

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**ROB DITTO:** Good morning. You're listening to *After Hours* on KPFT Houston, Pacifica Radio. KPFT is a listener-sponsored station. And last week after Hours in KPFT we got a good dose of listener sponsorship in Marathon the past two weeks. And I want to thank everyone who was able to contribute and I want to promise, no more begging for pledges, at least not for a few months.

Instead, we've got for you right now Houston radio's only magazine of lesbian and gay news and culture. What am I talking about? None other than *Afterwords*. And coming up on *Afterwords*, we are happy to report victory for a lesbian army sergeant, lesbians and gay men on TV and a look at a funny, funny new novel called *Eighty-Sixed*. Rob Hess will be here with AIDS news and Kay Harper will have the community bulletin board. In addition, tonight marks the debut for this year of our two newest segments here and *Afterwords*. John Bergo brings the information aimed at young people, high school and college students. This is called Youth Beat.

Also on Some Words from Mike this morning, Mike Leone will be reviewing the Houston Grand Opera's current production of the musical *Show Boat*. So we've got a lot of fun in store for you tonight on Houston radio's only news magazine of lesbian and gay news and culture. My name is Rob Ditto and you're listening to *Afterwords*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

In our news tonight on *Afterwords*, a lesbian woman who is a Sergeant in the US Army has won in court the right to re-enlist. Sergeant Miriam Ben-Shalom won a permanent injunction in the Eastern District federal court of Wisconsin, forbidding the army from discharging her. In court, the army tried to use Ben-Shalom's confession that she is a lesbian as evidence but judge Myron L. Gordon found this confession to be protected by the First Amendment.

Ben-Shalom said to the *Philadelphia Gay News*, "For once a judge stood up and said the army comes to court time and time again but they offer no proof for their contention that gays are a threat to national security." The army is expected to appeal the verdict.

Meanwhile at the Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Depot, the commanding general has upgraded the discharge of Barbara Baum, a corporal in the Marines who was court martialed for lesbian activities. Previously, Baum was being held in the brig after receiving a dishonorable discharge in the court martial. She was released on December 15 of last year.

And according to the *New York Native*, her discharge is upgraded now to-- get this-- bad conduct. Let's hope so. In addition to Baum, the Marines have jailed two other women, Sergeant Glenda Jones who received a reduced sentence after pleading guilty to lesbian activity-- that horrible crime-- and Sergeant Cheryl Jameson, who would not cop a plea and thus remains in the brig with a dishonorable discharge.

To all of these courageous women, I want to extend the official *After Hours* Semper Fi. Now if it seems that the Ben-Shalom case, the Baum case and others involving lesbian women in the military, aren't getting the coverage afforded to gay men like Perry Watkins or the late Leonard Matlovich, it maybe due to a common problem that many gay people and lesbian people like to call lesbian invisibility.

With society's taboos focused on gay men and the current focus on men's sexual behavior in light of the AIDS crisis, we don't hear much about lesbians in the media in general. And lesbian invisibility, both in the media and in society in general, is going to be one of the topics of a national conference to be held in 1990 that will create a National Lesbian Agenda.

Planning for this conference began earlier this month at Hunter College and will continue at a March planning meeting in Durham, North Carolina. Among the topics of discussion, how the media showed the March on Washington back in 1987 as composed largely of white gay men.

The objectives of the National Lesbian Agenda that these women are going to be forming are expected to include increasing lesbian visibility, formulating a public policy agenda and intensifying the lesbian grassroots movement.

Well, one place where lesbian women aren't quite so invisible is on ABC Television, where you can see openly lesbian gynecological assistant Marilyn McGrath on the series *Heartbeat*. McGrath, who's played by Gail Strickland, can be seen locally on Channel 13 at 9 PM on Thursdays.

In addition to McGrath, ABC also has someone who's certainly the sexiest gay character on television, Officer Rick Silardi on *Hooperman*. We haven't been seeing as much of Silardi so far this season but the actor who plays him, Joey Gian, does a terrific job of showing America that gay life is more than just camp and tricking and all of those other stereotypes people have.

*Hooperman* is on after *Wonder Years* on Wednesday nights. Elsewhere in TV land, a landmark is occurring on the CBS soap opera *As The World Turns*, where daytime TV'S first gay male character, Hank Elliot, has a lover who has been diagnosed with AIDS.

*As The World Turns* producers have assured the gay media and fans of Hank all over the country that Hank will not be given AIDS himself and then written out of the show. Instead, the writers had planned to give the potentially grim AIDS subplot a romantic twist. Hank is played by Brian Starcher.

Back from TV land to reality-- well, sort of-- in Berkeley, California, which in my opinion isn't too much like the real world, city officials have moved to require hotels and motels to keep a safe sex kit in each room-- maybe right next to the Gideon Bible? The aim of the proposal is community education but hotel owners are up in arms about this possibility.

A representative of Marriott Hotel said in the *Houston Chronicle* that the Marriott chain has always stood for high morals and professional ethics. Apparently, high morals and community education are not compatible if you work for a hotel chain. And on that note, stay tuned. Coming up next is Rob Hess with AIDS News Today.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**ROBERT HESS:** Hello, this is Robert Hess, the 1989 allergy poster child with AIDS News Today. The *San Francisco Examiner* reports that PWAs are 30 times more likely to suffer a stroke than others at the same age according to Dr. John Engstrom of UC San Francisco. Moore Medical Foundation, a Connecticut firm made over \$3 million in 1986 and '87 from the AIDS-induced rubber glove shortage.

This year, however, they have mountains of excess gloves and expect big losses. Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research is investing almost \$2 million in a pension plan for 81 chimps. The chimps can no longer be used for research because they've been exposed to the AIDS virus.

They show no signs of having developed the disease and should spend the next 40 years chowing down on bananas, apples, cucumbers, celery and watermelons purchased with the proceeds of their pension. Latin American countries are having a difficult time fighting AIDS due to the traditional reservations about discussing sex in public.

Health experts are just discovering that anal sex plays a large role in heterosexual relationships, making the epidemic even more easily grown. A recent conference of the Pan American Health Organization focused on the issue and how to handle it. E. Premkumar Reddy, a researcher at the Wistar Institute, has released the results of a study showing a probable link between HIV and multiple sclerosis infections.

His research indicates that any drug effective on one disease might be effective on the other. The study is preliminary, not backed up by other studies and not published in a peer-reviewed publication yet. So we'll have to take it with a grain of salt for now. And finally, President Reagan's final budget contained a 25% increase in AIDS spending, which sounds pretty good.

This was, however, half what Reagan's own advisors had suggested. The NIAID's Director, Anthony Fauci, has condemned last-- or was condemned last year for allowing AIDS research positions to decrease by 90%, only in 1988. So this year, he actively pursued 133 new jobs. Reagan gave him 49, causing at least a one-year delay in research.

Congress was so frustrated that they authorized the NIH to hire 780 new researchers but Reagan refused to a lot money for more than half of those. Reagan has left office still maintaining that he and his cabinet are better able to determine AIDS spending than the health experts that he himself has appointed-- I never knew he had an M.D.

Now we'll see if George Bush can be a hell of a lot gentler and kinder than Reagan since he can go in and alter the budget. And that's AIDS news for today. This is Robert Hess. Just remember boys and girls, if you're going to play safe. We love you. Bye bye.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**ROB DITTO:** And coming right up are one of our newest segments, Youth Beat with John Virgo. John is from the Gay and Lesbian Students Association at the University of Houston and he's going to be bringing us information aimed at our younger listeners. Coming right up, here's John.

**JOHN VIRGO:** Hello, this is Youth Beat and I'm John Virgo, just back from that long Christmas vacation. From *The Advocate* we have an update on the Kansas City teen AIDS hotline reported by Rob last week. The hotline is called Teens Teaching AIDS Prevention and is operated by the Good Samaritan Project. The hotline has averaged 652 calls each month with a total of 6,500 since it opened in April.

Recently, the hotline received a grant for \$93,144 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to print brochures for schools, community groups and hotline callers, and also to develop teen hotlines in other states. Here in Houston, the Gay and Lesbian Students Association at U of H has begun a new semester of activities.

Over 40 students, faculty, and guests attended the first meetings of the semester held this past Wednesday in the University Center. The group selected discussion topics for future meetings, planned social events and decided, among other things, to conduct an AIDS Awareness Week on campus, hold several fundraisers and attend the March on Austin for Lesbian-Gay Equal Rights in April.

GLSA meetings are held each Wednesday at 3:30 and again at 7 o'clock in the University Center. For more information, call 749-2332 and ask for John. Again, that's 749-2332 and ask for John. And now I have the first of many reports about different gay and lesbian youth services available around the state and around the country.

Today's report is on the Gay Lesbian Youth Project of Syracuse, New York. Begun in 1986 by a graduate student at Syracuse University, the project originally received state funding through the Onondaga County Youth Board. When that funding was cut off, the youth members and adult volunteers set to raising their own funds and the project has grown ever since.

Currently the group's primary activity is a weekly discussion group led by a part time professional staffer, a Master's in Social Work, and one or more adult volunteers. Kathy, the part-time staffer estimates that over 100 teenagers come through the group sessions each year. The project also maintains the drop-in center with limited hours, a help line and provides AIDS education.

All of this on a budget of \$13,000 a year. The money comes from grants and fundraisers conducted by youth members. Kathy says the project's goal is to reach a budget of \$40,000 a year, open a full time drop-in center with professional counseling available and develop an outreach program to the over 60 young men in the city who work as hustlers.

The project has received support from every segment of the gay community in Central New York, especially the three gay bars in the area. The success and depth of this program is even more surprising when you consider that Syracuse is an industrial city of only 200,000 people.

Perhaps someone in Houston will take inspiration from the activities of these small town folks and provide the fourth largest city in the country with a truly effective outreach to gay and lesbian youth. This has been John Bergo with Youth Beat.

[HUMMING]

**SCOTT** Hi. I'm Scott Summers of the Avant Garde Program and I wanted to take a moment to thank each and every one of you who pledged during the past marathon. The pledges are wonderful and we gratefully accept them. More than the pledges now we need the money, so don't forget the address-- 419 Lovett, Houston, Texas, 77006.

If you made a one shot contribution, great. Get that money in here and collect your premium. If you join the highly vaunted \$5-a-month or \$10-a-month club, keep those cards and letters coming in on a monthly basis and get your premium as well.

Once again, please don't forget the address. 419 Lovett, Houston, Texas, 77006. Thanks for listening and keep listening to KPFT FM 90 in Houston.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**ROB DITTO:** Highly vaunted. That's one for the books. OK before the break we heard a new segment on Afterwords called Youth Beat with John Virgo. Thanks, John. That's just one of the new features that you'll be able to find here and only here on Afterwords.

On February 12, look forward to our first visit with District C city council member Vince Ryan, who will address the concerns of our community twice a month on City Beat. Once again, that starts in two weeks. And coming up in a few minutes, another installment of one of our newest features called Some Words with Mike.

Brought to you by none other than Mike Leon, whom regular KPFT listeners and callers will know from *We the People*, which airs Monday nights at midnight. This morning, Mike will be bringing you a real scoop. He's just come directly from the Houston Grand Opera's new production of *Show Boat*. So theatergoers, remember, you heard it here first on Afterwords.

And if you were tuned in earlier, you may have heard me talking about lesbian invisibility. Well, we have our own invisible lesbian coming right up. You can't see her but you can hear her. Why? Because it's radio. Coming up next, our very own invisible but highly audible lesbian, Kay Harper, with this week's community bulletin board.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**KAY HARPER:** Hi, this is Kay Harper, the invisible lesbian with the community bulletin board. There are lots of things going on in the near future. This afternoon, the Houston Women's Softball League's annual meeting is at 4 PM. That's today, Sunday, at the Dignity Center, 3217 Fannin.

All interested women are invited to attend. I wonder if that includes those of us who are interested not in the sports but in the athletes. Anyway, for more information, you call Betty John. And her number is 495-1159. Also this afternoon, the American Gay Atheists in the Houston chapter of the Gay Atheists are celebrating their 10th anniversary.

They're having a reception at 4 Chelsea Place which is more commonly known as the Houston Area Women's Center. There'll be free munchies and beverages from 2:00 until 5:00. The number for more information is 522-5964. The Gay Fathers group has spawned a new offshoot, a Gay Parents group.

They'll be meeting on the first and third Thursdays of each month. That means they're meeting on Thursday, February 2. Robert and Lloyd are the contact people. You know Robert and Lloyd from various things they've done with this show, and their phone number is 861-6495.

And something near and dear to the hearts of many of us here at *After Hours*, the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard is having their annual winter training on February 3, 4, 5, 11, and 12. If you're interested, please call the switchboard at 529-3211 between 4 and 12 PM to sign up.

Mardi Gras is also coming up and the Colt 45 is sponsoring buses down to the Galveston festivities on Saturday, February 4. They'll leave the BRB at 10:30 AM sharp and then they'll leave Galveston at 9:30 PM. Proceeds from the tickets will benefit their AIDS Trouble Fund.

And if you'd like to have really busy days after you get back from Galveston with the 45s, the Imperial Court of the Single Star is having their annual coronation at 9 o'clock at The Grand Hotel. This organization raised over \$3,000 for various charities in the past year and it should be a real fun evening.

And next Sunday, February 12, the Houston NAMES Project signature panel you saw pictured in this week's *voice* will get the first signatures on it at the PWA Coalition offices. Coming up in the next few weeks are fundraisers for both Gay Lesbian Pride Week. They're having a Mask for AIDS on February 17. And AIDS Foundation Houston arts group is having a benefit showing of *Sheer Madness* February 14.

An additional note, the clergy Coalition on AIDS will be sponsoring the Third Annual AIDS Sabbath Observance weekend. On Saturday, February 11, there will be a memorial service at St Anne's Catholic Church on the corner of Westheimer and Shepherd at 7:30. There are also other services scheduled during the weekend.

For more information, call Tim at 659-5461, extension 275. Or on evenings and weekends, at 529-5508. As always, to keep in touch with what's going on in our community, call the Gay Lesbian Switchboard between 4:00 and 12:00 at 529-3211. We try to keep all the info on what's happening and we're there if you just need someone to listen. Take care.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[MUSIC - "SHOW BOAT - OVERTURE"]

**MIKE LEONE:** Hi, I'm Mike Leone. On tonight's segment of *Some Words from Mike*, I want to talk a little about the revival of Houston Grand Opera's production of the Jerome Kern 1927 musical, *Show Boat*, which opened on Friday night, January 27 and will run through February 16 for a total of 14 performances.

I saw it earlier this evening I have a very special place in my heart for *Show Boat*. It is, after all, one of the milestones of our great American musical theater and the first musical to deal with serious themes. But I mostly love the show because it has so many truly wonderful melodies such as "Can't Help Loving Dat Man," "Why Do I Love You" and "Bill" to name just three of them.

Houston Grand Opera or HGO first presented *Show Boat* in 1982. They used the new performing edition which had been painstakingly put together by John McGlinn, who was, at the time, music editor for HGO and who has since gone on to establish a successful career as a conductor.

It is in fact Mr. McGlinn who conducts the highly acclaimed new recording of the original version of *Show Boat* we're listening. We're listening to the overture from the EMI recording in the background. As first conceived, *Show Boat* dealt with some fairly heavy topics such as interracial marriage, racial injustice, alcoholism and broken marriage.

The HGO production tends to downplay some of these elements, so we are somewhat left with a sentimental yet funny story, but it still works on this level. The production itself is quite imaginative. The story of the show covers some 50 years from the 1880s to 1927, which would present enough of a challenge in itself and on top of that, there are a number of scene changes.

There are scenes on the Mississippi River levee, at the Chicago World's Fair and even at a convent to name just three, so a simple unit set would never have been adequate. But the sets by Helen Pond and Herbert Senn are cleverly designed so that they can be moved quickly and easily and are still attractive to look at.

The performers are uniformly good and several of them are more than that. Top billing goes to Eddie Bracken who is a veteran of Broadway on Hollywood and who appears as Cap'n Andy, an essentially non-singing role. He received a well-deserved ovation for his scene in the first act where, because of an emergency, he has to perform a fight scene for the showboat audience all by himself.

Also very good were Paige O'Hara and Leroy Beams as the comic lovers Frank and Ellie and Karla Burns as the Black cook, Queenie. Miss O'Hara and Miss Burns also performed their roles in the new recording.

And even while I have to admit that the beautiful song, "Ol' Man River" is pretty much foolproof in the hands of anybody who is at least competent, Michel Warren Bell was much more than merely competent and it was a pleasure to hear him sing the song several times through the evening.

My own particular favorite was Adria Firestone, who was here a few months ago as Carmen in the HGO production of that opera and who sang the role of Julie tonight. Her characterization of the part seemed to me close to that of Teresa Stratas in the new recording, but her singing of the wonderful song "Bill" was so beautiful that nothing else really mattered.

While Miss Firestone is a bona fide opera singer, a number of the others in the cast are not. And during parts of the first act, they were a little bit overpowered by the orchestra. By the second act, however, this problem had been corrected. The conductor for showboat is John DeMain who was the music director of Houston Grand Opera.

There were one or two places where I would have liked for his conducting to have a little more drama or a little more life, but most of it was taken at very appropriate tempos and "Bill" in particular, where he surpassed the new recording. Since "Bill" is my favorite part of the score, I was easily able to forgive Mr. DeMain anything else this evening-- not that there was much to forgive anyway.

I'm going to conclude by saying that I went into the war room tonight with the new recording of the original *Show Boat* buzzing in my head. And I started out the evening making mental notations of differences between the performing additions used by HGO and the original.

But I soon had to give that up because I was enjoying the performance too much. It's true that Houston Grand Opera does make some cuts and changes from the original score, most of them minor. But the production has spirit and it has heart, and those are the really important things.

I mean any show that can keep me crying for half of the second act has to have something going for it. I highly recommend it to say the least. I'm Mike Leone and those are my words for tonight.

**ROB DITTO:** Thanks, Mike. Buddy's topic today on *After Hours* was safe sex. And our guest on the show tonight was Bart Loeser, a man who conducts safe sex workshops. Well, people have different viewpoints about safe sex and one of the most interesting viewpoints around right now is that of novelist David B. Feinberg.

Feinberg has just come out with a new book called *Eighty-Sixed*, which is part novel, part dictionary, and 100% hilarious. At a time when people are writing deadly serious fiction about AIDS, like Paul Reed's novel *Facing It* or the mainstream book *At Risk* by Alice Hoffman, it's nice to have someone like David Feinberg come along with a unique brand of gallows humor in the face of such a deadly disease.

In keeping with our safe sex theme tonight, I'm going to read a few bits and pieces from the little lists and comic mini essays that separate the characters, that separate the chapters of *Eighty-Sixed*. First we're going to hear some tips from David Feinberg on how to have safe sex in the age of anxiety.

"Number one, cover your mouth with adhesive tape and then do the same to your partner. You may, if you prefer, use duct tape instead, obtainable from your local hardware store. Number two, foreplay should commence in the shower. The water temperature should be at least 180 degrees Fahrenheit.

Number 3, after a thorough scrubbing, retire to the bedroom. The room should be brightly lit with direct overhead lighting. To pace yourself evenly and avoid overexcitation, it is suggested that a metronome be set to 60, loudly. Number four, in moments of passion trussed-up participants have been known to remove their adhesive bindings.

To prevent this, first tie your partner's hands behind his back, preferably using 200-pounds-tested mountaineering rope, available at your local sporting goods outlet. Then insert your own hands into a carefully pre-tied set of ropes. Hook this over the bedpost and pull to tighten. Number five, enjoy. Number 6, after sex immediately flush the area with ammonia and peroxide solution. Then wait for your roommate to come home and untie you."

So I wasn't kidding about gallows humor, was I? What's great about *Eighty-Sixed* is that after a couple of hundred pages of laughing in the face of death along with Feinberg and his sardonic hero, BJ, you feel a lot better about AIDS and the way different parts of society are dealing with it. After all, we're only human and this is the most important message of the book. Eighty-sixed is a slang term meaning ejected, as in I got eighty-sixed from the House of Pies.

And it can also mean that you get killed, wiped out-- sound familiar? Another reason for the title is that the second section of the book takes place in 1986-- thank you for that inflated condom. A little visual thing that you're not going to get on the radio here, but it's very attractive.

Anyway, back to the first part of the book. It takes place in 1980 when BJ, is a boy just out of college, tricking up a storm in the post-Stonewall pre health crisis sexual playground of Manhattan. I have another excerpt to read you, and it's from one of the lists that appear in the-- appears in the 1980s section of the book.

And it's called, how to get rid of the trick that won't leave. "Number one, certain vintage Elton John albums are effective as are acoustic Joni Mitchell, Polish operas and Bob Dylan's *Self Portrait*. Number two, when you shower after sex, be sure to give him a towel you have sprinkled with itching powder.

As he dries, mention the case of crabs you're almost positive you're over. Number three, tell him he reminds you of your ex. Call him by the wrong name. Call him by different names. Number four, ask him if he loves you. Number five, ask him if he would mind taking a personality test. Number six, talk to him in baby talk.

'Does ootems want a widdle nap? Does ootems want to go sweep?' Number seven, stare into his eyes and say in the sweetest voice imaginable, 'Penny for your thoughts.' Number eight, start scrubbing the kitchen floor at 3:00 in the morning. When he asks, tell him it'll only take a minute."

[LAUGHTER]

"Number nine, accuse him of stealing your food stamps. Number 10, eat a clove of garlic in the bathroom in the guise of brushing your teeth. Then, French-kiss him good night. Number 11, casually mention that your homicidal 6-foot boyfriend is expected in 15 minutes. Hand your trick his shoes, keys and wallet as he races past you for the door."

[LAUGHS]

That was how to get rid of the trick who won't leave, a humorous piece that's part of a terrific new novel *Eighty-Sixed* by David B. Feinberg. *Eighty-Sixed* is available at Lobo which is located at 1424-C, Westheimer. The entrance is on Windsor Street, which is a cross street going north off the Westheimer curve. So do stop in at Lobo and while you're there you can pick up a copy of a hilarious book, *Eighty-Sixed*, by David Feinberg.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Thanks for listening to *Afterwords* this week and our How To Get Rid Of The Trick Who Won't Leave. I'd like to thank our full complement of correspondents tonight in alphabetical order, John Virgo, Kay Harper, Rob Hess and Mike Leone. We also had contributions from the *Philadelphia Gay News*, the *New York Native*, the *Houston Chronicle* and the national gay news magazine, *The Advocate*.

Our broadcast engineer is, as always, Mike Ford. And stay tuned, we'll have some more safe sex coming up with Buddy and Joe Watts, who's with a theater group here in town. Next week, you'll hear Mike Leone's comments about how to blow up a condom and then put it in the microphone-- no. We'll hear Mike Leone's commentary--

**MIKE LEONE:** I'm sorry.

**ROB DITTO:** I accept your apology. We will hear Mike Leone's commentary about how when the media tells you that you failed your AIDS test, that there's really no such thing as failing. It's this ridiculous lie. So coming up next, some safe sex. Thank you for listening to *Afterwords*. My name is Rob Ditto. Coming up next, more *After Hours*.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**BUDDY** And right now on *After Hours* we're talking to Joe-- what's your name again? Joe Watts your name? Joe Watts.

**JOHNSTON:** Right? Director--

**JOE WATTS:** "Watts-ever" you say.

[LAUGHTER]

**BUDDY** Director of the group--

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** At this hour, who knows?

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

**BUDDY** --theater workshop. What do you mean at this hour, now? Give me a break. It's Thursday night and we're live on tape. So you're not here.

[JOE LAUGHS]

I'm the one that's here running the tape.

**JOE WATTS:** I wanted everybody to think I was, though.

**BUDDY** Wishing I was--

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** I was bluffing them.

**BUDDY** Anyway, along with Bart Loeser here this morning talking about safe sex and the AIDS Foundation, Joe's

**JOHNSTON:** producing a play at Center for Positive Lifestyle, right?

**JOE WATTS:** No.

**BUDDY** No? OK where is it?

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** I'm directing it.

**BUDDY** OK.

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** They're producing it--

**BUDDY** Oh, they're producing it.

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** The Center for a Positive Lifestyle.

**BUDDY** Ron and the folks down there? So you're directing--

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** Ron Davis is the director of the center.

**BUDDY** Tell us about the play, Joe.

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** OK. It was written by Jeff Hagedorn who wrote the first theater piece in America about AIDS, which I did at First Unitarian Church in 1985 and it was revived in the spring of '86. Anyway, Jeff's written this insane little one act called *The Layman's Guide to Safe Sex*. It's a comedy, it's very entertaining. But it's very full of real and pertinent information about safe sex.

**BUDDY** OK let's listen to the first scene now.

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** Sure.

[AUDIO PLAYBACK]

- Do you remember when the scariest thing about love was sex? It seems like it's completely turned around.

- Turn around and look at me. Don't you feel anything for me?

- God, yes.

- No you don't.

- I love you.

- You don't love me at all. If you really loved me you'd say yes.

- No.

- Why not?

- Because it's dangerous.

- Haven't you always loved danger?

- Yes, danger, the excitement it causes, I love it.

- I hate it.

- Oh come on, didn't you love doing it in your bedroom when your parents were in the living room watching TV? Wasn't it great trying not to get caught? Didn't you just love that fear?

- No.

- Oh, you can't fool me. It was fun and you know it.

- OK, OK. It was sort of fun, worrying about getting caught. But that's not the same thing as worrying about catching something.

- What makes you think it'll be dangerous?

- I don't want to catch something.

- What do you think you'll catch?

- Do you want a list?

- Yes.

- OK, AIDS, herpes, gonorrhea, syphilis--

- Wait a minute. Do I really look like someone who would have something like that?

- I have a confession to make. I got my first case of clap from a priest.

- Mike swore to me he was a virgin fiance.

- Howdy doody?

- Howdy doody?
- It was a costume party.
- Let's face it. You can't just go on the basis of what people look like or if they're rich or poor or young or old. I mean, the majority of people who have AIDS in the United States are gay males. But this does not mean that all of them are. Great. Tease me until I-- and then just-- you know what you are.
- Smart.
- The most positive way anyone has of not catching a sexually transmitted disease is to not have sex.
- Oh no.
- Thanks, it's that simple. You could have been on my side, you know.
- I am on your side.
- Sure.
- There are other options.
- Like what? Spending the rest of my life masturbating to dirty magazines?
- Why not? Lots of us are.
- I'm not a robot or something. I'm a human being. And I'm not going to spend the rest of my life just masturbating. No way.
- You don't like masturbating?
- No, I don't.
- You're a terrible liar.
- I'm not lying. I don't like masturbating. I don't. Much. Well, it's just not like the real thing.
- Uh-huh, now we know what the real problem is.
- I can't help it. Sometimes I really want to. I mean, I really, really want to. It's like, I have to. Haven't you ever felt that way?
- No.
- It looks like he's not the only terrible liar.
- Here, what's that? A rubber. I ain't using one of those.
- You will if you love me.
- What?
- It's not just yourself you're protecting here. It's the person you love.

- So tell me, do you really love me? Really, really love me?

- You know I do.

- Enough to make sure nothing happens to me?

- Of course.

- Well.

- You mean if I'd-- then you'd-- Thanks.

- When I came out, I thought one of the big advantages of being gay was that you didn't have to wear rubbers.

- The first rubber I ever saw was Hefty bag green. Really, I mean. There was this man with this tiny little hefty bag where-- no wonder he wanted to do it in the dark.

- This is very embarrassing, but well, I don't know how to use one.

- What?

- Well, no one ever told me how.

[END PLAYBACK]

**BUDDY** We're back with Joe Watts and the Group Theater Workshop talking about a new production going on at the  
**JOHNSTON:** Center for Positive Lifestyle. The play is called *The Layman's Guide To Safe Sex*, and it's running--

**JOE WATTS:** It's going to open February 4, which is a Saturday night. And it's going to run for six consecutive Saturday evenings at the Center for a Positive Lifestyle.

**BUDDY** Which is located--

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** Which is in the heart of Montrose, at 1505, Nevada--

**BUDDY** That's right down the street from my house.

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** Nevada at Commonwealth.

**BUDDY** Is there a gate charge? Admission--

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** Yeah and it's very nominable. Nominable. Yeah, it's very nominal too.

**BUDDY** So it's a lot of fun. For tickets or reservations, they need to call--

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** Either or? Oh yeah. Either--

**BUDDY** What does that mean?

**JOHNSTON:**

**JOE WATTS:** Either 526-- I mean 526-LOVE. Or-- you heard either. The either is 526-LOVE. The or is 522-2204.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

**BUDDY** Oh yes. Oh thank you, I needed that. It's called sex, kids. S-E-X, and it just kind of happens, you know what I

**JOHNSTON:** mean? You just kind of-- when you least expect it. Anyway, back with Bart Loeser, and we're going to be taking your phone calls here in just a second at 526-4000 to talk about safe sex and the safe sex workshops offered by Bart and the AIDS Foundation.

I want to remind you that the Clergy Coalition on AIDS will sponsor their Third Annual AIDS Sabbath Observance weekend on Saturday, February the 11th. And that'll include a memorial service to be held at St Anne's Catholic Church, that's 2140 Westheimer at South Shepherd, beginning at 7:30 PM.

That's the Clergy Coalition on AIDS and their Third Annual AIDS Sabbath Observance weekend. Going to sponsor a memorial service to be held at St Anne's Catholic Church, 2140 Westheimer, South Shepherd, beginning at 7:30.

And I plan on being there and I'd like to see everyone else there. For more information, you can call Tim at 529-5508, 529-5508, or just show up at St Anne's Catholic Church on the corner of Westheimer slash Shepherd on Saturday, February the 11th. The number is 526-4000 if you want to get on the phone and talk to us about safe sex. And Bart, why is this so funny to some people?

**BART LOESER:** Condoms?

**BUDDY** Yeah.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Um--

**BUDDY** Would it go on the mic?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** It should. We put those things on watermelons, so it should fit on almost anything.

**BUDDY** Why is it such a big "ha ha ha"? Because everyone-- I took this out in the lobby everybody was laughing and

**JOHNSTON:** blushing and--

**BART LOESER:** There's a big stigma about condoms and that's what we're trying to alleviate. And the reasons are because it's always been associated with sex and usually something that you hide or something that is dirty.

It's never really had a real positive connotation. And so until very recently, people were not really very much exposed to condoms.

The only time you ever use them as if you were trying to prevent pregnancy or if the military, they were telling their personnel to use them to avoid getting sexually transmitted diseases. So they've never been a very positive type of thing. And so when people see condoms they just kind of think they're funny or unique or they wonder why you've got them, that type of thing.

**BUDDY** Why do I have this? I'm not a big fan of condoms. I don't know why. Maybe I'm unsafe. I don't, I really don't.

**JOHNSTON:** Honestly. So maybe I need to start-- children, do as we say and not as we do. I guess that's the word, I don't know.

**BART LOESER:** You're a perfect--

**BUDDY** I'm just being honest with you. And that's what I always do with you on this show. I'm a perfect example of--

**JOHNSTON:** what, someone who--

**BART LOESER:** A good candidate for the workshop, yes. A great candidate. I think you'd learn that there are a lot of things you can do with condoms that are fun and they can be fun. They're erotic, they come in different sizes, shapes, you could do almost anything with them.

**BUDDY** 526-4000, that's the number to call if you'd like to talk with us this morning. KPFT, you're on the air.

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** Yeah, hi.

**BUDDY** Hi there.

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** I'll tell you what, I agree with the last caller.

**BUDDY** What's that?

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** Condoms are no fun.

**BUDDY** Are no fun?

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** Yeah, I would rather not have sex with someone I don't normally have sex with.

**BUDDY** I didn't mean they weren't fun. I just have never personally gotten into the habit of doing it. Not that I don't think

**JOHNSTON:** I should, I just don't.

**CALLER 1:** Well I mean isn't it better to participate in erotic pleasure with someone you've played with for 10 or 15 or 20 years?

**BUDDY** Bart?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Sure, if you've got someone that you've been playing with for that long and you're not having relations with anyone else outside of that relationship.

**CALLER 1:** It's a little creative impetus to keep that going, right?

**BART LOESER:** Oh sure. By any means. The problem, though, is that most people aren't fortunate enough to have somebody they've had for 10 or 15 years. And you've got to face facts, if you're going to meet someone new and you're interested in having intercourse with that person, you are taking a substantial risk that person could be exposed to the AIDS virus, or you could without knowing it.

**CALLER 1:** What is the longevity period of the virus in dormancy nowadays? What, 15 years? What?

**BART LOESER:** From the point in which you are exposed to the point at which you start having symptoms of AIDS?

**CALLER 1:** Yeah, or die. One or the other.

**BART LOESER:** Because you can have the virus in your system from the point at which you are exposed to the virus. It may be 5, 10 years before you start--

**CALLER 1:** I've hear 15. The last I heard was 15 years possibly.

**BUDDY** Where did you hear that, do you know?

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** I've got to be honest, I don't know.

**BUDDY** Yeah.

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** But it's what I was trying to find out from you. Is that period of time extending?

**BUDDY** Do they really know?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Well as far as we know, AIDS probably has not been around 15 years in a great majority of the communities, so it'd be difficult to say it's 15 years. But if someone can maintain their health-- and one of the aspects we talk about in the workshop is wellness and making your body as strong as it can possibly be, it could be 15, possibly 20 years even for some people.

**CALLER 1:** What if you start showing symptoms?

**BART LOESER:** For some people.

**CALLER 1:** Is it [INAUDIBLE] showing it?

**BART LOESER:** Oh, typically it's going to be 5 to 10 years though. It's not going to be 15 or 20.

**CALLER 1:** Hmm.

**BART LOESER:** I have not ever heard anything where it was like that far along. You're going to know sooner than that. But the point is, if you are HIV positive, you have been exposed to the virus, it doesn't matter if you have symptoms or not. You can be perfectly healthy for many years but you can still be spreading that virus to other people.

**CALLER 1:** Of course, of course.

**BUDDY** Listen, thanks for calling. Have a good morning.

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** You too.

**BUDDY** KPFT, you're on the air.

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 2:** Yes. I would just like to call in and hopefully try and give some advice to a few other people that don't really like to use condoms.

**BUDDY** Uh-huh.

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 2:** That are afraid of using them or just don't like them, period.

**BUDDY** Yeah.

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 2:** My lover and I have been together-- it will be seven weeks next week-- or seven years next week. And I had tested positive about-- we got the results about two months ago and he is negative. And we came to the decision that, yes, we do need to use condoms.

But it doesn't render any of the love that we have for each other or any of the trust. It's just a way of saying, hey, I care about you, I care about your health, and I want to see you live.

**BUDDY** So had you always used-- had you always done that?

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 2:** Yes.

**BUDDY** I mean, you've always used condoms?

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 2:** Yes.

**BUDDY** From the very beginning?

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 2:** My first lover passed away of AIDS. And I think that's how I contracted the-- became positive of HIV. And I would just like to say, any, of the people out there that are positive use the condoms even if you don't like it. Because you never know, you may be contributing to somebody else's death if you don't.

**BUDDY** OK Thanks for calling, baby. Have a good morning. 526-4000. We've got about 9 minutes in the show. Dr. D and the Paradise Lost crew will be in at 4:00. It's going to be a great day on KPFT. What about that safe sex poster-- or the poster, were we going to give that away? Did you want to do that?

**BART LOESER:** Yes. Our poster is a series of three different posters. So we can give away each individual poster to three people.

**BUDDY** You want to do that?

**JOHNSTON:**

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

**BART LOESER:** --best thing. Yeah.

**BUDDY** So since 5 is lucky, is a good number, what we'll do is we'll give away the 3 posters and a couple of more tickets

**JOHNSTON:** to *Torch Song Trilogy*. So if you're the first, second, and third caller-- you're the first, second caller, you'll pick up tickets to *Torch Song Trilogy* at 526-4000. If you're the third-- wait a minute, how many colors are we? One, two, you'll pick up the tickets. 3, 4, 5, you'll get the posters. How's that?

**BART LOESER:** That's great.

**BUDDY** So 526-4000, that's the number to call. The first two people will get tickets to *Torch Song Trilogy*, and if you're the

**JOHNSTON:** third or fourth caller, you'll get copies of the new posters, which really look pretty.

One of the models in *This Week In Texas* magazine. And if those lines are busy, you can call 520-KPFT. 526-4000 or 520-KPFT. So give us a call. The next safe sex workshop, what's coming up?

**BART LOESER:** We've got a safe sex workshop this Tuesday and then we've got two planned for February. We're going to announce those both in *This Week In Texas* and *The Montrose Voice*. And you can also call the foundation and they also have information on the workshops, either the hotline which is open from 9:00 to 9:00 or call the foundation itself and talk with me.

**BUDDY** So the home workshops can be set up for anyone?

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Yes. Anyone who wants to either have their friends over or if they just want to open up their home to a workshop or if they just want to attend one, just give me a call.

**BUDDY** And that number again.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** It's 623-6796.

**BUDDY** 623-6796.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Or they can call the AIDS hotline and just leave a message for me to call you and I'll do that just as easily.

**BUDDY** 524-AIDS.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Right.

**BUDDY** The bottom line of the message we have for you this morning is to educate yourself. And understand that as I

**JOHNSTON:** said earlier, sex is something they use to sell you everything, from chewing gum to automobiles and blue jeans, and if you don't believe me turn on the television set.

And sex between men and women and women and men and men and men is natural and wonderful and we want you to enjoy it and we want you to live to tell about it. And one way you do that is to educate yourself.

**BART LOESER:** And let people know that safe sex is hot. If you want to participate in intercourse though, if you want to be safe and not risk yourself or your partner, you've got to use a condom. But you don't have to use a condom to have sex and you don't have to have intercourse to have sex. And just even just mutually jacking each other off can be a lot of fun.

**BUDDY** Let's go back to the phones. KPFT, you're on the air.

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** Yeah I just called a few seconds ago or minutes ago saying that I hate condoms. But gosh, just because you test negative-- don't believe that stuff. I mean, how many of those things-- like 30% are wrong.

**BUDDY** Of the tests, you mean?

**JOHNSTON:**

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

**CALLER 1:** --with someone for a long time, use a condom.

**BUDDY** You mean the test?

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** Yeah.

**BART LOESER:** Well if you test negative, you can't be very sure at all that the person that you're going to bed with is negative or positive, unless you went to--

**CALLER 1:** If you test negative, you can't be very sure because of the possible dormancy stuff now that they're coming out with. You can't be very sure that you're negative for real. So I would, course, if it's not someone you've been with for a long time. Of course.

**BART LOESER:** Actually you can be very sure if you test negative that it is negative as long as you're aware-- as long as you're aware of the window. In other words, it takes a person's body from 3 months to 6 months to form antibodies once they've been exposed.

**CALLER 1:** Isn't there some indication that there are dormancy periods that we don't know the duration of?

**BART LOESER:** If you're talking about less than a quarter of 1% of some people, yes.

**CALLER 1:** Oh, OK, OK.

**BART LOESER:** We're talking very, very small

**CALLER 1:** I hate condoms, OK? But of course you would, someone--

**BUDDY** Me too, baby.

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** --you don't know and haven's been with, of course. I agree with you.

**BUDDY** Yeah, I agree with you. What my friends say in New York, it's like washing your feet with your socks on.

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 1:** Exactly.

**BUDDY** OK, thanks for calling--

**JOHNSTON:**

**CALLER 3:** Be good.

**BUDDY** Yeah. We just want you to understand that to get through this journey called life, you need to educate yourself.

**JOHNSTON:** And I am the last person in the world to tell you how to live your life or what to do and what not to do.

But I do believe that you should educate yourself and make just decisions on educated thoughts, not on just-- when something pops up, act on it. You know what I mean, jelly bean? So the number again at the AIDS Foundation is--

**BART LOESER:** 623-6796. And just ask for me, Bart Loeser. Or you can call the hotline.

**BUDDY** And you can always get information on what's going on in the gay and lesbian community by calling 529-- right?

**JOHNSTON:** 3211. Gay and Lesbian Switchboard. We're going to wait and see if Mike will come in and tell us who picked up the posters and the tickets.

If we didn't get winners, I don't know if we did or not. They haven't told me yet. 526-4000, that's the number to call. Tickets to *Torch Song Trilogy* and the three-- what are the posters titled? How are they titled?

**BART LOESER:** Well, there's a little block at the top of the poster that says "Putting it on can be the best part of taking it off."

**BUDDY** Hmm, OK. I want to say thanks again this morning, not only to you, Bart, but to Peppino's Pizza at 416

**JOHNSTON:** Westheimer. They sent us a pizza over this morning and it was wonderful.

I want to say thanks to Larry Lash at Polydor Records for-- somebody stole my wallet. Oh, there it is. For sending us albums and CDs and cassettes to give away, and we're going to be giving those away to you in the weeks to come. Special thanks also to Margaret Stratton.

She's the Director of Publicity at the Cineplex Odeon theater, where you can go see *Torch Song Trilogy*. It's now showing and it's a beautiful, beautiful movie. Harvey did a wonderful job putting that play down from 4 hours to a two-hour-and-10-minute movie. And we'll have more tickets for you next week.

Also have ticket chances for you to win CDs and cassettes and albums, so you need to stay tuned. Any closing thoughts that you need to make-- or points we need to make before we go?

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

**BUDDY** Whoa. Thinking about something else. Never mind.

**JOHNSTON:**

**BART LOESER:** Well just in reference to that last call, is that unless you have been with someone for 10 years and that has been mutually exclusive relationship, and you're not doing anything on the side that's the only true safe relationship. So if you meet somebody, unless you've both been tested, you can't be sure you're both safe. So do use condoms or use safe sex.

**BUDDY** And take care of yourself and enjoy a full, healthy gay and lesbian life. Or heterosexual life, whatever the case **JOHNSTON:** may be. Whatever the case is, kids, enjoy life. Take care of yourself and live today-- the gay way? Can I say that?

**BART LOESER:** Live a long, healthy life.

**BUDDY** Anyway, thanks to Norman. He picked up tickets to *Torch Song Trilogy* and picked tickets to *Torch Song Trilogy*-- **JOHNSTON:** Sherry Smith calling back to pick up one of the posters. And Curt Norton will pick up-- what does that say? We'll do that. Anyway, Bart, thanks for coming by.

**BART LOESER:** Thanks for your time. I enjoyed it.

**BUDDY** And listen, if you have won tickets or you've won posters or whatever, don't call the radio station to get them **JOHNSTON:** because I'm having to mail this stuff to you and it's going to take me a few days to get it to you. So please, please, don't worry.

Yeah, Bart saying come here for the posters. But please don't call the radio station looking for tickets and posters and records. They will be mailed to you. Grab your pencil, you can always call me at the *After Hours* hotline that's right there in my little house at 529-4636.

And until next week, this is Buddy and Bart and the whole *After Hours* gang saying have a good week. And let's make 1989 the year of Stonewall. The best year ever, OK? I love you and I'll see you next Sunday. Bye bye.

[MUSIC PLAYING]