

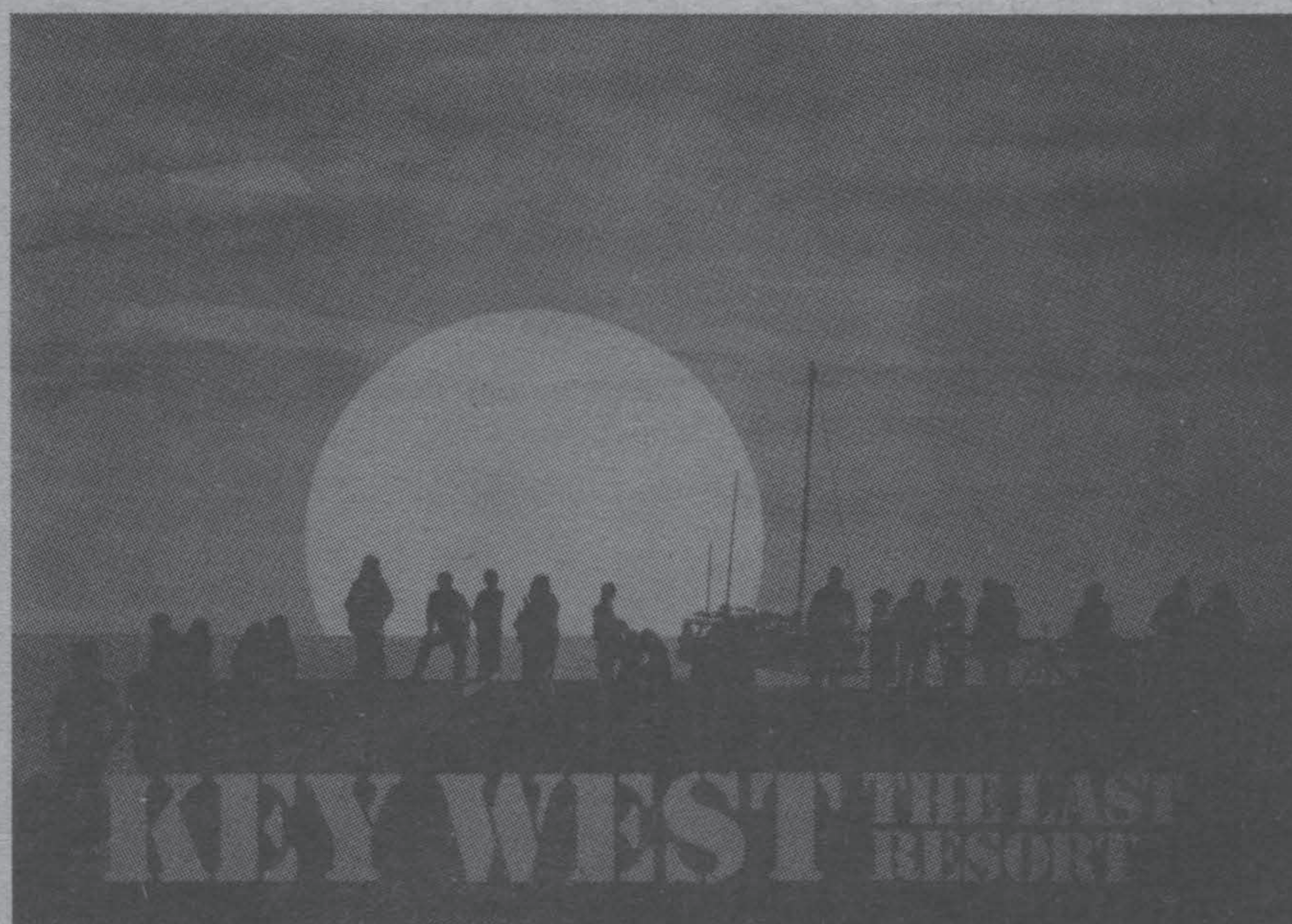
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THE BLADE

VOL. 10, NO. 8

A PUBLICATION FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY

APRIL 12, 1979



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Key West: The 'War' Winds Down

by Larry Bush

"It started with the Gays. But now they've got a taste of blood in their mouths and they're like wild animals. It's a thrill seeking thing."

— Tim Miller, President
Key West Chamber of Commerce

"This is an all-out war on queers."
— teenage assailant during
attack on Gay tourist,
quoted in *The Miami Herald*.

KEY WEST — Those statements, and others like them, were the fusillades in a battle that rocked Key West, Florida, as its lucrative tourist season got underway this year. If the hyperbole was not

Larry Bush recently spent several days in Key West. He was not harassed.

matched by fear and loathing stalking under the palms, the statements did accurately express the feelings of dozens of people, mostly Gay, who were assaulted in the past three months there.

The Key West "war" came as a surprise to almost everyone. Long a relaxed, even laid back, isle of tolerance, Key West was used to having Gay business people and tourists in its midst. Alienated people, from Tories during the American Revolution to spaced-out sixties freaks, came to Key West as a last resort and refuge from the hustle of American life.

Located 150 miles south of Miami on the southernmost U.S. point, Key West is light years away from the gaudy hotels and beach cabanas of its more famous competitor. The big event in Key West was, and remains, going down to the city

pier at day's end to literally applaud the sunset, accompanied by street musicians and performers.

For years, Gays have found Key West an amicable place to vacation — always sunny, attracting a diverse enough crowd to insure anonymity, and an ambiance that made everything go down real smooth. Well known eccentrics, from Ernest Hemingway to Tennessee Williams, have basked there in privacy.

Like most resort towns, Key West is a contradiction. On one hand it offers its hospitality and warmth to all comers; on the other, it remains a small, closed Southern town operating on the "bubba," or brother, system of old family contacts. When the clash moved into the open, Gays became the target.

Key West's Gay residents, however, say that part of the blame for the violence rests with Gay tourists who think they have found a new Fire Island (a wide open Gay resort not far from New York City).

"People say that the locals don't take to Gays — that's bullshit," James Kirkwood, author of *Chorus Line* and a part-year Gay resident, says. "At Fire Island they are, really on an island and are flamboyant. A lot of these people come to Key West and it is unattractive and brings out hostility."

"There always were a lot of homosexuals active here," Kirkwood says. "It was taken for granted. But everybody acted in a more or less normal way in public. They weren't holding hands in public. Once that starts, it gives the high school kids a project, a target."

The local Gay establishment, however, has been quick to push for action from city officials. A year ago the Key West Business Guild, made up of predomi-

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Rights Bill Support Sets Record

by Steve Martz

The 1979 Federal Gay Civil Rights Bill (H.R. 2074), introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives earlier this year by Reps. Henry Waxman (D-Cal.) and Ted Weiss (D-N.Y.), has already garnered more co-sponsors than any previous version of the bill.

The legislation, which has regularly been introduced in every session of the House since 1974, attracted a total of 43 sponsors by the time the "first batch" of co-sponsors was filed last week, according to Steve Endean, executive director of the Washington-based Gay Rights National Lobby.

Endean, who expects the total number of co-sponsors to approach 50 when a second group of sponsors is added to the bill later this month, said he is very pleased with the number of co-sponsors of the 1979 bill.

"Our relative success has surprised a number of public interest lobbyists who didn't believe we would fare very well in this Congress. The 96th Congress is widely perceived, probably correctly, as being less receptive to progressive or controversial legislation than was its predecessor."

One reason for Endean's satisfaction is that the 43 co-sponsors of the bill — there were 39 last session — include 13 new sponsors, seven of whom are serving their first term in Congress.

"There was a point when I was afraid we were going to have fewer co-sponsors than last year," said Endean. "Six of last year's sponsors did not return to the House and a number of others were slow to come back on the bill. The large number of new sponsors has been gratifying."

One of the new co-sponsors is freshman Mike Barnes, a Democrat from Montgomery County. He joins Parren Mitchell as the second Marylander to co-sponsor the bill. Mitchell, a Democrat from Baltimore, and Walter Fauntroy (D-D.C.) were the only two area representatives to co-sponsor the bill in the previous Congress. Mitchell and Fauntroy are again co-sponsoring the legislation this year.

While this year's legislation does have a record number of co-sponsors, its fate is not expected to be radically different from that of its predecessors. No version of the bill has

ever been reported out of committee, nor have hearings ever been held on the legislation. That is not likely to change during this Congress.

One gain that is expected is that consultations — closed briefings for members of Congress and their aides — will probably be held by one of the two committees to which the bill has been jointly referred.

Endean believes this step is preferable to

Continued on page 4

White House Invites Third World Gays

by Don Michaels

Representatives of racial minorities within the Gay community have arranged for a meeting at the White House to air their concerns and priorities. Jane Wales, Coordinator of the White House's Public Liaison Committee, has invited third world Gays to meet with her on Tuesday, June 5, in her White House office.

The meeting was set up as the result of a letter to Wales from the National Coalitions of Black Gays [NCBG], headquartered in Columbia, Md. NCBG co-coordinators Delores Berry and A. Billy S. Jones wrote to Wales on January 26 requesting that she provide NCBG with "an opportunity to discuss our concerns, organization, goals, philosophy and projects with you." Wales responded, in a February 26 letter, that "I would be happy to meet with you ... as soon as is mutually convenient." The June 5 meeting was just recently agreed upon.

Events prompting NCBG's call for the meeting trace back to mid-December of last year when the White House called a conference on human rights, but failed to include any representatives from the Gay community. The National Gay Task Force immediately sent a letter to President Carter requesting that Gay community representa-

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COMMUNITY FOCUS: Gertrude Stein holds a wake for Doug Moore; Gay Hotline lends an ear; Calendar of events; much more — pages 15-19

Forum

Thank Goodness

Thank goodness we've learned to laugh at ourselves and at the world around us. Your April Fools edition was FUN: sophisticated, well planned, varied, each piece well written with imagination and good spirit. Thanks. For helping me and the rest of us to enjoy who and what we are in the world we live in.

Moreover, The *Blade* gets better all the time. It is not merely a Gay rag, but an important community organ for communications. And if anyone in our community is ignorant of what's happening, we know they don't read The *Blade*.

We are more of a real community because of your good work. Thanks, and keep it up.

Everett Waldo
Takoma Park, Md.

Duped

What a "fool" I had been to read your April 1979 edition of The *Blade*. The loss of my pride, as if I had been royally 'duped', served as an excellent opportunity to sit down and write you a few words of appreciation.

The April Fools issue was one of THE best issues I have ever read. Your writers are to be congratulated again for their creativity. Here I was hooting at the L&F this weekend past when several friends admonished me strongly to make it my business to read the new issue. My questions as to why I should read it, were met with more intense advice. So I made it my business to do so.

The satire, caustic and casual, was of the highest quality. The superb vein of comic journalism, I hope, continues in

future issues. Your readers will be more appreciative, I'm sure.

Thank you again for making April 1, 1979 a memorable day.

Sincerely,
Steven R. Estes



Straights Aren't So Bad After All

"Two ID's with birthdate and photo!" Sound familiar? If you're a mixed couple trying to enter The Pier on Half St., S.W., very familiar. Well, I'm Gay, but I was turned away because I was with my sister-in-law, and they assumed we were straight. My reaction? *Outrage!* For days, even I hated Gays, just as hundreds of other straights do when denied admission. For two years I have been writing a novel which is addressed to straights to help them understand Gays, but all positive efforts are negated by asinine attitudes such as The Pier's. Straights are being forced to take us into society, but must we antagonize and be so obnoxious?

For thirty years I have been repressed by straight society, have been ostracized and abused — just as you have been. I resent straights, too. But as much as I hate to say it, we are Gays entering a straight man's world. We can take our rightful position by force through court actions and mass demonstrations, but unless straights are taught to understand us, to *like* us, our lives will continue to be made uncomfortable.

No, I do not go to The Pier to cruise, as it is too infiltrated with straights. But I do go there to have fun, often proudly with straight friends to show them how "we" have a good time. And invariably, when a discussion about Gays crops up, these friends defend the Gay movement and make others less hostile. This is what it's all about, isn't it?

Please, the next time you see a straight in your favorite bar, respect him for his bravery and welcome him. You may be surprised that straights aren't so bad after all.

Nolan Haan
Author of
Escape From Great Silence

Disturbed

Of all the Gay publications in the country, The *Blade*'s coverage of the National Gay Rights March Conference in Philadelphia was the most disturbing. Granted, many representatives there (including the majority of the Washington delegation) felt having a march in 1980 would have provided more time to pull the event off successfully — but most supported having it in October of this year.

On March 13, the Dade County Coalition for Human Rights here in Miami voted unanimously to support the march. From reading such publications as Houston's *Upfront*, the *Arizona Gay News*, Chicago's *GAYLIFE*, Boston's *Gay Community News*, etc., it is clear there is tremendous enthusiasm for having a massive Gay rights march in Washington in October.

Don't be too conservative or defeatist. It is clear many want the march this year because it's the tenth anniversary of Stonewall and to keep the momentum going after our victories in California and Seattle. We're counting on our sisters and brothers in D.C. to help us and host us towards this ambitious undertaking.

I, for one, am tired of all the disunity and factionalism in the Gay/Lesbian communities. If we can't unite for one national march in our nation's capital, I suspect we'll never achieve our goals.

Mark N. Silber,
Chairperson,
Stonewall Library
Hollywood, Fla.

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Do it through **Forum**. Please keep your letter as brief as possible and address it to:

Blade Editor
Suite 225
2430 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

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ADMINISTRATION

Managing Editor: Don Michaels
Production Manager: Richard P. Keagan
Advertising Manager: Steve Martz
Typesetting: Ralph H. Goff

CONTRIBUTORS

A. E. Acosta	Noel Gillespie	Ellen Levi
Kerry Ann	Herb Gingold	Brian McNaught
Joan E. Biren	Ralph H. Goff	Barry Maddox
Larry Bush	Leonard Graff	Steve Martz
Kate Casano	Tom Huhn	Dennis D. Pitts
Lou Chibbaro, Jr.	Craig Howell	James D. Wagoner
Bopper Deyton	Peter Klein	John Yanson
Janice Eklund	Bruce Lawrence	

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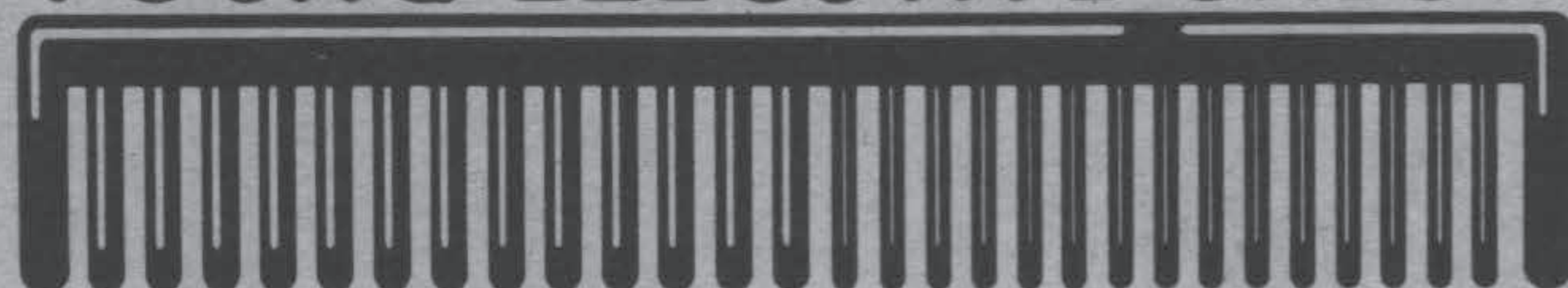
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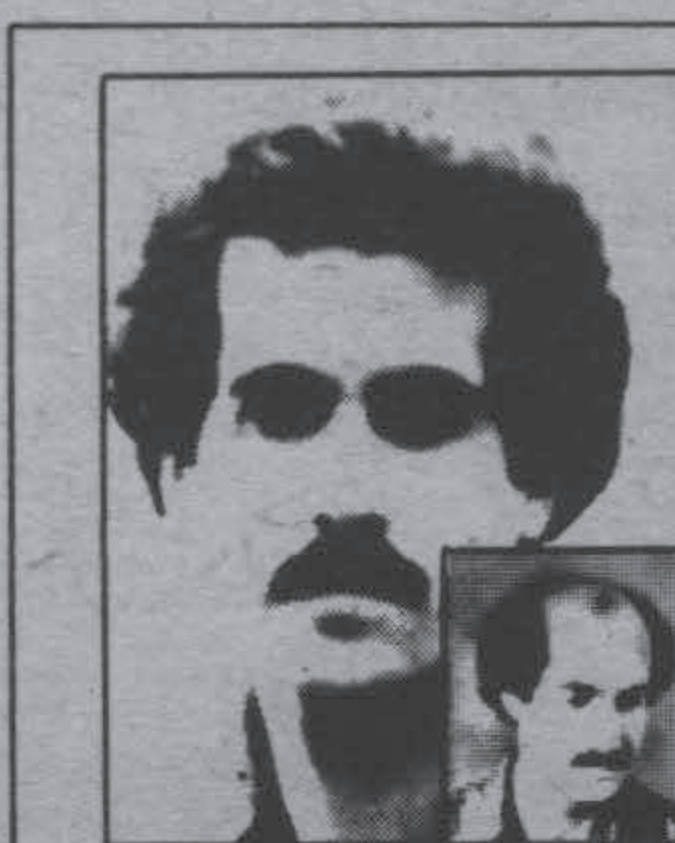
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GAA Issues Ratings

Candidates Woo Gays

by Larry Bush

In the aftermath of the Gay community's decisive role in last November's election, Gay voters are again being courted by candidates for office in the May 1 D.C. special election.

The special election, which serves as a postscript to last November when city leaders went through a musical chairs change in positions, will fill two city council vacancies and one school board vacancy.

Candidates, lacking polls to gauge their voter popularity or hot issues to sway votes, have instead relied primarily on their political instincts to build a winning strength. Past performances by the Gay community as campaign workers and voters assured a strong place in election efforts, particularly because special elections generally result in lower voter turn-out.

Candidates for the two city council offices have participated in a special forum called by a coalition of Gay and feminist groups in mid-March, established regular contacts with city Gay groups, and targeted Gay neighborhoods for special leafletting and poster efforts.

The Gay Activists Alliance, which rates but does not endorse candidates, has been particularly singled out by candidates because of its strong efforts in circulating information on candidate's stances.

"We have found that candidates are increasingly concerned about their GAA ratings and the possible impact on votes," said Steve Martz, GAA vice president.

Martz noted that the candidates for the school board position also were taking a strong interest in Gay voter support and were recognizing that school issues were of concern to D.C. Gays.

The major race in the election is to fill an at-large city council seat, currently held by

John Ray on an appointive basis. Ray is the top contender in the race, and has been endorsed by the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club and received a GAA rating of +8 - the highest ranking among the contenders.

Hector Rodriguez, a former at-large candidate, also is making a strong effort to win Gay support, and has been endorsed by the Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gay Men and the Walt Whitman Republican Club. Rodriguez received a +6 GAA rating. David Harris, an openly Gay candidate, has received no formal Gay community support and received a GAA rating of +4. Gay community foe Douglas Moore, a former city council member who in the past has called for a city referendum on Gay rights, is making a comeback effort after losing a bid for the council chair in last September's primary. Moore received GAA's lowest rating, -10.

Ward 4 (upper northwest) voters, will fill the council seat left vacant when Arrington Dixon moved to the council chair position. Gay community support appears to be split between Barry Campbell, who was endorsed by the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club and the Coalition, and Charlene Drew Jarvis, who was endorsed by the Whitman Club and is making a strong bid for Gay votes. Jarvis, who is being strongly supported by Dixon in the bid to fill his old seat, received the same GAA rating as Campbell, +8.

Voters city-wide will decide on who will fill the school board seat, left vacant when Betty Ann Kane, a strong supporter of the Gay community, was elected to the city council. David Wellington, the co-chair of newly-elected Mayor Marion Barry's transition team youth task force, received the highest GAA rating (+7) of the candidates. None of the other Gay groups has taken a position in the school board race.

White House Invites

Continued from page 1

tives not be overlooked in any future human rights forums. NCBG then followed with their letter requesting a meeting with Wales, whose office is charged with public outreach to various interest groups.

NCBG co-coordinator Billy Jones said the purpose of the meeting is to acquaint Wales and the White House with the special concerns of third world Gays that they feel are not adequately represented by established Gay groups such as NGTF. "We are not yet comfortable with NGTF or GRNL [the Gay Rights National Lobby] acting as spokespersons for third world Gays," Jones stressed. "Their structures — which are geared toward the one-issue perspective of sexism against the Gay community — do not reflect adequate concerns for third world Gays," he added.

NCBG hopes that the meeting will serve to sensitize the White House to the issues concerning third world Gays who, Jones pointed out, are faced with oppression as Gays and as racial minorities, both within and without the Gay community. Although a formal agenda has not been finalized,

Jones expressed the feeling that a promise should be exacted from Wales that a third world Gay representative be included in any future White House conference on human rights. In addition, Jones feels the group should seek White House endorsement for the Conference of Third World Gays to be held in Washington in mid-October, as well as for the National March On Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, to be held October 14. Jones also hopes that the group's agenda will include a call for White House endorsement and support for the federal Gay rights bill.

The group that will represent third world Gays at the White House meeting will be composed of Latin, Asian, Native and Afro-Americans. There will be a minimum of two representatives from each racial group. There are more than 30 known third world Gay organizations in the U.S. and NCBG has asked each organization to submit a list of items it feels should be included on the White House meeting agenda. A final agenda will be drawn up and submitted to the White House by early May, according to Jones.

Gay Republicans Issue Endorsements

by Don Michaels

The Walt Whitman Republican Club, a D.C. metropolitan area organization for Gay Republicans, has endorsed two Democrats running for the D.C. city council in the upcoming May 1 special election.

The Club's nominating committee, empowered by the membership to issue candidate endorsements, declared its support for Hector Rodriguez in the at-large council race, and Charlene Drew Jarvis in the Ward 4 council race. Both Rodriguez and Jarvis

are strong contenders in their respective races and have drawn support from other areas of the Gay community.

By endorsing the two Democrats, the Club followed up on a decision made at a recent meeting to endorse Democrats when there were no Republican candidates deserving of the Club's support. In a city where nearly nine out of every ten voters are registered as Democrats, few Republican candidates appear on the ballot.

GAY VOTES COUNT



Without them, Marion Barry probably would not be mayor. Without them, candidates who are not committed to full human rights for all Washingtonians could be successful.

That is why the Gay Activists Alliance believes it is important for you to know where candidates stand on Gay issues. GAA has examined the candidates' past record of support for the Gay community, their responses to our questionnaire, and their handling of Gay issues at public forums.

The results of our effort appear below. Using what we've learned about their positions on Gay issues, we've rated all persons running in the May 1 special election. The highest possible rating is +10; the lowest -10. Those not listed received a 0.

City Council At-Large
(city-wide contest)
(vote for 1)

John Ray.....	+8
Frances Goldman	+7
Warren Hemphill, Sr.	+6
Hector Rodriguez	+6
H. Chris Brown	+4
Jackson Champion	+4
David Harris	+4
Richard Blanks, Sr.	0
Douglas Moore	-10

School Board At-Large
(city-wide contest)

David Wellington	+7
Hilton Cobb	+6
Joseph Webb	+5
Dick Brown	+4
Charlotte Holmes	+4
Rohulamin Quander	+4
John Wallace	+3

City Council — Ward 4
(upper northwest, east of the park)
(vote for 1)

Barry Campbell	+8
Charlene Drew Jarvis	+8
Mary Prahinski	+5
Goldie Johnson	+4
Norman Neverson	+4
Vikki Street	+4
Richard Clark	+3
Dorothy Maulsby	+2
Nathaniel Sims	+2
Malcolm Diggs	+1

VOTE MAY 1

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Rights Bill Support

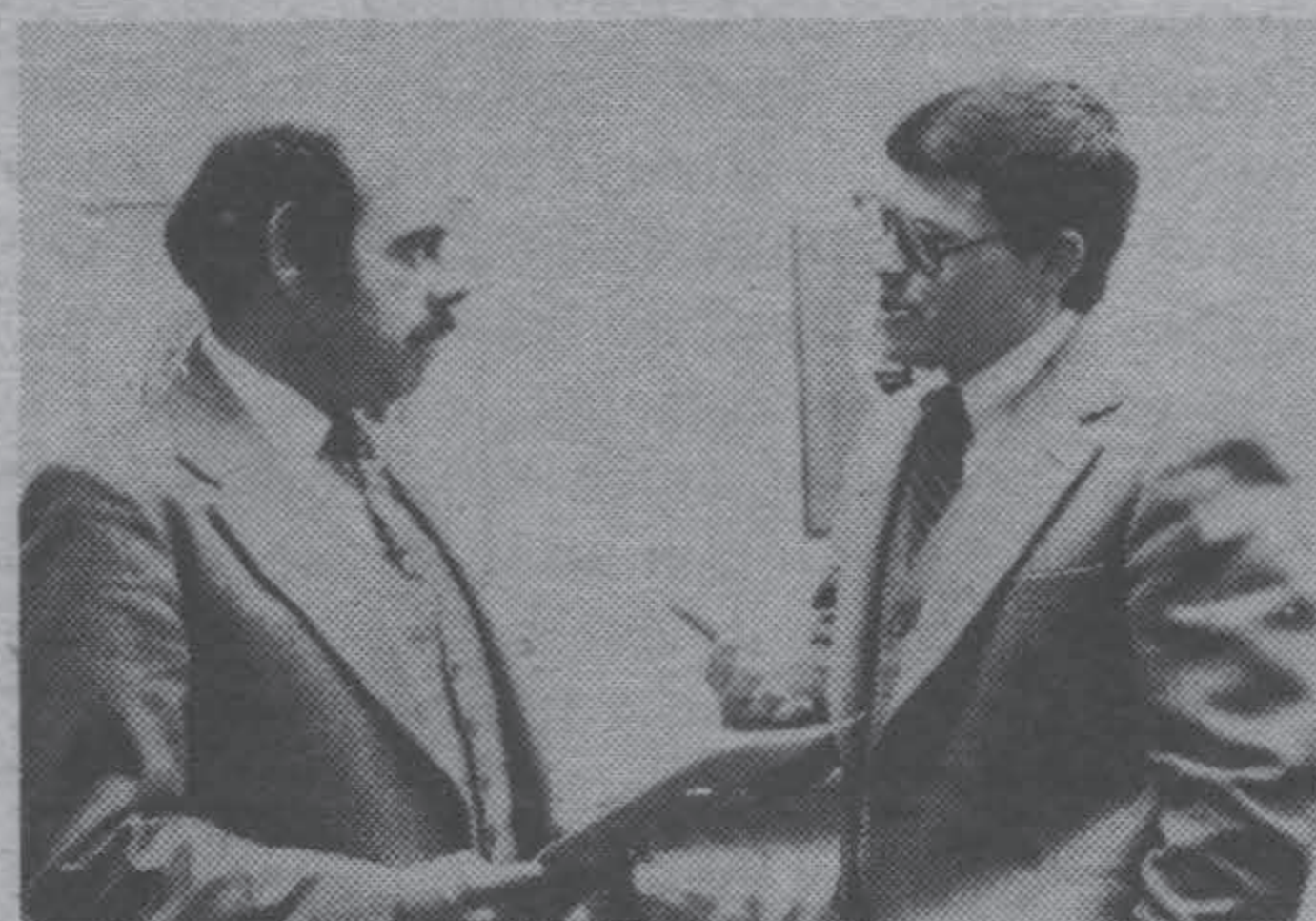
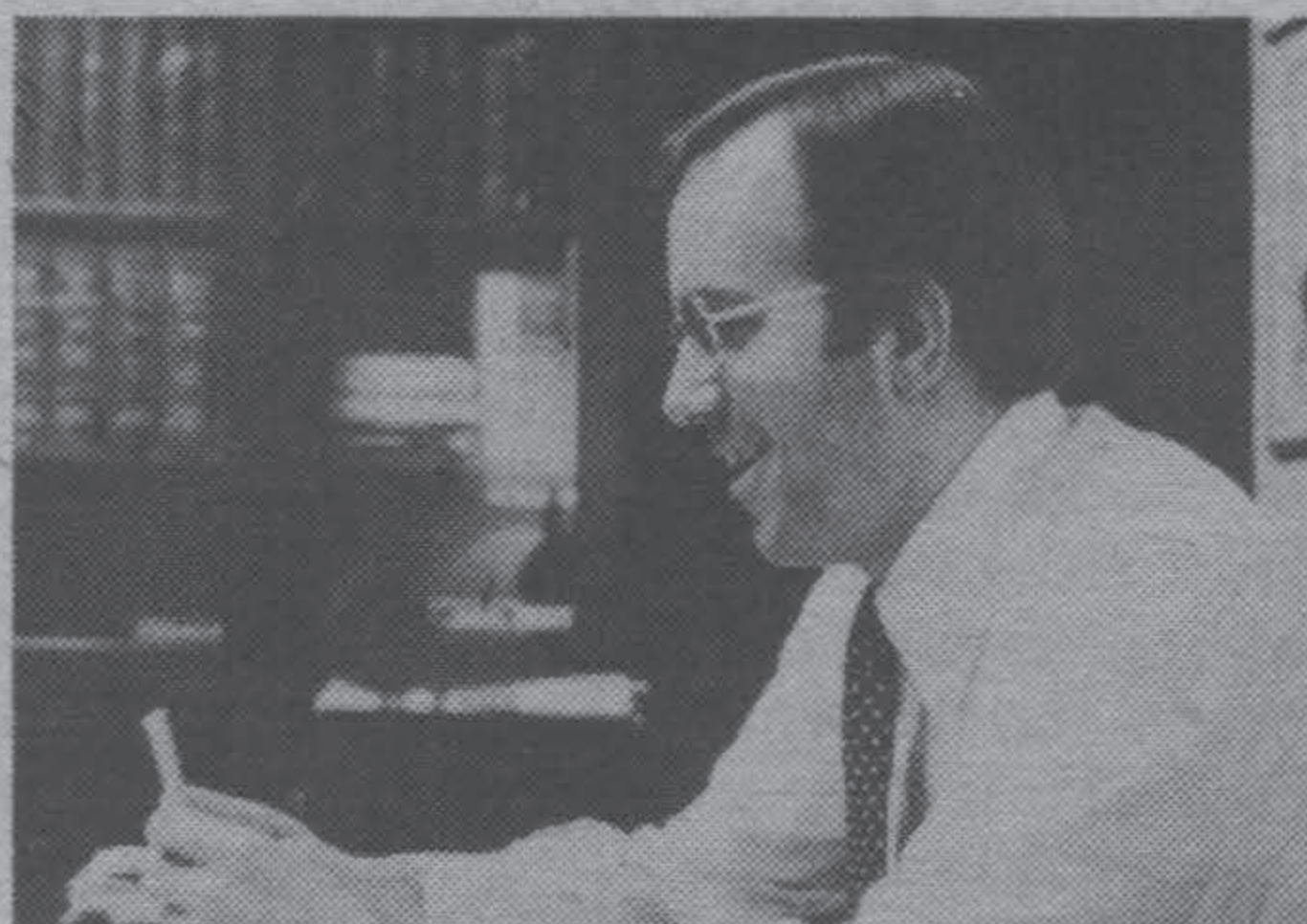


PHOTO AT LEFT: Congressman Henry Waxman (D-Calif), left; and GRNL's Steve Endean, right. PHOTO AT RIGHT: Representative Mike Barnes (D-Md.)



Continued from page 1

hearings at this point, because these briefings would be presented by proponents of the bill, while hearings would be open to opponents as well. Endean wants to avoid letting the Christian fundamentalist lobby take pot-shots at the legislation this year, an occurrence which could intimidate potential sponsors.

"Federal legislation is at least 5-10 years down the road," Endean believes. "I think we have a real chance to attain it, but we are

going to have to take one step at a time."

Another advance expected this year is the introduction of a companion bill in the U.S. Senate. Although Gay rights legislation has been repeatedly introduced in the House, a similar bill has never been formally introduced in the Senate. Endean expects that newly elected Senator Paul Tsongas (D-Mass.), a co-sponsor of the measure when he served in the House, will be the principal sponsor. Endean hopes the bill will attract 3-4 additional sponsors, including Senate Majority Whip Alan Cranston (D-Cal.).

THE 43 CO-SPONSORS OF THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL GAY CIVIL RIGHTS BILL, BY STATE —

CALIFORNIA:	MARYLAND:	S. William Greene ... (R)
Tony Beilenson ...* (D)	Mike Barnes ...** (D)	Elizabeth Holtzman ... (D)
John Burton ... (D)	Parren Mitchell ... (D)	Richard Ottinger ... (D)
Phil Burton ... (D)		Charles Rangel ... (D)
Ron Dellums ... (D)	MASSACHUSETTS:	Ben Rosenthal ... (D)
Julian Dixon ...** (D)	Ed Markey ... (D)	Ted Weiss ... (D)
Don Edwards ... (D)	Jim Shannon ...** (D)	
Augustus Hawkins ... (D)	Gerry Studds ... (D)	OHIO:
Paul McCloskey ... (R)		Louis Stokes ... (D)
George Miller ... (D)	MICHIGAN:	
Norman Minetta ... (D)	Bill Broadhead ...* (D)	OREGON:
Pete Stark ... (D)	John Conyers ... (D)	Les AuCoin ... (D)
Henry Waxman ... (D)	Charles Diggs ... (D)	Jim Weaver ...* (D)
COLORADO:	MINNESOTA:	PENNSYLVANIA:
Pat Schroeder ... (D)	Martin Sabo ...** (D)	Bob Edgar ...* (D)
CONNECTICUT:	MISSOURI:	Bill Gray ...** (D)
Toby Moffet ... (D)	William Clay ... (D)	TEXAS:
D.C.:	NEW YORK:	Mickey Leland ...** (D)
Walter Fauntroy ... (D)	Jonathan Bingham ... (D)	WASHINGTON:
FLORIDA:	Shirley Chisholm ... (D)	Mike Lowry ...** (D)
William Lehman ...* (D)		
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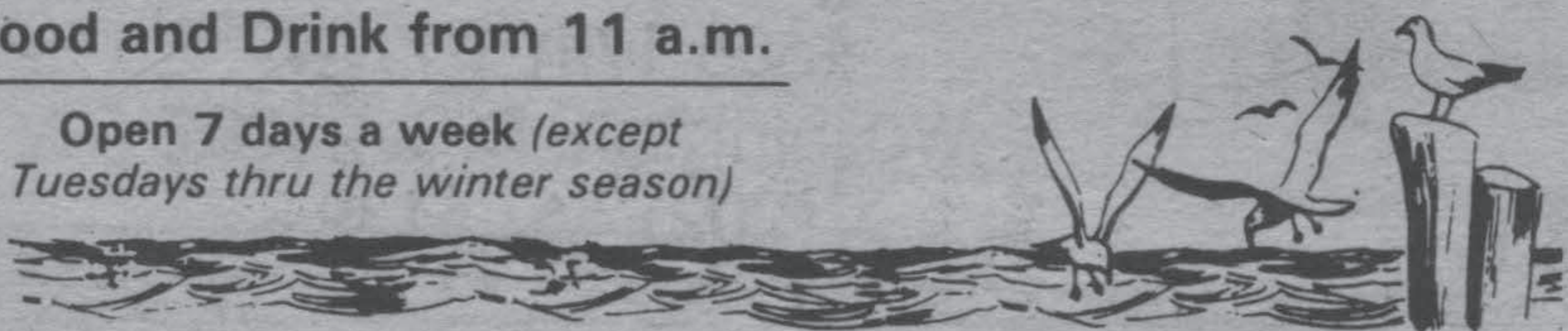
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Sunday	May 13	T-Dance 4 pm-9 pm — No Cover Charge —
Tuesday	May 22	Toga Party 9 pm-2 am Prize for Best Toga \$100.00 Door Charge — \$3 No Reservations



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Gay Rights Backed at NAACP Forum

by Craig Howell

Strong opposition to referendum elections which would subject the rights of Gays, Blacks, Hispanics and other minorities to majority vote was voiced by most candidates for the Ward 4 City Council seat at a forum sponsored by the D.C. Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) on April 5.

Most of the candidates at the NAACP Forum had also attended the March 15 forum sponsored by five Gay and feminist organizations and were generally supportive of Gay rights at both. These candidates included Barry Campbell, Charlene Drew Jarvis, Goldie Johnson, Dorothy Maultsby and Vikki Street. In addition, three candidates who had missed the Gay forum — Malcolm Diggs, Norman Neverson, and Mary Prahinski — took pro-Gay positions

at the NAACP function.

The only discordant note came from candidate Richard Clark, who had appealed for Gay votes at the earlier forum. Noting the presence of D.C. Human Rights Commissioner Frank Kameny in the audience, Mr. Clark angrily charged that the Commission had been so busy defending Gay rights that they had been forgetting about the rights of other minorities. Mr. Clark's outburst was apparently prompted by his involvement as attorney in the case of a Black person whose complaint of racial discrimination remains unresolved two years after the complaint was filed. Dr. Kameny is one of three Commissioners whose decision on the case has not yet been handed down.

The human rights referendum question was asked of all candidates by Ms. Lillian Wiggins, who chairs the NAACP Political

Action Committee. Ms. Wiggins had previously invited leaders of the Gay Activists Alliance to prepare Gay rights questions which she could put before the candidates. In response, GAA drew up several questions linking Gay concerns with the interests of other minorities, and Ms. Wiggins selected the referendum issue.

After the candidates had replied to Ms. Wiggins question, an unidentified member of the audience asked: "What about my rights as a parent? What law is going to protect us when one of these homosexual teachers comes after my children?" All the candidates who answered, including Mr.

Clark, noted that existing laws protected children from both heterosexual and homosexual assaults. None of the candidates suggested that employment rights be denied to Gay teachers.

Ward 4 includes most of the Upper Northwest section of the District east of Rock Creek Park. The election to fill the City Council seat, vacated when Arrington Dixon was elected Chairman of the Council, will take place Tuesday, May 1. On that same day, registered voters throughout the District will also go to the polls to elect an At-Large City Council member and an At-Large member of the School Board.

Hood College Update

by Larry Bush

The Gay Allies, the Hood College group in Frederick, Md., that came under fire recently from both campus and town groups, now feels that the threat to revoke its college charter is easing.

Allies leader Lynn Johnson said that support from Gay students and Frederick area residents has increased, making possible the growth of the fledgling group into a stable organization. A swell of controversial anti-Gay publicity following the group's official recognition threatened their survival, Johnson said.

While campus sentiment has calmed from the first angry reaction and the call has eased for a referendum to revoke the group's charter, one local town group is continuing its campaign against the Gay Allies.

Joe Bane, pastor of the fundamentalist Francis Scott Key Bible Church, is continuing his weekly protest at Hood's gates along with members of his congregation.

"The picketing has put the issue into perspective for most students," Johnson said. "Everybody has settled down and realized we are part of the campus." Johnson said she was particularly pleased that the college's newspaper, in its April Fool's edition, chose to lampoon Bane and his protest.

Meanwhile, Johnson said attendance at Gay Allies meetings is increasing and a larger, more stable membership is emerging. Student government leaders, Johnson said, are now including the Allies in planning for

future student programs, including orientation for new students next fall.

Hood is a predominantly women's college offering a liberal arts program. The Allies meet at the college chapel lounge at 7:30 p.m. Sundays.

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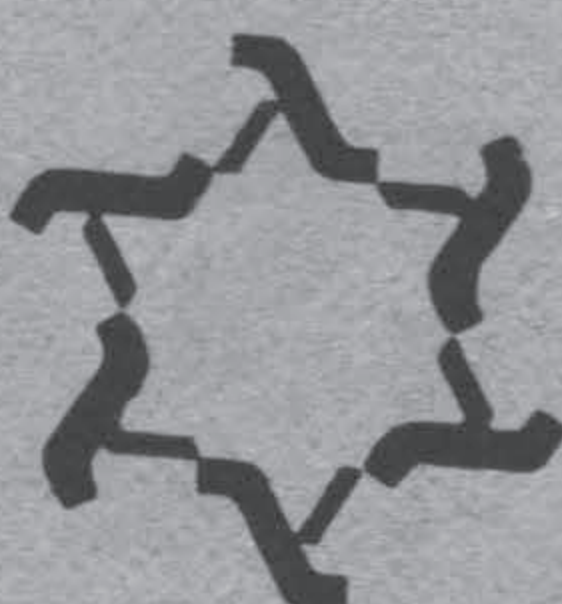
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Center Denied CETA Funds

by Terry Berger

A request by the Gay Community Center of Baltimore (GCCB) for funding of seven staff positions under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) appears likely to be denied.

The GCCB request for the positions funded by CETA, a federal program to employ the chronically unemployed, was made in April 1978 and received provisional approval, pending funding, by the Health and Welfare Council of Baltimore (HWC).

However, Norma Tresselt, a spokesperson for HWC, which both approves and funds all CETA requests by non-profit organizations, said the GCCB request is likely to die, owing to a "lack of funds." She noted that "within the last year, only one new program has been funded" and that one involved "less than \$30,000." In addition, the CETA program has come under increasingly harsh Congressional scrutiny in recent months and is likely to be phased out in the foreseeable future.

Nevertheless, Tresselt reported earlier this

month that approximately 100 positions, with annual salaries ranging between \$7,000 and \$11,000, have been allocated funds but remain unfilled. Because of the delay in filling these positions, the funds have reverted to the Mayor's Office of Manpower Resources, which can decide to re-allocate them to non-profit organizations or use them instead to fund city government positions.

CETA funds are allocated to local governments based on their unemployment rates. The city of Baltimore reserves 80% of its funds to hire city government employees, while the other 20% goes toward funding non-profit organizations. There are approximately 5,800 CETA funded positions in the city.

Jay Harrison, public information director for the Office of Manpower Resources, confirmed that the funds were available, but said he was unsure how they would be spent. "The funds will probably go toward continuing existing programs rather than new programs," he said. "We like for CETA positions to last for 12 to 18 months."

Fundraiser Sets Record

Baltimore saw its largest Gay event ever on Sunday, March 18, as Girard's, the chic disco on Cathedral Street, hosted a benefit for the Gay Community Center of Baltimore.

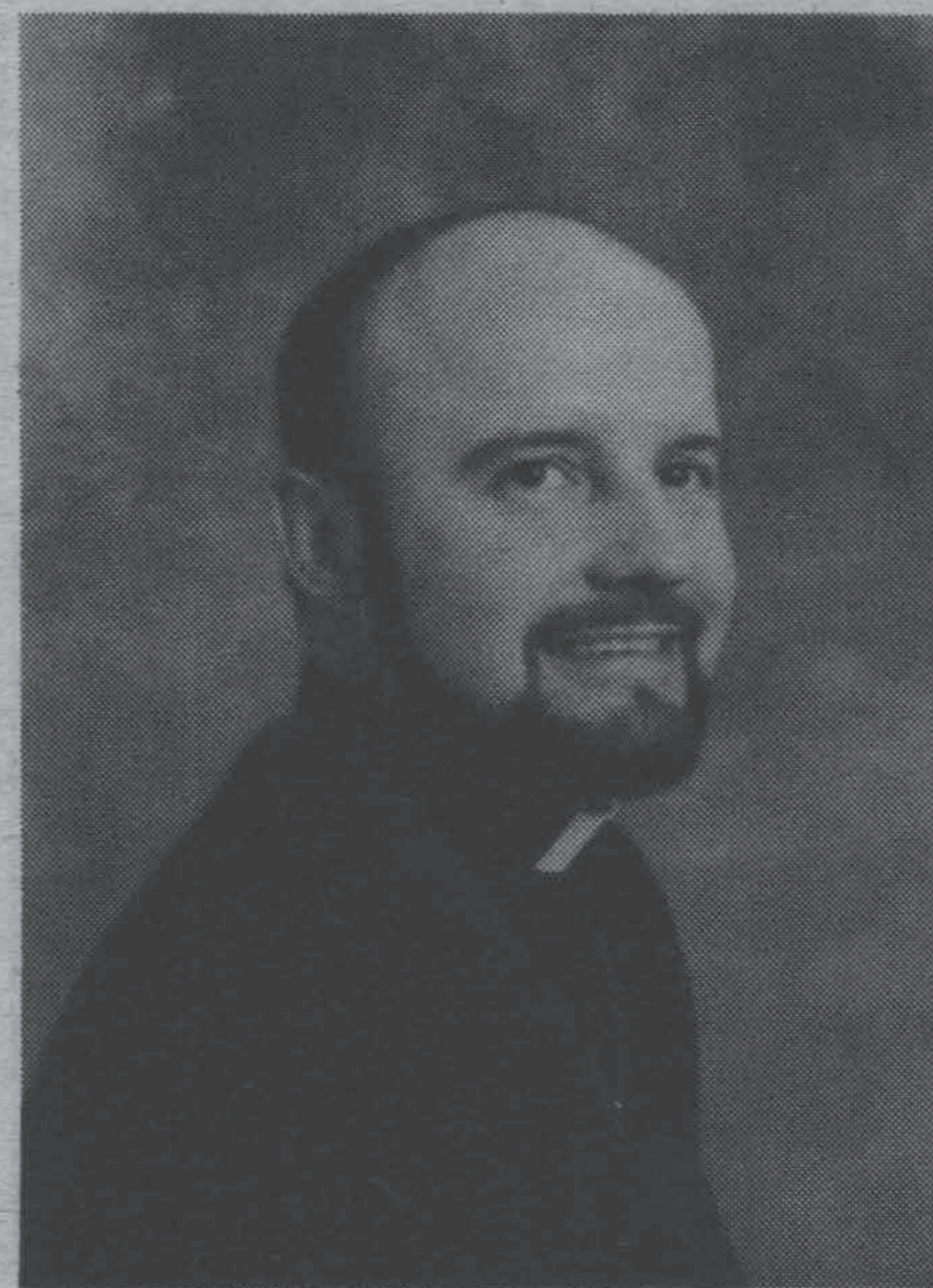
The enthusiastic crowd, which numbered more than 1,100, was described as "out-rageous" by one Girard's employee. "The people were just great," he exclaimed. The total contributions for the evening, counting

proceeds from a raffle of a "basket of cheer" and a 50-50 drawing, came to more than \$2,300.

"Encouraging," was how Harvey Schwartz, president of the Gay Community Center summed up the evening. He said the much needed funds will be used to pay off past debts and to pay for some of the group's April expenses.

IN BALTIMORE

Mayor Honors MCC



MCC's Rev. Stan Harris

The mayor of Baltimore, William Donald Schaefer, recently declared March 25, 1979 as "The Reverend Stan Harris and Metropolitan Community Church Day" in Baltimore.

The proclamation, issued as Rev. Harris began his third year as pastor of the mid-town church, praised Harris and the congregation for their "unique help and contributions now offered to a significant segment of our population."

Under Harris' leadership the congregation has achieved wide recognition in the city, particularly for its work in the areas of juvenile and social services.

Harris, an Australian by birth, said the mayor's recognition of him and his church, while leaving him "speechless for the first time in my life," was especially important because it was a recognition of the Baltimore Gay community and all those who work on its behalf.



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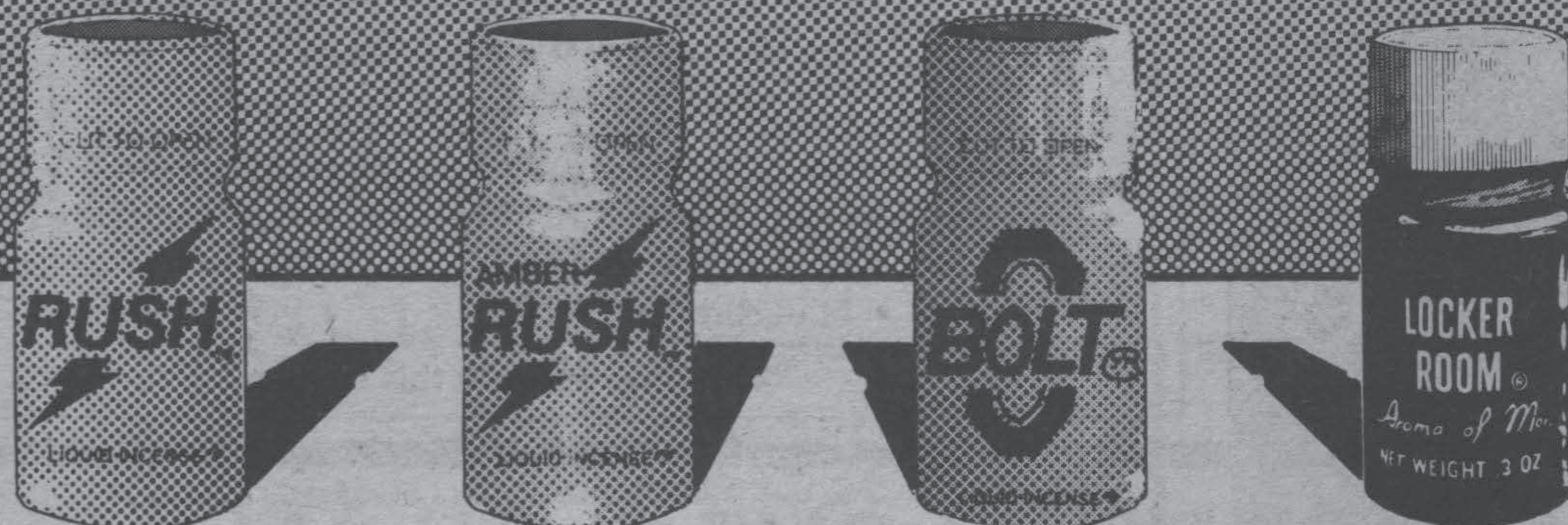
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Barbara Grier

A Mother of the Lesbian/Feminist Movement

by Janice Eklund

She was a free-lance writer for "years and years." She served as editor/publisher of *The Ladder* (one of the first Lesbian-feminist magazines in the country) and is now an editor/publisher for Naiad Press. She has worked in the movement for over 20 years. She is brisk, outspoken, and to the point (without being rude or cruel), and enormously talented and committed. "I care about what I am doing," she states flatly, with determination. She believes, "You can't be oppressed unless you let yourself be," and she believes this after having survived the harassment and persecution of the 1950s.

Barbara Grier is one of the mothers of the Lesbian-feminist movement. "When I was in my early twenties, the early beginnings of the Lesbian movement started in this country — the Daughters of Bilitis in California. I started working for their magazine, *The Ladder*, which was published for 16 years ... which is a good long time for a small press publication. It began with a mailing list of about 12 people, plus about 100 professionals or semi-professionals in the area. (We sent the copies — gratis — to them). By the time it stopped being published in 1972, we had paid subscriptions of about 4500. We finally ran out of money. It became more and more expensive. We grew faster than we could keep up with in terms of money."

The Ladder, Grier noted, has begun to develop a kind of cult significance for Lesbians. She recounted a story about a woman who had visited the Lesbian Herstory Archives in New York and who burst into tears when she was handed an issue, saying, "you see, I've never seen a copy before." In its hey-day, *The Ladder* published poems and a now-famous essay — "Take a Lesbian to Lunch" — by Rita Mae Brown; essays by

Lorraine Hansberry (author of *A Raisin In The Sun*); short stories by Jane Rule (who has written several Lesbian novels) and poetry by Judy Grahn.

Although *The Ladder* was puritanical by today's standards, it broke ground in the conservative 1950s. Grier commented, "until the time I became editor, in 1968, there had never been any mention of sexuality, except in the abstract sense of the word. The short stories all ended with a kiss — nothing more explicit." Although from time to time women have called for a revival of *The Ladder*, Grier noted that the plethora of women's magazines now fill much of the void that *The Ladder* once filled.

Besides, Grier has other projects. Within a year after *The Ladder* ceased publication, she joined forces with three other women to create Naiad Press. In 1973 Naiad published its first novel. Now, in its sixth year, Naiad is the "second largest" feminist press in the country, second only to Daughters, Inc. Naiad is self-supporting — a fact Grier notes with pride. "We're attempting to be a profit company, which we have not yet become. We do pay royalties to our authors." Naiad accepts both solicited and unsolicited manuscripts, but is limited by its finances to publishing only a couple of new selections each year. Naiad refers much of the work associated with a publishing company to other resources: typesetting is done by the women of *Sinister Wisdom*, and the printing is done by Iowa City Women's Press or Soldado Press (Chicago). Grier emphasizes, "we don't print books, we press them."

Grier's activities with *The Ladder*, and now, Naiad Press, are sidelines to her primary interest — which is collecting books. Grier has devoted much of her spare time to acquiring "probably the largest private col-

lection of Lesbian literature in the world." She notes, "if there is a larger one, it's very secret." The collection occupies a room of approximately 450 square feet in her house. There are shelves from floor to ceiling



photo by Tee Corinne

stacked with books and periodicals. In all, there are over 15,000 volumes, more or less equally divided between Lesbian literature, feminist literature, and Gay male literature. What might seem an odd avocation to some people seems perfectly understandable to Grier. "I'm a Lesbian and I liked books. It's a logical thing. When I told [mother] that I was a Lesbian, one of the first things she told me was of a couple of books she had read. And one of them, of course, was Radclyffe Hall's *The Well of Loneliness* that she had read while she was carrying me. This was in 1933, five years after it had come out."

Grier started her collection when she was 16. Many of the books were out of print when she acquired them. Although some pre-date 1960, most were printed after then. Grier has observed that "right now the big presses are not doing as much Lesbian material," adding, "it comes and goes." Some, though not much, of the collection is "pulp" fiction. Grier maintains she has read them all — no matter what the style or treatment of their material.

Her library led Grier to yet another career — bibliographer. Under the pseudonym Gene Damon, with Jan Watson and Robin Jordan, Grier compiled *The Lesbian in Literature*, a 96 page annotated listing of over 3,500 volumes. This bibliography serves as a reference guide, "in probably one-third of the college university libraries in the country." Grier has also published *Lesbiana: Book Reviews from "The Ladder"* and has co-edited two collections: *The Lavender Herring: Lesbian Essays from "The Ladder"* and *Lesbian Lives: Biographies of Women from "The Ladder"*.

It occurs to me that I have failed to mention that Grier has a full-time job in a bank. She is straightforward about herself. "There are no people where I work who do not know that I am Gay." All Grier's numerous projects are squeezed into what can only be an extraordinarily busy schedule.

Projecting into the future, Grier anticipates a time when younger women will fill her shoes and free her to relax and enjoy her life. I doubt she would ever retire completely to her library and lakeside home. For despite all the activity to date, Grier confirms, "I've had a lovely life. I'm happily 'married' — really happily married. I lead a wonderful, rich, exciting, thrilling life." Would she want it any other way?

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Wrap-Up

YMCA Trademark Violated

NEW YORK CITY — The Young Men's Christian Association has finally taken offense at the Village People's hit song, "YMCA," reports the *San Francisco Sentinel*. Its unhappiness has nothing to do with the song's Gayly suggestive lyrics, however, but with what it considers unauthorized use of its trademark.

"Anyone using our name must ask our permission or become a licensee of the YMCA," a spokesperson for the organization said. "Casablanca Records has not done this ... Our legal department is in the process of trying to come up with some kind of amicable solution."

The YMCA representative emphasized that his organization's position had nothing to do with the song's supposed Gay overtones. "We're not focusing in on the issue of homosexuality," he stressed. "The only thing we're worried about is the intrusion on our trademark."

IRS Takes Initiative On Briggs

LOS ANGELES — The U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has begun an investigation into the financial affairs of anti-Gay California state senator John Briggs, reports the *Los Angeles Times*.

Briggs, who led the unsuccessful 1978 campaign to bar homosexuals from teaching in California schools, is reportedly being investigated by the IRS in three major areas: his land dealings, his insurance transactions and his campaign fund manipulations.

Several days before the probe was made public, a breathless Briggs had gone into the Fullerton, California police station, claiming he was being followed by left wing "thugs." The men in question turned out to be IRS agents. The district IRS office investigated Briggs' charge of "thuggery" and said that it turned up "absolutely no evidence of inappropriate behavior."

The anti-Gay politician's business dealings have reportedly been under question for years, especially since his unsuccessful campaign for governor last year. Seven out of every eight dollars contributed to Briggs for his 1978 gubernatorial race eventually wound up in his initiative campaign, says the *Advocate*.

Gay Band Wins Honors

SAN FRANCISCO — This city's Gay marching band has captured first place honors for its performance during the San Francisco St. Patrick's Day Parade, reports the *San Francisco Sentinel*.

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps learned in late March that they had been judged the best group in their "civilian band" category, said band spokesperson John Sims. In addition, one of the organization's twirlers, Joe Poltrone, received a first place citation for his twirling performance.

Sims thanked the San Francisco Gay community for its support during the parade. "They were really great," he said. "From the very beginning of the parade, we had our own people there, cheering and marching with us."

Since its formation, the band has become a popular attraction at Gay functions around the city and has served as an effective "good will ambassador" for the San Francisco Gay community.

Lambda Fund Director Takes N.Y. State Post

NEW YORK CITY — Barbara Levy, executive director of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc., has been appointed Assistant Attorney General for the State of New York in the Civil Rights unit.

Ms. Levy has been director of the Lambda Fund since February, 1978 and prior to that was associated with the American Civil Liberties Union Women's Rights Project. She and the Lambda Fund were subjects of a feature article in the March 15 issue of *The Blade*.

"As a feminist and a civil libertarian, I am looking forward to the challenges posed by my new position," said Ms. Levy. "It will give me the opportunity to explore, through litigation and the development of legislation, expanded avenues for achieving a just and equitable society."

The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which seeks to eliminate discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men through education and litigation, has formed a search committee to select a new Executive Director. Interested persons

should submit resumes to the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, 22 East 40th Street, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Openly Gay Rabbi To Head Congregation

SAN FRANCISCO — An openly Gay rabbi, Allen B. Bennett, has been named to head the Sha'ar Zahav Congregation here, reports *The Advocate*.

Bennett is the first rabbi known to have publicly acknowledged his homosexuality. He was ordained at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio and has served as a chaplain in local hospitals and clinics. Before moving to California, he performed rabbinical duties in Rochester, Minnesota.

In addition to his new duties with the Sha'ar Zahav congregation, Bennett is pursuing a doctorate at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley.

Anthology For Jewish Lesbians

BOSTON — Five Boston area Jewish Lesbians are seeking material from other Jewish Lesbians for an anthology they are publishing to be called *Shepn Koyech*, reports *Gay Community News*.

Materials being sought for the anthology include photographs, graphics, short stories, interviews and political analyses. Articles may be in any language, but should be accompanied by an English translation.

Persons submitting materials or wishing more information should contact Shepn Koyech, Box 6050, Boston, Mass. 02209. All submissions for publication should be sent by June 1, 1979 and be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Mineo Murderer Sentenced

LOS ANGELES — The convicted murderer of actor Sal Mineo has been sentenced to 51 years in jail by a Superior Court judge here, says the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Lionel Williams, a 22 year old former pizza delivery man, was found guilty of stabbing Mineo in February, 1976, when the actor found Williams burglarizing his Hollywood apartment.

When Williams heard the guilty verdict, he reportedly smiled and popped a piece of gum into his mouth. Under California's intermediate sentencing law, he will be eligible for parole in nine years, when he is 31 years old.

Mineo, who portrayed open and closeted homosexuals in several roles, was well known in the Los Angeles Gay community.

Red Lights In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO — San Francisco District Attorney Joseph Freitas, Jr., has filed civil charges against five Gay establishments here, contending that they regularly allow "lewd" acts on their premises and are in violation of California's "red light abatement" statutes.

The lawsuit followed a six-month investigation by the District Attorney's office, including five visits to the establishments by vice squad officers.

The owners of the cited establishments assert that their premises are private and that the so-called lewd acts reportedly seen by vice squad members are not illegal. Private homosexual acts between consenting adults are legal in California.



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If the charges are upheld in court, the judge would declare the premises to be creating a public nuisance and would order them closed for one year, says the *San Francisco Sentinel*.

Christian Soap

WASHINGTON — The Christian Broadcasting Network has announced that it will produce a soap opera next year which will deal with such subjects as adultery, greed, rape, and that sentimental favorite, homosexuality.

According to its executive producer, Gerald T. Straub, the serial will be entitled "Another Life." It will not be preachy or have "hallelujah-shouting plots with goodie-two-shoes families," he said, but will be "a real life drama situation, something with real characters."

The program will chronicle the lives of two families, said Straub. One family will include a TV anchorman, his wife and children, who "grow to an ever-stronger Christian influence as the plot evolves." The other family, the Cunninghams, "will have more problems in their lives," with the husband "always moving from job to job, and dreaming up fancy schemes."

Straub said that "Another Life" would probably be aired during the daytime, but that "many of our stations may choose to run it at night."

Gay Man Appeals To Supreme Court

CHICAGO — The U.S. Supreme Court has refused the request of a Chicago Gay man to overturn his 1977 dismissal as personnel

director of a Milwaukee nursing home because of his sexual orientation.

Patrick Batt was dismissed by the Marion Heights Nursing Home in May, 1977 for having what its board of directors called a "disruptive lifestyle," says Chicago *Gaylife*. Only two months before his dismissal, he had been rated "very good" by the home's director during a comprehensive employment evaluation.

In confronting Batt with their knowledge of his homosexuality, the board of directors initially offered him a month's severance pay and a good recommendation in exchange for his resignation. When he refused this offer, he was immediately fired and evicted from his office.

Batt had charged the nursing home with violating his constitutional rights to privacy, freedom of speech and association, due process and equal protection under the law. He sought reinstatement, full back pay, monetary damages and an injunction barring the home from future acts of discrimination because of sexual orientation.

Attorneys for Batt had maintained that since 75% of the nursing home's budget is provided by the federal government through its Medicaid, Medicare and other programs, the home is a federally funded public enterprise and should be subject to the same legal protections granted to Civil Service employees.

Correction

In the March 15 issue of *The Blade*, a "Wrap Up" article on the Lesbian Herstory Archives erroneously stated that persons seeking information about an Archives project should contact John Nestle. The name was incorrect and the person to be contacted is Joan Nestle. No males are permitted to join the Lesbian Herstory Archives or use the materials collected there.

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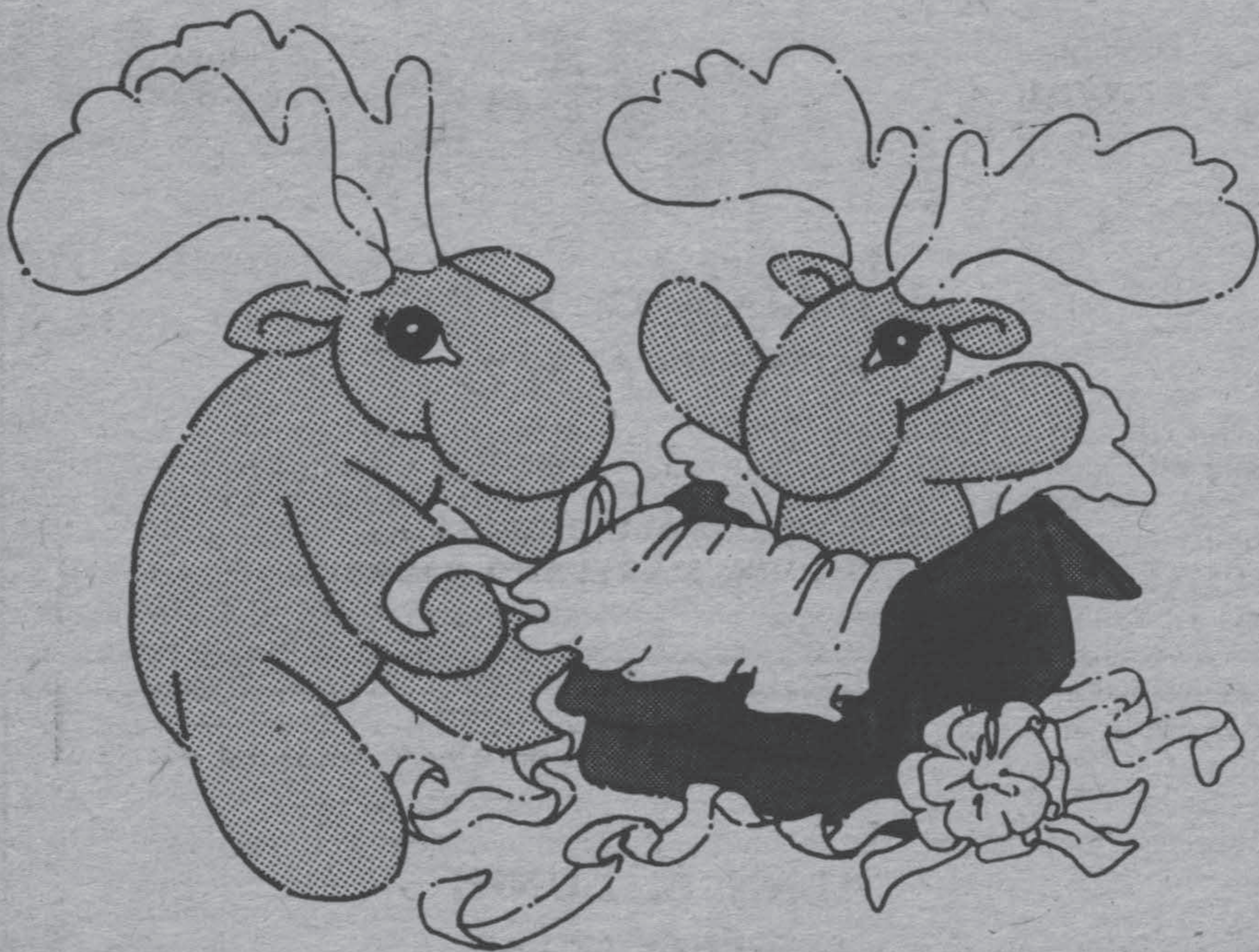
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Volunteers needed for Gay Pride Week Block Party

A large number of volunteer workers are needed to help make this year's Gay Pride Week Block Party Celebration a success. The celebration is scheduled for Sunday, June 10th, at 20th and S streets, NW.

Five volunteer coordinators are needed to work in these areas:

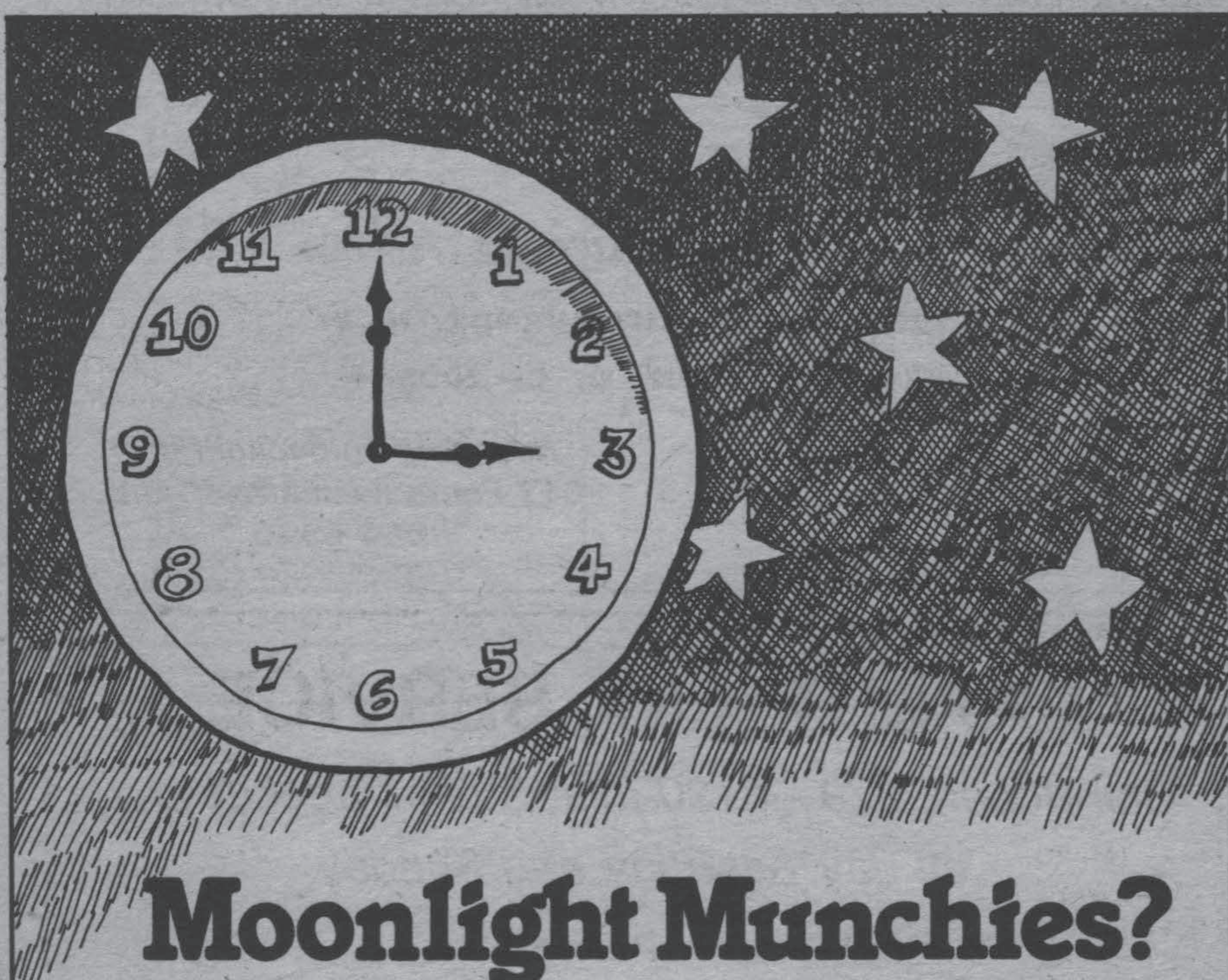
- 1) Publicity and Media Relations.** Write and distribute press releases, public service announcements and advertising to print and broadcast media; print and distribute leaflets and posters throughout the community; and serve as a media liaison at the block party itself.
- 2) Entertainment.** Contract with entertainers to appear at the block party; arrange for recorded music; arrange for sound system; and handle scheduling.
- 3) Group Participation.** Serve as Liaison with all participating organizations; coordinate booth activities.
- 4) Fundraising.** Coordinate beer and soda sales, donations and other fundraising.
- 5) Permits and Security.** Obtain permits and petitions necessary to close the streets for the block party; obtain liquor license for beer sales; serve as liaison with police and sanitation crews; coordinate security marshals and portable toilets at the block party.

In addition to these specific coordinator positions a large number of volunteers are needed to help with mailings, produce signs and banners, distribute flyers and posters, provide transportation, set up booths and stages, serve as security marshals, collect donations, assist in clean-up and perform a hundred and one other chores essential to the celebration's success.

Lambda Rising, the sponsor organization, is looking for an enclosed and secure parking area large enough to park a beer truck over the weekend. If you know of such a space that might be available, call 462-6969.

Donations are welcome to defray some of the costs of the Gay Pride Week Block Party. Checks should be made payable to Gay Pride '79 and sent to Lambda Rising, 2012 S Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20009.

Volunteers should call 462-6969 to offer their services.



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The circus — yes, Ringling Brothers, Barnum & Bailey — is back in town at the D.C. Armory through April 22. So Hurry, Hurry, Hurry to get tickets to the big show full of glamor, daredevil feats of precision, the grand parade of pachyderms (elephants to you) and other exotic performing animals and three rings full of fun, daring and beauty — many of the acts appearing in this country for the first time.



Lion trainer Jewell New, with Kenneth

Among the handsome performers are the aerialists, ranging from the striking Tito Gaona to the young flying Farias (ages 13, 9 and 6). From the streets of New York come the unique cyclists — The King Charles Troupe. Debuting as chief lion tamer is youthful Tennessean Jewell New, featuring Kenneth — the only motorcycle-riding lion in captivity. All this and more, plus the usual complement of clowns.

THEATRE

At the Kennedy Center, the array of enter-

tainment is another kind of three-ring circus. Headline act is *The Gin Game* (Eisenhower). This two character piece, acted superbly by Jessica Tandy and her husband Hume Cronyn, is a surprising mix of tart humor and trenchant commentary centering around the prosaic card game. It is a more realistic and insightful probing of the problems of the elderly than *Golden Pond* without sacrificing any of the true sentiment.

Closing this Saturday (14) is the 1979 Imagination Celebration in the Terrace Theatre and Musical Theatre Lab. It makes way for the 11th Annual American College Theatre Festival (Terrace, Apr. 16-May 6). The eight plays in this year's line-up include four originals. In addition to the usual Irene Ryan Scholarship evening (22), there will be a reading by Soviet poet Andrei Voznesensky (28) and two performances by a theatre troupe from Brazil (29).

A fine theatrical experience is available at the Round House Theatre (Silver Spring, Md.) where Tucker Ewing is portraying poet Emily Dickinson in *The Belle of Amherst* (21 & 22). Ms. Ewing's glowing performance fully lives up to her character's call "to find the light within." Playing in repertory are *Abelard and Heloise: a mime play* (18-20) and *The Fourposter* (12-14).

Only in California would such a grab-bag of pretentious pseudo-poetry mated to undigested bits and pieces of *Fantasticks*, *Pippin*, *Forum*, story theatre and high school musicals, be considered worth a professional production as is *Festival* now at Fords. Still, if you enjoy the adolescent amateurism the Young Columbians have been passing off as entertainment for these many years, you might have a passable evening. At least two of the male leads are hunky and the amount of energy expended is enormous.

BALLET/OPERA

In the Opera House, Ballet Theatre is winding up a season distinguished more by its debuts and premieres than its supposedly celebrated mountings of the classics. Despite negative criticisms, Glen Tetley's overlong *Contredances* is an interesting vehicle for Makarova and Dowell. Ex-National Ballet principal Kirk Peterson excelled in several new roles and Paris Opera dancer Charles Jude displayed strong potential partnering Cynthia Gregory as an exciting *Giselle*. Final performances (through 15) will feature

Continued on page 20

An Orchestra Worth Saving

by Noel Gillespie

Finally, Washington has a fully professional chamber orchestra. The Washington Festival Orchestra is dedicated to promoting Washington-Baltimore area composers, soloists and musicians. Led by William Radford-Bennett, an important performer on the D.C. scene since 1965, the non-profit organization presents free concerts of high quality.

Competitions were held recently in conjunction with the Washington Music Teachers Assn. and the D.C. Federation of Music Clubs to select young vocal and instrumental soloists for some of next season's concerts. The orchestra has been invited to open the national convention of the American Liszt Society in the fall with a concert at the prestigious Library of Congress. Projects for the future include commissions for area composers, special events for students, the elderly and/or the handicapped and open rehearsals for learning.

The problem now, however, is to make sure this worthwhile group has a second season. Radford-Bennett is a conductor of proven merit with wide experience with the various D.C. Recreation Dept. orchestras and local college orchestras, plus guest stints with many organizations in and out of the area, including the National Symphony. His past concerts have been noteworthy both for the level of performance — from amateurs and professionals alike — and the high interest of the frequently unusual repertory. He is also active as an arranger and a writer on many aspects of musical life.

The orchestra has a small but valuable board of directors. The members are enthusiastic and have donated their rehearsal time to enable the programs to date. What is needed is a strong response from the community to the drive for memberships — offered in categories of \$20, \$50, \$100 and \$10 — the latter for students or

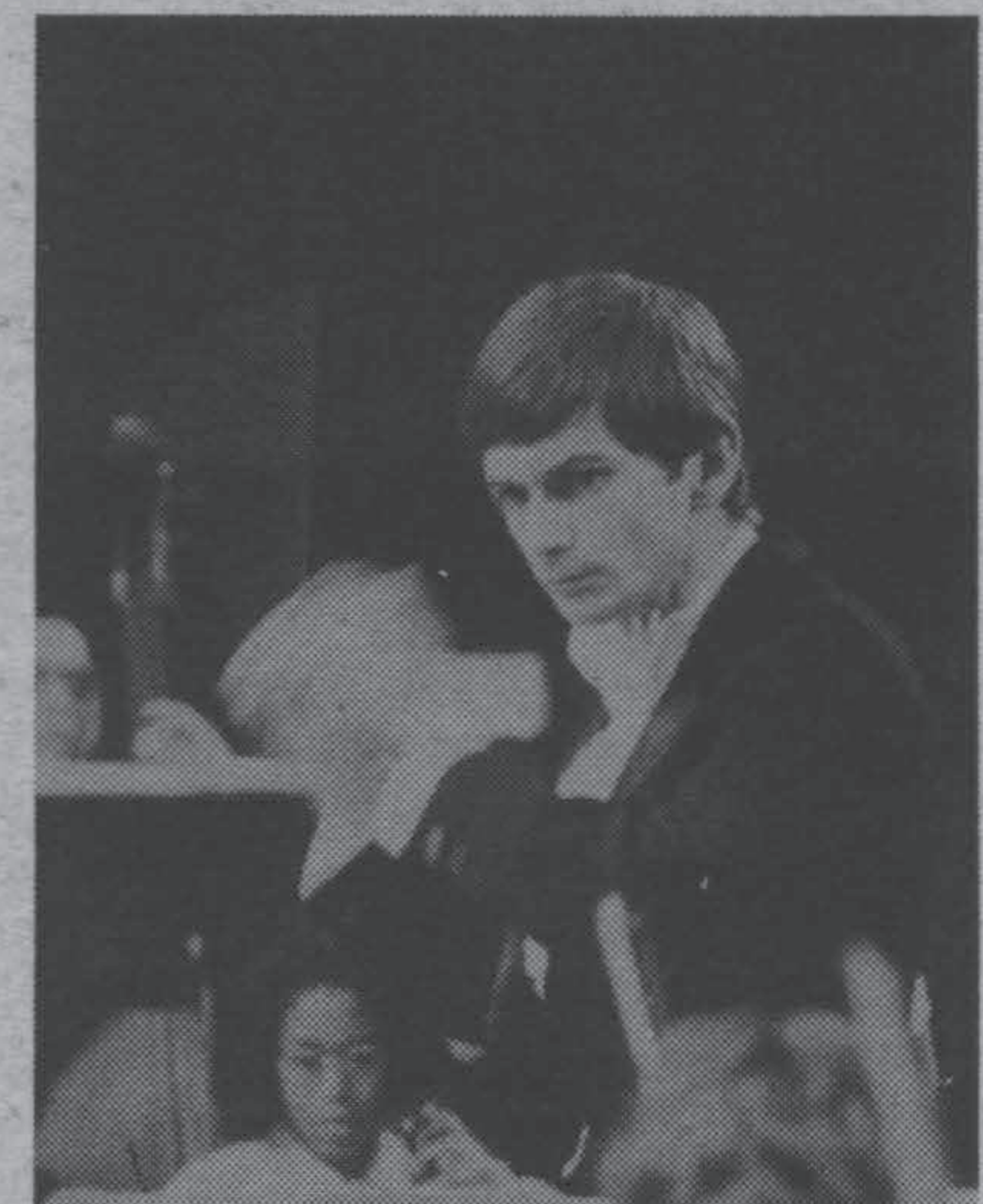


photo by George Geralis

William Radford-Bennett

senior citizens — with a variety of perquisites available. Given the activity of Radford-Bennett in Gay causes, it seems logical to appeal to the Gay community to participate generously in this cultural activity. Membership applications, in addition to suggestions as to possible grant sources, are needed and welcome.

The orchestra's next concert is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on May 6 at the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church. This all-Baroque English and Italian program features instrumental and vocal music with distinguished local guest soloists.

Those interested in investigating the status of the orchestra further need not wait until May 6, however. On April 18 an enlarged version can be heard in open rehearsal at the Sheraton Park Hotel. Works will include excerpts from Walton's *Richard III* music, Thomson's *The River* and pieces by Johann Strauss II.

Further information about memberships, the orchestra and programs may be obtained by calling 229-5044 or by writing to: Washington Festival Orchestra, 5113 Wissioming Road, Washington, D.C. 20016.

CALENDAR

Theatre

Arena: (Main), Moliere's *Don Juan*, (Kreeger) *Nevis Mountain Dew* (beg. 20), (Old Vat) *Tintypes*; **Arena Players (Baltimore):** *Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope* (beg. 20); **Back Alley:** *Boys In The Band*; **Center Stage (Balt.):** *Measure for Measure* (to 22); **Colony 7:** *Oklahoma*; **Corner (Balt.):** *Where the Sidewalk Cracks* (beg. 20); **Folger:** *Benefit of a Doubt*; **Georgetown Univ.:** *Tartuffe*; **Hayloft:** *Cabaret*; **Minority Arts Ensemble (All Souls Unitarian):** *Waiting for Godot*; **Mr. Henry's Dinner Thea. (Waldorf, Md.):** *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*; **National:** *The Wiz*; **New Playwright's (at American Theatre):** *Dramathon '79* (20-22), *Eddie's Catchy Tunes* (beg. 25); **Petrucchi's D.T. (Laurel, Md.):** *Fantasticks*; **Poulton Hall (Georgetown Univ.):** *Steambath*; **Prince George's Community College (Largo, Md.):** *Creation of the World and Other Business*; **Publick Playhouse (Cheverly, Md.):** *The Mouse That Roared* (27-29); **The Rep, Inc.:** *Five On The Black Hand Side*; **Shane's**

(Timonium, Md.): *Gypsy*; **WPA:** *What House?* (13-14); **Mechanic (Balt.):** *Grease*.

Opera

Thomas Jefferson Community Thea. (Arlington, Va.): *Bartered Bride* (20 & 22); **Lyric (Balt.):** *La Traviata* (26, 28 & 30); **Opera House:** Washington Opera; **Peabody Conservatory (Balt.):** *L'enfant et les Sortilèges* (20-21).

Music

Concert Hall: Paul Hill Chorale (15); **Folger:** Folger Consort (29-30); **Lisner:** Geo. Wash. Univ. Orch. (23); **Lyric:** Balt. Symphony (18-20); **Mosque (Richmond, Va.):** Richmond Sym. (23); **Publick Playhouse (Cheverly, Md.):** Pr. Georges Chorale Soc. (22); **Smithsonian (Baird):** Music from Marlboro (14); **Girl Crazy** (21-22), Handel's *Esther* (29), **(Hall of Musical Inst.):** Music for 2 violins &

harpsichord (23); **Tawes Theatre (U. Md.):** Evelyn Swarthout (22), Pinchas Zuckerman (27); **Western Presbyterian Church:** Evelyn White Chorale (26); **Gaston Hall (Georgetown U.):** Inga Elgrona (20).

Dance

Dance Project: Virginia Freeman (21-22); **Fairfax High School (Va.):** Virginia Ballet (21-22); **Grace Episcopal Church (Geotwn):** Nina Watt & Gary Masters (19-21), Peter Sparling (26-28); **Joy of Motion Dance Ctr.:** Works in Progress (20-22, 27-29); **Lab Thea. (U. Md.):** Spring dance concert (24-28); **Lisner:** Washington Ballet (20-21), Fairfax Ballet (24), Va. Ballet (28); **Marvin Ctr. Thea. (GWU):** Student concert (13-14), GWU spring concert (20-21), Dance Construction Co. (27-28); **Publick Playhouse:** Vzorov Rhythm Ball (20-21); **Wash. Dance Ctr.:** Louis Tupler Dance Co. (20); **Wash Hilton:** Wash Ballet (26); **WPA:** Modern Dance Council choreographers conc. (27-28).

Miscellaneous

Blues Alley: Earl "Fatha" Hines (12-14), Sunday Morning Jazz Band (15); **Capital Centre:** Diana Ross (14), Eric Clapton (26); **Cairo (1615 Q Street, N.W., Apartment 504):** exhibit of works of Hugh James (29); **Cellar Door:** John Hammond (13-14), Shawn Phillips (16), David Grisman Quintet (18-19); **Civic Center (Baltimore):** Allman Brothers Band (18); **Concert Hall:** Ella Fitzgerald, Oscar Peterson, etc. (15); **Constitution Hall:** Toto (24); **Folger:** Shakespearean Birthday Benefit performance (23); **Gala, Incorporated:** Coffee evening with varied entertainment (21); **Lisner Auditorium:** John McLaughlin (22), Sonny Rollins (27); **McDonough Arena (Georgetown University):** The Tubes (27); **Puppet Theatre (Alexandria, Va.):** Tom Sawyer; **Warner Theatre:** *Beatlemania*; **Gaston Hall (Georgetown University):** Round House Mime Troupe (29).

A Well Deserved Renaissance

by Bruce Lawrence

PRICK UP YOUR EARS: The Biography of Joe Orton, by John Lahr. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 302 pp., \$15.00

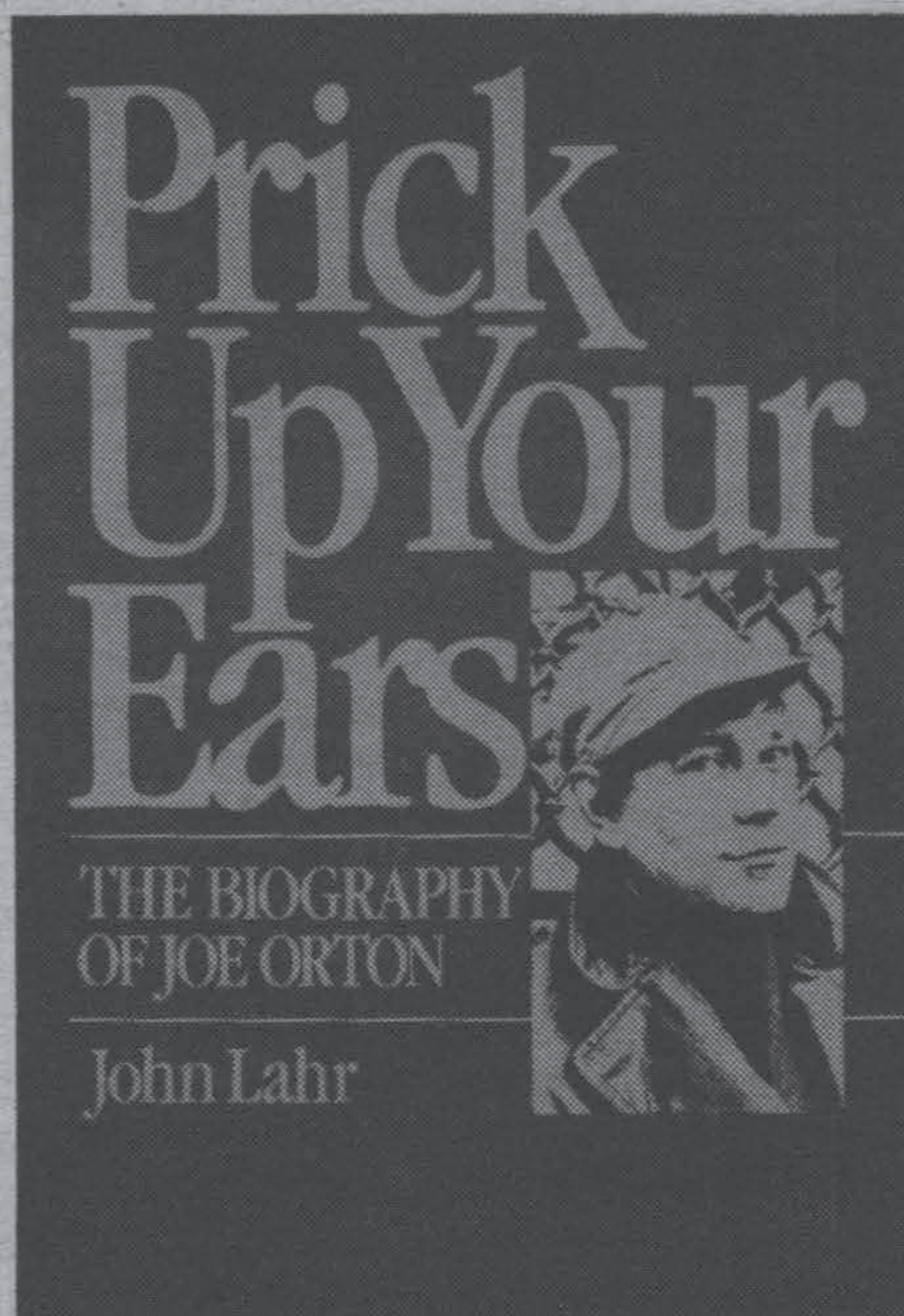
JOE ORTON: The Complete Plays. New York: Grove Press. 448 pp., \$4.95 paper.

The publication of these two works, plus an American premiere of two one-acters, indicates a renaissance of interest in the plays of Joe Orton. There couldn't be a better time for it. Orton's works completely outraged and disgusted vast segments of the British public when they were first produced in the sixties. That fact, along with several weak productions by directors and actors who really didn't understand what Orton was about, robbed him of much of the acclaim he deserved while he was still alive. While undoubtedly his work will still outrage and disgust vast segments of the public, there can no longer be any question of its importance and value. Orton's contribution to the theatre was a unique, bizarre, bitter, funny, rebellious voice which was uniquely his own; nobody else writes like Joe Orton or is likely to. The mold has been broken.

Joe Orton was murdered in 1967 by his lover of fifteen years, Kenneth Halliwell (Halliwell committed suicide after bashing Orton's head in with a hammer). Orton was 34 and just hitting his stride as a playwright. Between 1964 and 1967, he wrote four one-act plays and three full-length plays, *Entertaining Mr. Sloane*, *Loot* and *What the Butler Saw*. The latter three were all given hopelessly misguided productions in New

York. He also wrote a screenplay for the Beatles which was too much even for them.

A "misfit" from his youth, spent in the drab industrial town of Leicester, Orton



looked at the world and found it lacking. All of it. He saw nothing but hypocrisy, corruption, opportunism at every turn. He found his culture's sexual mores repressive and, like John Rechy, saw his promiscuity as a revolutionary stance. Given all this, one

would expect some rather depressing evenings at the theatre; fortunately, though, Orton was able to filter his rage through humor and transform a potentially Brechtian rehash into a fast-flying shootout of sacred cows.

Example: in *Loot*, Hal, Dennis and Fay conspire to hide money from a bank holdup in the coffin of Hal's newly deceased mother. As Inspector Truscott gets hotter on their trail, the coffin and the money get tossed around the room in a manic farce worthy of the Marx Brothers. In the end, Truscott takes a bribe and the whole crew lives happily ever after. The key to Orton's style, which most of the early productions missed, is that the action has to be played completely straight; the characters do not at any time indicate any awareness of the complete amorality in which they live, thus the actors must not as well; nor can they play merely for laughs. Orton's worlds are distortions of our own, but every bit as real.

Equally distorted is Orton's dialogue; it's a running conflict between class and language. Nobody talks like Orton's characters, but particularly not the lower class types he tends to portray. Again like the Marx Brothers, they ignore traditional logic and invent one of their own. Example: Truscott's response when he learns that the stolen money has been hidden in the coffin:

How dare you involve me in a situation for which no memo has been issued ... Every one of these fivers bears a portrait of the Queen. It's dreadful to contemplate the issues

Books

raised. Twenty thousand tiaras and twenty thousand smiles buried alive! She's a constitutional monarch, you know. She can't answer back.

John Lahr's biography of Orton will no doubt stand as the definitive study. He carefully details the growth of Orton's work from the witty, menacing, but ultimately thin *Sloane* to the fullblown insanity of *What The Butler Saw*. Orton's gift for language was ripe from the start, but it needed to be carried by more viable and elaborate story lines than were present in the early works. The one limitation in his works is that the tone of craziness stays constant throughout. Orton wrote seven plays which are essentially variations and expansions on the same themes. Clearly Orton would have had to deal with the danger of repetition. He never had the chance.

Kenneth Halliwell was too neurotic to be genuinely tragic, but he emerges as a pitiful figure nonetheless. He "discovered" Orton when he had money and Orton was penniless. Halliwell had literary and artistic ambitions of his own but was too conflicted and chronically depressed to bring his talents to bear. As his inheritance money ran dry and Orton's success grew, Halliwell became bitter and possessed with jealousy and envy. Ultimately, murder-suicide came to be his only solution.

It's only a matter of time before Orton's plays are given quality revivals in this country and his reputation established here as it is in Britain. Get in on the ground floor and "discover" Joe Orton.

Montgomery Clift: The Pre-Lib Male

by Larry Bush

MONTGOMERY CLIFT, by Patricia Bosworth. New York: Bantam Books, 426 pp., \$2.75, paperback.

Biographies about movie stars, now doing a land sale business at drugstores everywhere, never seem to contribute to much except the gross national product. They con-



stitute a genre of "Untold Stories" assaulting the Hollywood-cultivated facade.

Montgomery Clift, by Patricia Bosworth, just released in paperback, is an exception. Bosworth has had the good sense to avoid a breathless approach to the sensational discrepancy between Clift's private life and the public image. Instead, she has turned out a book which gives a fuller picture of both sides.

Clift, best known for films such as *Red River*, *A Place In The Sun*, and *From Here To Eternity*, would be memorable for his acting craft alone. With 17 films, Clift won four academy award nominations and a number of New York Film Critic awards.

Most importantly, Clift created a new kind of screen hero, far less dependent on the stereotyped he-man images of the past. On screen Clift allowed a tenderness, vulnerability and sexual ambiguity to come across. The effect was to reshape the male image and to set a style that would be picked up by a generation of future actors, including Dustin Hoffman, Al Pacino, Paul Newman and Steve McQueen.

Clift also was, very definitely and mostly very privately, homosexual. He disliked himself for being homosexual and went to great lengths, including mocking "faggots," to set his own sexuality apart from the chorus boys with whom he sometimes associated. He felt, with every good reason, that public exposure would end his career.

In Hollywood, Clift's sexual orientation was an open secret. Bosworth includes enough remarks from people like Clark Gable and director John Huston (who comes across as a liberal Anita Bryant) to make the reader aware that Clift was not paranoid.

Clift's personal life is not filled with the happy anecdotes one finds in David Niven's Hollywood story, but neither is Clift's story that of a male Judy Garland, stunned by tragedy but remaining winningly vulnerable to the end. Tragedy was there, of course,

In an interview with *The Blade*, Patricia Bosworth assessed the impact of Montgomery Clift's homosexuality.

"In the beginning I tended to romanticize him, it was hard for me to deal with the dark side of his life," says Patricia Bosworth, author of *Montgomery Clift*, judged by *The New York Times* as one of 1978's top ten books, and just released in a Bantam paperback edition.

"I wanted my focus to be a double one. How he evolved as an actor, since he was the first to express a loneliness and sexual ambiguity that has been followed by a generation of actors, and I also wanted to chart his

resulting from an auto accident which robbed him of his good looks, and a degenerative hypothyroid condition which inhibited his performances.

Various articles and books since Clift's death have sought to fasten on his anguish over his homosexuality in order to account for Clift's eventual slide into drugs, alcoholism and a shattered career. Bosworth does not take this easy out and instead gives a picture of Clift that comes across as more realistic and whole.

Clift was deeply troubled by his homosexuality. When he eventually turned to a psychiatrist, he unfortunately turned to one who was also homosexual and thought of himself as sick. To add to Clift's misfortune, his doctor did not think of alcoholism as a sickness and made no effort to help Clift with that problem.

Clift shared his life with a circle of close friends, many of whom may come as a surprise to the reader. Jack Larson, the Jimmie Olson of TV's *Superman* series, Nancy Walker, of *Rhoda* and *Bounty* paper towel fame, actor Kevin McCarthy, Roddy McDowell, and, of course, Elizabeth Taylor, were all important friends of Clift's. By their accounts, however, he rarely discussed his homosexuality.

In Boswell's account Clift's homosexual-

inner life," she says.

Bosworth says she doesn't think Clift realized the effect his life had on creating a new role model, but that there were clues that he recognized that he contrasted sharply with traditional types. "In *Red River* he thought the macho attitude of (John) Wayne was ridiculous," Bosworth says.

Bosworth attributes much of Clift's anxiety over his homosexuality to the times — "The late 1950's were a particularly repressive time. The Gays Monty knew for the most part all led very hidden lives."

It wasn't until the 1960's, when Clift's career was virtually finished, that "he opted for a homosexual life. He was openly Gay then and living with a man."

ity is shown as shaping the characters Clift so successfully created on screen. It served to rework traditional concepts of masculinity to include introspection, passivity, and less self-centeredness.

At some point the role of Gays in shaping a different view of American life in the fifties will have to be integrated directly into our sense of that period. Clift was a leading figure in that period not only because of his box office success but because his work shaped a new sense of American character: idealistic, vulnerable, innocent and alone.

Clift was not alone in shaping that sense and it is of more than passing interest that he was joined by so many other creative people struggling to come to terms with their Gayness. James Dean idolized Clift and brought similar characteristics to the screen. Jack Kerouac, the novelist and cult figure, offers a parallel from another side of the American scene. In other areas, Gore Vidal, Truman Capote and Tennessee Williams all contributed screenplays for Clift.

The fifties were not an era of liberation politics, but they marked an end of Gay cooperation with the macho myths of American maleness. The creative tension that haunted Clift and many other Gays may have contributed to a more realistic view of American character.

China Syndrome

A Rich and Accurate View

by Tom Huhn

The term "China Syndrome" refers to one kind of potential catastrophe they don't like to talk about in the nuclear power industry: if the water used to cool the vessel core of a reactor leaks out to the point that the core becomes exposed, the fuel can in a matter of minutes become so hot that it burns through the floor of the reactor and, metaphorically, through the ground to China.

Of course, it never reaches the Far East, but instead proceeds to explode into the atmosphere, annihilating untold thousands of people, rendering "an area the size of Pennsylvania permanently uninhabitable," to quote an ironically prophetic character in the film.

The plot of *The China Syndrome* concerns one such potential catastrophe. A Los Angeles TV-news reporter, Kimberly Wells, (Jane Fonda), and a cameraman, Richard Adams (Michael Douglas), are in the process of filming a seemingly routine story on a nuclear power plant. While in the visitor's observatory overlooking the main control room, they witness what is clearly a nuclear accident taking place.

Although it is impossible to tell anything about the nature of the problem from the observatory, the anguish on the face of the head engineer, Jack Godell (Jack Lemmon), and the frantic behavior of the other technicians show that something very serious is happening. Adams, who has been forbidden to film the control room "for security reasons," clandestinely props his camera up on the window ledge and turns it on, capturing everything below.

A disaster is narrowly averted, and Wells and Adams return to the station with what they expect will be the headline story of the evening. The cautious station manager refuses to air the feature, however, until the facts of the incident can be checked more thoroughly. He orders the film locked in the station's vault.

The rest of the movie concerns the struggle between those who would make the truth of the accident known and those who would cover it up. In the course of the conflict (which is intensified by the hearings which

are concurrently taking place on the construction of a new power plant owned by the same company), a number of individuals are



Jane Fonda, from *China Syndrome*

caught up in events which seem to dwarf their will in an atmosphere of fatalism.

The China Syndrome must be evaluated on two separate levels. On one level, it is a story which is simultaneously a social statement. It is not propaganda, however, if that term is defined as "ideas, facts, or allegations spread deliberately to further one's cause or to damage an opposing cause." For,

although many viewers may disagree with me here, the film is really not anti-nuclear.

The film is, instead, anti-greed. The one figure in the movie portrayed as irredeemably bad is the chairman of the board of the power company. The only kind of safety which concerns him is the security of his company's investment.

If the movie has a "statement" to make or a cause to further, it is that, given the potential hazard of a nuclear catastrophe, it is essential to ensure that nuclear technology is safe and that those who control the development and use of nuclear power in this country do not stand to benefit from the concealment of any mishaps or dangers within a power plant.

The second level on which to evaluate *The China Syndrome* is that of artistic quality. If the movie had been made as a thriller which contained a social commentary and nothing more, one could agree or disagree with its viewpoint, praise or condemn the work on its plot interest, and forget about it.

What gives the movie its major impact (beyond the shock value of the events) is its exploration of human nature and how the values of the characters are tested and shaped by crisis. Jack Lemmon and Jane Fonda, who give excellent performances, portray two individuals in radically different circumstances, both of whom are struggling between devotion to a career and the demands of conscience. That in each case the convictions triumph is a testimony to the optimism of the film, although, in the case of

Jack Godell, what is at stake turns out to be much more than a career.

The China Syndrome shares with all good art the quality of self-doubt. It is not completely comfortable with its own positions. When Godell finally gets his chance to make a statement on live television, instead of delivering an articulate condemnation of the officials who would lie about a potentially devastating situation, he proceeds to make a complete fool of himself in front of the cameras.

Similarly, Ted Spindler, Godell's friend and fellow engineer, who represents the career man concerned most of all with his own job security, risks his career at the end to come to the defense of Godell's integrity. The movie intermingles a polemical element with the self doubt, as in the portrayal of the power company's board chairman, who is thoroughly corrupted, but throughout the movie there is, nonetheless, the complexity and insecurity of life itself.

On the first level, *The China Syndrome* succeeds as a social statement because it makes the viewer think about the issues it raises, in contrast to propaganda, which, above all, attempts to woo the individual into *not* thinking about the truth of its arguments. On the second level, that of artistic quality, although the movie suffers from a black-and-white attitude towards men in high positions, it generally presents a rich and accurate view of the complexities of situations, which is to its immense credit. I recommend the film very highly.

Hair Goes Straight

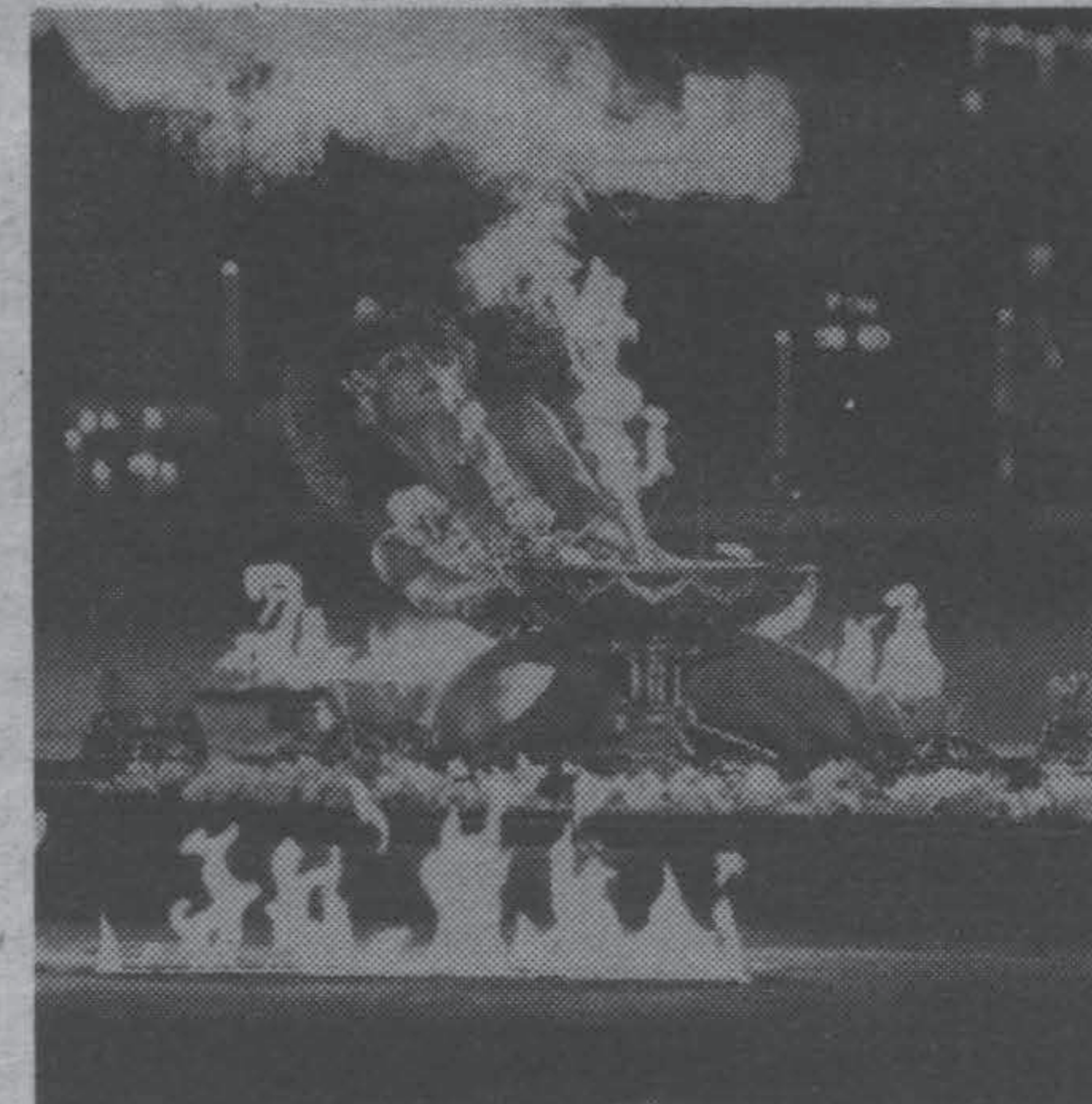
by William Kloman

The road from Broadway to the silver screen is the most treacherous in show business. Broadway thrives on its own limitations, creating illusions by ingenuity and nerve. Movies, where anything that can be imagined can be depicted, depend upon restraint and selectivity for effect.

Hair, the Flower Power rock musical, has not only survived the transformation, it has positively improved. It is the best representation of the spirit of the rebellious '60's that Hollywood has yet provided. Musicals, being simple-minded by nature, do not torment themselves over the validity of their viewpoints the way drama often does.

Director Milos Forman's images lovingly convey the spaced-out insights of the hippie tribe. Twyla Tharp's choreography elevates dance and movement to heights rarely attained in film. A coherent story-line replaces the fragmentary one of the original.

Hollywood's price for this transformation is the usual: the heart of the show has been removed and sacrificed to the prevailing morality. The Tinseltown double standard



Twyla Tharp, in a scene from *Hair*

reunites the black stud Hud with his abandoned wife and child but allows Sheila to desert her young beau because he is unhip.

The kinky love triangle of Berger, Claude, and Sheila is gone, replaced by conventional heterosexual rivalry for the girl. Sheila used to be the one pushed out of bed. In the film

she becomes the universal object of desire.

The sexual orientation of the original was polymorphously perverse, its spirit one of steamy sensuality. Except for a brief two-man horseback ride, the movie males never touch.

The film's one sustained reference to homosexuality is negative and a cheap shot. *Hair*'s sexiest song, "Black Boys/White Boys," is defused and sanitized for the screen, sung by a mincing Army examining board as they lust over naked draftees. Libido leads to war, but not the way we have it here.

In the 1960's *Hair* helped define the protest movement for the middle class. It turned suburban bridge clubs onto marijuana and fostered a Dionysian perception that pitted tribal orgiasts against the chilling, killing power of the state.

Whether the movie *Hair* will liberate anyone is a moot point. The style it celebrates survives among the young. Its view of Vietnam has become the norm. Dialogue meant to shock no longer does.

Like the stage version, the movie *Hair* achieves the illusion of spirited spontaneity through discipline and tight structure. Over the years the stage version grew raggedy and lost its pacing. Actors began to improvise on melodies and staging. By the time a road company hit the Warner Theatre in 1976 the show had mutated beyond recognition.

On film, what's done is done. Visually and musically at least, *Hair* is done beautifully, faithful to its roots.



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Music

On the Record

by James Wagoner

LUX AETERNA, George Crumb, (Odyssey Y-35201) and **THE SONG OF SONGS**, Krzysztof Penderecki, (EMI EMD-5529, SQ).

You may recognize these two rather unusual names. If so, you probably also realize that they are the two most popular composers in the forefront of contemporary music, "serious," that is. However, these guys aren't on the charts and most people have never heard a note of their music. There's certainly not a disco beat, or, often, a melody to hum mindlessly, so pop music fans and a sizable number of the classical music audience have chosen to allow the inimitable treasures of this music to lie unsampled in the record stores and concert halls. Everyone is free to be ignorant. Composers will continue to compose, invent and inspire regardless of anything so transient as popularity, not out of elitism, but out of personal necessity.

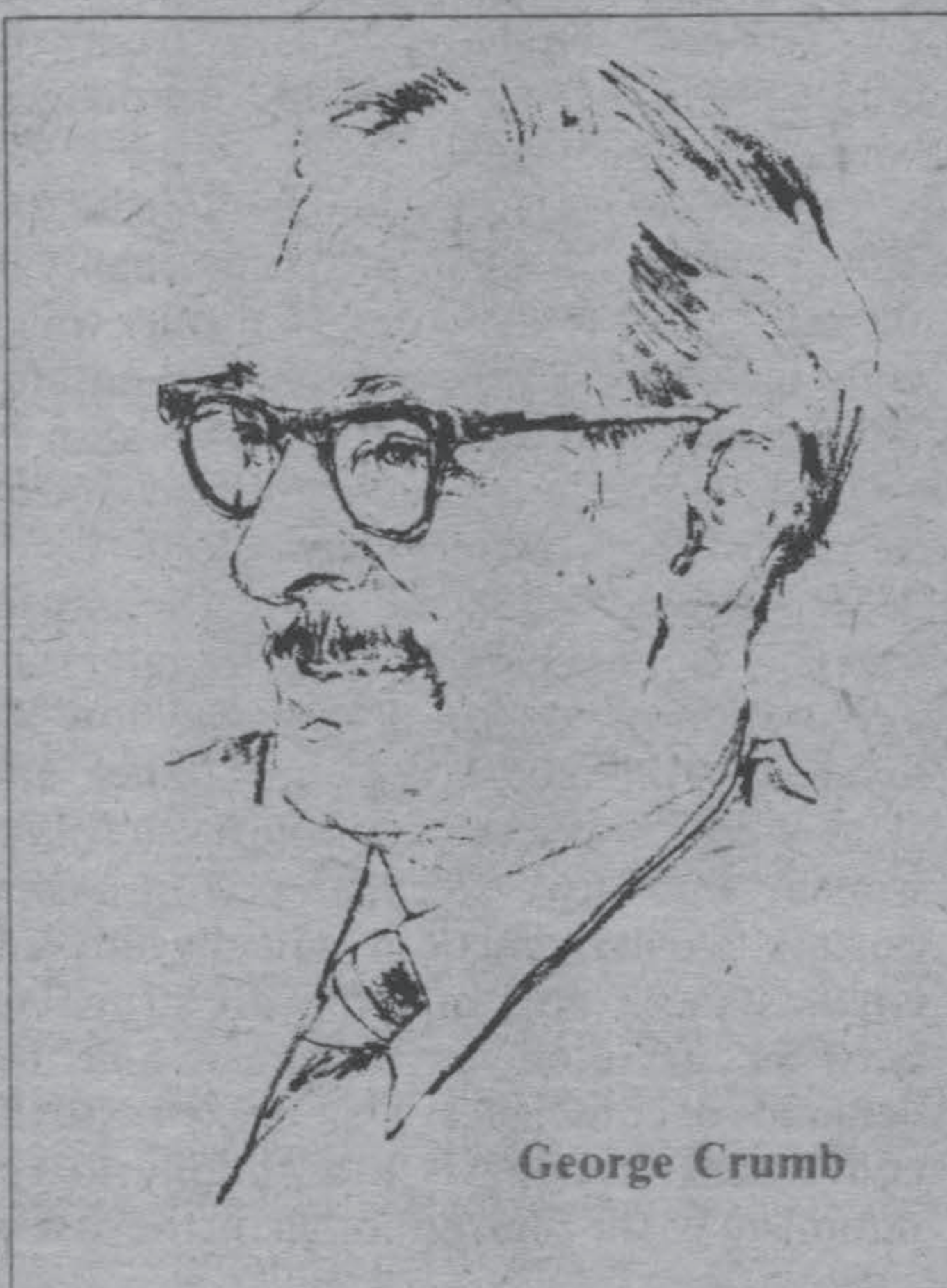
But you want a few reasons why you should lay out a few hard earned bucks for these recordings. First off, you might be surprised at how far music has evolved in the last fifty years — largely without public knowledge or acceptance. Both of these records are a fair representation of each composer's recent work, and a comparison of the two styles points out the divergent yet complimentary direction each of these artists has taken.

Crumb's "Lux Aeterna," brilliantly complimented by soprano Jan DeGaetani's interpretation, is mysterious and delicately lyrical, somehow capturing the essence of melody. It's no secret that music exists exclusively in the dimension of time, unlike other arts which have some physical form, but Crumb has an extremely superb sense of this, sculpturing his ideas not only with sound but with broad strokes of time. His music breathes, so it is never stagnant or lifeless, indeed, it always seems to be creating itself for the first time. Virtually no amount of listening to this music destroys the illusion that it is being improvised for the first time, yet every tone and subtle gesture has been expertly organized and written out. In contrast to the early, somewhat impetuous, "Four Nocturnes" (1964), Crumb's "Dream Sequence" (1976), shows a remarkable sense of direction and breadth. The performances on this album are excellent, with near flawless attention to the fragile detail which defines and polishes Crumb's music.

The evolution of Krzysztof Penderecki's dramatic musical style has been along entirely different avenues of expression than Crumb's more subdued chamber style. Often calling for expanded orchestras of up to 120 players and large multiple choruses, Penderecki has invented huge, powerful sounds of astounding beauty as well as haunting, sinuous melodies built from fractions of the scale called microtones. He first gained public attention for his work in 1959, when "Strophes" premiered in Warsaw, the cultural center of Poland, his native country

(as you may have guessed from his name). Throughout many of his pieces he has maintained a social, often religious, consciousness, as in two of his most prominent works, the "Passion According to St. Luke" and the recently premiered "Paradise Lost."

"Threnody to the Victims of Hiroshima," represented on this album, is one of his most powerful and distinctive works, and a tragic



George Crumb

commentary on an historical event. Masses of strident, graphic sounds scream out at the beginning, becoming mournful wails and painful moans. Words cannot begin to capture what Penderecki has created so brilliantly in his music. The pure emotional impact of his works can be the experience of a lifetime, vivid and magnificent music which transcends the imagination. Yet it can also be extremely seductive, as with his "Song of Songs" (1973), a richly sensuous setting of the enigmatic Song of Solomon. As conducted by the composer on this recording, the piece seems to attempt to illustrate the fine line between lust and religious ardor as outlined in the poetry. Though not his finest work, it is still worthy of several hearings. "The Dream of Jacob" and "De Natura Sonoris No. 1" round out this recording quite well, as the Polish Radio National Symphony Orchestra and Krakow Philharmonic Chorus performs these difficult works with enviable skill and sensitivity.

After you've sampled the genius of these two composers you will undoubtedly have some understanding of where the musical horizon now stands. And, though you may find yourself temporarily shocked or bewildered, if you give it a chance, you may find that music is more than catchy tunes and cheap entertainment. It can be a vital and awesome experience.



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We are pleased to announce the addition of Lenny Gray, DJ at "The Exile" and Bill Owens, DJ at the "Lost and Found" to our staff.

DISCO FEVER

by Bary Maddox

Prelude records continues on its hot streak with what's sure to be one of disco's dominant albums this spring. Theo Vaness' **Bad, Bad Boy** LP interweaves the best of all disco sounds into what should be considered the top disco package released so far this year.

Destined to stardom are cuts like "Sentimentally It's You," a seven-and-a-half minute disco love song that combines raw, energetic melodies with gutsy moving vocal tracks. Add to that the best synthesizer work imaginable and you've got hits headed for charts. "No Romance/Keep On Dancin'" likewise follows suit and features incredible production values last heard when "USA/European" danced its way into local discos two years ago. "Bad, Bad Boy," the title track, is already a local hit and headed for national prominence. Definitely this week's top pick of the list.

Of similar stature is another sure-fire success story in Vanguard's latest release **Poussez!** (Poo-Say). Produced, arranged and conducted by jazz man Alphonse Mouzon, **Poussez!** is a far cry from any form of jazz. In one corner, weighing in at 124 beats per minute, is side one with "Come On and Do It" and "Boogie With Me," two well-developed disco tunes with super instrumentation on keyboards, synthesizers, drums, other percussion, and vocals by Mouzon.

Side two, more upbeat at 132 bpm's, follows with "You're All I Have," a kind of lavish disco show tune just right for those who like hand-to-hand dance styles. "Never Gonna Say Goodbye" finishes side two with catchy rhythms and nice vocals throughout. **Poussez!** owns the distinction of being first to give credit to Linda Le Desma on "moaning and handclaps." Great work if you can get it!

From the import bin comes an outstand-

Jazz Is ALIVE!

by Janice Eklund

The sounds of West Coast jazz are coming to Washington in the form of five dynamic Bay Area women collectively called ALIVE! The group, which will be releasing its first album this summer on the Redwood Records label (which also records Holly Near and Sweet Honey in the Rock) is highly innovative. Lead singer rhiannon weaves her voice through the strong polyrhythms of congas, piano and drums. Occasionally, art mimics reality as the sounds of the city and country emerge from voice and instruments with startling accuracy. Although the women of ALIVE! are all white, there are strong Afro-Latin rhythms in their innovative and exotic music.

ALIVE! will be a new experience for Washingtonians who have heard the group in the past. Janet Childs (piano) and Barbara Borden (drums) have recently joined the original members — rhiannon (lead singer), Carolyn Brandy (violin and congas) and Suzanne Vincenza (cello and acoustic bass). Although ALIVE! has toured in the past with a pianist, this is the first time that their already strongly percussive sound has been enriched by a drummer.

One Wednesday, April 25, rhiannon will be giving a vocal workshop and Carolyn Brandy will lead a workshop on percussion and bass. Thursday, April 26, and Friday, April 27, at 8 p.m. & 11 p.m., ALIVE! will be giving its four Washington shows at D.C. Space, 443 7th St., N.W. Capacity is limited to 100 seats per show, and the 8 p.m. performance on Friday is especially for women. All shows will be interpreted for the hearing-impaired by Jan Bailey.

Tickets are available at Lammas, 321 7th

ing release called **Martin Circus Disco**. From Vogue, the label that brought you *Space*, **Martin Circus** proves more than adequate with "Ite Missa Est" a six-and-a-half minute song with excellent orchestra and outstanding sound effects and synthesizer from the European school. Also sure to get airplay in the more musically creative clubs are "Disco Circus" and "Pouett Pouett." Both have great breaks and superb



orchestral work and make for hot late night airplay. Great head music for the drunk and drugged.

TOP 10 DISCO LP'S

(based on overall album appeal)

1. Gino Coccio — *Outline* (WB)
2. Sister Sledge — *We Are Family* (Cotillion)
3. Peter Jacques Band — *Fire Night Dance* (Prelude)
4. St. Tropez — *Belle de Jour* (Butterfly/MCA)
5. Theo Vaness — *Bad, Bad Boy* (Prelude)
6. Linda Clifford — *Bridge Over Troubled Water* (RSO/Custom)
7. *Sticky Fingers* (Prelude)
8. Ultimate — *Ultimate* (Casablanca)
9. First Choice — *Hold Your Horses* (Salsoul/RCA)
10. Sylvester — *Stars* (Fantasy)



photo by Deborah Hoffman

St., S.E., or can be reserved by phone at 667-0649 or 667-1597. Admission ranges from \$4.50 to \$8.00. In an effort to make the shows affordable, the producers of the concert Roadwork, a non-profit, Washington, D.C.-based women's production organization have set a minimum price of \$4.50, but request that those who can afford to do so make an additional donation to help cover the high costs of the tour. For more information about workshops, performances, or childcare, call Roadwork at 667-0649.

PRIVATE PIANO INSTRUCTION

One hour lessons available day or evening, call Gerry Wilde at 232-2233. Associate organist & choirmaster at St. Margarets Episcopal Church.

Close Up

POLICE ADVISORY SEAT OPEN

The Gay Activists Alliance has scheduled a community wide meeting for the purpose of filling a seat on the Citizen's Advisory Council to the chief of police.

The council was recently expanded to include a representative of the Gay community, marking the first time a seat has been designated for a specific community. The move comes after months of work with the police by WomanAlert and the Crime and Police project of GAA, two groups which have been active in seeking to prevent crimes against Gays.

GAA is urging interested community organizations to participate in the selection process by sending two voting representatives to the meeting.

The meeting will be held April 22 at the Gay Community Center, 1469 Church St., N.W. It is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 667-5139.

OPEN HOUSE REVIVED

The D.C. NOW Sexuality Task Force plans to hold "open houses" every Tuesday evening beginning May 1, from 8 to 11 p.m. in the education building of the Arlington Unitarian Church (Route 50 and George Mason Drive, Arlington). The open houses are designed for Lesbians and bisexual women of all ages. Announcements of current events will be made and refreshments served at each open house. Donations to help defray the cost of rent and refreshments will be requested.

The Task Force open houses are modeled on those held by Lilli Vincenz in her Arlington home from March, 1971 until January, 1979. Members of the Task Force expect Miss Vincenz to attend their first open house. For more information, or for directions, call Barbara 979-5712, or Nora 931-0482.

GAA OFFICE OPENING

The Gay Activists Alliance will celebrate the opening of its new office with a reception open to the entire community on Thursday, April 19 from 5 to 8 p.m.

The office is located at 1606 17th St., N.W. on the first floor of the Whitman-Walker Clinic building. Refreshments will be served at the opening, which coincides with the beginning of GAA's ninth year of existence.

"We see the new office as an important milestone for GAA," says Bob Cardis, membership coordinator of the organization. "Our hope is that the office will not only improve our effectiveness, but that it will also make it easier for more people to participate in the work of GAA."

The new office is staffed by volunteers. GAA's twice monthly meetings have also shifted to the new location. For more information, call 667-5139.

LESBIAN MOTHER WORKSHOP

A workshop for Lesbian mothers and their lovers will be held on April 21, from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Whitman-Walker Clinic, 1606 17th St., N.W. The workshop, designed to explore the difficulties encountered in their relationships with each other and with their children, is being sponsored by the Lesbian Health and Counseling Center and will be facilitated by Jane Mara and Ellen Kirschner. A donation of \$3 per person or \$5 for a couple is requested and advance registration is required. To register or obtain more information, call 462-4300, ext 108 (Jane) or 547-3356.

Continued on page 17

Community Focus

Moore Target of Fundraiser

The Gertrude Stein Democratic Club is preparing a unique social event in an effort to arouse Gay interest in the upcoming May 1 special elections. The event, billed by the Stein Club as a "political wake" for Douglas Moore, is to raise funds which will be used to defeat Moore's comeback attempt.

Moore has been a vociferous opponent of Gay rights in recent years. A former member of the City Council, he was defeated by Arrington Dixon in the race for Council Chairman last September. Moore, in a

sometimes bitter contest, repeatedly attacked Dixon for being pro-Gay and a "supporter of Gay marriages." Coming on the heels of his threats to bring D.C.'s Gay rights law to a referendum and his denunciation of Gay community leaders as "fascist faggots," Moore's behavior united the Gay community firmly against him.

Perhaps more mindful of Gay political clout, Moore is proclaiming himself a "new Doug Moore" in this election. He has dropped his attacks on the Gay community and now includes an openly Gay man among his top advisors.

But Tom Bastow, president of the Stein Club, is not buying any of Moore's rhetoric. "The importance of retiring Doug Moore cannot be over-emphasized," he stated. "Moore represents more than just one vote on the city council. He's a skilled rabble-rouser who can turn the most routine Gay-supported measure into the subject of a

major debate. I hope our political wake will help bury the kind of homophobia and bigotry he stands for."

The wake will be held at the Eagle in Exile from 6-10 p.m. on Friday, April 20. Co-chairs of the event are Ron Balin, who helped organize the successful Anita Bryant Roast two years ago, and Mary Spottswood Pou, who has organized many feminist concerts in the past. They promise the event will be "a real, old-fashioned wake." It will include appropriate floral arrangements, as well as a eulogy to Moore's political career, delivered by his long-time foe, Frank Kameny.

The wake will also feature live entertainment and disco dancing, with happy hour prices in effect all evening at the bar. The two candidates for the council who have been endorsed by the Stein Club, at-large candidate John Ray and Ward 4 hopeful Barry Campbell, will also make appearances.

Annual Spring Conference Scheduled

by Janice Eklund

The Sexuality Task Force of D.C. NOW and the Gay People's Alliance of George Washington University are sponsoring a 3rd Annual Spring Conference entitled "Women Celebrating Women" on Saturday, April 28. There will be two speakers — Barbara Grier and Betty Powell — four films, and a variety of workshops. A dance will follow the conference.

Barbara Grier has been active in the Lesbian-feminist movement for over 20 years. Grier was editor/publisher of one of the first Lesbian magazines in the country — *The Ladder* — and is now an editor/publisher of Naiad Press. Grier's speech, entitled "Neither Profit Nor Salvation" is about the necessity for Gays to come out of the closet.

Betty Powell is a Black Lesbian-feminist activist. Many people may remember her from the film, *Word Is Out* or from the book by the same name. Powell is a member of NOW, was a delegate to the 1977 International Women's Year conference in Houston, Texas, and from 1975-1977 she served as co-chair of the National Gay Task Force. She teaches at Brooklyn College, and is currently working on a doctoral degree. The title of Powell's speech is "My Life Became My Work." Powell will be addressing the changes that have occurred in her life as a result of her involvement in Lesbian-feminist political struggles.

A *Comedy in 6 Unnatural Acts*, by filmmaker Jan Oxenberg, *Sandy and Madeleine's Family*, (about two Lesbian mothers who have made one family out of two), *Coming To Know and We Are Ourselves* are the four film offerings. There will be a variety of workshops on topics including: Gay Legislation, Lesbian Herstory, Lesbians in the Military, Lesbian Mothers, Parents of Gays, and Women and Religion.

The dance following the conference will feature The Flight of the Phoenix, a five-piece all-women's band from Syracuse, New York. The Flight of the Phoenix plays a variety of dance music from top 40/disco to women's music.

Admission to the conference is \$10.00 and tickets for the dance are \$5.00, which includes beer, wine and munchies. Tickets are available at Lammas (321 7th St., S.E.) and Lambda Rising (2012 S St., N.W.), or at the door. Registration is from 8:00-8:45 a.m., the conference from 8:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and the dance from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. All events will be held in the G.W.U. Marvin Center, 21st and H Sts., N.W. Housing, child care, and interpreting for the deaf are available.

Openly Gay Populist

A Paradoxical Candidate

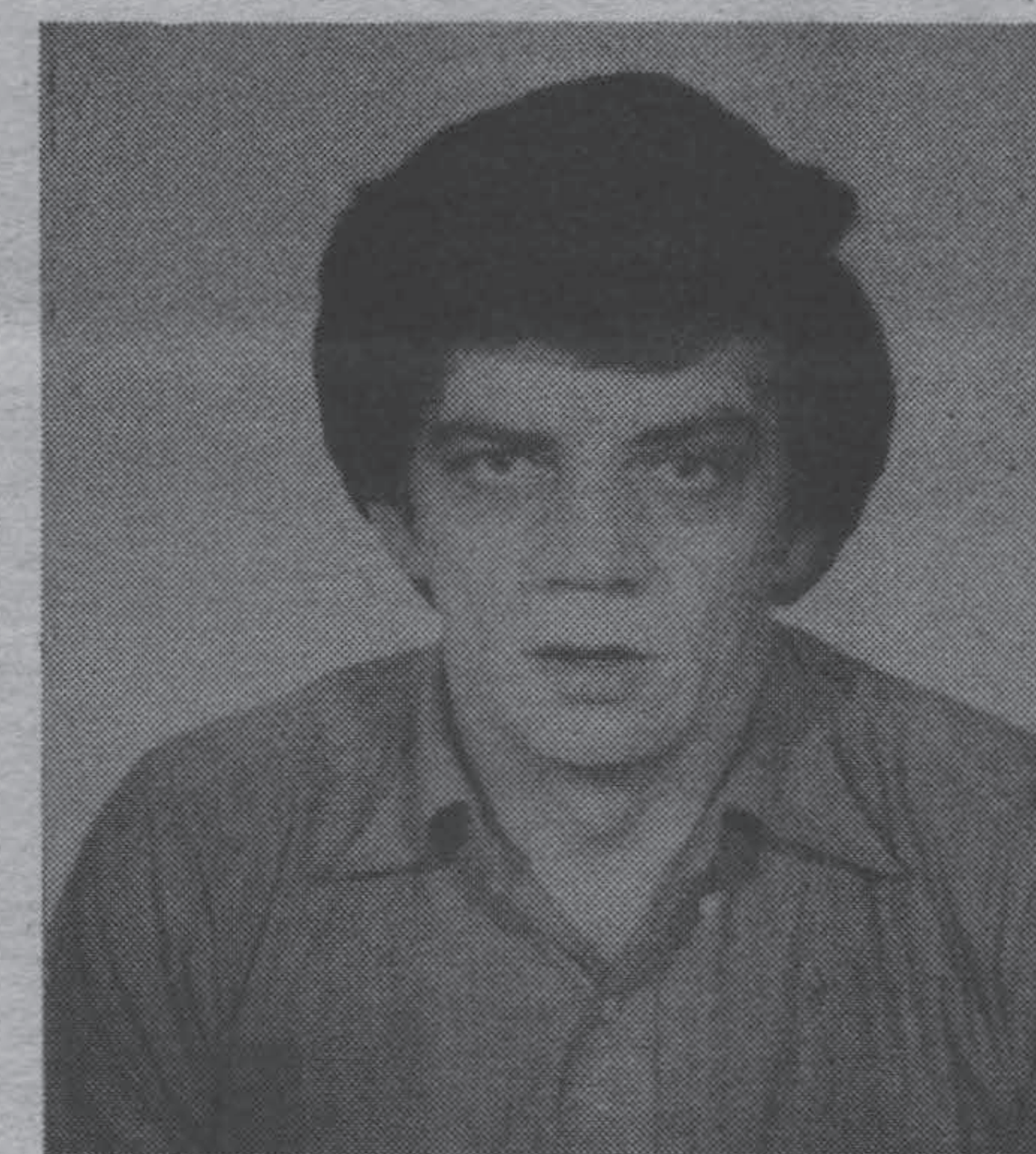
by Dick Munn

A rough-hewn, openly-Gay populist, David Harris, candidate for the City Council at-large seat in the May 1 special election, calls the city government "a joke."

That's why I use so much humor in my speeches," he says. "Why do the same issues continue? Because people get elected and sell out." Harris wants to find out why, and describes his interest as "more investigative than legislative." Harris wants to mount a drive to expose city bureaucrats who are not doing their jobs. He wants city government to get out of the real estate business. He wants free Metro service. "Hell," he says, "it costs just as much to run those trains for one person as it does for five hundred." Harris wants to get rid of the Board of Education, and put the responsibility for the schools entirely in the Superintendent's hands. He wants the U.S. government to invest its money in District, rather than New York, banks.

Blunt, forward, and showing his small-town West Virginia origins, Harris is a paradoxical candidate. He sees himself as a loner, activated to political action by years of exasperation. This is his first campaign. "Ten years ago," he says, "I got curious about Fauntroy's [D.C.'s non-voting Congressional Representative] petition, so I went down and checked out some names." He ends the statement with a gesture of disgust. "Those people on that board, well, they just aren't doing their jobs." Harris has no campaign manager, no staff. "I'm handling the whole thing myself."

Born on March 4, 1939, in Mullins, West Virginia, Harris went through the ninth grade, then left, knocked around for a while



David Harris

with the Marines and the Air Force (underage), then wound up in Washington. He is reticent to speak about his job. "I'm in private industry, in an administrative capacity," he says, "worked my way up from a clerk." For ten years, he has been sole owner and proprietor of a private D.C. health club, the Regency, where he lives. Rundown and dark, the club, as Harris puts it, "is more like a hobby than a going business. The building's an investment." Harris plans to drop the health club entirely if elected.

He is not vehement on the subject of Gay issues. "I'd like to see laws that aren't enforced, repealed," he says, referring equally to sodomy and fornication laws. "I've done a lot for the Gay community," he insists, "merely by the court cases I've won about this club."

Rape Crisis Center Honored

by Don Michaels

The D.C. City Council has proclaimed the week of April 22-28 as Anti-Rape Week in solidarity with the D.C. Rape Crisis Center. A week-long series of events, including workshops and a gala fundraising party, are scheduled to acquaint D.C. residents with the issues involved in rape prevention and care for rape victims.

The Rape Crisis Center offers personal and phone help to rape victims in crisis.

Through a combination of trained volunteers and referrals to other organizations and to qualified therapists, the Center offers care and support to the victim.

The Center frequently gets calls from Lesbians who have been raped. Deb Freedman, active in the Feminist Alliance Against Rape and a member of the Rape Crisis Center's Board of Directors, asserts that Lesbians

Continued on page 17

Lending A Supportive Ear and Voice

by Don Griffith

Bridging the communications gap between Washington area Gays and the hundreds of community services available to them has long been a challenge for the Metro area's organized Gay forces.

"Although outreach through the media, the bars and other Gay establishments and organizations have proven effective, there is a need for more," according to George Dyer, a founder of the two-year-old Gay Hotline Association [GHA]. "There has been a pressing need to increase contact with Washington's silent majority of Gays who may not go to the bars and who may not even know a Gay community exists," he added.

Convinced that the telephone was its key to success, the Gay Hotline Association opened its lines in January of 1977. Although its only connection with Washington area Gays was a listing in the phone book, the response has been overwhelming, according to Dyer.

In concept and in function, the Hotline has served as a telephone information center for area Gays, providing a comprehensive referral network on housing, entertainment and organizations, as well as Gay legal, medical and social concerns. Yet despite its initiation as strictly a referral service, the Hotline has matured in a way unforeseen by its founders.

Although a large number of the Hotline's calls deal with referrals, Dyer says he is increasingly inspired by its role "as an outreach service to Gays with particular problems, and to others who are not yet out or who are in the process of coming out."

"We want to help people become more comfortable with their sexual orientation," explained Dyer. "It's surprising how many of our callers just want someone to talk to — someone to listen to their problems and

concerns."

The volunteer Hotline staff of 30 serves as a para-professional service for Gays. "We're extremely careful to ensure that our operators are comfortable in their lifestyles and are well-suited to a Hotline situation," says

GAY HOTLINE

Dyer. "We strictly serve as an ear and voice at the other end of the line, and when our operators sense the need for additional counseling, they don't hesitate to refer callers to appropriate professional counseling services."

During its first two years, the Hotline has expanded to provide more services for its callers. "All of our experience is based upon what we learned about the needs of the Gay community through callers at the Hotline," said one staffer.

One such offshoot has been the Outreach Program.

Outreach, which was initiated in July of last year, consists of a series of weekly rap sessions and social functions aimed at "providing a peer support system" for Gays who are learning to cope with a number of difficulties, including coming out, dealing with family and friends, and becoming more comfortable with individual lifestyles.

Outreach runs continuously on a three-month cycle. Every other Saturday, informal afternoon rap sessions highlight the many problems facing Gays, including: alternative Gay lifestyles; living comfortably in a heterosexual society; meeting others; self-confidence and self-esteem; intimate relationships; and Gay sex, medical and legal considerations.

"The best thing about the program," said Outreach coordinator John Simcox, "is that no one in the group is going to make any value judgments on you. Our sessions offer complete privacy, encouraging participants to share their deepest inner feelings and con-

cerns. I'm convinced that this type of program is the ideal mechanism for helping people help themselves."

On alternate Saturdays, Hotline staffers host parties in their homes for program participants.

There are no limitations on program membership. At present, 30 men are enrolled in Outreach, ranging in age from 19 to the mid-50s, with most in their 20s and 30s. The cost is \$25 for each three-month

cycle, and there is no limit on the number of times one may enroll.

The success of the Hotline and the Outreach Program has inspired GHA planners to closely assess the Association's potential in providing a broader range of services, information and activities to its callers.

After its successful first two years, GHA administrators are now implementing plans to coordinate their services and activities with other area groups. "Having proven ourselves as a solid, mature and well-balanced organization," said Dyer, "we're now ready to join hands with the Metro area's many Gay forces to increase our contact with Washington Gays."

* * *

The Gay Hotline phones are open from 7 to 11 p.m. every night, 547-7601.

Further information regarding Outreach and staff positions may also be obtained by calling this number.

GAY HOTLINE: UMBRELLA FOR GAY YOUTH GROUP

One recent Gay Hotline endeavor has been to assume administrative oversight responsibilities for the four-year-old Gay Youth Group.

GHA staffer Ric Chollar, who assists with the program, said the Association serves as an "umbrella organization" for the Youth Group, "giving it the flexibility it needs to grow."

The Youth Group meets from 2 to 5 p.m. every Saturday at a local bar. Its meetings include a social hour, as well as rap sessions, dealing with topics such as relationships, coming out

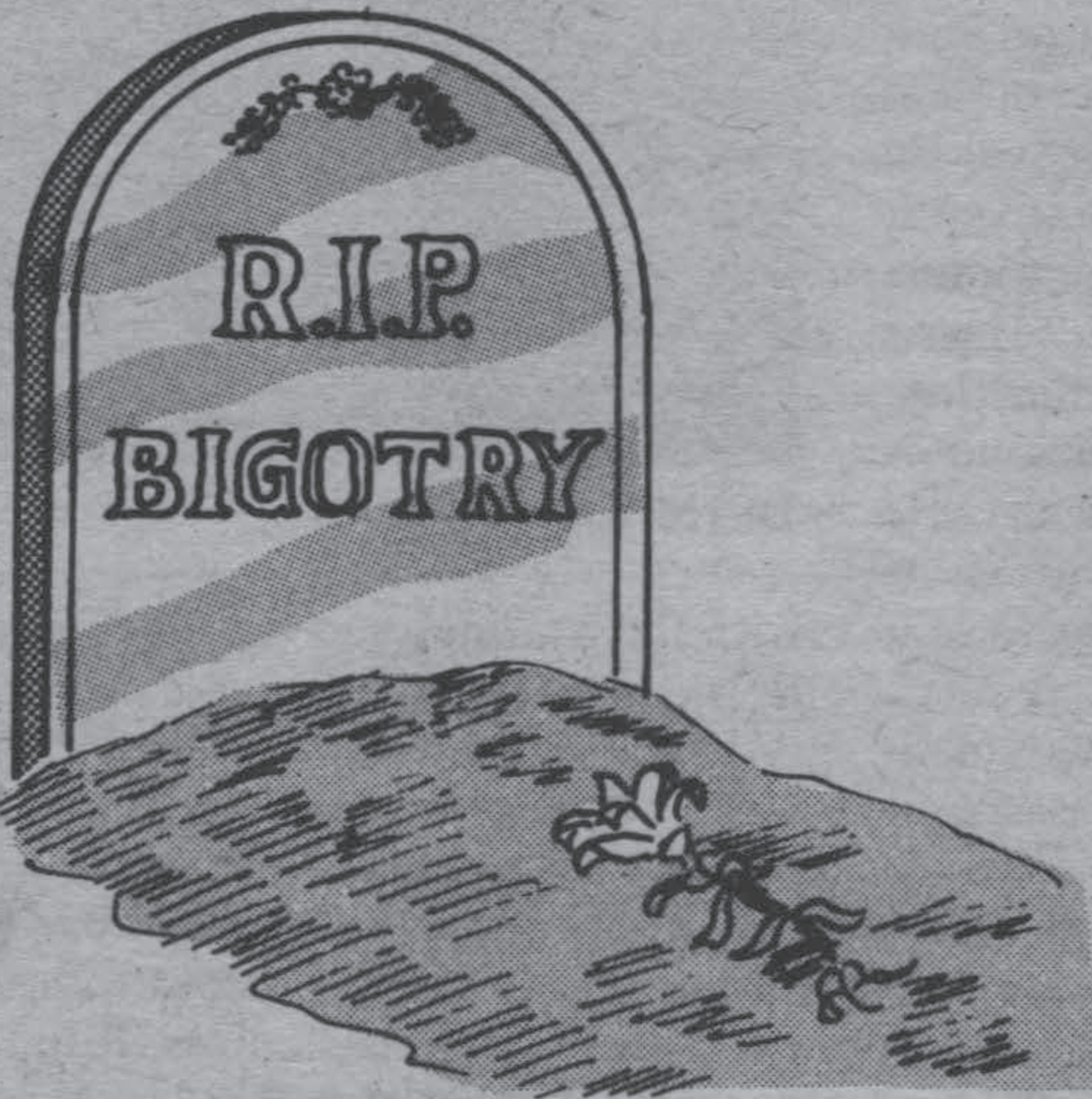
in high school, sexual lifestyles, and alternatives for young people.

"The Hotline serves to give the Youth Group direction," said Chollar. "The kids pretty much run the group themselves. We want what's best for them. Right now, they're doing an excellent job on their own."

* * *

Further information on the Gay Youth Group may be obtained by calling the Gay Hotline number, 547-7601, 7 to 11 p.m.

Gertrude Stein Democratic Club Invites You to



Doug Moore campaigned against "the faggots" last year and lost. He's back again this year running for Marion Barry's former city council seat in the May 1 special election.

The gay community has a chance this year to show we are here to stay as a political power in Washington. We can help elect to the city council John Ray and Barry Campbell who have a solid record of support for gay rights and projects like the Whitman-Walker Clinic.

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On The Way To D.C. Pageant

On his way to the upcoming Mr. Gay D.C. pageant is Paul Pentifallo who capped the honors in the Mr. Lost & Found contest, held Tuesday, April 3.

The Mr. Gay D.C. pageant has become an annual special event, held in September. It is the culmination of contests held throughout the year, by most area bars, to select their candidate for the pageant. Miss Sophie Tucker, the area's leading drag performer, organizes and emcees the annual pageant as well as numerous bar contests. Performances by Miss Tucker and Company are included as a popular feature of the pageant and several of the bar contests.

The upcoming summer months will see a number of the bar contests being held. An exact date and location for the September pageant will be announced in the near future.



photo by Chris Reynolds

Rape Center

Continued from page 15

can be assured of "sensitive" treatment by the Center. "Center volunteers undergo sensitization [to Lesbian issues] and, in fact, there are often Lesbians on the volunteer staff," Freedman said. "Referrals to Lesbian therapists is another resource we offer," added Nkenge Toure, administrator of the Center. Toure emphasized that help from the Center is readily available by calling 333-RAPE. The Crisis Center is staffed from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., weekdays. On most evenings and weekends the phone is staffed by "hotline" volunteers.

In addition to its crisis nature help for individual rape victims, the Center also devotes a great deal of energy and resources to educating the community. Its outreach educational work touches numerous institutions in the area, including schools, hospitals and police departments.

The Crisis Center depends heavily on volunteers to carry out its work. Volunteer training programs are offered three times a year and usually run for eight weeks, four hours per week. Trainees accepted for the

staff are asked to make a six month commitment of time, which can be spread out over a longer calendar period.

As with any community help organization, the Rape Crisis Center faces a constant 'crisis' over funds. Although its educational programs are funded by the D.C. Department of Human Resources, the Center has to rely on fundraisers and contributions to finance the rest of its operation. Toure emphasized that all contributions are tax-deductible.

The highlight of Anti-Rape Week will be a gala celebration and fundraising party on Wednesday, April 25, from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Local celebrities Jim Vance and J. Marie Morris will host the affair, to be held at The Beret, 1140 Connecticut Ave., N.W. Tickets are \$10 (tax-deductible) and are available in advance at Toast & Strawberries (R St., N.W., west of Conn.), Lammis (321 7th St., S.E.), Soul Shack (var. locations), and Bread & Roses (1724 20th St., N.W.).

Numerous workshops, as well as films, are scheduled throughout the week. Workshop topics already planned are: Women Who Fought Back; Sexual Harassment at the Workplace; Battered Women; Media Violence; Child Sexual Assault (separate workshops for adults and children); Latino Women and Rape; and Focus on Black Women.

For further information on the Rape Crisis Center or any of the events of Anti-Rape Week, call 347-8715.

Close Up

Continued from page 15

QUEST HOLDS SEMINAR

Quest: A Feminist Quarterly is sponsoring a seminar based on its "Women In Their Communities" issue. The discussion will be held at the Public Resource Center, 1747 Connecticut Ave., N.W., on April 17, beginning at 8 p.m. It will focus on the feminist community: how it meets the needs of some women, the needs it does not meet, expectations of the community, and how it can better serve women. Several of the authors whose articles appeared in that issue of *Quest* will be present. *Quest* is available at Lammis (321 7th St., S.E.) and Lambda Rising (2012 S St., N.W.).

LESBIAN DIET GROUP FORMS

A dietary support group for Lesbians with hypoglycemia and other special dietary concerns is being formed. Lesbians interested in getting together to talk about these problems can call Jo at 332-4538 for more information.

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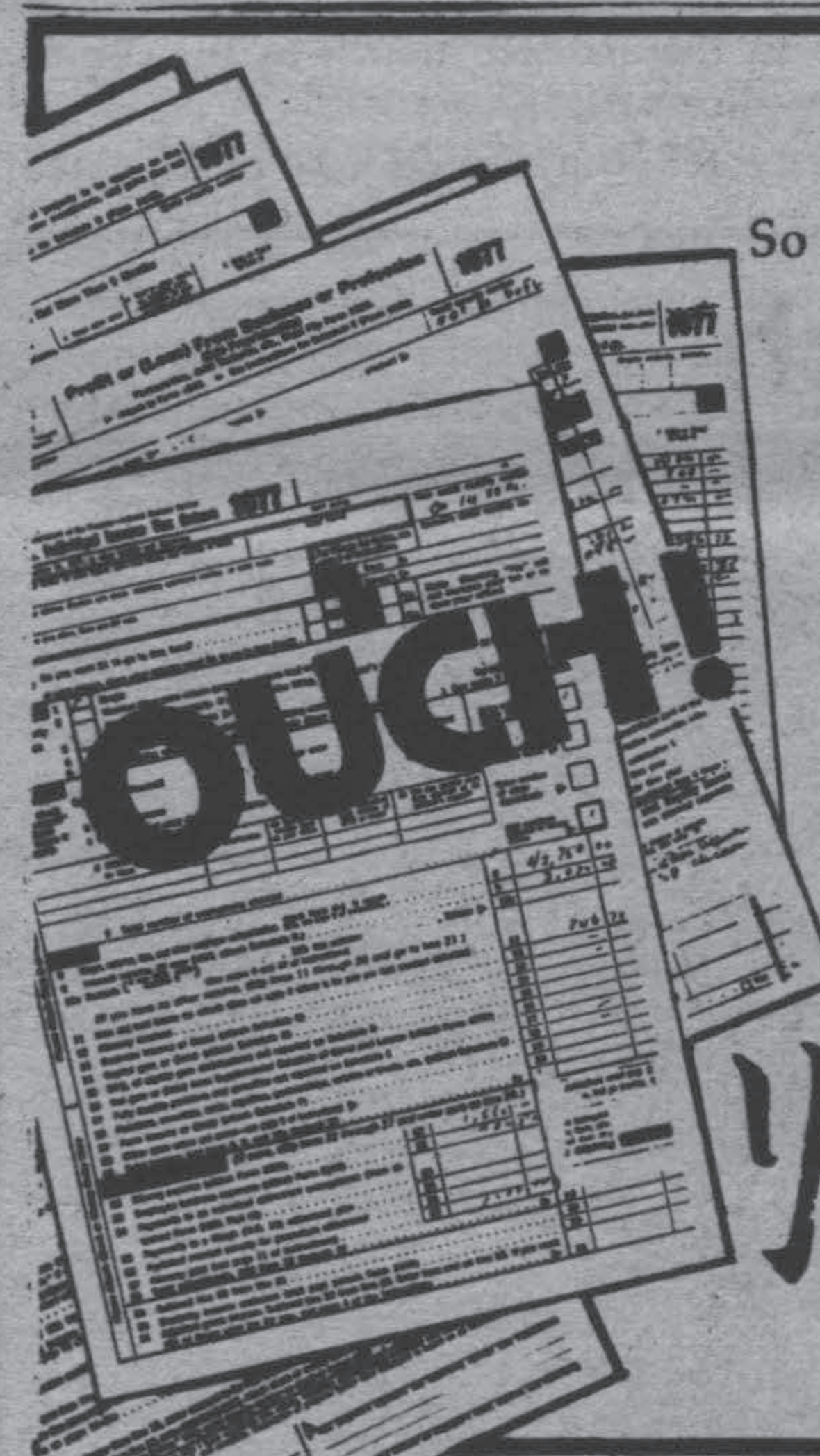
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Key West: The Last Resort

Continued from page 1

nantly Gay business leaders, began. It quickly became the leader in advocating increased police action against assaulters.

"I would say nowhere in the nation has the Gay community met the situation more quickly," one Guild member said. The Guild has discovered that it can wield considerable clout and now promises to move into non-business areas.

"The Guild is going to either run or endorse a candidate in the next election," Ed Czaplicki, Guild crime watch chairman and owner of a Gay guest house, says. "We started as a group to promote Key West. Now we are going to take a look at Key West. I moved down here because I wanted a better community to live in and everything going on is going to be corrected."

On second glance, the jump from street violence to political activism is not as strange as it appears. After reports of street violence against Gays began leaking back to New York, Chicago and Washington, Key West began to feel the pinch of declining business. Some Gay tour operators wrote complaining of incidents that happened to their members while vacationing there, and the issue heated up further.

Two separate incidents seemed to push the situation to the brink. First, Tennessee Williams, who Key Westers claim as their own national treasure, was assaulted on the street. Williams made light of the assault, which involved shoving and name calling, but ensuing national publicity of the incident rocked Key West to the core.

In the second incident, the Key West *Citizen*, the local paper, accepted an advertisement from a nearby fundamentalist Baptist preacher who advocated violence against Gays.

"If I were chief of police," Rev. Morris Wright wrote, "I would get me a hundred good men, give them each a baseball bat and have them walk down Duvall Street [the main street] and dare one of those freaks to stick his head over the edge of the sidewalk."

With that, the edge was reached and passed. The *Citizen* claimed it had not read the ad before printing it, and editorialized against Wright. Wright himself later claimed he was just trying to get the discussion started.

Citizen and business groups, appalled at the possible loss of Gay money, began calling for the schools to teach students the importance of tourist dollars. "The golden egg is going to turn to stone," one leader said.

The town's most direct action, however, was to free the police chief from all administrative duties and send him out on the street with a special squad that set out to harass likely suspects. While the ensuing arrests were mostly of what Key Westers call "dirt baggers" — transient street people — it seemed to have a calming effect.

Perhaps more important was the first arrest which struck down the "protected" status teens from prominent families enjoyed. As it turned out, the case did not result in a conviction; more telling, though, was that the arrested man was the son of a local police officer.

"They felt they could not be touched,"

Czaplicki says. "When they found out they could be arrested, that was deterrent enough. Their fathers could take care of it before."

By the end of March, street violence was down considerably and Key West had turned a corner. In the process, a number of things may have changed for good.

The future for resident and tourist Gays still is bright — so long as the Provincetown and Fire Island images are shunned. Gay clout, first in dollars and then in effective community action, is visible and likely to become even stronger. The two sides of Key West — Southern town and resort town — have moved closer together, forging a new community image less dominated by traditionally powerful families.

In Old Town things are changing as well.

There are far fewer empty store fronts; in their place are chic new shops aimed at the "carriage" trade. Monster, a large Gay disco, will soon have closed circuit cameras along with its expanding dance floor and light show. Claire's, a new restaurant opened by a former New York theatre district restaurant operator, screams with its "nowness" — an ambiance of half front-porch-white-lattice-work and half disco where the waiters dust glitter on their biceps.

Last year, when the Key West Business Guild put out a pamphlet extolling the resort, they called Key West the "Manana Island," a haven for perpetual procrastinators and those looking for lazy summer days year round. Some of that remains, but more than ever Key West is turning into a "today" resort.

Gay Directory

WASHINGTON METRO AREA

ACADEMY AWARDS CLUB (drag) 920-2091
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (Gay group) 737-7811, 979-8118, 337-5156, 244-2274, 466-2323
AL-ANON (Gay group) 280-4744, 979-8118
ALEXANDRIA GAY RAP GROUP 971-0022
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY GAY COMMUNITY 234-4073
AWARDS CLUB OF WASHINGTON (drag) 296-0893
BISEXUAL RAP GROUP Carol, 223-2535
BLADE, newspaper 785-3009
BRETHREN/MENNONITE COUNCIL FOR GAY CONCERNS Box 24060, D.C. 20024
CAPITOL METRO RAINBOW ALLIANCE (deaf Gays) 101 N. Carolina Ave., S.E., #101, D.C. 20003
COALITION OF BLACK LESBIANS AND GAY MEN 332-5645, 232-5405
COALITION OF GAY SISTERS (COGS) (Columbia, Md.) 997-1593
DIGNITY (Gay Catholics) 332-2424
EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (24-hour) 727-3622
FRIENDS (radio program) 234-4287
FRIENDS OF GAYS 232-3915
GAMMA (MARRIED GAYS) 596-5865
GAY ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE (GAA/DC) 667-5139
GAY ALLIANCE OF PRINCE GEORGES COMMUNITY COLLEGE (301) 336-6000, ext. 505
GAY COMMUNITY CENTER/D.C. 232-7103
GAY COMMUNITY OF U. OF MD., COLLEGE PARK 454-5830
GAY COUNSEL ON DRINKING BEHAVIOR, Days 332-5295, Eves. 638-4611
GAY GARDEN CLUB 536-3564
GAY HOTLINE 547-7601
GAY INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE 363-3881
GAY LAW STUDENTS 462-9086
GAY MEN'S COUNSELING COLLECTIVE, Days 332-5295, Eves. 638-4611
GAY MEN'S VD CLINIC, Tues. 6-8 p.m. & Sat. 11:30-3 p.m., 332-7114. For test results, call between 2-3:30 p.m., Tues.-Fri.
GAY PEOPLE OF COLUMBIA, MD 997-1593 M,W,Th 7:00-10:00 pm
GAY PEOPLE OF GEORGETOWN, Box 942, Hoya Sta., Georgetown Univ., D.C. 20057
GAY PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE OF GEO. WASH. UNIV. 676-7590
GAY RIGHTS NATIONAL LOBBY 462-4255
GAY SPEAKERS SERVICE 363-3881
GAY SWITCHBOARD 638-4611, 7:30-10:30 p.m.
GAY YOUTH 547-7601
GERTRUDE STEIN DEMOCRATIC CLUB 554-4946
GROWTH & SUPPORT individual-couple-family-group counseling service 10 am-10 pm, 7 days/wk. 596-5865 (D.C.), 301-596-5865 (Va.)
HENRY STREET (drag) 234-6494
INTEGRITY WASH (Gay Episcopalians & Friends) 291-2060, 583-2158
LESBIAN HEALTH & COUNSELING CENTER 332-5295, Wed. 7-10 p.m.
MARCH ON WASHINGTON 667-0649, 596-5865.
MATTACHINE SOCIETY 363-3881
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH 232-6333
MCT/MISHPOCHEH (Jewish Gays), 547-4562
MINISTRY OF SERVICE XII 797-9797
MONTGOMERY GAY RAP GROUP (Montgomery County, Md.) 977-2194
MYSTIC KREWE OF APOLLO P.O. Box 14065, D.C. 20044
NATIONAL COALITIONS OF BLACK GAYS, 596-5865
NATIONAL GAY STUDENT CENTER 265-9890
NATIONAL PRISON PROJECT 331-0500
NOW SEXUALITY TASK FORCE 466-2934
OUT, weekly entertainment magazine 638-1122
PARENTS OF GAYS 468-0091 or 726-3223
PARENTS OF GAYS (VIRGINIA) 524-8151

PARENTS WHO ARE GAY; Darlene 301-568-6532, Billy 301-596-5865
PRESBYTERIANS FOR GAY CONCERNS 483-4486 (eves. & wknds.)
RAPE CRISIS CENTER, 333-7273.
RESTON GAY RAP GROUP Mon.-Fri., (703) 860-8873, 9-11 p.m., or (703) 860-2106 8-10:30 p.m.
SPOUSES OF MARRIED GAY MEN [GAMMA WIVES], 596-5865
STONEWALL NATION MEDIA COLLECTIVE 234-4287
STONEWALL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE; Gigi, 543-2770; Terri, Barbara 232-1461; Joe, 462-4262
UFMCC WASHINGTON OFFICE Suite 210, 110 Maryland Ave., NE 543-2260
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST GAY COMMUNITY 232-3715
WALT WHITMAN REPUBLICAN CLUB 333-4163 (eves.)
WASHINGTON AREA WOMEN'S CENTER 347-5078
WHITMAN-WALKER CLINIC 332-5295
WOMEN IN GEAR, motorcycle club 277-6539
WOMEN'S GROWTH & THERAPY CENTER 462-4300 (ext. 108), 726-1911.
WOMEN'S LEGAL DEFENSE FUND 638-1123
WOMEN'S OPEN HOUSE 522-0493
WOMEN'S RAP GROUP (gay & straight) 347-5078, 521-3199

BALTIMORE

ALTERNATIVE PRESS CENTER 2958 Greenmount Ave., Balto 21218
ANNAPOLIS GAY COMMUNITY: Jim 761-3797
BALTIMORE GAY ALLIANCE PO BOX 13438 Balto 21203, 235-4357
CENTRAL MD. GAY SWITCHBOARD 235-HELP
COALITION OF BLACK GAY WOMEN & MEN; Lou (301) 484-2562, Chris 523-1069
DIGNITY (Gay Catholics) 547-0707
GAMMA (MARRIED GAYS) 301-596-5865
GAY ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 467-4667/467-6123
GAY CAUCUS OF YOUTH AGAINST WAR & FASCISM 366-3713
GAY COMMUNITY CENTER OF BALTIMORE 837-3755
GAY COMMUNITY CENTER OF BALTIMORE HEALTH CLINIC 889-8679
GAY COUNSELING SERVICE Balto.—Mike, 467-2637; Annapolis—Charlotte, 267-8245
GAY PERSON'S FREE COUNSELING SERVICE For info & appts., Call 523-5892
GAY TEACHERS OF MARYLAND (301) 889-6872, 377-7123
GAY YOUTH OF CENTRAL MARYLAND (high school students) Gay Community Center, 2133 Maryland Ave., 12 noon, every Saturday.
GROWTH & SUPPORT Individual-couple-family-group counseling service, 10 am - 10 pm, 7 days/wk. 596-5865
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JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY GAY CAUCUS 243-4435/243-7092
LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER 235-8593
MARYLAND GAY RIGHTS COALITION, 401 East 31st St. Balto. MD 21218
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH (MCC) 366-1415, 2233 St. Paul St., Balto 21218
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WOMEN'S GROWTH CENTER 339 E. 25th St., Bal. (301) 539-3588
WOMEN'S UNION OF BALTIMORE c/o 1121 Gorsuch Ave., Balto 21218

The Culver Touch

by Larry Bush

Cal Culver, clad only in cut-offs, sits in the stripped down living room of his Key West guest house and shrugs off his years as Casey Donovan, leading actor in Gay porn films.

As Casey Donovan, Culver starred in *Boys In The Sand*, one of the most popular of the early explicit Gay sex films. While noting that a copy of the film is now in the Museum of Modern Art collection, Culver says that its main importance to him was to provide the way to ownership of the guest house — aptly named "Casa Donovan" — and the life he wants to lead.

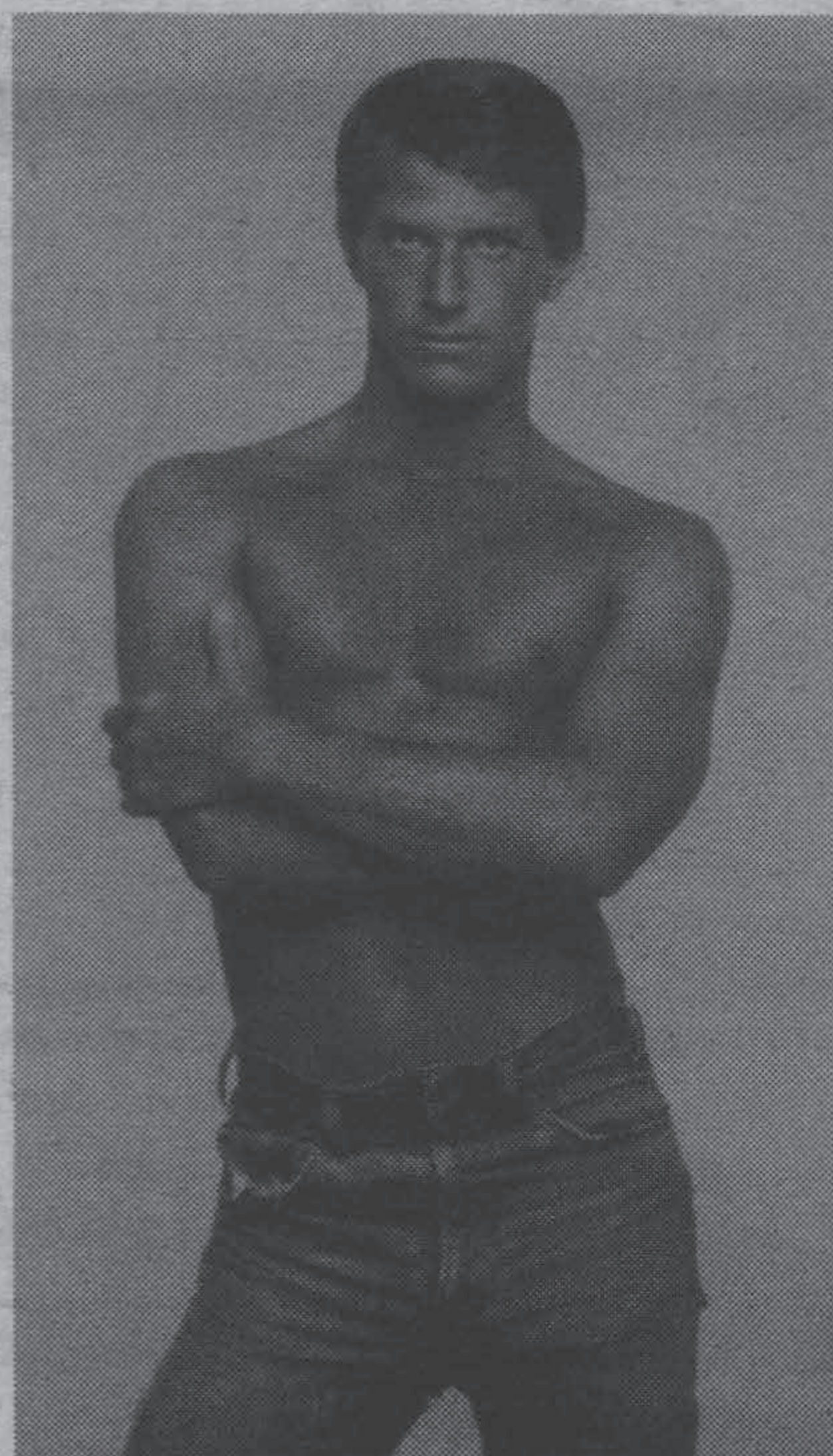
If Culver is an expatriate from the New York hustle scene, he is not a burnt-out case holing up in the far South for repairs. In person he looks even better and exudes more magnetism than 8 mm movies made possible.

"My life has come full circle — growing up as a peeping tom (Culver's parents owned a motel for which he worked in his youth), and then doing porno films and having people look at me, and now having my own hotel — my fantasy hotel. It's strange," Culver smiles, aware of his devastating personal charm.

"I do everything — people are surprised to find I make the beds, scrub the toilets, meet and greet them and am around," Culver says.

At present Culver's guest house is pretty much in the condition in which he bought it — a home converted into a lodging house. Culver plans, however, to recreate Casa Donovan into something rather special, including one room devoted to the "fantasy" of Valentino's *The Sheik*, and others with touches reminiscent of movies such as *Key Largo*, and, of course, *Boys In The Sand*.

Culver is intent on providing a home-brand hospitality to overcome



whatever amenities his facility currently lacks. While most Gay guest houses merely offer a cocktail hour on weekends, Culver's approach is a tour de force.

"I do a lot of group activities," Culver says. "A lot of people come here alone — I try to hook them up with other singles. I try to create an ambiance where they aren't afraid."

Culver's group activities are both homey and touristy — a Key West blend of dinners out, conch train rides, and bicycling. "There's a lot more to Key West than the Monster (a large Gay disco)," he adds.

Guests seem to enjoy Culver's touch and attention. Before leaving Key West, two recent, female guests stopped by to give Culver a pint of strawberries and some flowers. In New York it might have seemed naive; in Key West it made Culver's day.

EVERYWEEK

MONDAYS

★**Gay Counsel on Drinking Behavior**, Whitman-Walker Clinic, 1606 17th Street, NW, information and referral about drinking problems; 6-8 pm
★**Women's Caucus Meeting**, Gay Students Alliance/U of Md (College Park), Student Union, room 3102, 7 pm. For more info, call 454-5830
□**Free Counseling Service**. For more info and appointments, call 235-HELP

TUESDAYS

□**Gay Men's Rap Group**; For details, call Bill 525-2446 evenings
★**Gay Alliance of Prince George's Community College, meeting**; Largo student center, conf room 3; 10-11 am. For info, call Rick 336-6000, ext 505
□**Gay Health Clinic**, hours 6-9 pm; 2233 St. Paul St., Balto. For more info, call 889-8679.
★**Gay Men's VD Clinic**; 1606 17th St., NW; 6-8 pm. For more info, call 332-7114.

WEDNESDAYS

□**Women's Coffee House**; A Private Affair, Wolfe & Aliceanna, Fells Point; 8 pm.
★**Lesbian Health & Counseling Center**; 1606 17th St., N.W. 7-10 pm. For more info, call 332-5295
★**Rap Group, sponsored by Alexandria Gay Rap Group**; 7:30 pm. For more info, call 971-0022
★**Coffeehouse, Gay Peoples Alliance/Geo. Wash. Univ.**; Room 405, Marvin Center, 800 21st St., NW; 8-11 pm. For more info call 676-7590
★**Prayer Service**, Metropolitan Community Church, Chapel of 1st Cong Church, 10th & G Sts, NW; 8 pm.
□**Healing Service**; Metropolitan Community Church, 2233 St. Paul St.; 8 pm.

THURSDAYS

□**Gay Men's Rap Group, Catonsville**; 7:30 p.m.. For info, call 235-HELP.
★**Gay People of Georgetown U. mtg.**; White-Gravenor Hall, Rm 203; 8 pm. For more info, write: Box 942, Hoya Station, Wash. DC 20057
★**MCC Rap Group**; Garden Room, 1st Cong. Church, 10th & G Sts., NW; 8 pm. For more info, call 232-6333.

FRIDAYS

★**MCT/Mishpocheh (Jewish Gays)**; service & social; Christ United Methodist Church, "Eye" St., SW (betw. 3rd & 4th); 8:30 pm. For more info, call 547-4562 (D.C.)

SATURDAYS

★**Gay Men's VD Clinic**; 1606 17th St., NW; 11:30 am-3 pm. For more info, call 332-7114
□**Gay Youth Group** — open to all Baltimore area high school women & men; Gay Community Center, 2133 Md. Ave; 12 Noon.
★**Gay Youth Meeting**; Bachelor's Mill, 500 8th St., SE; 2-5 pm. For more info, call 547-7601

SUNDAYS

★**Gay Friends (Quakers)**, meeting for worship; 1469 Church St., NW; 11 am. For more info call 234-6268.
★**DC Metropolitan Community Church service**; 2:45 pm (see ad this issue)
★**Women's Chorus**, rehearsals; 6:30-9 pm. For more info, call Flo Hollis 547-2370
□**Baltimore Metropolitan Community Church service**; 2233 St. Paul St.; 3:45 and 6:45 pm. For more info, call 366-1415
□**Consciousness Raising Group for Gay Men**; Gay Community Center of Baltimore, 2133 Maryland Ave.; 6 pm & 8 pm; For more info, call 679-3850

Calendar

APRIL 12 — APRIL 30

KEY: □ = Baltimore Area Events

★ = Washington Area Events

★**Mass for Gay Community**, Dignity/DC; St. William's Chapel, 37th & "O" Sts., NW, Georgetown Univ.; 7:30 pm.
★□**Drop-in Counseling Service**; sponsored by Growth & Support; Meeting House at Oakland Mills, Columbia, Md.; 10 am - 10 pm. For more info, call 997-3541 (Balt.), 596-5865 (D.C.), 301-596-5865 (Va.)

MONDAYS

April 16

★**Female Systems**, a women's rap group at the Washington Area Women's Center, 1825 18th St., NW; 8 pm. For info, call 347-5078.
□**Coalition of Black Gay Women & Men, meeting**; GCC, 2133 Maryland Ave.; 7:30 pm. For info, call Lou 484-2562 or Chris 523-1069.
★**Gertrude Stein Democratic Club, meeting**; Fraternity House, 2133 P St., NW; 8 pm.

April 23

★**Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gay Men, meeting**; MLK Library, Room 221, 10th & G, NW; 7 pm. For info, call 332-5645.
★**Expressing Creativity**, a women's rap group at the Washington Area Women's Center, 1825 18th St., NW, 8 pm. For info, call 347-5078.
□**Gay Community Center, business meeting**; GCC, 2133 Maryland Ave; 8 pm.

April 30

★**Coming Out**, a women's rap group at the Washington Area Women's Center, 1825 18th St., NW; 8 pm. For info, call 347-5078.
□**Gay Community Center, business meeting**; GCC, 2133 Maryland Ave; 8 pm.

TUESDAYS

April 17

★**Gay Community Center Lecture Series**: Harry Baker & Barbara Miller, "Real Estate in Washington." GCC, 1469 Church St., NW; 8 pm.
★**Reston Gay Rap Group, meeting**; Brown's Chapel, Rt. 606, Reston; 7:30 pm. For info, call (Mon-Fri) 860-8873 (9-11 pm) or 860-2106 (8-10:30 pm).

April 24

★**Parents & Friends of Gays — Maryland, meeting**; 7:30 pm. For info, call 460-3359.
★**Gay Activists Alliance, meeting**; 1606 17th St., NW; 8 pm. For info, call 667-5139.

WEDNESDAYS

April 18

□**GAMMA (Gay Married Men) meeting**; GCC, 2133 Maryland Ave.; 7:30 pm.
★**VD Testing for men, by Gay Men's VD Clinic**; Olympic Bath, 1405 H St, NW; 7:30-9:30 pm. Membership card required.
□**Annapolis Gay Community, meeting**; 7:30 pm. For info, call Jim (301) 761-3797.

★**Gay People's Alliance/GWU, coffeehouse**; featuring Father Robert Hummel of Georgetown University; Marvin Center, 800 21st St., NW, Rm 405; 8 pm.
□**PWAG (Parents Who Are Gay), Group Discussion**; led by Billy Jones and Darlene Hicks on the concerns of custodial and non-custodial parents. Sponsored by PRO. Memorial Episcopal Church, Lafayette & Bolton Sts; nominal admission fee includes refreshments; 8 pm.
★**Dignity, Bar Night**; Fraternity House, 2122 P St, NW; 10 pm.
★**Friends, Gay Radio Program**; WPFM-FM, 89.3 FM; 10-11 pm.

April 25

★**Gay People's Alliance/GWU, coffeehouse**; presents an evening of songs & slides with Pamela Layng; Marvin Center, 800 21st St., NW, Rm 405, 8 pm.
★**VD Testing for men, by Gay Men's VD Clinic**; Club Bath, 20 "O" St, SE; 7:30-9:30 pm. Membership card required.

THURSDAYS

April 12

★**Passover, Second Seder**; MCT. For details, call 547-4562. (See ad, this issue.)
★**Christ in the Concrete City, a contemporary passion play**, sponsored by MCC & 1st Cong. Church, 945 G St., NW; 7 pm. Communion follows the play.
★**Mass for the Gay Community**; Dignity. For info, call 332-2424.
□**Forum, featuring David Thorstad**; GCC, 2133 Maryland Ave.; 8 pm.

April 19

□**Forum: presentation on Gay oriented Roxbury Run Housing Development in NY**; GCC, 2133 Maryland Ave., 8 pm.

April 26

★□**New issue of The Blade appears.**

FRIDAYS

April 13

★**Mass for the Gay Community**, Dignity. For info, call 332-2424.
★**University of Maryland Gay Community, disco & coffeehouse**; Student Union, room 2111; 9 pm. For info, call 454-5830.
★**MCC Good Friday Evening Service**, 945 G St., NW; 8 pm.
★**GAMMA (Gay Married Men), meeting**; Library of Satterlee Hall, St. Alban's Parish, Wisc. & Mass. Aves., NW; 7:30 pm.
★**Integrity**; pot luck dinner, eucharist, business meeting & fellowship; St. Thomas

Church, 1772 Church St., NW; 7:30 pm.
□**Jewish Gays of Maryland, meeting**; GCC, 2133 Maryland Ave.; 8:30 pm. For info, call 528-0398 or 685-0736.

April 20

★**Political Wake for Doug Moore**; sponsored by Gertrude Stein Democratic Club, Exile, 9th & K Sts, NW; \$5 admission; 6-10 pm.
★**PWAG (Parents Who Are Gay), meeting**; Library of Satterlee Hall, St. Alban's Parish, Wisc. & Mass Aves, NW; 7:30-9:30 pm.
★**Dignity, meeting**; featuring representatives from the Gay Counsel on Drinking Behavior; GCC, 1469 Church St, NW; 8 pm.

April 27

★**Integrity (Gay Episcopalians), pot luck dinner, eucharist, business meeting & fellowship**; St. Thomas Church, 1772 Church St., NW, 7:30 pm.
★**GAMMA (Gay Married Men), meeting**; Library of Satterlee Hall, St. Alban's Parish, Wisc. & Mass. Aves, NW; 7:30-9:30 pm.
□**Dignity, Liturgy & social**; Corpus Christi Church, Mt. Royal & Lafayette; 8 pm.
★**University of Maryland Gay Community, disco & coffeehouse**; Student Union, Room 2111; 9 pm. For more info, call 454-5830.

SATURDAYS

April 14

★**Mass for the Gay Community**; Dignity. For info, call 332-2424.

April 21

★**Washington Area Women's Center, Library Party**; to celebrate the rebirth of their library; 1825 18th St., NW; 1-4 pm.

April 28

□**Parents of Gays, meeting**; GCC, 2133 Maryland Ave; 8 pm. For info, call 879-7609 or 276-1931.
★**Georgetown Alumni Concerned for Gay Rights, Cocktail Party**; to benefit Gay People of Georgetown University Legal Expenses Fund. Resident Director's apartment, Harbin Hall (1st floor), GU campus; 8 pm. For details, call 525-3051.

SUNDAYS

April 15

★**National Coalitions of Black Gays, meeting**; GCC, 1469 Church St., NW; 6 pm. For info, call 596-5865.
★**MCC Easter Sunday Worship Celebration**; 945 G St., NW; 2:45 pm.
★**Sexuality Task Force of D.C. NOW, meeting**; 1606 17th St., NW; 2 pm. For info, call 466-2934

April 22

□**Women's Afternoon Buffet/Open House**; GCC, 2133 Maryland Ave., 2-5 pm.
★**Togetherness Session, Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gay Men**; For info, call Gary, 232-5405.

April 29

★**Gay Community Center, Annual Membership Meeting**; GCC, 1469 Church St., NW; 2 pm.

CALENDAR DEADLINE

April 26 edition — Fri., April 20



Curtain Up

Continued from page 11

the complete *Coppelia* and several of the new or revived pieces, including Ben Stevenson's attractive *Three Preludes*, *Miss Julie* and *Tudor's Shadowplay*.

Next into the Opera House is the final repertory of the Washington Opera's 1978-79 list. Set for April 21, 23, 27 and 29 is Bellini's tragic *I Capuletti ed i Montecchi* with Tatana Troyanos (Romeo) and Linda Zoghby (Juliet). Playing April 22, 24, 26 and 28 is Donizetti's comic *Don Pasquale* featuring Paolo Montarsolo, Rockwell Blake, Barbara Daniels and Richard Stilwell. Stilwell, Zoghby and Blake are all prominent D.C. discoveries in the operatic sphere.

Coming up on the dance scene is the final seasonal event of the Washington Ballet (Lisner, 20-21). The program will feature revivals of Choo San Goh's tricky *Synonyms* and James Clouser's *Carmina Burana* plus a new work. Lisner will also be the location of a visit to downtown D.C. by the Virginia Ballet in its version of the Russian classic *The Little Humpbacked Horse* (28). The Vzorov Rhythm Ballet appears at the Publick Playhouse in Cheverly, Md. on April 20-21.

SYMPHONY

The Concert Hall holds the final subscrip-

tion concerts of the National Symphony, conducted by Dorati (12-13), Christian Badea (17-20) and Leonard Bernstein (24-27). Washington Performing Arts Society events in the auditorium include appearances by the Milwaukee (14) and Detroit (29) Symphonies and the New York Philharmonic (20-21). The Detroit is also conducted

by Dorati in a concert performance of Richard Strauss' rarely heard and lushly melodic opera *Die Aegyptische Helena*.

A.F.I.

Following up an interesting German Opera Film series for the Washington Opera, the American Film Institute has

begun a mostly German Operetta series (through May 1). Also in progress are Romance of the Rails, homage to Rosalind Russell and Yiddish Film series, with a Leo McCarey series beginning April 24. Remaining dates for the impressive Russell series are April 13-15, 18, 21-23 and 28-29 (call 785-4601).

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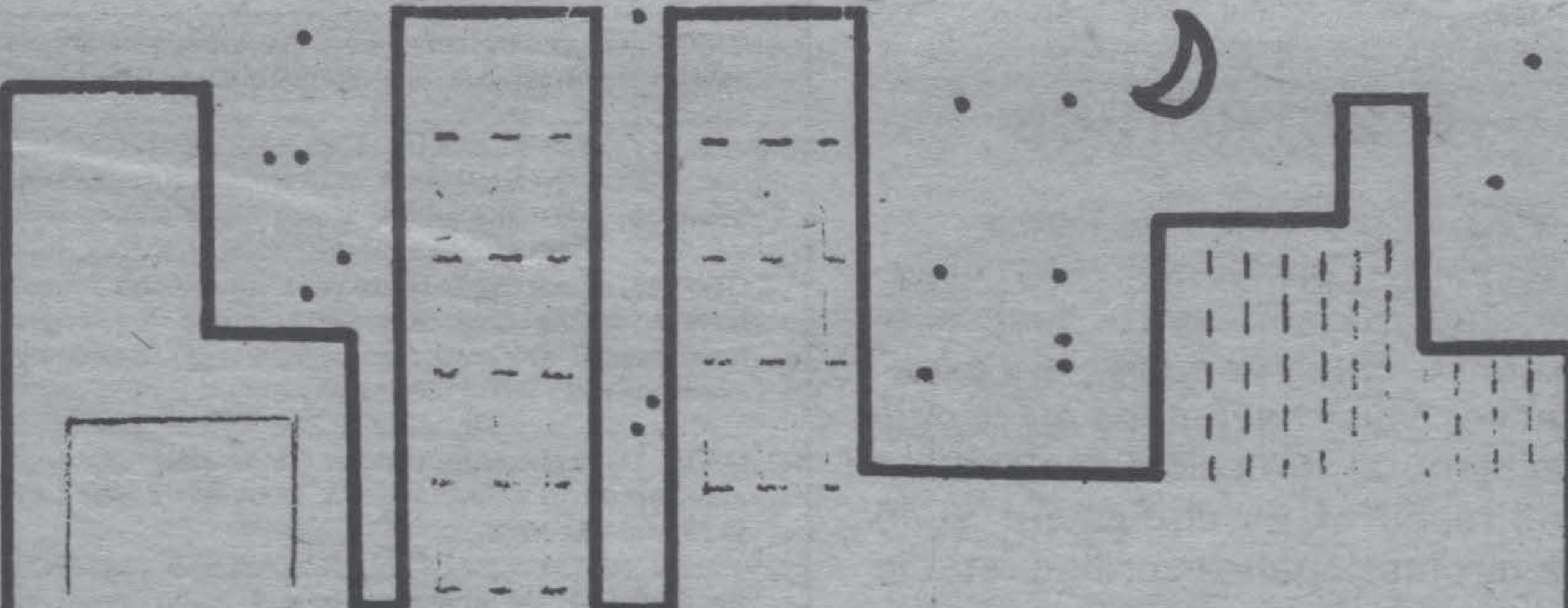
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GOURMET COOKING? GWM prof to share 6 BR 6½ bath Embassy Row home with 5 M/F's. You cook 1 night a week, have own rm and share well appointed living rm w/trpic, formal dining rm, breakfast rm, well-equipped kitchens and garden. Ample parking \$250/mo.+ 202-234-4444.

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GF SEEKS SAME to share 2 bdrm apt. in Wheaton. \$160 incl. util. Phone 460-3988 aft. 10 p.m.

NEED TO SHARE already established apt or house, Dupont Circle area. Am employed, local references. Ray after 6 pm, 726-3223.

SILVER SPRING — Room & bath in lovely 4 bedroom house. W/D, AC, fireplace, convenient to Metro. \$167+. Call 565-3761 evenings and weekends.

BOWIE, MD. 1 bdm, private bath, in house to share, yard, private, utils. included, \$180.00/mo. Monte @ 262-3368. On bus line.

GWF SEEKING ROOMMATE to share lge house w/separate bsmt. apt. \$170 incl. utilities. Call 725-6125.

GWF, 23, would like to share your house or go househunting (rent) with other Gay women in Arlington. Am considerate & responsible, seek same. No cats (allergy). Call Chris at 534-8774 (eves) or 751-4100 (wkdays).

GWM, 31, seeks resp. serious GM to share lux. highrise 2-bdrm apt nr. U of Md. AC, DW, pool. Avail. May 1 or June 1 \$170-190 434-5749.

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NEW CARROLTON near Metro 3 bdrm 1 ½ bath, house to share w/GWM \$130. Incl: util, A/C, wash/dryer 577-3039 evens & weekends.

CAP PARK bet waterfront & Cap Hill 2 BR Twnhse W/D DW Pkg Treetop Terrace eves: 554-0333 \$475 + util.

CAP HILL lge 2 BR house to share. W/D, dw. \$200 + ½ util. 546-3899, 547-6712.

2 WM, 22, SEEK 1 or 2 same share partially furnished country house in outer Silver Spring. \$110+util each. 384-2621.

GWM, 28, to share furnished two bedroom townhouse in S. Arl. \$135+½ elect. Serious only 920-8116.

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KEVYN, I NEED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU. How do I reach you? Chris.

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WED. APRIL 18th THRU APRIL 24th...
A New Contest!

"HARD SOAP" AKA "SOAP STUDS"



- 50⁰⁰ DOLLAR NIGHTLY PRIZE
- 100⁰⁰ FINALS Tuesday Apr. 24th
Cash Awarded Each Contestant

DOOR PRIZE EACH NIGHT \$25⁰⁰
(3 NUMBERS CALLED)

If no winner the amount will add each night

FREE
BEER & HOT DOGS
7 P.M. TO 9 P.M.

plus ON OUR SCREEN

"DORIAN GAY"

a great gay classic

ALSO **EXTRA! EXTRA!** TUESDAY, APRIL 24th
THE FINALS FOR *Hard Soap*

EAST COAST PREMIER - 9 P.M.

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in person

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