

YEASTIE GIRLS: (RAPPING) Yeastie Girls, we're on the radio now. We want to talk about sex, but we're not allowed. Because the FCC is cracking down hard. They want everything to sound just like a Hallmark card. They won't even let us talk about number two, but I wonder what they call it when they get it on their shoe.

We know what word they're using it, but we can't say it. Because the FCC is full of bullsh-- we're the Yeastie Girls, and we're here to say that you better do something and right away. Yeah, you better wake up and start using your head because your First Amendment rights are just about dead.

Well, the FCC will tell you, oh, haven't you heard? They think that freedom of speech is a dirty word. Well, the Beastie's got a message for the people who agree with the stupid regulations of the FCC. Do you think your kids will be corrupted if they hear about poop? Well, there's nothing wrong with them. We think the problem is you!

Biology is neat. We like our bodies just fine. If you're telling us a story, well, we say you're lying. They call it a free country, but it feels like a prison. So write the Federal Communications Commission. Get your pen and paper ready because here's the address, 1919 M Street Northwest, Washington DC, 20036.

So tell them that they're stupid. Yeah, tell them that they're destroying our expression because they think it's outrageous. Tell them that they're living in the dark ages. We're the Yeastie Girls, and we're here to say, we want the FCC to go away. Yeah, go away!

[MUSIC PLAYING]

FRANK WHITE: This is *Afterwards* for the week of February 17th. I'm Frank White.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Glenn Maxey was the top vote-getter in last Saturday's special election in Austin. Maxey received 25.6% of the vote. There was a tie for second place with Flores and Rodriguez both receiving 18% of the vote. A recount was called for today by the second place candidates.

The entire election for this West Austin district has been plagued with allegations of wrongdoing. Investigations are underway to see if Rodriguez was actually a resident of the district. Allegedly, he voted in East Austin in the last election and lists a home in East Austin as a residence.

If the election results are upheld, then the second place candidate would be chosen by a coin toss, which would be supervised by Governor Richards. It is possible that if Rodriguez wins this coin toss, the entire election could be thrown out because of his eligibility question.

Homophobia was also rampant in this campaign. Mark Weaver was on television the night before the election, telling people that Maxey must be stopped. You remember Mark Weaver from the past. He is the homophobic bigot that shows up at every gay demonstration with his contingent, carrying signs that say gay is not OK.

Some of the other candidate's supporters greeted Maxey outside the Travis County Courthouse on Saturday with jeers of queer, queer, queer. Maxey believes that his running for this office has forced other candidates to take a stand on gay issues and believes this is good.

We must all remember that it took Harvey Milk three attempts to win his public office. So whatever the results of the runoff are, we have a winner in Glen Maxey. His campaign is in need of support, and you can reach them at area code 512-472-7273. Call them today and help make gay history for Texas.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Hey, buddy, did you hear the one about the gays and Aggie professors? Those Texas Aggies are always the butt of jokes because their stereotyped as not real bright. Well, this week, Aggies took a giant step for Texas gay rights. Texas A&M University's Faculty Senate voted 44 to 18 in favor of an anti-discrimination policy.

The policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. If it's approved by A&M President Mobley, it will become policy. "This codifies what is already good practice," said Larry Hickman, a philosophy professor and faculty advisor to A&M's gay and lesbian student services.

It's a reminder to deans and search committees that discriminating against someone because of their sexual orientation goes against University policy. Carl Gabbard led a movement against this new policy. Gabbard believes that homosexuals already have the same legal rights shared by all individuals. He compared homosexuality to political preference and said that if one was made a special category, so should the other.

What? Now I understand where all the jokes come from. Is this guy for real? Well, anyhow, the American Association of University Professors has recommended sexual preference be included in anti-discrimination policies. And according to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Washington, more than 200 universities across the country have now changed their policies.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[MUSIC - THE DIXIE CUPS, "GOING TO THE CHAPEL OF LOVE"]

This article ran in the Hearst News Service on February 14th. For Larry Brinken, Arwood Massie, Melinda Paris, and Jennifer Wilson, the concept of domestic partnership is about equal rights, respect, acceptance, and gay and lesbian power.

But when they registered their relationships today at City Hall Ceremony, the historic domestic partners legislation passed by San Franciscans in November will essentially be about one thing, love between two people. At some level, gay rights issues are gaining acceptance, but many people do not understand that.

"As a gay man, we love each other and do everything that other couples do," said Larry Brinken. Come Valentine's Day, Brinkman and Massie, and Wilson and Paris will join other gay and lesbian pioneers at City Hall. In 1981, Brinken's lover of 11 years died. Brinken, who at the time was employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad, applied for bereavement leave.

It was denied. He sued and lost. Brinken and Massie have been together for more than seven years. Like most long term couples, they have fought over money, fidelity, living together, and other issues that confront lovers. They have shared the grief over the death of friends and have suffered the rejection of their relationship by Massie's family.

"We have worked just as hard at maintaining our relationship as married people," said Massie, who is 45 years old. But unlike many other married or common law couples, gay and lesbian couples have also had to deal with a society reluctant to accept the reality of gay and lesbian love. Living together was the big step.

"And in that sense, we chose and made our commitment already," said Wilson. But registering our relationship is a statement to the world that we exist and deserve the rights and responsibilities that straight couples enjoy. Paris, Wilson's lover, was not sure at first whether she wanted to register as domestic partners.

An experience with San Francisco airport customs agent changed her mind. She explains, "we were returning from Puerto Vallarta, and he handed us a customs form and said, fill out one per family. We started filling it out, and then he started asking us if we were related, if we were family. And he just couldn't comprehend that we were lovers who lived together.

It got me so mad, and I thought next time, I'm going to have a domestic partner certificate to show someone like that." The city's Board of Supervisors had adopted a domestic partners ordinance in 1982, but former Mayor Feinstein vetoed it as too costly.

The new law is narrower in scope than the earlier proposals. It does not provide any benefits for domestic partners, only letting them declare they have an intimate relationship, have lived together at least six months, and will be jointly responsible for living expenses.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

CROWD: (CHANTING) What do we want? Gay rights! When do we want it? Now! What do we want? Gay rights! When do we want it? Now!

FRANK WHITE: The spirit continues. Share the excitement of history in the making.

CROWD: (CHANTING) When do we want it? Now! What do we want? Gay rights! When do we want it? Now!

FRANK WHITE: This is the theme for the 1991 March on Austin for Lesbian and Gay equal rights. "We are asserting our claim to Thomas Jefferson's promise of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," said Thomas Prentice, media relations coordinator for the march. The route for the march will be the same as the last march on Austin, beginning at the Palmer auditorium, up Congress, to the steps of the Capitol.

The events of the weekend will commence Friday night and wrap up on Tuesday evening. The Montrose Singers will be in concert the Saturday before the march at the University of Texas campus. Several performances will be staged throughout Austin, especially for this historic event.

The purpose of this March is to demand legal recognition of gay and lesbian relationships, including same sex marriages, passage of anti-discrimination and hate crimes laws, the right of gay men and lesbians to serve in the United States Armed Forces, and legislative repeal of the Texas Sodomy Law.

The last march in Austin for gay and lesbian rights attracted approximately 40,000 people. According to a member of the Board of the Texas Gay Rights Lobby, the time is right now for us to send a loud and clear message to Austin because the current administration in Austin is listening to us.

We cannot make the same mistake Houston made in the Gay Rights Referendum and not show up. If we don't show up in Austin in larger numbers than in the past, no one will notice. We must prove to the legislators that we are a political force to be reckoned with.

The Greater Houston Statistical Area is said to have 300,000 gay men and lesbians. If you're not out of the closet, try to make it to Austin anyway. Wear a mask, put on drag, so no one will know who you are, but show up. We are at a turning point. We are demanding our rights.

We must also convey a message that we are a diverse group of people and that the stereotypes will no longer work to dismiss or invalidate our existence. We are mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters. We are your boss and co-worker. We are nurses and doctors, dancers and welders. We are diverse.

We must not neglect to show the legislators how politically powerful we truly are. When we can do this, they will listen. If you stay home and listen to the coverage on the radio, you will diminish the voice. One person can only do a small part. But together, we can unleash power to change the course of history.

Abraham Lincoln talked about a house divided. The gay population of Texas is being kept divided, just like the Blacks in South Africa are kept divided in order for the White minority to control. I call on all gay and lesbian people to put your political, social, and moral differences aside for one day, and join together for a common purpose, equal rights for all men and women.

PROTESTER: They thought we'd stand for something. We are not talking about crack politics. This is not a movement from the waist down! We are talking about our right to love, and to choose, and to live. And I don't care about straight politics, and I don't care about your understanding.

You're going to hear me in Washington. We are demanding our civil rights!

CROWD: (CHANTING) What do we want? Gay rights! When do we want it? Now!

FRANK WHITE: We just received our latest edition of the GLAAD bulletin, Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. Comedian, Gallagher, thinks gay bashing and AIDS are hilarious. In a recent appearance, he said he wasn't interested in burning any flags but that he might burn a couple of fags.

He also sprayed the audience with silly string, yelling, look, it's AIDS in a can! Now, you don't have to blank a fag to get it. Since then, he has refused to disavow violence against lesbians and gays or to speak with our community. His agent told glad, "Gallagher hates gays, blames gays for AIDS, and is furious that his newborn son might someday catch AIDS from a gay person."

The November 15th episode of *LA Law* on NBC featured a gay man seeking custody of his lover, who was paralyzed and dying from Lou Gehrig's disease. The lover's homophobic parents had kidnapped their son and refused to let his lover see him. Both gay men were sensitively portrayed, and the courtroom scenes powerfully indicted the injustices of our society for not providing equal protection for gay and lesbian relationships.

Praise the show and at the same time ask the *LA Law* to tackle lesbian issues as well, especially since the episode was reminiscent of the Sharon Karwoski case, except that these couples were male.

This year, the Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Week 91 Committee is searching for faces of Houston to represent the community on the official Pride Week poster. The search is geared toward individuals, couples, single parents, and gay seniors, or anyone who represents the diversity of the gay and lesbian community.

The poster concept is to show faces that are representative of our community by including the different looks and feelings of our community through pictures. We anticipate that it will help educate the general public by displaying our different lifestyles and positive images. Persons interested in participating in this opportunity, who choose to have their photograph on the commemorative posters, should be at Rich's, 2401 San Jacinto, on Saturday, February 23rd, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

A professional photographer will take several pictures of each potential participant. Up to 12 different pictures will be included on the final product, and many other pictures may be included in the Pride Guide. Take pride in yourself and your community and participate. This photoshoot is open to people of all ages, races, and sexes.

This is from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University. There's going to be a conference on HIV/AIDS in the Hispanic community. It deals with the legal and social issues.

The Thurgood Marshall School of Law, in conjunction with the National Association of Social Workers and the Texas and Hispanic Social Workers of Texas announce a conference, Sida Y Vida, HIV/AIDS in the Hispanic community on Friday, February 22nd, 1991, to be held in a newly renovated law school building, located at Claiborne and Samson, on the campus of Texas Southern University.

This conference focuses on four legal and social issues about AIDS facing the Hispanic community, male to male transmission, substance abuse, immigration, and employment, and children, and extended families. Conference presenters include Teresa Eldape, a pediatric social worker at Texas Children's Hospital, Rosa Delgado, a member of the Harris County Ryan White Planning Council.

Patricia Dunn, an attorney with the volunteer legal services program in San Francisco, Greg Gladden, a physician in private practice, Selena Guerrero Hansen, a physician from the Center for Disease Control Atlanta, who specializes in immunology and pediatrics.

Jose Martinez, an attorney who is a PhD candidate in the creative writing program at the University of Houston, Ben Matta, a University of New Mexico professor who specializes in employment problems affecting the Hispanic community, Toni Molina, a social worker from Austin, Liz Murillo, Mark Parton, and Jose Perez.

The conference luncheon will include an address by the Reverend Enrique San Pedro, the auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Houston Galveston. In conjunction with that conference, an art show on behalf of people with AIDS in the Hispanic community will be held also at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law, at the GVG Gallery. And the title of it is Sida Y Vida, Observations and Meditations.

The art show opens Wednesday night, February 20th, 1991-- 1991, we'd have to wait a long time for that, with the reception from 6:00 to 9:00 in the library, the first floor of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law. The art show features works by regional artists, including Wendy Smith, Ben DeSoto, Michael Tracey, Mercedes Fernandez, Ariel Mason, and Jan Tips, as well as 17 others.

The art show is followed by the conference we just referred to. We have a performance at Rockefellers by Holli Near and John Luchino, the pianist. And it's going to be at Rockefeller's on February 28th. You can get your tickets at Inklings. I think it'll be a good show.

CO-HOST: And always, to find out what's going on in the gay and lesbian community, you can call the-- what's that place, again, Jimmy's always pushing?

FRANK WHITE: Oh, yeah, the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard.

CO-HOST: At 529-3211.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

FRANK WHITE: This has been *Afterwards* for the week of February 17th. I'm Frank White.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Stay tuned to *After Hours*, right here, on KPFT 90.1 Houston. *This Way Out* is coming up at 1:30.

CO-HOST: And as always, if you have news or information for Frank that you'd like him to include in the news portion of the show, which you just heard-- right? Because that's why we call it news-- send it to us at--

FRANK WHITE: 419 Lovett.

CO-HOST: Houston, Texas.

FRANK WHITE: 77006, attention *After Hours*.

CO-HOST: Yeah, and we'll get it on the news for you. Stay tuned. *This Way Out* with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chappelle coming up in just a minute, so keep listening. We've got a special tribute, Frank, to President Bush and Dan Quayle coming up at 2:00.

FRANK WHITE: A tribute.

CO-HOST: Yeah, you might want to stay tuned for that. Call your mom, and wake her up. And say, hey, those queers are going to say something bad about the president, God forbid. Just keep waving those flags.

FRANK WHITE: Is it called Bush Bashing?

CO-HOST: It's called Bushwhacking. Hang on, we'll be back in a minute. Stay tuned for *This Way Out*.

BOY: Ma?

MOM: Is it morning already?

BOY: No. I just wanted to ask you a question.

MOM: What?

BOY: How would you react if you were told that one of your kids was gay?

MOM: Your brother Phil is gay? I knew it! When he was a kid, we couldn't keep him away from those gladiator movies.
[LAUGHTER]

BOY: Ma, Phil is not gay.

MOM: You mean your gay? What, your friend Gene is having some sort of membership drive?

BOY: Mom.

MOM: Dorothy, I know you don't get many dates, but stick with what you know. [LAUGHTER] At your age, it's very hard to break into something new. Goodnight.

BOY: Ma, I am not gay. I just wanted to get your reaction.

MOM: I'll tell you the truth, Dorothy. If one of my kids was gay, I wouldn't love him one bit less. I would wish him all the happiness in the world.

BOY: It's because you're the greatest mother in the world, and I love you.

MOM: Fine. Now keep your fat mouth shut so I can get some sleep.

BOY: Gene thinks she's in love with Rose.
[LAUGHTER]

Ma, come on. It's not funny.

MOM: Well, it's not? Gene in love with Little Miss Muffet. Come on!
[LAUGHTER]

GIRL: What is going on?

BOY: Nothing.

GIRL: Oh, come on, now. I heard you laughing. What's so funny?

MOM: For starters, Gene is a lesbian.

GIRL: What's funny about that?

MOM: You aren't surprised?

GIRL: Of course not. I mean, I've never known any personally, but isn't Danny Thomas one?
[LAUGHTER]

BOY: Not Lebanese. Lesbian.

GIRL: Lesbian. Lesbian. Lesbian? But isn't that where one woman and another--

BOY: We already know what it means.

GIRL: But Gene's a very attractive woman. She could have any man she wants.

BOY: She doesn't want them.

GIRL: Well, why not? A man has so much more to offer. You know what I mean there?

BOY: Yeah, I found that out when Mark Harper was running for class president in the third grade.

GIRL: Well, what does that have to do with anything?

BOY: Well, his campaign slogan was vote for me, and I'll show you my wee-wee.

[LAUGHTER]

He won by a landslide.

GIRL: Well, I'll never understand what Gene doesn't see in the opposite sex. But hey, if that's what makes her happy, that's fine by me.

BOY: There's one other thing.

MOM: Gene thinks she's in love with Rose.

GIRL: Rose? Gene has the hots for Rose? I don't believe it. I do not believe it.

BOY: I was pretty surprised myself.

GIRL: Well, I'll bet. To think Gene would prefer Rose over me, that's ridiculous!

[LAUGHTER]

BOY: Please!

GIRL: Now, you tell me the truth. If you had to pick between me and Rose, who would you pick? Come on!

BOY: Pull yourself together!

GIRL: Oh, sorry. Does Rose know?

BOY: No.

GIRL: Oh, good. I don't think you ought to tell her. After all, she's not as worldly and sophisticated about these things as I.

MOM: Absolutely, if she finds out Danny Thomas is a lesbian, it'll break her heart.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SOLDIER: I was in an armored cavalry squadron, riding on top of what they call an armored personnel carrier. Next thing I know, I woke up in a hospital in plaster from my chest on down.

WOMAN: I want my job as much as anybody else, but I will not surrender my First Amendment rights. If you start chipping away at that and negotiating that away, pretty soon, you have nothing left.

SOLDIER: Dear Congressman Dan Meyer, I wish to thank you for the efforts you made at last year's state convention to read the Log Cabin Clubs out of the California GOP. I would never have known of this group but for your efforts.

LUCY This is Lucy Chappelle.

CHAPPELLE:

GREG GORDON: And Greg Gordon. And you're listening to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine on *After Hours*.

LUCY Right here, on Pacifica Radio 90.1 FM KPFT Houston.

CHAPPELLE:

GREG GORDON: Welcome to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. I'm Greg Gordon.

CINDY And I'm Cindy Friedman. Sexual minorities may find safe harbor in San Francisco.

FRIEDMAN:

GREG GORDON: Gay-supportive journalist fights for her First Amendment rights.

CINDY And purple-hearted, lavender vet thanks grand old party homophobe.

FRIEDMAN:

GREG GORDON: All that and more now that you've discovered *This Way Out*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

CINDY I'm Cindy Friedman.

FRIEDMAN:

MARK And I'm Mark Zuckomano.

ZUCKOMANO:

CINDY With *News Wrap*, a summary of some of the news in or affecting the Lesbian and Gay Community for the week ending February 9th, 1991. The city of San Francisco may become an official sanctuary for sexual minorities, as it has been for draft resisters and Central American refugees.

Queer Nation has drafted a resolution, which openly gay supervisor Harry Brett introduced at the February 4th meeting of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. The resolution would bar law enforcement officials from assisting in the location or extradition of individuals who have come to San Francisco to escape prosecution for consensual same-gender, sexual acts that in 26 US states are still crimes.

Non-US citizens who are lovers of US citizens would also be protected, as city personnel would be prohibited from assisting any agency in their deportation. Non-US citizens fleeing persecution in their home countries for sexual or political activities would receive similar protection. Signs would be posted on major roads into the city, declaring it to be a refuge for sexual minorities.

The resolution also would condemn Amnesty International for its refusal to address the harassment of sexual minorities and the US government for its failure to recognize same gender relationships as a basis for immigration and naturalization.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: Philip Morris Incorporated has been contacting European gay publications and organizations in an effort to stem the international boycott against Marlboro cigarettes and other Philip Morris products but without success. The company has been targeted by United States gay and lesbian activists for its financial support of homophobic Senator Jesse Helms.

The Brussels gay magazine, *Tel Quel*, published the letter sent to the International Lesbian and Gay Association along with an editorial, calling for the boycott to continue, concluding buying Marlboro kills people. ACT UP Germany has extended the boycott beyond Marlboro cigarettes to include Philip Morris Coffee, Chocolate, and Kraft products.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: In Sweden, a pop song has become a focus of controversy. The gay magazine reporter calls the song *Man and Woman*, a direct attack on lesbians and gays for stating that God created heterosexuality but not homosexuality, and that lesbians and gays can change if they choose the right direction.

Singer Dr. Alban denies he is a homophobe, claims to have many gay friends, and says all I did was quote the Bible. British singer Jimmy Somerville and a number of Swedish entertainers have denounced the song, while the international Lesbian and Gay Association has written an open letter describing the lyrics as inviting aggression against lesbians and gays.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: In the United States, newly elected Minnesota Governor Arnie Carlson has signed two executive orders barring discrimination against lesbians and gays and against people with HIV disease. The orders affect agencies, departments, boards, and commissions within and under the jurisdiction of the state executive branch.

One order directs that there be no discrimination in state employment based on sexual orientation and that the workplace be free of harassment. The other order similarly bars discrimination in employment based on HIV infection but describes the protections in greater detail, beyond the standard listing of recruitment, hiring, promotion, tenure, and compensation.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: For this week's news from the AIDS front, here's Mary VanClay.

MARY VANCLAY: President Bush, this week, sent his 1992 budget proposal to Congress. It's a \$1.45 trillion package that's been labeled as strong on domestic issues. But AIDS activists say it's unconscionable because it overlooks the growing threat of HIV infection in the US.

Charissa Cunningham, for the lobbying group AIDS Action Council in Washington DC, says she thinks the concentration on war and recession is only part of the reason AIDS is being ignored.

CHARISSA CUNNINGHAM: I think that, politically, the AIDS advocacy community won a number of big victories in the last session of Congress. The care bill, which is a disaster relief bill, and the Americans with Disabilities Act, and there's a sense now that AIDS got what it needed last year. And now, we're going to move on to other issues, which is very short sighted.

By definition, an epidemic means increases every year. And therefore, the spending has to increase to keep up with the epidemic.

MARY VANCLAY: Cunningham cites a figure from the Centers for Disease Control, stating that another 40,000 Americans will become infected with HIV in the coming year alone. She says that her organization is calling for full funding on AIDS research and care, amounting to \$881 million. But Cunningham adds she thinks they'll face an uphill battle in budget negotiations.

A major grievance of people with AIDS has been the high prices charged for the approved AIDS-related drugs. For example, Burroughs Wellcome, the British-based pharmaceutical company, at one time was charging \$10,000 a year for AZT, the only officially approved drug against HIV.

But now, Canada's third largest drug company, the Toronto based Apotex, is filing suits against Burroughs Wellcome in Canada and the US, challenging its rivals exclusive rights to AZT. Apotex is basing its suits on the fact that AZT was actually discovered 26 years ago by Dr. Jerome Horowitz at the Detroit Cancer Foundation.

Larry Tate is with Project Inform, a community-based AIDS research organization in San Francisco. Tate says Apotex is already selling, at an offshore site, both AZT and acyclovir, another expensive Burroughs Wellcome medication commonly used by HIV-infected people.

LARRY TATE: They're selling AZT and acyclovir by mail from the Bahamas, and they're taking advertising out in, I think, a dozen gay papers around the United States. And they're just going to see, my understanding is, what sort of response they get.

They tell me that if the operation is a success, I guess if there's a large response, that prices might be cut in half.

MARY VANCLAY: The Food and Drug Administration does allow individuals to import up to a three month supply of medications for their own use. A similar importing arrangement has been made with a European drug company for pentamidine, still another high-priced AIDS related medication that's successful in fighting off the most common AIDS-related pneumonia. In San Francisco, I'm Mary VanClay.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: In other news from around the world, San Juan, Puerto Rico recently saw the organization of the *Collectivo De Lesbianas Feministas*, or Lesbian Feminist Collective. The group publishes a newsletter, *Desde El Ambiente*, or *From The Community*, and will be hosting the third lesbian, feminist, Latin American and Caribbean Conference in 1992.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: Lesbian and gay bicyclists now have an international newsletter, called *Paste Lines*. There are currently 43 gay and lesbian bicycle clubs around the world.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: El Salvador also has its first gay magazine, called *Nuevo Mundo*, according to the Spanish, gay magazine, *Gay Hotza*.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: In the Netherlands, parliament has lowered the age of consent to 12, as long as no formal complaints are filed. Should someone over 16 have sex with someone under 16, however, a complaint from the teen, the parents, or the Council for the Protection of Children can lead to as much as 8 or 10 years in prison.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: In Yugoslavia, a new gay group, called Rosa Club, is lobbying for an anti-discrimination clause in the Slovenian Constitution. The group publishes a magazine and offers social events, AIDS education, and legal assistance.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: In Ontario, Canada, same gender partners of provincial employees are now eligible for family benefits, including life, medical, and dental insurance, and bereavement leave. Although, the cities of Ottawa Toronto and Vancouver already offer spousal benefits to same gender couples, Ontario is the first province to do so.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: Civil War in Liberia has forced that nation's only gay organization, Club Lambda, to disband. Membership had reached 75 before rebel forces reached the capital city of Monrovia. But now, most members have fled to surrounding countries. Soldiers with M-16s had regularly raided Club Lambda meetings.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: Columbia University, for the first time, has selected an open gay to serve on the jury nominating candidates for the prestigious Pulitzer Prize. Leroy Aarons, recently retired from the *Oakland Tribune*, will serve on the 65-member jury, which makes nominations in 14 categories.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: In Arlington, Virginia, the Child Welfare League of America held a national training conference in late January on serving gay and lesbian youth in child welfare agencies. The organization, comprised of 650 youth service agencies, believes that the large majority of professionals serving youth have little or no information about homosexuality.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: In Tampa, Florida, a pregame parade the day of the Super Bowl included, for the first time, a float sponsored by the Lesbian and Gay Community.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: In Des Moines, Iowa, Quaker pastor M. Elizabeth Hannon has been fired by her congregation after admitting her lesbian orientation in response to a congregant's question. The state ministry council had revoked Hannon's certification based on a 1977 policy that homosexuality is a sin.

The congregation, the Friends Meeting at West Branch, was reluctant to follow the state level authorities, as one congregant described Hannan as one of the finest pastors I have known.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: In Milwaukee, Wisconsin, open gay Michael Lazowski is running as a candidate for school board in primary elections, this month.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: Kansas City, Missouri has its first openly gay candidate for city council. John D. Barnett filed last month to run as an at large candidate for the second district in primary elections later this month. His candidacy is sponsored by the Greater Kansas City Greens.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: In Long Beach, California, the Gay Republican Log Cabin Club has changed its name and withdrawn from the United Log Cabin Clubs of California. It's now the Susan B. Anthony Club, for the famous US suffragette. Club president Kevin Dale White ascribes the changes to the statewide organization's willingness to compromise too readily with reactionary elements within the Republican Party.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: Yes, there will be domestic partner registration on Valentine's Day in San Francisco, despite the city clerk's initial response that their staff couldn't handle the lesbians and gays on top of the large number of heterosexual weddings expected that day. Community groups plan a ceremony in the City Hall rotunda and a reception afterwards across the street.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: Bruce Davison received a Golden Globe as Best Supporting Actor for his role in the film *Longtime Companion*, which chronicles the effects of AIDS on a close-knit group of friends. In doing so, he told the Foreign Press Association, "I have a hope and a prayer that we can devote as much of our intelligence, and our intuition, and our courage, and our will to the war against AIDS as we do in our war against each other."

MARK ZUCKOMANO: And finally, in Sacramento, California, the religious right has been hoisted on its own petard. 11 anti-abortion protesters were arrested and charged under a new religious disturbance law. The law has often been referred to as the Anti ACT UP bill, as it was introduced by a conservative state legislator soon after ACT UP demonstrators disturbed a meeting of Lou Sheldon's anti-gay and lesbian Traditional Values Coalition.

Those now accused of violating the religious disturbance law were calling Governor Pete Wilson a baby-killer during an ecumenical service, earlier this month.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: That's *News Wrap* for the week ending February 9th, 1991. Remember, an informed community is a strong community. Find out what's happening in your area by monitoring your local gay and lesbian media.

MARK ZUCKOMANO: *News Wrap* is compiled from publications and broadcasts throughout the world and was written by Cindy Friedman. For *This Way Out*, I'm Mark Zuckomano.

CINDY FRIEDMAN: And I'm Cindy Friedman.

LUCY CHAPPELLE: This is Lucy Chapelle.

GREG GORDON: And Greg Gordon. And you're listening to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine on *After Hours*.

LUCY CHAPPELLE: Right here, on Pacifica Radio 90.1 FM KPFT Houston.

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Until last fall, Sandy Nelson was a nationally renowned education reporter for the Tacoma, Washington newspaper *The Morning News Tribune*, the third largest daily in the state. But last September, Nelson was removed from her reporter position and transferred to the copy desk.

Management at the newspaper say they made the change because Nelson's involvement in a ballot measure to protect lesbians and gays from discrimination was in conflict with her job as a reporter. Nelson disagrees, and she's fighting the paper to get her old job back. Judith Samuels has the story.

JUDITH SAMUELS: Norm Bell is the managing editor at *The Morning News Tribune* and Sandy Nelson's direct supervisor.

NORM BELL: What you've got is any time a reporter takes an advocacy position, the objectivity of that reporter's work is then in question. Fairly or unfairly, it's a perception that creeps into the work. And what we're trying to do is protect the integrity of the newspaper. And that's really the heart of the whole thing.

JUDITH SAMUELS: The Pacific Northwest Newspaper Guild, the union that represents reporters at the *Tribune*, says the paper is engaging in unfair labor practices. The Newspaper Guild and the *Tribune* remain in contract negotiations, and a work code is one of the items still on the bargaining table. The Newspaper Guild filed a complaint with the National Labor Relations Board.

The regional office turned down the complaint. And recently, the labor board's appeals office in Washington, DC upheld that decision. Art Joiner, the Guild representative working on Nelson's case, says most newspapers do have a code of ethics, but it is not usually enforced by any kind of punitive action.

ART JOINER: The particular issue that arose with Sandy Nelson had to do with the intrusiveness of this particular code. The company's position is that they have the right to impose what is akin to a Hatch Act in the public sector. That is you're not allowed to participate in virtually any outside activity.

We certainly agree that reporters shouldn't be involved in conflicts of interest, apparent or real. The issue is how intrusive and how restrictive can it be?

JUDITH SAMUELS: Nelson says that her right to free speech is being violated, that employees have a right to do what they want on their own time.

SANDY NELSON: What they had essentially done was they'd taken something off the table that was being negotiated and implemented against me. It's like there's this invisible rule hanging over everybody's head in the newsroom, and I'm the evidence that the rule exists. But I'm the only evidence that the rule exists.

JUDITH SAMUELS: Managing editor Bell says that Nelson can have her old job back if she refrains from all political activity. But Nelson says she won't do that.

SANDY NELSON: I want my job as much as anybody else, and I want to write. But I will not surrender my First Amendment rights. If I negotiate away that basic fundamental right, it's like the right to choose. It's like the right to abortion. If you start chipping away at that and negotiating that away, pretty soon, you have nothing left.

I'm going to land on my feet, but I'm going to do it with my rights intact.

JUDITH SAMUELS: Nelson and Bell agreed that the issue won't be easily resolved. Nelson and her supporters are now deciding what they'll do next. The union can file another appeal with the National Labor Relations Board, or Nelson can file a civil suit. For *This Way Out*, I'm Judith Samuels.

CHARLES PIERCE: This is Charles Pierce as Eleanor Roosevelt, (ELEANOR ROOSEVELT IMPRESSION) here to remind you that you're listening to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

BURT WYLAND: For *This Way Out*, I'm Bert Whalen. And we're speaking now with Bruce Mulraney, formerly from Brooklyn, New York, a 22 year army veteran who was decorated with a Purple Heart for service to his country during the Vietnam War. Bruce, first of all, why would you sign up for the army?

BRUCE MULRANEY: Well, it's what I wanted to do as a teenager, I guess. I thought about it a lot since then, believe me. I think a lot of it was to prove myself. And also, I think part of it was growing up gay in the early '60s, there were no, quote, role models. So I was unfamiliar with the term role models.

I grew up in an Irish-catholic background, you know Catholic school with the nuns and all that. And I was probably scared of any kind of sex, straight or gay. But nuns will do it to you, God bless them. And when I started trying to research homosexuality, looking here and there, seeing what I could find out, it was precious little.

My parents' *Encyclopedia Britannica* didn't even reference the subject. I figured out I was gay. And really, I knew what it was in '62, when I was about 14 years old. One of the things I discovered is that there were homosexuals through history. And I was into the great Julius Caesar, Richard the Lionheart, and Frederick the Great. A lot of them were soldiers.

And I think subconsciously, that's something else that attracted me to the military is the fact that the only gay role models that I knew of, other than the conventional hairdresser, interior decorator, were military.

BURT WYLAND: What was your job in the Army?

BRUCE MULRANEY: I was an infantryman. And my MOS when I retired was 11 Bravo 5 Mike, which is Infantry First Sergeant. My primary specialty was infantry, and my secondary was armored reconnaissance or armored cavalry. I was the principal non-commissioned officer of an infantry company in excess of 100 men.

BURT WYLAND: Where are you? And I'm going according to the laundry list of the military, obviously, things that are about homosexuality. Did you have difficulty restraining yourself amongst all those naked men?

BRUCE MULRANEY: No, that would have been too risky, and dangerous, and probably wrong, too. It becomes a fraternization. You see, the military, in co-ed units-- I've never been. I normally don't get in those type of units, since I was an infantryman. But there are co-ed units, and you have fraternization between the sexes there. And naturally, people being people.

The army has put people out for heterosexual incidents that civilians wouldn't consider to be wrong. Like any fraternization, you have an officer or an NCO who is a male and a private who is female or vice versa, that can be pretty risky.

BURT WYLAND: So you wouldn't have any way of judging the effect that would have had on morale if you had been openly gay?

BRUCE MULRANEY: I think it would have had a negative effect because anything to do with homosexuality, there is such a prejudice in the military.

BURT WYLAND: Well, do you think that if the military took a different stance and educated the other soldiers that would have made things better?

BRUCE MULRANEY: Yes, what I think is the military is an authoritarian organization. Most soldiers will obey orders. They may not like the orders. But the options are you obey the orders, or you get out of the service. Just like when they desegregated the army after World War II, integrated Black units with white units, again, there was the same objection.

Well, a white soldier is not going to obey a Black officer or a Black NCO. And you're not going to like one another. They're going to fight and all that. The orders were given and said this is what's going to happen. And it happened.

As long as the Congress and the president or whoever issued the order has the courage to demand compliance with the orders and take appropriate actions if they're not obeyed, maybe relieve somebody or whatever, it could happen.

BURT WYLAND: Bruce, tell us the significance of the Purple Heart.

BRUCE The Purple Heart is awarded for persons who receive wounds in action, wounded in action as a result of enemy
MULRANEY: action, which always struck me as being illogical. Because I was doing my damndest not to get wounded.

BURT WYLAND: There may be a skeptic or two or a cynic out there that thinks that perhaps you caught your trigger on your taffeta dress during a drag show, or shot yourself in the foot, and you got a Purple Heart.

BRUCE That's cute. I like that.

MULRANEY:

BURT WYLAND: Why don't you give us the details of what did happen?

BRUCE OK. Well, if anyone is interested, this must be July of '69. It's my second tour in Vietnam. I was in an armored
MULRANEY: cavalry squadron, riding on top of what is called an armored personnel carrier, which is about 11 to 12 ton tracked vehicle.

We were crossing a river southwest of a city, called Tam Khe, in Kwentin province in Southern Mykor, norther part of Vietnam. Next thing I know, I woke up in a hospital in plaster from my chest on down. First, I was told that my vehicle was hit with an RPG, a rocket propelled grenade. Then I was told it was a landmine.

Judging from the fact I had no shrapnel wounds, a landmine sounded more logical. My back was broken. I've got about several fused vertebrae. The bone was completely broken. The spinal cord was exposed. And the Naval surgeon who fused my spine said I should have been a paraplegic. It normally breaks that bad, the spinal cord goes.

BURT WYLAND: Do you have any lasting problems from that time?

BRUCE I was very lucky. The wounds were-- they could have been devastating, but there was no lasting damage.

MULRANEY:

BURT WYLAND: Now, are you involved in any kind of gay activism today?

BRUCE No. I belong to two gay veterans groups, and I belong to the Log Cabin Club, which is a gay Republican group.

MULRANEY:

BURT WYLAND: How did that come about?

BRUCE Well, that was kind of ironic. It's kind of like growing up gay, and you wonder if you're the only one who feels that
MULRANEY: way. And a longtime, I thought maybe I was one of the few, if not the only, gay conservative or gay Republicans around. I figured there had to be others.

And in '89, I was reading a paper about Congressman Bill Danmeyer's efforts to try to kick the Log Cabin Clubs out of the California Republican Party at the convention. I think I read about it in Panama. And that's how I recollect it now.

But in any event, when I signed out or it became my time leave prior to actually retiring from the service, moved up to San Francisco, I made some inquiries. And I was able to contact someone in a Log Cabin Club and joined the club. What I did then was I wrote a letter to Congressman Danmeyer.

And basically, the letter says, dear Congressman Danmeyer, I wish to thank you for the efforts you made at last year's state convention to rid the Log Cabin Clubs out of the California GOP. I read of your efforts while I was on a deployment to Panama with the United States Army in support of American foreign policy goals. Like yourself, I am a Republican who believes in our traditional values of family, patriotism, self-reliance, hard work, and fair play.

I'm a recently retired, professional soldier who has fought and bled in defense of our nation and our values. In addition, I am a homosexual who has long been concerned about the low visibility of those gays who share our values. By attacking the Log Cabin Clubs, you have increased their visibility. I would never have known of this group but for your efforts.

While you have identified only the tip of the gay, Republican iceberg, you have performed a civil service for all of us, straight and gay. I, for one, am grateful. You effectively served the Log Cabin Club, the one-man outreach committee. Looking forward to meeting you at our next state convention, I remain with the utmost gratitude, your fellow Republican, Bruce Mulraney, First Sergeant, United States Army, retired.

BURT WYLAND: We've been speaking with Bruce Mulraney of San Francisco, who is a 22-year army veteran, decorated with a Purple Heart for service to his country during the Vietnam War. Bruce, thanks for being with us.

BRUCE Sure thing. It was my pleasure.

MULRANEY:

BURT WYLAND: For *This Way Out* in Philadelphia, I'm Bert Wyland.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

CINDY Thanks for choosing *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. This week, Mark
FRIEDMAN: Zuckomano, Mary VanClay, Judith Samuels, and Bert Wyland contributed program material. Thanks also to Mike Alkali and Gary Taylor.

GREG GORDON: Some of the music you heard was performed by John Cougar Mellencamp and from the original musical soundtrack of Irving Berlin's *This Is The Army*. And Kim Wilson composed and performed our theme music.

CINDY *This Way Out* is brought to you by a staff of community volunteers and is sustained by financial support from the
FRIEDMAN: community. Audio cassettes of our programs are available by mail, individually or by subscription. Write to us for more information.

GREG GORDON: We'd also like to hear from you with any comments, suggestions, or questions you might have, or just to let us know you're out there listening. Write to *This Way Out*, post office box 38327, Los Angeles, California, 90038.

CINDY *This Way Out* was produced this week by Greg Gordon.

FRIEDMAN:

GREG GORDON: And Cindy Friedman. And we thank you for listening on WSU Iowa City.

CINDY KFAI Minneapolis, Saint Paul.

FRIEDMAN:

GREG GORDON: And MGR Malmo.

CINDY Among others.

FRIEDMAN:

GREG GORDON: And for supporting your local, community radio stations.

CINDY Stay tuned.

FRIEDMAN:

CO-HOST: MGR Malmo? Where the hell is that, girl? It's some place where the pineapples are falling, and the people are all naked. And you just lay in the sun all day and chase coconuts. And there's a one-way ticket laying right here to go. Let's go. What did you say, Frank?

FRANK WHITE: I wanted to know what all this big deal is about the army and gays. And then going to be the people that are in Saudi Arabia going to be discharged when they get back.

CO-HOST: Well, George and Danny have it all under control. And we have a special tribute to them in just a minute. So stay tuned for that. I don't know. Maybe. I still wonder why no one at the police department says anything about this.

FRANK WHITE: About what?

CO-HOST: This has been going on since 1987, and no one down there ever has uttered a word about that gay radio show that you do. Don't you think that's incredible?

FRANK WHITE: I think it's good.

CO-HOST: Come on now, really. Don't you think that's incredible, Frank? That nobody, supervisors, nobody in management, nobody ever has said. They all know about it.

FRANK WHITE: But they can't. I mean, they really can't.

CO-HOST: Why not?

FRANK WHITE: Because they're afraid.

CO-HOST: Of what?

FRANK WHITE: You.

CO-HOST: Why?

FRANK WHITE: Because you'd sue them or something if they started harassing you.

CO-HOST: Sue them for what?

FRANK WHITE: Sexual harassment.

CO-HOST: You can harass queers in this state. There's a sodomy law. It's only outlawed in Travis County. It's illegal to do what we do when we do it.

FRANK WHITE: Maybe they don't care.

CO-HOST: Oh, well. We'll figure it out. Hang on, we got more stuff coming up for you right after these breaks. And don't forget, that special tribute to the White House coming up next on *After Hours*, KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. We're here, and we're queer. And Jimmy's in New York, and God, I miss that hateful bitch.

But anyway, blues for you coming up at 4:00. And here's Kathleen and Terry to tell you all about it.

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