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GPU NEWS

May 1977

Vol 6. No. 8

60¢



Dave Kopay

Gay Life Photo by Rich Pier

WISCONSIN BILL CLEARS COMMITTEE

Madison, WI—The Judiciary Committee of the Assembly voted 8 to 5 in favor of the sexual privacy bill, AB 323, during executive session on April 19. The bill now moves to the floor where the entire Assembly will take up the measure on May 3.

Prior to their 8-5 vote, the Judiciary Committee adopted an amendment to the bill which insured that minors would be unaffected by the bill's provisions and defined the term "in public."

Voting in favor of the bill in committee were: Peter Bear [D-Mad], Steve Brist [D-Chippawa Falls], David Clarenbach [D-Mad], Michael Ferrall [D-Racine], John Gower [R-Green Bay] Mary Lou Munts [D-Mad], Louise Tesmer, [D-Mil], and Phillip Tuczynski [D-Mil].

James Rutkowski [D-Mil], Tom Hauke [D-West Allis], Tobia Roth [R-Appleton], Harry Snyder [R-Oconomowoc], and Tommy

GAYS PLAN RALLY

Madison, WI—The University of Wisconsin Student Union will be the scene of a May Day Rally by sympathizers of gays who have begun what they call an anti-Anita Bryant campaign.

Mayor Paul Soglin and State Rep. David Clarenbach are supporting the rally.

Funds raised will be used to support Florida Gays who are defending the Dade County ordinance that prohibits job discrimination based on sex preference.

In a letter to Dade County commissioners, Soglin said a similar statute in Madison "has not had the negative impact feared by some citizens."

"It has not led to recruitment of children by older gay people," Soglin said. "It has not destroyed the family as the building block of society. Nor has it led to a great influx of people into Madison who desired to be protected under the ordinance."

Thompson [R-Elroy] opposed the measure.

Sponsors of the bill and members of the **Wisconsin Alliance for Sexual Privacy (WASP)** are working feverishly to line up favorable votes from uncommitted legislators and trying to convince those who are opposed to change. They urge you to call your State Representative and urge him/her to vote in favor of this

legislation. Telegrams can also be sent to the law makers at the State Capitol.

Roger Durand, spokesman for **WASP**, feels the bill will pass, but points out that it is "now or never" for this session. If AB 323 should go down to defeat, a sexual privacy bill cannot be introduced until the next session which is two years away.

DADE COUNTY VOTES JUNE 7

Miami, FL—Ruling that Dade County's homosexual rights law was constitutional, Circuit Court Judge Sam Silver said the controversy has "created a chaotic, divisive, restless, emotional atmosphere in our community" and that the controversy should be quickly resolved. Almost certainly, it won't be.

Silver had hardly finished explaining his decision when both sides announced plans for new lawsuits.

In the wake of the judge's ruling, the Dade County Metro Commission voted 5 to 4 to uphold the ordinance originally passed last January 18. The Commission had been under pressure to repeal the ordinance, at least temporarily, so as to avoid the cost of a referendum. It is now all but certain that the public referendum scheduled for June 7 will take place.

The Dade County Coalition has announced that Leonard Matlovich

ILLINOIS RIGHTS

Springfield, IL—On April 21, the Illinois House Judiciary Committee voted to recommend passage of HB 577, forbidding job discrimination because of sexual orientation.

Two other bills, dealing with discrimination in housing and public accommodation, failed by one vote to be recommended.

Thus, HB 577 joins HB 575 (previously recommended, and covering job discrimination by state colleges and universities). Both bills will now be coming up for a vote in the full House within about a month.

has taken on the full-time task as spokesperson for the coalition. A Florida native, Matlovich has appeared on all major network and syndicated television programs, and has gained national prominence all across the nation in his campaign for equal rights and his fight to stay in the Air Force.

The Coalition, the umbrella organization for over a dozen different gay and non-gay groups, is conducting a massive nationwide fund-raising and political effort to win the local election.

Anita Bryant has taken her anti-gay crusade nationwide and is now speaking out against the gay rights bill before the Congress.

The Miami election could have a tremendous impact on gay rights everywhere.

Recent polls show gays would win 56% to 44%.

BILL ADVANCES

As is the case in most gay liberation projects, a handful of people have been working hard to get these law passed. More help is now urgently needed. All 177 members of the House need to be contacted, in person and by mail. This takes time and more people.

The **Gay Rights Task Force of the Alliance To End Repression** is spearheading the lobbying effort. They hope to make at least a decent showing during this session, if not victory. You can call them in Chicago at 427-4064 for more info.

WHITE HOUSE SPARKS ACTION

New York, NY—Jean O'Leary and Bruce Voeller, Co-Executive Directors of the National Gay Task Force (NGTF), have disclosed that subsequent to their March 26 meeting at the White House, appointments are being scheduled with all but two of the agencies involved with the issues of Federal Discrimination outlined to Presidential Assistant Margaret Costanza and other Administration officials. (See GPU NEWS April, 1977).

They also disclosed that arrangements have been made for a second White House meeting in September, to assess the progress made in resolv-

GPU PLANS TRIP

Milwaukee, WI—The Board of Directors of Gay Peoples Union has announced that a gay educational trip to Amsterdam, Holland is being planned for the eight days covering the end of September and first of October, 1977.

The trip will feature round trip air fare direct between Chicago and Amsterdam via KLM Airlines, with single occupancy hotel reservations at an exclusively gay hotel in Amsterdam. Additional sight seeing trips are being planned, including a city tour. Total cost for all scheduled features, including air fare, hotel and transportation will be \$795.

The tour will be led by Mr. Pat Batt, Chairperson Board of Directors Gay Peoples Union. Additional details may be obtained by calling him at (414) 276-4333 or by writing him directly at 1628 N Franklin Place Apt 22, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

WYOMING PASSES LAW

Cheyenne, WY—Wyoming became the nineteenth state to repeal its sodomy laws in mid-February.

Governor Ed Herschler signed a new overall sex law reform bill that passed the state's Senate by a 2 to 1 margin and sailed through the Assembly with a 3 to 1 majority.

ing the issues during the previous six months. Ms. Costanza has stated that after the September meeting she will "welcome a request for a meeting between NGTF and President Carter and will recommend such a request to the President."

Other developments that are a direct result of the March 26 White House meeting include:

A scheduled meeting between Ray Hartman and Virginia Apuzzo, co-chairpeople of the Gay Rights National Lobby and Frank Moore and other members of the President's Congressional liaison staff to discuss the gay-rights bill in Congress.

An up coming meeting with Patricia Wald, Assistant Attorney General for Legislative Affairs, to discuss discrimination in Federal prisons and in immigration and naturalization policy.

Meetings with Dr. Chester McGuire, Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity, and with officials of HUD, the Civil

GAY ELECTED TO CITY COUNCIL

Madison, WI—Jim Yeadon, openly gay candidate for Alderman, was successful in his bid for election on his own defeating Robert Eska in the April 5 general election by 500 votes.

Eska made Jim's homosexuality a campaign issue bringing it up again and again when meeting with "Frat Houses." [Most of the district lies within the Dormitory-Fraternity House area of UW-Madison.]

Yeadon said, 'I ignored it as an issue, but if it came up, I faced it head on.'

Most of his campaign workers were straight and Jim feels it was unfair to put them on the spot to defend his sexual preference.

The 26-year-old Yeadon had been serving out the term of Robert Wiedenbaum since last October. He was selected over 13 other contenders by the City Council at that time.

Service Commission, the Commission on Civil Rights, and the Departments of State, Defense and Health Education and Welfare.

The two agencies with which meetings are not set are IRS and the FCC, which are independent agencies not under Administration control.

KAREN ROBISON TO SPEAK

Milwaukee, WI—Gay Peoples Union will host Ms. Karen Robison at their May 16 meeting when she will present a film on the gay lifestyle entitled **The Invisible Minority**. A discussion and rap session will follow the movie.

A speaker from the **Women's Coalition** will address the group on May 23.

May 2 features GPU's regular monthly business meeting and they will have an Open Rap discussion on the 9th. No meeting is scheduled for the 30th due to Memorial Day.

GAY ELECTED TO CITY COUNCIL

A gay activist, he played a leading role in framing the Madison ordinance which extended anti-discrimination safe guards to gay people.



Photo by Bill Bland

ONE OF CHICAGO BANQUET

Chicago, IL—One of Chicago, Inc., one of the nation's oldest ongoing homophile organizations, held its thirteenth annual banquet on April 23 at the Como Inn. More than 250 persons heard the Reverend Malcom Boyd, well known theologian, lecturer and author, speak of his experiences since coming out of the closet.

Boyd, who has long been active in the civil rights movement told of being jailed for demonstrating for civil rights for blacks and of being arrested twice for conducting peace masses at the Pentagon and again while demonstrating in front of the White House. He said that without interest in human rights Christianity is nothing and that he is "more interested in Christianity as a movement rather than institution." He noted, however, that "religious gays and anti-religious gays have to bury the hatchet and work together."

His audience cheered him when he said, "Anita Bryant is not Joan



REV. MALCOM BOYD



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of Arc, but the Wicked Witch of the East. What goody two-shoes doesn't realize is that in taking on gays, she is taking on the most talented and articulate people in the world. We're dangerous."

One of the features of the evening was the presentation of the Paul R. Goldman Award for meritorious service to the gay community. In past years this award has been given

to an individual of merit, but this year the award was presented by Mr. Goldman to the Chicago newspaper **Gay Life**. The award was accepted, on behalf of the entire staff, by Grant L. Ford, publisher.

Special entertainment was provided by Karen, vocalist from **His 'n Hers Bar** and door prizes were presented to holders of lucky ticket numbers.

MCHR TO HOLD BENEFIT FOR GAY RIGHTS

Milwaukee, WI—Milwaukee gay organizations have joined together to form the Milwaukee Committee for Human Rights to create some positive publicity to counteract the dirge coming from Anita Bryant and show Miami gays they support their cause.

The new coalition will hold a benefit for "Gay Rights" at the **Inferno** on Sunday May 22, from 7 pm until closing. Robert S. Basker, Executive Director, of the **Dade County Coalition for Humanistic Rights of Gays**, will participate in the rally, and members of the **Milwaukee Entertainers Club** will perform. Additional entertainment is still being lined up as we go to press. Tick-

ets are \$2.00 in advance and \$2.50 at the door.

There will be two meetings on May 20 to finalize details of the benefit. UWM Gays will meet in the Wisconsin Room East in the afternoon, and there will be a Militant Forum at 8 pm at 3901 N 27th.

In addition to showing Miami gays they have Wisconsin support, the new coalition is emphasizing current legislation pending in Madison that affects Milwaukee gays and can be the nucleus for future gay rights action on the local level. For additional information you may write them at Union Box 189, Milwaukee, WI 53201 or call 963-7799.

GPU NEWS

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GPU NEWS photos by Patrick Batt

EDITORIAL

Almost one year ago, when the editorial board of **GPU NEWS** was in the throes of final legal and administrative changes prefatory to the incorporation of **GPU NEWS**, someone dropped the suggestion of changing the name of the publication. It was a suggestion quickly forgotten, the sort of frivolous mandate which one might impose upon a committee in order to prevent its taking up important work. But then, on retrospect, why not? What is so newsworthy about **GPU NEWS**? Glance at any recent issue, and what do you find. The first two or three pages are occupied with contemporary chronicle (new news), a few pages of **Here & There** scattered throughout the remaining near-fifty pages (regurgitated news): about six pages in all, roughly 13% of the average issue—hardly a 'news magazine' by contemporary standards, so why the name?

One easy answer for keeping it is that it's here and we have it. Printing new letterhead is costly, filing name-changes for articles of incorporation time-consuming, and re-writing and remailing advertising downright dreary in the prospect. There is a somewhat deeper reason, however; and, even if the cynic complains that it may be no more than a rationalization, it pays to remember that even a rationalization may be truer than we care sometimes to believe. The point is that there is lots more news than meets the eye.

Book reviews are news. They offer capsulized summaries of what is going on in the world of writing, fiction and nonfiction, fact and fantasy. Reviews are ultimately subjective and polygamous entities, and it's a truism that those who read the most in an area generally read the fewest number of reviews—after all, if you've read the book, then a review will either confirm what you already know, or disconfirm what you didn't believe in the first place. It is also a fact, however, that none of us read as much as we should, and

few as much as we'd like to read. Those with the most free (nonworking) hours are often professionals condemned to read assiduously in our own specialty just to keep up with the times. And for those of us without enough time for gay reading, book reviews can provide precious insights into the what, who, and wherefore of current literature and nonfiction. And the informed gay person can ill afford to ignore this literary world. Its deeds are perhaps not news in the relevance-laden sense of political, economic, or social events; but, I suspect that, long after the political and social events of our times have been consigned to the sewer of ancient history, our

literature may live to inform, move, and inspire.

Poetry is news. Plato regarded the poet as a trafficker of lies and illusion; but, like most philosophers, Plato wasn't above a bit of trafficking on the side, and this statement is surely an instance. Poetry is not information in the card-catalogue or computerized sense of the term (a perfectly respectable sense, I hasten to add), but it offers us the opportunity to experience our world in new lights—to see the old in a new way, and often the new in an old way. It is, in brief, an avenue of human experiencing and feeling without which we are each the poorer.

(turn to page 7)

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25th Assembly District

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State Capitol
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WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE
ASSEMBLY CHAMBER
MADISON
53702

April 22, 1977

Dear Friend:

We want to report to you that on Tuesday, April 19th, the Judiciary Committee of the Assembly voted 8-5 in favor of the sexual privacy bill, Assembly Bill 323. This bill would essentially decriminalize sex between consenting adults in private. (Previous to its 8-5 vote, the Judiciary Committee adopted an amendment to the bill which insured that minors would be unaffected by the bill's provisions and defined the term "in public".)

As the bill stands now, it is a very reasonable piece of legislation. Sexual acts in public and sexual acts involving minors continue to be illegal. While some have claimed that this bill is designed to provide protection for Wisconsin's homosexuals, in fact the bill guarantees sexual privacy for all Wisconsin adults. It decriminalizes normal sexual conduct between man and wife, much of which is in fact illegal under current Wisconsin statutes.

Assembly Bill 323 has been scheduled for floor debate on Tuesday, May 3rd. It will probably be a very close vote with most of the resistance coming from suburban and rural legislators around the state. If you know or have friends who know, or are represented by, suburban legislators, please be sure that those legislators receive letters in support of this bill at least several days before May 3rd. Your efforts could mean the difference between defeat and passage of this bill.

Thank you again for your efforts to date and for your continued support of this bill to provide sexual privacy and dignity to all Wisconsin adults.

Regards,

JAMES P. MOODY
State Representative

STEPHEN R. LEOPOLD
State Representative

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EDITORIAL (from page 5)

As the poet experiments in new modes and aspects of gay sensibilities, those of us unable to lead are at least blessed with the chance of follow—to see ourselves and our lifestyle in new ways.

Short stories are news. The novelist or short-story-writer is, like the poet, a student of perspective and alternative experiences. That gay themes, gay lifestyles, gay attitudes, and gay persons can be integrated into the ever-evolving canvas of literary exploration is news of the highest importance. The literature of a people (or a community) is its soul. As gay persons and as a gay community we have not found our soul, but the increasing growth and richness of our literature attests to the fact that we're looking.

So, when next you pick up a copy of **GPU NEWS**, don't consign yourself to looking for the news only in the opening pages and the **Here & There** (don't bypass them either, for they're certainly news too). Gay liberation is news—its literature, its poetry, its book reviews; and each gay person is a part of that news. And, if each gay person can become better informed, not just of the political and social events of gay liberation, but also of its ongoing literature and experience, that too is news—and very good news indeed.

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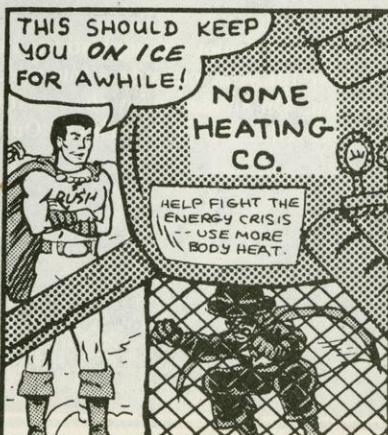
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INTERVIEW WITH DAVE KOPAY

REGARDING A PARTICULAR ATTITUDE

BY PETER PEHRSON

The *Dave Kopay Story, An Extraordinary Self-Revelation*, by David Kopay and Perry Deane Young, Arbor House, New York, 1977, 247 pp., ill., \$8.95.

In gay journalism circles, there is a particularly wicked form of virulence to which even Dorothy Parker might hesitate to put her name. It is known as the "Be devastating or be damned" syndrome. The properties of this phenomenon are demands on the part of writers that their subjects have the wit and diction of Noel Coward, the humility of a Jesuit novitiate, personality of Tallulah Bankhead and the general appeal of Sex—because if you don't, sweetheart, you're a rip-off and a fluke. The interviewee should be witty and amusing so writers won't have to be when they write the piece. These writers sometimes sharpen their typewriter keys on the hearts of their victims. A quick chop to the psyche is easy to toss off; the writer is despised by the person and therefore remembered; the public is tickled at the mere mention of action and the interviewee gropes its way home to the primordial pools from whence it surfaced.

Dave Kopay was in New York this past month making television, radio and street appearances to promote his new autobiography written with Perry Deane Young, *The Dave Kopay Story*. *Village Voice* columnist (Bell Tells), Arthur Bell, noted in a recent column that Kopay's first author's press conference was a "mistake" and Kopay's holding-forth was "verbal mush." Bell continued:

"When he compared his homosexuality to football—'You're out there on the field and you find all your weaknesses exposed'—one wondered why he came out at all. When he admitted he got paid six figures, one knew. Dave thinks he will



Photo by San Francisco Forty-Niners

be an inspiration, a role model to those millions of gay little leaguers—or whatever they're called—who finally have a handsome 35-year-old grid-and-iron man to relate to. I blanch at the thought. But he does have big shoulders."

Kopay's perception of the same event was a bit different. "You should have seen those guys. It wasn't the straight press that gave me hassles for being gay. It was the gay press going at each other's throats in the audience." There were certainly enough gay events to cover in Grand Old Gotham that day without making into a carcass the football player turned self-chronicler. Arthur Bell happens to be one of the sweetest men ever to win his numerous journalism awards. And his cynicism is well-placed in New York, haven of the shill and gull. But this approach to Kopay is the approach of many gays. We gays have never been famous for our unity, but one would think once in a while for the sake of novelty if for nothing else, that we might support one person's conviction, simplicity and decency for the length of a press conference. It doesn't make us naive for doing so.

Kopay is nothing more than he appears to be and says he is—an ex-jock who discovered, painfully, his sexuality, wrote about it, had a book published. He doesn't have a "technique", his manner wasn't formed

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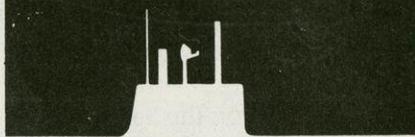
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Photo by Rick Strauss

on a Hollywood back lot any more than it was deformed by playing football. His coming out cost much more than the alleged six figures will repay. He cannot get a job teaching his life's love, football (see GPU NEWS, January 1976, page 3), his family has been the typical one, and many gays are giving him the frosty

**HERE
THERE
BE
DRAGONS**



**A NOVEL BY
ROBERT BENTLEY**

shoulder so familiar to Leonard Matlovich. Our intense need for gay heroes and leaders will not produce same in and of itself. Kopay did what we insist every gay that can do it should: come out and be proudly visible. And when he does, some cry, "Flop!"

The forty-five minutes we spent in Kopay's Barbizon Hotel room was probably enough for both of us. During that time he didn't make numerous sage pronouncements. We were two people in a room together with no common ground but sexuality, and a desire to express the frustrations and joys of that in a society where men and women have been outcasts for expressing it. He talked about his diminishing queasiness of opening fan mail and knowing the effect his book has had on, yes, little leaguers and one particular college football player who just wanted to put his arm around his best-buddy-in-school for awhile. And who, after reading of Kopay's experiences, thinks maybe being gay and being an athlete isn't the end of the earth.

"I'd like to see the book, and others like it, on the shelves of every school library in the country even if I have to put them there myself," Kopay said of his autobiography.

Is what "really goes on in the locker room" as terrific as some people would make it?

"You've got a bunch of exhausted, beaten and bruised guys trying to wash off the mud and sweat and if that's your idea of an ideal sex situation, it's sure not mine. But you know how some guys are. . . ."

He didn't finish the sentence. Was he trying to be

coy and leading or could he name names?

"Everybody wants to know who's who. What you've got to understand is that I can't name names even if I did know them all. I draw the line at creeping into another guy's privacy."

But wouldn't that provide more good role models?

"If they want to come out, they can. I'd look pretty silly doing it for them."

How does Kopay see himself, how would he describe himself objectively?

"Beautiful, talented, terrific. (Laughs). Mostly relieved about the book and finishing it, about having the burden off my shoulders with thinking about the past and all that hassel and pain."

Will there be a sequel, or first a movie version?

"Paramount is talking to me. A sequel... maybe a happier one after this. I'm doing everything I can to make it that way."

We walked to the corner of the block the hotel is on where Kopay had a basketball date at the New York Athletic Club. As he stood with me while I tried to hail a cab in the rain, he looked up at the facade of one of the most exclusive men's clubs in the city and said, "You know, it's easier to get into this place if you're gay than if you're Black or Jewish. As long as they can't see it, they don't care. Typical, isn't it."

Kopay's story is essentially a common story. It's not true that only special people are gay. The least we can do is to introduce ourselves to each other as human beings.

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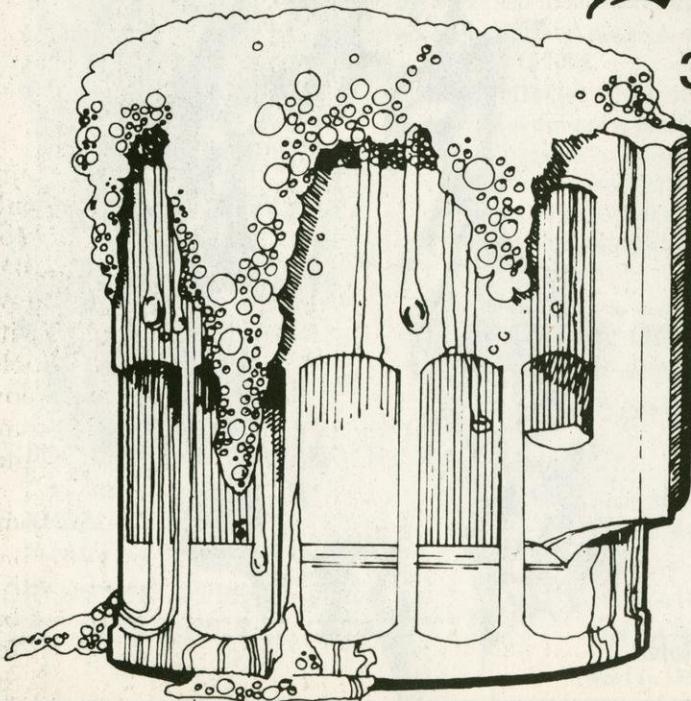
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by donna martin

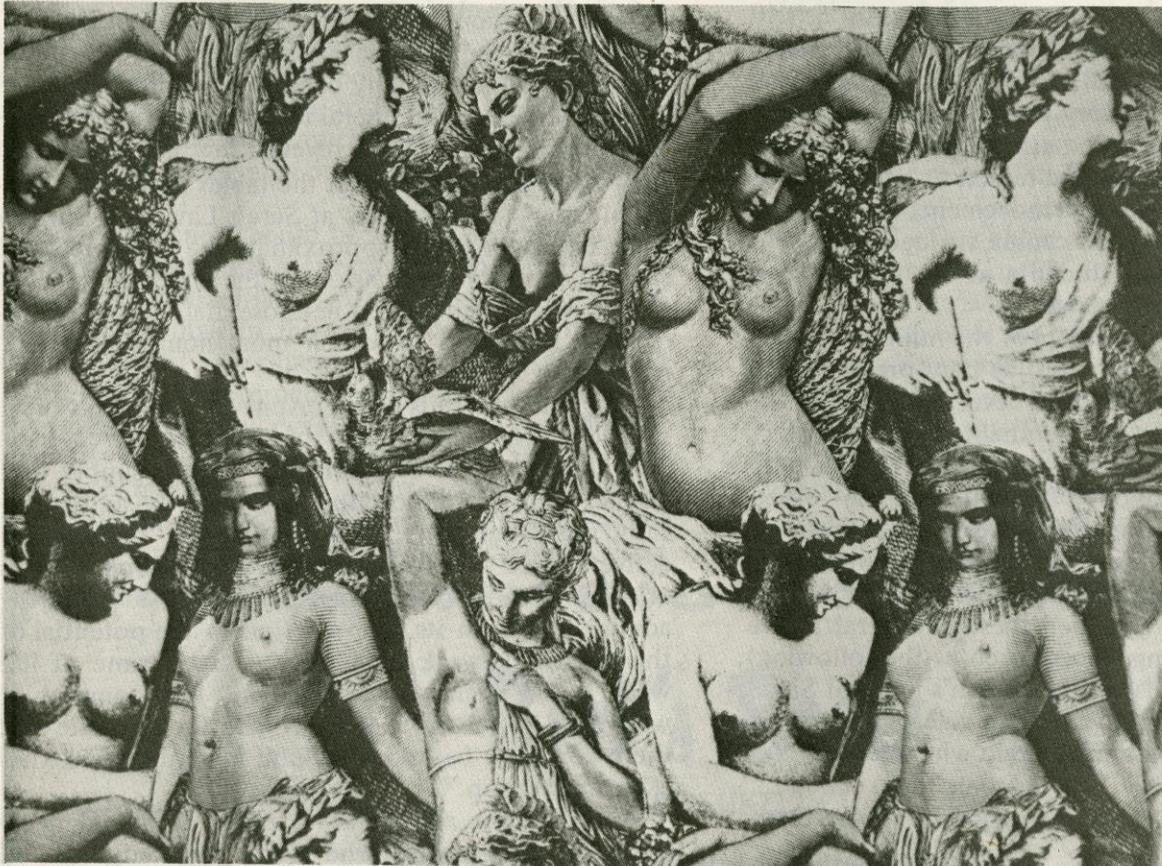


Photo by Mark P. Behar

Imagine, if you will, (that is, if your imagination is up to the effort) a small society where lesbianism is the prevailing norm. Of course, if you're a science fiction buff, you've probably stumbled on a few scenarios set at some incredibly projected future time, on some inconceivably distant planet where the dominant (or sole) group is a race of militant Amazonian-type females, either implicitly or explicitly lesbian. But, naturally, no one would suggest that anything approximating this exists today.

And yet, amazingly, as related in the March 20th issue of the **New York Times Magazine**, there is something like that around at this very moment, namely, the Sarah Lawrence College student body. How such an unusual situation evolved is a fascinating story in itself, but even more so are the resultant repercussions and their implications among the various interested parties.

Until 1968 Sarah Lawrence College (a half hour's train ride from New York City) was noteworthy only for having a somewhat more avant garde reputation than other Eastern women's colleges. The critical step which led to the present state of affairs was the move toward co-education begun in the sixties, in line with the trend among many other sex-segregated schools. The immediate unhappy result was that the men—now close to 20% of the student enrollment of 635—came to dominate, both in the classroom and in campus organizations.

In reaction, a feminist backlash, sponsored by some of the faculty, sprang up to regain the power that had been lost to the men and to infuse the campus with a far stronger feminist atmosphere than had prevailed before men had arrived. And thus was the stage set for the emergence of the lesbian faction of the feminist

movement as its most aggressive, militant voice.

Two additional influences helped the lesbian voice gain legitimacy. One was the co-educational direction of neighboring schools: no longer were weekends with men from Yale, Dartmouth, and Princeton the rule, for they now had women closer to home. Moreover, though there now were also men at Sarah Lawrence, obviously there are too few to go around, and the disproportions in their numbers make easily-intimidated relationships difficult. Thus weekends, formerly filled with social activities, have become for many of the female students times of loneliness and isolation.

A final and important consideration in understanding the success of the radical feminist faction is not simply that it speaks to very personal needs, but that it represents an outlet for youthful idealism when all the earlier causes have, for one reason or another, faded away (e.g., the Civil-rights movement; the anti-war protests). Like those earlier causes, its ideology serves to energize the women students in the service of a shared and ennobling enterprise.

The appeal then by members of the militant faction to lesbianism—or “bisexuality” as they prefer to call it—is twofold. At the personal level, it speaks to the loneliness of students who are unable to find satisfactory male partners: its adherents openly and proudly urge self-exploration of one’s sexuality and the “bisexual” option. And at the political level, it presents the lesbian choice as a logical expression of radical (and thus “right”) political and social positions.

If, as is widely proclaimed these days, graffiti are sociologically revealing, those (such as the following) appearing on the walls of the women’s johns at Sarah Lawrence show the more intimate side of the public clamor: “I am a homosexual virgin who needs a ♀ badly.” “Don’t worry, it’ll happen soon enough.” “Right on.” “Thanks for the support.” “Anytime, Room No._____”

What was especially interesting to me about this article were the accounts included of reactions to this probably unique situation by members of the administration and several non-lesbian students, (for in spite of rumors of a 30–50% lesbian representation among the female students, president Charles DeCarlo believes 5–10% to be a more accurate figure).

The administration’s response is an uneasy one, but since schools of higher education have given up their role of surrogate parent (the doctrine of *in loco parentis*), they have no basis for active intervention. Nonetheless, both president DeCarlo and Director of Admissions, Sandra Feig, are concerned that some students are making sexual choices in accordance with an ideology at odds with their genuine innate nature. In DeCarlo’s words, “What once might have been a youthful fantasy of brief experimentation with homosexual feelings, and which would have been integrated into a normal growth toward adulthood, is now ob-

jectified, made public and related to political and quasi-intellectual movements.”

What is most astonishing to me about this statement is the good president’s adherence to the unproven (indeed currently much disputed) axiom about the universal rightness of the heterosexual life style. Moreover, while I couldn’t agree more with both DeCarlo and Ms. Feig about the undesirability of one’s making so critical a decision as that of sexual identity solely or primarily in response to external coercion, their opinions indicate complete insensitivity to the far more general situation of the homosexual in our society. Surprising is the fact that these supposedly enlightened members of a scholarly community long recognized for its excellence and liberal ideas should have remained oblivious to the unique reversal that has occurred on their campus—namely, that the tables have been turned and that heterosexuals at Sarah Lawrence have to some extent come to approximate the far more usual situation of homosexuals out in the larger society. In fact, however, the pull on heterosexuals is much milder here than that to which most homosexuals are continually subject.

The author of this article, Anne Roiphe, feels there is little active proselytizing and certainly no coercion. The chief persuasive factor, she feels, is simply that lesbian political philosophy is so overtly and proudly presented that it forces students “to make an active choice that never entered most people’s heads in more covert days.” Yet she seems to side with the administration in its over-reaction to the potential of this relatively weak imperative: “At a time of life when sexual feelings run high, and in a community with little opportunity to meet with the opposite sex, there comes to be a kind of pull toward homosexual experimentation.”

Anne Roiphe also makes a point of including reports of non-lesbians who were “freaked out” by their observation of lesbian behavior: several freshmen who were “frightened” during orientation week when they were greeted by two women with shaved heads, walking arm in arm; and another freshman who felt strange because “girls check you out”, and was upset because at a party some girls were making out and one girl asked her to dance.

My immediate emotional response to this spectrum of negative reaction was, admittedly, somewhat vengeful; “Good, its about time you came to realize what it’s like to belong to a sexual minority” (even though The Sarah Lawrence situation is only a pale simulacrum of the homosexual plight in the greater world). But, obviously, this lesson seems not to be appreciated by the administration or Ms. Roiphe. What a representative picture of reaction by the student body (who have yet to be as thoroughly brain-washed as their elders) would reveal is something which, though probably quite revealing and perhaps heartening, is not included

—as it should be for a balanced account.

But my more sober and prevailing reaction is one of sad dismay at the powerlessness of this unusual situation to appreciably budge people—even educated and supposedly enlightened people—from the stereotypic ruts which their heterosexual blinders have mired them into. In its single-minded allegiance to the heterosexual mode, what the power structure at Sarah Lawrence has failed to appreciate is that their campus now exists as a living experiment in sexual pluralism. Pluralism, which means liberty for differing life styles and allegiances to flourish in freedom as long as they do not threaten the body politic, is a venerable corollary of America's pledge to freedom. Alas though, in practice it has been much curtailed, and nowhere more so than in the area of freedom for sexual minorities.

Sarah Lawrence should be seen as providing a rare, a golden opportunity for testing the viability and results of such a *laissez-faire* sexual "economy." First of all, far more than in the outside world, it offers an arena of sexual experimentation at the best time for it, e.g., before the crucial life choices are made; as many of us are keenly aware, discovery of one's homosexuality after entanglement with marriage and children usually results in a great fallout of pain—not simply to oneself, but also to surrounding friends and family.

Equally important, Sarah Lawrence is a perfect test

case for confirming or refuting the claims of those (like Anita Bryant) who see homosexuality as an infectious disease whose adherents must recruit in order to maintain themselves. Follow-ups could be done on student lesbians to determine for what percentage the "affliction" remains permanent. I strongly suspect that those retaining a lesbian identity will be around 5-10%, in line with estimates by sexual researchers about the lesbian complexion of the general population. (A parallel situation is that of the all-male British private schools where homosexuality is notoriously rampant, but whose graduates show no unusual proportion of adult homosexuality.)

Clearly, the queasy reaction of the administration to the sexual freedom now prevailing on the Sarah Lawrence campus mirrors the more general fearfulness of society at large. And just what is it they all dread so profoundly? That their cherished heterosexual ideal and its accompanying life style will be swamped in a sea of sexual deviance and promiscuity? Very likely, this is the essence of the gut fear. As for promiscuity, that already is an established fact of heterosexual life—there's hardly any point anymore in blaming all that on homosexuals, why if common sense were permitted to prevail over skittish fear and self-righteousness, the Sarah Lawrence experiment could be allowed to demonstrate its groundlessness. . . But then, of course, who would there be left to persecute?



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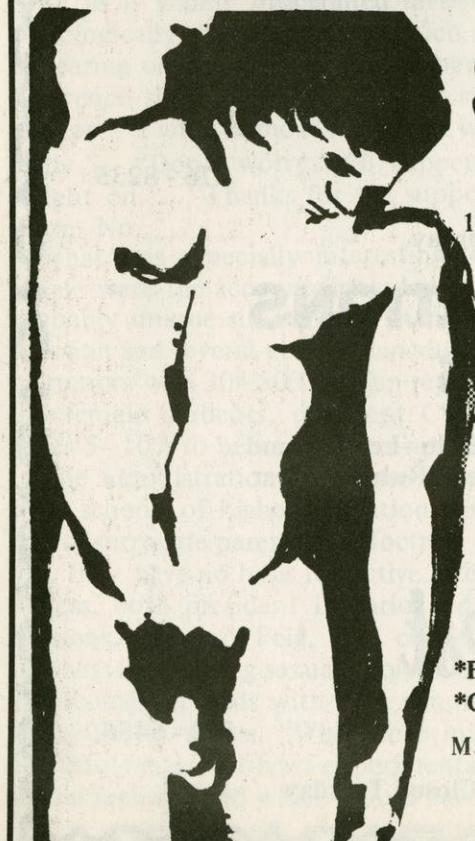
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Barriers and Aids to Communication Between Lovers

By Rev. Charles J. Schinlaub, Worship Coordinator
The Metropolitan Community Church of Milwaukee

Can a gay couple do anything to keep their relationship together? What causes trouble? What helps? In this article I would like to point out what I have found to be usual barriers to a strong relationship and offer some suggestions for help.

First, let us face one fact immediately; romantic love will not keep a relationship together for long without some help. Romantic love is a synthetic emotion in the heterosexual world. It has never played much of a part in the selection of mates even in this nation until relatively recently. Today there are still some countries where parents select their daughter's mates and economic feasibility seems to be the main consideration in their choice. Yet these marriages have often developed into beautifully intimate, long-lasting relationships.

Don't misunderstand me. I do not mean to say that romantic love is not a real emotion even though it is human made. A pair of trousers made out of synthetic material is still a pair of trousers. The problem with romantic love is that it is selfish and based on good feelings only. It cannot withstand much harassment of hard times without support from some practical aids.

What are some of the barriers to a deeper kind of love between gay persons? I will list some which I find reoccurring among those I counsel. They are:

- false pride**
- selfishness**
- stubbornness**
- role confusion (Lack of a mutually agreed upon contract)**
- inability to see the other's needs**
- extreme aggressiveness**
- misunderstanding of motives**
- differences in background**
- absorption in personal interests**
- trivial differences of opinion**
- lack of experience in communicating**
- assumption that because one is happy, the other is also**
- inability to accept each other's faults**
- lack of awareness of one's own feelings and motivation**
- hearing only words and overlooking feelings**
- preoccupation with work or personal interests**
- differences in values**
- refusal to listen**
- and alcoholism.**

Most of these barriers could be summed up as the inability of two persons to communicate. There are two parts to communication, hearing and being heard.

It is in these two areas that communication will fail or meet with success whether the method of communication be verbal or non-verbal. Good communication is not only the hearing of one another's ideas but also the understanding of one another's feelings and the acceptance of them. It is absolutely essential that lovers learn to talk things over on this deeper level of communication if their union is to last.

The strong, silent type may be a thrill when seen from a distance in the bar and may be sexually thrilling up close for awhile, but eventually he/she will become a frustrating bore unless by some miracle he/she is able to communicate appreciation for you. When you are happy tell your lover and share your joy. Express your appreciation for the little kindnesses and the good times you have together. Never take each other for granted.

I often hear lovers say something like this, "Sue and I have been living together for so long that we know exactly what the other is thinking all the time." To this I think, "Baloney, Sue!" (Actually, I think something a little more strong but, after all, I am a clergyman.) Let the other person express his/her thoughts and try to understand what is being said. You may be surprised, if you are really listening, to discover that your lover is saying something quite different than what you assumed.

After a couple has lived together for awhile each becomes expert in the other's weaknesses as well as his/her strengths. Knowing where your partner is extra sensitive, you can really "zing" a hurtful remark directly to the heart. Think it over before you do. Why do you want to hurt your lover? Could this be a clue as to your involvement in the failure of your relationship?

When arguing, why not stop to recount your points of agreement? It is easier to solve points of disagreement when you realize that you have more in common than originally thought.

Take time to be together and talk. Do not get too busy to spend time with each other in creative ways. Money spent for a weekend away together is never wasted—especially if your union is getting a little rocky.

Learn to share your feelings with each other. Share the good feelings but do not be afraid to also share the bad. When you are angry, say so. Don't wait but express it while it is appropriate. You may want to discuss the meaning of it later with cooler heads. The ability to share and understand one another's feelings is a very deep way to love.

Sometimes we try to force our lover to do what we wish. Eventually, the use of undue pressure to get one's own way will push a lover out of the nest. If your lover has any sense of self-worth, which is a basic requirement for a whole person, he/she will not put up with shouting, physical force, sarcasm, silence, or the use of your age, education or family background as means of exerting your will over him/her.

What would happen if you would stop to consider that there usually is more than just your way or your lover's way? Consider several alternatives. You will find that by attacking the problem instead of each other, communication will more easily by-pass the emotional blocks to reason. You may even hear yourself saying, "Let's try it your way, John, and see if it works."

Romantic love, which, as we have said, is selfish in nature, must give way to a deeper more unselfish concern for your lover. In the process of trying to understand what he/she thinks, feels, and needs, you will discover your relationship is bonding into a much more permanent life together. Choices made together out of concern for each other is also the way to a maturing growth of your relationship.

Don't nag! No two persons have exactly the same values. That is what makes us interesting to one another. For example, if you have asked your lover two or three times to put the cap back on the tooth-paste tube, don't ask again. Face it. You are living with someone who does not think it is very important to have a neat tooth-paste tube. Put the cap back on yourself and keep your lover happy and with you.

While we are on the subject of nagging, let us point out that we should let past history be just that. If when we argue we have to recite the history of past wrongs over and over again, we will get nowhere. Let bygones be bygones and work only on the present problem. If you do, you will be more likely to find a solution. "Forgive and forget" is never a bad policy.

As far as sex, there's no getting around negotiation. Of course it sometimes just happens but if it is to be

regularly good there must be more to your relationship than luck. Talk about it. Find out what pleases your partner and make it your goal to please him/her. If both of you do that, you will have few sexual problems.

Should your relationship be monogamous or open? Here is where I feel that gay people have a distinct advantage over heterosexual persons. There are no socially dictated methods to sexual union in the gay world. Gay people knew all about "open marriage" long before the straights began to seriously consider it. There is no one way that is right for all couples. Monogamy does not necessarily have to be a part of the gay world just because it is the standard of one part of the heterosexual world. Do not rely on heterosexual standards in establishing a lasting gay union. Monogamy can be right only if it is right for both of you. But remember: you can't make a union last simply by tying two sexual organs together. There's more to sex and love than that!

If your problem has to do with alcoholism, do not try to solve your problem alone. Get help. Even if you do not think you are an alcoholic, when your lover says that your drinking is causing tension between you, accept the fact that at least you have an alcohol problem. Alcohol is absolutely the most common problem among lovers when it is used as a substitute for communication. GET HELP!

Finally, be optimistic. Most problems have solutions. The fact that you wish to find a solution will place you well on the road to finding that solution. Sometimes we need outside help. Don't be ashamed to seek it. If a clergyman performed a Rite of Holy Union for you, he may be able to help or will be able to refer you to someone who can. If your problem is financial, there are many persons who specialize in budget counseling.

If your union is in trouble, don't just stand, sit or lie there. Start communicating! On second thought, don't wait until your union is on the rocks to start communicating!



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REVIEW

Homosexuals In History: Ambivalence in Society, Literature, and the Arts. By A. L. Rowse, NY: Macmillan, 1977—\$12.95

Reviewed by Lee Rice, Ph.D.

There once was a person who aspired to be the author of a general theory of holes. When asked "What sort of hole—holes dug by children, produced by mortar shells, holes made by roadmakers?", he replied indignantly that he sought a general theory to account for all of these. He rejected outright the common-sense suggestion that for the different sorts of holes entirely different explanations might be given. Why, then, he would ask, do we have the general concept of a hole? Having failed to find the explanations to which he originally aspired, he next turned to the discovery of significant statistical correlations in hole-construction, moving from psychology and historical theory into sociology, where the observations (he would insist) are always neutral and value-free.

The homosexual in history, our present age excepted, is a hole in society—a convex protrusion into which the social myths, stereotypes, religious cults, and fables of a society have not been able to intrude and dominate with total success. Echoing remarks earlier made by Dennis Altman in **Homosexual Op-**



King Louis XIII: Richelieu pandered to his special tastes.

pression and Liberation, Rowse intimates in more than one passage that this accounts for the number of geniuses in the gay ranks of past societies—not the fact that they were gay, but rather the fact that, being ostracized to some degree or another, they were also outside the

mediocritizing affects of mass society. And this is also why, again echoing Altman, gays have often excelled at combining acute social and political analysis with refined cynicism: after all, they were on the outside of a society looking in,

(turn to page 39)



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NEW QUADROPHONIC SOUND

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Milwaukee, Wi.—On April 1, 2, and 3 The AGC Theater gave outstanding performances of Mart Crowley's *The Boys in the Band*. The recently reorganized group of players, many of whom are well known in the area for their many "mime" shows, discovered an attractive room with a stage at the Crystal Palace, 1925 W. National and promptly decided that they would introduce good gay plays to Milwaukee.

After several months of rehearsal and hard work *The Boys in the Band* came to life under the direction of Michael Roberts. The play was produced by Mother Chris, Mike Schmid and Michael Roberts.

The entire cast is shown in the photographs which accompany this article. Special mention must be made of the very fine set design and although the entire cast gave polished performances, Rick Gerlack's portrayal of Michael showed excellent acting ability and timing. Jerry Powell as Emory, Ron Marks as Harold and Mike Schmid as the Cowboy all carried difficult roles in a believable manner.

The group will present an evening of "imagination and impersonation" at the Crystal Palace on May 27 and 28 (see ad elsewhere in this issue). *Boys in the Band* will also return.



Above from the top left counter clockwise: Ron Marks as Harold, Mike Schmid as the Midnight Cowboy, Robb Shaw as Hank, Jerry Powell as Emory, Derrick Wadlington as Bernard, Jerry Roehl as Larry, Rick Gerlack as Michael, Shannon Busch as Donald, and Bob as Alan.

Photos by Patrick Batt

Below left to right: Jerry Powell as Emory, Rick Gerlach as Michael, Ron Marks as Harold, Mike Schmid as the Midnight Cowboy.



REVIEW

Coming Out. By Wallace Hamilton. NY: New American Library (Signet Book), 1977. ISBN 0-451-07425-4 \$1.75

Wallace Hamilton was born in New York in 1919, received a B.A. in medieval history from Harvard in 1941, has been twice married, worked as a staff writer for medical and urban planning organization, lived in Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Baltimore before moving back to New York, and has more than a dozen plays to his credit as well. Four of these plays deal with the gay experience, and all have been produced.

When Hamilton moved from Baltimore to New York's Village at the age of fifty-two, he did so in order to live as an overt gay. The non-fiction result of his new lifestyle was **Christopher And Gay**, a partisan's view of the Greenwich Village gay

scene, which offered a multi-faceted and cheerfully colorful cast of characters and events. **Christopher And Gay** is more tone painting than story—optimistic and ebullient, free-wheeling without being proselytizing, and reflective without being self-centered. The atmosphere, sights, and sounds so carefully painted in that work have become the dramatic backdrop against which the characters of the new novel move.

Roger Thornton is a successful man in his forties, the lover of many women, the father of two teen-age daughters, newly divorced, and the hopeless heterosexual addict of the singles bar. Simple curiosity is the overt motive for his inviting an extraordinarily good-looking, frankly gay, and very young man to his room for coffee. Michael is scarcely in the room before he is in Roger's arms; and the truth which Roger has concealed both from the world and from himself emerges once and for all. The novel represents the unfold-

ing and resolution of four fears: his fear of himself, of the hitherto unknown world of the gay subculture, of losing Michael, and of telling others of his new life. The character of Roger is that of a person too honest to remain closeted or cast in a double life, and intelligent enough to realize that, before you tell the world that you are gay, you must first tell yourself.

Torrid sex scenes are not a major component of Hamilton's script, as they were not in **Christopher And Gay**; for sex is really the least of Roger's problems. Michael is also a believable figure, with all the faults and beauties of those whom we have known at one time or the other. Guilt is not a principal vice for any character, nor do sickness and despondency complicate the unraveling of Thornton's problems. If one had to summarize his fear in a single phrase, it would be lose of control. Coming out, he realizes, is a necessary condition of his responsibility to both his lover and himself.

Cynics there will be who may claim that the novel's dramatic line has been overly tainted by the author's own underlying optimism and partisanship. A first romantic crush which quickly matures into a lasting relationship? Situations of coming out which are far less dreadful by hindsight than they appeared by anticipation? Straight businessmen actually willing to live and let live? Relatives who do not faint dead away on being told by a son (father, relation) that he is gay? Is not the only thing missing Peter Pan or the Wizard of Oz? But Hamilton is not doing social theory, counseling, or speculative Ann-Landerism. His story is believable, cast with flesh-and-blood characters, not a social allegory but a story of our times. He could have chosen to be outrageous, or just plain sensationalistic, but instead he has opted for an individual reality. The characterizations are cogent and portrayed with a natural warmth and understanding, and the dialogue is terrific. Read and enjoy.

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He cruised me.
He cruised me and,
what's more, I cruised him back and neither one of us averted his eyes,
pretending it had all been a mistake.
The most insulting thing is when someone's been eying you and
you've been ogling them and
you become secure enough to think,
well, if I approach him I won't be rejected and
you grow bolder and you draw nearer,
already smiling and he bolts away as if only now has he
realized that you're some sub-homo sapien monster and it's all been
a frightful *faux pas*—
and this had happened to me just a short while earlier.
But he, that he of whom we've begun speaking,
cruised me and did not look away when I drew nearer,
returning his look, realizing he had made that commitment and
had realized that I, too, had made that same commitment—the
the commitment not to hurt one another, at least
not immediately.

I surprised him when I smiled.
Heavens, that might mean that I don't bite, that
I'm friendly, but it might mean,
aha,
you've shown that you've been attracted to me,
you've given away your hand and now,
within my rights under the jungle law of dog eat dog, I'm
going to take advantage of your commitment and permit you to
please me while I give unto you all of my flesh and none
of my personality.

I surprised him when I touched him.
Or did that mean, you have done enough—
you have accepted me and now I am your slave—
pray don't acknowledge me.
I surprised him when I touched him for I touched his
chest and not his crotch—
ah, I'm the sentimental romantic type, then,
to make a human gesture even here in a meat market.

I surprised him when I kissed him on
the lips—
we might have known each other years instead of moments—
thereby sealing our twin commitments and saying we shall do unto one another,
not just one unto the one.

We caressed, we kissed, we hugged, we explored, we sent
each one the other rocketing into new ecstasies. We rose to feverish pitches.

He said, "I wish I could. . ." and I immediately knew
he lived in New Zealand or Denmark and he had a lover.
But I live no great distance and no-one is
jealously burning the A.M. oil.

"Come home with me," I cried.
"Yes," he exulted. "Do you like to fuck?"
"No," I said, honestly. "But I'm a card carrying cocksucker."

"Great," he laughed.
We organized our clothing and extricated ourselves from
the sticky fingers and the gaping mouths.

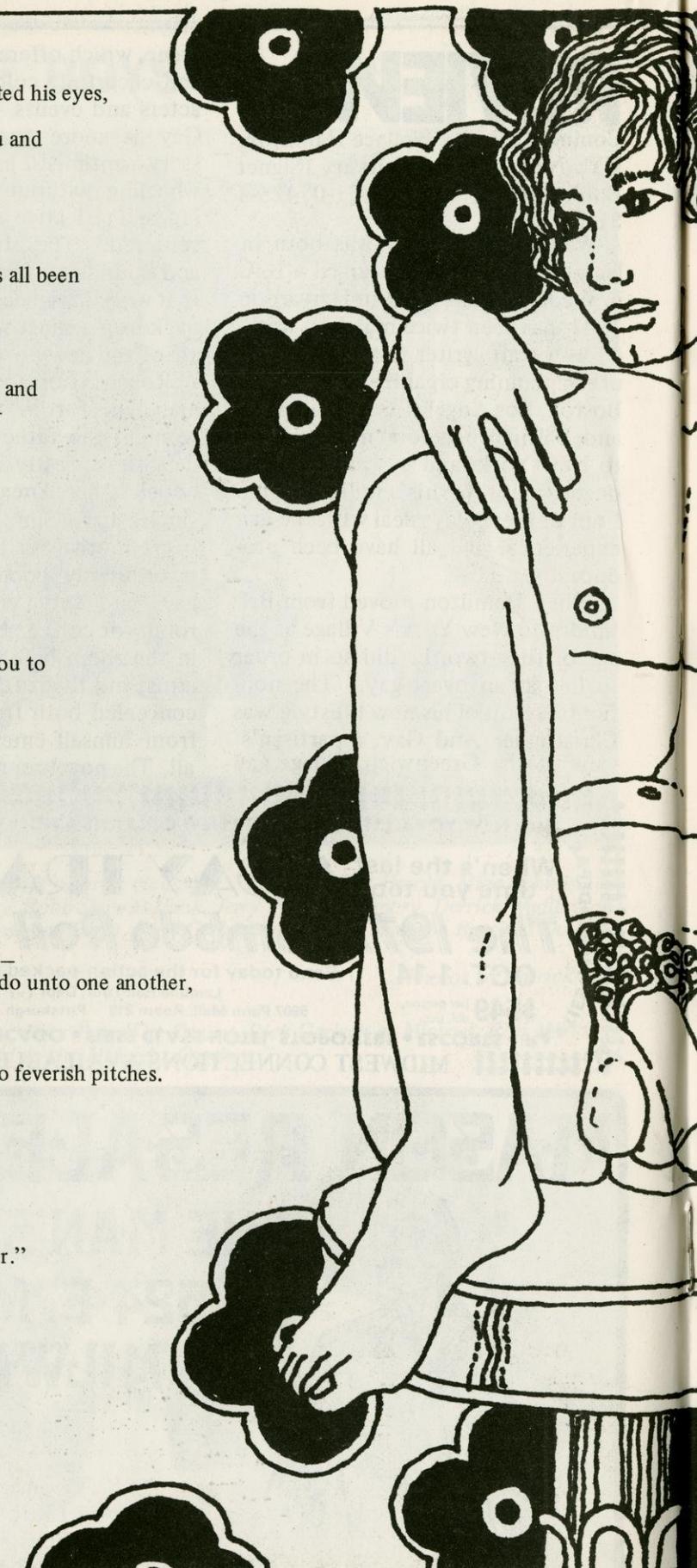
We held each other tightly,
we swayed, we shook.

"No, I can't do this," he said, piously.

"I have a lover
(ah, so it's a homewrecker that I am)
and I'd feel guilty."

"And yet," quoth I,
"you don't feel guilty about being here in a back room?"

"It's different. You understand."
"Yes. Somehow," while thinking,





people are weird the way they can twist things for themselves.
"My lover will be going away for three months soon.
If I give you my phone number will you call me?"
"Won't you feel guilty then?" I teased.
"What, am I supposed to stay celibate for that long?"
"When is soon?"
"From the first of May. Will you remember me? Would you
rather give me your number?"

We wrote our names and phone numbers—
and addresses. He lived nearby also.
(Well, I had been half right anyway.)
"Goodnight, Chris," I said.
"Keep in touch."
"Yes."

Abounding with unused energy, I allowed the pitchblack cavern to
reclaim me and then,
re-entered the front room and found Chris at the bar.
"I'm going home. Goodnight," I said and kissed him tenderly.
"Did you at least come?"
"No," I said, simply.
We embraced. "I'm going to lose my will power soon."
Good, I thought, and yet...

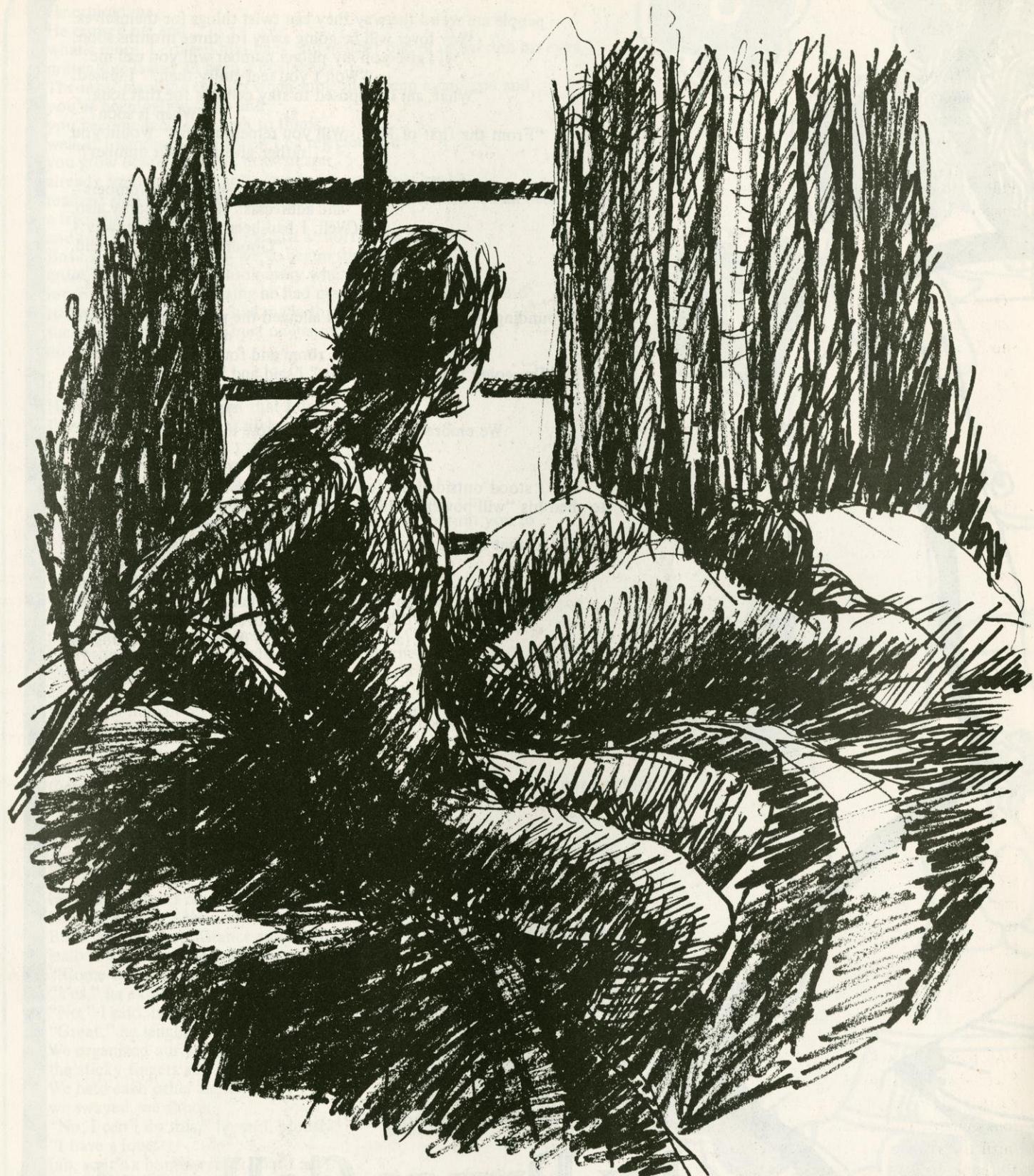
I stood outside for a few minutes to give him the opportunity
to shed his "will power," while looking for some acquaintance to ask,
"aren't people fucking weird?"
Too bad that by the first I'll have had time to have misgivings about
continuing something with someone who
has a lover, for,
as I once said to one of my lover-encrusted entanglements,
"People who have lovers should be put out—
(an indignant "oh!" from said involvement)
of my life."
(an empathetic "ah!")

I could have told Chris exactly which streets I always take to get home from here.



My dormant muse returned last night.
Where've you been? I demanded.
Waiting, muse responded,
For inspiration's clear fresh streams
(Have you restored my muse to me?)
To frisk and play in, carelessly,
(Returned my peace, my ease, my will)
For calm affection's warm, still pools,
(By giving of your intimacy)
To idle in, luxuriously.
(or must my muse go wandering still?)

by Bruce Gelbert



Checking the OED for Accuracy by j. d. butkie

"Try, umm. . . 'syzaggy.'"

"What the hell?"

"Syzaggy."

"Come again, slower. Don't think I can pronounce it, let alone go on and define it. And anyhow, I'm not in top form right now. Sex makes me sleepy. I say there's no such word—call it 'quits.'"

"Syzaggy," a noun, six letters. D'you have the OED handy?" Phil inquired, amused at this display of oneupmanship. "The magnifying glass version will do for now."

"It so happens this klutz does own the dictionary; it's out in the den. We were in there all evening and you didn't spot it! How perceptive of you, a writer, a poet yet."

"Okay, I'll go get it right now—to help out in whatever way I can to build up your vocabulary, SIR. Where's it hidden. . . . should I take along a dusting rag and **Pledge**?"

"No, not now, bitch. It's almost three; you'll wake up Marty besides; stop the clowning and try for some sleep. Mass is at 8:15." While talking, the nude dentist reset the bedstand alarm, pulled up the taffeta-edged blanket and turned on his side.

Phil was about to mimic his favorite grandmother's night time appeal—Good Night, Sleep Tight, Don't Let The Bedbugs Bite—but he couldn't remember the name (first or last) of the middle-aged orthodontist who had tried heroically, but with no success, to bring him to orgasm for over two hours. Without attaching a person's name to the rhyme, a level of intimacy would be lost and the inane sing-song would further enhance his bedpartner's image of a twenty-five year old erotic unsophisticate, craving attention—closeness—from a man almost twice his age, trying any means possible to avert alienation, the irreversible variety he had tasted before.

Sleep was out of the question for Phil, a too young ex-college instructor/currently unemployed writer in San Francisco. Four months previously, the master masturbator had taught expository writing (quite simply put, the basics of writing a full sentence) in large cinderblock classrooms to young Kansans who wrinkled their faces at his perhaps too casual mention of Bergman, Matisse, Sylvia Plath, to illustrate a point by being as interdisciplinary as possible. But invariably, he would take the hint (a hint as apparent as a summer cold), apologize while reddening, and substitute a Namath, Billy Jean King, Evil Knievel, or Rod McKuen to simplify matters. Then, recognition would spread like contagion.

Unfortunately, he had met a few homosexuals in the Sunflower State—two of them teachers. One insisted Platonic love was sufficiently satisfying; the other, a music instructor, had "serious qualms" and refused to allow for kissing and hand holding until the sixth or seventh date—in order to be "sure." During Christmas break, Phil packed his books and clothes, junked his eight year old Zenith, kissed and/or handshook friends goodbye (depending on individual sexual openmindedness and appeal) before flying west to San Francisco, city of losers and the lost. But Rob, a lover who taught at a small private school in an adjoining state, an aging professor with the sexual demands of a

twenty-year-old jock and the proverbial wisdom of an Oriental otogenarian, remained behind. He promised to phone, correspond, and trick, no matter what. At Christmastime as Rob vacationed with surviving relatives in Louisiana, Phil rode on the 23rd in a speeding cab to the small municipal airport serving Wichita, Kansas.

Ever since arriving in California, he had focused his energies on finding a job which would not necessitate his taking another five or ten milligrams of Valium a day or another "monthly survival check" from Rob. The JOB eluded the traveller as did any success in sexual conquest or surrender. Homosexuals certainly were in top form on Polk, Castro, Folsom (late at night), but he avoided the "professional fags," those who spent every available minute cruising "hunks" passing on foot.

An ad in a weekly alternative tabloid caught his interest though—Jonathan, white male, middle-aged but hung, overly educated, cultivated, travelled, sophisticated, charming, attractive, 'hangup less'—and Phil decided to phone the adjective crazed advertizer. After preliminaries over the wire, a meeting was arranged for the following evening, a Saturday night, at the orthodontist's Nob Hill flat.

Jonathan, listening to Vivaldi and smoking a joint, met Phil at the door with a sweaty handshake, an eye twitch, and a slight cough. He seemed to be somewhere in his forties, trying mightily to preserve the tease of youth by wearing tight-fitting jeans with holes strategically snipped out on crotch and behind. No underwear, no grey or greying hairs visible, no glasses covering brown eyes flecked green, no words but a sweep of the hand into a smoky, dimly lit room with stereo adjusted with a great measure of respect for eardrums. Once seated on pillows before a wall hanging handsomely resembling the Bayeaux tapestry, Phil the Guest began to realize the lack of lushness, the almost Spartan-like personality of a room intended to entertain visitors. No elegant furniture, no paintings or glass-shielded photographs, no plants, no knick-knacks or tabletop literary magazines to impress. Tossed pillows the color of lightly creamed coffee, a small stereo with record rack slanting under the weight to one side, several joints grouped on a paper plate. "The Four Seasons" had a crack.

As Phil reclined on the polished hardwood floor, he wondered where Jonathan had gone. The mystery man of adjectival modifiers reappeared slowly, sipping some type of beverage from an old coffee mug. No steam.

"So, you're out looking for an older man, is that right?"

"Well, I seem to dig guys with maturity, experience, *savoir faire*."

"You're trying to find daddy, that's all. But thank God for you gerontophiles. Here, have some of this."

The coughing orthodontist handed the brown mug with Indian design to his visitor seated crosslegged now on two undersized pillows. Phil sniffed and tasted.

"Why, it's Tawny Port."

"Perceptive."

"I used to drink it often, too often in fact, back in

Wichita. Do you know very much about the Midwest? Kansas has the most incredible liquor laws. You have to. . . .

"When?"

"What's that?"

"Before or after, or does it matter?"

"I still don't know what. . . ." Phil wondered how convincing he was when feigning ignorance.

"All right, we'll finish off this booze now. By the way, my son's bringing home some good quality weed later tonight. Here, three neatly rolled for you and the same for me. Fair?"

"Sure, but. . . ."

* * * * *

"Hey, Jon, I got some really good stuff here—damn good quality—look at the fiber, the best. Here, catch. Your bag. See you and the guy later."

Jonathan ignored Marty, the bringer of goods; the packet of grass tossed on the brass bed; his companion's whisper to stop. He kept sucking Phil's dick, getting nowhere. Tantalus with his teeth taken out. Finally, the host grabbed his own swollen cock from the young man's mouth and started to jack-off—unexpectedly, furiously. But still sucking, nipping, biting Phil's stubborn organ. Within minutes Jonathan shot a week's load over the legs of a 'problem case.'

"Lick me clean, loser."

Phil obliged, lapping up semen from Jon's surgically crisscrossed torso with gusto. He was saving the penis for last, but a mind-reading dentist turned over to sleep. Speechless, sorry to disappoint yet another man, Phil left the damp bed for a quick shower.

"get your ass back in this bed," Jonathan barked from his curled up position. Sticky embryo.

"How are you at word games, doctor?"

* * * * *

"Here you go—bon jour."

"What?"

"It's cool enough to drink by now. . . I've had mine with Marty. We'll have some brunch out, go to Notre Dame des Victoires on Bush, receive, take in the Picasso exhibit, come back here and start all over again."

"No thanks, I'm going to San Jose today—to help out a friend who's moving on up to San Mateo."

"We'll have some brunch, a light one. Eggs. Go on to church, receive communion, come back here and try again."

"But I already promised my friend, Mark, I'd help out; I'd be there to lift some furniture on the pick-up."

"You'll stay in the City. Cancel that engagement."

"No. . . I'm not, I won't. . . no way. And anyhow, what if your wife should. . . ."

"She's dead, and you will."

"Forget it, SISTER!"

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"How about a game to decide it?"

"What?"

"Your word play—but a spelling bee this time round."

"You're kidding."

"Give me one word—you're limited to one, remember that—if I can't spell it correctly, you win, leave, find somebody else."

"Spelling?"

"Agreed?"

"Fine," Phil responded in a voice not too well disguising contemptuous certainty, certainty of victory. What could a dentist do against a "man of letters?" And if a literary word were chosen... The results were fairly obvious. "It's a deal."

"Good... a deal."

"**Onomatopoeia**—" Phil reveled in spilling out the word. He read somewhere or other—probably some educational journal belonging to his lover, Rob—that something like sixty or seventy per cent of English teachers misspelled that word in a survey. He was a trivia fiend, and now, his talent would pay off. "Spell it: let's set a time limit, too. I like rules."

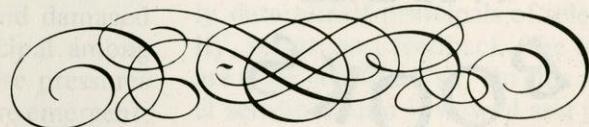
After a prolonged cigarette cough, Jonathan pronounced the word, spelled it correctly twice, wrote it on a paper bag from **Safeway** in magic marker and led his challenger right to the OED.

Phil flushed red before going in the den. How the hell did you..."

"You mean, how could a 'dumb dentist' have some know-how, some 'smarts.' I had a double major at Cal—biology and English, English lit, baby. I wrote poetry, talked poetry, ate poetry, (and poets—a good number) for several years. It paid off, kid—I won. Game's over."

"But I can't shoot in a man's mouth, motherfucker—I can't. I've got to jack off; it's the only way. I tried before, hell... but even with Rob..."

"'But'—a conjunction. And what would you like to prepare me for breakfast tomorrow, Phil, honey—and for supper?"



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REVIEW

Loving Someone Gay by Don Clark, Ph.D., Millbrae (Ca): Celestial Arts, 1977, 190 pp., paperback, \$4.95.

Reviewed by Lee C. Rice, Ph. D.

"Gay lib" has become a term virtually synonymous with organized political and social action, a classical semantic case of cart-pulling-horse; since ultimately gay lib must begin and end in the liberated individual person (not a collective pseudo-person invested with a spurious social identity). Clark's welcome book redresses the semantic imbalance neatly, for it is addressed to individuals who love gays, whether these individuals are gay or not, and it is a beautiful book—personal without being anachronistic, knowledgeable without being hyper-professional, and down-to-earth without being cliche ridden.

Clark is currently a consultant to several gay service organizations in California and comes to his work with the background of a writer, teacher, and clinical psychologist. Ten years of his professional career were spent in teacher education, and four books in as many years mark this period. In two interesting respects his intellectual career resembles that of Carl Rogers (author of the ever-popular *Becoming Partners: Marriage and its Alternatives*). Both men were deeply involved in the humanistic psychology movement, and both have worked with and written about the encounter group movement as well. Both are married, with children and Clark's avowed gayness places his own book in a gay track similar to that occupied by Rogers' book for the nongay.

The book is addressed neither to gays nor nongays, but to those in affectional relationships with gays, irrespective of their own sexual orientation. This is at once its major strength, for it skirts *ad hominem* argumentation and special pleading in favor of direct appeal to personal

feeling, reflection, and (in a word) care. Titles of its four chapters are "Being Gay," "Glad to be Gay," "Loving Someone Gay," and "Helping Someone Gay." Each offers a compendium of personal reflection, counseling experience, social theorizing (without frills or jargon), and gay awareness. And each does what its authors intends it to do: simply, economically, and without overstatement.

The opeinig chapter offers a summary of the multitude of pressures attendant upon growing up gay— invisibility, oppression, and damaged self-concept being principal among these. From all of these pressures new values and insights are emergent; since, as the author notes, it is a testimony to the good sense and good will of contemporary gay persons that our joys may flourish among rampant oppression. Nonconformity can be a boon intellectually as well as affectionally. While providing more flexibility in the sorting of our own values, it also enables us to

more easily question the implied values and sacred cows of the modern social order.

Self-awareness and growth are the key themes of the second chapter, which glides along with the use of a computer paradigm. The computer is a complex thinking machine, shaped by a program which **selects** incoming information, operates upon it according to a script, and **reacts**, according to relatively determined modes of **feedback**. The human person, though more complicated on all fronts, operates according to similarly determined principals of selectivity, script, and feedback (the terms are mine, not Clark's). On this model self-liberation is viewed as a gradual deprogramming process. It is a process determined not only by goal directedness, but also by feedback: each step is determined by its immediate predecessors. Awareness of feelings is a first step, development and nurturing of new feelings a subsequent step, and openness to others a still later one. Clark also spends

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some time with the development of defense mechanisms, of which he considers anger to be at once the healthiest and the most successful. This chapter is the most successful in the book, for it provides suggestive details to the individual for becoming more aware of who s/he is, and how liberation can be seen through personal growth. Pride is part of the detailed picture, as is anger; but Clark is quick to point out that feelings without knowledge are like forms without substance. Personal liberation involves reading, processing of information, and a willingness to continue learning.

The third chapter devotes much attention to disclosure at the personal level: coming out of the closet before parents, spouse, daughters and sons, sisters and brothers, and friends and relations. Three questions recur in all cases: whether, why, and how. The first is handled as a balance sheet. Disclosure is seldom without cost, and never without benefits. Sometimes the expected costs or losses are more fantasy than reality, but Clark is cautious here. One must weigh benefits and anticipate problems, since hindsight is a poor (and often tragic) substitute for calculating foresight. The why is less personal and more easily generalized; one comes out to a person out of respect and care, for lack of disclosure always involves deceit, explicit or merely covert. The question of how returns the reader to flexible and more personal considerations. Clark offers no recipes, but many reflections which can be taken into account. In general, respecting disclosure to one's parents for example, he favors the gradual-awakening approach (rather than the "Guess what, Mom, I'm gay" approach). He intimates that the gradual approach may have a greater long-term payoff, and also takes account of the fact that parents are human, and subject to all of the frailties of socialized *homo sapiens*.

The closing chapter opens with some psychodynamic generalizations (again in non-technical lang-

uage), passes through an enumeration of professional help sources, and closes with some general and personal reflections. In 1974 Clark and Betty Berzon created a set of twelve guidelines for therapeutic assistance of gays, which were subsequently published under the auspices of the **Association for Humanistic Psychology**. Their repetition here (pages 161-174) is both timely and relevant, since so far as I know no one has ever improved upon them in any case.

I have a few, admittedly minor, quibbles; but they are worth the mention, especially since there is really so little for which this book could be faulted. First, the distinction between sex as recreation and sex as affirmation (page 92 and following) seems to beg a few questions (are the categories exclusive? exhaustive?). While Clark concedes that recreational sex (e.g., the bar pickup) is valuable and pleasurable (therefore good—my conclusion, not his), I detect some slight embarrass-

ment in the concession. Clark does not say that preoccupation with recreational sex creates second-class gay citizens, and perhaps I'm reading too much into his reticence; but, if so, at least the ambiguity here is worth noting. Secondly, and along the same line, the gay couple forms the subject of many of Clark's success stories (drawn from counseling experience). Success is wonderful, and so is couplehood, but those of us of a more pluralistic penchant would insist that their relation is only a contingent one. Thirdly, Clark's counsel to the developing gay is that of constructing an ideal ("the super-good Gay"), and then seeing how closely one can live up to it. This device is a fine one, provided that each person remembers that the ideal is both individual and a construct (what philosophers call an individual rather than a general essence). Other persons may be operating with other ideals: the model must be used to evaluate my expec-

(turn to page 44)

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HERE&THERE

Washington, DC—Anita Bryant's self-proclaimed crusade against gays and her use of scriptures to denounce them is worrying some clergy.

The Rev. G. William Sheek, director of the National Council's Family Ministries has said Bryant's campaign misrepresented certain Christian positions and stereotyped gays.

In a letter to the Dade County Commissioners he said he was deeply concerned "about certain myths and stereotypes that are being perpetuated in the dialogue over the ordinance concerning civil rights for homosexuals."

Waukesha Freeman

Little Rock, AR—The Arkansas Legislature has unanimously adopted a resolution supporting Anita Bryant and her fight against Dade County's ordinance banning discrimination because of sexual preference. Rep. Tom Collier introduced the resolution before the same solons who gave a 66-2 approving nod to repeal that state's consenting adult law by prohibiting oral and anal sex between members of the same gender.

The Barb

Hartford, CT—The Conn. House killed a bill outlawing discrimination against homosexuals in credit, employment and public accommodations by a vote of 94 to 43 after perfunctory debate.

New York Times

New York, NY—The National Gay Task Force (NGTF) has received a \$7,500 matching grant from the Playboy Foundation for the purpose of research, preparation of materials and other expenses in connection with the series of meetings with Federal agencies that will occur over the next several months.

As a matching grant, the Playboy Foundation funds are contingent on raising another \$7,500 from other sources.

NGTF News Release

Bristol, England—Rudolf Nureyev is making his acting debut playing Rudolf Valentino, the silent film idol. The film, directed by Ken Russell, is being made in England and is scheduled to be released in the Fall.

Saturday Review

Hollywood, CA—Brad Dourif, who received an Academy Award nomination for best supporting actor as Billy in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, has been selected to play the part of Leonard Matlovich in the upcoming NBC special two-hour movie about the discharge of the gay Vietnam war hero. Len has met with Dourif (a remarkable look alike) and says he is pleased with the script. Rumors persist that the project is in trouble.

Chicago Gay Life

Milwaukee, WI—Two County Jail inmates have been charged with twice sexually assaulting another male inmate, who is retarded, in their cell.

Terry Trott, 34, and Terry W. Schmidt, 19, each were charged with two counts of first degree sexual assault. Schmidt also was charged with second degree sexual assault. They shared the cell with the 19 year old victim, who was awaiting trial for auto theft.

The Milwaukee Journal

Essex, CT—G. Legman reports the most interesting etymological word in the English language is **dike**, referring to a lesbian, with all its variations such as Diesel-dike. What is so interesting and unusual about **dike** is that all the intermediate forms of this term from its etymological original, which is **hermaphrodite**, to its most evolved derivative, bulldagger, are all in simultaneous existence at the present time and have been since the 1930's.

Verbatim

Minneapolis, MN—An American Lutheran Church research committee has declared that homosexuals should be accepted for church membership even though the church must still consider their behavior to be a grievous sin.

The "proposed draft" calls on church congregations to "change their attitudes and actions toward the homosexual. . ." while also stating, "The message of scripture clearly is that homosexual behavior is a sin and contrary to the new life in Christ."

The Barb

New York, NY—The Gay Academic Union will start publishing a quarterly journal this month entitled **Gay Academic Union Journal: GAI SABER**.

It will provide information on all aspects of research on homosexuality and gay liberation to scholars working in these areas and to other interested readers and serve as an instrument of communication among GAU members.

To be published in an 8 1/2 X 11 magazine format available at \$5.00 per issue or \$18.00 per year. Students may receive it for \$12.00 per year.

For information write: GAU-4, Box 480, Lenox Hill Station, NY, NY 10021.

News Release

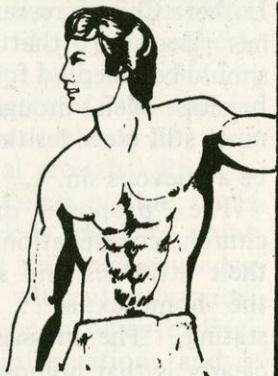
Los Angeles, CA—Dr. Newton Deiter, coordinator of the **Gay Media Task Force** in Hollywood, will be alternate host of a new 15-minute talk show of **KCOP-TV**.

The 6:15 a.m. twice-weekly show, entitled **It's My Turn**, features representatives of various minority groups alternating as hosts. The turn of the gay community is on the third Tuesday and Thursday of each month.

This is the first gay-oriented program to appear on VHF television anywhere in the nation.

News Release

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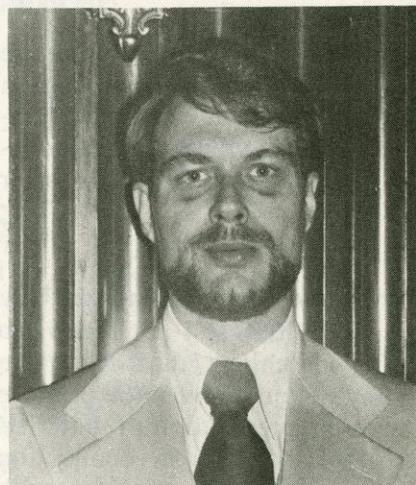
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HERE&THERE

Belfast, Northern Ireland—Northern Ireland gays appear to have won their fight to repeal the province's sodomy laws and put Northern Ireland in line with the 1967 English Act. That Act decriminalized private sex between consenting adults. Belfast gays expect Ulster Secretary Roy Mason to make an Order in Council to that effect this month.

Gay News (London)

New York, NY—Jean O'Leary, Co-Executive Director of NGTF, has been named by President Carter as one of the 42 members of the **National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year**. Ruth Abram, a member of the Board of Directors of NGTF was also named to the Commission.

NGTF News Release

Kansas City, MO—Surgeons at the University of Missouri have reported that they have performed the first female to male transsexual operation in which the patient was given a penis capable of erection.

The doctors said the penis contained a tiny hydraulic system that permitted a fluid to be pumped from a reservoir in the abdomen into the penis to cause erection. The patient is sterile.

The New York Times

Brighton, CO—What cell block do you put a person in who has had three sex change operations? And, if you're a county judge in a small Colorado community what do you make of the situation?

That was the problem when the prisoner, Sherrich Miller, 33, was extradited from California to Colorado on a felony theft warrant.

The County Physician recommended segregation and the Public Defender demanded Miller be placed in the women's cell block. The Public Defender prevailed.

Gay News (Pittsburgh)

Ann Arbor, MI—Gay students, staff and faculty won a victory at the University of Michigan when students voted, 1,041 to 314 in favor of gay rights on campus.

The students approved an amendment to the Michigan Student Assembly's all-campus constitution guaranteeing that "all benefits [shall be] extended to students without regard to sexual preference."

Michigan Free Press

College Station, TX—Officials at Texas A&M University say homosexual activities are "diabolically counter" to the school's traditions and that they would fight any attempt to organize homosexual organizations on campus.

The comments came in response to a suit filed by three students seeking gay recognition.

The Milwaukee Journal

Philadelphia, PA—Salvatore Soli was sentenced to a mandatory term of life imprisonment for the murder of newspaper heir John S. Knight III.

Following his Dec. 7, 1975 slaying, the gay community was the target of police investigations since Knight was known to have had gay relationships and frequented with hustlers.

Gay News (Pittsburgh)

Chicago, IL—Daniel Offer, psychiatrist at the University of Chicago, thinks that it is not possible to describe the normal man or woman.

"The more one studies normal populations, the more one becomes aware that healthy functioning is as complex, and coping behavior as varied, as the psychopathological entities. Normality and health cannot be understood in the abstract. Rather, they depend on the cultural norms, society's expectations and values, professional biases, individual differences, and on the political climate of the time, which sets the tolerance for deviance."

Science Digest

Washington, DC—A \$6,250 Judgment has been granted to eight people who had charged a DC gay bar with sexual and racial discrimination.

They claimed the **Grand Central Bar & Restaurant** excluded women, blacks, and whites accompanying blacks. The eight were represented by the **National Lawyers Guild**. The action is the culmination of 5 years of legal and political work by various gay groups and individuals against discriminatory practices in a number of DC gay bars.

Lesbian Connection

Washington, DC—Jean O'Leary, Co-Executive Director, represented the **National Gay Task Force** at a March White House meeting between President Jimmy Carter, Vice-President Walter Mondale, and the **Ad Hoc Coalition** for women, consisting of representatives of 50 women's groups.

Topics discussed at the meeting included appointment of women to federal posts; the Equal Rights Amendment; enforcement of existing legislation; the creation of a women's advocacy cabinet post and other policy issues.

President Carter was on hand for half of the 40-minute session.

NGTF News Release

London, England—Has the **Captain Morgan** rum company found a new advertising agency?

The **Advertising Standards Authority** turned down a complaint by 5 people who said a poster which announced "You don't say *Hello sailor* to a Captain Morgan's drinker" would be offensive to gays.

However, now London is full of small white stickers which throw a new light on the matter.

The stickers say such things as: "Make your party gay with Captain Morgan's rum" and "Captain Morgan's boyfriend just loves his rum."

Gay News (London)

DOWN UNDER BAR IS BORN IN LA CROSSE



Micheal Wyrwa, Miss Windy City; M. C. Bob Lewin, Harry Shattuck, Mr. Windy City.

Photos by The Down Under Club.

"Rachel" – Female Exotic Dancer



"Samantha" – Sam Viso



LaCrosse, WI—Their first annual gay extravaganza was held by the Down Under Club, Ltd. in LaCrosse the weekend of April 1-3. The weekend, entitled A Bar is Born, was planned and directed by owner Patrick Trusconi and manager Joshua Oliver. The Down Under Club is about midway between Chicago and Minneapolis, and the festivities were planned as a means of introducing gay talent from the Chicago area to the upper Wisconsin and Minneapolis areas.

LaCrosse is a mid-sized Wisconsin city noted for its Octoberfest, beer, and scenic beauty. Nestled on the Mississippi River in Northwestern Wisconsin, it is located in what is, perhaps, the most beautiful section of the state. The core of its gay community comes from the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse.

Over one thousand persons were in attendance throughout the weekend activities.

Chicago entertainers included Mr. Windy City (Harry Shattuck), Miss Windy City (Micheal Wyrwa) Samantha (Sam Viso), and dancer Ricky Love. Striptease dancing was provided by Rachel, a popular entertainer from the Philadelphia gay community; and Mr. Club Baths Indianapolis (Don Wagnor) was also on stage during the performances.

Friday evening's performance was hosted by Bob Lewin, a LaCrosse local. On Saturday evening Joshua Oliver was master of ceremonies. Sunday guests attended a luncheon provided by the Mallman Kitchens, which was followed by a showing of gay films.

Hundreds of out-of-towners came to the weekend extravaganza, and its success has stimulated plans for additional events on the part of the LaCrosse gay community. Camping trips are presently being planned, and excursions to Chicago and Florida are also in the early stages of consideration.

The Down Under is planning a "Milwaukee" weekend during July.

HERE&THERE

Bloomington, IN—Paul H. Gebhard, Director of the Institute for Sex Research at Indiana University (Kinsey Institute) in a letter to the National Gay Task Force, provides documentation and substantiation of gay movement claims to a population of 20,000,000 predominantly gay people in the United States and that this population transcends all geographic and ethnic barriers.

He states that new "tabulations based on [the original Kinsey Interviews] indicate that 13.95% of males and 4.25% of females, or a combined average of 9.13% of the total population had either extensive (21 or more partners or 51 or more experiences) or more than incidental (5-20 partners or 21-50 experiences) homosexual experience."

NGTF News Release

Wichita, KS—Judge Frank Theis granted Screw magazine publisher Al Goldstein a change of venue to Kansas City because of an anti-pornography campaign in Wichita that could make a fair trial unlikely.

New York Times

Washington, DC—The US Job Corps has recently distributed to all training centers a radically revised manual on "Sexuality" which eliminates all the anti-homosexual elements contained in the previous manual, entitled *Sexual Deviation*; urges respect for differing sexual lifestyles; and instructs Job Corps directors that "Rules concerning sexual behavior must be the same for heterosexual and homosexual activities."

The new manual states clearly that "A man or woman may not be excluded from participating in the Job Corps solely on the basis of their choice of a sexual partner of the same gender. Therefore, homosexuality will be considered as one part of the total spectrum of sexuality."

NGTF News Release

Memphis, TN—Harry Reems, the star of *Deep Throat*, who was the first actor convicted on Federal obscenity charges, has been granted a new trial.

Federal Judge Harry Wellford said that Reems deserved a new trial because his activities in the film took place before the Supreme Court ruled on obscenity in 1973.

It seems unlikely that the government will re-try Reems now that porn sluth Larry Parrish is no longer in charge of the case.

New York Times

Boise, ID—Boise's first female police officer was dismissed with three other members of the force for violating the "crime against nature" law which deals with homosexuality.

All the women are appealing the dismissals claiming a violation of their rights of privacy.

The Barb

New Orleans, LA—A 16 year-old boy who spoke of a "revulsion for homosexuals" has been booked for the murders of four men.

Warren Harris confessed to the "stabber" slayings late last month.

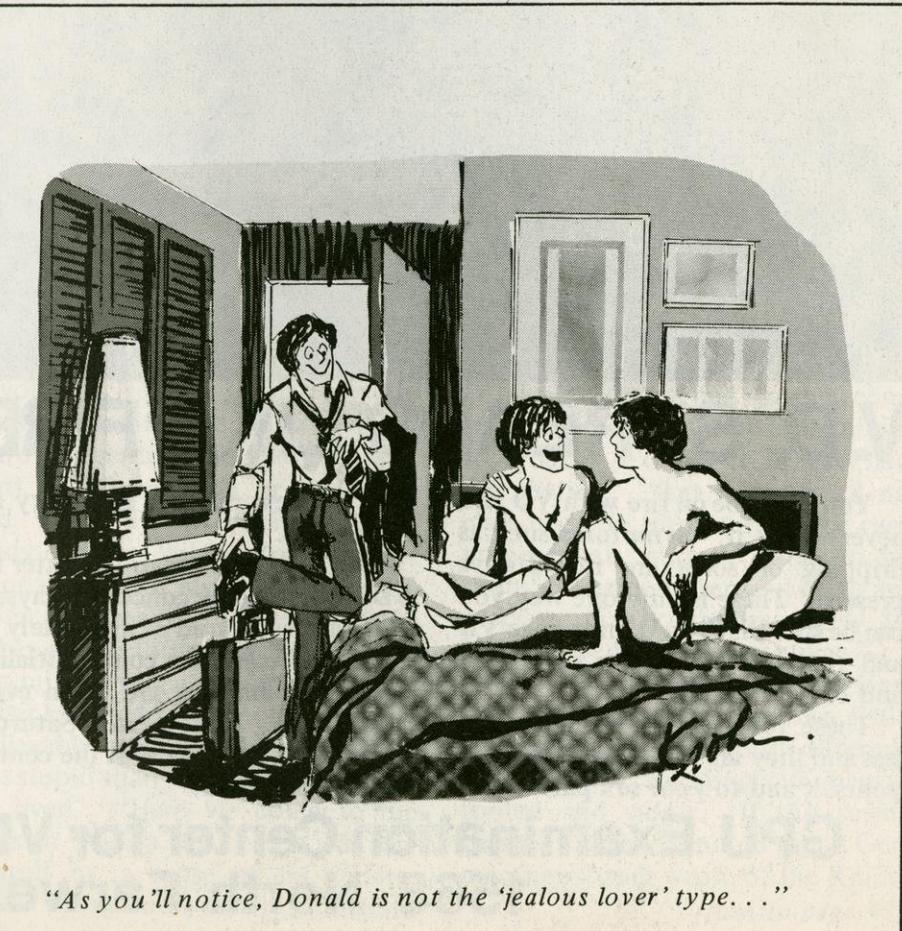
All of the victims were single men who lived alone and were killed in their own homes. Police said the principal motive in the slayings appeared to be homosexuality.

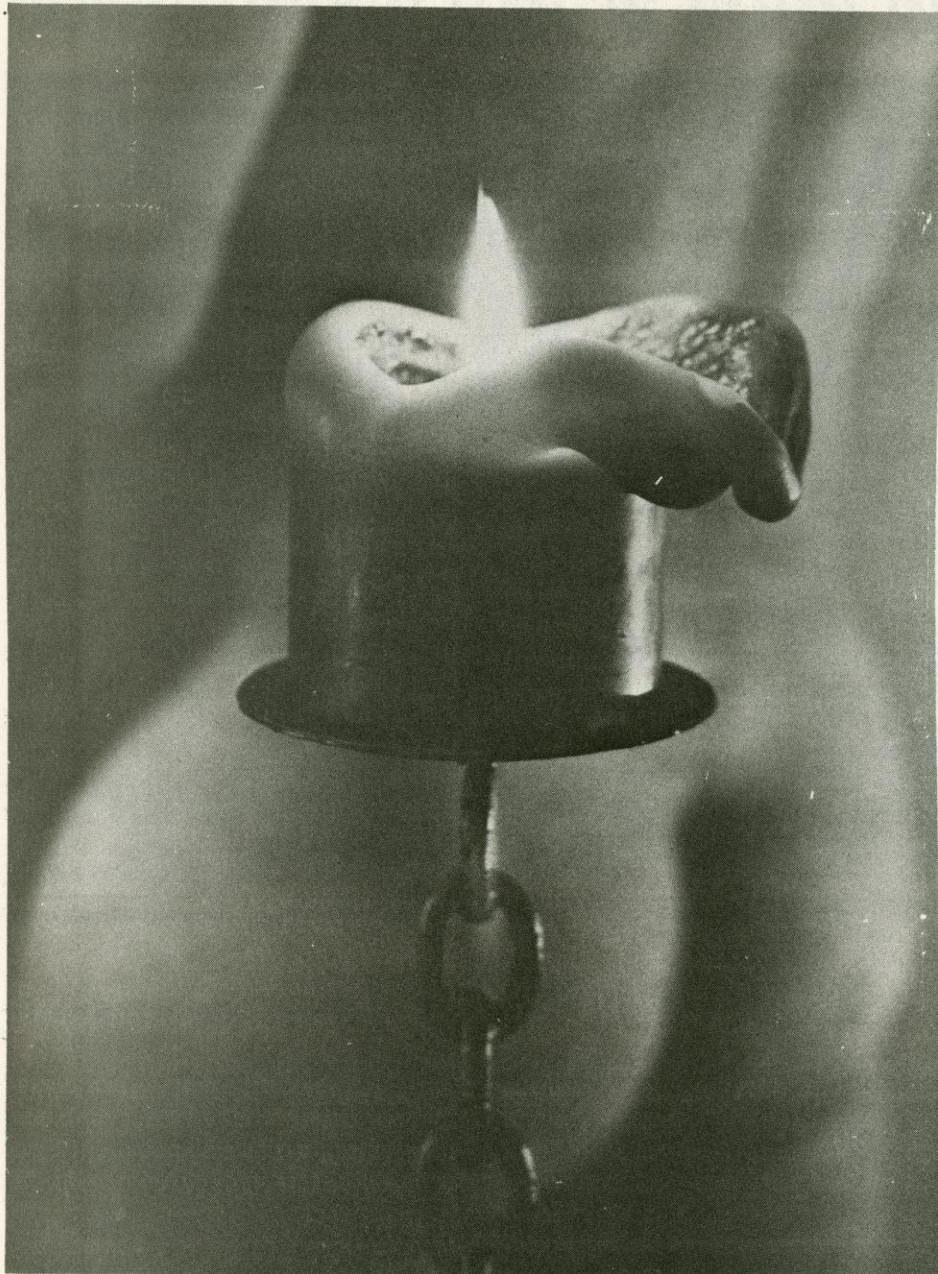
San Antonio Evening News

New York, NY—The casts of 25 Broadway shows, including *Oh! Calcutta!*, lead their matinee audiences down Broadway to an antipornography rally at Times Square.

It was the last event (and best attended) in a three-day campaign against pornography and prostitution, called *Stamp Out Smut*, sponsored by the Mayor's Midtown Citizens Committee.

New York Times





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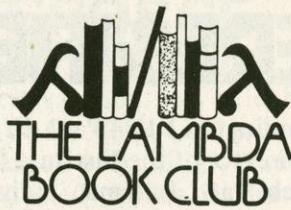
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REVIEW

(from page 21)

able to see the entire structure from a more objective, detached, and hence cynical perspective. Happily, Rowse is no theorist of holes, neither seeking nor offering a general historical account of the origin and place of gays in history. He is an historian in the great Graeco-Roman tradition, a tradition which Hegel once put down as mere "chronicle"—a teller of tales, relater of deeds, and student of persons.

Like any self-conscious chronicler, the author realizes that his success hinges upon ability to relate his tales with persons of flesh and blood; which means that there are times and persons with whom he is unable to deal for want of intimate familiarity. The times are the classical periods (pre-Greek, Greek, Roman), the persons are women; but their absence here reflects, the author reminds us, no value judgement, but merely a limitation of his own talents. Rowse, the author of several histories (including *England of Elizabeth*), is a Fellow of All Souls College and the British Academy. He has earned a solid reputation as a leading authority on the Elizabethan period, and as an iconoclast in his approach to history. "As an historian, it has always been my aim to get as close as possible to the lives of human beings, lay my finger on the pulse and heart."

It would be impossible to do justice to the narrative in any review of reasonable length. Instead I shall recount the persons dealt with in its respective chapters, and select a few randomly as samples of style and direction. There is a brief introductory chapter on the medieval prelude. Medieval societies, we are told, were barbarous and brutal—with dirt, disease, and death all around them. Gays there were in abundance, but the medievals (with no sense of history) more often destroyed records than preserved them. As a result, we are less able to find gays in this period than in the Greek and Roman periods.

A brief chapter on the Renaissance provides character sketches for three of its most notable revolutionaries: Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci, and Michelangelo. For the Elizabethan period we have Nicholas Udall, Christopher Marlowe, William Shakespeare, Henri III, Emperor Rudolf II, and Anthony Bacon (Francis' elder brother); and an entire chapter is devoted to Francis and the court of James I. In sharp contrast to James, Louis XIII in France did not actively dislike women; and, though he had frequent affairs with them, his emotions lay elsewhere. Cardinal Richelieu, that masterful example of catholic universality, had to divide his time between finding mistresses for himself and tricks for his sovereign. The following chapter, entitled "Frederick the Great and Some Germans", takes us to some little-known German contemporaries of Voltaire (a philosopher whom Rowse finds somewhat 'overheterosexualized').

The chapter on Victorian England asserts in opening that the more one knows about the society the greater the evidenced gap between moral pretension and reality. Jowett, who spent most of his life translating Plato's *Dialogues* into English, believed to the end that all of the references to love of youths (masculine gender) were merely figures of speech. Less a case of hypocrisy than one of social and institutional blindness. John Symonds (the great devotee of Hellenic ideals), Horatio Brown, the Marquis of Lorne, Edward Carpenter (the leading exponent of Whitmanism in England), and Walter Pater precede a brief study of Oscar Wilde. Rowse is perhaps correct in his suggestion that, given the absence of interest in the other gay Victorians, Wilde has been too much written about. The entire affair leading to Wilde's trial was unbelievably stupid, and Wilde was no less stupid than the society in which he lived. "Here we come to the crux in Wilde's nature. He was sabotaged by a sense of sin. Here, Wilde was at one with the philistines

who brought him down. This paralysed him at the moment of attack, left him defenceless, willing and wishing to be a martyr." The foolish (and quite avoidable) trial left England the laughing stock of the west (the French, of course, laughed loudest and longest), caused many Englishmen to forsake their country, and produced repercussions for decades after.

Rowse has much good to say of nineteenth century France, and well he should; for French gays in high places outnumbered and outranked their British counterparts. Paul Verlaine, Robert de Montesquieu (whose name is misspelled on page 117), Marcel Proust, Andre Gide, Jean Cocteau, and Max Jacob were the literary giants of the period; and Camille Saint-Saens, while certainly not a giant among composers, did much in his own music and conducting to export French music and culture to other lands. Proust and Verlaine did something which their British and American counterparts of the period did not (or perhaps could not?) do—they brought gay love out of the literary closet. Love poems to men were not masked (as they were by Whitman, for instance) by changing 'him' and 'his' to 'her'. Proust was also a snob, by which Rowse means that he found interesting people more interesting than uninteresting people. One of Rowse's summary remarks on Proust provides a perfect example of his (Rowse's) direct and freewheeling style. "We need not go in detail into Proust's sex life—it at least had the merit. . . that it displayed no class bias. In the nature of the case homosexuals, though liable to be snobs in the good sense—i.e., to appreciate quality—are less likely to be hampered by class prejudice."

With late nineteenth century German society the author has little sympathy: it is a world different from France and England, heavy-footed and vulgar. If this seems harsh, it might be noted that a German newspaper wrote of the Rhine-

(turn to page 42)

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Sexual Assault: The Victim and the Rapist. Edited by Marcia J. Walker and Stanley L. Brodsky. Lexington (Mass): Lexington Books, 1976 pp 186-\$15.00.

The myths of rape continue to strangle the minds of law enforcers, judges, prosecutors, judges, doctors, and laypersons. We still tend to regard rape as a "crime of passion," though more often is a crime of pure violence—fueled by racism, fear, the desire to humiliate, but seldom by those passions commonly called "sexual." The victim of rape, whether female or male, is often viewed by the rapist as no more than a personification of that which must be violated or maimed; and the crime strikes at all of us: man and woman, adult and child, gay and nongay, black or white.

The Rape Research Group at the Psychology Department of the University of Alabama was the parent of this new collection of studies. It came into being as a collaborative effort among professionals and students of different fields. In early 1975 a conference (Rape: Research, Action, Prevention) brought together several hundred persons, and over half of the fifteen papers which comprise this volume were delivered at the conference. The editors' fundamental goals are to present, within a scientifically sound but readable context, materials dealing with three problems: 1) the complex issues of causality, 2) some preliminary and tentative views on prevention, and 3) current developments in dealing with rape victims. They have been eminently successful in these efforts.

The first five articles deal generally with the victims of rape, and current assumptions about the nature of sexual assault. The second of these offers a general study of the present criminal justice system, and some innovative approaches to the lessening of the trauma of this system for rape victims. Following this is an article on long-term effects of the rape on the victim, and a sub-

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sequent compilation of case histories. Early assistance methods are described in the last of this opening set of studies.

The sixth and seventh essays deal with the problem of the incidence of rape (how many rapes go unreported?), and offer also an historical perspective upon the role of the women's movement in the mobilization of rape victim programs. Chapters 8 through 13 deal with the conceptualization of rape prevention. As one author notes, the definition of rape often depends upon one's perspective. Different definitions, of course, will produce widely variant views of rape prevention—socially and from the individual perspective. The conceptualization problem is perhaps least satisfactorily handled of all the problems in this anthology, but one suspects that this is because it is surely the most difficult of all. I cannot help, however, wishing that some of the authors would have dug deeper and harder. The final two articles deal with two urban programs for rape prevention.

Prevention of myths—especially when these permeate television drama, news reports, and even the Sunday supplement—is a tall order, and it is one which no single collection of articles can fulfill. Even the smallest crack in the armor of ignorance is a start, however, and one well begun here. Many of the articles offer extensive references and bibliography, which is another plus for an area as pioneering as that of rape studies. The United States is surely one of the most sex-negative societies which has graced this planet in many a century, and it also enjoys one of the highest rape incidences on record. That repression and violence are directly proportional will hardly strike the gay reader as mysterious coincidence. Understanding the connection between repression and violence goes far beyond the problem of understanding rape; for it takes us into the problem of social disease, of which perhaps rape is but a single symptom.

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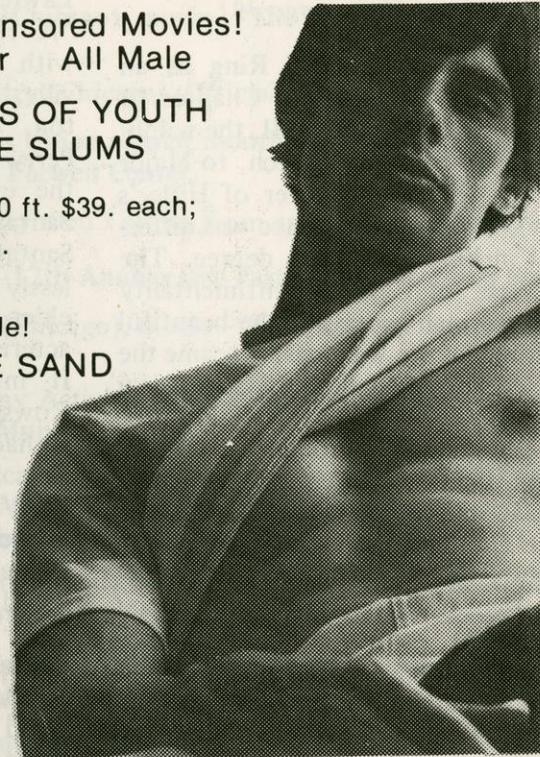
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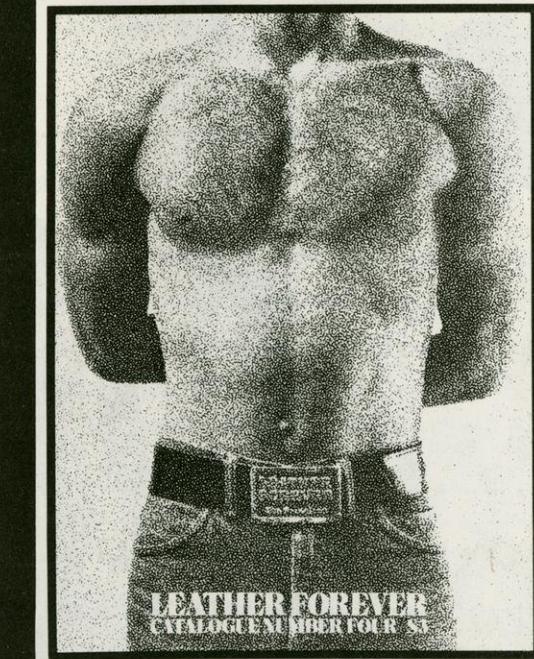
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REVIEW (from page 39)

maidens in Wagner's *Ring* as an 'aquarium of whores.' Chapter 11 takes us from Ludwig II, the wildly extravagant gay monarch, to Major Rohm (the early leader of Hitler's SA), whose extravagance was different in kind but not in degree. The obverse of German sentimentality was German brutality: the beautiful Munich of pre-war artists became the base of post-war militarists and Nazi thugs.

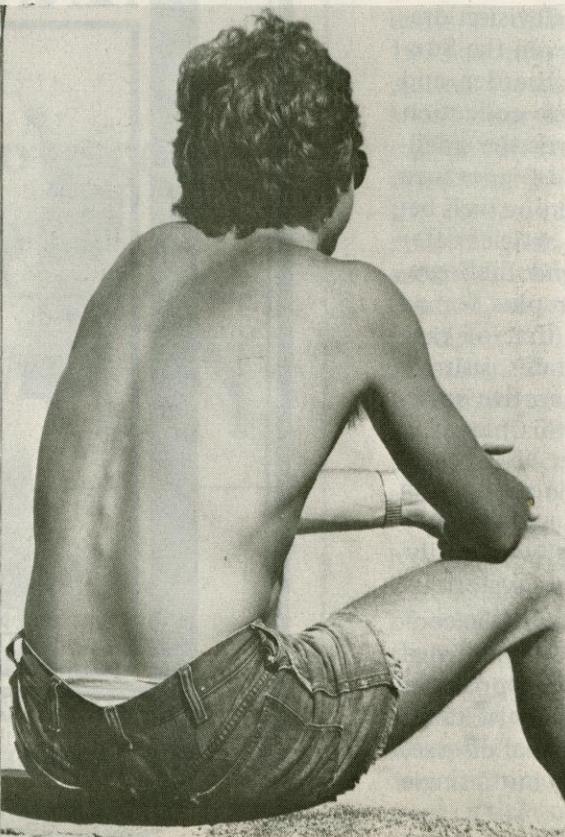
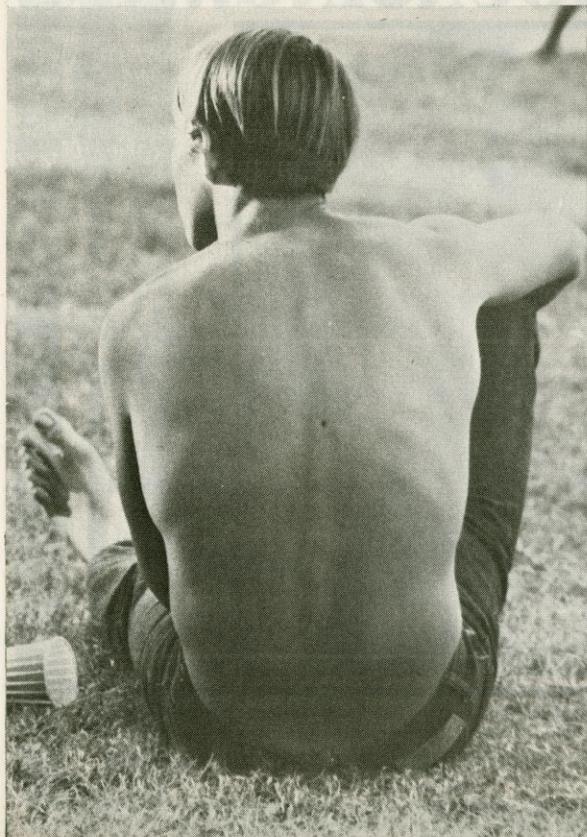
Chapters 12 through 15 take us from the late nineteenth century into contemporary society, but here the emphasis is upon Britain. The Edwardian and Georgian periods offer Hector MacDonald, the Second Viscount Esther, A. E. Housman, Norman Douglas, Baron Corvo, Somerset Maugham, and Hugh Walpole. These persons being less known to most Americans, it is all the greater pleasure to meet them here in the flesh. Joined with a number of lesser-known figures, the chapters on the great war (13) and Cambridge apostles (14) offer brief studies of T. E. Lawrence and D. H.

Lawrence. A brief chapter, entitled "A Handful of Americans," deals with Walt Whitman, Herman Melville, Henry James, Morton Fullerton, George Santayana, Edward Perry Warren, and Hart Crane. With the exception of the philosopher Santayana, all figures are literary. Santayana, incidentally, fell hopelessly in love with Bertrand Russell's elder brother, whom Rowse characterizes as hopelessly heterosexual. It might be mentioned (though Rowse does not) that Santayana also had a 'love affair' with Catholicism: through too intelligent to believe it, he found deep aesthetic attraction in its rituals. Bertrand Russell summed it up as only Russell could: according to Santayana, there is no god, and Mary is his mother.

The closing chapter, simply entitled "Cosmopolitan", makes the point that contemporary society has simply too many gays in too many places for it to have a place in the present volume. With increased acceptance comes increased visibility and increased numbers. I wonder also whether, as gays become in-

creasingly accepted in today's 'liberal' society, they may not also become increasingly mediocritized, insofar as greatness is often associated with separation from society.

This book makes great reading, probably because it is not academic history. Gay achievements in the arts have long been recognized, so it is a pleasure to see gays here in politics, the military, and even philosophy (Wittgenstein and G. E. Moore come up in the closing chapters). Rowse's chronicle is not the tired (and ludicrous) old theme of gayness as a necessary condition for greatness, for there are as many villains here as heroes. They walk every path of life and leave their mark, sometimes for good and often for ill. Beyond sexual preference, their only similarity is the stigma which society has assigned to them. It is this stigma, and their courageous and often desperate responses to it, which the author relates with insight, compassion, and wit. With great pleasure we meet them all, fools and wise alike; for, in knowing any of them, we are surely each the richer.



Photos page 42 by
Mark Behar

Photo page 43 by Revolt
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CALENDAR

Any person, group or business who wishes to have a free announcement of an upcoming event should send copy before the 25th of any month for the next issue.



1 MAY Gold Coast (Chicago), movie—"The Poseidon Adventure" 5 & 10 PM
Man's Country (Chicago), Official re-opening of Sun Deck

2 MAY Gay People's Union regular monthly business meeting 8 pm at the Farwell Center.

3 MAY Interracial gay men's group 8 pm at the Farwell Center

4 MAY Your Place—12th Anniversary Party—fun starts at 5 pm

5 MAY Little Jim's (Chicago), movie—"The Bells Are Ringing" 9 pm.

6 MAY Ball State Gay Activist Union—Dance, Colonial Crest Clubhouse, Muncie, Indiana—9 pm.
ONE of Chicago—Monthly meeting—guest speaker, Leonard Matlovich—MCC Church, (Wellington Avenue Church) 615 W Wellington, 8 pm.

8 MAY Gold Coast (Chicago), movie—"Lucky Lady" 8 & 10 pm
M&M's+ Mother's Day Buffet—Happy Mother's Day

9 MAY Gay People's Union—Open Rap discussion, bring a friend 8 pm at the Farwell Center.

10 MAY Interracial gay men's group—8 pm at the Farwell Center

12 MAY Little Jim's (Chicago), movie—"Maytime" Jennette MacDonald & Nelson Eddie 9 pm.

13 MAY Potluck Supper—Ball State University Gay Activist Union West Campus, Muncie, Indiana, 5:30 pm.
Silver Star M.C. 4th Anniversary Party at The Wreck Room (This gala event runs all week-end)

15 MAY The Gold Cost (Chicago), movie—"The Longest Yard" 5 & 10 pm.

16 MAY Gay Peoples Union-Film—"The Invisible Minority" 8 pm at the Farwell Center

17 MAY Interracial gay men's group—8 pm at the Farwell Center

19 MAY Little Jim's (Chicago), movie—"Just Around The Corner" Shirley Temple & Bert Lahr

20 MAY Saugatuck Lodges Grand Opening Party-Beer Bust

21 MAY Saugatuck Lodges Grand Opening Sat. night buffet

22 MAY Saugatuck Lodges Grand Opening Sun noon brunch
Gold Coast (Chicago), movie—"Pink Flamingos" 5 & 10 pm.

23 MAY Gay Peoples Union—Speaker from the Women's Coalition 8 pm at the Farwell Center

24 MAY Interracial gay men's group—8 pm at the Farwell Center

26 MAY Little Jim's (Chicago), movie—"High Society" 9 pm.

29 MAY Gold Coast (Chicago), movie—"Cobra Woman" 5 & 10 pm.
Saugatuck Lodges, Holiday Weekend with Mr. Great Lakes Contest.

30 MAY Memorial Day

2 JUNE Little Jim's (Chicago), movie—"Broadway Melody of 1929

REVIEW

(from page 32)

tations of myself, not the behavior of others. And finally, most quibbling of all, capitalizing "Gay" as noun and adjective seemed to me a most distracting and superfluous Germanism.

Parenthetically, I should note that Clark's book was a featured selection of the Lambda Book Club (Box 248, Belvidere, NJ 07823: see ad elsewhere in GPU NEWS), and available from them at a modest discount as well. If you don't yet know the Lambda Book Club, please accept my sympathies, and my suggestion that you remedy the situation.

Clark's study is both beautiful and readable (and rereadable as well). It deserves a place of honor in any gay's book holdings; and, for those toying with the idea of disclosure to friend or relative, a gift copy might be a step in the right direction. The dragons of personal fear, oppression, shame, and ignorance are fundamental obstacles to our liberation as individuals, and knowing the enemy within is what liberation, and Clark's book, is all about. I can only close in quoting him. "Beyond the dragon-guarded gateway are the treasures of simple human feeling that give life a sense of zest and work. Fortunately, each of us has created his or her own dragon, and can therefore learn to tame it. Unfortunately, most of us settle for the seemingly easier life of conformity to sexist homophobic dogma. Were it not for the sexism and homophobia, each of us could be an individual who grew into a satisfying self in all ways, including sexual gender preference. That day may yet come."

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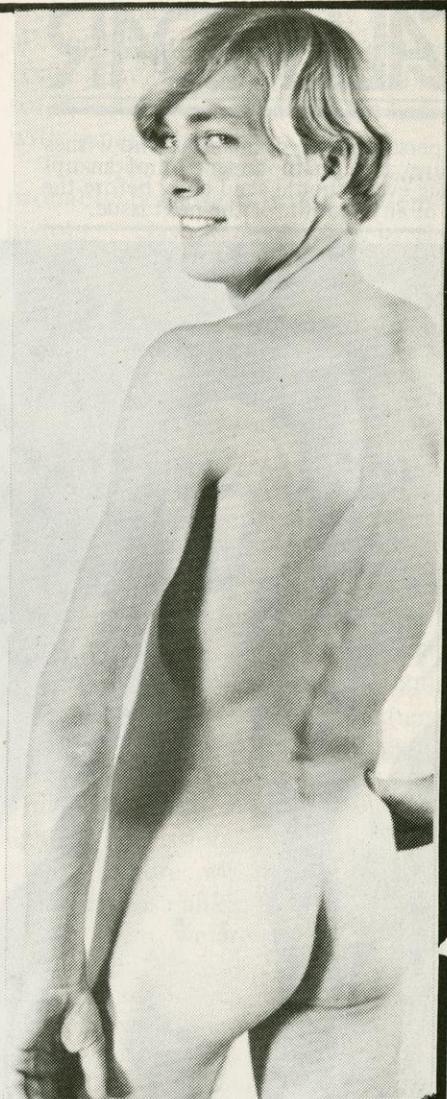
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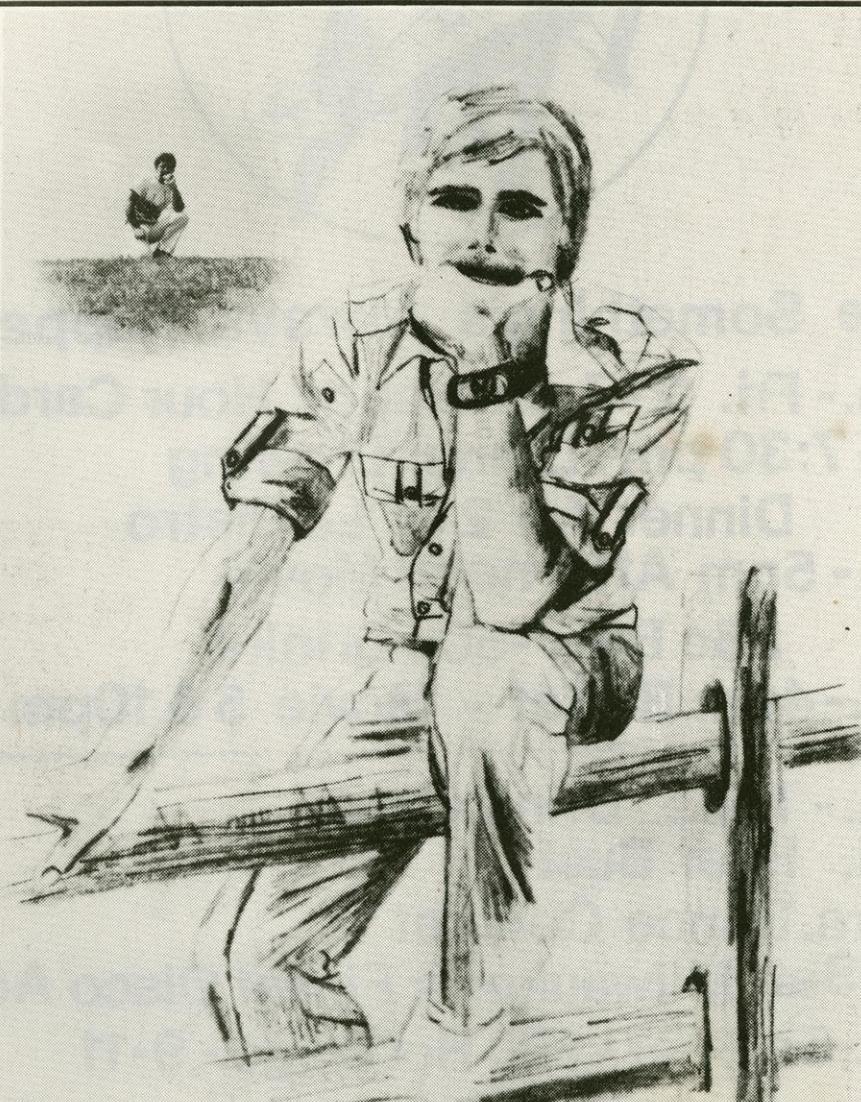
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5 PM – 7 PM

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All drinks reduced

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Mon. – Fri.
2 PM – 2 AM
Saturday
1 PM – 3:30 AM
Sunday
1 PM – 2 AM



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