

DJ 1: Going backwards, then, if he's on Thanksgiving now.

DJ 2: You know--

DJ 1: Or he's gone all the way around.

DJ 3: Pretty soon, it's going to be 4th of July, you know.

DJ 2: Somebody reset--

DJ 3: Or Pride-- I'll be talking about the Pride Parade, and they won't know which year I'm talking about. Yeah.

DJ 1: Well, I'll tell you one other thing we've got in the works.

DJ 2: --tonight now. Did you know that--

DJ 3: Yeah?

DJ 1: Our big deal, the Oscar party every year. And--

DJ 3: Yes, yes. Now that's when--

DJ 1: That's Oscar night, and as I can tell from counting back my dates that's going to be Sunday, March 24.

DJ 3: Sunday, Sunday, Sunday!

DJ 1: I can guarantee you it's going to be Sunday. I can guarantee you it's in March. I might be a day or two off, but I think it's the 24th.

DJ 3: OK.

DJ 1: And that's going to be at the River Oaks. And once again, that's another one of our benefits.

DJ 3: That's always a sellout.

DJ 1: This year, a little different. [INAUDIBLE] is doing all the food.

DJ 3: Wow.

DJ 1: So it's like--

DJ 4: 24th is correct. That is a Sunday.

DJ 2: Sunday--

DJ 1: There you go. That'll be the day. And so keep that marked. It's so much more fun, I think, to watch the Oscars with folks to watch it alone.

DJ 3: Yeah.

DJ 1: And we try to be somewhat quiet during the actual awards show. But--

DJ 3: Really.

DJ 1: --you know, if the speech is going on too long or if the commercials come in, then we tend to add a little something.

DJ 3: Wow, you better get those tickets early because I know they sell out.

DJ 4: Yeah.

DJ 1: That's going to be a lot of fun.

DJ 3: In fact, when you're getting your tickets for the *Sound of Music* singalong, you know, you might want to check on tickets for--

DJ 1: You might, but I don't think you'll be able to get any yet.

DJ 3: Oh, not yet?

DJ 1: But you can check on them.

DJ 3: You can-- OK. Check until they're there. Then buy them.

DJ 1: So now you guys can help me with something else I'm working on.

DJ 3: Sure. What?

DJ 1: Over at the show on Channel 8, it's the time of year where I was-- well, it's a little late for that, but I was supposed to release my top 10 film list of the year.

DJ 3: Uh-huh?

DJ 1: And I can't find films 9 and 10. Any great ideas for films? What were some of your favorite over the year?

DJ 3: Wow. Anybody?

DJ 4: How about *Dude, Where's My Car?*

DJ 3: Anybody?

DJ 1: Yeah, you know, somebody joked with me about that. And I don't think that's going to make *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, though, has made my list.

DJ 3: It better. It better.

DJ 1: That made my life.

DJ 3: --really really good. And of course, you got the *Harry Potter* and *Lord of the Rings*.

DJ 1: Actually, I left *Harry Potter*.

DJ 3: Oh really?

DJ 1: Yeah.

DJ 4: What?

DJ 3: On purpose?

DJ 4: Steven!

DJ 1: Intentionally.

DJ 4: What about-- how about *Legally Blonde*?

DJ 1: *Legally Blonde* didn't make it either.

DJ 3: No, well--

DJ 4: You're kidding!

DJ 1: No, no.

DJ 3: OK.

DJ 2: *Beautiful Mind*?

DJ 1: *Beautiful Mind*'s on it.

DJ 3: OK. OK.

DJ 1: *Lord of the Rings* is on it. I shouldn't be telling these. We're supposed to debut him on the TV show.

DJ 3: Oh, oh. Sorry about that. Yeah.

DJ 1: People that are listening right now aren't watching the show. What else is on--

DJ 3: When is your show, by the way?

DJ 1: We're on 12:30 Monday through Friday in the afternoon. That's our live slot. And then we rebroadcast at 10:00.

DJ 3: 10:00 at night. Yeah.

DJ 1: Yeah.

DJ 3: Cool.

DJ 1: And Doris, for anyone who follows the show and knows Doris isn't around, yes, she had her baby.

DJ 3: Ah.

DJ 1: And she'll be-- actually, on February 14, she's going to make a cameo on the show.

DJ 3: Ah!

DJ 4: Boy or girl?

DJ 1: It's a little girl. Her name is Mackenzie Faith, but we call her Mango Chutney for our own private reasons. And she's doing fine, and mom's doing fine, and we're very happy. And at the end of March, Doris will come back full time back on the show.

DJ 3: Great. That'll kind of free you up a bit.

DJ 1: Yeah. Give me a little-- it's weird. In the middle of December, I was told, now, you can't be sick or take a day off until the end of March.

DJ 2: Oy.

DJ 1: So it's like, ah!

DJ 3: Great.

DJ 1: But don't tune in on Monday because you won't see me there.

DJ 3: Ah, ah, ah.

DJ 1: I'm feeling a little sick now. So no other ideas for the film list for my top 10?

DJ 5: *Monsters Inc.*

DJ 1: *Monsters Inc*-- do you think so? Even if *Shrek* is on the list, is it good enough to compete against *Shrek*?

DJ 5: Hell yes.

DJ 1: Hell yes?

DJ 3: OK.

DJ 5: *Vanilla Sky* was pretty good.

DJ 1: *Vanilla Sky* I haven't seen yet because--

DJ 5: *Harry Potter*. Very mysterious [INAUDIBLE].

DJ 1: So why do you think *Harry Potter*?

DJ 3: Merlin's ghost--

DJ 5: Yeah, come on, Merlin. Come on, Merlin.

DJ 4: [INAUDIBLE] no, no. The reason for *Harry Potter* is because it has a gay angle. They opened up a gay store in Diagon Alley, and it's called Harry Pottery Barn.

DJ 3: Uh.

DJ 1: OK.

DJ 2: OK.

DJ 3: Get the hook!

DJ 1: Well, that brought the show to a screeching halt, didn't it?

DJ 3: [INAUDIBLE]

DJ 5: OK, Merlin. OK, to start with, I saw the movie four times.

DJ 1: No surprise there.

DJ 5: No big surprise there. The happy little pagan child saw the movie four times. I'm sorry, but as a gay man, you know, I like to think there's a little magic in all of our lives as people in the queer community.

DJ 1: You calling me a fairy?

DJ 1: OK, but now--

DJ 5: And casting Alan Rickman calling is--

DJ 1: Calling me that?

DJ 5: --awesome.

DJ 1: Do I have to say the word?

DJ 4: No, the thing--

DJ 5: This guy's got more silver on him than most jewelry stores have.

DJ 2: So you've been [INAUDIBLE].

DJ 4: The thing with *Harry Potter* is, you know, and the *Harry Potter* movie is that it pisses off the religious--

DJ 5: Religious right?

DJ 4: Right, exactly.

DJ 2: I'm assuming that's not an issue here.

DJ 5: Let's--

DJ 2: So the question is--

DJ 5: If you take that out of it--

DJ 2: Most of the critics that have not liked the movie have said it didn't show any creativity as a movie. It was the book in movie form.

DJ 3: Well, so was *Gone with the Wind*. Hello!

DJ 4: What's wrong with that?

DJ 3: Nothing.

DJ 1: Now, I have--

DJ 3: --the Oscars and crap.

DJ 2: No, I'm just saying that this is something that a lot of the people that have had problems with it have said, and I was just wondering if that was your attitude or you got something else going on too.

DJ 1: There's a couple of things going on here. First of all, when I'm putting together a top 10 list for a year--

DJ 2: Uh-huh?

DJ 1: --I usually look for a single film to represent something?

DJ 2: Ah.

DJ 3: Good point.

DJ 1: And so with *Lord of the Rings* in there to represent the fanciful filmmaking--

DJ 3: Yeah.

DJ 2: Right.

DJ 1: --that pretty much took the slot that *Harry Potter* would have taken for me.

DJ 2: And as you said, you got *Shrek* in there. So that covers the kids angle.

DJ 1: Right, and that's that animated. And I've got-- what I always have is my guilty pleasure is *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, and that kind of takes that one that's not making most critics list.

DJ 2: So it's not a top 10 list per se. It's a top one list of each of 10 categories almost.

DJ 1: Possibly. Yeah, that'd be a way to look at it. I want to take a look at the full spectrum of film.

DJ 2: Yeah.

DJ 3: And you should.

DJ 1: --want to be slanted one way. My number one film-- and if I don't find two other films, it's going to be number one, two, and three-- of course will be *Moulin Rouge*. I loved it.

DJ 2: Got to go see it. Got to go see it.

DJ 1: Well, to go back to *Harry Potter* for just a second here, I think also having not read the books-- so there's a step back. But a film, you shouldn't have to read the book to appreciate the movie, and I think people that really love the film are very familiar with the books to start with.

DJ 5: I haven't read any of the books.

DJ 1: You didn't?

DJ 4: Well, the thing about it is, why should it be a negative for someone to follow-- you know, for the screenplay to follow the book?

DJ 1: And that's not the negative. But I think my problem with it was if you introduce a character from an adult point of view-- and as a children's film, I'm sure these aren't valid reasons. But as an adult watching the film, when something's told to me, I want to know that there's a little question to it.

DJ 3: Yeah.

DJ 1: In Harry Potter, I felt that everything that was said, the moment it was said, that was truth, and it was done. If this character is introduced to me as a bad character, that's it. It's a bad character except for one little hook. But other than that, everything was so surface.

And it looked great, and the story stayed right there, and it was a fun story. But there was nothing else at play underneath. I didn't feel the tension from subplots and other ideas, and maybe this represents that. But then again, having not read the books, maybe it's there and--

DJ 5: I understand where you're coming from.

DJ 2: And the target audience is how old?

DJ 1: Right.

DJ 5: It was aimed at children. So it's not going to have any of those--

DJ 1: But you take a Shrek or you take any of the Disney animated films, and even though they're aimed at a child audience, they have that secondary level that plays with the adults because they know that audience is--

DJ 2: The most fabulous kids cartoon ever? "Bullwinkle." Tell me that wasn't-- you know?

DJ 3: And maybe--

DJ 1: Cartoon [? Fight ?], the movie.

DJ 2: OK, don't know nothing about no movie.

DJ 1: Oh, that movie was terrible. A couple of years ago it was out?

DJ 5: I'll take this from a-- maybe, I think-- too literally in terms of having grown up a kid who was different, you know?

DJ 1: OK.

DJ 5: Besides being gay, you know?

DJ 1: Yeah, can you explain that to us?

DJ 5: I mean, besides being gay, I'm also a person who lived with a disability. I knew what it was like not to be like everybody else.

This kid, the kid in *Harry Potter*, knows he's not like everybody else. But up until a certain point in the movie and in the book, he doesn't know why. And he's treated badly by people who do know.

DJ 1: But I think that's what you bring to the character. I mean, that is the plot. But the emotion and the feeling and the reaction, the understanding of it, you bring having lived through the life you've lived. But I don't think it's there in the script. I don't think they gave us enough time to feel his isolation as a character.

DJ 2: There was character development in the book that they had to cut for time.

DJ 1: Right.

DJ 2: And that would have helped.

DJ 1: Right, and that's the kind of stuff that I'm talking about. But I think, yes, you can project your own story there, and you can feel-- you can understand how he's ostracized. You can understand what he goes through because of what we go through in our daily lives.

DJ 5: And the-- I mean, because the very first thing you see after him as a baby is him-- you know, them pounding on him--

DJ 2: Yeah, taking abuse.

DJ 1: Right

DJ 5: --him taking abuse because he's-- they put him-- they make him live in a closet under the stairs.

DJ 2: Cupboard.

DJ 5: A cupboard under the stairs, yeah.

DJ 1: Had they made him live in a closet, that would have been a whole other film.

DJ 5: Yeah.

[LAUGHTER]

Really.

DJ 2: OK.

DJ 5: That would wrap it up.

DJ 2: Don't break the producer.

DJ 3: That's great. Let's go, OK. Let's go through some of the details again, Ernie.

DJ 1: OK, real quick.

DJ 3: Yeah.

DJ 1: Sing-along *Sound of Music*.

DJ 3: Yeah.

DJ 1: There is going to be an event on February 14 at JR's where you can come and sing along, karaoke. The winners-- the top winner will be able to host the actual singalong *Sound of Music* for a performance.

DJ 3: Wow.

DJ 1: Plus, there'll be CDs and DVDs and videos and all that on Thursday, February 14, JR's.

DJ 3: Yeah.

DJ 1: Monday, February 18 over at the River Oaks, there will be the actual singalong *Sound of Music* starting at 7:00. We'll probably take you to midnight. It's going to be a long night.

The woman who played Liesl, "16 Going On 17," will be there in the audience. She will be hosting the event. She'll be doing a signing of any of your memorabilia.

There'll be a costume contest. There will be prizes, fun, food, frivolity. It'll be a great evening. For information on that, call 713-524-2175.

DJ 3: Yes.

DJ 4: Time at JR's.

DJ 1: Time at JR's-- good question. 10:00, I understand.

DJ 5: OK.

DJ 1: I've been told it will be for an hour, 10:00 to 11:00. I've been to RJ's before.

DJ 4: Oh

DJ 1: It'll be a lot longer.

DJ 5: Oh yeah. Oh yeah.

DJ 4: Who's going to be in charge of that? Marcia [? Carton ?] or who?

DJ 1: Actually, I do not know. They've asked me to come in as one of the judges. That's my whole hook with that. Very little. And then, of course, on Sunday, March 24, at the River Oaks, our Oscar party.

DJ 4: Great.

DJ 1: And tickets and all that information, you can call the River Oaks Theater-- 713-524-2175. And also, just because you would like this, February 22 through March 14 will be the regular run of singalong *Sound of Music*, which is actually almost the same price as our benefit.

DJ 3: Oh--

DJ 1: So you're much better to go to the benefit.

DJ 3: Yeah.

DJ 1: Support your community because the money that goes later on will just go back to the Canadian company. Nothing against Canadian companies, but let's support the gay and lesbian community.

DJ 4: Monday the 18th.

DJ 1: Monday the 18th.

DJ 4: Good.

DJ 1: Thank you all very much for letting come in and do this.

DJ 3: Thanks, Ernie. Thanks--

DJ 1: Now can I go home and go to bed?

DJ 4: No.

DJ 3: Next time-- and next time, tell Deb Murphy she has to come with you.

DJ 1: OK, she has a bunch of-- as she put it to me, a bunch of lesbians have invaded her home down in Galveston.

DJ 3: Oh, poor thing.

DJ 1: So she could not escape.

DJ 3: Oh, poor thing.

DJ 1: Yeah. I didn't get an invitation. Did you get an invitation?

DJ 3: Well, last time I looked, I wasn't much of a lesbian.

DJ 2: There's doctor who can--

DJ 4: I am.

DJ 2: --take care of that for you.

DJ 3: Yeah! OK, that was the first half. OK. Thanks, Ernie. Take care.

DJ 1: Thank you.

JOAN DEVLIN: Hi, this is Joan Devlin. You're listening to KPFK's Lesbian and Gay Voices.

NARRATOR 1: We want to create the political climate for same sex marriages.

NARRATOR 2: Let's just talk about some of this stuff.

NARRATOR 3: The neutron Lesbian strikes again.

NARRATOR 4: We're going to be doing some radical radio right now.

NARRATOR 5: Legal changes decriminalizing gay sex.

NARRATOR 2: We celebrate the diversity.

JACK POLINSKY: Welcome to another edition of Lesbian and Gay Voices. This is Jack Polinsky.

WOMAN: It wasn't until I had lived with a woman for a year that it even occurred to me to ask-- do you think we're lesbians?

NARRATOR 6 Civil rights for gays, the ending of Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

NARRATOR 7: Listen to Lesbian and Gay Voices.

ANALYST: My prediction-- Al Gore, 276 electoral votes-- George W. Bush, 262.

NARRATOR 8: That's Lesbian and Gay Voices, Mondays at 8:00 PM. I hear gay people.

DJ 1: Ah, yes.

DJ 2: After Hours.

DJ 1: After Hours right here on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station, the voice of the many who have no voice. Chad from Montrose has a music request-- "Sidewalk Sale" by Pansy Division. And if I have it with me, I will play it. And I will be looking for that while we have this next segment on. I've got Alyssa Jacqueline Wright who is going to be doing the little news stuff here and probably with some comments by everybody else.

DJ 4: Well, thank you very much, Jimmy.

DJ 1: You bet!

DJ 3: I appreciate it. I guess I just plunge right in here.

DJ 1: Yeah.

DJ 3: You know, I was kind of tempted to start with my very last item on this six page list because we were talking about *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*.

DJ 1: Yes.

DJ 3: But I think I'm going to start with the important stuff. I've got some good news here and some bad news and tons and tons of choice materials. If you're looking for time filler, we've got it.

DJ 1: No, I'm looking for news.

DJ 3: OK. Well, let's start off with Phyllis Fry.

DJ 1: Ah, yes, yes. I had that on my list too.

DJ 3: I have to admit, all I know is what I've seen on email. But as I say here, long time Houston attorney and transgendered activist Phyllis Frye still does not know what is causing the loss of vision in her left eye and ringing in her head.

And according to a Friday email, she is scheduled to receive more medical tests next week. Now the good news is she does not appear to have a brain tumor or a retina tear, and while she and her partner are said to be upset and frightened, she's also reportedly stunned and happy about the outpouring of love and support from everyone. She has said she would appreciate, quote, all positive thoughts, waves, prayers, chants, beliefs, depending on your individual belief system.

DJ 1: You bet. They-- especially from this corner, yeah. You bet.

DJ 2: We definitely give it for Phyllis.

DJ 1: Anybody else have any--

DJ 4: Well, Phyllis is one of the leading lights in the transgender community.

DJ 2: Nationwide. Worldwide.

DJ 4: She-- basically, she started out back in the '70s when everybody else was in the closet. She was responsible almost 100% for the repeal of the cross-dressing ordinance here in Houston. She was instrumental in starting the ICTLEP, which is the International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy, which can be found on the internet. And as far as the legal aspect of the thing, all of the cases and so forth are available. It's an incredible amount of work that has been done and progress that has been made because of Phyllis Frye's efforts.

DJ 2: I don't--

DJ 4: So we need to keep her in mind.

DJ 2: Yeah, I don't walk out of the house each morning wonder if I'm going to get busted for cross-dressing, and that's because of the work that Phyllis did.

DJ 4: Exactly.

DJ 3: Well, continuing, and I have quite a number of things here, the case of a female to male Florida transsexual battling for custody of his two children is now up to a circuit court judge. And this follows three weeks of testimony featuring dozens of witnesses. At stake is whether Michael Cantatas or Wanda Contreras will have custody of their children, 12-year-old Matthew and 10-year-old Irina. Judge Gerard O'Brien cited the important issues at stake when he came out of retirement to hear the case.

Besides the custody issue, the judge must decide whether Michael Cantaras is legally a male. He had his breasts, ovaries, and uterus removed and takes male hormones but has never had a phalloplasty, which is the construction of a penis out of fat and skin. He says his transsexual status is irrelevant to his ability to be a good father, but his estranged wife charges her husband isn't a man, which she says invalidates their marriage and his custody claims. Court TV has been covering the case, and the cable channel's website, www.courtstv.com, has extensive details about it.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is planning to meet this coming Thursday with a group representing Israel's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community. He plans to listen to their concerns and issue a statement of support. And just what kind of statement that will be was being negotiated Saturday.

Transgendered people are to be represented by activist Nora Ginsburg. She says the significance of the meeting is immeasurable given Sharon's popularity. Sharon will be meeting with a group despite its coalition with the Israeli religious right.

Goldberg says that in the past, more liberal prime ministers have carefully avoided contact with the GLBT community. In recent weeks, the community has been torn over whether it will appear to be endorsing Sharon's policies when many in the community oppose them. In the meantime, activists are pressing for a similar meeting with Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat. Ginsberg says gays, lesbians, and transgendered people face persecution in the Palestinian territories.

The number of television and print ads worldwide with transgender themes skyrocketed last year to 24 from 11 in 2000 and the same number in 1999. But very few of those ads reflected a positive image of the transgendered, so says a report in the February 8 *Washington Blade* gay newspaper. One ad in particular for the New England supermarket chain Shaw's is generating a bit of controversy.

It shows a transgendered person in the ladies room or cross-dress person in the ladies room with a miniature camera hidden in her long blonde wig. The transgendered person in the ad also says a double entendre about meat when she inspects a meat refrigerator. And when Shaw's refused to apologize to a real life transgendered woman, she publicized that the store, quote, endorses illegal activities because state law bars members of the wrong gender in restrooms.

More positively, perhaps, the report cites a tongue in cheek ad for Samuel Adams beer in which a beautiful woman stops her lover and admits she's transsexual. The lover starts to leave but takes a swig of his beer, then forgets what he was going to do and dives back into bed. Now, speaking of transgendered people in restrooms, a female to male transgendered person faces several criminal charges after he was arrested apparently for using the men's room in Grand Central Station in New York City.

The man was in town to join protests of the World Economic Forum, which met in New York from January 31 through February 4. After a rally and long march in which the group was out in the cold for about 6 hours, the man's group headed for the restrooms in Grand Central Station. A police officer followed the man into the Men's room, asked for his ID, and engaged him in a short discussion after which the man attempted to leave peacefully.

The police officer reportedly roughed up the man and arrested him as well as two other friends. In the meantime, at least eight police officers confronted an angry but nonviolent crowd that was upset about the arrests. As an aside, I've got a photo here that the people here in the studio might be interested in with eight police officers lined up almost in a military pose with these people in Grand Central Station.

And the man was housed for 23 hours in the women's section of a jail in which he faced freezing cold, a lack of food and water, and overcrowding. And the court-appointed attorney reportedly treated him dismissively with condescension. In court, the man was heartened by a number of transgender supporters wearing stickers reading loving trans is not a crime.

Now, the judge released the group, but the transgendered advocate faces two counts of disorderly conduct, one count of trespassing, one count of resisting arrest, and one count of obstruction of government administration. Now, among other things the man says he's outraged at the double bind that society's sex segregated restrooms poses to, quote, transgendered, transsexual, gender variant, and gender queer people. He says that each time he uses a public restroom, no matter what choice he makes, men or women, he faces possible harassment, violence, and even being arrested.

In Colorado, an 18-year-old faces a lengthy prison term for the murder of a transgender Native American teenager. Sean Murphy pleaded guilty to second degree murder this past Thursday. 16 years old Fred Martinez Jr. was found beaten to death last June 21 in a gully near the small town of Cortez, Colorado. He was killed by a rock blow to his own head.

A friend told investigators Murphy had been with him that night earlier but left have to get some marijuana. He returned to the friend's apartment covered with blood and explained he'd been in a fight. He admitted fighting with Martinez but claimed it had nothing to do with sexual orientation or gender.

He allegedly later bragged to friends that he had, quote, beat up a fag, unquote. Prosecutors dropped charges of first degree murder and attempted escape in exchange for Murphy's plea. He faces a prison term of between 4 and 48 years when he is sentenced May 18.

Gender identity and expression will be included in some proposed GLBT non-discrimination and anti-harassment state laws to be considered over the next few months in various places around the country, and the Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network is putting technology to use in lobbying efforts. The Safe Schools Action Network at www.glsen.org allows users to contact superintendents and school board members at 15,000 school districts nationwide. The article notes that most school decisions are made locally.

Safe school advocates say right wingers don't have this high tech know-how yet. John Spear of GLSEN says that for the first time, the American Family Association and the Christian Coalition are playing catch-up. However, the article quoting him has a link on the, quote unquote, current fag news page on one of the Reverend Fred Phelps websites, www.godhatesfags.com.

In the UK, three Law Lords say a male to female transsexual may appeal a court decision nullifying her marriage. Elizabeth Bellinger appealed to the House of Lords after both the House of Court and the Court of Appeal ruled her marriage of 21 years was void. The lower court said that the terms male and female were assigned at birth and could not be altered.

According to *The Scotsman* newspaper, the hearing before the Law Lords has not yet been scheduled. Bellinger argued that the decision refusing to make a declaration of validity was based on outdated thinking. In an earlier hearing, an official said the case highlighted a human problem. She said, the court was quote, very much aware of the plight of those who, like the appellant, are locked into the medical condition of transsexualism.

A Canadian transsexual is more than \$4,000 richer thanks to the ruling of the Human Rights Tribunal. The Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter had turned down the woman for a position in a program that trains women to counsel female rape victims. The shelter had tried to convince the government-appointed tribunal that someone who grew up male lacks the personal history and life experience to sensitively counsel women who have been raped or abused by men.

The tribunal rejected this argument. It charged that the shelter discriminated against the woman, named Kimberly Nixon, on the basis of her appearance and therefore injured her dignity and self-esteem. The court awarded her \$4,664. The case dragged on for six years, which is said to be typical for Canada, during which time Nixon found volunteer work with several other battered women's societies. She is also reportedly in a heterosexual relationship and parenting a child.

A transsexual serving a life prison sentence is trying to force the state of Massachusetts to pay for sex reassignment surgery and hormone therapy so she can live as a woman. Michelle Koselik is still known legally as Robert Koselik. As a matter of fact, she was referred to as a he in the newspaper article I saw this in.

She's serving a life sentence for strangling her wife. The 52-year-old transsexual is suing the Massachusetts Department of Corrections for allegedly violating her civil rights by refusing to provide gender treatment. Although her condition has not been part of her defense in her trial, she claimed self-defense. She claimed her wife, get this, spilled boiling tea on her genitals. More generally, advocates say there have been several cases nationwide where transgender inmates have successfully sued for treatment, but none have succeeded in getting surgery.

The proposed bill isn't law yet, but transgender people, gays, and lesbians have scored a victory in a Colorado Senate committee. If the bill becomes law, most employees in Colorado would be protected from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Religious organizations not receiving any taxpayer funding would be exempt.

On January 23, the Senate Business Labor and Finance Committee voted 4 to 3 along party lines with Democrats in majority to send Senate Bill 74 to the full Senate for debate. A similar measure passed the Senate last year but was killed in a House committee. It was at least the fifth time such a measure was killed.

In Pontiac, Michigan, a judge threw out of court a sexual discrimination lawsuit by a local resident. The plaintiff claimed to be intersex and to have biologically changed from man to a woman without surgery. The judge ruled that the state legislature had not included transgender or intersex people under the law and that the plaintiff, Naomi Solomons, could not sue her former employer for damages.

Solomons, who was once known as David Solomons, claimed in court documents that around Christmas 1999, her body spontaneously began to grow breasts, she lost her facial hair, and her voice changed. I just have to ask it should be that easy for most of us transsexuals. In Baltimore, a GLBT community center is putting pressure on the city council to add protections for transgendered people to the city's anti-discrimination policy.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Center of Baltimore and Central Maryland has submitted a proposal to the Baltimore City Council. It amends the word sex to include a technical definition of gender, quote, not associated with an individual's biological sex or sex at birth. The group also proposes the council change the word sex in the city ordinance to gender.

Also in Maryland, a transgender advocacy group says it will seek to have transgendered people included in the state's new anti-discrimination laws. The measure went into effect November 21 and covers gays and lesbians. The group Marylanders Advocating Towards Transgender Equal Rights, or MATTER for short, is a subcommittee of Free State Justice, Maryland's largest gay civil rights group.

The world's only known transsexual member of parliament says she gets asked questions no other politician would have to answer or put up with. Georgina Beyer of New Zealand told the Australian newspaper *The Age* that she gets asked questions about whether her surgery hurt or whether sex was different for her as a woman than it was as a man. Says she, well, honey, obviously. Beyer was in Melbourne, Australia for the Mid-Summer Gay and Lesbian Arts and Cultural Festival, which ran through February 3. Back in New Zealand, meanwhile, she is helping draft a civil unions bill that would extend most marriage rights to gay couples.

An online petition seeks to change longtime admissions policies at the Michigan Womyn's Festival, with women spelled there with a y. For 25 years, the popular festival was provided a women only space for a week in rural Michigan with music, workshops, camping, and vegetarian meals. It has been the center of controversy for years due to its policy of barring transgendered women from the premises. A transgendered camp has been pitched across the street from the camp every year. The editor of strapon.org started the petition because of the growing--

DJ 1: Strapon.org?

DJ 3: Yes, yes. Well, that's what it said. Yes.

DJ 5: I'm just reporting what I read here on the internet here.

DJ 1: Well, before you get into that, I do need to remind people that they are listening to After Hours, queer radio with attitude--

DJ 3: And boy, do we have an attitude.

DJ 1: --on KEOS College Station and KPFK Houston.

DJ 3: It doesn't get much worse, and bear with me here.

DJ 1: The voice of the many who have no voice. There we go.

DJ 3: Yes. As I was saying, the editor of this website started the petition because of growing conflict and animosity between bands and performers in the festival on the one hand and trans activities in the, quote unquote, queer and women's communities. She says, quote, the petition is intended to heal the rift, honor our differences, and create a cohesive movement towards inclusion of trans women in the women only space, unquote.

The constitution governing the National Writers Union now covers transgendered, transsexual, and cross-dressing members in the non-discrimination clause of its constitution. Group members voted in the fall 2001 ballot to amend the Constitution making the change. One union member and activist says one editor openly refused her a writing job because she's transgendered.

A right wing website is critical of the agency that runs the Washington DC subway system because of an ad the agency donated space for. Entrances and exits at Washington DC metro stations often have billboards for a variety of things. This one pictured a pencil and an imitation standardized test with the question, I am, and the choices heterosexual, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender.

The copy at the bottom of the ad says that, quote, for too many teenagers, confusion about sexuality and gender leads to isolation, drug and alcohol abuse, depression, even suicide. It goes on to say that the Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League, or SMYAL, helps youth, quote, find their own answers in a safe and supportive environment but that, quote, we need your help. But in the article that appeared at the right wing website [HTTP cultureandfamily.org](http://cultureandfamily.org), the director of the Culture and Family Institute is quoted as accusing the ad of explicitly recruiting kids into homosexuality.

Two national groups trying to make schools safe from harassment and discrimination against GLBT students have produced a guide in state laws. The guide describes which kinds of state laws best aid the mission of making schools safe. It also outlines the legal matters that legislators must consider when writing state-wide policies.

According to the guide, five states-- California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Wisconsin-- have laws barring harassment or discrimination based on sexual orientation in public schools. Boy George is making a comeback thanks in part to a musical based on his own life. He wrote the music--

DJ 1: You're kidding me.

DJ 3: No, I am not kidding you. I saw this. Boy George wrote the music and the lyrics for a show called *Taboo*, which opened roughly two weeks ago in London. A young actor, and I hope I pronounce his name right, Euan Morton, plays the part of Boy George.

According to a Reuters report, the show creates a snapshot of a time when flamboyant cross-dressers reigned supreme in London clubs and in which Boy George's own group, Culture Club, was topping pop charts from around the world. I might mention, by the way, that Boy George was quoted, and I'm ad libbing here, as saying that seeing you and Morton all dressed up like him was kind of spooky. And of course, ironically, a heterosexual love story forms the heart of the musical's plot. Besides writing the music--

DJ 1: A what?

DJ 2: It's fiction, Jimmy.

DJ 3: Strangely enough, but a heterosexual love story forms the heart of the musical's plot. I don't have this right in front of me, but I seem to recall it was generating a bit of controversy with some of the gays in the London gay community or something.

DJ 1: I can imagine.

DJ 3: And Boy George has been keeping busy in a couple of other ways. He's reforming Culture Club. He's been DJing around the world. And strangely enough, and I haven't seen any results from this, but he's been supposedly writing a newspaper column.

DJ 1: Oh!

DJ 3: And one other thing I saw that might be interesting-- the winners of this year's Golden Globe nominations are out, and the star of transgender-themed movie *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* came up short.

DJ 1: What?

DJ 3: John Cameron Mitchell was nominated for, quote, Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture, Musical or Comedy. But that award ultimately went to Gene Hackman for his performance in *The Royal Tenenbaums*.

DJ 1: Ew.

DJ 3: And Cameron, by the way, was also the writer and director of *Hedwig*. The 59th annual Golden Globe Awards ceremony was January 20 in Los Angeles, and I do believe it was on NBC.

DJ 1: Mm-hm.

DJ 3: And in preparing this, I might mention I had plenty of material, but I would like-- and this is definitely on the lighter side, and I'm kind of adding libbing here, but--

DJ 1: Good!

DJ 3: I'd kind of like to thank the Reverend Fred Phelps for providing the CliffsNotes for this. No fewer than five of the source materials I found for this when I was putting it together earlier today were referenced on Phelps' news page.

DJ 1: Oh!

DJ 3: So--

DJ 2: Keeping an eye on our community, is he?

DJ 3: He's apparently so obsessed with our community-- and I think that's an apt word--

DJ 1: Yeah.

DJ 3: --that apparently, he and his staff and his friends are coming up with all manner of news articles from around the world. But I had a number of other sources as well.

DJ 1: Yeah, well, thank you.

DJ 3: You're quite welcome.

DJ 1: Ah. Let's go to a piece of music-- requested music, actually. Actually, I didn't have the exact song that Chad requested, Chad from Montrose-- "Sidewalk Sale" by Pansy Division but this is one that they did.

They've not ever done a whole lot of cover tunes, but this is one, and I like it. So, Pansy Division with "Homo Sapien." And a little happy birthday song for Stacy. Yes, it's her happy birthday yesterday, I believe. Was that is that right, Stacey?

DJ 2: Yep.

DJ 1: OK. Here's one that I picked especially for you.

DJ 2: Uh oh.

DJ 3: Bum bum bum bum.

DJ 1: Happy birthday, Stacy.

DJ 3: Toughest girl alive.

DJ 1: Yeah.

DJ 3: Happy birthday.

DJ 1: Candy cane with "Toughest Gal Alive."

DJ 2: No, we weren't going to sing like we did last month for you, Jimmy.

DJ 1: No! No, no. So Eric.

DJ 5: Yes.

DJ 1: Sit down here, Eric. Have a seat.

DJ 5: Yes, what?

DJ 1: So you're saying something earlier about you had to go read a script. So what's this about?

DJ 5: Oh, oh. I'm actually--

DJ 1: Are you an actor?

DJ 5: I'm-- yes, I've loved the stage for a while, and now I'm-- they're wanting me to start up at Mystery Cafe.

DJ 1: Mystery Cafe?

DJ 5: Mystery Cafe, yes. It's an all-inclusive dinner theater. As one actor put it, it's an amoeba of a theater that surrounds you, and you become part of it.

 It's the Mystery Cafe, where murder is always on the menu. For Valentine's Day, they're having a special. It's *Marriage Can Be Murder*.

DJ 1: Mm-hm.

DJ 5: It's an interesting little twist of a marriage gone wrong-- or a wedding gone wrong, I should say.

DJ 1: Are you going to be part of this?

DJ 5: Hopefully. Hopefully, I will be part of the Valentine's Day. If not that one--

DJ 1: Well, you better learn them lines, son.

DJ 5: They gave me six days to learn the part. So--

DJ 1: Whoa!

DJ 5: So I'm working on that one, yes.

DJ 1: So you have done acting things in the past?

DJ 5: In the past, yes, through my schools and things like that. I've been into the make up side of it for a while. And so finally, I've gotten the chance to get back into--

DJ 1: On the boards.

DJ 5: Yeah, get back on the stage of sorts--

DJ 1: Ah.

DJ 5: --at this place. Anybody, it's located between Kirby and the Buffalo Speedway at the--

DJ 1: You got to walk over from Kirby.

DJ 5: It's in the same building as the Prima Pasta.

DJ 1: Oh, I know where that is. I hate the restaurant, but--

DJ 5: You can call for reservations. I believe it's 713-944-CLUE. If that's wrong, I apologize to anybody who's getting strange calls in the middle of the night.

DJ 1: Yeah, it's 2:00 in the morning. Thank you very much. Thank you very little.

DJ 5: But the website is www.mysterycafehouston.com, and there they have phone numbers and things like that. It's a reservation only because they need to know how much food to set up and how to set the tables up.

DJ 1: Sure. Now, this is Mystery--

DJ 5: Mystery Cafe.

DJ 1: --Cafe.

DJ 5: Yes.

DJ 1: Wow.

DJ 5: They're running a karaoke one right now.

DJ 1: Oh!

DJ 5: Well, it's about a crazed karaoke killer.

DJ 1: Oh, OK. That's different.

DJ 5: And of course, *Marriage Can Be Murder*, and they have another one, *Come Up and Slay Me Sometime*, which is coming here soon.

DJ 1: So you're in a dinner theater, but you're actually part of the--

DJ 5: Well, the audience becomes the audience in a different show. For the karaoke one that Stephen and I went to the other night, the audience for this dinner and for the play became the audience in the karaoke contest.

DJ 1: Wow!

DJ 5: --who then became the sleuths to figure out who did it--

DJ 1: Yeah.

DJ 5: --who done it, why they done it, things like that.

DJ 1: OK.

DJ 5: And you know, they give you prizes for--

DJ 1: Did you figure it out?

DJ 5: Yeah we figured it out.

DJ 1: Ah!

DJ 5: We figured it out. I'm not telling you, though.

DJ 1: How mean.

DJ 5: They'll get mad at me, I'm sure.

DJ 1: Probably would. Oh, well, I just heard you say that, and I was wondering what that was.

DJ 5: So that's what you were tormenting--

DJ 1: Yes, yes, yes. So you did very well.

DJ 5: Yes, I guess.

DJ 1: You thought I was going to ask you something very--

DJ 5: Deep, dark, and sexual?

DJ 1: Uh-huh.

DJ 5: I was hoping.

DJ 2: Why did-- now's your big chance, Jimmy.

DJ 1: Oh boy, they all want to take my place, don't they? Yeah, that's fun, though.

DJ 5: Yeah, you should all come and see some of the show sometimes.

DJ 1: Yeah!

DJ 5: It's Fridays and Saturdays they have shows.

DJ 1: That's-- and Prima Pasta is, well, in that building.

DJ 5: Yeah.

DJ 1: That's like, it's on Richmond just a couple of blocks--

DJ 5: [INAUDIBLE] yeah, Richmond in between Kirby--

DJ 1: Yeah. Yeah.

DJ 5: --and Buffalo Speedway.

DJ 1: Yeah.

DJ 5: Real good stuff.

DJ 1: OK, great, great, great. OK, so what are we up to next? Hello.

DJ 3: Hello.

DJ 1: Hello. Where were we going? Jackie, have we finished with you? Oh, we're never finished with her.

DJ 3: Got a lot more sordid details about Grand Central Station if anybody wants to hear about that.

DJ 1: I've been to Grand Central Station back in the '60s, and there were a lot of sordid details there, especially in the Men's restroom.

DJ 2: I see.

DJ 1: But we're not going to talk about that.

DJ 3: Yeah.