

## Gay bar busts rampant in Houston

Less than a week following a surprise tour of Houston's gay bars by Mayor Kathy Whitmire and three city council members, about 50 patrons of bars and bookstores were arrested in what local observers called "a struggle between the mayor and the police department."

Mayor Whitmire's tour of nine clubs was prompted by the support she received from Houston's gay community during last fall's mayoral election.

At one club, the Exile, about twenty people were arrested. According to an eyewitness, "The bartenders were the first to be arrested, but the rest were picked at random. There was this cop that kept walking around, and he'd go 'you,' and they'd carry the customer out."

None of the persons taken were discernably drunk, according to persons who witnessed the incident in the Exile. "Obviously everyone was having a good time, but no one was falling off the barstools."

The eyewitness said there was no basis for the police to be harassing the bar patrons, "because they weren't doing anything. They were just drinking their drinks. You know if

there's something obscene going on, or vile or crazy. But there was not. Things were really quiet."

Those arrested in the bars were taken in for public drunkenness, public lewdness, and in the case of the bartenders, "for serving alcohol to intoxicated persons."

An ironic twist to the gay busts in Houston is that on the day following the first raids on January 12, Houston Police Chief Lee Brown was in Portland appearing as the keynote speaker of the Metropolitan Human Rights Commission annual luncheon. During his speech Brown spoke of the need to take action and, "Speak the truth for what we know to be right and to take sides in the confrontation between those forces that seek to change society and those that seek to maintain the status quo."

Chief Brown expressed surprise as he listened to complaints about his vice squad's activities during two meetings between Houston's gay community leaders and the Houston Police Department. Throughout the meetings, Brown's vice squad said their arrests were made under a "business as usual" condition.

Houston gay community spokesman, Larry Bagneris commented, "We don't have the money to waste in this community on

games these policemen play," adding that the costs to the community of such vice squad activities ranges from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

## Nestle complies, boycott suspended

A coalition of church, education and health groups suspended the 6½-year boycott of Nestle products. The boycott was called off because Nestle S.A. has complied with UNICEF and World Health Organization regulations on marketing infant formula.

Boycott spokesman Douglas Johnson said Nestle will teach Third World mothers the pros and cons of bottle feeding and will cease giving free infant formula in areas where formula is likely to be mixed with contaminated water.

The coalition had blamed Nestle for the deaths of children in underdeveloped countries because their mothers had abandoned breast feeding for infant formula without proper instructions. The coalition said that the infant formula was in most cases mixed

with contaminated water and too dilute for sufficient nutritional value.

The coalition has spent \$3.5 million during the boycott. Estimates put Nestle's cost of fighting the boycott at \$40 million.

The coalition stressed that the boycott of Nestle has only been suspended, not called off. The coalition will continue to monitor Nestle as well as other worldwide distributors of infant formula.

## LA gay man granted survivor benefits

A precedent setting decision by the California Workers Compensation Appeals Board has awarded Earl H. Donovan \$25,000 in survivor benefits following the death of his lover, Thomas J. Finnerty, Jr.

Finnerty lived with Donovan for 27 years until his death in 1976. In awarding the benefits, the appeals board overturned a 1978 ruling which held that a gay lover could not qualify as a "good faith" dependent and therefore was not entitled to benefits.

In his arguments before the board, Donovan's attorney cited the California Supreme Court's ruling in the "palimony" case involving actor Lee Marvin and Michele Triola Marvin. "The California Supreme Court in that case used the phrase 'changing mores,'" Charles Glassman, Donovan's attorney said.

The Appeals Board agreed, ruling that homosexual relationships had to be given the same credence that unmarried straight people get and that the primary issue was whether Donovan was Finnerty's dependent.

The ruling will not affect cases where an inheritance is involved and there is no will, nor will it allow a partner in an unmarried couple to bring a wrongful-death civil action. The ruling relates only to worker's compensation cases which operate on dependency rules rather than on the basis of legal inheritance rights.

### Distinctive Handcrafted Shades



Our specialty — Victorian styling — silks, satins, lace and georgette are blended with headed and silk fringes. Bases for sale separately.

Custom work available to fit your tastes & color scheme, from elaborate to elegantly simple.

Shipping available — write for our brochure.

**10% off** with this ad

**YESTERSHADES**

3534 SE Hawthorne  
Portland, OR 97214  
238-5755



### EM SPACE TYPESETTING

We specialize in newsletters, posters and small ads. We also do very nice advertising art work.

519 S.W. Third  
The Dekum Bldg.  
Room 310  
Portland, OR 97204  
226-6300

### TWENTY-THIRD AVENUE B·O·O·K·S

**Wide Selection of:**

- Lesbian/Gay
- Best Sellers,
- Hardcover and
- Paperback Books.

**Personal Services:**

- Special Orders
- Gift Wrapping
- Gift Certificates

1015 NW 23rd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 224-50

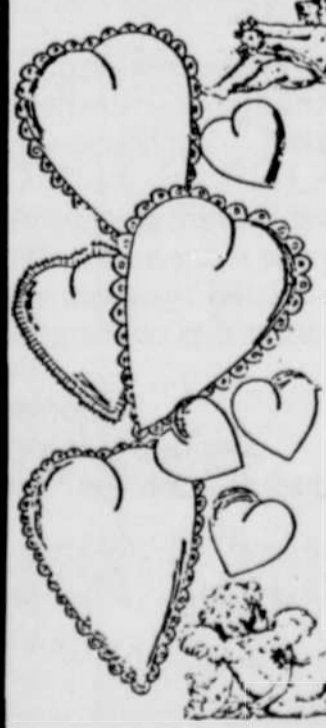
### Perfume Oils Bubble Baths Moisture Lotions



Monday, 10-6  
Saturday, 10-6  
Sunday, 12-5

**escential**  
lotions & oils  
1027 NW 21st Avenue  
238-9748

THE HUNT PUB  
has a  
"heart-on  
for  
Portland"



**Tues.-Feb. 14th**  
**ANY COUPLE**  
with this ad gets  
**FIRST PITCHER**  
of any beverage for  
**\$1.00**

1027 SW Morrison