel insights into the physiological mechanisms of the major diseases of mankind.”

Plotnikoff and his colleagues have investigated a group of proteins—called prohormones because they act as precursors to the body’s major biological regulators—which interact with white blood cells to either depress or increase immune responses.

Methione enkaphalin, one such hormone, has been tested on about a dozen patients with cancer and a dozen others with AIDS-related complex, a less severe form of acquired immune deficiency syndrome that often but not always develops into the deadly disease.

“We’ve been treating the ARC patients for a year and none of them have developed any opportunistic infections and none have gone on to develop AIDS, both of which are rather surprising,” Plotnikoff said.

The results on cancer patients were less encouraging, he said, in that no significant reductions were seen in the advanced cases. But the drug did bolster the patients’ immune systems and did prevent other infections that often afflict cancer patients, such as pneumonia.

“I see this as a possible adjunct treatment for cancer patients coming off chemotherapy,” Plotnikoff said. “It could be very helpful in preventing complications.”

Plotnikoff said plans are under way to expand the testing of methione enkaphalin on ARC-patients.

Ideally, he said, the drug would be tested in conjunction with an anti-viral agent such as the experimental AZT, which reduces spread of the disease but does not restore immune function.
Gay Bars in El Paso Sought for Testing

By Ken Flynn
EL PASO, Texas (UPI)—An after-hours testing program for AIDS antibodies, to be conducted at gay bars, will begin “hopefully in the next few months,” a public health official said Feb. 19.

Dr. Laurance Nickey, director of the City-County Health Unit, said health officials are negotiating with owners of gay bars to permit the voluntary tests to prevent spread of the disease.

He said the high-risk group, gay men, are reluctant to use public health facilities during regular hours for fear of being labeled as homosexual carriers of AIDS.

He said off-site, after-hours testing is already being conducted to protect the anonymity of persons suspected of carrying the disease.

Tony Bengert, AIDS counselor for the health unit, said the tests are being held “in an informal atmosphere, where homosexuals feel more at home.”

Nickey said the testing is part of “our tracking the disease and educating the public.” He said health officials are “actively pursuing” agreements with gay bar owners “and are getting their cooperation.”

“We will begin the testing program at the bars just as soon as we both understand what our responsibilities are,” Nickey said. “We are trying to get the word out to everyone so they understand the health significance of this dreaded disease.”

Bengert said the tests are voluntary, anonymous, and cost about $10 for those who can pay, adding that no one will be turned away if they cannot afford the fee.

Dr. Earl W. Gorby said there are 13 confirmed cases of AIDS in the El Paso metropolitan area, and an estimated 800 to 1000 carriers of the disease.

Bengert said the Old Plantation, a gay disco bar in its 10th year of operation, has offered its performers’ dressing rooms for the testing. Bengert said the testing in gay bars will be effective because the high-risk group will feel more comfortable in its own environment.

Health officials in El Paso have conducted counseling and testing nights at a predominantly gay and lesbian non-denominational church and at a county health center, Bengert said.

Bob Bonaventure, owner of the Old Plantation, said the disco attracts 500 customers on a busy night. As of Feb. 2, a total of 30,966 cases of the fatal disease have been diagnosed, according to national statistics. More than half those victims—17,338—have died. About 70 percent of the disease’s victims have been homosexual and bisexual men.

Health officials estimated 2 percent of the area’s total population was infected with AIDS last April, and in 10 months, that rate has doubled to 4 percent, Gorby said.

Trinidad Lists AIDS Cases

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad (UPI)—Deaths from acquired immune deficiency syndrome rose from eight in 1983 to 149 at the end of January this year, medical officials said.

Dr. Briam Mahabir, director of the Caribbean Medical Center, said about 75 percent of the cases were gay men. He said 12 percent were women.

Mahabir, in a speech to the Lions Club on Sunday, also warned that the incidence of venereal disease normally rises following carnival celebrations. The pre-Lenten festivities will take place in coming weeks.

February is Gay and Lesbian Media Awareness Month—Sponsored by the Media Fund for Human Rights and the Gay and Lesbian Press Association.
Ram Dass: 60s Drug Guru Now AIDS Worker

By Sheri Cohen Darbonne
Montrose Voice

Ram Dass, a former Harvard University psychology professor who gained notoriety in the 1960’s for experimenting with psychedelic chemicals including LSD and psilocybin, says now he has reached a true connection with consciousness in his current commitment to human service.

Dass said his involvement with AIDS grew partly out of his previous work with people who are dying and partly out of more personal experiences, including the loss of friends. His approach to dealing with the disease’s progression is different than the attitude encountered by AIDS victims in a hospital or hospice environment because of how the person is perceived, Dass claims.

"It's a contextual matter of the way one sees another person," Dass explained. "In a hospital or medical environment, what is seen is the body, whereas in a hospice, the focus is on the personality. The attitude there is 'It's too bad you're dying.' What I am more interested in is the spiritual," he said.

Through involvement with the spirit, a person can reach an acceptance of dying and consciously approach the situation, Dass suggested. He said his program encourages spiritual advancement through meditative practices.

Meditation can be learned by anyone with a desire to do so, Dass asserted, noting that the practice takes many forms in application to different life styles. Hatha Yoga and even jogging can be considered meditative experiences, he said.

Dass' living-dying project developed from an awareness of a philosophy found in many religions that one cannot be born without first dying, and the fact that man's deepest fear is that of losing his mind.

"I wanted to create a space for people who are dying, and for other people who want to be around," he said.

Dass describes the sequence that led to his first experience of being connected with his own mind was when he tried the drug psilocybin during his research at Harvard.

"When you experience something like that, you have a tendency to keep trying," he explained. After trying to stabilize the experience for over five years, Dass said he realized the chemicals alone would not do that.

Testimony in books of similar experiences led him to India, where he met his "guru" (spiritual teacher), Neem Karoli Baba, under whom he studied Ahsa-tanga Yoga, meditation and a variety of eastern spiritual practices. During this time he received his name, which means "servant of God.

Dass said he interprets his "servant to master" devotion to duty through service to mankind. In 1974, Dass created the Hanuman Foundation, which developed the living-dying project known as "the Ashram Project," designed to help prison inmates grow spiritually and consciously during their incarceration.

Dass is presently chairman of the Seva Foundation, a non-profit organization which provides health and ecological services in developing countries. Seva's primary current activity is support of the Nepal Blindness Program and Avarind Eye Hospital in Madurai, India.

Health Care Firm Buys City Block in Montrose

Healthcare Associates Inc., a firm which previously did marketing and public relations for local health care professionals, has purchased an entire city block in Montrose, where it plans to operate a residential rehabilitation center for adolescents and young adults.

"Live Oaks Treatment Center," for young people with drug, alcohol or emotional problems, will be the company’s first treatment facility, according to Stan Riley, the center's chief executive officer.

The company entered into a limited partnership with 40 private investors, mostly health care professionals, to purchase the property.

The block, bounded by Yoakum, Mt. Vernon, Bissonnet and Bertha Streets, was purchased from Psychiatric Associates of Houston Inc. for $1,000,007, Riley said.

Five buildings on the site previously housed professional offices, many of which will remain at the same location; an art gallery and a vacant apartment complex.

Riley said $700,000 in renovations to the existing buildings is planned before the facility's scheduled opening in July.

The Berthea Gardens Apartments will be converted into the patient residence, he said.

No new construction is planned. Live Oaks will probably employ 20-30 full-time staff persons or the equivalent in full and part-time positions, Riley noted.

FEBRUARY 27, 1987 / MONTROSE VOICE

Ram Dass, now involved in AIDS work

The project began with a telephone line. The "dying centers" were established in Santa Fe, N.M., and Marin County, Calif. Dass began working with AIDS patients and volunteers last year, and says he hopes to open a house for AIDS patients next year.

Dass, who is bisexual, said his own experience heightened his interest in the disease. Awareness of AIDS has changed his sexual practices and has made him more sympathetic to the pain of others, he said.

The loss of people involved in his project draws mixed feelings, Dass said.

"My human heart hurts like hell," he admitted. But another, intuitive part of him understands the balance in the workings of the universe, he added.

And, although Dass claims he has not used drugs intravenously and that his sexual practices were not those considered to have the highest risk, he reasons "open to the possibility" he could be stricken with AIDS himself.

"It's hard, hypothetically, to know how you would react," Dass responded when asked how he would accept the news. However, he said, "I feel prepared.""Facing death would be "another challenge," he added.

Born Richard Alpert in 1931, Dass received an M.A. from Wesleyan University and a Ph.D from Stanford, and served on the psychology faculties at Stanford and the University of Califomia. From 1958-1963 he taught and researched in the department of social relations and graduate school of education at Stanford.

Aldous Huxley and others to study of the workings of the universe, he added. "It's my deepest fear is that of losing his mind.

"I wanted to create a space for people who are dying, and for other people who want to be around," he said.

"I was teaching from the outside in," he said of his earlier work in the universities. "I felt I wasn't being touched inside, and kept wondering, why can't I find happiness, and peace?"

Dass said his first experience of being connected with his own mind was when he tried the drug psilocybin during his research at Harvard.

"When you experience something like that, you have a tendency to keep trying," he explained. After trying to stabilize the experience for over five years, Dass said he realized the chemicals alone would not do that.

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AIDS Conference Endorses Voluntary Tests

By Charles S. Taylor

ATLANTA (UPI)—A two-day national conference on acquired immune deficiency syndrome ended with a strong endorsement for the expansion of AIDS tests, but stressed they should be voluntary, confidential and accompanied by counseling.

The conference, convened by the federal Centers for Disease Control, recommended nearly unanimously Wednesday that AIDS blood tests and counseling be made available at drug treatment centers, family planning offices and venereal disease clinics.

The meeting also called for encouraging pregnant women and the spouses and sexual partners of intravenous drug users to undergo screening for the deadly virus. Further, the conference recommended the federal government provide more money for increased access to AIDS tests.

But the conference strongly ruled out as legally and ethically wrong proposals for mandatory testing, such as for newly admitted hospital patients, pregnant women seeking prenatal care and marriage license applicants.

The CDC stirred sharp criticism from gay rights groups when it disclosed last month that it was considering recommending more widespread compulsory AIDS testing.

The test works by detecting antibodies to the AIDS virus, indicating a person has been infected with the virus but has not necessarily developed the disease or its symptoms.

The conference, which opened Tuesday, was called to discuss prospects for more widespread AIDS tests as a way to combat the spread of the virus. The meeting drew state and local health experts and representatives of gay rights groups, hospitals and AIDS patients from around the country.

"It is my understanding of the recommendations that there is no support for mandatory testing, but much support for routine and voluntary testing," said Dr. Walter Dowdle of the CDC.

"We found a consensus there should be increasing support for voluntary antibody testing as an adjunct to counseling. We found a consensus that there should be increased federal support."

Germans Favor General Tests

HAMBURG, West Germany (UPI)—Seventy percent of West Germans favor regular tests for AIDS for everyone from prostitutes to the federal chancellor, it was reported.

The daily Bild Zeitung newspaper said Wednesday results of a national public opinion survey showed that seven out of every 10 people questioned in a representative sample of 1,000 West Germans advocated widespread testing.

The results of the survey by Hamburg's Society for the Empirical Social Research were made public by the newspaper the day after a West German doctors' organization said it would refuse to participate in a mandatory reporting system proposed by the state of Bavaria.

The federal government has decided against mandatory registration of people infected with acquired immune deficiency syndrome and instead plans to begin an anti-AIDS public education program.

Bavarian officials said Wednesday they planned to go ahead with AIDS testing for all applicants for public jobs as well as inmates in jails and prisons.

said Dr. William J. Curran, professor of legal medicine at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Dr. Robert J. Levine of the Yale School of Medicine said "there is a need for protection of confidentiality" and laws should be passed to bar housing and job discrimination on the basis of AIDS test results.

The CDC says 30,632 cases of AIDS were reported in the United States as of Feb. 9, of which 17,562 resulted in death. It projects 270,000 AIDS cases and 179,000 deaths by 1991.

The final conference meeting was interrupted by a gay rights group called "The Lavender Hill Mob" shouting: "Where is the funding. Where is ribavirin (a drug that has shown promise in AIDS treatment)."

Later, gay rights activists said they thought the conference responded to their pleas for federal funding and tests against mandatory testing.

"We came here fearing our voices would be ignored, but our voices were heard loud and clear," said Ursashi Vaid of New York, a spokeswoman for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

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The Coroner Who Took on Hollywood

By Kathleen Neumeyer

INDIO, Calif. (UPI)—When Liberace died Feb. 4 and the people who worked for him insisted he had succumbed to something other than AIDS, they didn’t count on Raymond Carrillo.

Among physicians a debate is under way over whether a patient is entitled to keep embarrassing health problems secret or if the threat to public safety outweighs individual rights.

But no such question distracted Carrillo when Liberace died and Carrillo’s office was asked to certify by telephone a death certificate citing heart disease and a brain disorder as the cause of death.

What did concern Carrillo, a portly moon-faced businessman elected in November after promising to rid the coroner’s office of corruption, was determining the exact cause of death.

“They were trying to pull a fast one on the Riverside County coroner’s office,” said the 56-year-old Carrillo. “I think they were trying to pull something they thought they could get away with.”

Born in Arizona and raised since infancy in this once-sleepy and now booming desert town 40 miles from the more well-heeled resort community of Palm Springs, Carrillo spent 10 years as a sheriff’s deputy and 14 as a deputy coroner before running for the top job last year.

His predecessor, William Dykes, was retiring and Carrillo’s major opponent was chief deputy coroner Carl B. Smith. But a grand jury, looking into charges that unlicensed embalmers had been working in the coroner’s office, indicted Smith on perjury charges, and by the time of the June primary, Smith was a convicted felon.

Campaigning on a promise to clean up corruption in the coroner’s office, Carrillo came in first in the election over Smith but did not get a majority.

Carrillo asked the county to declare him the winner. He lost that battle but was more successful in the November runoff, where he won by a margin of 300 votes over the No. 3 vote-getter, Mickey Whorton, in the June primary.

Because many celebrities maintain vacation and retirement homes in the Palm Springs and adjacent Rancho Mirage area of Riverside County, the post made Carrillo a kind of new coroner to the stars—a title once used to describe ex-Los Angeles Palm Springs coroner’s office in Riverside County, which has a large Hispanic population, Carrillo operates a popular Mexican restaurant.

He is not a physician. and studies shows that confessions on Liberace’s death he referred to aides on medical questions.

Carrillo, who bristles at suggestions he tried to turn the autopsy into a media circus, was testy when asked repeatedly why he had called for the investigation into Liberace’s death.

“I would be remiss in my duty if I didn’t,” he said, adding that he had an obligation to investigate deaths that are not attended by physicians and those suspected of involving communicable diseases.

Daniels, who had a paid house call on Liberace the day before he died, arrived at the entertainer’s residence shortly after 2:00 p.m. on Feb. 4 and pronounced him dead at 2:05 p.m.

There has been speculation Liberace had been dead for some time before Daniels arrived because the hearse, sent from Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills, a good two-hour drive away, pulled up only a short time later.

After the autopsy, Daniels’ attorney said the physician suspected Liberace might have suffered from AIDS but had no proof and deferred to the wishes of the entertainer and his family.

Carrillo inquired about listing AIDS as a cause of death.

“Given the highly charged nature of the acronym of AIDS, one has to be careful with what one does with the living as well as with the dead in a society that treats that word as a pariah,” said attorney William Ginsburg.

“It is even more irresponsible to list someone’s death as AIDS if you’re not sure.”

Dr. Arthur Caplan, a medical ethicist at the Hastings Center at Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., a research center involved in questions of medical ethics, said he found Daniels’ self-defense “dishonest.” He said that “all the physician has to do is to do a blood test.”

Caplan said a debate is under way in the medical community over the varying weights to give to a patient’s right to die in privacy and to keep his medical problems to himself, and the greater harm to society from a communicable disease such as AIDS.

He noted the “longstanding tradition that a doctor has a moral obligation to respect the patient’s wishes about who knows about his disease, and that includes spouses, lovers, friends and the news media.”

Caplan said doctors fear that if patients believe a doctor cannot be trusted to keep his medical secrets confidential, they may well discourage others, out of a fear of stigma, from getting medical help. They will choose to die at home.

“What it boils down to is that a communicable venereal disease, a sexually transmitted disease like AIDS, is a strong enough threat to the public health to compel disclosure.”

While Caplan believes the need to track an epidemic makes mandatory reporting of communicable diseases essential, he questions whether the media absolutely needs to report causes of death.

“In cases like syphilis, cancer and suicide, we have always tolerated some obfuscation in obituaries,” he said. “The public hasn’t risen up and begged to be told the truth.”
What Discovery of AIDS-Like Virus in Cats Means for Felines

By Russell Snyder

DAVIS, Calif. (UP)—A feline form of AIDS may have been killing cats for thousands of years, University of California researchers say.

The scientists have discovered that an AIDS-like virus called feline T-lymphotropic Lentivirus, or FTLV, causes a disease similar to AIDS in cats.

Symptoms include a weakened immune system, swollen lymph glands and a variety of infections that usually lead to death.

Although the FTLV virus is related to the human AIDS virus, scientists say it is genetically different and does not infect people. Nor is there any evidence that cats get the virus from humans.

"We believe this virus existed in cats for many years, perhaps thousands of years," said Dr. Niels Pedersen, a professor of veterinary medicine who is spearheading the university's research into FTLV.

"What we have is the isolation of a cat form of human AIDS," he said.

There are an estimated 40 million to 50 million cats living in the United States and officials at UC Davis are bracing for a flood of anxious inquiries from pet owners who want to know more about the malady.

Pedersen encouraged pet owners who think their cats are exhibiting FTLV symptoms to have the animals examined by veterinarians. The Davis campus is preparing brochures to help veterinarians diagnose the subject and is planning to publish articles on the subject in trade journals.

Veterinarians are encouraged, in turn, to contact the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine for more information.

"We did not want people to go out and destroy their cats," Pedersen said during a news briefing.

The disease was first noticed by Marie Brown of the Petaluma Veterinary Hospital in 1982 among 43 former stray cats that had been taken in by a Petaluma resident.

A new kitten added to the group began having bouts of diarrhea, developed a persistent cold and an eye infection and later aborted a litter of kittens.

In the third year, the cat became enigmatic, thin and began behaving strangely, roaming compulsively and moving her mouth and tongue. Eventually, she died.

Other cats who shared the same quarters began developing the same syndrome.

Researchers concluded that cats living in close contact with many other cats are more likely to contract FTLV than a house cat that rarely goes outside.

Random tests found, for example, that about 5 percent of cats tested in the San Francisco area had the FTLV virus. Only 1 percent of farm cats may have the virus, Pedersen said, while the prevalence in feral cats is below 1 percent for cats that are kept inside New York City apartments. He said it is too early to determine how many cats nationwide have the FTLV virus.

So far, researchers have found no evidence that FTLV is transmitted through feline intercourse. Sexual contact is a primary route of AIDS transmission in humans.

"We know the virus is present in the saliva in the cat," Pedersen said. "It could be transmitted through a bite or through mutual grooming. There is a great deal of saliva on the hair."

It is hoped discovery of the virus will help in human AIDS research as well as eliminating a cause of disease for the nation's most popular pet.

"The virus, although it's in the same family as the human AIDS virus and has a lot of very close similarities, is distinctly cat. We have no evidence of transmission for anything but cat-to-cat," said Pedersen. Although the AIDS-like disease is probably fatal to a cat, immunologist Janet Yamamoto urged people not to kill off their pets if they show signs of an immunodeficiency disease.

She said once word gets around about the virus, veterinarians will be able to diagnose the disease and may be able to treat some symptoms.

"Please consult your vet before you do anything drastic to your cat," she said. Pedersen said the team was contacting laboratories elsewhere in the United States, in Europe and in Japan to find out how widespread the virus is.

A problem in AIDS research has been that there is no way to cause the disease in laboratory animals for testing of treatments and vaccines. Two viruses can cause AIDS-like symptoms in chimpanzees, but these are somewhat different from human AIDS.

Yamamoto and colleagues said the cat syndrome might be an easier model to work with because cats are cheaper than chimps and because the disease appears to mimic human AIDS more closely.

It may also be a major cause of disease in cats, although this is too early to tell, she said. Some cats with feline leukemia also had immunodeficiencies falsely blamed on the leukemia virus.

The cat virus did not infect human cells when mixed in lab dishes, and did not react with AIDS virus antibodies from AIDS patients, Yamamoto said.

Haughton Sounds Alarm for Heterosexuals

HOUSTON (UP)—Two new AIDS cases transmitted from infected men to heterosexual women should alert Houston's general population about the dangers of casual sex, the city health director says.

The city's 10 heterosexually transmitted AIDS cases account for less than 1 percent of the total in the area.

But Dr. James Haughton said the cases "establish for the citizens of Houston that it can happen here too. It's not just a gay disease as the people of this city seem to think."

He advocated an end to "high-risk" behaviors that increase the likelihood of exposure to the virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

"By high-risk behavior, I mean indiscriminate sexual activity, or at least sexual activity outside of marriage or with people you don't know well enough to feel secure about, doing drugs and especially doing drugs in circumstances where you are sharing needles with someone else, and for men, having sexual relationships with prostitutes."

The two new cases of heterosexually transmitted AIDS occurred in women aged 24 and 34. They are still living.

The epidemiology department reported a total of 1,054 cases in the Houston area, up from the 965 reported the month before.

Liberace Estate Going in Trust

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (UPI)—The estate of Liberace will be placed in a trust to benefit the performer's foundation, providing scholarships to music students across the nation, according to a will filed in court.

The five-page will, dated Jan. 22 and filed with the Clark County Clerk's office several days after Liberace's death on Feb. 4, places his entire estate in "The Liberace Revocable Trust."

Joel R. Strote, the performer's lawyer, was named to continue as trustee of the trust and Liberace requested that his accountant, Frank DiBella, oversee the funds.

Liberace's estate is believed to be worth millions of dollars. The will did not provide a breakdown of Liberace's assets, but the performer asked that all his business enterprises continue in operation.

The businesses include the Tivoli Gardens Restaurant and the Liberace Museum, both in Las Vegas.

Proceeds from the museum have been used to fund the 8-year-old Liberace Foundation, which provides scholarships to music students at 22 colleges and universities nationwide.

Strote said funds generated from the trust will go to the foundation and its work.

Seymour Heller, Liberace's personal manager for the past 36 years, said Saturday the Liberace Foundation has been providing scholarship money for the past four years, including $220,000 last year.

"We hope to do more and hope to continue providing scholarships forever in Liberace's name," said Heller, a member of the foundation board that meets once a year.

After Liberace's death, his family requested donations to the foundation in lieu of flowers, and Heller said, "The response has been heart-warming."
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Wendall Zurkowski: Slave to the waffle light

Roy and Stephen form the letter ‘K’.

Raymond plays another dirty trick on Max.

Raymond: Raymond plays another dirty trick on Max.

Oh, terrific! What are we supposed to do now?!

Tedd inadvertent cry of “Timber!” alerts the lumber warden....
Dionne Warwick Still at Peak of Her Form

By John Swenson

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—"That's What Friends Are For," a benefit song for AIDS research featuring Dionne Warwick, Stevie Wonder, Elton John and Gladys Knight, won two Grammys Tuesday night.

The tune, which has raised $750,000 for AIDS research, was named song of the year and also won a Grammy for best pop performance by a duo or group with vocals.

It also marked the reunion of Warwick and Burt Bacharach, who co-wrote the song with Carole Bayer Sager and who helped launch Warwick's career 25 years ago.

Warwick, 45, grew up in a family of gospel singers singing at local New Jersey venues in a family group called the Drinkard Singers. After studying at Hartt College of Music in Hartford, Conn., Warwick was signed to a deal by Scepter Records in 1962 to sing songs written by the team of Burt Bacharach and Hal David.

Their first collaboration, "Don't Make Me Over," hit No. 21 on the pop charts. In 1965 the team had their first major hit with "Anyone Who Had a Heart," a Top 10 single. "Walk On By" reached No. 6 in 1964.

Other hits followed: "You'll Never Get to Heaven," (1964); "I Just Don't Know What to Do with Myself" and "Message to Michael" (1965); "I Say a Little Prayer" and "Alfie" (1967).

Warwick climaxied her late '60s triumphs singing Bacharach-David compositions with "Do You Know the Way to San Jose," "Valley of the Dolls," "This Girl's in Love with You" and "I'll Never Fall in Love Again" before leaving for another record company and production team.

In 1974 Warwick combined with the Spinners on the No. 1 hit "Then Came You," followed by the Top 5 "Once You Hit the Road" in 1975. Warwick scored another Top 5 hit in 1979 with "I'll Never Love This Way Again."

In the early '80s Warwick worked with Barry Gibb of the Bee Gees on the "Heartbreaker" album, from which the title track and "Take the Short Way Home" became hits.

The song "That's What Friends Are For" has raised $750,000 for AIDS research.

Sager said she hoped it would raise even more now that it has won two Grammys. The money is channeled through the American Foundation for AIDS research, which is chaired by Elizabeth Taylor.

"Every time that song is played, maybe it calls more attention to it (AIDS) and maybe someone will give some money," Bacharach said.

Sager said she wants everyone to know that AIDS "attacks everyone, is not a homosexual disease. It's a disease of our time. There's no cure and everyone dies. It's horrible."

Romancing the Rock'n Rollers

By John Swenson

NEW YORK (UPI)—The erotic and sometimes abusive experiences of young women "groupies" on the rock tour trail is described in a current MTV series designed to give the music video channel's audience a wider range of programs.

The documentary covers sexual exploits between male rock musicians and young women enthralled with the idea of having sex with the stars.

"I'd do anything," was the refrain of swarming youngsters outside stage doors and concerts across the country.

"We're trying to broaden our audience," said Doug Herzog, MTV vice president of music news and special projects. "It's an attempt to reach as many people as possible. I think this is a subject that is of interest not just to the heavy MTV viewer but to the casual viewer because it sounds interesting and controversial."

Shown in its entirety last weekend, the program is a dramatic switch away from the teen-oriented music videos that have been the cable television network's staple during its five-year history.

"The show tells you about what the backstage scene at rock concerts is about," Herzog said.

Producers Barbara Kanowitz and Debbie Liebling tell the viewer a lot more than what goes on backstage, though. Interviews with well-known groupies over the years and rock stars who have known them build a steamy picture of love on the run.

"I wanted to smell them," says groupie Miss Pamela. "I wanted to feel the shirt off (Jimmy Page's) dripping wet body and hold it against my face."

Veteran rocker Carmine Appice admits that musicians on the road get lonely and groupies help stave off the boredom of touring.

Appice talks during the program about one of the most notorious groupie episodes, a bondage party at a Seattle waterside hotel where guests, including Led Zeppelin and Vanilla Fudge, could fish from balconies.

"The most disgusting thing I've ever seen in my life," Appice said of the affair. "They abused this woman with a mudshark."

Frank Zappa later wrote a satirical rock operaetta about the incident starring vocalists Mark Volman and Howard Kaylan. Part of this music is used as the documentary's theme song.

Zappa, who describes the groupie-rock star relationship as "corny," seems amused by the whole phenomenon.

"The fantasies that guys in bands have—many of them are really incredibly stupid," Zappa said. "They're not going to realize how stupid they are until years after they've gone through the experience. They're not out there looking for the girl they're going to marry; they're looking for a specimen."

Vince Neil of Motley Crue illustrates Zappa's point by making a series of lurid sexist observations about groupies before admitting, "If I had a little girl I wouldn't want my girl at any rock concert. I wouldn't let her know I was in a band."
‘Hoosiers’ Scores Winning Points

Review by Bill O'Rourke
Montrose Voice

[Hoosiers]

‘Hoosiers’ tells a tale about the 1951-52 high school basketball season. The time period is significant. This is not one of your modern sports movies—all glitz and predictability.

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Incumbent senator Tom Stewart (Nicholas Pryor) and wife Nancy (Lynn Redgrave) pose alongside a cardboard cut-out while awaiting the arrival of their son Morgan to complete their desired ‘family’ image in ‘Morgan Stewart’s Homecoming.”

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Looking for the Last Honest Man

The Innocent Bystander
By Arthur Hoppe

I was staring moodily at the typewriter when the door opened and an elderly bearded gentleman in a white robe shuffled in.

"You don't happen to be a muse, do you?" I asked hopefully.

"No, my name is Diogenes," he said, holding up a lantern as he peered around. "I'm looking for an honest man.

"And I'm looking for a column idea," I said. "What I need is a pithy chunk of eternal wisdom that captures the essence of humanity and the meaning of life. But it isn't easy day after day."

"You should try finding an honest man," he said with a weary sigh. "I went to Washington." He eyed me speculatively.

"You went to Washington?" I asked, holding up a lantern for a column.

"It's the center of the free world, the capital of history's greatest democracy and the heart of a nation that believes in truth, justice, and honor," he said. "That's absolutely true," I said. "And when I arrived at the White House, there was a handsome, clean-cut Marine Corps colonel just coming out. I couldn't help but ask if he was an honest man. Do you know what he said?"

I took a guess. "I refuse to answer on the grounds that anything I say may tend to incriminate or degrade me?"

Diogenes looked surprised. "How did you know?" he said. "So I told the guard at the gate that I wanted to take my search for an honest man from the littlest child in the land all the way up to the president of the United States. He tried to have me arrested as some kind of nut. That's when I went to New York."

"New York?" I said. "You didn't visit Wall Street?"

"Where else could I find the pillars of the financial community and the leaders of the free enterprise system that made this country great?" he said. "Did you know that if Glutco merges with Consolidated Hams, Bismol Southern will be selling for 46 times earnings?"

"Huah," I said nervously. "You could get arrested." "You don't want any insider information?" he asked. "I don't have any stocks or any money," I said.

"What about a top job in the White House running guns to terrorists or covertly funding revolutionaries?"

"I've got enough troubles already," I said.

He eyed me speculatively. "I may not have to go to Pago Pago after all," he said, shaking my hand. "I've always believed that honesty pays—as long as cheating won't get you anywhere. And you, sir, have the makings of an honest man."

"Hey!" I said. "That's a great epigram: 'Honesty Pays—as long as cheating won't get you anywhere. I can make a whole column out of that.'"

Diogenes looked pleased. "And you'll give me full credit?"

"Not," I said turning to my typewriter, "unless you can beat me into print."

He gave forth another sigh even harder with every passing millennium. "What brings you here?"

"I'm on my way to Pago Pago," he said. "An honest man was reported seen there as recently as last Shrove Tuesday. I shouldn't have wasted so much time in Washington."

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Catholics in a Dilemma: AIDS Prevention but no Condoms

By Patricia McCormack

NEW YORK (UPI)—Roman Catholic educators are gearing up their own programs to combat the spread of AIDS, but church doctrine has stripped them of what many scientists say is the most effective weapon short of sexual abstinence—condoms.

"Clearly, we are not in favor of condoms," Sister Joy Clough, R.S.M., media coordinator for the archdiocese of Chicago, told United Press International. The archdiocese runs the largest Catholic school system in the world with 175,000 students.

Sister Clough said that while the Chicago archdiocese does not yet have an AIDS education program in place, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin "is very concerned about AIDS, and he has mandated that AIDS instruction take place in our schools and in religious education programs."

"At the same time," Sister Clough said, Bernardin "does not see condoms as the answer to the AIDS crisis." Bernardin, himself, recently criticized the use of condom advertisements on television.

"I am opposed ... because I cannot support advertising whose immediate aim is good—the prevention of disease—but which implicitly and explicitly condemns promiscuity, questions the normalness of heterosexual marriage as the proper context for sexual intimacy or artificially separates the love-making and life-making dimensions of marital intimacy," he said.

Therein lies the church’s dilemma. U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop has publicly stated that next to abstinence, condoms offer the greatest protection against the spread of acquired immune deficiency syndrome, the fatal disease that destroys the body’s immune system. Koop advocates AIDS education programs—beginning in elementary school—that include the use of condoms.

But longstanding Roman Catholic teaching has condemned the use of artificial birth control methods, including condom use by a school system in the United States that educates 2.8 million youngsters a year, teaches that any sexual activity outside of marriage is sinful.

In general, church leaders across the nation agree with Bernardin.

"Speaking as an individual, I would say that in a Catholic school context I don’t see how one can advocate use of a birth control device—condoms—as a mean of preventing AIDS," said the Rev. Stephen O’Brien, executive director of the National Catholic Education Association’s office of administrators of Catholic education.

"In a Catholic school setting, you wouldn’t have a health class on avoiding venereal disease, for example, outside a religious education context. The whole morality of sexuality is involved. The ideal is that sex is for marriage."

"We believe that we can say with some assurance that students in Catholic schools throughout the country are taught the church’s position on human sexuality," said Sister Catherine McNamee, president of the Washington, D.C.-based National Catholic Education Association.

"Regarding the specific issue of AIDS, it seems important that students be taught that this is a very serious, usually fatal disease. The Catholic schools also should make a special effort to witness Gospel values in order to conquer the prejudice arising with the AIDS epidemic and encourage both students and parents to exercise Christian compassion toward victims of the disease and their families."

A recent survey by the weekly publication, National Catholic Reporter, said that among “significant” Catholic school systems in the United States, only Oakland, Calif., plans to discuss condoms in AIDS education programs.

Sister Rosemary Hennessy, schools superintendent for the Oakland system, said she felt condoms and other issues AIDS raises, were necessary topics of discussion.

“If we’re afraid to talk about condoms and all the other issues AIDS raises, then we’re really missing it,” Sister Hennessey said. "In the meantime, people are dying.”

Pope to Face Gay Scorn in his U.S. Tour

By Paula Butturini

VATICAN CITY (UPI)—Pope John Paul II will face a gay community on his tour of the United States this September.

Some church officials fear trouble when the pope stops in San Francisco, where the large and militant gay community is outraged over the Vatican view of homosexuality as a “moral evil.”

The city is widely viewed as the riskiest stop on the pontiff’s tour of the United States featuring significant anti-pope demonstrations similar to protests that marred his 1985 trip to the Netherlands. San Francisco’s gay community remains angry over the Vatican’s Oct. 30, 1986, document on homosexuality, which bluntly calls homosexual behavior “an intrinsic moral evil,” “self-indulgent,” and “disordered.”

The city originally was the final stop on the pope’s trip, but church officials added Detroit to the schedule when fears arose about San Francisco.

“They probably decided it might not be a good idea to risk ending the trip on a sour note,” said one Vatican source.

Another church source said Detroit’s 800,000 Polish-Americans, who are predominantly Catholic, might be a welcome sight to the pontiff “after seeing San Francisco.”

A scheduled meeting with nuns and priests in San Francisco also could produce some fireworks like the pope’s 1979 meeting with 5,000 nuns in Washington, D.C., when Sister Theresa Kane, one of the country’s leading nuns, confronted the pontiff with a request that he consider women for the priesthood.

The pope, a firm opponent of the idea, instead called on the church to be selfless in their service to the church and to return to wearing traditional habits.

Also in California, the pope faces dissent over Vatican pressure on Jesuit Terrance Sweeney to suppress results of a poll of U.S. bishops that expressed disagreement on priestly celibacy and female priests.

Another source of controversy exists in Seattle, where Vatican officials forced Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen to relinquish part of his authority to a church auxiliary. The Vatican was concerned that Hunthausen was too liberal in granting marriage annulments and, among other things, allowed a group of gay and lesbian Catholics to celebrate mass in his cathedral.

Trouble also has arisen over stripping the Rev. Charles Curran of his right to teach theology at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Curran raised Vatican ire for some of his views on homosexuality, premarital sex, birth control and divorce.

Dismissing two U.S. nuns for signing a 1984 ad in The New York Times saying the church’s ban on abortion is “not the only Catholic position” also has strained relations between Rome and the American church.

In each case, Vatican sources say, the pope has been especially disturbed by what he views as a lack of U.S. obedience to central church authority.

U.S. critics are unsure about Vatican efforts to impose a stricter orthodoxy stifle theological creativity and amount to intimidation.

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In Montrose, Nearly Everyone Reads the Voice
Activity Center Seeking Proposals for Building

By Sheri Cohen Darbonne
Montrose Voice

Members of the board of Montrose Activity Center are considering leasing a building for use as a community center, and have submitted a request for proposals to several leasing agents and building owners in the area, board member Dwayne Wells announced at a public meeting Monday, Feb. 23.

**Arson Suspects May Be Linked to Other Blazes**

Two suspects are presently being held in Harris County Jail in recent arson cases involving vacant buildings in the 200 block of Westheimer.

Both are being questioned about other Montrose fires, investigators reported.

In the most recent fire, William James Johnson, described by arson investigators as a neighborhood vagrant, was arrested Monday, Feb. 23 shortly after he allegedly started the blaze at 127 Westheimer.

Johnson is believed to be involved in other arsons, Investigator David Fuller said.

Fuller said Johnson, 20, had been picked up for questioning in connection with past arson cases and has been seen at the scene of several Montrose fires.

He is connected with the Westheimer fires due to six arsons "right in a row," involving abandoned buildings on lower Westheimer, he said.

The majority of these fires are believed to have been set by transients, Fuller said.

Neighbors and witnesses indicated Monday's fire was the result of a "territorial dispute" among vagrants in the area, he added.

Meanwhile, arson investigators are still trying to determine if a man suspected of starting a recent fire that destroyed a house 233 Westheimer is also responsible for any other fires.

Butch Lewis of the HPD central arson division said 28-year-old Robert Eubanks, who used the alias Roger Novice, confessed to setting two other Westheimer fires, but investigators aren't sure how reliable his information is or which fires, if any, he may be connected with.

"We're trying to backtrack on everything he's told us," Lewis said.

Eubanks allegedly told investigators C.A. Russo and Buddy Cox, who interviewed him Sunday, Feb. 15, after Eubanks called HPD to confess to the Feb. 9 arson, that he had set several other fires in the area.

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Wells said the board decided to pursue the option of leasing after concluding it might not be possible to raise the money needed for a down payment on the outright purchase of a building under current economic conditions.

MAC had previously announced a preferred plan to buy a facility.

Wells noted that conditions are presently favorable for renters, and that the board will be especially seeking lease proposals carrying an option to purchase in the future.

"Purchasing is still our long-term goal,” he said.

The request specifies lease space of 10,600 square feet net usable area, with a desired expansion option of 3000 additional square feet.

It also asks that the lessor bear the cost of building the space out to fit the needs of non-profit organizations subletting space, as well as providing utilities and janitorial service.

Because two key Montrose non-profit groups, the Montrose Clinic and Montrose Counseling Center, have agreed to move into the center, providing their conditions are met, specific modifications tailored to their needs are included in the proposal, Wells said.

A clause is included in the request allowing for evaluation of individual provisions that cannot be met by a potential landlord.

"This is our ideal, but we're not limiting ourselves to anything," Wells explained.

Proposals will be received until March 20.

Wells said the board expects 6-10 "bona fide" proposals.

An earlier projection of the center providing rental space to local organizations for as little as 50 cents per square foot may now be "unrealistic," Wells said.

Geb Branda suggested that allowing lessees to absorb the cost of building out their own spaces would help to keep the rental costs down.

"But Wells said he felt leaving that responsibility with the individual organizations was not in keeping with the original concept of providing a center for community use.

In addition to the clinic and counseling center, 28 organizations have expressed an interest in the center, although none of them has made a commitment to move in, Wells pointed out.

The request for lease proposals provides for a 90-day period for the board to determine its response.

Wells said the time will be used to seek community approval and obtain a firm commitment from groups planning to move their offices.

A discussion of potential names for the facility drew some debate after Wells noted one of the potential tenants had included a clause in its list of conditions that the center's name not include wording that would deter non-gays from using its services.

The condition was requested by the Montrose Clinic because of its high volume of non-gay clients, Wells said.

The clinic and Montrose Counseling Center, described by Wells as the center's "core," will be the facility's largest initial renters.

But Jack Valinski expressed frustration at what he called a "trend" toward avoiding the words "gay" and "lesbian" in group names and community publicity.

"We don't need a center to expand closets," Valinski said....
Put Another Dime in the ol’ Jukebox
Former Montrose Deejay Can’t Get Enough Oldies

By Sheri Cohen Darbonne
Montrose Voice

The roots of contemporary rock and Rhythm and Blues music trace all the way back to the 1920’s, with the black jazz-blues sound of Bessie Smith paving the way for the evolution, a former Montrose disc jockey asserts. Dennis McGinnis, who many remember as the “oldies show” deejay at Dirty Sally’s, will proudly display his research archives to those lucky enough to visit his Greenway Plaza area apartment. Around 40,000 78, 45 and 33 rpm discs fill a closet, a filing cabinet, and a room literally jammed with standup shelves in the phenomenal collection amassed by McGinnis and his lover, Russ Holland, over a period of at least 15 years.

The two men, both of Harrisburg, Pa., met coincidentally in Houston, McGinnis said. They discovered, ironically, that they both had been collecting records for about the same time, and that they both frequented the same ghetto record store in the 1960’s. They did not meet until 1979, after both had moved here.

McGinnis said his own interest in records began at the age of 14. He recalled begging his father to take him to a little record store in Harrisburg’s black district, called The Turntable, to look for copies of “Da Doo Ron Ron” by the Crystals and “The Locomotion” by Little Eva. He befriended the shop’s owner, Martha, who fed his interest in oldies and the R&B sound, and helped him start his collection.

The collection includes some very valuable oddities, including a record by Bessie Smith that McGinnis states is one of only 10 in existence. It follows, almost faultlessly, the development of the modern popular sound from the 20’s to the current era. Tidbits of history, unknown to most record fans, abound.

“This is the first Supremes album everyone knows about,” McGinnis said, holding up the cover of the album, Meet the Supremes. Then he pulled out another cover with a dirt spot on the picture.

“But this is the first press, the original,” he explained. The first record came out in 1962; the second was released in 1964 when a new public interest in the group emerged, he added.

McGinnis went on to point out the difference in the Motown label logos on the two records.

“This is the original logo, the Motown car. It was only around a couple of years,” he noted.

McGinnis said his personal collection is focused mostly on the black R&B and early rock artists of the 50’s and the “girl group” sound of the 60’s. The addition of Russ’ collection, containing more of the pop and rock music sounds of the later trends, rounded out the range. Together, they now have a priceless collection of a section of music industry history.

“Most people see the beginning of rock as the 1960’s turnaround, the Bill Haley period. Actually, it was the Rhythm and Blues era that began in the 40’s that led into the modern day rock and roll,” McGinnis commented.

The first true rock genre performer was probably Little Richard, who recorded “Tutti Frutti” in 1955, McGinnis said. Along with the way, blues artists like Louis Jordan, Big Joe Turner, B.B. King and Howlin’ Wolf were laying down distinctive sound patterns, picked up and drawn on later by white performers.

The practice of “covering” emerged in the 50’s also, with white performers re-releasing duplicate versions of records by black performers. McGinnis said “Tutti Frutti” was covered by Pat Boone, and his version, believe it or not, sold almost as many copies as the original to the white market, he said.

And Bill Haley’s hit, “Shake, Rattle and Roll,” was actually recorded first by Louie Jordan.

McGinnis’ record enjoyed moderate success, but reached nowhere near the sales logged by Haley’s 1956 version.

Probably around 1960, the “sh’bops” began fading away, and the girl-group sound promoted by producer Phil Spector rapidly gained popularity. McGinnis called this period, marked by artists like the Crystals and the Ronettes, a major area of his collecting. The sound peaked with the rise of Motown, and the appearance of groups like the Supremes and Martha and the Vandellas.

Then, in the middle to late 60’s, came the so-called British invasion, when the music industry jumped into modern day rock and roll,” McGinnis commented.

“The 60’s were a transition period in the music industry,” he explained. “One of the biggest changes was the psychedelic era, that led into what’s known as glam rock.” McGinnis said.

Visitors can take their pick of the periods they wish to re-live. They also can listen to the sounds the way they were heard “back then,” with the help of two recent acquisitions, a 1963 Wurlitzer “Magic Brain” two-speed jukebox, and a 1957 AMI juke that plays only 45’s. McGinnis said he tried to keep the Wurlitzer stocked exclusively with 78’s for memorabilia purposes. McGinnis purchased both machines in 1984.

McGinnis, who says he now acquires records mainly through mail auctions, oldie magazines and private traders, said they are getting harder to find, since home jukeboxes have gained popularity in recent years. Records that once would have been available for one or two dollars are selling for $25 and up, he noted.

“My usual motto is, if I can’t steal it, I’ll wait it out,” he said, although he admits he once spent $250 for a single album, like Meet the Supremes, was re-released with another cover.

Numb-Kneed Surfing

BOSTON (UPI)—While waiting for that perfect wave, doctors say surfers should beware of what appears to be a newly identified hazard—“surfer’s neuropathy.”

“It’s not a serious problem,” said Dr. Roderick H. Fabian, a neurologist at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. “But it can be bothersome.”

Fabian said he discovered the affliction while searching through 40 or 50, or possibly more, different types of complaints connected with surfing. The problem was caused by pressure surfers commonly put on the nerve when they squeezed their legs while sitting on their boards in the water waiting for a wave.

He advised the two surfers to avoid such pressure, and the loss of sensation disappeared after a few weeks, Fabian said.

Ga. House Votes to Prohibit Nude Dancers

ATLANTA (UPI)—Georgia’s House passed a bill to pull the beverage licenses of bars that feature nude dancers after the bill’s sponsor threatened to dance naked so members could "see how disgusting it is."


“We’re about to have the Democratic National Convention," McKinney reminded lawmakers, "and you’re talking about a convention’s major means of entertainment.""
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‘Full Tilt’ Leans Toward Theater’s Best

Director William Burford sweeps the action across Tom King’s set almost cinematically, they way we deduce Shakespeare must have used the Globe. Kurt W. Garabenstein’s sound design adds to the versimilitude, but it is Eoghan Ryan’s lights that really grab the eye. (Ryan also doubles effectively as an actor in the piece.)

A very good show.

The Anshutz Collection

The masterpieces from the Anshutz Collection of western art now exhibited at the Museum of Fine Arts provide education as well as entertainment. The style of Remington and Russell is very recognizable. It leads one major school in its high drama and dynamic action. It’s a group of rich tradition with paintings by Couse, Maurer, Schreyvogel, and Frank Tenney Johnson; and statues by Berke and Barye (a Frenchman whose only brush with the living West was Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show).

But there is also another school that we often forget. I overheard one lady compare it to the various renditions of Tolkien’s world. Indeed, it was the new, unspoiled land that intrigued these artists with its fantastic wonders. Their canvases, many of monumental size to match the subject, are obsessed with the color of light on these new landscapes. Some are so luminous they look almost as if lit from behind. This is the school of Bierstadt, Tavernier, Innes, Herzog and Hill.

When their works do include people or animals, they have to be hunted for— as they would be in the wild. Their statuary—by Shrdlay, Deming, Putnam and Huntington—focuses on the strange new animals the explorers were finding.

In the mid-1920s, around the time of Russell’s death, the luminous land was still the subject matter, but the style embraced impressionism. This is the West of Hunter, Sloan and O’Keefe. I heartily recommend this excellent exhibition.

Notes

The Outlaw Comics have been “outlawed” again. The room in Baton Rouge which had booked them for this Monday chickened out. That’s Jimmy Swag-

Houston Live by Bill O’Rourke

Full Tilt

Full Tilt playing at Chocolate Bayou Theater Company, was developed in CBTC’s Preston Jones New Play Symposium last summer. This is its world premiere. I have little doubt that news of its performances elsewhere will get back to us. It’s that good.

When a group of people become a mob, it is a form of mass hysteria. They may feel closer to each other for the short time that they lose their reason, but what happens later? What do they feel towards each other when they can see clearly again, if they ever can?

Peripheral people. They were affected by the violence but they had no hand in perpetrating it.

They’re all orbiting each other in a small town. Two of them fall in love for a short while, but for the most part, they react to each other with a kind of magnetic repulsion. When the reporter gets personally involved with the bartender (Timothy Hanson), she sets up a meeting which evolves into another mob scene with everyone but the bartender personally involved. What will happen now? Will violence beget violence? (There is some believable wife beating between Phillip Hafer and Cathryn Pisarski.) Or will love be possible again?

P.J. Barry’s script, for all its power

The Ballet Eddy Toussaint de Montreal debuts at Jones Hall on March 3

Years before this play opens, a small group of policemen—friends and comrades—have gone out of control, into “full tilt.” Between them, they killed a man in a fight over a girl (played by Melba O’Banion).

Now a women’s magazine reporter (Ginny Lang) has come to town. She’s spending money left and right to bribe people into reopening the story. She interviews them to see if she can find out what really happened.

With one exception, these are all the gert’s hometown, isn’t it? Well, their loss is our gain! The O.C. are bringing this performance back to the Comedy Workshop.

This is the last weekend for TUT’s My Fair Lady at the Music Hall.

Auditions: Deathtrap, two women, three men, all over 35. March 1-2, 7:00 p.m. 667-6804.

Celebrate!

Pat Nesbit is Rosalena and Geoffrey Nauffts is Eugene Morris Jerome, aspiring writer, in Neil Simon’s comedy Biloxi Blues, opening March 3 at the Music Hall.

March 3—Fat Tuesday, March 4—Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent.

B’days: 27—Barbara Love, Elizabeth Taylor, Longfellow. 28—Zero Mostel, Bernadette Peters, Tommy Tune. 1—Harry Belafonte, David Niven, Lytton Strachey. 2—Karen Carpenter, Dr. Seuss, Kurt Weil. 3—Cyrano de Ber-
Obscenity Standards Still Troubling the High Court

By Andrea Neal

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Supreme Court is still grappling with the meaning of obscenity 23 years after Justice Potter Stewart's proclamation that he could not define pornography, "but I know it when I see it."

The latest controversy involves an Illinois law that allows juries to apply community standards in determining if an allegedly obscene work has redeeming literary, artistic or social value.

The court was to hear arguments in the case last Tuesday from Illinois officials, who consider the law a useful tool for fighting pornography, and First Amendment advocates, who fear the law could lead to the banning of such pre-eminent works as James Joyce's masterpiece "Ulysses."

"It's probably the most significant obscenity case the court has heard since Miller vs. California," said Irwin Karp, who represents Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, a non-profit group that advises artists on First Amendment matters.

In the landmark 1973 Miller ruling, a majority of justices for the first time agreed on a standard for determining what is obscene material subject to state regulation.

This year's case, Karp said, will determine "what degree of protection is going to be provided literary and artistic works of significant value. We think that were the prevailing community standard to apply, then it's of primary importance what works of social commentary would be completely diluted in some parts of the country."

Obscenity has proven to be one of the most troubling constitutional questions for the court. The justices repeatedly have said obscenity is not worthy of First Amendment protection but have failed to come up with a simple definition for obscenity.

In 1964, the court ruled that a French film, "The Lovers," did not violate an Ohio obscenity statute, but the justices were unable to agree upon an opinion supporting the decision.

The case prompted Stewart's oft-quoted observation that he knew pornography when he saw it, "and the motion picture involved in this case is not that."

In Miller vs. California, the court said a book, magazine, movie or work of art may be deemed obscene if it appeals to "the prurient interest, describes sexual conduct in a "patently offensive" way and— as a whole, in context—lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.

Until now, most lower courts have ruled that the first two prongs of the test should be based on community standards, but the redeeming value of a work must be judged according to objective criteria.

David Goldstein of the American Civil Liberties Union said applying community standards to the part of the test would limit free expression.

"I can imagine juries condemning Ulysses' today just like they did 60 years ago and that's one of the great books of the 20th century," Goldstein said.

"Ulysses," based on Homer's "Odyssey," was banned in the United States from 1921 until 1930 after charges of pornography were heard. The book is now considered among the great works of world literature.

Illinois Assistant Attorney General Mark Rotert says there is no such thing as an objective standard for determining if a work has social value.

It is unrealistic "to read the First Amendment as requiring that the people of Maine or Mississippi accept public depiction of conduct found tolerable in Las Vegas or New York City," Rotert said.

The case before the court arose in 1983 when two adult bookstore clerks were arrested under Illinois' obscenity statute for selling adult magazines to undercover policemen.

The case is part of a growing national debate over censorship of sexually explicit material, spurred by a report last summer by the Attorney General's Commission on Pornography.

The report urged concerned citizens to band together into watch groups to file complaints, put pressure on local prosecutors, monitor judges and, if necessary, boycott merchants selling pornographic materials.
Grab Your Partner and Get Ready for Mardi Gras

Around Town by Elroy Forbes
Montrose Voice Social Director

□ Good News

The Brazos River Bottom was packed Tuesday night. Country and Western dance bars The Ranch, BBF, and some I recognized from old Bears filled the dance floor and reviewing areas around the bar.

Six couples made the finals. Prizes were awarded from Tom’s Back Pocket, TNT Shirts, The Pot Pie, I.W. Marks, Puppies Boot Parlor, TGRA, Baba Yaga, The Fitness Exchange, Blue Iris Florist, Eurotans, Jr’s, The Mining Co., Heaven, The Galleon, and The Barn.

- Mardi Gras Time

This Saturday there will be three parades in Galveston. At noon, the Truckers Parade will go down the seawall with floats and decorated trucks as they celebrate the big island event. At 3:00 p.m., the campy Hou-Dah Parade, a take off on the famous California New Year’s Day Do Dah Parade, will feature briefcase drill teams from many Houston corporations as well as campy entries competing for cash donations of $1000, $500 and $250 to their favorite charities.

At night, is the big blow out and the long parade that will wander through the historic Strand District. This is the parade everyone talks about.

If you are like me and just a little shy about driving to Galveston, The Krewe of Hydra has buses leaving The Ripcord at noon on Saturday, returning to Houston by 10:00 p.m. The estimated time of return is in time for Chutes Customer Contest and the big doings with Drummer magazine. The cost of the Mardi Gras trip is $20 before Saturday and $25 the day of the big party. Call The Ripcord or Timeless Taffeta for details.

□ Out and About

I have to admit that Go Country Day at Mary’s was not only a pleasant, but was a relaxing experience. I know that is not characteristic of Mary’s but that’s how it all worked. It was fun to pay a visit the other night to find my favorite doorman, Fannie, was working and having a good time.

Mary’s is doing a Pardi Gras (announced Party Gras) weekend with costume awards after 11:00 p.m. Saturday night.

All of these activities are being pumped into their new April Fool event—The Miss Vacant Lot title. Booths are available to organizations and businesses such as Maris’s. She can read neither English nor Spanish, but she can read beads. No telling what they have in mind for Pickles.

At Neartown Association’s meeting, Channel 2 newsman showed up to check into president Ron Rodrick’s fight with City Hall over the recent lower Withemiere fires. Petitions are being circulated to demand municipal action on the many promises made to clean up the vacant buildings. Four area leaders on the Needy Persons Help programs also spoke at the meeting held at Bering Memorial Methodist Church.

Popular Tom Horan has invited many of our community groups and individuals to come to the first ever “indoor” Mardi Gras parade inside the lobby of the Wyndham Hotel Greenspoint, 12400 Greenspoint Drive on March 5 at 7:00 p.m. The festivities will include bands, floats, clowns and more. Call Tom at 875-2222.

The Annual Airing Memorial Mardi Gras Pancake Festival begins Saturday at 7:00 a.m. All you can eat for $4. It will be in the basement of the Main Building.

First place country and western dance contest winners, June Archibald and David Kiser

A combined cash prize from the BBF and The Ranch reminded everyone that there are two C&W dance bars in Houston.

Winners were: first place, David Kiser and June Archibald from BBF; second, Carol Martinez and Ervke Dne Ranieri from The Ranch; third, Andrew Besterman and Brent Leerfield from the BBF. These three couples will represent Houston in the Texas finals starting March 22 in Ft. Worth’s 651 Club.

The state contest continues in Austin on April 5 at Snuffy’s; April 19 at the Silver Dollar in San Antonio and ends here in Houston at the BBF May 3.

While I was in Ft. Worth last weekend, I visited the 651 Club. The new facility is very impressive and spacious. Announcements proclaimed their upcoming C&W contest. I tell you, they really had some serious dancers. All of our people need our support in this competition. Congratulations and best wishes to all!}

□ Christmas in Montrose

The next organizational meeting is on Fat Tuesday, March 3, 7:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 2515 Waugh Dr. Call The Tire Place, 529-1414 for details.

Guest bartenders at Mary’s Goes Country party included: (bottom, left to right) Dick Sanderson of Mary’s, Alan Pierce of BBF, Debbie Powell of Beazazz; (standing, left to right) Maria of Mary’s, Robin of Mary’s, Betsy of The Ranch, Becky of The Ranch, and Buzz of The Barn.

Richard Barbeau is visiting Houston from Boston

New members of the Greater Montrose Business Guild include Carpenter Bob, Bill Marberry, and Bobby Guardlock from Union Auto Parts, W. Alabama at Almeda Road. Jim Spence of Immunotherapy Clinic was elected 1987 treasurer of the guild.

The Great Montrose Garage Sale is coming to your neighborhood on May 2. A $6 entry fee will entitle businesses or individuals to a special sign to mark your location, a map indicating where you are and multi-media promotion. George Benedict chairs this event. More info is available by calling 529-0443 or 529-1111.

We just have time to Mardi Gras/Rodeo then it’s Let Us Entertain You Weekend. That’s enough for now. Hope to see you Around Town.

Lawrence Welk, the Acid Rocker?

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Fans expecting the bubbly sounds of Lawrence Welk’s polkas were instead confronted by a raucous punk rock soundtrack after a mix-up at a compact disc plant. The label for Welk’s “World’s Greatest Polkas” was accidentally placed on about 10,000 compact discs of the soundtrack of the film “Sid and Nancy,” triggering a minor uproar among the bandleader’s fans.

Polka fans were unexpectedly treated to such songs as “Love Kills” and Sid Vicious of the Sex Pistols singing a violent parody of Frank Sinatra’s “My Way,” said Bernice McGeehan, spokeswoman for Welk Enterprises, the bandleader’s record company.

“It was a big shock to the Welk people who bought that particular CD and we are now in the process of recalling all of them,” McGeehan said.

Welk’s office began receiving complaints almost immediately after the CD hit the stores a few days ago.

“The first thing that happened was a very nice lady from West Covina called, and she was more astounded than anything else,” McGeehan said. “She took it to her polka club party, and they were going to play it for a dance party. She called and said the music was loud and screaming and she couldn’t repeat the language she heard on the CD.”
AIDS Doctor Expected in Court

By Susan Kueoka
CHICAGO (UPI) - The decision to bar a Cook County Hospital physician infected with AIDS from physical contact with patients is expected to have nationwide implications, officials say.

Members of the medical and legal professions today acknowledged the courts will eventually rule in favor of the afflicted physician, who is fighting the Cook County Board's unprecedented hands-off decision.

But they are fearful the board's ruling this month will set a standard for AIDS education efforts aimed at increasing public awareness about how the deadly disease is transmitted.

"A serious harm has been done to the public's understanding of the spread of this disease," said Dr. Renalow Sherer, head of the AIDS program at Cook County Hospital. "It is not transmitted by a wide variety of interactions that include sexual activities, touching a patient during a physical examination.

"I think that message has been clearly confused in the mind of the public as a result of this action. It's important to understand that this action applies only to this individual but to other physicians and health-care workers nationwide."

The Cook County Board, which governs activities at the 1,400-bed hospital that employs 750 full-time physicians, rejected the accepted guidelines set forth by the federal Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta by voting to keep the physical contacts.

The CDC guidelines require that health-care workers afflicted with acquired immune deficiency syndrome take certain precautions to avoid spreading the disease.

Almost Half Harris County Jail Inmates Exposed to AIDS Virus

HOUSTON (UPI) - Nearly 40 percent of the Harris County Jail inmates who voluntarily submitted to AIDS testing last year had been exposed to the virus, the jail's medical director said recently.

Dr. Ronald Haley said 772 of the 436 inmates tested last year, or about 39 percent, had been exposed to the virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

The jail testing program began in January 1986 to provide medical service to the inmates. Of those tested, 396 were male and 396 were female, with 161 men and 11 women testing positive, he said.

Haley emphasized that no scientific conclusions can be drawn from the results because most of those tested were members of high-risk groups for the disease.

Those prisoners showing positive tests are offered counseling while they are in custody and medical attention if they show symptoms of disease.

Inmates who have AIDS are not separated from the rest of the jail population, he said, adding there was no medical reason to segregate them.

"We can't force anyone to take this test," Haley said. "In a lot of ways, I wish we could, because then we would have some data we could rely upon.

There is no scientific basis for this at all because it's not random."

Even within the high-risk groups, the testing is strictly voluntary, he said.

The guidelines have been endorsed by the American Medical Association and the American Hospital Association.

Hospitals in New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles, where AIDS also has claimed physicians as victims, are following the guidelines, officials say.

But the precautions set forth in the guidelines were not enough to persuade the Cook County Board that the physician, a 10-year veteran of the hospital with Bod anonymity, should be allowed to continue his work with patients.

"There's just too many unknowns with respect to the disease," said board Commissioner Richard A. Siebel.

"The medical profession is working with limited knowledge and research."

"Let's be real," said Commissioner Rose Marie Love. "There's a lot of fear and hysteria about AIDS. We must always, as public officials, make sure public confidence in the medical profession is not tainted with AIDS."

In addition to the board's concern about the spread of the disease, board President George W. Dunne said the possible legal ramifications of the situation were taken into account.

"There's a certain knowledge about the creativity and capability of the legal profession to initiate and trigger all kinds of lawsuits, and the payment (of damages) would be made not individually by the medical profession but by the 5 million citizens of Cook County," Dunne said.

At least one lawsuit already is being prepared - at the request of the stricken physician.

Harvey Grossman, legal director of the Illinois branch of the American Civil Liberties Union, said he plans to sue in federal court, claiming the board's action violates the rights of handicapped workers.

"It (the board's decision) particularly tragic because not only are they making a victim of this physician twice - first because of his illness and then because of his dismissal - but they're potentially making a victim of the entire community by dispensing information that lacks logic," Grossman said.

"It will have a significant impact on the health-care system by taking people who are competent, and can safely deliver quality care, out of the system."

In essence, it confuses the public and undermines the trust that health-care people have worked hard to establish.

Medical professionals agree the only known transmission of the disease AIDS is through intimate sexual contact, use of contaminated needles and through the mother's placenta to her unborn child.

Dr. Burton Anderson, chairman of the infectious diseases department at the University of Illinois Medical School, said he was confident the court's ruling would overturn the board's decision. But he expressed concern about its effect on the rest of the medical community.

"Doctors, nurses, people in almost all professions and activities, will have AIDS," he said. "This is a major national epidemic. I am concerned (the board's decision) may influence other counties and cities to take similar action. And the more we feed fears by going along with them, the worse it's going to get."

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'A Bunch of Marijuana-Smoking Homosexuals'

Lehder Capture Spurs 'Fed-Up Citizens'

By Tom Quinn

BOGOTA, Colombia (UPI)—The capture of international narcotics kingpin Carlos Lehder at a ranch house hideaway was triggered by disgruntled neighbors who thought he and his booted-up bodyguards might be rebel guerrillas, cocaine cookers or even "a bunch of marijuana-smoking homosexuals."

As surprising as the capture, however, was that police were tipped off at all in this nation where drug dealers are looked at as Robin Hoodish. Cocaine is considered a Yankee problem.

Police Maj. William Lemus, who led 30 officers and soldiers in the raid on Lehder's hideout, said it is apparent the public is getting fed up with the drug mafia.

"We received a complaint from a neighbor of the ranch where Lehder and his 14 bodyguards were holed up. He said he thought the group might be guerrillas," Lemus said in an interview.

"Another person said there were a bunch of marijuana-smoking homosexuals there. Someone suggested the ranch might be a small cocaine laboratory. And another person went to the U.S. Embassy and insinuated the ranch hid someone important, without specifying who it was."

Officials say Lehder's capture and extradition to the U.S. has encouraged even more people to turn in drug dealers.

"This is the biggest result of the Lehder bust. In 10 years of intense work in Colombia, we've never seen anything like the amount of information we're suddenly getting," a veteran Drug Enforcement Administration agent said.

"The phenomenon is uncanny. Even though we offer rewards for information, we are getting people who don't want the money. They are just fed up. They feel the mafia has gone too far. They say these hoods have begun to stray on them and they don't like it."

By most counts, Lehder's arrest actually will do little to stem the flow of cocaine out of Colombia. Officials believe smaller operators quickly stepped in to take over his business.

"The big three of the so-called Medellin Cartel—Lehder, Pablo Escobarr and Jorge Luis Ochoa—have been on the run so much in the last three years they've been psychologically forced out of business. We now suspect that they've been replaced by scores of new operators, many of whom are absolutely unknown to us," the DEA agent said.

"Let me put it this way: In 1983 you had three billionaries dominating the business and now you've got 100 millionaires doing most of it."

Authorities cite two factors in the upswing of resistance to the nation's $8 billion drug industry: Colombia's growing international drug abuse problem and the rash of killings of prominent and ordinary citizens in the last few years.

In just the last four years, 17 Colombian journalists have been killed after denouncing drug trafficking.
Sex Phone Services Still in Business

FORT WORTH, Texas (UP)—A controver¬
sial telephone service that Southwestern Bell is trying to put out of business won the first round of its battle with the phone company.

A Texas Public Utility Commission hearing judge last Monday rejected Southwestern Bell’s request to imme¬
diately cut off the sex phone service, operated in Fort Worth since November by Spectrum Advertising Inc., of Seat¬tle, Wash.

The company also operates a similar service in Houston under Southwestern Bell’s new 976 service. Several others also operate but Spectrum was picked by Southwestern Bell for the test case.

The PUC decision by Mary Ross McDonald issued in Austin said she did not want to damage the company’s case before central issues in the case can be decided at a hearing in May.

Callers on Spectrum’s 976 lines are charged between $2 and $19.95 for a var¬

ity of services ranging from a brief chat with a woman to a “party” conver¬
sation among several callers and X-rated descriptions of sexual acts. The charges for the calls are billed through the telephone company.

Southwestern Bell contends Spec¬
trum is violating its regulations for 976 services by offering live conversations. He said the phone company has singled out the sex service in a discriminatory effort to violate the company’s right of free speech.

McDonald’s 18-page decision said Spectrum’s arguments for staying in business between now and the May hearing were “detailed, cogently argued and compelling.”

“Obviously, the decision is very dis¬
apointing,” said Southwestern Bell Vice President Bill Free. Free said the phone company probably will appeal Monday’s ruling to the commissioners and continue to seek permission to immediately disconnect Spectrum’s ser¬
vice.

McDonald issued an interim order preventing Southwestern Bell from dis¬
connecting the lines on Tuesday. The full PUC will hear the case on May 12.

First Condom Announce¬
ments Being Aired on ABC

By Mark Schwed

UPI TV Editor

NEW YORK—The nation’s three major television networks have eased their prohibition on messages touting con¬
doms as a means of guarding against AIDS and one network—ABC—will is already airing such warnings.

ABC a week ago became the first net¬
work to promise that public service mes¬
gages concerning condoms would be aired.

And NBC and CBS both said they were reversing their previous positions and would now allow their affiliated stations to decide for themselves whether to run advertisements for con¬
doms.

Reaction to the word that NBC and CBS were easing their prohibition had an immediate effect—before the day was out both of the networks’ New York City stations, WCBS and WNBC, said they would soon accept such advertis¬
ing.

Despite the change in policy by the networks, however, none plan to allow ads for specific condom manufacturers on a national basis. The refusal to air the ads comes despite pleas by the sur¬
geon general and some lawmakers.

“We are allowing our CBS owned and operated stations to make their own decisions,” CBS spokesman George Schweitzer said. “The network con¬
tinues not to accept condom commer¬
cials.”

ABC’s 30-second public service spot was scheduled to run in all time periods this past week. The clip features Sur¬
geon General Everett Koop advising that the best protection against acquired immune deficiency syndrome, barring abstinence, is the use of a con¬
dom.

In New York, WCBS and WNBC said they would accept condom commercials immediately.

“Five thousand New Yorkers already have died of AIDS and 30,000 are likely to die of the disease by 1991,” said Roger CollofF, vice president and general man¬
ger of WCBS.

“We recognize that condom advertis¬
ing affects a sensitive area of human behavior as well as strongly held moral and religious beliefs. However, we also recognize that New York has almost one-third of all AIDS cases in the Uni¬

ted States,” Colloff said.

Paul Hermail, an attorney for Spec¬
trum, pointed out that other 976 com¬
panies offer live conversations. He said the phone company has singled out the sex service in a discriminatory effort to violate the company’s right of free speech.

McDonald’s 15-page decision said Spectrum’s arguments for staying in business between now and the May hearing were “detailed, cogently argued and compelling.”

“Obviously, the decision is very dis¬
appointing,” said Southwestern Bell Vice President Bill Free. Free said the phone company probably will appeal Monday’s ruling to the commissioners and continue to seek permission to immediately disconnect Spectrum’s ser¬
vice.

McDonald issued an interim order preventing Southwestern Bell from dis¬
connecting the lines on Tuesday. The full PUC will hear the case on May 12.
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UP)—A United Methodist Church bishop said sending an official observer to a gay ministries meeting in Chicago next month would risk the appearance of contradicting church legislation.

The church's Board of Discipleship voted 57-36 earlier this month against sending a representative to the convention, but the losers in the vote took up a collection to pay the expenses of an unofficial observer.

Discipleship Board Chairman George Bashore, United Methodist bishop from Massachusetts, cast the deciding vote taken last Friday.

"You risk taking an action that can be construed to be in conflict with General Conference," Bashore said Monday.

The General Conference, the top governing body of the denomination, affirmed in 1984 that homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. The General Conference meets again next year.

"The debate on this really should take place in General Conference," Bashore said.

"That's the democratic arena where people can debate and change the rules. But once we vote a certain way, we shouldn't be knocking it for the next four years," he said.

However, Kelly Laster, a member of the board from Irvine, Calif., and a supporter for sending an observer, took issue Monday.

"I worry about the message we send by not supporting this invitation—the message that we're not interested in dialogue with gays and lesbians."

Laster is also a supporter of Reconciling Congregations, a group of 22 United Methodist churches that have opened their doors and offered ministries to homosexuals since 1984.

Laster asked other members of the board Monday to contribute funds to pay the expenses for an unofficial observer.

Twenty members contributed $200 and board member Nancy Starnes of Dallas was asked to attend.

"I'm willing to go and collect information, out of ignorance as much as anything," she said. "I'm going only for the personal learning experience. I am not representing any group on this board or any organization."

The Board of Discipleship, whose headquarters are located in Nashville, provides literature and training to churches in Christian education, stewardship, evangelism, worship and other areas.

For $5, The Protection Connection will deliver five condoms. For $6, they will deliver three contraceptive sponges, well above the retail prices of the items. "A lot of kids won't go out and buy these things for themselves. We do it for them," Gloyna said. "Anybody can go into the drugstore and buy these things, but a lot of people won't."

Gloyna said he won't make much money, especially after he pays the $125 permit fee if the zoning board approves next month.

"It'll be quite sometime before I turn a profit and I don't anticipate the business to grow larger than I can handle on a night or a weekend. I see it as a comfortable business operated by a Texas Tech student for a steady flow of income."

By Mede Nix

LUBBOCK, Texas (UP)—Action on a permit for a Texas Tech University student to operate a condom delivery service from his mobile home was delayed recently by the city's zoning board until the student obtains permission to operate from the mobile home park's owner.

Paul Gloyna, 21, appeared before the Zoning Board of Adjustment to ask for a permit for "The Protection Connection" to operate as a customary home occupation.

However, since the lease Gloyna signed with the Commander Place Mobile Home Park prohibits sales or businesses, board members said they would like to hear from the owner and neighbors of Gloyna at next month's meeting before they grant a permit.

"I just haven't been able to get in touch with the owners of the park, who live out of town," Gloyna said. "I'll be back next month. I'm going to try to get permission. None of my neighbors have objected."

Other than having the owner's permission, zoning board members had few objections to the business.

"People aren't forced to use this service," said board member Sally Kersey. "I can't see how it is going to make much money, but if he wants to continue, he should be able to."

The Protection Connection began its controversial operation last month by distributing flyers in a parking lot south of Lubbock Monterey High School.

Gloyna said that at the time he started the business, he was unaware of a rarely enforced city ordinance against placing flyers on vehicles.

The student said he paid a $40 fine after a police warrant officer called to tell him there was a warrant out for his arrest for illegally distributing flyers.

Although Gloyna distributed flyers near a high school, he said his target market is Texas Tech students.

However, he sees his business as a help in controlling the high rate of teenage pregnancies. Lubbock has one of the highest teenage pregnancy rates in the state, Gloyna said.

"Sexually transmitted disease is also rampant, so we want to help do something about this," he said. "It also helps prevent AIDS."

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Community

News from Neighborhood & Community Groups

Ash Wednesday Service

The Church of the Rock will begin Lenten Season with an Ash Wednesday service on March 4, 7:30 p.m. The church has a new location, 7018 Long Point (between Antoine and Silber). For more information call 580-8456.

Gay Train Buffs Organize

An organization has been found for gays interested in trains. Hotbox, headquartered in Florence, Organo, was organized at Horsehoe Curve on the old Pennsy several years ago and has spread throughout the U.S. and Canada and has some members in England, New Zealand and Australia.

Two Houston men are now interested in developing a local chapter. There are existing members in Dallas, Austin and San Antonio. For more information, the Houston contact numbers are (713) 439-1879 and (713) 952-6387. More information is available by writing Hotbox, P.O. Box 67, Florence, OR 97439.

Neighborhood Sports

Sports News from Montrose & Community Groups

Lone Star Classic Will Open MSL Season

The Montrose Softball League announces the upcoming summer league. This year six or seven teams will compete to represent Houston in the Gay World Series in San Francisco. Teams are forming and there is plenty of room for new participants. Those interested in playing may contact the league office at 523-6754 and leave a message.

The season will begin with the Lone Star Classic, April 17-18. This year the Houston hosts are expecting a 20-team field from across the nation. Teams are expected from San Francisco, New York, Boston, L.A. and Dallas. Games will be played at the newly-remodeled Memorial Park complex.

Letters to the Voice

From George Barnhart

Here I return (to Houston) ... and find that in my absence Houston’s gay community has continued in a course of self-defeatism pretty much as before. Sadly, GPC still dawdles along, emersed in dilly-daily politics and petty in-fighting that tells me that group is still in the grips of small minds.

How can they “tabling” an issue as important as trying to facilitate education, understanding, and tolerance between our constituency and the general business community is beyond my comprehension.

These delaying tactics can only suggest one thing. GPC leadership has turned completely and totally “chicken” and will avoid confrontational advocacy or controversial action at all costs (mainly ours). No wonder (as I hear it) the mayor has now spread the word that GPC is no longer a viable force to contend with. I suspect some of the rabidly bigoted on City Council are now chortling with mirth as they scratch through Gay Political Caucus and write “Gord Plain Chicken” underneath.

Then I am stunned to hear that our own gay business group, the Greater Montrose Business Guild, now has it in their collective minds to strip themselves of any resemblance to a gay business organization. Is this the same group that was formed, fostered, and nurtured under the roof of Houston Human Right’s League’s Fred Paez Center? Is this the same group that its inception vowed to help promote and build gay economic clout by advancing the interests of Montrose businesses that did not discriminate?

How silly. How sad. Especially when we note this group went so far as to politically assassinate one of the most dedicated, devoted, self-sacrificing and brilliant activists we have around (Phyllis Frye) in order to clear the path for their dastardly new agenda. I didn’t know we needed an organization to help us build closets!

Seems the major complaint among members is GMBG isn’t doing enough. I agree. The way gay businesses and gay supported businesses can best promote and advance their businesses in a gay (greater) Montrose is to stand vocally and aggressively four-square in a united defense of their customers’ and clientele lifestyles. That would certainly be a major motivator to get me to shop in their store. Come to think about it, why isn’t GMBG doing something to help bridge the gap that exists between the Houston Chamber and our own “gay chamber of commerce”?

Sorowfully, I must admit not only has our leadership continued in its convoluted, bland, do-nothing approach, but it also seems that for the most part our populace seems content to let them persist. What’s happened to us? Maybe the mayor is right.

Write the Voice

Items in the “Letters” column are opinions of readers and NOT NECESSARILY those of the Voice. Readers are encouraged to submit their thoughts on issues of interest to Houston. Please let us know briefly and mail to “Letters to the Editor,” Montrose Voice, 408 Avondale, Houston, TX 77008. All letters must be signed and include address and phone number to verify authenticity. Address and phone will not be printed. Name will be withheld on request.

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In Memoriam

PAUL GANTER
Paul Ganter, 41, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 25 at his residence after a long battle with AIDS.
He is survived by his mother, Catherine Koblae of Taylor, Mich.
His body was taken to Earthman’s Funeral Home where he will be cremated according to his wishes.
A memorial service will be held at the Veteran’s Administration Hospital, 2002 Holcombe, Sunday afternoon, March 1 at 1:00 p.m.

HAROLD DAVID PIWONKA
10:30 a.m. January 12, 1952—11:30 a.m. February 14, 1987
Harold or “HP” as some of his friends knew him has passed on to his next level of life.
Harold was a star that came to our Earth to spread his brightness and warmth to all who walked through his rays. Harold only knew how to give love and support to everyone. With his mind he gave us direction and wisdom. With his hands and some wood he created beauty and love.
Harold was a doer. He was always willing to take a stand in his community and be counted. Harold has always been a leader among people, but with Harold you always felt like you were doing it together.
Harold was born in Caldwell, Texas. He was very active in Boy Scouts, FFA and band. He went to A&M and made Houston his home since 1975. Here in Houston, Harold was active in GPC, the Harris County Democratic Party, the Houston Festival and Wortham Theater Center. Harold opened a woodworking shop in 1980.
He is survived by his parents, Alex and Allee Piwonka; brother Bob; sister Betty; and two godchildren. Harold has also left behind many loving friends. There will be a memorial service for Harold on Sunday, March 1, 1987 at Rothko Chapel at 2:30 p.m.

DOUGLAS PAUL TURNER
May 5, 1956—February 11, 1987
Doug passed away at his Houston residence Feb. 11, 1987 with his mother, brother Glen and his buddy Thom by his side.
Doug was active in the Houston community for many years. He was a founding member of Texas Bay Area Gays and was often heard on the Wilde ‘n’ Stein Radio program since 1979.
He is survived by his mother and two brothers, Glen and James of Houston, and a brother Leslie of Beaumont.
A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Feb. 28, 1987, 11:00 a.m. at Rothko Chapel.
Doug will be truly missed by his many friends who knew and loved him.

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