

# calendar

## 15 tues

Boston — Daughters of Bilitis social evening for women to get acquainted, refreshments, conversation and/or games, 7:30pm, 419 Boylston St., rm 323.

NYC — West Side Discussion Group panel on gay legal issues, panelists from Lambda Legal Defense and Mattachine, 37 Ninth Ave., 8:30pm, \$2, refreshments served.

Boston - Mass. Gay Legislation will be discussed by Joe Martin on "Gay Way" radio, WBUR-FM, 90.9, 8pm.

Somerville, MA — Benefit for strikers at Preterm, play and folksinger, at Club Zircon, 298 Beacon St., 8pm, \$2.

Boston - MCC sponsors weekly topic rap/lectures, 7:30-10pm, Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., this week with Older and Other Gays.

## 16 wed

Boston — Benefit for GCN at Together's Stage Door Cafe, Boylston Place (across from Common), 2-6pm, haircuts by Twig and Frank.

Boston - Open meeting on the Susan Saxe case at Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., at 8pm, info call 547-6358.

Cambridge, MA - Evangelicals Concerned meet at 8pm, 872 Mass. Ave., apt. 702, discussion of Charismatic Movement, all welcome.

## 17 thurs

Boston - Older and Other Gays meet at Hill House, 74 Joy St., at 7:30pm, all interested in aging are invited to attend.

Boston — Jonathan Katz, author of "Gay American History" will speak at the Studio at Northeastern Univ. Ell Student Center, 360 Huntington Ave., 8pm, admission is free.

## 18 fri

Boston - Coffeehouse at Gay Men's Center with poetry, 8:30pm, 36 Bromfield St.

Boston - Jewish Gay group holds service, meeting and social hour for all women and men, 7:30pm, held at Gay Men's Center, 36 Bromfield St.

## 19 sat

Cambridge, MA - Teenage Lesbian group meets weekly at Janus, 21 Bay St., info call 661-2537.

Boston - Gay Men's Center Disco, 9-1, 36 Bromfield St.

## 20 sun

NYC - Homosexuals of High IQ, a "pleasantly elitist group for men," meet at 6:30pm, discussion on "Bars: Sex and Non-sex," for info call (212) 265-1081 or 639-1312.

Provincetown, MA - Lesbian/gay women's rap group meets at 8pm, info call 487-9673.

Cambridge, MA - Gay Academic Union of New England meeting, 2-4pm, first floor parlor, Phillips Brooks House, Harvard Yard, Linda Lachman speaks on National Lobby for Gay Rights.

Concord, NH - NH Lambda, a group for Lesbians will meet at 4pm, call (603) 228-8542 or write NH Lambda, PO Box 1043, Concord, NH 03301.

Providence, RI - Gay Women at Brown open house at Sarah Doyle Women's Center, 7:30pm, films and refreshments, for info call 863-2189.

Boston - Marge Piercy will read from her works and Periwinkle will provide music at the Community Church, Morse Auditorium, 602 Comm. Ave., at 11am, non-sectarian, all invited.

## 21 mon

Boston - Gay Men's Center Poetry group, 9pm, 36 Bromfield St.

## 22 tues

Boston - MCC weekly rap/lecture, 7:30-10pm, Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Rev. Randall Gibson and Steffi Sommer of Project Lambda on "Gay Youth and the Problems They Face."

NYC - West Side Discussion Group hosts David Goodstein, publisher of *The Advocate*, on gay rights, 8pm, 37 Ninth Ave., \$2 donation.

Boston - DOB gathering for older women, 7:30pm, 419 Boylston St., rm 323, refreshments served.

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# gay community news

The Gay Weekly

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P.12



# gay community news

Vol. 4, No. 34

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(617) 426-4469

February 19, 1977

## Another Session Scheduled Next Month

# O'Leary, Voeller In 2-Hour White House Talk

By Neil Miller

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Jean O'Leary and Bruce Voeller, co-directors of the National Gay Task Force, met last Tuesday for two hours with Margaret (Midge) Costanza, President Carter's staffperson in charge of Public Liason. The meeting, which took place in Costanza's White House office, was the first time that gay movement representatives have ever met with White House officials in the White House.

Bruce Voeller called the meeting "a historic occasion" and praised the initial contacts with the Carter administration as "the single most exciting opportunity we have had as a movement." Voeller and O'Leary will return to the White House on March 26 to explore "in depth and detail" the issues which they discussed at last week's meeting. At that time, Voeller and O'Leary will bring with them eight other representatives from the gay community. Although the eight other people have yet to be selected, Voeller assured GCN that they would be comprised of four women and four men and come from different areas of the country.

Marilyn Haft, who previously worked for the American Civil Liberties Union's Sexual Privacy Project in Washington, will join Costanza at the

upcoming March 26 meeting. Among the issues which the gay spokespeople will discuss at the meeting are 1) anti-discrimination legislation, 2) immigration and naturalization, 3) the Internal Revenue Service's attitudes towards homosexuals, 4) the Defense Department, 5) the Federal Prisons (focusing on the recent ban of gay publications from federal prisons), 6) the United States Civil Rights Commission, 7) the State Department's recent relaxation of rules on employment of gay people, and other issues may be suggested by gay people around the country.

Voeller urges people to write to the National Gay Task Force and list (and, if possible, document) their concerns in writing, so that he and O'Leary can communicate these concerns to the White House.

In a letter confirming the March 26 meeting, Costanza wrote O'Leary and Voeller that she was "impressed with their presentation." Voeller is confident that, following the March 26 meeting with Costanza and Haft, a series of meetings will be set up with officials of different governmental departments. Voeller plans to bring in experts "of a high professional level" to discuss gay problems at subsequent meetings with these department officials. For example, he hopes to arrange a meeting of gay tax lawyers



Photo by Tom Coughlin

Bruce Voeller . . . "historic occasion"

with officials of the Internal Revenue Service.

Voeller is optimistic that a meeting with President Carter will be the eventual result of discussions with Costanza and meetings with different department officials. "She (Costanza) doesn't see such a meeting as unreasonable," he noted.

Costanza, who is the former Vice-



Photo by John Gamble

Jean O'Leary . . . a tour of the Oval Office

Mayor of Rochester, New York, and an early supporter of Jimmy Carter's presidential bid, has long been known as a supporter of gay rights. At the Democratic National Convention held in Madison Square Garden last summer, Costanza fought for the inclusion of a gay rights plank in the party's platform. That plank was defeated by the platform committee.

## State Department Relaxes Gay Employee Rules

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The United States Department of State announced last week that it was relaxing its rules on the employment of gay people. The State Department had previously had an absolute policy requiring the automatic discharge of any employee known to be a homosexual. Now the department will decide such matters on an individual basis. The State Department had up till now been exempt from the 1975 Civil Service guidelines which prohibited the firing of an employee solely because of homosexuality. The new decision will apply to all Foreign Service employees as well as civil service personnel employed by the agency.

The State Department decision is the first development concerning gay people since the Carter administration

assumed power. The department moved insiders to speculate that it came directly from the new Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance. As head of the New York Bar Association, Vance had testified in favor of Intro. 554, the gay rights bill, before the New York City Council.

In a statement to the press, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in Charge of Security Viktor H. Dikeos, said, "The policy of the Department of State, with regard to the appointment or retention of persons who have engaged in homosexual conduct, is that the circumstances of such conduct may be relevant to the determination of the individual's suitability in the Foreign Service and of fitness for security clearance."

"Such decisions," Dikeos indicated,

"must include consideration of the nature of the position or service involved and all of the relevant circumstances of the relevant case."

"Homosexuality is not a unitary phenomenon, there can be no stereotypes," indicated the department official, "and as a rule, we must be guided by the individual's past behavior which can be presumed to reflect probable future conduct, and then consider the experience we have with similar cases."

The new State Department policy is a major departure from the previous official stand, enunciated by former Secretary of State Dean Rusk in August of 1965. At that point Rusk asserted, "The policy of the department is that we do not employ homo-

sexuals knowingly, and that if we discover homosexuals in our department, we discharge them."

Rusk noted that the State Department has "to exact standards of conduct which are far higher than the conduct of the general society in which we operate. This has to do with the problems of blackmail and personal instability, and all sorts of things."

From 1967 to Nov. 24, 1976, a total of 134 State Department employees "left the service as a consequence of sexual perversion," said David H. McCabe, Chief Policy and Training staff for the agency.

At least two court cases are pending at the present time in which two former State Department employees are suing to get their jobs back.

## Ann Weld-Harrington Heads P-town Civil Defense

PROVINCETOWN, MA. — Gay and women's movement activist Ann Weld-Harrington has been named as Director of Civil Defense for the town of Provincetown. The appointment was made official on January 24 by the town manager, Robert W. Killoran. Harrington, who is believed to be the first openly gay Civil Defense Director in the United States, will serve for an "indefinite period" of time at a salary of \$500.

The new Civil Defense director, who will occupy several rooms in the basement of Town Hall ("it's in the basement because they wanted to make sure that I would survive even if the rest of the town is destroyed," she observed humorously), will have a budget of approximately \$2400 for her department. Her job will involve



Ann Weld-Harrington . . . P-town's answer to the B-1 Bomber

direction, purchasing, and coordination of civil defense activities, and Harrington will also be responsible for putting the town on a "disaster schedule," if necessary. The last time the town was on a disaster footing was last September as Hurricane Belle threatened Provincetown. During such a time period, Harrington will have jurisdiction over the police and fire departments.

Harrington, who ran unsuccessfully for the Provincetown Board of Select-people last spring and more recently for the state House of Representatives, accepted the job "because it was a good opportunity for a gay person. You can do as much as you want with the job," she said. "It's an opportunity to do something."

Harrington's immediate goals in her

new job are to purchase new equipment and to set up educational programs on civil defense both for students and adults. She also plans to establish civil defense sectors of town to correspond to similar divisions of the police and fire departments.

Harrington admits that many aspects of the job of civil defense won't be easy. "It's an area that has always been dominated by men and especially attracts super-patriot types," she emphasizes.

Harrington, who is the mother of two children, helped organize the 1975 New England Gay Conference, held in Provincetown. She also spent 2 years in the Air Force ground observer corps and three months active duty in the US Air Force. Her recent application to the US Coast Guard is still pending.



# news notes

## 'HUSTLER' EDITOR GETS 7 YEARS

CINCINNATI, OH — Larry C. Flynt, editor and publisher of *Hustler*, the nation's third largest circulation "straight" pornography magazine, was found guilty in Cincinnati last week of engaging in organized crime and pandering obscenity. In a case watched closely by civil libertarians throughout the country, Flynt was sentenced to 7 to 25 years in prison on the organized crime charge and six months in jail on the obscenity charge. He was also fined \$10,000 on the crime charge and \$1,000 on the obscenity charge.

The trial is considered to be a major test of the application of community obscenity standards. The US Supreme Court stated in 1973 that in order for something to be judged obscene, it must violate "community standards." In the case of a national magazine, the question at issue is which community's standards should prevail.

The *New York Times*, which editorially denounced the conviction as "judicial persecution," noted that the organized crime charge was "derived from the fact that he (Flynt) had entered into a routine contact with the local distributor of newspapers and magazines, though none of the executives of that company were brought to trial."

At the time when the Supreme Court authorized communities to establish their own definitions of "prurient," Justice William O. Douglas, in a dissent, warned that the ruling "would make it possible to ban any paper or any journal or magazine in some benighted place."

As the result of the *Hustler* decision — which will be appealed — and the recent Harry Reems conviction in Memphis, publishers, movie distributors, and constitutional lawyers fear that national publications and films will be judged in conservative communities which they feel are not barometers of the national taste. "I'm afraid there is going to be a good deal more of this," said Ephraim London, an obscenity lawyer. "You'll find certain places finding almost everything to be obscene."

## ERA MOVES AHEAD (MAYBE)

CHARLOTTE, NC — With only three more states needed for ratification, the national Equal Rights Amendment passed the North Carolina House of Representatives and moved on to the State Senate. Nevada's State Senate narrowly approved the ERA as well, under an implied threat that Hollywood stars might boycott Las Vegas casinos if the legislators did not do so. However opponents claimed the vote was illegal and announced that they would carry the issue to Nevada State Supreme Court. ERA foes assert that Lieutenant Governor Bob Rose's "yes" vote was unconstitutionally the deciding vote.

However the Idaho legislature, which had adopted the amendment five years previously, voted to retract their support of the measure. In this case, ERA supporters announced that they would go to court, claiming that the vote was illegal.

## BLACK BATH BAR

PHILADELPHIA, PA — The Philadelphia Human Rights Commission is presently investigating complaints of discrimination against blacks at a gay male bathhouse here. The Club Barracks on Sansome Street is charged with introducing a policy of requiring blacks to fill out application forms after the management decided that the bathhouse was becoming "too black." The Human Rights Commission indicates that initial checks appear to bear out the complaints.

According to the *Philadelphia Gay News*, cashiers reportedly size up applicants before accepting them for membership and "probably exceptionally good-looking black men" are still given membership.

Dennis Dowling, general field manager of the Club Barracks, denies any discrimination and stated that membership policies have been tightened up in the wake of petty thefts.

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## GUIDE DEADLINE

BOSTON — Ray Hopkins, managing editor of *A Gay Person's Guide to New England*, announced this week that the deadline for all listings information and advertising reservations for the 1977 supplement to the *Guide* is Feb. 18. If a business, organization or service was not listed in the 1976 *Guide* or if services have changed significantly during the past year, people are urged to contact the *Guide* immediately.

The 1977 *Guide* is planned as a supplement to rather than a replacement for the 1976 *Guide*; it will enable purchasers of the 1976 *Guide* to update their copy at nominal cost. The 1977 supplement will be included in all future copies of the *Guide* sold at no extra charge. The 1977 supplement will be available in early March.

For more information write GPG/GCN, 22 Bromfield St., Boston 02108. The telephone number is (617) 426-8752.

## CONSENTING ADULTS

BOSTON — A public hearing before the legislature's Judiciary Committee will be held on Monday, Feb. 28, 1977, at 1:00 p.m. at the State House, Boston, on House Bill 3751. The bill would amend Massachusetts laws dealing with private sexual acts between consenting adults. The public is invited to attend.

## SAYING HE'S SORRY

SAN FRANCISCO, CA — A San Francisco assistant district attorney has made a formal apology to this city's gay community for a remark he reportedly made at a Jan. 20 meeting. Assistant DA Douglas Munson had been quoted as saying, "We attract more junkies, misfits, winos and homosexuals here than anywhere else in the world. You have a serious crime problem here." Munson's remarks were quoted in the *San Francisco Examiner*.

The following Monday, after a storm of protest, Munson wrote to District Attorney Joseph Freitas that he "wished to express my apologies to the gay community and to all San Franciscans if a statement attributed to me created the impression that homosexuals are responsible for the city's murders or other crime problems."

## GAY MEN'S CENTER NEWS

BOSTON — The Round Table (Board of Directors) meeting held Sunday Feb. 6th has chosen to privately incorporate the Gay Men's Center. The approval of the general membership and discussion of the nature of the incorporation will be items of agenda of the monthly general membership meeting Feb. 13th at 5 p.m. Nominations for a new coordinator will be accepted at this meeting. The position involves responsibility for all the Center's operations and the chairing of the Round Table. A new activities chairperson is also being sought. His duties would include planning and organization of the Center's various social activities. Moving to new quarters will also be discussed.

The Gay Forum speaker for Tuesday, Feb. 15, at 7:30 p.m. is Rev. Edward Hogen of Metropolitan Community Church of Boston. He will be discussing M.C.C.'s mission to gay persons. Next week's speaker for Feb. 22 is David Garrick of Beacon Tours, Boston. He will discuss the running of a gay business and describe gay tours available now and during the summer.

The price of coffee may be going up but that doesn't stop the Center from having a Coffee House night Friday, Feb. 18, at 8:30 p.m. A poetry reading by the members of the Center's Monday Poetry group takes place on that date. Saturday Feb. 19th will feature a disco dance from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. It's B.Y.O.B. and GMC provides soft drinks. A \$1 donation is asked. The Wednesday night rap group has decided to close off membership, therefore the Men's Center will be offering Thursday night at 7:45 for new membership a Gay Topics group.

## MASS. BILLS NUMBERED

BOSTON — The three gay rights bills before the Massachusetts legislature have been numbered and assigned to committees. H.3677, which would add the term "sexual preference" to the charter of the Mass. Commission Against Discrimination, is currently pending in the Commerce and Labor Committee. H.3676, which would enact anti-discrimination protections for civil servants, has been assigned to the Public Service Committee, while H.3751, popularly called the Consenting Adults Bill, has been referred to the Judiciary Committee.



## NEW TRIAL FOR YVONNE WANROW

OLYMPIA, WA — The State Supreme Court of Washington has reversed the second-degree murder conviction of Yvonne Wanrow and ordered a new trial for the Native American woman. Wanrow shot William Wesler, a well-known local child molester called "Chicken Bill," when he burst drunkenly into her house at five o'clock in the morning. Wanrow asserts that Wesler had attempted to molest her the afternoon before the shooting and had previously raped her babysitter's seven-year-old daughter.

"In our society women suffer from a conspicuous lack of access to . . . the means of developing those skills necessary to effectively repel a male assailant without resorting to the use of deadly weapons," wrote the court opinion.

"The impression created — that a 5'4" woman with a cast on her leg and using a crutch must, under the law, somehow repel an assault by a 6'2" intoxicated man without employing weapons in her defense . . . violates her right to equal protection of the law," said the court in landmark language.

The state of Washington will now decide whether or not to re-prosecute Wanrow.

## TRANSSEXUAL CAN STAY

SACRAMENTO, CA — The Emeryville (CA) school board's decision to fire a transsexual high school gym teacher was illegal, the State Commission on Professional Standards ruled this month. Judge Charles Bobby of the Commission ruled that the "potential damage" which the school board claimed would happen if the teacher were allowed to remain could not be grounds for dismissal. Due process had been violated, said Judge Bobby.

The teacher, Steve Dain, was known as Doris Richards until he underwent a sex change operation last year. Dain was informed by the school board in October that he was suspended and that they intended to fire him.

## CHILDREN OF LESBIANS

BOSTON — Karen Lewis, a Boston family therapist who will be speaking before the 6th International Forum of Psychoanalysts in Berlin this summer, is looking for children of lesbian mothers to help her with her paper. Lewis' topic is "Effects on Teenagers of their Mother's Lesbianism." She is interested in talking with children (ages 10 to 19) of lesbian mothers as well as adults whose parents were gay.

"I am looking for consultants, not guinea pigs," Lewis emphasizes. "What I am looking for is a broader perspective — what it was like for these children." Lewis has met with ten children of lesbian mothers so far. Anyone who is willing to talk with her can telephone her at (617) 731-2336.



## Dukakis, White Send Support

# Discrimination Bill Heard at Mass. State House

By David Brill

BOSTON — More than a hundred gay rights supporters sat patiently for five hours at Gardner Auditorium at the State House on Feb. 3 as the legislature's Commerce and Labor Committee held its annual hearing on various measures to outlaw discrimination. It was not until testimony on bills protecting the physically handicapped, blind, pregnant, elderly, and students was heard did the committee arrive at the gay discrimination portion of the day. The bill in question was H.3677, which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in housing, employment, public accommodations, and credit.

Gov. Michael S. Dukakis was the first supporter of the bill to have his statement recorded. In a letter to Sen. Allan R. McKinnon and Rep. Richard H. Demers (D-Chicopee), co-chairpeople of the committee, Dukakis criticized the legislature for failing to enact the gay rights measures during the previous two sessions. "I hope that this is the year that legislation finally reaches my desk to be signed into law," he said.

Legislators who appeared before or who sent letters of support to the committee concerning the legislation included Sen. Jack H. Backman (D-Brookline), Rep. James G. Collins (D-Amherst), Rep. John A. Businger (D-Brookline), Rep. Lois G. Pines (D-Newton), Rep. Mel King (D-South



Rep. Barney Frank (back to the camera) testifies in favor of the anti-discrimination bill before the Commerce and Labor Committee. Listening to Frank's testimony are committee co-chairpeople Rep. Richard H. Demers (D-Chicopee) at left and Sen. Allan R. McKinnon (D-Weymouth) at center. Sen. Sharon L. Pollard (D-Methuen) is at right.

Photo by Ken Rabb

End), Rep. Caroline J. Stouffer (D-Hingham), Rep. Richard E. Kendall (D-Falmouth), Rep. Barbara E. Gray (R-Framingham), Rep. James Segel (D-Brookline), and Rep. Sandra Graham (I-Cambridge).

Rep. Barney Frank said that it would be "paradoxical" if the legislature, in a year when economic cutbacks have

created severe unemployment problems, did not see fit to enact the anti-discrimination measures "for people who basically are asking for nothing but the right to work." "Irrelevant prejudices have interfered with their right to be important. And unless we intervene in a more decisive way than we have in the past, groups in our

society, through no fault of their own, are going to be prevented from making a constructive contribution to society, and prevented from supporting themselves.

"We have had a lot of complaints in this state about people not pulling their weight. We have people here today who are willing to do that," said Frank.

State Secretary of Education Paul Parks sent Cornelia D'Mils, a state education program director, to read his statement in support of the bill. "By recommending a favorable report (on the legislation), we are strengthening our system and living up to the principles of our Constitution," wrote Parks.

Two other influential representatives of the education industry also appeared. Dr. Fritz Lindquist, lobbyist for the Massachusetts Federation of Teachers, and Richard Durkin, lobbyist for the Massachusetts Teachers Association, both recorded their rival organizations in favor of the bill.

Boston Mayor Kevin H. White was represented by Buford Kaigler, director of the Mayor's Office of Human Rights. Kaigler noted that White issued an executive order last April 12 banning discrimination against gay people in city employment, as an effort at eliminating "artificial, irrelevant, and arbitrary" prejudices (Continued on page 7)

## Providence to Host N.E. Gay Conference

PROVIDENCE, RI — The New England Gay Conference of 1977 is now planned to be held on the campus of Rhode Island College, 600 Mount Pleasant Ave., Providence, the weekend of April 1-3. The Rhode Island College Gay Alliance will be this year's host group.

Tentative schedule will start with 5:00pm registration Friday, April 1 in

the Student Union at RIC. A major speaker is planned for 7:30 that evening with a social event afterward.

Registration will continue the next morning, Saturday, April 2, with another keynote speaker and then, beginning at 10 a.m., there will be a series of workshops. Sunday, April 3, will see a major presentation as a way of starting the day and then a re-cap of workshops

and caucuses until 6:00 p.m.

Religious gays are being asked to construct an ecumenical service that evening representing all available denominations and denominational caucuses.

Among the workshop topics proposed so far are Coming Out to Self, Coming Out to Friends, Coming Out to the World, Stability and

Movement of Roles Among Gay Men, Stability and Movement of Roles Among Lesbians, Parents of Gays/Gay Parents, The Effect of the Homosexual In Society Today, Changing Patterns of Monogamy, Rural Gays in Our Culture, Feminism in the Gay Movement, the Ageing Process in the Gay Community, Acceptance of Sexual Minorities in the Gay Movement.

Interested people are encouraged to send other suggestions to NEGC, P.O. Box 1462, Providence, RI 02901. The next planning meeting, to which any New England Gay person is invited, will be held Sunday, Feb. 27, at noon, 5 Junction St., Providence, RI 02907.

## Ft. Lauderdale Candidate Runs Into Ballot Trouble

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Roger Luckett, a 45 year old real estate broker who is attempting to become this resort city's first gay mayor, has run into a major legal stumbling block. The Broward County Supervisor of Elections, Jane C. Carroll, ruled Luckett off the ballot recently, asserting that he failed to meet the city's requirement for being a qualified and registered voter.

Luckett supporters have cried "foul," insisting that the candidate has adhered to the letter of the law, and have filed an appeal with the 5th District Court of Appeals in New Orleans. Luckett's position was rejected by the Florida Circuit Court and he decided to bypass the state Court of Appeals and go directly to the federal courts. The New Orleans court is expected to make a decision within the week.

Supervisor of Elections Carroll said that the city charter of Fort Lauderdale requires that all candidates to be registered for both the February 8 primary and the March 8 election. Since Luckett did not apply until recently for a change of voter registration from his previous home in Coconut Creek, his name would not appear on the Fort Lauderdale voter rolls until February 13. Thus he would have missed the February 8 primary.

Luckett insists that his lack of regis-

tration should not be a bar to his running and that his residency can be established in other ways. He has resided in Broward County for 16 years.

Luckett's supporters say that the decision to bar him from the ballot is based on a "technicality" and is a political attempt to squelch the Luckett candidacy.

Luckett announced his mayoral candidacy on January 18 amidst much fanfare after the present mayor of Fort Lauderdale, E. Clay Shaw, made a statement saying that "gays must go." Shaw assailed what he said was a dramatic rise in male prostitution in the city and urged a grand jury investigation into gay-owned hotels.

Luckett's candidacy was an attempt by the gay community to show some political muscle as a result of the Shaw accusations. The Fort Lauderdale election is a relative "free for all" with the five candidates who poll the highest number of votes being elected as city commissioners and the top vote-getter chosen as mayor. As Shaw was elected mayor with only 8,400 in the last election, local gays feel that if gays in the city vote as a "block," Luckett could be elected a commissioner, if not mayor.

If Luckett's appeal is accepted by the court, he will challenge incumbent Shaw and the other candidates on March 8. "As far as we're concerned,

he's still a candidate and he's going to win," said Ken Bray, Luckett's campaign manager. However, Luckett's name did not appear on the February 8 primary ballot.



Over 50 intrepid gay supporters of the striking Preterm workers were undaunted by a driving snowstorm as they marched 2½ miles from Brookline's Cleveland Circle to a rally at Boston University last Saturday. The march was organized as a massive show of support for the employees of the abortion clinic who have been out on strike for the last three months. About 800 people participated in the march and rally, representing a variety of women's and labor organizations and groups.

Photo by Nancy Wechsler



# community voice

## good play!

Dear GCN:

I would like to thank John Atteridge for his surprisingly wonderful article which told of his relationship with athletics. It was surprising considering that most of what I've read in the past about gays and sports has been a lot of trash. This article is what it's all about. It's not the sport that is perverted, but the attitudes of the people involved. For over two and a half years the people from the Gay Recreational Activities Committee have been trying to encourage gay people, average, below and above, to *come out* and enjoy a little unthreatening physical activity at their own pace.

George Dimsey

## in defense of clark

Dear GCN:

I have a few brief comments concerning Paul Camic's article (vol. 4 #32) which dealt with the gay community at Clark University. I'm not questioning the "facts" of the Student Council meeting or about the need for a coalition of blacks, women, socialists, zionists, and gays, but I do question the tone of his article. As a past undergraduate at Clark and presently a graduate student at Tufts, I felt that the article presented Clark in a negative (i.e. conservative) light. This is simply not an accurate picture of Clark University!

Let's look at the Council's final vote: It was 18 to 4 in favor of supporting political groups — that doesn't look too conservative to me. Gay students at Clark are given total academic freedom to pursue research on their own, or within the formal course structure. Clark has traditionally held excellence in academics above any political or other prejudice. I react with so much vigor because of my present situation at Tufts.

The article reeked with sensationalism, and presented a false picture of the University; may I suggest the author spend some time in Medford?

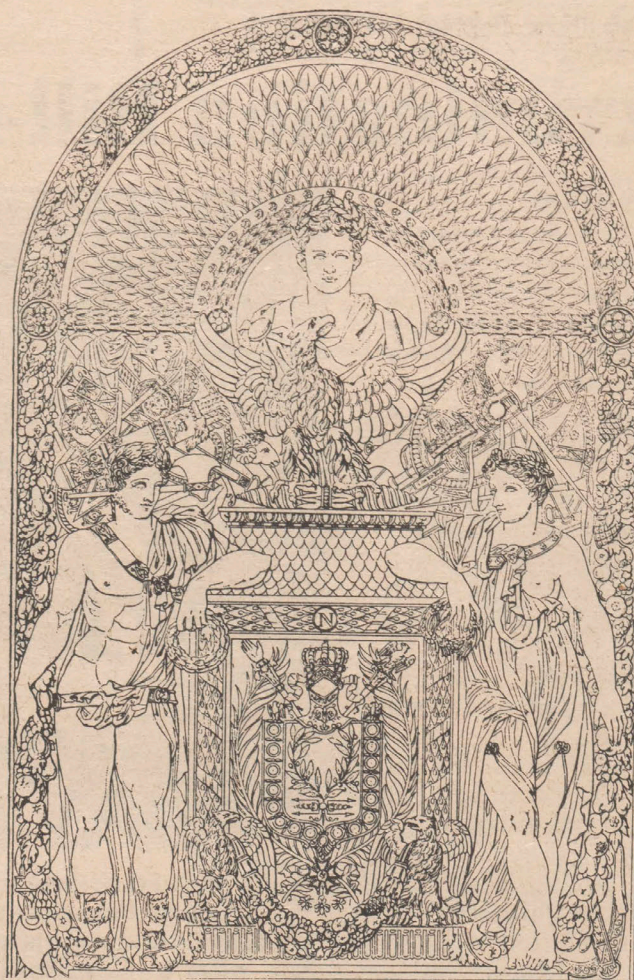
Most Sincerely,

Anne Cohen

## tax talk

Dear GCN:

In the Jan. 25 issue of your fine publication there is an article datelined Denver concerning the IRS denying tax deductible status to two Colorado groups, *Big Mama Rag* and Lambda Services Bureau. The statement is made that only two "gay" groups (Lambda Legal Defense Fund in New York and the Whitman-Radcliffe Foundation in San Francisco) have 501 C3 exemptions. Technically this may be true since the Homosexual Information Center, Inc. is not a "gay" group, but to that extent, I question that the two groups listed are "gay." Their names certainly do not give that knowledge and I would like to see how their charters read. But the fact is that this organization was the first American organization to be tax-exempt, using the honest word homosexual and telling exactly what our purposes are. So I am wondering just why it is that not one single publication in the field has ever said that we have the exemption? Obviously it is known, and in fact the local gay community group desperately used our material to get their exemption, under a front name, not their own. It is a shame that gay groups and gay publications would deliberately delete any mention of a group, and thus mislead their readers. The fact that we have had the exemption since 1968, long before any other groups even existed, and that newspaper and magazines which should give such important information to their readers would deliberately try to prevent their readers from knowing of our work and our exemption, is a sad sign that there is a lack of cooperation in the movement and a certain amount of jealousy exists and that some groups are discriminated against because others disagree with their work and philosophy. How sad that in this minority which has been so persecuted and discriminated against, time and effort is spent to harm the work of the oldest continuous group, and that the foremost thinker on the subject, Don Slater, is never mentioned, despite the fact that he edited the (at one time only gay publication) best magazine ever to come out of the movement and his name and picture were the first to be used openly, in *Life* magazine back in 1964. It is a legitimate question as to how speakers and "leaders" in the movement can possibly give the



history without giving such vital and important facts.

I do not think newer publications like yours, especially those which cover a geographical area, are in the wrong, but writers and groups and persons who claim to be the leaders and experts are to be condemned for their practice of censorship and their ignorance of the subject.

Sincerely,

William Edward Glover  
for the Homosexual Information Center, Inc.

## UNEMPLOYED? ENERGETIC?

GCN needs advertising representatives to go out and sell display advertising for the newspaper. 20% commission on all ads sold. If interested call Gregg or Lester at 426-4469.

## Piece of Gay History for Sale

BOSTON — GCN must dispose of its delivery truck (pictured here) by the end of February. The truck, a 1952 International ½ ton pickup, still runs but was recently damaged in an accident so that it is no longer dependable enough to keep up with the demands of delivering the newspaper.

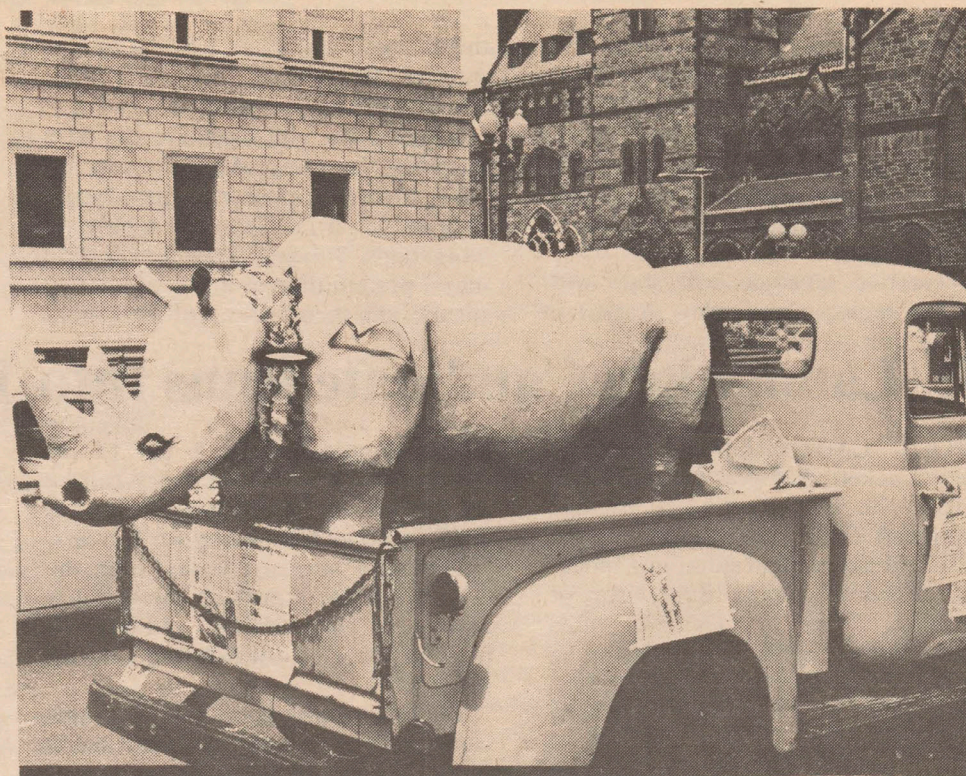
Rather than having it hauled away as junk, the GCN Board of Directors would like to see the truck sold to a gay person (or persons) who can give it a garage and the tender loving care it needs to keep on the road.

Some members of the gay community have suggested (and have made pledges of money towards the idea) that the truck be purchased by one or more individuals or groups and loaned to a museum, until such time as a Gay Historical Museum comes into being. Such a Gay Historical Museum would

then become the truck's permanent home.

From its modest beginnings as a utility truck for the Department of Water, Power, and Light in Springfield, Illinois, the truck's gay historical value comes primarily from its use as a campaign vehicle for Elaine Noble, in her first successful election to the Massachusetts State Legislature. The truck has also appeared in several gay pride parades, both in Boston and other cities, and more recently has been the "GCN truck."

The truck will be sold to the highest bidder. All bids must be received by Feb. 28, 1977. People are urged to send bids to: GCN Truck, 22 Bromfield St., Boston 02108. If you want more information or have suggestions, call Dave Peterson at 354-0133.



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# speaking out

## Boston's Ex-Top Cop Makes His Points

By Robert J. diGrazia

(Introductory note: On Nov. 15, 1976, Robert J. diGrazia resigned as Police Commissioner of the City of Boston. During his 4½ years in Boston, he developed a reputation as a tough boss with a social conscience, and made enemies as well as friends. Certainly, any head of a large-city police department who speaks out for racial justice, gun control, and better educated police officers has got to be considered somewhat unusual. He is now Chief of Police in Montgomery County, Maryland, and one Boston newspaper has reported that he has already been interviewed for the position of Director of the FBI. In asking Mr. diGrazia to write the following "Speaking Out" — which, incidentally, is one of the few times GCN has allocated the space to a non-gay person — I asked him to respond to two questions: 1) Do you think that your presence as Police Commissioner in Boston was causally or historically related to the improved relations between gay people and the Boston Police?, and 2) Why do you think gay people and police officers have traditionally been considered "natural enemies?" — David Brill)

It is certainly kind to state that my presence as Police Commissioner may have created some basic change in the police activity regarding gay people in Boston. Certainly, I would like to claim credit for all of that increased enlightened approach. But, realistically, I believe the gay movement itself, in bringing it more openly to the public, willing to debate the subject while also displaying some restraint and class, was significant in indoctrinating officers of the police department so their wild misconceptions of the past were significantly reduced. Certainly, I did let it be known throughout the department that I expected a gay person to be dealt with individually as just one other person in the community that members of the Boston Police Department were hired to serve and protect.

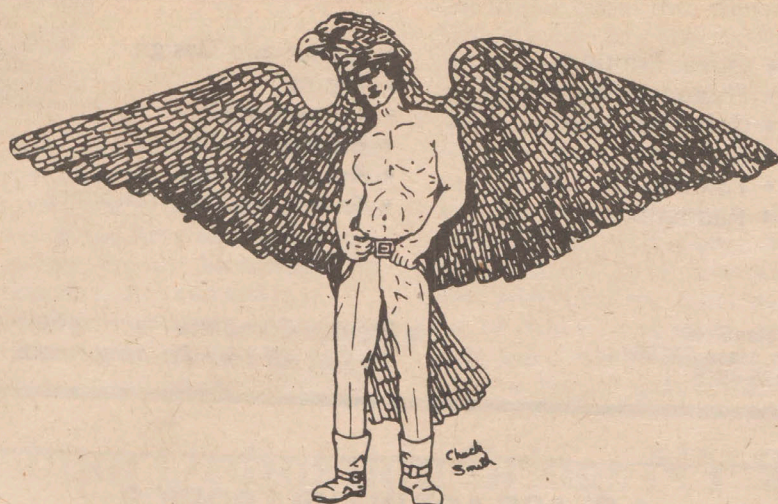
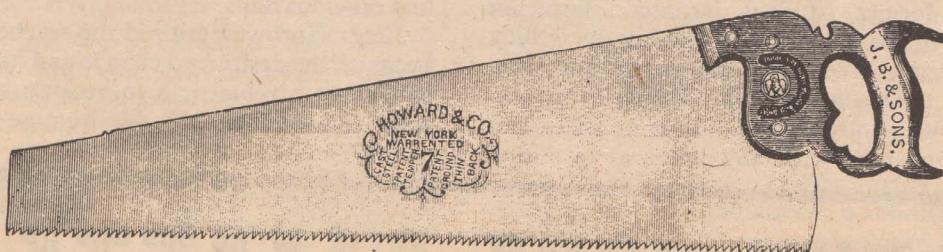
Also, definitely, I was fortunate to have as one of my special assistants Gary Hayes, who shared with me the same concern and feelings and who, therefore, was able to enunciate my feelings on the subject and who was a capable liaison with the total Boston community, and, of course, the gay community. Ed. note: Gary Hayes left the Boston Police Department on Sept. 10, 1976, to become director of



the Police Executive Research Bureau in Washington, D.C.) It was particularly beneficial that the lines of communication with Gary were constantly open. With Gary's and the community's assistance, many areas of conflict were almost always reasonably and expeditiously concluded.

As to why gay people and police have been at odds for so long, to be perfectly frank, it boils down to the machismo bit which has been too evident for too long in policing in general. For that reason, it has been difficult to get minorities because of their color, to get minorities because of possibly their height, or women into policing for it was felt that brawn was more important than brains in policing. In other words, instead of looking for what was in a person's mind and heart, it was more important that he be 6'4", 225 pounds. This, of course, created a situation where too often conservative, well-muscled, but not necessarily highly intelligent, individuals who may have had some concern about their, what it considered "manhood" were recruited into police work. Placing them in the community with their perception of a homosexual — the slight build, the effeminate actions — immediately created a gap that had to lead to conflict.

I would hope that with enlightened police administrators, with proper selection procedures, as well as training procedures, and a continuing input from the gay community, that this area of conflict can be reduced considerably to the benefit of all concerned.



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## contact

By Dai Thompson

NEW HAVEN, CT — G.A.Y./Yalesbians finally has a new office — in the basement of Bingham Hall — to be used until the old burned-out office in Hendrie Hall is restored, which will probably be summer if not later. Credit for getting this new office should go to Cassandra Smoot, who was finally able to make an appointment to see Marnesba Hill, Associate Dean for Student Affairs. Thanks, Cassandra — and also thanks to Jack Winkler and Tara Ayres who went with Cassandra to see the Dean. The new headquarters are only temporary so we may not be able to get a phone installed. However, the group may be able to use space in the Undergraduate Women's Caucus office to continue its phone counseling. G.A.Y. regularly has a rap group on Monday evenings at 8:30 and a general meeting on Thursdays at 8:30. Yalesbians meets on Wednesdays at 8:00. Hopefully G.A.Y. will be able to soon return to its usual schedule of afternoon office hours and Friday night coffee houses.

The Connecticut Gay Task Force is quickly building up momentum for its final lobbying drive before the Big Vote on the Sexual Orientation bill. The major media event was the Vigil for Freedom at noon on Saturday, Feb. 12 at the State Capitol. A special

lobbying meeting was held on Sunday, Feb. 13 at 42 Dwight St. At this meeting the group divided up the legislators and assign individual lobbyists to each one. The Committee on Human Rights and Opportunities hearing on the bill was originally scheduled for Monday, Feb. 14 but has now been postponed until Feb. 28 at 11:00, giving at least a bit more time to organize speakers and testimony for the hearing. Anyone who has any information about discrimination or

other items that would be helpful at the hearings is urged to contact the C.G.T.F. at P.O. Box 514, Hartford, CT 06101 or call the Hartford Gay Switchboard at 203-522-5575.

Other recent events include a panel on homosexuality (made up of real, genuine homosexuals, for a change — except for the psychiatrist-moderator) which was a part of a Yale course on Human Sexuality. This year's panel was reported to have been a lot livelier than previous years. Quite a few of the

250 members of the audience seemed offended by the obvious closeness of the panel's members, most of whom are members of the C.G.T.F. and regular contributors to WYBC's "Come Out Tonight" program, Southern Connecticut's only gay radio show. A few scared, quaking homosexuals blurting out their life stories is seemingly acceptable, but a group of strong, united gays is a threat. Funny how much power a bit of friendship can create.

## Mass. Council of Churches Lobbies for Gay Bills

BOSTON — The Massachusetts Council of Churches for the first time is making lobbying efforts on behalf of the gay rights bills now before the Massachusetts legislature. Diane Kessler, lobbyist for the Council, told GCN that she had written a letter of support to the Public Service Committee on behalf of the public employment bill, HR 3676.

Kessler emphasized that she had not made a decision on whether or not to testify publicly on behalf of the bills. "I'll make an assessment as to whether we'll testify publicly," said Kessler. "Hearings can sometimes be a waste of time. There are often better ways of communicating with legislators." Kessler did not testify at last Thursday's hearing before the Commerce and Labor Committee.

The decision of the Massachusetts Council of Churches to lobby for the bills comes as an outgrowth of the recent application of the Northeast District of the gay-oriented Metropolitan Community Church for membership in the Council. Although

the Board of Directors of the Council turned down the MCC application, the Board passed three resolutions supportive of the struggles of gay people. One resolution called on member denominations "to work

together, in a joint and strong witness, to insure the civil rights of homosexuals, thus trying to eliminate all social discrimination against homosexuals in employment, housing, and sexual behavior."

## Court Backs Teacher's Firing

OLYMPIA, WA — The Supreme Court of the state of Washington has ruled that the firing of a gay high school teacher was justified. By a 6-2 vote, the state's highest court ruled that admission of homosexuality qualifies as immorality, and this is sufficient grounds for a teacher's dismissal.

The teacher, James Gaylord, had taught for 12 years at Wilson High School in Tacoma when, in 1972, a former student aroused suspicion about Gaylord's sexuality by telling school officials that he believed that the teacher was gay. Gaylord was subsequently fired although he was never charged with any immoral or illegal

activity.

The January 20 State Supreme Court majority opinion was written by Justice Charles Horowitz. According to this opinion, public knowledge of Gaylord's gayness damaged his effectiveness as a teacher. "If Gaylord had not been discharged after he became known as a homosexual, the result would be fear, confusion, suspicion, parental concern, and pressure on the administration by students, parents, and other teachers.

Judge Horowitz criticized the teacher because "he desired no change and has sought no psychiatric help because he feels comfortable with his homosexuality."

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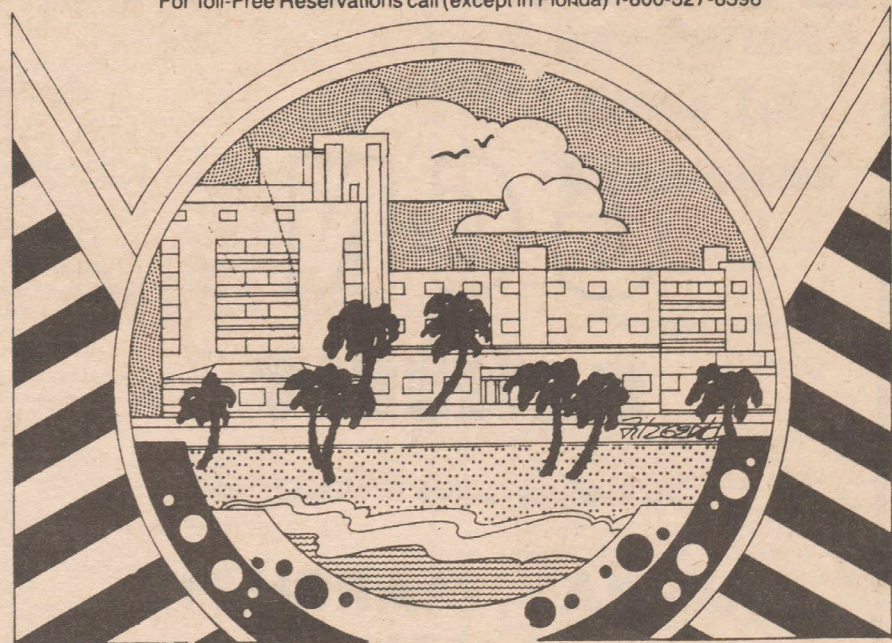
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## Discrimination Bill Heard

(Continued from page 3)

from interfering with employment practices.

A resolution from the Massachusetts Council of Churches in support of anti-discrimination measures was read by Rev. Edward Hougen, pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church of Boston. After Hougen described the harassment which he had received from local youths and indifference by Jamaica Plain police officers, Rep. Norris W. Harris (R-Marblehead) stated that he had never heard of discrimination against gay people. Harris worked as an industrial labor specialist for the General Electric Company in Lynn for 30 years before entering the Legislature.

### Gay Testimony

Also testifying in support were Joseph Martin of Gay Legislation 1977; Laura Rood, candidate for Cambridge City Council; Arlie Scott, director of the Unitarian-Universalist Office of Gay Concerns; Jill Ruge of the Homophile Community Health Service; Robin McCormick, assistant manager of Sporters Cafe; Bill Horne, a former supervisor with American Airlines; Angela Acevedo of the Massachusetts Feminist Credit Union; David Peterson of the Cambridge Gay Political Caucus; gay activist John Kyper; and Richard Penney, the first person to file a gay-related discrimination complaint with the Mass. Commission Against Discrimination.

Brian McNaught, Catholic gay activist and national social action director of Dignity, described to the committee the favorable gay rights

position adopted at last year's Call to Action conference in Detroit. Rep. David J. Swartz (D-Haverhill), who carried last year's anti-discrimination bill on the floor of the House, suggested to McNaught that there might be a better way of wording the legislation other than adding "sexual preference" to existing statutes.

Rev. Randall A. Gibson of the Charles Street Universalist Church said, "I am embarrassed that I have to beg for the rights of human beings and hope that some day it will come to the end."

Jack Rubin, manager of Sporters, stated, "When two people love one another the government should not be held at the bedside calling fair or foul."

Rep. Elaine Noble was the final person to testify. Noble, who was recently named as a member of the prestigious House Rules Committee, noted that she had been in the auditorium for nearly six hours before she testified. She urged the legislature to pass H.3677, stating "I don't think my fortitude can take this again. If you don't pass this bill I may become asexual."

### No Testimony Against

There was no testimony against the measure. However, William J. McCarthy, well-known lobbyist for the Associated Industries of Massachusetts, spoke before the committee earlier in the hearing in opposition to a series of other anti-discrimination measures designed to protect the elderly and disabled. McCarthy, one of the highest-paid legislative agents on Beacon



Photo by Ken Rabb

**Rep. Barbara E. Gray (R-Framingham) speaks in favor of gay rights legislation at the hearing**

Hill, quickly found himself engaged in a verbal spat with Rep. Robert F. Larkin (D-Needham) when he said that the primary purpose of the legislature "is to get the economy moving again" and not needlessly inconvenience employers."

"My job is to uphold the Constitution," responded Larkin, who at 22 is the youngest member of the committee. "And when groups are being unfairly treated, I see my job as trying to eliminate discrimination." Although Larkin listened attentively during McCarthy's presentation, he fidgeted conspicuously when the gay speakers presented their testimony. (McCarthy told GCN that he "had no



Photo by Ken Rabb

**Rep. Carolyn J. Stouffer (D-Hingham) as she endorsed the anti-discrimination bill.**

orders" to oppose the gay rights legislation in particular, although he added, "I'm going to talk to Elaine (Noble) about them.")

The bill is expected to be reported out of committee favorably. Several committee members, including Sen. Robert A. Hall (R-Lunenburg), Sen. Edward L. Burke (D-Framingham), Sen. Sharon L. Pollard (D-Methuen), and McKinnon are also co-sponsors of the bill. Rep. Marie E. Howe (D-Somerville) is the only committee member to have voiced strong opposition to it in the past. A vote on it in the legislature is not expected for several weeks.

## DID YOU SEE?



**ANN LANDERS**

**Q. How about some examples of how your thinking has changed over the 21 years you've been Ann Landers. How would you have replied to someone writing about bisexuality, or homosexuality, then and now?**

LANDERS: I've always been pretty hip on homosexuality, and I was one of the first to be hip on this subject. In

fact I was the first person to print anything about homosexuality in a family newspaper. In 1955, when I started, this was absolutely forbidden but I thought this is a human problem and if I'm dealing with human problems, I've got to talk about this. Illinois was the first state to say that homosexuality between consenting adults was not a crime and I was largely responsible for the passage of that legislation because I went to Springfield [the Illinois state capital] and lobbied for it. I'm very sympathetic to homosexuals and I believe their civil rights should be protected. A lot of homosexuals are very angry with me. They picket me a lot because I refuse to say they're not sick, but I think homosexuality is an abnormality, a dysfunction. This has

been my point of view from the very beginning.

**Q. A couple of years ago the American Psychiatric Association voted to no longer classify homosexuality as mental illness — didn't that cause you to re-examine your position?**

LANDERS: It hasn't changed my mind. There are many psychiatrists who are members of the APA who also don't believe that. They're split down the middle on this and I am with those whose view is that homosexuality is a dysfunction, a personality disorder.

**Q. Do you advise homosexuals to seek treatment, then?**

LANDERS: I feel some homosexuals are very happy the way they are. Some of them are much more faithful to their partners than many

heterosexuals are. They've adjusted to their lives, they lead productive, useful lives. They're not interfering with other people, they're not molesting little boys — the vast majority of child molesters are heterosexuals. But there are those who write to me and tell me they're tortured, they hate themselves, they can't face their parents. To those people I say, "Get into treatment." I don't believe treatment is going to make them straight, but it will make them at least understand that they're not such loathsome creatures. It will help them to accept themselves. As far as getting straight from treatment, the chances are very slim.

**Q. What would you advise a young person who wrote to you asking whether he or she should tell their parents they are gay?**

LANDERS: I can't tell every homosexual to come out of the closet. Some of them couldn't face it. I say, "Look it's up to you, are you strong enough to face the world, are you strong enough to face your parents?" I could do a lot of damage if I told people they should just stand up and say, "This is what I am, take it or leave it." Some of them are going to run into a real buzz saw and I don't want to be responsible for that.

## Lesbian Ordination Brings NY \$ Protest

NEW YORK — At least three parishes in the Episcopal Diocese of New York have voted to withhold their diocesan assessment in reaction to the ordination of an open lesbian, Ellen Marie Barrett, as a priest. Barrett was ordained by Bishop Paul Moore Jr. of the Episcopal Diocese of New York early last month. During her ordination Bishop Moore praised Barrett as "highly qualified intellectually and spiritually to be a priest." Barrett's ordination made her the first open lesbian to be ordained as a priest in the Episcopal church.

The Rev. Earnest W. Johns, rector of Christ Church of Ramapo in Suffern, New York, told the *New York Times* that as a result of Bishop Moore's action, "we can no longer look to him as our spiritual father in God." Rev. Johns said that the vestry of his church was scheduled to meet late this week and would probably vote to withhold its \$8,000 assessment.

The Vestry of the Church of the Holy Communion in Mahopac, New York, voted to withhold all assessments until Barrett was either defrocked or agreed to "publicly

repent and rectify her profession of homosexuality as a viable and healthy alternative lifestyle." The church's yearly assessment is \$2,000.

In Yorkers, the vestry of St. Mark's church also voted to refuse to pay its assessment of \$2,300.

Bishop Moore stated that "he had never had so much flak." He

emphasized that the withheld money "is not spent for ordinations. Much of it goes for the mission work of the church."

The Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, Bishop John Maury Allin, emphasized, "The church has not gone down the drain. It really hasn't. Pass the word along."

## FBI Women Agents Probed Feminist Movement

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Use of women agents to infiltrate the women's movement has been revealed in 1377 pages of Federal Bureau of Investigation files released last week. The files on the WLM (as the FBI described the women's movement) were released in response to a request made under the Freedom of Information Act.

The four years of FBI investigation apparently ended in 1973 with no one indicted under any criminal charges. However, the investigations did provide a wide range of information about the political beliefs and sexual preferences of feminists throughout the nation. Among cities where the in-

vestigations took place were Boston, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington and others. The New York office reportedly filed an inch thick file on women's activities in that city in the summer of 1970.

The documents which were made public were censored to eliminate the names of informants as well as of the individual women who were investigated.

Although several field offices urged the FBI to close these investigations, such suggestions were overridden by J. Edgar Hoover and his subordinates. "It is absolutely essential that we conduct sufficient investigation to

clearly establish subversive ramifications of the WLM and to determine the potential for violence presented by the various groups connected with this movement as well as any possible threat they may represent to the internal security of the United States," wrote director Hoover.

The FBI also assigned its regular agents to watch rallies and demonstrations by women's groups. The reports often made pejorative comments about the physical appearance and dress of many feminists. Many of the reports also asserted that the women's movement was dominated by lesbians.



# OUR IMAGE IN ROCK

By Tommi Avicelli

For years now, gays have been portrayed in rock music, often I've discovered, without our knowledge. Many of these portrayals have been, surprisingly, positive. Most people, for instance, do not know that Janis Ian in 1967 recorded a pro-gay song — "Queen Merka And Me" — which contained a verse about two male lovers in a park. Or that an unknown singer named Judi Pulver in 1973 released an album — "Pulver Rising" — (MGM) with a lesbian song entitled, "Part Time Women":

**"I'm just one of a million/  
Or more, who needs a lady/  
Who don't try to own the man"**

Part of the problem has always been that major record companies don't push gay or gay-related music. Steven Grossman's openly gay lp — "Caravan Tonight" (Mercury) — failed to gain the widespread recognition it deserved. True the record company wasn't totally at fault here; the gay community also failed to support Grossman's effort.

Olivia Records — a national women's recording company — has released many important feminist and lesbian songs by artists, some of whom are beginning to gain some airplay on the "straight" radio stations. Anthony Louis, a Philadelphia-based gay folk-singer, released "Fantasy" last year; it even appeared on jukeboxes in some of the gay bars in the city. However, Mr. Louis' record and gay performers in general have still not yet gained the widespread support of the gay community. The greater number of non-movement gays don't care if there ever is a distinctly "gay" music. And surely one can argue the merits of having an exclusively "gay" music.

But the image of gays in rock music needs to be examined; if only to make us aware of what was and is being written about us. Rock music — as an institution, and as a piece of contemporary culture — must not be taken lightly. Its influence on our mores has increased over the years. It's no longer the voice of a few so-called malcon-

tents. It's a million dollar industry with all of the pull that goes along with possessing money, a large captive audience, and performers whose god-like statures endow them with invitations to the White House, and the power to influence politics (i.e., Dylan's campaign for the release of Hurricane Carter). When, and if, gay issues are included in the myriad causes promoted by rock musicians, then the public's consciousness will finally have a chance to absorb gay liberation the way it absorbed hippiedom many years ago.

Before the Beatles invaded America with their inane invitation to "hold your hand," folk music had laid a trail of strong protest against the imperialistic and inhumane values of the rulers of this country. Songwriters like Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, and Peter, Paul and Mary were the voice of a generation dissatisfied with the conditions of the world. It is said that Dylan expressed the passion of a whole generation when he wrote "Blowing in the Wind." Yet Donovan, another young folksinger, expressed more to the point the feelings of a lot of gay males when he wrote and sang "To Try For The Sun," probably the first (and one of the most beautiful) male/male love songs ever written:

**"We huddled in the derelict building  
And when he thought I was asleep  
He lay his poor coat 'round my  
shoulders  
And huddled there beside me in a  
heap."**

There is not another reference to gays in rock music until around 1967 when a daring young performer (only fifteen at the time!) recorded "Society's Child," a record which was not only banned in parts of the country but, because it was about an interracial couple, disc jockeys in the South were beat up for playing it. The performer was, of course, Janis Ian. In her song "Queen Merka and Me," she described two men who walk through the park holding hands and declaring quite boldly: "Our love is not wrong."

About a year later, Neil Young —

along with the Buffalo Springfield — recorded "I Am A Child" which even to many straight rock critics had homosexual overtones. Of course to many others the song was about the relationship of a father and son. Yet the homosexual theme is there whether it's father/son incest or male/male lover.

"Lola" by the Kinks was released just before the onslaught of that period of rock I shall unflatteringly dub the "Bisexual Chic." The Kinks were from the beginning of their career a symbol of youth's rejection of the establishment's values. They were always more political than the other rock groups. They sang of the triteness of overly-romanticized heterosexual relationships, and the absurd shallow-value system of the "well-respected" men, while the Beatles were still in their adolescent love stage. The Kinks never suffered from acne, that's for sure. They were unacceptable for Bandstand, and despised the British government even before Lennon did his anti-government number in 1969. So it was no wonder the Kinks created "Lola," an outrageous transvestite who confuses the hell out of a straight man in a bar:

**"I can't understand why she walks  
like a woman  
but talks like a man oh my Lola"**

This is definitely not your typical teeny-bopper unrequited love song, epitomized by the early exploits of such bubble-gummers as Donny Osmond. Instead, it is ultimately a song about the sexual politics of being a man (or a non-man).

The persona in the song is perplexed because Lola does not fit into either a strict male or female role. He concludes: "I'm glad I'm a man (I thank thee Lord that I was not born a woman, as the prayer goes) and so is Lola." Now is Lola glad that he is a man, or that "she" "herself" is a man?

Around this same time, the Who released their now famous rock opera, Tommy, which contains a song about Uncle Ernie, who with the aid of a lot

of booze and in the absence of Tommy's parents, performs a sexual act upon the boy. Tommy's reaction is neither positive nor negative. For him it's just another experience in the vast deaf, dumb, and blind abyss in which he lives. However, the image of Uncle Ernie is another re-enforcement of the old "child molester" myth. Too many straights already have the notion that gay men are child molesters.

With the coming of the 1970s, we have an increase in the number of gay images both in rock music and in the appearance of rock stars. People like David Bowie, Alice Cooper, Marc Bolan and others donned various degrees of drag to violate the mediocre image of rock, and to elevate their stage acts to theatre performances. Along with the drag came the safe pronouncements of bisexuality. For the men at least bisexuality quickly gained a new status. The women, like Joan Baez and Janis Ian, were met with hostility when they came out. But the boys were allowed their diversions, as "boys will be boys."

I guess David Bowie started the "Bisexual Chic" phase of rock music with his "Ziggy Stardust" lp (RCA) — a concept piece about 1) the rise and fall of a bisexual rock star, and 2) the disintegration of our overly technocratic and inhumane society (a theme more fully developed in "Diamond Dogs," an album that is stark and intense).

The songs on "Ziggy" do not present a very positive view of homosexuality; rather they treat it as a symptom of Ziggy's decadence (and the chic crowd loved decadence!):

**"And lady stardust sang his songs  
Of darkness and disgrace" (emphasis  
my own)**

Ziggy is ultimately murdered on stage by his fans because "With god-given ass/ he took it all too far." Obviously what he took too far was his homosexuality.

In his stage show, Bowie, in the finest tradition of Alice Cooper and the New York Dolls (later exploiters of the drag rock phenomena), would go down on his lead guitarist, Mick Ronson, in a mock blow-job. Ronson would shove his guitar near Bowie's ass while the latter was lying on the floor

## View from the Bisexual Closet

**View From Another Closet by Janet Bode. New York, 1976. \$8.95.**

A Review by Carol Greene

As a bisexual woman, I was delighted to hear that finally a booklength study of bisexuality in women was coming out. Despite the vast library of gay and women's liberation literature that has been published in the last ten years, no one had printed a serious study of bisexuality in non-scientific, nonsensationalistic, journalistic prose. Janet Bode's *View From the Closet*, based on interviews with bisexual women, promised to answer many of the questions I had as a bisexual woman trying to maintain my identity in a lesbian world.

Maintaining a bisexual identity is difficult, really difficult. I found that straight men tended to regard the bisexual woman as nothing more than a kinky number; the favorite male fantasy of joining or watching two women in bed is such a strong one that hardly a heterosexual pornographic movie is made without some lesbianism

in it. Whatever some men think of a woman, once they know she is bisexual, she may be seen only as a means to fulfilling fantasies. To other men, the idea that a woman may prefer another woman to them is so damaging to their ego that they will refuse to take the relationship seriously, if only to keep from being hurt. I haven't seen yet that men have liberated themselves enough to deal with the bisexual woman. For the few who have, I have great respect. I wish I knew one.

However, I find also that the lesbian world does not deal well with bisexual women. To the lesbian, the bisexual woman is a copout, afraid to reveal her true lesbian identity and lose her heterosexual privilege. As a group they will condemn the bisexual woman — one friend of mine was driven from her collective because the women could not deal with her male friends. It is a cliché that a bisexual woman will always leave a woman for a man; indeed she is only with a woman until the right man comes along or until she comes out. Yet I have found in conversations with lesbians that many, even



Photograph by Robert Fochlorip

Janet Bode



on his stomach, still singing. These antics gained him the title "Queen of Rock" in some circles.

In "Cracked Actor," a song on the "Aladin Sane" lp (RCA), Bowie expresses nothing less than contempt for an elderly gay actor who resorts to paying hustlers along Sunset and Vine in Hollywood. For someone who has made his reputation by exploiting gay sex acts on stage, he has very little good to say about homosexuality in his lyrics. Yet the homosexual communities in both Europe and America looked upon Bowie as some sort of idol, the androgynous and liberated man.

Similarly, Lou Reed, a protege of Bowie's, was elevated to the position of a cult figure — especially with the release of his "Transformer" lp (RCA). Three gay songs were featured on this endeavor, packaged as sensationistically as Bowie and others of his school of hype had packaged other "Bisexual Chic" products. "Walk on the Wild Side," the hit single from the album, was at one and the same time, an invitation to take a walk on the gay side of life, and a portrait of three of Andy Warhol's transvestite superstars — Holly Woodlawn, Jackie Curtis, and Candy Darling. As a statement on sexual politics it said nothing; as a "gay" song it was, to use a popular Bette Midler line, "the pits." About the only good thing about the song was the sax solo towards the end.

The other two gay songs on the album — "Makeup" (about a transvestite getting into drag) and "Good-night Ladies" (about closing time in a gay bar, ho hum) are boring, trite, and fail to inspire the kind of gay pride Reed asserts quite unenthusiastically in the chorus of "Makeup":

**"Now we're coming out/  
Out of our closets/  
Into the streets!"**

Jobriath, a latecomer to the glitter scene, released two lps which presented some decent gay imagery. "I'm A Man," from the first album, is a cute commentary on sex roles, while the naughty "Blow Away" on the second is somewhat coy in its praise of cock-sucking. ("It's very gay to blow away.")

Mott the Hoople, an English group

with moderate success in the sixties, really cashed in on the "Bisexual Chic" trend of the seventies with a Bowie song called "All the Young Dudes." The song included a verse about Marc who "dresses like a queen/ but he can kick like a mule."

Yet despite all of these images, gays were no more respectable in rock than they were in the early sixties. The rock industry has failed to provide a market for good positive gay material; and likewise for gay artists.

In the realm of folk music, some extremely innovative and sensitive material emerged in the seventies. Laura Nyro, whose music rose to fame in the hands of groups like the Fifth Dimension, recorded "Emmie," easily identifiable as a song with heavy lesbian overtones:

**"Emily/you're the natural snow...  
move me/oh sway me...  
You were my friend and I loved you."**

Dory Previn — rising to fame after her husband, Andre, ran off with Mia Farrow (her first big song was about that episode: "Beware of Young Girls") has more references to gays in her songs than any other non-gay performer. Her first lp "On My Way To Where" (Mediarts) contained "Michael, Michael," about a hippie-type gay man who "pushes acid" and "makes it best with men."

Ms. Previn's characters are often bizarre; yet her vision of the universe is through the eyes of an absurdist. In the finest tradition of Genet she presents Esther who lusts after Jesus; and the midget who wishes she were black.

An ardent feminist, she extols the virtues of androgyny and comments on political issues in some of the most delightfully satirical styles on record. In "Midget's Lament," she sums up the way people stereotype: "I mean y'seen one midget, y'seen 'em all, oh yeah, midget, oh yeah *small*," she sings. One could substitute any minority for midgets and the equation fits. In the song Ms. Previn reminds us "there are skinny midgets, fat midgets, gay midgets, etc."

Of course there are many, many more gay images; to do them all justice would take too much space. A closer examination of gay images would include the questionable "Ballad of the



Sad Young Men" by Roberta Flack, or the much debated "Just Like A Woman," the Dylan song a lot of gays claim is about a transvestite.

Then, there are the more recent examples, such as the lesbian songs of Patti Smith, a somewhat androgynous woman who has often disassociated herself from the gay and feminist movements.

So what do we make of all this? Though there have been both positive and negative treatments of homosexuals in rock, the overall picture is still not very pleasant. There is lots more consciousness-raising to be done. And even the positive material presents some problems; for instance, while "Lola" is a brilliant commentary, it also plays into the hands of those homophobes who believe that all gay men are transvestites. And while Janis Ian's "Queen Merka and Me" is strong and militant, it is also part of an lp ("For All The Seasons of Your Mind" — Verve) which is out of print!

Bowie, however, has sold millions of copies of his dreary images of gays.

Bowie was once asked by a London gay group to write a gay pride song. He refused. Why? Is it still that risky to be openly associated with gays? It certainly hasn't hurt Bette Midler's career any. But then she isn't gay.

Rock music — like the subculture that spurned it — is in dire need of consciousness-raising. We need more gay rock stars coming out, as Elton John did, but not just in print. And not just as safe bisexuals. We need positive gay role models for young gays to look up to; and songs like "I'm Gay" (from "Let My People Come") — songs which assert what we already know, that homosexuality is not decadent or degrading. We need also more gays to support people like Meg Christian and Steven Grossman; and others who are recording positive gay music. Without our support these people may as well be singing in the middle of the Sahara Desert.

half, were presently engaging in heterosexual relationships. Usually, the lesbians that were not sleeping with men, never did. One woman who is a virgin to men loved and desired a particular man, but the sex never happened. Another lesbian celebrated her 25th birthday by jumping in the sack with a window-washer who caught her in the nude. She didn't want to pass the quarter-century mark without experiencing a man. One "heavy-duty" leather dyke spent an entire evening complaining to me that gay men made passes at her. She felt that they should not have called themselves gay if they were going to express a heterosexual interest. Perhaps she expected them to wear green triangles. In any case, a week later she was considering sleeping with her male taxi driver.

The stories do go on. A favorite of mine is the for-money-only excuse. One of my "I love to take their money" friends went aboard a ship in harbor and cavorted with all twenty crew members in one night. That's true money-love. Then there's true "woman love." "I don't get involved with bisexual women," a friend told me recently. "I have made my commitment to women." I asked her if she had any straight friends and she said yes. As the wine flowed and the evening wore on I also found out that she had men friends, some of them

sexual partners. Apparently only bisexual women were excluded from her universe (as not really women?). All of these women would identify themselves as lesbians, and they do prefer women as friends and sexual partners. I would not deny that they should call themselves anything but lesbians. However, I do believe that they have not come to grips with their feelings about men. And perhaps this is why they are so hard on the woman who identifies herself as bisexual; she has taken a stand and admitted that men can be important to her.

Having tried to be an upfront bisexual in both the gay and non-gay worlds, I looked to Bode's book to help me to deal with some of the problems outlined above. It totally failed me. The book reads like a defense of bisexuality rather than a study of it.

Bode does her homework and has picked women from all different backgrounds — single, married, older, younger, varying in education and ethnic origin, working class to professional, mainly straight to mainly gay — but somehow they all come out sounding like the most well-adjusted people on earth. According to Bode they have found a strength in their bisexual identity that surpasses the faith of a Louise Day Hicks in hers and a Jill Johnston in hers. The few fears and oppressions experienced, all felt were

well worth the particular pleasure of being able to relate completely to both sexes.

A typical passage: "Gretchen captured many women's thoughts when she said, 'I don't think I've lost anything that really matters... No one can pigeonhole or restrict me the way they could if I were gay or straight, but I resent society pressuring me to hide a side of me that's so important and worthwhile. Bisexuality is a positive, enlightened force.'"

Basically that is the message repeated throughout the book by all the women interviewed. Society is definitely the villain in this multiple soap opera-straight society and gay society. The women do express feelings that they experience gay oppression when with a woman because parents may disapprove or because they can't hold hands in public. A few mention that lesbians complain about their choice of dress. One woman felt that she had to hide her heterosexual relationships from her women's rap group. But none of them talk about how bisexuality affects their relationships with lovers and spouses. In Bode's book, husbands are reasonable, female lovers never worry, male lovers do not interfere in lesbian relationships. I wish I could fade into that world.

I believe that Bode wanted her book to give hope and cheer to women

exploring their bisexuality, and, therefore, she concentrated on the positive aspects. The only personal problem that the interviews seemed to have was finding women to sleep with, since men were more readily available. Many complained that it took a long time to get to know a woman before one could move into a sexual relationship with her. I began to wonder if these women were really concerned with relating to both sexes as people or as sex objects. All described themselves as independent; their fantasies rarely include another person. (I want to be a graphic designer; I want a house in the country). In fact, the lesbian side of me would say that they tended to sound like straight men more interested in a "good time" than close relationships.

I feel that the book is of value only to the straight feminist who is exploring her feelings toward women and considering adding a sexual component to them. There is no real information for the lesbian who is exploring her feelings about men, nor is there much support for the bisexual whose identity is causing her problems in her personal relationships.

Of course, Bode's book is the first; we can't expect it to cover everything. It is amazing that it took 15 years of women's liberation before even one book on bisexuality was written. We will probably have to wait another 15 until men tell their stories.



## Two-For-One at Glines

A Review by Robert Chesley

Two new Gay plays are being presented now through February 19th at the Glines in New York City: Ramon Delgado's one-act "Once Below a Lighthouse," and "The Love Match" by Richard Hall, author of "The Butterscotch Prince." The Delgado play offers nothing new to gay theater, dealing as it does with yet another self-loathing gay man who covers his pain with self-mockery and acid humor. The Hall play spares us this overused character, offering a variety of believable gay characters, happy and sad, rather than a single representative of gay angst; it is also a better written play.

The actors in "Once Below a Lighthouse" are hampered by Howard Lipson's weak direction: they are allowed to babble their lines too quickly, and one can scarcely believe that they are real people who think before speaking. Under this circumstance, Jack Godby in the lead role of a gay virgin in his thirties is only intermittently good. He is further hampered by the author's sententious overwriting and embarrassingly obvious symbolism — the disused lighthouse, a secret diary with nothing written in it, *Pagliacci* (the clown with the broken heart), etc. Jim Harris is miscast as the beachcomber-hustler picked up by the older man: he is by nature too graceful, sensitive and intelligent to come across as a hunky and sly young stud.

And then in bursts Barbara Winkler as a coarse and cagy slob from downstairs; she steals the show with her energy and the excellence of her performance. Alas, her part is small,

and when she leaves, there is only more drivel about gay loneliness as the older man moves toward his first sexual experience. The subject of the play is serious enough, but Delgado does not explore it with any depth or sensitivity, and seems more concerned (in a rather self-infatuated way) with writing what we are supposed to take as poetic crystallizations of the situation than with creating realistic and deeply explored characters.

"The Love Match" is a better play not only because the material is fresher and the writing is better but because Hall does not set out to do too much and then fall short. Instead, he surprises us by doing more than we expect at the beginning: what starts out as an amusing, topical situation (a non-gay actor cast as the lead in the filming of a novel about a gay athlete) develops into a fairly serious portrayal of closet thinking and its effect on relationships. Hall does not attempt to go deeply into his characters to dredge up poetic truths about gay life; his characters are simply and clearly drawn, and relate believably to each other, and all of the action of the play arises from the characters and their interactions. The play may not be great literature, but it is enjoyable theater — entertaining, genuinely funny and touching, deftly written, and definitely worth seeing.

The cast are all good and they work well together under Peter Dowling's direction. Steve Carson as the movie idol and Martha Robinson as his Vassar-educated wife both make more of their characters than the homophobic set-ups for enlightened gay put-downs they might have been. Gay lib party line is given to the character of the author of the book



Lin Kozy plays the closeted dyke manager in Richard Hall's "The Love Match" at the Glines through Feb. 19 in New York.

being filmed, and it is one of the virtues of the play that this character is treated by Hall with Thackerayan irony — his over-enthusiasm and tendency towards glibness are gently mocked, the part is appealingly played by Heikko Kerin. Glenn Gilbert's performance as the author's rather naughty lover is equally good, and it is another virtue of the play that the

relationship between the lovers is convincingly loving and positive. The pivotal role in the play is the brassy, closeted dyke manager; Lin Kozy handles the part sympathetically and believably as the play becomes serious and focuses in on the interior of her closet; Patricia Weyenburg is totally convincing as her sensitive and frustrated lover.

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## Theatre of the Deaf Meets Gertrude Stein

By Don Shewey

Plays and players come and go, but the combination of the unique talents of the National Theatre of the Deaf and the rare literary sensibility of Gertrude Stein produced a very special theatre extravaganza last week when the Loeb Drama Center hosted NTD's presentation of Stein's seldom-performed "Four Saints in Three Acts." It was an event that will not soon be forgotten.

It goes without saying that Gertrude Stein is one of the most original contributors to 20th century literature; although her style has often been mocked and dismissed for its legendary obscurity, few modern writers have done more to expand the limits of the English language. In addition, her two "operas," "Four Saints" and "The Mother of Us All" (produced here last year by the Associate Artists' Opera Co.), are significant, world-renowned works collectively created by a team of gay artists: Stein, composer Virgil Thomson, and his lifelong companion, set designer Maurice Grosser.

While her plays are considerably less well-known than her other writings, Stein's language enjoys a special kind of life in the theatre, benefitting from the clarity of statement and projection of thought that the theatre can achieve. At the same time, it demands from the theatre a new style, an adaptability that uses the stage as boldly as her words use the printed page. The challenge of Stein's language has been accepted and enthusiastically executed by the National Theatre of the Deaf. As the NTD's director David Hays proposes in his program notes, "(Stein's) language is liberated from the humdrum responsibility of consecutive



The company in "Four Saints In Three Acts" by National Theatre of the Deaf.

meaning and argument that is its usual fate. In 'Four Saints in Three Acts' we find language on an outing, having a picnic, letting down its hair."

Of course, "Four Saints" is strictly speaking neither an opera, nor about four saints, nor in three acts. It is a sort of meditation on saints; "a saint, a real saint never does anything," Stein proclaimed, and so the opera features Saint Therese and Saint Ignatius and a number of lesser saints doing . . . well, nothing. They talk about themselves and whether it is better to be seated and not surrounded, and they ask thought-provoking questions. How many saints can stand around? Does St. Therese want to be neglectful of hyacinths? Small talk is repeated and conclusions reached ("It is very easy to love alone") or not ("The envelopes are on all the fruit trees").

The National Theatre of the Deaf (composed of fourteen actors, three of

whom recite and sing the lines simultaneously with the sign language) is itself freed from the strictures of traditional theatrical expression and thus ideally suited to this sort of playful verbiage. Not only does the combination of spoken and sign language bring a rich variety of associations to each line, but it encourages the colorful, often dazzling kind of staging director Hays has imaginatively cooked up.

At times the correlation between the text and the action is simple and literal — a scene about sitting, standing, and surrounding takes place at a picnic, and the section beginning "St. Therese could be photographed" leads into a series of comic tableaux as St. Therese is tossed around and framed in different poses. At other times the literal meaning seems to get lost — somehow we have arrived at a funeral, with two saints bearing a coffin while

the others appear piggy-back in long mourning gowns and veils. But soon it all falls back into place — the mourners are gesturing the rhythmic nonsense lines in unison with outstretched hands ("in said led wed dead wed dead"), and suddenly they begin slapping hands and playing patty cake: it's all a game! And shortly, during the lines "across crept a cross crept crept . . .," a hand from the coffin (the crypt) sneaks out to join in in sign language. It's hard to describe in words how marvelously the actors' facility of physical expression enhanced the hypnotic rhythm of the language and illuminated the sometimes-difficult passages of repetition, but suffice it to say that the NTD's novel approach creates an almost perfect realization of "Four Saints in Three Acts."

The obvious limitation to the NTD's production concerns Thomson's music. Although the three hearing actors sang many of the passages as solos, duets, or trios, the choral effect required was never achieved; the closest approximation was a single voice and a chorus of flying hands. But even though the musical values were missed, the rhythm of the piece (accompanied by percussion, accordion, and organ) remained, and sheer physical energy made up for much that was lost. The set, featuring a group of Rousseau screens, provided an additional visual delight, and at times the acrobatics and stylized body-stocking costumes projected an unexpected androgynous sexuality.

It is always a surprise to find how funny Gertrude Stein can be, and the whimsical, almost slapstick staging here appropriately reflected the comedy. Even the cast list in the program offered its own sort of humor by listing such characters as "Big Saint with Handlebar Moustache" and "First Saint to Stand on Saint Ignatius." As Virgil Thomson said after giving his blessing to the NTD's production, "Gertrude would have loved it!"

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# First Love

By C.R.C.

It seems strange to write about first love at twenty-seven. I mean, weren't we supposed to have gone through that a long time ago? Crushes, puppy-love, summer romances, and all those other flings of youth? After all, it isn't like I just came out or anything. I've been out since I was fourteen, for Chrissake, and I *did* go through all that. But it wasn't love. Not really. I had to live twenty-seven years before I even had a glimpse of what love is, and even then it sneaked in the back door.

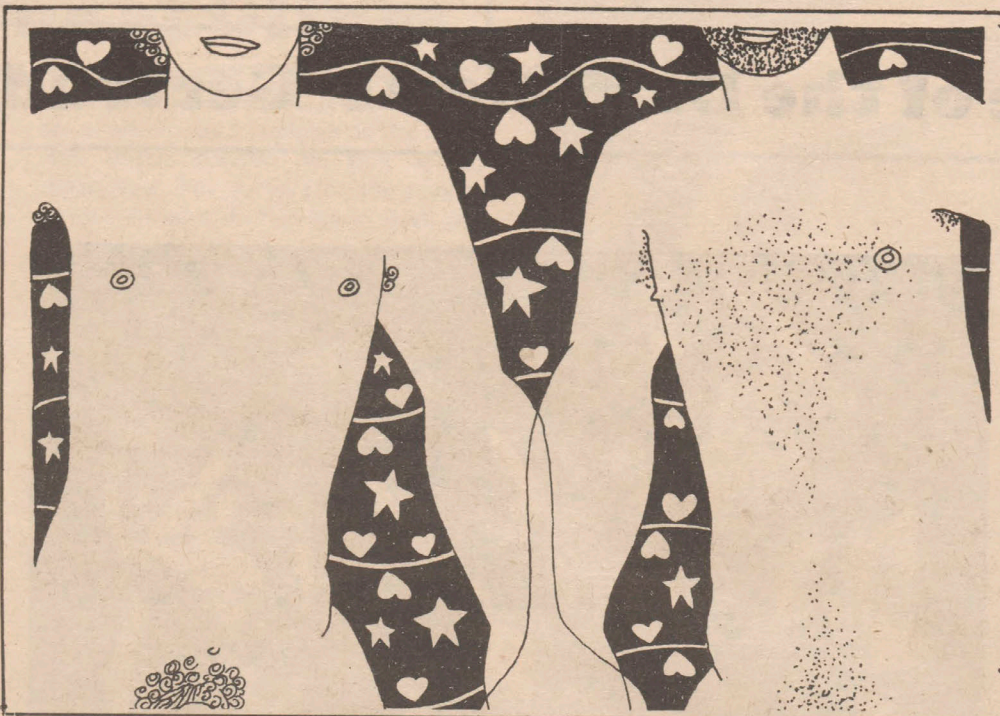
He bought me a beer almost two years ago, in a bar with disco music and a mirrored ball. I went there for some refuge, I suppose — I don't expect to find love in those places. Yet sometimes it's all we've got. And if the right two people just happen to seek refuge on the same night in the same place, and one buys the other a beer . . . well, why not?

But I fought it. He'd call me up and invite me to dinner, to the movies, or out dancing. Other times we just went someplace quiet where we could talk. He did a lot of crazy things, I thought — like appearing on my doorstep at three in the morning, a tomcat dressed to the hilt and slightly drunk. I let him in, of course. We saw a lot of each other then, but I fought it.

*I'm not ready for this,* I said.

*My life is too unstable right now,* I said.

I said anything but *I Love You*. And the more I wanted to reach out for



him, the more I pushed him away.

A year ago he went up north. It was the only place he could find a job, but it wasn't all that far. He came back every weekend to spend it with me. *Yet at least I have my freedom back*, I told myself. Freedom to go out to the clubs during the week and stand in corners. Freedom to sleep with whomever, whenever I wanted. Freedom to walk home at four in the morning with an indefinable hunger in my soul. Yes, it's nice to be free.

It was during those months of weekend romance that something began to happen. Slowly at first, like the tentative leaves of spring outside my window, I was opening myself up to him. And he to me. We'd lie in bed on those long winter nights and talk in the dark about our lives, our plans,

ourselves, and each other. I'd watch him as he slept, wondering if he did the same when I was unaware.

Then last summer he told me his work would take him away again. Farther this time — so far we wouldn't see each other for awhile. With my usual stoic aplomb, I said good-bye. He said good-bye. I promised to write.

So much has become clearer to me since then. It's like I had to have the rug pulled out from under my feet before I knew where the floor was. I carried on for a month or so, with a nameless, empty feeling floating around in my gut, before I realized that I'd lost something vital. How could I miss him so much? We'd never really been lovers, sharing a house, going on vacations, pledging fidelity and all that. Hadn't we just been very close

friends?

Sitting alone beside the river one evening late last August, I watched a few yellow-burnt leaves tumble to the ground. And it hit me. Love is so simple, yet because of that it escaped me so easily. When I searched for it, I couldn't find it. When I grasped at it, I lost it. But when I let it come — with no thought of holding on or making it something it wasn't — I possessed it fully. Or, more truthfully, it possessed me. I love him, because love is the recognition that he and I are One. When all the masks were lifted, and all pretense fell away, two human beings were left naked and vulnerable, who said to each other, *I am you, and you are me — and we are It*. This, I saw, was the foundation of all love.

I don't know when it happened to us, but it did. Not with our bodies, nor with our words, but with our minds we came together. One brief moment was enough.

He came home again for Christmas. We talked about it one night in a dim, cozy pub over a couple of beers. We exchanged a lot of feelings in those few hours, speculating on the future, knowing that we would never spend it together. We share a common root, but like the branches of a tree, we're growing apart. That's okay. I saw him once for who he really is, and I'll never lose that no matter how many miles or years come between.

He's gone now, and I'll see him God-knows-when. It's sad, of course — growing always hurts a little. It always means leaving something of yourself behind. But I consider myself lucky. Here I sit on the eve of my twenty-seventh birthday, and I can say — *I've been in love*.

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## people, places and flings



Toe-tapping in Central Park, from Vincente Minnelli's "Bandwagon" showing the 15th at the Welles.

By David Holland

Your moderator of townie-tidbits (see name above) is on his way to the surf-side never-never land of the Florida coast. Part of the purpose of said trip is to bring back the wheres and whats of the winter vacationland, especially now that Greyhound Bus

Lines is offering a one-time-only point-to-point excursion fare anywhere in the U.S. for about \$50. The other purpose has nothing, whatsoever, to do with the acquisition of a tan. . . . It's well known that critics are quick to bite and equally quick to lay their theatrical dis-

coveries on reading audiences. But there is one local production that reviews have had no ill-effect on. "P.S. Your Cat Is Dead" has been selling out every night. In some senses it's nice to see an audience that doesn't perceive the critic as god (unlike some critics—themselves). So, if popular appeal says something to you, go see the current **Boston Rep Production**, "Cat," at One Boylston Place, extended to March 20. . . . Well-known Director (with equally well-known family ties) **Vincente Minnelli** will be in town to help launch the **M.G.M. Retrospective** at the **Orson Welles** in Cambridge. He will appear the 14th at

the **Back Bay Screening Room** when they will show "Meet Me in St. Louis," and the 15th at the **Welles** with "Bandwagon." Yes, you in the fifth row, do you have a question for Mr. Minnelli? . . . I attended the **Next Move Revue** at their glorious new theater at the **Institute of Contemporary Art**. It's certainly one of the most striking small rep theaters to hit town since the **Boston Rep**. Their revue and especially **Lanie Zera** are delightful as ever. If this is the product of a labor dispute it seems it was well worth the fight. Eyes and ears open! **Emma** will premiere soon. . . . **Gabrunde Monfield**, whose photographs have appeared in **GCN** before, is having an exhibit at **Colortek**, 330 Newbury St., Boston, until Feb. 28th. "Cassandra" is a photography exhibit. . . . The **Charles St. Gallery**, 100 Charles St., presents an exhibition, **Erotica**, opening Feb. 18 through March. Need I describe the prints, sculptures, and fantasy abstractions? . . . With the excitement of last week's news of the **Conn. G.T.F. Conference** I described about three different popular bars in one lump sum. Actually it was **Partners** who hosted most of the events in their tri-level spot, which includes a women's bar and a third floor disco. . . . At spots around town, **Donna Price** was a smash at her opening at the **Powderhorn**. Skip's place is certainly becoming much more than simply another place to drink. Don't forget to catch Donna at our first **benefit** of the season at the **Eagle's Nest**. More about that later. . . . Nowhere has there been a better buffet than at **Somewhere**. Their Sunday noon feasts have been drawing in the hungry, sacred-day crowds. . . . **The Rainbow Room**, all a-glitter in the Fenway, is busily preparing for their **Valentine's party**. Looks like their hearts-day festival will be a sensation. The 17th of Feb. event will include prizes for the most lovable outfit. Guess I'll go *au naturel*. . . . The **David Kopay Story** will "come out" Feb. 28 from **Arbor House**. Kopay, you may remember, was the star player for the **San Francisco 49ers**, who came out publicly about a year and a half ago. It should be one of the year's non-fiction bestsellers.

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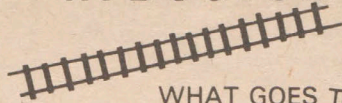
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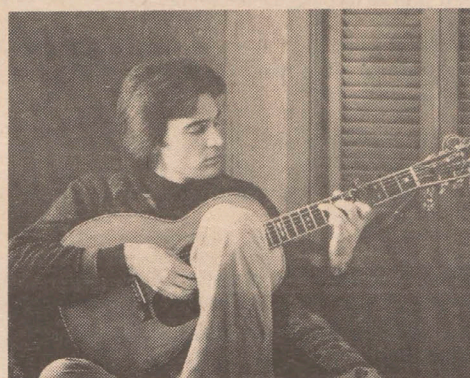


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**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WORCESTER**, church service at 6 Institute Road, 2 p.m. Sundays. Rev. Jos. H. Gilbert, pastor. 756-0730. The 3rd year begins.

**GAY LEGAL ENCOUNTER & EXCHANGE** GLEE is a legal exchange recently formed to provide free legal assistance to the gay prisoners incarcerated in all federal and state facilities. GLEE is especially geared to serve the needs and deal with the problems of the gay prisoner. Some of the services available are research, assistance with the preparation of suits and motions, filing of class action suits (especially 1983) and in some cases non-appointed court representation. For more info on these and other free services, write to: Jerry Dighera, P.O. Box 2, Lansing, Kansas 66043.

In New Jersey, the Gay Activist Alliance/Morris County meets every Monday at 8:30 P.M. using facilities of Unitarian Fellowship, Normandy Heights Rd., Morristown, N.J. Info: (201) 884-0653, 347-6234.

## NGTF NEEDS YOU

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## pen pals

I would like to write to anyone, race or religion do not matter. I am into all sports, hobbies are chess, art and music. I am 6'4", weigh 201, born May 2, astrological sign Taurus. Melvin Thomas #140-534, P.O. Box 787, Lucasville, Ohio 45648.

Black male in prison, 26, 6ft 2in., 175 lb. wishes to exchange letters with someone, please write: Louis Halthcock, #138-578, P.O. Box 787, Lucasville, Ohio 45648.

WM, 19, 5'7" 135 lbs. Been locked up most of my life but will never be again (I hope). Desire friends, correspondence. Know nothing about gay world (outside) and Federal prison won't allow any books or newspapers about it. Need help to know what to do when released. Where to find gay world, etc. Will be released July '77. Kenneth Casner, Federal Reformatory, 31930-138, Box 1500, El Reno, OK 73036.

Presently at the Sumter Correctional Institution in Bushnell, Fla., serving 5-yr. term. I am 19, 5'7", 135 lbs., blond hair, brown eyes. Looking for people in gay community to correspond with. Write: Donald Gould — A-030634, P.O. Box 667, Bushnell, Florida 33513. Dorm F-105.

I am presently incarcerated in the Florida State Prison system for 5 yrs. I am 6'2", 175 lbs. Have dark brown hair and brown eyes. I like boating, tennis and music. Write: John D. O'Neal, #051542, HZ-E-3-73, P.O. Box 340, Sharpes, Florida 32959.

I am interested in obtaining correspondents of a gay nature. 19 yrs old, blue eyes, brown hair, 170 lbs, 6 ft. tall. I am of a gentle nature. I thank you for your help. James Collins #044182, P.O. Box 747, Starke, Florida 32091.

The mind of the lonely marches on a straight line seeking love. The minds of Lovers do no march; but leap and dance, swing madly to music unheard of by others and settle upon no thought for long save the thought of each other. I am walking a straight line seeking the other, are you? If so, write me: Kenny Moffett, 012674-P-2-S-7, P.O. Box 747, Starke, Florida 32091.

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## MAN TO MAN

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## MONDAYS

10-11 am — Drinking Problem discussion group, HCHS, 80 Boylston St., Boston; (617) 542-6075  
12 noon — Northeastern Univ. GSO meeting, Ell Center, rm. 349, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston, everyone welcome.

5:30 pm — Women's Community Health Center open house, 137 Hampshire St., Cambridge

6:30-8:30 — Gay Health Services by appointment, Fenway Community Health Center, 16 Haviland St., Boston, 267-7573.

7-9 pm — Yggdrasil Gay Gathering at Yggdrasil, 15 Gilbert Rd., Storrs, CT, 203-486-4737

7-10 pm — UMass Gay Women's Caucus Hotline, 545-3438

7 pm — Parents of Gays, HCHS, 80 Boylston St., Boston; (617) 542-6075

7-9 pm — Univ. of Vermont Gay Switchboard, 656-4173

7-10 pm — Clark Drop-In Center, 148 Wright Hall, Clark U., Worcester, MA

7:30 pm — Bowling, 1260 Boylston St., Boston, 247-3500

7:30-9:30 pm — Drop-In Center for women, Rm. L-23, Curtis Hall, Tufts, Medford

7:30 — UMass Amherst, Bisexual Women's Rap Group, Campus Center

7:30 pm — DOB Lesbian Mothers Rap, 419 Boylston St., Boston, Rm. 323.

8 pm — Lesbian Rap and Action Group, Cambridge Women's Center basement; (617) 354-8807

8 pm — Lesbian Rap at Women's Center, 215 Park St., NH

8 pm — GPC business meeting, Columbia U., Fernald Basement, Broadway at 115th St.

8-9 pm — "None of the Above," WUWH-FM (91.3), West Hartford, CT (203) 521-4553.

8 pm — Lesbian Rap at Women's Center, 148 Orange St., New Haven, CT.

8:30 pm — Hartford Gay Alcoholics Group (203) 522-2646

8:30 pm — Gay Alliance at Yale, Open meeting, basement Hendrie Hall, 165 Elm St., New Haven; 436-8945; public welcome.

9 pm — Gay discussion group, Columbia U., Fernald Basement, Broadway at 115th St.

## TUESDAYS

1 pm — MCC Campus Ministry, RIC Student U., Rm. 312, Providence, RI

6:30-8 pm — Women's Gay Collective, Women's Center, U Conn, CT, 203-486-4738

7 pm — Pot Luck Supper, 228 1/2 Atwells Ave., Providence, RI

7:30 pm — Gay Men's Center Speakers Forum, 36 Bromfield St., Boston

7:30 pm — DOB Women's Rap, 419 Boylston St., Rm. 323, Boston

8 pm — Springfield Gay Alliance, First Unitarian Church, 245 Porter Lake Dr., Springfield

8 pm — Gay Way Radio, WBUR, 90.9 FM

8-9:30 pm — Woman plus woman rap, Women's Center, U Conn, CT, 203-486-4738



8-9:30 pm — TGC Drop-In Center for Men, Room L-23, Curtis Hall, Tufts

8:30 pm — Alcoholics Together, St. John the Evangelist Church, 33 Bowdoin St., Boston

8:30 pm — Providence Gay Group of AA, Assumption Parish Hall, 791 Potters Ave., Providence, RI; 231-5853

9:30 pm — Tufts Gay Community meeting, Laminan Lounge, East Hall, Tufts

9:30 pm — GRAC women's basketball, Lindemann Center, Hurley Bldg., Stanford St., Boston

8:30-10 pm — Drop-In Center for men, Rm. L-23, Curtis Hall, Tufts, Medford

9-12 pm — Gay Social, Columbia U., Fernald Basement, Broadway at 115th St.

10-15 pm — "Gaybreak Radio," on WMUA-FM, 91.1 mc. (1st and 3rd Wednesdays)

THURSDAYS

3:30 pm — UMass Amherst, Gay Male Rap Group, Cottage B, near Worcester Dining Common

5 pm — Brandeis Gay Alliance, Usdan Student Ctr., Conf. Rm. C, Brandeis Univ., Waltham, MA

7 pm — Gay Alcoholics, St. Vincents Hospital, Worcester, MA

7 pm — Game Night, 5 Junction St., Providence, RI, alternate weeks

7-8 pm — GRAC swimming, Lindemann Center, Hurley Bldg., Stanford St., Boston

7-10 pm — UMass Gay Women's Caucus Hotline, 545-3438

7:30 pm — Peoples Gay Alliance, UMass Amherst, 8th floor of Campus Center

7:30 pm — Gay Men's Center Gay Topics Rap, 36 Bromfield St., Boston

8 pm — Capital Dist. Gay Comm. Council, 332 Hudson Ave., Albany, NY 12210

8 pm — Dykes & Tykes, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge, MA, third floor, care for young people, 354-8807

8 pm — Lesbian Liberation meeting, Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge; 354-8807

8 pm — KALOS, Hartford, CT; 568-2656

8-9:30 pm — Gay Alliance at UConn in Commons, Rm. 312

8-9 pm — Lesbian Mother rap group, 21 Bay St., Cambridge, MA; 661-2537

8:15 pm — Drinking problems rap group, HCHS 80 Boylston St., Rm. 855, Boston

8:30 pm — Gay Women's Caucus, UMass Amherst, 8th floor of Campus Center

8:30 pm — Lesbian Alcoholics, HCHS, 80 Boylston St., Rm. 842, Boston

8:30 pm — Gay Alliance at Yale, Hendrie Hall basement, 436-8945, New Haven, CT

9 pm — Emerson Homophile Society, Rm. 24, 96 Beacon St., Boston

9:30-10:30 pm — Drop-In Center for men, Rm. L-23, Curtis Hall, Tufts, Medford

## FRIDAYS

7 pm — Alcoholics Together, Worcester, 754-7817

7:30 pm — Rap group for men and women, MGTF, 193 Middle St., Portland, ME

7:30 pm — Lesbian Feminist Workshop, 21 Bay St., Cambridge, MA, info call 783-9415

7:30 pm — Gay Get-together, downstairs room, Billings Center, U of VT, Burlington

7:30 pm — Games Night, 2 Wellington St., Worcester, MA. Alternate weeks

8 pm — "Somewhere Coffeehouse," MCC/Hartford, 11 Amity St., Hartford

8 pm — East Conn. Gay Alliance; 889-7530

8-9 pm — GRAC men's basketball, Lindemann Center, Hurley Bldg., Stanford St., Boston

8:30 pm — Alcoholics Together, Our Lady of Victory Church, Isabella St., Boston

9-12 pm — GAY coffeehouse, Hendrie Hall basement, 165 Elm St., New Haven, CT

10 pm-3 am — Worcester Hotline, 791-6562

## SUNDAYS

10:30 am — "Closet Space," WCAS-AM (740)

12-1 pm — GRAC women's swimming, Lindemann Center, Hurley Bldg., Stanford St., Boston

1-2 pm — GRAC swimming instruction, Lindemann Center, Hurley Bldg., Stanford St., Boston

2 pm — MCC/Worcester service, Central Cong. Church, 6 Institute Rd., Worcester

2-3 pm — GRAC men's swimming, Lindemann Center, Hurley Bldg., Stanford St., Boston

2:30 pm — "Gay A's" Alcoholics Rap, Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston

4-6 pm — Gay Women's Group of Providence rap (401) 831-5184

5 pm — MCC/Boston Bible study group, 131 Cambridge St.; 523-7664

5:30 pm — Exodus Mass, St. Clement's Church, 1105 Boylston St., Boston

6:30 pm — Gay Church Services, 23 Franklin St., Bangor, ME

7 pm — MCC/Albany, NY, 332 Hudson Ave. (except first Sunday of month at 6 pm)

7 pm — MCC/NY worship, 201 W. 13th St. (corner of 7th Ave.)

7 pm — MCC/Boston, worship and fellowship, Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston

7 pm — Church of the Eternal Flame Universal, 320 Farmington Ave., Apt. A-6, Hartford, CT

7-8 pm — GRAC women's basketball, Lindemann Center, Hurley Bldg., Stanford St., Boston

7:30 pm — MCC/Hartford, 11 Amity St., Hartford, CT

7:30 pm — "Come Out Tonight," radio WYBC-FM, 94.3, New Haven, CT

8-9 pm — GRAC men's basketball, Lindemann Center, Hurley Bldg., Stanford St., Boston