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- And the next BBC News will be heard at 7 AM here on KPFT Houston. Is that right? No, not at 7 AM. They're all Monday. Well, we've got a news program at 9:00 AM from the CBC, the Canadian broadcast system. So stay tuned for that. Right, Jimmy?

- Right.

- OK. What are we going to do now?

- We're going to do a Michael Callen thing that-- I don't know that we play this every week, but it's one of my favorites. And I just want to hear it. Thank you, Michael. Michael Callen, as opposed to Mike Leone.

- I know who you were talking to.

- And "Love Don't Need a Reason", that's been one of my all time favorite songs ever since I've been here at After Hours.

- It's a beautiful song.

- Mhm. I have a request, not that we ask for any, but-- not yet, Mike.

- No. No, I'm stopping this one.

- Oh OK. There's a group that we've been playing now for about a month or so, called Your Girlfriend. And it's a group that I stopped in at Pokey's Inklings, run by Pokey Anderson and owned, in fact, by Pokey Anderson and Anise Parker. But Pokey's there most of the time most of the time. And I always say, Hey, what's new in music? Because I'm always looking for new gay and lesbier music to play. And she said, Hey, we got this group called Your Girlfriend out of Kentucky. And they've got an after hours song. And I said, what do you mean by that? Well, the kind of music we like to play, kind of in-your-face stuff. And we have been playing it ever since I've had this. It's called, "We Won't Be Silent". But evidently, there are other people who are fans of Your Girlfriend. And Angela called in and wanted to dedicate to Vicki another song off of their album. It's called Full Moon and it sounds like a real pretty song. So let's hear it.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

OK. As promised, I want to talk about the Green Sheet Queer Nation and House of Pies problem that's been going on. I kind of thought hard about this, if I wanted to talk about it at all. But after reading David Herndon's article in the Twit, I figured, well, he's put his side of it out in public. So I'm going to talk about it, not as Jimmy Carper, co-host for After Hours. I'm going to talk about it as Jimmy Carper, member of ACT UP. Because that's when it really started. Mr Herndon spends a lot of time talking about the AIDS sufferer who worked at the Green Sheet. Well, there's no reason to hide it. His name was Michael King. And he died late last year. He and his mother, Claire Kobsal-- that's with a K, I'm not sure of the exact spelling-- has contacted ACT UP. That's when they were still a viable organization here. And it was before Queer Nation. I want to give this background because all of this part about the Green Sheet really has nothing to do with what's going on right now. But Mr. Herndon had talked with a Ms. Sturman over at the Green Sheet, who talked about Michael King to him. And the thing that's a little disheartening is that, at the time of the event-- this was a couple of years ago-- when Michael King and his mother and ACT UP were protesting Green Sheet-- Green Sheet officials would not talk to the press at all. They wouldn't talk to ACT UP. They wouldn't talk to anybody-- as far as I remember and I was there-- to give any side of the story. It was, they were always unavailable. But now, Ms Sturman is all too happy to talk with Mr. Herndon and give a side to the story that may or may not be true. It seems funny that after the fact, she's willing to talk about it. But while it was going on, she was not. And there's always a history bias that goes on. We know that from gay and lesbian history where we have been, as gay and lesbian people, written out of history. And we have to reclaim ourselves.

- Did you get the impression-- I didn't read the article-- did you get the impression that she was trying to say, well, see the Green Sheet is not really homophobic? That was the point of talking to him? Or--
- Exactly. Exactly. And he spends a lot of time on Michael King's part of it, which has nothing to do with what Queer Nation is doing.
- Right.
- But he spends a lot of time talking to people-- talking about people from Queer Nation not knowing exactly what transpired with Michael King and giving Ms. Sturman's side of it. But as a person-- me, as a person who was with ACT UP at the time, I kind of like to talk about that. Because what she says-- and the basic problem here is with the insurance coverage. I talked with Michael and I talked with Claire. And it was never a big deal as to how he left the company. And he never had a problem with leaving the company. It was obvious that he could not work anymore. The problem was with his insurance coverage. Ms. Sturman is talking about his insurance coverage and that he did not, as she says, for reasons unknown, elect to continue his insurance coverage. This is just not the case. What happened, as explained by Mike and Claire to me and other ACT UP members, was that at the time Michael was leaving Green Sheet, Green Sheet was changing their insurance carriers and did not inform Michael. So that because of that-- because of his leaving, the timing of his leaving-- and they did not tell him that they were changing careers, he missed the chance--
 - To get into it.
 - To get into it. So he was left without a job and without insurance. That's what I remember at the time it happened. And at the time it happened, Green Sheet would not respond to reporters from any media about that. And it seems a little funny to me that two years later, she's giving this story about she doesn't know why. But as I said, that has really nothing to do--
 - With the issue now.
 - With the issue right now, because the issue right now is about the Heart T Heart column that they have of personals, in which the Green Sheet publicly states that it only accepts ads from people seeking relationships with members of the opposite sex.
 - Yeah, I was listening that night, like I said. And you mentioned how you found that language real offensive.

- I do.

- So I went and looked it up because I had not ever read that. I went and got a copy. And yeah, it is-- the way they've got a word is pretty offensive.

- Yeah. And the point here being, they are saying this in black and white. Whether the Post or Chronicle or any other paper will or will not carry gay and lesbian personals really is not the point. They don't say that they will or will not. And I liken this to our friend Juan Palomo. You see, Juan Palomo pretty much led a life of out of the closet. He was a member of Gay organizations.

- He went to gay bars.

- Went to gay bars, he was out to people at work. But the minute he put his gay life in print, it changed his whole life. It changed everything. And that's the point here. Once you put it in print like the Green Sheet did, it changes the whole thing. It puts it right out front. And it says, we don't want you. Now, that's fine.

- This is a free country.

- This is a free country. If they want to be that way, fine. But we don't want it in the Montrose. I mean, how do you think a business in a Jewish or a Black neighborhood would survive if they carried Aryan Nation pamphlets?

- Yeah.

- It's not the type of thing you have in that neighborhood. And that's the point here. Ms Sturman also explains about how they do accept ads from gay and lesbian people, but under certain conditions. As Mr Herndon explains-- as Ms Sturman explained, they will accept an ad which might say garage sale with proceeds benefiting the gay and lesbian Political Caucus, but will not take an ad that says gay man wishes to sell stereo. OK, I understand what you're saying. If you're talking about a group, a garage sale with proceeds going to the gay and lesbian Political Caucus, you can say that. But to say gay man wants to sell his stereo, they don't want you to say that. But yet, looking through the ads-- and I'm not bashing any religions here, I'm just citing an example-- many ads say Christian man seeks. They do not say a man who attends such and such church seeks. And that's my point. You're allowing ads from people who say that they are Christian, but you won't allow ads from people who say they were gay. You say you will allow, if we say gay and lesbian Political Caucus proceeds. Why do you not have the same types of rules here? Rather than saying Christian man, a man who attends such and such church. It's all in the matter of wording and semantics. Don't you see the discrimination? Now, the Green Sheet, like I said, can do what it wants. And Mr Herndon--

- Have you mentioned who Mr Herndon is?

- Mr Herndon is the owner of House of Pies. And the Queer Nation is not happy with this policy of the House of Pies to continue carrying the Green Sheet in its Kirby store. Mr Herndon has other House of Pies, but they are not really actively sought out by the gay community. It's the House of Pies, or the House of Guys I might say, as it is more popularly known, on Kirby that has the gay clientele. But Mr Herndon says is best. And I quote, "Now, what all this excitement boils down to is that the Green Sheet is guilty only of selectively accepting advertising that they feel is representative of their overall readership." And that is exactly right. And their overall readership obviously does not include gay and lesbian people. So why do we want to put up with this type of newspaper? I don't think-- would you call it a newspaper?

- As much as anything else. It's classified ads.

- In a gay and lesbian community. It's a slap to our face.

- Yeah, that they would have that-- but that they would even want to be distributed in the gay community.
- That's right. We're not saying to the Green Sheet, stop doing this, even. We're saying you can do that if you want to. But we don't have to pick up your crummy newspaper. And I certainly don't want to go into a business that caters to gay and lesbian clientele-- and Mr Herndon, your Kirby store caters to gay and lesbian clientele.
- Surprise.
- I heard House of Guys before I ever heard House of Pies. And I've seen nothing by management to change that outlook.
- Has that changed at all? I mean, I haven't been there for a while. Is it still basically a gay restaurant or a gay clientele? Or has--
- To say nothing of employees.
- To say nothing of employees. Yeah.
- So that's my views as a member of ACT UP a couple of years ago. And the only point in bringing up the Michael King thing is to say, look, there's something funny with Green Sheet. Here's something that happened a couple of years ago with Green Sheet that never really got resolved. And now, here's something else with green sheet that is not in the best interest of the gay and lesbian community. What is the deal here? And we'll probably find out what the deal is because Queer Nation is going to be a guest on the show next week.
- Oh wow.
- So we'll probably hear more about that. They're not coming on the show specifically to talk about it, but--
- I'm sure it'll come up.
- I imagine we can probably pry them loose from a little bit of that.
- They might be willing to talk about it just a bit.
- Yes. Yes, I think so. I think that's probably enough of that. We have nothing cued up?
- We have the Bridge Cart.
- OK. Let's do that. I need a breather.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

- OK. You are still listening to After Hours on KPFT Houston radio, celebrating life from the heart of Montrose.
- But we won't be here very much longer.
- No, in fact, we only have 25 more minutes. And at 4:00 is Blues for You. And I believe the Blues broads are already here.
- Yeah, I saw them come in.
- Aha. And so to kind of-- I just love blues.
- Oh, they're wonderful.

- And there is just this wonderful song by Etta James that I really like to hear. And I heard it on the Blues Broad show, The Little Blue Corner. And if I play this, then they'll have time for other blues stuff. How's that? So here is Etta James doing Out of the Rain.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Thank you, Etta. Out of the Rain. And that kind of reminds me of something that happened a long time ago to me, back in the '60s.

- Tell me.

- You may have heard of a recording artist named Donovan.

- Yeah.

- Remember him? He did Mellow Yellow and all that kind of stuff. But--

- That's a wonderful song.

- Prior to that, he did a lot of folk music. He was very popular in Britain. But in the '60s, I was late teenager working at Tenneco. It was very closeted time.

- Oh yeah.

- In fact, this was even before Stonewall. But I guess I was kind of easygoing, pretty much, and my supervisor at the time worked in the mailroom-- kind of my assistant supervisor, I liked very much. He was a nice guy. And one day, he handed me a sheet of paper. And it had song lyrics on it. And I read the lyrics and I nearly cried because the lyrics were saying to me-- through those lyrics, he was saying to me I know you're gay and it's not a problem. I can deal with it. And you're still a nice guy.

- Wow.

- And only a few months ago, I was reading something and it made me realize that these song lyrics-- and see this copy? It's the original.

- Wow.

- Back in 1968-- made me realize that-- he never told me who did the song or anything, but that Donovan had done the song. And I went over to-- I searched several record stores and finally found the copy of it. It's called, To Try for the Sun.

- Did you just get this?

- I just got it a couple of weeks ago.

- This has probably been out of print for years. It looks like it is in wonderful shape.

- Yeah, it is as a matter of fact. And so this is the way that nice people told gay people that they knew they were gay in 1968.

- Well, I want to hear this.

- OK.

- All right.

- Yes. And that's how we did it in 1968. Can you believe 25 years ago we were so closeted?

- How things have changed since then.

- How things have changed. You had an interesting caller.

- Yeah. A very nice man called me during the BBC and I wanted to make a point of saying Hi to him before we went off the air. I have my own show on Monday nights called Karaoke. I'm on from like 3 to 5-- to go ahead and get my little promo in there.

- Oh yeah, you should.

- And he has called-- he has called a couple of times and requested things. And we've talked for a little while here and there. And he said, I never had any idea you were gay. I guess I was butching it up too much during that program.

- Well, Karaoke is not really a talk show, is it? It's just kind of a music show. And what you talk about is what you're going to play or the history of a lot of the music you have.

- Yeah, so that's really all it is. But I mean, I'm real glad--

- It's hard to bring up, yeah. Gee, this song is from this wonderful musical. And by the way, I'm gay.

- But I wanted to be sure and say that it was real important to me that you called and told me how nice it was that we have so much in common that you never realized. And see, we have more in common than just Kurt Vile, after all,

- See. A lot of that happens. There's been a couple of phone calls here tonight that I've really-- I haven't had a chance to get on the phone tonight because I'm being Buddy and me. But I've really been happy about the calls. I've had the messages from several people who have called that-- a couple of them long time listeners, too-- that really make you feel good. That's kind of what we get out of doing this show. And the next piece I want to play is in line with the Donovan song, which if I didn't say it, it is called To Try for the Sun. And that's how we talked about being gay or told each other or told-- straight people told gay people that they knew they were gay. We couldn't even say the words back then.

- For what it's worth, what's the name of this album? *Fairytales* by Donovan. The next one is by Bette Midler and it's always been a big favorite of mine. And I want to send it out to all those listeners that are listening tonight and to let you know that we can say those words now. And the words that Bette Midler is going to say to you is "we need love between each other. And that's all I need to know." Yeah. Thank you, Bette Midler-- "All I Need to Know." And that's what we mean when we say write us and let us know how you like the show.

- Yeah, what is the address here?

Oh, KPFT After Hours, 419 Lovett Boulevard.

- Love with two T's.

- Yeah. Houston, 77006. And to recap, let's see-- we've done a lot tonight.

- An awful lot.

- We had Mack Montrose Activity Center. And they are working on getting us a community center building. And you'll be hearing more from them on their fundraisers. Also, if you're interested in being a board member, contact James McKinley. I don't have that number, but the switchboard does.

- Let's see, maybe it's in here.

- Quite possibly.

- Montrose Activity Center, 524-4318.

- Well, that's not the number he gave, but--

- Maybe that was his home number.

- OK. We've got From all Walks of Life. That's the 10 K walk benefiting AIDS Foundation Houston. And After Hours and KPFT want to put together a contingent to walk and raise money for AIDS. Give us a call at 526-5738 and find out how you can help on that.

- Be a part of that.

- Thank you, Juan Palomo for another wonderful article that we read earlier on teen suicide.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Oh, that music. Yes. It must mean that we've got about just four or five more minutes to go. So I'd better hurry up. Stars Across America later today at Jones Hall, downtown, 615 Louisiana at 7:30. That's Lone Star Symphonic Band and others combining for your musical pleasure. Next week on Sunday, the Montrose Singers at Hammond Hall, Rice University, 4 PM. Get your tickets at Lobo or Inklings or from a Montrose Singer. That's a portion of those proceeds-- Oh, no, the other one. On the Stars across America, those proceeds are going to benefit the Colt 45s. We talked about the Green Sheet and how it affects House of Pies lately. And we'll have the Queer Nation people on next week to talk about that. And three weeks from tonight, we're going to have Mr Chris Bacon from the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. And he's going to talk about the endorsements on what your gay and lesbian Political Caucus has been doing to find out who would best follow our interests if elected. So yes, they've endorsed Cathy. So I want to hear about hows the whys of that.

- Yeah, why they did that.

- Yeah. And later, coming up, we're working on a sort of the debate between Vince and Anise, who are both running for

- District C.

- District C. That's going to be coming up, I believe, on the 26th. And we're lining up shows now. If your group would want to be on-- would like to be on After Hours, give us a call at 529-4636 and let us know who you are and what you want to talk about then. We'll be glad to have you on the show.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

I'm running out of breath here.

- After four hours, you're entitled to.

- Thank you. Thank you. This has been After Hours with Jim Carper and

- Mike Leone.

- Buddy Johnston has taken the night off. And we'll probably see him next week. But until then, I want to say, I love you, babies.

- And I do, too.

- And remember the words of Harvey Milk, which are, "sign up for voter registration, girl, because you only got till October 6th." No, he didn't say that.

- But he would.

- He would have said that, yes. He would have said, and he did say, "rights are not won on paper, but by those who make their voices heard." Good night, everybody.

- Good night.

[MUSIC PLAYING]