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# GAY ERA

vol.3 no.4

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JUNE 1977



*inside:*

LUNA & TROUTBACK WOMYN

DAVID KOPAY

**SEX APPEAL**

*that got your attention, didn't it?*



# in the NEWS

## FOURTEEN GAYS ATTEND WHITE HOUSE MEETING

On Saturday, March 26, an historic meeting was held at the White House between Margaret Costanza, Presidential Assistant for Public Liaison, and the National Gay Task Force. Fourteen representatives of the national lesbian and gay male communities participated. For a period of approximately three hours, a broad range of issues involving federal discrimination against gay citizens was discussed.

Representing the gay community were Jean O'Leary and Bruce Voeller, NGTF Co-executive directors; State Representative Elaine Noble of Boston; the Rev. Troy Perry\*, Ray Hartman, Myra Riddell and Charlotte Spitzer, Los Angeles; Dr. Franklin Kameny\*, Washington; Charles Brydon\*, Seattle; George Raya, San Francisco; Betty Powell\* and Charlotte Bunch\*, New York; William Kelley, Chicago; and Pokey Anderson\*, Houston. (Asterisk indicates NGTF board members)

Administration officials attending the March 26 session included Ms. Costanza's deputy, Marilyn Haft; and Robert Maulsom, a civil-rights specialist with Stuart Eisenstadt's Office of Domestic Affairs, who told NGTF representatives after the meeting that they had made a "brilliant and very moving" presentation. Also on hand, as an observer, was Ms. Cooki Lutkefедder of the Democratic National Committee, who said that she'd attended many such White House sessions and had found this to be "the most professional job I've seen."

Topics discussed at the meeting included federal civil rights legislation, U.S. military policy, Immigration and Naturalization, the Internal Revenue Service, prisoners' rights, the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, security clearances, Health Education and Welfare, the Federal Communications Commission, Housing and Urban Development, and the Civil Service Commission.

A major outcome of the meeting was the scheduling of appointments with all but two of the agencies involved with the issues of federal discrimination outlined at the March 26 meeting. In addition, arrangements have been made for a second White House meeting in September 1977 to assess the progress made in resolving the issues during the previous six months. Ms. Costanza also stated that after the September meeting she will "welcome a request for a meeting between the National Gay Task Force and President Jimmy Carter, and will recom-

mend such a request to the President."

Ms. Costanza also honored a request by Bruce Voeller to arrange a meeting on the subject of the gay rights bill in Congress. Frank Moore and other members of the President's Congressional Liaison staff will meet soon with Virginia Apuzzo and Ray Hartman, co-chairpeople for the Gay Rights National Lobby to discuss ways in which the Administration might be helpful in the passage of federal gay rights legislation.

Patricia Wald, Assistant Attorney General for Legislative Affairs, will chair a meeting at the Justice Department to discuss discrimination in the federal prisons and in immigration and naturalization policy. Attorney General Griffin Bell is expected to be present for at least part of the meeting. Other meetings on these issues will be held directly with the Bureau of Prisons and the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Additional meetings will be held with Dr. Chester McGuire, Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and with officials of the Civil Service Commission, the Commission on Civil Rights, and the Departments of State, Defense and Health, Education and Welfare.

The two agencies where meetings are not set are the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Communications Commission, which are independent agencies not under Administration control. However, Ms. Costanza assured the gay delegation that "sensitivity to the rights of gay people will be very seriously considered in considering nominees for vacancies on these commissions."

Ms. Costanza also promised to relay several specific requests to the President who was asked to "champion the cause" of human rights for gay Americans in the same way that he has done for oppressed minorities around the world. President Carter was asked to take immediate action in two areas: 1) Order that immigration policy be administered fairly and also that gay women and men who are unknown or of moderate means are admitted to this country under the same flexible policy that is currently applied to rich or famous gay visitors; and 2) Immediately upgrade the less-than-honorable discharges of an estimated 75,000 persons discharged from the Armed Services for homosexuality since World War

II, so these persons may not be deprived of jobs, unemployment compensation and veterans' benefits.

Ms. Costanza conducted the fourteen gay representatives on a White House tour prior to the meeting at the Roosevelt Room, and made herself available to the press after the meeting. "I just wish that the citizens of the nation could have joined me in that room to listen to the examples of oppression I heard today," she told CBS television. "Perhaps the issue of homosexuality would be better understood and perhaps more widely accepted in this country if they could have heard what I did."

## WHITE HOUSE FOLLOW-UP

Several things can be done to help make the upcoming meetings, arranged with White House help, between gay leaders and various federal agencies as productive as possible.

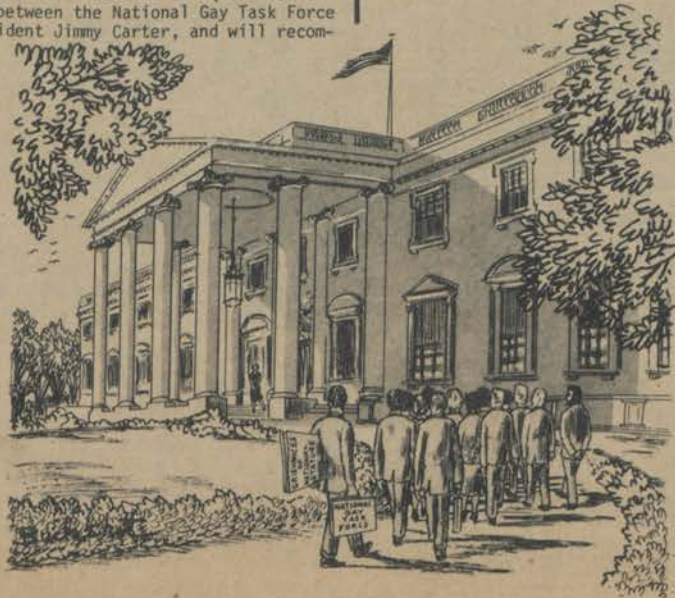
**First:** It is essential to approach these agencies with files containing concrete cases of discrimination against gays within their areas of responsibility, in order to document the need for action. Send any information you have about discrimination cases—the more and sooner the better—to NGTF c/o Jean O'Leary or Bruce Voeller. Agencies they and others will be meeting with include: the U.S. Civil Rights Commission (all areas); the Justice Department (prisons, immigration and naturalization); the State Department (security clearances, armed forces service); HUD (housing); and HEW (education, health care — e.g. V.D. treatment).

**Second:** It never hurts to show appreciation, so send letters of thanks and encouragement to President Carter, who approved the historic March 26 White House meeting, and his assistant Ms. Margaret Costanza, who conducted it and arranged for the follow-up meetings (including another one at the White House next September). Address: 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500.

**Third:** It costs money to achieve access to the bureaucracy. The Playboy Foundation has awarded NGTF a \$7,500 matching grant to cover the costs of research, preparation of materials, travel, etc. for this series of meetings. NGTF must raise an equal amount from other sources in order to receive the Playboy funds. So send whatever you can, earmarked for this purpose.

**Fourth:** NGTF's credibility as an organization representing the needs of 20,000,000 gay Americans depends, in part, on its own level of membership. We carry more weight the more members we have, as well as benefiting from the input of money, ideas, and information that members provide. So if you're not a member yet, please join; and if you are, recruit your friends.

— National Gay Task Force  
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## ACTIVIST CLEARED ON DRUG CHARGE

JACKSONVILLE, NC—A marijuana possession case in which local police claimed the right to search a motel room on "suspicion of homosexuality" was thrown out recently by Onslow County Superior Court Judge John Webb. The defendant, Bob Martin, founder in 1966 of the first officially recognized gay student group in North America, had been charged with felonious possession of marijuana and could have received five years in prison if convicted.

Police testified at a hearing on a motion by Martin's attorneys to suppress the evidence that they had kept the defendant under surveillance during the night of



Dec. 29/30 because "a civilian being with two Marines just doesn't look right."

In further testimony at the Feb. 21 hearing, police claimed that they had entered Martin's motel room, without a search warrant and after he and the two Marines had already left the room, in order to look for "a homosexual" because "they always operate in pairs." It was during their search of the room that the police allegedly seized marijuana.

According to Jeffrey S. Miller, Martin's local attorney, this was only the second time that Webb had thrown out a case for unconstitutional behavior on the part of Jacksonville police in his five years on the Superior Court bench.

The same judge had earlier sentenced Eugene Enslin, a Jacksonville resident, to a year in prison for sodomy in what became a test case.

According to the defendant, the Bob Martin Legal Defense Fund, which is headed by the Rev. Troy Perry, founder and moderator of the Universal Fellowship of the Metropolitan Community Churches, is still some \$1100 in debt. "Justice is not cheap," Martin added, asking that donations be sent to the defense fund c/o UFMCC, Box 5570, Los Angeles, CA 90055.

- Gay Community News



Rita Mae Brown

### RUBYFRUIT JUNGLE SET FOR FILM, MASS MARKETING

BOSTON—Rubyfruit Jungle, Rita Mae Brown's popular autobiographical novel of a lesbian's growing up, appears on the brink of an even greater success than it has already enjoyed. Bantam Books has announced that it plans to sell a mass market edition of the book this fall, with a first printing of 500,000 copies. Another 500,000 copy press run is planned soon afterward.

The book had been printed by Daughters Press, the women's collective that operates out of Plainfield, VT. Daughters has published eight printings of 10,000 copies each of Rubyfruit.

In addition to Bantam's mass marketing of Rubyfruit Jungle, Iris Productions, a local Boston film company, has bought film

rights to the book. A screen play has been written for the film, co-authored by author Brown and Boston writer Arnie Reisman. Reisman worked on the screenplay of the recent documentary about the blacklist, Hollywood on Trial. Hollywood was nominated for an Academy Award this year in the "Best Documentary" category.

According to Reisman, a director has been chosen for the film—a woman—whose name will be announced shortly. Tentatively shooting is expected to begin in the fall, probably in Georgia. (Most of the book is set in Pennsylvania and Florida; Reisman humorously described the Georgia locale as a "compromise" between the two states.) The film's backers hope to raise about \$2 million for the production.

Reisman told Gay Community News that, especially in the wake of the success of Rocky, several Hollywood studios are now expressing an interest in Rubyfruit. "The gay thing doesn't seem to bother most of them," Reisman told GCN. "And in view of Rocky's success, Hollywood is now taking a close look at movies that focus on one character."

- Gay Community News

### LESBIAN AND GAY MALE SEXUALITY AND LIFESTYLES SURVEY

Summit books announced that it has contracted for a book by Karla Jay and Allen Young which will be the first comprehensive "grass roots" survey of lesbian and gay male sexuality and lifestyles. Jay and Young plan to distribute as many as 500,000 questionnaires to the gay and lesbian communities through the gay and lesbian/feminist press, radio and television shows, organizations, group and task forces, churches, campuses, and bars. Different questionnaires have been prepared for men and women, and no attempt will be made to falsely correlate the two.

The questionnaire deals explicitly with gay male or lesbian sexuality itself, but it also includes a vital aspect of homosexuality—the social and psychological element. The authors believe that this study represents the first attempt to accurately and comprehensively document the gay sexual experience in the United States and Canada today.

With the exception of a few stereotypes, lesbians and gay men have remained the invisible minority and their experience has been largely uncharted. Gay people, due to



individual restraints and societal pressures, have had silent voices. What little is known about their sex lives has been gathered by straight professionals, many of them psychiatrists hostile to homosexuality and often with a vested interest in keeping gay people in the role of "sick patients." Much of this research, even when not hostile, such as the Kinsey Report (1948), is out of date, and contemporary establishment researchers have not touched this subject. Homosexuality has occasionally been portrayed in literature, but usually with such subtlety as to lack explicitness and clarity. Recently a small number of gay activists have written about gay sexuality in gay male and lesbian publications, but even these limited writings have not been made available to a general audience, straight or gay.

In short, ignorance about gay people is appalling. The report prepared by Jay and Young will consist largely of the words of thousands of gay individuals, male and female, speaking about their experiences. The result will not be a sexual manual or a pseudo-scientific laboratory approach to "deviants," but rather a warm, humanistic forum for gay people to express themselves honestly and openly.

Karla Jay and Allen Young have previously collaborated on several anthologies of writings of lesbian and gay men, including Out of the Closets: Voices of Gay Liberation, After You're Out, and Lavender Culture (in preparation). For further information, and copies of the questionnaire, write to: Survey, Box 98, Orange, MA 01364.

### HARRY REEMS: THE GOVERNMENT CLOSES THE BOOK

MEMPHIS, TN—U.S. Government prosecutors have decided to drop all charges against porno star Harry Reems. Reems, who had been found guilty of conspiracy because of his one-day stint of acting in the x-rated film "Deep Throat," had had his conviction overturned two weeks ago by Federal District Judge Harry W. Wellford. But Judge Wellford only ordered a new trial for Reems, leaving it up to the government to decide whether or not to re-prosecute the actor.

The government's decision to drop all charges against Reems also extends to the actor's pending trial for his role in the film, "The Devil in Miss Jones." Reems, actress Georgina Spelvin, and six others had been indicted for that film in a similar conspiracy indictment. Charges against Spelvin in the "Miss Jones" case were also dropped.

The judgment of U.S. Attorney Mike Cody not to re-try Reems appears to close the book on what many civil libertarians felt to be the most alarming conspiracy case since the trial of the "Chicago Seven." Reems' Memphis "show trial" on charges of conspiracy to produce and distribute "Deep Throat" brought U.S. prosecutor and anti-smut crusader Larry Parrish into national prominence. However, with the advent of the Carter Administration, the Republican Parrish was dismissed from his post and



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the more liberal Cody named as U.S. Attorney.

In ordering a new trial for Reems, Judge Wellford had stated that the actor's participation in the "Deep Throat" pornography "conspiracy" had taken place before the U.S. Supreme Court's Miller vs. California ruling. That ruling allowed individual communities to set up their own "community standards" to define what is pornography. However, in overturning Reems' conviction, Judge Wellford refused to rule on whether an actor or actress could be prosecuted as part of a "conspiracy" in a pornography case—considered by many observers to be the most frightening aspect of the Reems' prosecution. The judge also refused to order a new trial for the eleven other people and four corporations found guilty in the "Deep Throat" case, and they will be sentenced on April 29.

- Gay Community News



Former Ensign Vernon ("Copy") Berg III

### BERG GETS UPGRADED BUT NAVY KEEPS POLICY

by Jim Marko

WASHINGTON, DC—In what seems to be another move toward liberalization of policies in the U.S. Armed Forces, the Navy has upgraded the less than honorable discharge given to Ensign Vernon Berg, III. The 25-year-old Berg, who said he was "astounded" by the decision, will go before U.S. District Judge Gerhard Gesell on May 12 with his contention that he be allowed back in the Navy. Represented by the American Civil Liberties Union, Berg filed suit contending that it is unlawful to discharge an officer or an enlisted man solely because he is gay.

Although the new Secretary of the Navy has upgraded Berg's discharge and the Justice Department has said that "certain changes should be made in naval policy regarding the processing of gays for discharge," there is no indication that the action heralds a new policy but merely a movement toward liberalization. A spokesperson for the Navy at the Pentagon told Gay Community News (GCN) that Navy Secretary W. Graham Clayton will "judge each case on its own merit." The spokesperson

added that gays will still be excluded from service in the Navy.

It was Judge Gesell who ruled last July that Air Force Sgt. Leonard T. Matlovich could be dismissed from that arm of the service because of his homosexuality. The judge did urge at the time, however, that the armed forces "re-evaluate and re-appraise" their views on the subject.

Berg's attorney, E. Carrington Boggan, says that, based on the Matlovich ruling, he is "not overly optimistic that the judge will rule in favor of the suit." Boggan says that "we are prepared to appeal any negative ruling to the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia." Berg's contention before Gesell will be that the Navy's bar to gays is "arbitrary and capricious and in violation of the Fifth Amendment as well as an abridgement of the right of freedom of association under the First Amendment."

Vernon Berg was planning to spend his life in the Navy, following in the footsteps of his father, a career Navy chaplain. It was in July of 1975, a year after his graduation from the Naval Academy at Annapolis, that Berg was discharged. Navy officials discovered that he was gay and living with a civilian English teacher aboard a ship anchored with the 6th Fleet in Italy. The Navy's discharge with less than honor disqualified Berg from all military insurance and education benefits, as well as from unemployment compensation. Both Berg and his lover, Lawrence Gibson, who lost his job because of his involvement with the ensign, found themselves having to sell their furniture and cash in their life insurance policies in order to make ends meet. Both men now live in Brooklyn and are working on a book about their experience.

The upgrading of Berg's discharge follows the Carter Administration's new policy of upgrading the discharges of all Vietnam era servicepeople. It is believed that those who emerged from the Vietnam era with less than honorable discharges because of their homosexuality are affected by the policy.

- Gay Community News

### NOBLE: "ALL I KNOW IS WHAT I READ IN THE PAPERS"

by Neil Miller

BOSTON—Despite press reports that she is being considered for a high Washington post, Rep. Elaine Noble of Boston says that "nothing is happening on my part, I only know what I read in the papers." "I have yet to talk with anyone, I have yet to sit down with anyone, I'm very happy where I am and I'm running for re-election," the nation's first lesbian state representative told Gay Community News.

Noble's cautious statements came after the Boston Globe reported that Noble is a "leading contender" for the \$47,500 job as director of domestic operations for ACTION. ACTION is the government volunteer organi-



zation, which is in charge of both VISTA and the Peace Corps.

The Carter Administration's decision to consider Noble for the ACTION post comes in the aftermath of the Massachusetts Legislature's redistricting plan that would pit Noble against her old friend and political ally Barney Frank in the 1978 election. The redistricting plan merges most of Noble's district with Frank's Back Bay-Beacon Hill district. Thus a 1978 race would put both long-time associates in a difficult position, unless one of them agreed to withdraw in advance. Noble has stoutly maintained that she will run for re-election, no matter what Frank decides to do.

The job for which Noble is reportedly being considered would put her in charge of a \$120 million annual budget, 637 jobs, and the administration of both VISTA (the domestic Peace Corps) and programs for older Americans. Noble's district is composed of many elderly people and as Suffolk's Sixth District representative she has spent a large amount of legislative energy in dealing with their concerns.

Interestingly enough, the head of ACTION,

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 Sam Brown, former anti-war leader who, as Colorado's State Treasurer, was responsible for many innovative programs involving state banking and red-lining. Brown, who deserted the candidacy of his old friend Eugene McCarthy to support Carter in the 1976 election, is considered to be one of the new President's most progressive appointments.

A knowledgeable source told GGN that ACTION is going to be the Carter Administration agency where the Democratic Left is going to be calling the shots. This source predicts that numerous innovative programs involving gay people, blacks, and children will be initiated by the agency. This is reported to be the intention of Carter himself, who feels that it is politically safer to entrust the Left with some social programs than to give it any sway over more sensitive areas like the Defense Department or the FBI.

- Gay Community News



**APPEALS COURT QUESTIONS  
 NEW YORK SODOMY LAW**

NEW YORK—New York's highest court, the New York Court of Appeals, issued a decision questioning the validity of New York's consensual sodomy law in two cases involving defendants arrested for violation of the law.

The court stated that "great constitutional issues...are present in these cases," involving "questions of conduct traditionally treated as criminal and yet, when committed privately and circumspectly, suggestive of an unwarranted interference by the state with the lately recognized and inchoate 'penumbra' right of privacy."

The two cases, *People v. Mehr* and *People v. Rice*, had come to the New York high court on appeals from lower court decisions on motions to dismiss the cases before trial on the grounds that the consensual sodomy statute was unconstitutional.

The lower trial court had granted the motions and held that the statute was unconstitutional as a denial of equal protection of the law to single persons, since the statute made consensual sodomy a crime only when committed by persons not married to each other, but legal when committed by persons married to each other. An intermediate appellate court reversed that decision and held the statute to be valid.

In its decision, New York's high court declined to rule on the merits of defendants' constitutional challenge on the grounds that it did not have enough facts about the place where the acts occurred and whether any persons other than the actors had been present. The court, therefore, sent the cases back to the lower court for a full trial, stating that its action was "without prejudice, however, to a review or application for review of the issues on the merits when, as, and if defendants, or either of them, are convicted."

The Mehr case was handled jointly by Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, Inc. and the New York Civil Liberties Union, and the Rice case was handled by the Legal Aid Society.

E. Carrington Boggan, Lambda's General Counsel, who argued the Mehr case before the Court of Appeals, stated, "We are gratified that the court has recognized that the manner of freedom from unwarranted state interference in consensual sexual conduct is, in the words of the court, a great constitutional issue. We will continue to assert this issue and we hope to obtain a definitive ruling on it by the court in the future."

The cases are also significant because the court's decision indicates that it does not feel precluded from an examination of the merits of the constitutional issues by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision of last spring summarily upholding the Virginia sodomy statute. This is in keeping with a recent line of decisions from the highest courts of a number of states asserting their right to reach independent judgments on significant issues of individual liberties under the constitutions of their own states.

- Gay Community News

**FIRST GAY TV REPORTER  
 COVERS SF GAY COMMUNITY**

by Cheryl Kimmons

SAN FRANCISCO—Randy Shilts, a newsman for KQED-TV in San Francisco, can probably claim the distinction of being the first openly gay news reporter on television. A journalism graduate of the University of Oregon, the 25-year-old Shilts was hired by the station to cover the city's gay community.

George Osterkamp, KQED news director, said the station sought through local gay news outlets to find someone to report gay news. The gay community in San Francisco represents a fairly substantial percentage of the citizens—an estimated 100,000 out of a total population of 750,000.

In speaking of this attempt to provide more coverage for the gay community, Osterkamp said, "It was such an obvious thing; we should have done it two years ago. We were the first in this area, but I predict other stations will follow."

Shilts, who is also a reporter for *The Advocate*, said that the news media has rarely reported homosexual events responsibly in the past. "The stories usually were distorted to emphasize the bizarre or radical."

He disputes charges by some news execu-

tives that a homosexual cannot report a gay event objectively. "That's a ridiculous as saying a black reporter cannot cover a black event without bias. I am a professional. I cover the gay community just like I cover the Board of Supervisors."

Shilts does feel that being openly gay has opened doors in the gay community that probably would have been closed to other reporters. He says he would like to see more gay reporters come out of the closet. "Seeing an openly gay person in a responsible position like a newscaster can have a positive effect on young gays trying to come to terms with themselves."

- Blade



**DECEASED LESBIAN MOTHER'S LOVER  
 FIGHTS FOR CHILD CUSTODY**

by Lisa I. Schwartz

DENVER—A Denver woman is fighting for custody of her deceased lover's daughter in a new area of lesbians' battle for child custody rights. The woman, Donna Levy, jointly raised Betty (not the child's real name) with the mother Jeanette Hatzapoulis. Hatzapoulis committed suicide last July and in a suicide note—now lost—asked that Levy be given custody of the child. Although Levy and Hatzapoulis split up in 1974—with Betty staying with her biological mother—Levy maintained a strong relationship with the seven-year-old child, seeing her several times a week.

The deceased woman's sister and brother-in-law, Lois and Bill Lucero, are also seeking custody of Betty. These people now have temporary custody of Betty, though Denver Juvenile Court Judge Orelle Weeks noted that Levy, "...in the long run is the preferable custodian." In her decision Judge Weeks granted visitation rights to Levy.

The custody battle began when the Luceros refused to let Levy take the child from their home one day when Levy returned from work. This had been the arrangement for several weeks. Gil Lucero reportedly told Levy that she and Betty were "too close" and that Betty needed a father figure in her life. Despite an agreement between the deceased woman's mother and Levy that the child would stay with the Luceros during the day while Levy worked, Mr. Lucero refused to release Betty to Levy's custody. Wanting to avoid an argument that would upset the child, Levy left the Luceros and consulted an attorney.

The case wound up in Juvenile Court, where Judge Orelle Weeks delayed a decision on permanent custody, seeking testimony from a therapist with whom the judge had ordered the Luceros to consult. The judge also ordered Betty to be seen by a psycho-

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logist, with the costs to be shared by the Luceros and Levy. Levy herself was not ordered to seek professional help.

Since the January decision, neither Betty nor the Luceros have seen therapists. Recently, at a meeting of the principals and their attorneys, the Luceros announced their separation and said that they lacked the funds for therapy. It was not indicated which member of the couple will continue with the custody suit.

In light of the Luceros' separation and their defiance of the court order, many expect that the judge will award custody to Levy. She and Betty have resumed visitation on a daily basis. The next court hearing is set for June 23.

- Gay Community News

## MURDER IN RHODE ISLAND —GAY REPORTER PIONEERS

by David Brill

Doug Massey was found dead in his waterfront cottage in Warwick Neck on the morning of April 9. His partially-clothed body, covered with blood and stabbed more than 30 times in the head, chest, back, neck, and ears, was discovered by a 10-year-old boy. Police here say they know the motive for the 56-year-old gay man's murder, but they aren't saying what the motive was.

Within 48 hours of the discovery of the body, four arrests were made in connection with the murder. Steven R. Kelley, 18, and Robert A. Patisce, 22, both of Providence, were charged with murder. Donald J. Kelley, 19 (Steven's brother) of Central Falls, was charged with failure to report a crime. Michael J. Gautier, 24, of Cranston, was charged with failure to report a crime and harboring a criminal.

Warwick Police Chief John Couter said he expects "no more arrests" in the case.

What could inspire anyone to commit a murder like this one? Warwick Police Capt. Frank A. Ricci didn't even know that Massey was gay, and flatly denies that the murder had anything to do with the victim's sexual preference. The victim was not robbed, and Ricci denied local rumors that the murder was somehow connected to a child-molestation case. And friends of Massey said he was not involved with drugs.

"We're not going to say what the motive was, for fear of pre-trial publicity," explained the captain. Ricci, though, was discernibly unnerved by the presence of a reporter from a gay newspaper, a concept which he found difficult to digest—and asked more questions of the reporter than the reporter asked of him.



The reporter did not think it was necessary to explain the fact that gays do occasionally become murder victims to the chief of detectives of this city of 83,000. It was apparently news to him—obviously he hadn't heard that nearly 20 gay men have been killed in the New England area over the last couple of years. The chief of detectives was more interested in ascertaining whether Gay Community News was covered by Rhode Island's strict new anti-pornography law, and feigning a compliment about the reporter's nonexistent colognes, than he was in taking the subject of gay murders seriously.

The writer has personally investigated innumerable murders all over New England in recent years, but has never encountered the attitudes on such vivid display at the Warwick Police Department. The real information about the murder of Doug Massey will come out at an arraignment hearing on June 8. But it looks like it will take a long time in order to safely disagree with the warning I was given by a former Warwickite before I visited the police: "You'll be the first openly gay person they've ever seen." So much for changing times.

- Gay Community News



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## Jock Consciousness?



Photograph courtesy of the Oklahoman Daily

"Bury A Fairy" and "Do The World A Favor—Shoot A Faggot" aren't the usual fare exchanged in the free market place of ideas. A group of 10 Oklahoma University students found this out in late February when they stenciled these slogans on their T-shirts before going to the dorm cafeteria for dinner.

The 10 now face harassment charges in a local superior court for their anti-gay attire. If found guilty, they could face expulsion, suspension or disciplinary probation, according to the OU Student Code.

The OU Student Association public defender said the T-shirt slogans did not represent a freedom of speech issue because the shirts posed death threats. "We recognize the difference between freedom of speech and freedom to harass because there isn't any of the latter," said Wintory Richard of the OU Student Association.

The incident follows months of campus controversy over student government recognition for the campus Gay Activist Alliance (GAA). Both the OU Student Congress and the Board of Regents have refused to give recognition to the gay organization. The 10 T-shirted students said donning anti-gay slogans was their way of showing support for the regents and congress.

OU-GAA president John Mehring, however, would only say, "There's a lot of sickness on this campus."

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# FLORIDA FOLLIES

## PART II



WHAT WOULD ANITA SAY?: With the June 7 Dade County gay rights referendum less than a month away, Florida gays are becoming more and more visible.

The sequel to Florida Follies is not nearly as action-filled as its predecessor, the emphasis in the latest exchange being on philosophical dialogues. (Not that one really wants that much action after a suicide and firebombings.) But the climax alone is worth the price of admission; a startling denouement in the best absurdist tradition of Ionesco, which should conclusively prove for all time Oscar Wilde's dictum that "Life imitates art."

Fade-in on the offices of the Miami Herald, whose city room is one of the bouncier places in Dade County what with staff members seemingly split in pro and anti factions as regards the ordinance and Anita Bryant. In an editorial headlined "Gay Rights Is Not a \$400,000 Issue," the Herald lambasted the Metro Commission for calling the voter referendum on the gay rights ordinance, concluding: "Considering there is no demonstrated urgent need for the Gay rights law (!), we think at least one member of the majority should show a decent concern for the rights of taxpayers (!!) who would provide an extravagant amount of money to decide a single question that can wait (!!!)"

Meanwhile the Herald's columnist, Charles White (whose coverage of the initial voting session was featured in Part I) drafted a reply to the Arkansas House of Representatives who passed a resolution supporting Anita:

"Memo to the Arkansas House of Representatives:

"We Dade Countians certainly do appreciate your unanimous resolution assailing as ungodly our ordinance banning discrimination in jobs and housing on the basis of sexual preference.

"Lord knows, we need all the help we can get to stay moral in this sin city. And there's nothing like a thousand miles of distance to sharpen your perceptions of what's right and wrong for us.

"Too bad, though, that your only pipeline for information apparently was our Anita Bryant. We love Anita, of course, but she's not exactly unbiased. Somebody else might have pictured Metro's anti-gay bias law a bit differently.

"For all the hysteria, a lot of folks, myself included, still see the anti-discrimination measure as a matter of human rights and not an endorsement of illicit sexual behavior. Frankly, I was proud of the Metro Commission for taking the stand it did.

"But that just goes to show how far some of us have travelled the road to damnation without ever knowing it. Yes, we need a fine, highly-principled state like Arkansas to show us the error of our ways.

"Incidentally, tell old Wilbur Mills, your ex-congressman, we said hello.

"That good-timin' rascal."

Despite some opposition to the cost of the referendum, it is still set to go on June 7 at general taxpayers expenses. Anita's allies have been busy trying to recruit more supporters for their side by pointing to the \$400,000 price-tag (without any acknowledgement that it is their opposition to the ordinance which makes the referendum and expense necessary). Although the Dade County Coalition had originally offered to underwrite the referendum and petitioned for the money to do so, that stand has changed. Bob Basker, of the Coalition, stated, "We made it clear in the end to the Commission that we did not intend to purchase our Civil Rights." Basker also noted that all donations ear-

marked for underwriting costs would be returned. In the wake of the Arkansas resolution and after Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) made his widely distributed statement in which he called Bryant a "fine Christian lady" and endorsed her efforts, it was noted that no politicians had endorsed the ordinance. Nearly a month later, Sen. Edward Brooke (R-Mass.) announced his support of the Dade County effort and said of Anita Bryant, in a letter to the Boston Advocates for Human Rights, "She is, it seems to me, wrong. Those of us who believe in the words and spirit of the First Amendment cannot argue, for a moment, against Ms. Bryant's right to speak! I do argue with both the premise and conclusion of her argument. Discrimination, in my judgement, is totally wrong. It wounds those who practice it almost as much as it wounds its victims. I stand with you for its end. In Miami and in our county."

The California Democratic Council, an organization of progressive grassroots Democratic Clubs, voted to condemn the anti-gay bigotry in Miami, in a resolution brought by the Stonewall Democratic Club of Los Angeles. The CDC's action was regarded as very significant from a political standpoint. The Council has graduated such political heavyweights as Gov. Edmund G. Brown and U.S. Sen. Alan Cranston. The CDC also gave its blessing to a resolution by Stonewall president Morris Knight that persons in sympathy with human rights and opposed to the oppression of Gay people adopt the wearing of the pink triangle of Gays incarcerated in Nazi concentration camps.

The controversy over whether or not to boycott Florida citrus products also continues in the gay community. The Los Angeles headquarters of Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC) approved the boycott noting that such a stance is justified until "either Ms. Bryant ceases her anti-gay activities or the Florida Citrus Commission issues a statement in support of civil rights for all people, including gays." Other groups including the National Gay Task Force (NGTF) and the Coalition maintained that such a boycott would affect the workers more than Bryant or the Citrus Commission. And as the workers' support for the ordinance was needed, they should not be alienated in this fashion.

The Florida Gay community is not without divisions on other matters, even in as important a fight as this one. In a press release announcing Sgt. Leonard Matlovich as full-time (?) spokesperson and co-chairperson of the Dade County Coalition for the Human Rights of Gays, the Coalition also announced that the "so-called"



Leonard Matlovich

Miami Victory Campaign led by Robert Kunst had refused to enter into a joint fund-raising effort, thus creating "a split in the fund-raising as well as in attempts to gain media coverage." Kunst, the release charged, "is on a personal ego trip and... he will only damage the pro-gay rights cause if he is permitted to continue. The Coalition is an umbrella organization for over a dozen different straight and gay groups... Mr. Kunst represents only himself (and perhaps a handful of individuals) and his Transperience Center, and that his funds have not been totally accounted for." The release also stresses that the Coalition is "not interested in divisiveness or petty politics." Oddly enough, the statement in its description of Kunst does not mention that Kunst is a former Coalition leader, calling him merely "local activist."

No such lack of unity exists on the other team. Their only weakness is the absurdity of their contentions, but they stand shoulder to shoulder and bolder and bolder behind them. In fact in Miami, one can immediately discern Anita's supporters just by looking at their cars. Bumper stickers saying "Kill a Queen for Christ" are the latest vogue among the homophobic set.

Rona Barrett has cast her lot with Bryant, claiming she, too will not rest until she's stamped out homosexuality. Rumor has it she and Anita are going to form a sisters act and combine their TV shows. They'll sing while gossiping about celebrities.

Another ally is Big Brothers of Minneapolis, which is already under legal orders because of their discriminatory hiring practices. The executive director of the Minneapolis branch wrote a letter to Bryant and Save Our Children, Inc. (SOC) describing his battles with the Twin Cities Gay ordinance and commending Anita's "efforts in behalf of the children of your area."

SOC immediately designed a full-page newspaper ad using copies of the letter and the Minneapolis ordinance and bearing the headline: "Would you want a homosexual 'Big Brother' for your fatherless boy?" The ad noted that because of their ordi-

(Continued on page 18)

## WHAT TO DO ABOUT ANITA BRYANT

National Gay Task Force (NGTF) leaders advise that we should exploit the publicity value of Bryant's campaign against gay rights in order to explain the issues involved to the widest possible number of people.

Bryant is really the perfect opponent. Her national prominence (through her commercials for the Florida Citrus Growers) insures national news coverage for developments in the Dade County struggle, while the feebleness of her arguments and the embarrassing backwardness of her stance both makes her attacks easier to counteract and tends to generate "liberal" backlash in our favor. Her "Save Our Children" campaign vividly demonstrates just why gay rights laws are needed—in order to protect our people against the sort of ignorant, irrational, unjustifiable prejudice typified by Anita Bryant. We can make her rantings work for us just as Sheriff "Bull" Connor's cattle prods and police dogs ultimately aided desegregation in the South.

So, watch your local media for coverage of the Dade County dispute; news stories, editorials, and talk show appearances by Bryant or her allies. Be sure to reply to any expression of anti-gay opinion, or distortion of fact, or simple failure to give fair hearing to the pro-gay rights position. Remember, the issue is not whether homosexuality is good or bad, healthy or sick. So far as we are concerned, that question is settled—and even if it were not, it wouldn't belong in a political context anyway. Rather, the issue is equal rights for gay people, in Dade County or anywhere else.



If a radio or television station refuses your right to reply to an anti-gay rights editorial or other statement of opinion, send complaints to the FCC (Washington, DC 20554), with copies to NGTF. There isn't much you can do if a newspaper refuses to print your letter, except to keep trying; if enough people send similar (but not identical!) letters, they'll probably eventually print one of them. If the paper is not hopelessly bigoted but merely unenlightened, a meeting with the management might help (particularly the editorial page editor, city editor, or managing editor). But do your homework first, keep calm, and try to reach them where they are, not where you would like them to be.

While it is important to concentrate on the civil rights aspect of the issue—gays are just as entitled to protection against discrimination as any other minority—you can help undermine Ms. Bryant's position by firmly positioning her on the "lunatic fringe." (1) She claims to represent the "religious" position—but resolutions in support of gay rights laws have been passed by such organizations as the National Council of Churches, the Episcopal Church, the United Church of Christ, the National Federation of Priests' Councils, the Lutheran Church in America, the Unitarian-Universalist Association, and the Society of Friends (Quakers). (2) She claims that gays are "sick"—but the American Psychiatric Association not only removed homosexuality from its official list of mental disorders, it has passed a strong statement in favor of gay rights legislation. (3) She claims that gay teachers represent a "danger" to children—but these views are not shared by the National Education Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the United Federation of Teachers, and the

American Association of University Professors, all of which have passed pro-gay rights resolutions; moreover, there is not one complaint of the expected sort on record from either parents or students in the 39 other U.S. communities in which gay teachers have job protection.

Of course, in addition to media action, gays in Dade County have a particular responsibility to get out the vote in favor of the rights bill already passed by the Miami Metro Commission when it is put to a referendum. Timing for the referendum, and whether the ordinance will remain in force until the vote, is currently in dispute. For up to date information, contact NGTF or the Dade County Coalition for the Humanistic Rights of Gays (5390 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, FL 33127; phone: (305)-751-4297). Letters to the Miami Metro Commission—for instance, to Commissioners Harvey Gruvin and Barry Schreiber, who favored the rights ordinance the first time around but who may be planning to vote to repeal it pending the referendum—may be sent to 73 W. Flagler Street, Miami, FL 33130.

- National Gay Task Force

### GAY RELIGIOUS LEADERS DEPLORE ANITA BRYANT'S MISLEADING USE OF BIBLE

BANGOR, PA—Gay religious leaders and advocates from more than a dozen denominations throughout the United States and Canada sent an open letter to Anita Bryant deploring her misleading use of scripture and scare tactics in fighting civil liberties for gay people.

The interdenominational group specifically condemned her "Save Our Children" crusade

to overturn a recently-passed ordinance in Dade County, Florida, which extends civil rights to gay persons.

"We, too, believe we must 'Save Our Children.' Many of us have children, and all of us are children of God created to love and living in faith that God has set us free from fear through our Saviour, Christ Jesus," the letter states.

"We pray that our children will learn from our faith that their God is a God of justice, love and peace.

"We abhor your use of Holy Scripture, the Word of God, which teaches us of God's love for all, being used as a tool for the continuance of oppression of God's children.

"We object to the use of fear and ignorance as a planned part of your strategy. We believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ and its teachings, and find your methods incompatible with our understanding of Christian teaching."

The letter was endorsed by the 85 participants at a conference on Christianity, gays and the church at Kirkridge, a retreat center 25 miles north of Allentown, Pa.

Participants included gay and nongay women and men, members of the clergy and laity, blacks and whites, married and single persons.

Speakers and resource leaders at the two-day conference included Malcolm Boyd, Episcopal priest and author; Nancy Krody, coordinator of the Gay Caucus of the 1.9 million-member United Church of Christ; and Father John McNeill, author of *The Church and the Homosexual*.

Attending were members of the following gay religious organizations: Church of the Brethren/Mennonite Church Gay Caucus, Dignity (Roman Catholic), Evangelicals Concerned, Integrity (Episcopal), Lutherans Concerned for Gay People, Presbyterian Gay Caucus, Unitarian Gay Caucus, United Church of Christ Gay Caucus, United Methodist Gay Caucus, Universal Fellowship of the Metropolitan Community Churches.

### OPEN LETTER TO ANITA BRYANT

May 7, 1977

To Ms. Bryant:

Gathered here in Bangor, Pennsylvania this day are a group of concerned Christians. We are laypersons and clergy, black and white, female and male, Catholic, Protestant, conservative and liberal, representing over a dozen different denominations and seventeen states and Canada. We are married and single, Gay and Straight.

We, too, believe we must "Save Our Children." Many of us have children, and all of us are children of God, created to love and living in faith that God has set us free from fear through our Savior, Christ Jesus.

We pray that our children will learn from our faith that their God is a God of justice, love, and peace.

Our grievances with you are specific. As Christian persons who love Jesus and our church, we object to:

1) The premeditated use of false and misleading information about Gay people. This classical style of propaganda plays on ignorance and the perpetuation of stereotypes.

2) We abhor your use of Holy Scripture, the Word of God, which teaches us of God's love for all, being used as a tool for the continuance of oppression of God's children.

3) We object to the use of fear and ignorance as a planned part of your strategy. We believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ and its teachings, and find your methods incompatible with our understanding of Christian teaching.

We shall continue pray for you and your children, that you may find through this experience, as we already have, that God's love is an ever present strength in times of crisis.

Yours in Christ,

Nancy Krody, Coordinator, United Church of Christ Gay Caucus

Ron Wesner, National President, Integrity (Episcopal gay caucus)

on behalf of the Gay and Christian Conference, Kirkridge, May 5-7, 1977.

## Exec Sees Hard Time For Anita

Marilyn Beck



HOLLYWOOD — Anita Bryant will have a hard time putting together a show in New Orleans next month.

The singer is scheduled to perform in that Louisiana city on June 17 and 18. However, the executive board of the New Orleans chapter of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists—in protest of her very public stand against equal housing and employment opportunities for homosexuals in Miami—has unanimously passed a motion asking its members to deny its services and talents to Ms. Bryant.

Rod Wagner, board member of the New Orleans chapter of AFTRA, tells me he presented the motion after objections to her upcoming performance were raised by Human Equal Rights for Everyone—a community organization composed of New Orleans businesspeople, church and civic leaders.

"They were afraid, and our board agreed, that her appearance could set up even more of a climate for violence here

than we're already experiencing. And we are having our troubles. For instance, several older gay men have been stabbed to death in the French Quarter in the past few weeks, and I understand the suspect—a 16-year-old boy—has said, 'Jesus doesn't like gay people.'

"What also concerns us are the recent reports of violence in the Miami area." To stress his point about what he's heard is the current Miami mood, Wagner says, "Our CBS station here reported a new bumper sticker there which reads, 'Kill a Queen for Christ.'

If the AFTRA members go along with its board's wishes, Ms. Bryant will have to recruit musicians and backup performers from outside the New Orleans area. As for the reception she can expect from citizens there, says Wagner, "We're certainly not telling anyone not to be friendly with her, nor are we telling them not to go to her show."

If she can put together that show,

am sure if she looks around, they are in her neighborhood too and they also can influence her children.

We Christians are commanded to preach the gospel to all creatures, whether they accept it or not is entirely up to them. We are commanded to love thy neighbor as thyself. Not to love only those who believe as we do. What would Christ do if he lived next to a homosexual, kick him out of his neighborhood? I doubt it strongly. He would love him, not what he did, but he would love that person as a human being.

As Christians we don't have any business getting concerned with what our neighbors are doing in their bedrooms. Whether they are Christians or not, you can't change the world to make you feel more at ease. It just isn't possible. If you take up a crusade against any particular sin, you'd better watch out that someone doesn't take up one against your sin.

If homosexuals come to you seeking knowledge of how to serve God, then you can tell them what's necessary. Other than that, leave them alone. Love the sinner, hate his sin. You can't become judge, jury and executioner on the lifestyle of those who live among you, especially those who do not want to accept of your beliefs. I am quite sure God can better judge man's hearts and motives better than we can. He doesn't need our input or help. So preach the gospel and leave the judging to God.

K. Michan York

### DON'T JUDGE LIFESTYLES

To The Editor:

As a born again Christian, I would like to voice my opinion on the matter of Christian vs. the lifestyles of those who do not accept the teachings or principles of the Bible.

The Constitution gives me the right and privilege of following the religious beliefs that I want to. It does not give me the right to erase my beliefs down someone else's throat, nor to allow my beliefs to interfere with, or dictate to, that of my neighbor's characteristics.

I am a Christian, you are a homosexual. That's against my belief, get out of my neighborhood. Find an avenue when you think about it.

The apostle Paul tells Christians, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." 1 Tim. 1:7 Homosexuals are not leathome, hideous monsters, something to be feared. They're human beings, the same as you and I. They have the same physical, emotional and spiritual potential as any other human being on earth.

Anita Bryant fears that the homosexual will influence her children, if they are allowed to move into her neighborhood. The Bible says bring a child in the way he should go and he will not depart from it. If she brings up her child in the knowledge of sound biblical principles, she should have no fears of their behavior later on. If she follows her line of reasoning, then she might as well take up a crusade against adulterers, spiritualists, prostitutes, etc. I



# INTERVIEW WITH DAVE KOPAY



Gay Life Photo by Rich Pier



Photo by San Francisco Forty-Niners

## REGARDING A PARTICULAR ATTITUDE BY PETER PEHRSON

(The Dave Kopay Story, An Extraordinary Self-Revelation, by David Kopay and Perry Deane Young, Arbor House, New York, 1977, 247 pp., ill., \$8.95)

In gay journalism circles, there is a particularly wicked form of virulence to which even Dorothy Parker might hesitate to put her name. It is known as the "Be devastating or be damned" syndrome. The properties of this phenomenon are demands on the part of writers that their subjects have the wit and diction of Noel Coward, the humility of a Jesuit novice, the personality of Tallulah Bankhead and the general appeal of Sex—because if you don't, sweetheart, you're a rip-off and a fluke. The interviewee should be witty and amusing so the writers won't have to be when they write the piece. These writers sometimes sharpen their typewriter keys on the hearts of their victims. A quick chop to the psyche is easy to toss off; the writer is despised by the person and therefore remembered; the public is tickled at the mere mention of action and the interviewee gropes its way home to the primordial pools from whence it surfaced.

Dave Kopay was in New York this past month making television, radio and street appearances to promote his new autobiography written with Perry Deane Young, *The Dave Kopay Story*. Village Voice columnist (Bell Tells), Arthur Bell, noted in a recent column that Kopay's first author's press conference was a "mistake" and Kopay's holding-forth was "verbal mush." Bell continued: "When he compared his homosexuality to football—'You're out there on the field and you find all your weaknesses exposed'—one wondered why he came out at all. When he admitted he got paid six figures, one knew. Dave thinks he will be an inspiration, a role model to those millions of gay little leaguers—or whatever they're called—who finally have a handsome 35-year-old grid-and-iron man to relate to. I blanch at the thought. But he does have big shoulders."

Kopay's perception of the same event was a bit different. "You should have seen those guys. It wasn't the straight

press that gave me hassles for being gay. It was the gay press going at each other's throats in the audience." There were certainly enough gay events to cover in Grand Old Gotham that day without making into a carcass the football player turned self-chronicler. Arthur Bell happens to be one of the sweetest men ever to win his numerous journalism awards. And his cynicism is well-placed in New York, haven of the shill and gull. But this approach to Kopay is the approach of many gays. We gays have never been famous for our unity, but one would think once in a while for the sake of novelty if for nothing else, that we might support one person's conviction, simplicity and decency for the length of a press conference. It doesn't make us naive for doing so.

Kopay is nothing more than he appears to be and says he is—an ex-gock who discovered, painfully, his sexuality, wrote about it, had a book published. He doesn't have a "technique," his manner wasn't formed on a Hollywood back lot any more than it was deformed by playing football. His coming out cost much more than the alleged six figures will repay. He cannot get a job teaching his life's love, football, his family has been the typical one, and many gays are giving him the frosty shoulder so familiar to Leonard Matlovich. Our intense need for gay heroes and leaders will not produce same in and of itself. Kopay did what we insist every gay that can do it should: come out and be proudly visible. And when he does, some cry, "Flop!"

The 45 minutes we spent in Kopay's Barbizon Hotel room was probably enough for both of us. During that time he didn't make numerous sage pronouncements. We were two people in a room together with no common ground but sexuality, and a desire to express the frustrations and joys of that in a society where men and women have been outcasts for expressing it. He talked about his diminishing queasiness of opening fan mail and knowing the effect his book has had on, yes, little leaguers and one particular college football player who just wanted to put his arm around his best-buddy-in-school for awhile. And who, after reading of Kopay's experiences, thinks maybe being gay and being an athlete isn't the

end of the earth.

"I'd like to see the book, and others like it, on the shelves of every school library in the country even if I have to put them there myself," Kopay said of his autobiography.

Is what "really goes on in the locker room" as terrific as some people would make it?

"You've got a bunch of exhausted, beaten and bruised guys trying to wash off the mud and sweat and if that's your idea of an ideal sex situation, it's sure not mine. But you know how some guys are..."

He didn't finish the sentence. Was he trying to be coy and leading or could he name names?

"Everybody wants to know who's who. What you've got to understand is that I can't name names even if I did know them all. I draw the line at creeping into another guy's privacy."

But wouldn't that provide more good role models?

"If they want to come out, they can. I'd look pretty silly doing it for them."

How does Kopay see himself, how would he describe himself objectively?

"Beautiful, talented, terrific. (Laughs) Mostly relieved about the book and finishing it, about having the burden off my shoulders with thinking about the past and all that hassle and pain."

Will there be a sequel, or first a movie version?

"Paramount is talking to me. A sequel... maybe a happier one after this. I'm doing everything I can to make it that way."

We walked to the corner of the block the hotel is on where Kopay had a basketball date at the New York Athletic Club. As he stood with me while I tried to hail a cab in the rain, he looked up at the facade of one of the most exclusive men's clubs in the city and said, "You know, it's easier to get into this place if you're gay than if you're Black or Jewish. As long as they can't see it, they don't care. Typical, isn't it."

Kopay's story is essentially a common story. It's not true that only special people are gay. The least we can do is to introduce ourselves to each other as human beings.

- GPU News

## JOIN THE TEAM OF THE GAY ERA

FOR A YEAR WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF RURAL GAYS IN PENNSYLVANIA. WE CAN'T DO IT ALONE. WE NEED YOUR HELP. WE NEED:

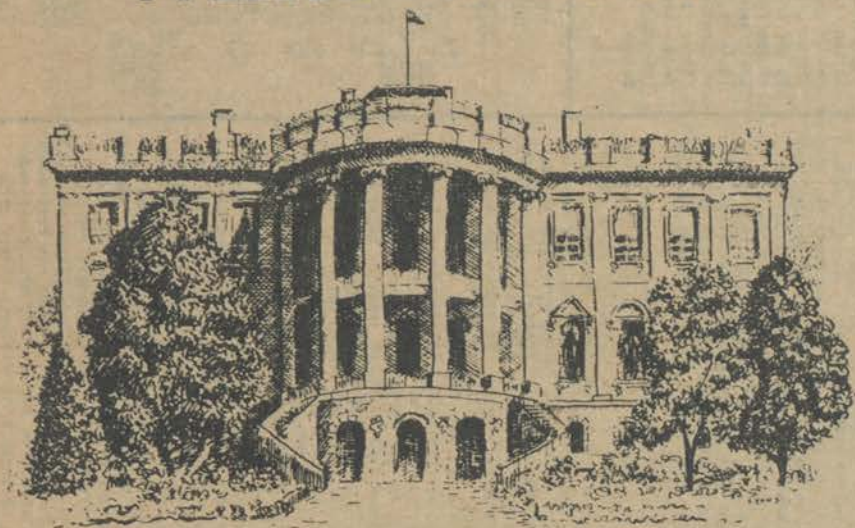
- 1) NEWS CORRESPONDENTS TO REPORT FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY IN YOUR AREA;
- 2) WRITERS FOR FEATURE ARTICLES;
- 3) HELP WITH LOCAL DISTRIBUTION TO INSURE THAT GAYS ARE NOT ISOLATED FROM EACH OTHER;
- 4) ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES SINCE THAT IS HOW WE PAY THE BILLS.

THE PAY IS NOTHING. THE PERSONAL REWARDS ARE IMMENSE. IF YOU CAN SPARE A FEW HOURS A MONTH, WRITE US TODAY.

GAY ERA  
352 NORTH MULBERRY STREET  
LANCASTER, PA 17603



# Fourteen gays in the White House.



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

This meeting, was 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. These 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.

NSW

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).

*Time is running out!*

# 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.**

Please

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

SEND YOUR CHECKS TO:  
**Dade County Coalition**  
P.O. Box 414  
Miami, Florida 33133



# OPINION!

One of the saddest phenomena to observe in our lack of unity is the way Gay people consistently tear down their own heroes. Admittedly with the Gay community (whatever that is) expanding its conscience with every new uncovered piece of history and every newly realized method of oppression, it is easy to realize that what was only recently greeted with approval is currently having lips curled at it. But it is one thing to assert that "Boys in the Band," while being a huge step forward for the time, is basically still another piece of homophobic "Aren't Gays so-o-o sad bullshit," and it is quite another to provide heroes with feet of clay and then brazenly announce their existence to the world. I am referring to the treatment the Gay press has afforded to David Kopay and Leonard Matlovich.

The Gay Era has on occasion attacked various "leaders" (especially the self-designated ones) of the Gay community. There is an important distinction to be made here. There is a world of difference between those (like David Goodstein for instance) who place themselves in a position of "leadership" and presume to speak for the Gay community and those who have done something of which the Gay community can point to with justifiable pride (i.e., Matlovich and Kopay). The Gay "community" is as far ranging as society itself, ranging from right wing conservative to radical terrorist bombers, from drag queens to leather fraternists, from Southern Belles to Diesel Dykes.

For one person, for any person, to claim to speak for the entire spectrum is not only presumptuous, it is absurd. Certainly the factionism which has attacked every sizeable Gay organization thus far is proof of that. Needless to say, we will continue to print criticism of these bureaucratic petty tyrants every time we discover a chink in their armor. We feel the Gay community, especially if it is ever to become one, does not need them. What they're doing in their little ego/power trips is potentially dangerous to Gay liberation. Another distinction to be made here is between self-proclaimed Messiahs and leaders who have been chosen and are supported by a segment of the Gay community. And then there are the "heroes;" those who, if only by their existence, have aided the cause(s) of Gays everywhere.

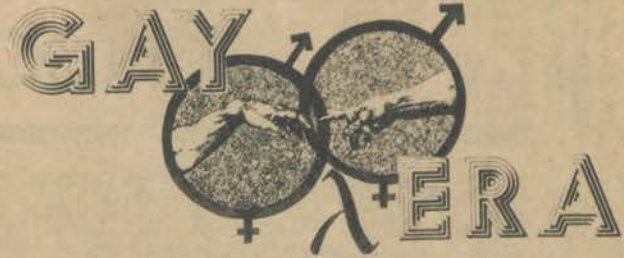
Both Kopay and Matlovich came out in careers where it was difficult and daring for them to do so. For them to have taken that step at the time they did and in the fields they did was an incredibly courageous move, yet they are blamed for not living up to expectations.

When Matlovich initially came out, in his eagerness to serve "the cause," he accepted any number of engagements to speak to and for the Gay community. In addition to getting himself into situations he was not adequate for (a painful memory is his being insufficient verbally to defend homosexuality against the claims of a Catholic Bishop on one broadcast), he also accepted more appearances than he had stamina for. He was also frequently announced for appearances and then told he was expected. This naturally resulted in a number of "no-shows," especially on those occasions when he was not even given the opportunity of accepting or declining. We are fortunate that he has not soured on the movement as a result of its attempt to turn him into its "tool" and is currently serving as a spokesperson for the Dade County Coalition.

Kopay, on the other hand, has not jumped at appearing at every Gay tupperware party and volleyball match, mostly limiting himself to tv appearances, the lecture circuit and bookstore autograph parties. Obviously one of the charges levelled at him is that he is merely plugging his book and not doing anything for the movement. So what? He's got to make a living, for one thing, and for another isn't his very existence, his coming out, enough for the movement? He's certainly done more for the movement than any other Gay football player.

Further charges levelled at both men is their inability to function as articulate, informed spokespersons, their statements frequently revealing sexism, political naivete, et cetera, et cetera, excretera. Again, so what? So they are not the best informed people to put on the lecture/talk-show circuit to educate the public on homosexuality. Are their backgrounds and experiences not valid enough? Must they also be able to rattle off theories in a way that would make C. A. Tripp turn green with envy? Was any one of us so damned educated, informed, aware and otherwise politically liberated when we first came out? And shouldn't we really be questioning the validity of presentation form also used by Watergate Conspirators who, by the by, are even "hotter" attractions than either Kopay or Matlovich?

It might be noted that Anita Bryant is not the most literate spokesperson, either, yet the homophobes rally behind her, backing her 1000%, as someone once said. Perhaps in our rush to dissociate ourselves from the straight world



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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and its value systems, we have thrown the baby out with the bath water, as it were, and neglected to learn one of the few really valuable lessons we could have gleaned from it. If someone is aiding your cause, that person should be supported. As long as we topple our heroes and spokespeople and trample underfoot in our race toward equality, we will get nowhere. For we will fail to notice as we scramble over their corpses that we are, in reality, running on a treadmill.

- HL



PA  
RURAL

# GAY RESOURCE LIST

## ALLENTOWN

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

## ALTOONA

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

Railroad House Hotel Ltd. (restaurant,  
bar), Front & Perry Streets, 17547,  
717-426-9811.

## MILLERSVILLE

Gay Awareness of Millersville State Col-  
lege, Box 3333, Gordinier 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

DeMetri 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.





Sex-Appeal, photographed by Jurgen Vollmer, Avant Associates, 200 W. 20th St., NYC 10011. 85 pp, 8 1/2 x 11 format, \$12.95 (softcover).

Sex-Appeal begins with an introduction by William Burroughs which seems to attempt to define male sex-appeal in the usual elusive Burroughs style. Burroughs also provides suggestions on how best to appreciate the candid shots which anyone not doing mescaline will most likely be unable to follow.

In the pages that follow, Vollmer presents a selection of young men with an emphasis on smooth, skinny bodies, mostly Latin. Those who relate that "type" to "sex-appeal" will find a treasure-trove of Wednesday night companions here; all others had better approach with caution. For example, Steve, the young man with dark hair, moustache and dreamy eyes featured so prominently in the ads (and as an In Touch centerfold) is heftier (hunkier?) than the majority of the subjects.

We found Vollmer's camera technique easier to appreciate than his choice of subjects. His candids have a nice hard-edged documentary clarity, while the set-ups show a careful study of textures and the play of light and shadow. The silvery grays used in the studies of Steve lend an added radiance to a young man whose camera presence already projects a warm, appealing personality.

Also interesting is a series of photographs of a young Parisian taken over a series of years, not only for the different techniques Vollmer explores but also for the changes in the young man between the ages of 17 and 22.

We found it difficult to get that excited over most of the book, but in all fairness, it must be reported that friends have raved over our copy. This page includes some representative photos, so you can decide for yourself. To the best of our knowledge the book is only available by mail and can be ordered from the address listed at the beginning of this review. Add a buck for postage/handling.



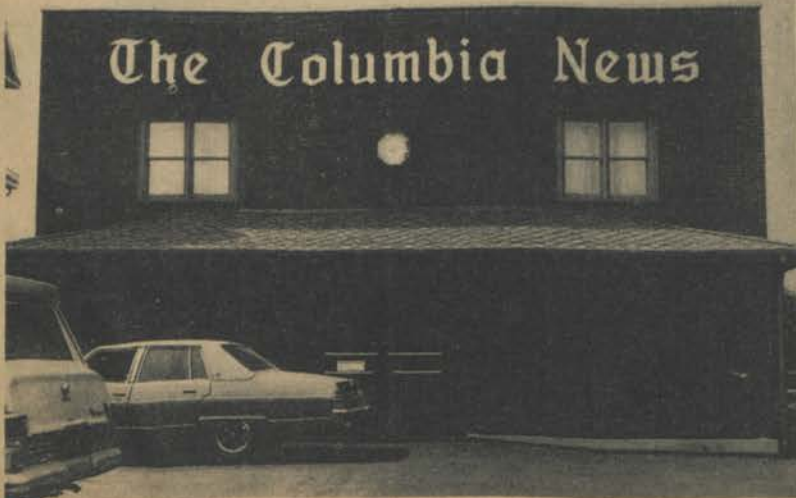




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## OVER THE BACK FENCE

The town is Columbia, PA. This is my home town. Generations have lived and died here. A few good people have managed to escape.



When this publication was preparing for being printed on newsprint because finances said it would be wiser than the nice white paper, we shopped around for a printer. When I called the local weekly advertising circular which is delivered free to the door of every western Lancaster County resident, I was nicely told "no." We found that the local alternative newspaper Lancaster Independent Press (LIP) was being printed in Columbia by Columbia News. This company publishes the only other daily newspaper in the county other than the Lancaster newspapers. It also prints weekly newspapers like the Susquehanna Times (Marietta and Mount Joy), Elizabethtown Chronicle and other assorted local newspapers.

Though we knew we didn't exactly fit into the same category as the above mentioned, we did know that they printed LIP. Besides, they were the only ones around who could do it.

The first appointment was made, we took in the layout sheets, they printed the paper, and everything was fine and dandy.

For last Christmas, we decided that we would do a "Artsy-Fartsy" section and solicited drawings, poetry, and writings from our readers. The day we arrived with that issue is the day that the nice person who runs this company decided to bring the hand down. We had gone too far! Of particular interest was a drawing of a nude male torso. It would have to go. When the owner was asked what was wrong, as if we didn't have any idea what this human mind could object to, he said that it was obscene. He didn't want to be ashamed of anything that came off his press. We dropped the issue since the issue was to get the damn paper printed. We were already a week late. To add insult to injury, they printed it the wrong size. We accepted that as an honest mistake since they charged us for the smaller size as we requested.

Since then we were a bit careful of what we wanted to print since we had to deal with the person who "owns" the printing press. One day as I was picking up the layout sheets from Harry Long for a following issue I looked at the front cover. (The manager who oversaw the printing operations of Columbia News was out of town for the week and we had to see the owner personally.) "Harry Long, is that the front cover of the Gay Era?" "Yes," Harry said. "In that case you're coming with me." So Harry and I got in my car mindful to bring something to put in its place when the hand was put down again.

Not the blink of an eye. When we got back in the car I commented that something was what you'd say "fishy." Nothing happened. That was the March issue, the issue with the two men embraced in each other's arms. We felt the problem was over. We thought they changed their minds.

In the last issue of the Gay Era (May) we tried to print the drawing again. If you have seen and read that issue you know what happened. For those who didn't, page two was blank.

Mr. Crist (owner) told me that if he knew we were going to be such a problem, he wouldn't have taken the printing job in the first place. Furthermore, he said that he would print the paper "this last time" but only without the drawing. After heated discussion, during which I told him that he was being ridiculous and that I thought he could see more obscene flesh in any high school health textbook, I said OK. When I asked him if he was giving us such a hassle because we were printing a gay newspaper he replied, "yes."

Good news is that we have found a new printer in Mechanicsburg, more than an hour's drive away. We have no immediate plans to try to have the drawing printed until we are sure it won't be more of a hassle than it's worth. Believe it or not, this drawing was a political issue. It meant that there are still some things that people won't do for money. I hail these great "up-holders of morality" and what they consider morality.

by Dave Leas





## WHICH WAY FOR THE GAY LEFT?

By Allen Young

"No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

I recently saw this statement—a line from the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights—in a fund-raising mailing from Amnesty International, and I was struck with its relevance to the gay liberation movement.

It seems that human rights as an aspect of gay liberation has been largely ignored by our movement (especially recently) and also by many of the straight people who say that they support us. The more moderate wing of the gay movement has had a tendency to focus on civil rights (or legal equality). And the radicals, influenced by socialist and feminist thought, project more far-reaching goals involving the elimination of inequality based on economic exploitation and sex-role stereotyping. Without implying that anything is wrong with these efforts, I think we need to spend some of our energy focusing on the violence and the degradation which gay people suffer today in the U.S. and in many foreign countries.

Amnesty International is an international organization supposedly concerned with the suppression of human rights the world over. Its preliminary concern is torture and political prisoners. I and other gay people have attempted to determine whether the persecution of gay people in such nations as the U.S., the U.S.S.R., Cuba and Spain is of concern to AI. For example, more than two years ago, I learned of the imprisonment of Sergei Paradzhanov, a prize-winning Soviet filmmaker, in the U.S.S.R. While the only charges against Paradzhanov have to do with his homosexuality, the few voices that have been raised in his behalf (mostly filmmakers') have stressed the fact that he is a "great artist." Much to his credit, Paradzhanov reportedly refuses to be released on the grounds that his jailing embarrasses the Soviets in cultural circles; he has made it clear that he views his arrest as a faggot as a form of injustice in and of itself.

I wrote to Amnesty International headquarters in London asking them to take on the case of Paradzhanov. They wrote back saying that their "research department"

cpf



was looking into the case. I have written twice since then, over a period of 18 months, inquiring about the case. No answer. I wrote twice to the New York office of AI urging them to deal with the case of Paradzhanov and of homosexuals being persecuted in several nations. These people don't even answer these queries, and while I recognize that a group like AI has limited resources, it is the refusal to even acknowledge the persecution of homosexuals as a human rights problem that galls me. (If you want to express your concern, write to Amnesty International U.S.A., 2112 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10023.

If you read leftist-oriented magazines such as MOTHER JONES, NEW TIMES, ROLLING STONE, and so on (not to mention the Marxist periodicals), then you know who Orlando Letelier was. The murder of Letelier (former Chilean ambassador to the U.S. under the socialist government), and an American companion Ronni Moffit, in Washington, D.C., has become a recent symbol of the brutal violence of the Chilean dictatorship. Indeed, when torture of political prisoners is mentioned, the right-wing dictatorships of Chile, Brazil, Iran and South Korea are the ones that come immediately to mind. No one can take issue with those who are speaking out against these regimes, especially as these governments receive much support from the U.S. government, with our taxpayers' dollars. The indifference of the American people, including gay people, to this torture, their failure to speak out against it, saddens and angers me.

But I am also concerned with another kind of indifference. To those people who can feel rage at the murder of Orlando Letelier, I ask, what about the murder of Richard Heakin? What about the death of Philip Stone? What about the nearly three dozen unsolved gay murders in San Francisco? On what grounds does this brutality get a low priority, or no priority at all?

Richard Heakin was the 21-year-old president of the Gay Action Group of Tucson, Arizona. On June 6, 1976, he was beaten to death by a group of teen-aged boys. At the court proceedings in the case, defense attorneys were permitted to introduce the action that these were healthy, normal specimens of American youth (as compared, by implication, to the queer they murdered). The boys got off with a slap on the wrist. Philip Stone, 24, was an artist living in Hamilton, Ontario, where queer-bashing is an acceptable sport (even though Canada has legalized consensual homosexual acts among adults). After suffering harassment and beatings from small groups of hoodlums, Stone committed suicide, but the Canadian gay liberation newspaper, THE BODY POLITIC, in a front page article, headlined the story: "Suicide or Murder?"

In the current issue of MOTHER JONES, a new San Francisco based monthly "for the rest of us," Saul Landau, a well-known writer and filmmaker on the left, laments the death of his friends Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffit. But Landau and his kind never seem to be able to make the connection between the thugs in Chile and the thugs so much closer to home who rape women or brutalize and murder faggots. These leftists are often the same ones who subtly (or not so subtly) fail to take feminism seriously because of their belief that it doesn't merit a high priority — and to help keep themselves comfortable in their simple-minded politics they keep a safe distance from such challenging books as Andrea Dworkin's "Women-Hating" and "Our Blood", which document the on-going violence against women and identifies this as a root cause of all violence.

Landau, for example, has for more than a decade helped to project a positive image of the Cuban Revolution in the U.S. through several films and articles. Never have I seen him speak out against the persecution of homosexuals in Cuba, though I have heard from a friend that he will

express his private disagreement with the Cubans on this issue. In one early article Landau refers to "fag dancers" and the sexy show at the Tropicana Club, as if to imply that Havana has not yielded to Moscow drab. He wouldn't use the phrase "nigger dancers," would he? Never have I seen him (and dozens of his associates in the Third World cheering squad) show the slightest interest in helping gay people in America fight for justice.

Aside from sometimes including "gay people" in their litany of the oppressed, what has the contemporary American left done about the issues we have raised in the past seven years? Some gays new to Marx are so excited with their discovery of the class struggle that gay rage seems forgotten.



Pat Warner

Lately, some gay socialists seem to be following the footsteps of some of us who participated in the early days (1969-70) of the Gay Liberation Front in New York City and elsewhere. Too often, the things we did, such as donating money to the Black Panther Party, came out of white liberal guilt and out of a desire to insist on our being a part of the "left." Our frequent use of Marxist rhetoric and such slogans as "No revolution without us!" epitomize this attitude. We tried to organize a "gay contingent" for every demonstration called by the "left." When gay socialists criticize certain gay people for toadying to the Democratic politicians, they should realize that they often engage in the same kind of toadying to the left. I think we permit the left to define for us what the revolution is, and in so doing we join the left in its main problem in America—terrible isolation from the people. Too often, the path of least resistance permits gay socialists to agree that the murder of Orlando Letelier is a more important issue, politically, than the murder of Richard Heakin. It seems to me that most gay socialists are letting the leaders of the "male left" (for lack of a better term) make the decisions; these Marxist-Leninists forge the path and gay socialists follow. Some gay socialists become so angry with gay capitalists and so anxious for coalition with the left that they lose sight of much reality:

—By accepting the definitions of the "class struggle" as put forth by the left, important challenges being made by radical feminists are ignored. The homophobia and sexism of the left are seen as mere errors, not as the result of patriarchal tradition.

—By adopting simple-minded 1930s-style formulas about the working class, many of the ideas of the New Left concerning the class make-up of America are forgotten — it's as if the intellectual work of the 1960s has been lost.

—Gay capitalists are not some uniquely horrible beast — the phenomenon of the gay capitalist must be put in the context of the fact that the majority of the American people have acceded to capitalism and grow up with a capitalist mentality.

It isn't that we should refuse to mourn the death of Orlando Letelier. It is rather that we should ask ourselves why the death of Richard Heakin means absolutely nothing politically to most of those who march against the Chilean junta. And if the death of Richard Heakin could mean something to them (if they heard of him), would they join with us in a march against queer-



beating thugs? I doubt it; they haven't marched with us yet! They don't even want to read our newspapers, yet they expect us to devour every word in their left-wing journals and they want to study their "classics" in our "study groups."

I know a number of radical feminists who don't call themselves socialists. It's not because they want to be bank presidents or because they like the ads from big corporations in MS. magazine. They ask simply, "What has socialism done for us?" Well, I do consider myself a socialist, and I maintain a socialist vision for the future. But at this point, I feel more in common with certain people who are not self-defined socialists—artists and country freaks, for example, as well as radical feminists—because I have a greater trust in these people's sense of freedom and justice than I do in that of many socialists. Too many of the socialist intellectuals I know are college professors with fat salaries. And anti-socialist attitudes are not always due to McCarthyism, anti-communism, "bourgeois" ideology, etc. More often than not, they are due to the real injustices and inadequacies—the racism, the sexism and militarism—of the nations we know as socialist.

Sometimes, I have a dark vision of worldwide "socialism" based entirely on patriarchal principles, with the on-going struggle of women, gay people, racial minorities and civil libertarians continuing valiantly from inside that "socialism." What I am saying is the kind of socialism I yearn for will emerge only from feminist thought and action, not vice versa.

In the meantime, my thoughts return to the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights. The U.S. is one of several countries which systematically denied human rights to gay people. Perhaps we should go to the U.N. with the stark facts of this on-going brutalization, just as Black Communist William Patterson went to the U.N. in the early 1950s charging genocide against his people. And then we might see if there are people who will march with us against the far-reaching mentality of male chauvinism which perpetrates the degrading treatment and punishment to which gay people are subject in America and elsewhere.

Until rape, any by extension, queer-beating, are defined by human society as political crimes, and are eliminated, there will be brutal military dictatorships run by cruel men whose psyches are steeped in violence and hatred. It won't matter what the name of those dictatorships happens to be. And until socialists understand this, I don't care whether you call me a socialist or not.

- Gay Community News



**THE HITE REPORT**—a nationwide study of female sexuality, by Shere Hite (Maxmillian, 438 pp., \$12.50). Reviewed by Susan Howe.

As part of the Feminist Sexuality Project of NOW, N.Y. Chapter, Shere Hite asked women how they felt about their own sexuality. In the responses sex is frankly discussed, and the results shatter a lot of myths. Freud's biologically unsound theories on orgasm have been exposed for 30 years. In *The Hite Report* we see an end put to the sex roles imposed on women and perpetuated by society. The authoress states, "The ease with which women orgasm during masturbation...contradicts the stereotypes...." "Of the respondents, 82%



masturbated, 95% of those climaxed, usually within 4 minutes." Intercourse is revealed as not the basic form of enjoyable sex for females and not the means by which most women "should" or do climax.

The quotes from respondents go on at length (almost nine-tenths of the book). There is value in the variety of ways respondents describe common experiences. Comparison of findings are made with other researchers and clinicians, with bibliographical material included for ease in pursuing special interests.

Since 1973, responses by questionnaire and letter came to Miss Hite from a cross-sampling of the country. Ages of the women range from 14 through 78. Educational levels and occupations are all inclusive. The questionnaires are reproduced in the book. Tabulation is done on a sample of 1844 women. One respondent wrote: "I don't spend my average day writing 10 pages on my sexuality and it's been a good thing to do;" and another: "I cried when I first read through this. There is so much I've lied about for so long." It appears to have been a catharsis for many. 95% of the respondents grew up believing that sex was "bad."

What the first trip to the moon was for the space age, this report is to the age of sexual enlightenment for women. It ends the myth of genital ugliness and shame of natural biological functions. Accounts are given of the number of women who claim to orgasm with vaginal stimulation only, who fake orgasm, who orgasm from cunnilingus, as well as those who orgasm with a combination of stimulus. It delves into "how important is sex," the sex revolution, older women and sex, and the act of touching. The point is made that the new em-

phasis on making the woman have an orgasm can be even more oppressive than not.

The authoress states that the problem is society's "in its definition of sex and the subordinate role that definition gives women." The key is adequate stimulation. Intercourse without special effort or special circumstances is not adequate. It was never meant to be. Lesbianism is considered as a natural and normal variety of sexual expression—8% of the respondents preferring sex with other women. Statistics on bisexuals are given. Dr. Richard Green of UCLA's gender identity clinic states that lesbianism is one way a woman can "disassociate herself from extraordinary dependence on men." A positive attitude by women toward their bodies and any physical contact that might naturally develop with other women is essential to self love and the acceptance of their bodies as good and beautiful.

A quote from one woman summarizes it: "I would advise women to look to their own hearts and bodies, and follow them wherever they lead." The book is a must for every woman, and an eye opener for most men.

**FAMILIAR FACES, HIDDEN LIVES**—a story of homosexual men in America today, by Howard Brown (Harcourt Brace, 246 pp., \$8.95). Review by Don Slater.

Even without the influence of the homosexual movement, which evolved shortly after the publication of the Kinsey Report, the late Howard Brown, M.D., one-time health services administrator of New York City, probably would have gone through the self-analysis and self-flagellation frequently referred to as "coming out." A few late-blooming "familiar faces" like Merle Miller and Christopher Isherwood had begun to publicly acknowledge sexual feelings most ordinary farm boys accept as a matter of course. Especially after it was relatively safe to do so around early 1970 did the process of "awakening" accelerate.

Dr. Brown believed that "if I had publicly announced my homosexuality in 1968, when I resigned from the Lindsay administration, I would have found little understanding and even less support. I would probably have committed suicide the next day. By 1973, such a thought was wildly out-of-date." Like so many other gaier than gay "debutants" who mistook the swishy struggle at the Stonewall bar in Greenwich Village as a signal to stand up and be counted, Dr. Brown confused the process of "coming out" (which is strictly a question of leveling with one's self and of private conscience) with making a formal entrance into society on the basis of one's sexual proclivities. Ironically, persons who sincerely come to terms with their sexuality seldom require reassurance through public attestation; the self ashamed and guilt-ridden invariably do.

This nagging preoccupation with "coming out" and with what society will think about homosexuality long after its widespread acceptance in the public mind pervades the book and borders on the paranofac.

That Dr. Brown yearned for respectability is certain. It was like a compulsion with him. The book abounds in references to his professional standing—so much so that he becomes an incessant self-promoter. At one point he declares: "After I came out publicly, I became the most prominent self-confessed homosexual in America, partly because I was a member of a profession regarded as a citadel of respectability." There is a prodigious self-indulgence, an awful self-deception evident in such a statement. Dr. Brown's was a special pleading of a peculiarly distasteful sort.

The degree to which he devoted himself to improving the character of homosexuality, and the degree to which he succeeded, can be judged by reading *Familiar Faces, Hidden Lives*. From it Dr. Brown emerges as a first-rate snob. Latently homosexual, he dragged himself through the first forty-five years of his life smiling on the outside and crying on the inside, and never learning

(Continued on page 18)



# DAKE COOPER

By JANET COOPER

## LUNA AND TROUTBACK WOMYN VISIT A BOOKSTORE ON FLAG DAY ©

"I've had enough self created horizons. I need some fresh thoughts to think about," Luna muttered.

Troutback Womyn had a plan, "Let's go over to the bookbarn and see what subjects we can find that we never considered before."

Luna and Troutback Womyn were Special Friends. They assumed that each would find support in each other's shared attentiveness and tenderness.

As they walked in, Book Womyn welcomed them by saying, "You've come at a good time. I'm unpacking the personal library of a third generation Dupont executive who recently died. You might want to look over some of this material from his collection that his widow just sold to us."

Luna and Troutback Womyn started looking over the shelves where Book Womyn had laid out the Dupont Executive's book collection so that she would find the books accessible when she priced them.

All of a sudden Troutback Womyn took two huge strides. "That's how much space Andersonville titles alone take on these shelves!" she said.

"Yes," Luna said. "He certainly had a large collection on the Civil War."

"Look at this one — a yellow-back from 1899. Andersonville: A Story of Rebel Prisons, Fifteen Months a Guest of the So-Called Southern Confederacy; A Private Soldier's Experience in Richmond, Andersonville, Savannah, Millen, Blackshear and Florence by John McElroy, Late Co. I, 16th (I) Cav. published in Washington, D.C. by the National Tribune.

"Why here's a cozy sounding passage. Wonder if Jonathan Katz would find it relevant." Luna and Troutback Womyn both thought Gay American History was a valuable collection of gay resistance models.

If not too tired, and everything else is favorable, the calvaryman has prepared himself a comfortable couch for the night. He always sleeps with his chum. The two have gathered enough small tufts of pine or cedar to make a comfortable, springy, mattress-like foundation. On this is laid the ponch or rubber blanket. Next comes one of their overcoats, and upon this they lie, covering themselves with the two blankets and the other overcoat, their feet toward the fire, their boots at the foot, and their belts, with revolver, saber and carbine, at the sides of the bed. It is surprising what an amount of comfort a man can get out of such a couch.

"After sharing so much intimacy, no wonder Ned Johnson of Company K went madly mad martial when he lost his chum." Luna started reading:

Ned was a young Englishman, with much of the suggestiveness of the bull-



dog common to the lower class of that nation. His fist was readier than his tongue. His chum, Walter Savage was of the same surly type. The two had come from England twelve years before, and had been together ever since. Savage was killed in the struggle for the fence described in the preceding chapter. Ned could not realize for a while that his friend was dead. It was only when the body rapidly stiffened on its icy bed, and eyes which had been gleaming deadly hate when he was stricken down were glazed over with the dull film of death, that he believed he was gone from him forever. Then his rage was terrible. For the rest of the day he was at the head of every assault upon the enemy. His voice could even be heard above the firing, cursing the Rebels bitterly, and urging the boys to "Stand up to 'em! Stand right up to 'em! Don't give a ---- inch! Let the ---- have the best you got in the shop! Shoot low, and don't waste a cartridge!"

When he surrendered, Ned seemed to yield sullenly to the inevitable. He threw his belt and apparently his revolver with it upon the snow. A guard was formed around us, and we gathered about the fires we started. Ned sat apart, his arms folded, his head upon his breast, brooding bitterly upon Walter's death. A horseman, evidently a Colonel or General, clattered up to give some directions concerning us. At the sound of his voice Ned raised his head and gave a swift glance; the gold stars upon the Rebel's collar led him to believe that he was the leader of the enemy. Ned sprang to his feet, made a long stride forward, snatched from the breast of his overcoat the revolver he had been hiding there, cocked it and leveled it at the Rebel's breast. Before he could pull the trigger Orderly Sergeant Charles Bentley, of his Company, who was watching him, leaped forward, caught his wrist and threw the revolver up. Others joined in, took the weapon away, and handed it over to the officer, who then ordered us all to be searched for arms, and rode away."

"I don't remember learning in school that the Union Army was an army of lovers. Books about the first American Civil War usually commemorate fathers killing sons and brothers killing brothers. Sometimes authors will mention in passing that wealthy men could hire poor men to take their place as cannon fodder," Troutback Womyn responded.

"Big book, big trouble," Callimachus, the ancient Greek librarian used to say," cracked Luna. Her eye had found a black spine which was the thickest book on the shelves containing the Dupont Executive's private library.

"In 1927 Columbia University Press published the History of the Explosives Industry in America. I wonder what's in there. We never learned anything about the explosive makers in school."

"What an expansive dedication," Troutback Womyn remarked, looking over her shoulder.

THE INSTITUTE OF MAKERS OF EXPLOSIVES RESPECTFULLY DEDICATES THIS VOLUME TO THE MANY USERS OF EXPLOSIVES IN ALL THOSE INDUSTRIES THAT HAVE GREATLY BENEFITED MANKIND AND HAVE ADDED TO THE MATERIAL ADVANCEMENT OF AMERICA AND THE WHOLE WORLD.

"So the Institute of Makers of Explosives had paid for the research and shared their files with the authors of this book.

"No wonder this book was in a third generation Dupont Executive's book collection. The Dupont name takes up practically two whole columns in the index."

"The American Explosive Makers must be as important to the economy as any corporation controlling natural resources, agriculture, transportation, or construction products. The Preface says:

Histories of the more important industries of the United States, such as the

steel and cement industries, have published from time to time, especially in recent years... But the American explosives industry, the largest in the world, without which the other activities of the country could hardly exist on their present scale, have hitherto been neglected.

"Odd that American historians have not popularized information about this industry," Luna said thoughtfully.

"Look at all these portraits," Troutback Womyn exclaimed.

The portraits, and there were many, of all the people to whom the Institute of Makers of Explosives wanted to give credit for having contributed to this major American industry, were white men and one white woman. Many of them looked like they would never need a straight back chair to have perfect posture. They posed as if they never knew what dancing, rhythm, undulation, fucking, shuddering, pissing, and shitting felt like. They looked like they would not have enjoyed any of those experiences anyway.

Flipping through the book, Luna's eyes skimmed, "Listen to this Troutie! 'For about three hundred years after gunpowder was introduced for military purposes, no applications were made in the arts of peace..."

"What's their definition for arts of peace?" Troutback Womyn asked. Luna found a definition.

In southern Florida between Miami, Palm Beach, and Fort Myers there exists an area of some 4,000 square mile containing some of the most fertile tropical land in America but until touched by the magic hand of the explosives and modern engineers, it was of little value except as a home for the wild animal, bird, and reptile life of South Florida and as the residence of a few Seminole Indians.

Troutback Womyn responded, "I don't think the American Bicentennial Committee has sponsored a book that has been more relevant to our lives."

"May I look at the book for a minute?" Luna handed Troutback Womyn the volume.

"Look at this, Loony, there is some insight into American History on every page.

While it is true that explosive, as propellents, were seized upon by and have served, tyrants, despots, desperados and ruffians, yet from the first, and always they have proved essentially democratizing agents, for they have given assurance to the timid they have armed the weak with strength they have tended for defensive and offensive purposes, to bring men of the most widely different physical prowess to a condition of equality. Through them the voice of the people is actually heard.

"Because that book brings spirit into everything I have ever read about what an American means, let's buy it. Of all the items in this Dupont collection, I most want to read the History of the Explosives Industry in America.

(Fragments from a book I am writing. The Mountain Rumbled at Mouse Squeaked Forth.)





### VIEWPOINTS

anything from the travail; supinely he accepted the prevailing "official" psychiatric opinion that homosexuality, in and of itself, is a sign of mental and emotional illness. What millions of ordinary people thought apparently never sparked his interest. However, the more he stewed in the "psychiatric clichés about homosexuality" the more his "sense of the inherent inferiority of homosexuals" festered in him. Suddenly, in 1973, he erupted in a frenzy of missionary zeal to acknowledge the large role his brave action in "coming out" played in altering "drastically and forever the public's attitude toward us and the attitude of homosexuals, young and old, toward themselves."

Let anyone misunderstand, it is clear that Dr. Brown was an intelligent, conscientious man whose regard for respectability can edify us all. His courageous battle to "come out" in 1973, after ignoring the rank and file work of the homosexual movement for 20 years, which he indicates he never heard anything of, proves that. He set out to become a public homosexual along with other earnest, middle-class, guilt-ridden, liberal reformers—at a time the homosexual movement was already overrun with do-gooders and government sponsored programs. He helped form the National Gay Task Force—"to be staffed by professionals" he hastened to inform an interviewer in 1973. In a sense Dr. Brown used the ideology of gay liberation to turn his private pain to public purpose.

Disheartening is the host of gay reviewers cowed by his station in life and pathetically grateful for his patronage who have halled the book as thoughtful.

For the sexually wavering, Dr. Brown, the public homosexual, became a role model they might emulate. For the one percent of standardized "Gays" who must identify with their sexual behavior the book may be useful. But for the millions of men and women who have shed their minority consciousness, and whose daily lives penetrate to far deeper levels than the sexual, who want from the homosexual movement only that it ensure them the right of sexual privacy and equal treatment under the law, the book will have little meaning.

- Homosexual Information Center Newsletter

Briefly noted books, etc.:

I tried as hard as I could to like *Where Will I Be Tomorrow* by Walter Rindner (Celestial Arts, 143 pp., \$4.95, softcover), simply because Rindner evidently had quite a bit of trouble convincing his publishers to let him come-out in print, evidently fearing it might hurt the sales of his books, posters, and so forth. However, Rindner's poetry has all the literary merit of a Hallmark greeting card, with

only occasional phrases bursting through the mawkish sentimentality. Rindner says nothing new (everything being on the level of "All You Need To Love"), only rarely says it differently, and even more rarely says it interestingly. A bright note is that sales of *Where Will I Be Tomorrow* must not be suffering from Rindner's openness (and we can at least congratulate him on that, if not rave about his talent), for Celestial Arts has since published *Loving Someone Gay*. The best thing about *Where Will I Be Tomorrow* is the photos, also by Rindner and mostly very good, which give strong evidence that Rindner should decide that the written word is not his forte.

Perry Dean Young's *Two of the Missing* (Avon, 256 pp., \$11.95, softcover) is primarily the author's reminiscences of his days as a Vietnam war correspondent and his friendship with Sean Flynn (son of Errol) and Dana Stone, both highly acclaimed news photographers who vanished in Cambodia in 1970, reportedly captured by the Vietcong. In light of several recent events, the book becomes doubly meaningful. One, of course, is Young's co-authorship of David Kopay's autobiography. Another is our government's stand that the destruction in Nam was mutual, which even the most cursory flip through parts of Young's book will repudiate (i.e., U.S. soldiers shelling ancient shrines as target practice). Also of interest to Gays is the chapter titled "Questions We Never Asked," in which Young discussed his homosexuality in the context of the Vietnam War. We'd like to reprint it, but so far, the publisher has been ignoring our request.

Belle (MacMillan, 243 pp., \$8.95, hardcover), the first novel by Broadway librettist Michael Stewart ("*Bye Bye Birdie*," "*Carnival*," "*George M*" and "*Hello Dolly*"),

(Continued on page 23)

ceeded to answer her own question. "Because the male homosexual eats another man's sperm. Sperm is the most concentrated form of blood. The homosexual is eating life. That's why God calls homosexuality an abomination."

Bryant also stated the same sin was committed by heterosexual females who engaged in oral sex. The same also applied to Lesbians. Now we're really just a bunch of backward country folk here at the Gay Era and very often we're not up on the latest kinks going down in big cities like Miami, so we're just a non-plussed at that final statement. None of the Lesbians we know are all that big on "eating sperm."

But another statement in the same interview revealed just how far Bryant and SOC are willing to go in their use of fear tactics, or maybe it simply revealed how off her rocker the woman is. Bryant stated that there is evidence that God punishes civilizations which tolerate homosexuality. She noted that after the passage of a gay rights ordinance in a Southern California city (presumably Los Angeles), "how California is having the worst drought in history." When the Miami reporter, evidently unsure he'd properly understood Bryant, asked her if there was a connection between the ordinance and the drought, she replied, "Absolutely."

- Harry H Long



Drawing Copyright GPU NEWS 1977

### FLORIDA

nance the Big Brothers of Minneapolis was forced not to discriminate against a gay applicant and warned that the same thing could happen in Miami.

But the real topper to SOC's fear-tactics campaign came in an interview Bryant gave in *Miami* magazine where she trotted out a number of religious theories which haven't seen the light of day since Medieval times, such as the sperm = blood = life argument. "Do you know why God hates homosexuals?" she asked, then pro-

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# BITS 'N' PIECES

NEW YORK—The National Gay Task Force (NGTF) has received a \$7,500 matching grant from the Playboy Foundation for the purpose of research, preparation of materials and other expenses in connection with the series of meetings with Federal agencies that will occur over the next several months.

As a matching grant, the Playboy Foundation funds are contingent on raising another \$7,500 from other sources.

HOLLYWOOD, CA—Brad Dourif, who received an Academy Award nomination for best supporting actor as Billy in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," has been selected to play the part of Leonard Matlovich in the upcoming NBC special two-hour movie about the discharge of the gay Vietnam war hero.

Len has met with Dourif (a remarkable look alike) and says he is pleased with the script. Rumors persist that the project is in trouble.

- Chicago Gay Life

WASHINGTON, DC—The U.S. Job Corps has recently distributed to all training centers a radically revised manual on "Sexuality" which eliminates all the anti-homosexual elements contained in the previous manual, entitled "Sexual Deviation;" urges respect for differing sexual lifestyles; and instructs Job Corps directors that "Rules concerning sexual behavior must be the same for heterosexual and homosexual activities."

The new manual states clearly that "A

man or woman may not be excluded from participating in the Job Corps solely on the basis of their choice of sexual partner of the same gender. Therefore, homosexuality will be considered as one part of the total spectrum of sexuality."

COLLEGE STATION, TX—Officials at Texas A&M University say homosexual activities are "diabolically counter" to the school's traditions and that they would fight any attempt to organize homosexual organizations on campus.

The comments came in response to a suit filed by three students seeking gay recognition.

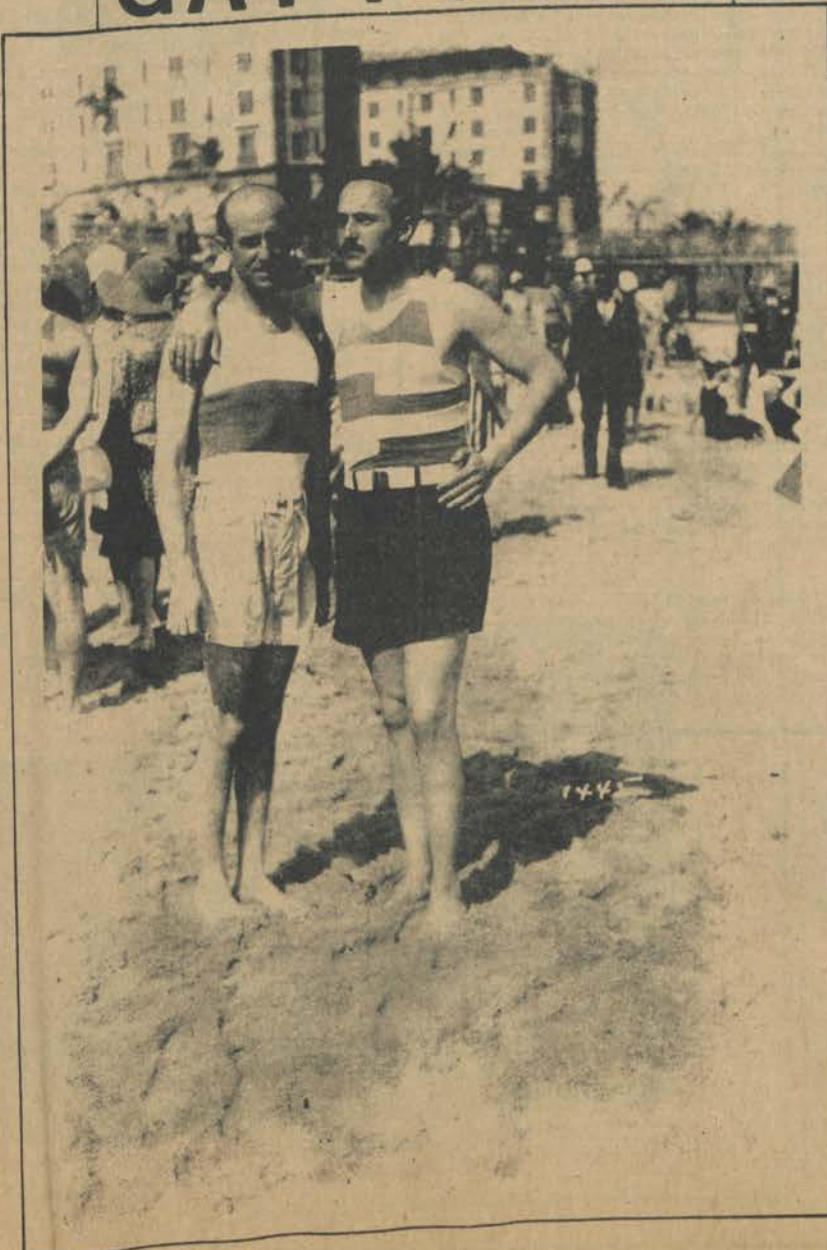
- The Milwaukee Journal

ANN ARBOR, MI—Gay students, staff and faculty won a victory at the University of Michigan when students voted, 1,041 to 314 in favor of gay rights on campus.

The students approved an amendment to the Michigan Student Assembly's all-campus constitution guaranteeing that "all benefits (shall be) extended to students without regard to sexual preference."

- Michigan Free Press

## GAY POWER



### GAY TV PILOT

LOS ANGELES—Don Amador and Tony Karnes, both active for the past several years in entertainment and Gay Studies, have announced their newest venture, KGAY Television.

KGAY Television was created by the pair in association with Bob Bechtold, who first conceived the idea over one year ago. The pilot-presentation was produced by the three men who collaborated also in the format design of the series.

Constructed around a modular, two-hour-weekly format, the show will be marketed via syndication and Cable TV nationwide. KGAY includes a one-hour news documentary segment, a half-hour news, weather and sports spot, and finally, the world's first "real life situation-drama" for gay people (or gay soap opera), called "Jerry and Walter of Hilldale."

Persons interested in KGAY-TV regionally should contact Tony Karnes at the Gay Alliance of Professionals, 4779 Cromwell Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90027; phone: (213)-660-6249.

- Gay Community News

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has refused to air public service announcements for gay groups. Wrote CBC Vice-President Peter Meggs to the Halifax Gay Alliance: "The CBC's policy clearly excludes subjects deemed controversial. It is felt that the request of your organization represents subject matter which is still considered controversial by our audiences and therefore we must continue to apply the policy and refuse your request in the area of public service announcements."

The Gay Alliance message was strictly factual, indicating a counseling hotline number and the organization's services. No opinions on homosexuality were voiced in the proposed service announcement. Shortly after CBC's decision, the Canadian University Press, representing 70 newspapers serving 350,000 students throughout Canada, announced a boycott of CBC advertising until CBC accepts gay public service announcements. As well, on Feb. 19, hundreds of gay activists picketed CBC offices across the Canadian nation.

- High Gear





ALBATROSS-WINTER 1977

The Pacific Coast Times reports that unknown to the public, transsexual tennis star Renee Richards dresses and talks like a man whenever she visits her five year old son, Nicki. Dr. Richards apparently reverts to a male role to maintain a "father image" for the son she fathered before her sex change operation in 1975. This information comes from Augustine Vigo, an elevator operator in Dr. Richards' former wife's apartment building. Since her operation, Dr. Richards doesn't visit her ex-wife, according to Vigo. "He never goes upstairs," said Vigo. "I go up and get the boy and they go off for a few hours together in his car." Vigo said Richards and son "love each other very much."

- High Gear

WASHINGTON, DC—A \$6,250 Judgment has been granted to eight people who had charged a DC gay bar with sexual and racial discrimination.

They claimed the Grand Central Bar & Restaurant excluded women, blacks, and whites accompanying blacks. The eight were represented by the National Lawyers Guild. The action is the culmination of 5 years of legal and political work by various gay groups and individuals against discriminatory practices in a number of DC gay bars.

- Lesbian Connection

### CHURCH BUYS LIBRARY

NEW YORK—The Church of the Beloved Disciple acquired the famous gay library of the Mattachine Society with a bid of \$2,900 in a spirited auction held March 31, before some 40 individuals and representatives of gay organizations.

The library came on the market when the Mattachine Society was forced to file bankruptcy papers earlier this year.

Bishop Robert M. Clement stated that Beloved Disciple sees the library as a public trust. "We intend to operate it as an ongoing, expanding resource which will be available to the gay community and to scholars interested in gay research," he said.

Jonathan Katz, author of *Gay American History*, has offered his expertise in the task of cataloging the hundreds of books to be housed in Beloved Disciple's St. John's Theological Seminary, 348 West 14th Street, New York City.

- Gay Community News

ESSEX, CT—G. Legman reports the most interesting etymological word in the English language is dike, referring to a lesbian, with all its variations such as Diesel-dike. What is so interesting and unusual about dike is that all the intermediate forms of this term from its etymological original, which is hermaphrodite, to its most evolved derivative, bulldagger, are all in simultaneous existence at the present time and have been since the 1930's.

- Verbatim

### CANADA CENSORS

OTTAWA—Canadian customs, which recently banned two gay male sex manuals, is stepping up its campaign against gay male publications. The two most recent issues of *Blueboy* magazine were barred by Canadian authorities. According to *Blueboy* publisher Don Embinder, these same issues made it onto the news stands in Spain with no difficulty.

In order to circumvent the tough Canadian censorship, *Mandate* magazine recently ran one cover on its American issues and another cover on its Canadian issues. The American cover—which featured two naked men—was never even submitted to Canadian customs. L. Stein, public relations director for *Mandate's* parent company, told the *Body Politic* that "We very circumspectly assess different standards in different countries and produce the magazine accordingly."

- Gay Community News

WASHINGTON—Moving to avoid serious conflict with the gay community, the D.C. Office of Human Rights has withdrawn a locally televised public service announcement from the air. The widely shown TV spot was intended to inform the general public about Title 34, the D.C. Human Rights Law. The ad detailed areas in which it is illegal to discriminate, such as race, sex, and religion. However, it failed to mention that discrimination based on sexual orientation is also prohibited by the law, which has been in existence since late 1973. The currently withdrawn ad is slated to be replaced with one including mention of sexual orientation.

From Rolling Stone's "Loose Talk" column—L.A. Police Chief Ed Davis: "Now I don't think you can necessarily equate Farm Workers with people with unusual sexual preferences; but I suppose you call them united fruit workers."

"I think we're all going to have to go underground in eight years."

"I think we've got eight years because Carter will probably get re-elected. But if you want my personal opinion, I don't think even Carter can stave it off. I think it's a little closer to five or six years."

"I just think that there is a vacuum out there of gay people who are doing nothing. They've got to really start paying their human rights dues."

"And if they don't pay their dues, that eight years is going to collapse to six and maybe even collapse back even more."

"The 'supremes,' as I call the Supreme Court, is no longer the wellspring of activism... Obviously it's going to be a very conservative court and they're not going to touch anything controversial...."

"I see another McCarthy era coming down...."

"If you don't understand history, I think you're doomed to repeat it. If you don't think that it was the same kind of mentality that denied women the right to vote, it was the same kind of mentality that didn't want the Blacks to get the right to vote... if you don't understand...."

"I think of the analogy in terms of the Jews under Hitler...."

"What happened all of a sudden was that they began cordoning off areas where the Jews lived, and people said, 'Well, they won't get me.' Then when they knocked on your neighbor's door, then all of a sudden you got nervous. And then it was too late to get out of the country."

"I see that exact same thing happening here."

"You do not wait until Anita Bryant gets to California. You do not wait until those Phyllis Schlaflys and the people who are after us knock on your neighbor's door."

"I understand very clearly that that referendum in California was my fight, that the trouble in Florida with Anita Bryant is my fight. It is my personal and professional and political fight; because those folks who want to deny those people their rights in terms of anti-discrimination are the same folks who will be up in my state next spring trying to get me."

"If you don't start now, and if I don't start now, they're going to be at your door. They're going to be at every gay person's door within the next couple of years...."

"The anti-ERA people, the Anita Bryant people, the pro-gun people, the right-to-lifers—they are all the same and nobody's talking about it. For them to be in communication, for Phyllis Schlafly to be giving Anita Bryant orders like that, something very, very heavy is coming down."

—Rep. Elaine Noble of Massachusetts  
in an Advocate interview with  
Sasha Gregory-Lewis.

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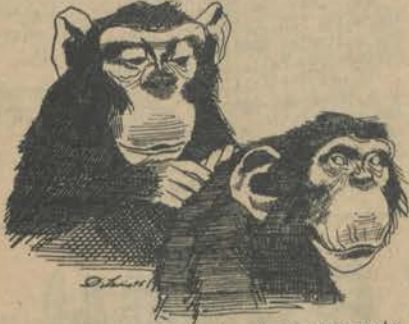
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MELDRIM JOUSTS JIMMY

BOSTON—New Hampshire Governor Meldrim Thomson has delivered a stinging indictment of President Carter warning that "only a peanut butter Democrat would fail to read the signals that warn of the early demise of free enterprise in America and the not too distant decline and fall of our great republic." Carter has helped this trend along, said the conservative governor speaking in Boston, by "accelerating the pace towards nationalized socialism," turning his back on the shoe industry, inviting "sodomites to the White House" and "lording" over the entire irresponsible concoction with a degree of public hypocrisy never before witnessed in America.

- Gay Community News



WASHINGTON, DC—A Directory of Women's Media, including periodicals, small presses, courses, art resources, library collections, news services and more is now available. Interested people should write Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press, 3306 Ross Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20008.

SACRAMENTO, CA—The California State Assembly Health Committee has approved a new bill wherein transsexuals could receive new and "corrected" birth certificates. The new certificates would reflect sex change operations. The bill provides that any transsexual, who has a letter from a surgeon attesting to the sex change, could apply for a new birth certificate. Such a change would virtually be automatic. The bill, passed by a 7-2 margin, recently went to the Ways and Means Committee for hearings.

- Gay Community News



- BLADE

VISTA FUNDS GAY JOBS PROGRAM

SAN FRANCISCO—Federal officials have given final approval to a three-year gay jobs program to be funded by VISTA and staffed by VISTA volunteers. The grant, reported in the San Francisco Sentinel, marks the first time that VISTA has funded a gay community services program anywhere in the country. The grant was made to the San Francisco-based Golden Gate Gay Liberation House, which operates a Survival House and job referral vocational training program.

Five full-time VISTA volunteers will staff the program and serve approximately 600 clients over the course of the first year, which began on April 1. The program has an annual goal of placing at least 112 people in jobs and removing at least 120 people from the welfare rolls.

The program includes educational upgrade and job training for gay people as well as extensive job development in the gay business community.

California State Rep. Art Agnos, who pushed hard for the program, praised its enactment, stating, "This will go a long way in breaking down the myth that gay persons are all rich and do not need government assistance. I was proud to work with the sponsors of this program in breaking down another anti-gay barrier."

VISTA is an acronym for Volunteers in Service for America, an organization which has been called a "Domestic Peace Corps." Along with the Peace Corps, VISTA is a part of ACTION, the federal agency for Volunteer Service.

- Gay Community News

WYOMING REPEALS SODOMY LAW

CHEYENNE, WY—Wyoming became the 19th state to repeal its sex laws as Governor Ed Herschler signed the legislation in late February. The repeal, which went virtually unnoticed in both the gay and "straight" media, passed the state house of representatives by a 2-1 margin and the state senate by an even larger 3-1 vote. The "crime against nature" penalty, in effect since the state was admitted to the union in 1890, carried a maximum penalty of ten years. The repeal goes into effect on May 27.

- Gay Community News

WICHITA, KS—Judge Frank Theis granted Screw magazine publisher Al Goldstein a change of venue to Kansas City because of an anti-pornography campaign in Wichita that could make a fair trial unlikely.

- New York Times

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ALBATROSS



### FLORIDA DEFEAT MAY DOOM NATIONAL ERA

TALLAHASSEE, FL—The Florida State Senate dealt the Equal Rights Amendment a severe setback last week as it defeated the Equal Rights Amendment by a 21-19 vote. Proponents of the ERA now fear that unless there is a major change in the make-up of Southern legislatures in the 1978 elections, the ERA will be doomed.

"All the action now goes to the '78 election," said Sheila Greenwald, executive director of ERA America. Greenwald said that Southern state elections would become the group's next target, as none of the Southern states are among the 35 that have already ratified the amendment. Three more states must approve the ERA by March 1979 to make it the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

The issue of homosexuality played a large role in the emotional debate in the Florida legislature. Senator Alan Trask, a strong opponent of the ERA, read Bible verses from Leviticus during the debate. The verses assert that homosexuality is a sin. "We must never pass a law that is contrary to the teachings of God," said the senator.

Last minute telephone calls from the White House provide of little avail in salvaging the ERA in Florida. "I'm distressed; it's horrible," said Mark A. Siegal, an aide to President Carter. "We should not have lost North Carolina or Florida. But I'm still optimistic that we will pass the ERA."

- Gay Community News

### A PIE FOR PHYLLIS

NEW YORK—Phyllis Schlafly, the nation's leading opponent of the Equal Rights Amendment, was hit in the face with a pie as she was honored by the Women's National Republican Club last week. The pie (apple) was reportedly thrown by a man who said "That's for the ERA." A group called the Emma Goldman Brigade claimed responsibility for the pie-wielding. A woman who called herself Coca Crystal telephoned The New York Times, said the group was anarchist and composed of five people, and claimed the pie was thrown by professional pie-thrower Aron Kay. Kay has previously thrown pies at New York Senator Daniel Moynihan and Watergate burglar E. Howard Hunt.

Schlafly called the pie-throwing "shocking." She said it was just part of a "constant stream of attacks on me personally" by ERA supporters. Some two dozen members of New York NOW picketed the Schlafly appearance at the Waldorf-Astoria and many New York Republican leaders, including the party's expected candidate for mayor of New York, Sen. Roy Goodman, stayed away from the luncheon.

- Gay Community News

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Wow, that's right, JC, and tell 'em not to forget that old stand-by ...  
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ALBATROSS



A tip of the Gay Era hat goes to whomever it was in the Lancaster City government who chose to install the new brighter street lamps on Orange Street between Water and Mulberry Streets—part of the Gay cruising loop, and so far the only block in Lancaster to benefit from these brighter "anti-crime" lights. Odd that you chose "our block" to be the first and we'll bet you didn't know what a boon it is to those late-night forays. With those new lights we get a much better idea of what those driving past or sitting on the wall look like.

While we're on the subject of Lancaster (and we promise we won't stay on it too much longer), one of our local wags has announced he's found a definite cure for homosexuality: Lancaster. We prescribe some good windowpane for him to provide a clearer outlook.

### RAPE IN ITALY

After being gang raped in Italy last year, 18-year-old Claudia Caputo defied tradition. She allowed the women's move-

ment to publicize her case as part of a burgeoning campaign against rape.

It is extremely difficult in Italy to get a rape conviction and Claudia's assailants went free. Last month they kidnapped her, savagely tortured her and gang raped her again in reprisal for her attempts to press charges against them.

Thousands of women demonstrated their outrage and their support for Claudia outside the courthouse in Rome on April 4. Inside the court, the government accused the support organization of staging the second rape.

Claudia remains in a hospital in a state of shock after having her breasts slashed by knife wielding gang members.

- Guardian

NEW YORK—The casts of 25 Broadway shows including "Oh! Calcutta!" led their matinee audiences down Broadway to an anti-pornography rally at Times Square.

It was the last event (and best attended) in a three-day campaign against pornography and prostitution, called "Stamp Out Smut," sponsored by the Mayor's Midtown Citizens Committee.

- New York Times

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EPISCOPALIANS SAY 'NO'

LOUISVILLE, KY—The debate over the issue of homosexual priests has taken another turn with the urging last week by the national executive council of the Episcopal Church that gays not be ordained to the priesthood. The council for the 2.8 million-member church drafted a resolution that condemns "all actions which offend the moral law of the church." It urged the Episcopal House of Bishops to consider the issue at a meeting later this year and called for a definitive stand on the church's position on gays in the ministry. The council voted to express the "hope that no bishop will ordain or license any professing and practicing homosexual" until the issue can be resolved by the Episcopal General Convention in 1979.

In January of this year, Rev. Ellen Marie Barrett, a self-proclaimed lesbian and gay rights activist, was ordained to the priesthood in New York City. Barrett has, however, never headed a parish and is doing graduate work at the University of California at Berkeley. That ordination was criticized by several bishops in the Episcopal diocese of New York and some parishes voted to cut off diocesan payments to the church.

- Gay Community News

ARIZONIANS FIGHT BACK

PHOENIX, AZ—Six hundred Arizona residents, most of them gay, held a mass protest in front of the state capitol recently to protest an anti-gay bill now before the state legislature. The bill, part of a criminal code revision, would make "homosexual conduct" a Class 1 misdemeanor with a prison term of one year and a \$10,000 fine. The proposal makes all sex acts between consenting adults of the opposite sex legal but makes homosexual acts a crime.

Over 300 people crowded into a special Senate hearing room for a public hearing on the bill while another 300 rallied outside.

- Gay Community News

Women's Resource Center, 108 East Beaver Ave, State College.

Wednesdays

7:30 pm, communion service (a time for innovative modes of worship), MCC, Eisenhower Chapel, State College. Social follows.

8:00 pm, prayer meeting, MCC, Middletown.  
8:30 pm, conscious raising, MCC, Middletown.

Thursdays

7:00 pm, Christian Awareness Group (an intellectual approach to our spirituality), 108 Eisenhower Chapel, State College.

JUNE

- 11 - 1:00 pm, Dignity Workshop, Friends Meeting House, 6th & Herr Streets, Harrisburg; Mass at 7:00 pm.
- 15 - 9-12 pm, HOPS Coffeehouse, 415 East Foster Ave, State College. Entertainment on a spiritual theme, refreshments, community, and love.
- 16 - 8:00 pm, HOW regular monthly business meeting, 659 Beeber Street, social hour follows.
- 18 - 8:30 pm, Phila. Gay Coffeehouse concert, 326 Kater St., admission \$2.00 at door; phone (215)-922-1623. Performers are: folksingers Peggy Bernstein & Ian Mishkin, concert pianist Karl Tricomi, performing original songs Tom Wilson, dramatic readings Tom Bledsoe, 4-handed classical pianists Steve Canale & Marsha Melnicoff, folk-singer & songwriter Hank Baron.
- 24 - 8:00 pm, Dignity Mass, Friends Meeting House, Harrisburg.
- 26 - 8:00 pm, Phila Gay Coffeehouse. Tenor Stuart Goldstein with pianist Carmen Lewis.

JULY

- 7 - 8:00 pm, HOW regular social meeting, short business meeting, site open. Williamsport.
- 8 - 9:00 pm, Phila. Gay Coffeehouse. Country & western singer Jim Labig.
- 9 - 1:00 pm, HOW hosts monthly Pa. Rural Gay Caucus meeting, 659 Beeber St, Williamsport. HOW-sponsored picnic planned. For info/directions call 322-7987.
- 14 - 9-12:00, HOPS Coffeehouse, 415 East Foster Ave, State College. Live entertainment.
- 17 - Dignity 2nd Anniversary picnic, Pine Grove Furnace State Park. For info contact (717)-232-2027.
- 20 - 9-12:00, HOPS Coffeehouse, 415 East Foster Ave, State College. Entertainment on spiritual theme, refreshments, community, and love.
- 21 - 8:00 pm, HOW regular monthly business meeting, 659 Beeber Street, Williamsport. Social hour follows.
- 29 - 8:00 pm, Dignity Mass, Friends Meeting House, Harrisburg.

VIEWPOINTS

is an intriguing comedy-noir in the tradition of Patrick Dennis. Told in the first person by a Gay man, Belle depicts the narrator's encounter with Princess Bernheim Waldman Poliachinsky and their swirl through the European haute monde. The only thing marring the fun is the funerals they consistently encounter. Not that this makes a bit of difference to Belle; she loves funerals. Perhaps a bit too much for there not to be something suspicious going on. Pack this one with your beach things; it's definitely summertime, between the basket watching reading.

Growing Up Gay, which includes articles by young men and women on the problems and experiences of being Gay in high school, and High School Women's Liberation, which examines a variety of feminism topics from the school age point of view, are both available from Youth Liberation, 2007 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Both include perceptive articles and, more importantly, formidable resource lists. Youth Liberation also has a number of other pamphlets available (one title which sounded intriguing from the brochure was "How to Start a High School Underground Newspaper," which I wish had been around in those days when I did) as well as a magazine, FPS. The Women's Liberation pamphlet is \$1.25 (80 pp) and the Gay one is 75¢ (38 pp), with 50¢ postage on each. Send for their brochure at the above address.

And while we're plugging publications, one that must be mentioned is Albatross, the (ahem) "lesbianfeministsatiremagazine," which we started receiving recently. Even the more or less straightforward book reviews kept me chuckling in spots. Most of the rest of the contents had us in stitches. What with such comic strips as "The Adventures of Phyllis Shiftly" and "Betty Frypan Funnies" and an assortment of wacked-out articles (two how-to spoofs are "A Beginner's Guide to 18 Ways to Lesbian Love" and "Ways to Use Leftover Cats"), Albatross (or "Tross" as they sometimes refer to it) is a guaranteed belly-laugh. We've reprinted some samples of their humor in the "Bits 'n' Pieces" section. After you read them, check out their subscription ad elsewhere in the issue.

One final plug, before this column gets wrapped up for another month, this time for that golden-penned Advocate writer Arnie Kantowitz, whose autobiography, Under the Rainbow: Growing Up Gay is due out from Morrow in late June. Although not a reprint of any previous material, I feel it can be recommended sight unseen on the basis of Kantowitz's previous writings.

- HL



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Sundays

7:30 pm, worship service, Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), State College Eisenhower Chapel.

8:00 pm, worship service, MCC 1001 North Spring Street, Apt. 1-2, Middletown, (717)-944-1574.

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