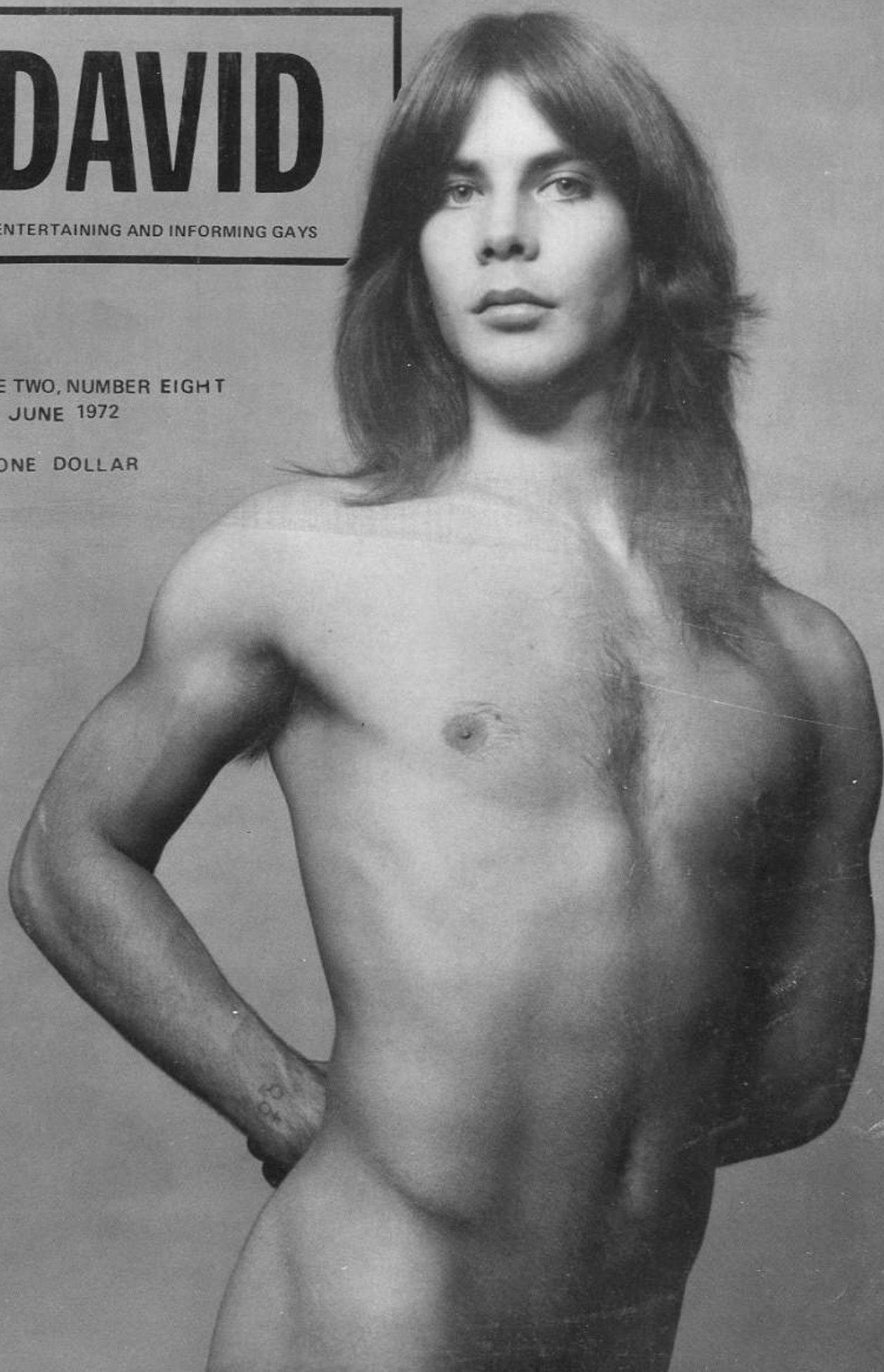


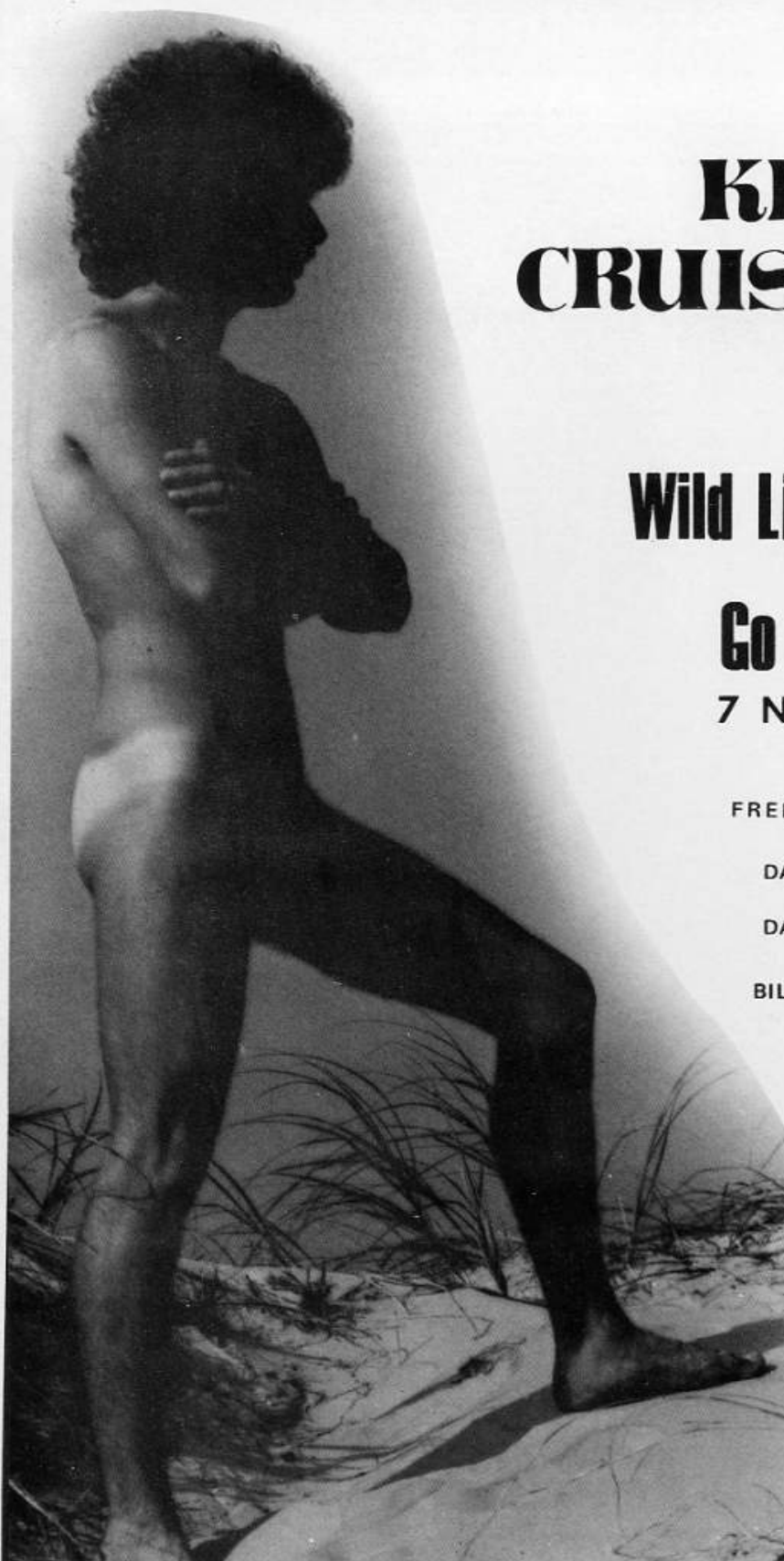
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VOLUME TWO, NUMBER EIGHT
JUNE 1972

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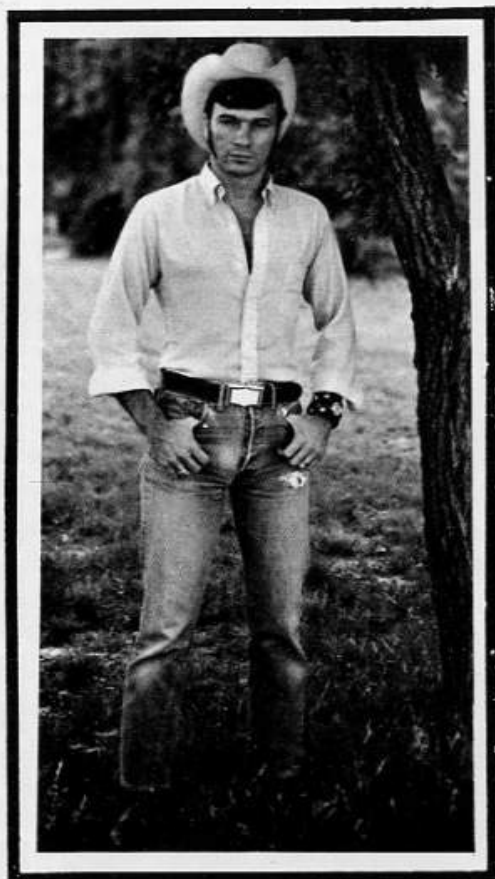
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LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear DAVID,

I became acquainted with your magazine through two of the greatest guys, while vacationing in Naples, Florida. This was my second trip to Florida and I must say that I find Florida to be a very beautiful and friendly state. I have never felt more welcome in any place that I have visited. The people are so congenial as compared to those of my own home state of Pennsylvania, where everyone is so clickish. Keep up the good work on the magazine as you're doing a great job.

Sincerely,

Ken

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear DAVID,

I've been a homosexual, (and other labels) for years, but only recently have I discovered the "other" meaning to the word "Gay".

I find your magazine to be just as advertised; informative and entertaining. I'd hesitate to call it the "finest" since I'm not much on the bar scene and since I dig the more militant news too. But be assured that I enjoy and respect the magazine immensely and that, like Campbell Soup, there will always be one on the shelf.

Sincerely,

Tom G. Townsend Lake Worth, Florida

Dear DAVID,

In the April issue, J.J.N. suggested that you form Gay Liberation groups in the South. Such groups already exist. In fact, almost all the major cities have their own organizations for Gay rights and Gay pride, and in some places where you would expect it would be suicide to even talk about Gay issues, there are active organizations pushing for our freedom, people who know you have to take a stand to be free.

I was born in the south and I, like so many others in that part of America, grew up believing that we had to take it easy, that nobody should push too hard against injustice (even if it was blatantly unhuman). In a region that has denied so many human beings their liberty, it is damned hard to be an advocate of change. I know that you never get anywhere until you take the first step, that you are never heard until you say something. That's what Gay Liberation is about.

When I was still a student at my western Kentucky high school in the mid 60's, we had a teacher who was one of the best liked teachers in that school. One day, he was discovered to be Gay and suddenly all 6,000 people in Providence hated him. He had been a well-respected teacher, a community leader, and a deacon in his church. All at once, he became 'in their

eyes', a sinner, a criminal, a "pervert", a "queer" child molester. He was transformed from a model citizen whose name was a household word, to a monster whose name couldn't be mentioned in "decent" company, a dirty word to snicker at in gym. Because of their ignorance, because they still held onto their dark-age prejudices against anyone who was different, because nobody had ever dared tell them that Gay is good, that we are not psychopaths out to rape their six-year-old sons, a life was shattered. Because we have not demanded our human right to be, right now, in some little town or in some city, there are hopes being crushed, other lives ruined. That's what Gay Liberation is about.

Gay Liberation is no more a supremacy movement than DAVID is Anti-North just because its home office happens to be in Florida instead of Maine. We are simply refusing to be complacent any longer about the position of Gay folk, dealing with our reality of oppression, the reality of that teacher and all our people who have had to lead their lives in silent agony. That's why Gay Liberation exists: for all of them, for all of you, and for folk like me. Together, we will be free!!

Richard Chinn

Chicago, Illinois

(Continued on page 14)

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LOOKING AROUND



In Ft. Lauderdale, the Gay-Way Counseling Service, founded and managed by Louis Cameron, is finally on its way to becoming a reality. A successful benefit performance by Ty Bennett and his Fabulous Fakes at the VENTURE INN was held April 24th and held over for two other nights.

The response produced enough funds to have a preliminary charter submitted to the Secretary of State in Tallahassee. An approval or decision is due within 90 days.

Now, it might be beneficial to our readers to know that those who have so far offered their support are: The Rev. Callaway of the Ft. Lauderdale Metropolitan Community Church, the Henderson Clinic of Broward County, consisting of psychologists and psychiatrists; the Broward County Health Services and the Family Services consisting of social workers and health counselors; and a few other individuals who wish to remain unmentioned at this time.

Your opinions and suggestions are most welcomed. They may be mailed to Louis Cameron, 715 NW 3rd Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33311. It is requested that, at this time, Gay-Way Counseling Service be left off the address until a post office box has been secured.

So take a minute and drop Mr. Cameron a line on your viewpoints. A great portion of the success of this service depends on the gays themselves.

AT THE MOVIES

Let's face it-A CLOCKWORK ORANGE is the most brilliantly directed piece of
DAVID: JUNE 1972

trash ever to happen. Kubrick is an absolute genius...but why he has to choose such pseudo-intellectual subject matter to direct, I'll never know. From a technical standpoint, A Clockwork Orange is probably the number one movie of all times. From the plot/story angle, it's probably one of the worst. It's pure sickness. If it were done for \$300,000 instead of \$3 million and were done by a lesser director, it would be just another grade 'B' S&M sex flick...but...

Nobody, but nobody can handle a camera like Kubrick. The same goes for creative make-up and sets. And no one in the history of cinema has been able to put classical music with contemporary direction the way he does (remember 2001?).

As for symbolism, Kubrick goes from genuinely intellectual to absurdly camp. He uses a Zen condition called Sanpaku with his characters when they are at their sickest. It is a condition whereby, when one is looking straight ahead, the whites of the eyes show beneath the iris. This is considered in Zen to be an indication of great sickness. Most people, however, would miss this bit of brilliance because they've never even heard of Sanpaku. On the other hand, Kubrick uses some symbolism that is so ridiculously phoney, it makes you sick, but unfortunately, this is the stuff that is going to make people say things like, "Heavy, man!" and "Wow, what a statement!" and I'm sure Kubrick means it as pure camp.

I think the thing that gives me such a negative outlook on this film is the fact that I can't help feeling that Kubrick,

with all his talent, is copping out by picking a piece that he can cash in on because he knows that John Q. Public is buying violence and sex this year. The violent scenes are all, admittedly, directed with tongue-in-cheek so that while you're getting nauseated you are also laughing your insides out...but still in all, he's selling violence which to me, is a bummer.

A Clockwork Orange is the story of Alex, a young malcontent who gets his jollies out of what he calls "ultra-violence". He and a gang of three other toughs pillage, plunder and rape their way around London until Alex goes one step too far and murders a very affluent woman. He is caught and is sentenced to 14 years in prison where he immediately begins kissing everyone's derriere in order to win favors. (Incidentally, as sick as he is, the homosexuality in prison is treated as being even more perverted. Hmmm?). Ultimately, Alex is chosen for a rehabilitation experiment. He is conditioned to become deathly ill at the thought or sight of violence. He is also inadvertently conditioned to become sick when he hears his favorite piece of music, Beethoven's Ninth. To make the proverbial long story short, he is later subjected to the Ninth in a locked room and consequently tries to commit suicide.

The papers pick up the story and they are totally sympathetic, claiming that he has been cruelly used as a human guinea pig. Consequently, the politician responsible for his "rehabilitation" tries to shut him up with money and various other favors. He has a fabulous stereo set brought

to Alex's bedside playing ("well, wadaya know?") Beethoven's Ninth. All of a sudden, Alex realizes that he is not getting sick and that some time during his recovery from his attempted suicide, he had been "cured" and can now go back to ultra-violence. The end. Doesn't that sound wholesome?

As I said, though, the use of music is brilliant. Walter Carlos, who did Switched On Bach, even got into that end of the deal. The violent scenes are done in a ballet-like style to the accompaniment of some very well-chosen classical pieces and there is one orgy scene that is a classic piece of low humor in itself. Alex picks up two girls in a record shop and takes them home for a three-way. The sex-scene is speeded up terrifically to the strains of the William Tell Overture. This is just one piece of very bawdy, very funny comedy relief. There's not even any bloodshed in this scene...just sex. (Oh well, it sells too).

A Clockwork Orange is definitely a paradox. It is one of the best and one of the worst movies ever made. It really depends on your point of view. But from any point of view, I suppose it's worth seeing. From a technical aspect, it's a mental orgasm and from the story aspect, it's sick, really sick, but sadly enough, it does make some sort of statement relative to the direction that society is taking. At least Kubrick can make an audience react emotionally in a time when overt reactions seem to be not at all chic.

K.C.

AT THE BOOKSTORE

I HAVE MORE FUN WITH YOU THAN ANYBODY

By Lige Clarke and Jack Nichols

St. Martin's Press, 175 Fifth Ave., N.Y.

Pub. Date; June 12, 1972

The purpose of writing this book, I believe, was to show that all gay love affairs are not merely one trick after another with eventual cohabitation.

Although the book has many merits, it seems almost too short and too sweet.

Have you ever met a couple that seemed too perfect? Whatever one does, the other does. What's good for one is ALWAYS good for the other.

The only problem is they put down almost all "unmarried" gay activities. Is there no joy left for the single gay?

It would be interesting to see what they would have said about gay life if they were single.

Jack and Lige are active in gay rights movements striving for equality and pride for gays. I hope they haven't excluded single gays in their fights there too.

As you read this book, it's like a trip down memory lane where you can remember all the things you've done with past lovers. Many of their activities should be easily identifiable to almost all gays. For example, when they first met, it was a mad passionate love affair until Lige decided he wasn't ready and they split up for a while. Sound familiar? Naturally, as in most "Doris Day" type stories, they

get back together and live happily ever after.

In essence, however, the book covers the various basic activities of two lovers. Their travels together; their thoughts on religion, politics and sex; their jobs, their friends and life in general. In that respect it was an intelligent and well written diary of the lives of two lovers.

I would highly recommend this book to all lovers and those hoping to have one. Don't let the idealism fool you though. I found a lot of what they had to say along those lines hard to swallow.

One passage which bears mentioning sums up gay love life quite nicely;

"We tried looking at our lives from new vantage points. If we held on to each other too tightly, our life-dance would be clumsy. If we were tense we'd step all over each other's feet. At the same time, if we still laughed for the same reasons we knew that neither of us would be dancing far away. Both of us would linger nearby, always eager to touch, happiest when we saw the smiles of pleasure we evoked in each other's faces. We knew how to give each other the freedom to do as each of us pleased. Neither of us would be a warden for the other. We discovered too, that if we didn't press such issues, we had more fun with each other than with anybody else."

A.J.B.

AT THE BARS

Ever take a busman's (or maleman's) holiday? It seems that's what all the bartenders do down in the Miami and Miami Beach area.

Where do they go? Most of them can be found on the fun side of the bar at the popular PIN-UP in Miami Beach.

Got your eye on a groovy number that's usually too busy to catch your eye the right way? Chances are you'll do better at the PIN-UP.

Many of the bars and clubs throughout the nation are busy selecting their contestants for the MR. DAVID contest.

Six contestants are already scheduled

DAVID: JUNE 1972



from Dallas; Five from Houston; Two from Des Moines; Cleveland, Galveston, San Antonio, New Orleans, West Palm Beach will be represented as well as several entries from Miami and Atlanta.

Since this month, DAVID is experiencing greater exposure in New York, Philadelphia and Washington, we hope to have additional entries from those areas.

Probably the nation's most well known male model (not to mention his being one of the nation's grooviest), Jim Cassidy has agreed to make a guest appearance at the contest.

The KNIGHT OUT in Jacksonville, has scheduled a bus tour to the contest to leave Jax on Sunday, July 2nd and to return on Tuesday, July 4th. Cost of the trip is \$40.00 including transportation, lodging and admission, plus all you can drink on the bus on the way.

PEACHES' BACK DOOR in Atlanta is having it's MR. TEEN contest, July 1st. All contestants for this contest must be within the ages of 18 to 21. Entry deadline for the MR. TEEN contest is June 30. The winner will win a 3 day weekend in either New York or Florida and will represent PEACHES BACK DOOR in the MR. DAVID CONTEST.

As usual, when something is happening, it seems the same people are involved in making things happen.

KEITH of the CRUISE ROOM fame has purchased the YUM YUM TREE in Daytona and has changed the name appropriately to KEITH'S - DAYTONA.

Keith has torn out everything in the place so that he could start anew with his own special brand of excitement.

The official opening party is to be held Friday, June 9th. Little Lil will be flying down from Chicago for the festivities which will also feature Billie Boots. Mr. Michael and Adrian.

Dallas' BAYOU LANDING continues to "make things happen" just about every night there.

Monday night, all drinks are half-price; Tuesday nights are old movie nights; Wed-

nesdays are Pzazz Show nights featuring Dallas' very funny David; Thursdays are the pool tournaments with \$50.00 first prize; naturally Fridays and Saturdays are super-fun and the LANDING features fried chicken and draft beer Sundays.

The Richardson Playhouse recently presented a very well staged version of "Boys in the Band" to a packed house. It would seem that a bar is hardly the place for a play, but the audience reaction proved to be quite favorable. The crowd loved it!

The GALLERY in Ft. Lauderdale is very proud of it's new review and has good reason to be.

Featured now at the GALLERY is Mr. Jackie Jackson, well known for her interpretations of the late Judy Garland. Mr. Jackson has also proven to be quite a dancer and choreographer as evidenced by his torred interp of the "Stripper".

Also in the review is Ft. Lauderdale's version of Soul Sister Aretha Franklin.

His "Fire Dance", Pata Pata number ala Mariam Makeba and interpretaions of

Pearl Bailey are very effective and tend to make the crowds roar in appreciation.

The unpredictable and wild Mr. Michael is swinging out and over the audience in about every position imaginable on his red velvet swing again much to the delight of the GALLERY's patrons.

Monday nights are becoming very special nights at PEACHES BACK DOOR in Atlanta. They're called "free nights" with 3 drawings each night for T.V.'s, Champagne, radios, free booze and other assorted prizes. All draft beer that night is only 15 cents from 9 p.m. to closing.

Try to catch their "Grease Show" one time. You'll like it. The shows feature Alvino, Lily White, Kitty Litter and Apple.



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LETTERS(Cont'd from pg. 5)

Dear DAVID,

With the coming national presidential election, would you please inform myself and fellow gays, which candidates, if any, have taken a stand for or against gay liberation. I realize that this hope for one of them being for the removal of antique sex laws is remote, but maybe we'll be lucky someday, and someone will understand.

Thank You,
Jon
Miami, Florida

Dear Jon,

As of this date, the only candidate to have said anything publicly is Hubert Humphrey. In an interview with New York's GAA, Humphrey said the following:

"I am and have always been committed to the civil rights and civil liberties of all Americans. I see no reason why homosexual Americans should be excluded from

equal protection under the law. I am against arbitrary discrimination against homosexuals, especially as it pertains to unfair occupational hiring practices. Homosexuals are citizens; let us treat them as such."

The ADVOCATE has held a survey to find out the viewpoints of the candidates, and thus far, Humphrey's opinion is the only one on record.

Dear DAVID,

I read the article about "Athens Grease" by Miss Diamond Lil in your May issue. It was good to see the Committee On Gay Education mentioned in the pages of DAVID, as it seems to me that the two can compliment each other. I would like to take this opportunity to inform DAVID readers of what the Committee is doing and to seek any support that might be available.

The gay dance certainly did shake up the University of Georgia campus--and

now the Committee's application for recognition as an official University Organization is doing much the same thing. The Student Senate approved the application which was then vetoed by the Student Body President. The President's veto was overrode by the senate; but the Senate is only the first (and easiest) step in the recognition process. The next two steps involve University Councils, from whom the Committee expects rejection of the application. Presently, the Committee is trying to raise funds to support court actions when this occurs.

The Committee is not, however, sitting around doing nothing--it is presently engaged in the 'education' part of its title. This activity includes speeches by Committee Members to various University classes. Over a thousand students are spoken to every quarter. (Since the beginning of the committee's activities, Feb. of this year, over two thousand students have been exposed to at least some fact-

(Continued in page 46)

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Ready, Get Set, Grow!

by Ravi



What kind of gardener are you—novice or expert? It doesn't really matter, if you want to grow some of the numerous plants which are now so readily available in supermarkets, variety stores, garden centers and flower shops.

There's no need to have a "green thumb" to succeed with the houseplants mentioned here. After all, a green thumb is no more than a little basic knowledge about what you're doing—and you need that, regardless of the job you tackle.

"Minimum care" does not mean "no care at all." Just remember that and you'll be off to a good start with any plant.

The plants now widely sold, have become popular because of their adaptability to a wide range of home conditions. Still, each plant is an individual, and there are a few basic facts that you should know, such as the light, water and food requirements for the plant. As for temperatures needed, any of these houseplants can easily survive the daily fluctuations indoors.

The market is flooded with so many varieties of houseplants these days, that it is impossible to cover all of them. Therefore, I will give descriptions of a few of the more easily grown varieties, ranging from the common types to the very exotic.

Few plants can match the beauty of the ORCHID. Several varieties can be grown under the most normal home conditions. The White Moth Orchid (*phalaenopsis*) is so named because the bloom resembles some tropical moths. The snowy white blossom has a yellow throat and grows

atop a long stem. Many kinds of Moth Orchids bloom from two to five months. Give them more light in winter, less in summer. The Lady Slipper Orchid (*cypripedium*) makes a colorful contrast to the white "moth." Its bloom is basically yellow with orange, reddish-brown and white markings. It thrives on moisture and light intensity. Both of these should be kept out of direct sunlight.

One of Mother Nature's most unusual creations is the BROMELIAD. The leaves of this curious plant form a center cup which should be filled with water at all times. The most common of the bromeliads is the pineapple. On the market now, is a small version of the commercial variety, which is too large and thorny to qualify as a good houseplant. A pineapple needs a porous, fast-draining soil mixture—one composed of equal parts of loam, peat and sand. They require more light than most other bromeliads. Give this one the most light it can get. Keep water in the center cup of leaves and only moisten the soil on occasion. Even though the plant holds water on the inside (and needs it there) do not let the soil stay wet and muddy, as this will cause the base of the plant to rot. Rotting of the base is one sure-fire way to kill a bromeliad. It's easy to check the water level in the cup and you should add it as needed. Since one filling will last a week or two, this plant can do without your attention when you're off on vacation.

The Painted Feather (*Vriesia mariae*) is one of the most popular bromeliads and it's quite easy to grow indoors. Just keep

the cup filled with water. Soft-leaved bromeliads like these, don't need strong light. The flattened, featherlike red and yellow flower spike remains colorful for up to three months and more.

You can use bromeliads with large cup "vases" such as *billbergia*, to hold bouquets of cut flowers. The plant's own blossoms will force themselves up through the water kept in the center cup. Then, remove the cut flowers and enjoy the spectacle produced by the *billbergia*'s bloom spike of blue and chartreuse.

ZEBRA PLANT is the common name for a long-neglected beauty. Its foliage is a glossy dark green, ribbed with yellow. The plant produces brilliant yellow flowers, which only last a short time, but the spike continues elongating so you have color for several weeks. Plants may drop foliage and become leggy after flowering. The best thing to do at this stage is to start new plants with tip cuttings. Tip cutting and other methods of propagating (multiplying) plants will be discussed in the article. In planting Zebra Plants, use a standard soil mixture of moderate fertility. Keep the plant in bright light, but out of direct sunlight which will burn the foliage. Attend to watering each time the surface is almost dry. The leaves are stiff and brittle, so beware of breaking them. If they soften, that's a sign that they are wilting and that water is needed. This plant has the odd inclination for leaves to sag (but not soften) when it's in bloom. Remember this and keep it in mind. Otherwise, you may mistake it for a wilting plant and water it to an early death.

Gaining ever-increasing popularity are the houseplants which are big enough to be considered trees. Among these is the CALAMONDIN. This dwarf citrus is a joy to have because of its fragrance and color. For months during winter and spring, it bears flowers and both green and ripe fruits at the same time. For a dwarf plant, grow one that's been grafted. Shape it by trimming lightly when fruiting is over. Citrus grown from seed will not be dwarf--and fruit, if any, will be of dubious quality. Use a general potting mix to moderate the fertility to keep the plant growing vigorously and to get fruit. Citrus takes full sun in winter--and even in summer, outdoors, if you ease it into the sun gradually. Let the soil dry a bit before you water. Fruit drop results from over- or underwatering.

The SCHEFFLERA rates as one of the top cast-iron houseplants. It's available in all sizes, from eight-inch seedlings to ceiling-height trees. The leaves are in clusters of six at the ends of long stalks. The foliage has a natural high gloss--easy to restore if dulled by dust. Gentle rubbing with any damp, soft cloth will do it. The rate of growth of this plant is moderate so don't be worried by the eventual size that the plant can reach. If it gets too big, reduce the size by air-layering, which will be explained later.

In growing Schefflera, use a general potting soil mix available at garden stores. Strong light is best, but not direct sun, shining through glass. Water each time the soil surface appears to be dry. Timing of this varies according to the size of the pot--more frequently for small containers, less so as the size increases. Remember, soil dries faster in clay than plastic pots.

The RUBBER PLANT, a durable, reliable plant, has disappointed many people, largely due to the fact that they've taken advantage of its easy-to-grow nature. True enough, a rubber plant does not need lots of bright light to survive, but it can't survive a long incarceration in a dark corner

either. For planting, use a general potting soil mixture and feed the plant lightly--once in the spring and once in the summer. You're dealing with a plant that is, by nature, a large tree. The idea is to keep it suitable to the house. All species will grow in shade, but will fare better in bright light if there is a uniform supply of moisture. You can grow rubber plants in any window, but protect them by a thin curtain if you place them in windows with a Southern exposure. Lack of water causes dead areas in leaves and they eventually drop. Water moderately about three times weekly.

The DWARF PALM is well-suited to indoor growing, especially where space is at a premium. You'll often find several growing in a pot. You can leave them crowded (nothing much deters these palms) or separate them, as you wish. Use a general potting soil mixture. Apply some houseplant fertilizer lightly every three or four weeks during active growth. Plants grow slowly. Mature ones need only six-inch pots and therefore they can fit almost anywhere. This palm tolerates the dim light and dry air of homes. However, it will do even better if you can give it bright light, but not direct sunlight.

Grow this (and most other palms) on the moist side. If the soil dries out for any length of time, the plant won't fold up, but the tips and edges of fronds will turn brown and unattractive. You can resort to the snipping routine, but that has its limits if you want to keep a well-shaped plant.

The SNOWFLAKE PLANT is an appropriate name for this annual trevesia, a member of the ARALIA family. Its usual snowflake-shaped foliage, evokes wonder in all who see it. The large leaves require considerable water but only when the soil surface starts to dry. Use a standard soil mixture available from garden centers. Grow the plant in a good-sized container and it needs little light. It will thrive for years with only artificial overhead light.

However, a summer change does it good. Put it outdoors under a tree where the sun is well filtered. Stake or tie the plant to protect it against wind damage--especially if the specimen is over two feet tall. During the cooler months, place the plant in your warmest room and provide moist air at all times. Older plants develop spines, so be very wary of the trunk. Other varieties of Aralia should receive the same care.

PHILODENDRON is one of the most versatile plants on the market. Varieties range from the common plants with heart-shaped leaves to the large-leafed climbing varieties, to the bush-like split-leafed Sellaum. The small vining varieties may be trained to climb a totem or allowed to vine freely. They're very attractive on window sills and in wall brackets when they are allowed to vine freely. A large-leafed climbing plant, such as Red Emerald, should be trained to a totem for most effective growth. Do this by gently tying the new growth to the post. Leave the ties in place until the aerial roots penetrate the post and that section of the plant is well supported. If the vine gets too tall, simply add another piece to the totem, or take cuttings.

Although bush-like in appearance, the split-leafed varieties of Philodendron are actually a vine. However, it is not necessary to train them to a totem--the stem should be strong enough to support it.

Philodendrons do well in practically any soil of medium nutrient content. All varieties need strong light--though direct sun will burn them. Small-leaved varieties will tolerate a little more shade. The point to be made here is that with large-leaved plants, the idea is to grow them so that they continue producing big leaves. The new leaves are naturally small, but they should normally increase in size with age. If they remain small, then you know that the plant needs light. Water the Philodendrons three times weekly. And be sure to water the totem as well as the pot soil--

the roots are in both places.

ENGLISH IVY is one of the old standards, but it is still a favorite of many plant growers. These attractive evergreen vining plants come in such a variety of forms that they make good items for the hobbyist or collector. Some are dwarf, and many leaf forms are available. Variegated kinds (those having green leaves, with lighter green or white markings) are more tender and offer much more of a challenge. You'll find the trailing habits of ivies useful for hanging baskets or wall pockets. Or, they're suitable for mantels or room dividers. You can also train the vines over wire or wood and form many designs to your own taste.

All varieties of English Ivy take a standard potting mixture. Grow them in a bright north window; avoiding the hot sun. When the soil surface feels dry to the touch, water until the surplus runs out of the bottom of the pot. Mist the leaves with water every few days. A windex bottle which has been cleaned and refilled with water works quite well for this.

DIEFFENBACHIA, more commonly referred to as "dumb cane" has several varieties now available. The toughest of the lot is *Dieffenbachia amoena*. It has a cane-like trunk with almond-shaped, variegated leaves. However, if it's bold, dramatic leaves are too large for your situation, try one of the beautiful small-leaved varieties, such as *Rudolph Roehrs* which is chartreuse with a dark green midrib.

Grow the canes in a mixture of equal parts of loam, sand and peat. *Dieffenbachia* tolerates a wide range of light—from poor to bright. But full sun will yellow the foliage—your main reason for growing it. The best growth results in bright light. Don't let the soil dry out, or the edges of the leaves will become discolored. If the leaves start to droop, you know that water is needed. When the soil starts to dry out, water it well. You can immerse the pot (not the plant itself) in a pail of water. When the water stops bubbling, remove the pot with the plant and allow to

DAVID: JUNE 1972

drain. You'll save yourself two or three waterings this way.

The DRACENA, with its striking blade-like leaves, is popular in spite of its tendency to develop brown tips and edges. The discolorations are easily snipped off with scissors. A new, resistant form has been developed and is now available on the market. Plants thrive in small pots—seemingly disproportionate to the size of the plant. Repot to a larger container only when the plant is rootbound and normal growth slows down noticeably—that is, if new leaves fail to put out. Loose, well-drained soil, high in organic matter, encourages good growth in *Dracena*. Grow the plants in an east window or out of direct sunlight in south and west windows to maintain brightly colored foliage. Never let the soil dry out—the plant likes plenty of moisture. Mist the leaves occasionally. In fact, do this with all plants to remove the dust which may impede the plant's growth.

Hosts of people find AFRICAN VIOLETS easy to grow. There's also a large group who feel they just don't have the knack. Actually, the key to success is no great mystery. Violets need a more porous soil that most houseplants do—at least half organic matter. Grow them in small pots—up to the four-inch size for mature plants.

Your African Violets fail to flower? The chances are, you don't have them in the right light. If your plants have only beautiful, healthy green foliage and no blossoms, the light is probably too low. If the foliage gets burned, there's too much light. Grow the plants in a bright north window in summer and in a bright east one in winter (on coldest nights, put a sheet of aluminum foil between glass and plants to prevent damage from freezing). Avoid overwatering by using porous soil with drainage in the bottom of the pot. Apply warm water when the soil surface dries. Never use cold water (but not too warm either) and do not get water on the leaves as it will discolor them.

Becoming more and more popular these days are FERNS. The range of varieties is outstanding, from the ever-popular Boston fern to the exotic staghorn fern. Most varieties enjoy the same treatment. They like good drainage, rich soil, humidity, plenty of space, partial shade, ample water and air circulation—but no direct drafts.

Garden centers and nurseries have commercial potting soils suitable to almost any plant. However, if you have the facilities, the time, and the desire, you can make a general potting soil of your own which can be varied according to the individual plant. Here is my favorite recipe:

1 bushel garden loam (top soil)

1 4-inch clay pot of sheep manure

3 gallons leaf mold and/or peat moss

1 3-inch pot of bonemeal

1 3-inch pot of hydrated lime

1 gallon of sand

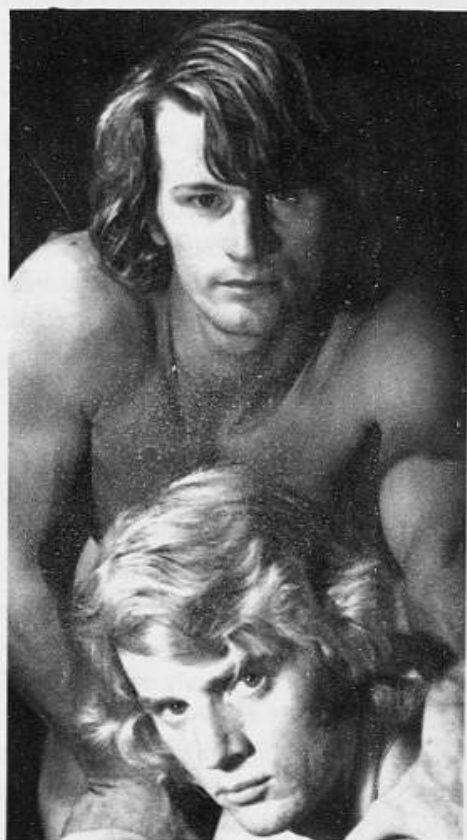
The peat moss, manure, bonemeal and lime can be acquired at most garden centers. The loam can be dug from the top four or five inches of garden soil. The leaf mold is rotted leaves and can be raked up in the woods or in flower beds. Be sure that you get decayed and not freshly fallen leaves. The sand can be gotten from a building supplies store. For smaller amounts of potting mixture, simply reduce the amount of all the ingredients proportionately. For purely ornamental foliage, double the amount of leaf mold or peat. When potting up a plant in a pot which has a drainage hole in the bottom, place a piece of broken pottery over the hole to keep the soil from draining out. If you use a more ornamental planter which doesn't have a drainage hole, put at least an inch of coarse gravel in the bottom so that the excess water will have a place to drain from.

The true hobbyist will want to multiply (or propagate) his plants. Most plants can be started from seeds, but it takes longer than from cuttings and because most houseplants have been hybridized, (Continued on page 57)

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DAVID DISCUSSES

In the April 1971 (Vol.1 No.6) issue of *DAVID*, a story appeared entitled, "They Did it Anyway." It concerned two young gays (from Jacksonville) who decided to "get married" and did so, in front of a large crowd in a bar located on Jacksonville Beach. One of the gays, Ronnie Far-

mer, is now classified among that category of people which we refer to as 'Transsexualists.' That is, Ronnie is now going through the sex-change procedures in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Hopefully, by next Christmas, Ronnie Farmer will no longer be a man. He will, for all intents and purposes, be a woman, complete with

all (or most) of the necessary equipment.

This writer has known Ronnie since he first made the gay scene and feels that his story is one that should and needs to be told. This subject is one that so few of us know anything about, yet is happening to more and more people every day, right here in the U.S.

On Sex Reassignment

DAVID: Can you explain exactly what "sex change" means?

FARMER: Sex change is just slang for 'sex reassignment' surgery, which simply means changing a male to a female or vice-versa.

DAVID: What was it that prompted you to go through with this?

FARMER: This is something that I have always wanted to do. I had, however, many things stopping me. The main thing was just getting up the nerve to do it. Another was that I wanted to wait until I reached my twenty-first birthday so if my family did not agree with what I was doing, I could go ahead and have it done without their consent. I have been talking to people and consulting different societies for about a year. So when I decided to go through with this, I moved to Baton Rouge and took the necessary steps.

DAVID: Does your family know? If so, what do they think of it?

FARMER: I will say that my family does not agree with me on this. They don't believe that this is what I really want. I would rather not bring them into this interview, though.

DAVID: What were the procedures that you had to go through in order to begin the change? (That is, what were the very first steps that you had to take, i.e. seeing doctors, a judge or whatever).

FARMER: As I told you earlier, I had been writing to different societies to find

out what would happen. When I finally decided that I was going to do this, I decided to move to Baton Rouge because of the Reed Erickson Foundation there, with Dr. James Lorio. I had to set up an appointment for an evaluation session and write an autobiography in as much detail as possible. I came to the evaluation session and received my prescription for my hormones. Next, I had to get a job, working as a female. I work as a cocktail waitress in a straight bar. They gave me identification papers to stop any trouble with the law. They require that you live and work in 'drag' for a period of six months to two years, so you will be sure that this is what you want to do. As far as a judge goes, you don't need a judge until the operation is complete and the legal records need to be changed.

DAVID: Are you taking hormone shots? If so, what effect do they have on you?

FARMER: I have been on the hormone pills for seventy-five days, as of now. You don't start shots until after two hundred days unless you want to take silicone. The reason for this is so that your body can adjust to the female hormones. If at all possible, I will avoid the silicone because it has been proven to be very cancerous. The effect that I have received from the pills are, my breasts have begun to swell, my hips are shaping, and my arms and legs are getting smoother. Occasionally, your stomach gets upset after

taking these pills but this can be avoided by taking the pills before going to bed at night. They also cut down considerably on your body hair.

DAVID: What are the legal requirements for the sex-change procedure?

FARMER: There are really no legal requirements. It's up to the doctors. It would be too difficult to make any legal requirements because so many people change their minds at the end. The only thing is that you have to be, is 21 years of age or have your parents' consent.

DAVID: Are there any organizations that are or were created specifically for people going through this?

FARMER: Yes, there are quite a few and some very good ones, I might add. There is the foundation that I am seeing here, The Reed Erickson Foundation. Also, there is the John Hopkins Society in Boston, the Gender Identity Clinic in Jacksonville and another branch of the Reed Erickson Foundation in New York City. There are also many more which I could list, but I think these are the best-known ones. If you were planning to go through with the change and didn't live in any of these towns, they could put you in touch with a doctor in the town you live in, or in the closest big city.

DAVID: What is the cost of the procedure?

FARMER: This all depends on the per-

(Continued on page 48)



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TWO SEPERATE WORLDS

by T. Joseph DeJong

The country was hot and muggy. The continuous rains made life virtually unbearable, everything was wet and steaming from the combination of heat and moisture. Brian's fatigues were drenched and became a growing source of discomfort to him. They smelled as it had been weeks since we had had the chance to do the laundry or to even bathe. What a life! How could anyone possibly consider making the military a career? It seemed like ages since he'd been home, clean and dry. The tanks had been on the move constantly the past few weeks in a fruitless attempt to lend support to the struggling infantry. Why am I here? Brian

kept repeating those words over and over in his mind. There was no explanation.

The war impressed him as nothing more than a game, phantom generals shuffling troops from one area to another, like pieces on a chess board.

Brian squirmed. Pawns, just goddam pawns in an evil game. The rain stopped, as suddenly as it had started. Slowly, ever so slowly, the skies parted and a faint glimmer of sun peered through. A chance to dry out. Hastily, he scrambled to the turret of the iron monster. He spread himself out like an ancient sun worshipper, intent on absorbing every ray of old Sol while he could. The warmth of the sun's rays and the dampness of his uniform and body surrounded him like a woolen blanket. The stench of his body grew stronger and under normal conditions, the odor would have been unbearable.

He noticed other movements along the column. Like prairie dogs, first heads,

then whole bodies emerged from the steel boxes. The column of tanks came alive with activity. Brian just sat there, as if on a perch and mused.

"Hey, have you seen my Crew Chief?" came a shout from the ground.

"What?" Brian replied casually. "My Crew Chief--have you seen him?" The words seemed strange after such a long period of silence. Brian sat up and peered down at the questioner. It was Gordon, young and handsome, the gunner from the tank dubbed "Betty's Babe". Only twenty, Gordon was a fine specimen of manhood. About five feet, ten inches, with a build like those you'd see in a surfer magazine back home.

"Well, dammit, are you going to answer me?"

"Oh yeah--I mean no, I haven't seen him. Why. What's up?"

"I just wanted to find out if we were going to move this outfit now that the

(Continued on page 60)

...At The Theater

by Mike Butler

At the time of year when everything else seems to be blossoming and growing, Broadway seems to be sitting back and taking a rest. After a hectic season of ups and downs, openings and closings, new curtain hours, replacements, rewritings, and refusals, the heart of the country's entertainment industry has returned to a normal beat. Thus, it seems a good time to take a look and see what's going on—or off.

Before going any further, we must pay tribute to that quite good, off-Broadway production, "The Fantastiks", now in its thirteenth record-breaking year, with no signs of ever closing! With "Fantastiks" record perhaps as motivation, there seems to be a flurry of new off-Broadway shows in the making. The most impressive is Jason Miller's "That Championship Season," produced by Joseph Papp. It's our bet that Papp takes "Championship" to Broadway for next season. Also slated for opening is "All the Girls Came Out To Play" starring that hunky blond, Dennis Cole. Dennis has had a fantastic tour with "Girls" and it's a sure Broadway hit. Well, that's all for coming events as we see it, so let's take a look at where Broadway stands and what's happened in the last year to get it there.

With the closing of such greats as "Company," "1776," and "Purlie," Broadway looked like it was doomed. It's big stars were leaving to take their shows on the road, leaving behind a gap sometimes too big to fill. But Broadway's been through this before and it has always survived.

The record holder on Broadway is, of course, "Fiddler on the Roof," with over 3200 performances, thus making it the longest running show ever. Even with the movie version now released, the play is still going strong.

Other long runs include "Applause," now starring Arlene Dahl. "Applause" is the musical version of "All About Eve". Laur-

en Bacall has the show on the road and either production is a sheer delight. Gloria Swanson is still doing "Butterflies Are Free" and Ruby Keeler and Helen Gallagher are still tapping their toes to "Tea for Two" in "No, no, Nanette," that



BOBBY VAN AND HELEN GALLAGHER

bright revival of Youman's musical of 1928. And good news for the "nature-lovers"—both "Hair" and "Oh, Calcutta" are still going strong.

Some of the newer musical shows seem to be leaning to nostalgia for their popularity as well. "Different Times" by Michael Brown is about several generations of an unhappy New England family.

The revival of "A Funny Thing Happened to Me on the Way to the Forum" turned out to be better than the original. The cast includes Phil Silvers (who won the Tony Award for best actor in a musical for his role) and Larry Blyden.

"Grease" has a cast of virtually all unknowns and it brings back the not-too-long forgotten memories of the 1950's.

You'll probably get the same feeling from the play that you got from that tiresome decade.

Another revival, "Lost in the Stars" stars Brock Peters and a huge cast. A return of the Kurt Weill-Maxwell Anderson musical of 1949, the play offers fine dancing and a magnificent set.

And, the king of nostalgia on Broadway is "Follies". This new play which brought home many Tonies for its cast and staff, including one for Alexis Smith (who also won 'After Dark's' Ruby Keeler Award). Others in the cast include Gene Nelson, Dorothy Collins, John McMartin and the great Yvonne de Carlo. The play takes a musical look back on the days of real follies and reminds us what we missed not being around in the good ole days!

Other musicals well-worth mentioning, include The Tony Award winner for the Best Musical, 1971-1972, "Two Gentlemen of Verona" which includes some remarkably attractive actors; "Jesus Christ, Superstar" and the newest hit, "Sugar".

"Sugar" is a remake of the movie, "Some Like it Hot" and stars the magnificent Robert Morse ("How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying") is worth watching regardless if he's in drag or not; After a pretty rough road tour before reaching Broadway, the fate of "Sugar" is still up to the Gods and critics (who sometimes think they ARE the gods!).

After the Pearl Bailey cast of "Hello, Dolly!" a few seasons back, and last year's "Purlie" it seems only natural that this year would bring more all-black cast plays and it did—some good ones at that.

"Ain't Supposed to Die a Natural Death" is a great show by Melvin Van Peebles. The play mingles social protest with the usual difficulties of people falling in and out of love. The cast is all wonderful.

The new "Don't Bother Me, I Can't

(Continued on page 45)

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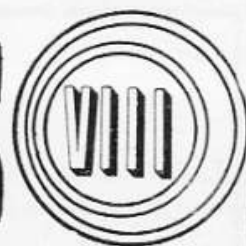
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In Chicago, the UP NORTH will be celebrating its 1st anniversary on July 16th. All drinks all day will be 75 cents and from 4 pm to 8 pm, will be a free buffet. A television will be given away and a free weekend trip for two to Saugatuck, Michigan, as well as many other prizes. To be eligible, all patrons will receive tickets (1 for each drink—2 for each meal) which will be good for the weekly drawings for a free AM/FM radio and for the anniversary party drawing.

SPARROW'S is once again looking for a new Emperor and Empress. The contest will be held June 1st, Thursday. Last year's winners were chosen from the King & Queen contest, contestants from each of the bars in the city. The winners were: Emperor, King of Broadway Sam's; Empress, Queen of Jamie's. The 1st runners-up were the King of the Ritz and the Queen of the Night Life.

Watch for news of Don Dunfee's future extravaganza—the Miss Universe of Chicago contest, to be held in mid-August. First prize will be \$5,000; second prize \$1,000; and third prize, \$500.

'One' of Chicago will hold a dance at the Odd Fellows Hall, 4221 W. Irving Park Road. There will also be a buffet and drinks. The time is 9 PM.

BROADWAY SAM'S, also in Chicago, at 5246 N. Broadway, boasts something for everyone. If you decide to get competitive, there are the pool tables. Or, you can dance along with disc jockeys Joel & Tony. Don't miss Beer Bust night on Wednesdays. All the draft beer you can drink, at the most reasonable price in town. Sunday buffets are at 6 PM.

THE ANNEX, located in the heart of Chicago's gay community, has the best-looking college/hippie crowd. There is a new dance floor and a bar that was just made for cruising, complete with a whole wall done in mirrors! During the summer, they will have a buffet at 4 on Sundays
DAVID: JUNE 1972



THE WINNERS OF SPARROW'S EMPEROR AND EMPRESS CONTEST

for the beach crowds and anyone else who wanders in.

The Mattachine (Midwest) Society, is really telling Chicagoans like it is. They show what it means to be gay in 1972; How attitudes of sex have changed and how the gay person's style of living has changed.

Because of movements of groups like the Mattachine Society, there has been an educating of the "straight world" and an opening up of the gay world. Attitudes on both sides are changing. We are all tired of role-playing. The barriers between both worlds are being torn down and we are treating each other as human beings, relating to each other, not just on a sexual level. Gays are no longer ashamed, guilty,

or as defensive nor are straights as fearful of something they once misunderstood.

As human beings, gay people deserve and demand respect and dignity and are openly saying it. The fear of exposure is slowly disappearing.

It is not unusual to see gay and straight mixing and enjoying each other's company and friendship, fully aware of each other's preferences for mates. Gay people are also seeking new ways of meeting new companions without having to sneak around or hide their actions. Everyone is coming out of their closets and people are changing their thinking.

Mattachine Midwest holds monthly meetings. Call 334-2244 for more information.

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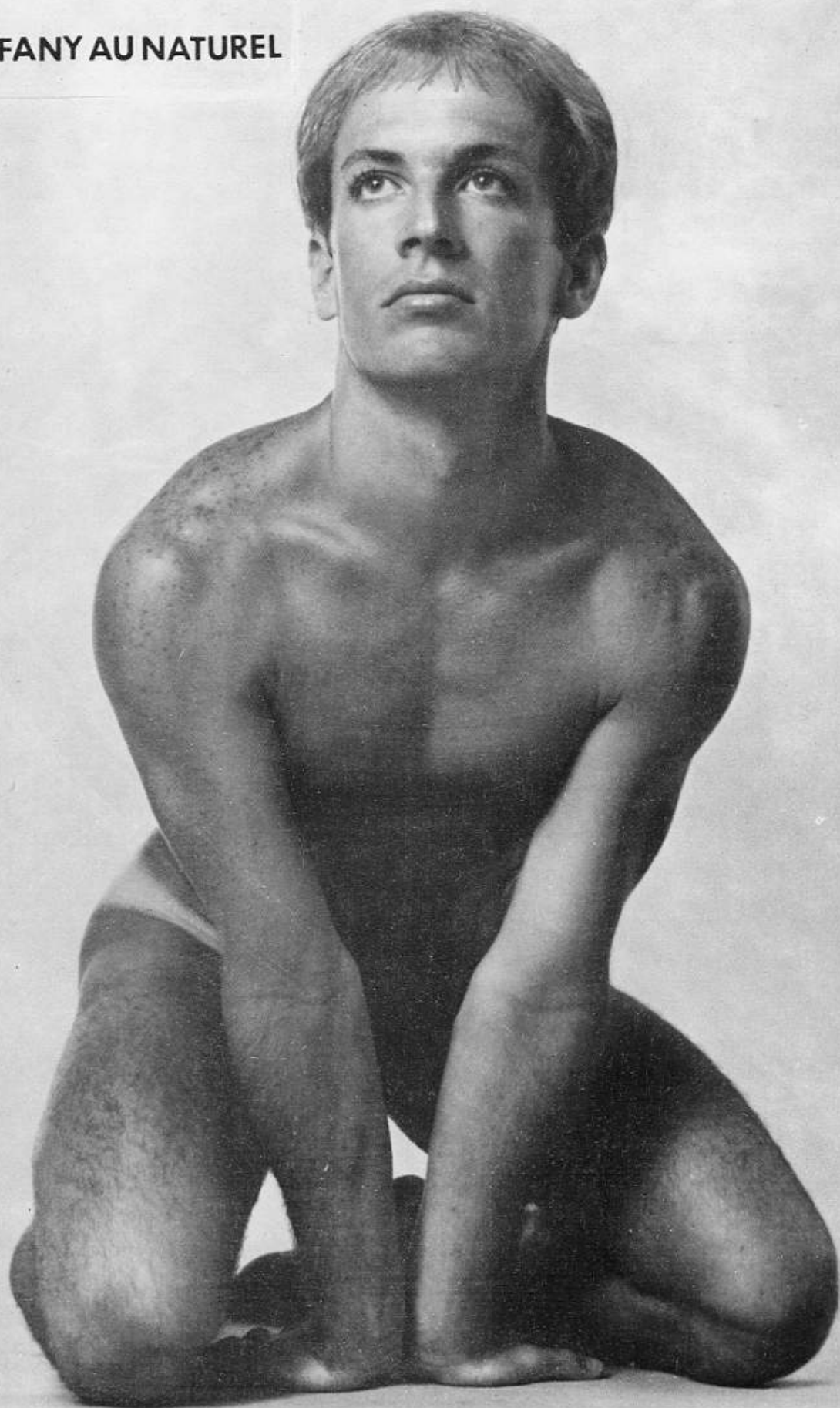
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Naturally Tiffany

(turn page)

TIFFANY AU NATUREL





July 1, 1972

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- 2. ENTRY FEE - \$10.00.
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RODEO QUEENS

by R. C. Vallarian

Everybody was really excited. It was because of this brain storm Buddy Babe got about our next big show, which was a rodeo spectacular. That meant we boys had to be cowgirls in leather and fringe while Buddy Babe wore something tight and shiny so everyone would look at him. Then, too, no one knew exactly how to make up a rodeo inside a bar on stage; that's when Buddy Babe told us his plan. Which was to take two of his dearest friends to a real rodeo and get more experience than "any girl on a horse since Calamity Jane." Everybody thought that over for a while and nobody liked it, but as Buddy Babe owned the place in which we worked, everybody smiled. Then he picked me and Honey Cone, who were awfully surprised because, as his dearest friends, he had never spoken to us. We were younger than he was.

I began to get worried at the airport because Honey Cone and I not only had to carry all the luggage, but also pay for the tickets. This was called Dutch Treat, which meant Buddy Babe didn't pay for anything, but he smiled a lot.

I was more worried when we went to some place called Phoenix, which was full of deserts, hot air, and people with sunburns. But Buddy Babe said travel was uplifting to the mind and that I was a sissy who shouldn't expect life to be a lousy bowl of cherries. Also, I had to stop crabbing and buy him a coke.

Everyone at the rodeo was very wild and wearing cowboy hats and looking at us. Honey Cone and I were in old jeans and tee shirts with peace signs on them; but Buddy Babe, who said a star is always a star, wore a red velvet pant suit, gold boots, and a Garbo hat with rhinestones.

"All right, girls, soak up atmosphere, get ideas for costumes, and show numbers, but remember: your reputation is my rep-



utation. Behave like stars."

Buddy Babe always said things like that, especially about boys who were younger than he was. But it was so hot, nobody listened until Buddy Babe said he was taking us to "a man among men" who would teach us everything about rodeos, and then some. Which was true, although we didn't know it then.

This man among men was a cowboy called Old Jake who was so old he didn't have any teeth and his face was sunk in and wrinkled. But he had nervous hands, which Honey Cone soon discovered.

We left Old Jake and Honey Cone alone because Buddy Babe said he wanted to take some publicity shots of me on top of a cow for the show. I was very surprised as Buddy Babe always did publicity poses himself.

Then I saw the cow.

It was big, with sharp horns, and bad manners, and locked inside of a stall that he kept kicking to get out of. I didn't want to go near him, but Buddy Babe said I was a disgrace to Show Business if I couldn't do a silly thing like sit on a cow for the girls back home.

I said why didn't he get a girl back home who was crazy to sit on this cow; and he said I would be crazy if I didn't, because if I didn't I could walk home. So I sat on the cow.

Then Buddy Babe climbed up and wrapped a chiffon scarf around my neck for luck and tied it so hard I could hardly breathe; then he threw open the stall door and the cow ran away with me screaming on top of him. I don't remember what happened after that. Except I won some award called the Unofficial

(Continued on page 65)

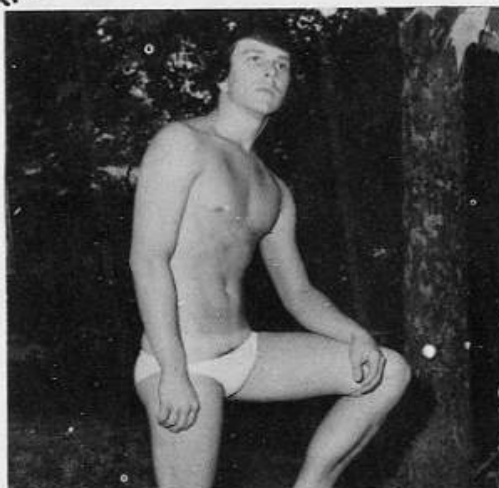
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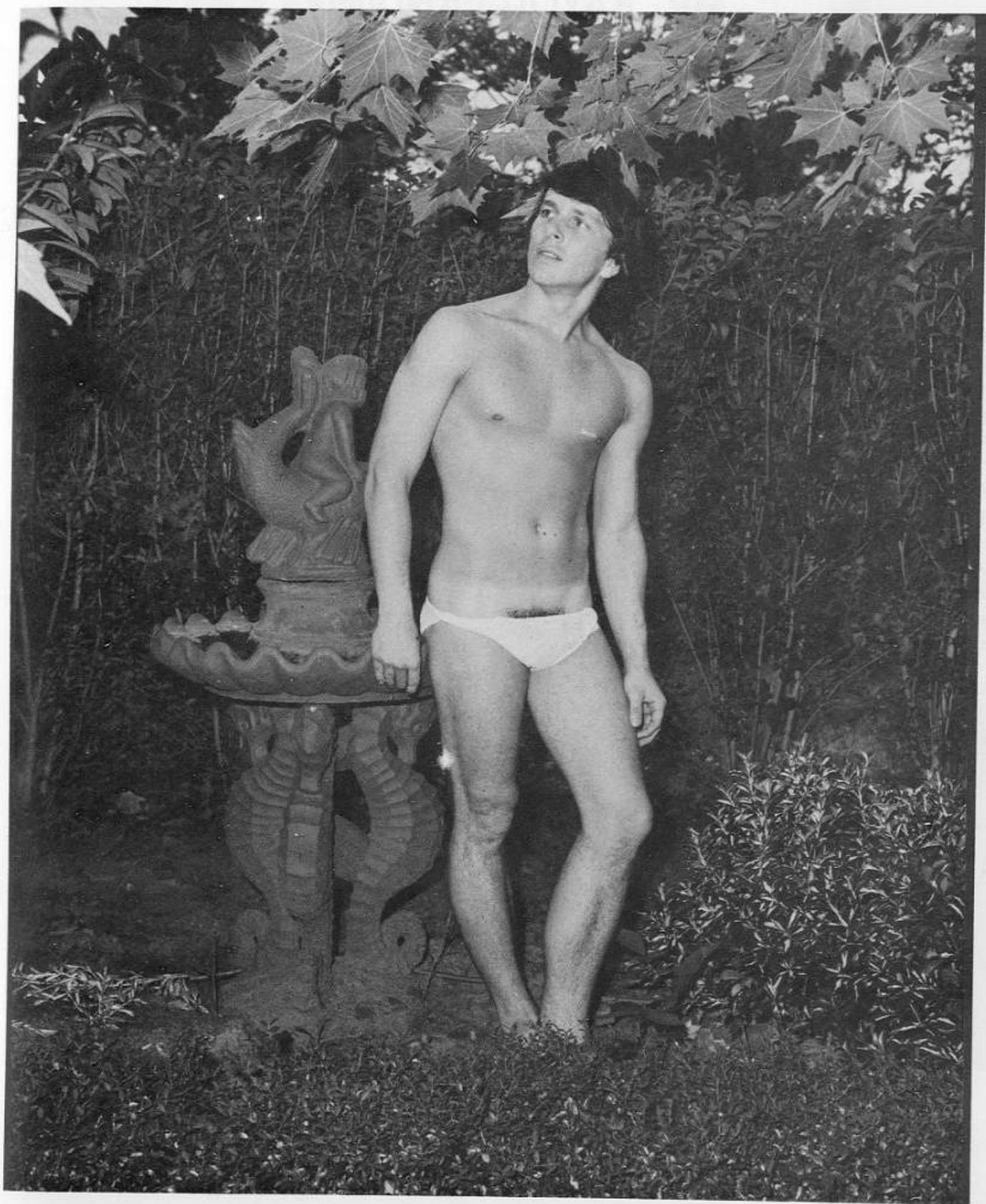
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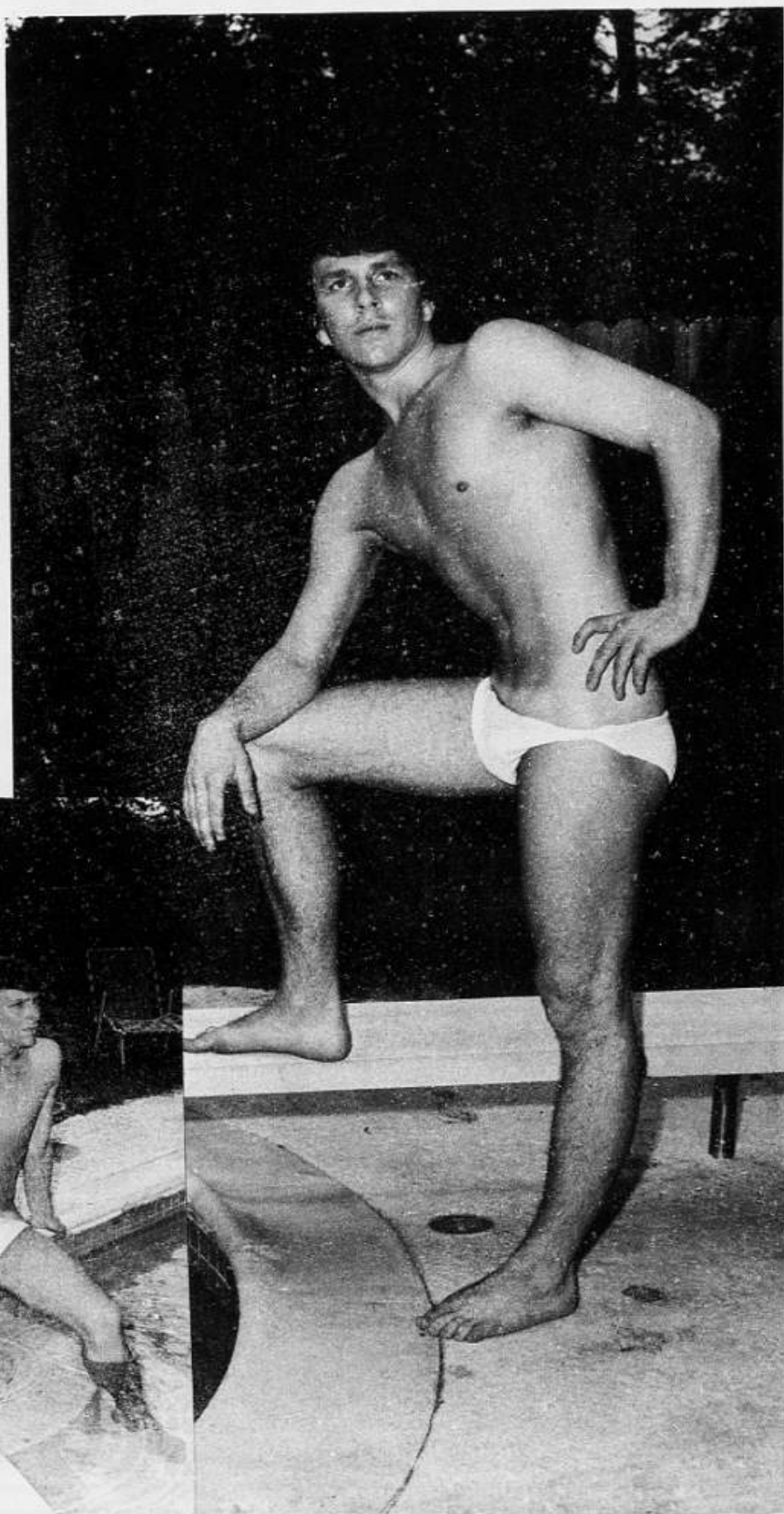
1972

In preparation for the MR. DAVID Contest to be held in Atlanta, Georgia this year, the BAYOU LANDING sponsored a contest of their own to help select their entry.

Dallas was thrilled and impressed with the chance to view so much male at one time on the stage of this huge club.

Emerging from the line up, standing out like a refreshing desert flower came MR. BAYOU LANDING, Jack.

An aspiring actor, Jack has landed one of the starring roles in the Richardson Playhouse's version of "Boys in the Band", currently enjoying a successful run in Dallas. Twenty-four year old Jack vividly portrays "Larry" in the production.



A black and white illustration of a muscular man from the waist up, facing slightly to the right. He is holding a rectangular sign above his head with both hands. The sign has the words "NOW OPEN" in bold, capital letters. Below the man, a series of ribbons or banners are draped, each containing text. The ribbons are arranged in a descending staircase pattern from left to right. The man's physique is highly detailed with cross-hatching for shading.

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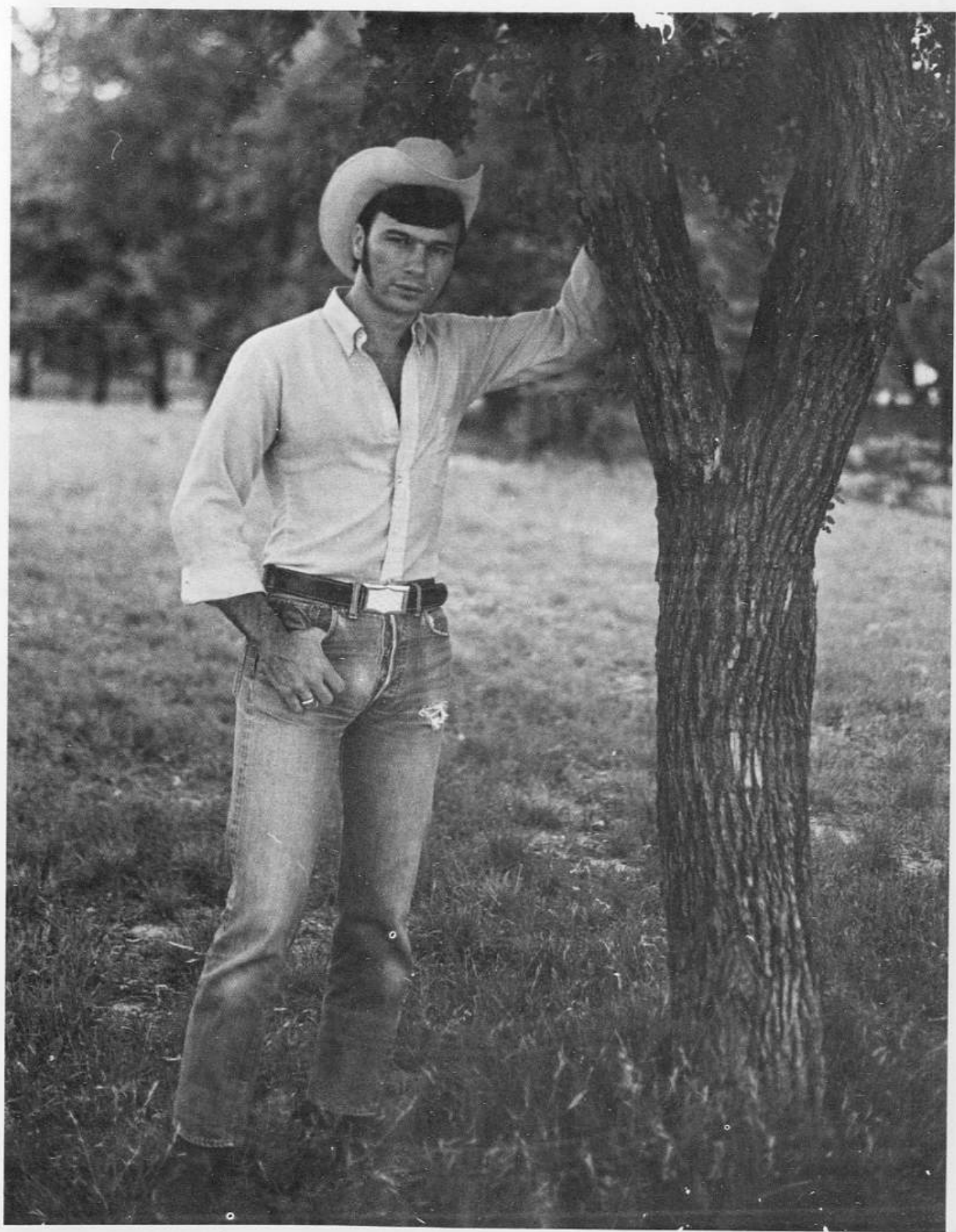
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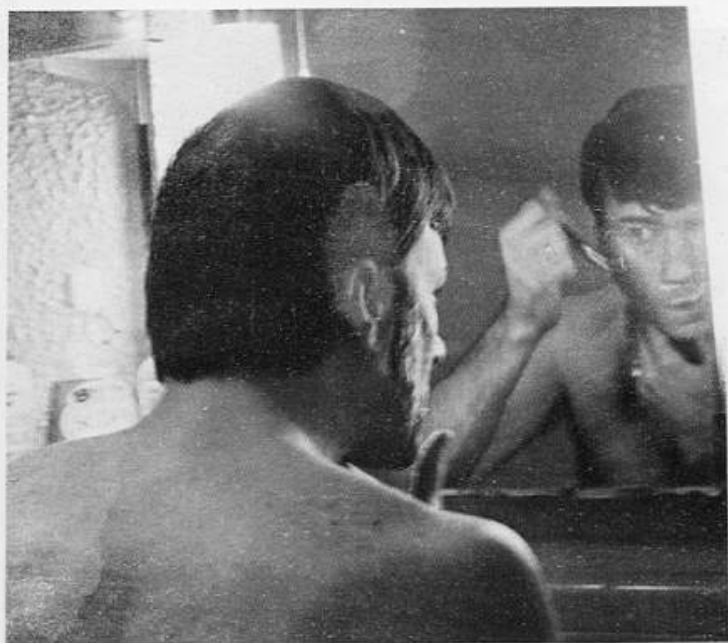
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DICK AND GERRY





Most people that wander into the SWINGER in Dallas, Texas automatically lower their voice 3 octaves. It's a Man's bar, usually full of ruggedly handsome studs.

You don't walk. You swagger up to the bar and order your drink from the equally handsome bartender, Terry.

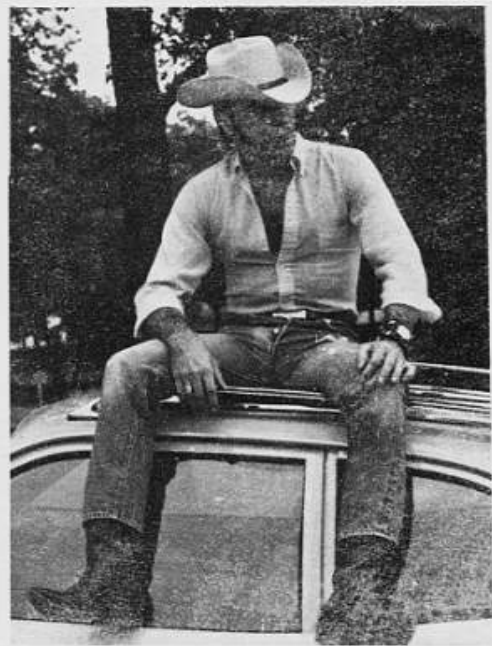
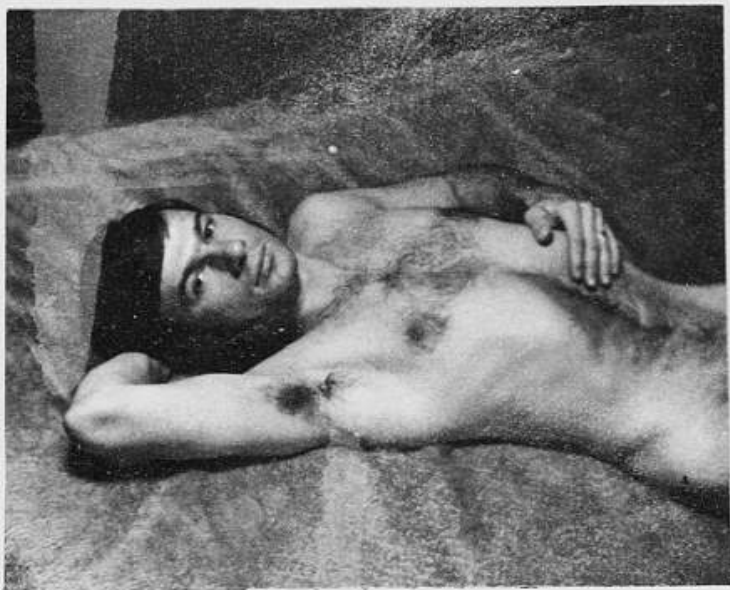
What does Terry think of the whole butch scene? "I groove on it! Dallas has needed a bar like this for a long time. These guys are guys. They like being guys and wouldn't have it any other way."

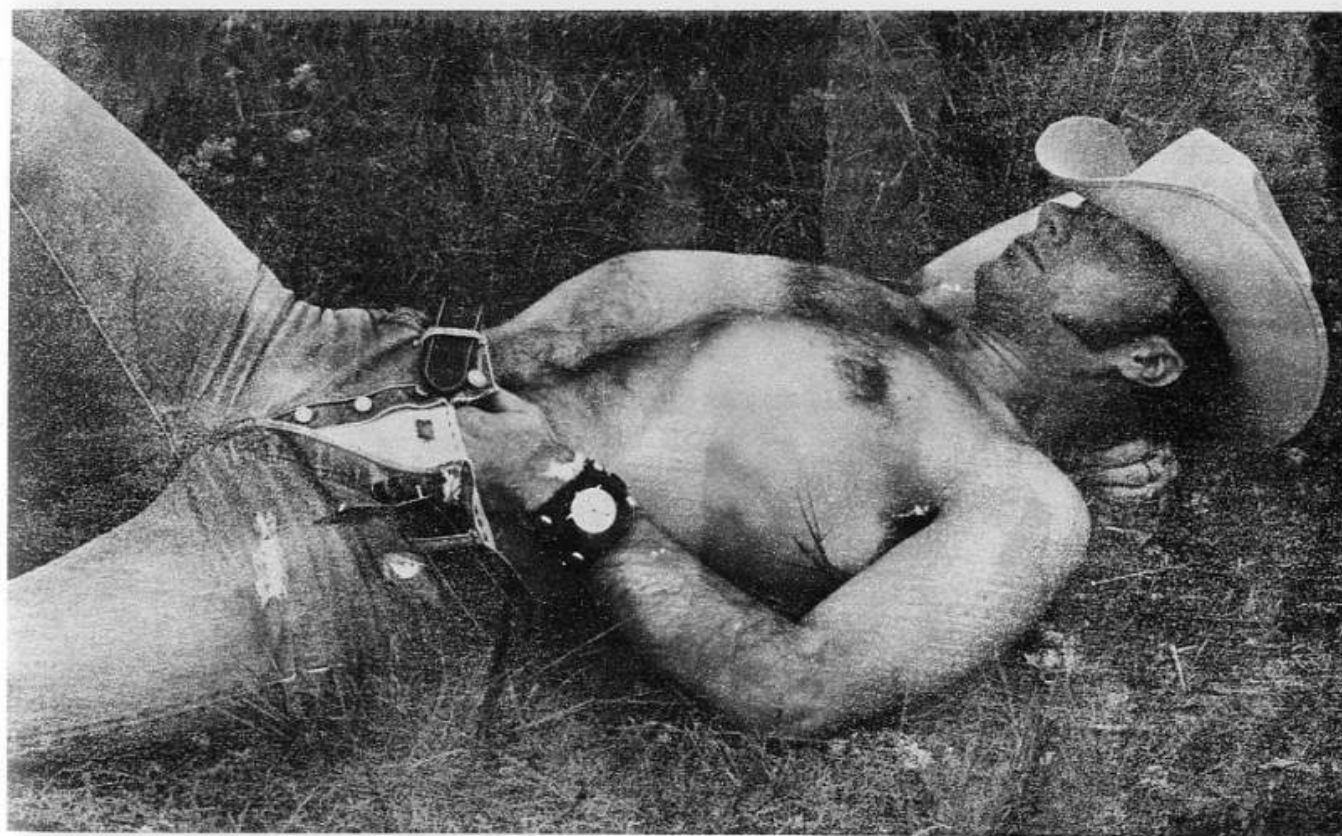
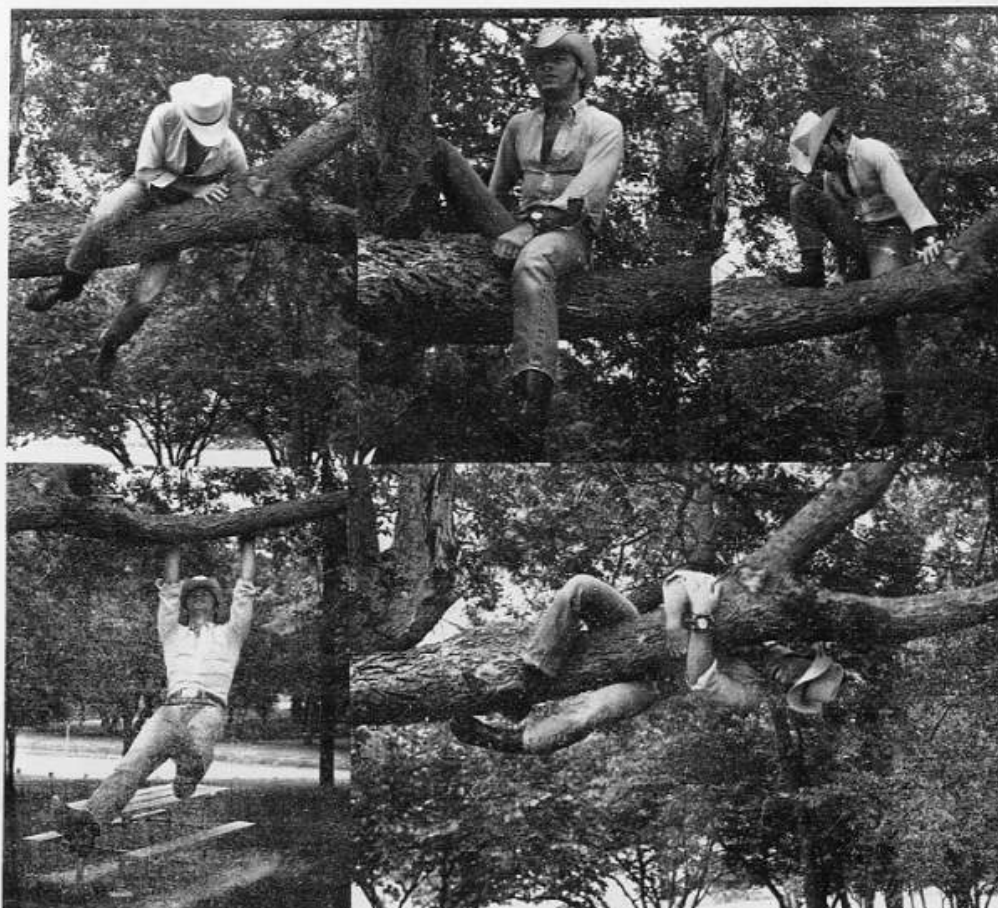
Terry keeps in shape by taking long walks and spending as much time in the Texas Sunshine as possible.

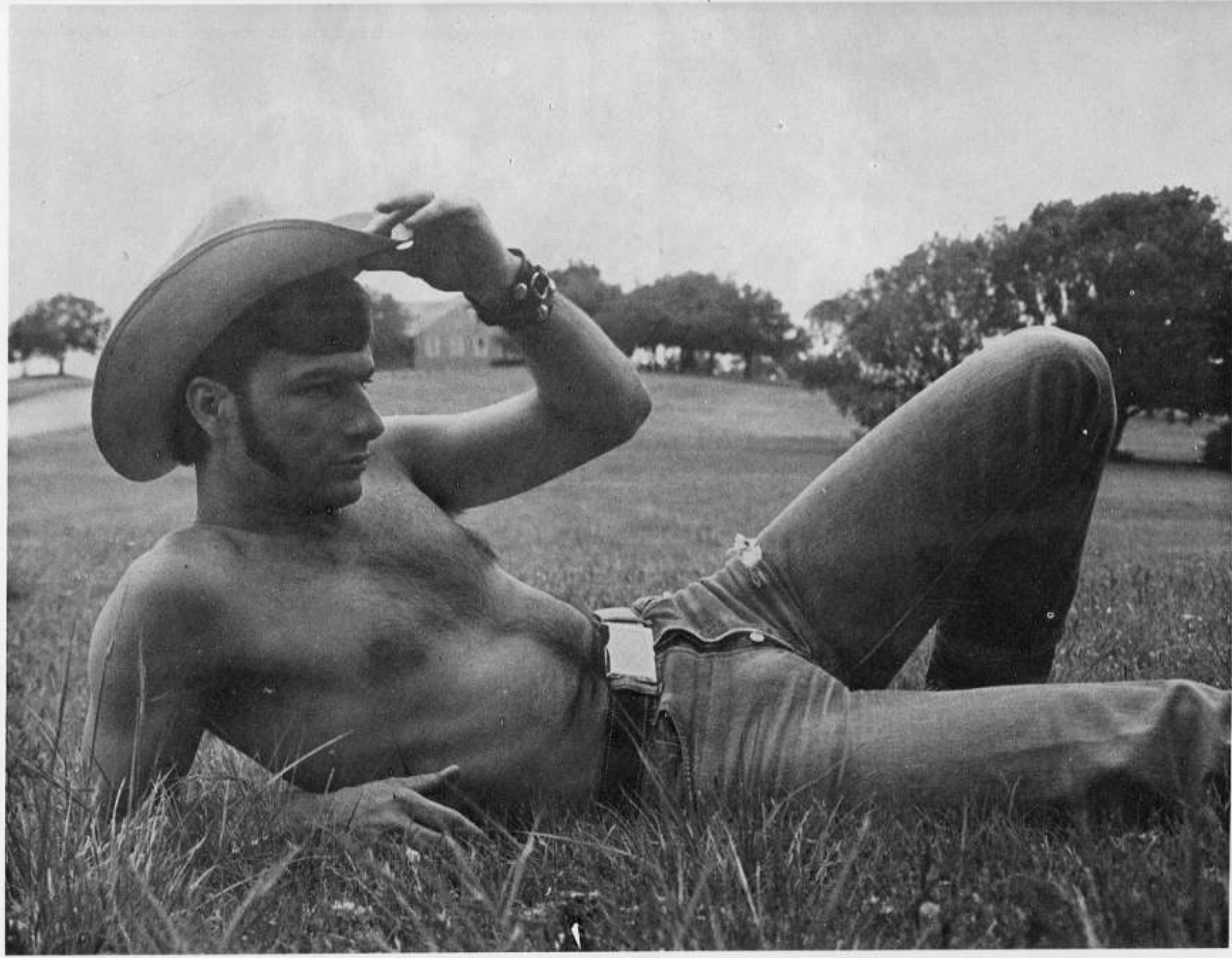
Swagger into the SWINGER and say hello for us.



TERRY







THE Nook

coral gables, fla.

Miss Gay Universe Pageant

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1972



PENSACOLA, THE CITY OF FIVE FLAGS IN FLORIDA'S PANHANDLE, WILL HOST THIS YEAR'S GALA MISS GAY UNIVERSE PAGEANT, THE FESTIVITIES WILL BEGIN JUNE 30th AND CONTINUE UNTIL JULY 4th AT WHICH TIME FIVE LUCKY CONTESTANTS WILL WIN THE FOLLOWING:

FIRST PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A 15-DAY TRIP FOR TWO TO EUROPE. SHE WILL VISIT LONDON, AMSTERDAM, AND PARIS, VIA PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS. SHE WILL ALSO RECEIVE \$200 IN CASH FOR SPENDING MONEY. SHE WILL RECEIVE NUMEROUS OTHER GIFTS SUCH AS WIGS, WARDROBE GIFT CERTIFICATES, ETC.

SECOND PLACE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A TRIP FOR TWO TO THE BAHAMA ISLANDS AND OTHER ASSORTED GIFTS.

THIRD, FOURTH, AND FIFTH PLACE WINNERS WILL RECEIVE GIFTS VALUED AT MORE THAN \$2,000.

1. ESCORTS WILL BE PROVIDED
2. ENTRANCE FEE WILL BE \$35.00
3. DEADLINE FOR ENTRANCE WILL BE JUNE 15, 1972
4. CONTEST WILL BE HELD AT ROBBIE'S YUM YUM TREE WEST, PENSACOLA, FLORIDA.
5. CHAUFFERED LIMOUSINES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

MISS GAY UNIVERSE WILL BE A SHINNING STAR FOR ONE FULL YEAR. SHE WILL BE IN THE GAY LIMELIGHT AND MAKE SEVERAL PROMOTIONAL APPEARANCES DURING HER REINING YEAR. AT THE END OF HER YEAR AS GAY MISS UNIVERSE, SHE WILL RETURN TO PENSACOLA AND PRESENT THE 1973 MISS GAY UNIVERSE WITH HER CROWN.

CONTACT: DICKIE CARR OR BERNARD CROWLEY, GWE
3006 E. CERVANTES ST., PENSACOLA, FLA.
(904) 432-0381 OR (904) 456-6765

NOTE: IF IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR CONTESTANTS TO BE IN PENSACOLA FOR THE FULL FIVE DAYS, ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR LATE ARRIVALS.

THEATER (Continued from page 22)

Cope" is a sparkling, witty, all-Black revue. The presence of Alex Bradford and Micki Grant (who also wrote the music and lyrics) are great encouragements.

Although "Jamimma" is not a musical, it's a funny yet tragic story. It's all-Black cast and their great performances make it a welcome addition to Broadway.

Four non-musicals warrant mentioning as well: "Night Watch," a thriller with Joan Hackett and Edward Winter; "The Prisoner of Second Avenue", Neil Simon's newest play starring Peter Falk and Lee



PETER FALK

Grant; "Promenade All!", an hilarious comedy with Hume Cronyn, Eli Wallach, Anne Jackson and Richard Backus; and "Sticks and Bones", a comedy about a young veteran of Vietnam.

And fear not, the legitimate theater is not limited to New York. The touring companies can now bring the best shows with the original stars to cities near everyone. Lauren Bacall is on the road doing "Applause," Angela Lansbury is touring with "Mame" and Zero Mostel is in Connecticut with "Fiddler".

Other shows and showmen have offered their assets also. "Follies" is being cast for touring as is "Two by Two," "Dolly" and "Mame". "Company" is looking for a good male lead—perhaps to replace George Maharis and of course there will be a new season, a new list of successors and new stars right around the marquis.

DAVID: JUNE 1972

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LETTERS (Continued from page 14)

ual information about gay people.) This effort will continue.

The Committee sponsored a Forum on Homosexuality (May 18th, 1972) with encouraging results.

The biggest problem facing the Committee at present is financial. All funds raised thus far have had to be used to pay expenses incurred by obtaining the injunction for the dance of March 10th.

I would like to urge DAVID readers to support the Committee financially if at all possible. Such funds would be used to bring well-known speakers to the Campus, to obtain and show films on homosexuality which present gay life as an acceptable life-style, for the publication of pamphlets and leaflets to be distributed on campus and for court costs; there is also the need to set up a 'gay switch-board' to aid gays in the area. These are just some of the ways that the Committee would use funds to serve and foster better understanding between the gays and straights.

The University of Georgia prides itself on providing leadership for the southeast. The Committee on Gay Education would like to make sure that these future leaders have the opportunity to learn something about gay people. At the same time, the Committee is committed to the task of working through legal channels to bring about a change in repressive, unfair and intolerant laws.

The address is:

Committee on Gay Education
 Box 2467
 University Station
 Athens, Georgia 30601

Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Big John

SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO:

DAVID

P. O. BOX 5396

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32207

DAVID: JUNE 1972

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DISCUSSES (Cont'd from pg. 19)

son and how the hormones take to the body. For instance, if you needed to take silicone, it would run you more than the regular hormone pills. Also, some people might need more psychoanalysis than others. For the average person, it would run roughly between \$3,500 and \$4,000. I might add here that Blue Cross/Blue Shield does cover the surgery. Their requirements are as follows: Subscribers to Blue Cross/Blue Shield are covered for sex-reassignment surgery with the following stipulations: (a) many contracts require an eleven-month waiting period to qualify for treatment benefits for a pre-existing condition (b) the pre-operative work-up must be performed on an outpatient basis (c) coverage for hospitalization does not include the period of convalescence.

DAVID: Have you encountered any problems living as a woman?

FARMER: Not really what you would consider a problem. It was quite difficult getting use to it, though. I was only asked for identification once and that was in a bar in Jacksonville. I gave them my permits and they accepted them and went on their way without bothering me any more. The law is pretty good about this as long as you aren't on the streets making a fool out of yourself. You co-operate with them and they will cooperate with you. I can remember an amusing incident when I started this. I didn't get home from work until 6 o'clock one morning so I went straight to sleep, with

all of my make-up on, but no wig and no bra. About 8 o'clock, my doorbell rang and I just put on a housecoat and opened the door. There stood the Avon Lady, looking as if she had just seen a ghost. Then I realized what my condition was and how I must have looked. She came inside and in one minute, was showing me the latest in lipsticks and compacts. I gave her an order for some stuff and now she comes back every other week. All she says is that it's hard to believe that I'm the same one who answered the door that morning. I've watched that poor woman age!

DAVID: What do you do about your voice?

FARMER: I could have guessed that you would ask that question. If anyone questions my voice, I just tell them that I had a throat infection that affected my vocal cords. Rather than get into a big conversation about it, people just say that's a shame and then they're on their way. These hormones will make my voice higher plus I'm seeing a voice coach who will more or less teach me to talk through my nose. There is no surgery that can help your voice. The doctor told me that once you stick a knife into your vocal cords, the voice is gone completely. So you just have to learn how to talk softly and, like I said, through your nose.

DAVID: What about the draft board, the Driver's Licence Bureau and the Social Security Administration? Were there any problems encountered there?

FARMER: This was one thing that I was

worried about. I have been through all three of these and I'm glad to be done with them.

I was still eligible for the draft. I went to the draft board with a note from my doctor telling them what I was doing. They were very polite about it. They "Yes Ma'am'd me to death and then handed me a new draft card with a 4-F classification. This will prevent me from any embarrassment later.

If you apply for a driver's license in this state, you are required to wear a unisex outfit because they have your picture on your license. Also, you are asked to wear your own hair, which is no problem for me now, as my hair is down to my shoulders. They will still mark your license with male, but that's easily fixed with a quick smudge. You can always give them a fake name and use fake identification, but if they catch you, it will cause you more trouble than it's worth. The Social Security Administration was the easiest of all. What a lot of people don't know is that it is everyone's legal right to be called by any first name they choose, as long as they don't do it with the intent to commit fraud or bring harm to any individual. Therefore, you may go to the S.S.A. and get a card entitled a "Request to Make Change in Social Security Records" and apply for the name that you will be working under. You will receive your new card with the same number you had but with a new first name. This way, you get all the benefits that you are entitled to.

DAVID: What does the actual operation

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involve?

FARMER: It's really a little difficult to explain the whole process. I'm not a doctor and would hardly be qualified to explain the details. One thing I can tell you is that a lot of people think that in the final steps, the penis is completely removed. This is not true at all. After the castration, they split the penis four ways and tuck it under to serve as the walls of the vagina. A doctor would be able to explain the details a lot easier, simpler and quicker.

DAVID: I know you have seen psychiatrists concerning this. Are you required to see one every so often? What usually happens at these sessions?

FARMER: You are not really required to see any psychiatrists while on the pills. You see one at first and then after you have been on the pills for a while. The main reason that they want you to see a psychiatrist is so they will be sure you haven't changed your mind or that you have any doubts. The doctors have to be sure that this is really what you want. This is a step in your life that you want to be sure is really what you want.

DAVID: How far into the change can you go and still change your mind, without any permanent changes?

FARMER: I imagine you can go up into the time right before the castration. It will take some time to undo the changes that the hormones have done, but eventually, they will all return to their normal conditions. You might have to get male hormone shots to help the process. A lot

of people turn back but it's better to have regrets before the complete operation is done. This is why they recommend that you live and work in drag for six months to two years before making the final decision about the operation. I find, myself, that it was very difficult getting used to living as a woman. It's no bed of roses. This sure isn't a woman's world.

DAVID: What has the reaction of your friends, both straight and gay, been?

FARMER: Here in Baton Rouge, I don't associate with the gay crowd very much. I know very few gay people. The gay friends I have in Jacksonville seemed to be quite shocked when I came home in April. I left without saying a word and then I came back with this news. They were really great about it. Very curious, though, which was to be expected. I am corresponding with quite a few now who want to know how I'm getting along. It's a nice feeling to know you have friends and acquaintances like that. My straight friends that know are really great also. They just seem to think that if this is what I want, then this is what I should do. I have a family living next door to me that is just great. Even the kids in the family understand. I now have a female roommate who is straight. She thinks this is great also. Her boyfriend doesn't say either way.

DAVID: In closing, Ronnie, I would like to ask you the all-important question—Do YOU think you're doing the right thing?

FARMER: This is really a hard question

to answer. Deep inside, I know that this is what I really want. It is a hard road to get prepared for this, but after it's over, I will be the happiest person alive. As everyone knows, people are cruel and if someone finds out that you are going through with this, they can harass you to the point where you make the change just to make people happy. I just hope I have the strength to get through this but if not, it won't be because I don't want to.



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I.Q.

I. Q. DOES NOT MEAN INTELLIGENT QUEEN — OR DOES IT?

TEST YOUR I. Q. ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS—

1. What was the first year of our 20th century?

2. Which is longer, AX or AY?



3. The following letters are the initial letters of the words of a common sequence that even the smallest school child knows by heart. Fill in the missing initial letter of the last word:

OTTFSSSEN—

4. How many animals of each species did Moses take aboard the Ark with him before the flood?

5. An archeologist claims he has dug up a coin that is clearly dated 46 B.C. Why is he a liar?

6. If a man is on top of a mountain with a live goose in his arms, what is the quickest way for him to get down?

7. Two miners had been working in a coal mine and came up after the day's work—one with a nice clean face, the other with a very dirty one. When they said good-night, the clean-faced one hurried to a

wash basin where he scrubbed his face vigorously, while the grimy one went his way, just the way he was. Why?

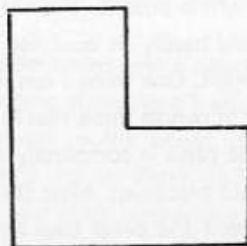
8. A man builds an ordinary house with four sides, except that each side has a Southern exposure. A bear comes up and knocks on the door. What color is the bear?

9. A thief stole a string of nine pearls. Later, he was told that one of the pearls was only paste. He knew that the fake pearl would be lighter than the others and decided to find out which one it was. After weighing the pearls on a balance scale ONLY TWICE, he knew which pearl was made of paste. How did he find out?

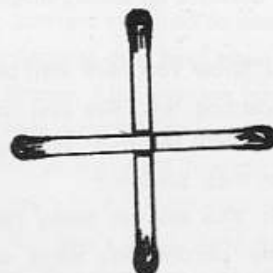
10. Three missionaries and three cannibals come to a river and desire to cross. The boat will only carry two people. All the missionaries can row, but only one of the cannibals can. The trips must be arranged so that the cannibals will never outnumber the missionaries. How can this be done?

11. A snail at the bottom of a forty-foot telephone pole crawls upwards at the rate of three feet per day, but falls down two feet every night. How many days will it take the snail to reach the top of the pole?

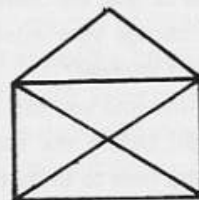
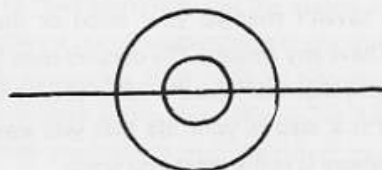
12. Divide this figure below into four equal and identically shaped parts:



13. Move one match and make a square.



14. Draw the two figures below, using only one unbroken and un-traced line for each one:



15. How can you write the number one hundred with eight nines?

16. Two Samaritans, one with five loaves of bread and the other with three, stopped by the roadside to eat. A third traveler arrived before they began their meal, and asked that the first two share their food with him. They readily consented and the three travellers shared the food equally. When he had finished, the third traveller arose, thanked the other two for the bread, and left eight shekels in payment for his meal.

The samaritan who originally had five

DAVID: JUNE 1972

loaves of bread thought the eight coins should be divided five to him and three to the other—in the same proportion as their original and respective quantities of bread. The other Samaritan, however, thought the coins should be split four and four, since all the bread had been equally shared. Unable to agree on the matter, the two Samaritans took their case to a local arbiter, who decided that the man who originally had five loaves should receive seven shekels, and the man who originally had three loaves, receive one shekel.

On what reasoning was the arbiter's judgement based?

17. Three insurance men were travelling across the country on their way to a convention. The first night they stopped at a motel. The clerk told them they could have a room for three for \$30, which they accepted. After the men had retired to their room, however, the clerk discovered he had made a mistake and that the room was only \$25.00 for a night. He therefore gave the bellboy \$5 and told him to return it to the three men. When the bellboy returned the money, the men gave him a \$2 tip so that they could easily divide the remainder equally among them.

Consequently, each of the insurance men ended up paying only \$9 for the room. The total therefore was \$27. The bellboy got \$2.00. What happened to the other dollar?

18. Can you find a word here? (It's only three letters long).



19. Three boxes are labelled "apples," "oranges," and "apples and oranges." Each box is labelled incorrectly. You may select only one fruit from one box. (No feeling around or peeking!). How can you label each box correctly?

20. What eight letter word contains only one vowel?

21. There are two jars of equal capacity. In the first jar, there is one amoeba. In the second jar there are two amoebas. An amoeba can reproduce itself in three minutes. It takes the two amoebas in the second jar three hours to fill the jar to capacity. How long does it take the one amoeba in the first jar to fill that jar to capacity?

22. What do the following words have in common? deft, first, calmness, canopy, laughing, stupid, carbcake & hijack.

23. C, G, Q are to F, V, R as T, X, H are to: (a) V, L, G; (b) B, F, Y; (c) W, M, I; (d) N, Z, D.

24. A ship is at anchor. Over its side hangs a rope ladder with rungs a foot apart. The tide rises at the rate of eight inches per hour. At the end of six hours, how much of the rope ladder will remain above water, assuming that eight feet were above water when the tide began to rise?

25. A camp cook wants to measure four ounces of vinegar out of a jug, but he has only a five-ounce and a three ounce container. How can he do it?

ANSWERS

1. The first year of the 20th century was 1901. The 1st century started with the year 1, and the century is not finished until the last day of the 100th year.

2. The lines, unbelievably, are the same length.

3. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, TEN.

4. Moses took no animals at all, since he had no Ark. Noah took quite a few.

5. The archeologist is a liar because B.C. of course, means Before Christ, and who could have guessed in advance when Christ would be born?

6. Pluck the goose!

7. Each assumed his face looked like the other's.

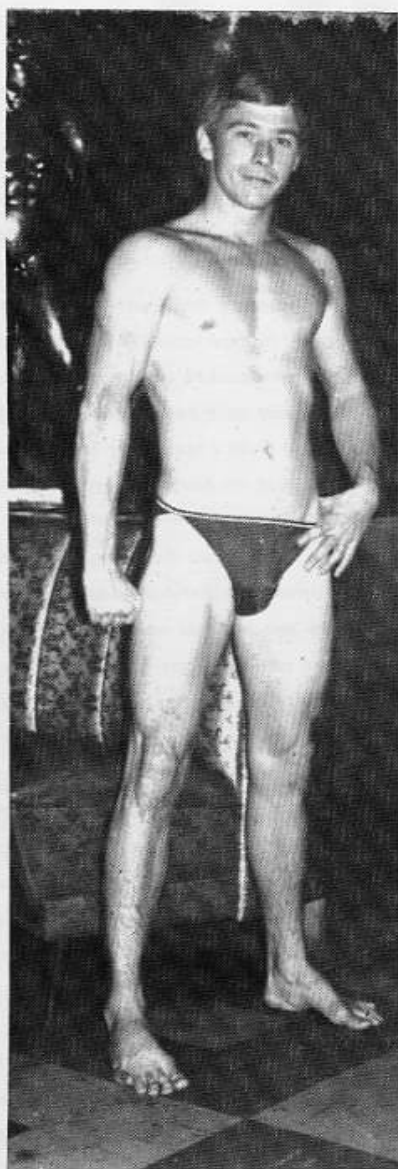
8. The bear that knocked on the door would have to be a white polar bear, because the only place you could build a house with four Southern exposures is at the North Pole, where every direction is South.

9. The jewel thief placed three pearls on one side of the balance scale and three on the other side. If these two bunches weighed the same, then the fake pearl was one of the remaining three. If one of the bunches was lighter than the other, then that bunch had the paste pearl in it. Having discovered which threesome had the fake pearl, he then placed one pearl from those three on one side of the scale and one on the other. If they weighed the same, he knew that the remaining pearl was fake. If their weight was different, he knew that the lighter pearl was made of paste.

10. The cannibal who can row (Cannibal R) takes over one cannibal and leaves him. He then takes another cannibal and leaves him with the first. When cannibal R returns with the boat, two missionaries go over, one of them remaining on the other side while the rowing missionary returns bringing a cannibal with him. One missionary then goes over with Cannibal R. A missionary then returns with a cannibal, but leaves Cannibal R on the other side: The two missionaries then cross over and give the boat to Cannibal R, who makes two other trips over for the cannibals, bringing one at a time.

11. Thirty-eight days. He reaches the top of the

The Commodore

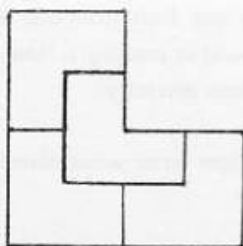


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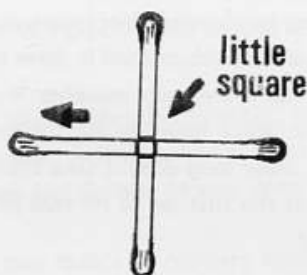
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pole the last day.

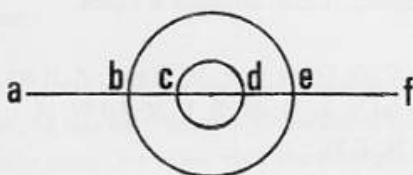
12.



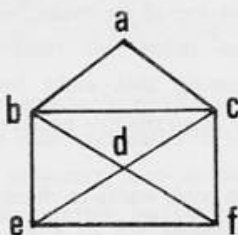
13.



14. ABEDCDCBEF or
ABEBDCDCEF



EDFEBDCBACF or
EBACFBCEF



15. $\frac{99}{999}$
 $\frac{999}{999}$

16. The arbiter reasoned that each man should be paid according to the amount over and above his own portion of the meal that he let the third traveller eat. Since three men had eaten eight loaves of bread, each man therefore consumed $\frac{8}{3}$ loaves. One samaritan had begun with $\frac{15}{3}$ loaves, the other with $\frac{9}{3}$ loaves. The first one then gave away $\frac{7}{3}$, the second one $\frac{1}{3}$ —the ratios being seven to one.

17. There is no "other" dollar. Each man did, in fact, part with \$9; the total spent was \$27. Twenty-five dollars went to the motel, and the other \$2 to the bellboy.

18. FLY

19. Pick a fruit from the "apples and oranges" box. If it turns out to be an orange, since all the boxes are wrongly labeled, the box label must be changed to "oranges". The remaining boxes contain apples and apples and oranges, but which contains which? Simple. Remember that the boxes are all mislabeled. Simply switch the two remaining labels.

20. Strength.

21. Three hours and three minutes. Once the amoeba in the first jar has reproduced itself (a process that takes three minutes), that jar is at the same point at which the second jar started. The only difference is that it is three minutes behind.

22. All of them contain three consecutive letters of the alphabet in alphabetical order.

23. (c)

24. Since the ship is afloat, the water level in relation to the ship stays the same. Therefore, eight feet are above the water at the end, just as at the beginning.

25. Pour the five-ounce container full from the jug. Pour the three-ounce container full from the five-ounce container, leaving two ounces remaining in the five-ounce container. Pour the three-ounce container back into the jug. Then pour the two ounces remaining in the five-ounce container into the three-ounce container. Pour the five-ounce container full from the jug. Fill the remaining one ounce of the three-ounce container from the five-ounce container and four ounces are left in the five-ounce container.

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Female Impersonation Contests in the southland seem to still be going strong. Following the Miss Florida Pageant held by KEITH'S CRUISE ROOM in Hallandale came two more pageants last month.

The CLUB HOLLYWOOD in Daytona Beach Florida, held it's annual MISS DIXIELAND CONTEST early in May followed one week later by the SWEET GUM HEAD's MISS GAY SOUTHEAST CONTEST.

The new stage at the CLUB HOLLYWOOD enhanced the glamorous pageant atmosphere as 14 contestants vied for the title.

The Winners were; MISS DIXIELAND: Debbie Lynn, sponsored by the Knight Out in Jacksonville Florida; 1st RUNNER UP: Miss Eve, sponsored by the Horny Bull in Tampa Florida and 2nd RUNNER-UP: Rachel Wells, sponsored by the Sweet Gum Head in Atlanta, Georgia.

17 Contestants put up some very talented and original performances for the MISS GAY SOUTHEAST Contest. Buddy Clark and Lavita Allen emceed the affair against an elegant background of 100 dozen long stemmed Red Roses.

Winners were; MISS GAY SOUTHEAST: Wendy (Atlanta's talented and witty version of Carol Channing), 1st RUNNER UP: Rachel Wells (who we're sure won't have to settle for runner up in too many more contests); and 2nd RUNNER UP; Allyson (looking even better than ever - - if that's possible).



Frank from the CLUB HOLLYWOOD presents the MISS DIXIELAND title to DEBBIE LYNN



Lavita crowns MISS GAY SOUTHEAST, WENDY



1st RUNNER UP - MISS DIXIELAND
MISS EVE



2nd RUNNER UP - MISS DIXIELAND
1st RUNNER UP - MISS SOUTHEAST
RACHEL WELLS



2nd RUNNER UP - MISS SOUTHEAST
ALLYSON

HERSE

from Our Readers

Freezing wanderers take comfort
In young men's heat.

Perspiration, licked from handsome
gymnasts,

Tastes so sweet.

Warm spurtings compensate for
travellers'

Weary feet.

--Hansel

Quietly he came, and set search for my
heart so sly I was caught unaware.

Had he made some quick movement,
some motion to warn me of the chase, I
would have flown, but he didn't and I
was captured before I knew I was being
sought.

So, as the ruthless hunter he was, he tore
my heart from me to hang over his fire-
place in a collection, and went on to oth-
er prey.

And I, I am left alone, dying in loneli-
ness and the hurt of betrayal.



No man is quite so old as the middle-aged
man who tries to be young.

Hans Lollik

Don't turn your green eyes on me,
your eyes do naught but lie.
Please don't enchant me with a glance,
please don't make me cry.

Keep your distance and don't kiss me,
Can't you see I don't want to be hurt?
I'm the same girl you said good-bye to,
the one you treated like dirt.

Give me a few years before I see you,
Give me a chance to forget.
Give me time to find a new love...and
then...
See if I remember we've met.

If after all this time has passed,
again you come along;
If I still feel the same as now,
then turn your eyes back where they
belong.



Often I have stood at the precipice,
contemplating the dreamfreedom plunge
to ecstasy.
But when the tumbleover came
it was a downward upward flight
wherein the wildest imaginings
were more real
than the fierce pleasures of actuality.
I taste my lover's kiss
but savor the lingering reality of fantasy.

--Juan Abril

I wonder
That the touch of a hand,
The brush of lips upon cheek,
A gentle caress...
Brought such bliss.

My mother once voiced
An emotion to me:
"I love you,"
But I was not moved.
She loved me.
True.
However, she loved me
As an extension of herself
And so, in reality,
Loved only herself.

But when you
Spoke those same words to me
My soul was filled with a joy
It had never before experienced.

If God exists,
The days--and nights--
You shared with me
Are sufficient
To cause me to thank Him
That I live today.

You are my love;
I am yours.
You left for another
Who loves you also,
But you do not love
The other.

Why?

--Ravi

DAVID



*David's hand, when it held mine,
Intertwined; like Columbine.
He stroked my fingers with his own,
And signalled he was mine...alone.*

*When it was dark and hard to see,
David's hand would comfort me.
When I laughed, and he did too,
He raised his hand in Allelu!*

*David's hand could almost sing.
On my own he placed a ring.
David's hand described the moon.*

Silently, he wove a tune.

*Then, in April; Sunday dawn,
David's hand concealed a yawn.
Sweetly on my worried lips,
He hushed me with his fingertips.*

*Now David's hand has waved goodbye,
And at my window, when I cry;
In the vapors from my tears,
David's hand-print re-appears.*

---Hansel

*In the quiet of solitude I sometimes have
thought
That my best years -- my youth -- have
passed by,
As I see what the present, the free have
brought,
Oblivious to the sham ethics we mortals
apply.*

*In our time, we tried to do as we chose,
Though our elders would frown with
disdain;
We furtively chased when happiness arose
While freeing ourselves from the chain.*

*And now, all thanks to God,
Enlightenment is entering the scene,
No longer we carry the sham and the rod,
Two masks need rarely ever be seen.*

*Youth is no longer measured by years,
We're really as young as desired;
We dress, we act, and sometimes with
tears,
Lest we relax, and so doing, grow tired.*

*Who is to legislate what is bad and what
is good?
Who dares to act as a judge?
If we do no man harm -- lead them out of
the wood,
By so doing our youth stays without
grudge.*

--Edward



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CHATTER

with Auntie Laurie

Ooh, bring out the heating pad. Auntie Laurie is going to bathe in liniment and eat a barrel of aspirin and go to bed-alone and hope that in two or three days, I'll be able to move. I have spent the past week-end being cured of my annual attack of "Spring."

I've been noticing the flowers blooming and the trees producing new shiny-green leaves and the birds flitting about doing all sorts of bird-like things: you know, chirping and building nests and eating worms, the whole thing. I've been leaving the windows open at night. I've been looking at the dirt road and the grass and that plot of ground at the side of the house. And Friday morning, I received the clincher, the ultimate sign of Spring—a seed catalogue.

I don't know who put it in my mailbox, but it did its work. As I leafed through the thing, I quickly fell under the spell of its color plates and the mouth-watering descriptions of the prize-winning fruits and vegetables it was possible to grow using the company's seeds. Yessir, guaranteed seeds.

And the pamphlet was full of photos of beaming home gardeners, who were holding bushel baskets bulging with tomatoes and cucumbers, or clutching huge bunch-

es of perfect orange carrots, or standing in the midst of their lush little plots, and staggering under the immense weight of monstrous pumpkins and tremendous watermelons. Kindly little old grandmothers smiled, surrounded by tasteful arrangements of their own home-grown squashes. A couple (who were dead-ringers for "American Gothic") stood in a cellar, surrounded by hundreds of sparkling glass jars of foods which he had grown and she had packed (send for canning booklet).

"Be fruitful and multiply," and here I could do it without the bother of obstetricians and diapers. That afternoon, I picked up some packets of beans and carrots and cucumbers (the knobbledy pickle kind) and radishes and tomatoes. All evening, I kept picking up the mysteriously rattling envelopes, looking at the brilliant colors on the front, and studying the little maps and figures printed on the back.

Saturday morning, I bounced out of the house at the crack of dawn, armed with spade, hoe and rake. Actually, dawn had not only cracked, but splintered away some time before, but I WAS outside before noon. Dropping the hoe and rake, I took the spade and prepared to sink it about eight inches into the good, rich earth. And I damn near broke my wrists when the spade stopped sinking after an inch and a half of good, rich earth and struck a big, fat rock.

I know, there are no rocks in Florida, and this thing really wasn't a rock. but it was a hell of a fine substitute. It turned out to be a large slab of concrete about a foot across. After a quarter of an hour of scraping and levelling it off to the side, I was then ready to continue. I pushed the spade once more into the ground, more cautiously this time, and, guess what? I found another one!

I found several more small ones (they looked like a gigantic splatter of very lumpy oatmeal). Then, I found their mamma, and her nest, which was made of hundreds of stones about an inch in diameter. Digging in this stuff gave me a lot of exercise, but produced nothing like a garden.

I also found scraps of lumber (in various stages of rot), hundreds of nails, 16 lengths of pipe (the longest about 15 inches long), many strange rusty objects, so badly corroded that their original shape was lost to history. I found some really nasty looking stuff which I deduced was originally some coils of rope. I found wire, rusty and kinked, tangled around more lumps of concrete. And so help me, a lunchbox, which contained the mummified remains of a lunch.

Apparently, this plot of ground was the dumping spot for the men who built the house. After they'd finished, I suppose they dumped some dirt on top of the whole mess. One of the neighbors told me that this used to be a low spot in the yard and usually was muddy. The men threw the trash here to fill it, she thought.

Well, that was that. As the sun went down that evening, I looked dispiritedly at the mound of rubble I'd lugged over to



the fence. Then I looked at the ground between the pile and the house. It looked like a battlefield, and there was still plenty of junk there.

Next day, a slight shower converted the whole area to a dismal-looking swamp. That afternoon, I put most of the concrete back and shovelled the dirt back on. Then I went into the house and filled the tub with boiling water and tried to ignore the facts that even my eyelids ached.

The seeds? I threw them out there anyway. If they're tough enough to grow in that place, then they deserve the privilege of trying.

And I can now ignore Spring until next year.

GROW (Cont'd from pg. 17)

you're not likely to get the same kind of plant you started with. When you root part of your old plant, the new plant will be an exact duplicate of it. Some plants can be started by more than one method—tubers as well as stems, leaves, and seeds. You can bury part of the runners from vines and when they have rooted, cut off the new plants and pot them up. Thick veins of begonia leaves can be cut at intervals and pegged on a moist rooting medium to take root. Here are four common ways to start new houseplants. They do not apply to calamondin (which is grafted) or dwarf palm (grown from seed).



DAVID: JUNE 1972

Houseplants with long stems and leaves along their length—either bushy or vining plants—can be propagated from **TIP CUTTINGS**. Cut four-inch shoots from bushy plants (wax begonia, zebra plant, aralia, coleus, geranium). From vines (philodendron, ivy, hoya, pothos), take eight-inch lengths. Snip off a couple of lower leaves and stick the cuttings in a rooting medium such as sand, peat moss or vermiculite and keep them moist. Pot them up when roots form.



Houseplants with thick, fleshy stems (dieffenbachia, schefflera, rubber plant, dracena) are readily made to root without cutting off the top. This is done by **AIR-LAYERING**. If the plant becomes too tall and leggy, select a spot about six inches below the bottom leaf (or six inches longer than you want the new plant to be, measuring from the top of the old plant) and make a slanting cut halfway into the stem. Insert a stick to hold the cut open. Firm a handful of wet sphagnum or peat moss about the size of a baseball around the cut and cover completely with aluminum foil or clear plastic. Secure at top and bottom with plant ties (ties that come with plastic bags will do). After several weeks, when you can see white roots in the moss, cut the stem off below



the roots and pot up your new plant—then water it. You can cut the remaining long cane of dieffenbachia or dracena into two-inch lengths and bury them in a moist medium to get more new plants.



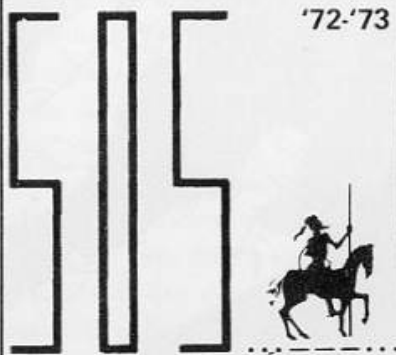
Some houseplants produce more than one plant from the crown (African violet, fern and nonvining philodendron). These should be multiplied by **DIVISION**. When they become crowded, it's an easy matter to separate the cluster and pot up the individual pieces to make better specimens. You can cut the plants apart, or simply pull them apart if the roots are not too in-

(Continued on pg. 65)

THE ALL NEW

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MOTHER MOLLY'S

CARROT SOUFFLE RING

As usual, Mother Molly has been busy in the kitchen (as well as in one other room). I've been having company at the oddest hours (my door is never closed) and I've been making them happy—with my cooking, that is.

Someone once said that I did "something" like a bunny (Mother Molly never swears). I figured, if that was the case, I'd live up to my reputation. And I have!!! There may be snow on the roof, but there is still plenty of fire in the furnace!

I've been experimenting with carrots lately. (They beat the hell out of cucumbers, if you know what I mean).

Actually, I've been cooking with them also. The following is my famous "Carrot Souffle Ring"—a must for all you "bunnies."

The ingredients are:

- 3 cups ground raw carrots
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 3 tablespoons flour
- ¼ teaspoon monosodium glutamate
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- ¼ teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Dash of red pepper
- 1 cup of milk
- 3 eggs

1 canned pimento

- 1 green pepper cut into thin strips
- ½ cup coarsely chopped almonds

First, melt the butter in a small saucepan. Stir in flour, monosodium glutamate, pepper, mustard, salt & red pepper. Add the milk gradually and stir until thickened. Cool. Mix the egg yolks with the sauce and then add the ground carrot, pimento and green pepper. Stir in the nuts. (Be careful whose you use!)

Fold in the stiffly beaten egg whites and pour into a well-greased 2-quart ring mold and set that into a pan of hot water and bake in a moderate oven at 350 degrees, for an hour. Loosen around the edges, (and we all do, sooner or later) and unmold on a platter. Fill the center with green vegetables such as beans or peas if you wish. It makes eight servings.

This is a great summer-time recipe and it's really so easy to fix. Besides, it does wonders for your eyesight!

Well, believe it or not, MM has a hot date and I really have to prepare. It takes me a little longer to put everything on, but I'm still just as fast at getting it all off! Tonight, the Avon Man is taking me out.

Sometimes, I wonder about him.

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JOKES



Heard on a recent flight to Chicago:

"This is your pilot and I have some bad news and some good news for you.

First, the bad news. There is a man up here who has hijacked the plane.

Now the good news. He wants to go to the French Riviera."

DAVID says men should not discriminate against girls because of the shape of their skin.

Two young things were sitting at the bar cruising everyone who entered.

"Gee" said one, "I feel like having that groovy number again."

"Huh?" said the other. "You mean you have HAD that stud?"

"Well, no, but I felt like it once before."

As Jack entered his favorite gay bar, he noticed that his best friend Alex was drunker than he's ever been before.

"What's the problem, old buddy?" he asked, sliding onto the stool next to his pal.

"It's the old story—a man" Alex answered.

"That figures. Tell me about it."

"I can't" Alex said. However, after two more beers, his grief could not be contained and he turned to his buddy and blurted, "OK, it's your lover."

"My lover!?"

"Yeah."

"What about him?"

Alex's lower lip quivered as he put his around his pal.

"Well, buddy boy" he said, "I'm afraid he's cheating on us."

Did you hear about the gay spiders that kept looking at each other's fly?

DAVID defines "bugger" as a guy who likes to enlarge the circle of his friends.

DAVID defines "animal husbandry" as marrying a really ill-looking number.

DAVID defines "homophile" as the FBI's alledged list of gays.

Then there was the recently married gay who exclaimed to his mate:

"Dear, I didn't know you had such a small organ."

"Well, my dear" replied the other, "how was I to know I'd be playing in a cathedral?"

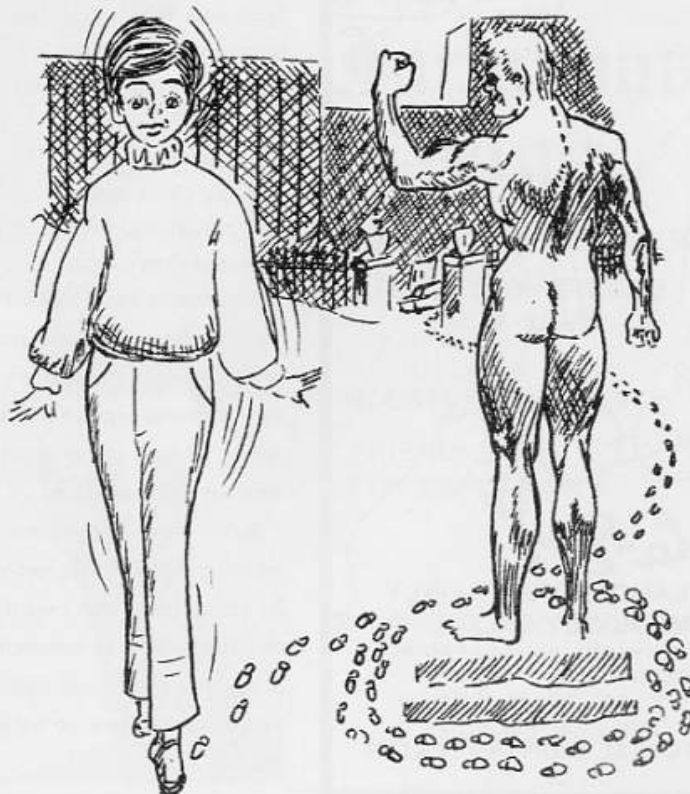
Then there was this gay king who was locked in the castle tower with the court jester.

Last we heard, the king was at his wit's end.

DAVID defines "protein" as a hustler that's too young to vote.

DAVID defines nymphomaniac as a trick whose sex-drive is greater than yours.

Then there was the queen who wanted to sleep with his friends in the tent in the backyard, but couldn't get his canopy bed through the door.



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WORLDS (Cont'd from pg. 21)

weather has let up, that's all."

Brian stared and wondered how the same God that was responsible for all the death and destruction he had seen, could also be the creator of such a handsome boy. Brian had spied Gordon the first day with the unit. But Gordon was a loner and a fighter. His reputation as the unit "hot-head" made him a bad choice as a buddy. Life is odd.

"No. I don't think we'll move until night fall" Brian replied. Then for some unknown reason he shouted to Gordon as he walked away, "Hey, how come every time I see you, you have that smart-ass grin on your face?"

"Why should I frown?" came the reply. "It doesn't help things."

Brian settled back. No, it doesn't help he thought, it doesn't help at all!

A shrill voice pierced the air with the cry, "OK you guys, listen up." It was the falsetto voice of Captain Pearson, the West Point man who had taken over after Capt. Johnson was killed in the last engagement. A tall, forboding man, his voice was the only unmasculine thing about him. Capt. Pearson had earned the hatred of most of the men because of his disregard for the lives which he held in his huge hands.

"Come circle around. I've already got a sore throat and I don't plan on shouting anymore than I have to."

That meant move. Brian despised this man, a colossal ass who apparently loved every sinew of the military machine. The men gathered around like spectators preparing to hear the prophet utter the sermon on the mountain.

"We're moving out first thing in the morning. Crew Chiefs, get your tanks ready for action. I don't want any screw-ups this time. We'll be supporting Delta company on a search and destroy mission into enemy territory, so we've got to be on the ball."

The words hit Brian like the Empire State Building had crashed on him. More death. When will it end?

Pearson dismissed the men to go back to work and get ready for the upcoming clash. Brian drifted back to his tank as if he had a gigantic yoke strapped around him.

Someone came up behind him and placed a hand on his shoulder. Brian turned as he was shocked by the touch.

There was the smiling face of Gordon again.

"Say, what's the trouble? You look like you're about ready to crack up."

"No. Just tired, very tired." Brian uttered the words like each one caused him a deep pain.

"Hell, you ought to adopt my philosophy--why frown; it sure doesn't help." Gordon squeezed Brian's shoulder and said, "Come on, smile. We can't have a melancholy medic in the unit. Besides, you're supposed to be the source of morale around here, you should be telling us to smile, not me telling you." The words made sense. Brian's primary job was the health and welfare of the men, and he hated that responsibility. He hated the military, but here he was, stuck in Vietnam, another nine months anyway.

"I suppose you're right, I'll cheer up, just give me a few minutes to cool off."

Gordon laughed, "Damn, Doc, as wet as you are, you should be cool as a clam." Brian smiled and climbed up on his tank. Gordon, still smiling, joined him.

Odd, Brian thought. I've been with this unit for over three months now and this is the first time Gordon has ever spoken more than "Hi" to me. Now he's getting pretty chummy.

"Don't you have work to do on your tank?" Brian asked.

"No," came the reply, "I keep the 'Babe'

DAVID: JUNE 1972

in tip-top running shape--we never have any problems. Where you from, Doc?" Gordon asked.

Brian looked at him questionably, curious about this amazing attitude change, "New York. How 'bout you?"

Gordon moved around to a position where he could look at Brian as he spoke, "Nebraska--Omaha to be exact. Say, it's just about chow time, I'm whipping up a little C-ration stew. Care to join me?"

Brian looked at his watch, for the first time he noticed a pang in his stomach. It was time to eat and he was starved.

"Yeah, don't mind if I do."

"Well, come on then. I got a nice little spot behind those trees where we can eat and talk without being bothered by the Captain."

Gordon jumped from the tank and led the way. He had spread his poncho out on the ground next to a big palm tree. It reminded Brian of the picnics he used to have back home. Only difference was he would have been clean, dry and happy, and the food wouldn't have been C-ration stew.

The meal wasn't too bad, considering the circumstances. He and Gordon just lay there on the poncho, smoking. Brian's mind was racing along at a feverish pace. Doubts. Nothing but doubts. Why was Gordon so friendly, just all of a sudden, for no reason? What was going on? Brian admired Gordon from the very first minute he had seen him. But to Brian's way of thinking, Gordon was just one of those beautiful guys you gazed at, but never got to know. What if he was actually..... No, never in a thousand years--it was impossible. Gordon moved, he rolled on his side and looked at Brian. "What are you thinking about?" he asked. Brian was caught off guard, but quickly regained his bearings.

"Nothing. Just home I guess."

DAVID: JUNE 1972

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Gordon inhaled deeply on his cigarette and said, "Yeah. I think of home too." As he spoke Brian watched the smoke exhale from deep within Gordon's lungs, as if he were actually watching the words that Gordon spoke.

"I've got a year left on these orders, then I hope to get back home for a while." Brian's thoughts came back to reality.

"Yeah. I've got less than 9 months left in this outfit, then I'm a civilian again."

"Lucky man," Gordon sighed. "I've got 18 more months in this green mother."

"Sorry," Brian smiled sarcastically, "I hope you're not swallowed by the system."

Gordon grunted, "Not me, I'm civilian at heart. I hate this whole damn routine."

There was a rustling in the bushes. Brian grabbed the pistol that he always wore at his side. "Who's there," he shouted.

"Leftkovich, so for Christ's sake, don't

shoot. Is that you, Doc?"

Well, the period of solitude was over, their dining area was being invaded by Leftkovich.

Brian liked him but didn't know why. It definitely wasn't a sexual attraction because Lefty (that's what the men called him) looked like a huge sucker-fish. One of the standing jokes in the unit was that Lefty was probably the only man on earth capable of eating popcorn from a coke bottle.

He appeared through the brush smiling. A mouth-full of buck teeth enclosed in massive thick lips.

"I need your buddy there, he's wanted by his Crew Chief. Get moving Black."

You could count on Lefty to be on a last name basis with everyone. All military. At twenty-six, he had already put nine years in the army, and he'd be the first to tell you he had only twenty-one more to go.

"We'll catch you later, Doc. It was good talking to you." Gordon disappeared out through the brush with Lefty, just two steps behind him. Brian felt alone. In just the couple of hours he was with him, Brian felt a strange thing taking place within him. He missed Gordon. How odd. He wasn't gone more than thirty seconds and he wasn't anymore than a few yards away. But Brian felt alone.

It seemed that Gordon was with Brian every day. Whenever Brian was around, Gordon was at his side. They spent a lot of time together, separate from the other members of the platoon. No one seemed to notice except Brian. Paranoia!!

It seemed strange to him to have Gordon around him constantly, although he thoroughly enjoyed it. But what if someone else took notice. What if there were rumors going around the unit about the two of them. Although no one had mentioned anything, Brian brewed over the pros-

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pects. He didn't want to tell Gordon not to hang around so much, because they had become close to each other, but still, he didn't want rumors to start. Brian realized he was in love with Gordon and although no words to that effect had been spoken, he felt Gordon loved him too. It was intangible, there was something there, beautiful, good and awe-inspiring; but still, nothing that you could put your finger on. Each day this feeling grew. Gordon spent more time at Brian's tank than he did at his own. His crew chief was always looking for him, and always asking Brian, "Where the Hell is your friend now?"

Then Brian began to worry that something might happen. Like the morning the tanks supported Delta company and Gordon's tank was under heavy fire. Brian was a bundle of nerves. Gordon's tank was on the line about 200 yards from his. What if something happened to Gor-

don, how could he hope to run 200 yards through live fire to get to him. It was a cruel pathetic joke, like placing a rat in a labyrinth. What would happen if....

Time passed quickly. From one area of the jungle to another. One battle to another. And each day filled with worry. Brian's days were numbered now, with only weeks left in this man's army. And then home, leaving Gordon behind. He didn't think he could do it. Gordon had two more months to go after Brian left. Two months.

After hours of thought, he reached a decision...he'd extend. He would volunteer for another two months with the unit, just to stay with Gordon. The paper work like all paper work in the military, would take days to go through channels. He couldn't delay. Faster than he thought was possible, he raced to the company office when the tank unit pulled back for its well-earned rest and recreation period.

After hours of being shuffled from one clerk to another, the extension papers were signed and on their way.

"You can expect an answer in about two weeks," the clerk told him. Two weeks, God--why not eternity?

Smiling, he told Gordon what he had done.

"You complete ass," Gordon shouted at him. "For Chrissake, you could be back home and in school and you extend for two months. You could get killed in those two months, then what? How do you think I'd feel? Really terrific!!! I feel like beating the hell out of you for this!"

Brian was paralyzed. He didn't quite know what to say. He never expected this reaction. He didn't like it. Rage grew within him and he screamed back, "Kiss my ass, you stupid little P.F.C. Just who in the hell do you think you're talking to? If I decide to stay here for two more months, it's my business. Besides, I need

the extra pay. And what do you mean, how would you feel? I sure as hell didn't do it because of you. How can you be so conceited to think that I would take a chance with my life for you? So back off and get away from me!" Brian shook with anger. He loved Gordon and he was convinced that Gordon loved him, so how could such a display of anger take place? Gordon crushed the cigarette he was smoking on the side of the tank, spun around and walked off.

Brian was sorry. Sorry the whole thing happened. The more he thought about it, the worse he felt. He did decide to stay because of Gordon, why did he say he didn't? If things had been the other way around, he would have had the same reaction. He knew he wouldn't be able to go on with life if Gordon had extended and during that extension got hurt, or worse yet killed. He wanted to find Gordon and apologize, but he didn't know how to go about it. He decided to go for a walk, along the beach; there he could think. He followed the trail down to where the blue surf crashed on the shore. It was deserted now, all the G.I.'s were probably at the club guzzling beer. As Brian walked he kicked the sand into ridges with his boots. In the distance, he spied an object laying in the sand. He wasn't alone after all. No, he wasn't alone...it was Gordon.

"What are you doing here?" Gordon sneered.

"Just walking. I had to think. I'm sorry about what happened earlier. I lost my temper when you started yelling. I didn't expect you to react that way." There. It was said, he had apologized for what it was worth. Gordon looked up at him and said, "I'm sorry too. But I just couldn't handle it...that anyone would endanger his own life to be close to me. That's never been the case before. I'm sorry I yelled at you. I shouldn't have. It's just that...just that...I love you."

Brian was stunned. He couldn't think or move. He even found it difficult to take a breath. Finally, after what seemed an eternity, he looked at Gordon and in a low voice, asked, "because you what?"

Gordon swallowed hard. "I'm sorry, I know I'll probably be courtmartialed for saying it, but I can't hold it in anymore. I love you. I never thought it was possible for one man to love another, but the way I feel about you, it can't be anything

else but love."

Brian's knees began to quiver. He felt a knot in his stomach, his vision wasn't quite clear. He couldn't really perceive what had just been said. All his life he dreamed about that one man, that knight in shining armor, that one true love. And now he just couldn't believe it was true.

"My God, Gordon, I don't know what to say other than, Christ, I love you too." Tears came to their eyes. Brian dropped down next to Gordon and they held each

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The surf pounded against the sand. The moon cast a shine on the waves that left a majestic glow on the beach. Off in the distance, the muffled rumble of artillery engaged in battle, interrupted nature's chorus. Just miles away, men were fighting and dying. Across the ocean, life continued in the busy hustle and bustle of the city street. But on the beach, there was only the night, the surf, and two people who had found love.

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GROW(Cont'd from pg. 57)

tertwined. Divide the plant so that each new section has a good root system. Pot up, water and keep the new plants shaded for a few days. When moving plants from shade to light, always do so gradually in order to give the plants time to adjust to the new brightness.

Certain houseplants (African violet, gloxinia and peperomia) can be started from LEAF-STEM CUTTINGS. Just select a medium-mature leaf and cut it off the cut leaf-stem in a good rooting medium such as a 50-50 mixture of perlite and peat moss. When several new leaves develop, transfer each plant to a 2½-inch pot. If a leaf produces multiple plants, don't repeat for quite a while. It sometimes takes a long time. Never add plant food to any rooting medium.

One overall caution: don't fuss your plants to death. Give them the little care they need—and relax!

RODEO (Cont'd from pg. 33)

World Record for Wild Steer Riding.

When we got back Honey Cone was on the floor without his tee shirt or jeans, tied up with a gag in his mouth. Buddy Babe took one look and said: "Tramp! Can't I leave you alone with a man for a minute?" But Honey Cone was too unconscious to answer.

Then Old Jake came in with some men who had feathers all over their heads, called Indians. These Indians looked at us and started talking to Old Jake who said: "Take your pick. It's an even trade for your squaw-boy." And the Indians said: "We take one with bright plumage." And they put him in a potato sack and went away.

Later, when I told Honey Cone what happened, he said those Indians must be nuts to take Buddy Babe over us, but as they were old, they probably had bad eyes, which was lucky. As we were too sophisticated to be squaw-boys and live in a teepee.

Back home, everyone was very excited about Buddy Babe's new life and the big show, which was a real spectacle. It was all about the Old West and how the beautiful dance hall girls put on a rodeo to save the town from poverty.

I guess travel makes you learn a lot, even if you don't know it: just like Buddy Babe, who never did come away from those Indians.

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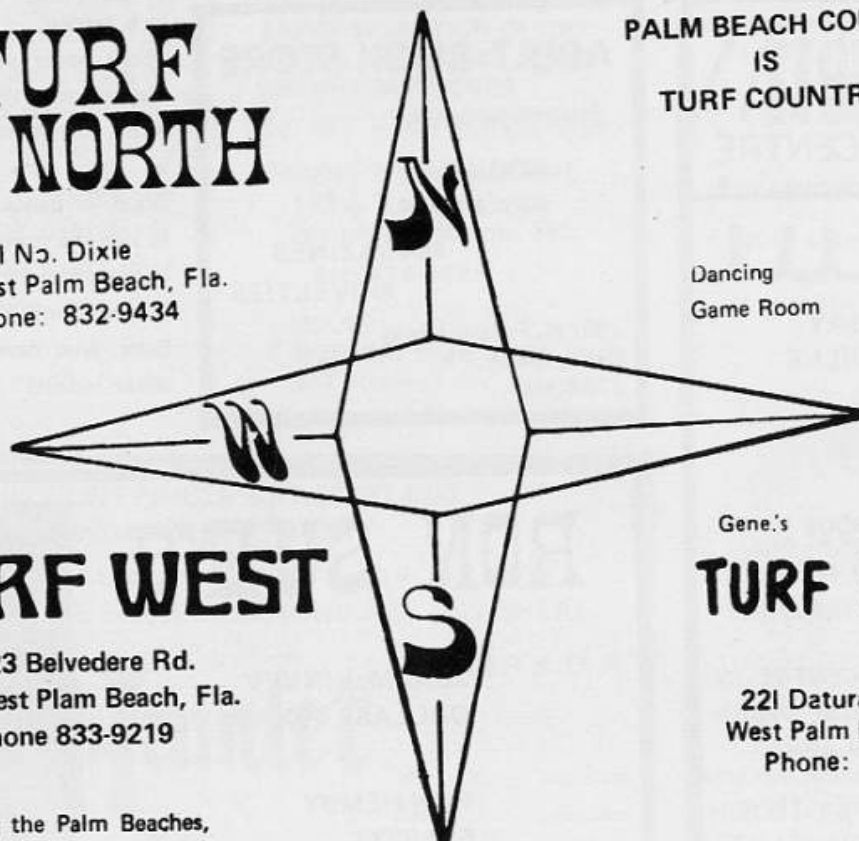
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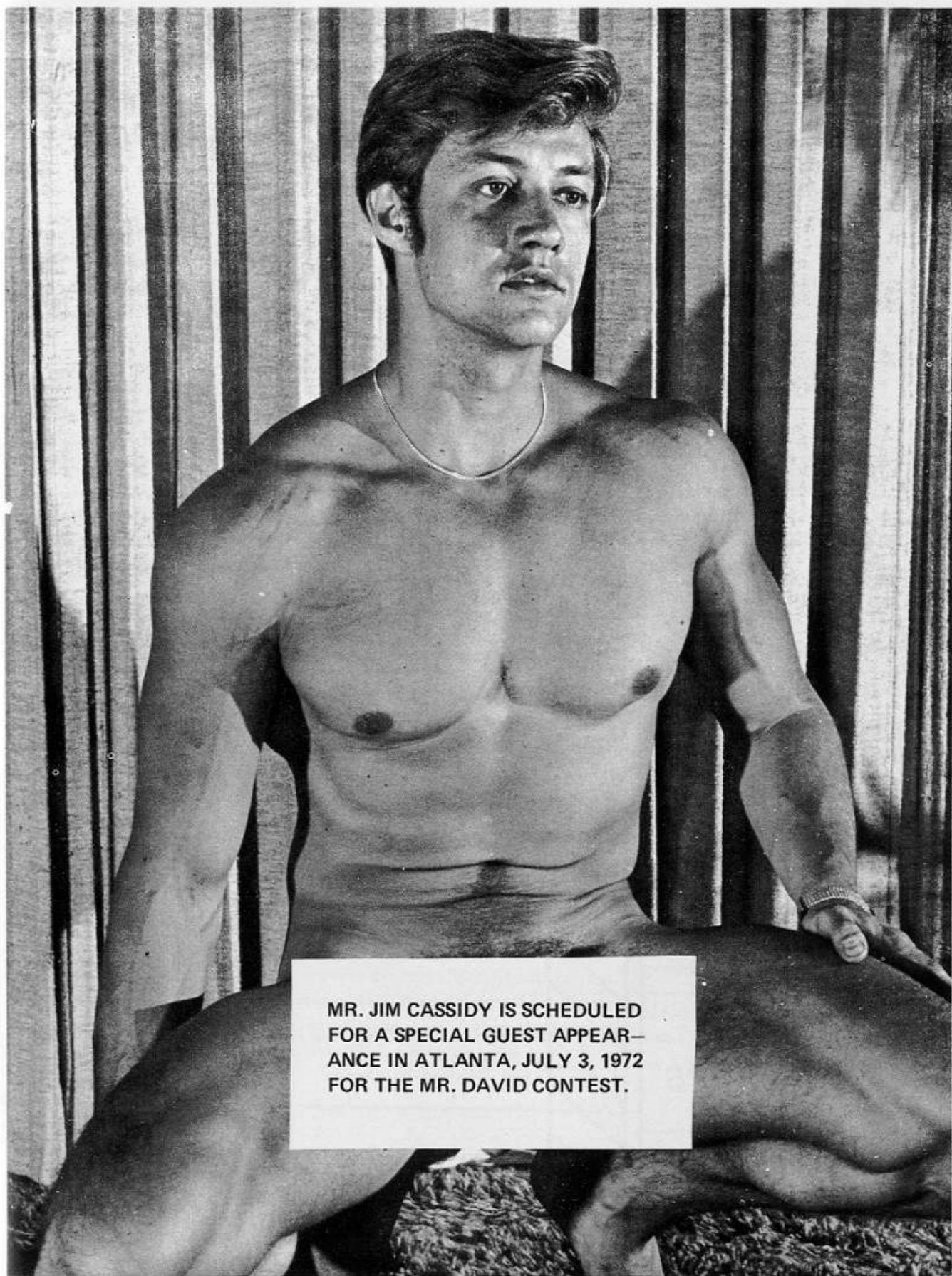
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DAVID SUPPORTERS- What's Happening-Where

DAVID's Supporters column is brought UP TO DATE every month. Since we list only establishments that support DAVID, and we are in touch with each of our supporters every month, we can assure you this listing is ACCURATE and DEPENDABLE even though it does not list ALL establishments catering to gays.

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OUTER FOCUS *

117 N. 21st Street. Open 6 days, 6 pm to 2 am. Closed Sun. Dancing. Shows on Wed & Sat. (205) 252-9488.

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1310 1st Avenue North. Semi-private club - open 6 days, 8 pm till? Closed Sun. (205) 323-9279.

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44 N. Atlantic Ave. (one block from the boardwalk). Open 7 days, Mon-Sat, noon to 2 am, Sun. from 2 pm to 2 am. "Atlanta by the sea" (904) 252-9300.

HOLLYWOOD BAR *

415 Main Street. Live entertainment with female impersonators. Shows at 9:30, 11 and 12:30 on Wed., Fri., Sat. & Sun. Delicious buffet Sun. Ph: (904) 253-9369.

FORT LAUDERDALE

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1931 S.E. 6th Ave. Federal Hwy. Shows Fri. and Sat. Buffets every Sun night. (305) 524-1718.

THE GALLERY *

2889 W. Broward Blvd. Open 7 nights a week from 7 pm till 4 am. Italian food, dancing, entertainment. (305) 581-9912.

ODDS & ENDS *

3148 N.E. 12th Ave. (in Oakland Park). Oakland Park Blvd. & Old Dixie Hwy. (305) 564-9114.

PAT'S ODDS & ENDS II *

1416 S. Federal Highway. Open 2 pm to 2 am. Dancing, food. Ph: (305) 522-9654.

RUTHIE'S GOLDEN GARTER *

Oakland Park Blvd. and Federal Hwy. Open 10 am until 2 am Sat.; Sun. open 1 pm. Cookout every Sun. (305) 562-7333.

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628 Lake Ave. Open Mon. thru Sat. 9 am to 2 am. Open Sun. 1 pm to midnight. (813) 582-9396.

MIAMI

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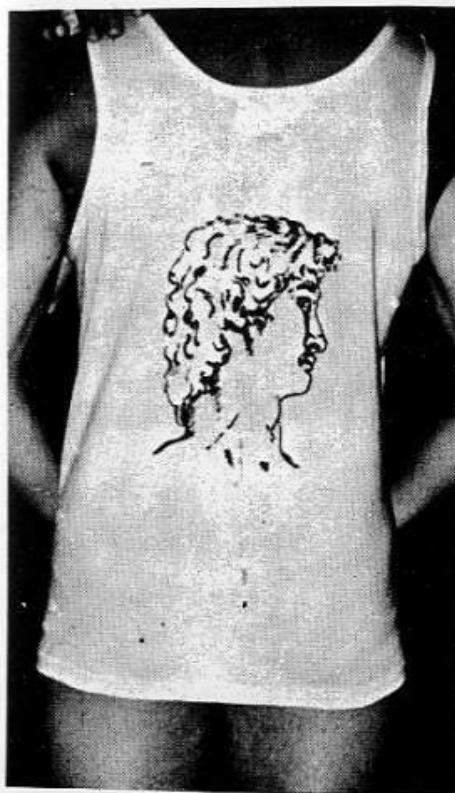
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Letters To The Editor

Dear VENUS,

We have just returned to Central New York from a year's visit in the South and so far, have not been able to locate any gay bars.

Would it be possible for you to give us the address of a Gay Bar Guide publisher?

(We are also interested in gay bars in other states).

Thank you for your help, and thanks for keeping us in touch with gays in the South.

Sincerely,

Sandy and Sue Cortland, New York

Dear Sandy and Sue:

Glad to help! Write to Bob Damron for his address book. It's probably the most accurate one you'll find. His address is: 2166 Market Street, San Francisco, Calif. or try the Studio Bookshop on Hudson Street, or Oscar Wilde Mem. Bookstore on Mercer St. (Both in New York City).

Dear VENUS,

Several months ago, while visiting Miami, I had occasion to go to several gay bars, however, was disappointed in only one in many.

I was under the impression that ALL advertisers of public establishments, namely bars, were open to ALL gays. Upon arrival at STEPMOTHER'S on Lejeune Road, my date and I were told we had to wear dresses in order to be served, that it was a rule of management! We both had on nice pant suits, not Levi's or tuxedos, we do not have short hair cuts, nor look obvious, but we certainly don't wear signs on our back either. There was a boy there with a dog, which is against the Florida State Board of Health Law and I didn't see the nelly queens in dresses!

Although the WAREHOUSE VIII is predominantly boys, we were served without

question. I have been going to KEITH'S in Hallandale for several years and find Pete, Keith and all very informal and friendly to all patrons.

I certainly feel that if a bar as a place of business is going to have rules and regulations such as what was stated at STEPMOTHER'S (which, had we had dresses on, we would more than likely have been classed as straight and told something else) I think it should appear in print to save embarrassment to others.

I am originally from South Florida and have seen all the problems since 1949, so nothing really amazes me anymore, however, if this is a "United We Stand" effort, it is a pure flop. I feel that this type of treatment is a little outdated and unfair.

As for DAVID Publications, I think it is something that has been needed for a long time and keep up the good work.

Jo Snyder

Orlando, Florida

Dear VENUS,

I wrote a letter for your VENUS section after receiving the March copy of DAVID but as is probably true with a lot of other people, I felt possibly a little foolish and never got around to mailing it. But after reading this April issue, I'm kind of glad I waited because I, as a gay gal, would like also to answer the letter written in by the two gals that did not approve of us being at the end of the DAVID. First of all, I would like to say that I wholeheartedly agree with DAVID that it's our fault we are not a larger part of the magazine. DAVID has gone out of its way to give us a part of the magazine and up to now, we have not earned it. To the two gals that don't like being at the end, just flip it over and we're first. Ever think of it that way?

I like being like that because if you are not interested in seeing what the boys are doing, just read your section. Personally, I like reading the whole magazine because the boys really put us gals to shame. I think real gay guys are about the greatest because they really go out for gay life and don't try to hide as some of us gals do, and I say us gals, because I'm just as guilty as the rest of you are. I'm not writing this to down us gals—I'm writing this because I honestly feel that we should get more involved than we are now. We are sitting back and letting the guys take over everything. Not that I don't like the gay guys because I do, and I respect most of them because they are forward and always seem to have more fun than us girls and have you ever asked yourself why? I have. Ever since I first subscribed to DAVID, I always looked forward to receiving the magazine to see the new places opening for us gays where we could all get together and be ourselves. While living in Atlanta for a few months, I stumbled and I say stumbled, on a place called CHUCK'S where I attended at least once or twice a week to be with my own kind and I must say girls, the boys outnumbered us about 20 to 1 and those are conservative figures. What's wrong? I was in Atlanta almost 6 months and very seldom did any girls ever try to be friendly. Some of you people reading this will recognize my name as I did meet several people but you know what the most friendly were, the boys: Jackie, Todi, Dusty, Melody, and so on. I understand now that Chuck's is closed and much to my sorrow, now I have no place close enough to go on weekends to be with even a few girls. I know this may be getting a little long, but I feel as if I have something to say and deserve the right to be heard. Before going any further, let me state a few facts to you so

you'll see I'm not a quack but an honest to God gay gal and proud of it.

Let me say this and it may seem that I'm bragging, but I'm doing this to point out a few facts and I'm sure that most of you that I met will agree to a certain extent with me. I am one of the few (and I might add here that I have met many—I spent three years in the service) true butches. I have never married, dated or had any relations with a man. No desire to. I'm not that bad looking either, gals, so that's not the reason. I'm about 5'11" tall, I weigh 117 lbs., so I am not a big, bad butch either. And this brings up a point I wanted to make which I will discuss a little further down but first let me go ahead with this. I hold a pretty high position with my company too in fact it's one of the highest I can go in my field; just to prove a point, I make \$15,000 to \$20,000 a year. Pretty high, huh? My employers and employees both know who and what I am. Although they have never said so, I know they know because I live with my "wife" and have done so for 10 years. I wear men's pants to work but they fit nicely and I am always clean. I might add here that I work with the public every day. This is not an inside position. Although they know about me, they respect me because I perform my duties to the best of my abilities and do not let my personal life interfere with my work. By the way, I have all male employees with the exception of one female. Well, enough about me. I just wanted you to see that I stand for what I say and I've proven us gals can be what we want to be if we want it bad enough. The reason that I've said all this is that I'm leading up to a point that I would like to voice my opinion on.

Most of the gay girls that I have encountered with the exception of a few that I thought were pretty sharp, all try to be big, bad butches. Some are just pure slobs. They dress sloppy, are too fat and generally don't care about their appearance. Is this all true for most gay girls? Where are

all the cute, slim and clean-cut gay girls hiding? Do most of you clean-cut gays feel as I do and try to stay away from places that cater to gays to keep from being classed with them? Well, I always did before, try to stay away from bars and so on but don't you, as well as I, ever get lonesome for company of your own kind. A place where you can drink, dine and dance together and feel free to be yourself? As I said before, I'm proud of being gay even though I don't broadcast it but I long to have others around me like myself. Let's get in gals, before it's too late. I would like to read some of your answers to some things I may have said in this letter. Both pro and con replies will be greatly appreciated. I would also like to know from you guys too, as to what it is that makes you successful. One favor I would like to ask of the guys that own a few of the gay bars and so on, is why not cater a little more to us gals? We are not all big and bad. I once visited a bar in Jacksonville that had more of a girl-crowd than boys and believe it or not, it was very successful. They made quite a bit of money. It was not a large bar but it was crowded almost every night of the week. Some of you give us a chance also; I'm sure if you had a few features for us gals, you would soon realize the boost in your profits.

I really think this VENUS thing is about the greatest thing that has happened to us lately and it gives us a chance to voice our views and I must say, I have really voiced mine. I think gay life is just the greatest and wouldn't change a minute of it if I could. Maybe if you guys could come up with a little more help for us girls, we would come out of our hiding and stand up and be counted. If us girls don't think enough of our own way of life to fight for it, then we're not worth DAVID fighting for us, are we? Wake up, gals, it may be later than you think. If you're an honest to God gay gal and not a half and half, then we need DAVID more than they need us, so let's help DAVID by support-

ing them by writing in or if you own or operate a business of any sort that caters to gays, list it with them and especially if you have anything that caters mostly to gay girls as I would rather give my business to someone of my own kind than to some rich straight. One more plea before I close: If there is anyone out there that knows of a place where a nice, clean-cut American Butch can go and possibly take a date, where we can eat, drink and dance write to DAVID and let me know. It's kind of lonesome now that Chuck's has closed.

God Bless DAVID, VENUS & us GAYS,
"Toni" Smith
Columbus, Georgia

P.S. I am sending a \$10.00 donation to maybe help in a small way to keep up the good work. I will send you \$10 a month donation to help some business that may want to advertise, but maybe can't afford it. This is a tribute to DAVID and the great work you are doing.

Dear Toni:

Thank you for saying what we have been trying to say for a full year now. An increased interest on the part of the girls could only result in a larger and better VENUS section; thus, your generous donation and any others we may receive like it will be used solely to pay for stories and features in the VENUS section. Thank you again for your continuous support.

—Ed.

Dear Venus,
I'm tired of all this complaining, No body makes me buy DAVID/VENUS, I do it because I want to. The magazine is downright good and that's all that matters, not what page an article is on or what section it's in. I'm sending in my literary contribution in the near future. Thanks.

Sue K.
Miami, Florida

DAVID/VENUS: JUNE 1972

ADVICE

DEAR VENUS

Dear VENUS,

Whether or not my problem is unique could probably be answered only by you or other advice columnists or a psychiatrist.

At any rate, I would like to hear your opinion and advice on my situation.

I stumbled into the gay scene about five years ago and since then have experienced only two love affairs, both which were very rewarding. The last one ended only six months ago, on friendly terms, I might add.

Having gone through both straight and gay relationships, I have come to the conclusion that I am a person who could never really be capable of loving a human being; male or female. I honestly believe there are people who can love and those who can't, as well as those who try awfully hard but don't quite make it.

I do care for people, especially those I have "dated" and have had relationships with. In fact I am still friends with all of my ex-lovers (I mean male and female). I do correspond and get along with them very well.

Recently I met Toni—probably the most

kind, understanding, and wonderful person I have ever known. In the few short months we have known each other, we have become great companions.

Now Toni tells me she loves me and asks for love in return. I think the world of Toni, but—You get the picture, what do I say, what do I do?

Help,

Anne G.

New York, New York

Dear Anne,

Love, a silly little four letter word. Its meaning is not a set definition. It means many things to many people. Your feelings toward Toni may be your love, they may be the strongest emotion you may ever have. Try to verbalize your feelings, tell Toni this is your definition of love, the strongest emotion you have, and then tell her you love her. You see Anne, it's only a word, some people use it without knowing what it means. At least Toni will know what Love is to you even if you used to call it liking or friendship, you may call it what you want; but remember, they're only words.

Venus in The Kitchen

ROAST DUCKLING PIQUANTE

Girls, here's a treat that'll please any hungry butch. It's easy to make yet she'll think you were slaving over a hot stove all day. Here's what you'll need:

- 3 (4 lb.) young ducklings, quartered
- 3 green peppers cut in pieces
- 3 carrots cut in pieces
- 8 sprigs of parsley
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice
- 4½ cups consomme
- 18-20 fillets of anchovy, drained
- 6 tablespoons cornstarch
- Brandy (optional)

Arrange the pieces of duckling on a rack in an open roasting pan and roast in a moderate oven, at 350 degrees, until it's tender. It should be about 1½ to 2 hours, depending on the weight and youth of the birds, turning them frequently, and prick the skin even more frequently to make sure all the fat gets out. While the ducks are roasting, saute the peppers, carrots and celery for 3 minutes in a little fat poured off the ducklings.

Add the parsley, lemon juice, consomme and drained anchovies.

Cover and simmer until the vegetables are tender; then strain the broth. Remove the ducklings from the oven and drain on paper towels. Drain the fat from the pan. Skim off the fat and thicken the broth with the cornstarch, moistened with a little water and, if you wish, flavor with a little brandy. Taste for salt; the anchovies will probably have supplied enough.

Put the ducklings back in the roasting pan. Cover with sauce. Turn off the oven and let the duck and sauce warm together for 15 to 20 minutes before serving.

This is a great dish to serve at a large dinner party. It will really impress your guests, and we all know how important that is. So try this one this summer for a real delightful change of pace.

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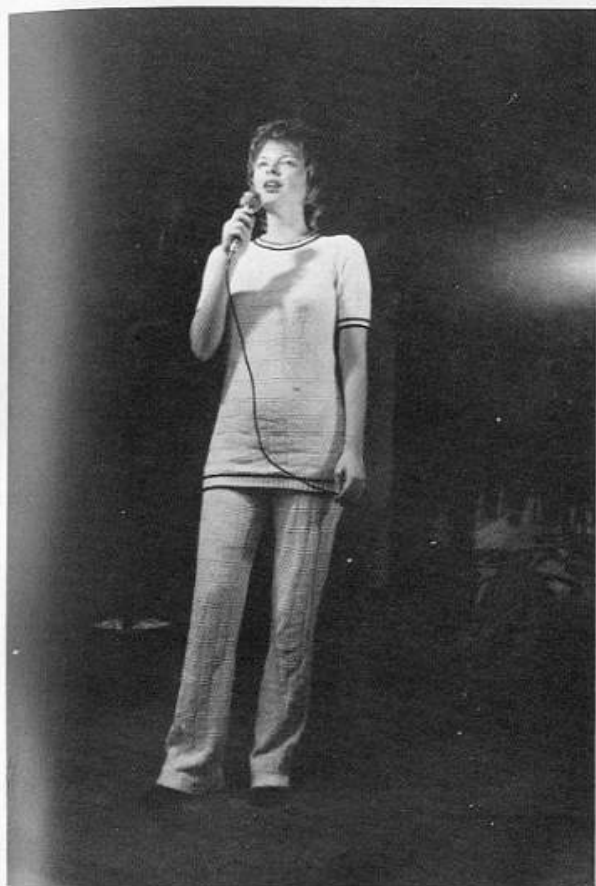
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She says she's "single and free" and glad to be that way. You'll always find her with a friendly smile and something nice to say.

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