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GPU NEWS

June 1978
75¢



THE BARON

YOUR NITE CLUB / 625 EAST ST PAUL / MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

MILWAUKEE'S FINEST GAY DISCO NIGHT CLUB

Your hosts --- Bob --- Red --- Larry --- Jeff

Every Wednesday

Beer or Bust --- \$2.00

ALL BEER, WINE AND SODA YOU CAN DRINK

Friday and Saturday

Disco Mania

YOUR FAVORITE DISCO MUSIC WITH
MILWAUKEE'S FINEST DISC JOCKEYS

THE BARON PUB [downstairs] is now
open on weekends, specializing in blend-
ed and ice-cream drinks, fine wines,
liqueurs and imported beers.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Sunday, June 4:

The Baron's fabulous free buffet
Free Champagne and door prizes.

Wednesday, June 7:

G.P.U. Legal Defense Fund Benefit
Show will feature four talented acts
and a wine auction.

COMING IN JULY

SUN-DAY Summer Festival

A flea market on the Baron parking lot
with games and refreshments.
Watch for date!

Announcing-We will soon begin construction of
a new dance floor with a New York
lighting system!

Open at 9 PM nightly
30c beer on Sundays



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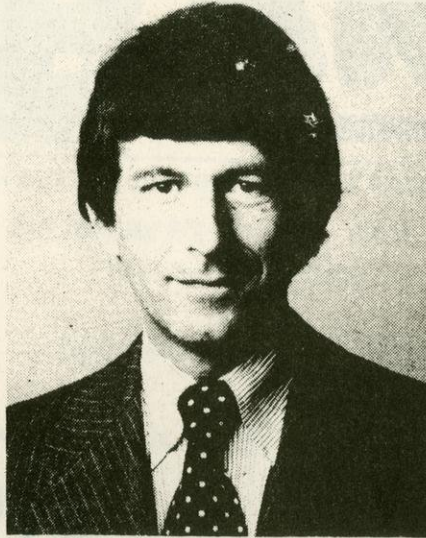
ST. PAUL & WICHITA - NAY TO GAYS

St. Paul, MN—On Tuesday, April 25, the voters of St. Paul repealed the gay rights section of St. Paul's human rights ordinance, approving the repeal initiative by a vote of 54,090 to 31,690. In the same election Tom Burke, a gay Vietnam veteran, was also defeated by a large margin in a bid for one of the seven City Council seats. An angry and hurt gay community here has vowed to "not stop fighting for our rights as human beings."

Craig Anderson, spokesperson for the St. Paul Citizens for Human Rights, added that "we are not going away. . . this is our city too. This vote has demonstrated that we must be open and honest about who we are." St. Paul Mayor George Latimer, who supported retention of the ordinance, said that he still feels that "every human being deserves equal protection under the law", and publicly requested gays who reside in the city not to leave because of the vote.

Moments after the election results were known, over a thousand supporters of gay rights marched through the streets of St. Paul. Demonstrations before and after the vote were common in many other U.S. cities. Rev. Richard Angwin, who led the anti-gay forces, appealed for the most part to fear and misunderstanding in a campaign which resembled the earlier tactics of Anita Bryant's "Save Our Children" advertisements in Dade County. Craig Anderson charged that the smear campaign was saturated with fear and misinformation, and added that "fighting against fear, . . . against hatred, well, that's a strategy that's difficult to overcome."

On Tuesday, May 9, the voters of Wichita, KS, voted to overturn their city's 8-month-old rights ordinance by a margin of 5 to 1. The final vote was 47,246 to 10,005; which represented 44% of the city's electorate, the largest turn-



Seattle Mayor Charles Royer

out for a city contest in ten years. Rev. Ron Adrian, leader of the anti-gay forces, had predicted only a repeal vote of 2 to 1; and Robert Lewis, co-director of the Sedgwick County Homophile Alliance, had hoped for as high as a 40% vote to retain the rights law. Wichita is a center of Bible-belt fundamentalism, and polls prior to the referendum indicated that there was virtually no chance for saving the ordinance. The ordinance, when approved by the City Council last September, squeaked by with a vote of 3 to 2.

Lewis commented on the results: "It shows there are a lot of bigoted people in Wichita. . . people who are willing to go to the polls and vote to discriminate." At gay rallies and demonstrations following the announcement of the referendum results, gay representatives vowed to continue to fight for "education, decency, and human rights."

Two more battles are coming up. Shortly after GPU NEWS goes to press, voters in Eugene, OR will be deciding the appeal of a similar ordinance in that city. Gay organizations are busily engaged in crash educational programs in the attempt to combat campaigns by anti-gay groups affiliated with the

Bryant organization and several fundamentalist sects. Two polls taken in mid-May gave the Eugene ordinance about an even chance for survival, though these polls did not take into account the publicity effects of the repeals in St. Paul and Wichita.

In Seattle, WA another battle has also shaped up. Two policemen here have started an organization called Save Our Moral Ethics (SOME), and are trying to get 17,600 signatures to put the initiative on the next city ballot. Representatives of Bryant's Protect America's Children organization have already visited Seattle for strategy sessions with Baptist evangelist William Chapman, one of SOME's leaders. The ordinance which they seek to overturn prohibits discrimination in housing and employment.

Seattle's gay community has organized a group called Citizens to Retain Fair Employment, whose coordinator is Charles Brydon, president of a gay business group in the city. In a recent press release, Seattle Mayor Charles Royer said in reference to the initiative efforts that he will "not tolerate anything having to do with discrimination against homosexuals." The Mayor added that equal opportunity in housing and jobs "should not be based on sexual preference."

In order for the initiative to appear on the ballot, the signatures must be collected and certified by July 24. Citizens to Retain Fair Employment has already prepared a number of legal challenges to the petitions if they are presented; and, if successful, these legal challenges would prevent the initiative from reaching the ballot. Even if the tactic is not successful, however, polls in the Seattle area have given the present rights ordinance a better than even chance of surviving the initiative vote.

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CANADA RIGHTS LAW

Ottawa, ONT—In a letter to the **National Gay Rights Coalition**, Prime Minister Elliot Trudeau has intimated that he expects the Canadian Human Rights Commission to make recommendations very shortly for further government action on gay rights in Canada. In a carefully worded letter, Trudeau stated that the "Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Department of External Affairs, and the Department of National Defense have found that homosexuals are targeted for blackmail to a greater extent than heterosexuals. . . There is no government policy, either overt or covert, to discriminate against homosexuals."

Trudeau went on to say that he and his colleagues "feel strongly that the Federal Government must make every effort to eliminate prejudiced attitudes towards homosexuals, but you will appreciate that this can be a very slow process." He declared his agreement with the present Armed Forces policy of discharging gays. In Canada these discharges do not cite reasons for the release, "in order to avoid harassment and for their own benefit."

At almost the same time as Trudeau issued his announcement, a shipment of books, records, and other materials sent by Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop (New York) to a bookstore in Edmonton, Alberta, was seized by Canadian Customs. The shipment was designated as "controversial" by the Collector of Customs in Edmonton.

Among the books seized were **Lesbian and Women's Movement**, **Homosexual: Oppression and Liberation**, and **The Joy of Lesbian Sex**. The three books are on sale already at several bookstores in Canada. Craig Rodwell, owner of Oscar Wilde, wrote a letter of protest to Barry Steers, the Consul General of the Canadian Consulate in New York.

In a letter to the Oscar Wilde

Bookstore, Rosemary Ray of Vanguard Books said that the seized material will probably be released shortly. She added that the seizure was "in keeping with the general climate in Canada as we await the decision of the **Body Politic** trial. . . so the anti-gay forces are mustering their allies."

On the issue of gay rights, Trudeau and the present Government find themselves pushed in both directions by the present Canadian scene nationally. On the one hand, the **Body Politic** trial has stirred much anti-gay sentiment in Toronto, as did the recent Canadian tour of Anita Bryant. On the other hand, the Parti Quebecois in Quebec has just passed a strong omnibus gay rights measure, whose existence partly challenges the credibility of the Ottawa Government.

SILVERSTEIN INTERVIEWS

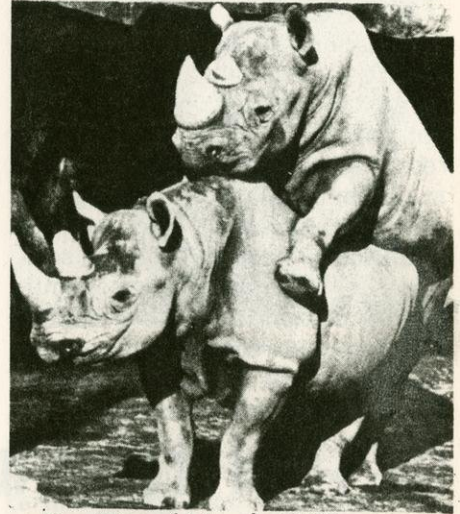
New York, NY—Dr. Charles Silverstein, author of **The Joy of Gay Sex** and **A Parents' Guide to Homosexuality** has begun interviewing gay men for a new book on gay male lovers. The book, according to the author, "will cover the history of gay relationships, the nature of gay love, and both the satisfactions and trials of male lovers."

Four special categories are emphasized for the interviews: (1) Those who have had very satisfactory or very unsatisfactory affairs, (2) Lovers who have been together more than ten years, (3) Lovers living in rural areas, and (4) Heterosexually married men with a gay lover. Confidential interviews will be held in a number of geographical areas, and Silverstein noted that men of all ages are needed to make the book comprehensive.

For further information contact Dr. Silverstein at 233 West 83rd Street, New York, NY 10024.

GAY RHINOS

Zurich, Switzerland—Earlier issues of GPU NEWS have reported homosexuality among gulls in California and geese in Canada, and now the rhinoceros has apparently decided that gay liberation should not be under-represented on the mammal's branch of the evolutionary tree.



Das Tier of March, 1978, reports that several male rhinos in German and Swiss zoos have been observed taking an inordinate interest in other members of their own sex. Two results are expected to follow soon. (1) U.S. Immigration authorities are expected to prohibit any gay rhinos from entering the U.S., or at least to deny them tourist visas. (2) An Anita Bryant organization, called "Save Our Rhinos from Sin", is being considered for Switzerland and Germany. Since psychiatric counseling failed to help the geese and gulls in North America, German zoo authorities have declined the possibility of psychotherapy. They are, however, considering reading selections from the Old Testament through loudspeakers daily during the rhino's feeding periods.

GPU NEWS has also been told that the Vice Squad of the Milwaukee Police Department is currently doing undercover surveillance work at the rhino cages of the Milwaukee County Zoo.

SOCIOLOGISTS SUPPORT GAYS

Washington, D.C.—The American Sociologists Association, with 8,000 members drawn from campuses, government agencies, and research organizations throughout the U.S. and Canada, has announced a major policy commitment to the eradication of anti-gay attitudes.

The Executive Officer of the Association, Dr. Russell Dynes, announced that a ballot among members of the Executive Council had put the organization officially on record as condemning all attempts to prevent gays from gaining full and equal rights. In addition, the Council also declared that the sociology of homosexuality is a "legitimate and important field of study" which should receive "special encouragement" because of the social stigma placed upon homosex-

uality.

The action in the Council was a result of resolutions passed by the membership of ASA at its convention in the fall of 1977. These resolutions, which were overwhelmingly supported, denounced campaigns to deny gays their civil rights, and claimed that many of the anti-gay campaigners were distorting sociological concepts and research. Laud Humphreys, nationally known expert on homosexuality and a leader of the Sociologists' Gay Caucus, noted that "Groups like 'Save Our Children', the so-called Anita Bryant campaign, have abused sociological findings. Conclusions drawn by people misusing such findings are being used to harm individual members of sexual minorities, and the sociological profession cannot

tolerate such distortions." Humphreys added that several more referenda, using such distorted data, are scheduled for the coming months; and that sociologists have a real professional obligation to counteract the falsehoods and the fraudulent use of scientific data.

Sociologists are particularly angry about the falsifying of sociological findings by the anti-gay rights forces. "The data are clear. Homosexuals are not disproportionately found among those who molest children. Homosexuals do not 'recruit' persons into a life of homosexuality. The perpetuation of false stereotypes like these is harmful for all concerned," noted Jessie Bernard, a leading authority on family life and Research Scholar Emerita at Pennsylvania State University.

SF RIGHTS ORDINANCE

San Francisco, CA—A gay rights ordinance prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment, housing, and public accommodations, was adopted in early April by the Board of Supervisors. When the law is enacted, said Deputy City Attorney Donald J. Caribaldi, San Francisco will become the only city in the U.S. with such a law.

"All this says is that gay people are OK," said supervisor Gordon Lau after more than two hours of Board debate. "It says, 'If gay people can do the job, hire them; if they can pay the rent, rent to them.' It affirms a basic right to be treated as a human being."

Basic to the reservations of several board members was the claim that many Americans are not sophisticated or intelligent enough to understand the necessity for the bill.

Under the law, persons claiming discrimination can file a complaint with the Human Rights Commission, sue in the courts for both in-

junction relief and damages, and ask the District Attorney to take action. Supervisor Quentin Kopp said he hoped that once the law was adopted there would be no "rush to the courts" in overreaction. He also requested a progress report six months after it had been in effect to determine how many suits had been filed.

"We are asked to take an affirmative step," said supervisor John Molinari, "no more patty-cake resolutions. There is nothing in this legislation that I, as an employer, cannot live with."

At the end of April Mayor Goerge Moscone signed the 1978 Human Rights Ordinance at a formal press ceremony. Attorney Matt Coles, developer of the legislation, said he felt it "was like (New York) Mets beating the Yankees 4 games to 3." Moscone presented the pen that makes the document law on May 11 to Supervisor Harvey Milk, the city's first elected gay official and one of the ordinance's co-sponsors.

CATHOLICS

New York, NY—In a recent communication sent to Pope Paul by Walter Kay, President of **Dignity/International**, Kay lauds the Pope for his willingness to exchange his life for hostages in a recent terrorist act in the Middle East, and urges him to extend his "courage to the support of gay Catholics.

"We ask you to speak out equally in behalf of the civil and human rights of Roman Catholic homosexual persons, according to the norms of Vatican II and the recent Vatican declaration on human sexuality."

The official catholic position remains that homosexuality is sinful. Recent pronouncements and studies by leading catholic theologians, as well as by lay persons and priests, have argued for the legitimacy of a serious questioning of this position. The papacy, together with the official hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church, have remained adamant in their opposition to any change in the official position.

BROADWAY HEALTH CLUB RAIDED

Milwaukee, Wi—At about 3:30 a.m. on the morning of May 6, two vice squad policemen, assisted by about 30 or 40 uniformed policemen, raided **The Broadway Health Club**, 158 N. Broadway. About 50 or 60 members of the club were present at the time of the raid, but only 18 were arrested.

Apparently the club had been under investigation for about two weeks by the two vice squad members who had persuaded a member to sponsor one of them for membership. That officer then sponsored the second officer. Both had made several visits to the club in the previous two weeks.

The two vice squad police arrived at the entrance and asked to be admitted. When the attendant asked for membership cards, they jumped across the counter and began to beat him with flashlights. Thinking the club was being robbed, he grabbed a stool to protect himself. Finally the police identified themselves as police officers, handcuffed him and took him outside.

The officers then broke down the door and ran up the stairs. A member, hearing the noise, ran through the club warning the patrons that a raid was in progress. The police proceeded to the third floor and began to round up the patrons, breaking down the doors to many of the private rooms. One patron was hit in the head as the door was broken down. It later took 6 stitches to close the wound.

The questioning and apparently random arrest procedures took about three hours.

The owner called the club during the raid and he, too, thought the club was being robbed. He called the police and headed for the club. On his arrival he was promptly arrested.

Bookings were not started until after noon, and bails were not set until even later in the day. The owner was booked on three counts

of sexual assault, the attendant was booked on charges of resisting arrest, one patron was charged with lewd and lascivious conduct, and the balance were booked on from one to several counts of sexual perversion. (Sexual perversion is currently a felony charge, but under a recently passed law will become a misdemeanor on June 1.)

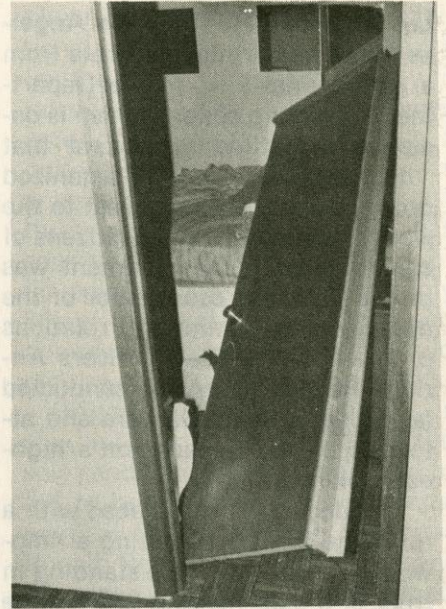
Bail ranged from \$1,000 to \$3,000 (or 10% in cash) in most cases. Several friends spent the day raising the necessary bail monies, and the last person was released at about 8:30 in the evening.

Although a few of those arrested retained their own attorneys Gay Peoples Union spent the day establishing a Legal Defense Fund, raising funds, and contacting Attorney James Shellow (who was in Toronto). Shellow flew back to Milwaukee to attend a meeting of the victims held Sunday afternoon on the premises of the raided club. It was determined that his firm would cooperate with the other attorneys, but would represent all 18 (at the expense of GPU) at least through the formal charging and if necessary through any court procedures hereafter.

Monday all appeared at the District Attorney's office. The D.A., together with the arresting officers and attorneys visited the club to view the damage and check the police statements. No one was charged that day, formal charging being postponed until Thursday.

Meanwhile GPU continued to raise funds. Collections were taken at several bars, The Tiger Rose Birthday Show, and an auction of paintings at the Wreck Room, as well as individual donations.

On Thursday the D.A. dismissed four cases, reduced the owner's charges to one count of 4th degree sexual assault, charged the attendant with misdemeanor resisting arrest, turned the one lewd and lascivious case over to the city attorney to process on a civil charge.



(More photos next month)

Twelve were given the option of pleading guilty to the crime of disorderly conduct (A misdemeanor, but still a criminal charge) or facing certain charges of sexual perversion, which since the victims would be charged a few days before June 1 will be a felony charge.

As GPU NEWS goes to press, at least five of the victims have chosen not to accept the D.A.'s not-so-charitable offer and have vowed to fight.

GPU NEWS is in possession of certain additional information which may be used in defense. This information will not be released until strategy consultations with attorneys have been completed.

See Calendar on page 46 for June fund raising events for GPU Legal Defense Fund. Many thousands of dollars will have to be raised. Reports of monies collected and spent from the fund will appear in futures of GPU NEWS.

Mail contributions should be sent to GPU Legal Defense Fund, P.O. Box 92203, Milwaukee, WI 53202. Donations are tax deductible.

IF WE DON'T ALL HANG TOGETHER, WE'LL SURELY HANG SEPARATELY. SEND MONEY!

LAPD ON GAY THREAT

Los Angeles, CA—The Los Angeles Times has printed excerpts from a confidential L.A. Police Department "briefing paper" which is designed to outline the extent that "homosexuals, as an organized group, pose a serious threat to the welfare and safety of the citizens of Los Angeles." The document was prepared by the coordinator of the department's community relations program for the Staff Officers Annual Retreat (SOAR), conducted last June in Santa Barbara and attended by the department's highest-ranking officers.

The document is prefaced with a full-page cartoon depicting a limp-wristed effete gay male standing in front of a door marked LAPD. The text begins by claiming that homosexual activists are for the most part "chicken hawks", and suggests a crack-down on their operations throughout Los Angeles.

There are quotes from New York psychiatrist Charles Socarides attacking the decision by the American Psychiatric Association's eliminating homosexuality from the list of mental disorders. These are accompanied by a few pro-gay quotes by Councilwoman Peggy Stevenson.

The brief outlines a number of ways in which the LAPD can counter the "threat": 1) train officers especially for "dealing with" homosexuals, 2) vigorously oppose attempts to eliminate vice laws or reduce vice squad budgets, 3) oppose all attempts to decriminalize "victimless crimes", 4) refuse to recognize gays as an "official minority", 5) continue to oppose the hiring of homosexuals as officers, 6) work more closely with the city attorney in prosecuting homosexuals, and 7) sponsor luncheons and meetings for trial judges at which these can be brought up to date on the gay menace.

The only internal LAPD source mentioned is LAPD's secretive and controversial Public Disorder In-

telligence Division. PDID is prevented by law from spying on lawful activities, but the guidelines for its operations are vague; and critics claim that Police Chief Ed Davis (now retired) used PDID as an illegal spy network against all minorities.

Regarding its proposed programs, under the heading "Legal Constraints" the brief replies: "None". Under "Budgetary Constraints" the answer is again "None". And finally, on the question of "Time", the answer is: "Immediate."

LESBIANS FOUND NET

New York, NY—A communications network among lesbian organizations on the east coast is being established as a result of the Eastern Regional Conference held here in April. More than 700 lesbians from Maine to Florida attended the conference, co-sponsored by Lesbian Feminist Liberation (LFL) and Hunter College's Lesbians Rising.

Fifty-three workshops were addressed to lesbian activities and lesbian groups of various kinds. The issues of lesbian mothers, lesbian and gay rights, racism, and disabled lesbians were noted to be those which required the most immediate attention. Over 100 women squeezed into a classroom to discuss "The Fear and Stress of Coming Out."

Carolyn Pope, spokeswoman for LFL, stressed the need for local and national coordination of all lesbian groups in her keynote address. "There is a tremendous number of women working very hard on a large number of issues in a large number of organizations," she noted.

Women who volunteered to serve as area contacts for the new communications network will now receive a list of contact persons.

McNEILL SILENCING

Brooklyn, NY—"It may be the first time in recent years when such a protest has been made by Protestants regarding the silencing of a Catholic theologian," said Robert Raines, Director of the Kirkbridge Retreat House in Bangor, (PA). The protest took the form of a letter to John Cardinal Billot of the Office Promoting Christian Unity in Rome regarding the silencing of Father John McNeill, S.J., by the Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the doctrine of the Faith last August.

"We believe that the scholarly and responsible exploration of human sexuality occurring in our society today is necessary and useful, and indeed mandated by the spirit of God," the statement to Cardinal Billot said. "We believe that homosexuality is an aspect of the human experience which requires such exploration. Among those responsible Christian scholars presently engaged in such research, we highly respect the work of Father John McNeill . . . We believe that his silencing embarrasses and damages the spirit of freedom of ecumenical conversation on this and other issues of common concern."

The statement was signed by John Bennett, President Emeritus, Union Theological Seminary (Episcopal, NYC); Robert M. Brown, Professor of Theology at Union; William Coffin, Jr., Senior Minister, Riverside Church (New York City); Harvey Cox, Professor of Theology, Harvard Divinity School; George A. Lindbeck, Professor of Theology, Yale University; and Robert A. Raines.

"The six of us who signed the letter," Raines added, "share the conviction that it is important for Protestant theologians and churchmen to make public protest in this matter."

BRIGGS UPDATE

Los Angeles, CA—Senator John V. Briggs's anti-gay initiative was refiled earlier this year after the original set of petitions were disqualified because of improper wording. Briggs needs 312,000 valid signatures for his initiative to qualify. Briggs forces have recently begun paying circulators 35¢ a signature, and the workers are petitioning shoppers in supermarket parking lots as well as standees in line to see the King Tut Exhibit at the L.A. County Museum.

The Briggs campaign director, Bill Butcher, has begun production of TV commercials whose theme is: "Meet the guy who's out there fighting for decency and morality, and who is trying to rid the classroom of homosexual teachers." Briggs is shown talking from what appears to be a church.

DAVIS ATTACKS BROWN

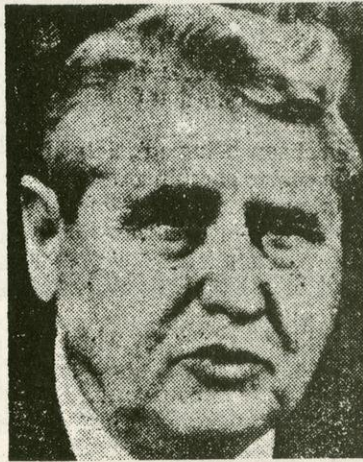
Pomona, CA—Former L.A. Police Chief Ed Davis, who is a Republican candidate for governor, responded to a variety of questions during a press conference following a \$50-a-plate fund-raising luncheon at the Red Hill Country Club. State Democratic Party Chairman Bert Coffey had claimed earlier that Davis was spreading rumors that Governor Brown is gay, and issued a recent warning to Davis to clean up his campaign.

While Davis denied that he had ever talked about Governor Brown's "sexuality", he went on to note that "this man (Coffey) must suspect there's something wrong with Brown, since he brought it up." In the course of the press conference Davis also promised not to embarrass political opponents by opening up his police files as some had feared that he would. "I have never used professional secrets to my political advantage," he quipped, "I'm a very ethical person."

The notoriously anti-gay Davis, who has been surprising many

Many of the circulators have been asking people to sign the petition "in order to keep homosexuals from molesting school children." In fact the Briggs bill would require the firing of anyone advocating gay rights or seen in the company of a known homosexual. Legal counsel for a number of gay organizations battling the Briggs campaign express the view that all of the petitions, if they are filed, can be challenged and ruled unacceptable because of the misrepresentation of the circulators (which is presently being documented also). A number of further legal challenges to the petitions are also being prepared in advance under the auspices of the Metropolitan Community Church and the Pride Foundation.

Briggs, who is \$167,000 in debt as of January 1, recently issued a



Former L.A. police chief Davis

people with shocking statements, attacked Brown as the "personification of evil". "He's done a job of alienating everyone in the state—he's an absolute pariah in farm country," Davis added. He predicted that very few Republicans would vote for Brown this year, and that he (Davis) would pick up a third of the Democrats.

While Davis' campaign began as a long shot, it has picked up considerable momentum during the past several weeks.

plea to his supporters for an additional \$25,000—predicting failure for the drive unless the money is raised. The **Los Angeles Times** noted that Briggs, who is also a gubernatorial candidate, has amassed \$295,923 within the last three months. Although he has consistently placed last in the public opinion polls, garnering only 3% of the total, Briggs expressed optimism that his campaign would pick up speed in the coming weeks.

Briggs' anti-gay campaign is also noteworthy in that he is the sole candidate who has managed to fail to be endorsed by any major political figure. Former Governor Ronald Reagan, as well as present Governor Jerry Brown, have joined Representative Yvonne Braithwaite and L.A. City Attorney Burt Pines in opposing the initiative.

DENVER DEMO

Denver, CO—About 200 persons marched through the downtown section of this city in late April to protest the second killing by a Denver police officer of a transsexual in less than nine months. Tony "Irene" DeSoto was shot by a Vice Squad officer on March 30. According to the police report DeSoto struggled with the officer when an attempt was made to arrest DeSoto on charges of prostitution. On July 14, 1977, another Vice Squad officer shot and killed Eugene "Tracy" Levy, who was also reported by police as resisting arrest on prostitution charges.

Neither police officer had any charges filed against him. Demonstrators, who walked three miles through the city to the Denver Police Building, called for the establishment of an effective citizen's police review commission with real disciplinary power. An independent investigation into the shooting death of 29-year-old DeSoto has been promised by Phil Allen, spokesperson for Transsexual, Lesbian and Gay Defense.

NEW AFSC POLICY

Chicago, IL—Donald E. Mertic, Executive Secretary of the Chicago Office of the American Friends Service Committee, announced in May that his organization has enacted an Affirmative Action Plan designed to include gay people as well as women and third world persons. According to Mertic, this plan constitutes a pioneering effort to establish the civil rights of all gay persons.

Discrimination against gays has been brought to the attention of the AFSC beginning in September of 1975, when four gay AFSC staff and committee members sent a letter throughout the organization announcing that they were gay, encouraging other gays to come out, and requesting discussion of the problems which gays face both within the AFSC and in the larger society.

More gays did come out, and discussions took place throughout the national office in Philadelphia and in regional offices throughout the U.S. A Board of Director's memo written in June of 1976 says that "The AFSC Board of Directors supports the civil and human rights of homosexual and bisexual persons, and commits itself to the implementation of this concern." Based on the previous discussions and the memo from the Board, the Affirmative Action Planning Committee was given the charge to consider oppression and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in addition to race and sex.

The final report of the Affirmative Action Committee noted that "Gay people suffer not only from the denial of legal rights and discrimination in employment, but also from stereotyping, from cruel jokes, and from condescension. Gay people are one of the few groups in this country against whom it is still legal to pass discriminatory laws and mount popular campaigns denying them rights . . . In this public atmosphere, it is

vitaly important that the AFSC make a clear and strong public witness in its deeds, its actions, and in what it is."

The Affirmative Action Plan covers employment, committee and board membership, membership in coalitions, contractual relations, and program design and execution. A full statement of the plan is available from Paul Brink, AFSC Information Director, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102. A summary statement is also available from Janet Kuller, AFSC, 407 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60605.

PLAYBOY GRANTS

Chicago, IL—The Playboy Foundation announced in May that a grant of unspecified amount will be going to **Gay Rights Advocates**, a San Francisco-based public interest law firm that serves the lesbian and gay communities. The grant will permit GRA to continue several important litigation and educational projects. It will also fund a major new project, the creation of a national resource center for briefs, pleadings, and other legal documents relevant to gays and the law.

Gay Rights Advocates, a non-profit California Corporation, is the first public-interest law firm in the west working exclusively in the gay community. Offices are located at 540 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 (telephone 415-863-3622)

In April the Playboy Foundation also announced grants-in-aid to the Partick Batt Defense Fund, which is currently appealing a lower-court decision which permitted Batt's firing last year by a Milwaukee rest-home because of his gayness.

The Playboy Foundation has traditionally provided strong funding for women's rights efforts at the local level, and for a host of court appeals which are relevant to individual rights issues.

ANTI-GAY CAMPAIGN

Tulsa, OK—A slick and costly direct-mail package is being circulated by the Christian Youth Corps under the direction of the Rev. David A. Noebel, president of the American Christian College and professor of biblical studies there. The package is actually an ad for Noebel's book, **The Homosexual Revolution**, selling for \$7.50 per copy through the CYC in Tulsa.

The brochure claims that the book is "written from carefully documented facts," and that it "reveals . . . Anita Bryant's epic and courageous fight against homosexual influence in America, . . . previously little-known details of homosexual activities, including their methods of seducing adolescents, the politics of the homosexual movement with full details of President Carter's pursuit of the 'gay' vote, . . . , plus numerous other insights and reports that serve to reveal the 'gay rights' movement as a socially destructive and highly dangerous threat to our entire nation."

Noebel goes on: "The question is, how can we prevent it—especially since the 'gay rights' movement is being made to appear harmless by the ill-advised support of public figures ranging from the new mayor of New York City to the President of the United States himself." He concludes by proposing that the answer must be sought in "public education", which of course includes a donation to the CYC.

Potential supporters are assured that their names will be retained in strictest confidence. Contribution boxes are there to check, ranging from \$1,000 to \$7.50; and, for any contribution, the donor receives a "free" copy of Noebel's \$7.50 book. The money is to be used for wholly christian ends: "smashing the gay assault," and "exposing this vile movement."

NYC RIGHTS BILL

New York, NY—The gay rights bill, which was narrowly defeated in the City Council here four years ago, has been reintroduced. City Council President Carol Bellamy formally introduced Intro 384 on April 18, and the bill now lists fifteen co-sponsors. The measure would amend the city rights law to add "sexual orientation" to the list of items which cannot be cited as a legal basis for refusing housing, employment, or public accommodation.

The new measure is now before the General Welfare Committee of the Council. Council member Aileen Ryan (Bronx) is the chair-

person of that committee, and was one of those who led the fight against the rights amendment four years ago. Observers note that there are three sure votes on the committee of nine, but that five are necessary to report the measure out favorably to the full Council.

On Sunday, April 16, approximately 2,000 supporters of gay rights marched and rallied demanding immediate passage of the bill. The rally included speeches by several members of the NYC gay community and politicians supportive of the measure. Ruth Messenger, a City Council co-sponsor of the bill, called it "an important

and fundamental civil rights issue."

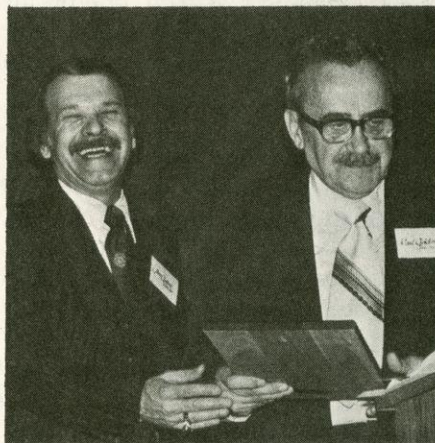
Newly-elected City Council President Carol Bellamy urged "Perseverance and commitment," saying, "Don't let government outlast you." Mayor Koch sent his apology for not being present at the rally. Koch's statement noted, "I have heard it said in the media that this City Council bill is controversial. I don't see why. It is a simple bill, based on a simple principle: no New Yorker should be denied a job, a place to live, or participation in the life of this city solely on the basis of his or her sexual orientation.

ONE OF CHICAGO BANQUET

Chicago, IL—One of Chicago, Inc. held its 14th annual banquet on Saturday, May 13 in the Pavilion Room of the Bismark Hotel. After an invocation delivered by Rev. Valerie Bouchard of Metropolitan Community Church, over 400 persons enjoyed a multi course dinner. Special entertainment was provided by Michelle Faith who sang her version of **The Taylorville Express** and her original **Ode to Anita**.

Door prizes were provided by various Chicago businesses.

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of **The Paul R. Goldman Award** to James H. Gates (Little Jim). This award is presented each year for "meritorious service to the gay community." In his acceptance speech, Gates, who is past presi-



dent of One of Chicago, called for a lower profile by the gay community and more one-to-one education on the part of individual gays. He presented a "rearmament plan" which calls for each gay person to

"win four persons to your side." Since recent referendums on gay rights have lost by an average of four to one, Gates believes that the battle can be won by education.

The featured speaker was State Representative Robert E. Mann, who as chair of the Judiciary Committee introduced four bills into the Illinois legislature last year that dealt with gay rights. Mann said, "liberty is indivisible—as long as you do not have it, nobody does." He called for the gay community to form coalitions with other liberal causes to "win others to your side." Commenting on recent referendum losses, he said, "Sometimes the best way to be a winner is to lose a few."

The benediction was given by Rev. Malcolm Boyd.

LUTHERANS MEET IN MKE

Los Angeles, CA—The first annual meeting of the members of Lutherans Concerned since the foundation of the caucus in 1974 has been scheduled for Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on July 7-9, 1978. Called 'Assembly '78, the event was announced by coordinators Diane Fraser of Kasota (MN) and Howard Erickson of Los Angeles.

The Milwaukee site and the

dates were chosen with an eye to the national convention in Chicago the following week of the 3-million-member Lutheran Church of America. Chicago itself was bypassed by Assembly '78 planners out of respect for a boycott—called by the National Council of Churches and the National Organization for Women—of all fifteen states which have not yet ratified the ERA.

Lutherans Concerned, an organization of gay and nongay laypersons and pastors, was founded 3½ years ago in Minneapolis. It has grown steadily since, and now numbers chapters in twenty American cities. The Milwaukee Chapter can be contacted at Box 92872, Milwaukee, WI 53202. The central address of the organization is: Box 19114A, Los Angeles, CA 90019.

EDITORIAL

News of the defeat in St. Paul threatens to preclude upcoming news of defeats of gay rights ordinances in other cities. One gay newspaper, connecting St. Paul to Dade County and reporting somewhat gloomy prospects for both Wichita and Eugene, headed its St. Paul story as "Anita Bryant: Two Down and Two to Go." The greatest defeat, however, would not be the vote in St. Paul or anywhere else, but rather the use of these outcomes as an excuse for pessimism and/or inaction. GPU NEWS has consistently tried to bring to its news columns a balanced account which forestalls defeatism and undue optimism, for both of these states threaten the continued vigilance and efforts which are necessary to the gay movement.

Not every cloud has a silver lining, but we have continually insisted that the clouds and storms should be seen in a larger context. Setbacks there are, but there must be seen side by side with advances: the news must be read as a whole. St. Paul's citizens, spurred by ignorance and lack of concern, have defeated one rights ordinance. A new ordinance has been introduced in New York, another has been signed in San Francisco, Quebec's Parti Quebecois has introduced **and passed** one of the strongest pieces of gay rights legislation in the northern hemisphere; and, as reported also in this issue, the **Playboy Foundation** is in the process of pumping some much-needed funding into the efforts of local gay organizations. The news is not all good, not all bad, but it is better than it ever has been.

The **Playboy** grants are particularly promising, coming as they do on the crest of **Playboy's** already strong commitment to women's rights. We can view the **Playboy** support in the context of moral outrage or in the context of prudence. The **Playboy Foundation**, like the

magazine, has been a traditional supporter of individual self-determination; and **Playboy's** editors have been no less outraged at the anti-gay efforts of the neo-nazi and fundamentalist groups than have the most outraged of gays. That's the moral side of the coin. The prudent side is that **Playboy** realizes that gays are collectively just the first hurdle for the Bryants of this country. The slogan of "public decency" is intended to mark the tombstone of gay rights first, but other tombstones are in the working. So **Playboy's** commitment to the gay rights issue can be viewed as a bit of self-defense also.

It would be a great mistake to view prudence as the enemy of moral outrage, or to suggest that **Playboy's** motives are somehow less morally honorable because they involve self-defense. A moral commitment to the freedom and integrity of all persons does not preclude self-protection—in fact, as **Playboy's** editors have noted on more than one occasion, the latter absolutely demands the former. Nazi Germany provides only one lesson among many. The appetite of the forces of oppression is truly voracious: allow them to devour and emaciate one minority (or even a majority), and they will quickly turn to others.

But all of the money in the world, whether it comes from the **Playboy Foundation** or any other well-wishing source, will only even up the odds: it will not tilt them. Warm bodies are ultimately the odds-beaters here, and funding sources cannot provide these. The participation of gay people in the organizations committed to their own liberation remains depressing—better than a decade ago, less depressing perhaps, but still depressing. If there is any place where action is needed, it is here within the gay community. Funded projects (of which there are now more

than ever still need workers, gay organizations remain in dire need of gay people, of new blood to mix with the old, of lots of sweat to vivify projects and programs. We need applause for our successes as little as we need commiseration for our defeats. We need more gay people everywhere to come out of the woodwork to celebrate and support their own liberation and dignity; and, without these, the gay movement may well go down in history as the most munificently funded vacuum in the chronicle of human liberation.

FEEDBACK

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the wonderful **explication de Texte** on **Calamus** and Walt Whitman. Things like this make your magazine wonderfully worthwhile. I suppose I have known **Calamus** slightly before, I am sure I have, but it never came through so forcefully and as the magnificent thing it is until I read the article and the quotation from the poem.

Thanks again and let's have more things like this article.

Sincerely,
Dr. J.C. Mickel
Mt. Zion, Ill.

Dear Editor,

We were pleased to have your review of our recent publication **Feminism and Philosophy** by Vetterling-Braggin et al. We note, however, that you indicate the address of Littlefield, Adams and Company as Boston. Please note that we are located in Totowa, New Jersey.

Very truly yours,
Grace R. Cosgrove
Advertising Manager

GPU NEWS
276-0612

SILVER STAR ANNIVERSARY SHOW



On the weekend of May 12-14 Milwaukee's **Silver Star Motorcycle Club** held its fifth anniversary celebration. Out of town guests were billeted at the Milwaukee Inn, where a banquet and show was held on Saturday, May 13.

The show, titled **Silver Star Goes Hollywood** was repeated on Tuesday night at the **Wreck Room Bar**. The show was produced and directed by Norman Castonguay with costumes and choreography by E. G.

The show lasted better than an hour and featured seventeen well rehearsed numbers, including **Everything's Coming up Roses**, **If He Walked Into My Life**, **Star Ballet**, **Belts and Leather**, **Nothing Like a Dame**, **I Can't Smile**, **Bossom Buddies**, **Somewhere**, **Going Out of My Head**, **Miss America**, **New York, New York**, **Motown Medley**, **November Song**, **Hollywood Medley**, **Beauty That Drives Men Mad**, and **Finale** featuring the entire cast.

One of the highlights of the evening was a presentation by some twenty guests of the club who are members of German motorcycle clubs who are touring the U.S. They led the entire audience in a rendition of **Schnitzelbank** in German.



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Pauline Meditations

by Lee C. Rice

The referendum defeat of another gay rights ordinance in St. Paul at the end of April should commend both reflection and political analysis. Many there are who will insist that the defeat offers little more data than did the earlier Dade County debacle, and than will the probable defeat of still another rights ordinance shortly in Wichita. To future political and movement analysts we can safely consign the (important) task of ferreting out general similarities and differences among the referenda. Optimists will point out that the St. Paul vote provided a somewhat narrower margin of loss than did Dade County (and probably narrower than will Wichita). Pessimists can counter with the observation that both political communities had a solid tradition of liberal legislation; so that, if gay rights legislation is to enjoy any success, it should have been then and there.

Demographic differences aside, both cities displayed certain similarities in the manner that their referenda were carried out. St. Paul had its own diminutive version of Anita Bryant in the form of a fundamentalist minister peddling hell, brimstone, and—that great catchword of all fundamentalist drivel—“decency”. The pro-gay forces in St. Paul, while not so well funded as in Miami, were perhaps better organized, and also in a position to profit from past oversights. They also enjoyed the support of virtually all non-fundamentalist religious leaders, including even the Roman Catholic (which traditionally has not supported any political platform which lies to the left of Louis XIV). In the last count, the differences will probably be said to have outweighed the similarities. So what went wrong?

Movement analysts have already begun to suggest that the political climate in the United States is just not yet right for the democratic decision procedure to operate on the gay rights issue. There is much truth to this claim, and I shall return to it shortly; but let's first turn inward. Just as the successes of the contemporary gay movement, which still well outnumber its failures, have been due in great part to gays themselves, we should not ignore the fact that the buck often stops at the same place when we are tallying failures. Let it not be said that the St. Paul referendum was simply a minor setback on the grand and inevitable road to human liberation. When it comes to human rights, no setback is a minor one. As a result of the St. Paul defeat, there are gays who will suffer loss of jobs, and (what is more important) loss

of self-esteem. Even if a new rights ordinance should be put into effect two years down the road, the real human suffering and losses of those two years cannot be “brought back”. Rights are not like dollars—they can't be stored away to accumulate interest for later use.

From within the gay movement, it appears that the lessons to be learned are principally two. They are not new, for indeed they have been hammered out by every gay-lib publication since the turn of the century. St. Paul just adds some underlining and exclamation points here and there. The gay community can best be seen as a large series of three concentric circles. The enclosing circle is the gay population itself—one of America's largest and most diverse minorities. The next circle inward is that of out-of-the-closet gays: though larger than it used to be, it still does not encompass a plurality of the gay population. Smaller still, the innermost circle is that of gays actively working for the movement. In terms of that model, St. Paul's lesson is easily stated—the three concentric circles should approach the same circumference as well.

How often have you heard a relatively out-of-the-closet gay say something like, “Why should I support the gay movement?”, or “What have they done for me?”? It is not what the gay movement will do for a gay person, but rather what others will do to a gay person in the absence of that movement which is the more interesting question. The lion is already at the door, so the time is a bit late for discussing the virtues of lion-taming. The loss of rights protection is not something which affects only “movement people”, for the aims of the anti-rights forces are quite clear; and whether gays belong to the movement or not makes not one whit of difference for these. If your boss decides to fire you because you're gay, the likelihood of his/her asking first about your position in the movement is small.

So getting more gays involved in the movement is the only way to combat the forces strongly opposing

gay rights. But the people who voted against gay rights in St. Paul were not all religious fanatics or fascists. Some of them are just plain dumb—"uninformed" is a more polite term, but that is where the second lesson comes in, the enlarging of the middle circle to the outermost. Without gay visibility, uncommitted voters are simply casting ballots in the dark, swayed by the propaganda of fundamentalism, but without the slightest edge of personal contact or acquaintance with the real issues at stake. There is no big mystery or deep insight involved in all of this, and it has been confirmed and reconfirmed ad nauseam by survey after survey. Those nongays who have openly gay friends, acquaintances, or contacts tend to be supportive of gays generally; and those who know no gays do not. That is just human nature. We are one and all comfortable with the familiar and fearful of the unknown.

Position papers, pamphlets, television ads, and even buttons may lay some of the groundwork; but, in the last analysis, the public education which is the key to the success of the liberation movement must be a one-on-one job between persons. If it is as individual persons that we wish to be fully recognized, then it is as individual persons that we must act in the quest for this recognition. In this situation at least, there is no reason to suspect that familiarity breeds contempt.

A traditional assumption made by movement thinkers is that, in order for more gays to exit from their closets, we need some laws protecting them. The truth of that is really that, in order for them to **safely** come out, we need the laws. If what I've said above is correct, it follows that, in order to get the laws, we first need more gays out of the closet, **and** working in the movement. In the absence of laws protecting human rights, both of these needs will only be fulfilled at certain risks. Few worthwhile human (and humane) goals can be bought these days without risk anyway.

The conclusion of this inward glance at the movement itself is neither new nor startling. Prior to legislation we require education, and education requires educators. The basic inward thrust of the movement must be self-help, mutual assistance, and individual support, in all of their many organized ramifications: counseling, social activities, publication, dissemination of information, and simple organized commitment one to another in all of our needs and preoccupations.

Taking next an outward glance, I suspect that the lesson of St. Paul is as many others are pronouncing it: that the time and signs are not right for public votes on gay rights issues. This lesson also is a bit on the trite side from an historical perspective, for political rights of any kind have seldom fared well under public vote. Our much-vaunted Bill of Rights was, after all, the product of a small group of aristocrats

who were convinced that what they were doing was right, but didn't ask for a Harris Poll. If the U.S. Founding Fathers had submitted the Bill of Rights to plebiscite, it probably would have gone down in overwhelming defeat then; and sociologists tell us that it would fare no better today. Rights, as the Founding Fathers clearly saw, are best prescribed as **antece-**
cedents to constitutional law, rather than being left to the vagaries of public opinion and sentiment.

If all of this sounds somewhat elitist, then so be it. It appears well confirmed by the history of most western democracies. Indeed, not a single piece of rights legislation that I know (giving or taking rights) in this century has been produced by plebiscite or referendum. When rights have been conferred (or taken away), this has been accomplished by legislators or judges acting as trustees of the common good, not as delegates responding to popular opinion or conviction. I can think of one exception to this only, Nazi Germany, where Hitler's party was in fact responding to popular conviction and feeling by disenfranchising the Jews. If the fundamentalists want a precedent in the area of rights referenda, I suspect that this will have to be it. This point should not be misinterpreted. I am not saying that democracy is a bad or unworkable system. My point is only that it functions best within a system of fixed rights. We get the rights first, and then exercise them within a democratic context; but democracy has just never proven itself as a workable means for conferring the rights in the first place.

Where, then, does that leave gays collectively in terms of the outward thrust of their efforts? If it is best not to put the dollars into the electoral process as a means of conferring rights, then where should they be put? I have two proposals to make in this respect, one conservative and one more radical; but each is independent of the other.

First, the gay movement itself has enjoyed striking successes in displaying economic clout. Advertisers and businesses generally are displaying more and more interest in the vast potentialities of the hitherto untapped gay market. Gays are, we are told by the specialists, avid consumers; and Madison Avenue is just now in the process of realizing that gay money is not less green for being gay. There is no reason in the world why this collective economic clout cannot be wielded to political ends. The Coors boycott, and many others like it but smaller in scope, has had its successes. If the income and profits from any business are being channeled into anti-gay sources, don't just forbear giving it your own business: make an active effort to see that others go elsewhere with their dollars as well—**and be loud about it.**

In the same spirit, the gay press has a real obligation to make known which businesses (however small or local) are friendly, which are not. When it comes to economic clout, a penny saved is a dollar earned.

This is true for not only the Florida Citrus Commission, but also for the independent corner grocery store, whose proprietor makes snappy cracks about gays. And, if possible, tell not only others, but let the businesses know too—anonymously if you must.

Finally, my more radical proposal. It is no great insight to realize that, behind most of the anti-gay action these days, there lies the haunting spectre of fundamentalism and religious fanaticism. The stranglehold of religion on public morals is diminishing worldwide, and that more than anything else should account for the fact that gays have done better in referenda votes than they would have a decade ago. The U.S. Constitution guarantees freedom of religion, but unfortunately it offers no guarantee of freedom from religion. The airwaves (both television and radio) are glutted with propaganda, as are newspapers and the mass media generally; and all of this proliferation of religious hard-sell (especially of the fundamentalist sort) is generously subsidized by a government which provides copious tax exemptions.

Ultimately I suspect that more enlightened courts somewhere down the road will come to realize that church-state separation constitutionally requires the end of religious tax exemptions. The fact that a television advertiser is wearing a collar and peddling faith-healing rather than laundry detergent offers little ground for political discrimination where

church and state are genuinely separate. But the day when our courts and legislators come to realize this is a long way off. In the meantime, there is much that can be done. Noncooperation with religious hucksters is a minimum, but the present legal framework provides opportunities for legitimate interference and limitation as well. Already civil-rights groups throughout the country are looking hard and fast at the quasi-political machinations of these self-proclaimed saviours of our civilization, and already court battles are in progress. More are needed; and the civil rights groups which are seeking restraints on the religious propagandists, while these groups may have taken no public stance on the issue of gay rights, deserve active gay support—for the enemy is a common one.

No one says that any of these proposals, whether they be directed to the gay movement internally or to the external political and economic forum, can be easily implemented or achieved. They are programmatic in the sense that they indicate areas of potential success. Here, as everywhere, a small step forward, once consolidated and entrenched, makes successive steps both easier and more certain. The St. Paul referendum is not an occasion for breast-beating or defeatism. Like any battle in a larger war, it offers the riches and insights of tactical study and reflection.

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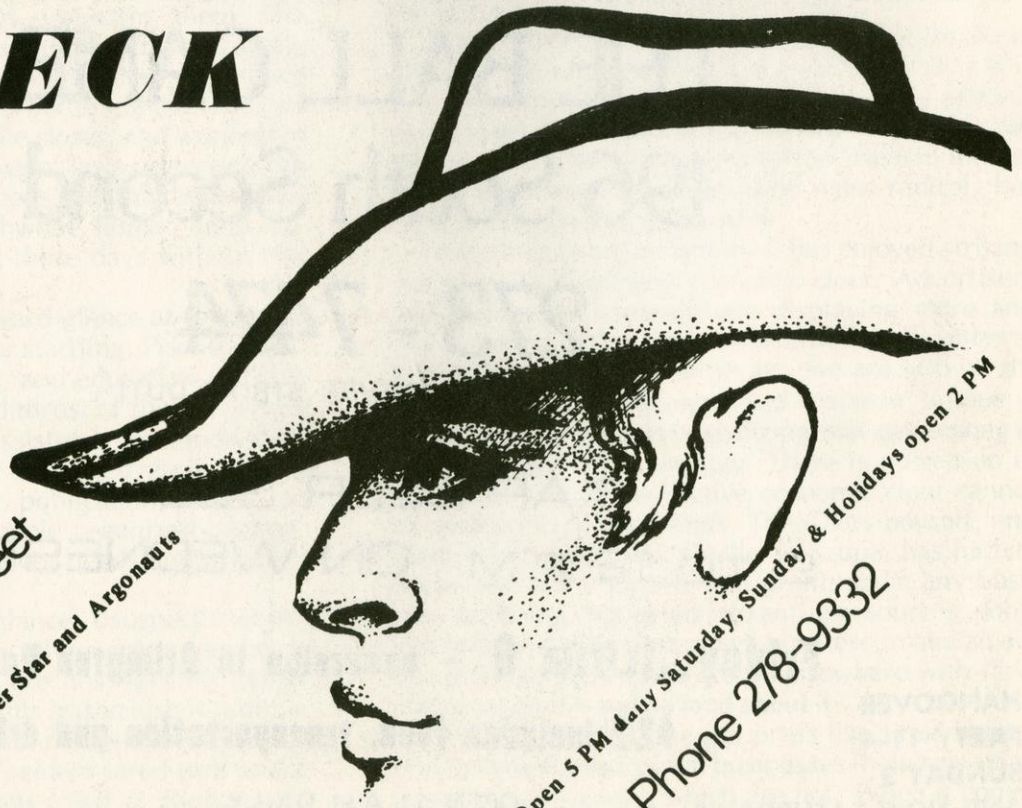
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TUXEDO JUNCTION AT BARON

On Friday and Saturday, May 12 and 13, live performances of the nationally known trio **Tuxedo Junction** were presented at Milwaukee's **The Baron**. Jeannie Kaufman, Jane Schec, and front-woman Jamie Eldon gave two solid shows each night. Dressed in white tuxedo tops and white sheath dresses, the trio took the audience on a nostalgia trip back to the forties as they led off with **I've Got You Under My Skin** followed by Duke Ellington's famous **Take The A Train** and Glenn Miller's **Moonlight Serenade**. All of the music for the show was pre-recorded, but vocals were live. Arrangements were tight and improvisation was excellent. Jamie's solo **I Didn't Know About You** was received by the audience en-

thusiastically. She later praised the attentive audience. The group sang **Play a Fox Trot** and **What Do You Do on a Rainy Night in Rio** which featured white satin umbrellas. The show ended with renditions of **Toot Toot Tootsie**, **Goodbye** and the song whose revival they made famous, **Chatanooga Choo Choo**. The last number made lavish use of colored boas.

According to Karen Lefcourt, the women's road manager, each woman studied at various dramatic schools in New York and they attribute their success more to their dramatic ability than their singing ability. Various writers have said that Jamie looks and acts like Bette Middler, but she does not like the comparison and says, "I want to be known in my own right. I'm Jamie."

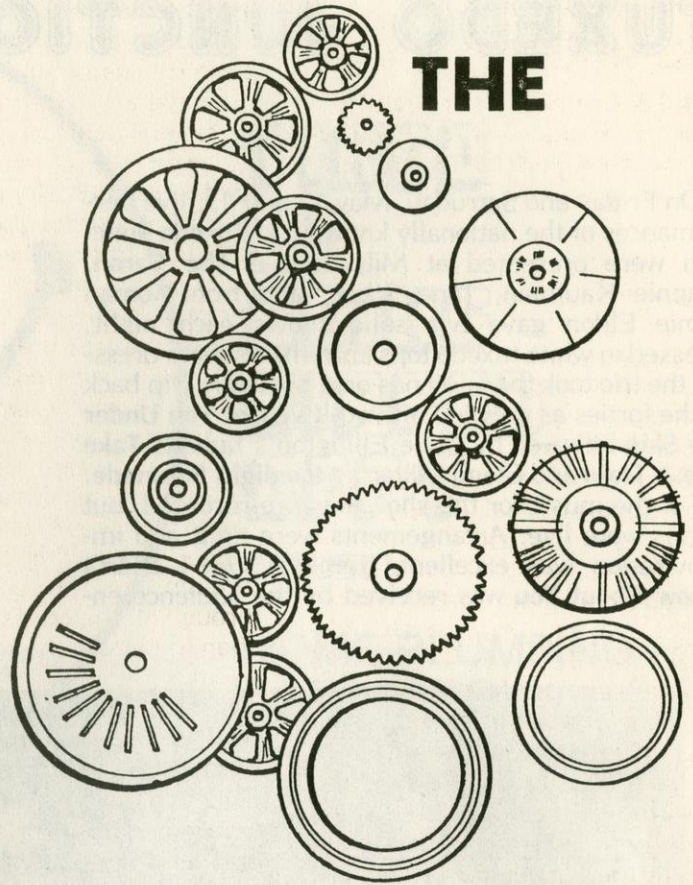


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REVIEW

Hansel & Gretel in Beverly Hills, a novel by Sheila Weller, William Morrow, New York, 1978, 287 pp., \$8.95.

Judith Krantz's first novel, **Scruples** (reviewed in the May issue of GPU NEWS), appeared just a short time ago, and has already climbed to the fourth spot on the list of best-selling fiction nationwide. **Hansel & Gretel** is a new entry in the first-novel sweepstakes, arising from strikingly similar artistic sources and preoccupations. Krantz was contributing editor to **Cosmopolitan**, whereas Weller has written extensively for **McCalls**. Weller's work has also appeared in **The Village Voice**, **New Times**, **Rolling Stone**, **Viva**, and also **Cosmopolitan**. Krantz was born in Manhattan and made her way to the west coast; where Weller was born in Beverly Hills (educated at the University of California-Berkeley), and made her way to the east coast (she now lives in New York). Krantz had first-hand familiarity with the worlds of dress-designing and film-production, and Weller knows intimately the social world of Beverly Hills.

There are some marked dissimilarities as well. Weller's gay character is central to the tale, whereas Krantz's gays were brought in as a sort of *deus ex machina* whenever the story began to limp; and, perhaps most importantly, Weller is enthusiastic about the gay she paints—an enthusiasm which is both introspective and genuinely supporting. Finally, where Krantz was a master of ambience, which sometimes (but not always) offset wooden and unimaginative dialogue, Weller is a master of dialogue, often displacing both atmosphere and setting into the background of her tale.

Hansel & Gretel chronicles the ongoing relationship of two people who form the oddest of odd coup-

les. Lillian Resnick and Ronald Halvorsen are cohorts, soulmates, and orphans of similar storms. Lil is fifty-four, onetime journalist, sometime publicist, divorced and widowed, and alone. Professionally (and without charity or insight) she might be described as a has-been. Ronald is forty, a hairdresser, gay (of course), chronic loser at love, and with a tongue almost melodious in its satiric queenlike wit, and also alone. Personally (and also without charity or insight) he might be described as a never-was.

The novel presents a slice out of their lives—to quote the jacket, “how they have each other and support each other through thick, through thin, through love affairs, through all the crud that life heaps upon them to try to break their spirits.” Unfortunately, what is the central failing in the novel, the crud is not very cruddy, and the heaps are intermittent at best. They are the stuff of which situation comedies are made in tv-land, but weaving them into a larger and more continuous tapestry presents

almost insurmountable obstacles—ones which in this novel are not surmounted.

A sampling of the self-contained episodes will indicate the sort of formula which is being relentlessly pursued. Lil's appointment with an old friend, now a successful promoter, from whom she seeks a publicity contract in the hope of revivifying her stillborn career as a publicist. Ronald finds a lover, and Lil finds herself a third-person-out in the ensuing relationship. Ronald's lover is too closeted and guilt-ridden to enter a permanent affair, so Ronald is on the losing end again, comforted as always by the presence of Lil. Lil gets an out-of-town job offer, but finds that she cannot “be herself”; so she returns to Beverly Hills (and Ronald). Lil's daughter visits from out-of-town: she is having a little trouble being herself, except that she doesn't quite know what herself is. Each episode, in short, offers the kind of stuff of which the ideal gay-oriented sitcom could be made. As a once weekly episode in an ongoing saga,



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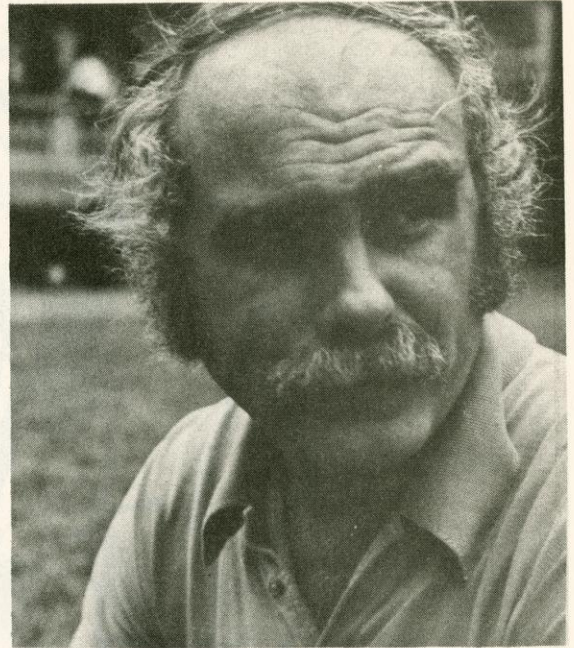
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it might well work; but, as a continuous narrative, the episodic, the ritual, and the predictable all conspire to work their soporific effects on the unsuspecting reader.

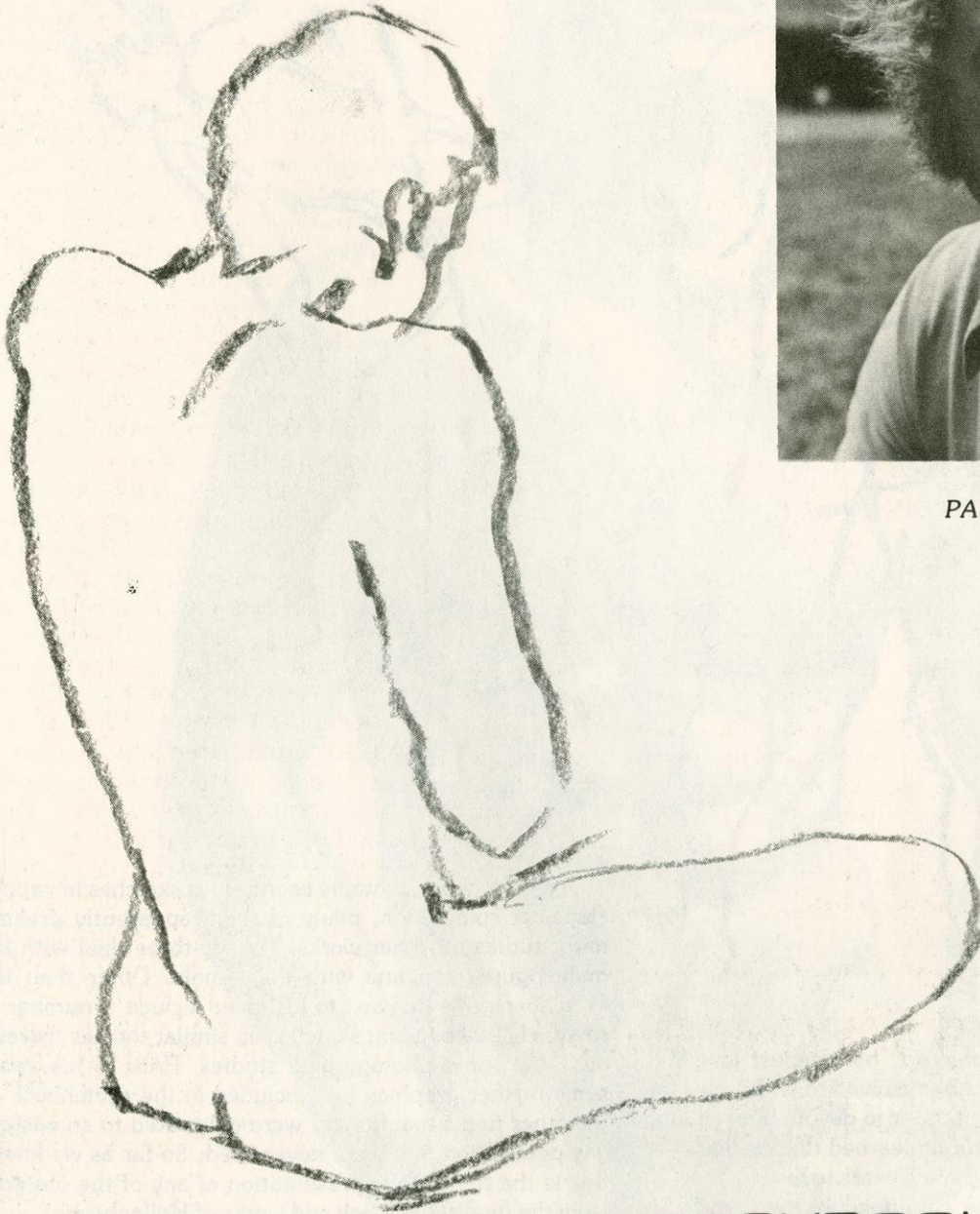
All of that is the bad side, but there is a good side too—and it is charming, light, witty, and often reverberant. For one thing, Lil and Ronald are genuinely lovable and often moving characters; and their special kind of love and friendship provides a base for social comedy which is resonant with underlying serious concerns. It is easy for the reader to identify with either or both, and it is this identification which in the last analysis prevents the novel from becoming tedious. And, once again, the dialogue is always fresh and sparkling.

Overall, then, Weller's first novel is perhaps more successful in its own way than is Krantz's *Scruples*. There is less story line, and the social milieu is less fascinating in its own right; but the characters are painted in closer perspective and with more sympathy and conviction. Both novels have as their great grandparents the gothic novel which proliferates these days on the paperback scene. Plot, action, and continuity are sacrificed in favor of atmosphere, formula, and situation. My own greatest reservations relate to the genre itself, which neither challenges nor uplifts the reader, provides neither insight nor education—the reader passes through the pages of such novels amused and entertained, but without transformation. The analogy to television drama holds strong.

The final verdict, then, is that *Hansel & Gretel* is a delightful and entertaining novel, well worth the entertainment of an evening or two—and, like Krantz's novel, it contains the possible promise of good things to come. Whether subsequent novels can live up to that promise is contingent on the ability of the authors to replace formula with imagination, and to transcend the simple limitations of their own personal experience.



PAUL HOLLENBECK

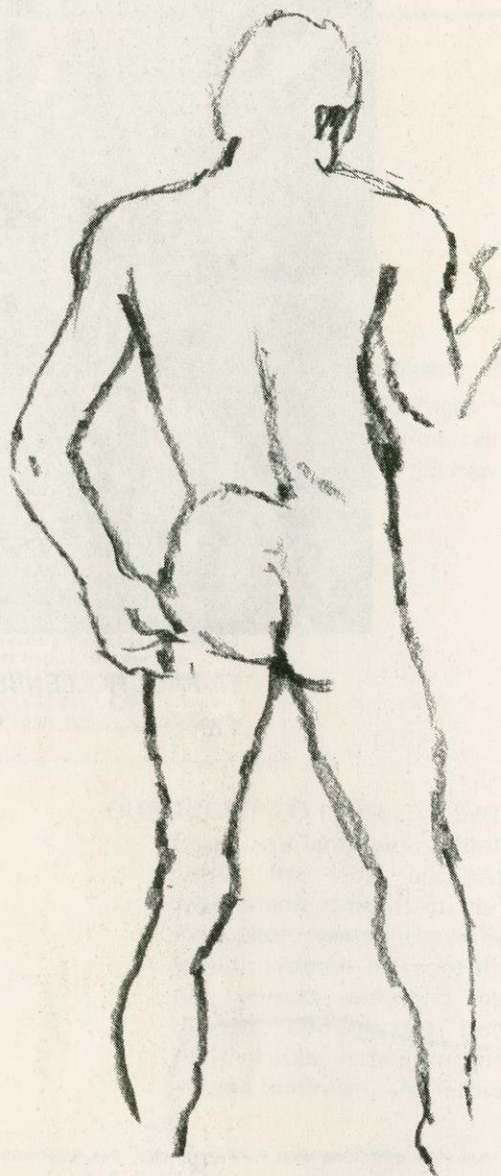


THE HOLLENBECK SKETCHBOOK

IN MEMORIAM

GPU NEWS is honored to present a selection of works from the sketchbook of Paul Hollenbeck. Born in Elmira, N.Y., Hollenbeck became interested in music, art, and photography at an early age. He served as a photographer in the U.S. Navy for four years, and entered New York's Pratt Institute following his Navy discharge. He was awarded a degree in Fine Arts from the Pratt Institute in 1963.

Following his graduation, he began work as a freelance commercial artist in New York City; and, in the space of a few years, his work had attained a prominent reputation. During this period he did numerous illustrations and graphics under commission from the *Time-Life Company*, in whose serial volumes many of his illustrations continue to appear. Though openly committed both to the fine arts and to the emerging gay liberation movement, he found that his work in commercial art left him little time for work in either of these areas.



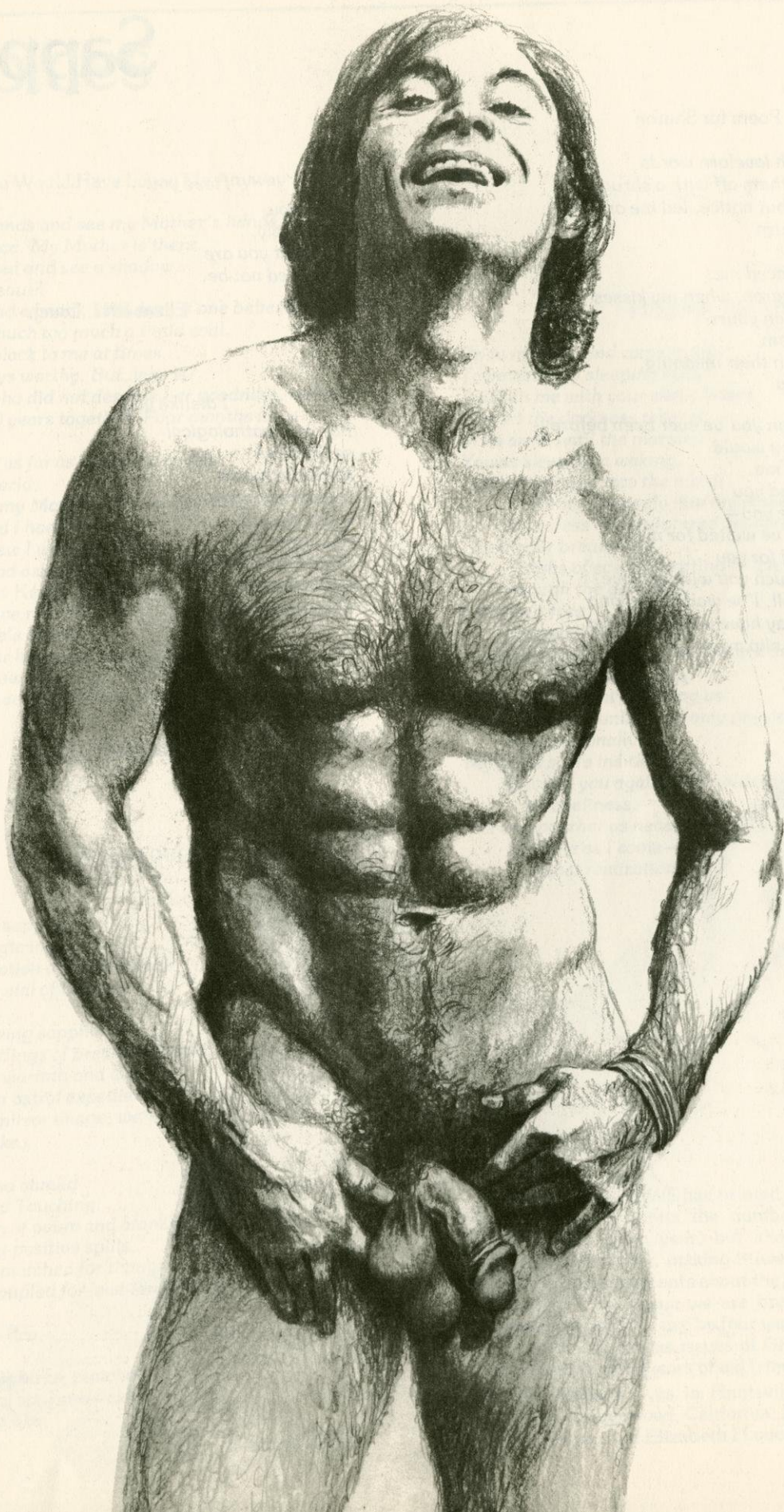
Though his fame was in graphic art, his deepest love was for music. In the early 1970's he resolved to withdraw from the field of commercial art in order to devote himself fully to fine arts. Shortly thereafter he learned that he was afflicted with cancer and had only a few years to live.

During the mid-70's, with the continued support and companionship of his lover, he initiated preliminary sketchbooks and studies devoted to the fine arts, and dealing for the first time with gay themes and sensibilities. The advancing cancer made his work continually slower and more painstaking. He died in April of 1977 at the age of 39, leaving his estate to his lover, and his final sketchbook (from which these graphics are excerpted) to his parish priest and friend. He was buried in the churchyard cemetery of the parish (Episcopal) in Brooklyn where both he and his lover were communicants, and where masses are regularly offered in his memory.

The sketchbook contains twenty-four sketches in various stages of completion, many of them apparently preliminary studies for other works. Twenty-three deal with the male figure, and one with the female. Other than the sketchbook, his bequest to his lover include a number of relatively independent sketches on similar themes, several oils, and some photographic studies. Prior to his death some further graphics (not included in the sketchbook or the other items mentioned) were submitted to an eastern gay publication, but were never used. So far as we know, this is the first public presentation of any of the material from the final sketchbook and works of Hollenbeck.

The most finished and detailed sketch in the sketchbook is printed last here, and appears on the last page of the sketchbook as well. Its detail and inspiration represent some of the finest aspects of Hollenbeck's work, and the promise of even greater work to come had his studies not been cut off by an untimely death. This closing sketch is also noteworthy because it represents the composite unification of two different sources in the eye of the artist. The head of the figure was sketched by Hollenbeck from a picture done by another artist. The body of the figure is in fact that of the artist himself, sketched from a photograph.

Barbapapic



I've counted you with laughter
and then I counted (I'm not a
You, I couldn't I'd like to see
to a point of no return
and I stand now
where you have not
There was a time, when
could have been
I can't let them
touch you, the way they
I would have left you
close to me
— I can't let them
I see you, but I can't
I see you, but I can't
to let me touch
I also see you, but I can't
and though you might
I've forgotten

Sapphic

Poem for Sharon

*I've haunted you with lovelorn words
and then laughed them off with a shrug.
You, I couldn't help but notice, led me on
to a point of no return
and I stand now
where you have placed me.
There was a time, Sharon, when my kisses
could have been yours
if you had let them
touch your lips with their meaning.
I would have held you
close to me
—closer than you've ever been before—
had I not feared you would
have rejected me.
Now, I see how I loved you
—how I still love you—
I see too how you've waited for me
while I waited for you
to let me touch you with my love.
I also see that after all, I've waited too long
and though you may have wanted me too,
I've let you slip away.*

Andrea McCann

I love you

*I love you
Absolutely.
For what you are
And need not be.*

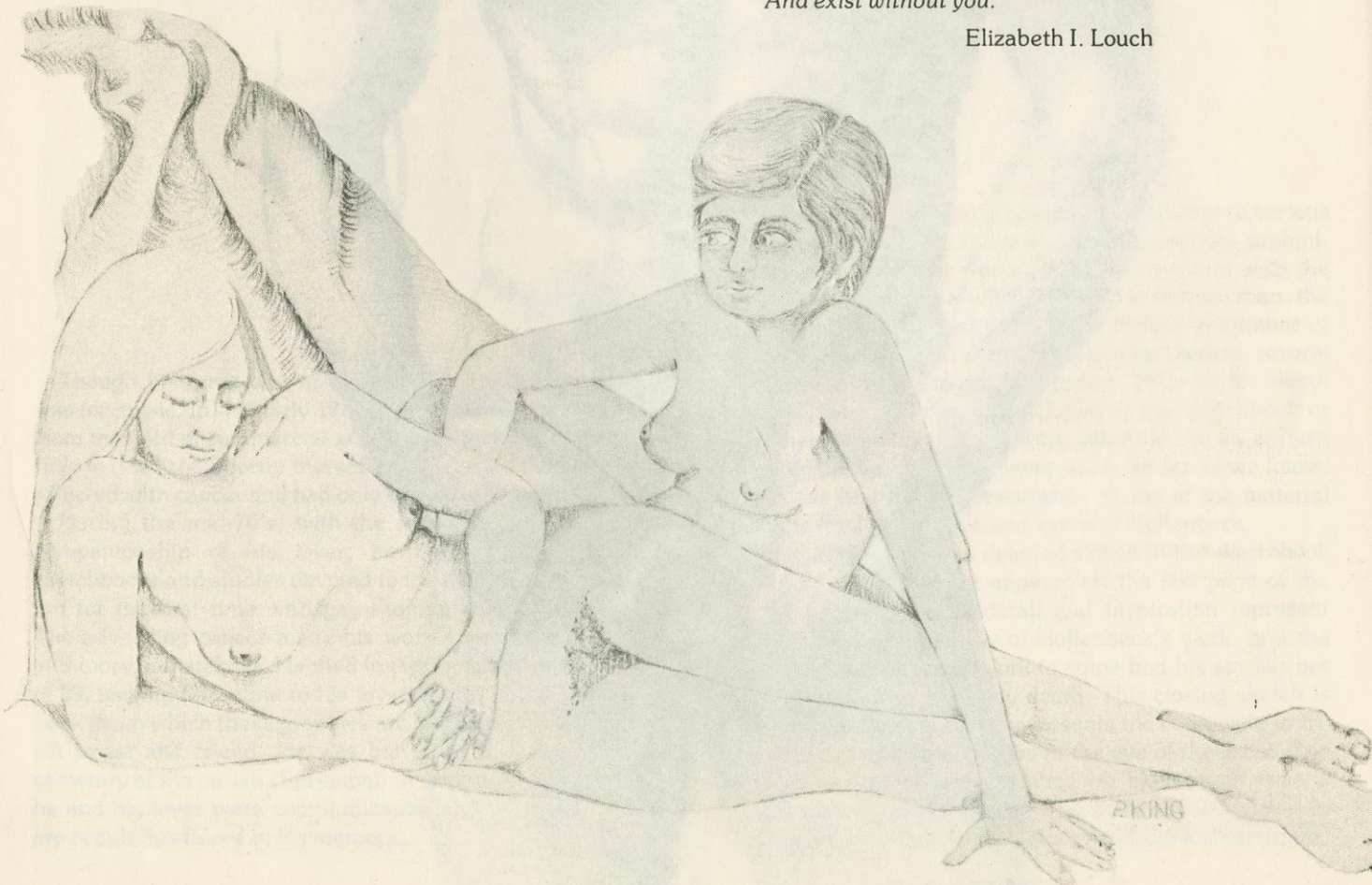
Elizabeth I. Louch

I dislike you

*For your pathological
selfishness
Personal habits
Desperate need
(I am too soft
not to gratify)
For a cheap orgasm
With one eye
On your watch*

*And, for your volatility
Love you
And live for you.
And exist without you.*

Elizabeth I. Louch



Voices

She Would Have Loved Me Anyway

I look at my hands and see my Mother's hands.
 I look at my face. My Mother is there.
 I look at my soul and see a shadow.
 But what is a soul?
 My Mother had a good , kind soul, if one believes in souls.
 But she was much too much a timid soul.
 Mine seems black to me at times.
 I am not always worthy. But, who is?
 My Father, who did not deserve her goodness, and she
 Celebrated 50 years together. Four months later
 She died.
 She had gone as far as she could in this
 Unyielding world.
 I do not have my Mother's soul or good heart.
 But thank God I had her.
 She never knew I was gay. But,
 If someone had asked her
 "Do you know Kelley is gay?"
 She would have replied,
 "I'm glad she's happy."
 She was never happy for too long at a time.
 She never knew I was gay, but I know
 She would have loved me anyway.

Kelley O'Day

TWIN LOVES

For Fran
 Twin loves are we.

Two sapphic sapphires
 of Venus magic inception.
 A stardust potion of earth and air
 mixed in the vial of Gemini.

Sapphic sharing sapphires
 who're heartlings of breast and vulva,
 sucklings of warmth and woman,
 couplings for astral expedience,
 sisters in a mirror image, we're
 so like. So like.

Twin loves so named
 Touched and Touching.
 Babywomen of ovum and atom.
 Double-lady-positive splits,
 Cosmically matched for thought and feeling,
 Heavenly coupled for love-long living.

Twin loves, two,
 are we.
 Sapphic sapphires, matched.
 Matelings of soul and flesh,
 so like. . .so like. . .
 So like one.

S. Diane Bogus

Fading Into The Night

Open my door and come inside
 To be near my sleeping body.
 Awaken me with your silent kisses
 And let the darkness take us
 In its arms until the morning
 Yawns sleepily in waking.
 I feel you fading into the night,
 coming passively into my power
 as I caress the sculptured designs of your body.
 I hear your breathing,
 sighs of ecstasy drifting helplessly
 through the darkness.
 I see your face
 expressing each feeling
 That stimulates your most obscure desires.
 Imagine me.
 Think of the night watching us
 come together, united not only physically,
 but emotionally.
 My spirit soars inside you
 to warm you against the coldness
 of loneliness.
 We are together as never before.
 Hold me as I come —
 to that realization.

Andrea McCann

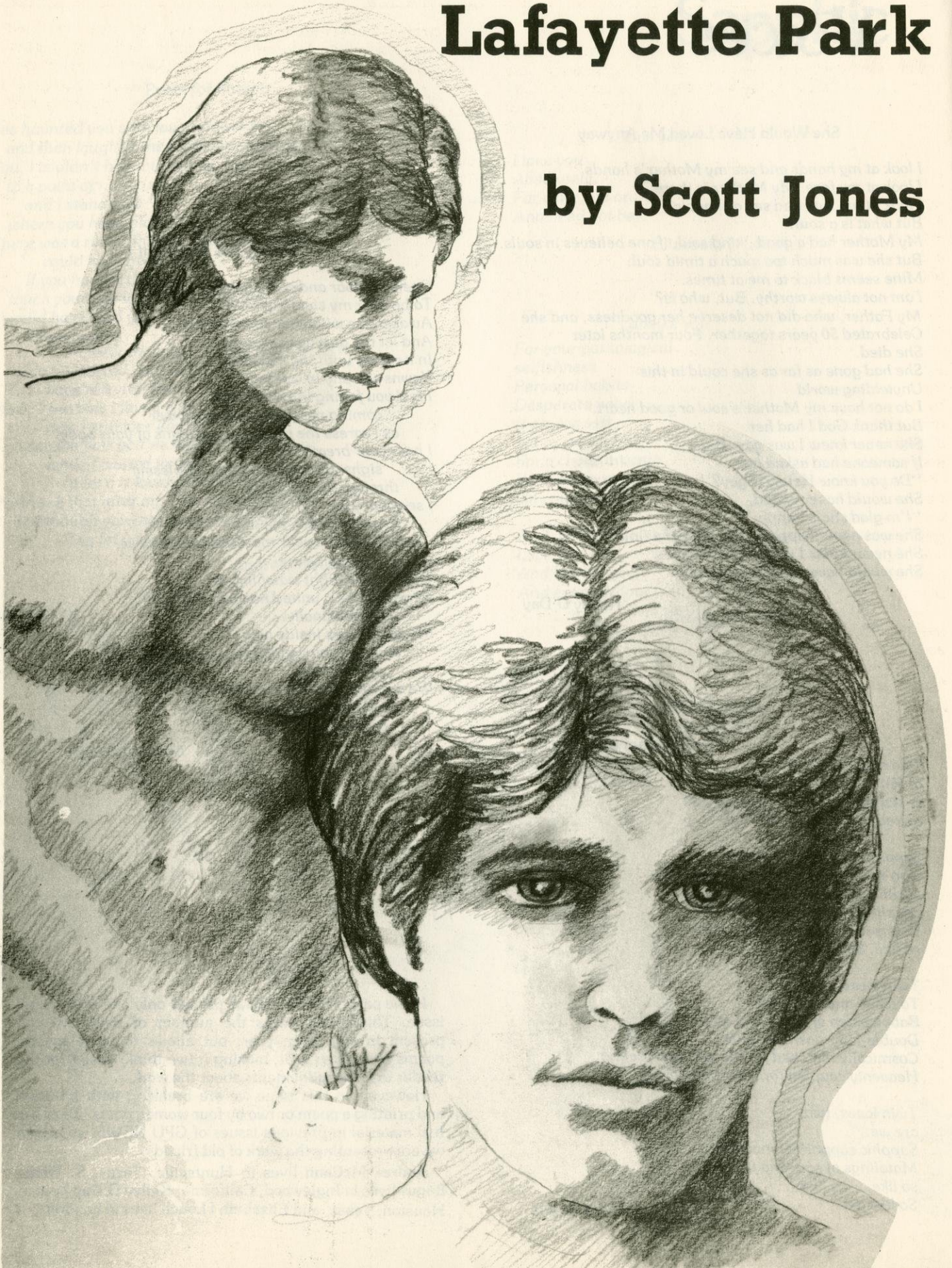
In the past GPU NEWS has printed only one poet in any issue. This policy limits the number of poets we can present in any given year, but allows to print several poems by a given poet, making it (we think) easier for the reader to make judgements about the work.

However, in this issue we are breaking with tradition and printing a poem or two by four women poets. Each has had material in previous issues of GPU NEWS, so in fact we are presenting the work of old friends.

Andrea McCann lives in Huntsville, Texas; **S. Diane Bogus** lives in Inglewood, California; **Kelley O'Day** lives in Houston, Texas, and **Elizabeth I Louch** lives in London.

Lafayette Park

by Scott Jones



I first saw the park when I was thirteen, and we'd just driven in from Concord and had some kind of family row after our ritual stop at a certain terrible restaurant in Chinatown which it has taken me these ten years to learn to stop eating at. My father drove us up Washington while my mother and brother fought and I stayed silent in the back, promising myself to run away from home as soon as I could make plans. Then the park appeared, a mounded green sundrae with eucalyptus and tufts of whipped clouds, and I was yelling, "Let's stop, we'll all feel better," thinking that if I could just sneak behind some bush and smoke a cigarette I might survive the lousy afternoon. We stopped and all went different directions, Adrian towards a swing surrounded by loping, grinning dogs, my mother to sleep in the car, my father to sit on a bench beside a Chinese-American woman whose eyes were closed in what appeared to be the intense examination of some tiny object just inside her forehead. I went straight up the hill into the grove, passing some hippies who were not impressed by my army jacket and gold glasses, trying to find some uninhabited spot. Which there didn't seem to be too many of in this park. People were lurking everywhere, and I'd just sat down when an army-jacketed, gold-bespectacled creature of seventy or eighty came up and beamed at me. He was snaggle-toothed and his hair was the color of a white Persian cat's which has said to hell with washing itself, and he made me extremely uncomfortable, nodding and smiling and standing right in front of me. After a long moment he said, "You look like someone who's interested in music."

I thought, Jesus, people seemed to be able to zero into me the first minute, I must be transparent. I said, "Yes" and I lit my cigarette and feigned disinterest.

"You don't mind if I sit down beside you here, do you?" he asked, sitting. "What music do you like?" I was silent and he gave out a low chuckle. "There's a reason for my asking. I need ideas for records. There's going to be a surprise party. For my nephew. In this room, you ought to see this room I have in my apartment, there's a view of the whole north peninsula." He looked at me, up and down. "Do you know, it's amazing. You look just like my nephew." I didn't know what to say, so I threw away the cigarette and moved back into the sun. I looked down the hill and couldn't see my father anywhere.

The man said, "You look like a boy who's interested in classical music," so deftly I lost resistance and blurted that I liked **Cheap Thrills** and **Led Zeppelin II** and Bach's organ works, and he said wasn't that something, he liked all those things too. Then he whistled tunelessly, and to this day I don't know whether he was really trying to whistle the beginning of the D-minor fugue or whether it just sounded like that to me. I thought: I'm sick of Bach, I don't ever want to hear Bach again, this man must think I'm still eleven or something. My skin felt pale enough to see through, you could just peer in and read me like notes of music, I couldn't hide anything. "You look just like that kid," the old bird said, stopping whistling. I almost jumped and ran. I said, "I've got smoke on my breath. Do you have any gum or mints so my father won't smell the smoke?" "No," he said. "Come up here and look at the view." He had a frightening way of bypassing the idea that there might be parents around, as if he'd grown

straight from child to old man without learning that there had to be adults in between. We went up the last, highest hill in the park, and the odor of eucalyptus surrounded us like a fog, so that I felt further from my family than I'd ever been. "Do you like San Francisco?" the man said, and I told him—scared and excited, because I was having a premonition—that I was going to move there some day. At the top, he pointed north to the bridge and tower and clouds, and I knew I'd never see it quite that way again, unblemished and like a postcard. He said just look how the fog rolled in over there across the bay, there was a wonderful view of the fog from his house, out his picture window. Sometimes his nephew came over and they looked out of it together, and sometimes it was so awesome they took fuck pictures out of the cupboard and had a Wesson oil party. I looked at him: a scarecrow in a hippie's garden, a wrinkled seedy angel. Very slowly, I turned the other direction and said, "I have to go."

"Do you know what a Wesson oil party is?" he said.

"It's, you know, you jack off." I said that even though I hadn't heard the expression before, and had never thought of trying it with salad oil.

He said he owned a stereo and an organ and a lot of Bach records, and if I wanted to hear them it would only take ten minutes, because it was just down the street.

"I have to go. My parents are waiting," I said, seeing the Rambler parked in the distance, shining through the trees, not so hideous today.

"Well. It was awfully nice to meet you because you're so much like Wayne, your height and everything."

"Thank you." I turned to look at him some more.

"Would you mind telling me something?" he said, smiling. "Because Wayne's just a short little guy, up to about here on me, but he's got a cock on him that's eight inches long, and I was just wondering whether yours was the same size, how long your cock is."

I ran down the hill. He didn't call out, didn't laugh or follow. I felt my hair in my face, my hair which you might use to decorate a Christmas tree with, it was that fine. And my skin as pale as tissue paper, which you could look right through and see that I was queer. I ran past the hippies who didn't notice me because they had tans and deep mustaches, and it seemed , and would seem for the next few years, that I was meant to be picked out by losers and oldsters, alcoholics and people with mental disorders who had to slink around waiting for angels to pounce on. I jumped into the car where everybody was waiting, wanting to scream that they should never buy me Bach for my birthday again, and that an old man had made a pass at me, and that I was happy and didn't know why. But I didn't show it and didn't say anything—I just turned to look at the top of the hill, which was deserted now—because I was afraid somebody would smell the tobacco on my breath.

II

Three years later I returned to San Francisco, wandered down what I know now must have been Buchanan, and bumped into the park again. It was deeper in grass that wet season and in my mood of needing something to happen I thought the grass was bluer and the air was thick with coincidences. There had even been Chinese food again—the day before, I'd gone down to the old basement

restaurant in the hung-duck district for the old Family Dinner, except this time it had been the Family Dinner for One. Immediately after this second discovery of the park I got what I was predicting, the first sex, and also—this is important—a place to live. Just after moving in, I asked Paul what his first sex had been like, and there was another surprise. Paul's answer was that one afternoon years before he'd been walking through San Francisco when he'd found this park. A man had sprung out of the undergrowth to ask if he'd like to have sex, Paul had said okay, and the man had laid him down and buggered him, right under the next bush.

"How old was the man?" I asked. We were lying in bed in Oakland, in a large old room filled with pale old light from a distant streetlamp.

"I don't know, twenty-three or four," Paul said.

Good. I told Paul about the scavenger I'd met, about how flattered and disappointed I'd been, and how auspicious it felt to have ended up here in bed with a card-carrying hippie who could really play Frisbee, instead of some loser.

"In fact, there've been all these signs pointing to this, to this experience right now," I said. I was sixteen. "Want to hear?"

"Okay," Paul said. His favorite word.

"There was this dream."

"What dream?"

"It was last week. While I was staying at the Y. I'm in a car. We're driving through a mountain gorge. There's a bull—scooping at the ground with his hoof. Stretching his chain. You know. I lean forward and tell my brother, 'I like to eat beef heart now.'"

"That's a very impressive dream," Paul said. He snuggled down.

"I think bulls symbolize fucking, don't you?" I said, to wake him up.

"It could be that you were just horny."

"As horny as I'd ever been," I said. "And then there was—there was meeting you and not knowing you were gay and, you know, attracted to me. That's kind of a coincidence, isn't it?"

"I don't think so at all," Paul said, opening an eye to switch on the radio—two A.M. and the best blues you'd ever heard in your life, doleful and maroon.

"And then the park," I said. Paul waited. "I'd had such trouble finding a place to stay. The YMCA. The Youth

Hostel. Larry's, that godawful night. My quote unquote friends in Richmond. Etcetera. Then how was it I found out about the commune, through Larry or somebody? Anyway, somebody at King's Pawn. So I called and you watched me, remember—you were doing accounts behind the counter? That was when you gave me change for the phone."

"That was when I almost asked you to move in with me," Paul snoozed. I lifted my head to look at his face but there was nothing on it except silvery blue light, so I curled back down and listened to three or four slow heartbeats. My own pulse was charging.

"Is that true?" I finally said, all at once.

"You looked frightened."

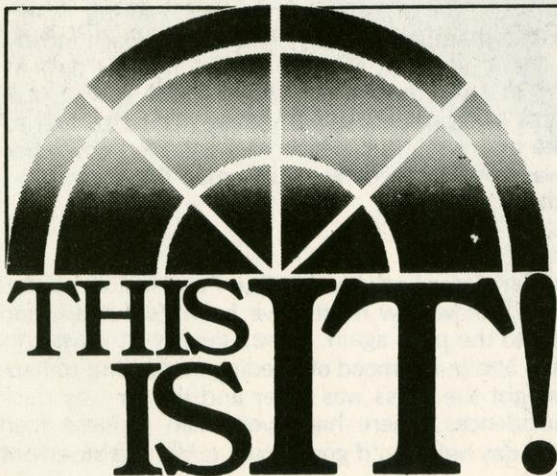
"I don't like that, looking frightened," I said, racing on, mad. "Anyway, the man on the phone said the commune would give me a test run for a week or so, so I crossed the bay and went on up. To California and someplace." California and Fillmore. "I got there and there were thirty people eating vegetables in a room the size of the Cow Palace. Finally a woman came over and asked on what basis I wanted to live there. I said, on the basis of not wanting to sleep in the gutter, and I'm not hard to live with. Paul, I'm not that hard to live with, am I?"

"No," he said, after awhile.

"I went around and tried to say Hi how are you to people. Nothing much happened. Except I had this tiny little argument. The woman who'd asked why I wanted to live there? Well, she said there were three hundred twenty-eight men in America, Europe, and Asia who controlled the world's resources. And I said nonsense, how can you know a thing like that. She gave me this really funny look, as if I was some kind of terrible counter-revolutionary. I didn't know what to do, so I got up and said how do you do some more and then all of a sudden they all got up and went to bed. Just like that. I laid down on the floor. I could look up and see these things they were supposed to attach basketball nets to—that was what the room had been designed as, a basketball court. I know, I thought, I'll masturbate, but there wasn't anyplace to do it. Six hours later it was bedtime and I went to sleep. Paul, are you awake?"

"No," he said.

"The next morning a man with too many teeth came and smiled and told me they didn't think I'd work out. And here was the way back to the East Bay Terminal. And good



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luck."

He was lean and mute and springy, like a mat. I could tell he was listening.

"Paul, what's wrong with me? What is it I do? Always make the wrong remarks, smile the wrong way, what do people see in my face? If I just knew what this defect was I could overcome it, but it's always—beyond me, out of focus." I gripped the air above the bed, trying to focus, but my hands were fuzzy and baby blue. "Nobody wants to fuck it, whatever it is," I singsang, flapping them at the wrists in jolly rhythm.

"It's innocence, and plenty of people want to fuck it, so watch out," Paul said.

That stung like hell. We stopped talking for awhile, while a tiny kind of high, ladylike voice sang a thin, blue song about having your heart break while lying awake very early in the morning. "Anyway, I thought it over and came up with nothing—no place or person."

"You could have gone back to your parents," Paul said. "Your father."

"My parents are in Asuncion and I lost my passport on the bus to the commune," I snapped. He didn't say anything else. "But it doesn't matter," I went on, sorry. "Because this—event—happened. See, on my way to go jump in the bay I turned a corner and there it was, the park. I recognized it very slowly. It was absolutely unbelievable, Paul. It was as empty as someplace out in the country, just like somebody had erased all the bad people and cleared up the weather and put new paint on the benches. It was smaller than I'd remembered—just this couple of blocks in the middle of town, can you imagine running into it like this? I went over and sat on the grass and waited for something to happen. Well, for somebody to. I wanted a man to pick me up is the truth. But there was still nobody, it was just an empty ballpark for me, like that basketball court. I waited all morning, and then it fogged up until I couldn't even see where the old man had been at the top of the hill—just me and the grass and empty swingset and millions of droplets rolling down the slope and hitting me in the face. I felt okay but I was cold. After awhile I got up and took the bus back to Oakland."

I was making the bed quaver somehow and I shifted but it didn't help. "What is this stuff on the radio? This is the most beautiful stuff I ever heard," I said. Paul said it was Billie Holliday, a new name to me, and I thought I could hear dark colors and rain in the piano. "This is what I want to play," I said. "This is what I can't explain about that park, except that it—took me somewhere, made me think, I can start over, I can be clean now, I can. You know, come out. That's why I went back to King's Pawn. I thought: I'm going to go in and sit down in front of one of you guys and say, listen here, I happen to be one hundred percent gay and I don't care what you think of it but I thought you ought to know, because that's how it is, Jack." Paul was scratching me, slowly, on the head. This time we were silent a long while, listening to Billie Holliday hold her last notes. Then the song ended with a bunch of junky cords that sounded like groceries falling out of a busted bag. "And then I got there and I lost it. I walked in and lost that cleanness, because it was crowded and you were there plus the other sixteen men I had crushes on, and I don't know—I was there.

"Scared," Paul said.

"Yeah, okay," I said. "All I could think of was playing the piano and drinking something to get warm.

Paul sighed. I tried to get my teeth to stop chattering.

"I think," I said, "that you chose the best moment of my whole life to come over and invite me home."

"The piano was nice. You were pretty," he said.

Something about that made me furious. I leaned up on one elbow and the whole bed trembled. "What do you make of all this stuff, then—the dream and park and all that?"

"What do you mean?" he murmured, in a way that told me we were already beginning to be a little bit bored with each other. "What do you make of it?"

That took me by surprise. Twenty seconds lapsed. "We didn't just run into each other for kicks, did we? The park wasn't there for nothing. We wouldn't be here in this bed if it wasn't for that park," I said. But it came out like a question—silly, innocent—and I thought how long and hard I'd played on the nights I'd known Paul was listening, and suddenly I wasn't sure the park had anything to do with it.

III

I picked up Johnnie last night in a Castro Street bar filled with pinball machines, dirty orange light, and mirrors. He's a handsome man, reminding me of farmers on my dad's side—of whom I didn't exactly know. We stood at the bar, me with my toothbrush sticking out of my shirt pocket because that's the look now, ready-for-anything. I'd spent the evening getting sober and he'd spent it getting drunk. He didn't know what to say, he didn't know what to do, all he knew was he was attracted to me. We made out, stopped to take long pulls of beer, made out, stopped and looked at opposite exits, as though we were there waiting for other people. So as not to explode, I guess. And we didn't talk much. We left about one, and when we got outside he told me he still thought I looked all right. I said that was lucky, because in that bad amber light you could pick up your own father without realizing it. He said that was an interesting thought and what did I think about his being forty-two. That he was kidding, I said.

We hitched a ride up Clayton with a polite man in a red golf shirt who asked how the bars had been this evening. Oblivious to that, Johnnie sat on my lap and said in a scared voice that he was crazy and what was my opinion of that. "I like it," I said, telling myself I was ready for anything, that if he pulled a knife or some other nonsense I'd just tell him to behave himself. Lay down the law and tell him to can it. We got home to an apartment with large north windows facing a city that looked like lights on the ocean. He turned on the stereo and a lamp. I went over and said, "I can see you weren't kidding, now."

"What do you mean?"

"About being forty-two."

"How do you know I'm not forty-four?" he asked.

"Games," I said, and he looked at me sideways with that beautiful suspicious squint. He went in to the refrigerator and came back.

"You like poppers?" he asked. Everything depended on that.

"Yes," I said. We sat down. Four, five minutes of silence, of Aretha Franklin. Something was nagging him.

He got up and went over to take the needle off of **Dr. Feel-good**, a favorite of mine, and put it on the next song. I didn't ask why because I didn't think it was a good idea. He came back and sat so that our legs overlapped like a pile of hands, and about a minute later we stopped being uncomfortable around each other and started being aroused—maybe I've been that aroused five or six other times. He put the vial under my nose and then under his and then, from an enormous distance, I heard him say, "I would like to have my head inside you," and the remark came in so close, so much closer than anything I'd expected, that it was like hearing the news of a crash. Surviving a crash. I grabbed him.

This morning when I woke up he was gone. The window in his bedroom was letting in blue and gold, cold dry blue and gold, and I must have paced and tried out three chairs and talked to myself for twenty minutes before I realized what I wanted to do: tape my phone number up on the glass. I did that and then left and went to Chinatown to eat lunch. I was served a baked dish of assorted meats that contained, among other trinkets, pieces of beef heart. At four or so I got back to Joanna's, which is where I've kept my suitcase this week, and answered the phone.

"You want to make a second night of it?" the crazy fellow said, frightened again.

"I'd love to," I told him.

We figured out somewhere to meet. Johnnie was still working for another hour or so. I got my lens case and money and put a gold chrysanthemum in my buttonhole, and I tried out some more chairs and wrote several versions of a thank-you note to Joanna. Then I closed my suitcase and called the airport and took care of everything else except getting myself to want to leave this place, and finally I decided to start walking to Johnnie's so I wouldn't go nuts. Even though it was too long a walk by the time I decided on it.

Halfway to Castro, I heard bells tolling and realized I must be somewhere near St. Mary's. I wanted to see whether somebody was playing the organ; I wanted to stop and breathe a second. But I hurried on. There was a sudden scent of eucalyptus. A park. That slow, oozing sense of recognition that comes when you approach a thing from a different place than you have before. Just in front of me, a narrow asphalt path led up a hill that was colored a sharp sherbert green, as if it existed outside of time and drought. Around the corner was the eucalyptus grove and

beneath it were the swings, and the benches where my father was still not to be seen, and the bathroom, only now the wall was sprayed with the words, "Queers are Gay." Which tonight, this year, struck me as being the most sensible thing you could say about them. The lawn still had hippies on it but there were other men, too—graphic artists, salespeople from the garden equipment department of Sears. Strolling, lolling, walking their dogs, cruising. This was how it had been all along, which is what I should have realized, could never have realized until now.

Up the hill was the view of the bridge and Coit Tower, waiting underneath those silver trees, but when I got up there I thought, It's not so wonderful anymore, the view's better from Johnnie's. The hilltop was vacant and its grass was like a soldier's crewcut. Somewhere in town was an old chickenhawk, probably a dead one by now, and I owed him something—whatever you owe the one who makes the first pass at you. The feeling of somebody's-making-a-pass here is familiar now, but there's always the small jolt of surprise, particularly when I find that the one who's making the pass is myself, like with Johnnie last night. Tonight I threw my chrysanthemum on the lawn for the chicken hawk, said Hail Mary, and jogged down the hill. Aretha seemed to be the music in my head today.

I hadn't stayed long, just long enough to almost have to run the rest of the way. "Hi, Dad," I said to Johnnie when I found his barstool. This was the most light I'd seen him in. We ordered me a beer and I asked the question I'd memorized: "What's the name of the park that's between Buchanan and Gough and Sacramento and Washington?"

"Lafayette Park? You haven't been here long; have you?" he said. That sensual thing in his voice was his Oklahoma accent, I realized.

"I'm on vacation, Okie. I don't move here till next year. When did you get here?"

"I was here—out—in nineteen-sixty."

"So was I, that was the year I came from Concord to be on the Bozo show."

"You came out on the Bozo show? You were even born then?"

"I was twenty," I said. "We're both well-preserved." I sipped the beer. I like Johnnie a lot. Another sip. "Want to hear the saga of Lafayette Park and the potted beef heart?"

He did, and I told him, and asked if he thought coincidence meant anything. It was still troubling me. If some-



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HERE & THERE

Seattle, WA—A resolution which will lead to the barring of gay persons from ministry in the United Presbyterian Church has been approved by the Presbytery of Seattle.

Seattle Gay News

Corby, UK—After being a regular customer at the Maple Leaf Pub for six years, Alex Dobson has suddenly been informed that his custom is no longer welcome. The reason, according to David Spencer, the pub's manager, is simply: "I've learned that he is gay."

Gay News (London)

Chicago, IL—George Collins, Chairperson of the Illinois Gay Rights Task Force, has announced his resignation from that position. Maintaining that "the community is irreparably divided," Collins stated: "There isn't anything I can do right now. I have no ideas how to alleviate the situation."

Gaylife

New York, NY—Forty-three men and six women signed a large advertisement in the March 30 issue of the **New York Times** to assert their "conversion" from homosexuality to heterosexuality. They advertise "Aesthetic Realism", a neo-religion which claims to offer its members a new way to see the world.

New York Times

Wichita, KS—Robert Lewis, 29, President of the **Wichita Homophile Alliance**, has quit his job as a state social worker, charging that harassment by supervisors has endangered his mental health. Lewis resigned on advice from his psychiatrist, and has filed suit in federal court against the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services for \$40,000. He claims that he was persecuted because of being gay.

Gaysweek

Bloomington, IN—A ten-year study on homosexuality by the University of Indiana's Kinsey Institute is shortly to be released. The study, authored by psychologists Alan Bell and Martin Weinberg, concludes that gay men are better adjusted and happier than their heterosexual counterparts. Based upon extensive interviews with gays in Chicago and San Francisco, numbering almost 1,500, the study was funded by the National Institute for Mental Health.

Gaysweek

Cleveland, OH—A local organization of gay Catholics here wrote to Rosalyn Carter explaining the purposes of the group and asking her for a recipe for the cookbook which it planned to publish. The president's wife responded with a recipe for flank steak, and with her best wishes to the organization.

Playgirl

Vacaville, CA—Officials of the California Medical Facility have approved conjugal visits between Robert Barnes and his transsexual wife Kate. The prison had discontinued the visits in March because of a report that Kate had not completed the transsexual operations.

San Francisco Sentinel

Paris, France—Eleven men appeared in a Paris Magistrates Court charged with having "outraged public decency" in the left bank nightclub, **le Manhattan**. The police arrived in May of 1977 with electric torches in order to raid the nightclub. A report read in court gave a detailed account of sexual activities which the police claim to have observed during the raid, following which the club was also closed for three months. The trial has been set for October 3.

Gay News (London)

Honolulu, HI—A district court judge has aroused outrage here for dismissing a charge of rape against a marine who reportedly hit a jogging woman with his car, threatened her with a bottle, and then dragged her to his car where he raped and sodomized her. Having questioned the woman for twenty minutes, Judge Robert Richardson ruled that there was no rape because the woman did not fight back or run away. The marine will still be charged with sodomy, since that is an "unnatural act."

Big Mama Rag

New York, NY—Psychiatrist Richard Green and a team of researchers at the State University of New York studying children being raised by lesbian mothers says that the children are developing along identical paths to children raised by heterosexual parents. The sample includes 21 children ages 5 to 14. Green says that there is not the slightest indication that being raised by a lesbian mother influences the child's sexual orientation.

Gaysweek

Seattle, WA—Marc Calija, who acknowledges that he is gay, isn't going to become a policeman in King County—at least not now. Calija's name was not among the fifteen selected by the King County Public Safety Department to attend the new police training academy.

Seattle Gay News

Washington, D.C.—President Carter has announced that he will establish an interagency panel to further the aims of women. After being presented with the official report of the National Women's Conference held in Houston last November, Carter promised to "redouble our efforts to keep the spirit of Houston alive."

Gay Community News

thing can point you the right way, a senior man or curious recurrence, you might as well get its help. Johnnie took a long gulp and came up with a crisp row of foam icicles on his mustache. He said, "Coincidences?" He combed the icicles off pensively with his lower lip. I watched his face, watched the question wind through tunnels and train over obstacles and finally reach the home stretch. He smiled. "I don't know," he said.

Maybe that's what I like about him, that he doesn't help.

Since it was my last night we took in four bars and a cafe, and all along Johnnie said, "Don't think you owe me something, go home with whoever you like."

I said nicely, "Fuck whatever you want, but I'm planning on sleeping at your house tonight."

He looked at me, pleased, with his wondering salt and pepper grin. I don't know much about him except for that grin. That, and that he talks about his dead family, and that he drinks three beers to my two, and tonight I drank eight. When I finally got him to decide to go home, and we were sitting in the bus, he turned to me and said, "Why do you have to leave?"

"School," I said. "It's all right. I'm ready to leave." All this week, all through the bars and museums and baths, I've been frantic, hurrying around with an itch to play and nowhere to stop and do it. Now I remembered Johnnie's little spinet, like the one they used to have at King's Pawn, the right size of piano for tonight, this week. I asked him if I could use it.

"You play?"

"Not much anymore. For old times' sake."

"How can you say 'old times?'" he accused.

"I've been saying it since I was eight," I said.

"What do you play?"

"Two, three songs. 'Dr. Feelgood.'"

He said, "I can't believe that."

"Why?"

"I don't know why. It's just a favorite," he told me. "It hurts. It makes me think how long it's been since I was thirty-two." But with his head against the window, flashing dimly with the streetlights, something happened to his age again, and he looked like he'd just turned thirty-two, wouldn't turn it for ten years.

Now after the songs, I feel younger and oddly braver than I used to, than a month or a week or even an hour ago. I'm not afraid to be leaving tomorrow. As Johnnie falls asleep he lets out a breath that sounds like it's been held in since this morning, since last year, since nineteen-sixty, since he was born. Twelve beers times five nights a week is sixty times fifty-two times however many years it's been since he started doing this is so many beers it's a miracle he doesn't look eighty. Now he's breathing fast, furiously, two three four hundred times, hyperventilating like an asthmatic who's just gotten his wind back. I don't think I've ever been moved in quite this way before—to feel fatherly, older than this man, and then young too and worried about myself, worried to bits. Now he's letting loose one last terrific ripping snore and settling down to his repose like a sane man. I start to drift away, with the swaying through space that accompanies the first sleep. Johnnie coughs. I rouse, sink back. I'm in the middle of this room with lights shimmering all around and I can point myself anywhere, I can see the way to the park as if I'm following a line of neon. Now I'm on the hill under the trees and there's beer and Aretha's voice, shooting over my head like a glowing yellow flower. Why does the smell of eucalyptus always make me morose? I'm still hurrying, hunting, hunting for somebody who's not at the bottom of the hill where he should be, who's my father. I wake up a little, put my arm across Johnnie's back. He sighs. I'll probably keep bumping into the park no matter how well I memorize the streets. I'm not ready to leave tomorrow, am not ever ready for anything—I'm not ready to see this fuzzy old tattoo on his arm that says, "Oh Dad."

"Splendiferously Funny."

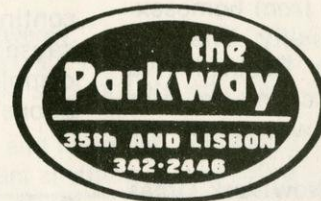
—Penelope Gilliatt, *The New Yorker*

"It's a ball of a brawl."

—Judith Crist



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HERE & THERE

Norfolk, VA—Fifteen men aboard the Norfolk-based nuclear attack submarine Bluefish have been charged with possession or use of marijuana, and seven others have been discharged since June for alleged homosexual activity, the Navy has reported. While shore-based sailors are guaranteed a court-martial for either offense, seagoing personnel receive only a captain's mast. The court-martial is more like a civilian trial, whereas the mast does not provide the usual elements of due process.

Associated Press

San Diego, CA—Despite an official stance of "no endorsement" from its gay caucus, the California Democratic Council has voted to endorse Governor Jerry Brown for reelection. This is the first time in 16 years that the independent political organization has voted to endorse a candidate.

Gaysweek

Sacramento, CA—Deans of the University of California and Stanford University Medical Schools have lodged an active protest against the proposed new state guidelines on the teaching of human sexuality to medical students. The drafting of the rules was mandated earlier by the state legislature, and is being undertaken by the State Board of Medical Quality Assurance. The proposed guidelines specify a thirty-hour credit course, indicate what materials are to be covered, and require an interdisciplinary faculty. While both deans have agreed to the need for sex education for medical students, they claim that the guidelines are too detailed, and constitute an assault on academic freedom. Another problem is that physicians trained outside California may be required to take special sex courses in order to be licensed within the state.

Associated Press

Norfolk, VA—Willie Dunne, Jr. testified in federal court that he fears for his life because of incriminating photos which he has of kidnapped whiskey heir Samuel Bronfman II. Dunne is on trial for interstate transportation of forged checks; and, though a key witness in the Bronfman kidnap case, he was not called to testify. The photos, according to Dunne, depict homosexual activity between Bronfman and Mel Patrick Lynch, one of Bronfman's kidnapers. Dunne noted that he has been living underground since the Bronfman trial for fear of assassination at the hands of Bronfman family agents.

Associated Press

Boston, MA—The telephone "hot-line" designed to collect information on the alleged "boy sex ring" in Boston, has been disbanded. The line was the brainchild of Suffolk County D.A. Garrett Byrne, whose decision to eliminate it came in the wake of a class-action suit filed in Massachusetts Superior Court by gays from Boston.

Gay Community News

Denver, CO—**Virago Productions**, a feminist collective producing women's cultural events in the Denver area, has received a \$41,096 grant under CETA, the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. The grant will allow Virago to do more community-based events, including performances and workshops with schools and nursing homes.

Big Mama Rag

Ontario, Canada—**Lord Alfred's Lover**, a new play by Eric Bentley tracing the trial of playwright Oscar Wilde, will be published in the Spring issue of the **Canadian Theatre Review**. Bentley is a leading theatre critic and human rights activist. This will be the first time that the new play is published.

Gaysweek

Milwaukee, WI—Bruce Edgar, an 18-year-old freshman at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, has been turned down as a waiter at the Playboy resort in Lake Geneva. The job which he sought was that of a Bunny, and he apparently flunked the physical. Edgar's mother happens to be executive director of the Wisconsin Civil Liberties Union, and they are examining the possibility of fighting the rejection on grounds of sex discrimination.

The Milwaukee Journal

Madrid, Spain—In a book just published, **Sexual Report on Spanish Women**, Dr. Serrano Vicens claims that 32% of Spanish women under the age of 45 have had homosexual experiences and over 7% can properly be described as lesbians. Vicens attributed the high incidence of lesbianism to a lack of gentleness and understanding on the part of Spanish males.

Instituto Lambda (Madrid)

Washington, D.C.—The U.S. Supreme Court has let stand a lower court ruling which upheld a ban against a survey of student sexual attitudes by a New York City high school newspaper. The survey asked questions about homosexuality, masturbation, premarital sex, contraception, and other matters, and had been banned in 1976 by school officials at Stuyvestant High.

Gay Community News

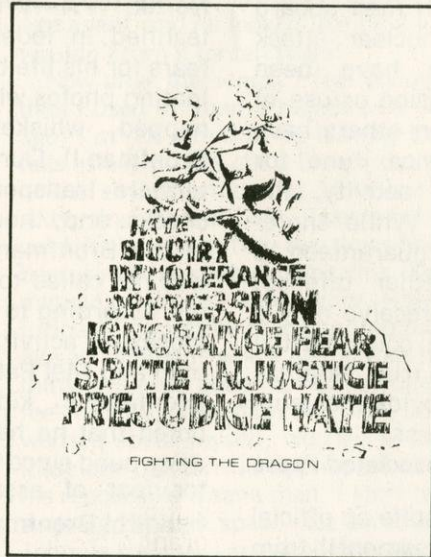
Richmond, VA—A State Crime Commission task force has recommended that rape no longer be classified as a sexual crime. Rather than a crime of sexual gratification, the task force claimed that rape is motivated by the rapist's aggressive feelings towards members of the opposite sex. Included in the report was a recommendation that heterosexual and homosexual rape be treated equally under the law.

Associated Press

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Recently, GPU NEWS commissioned award winning designer, Bob Stocki to do these two powerful, original designs for their covers. They are now available as 17½" x 22" posters, hand silk screened on heavy art paper, suitable for framing. Each poster is limited to 1,000 numbered copies and is mailed rolled in a sturdy cardboard mailing tube. Orders will be filled in order of receipt with lower numbers going to earlier orders. \$5.00 each.

GPU NEWS is a monthly, non-profit news/magazine devoted to the gay liberation movement. Now in its seventh year, each issue contains news, articles, reviews, poetry, fiction, cartoons and classified ads. GPU NEWS has been described as "one of the nation's finest gay liberation publications." Copies are mailed in sealed manila envelopes.

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Cover Design: Robert Uyvari

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HERE & THERE

Washington, D.C.—The Defense Department has asked Congress to end the ban against women in combat roles. A bill already passed by the House and now in the Senate would eliminate the Women's Army Corps (WAC) and end all military differences of treatment based on sex. The Pentagon wishes to involve more women throughout the Armed Forces because of increasing personnel shortages due to the end of the baby-boom.

Gaysweek

Manchester, UK—Members of the City Council have agreed by an overwhelming vote that a 6,200 pound (about \$12,500) grant should be awarded to the Manchester Gay Information Centre under the government's Urban Aid Programme. The council's decision, which came shortly after the Centre celebrated its third birthday, was hailed by the Centre staff as courageous.

Gay News (London)

Queensland, Australia—Police here have launched a campaign against all gays, following the lead of the police in New South Wales, whose anti-gay campaign is now eight months old. Included in the present campaign is the compilation of a secret dossier on all known homosexuals and the use of police decoys in cruising areas in and around the city.

Campaign

Birmingham, UK—Executive Manager Eric Smith walked out of his \$10,000-a-year job because he was told he would have to work in a building where a gay publication (SAM) was being printed. An industrial tribunal, having heard his claim that he was disgusted at the thought of working so near a gay publication, awarded him \$7,500 in compensation on the grounds that his resignation amounted to "unfair dismissal."

Gay News (London)

Chicago, IL—The Tavern Guild of Chicago voted last April to institute a building fund in memory of Frank Rodde III, a gay bartender whose life was tragically taken in April of 1977. In just one year, the fund has raised over \$12,000. Underway are plans for the construction of the Frank Rodde III Memorial Building, which will house a gay library, lecture halls, exhibit rooms, and other facilities intended to serve the gay community.

Gaylife

San Francisco, CA—American G.I. Forum, a national Chicano rights group, has sacrificed a grant of \$50,000 from the Adolph Coors Foundation by continuing its support of both the strikers at the Coors Brewery in Golden, Colorado and of the gay boycott of Coors Beer.

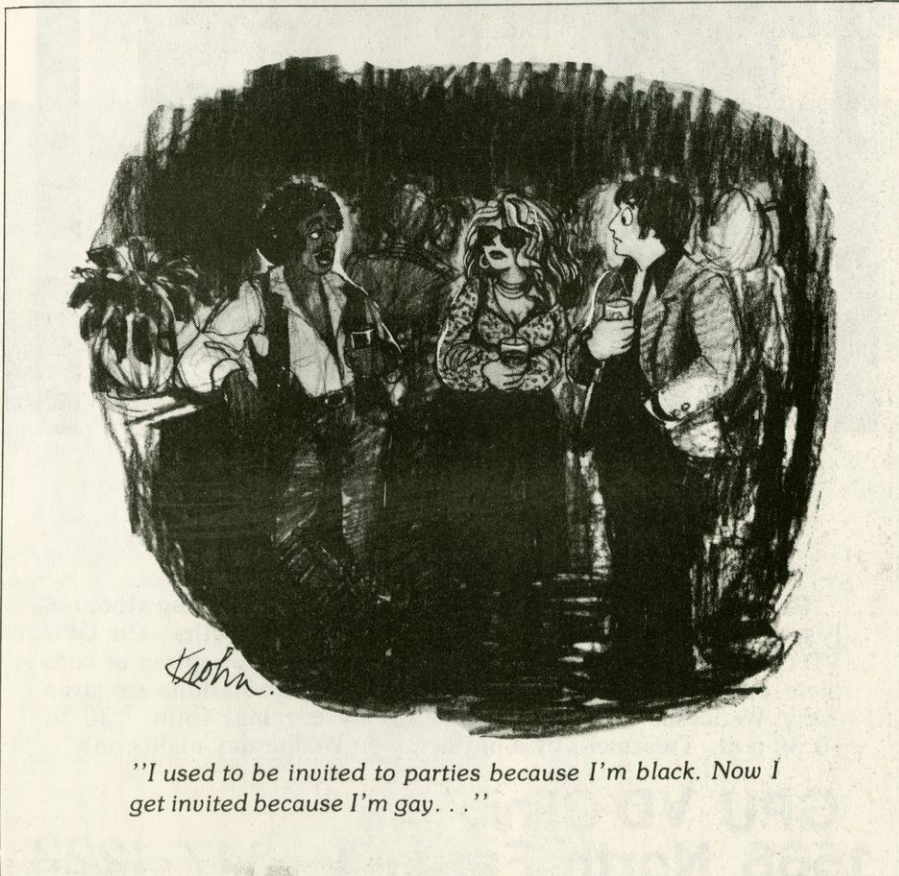
Bay Area Reporter

Chicago, IL—The Howard Brown Memorial Clinic is actively looking for new and larger facilities to house its services. With the growth and popularity of its services to the gay community, the present quarters at 2205 North Halstead) have become cramped and inadequate.

Gaylife

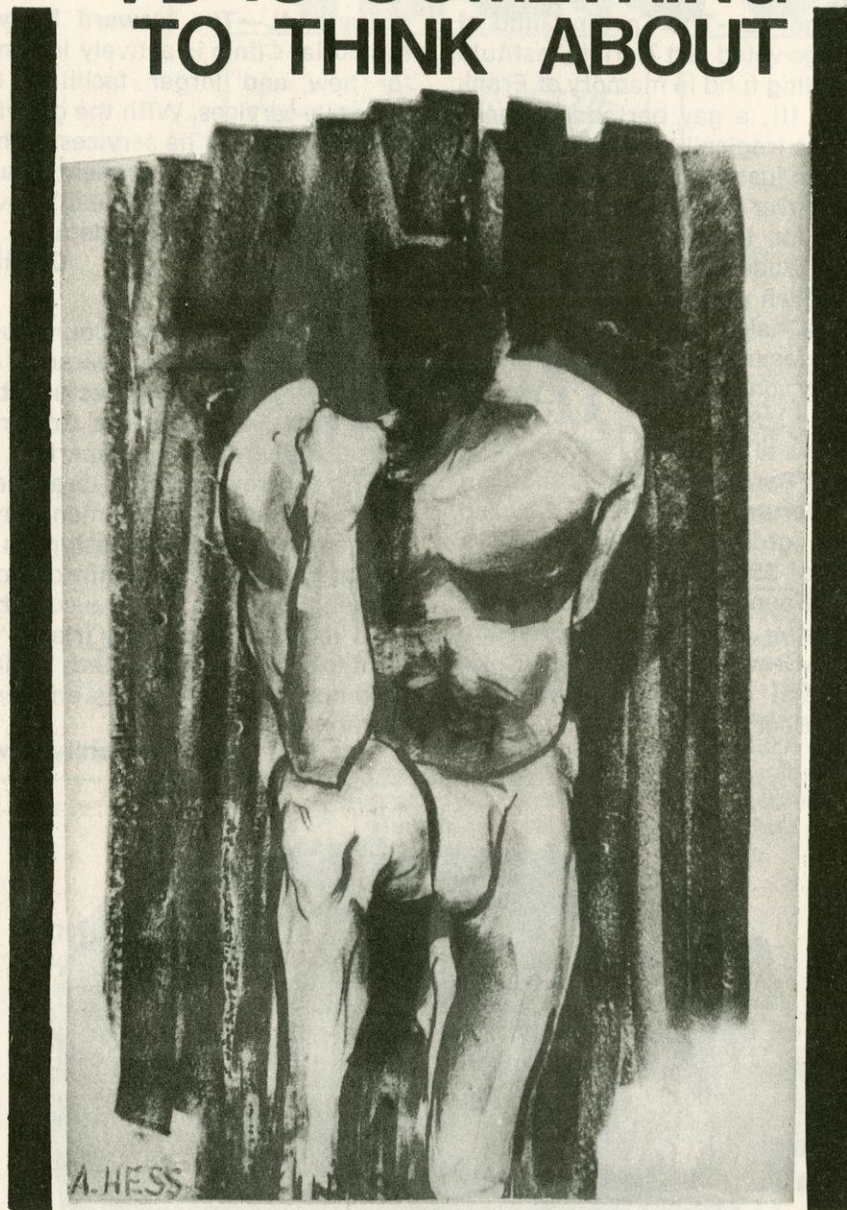
Boston, MA—Superior Court Justice Robert Bonin's appearance at an April fund-raising lecture by Gore Vidal to benefit the Boston/Boise Committee has sparked a raging controversy in all branches of Massachusetts government, and the demand that Bonin resign. In a prepared statement, Bonin denied knowing that the funds would be used to affect upcoming trials. "I went to a church," he noted, "solely to hear a lecture by an eminent literary figure."

Gay Community News



"I used to be invited to parties because I'm black. Now I get invited because I'm gay. . ."

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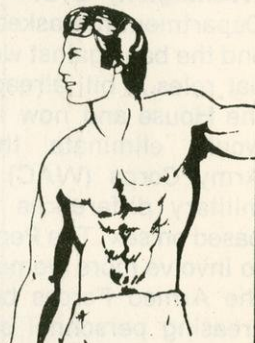


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TIGER ROSE BIRTHDAY SHOW

The **Tiger Rose Birthday Show** was presented at the **Factory on Broadway** on May 7. Although Tiger acted as m.c., the show was built around other local entertainers and a trio from Cleveland, Ohio called **The Love Birds**. In an interview with GPU NEWS Tiger explained that the show was not intended as an ego trip, but rather as a showcase for other fine entertainers.


The theme of **Crazy Rhythm** unified the acts in the first half of the show which began with a Black & Tan Fantasy presentation of **Chata-nooga Choo Choo** featuring Kelley Michaels, Mama Rae and Tiger. Sandi Alexander presented **Don't Force It**. Other numbers in the first half included: **Its Always Been You; I Found Love; You've Got the Best of My Love** and **I've Made up My Mind**.

The second half of the show featured **The Lovebirds**, Sandy Lovelace, Diana Soul, and Big Mama. This talented trio was making its first appearance in Milwaukee. They opened with **I Don't Want to Love You** followed by Big Mama's rendition of **O Happy Day**. Sandi Alexander did a dance number with Brian called **Can't Stand the Rain**. After several numbers by the trio, Sandy Lovelace performed **Disco Inferno** with live flames. The entire ensemble finished a satisfying evening with a rendition of **New York**.

Art Wille handled the lights and Mark Johnson the sound. Tiger made a plea for funds for GPU Legal Defense Fund and the hat was passed, resulting in a generous contribution to the fund.



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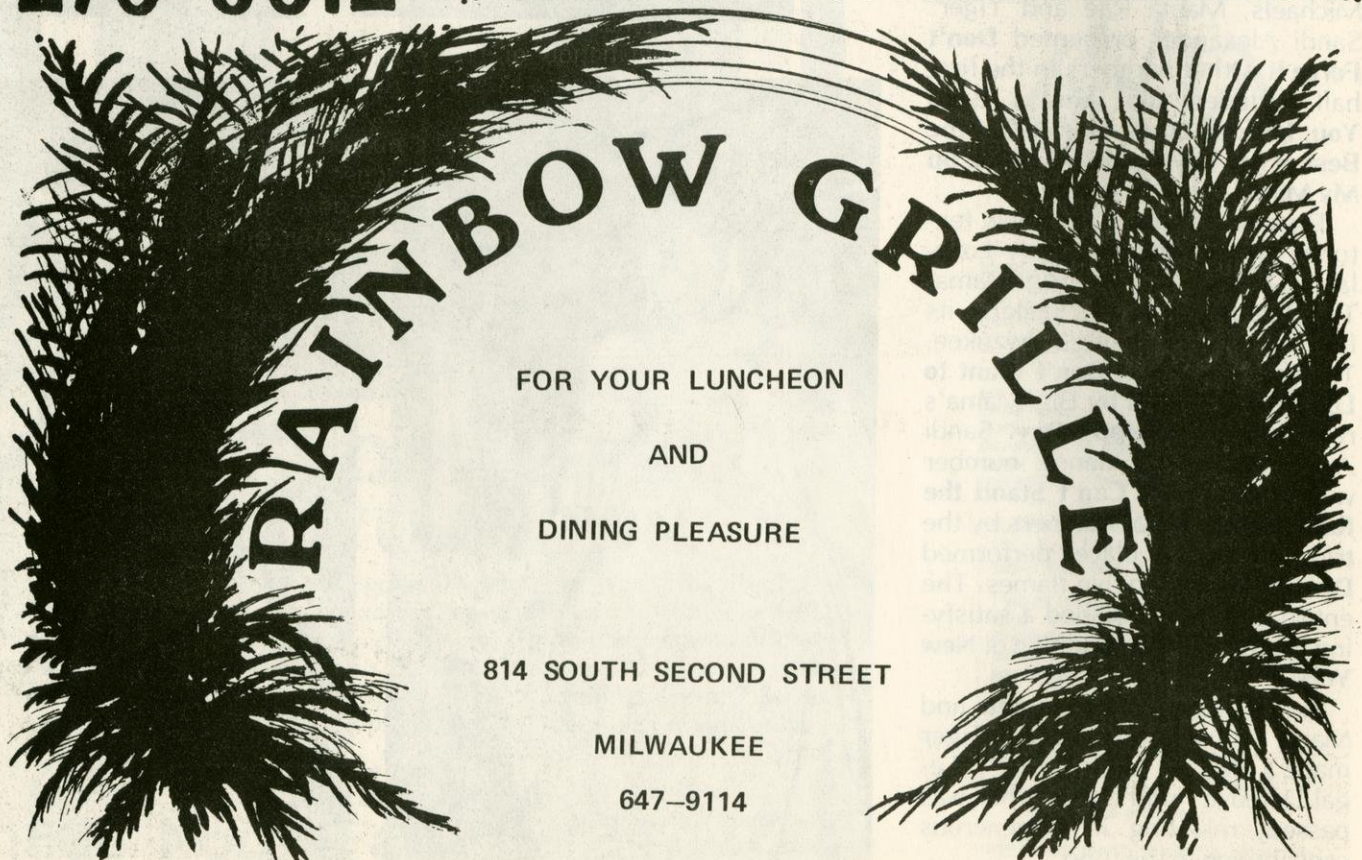
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SONGS AND DANCES OF THE WOMAN WITHIN



Robin Lou Trusty-Hiersche

Songs and Dances of the Woman Within by Robin Lou Trusty-Hiersche. Grossmont Press, San Diego, 1978. Paper, \$3.95.

Reviewed by Ruth Conlon.

The poet is a feminist and humanist who attributes her attitudes in part to her early upbringing. Her parents held no sexist restrictions, and she grew up feeling that she could be what she wanted to be. In a women's study course at Evergreen State College she discovered that women have a history of their own—in literature, art, music, and simply as historical figures. She has been working within the feminist movement ever since.

Songs and Dances of the Woman Within is divided into seven sections: Songs of my Body, Dances of Childhood, Songs of Complaint, Dances of Death, Songs of Sappho, Dances of Departure, and Songs of Freedom. Readers of a musical bent will recognize the rondo form in the song-dance alternation, and note that the rondo is itself a dance form. The section entitled "Songs of Sappho" pleased me most, but then I'm biased—its central poem ("The Frostbite Aphrodite") is reprinted from GPU NEWS. The Dances of Death also offer some memorably striking verses. "On Loving and Losing the Mentally Ill" is a poignant commentary on the vision of pain and helplessness. Two poems follow dedicated to the memory of Florris and Ruth. The closing poem, entitled simply "To Know the Dying", is the shortest of the four. "We are most eloquent in our ascent/of the human zion so carelessly/named death.//Actually speaking of our loss—/our mourning:/and never take the hand of death at all/to climb to somewhere higher.//It's just a promise to the flesh/I have no thoughts of knowing/what it is/I only know the taste that sorrow leaves/when I am left behind."

The author takes her standards from J.D. Salinger—"Were all your stars out?", and "Were you writing your heart out?". **Songs and Dances of the Woman Within** explores many things which most of us have thought, but which few of us have been able to put into words. It is magical verse. Ms. Trusty-Hiersche writes from the heart, and her stars are out.

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REVIEW

Towards a Charter of Homosexual Rights. London: Campaign for Reason, 1978, paper binding, 35 pp., U.S. orders 46 p (about \$1) by sea-mail (include \$1 additional for air-mail) Order from Campaign for Reason, c/o 2 Radcliffe Avenue, London NW10, U.K.

This well written and concise position paper on gay rights is intended as a weapon in the ongoing battle against irrational prejudice and homophobia. Names of its first 174 sponsors (politicians, academics, clergy, and many public figures) are included in the publication. The Campaign for Reason hopes that, by publishing the impressive and lengthy list of sponsors, the document may also be of use to gay persons and organizations in their own local and national campaigns. Readers are urged to send copies not only to gay friends, but to politicians, libraries, and other individuals with influence.

The charter itself is divided into four parts. The first is a set of five beliefs, all of which center upon the fact that it is homophobia, rather than homosexuality, which is a disease and threat to society. The second part offers a list of possible sources of the phobia, and ends by declaring that those who fear and hate homosexuals are in need of special understanding and help. The third and fourth parts are, respectively, a statement of social challenge (rights for all) and a call to social and political action.

The words "gay" and "homophobia" are avoided in the charter, which is written in a somber and non-idiomatic language accessible to any readers, whether they know something about gays and gay liberation or not. There is an appendix which deals with "gay" and "homophobia", and relates the appearance of these terms to the emergence of gay identity and the collective desire on the part of gays for human dignity and rights.

A second appendix offers a beautifully concise series of worthwhile quotations, beginning with Thomas Paine in 1791 ("Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must like men undergo the fatigue of supporting it.") and ending with Leonard Barnett in 1975 ("The qualities which enrich and dignify human relationships between married couples are precisely the same value and reality when experienced by gay people. . . the natural thing is to proclaim it with joy and thankfulness.")

Much of this has of course been said and said well before. The trick, for a position paper which is to have influence and standing outside the gay community, is to say it briefly, convincingly, and with a minimum of sloganism and repetition. The message wears well if it is succinctly put. And the trick has been performed here with consummate artistry and full mastery of sources and message. Gay organizations may wish to write to the Campaign for Reason for bulk rates on multiple copies. Thousands of copies have already been distributed in the United Kingdom, and the booklet deserves a widespread audience here as well. Please note that the Campaign for Reason is a non-profit fund; so, if you do write for information, include at least one International Reply Coupon (available at any post office) to help defray their costs.

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Lost Goddesses of Early Greece by Charlene Spretnak. Illustrated by Editt Geever. Moon Books, Berkeley, California, 1978. Paper, \$4.95.

Reviewed by Lee C. Rice, Ph. D.

The habit of viewing Greek mythology through the medium of Greek literature has produced a fundamental error. For literature Homer is the beginning; but, for mythology, Homer offers not a starting point but a culmination. Homer's gods are selected for the part which they serve within the

magic which his literature yields, but they are selected from a multitude of other gods. Beneath the literary surface lies a stratum both richer and more populous from a mythological point of view. For thousands of years before the classical myths took form and were committed to writing, a rich oral

tradition existed, only strains of which are evident in the later myths.

Feminist writers have often complained that the Olympians differ in many ways from the pre-Hellenic goddesses, that they in fact betray a particular type of male chauvinism—a Greek chauvinism different from the contemporary, but chauvinistic for all of that. The pre-Hellenic goddesses enmeshed with people's daily experiencing of energy forces in life; whereas the Olympian gods (and, secondarily, goddesses) are distant, removed, "up there." The cult of the Virgin Mary is perhaps the last refuge of this distant Hellenic goddess-form, and she reveals her connection to her ancestor-goddesses by giving birth parthenogenetically to her own god-son.

When the gods were full-fledged women, they were fully involved in the world of human beings. Gaia created the world, Pandora gave bountiful gifts, Artemis led her followers in estatic dances, Hera rewarded women who ran the first Olympic races, and Athena peacefully protected the home. We know their names and a part of their stories only through the relatively late myths of the classical period, shaped by a patriarchal society which was the product of three waves of invaders, the Ionians, the Archaeans, and the Dorians.

Charlene Spretnak has here reconstructed the earlier myths by relying first on a host of archaeological sources and fragments, secondly by a close analysis of the myths of the Hellenic period, and lastly by attention to what remained of the oral tradition when it fed into the development of Greek literature. The volume does not offer a full mythology, but rather a series of myths which can at least hint at the earlier myths of the Greeks. The results are genuinely impressive, the stories are interesting in their own right, and they provide a rare combination of solid research and poetic writing.

The full account of gay and feminist history and literature has yet to be written, for the pieces of the puzzle are not even completely assembled in even the barest of outlines. Two thousand years of Christian repression and "editorial license" have succeeded in virtually effacing many traces of what gays have been and have done, and similarly for women. It is only natural to look to the Greeks for leads and clues in the pursuit of our history and our heritage; for the Greeks, whatever their faults and limitations (and they were many) were not homophobic, and whatever their patriarchal leanings, they were certainly less horrific than those of European society. The Greek (and Roman) gods and goddesses were also at once more interesting and more humane than those created by subsequent civilizations (including our own). They were gods whom one would like to meet—which can scarcely be said of their successors, distanced from us geographically and carefully packaged in mystery and marketed in oppression.

Ten goddesses are included in this volume, and their tales are one and all interesting and readable. For those interested in further archaeological and academic pursuit of their roots, footnotes to the myths are placed unobtrusively at the end of the volume; and there is also a list of sources for further reading. The book is a joyful and liberating experience in itself, and pure enjoyment in the reading.

Moon Books (Box 9223, Berkeley, CA 94709) is a women's publishing company committed to a wide variety of feminist literature, much of which is of interest to gays generally, and almost all of which is also available in paperback format. A catalogue is available from the publisher, and individual orders (which should include an additional 15% for postage and handling) may be sent to Women in Distribution, Box 8858, Washington, D.C. 20003.

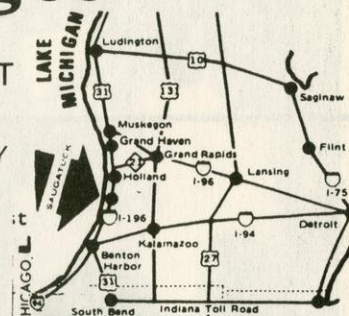


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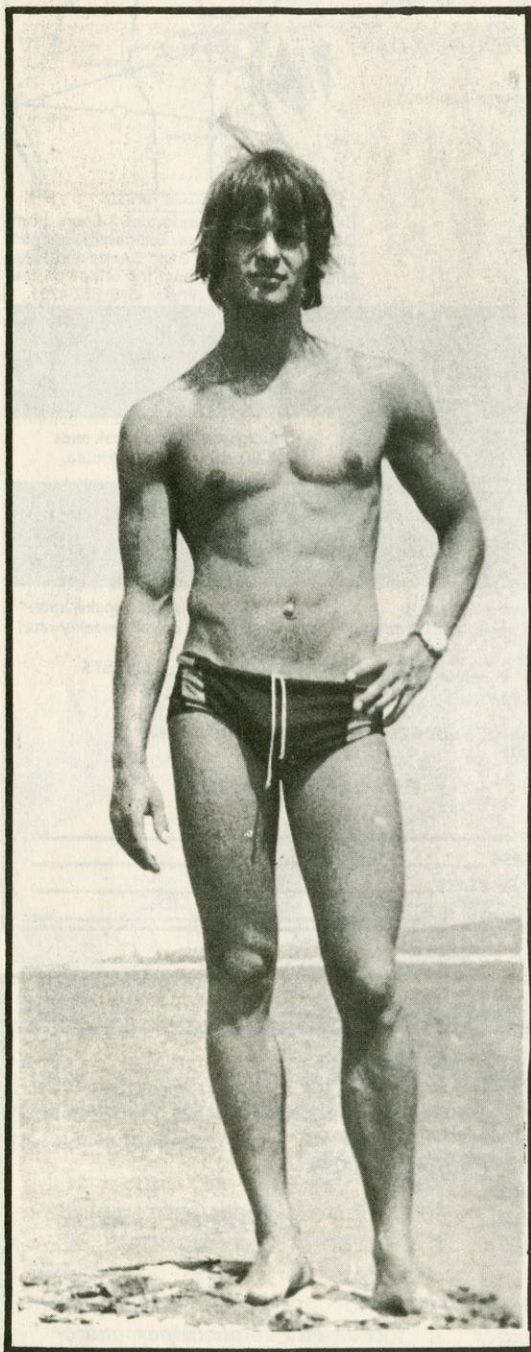
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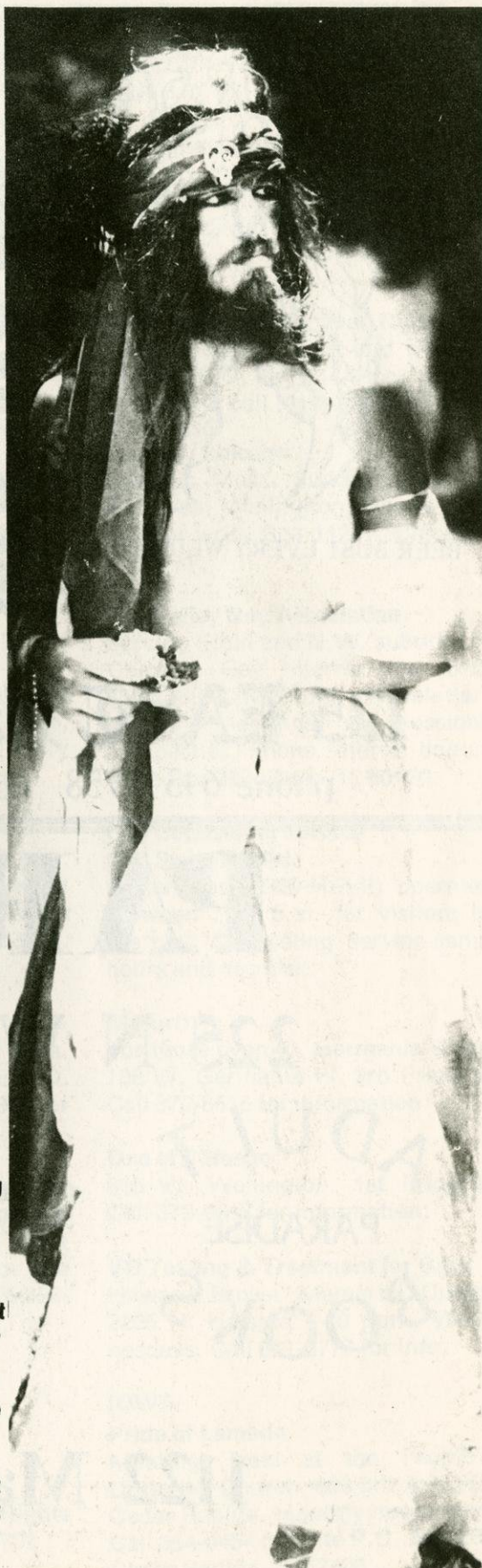


Photos, pages 46 and 47 by REVOLT and HEY

- JUNE 1** Jodee's (Racine), Gala opening of outdoor beer garden. Little Jim's (Chicago) Movie Night, 9 p.m. "Strike Up the Band."
Sidetrack Lounge (Cedar Rapids), Disco Extravaganza, through June 3.
- JUNE 4** Jodee's (Racine), Party & Cookout in beer garden. Red Lion (LaCrosse), Potluck lunch with free beer, volleyball, & swimming, 2 p.m., Nelson Park on French Island, Phone (608) 782-9172 for information. Man's Country (Chicago), Movie Night, "The Andromeda Strain."
Gold Coast (Chicago) Movie Nite, 5 7 10 p.m., "Live and Let Die."
- JUNE 5** Gay Peoples Union (Milwaukee) Business meeting, 8 p.m., The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell.
Pride Week (Chicago) Benefit, The Baton, 436 N. Clark.
- JUNE 6** Parkway Theatre (Milwaukee) Benefit showing for GPU Legal Defense Fund, "The Ritz", 7:15, 9:30 p.m., 35th and Lisbon, \$2.00 donation.
Pride Week (Chicago) Benefit, The Baton, 436 N. Clark.
- JUNE 7** Man's Country (Chicago) MOvie Nite, "Cover Girl."
Dreva at 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ Lifeart by Jerry Dreva through June 30, Water Street Arts Center, 1247 N. Water, Milwaukee. Party 9 p.m. til midnight.
The Baron (Milwaukee) Benefit Show for GPU Legal Defense Fund.
- JUNE 8** Little Jim's (Chicago) Movie Nite, 9 p.m., San Francisco. Side Track Lounge (Cedar Rapids), Disco Extravaganza through June 10.
- JUNE 9** Pride Week (Chicago) Benefit, Broadway Limited, 3132 N. Broadway.
- JUNE 11** Man's Country (Chicago) Movie Nite, "Silent Movie."
Gold Coast (Chicago) Movie Nite, 5 & 10 p.m., "The Front Page."
Dignity (Milwaukee) Picnic at Holy Hill, write P.O. Box 597, Milwaukee, Wi 53201.
- JUNE 12** Gay Peoples Union (Milwaukee) Meeting, 8 p.m., Speaker, Jim Medina, candidate for Assembly, 5th District, The Farwell Center, 1568 N. FARWELL.
- JUNE 15** Little Jim's (Chicago) Movie Nite, 9 p.m., "Blondie of the Follies."
Sidetrack Lounge (Cedar Rapids) Disco Extravaganza, through June 17.
- JUNE 16** Pride Week (Chicago) Candlelight March, 8 p.m., phone (312) 348-8243 for information.
- JUNE 17** Pride Week (Chicago) Benefit, The Knight Out, 2936 N. Clark Street.
- JUNE 18** Man's Country (Chicago) Movie Nite, "Rollerball."
Gold Coast (Chicago) Movie Nite, 5 & 10 p.m., "Dirty Duck."

Pride Week (Chicago) Picnic & Volleyball, afternoon, for information call (312) 327-7072.
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

- JUNE 19** Gay Peoples Union (Milwaukee) meeting, 8 p.m., The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell.
Pride Week (Chicago) Parade Preparatory meeting, Call (312) 348-8243 for information.
- JUNE 20** Pride Week (Chicago) Workshop, sponsored by Sunday Evening Writer's group, Call (312) 327-7072 for info.
- JUNE 21** Man's Country (Chicago) Movie Nite, "Auntie Mame." Pride Week (Chicago) Movie Nite, Call (312) 348-8243.
- JUNE 22** Little Jim's (Chicago) Movie Nite, 9 p.m., "Dancing in the Dark."
Pride Week (Chicago) Benefit, Call (312) 348-8243.
Sidetrack Lounge (Cedar Rapids) Disco Extravaganza, through June 24.
- JUNE 23** Pride Week (Chicago) Loop Rally in Daley Plaza, 1 p.m., Valerie Taylor, Guest Speaker.
Pride Week (Chicago) Town Hall Meeting, evening, Call (312) 327-7072 for information.
- JUNE 24** Pride Week (Chicago), Annual Dance, Call 348-8243.
- JUNE 25** Man's Country (Chicago) Movie Nite, "Paper Moon."
Gold Coast (Chicago) Movie Nite, 5 & 10 p.m., "All About Eve."
Pride Week (Chicago) Ninth Annual Parade, line-up at 1 p.m., Step-off at 2 p.m. Rally & Awards, Same Route as last year.
Pride Week (Chicago) Gay & lesbian Movies by the Task Force on Gay Liberation of the American Library Assn., Day & evening hours through June 28, Call 348-8243 or 327-7072 for daily schedules.
Pride Week (Chicago) Benefit, The Bushes, 3320 N. Halsted Street.
- JUNE 26** Gay People's Union (Milwaukee) Meeting, 8 p.m., The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell.
Pride Week (Chicago) Films, See June 25.
- JUNE 28** Pride Week (Chicago) Films, See June 25.
- JUNE 29** Little Jim's (Chicago) Movie Nite, 9 p.m., "Presenting Lilly Mars."
Sidetrack Lounge (Cedar Rapids) Disco Extravaganza, through July 1
- JUNE 30** Pride of Lambda (Cedar Rapids), "This is It", at the Warehouse, 10 p.m., also on July 1. See ad elsewhere in this issue.
Indianapolis Coalition for Human Rights, Midwest Gay/Lesbian Awareness Conference, through July 2, Write ICHR, Box 20124, Indianapolis, IN 46220.
- JULY 1** Gays United of the Quad Cities (Rock Island) Moonlight Madness on the Mississippi, Chartered River Boat Cruise from 9-12 p.m., departs from Main St. Levee in Davenport, write GUQC, Box 444, Rock Island, IL 61201.





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Forker Motorcycle Club

“A Men and Women Riding Club” Meets every second Sunday of the month. Write P.O. Box 11362, Milwaukee, WI 53211.

Gay Al-Anon

For lovers and friends of gay problem drinkers. Meets Sundays, 6 p.m., The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell.

Gay Alcoholics Anonymous

Meets Sundays at 6 p.m. at the Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell. Call 272-3081 and ask for group 94.

Gay Peoples Union, Inc.

Meets every Monday at the Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell at 8 p.m. Business meetings the first Monday of each month. The Farwell Center is open every night from 7:30 to 11:00. Call 271-5273 or write P.O. Box 92203, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

GPU VD Clinic

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Grapevine

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Lutherans Concerned for Gays

For information write P.O. Box 92872, Milwaukee, WI 53202 or call 963-9833.

Metropolitan Community Church

P.O. Box 1612, Milwaukee, 53201. Meets each Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell.

Milwaukee Health Department Social Hygiene Clinic

841 N. Broadway, Room 110
Phone: 278-3631
Clinic Hours: Mon & Thurs from 11:30 a.m. to 7:15 p.m.; Tues, Wed & Fri 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. and 12.45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Silver Star Motorcycle Club

Business meeting ever 2nd Sunday of the month. Write PO Box 1176, Milwaukee 53201. Club night every 2nd Friday at the Wreck Room.

UWM Gay Community

Meetings Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Union (check daily event sheet for room) Write c/o Student Union, UWM, Milwaukee, 53211. Call 276-1376.

WISCONSIN

Fox Valley Gay Alliance

Serving Appleton-Oshkosh area. Meets twice monthly. Write: P.O. Box 332, Menasha, WI 54952 or call 414-731-5576.

Gay Students Assn./Oshkosh

Univ. of Wis., Oshkosh, Box 51, Dempsey Hall, Oshkosh, WI 54901 Meets twice monthly, info and counseling available. Call 414-426-0832.

Lesbian Switchboard

306 N. Brooks (UYMCA)
Madison, WI 53715
(608) 257-7378 - 7-10 p.m.

Madison Committee for Gay Rights

PO Box 324, Madison, WI 53701
Phone (608) 251-2937

Madison Gay Center

1001 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53715

Renaissance of Madison, Inc.

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Fox Valley Gay Association

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Gay Switchboard

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Maturity

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615 W. Wellington, 1st Fridays. Call 372-8616 for information.

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Howard Brown Memorial Clinic, 2205 N. Halsted 7-10 p.m., Wednesdays. Call 871-5777 for info.

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