



GPU news. Volume 6, Number 5 February 1977

[s.l.]: [s.n.], February 1977

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GPU NEWS

February 1977

Vol. 6, No. 5

60¢



**male
rape**

MIDWEST REGIONAL GROUP MEETS

Chicago, IL—Leaders from gay organizations from six midwestern states met in Chicago on January 29 and 30 for the first regional conference of **Midwest Gay Rights Financial Committee (MGRFC)**, which was conceived several months ago to establish a network of co-operating gay groups in the midwest. The group hopes to collect and disburse funds for gay rights efforts on legislative, executive and judicial levels on a regional basis and to improve the exchange of information, ideas and other resources. In addition, it is felt that such a regional group would strengthen the position of midwesterners in national groups.

Alan Spear, a member of the state legislature in Minnesota, spoke on the nature and substance of various types of needed legislation. He stressed the need for paid lobbyists by saying, "There is no substitute for a full time person to co-ordinate the efforts of the volunteers on behalf of a bill." He pointed out that, contrary to popular belief, state legislators receive very little mail from their constituents regarding most bills. Therefore, letter writing campaigns are important for according to him four or five letters are often regarded by a legislator as a "mandate from the voters."

Christine Pattee, who led the lobbying effort for gay rights bills in Connecticut spoke of the methods used by lobbyists. Ms. Pattee noted that "Fighting one's own oppressor is good for the mental health of the oppressed person." She also gave many ideas on lobbying during a seminar on lobbying techniques.

Billy Walker from Joplin, Mo., spoke of the special needs and problems of gays in smaller communities. Mr. Walker is a founder and activist in Joplin's **Pride Community Center**.

Eldon Murray, editor of GPU NEWS, spoke on the need for constant fund raising efforts. He said, "I'm tired of the poverty syndrome of our movement. The money for

worthwhile projects is there and it can and must be raised." He later led a seminar on fund raising methods.

A cocktail party was held Saturday evening and after a buffet brunch on Sunday the delegates met for a think tank to discuss structure

and methods of carrying forward MGRFC. The group made tentative plans for another conference in the spring. Interested persons can contact the group by writing them at: Midwest Gay Rights Financial Committee, Suite 823, 24 N. Wabash, Chicago, IL. 60602.

SUPREME COURT VACATES RULING IN GAY FIRING

Washington, DC—Citing the US Government's current position on the subject, The United States Supreme Court vacated a lower court ruling that upheld the firing of a gay civil servant. It is the Court's first decision sympathetic to gay people since the March sodomy debacle. The action vacated a lower court ruling that upheld the firing of Seattle clerk-typist John Singer.

Solicitor General Robert H. Bork sent a memorandum to the Court noting that subsequent to Singer's dismissal from his job in the Equal Opportunity Commission's Seattle office, the United States Civil Service Commission had changed its policies regarding gays. Discrimination on the basis of sexual preference is now contrary to Civil Service regulations.

In a 6-3 vote, the Court sent the case back to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals for "reconsideration." While the Court did not overturn the lower court's decision, it did declare errors in the ruling and cleared the way for a new decision to be made. Chief Justice Burger along with Justices Rehnquist and White dissented.

Bruce Voeller, co-executive director of **The National Gay Task Force** said the decision was a "very exciting and important victory." Voeller said the judgment does two important things, "It proves for one thing that the High Court is not utterly against us no matter what. And it stops a very serious threat of inroads

into the Civil Service Commission's supportive position on gay employment."

Singer had been fired partially due to his identification in the media as a gay rights advocate and a federal employee. In its investigation that resulted in his discharge in April of 1972, the Civil Service Commission charged Singer with flaunting his homosexuality by kissing men in public; giving his name and occupation to a San Francisco newspaper; giving his views on "closet queens" indicating "by his clothing and manner" that he intended to continue homosexual activity as a way of life; and, filing a legal challenge to the county to grant him and his lover a marriage license in an incident that was widely reported in the media.

The Commission accused Singer of "immoral and notoriously disgraceful conduct" under Section 721.201 of the Commission's rule and regulations. In rejecting his appeal, the US Court of Appeals accepted the Commission's arguments that "Singer's repeated flaunting and advocacy of a controversial life-style together with the publicity in which he was identified as an employee of the EEOC, would lead to 'possible embarrassment to and loss of public confidence in the agency of the CSC.'"

However, in July of 1973 the Civil Service Commission issued new directives which states that gayness itself should not be a disqualifying factor in dismissing personnel.

MIAMI PASSES RIGHTS LAW

Miami, FL—Despite the objections of placket carrying, Bible quoting opponents led by Anita Bryant and Alvin Dark, the Metro Commission voted 5-3 to adopt an ordinance banning discrimination against homosexuals in such areas as employment, housing, labor unions, and private education.

The action makes Miami the first city south of Washington, D. C., and east of Austin, Texas, to protect the civil rights of gay people. Dade county becomes the fourth county of 38 municipalities to adopt ordinances protecting the jobs and homes of gays. The ordinance applies throughout Dade County, which includes Miami, Miami Beach, Cocoanut Grove, and Coral Gables.

Anita Bryant, the singer who specializes in orange juice and commercials—saying she was “not only aflame but on fire”—vowed to go from church to church if necessary to whip up support for a special countywide election to repeal the law.

Chicago Cubs baseball coach Al Dark held a black-bound Bible in his right hand as he addressed the commissioners to say he found homosexuality “an abomination to the Lord.”

Her voice choked with emotion as Miss Bryant said she feared the ordinance would be a corrupting influence for youth. The mother of four said, “As an entertainer I have worked with homosexuals all my life, and my attitude has been live and let live.” But, she added, “I have a right to be jealous of the moral atmosphere in which my children grow up. I believe it is time to realize the rights of the overwhelming number of Dade County constituents.”

Voting for the ordinance were Ruth Shack, its sponsor, William Oliver, Befery Phillips, James Redford, and Harvey Rubin. Against were Mayor Steve Clark, Clara Oesterle and Neal Adams. Barry Schreiber was home ill, but had told



— JOE RIMKUS Jr. / Miami Herald Staff

Opponents of Gay Anti-Bias Statute Protest at Dade County Courthouse

gay leaders that he would leave a sick bed if his vote were needed for passage.

Ironically, Miss Bryant worked for Mrs. Shack's election campaign last year. Mrs. Shack's husband is Bryant's theatrical agent.



BRYANT

Miss Bryant and her group have 30 days to gather 10,000 signatures for an initiative ordinance. This would compel the Metro Commission either to reverse its vote or call a special referendum vote on the issue within 120 days.

South Florida gay leaders welcomed the possibility of a referendum. The Dade County Coalition for the Humanistic Rights of Gays.

who had sponsored the legislation, said it “would offer an opportunity for consciousness raising.” They are also urging a boycott of Florida citrus products to protest Bryant's opposition to gay rights.

The Citrus Commission was flooded with protests, and gay bars in the Miami area have posted signs reading: “No Florida Orange Juice Served Here.” First Federal Saving and Loan (for whom she also does commercials) was not only hit with calls, but Club Baths Chain President Jack Campbell, who lives in Miami, removed \$80,000 from the institution and urged other gays to remove their funds.

All this has caused Bob Green, her husband to charge that gays are violating her right to make a living. Her income has been estimated to be around \$500,000 per year.

Alvin Dark (who has had a stormy career in baseball due to his prejudice against Blacks) is not involved actively in the recall move.

The new ordinance went into effect January 28 and provides penalties of a \$500 fine or 60 days in jail for offenders.

NEW GAY RIGHTS BILL IN CONGRESS

Washington, DC—Rep. Ed Koch has introduced the national gay civil rights bill. The New York City Democrat introduced the bill, identical to the one Rep. Bella Abzug had introduced in the last Congress, on the first day of the 95th Congress, January 4, 1977.

The bill, HR 451, would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by adding the words "affectional or sexual preference" to each list of human conditions for which people can not be discriminated against. The bill goes to the Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights of the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee.

Rep. Koch had gotten nine other Members of Congress to sign with him as prime sponsors of this bill when it was introduced, and four others have asked to be on the bill already. They are Reps. Jonathan Bingham, New York; John Burton, California; Ron Dellums, California; Don Fraser, Minnesota; Michael Harrington, Mass.; Elizabeth Holtzman,

New York; Paul N. (Pete) McCloskie, Calif.; Gerry Studds, Mass.; Ted Weiss, New York; Parren Mitchell, Maryland; Frederick Richmond, New York; Charles Rangel, New York; and Stephen J. Solarz, New York.

Koch has sent letters to all Members of Congress explaining what the bill does and inviting additional co-sponsors. He plans to introduce the

bill again with more co-sponsors in mid-February.

It is absolutely imperative that people write to their Congresspeople urging them to co-sponsor HR 451. Please send copies of any letters you write to Members of Congress to the Congressional File, UFMCC, Washington Office, Suite 210, 110 Maryland Avenue, N.E., Washington DC 20002.

OPEN GAY RUNS FOR MAYOR



Fort Lauderdale, FA—A 45 year-old real estate broker, Roger Luckett, has joined 18 other candidates running for five seats as city commissioners. The candidate who gets the highest amount of votes becomes mayor. Luckett also happens to be openly gay.

Luckett's decision to run for public office comes in the wake of an anti-gay statement made by E. Clay Shaw, Jr., the city's current mayor. Shaw is credited by gay leaders with unwittingly uniting the gay community after he stated, "If a family from the midwest comes to Fort Lauderdale and sees men making love on the beach, what will they think? They'll never come back. We are a family community, not just a tourist town. I don't intend to allow that image to be tarnished for the expediency of a few dollars." He has also asked for an investigation of gay hotel interests and denounced the rise of male prostitution.

tion.

Luckett has been endorsed by the Brownard County Coalition for the Humanistic Rights of Gays. In accepting the endorsement of the coalition Luckett said he doesn't think his sexual preference should be a campaign issue. Stressing the reasons he feels qualifies him to serve, Luckett said, "If they (gay persons) vote for me just because they're gay and I'm gay, then I don't want them to vote for me."

Of the 16 candidates contacted by The Fort Lauderdale News, 7 said they would accept the endorsement of the gay group, 6 (including Shaw) would not, and one was uncertain. Two other candidates said sexual preference should not be an issue.

Due to the fragmented nature of the voting, a high gay turnout would assure Luckett's election. Fort Lauderdale has a large gay population. The election is in March.

GPU NEWS

GPU NEWS is a monthly publication of Liberation Publications, Inc., of Milwaukee, % The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (P.O. Box 92203, Milwaukee, WI 53202).

Second Class Postage Paid at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Subscription rate: \$6.00 per year \$11.00 for 2 years (Outside USA add \$1.00 per year.)

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SEX LAWS INTRODUCED IN WISCONSIN

Madison, WI—A bill that would repeal most of Wisconsin's sex crime laws (Assembly Bill 69), including those concerning homosexuality, was presented before the Assembly Judiciary Committee on Jan. 25.

Co-sponsored by Marcia Coggs (D-Mil), and David Clarenbach (D-Madison) the bill would permit marriage between first cousins, legalize abortion and all sexual acts between consenting adults, and lift restrictions on the advertising of birth control devices. It would also repeal criminal penalties for incest except when an adult committed incest with a person under 18. All laws against prostitution would be repealed, except in cases where individuals were forced to become prostitutes. It would also allow members of the same sex to marry.

The nongay media made a big hoopla over the fact that the bill received little attention. However, gay leaders were not surprised. Alyn Hess, President of **Gay Peoples Union** said, "We have backed such legislation in the past, but we have come to realize that our efforts can best be spent on approaches that do not create an atmosphere of hysteria."

Roger Durand, who is the coordinator of a state wide effort to get same sex acts decriminalized and gay rights legislation passed, said he "hoped the bill would die quietly and quickly."

Durand said he has attained widespread sponsorship and support for a bill that, "approaches the matter from the political realities of our state." The bill would add the words "in public" to present laws prohibiting same sex acts, therefore making such acts in private legal.

He said the legislation will be introduced by Clarenbach and Richard Flintrop (D-Oshkosh) this week, and that gay leaders are now seeking co-sponsors for the bill. He said several Milwaukee and Madison legislators have already agreed to co-sponsor, and others would be approached

during the next week.

"Marcia (Coggs) and David (Clarenbach) are good friends of gays," Durand said, "and they understand why we could not support AB 69. Regardless of the merits of such legislation, past history shows us bills that lump controversial matters

together get nowhere."

Both Hess and Durand seem optimistic that the new bill will be the first piece of sexual legislation to get out of committee and onto the floor since gays have been fighting for their rights.

ARKANSAS SEX LAW BACKLASH

Little Rock, AK—At least one State Representative has plans to revoke the state's decriminalization of homosexual acts.

Fort Smith Rep. Bill Stancil, spouting moralistic comments, introduced a bill to provide criminal penalties for "deviate" sexual behavior. Arkansas is one of 18 states that over the past decade have decriminalized homosexual acts.

The state's newly revised criminal code does not provide for criminal penalties for deviate sex acts as long as they are committed by consenting adult in private. Stancil's bill would make both homosexual and some heterosexual acts illegal.

Stancil said he was embarrassed to discover he had voted for the revised

MAGICIAN TO APPEAR AT GPU

Milwaukee, WI—An evening with entertainer Ken Baker will highlight activities at **Gay Peoples Union** this month. The talented magician-entertainer will appear at the February 21 meeting.

After their monthly business meeting on the 7th, GPU has scheduled "General Rap" sessions for Feb. 14th and 28th.

The Farwell Center, 1568 N Farwell, where GPU holds its meetings every Monday night at 8 pm, is now open every night from 7:30 to 11:00 pm.

Free VD screening is given Wed., Fri., and Sat. at the Center from 8 to 11 pm.

Consult the Calendar and Directory elsewhere in this issue for other activities at the Center this month.

code that, among other things, legalized sodomy.

He said some constituents had attacked him about the new code, "And, of course, I denied voting for it."

A Sherwood representative, Art Givens, pointed out how Stancil's bill would apply to both gays and nongays. He said the bill would make criminals out of many husbands and their wives. "Everything except what is done strictly for reproduction would be criminal in nature."

Stancil scoffed at Given's idea of getting an Attorney General's opinion on his proposal. He said he wasn't particularly concerned what the Attorney General had to say about it.

Under his bill, deviate sex acts would be classed as a felony. It would allow the trial jury to impose a prison term of not less than a year nor more than five years.

NEW POT LAW?

Milwaukee, WI—A pot decriminalization law is being introduced this session of the legislature, and has a reasonable chance of passage. According to Rep. Steve Leopold, Democrat of Milwaukee's 26th district this may effect some assemblymen who will not want to support both gays and pot in the same session. They don't want to have heat from their conservative constituents on both issues at the same time.

Groups like the **National Organization for Repeal of Marijuana Laws (NORMAL)** have long pushed for this kind of law as a first step to the eventual full legalization of marijuana.



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FEEDBACK

Dear Editor,

The Arizona Board of Pardons and Paroles has approved my application for parole to San Francisco, Ca.; and I'll be released from the Arizona State Prison in a few weeks.

To save further costs to you, you may cancel the free subscription you provided me during my incarceration.

Thank you for the subscription during my internment. Yours was the one publication directed to gays which got through the mailroom censors to me with any regularity. And, you are responsible for having kept me informed to any extent in the happenings in our community.

Thank you,
Marvin Walden
Florence, Az

Dear Editor,

Let me take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of your many readers in our organization. We find your publication interesting, informative, and of a consistently high

standard.

It was especially interesting to note from your Nov. '76 issue that there is a group calling itself Iceland Hospitality. We have had an **Israel Hospitality** for almost two years and have found it mutually beneficial to our many tourists and to ourselves. The tourists don't have to waste their limited time looking for gay life, and we get to enrich our limited gay contacts by their presence.

Also, we have several Israeli gay men and women who would like to correspond with like-minded people in other countries.

Anyone who is coming to Israel or who wants a pen pal should get in touch with us at POB 16151, Tel Aviv Israel.

Shalom,
A. Ma'ayan
Tel Aviv, Isreal
For the SPPR

(Society for the Protection of Personal Rights (SPPR) is Isreal's first and only homophile group. They have a membership of over 200 and have been in existance for a little over two years.)

Dear Editor,

Would like to take the opportunity to offer an opinion: namely, that recent issues of the paper probably now make **GPU NEWS** the best Midwest gay publication available.

Don Schweitzer
Hollywood, Ca

Dear Editor,

I had considered not renewing (my subscription), but decided to cut out Advocate and others that cost more than **GPU NEWS**. **GPU NEWS** is concise and a good summary of what's going on without all the crap. It is better, however, for those in the Milwaukee area, but they are just lucky. Most likely you couldn't even operate in a city like Norfolk, Va., it's too far behind the times—Good luck and keep up the good work.

Henry Law
Norfolk, Va

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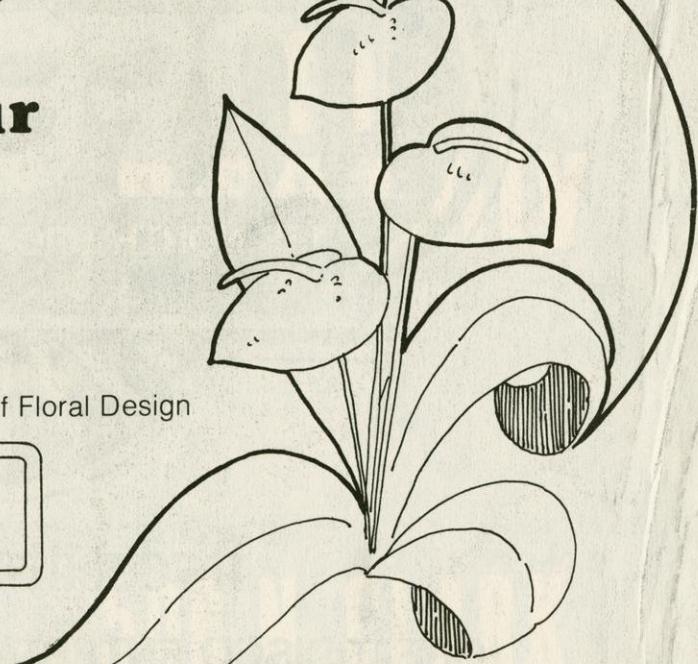
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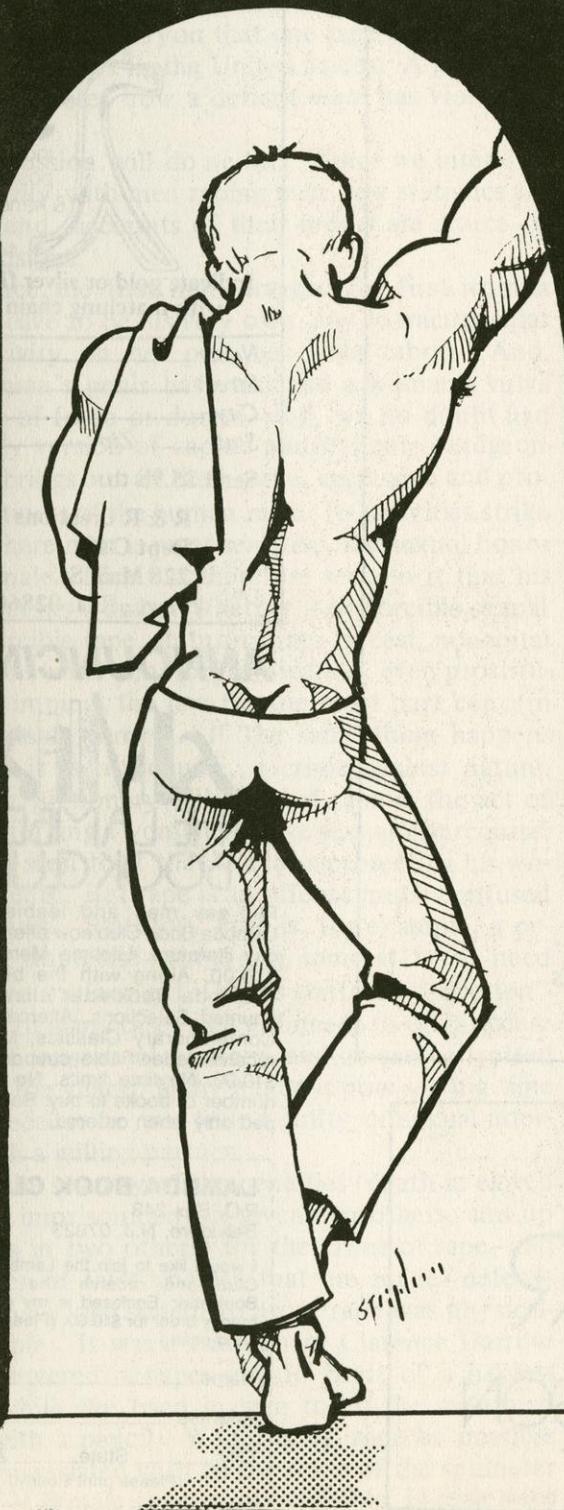


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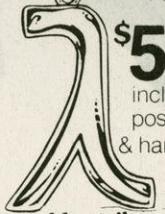
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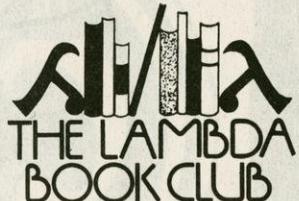
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male rape

BY ROGER DURAND

A discussion of rape traditionally begins with either a terrifying statistic or a gruesome tale of woe. A terrifying statistic tells you that one rape is committed every nine minutes in the United States. A gruesome tale of woe relates how a defiant *male* has violated a *female*.

This discussion will do neither. Since we intend to deal primarily with men raping men, few statistics are available, and accounts of their ordeal are scarce—if not nonexistent.

Ever since the first man dragged the first woman off to his cave to be his very own, any extracurricular sexual activity on her part has been taboo. And, should a man's penis have touched a woman's vulva as a result of force or duress—well, we no doubt had man's early version of capital punishment—bludgeoning. Rape brings out all the hostile, aggressive and protective instincts of the human male. Its activities strike a sphere where man is most sensitive, the sexual honor of the female. Man has therefore seen to it that his laws protect his women. Whether it be forcible sexual assault, forcible rape, statutory rape, incest, noncoital sex relations with a minor, fornication, even prostitution and pimping, the law for the most part concern crimes against women. If the same thing happens to a man, it is, of course, a crime against nature. Even every dictionary tells us that rape is the act of physically forcing a woman to have sexual intercourse.

Man has seen to it that the laws protecting his women have teeth. But rape is an offense much confused by state laws. Statutory rape is, for example, a peculiar and imprecise crime. In some states it need only involve a minor girl. Others confuse "seduction" with rape. In many cases all a girl needs to do is accuse her lover of consensual relations, and he can be trotted off to jail for years. Many a man is now serving time for rape because he was found guilty of sexual intercourse with a willing partner.

Due to the severity of the penalties (death in eleven states, life imprisonment in seventeen others, and up to 99 years in two others) for the crime of rape—and the number of false charges that are made—defense attorneys have long sought to prove rape was physically impossible. It was a triumphant Clarence Darrow who maneuvered a paper cup in front of a hapless accuser while she tried in vain to hit the mouth of the cup with a pencil. Would anal rape be possible if the victim resisted with all the force of the sphincter muscle? If female rape is questionable, is male rape

possible?

The possibility becomes reality in such literary works as Vidal's *The City and the Pillar* (revised,) James Dickey's *Deliverance*, and the prison movie *Fortune and Men's Eyes*. It is there, prison, where public recognition of male rape is acknowledged.

Rape in Prison is the only book published that deals exclusively with rape in prison. Anthony Scacco presents a fairly accurate picture of rape in prison. However, the book has a number of serious deficiencies and the author tends toward a sensationalistic style.

In her excellent *Against Our Will—Men, Women, and Rape*, Susan Brownmiller devotes about twelve pages of her book to male rape. Twelve pages in a tome of 472 pages concerning rape—and all twelve are devoted to the topic of prison rape.

Both Brownmiller and Scacco reaffirm an important fact. The nightmare of rape is an exercise in power and that in prison, homosexuals are the victims—not the perpetrators.

To suggest that homosexual rape in prison (or anywhere else for that matter) is motivated by the need for sexual release is ridiculous. Masturbation would not only be safer, but more logical. Study after study shows that prison rape is the product of the inmates definition of masculinity through physical triumph. Researchers are struck by the fact that the man who rapes another man in prison does not consider himself to be homosexual, or even to have engaged in homosexual acts.

After two youths were sexually assaulted "within minutes of their admission" to the Philadelphia Detention Center, a comprehensive study of rape within the Philadelphia prison system was launched by the police and district attorney. Placed in charge of the 1968 investigation was Alan J. Davis, an assistant district attorney. He found that rape was "epidemic" and documented 156 cases during a two year period. However, Davis believed he had only touched "the top of the iceberg," estimating that the true number of rapes during that period was closer to 2,000. The number of reported rapes was only 96, and of that number only 64 had been placed in prison records. Internal discipline was levied against 40 of the offenders and 26 cases were referred to the police.

Davis concluded that "virtually every slightly built young man committed by the courts is sexually approached within a day or two after his admission to prison. Many of these young men are repeatedly raped by gangs of inmates. Others, because of the threat of

gang rape, seek protection by entering into a homosexual relationship with an individual tormentor."

They found the average age of the prison rapist to be 23 years old with the victims being slightly under 21. (Remember those ages, we'll discuss them again later.) The rapist were under sentence for crimes such as robbery, assault, murder, and *heterosexual rape!* In other words—crimes of violence. Most victims were usually incarcerated for nonassaultive crimes. Interestingly, there were just as many victims as there were rapists jailed for homicide.

How are things eight years later? Homosexual assault has been the cause of riots at Reidsville State Prison in Georgia and the Federal institution at Leavenworth resulting in eighteen deaths during the last three months. Twenty-eight year old Quaker pacifist Bob Martin, arrested at a peace demonstration at the White House, and after being jailed was raped over 60 times during a two day period, says, "There probably are more rapes committed against males every day in this country than against females because prison rape is a constantly repeating pattern."

The growing outcry of gay activists is causing prison officials to take some measures to stop sexual assault. Ironically, it is the very reason Norman A. Carlson, Director of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons cites for prohibiting gay publications in Federal prisons.

But it is the gay who suffers the additional penalty. It is the gay who is isolated, humiliated, and dehumanized under the guise of "being protected." Non-gays who are assaulted believe forever that they have been raped by a "queer." Penologists can not seem to see (or understand) there is a big difference between homosocial behavior and homosexual behavior. To experience social and psychological fulfillment from males while in prison is homosocial in nature, not homosexual.

Some officials say conjugal visits would be the answer. Scacco claims unmarried inmates resent their fellow inmates who receive these visits. C. B. Hopper disagrees in **The conjugal visit at Mississippi State Penitentiary**, saying 90% of 822 inmates surveyed by questionnaire on the topic reported that they felt no resentment.

Martin feels women should be provided for prisoners "so they can act out their male role and don't have to take out anger and aggression on males."

However, prison rape is basically a problem of the prison system itself. Space does not permit us to go into the matter here.

That male rape happens in prison is a well known accepted fact. But what about our "regular" environment? It is estimated that 90% of all female rape victims never report the crime to police. Experts in the field claim this is because they are left shocked, frightened and confused. Often they are unjustifiably ashamed of the experience and can't bear to tell any one about it—even relatives or close friends.

Well, if women feel guilty and too afraid to talk about their experiences as victims, imagine what a man would feel. Shock and disbelief. Fear—fear of exposure to friends and family, of the police and their interrogation. Anger and rage. At the assailant and *himself*. Himself for not protecting himself more carefully, or for possibly precipitating the attack. And relief. Relief that he has survived. And worst of all, the fear of being branded "queer."

Unravelling the question of male rape becomes all the more difficult because of the myths and prejudices surrounding the victim, the rapist, and the act. The victim can be any male. However, just as in prison, most victims are 25 or under. Just as in female rape, 80% of all *reported* male rapes are carefully planned. The victim is frequently homosexual, and known as such by the rapist. However, nongays are just as susceptible to attack, particularly by a homophobe. Very often the victim knows the rapists, and may even be a relative. Relatives are responsible for most female rapes. Unlike female victims, the male may have voluntarily invited his attacker to his home. Rape may not have been the primary objective of the assailant, but may be the end result when his desires are not voluntarily met by the victim.

Once a rape is started, violence and horror often ensue. Readers of the book or viewers of the movie **Midnight Cowboy** were exposed to a scene many mistook for sado-masochism. Smashed lips, broken teeth, and broken skulls are not part of the S&M scene. Nor should one confuse consensual acts during what is referred to as a S&M scene as rape! It is disgusting to hear police say, "Well, he was asking for it" when they find a castrated man lying in a pool of his own blood. In male rape castration, amputation, and general abuse of sex organs is common. One can only speculate at how many young men have died as they unknowingly bled to death from a perforated colon.

But it is the psychological damage that supersedes the physical most often. Doubts of his masculinity spring up. After all, men can't be raped, therefore maybe I'm not a man. He questions his sexuality. If straight—"Am I gay?" If gay—"Do I come across as a faggot?" Regardless of sexual orientation, he may suffer sexual dysfunction forever.

The rapist might be the boy next door. He may be Black. He may be a confused bisexual, homosexual, homophobe, or straight. His sexual orientation has absolutely nothing to do with it because rape is not a sexual crime. That's right. Rape is a crime of violence. Male, female, child or adult—no matter, it ends up being an act of violence that happens to include genitalia.

The homosexual might want to force sex on an unwilling partner to show he is a "man." Or, he may not believe the denials, or just can not handle past rejections. The bisexual may not want to face his feelings for gay sex. He may feel tainted. He can put the taint on his victim and hurt him, thereby punishing

the victim and making the victim pay for his own guilt. The homophobe wants to punish something he hates. Very often he has suppressed homosexual feelings. His psyche has built up a vision of homosexuals as being all bad—immoral sinners who disgust him. He is the one who very often maims his victim and occasionally kills him.

Despite Merriam-Webster, most penal codes, and the connotation in most people's minds, rape is not just a penis vagina affair. If anything is done to you, or you are forced to do anything against your will—you have been raped. Whether it is sodomy (anal intercourse), forced fellatio, or even forced masturbation—you have been raped.

It couldn't happen to me, you say. A healthy robust 19 year-old football player was forced off a Milwaukee public bus at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and sodomized by two men in the stairwell of the public library. A 190 pound weightlifter was tied to a tree in a Milwaukee suburban park and subjected to every humiliation imaginable. A champion track star was chased down (and caught), and face fucked at 5 pm in Milwaukee's largest park. A well-meaning gay is still hospitalized after having a can opener surgically removed from his rectum. They too, never thought it could happen to them.

That a male rape victim would need attention—both physical and emotional—is self evident. Where can he turn to? Is there a number to call? A place to go? Is there someone somewhere familiar with the experience of rape victims that can treat his injured body and help him sort through his feelings? In Milwaukee we're lucky. There is just such a place, and, men are using it.

The Sexual Assault Treatment Center of Greater Milwaukee was developed by Family Hospital when representatives of local women-oriented groups saw that rape victims were being served by various groups. Their primary concern was, of course, for women.

They found there was no coordination among hospitals treating rape victims or consistency in methods of care. The Committee on Rape Victims of the Mil-

waukee Chapter of the Wisconsin Civil Liberties Union observed there was no formalized procedure in most hospitals as to what should be done when a rape victim came in. Each hospital had its own routine for dealing with victims of sexual assault. Treatments and services offered were varied, counseling was haphazard, and not considered the responsibility of the hospital.

While there was (as the television ads remind us) "a crying need" for such a center in Milwaukee for women, an important fact concerning men was happening at the same time the center was getting organized. The Wisconsin Legislature had just passed a more broadly conceived rape law. Now, any forced penetration—oral, vaginal, or anal, was rape! An importantly for men, the code was de-sexed.

If there is one area that America's two great minorities (Blacks and gays) agree on, it is the total distrust of police. When I went to the Milwaukee Police Department to discuss male rape, I was not met with open arms. As a look of incredulous disbelief slowly changed to shock on the face of the officer I was talking to, I wondered if I might not have to risk being charged with some sort of sexual assault by administering mouth to mouth resuscitation to revive him. Recovering, he briskly informed me they "enforce the law."

And they do. Every case of reported male rape is turned over to the District Attorney for possible prosecution. The police do not make the judgment. Of the five cases reported to the District Attorney, three have been successfully prosecuted. The two other cases were not brought to trial for various and sundry reasons. This writer agreed with the thinking in both cases.

Mr. Michael Malmstadt has been an assistant district attorney for nine years. He heads the new **Sensitive Crimes Division** within that office. He is the one who makes the decision if a rape has been committed, and if it has, whether or not successful prosecution can be attained. He works very closely with Kate Greenquist, Director of the **Anti-rape Unit** within the District

(Continued on page 42)



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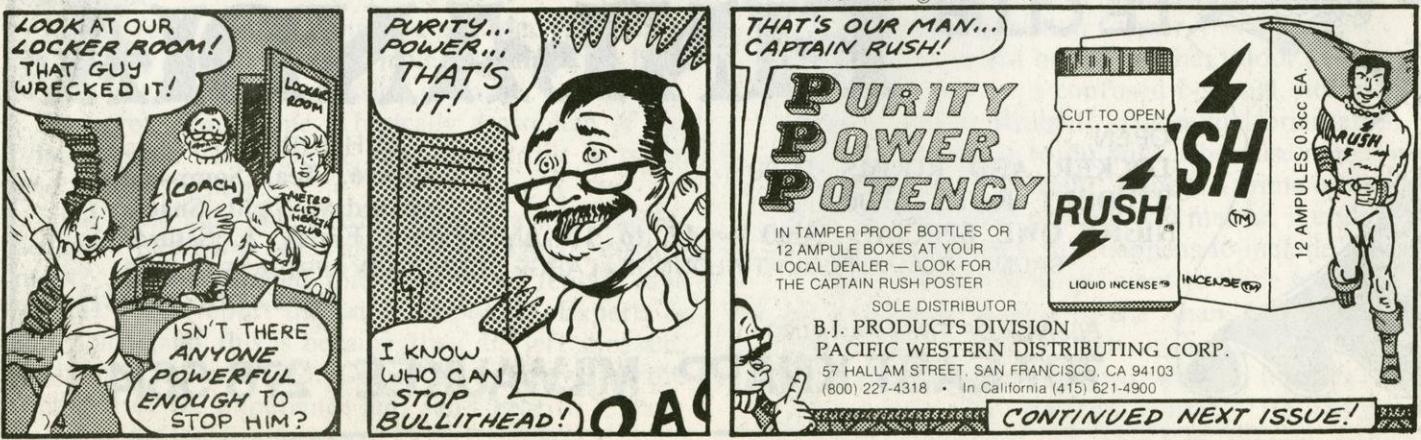
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THE CLUB

A MUSICAL DIVERSION

REVIEWED BY TONY RUSSO

Eve Merriam's musical *Diversion* "The Club," directed by Tommy Tune, at the Circle in the Square (Downtown), 159 Bleeker St., New York. Theodore Mann and Paul Libin, directors. Musical Direction and arrangements by Alexandra Ivanoff:

I have seen many shows with men

impersonating women. All were amateurish, but entertaining. I had never seen women impersonating men until *The Club* arrived at the **Downtown Circle** in the Square in New York City. Although the tables were turned, it was not the same.

Eve Merriam, author of *The Inner City Mother Goose* and editor of

Growing Up Female In America, has created a turn-of-the-century club for gentlemen as a setting for a setting for a group of songs dating from 1894 to 1905. The songs are sung by women. There are no men present on the stage; however, one is not fully aware of that fact until the play has reached its climax.

L to R, Joanne Beretta, Carole Monferdini, Gloria Hodes and Julie J. Hafner.



Photo by Martha Swope

Even the program does not list the actors first names. They are simply listed as M. Dell, G. Hodges, etc.

The songs are typical male turn-of-the-century songs—songs concerning mistresses, wives, the inadequacies of a woman, money, cigars. It is all fun and certainly entertaining until their masks are lifted. The play is only one act and so, throughout the performance you are engrossed in the songs and jokes. Then comes the final scene. Suddenly, Joanne Beretta, who plays Algy, removes her hair from under her collar. Her song takes on a different tone. The effect is chilling. Although, I did not innocently see **The Club** expecting an evening of entertainment, the effect of the show cannot be imagined until it is seen. It is not to be missed.

The show derives force from the songs. They are sexist in the most elementary way; portraying women as sexual objects, servants, pests, and, worst of all, just plain boring. It is to the point of embarrassment.

The embarrassment does not come until the end of the show. Throughout the evening you are laughing at the jokes, perhaps even enjoying the melodies, just as one would at any evening of song. But, Merrian catches you off guard. Just as you are feeling in the best of spirits, she pulls out the rug from under you, shakes her finger at you and says: "Look what you've been laughing at." Instead of leaving the theatre in high spirits, you leave thinking about the sexism in songs, men and society in general.

The cast is excellent. Gail Hodges, Joanne Beretta, Carole Monferdini, and Julie J. Hafner deserve particular mention. They are just right as Bertie, Algy, Freddie and Bobby. Joanne Beretta is Algy in the perfect, "guv'nor," just returning from a day of politics to be with his "own kind." Terri White is also very good as the bellboy and adds a wonderful tap dance routine to the show. Tommy Tune's direction adds a certain spice and simplicity to the show. It is good to see him back.

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ANCESTOR WORSHIP

◆ A REVIEW ◆

◆ BY PETER PEHRSON ◆

Gay American History-Lesbians and Gay Men in the USA. A Documentary by Johathan Katz. Thomas Y. Crowell, New York, 1976, 690 pp., indexed, annotated, illustrated, \$9.95 paperback.

I moved through libraries like a detective, a tracer of missing persons, following up clues, following trails from footnote to footnote, an explorer in an unknown land . . . the study of the Gay past raises the question of whether this society can accomodate the demands of America's dispossed for power and control over the machinery by which they make their lives.

—From the Introduction

My vow during the Bicentennial year was to sleep with two hundred men—or seventeen hundred seventy six British replicas thereof. Jonathan Katz, however, in his project, sensed a higher purpose in the general insouciance that allowed it perfectly seemly for the current Queen of England to have traffic reversed on New York's Lexington Avenue so that the royal limousine might drive *uptown* to Bloomingdale's where one of the world's worst dressed women studied Americans' fashions and pronounced them good. Americans spent millions celebrating its freedom from the ill-clad English and, as Katz and our own social experience tells us, it certainly is freedom for some—equality being relative and *unfashionable*.

The revolution of unequal gays is the subject of Katz's dark, thrilling presentation of buried American history. Simply existing as gay often

meant an act of revolution in the past. Too often it means the same now. Until the appearance of this book, it was almost impossible to know what a lesbian's life was like in the 19th century, what gay Indians endured from their tribe, how same sex relationships were viewed throughout the two centuries of American history. What we have in this book is a rare key to ourselves, although Katz denies that anything called "homosexuality" exists in general. Instead, he refers only to "particular historical forms of homosexuality." It is this unique sense of perspective which Katz mentions traditional, anti-gay researchers have failed to realize. That they neglected to know how their own judgments and interpretations were subject to future and further study seems understandable if not always pardonable. Homosexuality has always been an open area inviting the most absurd and atrocious pronouncements which have never been slow or shy about appearing. (Ironically, the term "quack doctor" might originate from the 19th century hypnotist who used trances in his 'cure', Dr. Quackenbos.) Katz spent the last, several years accumulating the documents which are arranged by topic: Trouble 1566-1966, Treatment 1884-1974, Passing Women 1782-1926, Native Americans/Gay Americans 1582-1976, Resistance 1859-1972 and Love 1779-1932. By his use of town meeting minutes, navigational records, prisons proceedings, newspaper accounts, organizational charters, and several "created documents", Katz provides the perspec-

tive which has been lacking.

These documents, while functional in themselves by providing unknown information, also stand as art works through which we as gays may finally connect ourselves in the human continuum, understand ourselves as having pasts, forbearers and antecedents. Perhaps the only common cultural product we have is shared experiences. **Gay American History** allows us to know that we are not isolated incidents appearing by chance in small towns and odd corners of the country. As we have congregated in the large cities for a sense of being from mass, we now know that part of our identification comes from the knowledge of the past; that by reclaiming our sisters and brothers from time and ignorance, we claim and assert ourselves.

Item:

Although castration, emetics, isolation, hysterectomies, and torture in general have been among the variety of ways in which the social and medical establishment have tried to fore-stall and cure homosexuality, it was in 1948 that one of the first lobotomies was performed. It was on a homosexual. A bladed needle was inserted into the patient's cranial cavity on each side, jiggled up, down, and sideways to insure a proper and complete separation. For several months afterward, the patient was observed to be incoherent, confused and unstable. In their summary of operation and treatment, the doctors responsible noted rather coolly "that the lobotomy produced the dementia."

What is notable about the human stories chronicled in **Gay** is the in-

genuity and perseverance at all levels of society in their attempt at gay genocide. Our subsequent resistance has taken various forms, too and, as perspective is essential in this history, we can see that the correspondence between Walt Whitman and John Addington Symonds and Edward Carpenter discussing same sex relationships might be just as revolutionary as the Stonewall uprising. Ignoring the dangers of mixing perspectives we see too, that the correspondence between Alexander Hamilton and John Laurens (1779) with all its flowery, period language ("I wish, my dear Laurens, . . . (to) convince you that I love you") gives a sense of a period in which this particular same-sex relationship existed. Surviving and communicating the details of surviving. Sharing the secrecy and anger.

Sharing the Love has an important place in **GAH**, too. Previously unpublished and unknown love letters from Almeda Sperry to Emma Goldman feature this poem: "Into thy glowing mass/I thrust/The thin line/Of my crimson lips/Thrilling/

With lust." Throughout the book, where documents or source material relates primarily to women, Katz has indicated this by the use of the female sign. The Passing Women section details the stories of women who "can be understood not as imitation men, but as real women, women who refused to accept the traditional, socially assigned fate of their sex, women whose particular revolt took the form of passing as men." One of the most radical of these was Murray Hall whose death in 1901 revealed her identity when the attending physician diagnosed breast cancer. Perhaps what most shocked the readers of the **New York Times**' account of her life was, that as a New York City politician and intimate of Tammany Hall, she was instrumental in many of the political decisions regarding the City. That she voted in elections long before women's suffrage was no less shocking to her Edwardian friends and acquaintances than her two marriages.

What are we to do with this vast, rococo chronicle of what are essen-

tially gay ghosts? Certainly work towards its extensive placement in school and public libraries, telling everyone we know of its existence, of our existence—and to understand that this is only a view of the possibilities. "This book is significantly not a product of academia; it does not play it safe; it is rough at the edges, radical at heart." We understand from **GAH** that by knowing how we have been radical in the past simply by our presence, we are no less radical now by our visibility.

As I write this, the man with whom I sleep and love is himself asleep in the next room. I write in his New Jersey home which has a view of Manhattan, that great rock upon which so many lesbians and gay men have lived. From **GAH**, there is a deep sense that each of us are constants; that time and hate do not relegate us to obscurity, and that our lives and loves are no less permanent than that island.

Editors note:—Appearing in an upcoming issue will be Jonathan Katz's conversation with Peter Pehrson about Gay American History.

THE Beer Garden

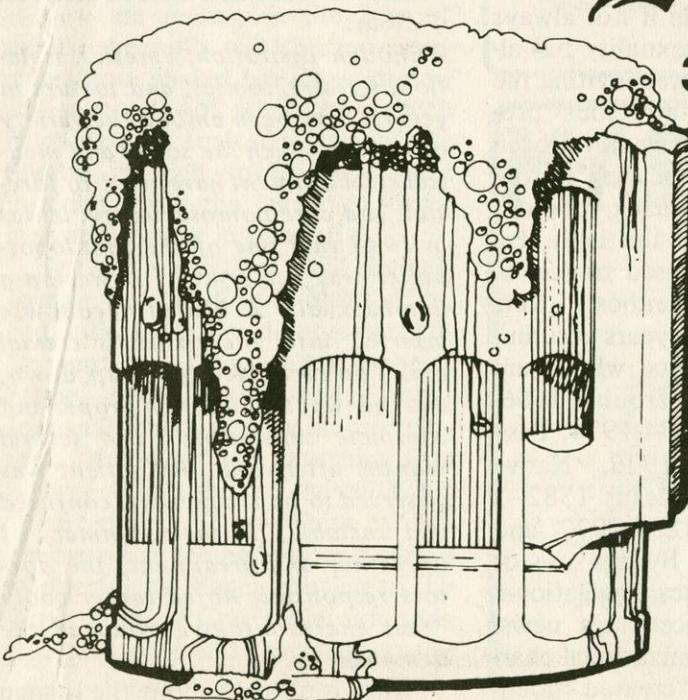
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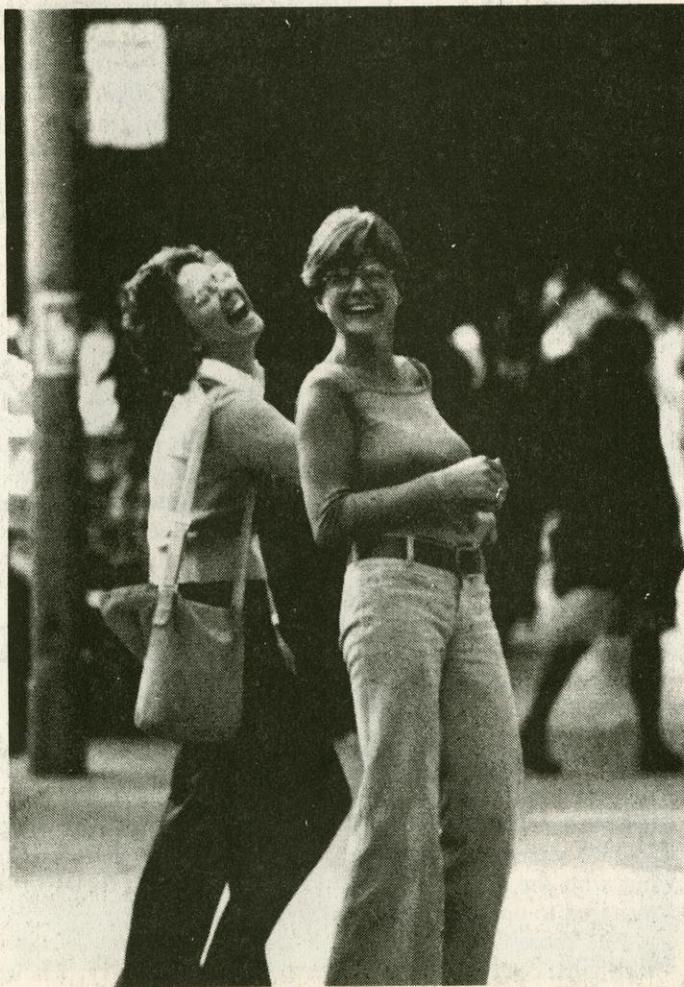
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Women Loving

reviewed by donna martin



If you ever come to think hard about it, you realize that the basic function of language is organization. The reality around us is simply so fast and multiple that without some system of order we could not function above the level of animals or infants. Through its function of assigning names to things and ideas, and, thus, pointing toward their relation to one another, language is able to create an intelligible and useful order out of an otherwise bewildering and largely unreachable environment.

But, while most labels are neutral, simply pointing to some aspect of reality, some also carry with them an emotional charge. For example, there is the obvious difference in feeling that the term "capitalism" has for most Americans as contrasted with the reaction evoked by it for the committed Marxist. This illustrates a general rule: Words, functioning to create order in an area to which people respond with high feeling, will themselves, reflect this intensity.

One of the areas where this has most obviously been the case in our culture is that of sexuality. And we, as homosexuals, are all too aware of the living reality of this fact, for we have long suffered from the negative aura that accompanies the terms, both "scientific" and slang, used to set apart our sexuality from that of the majority. Much indeed has been made of this oppressive language in recent gay liberation writing. But we are probably not nearly as sensitive to the use of the term "bisexual." In fact, it is my observation that it has been just as unjustifiably interpreted, though to different ends, by homosexual as by heterosexual apologists: for most of us it also carries the additional meaning of someone who is just too cowardly to come right out and forthrightly embrace his/her homosexuality, seeking safety rather in maintaining a substantial allegiance to heterosexuality, the majority orientation.

Thus, it was with real interest, mixed with skepticism, that I approached this book which a friend recommended for its first person account of a bisexual experience. True, there have been theorists, like the educator, the late Paul Goodman, and Dennis Altman in his book, *Homosexual: Oppression and Liberation*, who argue for bisexuality as both the basic human condition and an ideal to be sought. But, as I was pleased to discover, *Women Loving*, is no abstract apologia, but, closer to the confessional tradition of St. Augustine and Rousseau, an absorbing, soul-baring account of one woman's agonizing odyssey from an exclusive heterosexual identification to an acceptance of her strong lesbian leanings.



Ruth Faik's story is seemingly, so typical—the young, bright career-woman working in Washington, D.C. and leading an interesting, varied social life. But, rumbling beneath this pleasant surface, there was for Ruth increasing distress about two important areas of her life. Her job for **NIMH (National Institute of Mental Health)** was increasingly frustrating as she continually bucked the bureaucracy and the better-credentialed males in that establishment in an effort to get funding for some of the nontraditional services (hotlines, women's centers, free clinics), and, thus, reach out to more people. At the same time her strong and troubling feelings for women were beginning to emerge—feelings which fostered a secret sense of isolation. As Ruth expresses it, "I felt alone because I felt I had feelings no one else had, or feelings which I felt were wrong. I had very strong love feelings for women, and though I had love feelings for men, my feelings for women confused me. I did not want to love women because of the strong social taboo."

At the same time, however, Ruth was drawn to the traditional path, though racked by ambivalent reservations. 'I wanted to be with a man—I wanted to be married and live out the American Dream. Or at least I had the fantasy about wanting to be married. I felt a man could help me get a great big house filled with art. But mostly I was also afraid to be married. I was very much concerned about my independence and found in my experiences with men that often it was difficult to maintain an equal relationship.' She continues by contrasting the

often tumultuous, wearing emotions in a liaison with a man with the more equitable and nurturing ones in her relations with women, but says that still she continued to hope that if only Mr. Right came along, her life would be "happy and settled and exciting." In this respect, Ruth was clearly *not* alone, for, as she points out about herself and her friends, "We used men to validate who we were." The general feeling was that happiness meant having a man in tow *any* man, regardless of the quality of the men or their feelings for them.

Actually, it was because of Jared, "Mr. Right on a white horse" (Jewish, a Harvard-trained lawyer), that Ruth came to take the first tentative steps toward emancipating herself from exclusive dependence on men. He had another "flashier" girlfriend, but Ruth was so in love with him that, not being able to come to a decision, she entered therapy with Dr. Tilbet in order to try to end it. Meanwhile, she had developed strong feelings for Anne, one of the women she shared a house with for a number of years on Aberfoyle Street. It was with Dr. Tilbet then that for the first time Ruth began to look directly at her feelings for women.

Not surprisingly, this new honesty only intensified her feelings for Anne: she wanted to be even closer. And, very surprisingly, Dr. Tilbet encouraged her, suggesting in fact that she see what it would be like fantasizing about her. This was quite a step for Ruth, for, as she says, "I had never allowed myself to even consider sleeping with a woman, let alone fantasizing such lovemaking—for fear that if I did I would automatically be a lesbian."

But, in a sense, the dredging up and defining of these feelings meant for Ruth that things got considerably worse before they got better. Being more aware of the real contours of her emotional landscape resulted in a sharpened focus toward their expression—and, inevitably, much painful frustration. The struggle to relate more intimately with Anne finally ended with Anne's marriage, but then Ruth began a close, companionable relationship with Mandy (while simultaneously being deeply involved in an exciting love affair with Larry). They also vacationed together a great deal and, often sleeping together in double beds, Ruth was often "incredibly turned on to her." And, though Ruth tells Mandy at one point that she's going to be bisexual, Mandy doesn't pick up on it; another time, Mandy admits that the issue of liking women is just something she pushes back and decides not to deal with.

And so once again, as with Anne, Ruth is excruciatingly frustrated. The following passage, epitomizing this experience, is, I'm sure, something most of us can readily relate to: "I told Mandy how I once spent two weeks with Anne at the seashore and remembered loving her so, loving to be physically near her and close to her. Loving her so much that my body literally ached to touch. It was like my whole body ached and pushed out energy to touch, but did not make contact."

The approach and then passing of Ruth's 30th birthday heightened the quest for her sexual identity. That was felt to be the critical age among her female friends: it was somehow okay to be single under 30, but over 30 it was a crisis. And by that time her closest friends, her friends from Aberfoyle who had become like family, had married and moved to the suburbs. So, not seeing any place where she belonged, impelled to find out who she really was, what she really wanted, Ruth finally managed to openly proposition another woman.

She chose Gloria, the only woman she'd ever met who said with great conviction that she never wanted to marry. Though

it turned out that Gloria was already involved with a woman, she did agree to Ruth's request with the proviso that if things got too painful, they would quickly break things off.

Their first kiss was traumatic enough for Ruth: at a party afterward she saw breasts coming out of the walls and expanding on the women. Then later, on the evening of the day they took off for a cabin by the sea to talk and make love, Ruth quickly got very passionate, yes, but she also got diarrhea—which of course ruined everything. Some time passed before she was able to relax enough to concentrate on closeness rather than focusing on sex per se, and so be able to enjoy making love with Gloria. She describes a time when they attended a conference together in Tucson as one of the best love-making experiences of her life, "so intense, so slow and light that it almost reached the place of pain."

Nonetheless, Ruth was beginning to feel that she had to get out of Washington. Larry had gone off to law school, and Mandy to Africa and Europe to work. Her best friends gone, she was experiencing great loss and loneliness. Casting about for some new direction in her life, she applied to and was accepted by Harvard graduate school, also getting them to agree to her doing her field work at Topeka Community Health in Northern California (funding she wrangled from NIMH). She had met Alan Smith, a young psychiatrist who would be working there, and, in addition, was much attracted to the area as a promising place for exploring new life styles.

Ruth felt great interest at this point in looking into some kind of communal living arrangement that would give her a

sense of family as well as, hopefully, promoting some integration between her work and everyday life. But strongly drawing there also was her feeling that California would allow her greater freedom to explore her sexuality. As she put it on the first page of her new journal, "I leave Anne because I come to Berkeley so that I can hopefully express my love for men and women more openly and more physically. I love Anne, went through pain and agony—literally because I didn't know what to do with those feelings—and in fact did not know that maybe they were okay."

Given those great expectations about California we might well wonder whether reality—any reality—could ever live up to it. As it turned out, the West Coast did indeed provide for Ruth both the freer climate and compatible companions which functioned to largely flesh out her dream. Luckily, early on she meets Jessica, a woman she quickly becomes close to, one whom she has much in common with and can love and hug freely. They have many wonderful times together, Jessica introducing Ruth to the lovely country of Marin—its hills, pastures and redwoods—through horseback riding. It's almost as if Ruth is pinching herself to make sure it isn't all just a dream when she says, "What I always wanted was happening to me. To be able to kiss and hug the woman I loved. Dr. Tilbet was right—it was possible!"

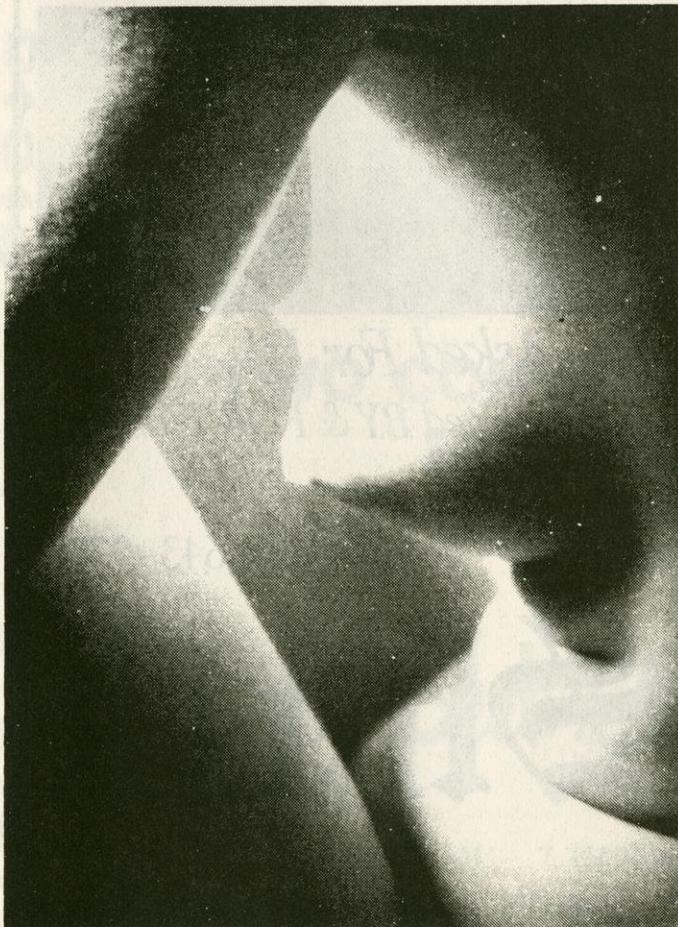
Gradually Ruth meets other women—attractive, alive, hard-working—who also love other women. She describes some small, delightful women's dinner parties, and some meetings at the women's center where again and again (like a lesson that needs much repetition for effectiveness) it is impressed on her that Lesbians are *not* sick weirdos. One evening, after talking with two fascinating, lovely women who are lovers, Ruth says to herself, "Is this what I had been afraid of all my life." She now realizes that these exciting women in no way resemble "the imaginary freaks and ugly people that I had fantasized about all my life and feared that I was." And she comes to recognize that the blame for all this lies in the distorting mirror created by society which is the only reflector that in the past has been available to lesbians. One aspect of the warped pattern which Ruth reflects on relates to the crucial matter of roles:

One of the reasons I had so much difficulty accepting my love for women was because my feelings were threatening to my femininity. I defined my femininity from the outside by sex role definitions and by choice of sex partner. I felt that liking women was masculine and that having a sexual partner that was a woman was masculine.

It was only by looking inward that she comes to see that femininity has no relation to one's choice of sexual partner.

Another issue over which we see Ruth struggling—with much travail—is that of an ethic, both personal and practical, concerning her bisexuality. At first she is determined to effect an old ideal of hers—a *menage a trois* with a man and a woman. But in agonizing over the possibility with Jessica and Alan (who become involved) Ruth comes to see that it simply wouldn't work. Then, moving beyond this, she is for a while certain that to assert her bisexuality she must relate to a man and a woman sexually and simultaneously, but then comes to understand that this view was largely a reaction to her old fear of identification as a lesbian: a man in her life would signify her "normality."

Finally, however, Ruth is able to extricate herself from the



problem quite simply—merely by emancipating herself from the socially-defined terms. “This way I don’t have to be homosexual, heterosexual, bisexual, lesbian or straight. As a human being I am a sexual being, not a series of labels.” By the end of her narrative, what all this comes down to for Ruth in her daily life is that she opts for non-monogamy—relating intimately to both men and women while retaining more of her own space by living communally with a few women friends.

One of the really fascinating features of this book (contributing greatly to its richness) is the inclusion, not just of Ruth’s story, but the stories of a number of other women, the result of several free-floating, in depth interviews. Not surprisingly, a commonly-recurring subject among these women chosen by Ruth for their background with both sexes, is a comparison of the quality of these experiences.

All the women were most conscious of the differences, the overwhelming preference being for women, even by those strongly attracted to men (as one put it, “Alcohol hurts your liver, but it sure feels good”). This bias flowed from a general consensus of what’s wrong with men: they’re too focused on sex per se, and woefully insensitive to affection, generalized sensuality, and the wishes of the woman.

Women, on the other hand, are more aware of what pleases other women because of their similar pattern of sexual responsiveness. But more, being more tuned into emotion (and less achievement-oriented), their basis of relating encompasses more than the domination of the orgasm; and, being more sensitive, they’re more likely to be open to their partners’ needs; and finally, being more conditioned to nurturing, they’re more will-

ing to offer comfort and security on top of sexual pleasure.

In short, according to the testimony of these women, most men’s conception of sex is narrow, selfish, and premised on inequality (i.e., the man giving—the woman receiving). One woman, for example, expressed her reaction to men’s tendency to speed up during sex thusly: “I really felt like I was the pavement and they were a jackhammer. . . I always felt like I was the receiver of this machine, this jackhammer going on.”

Rather interesting, and related to women’s greater potential for empathy, is the revelation of some of them that they prefer sequential love-making. Not only do they find working toward simultaneous orgasm distracting, but in fact have discovered that being the active partner is highly pleasurable in itself. Julia’s experience of tuning into her partners is fairly representative: “But I found there was another thing with a woman that really fascinated me. It was that I could really *feel* what she’s feeling—I could be very satisfied, because I *really* felt that I was experiencing *her* orgasm and physical excitement.”

As can perhaps be gathered from this brief overview, *Women Loving* is a book deserving of a wide audience. The perceptiveness and intelligence of its author make this portrayal of growing self-awareness and actualization many cuts above the average “coming-out” story. And because we See Ruth Falk operating on so many levels (in relation to nature; males on the job; her vocation; her friends; her lovers; and, importantly, her mother), we recognize her sexual search as but a facet of her continuing search for identity. In sum Ruth is little different from the rest of us, regardless of sexual label, a multifaceted creature in continual pursuit of human authenticity.



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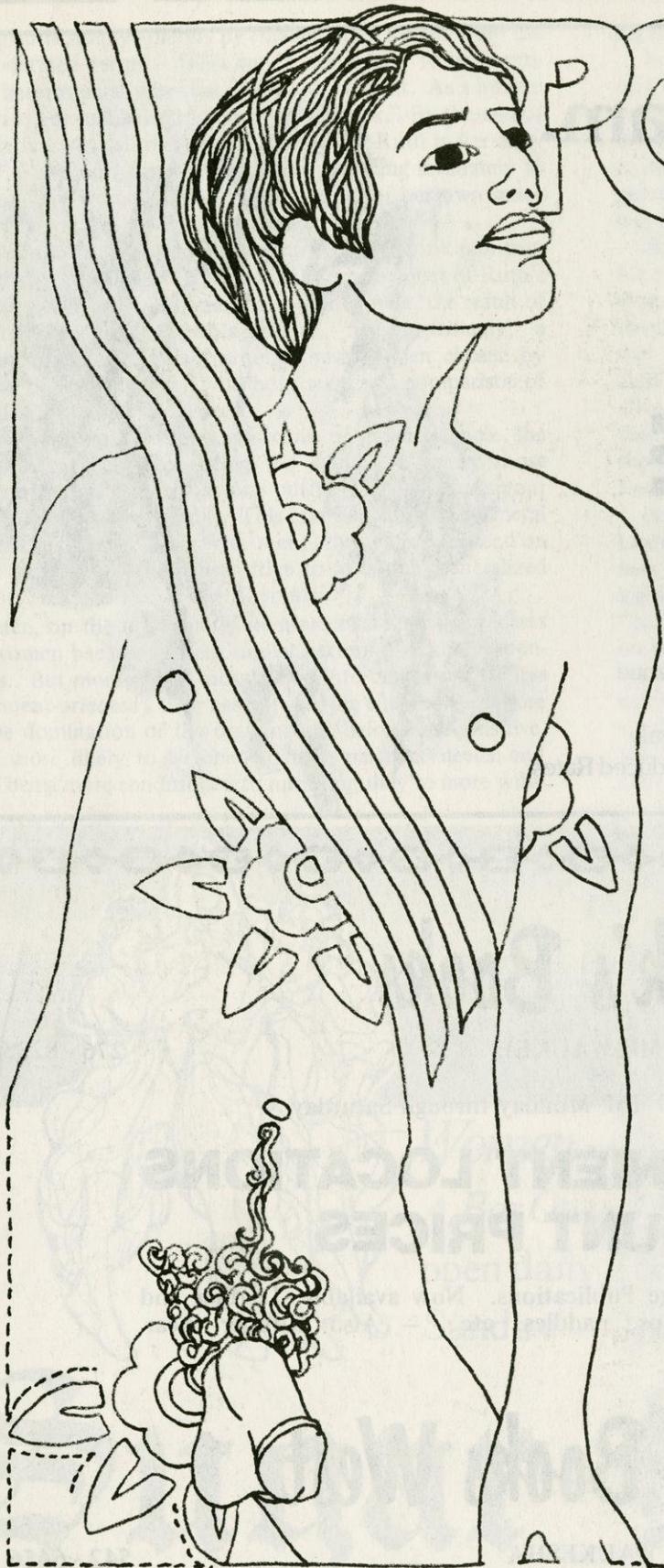
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is only a body beautiful.
The truth is
I go for faces colliding or not
with mine
although I sometimes watch
shoulders shift,
crotches gathering up a promise
but the truth is I go for eyes,
diverted and human.

Untitled

Is he dead, asleep
or just meditating
just across the hall
in shadows?
All we really know
is that he is heavy, naked...
but shouldn't somebody check it out?
Suppose he is dead?
How can we know
except by touching him,
and then
—God only knows—
be accused of God knows what
if he isn't
asleep or meditating.

Modern Math

I like a man
broad-chested best
—you bet—
with a shifting thigh,
wandering eye,
wondering.
And yet I also like
the narrow look,
ethical,
thin,
confirming sin
in some old book.
In point of fact I defer decision,
preferring...

You divide!
I'll multiply.
You subtract!
I'll add,
act on that and then
—presumably—
geometry.

Old Trick

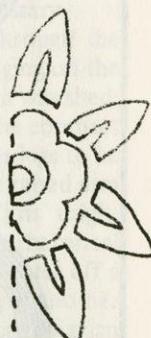
Primed against the bar
in a light that washes like dust,
his fine hair combed
carefully to cover the skull,
he moves —
the slightest.
Watch the flesh not go back:
the veined hand that grips the leather belt.

"You people sexualize everything," a psychiatrist once
—with a ring on his finger—told me.
Not quite.
There is an apple on my kitchen table.

S/M

I am not
hanging by my balls
he grabs,
pulling the boom of pleasure down,
his subterranean voice
just overwhelming me.
I am not
hanging from chains
or tied on some bed
to be ravished.
It's not like that all.
I am lavished with freedom
only coming when my master does,
pure white
and fixed for life.

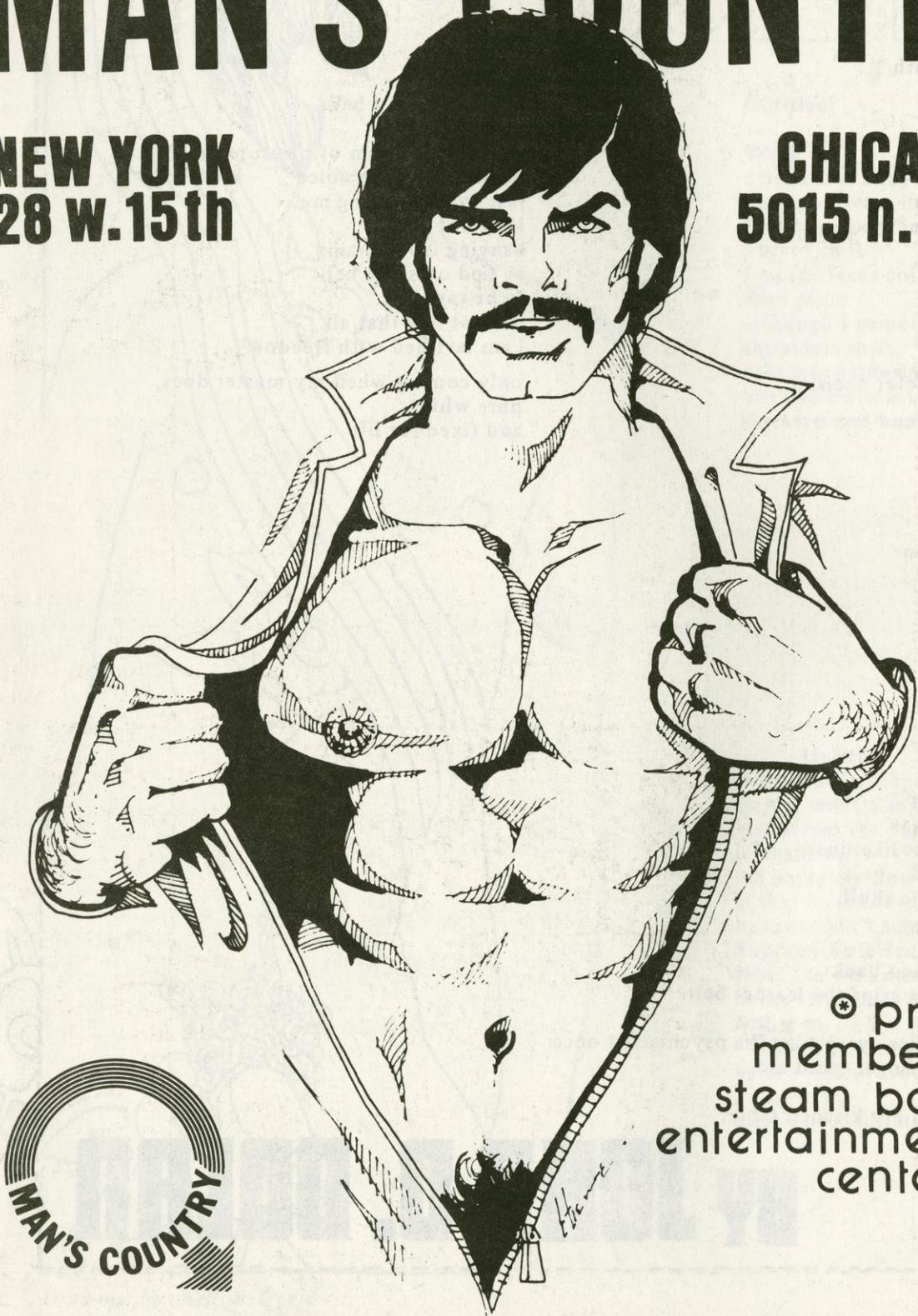
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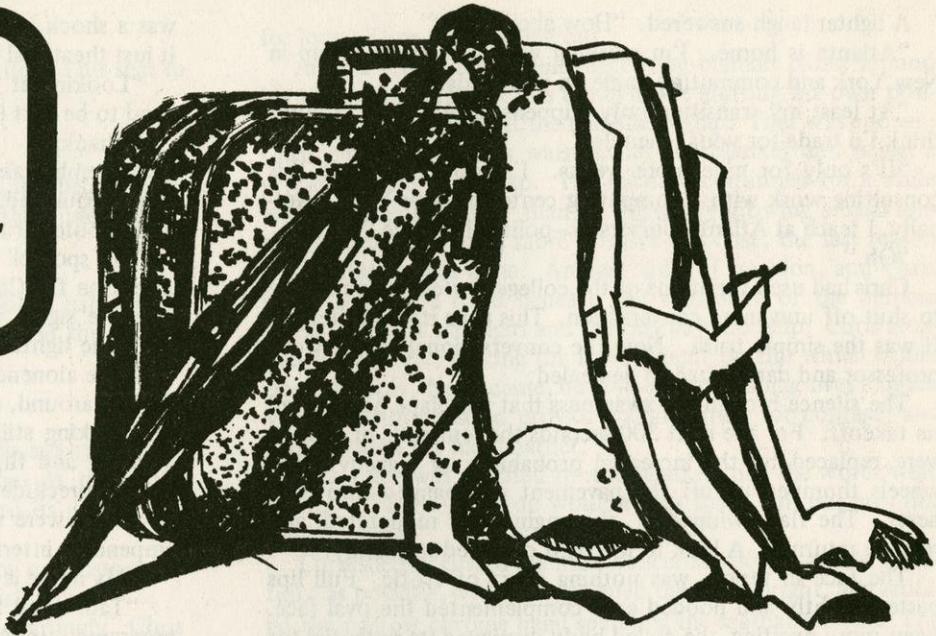
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AN OTHERWISE UNEVENTFUL TRIP

fiction by BILL BURTON



The airplane was only half full. It usually was on the late flight. Exactly why Chris usually took the late flight. The plane was usual. An old DC-9. But that, too, was a plus. The old craft was the last with double seating on one side. An increase in the possibility of privacy over the three seat arrangement.

Chris walked directly back to the last open double and dropped into the aisle seat. The routine of waiting replaced the routine of boarding and Chris shifted fully into mental neutral. Incoming data provided by later arrivals as they passed through the doorway from the first class section was passively registered. As the data accumulated, an unsought conclusion presented itself. The usual crowd. Almost all middle-aged colorless white-males—business types—taking the late Friday night run from New York to Atlanta. Each one inevitably searching out a window seat by habit, as if there would be something to see of the night-shrouded landscape through the heavy overcast. Chris knew also, without wanting to, that the later drink requests would be mostly divided between scotch and bourbon with premium brands being ordered a little too loudly. A thoroughly usual group.

A minor warning signal began to nag preconsciously, and Chris shifted up to casual awareness to realize that the flight was somewhat fuller than usual. All the window seats were taken except the one adjacent, and some doubling up was taking place in the front of the triple seat side. Preliminary evasive action was necessary if almost two hours of travelling salesman talk was to be avoided. Opening up the briefcase and spreading papers over the next seat would be enough to discourage the usual type company. Chris rejected this alternative. It would call for looking busy and that, in turn, would require maintaining an undesirable level of concentration. Besides, experience indicated that the empty aisle would likely remain empty for the few minutes left before takeoff. Late arrivals would, as usual, scuttle embarrassedly into the first seat available—far to the front.

As final insurance against a calculation error, Chris shoved up the armrest between the two seats, spread out across both, and reclined into an "I'm sleeping" defense against intrusion by a persistent latecomer. The shift back down to out-of-focus

was facilitated by the monotony of seatbacks and head tops, and Chris dropped to the edge of real sleep.

A change in background noises signaled a new event taking place. One last latecomer. A covert glance and, without moving a muscle, Chris put all information processing systems on full alert. The event taking place was worth full concentration.

A wolf-fringed hood framed a face right out the Arabian Nights. Thick black hair, shining with almost blue highlights, dropped out of the hood and formed an inner frame, cupping gently several inches below the well-shaped chin. But even double framing was still a poor adornment for the classically sculpted features. The cold wind of the river on the short walk from the terminal had added fire to the olive complexion. Long-lashed eyes, green-gold more than just brown, measured each available seat, and stopped at the empty space to the right of Chris.

A short, purposeful walk and then, "May I?" The voice was warm and full. The smile showed that the question was fully rhetorical. There was no experience of refusal showing in the amber eyes which could make the real question necessary.

Chris stood, and the elegant stranger slipped through the narrow opening leaving an echo of forest herbs hanging on the air. With a precise economy of movement, the parka was shed, folded, and used to pillow the seat-wall junction. The compact body hugged the cabin wall to make room for slender legs to be tucked slightly up onto the seat edge sideways. The raised arm rest allowed the folded knees to just brush against Chris' thigh.

"Am I taking up too much room?" Again the rhetorical question, but asked genuinely. "I'm only fifteen minutes off a flight from Amsterdam and not ready to start looking at another seatback yet." An enchanting combination of Scandinavian and deep South, colored the voice.

Chris smiled an open invitation to the space and asked, "Live in Amsterdam?"

"For the last two years. I dance with the ballet company there. Home is Athens—Georgia." The last word was delivered in a pronounced southern drawl, accompanied by a full throaty laugh.

"That's quite a transition."

A lighter laugh answered. "How about you?"

"Atlanta is home. I'm working with a research group in New York and commuting home on weekends."

"At least my transition only happens once a year. I don't think I'd trade for your schedule."

"It's only for nine more weeks. I'm on leave to do this consulting work with a computing center in New York. Actually, I teach at Atlanta University—political science."

"Oh."

Chris had used variations of the college professor line before to shut off unwanted conversation. This time it was different. It was the simple truth. Now the conversational gap between professor and dancer had to be healed.

The silence brought an awareness that the plane had started its takeoff. For the next 300 seconds the remnants of routine were replaced by the increased probability of tragedy. The wheels thumped up off the pavement and banged into their nests. The flaps whined in, the engine roar moderated, and routine returned. A look to the right dispelled it quickly.

The face in repose was nothing short of erotic. Full lips parted slightly and hooded eyes complemented the oval face. Even more exciting, the coiled body displayed its potential for precision responses through a soft knit sweater and matching beige corduroy slacks.

Something had to be done to open up the conversation. After all, how often could one expect to be this close to such a thoroughly desirable young man?

Only 90 minutes left. Urgency forced Chris into a facile question.

"How does one grow up in Athens, Georgia and become a ballet dancer in Amsterdam?" The talk provided an opportunity for a quarter turn toward the boy and a firmer contact between their legs.

"By the way of Miss Mary Jane Petit's Dance School, outdoor drama, summer stock as a dancing boy in Atlanta, a lucky performance in front of Bob Joffrey, an apprenticeship in New York at \$45 a week, tours of the mid-west boondocks, sleeping in every other Holiday Inn in America, and wearing out approximately 530 pairs of ballet shoes. All of which would probably have left me as the third boy from the left in the Cincinnati Ballet except that I was in Amsterdam for a holiday and did a walk-in audition for kicks. I guess they needed an American to prove they were an equal opportunity employer. Anyway, I got the job."

Chris had expected a facile answer. But the canned coldness

was a shock. Was it intended to offend and push away, or was it just theatrical flair? How to find out? Push gently?

"Looking at you from this close makes me sure you didn't need to be part of a quota."

"Thanks."

No embarrassment. No avoidance. Just "Thanks." Chris was encouraged. But not enough to press the opening. Miles and minutes drummed away.

The spot of contact between their legs was the center of attention for Chris. It was there that an almost imperceptible pressure signal was sorted out from the motion of the plane. With the lights dimmed and the other passengers preoccupied with the aloneness, the brief motion was enough. Chris shifted further around, matching the boy's slightly bent-legged posture and making still firmer contact. The usual announcement of weather and flight time had brought good news. A catering failure precluded the usual refreshment service. The profuse apologies were wasted on Chris, who was glad to be rid of the impending interruption.

"My name is Chris Neuberg. What's yours?"

"Tad. Tad Issacson. That is, if you believe our company programs. In Athens it's Bill Miller—or Billy if you believe my grandmother." The laugh was deeper this time. More masculine.

"Which do you prefer?"

"Which ever."

"O.K.—Bill. You look very young to have slept in every Holiday Inn in America."

"Every other one. And I'm twenty-four."

"I'm sure you've been told you look much younger."

"At least several times. It has advantages and disadvantages. Professionally, it's good. Personally, it's sometimes a problem."

"Warning or invitation?" wondered Chris. A hand casually dropped partially onto the corduroy clad leg tested the question. After five minutes more of small talk, a gentle body shift by the boy provided a reason to move the hand onto the warm fullness of his thigh. The absence of any avoidance reaction gave Chris courage.

"I know you're probably bored with hearing it, but it's just impossible not to remark on your beauty."

"Again, an advantage and a disadvantage."

Still no clear signal. Another hesitation, then a decision. If he were really inviting, let him carry the conversation for a while.

Chris released the seat catch, rocked back, and used the



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excuse to edge closer to the boy.

"I agree. Nap time," Bill announced. He tipped his seat to match its mate and cuddled closer to himself.

"Cold," Chris asked?

"A little."

"I'll get a blanket." Chris stood, pulled the bright cloth bundle from overhead, and spread it over the curled body. "Better?"

"Much."

Back in the seat and pressed as close as possible, Chris slipped under the edge of the blanket and put a hand on the slender waist.

"Sleep well."

"Umm."

The interior of the aircraft remained quietly unaware of the two. Stewardesses chatted softly in the front of the cabin. Passengers read or napped. The plane droned its irrevocable way into the remaining time.

Minutes being echoed away by the resonating exhausts pushed Chris to take a chance. It seemed a small risk now.

The curve from waist to hip was presented invitingly. Chris passed a hand languidly up the smooth incline, then back down, stroking the boy's taut body. Again. Then again. There was absolutely no response. Taking the boy's stillness to be an affirmation, the caressing hand dropped from the hip to the seat, then probed the cleft between the warm thighs.

Bill's response was delayed a half-minute, and when it came, it was confusing. He murmured sleepily and turned over in the seat. Was he saying no by turning his back? Or was he saying yes by taking his folded legs from between them and putting his body much closer? Chris decided to wait and see. But not

for long. Time was running out.

After a few minutes, Bill tugged the blanket closer around his shoulders, pulling Chris closer while shifting his own position to fit neatly against the half-turned lap. That was enough. Chris circled the boy's waist under the blanket and began a gentle stroking in his lap. The massage continued for a while with no response other than an obviously growing sexual tension. Even without a more positive response, the last reason for hesitation was gone. An easy shift of position, and Chris began slipping a hand beneath the waistband of the beltless slacks. The fit was tight and the boy gave no help. Chris stopped for a while, waiting for a movement by Bill which would open the way. None came, but fingertips brushing over excited young manhood soon provided a substitute for courage, and Chris pushed the hand harder.

The voice was muffled by the blanket, but the words were clear. "I really wish you wouldn't do that. I'm not into this kind of thing."

Chris silently cursed the male dancer stereotype, and as gracefully as possible, withdrew, popped the seat upright, and studied the narrow chrome band spanning the seatback ahead. The boy—Tad—cuddled himself closer.

Before the plane had stopped rolling, and contrary to the ingratiating requests of the stewardess, Chris had stood, gathering the briefcase and raincoat, and moved to the front of the section. The boy, now left behind, was the last reason for full consciousness. Blank routine returned to guide the way into the Eastern Airlines Lounge. The usual face appeared in a typical crowd. He smiled, approached and provided a routine kiss. Chris hardly heard her husband repeat his usual, "Hi, Darling, have a good flight?"

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REVIEW

The Cleveland Street Scandal by H. Montgomery Hyde. Coward, McCann & Geoghegan. 266 pp. \$8.95

Reviewed By Jay Edwards

The shadowy underside of English Victorian life has always titillated the (often purulent) interests of a selected clientele, from the days when contemporary writer Frank Harris produced his racey multi-volume autobiography, up to the present and such works as Steven Marcus' *The Other Victorians*. And now we have Montgomery Hyde's look into one of the most juicy and unsavory of tales, the boydello on Cleveland Street which came to public notice in a series of trials in 1889 and 1890.

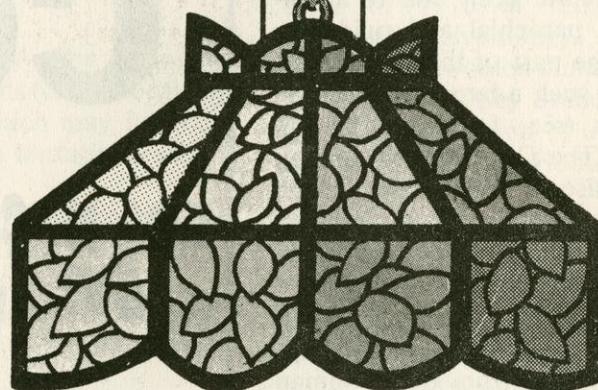
Condemned as they were to a strait-laced and all too frequently hypocritical standard of morals imposed by stiff-necked and self-righteous evangelicals (whom Dickens, for one, satirized in the person of Mr. Chadband in *Bleak House*), it is not surprising that a network of bawdy and infamous houses (to use the then-popular terms) should have arisen to cater to a number of unmet needs. Most of them, to be sure, were for fallen women; less often they were for fallen boys as well and the men who shared their "perverse" tastes. Of these, that located on Cleveland Street was the most well-known and catered to the most select group of customers, as quickly became clear once one of the boys began to sing.

In a very short time a number of high-ranking military men, the springlets of two ducal houses, and the heir presumptive to the British throne itself—Prince Albert Victor of Wales—were implicated (though as became clear a little less quickly, there was usually little enough substance to the charges.)

What Hyde's book shows is that the British aristocracy at its highest

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reaches closed ranks without a moment's hesitation to stop the scandal from becoming public knowledge. Even the Prime Minister himself—the widely-respected Marquess of Salisbury—and the Home Secretary—Mr. Henry Matthews—were involved in an attempt to shield Lord Arthur Somerset, a younger son of the Court-connected Duke of Beaufort, and more importantly the Prince.

However, some very upright civil servants objected to what they rightly saw as this obstruction of justice and so (since they could not touch more senior officials) took to law Mr. Arthur Newton, a solicitor, who had defended two of the boys of Cleveland Street at one of the two trials resulting from the case and

who was supposed to have helped spirit away the owner of the bordello. In fact, he came to be convicted of the crime of conspiracy to thwart the course of justice and thus went to prison for six most uncomfortable weeks.

Nonetheless when the gadfly radical M.P. Henry Labouchere (who took up every matter of potential embarrassment to the government and the monarchy) tried to bring the circumstances home to the ministry, he was decidedly outvoted in the House of Commons and in due course the case was dropped, though not without a legacy of enduring hardship principally for Somerset who had fled the country so as not to stand trial, intimating as he did so

that he shielded a most exalted personage, who could only have been the hapless Prince Albert Victor.

Hyde's book examines a number of curiosities about the period, among them the vindictiveness and severity of many latter-day Victorians, the ones who were responsible for the passage of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1885 under which the boys were charged; although he does not say so, this mood may well have been due to an increasingly parochial and rigid outlook on the part of the evangelicals who were such a large influence on the times (see, for example, Ian Bradley's *The Call To Seriousness*). It might also be speculated that the first stirrings of the women's movement brought about a revived concern to protect the male from things thought unmanly. (For a good discussion of how homosexuality historically has been thought to unman see Fr. John McNeill's *The Church And The Homosexual*).

Buy Hyde's book, though admittedly throwing a good deal of light on a most notorious incident of the period, is not as successful as it might have been, largely because it fails to establish a context not so much for the prevailing views of homosexuality but of illicit sex generally, views which were responsible for the passage at that moment of the Criminal Law Amendment Act and which caused the almost-obsessive concern of many individuals in its successful operation.

By failing to consider this larger aspect, Hyde does not account for the fact that the Cleveland Street case, *cause celebre* though it undoubtedly was, was by no means the only time the Salisbury Ministry got into difficulties with sexual questions; indeed, the Cass Case of 1887 involving a presumed prostitute who turned out to be a respectable young woman wrongly accused of being gay (to cite again the terminology of the day) brought the government very near to defeat, much nearer in fact than on the vote on Labou-

(Continued on page 36)

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HERE&THERE

New York, NY—The Love Match, a new play by Richard Hall, will run for twelve performances at **The Glines**, a gay art center in New York, between February 2-9. The show will then travel to the University of Pittsburg, for three performances, February 25-27.

The theme, suggested by some of the problems and delays surrounding the filming of **The Front Runner**, concerns a movie star who has agreed to film a best-selling novel about two gay athletes who are lovers. The movie runs into difficulty, however, because the star has failed to take into account his own ambivalences—and those of his staff—toward homosexuality. The working out of these conflicts is the core of the play.

Richard Hall's first novel, **The Butterscotch Prince**, a gay thriller, was published in 1975 by Pyramid-Harcourt Brace. The book was optioned for a film and Hall wrote the screenplay, but the project was latter dropped. Several of his short stories have appeared in **GPU NEWS**.

News Release

Salt Lake City, UT—Utah, who keeps vying with Arizona to see which state can look the most ridiculous, is one up on the Grand Canyon state. Using a law that makes it illegal to spread communicable diseases, health officials are threatening to arrest suspected carriers of Penicillin-resistant gonorrhea.

One Salt Lake City man is being sought and a warrant has been issued for his arrest.

The US Military discovered that punishment did nothing to curb VD over 30 years ago.

The San Francisco Sentinel

Chapel Hill, NC—Plans are well underway for the 2nd Annual South-eastern Gay Conference to be held at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on April 1-3. For information write: CGA, Student Union Box 39, UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, NC, 27514

Trenton, NJ—The Garden State is expected to be the 19th state to decriminalize private sexual acts between consenting adults. The Bill has already passed in the Assembly and the Senate will act on the new code soon. Gov. Brendon Byrne has promised to sign the bill into law once it has passed both houses.

Gay Community News

New York, NY—The following television programs (check local listings for time) which may be of interest to gays are tentatively scheduled as follows:

Streets of San Francisco—An episode entitled **A Good Cop, But...** airs February 10 on ABC.

In the Glitter Palace—A TV movie with a lesbian theme, airs on NBC February 27.

NGTF News Release

New York, NY—C. B. Savage, a popular 45 rpm record now being played by radio stations around the country has police doing a stereotypic mockery of gay men to entrap a speeding truck. We find it offensive. If you agree, we suggest you contact your local radio stations and ask them not to play this record.

If, additionally, you wish to send a letter of complaint to the recording company, write: Mr. Shelby Singleton, President, Shelby Singleton Corp., 3106 Belmont Blvd., Nashville, TN 37212

National Gay Task Force

Chicago, IL—Maturity will present Professor Elmer Gertz at their Feb. 17 meeting. Gertz, a great legal scholar and author of **A Handful of Clients**, effected the release on parole of Nathan Leopold who along with Richard Loeb was convicted of the slaying of Bobby Franks. You will share with the speaker the intimate details of this historic effort. Chicago area readers may call FR2-8616 for additional information.

News Release

Washington, DC—The National Gay Student Center is pleased to announce the release of two publications: **Gay Studies Syllabi** and **Gay Student Groups (5th Edition)**. **Gay Studies Syllabi** is an expanded version of the chapter of the same name from **Gays on Campus**, edited by J. Lee Lehman. It contains syllabi of gay studies courses taught from 1971 to 1976 in such fields as sociology, psychology, literature, history and women's studies. The 5th edition of **Gay Student Groups** is the latest version of a list which has been issued periodically since 1972.

A donation of \$1 for the syllabi and 50¢ for the group listing is requested to cover the costs of preparation, printing and mailing. Institutional rates are \$2 and \$1 respectively. Both are available from the National Gay Student Center, 2115 S St. N.W., Washington DC 20008.

News Release

Washington, DC—Paul Kuntzler, politically active, and, openly gay, has been elected Interim President of the **Greater Washington Chapter of Americans for Democratic Action**. He will serve until the regularly scheduled election in May of this year. The DC Chapter of ADA is known for its support of gay rights.

Gay Community News

Raleigh, NC—North Carolina's "Peeping Tom" law under legislation introduced by Rep. Robert Jones and Senator Katherine Sebo.

Jones said that while the present law makes it unlawful for a man to peep into a room occupied by a female, it does not make it a crime for a woman to peep at a man, for a woman to peep at a woman or for a man to peep at a man.

The Jones-Sebo bill would make it a misdemeanor for anyone to peep at anyone.

The Wall Street Journal

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HERE&HERE

New York, NY—Thomas Sweetin, a 36-year old candidate for the Jesuit priesthood who otherwise completed the order's arduous requirements over a 13-year period, says he has been told by his superiors that he will not be ordained because he is a homosexual.

Sweetin, who acknowledges gay tendencies, but insists he has never been sexually active, asserted in an interview with Kenneth Briggs of the New York Times that the order had subjected him to "pure harassment" while refusing for years to reveal why his ordination was being delayed.

His superior, the Rev. Albert Bartlett says there was "no way" for him to be ordained because "the average Catholic layman simply is not ready for this."

New York Times

Hartford, CT—Raising the middle finger in a gesture of contempt has been ruled offensive but "not obscene" by a court in Hartford.

Ruling on the case of a 16-year old student who had been fined \$25 for flashing the gesture at a state trooper while the police were following his school bus.

The panel ruled that for "the finger to be obscene, it must be significantly erotic or arouse sexual interest. They said that neither seems to be the case.

Judge Leo Parskey noted that the gesture dated back at least to ancient Greece, when Diogenes insulted Demosthenes by raising the middle finger during one of his speeches.

The Bugle-American

Hollywood, CA—No arrest has been made, no weapon has been recovered, no motive has been settled on, but the murder of actor Sal Mineo in Hollywood nearly a year ago is still being investigated. Los Angeles County Sheriff's detectives have pursued numerous leads and are continuing to run down clues to the killer's identity.

The Milwaukee Journal

Boston, MA—Alvin Poussaint, a psychology prof. at Harvard, claims sex and violence in so-called black exploitation films are becoming a way for young people to define their masculinity and femininity.

"After *Superfly* came along," says Poussaint, "all the young men started dressing that way."

Apparently upset over that, he also sees a need for censorship: "Damn it, how much is lost if we can have a body of strong, healthy children? In revolutionary societies, when they want to bring about change, what is the first thing they do? Control the media."

The Milwaukee Journal

Montreal, Canada—East German scientist Gunter Dorner submitted a paper at the fourth International Congress of Sexology saying his research showed that a decrease of the female hormone, androgen, during a critical period in the brain development of the male fetus may lead to homosexuality in later life.

Conversely, he said, an increase in either androgen or estrogen in a female fetus during brain development may lead to female homosexuality.

Dorner says this finding raises the possibility that homosexuality may be "detected and prevented" before birth.

Gay Scene

Houston, TX—Claiming they have been arrested and harassed by the police for "cross dressing" in public, seven transsexuals and their doctor have filed suit against the city council and various other city officials.

The transsexuals contend they are only role-playing in order to prepare themselves psychologically for future sexual "reassignment."

They are challenging a city ordinance which states: "It shall be unlawful for any person to appear on any public thoroughfare dressed with the designed intent to disguise his or her true sex as that of the opposite sex."

The San Antonio Express

Dallas, TX—Will vice squads be busting bakeries next?

Baker Don Lunday is doing a booming business in the sale of what he calls pornocakes.

Working from an album picturing 63 male and female cake designs that a customer may choose from, and while he has not advertised, he has been swamped with orders.

Most of the orders are for men's birthday parties that include nudes complete in every detail.

Lunday adds: "I've had people in here asking for pretty heavy stuff on a cake, but there are certain things I won't do."

The Bugle-American

Memphis, TN—Tennessee Episcopalians adopted a resolution at their annual convention opposing the ordination of professed homosexuals.

The action was prompted by the recent ordination of Ellen Marie Barrett, an avowed lesbian.

The Milwaukee Journal

New York, NY—Interviewing Truman Capote for a news feature, Nancy Collins asked the famous writer if he was bisexual. His reply: "Well, here's what I think about bisexuality. I don't believe anybody is bisexual. I think they can function in a sexual relationship with a man or woman because they have a feeling for that person. But everybody is either basically homosexual or heterosexual. Their drive is basically in one direction."

When she asked why he never talked about his own homosexuality Capote answered: "Because nobody ever asked me."

Gay Scene

Milwaukee, WI—*The War Widow*, a lesbian love story, will be rebroadcast by PBS on Thursday, Feb. 10 at 8 pm CST. **WMVS-TV** (Channel 10) in Milwaukee will air the show. Check with your local PBS affiliate for date and time in other areas.

News Release



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REVIEW

(From page 32)

chere's amendment. Only the threat of the Irish Home Rule bill that the opposition Gladstonian Liberals would pass if they came to office saved the ministry from being toppled by an aroused public and by Henry Matthews' ineptitude.

Notwithstanding these matters and the fact that Hyde's book is too legalistic by half and too prone to accept at face value the Establishment's opinion on the innocence of Lord Arthur Somerset (that is until he bolted), there is still material of interest here.

Unfortunately, however, like so many of Hyde's many books, this one does little more than skim off the cream of the issue, thus leaving a good many aspects to be considered later. Which is perhaps why another enterprising publisher (Little, Brown) has decided to publish its own book on the affaire.

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HERE&HERE

San Francisco, CA—Homosexuals have no legal protection against job discrimination, the California Court of Appeal has ruled.

"There is simply no constitutional right (for homosexuals) to work for an unwilling employer," said the opinion.

"The legislature has not determined that employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is contrary to the public policy of the State of California," the decision said.

The opinion was written by Foilger Emerson, a retired Alameda County Superior Court judge who has been sitting in the appellate court bench.

Monterey Penninsular Herald

Atlanta, GA—A Georgia medical specialist says there's no physical reason preventing men from producing "mother's milk."

Dr. Robert Greenblatt says that all that is needed for men to produce milk is "enough stimulation." The necessary stimulation can be obtained by a baby's sucking at a man's nipples for several weeks.

There are also drugs that can turn men into breastfeeders. These drugs overcome the same hormone inhibitors that prevent women who have never been pregnant from producing milk.

The Bugle-American

New York, NY—When it comes to the 1977 NYC mayoral race, gays can't miss.

Bella Abzub says she may throw her famous hat into the ring, and U. S. Rep. Edward Koch told the **Gay Political Union** that he has every intention of being a contender for mayor.

It would be hard to find two stronger supporters of gay rights in the country. Koch will reintroduce the gay civil rights amendment in Congress—which he had previously co-sponsored with Abzub.

The Milwaukee Journal

New York, NY—Ellen Marie Barrett, a doctoral student in social ethics and an avowed lesbian, was ordained as an Episcopal priest last month. The rites were performed by Bishop Paul Moore, Jr. of New York.

Ms. Barrett becomes the second openly gay person to be accepted into the full ministry of a major American Christian body. The Rev. William Johnson was ordained by the **United Church of Christ** in San Francisco in 1973.

New York Times

Washington, DC—For \$5 you can now obtain a list of the lists of people the federal government keeps tabs on.

The lists—6600 of them—are now contained in a 750-page book published by the general accounting office called **Protecting Your Right to Privacy**.

The Bugle-American

Des Moines, IA—Plans are underway for the third conference on **Men and Masculinity** to be held in Des Moines during March. For more information contact Harold Wells, 2718 University Ave., Des Moines, IA.

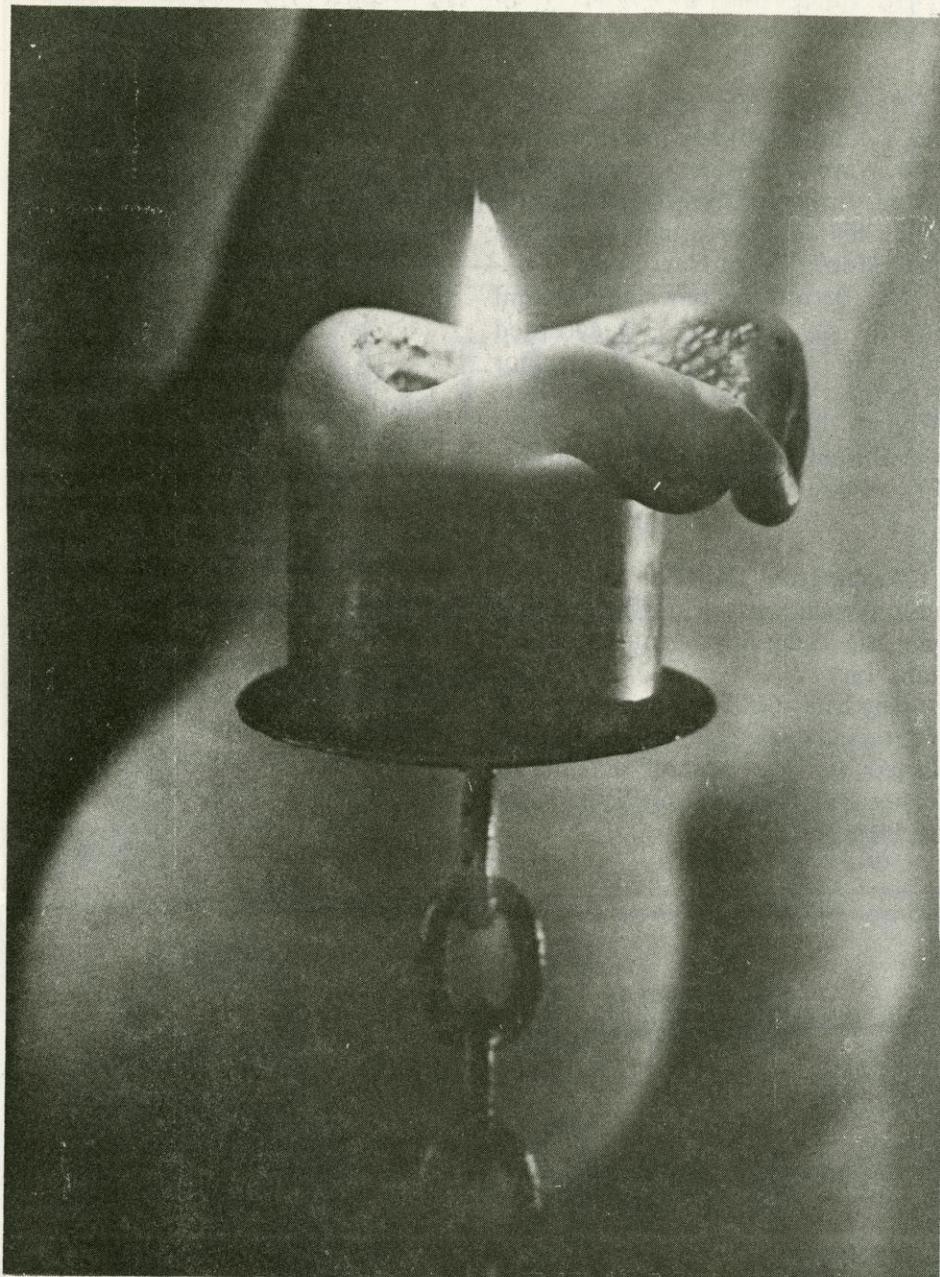
News Release

Detroit, MI—A city ordinance against "soliciting for a lewd and immoral act" has been ruled unconstitutional by a Wayne County Circuit Court. Saying the law was too vague, Judge John H. Hauser has ordered the Detroit Police Department to stop enforcement of the statute.

Alvin C. Sallen, attorney for the defendant, said he will file a civil damage suit against the arresting officer and the police department. The statute is similar to ones in other states that police use to entrap gay men.

Gay Community News





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OFF THE RECORD

A new offering from Olivia Records: *Where Would I Be Without You LF-909—Poetry of Pat Parker & Judy Grahm.* 33 1/3 rpm stereo.

Mail Order Information: Descriptive brochures and ordering information on all records produced and distributed by Olivia may be obtained by writing to: Olivia Records, Box 70237, Los Angeles, CA 90070

Reviewed by Persia Straub

Olivia Records, a national women's recording company, provides an outlet for gay feminists in the area of music and now offers another expression, poetry. Poetry, like

music, is best experienced in the oral mode. The traveling poets of yester-year were readily accessible, and most people had listened to poets' lyrics at one time or another. This is not true today. Poets are reading their works, true, but not all people can avail themselves of these experiences. Poetry readings are found in the University setting, some select bars, homes where people with interest in poetry elect to gather and read their work to each other, but poetry is an elitist phenomenon. In as much as poetry springs from the life of the common man and its roots run deep in the soil, it should be touching more people than it does. Recordings are a means of distributing the reading of poetry to a larger

listening audience. **Olivia Records** has noted this and has made available two lesbian/feminist poets reading selections from their published works.

Judy Grahn surely strikes a familiar bell. Is there any lesbian who has not heard of, or become acquainted with, her delightful poem, *The Psychoanalysis of Edward the Dyke?* She has chosen to read several selections from her works: *Edward the Dyke and Other poems*, 1971, *The Common Woman*, 1970, and *She who*, 1976. Ms. Grahn's style of delivery is, like many poets, one of a chant which lays dramatic interpretation to one side in favor of the rhythm of the poem—the poem thus, becomes a naked piece, standing in and of itself. The chanting presentation has an interesting effect in that it opens the poem to the listener's perceptions rather than, as in

(Continued on page 44)

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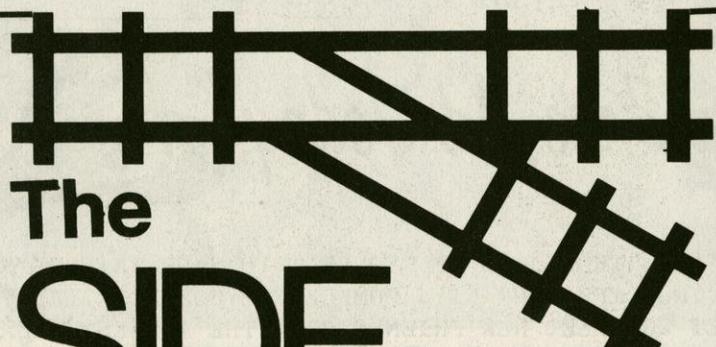
REVIEW

Sex Research: Studies from the Kinsey Institute. Edited by Martin Weinberg. New York & London: Oxford University Press, 1976 \$12.95 Cloth, \$7.00 paper. 320 pp.

Reviewed By Lee Rice, Ph.D.

The Institute for Sex Research, founded at Indiana University by Alfred Kinsey, was catapulted into fame with the publication of the **Kinsey Reports** in the late forties. Since that time, the Institute has continued to publish works dealing with a wide range of sexual topics—less publicly celebrated perhaps than their illustrious predecessors, but no less important in their contribution to the development of a scientific understanding of human sexuality. This volume has been collated by Dr. Weinberg in order to provide an overview of the depth and range of the Institute's work. The cumulative output of the Institute as of 1976 is in the neighborhood of eight thousand pages, so there is no pretense of completeness here. The chronological arrangement of its various sections, however, does permit the reader to focus upon the emergence of new analytic trends and directions. What we have, then, is more than an anthology, but rather a capsule survey of the intellectual development of a pioneering area of research.

Following a brief introduction, there are eight major divisions. The first presents biographical and historical detail on Kinsey and the beginnings of the Institute. The second offers selections from the two first Kinsey books and male and female sexuality (actually the resultant collaborations of Kinsey, Pomeroy, and Martin). Thirdly there are two selections from the writings of Gebhard and his associates: the successors of Kinsey at the Institute, who succeeded in introducing the study of socio-sexual typologies. A section entitled **The Transition Period** empha-



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sizes new directions and research in the works of Sonenschein, Gabhard, and Carns. Fifthly there are two selections from the work of Alan Bell dealing with sexual development and diversity. Section 6 is devoted to the work of Weinberg and Williams on social reactions to sexual deviance ("alternative sexual lifestyles," as the contemporary jargon runs); and, lastly, there are three selections from the ongoing Monograph Series of the Institute. Two appendices offer respectively a series of plates by Picasso, and a complete bibliography of Institute publications (books, articles, and monographs).

The brief survey offered by this collection provides ample documentation of the continually increasing sociological perspective which runs through the work of the Institute. The substance of the Institute's contributions comprises a powerful contribution to the store of contemporary knowledge, but the form and manner also deserve attention and plaudits; for the matter-of-fact approach to sexuality also has a tendency to dispel the accretion of myth and ignorance which has too long surrounded human sexuality. Serious research libraries will, of course, contain the Kinsey Institute's works in their entirety; but, even for these, the present anthology will provide a useful reference and guide. For the individual reader acquisition of the volume will be a must.

gay community news

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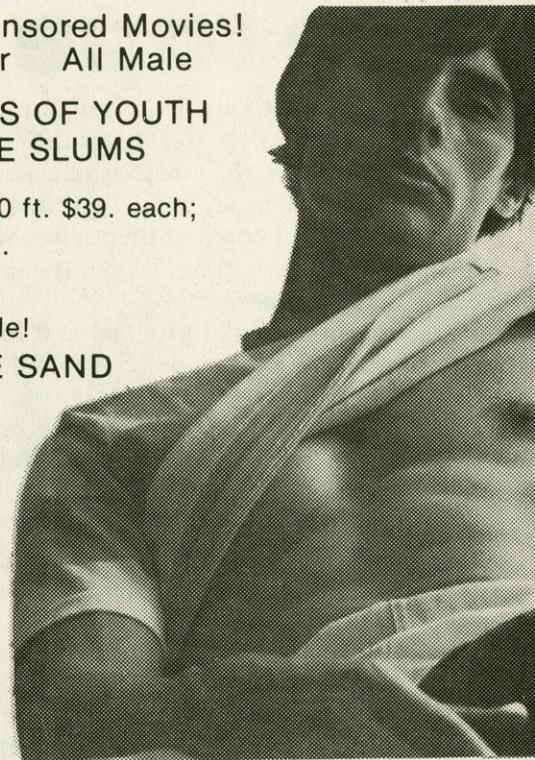
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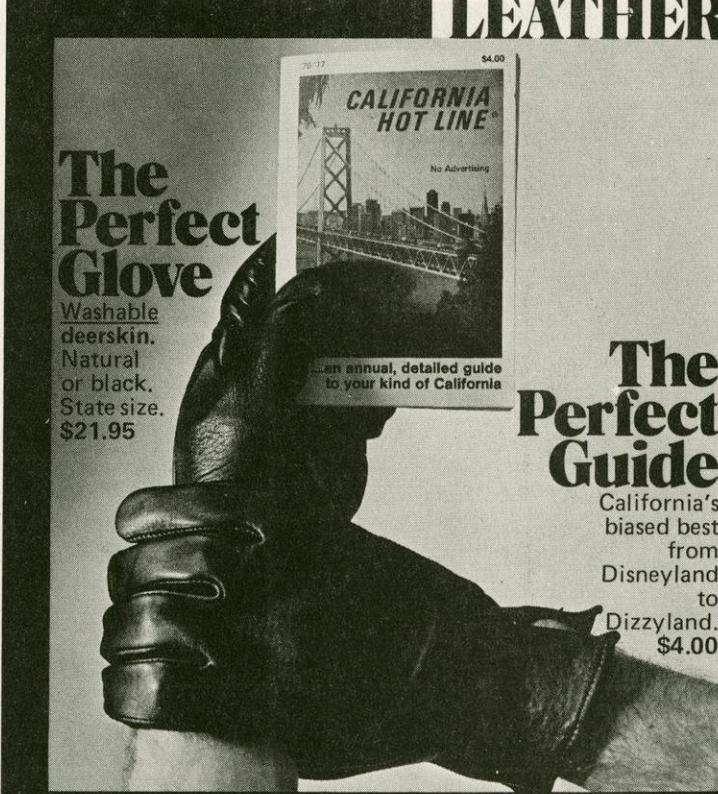


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male rape

(From page 13)

Attorney's office. Both are dedicated, fair-minded individuals. Male victims are treated no differently than female victims within their office. Because of their attitude, police officers may gnash their teeth, but they compile evidence and conduct themselves well, "especially in front of the victims," when it comes to men who claim they have been raped.

Minneapolis has a similar program and they encourage victims of homosexual rape to report their attackers.

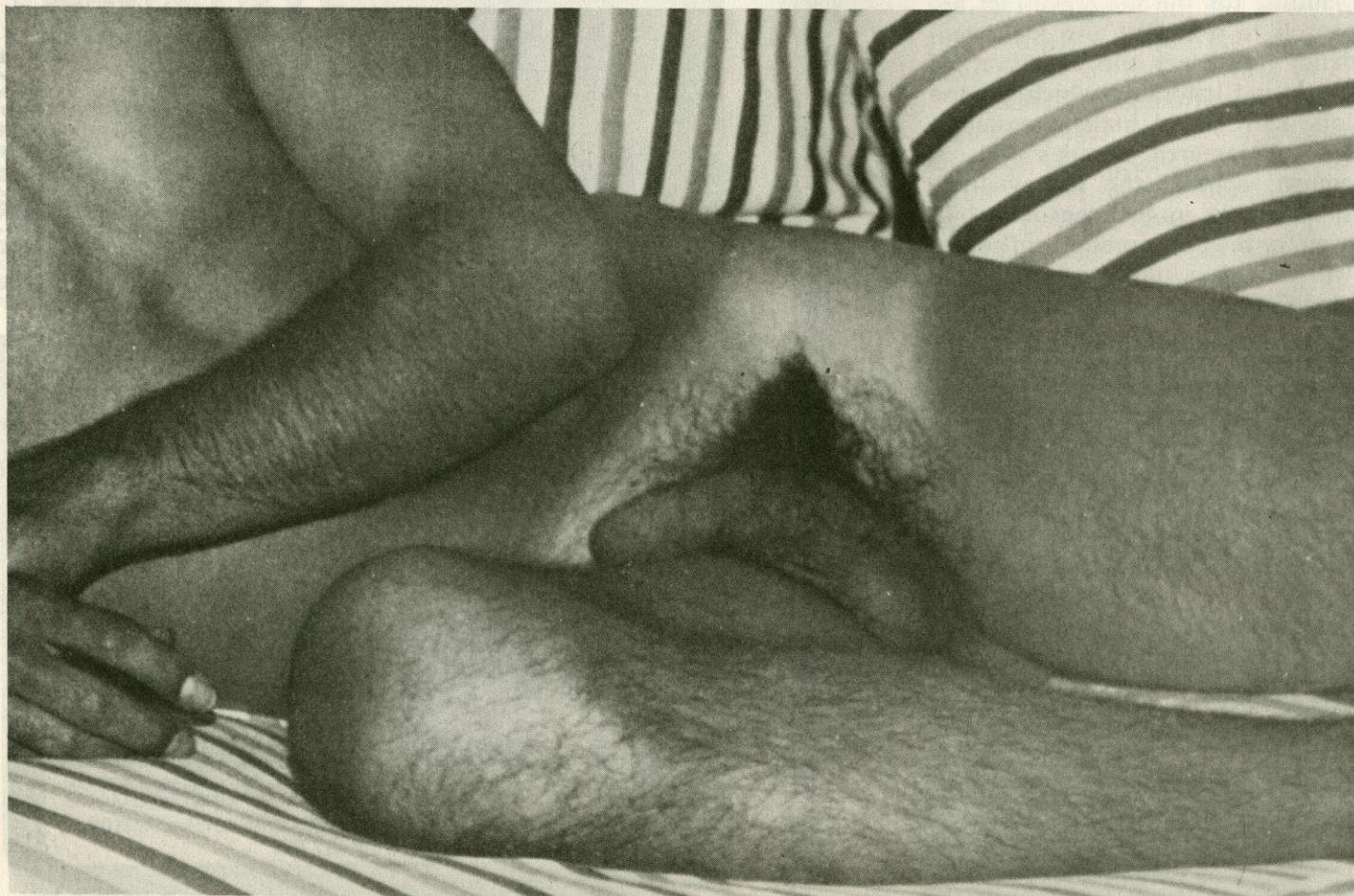
Since May of 1976 rape victims have been able to go to **The Sexual Assault Treatment Center** at Family Hospital. In June of that year they were awarded a grant from the **National Institute of Mental Health**. The plan was to develop a model of a comprehensive coordinated community center to be used by other communities in developing sexual assault treatment centers.

The staff, headed by Margot Arnsdorf, is mainly made up from personnel from Family Hospital. After screening, a three day training program is implemented. Agency referral sources for long term care follow-up have been set up, and there is a continuing education program for the Center staff.

Since the new sexual assault law (a period of three months) the Center has treated three male rape victims. Because male rape damage is more often psychological than physical, victims tend to delay reporting the assault. Since the Center is not geared to aid you if the attack was more than 48 hours before hand, they refer those victims to **Gay Peoples Union** for counseling and/or further referral.

If you are sexually assaulted, it is important to see them at once. They will give you *immediate* medical care, *immediate* emotional support, help you collect materials needed if you want to prosecute, give you follow-up care and give you direction for long-range emotional support and counseling if needed. They are open 24 hours a day. Located at Family Hospital 2711 West Wells Street, you can also call them at 933-5400. They are willing, able, and ready to aid male rape victims. All sexual assault victims will be provided treatment regardless of their ability to pay.

There were an estimated 230,000 female rapes in this country in 1972. We have no way of even estimating how many men were assaulted. With new laws and comprehensive centers such as **The Sexual Assault Center**, perhaps men will at long last be willing to report their attacks, if not their attackers. As the Center says—"If someone turns against you, turn to us."



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.

FEB 3 Little Jim's (Chicago) Movie—*Mr. Roberts*, shown at 3 and 10 pm.

FEB 7 Gay Peoples Union regular monthly business meeting. 8 pm at the Farwell Center

FEB 8 West Side Discussion Group (NY) Special problems of Gays In the Arts & Professions Photographer Rose Jordan and other professional will participate

FEB 9 West Side Discussion Group (NY) (Women only): Meditation. What's it all about and how does it work? Lead by a therapist

FEB 10 *The War Widow*, a lesbian love story, will be rebroadcast by PBS. Channel 10 in Milwaukee will carry the program at 8 pm. Check local listings elsewhere.
Grapevine, a lesbian/feminist action core. 8 pm at Women's Center 2211 E Kenwood "Streets of San Francisco"—An episode entitled "A Good Cop, But. . ." airs on ABC check local listings for time.

Little Jim's (Chicago) Movie—Young at Heart shown at 3 and 8 pm.

FEB 11 Pride of Lambda Fund Raising Talen-Drag entitled "Loving Free" \$1.00 at 9:30 pm At Side Track Lounge (Cedar Rapids, Ia.)

FEB 13 Dignity/Milwaukee invites one and all, to the 2nd Anniversary Mass and Pot Luck Supper for the gay and lesbian community. 7:30 pm, UWM Newman Center
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous 6 pm at the Newman Center, 2528 E Linnwood.

FEB 14 Gay Peoples Union —General Rap Session 8 pm at the Farwell Center.
 Grand Opening & Buffet, **7th Heaven**, 528 7th Ave., Rockford, Il.

FEB 15 West Side Discussion Group (NY) "Questions To A Gay Legal Panel" Attorney Margot Karle, Michael Lavery of Lambda Legal Defense and Dan Pineloo, Legal Counsel to Mattachine will be the panel.

FEB 16 West Side Discussion Group (NY) (Women only): "Dealing With Criticism. Both Receiving It And Dishing It out."

FEB 17 Grapevine 8 pm at Women's Center 2211 E. Kenwood Blvd.
Maturity (Chicago) presents Elmer Gertz—call FR2-8616 for information.
Little Jim's (Chicago), *Rebel Without a Cause* at 3 and 10 pm.



Photos on pages 42 and 43 by Patrick Batt

FEB 20 Doris' Super Bar, 343 W College Ave., Appleton, WI—Mardi Gras Party—costumes preferred, buffet dinner at 7:30 pm. Prizes Fox Valley Gay Alliance co-sponsor.

FEB 21 Gay Peoples Union presents an evening of entertainment with Ken Baker at 8 pm at The Farwell Center.

FEB 22 West Side Discussion Group (NY) "Are New York Gays Lagging in The Fight For Their Rights? David B. Goodstein, publisher of The Advocate, will present his views on the issue.
 New Gay Men's Interracial Group—Blacks & Whites, Salt & Pepper, Dinge queens & Snow queens unite. First meeting at 8 pm at the Farwell Center, 1568 N Farwell Ave.

FEB 23 West Side Discussion Group (NY) (Women only) Money Matter in a Relationship.

FEB 26 Conference on Alternative Literature and Small Press Book FAir—Eau Clair Civic Center. For information call Doug Pearson at (715) 836-2639.

FEB 27 "In the Glitter Palace"—A TV movie with a lesbian theme, airs on NBC. Check local listings for time in your area.

FEB 28 Gay Peoples Union—General Rap Session at the Farwell Center 8 pm.

OFF THE RECORD

(From page 39)

a dramatic interpretation, the meaning of the poem being drawn for the listener. Grahn writes strong message poems, and has elected to read her **Common Woman**, a series of vignettes on women from various lifestyles. This piece is very dynamic and her words create sketches as though drawn in india ink with a broadly nibbed pen. **A History of Lesbianism**, a gentle, caring for the feminist/gay spirit, exudes an intensity from beneath the chanting and will be remembered by those who listen to this recording. Grahn offers some "turn on" pieces as well. Her poem, **in the place where**, is delightful in its direct simplicity, and the up-beat ending, "and I did, I did," creates for the poem an ongoing momentum.

Ms. Grahn's reading of selections from **She Who** offers a highly accented rhythmic experience with its word-play shifts from whimsy to heavy.

The virile, gutsy, tough poetry of Pat Parker reflects "soul" from an angry, woman. Ms. Parker is exciting with her well-executed, low-keyed, dramatic interpretative approach to her reading of her previously published works: **Child of Myself**, 1971, **Womanslaughter**, 1976, and **Pit Stop**, 1972. A theme that runs throughout her readings is that of social injustice to blacks, to women, and, in particular, to the black woman. Her poetry lashes out at white justice, social normatives, male ignorance, and the loneliness, an alienation, that many women experience is present in her poetry; her voice conveys all these elements successfully. **My lover is a woman** is a strong piece that the listener will find moving, for, not only does it capture the conflicts that gays feel in the "parental" message: "be yourself", but, added to this, the poem addresses itself to "crossing the color line" (the line so carefully drawn by society) to form a monogamous relationship. Echoing

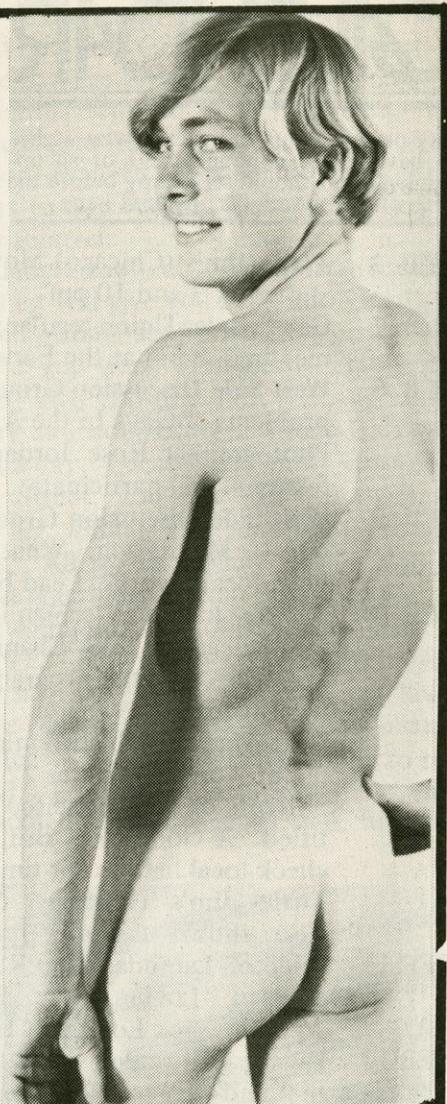
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throughout is the parent voice: "Lord, what kind of child is this?" **A Small Contradiction** adds levity with its statement on monogamy—a nice ending, "unless I'm in love." **Womanslaughter**, a narrative poem which relates the tyranny the black woman experiences at the hands of the black man, is a very powerful piece which this reviewer will listen to again and again. Thoroughly enjoyed was **For Straight Folks Who Don't Mind Gays But Wish They Weren't So Blatant!**

Pat Parker reflects a truly minority voice—young, black, female, gay, and she speaks articulately about the particular prejudices these labels visit upon the individual who wears them. Thank you, Pat Parker, your poetry made me remember some things I had forgotten.

Where Would I be Without You will appeal to many gay/feminist women, and the record can be obtained at the newly opened feminist bookstore, **Thirteenth Moon**, 1625 E Irving Place, Milwaukee, WI.

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Dignity—Milwaukee

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Gay People's Union, Inc.

Meetings every Monday at the Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell. Meetings start at 8:00 pm. Business meetings the first Monday of each month. The Farwell Center now open every night from 7:30 to 11:00. Call 271-5237 or write P. O. Box 92203, Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Lutherans Concerned for Gays

Meets at 3 PM on 4th Sunday at the Village Church, 1108 N. Jackson. Service and social hour follows.

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Madison Committee For Gay Rights

PO Box 324 Madison WI 53701
Phone (608) 256-4448.

Madison Gay Center

1001 University Avenue
Madison, Wi. 53715

Renaissance of Madison Inc.

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IOWA

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Subscribe to Chicago Gay Life, the midwest's leading gay newspaper. \$6 for 13 issues, \$10 for 26 issues (1 yr) Write to Chicago Gay Life, 343 S. Dearborn, Suite 1719, Chicago, IL 60604.

Gay fat male 23, seeks sincere male under 30 for love, friendship. Send address or phone no. Mark PO Box 19814, Milwaukee, WI 53219

NEW PHOTO BROCHURE. Photographer Darrel Hale has created a brochure showing the beautiful men of Fantasy Models. Complete photo sets can be ordered of any model. For brochure send \$1.50 to Legit Studios, 266 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 612, Code L-11, Chicago, IL 60606

Roomate wanted to share house or large apartment: Neat, must not mind cats, call Angela, 355-2155

woman wanted to share flat; own bedroom with furniture or use own. Call 442-4207

INTEGRITY: GAY EPISCOPAL FORMUM. 10 issues/\$10. Louie Crew, Ph.D., ed., 701 Orange, Ft. Valley, GA 31030.

PCP—Physical Culture Penpal Club is for men interested in bodybuilding and in contacting other bodybuilders. Membership \$3. Alan Tuck Associates, POB 1532 Dept GPU, Union, NJ 07083

Gay mellow W/M seeks same to search/ share house. Call Rick 453-2617 after 9:30 pm weekdays.

GPU NEWS Back issues. Please send for price list of available numbers. PO Box 92203, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Roommate wanted to share lower flat. Northwest location. Call Larry at the Leaded Shade after 3:30 pm 278-9563.

Relaxing Massage in your home, apartment, hotel or motel room. Call 281-9281 for appointment.

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Men Interested In Interracial Sex
Chocolate & Vanilla, Salt & Pepper, Black & White Dinge queens & Snow queens lets get together for a social discussion of our situation here in Milwaukee and what we can do to improve our chances for happiness. First meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 22nd at 8 pm at The Farwell Center, 1568 N Farwell. Maybe a loose group can be started for monthly or quarterly gatherings.

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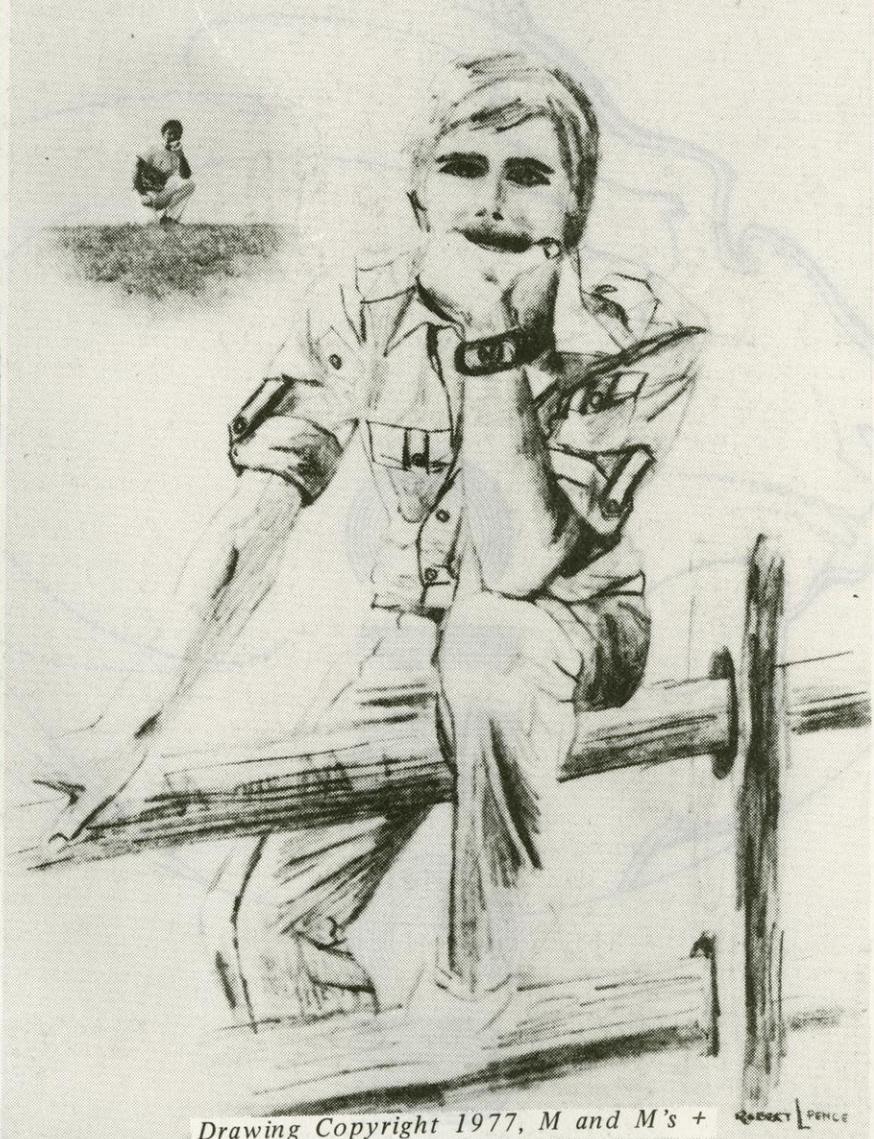
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5 PM – 7 PM

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Mon. – Fri.
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All drinks reduced

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Every Wednesday
Draft Beer – 30¢

↔
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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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**COMING
EVENTS**

FEBRUARY
Valentine Show

MARCH
Amateur Night

APRIL
Easter Cake Bake-off
and Hat Contest

MAY
Mother's Day Buffet

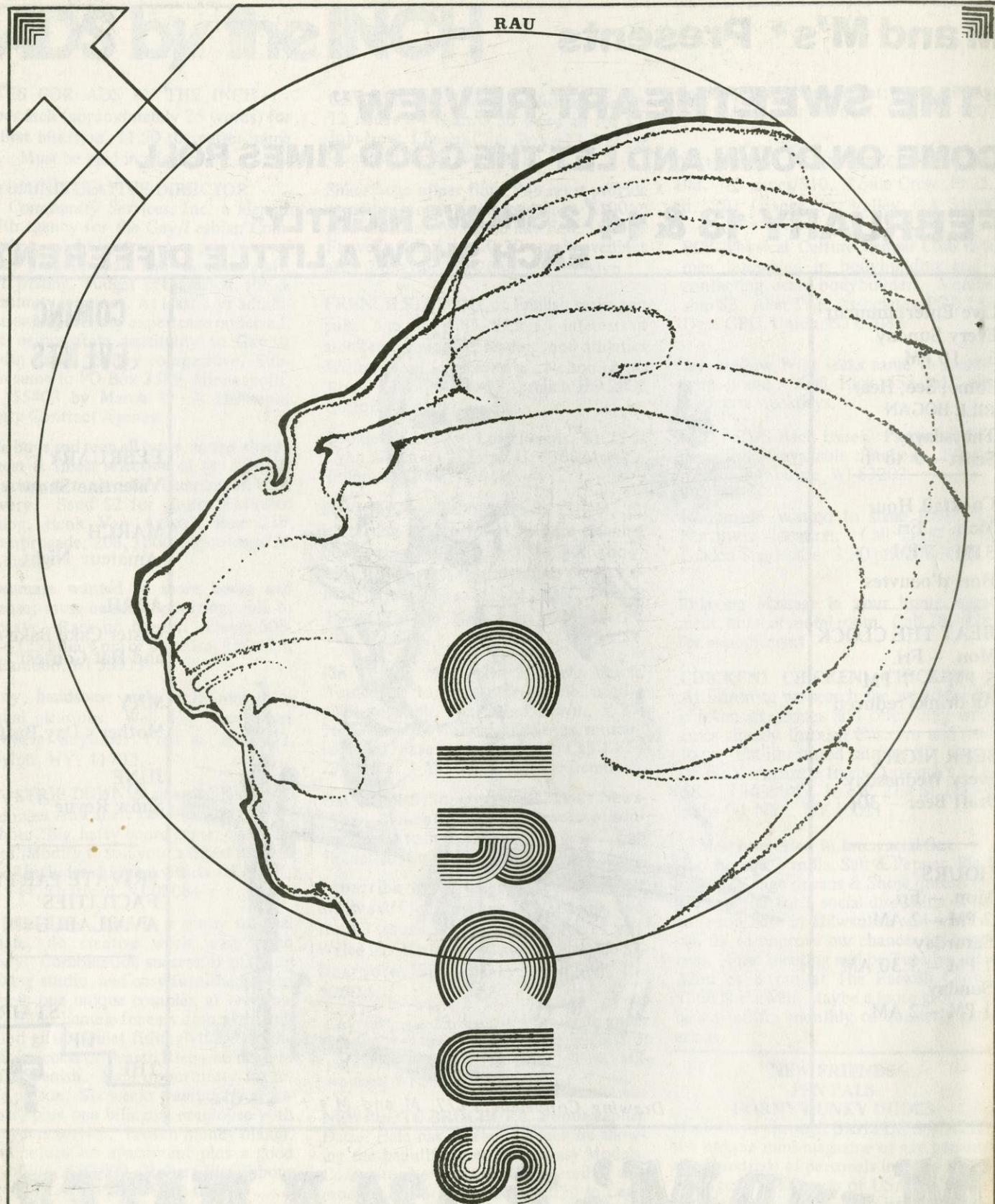
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