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GAY ERA

vol. 4 no. 5

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JULY/AUGUST 1978



**COMING
OUT
TO
STRAIGHT
FRIENDS**

**ANITA'S
SOURCE**

**STATEWIDE
SUPPORT
GROUP**

**SOLDIERS
TRAINED
TO
KILL
GAYS**

**EUGENE
REPEALS
ORDINANCE**

In the News

STATE-WIDE GAY-SUPPORT GROUP ANNOUNCED

Acting with the endorsement of the "Pride '78" Gay Conference, the Pennsylvania Rural Gay Caucus has been holding open forums for discussion of the possible formation of a state-wide gay-support group. Two such meetings have been held to date. The first meeting was held on May 6th at Penn State's student union building in State College. The second meeting was held June 3rd at the Friends Meeting House in Harrisburg. The third meeting will be held at the Friends Meeting House, 6th & Herr Sts., Harrisburg at 1 o'clock on July 15. All are welcome to attend.

Items for discussion are the sad state of affairs for the proposed amendment to Allentown's ordinance to protect gay people from discrimination.

Discussions have also centered on the considerations ranging from updating and consolidating existing gay resource, to a state-wide switchboard, to a central clearing house, but conclusively and resolutely to the establishment of a state-wide mailing list.

Two immediate uses were seen for the mailing list. One use would be the speedy dispensing of information about an emergency in which a local group might find itself (as Allentown does). The other use would be, of course, to facilitate the formation of a state-wide group. A motion was entertained at the first meeting and duly carried "that people who attended the meetings and who are members of local organizations, obtain names, addresses, and telephone numbers from fellow/sister members of their local groups who want to be on a state-wide mailing list, and bring or mail these names

to the Pennsylvania Rural Gay Caucus. It was further moved and carried that the other groups within the state not represented there be informed and asked to do the same.

Work has since been continued on communications with the start of a state-wide telephone network, with the already established switchboards and gay community centers as key points to contact other organizations and people in other cities. State College and Harrisburg switchboards and the Philadelphia Gay Community Center will be used at present. Key persons in Pittsburgh are the fourth major link in this chain. Other cities and additional persons will be set up as contacts at the next meeting. It is hoped that the entire state could eventually be notified in less than 48 hours in emergencies.

Also discussed was the governor's and legislative races. Discussion was led by members of the Walt Whitman Democratic Club of Philadelphia and the Minorities Democratic Club of State College. A new committee also met for the first time to begin formulating plans toward next year's state gay conference. Meetings will be continued on a monthly basis in Harrisburg for the next several months. Eventually, meetings will be held quarterly.

In a related move the Caucus committed itself to contact and to ask local gay newspapers to include a form in their newspapers which the readers could fill out and send to a central address to obtain inclusion in the state-wide mailing list. (The form appears below.) The mailing address for the Lehigh Valley Citizens Concerned for a Better Community was chosen as people in that group volunteered to start to compile the state-wide mailing list. In order to defray the costs of at least the initial mailing for this

state-wide list, a motion was duly carried "that would ask \$1 of whom-ever might wish to be on the mailing list. It was noted that the treasurer should keep a separate account of this money.

"Obviously, truly state-wide participation is essential for a vigorous state-wide group, and the need for such a group is indeed urgent now with the growth and computerization of forces within the ultra-right and the uncertain future of the Pennsylvania Council for Sexual Minorities. Pennsylvania has been extraordinarily fortunate in having a state council — indeed uniquely so. We must not wait and let misfortune move us, but we must organize to challenge or champion whatever the future might hold," the Caucus declared.

RE-CODIFICATION ACT THREATENS HUMAN RIGHTS

BOSTON — The U.S. Senate recently passed a criminal recodification act, Senate Bill 1437. Behind all the numbers is part of the Nixon legacy which is now supported by such "liberals" as Sen. Edward Kennedy. The criminal recodification act was originally Senate Bill S-1, introduced during the Nixon years. S-1 was halted in Congress due in large part to the organizing efforts of groups such as the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation (NCARL) and the Boston Coalition to Stop S-1.

After Carter took office, a few changes were made in S-1, Attorney General Bell gave his endorsement of and support to the bill, and it was quickly passed by the Senate in January by a 72-15 vote. On May 20, the House Subcommittee on Criminal Justice decided to review the new bill. They plan to make their final report to the House Judiciary Committee sometime in late June.

This new act is vehemently opposed by various civil libertarian groups and by various political activists. Elizabeth Holtzman (D-NY) has stated that the bill enshrines "government lawlessness." Her criticism is supported by many people who view the bill as giving police and other enforcement officials broad powers which will reduce the freedom of speech and assembly, and the right to privacy. The bill will also curb the rights of labor unions and political groups to picket and demonstrate. This bill will prohibit the advertising of abortion information through the mail, will make anyone who gives

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what is deemed to be a "false" statement to an F.B.I. agent or any other Federal prosecution, and will make everyone associated with a political group responsible for any illegal actions of any individual member (or agent provocateur) of that political group. Such broad and vague provisions will have a detrimental effect on both the women's movement and the gay movement.

One may wonder why such a law is being pushed through Congress, Leslie Cagan, an activist in the women's and lesbian/gay movements, offered one explanation: "As was true in Nazi Germany, the growth of the right wing is often accompanied by more and more vicious attacks on lesbians and gay men. The passage of S. 1437/H.R. 6869 would be just one more indication of the swing to the right in this country."

Cagan also observed that "some of the specific provisions in the act would directly affect the political work we now do. The lesbian/gay movement has used and will continue to use demonstrations and other public activities as one way to reach people. But with this new criminal code greater authority would be granted to federal law enforcers to curtail our right to assemble and demonstrate."

— Gay Community News

SOLDIERS TRAINED TO KILL GAYS

British Army recruits are being trained to react to homosexuality with uncontrolled violence which has resulted in the deaths of at least two gay men, according to the lead story in a recent issue of London's Gay News.

The story, written by News Editor Michael Mason, discusses the strange handling of a case involving two Guardsmen from the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, who were tried and convicted for the brutal murders of John Fore and Dennis Chalke, both homosexuals, in Brixton last May. Certain information in the case was apparently suppressed because it fell under the protection of the Official



(above) Dennis Chalke (left) and John Fore (right), the two men murdered by soldiers of the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards. (photo: GAY NEWS, London)

Secrets Act which covers details about training methods for certain combat courses. It is claimed that military personnel are conditioned in their training to react aggressively to any slurs on their manhood and that such conditioning is a blatant threat to any homosexuals which whom they might become involved.

The Guardsmen, who were armed with knives they had bought earlier in the day, met John Fore at the Golden Lion in Dean Street, a well-known pub to military personnel at Chelsea Barracks and at Windsor. The three men drank together and then proceeded to the Brixton flat where where Dennis Chalke was staying. The two bodies were found a day later, Fore repeatedly stabbed through the jugular vein, Chalke with stab wounds in his back. The police described the murders as "brutal and vicious". Martin pleaded guilty to two charges of murder and admitted that he had robbed the dead men after the killing. Bottrill was found guilty of two charges of manslaughter.

Failing to get any help from the British Army, Gay News turned to America for information since Guardsmen visit U.S. military camps for training. What they learned from former U.S. Marine R. Wayne Eisenhart, a Vietnam veteran, was horrific. Eisenhart, in a paper on training for

the Journal of Social Issues, said the aims of combat training were: "to achieve psychological control over the recruit; to equate masculine identity with raw aggression."

"Whenever I failed any task or performed poorly, I was physically assaulted" wrote Eisenhart. "At the same time the drill instructor screamed in my face something like 'You can't hack it, you goddamned faggots!' ...While in basic training we were issued M-14 rifles. The breech of the weapon is closed by a bolt which is continually pushed forward by a large spring with considerable force. One night three men who had been censured for ineffectiveness in their assigned tasks were called forward in front of the assembled platoon, ordered to insert their penises into the breeches of the weapons, close the bolt and run the length of the squad by singing the Marine Corps Hymn. This violent ritual ended as the drill instructor left and the three men sank to the floor, penises still clamped into their weapons. We helped them remove the rifles and guided them to their beds. There was considerable bleeding as the men cupped their wounded penises with their hands, curled into balls, and cried.

"Aggression was equated with masculinity. Recruits were brutalized, frustrated and cajoled to a flash point of high tension. They were often stunned by the depths of viol-



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ence erupting from within themselves. Only on these occasions of violent aggressive outbursts did the drill instructor cease his endless litany of 'you dirty faggot' and 'can't hack it, little girls?'

Gay News confronted two former Guardsmen-one of whom served in Northern Ireland-with the information about the Marines' program. While they refused to discuss British training methods, one commented: "I don't think that is a fair picture of the average British methods. There is nowhere near that level of physical violence. But obviously the ideas are much the same." Asked if the British system relies on calling a man fairy, a pansy, or a fag, the man replied, "You certainly do get called things like that. But anyway, the Guards have always looked on homosexuals as creepy-crawlies. Doesn't matter if you squash a few. It proves you're a man somehow, doing a queer. There are two pubs- the White Horse and the Golden Lion-that the Guards go to. Some go for a bit of sex, but others go just to roll somebody. Pick them up and take their wallets, something like that."

— Coast Times

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

HARRISBURG — Governor Shapp has announced his 1978-79 appointments to the Pennsylvania Council for Sexual Minorities, according to Tony Silvestre, council chairperson. New council members include Jeff Britton, chairperson of the Walt Whitman Democratic Club; Specer Cox, director of the Philadelphia ACLU; Pam Erdeley of Pittsburg; Tony Henry of the Friends

Service Committee; Mary Nancarow of the Pennsylvania Rural Gay Caucus, and Rose Weber of the West Philadelphia Mental Health Consortium.

Reappointed to an additional term are Representative Norman Berson of Philadelphia; Jerry Brennan, Harrisburg; Dr. Joann Hunter Farr, State College; Paul Gehris, Pennsylvania Council of Churches; Dr. Kenneth George, University of Pennsylvania; Barbara Gittings, Philadelphia; Marilyn Hewitt, Harrisburg; James Huggins, Pittsburg Persad Center; Alan Lapayover, State College; Bishop Lyman Ogilby, Philadelphia; Dr. Julia Rux, Williamsport; Tom Wiestling, AFCE, and Council Chairperson Silvestre.

Dr. Walter Lear will represent the state Department of Health on the council. Other state agencies represented on the council include Education, Public Welfare, State Police, Affirmative Action, Commission for Women, Human Relations Commission, and Justice.

Persons seeking information or council assistance should contact Silvestre, c/o Pennsylvania Council for Sexual Minorities, 238 Main Capital Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

BRIGGS INITIATIVE A FRAUD?

LOS ANGELES— As State Senator John Briggs's drive to place his anti-homosexual teacher initiative on the November ballot appears to be legally qualifying, a student from California State University at Long Beach has charged that she had been asked to forge signatures on hundreds of petitions. On May 8, the State Registrar an-



Los Angeles anti-Briggs Protest. Photo by Leland Moss.

nounced that Briggs had amassed a total of 519,124 gross signatures, 308,778 of which were filed in the three largest southern California counties. Stonewall Democratic Club President Emeritus Morris Knight announced, "We would assume that the high rate here has to do with the blue collar workers and migration from the South, but we would presume further that the rate of fraudulent collection is highest in the state."

As evidence of his claim, Claudia Long delivered an affidavit to the press in which she detailed the story of how she became involved with the attempted fraud. On February 28, Long saw a job order posted in her schools Administration Building asking for someone to transfer "printed material to handwritten." The person was required to "be able to write in different styles."

In responding to the ad, Long eventually met a man named Bill Crosby, who handed her computer print-outs of voter registration rolls and empty Briggs Initiative petitions. "I was to transfer these names in various different signatures to the petitions," Long says, adding that Crosby gave her detailed instructions on how to sign names from one side of the street before signing those from the other side.

Questioning the legality of what she had been asked to do, Long then telephoned some of the people whose names she was signing. "The first two parties stated they were not aware of what I was calling about, but a third party indicated that he had not given his permission and in fact was opposed to the initiative."

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She thereupon called the Huntington Beach Police Department to make a report, but later was informed by reporters on the Santa Ana Register that the report was not filed.

— West Coast

RIGHTS ORDINANCE INTRODUCED IN STATE COLLEGE

The State College Municipal Council received an ordinance banning discrimination on the basis of sexual or affectional orientation, or marital status May 3.

The ordinance, similar to another the council defeated several years ago, was immediately referred to the council's human services committee for study.

Several gays attended the meeting, to see what the council's reaction would be to the ordinance, which was written and recommended by the Centre County Advisory Board to the state Human Relations Commission.

Apparently gays were not the only people watching the ordinance. At a public hour during the meeting, one man expressed his displeasure that the subject of gay rights was before the council again.

"I am not a bigot," he said, but said that the issue of gay rights and marital status would divide the community and that in places that have passed similar measures, the bills were defeated in public referendums.

The fate of the ordinance seems unclear at this point. The human services committee includes Dorothy Lennig, who has supported gay rights in the past, so it probably will not be locked in committee.

EUGENE VOTES TO REPEAL ORDINANCE

EUGENE, OR — Voters of this liberal Oregon city voted May 23 to repeal their city's six month old gay rights ordinance. With a 50% voter turnout, 22,898 voted to repeal the ordinance while 13,427 voted to re-

tain it. A poll taken by the pro-gay Eugene Citizens for Human Rights, just before the election, had shown voters evenly split with 40% favoring retaining the ordinance, 40% against retention, and 20% undecided.

The Eugene Citizens for Human Rights (ECHR) spearheaded the campaign to keep the ordinance on the books. Carl Goodman of ECHR stated, "We were disappointed. We had hoped for a victory. There really shouldn't be referenda on civil rights issues. We shouldn't have to ask people for our rights, we should just have them."

After the vote, 500 lesbians, gay men, and their supporters, participated in a silent candle light march from ECHR campaign headquarters through downtown to the courthouse, where the ballots had been counted. A short rally was held at the courthouse. A lawyer from ECHR spoke, as well as a local Presbyterian minister. The crowd listened to music and joined in some singing. ECHR told Gay Community News (Boston) that 5,000 people marched in San Francisco in a spontaneous show of support for gay people in Eugene, after hearing of the outcome of the election.

"We have gained a number of staunch gay rights supporters," Goodman told GCN. "Many non-gay people who hold 'prestigious' positions, including ministers and Eugene's only Rabbi, worked with us on the campaign. But while the churches supported us, they will have to start taking a more aggressive stand, as votes come up around the country." Goodman told GCN that the Eugene anti-gay group VOICE, had used the recent vote by the Presbyterian Church (refusing the ordination of homosexuals) to bolster their anti-gay campaign. Goodman commented, "While the Presbyterian Church task force did vote against ordaining homosexuals, they voted unanimously in favor of civil rights for gays. VOICE failed to mention this in their campaign." VOICE has said that gay rights is only the first issue they planned to be active against and mentioned the E.R.A. and abortion rights as other possible future targets.

— Gay Community News



photo by Berive Lane

"Gay Gone Straight" Group demonstrates in front of N.Y. Times

DEMONSTRATION HALTS ANTI-GAY SPEECH

NEW YORK — On Friday, April 28, approximately 60 people attended a demonstration at the Carnegie International Building to protest the speaking engagement of psychiatrist Charles Socarides. Socarides is an outspoken advocate of the "gays are sick" theory and claims to be able to "cure" gays through therapy.

Socarides, however, cancelled his scheduled appearance when his host, the New York Center for Psychoanalytic Training, refused to take responsibility for providing him with "security."

The demonstration was called a success by the Gay Activists Alliance (GAA) and Lesbian Feminist Liberation (LFL), the two groups co-sponsoring the demonstration.

GAA said, "Two years ago, the last time Socarides tried to speak in New York City without permitting a pro-gay viewpoint to be aired, the 'dissenting viewpoint,' in the form of a large lesbian and gay demonstration, was so effective it prompted the sponsors of his lecture to cancel the one-sided, bigoted presentation."

Carolyn Pope, of LFL, the last speaker, urged each person to find

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"ten, twelve, a hundred people just like you" for future actions. She exclaimed "I will not be the first person into the gas chamber and I will not go quietly!"

— Gay Community News

NEW YORKERS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST 'AESTHETIC REALISM'

by Harold Pickett
(Gay Community News)

NEW YORK — Approximately 40 demonstrators picketed the headquarters of Eli Siegel's "Aesthetic Realism" (AR) on Saturday, May 13, in a demonstration co-sponsored by the Gay Activists Alliance and Lesbian Feminist Liberation.

Over 20 police officers, some in riot gear with their clubs drawn, formed a line between the demonstrators and the entrance to the AR building. These officers were called from the Midtown North Precinct, even though the demonstration was being held in the First Precinct. Bullhorns were not permitted and GAA had to remove the two wooden sticks from their banner.

AR has angered the lesbian and gay community with its claim to "cure" homosexuality, referred to as "H," and recently placed an ad in *The New York Times* to this effect. AR bases such claims on its concept of "the aesthetic oneness of opposites."

GAA responded to AR by calling it "pathetic idealism" and demanding that AR "accept reality" and "acknowledge rights." GAA stated, "There is nothing aesthetic about a repressed closet queen! Eli Siegel and his pathetic idealists would have us believe that self-hatred and oppression are preferable to healthy gay contempt for a repressive society. In their desperate bid for conformity and convention, they state that it is dangerous to have contempt for a society that oppresses, vilifies, attacks, and kills us for who we are! Their final solution is that we should end our oppression by 'liking' our oppressor!"

While the demonstration continued outside the building, an AR meeting of about 200 people was being held inside. Although the meeting was closed to the general public, two gay activists managed to gain admittance. Homosexuality was not discussed by the group, but when a Walt Whitman poem was read, the activists took the occasion to bring up the subject and disrupted proceedings to question AR's position on homosexuality.

The activists reported that many of the people were "visibly shaken" by the demonstration and that the chanting could be clearly heard inside, even though the windows were closed.

The AR meeting was cut short,

though, when one of the members suffered a heart attack and ambulances were called to the scene. Members leaving the building were greeted by chants of "AR H's (homosexuals) are closet cases" and "AR kills — Gay life fulfills."

One small group of AR people were surrounded by gay hecklers and followed for two blocks while a police officer tried to hail them a taxi. They were eventually picked up by two other cars driven by AR members and allowed to leave after the cars were given a "gentle" shaking.

— Gay Community News

SUPREME COURT REFUSES TO HEAR GAY CASE

WASHINGTON, DC — The U.S. Supreme Court has once again refused to hear a gay-related issue. The justices declined to review a decision upholding the constitutionality of a North Carolina law that prohibits "homosexual acts" between consenting adults.

Associate Justices William J. Brennan and Thurgood Marshall voted to accept the case for a hearing. However, court procedure requires four votes for a case to be heard.

The defendant in the North Carolina case, *Enslin v. Wallford*, was convicted on a charge of sodomy. He

challenged the constitutionality of the state ban on "homosexual acts." That ban describes such an act as "the abominable and detestable crime against nature." The Federal courts ruled against the defendant's claim that the law was overly vague and a denial of his right to equal protection of the laws.

Barbara Levy, executive director of Lambda Legal Defense Fund which handled the case, said that the high court's decision was "nothing more than was expected."

Levy said that the Supreme Court "has made it clear that it won't touch gay rights with a ten foot pole. When something comes up to them (the justices) they have not accepted the task of making a decision at all."

Levy added, however, that the decision has no legal effect. "The Court," she said, "has not decided the law is constitutional."

The Supreme Court has continued to avoid any gay rights issues by simply refusing to hear cases. Early in March, the Court declined to review a lower court ruling that required the University of Missouri to recognize the student gay group, Gay Lib, as an official organization.

"We will be challenging sodomy laws," Levy added, "at the state level."

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el rather than go to the Supreme Court."

— Gay Community News

POLICY CHANGED IN REPORTING SEXUAL ASSAULTS

WASHINGTON, DC — The Federal Bureau of Prisons has issued a policy statement to all prison staff, prohibiting the use of such terms as "homosexual rape" and "homosexual assault."

As issued by Bureau Director Norman A. Carlson, the statement said that through the use of such terms, "the public is led to believe that these assaults are committed by persons who are homosexual."

The policy statement continued: "While homosexual men are frequently the victims, the vast majority of rapes and assaults are committed by persons who are not homosexual. The terminology used to describe these incidents should not create mistaken impressions by the public."

In recommending action, the policy stated that in any references to or reporting of sexual assaults and rapes, "staff should use the terms 'sexual assault' or 'rape.' Care should be paid to communications with the public and media, in the use of this terminology."

The policy directive from prison chief Carlson followed a March meeting between the Director and the National Gay Task Force. Carlson also announced the appointment of his Special Assistant, Peggy Frandsen, as the Bureau's formal liaison with NGTF. The purpose of this liaison, which will be handled for NGTF by Prison Project Director Carolyn

Handy, is to deal directly with complaints about prison practices from lesbian and gay inmates.

Handy explained that the initial effect of the Carlson directive will be that the guards who write disciplinary action comments against inmates "will now have to analyze what they are writing." "They will have to say what is a sexual assault and compare that to a rape. They are forced now into thinking of what they are writing about people in prison and may not be so quick to make judgements about them," she said.

— Gay Community News

PRESBYTERIAN VOTE DENIES ORDINATION OF HOMOSEXUALS

SAN DIEGO — After extensive committee debate, the full session of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church voted not to ordain practicing homosexuals as ministers in their church.

Delegates from the assembly claim this action followed years of study concerning social, psychological, as well as religious aspects of homosexuality, and previous to the vote, found themselves sharply divided as to the matter of ordination.

The deliberative process over the last week resulted in some crucial points of consensus. A 56 member Committee on the Church and Homosexuality emerged from three days of discussion with two reports that disagreed on the ordination question but concurred in several key areas.

A set of proposals that call homosexual acts 'sinful' was supported by 44 of the committee members. One such proposal councils Presbyterians

that 'our present understanding of God's Will precludes the ordination of persons who do not repent of homosexual practice.'

Yet another statement urged those in charge of reviewing candidates for the ministry not to make a specific inquiry into the 'sexual orientation or practice' of a candidate who has not declared his or her sexual preference.

The report also contained a condemnation of the 'widespread contempt for homosexual persons that prevails in our society' and voiced strong support for laws upholding civil rights for homosexuals. However, while not ordaining declared homosexuals, the church will welcome 'such persons' as members.

— Gay Community News

IDI TO JOIN ANITA?

KAMPALA, UGANDA — Uganda President Idi Amin has assailed U.S. Rep. Frederick Richmond of New York, who recently confessed to offering money to men for sex. Radio Kampala quoted Amin as saying, "Congressman Richmond is one of the U.S. congressmen who are trying to get the Carter administration to impose a trade ban against Uganda."

"Mr. Richmond admitted the fact that he has had sexual relations with men and boys on payment, especially since the beginning of this year up to now," Amin continued. "He says he has been having sex with his fellow men both at his home and in other places." The African president noted that Richmond had been given full support by the mayor of New York Edward Koch, whom Amin also called a homosexual.

"The President said he is not, therefore surprised that the U.S. Congress, which is composed of such men, most of whom...are almost mad, are taking such savage and wild decisions against Uganda basing them on malicious propaganda from exiles," the broadcast continued. "Besides the fact that such high-ranking officials in the American government are making love to young boys and their fellow men as if women died in America, it is also a fact that 50,000 people in America are killed almost every day through crimes."

Amin asked "if this is the type of civilization that America is teaching the world and the human rights that America is trying to be the champion."

Meanwhile, the misdemeanor morals charge against Cong. Richmond has been dismissed by a District of Columbia court because the 54-year-old Brooklyn Democrat "has been receiving professional treatment" as required under a first-offender law.

Judge Eugene N. Hamilton ordered the charges dropped on May 3 after Richmond's lawyer, Stan Anderson, reported that the defendant had been complying with the treatment requirements. The representative had been

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arrested on April 6 for soliciting sex from a plainclothes police officer.

Richmond was one of only ten members of Congress who recently received 100% ratings from the National Women's Political Caucus.

— Gay Community News

GAY ACTIVIST SUES FBI AND CIA

NEW YORK — Attorneys for David Thorstad filed suit in U.S. District Court in New York City on May 24 against the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), as well as the Department of Justice. The aim of the suit is to seek the release of all files compiled on Thorstad by the FBI and the CIA.

The action alleges that the FBI and the CIA are withholding documents on Thorstad to which he is legally entitled under the Freedom of Information Act. Thorstad, who filed his first request for such files in August 1975, has so far received 166 pages of documents from the FBI, a dozen or so from the CIA, and a smattering from the U.S. State Department and U.S. Army Intelligence. Most of the files received thus far chronicle his activities in the antiwar movement and the Socialist Workers Party.

Thorstad is a long-time activist in the gay liberation movement. He is a former president of the Gay Activists Alliance and is currently a spokesperson for New York City's Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights, a citywide umbrella group. He is co-author of the pioneering book *The Early Homosexual Rights Movement (1864-1935)*, published by Times Change Press in 1974. He is also the plaintiff in a suit by Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund challenging the constitutionality of the New York State sodomy statute. Prior to his activities in the gay movement, he was active in the antiwar and socialist movements in Minnesota and New York. In 1967, he worked in Paris office of the Bertrand Russell War Crimes Tribunal, which exposed U.S. war crimes in Vietnam. He is presently working on a book on the homosexual challenge to society.

— Gay Community News

THE RETURN OF "GULP!"

New York — After an original run of 94 performances, which set the record for the longest running show Off-Off Broadway last year, the gay musical farce *GULP!* returned to The Glines, June 1st, with a new director-choreographer and a whole new cast built around the original leading man, Lawrence Lane.

Said Producer John Glines: "We had to close *GULP!* originally be-



Lawrence Lane. Photo by Ken Howard.

cause another show was coming in. This year, with our new cast and a slightly revised script and expanded musical score, we're settling down — to put out as long as there's an audience."

Critics praised *GULP!* for its daring blend of zaniness and sentiment, its melodious, as well as its mockery of gay clay feet. *The Advocate* called *GULP!* "An enjoyable warm and wacky show and a heartening testimonial to how far gay theatre has come." The American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers awarded the creators for their contribution to the musical theatre.

Lawrence Lane, in the role of the hero Homer, returns to the show after his debut in *Cabaret*, where he harvested a wealth of glorious reviews: "On the threshold of a dazzling career" (*Where It's At*); "Superb" (*Gay Community News*); "Ravishing" (Brandon Judell, *Gaysweek*). The Glines, with its three-quarter playing area is ideal for Lane's powerfully intimate contact with his audience.

Matching Lane's gifts is the new director-choreographer William Koch, named one of the 10 best directors of 1975 by the *Soho Weekly News* and acclaimed simply "brilliant" by Richard Rodgers for his revival of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *ALLEGRO*.

With a book by J.B. Hamilton and Stephen Greco, music by Scott Kingman, and lyrics by Hamilton and Robin Jones, *GULP!* is set on the beach at Coney Island on Gay Liberation Day, June 28th, the anniversary of Judy Garland's funeral and the Stonewall riots. The plot involves a closeted lifeguard whose life is saved by five unclosed crazies: his soon-to-be lover, a very orthodox priest, a ditzy journalist, a hunky construction worker, and a drag queen from Shirley's Temple on Flatbush Avenue. Their drives, dreams, pasts and futures collide in a riot of coincidences, saturated with songs, romance, and off-the-wall humor. "If the Marx Brothers had been gay," says Glines, "they would have done *GULP!*"

GULP! opened with a benefit performance on Thursday, June 1 at 9:00.

Tickets for that night were \$10 and tax-deductable. *GULP!* is now playing Friday, Saturday, and Sundays at 8:00, plus Saturdays at 10:30, with tickets at \$5. Group rates are available.

The Glines is located at 260 W. Broadway at 6th Avenue, one block south of Canal Street. All subways to Canal Street. For reservations, please call (212) 254-9397.



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DANCING

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ARIES

COMING OUT TO STRAIGHT FRIENDS

NON-GAYS HAVE FEELINGS, TOO

OR

WHO WAS BEHIND

THE CLOSET DOOR

WHEN YOU

SWUNG IT OPEN?

by Marvin Dicker PH.D.

There have been several discussions dealing with the experience of 'coming out'. They have generally been written from the viewpoint of a Gay person. But there is another element to the experience which has only marginally been touched upon. This is the reaction of the non-Gay person who involuntarily becomes involved in the process. How does such a person—even when sympathetic to Gay Rights—experience the 'coming out' event? Can something be learned from the history of a sympathetic, non-Gay person's experience? I think so. Moreover, it is something easily overlooked (or forgotten), in the ongoing struggle for Gay Rights.

All experience is partly idiosyncratic and partly universal. Our endeavor here is to search out those aspects of the response to coming out that appear to be universal elements of human behavior. What, then, can be said to be universal in the response of, at least, some non-Gays to the announcement by close friends or relatives that they are Gay and will insist on being accepted, and responded to, in terms of their Gay identity? At the very least, what is being demanded is that others in the social situation accept and honor a changed identity. This is not a unique problem in social life, and all of us have encountered it in one form or another outside the Gay context. We can visualize many such instances in social life, where an altered role, or a unique experience, or an ideological conversation brings about a changed identity; and with it, interpersonal conflict. A pious person gives up religion, a believer converts to another religion, a priest leaves the holy order, a young woman gets married, an immigrant assimilates, and so on. In all these social situations, the changed identity is confronted by social inertia. Many times, when confronted with a changed identity, people refuse to accept it. Only after much struggle and pain, can the participants work out a satisfactory set of new behavior patterns. Many times this proves to be impossible and only a complete rupture of the relationship brings either party rel-

ative peace of mind.

"But" you may protest; "These situations miss the essence of the Gay experience. The universal principle of social inertia is not sufficient to explain a person's reaction to someone's coming out. There must be something else going on." I agree. There is much more going on, but it is neither obvious nor easy to explain. Perhaps an incident from my own experience will help.

In graduate school, I became acquainted with a fellow who was to inform me ten years later that he was Gay and had been Gay all the time we had been friends. During most of this period, I had no idea that he might be Gay. I thought of him as an inhibited and shy heterosexual, who occasionally went out with women, but who was too inhibited and shy to develop long term relationships with the opposite sex. After graduate school we drifted apart, and lived for several years in different cities. Finally, chance brought us both to Philadelphia where we renewed our relationship. During this renewal period, I became aware that my friend was a homosexual. But as he had never said anything to me concerning this matter, I felt it prudent not to mention my suspicions to him. For a long period, we went on, as before, maintaining the fiction that he was a heterosexual. We even at one point, discussed the possibility of his marriage to a female acquaintance.

The realization that my friend was a homosexual was not disturbing to me. I had long ago devised an ethic of "live and let live" in sexual matters. People were to be judged on criteria other than their rigid adherence to conventional sexual mores. One day, however, my friend came out. In an emotionally charged scene, he confronted me with his homosexuality. He could live no longer in the closet. He had to be accepted for what he was—or not at all. He informed me that a recent male acquaintance, whom I had met in the guise of a work colleague, was his lover; and he desperately hoped that I and my wife would be able to accept them as they truly were and that our long friendship could be maintained. I informed him that I had already guessed that he was Gay (which was true), and that his confession would not have a negative effect upon our relationship (which proved to be true in the long run), and that I was not at all disturbed by his confession (which was untrue). I was deeply disturbed. And I remained deeply disturbed for many months. I was shocked, outraged, frightened, and uneasy. I was in a state of constant psychological turmoil. My or-



deal had begun.

But why? Nothing had changed. I had already known of my friend's homosexuality. I hadn't been disturbed by it. Why now, after his confession, did I have to confront a personal psychological crisis? The discussion above on the social crises related to changing identities gives one clue. Before, my friend was a covert homosexual. The self he presented to me and the rest of the world was that of a heterosexual. But now he was insisting on an identity change. How was I to act toward him? How was he going to act toward me? How should we, and would we, act in the presence of others? And how would others act? Before, I knew that no matter how threatening homosexuality might be to me, it was controlled by my friends need to keep his homosexual identity secret. He had to respond to me as a heterosexual, and, consequently, I always knew what the responses to me might be. But now, I had lost control over my friend's actions. Why, he might even make a pass at me, and how should I respond to that? A relationship which had been familiar and controlled was now unfamiliar and out of control. Can one think of anything more psychologically threatening?

The examples of identity change described above can be divided into two groups. Those where society supports the change and those where it does not. No matter how much parents don't want to accept their maturing child as an adult, society demands that they do so. There are sanctions for not accepting the new identity. The same may be said for the woman who marries, and the man who comes home from the war. Social norms push the reluctant into accepting the new identity. As a consequence, the trauma of change is, to some extent, mi-

(Continued on page 12)

ANITA'S SOURCE

It was about this time laste year. A former runner-up Miss Oklahoma and orange juice messiah decided to wage a one-woman hate campaign against the nation's estimated 22 million gay men and women. As 1977 progressed, the campaign would make her, and the term "gay rights," household words.

The rest is history, still in the making, as Anita Bryant — who in June indicated she would reverse an earlier vow to take her "Save Our Children" campaign nationwide after winning a gay rights referendum in Dade County, FL — now seems anxious to lead similar anti-gay campaigns in Wichita, KS; Toronto, Canada; and New York City.

But whatever prompted Ms. OJ to spew such bigoted venom in the first place? There has been much speculation — including a remote possibility that a close relative or friend was "approached" by a gay male in the course of relatively innocent "cruising." Now thanks to a classic case of investigative reporting, we are relieved that nothing could be further from the truth. Still, the answer is most frightening.

James Spada, a Los Angeles-based freelance writer, has uncovered Bryant's real "source" on gay lifestyles, and when one knows a bit about her background, it isn't surprising. Bryant has long been a figure in the ultra-conservative "Born Again Christian" movement — a growing cult which attempts to influence political legislation by prostituting religious beliefs.

This movement's power continues to grow at an alarming rate, and now constitutes a multi-million dollar annual ripoff of tax coffers through widespread mail order merchandising of "religious" books, records, memorabilia, etc. Several "evangelical" radio programs are nationally syndicated and solicit funds "to carry on this good work," while the "hosts" — men of the cloth whose rhetoric make the Ku Klux Klan sound tame — live in luxury. This media infatuation further manifests itself in "Born Again" periodicals, book publishing houses, and the 700 Club — a syndicated television program sometimes aired as many as five hours per day featuring a Tonight Show style but always ultra-conservative views, topics and guests, again using religion as a background. An international network of religiously-oriented TV stations is rapidly building — one such proposed station is Channel 22 in Pittsburgh. Virtually all of this activity is in effect

subsidized by every American taxpayer through liberal tax exemptions for these legally "non-political" entities.

Presumably Bryant and her close associates have at least had the opportunity to examine more objective material about gay people in the year since the Battle of Dade began (they would have had to, to wage such a campaign), but freelance reporter Spada discovered those initial sources of "information" about gays which so inspired the surging gay-baiting "industry." Several of the members of Bryant's "Save Our Children From Homosexuality, Inc." have admitted that the whole of their group's knowledge about the subject came from literature supplied by a California group which calls itself "Christian Family Renewal."

Based in Clovis, CA, the group is headed by Joe Ledbetter, a self-styled "former homosexual who has found Jesus." In tens of thousands of flyers distributed through the "Born Again" network, and in pamphlets and books selling for \$1.00 to \$5.50, Ledbetter paints a picture of gay life that almost makes Anita Bryant sound liberal.

His personal testimony starts out like this: "At the age of 31, I lost all my teeth, I lost my chance to be a singer, I lost just about everything I ever dreamed of — because of homosexuality. For me, looking back 15 years, homosexuality means loneliness, suicides, murders, venereal disease, unhappiness, living in dumps on handouts and welfare."

Ledbetter doesn't attribute his problems to his own lack of personal hygiene, talent or stability, but to homosexuality. And he goes on to claim that most homosexuals are in the same boat. He liberally quotes a judge named John M. Murtaugh, author of Cast The First Stone. According to Ledbetter, Murtaugh claims that half of the murders and half the suicides in big cities are committed by homosexuals. There are, of course, no figures to back up this claim. Other experts quoted are Dave Wilkerson (head of "Teen Challenge") who says, "Without a doubt, the greatest threat that homosexuals impose on our society is the seduction of children," and an unnamed "psychologist" is quoted apparently with a straight face, as saying, "Not every homosexual, but every homosexual is an alcoholic."

It doesn't stop there. In Ledbetter's experience, he found that "Witchcraft and satanic worship were always part of the homosexual scene." Ledbetter says he was tempt-

OH GOD - THIS IS YOUR ANITA TALKING - I NEED A LITTLE SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE.



HELP ME FIGHT THIS BATTLE AGAINST THE EVILS OF HOMOSEXUALITY



The Soho Weekly News June 9, 1977

ed to join the witches, "but apparently God had other plans."

Ledbetter then became involved in Christian Family Renewal, which claims that only Jesus Christ can "save" gays. The use of Jesus' name, and the Holy Scripture, to condemn homosexuality is a favorite device of groups such as Christian Family Renewal and Save Our Children, Inc.

Such rantings apparently went unchallenged by Bryant and Co., and when a gay rights bill was passed in Dade County, FL, it was Ledbetter's organization and one headed by another "reformed" gay which served to legitimize harassing the gay community. Since Bryant lived (and still lives — in a 27-room mansion) in Miami, which is the largest city in Dade County, an opportunity to put all this new-found "knowledge" to use suddenly presented itself.

(The other "ex-gay" was a Guy Charles, a former gay activist, Advocate reporter, and later the director of a group similar to Ledbetter's called "Liberation Through Jesus Christ.")

Charles, who proclaimed that he could "will the deliverance of gay

people from homosexual orientations," was recently forced to resign his directorship when faced with reportedly substantial allegations that he had propositioned and had sexual relationships with gay men who had come to him for "help."

Troy Perry, head of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Church, says such tactics "make me sick to my stomach."

Perry laughs when he read some of the more outrageous statements of these groups, but then becomes somber. "You know, the whole thing's a joke. But it really isn't funny because there are a lot of people out there who take these statements seriously." Perry's church has had some unfortunate encounters with hate groups. Six times, Metropolitan Churches across the country have been torched and burned to the ground. Perry feels the fires were started by groups like Christian Family Renewal. "Many of the people in these groups are simply homophobic — they are using gay people as the last scapegoats, people on whom they can vent their vicious hostilities. They quote the Bible to justify their outrages."

Perry is equally upset with those Christians who sincerely believe that the Bible condems homosexual-

ity. He believes they are wrong. "There are scriptures that justify our existence."

Anti-gay groups who quote scripture, according to Perry, "want to box God in, want to tell him what he should do. The word homosexual wasn't even in English Scripture until 1952, when it was added to the revised standard version. The translation simply reflects the bias of the translators."

Questions have been raised about the motives of such anti-gay groups. The Christian Family Renewal Group supplies literature to help save souls — for a price. To test their Christian generosity, Spada wrote to them explaining that he was a 16-year-old runaway who had fallen into the gay world and wanted to get out. "I wrote that I couldn't afford to send any money for their literature, but that I hoped they would send some anyway so that I might be saved," he said.

"I received nothing but the free pamphlet which I had originally found their address and a price list of books with 'straight from the shoulder' answers on homosexuality," and a letter from Murray Norris, president of Christian Family Renewal. To my surprise,

Norris wrote that "I don't think we have any materials that would help you directly, but our materials are not aimed at the homosexuals directly." This after a two-page flyer about homosexuality with a list of books to buy at the bottom. Norris gave me the names of several people to contact and a 'free hotline.' Then he added, "Probably the thing we can do best for you would be to pray for you that God will help you get the strength needed to break the chains of homosexuality."

Prayer, at least, is free. And so the baffling mystery of what got Anita's dander up has been answered. Profiteering "ex-gays," conspiring with homophobic evangelical straights, apparently triggered something in Bryant's already susceptible psyche. Now that she's become better informed about gays through less-biased sources, can she really afford to retreat? What would Billy Graham say?

by Tom Marchande
(Gay Life)

(Background for this report was supplied in part by James Spada, writing in The Alternative, a West Coast gay magazine.)

COMING OUT

igated. By contrast, in the other examples, society is either neutral or opposed to the change. The religious convert, or the person who gives up his religion, or the assimilating immigrant are accepted by some groups in society and rejected by others. Here, society as a whole is neutral. At least in the U.S., there are no general universal norms upholding one religion over another, or demanding that one accept or reject the assimilated ethnic. Those who are reluctant to accept the new identity may remain as hostile as they want, while those who wish to accept it may do so.

But how does all this relate to my problem? I was faced with a new identity — but I wanted to accept it. In fact, I had already accepted it in its covert form. Did the open confession unlock the springs of a deep seated psychological insecurity relating to homosexuality? Perhaps? But if so, it was supported by strong norms which have, until very recently, universally condemned open homosexuality. My reaction was an example of the response most heterosexual males would have in a similar situation. There is a certain class of identities toward which society is not neutral but has imposed a taboo against taking on the identity. An identity which is taboo is an identity which is forbidden in all situations and under all circumstances. Society says one should not molest children, be involved in in-

cest, be a homosexual. Such prescriptions are imbibed with the food of childhood and remain in the consciousness until the grave. For those who take on such identities, society has decreed that there should never be comfort or sanctuary but only trauma and hostility.

And now my friend was asking me to accept and legitimate his taking on one of the forbidden identities. Society will tolerate covert violations of a taboo. As long as the violation remains covert (it is still covert even if it is known, as long as the parties involved do not proclaim it openly), its incidence is controllable and its threat to the maintenance of the taboo is negligible. Taboos are universal and omnipresent. We carry their proscriptions hidden deep within our psyches, and we only become aware of their force when we are faced with an open violation. Coming out is such a violation. It represents a direct confrontation with the legitimacy of the taboo, and society demands that such confrontations be met with a violent, hostile reaction. Even somebody like myself, who had already accepted a friend's homosexual behavior, may find that the open declaration of the legitimacy of homosexuality triggers the reaction that society had previously programmed into one's superego. We react, not as we would wish; but as it was planned that we should.

No doubt, a portion of the psychological turmoil that many Gays face when the decide to come out is

derived from their conscious or subconscious understanding that they are confronting one of society's universal negatives. They are breaking a rule that is imbedded in their superego. But for the Gay person to break with the rule, is to convert a segmented personality into a unified personality. It is a positive act, dictated by one's emotional and intellectual needs. It may also be a dangerous act for it changes the relationship of the Gay person to the rest of the community. To break with the rule, "Thou shall not be openly Gay," is not only to insist on an identity change but also to call for a new social order.

But what of the non-Gays involuntarily caught in this swirl of events? No matter how sympathetic, they are usually unprepared for the enormity of the demand involved in a friend's casual statement, "By the way, I'm Gay. I wish you would think of me that way." They may desire to be supportive, but do they also want to usher in a new social order and break universal taboos? God no! At least, not at first consciousness.

Society supports some identity changes, towards others it is neutral, and still others it prohibits. Some it prohibits mildly and some it prohibits fiercely. These latter we call taboo. The breaking of a taboo is associated with anxiety, guilt, and general psychological stress. People abhor such situations and attempt to escape from them if they can. The often react

(Continued on page 21)

letters

Editor, GAY ERA,

This letter is not being written to obtain sympathy from anyone. It is also not intended to offend anyone. If it does, then they must be guilty.

Most of the kids in Lancaster call me "Maude" or "Mom". Others may have called me other names but to my friends, it's mainly "Maude."

Regardless if they were friends, strangers or even an enemy (which I hope are few), I have always treated them as friends and showed them the respect and courtesy they deserved when they were a guest in my home or said "Hi" to me on the street or in the bar.

I've always tried to remain neutral if any of my friends fought with each other and in a few instances some friendships were strained but eventually everything turned out for the better.

Most people who know me also know that I've had 3 real lovers — two killed in their early 20's and the third called in quits a short while back.

My first lover, Michael, and I were lovers for five years until he died. I was with my second lover for 3 years until he died. My third lover and I were over in less than 4 months.

After we broke up I, or we, thought we could be friends. But some of the things that broke us up were continued by people who weren't just satisfied with breaking us up. Neither one of us could do anything without someone running and telling the other.

I treasure each and every one of my friends. There isn't anything, if the need arose, that I wouldn't do for them. If I could, my home was always open and whatever I had was theirs.

Some people took my hospitality literally and while I was away would take my lover to bed. Other times they would go elsewhere.

There wasn't anything he did or anyone he was with that I didn't know about because he could tell me.

I don't know what I ever did to deserve or warrant such friends as these. Believe me, I would certainly like to know.

Don't get me wrong. Our break-up was not totally to blame on my friends. 10% was our fault — mine for letting it continue and his for not stopping it.

I'm not saying that relationship would have lasted a lifetime but I'm sure that if given half a chance, it would have lasted longer than it did.

So, those who wanted it, have not only destroyed a relationship with their lies, rumors and backstabbing, but have ended a friend-

ship because of the continued running of the mouths that made it impossible even to be friends without arguing with each other.

But what have they really won? They still have a "friend" but without any feeling or compassion for anything or anyone.

Because, you see, no matter what wrong they thought he did to me or I to him, for one brief moment no matter how short the time might have been, I could be loved by someone and love in return. This is something most people rarely find, or they take it for granted. If others find it, and not them, they try to destroy it.

Just "Maude"
Lancaster, PA

Editor, GAY ERA,

Harry Long, in his article on the "Pride '78" conference, asked "Why not promote the nonhomophobic religions such as Islam, Hindu, Buddhist, or even Atheism?"

About the same time, Alton Frey, president of Allentown City Council, was inviting Anita Bryant to come there to give her "expert" views on homosexuality; the invitation was later retracted. In inviting her, Frey stated "Homosexuality violates every principle of the Bible and all religions." We know from Bailey, Mc Neill, et al. and from the MCC, Unitarians, Quakers, etc. that his statement was made in ignorance.

Long and Frey both raise a question I have had for some time: Precisely what do non-Judaic-Christian religions have to say about same-sex relationships? The information I have suggests Hinduism takes a dim view, and that the Islamic Koran prescribes death for "sodomy." Many of us have met homophobic atheists and nonhomophobic Jews and Christians.

Perhaps there are readers of the GAY ERA knowledgeable enough to write authoritative articles on how the world's major religions treat homosexuality, in theory and in practice. I believe the printing of such articles would be a valuable contribution to the readers of the GAY ERA.

I do not believe the salvation of the gay liberation movement lies in the promotion of any religion(s); the issue of equal rights is already too entangled with religion in the



public mind. I do believe religion should be discussed, not promoted, to help individuals make their own decisions about what faith to follow. We cannot afford to suggest that adherence, or nonadherence, to any particular religion(s) is a betrayal of our common goal.

Robert Steelman

Long replies

If you re-read my "rant" a bit more carefully, I think you'll note that my "why not promote" query was a rhetorical question, not a serious proposal, coming as it does at the end of a paragraph describing the promotion of Christo-Judaism within our movement. My real target was, simply, religious freedom. Period. And it was exactly this that the conferees, in their lack of interest, declined to promote.

You are correct in your remark about Islam; as an offshoot of Judaism (meaning a lot was borrowed to construct the religion), Islam does indeed forbid same sex relations. In terms of practice, however, the Islamic countries are notorious for ignoring this tenet. My inclusion of Islam in the list was something less than a slip of the old keys, but it can be partly blamed on the speed with which I had to turn out the article.

As an atheist, I simply lack a burning interest in religious faiths; what I do know has not come from intensive study but rather has been picked up along the way. A phrase which has stuck with me from my readings (forgive me if I omit a reference, but I simply can no longer recall where it appeared) is that except for the Christo-Judaic religions, but one religion in world history which actively forbade homosexuality was Zoroastroism, a religion of ancient Persia (though still somewhat extant).

Of the Eastern religions I am on slightly better ground, having a friend who followed the Buddhist faith, even to the extent of studying in India. The Eastern faiths don't place sex as highly (even as taboo) as Western cultures. Sex, just as true faith in the religion goes beyond the material to the spiritual. They frown no less on homosexuality than heterosexuality.

Of course, just as with the Quakers and Unitarians in Western culture, there may be examples in the Eastern religions which illustrate the gap between original teachings and the current interpretation.

I admit to being a dabbler in religion, and I have never presumed to write an article on the subject. Knowledgeable analyses of the non-Judaic religions would be a welcome addition to this publication, and we invite our readers to submit articles along these lines.

While we're on the subject of my

conference article, I should add that an apology is due. The article was written with the understanding that my viewpoint would be balanced with a reportage article on the conference. Unfortunately the other article never materialized, leaving my downbeat opinion as the coverage of the conference. While I retract none of my feelings, I think it a large slight to have left unacknowledged the success of the conference and uncredited the amount of work put into by a handful of people, notably Mary Nancarrow, Gary Norton, Joe Burns and Bob Woods, among others. Praise should also go to the band, King Groslin and Friends, who agreed to fill in for another band at the last minute. So many more nice things would have been said, had I realized that my opinion was to be the only one, not the dissenting one.



Editor, GAY ERA,

It seems that this publication has come under attack from several individuals recently. I congratulate the staff of the publication for their work — work that no one else seems to think has worth. I would also like to congratulate those who have attacked the GAY ERA, in particular Bari Weaver (May

'78) and Sam Wilson (June '78) for speaking their opinion. Finally some people are at least taking the time to put their gripes in writing instead of sitting on their rumps criticizing people who haven't even been given the courtesy of knowing how our readers are reacting.

Bari Weaver's claim that the staff is too interested in "back stabbing" that we neglect the homophobia and sexism in our community goes over my head without comprehension. May I remind Bari that he, too, as most of the staff, was involved with Gays United of Lancaster. I am truly sorry that the group does not exist anymore and that the listing in the phone book for the switchboard is useless since anyone who does call the number will get a recorded message noting that the number is no longer in operation.

Both Bari and Sam have claimed, along with others, that they are burnt out and that they don't have the energy to continue. I can only say that I have had that feeling, too. But I will be damned if I will let them convince me after four years of involvement that I too should be burnt out.

Sam Wilson's disapproval over the "HOMOS on HOJOS" can be debated. Even I have given it serious thought. Maybe I should remind Sam that the book WITH DOWNCAST GAYS, that he so self-righteously suggested that the staff read, was in fact printed in excerpts in previous issues of the GAY ERA. How attentive!

I would also like to share with our readers the circumstances of Sam's letter. When I called Sam about advertising his shop in these pages, I heard for the last time those complaints that people don't have the courtesy to put in writing. I told him to write a letter to the editor. Since it was the night before deadline, I went to his house to pick it up. Orange Juice in his refrigerator. Tell me about "Self-Oppression"!

Dave Leas
Marietta, PA

HI, MARTY!
WHO'S THAT GUY
THERE I ALWAYS
SEE YOU WITH?

THAT'S MY
BROTHER RALPH
HE'S STRAIGHT.



ALLENTOWN (area 215)
Rube's (bar), 844 Hamilton St. 18101
Stonewall (bar), 28 N. 10th St. 18101

ALTOONA (area 814)
La Pierre Hotel (bar) 6th Ave. & Union (Rt. 36).

BERWICK (area 717) Zip 18603
Universal Church of Jesus Christ, 300 Market St., 759-8737. Sun. Serv. 11 am, "We welcome you no matter who you are, no matter what your life-style."

BETHLEHEM (area 215)
Lehigh Valley Homophile Organization (Le-Hi-Ho) Box 1003 Moravian Sta., 18018. Meeting 4th Sun. of the month, Unitarian Church, 701 Lech-auwaki Ave. (Fountain Hill). "An educational organization maintaining a library. Speakers & filmstrips available."

BLOOMSBURG (area 717)
Gay People of Bloomsburg, 152-A Iron St. 17815.

BRIDGEPORT (area 717) Zip 19405
The Lark (bar), 302 DeKalb St., (Rt. 202 North).

BRYN MAWR (area 215)
Bryn Mawr/Haverford Gay People's Alliance, Haverford College, Haverford College, Haverford, 19041. Meetings: Room 24, College Inn, Bryn Mawr College, 19010.
For Eyes Optical Co., 1004 W. Lancaster Ave.

CARLISLE (area 717)
Country Store, RD#5, Box 339, Pine Rd., 17013. Near Huntsdale at the entrance to King's Gap.

CHESTER (area 215)
Andy's (bar), 2336 W. 3rd, 19013

CRESSON (area 814) Zip 16630
Castaways Inn, 629 Front St. 16630. 886-9931, 24 hotel rooms. 9 pm-closing Mon-Sat. Food, dancing 90% GM, 10% GF. Large out of town crowds on weekends: reserve rooms. "Very friendly bar."

DOYLESTOWN (area 215) Zip 18901
For Eyes Optical Co., 17 N. Main St.

EASTON (area 215)
A1's Beef House (restaurant, mixed), 14 N. 3rd St.

ELIZABETH (area 412) Zip 15037
The Waterfall (restaurant & Lounge), 116 Market St., 384-9807 (upstairs, side entrance).

ERIE (area 814)
Midtown Lounge (mail Box 6372, 16512) 723 French St., Food Dncg. Mostly GM. Washington Grill, Washington & W. 10th.

GREENSBURG (area 412) Zip 15601
Golden Arrow (bar), 108 W. Pittsburgh St.

HARRISBURG (area 717)
*For local information call Gay Switchboard 234-0328.
C-1, 6th & Hoffman (disco) D-Gem, 4415 N. Front St. 17110; GF. Neptune Lounge, 268 North St. 17101. Rose Rouge (bar) 400 N. 2nd St. 17101. Dignity/Central PA, Box 297, Federal Square Station, 17108. Call Gay Switchboard for details.
Gay Community Services, Box 297 Federal Square Station, 17108.
Gay Switchboard, Box 297, Federal Square Station, 17108.
Pennsylvania Council for Sexual Minorities, c/o Governor's Office, 328 Main Capitol Building, 17102
Pennsylvania Rural Gay Caucus, Box 1505, 17105

INDIANA (area 412)
Homophiles of Indiana University, Box 1588, Indiana University, 15701.
Gay Hotline, 357-2732, Mon-Thurs. 7-10 pm.

LANCASTER (area 717)
Brethren/Mennonite Council for Gay Concerns, Box 582, 17604
Contact (counseling), 24 hours, call collect 299-4855.
Donna & Jim's Turquoise, 124 E. King St., 17602
Erotic Den (porno) 53 N. Prince St. Erotic Forum (porno) 227 N. Prince St. Gay Era, 332 N. Mulberry St., 17603.
La Fleur (plants & gifts) 701 Columbia Ave. 17603
Lancaster Independent Press, 227 N. Prince St. (weekly alternative)
Loft (restaurant, 2nd fl.) 201 W. Orange St.
Tally-Ho (bar), 201 W. Orange St. (downstairs)
Townhouse Greenery (plants), 49 N. Prince St., 17603. PH: 397-4622.
V.D. Clinic, St. Joseph Hospital, 250 College Ave. 291-8111, free, 24 hrs.
Women Oriented Women (WOW), c/o Women's

Center, 230 W. Chestnut St. 299-5381.
Ye Olde Bookstore, 227 N. Prince St.

JENKINTOWN (area 215) Zip 15701
My Jewel Shop, 744 Yorkway Place.

MARCUS HOOK (area 215) Zip 19061
Captain Jack's (bar) Market St. George's (bar), Market St. Paradise (bar), Market St.

MARIETTA (area 717) Zip 17547
Railroad House Hotel, (restaurant, bar, hotel accommodations), Front & Perry Sts. 426-9811 Wed-Sun.

MILLERSVILLE (area 717) Zip 17551
Gay Awareness of Millersville State College, Box 3333, Gordinier Hall, M.S.C. Millersville, Pa.

NEW HOPE (area 215) Zip 18938
Cartwheel (bar), Rt. 202 W. Chez Odette (restaurant, mixed), Hwy. 32 at River Road.
New Prelude, one mile w. on U.S. 202.

READING (area 215)
Alternative Booksellers, 10 N. 4th St. 19601, 373-0442.
Gay Coordinating Society of Berks County, Box 3131, 19603.
Glass Door (bar), 300 bl. of N. 5th St. Red Star Saloon, 143 N. 10th St. This Is It (bar), 8th & Walnut Sts.

SCHENLEY (area 412) Zip 15682
Paradise Cove Hotel, Box 115, 295-2070

SCRANTON (area 412)
DeMitrì Cafe, 237 Wyoming Ave. 18539

SHAVERSTOWN (area 814) Zip 18708
North East Pennsylvania Gay Alliance (N.E.P.G.A.), Box 1710,

SHIPPENSBURG (area 717) Zip 17257
Shippensburg Students for Gay Rights, c/o CUB, Shippensburg State College,

STATE COLLEGE (area 814) Zip 16801
*For local information call Gayline, 863-0588, Mon-Sun, 7-9 pm, or Metropolitan Community Church, 863-0588, 7-9 pm.
Gayline, 863-0588, Mon-Sun, 7-9 pm.
Homophiles of Penn State (HOPS), Box 218, Lesbian Collective, c/o Women's Resource Center, 108 E. Beaver Ave.
Metropolitan Community Church, c/o HOPS Mr. C's (mixed bar), 112 W. College Ave. 234-1031.
My-Oh-My (bar), 128 E. College Ave.

Nittany News Bookstore, 108 W. College
Scorpion Lounge (downstairs), 119 S. Burrows, 238-7914.
ZAP, Newsletter for HOPS, c/o HOPS.

STROUDSBURG (area 717) Zip 18360
The Blue Bugle (bar), 724 Main St. Noon-2am, Dncg, ent., G&S.

SWARTHMORE (area 215) Zip 19081
Swarthmore Gay Liberation, c/o Swarthmore State College. 544-7900 ext. 296, or 556-9467.

UPPER DARBY (area 215)
C&R Club, 6405 Market St., Millbourne, 19082, 352-9762, 8pm-2am, GFM

WEST CHESTER (area 215) Zip 19380
Gays at Westchester, 718 Tyson Hall, Westchester State College.
Gay Hotline, 436-2879, Wed 8-11 pm.

WILKES BARRE (area 717)
Brian's Den, Butler House, Butler St. 18704.

WILLIAMSPORT (area 717)
Homophiles of Williamsport (HOW), Box 1072, 17701,

YORK (area 717)
Adult Bookstore, 1715 Whiteford Rd. 17402.
Altland's Ranch (bar, accommodations) 10 Miles W. off Rt. 30. 225-4479.
14 Karat (bar), W. Market St.
Town Tavern (bar), 41 N. George St. Mon-Sat, 8:30-2am, 8438591.
Cupid's Connexion (porno) 244 N. George St., 854-4169.

PHILADELPHIA AREA CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS

Gay Students at Temple, room 205, Student Activities Center, 13th & Montgomery Sts.
Gays at Drexel, c/o Educational Activities Center, 33rd & Chestnut 19104
Gays at Penn, Christian Association, Room 4, 3601 Locust Walk. 19174

PITTSBURGH AREA CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS

Gay Students at Pitt, Room 318, Pitt Student Union.

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SUNDAY LUNCH
12-3

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Bits 'n' Pieces

PLAN NATIONAL SWITCHBOARD

SAN FRANCISCO — The Save Our Human Rights Foundation announced this week the hiring of David Palmer as a special consultant to work full-time on the development of a telephone help line project called the Sexual Minorities Switchboard.

Palmer was the founder and former administrator of the National Runaway Switchboard in Chicago.

According to a release issued by SOHR, NSMS will be modeled after the Chicago project but will focus on reaching those people of all ages who are struggling with sexual identity or "coming out" issues and are either geographically or socially isolated from existing resources.

The telephone service, it is said, will operate a toll-free "800" number 24 hours a day, seven days a week and

will be staffed by a highly trained group of more than 75 volunteers. People calling, the release goes on to say, will receive clear and non-judgmental information about sexual minorities and their lifestyles. They will also be put in touch with appropriate resources in their local communities which are oriented toward sexual minorities. Palmer is targeting Fall 1978 for the opening of NSMS, anticipating a level of about 100,000 calls each year, with an annual budget of \$200,000.

— Gaysweek

NOBLE ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR U.S. SENATE

BOSTON — Rep. Elaine Noble formally announced her candidacy for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate on Thursday evening, April 25, at the Park Plaza Hotel. To a cheering crowd of 300 old and new supporters, Noble denounced incumbent Sen. Edward Brooke as an absentee Senator more concerned with Washington than Massachusetts, and insisted that she would be able to beat Brooke in November.

In nine pages of material given to reporters, the word "gay" does not appear; nor did Noble use the word in her opening remarks. This is consistent with Noble's oft-stated intentions to conduct her senatorial campaign with no emphasis on her sexuality.



photo by Ken Rubin

Elaine Noble announcing her candidacy

A handful of Noble's original 1974 campaign committee members were present in the audience. Her first campaign manager, Ann Maguire, was there, as were most loyal ex-aides, Robert Mikolitch and Linda Lachman. A number of elderly Back Bay and Fenway residents also attended.

— Gay Community News

SPOCK: SCHOOLS NOT GAY SOURCE

WICHITA, KS — Homosexuality is not something children pick up in the classroom, says Dr. Benjamin Spock, the post-World War II "guru" to millions of parents who consulted his Baby and Child Care book in bringing up their children.

"I am here to teach parents that children don't turn gay by sitting in the same room with a homosexual lawyer, doctor or teacher," Spock told a news conference. "Sitting in the same room with a gay teacher will not make anyone a homosexual."

The pediatrician and author said there is no evidence to show that children become gay because of influence in a classroom. Parents serve as chief role models and even they cannot be sure their children will be straight, Spock said.

— Gaysweek

MISSOURI, NEVADA SUE NOW BOYCOTT

WASHINGTON, DC — The attorneys general of Missouri and Nevada filed an unprecedented anti-trust suit in Federal court this month in efforts to stop the apparently successful boycott by the National Organization for Women of states which refuse to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. The Missouri and Nevada attorneys





general contend that the campaign constitutes a "boycott"—which they say is a restraint of trade in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.

The legal precedent for this suit, according to the attorneys general for these two states, is "paren patriae, trustee, guardian and representatives of its citizens and the economy of the state."

Justice William O. Douglas has explained that the "royal parens patriae power" stems from an early English "royal prerogative" which was exercised by the "King in his capacity" as "father of the country" and "as the general guardian of all infants, idiots and lunatics."

— Gaysweek

ILLINOIS DEFEATS E.R.A.

SPRINGFIELD, IL — On June 7 the Illinois House of Representatives failed to pass the Equal Rights

Amendment. The vote was 101 for the amendment and 64 against, six votes short of the majority 107 needed for approval. The vote means that the amendment is dead in Illinois for 1978. Its prospects for adoption nationally by the March 1979 deadline are now considered to be in serious jeopardy.

The defeat came after nearly three hours of heated and emotional debate. Representative Ronald Griesheimer (R-Waukegan) argued against the amendment because he said it was supported by "a large group of bisexual or unusually sexual people." Another opponent, Rep. Donald Deuster (R-Mundelein) argued that ratification would force women to be drafted into the armed services and would encourage abortions.

Rep. Elroy Sandquist (R-Chicago) urged support of the E.R.A. asserting, "This is an equal rights amendment, a human rights amendment. It is not a homosexual amendment. It

is a people's amendment."

— Gay Community News

E.R.A. RALLY SET FOR WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, DC — The National Organization for Women is sponsoring a large national rally to show support for the ERA Extension bill, and to demonstrate to Congress just how important equal rights are to the women of this country.

The rally is scheduled for July 9th in Washington, DC. Anyone interested in attending, should contact the nearest N.O.W. chapter for information on the rally or transportation to it.

NAVY SUIT CONTINUES

SAN FRANCISCO, CA — United States Court Judge Cecil F. Poole refused to dismiss a lawsuit in which he had enjoined the processing of Navy personnel for discharge on grounds of homosexuality.

Judge Poole previously had ordered the reinstatement of Ignacio Martinez, on the grounds that the Navy regulations used to process him were unconstitutional, in that they failed to consider his ability to do his job. The Navy conceded he had done a very good job, and re-enlisted Martinez, according to San Francisco lawyer, John Vaisey, director of the Pride Foundation.

The government had moved to dismiss the lawsuit since Martinez had been re-enlisted and a new regulation had been implemented in place of one of the previous ones. Vaisey object-



DISCO SCENE: DISCO FEVER

by Jayson Messner

Though I have left spinning full-time at a local disco, I am going to continue spinning as a guest DJ in the Philly area. My "new" column will be about disco records, concerts, and special happenings at local discos.

As of June 1st, the following

discs should keep you dancing for the rest of the summer.

I heard a pressing on the Ritchie Family's New LP American Generation. It sounds really nasty and will pack the dance floors again. The release will be shortly on the TK label.

Salsoul Records are busy putting out some really hot music to dance to.

Judy Cheeks — Mellow Lovin' — 12" — The beat is very pulsating and catchy. It has a European/Spanish background with the vocals adding the cream. The response is very hot in Philly.

McLane Explosion — Pulstar — This LP has four strong tracks that are sending every dancer on a "space" fantasy trip. The hottest cut is Oxygene. This cut was released last year as an import and is terrific. The beat is very hot and sexy with eerie effects adding "lust." Another remake is Accidental Lover which is very European. The instrumental is very good, the vocals are strong and stand out.

Casablanca Records released the new Munich Machine LP, A Whiter

Shade of Pale. The LP is a switch from their latest LP. In Love With Love is the strongest with spacy effects that have the new European sound. The breaks are outstanding.

La Nuit Blanche sounds alot like D.C. LaRue's new Confession LP but the beat is more danceable. A Whiter Shade of Pale, runs third. The instrumental is excellent but the vocals add that extra needed zing to keep the LP going in a different direction. The whole LP is good.

TOP 10 AS OF JUNE 1ST

- 1) Last Dance, After Dark, Trapped In A Stairway, Thank God It's Friday, Precious Thing: T.G.I.F.
- 2) If My Friends Could See Me Now: Linda Clifford
- 3) Garden of Love: Don Ray
- 4) Rough Diamond: Madleen Kane
- 5) At the Disco: Lipstique
- 6) How Much, I Love You: Love & Kisses
- 7) Mellow Lovin': Judy Cheeks
- 8) You And I: Rick James
- 9) Voyage: Voyage
- 10) Bamalama: Belle Epoque

ed on grounds that the new regulation still fell short of Judge Poole's order and that the government still maintained secret files and classifications on citizens and that the government had not paid Martinez all of his re-enlistment pay.

— Gay Community News

SUPREME COURT RULES

WASHINGTON, DC — By majority vote, the Supreme Court ruled that juries testing obscene magazines and films against "community standards" may not consider the possible reactions of children, but should weight the views of "sensitive" adults and the special interests of "deviant sexual groups" in reaching a decision.

— Gay Community News

JEAN O'LEARY NAMED

NEW YORK — Jean O'Leary, Co-Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, has been named by Mayor Ed Koch as one of 14 new members of the New York City Commission on the Status of Women. Ms. O'Leary, who was appointed to serve a 3-year term is the only publicly-identified gay person on the Commission.

— Gay Community News

BALTIMORE GAY CENTER

BALTIMORE — The Gay Community Center of Baltimore has announced the opening of its facilities to

lesbians and gay men. Located at 2133 Maryland Avenue, the center contains a library, reading and lounge area, meeting area, coffee-house and daytime game room. Needed to get the place in shape, besides money, are gay books and periodicals, folding ping pong and pool tables, folding chairs, tables, rugs, etc.

In May the center should be hearing from the government about whether or not they will receive any of the seven paid CETA staff positions for which they recently applied.



photo by Craig R. Rowland

GAY AUTHOR CLAIMS NOVEL BURIED BY PUBLISHER

BOSTON — At a recent press conference, gay novelist Paul Monette claimed that his Boston-based publishers are "burying" his book at a time when it was beginning to receive serious attention.

Monette stated that his novel "Taking Care of Mrs. Carroll" was

enthusiastically received by his editor at Little, Brown & Company, and that he also received a considerably large sum in advance of royalties. This was a year ago, before Miami and Anita Bryant. At that time, Monette's editor led him to believe that 15,000 copies would be in print and that a sizable campaign would follow.

As of last November, the novelist detected a change in attitude from the company and reported that the senior staff began quoting a line from Newsweek that the nation had turned to the right in regard to human affairs. At that point, conditions became worse, and the jacket copy seemed to be patronizing. The 32-year-old author protested this action, however the jacket remained the same

— Gay Community News

LESBIAN MOTHER KEEPS 4-YEAR-OLD SON

SAN FRANCISCO — In a landmark ruling, a 34-year old lesbian mother in California has been awarded permanent custody of her four-year-old son.

Alameda County Superior Court Judge Robert Kroninger dismissed charges that Jeanne Jullion's lifestyle would ruin the boy's life. He awarded Jullion full custody of her son as part of a divorcee order signed last week. Her ex-husband, Paolo Ceccarelli, had fought for custody on grounds that she was unfit to rear the boy because of her sexual preference.

— Gaysweek

ART GROUP NEEDS MONEY

NEW YORK — The Glines, Inc., a non-profit organization for gay arts is in financial trouble. For two years the group has offered plays, musicals, poetry readings, films and cabaret performers, of interest to both lesbians and gay men. Now they may be forced to close unless they can raise some money. All performing arts must rely on the support of generous patrons to supplement box office receipts. The Glines' task is doubly difficult since their programming is still considered controversial enough to make arts agencies and private foundations reluctant to support them. The Glines is soliciting funds from the gay community. Tax-deductible contributions may be made out to: The Cultural Council Foundation for The Glines, and mailed to the Glines, 260 West Broadway, New York, NY 10013. Donors of \$50 or more may be listed as 'sponsors' in all Glines programs. But they will be very grateful for all amounts.

— Gay Community News

your Place in the sun

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D.C. VICTORY

WASHINGTON, DC — Washington's pro-gay human rights law has cleared the required 30-legislative day period in the U.S. Congress and is now officially on the books. DC Gay Leaders recently petitioned the newly elected city council members to strengthen the bill by repassing it, which resulted in DC Councilperson Douglas Moore taking his much publicized stand against passage of the bill. Moore, who claimed the law endangered children and was endorsed by "facist faggots" was vocal but not successful in his opposition. The law passed in city council by a vote of 12 to 1.

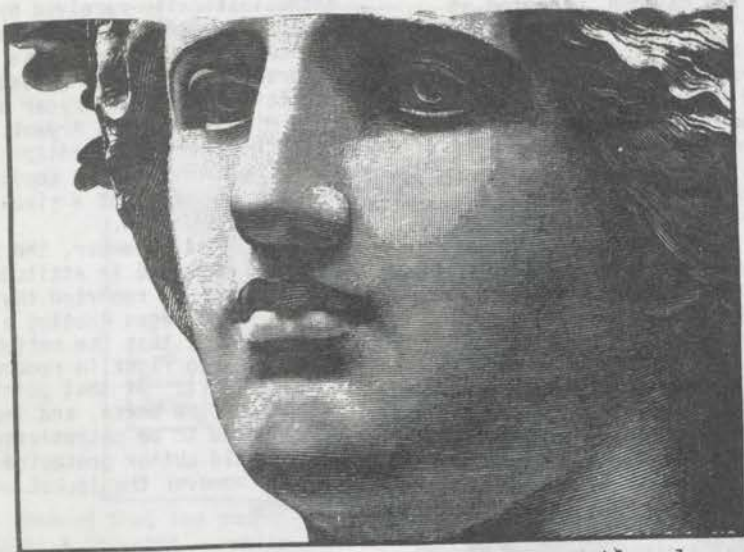
— Gay Community News

ALASKA GAY RIGHTS SHOW PROGRESS

ANCHORAGE — In a case involving the rights of the Alaska Gay Coalition to be included in the 1976-77 Anchorage Blue Book, a listing of social services published by the Municipality of Anchorage, the Alaska Supreme Court today ruled that:

In dealing the Alaska Gay Coalition from the Blue Book, however, appellees denied that group access to a public forum based solely on the nature of its beliefs. In so doing, they violated appellant's constitutional rights to freedom of speech and association and equal protection under the law.

The Supreme Court went on to rule that "further distribution of the publication in its present form constitutes a continuing violation of... (the Alaska Gay Coalition's) constitutional rights..." and ordered the



THE POWER OF GAY LOVE

The first gay values cassette course, THE POWER OF GAY LOVE, was published in Los Angeles in June. Jeremiah McGuire, Ph.D., author of the new program, wrote the highly successful Creative Values series for Prentice Hall Media, which is used in schools throughout the United States.

Dr. McGuire described the gay values course as a "means to channel feelings into creative self-expression." "Today's political and religious climate," he continued in a recent interview, "make defensive demands on the gay's feelings, which is a negative expenditure. This course reverses the process to encourage positive, growth-oriented uses of these same feelings."

He detailed "value attacks" on gays that range from the recent rejection of gay civil rights in Eugene, Oregon and elsewhere, to the denial of ordination to practicing homosexuals by the Presbyterians.

The four one-hour tapes are de-

scribed as repeatable value experiences, featuring two narrators, music, and explorations of emotions, relationships, and body consciousness. A twenty-five page workbook is included.

"The listener to these tapes," Dr. McGuire said, "deepens his or her powerful gay energies to achieve an active sense of self-worth, and the inspiration to creative self-expression in all areas of life." The course, he added, can aid counselors of gays.

Dr. McGuire was on the faculty of the University of Southern California for nine years. He received his master's degree from the University of California, a doctorate in philosophy from U.S.C., and has done post-doctoral study in value philosophy at the University of Paris. He has published widely.

THE POWER OF GAY LOVE is available for \$39 from World Information Publishing Co., 7985 Santa Monica Blvd., suite 212, Los Angeles, CA 90046, in a plain mailer, first class postage paid.

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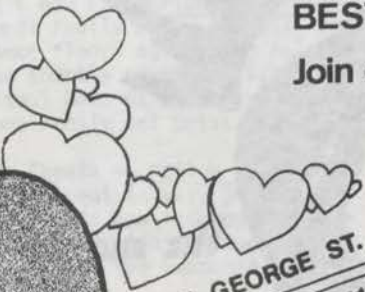
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Superior Court to immediately enjoin the Municipality of Anchorage from further distribution of the Blue Book.

— West Coast

POST POLLS SHOWS NO

NEW YORK — In the heaviest response to its current series of call-in polls, the *New York Post* reported a close "no" vote on the question of gay rights.

In answer to the question "Should the city pass a bill allowing gays to hold any job?", 51.6% of those responding said no, while 48.4% said yes.

The *Post* stated that it received 8185 calls on the question. Robert Beck, who is conducting the polls being published by the newspaper, said that the issue created "tremendous interest" and "many people tried to get through to vote and couldn't."

— Gay Community News

'Ms' BANNED

NASHUA, NH — The school board here voted 5-3 to ban *Ms.* magazine from school libraries after board member Alan Thomaier objected to its advertising.

Thomaier said the ads "encouraged young ladies to send away for such things as contraceptives, and materials dealing with lesbianism and witchcraft." In addition, he went on, young minds were exposed to ads for "records for children made by known Communist folk singers."

— Gaysweek

METHODIST SEMINARY EXPELS TWO GAY MEN

EVANSTON, ILL. — Garret Evangelical Theological Seminary, a training facility for ministers in the United Methodist Church, and an affiliate of Northwestern University here, has earned a liberal reputation in the past for its admission of black and women students to its programs. Recently two members of the Masters of Divinity program, Terry Colbert and James Monroe, were expelled because of their admission of homosexuality.

Monroe and Colbert, who live together as lovers, had sent a letter to both church and seminary officials in which they declared that they were gay. Monroe explained that they sent the letter for two reasons. "The first reason was honesty: we could not cover up since we were preparing for a profession in which we were to call others to the highest ethical accountability. Another reason was the need we felt for gay people to be open, to make it available for the stereotypes to be gotten rid of."

— Gay Community News

BRYANT IN AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA — After months of speculation, a visit to Australia by anti-gay crusader Anita Bryant now seems almost certain. Campaign, Australia's national gay magazine, has reported that Bryant has agreed to fly "down-under" to appear on a nationally televised talk show.



The Ku Klux Klam

WORLDWIDE PERSECUTION

COPENHAGEN — Danish and Dutch gay activists have launched a worldwide campaign to deal with the persecution and jailing of gay people in every nation. The activists hope to persuade Amnesty International "to regard imprisoned homosexuals as prisoners of conscience and to make it produce a resolution about the question for the international convention scheduled for the Fall of 1978." Mogens Madsen, a Danish gay activist, has issued an appeal for information

COMING OUT

with hostility toward the cause of their stress. They may invoke sanctions in an attempt to restore status quo. If all else fails they may break off the relationship. I experienced all of the above emotions. For several months I struggled with the high level of psychological stress occasioned by my friend's announcement. Until this moment, he has never known the turmoil he caused me. Although I could not control my reaction, I was sophisticated enough to know what was going on. I was involved in breaking a taboo and legitimizing a previously illegitimate behavior pattern. Such things are not done without pain.

Those involved in Gay Liberation need to understand that they are involved in the most difficult of social change activities. They are involved in forcing society to re-evaluate some of its Taboos. This is a plea for understanding and sympathy for those non-Gays who find themselves involuntarily brought into this process. As in my case, they often need time to adjust.

As its cause is just, Gay Liberation must press forward for the acceptance of Gayness as a socially acceptable identity. Unfortunately, this goal will not be achieved without pain to non-Gays and Gays alike. People of good-will recognize this — and struggle with it, and accept it, and feel a little sorry for each other — and try to control their anger during hard times.

— New Gay Life

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and "articles about gay suppression and persecution" in the U.S. and in other countries. He said that it is most important to have "case studies about individual persons."

Anyone wishing to provide such information should mail it to Mogens Madsen, Skovstjernevej 141, 2400 Copenhagen, NV, Denmark. Similar information may be sent to a Dutch group: Gon Buurman, Rob van Diggelen and Jan Postema, Amnesty International, Dutch section, 3e Hugo de Grootstraat 7, Amsterdam, NL, Holland.

— Gay Community News



Casse Culver

CASSE CULVER: NEW 45 RELEASE

Casse Culver, teamed with producer Barbara Cobb, and sound engineer Boden Sandstrom, has independently produced a 45, "WHAT WE GONNA DO (ABOUT ANITA)" and "QUEEN FOR THE NITE". Recorded in New York with women studio musicians and remixed at Omega Studios in Kensington, Maryland, the 45 has been available since June 1 at local record stores and through mail order from "Sweet Alliance Music", P.O. Box 2879, Washington, DC 20013. "Sweet Alliance Music" is Casse's own publishing and recording company.

Culver's intent in the reaggae style "WHAT WE GONNA DO (ABOUT ANITA)" is to focus opposition to Anita Bryant; Bryant must be opposed not as a woman, but as a homophobic bigot. Casse wrote "QUEEN FOR THE NITE" for her brother in appreciation of the gay experience they share.

Recently Culver has appeared with Diane Zimmerman (lead acoustic/electric guitar, flute, supporting vocals), Ellen Horton (bass guitar, supporting vocals), and sound engineer Boden Sandstrom of "Woman Sound" who form "CASSE CULVER AND THE BELLE STAR BAND". Casse, the lead vocalist, plays auto-harp, rhythm guitar, harmonica and piano and writes many of the songs performed. Soon a drummer will join the country-pop group. The band has played on June 11, Gay Pride Day, in Washington, DC and on June 14, the Fifth National Women's Music Festival, in Champaign, IL.

'EFFEMINATE' MAN NOT HIRED

Employers can legally refuse to

hire a man because he appears effeminate, a U.S. court ruled recently.

The U.S. court of Appeals at New Orleans upheld a refusal by the Liberty Insurance Co. to hire a black man for a mail room position because the supervisor thought he is "effeminate."

In its decision, the court upheld a lower court's decision that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 does not forbid discrimination on the basis of affectional or sexual preference.

Since such discrimination is not forbidden, it is legal, according to the court.

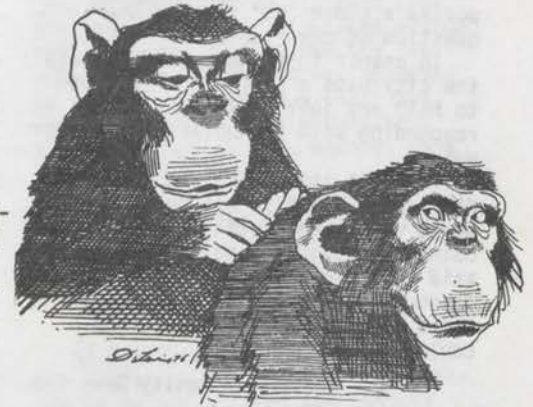
The court also dismissed the plaintiff's claim of racial discrimination by pointing to statistics which show that Liberty Mutual hires minorities.

In another Title VII case, a U.S. court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled that transsexuals are not protected from sex discrimination.

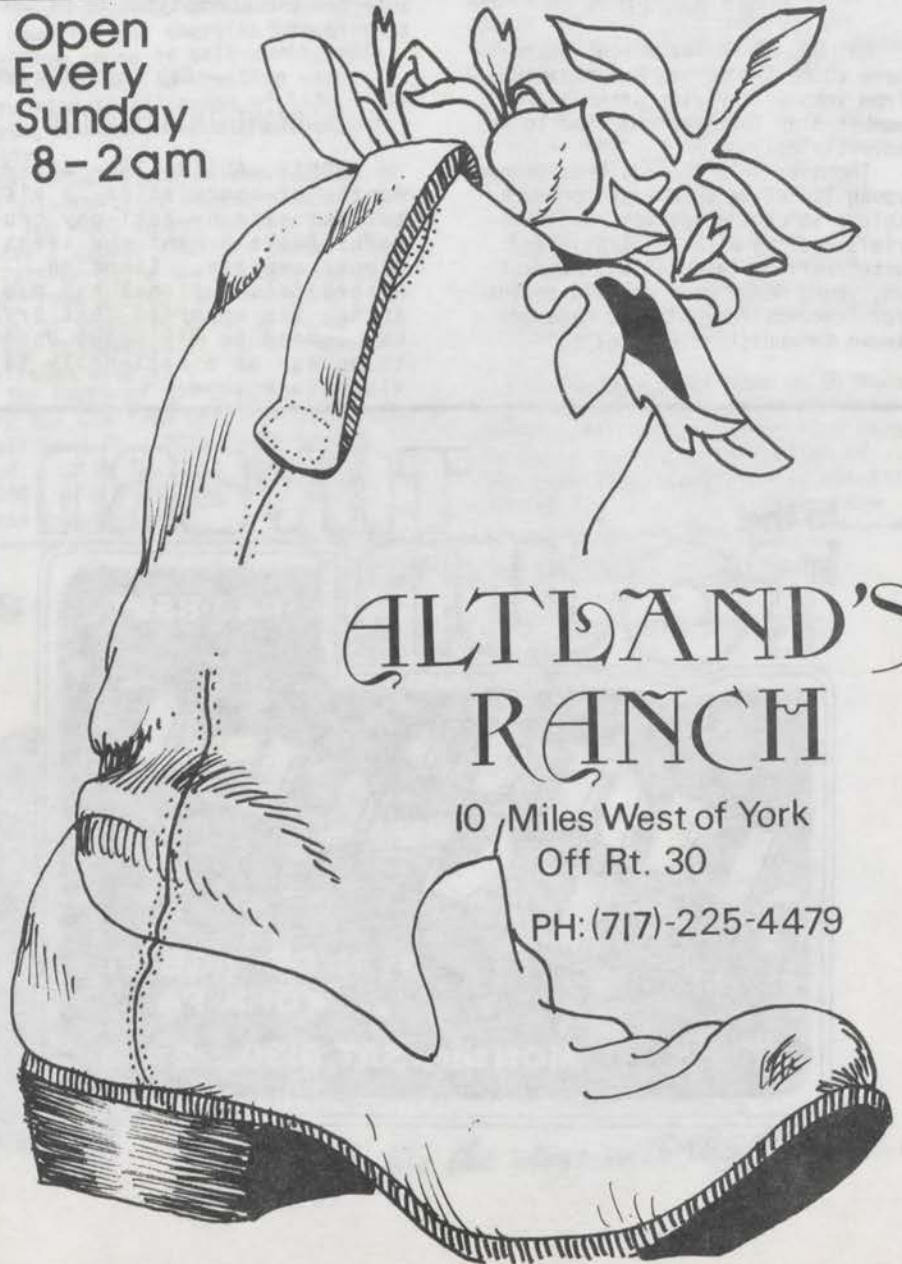
Only the notion of sex, as based

on anatomical characteristics which separate males from females, were considered when Title VII was passed, the court said.

Therefore, the court concluded, transsexuals are not protected by Title VII.



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CALENDAR

JULY

5 Wednesday
7:30 pm, Homophiles of Williamsport's regular monthly business

meeting. 656 Beeber St., Williamsport.

6 Thursday
7:30 pm, NOW Williamsport Chapter's meeting. Court and Willow Sts.

9 Sunday
E.R.A. Processional March in Washington, DC. Bus will leave from Loyal Plaza in Williamsport at 7 am. Bus tickets are \$12, payable

to Williamsport NOW.

13 Thursday
8:00 pm, Social for Homophiles of Williamsport members and guests. BYOB. Jack & Lee's, 1005 Packer St., Williamsport.

15 Saturday
1:00 am, meeting at Friend's Meeting House, 6th & Herr Sts., to continue formation of statewide gay support group.

16 Sunday
Dignity/Central PA's 3rd Anniversary Picnic at Pine Grove Furnace State Park. Write Dignity, PO Box 297, Harrisburg, PA 17108. Everyone welcome.

17 Monday — 19 Wednesday
Homophiles of Williamsport's 3rd garage sale and fundraiser, 656 Beeber St., Williamsport, (Rear)

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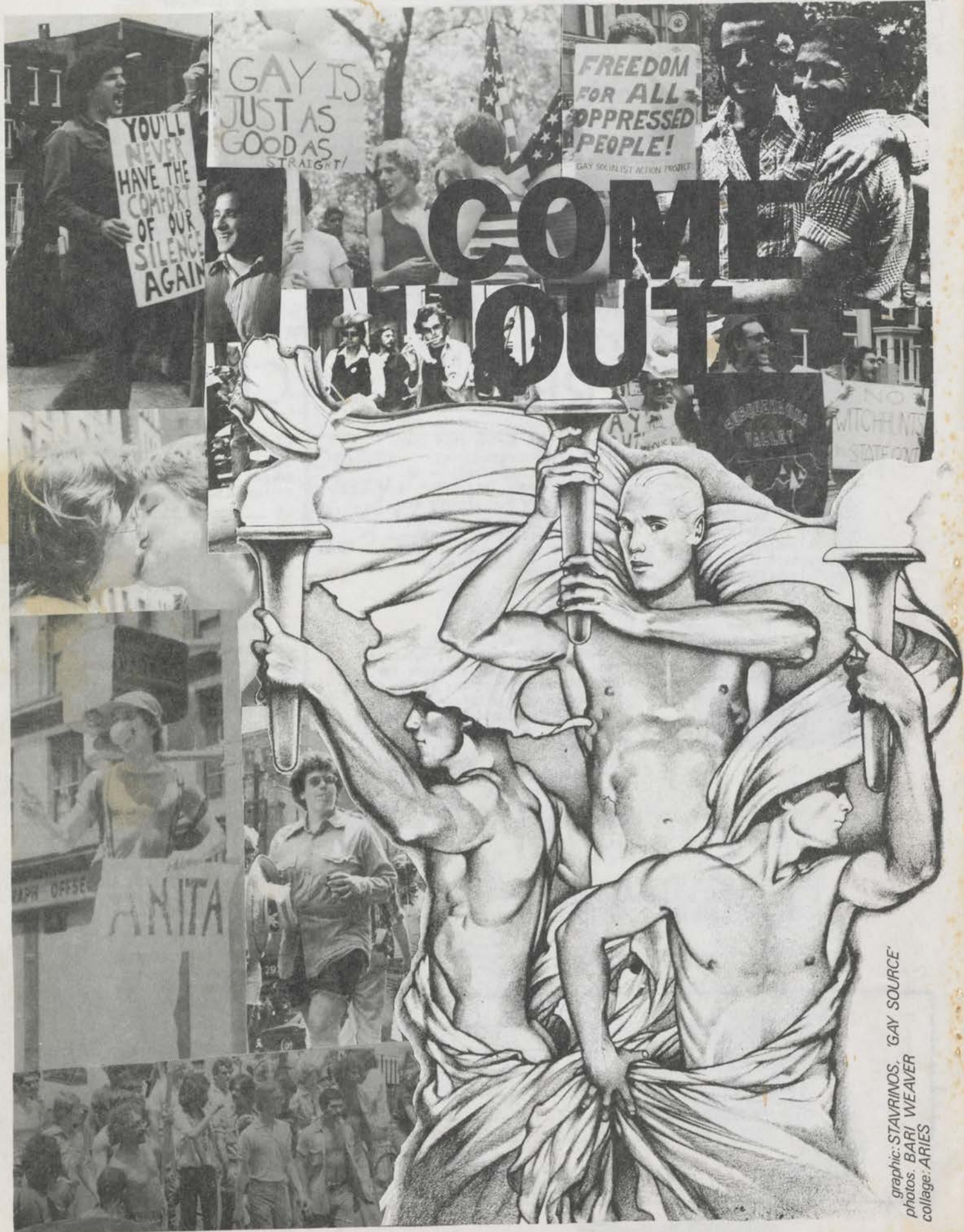
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