

# GPU NEWS

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50¢



**SEX IN SPACE.. PAGE 10**

# NO CHANGE IN NAVY DISCHARGE POLICY

Washington, D.C.—Due to a statement made by Wave Petty Officer Patricia Veldon's attorney, Carol Scott, it was widely reported in the gay press that the Secretary of the Navy had made a ruling that discharge for gay servicepeople was not mandatory. Discharges, Ms. Scott claimed, would be decided on a case to case basis.

It would **not** be new for discharges to be decided on an individual basis, but it would be new if discharges were not mandatory.

We set out to find out if there had in fact been such a change in policy.

Navy personnel in Milwaukee knew of no change.

When members of the Navy at the Pentagon were first asked by GPU NEWS if there had in fact been

such a policy change, official reaction was one of shock and we were led to believe that a change was forthcoming. They would get back to us.

During the next three days, we have had phone conversations with numerous naval officers including: Commander Finkelstein in the office of Chief of Naval Operation, Commander Kelly, with Community Relations, Commander Caldwell, with the Office of Information, and Commanders Tolden and Farell of the Judge Advocate's Office. All of these officers said, "There has been no change in long standing policy." All acknowledged, however, that the Secretary of the Navy, J. Williams Middendorf II, has added two paragraphs to current policy.

As we go to press we have not seen copies of these paragraphs, but have received the following statement from the office of the Secretary of the Navy: "The Navy Department feels homosexuals must be separated to preserve the establishment of good order and discipline. By the same token, the Navy recognizes every possible safeguard must be taken so that no individual will be stigmatized. Therefore, every case must be thoroughly investigated. Those individuals committing such acts will be processed under the Uniform Code of Military Justice for misconduct. Those individuals accused of homosexual tendencies will be processed for discharge, usually undesirable.

*(Continued on page 33)*

## JUVENILE TRIAL ORDERED IN KILLING



Photo by Mal Bernstein & Bill Irwin

*Cathy Hemler, co-chairperson Gay Coalition of Tucson; Mark Ferrin, co-executive director Gay Students at University of Arizona (Tucson) and Al DeLabio, pastor Metropolitan Community Church, Tucson.*

Article by Mal Bernstein

Tucson, AZ—A Pima County (Arizona) Superior Court judge has ruled all four teenage suspects involved in a homosexual murder will be tried for involuntary manslaughter in Juvenile Court early in September.

Despite an attempt by the Tucson gay community to have the four tried as adults, Judge Ben Birdsall ruled an adult trial was unnecessary for suspects Charles Shemwell, 17,

Scott McDonald, 16, Russell Van Cleve, 16 and Herman J. Overpeck, 15.

The four suspects are charged with the June 6 senseless murder of Richard Heakin, 21, president of **Gay Action Group**, Lincoln, Nebraska, as he stepped out the door of The Stonewall Tavern, Tucson.

The four arrested were part of a group of some 13 teenagers who were out to harass gay people at the

popular gay bar. Most of the teenagers involved were athletes. Heakin was five feet eight inches tall and weighed just 125 pounds according to Ken and Howard Bowling, two brothers, who were hosts to their out-of-state guest.

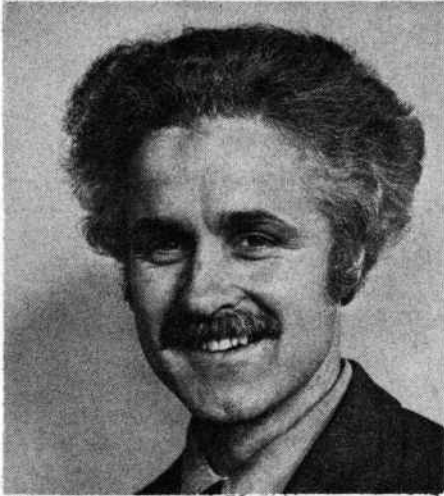
Shemwell did admit he kicked Heakin, but said he did it in self-defense after Heakin swung at him. The actual cause of death is believed to be from a kick or punch from behind the head.

Heakin had arrived a week earlier from Lincoln to spend his week-long vacation in Tucson. The night of his death was the last day he was to visit. It was his farewell party at the bar.

The Bowling brothers said Richard brought them a puppy all the way from Nebraska as a housewarming gift for their new apartment in Tucson. They said Heakin was always known to bring some sort of living gift to friends he would visit because he "loved life."

Members of **Gay Coalition of Tucson** has selected a member to watch the trial carefully so justice may triumph.

# ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES SPEAK OUT



**Jim Moody**  
Democrat, 25th District

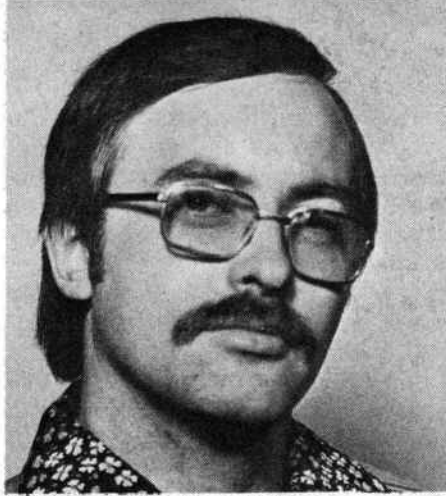
*The following candidates for Assembly in Wisconsin have asked GPU NEWS to present their views on the issues, including those issues of vital importance to gay people. The interviews are presented in the order that the candidates came to us.*

## Jim Moody

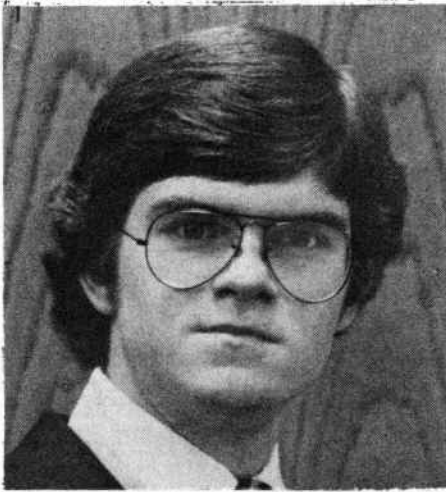
Jim Moody is currently assistant professor of economics at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. His background includes overseas work with CARE in Yugoslavia and Iran. He also spent time in the Peace Corps in Pakistan and India before becoming an economist with the U.S. Department of Transportation. He later served as a loan officer for the Agency for International Development. His political background includes managing a congressional campaign and directing the statewide scheduling and advance for Eugene McCarthy's presidential bid in 1968.

Prior to coming to Milwaukee, Mr. Moody lived for four years in the San Francisco Bay area, where he obtained his Ph.D. in economics at the University of California, Berkeley.

When asked why he is running for the Assembly, Moody candidly replies that he is running for both selfish and unselfish reasons. "I enjoy politics," he said. "I like the rough and tumble the give and take of developing public policy which expresses community interest and I



**William F.S. Lemieux**  
Democrat, 26th District



**Mark Wleklinski**  
Republican, 25th District

would like to put my economic training to work to help shape more enlightened social policy. . . ."

Moody considers himself relatively conservative in respect to expansion of government and public spending, but declares that he is "staunchly liberal with respect to human rights, rights of expression and lifestyle."

He sees the major issues of this campaign as: preserving Milwaukee, specifically the east side, "as a pleasant, creative, humane place to live, work and play." This includes stopping further freeway expansion through parks and residential areas. It includes cleaning up the Milwaukee River. It also includes reform-



**Barbara Ulichny, D**  
Democrat, 25th District



**Marcia Coggs**  
Democrat, 18th District

ing the property tax structure (which renters pay a disproportionate share of) to limit its burden to property related expenditures, such as fire and police protection. Property taxes, he believes, should not be used to support schools, social programs or automobiles as they do now. He also would like to promote "diversity, creativity and individualized expression in the way people live: their homes, their dress, their family and personal situations." He believes that "only cities can tolerate the wide diversity which diverse people need."

When questioned on the gay issues, Jim promptly responded that he is aware of the discrimination

against gays that exists on both a local and statewide basis. In addition to the state's outdated sex laws which need reform, he cited several types of extra legal discrimination which need to be removed: he cited landlords refusing to rent to gay persons of either sex, insurance companies withholding or cancelling coverage and the denial of child custody and visitation rights to gay persons. Jim says he is willing to learn more about the gay issues and says that he would like to see state and local laws changed to "eliminate discrimination of any sort based on race, sex or sexual preference."

He states that if elected he will "support legislation expected to be introduced next term in the Assembly which would remove legal sanctions against sexual acts between consenting adults in private. He points out that this change is not just a question of gay rights, but rights for all adults. He also expects to support legislation forbidding discrimination in employment and pub-

lic accomodation based on sexual orientation.

#### William F.S. Lemieux

William F.S. Lemieux, Democratic candidate in the 26th district, 37, graduated from Wisconsin State University Oshkosh and did post graduate work in urban problems at UWM. He is a member of Holy Rosary Parish and a school teacher in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. He was a delegate to the last two National Democratic Conventions, served on the Kennedy Committee in 1960 and was a national coordinator for McCarthy in 1968. He is a member of the Executive Board of the Milwaukee County Democratic Party. He has the endorsement of Milwaukee County AFL-CIO and the Teamsters Union.

Lemieux feels that the 26th District has the most diverse population in the city. "If the city has a future and I believe it does, it will be this district that speaks for the multiple lifestyles of the entire city." He is fiscally conservative, running on a program of zero based budgeting for state agencies, which examines and justifies every dollar spent as each agency is reviewed on the basis of quality and need for the services performed. He stands for property tax reform including tax freezes on home capital improvements and seeks state support for Milwaukee's Transport Company. He supports legislation to make it necessary for a credit bureau to inform an individual a credit check is being made. "Beyond that I would like to see that no credit bureau can release information to anyone without the explicit consent of the person being checked."

On the gay issues, he takes the same position as Eugene McCarthy who said, "Who sleeps with whom is not the concern of the state nor is it my concern." Bill says he is concerned with how well a person does a job, but says, "I do not think that sexual discrimination which would disenfranchise a conservative estimate of 3,000 persons in my district should remain on the books." He feels so strongly on this issue that he says, "I am not only willing to co-sponsor the consenting adult in private law and the anti-discrimination

law based on sexual orientation, I am willing to work hard and long to assure the passage of these laws."

Persons wishing to work in Bill's campaign should contact him at 278-8781.

#### Barbara Ulichny,

Barbara Ulichny, Democratic candidate in the 25th District, graduated from Milwaukee Lutheran High and received her B.A. in Economics at Northwestern University. She is the Bicentennial Administrator for Milwaukee and taught Social Studies at Nicolet High. She is currently a law clerk with Mitchell & Noonan.

She is the Vice Chairperson of the Wisconsin Civil Liberties Union, a member of the Milwaukee and Wisconsin Women's Political Caucus, National Organization for Women (NOW) and as the coordinator of the Wisconsin Task Force on Rape, she helped write the new rape law and organized the statewide effort to get it passed.

Ms. Ulichny sees the major issues in this campaign as being tax reform, neighborhood preservation and the experience of the candidates. "One of the important issues is a tax break for property improvement on older buildings. I would introduce such legislation," she said. She also feels that the tax burden has been placed too heavily on middle and lower income individuals, especially singles.

She stresses the fact that she is the only candidate in her district who has had any state legislative experience. "I think that the district needs someone who has had a lot of community and political experience and who is in touch with the community's needs."

As a former school teacher she feels she is familiar with the problems in the area of education and because of her extensive work to secure change in the rape laws, she is also familiar with women's issues.

"While working with the Wisconsin Civil Liberties Union I became aware of the problems gay people face." Several cases came before the WCLU involving discrimination in housing and child custody. "I feel very strongly that people should not be discriminated against on the basis of their sexual preferences in any

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## GPU NEWS

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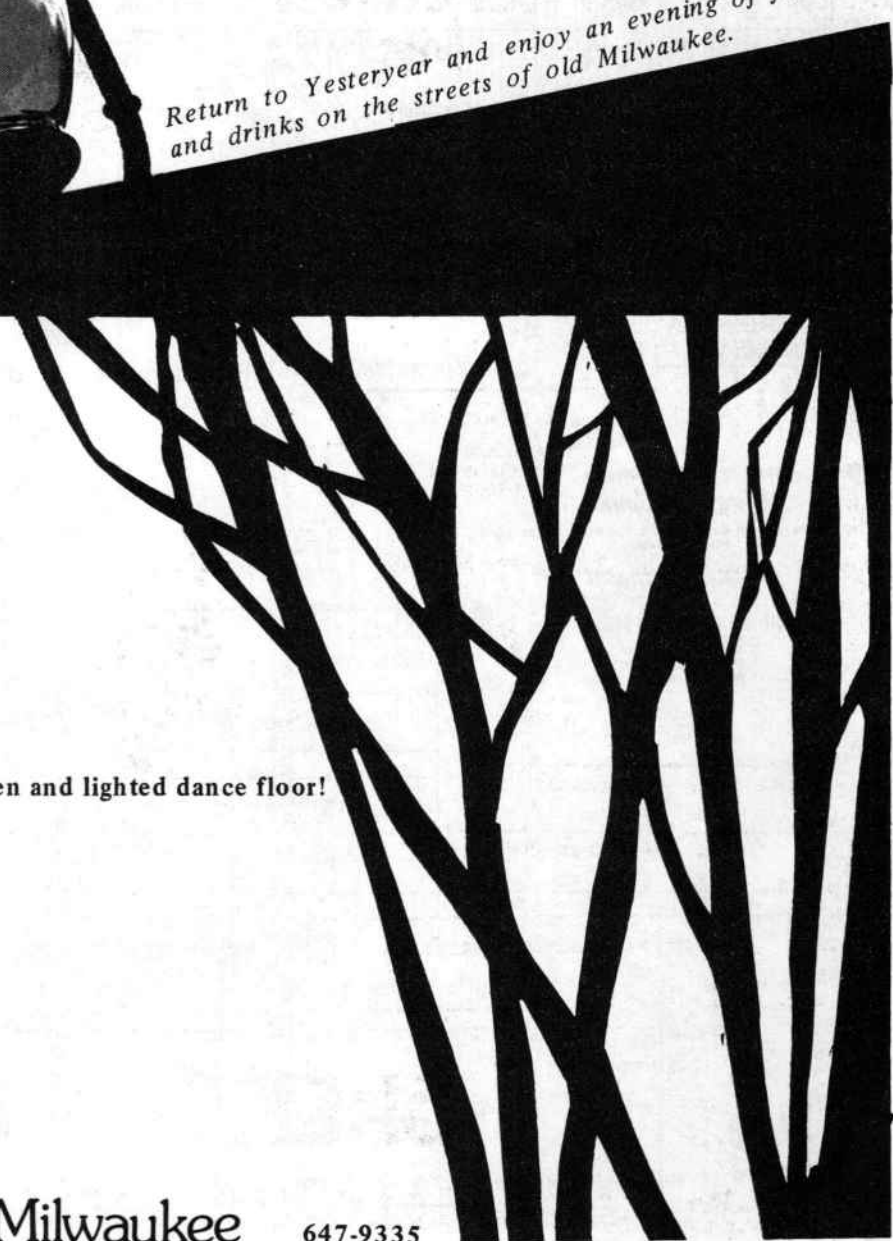
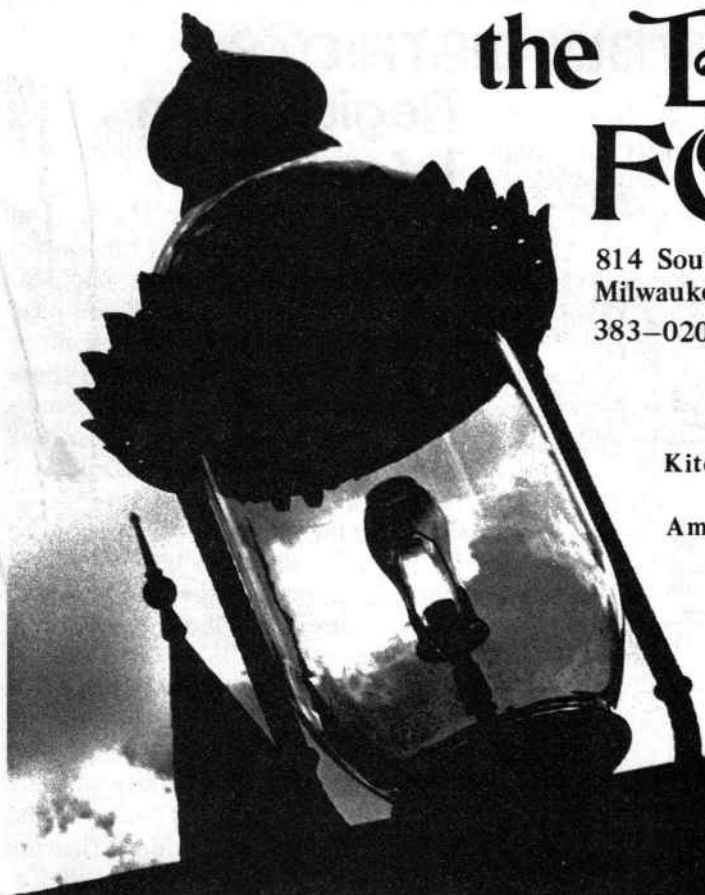
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## Candidates *(from page 4)*

area. I would be willing to co-sponsor consenting adult in private legislation as well as anti-discrimination legislation based on sexual orientation."

### Mark Wleklinski

Mark Wleklinski, Republican candidate in the 25th District, graduated from the University of Southern California in 1971. He was an honors graduate in Law there in 1974, passing the bar exam becoming qualified to practice law in California. He served as staff attorney from 1974 until July of this year for U.S. District Judge Robert W. Warren in Milwaukee. He recently passed the Wisconsin State Bar Exam and is now qualified to practice law in Wisconsin.

Mr. Wleklinski is a member of the Wisconsin, California, and American bar associations, Sts. Peter & Paul parish and the Jewish Community Center.

When asked what he sees as the major issues in the campaign, he replied, "The main thing a state representative can do is to work on major state policy to implement local goals. Primary among the considerations that now face a legislator are those relating to fiscal policy." He believes state spending must be trimmed and made efficient. According to him the recent exposure of the problems in the Medicaid program is a good example of how the Democratic majority has failed the people. "Cost overruns of millions have occurred simply because the state has failed to adopt available federal administrative procedures."

He is also very concerned with energy conservation programs and crime control programs. "Some 20 states subsidize solar energy equipment through tax incentives. Wisconsin needs such a program."

As far as the issues that concern gay people, Mark responded, "Valuable state executive and judicial resources should not be expended to pursue and sometimes harass the sexual activities of consenting adults. Therefore, I would support legislation to remove laws against the activities of adults in private."

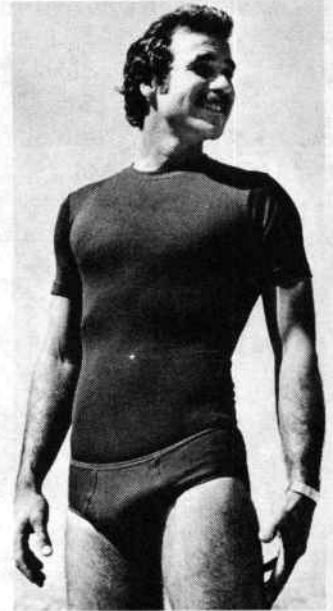
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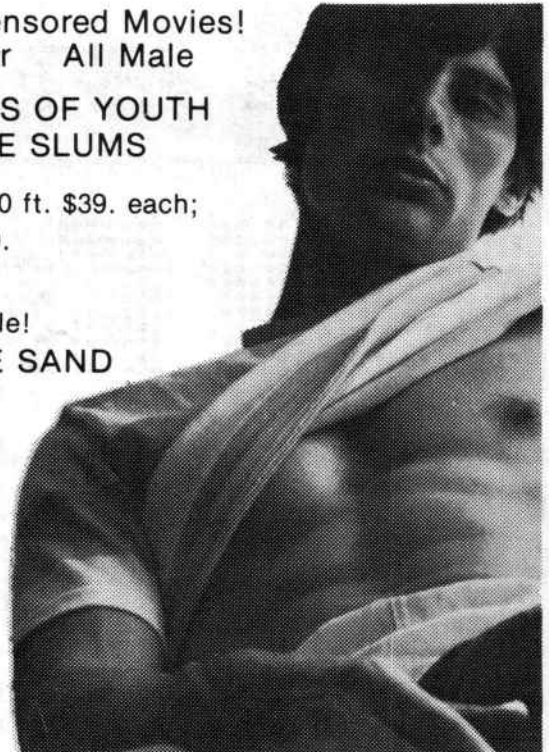
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SCIENCE FICTION

## A BRIEF SURVEY OF GAY THEMES IN SCIENCE FICTION BY AG THOMAS

While there has recently been much interest in the exploration of gay themes in literature, this interest has rarely been extended to "popular Fiction" —nota-

bly, science fiction and mystery stories. This unfortunate gap in gay studies has several possible explanations, among them being scholars' disinterest in "non-

serious" literature and a general tendency of many writers to look down on "popular fiction."

Since, however, such genres as science fiction have become more respectable in the past few years, those seeking to recover their gay history should no longer overlook these areas. What follows is a brief attempt to explore gay themes in science fiction. No suggestion is made that this study is exhaustive or definitive; in fact, it is hoped that the essay will stimulate others to continue the search for our gay roots in this area.

The emphasis on men, both as writers and characters, in this article should not be taken as typical male inability or unwillingness to recognize women's roles and accomplishments; it is simply a reflection of the general invisibility from which women, and especially gay women, suffer in a male-dominated society.

Unless otherwise indicated, the dates of publications are those of the paperback editions, which will be more readily accessible to the readers.

As early as 1935, Olaf Stapledon wrote a short book called *Odd John* (Dover, 1972.) It is relevant to note that, while there has been a recent revival of interest in Stapledon's works, with several paperback publishers reissuing various of his novels, only one publisher has reprinted *Odd John*. *Odd John* is the story of a preternaturally intelligent, almost non-human boy who is male-orientated (insofar as he has any human emotions at all.) Considering the date of its first publication, it is not surprising that the gay theme is not prevalent in it; what is surprising is that this theme is as explicit as it is.

The 1940's and 1950's were apparently quiet years for gays writing science fiction, at least as far as published works would indicate. According to Jim Kepner, gay historian, however, this was a period of time when many people who would later come out and organize as gays were beginning to develop their relationships through their mutual interest in science fiction. (See his article in *Entertainment West* no 132.) It is not clear why science fiction was the vehicle for these first tentative contacts; it may have been the allure of looking toward a world that could be or an interest in fantasy and the unreal or, as Kepner facetiously suggests, that rockets are phallic symbols! That this interest of gay people in science fiction is still in existence is evidenced by a reference in a recent article to a discussion on "Alternative Sexuality in Science Fiction" sponsored by the *Gay Activists Alliance* that was held in New York on March 7, 1976. (See John Mitzel's article *Sterilize the Straights* in *Fag Rag* no. 16/17, June-July 1976, page 17.)

It was not until recent years that gay themes emerged publicly in science fiction. This generally occurred in the "serious" science fiction books at first—particularly Burroughs' *Nove Express* (Grove, 1965), *The Soft Machine* (Grove, 1967), *The Ticket That Exploded* (Grove, 1968) and certainly in his fam-

ous novel *Naked Lunch* (Grove, 1966.) There were also gay interludes in the generally straight novel *A Clockwork Orange* By Anthony Burgess (Ballantine, 1965), which were developed well in the movie based on the book, which certainly had gay appeal; see Stanley Kubrick's *A Clockwork Orange* (Ballantine, 1972).

For historical reasons, if not literary ones, mention should be made of Charles Beaumont's short story, *The Crooked Man*, which was written 1955 and was recently anthologized in the paperback collection *Different* (Bantam, 1974.) Unfortunately this selection (like so many others in the volume is not well-written; it is an anti-straight parody of a standard homophobic plot, set in a future time when homosexuality is the norm and heterosexual relations are banned. Similar in theme, with an even sleazier approach, is a so-called play entitled *The Moon and Marcek* by Joe Haldeman which appeared in the August 1974 issue of *Vertex*, a slick science fiction magazine; the play is probably one of the grossest homophobic stereotypes of gays written in the last several decades.

In the burgeoning field of popular science fiction paperbacks, gay has become an acceptable (if not widespread) theme—which may indicate only that the subject is now in vogue and not that gayness itself is really accepted. Certain authors return again and again to this theme, although their treatments of the subject differ greatly.

Brian Aldiss is a prolific writer and anthologist, not only in science fiction. His novel, *The Hand Reared Boy* (Signet, 1971) is a good example of his non-SF fiction. *The Dark Light Years* (Signet, 1964), a well-written and creative work involving human's encounter with exceptionally unusual extraterrestrial creatures of bizarre form and habits, is one of the earliest science fiction novels with an explicitly gay theme. The episode involves a city (on earth) commonly known as the Gay Ghetto, the inhabitants of which are those individuals who refuse to conform to the straightlaced conventions of society; needless to say, not all of the inhabitants of the Gay Ghetto are in fact gay—but certainly two of the minor characters who choose to settle there are male lovers.

Thomas Scortia has written a novel entitled *Earthwreck!* (Fawcett Gold Medal, 1974) which includes a gay theme as a major plot element. *Earthwreck!* is a "happy ending" story of the human race striking out for survival on other worlds after the nuclear destruction of the earth. Scortia, in contrast to Malzberg, who will be discussed later, is concerned with love, not sex—and some of the most important relationships in the book involve love between men. Though integral to the book, the homosexual aspect of the relationships is played down—and is consequently more real.

Scortia is also the editor of *Strange Bedfellows* (Pocket Books, 1964), an anthology of sex-oriented

science fiction short stories, including three based on gay themes. One of them, **The World Well Lost** by the famous Theodore Sturgeon, is described by Scortia as "perhaps the first science fiction story on this theme (homosexuality)" although the story apparently first appeared as late as 1966. The other two stories, **Do Androids Dream of Electric Love?** by Walt Leibscher and **Dinner at Helen's** by William Carlson, are provocative but deal with sex in ways peculiar only to science fiction.

An interesting use of gayness occurs in David Gerrold's well-written novel, **The Man Who Folded Himself** (Popular Library, 1973). Here, the full implications of time travel are explored, particularly the questions "If one travels forward (or back) in time, won't one meet oneself—or one's own descendents (Ancestors)?" and "Won't the travel in time itself change the course of subsequent history?" Gerrold's answer to all these questions is "yes," and his protagonist eventually engages in gay sex with later (and earlier) versions of himself. (After all, who could be a more compatible sex partner than oneself?)

Gerrold, by the way, is the author of several paperbacks based on the popular science fiction television show **Star Trek** and has also written a science fiction novel entitled **When Harlie Was One** (Ballantine, 1972) in which a computer points out to a human being that gay relationships can qualify as true love as validly as straight ones.

Samuel R. Delany has written two books involving gay sex. **Dhalgren** (Bantam, 1975) is set in a strange, ruined world of the future from which sex is not absent. Gay sex is present, as well as heterosexual activity, but it seems a little dirty, somewhat unwholesome, even in the midst of a generally unwholesome atmosphere. **Triton** (Bantam, 1976) involves people about 150 years in the future at a time when earth people have expanded to populate a number of bodies in the solar system. Although neither war nor personal problems have been overcome, people are allowed to choose freely (and to change freely) their sexual preferences

and their gender—although personal preferences and biases are still existent. Sexuality plays a large part in the plot, although the main character is a heterosexual man who, after years of generally unsuccessful sexual pursuit of a liberated woman, eventually changes sex—and is equally unsatisfied as a woman.

A very recent phenomenon in science fiction is the emergence of women writers who pronounce the validity of women in science fiction—both as writers and as characters. One of the foremost among them, and apparently the most explicit regarding sexual attraction between women, is Joanna Russ, whose novel **The Female Man** (Bantam, 1975) proves that the "science fiction" label can include works of fiction which are not just "formula" adventure stories. The plot of this modern novel is hard to summarize, consisting in great part of impressions, bits of dialogue, and one-line chapters such as: "There are more whooping cranes in the United States of America than there are women in Congress." Love and sex are both present, with or without men—and, even with men, women are the initiators, the movers, the active element.

While not clearly dealing with gay women but definitely affirming women's right to and assertion of autonomy, are writers such as Ursula LeGuin, known primarily for her novel **The Left Hand of Darkness** (Ace, 1969); Anne McCaffrey, whose most famous work is **The Ship Who Sang** (Ballantine, 1970); Pamela Sargent, who will be mentioned later; and Marion Zimmer Bradley. Particularly notable is Bradley, whose recent novel **The Shattered Chain** (Daw, 1976) deals with a group of women of the planet Darkover who are known as the Free Amazonas. It can be anticipated that the continued writings of these authors, and their accessibility to the public through paperback publishers, will develop even further the relationships between their women.

**Arslan** by M. J. Engh (Warner Books, 1976) opens with a scene in which the 25-year old Turkistani conqueror of the United States, Arslan, asserts his power



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by raping both a young girl and a young boy. The boy, however, eventually becomes Arslan's lover and this relationship (reminiscent of those in Mary Renault's novels) becomes one of the major elements of the remainder of the book. Unfortunately, the book as a whole fails as a work of literature since it is neither believable nor convincing.

Perhaps the writer most consistently utilizing gay elements is Barry Malzberg. What is interesting is, that, for all the use Malzberg makes of gayness, there is little in his books that is really positive about the subject. It seems as if he feels compelled to include a scene or at least a reference to gayness in most of his books, perhaps for a "shock value" or perhaps to show how sexually liberated he is or perhaps just to encourage gays to buy his books. Malzberg, however, is not liberated sexually. Although he can and does write about sex, his attitude is often sexist and puritanical and even anti-liberationist.

This attitude is best illustrated by his book **The Sodom and Gomorrah Business** (Pocket Books, 1974), which is his most forthright statement on homosexuality and, in its negative aspects, provides the best insight into the author's views on the subject. Malzberg accepts homosexuality as a fact, as a true variety of human sexual experience, yet he is not really comfortable about it. Ultimately, to him, homosexuality is not as good as heterosexuality. As a corollary of this outlook, Malzberg's women characters are somehow unreal, undeveloped. This story itself in this book is less important: a look into the "past" (our present) from the "present" (our future.)

Some of Malzberg's other books should be mentioned, since the acknowledgement of sex (even unliberated) is something of a break-through in science fiction by itself. **Beyond Apollo** (Pocket Books, 1974), which won the 1972 John Campbell Award for the Best Science-Fiction Novel of the Year, is the recollections (in unlimited and inconsistent variety) of the lone survivor of the first earth expedition to Venus, among which are descriptions of various homosexual acts.

**Tactics of Conquest** (Pyramid Books, 1974) concerns a monumental chess game, in the course of which it is revealed that (1) David, the protagonist, prefers chess to sex (at least of the heterosexual variety), and (2) he has in the past been sodomized by his opponent. **On a Planet Alien** (Pocket Books, 1974) contains only a mention of homosexual characters.

Suggestions of gayness or references to it also appear in Thomas Cooney's books **Friends Come in Boxes** (Daw, 1973) and **Monitor Found in Orbit** (Daw, 1974), but unfortunately neither work develops the gay theme at all.

**Eros in Orbit** (Pocket Books, 1974), a collection of science fiction stories dealing with sex, is disappointing in its complete avoidance of gay themes, except for a few anti-gay comments here and there. In fact, one of the stories, **Clone Sister** by Pamela Sargent, logically demands a homoerotic resolution, similar to that in Gerrold's **The Man Who Folded Himself**, but the author sacrifices the story in order to avoid this result.

I have seen Heinlein's novel **Starship Trooper** (Berkeley Medallion, 1968) referred to as a "closeted" homosexual book. It is true that there are no women in the book and that the men, all military personnel, while talking "lustfully" about women, are perfectly content in an all-male environment. There is in fact, no sex in the book or even any affection—just the camaraderie of military buddies. Unfortunately, the book is dull, has little story line and is a clear example of Heinlein's militaristic and anti-democratic views of society—overall, not worth even the price of a cheap paperback.

So the realm of science fiction publishing still includes unfilled titillation (particularly on the covers of many paperbacks), unliberated sexuality and even homophobia—all of which makes it truly representative of our society. Nonetheless, a discriminating reader can now find at least a few works which point to a better future, and, after all, the future is what science fiction is all about.



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# Our Island Retreat: A Reminder of Lesbos

By Donna Martin & Caroline Ferguson

Can the past ever be recaptured? The impulse to evoke it—always idealized—is surely one of the persistent longings of civilized man. Indeed our culture today is heavily infused with nostalgia for former times when life, seen through rose-colored lenses, is thought to have had an integrity, excitement, and variety little in evidence in our presently sterile, standardized society. Thus we're into collecting the material residue of the "good old days"—whatever can be salvaged, including even such trivia as picture postcards, toys, and bottles; and recent periods are coming in for some kind of semi-resurrection, e.g., the evocation of hair, dress, and dance styles of the 50's by some of our young people. The great literary opus of nostalgia is Marcel Proust's mammoth masterpiece, **Remembrance Of Things Past**, whose underlying impuse was the attempt to recapture and fix forever a time which will never live again.

Similarly, for lesbians there has been a persistent strain of longing for the society of young maidens led by that genius of poetic expression, Sappho, which existed in the 6th century B.C. on the Greek Island of Lesbos. Indeed, one effort to actually re-establish such a group was made around 1900 by two exciting expatriate lesbians who had settled in Paris. Natalie Barney and her lover, Renne Vivien, journeying to Lesbos, settled themselves in nearby villas near the Town of Mytilene, hoping to attract other lesbian poets like themselves in the enterprise of an ongoing colony of productive, high-minded women. Alas, their experiment was shortlived, Renne finally succumbing to the insistent demands of another lover in Paris that she return.

But it occurred to me after this my second summer with friends on the island they had rented for the summer near Ely, Minnesota, that in a sense, in this most improbable of places, a kind of Lesbos had indeed been created. Caryle and Sue, dear friends from my Madison years, had moved to Duluth a few years ago and gradually gotten to know some 15-20 other lesbians (not always easy in a place with no gay bars.) When the chance to rent this island for the summer came along, they jumped at it, the cost when divided between a number of them being quite reasonable.

And what a lovely idea it has proved to be! About one mile from the mainland (which is 6 miles from Ely), the island is quite isolated, the surrounding

waters being but seldom trafficked since it borders that great untouched wilderness—the Boundry Waters Canoe Area. It has in fact turned out to function as a kind of retreat place—somewhere that lesbians, completely separated from the heterosexual world and from men, can get in touch with themselves and nature—and incidentally, thoroughly enjoy themselves.

I remember a remark I read some time ago by a male homosexual "I never really forget that I'm gay except when exclusively in the company of other gays." Well, clearly, the exclusivity of our temporary society strongly contributed to the success of this weekend: the absence of the prying eyes and disapproving attitudes of the uptight heterosexual world meant that we could discard all those habitual precautions designed to 'protect' the straights from us, completely relax, and just be ourselves. Yet wouldn't that disapproving but prurient society have been amazed if they could have been allowed a peephole into our island life.

Instead of a group of sex-obsessed, guilt-ridden, role-playing "lezzies," they would have observed a remarkably unremarkable group of people, relaxed and pleasantly at ease with one another. Indeed, a good claim could be made that these 14 women were exhibiting types of ideal adult pleasuring behavior. For example, the day-time dress-code, nudity, points to the essential democracy that prevailed among us: not only were the external trappings of clothes and adornment (symbols of status and enhancers of appearance) absent, but we felt "safe" enough to expose our not-always-ideal bodies to the purview of others. What counted was the person embedded in the body, rather than that external envelope; thus while, yes, I'm sure all of us must surely have covertly sized up the bodies in our vicinity, soon they came to matter little. What is enduring about people, after all, what provides the potential for the flowering of lasting relationships are their personal qualities—their *joie de vivre*, their sense of humor, their intelligence, their sense of caring and responsibility for others.

Another sign of the prevailing climate of equality was the diversity among us—and the fact that it made little difference in our interaction. The age range was from the early twenties to the mid-forties; the vocational representation ranged from employment at The Reserve Mining Co., to involvement in community

action work, to traditional jobs in the professions and academia (one woman is the head of the Women's Study Program at a Minnesota college; another, a Duluth psychologist, has had a number of the vacationers in her women's therapy groups.) One woman had been out only a month, while other had been active lesbians for decades; and some came out of Protestant backgrounds, others out of a Catholic milieu (two in fact had been in convents for varying periods). What I suppose was operating here was that incomparable fellowship of the underground where difference are less important than, as generally seen, the aberrancy of our common minority sexual orientation.

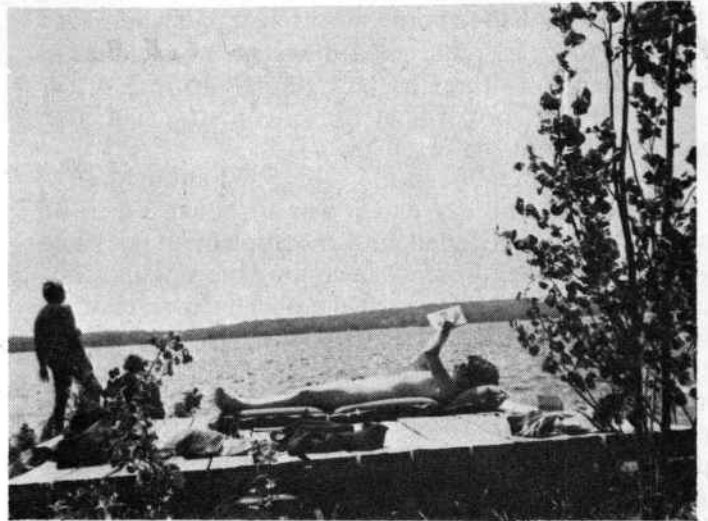
But this was no group about whom it could in any way be concluded that they were conscious of being saddled with a handicap. On the contrary, rather than a motley assemblage of disorganized, neurotic breast-beaters, our hypothetical, furtive observer would have witnessed a group which coped with cooking and cleaning with no obvious imposed structure, which interacted with ease and no overt crises, and most of all, which had much fun together.

We sang to the accompaniment of Persia and Rosie on the guitar; we laughed till our sides hurt playing Psychiatrist and Charades in the evenings; we were an appreciative audience when Judy, a native of the area of Finnish extraction, told some of her priceless Finn jokes in dialect. A few of us occasionally read, some were into playing Bridge, and conversations of all sorts were in progress as the spirit moved people. In short, by the standards of the humanistic psychologists (e.g., Abraham Maslow) who posit the ability of adults to play as key index to the health, we were exuberantly healthy! Anybody know of an available, isolated island reasonably close to the Milwaukee area? Wouldn't our northern sisters be pleased to learn that they had inspired a southern extension of their fantastic frolics in the sun!

*Donna Martin*

We had risen early, 6:15 to be exact, gathered our belongings together, loaded the boat, and now were speeding toward the mainland prepared to take up our busy lives and join in the hussles of productivity. The sun cast a 45 degree angle to the water's surface, golden and warm, and I felt a nostalgia work its way up from my ambivalent gut impelling me to look back once more upon that island, that beautifully remote island where I had spent two fantastic days—two short fantastic days that had been so filled with new insights that it seemed more like weeks, and now I was leaving. I knew it would be a long time before I would return. Like Lot's wife before me, I succumbed and turned and looked back, and, in the looking, knew that I would leave a part of me there and, having done so, the imperative to return would haunt my being. Yes, I would return.

I remember the sparkle in Donna's eyes when she



first spoke of the island, "I have a great idea for our vacation! There are some friends in Duluth I know you'd enjoy and they have this island off Ely that is wonderfully remote; you'll love it there!" Why not I thought, always ready for a new adventure; besides Donna's company will be terrific. So we laid our plans and left in late July—destination remote island and interesting people. Little was I to know of the impact this experience would have upon my life.

We arrived in Duluth late Thursday afternoon and the next morning prepared to leave for the island. "What shall I take?" I asked.

Well, travel light there won't be much room in the boat." Um, thought I, that means I can leave my underwear behind, but I'll need—The two of us succeeded in getting our possessions into one duffle and I thought that somewhat a miracle! Had I known what I know now I could have traveled with my belongings wrapped in a great handkerchief secured to the end of a long stick.

The drive to Ely was uneventful, for the most part. We dozed in the back seat, coming in and out of sleep to note the graceful trees that lined the winding road. A brief stop for lunch and we were at our destination, a dock from which we would board a motor boat that would take us out to the island. We loaded our gear, food, clothing, and a guitar and within moments the boat moved slowly away from the dock. As the speed increased, the water cast itself against my skin, it's coldness stinging my face and arms with minute flagellating sensations. Laughter and gaiety flowed as a general tenor from each member of the party. Donna was becoming thoroughly saturated with the water's spray; we chided her for choosing to sit in the bow. We were joyous with the prospect that we were almost there. . . The island, this sanctuary, lay just ahead, a small green land mass—her cedars and birches stretching skywards.

The boat circled the island to approach from the far side. I could see the rocky shore; great slabs of

boulder skirted the shoreline—interesting swimming I thought! The island seemed deserted—no sign of life was evident. Noting the lack of activity, our driver offered, “Just took a boat full out ‘bout a half hour ago. You’re not the first.”

“Everyone must be in the cabin,” We thought.

We entered the bay and it was as though I were all alone—the others faded into a complementary background, my own presence becoming the singular driving force. I waited as each member in turn climbed from the boat. Then it was my turn. I scrambled onto the pier which was quite decadent and bordering on rickety, but not yet ready to sink into the water. We gathered up luggage, groceries, etc. and walked up the path to the log cabin just ahead. I noted two-man tents pitched hit and miss throughout the woods and found some comfort in remembering “You two can have one of the beds with sheets.” Now I knew the full import of that statement.

We entered the cabin. The afternoon sun had moved behind the trees and a dim shadow pervaded the interior, a large open area. Shadow, coupled with my dark glasses, made it difficult for me to make out the forms that had already ensconced themselves upon the furniture. I put down my duffle and walked toward a familiar face. Yes, it was Meg. I had met her at dinner the evening before. Suddenly I was caught up short by the nude body. Indeed a familiar face, but the nude body was something I had not been prepared for! Then I looked around. My God, they’re all nude! And, in my embarrassment, I blurted, “I was so busy I hadn’t even noticed that you didn’t have any clothes on.” To which they all chuckled.

The next thing I knew everyone, with the exception of Donna and myself, had shed their clothes, one, two, three! I can only think that Donna was being gracious toward me. And with that everyone made a beeline for the sunning platform. Well, thought I, time to take your clothes off, Sweetheart, and so I did. I don’t remember if I took them off in the cabin or outside on the platform, but I do remember thinking of all the clothes I had brought with me and, at that moment, I couldn’t for the life of me understand why I had done so. I obviously wasn’t going to need them unless it got cold, and there seemed little chance of that. I had been nude before, but nudity had been an alternative to being clothed—here it was the clothing that became the alternative—that’s a switch, and I wondered how long it would take me to get used to this. Do you believe a half and hour? That is a liberal estimation! At first, I felt so stripped of the controlling non-verbal cues that clothes afford one. Hey, I was definitely on my own! So, in desperation, I wore my hat, and was relieved for once that I needed glasses. I tried valiantly to appear cool, as if I did this “take your clothes off thing” a lot, but the fair, white skin on obvious portions of my body blew my act. Plus, I

felt concern about what I was to do when this tender skin could no longer bear the sun’s kisses. Well, I thought, then I’ll just be different and put on my swim suit.

I lay on the wooden platform, basking in the warming sun, occasionally drawing myself up to a sitting position to watch the swimmers cavorting in the water below me. For the most part, they were casual swimmers intent more up on the interchange between them than on the demands of serious swimming. I inquired as to the best way to enter the water, for the rocks seemed doubly ominous because of my naked body. Meg graciously took me to a place where the perils were at a minimum. Moments later I eased myself into the water and almost immediately cut my foot upon a rock; I was relieved it was nothing more serious than that. Moments following that I skinned my other foot, and at that point concluded that the deeper water was where I would feel safest. Meg took her swimming more seriously than the rest, for shortly I watched her take off into the deeper water and disappear around the bend of the island. She returned sometime later, a half hour or so, and I knew she was into distance swimming as was I. I inquired of her later as to where she had gone.

“There is another island across the bay I swim to.”

“Next time you go could I swim with you?”

“Sure. I’ll be going tomorrow.”

It was approaching the dinner hour as the sun was withdrawing into her own privacy. “Anyone know how to barbecue these steaks for dinner? Caroline, can you do this?”

“Sure,” was my ready reply. This I knew how to do, so with all the instructions: well-done, medium-rare, rare, etc., I pitched the meat on the grill, and with drink in hand, or in mouth (as you prefer), I tried not to destroy the main course. No one complained, my efforts were well received, though, by that time of the day, I really don’t think anyone was in any mood to notice. Dinner was consumed in high spirits.

What was slowly dawning on me was that no one was organizing this weekend. People saw things to be done and they set about doing them. Hey, this is a high sense of community, and although I was on the periphery of it, I was free to join in it in so far as I wished. And I was beginning to desire to be a more integral part of the group. But becoming a part would not be easy for me. This is not my major suit. I found myself vacillating from joining in to withdrawing, and, when I felt myself withdrawing, I agonized inwardly for my estrangement. I sensed something about these women that was quiet and simple. If I couldn’t respond they would wait and give me the space and the time. I thought what a together bunch—out there on the mainland we’re supposed to be sick—how wrong they are—too bad about them, and so much for the high opinionated straights.



Dinner finished, people gathered in the kitchen to do the dishes. It was singing time, and we did sing! Then wouldn't you know it—games were the next item on the agenda. Psychiatrist—of all things! The two with the best couchside manner were chosen; that meant me and another one “new” to the scene. So together we struggled to solve the great riddle: What in the hell are they doing? After what seemed an eternity, we finally broke the barrier; a frustrating experience, but somehow enjoyable, though at the time, struggling in ignorance, I would have been hard put to specify the enjoyment.

As I crawled into bed that night, I was struck again by the lack of pretense in these women, but I knew so little of them, and it was hard for me to be completely at ease. I hoped that tomorrow would be easier for me. I would have to reach out to them. That would **not** be easy for me, and I wished I could readily trust. Now, ready for sleep, it was good to be next to someone I did believe in. After a time, I fell into a deep and restful sleep.

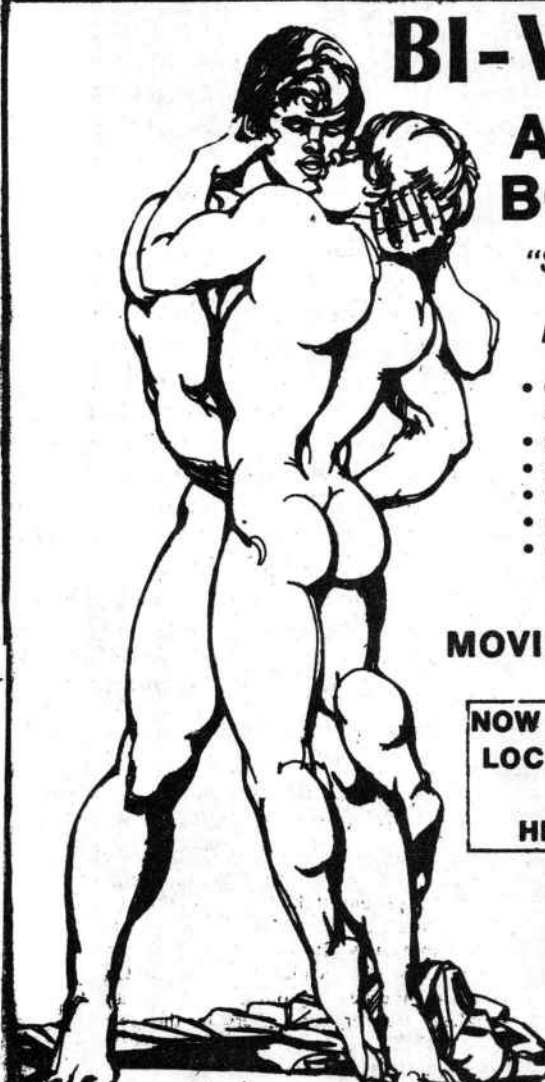
As I came to wakefulness the next morning, I was aware that there were early risers among us, but, not being among their number, I turned over and fell back into sleep. Later, I rose to find a transformation had come over the cabin. The dishes were done from breakfast and the cabin straightened. No one would have suspected that there had been a “party” the night before. People were sitting around drinking coffee, some were reading, and others already in the sun. I hadn't been up to long when an invitation went out for bridge and I gladly joined. Have you ever played bridge outside sitting on a wooden platform naked as a jaybird? Try it sometime, but I hope you hold better cards than I did—well, out about 80 cents later, someone else sat in for me. I retired to the cottage for a drink and some reading when Meg informed me she was about to take the “swim.” With no further ado I was off.

Oh, what a swim that was—something happens when you plunge into deep water. You know there is no comfortable bottom upon which you can rest. It is you and the element of water and the stamina must be found to “endure” until you reach land once again. Exhilarating, and the effort taps all of your body's energies—for me, a most fulfilling experience. So Meg and I swam. The trip over was filled with stops and starts because I didn't know where I was going. She would point out landmarks, and, when we would reach one—there was yet another, and another. I was beginning to wonder how many more landmarks I could endure when we reached the bay and the island beyond. What a relief to be on land. There, sitting on the rocks, the sun blazing down on our tired bodies, we talked and I felt the lack of trust I had been experiencing going out of me and I really relaxed for the first time. I don't know how long we sat there on

those rocks, but our bodies began to react to the sun's ray's, you know, tweak a bit. “We better go back,” said Meg.

“Yeah, I'm ready,” I responded. As I felt myself slither into the water and the cooling sensations touch my breasts, my waist, my hips, my thighs, and eventually my toes, I knew I must swim back without stopping—one continuous effort and my experience would be complete. I swam every message that was a part of me. Midway my muscles ached that refreshing ache and I knew I was alive. I also knew the bottom was far beneath me and there was no stopping. When at last I reached the craggy shore near the cabin, there was an exhilaration beating in my body that told me I had truly returned to home base and people who somehow mattered. What sheer delight flowed through me as I emerged from that water and I felt a freedom that I had not experienced for a long time. I did not need clothes to be appealing, to attract. I had it all in my natural state. Far Out, Baby! If I took nothing else away from this island than that, it had all been worth it.

*Caroline Ferguson*



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# Poems by Elizabeth I. Louch

Your smile

Grew into laughter  
When you entered  
To keep the appointment  
You had made with me  
With yourself.  
With one wetted forefinger  
You touched my mouth.

It was

so affecting  
to wash  
the blood  
from you—  
though it had been  
so long

You are

A poem I wrote  
So that I only reel  
From you soul kiss  
And yearn  
To kiss your ears.

Christmas.

Between your pubic dawn  
And hot tongue's valediction  
I live  
In the winter of your love  
Incredible  
Inarticulate  
Inevitable.

I kiss

with my eyes open  
Your mouth's  
interior  
is more beautiful  
than your  
wild rose vulva.

Darling,

What  
When I left you  
Did you do  
With that part of me  
That stayed with you?



# TWO SAN FRANCISCO MURDERS

# NEW BREAK IN MURDERS

BY CHARLES LEE

San Francisco police are investigating the connection of operating in the the slaving Special Squad Formed in S.F.

One "the fil the brut inson las Follow

SENINEL possibility en to d

Blood was dried on the face, arms, thorax, abdomen and thighs. There were also numerous bruises about the eyes, chest, knuckles, arms and wrists.

Officer Cassidy found blood throughout the apartment on kitchen counter refrigerator, wall the front

# Gay Deaths Gets Longer

## Two more 'sex scandal' victims

absolve

## Gay Man Murdered At Home

Two more cases in the Ottawa... one case the... and the other... This leaves only... against two Ottawa... Dickins... or paid a... while the Onta... to refuse to se... Mea... to the... an inquiry from poli... media and gay... Ottawa.

San Francisco. Peter M. described by his 50's in his apartment at 676 Geary Street on the 26th June. A short man with blue eyes and blond hair was identified by Dennis Flynn, police of the Home... at about 1:00... police reports... in the... past... Ch... the fo... found...

# SOMETHING YOU DO IN THE DARK

## fiction by daniel curzon

A talent agent was found bound and shot to death at the top of the stairs of his 18th Street home.

Harry Ledbetter returned after a night out to find his friend Robert Culver, 26, shot through the head.

The two men ran Creative Talent Associates and Culver also worked as an executive for the Cal Body Steel Co. in San Francisco.

The police found the apartment ransacked and the body had been discovered by the owner of his apartment at 169 Brompton Ave.

Nude, except for a pair of socks, Marsala's body was sprawled across the bed. An identification card which had been used to strain him was still in his neck. The assassin had stabbed Marsala several times with a knife that was protruding from his buttocks. A pillow had been placed over his head.

Inspector Jack Cleary said the slaying was "probably gay-related" but said there was no way to determine if it was connected with the brutal murders that have

Daniel Curzon is the author of *Something You Do In The Dark* and *The Misadventures of Tim McPick* or *The Story of Tim and His Zipper*. Reviewed in GPU NEWS Jan. 1976) His poetry and short stories have received wide acclaim after appearing in GPU NEWS Gay Sunshine, The Gay Alternative, Vector, and Gay Literature which he edited.

I don't know why you've arrested me. I ain't done nothing. If I'd done something, I'd tell you. Sure I would. But I ain't done it, so why're you arresting me? I was just out walking on Folsom Street. Is there some crime in that? I never heard there was no crime in that, just walking. Why don't you go and arrest some criminals while you're at it, huh? There's plenty of criminals walking the streets of Frisco without you going and bringing me in. Just because I'm a Latino, right? That's why

you're arresting me? You don't like my hair this long, or something. I know all about you fascist cops. Well, I'm not taking it. I don't know nothing about no murders. What murders? People get murdered everyday and nobody ever arrested me before, so why you doing it now? People get murdered everyday—not the same people of course, different people. But if I done anything wrong, I'd tell you. But I ain't done nothing wrong, and I think I'm suppose to have a lawyer or something.

What do you expect to find? Bloodstains on my hands. Like TV? I ain't got no bloodstains on my hands for God's sake! You guys got more bloodstains on your own hands than I got on mine. I read how you shot that black dude in the back. You shoot me, you cocksuckers, and you're going to hear from somebody! I'm not telling you who. You'll find out, that's who!

Who was it got murdered this time anyhow? Probably some Latino, like me, that's who. You guys is all the time fucking us

Latinos over, you don't give a shit about us! Someday we're going to fuck you over. I ain't afraid of you cocksuckers! I heard what the police chief said, that he was going to hire queers on the police force. Probably most of you are queers already. You don't scare me with your fucking uniforms! I know queers when I see 'em.

Some of my friends saw some of these queer-y-looking guys coming out of a restaurant the other night, and they piled out of their car and beat the fucking shit out of 'em. Those queers were waving "bye-bye" to each other. "Bye-bye," for God's sake! If anybody had it coming, they did! No, I don't know any names! What do you think I am, a stupid spic? You think I'm going to tell you anything, assholes? Well, think again, 'cause I'm not telling you shit! If you want information, ask The Yellow Pages!

Or why don't you go down to Folsom yourself and watch the queers take it in the asshole. You'd like that, wouldn't you? They take it right in the asshole, like some goddamn stupid woman! Like this guy I saw there the first time I went. He was walking around one of them bars where they hang out, and you could tell right off that he was a queer, even though he was wearing Levi's and a leather vest. He was faggoty-looking anyhow, and he was drunk too. So I followed him in my car a little bit, and he kept looking over at my car. He made me sick, the way he kept looking over. It was pretty late, I guess, maybe around three in the morning, and the streets were empty. Pretty cold too—this was back in December. So this guy just keeps walking along Folsom and turns on Harrison, and he stops and lights a cigarette, you see. Pretending to be so straight, fuck him, but all the time you could tell he was a queer. He even had these boots on, for God's sake! His hair was shorter than mine, and he was a little shorter than me, but an Anglo. And I followed him for a long time and finally I stopped for this red light, you see, and this guy finally comes over to my car. He was sorta ugly in the face, like his chin went off to one side or something. But he comes up 'cause he was stinko drunk, and he taps on the window real prissy. So I rolled the window down, and he asks how I'm doing. "I'm doing just fine," I said back. And then he asks if he can get in and we can go someplace. Can you imagine? So I didn't say nothing, figuring he'd go away, and the light was changing. But this guy gets into my car, and I move on because the light's changed and there's cars behind me. and then we drove around for a while, not saying much. He was so drunk he couldn't talk sense anyhow. He kept giggling, and finally he puts his hand in my lap, and so I know he's a queer for sure. I mean I don't mind giving guys a ride, but when they're queer, that's different. If they'd act like men instead of like goddamn sissies!

He told me he wanted to be tied up, and so we went to this deserted park, and this *puto* starts taking all his clothes off, even though it's cold out and he wants me to tie his hands behind his back. So I did. And he wanted me to hurt him. So I did. I mean he was really asking for it. There he was, with his cock sticking out, grooving on this sick stuff, and so I hurt him, Yeah I hurt him, the way he asked for it! I kicked the shit out of the fucking queer. I wasn't mad at him, but he wanted to be hurt, so I kicked his fucking face in. I read that somebody found this guy with one of his eyes kicked out. I didn't mean to do it that bad, but he did ask for it. What't the fucking difference? I mean, he was just a fucking queen in a leather vest!

The next one was bigger, and gave me more trouble. We

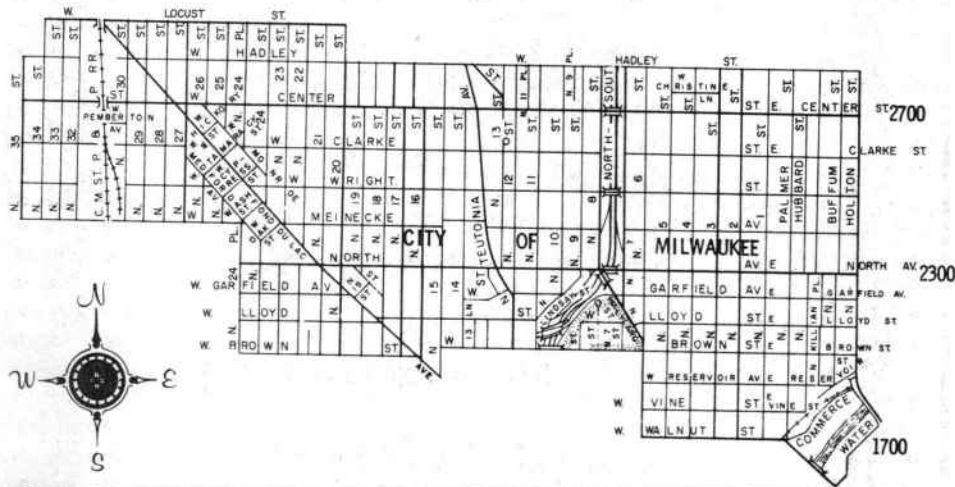
went back to his room and he asked me to tie him up with wire. With wire yet! He had this whole drawer full of real thin wire. He said he liked to feel it cut into his wrists when he comes. What a freak, right? He had all these contraptions over his bed, I mean straps and harness and you name it. I never saw such weird stuff. This *cabron* stuck this little inhaler in my nose and told me to sniff, and it smelled sorta rotten. I mean his whole apartment smelled sorta rotten, like shitty underwear and dirty, you know what I mean. I mean this guy grooved on filthy stuff. He even asked me to shit on his chest. Can you imagine anybody asking that? He wanted me to shit on his chest. That's when I put the wire around his dick and he started to scream. So I gagged him—with one of his own dirty-socks. Then I beat his head in. He needed to have the fucking shit beat out of him anyway!

Now I got nothing against fags—not all fags anyway, only the stinky ones. I mean there's a lot of sick faggots around Frisco and somebody's got to stop them. They can't be argued out of their sickness, and if they don't, then somebody's got to stop them, that's all. There's too much of that kind of stuff going on, fist-fucking and men getting fucked in the ass, and God knows what else they do. They'll get punished for their filth down in Hell, but somebody's got to answer for their sins. Didn't some writer—maybe Shakespeare—who said that man's got to answer for his sins. Or maybe it was the Bible. I looked at that Shakespeare book a couple of times in the ninth grade, and he's weird. I mean, there's lots of pornography in Shakespeare. I saw it myself. Most of it's a bunch of shit of course. Even the Bible's got some shit in it. I suppose that's blasphemy, like the nuns would say, but I don't listen to what no nuns tell me, not anymore I don't. What do they know? They're as bad as the queers, fucked-up, really fucked-up.

The next guy was really begging for it. I think he must've had a suicide complex or something. I think they all had a suicide complex, and I was just doing 'em a favor. But this third guy was sort of skinny and had calomine lotion all over his arms—this was back in the spring; he said he was allergic to some weeds or something. So he asks me to hit him with this chain he was carrying in his coat. I mean he actually asked me to whack him with it. First on the back. He was kneeling there with his shirt off, on his knees, and hands me this chain about ten inches long, and asked me to "administer some pain." Them was his words. "Administer some pain." Talk about weirdos! He wanted it. He looked over his shoulder and told me to do it harder. So I cracked the fucking chain on his fucking skull, and he fell down and groaned. Then he got up and tried to crawl into the bathroom—we was in this hotel room he'd paid for, you see, and he tried to crawl into the bathroom and lock the door. But he'd asked for it, right, and so I gave this *joto* some more of his own medicine. He scared me a little 'cause he kept making these god-awful whimpering noises, and he cried and kept trying to get his chain back, but I didn't give him his chain back. Yeah, when he died, I gave him his chain back.

Why did I do it? Why did I do what? You mean, kill 'em? Why did I kill 'em? Are you serious? Because they were fucking queers, that's why. What more d'you want? I told you why they had it coming, how much they wanted it. What're you looking at me like that for? There's nothing lower than a goddamn queer! I just gave 'em what they had coming, right? It felt good, too. Guilty? About what? How many? Oh, about fourteen, I guess. Why?

# 18th District Candidate Also Speaks Out on Issue



Marcia Coggs, Democratic candidate for Assembly in the 18th District, received her B.S. from University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and is currently employed as a child care supervisor at Milwaukee County Children's Home. She is the widow of Isaac Coggs who served twelve years in the Assembly and then was on the County Board of Supervisors for twelve years. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the YWCA of Greater Milwaukee, serves on the Board of Directors of Misericordia Community Hospital, is a member of the Manpower Area Planning Council. She serves by appointment as a member of Community Human Service Project Steering Committee which co-ordinates various human services projects.

Ms. Coggs is running her campaign stressing human needs such as employment, education, better housing, protection of the elderly and health services. She says, "I am also working for structured recreation facilities for our youth which are badly needed in my area. I would like to see this recreation program include education such as reading and math because these skills are so necessary to the future of every child."

Another area that is of great concern to Ms. Coggs is that of employment. "Forty per cent of young black people are unemployed, the highest per centage of all groups. I have worked to change this as an individual and as an elected official I can work on a group basis and be more effective."

As a member of the State of Wisconsin Insurance-Consumers Advisory Council, she participated in the recent hearings on insurance discrimination where many gays gave testimony. Ms. Coggs said, "I was surprised at how often gays are discriminated against when obtaining life, health, and auto insurance. They pay much higher rates just because they are gay."

On other gay issues, Ms. Coggs said, "As a minority member I have lived with discrimination all of my life and if elected will be happy to co-sponsor consenting adult in private laws and anti-discrimination laws based on sexual orientation."

To work in her campaign call 374-6528 or 374-7414.

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# REVIEW

Entrapped by Edward Eugene Baskett, Lawrence Hill & Co., 24 Burr Farms Rd., Westport, Ct. 06880, 1976, 151 pp., \$6.50

Thousands of gay males have been entrapped by members of the vice squad or plain clothes policemen who deliberately entice their victim into touching or propositioning them. What, then, is different about the case of Edward Eugene Baskett who was similarly entrapped in 1971? What is different is that instead of pleading guilty to the usual misdemeanor charges as almost every gay victim does, Baskett was so outraged that he chose to fight the case in the courts. In so doing he emerged a sadder, but wiser person concerning the establishment and its system of justice.

Edward's nightmare began on the night of March 27, 1971 in Long Beach California when he decided to stop for a few drinks at a couple of gay bars including one called L'il Lucy's. About a half hour before closing he noticed an ordinary looking man of about 30 who was fumbling for a match to light a cigarette. Edward reached behind the bar where the matches were kept and tossed him a book. The man said, "Thanks," and left the bar a few minutes later. When Edward left the bar, just before closing, the man was making a phone call from a public booth across the street. Thinking that the man was calling a cab, Edward offered him a ride. The man, who introduced himself as David, accepted although his own car, he said, was just a block away.

Half way down the block Edward invited the man to come to his apartment. The man agreed, but first wanted to stop at an illegal after-hours bar. Edward politely refused that offer and to encourage the apparently willing stranger, he patted him; first on the stomach and then, seeing no resistance, fleetingly on

(Continued on page 33)

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# HERE&THERE

**Toronto, Canada**—Anthropologist Richard Lee, of the University of Toronto, believes that pre-historic men and women shared power in much the same ways that primitive societies do now.

Professor Lee says that while pre-historic men were mostly hunters, the women fished, gathered food plants, and were considered equal with men. Lee states that early women were not dependent on men either politically or economically in hunter-gathering societies.

Lee concludes that the data we get from these prehistoric societies should "make us suspicious of any theory that seeks to prove that male dominance in today's social order is part of an evolutionary heritage."

*The Bugle-American*

**Washington, D.C.**—When asked about his views on homosexuality on a Los Angeles TV show, Jack Ford (President Ford's son), replied after "a stunned pause," "Uhhh. . . my views on that are something I haven't given much thought to, quite frankly. I think I try to respect everyone's point of view or difference of opinion. I don't have any strong feelings either way, quite frankly. I'm not in a position to give it much thought, quite frank. . . to be quite honest. . ."

Sounds a lot like Daddy.

*High Gear*

**New York, NY**—The Gay Activists Alliance held its bi-annual elections for its Executive Board recently. Joanne Passaro, former Delegate at Large of the organization, was elected as GAA's first woman president in its almost seven year history. James Zepp, former Media Committee chairperson, was chosen Vice President. Art Gursch and Wally Hoffman, Secretary and Treasurer respectively, were re-elected to their posts. Stu Gurtman was elected Delegate-at-Large.

*News Release*

**New York, NY**—Gay Activists Alliance (GAA) and West Side Discussion Group (WSDG) are co-sponsoring a dance on September 11, at WSDG's headquarters, 2nd Floor, 37 Ninth Avenue, at 14th Street. Both men and women are encouraged to attend.

No big deal until you realize the dance is in celebration of WSDG's 20th Anniversary!

*News Release*

**New York, NY**—In an effort to convince the television networks and other national news media that they are simply not giving adequate coverage to gay-related news, the National Gay Task Force prepared a **Summary of National Gay News**, covering the period from January 1975 through June 1976, and sent copies to all executives, producers and assignment editors in network news departments plus key people at the wire services and news weeklies.

First to respond to the mailing was NBC's **Today** show, which had been particularly remiss in the coverage of gay news. NGTF Co-Executive Director Jean O'leary and board member Martin Duberman were invited to appear on the Aug. 5 show.

UPI responded that it is setting to work on an article, assessing the progress of the gay movement, slated to appear in the Sunday supplements of 2,000 U.S. newspapers (**The Milwaukee Journal** has received the story and plans to run it in the **Spector** section on a space available schedule) and; AP is starting on a wrap-up of the status of the sodomy laws in the 50 states.

It is too early to assess the impact on network news coverage in general, but articles on the NGTF mailing in such widely-read publications as **Broadcasting** and **Variety** serve to put the networks on notice that they're being watched.

*News Release*

**Santa Ana, CA**—Cynthia Forcier, a lesbian mother, has been cleared of the criminal charge of "sexually molesting" her 5 year old daughter. As a result, the child and her 8 year old brother have been returned to their mother's custody.

*Gay News*

**New York, NY**—Danny Arnold, producer of the ABC-TV show **Barney Miller** has charged that ABC Vice-President Alfred Schneider told him the program could not present homosexuals, since it was scheduled during the so called "Family hour."

*Chicago Gay Life*

**Philadelphia, PA**—Following up on their July 4th demonstrations, Dyketactics zapped the 41st International Eucharistic Congress of the Roman Catholic Church during the first week of August.

Camping at the entranceway to the women's event, they passed out their Lesbian Feminist Declaration of 1976 and information about nuns participation in the International Woman's Year Conference held in Mexico City last year.

Dyketactics also demonstrated at the concluding Mass hosted for President Ford, and the Congress' parade.

Many onlookers were supportive; some, of course, were hostile.

*News Release*

**Sacramento, CA**—The Family Lobby which is trying to revoke California's sodomy repeal doesn't have enough signatures to get the proposition on this November's ballot. The group says it will try again for the 1978 primary election.

A total of 312,000 signatures are needed before the measure for reinstatement of the sodomy law can be presented to the voters.

The Family Lobby is an ad hoc group of fundamentalist Christians opposed to homosexuality for religious reasons.

*Chicago Gay Life*

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# HERE&HERE

**New York, NY**—Dr. Renne Richards, the transsexual tennis player and now wants to compete in the women's division in the United States Open Tennis Tournament, says she will not take the current sex chromosome test required to qualify for the tournament.

The 41 year-old ophthalmologist underwent sex-change surgery a year ago and changed names from Richard Raskin to Renne Richards.

Under the name Raskin, Dr. Richards was a top ranked mens player. The United States Tennis Association has protested that she should not compete because she is still genetically a male.

*The Milwaukee Journal*

**Bloomington, IN**—A new, annotated bibliography of works dealing with homosexuality and religion is available from the Center for University Ministry at Indiana University. Prepared by Collin Schwoyer, the bibliography seeks to provide a list of positive religious materials on homosexuality. The materials listed are for use both by gay people and by clergymen who deal with gays.

It can be obtained free by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Center for University Ministry, 1514 E 3rd St., Bloomington, IN 47401. Other bibliographies, dealing with such topics as homosexuality and art, history, law, and literature, are available for \$1.00.

*News Release*

**Los Angeles, CA**—Representatives of the Gay Rights Chapter of Southern California's American Civil Liberties Union met with Lt. Gov. M. Dymally on August 4th and he pledged that he would cast the deciding vote if legislation outlawing police-initiated sexual solicitation arrests were deadlocked in the Senate. Last year the Lt. Governor flew back to California to cast the tie-breaking vote which enacted California's Consenting Adults Law.

*News Release*

**New York, NY**—In a precedent-setting policy statement, Mario Cuomo, Secretary of State for the state of New York announced that his office will no longer discriminate against homosexuals in the annual issuance of more than 175,000 occupational licenses. This new licensing policy affects real estate brokers, notaries public, barbers, cosmetologists, private investigators, boxers, wrestlers, billiard parlor operators, and hearing aid dealers.

*Chicago Gay Life*

**San Francisco, CA**—Jimmy Carter and his clan were first fiddle at the *Mint* (a San Francisco gay establishment) when son Chip took part in their gay fund-raising tricycle race. Then it was discovered that the man who robbed the *Mint* of \$60.00 in March was nephew William Carter Spann, the family gay who is incarcerated on two counts of armed robbery.

*The San Francisco Sentinel*

**Los Angeles, CA**—The House of Representatives Subcommittee on Communications held hearings on August 17 on the television "family viewing" controversy, and for the first time in the Committee's history; representatives of the gay community were invited to testify. They were Ginny Vida, media director of the National Gay Task Force, and Dr. Newton Deiter, coordinator of the Gay Media Task Force in Hollywood.

*NGTF News Release*

**Annapolis, MD**—Toni Zimmerman has become Toni Zimmerwoman.

An Annapolis, Maryland judge agreed with the former Toni Zimmerman that her new name would more directly reflect her sex. Rejecting Zimmerperson as too impersonal, the 18 year old college student charged that the name Zimmerman hailed back to chauvinist ancestors and that it infringed on her dignity.

*The Bugle American*

**Montreal, Canada**—John Naber, who garnered 5 medals (4 gold and one silver) at the Olympics, delighted fans with his cavalier attitude and ever present smile.

However, the grin disappeared when a sportswriter, noting his flashy behavior, guitar playing and poetry writing, called him "fruitcake."

What makes you so uptight John?

*News West*

A gay tabloid crossed our desk recently touting an individual as "the most famous gay in America." It seemed to us that he didn't quite fill the bill. As we bantered names around, it became clear that the **GPU NEWS Staff** had no clear choice. Thus, we launched a poll.

A few words about the poll are in order. First, it was informal—conducted at a party, GPU Meeting, and several bars. Second, the nature of the question may have precluded anyone giving us a female name. Each person was asked: "Who, in your opinion, is the most famous gay in America?" Last and most important, we are **NOT** claiming any of these individuals are in fact homosexuals, but merely reporting the results. Only gay people were queried and the total questioned was 100. Here are the results:

Truman Capote—13%  
Gore Vidal—11%  
Liberace—11%  
Leonard Matlovich—5%  
David Cassidy—2%  
Paul Lynde—2%

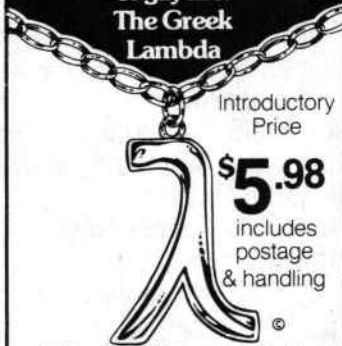
Receiving 1% were: Frank Kamenny, Neil Sedaka, Jerry Brown, Lily Tomlyn, Marlon Brando, and Jack Ford.

The other 50% either had no choice, named someone deceased and/or not American (Oscar Wilde, Charles Laughton, Pope Paul, etc.) and were disregarded.

As for our friend that sparked the question—not one person mentioned Lance Loud.

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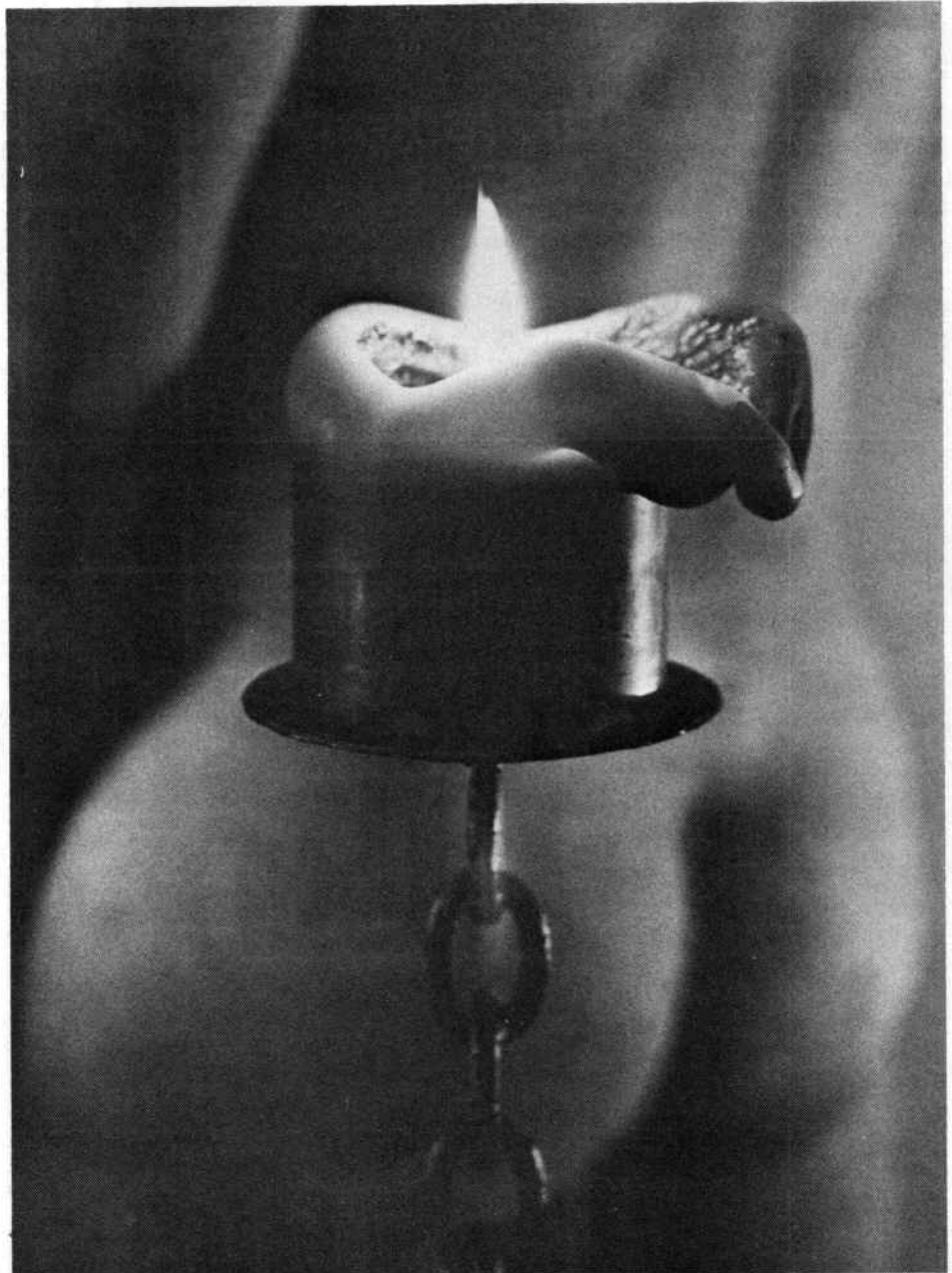
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# HERE&THERE

Washington, D. C.—The City Council unanimously passed an ordinance banning sexual orientation in awarding child custody in divorce cases. The ordinance also prohibits restrictions on visiting rights because of sexual orientation.

This is the first such law in the nation. Civil rights leaders and gay activists are credited with its passage.

*The San Francisco Sentinel*

New York, NY—Broadway dancer Gibson Roosevelt, 19, whose stage name was Keith Harris, was shot to death by his lover, Robert Ruddell, 34.

Ruddell, a physical education teacher, shot Roosevelt, called the police, and then shot and killed himself.

Roosevelt was currently in the Broadway musical hit *The Wiz*.

*Gay Scene*

Des Moines, IA—Three men were arrested and charged with disturbing the peace by winking at two men eating breakfast in a restaurant.

Police alleged the two diners became nauseated after they were winked at by Richard Harper, 20, John Leheny, 19, and Frank Kalina, 18.

*The San Francisco Chronicle*

Santa Barbara, CA—The largest and most influential of the organizations representing university professors, the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), voted at its annual meeting to oppose discrimination by colleges and universities on the basis of "sexual or affectional preference."

This action commits the Association to defend the rights of gay academics, including censure of offending institutions where necessary.

*NGTF News Release*

Hollywood, CA—NBC has postponed for half a season *Snip*, starring David Brenner as a hairdresser. The show, which has an on going gay character, will be held in the wings as a probable midseason replacement to give it "a greater chance for success. . .", said program chief Irwin Segelstein.

Segelstein said the last minute action was prompted by shifts ABC made in its schedule.

Oh well, there's always Mary Hartmann.

*The Milwaukee Journal*

Washington, D.C.—Spot checks made by *The Blade* refute statements made by former congressional aid Colleen Gardner that men as well as women are subjected to sexual pressures by Senators and Congressmen. Gay employees said that they neither personally experienced or heard of any cases where a male employee was threatened with his job if he did not agree to engage in sexual relations.

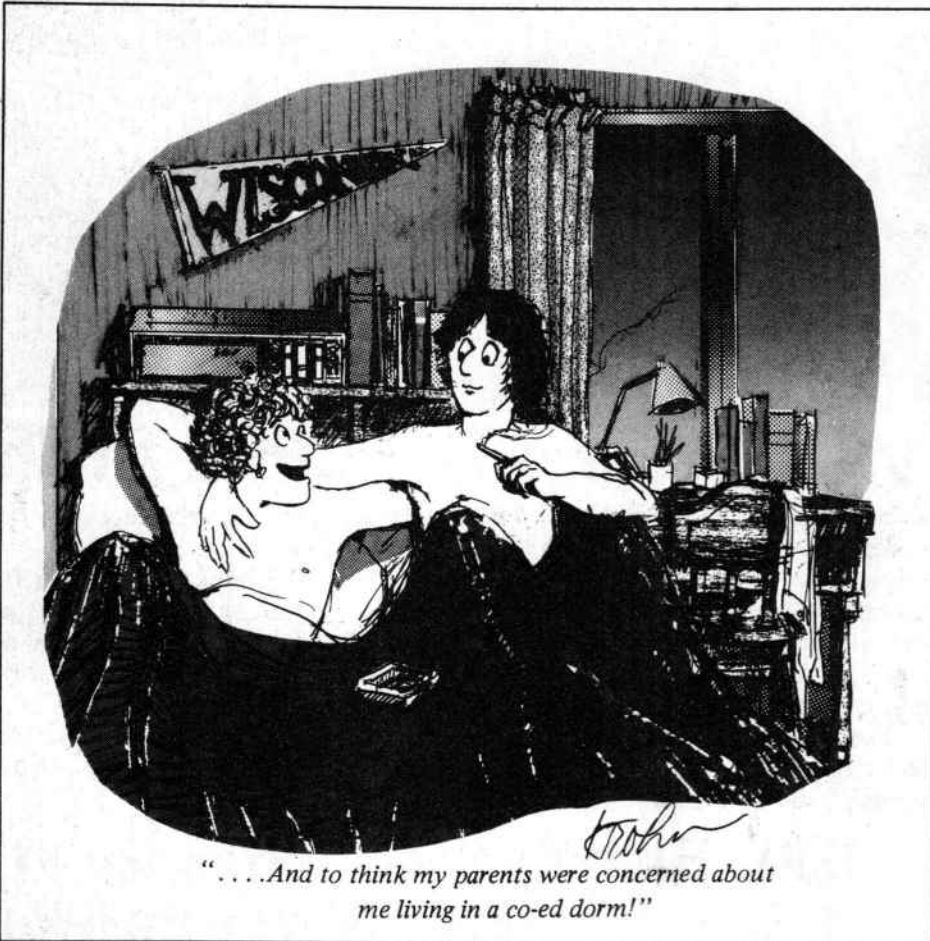
Gary Aldridge, openly gay legislative assistant to California Senator Allan Cranston said, "I've been working on the Hill for five years, and have been publicly gay for four of those five years, and I haven't even heard any rumors about men going to bed with Congressmen or Senators." Craig Thigpen, aid to Rep. Bella Abzug, also doubted Ms. Gardner's statement.

One gay staffperson commented: "The chances for blackmail are so great that a Congressman would have to be crazy to do something like this."

*The Blade*

Providence, RI—Raymond Dempsey, Jr., 27 who says he hates prostitution but seeks "the opportunity for personal encounter," says he will file a sex discrimination suit against a massage parlor because it denied him a job massaging women.

*The Milwaukee Journal*



"...And to think my parents were concerned about me living in a co-ed dorm!"

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## THE Beer Garden

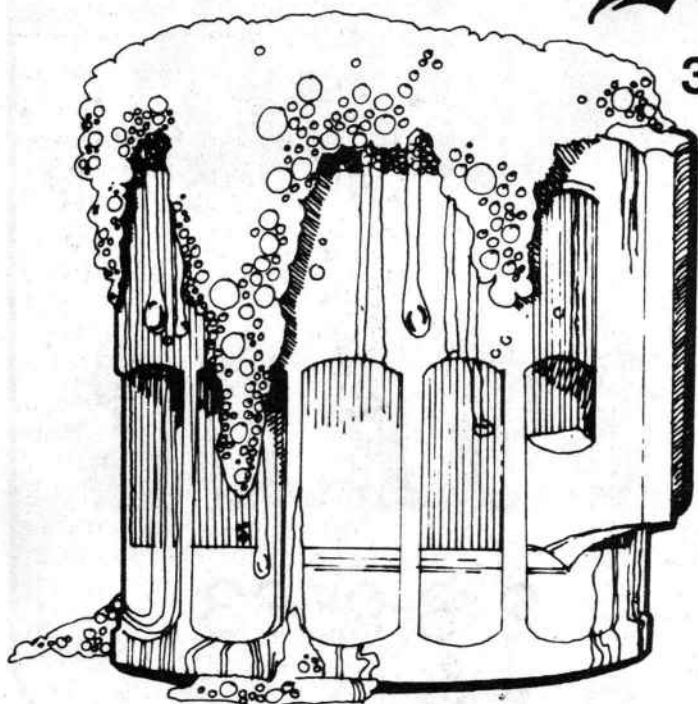
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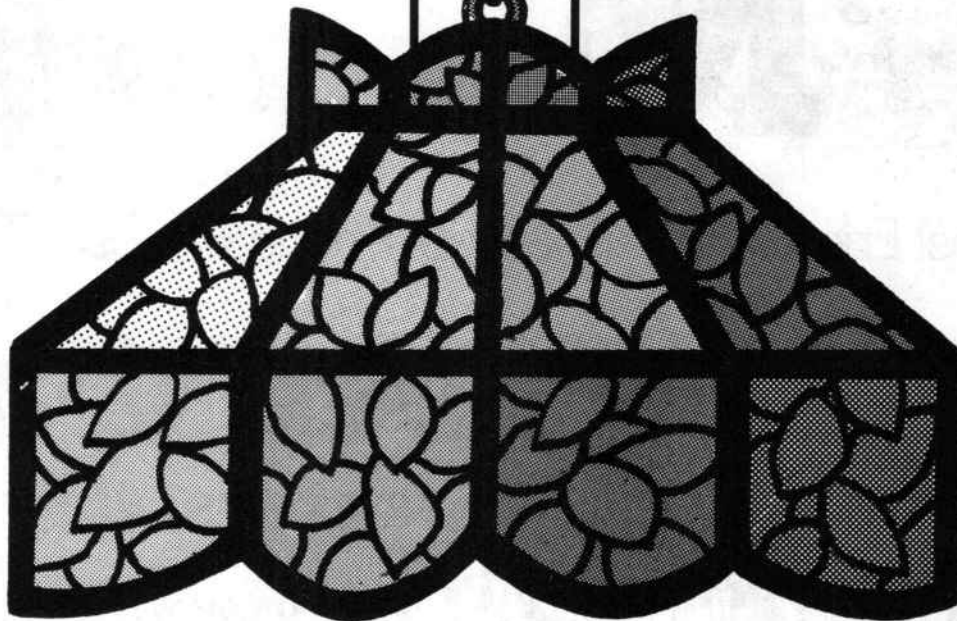
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# REVIEW

(From page 25)

the thigh. After trying once again to get Edward to accompany him to the illegal after-hours bar, he identified himself as a police officer and placed him under arrest.

Step by step Baskett details his decision not to meekly plead guilty, but to fight and his ensuing loss of the case and its various appeals. From police mistreatment and lying police officers to unsympathetic juries and judges, a picture of bias and injustice against gays appears. In the end, the U.S. supreme Court refused to hear his final appeal, leaving him more convinced than ever that he was right.

His book is an eloquent appeal to the general public; all the more effective because he is not a professional writer. (He used the services of writer and editor James A. Warren) It leaves no doubt that he is telling the truth.

Readers might fault Edward Eugene Baskett for giving sermons on his religious beliefs too often in these pages, but can only admire him for his courage and tenacity in trying to right a wrong. I urge all gay people to read this book and then to pass it on to their non-gay friends.

## NAVY (From page 2)

Officers in the Judge Advocates Office said, "This is obviously open for interpretation."

Confused? So are we, but experts agree that according to the above statement there is no real change in the Navy's discharge policy.

The Navy's reaction to our simple question, "Has policy been changed so that discharges for homosexuals are not mandatory?" could lead one to believe that while some small changes in administrative procedure for administrative discharges (not for discharges under Court Martial) are being effected, the Navy is not yet ready to make any real changes in policy.



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## CALENDAR

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- September 1 Movie Night, Milwaukee Club Bath, 704-A W. Wisconsin 10 PM.
- September 6 No meeting Gay Peoples Union (Labor Day)
- September 7 Discussion "Gays in Prison" led by Ron Endersby, editor Gaycon Newsletter, West Side Discussion Group, 37 Ninth Avenue at 14th St., New York City.
- September 8 Movie Night, Milwaukee Club Bath, (see above)
- September 10 Silver Star Club Night, Wreck Room, 266 E. Erie, Milwaukee
- September 11-12 Visit GPU Booth at Brady Street Days, Milwaukee.
- September 13 Monthly Business Meeting, Gay Peoples Union, Milwaukee 8 PM, Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell.
- September 14 Wisconsin Primary Elections—Be sure to vote!
- September 15 Movie Night, Milwaukee Club Bath (see above)
- September 17 Maturity, a group for older gays, meets in Chicago—Write them at Room 1508, 100 N. LaSalle, Chicago, IL 60602 for more details.
- September 18-19 Third Annual Lesbian Writers Conference, First Unitarian Church, Chicago.
- September 20 Regular Gay Peoples Union Meeting.
- September 22 Movie Night, Milwaukee Club Bath (see above)
- September 25 Free VD checks at Milwaukee Club Bath given by GPU Examination Center for VD—after midnight.
- September 27 Regular Meeting—Gay Peoples Union—Milwaukee
- September 29 Movie Night, Milwaukee Club Bath (see above)

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A feminist journal published monthly. 25¢ each. \$3 per year. c/o Women's Coalition, 2211 E. Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee, Wis. 53211.

### Dignity—Milwaukee

Catholic Mass with discussion group following—Every Sunday at 7:30 PM., Newman Center, 2528 E. Linnwood.

### Forker Motorcycle Club

"A Men and Women Riding Club" Meets every second Sunday of the month. For information write 5816 W. Carmen Ave., Milwaukee, Wi 53218

### Gay Alcoholics Anonymous

Meetings Sundays at 6PM in the social hall of the Newman Center, 2528 E. Linnwood. Call 271-5273 and ask for group 94.

### Gay Peoples Union, Inc.

Meetings every Monday at 7:30 PM at the Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell, Business meetings the first Monday of each month. Call 271-5273 or write P.O. Box 92203, Milwaukee, Wi 53202.

### GPU Examination Center for VD

Free V.D. screening. Open Wed. Fri. & Sat. 8 to 11 PM. Farwell Center, 1568 N Farwell. Total Confidentiality.

### Grapevine

A lesbian/feminist action core. Meets Thursdays at 8 PM at Women's Center 2211 E. Kenwood Blvd., Dances every 1st Saturday of the month at Center. Call Women's Crisis Line 964-7535 for more specific information.

### Milwaukee Health Department Social Hygiene Clinic

841 N. Broadway, Room 110  
Phone: 278-3631

Clinic hours: Monday & Thursday from 11:30 AM to 7:15 PM; Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 AM to 11:15 AM and 12:45 PM to 4:00 PM.

### Silver Star Motorcycle Club

Business meetings every 2nd Sunday of the month. Affiliated with W.B.C. Write PO Box 1176 Milwaukee, Wi 53201  
Club night every 2nd Friday at The Wreck Room.

### UWM Gay Community

Meetings Wednesdays at 7:30 PM in Union E260, Write c/o Student Union, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milw. 53211.

## WISCONSIN

### Fox Valley Gay Alliance

Serving Appleton—Oshkosh area. Meets twice monthly, operates Gay Helpline (414-233-2948) For information write: PO Box 332, Menasha, Wi 54952

### Lesbian Switchboard

306 N. Brooks (UYMCA)  
Madison, Wi 53715  
(608) 257-7378 —7-10 PM

### Madison Gay Center

1001 University Avenue  
Madison, Wi. 53715  
(608) 257-7575

### Renaissance of Madison Inc.

913 Spring Street  
Gay V.D. Clinic. Free screening and treatment every Tuesday evening 7:30 to 9:30.

## CHICAGO

### Beckman House

Community Center/Switchboard, 3519 N. Halstead St., 929-4357 Daily 7-11 PM.

### Daughters of Bilitis

Lesbian group. Box 2043, Melrose Park, Ill 60164

### Dignity/Chicago

Catholic Mass, Sunday's 7PM, 824 West Wellington, Phone 525-3564 or write Box 11261, Chicago, Ill 60611.

### Gay News and Events Line

Daily recorded news message. 427-1234  
343 S. Dearborn, Chicago, Ill Rm 1719.

### Gay VD Clinic

**Diagnosis and treatment**  
Every Wednesday evening 7PM at  
1250 W. Belden

### Mattachine Midwest

Box 924, Chicago, Il 60690 337-2424

### One of Chicago, Inc.

Box 537, Chicago, Il 60690. Meets 2nd Tuesday 8PM, 4221 W. Irving.

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**FRANCE: Jeune Francais (ne comprenant pas l'anglais) voudrait correspondre avec des americains francophones.** Echange de photos possible. Ecrire: Dominique Massegli; 47, rue Camille Jullian, 13004, Marseille, France.

**Brownsville/Mata-Moros, Mexico.** Need guide, fly in from Dallas. Can do? Hank Box 64902, Dallas, TX 75206.

**For money or love: Boy Prostitution in America.** Introduction by Senator Bayh. \$8.95 + .75 post & handling from Athena Books Limited, Box 26, Carlstadt, NJ, 07073.

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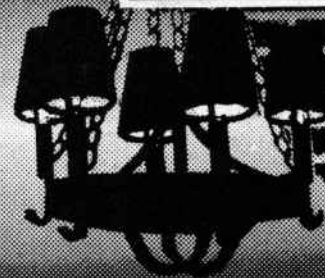
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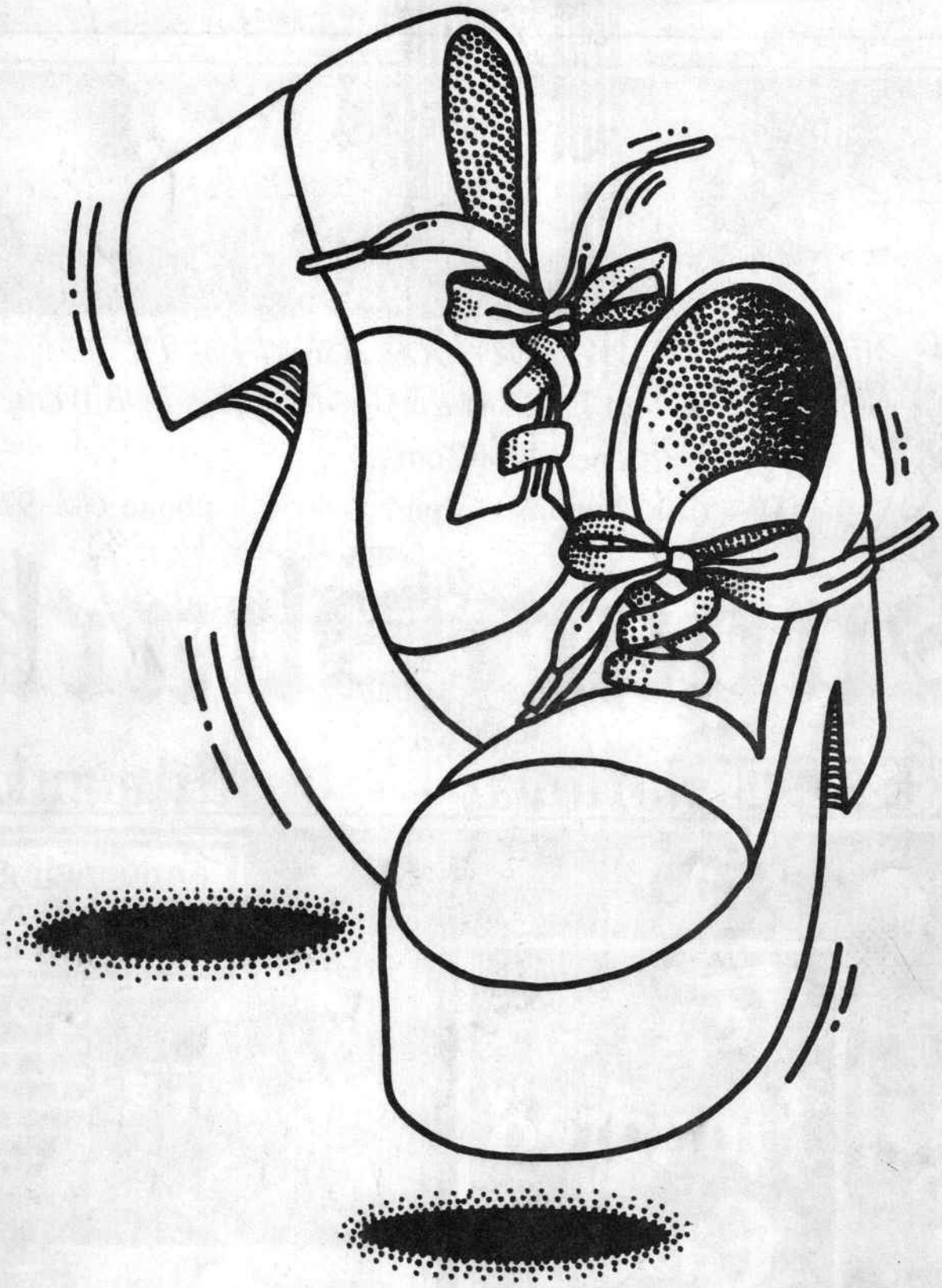
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