

gcam_ah_19980912_t2_01_edit

Fri, Feb 24, 2023 9:40AM 42:24

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

campus, houston, gay, people, station, put, phyllis, radio station, student, call, texas a&m, september, hartford, week, blue jeans, queer, hear, guess, aggie, pm

SPEAKERS

Sarah DePalma, Roy, Jimmy Carper, Michelle Meyers, Katrina Rose

M Michelle Meyers 00:01
fundraisers. That's one of the things that they do besides charging for the ticket is they have signup options.

R Roy 00:08
So you get all the neat stuff, but those silent auctions, oh, there's

M Michelle Meyers 00:11
some. I've been to a couple of them, and they have some really nice artwork, and little things

R Roy 00:20
and services.

M Michelle Meyers 00:22
All kinds of stuff like that. So there are two political fundraisers that are coming up.

R Roy 00:30
Okay, and I imagine probably the elegant elephant will probably have their own silent auction as well, probably. No, I

—

M

Michelle Meyers 00:37

don't have those details I know about. I'll see

R

Roy 00:40

if I can't get a hold of Dale carpenter and see if we can. I can't find that because I got time because this is an October, October. Right.

M

Michelle Meyers 00:47

So October 3, for them, Kevin. Elephants and the caucuses is Saturday, September 9.

R

Roy 00:56

Okay. Also Well, I got some sad news to report. According to the Houston voice. The Houston Independent School District has received an F marking from the Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network. And that's a grade lower than the national average for its efforts in protecting gay and lesbian students and staff from discrimination and harassment. Now the report graded 42 of the nation's largest school districts in six areas, including where the school policies protect students and staff from discrimination, and harassment based on sexual sexual orientation. The voice goes on to say that if staff training includes gay and lesbian issues, if curriculum is inclusive, and whether gay straight alliances are allowed, was another category in which it was judged on Houston join San Antonio, and 40% of the school systems in the survey, and reporting a no to all six areas. More than half of the 42 school districts received a failing grade. Only Dade County, Florida, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Diego received an A. So obviously we do have a lot of work to do here in the Houston area.

M

Michelle Meyers 02:22

It's particularly rough for the children. And I don't understand why people reach out for the, for the children, they're always complaining about, we're going to make them responsible and send them to prison if they do something wrong. But they don't. They don't try to help children and particularly the Gay, Lesbian.

R

Roy 02:43

Well, you know, don't forget, these are the Houston is an area that our school system refuses to give any meaningful sex education, yet teen pregnancy and teen cases of AIDS is on the rise. I mean, you know, they say just say no to sex and abstinence and all this. But that's the same exact message that was that's been preached, you know, for decades and decades. And they've heard it and it's not doing any good. So they do need better education in all these areas.

M**Michelle Meyers 03:23**

Okay, the one thing I wanted to mention, I should have mentioned it last week, but I mentioned it this week, we're not too late. The Houston lesbian and gay community center has opened its doors now for six days a week. Oh, great. Open three days a week, Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Now it's going to be Monday through Saturday. That's fantastic. So the our Community Center is located at 804 Hawthorne. I actually don't have a telephone number that I keep that accompanies but I don't have it in front of my eyes, so I can't get a hold of, but they're at 803. Hawthorne, which is two blocks south of Westheimer. East of Montreal, a real nice facility. A lot of people are showing a lot of people having been meetings. It's a nice place just to stop by and pick up a triangle or a boy and sit down and relax and read or meet with other people or whatever.

R**Roy 04:30**

Another thing if I want to point out that because the the Houston gay lesbian community center has so many different groups that do meet in there that I believe if you're a member of one of those groups, you're eligible to join the gay credit union. Oh,

M**Michelle Meyers 04:51**

well, the credit union project is ongoing read it. I mean, it hasn't actually formed it. They're still working on putting and get together. So there isn't a credit union, there will be, but there isn't one right now. Right now it's the credit union project.

**05:11**

And when do we expect all that to wait

M**Michelle Meyers 05:14**

four to six months, we'll have enough of the work done so that the credit union can credibly open their doors to accept money in on short basis and everything, like any other credit union in the state, okay, it's gonna it's, it's taking time to put it together, but it has to be done, right?

R**Roy 05:37**

Well, you know, if it was done in a row, if it was done in a rush, then it would probably fail. But because it's being done,

M**Michelle Meyers 05:44**

that's the problem, you have to go through a special set of steps in order to get a charter from the state, which lets you have access to federally insured 100 accounts and stuff like that, so that money can be protected in it. anyone in their right mind would then go and put your

money in that bank or that credit union. Kind of like a bank.

R

Roy 06:09

Except you get better you get better interest rate on loans and

M

Michelle Meyers 06:15

so that's go downstairs what's going on,

R

Roy 06:18

okay. At the literal downstairs theater, there is a audition notice open call for all you people who like to get your break into the acting and into theater. They're having a night with REG by. That's the name of the play and it's by Kevin Gilroy. And auditions will be held September 13. That's Sunday. This that's today, September 13 at 7:30pm at the theater at 2326 Bissonnette and that's between Greenbrier and Kirby. Performance states will be November 6 through the 21st and rehearsals will begin late in September. The director Andrew Dawson is looking for six men, ages 18 to 45. Auditions will be cold reading from the script. So and they're asking you to please bring a headshot and a resume.

J

Jimmy Carper 07:15

Oh, a headshot.

M

Michelle Meyers 07:17

All right again.

R

Roy 07:20

2326 Bissonnette. And that's between Greenbrier and Kirby and that's

M

Michelle Meyers 07:24

tomorrow at 730 today. Sunday, Sunday,

J

Jimmy Carper 07:28

Sunday, Sunday Sunday.



Roy 07:31

You know when you do this after our graveyard shows you never know what day you really



Michelle Meyers 07:36

know. Okay, I might talk about the switchboard you are again as being switchboard in Houston will be conducting training for new phone staff volunteers, between October 2 and fourth. So it's now time to sign up and get involved in switchboard. A switchboard is nonprofit information and referral service. It took talks about events and matters of interest to about the gay and lesbian community in Houston area. So if you want to volunteer or you need more information, call area code 713-529-3211. That's 5293211 or you can leave a message on their hotline which is also



08:26

the hate crime. Hate crimes.



Michelle Meyers 08:27

Area code 713-529-9695. That's 5299615 Okay, it's your turn.



Roy 08:41

Okay. The wrangle. The rainbow wranglers dance club is pleased to announce the start of intermediate Country Western Dance lessons every Thursday at 8pm at the Brazos River bottom club 2400 Razzles. The one hour weekly class will feature pattern work and two step wolves shuffle and swing and will be taught by Top Country Western Dance professionals and competitors. No partners are required. Rainbow wrangler I hate dance, beginning Country Western Dance every Thursday at 9pm at the BRB. In addition, the rainbow wranglers performing dance team is seeking new members auditioned for that will be at 8pm. Every Wednesday in September, they are gonna cost include costumes and share of coaching and choreography fees. For further information, you can contact them at 713-880-0670 Do you know that 8800670



Jimmy Carper 09:47

Do you know that there's a



Michelle Meyers 09:49

school of art giving free art classes this has been going on and off. Okay. It's really great free art classes for those with HIV and AIDS. If



Jimmy Carper 10:01

we don't have headphones, so you can't hear me, right, that's fine. Okay, sorry. Go ahead because I had a couple of things I wanted to talk about.



Michelle Meyers 10:12

Okay. So there are free art classes for HIV and free, free free, and they're starting up again, Patrick Palmer is in his eighth year of offering art instruction. So it's a good opportunity for the hell he's doing by now with HIV and AIDS to get out and learn all about art. It's supported by the Museum of Fine Art educational branch, and aggressive School of our schedule is going to really be exciting this year. They're gonna meet every Friday, from one to four, from September 11 through December 18. You're



Jimmy Carper 10:49

you're better not be working a day job girl information,



Michelle Meyers 10:51

call area code 713639 7500. That's 6397 500 Or even call Patrick Palmer at 713-526-1118.



Jimmy Carper 11:05

Okay, well, there is going to be an AIDS benefit at you will never guess where were at Instant Karma on 1617 Richmond Avenue. It's a straight bar. And that's going to be a Wednesday the 23rd. There they featuring groups called chlorine, Rosebud and Sheila Marshall. I guess Sheila Marshalls are just a woman iron. I don't know. Anyway, and the famous Comedy Sports whom we all know and love. Right, right. Why do we all know and love them? Because Kirk Kever is a member? Yeah, yes. Well, they're playing twice a week. Now. They used to just play Fridays at three beards downtown at nine o'clock. But now they're also playing Saturdays at 8pm at the Lambert Hall. And that's a great place. It's an old church that's been converted to a hall 70 No three heights Boulevard. Have you ever been there? No, I haven't the last may still retriever. Oh, yeah, they're doing both. And it for people who don't know Comedy Sports is kind of like it's a competitive ad lib comedy group. There are two teams, usually three on each team and a moderator who tells them what to do. Okay. And like for credit for Halloween of last year, when it Kurt was involved. They decided the moderator told them that they had to do a 10 minute version of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the musical Oklahoma. Yes. In which everyone was was a vampire. Now the problem was that Kirk, on his team was the only one who would ever seen



13:04

Oklahoma. Oh, my goodness.



Jimmy Carper 13:07

So he had to quickly inform his two other mates about what it was all about. Yeah. And he got the biggest laugh of the evening when he sang. I'm just a Google who can't say no. Anyway, comedy, sports. It's fun. I've been there a couple of times. And it's just a whole lot of fun. And now you can see it. Twice a week. Friday and Saturday night treat beards Friday and Lambert Hall on Saturday.



Michelle Meyers 13:40

Yeah, I love the Euro country band. Oh, yes.



Jimmy Carper 13:43

Has anybody been to the Lobo? Tyria yet?



13:47

I was here today. Ha ha. What do you have? I had one of those fancy cakes in a in a Colombian coffee.



Jimmy Carper 13:55

Yes. Is that nice? Yes.



13:59

Well, somebody bought it for me.



Jimmy Carper 14:01

It's just a nice place. I really enjoy it. It's one of the places where you go there. And there's a couple of people and maybe a couple of people at the counter and you order what you want. Before you know it. You're in a conversation with total strangers having a good time. I've always enjoyed that.



Roy 14:17

Okay, we got some exciting news. Is that happening today at Mary's that well,

—

J Jimmy Carper 14:22
we've got some exciting news coming up like this week because panties pansy Division's new CD is coming out any day now. All right. I can't wait for it. Well, you're gonna

R Roy 14:34
have to wait till it does come out. I know what you got. Okay, today, September 13. At Mary's at 6pm. Yeah, they have their annual

J Jimmy Carper 14:45
dog show. Oh, and this is for real dogs, real dogs and they're also having for people it's not for dog lips. Yeah, real dog.

R Roy 14:55
You know if you haven't seen Mary's dog show. This is really Something that the sea because it everybody brings out their little pooch and they're all dressed up and everything and it's it's quite a little event. Yes it is. Also today at 5pm An hour before the dog show, you're going you have the modules clinic is giving flu shots for \$5. Back to Mary and Mary's Oh, good. And they're they're also having the PW a holiday holiday charities. Guess bartending on the patio. Whoa, I love that. So, you know, that starts at 2pm. And it's going to last till whenever.

M Michelle Meyers 15:41
Yeah, so you get the return, then get your flu shot and then watched it.

R Roy 15:46
Now, also at Mary's coming up on September 19 is Mary's fall review. Ah, and that benefits to Thomas street volunteers wag rally like that. And this is a special event funding. And if you haven't been to Mary's, honey just got to go down there.

J Jimmy Carper 16:05
Well, you just ain't right. If you hadn't been to marriage at least once.

M Michelle Meyers 16:09
Let me mention one thing about the Montrose since you brought it up mattress clinic is going to present the HIV information seminar, which is entitled legal update on employment issues and HIV. It's going to happen this Monday, September 14, and it will be between the hours of seven

and 9pm. Okay, I'm gonna be conducted by Michel Katyn. Oh yeah, you need reservations. And so you need to call 713-981-9595. That's 981959.

J Jimmy Carper 16:45
Cool. What else we got? That's it.

R Roy 16:48
That's it for this week, after hours news, and I want to thank all of our listeners for being patient and listening in to all our madness.

J Jimmy Carper 16:55
I know even with the bad signal, and I'd like

M Michelle Meyers 16:59
to say a special hello to Steve and Bill.

J Jimmy Carper 17:02
Oh, hey, Steve. Hey, Bill. Hello.

M Michelle Meyers 17:06
Steve gave us a call this week. Oh, neat. I happen to meet him. So I'd like to say hello to Steve and I know. Okay, so let me say hello to Bill.

J Jimmy Carper 17:17
Okay. Okay. All right. Thank you, Michelle. Thank you big Roy. We will see you next week. Good night. Okay, after hours news with big Roy and Michelle. And now I've been promising that I'm going to play this new music from Barnes. And this is the guy who I mentioned was had been in 1990 was the lead singer. If we can get big Roy cool. Okay, thank you. There we go. And Barnes has gotten in Barnes who was the lead singer of the nylons in 1990. He has been a pretty open talent in Canada all this time. And now he has a new CD out in America. self titled now it's called loud boy radio, which is a great song, but I can't play it on the air.

S Sarah DePalma 18:31
We have a lot of editing. Yeah, and

J Jimmy Carper 18:33

I know what I know. But this is a song I can play. And it's a song for all queers. Not just for gay man. Even though it's a gay man singing it, but it's for all queers. It's called boy with a secret. And you're listening to it on after hours. Queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston, and K E O S College Station. Ooh, from Barnes. That was his new one. Well, new to After hours, boy with a secret. And that can cover a multitude of things. You know?

S Sarah DePalma 19:13

Is he going to tell us what the secret is? Or do we have to guess? Oh, if

J Jimmy Carper 19:17

he listened to the song, you know what the secret is? Anyway, he's got a couple of good ones on here that you'll be hearing in the future. Barnes that's one of the new queer artists I've discovered. Now that I'm on the internet.

S Sarah DePalma 19:32

He's no longer here. And you know, for years Jimmy said, I'm a computer virgin. I don't I don't have to know this. And I sure

J Jimmy Carper 19:38

got round. I'm sure not a virgin anymore. Let's put it that way.

S Sarah DePalma 19:47

We're just talking over and since we are having such terrific transmitter difficulties tonight, we're going to hold the interview with Diane Hardy Garcia and Clarence Bagby until the next show, so that everyone can actually hear we'd like people to actually be able to hear it and I believe it's actually going to be marathon then as well. Yes. And so we would like to bring good quality programming on the night of the marathon.

J Jimmy Carper 20:09

So all of you who can hear us, all three

S Sarah DePalma 20:13

of you from what we're hearing tonight. I

J Jimmy Carper 20:16

know I'm thinking that the pork the guys that are incarcerated probably are not getting the show tonight.

S Sarah DePalma 20:24

Now and the warden has nothing to do and I want nothing

J Jimmy Carper 20:26

to do with it. So they missed all of that. And years ago,

S Sarah DePalma 20:30

Jimmy years ago, I worked at a station in Connecticut. W O W W Wow radio brother. This was a 250 watt daytime only radio station, which meant that they had to go off at sunset okay, this station so small we had a gasoline powered generator. I kid you not had a gasoline powered generator that that kept the transmitter going. Oh, and every so often you had to remember put on a long playing record so you'd go out and refill generator was gasoline. Yeah. So I've worked in some pretty small places. That's, that's funny. Ironically, one of the places the last place that I work in commercial radio, I work at a radio station in Hartford. WP op radio, pop radio, play more music, more music, more music. Time at the time being numerator, that kind of stuff. I tried to copy radio London. I worked with a guy up there is this disc jockey. His name was Lee baby Sims. And Lee baby was way ahead of his time today. He would be Howard Stern. Okay. But this was the 60s and you know how it wasn't quite the he was just nuts. I can't there's no other way to put this. The radio station that I was working up there. They were trying to get into the Guinness Book of World Records for what where they wanted to get in there and the whole idea was they were going to be the commercial station that played the most music without commercial interruption. Oh, unfortunately, the final leg of the shift fell on Lee baby Sims show. He got on the air play gin rummy with the Hughes with the with the Hartford police department had the ugly girl of Connecticut contest and named actual names. Right? Yeah, they got sued over that brought his girl into the studio and then made out on the year. So they fired him. Surprise, surprise. He came down to work at ki LT here in Houston. And at that time killed was a rock and roll station. And he was here about six weeks and he didn't get along with the program director stole the program directors car and drove it through the program directors picture window. Yeah, I kid you not. Needless to say they fired his butt. So he sent a telegram backup to the radio station in Hartford and said to them You were read to inform you your friendly Sims has been killed in an auto accident. So they chartered jet come to Houston to his funeral. Meanwhile, he took a chat went back to Hartford and he took over the radio station. No, I kid you not they had to get the fuse. They had to get the Hartford police to go in there and break the door down. Get him out of the year. Now, moral of the story. You want to

make a lot of money. That's what you do you know where he went? Did he get fired? Of course to he make national news? Certainly. Did he end up at KNBC in Los Angeles You Bet Your Life that's how it gets done. Okay, well



23:32

it'd be urging people to go and take over radio station. If they took over this station doesn't matter. We recruit them to do something



Sarah DePalma 23:39

Yeah, that's Katrina tonight if they took it over, they'd have to give it back and so they would



Jimmy Carper 23:47

have we need to do station right we do. It's 201 in the am you're listening to after hours queer radio with attitude. And we'll be right back



23:58

the sound of Texas KPFT Houston of Pacifica radio network station 90.1 FM 89.1k e os College Station.



24:33

delightful evening of Irish music, news, sports and weather as well as events from here and abroad. Tune into the Irish airs program on KPFK 90.1. Sunday from six to 7pm. Join Pat Pete and Jay they bring you the best the new and old Irish music as well as hopefully events. The set your calendars by to join us Sunday night here on your radio station KPFT and 2.1 fm Have



Jimmy Carper 25:15

another wonderful show right here on KPFT Irish airs, which,



Sarah DePalma 25:21

and they don't even have all that tap dancing stuff behind it. I gotta tell one more radio story. Yeah, before we go back to talking about surgery. One of the nice things about working radio is you meet some absolute crazy people or you do there is no other way to put I mean, I worked with a guy. This is a W DRC in Hartford, which is DRC Oh is the number one station in Connecticut and never three station, all New England, really a big powerhouse that had this jacket there is absolutely squared. It's absolutely true story. The guy was he was a cigarette smoker. And he said to the engineer, look, I'm going to go downstairs and get some cigarettes.

That'd be right back. Now, if you know anything about commercial licenses, you know, part of the agreement in a commercial license is you cannot leave the studio during your airship. So he violates federal law. Right off the bat here. Okay. Yeah, we can't even do that. Now. We know. Okay, so All right, so fine. So he's they weren't on the 20th floor of this building. And he takes the elevator down the 20th floor, forgetting to give the engineer the key. Ah, okay, fine. He goes downstairs and they don't have his brain to cigarettes. Does this jerk by no brand. This is Main Street rush hour in the capital of the state of Connecticut. He finally he gets across the street goes over to the Walgreens and says to them, I want this brain and cigarettes they don't have it. He goes running down half a block, gets his brain to cigarettes, gets back in the elevator and gets mugged. Absolutely, literally was mugged. This bro's station manager found him playing the Spice Girls. Oh, unbelievable. The station manager found him unconscious in the elevator 20 minutes later and said when you wake up, you're fired.

J Jimmy Carper 27:06

I want to remind people they are listening to KPFT 90.1 FM. Oh, yeah. And well, I know I said that. But there's kind of this kind of little rule that when you talk when you give another stations call letters, you need to re identify yourself. Oh,

S Sarah DePalma 27:23

really? I didn't know that. And of course, we need to talk about college.

J Jimmy Carper 27:26

College Station. Well, yeah, we haven't talked about that. Sure. Isn't there something going on here?

S Sarah DePalma 27:33

Yeah, I'm real. Real excited about this. I Katrina Are you going up to college station on October the eighth?

K Katrina Rose 27:39


Oh, yeah.


S Sarah DePalma 27:40


Are you?


J Jimmy Carper 27:40


oh boy.


 Sarah DePalma 27:41
On October the eighth in College Station.


 Jimmy Carper 27:45
Good for you girl


 Sarah DePalma 27:46
in College Station. They are going to be having a reunion of sorts.


 Jimmy Carper 27:52
Yes.

 Katrina Rose 27:52
Not so much a reunion. I don't know if any of us were actually there at the same time.

 Sarah DePalma 27:56
What's the night you you got there? I think just yet for Left, Right. Is that graduated 85.

 28:01
there for a couple of years together even though we didn't know

 Sarah DePalma 28:04
each other? Yeah. Because I was up there from 82 to 85. I was there from 83 to 87. Okay, and Phyllis was

 Jimmy Carper 28:11
you too? Yeah, I had no idea. Oh my god.

—

S

Sarah DePalma 28:15

She's an Aggie, April, April, I believe this is gonna be great. Anyway, it's partly in celebration of the fact that the Texas a&m, this is I believe the 15th anniversary of gay student services getting on the campus of Texas a&m. They are also going to add the word transgendered. They are no longer gay student services, but they will be gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered students services. Yeah,

P

28:46

one of the emails of that's been sent to me, I don't know if this is going to be the official term but in addition to the word Aggie, there's also the phrase wagyu, which is used somewhat derisively, but it's a word that's commonly used. Someone is as apparently started up the phrase taggie

S

Sarah DePalma 29:05

at Hagie, what's that transgender There you go, a transgendered. Okay. And I'm really looking forward to this. This will be my first time back on the campus of Texas a&m Since I was booed on the day of my graduation. The reason that I was booed is because I was largely responsible for getting gay student services on the campus of Texas a&m to begin with. It was it was I'm not gonna go into all the details now but let's suffice it to say that you have not really lived until you begin taking bricks through your picture windows and until somebody slices throat of your dog and spreads blood on your door, which is what happened to me we you have not lived until you walk across campus and you find your name being hung on sheets out of windows, until your name begins appearing on the restaurant billboards. Wait, I I literally was booed all across all the way across the stage my graduation. And I have to say it was actually one of the prouder moments. I mean, I was

P

30:11

as close to it as they come back then. But I remember getting I was on campus attending a&m at that point. And I remember all the controversy around that I felt scared just listening to some of the things people were saying. Were you there

S

Sarah DePalma 30:27

when we did pull the head, the blue jeans that if you remember that we were on campus when we did that,

P

30:32

when I was I was living while I was living in town at that point. So I didn't spend a lot of time on campus. I didn't I didn't actually see everything up close. All I can remember is just overhearing not not only the core people, but just people who people people were ducking. I thought were

average. Yeah. Not so much liberal, but just mainstream folks who would actually be okay with it, just raving about how Alva Campbell was was was gonna basically burn in hell, because all the facts would come in.

S

Sarah DePalma 31:10

It was, yeah, I guess it's a good one. We might as well talk about that for a minute. What happened was the Texas a&m court case had been in court for more than five years, one of the time I got there. And the reason I got involved with it, and at all was because because I had had experience in the civil rights movement, and I had experience in the anti war movement, they thought I would be a likely candidate to run the American Civil Liberties Union on the campus of Texas a&m, which is a little bit like putting a bull's eye on your chest saying, please shoot me. And that was essentially what happened at a&m. I also what happened was, the case had been stalled because they didn't have any money, frankly. And so I came to Houston along with Ray Hill, and I hope he's still listening, and several other people. And the Texas Human Rights Foundation came in along with us. And altogether, we raised enough money to get the case back into court. And they didn't know really who to blame for this. But since I was the head of the American Civil Liberties Union, which had Texas a&m was equal to being a member of the Communist Party. It seemed like I was the likely candidates and the next thing I knew I became lightning rod. And I thought, Well, fine. If they're going to play this game Two can play it. So I came up with an idea for a day that was called Blue Jeans day. Now the deal was, we were we went around campus putting up signs all over the place, saying if you're gay, or if you're sympathetic to being gay, or if you have someone in your family who is gay, come to school and such and such a day wearing your blue jeans. Now, come on, everyone comes to school wearing blue jeans. That's the point. Oh, okay. As soon as we would put stuff up people in the Corps Cadets when we're on campus, tearing it down. I did do an interview on the campus radio station, but no one on campus listen to the radio station. So even though we had done our damndest to publicize this event, this was the most unknown campus event ever to occur on the campus. Until the day it actually happened. Hmm. The next thing you knew people were people to in the Corps of Cadets were stopping said, What are you queer? You're wearing blue jeans? And the other person? What the hell are you talking about? We had professors who walked in the class wearing blue jeans and the students. The key could not convince the students. He wasn't gay. Oh, boy. We had we had members of the corps of cadets who were wearing jeans, because they had weird work details around campus who found themselves in trouble with their commanders because they obviously had to be gay. It was probably the most successful thing I have ever pulled off. It was also the most infuriating, and I knew darn well that I was sticking putting my nose and their business going nananananana and they didn't like and on top of that the case was on its way to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans, where we knew we were going to win. We were sure of it in a&m was also sure of it. And the the closer when we went down to testify. I was I had to get invited in I'd Stupid me. I don't know what I was expecting. We came out from having testified in all three networks were there. And I literally had to call my parents and say before you watch Walter Cronkite tonight, there's something you really need to know. Yes. 60 minutes came down to do a piece on us. My parents were looking for places to hide, I assure you and I pulled out no punches at all. My attitude was a&m deserves anything they get. The top or for me, my favorite incident of this whole deal was that there was a Christian group on campus called Maranatha If you remember Maranatha, there Maranatha was the equivalent of Focus on the Family. Wow, that's changed. This guy calls me up. He's the head of Maranatha and says, He wants to know, he says, would I be interested in having a debate with him? And I said, Sure, pick the time, pick the place, I'll be there. And I was smart. Sounds like, you know, smart enough. I taped this conversation. A

couple of days later, some friends of mine came and got me out of class and said, This guy is down at the Student Center, literally with a cross over his shoulder. Murder this guy with a big wooden crown. Oh, yeah. Well, the wooden cross over his shoulder, saying that he offered to debate me and I refused. Whoa, why don't lie and I had him on tape.



35:47

Can you say defamation?



Sarah DePalma 35:48

Can you say You lying son of a bitch? Because that's what I said. So I went down there with tape recorder in my hot little hand. And he didn't know me. He had never met me, he would only talk on the phone. I showed up with a tape recorder and said, Is this you? And I put it up to the microphone and play the tape back. He says you take the phone. I said, Yeah, of course. And put it down. I said, but hey, you're here. Let's have the debate now. Where would you like to begin? And he took up his course. And he walked across the street, and he never came back. And what I learned from that experience, was what bullies these right wing fanatics. Sure. And what cowards they were, if you would stand up to and I do this in the middle of excuse the campus in front of God and witnesses and other students and everybody. And I didn't care if they came in arrested my but if he was going to lie about me, he was going to have to lie about me to my face when I could respond.



36:45

That's one reason that people like James Dobson only will do what they do on their own terms. Sure.



Sarah DePalma 36:53

Yeah. Because I call Him a liar right there who not sure absolutely



36:57

go on to an even playing field, because they know they will get stomped?



Jimmy Carper 37:01

Well, yeah. Because they know they're told they know their lie.



Sarah DePalma 37:03

Yes. There was a free speech day that we had on campus. And the gay student services didn't

get invited. And so but since I was the head of the American Civil Liberties Union, I invited the ACLU. And I was not the president of gay student services. There was a guy, young, very good looking guy by the name of Marco Roberts, who was the president. Anyway, they came on they came on campus, and Phyllis Frye came up that day. Phyllis Frye came up with Ray Hill, and they were invited guests, and Phyllis came up with his bright hot pink pamphlet. And on one side of it, it shows Phyllis in her beautiful Aggie outfit with a boots in the Corps of Cadets no stuff. It says Hi, my name is Philip fry. I used to be in the Corps of Cadets. And you turn it over said now My name is Phyllis Frye. And I'm a transgendered attorney. Not only did she do it, but she did this in the middle of the Student Center which is considered is considered hallowed ground. It's a like a template to the war debt.



38:07

If you if you if you're male and you wear a hat, inside the MSC, which is Memorial Student Memorial Student Center, you will be accosted not not simply by a core person, but by it by anyone familiar with the campus at all, you will you will be told to remove the hat. You walk on the grass if you do not it will be removed for you. You can't



Sarah DePalma 38:33

even walk on the grass.



38:36

Well, they've they've done enough construction around there. There isn't a hell a whole heck of a lot of grass around there anymore. But back then there was



Sarah DePalma 38:42

yeah, there was. And so we had to literally get a police escort to get Phyllis off the campus. And that was how I met Phyllis Frye . That was my first time I'd ever met Phyllis.



38:53

It was either that or or some other incident right around there. But that I believe that was how I first learned of Phyllis. Phyllis, even though it was about 10 more years before I actually got the courage to do anything to her would actually meet her. Yeah, that I heard of Phyllis right around that.



Jimmy Carper 39:10

That's kind of funny that you say that because I met Ray hill in the late 60s. And I really admired him. I mean, he was the first person I ever knew ever heard, who said I'm openly gay. I mean, just what? Nobody did that nobody. And even though I didn't have the courage to do it

myself, I followed his career. You know, and, and



39:40

well, in some ways I did that with with Ray as well. Sure. Ray was one of the first I guess the first activist of any sort I ever met. He came and did a presentation at Madison High School back in 1980. And I was a lowly I guess, 11th grader at that point. And he was there not as in his capacities gay activists but as prison activists that his presentation Delve eventually got into got into gay activism as well. The first time I'd ever heard of him. But he made an impression. Absolutely. It's, it's impossible for him not to make an impression

S

Sarah DePalma 40:18

on you if you were breathing. If Ray walks into the room, he makes an impression. That's right. Well, you can imagine I mean, with Ray Hill and Phyllis Frey in the memorial students Oh, yeah. And the closer we got to the court hearing date, in the more it became obvious that they split, the Fifth Circuit Court was going to rule in our favor. The uglier have gotten on the campus, people began hanging sheets out a window saying fag busters forever. And my name began turning up on Marquis of restaurants on MAIN DRAG there. We had moved my daughter out of class, because they were threatening my daughter, we had to move her to another school and change her name. I mean, it was just unbelievable. And this will be my first time on the campus children. And this will be the first time I will have been on the campus since that happened. So I will I am quite eager to go back and see how the campus has changed. Obviously it has always with the first group that ever did a gay pride parade from Texas a&m. Oh, and we did a we mimicked the Aggie band. We brought kazoos and we had marching and little commands and stuff.

J

Jimmy Carper 41:23

Listen, they don't like it when rice does it. We

S

Sarah DePalma 41:25

showed up on the front page of the battalion Jimmy still got several copies of it. Yeah, she saw some copywriters possession. We turned up on the front page of the battalion. Not only that, but we won the Best New marching band in the parade was outraged. They were beside themselves was rage. We had brought a poodle that we had dyed pink. And hung ATMs that we thought were poodle finally gave out the heat we had let it go. They were just love it. They couldn't think of they couldn't think of enough mean rotten things to say about us.



42:06

Kept more help and breaking loose on campus at that point is that it was during the summer. Yes, that's right. Now obviously they have summer school and there are people on campus but there's no organized Corps during the summer is a good thing during football season.

