

calendar

may

31 tues

Allston, MA — Women's Folk Dancing, learn dancing or share knowledge, 7:30pm, Allston Congregational Church, Quint Ave., Brighton, info call Laura at 623-1462.

Cambridge, MA — Daughters of Bilitis women's discussion, 7:30pm, 1151 Mass. Ave., Old Cambridge Baptist Church.

NYC — West Side Discussion Group, autobiographer Arnie Kantrowitz talks on coming out in the media, 8pm, 37 Ninth Ave., \$2 donation, refreshments.

june

1 wed

Boston — Forum at Northeastern Univ. on Anita Bryant's anti-gay campaign by Ken Withers, 7:30 in Frost Lounge, Ell Student Center, 360 Huntington Ave.

NYC — West Side Discussion Group for women only meet at 8pm, 37 Ninth Ave. at 14th St., \$2 donation, refreshments.

2 thur

Boston — Gay Men's Center topic rap, 7:30pm, 718 Beacon St. near Kenmore Sq., info call 247-7312 Tues.-Sat. 7:30-10pm.

Boston — Older and Other Gays meet at Hill House, 74 Joy St., Beacon Hill, 7:30pm.

NYC — Benefit poetry reading for the Institute for Human Identity. Joan Larkin, Audre Lorde and Adrienne Rich will read their poetry at Ferris Booth Hall, Columbia Univ., Broadway at 116th St. Donation \$3, info call (212) 799-9432.

3 fri

Boston — Am Tikva, gay Jewish group, meets at 35 Worcester Sq., service 7:45, discussion follows.

NYC — The Association of Gay Social Workers present Conference of Lesbian and Gay Students and Educators in School of Social Work at Hunter College. Friday: 8-11pm, welcome party, Faculty Dining Rm., Main Hunter, 695 Park Ave. at 68th St. Saturday: 10am-5pm, addresses and workshops in Main Hunter. Sunday: 10:30am-3pm, workshops and brunch. Registration \$8.50, call (212) 243-8683 or write Ron Ginsberg, Ass'n of Gay Social Workers, 345 W. 21st St., #1A, NY, NY 10011.

Providence, RI — Gay Community Services sponsor wine and cheese party, 55 Eddy St., rm 306, 7-9pm, admission \$2.

4 sat

Boston — Bay Village Street Fair, Church St. behind Statler Hilton, 11am-5pm, entertainment, refreshments and antique and craft dealers, free, rain date June 5.

Portsmouth, NH — Meeting for women first Sat. of each month, write for info: G. Ball, Box 273, RFD 1, Manchester, NH 03104.

5 sun

Cambridge, MA — Bread and Roses Restaurant and Boston Advocates for Human Rights sponsor women's dinner and concert to benefit Florida Gay Rights at 134 Hampshire St., call Bread and Roses at 354-8371 for info.

Cambridge, MA — MIT gay students meet at 5pm, rm 50-306.

Portsmouth, NH — MCC monthly service, South Church, 292 State St. (use side entrance down stairs), 7pm.

7 tues

Cambridge, MA — DOB women's discussion, 1151 Mass. Ave., Old Camb. Baptist Church, 7:30pm, refreshments.

NYC — West Side Discussion Group, 37 Ninth Ave. at 14th St., "How the Nazis Butchered Gay People" by Richard Plant, \$2 donation.

gay community news

Vol. 4, No. 49

June 4, 1977

The Gay Weekly

35¢

Matlovich: A Reluctant Hero, p. 8
Masturbation: Do It Yourself, p. 11
New York Bath Burns, p. 1

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gay community news

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June 4, 1977

Miami Referendum Rated "Toss Up"

Gays Hope for Large Turnout

MIAMI — Dade County voters go to the polls this Tuesday, June 7, to vote on the county's gay rights ordinance in a special election that is being closely watched by gay people throughout the nation. The outcome of the vote is being rated as "a tossup" by leaders of the Dade County Gay Coalition. The ordinance, which protects the rights of Dade County gays in employment, housing, and public accommodations, was passed last Jan. 18 by a 5-3 vote of the Miami Metro Commission. Since its enactment, the new law has been the target of a fierce repeal campaign, waged by singer Anita Bryant and her Save Our Children organization. The anti-gay forces garnered the necessary 10,000 signatures to force the special June 7 referendum.

Gay forces both in Miami and throughout the country have raised more than \$180,000 to finance their campaign in support of the ordinance. In addition, a large number of gay and pro-gay "outsiders" have come to Dade County to express support for gay rights. Among those who have campaigned for the ordinance are Boston lesbian Rep. Elaine Noble, San Francisco's pro-gay Sheriff Richard Hongisto, California State Rep. Willie Brown, feminist Gloria Steinem, and poet Rod McKuen. However, the Dade County Coalition emphasizes that there has not been a "heavy reliance on out-of-town personalities," and that the group's primary thrust has been to "make inroads into the civic leadership."

The Save Our Children forces have focused their campaign on charges that gay people are out to "recruit" young people. Florida Gov. Reuben Askew has come out against the ordinance as

A Dade County Chronology

December 1976 — Miami Metro Commissioner Ruth Shack introduces an ordinance protecting Dade County homosexuals from discrimination in areas of housing, employment, and public accommodations.

January 18, 1977 — The Metro Commission passes the gay rights ordinance by a 5-3 vote with one commissioner absent. Anita Bryant and Alvin Dark argue against the measure at a public hearing in a chamber packed with their supporters.

January — Anita Bryant and Coral Gables Commissioner Robert Brake form Save Our Children Inc. to oppose the ordinance and embark on a campaign to gather enough signatures to force a public referendum on the issue.

February — Save Our Children presents petitions to the County Commission with over 60,000 names on them. The necessary 10,000 names to force a referendum are certified.

March — The Miami Metro Commission votes 6-3 to hold a county-wide referendum on the gay rights ordinance.

March 15 — When opposition to holding the vote mounts after it is revealed that such a referendum would cost \$400,000, the Dade County Gay Coalition offers to finance the cost of the election.

March — Miami lawyer Ellis Rubin introduces a suit contesting the legality of the ordinance.

April 15 — Judge Sam Silver rules the ordinance constitutional.

April 19 — The Miami Metro Commission agrees to finance the referendum and sets June 7 as the date for voting.

has the Archdiocese of South Florida and a variety of church leaders.

Clint Reilly, press secretary for the Dade County Gay Coalition, told GCN that "the higher the turnout, the better our chances. There are 700,000 registered voters in Dade County and if we can get 30% of them to the polls, I'm sure we'll win. If this were a normal election year, we'd win hands down. But in this one, there are a lot of people who will come out to do their 'Christian duty.' It's a question of how committed to our cause our allies are."

Reilly asserted that television and radio coverage of the special election has been generally "fair." However he was critical of the written media, stating that both *The Miami Herald*

and the *Miami News* have been "biased against us." The *Herald*, the state's most influential newspaper, had originally supported the ordinance but later said that the expense of the referendum did not justify either the vote or the ordinance itself. The *News* editorially opposed the ordinance.

The exact wording of the June 7 referendum is as follows: "Shall Dade County Ordinance No. 77-4 which prohibits discrimination in the areas of housing, public accommodations and employment against persons based on their affectional or sexual preferences be repealed?" A "Yes" vote is a vote against gay rights while a "no" vote indicates that the voter wishes the ordinance to remain in effect.

No Back-Up for Bryant

NEW ORLEANS, LA — The executive board of the New Orleans chapter of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists has unanimously passed a motion asking its members to deny services and talents to Anita Bryant. The AFTRA chapter's board took the action to protest Bryant's stand against the gay rights referendum in Dade County, Florida. The singer and president of Save Our Children is scheduled to perform on June 17 and 18 in New Orleans.

Rod Wagner, speaking for the city's AFTRA chapter, says the motion was passed by the group after objections were raised to the scheduled Bryant appearance by a New Orleans community organization called Human Rights for Everyone. "They were afraid," said Wagner, "that her appearance could set up a climate of violence." Several older gay men have been stabbed to death in the French Quarter in the past few weeks and, reportedly, the suspect being held in the cases has said, "Jesus doesn't like gay people."

If the AFTRA members go along with the board's wishes, Anita Bryant will have to recruit musicians and backup performers from outside the New Orleans area. Wagner points out that AFTRA is not telling anyone not to be friendly to Bryant, "nor are we telling them not to go to her show."

The action taken in New Orleans is not the first evidence that the Bryant campaign against gay rights is having an effect on her career. The Singer Sewing Machine Company recently nearly withdrew its offer to her for a syndicated television show. It was only after cries of "blacklisting" by Bryant that Singer changed its mind and

(Continued on page 6)

At Least 9 Dead As New York Bathhouse Burns

NEW YORK, NY — At least 9 men were killed and 10 others were injured when a four-alarm fire destroyed the century-old Everard Baths on New York's West Side. The tragedy occurred early on the morning of May 25 and came just one week before a sprinkler system was to be connected. Police told GCN that they feared more bodies will be discovered in the charred ruins of the building at 28 W. 28th Street.

The New York City Medical Examiner's Office confirmed that popular Boston and New York disc jockey Jimmy Stuard was among the dead. Stuard had worked at Boston's 1270 and at New York's Twelve West.

Scores of men, some clad only in towels or robes, fled the three-story building while others clung to window sills awaiting rescue by the more than 200 firefighters battling the blaze. New York Mayor Abraham Beame termed the disaster a "terrible tragedy" and ordered fire marshalls to determine whether any charges should be lodged against the bath house owner.

Fire authorities in New York say the sprinkler system, which had been ordered installed in the ancient building 13 years ago, would probably have prevented the fire.

Irving Fine, the owner of the baths, had been ordered again early last year to install such a system and said that the system would have been operative by June 1.

George Ames, the manager of the Club Baths in Boston, was in the Everard at the time of the fire. He described the early morning tragedy as a "truly horrible experience" and credited the quick work of the New York City firefighters for saving as many lives as they did.

According to Boston Club Baths manager Ames, there was no panic by the customers at the Everard. If there was panic, he told GCN, "it was shown by the young employees who went hysterical." Ames was one of a score of men rescued from the burning building when a New York City Rescue Squad used a cherry picker to crash through the boarded-up windows of the second floor of the building. "The management at the Everard," added Ames, "showed no regard for the customers. They are just a bunch of straight people coining money at the expense of the gay community."

Ames described the Everard as "a pigsty — a shabby, shoddy, run-down place" that had no fire escapes and no emergency lighting system. He told

GCN that he awoke at 7 that morning to have a cigarette and thought he smelled smoke. "At about 7:10, I looked into the hallway and the corridor was a sheet of flames."

Even before the fire was finally brought under control, gays from across New York City rallied to give blood, raise funds, and attempt to identify the victims. Others expressed concern that the publicity, and the possible legal action mentioned by Mayor Beame, would force a crack-down on gay-oriented establishments in general. Some spokespersons for gay groups in New York said that the fire could be "used as a political excuse" to harass other gay baths and bars.

The Everard Baths, which had been gay for about 20 years, was one of the leading Turkish and Russian bath houses in Manhattan for decades before then. It attracted a widespread and well-to-do clientele. According to Bruce Voeller of the National Gay Task Force, the Everard was now a "shabby, dreadful place — rundown and grubby beyond words." Voeller said after a fire there five years ago there was nothing more than a "cosmetic renovation" of the Everard. The baths continued in popularity, he said, only because of its 'long tradition and

the safety of the area.

The MCC in New York City has created a fund for the burial of the unclaimed dead in the tragic fire at the Everard. The Rev. Gil Lincoln of the church says the money collected will also be used to "help the living." Donations can be sent to: MCC-Fire Fund, 201 W. 13th St., New York City 10011.

GCN Sues US Bureau of Prisons

WASHINGTON — *Gay Community News* is one of the plaintiffs in a suit filed against the U.S. Federal Bureau of Prisons Director Norman A. Carlson. The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund brought the suit in the U.S. District Court in Washington against the Bureau's decision not to allow inmates in federal prisons access to gay publications.

Joining GCN as plaintiffs are the National Gay Task Force; Calvin Leach, a prisoner in the Federal Correctional Facility at El Reno, Okla.; the publishers of *Off Our Backs*; a

(Continued on page 6)

news notes

WHITE HOUSE POLICY

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In letters to citizens writing in about the recent meeting between Carter administration aide Midge Costanza and gay spokespeople, the White House has refused to take a stand on gay civil rights. In a form letter to a correspondent who praised the meeting, Costanza wrote that she is "grateful for the support." Costanza, citing President Carter's commitment to an open and accessible administration, wrote that she "will never apologize for providing any groups, gay or otherwise," the opportunity to participate in their government.

BOSTON PRIDE

BOSTON — The Planning Committee for the 1977 Gay Pride Week held its weekly meeting Monday, May 23, at the Charles Street Meetinghouse. The schedule for various workshops, including ones on childcare, the politics of dress, young people in the gay community, was discussed. Also discussed were plans for a fund-raising dance to be held hopefully at Boston University's Sherman Union Ballroom. Policies regarding the order of march in the parade were discussed and a decision postponed until the next meeting. Any groups wishing to march as a contingent or enter vehicles in the parade should contact the parade committee through GCN. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, May 31, at 7:30 p.m. at the Charles Street Meetinghouse.

QUEBECOIS PIQUE

MONTREAL — Gay activists in the province of Quebec are becoming increasingly disappointed by the performance of the Parti Quebecois (P.Q.) in its first six months in power, according to the Association pour les Droits des Gai(e)s du Quebec (ADGQ), a Montreal group. The P.Q., under the leadership of Rene Levesque, won wide gay support during its successful election campaign last November. In contrast with the hostility of the ruling Liberal Party, officers of the separatist P.Q. had been supportive of gay rights, including the then "shadow minister" of Justice. Now, however, attempts to contact the current Justice minister regarding the addition of sexual orientation to the province's Human Rights Code have not even been acknowledged, and instead members of the government are talking about legislating against pornography, says a member of the group.

ERVIN'S LAST STAND

CLEVELAND, Ohio — Former Senator Sam Ervin, the chairperson of the Senate Watergate Committee, has voiced his opposition to gay rights. Speaking at Lakeland Community College, Ervin spoke against the Equal Rights Amendment as well. During a question and answer period, the ex-North Carolina lawmaker was asked how he felt about the rights of homosexuals. Said Ervin: "I'm unsympathetic and I don't care whether they have rights or not."

NO FISCAL CRUNCH IN BUSHES

BOSTON — Reports that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and many of its cities and towns are experiencing a financial crunch this year are apparently untrue, judging by the reports of police activity and arrests in gay male cruising areas received by GCN during the last week. Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) police continued their incursions along Revere Beach, while state and local police maintained night-long vigils at rest areas along Rtes. 3 and 495 in Chelmsford, Rte. 3 South in Weymouth, and even on Rte. 195 in Seekonk. Until the fiscal plights of these police departments worsen enough so that there is not enough money to pay these devoted public servants to stay out all night, gay men have been urged to exercise extreme caution when visiting these areas.

GAY STUDIES FOR SF SCHOOLS?

SAN FRANCISCO, CA — The San Francisco school board has approved a resolution that could add the study of gay lifestyles to the system's sex education curriculum, the Associated Press reports. The measure, which was approved by a 7-0 vote, is aimed at "eliminating stereotypes and name-calling in schools," said one board member.

The resolution, recommended by both the Human Rights Commission and the Gay Advisory Committee, provides that a committee be established to review and recommend revision in the 1968 health and family life education guide. The proposal also calls for development of curriculum and materials to reflect gay male and lesbian lifestyles as well as respect for human diversity.

ATTACK AT THE FENWAY

BOSTON — Three men — reportedly armed with chains — entered the Victory Gardens at the Fenway last Tuesday night in an effort to "get the faggots" at the gay male cruising area. Eyewitness reports state that at least one man was badly cut across the face with a chain, while several other men were robbed and beaten. No one was seriously injured.

The attackers at first took people by surprise and when they walked into a field where many gay men were gathered and shouted "should we shoot the faggots?", the frightened gay men ran away. However, one gay man walked to his car and got a baseball bat while another produced a cane and an impromptu posse was formed. The attackers then fled.

The police appeared at the scene but there were no arrests.

ASMC RUN

BOSTON — The American Social Men's Club of Boston (ASMC) has announced its in-town run, "Applause 2," to be held on June 3-5. People interested in the run may contact the ASMC at the Boston Eagle, 88 Queensberry St. On June 2 the Club will be holding its club night at the Boston Eagle.



FIGHTING THE FIRES

SAN FRANCISCO — "It doesn't make any difference to us whether a firefighter is straight or gay." With these words, San Francisco Fire Dept. Chief Andy Caspar voiced what is now the official policy of his department. Saying that he wanted the Fire Department to reflect the community, Chief Caspar added he would put an end to any harassment of gay firefighters by their co-workers. The chief, who noted that he is not sure whether there are any gay firefighters in San Francisco, says that he was unsure about whether to ask gay applicants on the upcoming Fire Dept. civil service list to identify themselves. Caspar said he definitely knew that gay people were among the current crop of applicants.

WOMEN ARTISTS

CAMBRIDGE, MA — On Sunday, June 12, Boston area women artists are being urged to attend the first meeting of the Boston-Area Women Artist Collective. Women are asked to bring a piece of their art work to the first meeting to be held at 21 Bay St., Cambridge, at 5 p.m. Those in the collective will be committed to meeting once a month, sharing individual work and creating work on a common theme.

BENEFIT BREAKS EVEN

BOSTON — Last week's dance sponsored as a joint benefit for Boston Advocates for Human Rights and Project Lambda, the youth advocacy program, only "broke even," according to BAH's Ken Withers. Although Withers praised the benefit held at the Charles Street Meetinghouse as a "moral success," he conceded that "we didn't get the turnout we'd hoped for." Jeff Morris, BAH's bookkeeper, noted that "Since the days of the Student Homophile League, I haven't seen a better organized event."

200 people attended the benefit but their \$2 donations just barely managed to cover advertising, sound equipment, and other expenses. BAH's next benefit — for women only — will be held at Bread and Roses restaurant in Cambridge on Sunday, June 5. Donna Price will sing at 6:30 and there will be a dinner, by reservation only, at 8 p.m. For reservations, women are urged to contact Bread and Roses.

FEMINISTS CONVICTED

TALLAHASSEE, FL — Feminists Ginny Cassidy, Carol Downer, Janice Cohen and Linda Curtis were convicted of criminal trespass in Tallahassee on May 21. The four had been charged for their unannounced "inspection" of the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital on March 6.

The convictions are the latest developments in the conflict between the Tallahassee women's health community and the city's medical establishment.

Judy Stein of the Women's Community Health Center, Inc., says that rulings by Judge Charles McClure during the trial illustrated "his systematic attempts to undercut the defense and direct the outcome of the trial." Stein charges that the judge severely limited the nature of admissible testimony that could be used and she added that McClure did not allow the defendants to introduce expert testimony regarding sterility in the nursery in the Tallahassee facility.

Cassidy and Downer were each sentenced to 60 days and \$1000 fine. Curtis and Cohen were each sentenced to 30 days and \$500 fine. Appeals were immediately filed with bonds set at the maximum of \$1000 per defendant.

GCN BOARD ELECTS OFFICERS

BOSTON — The newly elected Board of GCN, Inc., parent company of Gay Community News, elected its officers for the next six months at its first meeting, Tuesday night, May 24, 1977. Elected president of the corporation was Nancy Walker; Ken Russell was elected treasurer and Mark DeWolfe was elected to serve as clerk. In her first address to the Board, Walker issued a call for greater Board visibility in the community as a means of promoting the paper. Also under discussion at the meeting was the possibility of a benefit film festival to be held in the late summer. The new president also made appointments to the committees which oversee the work of the organization.

GAY MEN'S CENTRE NEWS

BOSTON — The Gay Men's Centre Library is now part of the Alternative Resource Collections "network" which offers access to a number of collections of books and periodicals not readily available in public libraries or bookstores. Headquartered at Salem State College, the network hopes "to keep going and growing" with other interesting collections coming up. At the Men's Centre, the library is in the process of reorganizing after the recent move. Several individuals and one group are interested in making donations to the collection. Anyone who would like to help the Centre with this project would be most welcome, either as a worker or as a donor. Call the Centre at 247-7312.

The Centre will also be participating in the sexuality and lifestyle survey being conducted by Karla Jay and Allen Young. The questionnaire will be available at the Centre with time, space, pen or pencil to participate in this survey which should tell us a lot about the gay community.

On the lighter side, the Centre will be sponsoring a picnic on June 19 on the Allston side of the Charles River, by the Harvard Business School. Participants are invited to bring friends and refreshments. In case of rain, refuge will be at the Men's Centre.

On Tuesday, June 14 at 8:00 p.m. the Centre will have a program on WBUR's "Gay Way" which will deal with the history of the Centre so far and with its present situation and its hopes for the future.

Washington Marchers Picket Supreme Court

By Don Barrett

WASHINGTON, DC — Shouting slogans of "Gay Rights Now," "Gay Power" and "No More Shit," approximately 300 people marched from the Department of Justice to the Supreme Court last Saturday (May 21) to demand that the Supreme Court reverse its position on gay rights. Organized by the May 21st Gay Action Coalition, its purpose was to protest the Supreme Court decision of a year

ago which upheld the state of Virginia's sodomy laws.

At the demonstration, Frank Kamenny, long-time Washington gay activist, said that he granted the government no right to intercede at any level in his sexual activity. He added that he had been keeping a record of his acts of sodomy and solicitation, which he would present to the "6 injustices" (those who upheld the Virginia law), and demand that they act on the

laws. He said that actions such as his and street demonstrations were necessary to get restitution from the courts.

Representatives of other groups spoke at the rally on the importance of such street demonstrations for demanding gay rights. Gene Shapner, of the Red Flag Union, said that he and other communists were there to protest the intrusion of the bourgeois courts into the bedroom. He added that we should maintain no illusions about support from bourgeois politicians such as Bella Abzug, Rep. Ed Koch (N.Y.), a sponsor of the national Gay Rights bill, sent a telegram to the rally stating that he would not shun the fight for the human rights of all people regardless of sexual preference.

Sunday there was a rally by the "Save Our Children from Anita Bryant" group. Bob Starkey opened the event by stating, "I'm standing here to give notice that I shall never again live a half life, I will no longer beg or even ask for the privileges that up until now have been afforded to everyone except my people." Following him, the 200 or so gay people present got up and joined arms to sing "We shall overcome," as a group of American Legion MIA/POW demonstrators looked on from in front of the White House.



Parent of gay at the Washington March.

Neither event drew as many participants as expected, and the Saturday march had a strong socialist presence that irritated some participants. The low attendance on both days was attributed to a lack of interest by many gay groups in working on either event. Both events drew attention from the many tourists in the area and local media coverage was reportedly good, despite the low attendance.



ANNIVERSARY OF SODOMY SETBACK: 300 gay men and lesbians picket the Supreme Court to protest last year's decision that upheld the rights of states to outlaw private, consenting sexual activity.

Matlovich, Noble, Frank Urge Miami Support

By Bill Callahan

The Boston Advocates for Human Rights (BAHR) held a press conference Friday, May 20, at the Boston State House to support the passage of the gay rights referendum in Dade County, Florida. Making statements for BAHR were ex-Air Force Sgt. Leonard Matlovich, Rev. Malcolm Boyd, State Reps. Elaine Noble and Barney Frank, and Arlie Scott of NOW.

Matlovich, co-chairperson of the Dade County Coalition, spoke first, saying that "(this) struggle transcends gay rights. It is a test of basic equal rights, as guaranteed in the Bill of Rights: the right of employment, the right to public housing, and so on.

"It will affect the nation. If the human rights of any group can be denied, what group will be next? Save Our Children, Inc., says anyone who violates God's laws can be denied rights. We should fear those among us who would deny human rights to anyone. Human rights are not a gift to be given or taken away."

In the question and answer period, Matlovich compared the anti-gay group to groups in the 1950s who fought civil rights for blacks. He exhibited a photograph of a '56 Buick plastered with a sign reading, "Save Our Children From the Black Plague."

The Coalition is running a professional political campaign in Dade County, according to Matlovich. Television spots on local stations are being purchased, including one with former Attorney General Ramsey Clark. Expressing optimism about the outcome of the referendum, Matlovich believes "Save Our Children is appealing to a small segment of society. We're a little more intelligent country now. This isn't 1967 or 1957."

Rep. Elaine Noble emphasized that the issue has federal as well as local implications. Citing her participation in the National Gay Task Force meeting with Presidential aide Midge Costanza, Noble read from a letter from Costanza reporting both favor-

able and unfavorable reaction to the meeting. Costanza ended her letter stating that she "will never apologize for providing any group, gay or otherwise, the opportunity to participate in government."

Noble expressed fear that the backlash would spread to other areas. "These hate groups move from cause to cause. Unfortunately many of them are in positions of power. It's frightening. If Dade County goes down, these people have said that they will move on to the big ones: New York, Massachusetts, California."

Barney Frank, in typical fashion, opened his statement declaring that "the weirdos are getting out of hand. It's time to crack down on . . . these people who have an obsession with other people's sex lives . . . Nobody's talking affirmative action (for gays), for people who want to support themselves in society."

"Because Anita Bryant disapproves

of certain people's sexual actions, which are by no stretch of anyone's imagination any of her business, they are [in her view] to be denied equal opportunity."

Malcolm Boyd, Episcopal priest and author (*Are You Running With Me, Jesus?*), spoke of religion's importance in social issues. According to Boyd, truly religious people work for "a liberated society of men and women who will not be tortured any more. (For) the people on the side of oppression and the status quo, one cannot speak of love of God without speaking of love of other people . . . We will either have a free society in the future or we will not. There are closeted gays who are afraid to take a position; they may be the worst enemy."

Arlie Scott stated the National Organization of Women (NOW) not only supported the anti-discrimination ordinance, but will actively work for the referendum's passage. "Because of

the vicious campaign of fear and hatred, this has become an issue of human rights and civil rights. This is part of a national campaign. These are the same people who opposed the ERA, the same reactionary and extremist groups who would affect other people's rights."

Later that night, BAHR held a fundraising dance/rally at the Charles Street Meetinghouse. About 200 people attended the benefit which featured Matlovich, WVBV disc jockey Ron Robin and singer-composer Donna Price. Matlovich talked about his own coming-out and involvement in the movement and urged the audience to become involved in the Dade County campaign. Afterwards he autographed BAHR T-shirts reading, "A day without human rights is like a day without sunshine," a parody of Anita Bryant's Florida Citrus Commission pitch.

BAHR's office is located at 73 Tremont Street, Room 224, in Boston.

Massachusetts Bill Up For Vote This Week

BOSTON — Gay Legislation announced last week that June 1 has been set as the date for the Massachusetts Senate to debate H.3676, a bill banning discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in public employment. The bill, which carries with it a favorable report from the Joint Committee on Public Service, is one of two gay anti-discrimination measures to be voted on in the legislature this year.

According to Gay Legislation coordinator Joe Martin, the bill's chances for passage this year are "pretty good." Martin said that the fate of this bill could be in the hands of two senators who have been vacillating on the issue for some time — Sen. Robert L. Wetmore (D-Barre) and Sen. Walter J. Boverini (D-Lynn). Martin urged all constituents of these two senators to contact them immediately,

if they have not already done so, urging a favorable vote on H.3676. Wetmore's office is located in Room 409 of the State House, and his telephone is (617) 727-1540; Boverini's is in Room 504, and his telephone is (617) 727-8762.

"If there are any constituents, especially of these two senators, who haven't made their opinions on gay rights known to them, the time to do it is now," emphasized Martin. He added that the debate may be viewed from the Senate Gallery, and that personal visits to senators — particularly Wetmore and Boverini — on the morning of the vote could be extremely effective.

H.3676 makes it unlawful to discriminate on the basis of sexual preference in public employment positions, which includes more than 135,000 state,

county and municipal positions. It would bring Massachusetts civil service regulations into line with ones adopted for nearly 3,000,000 federal employees by the U.S. Civil Service Commission in 1975.

Later this month, Martin said that H.3677 — a broader anti-discrimination measure that protects gay civil rights in all employment, housing, public accommodations, and credit — is expected to be voted upon in the House, where its chances for passage are seen as good. But, he continued, "However, if the legislators don't hear from their constituents on this issue, they won't feel obligated to vote for it. That's why we're concentrating our effort on getting everyone possible, gay or straight or otherwise, to write their legislators now."

community voice

helping anita 'sell out'

Dear Community:

I know that it has been suggested that we write to legislators rather than boycotting Florida oranges and orange juice in an effort to stop Anita Bryant.

I do want to pass along to you, however, something that a friend told us as a group of secretaries filing unfair labor practices against Northeastern University.

According to this source, Caesar Chavez's group was successful because it engaged in a secondary boycott. Had the group chosen the appropriate, legislated channel, the Labor Board, it would have been prevented from boycotting. It is also a fact that the labor laws have been legislated on the basis of commerce *not* on the altruistic premise that an individual has a right to represent self. If we work for companies with less than x number of dollars a year, for example, we are not protected under the act.

While I wouldn't entirely negate the possibility of accomplishing something by writing to legislators, I do feel that Anita Bryant has given us *the* lead we should follow. She was (and hopefully still is) bent out of shape at the possibility of losing sponsorship.

Following her cue, we could make her eat her words and her oranges. It should be quite evident by now, after all, that Anita Bryant is unquestionably normal and, subsequently, will sell out for a buck.

In gay pride,
Janine Bernier

babs who?

To the editor:

It was with dismay and some degree of hostility that I read a puff piece promoting talented singer and performer "Babs" Cook in last week's GCN. Miss Cook's given name is Barbara — not "Babs." It is the name she has chosen to use and that choice is to be respected.

Three years ago feminists castigated the "boys" of the press for promoting "Patty" Hearst as a media figure. It would, I think, be very unusual for the press to refer to any male figure by a diminutive not of his own making.

It is a woman's prerogative to be called whatever she wishes. It is nothing less than male arrogance not to respect those wishes.

It is ironic that Michael Bronski's article in the same issue gave example after example of what happens when such familiarities are taken. Remember it's Barbara — not Babs. Familiarity breeds contempt.

Virginia Rowlands
Boston, Mass.

youth in the public eye

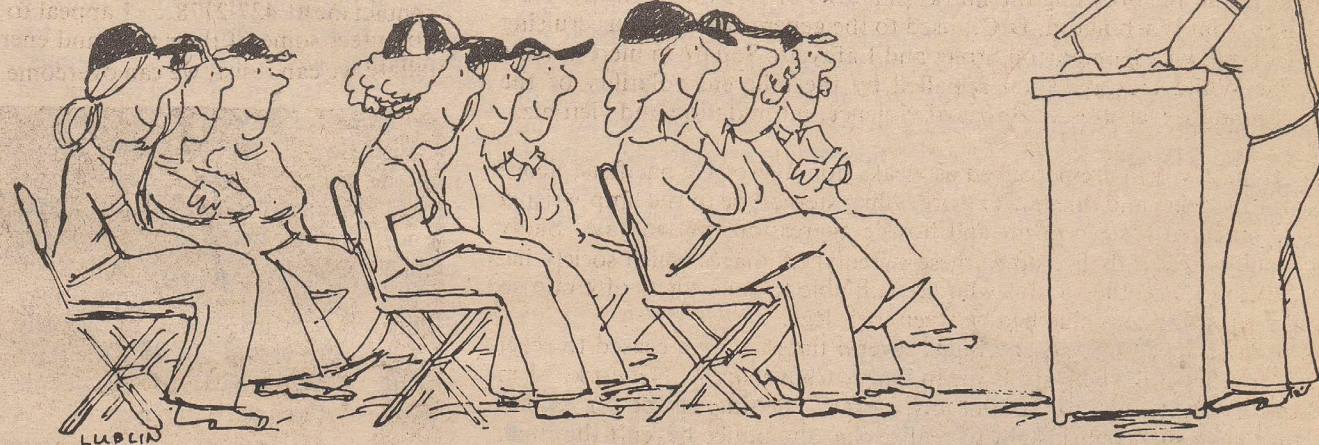
Dear GCN,

Hi! This is a letter from a New York Gay Youth (from the group of the same name). I was so glad, honored, surprised to see the article on gay youth in Boston!!!

Please keep them in the public eye. I'm sure everyone will want to see more.

More power to you!

Philip Santiago-Magetti



"... And now I'd like to introduce the woman who organized the lesbian world into two softball teams. . ."

Reprinted courtesy of Christopher Street

sensational and racy

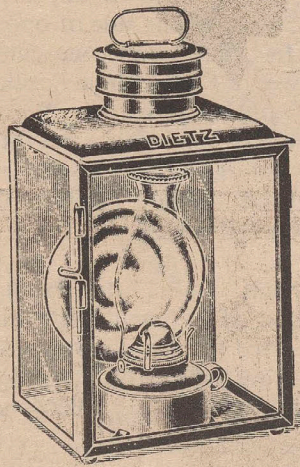
Dear GCN:

I just finished reading your excellent article on the relationship between some famous female entertainers and their gay male fans (GCN Vol. 4, No. 48). The serious, well-written article was a pleasure to read, but I do have two complaints with the editor, perhaps, and not the author. The article was entitled "Eighth Row Center: Where the Boys Are." The flip tone of the title is nowhere reflected in the thoughtful article. I found the quote on the cover even more disturbing. The impression given by the quote is of a nasty, condescending Garland; perhaps she would be presented in a tabloid, expose manner. Inside, there is a dispassionate discussion of the appeal of Garland and others, nowhere is there found a racy or sensational bit of copy.

This is not the first time I have felt the GCN covers to be misleading; is the idea of a cover to express the contents of the paper or to attract attention of a potential buyer and thus sell copies? If the editor had confidence in the sort of copy that is contained in the paper these two objectives would not as often be found in conflict; the covers should accurately represent the inside articles, not sensationalize them.

Keep up the good work,

Andy Michaels
New York, NY



cover protest

Dear GCN:

At the risk of sounding like a *bourgeois individualist* I wish to protest the use of the cover quote to promote my article in last week's GCN. I had made it clear from the beginning that I hated the quote and thought it misrepresentative in both tone and content with my piece. My objections were ignored and graphics editor Steve Blevins proceeded to go on as he pleased.

The role of an editor is to enhance and improve the quality of writing. Usually done by rewriting or deleting passages from the text it is definitely beyond his bounds to add, if only by implication, what an author has written; especially against the author's wishes.

The reason offered for this action was that the cover would sell more papers. Since GCN has not yet sunk to the level or standards of *The Enquirer* one expects that it would have a little more respect for its writers and readers.

Michael Bronski

pathetic political naivete

Dear Editor:

Sometimes when I read the things in this newspaper, I am so astounded and offended that I can barely gather my strength together to once more go through replying. However, somewhere in me is a well of hope that keeps pushing away the strengthening feelings of fright and dismay at what I read; but, really, the political naivete of this community is pathetic.

Personality is always a part of electoral politics, but let's at least be honest and be conscious of it and aware that it is happening and can be used as a tool against us. Elaine Noble is a very aggressive and powerful person who can sometimes be rude, grating, or thoughtless, because she is, also, a human being — imperfect and not faultless, just like the rest of us — and not just a symbol who has been handed to us to tear at as we please, and we tend to very easily forget that. We overlook whatever jealousies, personality differences or fears we may have and expect her to be more perfect than we are, and so we can't see the good work because we are so busy concentrating on the personality.

Anyone who thinks that Elaine is egotistical simply because she decided to stay *here* to continue to work on projects she has initiated — for fifteen to eighteen hours a day, at \$12,500, with all the hurt and shit she has to take from this community — instead of going to the glitter and excitement of a job in a presidential administration — for eight hours a day, at \$48,000 — is, in my opinion, viewing things a bit warped and has really already judged Elaine, made up their minds, and will find absolutely nothing she does or says to be right. Anyone who thinks that simply by going to Washington Elaine could have been more effective on the gay and feminist issues about which she now speaks (or any of the other issues), should study more about national politics and what it means to accept a high position within a presidential administration. Just look at the case several months ago, of the foreign service officer who spoke out apologizing for the U.S.'s involvement in South America and see how someone is treated who speaks their mind on a controversial issue, without the stamp of administration approval and party line spiel who is inside that administration. Anyone who thinks that Elaine is "back-stabbing" Barney should read the *Globe*, not just GCN, and see how he told her in front of the leadership of the House that he would never run against her. But he's human, too, and human beings change their minds when push comes to shove.

So aside from all that stupid garbage on personalities, what this community should really be doing is, either #1) considering the contest on the merits of the work that Elaine and Barney have done, by asking people at the state and city levels who are politically astute with whom the two deal every day, which one is most effective, most capable, or most hard working, etc., and, therefore, which one is best able to provide services to their constituents, or #2) stay out of a race where you aren't registered and let the constituents who are there decide on the merits, and not the personalities, name-calling, and a single issue oriented campaign that does this community no good in any way, and that is based on forgetting that good politicians can be human beings, too.

There are eighteen months to go before the election, but from the crap that is already starting to surface, it is becoming very clear that a tough, successful gay woman threatens a whole lot more than just the straight male population into venomous, close-minded attacks. If Elaine Noble loses this election, the only reaction from most of the rest of this country's gays will be utter shock and total dismay at this community's political immaturity and pettiness. The reaction from the straight community if Elaine loses will simply be what all of you good, self-destructive gays continue to ask for and deserve, either more pity or more derision.

Linda Lachman
Allston, MA

THE WINNERS

GCN wishes to congratulate John Connolly of Roxbury, Mass., Maxine Feldman of Boston, Bill Bland of New York, and Linda Guthrie of New York for correctly identifying the two women pictured on our editorial page last week. Pictured were former Rep. Bella Abzug (left) and President Carter's Assistant for Public Liaison, Midge Costanza (right). Since we received the correct identifications at about the same time, we decided to give free one-year subscriptions to GCN to all four readers.



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speaking out

Fighting Back At The Fens

By John Connolly

Last night found me prowling the murky shadows of Boston's Fenway. As a first-time visitor from Washington, D.C., used to the generally innocuous cruising grounds of Georgetown's Dumbarton Street and Lafayette Square (a mere stone's throw from the White House), I am appalled by the inherent volatility of the Fenway, the seemingly ever-present threat of violence, intimidation and victimization of gays.

All too often, gay men are perceived as weak, non-aggressive pacifists, hence ideal victims for muggers and thieves. The prevailing stereotype of the limp-wristed sissy has done much to foster violent and hostile aggression toward gays. Sadly enough, the victims frequently live up to these stereotyped images which society has so carefully nurtured, and the victims who are still able to walk away often do so with relief, like dogs with tails clutched between their legs.

Having been attacked by anti-gay thugs several times, I have ceased to react with fear and/or relief. Like Howard Beale in Paddy Chayefsky's "Network," I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take this any more! The time is ripe for retaliation. Most gays have sufficient insight to realize that the police haven't the time, energy or inclination to protect gays cruising the Fenway. They would probably rather bust us for sodomy than look out for our safety.

Last night, something beautiful happened in the wake of violence when a group of gays spontaneously organized into a patrol and went after a gang of three terrorists who had, in a relatively short period of time, managed to victimize at least six gay men. The assailants' bravado quickly vanished when they saw a group of 15 to 20 angry faggots (some armed with sticks) coming after them! They fled the park rapidly, hopefully realizing that we are *all* getting mad as hell and won't take this any more!

Patrol groups, such as the one I helped mobilize last night, are the *only* viable solution to the wide-spread problem of gay victimization. As the law of the land no longer works for us, perhaps the law of Solomon will. We must organize, we must resist, we must learn to arm and defend ourselves. We can no longer afford to allow punks and thugs to regard us as passive prey. They must learn that faggots are a force to be reckoned with, that we won't take this shit any more!

To this end, I would like to raise your militant consciousness. I urge everyone who frequents the Fenway to learn to mobilize and organize their gay brothers into groups that can retaliate quickly and efficiently. We cannot afford to stand around and chit-chat about these violent, anti-gay acts when they occur. At least six gays were the victims of punks with chains last night who attacked, aware that most faggots (unfortunately) are usually too scared to use their fists, feet and teeth.

We need to perfect guerrilla warfare tactics to meet our enemies on their own turf. To accomplish this, I urge all "victims," past, present, and potential, to contact me at 427-2778. I appeal to gays who have trained in the martial arts to volunteer some of their time and energy for a few training seminars. We can retaliate, we can resist, we can overcome.



If you're feeling weak and helpless, angry and victimized, tired of taking the shit these motherfuckers are dishing out, please step forward. We are going to do something about this and there is no better time for it than NOW!

As soon as there is sufficient response to this issue, we will organize seminars and consciousness-raising groups for helping gay people to react properly, quickly and effectively to attackers. When you become aware that hostile thugs are preying on your brothers in the Fenway, mobilize, form groups, retaliate!

I'd love to see a few of them much humiliated and learn that we really are men, that we're mad as hell and are not going to take it any more!

Perhaps after some organizing, politicizing and affirmative action is accomplished, these muggers and punks will think twice about victimizing us. Without your response, your anger, and your gay energy, we cannot make this work. If you are masochistic, ambivalent or indifferent, we don't want to hear from you. If you have some self-defense training, or would like to get some (for free), we want you to respond now. Tomorrow may be too late for you or your friends.



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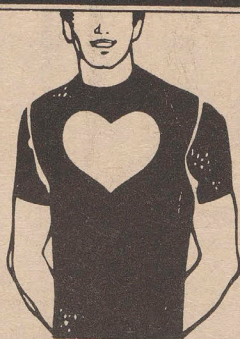
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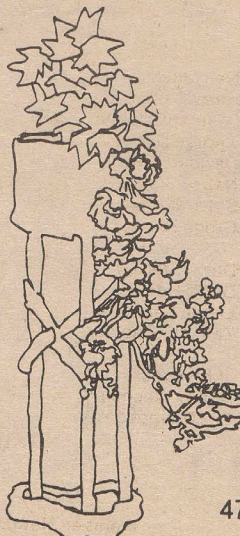


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DID YOU SEE?

The New York Times

The controversy generated by an ordinance in Dade County, Florida, that bans discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations because of "affectional or sexual preference," has touched a national nerve. As an effort to repeal the ordinance moves toward a June 7 vote, emotions are high. Supporters of repeal, including church groups, are campaigning on the slogan, "Save our children from homosexual influence"; its opponents, bringing together advocates of homosexual rights from around the country, call for justice for an oppressed minority.

Yet feelings of repugnance and hostility toward homosexuals continue

to run deep, especially among parents concerned about their children's development. Some of the fears aroused in Dade County hardly bear discussion — the fear of child molestation, for example. There is no evidence that homosexuals are more given than heterosexuals to molesting children or to any other criminal behavior. Some fears are reasonable and can be allayed without violating anyone's rights. The classroom is not a suitable place for proselytizing in favor of homosexuality or against it, and the teacher who cannot resist making propaganda on either side should be removed. Nor, obviously, is the classroom a place for the small minority who insist upon flaunting a "gay" style.

A more difficult issue concerns the teacher who is an avowed homosexual but behaves professionally in the class-

room. Is there a chance that even without overt action such a teacher would become a "role model" for some children? Will any boy or girl be led into homosexuality by the teacher's presence?

The traditional psychiatric view is that homosexuality begins in the home, in an infant's or young child's relations with its parents. Some psychiatrists add that "constitutional" or physiological factors must be taken into account. In either case, it is unlikely that a child of school age not already so inclined could be converted to homosexuality in the classroom. Whether some children might have latent propensities encouraged, even inadvertently, by a teacher they admire remains a matter of speculation.

The issue before the voters in Florida must be faced in communities

throughout the country. Society has a stake in the continuing strength of the family, and parents naturally put the health and happiness of their children before the welfare of any group. But anxiety about deviant sexual behavior often seems grounded in irrational fears — hardly good grounds for punitive measures.

The American Psychiatric Association has deplored "all public and private discrimination against homosexuals" in employment and other areas. Without convincing evidence of danger, it is unjust to ban any group of Americans from professional life or to compel individuals to dissemble if they wish to work. As long as they perform their jobs in an acceptable way, homosexuals should be permitted to teach. — From an editorial in *The New York Times*, May 24, 1977.

Lesbian Mother Wins Court Victory

DENVER, CO — A Denver lesbian mother has won custody of her seven-year-old daughter after three days of court hearings held last month. An Illinois judge awarded Ginny Yaseen custody of her daughter Rachele, despite "lesbian-baiting" by the child's father. However, the father did not directly allege in court that his ex-wife was an unfit mother because of her lesbianism.

The case began last July when Yaseen's ex-husband David filed for custody of Rachele, who had been in the legal custody of her mother for the previous four years. After the child's summer visit to her father's Illinois home, David Yaseen announced that he was not returning Rachele to her mother. The mother immediately flew to Illinois in an effort to reclaim her daughter and a series of legal battles then ensued.

David Yaseen based his petition for change of custody on allegations such as lack of Jewish religious training in the home, the "decline" of Rachele's

educational abilities after attending an alternative school in Denver, and vague allusions to the "home environment."

During the first hearing on the case, David Yaseen's lawyer questioned the mother about her lover and asked whether they shared a bedroom and double bed. A psychologist testified that the child had "sexual identity problems." Other references were made to Ginny Yaseen's lifestyle and "unusual family constellations."

After several continuances the hearings resumed in April at which time the father's lawyer again raised the lesbian issue. He questioned Ginny Yaseen about using her daughter as a "shell" to raise money and gave the judge copies of *Big Mama Rag*, *Lesbian Tide* and *Lesbian Connection*, which contained stories about the case as well as pleas for donations. The lawyer asserted that the father's side was being "discreet" but that the mother had raised the issue by making her lesbianism "national news."

On April 28, the judge issued his decision in favor of Ginny Yaseen's continued custody of her daughter. The decision skirted the issue of lesbianism and stated simply "Defend-

ant's petition for modification of custody is denied." The judge's decision is not considered to be a precedent-setting one, however.

GCN Sues US Bureau of Prisons

(Continued from page 1)

feminist monthly published in Washington, D.C.; and *Join Hands*, a gay prisoners' publication in San Francisco.

In December of 1976, Prisons Director Carlson banned from all federal prisons publications which "advocate or support homosexuality." He cited the need for the security, discipline and good order of the system since "publications which call attention or identify inmates who accept homosexuality can be

detrimental to their safety as well as the safety of others."

Anita (Continued from page 1)

agreed to hire the entertainer. Bryant's own manager, whose wife is the Miami Metro Commission member Ruth Shack who introduced the gay rights measure, has called on his client to ease up on her public stance for fear it would hurt her career. Bryant's continuing fight in Dade County has not affected her status as spokesperson for the Florida Citrus Commission.

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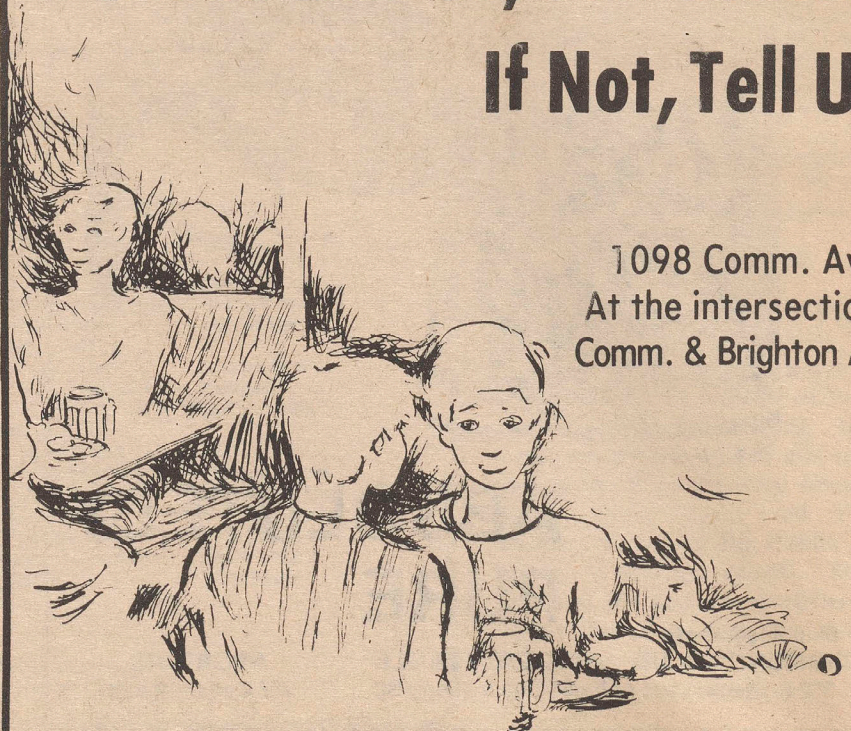


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Unity Prevails as NY Plans Parade

By Robert Chesley

NEW YORK — Plans are going along smoothly for the 1977 Christopher Street Liberation Day Parade, despite the divisions of last year. This year's themes are Unity and Gay History, and the parade will be held on Sunday, June 26, proceeding up Sixth Avenue from Christopher Street to Central Park. The rally will be held on the Great Lawn of Central Park at 79th Street.

The only trouble this year has come from an unexpected source — June 26th this year is the date of the San Juan Festival, which is also held in Central Park. The San Juan Festival is primarily for New York City's Puerto Ricans, and it is a religious festival sponsored by the Spanish Speaking Apostolate of the New York Diocese of the Catholic Church. It attracts at least 100,000 people, according to church estimates, although other estimates run as high as 250,000. The festival has a reputation among some for rowdiness and a spirit of license, although it is difficult to determine what share of anti-Puerto Rican prejudice (fairly prevalent among New York City's white population) is involved in this bad reputation. Some people are fearful that the situation of having the two events simultaneously in Central Park might cause violence.

Concern over the situation motivated the Metropolitan Community Church of New York to ask for a reconsideration of the plans for the parade and rally, changing either the date or the route. However, the MCC motion for a review of the question failed to get the necessary two-thirds vote of the committee's membership, and the plans for the

parade and rally will proceed as originally planned.

In fact, the gay and lesbian Pride Parade will skirt the San Juan Festival, and the rally will be held far from it, separated by two lakes and a large, fairly wild area. According to the police, the rowdiness associated with the San Juan Festival usually occurs in the evening, well after the end of the Gay Pride events.

Efforts to establish a liaison with the Puerto Ricans and the Roman Catholic Church have met with varying success. The San Juan Festival Committee seems to be warm and friendly, but the Archdiocese has not yet responded to several attempts of the CSLD 77 Committee to contact them.

During the same weekend there will also be the CSLD Festival in the Village, possibly operating on Saturday as well as on Sunday. The CSLD 77 Committee and the Festival Committee are printing a special magazine listing events of Gay and Lesbian Pride Week; the magazine will be distributed free of charge throughout the week at a public information booth in Sheridan Square. Advance copies of the magazine can be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: CSLD 77 Committee, 201 W. 13th St., New York City 10011.

Information on the many events being planned by Lesbian-Feminist Liberation can be obtained by writing: LFL, Women's Center, 243 W. 20th St., New York City 10011.

Parade marshalls are needed by the CSLD Committee. Training for marshalls will be held every Saturday (except Memorial Day weekend) at 3:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church at 201 W. 13th St. Call (212) 222-8831 for information.



Photo by Angela Russo

GBA meeting: Jack Rubin (center) Linda Carford (right) Robin McCormick

Large Turnout for Business Meet

BOSTON — More than 70 people, most of them involved in gay-owned, gay-managed, or gay-oriented businesses in the Boston area, attended a meeting of the Gay Business Association last Monday night. The meeting, which featured a spaghetti dinner and was held at the gay disco Somewhere, was the first open event held by the Boston group.

At the meeting, Rep. Barney Frank praised the emergence of the GBA as "an indispensable part of the multiplicity of struggle" and noted its "stereotype destroying impact." Frank observed that the business community is the most powerful force in the state of Massachusetts and asserted that many businesspeople were opposed to gay rights. He saw the role of the Gay Business Association in such a situa-

tion of business primacy as "essential."

Utica Club Beer salesperson Alvin Stahl gained some of the loudest applause of the evening when he told the group, "Gay business is damn good business and there is no reason we can't get a part of that action." Stahl described Utica Club, which advertises in GCN and *Esplanade*, as a "small brewery, a minority brewery," and said that the company was targeting the gay and environmental markets.

Also speaking were Eliot Stone of the Consumer Credit Association, Joe Martin of Gay Legislation, and Ken Withers of Boston Advocates for Human Rights (BAHR).

Linda Carford, GBA board member, chaired the meeting, assisted by GBA Board chairperson Frank Tanzer.

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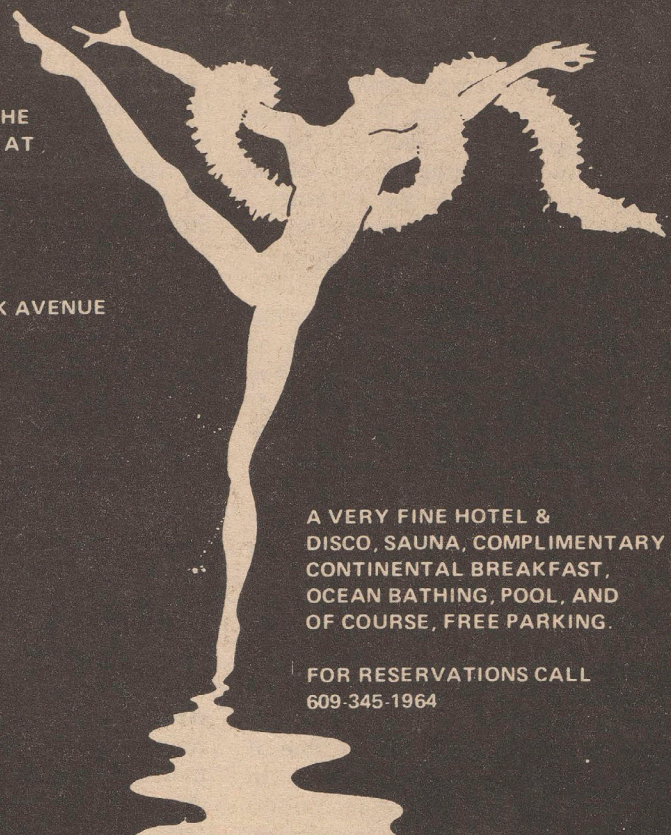
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MATLOVICH ON MATLOVICH

By Jim Marko

Leonard Matlovich is the public spokesperson for the Dade County Coalition in its fight against Anita Bryant's Save Our Children campaign. Of the group of gay rights activists who travel around the country to appear at rallies and gain support for the Coalition, Matlovich is the one who is the most well-known. Former Air Force Technical Sergeant Leonard Matlovich was the first openly gay person to appear on the cover of *Time* and the first gay serviceperson to challenge this country's rules against gays in the military. He became an instant celebrity in this day and age of instant everything, and his celebrity status is still continuing. This fall, NBC will air the Matlovich story in a made-for-television movie, and Brad Dorff (an Oscar nominee for his role in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*) will portray Matlovich.

It was the Matlovich face, with its military bearing, that looked out at us from newsstands across the country. "We finally made the cover of *Time*," was an oft-voiced phrase. If nothing else, that story legitimized, for many people, the gay rights struggle. But what did this magazine cover appearance do to Leonard Matlovich, who

became the most visible gay person in America?

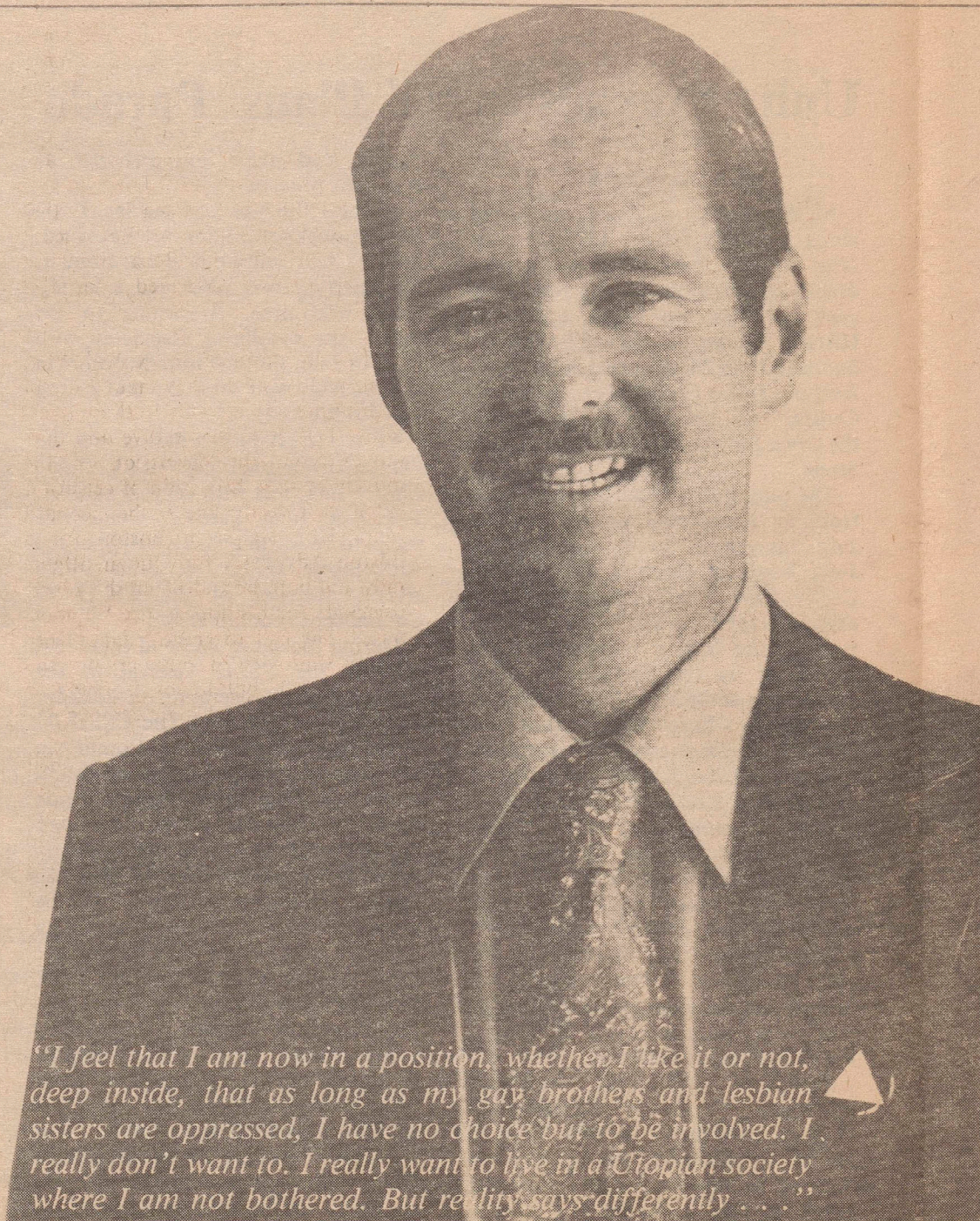
"I had no reaction to the *Time* cover," says Matlovich as our interview begins on a warm Friday morning in Boston. No reaction? It seems so upon meeting the man. He is a quiet, gentle person who is open and upfront, and yet I soon feel that he would rather be someplace else.

Leonard Matlovich does not view himself as an "idol or role model" as a result of the *Time* cover. In fact, he doesn't, surprisingly enough, think of himself as a spokesperson for the gay rights movement. "I never have considered myself a spokesperson," he says. "I was simply doing my thing and what happened, happened." Matlovich recognizes now that he is, at the least, a representative of the Dade County Coalition, but throughout our rambling talk, he hesitates when the question of whether he is a spokesperson for gay rights comes up. "I am a spokesperson by default, not by desire," he says with a quick smile at my apparently noticeable and growing incredulity.

"Would you rather just be sitting home, taking it easy and not be doing this?"

"Absolutely."

"I get the feeling that you would



"I feel that I am now in a position, whether I like it or not, deep inside, that as long as my gay brothers and lesbian sisters are oppressed, I have no choice but to be involved. I really don't want to. I really want to live in a Utopian society where I am not bothered. But reality says differently . . ."

3 NOVELS FROM THE DARK AGES

By Robert Etherington

How far has the gay rights movement progressed since the days of the Truman-Eisenhower era? Not nearly far enough, obviously, but any student of the popular fiction of 25 years ago can't help but be struck by the ways in which gay characters have changed from dreary melancholics or sex-crazed maniacs of old to recognizable human beings. It is, I believe, valuable to occasionally look back at where we were in the last generation as reflected not in classic novels, but in ordinary popular fiction; to see how far we have come, and also if, perhaps, there is a neglected novel or two worthy of rediscovery. It is, unfortunately, a difficult search for the average reader as few ordinary novels remain in print for more than a few years. I have, however, located three novels which can tell us much about our sorry past, not only in what the authors say, but in what the critics said (or did not say). All three have a common theme: the Trials and Tribulations of discovering one is gay. Two of them, *The Fall of Valor* and *Quatrefoil*, make hilarious (or depressing) reading. The third, *Look Down in Mercy*, is more successful and might even deserve re-publication.

The Fall of Valor (1946) was Charles Jackson's second novel. His first, *The Lost Weekend*, a study of alcoholism, was enormously successful and was transferred to the screen with Ray Milland giving an Oscar-winning performance. *The Fall of Valor* enjoyed no such success, no doubt because of its controversial subject matter, that of a college professor who discovers, to his horror, that he has become infatuated with an improbably butch Marine:

In 1946, this was naughty indeed and *Catholic World* magazine, ever eager to guard the morals of the reading public, declared "... it confuses the normal and abnormal in a way that can easily do irreparable damage to sensitive minds . . . leaving personalities defenseless against notoriously destructive impulses." Why did the priests worry? Mr. Jackson's book could hardly be interpreted as an invitation to vice. Indeed, he accomplishes the considerable feat of making both homo- and heterosexuality appear unpleasant. The book might well be read in all parochial schools.

Here, then, is Mr. Jackson's hero: poor, dessicated John Grandin who is "tensely aware of some unnameable force which momentarily menaced the whole structure of his planned life." This force, no doubt, has something to do with a photograph of an anonymous Marine under his desk blotter and the fact he has taken to reading voraciously the poems of Whitman. He has also stopped sleeping with his wife and "meaningful silences" punctuate their relationship. So, away they go to an island resort off Cape Cod to salvage their marriage. There they encounter Cliff Hauman, a Marine captain with a splendid physique. "Hercules, Hector, a younger Odysseus, seen as they never were seen in the storybooks . . ." (Has any living soul looked like that?) After this meeting, "John Grandin felt himself slipping into a peculiar morass of emotion. He was unable to determine his dilemma, even to put his finger on it . . ." Very obtuse, our Mr. Grandin. But finally, much, much later, light begins to dawn. As he thinks of Hauman, he feels "a slow, rude pressure in his

loins," and discovers himself to be "the kind of man he refused to become." His wife learns of all this and leaves him. He contemplates suicide but settles for making a pass at Hauman who promptly beats him to a pulp. We leave poor Mr. Grandin face down on the floor. "He had paid for an old flaw, paid twice over, and in all justice, everything was as it should be. His sole emotion was a passionate regret that Cliff had not finished the job."

Frankly, I feel Mr. Grandin deserves what he gets, not, of course, because he is gay, but because he is such an apathetic ninny, rather like von Aschenbach in Mann's *Death in Venice* (to which *The Fall of Valor* bears considerable, and probably intentional, resemblance). The critics, however, felt that Grandin's ruin was solely the result of his "homosexual neurosis," as *The Nation* put it; and *Time* spoke of "the excruciating predicament of these people." And so, there we were in 1946.

Four years later, nothing had improved. Indeed, things grew markedly worse, for, in 1950, *Quatrefoil* by James Barr (pseudonym for James Barr Fugate) was published. It is an outrageous book, not because it is particularly unsympathetic to gays (it isn't), but because it is astonishingly badly written. Homosexuality led Mr. Barr to bring out his worst purple prose. *The New York Times* dismissed *Quatrefoil* in a single paragraph as "more contrived than convincing." It is the only review the book received. Indeed, it is very nearly the only book Mr. Barr wrote.

Quatrefoil (the word is an architectural term which bears no relation to anything in the book) concerns one Philip Froelich, a Navy Ensign and scion of a parvenu Oklahoma oil family, who is facing a court martial for having kicked his commanding officer. While awaiting trial he meets

Timothy Danelaw, a Commander, who helps Froelich win an acquittal, but for a price. "I want you, Philip. It isn't a sudden desire of no foundation, but one of swift and quiet growth. That was why I helped you when no one else would: not because I was interested in justice. I was sorry for you. But now... Philip . . . je t'adore!" Philip is mortified by this bilingual pass. "I want your friendship, your respect, but not that—" Philip's voice caught in his throat—"because it is indecent, and ugly, and diseased, and perverted." Danelaw persists. "Tonight . . . when the others are gone . . . my club . . . in town . . . you know it . . . here . . . the key." Philip thinks it over for several score pages, recognizes "one of the major decisions of his life," repairs to Danelaw's room and feels himself "being lowered into a world of incredible satisfaction."

The two lovers retire to the Froelich family manse in Oklahoma and we meet Philip's large and loathsome family. In such surroundings, Philip frets about his homosexuality. He reads obituary notices with "morbid thoughts," asks himself, "Who knows where the heart is after such lotus dwelling?" and decides, "I am mentally ill. Homosexuality and melancholia, a dangerous but usual combination." Enter Philip's sister, who knows all and understands. "I won't sacrifice you. If Tim is part of your future, you won't find me against you." Thus fortified, Tim declares to Danelaw, "Above all mankind and myself, I love you," and they retire to Canada for a honeymoon. But this is 1950 and our protagonists have sinned, so Mr. Barr must punish them. In the final chapter, Danelaw is killed in an altogether arbitrary plane crash.

During this nonsense, Mr. Barr occasionally delivers himself of a sermonette about the Perils of Inversion. "The average homosexual slides further toward degeneracy for a variety

of reasons. . . thus drops human scale. . . Barr does pompous a *Quatrefoil* disaster.

Did anything? Al *Homosexual* "passed an over at gro fiction, by made it tha both gays a bogus beli For this, if *Valor* and scurity into

The sam *Down in M* first and, s novel. (His *Search*, wa written no Orwell will which he rule in Burr almost a c deals with t ing the Jap Britons ret through ju into India. for the end whites are s everything destroyed. to the luc presided o nessed this with brutal

Against tagonist, C several crise ly captured ful of tortu to them. H a wounded A momen advance on

rather other people be interviewed about the movement."

"Well... yea..."

While I down my second cup of coffee, Lenny (as I begin to call him) drinks the milk that he had requested (he doesn't drink coffee or tea and he doesn't smoke), and he talks.

"I'm a very private person. I would like to have a lover. I am a very monogamous person who wants a close relationship with someone. To grow old together. To enjoy life together."

Taking off his suit jacket and vest, Matlovich speaks even more quietly now about having to always defend his being in the military for twelve years: "I really get upset about it sometimes." He speaks about the fear of being "discovered" while in the Air Force; how men and women would actually cry when they thought they might be "found out." He describes the night of self-realization when he found himself at the point when "my conscience would let me do nothing else, but come out publicly."

Matlovich looks up from his briefcase, full of copies of anti-gay material now circulating in Dade County. It is vicious, fear-creating material that is appearing not only through Save Our Children leaflets, but on the front pages of newspapers. "I feel that I am now in a position, whether I like it or not, deep inside," Matlovich says, "that as long as my gay brothers and lesbian sisters are oppressed, I have no choice but to be involved. I really don't want to. I really want to live in a Utopian society where I am not bothered. But reality says differently, and I'm afraid that I am in a position where I must stay involved for the rest of my life."

The interview I had set out to do is slowly turning into a pleasant morning

conversation. I wonder if he feels some inner turmoil because of his commitment to do battle and this expressed hope for his elusive Utopia. I wonder if he would rather not be at the forefront of the movement: "I never say 'oh God I don't want to do this,' but I do say, 'I'd really like to live in a society that this just doesn't happen.' But since it does, then you either do or don't get involved. I've decided to get involved."

How do conversations evolve? What turns and twists do they take? I doubt if there are any answers to those questions. Talk just does evolve and ours moves from the discussion of the movement to a discussion of celebrity. What is it really like to be Leonard Matlovich? He is in Boston for a Boston Advocates for Human Rights rally and both he and I find the advertisements for his appearance "humorous." The call to come "dance with Lenny Matlovich" is not a cry one can rally around, but Lenny is ready to dance that night if his appearance will help BARR.

So discussions do just move of their own accord from one subject to another. It is Lenny who relates a story about a man's attempt to pick him up at a Washington, D.C., gym. It's a long story that ends on a surprising note: "When he asked, 'Are you a homosexual?' I said no."

My jaw drops open and my eyes widen and my mouth falters as I try to think of something to say. He smiles through it all. I point out to Leonard Matlovich (our conversation has now quickly become the interview again) that any gay activist might and should take exception to his denying the fact that he is gay.

His smile remains, as does the quiet

look, but now there is new resolution to his voice. "I'm not living my life to make the activists happy. I'm living to please myself. I'm not going to live my life to please anybody else. I don't care if people don't like it. So what if they don't like me telling somebody that I am not gay."

I find that strange. Maybe you're just not an activist, after all."

"I don't think I've ever called myself an activist. Maybe I did."

"There are times you would deny being gay?"

"Certainly, under the proper situation."

"Leonard Matlovich is denying he is gay in certain situations?"

"Sure. It doesn't bother me. It's your hang-up if it bothers you."

Conversations change; this one stops. It does bother me. I find myself at a loss. I look at this ex-Air Force Sergeant and remember my refusal to fight in a war I considered immoral and illegal. I look at this self-declared pacifist who has told me that Gandhi is an idol, and I remember my own affection for that great man. I wonder for a moment if I should be looking for that Utopian society where this discussion would not have had to even take place. Then I remember, as Matlovich said, that there is no such place. There is work to be done. He is a spokesperson for the Dade County Coalition; I am the interviewer. We are both gay men who want to see an end to discrimination and prejudice. We both want Anita Bryant's faction to lose the June 7 referendum battle, and, as the polls taken by Louis Harris show, that will probably happen. The interview continues as will the conversation.

According to Matlovich, those Harris polls "show that those voting will vote decisively for us." Is the

Coalition optimistic about the outcome in view of those polls? "I am a pessimist," says Matlovich, "but the Coalition members are optimistic. I would rather be a pessimist and be pleased than be an optimist and be hurt."

The Dade County Coalition has garnered about \$115,000 in contributions from all over the nation, and Matlovich says that will help pay for the planned media blitz in the final weeks before the referendum.

"We're going to win," is Matlovich's contention. "We do not want to win a victory over Anita Bryant but we want to win Anita Bryant over."

I remind Lenny (yes, by now he is Lenny again; the interview is once again a conversation) that Anita herself says she loves gay people.

"Yes," he smiles, "but we just want her to be a friend, not a lover."

I like Leonard Matlovich. He is open, sincere, and free with observations and comments about himself and the movement. He did not seem intimidated by any questions and, despite his reservations about being a spokesperson, I feel secure with his speaking for the gay community.

It was Lenny Matlovich who pointed out during our long interview/conversation that sunny Friday morning that "our consciences must let us do nothing else but speak up."

Anyway, what do you say of a man who tells you: "If someone comes up to me and says, 'Are you Leonard Matlovich?' I say yes. If someone comes up to me and says, 'Hey, you look like Leonard Matlovich,' I say, yes, but he is taller and better looking than I am. I swear to God, I say that."

of reasons. He flaunts his nature, and thus drops lower and lower on the human scale." So there. No doubt Mr. Barr doesn't mean to sound so pompous and silly (who does?), but *Quatrefoil* is certainly a melodramatic disaster.

Did anyone really read such silly things? Alas, yes. John Murphy in *Homosexual Liberation* says they were "passed around secretly and pored over at great length." Such popular fiction, by feeding public ignorance, made it that much more difficult for both gays and straights to discard their bogus beliefs about homosexuality. For this, if for nothing else, *The Fall of Valor* and *Quatrefoil* deserve the obscurity into which they have fallen.

The same cannot be said of *Look Down in Mercy* (1952), Walter Baxter's first and, sadly, very nearly his only novel. (His second, *The Image and the Search*, was a disaster and he has written no others.) Fans of the great Orwell will remember *Burmese Days* in which he condemns British colonial rule in Burma. *Look Down in Mercy* is almost a companion piece, in that it deals with the collapse of that rule during the Japanese war with thousands of Britons retreating, largely on foot, through jungles and over mountains, into India. It is a fabulous metaphor for the end of European colonialism as whites are sent packing by Asiatics and everything England has built is destroyed. Baxter, as an aide-de-camp to the luckless General Slim, who presided over the British rout, witnessed this debacle and describes it with brutal realism.

Against this backdrop, the protagonist, Captain Anthony Kent, faces several crises of conscience. He is briefly captured by the Japanese and, fearful of torture, reveals British positions to them. He escapes, but leaves behind a wounded man, refusing to help him. A momentary lull in the Japanese advance on Mandalay leaves him time

to drink and drink, forgetting his men and responsibilities. In short, he degenerates. But he suddenly finds he is attracted to his batman, Private Anson. He is horrified, not merely because of his fear of homosexuality, but also because Anson is so much lower in rank. (Sodomy with another officer is bad enough, but with a common soldier!) Despite his horror, he sleeps with Anson while drowning his guilt in gin.

The great "walk" into India now begins and it is here that Baxter raises the novel above the ordinary. Indeed, one critic declared that Kent's ordeal, as he plods on mile after mile, ranks with "the best of Jack London." The faithful Anson (who, alas, remains a bit of a cipher as a character) sustains Kent, now afflicted with jaundice, and each painful step makes them more utterly dependent on each other. Gone is Kent's guilt about his affair with Anson. They become merely two exhausted and terrified human beings clinging desperately to each other for survival. It is great stuff.

Look Down in Mercy was widely and enthusiastically reviewed (excepting, as always, *Catholic World*, which condemned it for its "brutality and lust"), but, interestingly, all critics missed its central point: Kent's initial collapse under fire is more than balanced by the fabulous courage with which he makes the "walk" into India, a feat made possible only by his love for and dependence on Anson. *Saturday Review* chided Kent for his lack of "self-denial" and *Time* considered Kent's affair with Anson but one more element in his decay rather than his salvation. The novel, which is hardly homophobic, was thought to be so by critics who were. Modern readers, presumably, will know better. For this reason, *Look Down in Mercy*, virtually alone among all the gay novels of the Dark Ages, perhaps deserves re-publication.



eye on the camera

"60 Minutes" of Insensitivity and Confusion

By Jim Marko

60 MINUTES is the CBS television program that is recognized as the leader in electronic journalism. It is a weekly oasis in the midst of the schlock that passes as news and information on commercial television. 60 MINUTES has given us investigations of welfare fraud in New York and phony land deals in Florida. Like them or not, Dan Rather, Morley Safer, and Mike Wallace have flown in the face of Newton Minnow's "vast wasteland" charge. 60 MINUTES, under the direction of Don Hewitt, proves that there is a message to the medium of television.

But something happened to this heralded program on Sunday night, May 15. The subject was "kiddie porn." The reporter was Mike Wallace. The place was Los Angeles. For 23 minutes (as Wallace pointed out at the beginning of the show), television's news magazine would look into one of the seamier sides of the burgeoning pornography trade in this country. You might not find the viewing of the use of children in films and magazines depicting explicit sexual activities pleasant, he said, but it was a subject that 60 MINUTES felt compelled to investigate.

For fifteen minutes or so, the viewer

watched some of what could be described as excellent undercover work by Wallace and his crew. They entered porn shops in LA with hidden cameras. They purchased films and magazines that proved to the viewer that "kiddie porn" was just that. It is pornography that shows children (ages 6 to 15, in these cases) engaging in sexual activity. We were given brief looks at the films and shown a potentially violent confrontation between Wallace and a porn shop owner who denied selling films to a 60 MINUTES staffer. The owner denied an act recorded on film itself just moments before. The point was made clear early on. Although Los Angeles had laws against the selling of pornography involving children, the business (mostly under the counter) was still booming.

It was certainly easy enough to be offended by this activity when allowed to view even portions of the films obtained by 60 MINUTES. But what

happened next, showed a startling lack of sensible journalism that could only bring cries of "foul" from the gay community.

Instead of investigating the reasons behind the trade in "kiddie porn"; instead of speaking to members of the mental health profession who could shed more light on why people buy this kind of material (other than one small segment on a doctor who uses conditioning exercises to "cure" men with this "problem"); instead of pointing out that those people who do purchase these materials are interested in seeing young children (not necessarily boys or girls . . . but children); the 60 MINUTES crew took its night-light sensitive cameras to a place known as the "meat rack" near Hollywood Boulevard in LA.

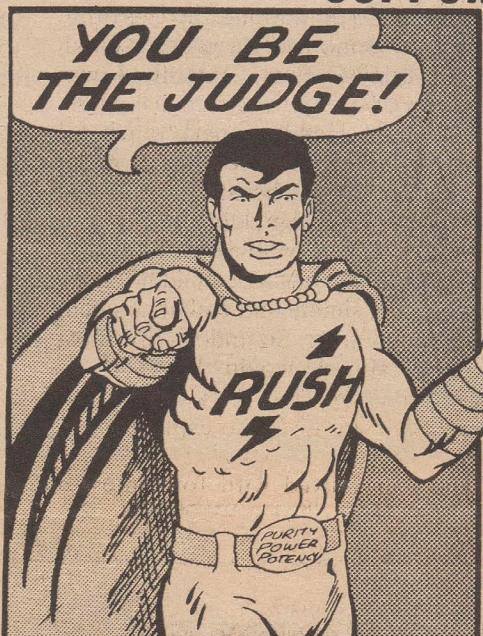
Mike Wallace, accompanied by the LAPD official in charge of the pornography unit, traveled up and down the street questioning young male

hustlers about their work. Some of these men (certainly none younger than 16) spoke about trading their sexual activity for money. Some alluded to having had their pictures taken by the men who paid for their favors. Some of these men, obviously enjoying the celebrity bestowed on them by the television crew, admitted having appeared in a porno flick or two. But the issue of "kiddie porn" was lost somewhere along the way. These street-wise hustlers had as much to do with the young boy and girl we saw in one of the purchased films as an experienced East Side hooker has to do with a young woman fresh off the bus from Iowa, who ends up the subject of some pimp's interest.

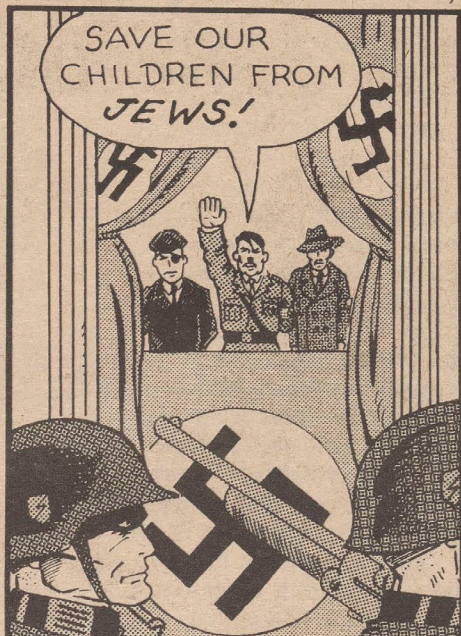
There was no way to understand the mid-way change in the report's attitude. The story of a business involving children became a not very subtle or sympathetic look at the world of the

(Continued on page 13)

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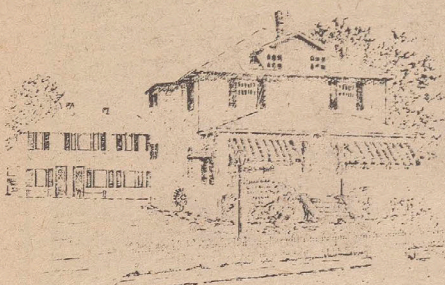
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Masturbation Comes Out of the Closet

By Tommi Avicoli

Masturbation! It was a word that carried with it a million fears and misconceptions, meant, of course, to discourage us from masturbating. And the reason we were discouraged was mainly because — despite all of the ridiculous myths we were told about warts on the face, hair falling out, or going bald — when it came down to it, enjoying sex, we were told, is wrong.

Our Judeo-Christian culture has developed a curiously funny ethic about sex in general. Seen as valid only in the context of heterosexual, procreative couplings, human sexuality has fallen victim to dictatorial ideologies, particularly those of the religious and psychiatric institutions. The Judeo-Christian tradition basically frowns upon masturbation, for obvious reasons, since it is non-procreative. Psychologists object to it "in excess," a term that is, of course, up to their discretion to define. So, having been raised in a society which views masturbation as sinful, immature, perverted and/or dangerous to one's health, it is no wonder so many gays have very real problems with it.

The myths we were told as adolescents are fine examples of the lengths people went to in order to keep us from enjoying our sexuality. According to the myths, masturbation led to blindness, baldness, insanity, and of course a severe case of acne. (The latter alone was enough to cause hysteria in any self-respecting teenager!) The perpetrators of these myths were not just little old ladies, or self-righteous fundamentalist preachers; the perpetrators were our parents, our high school hygiene and/or religion teachers, our friends, our authorities on sexuality and, of course, the good moral upright

organizations like the Knights of Columbus and the Boy Scouts. In short, the myths came from everywhere. And the myths were confined to crazy notions like baldness and blindness. Some very intelligent people developed the idea that masturbation led to an inability to develop "normal" relationships in later life, or impaired the ability to have "normal" sex. Masturbation was viewed in much the same way Communism was — as a threat to motherhood, apple pie and the American Way. (Did Superman masturbate? Of course not! Even on those cold, lonely nights at the Fortress of Solitude. Obviously he kept himself occupied reading the "Lives of the Saints.")

Sex is for pleasure. Sure it has a procreative function, but basically sex is for our enjoyment. And many times, one does not need a partner to enjoy sex. But many gay males are partner-oriented; thus the desperation when we can't find a trick for the night. Isn't it possible that had we been raised with a more positive view of masturbation, we would find it easier to go home alone?

I'm not saying that all of the horror stories about masturbation stopped anyone from doing it. It didn't stop me. Yet it left me with a guilt that took years to erase, a guilt that cut into my performance with myself. Consider that, after the first time I masturbated, I felt absolutely "dirty." I thought I was going to die, because I had damaged something inside of me. If I died, I would go straight to hell. So I confessed to a priest one Saturday afternoon in the dark confessionals of St. Monica's in South Philly. It was a frightening experience; I was terrified of what the priest would say. I was hoping Father F. would be hearing



confessions that day. He was partially deaf, and forgave anything without question. But he wasn't there, and instead I got this young priest who asked for all sorts of details (What was he doing while I was telling him those sordid details?).

I didn't tell him what I really fantasized while I masturbated, though that was his first question. I lied — I told him I was thinking of a young woman in my English class. Actually I was thinking of a boy in my English class, but I couldn't tell him that! So when I finished confession, I felt just as guilty as when I started, because now I had lied to the priest. And lying during confession makes the whole ordeal invalid. Which meant it was as if I had not gone through the shame and embarrassment of telling Father So-and-so my most intimate sin. I would have to go through an even more grueling ordeal next time — of trying to explain why I lied.

The fear I lived with for almost a year until I got my head together was

dreadful. There were those endless nights when I was convinced I was going to die, and subsequently go to hell. If you died with a mortal sin on your soul there was no hope of getting into heaven. And masturbation was the most mortal of mortal sins.

Women and Masturbation

Myths about masturbation were not confined only to men. My friend Linda remembers being told she would go insane if she masturbated. "At that time I didn't even think about masturbating," she admits. However, when she was fifteen, "then we masturbated."

I asked her if she thinks women masturbate less than men. "I believed that they didn't; until more recently I've come to believe more women do." Paula, sitting nearby, adds: "I don't think it was made that open to us. It seemed to be a thing that only men did."

"I don't think my mother ever really talked to me about it," Paula continues. "I had to get my period before she told me about it."

"See, that's another reason why you tend to think that it's more male-oriented. I think women tend to . . . it really doesn't touch them . . . unless they do it themselves privately without saying anything. They talk about men doing it all the time. You always knew; you made fun of the boys — 'there goes (so-and-so); he jerks off all the time' . . ." Paula says.

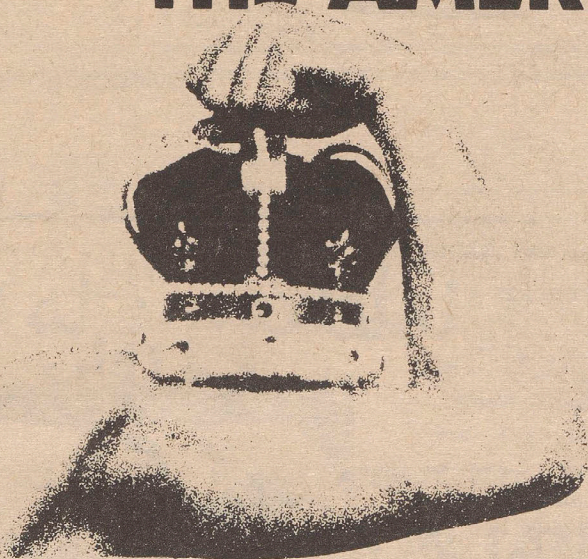
Undoing the Conditioning

It would be marvelous if we could undo the conditioning, go back to day one and start all over again. Then, when as infants we started playing with our genitals, we would not be slapped; we would not receive, as among our

(Continued on page 13)

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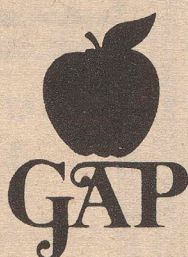


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Rialto Roundup

By Don Shewey

TELL ME A RIDDLE by Tillie Olsen. At the Caravan Theatre, Wed., Fri. and Sats.

"Tell Me a Riddle," adapted and directed by Bobbi Ausubel, is the gripping story of a woman who has been married to the same man for 47 years and finally, after devoting her life exclusively to the care of her husband and kids, wants nothing more than to be left alone to reconcile her life to the solitude of self. This theme, familiar to recent feminist literature, has rarely been presented with such raw, gut-wrenching power. The play shows Eva's withdrawal as both an act of

courage and a painful stubbornness; her husband and children smother her without meaning to and love her without receiving any reciprocation. As Eva grows older and weaker, her hearing impaired, her eyesight nearly gone, her body riddled with cancer, she begins to retreat to fantasy, reliving her days as a young Jewish girl in Russia, an outspoken political activist, long before she migrated to America and settled down to a life of self-denial.

Caravan's production has its problems, but the emotional impact is so devastating, the truth of the play so eloquently stated, that its flaws are totally immaterial. The young actors have trouble finding the qualities of

age, but Linda Donald gives a truly unforgettable performance in the leading role. Ausubel's direction and Gail van Voorhis' all-purpose set must be credited for helping to express the claustrophobia of people who have

lived together too long, the profound exploration of a 65-year-old woman, and the mourning of a family who "suffered not alone for the dying woman, but for the woman in her who never lived."

A FABLE by Jean-Claude van Itallie and Richard Peaslee. At the Proposition Wednesdays and Thursdays through June 4.

Jean-Claude van Itallie's strange, allusive script and Richard Peaslee's innovative score for the one-act musical "A Fable" meet Allen Albert's experimental staging and the Proposition's phenomenal ensemble acting to create a spectacular piece of theatre. A mixture of fairy tale, expressionistic fantasy, and existential metaphor, "A Fable" presents its story in allegorical terms, out of time sequence, with

Tarot-like characters. Its theme is a darkly philosophical one — that the individual, having no purpose in life, finds it necessary to invent one and spends his/her days on an imaginary task, pursuing an arbitrary object, fighting a nonexistent enemy. Albert's direction and Halliday Wallace's costumes are visually striking, and Peaslee's score (with its emphasis on recitative delivery, discordant harmonies, and textured polyrhythms) is as daring and successful as van Itallie's narrative. "A Fable" is theatre to be seen and savored.



"ME AND BESSIE": Somewhere between musical tribute and coy impersonation, "Me and Bessie," has just one thing going for it — Linda Hopkins — and that's all it needs. She ain't Bessie Smith, but she's a gospel-based singer/shouter with a voice as big as the sky. She doesn't talk much about Bessie's women, but who's to quibble? She'll make you laugh, bring tears to your eyes, and show you a grand old time. At the Charles Playhouse through July. —D.S.

THE SCARLET LETTER by Nathaniel Hawthorne. At the Cambridge Ensemble Thurs.-Sats.

Nathaniel Hawthorne's 1850 novel about sexual repression and social hypocrisy has been faithfully adapted by director Joann Green for the Cambridge Ensemble, but it's hard to figure out why she would bother. The production fulfills Hawthorne's story in every way — the mood is fraught with tension, the set is barren, the Old Cambridge Baptist Church seems particularly appropriate a location — but there's no apparent reason why a story as well-known as "The Scarlet Letter" should be staged as a play. Green hasn't done anything especially theatri-

cal to it, except stripped it down to a two-character tale. One conceivable advantage to seeing the play over reading the book might be the chance to witness simultaneously Hester's calm in the face of public shame and Rev. Dimmesdale's writhing in the pain of unexposed guilt. That's a rather slim reward. "The Scarlet Letter" does feature the finely-modulated performances of Tim McDonough as the tortured preacher and Tsai Chin as the ridiculed adulteress. The Cambridge Ensemble has always been an exciting, often provocative company, but this is the least impressive play I've seen there.

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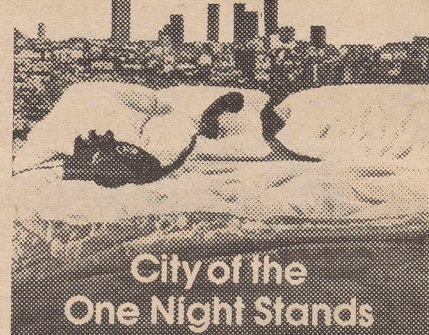


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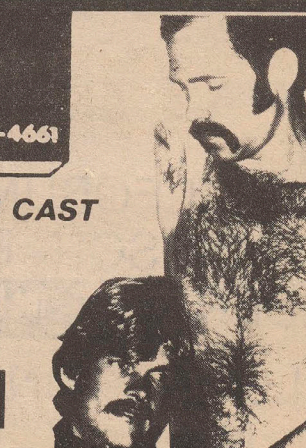
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people, places and flings

By David Holland

Obviously it has not taken long to return to the "swing" of things. It was either that or take the phone off the hook . . . My position here has taken on a new facet (kind of like another cut in the diamond). I think I'll call it: "Intra-Metro Mover of Magnanimous Manifestos." Brought down a few notches it translates to dropping off the paper around town. You can imagine, it's great fun — chatting here and there at local bistros, hearing people rant and rave the goods and bads of GCN, hearing little anecdotes at Lasker's in the South End (something about knowing some people who knew J. Garland and, yes, that quote on the cover sounded just like her!). And then there I was feigning "butchness" for a moment to fix a broken

vendor at **Somewhere** and best of all, getting caught in the Monday afternoon frivolity at the **Regency** and getting a friendly can of soda, "for the cause." I thought the cause was my thirst but I think Jimmy had much more politically astute intentions. At best, this new task should keep me a bit more "This Side of Gossip." . . . But there's not much happening this time of year. In fact, this weekend was Disaster! The slight mishap came of me being here (for a change) and everyone else in Provincetown! It seems as if it was the weekend of "split couplings." That is: the party of the first part (in many instances) was on the Cape and the party of the second part was relegated to the Esplanade. Reports have it that the party of the first part christened their innards with morsels at the

Viking Restaurant. Not a bad stop, this P'town eatery, if you like something quiet (for a breather), friendly (as ever) with good food (spelled h-o-m-e-y) . . . The trip included a stop-over at the new upstairs bar at the **A-House**. Those entering said domain are reminded, in print, that it's for "Macho Men Only." Does that imply they take a tape-measure to pectoral density? . . . And! included a similar respite at the **Crown and Anchor** (where, at their new bar, **Pier 247**, former **Chapettes** bartender **Danny**, works) . . . And sun, sun, sun at the **Boatslip**. Enough already, the car is filled with petro, I'm on my way . . . Spectacular Grand New England Premiere in Provincetown of **John ("Pink Flamingos") Waters** latest tribute to the insane, opening July 1 and 2! . . . Oh, I'll save the rest for next week. Adieu.



Moliere's *Don Juan* hits town, playing at the Boston Arts Group Theatre, June 4-26.

Masturbation

(Continued from page 11)

first learning experiences, the idea that the genitals and the ass are "dirty" and immoral.

But since we are products of a repressive society, we must deal with the result of that repression. I don't know how the majority of gays feel about masturbation, but a lot of people I've talked to don't feel it's exciting as sex with someone else. For them even mutual masturbation is inferior to, say, oral or anal sex.

"I don't feel it's (masturbation) inferior because some of the best

sexual experiences that I've had were while I was masturbating . . . You can fantasize and have a lot more of your fantasies fulfilled through masturbation," Frank contends.

Masturbation is certainly not something you do only when you can't get a partner. I find that I enjoy it even after having had sex with someone. It's a special kind of experience, one that many of us have been denied because society views any non-procreative sex as degrading.

It's time masturbation came out of the closet; out of the dark, out of the cellar!

"60 Minutes"

(Continued from page 10)

male street hustler. There was no attempt by Wallace to tie together the two seemingly divergent issues, yet there are certainly major differences between the two.

We did not find Mike Wallace seated in front of a graphic with a closing statement on this story, which is the normal pattern of events on 60 MINUTES. We were treated instead to the LAPD porno expert, camera close up on his face: "God help us if this

problem continues." Freeze frame on the concerned individual's pained expression.

One was hard-pressed to understand if the official's comment was directed at the "kiddie porn" trade or gay male hustling. Objectivity? Clear intent of purpose? Understanding of two serious problems facing young people in America? All this and more seemed to be missing from 60 MINUTES' look at the "World of Kiddie Porno."

Mike Wallace's initial warning that the report might be offensive was a more accurate remark than he seemed aware of. The "story" was offensive: offensive in subject and, more importantly, offensive for its lack of objectivity and sensitivity.

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Good looking, well-built, butch guy who doesn't want to go to a leather bar for the first time alone. Will someone take me? Don Perry, P.O. Box 1384, Portsmouth, NH 03801. (50)

SINGLE GAY MAN

Single GM desires meeting GM seriously looking for live-in lover relationship. Write J.A., Box 398, Allston, MA 02134. (50)

NOT JUST ANOTHER SEX AD

Square GWM 30 seeks friends in area between rtes 28 & 495, 90 & 95 for talk, movies, dinner, drives. No dope/pot. GCN Box 780. (50)

F 26 attractive, sensitive, would like to share good times with same. Interests include: martial arts, ethnic cooking, disco & long walks. Please write GCN Box 779. (49+)

CENTRAL/WESTERN CAPE COD

Looking for inn or guest house that welcomes quiet discreet gays. Send info: Box 159, Dover, MA 02030. (49+)

BE BORN AGAIN!!!

To a new family; centering on unisexism, transcendentalism, ethical socialism, to be the center of our life style, more than biological incidental family. All loose acquaintances. I seek such people to make this real with me as their primary commitment social-cohesive unit (and I realize the work involved). P.O. Box 111, Hopkinton, MA 01748. (50)

GWM 5'11" 180 lbs beard 40 yr prof-comfl. Lkng 4 rmmt — possbl lvr avg suburb apt Nashua NH 30/wk everything incl. Lets Enjoy. (603) 882-8732. (50)

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Boy how they both make you run.
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"Hospitality is not to lead our neighbor into a corner where there are no alternatives left, but to open a wide spectrum of options for choice and commitment." H.J.M. Nouwen. GCN Box 767. (49)

Beautiful & seductive GWM queen w/ good personality, seeks GWM butch who wants to have a close caring relationship and some sex. Please don't waste my time if you're a phony or if you're sneaky. Write GCN Box 766. (49)

GM, 31, into poetry, literature, poppers and good times, and is interested in the leather scene, would like to find someone of kindred spirit. I could not handle a lover, but would like friend/master relationship. I live in Boston. Please write to GCN Box 748. (c)

Join Dignity/New Haven for gay and concerned Catholic men and women. P.O. Box 3712, Amity Sta., New Haven, CT 06525. (49)

GAY COMMUNITY CHAPTER sponsors gay raps (men/women), Wed. eves from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Starts May 25 with Al Bouchard. Info 277-2484. (52)

ATTENTION

Anyone who has run ads in any Boston paper under "Models" or "Masseurs" and been harassed by the Boston Police should contact David Brill at the GCN office. GCN is investigating this practice. (49)

Gay female, 29, seeks young bi or gay female to help make life complete. Looks not important. Just be sincere. Kay Hudson, P.O. Box 1334, Milledgeville, Georgia 31061. (50)

If you care about gay rights, have you written to your state legislators yet to say so?

TAMMY TELL ME TRUE

If you are receiving this rag, drop me a line. I sent a sub a long time ago. Double-checked address. OK on this end. What's up???? NW (48)

Are you a gay single person looking for that someone special? Join the new gay singles rap, "MY FANTASY," Mon. eve., June 13. Call 277-2484. (51)

If you wish to respond to a box number in any of our ads, send to GCN Classifieds, Box _____, 22 Bromfield St., Boston MA 02108.

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Counseling and short-term therapy for gay individuals or couples by gay professional. 241-7378. (50)

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Serving central Conn. Individual and couple counseling. Call early a.m. or late p.m. Thelma 646-3458 or Peggy 865-0590 and 789-1463. (49)

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With racing & cruising experience will crew for congenial skipper on wknds. Prefer cruising. Also interested in sharing rentals. GCN Box 774. (50)

Hardworking college student needs summer work — will take steady or odd jobs — yardwork, painting, cleaning, moving, etc. Cliff 426-8107. NOT A SEX AD. (50)

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Let us help. 1 man + truck \$8/hr, 2 hr min. 1 woman (or man) + van also for hire. Extra hands — \$3/hr for 2 + free person. We aim to please. Barton 926-3362. (49+)

Moving and hauling — Sharon 864-4675. Truck & 1 woman \$10/hr, 2 women \$16, 3 women \$22, 4 women \$28, etc. Yes, we do refrigerators. 75¢/mi over 10. (49+)

misc

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NUDE BOYS AND MEN, all types, size and shapes. Largest selection of Gay Films in the World! Guaranteed USA delivery. Send \$2.00 for Photo illustrated catalogs. Hen van Amstel, Box 219, Vesterbrogade 208, 1800 Copenhagen V, Denmark.

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Trying to organize folk dancing for gays. If you're interested and/or know of place to have it, write me at GCN Box 778. (49+)

instruction

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An accredited one-year MA program of Goddard College accepting students for 1977-78 projects in Lesbian History, Feminist Studies, Social, Cultural & Economic issues. For catalog write or call: 186 Hampshire St., Camb MA 02139 (617) 492-0700. (49)

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30 hrs/wk, \$23.30/hr. Contact: Gay Legislation, 742-4811 (10-5) or write Gay Legislation, 73 Tremont St., Suite 224, Boston, MA 02108. (49)

Caretaker needed for large Southern Vermont house. Live rent-free in exchange for household chores, garden and grounds work, and small odd jobs. Write Littlejohn, Box 159-A, RFD #3, Brattleboro, VT 05301. (49)

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40 hrs per wk. 2:30-11, five days per wk. Must be experienced. Starting salary \$8200.00 yr. Please send resume to Steven Desinhot, Bridge Over Troubled Waters, 23 Beacon St., Boston, MA.

resorts

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for sale

Man's fur coat otter & lynx, fox collar. Custom made by Litrico of Rome. Org 2000 sell \$450 or best offer. Roger 527-6797. Newton. (49)

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Antique farm house, lake side cottages, large & small acreage. Countryside Realty, 58 Logan Ave., Orange, MA 01364. 1-544-7406. (49)

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Clean, attractive studio apt in nice bldg with great guys, in the center of town by the Pru, reasonable rent. Call Jay 267-7422. Evenings best. (5/2)

Modern 1 bdrm apt wtw 2 full bathrooms, private backyard in all gay bldg. \$165/mo. Call 269-1251. (49)

roommates

I am planning to set up a cooperatively run household in Camb. or Somerville in Sept. It is important to me to live with people I already know, so I'm trying to get in touch with possible room/housemates now. If this seems like a sensible thing to you, call Dee at 661-0772. (51) (49)

GWF wanted for lg 2 bed apt — Brookline. Great loc. near MTA. Frelpl, washer & dry. Free therm. heat, pking. 135 + sec dep. 232-8344 for July 1. (51)

Wanted — 2 lesbian-feminists to share 3 bedroom, 3rd floor of house in JP. 2 porches, sunny, trees, 1 bl fr MTA. \$63.33/mo. + util. 524-7147 in a.m. (50)

GWM seeks furnished apt/rm in Boston for the summer. Easy to please. Rent open. GCN Box 753. (c)

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has room for people interested in an all-gay, supportive environment. Call the Fort Hill Faggots for Freedom, 440-8551. 427-1893, 442-1739.

Clean, inexpensive, decent rm or an apt. handy to all, by the Pru, in house with great guys, from \$20/wk. Please call Jay 267-7422 after 6 p.m. Thanks. (49)

Gay male or female to share spacious six-room Back Bay-Copley Square apt. Available June 1-Sept. 1 with option. Call 536-4650.

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We are two faggots — creative, organic, political, vegetarian. We are open, exploring, energetic and gender-mad. Gracious living in the South End. \$90 plus. Call Joseph or Taffy 482-5995. (c)

Yng, attr, strt appr, prof man needs apt/rm in Fenway area late June to early Aug. Must have own room. Will sublet apt. G. Stanford, Box 352, New Hartford, NY 13413. (51)

penpals

We get many requests from gays in prison to put pen pal ads in for them. Limited space prevents us from printing as many of these ads as we would like to, since the prisoners do not have the funds to pay for their ads. We will print more if anyone out there is willing to contribute. For each \$3 we receive we can print one more pen pal ad. Send checks to Penpals, GCN Box 892. (c)

The following men, all at P.O. Box 221, Raiford, FL 32083, seek gay correspondents: Steve Banks-048270, S-W-U-73-104; James L. Davis-017512, S-W-U-72-119; Forest Richardson-018822, S-W-U-72-119. (45)

Lonely sincere gay person needs friends. Please write Steven W. Thomas A 026260, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091. (48)

Just came out recently. Need friends. Please write George Young Jr. 024802, Box 747, Starke, FL 32091. (48)

Getting out this Dec. Need new friends. Will answer all. Charles Stewart, 139513, Box 69, London, OH 43140. (48)

In prison past 5 yrs. No one to write me. 30, 5'8", 156, Black h, It brown eyes, black bi-sexual male. Due for release 1979, seek gay male to settle down and establish relationship with. Very, very versatile. Will answer all letters. Tony Davis 136-260, Box 787, Lucasville, OH 45648. (48)

I am collecting pics of Barbara Streisand. If you have any and are willing to send them to a prisoner who has a hard time getting them from magazines please send to William F. Smith, Box 2, #8691, Lansing, Kansas 66043. (48)

29, black male, loving and understanding needs someone who cares. Do you? Will answer all. Gerald W. Woodford 144-876, Box 787, Lucasville, OH 45648. (48)

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organizations

LUTHERANS
ALC, LCA and Mo. Uniting for justice, love, understanding in our church. Lutherans Concerned (for gay people), Box B-19114A, Los Angeles, CA 90019.

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, NJ. Info: (201) 884-0653, 347-6234.

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.

GAY NURSES' ALLIANCE
RN's, LPN's, students all welcome. A \$5 or more contribution for 1 yr membership includes newsletter. We need people to organize local chapters in most states. Box 530, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02117. GNA needs you! (49)

UCC GAY CAUCUS OF CONN.
If you are interested in information about the UCC Gay Caucus Conn Chapter, we welcome your letter. Send to: UCC, 873 W. Blvd., Apt. 102, Hartford, CT 06105. (49)

BOSTON GAY CATHOLICS
Dignity Boston sponsors EXODUS MASS, a liturgy for gay and concerned Catholics every Sunday at St. Clements, 1105 Boylston St., Boston, at 5:30 p.m. For info contact Dignity/Boston, 102 Charles St., Box 172, Boston, MA 02114 or call 739-1091. (5/35)

GAY COMMUNITY CHAPTER seeks people to help plan a Gay studies program. Meet Mon. eves in May, 8-10 p.m. For details call Jonathan Cross or Al Bouchard — 277-2484.

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.

SUPPORT LESBIAN MOTHERS
Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund, 2446 Lorentz Place, W. Seattle, WA 98109. (206) 282-5798. Membership \$5.00.

GAY ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE NJ
— Men and women — Militantly gay — militantly proud — Join us at 176 Kansas St., Hackensack, NJ, every Fri. at 9 P.M. Political action caucus Tuesdays at 8:30 P.M. (201) 343-6402.

JOIN DIGNITY
Gay and Catholic? Find out more from Dignity, a national organization of gay and concerned Catholics. Write Dignity, 755 Boylston St., Rm. 413, Boston, MA 02116.

Metropolitan Community Church of Boston, services each Sunday at 7:00 p.m. (hymn sing 6:45), 131 Cambridge St., Boston (Old West Church). Edward T. Houghton, pastor. Office 523-7664. All persons are welcome.

NGTF NEEDS YOU
Join with the largest, fastest growing gay civil rights group in the country! The National Gay Task Force works with a professional staff on media representation, national legislation, information clearinghouse, religious reforms, corporate non-discrimination statements, more! Help support our work — join now. \$15 membership (\$5 limited income) includes Newsletter. NGTF, 80 Fifth Ave., Rm. 506, New York, NY 10011.

COMING TO S.F. BAY AREA?
Stanford Gay People's Union welcomes you. Social hours, rap group, peer counseling, programs, parties. Phone (415) 497-1488; mail to Box 8265, Stanford, CA 94305.

CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING
Men, 40 and older, have problems different from young Gay Activists. Small discussion group forming NYC. Call (212) 242-8112 or write Burdick, Apt. 1C, 270 W. 25th St., NYC, NY 10001.

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MONDAYS

12 noon — Northeastern Univ. GSO meeting, Ell Center, rm. 349, 360 Hunting on 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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., Furnald Basement, Broadway at 115th St.

8-9 pm — "None of the Above," WWUH-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., Furnald Basement, Broadway at 115th St.

TUESDAYS

9 am-2:30 pm — Brown Univ. Gay Lib, 305 Faunce House, Providence, RI 863-3062

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

3:30-8 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

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

8 pm — Gay Way Radio, WBUR, 90.9 FM

7:30 pm — DOB women's rap, 1151 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA, 661-3633.

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

WEDNESDAYS

11 am — Gay discussion group at Drop-In Center of Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA; open to everyone

12:30-2 pm — UMass/Boston Gay People's Group, Bldg. 010, Rm. 4-178.

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

7 pm — Lesbian Support Group, UNH Women's Center, Durham, NH

7 pm — Liberation Rap Group; (617) 756-0730

7 pm — Framingham Unicorn Society meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday; Box 163, Framingham, MA 01701

8:30 pm — Gay-straight Rap, U Conn, Mental Health Clinic, 203-486-4705

7-9 pm — Gay social Club, Roosevelt Hall, group room, 4th floor, U of RI, Kingston, RI, info — 792-5256.

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

7-10pm — Gay Women's Collective, UConn Women's Center (203) 486-4738

7:30 pm — MCC-Extension discussion group, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH, 523-7664.

7:30 pm — Open Rap Group, 2 Wellington St., Worcester, MA

8-10 pm — Harvard-Radcliffe GSA meeting, Phillips Brooks House, 2nd floor, Harvard Yard, Cambridge, MA, 498-2111

8 pm — Discussion group for lesbians and gay men, Christ Church, 20 Carroll St., Poughkeepsie, NY

8 pm — HUM meets, Box 262, Fitchburg, MA 01420

8 pm — Yalesbians Meeting, Rm. B-8, Hendrie Hall, 165 Elm St., New Haven, CT, 436-8945.

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

9 am-2:30 pm — Brown Univ. Gay Lib, 305 Faunce House, Providence, RI 863-3062

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., Staniford 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

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; 568-2856

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 — Gay Alliance at Yale, Hendrie Hall basement, 436-8945, New Haven, CT

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

FRIDAYS

7 pm — Alcoholics Together, Worcester, 754-7817

8-11 pm — Berkshire Community Gay Coalition, Unitarian Church, Wendell Ave., Pittsfield, MA, 413-442-7033.

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

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

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

SATURDAYS

2pm — Teenage Lesbian group at Janus, 21 Bay St., Cambridge, MA. 661-2537.

8 pm-12 — Brown Univ. Gay Lib, 305 Faunce House, Providence, RI 863-3062

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

2 pm — GRAC Soccer, Hatch Shell, Esplanade, Boston, 648-2525.

SUNDAYS

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

11am — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 West 14th St., NYC

1-3 pm — GRAC swimming, Lindemann Center, Hurley Bldg., Staniford St., Boston.

2pm — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 West 14th St., NYC

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

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

2:30pm — Gay AA, 11 Amity St., Hartford CT

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

5 pm — Dignity-Integrity Mass, St. Luke's Church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St., Rochester, NY

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

7pm — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 West 14th St., NYC

7pm — MCC services, South Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH (first Sunday of month)

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., Staniford 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., Staniford St., Boston

8 pm-12 — Brown Univ. Gay Lib, 305 Faunce House, Providence, RI 863-3062