

- Mhm.

- And I felt that way about a lot of our candidates. And I think that Kathy probably has never been someone who's understood this fact. And I think she's always been probably sympathetic to civil rights for gay people. But she doesn't understand that we are equals. We're not asking for pieces of bread to be thrown to us. We want to be at the table with everyone else.

- That's only right, though.

- Absolutely. I get so annoyed with people who call the station during our show and say, why do you want all these special privileges? And we have never asked for anything that everyone else has. That's all.

- Well-- and I know it's just little bitty things, like this big news conference that was supposedly supposed to happen last week, to come out against the sensitivity training at HPD. It was like a splat. It didn't happen.

But I was waiting for it to happen. Because I know, being at HPD for almost nine years and doing this program for five, I know HPD is sensitive to our issues or I wouldn't be here. I wouldn't be working and collecting a check every two weeks.

- I haven't answered the question, actually. And it's why, why Kathy? What happened?

- Why the mayor?

- I think that if you look back, when the caucus endorsed Kathy back in the early 1980s, I think it was a love feast. We loved Kathy. She was our candidate.

- Oh, yeah.

- We were very excited about her. I think that the endorsement Kathy got this time was more out of political prudence. Certainly there were people who voted to endorse her because they thought she was the best candidate. And they really like Kathy.

I think that a lot of the people who also went with Kathy this time, though, felt it was probably the best thing for our community, but it was more on reasons-- for example, some people said, well, she's the lesser of evils. One person told me that he went with Kathy because he thought if there was no election, we may be stuck with Kathy for some time until an election is called. And we need to be on good terms with her.

Another person told me he went with Kathy because he felt that none of the candidates were very good candidates. In the next mayoral election, we could probably get a candidate that we do like, maybe someone like George [? Gruneus, ?] for example.

- Ooh, yeah. George, are you listening?

[LAUGHS]

- If we have one of the other people who wins this, they will be an incumbent in the next election. Kathy will probably, if she does win this election, will not be an incumbent. I think term limitations will probably make this Kathy's last term.

- This is probably it for her.

- I would feel a lot better if she would do something. I don't want to make it a single issue from my standpoint. But I am AIDS-oriented, being HIV positive. If I knew that she would, like, get rid of Arredondo as soon as she was elected, you know? Something.

- But child, half the city wants her to get rid of him. So don't feel like the Lone Ranger.

- The AIDS issue actually was probably the problem we had, or the undoing of Sylvester Turner. And I think Sylvester Turner was certainly the second choice of many people in the caucus. And he actually was the first choice of some of the people.

Sylvester Turner, as a state legislator, had signed on to Ron Wilson's bill. This is long before the CDC guidelines came out, or even Jesse Helms' bill, which required disclosure of HIV status of health care workers to their patients and to patients to their health care workers, which was a horrible bill.

- Right.

- And Sylvester Turner today-- in fact, I read in the interview in the *New Voice*, he admits that that was probably a terrible decision.

[LAUGHTER]

And I believe Mr. Turner. I believe Mr. Turner has learned a lesson. I think one thing he's learned is that he didn't get our endorsement because of that. And I think that Mr. Turner could get our endorsement at a future date.

- OK.

- But it was an AIDS issue.

- He needs to be educated.

- What about Bob Lanier?

- Oh, please.

- What about Bob Lanier? You know, Bob Lanier--

- He's like Clayton Williams with a different name. I did not say that.

- Bob Lanier was a very interesting person to screen. He just didn't get it.

- And he loves Mapplethorpe, we understand.

- Well, that story got released inadvertently. But what happened was-- one of the things we do in the screen, for those people who are not aware of what the caucus does, we usually have a panel of five or six people who meet with each candidate. And we usually ask questions. And this year, we asked very open-ended questions. In the past, I think a lot of the questions were very obvious questions and candidates could prepare for them.

And so this year, we decided to allow the screeners to use much more creativity. And one screener asked Mr. Lanier if an exhibit like the Mapplethorpe exhibit were to come to Houston, and there was a great outcry from citizens, particularly very religious citizens, about this exhibit, what stand would you take? And Mr. Lanier's response was, well, what's a Mapplethorpe?

Now it's kind of a funny story. But let's face it. Let's face it. A lot of people probably don't know who Mapplethorpe is.

- Yeah, that's true.

- And so I don't want to hold that against him. The fact that he came to screen with us, I want to give him credit for that.

And I think he really wanted to learn things. He just did not know anything about our issues. He did not seem to have any sensitivity to issues of civil rights, issues involving AIDS.

This is a man, I think that he's a businessman. And I think he knows a lot about some things. And I think we've seen that in his commercials and in his statements. If he ever gets to be mayor, I hope we can deal with him and we can educate him.

- Do you think he would be good as a businessman running the city in a business way?

- I really don't know.

- He certainly, I think, is most people's third choice. If he gets elected, obviously I think the caucus would be derelict in its duties if it didn't work with him. If we have to work with him, we're going to.

And I think from meeting with him, the fact that he did meet with us gives me some hope. I don't think it would be a calamity. I think that we could talk to him.

- So the caucus has endorsed Whitmire?

- We've endorsed Whitmire.

- And you're going to stand by that?

- We're going to stand by that, even though a lot of people in the caucus were very angry with Kathy Whitmire last week. Because Kathy Whitmire went ahead and signed on to a redistricting plan to satisfy a federal judge. The Hispanic groups, what they did was they challenged the election process.

The mayor and city council put together another plan. And this other plan had the effect of actually moving Annise Parker out of District C. So Vince Ryan would have no [INAUDIBLE].

- So Vince Ryan kind of gave us away? We'll talk about that in just a second. Hang on.

- We need to take a break.

[THEME MUSIC PLAYING]

- Mary, I forgot to tell you that we're supposed to be asking for money.

- Oh, that's right!

- Because the marathon thing fell short. And we're really in a bind.

- We need the bucks, kids.

- They're taking your pledge. And we'll be talking about that later on. Anyway, right now we're talking to Chris Bacon from the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus.

- Did you want to ask a question? Because I did, if you didn't.

- Well, go ahead.

- Well, OK. Before we go further, a lot of people come up to me and say, what's with the caucus? I mean, is it just a bunch of people that decide to pick--

- Well, why don't they go to the meetings and find out?

- Because I am a member of the caucus. But I am not a particularly political person.

- Oh, OK. I see.

- But I believe in supporting it.

- All right.

- Is it just a bunch of people who kind of say, OK, well, we're going to vote for this, this, and this.

- I think one of the purposes, or one of the services, the caucus performs for the community is the caucus goes out and does homework on the candidates and tries to synthesize the information for our community. We particularly focus on those issues that are relevant to the gay and lesbian community. There are many, many issues which are important.

The caucus, for example, probably will not focus on an environmental record of a particular candidate. I think that if you are concerned with the environment, and I am, and I think many people are, you probably would want to see what the Sierra Club says about the candidates. So there are many ways to find out about candidates.

But I think a lot of people, and it's not only people in our community, there are a lot of liberal people in this community who want to know what our views are on these candidates. And so we tend to focus on issues that would affect us, issues in employment, issues in family law, issues in dealing with having a voice at the table, having a voice at city council, also at the state legislature.

So that's what we do. I think we provide information. And in our process, we do a lot of thinking. We do a lot of reading. And we do a lot of asking those questions.

Anybody can join the caucus. Anybody can participate in the process. And in fact, the more people, I think, that are involved in the process, the better the process is.

- OK.

- And we have been increasing in membership lately.

- So what are the candidates that we looked at that came out on our side or received the endorsement of the caucus this year?

- Let me give the simple answer first. First of all, the caucus will provide cards which people can take in with them on election day. And I think the best thing to do if you're going to vote-- and you need to vote, because if you don't vote, we have no power-- is you need to get one of these cards. And we usually put them out and all the bars right before election. And take one of your cards in and vote.

However, let's say you forget your card. If you have a very bad memory, if you're going to remember just one name, the name to remember, especially if you live in District C, is Annise Parker. I think Annise Parker, that is the most important race.

Because Annise, she's a member of our community. Not only is she a member of our community, she really is a great candidate. Let me say the caucus does not always endorse members of our community. In fact--

- That's very true.

- --there were people in our community that did seek our endorsement this time around who did not get our endorsement. I'm not going to say their names, because actually I think some of them are not really all that out.

- We'll say them later.

- You can say them later.

[LAUGHS]

I'm not going to say them.

- Yes, we are.

- I don't want a defamation lawsuit brought against me.

- Go ahead.

- But Annise is someone who has served our community. She has our best interests at hand. She's not a flaming radical. She's certainly not a crazy.

I mean, this woman, I think, would probably be one of the best people on city council, not only for our community, but also for people outside of our community. I think Annise Parker is a top notch candidate.

- And she's one of us.

- What's just happened to her chances of getting elected in District C?

- You know, I think they actually have improved. Because one of the things that Vince Ryan did, in trying to push the Montrose off to Al Calloway's district, was he sent a message to people in our district who thought, well, I like Vince. And now they're realizing Vince doesn't really care about them, that Vince was willing to get rid of the Montrose. And it was not only the Montrose. It was parts of the area adjoining the Montrose.

So I think Vince has hurt himself. I also think the fact that he's angered people, I think, Annise is going to be able to raise more money. Annise has raised a lot of money already.

That's another thing. We may have a wonderful person come before us and ask for an endorsement. But if that person has raised \$50, I mean, we think, well, what a nice person this is.

But this person doesn't have a chance. And we need to play politics here. And we need to consider if the candidate is electable. Annise is very electable.

- She still [INAUDIBLE].

- She's still the underdog.

- She's a very good candidate.

- Oh, yeah.

- But she could win.

- She's probably the best candidate I've seen to come out of the gay and lesbian community in Houston ever.
- No doubt.
- I really do think she's wonderful.
- No doubt. So that's--
- If you don't elect an openly lesbian, we're just going to slap you silly. But anyway.
- So that's the first thing you know. Now if you have a little bit better memory and you can remember three names, the three names that I would want you to remember would be, one, Annise Parker.

Beverly Clark is another name that I would want you to remember. Beverly Clark is running, I think, a difficult race. There are a lot of people in that race.

Beverly Clark has been a true friend to our community. And this was her first term on city council. She has always been responsive to us except for once. And I think she learned her lesson that one time.

And people have been gay-baiting Beverly Clark. One of the candidates, apparently, in fact, a candidate that actually comes from our community in some sense was going around to Black churches telling everyone that Beverly Clark had the endorsement of the Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. Beverly is not ashamed of our endorsement.

But she is being victimized because of our endorsement. And so because of that, the caucus has decided we are going to target that particular race. So that's another one that I think is very important.

And the third name I would remember, if you can only remember three names, is Glenda Joe. And Glenda Joe is an Asian candidate. She's running for an at-large position. This is a position with no incumbent.

The reason I think Glenda Joe is a wonderful candidate, she is one of these candidates that I think is not heterosexist. Those of us who screened her got the feeling-- and we got this feeling from Garnet Coleman, who just got elected-- this was a person who really doesn't view us differently. In fact, I think a lot of the questions about dealing with gay people. I think she was sort of surprised by them. Because I think she does not live in a world herself where she sees distinctions.

- Is she running for the seat that Judson Robinson just held?
- She is running for the seat that Judson Robinson used to have. And two candidates in that race did screen with us. One of them was Judson Robinson, Jr.

And he's a good man. And the people, when we screened him, we liked him. But we felt that Glenda Joe was a far better candidate.

- Who was the other one? Do you remember?
- Well, those are the only two that screened with us.
- OK.
- One of the other candidates that's actually been doing fairly well, who I think is a very dangerous candidate, is Lloyd Kelly, who comes from the Houston Police Department. I personally actually know Lloyd Kelly. And I--

- So do I.

- --wouldn't vote for Lloyd Kelly. And Buddy's not going to say anything.

- No, I just said I wouldn't say that. But I'll edit that out later.

[LAUGHTER]

- But Buddy works at the police station.

- Why is it important that people go vote, Chris? You're very involved in the GLPC and getting people out to vote, or you will be as election day gets closer. People sit around and say my vote is not going to matter. They're going to do what they want to do anyway.

- Let me say that today, politicians are very serious. And when they get the results, they look where they got their votes. They study precinct by precinct. They know who's making noise.

And so even in cases where they might see that they didn't get a majority, they realize that we do have a significant effect. And they particularly scrutinize the Montrose districts. The Montrose districts all often have very good turnout. And so they do take us seriously.

It's important. Because what's going to happen, once this election is through, we are going to have many issues that will come up that concern us. And we are going to want to come to those people and say, we are a viable force in this community. We need to have a voice here.

And those candidates who believe that will listen to us. Those candidates who don't think we had an effect in their election will have no reason to. So it's very, very important.

Even when our candidates don't win, I think we send a message to the other candidate. Candidates who sometimes win without our support realize that, hey, we are a viable force. And they frequently will go after our support the following election. So I think it's very important to go out and vote.

- Great. OK, who else who else do we need to remember?

- Those are the most--

- Those are the big three.

- Other people that we've endorsed, we've endorsed Sheila Jackson Lee, who is running for an at-large position. We've endorsed Eleanor Tinsley, who's also running for an at-large position.

- Oops.

- That was an interesting one. Eleanor Tinsley was one of those who backstabbed us last week.

- Yeah.

- We're unhappy with Eleanor. But we're still endorsing her. We're hoping that--

- She hasn't been our-- she has been our friend.

- She has been our friend in the past.
- In the past.
- And we're hoping that she was just mistaken this time. And it was just a typographical error or something.
- But you know, the knife wound in the back really hurts.
- It does hurt. It does hurt. So that's another person.

Jim Greenwood is a person that we've endorsed. And he's another one who didn't vote our way. Although to his credit, he did listen to us. And he did acknowledge receipt of our letter concerning the mayor's plan.

- Oh.
- Ernest McGowan is another person that we have endorsed. And I think I've covered, by and large-- oh, May Walker.
- May Walker?
- May Walker.
- What is she--
- She is running for Al Calloway's seat.
- Oh, OK.
- And she's also from HPD. But we were very excited by her.
- May would be a good councilperson.
- See now, if you were a member of HGLPC, which means, I don't know, you'd give them--
- \$35 a year.
- Yeah.
- It's one of the cheaper organizations.
- Like me, I don't go to very many meetings. Because I'm not politically motivated. But it's important that you get all the wonderful mailings that let you know what's going on.
- That's true.
- And especially those great little cards, I really depend on those, those little voter cards.
- Well, could somebody just call the caucus office and get one of those cards?
- Oh, you bet. You bet.
- You can call. They're being printed right now. Especially if you don't ever go to any of the bars, that's the best place.
- They're everywhere. You can get them at Charlie's.

- We'll have them at Charlie's. We'll have them at Lobo. We'll have them everywhere.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- They won't be everywhere. They won't be at West Oaks Mall. So if you live out on Highway 6--

- Well, that's true.

- And they probably won't be at Randall's, either.

- So if you live out on Highway 6--

[LAUGHTER]

- I know that's right!

- --one store hates you all. They don't like faggots and dykes. No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no. We're not going to hate Randall's today, not yet, maybe after 2:00--

- I know that's right.

- --when we're playing Madonna.

- Hm. Ooh.

- No, no, no, no. There are a lot of good things going on at the caucus. I'm glad to see that the caucus is sort of getting their act together. Because it has been an uphill climb at times. It really has. And I don't understand what the problem is.

- Actually, it's people like Chris that has helped put it back on its feet.

- That's very true.

- Well, I won't argue with that.

- Well, because I know I am not motivated. But I am sure glad that people like you are.

- I think one of the things that has been very beneficial, too, is we have an excellent president.

- Who is the president?

- Toni Knight is the president of the caucus. And we have--

- Why did I say that? She's been here before.

- She's been here before, yeah.

- She will slap me.

- Hundreds of times she's been here.

- Toni Knight has a sixth sense about politics. But she also has a sixth sense, I think, about people. She deals with people very well.

We have Rob Bridges, who's our vice president. Rob is one of the brightest people I know. And he is very hardworking. Particularly on this redistricting issue--

- Oh.

- --he has been down there all the time. So I think I think we've been very fortunate. We've got some very good board members. I really do think the caucus is turning around.

- Let's hope so.

- And I think that it serves an important purpose in our community.

- I would like to see, of course, everyone go out and vote for Annise if we have an election. But if we don't have an election, it would just serve that-- oh, never mind.

[LAUGHS]

I just wish they'd pull the plug on this damn election. And just show that queen that she can't run. No, never mind.

- Chris, can we talk about you a little bit?

- Sure, go ahead.

- Because I want the listeners to know that Chris puts his money where his mouth is. This man is an openly gay lawyer with--

- I work for Vinson and Elkins [INAUDIBLE].

- But you're also on something else, right, other than the GLPC?

- Openly gay.

- Yeah, I'm a vice president of the Bar Association for Human Rights, which is an organization we formed. I formed it with Clyde Williams.

- Yeah.

- And it's an organization for gay and lesbian lawyers, which apparently we did not have when I came to this town. So I'm glad to have formed that.

I was also one of the founders of Queer Nation in this town. And I don't do that much with Queer Nation anymore because, quite frankly, I felt we needed Queer Nation. And I thought it an organization for--

- We do need it.

- And I'm so glad to see what it's evolved into.

- You bet.

- Well, there's a new group that's going to be announcing soon.

- What's the new group?

- I'm serious. It's called the Gay Nation.

- The Gay Nation?

- I swear to God. I'm serious. Because they don't like the word "queer."

- Oh, brother.

- I don't want to talk about that.

- I don't either.

- We'll wait until they do. I've invited them on the show, but they won't come, not yet.

- Are you serious?

- It's all a big secret. Oh, I'm sorry.

[LAUGHTER]

It was a big secret.

- Houston's a good town to become active in, I think. I think it welcomes new people.

- Well, if there were more professionals like you, it would make it so much easier.

- Well, not only that, if we would just support each other.

- Yeah.

- It would be a whole lot easier. Because it's wild. We're in our fifth year now. And I get nothing but support from the police department and the people that I work with.

In fact, next week I'm going to Dallas to this big cop convention. And that was only after going to city council and making a speech about gay rights that they came and said, would you run this union. And I'm, like, why me?

Well, if you'll say that, you'll say anything. But it's funny. I get a lot of support there. And all I get from a lot of good homosexuals is crap.

- Well, here I am. On one side of me is a man who is openly gay and works for the police department. On the other side is the man who's openly gay and works for V and E. And I find it hard to sympathize with people when they say, oh, I can't come out of the closet [INAUDIBLE].

- Well, we'll talk about that after 2:00.

- Well, I want to thank you for having me on the show.

- Thank you.

- I love your show.

- Well, thank you very much. We've talked about that before.

- He also listens to the show.

- Till about 2 o'clock.

[LAUGHTER]

- I listen to it till about 2 o'clock. And then I [INAUDIBLE].

- I don't think I've ever heard this show after 2:00.

- Anyway. Well, that's when we really--

- I don't know what you guys do after 2:00.

- That's when we really get ugly.

- That's when we have nude radio.

- We really get ugly and talk about trash.

- Well, thanks for having me.

- Yeah, thank you. Here's Harvey Milk. Hang on. *This Way Out* with Greg Gordon Lucia Chapelle coming up in about five minutes. So anyway, listen to this. This is Harvey Milk, I think.

- Yeah, it is.

- Damn thing's not working, Louise.

- Oh.

- This is Harvey Milk.

- OK.

- The legislators and the executive officers, be they the local supervisor, be they statewide, run your life. They run your life. And they spend your money.

And when they collect tax money from gay people and don't give us anything back in return, take it for their golf courses, take our tax money for their pet projects, and on top of it, insult us by not giving us our rights, if that's not motivation? If you like being harassed by the police, if you like being a third class citizen, if you like being beat up by punks, if you like the church yelling at you, don't register. Don't vote. But don't complain.

If you want to be shoved back in your closet, if you want to be the traditional gay person who gets beat up and wimpers home and say, well, I'm gay and I deserve to get beat up, fine. Otherwise, the only thing you could do is register to vote.

[CROWD CHANTING]

- In Chile, 8 million people who want to vote can't. In South Africa, 25 million people who want to vote can't. In the United States, 81 million people who can vote don't. Democracy. It can't be of the people and for the people if it's not by the people. Vote.

[THEME MUSIC PLAYING]

[PROTESTERS CHANTING]

- Gay rights.

- When do we want it?

- Now.

- What do we want?

- Gay rights.

- When do we want it?

- Now.

- What do we want?

- Gay rights.

- When do we want it?

- Now!

- What do we want?

- Gay rights.

- When do we want it?

- Now.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- (SINGING) The time is now to take our rights. We keep marching on. We won't give up the fight. The time is here to make a sound. We won't be silent. We won't back down.

When will it be incorrect to criticize? To laugh and smear? To slander us for who we are? To threaten us with hate and fear?

The time is now to take our rights. We'll keep marching on. We won't give up the fight. The time is here to make a sound. We won't be silent. We won't back down.

The time is now to take our rights. We'll keep marching on. We won't give up the fight.

The time is here to make a sound. We won't be silent. We won't back-- we won't be silent. We won't back-- We won't be silent. We won't back down!

- OK, Louise.

- Aw.

- Now then we have to say--

- You know, I never met Chris before.

- Oh, really?

- Yeah.

- I've talked to him before.

- Did you notice something about him?

- What's that?

- He's really hairy.

- Yeah, I know. I made a note of that several months ago.

- I see. Chris Bacon just moved here not too long ago. And he's gotten very involved and it's very nice to have people like that who are excited--

- You bet.

- --about Houston.

- You bet.

- You know what I mean?

- Mhm.

- Maybe that's what it takes is some new blood every once in a while to spice things up. Speaking of new blood, we need you to become a part of this family that we talk about all the time. And it's only because three times out of the year, we go to you and say help. And financially, it's that gift of help that keeps us going.

And if you know anything about KPFT, you know that our gumbo cookoff was rained out a couple of times, which we depend on heavily for funding. And the last marathon that we had was interrupted by the Thomas hearings--

- Right. --and-- every other thing.

- Fell far short of our goals.

- So we're just in a financial slump. And we need to have a little mini-drive to make up for it. So this morning we're asking you to please, please, please, please go to the phones and pick them up and call us and become a listener sponsor of KPFT.

And what does that mean? Well, that means that, well, every week except for three times out of the year, which is like six weeks out of the year--

- Six weeks.

- --you'll hear uninterrupted and commercial free radio.

It don't work? Well, it's been working for about 40 years plus in Pacifica and for over 20 years in Houston. KPFT is one of five stations like this across the United States.

And we're really lucky to have it. And you need to support it. And if you do, it'll make you feel good. And if you've waited and you haven't supported it, now's the time to really do it. Because the station really needs your help.

- Yeah, we really do this time.

- It's real easy. They take any kind of financial support, from \$1 to \$1 million.

- Yes, if you gave--

- We're just real weird about asking for money.

- --\$1 million, and we can end the marathon right now.

- It just bothers me right now to have to ask for money. Because this is one of the programs that is the reason that *Pacifica* is here. Because you're not going to hear this on any of the commercial radio stations.

None of the big Cola companies would support it. None of the big blue jean companies would support it. None of the big TV dinner companies would support it. And the automobile-- nobody's going to support this kind of radio.

No one's going to support gay and lesbian people coming on and talking openly and sharing the truth with you. And that's what we try to do. And it bothers me to think that there are 168 hours in a week and out of that, we only have four-- actually, less than four-- to come on and tell you that hey, it's OK to be that way.

It's OK to feel that way. And do something about it, and get involved in things like the switchboard and the caucus. And really make your life something special.

- And we're real proud of our listeners, too. Because--

- Yeah.

- --the *After Hours* subscribers are the best of any late night radio program here at KPFT.

- And we'd really like to come through for the station this morning.

- We sure would.

- So if you can help us by making a pledge, you can call us at 526-5738 or 526-KPFT. It takes about \$40, actually \$45, I think, an hour to run the station now. And we're just asking for your financial pledge right now to help us get through the slump.

You know, I really get angry sometimes at Marathon. Because I think this is one of the programs where we should just say, well, it's Marathon. And you call in. And we're going to continue to do the show, because that's how important it is.

- Mhm.

- You know what I mean?

- And most of the time, we do continue to do the show.

- Yeah. So please go to the phone and call us. It's 526-5738, 526-KPFT and make a pledge of support. It's tax deductible. We take Visa, American Express, Optima, and Mastercard. And it'll make you feel good. And we're going to listen to--

- Give me them warm fuzzies.

- --*This Way Out*--

- Ah, yeah. [INAUDIBLE].

- --with Greg Gordon and Lucia Chappelle. And after that, we'll be back to play some more music and ask for some more money. All right?

- OK.

- Is that OK?

- Money, and we're going to talk about all kinds of things. And it's going to be fun.

- OK. Well, hang on. This is KPFT Houston, 90.1 FM, *After Hours* radio, celebrating life from the heart of Montrose. We're here.

- And we're queer.

- Yeah.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- This epidemic is not peaking, but getting worse. It's spreading into all communities within the American public.

[MAN YELLING]

- The sergeant at arms will restore order in the gallery.

[PROTESTORS CHANTING]

- Hey hey, ho ho. Go home. [INAUDIBLE] has got to go.

- It's very difficult to tell people who have felt as if someone has basically put a boot through their face that they have to behave themselves.

[PROTESTERS CHANTING]

- Gay rights now. Gay rights now.

- The anger that we're experiencing in the street is not new anger. It's anger that people have been suppressing in order to use more traditional means. This is Lucia Chapelle.

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

- Right here on Pacifica radio 90.1 FM, KPFT Houston.

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

- And I'm Lucy Chapelle. ILGA introduced to inclusion politics.

- US Federal lethargy gets ACT UP shock treatment.

- And nights of rage in California.
- All that and more, because you've discovered *This Way Out*.

- I'm Cindy Friedman.
- And I'm Mark Saccamo.

- With *Newswrap*, a summary of some of the news in or affecting the lesbian and gay community for the week ending October 5, 1991. ILGA, the International Lesbian and Gay Association, made its first official appearance at the United Nations last month. ILGA was awarded Department of Public Information status by the UN in June, which paid off in September with an invitation to a conference in New York City titled "Peace, Justice, and Development, Ingredients for A New World Order." Fittingly, the politics of inclusion was a major theme of the conference, which was attended by more than 600 representatives from a broad spectrum of nongovernmental organizations.

ILGA was represented at the conference by Michael Weltmann. And here's what he had to say about it. "This conference was important to ILGA not only in making our presence felt in the international community as an equal partner, but also in giving us the opportunity to talk face-to-face with world leaders who make decisions which affect lesbian and gay lives across the planet. The insights gained from these discussions will enable ILGA to develop new strategies to implement in our struggle to obtain lesbian and gay rights around the world."

- The Church of England is developing sexual wholeness groups, which will use faith and therapy techniques to turn gays and lesbians into heterosexuals. *The Daily News*, a mainstream US paper, reported that controversy over the plan was splitting the Anglican church. Reverend Richard Kirker, Secretary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, called the groups "a cruel deception."
- New recruits entering the Norwegian military have no problem finding gay and lesbian organizations or supportive contacts within the military. They all receive a handy brochure called "The Military's Little Pink," whose authors claim that "homosexuals comprise a large minority in the military and many of them need to know who they can turn to if they want to talk."
- The French newspaper, [INAUDIBLE], conducted a major public opinion survey on sexuality, only to find that many people flatly refuse to discuss homosexuality. Of more than 2,000 respondents in the North of France and the Paris suburbs, 37% wouldn't talk to the researchers. Another 37% said they condemned homosexuality.
- You're not supposed to use your hands in the game of soccer. And a Madrid soccer star has been penalized for what we can only describe as illegal use of hands. José Miguel Gonzalez of the Real Madrid team is facing a two game suspension after TV cameras showed him repeatedly groping a Colombian member of the opposing Valladolid team. The Valladolid team president called the action "provoking," while Gonzalez himself called it a joke. But the most surprising response came from Gonzalez's teammate, Rafa Gordillo, who said Gonzalez had bad luck that they caught him doing a thing that happens on the soccer fields every Sunday.
- Illinois Republican governor Jim Edgar has surprised many with a series of recent actions supportive of gays and lesbians. He signed two bills into law that recognized domestic partnerships, one allowing residents in subsidized housing to register the roommate of their choice, and the other allowing hospitalized patients to identify the people they wish to be considered as their family.

Edgar vetoed a bill intended to override campus protests against the US military's policy of excluding gays and lesbians, which would have forced state funded universities to allow military programs on campus. Edgar also signed a bill subsidizing continued private health insurance for people with HIV when they stop working.

- In Iowa City, the University of Iowa School of Law has become the first to appoint both members of an open same gender couple to its faculty. Patricia Cain and Jean Love had been looking for a joint appointment for the last seven years. Dean William Hines noted, "we proceeded very conventionally to treat them both as candidates in their own right. They were two of the best people in their respective fields. You usually don't have access to senior women with that degree of experience and national prominence. It was an extraordinary opportunity for us."

- To the surprise of many, Black lesbian Cheri Harris took 45% of the Democratic primary vote in Seattle, Washington to take a city council nomination away from 26-year incumbent Sam Smith. Harris will face Smith again in the November election, where he will be running as an independent.

But she'll have to get more than 50% of the vote to avoid a runoff. She could become the first Black, open lesbian in the US to hold an elected office.

- And finally, you might think that the American Family Association, which busies itself attacking media that portray gays and lesbians at all positively, would be a pretty humorless group. But you'd be wrong. The following joke appeared in their newsletter, *The Journal of the American Family Association*.

- (MOCKING SOUTHERN ACCENT) How many lesbians does it take to change a light bulb?

- Three, one to do it and the other two to make a PBS documentary about it.

- [INAUDIBLE].

- That's *Newswrap* for the week ending October 5, 1991, compiled and written by Cindy Friedman.

- Find out what's happening in your area. An informed community is a strong community. *For This Way Out*, I'm Cindy Friedman.

- And I'm Mark Saccomano.

- In the wake of a just released report by the US Commission on AIDS, members of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power invaded Washington, DC. The series of actions was designed to shake a lethargic federal government into action. We have these reports from Matt Binder and John [? Zay. ?]

- The National Commission on AIDS issued its long awaited report on the disease this past week. And the document is highly critical of President Bush and ex-President Reagan for their lack of leadership on AIDS issues. The report urges the Bush administration to step up efforts to prevent and treat AIDS. It paints a grim picture of the future if its list of 30 recommendations aren't followed. The report predicted that unless the government takes urgent action, the number of people dying of AIDS will jump from 120,000 now dead to 350,000 by the end of 1993.

But the report was played down by a presidential spokesperson who defended the administration. The report was welcomed, though, by a wide range of other groups, from The American Medical Association to The AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power. Anna Blume is with ACT UP in New York.

- We pretty much agree with its general conclusions that this epidemic is not peaking, but getting worse. It's spreading into all communities within the American public. And that if direct action is not taken by the United States government in terms of its health agencies and education, that the epidemic will spread even further.
- The AIDS Commission recommends subsidies for expensive AIDS drugs, extra funding for large cities struggling with the epidemic, expanded drug abuse treatment, and an end to the ban on needle exchanges. And its most expensive recommendation, universal health coverage for everyone in the country. I'm Matt Binder.

[PROTESTERS CHANTING]

- [INAUDIBLE].

- AIDS activists chained themselves to White House gates and invaded the US Capitol at an unprecedented two day action demanding better leadership by the federal government on health care initiatives. About 300 protesters insisted that the Bush administration appoint a cabinet level AIDS czar to develop a national HIV plan and that Congress legislate universal health care to combat the epidemic.

[PROTESTERS CHANTING]

- Healthcare, not warfare. Healthcare, not warfare.
- At least 83 people who splattered a blood-like liquid and locked themselves to White House fences were arrested during Monday's civil disobedience. US Park Police on horseback pushed some protesters, but no injuries were reported.
- Less than 300 people marched to Congress's front door from Union Station on Tuesday. Inside the Capitol, an ACT UP member in the gallery interrupted debate by Tennessee Senator James Sasser on extended unemployment benefits.
- More than 280,000 Californians, I say to the senators from California, have lost their unemployment protections since March.

[MAN YELLING]

And would not receive this--

- The Senator will suspend. The sergeant at arms will restore order in the gallery.
- That protester and 73 others were arrested for civil disobedience, many of them inside the edifice. The Rotunda was closed to tourists for 30 minutes while US Capitol Police arrested about 25 people. Members of Congress, said gay activist Michael Petrelis, have been incredibly silent on AIDS, an amazing lack of leadership.

Activists spiked leaflets on the wrought iron fence surrounding the executive mansion. They imprinted red-inked handprints on a gate post and left a Bush AIDS flag signs with skull and crossbones instead of stars. Those at the Capitol blocked the visitor's entrance, performed guerrilla theater on Independence Avenue, poured red dye into fountains, painted graffiti, and stuck stickers with AIDS messages on the Capitol steps.

The direct actions capped the second annual AIDS Treatment Activist Conference, ATAC II. It was attended by people from across America. And the events were orchestrated by ACT UP's new network, which lists chapters in 46 cities from Amsterdam to Wichita and 17 other AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power affiliates.

- We've put things up on the White House. We've obviously left a message for George Bush.

- Maxine Wolfe is a key active organizer from New York City.
- We had a little trouble with the police and some horses at one point in the march. But there are about 83 people who have been arrested. And we're going to go get them out of jail.
- Another protester was David Kamens, who stars in the first AIDS awareness film for elementary school students called *Double Dutch, Double Jeopardy*.
- I'm angry. And I'm sad. And I'm scared. My friends are dying. My teenaged peers are dying.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- There's no reason why I should be living with this alone. I'm not. And George Bush needs to wake up. The administration needs to wake up.

We need leadership. We need them to take a stand. And it hasn't happened.

- Told that President Bush was away at Disney World in Orlando, Florida during the demonstrations, ACT UP New York organizer Jon Greenberg replied, "while we're here to ask for a response to the AIDS crisis, this is basically Bush's response. He's in fantasyland."

[MUSIC - "WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR"]

- Health care.

- For *This Way Out* in Washington, DC, I'm John Zay.

- You're listening to *This Way Out*, the international lesbian and gay radio magazine. With Greg Gordon, I'm Lucia Chapelle.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- Some activists are calling it Stonewall II. The groundswell of actions in protest of California Governor Pete Wilson's veto of a bill banning gay and lesbian job discrimination appear to be snowballing after several nights of continuous demonstrations throughout the state. *This Way Out* Special Report on AB 101 begins with Harry Lin in San Francisco.
- AB 101 went through many incarnations before finally being slimmed to an anti-employment discrimination measure. The bill has been opposed all along by conservative legislators and several California right wing religious groups. Members of the state's business community had opposed an older version of the bill, but eventually agreed to it when the bill was made more specific.

In explaining his veto, the governor said the law would have opened the door to more lawsuits. And that, he says, would have stifled the state's competitiveness as a place to do business. Wilson contends that current laws already prohibit the kinds of discrimination AB 101 targeted.

[PROTESTERS CHANTING]

- Hey hey ho ho. Pete Wilson's got to go. Hey hey ho ho.
- In San Francisco, a couple thousand demonstrators began protesting the veto at a Castro District rally. Some called for impeachment. Some demanded a legislative override. All condemned what they say was the governor's capitulation to right wing extremist groups.

According to California State police, later that night, a smaller group marched their way to the governor's local office on Golden Gate Avenue. There they broke windows and computer equipment and started small fires. Police forced them back with fire hoses. There were a few arrests and a few minor injuries. Reports from Southern California show that similar rallies occurred in Los Angeles and protesters attacked Wilson's Los Angeles office as well. I'm Harry Lin.

[PROTESTERS CHANTING]

- Gay rights now. Gay rights now.

[CLAPPING]

- They marched for nearly two miles through the busy streets of West Hollywood, holding protest rallies at every intersection, creating a traffic nightmare. The nearly 1,000 mostly gay demonstrators are outraged over California Governor Wilson's veto of a gay rights bill. Protester Chris Welch.

- The bottom line was that the bill didn't give us that many extra rights. It was not that big a statement. But symbolically, it's very important. Because it's indicative of how Wilson and the Republicans and especially the right wing feel about homosexuals and civil rights in general.

- A Democratic assemblyman, Terry Friedman, who wrote the gay rights bill is calling on activists to reject any violent protests in the future. George McQuaid, Los Angeles.

- Following a day and night of angry protests, Los Angeles City Council Member Joel Wax said the governor's veto of the gay rights legislation stands in direct contradiction to the success Los Angeles has had with its own anti-discrimination ordinance.

- We have experience in the city of Los Angeles. That experience makes his excuses a living lie. Those were transmitted to him, including formally, by the city attorney's office in writing. He knows that information. That, to me, is a more cowardly and despicable thing than perhaps simply disagreeing on a fundamental position.

- Terry Friedman is a state assembly member who first introduced the measure in Sacramento. Friedman said the governor's decision is an embarrassment to mainstream Californians, especially since a field poll declared that an overwhelming majority of Californians support the measure.

- Last spring, Governor Wilson said he was very likely to sign AB 101. Then came a campaign of hate and distortion by right wing extremists and religious zealots. Faced with the choice between fundamental fairness for gays and the hysteria of extremes, the governor sadly surrendered to the right wing.

- This is Herman Padilla.

- Officials in San Francisco had a similar reaction to Wilson's veto.

- Mayor Art Agnos denounced the veto as extreme. The California Green Party said it endorses bigotry. Wilson may have put himself in a lose-lose situation, according to Democratic State Assemblyman John Burton.

- I think this damages his political credibility and will not buy him peace with Bill Vandermeier, or with Lou Sheldon, or with any of the other of the far right.

- Burton says Wilson may have undermined a most precious asset with this surprise veto.

- I think that by and large it hurt Pete Wilson from the standpoint of his personal integrity.

- And contrary to Wilson's argument that AB 101 would result in more lawsuits, San Francisco attorney Paul [? Wattman ?] says the veto may result in increased litigation by sending the wrong message to employers.

- I think there'll be more discrimination because employers will think they have some argument in court, instead of knowing that they don't. So I think the veto encourages and will result in more discrimination.

- Just today, [? Wattman ?] filed a job discrimination lawsuit on behalf of Daly City resident Robert [? Verrett, ?] who claims he was denied a job because his prospective employers thought he looked gay.

- If AB 101 had become law, claims such as Mr. [? Verrett's ?] could have been resolved before the state Fair Employment and Housing Commission, rather than in the courts.

- I'm Betsy [? Beyer. ?]

- Long time activist Morris Kight was interviewed by Garrett Gallagher in Los Angeles.

- The governor said in his veto announcement that current law already protects gays and lesbians. I suppose you disagree with that.

- It doesn't. It simply does not. I have no idea why he would float such a bland misrepresentation and hope to have it fly. Simply not true. There is a great deal of discrimination against us in employment. And that's morally wrong.

[MUSIC - THE KNICKERBOCKERS, "LIES"]

- Lesbian and gay activists tried to shout Governor Pete Wilson down on October 1 at the Centennial celebrations for Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. Peter Jon Shuler was there.

[CROWD YELLING]

[WHISTLE]

- About 300 demonstrators crowded up to the podium in Stanford's open air quadrangle and all but drowned out Wilson's 15 minute speech to more than 500 Stanford alumni and students. A line of officers in riot gear kept the demonstrators at a distance. The crowd shouted "shame, shame," and "gay rights now," and threw paper and other debris at Wilson.

Someone cranked up the volume of the public address system to almost deafening levels and Wilson continued his speech. Many in the audience plugged their ears.

- When Leland Stanford walked these grounds, California governors became US senators instead of the other way around.

- Demonstrator Dawn Burke said she thought she'd gotten her message across.

- I live here. This is my country, too. I will not be ignored any longer or any of these people who showed up today. We're from all over the state of California. And we're here to make noise.

[PROTESTERS CHANTING]

- Woo, woo, woo.

- Most of the protesters left after Wilson finished his address. Though he didn't acknowledge their presence during his speech, the governor stood up after they were gone to berate their efforts.

- You don't shout down those who wish to give reasoned discourse.

- You weren't reasoned.

- You may disagree. But you listen. And you allow them to be heard. Fascist tactics did not win at Stanford today. And they never will. I admire you. And I thank you. I'm honored by your invitation.

[APPLAUSE]

- As part of the final Centennial ceremonies at Stanford, a time capsule was buried. Included in the contents were an eggshell from a past campus protest and brochures from the Stanford Gay and Lesbian Organization. This is Peter Jon Shuler reporting from Stanford for *This Way Out*.

- Members of the activist groups ACT UP, Queer Nation, and the Bay Area Coalition against Operation Rescue held a press conference in front of the State Building in San Francisco. Amidst a backdrop of boarded up windows, activists came forward to state their firm resolve to offer no apologies for the property damage committed at Monday night's AB 101 protest. Mark Solomon is a member of ACT UP.

- I don't believe that you can call for violence or prevent it. If people are enraged, if people have been oppressed by the state and have had their rights and existence negated by the state for a long time, and that critical mass happens, it's going to happen. We can't make it happen or prevent it from happening.

- In response to criticism that damage to property might set back the gay movement's agenda, Solomon says such an argument ignores the violence perpetrated against the lesbian-gay community.

- If our society says that 125,000 people died of AIDS and a 200% increase in hate crime are equivalent to breaking windows, then our society's priorities are seriously wrong and need to be reexamined.

- This is Peter [? Klein ?] reporting from San Francisco.

- The decision by Governor Wilson to veto AB 101 has resulted in more than five consecutive days of protests across the state.

- LA Human Rights Commission member Chris Macaulay.

- I think because the mainstream media has refused to focus on the merits of what the governor did and did not do with this veto, and instead is taking kind of the very superficial approach of looking at who's marching where, millions of Californians are probably very confused of why thousands of other Californians are in the streets protesting. A workplace free of discrimination has been very cynically abrogated by this governor, the governor of the biggest state in the United States, a governor who openly solicited gay and lesbian votes in his campaign, who took gay and lesbian money as campaign contributions, and who told people that he would sign this bill.

I think that the people who probably feel the most betrayed are these very valiant souls who are gay and lesbian Republicans, the folks who for years have formed organizations and lobbying groups within the Republican Party to elect more moderate and progressive Republicans and have really fought tenaciously against the extreme right wing of that party for the soul of that party, I think, felt that they made great progress in getting Pete Wilson elected governor. And those are the people who I think feel tremendously betrayed, as they should.

- We had a meeting of the Los Angeles group on Monday night.
- Jim Baird is treasurer of the Log Cabin Republican club of Los Angeles.
- We had 50 of our members there. And it was unanimous, the resolution condemning Governor Wilson's act in vetoing AB 101. There were no dissents and no abstentions.
- In some respects, Baird's group feels a kinship with more activist or militant groups in the gay and lesbian movement.
- I think we're all part of the same community in that regard. And we all were hoping that AB 101 would become law. Our tactics are somewhat different than those of ACT UP and Queer Nation. We're not the kind to go out marching around and smashing windows and making public protests.

Our approach is to work within the system and to try to get what we want accomplished with our contacts within the legislative and executive branches of government. We're going to continue to fight for this. We've already opened a contact with the governor's office. And we're continuing a dialogue to get the bill into law.

- Jim Baird, of the Gay and Lesbian Log Cabin Club of Los Angeles.
- As the protests continue, some liberals and conservatives alike have complained about the tactics of direct action. Mario Solis is the director of Public Policy for AIDS Project Los Angeles.
- It would be extremely difficult and inappropriate to ask for calm right now. Gay and lesbian people have been calm for a very, very, very long time. The anger that we're experiencing in the street is not new anger. It's anger that people have been suppressing in order to use more traditional means.

The claims by conservatives that they don't like this tactic are highly hypocritical, since they completely tolerated Operation Rescue, blocking health care, keeping poor women from health care. This newfound opposition to direct action is highly distasteful and completely disingenuous.

- Mario Solis of AIDS Project Los Angeles. It's not over yet. And there are more mobilizations planned. This is Lisa Martinez.
- All of these activities are unfolding, essentially as we speak, by the hour.
- Again, LA Human Rights Commission member Chris Macaulay.
- The only thing that is clear is that there will be a large demonstration in Sacramento on Friday, the 11th of October, at 12:00 noon at the State Capitol. That's all we know. And people are being urged to go there.

I would hope that the thousands, presumably, of people from all across the state who will converge on Sacramento will be very clear in what their intentions are. Which is that we seek to have the provisions of Assembly Bill 101 enacted by the legislature and signed by the governor. That is the objective. Who knows what will happen?

It's very difficult to tell people who have felt as if someone has basically put a boot through their face that they need and have to behave themselves. It's a very hard argument to make with people. And I've been making it for five days now. And I can just tell you that it's very hard.

- (A CAPELLA SINGING) We're going to work for change together.