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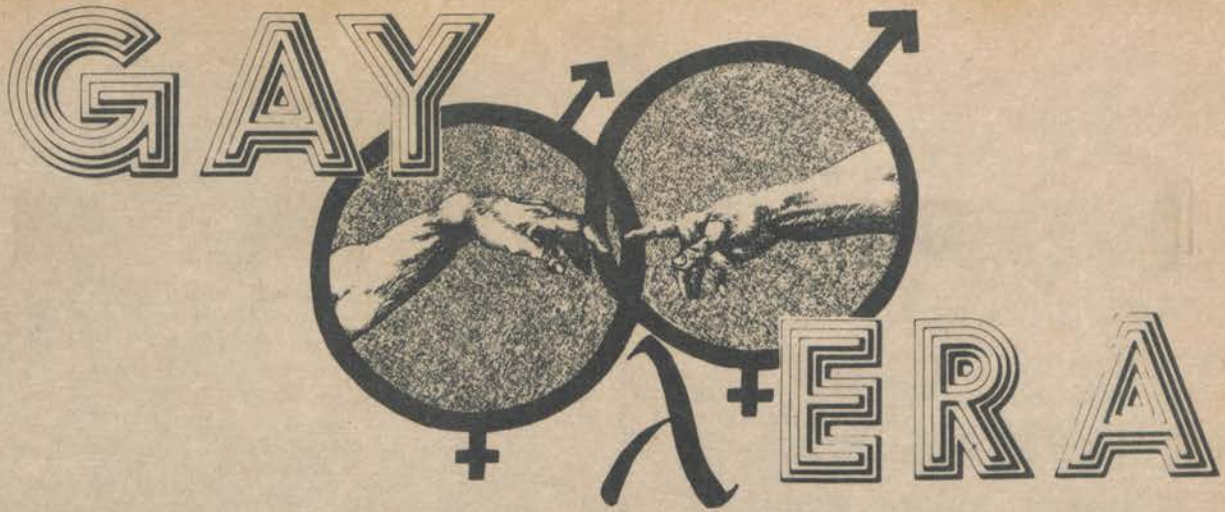
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GAY ERA



vol.3 no.3

50¢

MAY 1977

SPRING FEVER



inside:

FLORIDA FOLLIES

DISH DEMONS

Barry Kohn & William Katt

Staff Deserts Office to Fly Kites

BLANK PAGES

and more items in questionable taste

WHAT IS OBSCENITY?

THIS QUESTION WILL HAUNT THE LIVES OF EVERY CITIZEN IN THIS COUNTRY UNTIL IT IS FINALLY RESOLVED OR THE WORD IS COMPLETELY DISCARDED.

AFTER RECENTLY READING COUNTLESS ARTICLES REGARDING THE CASES OF LARRY FLYNT, PUBLISHER OF HUSTLER MAGAZINE, AL GOLDSTEIN, PUBLISHER OF SCREW MAGAZINE, AND HARRY REEMS WHO STARRED IN "DEEP THROAT," I CAN ONLY REFLECT ON THE INCIDENT THAT TOOK PLACE WHEN THE GAY ERA TOOK THE JANUARY ISSUE TO OUR PRINTER.

I WILL TRY TO OUTLINE THE FOUR CASES AS BRIEFLY AS POSSIBLE THOUGH PAGES COULD BE WRITTEN DETAILING THE INCIDENTS.

AL GOLDSTEIN, PUBLISHER OF SCREW MAGAZINE: SENDING OBSCENE MATERIAL THROUGH THE MAIL. SCREW MAGAZINE IS PUBLISHED IN NEW YORK WITH HALF OF ITS 125,000 COPIES SOLD THERE. THE U.S. ATTORNEY IN NEW YORK WOULD NOT PROSECUTE THE MAGAZINE BECAUSE HE DOUBTED WHETHER A JURY OF NEW YORKERS WOULD PRODUCE A CONVICTION.

IN 1974, FOUR POSTAL WORKERS FROM KANSAS WERE GIVEN MONEY ORDERS BY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND TOLD TO TAKE OUT SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SCREW AND SMUT (ANOTHER GOLDSTEIN PUBLICATION) UNDER ASSUMED NAMES. SIX ISSUES OF SCREW AND FIVE ISSUES OF SMUT WERE SENT TO THE NEW SUBSCRIBERS AND WERE SENT BACK UNOPENED TO A POSTAL INSPECTOR IN NEW YORK. THERE WAS ESTABLISHED FACT THAT SCREW HAD BEEN MAILED AND RECEIVED IN KANSAS AND NOW AL GOLDSTEIN COULD BE PROSECUTED IN WICHITA.

THE TRIAL LASTED FOUR WEEKS. LARRY SCHAUF, THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY AND NATIVE OF WICHITA, MANAGED TO USE THE WORD "DECENCY" 42 TIMES IN HIS SUMMATION. NAMING GOLDSTEIN THE "MAYOR OF 42ND STREET" LEADING AN ADVANCE PARTY OF PORNOGRAPHERS INTO WICHITA, HE SAID THE ISSUE WAS ONE OF CLEAN-LIVING IN KANSAS VERSUS MORALLY BANKRUPT NEW YORK. JUDGE THEIS AGREED THAT SCHAUF'S SUMMATION WAS INFLAMMATORY BUT WHEN ASKED FOR A MISTRIAL, HE WOULD NOT AGREE TO ONE. HE EXPLAINED IN CHAMBERS THAT THE DEFENSE HAD TRIED THE CASE WELL, BUT WHAT COULD THEY DO WITH MATERIAL THAT WAS SO PATENTLY OBSCENE? "A DOZEN GREENWICH VILLAGE QUEERS WOULD FIND THIS OBSCENE," HE SAID. THE JURY DELIBERATED FOR SEVEN HOURS ON THE 17TH AND 18TH OF JUNE AND HANDED DOWN A GUILTY VERDICT.

GOLDSTEIN WAS OUT ON BAIL AND AWAITING SENTENCING. ON DEC. 1 JUDGE THEIS WAS ASKED FOR A NEW TRIAL AND THE MOTION WAS SUSTAINED. LAST MONTH THEIS WAS ASKED THAT THE TRIAL BE MOVED TO NEW YORK. THE MOTION WAS DENIED AND THEIS SET APRIL 13 AS THE DATE FOR THE NEW TRIAL. ON THAT DAY GOLDSTEIN WILL BE BACK IN WICHITA FOR THE NEW TRIAL.

LARRY FLYNT, PUBLISHER OF HUSTLER MAGAZINE: FREEDOM OF THE PRESS. LAST MONTH IN CINCINNATI, LARRY FLYNT WAS SENTENCED 7 TO 25 YEARS IN JAIL FOR "PANDERING OBSCENITY AND ENGAGING IN ORGANIZED CRIME. THE LATTER CHARGE AS A RESULT OF A CONSPIRACY-LIKE STATUTE IN STATE LAW.

A PETITION WAS CIRCULATED ON FLYNT'S BEHALF SPONSORED BY "AMERICANS FOR A FREE PRESS." THE ADVERTISEMENT APPEARED IN MANY NEWSPAPERS ON SUNDAY, FEB. 20. IT WAS BOLDLY HEADED "LARRY FLYNT: AMERICAN DISSIDENT" AND NOTED PRESIDENT CARTER'S CONCERN FOR DISSIDENT WRITERS AND ARTISTS IN THE SOVIET UNION AND URGED HIM "IN THE WAKE OF RECENT EVENTS... TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE RESTRICTIONS OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN AMERICA ITSELF."

IN ANOTHER ADVERTISEMENT WHICH APPEARED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES, MARCH 6, THERE WAS AN OPEN LETTER FROM LARRY FLYNT. IT WAS HEADED "DEAR PRESIDENT CARTER:". IN THE TEXT WHICH ADDRESSED THE PRESIDENT, FLYNT SAYS "THE ABSURD LAW THAT WAS USED TO CONVICT ME IN CINCINNATI COULD EVEN BE USED AGAINST YOU. YOU COULD HAVE BEEN INDICTED AND POSSIBLY CONVICTED FOR CONSPIRING TO PROMOTE PORNOGRAPHY BY SUBMITTING TO THE PLAYBOY INTERVIEW. HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLE? HARDLY! THERE ARE COMMUNITIES IN THIS COUNTRY WHERE PLAYBOY COULD BE FOUND OBSCENE, POSSIBLY CINCINNATI, BECAUSE IT IS A CITY WHERE RICHARD NIXON COULD BE RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT."

THE PETITION HAS CAUSED QUITE A CONTROVERSY WITHIN THE LITERARY WORLD REGARDING THOSE WHO WOULD SIGN THE PETITION AND THOSE WHO WOULD NOT. FILM CRITIC JUDITH CRIST POINTED OUT THAT "CIVIL LIBERTARIANS CANNOT MARCH ONLY TO THE SOUND OF THEIR OWN DRUM." JANN WENNER, EDITOR OF ROLLING STONE GAVE A MORE ENTHUSIASTIC ENDORSEMENT: "A GUY IS BEING JAILED BY A LAW PROMULGATED BY THE NIXON COURT, IT'S OUTRAGEOUS. SINCE WHEN HAS BAD TASTE BEEN A CRIME?"

THEN WE HAVE SUPPOSED LIBERALS WHO HAVE TURNED THEIR BACKS ON THE HUSTLER ISSUE. GAY IALESE WHO INSTIGATED THE PETITION EXPLAINED THE AD: "I WANTED TO MAKE THOSE WRITERS WHO FANCY THEMSELVES AS 'CONCERNED' FACE UP TO THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE SEXUAL AND THE POLITICAL... SEXUALITY IS NOT DIVORCED FROM

THE POLITICS OF GOVERNMENT. ITS SUPPRESSION IS ENTWINED WITH ATTEMPTS TO REGULATE HUMAN BEHAVIOR THROUGH CONTROL OF IMAGERY. ARE WE GOING TO GIVE THE GOVERNMENT THE POWER TO BECOME MORAL POLICEMEN?"

THE DEBATE IN THE LITERARY FIELD CONTINUES: HOW FAR SHOULD THE FIRST AMENDMENT BE APPLIED? MEANWHILE, LARRY FLYNT WILL BE IN JAIL.

HARRY REEMS: "DEEP THROAT'S PRETTY FACE," HARRY REEMS WAS PAID \$100 TO STAR IN "DEEP THROAT" WITH LINDA LOVELACE. HE VOLUNTEERED FOR THE MALE LEAD WHEN THE FILM WAS BEING SHOT IN NEW YORK DURING JANUARY 1972. HE WAS INDICTED IN JULY 1974 FOR CONSPIRACY. REEMS AND ELEVEN OTHERS WERE CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY TO TRANSPORT PRINTS OF "DEEP THROAT" ACROSS STATE LINES.

REEMS, UNLIKE GOLDSTEIN, FARES A MUCH BETTER CHANCE IN GAINING PUBLIC SUPPORT. IN GOLDSTEIN'S OWN WORDS, "HARRY REEMS IS A SWEET PUPPY DOG."

THE JURY DELIBERATED FOR FIVE HOURS AND 35 MINUTES, AND ON APRIL 30 CONVICTED REEMS AND HIS CO-DEFENDANTS. "DEEP THROAT" LAWYERS HAVE SINCE WON A DELAY IN SENTENCING.

THE GAY ERA: OBSCENE AND PORNOGRAPHIC? THIS INCIDENT BEGAN LONG BEFORE CHRISTMAS WHEN WE WERE PLANNING TO DO A "HOLIDAY SUPPLEMENT" FOR THE PUBLICATION. WE SOLICITED POETRY, GRAPHICS, DRAWINGS, AND "ANYTHING ELSE" THAT "ANYONE ELSE" WOULD SUBMIT. THE THREE STAFF MEMBERS OF THE GAY ERA MYSTERIOUSLY BECAME ILL AND WE PUT IT OFF UNTIL JANUARY THINKING IT WAS BETTER LATE THAN NEVER. WE RECEIVED A DRAWING FROM KEN BURKE WHICH DEPICTED A MALE TORSO. ON DEC. 29 OUR PRINTER DECIDED THAT THE DRAWING WAS OBSCENE AND PORNOGRAPHIC. NEEDLESS TO SAY, IT WAS NOT PRINTED.

WE TRIED IN VAIN TO REASON WITH THE PRINTER, TRYING TO CONVINCE HIM THAT IT WAS HARDLY PORNOGRAPHIC. THERE WAS NOT MUCH USE IN THIS TACTIC SINCE THE ADAGE OF "THE POWER OF THE PRESS BELONGS TO THOSE WHO OWN THE PRESS" IS ABSOLUTELY TRUE.

OUR PRINTER ACTED A BIT MORE REASONABLE WHEN WE HAVE TAKEN THE PAPER TO BE PRINTED SINCE THEN. MATERIAL WHICH I WOULD CONSIDER "MORE OBSCENE" THAN THE GRAPHIC DIDN'T EVEN RECEIVE A BAT OF THE EYE. (AS A SECOND CHANCE, WE HAVE PRINTED THE GRAPHIC ON PAGE 2. IF THAT SPACE IS BLANK, YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.)

MY CONCERN AT THIS POINT, WITH REGARD TO THE NATIONALLY KNOWN OBSCENITY COURT CASES, IS THAT WE HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THE PERPETRATORS OF MORAL STANDARDS IN THIS COUNTRY WILL STOP.

NO ONE IS HAULING PEOPLE OFF THE STREETS TO SIT AND WATCH A PORNOGRAPHIC MOVIE. NO ONE IS FORCING PEOPLE TO BUY MAGAZINES SUCH AS HUSTLER, SCREW, OR SMUT.

DURING THE TEENS AND 20'S OF THIS CENTURY MARGARET ANDERSON EDITED THE LITTLE REVIEW WHICH PUBLISHED THOSE TALENTS THAT THE COMMERCIAL PUBLISHERS WOULD NOT TOUCH: STEIN, POUND, ELIOT, JOYCE, ETC. WHEN JANE HEAP (HER CO-EDITOR) AND SHE TRIED TO SERIALIZE ULYSSES BY JAMES JOYCE, ULYSSES WAS BANNED FROM THIS COUNTRY. THERE WAS A CONTROVERSIAL COURT BATTLE WHICH THEY LOST. IN HER AUTOBIOGRAPHY, THERE IS A REMINISCENCE ABOUT THAT TRIAL:

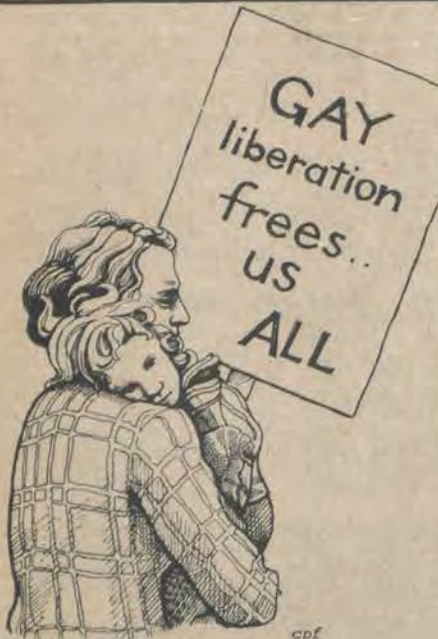
SUPPOSE I AM FORCED TO STAND TRIAL BY JURY. WHO WILL BE CHOSEN AS MY PEERS? WHERE WILL THEY BE FOUND? HOW MANY OF THEM ARE THERE? WILL THEY BE LIKE THE THREE JUDGES WHO CONDEMNED, AND FINED, AND FINGERPRINTED ME FOR PUBLISHING ULYSSES IN THE LITTLE REVIEW?

AT THAT TRIAL (DURING WHICH TWO OF THE JUDGES FELL ASLEEP, AND THE THIRD—A NORWEGIAN—SAID AFTERWARD THAT HAD HE KNOWN THAT JANE WAS A NORWEGIAN HE WOULD HAVE CHANGED THE VERDICT), WE MIGHT POSSIBLY HAVE FOUND TWELVE JURORS WHO WOULD UNDERSTAND JOYCE (THOUGH I'M NOT SURE OF IT). THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN MY PEERS, SINCE I TOO COULD UNDERSTAND HIM. AND THEN THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO TRIAL. WE WOULD HAVE RENOUNCED ULYSSES A MASTERPIECE, AND I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN A CRIMINAL.

IT WOULD BE EVEN BETTER TO BE JUDGED BY ONE'S SUPERIORS THAN BY ONE'S PEERS. A SUPERIOR MAN IS ONE WHO KNOWS WHAT'S WHAT, A MAN WHO UNDERSTANDS ALL THINGS. IN A TRIAL BEFORE HIS SUPERIORS, ANY CRIMINAL WOULD STAND A CHANCE OF JUSTICE. FROM MY EXPERIENCE WITH EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS, THE S&S MAN WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN AMONG THE SUPERIORS.

I DON'T THINK I'LL FORGET FOR A LONG TIME THE CONVERSATION WITH OUR PRINTER: "WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU FIND OBJECTIONABLE ABOUT THAT DRAWING?" "I THINK IT'S PORNOGRAPHIC." "I HAVE NOTICED APPROXIMATELY A DOZEN PEOPLE WITH WHOM I ASSOCIATE WHO CANNOT EVEN SAY THE WORD 'PORNOGRAPHY.'" "INSTEAD, IT COMES OUT 'PHONOGRAPHY.'" "

in THE NEWS



39 CO-SPONSOR

NATIONAL GAY RIGHTS BILL

WASHINGTON—Thirty-nine congresspeople have agreed to co-sponsor this year's National Gay Rights bill. The bill, HR2998, is the same bill that was introduced in last year's session and remains in committee.

The congresspeople who are currently co-sponsoring the bill are: Les AuCoin, OR; Herman Badillo, NY; Jonathan Bingham, NY; Yvonne Braithwaite Burke, CA; George Brown, CA; John Burton, CA; Shirley Chisholm, NY; William Clay, MO; Cardiss Collins, IL; John Conyers, MI; Ronald Dellums, CA; Charles Diggs, MI; Walter Fauntroy, DC; Donald Fraser, MN; Michael Harrington, MA; Augustus Hawkins, CA; Elizabeth Holtzman, NY; Edward I. Koch, NY; Edward J. Markey, MA; Paul N. McCloskey, CA; Stewart McKinney, CT; Abner Mikva, IL; George Miller, CA; Norman Mineta, CA; Parren Mitchell, NC; Toby Moffett, CT; Robert N.C. Nis, PA; Richard Ottinger, NY; Charles Rangel, NY; Frederick Richmond, NY; Benjamin Rosenthal, NY; James Scheuer, NY; Patricia Schroeder, CO; Stephen Solarz, NY; Fortney (Pete) Stark, CA; Louis Stokes, OH; Gerry Studds, MA; Henry Waxman, CA; and Theodore Weiss, NY.

Rep. Weiss replaced Rep. Bella Abzug who lost her House seat when she ran for the Senate last year against Daniel Patrick Moynihan. Abzug had been the bill's co-sponsor and prime mover.

The 39 total co-sponsors on the bill this year includes every Member of Congress (except Abzug) who had co-sponsored last year's Abzug bill plus 12 new co-sponsors. Adam DeBaugh, lobbyist for the bill and Social Action Director of the MCC Washington office, said many of the new co-sponsors were the result of letters to them from people in their Congressional Districts.

DeBaugh said that letters are still needed both to urge Members of Congress who are not yet co-sponsors to do so and to counteract negative mail many congresspeople are receiving as a result, in part, of the campaign Anita Bryant is waging. He asks that copies of all letters to Congresspeople be sent to Congressional File,

UFMCC Washington Office, Suite 210, 110 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.

- Gay Community News

GAY TRAIN

When was the last time you took the train? A gay train? The nation's first gay rail tour boards September 30.

The nation's first passenger railroad excursion tour will take place Sept. 30-Oct. 14, originating in the Northeast and stopping over in six American cities with abundant gay nightlife. Priced well below two-week gay vacations offered by travel agents in recent years utilizing other modes of transportation, the "Lambda Rail Tour" sponsors promise "a relaxing picture-window view of all the best scenic regions of America, and everything necessary to successfully sample the gay experience in the stopover cities."

The tour, costing \$549 per person, is being sponsored by Gay Life Magazine. It will stopover for three nights in New Orleans' French Quarter, and will feature additional one night or more stopovers in New York City, Hollywood, San Francisco and Chicago. A daytime stop is also planned for Seattle. Tour participants will be able to join the tour in their choice of Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, New York City, Philadelphia, or Washington. Gay Life publishers Jim Austin and Brian Michaels will personally host the tour, which is being limited to 50 people on a "first-reserved, first-served" basis. Connections to the five meeting points are available at cost, or in many instances, free of charge. Lancaster and Paoli connections are offered at no extra cost.

Austin, who has travelled over 30,000 miles in the last 16 months on passenger rail routes, planned the itinerary and has previously travelled over the routes included in the tour. He said, "I've learned the good and the bad points of the passenger rail network, and have chosen the routes with the best equipment, best scenery and which connect the best cities for gay life." Most of the tour is scheduled on the quasi-national "Amtrak" system, which has made great strides in improving passenger rail service since its creation in 1971.

Gay Life, utilizing the resources of the quarterly *Gayellow Pages* and its own contacts, will provide tour members with current gay guides for each stopover city. Escort service information, if any, will be provided for each locality. A positive aspect of the tour, in contrast to many "straight" tours, is that the mandatory



itinerary is being kept at a minimum in order to allow individuals or small parties to explore stopover cities as they wish; it also reduces the total tour price. All first-class hotel accommodations are included in the price, as are transfers, some gratuities, two parties, and tour hosts. The tour package was wrapped up with the assistance of a knowledgeable gay travel agent.

The two complimentary get-acquainted parties offered on the tour will actually be held in the club cars of famous-name trains like the Southern Crescent and Broadway Limited. The sponsors plan to secure a private, all-gay club (bar and lounge) car for the first party.

An illustrated, narrative brochure for the tour is available free of charge by writing to: Lambda Rail Tour, Dept. GE, 5907 Penn Mall, Room 210, Pittsburgh, PA 15206, or by calling (412)-361-8704.



GAY MAN RUNS SECOND IN PRINCETON RACE

PRINCETON, NJ—Douglas Brown, a sophomore at Princeton who is the coordinator of the Gay Alliance there, has narrowly lost his bid to be elected Chairperson of the university's Student Government. Brown, who is one of the five student representatives on the University Council, lost to Edward J. Shapiro by 931 to 781 in the campus-wide election last week.

Brown became somewhat of a controversial figure at Princeton last year when he attempted to put pressure on the university administration to issue an anti-discrimination statement on gay civil rights. Ultimately the university never acted on the matter. Brown and his roommate then created another stir when they hung a gay liberation banner outside their dormitory window. The banner was later torn down in the middle of the night and the perpetrators of the crime were given a university warning.

Running on the slogan "Gay Is Not My Only Business," Brown was elected last spring as a student representative on the University Council. The University Council is a student and faculty decision-making body, and Brown ran third out of twenty-two undergraduate candidates for the position.

In this year's campaign, Brown was seen as the anti-administration candidate who was very vocal on the issue of student's rights. He urged an end of secrecy in university budget-making and generally emphasized the diversity of all student viewpoints instead of running on the gay issue. His victorious opponent—Edward Shapiro—is a member of the conservative, all-male Cottage Club. A third candidate, a black student named Charles Ryans, ran

in THE NEWS

first in the primary election but polled less votes than Shapiro and Brown on the final ballot.

Candidate Brown told GCN that "I'm amazed that I did as well as I did. A few years ago I would have been laughed off campus. I got the second highest vote total in the history of Princeton voting. It just happened that Ed Shapiro got the highest total ever. He got his people out to vote." Brown emphasized that he will run again for his seat in the student government.

Brown and his supporters attribute the high Shapiro vote to a "smear campaign" which was conducted on the last day. "Shapiro went around to the swimming team and the football team and the different clubs telling them 'You don't want a fag as the head of the student government, do you?' On Election Day, mysterious leaflets appeared which looked like official student government material. It had biographies of the three candidates, and mine started, 'Brown is a member of the Gay Alliance.' Then the student government people went around and took the leaflets down," he said.

Brown attributes the high turnout (about 30% more than last year's election) to the anti-gay campaign that drew out the Shapiro voters. "I was ahead for most of the voting," Brown noted. "Then at night the library polling place was full of people from the football and swimming teams, all of them Shapiro supporters."

David Abramowitz, who was active in Brown's campaign, told GCN that Brown's impressive showing was indicative of "greater acceptance and less antagonism" at Princeton. "90% of Doug's campaign organization was 'straight'," Abramowitz noted. "People didn't seem to care about the fact that he was gay. They saw him in another context."

- Gay Community News

RENEE RICHARDS, IN DEBT, FIGHTS ON

NEW YORK—Dr. Renee Richards, transsexual tennis player who used to play under the name of Richard Raskind, will be participating in the new \$80,000 Lionel Women's circuit, which begins March 21 in San Antonio. Because of her entry, the circuit has not been sanctioned by the Women's Tennis Association. Gladys Heldman and her daughter Julie, who organized the new circuit, have accused the WTA of unfair tactics because of its ban on Richards.

Meanwhile, at a press conference in New York, Renee Richards announced that she was broke and in debt as a result of her attempts to gain legitimacy as a women's tennis player. Richards revealed that she



has given up her medical practice indefinitely (she used to earn \$100,000 a year as an ophthalmologist) and that she has withdrawn her lawsuit against the tennis establishment.

"I don't want to wait until I'm in a wheelchair before the courts decide whether I can play in certain tournaments," said Richards.

"The last eight years have been very difficult for me," said Dr. Richards. "And I've decided that I want to have nothing more on my mind than to prove myself as a tennis player. I've earned \$5,700 for playing in three tournaments in that time."

After the four events in the Lionel Cup, Dr. Richards is planning to go to Europe to attempt to be accepted into the French, Italian, and Wimbledon tournaments. The United States Tennis Association will not oppose her entry in European tournaments.

"If I do well in Europe," said the tennis player, "I expect that many barriers will be lowered for me in American tournaments."

- Gay Community News

GAY RIGHTS ORDINANCE ATTEMPTED IN ALLENTOWN

ALLENTOWN, PA.—The City Council of Allentown was presented Wednesday, April 6, with the issue of adding "sexual and/or affectional preferences to the city's Human Relations Ordinance. The Council's Appointments Committee has already met in regard to adding "sex, handicap, marital status, source of income or age between 18 and 65" to its anti-discrimination clause.

It was hoped that the anti-discrimination clause protecting the rights of gays could be inserted into the amendment before it was presented to City Council. Ms. Dixie White, Vice-President of Lehigh Valley National Organization of Women (NOW), made a presentation to the Appointments Committee March 3. Councilperson Benjamin Howells, Jr. said he didn't object to including the provision in the ordinance.

Allentown's 8-member Human Relations Commission met March 25 and voted 4-4 on recommending the amendment to City Council. According to Bob Manly, executive director of the city's Human Relations Commission, one member of the Commission has promised to resign if the amendment is passed.

At the April 6 meeting of City Council Ms. Dixie White, an American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) representative and Joe Burns, a member of Le-Hi-Ho, the local gay organization, gave a presentation to the Council recommending the amendment. They cited the discrimination that gays face in the Allentown area and the 39 municipalities in the country that have enacted similar legislation.

The Allentown City Council did not act on the measure and said that they would take the matter up at another time. If the amendment is passed, Allentown will become the first Pennsylvania city to pass legislation protecting the rights of gays.



DISCHARGE UPGRADING INCLUDES GAYS?

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Last week the Carter administration announced a massive case-by-case upgrading of general and dishonorable discharges from the Vietnam War era that appears to include servicepeople discharged for homosexuality. Pentagon officials estimate that 432,000 servicepeople will be eligible for an upgrading of their dis-



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charges, but some studies report that the total may be even higher.

David Addlestone, the lawyer for ex-Sgt. Leonard Matlovich and a leader in the amnesty fight, told GCN that "there is nothing (in the plan) to disqualify gays. The details are vague but very broad and I'm optimistic that gay people will be included. It looks good."

Only four categories of armed service personnel from the Vietnam period will be unable to qualify for an upgrading - those whose offenses involved violence or criminal intent, those who deserted from a combat zone, and those who had a court martial conviction that resulted in a bad conduct or a dishonorable discharge.

Addlestone told GCN that he strongly doubted that homosexuals would be disqualified from the program under the "criminal intent" standard.

The categories for ex-servicepeople are extremely broad. Any who served a tour of duty in Vietnam without incident, anyone who was wounded or decorated, anyone who completed a previous tour of duty anywhere without problems, and anyone who participated in President Ford's clemency program, is eligible.

According to Pentagon figures, the 259,521 ex-servicepeople who were given general discharges will now be eligible to have their discharges upgraded to honorable. Although these people are eligible for veteran's benefits, it is still difficult for many to find employment. 173,006 who received undesirable discharges will now be eligible for honorable or general discharges.

Most gay people discharged for homosexuality during the Vietnam period received a "general undesirable" discharge for unfitness. This discharge was commonly described as the "gay discharge." In the last few years, however, the trend has been away from this discharge to the less stigmatizing "general under honorable conditions" for gay people.

The Carter Administration plans to issue additional details about the program this week.

- Gay Community News

LOBBYIST KOHN DENIES CHARGES

by Harry Langhorne

HARRISBURG, PA—Sodomy repeal is on the agenda for the first time in Pennsylvania, but an initially-promising chance for passage has been clouded by the withdrawal of four co-sponsors. The four claim they were misled by Barry Kohn, a lobbyist for the bill.

The bill would reform the sexual offenses chapter of the penal code, but the most important part of the legislative package is repeal of the "voluntary deviate sexual intercourse" statute, popularly known as the sodomy law.

The bill, SB 531, was introduced March 21 by Sen. Craig Lewis (D-Bucks) and 11 co-sponsors and assigned to Sen. Hill's Judiciary Committee, where it is assured a favorable hearing.

The next day four senators withdrew their names, claiming they did not know the bill

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would legalize gay sexual activity. They also claimed lobbyist Barry Kohn had led them to believe he was speaking for the state Justice Department, for which he works, and that the bill would repeal legal restrictions on sexual relations within marriage. These restrictions were lifted several years ago in a reform of the entire penal code.

Those who cancelled their sponsorship of the measure were Sen. Henry C. Messinger (D-Lehigh), the majority whip, and Henry Mager (R-Lycoming), the minority leader. Wilmot T. Felming of Montgomery County and Robert Jubeliere of Blair County, both Republicans, also withdrew their support.

Kohn denies having had any intent to mislead the senators. He points out that only 12 of the roughly 35 senators he lobbied agreed to co-sponsor, although many expressed a willingness to vote for the measure. Kohn also observed that the press had carried articles on the bill's introduction, characterizing the sponsors as "supporters of sodomy repeal." Kohn states that he does not know who notified the press.

Kohn's employer, Attorney General Robert Kane, was quick to blame him in the press for the misunderstanding, even though he was unable to reach Kohn for his side of the story.

The Philadelphia Inquirer printed Kane's following remarks in its edition of March 23: "I have no doubt they were misled. Barry (Kohn) was always led to believe that as an individual, on his own, he could advocate anything he wished. But he tended to mislead people on this by telling people 'I'm Barry Kohn from the Justice Department'."

Kane also told the press that Kohn was resigning effective April 1, although Kohn had given notice months before. There is no connection between job resignation and the current embarrassment. Kane said that Kohn was "in Jamaica on vacation, and had I been able to locate him promptly, I'd have melted the phone lines a bit."

The Inquirer claimed that "Yesterday's developments abruptly ended a brief flurry of optimism that the bill, which is a prime legislative goal of gay rights groups, would pass."

The bill's chief sponsor, Sen. Lewis, said that the withdrawals have not changed his support and added that he knew "of no instance where Kohn did anything differently from any other advocate of legislation."

-PGN

ACTIVIST ARRESTED ON DRUG CHARGE

JACKSONVILLE, NC—Bob Martin, gay liberationist and founder, in 1966, of Columbia University's Student Homophile League, has been arrested and charged with felony for possession of over an ounce of marijuana in this small southern town. According to Jacksonville, NC, police officers, suspicion of homosexuality was sufficient ground for a warrantless search of Martin's room. Martin, arrested on December 30, is now free on \$1,500 bail, after spending a week in the Jacksonville jail. His trial was set for late February.

According to testimony by officers Sam Hudson and Paul Buchanan at Martin's preliminary hearing January 13, the search of Martin's motel room was justified by a need to look for evidence of "homosexuality" after the defendant was stopped with two Marines in the motel parking lot in the early hours of the morning.

According to the defendant, Martin was initially arrested for urinating in the darkened parking lot, by members of the Special Operations Division of the Jacksonville Police Force, who then conducted a



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7 search of his motel room, discovering the marijuana while searching his baggage.

Police, however, testified that Martin was only told that he "could be arrested" for urinating in the parking lot, and that Martin had then voluntarily consented to a search of his room.

"The day I consent to a warrantless search will be the day the Pope builds an abortion clinic in Vatican City," said the defendant.

Martin could receive up to five years on the charge.

Martin's Jacksonville attorney, Jeffrey S. Miller, plans to file a motion to suppress the evidence on the grounds that the search was unconstitutional under the Fourth Amendment which guarantees the "right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures."

In Los Angeles, the Rev. Troy Perry, founder and moderator of the Metropolitan Community Churches announced the establishment of a defense fund. A personal friend of Martin, Perry said, "Bob needs our help," and asked that funds be sent as soon as possible to the Bob Martin Legal Defense Fund, c/o UFMCC, Box 5570, Los Angeles, CA 90055.

- Gay Community News

TRANSEXUAL FILM

MIAMI—Three transexual liberationists from Miami may star in a proposed feature-length x-rated film with explicit sex scenes of them having sex with each other as well as with a number of men and women in various combinations.

All former leaders of the Transexual Action Organization, they said they want to make the film as the transexual movement has been too conservative in regards to actual sexuality.

Angela Douglas, who is to star in the film along with Tisha Goudie and Kimberly Barre, will also do the script if the film is made.

Irv Carsten, a San Francisco film-maker, said that nothing is definite yet but if the film is produced it will cost around \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Both Douglas and Goudie postponed scheduled sex-change operations until after the film is made and hope to do more films afterwards.

Barre had sex-change surgery several years ago and has worked as a female stripper in many night clubs.

Douglas is a former Air Force meteorologist and well-published writer for the

Latest Word from the White House...



ON THE WHITE HOUSE LAWN: Following the recent meeting between gay spokespeople and President Carter's aides, Jean O'Leary (left) and Bruce Voeller (center) talk with the press. At Voeller's right are Houston activist Pokey Anderson and Los Angeles psychologist Charlotte Spitzer. Both Anderson and Spitzer participated in the meeting.

Photo by Bill Bland



Rep. Elaine Noble

14 NAMED TO MEET WITH CARTER AIDE

NEW YORK—A delegation of fourteen lesbians and gay men has been selected to meet at the White House on March 26 with Margaret (Midge) Costanza, President Carter's advisor for public liaison. The meeting with Costanza and her staff is expected to cover a wide range of issues involving federal policies towards gay people. National Gay Task Force officials hope that the meeting will result in a series of individual meetings with federal officials in a variety of agencies to discuss individual areas of concern.

The delegation was organized and will be headed by National Gay Task Force co-directors Jean O'Leary and Bruce Voeller. Both O'Leary and Voeller met with White House staffperson Costanza on Feb. 8, a meeting that resulted in plans for the March 26 discussion.

Participating in the meeting will be Rep. Elaine Noble of Boston; Charlotte Bunch, Washington feminist and editor of QUEST; Frank Kameny, long-time Washington gay activist; Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches; Betty Powell, black feminist and New York gay activist; George Raya, San Francisco lobbyist; Myra Riddell, Los Angeles psychotherapist; Charlotte Spitzer, Los Angeles founder of Parents and Friends of Gays; Ray Hartman, interim co-chairperson of the Gay Rights National Lobby; Charles Brydon, president of Seattle's Dorian Group; and William Kelly, former editor of Chicago's GAY CRUSADER.

Pokey Anderson, former vice-chair of Houston's Gay Political Caucus, will also attend the Washington meeting.

Each of the participants will be concentrating in a particular area of concern to gay people. Such issues will include Immigration and Naturalization, Defense Department policy, Prisoners Rights, Internal Revenue Service and U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

- Gay Community News

alternative press, and like Goudie, is openly bisexual.

Goudie is a member of a British diplomatic family who was born in Cuba, and has worked as a fashion model.

Since they speak a total of six languages between them as well as transexual slang, the film will be subtitled in English. Douglas said, and will focus on the sexual pleasures available to people who change sex rather than transexual rights. The film won't parody women or explore sex roles as have those of Warhol and other film-makers which featured transexuals and transvestites. "We're just going to be ourselves," Douglas explained.

- GC News



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HARTFORD, CT—The largest Protestant group in the state of Connecticut, the Conference of the United Church of Christ, has passed a resolution not only endorsing civil liberties, but also calling for lobbying efforts.

The resolution came in the aftermath of educational and consciousness raising efforts by the UCC's Committee on Homosexuality.

- G C News-Journal

WASHINGTON, DC—The annual FBI Crime Reports shows forcible rape increased 1% over the year. One rape was committed every 9 minutes.

FLORIDA FOLLIES

or: Fear and Loathing in the Sunshine State



- Harry Long

What used to be a retirement center and the summer fun site for many Gays is lately becoming a microcosm, or at least the focal point, of the national sexual rights struggle. Two Florida communities, Fort Lauderdale and Miami have recently had their peaceful existence shattered by the sudden stentorian presence of homophobia in the form of so-called community leaders and celebrities.

During the mayoral/city council race, a gay man, Roger Luckett, announced his candidacy as a result of Mayor E. Clay Shaw's saying, "Gays must go." Shaw later rephrased his statement as "Homos go home." Either way, it was obviously not a pro-Gay statement, and one that raised a considerable amount of ire, especially in light of the number of Gay-owned or oriented businesses in the resort town. Luckett, a 45-year old real estate broker, who has resided in Broward County (where Ft. Lauderdale is located) for sixteen years soon found his candidacy blocked, owing to the fact that he had not yet switched his voter registration from his previous home in Coconut Creek. Luckett's name was dropped from the primary ballot (a requirement to reach the election). Shaw meanwhile continued to run around verbally flailing the "dramatic rise" in male prostitution and urging grand jury investigations into Gay-owned hotels, although he considerably toned this down after the howls of protest went up over the removal of Luckett's name from the ballot.

When election time rolled around in March, Luckett's name was still not on the

WRIGHT—MIAMI NEWS



ROGER LUCKETT

ballot. Some observers feel that, as a result, Gays simply sat out the election; only 26% of the registered voters hit the polls. Shaw, by the way, was re-elected, although two of the most outspoken anti-gay candidates (after Shaw clammed up) ran eight and ten in a field of ten (the Broward County election is conducted as a runoff). Three of the new council members are considered sympathetic to Gay rights. Luckett, who was unable to win his appeal in lower courts on his eligibility, plans to pursue the appeals and ask the State Supreme Court to void the entire election and require new balloting with his name on the ballots.

And in Tallahassee, according to a report published in the St. Petersburg Times, state government employees have been spied on for more than a year to determine if

they were Gay. Reportedly Jack Dodd, who is the executive director of the Florida Public Service Commission, hired a private investigator to tap phone lines and search agency wastebaskets (1) for evidence of Gay orientation. Dodd also reportedly paid a PSC mail clerk to eavesdrop on phone conversations to confirm allegations that high-ranking state employees might be Gay. The witchhunt may boomerang, however, for PSC Chairperson, Paula Hawkins, hit the ceiling when the evidence was presented to her. "This isn't the SS," she exclaimed. "There's no excuse for Nazi tactics like these." Hardly Nazi, Ms. Hawkins; just as AmeriKKKan as good ole apple pie.

By far the more epic (and sometimes especially ludicrous) battle is occurring over in Dade County where Anita Bryant, ex-beauty queen turned OJ pusher, became the latest pseudo-celebrity to knock Gays, when the Miami Metro Commission passed a Gay rights ordinance by a 5 to 3 vote. Anita immediately formed (along with her husband) a non-profit organization, Save Our Children from Homosexuality, Inc. Anita claims that children are in the most danger from the new ordinance, because of homosexuals who go to playgrounds and so forth and "recruit" new members. She set about using the organization to gather enough signatures to demand a referendum. Even though this effort suffered a short set-back when the forms were ruled illegal, Bryant soon had six times more than the necessary 10,000 names. The referendum will occur on June 7.

Other set-backs also occurred. As Bryant functions as spokesperson for the First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Miami (as well as the Florida Citrus Commission), Jack Campbell, president of the Club Baths chain and a board member of the Gay Rights National lobby, withdrew all his money from the bank, leading an exodus of Gay depositors which left the bank reportedly over \$1 million poorer. The bank stopped showing their Bryant commercials, saying they had no plans to continue them or make any new ones. Shortly afterwards, the Singer Company cancelled a proposed TV show which would showcase the singer. "The blacklisting of Anita Bryant has begun," screamed the 37-year-old mother of four as she peculiarly aligned herself with victims of the McCarthy era (many of whom were blacklisted because they were homosexual). Perhaps she didn't stop to think about this paradox in her desperate bid to stir paranoia about Gays. A further statement in the news conference seemed designed to do just that as she



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claimed to be amazed at how quickly "they" (i.e. Gays) could do this to her, further theorizing that "they" must have extensive influence everywhere. Another paradox: this kind of fearmongering sounds very close to the late Sen. McCarthy's "Red under every bed" syndrome.

Anita got her contract back in a few weeks when higher executives at Singer countermanded the previous decision. But in that time all sorts of good and worthy people were clicking their tongues over Anita's loss of job, from the *New York Times* to the National Gay Task Force. No one made any statements either on Manuel Gomez who lost his job as a writer for the Spanish edition of *Cosmopolitan* as a result of acting as a signature gatherer for petitions supporting the passage of the law, and also had his car fire-bombed following a TV appearance urging support for the new law in the up-coming referendum. No one further seemed to see the comic justice irony of the situation: Anita lost her jobs as a result of speaking out against an ordinance which guaranteed jobs despite sexual preference.

In fact, playing count-the-ironies is one of the more fun games in the Miami fight, except for alternating snickers with groans when reading of Bryant and followers' antiquated notions of homosexuality (i.e. child molesters, male teachers who would want to wear dresses, etc.). Consider some of the following. The ordinance was introduced by Metro member Ruth Shack. Shack's husband used to be Bryant's manager, and Anita made a number of commercials and endorsements during Shack's campaign. In addition to the bank boycott, a boycott on Florida Orange Juice was also started. Its plans to go nationwide were made unnecessary when most of the orange crop was wiped out by weather conditions. Is it possible God doesn't side with Anita?

In any case, Bryant's Sunshine Tree carvings have also been pulled from the air-waves, although the Florida Citrus Commission denies that this has anything to do with the boycott (it's entirely possible it has more to do with the lack of an orange crop to sell). Further, although it is Bryant's group that has forced the referendum, they are trying to make it look as though the cost to voters is the fault of the Gays. This stance has caused the Dade County Coalition to expand from its original campaign (which was merely to defeat the referendum) into raising the funds necessary to cover the cost of the election. At one point they offered to pay half if "Save Our Children" and its affiliates

DID YOU SEE?

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S LARGEST WEEKLY
1990 broadcast

The New Hampshire Senate Judiciary Committee now has before it a bill to prohibit homosexuals from consorting together in a "lewd" and "licentious" manner. The co-sponsors of this bill, Senator Robert Monier and I, feel very, very strongly on this matter. A certain chief editorial writer locally in Nashua, who doesn't have the courage to put his name on his dribble, feels otherwise. The Nashua Telegraph has phoo-phoo'd the bill with usual lack of knowledge and understanding. In fact, from reading the editorial it was quite evident the critic of the bill never read or does not understand it. (What else is new?)

The creeping spreading horrors of these militant homosexuals is rampant in New Hampshire. They have "gay" clubs in Manchester. They pushed for a "gay" unit to be funded and recognized on the campus of UNH with full campus standing.

Now I guess there is little one can do to prevent these queers from doing their thing behind locked doors. But the bill in question deals only with their actions in public. We are in a sense protecting our children and our families from being subject to their lewd cavorting.

The most vocal opposition is coming from the homos themselves, who with traditional zest to stand up for "human rights," often forget that victims have rights too!

Maybe society should do more for these sickos who seek assistance in dealing with their problem. Senator Monier and I are not opposed to that kind of help. What we do not buy is that the unpalatable and distasteful lewd carryings-on should be exposed for all to see, especially where it might affect the young and pliable!

If you think for a minute the queers are not hell-bent on imposing their wills and whims on all the rest of us take the case of Anita Bryant, a fine Christian lady whose voice and face are so familiar to us. She is an outstanding person, deeply committed to the Christian way of life. She is deeply

concerned about the erosion of moral principles in this country. She had the courage to speak out against America's growing tendency to recognize and give status to homosexuality. When Anita Bryant dared to speak out against the queers she found herself in deep trouble. In her home city of Miami, the "Gays" organized and began a pressure campaign to intimidate the Singer Sewing Machine Company to drop sponsorship of a TV series in which she was to perform.

If you think the queers are not out for action and militancy then take the case of this dedicated and Christian lady who dared to speak out. We share the feelings of U.S. Senator Jesse Helms who said: "I am proud of Anita Bryant."

Someone has to fight for decency and morality in America and homosexuals are at the very core of some of our most serious moral decay.

We implore you to write every member of the New Hampshire Senate and urge them to pass Senate Bill 86. Do it for Anita Bryant. Do it for your children. Do it for yourself and your State and Country. If you don't do it — who will?

— from an editorial in the southern New Hampshire weekly Broadcaster, signed by Sen. Al Rock (R-Nashua). The editorial appeared on March 23.

would also pay half. No response.

Still, Miami Gay leaders are smiling, despite Bryant's current moves and her plans to step up "Save Our Children" to the national level. "All these developments don't make us particularly happy," admitted Campbell, "but in the long run, we think each of them will result in more good will, more credit and more progress to the Gay community. We expect to win. Such an outcome will go far to solidify the status of Gay rights as a legitimate issue, not only here but across the nation. By the same token, a loss here would have nationwide impact. We're hoping as many people as possible will help out with contributions of money, talent and time so that we can wage a sophisticated, rational and professional campaign." Outside contributions are directed to the Dade County Coalition, P.O. Box 414, Miami, Fla. 33133

Bryant announced her nationwide expansion after she learned of the national Gay rights bill. "The seed of sickness that germinated in Dade County has already been transplanted by misguided liberals in the U.S. Congress. America's political leaders must not be permitted to impose on the people a standard that legitimizes abnor-



Club Baths' Jack Campbell... he gave a check for \$5,000 to the Miami Metro Commission to help underwrite the June 7 referendum.

malty," she said, further stating that the bill's sponsors want the entire nation under a law "which would enable homosexuals to recruit our children by gaining an artificial mandate of social acceptance." Bryant further made an ass of herself in an appearance on ABC's "Good Morning" show when she compared homosexuals to nail-biters and overweight persons. Bryant also announced she was going to fight against the ERA amendment, since she learned that its backers were mostly Lesbians.

Bryant's statements found a welcome of sorts from Miami Gay leader Robert Kunst, who said, "By doing these things she's done more for the Gay movement than we could do ourselves. I want her to keep on making as big a fool of herself as possible."

Elsewhere in Florida, as if to prove just what kind of people are the ones who

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"JUST KEEP THE O.J. FLOWING. THIS IS A WHOLE NEW BALLGAME FOR THE FLORIDA FAGGOT FIGHTERS!"

align themselves with Anita's campaign. Ku Klux Klan Imperial Wizard Robert Shelton stated in a February address that there are three "vast conspiracies" of Communism that pervade the world: "socialism, Judaism and homosexuality (?)." The socialists are the "most forceful" aspect, the Jews the "most persistent and conniving," while the homosexuals have made "the most substantive effects" (yay, us!) according to Shelton. Homosexuals, according to Shelton in his best David Reubin manner, have "strong feelings of comradeship. It takes on a conspiratorial degree. Strong religious groups have never recruited homosexuals, but the Communists and left wing has (sic) made a special effort to recruit homosexuals. (Sounds like there is a bit of confusion as to just who is doing the recruiting.) They are used as agent provocateurs." Jews and homosexuals have, furthermore, "infiltrated right-wing organizations" and the two groups are "often the same."

Of course Shelton didn't neglect the Klan's favorite scapegoat in his speech. While discussing television, the KKK leader stated, "I used to enjoy it - but not now. It's getting pathetic on TV when a nigger advocates Ivory Snow that's 99 and 44/100 per cent pure white - now that's going too far."

However, this typification that the anti-gays are more pathological than the Gays has not kept a number of politicians from also aligning themselves with the Bryant Campaign. Admittedly, they seem to

be few and far between, but then again, no politicians have spoken out against it. In Arkansas, they discovered they made an oops! in 1975 when a comprehensive reform of that state's criminal code inadvertently tossed out the sodomy law along with a number of other statutes. In early March, directly preceding the vote in their House of Representatives (which passed by an overwhelming 66-2), the House voted unanimously to praise Bryant for her work against Gays.

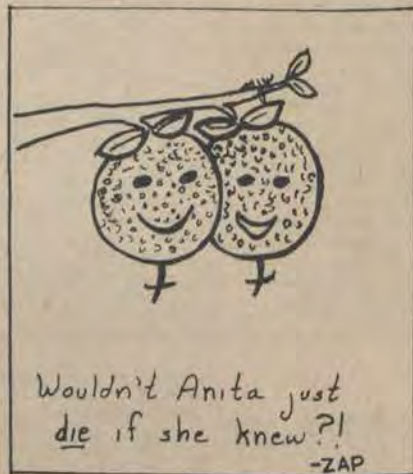
U.S. Senator Jesse Helms stated he was proud of Anita Bryant. In New Hampshire a bill was introduced to prevent homosexuals from "consorting together" in public in a "lewd" and "licentious" manner. Although the bill is aimed specifically at Gays, making no provisions for heterosexuals who may do the same type of thing, and its definitions of "lewd" and "licentious" are so broad as to lack any application, one of the co-sponsors of the bill vehemently and very homophobicly defended the bill in one of the state's weekly newspapers and, in so doing, praised Anita.

The New York Times printed an editorial on Bryant's loss of the Singer contract; when the contract was given back, it ran another: "Some correspondents interpreted our support for Miss Bryant's right to speak as support for what she has been saying. Far from it. Miss Bryant's arguments - such as her charge that homosexuals are out to recruit converts among children - are absurd as well as benight-



ed, and county officials are to be commended for extending the area of civil rights to an often abused group. It is good that Miss Bryant is keeping her job; it would be better if she lost her campaign."

Perhaps the best reply to Bryant's theological quackery came much earlier, during the voting on the ordinance, in fact. Charles Whited, writing in the Miami Herald, reported, "Then came Bill Oliver's turn. The crew-cut, 42-year-old carpenter's union chief, nicknamed 'Tough As Nails', is himself a born-again Christian, a blue-collar man who reads the same Bible. But Bill Oliver remembered back when people also used God against Blacks, saying 'If God meant for all men to be equal, he would have made all of us white.' So he spoke, facing the pressure, looking into all those angry eyes. (NOTE: Whited reports earlier that the pressure from Bryant and her followers was so intense that Clara Osterle changed her vote and broke into tears at the conclusion of the role call. The pressure must have been intense; the 5-3 vote at the open meeting was down from the ordinance's first-reading vote of 9-0). Bill Oliver said he could not condone discrimination against any human being. So on passage of the ordinance, 'I vote yes.'"



Wouldn't Anita just die if she knew?!

-ZAP

UPDATE CLIPPINGS

from GCN

ANITA VS. ROBIN HOOD

SAN FRANCISCO — Comedienne Kay Ballard has found a new personality to be the butt of her jokes. Performing in San Francisco last week, Ballard announced to the audience that she had a new guest star — anti-gay crusader Anita Bryant. She then followed up the announcement with an apology to the audience, saying that Bryant had just phoned her. "She won't be able to be here tonight," said Ballard, "because she has to go picket the Miami library to get rid of Robin Hood and his merry men."

Miami Controversy Goes to Court

MIAMI, Fla. — In the latest development in the gay rights controversy here, a Miami judge was set to rule last Friday on the ordinance's constitutionality. The issue landed in the lap of the court when a right-wing, Miami lawyer, Ellis Rubin, filed suit questioning the legality of the gay rights ordinance and also asking for an injunction against the scheduled June 7 referendum. The referendum, estimated to cost \$400,000, came about after Save Our Children, Inc., a local anti-gay group headed by singer Anita Bryant, garnered the necessary 10,000 signatures to force a vote.

Judge Sam Silver of Dade County Circuit Court rejected Rubin's demand for an injunction enjoining the Miami Metro Commission to take no action on the referendum until he rules on the ordinance's constitutionality. Silver is considered by most to be a "liberal" judge, and Miami gay activists are confident that he will rule in their favor.

If Silver rules that the ordinance is

constitutional, the ball will be back in the court of the Miami Metro Commission. The Commission has authorized the referendum but has been under pressure to rescind both the ordinance and the special vote in order to save the estimated \$400,000 referendum costs. The Dade County gay community is presently attempting to raise the necessary money themselves.

In the meantime, two recent polls have shown that a majority of Dade County voters would favor the gay rights ordinance, if it comes up for a vote. An "unscientific" poll of readers of the *Miami News* by the newspaper itself showed that about two-thirds of the respondents favored this ordinance. However, a more scientific poll by the University of Miami's highly respected Dr. Tom Wood showed the vote to be much closer. Wood's results, based on a survey of 200 people, showed a narrow 53% to 47% in favor of the ordinance.

OPINION!

GAY AMERICA'S NO. 1 PSYCHOLOGICAL KILLER

(Editor's Note: The following is an editorial which appeared in the February 1977 issue of HIGH GEAR journal, a publication of the Gay Educational and Awareness Resources (G.E.A.R.) Foundation of Cleveland, Ohio.)

Last summer a crisis arose among the staffers of The Body Politic, Canada's largest gay newspaper, concerning the inclusion of a stylized illustration depicting a winged male nude with an enormous erect penis. Two of the women in The Politic collective objected to the illustration, branding it sexist. When asked to explain why the figure was sexist, one of the women blurted, "It's just sexist, that's all."

In an article explaining the debacle, The Body Politic concluded editorially that it could not define sexism. This conclusion on the part of The Politic is tragic because it is symptomatic of the general ignorance of the phenomenon of sexism on the part of the Western hemisphere's gay intelligentsia.

Admittedly, it is unfair to single out The Body Politic as myopic to sexism when after two years of propagandizing against discrimination on the basis of "beauty," we at High Gear were shocked by how many of our readers (in fact, our very own staff) have not the slightest awareness of the mechanics of sexism.

DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX APPEAL IS THE NUMBER ONE PSYCHOLOGICAL KILLER AMONG GAY MALES! Most gay men, though sexually free, are sexually starved. The promotion of a sexual monolith in publications ranging from papers like The Advocate to magazines like Blueboy serves only to accelerate sexual competition among gay men and robs the majority of fulfilling sexual release.

Casting gigantic muscles and cocks as positive values makes it impossible for a non-muscular "poorly" hung gay male to expiate his suffering. Gay men who fail to meet the standards of good looks are compelled to internalize their discontent as their own personal failure. If Joe Szmulewicz is pockmarked and hunchbacked, he is a "slob, an oaf, or an ape," and unless he has a well-publicized heart of an angel, he is regarded as "evil" simply on the basis of his looks.

Most people are honest with themselves in evaluating their own looks. That is to say, most are aware that they are either "stunning," "average," or "ghastly." Our social environment teaches us to equate good looks with goodness and ugliness with evil. We've rarely seen an ugly hero or gorgeous villain. Consequently, if we are rejected at a bar we cannot blame Blueboy which is filled with "sacred people" and is therefore itself "sacred," nor can we blame society which is basically "good" or "right," so we can only blame ourselves. We can only conclude that we are ugly and therefore "bad."

Confessing that we are "bad" is perhaps a little too strong. Instead, we transcribe this negative self-assessment into self-denial, self-denigration and self-destruction.

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS ABSOLUTE OR UNIVERSAL BEAUTY. Our standard of good looks is purely arbitrary. The appearance of a large number of gay publications featuring "hunky" nudes or semi-nudes is historically recent; but the effects of promoting these idealized sex models will be both drastic and lasting on the gay community.

If gay citizens are taught to hunger for a type of physique which is scarce, they are sure to go hungry in large numbers for a long time. PUBLICATIONS WHICH FEATURE IDEAL NUDES DO NOT ENCOURAGE FREE SEX. On the contrary, they restrict the sexual options available to gay society!

Yes, Body Politic, there is such a thing as sexism, and man, does it hurt!

it will be a great day when our schools get
all the money they need
and the air force
has to hold a bake
sale to buy a
b-1 bomber.



The official positions and policies of the GAY ERA are contained only in its editorials. Opinions put forth in individual articles and letters are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the outlook of the publication.

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GAY RESOURCE LIST

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Rube's (bar), 844 Hamilton Street.
Stonewall (bar), 28 N. 10th Street.

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LaPiere (bar), Corner 6th & Union Ave.

BERWICK

The Steppes (private club), Hotel Berwick,
300 Market St. 18603, 717-752-2282.

BETHLEHEM

Le-Hi-Ho, Box 1003, Noravian Station, 18018.

BRIDGEPORT

The Lark (bar), 302 DeKalb Street,
(Rt. 202 north).

BRYN MAWR

Bryn Mawr/Haverford Gay People's Alliance,
Room 24, College Inn, Bryn Mawr College,
19090.

CRESSON

Castaways Inn, 629 Front Street,
814-886-9931.

ELIZABETH

The Waterfall (bar), 116 Market Street,
412-384-9807.

ERIE

Midtown Lounge, 723 French Street.
Washington Grill, Washington & W. 10th.

GREENSBURG

Golden Arrow Bar, 108 W. Pittsburgh St.

HARRISBURG

Ark (bar), 329 S. Front St., Steelton.
Dandelion Tree (bar), 400 N. 2nd St.
D-Gem (bar), Front Street
Dignity, Box 297, Federal Square Station,
17108.
Gay Community Services, 297, 17108.
Gay Switchboard, 717-234-0328, Mon-Fri.,
6:00-10:00 pm.
Golden Coach (bar), 4309 Linglestown Rd.
Integrity/Greater Harrisburg, Box 3809,
17108.
Metropolitan Community Church/Central
Pennsylvania, 1001 N. Spring Street,
Apt. 1-2, Middletown.
Neptune's Lounge (bar), 268 North Street.
Pennsylvania Rural Gay Caucus, Box 1505,
17105.

INDIANA

Homophiles of Indiana University of Pa.,
Box 1588, Indiana University, 15701.

LANCASTER

Church of the Brethren/Mennonite Church
Gay Caucus, Box 582, 17604.
Contact (counseling), 24 hours, call
collect, 717-299-4855.
Erotic Den (porno), 53 North Prince.
Erotic Forum (porno), 227 N. Prince.
Gays United of Lancaster, 3002 Marietta
Ave, 17601, 717-898-2876.
Gay Era, 332 N. Mulberry Street, 17603.
Lancaster Gay Switchboard, 717-898-2876,
Wed-Sun, 7-10:30 pm.
Loft (restaurant), 201 W. Orange Street,
(second floor).
Tally-Ho (bar), 201 W. Orange Street.
V.D. Clinic, St. Joseph Hospital, 250
College Ave, 717-291-8111; free,
24 hours.
Women Oriented Women (WOW), c/o Lancaster
Women's Center, 230 W. Chestnut Street,
717-299-5381.

MARCUS HOOK

Captain Jack's (bar), Market Street.
George's (bar), Market Street.
Paradise (bar), Market Street.

MARIETTA

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bar), Front & Perry Streets, 17547,
717-426-9811.

MILLERSVILLE

Gay Awareness of Millersville State Col-
lege, Box 3333, Gordiner Hall, M.S.C.,
Millersville, PA 17551.

NEW HOPE

Cartwheel (bar), Rt. 202 West.
January's Inn, 218 Aquetony Road, Solebury.
New Hope Diner, Rt. 202 West.

NORTHUMBERLAND

Susquehanna Valley Gays United, Box 182,
17857, 717-473-9923.

READING

Alternative Booksellers, 10 N. 4th Street,
19601, 215-373-0442.
Gay Co-Ordinating Society of Berks County,
Box 3131, 19603.
Glass Door (bar), 300 block N. 5th Street.
Red Star Saloon, 143 N. 10th Street.
This Is It (bar), 8th & Walnut Streets.

SCRANTON

DeMitri Cafe, 237 Wyoming Avenue.

SHAVERSTOWN

Northeast Pennsylvania Gay Alliance,
Box 1710, 18708.

SHIPPENSBURG

Shippensburg Students for Gay Rights,
Shippensburg State College, 17257.

STATE COLLEGE

Gayline, 814-863-0588, Mon-Sun, 7-9:00 pm
Homophiles of Penn State, Box 218, 16801.
Metropolitan Community Church, all mail
c/o Homophiles of Penn State.
My-Oh-My Bar, 128 E. College Avenue.
Scorpion Lounge (downstairs), 119 South
Burrows, 814-238-7914.

STROUDSBURG

The Blue Bugle (bar), Main Street.

SWARTHMORE

Swarthmore College Gay Liberation, c/o
Swarthmore College, 19081,
215-544-7900, Ext. 296, or 566-9467.

UPPER DARBY

C & R Club, 6405 Market Street, Millbourne.

WEST CHESTER

Gays of West Chester, 718 Tyson Hall,
West Chester State College, 19380.
Gay Hotline, 215-436-2879,
Wed., 8-11:00 pm.

WILKES BARRE

Tiffany (bar), Park & Lehigh Streets.

WILLIAMSPORT

Homophiles of Williamsport (HOW),
Box 1072, 17001, 717-322-7987.

YORK

Atlant's Ranch (Sunday bar), 10 miles
west off Rt. 30.
14 Karat (bar), West Market Street.
Town Tavern (bar), 41 N. George Street.

**WE ARE NOT
THE CRIMINALS!**



support

**HUMAN RIGHTS
DAY**

May 24, 1977

THE STATE IS GUILTY... OF REINFORCING THE AGE-OLD SEXIST VIEW OF WOMEN BY LEGALLY VIEWING RAPE AS A LESS SERIOUS CRIME THAN OTHER MAJOR CRIMES.

THE STATE IS GUILTY... OF ATTEMPTING TO LEGISLATE THE PRIVATE SEXUAL ACTS OF UNMARRIED CONSENTING ADULTS.

SENATE BILL #531 PROPOSES TO REPEAL THE LAWS WHICH MAKE CERTAIN VOLUNTARY SEXUAL ACTS ILLEGAL BETWEEN UNMARRIED ADULTS.

ALSO SENATE BILL #531 PROPOSES THAT THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR RAPE BE RAISED FROM TWO TO FIVE YEARS.

WHAT SENATE BILL #531 WILL DO:

- * REPEAL THE STATUTE ON "VOLUNTARY DEVIATE SEXUAL INTERCOURSE."
THIS WILL MAKE PRIVATE SEXUAL ACTS LEGAL BETWEEN CONSENTING ADULTS.
- * EXTENDS THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR RAPE FROM ITS PRESENT 2 YEARS TO 5 YEARS.
THIS WILL MAKE IT EQUAL AT LEAST TO THE LIMITATIONS FOR BURGLARY, ROBBERY, PERJURY, FORCIBLE SODOMY, ARSON AND FORGERY.
- * REDEFINE "INVOLUNTARY DEVIATE SEXUAL INTERCOURSE" AS "FORCIBLE SODOMY."
THIS INTENDS TO REMOVE THE IDEA THAT A PARTICULAR TYPE OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY IS DEVIANT.
- * TRANSFER THE STATUTE ON "CORRUPTION OF MINORS" FROM ITS PRESENT LOCATION (SEXUAL OFFENSES) TO THE GENERAL SECTION ON CRIMES.
LEAVING THIS SECTION UNDER THE SEXUAL OFFENSES SECTION IMPLIES THAT MINORS CAN ONLY BE CORRUPTED SEXUALLY AND IMMUNE TO CORRUPTION IF THEY WERE TO COMMIT OTHER CRIMES.
- * LOWERS THE AGE OF ACCOUNTABILITY FOR MINORS FROM 18 TO 16.
THIS WILL BE IN ADDITION TO MOVING THE SECTION ON "CORRUPTION OF MINORS."

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

YOU CAN CHANGE THIS PREJUDICIAL ATTITUDE OF THIS STATE BY GOING TO HARRISBURG ON MAY 24TH FOR "HUMAN RIGHTS DAY."

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY IS BEING ORGANIZED BY A COALITION OF GAY GROUPS, WOMEN'S GROUPS, CHURCH GROUPS AND AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION (ACLU) CHAPTERS.

ON HUMAN RIGHTS DAY, LOBBYISTS FROM THE COALITION WILL ASK OUR STATE SENATORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL #531. LOBBYISTS WILL MEET ON MAY 24TH AT THE FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, 6TH AND HERR STREETS, IN HARRISBURG.

FOR A TRULY SUCCESSFUL LOBBYING EFFORT ALL LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS MUST BE REPRESENTED BY LOBBYISTS FROM EACH DISTRICT.

WORKSHOPS FOR LOBBYISTS WILL BE HELD ON MAY 21ST IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE TIMES AND ADDRESSES OF THESE WORKSHOPS WHEN WE RECEIVE THE BLANK THAT WE HOPE YOU WILL FILL OUT.

WORKSHOPS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DAY WILL BE HELD MAY 21ST IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS ACROSS THE STATE: ALLENTOWN, HARRISBURG, LANCASTER, PITTSBURGH, PHILADELPHIA, STATE COLLEGE, WILLIAMSPORT.

FILL OUT THE BLANK ON THE BACK OF THIS PAMPHLET IF YOU INTEND TO BE IN HARRISBURG ON MAY 24TH. WE WILL ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS WITH YOUR LEGISLATOR FOR YOU.



NOTE: Words underlined are being added.
[Words in brackets] are being removed.

Printer's No. 550

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. **531**

Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY LEWIS, McKINNEY, HOWARD, GURZENDA, HANKINS, ARLENE,
CIANFRANI AND REIBMAN, MARCH 21, 1977

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, MARCH 21, 1977

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and Title 42 (Judiciary
2 and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
3 Statutes, further providing for time limitations, providing
4 for the offense of sodomy and further providing for
5 corruption of minors.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Sections 3101 and 3123 of Title 18, act of
9 November 25, 1970 (P.L.707, No.230), known as the Pennsylvania
10 Consolidated Statutes, are amended and a section is added to
11 read:

12 § 3101. Definitions.

13 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
14 provisions of this chapter which are applicable to specific
15 provisions of this chapter, the following words and phrases when
16 used in this chapter shall have, unless the context clearly
17 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

18 ["Deviate sexual intercourse."] "Sodomy." Sexual intercourse
19 per os or per anus between human beings [who are not husband and

1 wife,] and any form of sexual intercourse with an animal.

2 "Indecent contact." Any touching of the sexual or other
3 intimate parts of the person for the purpose of arousing or
4 gratifying sexual desire, in either person.

5 "Sexual intercourse." [In addition to its ordinary meaning,
6 includes intercourse per os or per anus,] Copulation with some
7 penetration however slight; emission is not required.

8 § 3123. [Involuntary deviate sexual intercourse.]

9 Forcible sodomy.

10 A person commits a felony of the first degree when he engages
11 in [deviate sexual intercourse] sodomy with another person:

12 (1) by forcible compulsion;

13 (2) by threat of forcible compulsion that would prevent
14 resistance by a person of reasonable resolution;

15 (3) who is unconscious;

16 (4) who is so mentally deranged or deficient that such
17 person is incapable of consent; or

18 (5) who is less than 16 years of age.

19 Section 2. Sections 3124 and 3125 of Title 18 are repealed:

20 [§ 3124. Voluntary deviate sexual intercourse.

21 A person who engages in deviate sexual intercourse under
22 circumstances not covered by section 3123 of this title
23 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse) is guilty
24 of a misdemeanor of the second degree.]

25 [§ 3125. Corruption of minors.

26 (a) Offense defined.--Whoever, being of the age of 18 years
27 and upwards, by any act corrupts or tends to corrupt the morals
28 of any child under the age of 18 years, or who aids, abets,
29 entices or encourages any such child in the commission of any
30 crime, or who knowingly assists or encourages such child in

1 violating his or her parole or any order of court, is guilty of
2 a misdemeanor of the first degree.

3 (b) Adjudication of delinquency unnecessary.--A conviction
4 under the provisions of this section may be had whether or not
5 the jurisdiction of any juvenile court has attached or shall
6 thereafter attach to such child or whether or not such child has
7 been adjudicated a delinquent or shall thereafter be adjudicated
8 a delinquent.

9 (c) Presumptions.--In trials and hearings upon charges of
10 violating the provisions of this Section, knowledge of the
11 minor's age and of the court's orders and decrees concerning
12 such minor shall be presumed in the absence of proof to the
13 contrary.]

14 § 6301. Corruption of minors.

15 (a) Offense defined.--Whoever, being of the age of 18 years
16 and upwards, by any act corrupts or tends to corrupt the morals
17 of any minor less than 16 years of age, or who aids, abets,
18 entices or encourages any such minor in the commission of any
19 crime, or who knowingly assists or encourages such minor in
20 violating his or her parole or any order of court, is guilty of
21 a misdemeanor of the first degree.

22 (b) Adjudication of delinquency unnecessary.--A conviction
23 under the provisions of this section may be had whether or not
24 the jurisdiction of any juvenile court has attached or shall
25 thereafter attach to such minor or whether or not such minor has
26 been adjudicated a delinquent or shall thereafter be adjudicated
27 a delinquent.

28 (c) Presumptions.--In trials and hearings upon charges of
29 violating the provisions of this section, knowledge of the
30 minor's age and of the court's orders and decrees concerning

1 such minor shall be presumed in the absence of proof to the
2 contrary.

3 Section 3. Section 5552(b) of Title 42 (Judiciary and
4 Judicial Procedure), added July 9, 1976 (No.142), is amended to
5 read:

6 § 5552. Other offenses.

7 * * *

8 (b) Major offenses.--A prosecution for any of the following
9 offenses under Title 18 (relating to crimes and offenses) must
10 be commenced within five years after it is committed:

11 18 Pa.C.S. § 3121 (relating to rape).

12 18 Pa.C.S. § 3123 (relating to [involuntary deviate
13 sexual intercourse).] forcible sodomy).

14 18 Pa.C.S. § 3301 (relating to arson and related
15 offenses).

16 18 Pa.C.S. § 3502 (relating to burglary).

17 18 Pa.C.S. § 3701 (relating to robbery).

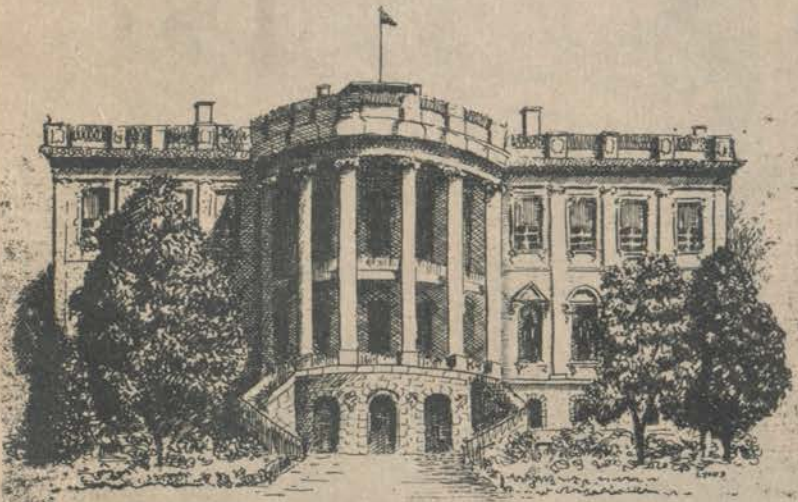
18 18 Pa.C.S. § 4101 (relating to forgery).

19 18 Pa.C.S. § 4902 (relating to perjury).

20 Section 4. Section 1 shall take effect in 30 days.

21 Section 5. Section 2 shall take effect immediately or on the
22 effective date of 42 Pa.C.S. § 5552, whichever occurs later.

Ten gays in the White House



At the White House this Saturday, **March 26th**, an historic first encounter to discuss the vital issues of discrimination and civil rights will take place with a representative of President Carter, five lesbians, and five gay men.

This meeting is the first of a series arranged by the National Gay Task Force (the largest gay civil rights organization in the world) to discuss gays and the military, immigration, U.S. Civil Rights Commission, and other important topics. This will involve a multitude of hearings, presentations, witnesses, experts, documents, statements, and exhibits.

We need your help now to make the

best possible use of this unprecedented opportunity to confirm our constitutional and human rights.

National Gay Task Force
80 Fifth Avenue, Room 506
New York, New York 10011

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I'm convinced. Here is my check payable to NGTF for \$ _____ for NGTF's White House Effort.

NGTF I'd like to become a member of NGTF. Here is my contribution of \$ _____ (\$25, \$15, \$100, \$50).

MIAMI GAYS NEED HELP!

If Anita Bryant's anti-gay campaign wins in Miami, you could be her next target! Your gay brothers and sisters in Miami are engaged in a bitter struggle to save the local anti-discrimination ordinance. Anita Bryant and her large, vocal group of bigots have tremendous financial support from all over the country. This is going to be a **vital** election for gay rights, but in order to win, we must conduct a massive and effective campaign.



This Costs \$\$

We need your financial support.

We are appealing to gays and straights all over the country for help.

- PLEASE • AS GROUPS, CONDUCT FUND-RAISING EVENTS.
• AS INDIVIDUALS, SEND \$1⁰⁰, \$5⁰⁰--WHATEVER YOU CAN.

This is your battle and we need your help to win.

SEND YOUR CHECKS TO:
Dade County Council
P.O. Box 414
Miami, Florida 33131

SAVED FROM THE
DISH DEMON!

OH, PRINCESS LUFTWAFFE, I'M SO ASHAMED OF MYSELF! LAST NIGHT AT THE BAR...

FALLING IN LOVE AGAIN

YOU WERE SO UGLY WHEN YOU WERE BORN, THE DOCTOR SLAPPED YOUR MOTHER!

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I KNOW WHO COULD SIT ON THE EMPIRE STATE BLDG. AND ASK FOR MORE!

THE BARTENDER ISN'T EXACTLY BUTCH. IN FACT HE MIGHT AS WELL HAVE HIS FEET NAILED TO THE CEILING!

SHALL WE CALL A GARBAGE TRUCK TO PICK YOU UP--OR ARE YOU WALKING?

IF YOU'D PUT THOSE TITS ON YOUR BACK, YOU'D MAKE A FORTUNE!

IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU HAVE BEEN POSSESSED BY THE DISH DEMON! "NAPALMOLIVE" CAN HELP!

"NAPALMOLIVE"? BUT THAT'S JUST FOR WASHING DISHES!

NONSENSE, MY DEAR! I EVEN USE IT AS A SHAMPOO! IN FACT--

-- YOU'RE SOAKING IN IT RIGHT NOW!

FLIP!

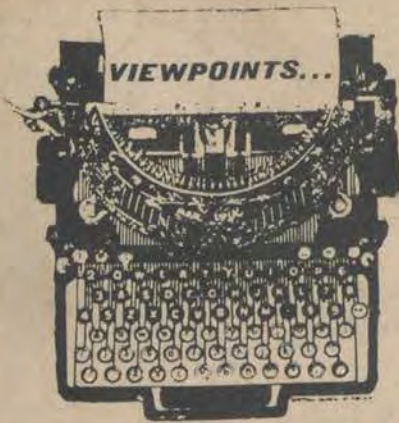
GLUB!

EEeaaargh

GEE THANKS, PRINCESS LUFTWAFFE! I FEEL MUCH BETTER NOW!

ONLY TOO GLAD TO HELP! WHEN I THINK OF SOME OF THE THINGS I SAID BEFORE I FOUND "NAPALMOLIVE" I COULD CRINGE!

ARIES
© 1977



DAKE COOPER

By JANET COOPER

"DO NOT TOUCH. THIS FLAGPOLE IS ELECTRICALLY CHARGED." Two flag poles frame the path to the door of the Treadway of Lancaster, Pa., a member of the white middle class credit card Amerikkkan Motel Chain. On one flag pole is the Amerikkkan flag; from the other flies the Bicentennial flag. Strait is the gate at Treadway.

Bill Horn is a male to female transvestite. When Treadway management hired Bill Horn, they knew that Bill was a sexual minority member. Now that same management has found Bill's work unsatisfactory. They had fired him.



CAUTION

DO NOT touch
This flag pole is
ELECTRIFIED



On February 17, 1977, there was a hearing about Bill's case. The flak-catcher representing management was acting general manager, Pat Dahn. She would never need a straight back chair to have perfect posture. She sat as if she never knew what dancing, rhythm, undulation, fucking, shuddering, pissing, and shitting felt like. She looked like she wouldn't have enjoyed any of those experiences anyway.

In the armament of bureaucratic weaponry come written notices. Bill had received three:

FIRST WRITTEN NOTICE

Charge: Using a room without permission from the department head.

Fact: Bill had asked the motel desk clerk for a key in order to change clothes. He did not use the bed. He did not use the bathroom. He did not even put anything down on the bed.

SECOND WRITTEN NOTICE

Charge: It is the policy of the company that any employee who is not working should not be on the property without the permission of the department head. When permission has been granted proper conduct and attire should be observed at all times.

Fact: Bill was invited to attend a formal dinner dance in drag at the Treadway on January 23. On January 14 Bill discussed the invitation with his supervisor. Bill's department head was in training in New Jersey the 16-25th. Therefore, Bill did not have a chance to discuss his invitation with her.

Warning: On January 26, the same day Bill had worked 16-1/2 hours, he received his second written notice.

THIRD WRITTEN NOTICE

Charge: Failure to report to work on time.

Fact: On January 26 Bill had worked 16-1/2 hours. On January 27 Bill overslept. Bill was shaving when the phone rang. The call was from Bill's department head telling him that he was late to work. Bill does not have a car. Buses run every two hours and twenty minutes and therefore he had to call a cab which ride costs \$1.70. Bill earns \$2.50 an hour. After Bill was dressed, he had to wait an additional twenty minutes for the taxi. As a result, Bill arrived at work three hours late.

ADDENDUM

Such formal bureaucratic maneuvers leave no opportunity to list the compliments the patrons of Treadway gave Bill on his conscientiousness with style. He had helped set up weddings, banquets, dinner dances, exclusive financial wheeler-dealer meetings, cocktail parties, political dinners for State officials, so smoothly and beautifully that he often received rounds of applause. Indeed, frequently, mothers of the bride would offer Bill pieces of the wedding cake.

Any minority person knows instinctively that when management presents such petty reasons for firing someone, that management is looking for an excuse to get rid of us. While Treadway doesn't mind our minority money spent in their bars, restaurants, and motel rooms, if they do mind employing us, we should not spend our dollars at their facilities.

There are over a million unemployed people. Someone of Bill Horn's competency and efficiency doesn't have to be one of them.

Bureaucratic Hassle: Hotel lawyers contacted the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bar Tenders Local 397 February 19. The Treadway lawyers told the Union as per Union agreement, Bill Horn had had 48 hours to go to his Union steward. He in turn had 48 hours to arrange a meeting between Treadway management and Bill. Then they all had five days to submit a written complaint. Because Bill's complaint was dated February 11, eleven days had passed since Treadway management had fired Bill. Therefore, Bill had gone three days over the time limit when he could by union contract submit a complaint in writing.

Result: Neither Treadway management nor the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bar Tenders Local 397 had been at all interested in helping Bill retain his job. Currently Bill Horn is on welfare.



ME AND THE BRYLCREME BOYS

I was a boob-tube gay child. Every afternoon I would run home from school, avoiding all play, to watch Popeye beat Brutus to a pulp, and see Superman bounce bullets off his hefty chest. After an unwelcome break for dinner I would see Jim West seduce the Wild West and Alexander Mundy steal his way into political infamy. I hated them all as much as I loved them. They always won. Violence reigned in their lives and they always bounced back. Odd how Superman wore his suit habitually and how West and Mundy literally lost their shirts at climactic moments. I was being teased and it was never for my benefit. In eighth grade I used to write in the corner of all my papers "RWV" which translated is the initials of Robert Wagner and the part he played, Alexander Mundy, upside-down and overlapped. If someone asked me what "RWV" meant I would say something about Raquel Welch, knowing I could never tell the truth. I still thought I was "the only one in the world" who felt these feelings and I was upset because I was beginning to fantasize sexually. My preference was becoming overwhelmingly obvious. I loved the Brylcreme Boys, Dial Soap commercials, Beach Party movies. I never liked soap operas, but their actors were always the best. TV's duos were terrific, too. There was Batman and Robin and the team from "Time Tunnel." I always felt something special existed between TV's duos. Funny how women played no important roles in their lives. Though most of my

television favorites initially won me over with their physiques. I knew it was really an emotional sense that kept my interest.

If they had only been sensitive and sincere more than rigid and aloof, then I could have respected them and the male role they so aptly played.

I wonder how gay women related to the characters of the tube. Are today's Police Woman, Wonder Woman, and Bionic Woman counterparts of my favorites? Who was there before them? Donna Reed?

I watch maybe an hour of television a term now. I read instead, a much finer pastime. I only wish I would have done that then. Television is no place for a gay mind.

- Peter Sichel - ZAP



cpf

HOW TO BOOK A TV OR RADIO PROGRAM

by Loretta Lotman

Broadcast talk shows are a familiar and popular forum for public opinion. Especially on radio, plenty of time is allotted for full discussion of issues. Often, telephone call-ins are part of the program, allowing audience participation. The gay problem, to date, has been that we've been at the mercy of the stations as to when we appear. Gay-related topics are brought up at the whim of programming staffs, often based on misconceptions, stereotypes or sensational issues. Consistency is rare—and I'd like money for each time I've heard, "We've already done our gay show for the year," as if we were a one topic minority.

OK, local gay groups. Start booking us on the air. Appearances by lesbians and gay men are arranged a lot more easily than one would guess. The key is to consider this part of the continuing education process, Public Relations. Stations are licensed to serve the public. We're part of the public. Start pushing to get our point of view on the air.

Preliminary — Get together a central person or group to do the bookings. Look at what is actually, factually happening in your local community. Who would make a good speaker? What are appropriate topics? How many people would be willing to be seen on TV as openly gay? How many others would be willing to go on radio? Put together lists of topics (religion, military, coming out, health services, etc.); contact the hoped-for speakers and get their consent IN ADVANCE to submit their names to programs. Pull from gay churches, counseling centers, services, lobbyists—everywhere. Check program listings in your area and make a list of locally produced talk shows. Monitor them for format, content, approach, fairness of treatment. Call the stations and ask, "Who books the XYZ show?". Get name and title, then talk with the person. Be polite, calm, rational, informative, cheerful, brave, reverent—and persistent. If told to submit a letter, do it. Then,

follow up with more phone calls. Be insistent and consistent. Booking people get deluged with requests for placement on their shows. Especially if the local media is not yet sensitized to the gay issue, it will take time. STICK WITH IT. We need the open, public visibility of the media to reach our closeted brethren and the homophobes.

Fact — Talk shows usually book 2-3 weeks in advance of air. Don't call the day before an event and expect to get someone on the air. Unless there has been a last minute cancellation, the time has been filled for weeks. After program staffs have been sensitized, if you are capable of filling last minute openings, let the programs know. It's a great way to gain extra, unexpected air time.

Women and Men Together — If you don't believe in the problems of lesbian invisibility, read the recent *Time* magazine article. The straight media still believes Gay = Male only. Don't let them tell you who to put on the air. Push for equal numbers of women and men.

On-The-Air — Activists often talk to each other in shorthand without realizing it. On the air, treat any program as Gay Liberation 101. Start from "Gay is a good and viable lifestyle" and quote chapter and verse from the APA, current gay rights legislation, Kinsey statistics, etc. Remember, most people are still afraid, ignorant or convinced we're sickles. When you appear on the air, you're helping people change their opinions of us. Make a good impression. DON'T LOSE YOUR TEMPER. No matter how bad a question is from a host, don't get mad—it's the easiest way to lose credibility. Use logic, understanding. If hit with a bigoted question, don't answer it; point out its bigotry, the misconceptions it stems from. Then, rephrase and answer, or suggest an alternate question to cover much the same ground and answer that.

Don't Debate — When Blacks appear on programs, they don't have to be countered by the Ku Klux Klan. When we have some positive, non-prejudicial information to make available, shows don't need a Charles Socarides to "balance." Draw parallels with the Black movement whenever possible. We are part of a civil rights movement, representing a much maligned minority. Our existence cannot be open to debate.

If the show is a call-in, let your local gay community know and use those phones!! Use your calls to supplement what is being said on the program, or lead the speakers into a new topic area. It is hard to realize the totality of a discussion when you're in the middle of a broadcast discussion. If you're listening/watching, you can judge what's needed more objectively than someone who is on the air. Get involved. Let your voices be heard.

After the Show — Make your reactions known to the station. As long as the host wasn't a total pig, try to make your response positive. Say you'd like to see more of this sort of minority programming, it was informative, interesting, captivating, etc. Positive reinforcement is as necessary to broadcasters as complaints.



More/cpf

And Then — Work to book your next show on the same program. Don't accept the "we've already done it" attitude. Again, be nice, sweet, persuasive, and persistent. We need consistent representation to break down the stereotypes. This is among the most important work local groups can do. SO DO IT!!!

Miscellaneous — A good peg for a program is an event (demonstration, conference, legislative hearings) or a visit by a national gay person. If an out of town person is able to get on the air, make certain she/he appears with a local representative... In persuading a person to book gay representatives, stress how interesting the program will be, the amount of public interest in the issues. Don't talk about "moral right" or any noble issues. Tell them they'll get ratings (they will), especially if they publicize the show. Ratings equal money (advertising rates) and are a major arbiter of station priorities. Pragmatism counts... If the booking person for the station is not cooperative or gives you a flat "no" to gay representation, go over her/his head to the producer of the show... The next step up is Program Director. If all else fails (total, complete unwillingness to consider gay representatives) go to the General Manager... Once the show is booked, publicize it as thoroughly as possible through gay and straight media. After going to all the effort to book the damn thing, make certain people know to watch and listen... Don't ever suggest a program topic you can't provide people for. You know it's the one that the show will want to have.

- National Gay Task Force Action Report



THE FANCY DANCER, Patricia Nell Warren, Morrow, 287 pp., \$7.95 (hardcover)

MOISE AND THE WORLD OF REASON, Tennessee Williams, Bantam, 214 pp., \$1.75 (softcover)

THE BUTTERSCOTCH PRINCE, Richard Hall, Pyramid, 159 pp., \$1.25 (softcover)

Patricia Nell Warren's much anticipated "The Fancy Dancer" is bound to disappoint a lot of readers who were looking for another "Front Runner." Although a love affair is central to its proceedings, the new novel is not a love story, as was "The Front Runner." Some might also take Ms. Warren to task for selecting an occupation less open to "expose" for her second Gay novel; writing of homosexuality in the sports world may have set some people back, but we've all heard too many chair-loft stories to be much shocked by a homosexual priest. Again, unlike "The Front Runner," "The Fancy Dancer" is also not a polemic. Also, ultimately, "The Fancy Dancer" is





not nearly so satisfying as "The Front Runner," mainly because once stripped of being either a love story or a polemic, it ends up having very little to offer either in terms of plot or observation. Since trenchant social comment has not seemed to be Ms. Warren's forte thus far, even when she has the opportunity for it, perhaps we are all better off for the absence of the latter. The lack of a plot is far more a hindrance in such an otherwise old-fashionedly constructed book in that it causes a lot of the "anecdotes" to go nowhere (as they have nothing to tie into - Both Dickens and Shakespeare among others were well aware that in order to have subplots, you first needed a plot) or, worse, looks like useless padding.

What "The Fancy Dancer" is, is a character study, and therein lies its major importance as well as its major weaknesses. The book is the story of Father Tom Meeker's "coming out", or at least his coming to grips with his sexuality. At first thought, it must have seemed an inspiration to choose a priest because of all the added angst he'd go through (religious guilt and all that); but in fact it removes the primary causes (family expectations of marriage, family, etc.) and replaces them with some that are far removed from the experiences of most Gays, and the parallels are not that easily drawn. Ms. Warren further blows her chances of bringing her story into the experience of most Gays when she constructs a scene where Fr. Tom tells his parents. They accept the circumstances so congenially that it boggles the imagination.

When a novel is essentially a character

study, its success depends much on whether or not readers can easily identify with the major character and too much of Fr. Tom's reality is too far removed from our experience. Many may find the book interesting; few will find it accessible, except Gay Catholics.

Where Ms. Warren, and thus "The Fancy Dancer" excels, is in the creation of finely observed, sympathetic characters who remain believable, even when their situations are not. The portrayals of the crochety Fr. Vance (though perhaps a bit too Barry Fitzgerald) and the two elderly (possibly Lesbian) women, Missy Oldenburg and Claire Faux, are especially fine. The account of Missy's death and funeral and how Claire continues life without her are among the book's most moving detours. Fr. Tom's seducer cum lover, Vidal Stump, unfortunately remains pretty much an enigma; no matter how much time is spent on him, we do not know much of him. Either he is less character than catalyst (which is unforgivable, given the richness of other characterizations) or, more likely, he has eluded Ms. Warren, thus providing the book's major structural flaw. Further, what little we can glean from the incomplete sketch of Vidal shows him to be a far more interesting character than the blase, wishy-washy Father Tom.

Problems of a different sort exist in "Moise and the World of Reason," the main one appearing to be that the novel was written for the same self-confessed reasons that Williams also put down his "Memoirs": money. At no time is one aware of the dark poetry which suffuses Williams' better work (there are many seamy characters and locales, but, alas, no poetry). Much of the traditional Williams' symbolism is again trotted out; only this time it's either bludgeoningly over-used or (worse) blatantly explained. The sheer push for being obvious, especially with symbolism which Williams has already made self-evident in much of his previous work is a clumsy exercise, and it's downright painful to observe that Williams no longer has the confidence in himself or his symbols to simply let them stand free.

Set in a 24-hour period (and supposedly written during it), beginning when the narrator's (a failed writer!) lover has "abandoned" him, "Moise" shares with "Memoirs" the free-flow association of memories and perceptions. It also shares a lot of the same memories either thinly or not at all disguised. This latter makes

for especially difficult reading for anyone who read the "Memoirs" (as I did) recently prior to "Moise." Perhaps not so oddly enough, the name Moise can be constructed out of some of the word Memoirs; thus it becomes more apparent what the "novel" really is: a wildly self-indulgent roman-a-clef autobiography. Some writers might have the panache to pull this off (and most would have the sense not to publish memoirs), but it would seem that although Williams once did, he no longer has.

A lack of pretention and screams of Art (with a capital A, naturally) are refreshing, especially when encountered after a pompous bore like "Moise" or an over-touted piece of fluff like "Fancy Dancer." Richard Hall's "The Butterscotch Prince" practically sneaked out of Pyramid over a year ago (they apparently did not want to emphasize that this mystery was almost completely peopled with Gay characters) and it eluded me until I found it in a flea market a few weeks ago. According to Hall, in a recent "Advocate" column, the only reason some Gay publications got hold of review copies was because he personally bought and sent them. This is a shame, because works like "Moise" and "Dancer" are being touted as Important Gay Fiction, while "Butterscotch Prince" offers what neither of them does: good solid writing coupled with some of the pitiest observation on humanity which I've come across lately. This is not to say that "The Butterscotch Prince" is Important Gay Fiction, but the beauty of it is that it doesn't pretend to be either. It never aspires to be more than a murder mystery, but in its course it makes more cannily perceptive and pungent commentary on the Gay scene than both "Moise" and "Dancer" put together. Just for good measure, one can toss in "The Front Runner" too, as well as all the Gordon Merrick books, and Hall's novel still comes out ahead. To get so much from a book that does not claim to be the be-all/end-all in Gay fiction is one of the freshest breaths of air I've encountered in my reading in a long time.

- HL



Reprinted from CNU News, 10/19/88
It's the last of the month, two outs, the bases are loaded—and all you can say is, "He's cute?"!

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letters

To readers of the GAY ERA,

The Lancaster Gay Switchboard needs volunteers, both women and men. We have been serving the Central Pennsylvania Gay Community for two years and have been dependant on volunteers and contributions for our existence. Most of our expenses are for phone service, office supplies and reference material for our staff. Presently the Switchboard operates five days a week, Wednesday through Sunday, from 7 to 10:30 p.m. We would like to increase our hours to operate every day. We have a well organized staff who hold monthly meetings, the next two being Tuesday, March 29 and Tuesday, April 26, both at 7:30 at 3002 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster.



In hopes of building a stronger, happier, and healthier gay community, the Switchboard offers these services:

- ...Reference data on bars in Lancaster and other areas. (We recently passed a can around the Tally-Ho and would like to thank everyone who donated!)
- ...A no-charge peer counseling service for gay women and men.
- ...A calendar of events for the gay community
- ...A list of bookstores and other businesses that cater to the gay community's needs.
- ...A medical referral service for gay health concerns.
- ...A referral service offering other professional services where gays can go without feeling any threat or hostility toward their life-style.
- ...Sponsorship of alternative social functions
- ...And a place where gays can work with and for the Gay community.

A training session is required of all volunteers. If you are interested, and we hope you are, write to Lancaster Gay

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Switchboard, 3002 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, Pa. 17601. Or call us at (717)-898-2876.

In Spirit,
Steve McCreary, staff,
Lancaster Gay Switchboard

Dear Gay Era,
I would like to express my opinion of Gay Era to you. I feel this paper is an excellent example of what the press in this country should try to achieve, especially the Gay Press.

In the April 1977 issue vol. 3 no. 2 page seven, the article entitled "Who is Anita Bryant" is an extraordinary piece. My compliments to J.W.

I would like you to know that your efforts are well appreciated throughout the State.

Sincerely,

Jude Montarsi
Lock Haven, Pa.

(Chairperson-Political Committee,
Homophiles of Williamsport, Pa.)



-HIGH GEAR

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BITS 'N' PIECES

CANADA BARS GAY MALE SEX MANUALS

OTTAWA, CANADA—The Canadian Government has prohibited the importation of *Loving Man* and *Men Loving Men*—two explicit but high quality books about gay male sexuality. Copies of both the books were seized by Canadian customs three weeks ago and immediately sent to Ottawa for a decision. The Canadian government then ruled the two books "immoral and indecent," and banned them from Canada.

Harvey Mayes, author of *Loving Man* along with the late Dr. Mark Friedman, assailed the ban as "immoral and indecent." "I am outraged," Mayes told GCN. "This decision makes absolutely no sense. It is a pure case of homophobia. They are picking on the gay community." *Loving Man*, which is published in the U.S. by Bark Publishing Company, has had no trouble in this country.

Mayes emphasizes that *Loving Man* is not a sex manual per se. "It has counseling, sexual, and medical information," he said. The other prohibited book, *Men Loving Men*, is written by Mitch Walker and published by Gay Sunshine Press. In a recent review of the book in the *Boston Gay Review* writer Michael Bronski praised the book as "a true and honest attempt to treat sexuality both physically and spiritually."

Loving Man author Mayes told GCN that he didn't have any immediate plans to challenge the Canadian decision. "It's up to the importer to do something," he said. "But of course I'll strongly support any attempt to get the book allowed into Canada."

- Gay Community News

LONDON—The *Gay News*, England's gay newspaper, has been ordered to appear for trial at the Old Bailey on July 4. The newspaper and its editor, Denis Lemon, face charges of "blasphemous libel" brought by anti-pornography crusader Mary Whitehouse. Whitehouse brought her suit after the *Gay News* published a poem by James Kirkup last June 3, a poem which Whitehouse asserts blasphemed Jesus Christ.

Editor Lemon is in the process of trying to raise 20,000 pounds in order to defend the newspaper. So far only 7,200 pounds has been raised.

- Gay Community News

FLIPPING THE BIRD

HARTFORD, CT—A Superior Court decision has found that to raise one's middle finger ("give 'em the bird") is not in and of itself to create an obscene gesture. The court ruling came from a case involving a 16-year-old high school student who was arrested after flipping the bird, from his school bus, at a passing squad car. To be obscene, the decision stated, the gesture must arouse sexual interest and be significantly erotic. In his written opinion, Judge Leo Parskey traced the history of "the finger" back to its origin in ancient Greece.

- GC News

GAY AWARENESS AT MSC

Gay Awareness of Millersville State College was officially recognized under MSC's student senate on March 31, 1977. The group, originated by Joseph M. Labance, has been holding regular meetings since February 1, 1977.

Gay Awareness' elected Co-chairpersons are Carol Eveschild and Joseph Labance. Membership is open to campus Gays, other sexual minorities, non-gays, and the community at large.

At past meetings the group has featured speakers from Gays United Lancaster and informal "rap" sessions after the initial agenda.

Future plans include: changes in MSC's discrimination policies, additional pro-gay books in the library, expanding membership, speakers, social events, educational activities, and conscience raising.

For information about meeting times and places, contact: Gay Awareness of Millersville State College, Box 3333, Gordinier Hall, Millersville State College, Millersville, PA 17551. or: Lancaster Gay Switchboard (717)-898-2876 Wed-Sun. 7-10:30 p.m.

NO DOG DAY HERE

NEW YORK—John Wojtowicz, the convicted bank robber whose bizarre story was the basis for the movie, "Dog Day Afternoon," has won a new sentencing hearing from the U.S. Court of Appeals. It is expected that his sentence will be lightened.

- Gay Life

THE SMALL SOCIETY.



BOYS WOULD RATHER BE GIRLS?

LOS ANGELES—Dr. Robert J. Stoller, a University of California psychoanalyst, has claimed that all little boys start life by wishing they were little girls. Dr. Stoller told the 143rd annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science that it was "only natural" that all babies would prefer to be girls, because the mother is the parent that babies identify with first.

- Gay Life

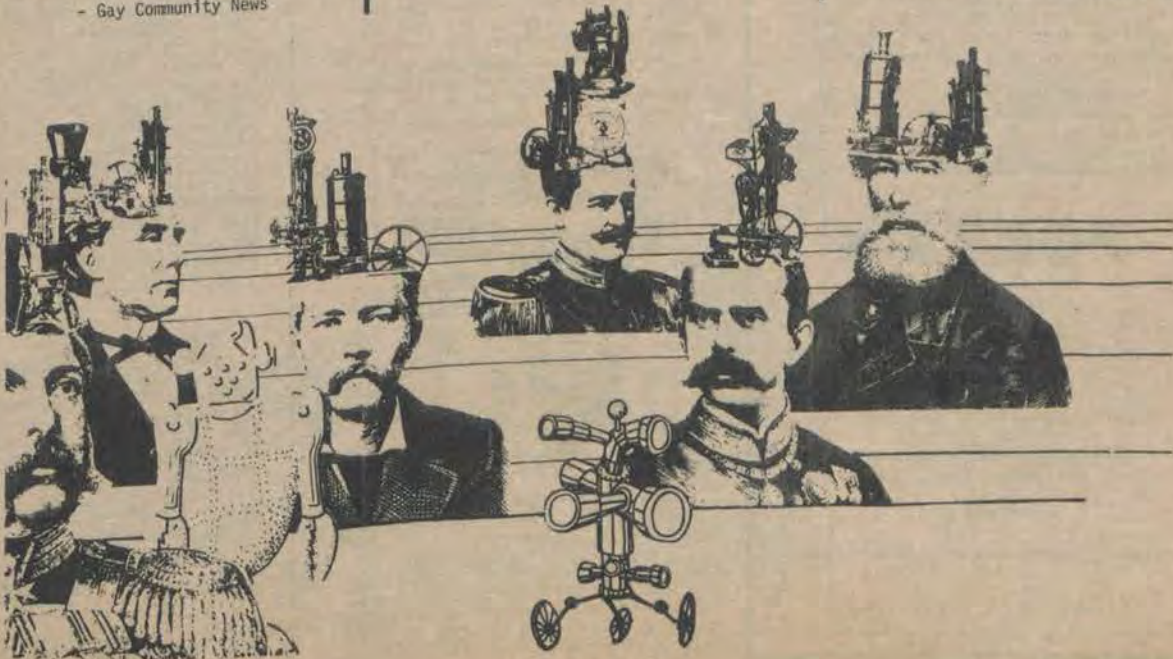


Photo by Bill Bland

Jim Yeadon

GAY EXPECTED TO GET WISCONSIN NOD

MADISON, WI—Jim Yeadon, the first openly gay alderperson in Madison's history, is seeking election on his own in this month's general election. Yeadon, who is 26 years old, defeated 13 other contenders for the



city council seat vacated by Robert Wfedenbaum last October. His victory followed more than 3 hours of candidate presentations and a series of 8 ballots. He has served as alderperson since then and is expected to win a full term in the upcoming election.

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Yeardon, who has been a gay activist since 1969, does not feel that running as an openly gay man has been an error. "I think anybody who brings it (the gay issue) up will sink his own ship," he said.

Yeardon played a leading role in framing the Madison ordinance which extended anti-discrimination safeguards to gay people in Madison.

"I'm a vegetarian and I'm gay, but they are not something I'm going to push on anyone else," Yeardon observed. "I'm willing to educate people on those issues, but I won't say that everybody has to be gay or a vegetarian."

- Gay Community News

GAY COFFEEHOUSE STARTS SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENT

PHILADELPHIA—The Philadelphia Gay Coffeehouse, 326 Kater Street, will now feature entertainment on certain Sunday evenings, every Friday night. The Coffeehouse is a popular center for gay women and men and their friends for the entire Delaware Valley.

On Sunday, April 24, Anthony Louis, also a singer-songwriter, entertains at the Coffeehouse. Louis has performed on TV, in clubs, and on college campuses. He is a recording artist with Philadelphia's Virtue Records.

The Gay Coffeehouse is open every Friday, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., every Saturday 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., and every Sunday 8 p.m. to 12 midnight. There is no admission charge.

The Philadelphia Gay Coffeehouse is located on the second floor of the Gay Community Center of Philadelphia, directly behind the TLA Cinema, and half a block below Fourth and South Streets.

PORNO HUNTER PURGED

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Assistant U.S. Attorney Larry Parrish — one of the nation's most vocal anti-pornography crusaders — is about to lose his job. Both Parrish, who successfully prosecuted the conspiracy case of "Deep Throat" star Harry Reems, and his superior, Thomas Turney, are victims of the Carter administration job reshuffling. Both Parrish and Turney are Republicans and they both were replaced by Democrats.

Tennessee lawyer Mike Cody will get U.S. Attorney Turney's job but it is not known at this point who will be Parrish's replacement. Parrish has offered the in-



coming U.S. Attorney his assistance on pending cases, but the new appointee will have none of it. "No, thank you," Cody said. "Parrish is a hard-working attorney, but I feel we have a staff in the federal office that can handle cases without his assistance."

The incoming U.S. Attorney also refused comment on two of Parrish's most celebrated prosecutions—the "Deep Throat" and "School Girl" cases. "That was their (Turney and Parrish's) red wagon and they will have to live with it," he said. As a private lawyer, Cody has defended clients charged with pornographic offenses.

- Gay Community News

WOMEN'S ADVOCATE PRESSURED

HOUSTON, TX—Houston's Nikki Van Hightower, the only salaried "Women's Advocate" employed by a municipality in this country, has had her salary reduced from \$18,375 a year to \$1. The action was taken recently by the Houston City Council by a vote of 6-1 with Mayor Fred Hofheinz casting the lone dissenting vote. The council threatened that if Hightower did not resign her post voluntarily, they would abolish the post. The council contains no women members.

The council's decision came after it had heard testimony from anti-abortion and anti-ERA women. The speakers all denounced Hightower for promoting homosexuality, abortion, and the Equal Rights Amendment. Her opposition said that Hightower only represented the views of the National Organization for Women (NOW) and did not represent the view of the majority of Houston women.

Minutes after the Houston City Council abolished Nikki Van Hightower's post as the city's Women's Advocate, Mayor Fred Hofheinz appointed her to the post of Affirmative Action specialist. In her new job van Hightower will make the same amount of money she had originally made as the nation's first Women's Advocate.

- Gay Community News



Cartoon from the most recent issue of Civil Liberties, the ACLU newsletter

BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND—The gay rights movement in Northern Ireland appears to have won its victory to repeal the province's sodomy laws and to put the province in line with the 1967 English Act. The English Act decriminalized pri-

vate sex between consenting adults. Belfast's gays expect Ulster Secretary Roy Mason to make an Order in Council within the next month to that effect.

The Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission had accepted in principle on March 11 the recommendations of their sub-committee on homosexuality and the Commission is preparing a report which Mason should receive in early April.

- Gay Community News

Auth. LNS/cpf



LIVE (?) ON \$148/MONTH

The Department of Social Services in Santa Clara, California, has just discovered you can live on \$148 per month! The County's Board of Supervisors hailed the new study as a break-through in "proving" that welfare payments are high enough already.

It's all part of a general welfare "reform" program in Santa Clara county, aimed at making people "work for relief". The county's Social Services Department wants to "maintain and develop good work habits for the purposes of keeping the recipient from idleness and assisting in his rehabilitation and the preservation of his self-respect."

The \$148 figure is for a single person using all existing food stamp, health and other relief programs. It allows \$40 for food, \$5 for clothing, and \$3 for personal and household needs. The study concludes, "It is unlikely that a single person could live decently and maintain good health with substantially less than this amount." Not to mention self-respect.

- Harrisburg Independent Press

FBI'S FAVORITE FEMINISTS

NEW YORK—In its March 5-18 issue, the New York feminist publication MAJORITY REPORT lists the names of 169 New York feminists who were mentioned in the FBI's 1,377 pages of documents on the Women's Liberation Movement. Among the women mentioned are: author Rita Mae Brown, Rep. Bella Abzug, Boston lesbian activist Leslie Cagan, lesbian-feminist Ti-Grace Atkinson, authors Kate Millet, Susan Brownmiller, and Robin Morgan; Gloria Steinem and Betty Friedan, early feminist spokespeople; WOMEN AND MADNESS author Dr. Phyllis Chesler, and Weather Underground women Bernadine Dorn and Cathy Wilkerson. Also mentioned were Karen DeCrow, president of the National Organization for Women and black activist Angela Davis.

- Gay Community News

ERA SETBACKS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Two more states put a damper on hopes for a quick enactment of the Equal Rights Amendment last week. The Missouri Senate rejected the amendment by a 22 to 12 vote, a larger margin than the ERA's defeat in that state two years ago. At the same time the Oklahoma House of Representatives sent the bill back to committee, after the floor manager of the ERA admitted that he did not have the votes for passage.

In view of these setbacks and the very decisive defeat in North Carolina legislature last month, observers are reportedly doubtful that any more states will enact the amendment before new legislators are chosen in 1978. Three more states must

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ratify the ERA before March 1979 if it is to become a constitutional amendment.

- Gay Community News



FIGHTING THE ERA

OLYMPIA, WA—Opponents of the national Equal Rights Amendment are now trying to force a state-wide referendum to rescind the state of Washington's ratification of the ERA. Anti-ERA groups in Washington filed papers with the secretary of state to place a voter initiative on the November ballot. The state attorney general is now weighing the legality of the measure. If he okays the initiative, anti-ERA forces will then launch a petition drive to garner the necessary 128,000 signatures. Washington activists see the drive to rescind the Washington ratification as part of a targeting of the Northwest states. Idaho's legislature overturned its previous ratification of the ERA on Feb. 8 but similar moves have failed in Oregon, Montana and Wyoming.

- Gay Community News

The North Eastern Pennsylvania Gay Alliance has once again begun holding meetings. The regular monthly business meetings are augmented by extra parties, such as the recent wine and cheese and roller-skating parties. Social events are also included in the business meetings. NEPGA has also formed a singing group, The Tender Tones, which entertains at various meetings and variety shows in the area. Interested persons can get in touch with N.E.P.G.A. by writing the group at Box 1710, Shaverstown, PA 18708

Rona Barrett is reportedly following Anita Bryant's anti-gay kick, saying she wants to "help stamp out drugs and homosexuality and I won't rest until I do."

- Gay Life

We wish to apologize to those readers who searched in vain for last month's interview with Anita Brain. Omitting it was not an April Fool joke, except perhaps on us. We spent a good deal of time preparing this lengthy, in-depth interview, and no one was more surprised than us when we peered at the pages which were supposed to contain the article: everything we'd typed up was transferred to paper, except Miss Brain's words! Neither we or the various technical experts we called in on the problem have been able to come up with a concrete scientific explanation for the phenomenon. One of the experts has a theory that the unusual happening is somehow related to the similar phenomenon of a vampire's casting no reflection.



ENTERTAINING THE KIDS

LONDON, ENGLAND—Gay Sweatshop, the British gay theatre group, performed recently for about 50 high school students at the Royal Court Theatre. The theatre group performed a play called "Age of Consent" which uses two real events—the firing of a gay teacher and the jailing of a man who had an 18-year-old lover—as the basis for the play.

Although sensational press coverage of the event cut down on the number of schools which attended, one school teacher observed, "the kids have never seen anything like this. For them to see people stand up and say 'I'm gay' is incredible. Most children could not actually believe that the entire cast of Sweatshop was gay."

- Gay Community News



FIRST LADY INSTIGHT

WASHINGTON, DC—In an interview for the February issue of *Ladies Home Journal*, First Lady Rosalynn Carter discusses various "family chats" which have been held in the Carter home.

Among the topics which Rosalynn mentions has been discussed is the issue of gay rights. According to the interview, the Carter sons brought up subjects such as "marijuana, gay liberation and things like that." Jimmy, according to his wife, always listened and always encouraged the boys to have their own opinions.

- GC News

Convicted Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt, now on the lecture circuit, said this week that the people who had exposed the scandal were more corrupt and dangerous to America than those convicted of the crime.

Hunt was speaking to students at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. He said that he had not been treated fairly and defended his lying to the courts and federal investigators by saying: "No one is entitled to the truth."

- Harrisburg Independent Press

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O'LEARY MEETS CARTER

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Jean O'Leary, the National Gay Task Force's co-director, was among a group of women who met with President Carter and Vice President Mondale on March 10. O'Leary represented the Task Force, which was among 50 women's groups represented.

Pres. Carter was present for about half of the 40 minute session with the women's coalition while Vice Pres. Mondale was present during the entire meeting. Topics discussed included the Equal Rights Amendment, the appointment of women to high posts, and the creation of a women's advocacy cabinet post.

"Both Carter and Mondale expressed a sincere interest and commitment to the issues discussed, especially to the Equal Rights Amendment and to strengthening enforcement procedures for existing sex discrimination legislation," said O'Leary.

- Gay Community News

DO YOU KEEP PROMISES NEW FACES IN YOUR ADMINISTRATION... WHEN WILL WE SEE ONE?



GAY ALDERPERSON

MADISON, WI—Jim Yeardon, the first openly gay alderperson in Madison's history, is seeking election on his own in this month's general election. Yeardon, who is 26 years old, defeated 13 other contenders for the city council seat vacated by Robert Wiedenbaum last October. His victory followed more than 3 hours of candidate presentations and a series of 8 ballots. He has served as alderperson since then and is expected to win a full term in the upcoming election.

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Yeardon played a leading role in framing the Madison ordinance which extended anti-discrimination safeguards to gay people in Madison.

"I'm a vegetarian and I'm gay, but they're not something I'm going to push on anyone else," Yeardon observed. "I'm willing to educate people on those issues, but I won't say that everybody has to be gay or a vegetarian."

- Gay Community News

HOLLYWOOD, CA—Norman Mailer, the best-selling author whose views on women have gained him the ire of feminists, has now turned his "ammunition" on gay people. Mailer told a story, attributed to the French philosopher Voltaire, about visiting a male bordello at this year's Academy Award ceremonies: "The first time you go there, you're a philosopher. The second time you're a pervert," Mailer told the audience, paraphrasing Voltaire. The Oscar-thrilled audience reacted to Mailer's attempt at humor in stony silence.

- Gay Community News

Arnold Schwarzenegger made a statement on NBC's Tomorrow Show that, "Bodybuilders are as straight as can be," and revealed that he believes in having sex the night before a competition.

- Gay Life



WILLIAM KATT: Son of beefcake.

The current fave rave of several of our staffers (and no doubt some of our readers as well) is that humpy curly-haired blond from "Carrie," William Katt. Naturally as soon as we found out some info, we had to pass it on to you. Katt is the son of Barbara Hale (the erstwhile Della Street, currently plugging Radaranges) and Bill Williams who was a top beefcake performer in the 40s (like father, like son). For J.W. and H.L., here's a pic of the dimpled charmer seconds before the shit hits the fan in "Carrie." Eat your hearts out, fellas. The 22-year-old Katt has been signed for a number of films, the first of which is "First Love." (Sigh)

LUTHERANS ON GAYS

MINNEAPOLIS, MN—Gay people should be accepted for church membership despite the fact that their homosexuality must be viewed as a grievous sin, an American Lutheran Church research committee has decided.

Although the Standing Committee on Research and Analysis called for equality under law for gay people, the statement also asserted that "the message of the Scripture clearly is that homosexual behavior is a sin and contrary to the new life in Christ." The Committee says that its "proposed draft" is intended to stimulate thinking and promote discussion.

"AND HE SHALL PUNISH THE WICKED"

SAN FRANCISCO—The Sodom Times, a one page flyer which is distributed in financial districts here, has blamed gay people for recent droughts across the country. According to the publication, gay people in general and San Francisco gays in particular have brought the vengeance of God upon us. The paper compares San Francisco with the biblical cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, claiming that God's wrath is sure to come upon that city.

- GC News

NO DANCING IN INDIANA

BLOOMINGTON, IN—The Human Rights Commission of this university town has ruled that gays and same-sex couples have no rights to dance with each other. Although the city does have an anti-discrimination ordinance, the Human Rights Commission



ruled that dancing does not fall within the protected categories of that legislation. Since same-sex dancing does not necessarily indicate sexual orientation, the Commission ruled, there is nothing that can be done to force certain local discotheques to allow same-sex dancing.

The Commission also has said that it has no jurisdiction over situations in which people of the same sex are barred from sharing an apartment. The Commission again asserts that this is a "neutral" issue and does not necessarily indicate anti-gay discrimination. Many Indiana gays now argue that such interpretations of the ordinance virtually destroy its effectiveness in protecting homosexuals from discriminatory practices.

- Gay Community News



NEW YORK NEWSPAPER

NEW YORK—New York City got a new gay newspaper when the first two issues of Gays Week reached the newsstands. The newspaper is now functioning as a calendar so far but in the third issue—to be out shortly—the newspaper will present film reviews by former New Republic writer John Alfred Avant. Discussions of music, theatre, books and dance will follow the film reviews in upcoming issues. The final section to appear will be a "full fledged news section."

Gays Week emphasizes that the newspaper will "not be the house organ of any group or the mouth-piece of any organization."

The emergence of Gays Week follows the demise of recent gay newspapers in New York. The Gotham-Ledger began and ceased publication last summer, and the monthly newspaper Maverick closed almost a year ago as a result of disputes between editor Bishop Mikhail Francis Itkin and the newspaper's owners.

- Gay Community News



- HIGH GEAR

Let a smile be your umbrella, but watch out for rusty teeth!

per anrell
LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE

LOS ANGELES—According to the San Francisco Sentinel, Chief Ed Davis has once again come to the hearts of the homophile community with a recent statement. The controversial L.A. police chief reportedly maintained that San Francisco is "spinning wildly" in a wave of crime caused by the city's "Libertine" attitudes on victimless crime. Davis was quoted as having remarked that San Francisco is "a good laboratory of cutting down all the restrictions on homosexuality and dope, not locking people up and letting prostitutes run wild."

Davis' statements were made as part of his race for the Republican nomination for California Governor. Calling homosexuality a "perversion against nature," he added a strike against the passage of last year's California consenting sex act bill saying it caused the "development of new, young homosexuals."

- GC News



INEZ GARCIA ACQUITTED

SALINAS, CA—Inez Garcia, whose case had become a rallying point for feminists throughout the country, was acquitted at a re-trial last month on charges of murdering a man she said helped rape her. Spectators in the packed courtroom here burst into cheers as the 10 man, 2 woman jury announced its verdict.

Garcia, 32, was convicted over a year and a half ago on charges of killing Miguel Jimenez in Soledad, California back in 1974. Although Garcia claimed that she had been raped, the police ordered no examination of her for sexual assault at the time. Although the jury did find her guilty in her first trial and she has served 15 months in prison, an appeals court judge had ordered a second trial for her.

Feminists took up Garcia's case, viewing her as a woman who had courageously defended herself against attack.

- Gay Community News

Not that it's really any of our business, but just who was that naked man that two of the Gay Era's editors were recently seen dancing with at one of Lancaster's up-and-coming hot night spots?



L.I. COPS KILL DRAG

LAWRENCE, N.Y.—The Nassau County police department and the district attorney are investigating why three policemen fired eleven bullets into a man dressed in women's clothes last week. The police claim that the man—dressed in a shoulder-length blonde wig and a woman's white robe—had threatened them with a gun even after he had been shot. However, it turned out that the gun was empty. The NEW YORK POST reported that the man was on his way to a "rendezvous" with another man in the woods on the grounds of the Lawrence Country Club.

The victim, Harvey Aberle, a Flushing, N.Y., auto mechanic, won a Silver Star for heroism in Vietnam in 1968 when he charged a house under fire and helped lead five soldiers and a civilian to safety.

- Gay Community News

Wednesdays

- 7:30 pm, communion service, MCC, State College, Eisenhower Chapel. Social following.
- 7:30 pm, prayer meeting, MCC, Middletown.
- 8:00 pm, consciousness raising, MCC, Middletown.
- 8-10:00 pm, gay alcoholics group for both sexes meets at Friends Meeting House, 6th & Herr Streets, Harrisburg.
- 8:30 pm, Lesbian Collective: Women's Resource Center, Beaver & Allen Sts., State College.

Thursdays

- 7:00 pm, Christian Awareness Group meets. Eisenhower Chapel, Room 108, State College. More info call Gayline.

Fridays

- 12:00-1:00 pm, Luncheons for Lesbians, State College. More info call Gayline.



APRIL

- 21 - 8:00 pm, HOW regular meeting, 659 Beeber St; social hour to follow.
- 22-23 - NEPGA's Tender Tones singing group in Dallas Junior High School, Dallas, Pa, in Dallas Boustier Club Minstrel & Variety Show.
- 24 - Anthony Louis, singer & songwriter, Phila. Gay Coffeehouse, 326 Kater St. 215-922-1623.
- 27 - Library groups meet, Medical Library, Geisinger Medical Centre, Danville. Panel discussion beginning 10:30 am, topic "Sex is a Touchy Subject." One HOW member serving on panel.
- 29 - Mass/Meeting, Dignity, at Friends Meeting House, 6th & Herr Streets, Harrisburg, 8:00 p.m.
- 29 - Tom Wilson, performing original songs, Phila. Gay Coffeehouse.

MAY

- 5 - 8:00 pm, HOW, socializing and brief business meeting, 1005 Packer Street, Williamsport.
- 5-7 - "Gay and Christian" retreat at Kirkridge, Bangor, Pa. If interested in going & possibly car-pooling, contact Jerry at 717-232-2027.
- 6 - Ron Bluestein, on dulcimer, at Phila. Gay Coffeehouse, 326 Kater Street, 215-922-1623.
- 7 - 1:00 pm, Pa. Rural Gay Caucus meets, State College.
- 13 - Tom Bledsoe, dramatic readings, Phila. Gay Coffeehouse.
- 19 - 8:00 pm, HOW regular meeting, 659 Beeber Street, social hour to follow.
- 20 - Karl Tricomi, concert pianist, Phila. Gay Coffeehouse.
- 27 - Peggy Bernstein & Ian Mishkin, folk-singers, Phila. Gay Coffeehouse.

CALENDAR

EVERY WEEK



Sundays

- 7:30 pm, worship service, Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), State College, Eisenhower Chapel.
- 8:00 pm, worship service, MCC, 1001 N. Spring Street, Middletown.

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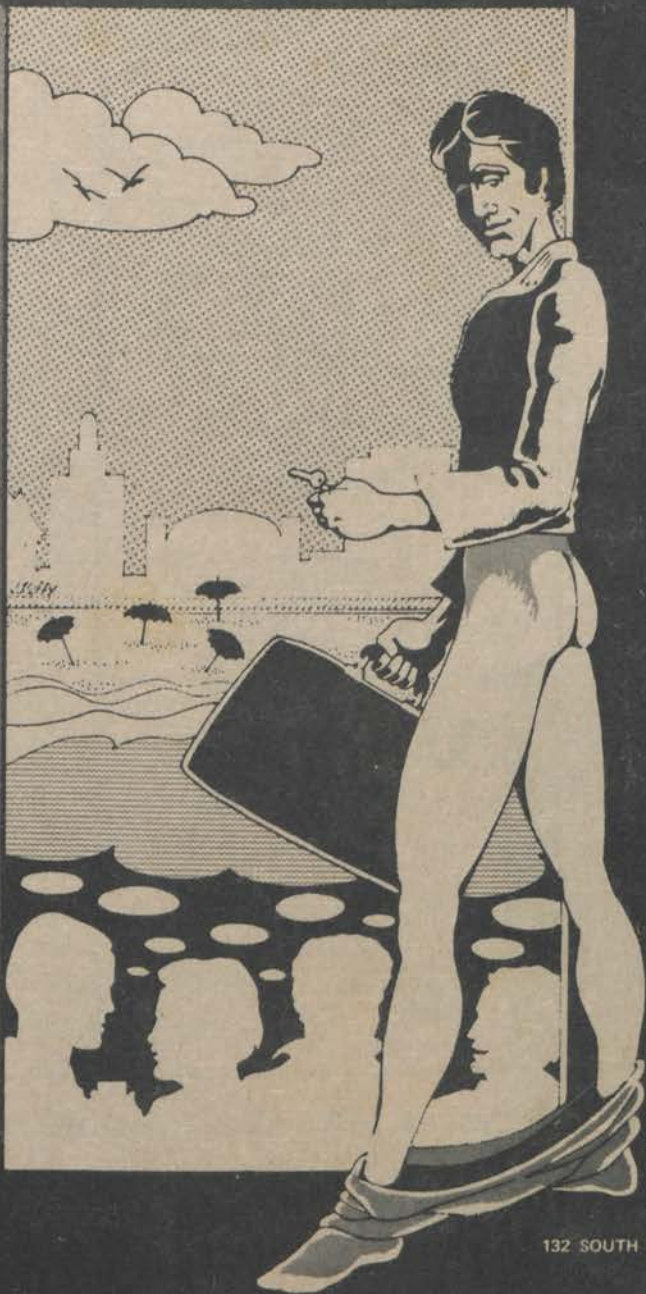
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