

---

# Gay Health Workers convene in Houston this weekend

Montrose News, page 3

## Vote Saturday, June 5

The MONTROSE VOICE recommends you cast your votes in the Democratic Primary Runoff for...

**John Hannah**, Texas Attorney General  
**Gary Mauro**, Texas Land Commissioner

**Mike Andrews**, US Congress, Dist. 25

**Larry Evans**, State Rep., Dist. 147

**Frumencio Reyes**, State Rep., Dist. 148

**Michael O'Brien**, Civil Dist. Court 125

---

# MONTROSE

## V O I C E

---

The Newspaper of Montrose  
Issue #84, Published Weekly

**Friday**

**June 4**

**1982**

*Good Evening*

**Montrose weather tonight:** Fair and warm with a low of 73°.

**Saturday:** Sunrise 6:21AM. Partly cloudy and hot with a high of 93°  
Sunset 8:20PM.

---



**Tommy  
Williams,  
Montrose  
entertainer**

**Montrose Live,  
page 13**

**Baths raided**



**Tommy  
Williams,  
Montrose  
entertainer**

Montrose Live,  
page 13

**Baths raided  
in Florida**

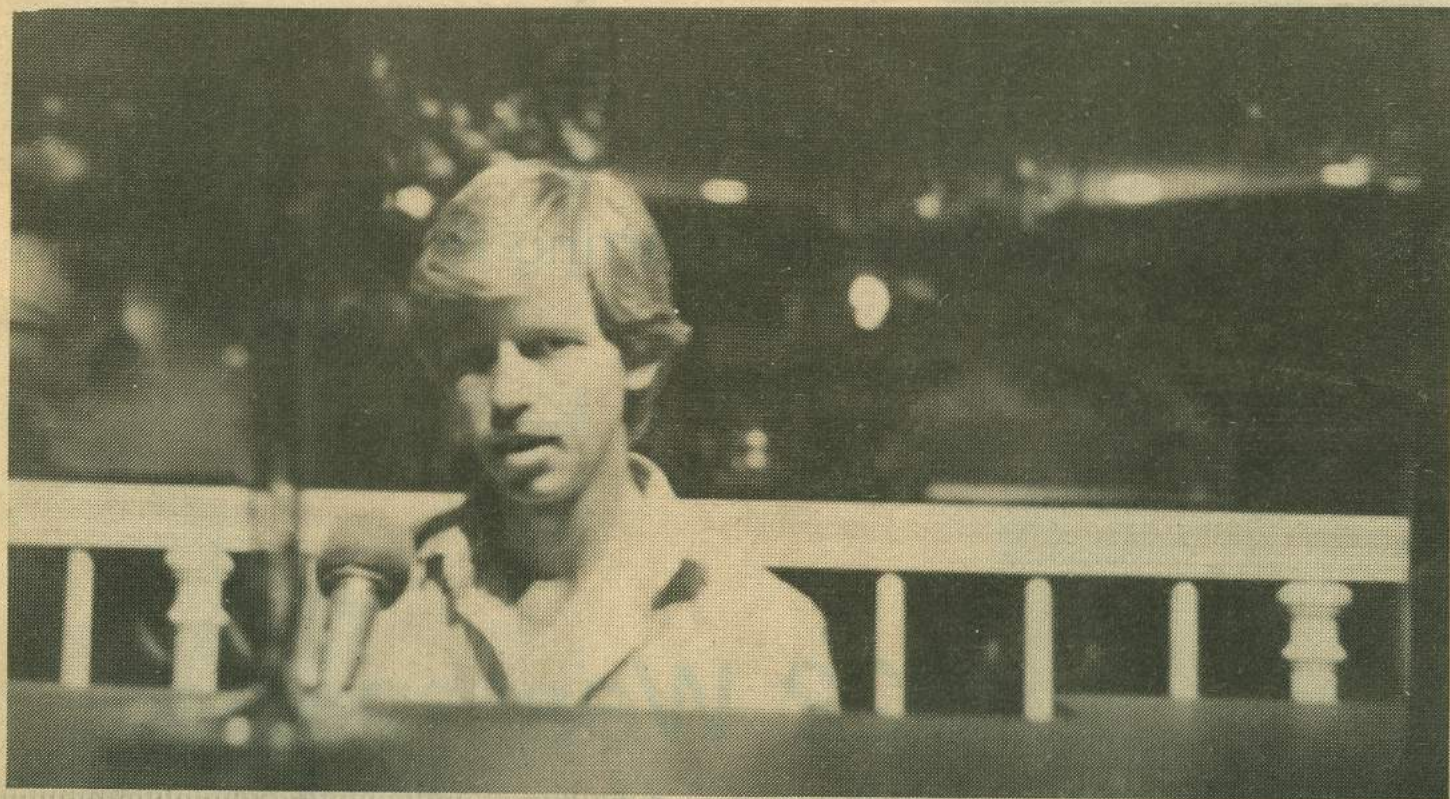
The Nation, page 5

**Houston wins  
Dallas  
bowling  
tourney**

Sports, page 13

**The Art  
League of  
Houston  
explored**

Montrose Art, page 17



## Tommy Williams and keyboard charisma

By Billie Duncan

He is listed as Tom Williams in entertainment schedules and in the Keyboard ads, but everyone who knows him, knows him as "Tommy."

And Tommy he should be, because he is the sort of person that no matter how old he gets he will probably be described as "boyish."

But that "boy" can play piano.

He comes from a musical family, with Mom and Dad both playing several instruments. So there was always music around the house.

"They always let us kids play along whether we knew what we were doing or not," said Tommy. Sometimes Tommy would strum on a little ukulele, which was probably not much in tune, and certainly not chorded properly if at all. But joining in was the important part, and everyone in the family joined in.

When he was five, he started figuring out chords on the piano as his dad played the fiddle.

When he was 11, he started taking piano lessons, but they only lasted for two years. "My Piano teacher got pissed off at me 'cause he'd play the music and then I'd play it by ear."

But he picked up enough to be able to figure out sheet music and charts. Still, his strongest point is his ear. Tommy can listen to a person singing a song he has never heard before and start playing it before the person has finished. He can also transpose most songs instantaneously.

However, it was a long trip from the family piano in Rockford, Illinois to the smokey reaches of the Keyboard on the edge of Montrose.

One of the biggest chunks of time between was spent in the Air Force to which Tommy gave four years. He got in on the tag end of the Viet Nam War and saw combat at Camrah Bay where he was a security guard.

The first eight months he was stationed there, no enemy fire was received, but the last two months the base was shelled several times.

Strangely enough, Tommy was never frightened during those attacks. "I was

mote themselves in other endeavors (mostly theater and opera), or just to keep the old golden vocals from getting rusty

from lack of use.

Tommy's abilities as an accompanist are appreciated by many singers who

come in at least once a week in order to take advantage of his talents by joining in with his music. They include (yours truly)



before the person has finished. He can also transpose most songs instantaneously.

However, it was a long trip from the family piano in Rockford, Illinois to the smokey reaches of the Keyboard on the edge of Montrose.

One of the biggest chunks of time between was spent in the Air Force to which Tommy gave four years. He got in on the tag end of the Viet Nam War and saw combat at Camrah Bay where he was a security guard.

The first eight months he was stationed there, no enemy fire was received, but the last two months the base was shelled several times.

Strangely enough, Tommy was never frightened during those attacks. "I was concerned and aware of what could happen, but I've always been a brave little fucker."

There are different kinds of fear, though, and Tommy, like many other fine performers, suffers from stage fright. Catch that, the man faced death from rocket fire in Viet Nam without blinking, but he gets nervous when getting up in front of people to play the piano—something he has done for years.

In particular, he gets jitters when he has to sing solo, but he is doing more and more solo singing at the Keyboard at the insistence of an appreciative audience.

"I'm getting more nerve about doing it. I'm more relaxed."

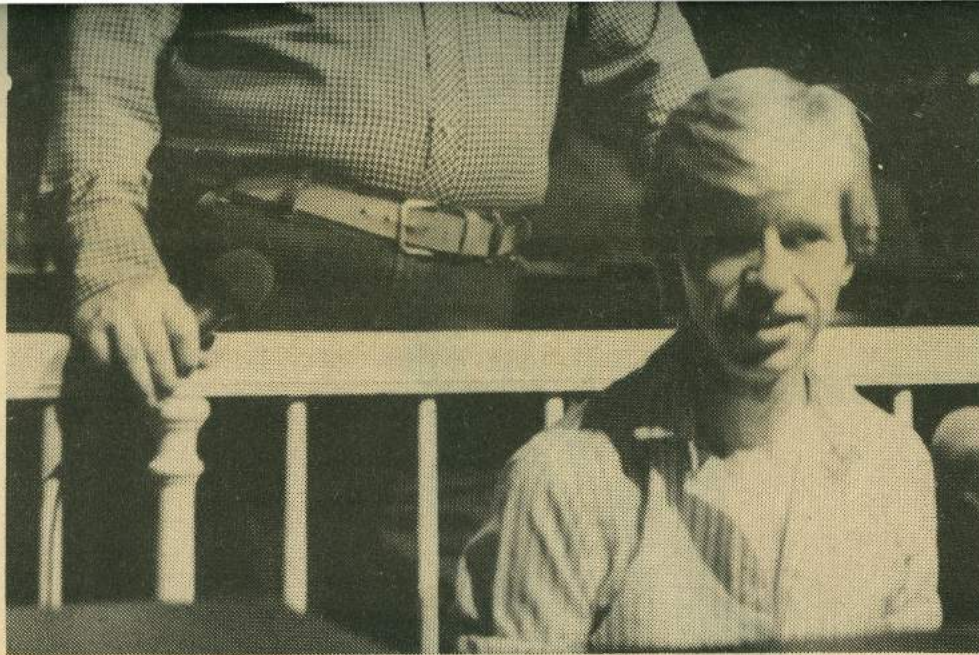
One thing with which any piano player in a piano bar has to cope with is the person who gets up to sing—and can't. Usually these people do not even realize how awful they are.

But the piano player catches on pretty quickly. Tommy does his best to follow anyone, sometimes even changing keys several times per song in order to keep up with the wandering warblings of some would-be caruso.

"At times I'm amused by it," Tommy admitted. "depends on if I've had a drink or two."

When it is really bad Tommy feels that "it's kinda an insult to the people in the audience for someone to get up like that." Then he added, "But that's part of what this bar is about—giving people a chance."

And the chances usually pay off, with some very talented people coming into the bar on a regular basis to take advantage of being able to work out new material, pro-



Tommy Williams, playing, with the Keyboard's Bill Yon looking over



## Nightclub Entertainment This Week In Montrose

(Friday, June 4, through Thursday, June 10)

### ■ PIANO

**Lois Yvonne** 9pm nightly (except Sunday and Monday) at Rascals, 2702 Kirby, 524-6272.

**Jim Cater** 8:30pm Friday; **Bill Hudson** 8:30pm Saturday; **Greg Davis** 5pm Saturday and 8:30pm Sunday; **Tom Williams** 5pm Sunday and 8:30pm Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; and **Virgil Dixon** 5pm weekdays at Keyboard, 3012 Milam, 528-6988.

**Richard Askin** and **Dana Rogers** 10pm nightly (except Monday and Tuesday) at the Copa (piano bar), 2631 Richmond, 528-2259.

**Ruth Hastings** 9pm nightly (except Sunday and Monday); **Lionshare** 9pm Sunday and Monday at Baja's, 402 Lovett, 527-9866.

**Lee LaForge** 8:30pm nightly (except Sunday) with **Vikke Ford** Friday and **Alexandra Haas** Wednesday at Arno's, 4002 Montrose, 528-2993.

**Teresa Mauney** 9pm nightly (except Sunday and Monday) and **Austin Mann** noon Sunday at Bacchus, 523 Lovett, 523-3396.

### ■ ORGAN

**Keoki Kona** 5pm Friday and Saturday, 3pm Sunday and 5pm Wednesday and Thursday at the Hole, 109 Tuam, 528-9066.

### ■ COUNTRY & COUNTRY/ROCK

**Bob Williams** and the **Trail Riders** 9pm Friday, Satur-

day and Thursday at Happy Trails, 715 Fairview, 521-2792, and 9pm Wednesday at E/J's, 1213 Westheimer, 527-9071.

**Ab & the Rebel Outlaws** 9:30pm Friday and Saturday and 8:30pm Thursday at the Exile, 1011 Bell, 659-0453; and 8:30pm Sunday at Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos, 528-9192.

**Flying Blind Band** nightly (except Monday and Tuesday) at Miss Charlotte's, 911 Drew, 528-8840.

**Mustang Band** 9:30pm Friday, Saturday, Wednesday and Thursday at Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos, 528-9192; and with the **Montrose Cloggers** 9pm Tuesdays at Numbers 2, 300 Westheimer, 526-6551.

### ■ GUITAR

"L" 9pm Friday and **Irish Folk** 9pm Wednesday at the Parlour, 2402 Mandell, 529-8069.

**Susan Christian** 5pm Friday; **Lyra/Kat Graham & Linda Aum Rhyme** 5pm Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; and **Rawlsyn Ruffin** 5pm Tuesday at Kindred Spirits, 5245 Buffalo Speedway, 665-9756.

### ■ SHOW GROUPS

**Dixie Kings** 4pm Saturday and 2pm Sunday at Happy Trails, 715 Fairview, 521-2792.

**Dynasty** 9pm Friday and Saturday and 6pm Sunday at Just Marion & Lynn's, 817 Fairview, 528-9110.

**Mata Hari** 9pm Friday and Saturday at Lampost, 2417 Times Blvd., 528-8921.

**John Day & Co.** 8pm Sunday at E/J's, 1213 Richmond, 527-9071.

### ■ JAZZ

**Robert Ceballos Group** 9pm Sunday and with **Jimmy**

**Ford** 9pm Friday, Saturday, Wednesday and Thursday at Las Brisas, 614 W. Gray, 528-9959.

**Paul English** 4pm daily (except weekends) at Arno's, 4002 Montrose, 528-2993.

**Kirk Whalum** nightly (except Sunday) at Cody's, 3400 Montrose, 522-9747.

**Rumors** 9:30pm nightly (except Sunday and Monday); and **Mickey Mosley Band** 9:30pm Sunday and Monday at Birdwatchers, 907 Westheimer, 527-0595.

### ■ NU WAVE

**Ric Tangle** and the **Ones** 10:30pm Friday; the **Assassins** and the **Broadcasters** 10:30pm Saturday; **Really Red** and other bands 4pm Sunday; and the **Explosives** 10:30pm Thursday at Omni, 1540 Westheimer, 528-4230

The **Rockets** and the **Teddy Boys** 10pm Thursday at Numbers 2, 300 Westheimer, 526-6556

### ■ IMPRESSIONISTS

**Tiffany Jones, Donna Day, Naomi Sims & Hot Chocolate** Sunday evening at the Copa, 2631 Richmond, 528-2259.

**Little Bobby, Jerry Harper, Tracey** and guest Sunday evening at Exile, 1011 Bell, 659-0453.

"Playgirl Follies" with **Laura Lee Love, Lana Kane, Eydie Mae** and guest 10:30pm Saturday at Pink Elephant, 1218 Leeland, 659-0040.

### ■ MISCELLANEOUS

Talent shows Tuesday evening at the Copa, 2631 Richmond, 528-2259; Wednesday evening at Midnite Sun, 534 Westheimer, 526-7519; and Thursday evening at Twins, 535 Westheimer, 520-0244.