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GPU NEWS

December 1979 75¢



IN THIS ISSUE

FICTION by David Mitchell
COMMENT by Brian McNaught
POETRY by Darryl Golden
THEATER: Tuscon, Minneapolis



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ASBURY PARK CHURCH

Asbury Park, NJ—This community has its first gay-oriented church as a result of six years work on the part of the Rev. Jim Beers. Beers' efforts began in 1976 when he began holding religious services at the old Asbury-Hudson Hotel. From this beginning grew the present Church of the Blessed Assurance.

The church has a core membership of about a dozen persons, maintains a theology of "mainstream Christianity," and is still without a regular church building. Its services are generally preceded by discussions of some aspect of gay life.

At one time, the church was affiliated with the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, but the MCC national organization did not think that there was a sufficient gay community to support a church in Asbury Park. "We broke away, because they felt we weren't necessary here," Beers notes, adding: "I always think of Asbury Park as a gay mecca. There are four gay bars, a gay disco, and a gay bath house here."

Rev. Beers said that the local gay community is out of the closet to the extent of going to the bars. "We can't have a gay theater here," he explained. "People are afraid for their jobs and everything else. I say, 'I don't understand why



REV. JIM BEERS

people don't come out.' They say, 'Hey, you don't have to worry,' though I do worry—to some extent."

"We need to unite gay people to discuss and fight for our lives," the minister added, "but our main need for the moment is to get a place of our own." Blessed Assurance Church can be contacted by writing to P.O. Box 1051, Asbury Park, NJ 07712. Rev. Beers' phone number is (201) 776-7043.

ASKEW OPPOSED

Washington, DC—The Gertrude Stein Democratic Club of Washington has written to President Carter expressing its opposition to his nomination of Reubin Askew to the Cabinet-level office of Special Representative for Trade Negotiations.

Tom Bastow, the Club's president, announced: "During the spring of 1977, Mr. Askew went out of his way to ally himself with Anita Bryant's Dade County campaign against the basic rights of gay Americans. . . No group of

U.S. citizens should sit quietly by when a politician who has participated in a hate campaign against them is rewarded with high office."

The Club is urging gay political groups around the country to write the U.S. Senate Finance Committee opposing Askew's confirmation. A copy of their resolution, together with further information on Askew, is available from: GSDC, 907 Sixth Street SW, Washington, DC 20024.

ONOFRE APPEAL

New York, NY—Margot Karle, of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc., and co-counsel Bonnie Strunk of Syracuse, (NY), have appealed the decision of the Onondaga County Court denying Ronald Onofre's challenge to the constitutionality of New York's consensual sodomy statute. Onofre was arrested for engaging in sexual activity in the privacy of his home with a consenting adult male.

The attorneys will be arguing in the Fourth Department of the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court that the statute violates Onofre's rights to privacy, due process, and equal protection; and that it violates the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment because of its religious bases. Briefs were submitted in late July, and were argued under the New York and Federal Constitutions.

Lambda representatives have indicated that the case is becoming very costly, and that its success will rely on further contributions. Anyone wishing to contribute to the costs of overturning this obstacle to attainment of gay rights can send donations to Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc., 22 East 40th St., New York, NY 10016.

ELECTIONS

Milwaukee, WI—The December 3 business meeting of Gay Peoples Union will feature elections to fill two posts on the Board of Directors. Candidates for officers will also be nominated.

Bylaw changes under consideration would eliminate monthly business meetings, substituting an annual business meeting. Changes in the election system and the number of members on the Board are also under consideration. The proposed changes in the by-laws will be debated at the December 3 meeting with final vote being taken in February.

C OF E REPORT

London, UK—Having deliberated the subject of gay priests for almost five years, the Church of England has at last made public its report, which recommends that gays not be barred from the priesthood, and declares that gay relationships can be justified. Release of the 34,000 word report and its attached 3,500 word appendix of critical comments followed by only a month a decision by the U.S. Episcopal Church that it is "not appropriate" to ordain practicing gays.

The English report did reject the concept of marriage between gays, but also recommended that the age of consent for gays be lowered from 21 to 18 in Great Britain. This would still place the age of consent for gays two years higher than that for heterosexuals (16).

MORE INS FUMBLING

New York, NY—U.S. customs officers harassed two Italian women at Kennedy International Airport when they arrived on September 5 to visit friends in New York City. Despite the fact that the women produced proof that they had the funds necessary to return to Italy after their visit, the guards searched their suitcases and found one copy of **Gayyellow Pages** and some letters with addresses of feminist groups in them.

The guards told the women, "If you are lesbians, you have to go back." They then read through all of the personal letters which the women were carrying, and detained them for forty minutes before allowing them to enter New York.

When the women arrived at their friend's home, they phoned the New York City office of the National March on Washington for advice. According to Joyce Hunter, who answered the phone, they were crying and hysterical. They declined to give their names for fear of repercussions after they returned to Italy.

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The Rt. Rev. John Yates, Bishop of Gloucester, who led the panel which produced the report, said that it "reflects only the opinions of the people who produced it," noting that the subject of homosexuality will come before the general synod in February of 1981. This general synod is a leadership council of clerics and laity for the Church of England. Bishop Yates went on to add: "The best evidence we have is that about one in twenty people is homosexual. In many countries homosexuals often have been treated with contempt and abhorrence and we believe it is time to put that right in terms of justice and compassion. . . None of us have our sexuality entirely right." The report waffles on the issue of a gay priest entering into a permanent relationship with another person. Since gay marriages are rejected, it recommends that the priest offer his resignation on principle, leaving his bishop to decide whether or not to accept it. Critics of the report claimed that, if the church believes a practicing gay priest should not continue in his priesthood, then it should assume the responsibility for removing him and for stating the reasons, rather than leaving the entire issue to the discretion of each bishop.

YELLOW PAGES

Los Angeles, CA—The Gay Rights Chapter of ACLU reports that something new appears in the 1979-80 two-book edition of Pacific Telephone Company's Los Angeles Yellow Pages telephone directory. The first openly gay advertisement can be found in the M-through-Z book of the directory, under the section entitled "Television and Radio—Dealers & Services." Despite initial opposition by the phone company, the ad was finally accepted from Gene's TV Store of Hollywood.

GAY WISCONSIN

Milwaukee, WI—The Entertainers Club of Milwaukee (ECOM) presented its annual Miss Gay Wisconsin—Mr. Gay Wisconsin contest on October 27 at the Centre Stage in downtown Milwaukee.

Raphael Hillebrand, Mr. Groovy Guy 1978-79 and Tina Jasmine, Miss Gay Wisconsin 1978-79, were presented in farewell promenades before the 13 Miss Gay Wisconsin and 8 Mr. Gay Wisconsin candidates appeared for the first judging.



GPU News photo by Bob Stocki

The second judging featured the Miss Gay Wisconsin candidates in evening wear and the Mr. Gay Wisconsin candidates in swim suits.

The five finalists for Miss Gay Wisconsin competed with short talent presentations and the five finalists for Mr. Gay Wisconsin answered questions calling for opinions.

The excitement of the evening reached its peak as winners were announced in reverse order and Janelle (Mahogany) became Miss Gay Wisconsin 1979-80 and Jim Held became Mr. Gay Wisconsin 1979-80.

LACHS APPOINTED

Sacramento, CA—California Governor Jerry Brown has made history by appointing an out-of-the-closet gay man to the Superior Court Bench of Los Angeles. The appointee, Stephen M. Lachs, is a member of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Gay Community Services Center, a member of the Gay Rights Chapter of ACLU, and a founding member of the Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles.

Lachs, who has been a Superior Court commissioner in the juvenile division since 1975, ran unsuccessfully for the L.A. Municipal court in 1978. Sexual orientation was frequently brought up during that campaign.

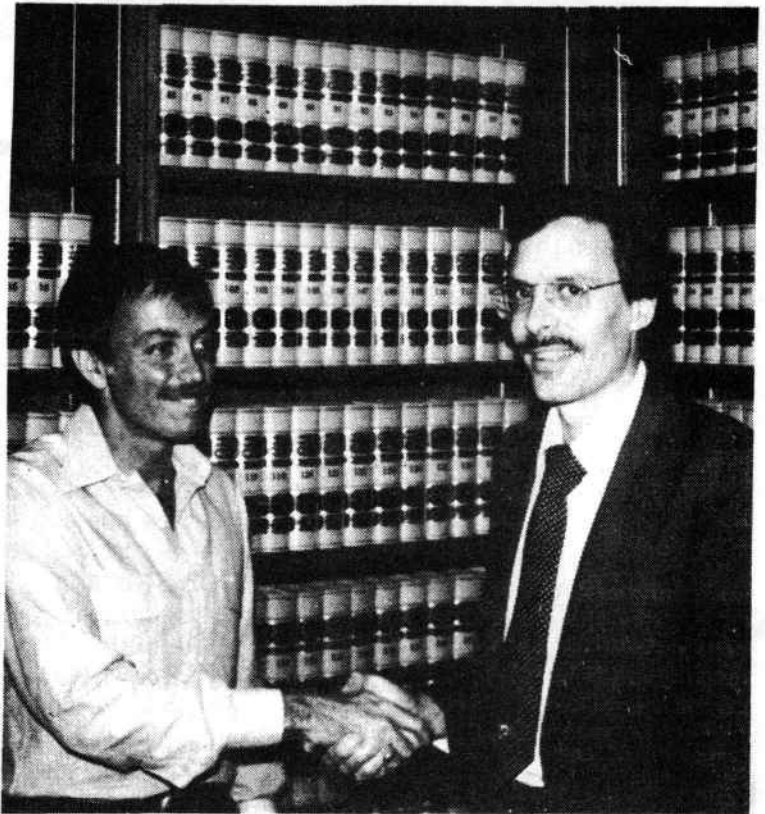
The appointment of a gay to the bench is only the first of two to be made by Brown according to a commitment which the Governor made earlier this year. The other is slated to be in Northern California.

Lachs, age 39, does not have a lover. He says that his two dogs, Kamby and Bilbo, were quite "miffed" because they were not mentioned in the press release issued by the Governor's office. "After all, the usual thing is to mention the spouse and the kids," he said in defense of the dog's attitudes.

FOOTBALL

Boulder, CO—Boulder Gay Liberation at the University of Colorado has announced that it has recruited and entered both a football team and a volleyball team in competition in the University's general collegiate intramural league. All members of both teams are gay. In addition, the group has organized a cheerleading team, "The Lavendar Express."

The goals of the teams include "exploring ways in which the group mentality of team sports and the individuality of gay liberation can be merged in a mutually reinforcing way."



Attorney Thomas F. Coleman (right) congratulates Commissioner Stephen Lachs (left) in court chambers upon learning that Mr. Lachs had been appointed to be a judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court. Lachs is an upfront Gay appointee.

GAYS COURTED

Washington, DC—According to a bylined article in **The Blade**, organizers of the national committee to draft Senator Edward Kennedy for the presidency are planning to court gay votes for the Senator. Leonard Shull, National Director of Americans for Democratic Action, an organization which has already endorsed the national gay rights bill, is also serving as secretary of the Kennedy Matching Pledge Fund, a newly formed draft-Kennedy organization.

Speaking to members of the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club in September, Shull urged members to join the Kennedy bandwagon. The meeting was held at the Gay Community Center in Washington. Shull announced that Senator Kennedy is expected by members of his staff to speak out soon in favor of gay rights.

Although Kennedy has not yet take an explicit stance on the

issue of gay rights, last year he was one of the leaders in the Senate's passage of a criminal code reform package which repealed sections of existing statutes which allowed federal law enforcement agents to enforce state sodomy laws under certain conditions. Staff members of **The Blade** were unable to reach either Senator Kennedy or his Press Secretary (Tom Southwick) for confirmation of an impending platform statement favoring gay rights.

Shull warned that gays and other minorities would find themselves in "serious trouble" if President Carter is renominated, claiming that a Carter candidacy would result in the smallest turnout of Democratic voters in the nation's history. This could result, he added, in loss of seats for many local and national legislators who have already taken a positive position on gay rights.

WHITE APPEAL

San Francisco, CA—The appeal of convicted murderer and former Supervisor Dan White for a reduction of sentence prompted Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver to urge the District Attorney's office and the City Attorney to fight to sustain the present sentence. Supervisor Silver commented: "A ridiculously light penalty for an outrageous double murder should not be further reduced. Our whole court system and the rule of law have already been shaken by the often repeated observation that 'White got away with murder.'"



District Attorney candidate Carol Ruth Silver

Supervisor Carol Silver is a candidate for the D.A.'s job in the upcoming elections. Gays continue to protest the trials of the May 21 rioters, who are being prosecuted by D.A. Freitas, and some of who could receive longer sentences than Dan White. Legal moves to disqualify Freitas from these prosecutions have so far failed.



City Hall demonstrators against victims of May 21st police riots, who are being charged with crimes that could put them away for longer than murderer Dan White.

Freitas' political career hit an all-time low with the appearance of a corrosive attack upon him by **San Francisco Chronicle** columnist Charles McCabe. In a column entitled "Anybody but Freitas," McCabe stated that the chief reason for removing "Holy Joe" from office was that "he presided over one of the most noted miscarriages

of justice in this century—the wrist-slapping of Dan White for cold-blooded double murder."

Calling the Dan White trial a farce, "the sound of one hand clapping," McCabe concluded that Freitas' return to the electorate for another four years would be a "bit of untrammelled chutzpah."

(Photos from **Bay Area Reporter**)

STUDENTS WIN IN TN

Nashville, TN- A gay rights group has the right, under the First Amendment, to be recognized by Austin Peay State University. This ruling has come from Federal Judge Thomas A. Wiseman, Jr., who ordered university officials to give the Student Coalition for Gay Rights the same privileges as any other campus group. These will include the use of university facilities for meetings and seminars.

As reported earlier this year in **GPU News**, the student organization, with the assistance of various

civil rights groups in Tennessee, had filed suit against the APSU administration for its refusal to recognize the organization despite decisions by official campus committees that it should be recognized. "What the university [thinks] about [advocacy of] homosexuality, what the community or legislature might [think] about the university's action in this regard... cannot serve as justification for the abridgement of that advocacy," Judge Wiseman wrote in his ruling.

BOSTON ARRESTS

Boston, MA—Arrests of gay men by Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) police patrols have reached unprecedented proportions, and there are no indications that the harassment is about to stop. The arrests, on charges of "unnatural acts" or "open and gross lewdness," have taken place in virtually every area of the city frequented by gays, especially near the city's bathhouses, and have been made both by plainclothes and uniformed MDC officers.

The MDC police have consistently been one of the most problematic of the New England forces, for gay people. In the past some control was exercised under the administration of former Governor Michael Dukakis, whose appointees were generally sympathetic to violations of civil rights of gays.



Barney Frank has lodged a protest with the MDC.

The new Governor, Edward King, who was strongly supported by the MDC police union in his contest against Dukakis, seems to be pay-

ing gays back for their lack of support in his campaign.

Attorney John Ward has filed suit in Middlesex Superior Court accusing the MDC of discriminatory enforcement of the law concerning sexual activity. Representative Barney Frank has also lodged a protest with MDC Commissioner Guy Carbone. Said Frank: "I know that there is little if any inconvenience at all caused to others by sexual activity in the Esplanade. . . If sexual activity. . . is a legitimate problem, because of noise or imposition on others, then it should logically lead to police action against heterosexuals and homosexuals."

Rep. Frank concluded his letter by calling the wave of arrests a "monumental waste of scarce public funds."

SANTA CLARA ELECTION

Santa Clara, CA—A double referendum next June in Santa Clara County will provide the nation's first test of whether citizens who reject anti-gay legislation will accept positive legislation in support of gay rights. The Santa Clara Board of Supervisors and the San Jose City Council called the elections, as expected, on the county and the city gay-rights ordinances which they had adopted in August. Both rejected options of rescinding the measures in order to prevent a popular vote.

The Board and the Council were forced to either rescind the ordinances or to set elections on them because of the successful petition drives by the Committee of Concerned Citizens against the Sexual Orientation Ordinances. This group presented 49,500 valid signatures (37,092 needed) for a county referendum, and 23,420 (18,234 needed) for a city election.

Santa Clara County defeated last year's Brigg's Initiative (Proposition 6) against gays by a 61-39% majority. While the Briggs

Initiative was widely viewed as vindictively anti-gay, political observers are unsure of the outcome of a referendum on pro-gay ordinances. Both gay ordinances - now suspended - would prohibit discrimination against gays in employment, housing, and public accommodations.

The Santa Clara Valley Coalition for Human Rights, an anti-6 group last year, has been revived to be the umbrella group to fight the referenda. Contributions to their efforts should be sent to: Box 2066, San Jose, CA 95109.

BRYANT

Los Angeles, CA—Anita Bryant has completed the taping of a two-hour special produced by Dick Clark and entitled "The Sensational, Shocking, Wild and Crazy Seventies." The special will air on NBC in January, and will include the Village People, Sonny Bono, and Leif Garrett. It will be Bryant's first network TV appearance in more than three years.



AMNESTY ADDS GAYS

New York, NY—Amnesty International has extended its "prisoners of conscience" category to include violations against gay persons. The organization, which won the Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts in monitoring violations of gay human rights by local and national governments worldwide.

Thought to have been decisive in Amnesty International's reassessment were the highly publicized executions of at least twelve gay men in Iran, as well as the condition of gays in the Soviet Union,

FBI FIRING

Washington, DC—A recent ruling by the three-judge U.S. Court of Appeals here indicates that the FBI acted improperly in firing a gay man, who was employed as a mail sorter, without granting him a hearing. The ruling reinstates a suit brought by Donald Ashton, who was fired by the FBI in 1975 when it was learned that he was gay. Ashton's suit challenges the right of the FBI to fire gay employees working in the Bureau's non-investigatory sections.

The opinion, written by Judge Carl McGowan, claimed that Ashton "could properly be dismissed only for failing to perform his duties satisfactorily and without prejudice to the FBI's achievement of its law enforcement mission." Judge McGowan also noted that the FBI "seems preoccupied with what might well be thought the private lives of its employees," because of the mass of FBI regulations dealing with "grooming and demeanor, outside employment or business ventures, payments of debts, and marriages, divorces, annulments, births, and name changes."

Ashton worked for the FBI from October 3, 1973 to January 10, 1975. According to FBI officials he "voluntarily" signed a letter of resignation after the Bureau learned of his homosexuality.

where male homosexual acts are punishable by up to five years confinement. AI is particularly interested in a recent case where a Leningrad poet was sentenced to four years in a Soviet labor camp for writing poems dealing with his love for another man.

Edmund Lynch, Information Secretary of the International Gay Association in Dublin, which announced AI's policy change, cautioned that it will not cover cases such as lewd solicitation convictions, but that the organization would continue to construe its "prisoners of conscience" category narrowly. The impact of the shift in AI's policy is not yet known, but a global information network will assist the international gay movement in exposing silent imprisonments, torture, and executions of gay persons throughout the world.

COP SENTENCED

San Francisco, CA—SFPD Officer Daniel Marr has been given a stern tongue lashing and a stiff sentence following his conviction on charges stemming from an incident at Peg's Place, one of the city's popular lesbian bars. The bar's owner, Erlinda Symaco, and her lover, Arlene Levine, charged Marr and several other men with attempting to enter Peg's just to "cause trouble." Trial testimony revealed that the women were verbally and physically assaulted by the all-male party. Marr was convicted by a jury following a two-and-a-half week trial on one count of disturbing the peace and one count of battery.

Judge Edward Stern lived up to his surname when he sentenced the police officer. "We are all entitled to live peaceful, quiet, and dignified lives," he said. "Your behavior on the night in question was nothing but an attempt to disrupt the lives of others. . . . It doesn't take a great deal of manhood to be



Michael Kelley (left), one of the off-duty policeman involved in the Peg's incident. Kelly was not criminally charged.

a bully."

Judge Stern then delivered a sentence which startled both the officer and his attorney. He sentenced Marr to three years supervised probation, with reports from the probation officer to Stern himself every 60 days. Marr is also to pay a fine of \$1,000, and to do 200 hours of community service work.

After the judge left the court, one of Marr's friends referred to him as a "cocksucker." Marr is only the first of several police officers charged in the harassment incident. All are (or were) vice squad officers.

FRENCH FESTIVAL

Paris, France—French gays are planning on ending the year with a festival entitled "Festival des Expressions Homosexuelles." Organized by CHE-Halles, the festival will run from December 27-31, and will provide an opportunity for painters, sculptors, and photographers to display their works. The organizing collective also plans to run a brief season of gay films as part of the festival.

GAYS SCRATCHED

Washington, DC—Carter officials here have quietly sabotaged efforts to include gay families in a planned National Conference on Families. The move by Carter staffers came when the National Advisory Committee, which was established to advise the administration on the conference, voted not to enumerate such diverse family groups as single parent families, poor families, and gay families for special attention at the conference.

Sources close to the conference planning claim that the conference chairperson, Jim Guy Tucker, called some of the forty-one members of the National Advisory Committee and asked them not to approve any resolution which would have included gay families. Tucker told committee members that the Carter administration feared a right-wing attack on the conference if gay families were even discussed.

Tucker, a former Congressman from Arkansas whom Carter personally appointed to head the con-

ference, told many advisory members, "How can we tell the governor of Nevada he has to have gays on his delegation to the conference?" One of those whom Tucker did not contact was San Franciscan Harold Yee, a member of the advisory committee with strong political ties in the gay community.

The National Coalition for the White House Conference on Fam-

ilies, an unofficial but highly influential group providing guidelines for the advisory committee, had voted unanimously to include gays. This group includes the U.S. Catholic Conference, American Red Cross, and the National Gay Task Force. White House staffers apparently decided that, despite the unanimity of its resolution, to scuttle the recommendation.

ISHERWOOD NIGHT

San Francisco, CA- Over 1,000 gay persons filled Everett Junior High School to capacity at \$5 a head to share an evening of readings and conversations with the celebrated septuagenarian, Christopher Isherwood. The author read the closing pages of his novel, **A Single Man** (published in the fifties), as well as the end of his recently published autobiography, **Christopher and His Kind**. He then spoke of the forthcoming segment of the auto-

biography: his experiences in Southern California in the 40's and 50's, and his spiritual awakening.

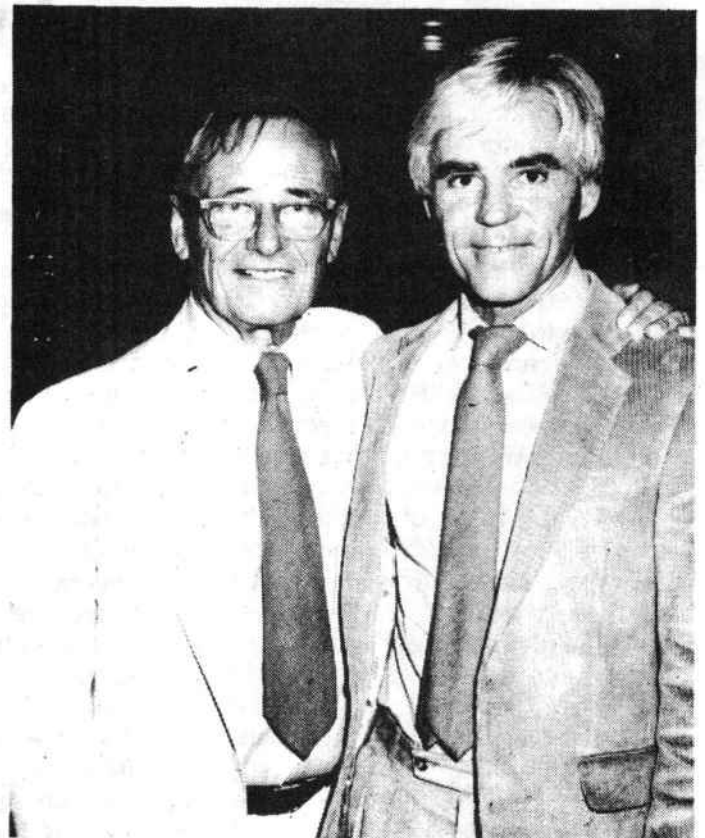
Isherwood was accompanied by his American lover, artist Don Bacardy. Signed Bacardy posters were on sale at the event, and a videotape was made of the talk and question period which followed. The event was a fund-raiser for Gay Rights Advocates, a legal defense fund which is defending the "May 21" rioters.

SD CHAPTER FOR GAU

San Diego, CA—More than 60 local professors, students, and academics have signed to join the newly formed San Diego Chapter of the Gay Academic Union. "Every month we just grow and grow," said Dr. Betty Berzon, national GAU president.

Individual GAU chapters generally meet in private homes and tend to be noted from city to city for various academic specialties. New York has a scholarship committee that meets regularly to discuss research, Los Angeles has a committee which discusses literature; in San Francisco, education is prominent; arts in Chicago; and, in Boston, law and politics.

People interested in further information about the San Diego Chapter of GAU may phone Dr. Mel Karmen at (714) 283-0501.



Author Christopher Isherwood and his lover, artist Don Bacardy, at recent GRA fund-raiser.

MORMON MILITIA

Provo, UT—Utah gays are claiming that the Mormon sect is trying to wipe them out, using a private police force at the church-owned Brigham Young University to harass them throughout the state. These claims are denied by both university president Dallin Oaks and the chief of the 24-officer BYU "security force."

But a former Mormon minister contends that he saw two of the BYU officers jotting down license numbers outside a gay bar, and a Mormon lawyer says that a client charged with sexual abuse was set up for arrest by what he calls BYU's "Mormon militia."



Dallin Oaks

The University Police, responsible only to church officials, last year were given investigative and arrest powers rivaling those of the State Police through a law passed by the legislature. The law, passed last May, pertains to all Utah colleges and universities which have security forces. The BYU force is particularly visible as the largest among private schools in the state, as well as the best equipped, with sophisticated surveillance units and many officers which serve off-campus regularly as deputy sheriffs (with uncertain authorization).

Security Chief Robert Kelshaw says that, now that the law is passed, he has no intention of using the



Robert Kelshaw

statewide police authority. He claims that his own police will strongly enforce all university and state laws forbidding "illicit sex." Mormon President Spencer Kimball added that homosexuality is "an abomination to God" which "corrodes the mind, snuffs out self-esteem and drags one down into darkness of anguish and unhappiness." He hopes that continued police pressure, on and off campus, will at least drive all gays away from campus.

Charges of gay harassment drew attention after the arrest of David Chipman, 24, who answered a letter in a gay newspaper which sought persons interested in forming a "BYU gay underground." Chipman answered the ad, met a man in the student center, and was later arrested by him. The man revealed that he was a BYU police officer posing as a gay. Kelshaw admits that a BYU detective was authorized to write the "gay underground" letter.

Chipman's attorney, Ron Stanger, himself a Mormon, says that his client was set up for arrest, and has moved for dismissal of the case on grounds of entrapment. The judge has taken the briefs for dismissal under advisement, and has indefinitely postponed Chipman's trial.

The American Civil Liberties Union has committed itself to challenging the Utah law, which in effect gives police powers to religiously controlled institutions. Shirley Pedler, Utah director of the

ACLU, commented: "The law is blatantly unconstitutional for allowing police power to be used to enforce views, if not exclusively limited to, at least included in church doctrine."

GORGEOUS GEORGE

Huntington, West VA- Gorgeous George, who used to wrestle in drag in the 1950s and 1960s with blond curls, pink tights, and effeminate mannerisms, has been "born again." Using his given name, George Grant, he told a crowd at Huntington that he was converted at a revival meeting in 1965, and has been a preacher since then.

George noted that gays used to attend many of his wrestling matches. "I could never stand them even touching me," he said, "I still can't. I'm firmly behind Anita Bryant. I believe she's a born-again Christian."

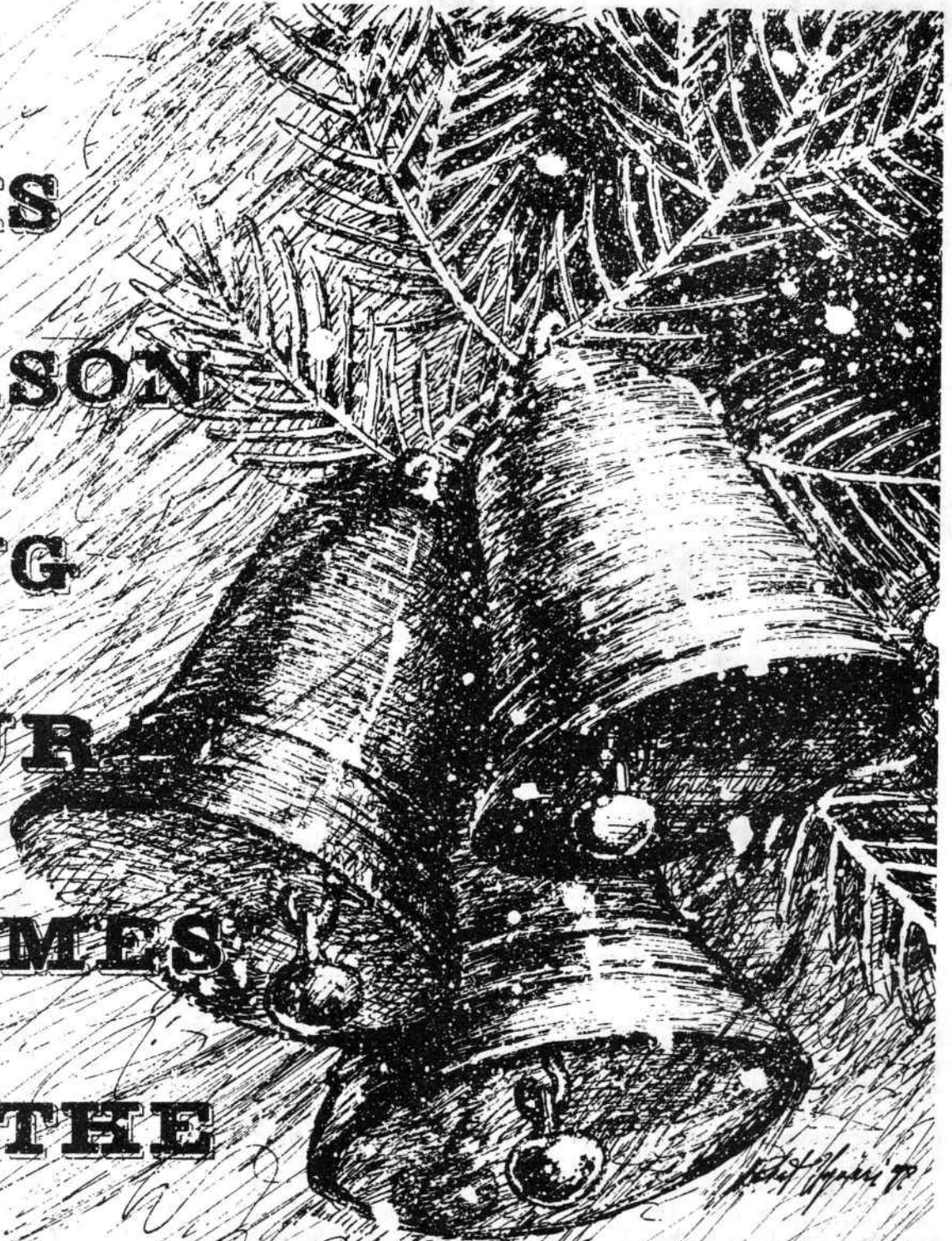


**Gorgeous George
as a wrestler, 1963**

President Carter, George insisted, is not a born-again Christian. "A horse knows another horse," he said. "A cow knows another cow, and a pig knows another pig. I'm a Christian, and I know that Jimmy Carter isn't a Christian. How could he be giving away the Panama Canal to a bunch of dope peddlers?"

George did not mention how a horse, cow, or a pig knows another horse, cow, or pig; but, for the record, it's basically a matter of smell.

**THIS
SEASON
RING
YOUR
CHIMES
AT THE
CLUB BATHS**



EDITORIAL

Thomas Vinew's "Sex in the Streets", which appeared in our November issue, has been the occasion of many letters suggesting that the article be reprinted for wider distribution. We are pleased and gratified that the article has drawn such positive response from individuals and gay organizations nationwide. Arrangements are under way with the Lambda Book Club to reprint the article in brochure format. It should be available early next year, and we'll alert readers when it is.

The series of monographs and photo essays on gay theater throughout the nation have also drawn positive response. Gay theater is an important component of gay culture, and its expansion is indeed welcome. Phoenix is only the most recent city where gay theater is making its voice heard; and, with the many Phoenixians who welcomed Theater for Gays there, we hope that their city will soon boast its own active and permanent gay theater group. The Out and About Theater's 1979 Season, also reported in this issue, was successful and well received in Minneapolis. We hope to continue our theater reports throughout the coming year, and extend our thanks to the many readers who have written with information, suggestions, and encouragement.

This issue's installment of **Reading Writing** continues the well received series by Paul Welles on gay books and publishing. We heartily agree with Paul that gays should become more involved in their own literature. In the past twelve issues of **GPU News** alone, we have reviewed over sixty books which deal, in one way or another, with the gay experience. At no time in the history of our civilization has so much been published for so few. If New Year's resolutions are in order, we encourage each of our readers to resolve to read at

least one good gay book monthly throughout the coming year. Following such a resolution would make each of us more humanly gay, not to mention the impact which it would have upon the publishing business itself. Such an impact would also provide sorely needed support for gay authors and artists everywhere. If you are not yet familiar with the Lambda Book Club, do ring in the New Year by writing to them for membership information and their basic list of gay literature.

Because of our printer's holiday schedule, we'll be going to press with our January issue on December 14; and, because of this, we have spent the past month working on both the December and January issues. On the drawing board for January are a study of gays and urban renewal by Alyn Hess, an essay on s/m by Donna Martin, and an absolutely splendid piece of fiction by Paul Welles, author of **Project Lambda**.

As we approach the New Year, there is no better time at which to extend our thanks to the many readers and supporters nationwide without whose assistance, interest, and support the work of **GPU News** would not be possible. We continue to grow in readership, maturity, and strength. Financial problems also continue to beset us, but in this we are little different from any nonprofit publication. We have managed to survive for nine years, and we promise to continue the battle against budget and time.

Finally, a special thank-you offer for present subscribers only. If you have gift shopping still to do, consider a gift subscription for one or more friends to **GPU News**. Present subscribers ordering gift subscriptions for friends at the regular rate of \$7.00 between now and Dec. 14 may order one GPU News Art Poster (either "Language of Oppression" or "Fighting the Dragon": see poster ad elsewhere in this issue) for themselves or as part of the gift at no extra cost. There is no coupon or ad for this

offer in this issue, because you must presently be on our subscription list to qualify. In writing to us, enclose \$7.00 (\$8.00 for foreign gifts) for each subscription and poster, tell us which poster, and who is to receive it (the subscriber or yourself). The gift subscription will begin with our January issue, and the poster will be mailed after Christmas (to avoid the Christmas mail glut); but a gift card will be sent to the recipient in your name **before Christmas**. For foreign subscription gifts, the card will be sent via airmail (posters and subscription copies are sent via surface mail). This is our way of thanking you for your support.

Our thanks to all of you, not just for reading and supporting **GPU News**, but for **being gay**. Best wishes to all of you for a most joyous holiday season.

Open Invitation

If you find yourself in Chicago with time to spare, if you need to talk to someone about a personal problem, or if you just want to rap, call **Mattachine Midwest**. We are a social-service organization serving the gay community with a myriad of activities to bring people together. All Mattachine functions are open to everyone. This means you do not have to be a member to enjoy the hospitality of Mattachine Midwest. Membership is comprised of all ages, professions, and races. We have a 24-hour telephone line manned by members ready to help with information, referrals, and services. If you want to learn more, drop us a line, or phone us anytime at (312) 337-2424. And remember, if you're visiting Chicago, drop by to visit us.

Mattachine Midwest
100 East Ohio Street
Second Floor
Chicago, IL 60611

FEEDBACK

[Editor's note: We are pleased to present letters from those in political office which were sent in response to inquiries by a Virginia reader concerning their position on gay rights legislation.]

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your recent letter and enclosed news articles. As you well know, the possibility of a Presidential bid involves a number of important considerations. In assessing both political implications and public opinion, I continue to rely on the comments, suggestions, and analyses I receive.

Very few issues are as difficult or as controversial as the question of gay rights in this country. While I believe that homosexuals should not be denied equal protection under the laws, I also do not feel that the issue can be treated simply as a matter of personal choice with no social or moral justification for the country as a whole. In other words, I believe that the issue must be considered on a case-by-case basis in an effort to weight those competing concerns.

Again, thank you for taking the time to write. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,
Howard H. Baker, Jr.
United States Senate
(Tennessee)

Dear Sir:

Thank you for staying in touch.

I appreciate knowing of your support for HR 2074, legislation which prohibits discrimination based on an individual's affectional or sexual orientation. This legislation has been referred to the House Committees on Judiciary and Education and Labor. No action has been taken and none is scheduled at this time.

H. Con. Res. 166, which expresses the sense of the Congress that homosexual acts and the class of individuals who advocate such

conduct shall never receive special consideration or a protected status under law, is also pending in the House Judiciary Committee.

You may be sure I will monitor closely any action taken on either measure and will keep your views in mind should I have the opportunity to vote on them.

Please continue to give me the benefit of your thinking.

Paul Trible
U.S. House of
Representatives
(Virginia)

Dear Sir:

The only bill that I am aware of that deals directly with the issue of homosexual rights would include "sexual preference" within the list of characteristics that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits. If I ever get the opportunity to vote on that bill - and I doubt that I ever will - I will vote against it.

I hope that is a satisfactory answer to the question raised in your letter of July 28, 1979.

Sincerely
Jake Garn
U.S. Senate
(Utah)

Dear Sir:

Just a note to acknowledge and thank you for your letter.

Although I do not advocate the homosexual lifestyle, I feel that a person's sexual or affectional performance need not hinder job performance. I trust such civil rights will be protected at the local level.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely Yours,
Bob Dole
U.S. Senate
(Kansas)

Dear Sir:

Thank you for contacting me concerning legislation favorable to homosexuals.

While it is essential that we guard against discrimination, and protect those rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights, I do not believe that

Congress should enact laws that would give homosexuality a privileged status in our society.

I will keep in mind your personal interest in this matter.

Sincerely,
John Heinz
Chairman, National
Republican Senatorial
Committee

Dear Sir:

Many thanks for your inquiry of July 21; and I will be glad to give you my views on the subject of laws relating to homosexuality.

Let me preface this by saying that as a Christian, I am totally and unalterably opposed to it. Moreover, I am opposed to any legislation that would create a special classification of homosexual "rights", or give these people preferential status under United States laws.

With kind regards,
Jesse Helms
U.S. Senate
(North Carolina)

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your interest in Governor Connally's campaign.

Governor Connally publicly stated on a recent visit to California that homosexuals should have the same protection under the law as every other citizen.

Sincerely,
Margaret Hite
Headquarters
Connally For President



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Dear Editor:

We are very proud that Your Place was our host bar during Series III. Therefore, may I ask that you correct the report made in your issue of October, 1979.

We sort of appreciate the error because it now gives us the excuse to write and express our thanks to all the host bars for their generosity and courtesy during our most enjoyable visit to Milwaukee.

We are also happy to have GPU News available at our Glad Day Bookstore, 22 Bromfield Street, in Boston.

See you in Los Angeles in 1980, Toronto in 1981, and in Boston anytime. Your Place is Boston's Paradise.

Sincerely,
Herb Stetson
Paradise Cafe
Softball Team

Dear Friends:

I enjoy your magazine immensely. It is most comforting and informative to read about other gays, and to see the extent to which we are bonding together for a common cause: the right to a free choice of lifestyles.

Cordially,
D.J.R.
Forestville, NY

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Chief Harold Breier
Milwaukee Police Dept.
749 West State St.
Milwaukee, Wis. 53233

Dear Chief Breier:

The officers and Board of Directors of Gay Peoples Union, Inc., respectfully request a meeting between two or three representatives of our organization and community relations officials of the Milwaukee Police Department, at a mutually agreeable time, date, and place.

One of the purposes of our organization is to improve the image of gay persons while working within the system to educate the public to the problems and needs of our community. At this time we feel that it is absolutely essential that a liaison be developed between the Milwaukee Police Department and Gay Peoples Union.

In addition to the initial meeting, we would also welcome representatives of the Milwaukee Police Department to speak at one of our regular Monday night meetings.

Your consideration of this request, in the best interest of our community, is most appreciated.

Yours Sincerely,
Paul J. De Marco
Vice President
Public Relations
Gay Peoples Union

Dear Friends:

I wouldn't miss the chance to renew. I look forward eagerly to each issue. GPU News is a superior magazine with excellent materials throughout. Thanks again for your hard work and dedication.

In Liberation,
J. Day
El Dorado, KS

Dear People:

Enclosed is a modest check for the GPU Legal Defense Fund. The small amount is due to my present unemployment.

I was glad to see the October issue devoted to Iran, and especially pleased by Jerry Zarit's article,

"The Iranian Male." Zarit mentioned the infamous Iranian poet, Reza Baraheni. This poet wrote a book entitled **The Crowned Cannibals**, in which he exposes life in Iran under the Shah's regime.

Buraheni tells about sexual mores in Iran in considerable detail. A woman who sleeps with a man is considered a "prostitute" unless they are married, and a woman who stands up for women's rights is automatically labeled a "lesbian," which is considered much worse than being a prostitute. He also notes that the accepted "cure" for homosexuality is marriage. If the wife of a man is "unfaithful", she can be murdered by him for her deception, because she is **namus** ("genitals"), which are restored to the man after the slaying. Murders of wives by their husbands are apparently quite common, and fill the columns of Iran's newspapers.

Peace,
Chris Maloney
Cary, IL

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UPDATE MILWAUKEE

Gay People's Union, Inc., has created a 24-hour telephone helpline for gays who are regularly arrested by undercover Milwaukee police on such charges as sexual perversion, lewd and lascivious behavior, disorderly conduct, loitering, prowling, etc. Assistant D.A. Frank Crivello stated in February that on the average between 10 and 12 arrests of this kind on such charges were being handled by his office weekly. We have every reason to believe that police have not lessened their selective enforcement of these laws against the gay community - even though Wisconsin statutes which regulate "sexual morality" apply to all citizens, married or unmarried, gay or nongay.

Police continue to use questionable methods to entice, entrap, and arrest unwitting men in private

clubs, adult bookstores, and other areas known to be frequented by gays; and the citizens, Common Council, and Mayor's Office condone this squandering of tax dollars while crimes of violence in crease and we are afraid to walk alone in our neighborhoods.

The purpose of the helpline is to deal with the immediate problem of getting the arrestee out of jail. Often gays are unprepared to handle a relative's or friend's questions concerning the reasons for an arrest, or they simply have no one to whom to turn for help in such a crisis situation.

GPU has also begun distributing a wallet-sized legal defense information card throughout the gay community. It lists the 24-hour helpline number, explains the rights of persons arrested, and offers referrals for counseling, sympathetic attorneys, and financial assistance where required.

If this much-needed service is to be continued, tax-deductible contributions must provide for

some of the expenses of the helpline. These may be mailed to: GPU, Inc., Box 208, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201.

Paul DeMarco, Vice President
Gay People's Union, Inc.

STOP PRESS

The documentary entitled "ABC News Closeup - Homosexuals" has been tentatively scheduled for airing on Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 10 p.m. EST. Prescreening by members of the Gay Media Alliance indicates that the program provides a sensitive and, for television, honest portrayal of gay lifestyles and problems.

Check your local ABC affiliates for scheduling and broadcast time. Persons who are able to watch the program are encouraged to write or phone their local stations following the airing, and to send comments to: Richard Richter, ABC News Closeup, 1330 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019.



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READING WRITING

BY PAUL O'M. WELLES

This is the time of year for columnists to evade their responsibilities by writing lists of things. My list is very short. I'll write it and then get down to something that matters. The only reason I'm writing it at all is to get the titles off my mind, to exorcise them, and I can think of no better way to do it.

Tied for first place as the Absolutely Worst Books of 1979 are:

Overcoming Homosexuality, by Dr. Robert Kronemeyer. N.Y.: Macmillan, \$8.95.

Gay is Not Good. by Dr. Frank M. du Mas. N.Y.: Thomas Nelson Publishers, \$10.95.

I have not in fact read either of these books, so perhaps I should amend my category of "Absolutely Worst Books," calling it instead "Most Offensive Titles".

Nor do I intend to read them, for my life is already chock-full of homophobia, as, most probably, are yours. To read them would, aside from contributing to the authors' royalties, also contribute, I am sure, to my own despair over the sad state of the gay estate.

Fear not. I do not intend to cry-baby over our leaderless gay movement. Nor will I decry the gay economy, skewed by our hedonistic passions to the point that virtually the only gay enterprises making money are bars, baths, discos, and butyl nitrate labs. And I won't bore you with a recitation of our tragedies, which range from (this year) the Dan White verdict to my brother and his wife putting my lover and me in separate bedrooms when we stayed with them for the March on Washington.

But I will, for I believe it is perhaps as important as all of these, address still one more problem: the bigotry of reviewers in the realm of gay book

publishing.

This may not, I admit, sound very important in the overall scheme of things. Think, though, for a moment, of the incredible power reviewers wield. Bookstore owners and librarians, however well-intentioned they may personally be, cannot possibly read all of the books which are published. So, for their buying, they depend on reviews in two major publications: **Publishers Weekly** and **Kirkus Reviews**, both notoriously homophobic.

(True, they are also influenced to some extent by salesmen who in this regard are limited by their own level of homophobia - which is rarely low.)

I have had correspondence with the Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of **Publishers Weekly**. (To be fair, the Post Office may have lost the unanswered letter I addressed to **Kirkus**.) As with other run-ins I've had with homophobes, I was left with a deep sense of utter frustration. For **Publishers Weekly** merely denied any homophobia, and then goes right on being homophobic in its reviews of gay books (when they bother to review them at all). When such homophobia is then brought to their attention, they blandly admit that they do make mistakes - for they are, after all, human.

Makes one want to throw a bomb, or up.

Customer's requests are also a form of pressure on the bookseller; but, remember, most of these are bred in widely published reviews in the straight press. And, God forbid, the **New York Times** and **Time** magazine and the **New York Review of Books** and **Newsweek** and the **New Yorker** should review a gay book, much less review one honestly.

Why, though, is any of this important? Who gives a diddly-fuck what **Publishers Weekly** or the **New York Times** thinks?

Well, I do, for one. I do because I strongly believe that literature is a key to liberation. I believe that the straight world will only learn to accept us when they cease to fear us. And I believe that they will not cease to fear us until they get to know us. And I believe they will get to know us best through our culture, specifically through our books, through good books written with an openly gay sensibility about the entire gay experience.

Now, getting someone(in this case, a bigot) to do something he doesn't want to do(in this case, review gay books) is a nearly impossible task, for either the revolutionary activist or the pussycat.

It is possible(theoretically) in one way: by affecting his pocketbook. If he can be made a fool in his boss's eyes for having panned or ignored a best-seller, it is likely that he will be a little less homophobic the next time that he is confronted by a gay book.

Therefore: I have an outrageous suggestion.

Wouldn't it be fantastic if every single gay man and woman went out and bought a copy(for \$8.95) of the 1979 Gay Book of the Year Award winner, **Now That You Know!** It's by Betty Fairchild and Nancy Hayward(they will use large hunks of their royalties to develop their worthy organization, Parents of Gays), and published by Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich - who, faced with good sales, might also be mightily encouraged to publish more good gay-

oriented books.

Aside from the pleasure of reading it(and perhaps giving it to a parent: **NTYK** is subtitled "What Every Parent Should Know About Homosexuality"), each gay person would be playing an integral part in amassing a wildly impressive sales figure. Just one book with sales of ten or fifteen million copies would slam the publishing industry and the reviewers onto their collective homophobic ass.

\$8.95 is a room at the baths, nine beers, and less than any date at a disco. Don't worry, the bars, baths and discos won't go broke. Nor, I daresay, is it enough to break a gay bank account, and if it is it can be saved for. And you don't even have to come out of the closet to buy a copy, either.

Indeed, if we made it a rule that to be a member in good standing in this great gay club of ours you had to buy the Gay Book of the Year annually, I'm damn sure we would do more to advance our cause than by any amount of protest against the idiots blocking the way.

But I know we won't do it. We will refuse the commitment. As gays, we are too busy meeting in the bars(where else?), mating in the baths(ditto), burning out our nostrils, and dancing out our eardrums, all so that we can postpone, for a few more hours, having to admit that the time for commitment is now.

Happy 1980!

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THEATER - MINNEAPOLIS



The final show of the Out-and-About Theatre's 1979 season is the world premiere of a new musical by Michael Alasa and David Welch, called **Orphans**. It opened on November 15th, and runs through December 8th, with performances on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at the Howard Conn Fine Arts Center, 1900 Nicollet, in Minneapolis.

Orphans is the story of a night club trio whose act exploits the "male myth" in a unique way. Their act is gay oriented, and throughout the show they are faced

with the problem of deciding to continue it as is or to "straighten it out" for bigger success. Also explored is the idea that we are all orphans, and that in order to mature we must impose orphanhood upon ourselves.

Heading the cast is Charles Merkel II as David, the lead singer of The Orphans, with Jerry Fox and Graham Berwind rounding the trio. Margot Ruckstein plays their agent, with Mick Isackson and Sheila Ann Heyman as David's parents, and Margo Buchanan as David's ex-girlfriend. Handling

the production are the same staff members who created last summer's highly successful production of **Boy Meets Boy**. Direction is by Richard Rehse, choreography by John Command, and musical direction by Patti Haigh. Costume Designer is Denny Bell, with set designs by Arnold Wong.

Orphans has been optioned for a Broadway production in April of 1980, and the producers are currently raising \$800,000 for that production.

For ticket and performance information, phone 332-7482.

REFLECTIONS ON THE MARCH

by brian mcnaught

Since moving to Boston, I have walked Jeremy, my Irish Setter, around the same path each day, and from time to time have spotted a handsome, young guy clipping lawns and hedges. Sometimes he would smile at me with interest, but generally he would make eye contact and then look away shyly. "He's gay," I decided. "He's probably 15, gay, and doesn't know how to deal with it." I wrestled with what approach I should take. Remembering how isolated and frightened I felt in high school, I wondered if I shouldn't introduce myself and subtly reveal my sexual orientation. Then he would have someone with whom he could share his secret. Yet, would I be introducing myself if he weren't attractive? Maybe I shouldn't start something. Besides, what if he's straight? What if he's a homophobe? I have to live in this neighborhood. Better keep walking.

Finally, after three and a half years, we spoke our first words. "What's the dog's name?" he asked, looking up from his weeding. "Jeremy," I responded, feeling an embarrassed rush. "Nice dog." "Thanks." "See you later." "Yea, see you later." After a few more of these brilliant exchanges, we learned each other's names. "His name is Caleb," I told Ray. "He's a senior in college - older than we thought - but I still think he's gay." Perhaps next Spring I'll ask him. Yard work is finished for the year.

"Brian," I heard an excited voice shout as I was marching with about 100,000 other gay men and lesbians down the streets of Washington, D.C. "Brian," I heard over the laughing and cheering and singing and chanting and clapping. "I **knew** you were a homosexual!" screamed the familiar figure who made his way through the crowd. "Caleb!" I exclaimed. "I knew you were gay too." Then from behind me came a chorus of "Hi, Caleb" from the large contingent carrying the banner of one of Boston's most popular bars. So much for the isolated and frightened theory.

A bit later in the day, as I was looking out from the speaker's platform upon the jubilant sea of gay humanity which stretched in powerful waves to the base of the Washington Monument, I spotted a ruggedly handsome, mustached man waving and smiling at me from the front ripple of spectators. I waved and smiled back. Another brother intoxicated by the spirit of the moment, I thought. At the end of the presentation, however, the young man was awaiting me behind the platform, his hand still waving, his smile still glowing. As my body swelled with that all too familiar sensation of guilty excitement, I strained my eyes to see more clearly. "FRANK," I gasped, "I can't believe it." It was my younger brother's best friend from high school, whom I hadn't seen in ten years. We kissed and

hugged and exchanged quick stories between our cheers for the bold declarations of independence which were resounding from the stage. "If you're ever in New York..." he insisted as he walked backwards into the mass. "I promise..."

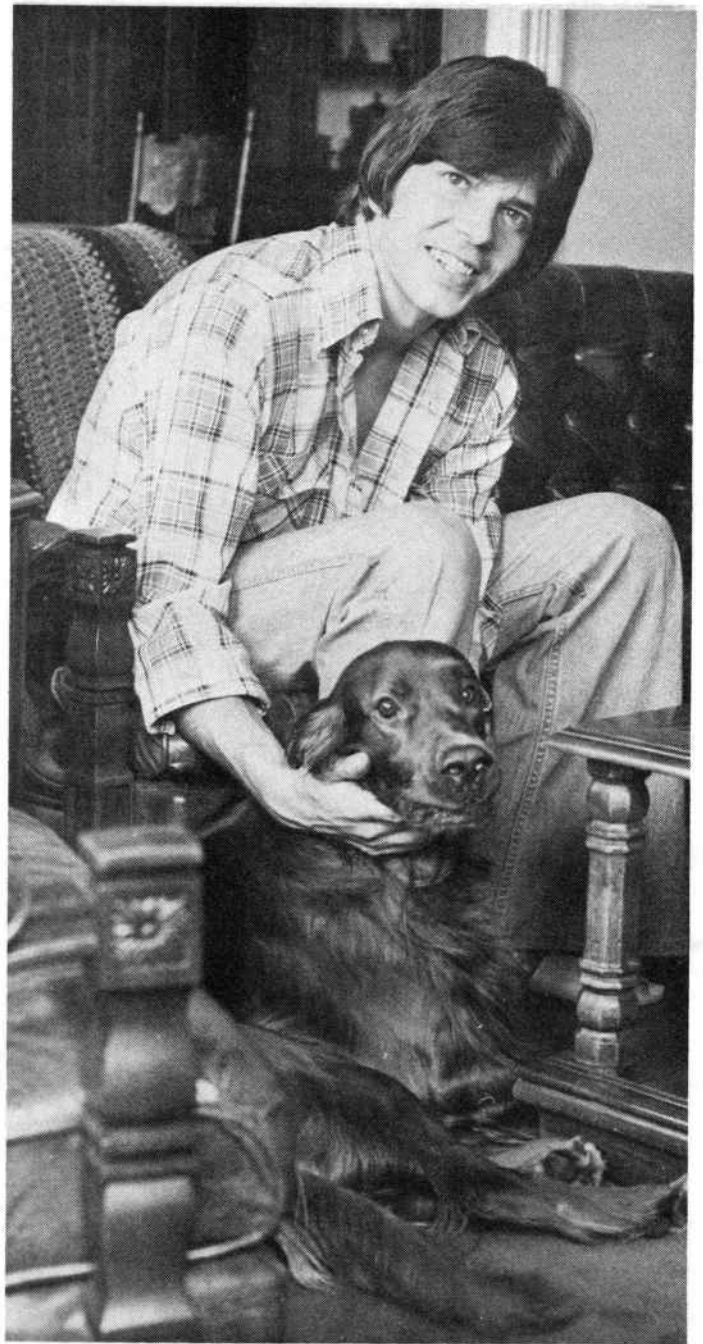
Caleb and Frank are only two of the many familiar faces spotted in the parade and rally which brought together a mighty army of lovers from throughout North America. They are only two of the many thousands of stories which are being told and retold to friends back home who ask marchers, "What was it like??"

It was like nothing I had ever been a part of before. It was magic. It was spiritual. It was energizing. Though clouds threatened us throughout the day, I remember it as bright and nippy. The sky was aglow with multi-colored flags, placards, and banners which proclaimed the good news of being gay - of being gay and from San Francisco; of being gay and from Atlanta; of being gay and from New Mexico, Alaska, Oklahoma, Michigan, and Missouri; of being gay and religious; gay and atheist; gay and black, white, red, yellow, and brown; gay and young; gay and old; gay and proud; gay and alive, gay and whole. "We are everywhere," we chanted as we marched to the beat of kazoos and tambourines. "We are everywhere," we screamed as we danced and skated and skipped like children. We embraced each other with shiny-faced grins of excitement. We renewed each other with winks and squeezes and outstretched arms. "We are everywhere," we insisted, "and we will be free."

Funny thing. I didn't want to go to the march. I was upset by the reports I was getting about the planning process and the division it was causing among community leaders. I felt blackmailed into coming. I thought that I had to be there for the mere sake of body count. I wish that my friends across the country who didn't come had been there. They too would have been delighted. They too would have been healed by the day of unity we experienced. That's not to say there weren't things we can't improve upon next time. And there will be a next time.

Next time I want to be one of 500,000. Next time I want to walk through the crowd and see the faces of my high school basketball coach, the lifeguard at the pool and my fraternity pledgemaster. I want to be able to throw my arms around the Brother who taught me English senior year, and to kiss the guy who after school used to watch "Adventures in Paradise" with me. Hell, I want to kiss Gardner McKay! I want to see more nuns and more GIs and more grandparents. Next time I want to see a bishop hold up his half of the sign which reads, "We are Everywhere."

Incidentally, the minister who lives down the street has a son who might be there. I think he's 16 and feeling isolated.....



Brian McNaught is a freelance writer who has been active in the gay rights movement since 1970, the year in which he received his B.A. in journalism from Marquette University in Milwaukee. He has served on the editorial boards of **Hilltop**(Marquette University), **The Michigan Catholic**(Detroit), **Esplanade**(Boston), **Metro Gay News**(Detroit), **The Witness**(Pennsylvania), and **Impact**(Syracuse University). He has lectured at over twenty colleges throughout the United States, and is the author of many reviews, articles, and editorials appearing in over thirty academic and gay-liberationist publications. He is the founder of the Detroit Chapter of Dignity, and of Catholics for Gay Rights.

REVIEW

Rushes by John Rechy. NY: Grove Press, Inc., 1979. \$10.00.
Reviewed by Lee C. Rice.

Once again John Rechy takes his readers into an unexplored part of the gay world. **Rushes** is his first work of fiction in a number of years, and his latest book since the controversial **The Sexual Outlaw**, also published by Grove.

The Sexual Outlaw was less literature than special pleading: a highly rhetoricized special defense of the bush queen. I personally found the entire exercise a crashing bore, though it held some minimal interest for the reader interested in reading **back** from Rechy's mysterious and mystifying pronouncements into the earlier novels, **City of Night** and **Numbers**. Both of these novels, each craftily written and masterfully executed, dealt with the world of the cruiser, bush queen, hustler. The moral of the story is that Rechy is a real master at dealing with **people**. One can come to know the inner workings of the characters in these two novels in an intimate, and finally self-enlightening way. When he deals with **issues**, political or social, the results are at best mixed, at worst pure tedium, as in **Outlaw**.

The panorama of **Rushes** develops during a single evening on the waterfront of what we are told is a "large American city," but which is obviously New York. The leather-western bar, **The Rushes**, which figures as the focal point of the narration, is as large and decaying as the waterfront where it is located. The scene, well-known to readers of Rechy's earlier novels, is a sexual battlefield: the world of trucks, piers, warehouses, cruising, hustlers, and s-m orgies.

Each chapter of the book offers a different scene, a mini-perspective of the battlefield, with one of the bar customers, Endore, and his friends as a partial focus for the development. Endore might as well

be Rechy himself, since he mimics many of the **ex cathedra** pronouncements on the beauty of sex-for-sex-sake with which Rechy inundated his readers in **Sexual Outlaw**.

Into the bar arrive characters of all persuasions and lifestyles: regular patrons in their endless quest for sex, the occasional customer in search of a one-night-stand or a quick fix, the female and transvestite hookers who work the dark streets outside, the couple seeking a voyeuristic experience, the young man (one word when used as a Rechyism) out for the first time. The reader is the ultimate voyeur in this novel, since Rechy's goal is to bring the reader into a position of inner knowledge of the characters in his drama.

In this end he surely succeeds. During the course of the evening we do come to know these people, their loneliness and their fears, their pride and (sometimes) their courage. We share with them their

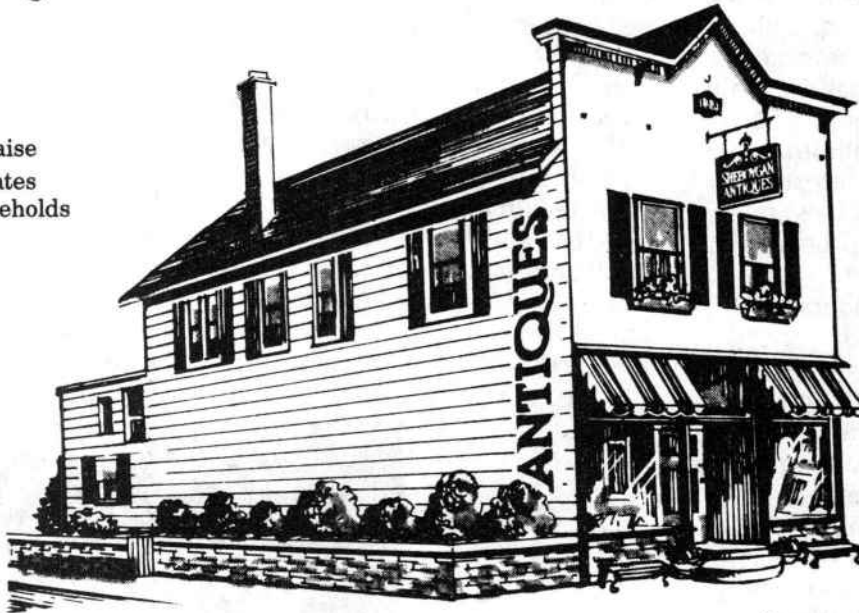
search and their discoveries. Upon all of these is superimposed by the author the religious imagery which he associates to the sexual and s-m scenes. The fifteen chapters or perspectives of the book have titles which announce this eucharistic sacrificial perspective again and again: "I Will Go in to the Altar of God", "O Lord, I love the house in which You dwell", "Send forth Your light and Your fidelity", "Deign to grant some part and fellowship", "Show us, O Lord, Your kindness", "O God, Who established the nature of man in wondrous dignity", "Bless this sacrifice prepared for the glory of Your holy name", "We give You thanks for Your great glory", "Cause us to be numbered in the flock You have chosen", "We bless You", "As it was in the beginning is now...", "Cleanse my heart and my lips", "All of you take and eat of this: For this is My Body", "And this deign to regard with gracious and kindly atten-



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tion", and finally "As often as you shall do these things, in memory of Me shall you do them."

This religious quasi-eucharistic mythology of sado-masochism has been frequently noted by those analyzing the multi-faceted imagery of s-m. No one could possibly accuse Rechy of subtlety on this point, which is just as well, since he does succeed brilliantly in exposing some of the roots of the s-m fantasies.

The evening culminates in what is without doubt one of the most powerful and shattering accomplishments of Rechy's art. Endore, around whom much of the conversation and cruising have resolved in the bar, leaves at closing time and goes to an s-m orgy room in the area. Here the religious imagery of s-m sexuality and its rites achieves its final completion; and these rites end, as in Judaeo-Christian mythology, with ritual communion, sacrifice, and cleansing. The descent into the depths of the sexual underworld thus fulfills the ceremonial structure of this masterful conception.

Whether one is sympathetic to Rechy's occasional lapses into the didactic, or even horrified by his ingress into the dark and somber sides of the gay underground, it cannot be denied that he is one of today's most powerful and imaginative gay authors. **City of Night** is already a modern classic in its own right, and I suspect that **Rushes** will join it soon. In **Rushes** Rechy has succeeded in distilling from the episodes and characters which he portrays a human experience which is moving and painful, sometimes frightening but always revealing and consummately executed.



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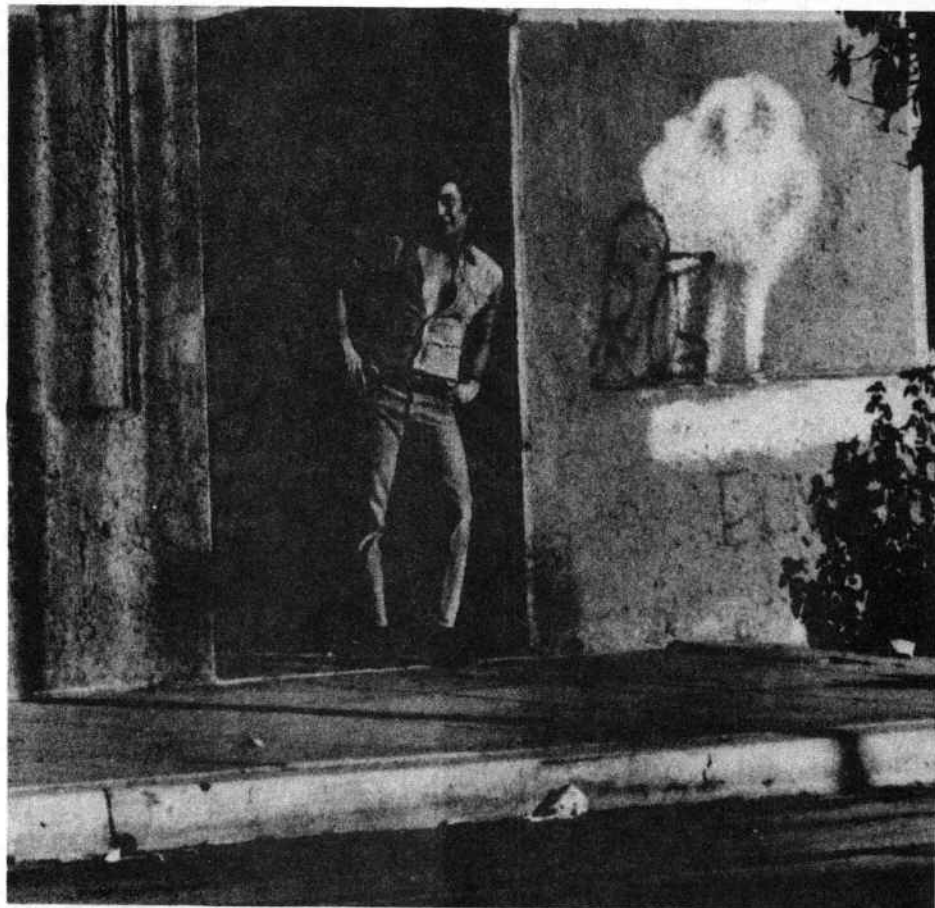
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POETRY

[“...she longed to die there of love (phenobarbital and flowers) for a Teutonic knight.”]

Late Reply (for Jimmie)

I heard you prowling
through the night wilderness,
velvet rustled as you walked
a cat howled as you walked, and
dark Laura watched
from her iron-rail-balcony
and smiled
as she pulled the ivory combs
through her hair.
Where she walks
the West Wind always follows
warm and full with sound
of finger bells and Chinese lanterns.

Where she walks
the river becomes honey
that sweetens the jive
of countless midnight loving.

I heard you prowling the midway
while the pleasure machines slept,
while the roll of fortune-telling cards
slept in my dreams.

I heard you laughing
by a campfire with the gypsies.
And dark Laura smiled
singing with the funky angeles
on the subway

‘Nowhere to run
Nowhere to hide’
you know:

where she walks
the river becomes honey.

You know:
the flat plains of darkness
belong to poets and thieves
who prowl beneath love’s comforter
seeking wisdom and a little relief
even down on Main Street.
I know that you can’t escape that
and I guess that I can’t too.
I know that diamonds
mingle with my glittering fear
pushing arrogance before moonlight,
and when I heard you
I should have thanked you then.

He Watches Himself

This kissing of mirrors
is not for you,
not meant for you.
Later,
in some exposed moment
customary to truth-sayers
and lovers,
I might unfold to you.

I might let loose
the fantastic hawks
that fly
in perfect formations
in my eyes. I might
tear the silk from you
to find
what of me lies hidden
beneath your skin:

eucalyptos wind and
the dark serenity
of the Sierras.

I am restless for truth
understand
I can wait no longer
for that momentary generosity
of your touch. I can not.

This kissing is personal
It has nothing to do with you,
is not meant for you.

Jean Genet

Divine Sleeps He Need Not Dream

Tonight
he sleeps with the Much Loved
the Holy Ones
the Strange Beautiful
who dangle gold stars
on the silk throats of their dreams.

(I have watched them often
decorate the grey streets
with their alien sighs of content).

Tonight
he sleeps with Them.
Douses the captain’s candle
at the window,
uncovers that window
that keeps sentry on the dead,
the night,
and the shadows of fingertips
painted with Persian miniatures
moving to greet the match
of a stranger
with a cigarette.

Tonight
freedom

From the gentlemen
whose eyes glow sulphurus,
whose tongues dismember
the serenity of embraces.

Tonight
freedom.

All the years
lead through catacombs
and unnamed boulevards
to this moment.

BY DARRYL GOLDEN

Empire of the Heartbeat

(Sixth Verse)

Vaguely her voice lifts between the buildings
echoes on these windows
looking out to sea.
She is the High Priestess
calling the initiated children
to the temple.
You read in a patch of sun.
I am busy in the kitchen
and struck now and again by her song,
it is the day of women after all.
They gather in the streets
like soldiers
with banners and bull horns
to proclaim liberty.
Is it liberty from the womb?
We are the soft men
the vanquished ones
despised by the feminists in worker's boots.

You are curled about the sun
like my cat,
or some tropical flower
leaning into heaven.
It has been two lovely days, no?
I think of not washing the kisses
and salt
from my red satin sheets.
I am reading a book that lists angels
for every hour of the night.
You feel so comfortable today
I admit fear in this too,
Avoiding the mirrors that line
all the rooms of the empire.
Today I do not seek reflections.

Is this woman's echo to haunt me?
She thinks I am frail and weak.
It is the day of the feminists,
the middle of the spring,
a day without reflections.
Her echo fills the oven
flits into the dusty corners
like a yellow and green canary,
a bird made only for song,
then vanishes.
Do the banners too wink out in the sunset
like small flames
pulverized in the cool winds?

My window still looks to the horizon
as if eternity could explain
the salt drying on my hard flat belly.

You are beautiful in the sun
more wistful than you will ever admit
reading cantos
to the sound of motorcycles.

I smell departure on the air
like freshly pickled mint,
it touches me like ice.
You apologise.
I shutter the windows

Orsinni

Isolation.
Leaving the well-lit assurance
of the john.
Growing a beard
like a fence
to keep strangers away.

You grabbed fast
and made this breathing space
in the bar.
I enter timid
green,
edging through the thick branches
of men
trying to shed the bad memories
like acorns.
Already I see the light
catching the sweat
on your bear skin.
It makes temporary rubies
and I smile.

A CIVILIZED GAME

by David Mitchell

When he spoke to her, he took on some of her expressions, a touch of her British accent; when she was with him, she became possessed with his tempo and excitement, his little-boy enthusiasm.

They were a strange couple, on and off the court. Asexual, of course; part of that misfit community no one troubled with, they were forced into each other's company. That, at least, was what the regulars said.

The youngish-old couple paid no attention. They were accustomed to unkind treatment. Singly, long before meeting one another, they had learned to cope. Now, as two, they found it easier to bear, could see the humor of it. They considered it a lark.

On the tennis court, however, a battle raged.

Neither was aware of how it had started.

Their friendship had begun years before, they remembered, in early April. The young-looking man had been invited by someone from the courts to participate in mixed-doubles. The venture proved interesting enough for all concerned, that, for several seasons, it was a regular thing.

Edith had been one of the ladies; usually his partner.

After they had played together several times as a team, she phoned. Hesitantly, she asked, "Aaron, would you be interested in having a go at singles some time?"

"Sure."

So that, too, rather easily, became a once, then twice-weekly event.

Though inexperienced, Aaron was the stronger player. After he had won the first set easily, he would allow Edith to win the second.

Until she complained about it.

It was the first time either had expressed anger. From that day, there was tension in their matches.

After working out, they would stop at a local coffee shop, a college hangout. (Like everything they did, this had been at Edith's suggestion.) Smiling, eating with gusto, she would consume a huge breakfast before "going off to the wars." Keeping her company, Aaron reluctantly drank coffee. Wishing he were on his way, he wondered silently why he had allowed this routine to develop. Wondered, too, why Edith couldn't or wouldn't see that he was annoyed at being there, of taking up his time. And he showed that he was annoyed; eyes stared straight ahead of him. (Just as they had when, as a child, he had been forced by Mother to sit at table until Daddy finished his second, or third, cup of coffee.)

Why are people like this? he wondered. So selfish? She knows. Has to know. Either that, or she's so involved with herself that she's totally unaware of any needs except her own. People are like that. Yeah. His thoughts spiraled their way into the core of—not the man, but of the boy, the small/tortured/frightened child—he carried around inside.

Moody again, thought Edith. Why must he put the burden of conversation on me? Why, sit like a spoiled child, making me exert so much effort? Childish behavior. One of these days, I shall be forced to tell him so. God knows, I'd rather be alone. I do find the company of people exhausting. Father was like that, like Aaron, all his life. Sat there like a lump. (She had worked her way to the small girl inside herself.)

He should have had a son. He told me, actually said it once, that he wished I'd been a boy; treated me all his life as if I were inferior simply because I was female. Mother, too. Well, she couldn't have married that man if she hadn't agreed with his basic philosophy—that brain-washing which has gone on since the beginning of time.

"You're quiet today, Aaron." Lifting her cup slowly to her lips, Edith smiled, exposing large front teeth.

You look so like a horse, Aaron thought. Somewhat apologetically, he said (his little boy approach), "I'm rather a quiet person."

"Oh, you know that isn't so."

I wonder if you were ever a school teacher, Edith. Daddy was. That's probably why I hate school teachers so much. "Well, obviously you know me better than I do."

"Now, don't be that way. . . ." For God's sake be pleasant.

"What can I say?"

"Not much. Obviously."

White-hot anger. Bitch. Cunt. What the hell do you know about me? What the hell do you know about anyone, about anything except yourself and your own God-damned selfish existence? Quietly, he said, "It doesn't do much good when I talk."

"Why not?"

"Because you don't listen."

"Whatever are you talking about?"

He laughed. Couldn't stop. Then, biting his lower lip, he managed, "See what I mean?"

"No, I do not." He laughed again, remembering a story about his father. Years ago, a man had come to their door. "I sell hearing aids," he'd said. "What's

that?" the old man replied. "You don't listen."
"What?" Same thing, funny as hell.
"Stop it."

Go fuck yourself. Instead of saying it, however, he walked out. Without explanation, without so much as a word, he walked out, leaving her sitting there.

He did that to humiliate me, she thought. Young faces surrounded her. They all know he walked out on me. Probably, they think I keep him, would have to keep any man/can't they see that he's homosexual?/I think he is/he thought I was/I think he did/why doesn't he appreciate the fact that I'm willing to be his friend?/why must even he treat me as an inferior?

Early memories. Father/Mother/self.

Why do they torment me? Why? They're so much a part of me. They're dead, yet I live with their problems. I want so to get out of it, rid of it, but I don't know how. I can't. She stared at the table until her coffee was too cold to drink.

The man who "gave the impression of being in his twenties, except his face gave him away," could see the humor of the situation as soon as he hit the street. He was still angry, still annoyed at the woman—more at himself for letting the situation continue out of control—yet at the same time, he saw it as hopelessly funny.

Here we are, he thought, people of middle years and we're still children. We play the games of our parents. Women, most men, too, are happy only when they have their way. Certainly, Mother was like that. If I didn't give her what she wanted, when she wanted it, she would inflict pain/guilt/agony.

Oh, who gives a shit? Why should I? She's far away, dying. I'm here. I should be living, not seeking mother substitutes in bloodless English women who smell like rancid butter. He laughed.

By the time he reached his apartment, Aaron could see even more, the humor of the situation, the humor of himself. From the outside, from other points of view, he knew he was ridiculous. More than that. He was a middle-aged fag, trying to look like a kid. Except, was he really? What did he do to look "younger?" That was not his word. What did he do to look **good**? Watched his weight (it had been the same for twenty years); exercised regularly (tennis and the gym), wore casual clothes; wore his hair in a short "Roman" cut. He did **not** color his hair, had not, would not resort to plastic surgery. What the fuck did the world want, what would make them happy? A pot belly and a sallow complexion, a drag-ass attitude? Fuck 'em.

And fuck Edith.

He couldn't decide if that was what she wanted, or if she had castration in mind. Both, probably. Simultaneously, perhaps. Once it was inside her, she would snap it off, bite it off, chew it up, spit it out, blood dripping. Like Mother, like Father, like their life-long battle. **Funny.**

When Edith called to see if their usual Tuesday game was still on, he laughed and said, "Certainly."

Certainly, she thought with hatred. Certainly. That is not an American expression. Always the homos who think picking up a few British expressions makes them sound cultivated. Well, my dear young man, you have a long way to go to become cul-

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tivated. A long, long way. You are, in fact, hardly suitable company. She stopped. Her thoughts had the definite ring of father/mother in them.

Father/mother. They did somehow blend into one. She had never thought that as distinctly as now. She must talk to her analyst about that. She made a note of it; it might be important. Her mind raced. It might be very important—to herself and to the world of analysis in general. Yes. She could contribute a bit to the understanding of people. Why not? She could show off a bit, too. Someone should pay attention to her. Not her father. No, not him. He, who had sent her off to the streets of London when she was five years old, off alone to school, to market, everywhere, because she was to be self reliant. At the time, of course, she had been practically blind. That was long before she had gotten her first pair of glasses. But Father knew best. Sent a child off on the busy streets of London blind as a bat. . .

When Aaron was a child, he had shared a bedroom with his older brother, Dave. They slept in the same bed. Dave, a full ten years older, was an athlete. Aaron felt often like a boy/child/bride lying next to that fully-developed man. A wonderful fragrance hung about Dave's chest, thighs, sex. When Aaron grew older, he associated that remembered mimosa with the excitement of anonymous encounters. Even now, he dreamed of having sex with his brother. Oh, not as he looked today, not with that grandfather/brother, but with the Dave who had been to his kid brother, the man he would most like to be.

Drunk, Dave held him, whispered things in his ear, kissed his cheek, his neck. Remembering stories

about "wild" girls his brother dated, ten-year-old Aaron put himself in their place. Feeling cheap, excited, he called himself "whore, tart, cunt." He loved saying the words; those, and all others said to be "bad." Tears of sperm dropped to his mother's nightgown, his father's poetry, Dave's dirty jock strap. They were all part of it.

Even now.

Edith knew Aaron well enough to know that he would not mention the incident in the coffee shop. She pondered a few days what her approach should be when they saw each other. Should she demand an apology? Should she take him to task? Should she ignore the whole thing? Or, given the opportunity, should she, like Aaron, laugh about it? What she would like to do, the way she would choose to deal with the situation if she could, would be to make mince meat of him on the tennis court. That not only would give her the greatest pleasure, she knew Aaron would hate it more than anything she could do, more than a balling out, more than. . . She stopped in midthought. Balling out. To injure his balls? Ball out? Ball off? what did that expression mean? She made a note of it. Something to discuss with her analyst.

Sunday afternoon, Edith saw a program on television which gave her the ammunition she sought. On ABC's **Wide World of Sports**, there was a tennis match between two professionals, a man and a woman. The program was titled, "Battle of the Sexes." Yes. That's what it is, she smiled, why not call it that? The man was handicapped (Edith preferred the word, penalized, penis-lized) to make the

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match more interesting. Given only one serve, he also had to cover the doubles alleys on his side of the court. The woman retained her two services and covered only the singles court.

Watching the strategy, her mind alive with the possibilities of the coming Tuesday "knock-up," Edith saw this new format as a godsend in her quest to do Aaron in on the courts. To punish him. She laughed, red-faced, rocking back and forth in her straight-backed chair. Rubbing her thighs together, she placed a lady-like manish hand delicately in her lap.

On the court, Edith presented her plan in such a way that it was not a question of acceptance, but one of instruction. Give him no chance to say no.

Aaron was aware of the trap. Still, he nodded his head in agreement. You take away my power, he thought. My serve. You cut off one of them.

That's how it went. They played two sets and split. Aaron was ready for a third, but Edith, fearing defeat, used her true tiredness to beg off.

Late that night, Aaron lay awake in bed. He felt physically bound, much like the memories of his mother when he was a child. No. It had always been no. He could not do this, that. No, he was too sensitive, too weak, when all she really wanted was for him to be near. She had kept him in a cage so long that sometimes, like today, he walked in when the door was left open. Tied up. People, beginning with his mother, had wanted to keep him bound. What he needed was. . . something. What? A way out. Not to understand women, not to care about them, not to be

afraid of hurting them; to get women, all of them, out of his life.

That night he dreamed again about fucking his brother. He shoved his cock up the beautifully chiseled, twenty-year-old, frizzed-haired ass of his brother. The tickle of asshole hair on his nose, on the tip of his cock, on the long hard rubber-tube spermway of his shaft, his balls. His own growing, screaming asshole hair intermingled with that of his brother. Oh, Dave, Dave. Why, those words: "Dirty, dirty." Why did you get so quietly, so disgustedly out of bed?

Why, too, had Aaron gone to the cage? The only place he knew to go, where he would not, could not be rejected. Why had he gone to the bed where his mother slept? Where his father and mother had once slept, but shared no more? Why had he put himself in the place abandoned by his father?

Why had his mother accepted him? Why, kissed him lightly on the lips, holding him in large, flabby arms, smothering him in her huge breasts?

Why?

The struggle now was reserved for the tennis court.

Before and after their matches, Edith and Aaron were pleasant, easy-going. The regulars noticed, with surprise, that they had begun to circulate among them. No longer standoffish, they seemed not quite as odd as they once had. After all, who was **not** odd?

The resident pro first noticed the open warfare on court. After he pointed it out, there began a ritual



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which historically accompanies a bloodletting—the curiosity, intrigue, excitement of the crowd. A lot of people found excuses to dawdle after a match, to come early, to pause between points, changes, whatever. To watch. It was sometimes funny; sometimes a little ridiculous. Always, it was entertaining. It was someone else; something to talk about. It could be unpleasant, but that was what made it fun.

“Court three.”

Usually, it was three where they played. Edith chose that court, knowing the shadows were difficult for Aaron to handle. He was tied up thinking about that, about keeping score, keeping track of the balls (she was impossible about such things). He was disturbed, thinking about her, about himself. Why was he allowing this to happen? Why didn't he simply tell her what he was thinking? Go fuck yourself. But, no. He must be a gentleman, must give the woman everything she wanted. It was not proper to tell a lady no (his mother had made sure he would never say “no” to any woman).

Knowing the regulars were watching was the worst of it. How could he play well with people waiting for him to make a mistake? When people watched, saying things about him (like his father, when he was a child, talking about him as if he were not there) how could he concentrate on **anything**? It had always been difficult for him to share space, space anywhere. Now this, because of her.

Aaron really is rather nice when he's not so rebellious, Edith thought, when not so ridiculous. I think he's having some sort of identity crisis. For a time there, possibly, I was part of it. I don't know, can't imagine why. Why me of all people? My analyst thinks I must be a mother image for him. Well, I don't see that as very flattering, but then, I suppose, it is chronologically possible. After all, I am nearly. . . She would not say, would not even think the word. She was in too good a mood, a condescending one, brought on by recent victories.

She needs to put me down in order to feel good herself. Aaron's anger was a bonfire. That's the only way she can feel superior. Well, this will not continue much longer. But, before I end it, I will, **this time**, make it obvious that I was aware of the game all the time; that I became familiar with it purposely, in order to use it against her, to defeat her at her own game.

Edith: I was so young, so foolish. Jeremy was so much like Father. Bastard. He didn't think I'd leave, but I did. I came to America—to get away from him and from **all that**. Aaron reminds me of Father and Jeremy. Curious, isn't it? Perhaps Father and Jeremy were gay, as well. Latent. Lord, I never thought of that. Not entirely possible, of course. I'll have to talk to my analyst about it.

Aaron was looking for a way out. Revenge no longer meant anything. Nothing meant anything. Nothing. He simply wanted out. He could not stand the anger. It had to get vented. He had to tell Edith no, had to tell his mother, women, no.

Edith was getting closer to what she wanted. In the beginning, she imagined she wanted simply to

keep the game going, manipulate, win. But there was something else. There was something she had been flirting with in the back of her mind for some time, perhaps from the time they met.

She wanted to torture him.

It was a repellant revelation, at first. Gradually, however, when she thought about ways of doing it, a faint smile, like the opening of a buttercup, would appear at the corner of her lips. “Yes.” I'm sure my analyst would approve. She doesn't have much need for men either. If we can find some end in this ridiculousness of men and women, if we can have any pleasure at the expense of men, we should take it. Pay them back, Father and Jeremy and all the rest.

Pay Aaron back for his superior attitude, for his maleness. Underneath everything, under his delicate frame, his softness of feature and presentation, there is a hard-thinking, cold, selfrighteous prick. A tiny core which will not allow me in, which I must force my way through. I will conquer, take whatever is left when pride is gone.

She sipped her tea.

Edith allowed Aaron to serve first, knowing that game one was the “nervous” game, the one most often dropped even by the pros.

Aaron knew she “allowed” him this privilege because she was aware of the risk. In the beginning, he had badly wanted to suggest that they alternate first games. Then, he decided to take her strategy, turn it into an obstacle for her, victory for himself. He would win that first game, always—from her, from everyone. Would harden himself. Eventually, he would need no one, would consider no one (no one had ever considered him, except for selfish motives). He would be free of. . . people. That's what he wanted. Wanted no one to have any claim on him. Yes, he would serve first, win first and always. He would be free.

She introduced new rules.

Aaron was to begin his serve at love-30 down (he was beginning to win too much).

“Certainly,” he said, agreeing, hating her, looking forward to, planning for the time when he would see her no more. For a short time longer, he would play her game, the civilized game of pretense, the game of lies everyone played.

He dropped the first game. She won the second easily. (He was still thinking about the first one; there was confusion in his mind, keeping track of the score.)

After a long deuce in the third game, he dropped that. She led three games to love.

He had to break her serve. Having done it many times, he felt confident he could do it at will.

She would not be broken. A close call on game point. Edith was in better position to see, but would not make the call. Aaron had to call it good. He had not seen it out, and that was the rule: if you don't see the ball out, it is good. He stood looking at her. When she said nothing, he knew the ball was out. Still, he had to call it good.

He trailed love-four.

His serve.

He could not be bagged. Could not lose, certainly not to her, at six-love. Edith put together two near perfect returns, and he was broken once more.

Love-five.

She made a tactical error as they changed sides. She spoke. "This must be my lucky court."

"Yes," he replied, knowing she was already counting the victory, was not thinking about winning those last few points.

Service return winner.

Back hand up the line, popped up by Edith, a high back-hand kiss-drop volley. Love-forty.

(Because I do not run well, Edith thought. He does that, knowing I am old.)

Double fault. The first of the match, and Aaron had his first game. But, more importantly, he knew now how to proceed, how to win. Slow down. Stop rushing. Hit the ball -- hard, deep.

He won the next four points, and trailed 2-5. Went for winners on her service and lost the set 6-2.

The beginning of the second set was something else. He was uncompromising. He won the set 6-2. They were even.

Both realized there would be a third and final set today. No excuses.

Edith had years of experience behind her, having played since childhood. The psychological aspects of the game were something which had always fascinated her. She knew how to take advantage of any weakness in her opponent's game. And, too, there are certain times when anyone is liable to be a bit tired, have a bit of a letdown. Immediately after winning a set is one of those times.

She capitalized on this knowledge: put together two fine returns and immediately had a 1-love advantage.

Aaron countered by winning four straight points off her serve. It was tied at one.

He went on to hold serve rather easily, and led for the first time in the match. The score was 2-6, 6-2, 2-1. Aaron saw the figures like a scoreboard; then, closed them out of his mind. He wanted to think about nothing except the ball. If he concentrated on the ball, his body - feet, knees, torso, arm, wrist - would be all right. He had to shut out the world - his thoughts, remembrances, plans, everything.

The moment was now; the moment was the ball.

At three all, Aaron's concentration flagged. He realized the importance of the match, and the score. Having heard so much about the dangerous seventh game, he remembered it at the wrong time: when he was in it. He envisioned a double fault. It happened, and he was down 3-4.

He broke back immediately. They were tied at 4-all. Any mistake now would be the last one. This time they were both aware of it.

Edith thought: If only I can win. It would help for all the times I've lost in the past. For all the times men have beaten me.

In any match, the last few games are the hardest to win. The final one, hardest of all. Aaron knew he could not play these points safely. He had to go for

something special, had to throw in his best serves; to attack; go for the lines. (In the past, when playing Edith, he eventually stopped this, because she had given what he knew were bad calls.)

So. Don't go for **too** much, he told himself. It has to be so obvious that she will not have the opportunity to call, "Out" (to cheat, to lie).

His first serve was wide to Edith's forehand (a surprise). She got a piece of it, sent it weakly back; Aaron smothered it at the net with a backhand volley.

I hate him, she thought. I do. All those times away from here are a lie. On the court, I hate him. Hate him for being a man and for not being one. Hate him because he lets me dominate him. I can treat him as I choose. He is accustomed to it, was born for it. I was born...

His second serve was an ace. Twice, he had served to her forehand. Twice in a row. Damn him.

He served again, a medium-safe but well-placed back. Running her side to side, finally he placed the ball behind her on her right side for a winner.

Playing my strength. The bastard is winning this game playing to my strength.

While she was still steaming, Aaron threw in a pooper to her backhand. Edith hit it into the bottom of the net.

4-5 in the third. Aaron saw the scoreboard. One break, he knew, and it would be over.

A long point with Edith making an impossible get. Surprised, Aaron held his racket loosely in his hand. Jumping at the ball, he managed a shallow lob, watched with disgust as Edith raced forward for the overhead.

He had not planned where she might hit it. He stood still so she could go around him. Instead, she aimed it at his face, hitting him squarely on the nose.

Surging pain.

Quickly, Aaron turned his back, retiring to some private place which served whenever pain or anger (the same thing) became too much. Whenever he wanted to yell at his mother, he had retired to this place. Now, Edith had put him there. His mother lay dying out West. He did not care about her. Edith was across the net and he did care about her (especially since there had been no words, no apology).

Why should I apologize? someone inside her screamed. He should have turned round. She could taste, could almost taste, the blood she hoped was flowing from his nose, the taste of blood and sweat and victory.

There was no blood. Aaron, like Edith, wished there were. After his win, he would have enjoyed whipping it across her face.

Five-all.

After a struggle, after momentary lapses of not hitting the ball, Aaron won his serve and led six games to five. This time, I'll do it, he thought. This time. **Now.**

At deuce, he took a big change, hitting a powerful backhand cross-court shot off Edith's serve. As he

rushed to net, she scurried back, made a weak lob and took a very bad spill. After placing the ball easily for the point, Aaron looked at her twisted body. She held her right wrist.

Quietly, he asked, "Are you all right?"

"Yes," she said crisply. "I think so," she added getting slowly to her feet.

A game, he thought. A lie. I'll see how fit she is after the match is won.

Her arm like a broken wing, Edith managed to get her second serve into play. Aaron hit a lethal backhand up the line for a winner, waited a few seconds for a phoney out call. When none came, he offered silent congratulations. (In his mind's eye, he saw Edith's broken body left on the court. Saw her blood or his own covering her. It covered the court, the net, the upstream-running river, the azure sky, his mother's bed tucked unsuspectingly away in that far corner of the world where he had been cheated of love forever.)

He was victor.

Henceforth, he would play no games with women. No need. Finally, he had won. For the rest of his life, he could admit to himself (and therefore to the world) that he did not play with women. Did not even like women. Hated their minds, despised their bodies. If that was his truth, why run from it? Let him, rather, have some pleasure from the agonies of his youth, from the memories of his past. (Each time he fucked a man, or a man fucked him, it would be pleasurable simply because it was anti-woman. If his mother had made him a homosexual - or, more likely, if he had been born one and she had nurtured that for selfish reasons - let him at least have some pleasure at being who/what he was.)

"Is it bad, Edith?" he asked, indicating her wrist.

"It may be broken," she replied.

"Oh, really?"

"Yes." She showed her annoyance, that anyone, any man could be so insensitive as to believe her capable of a lie - or find pleasure in her pain. She screamed: "I don't want to play with you any more. I don't. I can't. I won't."

Icily, he took her in. "Would you like some help

getting home?"

"Not from you. I don't want to play with you. I want nothing from you, from any of you any more. You did it. It's your fault."

Very quietly, so she had to strain in order to hear, Aaron said, "I have listened to you for years," (trying to help) "and it does no good at all." (All this horse shit about your problems and your analysis and the rest of it.) "I can not stand it any more. Can-not-stand-it."

She was frightened. This time he truly would leave. She couldn't bear being abandoned. Her father had done that. She had told Aaron that in the very beginning of their friendship. Now, he used it to threaten her. It was the one thing he knew she could not bear. Her father had mistreated her, left her alone.

"You should play with women in the future," Aaron said, gathering his things.

He'll come back, she thought. They always do.

"Goodbye," he said (meaning, get out of my life).

She stayed for a while, aimlessly. He'll come back. He wants to...go on...with this as much as I do. Even though he has said, a few times... At least, he's indicated that...maybe he would prefer not to. But, what else is there? Oh, for him, I suppose, there are meetings with others of his sort in public rest rooms, God knows where.

She thought her wrist might really be broken. If not, it was an extremely bad sprain. When she moved it, there was terrible pain. Pain so deep it was not something one could talk about, or even hate. Men are like that too, she thought, always had been. Aaron is like that.

She felt exactly as she had four years ago when her father left (or, more precisely, exactly as she imagined she had felt). Sometimes, she wasn't sure she remembered it, remembered him at all.

So, why bother? Why the search?

Recently, her father had died. She had received word only a few weeks ago. He was truly gone now - and, apparently, so was Aaron.

They wouldn't come back. Neither one of them. Loving them too much, she had driven them away.



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HERE & THERE

Baltimore, MD—Police here have announced a crackdown on outdoor cruising in the L. G. Ningard Memorial Park. Many arrests have been made on charges of fourth-degree sex offenses. Those arrested have been released on their own recognizance pending further court action.

Gay Community News

Rome, Italy—Homosexuality is grounds for annulment of a Roman Catholic marriage, says the Vatican. In 1978 out of 205 annulment requests not all based on homosexuality, 139 were granted.

Activities of The Holy See

London, UK—A gang of youths who attacked and robbed a gay man "committed a public service", according to a claim made by a London barrister Samuel Parrish at Snaresbrook Crown Court. Parrish was defending the thugs.

Gay News (London)

Seattle, WA—The Seattle Committee Against Thirteen (SCAT) has disbanded itself. The organization, which was formed to fight Initiative Thirteen, which would have repealed Seattle's gay rights law, saw the initiative go down in a landslide defeat.

San Diego Update

San Francisco, CA—Rosemary Belson, a cabbie who was fired from her job because she was raped while working, has been rehired. The company had fired her "so that she could find safer employment."

Associated Press

London, UK—A Spanish gay man is fighting deportation here because he fears persecution as a homosexual if he returns to the country he fled twelve years ago.

Gay News (London)

New York, NY—A group has been formed by and for gay and lesbian personnel in the U.S. military services who are stationed in Europe. For information write to: English-Speaking Gays, Attention Richard, Postfach 6526, 7500 Karlsruhe 1, Federal Republic of Germany. Service people still in the U.S., but anticipating a posting to Europe, may write to Sp/4 Richard A. Matera, Co. A, 8th Aviation Bn, APO New York, NY 09111.

Press Release

New York, NY - The National Gay Task Force is accepting applications for the position of media director. The person hired will replace Ginny Vida, who has announced her resignation effective October 15.

Press Release

Tucson, AZ—On a scale of 1 to 18, chastity is the least important criterion in selecting a mate in the eyes of both female and male students according to an Arizona State University study. Desire for home and children, never below 7, has also fallen to tenth place.

Big Mama Rag

New York, NY—25% of the buses serving New York City's five boroughs are displaying an advertisement reading, "Straight Answers to Gay Questions. Free. (212) 777-1800. Gay Switchboard." The promotional campaign is the first of its kind for the city.

Gay Community News

Northern Ireland—A women's liberation group here has been told to register all future meetings at local police stations. Two uniformed police officers who waited outside a meeting about women in Ireland said that they turned up because such meetings are "political."

Women's Report

Strasbourg, France—The European Human Rights Commission has officially registered **Gay News'** blasphemy case. Individual members of the Commission will now examine the application to decide on its admissibility.

Gay News (London)

New York, NY—The current issue of **Insight: A Quarterly of Lesbian/ Gay Catholic Opinion**, features a diverse group of writers exploring the theme, "Towards a Gay Christian Ethic." For more information contact **Insight** at Box 5110, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10017; or phone (212) 628-9541.

Press Release

Harrow, UK—Gays should foster close relationships with their MP's, according to Nigel Warner of Gay Lobby. "Most MPs are apparently friendly; none are hostile," he told members at a Harrow Gay Unity meeting. "Many younger MPs are very supportive of gays."

Gay News (London)

Baton Rouge, LA—Students for Gay Awareness (SGA), the gay student organization at Louisiana State University, has voted to help police curb "Tearooming" on campus. Numerous complaints have been received from gays and non-gays about "propositioning and public sex" in some of the campus lavatories.

Gay Community News

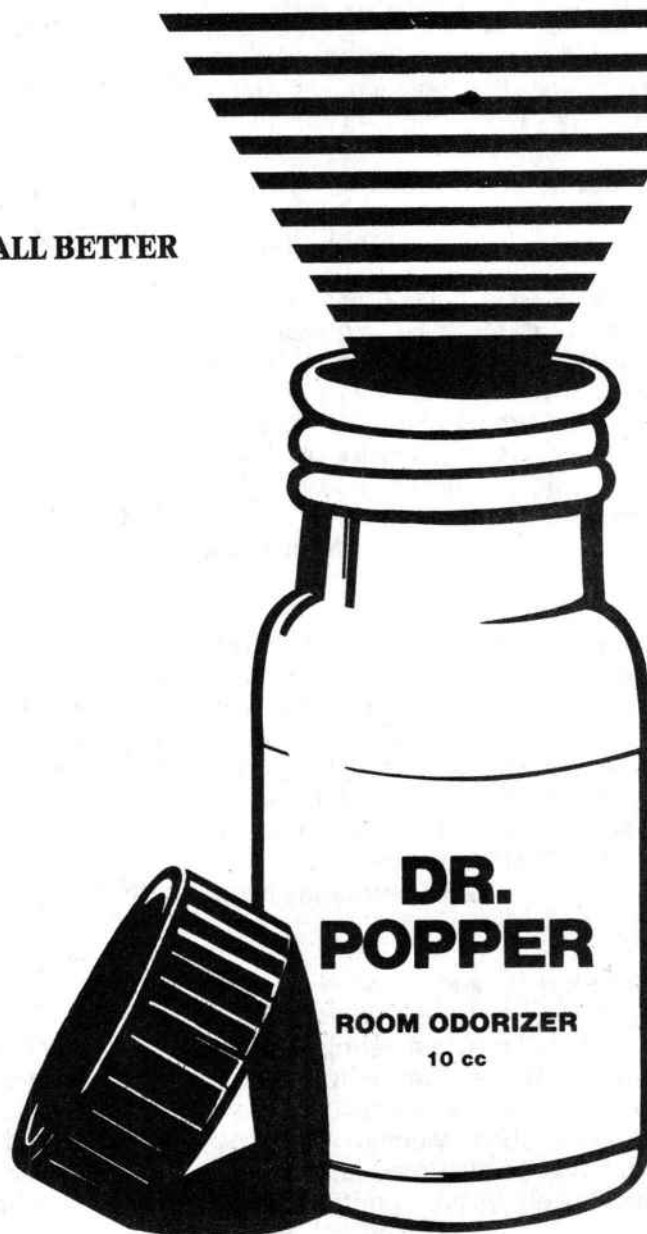
Stoke, UK—Gay groups have won their battle here to lift the ban on their use of a community resource center. The Knotty Action Resources Centre executive committee banned gay groups last year. Gays appealed the decision to the local community at Knotty's annual meeting and the vote went 53-2 in favor of permitting gay groups to use the facilities.

Gay News (London)

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HERE & THERE

San Diego, CA—This city's Gay Center celebrated its sixth anniversary on October 1 at a reception held in the grand ballroom of the U.S. Grant Hotel in downtown San Diego. Approximately 500 persons attended the reception to honor the Center's service to the gay community.

San Diego Update

Baltimore, MD- Almost one year after his bound and handcuffed body was discovered in his apartment, a Baltimore criminal court jury found two men guilty of the murder of hair-stylist Jack Perkins. Shane McCallum, 21, and Howard Earhart, 22, were convicted on counts of robbery and murder.

The Blade

Vancouver, BC- The West End Community Centre has rejected an application from the Gay Alliance Toward Equality(GATE) for rooms in which to hold self-defense classes. The only reason given for the refusal was that "the Centre's aims and goals are different from those of GATE."

Body Politic

Los Angeles, CA- Amid charges that the National Organization for Women(NOW) is abandoning feminist principles and lesbian rights to become a "mainstream" organization, a number of well-known lesbian members are threatening to disassociate themselves from NOW. Lesbian activists Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon have both announced that they intend to let their memberships expire.

The Blade

Toronto, ONT- David Foreman, a gay activist fired from his job at the Richmond Health Street Emporium because of his attempts to organize a union there, has been awarded \$900 in compensation from his former employer.

Body Politic

Santa Barbara, CA—The police chief of Santa Barbara resigned following a City Council decision to create a special police review committee to investigate allegations of police brutality and misconduct. Chief Trembley called the committee a "kangaroo court."

Gay Rights Guardian

Salem, MA—A jury of four women and eight men has found 32-year-old James Chretien guilty of raping his estranged wife. This is the state's first case of a rape conviction for a husband. Chretien was sentenced to 3-5 years in Walpole State Prison.

Gay Community News

San Diego, CA—The fifth annual Mr. & Ms. Gay Teenage San Diego Pageant was held here on October 10. The contest, which drew record crowds, is not a drag show, and features male contestants in levis and swim wear, and female contestants in evening wear.

San Diego Update

Saskatoon, Canada- Arson is suspected as cause of a fire which caused about \$10,000 damage to the Saskatoon Gay Community Centre in the early morning hours of September 4. Police continue their investigation, and claim that one suspect is under suspicion. Not deterred by the damage, which was almost entirely covered by insurance, the Centre re-opened on September 15.

Body Politic

Philadelphia, PA—Philadelphia Physicians for Gay and Lesbian Rights (PPGLR) has organized a telephone referral service to aid gay persons in locating sympathetic physicians and dentists. The number is staffed by PPGLR representatives, and operated Monday through Friday from 7-9 p.m. at (215) 567-4916.

Gay Community News

Bristol, UK—**Move**, the gay women's magazine published in Bristol, is back on sale after a break in publication of almost a year. The magazine is on sale at many kiosks in the area, or may be ordered by post directly from: **Move**, c/o Gay Centre, McArthur's Building, Gas Ferry Road, Horwells, Bristol, UK. Foreign readers may write, enclosing an International Reply Coupon, for subscription rates.

Gay News(London)

Burbank, CA—A group of rock concert promoters is suing this city for \$19.5 million after city officials cancelled appearances of several rock performers. The officials claimed that they would "bring an influx of sexual deviates and drug users to Burbank."

The Blade

Los Angeles, CA—Several gay groups have formally protested the Australian-made television show "Prisoner" in a meeting with KTLA-Channel 5. The groups charge that the program's portrayal of a lesbian character named Frankie Doyle is "stereotyped and totally unrealistic."

Gay Rights Guardian

Portland, ME—The Maine Civil Liberties Union wants to hear from people who have been victims of verbal or physical abuse by Portland police. Victims are urged to contact MCLU at 97A Exchange Street, Portland, ME 04111, or to phone (207) 774-5444.

Press Release

San Diego, CA—This city's Gay Alliance, an umbrella gay organization, reports optimistic progress in talks with the city's police department, which has recently reversed its prohibition on hiring gay candidates to the Police Academy.

San Diego Update



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OFF THE RECORD

Closet Sale. By Maxine Feldman, with various artists and instrumentalists. Galaxia Stereo LP # GAL 003. [Galaxia Records, P.O. Box 212, Woburn, MA 01810]

Maxine Feldman has been an out-of-the closet lesbian feminist for more than ten years, singing with pride what others were once (and in some cases still are) only whispering. Galaxia has managed to team her up with some of the finest musicians currently working in the women's music community, including Robin Flower from Oakland, Jane Kreinberg from Chicago, Dovidia Goodwomon and Lori Tennenhouse from Boston, and Laura Sue Wilansky from Syracuse. Coupled with the technical quality which listeners have come to expect from the Galaxia engineers, the results are simply nothing short of dazzling.

Closet Sale is not a one-track or a single-message album. Its numbers range from the honky-tonk western of "White Mountain Mama" and "Bar One" through the powerful emotions of "Angry Atthis", the hauntingly beautiful love song "Holbrook", to lively and thoughtful movement pieces such as "Amazon", "Objectification", and "Everywoman". Such a wide variety of moods, tempos, and musical thoughts would be nothing short of disaster for a lesser talent, but Feldman pulls it off without a hitch. The listener, digesting the peaceful thoughts of one number in welcome euphoria, is shattered by the cheerful irreverence or powerful drive of the next.

The title song(A1) was recorded live at the Lesbian and Gay Pride



Tenth Anniversary in Boston during June of 1979. Back-up vocals for some numbers are provided, thoughtfully and with skill, by the Amazon Chorus, as well as a myriad of instrumentalists.

Feldman expresses her personal statements in ways which are universally felt, while her wide-ranging voice gives a unique and even gutsy flavor even to numbers in the traditional folksy idiom. The combination of humor, perception, and (last but not least) talent makes this first album an outstanding entry into the growing list of women's music. Highly recommended for women - also for men, gays, nongays, and those of us who haven't yet made up our minds.





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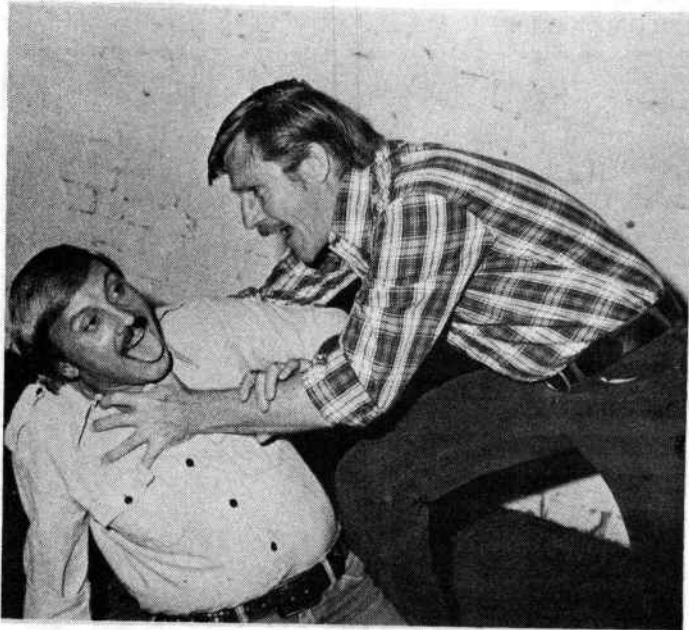
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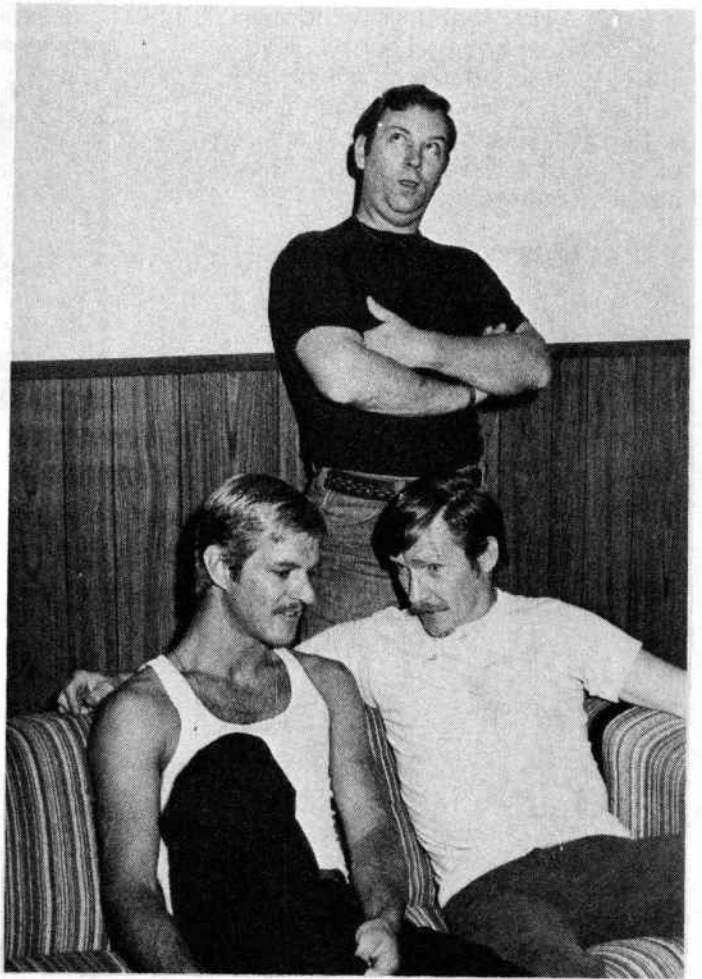


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Theater for Gays(TFG) presented a series of one-act plays beginning the weekend of Oct. 5 at the Black Theater. Entitled "An Evening of Gay Theater," the three plays - **One Person, Fred & Harold**, and **T-Shirts** - were all written by New York's most produced playwright, Robert Patrick, who was in Phoenix for opening night.

In the top-left photo, Pat Williams(L) fights off Bud Guiles as the two rehearse **Fred & Harold**. On the right, Marvin wonders if the conversation is dyslexic between Jon Pady as Tom(L) and Bud Guiles(R) as King in **T-Shirts**. Bottom-left: another scene from **Fred & Harold**.



Phoenicians responded in great numbers to the presentations. Bud Guiles and Steve Schemmel, co-producers, remarked: "The response has been really terrific, and we certainly appreciate it. The cast is working its collective tail off to give a good show. We're pulling teeth to get back-stage help, but we'll give it the best we can."

"An Evening of Gay Theater" is presented under the auspices of the Phoenix chapter of Dignity. In the light of audience response, TFG is considering establishing a permanent gay theater in the Phoenix area.

REVIEW

Radcliffe. By David Storey. NY: Avon Books, 1979. \$2.75.

On the day that the withdrawn and bookish young Leonard Radcliffe is rescued from schoolyard bullies by quick-fisted and slow-witted Vic Tolson, they form a sort of friendship. Years later, they again meet as young adults.



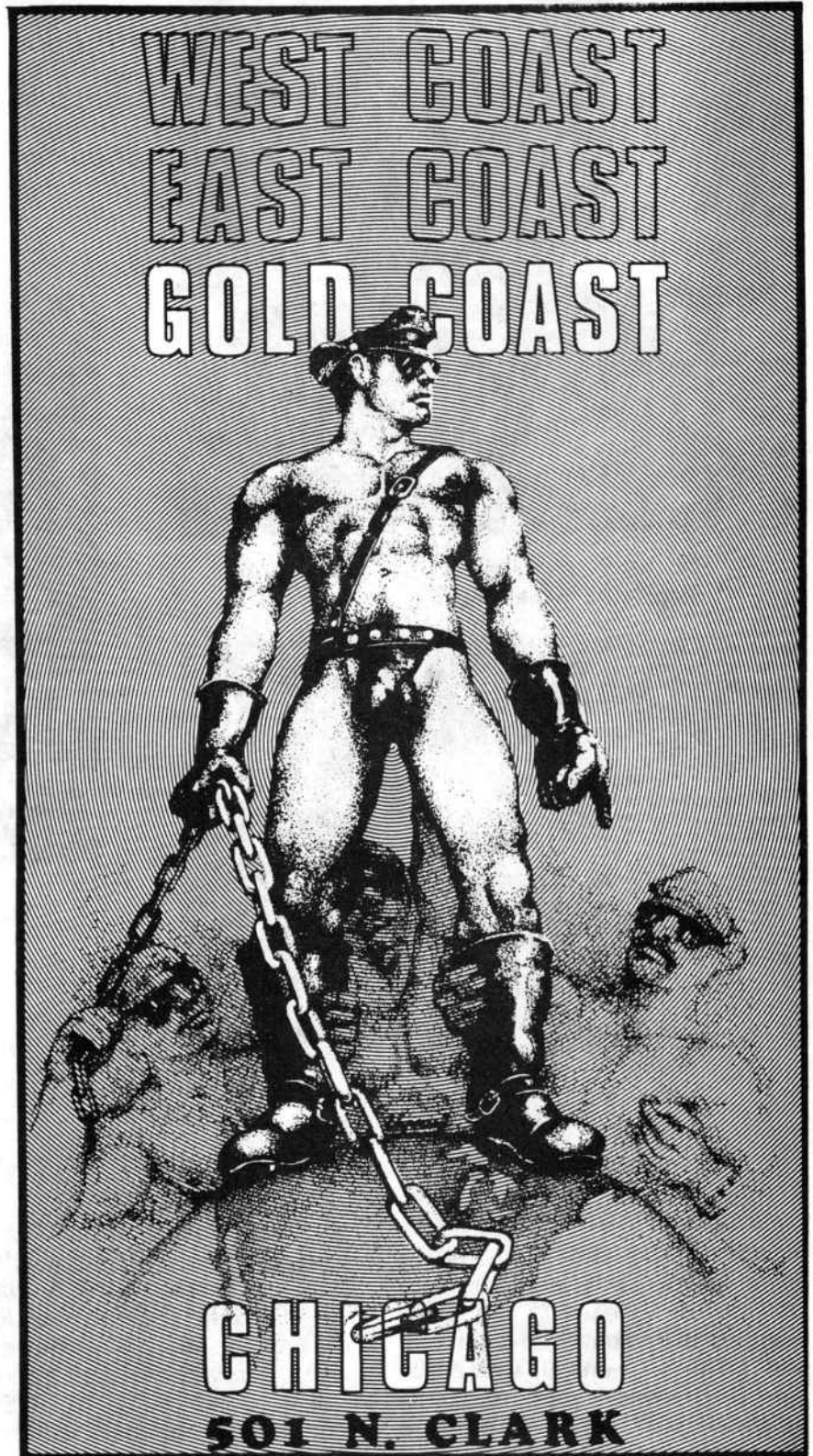
Leonard, the last of a played-out aristocratic family, remains both lonely and anti-social. Tolson, a crude giant of a man, is married and a father. During a wet weekend on the British countryside, their shrouded desires suddenly explode into full-blooded passion; and the two men are propelled into a turbulent relationship from which there is no escape.

Radcliffe is a huge novel, almost

think straight
be Gay

400 pages in length, less a study of homoerotic involvement than a tale of human frailty and ultimate destruction. Storey's other novels (*Pasmore*, *Saville*, *A Temporary Life*) have explored the dark under-

currents of contemporary life, and this new novel is in that same tradition: a study of dark and shaded emotions, somewhat fatalistic in its thrust, but a haunting and powerful tale.



REVIEW

Tales of Neveryon by Samuel Delany. Bantam Books, New York, 1979. \$2.25.

Heavenly Breakfast by Samuel Delany. Bantam Books, New York, 1979. \$1.95.

Reviewed by Lee C. Rice, Ph. D.

The long-awaited new novel by Samuel Delany has been published by Bantam Books together with a tantalizing autobiographical fantasy by the award-winning author. Rousing fantasy adventure, erotic encounters, and satiric insights form an Arabian Nights tapestry of interlocked destinies in **Neveryon**, which will be a must for all sf fans. **Heavenly Breakfast** takes a long and searching look back at the mythic scenes of Delany's youthful experience; which will be a must not only for his many fans (sf and otherwise), but also for those who want to plumb the various layers of imagery and meaning in all his works.

Born in 1942, Delany grew up in New York City's Harlem. He sold his first novel at the age of 19, and since then has published more than a dozen books. The Science Fiction Writers of America awarded the coveted Nebula to his **Babel 17** in 1966, and the following year the same award went to his novel, **The Einstein Intersection**. 1967 also saw the Nebula awarded to his novelet, **Aye and Gomorrah**; and, two years later, it went to the short story, **Time Considered as a Helix of Semi-Precious Stones**. That places Delany in a rarefied company indeed: one of only a small handful of authors who have won the Nebula four times. His works have been translated into 11 foreign languages, with more than five million copies now in print.

Heavenly Breakfast is Delany's imaginative memoir of a New York commune/rock group of the same



name with which he lived during the "winter of love" of 1967, and it is derived from a journal which Delany kept at the same time. Averaging 16 residents, but at times feeding and housing as many as 40, the "Heavenly Breakfast" commune represented many of the elusive qualities of the sixties, and helped to shape one of sf's brightest talents.

For the historically oriented, **Breakfast** may well be a disappointment. Nowhere in its imagery is the murder of Martin Luther King, or the assassination of Kennedy, or the student riots of New York in 1967. **Breakfast** is an essay without being either history or journalism. In some cases several persons are combined into one, and in others one person is atomized into several. The commune was more than a fledgling rock group. It numbered among its transient and more-or-less permanent members gays, straights, bisexuals, those committed to the drug culture and those who

eschewed drugs, classicist and rock musicians, women and men: a virtual cross-section all that was alive in those explorative 60s.

Science fiction writing was in its beginning a sexless idiom, despite the occasionally lurid covers of the pulp mags, which always amounted to the artist's (or advertiser's) misrepresentation of what lay inside the covers. Many have suggested that this is due to the semi-Victorianism of the 30s and the 40s, as well as to the economic and moralizing pressures imposed upon any attempt to launch a new literary idiom. I've always tended to think that it is due more to the sexual blandness of the pioneers of sf. Isaac Asimov, Poul Anderson, or Frederik Pohl (to mention just three) had stupendous cosmological imaginations; but, for want of any first-hand experience, this imagination never extended to the inner person in his/her striving for sexual meaning. Their lifestyles were, one and all, sexually traditional, lying wholly outside that

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thrust for sexual individuation which, even if it achieved its first full flowering in the sixties, surely had roots much further back.

In any event, as **Breakfast** makes clear, Delany's horizons were not outside confrontation and experimentation with sexual and alternative lifestyles. And, in the more



recent bringing of sexuality into sf (not as window-dressing, but as legitimate ground for exploration), Delany ranks as a more recent pioneer. That gays have found their way into space in recent literature testifies to the strength of the sf idiom. It has indeed grown up, and we are all the richer for its maturity.

If **Breakfast** provides insight into the sexual imagery of Delany's work, it also provides evidence of the three levels at which any of his longer works can be read: as fast-action adventure, as archetypal mythical allegory, and as modern myth told in the sf idiom.

Nova, Delany's 1968 novel of the impassioned attempt of a spaceship crew to sail through the splintering core of a disintegrating sun, presented the ship's crew as a miniscule commune: a gypsy, two twins, a golden-haired man who traveled the stars with his strange pets and a Tarot-reading lover, and a scholar who preferred the silent and uninhabited moons of the universe above its suns and inhabited planets. **Dahlgren** (1974), Delany's most monumental undertaking to date, returned to a dying earth, its

society gone mad, where savagery rules and all that was familiar is strange. Sexuality has become the fleeting "**contact epidermique**" of the moment, homo- and heterosex being on equal footing during the last dying gasps of earth.

In **Triton** (1976) the human race has colonized the outer satellites. One of these is Triton, moon of Neptune, where the ideals of universal prosperity and well-being are possible as never on Earth. Yet Earth threatens war; and, within this strange climate of utopia and doom, Bron Helstrom seeks passion and purpose. He falls in love with The Spike, a Ganymedian woman, and with Sam, the man he most admires. But love is a strange and complex thing on Triton, whose society has fifty basic sexes falling loosely into nine categories, four homophilic and five heterophilic. **Triton** was perhaps Delany's first attempt to fit offworld sexuality into a complete social framework.

Neveryon is a barbarous alien empire ruled primarily by brutality, intrigue and fear. Unlike the worlds of the other novels, Neveryon is not just not-Earth: it is not



related temporally or spatially to Earth. It is a world of bizarre paradox, slavery, powerful mysteries, and total sexual abandon. **Tales of Neveryon** is composed of five interlocking stories, each introducing a new character, new place, and a

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new paradox. Nothing is what it seems to be, though the reality of Neveryon mirrors our own world in unexpected and disconcerting ways. The novel can be read on many levels, and I suspect that no two readers will find the same meanings or imagery constant.



One unifying character connects the five tales, for Neveryon is in the last analysis the world of Gorgik, a thick-hewn mine-slave whose prowess defies the mighty. Lady Myrgot takes him as a plaything to Neveryon's imperial court. He leaves the court at the time when Myrgot has tired of him sexually, and when, having learned the complex intrigues and drama of the aristocracy, his further presence would be dangerous. Small Sarg (whom we meet in the third tale) is a prince-become-slave who is purchased by Gorgik. The two men soon become lovers. Their sexual

encounters must always be expressed in a master-slave relationship, whether it be Gorgik or Sarge who wears the slave's collar during sex; and, paradoxically, they set out on a crusade to eliminate slavery from Neveryon. In their wanderings (tales 4 and 5) they meet Norema, an island girl clad in shimmering secrets, and her companion (lover?) Raven, a masked woman warrior. Though there is little sex proper (homosex or otherwise), Delany interlaces the sexual imagery with the social meanings of slavery in a masterful and convincing manner. At the end of **Tales of Neveryon**, we do not know the fate or future of this planet; for, in the last analysis, it is Gorgik and his company which dominate the closing sections.

Gay readers who have not yet entered the mind-expanding literature of sf could find no better start-

ing point than **Tales of Neveryon**. Missing from the novel are what many have come to expect from sf writing: spaceships, interplanetary travel, aliens, and futuristic technology; but sf has always been more than that. **Neveryon** clearly places Delany in the ranks of sf's most innovative and successful authors.

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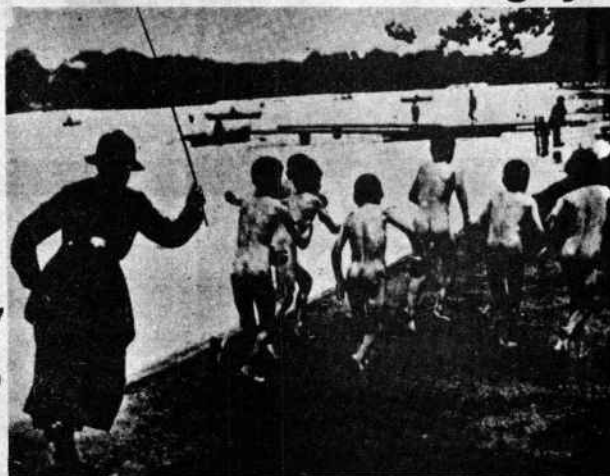


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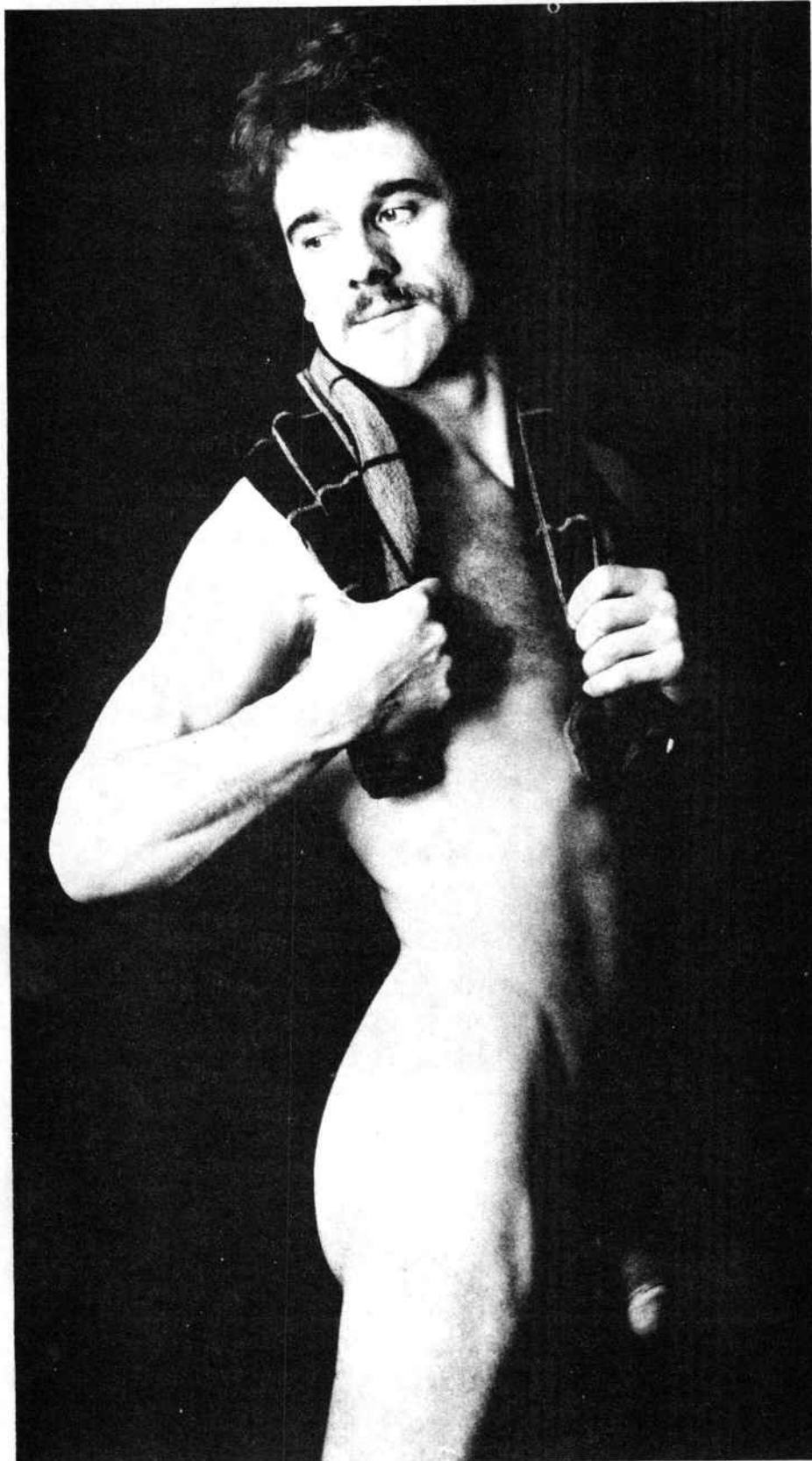
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CALENDAR

photos: HEY and REVOLT



Any person, group or business wishing to have a free announcement of an upcoming event should send copy to: GPU Calendar, Box 92203, Milwaukee, Wis. 53202. **Copy deadline:** 15th of the month preceding an issue.

December 1

Gay Roller Skating(Milwaukee), 7:30-10 p.m., St. Pius Gym, 2506 Wauwatosa Ave. at 76th Street, \$3 admission, sponsored by Dignity/Milwaukee, Open to the public. SIGHT(Racine) Gay Rap Group, 7 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 625 College Avenue.

December 2

Dignity(Milwaukee) Mass, 6 p.m., 2506 Wauwatosa Ave.
MCC(Milwaukee) Meeting, 2 p.m., 2647 North Stowell.
Gay Al-Anon(Milwaukee), 6 p.m., Farwell Center.
Gay AA(Milwaukee), 6 p.m., Farwell Center.
Gay Men's Volleyball(Madison), 2:30-4:30 p.m., 3rd floor gym, 425 Henry Mall.
GLAD TO BE GAY(Madison) TV program, 8 p.m., Cable Channel 4.
Gold Coast(Chicago) Movie Nite, 5 & 10 p.m., "Battlestar Galactica."

December 3

Gay People's Union(Milwaukee) monthly business meeting, Election of officers for GPU's Board of Directors, Nominations accepted for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of Gay People's Union, Inc.
Gay Men's AA(Madison) Meeting, 8 p.m., St. Paul's University Chapel.

December 4

Gay VD Clinic(Madison), 7:30-8:30 p.m., 913 Spring Street.

December 5

United(Madison) Steering Group, Phone (608) 255-8582 for information.
Gay AA(Chicago), 6 p.m., 100 East Ohio Street.
Man's Country(Chicago) Movie Nite.
Mattachine(Chicago) Men's Discussion Group, 7:45 p.m., 100 E. Ohio St.

December 6

Grapevine(Milwaukee) Feminist Group, 7:30 p.m., Women's Coalition.
Little Jim's(Chicago) Movie Nite, 9 p.m.
Coalition for ERA(Madison), 7:30 p.m., Lysistrata.
Counseling(Madison) for male rape victims, 7-9 p.m., 1127 University Ave.

December 8

GUQC(Davenport) Snowball Festival, 9 p.m., Skylight Room, 407 Brady St., Tiffany Rae appearing live, entertainment, \$5 donation, Tickets available from GUQC members or at the door.
SIGHT(Racine) Gay Rap Group, 7 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 625 College Avenue.

December 9

Dignity(Milwaukee) Mass, 6 p.m., 2506 Wauwatosa Ave.
MCC(Milwaukee) Meeting, 2 p.m., 2647 North Stowell.
Gay Al-Anon(Milwaukee), 6 p.m., Farwell Center.
Gay AA(Milwaukee), 6 p.m., Farwell Center.

Gay Men's Volleyball(Madison), 2:30-4:30 p.m., 3rd floor gym, 425 Henry Mall. GLAD TO BE GAY(Madison) TV program, Cable Channel 4, 8 p.m. Gold Coast(Chicago) Movie Nite, 5 & 10 p.m., "Cleopatra".

December 10

Gay Peoples Union(Milwaukee) meeting, 8 p.m., Farwell Center. Open Rap topic: "Growth for Gay Couples."

Gay Men's AA(Madison), 8 p.m., St. Paul's University Chapel.

December 11

Gay VD Clinic(Madison), 7:30-8:30 p.m., 913 Spring Street.

December 12

United(Madison) Steering Group, Phone (608) 255-8582 for information.

Gay AA(Chicago), 6 p.m., 100 E. Ohio St. Man's Country(Chicago) Movie Nite. Mattachine(Chicago) Men's Discussion Group, 7:45 p.m., 100 E. Ohio Street.

December 13

Grapevine(Milwaukee) Feminist Group, 7:30 p.m., Women's Coalition.

Little Jim's(Chicago) Movie Nite, 9 p.m. Coalition for ERA(Madison), 7:30 p.m., Lysistrata.

Counseling(Madison) for male rape victims, 7-9 p.m., 1127 University Avenue.

December 14

Irish Brigade Benefit(Madison) for the United, 8 p.m., \$1.50 donation, entertainment and beer, Phone (608) 255-8582 for place and information.

December 15

SIGHT(Racine) Gay Rap Group, 7 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 625 College Avenue.

December 15

Happy Hanukkah!

December 16

Dignity(Milwaukee) Mass, 6 p.m., 2506 Wauwatosa Avenue.

MCC(Milwaukee) Meeting, 2 p.m., 2647 North Stowell.

Gay Al-Anon(Milwaukee), 6 p.m., Farwell Center.

Gay AA(Milwaukee), 6 p.m., Farwell Center.

Gay Men's Volleyball(Madison), 2:30-4:30 p.m., 3rd floor gym, 425 Henry Mall.

GLAD TO BE GAY(Madison) TV program, 8 p.m., Cable Channel 4.

Gold Coast(Chicago) Movie Nite, 5 & 10 p.m.

December 17

Gay Peoples Union(Milwaukee) Holiday Celebration, 8 p.m., Farwell Center. Share your gift of love and caring for gay people by bringing original tree ornaments, home-baked pie or cookies, a poem, etc.

Gay Men's AA(Madison), 8 p.m., St. Paul's University Chapel.

December 18

ABC News Closeup-Homosexuals, tentatively scheduled for broadcast at 10 p.m. EST, Check local schedules and ABC affiliates for broadcast time, See Stop Press section of Update columns in this issue for further information.

Gay VD Clinic(Madison), 7:30-8:30 p.m., 913 Spring Street.



December 19

United(Madison) Steering Group, Phone (608) 255-8582 for information.

Gay AA(Chicago), 6 p.m., 100 E. Ohio St. Man's Country(Chicago) Movie Nite. Mattachine(Chicago) Men's Discussion Group, 7:45 p.m., 100 East Ohio Street.

December 20

Grapevine(Milwaukee) Feminist Group, 7:30 p.m., Women's Coalition.

Little Jim's(Chicago) Movie Nite, 9 p.m. Coalition for ERA(Madison), 7:30 p.m., Lysistrata.

Counseling(Madison) for male rape victims, 7-9 p.m., 1127 University Avenue.

December 22

SIGHT(Racine) Gay Rap Group, 7 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 625 College Avenue.

December 23

Dignity(Milwaukee) Mass, 6 p.m., 2506 Wauwatosa Ave.

MCC(Milwaukee) Meeting, 2 p.m., 2647 North Stowell.



Gay Al-Anon(Milwaukee), 6 p.m., Farwell Center.

Gay AA(Milwaukee), 6 p.m., Farwell Center.

Gay Men's Volleyball(Madison), 2:30-4:30 p.m., 3rd floor gym, 425 Henry Mall.



GLAD TO BE GAY(Madison) TV program, 8 p.m., Cable Channel 4.
Gold Coast(Chicago) Movie Nite, 5 & 10 p.m.

December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

Farwell Center closed today, No GPU meeting. Merry Christmas!



December 25

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 26

Man's Country(Chicago) Movie Nite.

December 27

Grapevine(Milwaukee) Feminist Group, 7:30 p.m., Women's Coalition.
Little Jim's(Chicago) Movie Nite, 9 p.m.
Coalition for ERA(Madison), 7:30 p.m., Lysistrata.
Counseling(Madison) for male rape victims, 7-9 p.m., 1127 University Avenue.

December 29

SIGHT(Racine) Gay Rap Group, 7 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 625 College



Avenue.

December 30

Dignity(Milwaukee) Mass, 6 p.m., 2506 Wauwatosa Ave.
MCC(Milwaukee) Meeting, 2 p.m., 2647 North Stowell.
Gay AI-Anon(Milwaukee), 6 p.m., Farwell Center.
Gay AA(Milwaukee), 6 p.m., Farwell Center.
Gay Men's Volleyball(Madison), 2:30-4:30 p.m., 3rd floor gym, 425 Henry Mall.

GLAD TO BE GAY(Madison) TV program, 8 p.m., Cable Channel 4.
Gold Coast(Chicago) Movie Nite, 5 & 10 p.m.

December 31

New Year's Eve

Farwell Center closed today, No GPU meeting. Happy New Year!

January 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

SLEEPING QUIZ:

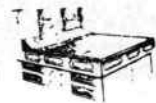
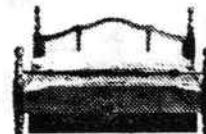
If you take this quiz in the morning, you can come up with all the right answers by tonight.

- | | YES | NO |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Did you toss or turn during sleep last night? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Did you awaken refreshed and energetic this morning? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Do you feel any aching muscles or back pains? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Does your bed provide deep muscle relaxation with soothing warmth? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Did you fall asleep easily and comfortably last night? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If you answered "yes" to questions 1 or 3, if you answered "no" to questions 2, 4 or 5 — you ought to consider switching from an old-fashioned bed to a heated flotation waterbed. Millions of people already have the right answers to the Sleeping Quiz. You can too. All it takes is one night on a waterbed. How about tonight?

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Bisexual Men's Group

Meets second and fourth Fridays from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Farwell Center, 1568 North Farwell Ave.

Dignity/Milwaukee

Mass for the gay and lesbian Catholic community and friends - every Sunday at 6 p.m. Chapel - 2506 Wauwatosa Ave. (76th St.) Phone (414) 961-1965.

Forker Motorcycle Club

"A Men and Women Riding Club," Meets every second Sunday of the month. Write 5816 W. Carmen Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53218.

Free Space

A discussion group for lesbians, Call 964-6117.

Gay Al-Anon

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

Gay Alcoholics Anonymous

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

Gay Overeaters Anonymous

Meets Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., at the Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell Avenue.

Gay Peoples Union, Inc.

Meets every Monday at the Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell Ave., at 8 p.m. Business meetings the first Monday of each month. The Farwell Center is open every night from 7:30 to 11 p.m.

GPU Legal Defense Fund

Gay People's Union, P.O. Box 208, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201. Donations to the Legal Defense Fund are tax-deductible.

GPU VD Clinic

Free VD Screening. Thursday and Friday evenings from 7 to 10 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Diagnosis and treatment by physician, Wednesday only, 7-10 p.m. The Farwell Center, 1568 N. Farwell Ave. Total confidentiality. Phone 347-1222.

Grapevine

Feminist support and social group. All lesbians welcome. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., The Women's Coalition, 2211 E Kenwood Blvd.

Lesbian Support Groups

Group discussions for lesbians, lesbian facilitators, Phone 271-4610.

Lutherans Concerned for Gays

For information, write P.O. Box 92872, Milwaukee, WI 53202, or call 963-9833. Cooperating with Village Church's 5 p.m. Sunday Service, 1108 North Jackson.

Metropolitan Community Church

P.O. Box 1612, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Meets every Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Church at 2647 North Stowell.

Milwaukee Health Department

Social Hygiene Clinic
841 N. Broadway, Room 110
Phone: 278-3631
Clinic hours: Mon. & Thurs. from 11:30 a.m. to 7:15 p.m.; Tues., Wed., & Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Silver Star Motorcycle Club

Business meeting every second Sunday of the month. Write P.O. Box 1176, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Club night every second Friday at the Wreck Room.

UWM Gay Community

Phone: (414) 963-6555.
Office: Student Union E-364.
Service, support, & friendship. Write Union Box 251, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

MADISON

Clergy for Community Dialogue

Box 229, Madison, WI 53701. For information phone (608) 255-8093.

Integrity/Dignity/Madison

Box 5641, Madison, WI 53705. For news of services phone (608) 257-7575.

Madison Gay Center

1001 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53715. Telephone: (608) 257-7575.

Renaissance of Madison, Inc.

913 Spring Street, Gay VD Clinic, Free screening and treatment Tuesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The United/Madison

206 North Brooks, Madison, WI 53715. Telephone (608) 255-8582. Call or write for information or monthly newsletter.

WISCONSIN

Gay Students Assn./Oshkosh

University of Wisconsin- Oshkosh, Box 51, Dempsey Hall, Oshkosh, WI 54901. Meets twice monthly. Information and counseling available. Call (414) 426-0832.

Racine/Kenosha Gays

Rap Group meets every Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian-Universalist Church, 625 College Ave., Racine, Wisconsin. For information and special schedules call the Racine/Kenosha Gay Hotline at (414) 552-7331.

ILLINOIS

Gays United of the Quad Cities

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P.O. Box 444, Rock Island, IL 61201. Telephone: (319) 326-5800.

CHICAGO

Dignity/Chicago

Catholic Mass, Sundays at 7 p.m., 824 West Wellington, Phone (312)— 525-3564 or write P.O. Box 11261, Chicago 60611.

Fox Valley Gay Association

Serving Elgin and N.W. suburbs of Chicago. Gay referral line (312) 888-1588. Monthly newsletter, monthly meetings, rap sessions, and parties. Phone referral line or write Box 393, Elgin, IL 60120.

Gay Counseling Service

Gay Switchboard
Switchboard (929-HELP) operates between 7 and 11 p.m. for visitors to the city. Counseling Service: same hours and same number.

Mattachine Midwest/Chicago

100 East Ohio Street, 2nd floor, Chicago, IL 60611. (312) 337-2424. Phone or write for information.

Maturity

For those over 40. Germania Club, 108 West Germania Place, Meets 3rd Fridays. Call (312) 372-8616 for information.

One of Chicago

615 West Wellington, Meets first Fridays. Phone (312) 372-8616 for information.

VD Testing & Treatment for Gays

Howard Brown Memorial Clinic, 2205 North Halsted Street, Wednesdays from 7 to 10 p.m. Phone (312) 871-5777 for information.

IOWA

Gays United of the Quad Cities

See GUQC listing for Illinois.

Pride of Lambda

Meetings held at the People's Unitarian Church, 600 3rd Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids, IA. Monthly newsletter. Phone 362-5522, or write P.O. Box 265, Cedar Rapids, Ia 52406, for information.

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Co-Coordinator

The Gay Community Center of Colorado, Inc., a nonprofit educational, counseling, and community service organization founded in 1976, is now accepting applications for the position of co-coordinator. One woman and one man will be selected. Applications must be postmarked no later than December 15, 1979 to qualify for consideration. The appointments begin mid-January, 1980, and the beginning salary for each position is \$800.00 per month, plus benefits. Resumes and inquiries should be sent to: Selection Committee, Gay Community Center of Colorado, Inc., Box 2024, Denver, Colorado 80201.

GPU News back-issues. Please send for price list of available numbers. P.O. Box 92203, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

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Norway Calling

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SUBSTANCE LIQUID VAPOR LIGHT by Stephen Hunt. Acclaimed gay poetry. Illus. 80 pps. \$4.50 postpaid from Paper Stork Press, 634½ W. Arlington Pl., Chicago, IL 60614.

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AUTHORS COLLECTING MATERIAL on ethnicity and gayness. Need essays dealing with the German-Am., Polish-Am., Latino, Native-Am., Near Eastern ethnic experiences for a forthcoming book. Both male and female responses desired. Send either completed manuscript or outline. SASE please. Reply to: P.O. Box 13420, Philadelphia, PA 19101.

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G/W/M

Like to meet other G/W/M 18-25, for friendship and relationship. No macho. Write M.R.C., 2406 36th Street, Des Moines, IA 50310.

GAY GREETING CARDS

Buttons, rubber stamps, etc. Catalog 50¢; Catalog & sample assortment of 10 holiday cards \$4.00. Gnu-Cards, P.O. Box 1715-U, Boston, MA 02105.

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to establish friendship for purpose of having a child. Let's talk about it. Call Scott at (414) 372-8187.

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

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Cover Design: Robert Uyvari

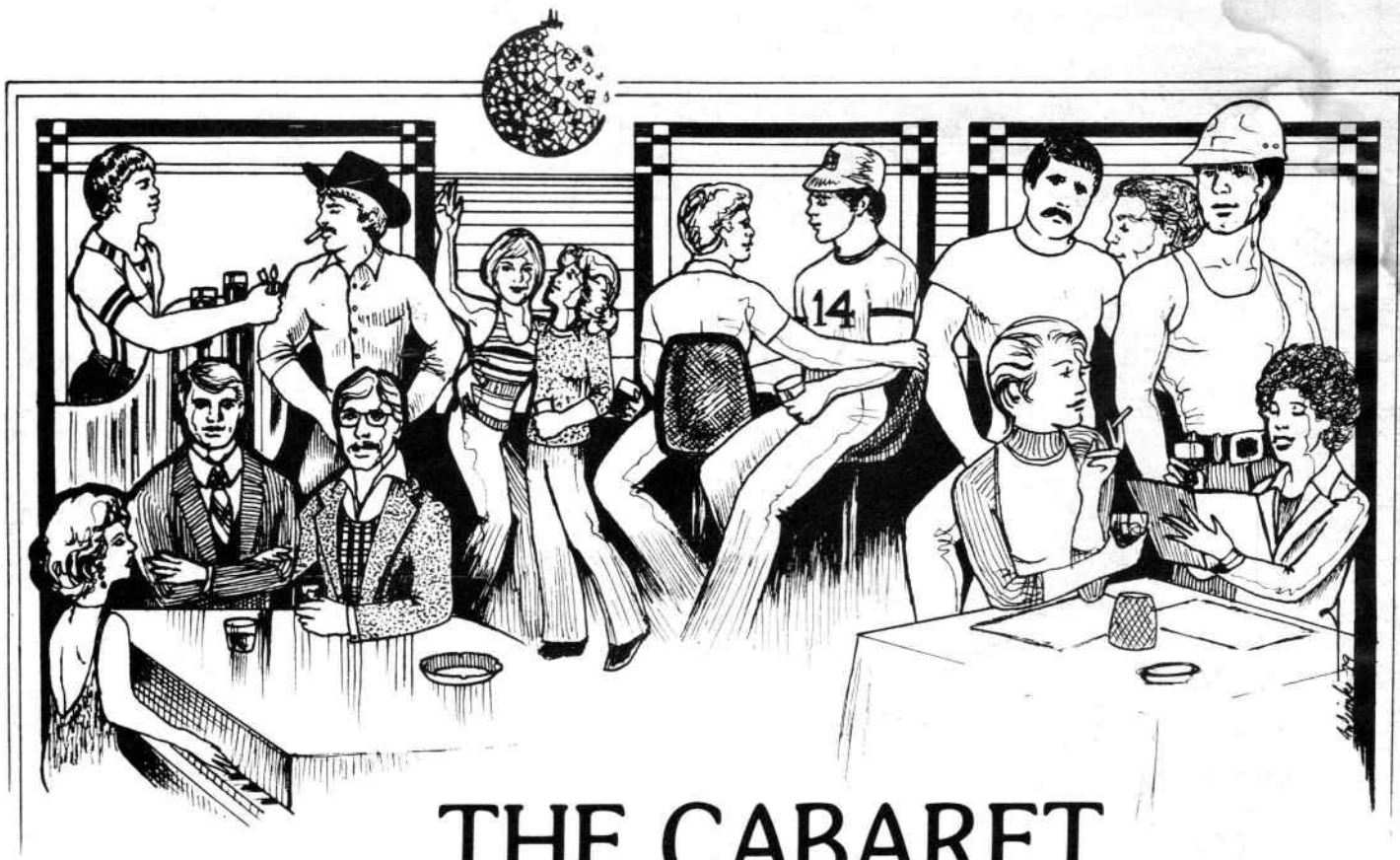
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