

new gay lib battleground, U. of M.

GCN's news correspondent in Maine has informed news headquarters that there is a battle "ragin'" on the University of Maine campus at Orono. The outcome is rather nebulous at this time.

According to Dr. Lawrence Cutler, president of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine, the board was unanimous in its decision to allow university facilities to be used to host a Conference of Homosexuals on April 20. Dr. Cutler has dismissed the gay communities as "sickies" who are entrapped in what I would call the gay "sin-drome"... Dr. Cutler went on to say, "Thank God, homosexuality is not incurable...no matter how strong, [it] need not be permanent." He furthermore stated that we present the "sick as healthy."

Fifty thousand letters were sent out in an appeal ("form letters are

printed...and require only your signature and address") so that "If you feel as we do in this matter, then we [the board] are in a position to revoke that approval and reverse the stand they have taken on this matter."

"The Wilde-Stein Controversy" as it is now referred to, has been under fire since its inception last September at the university campus. A spokesman for the Wilde-Stein Club has defended the organization as not being a recruiting, or procuring or enslaving center for "straights". The spokesman, who must remain anonymous, said, "There is a social revolution -- or evolution -- in this country. The blacks, peace and women's movements and we (gays) are just part of it."

Concurrent with the announcement the Wilde-Stein group was to have a conference was an announcement by President Howard Neville that the

campus would be soliciting \$2.5 million from the alumni to finance a capital expansion program at UMO. It seems that the alumni have, temporarily at least, tightened its pursestrings.

WLBZ Radio in Bangor has dropped its weekly five-year-old broadcast by the Rev. Herman C. Frankland because he [Frankland] feels his attacks on the Wilde-Stein Club has caused the demise of his program. They [the radio station] forbade him to make any further comments about the gay lib group in his last radio broadcast or they would deny him even this last "hurrah!" Station manager Hunter said "That had nothing to do with it whatsoever." He added that management decisions regarding programming by the Maine Broadcasting System in Portland, which owns WLBZ, had been responsible for the action.

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