

## Military Revamps Discharge Regs

The Department of Defense implemented new regulations concerning gay-related discharges January 16. The regulations, designed to eliminate ambiguities in prior regulations concerning gay and lesbian service personnel, makes it easier to expel gays from service and more difficult for heterosexuals to use homosexuality as a ruse for discharge.

According to a spokesman for the Department of Defense, ambiguities in previous regulations have resulted in civil suits against the military by gays seeking to remain in the service. The new regulations require the military to determine for the first time whether service personnel are claiming to be homosexual so as to be discharged.

The revised regulations call for discharge of homosexuals or bisexuals "unless there is a further finding that the member is not a homosexual or bisexual."

The regulations eliminate almost all circumstances under which gays can remain in the military, according to Lt. Col. Robert F. Baker, associate director of the personnel division of the Department of Defense.

Although intended to eliminate exceptions to required discharge of gays, the regulations allow gays to remain in the military "for a limited period of time in the interests of national security."

The revised regulations call for dismissal of those who "have engaged in, attempted to engage in, or solicited another to engage in a homosexual act or acts." The regulations do allow retention if officials determine that such behavior is a "departure from the member's usual and customary behavior," that it is not likely to recur, and the member neither desires nor intends to engage in homosexual acts again.

According to the regulations, a homosexual is a "person, regardless of sex, who engages in, desires to engage in, or intends to engage in homosexual acts." A homosexual act is defined as a "bodily contact, actively undertaken or passively permitted, between members of the same sex for the purpose of satisfying sexual desires."

Baker stated that the military intends to issue honorable discharges to gays committing private consensual sexual acts. The regulations, however, list only circumstances for other than honorable discharge, including use of force or intimidation, engaging in sex with persons under 16 years old, engaging in sex in public view, for compensation, aboard military ships or aircraft, or with a

subordinate in violation of "customary military superior-subordinate relationships."

Although the new regulations include appeal through an administrative discharge board hearing, almost all appeals will be required to deal only with whether an openly gay person should be retained in the service due to the quality of his or her service record.

The gay-related discharge revision was issued in advance of proposed regulations covering all military discharges begun in June, 1979. Baker attributed its early release to official thought that regulations concerning gay-related discharges were needed immediately.

A 1978 U. S. Court of Appeals decision required the Air Force to specify the cir-

cumstances under which gays can be retained in the military. That decision later resulted in a federal court decision to reinstate Air Force Sgt. Leonard Matlovich, who recently accepted an out-of-court settlement of \$160,000. Baker stated that the new regulations make cases such as Matlovich's "difficult if not impossible."

## UUGC/ACLU Suit Dropped

A local gay organization voted to drop its suit against the City of Virginia Beach because of agreement by beach officials to treat the group's newspaper as it would any other unsolicited periodical.

The Unitarian-Universalist Gay Community (UUGC), publishers of *Our Own Community Press*, voted to drop the suit at its public meeting January 26. The suit,

brought by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Virginia on behalf of the UUGC, resulted from removal of the group's paper from beach libraries by City Manager George Hanbury last March. The Virginia Beach Library Board voted last April to allow a single display copy to remain in the periodicals section of each of the library's five branches, but to halt distribution of *Our Own*.

After that decision, library officials revised their unsolicited materials policy to distinguish between pamphlets and brochures from local civic organizations and periodicals. In depositions for U. S. District Court Judge J. Cavitt Clarke, city librarian Marcie Sims called that change a routine administrative change not affected by public sentiment. Considerable pressure had been placed on city officials at the Library Board's public hearing and as a result of the referendum against publications depicting homosexual acts, which passed overwhelmingly last November.

The ACLU suit was based on violations of First and Fourteenth Amendment guarantees of the rights to free speech and equal protection.

"We are extremely pleased with statements made by city officials in this case," stated one UUGC member. "The city has officially recognized *Our Own's* right to be placed in area libraries on an equal footing with other unsolicited newspapers."

Judge Clarke had refused in December to issue a temporary injunction restoring

distribution rights to *Our Own*. In his opinion, Judge Clarke noted that, because of the revised library policy and inclusion of one copy at each library, violations of First and Fourteenth Amendments had not been adequately demonstrated.

## NY Sodomy Law Struck Down

Citing the constitutional right to privacy and the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment, the New York Court of Appeals struck down the state's consensual sodomy law December 18. In a 5-2 decision, the court ruled that governmental interference in private sexual acts between consenting adults restricted individual conduct and imposed a "concept of private morality chosen by the state."

"This decision is a major victory for sexual privacy and for gay people, because it establishes a constitutional right to engage in private consensual sexual conduct," declared Margot Karle, President of Lambda Legal Defense of New York.

The decision centered on the case of Ronald Onofre, arrested in 1977 for forcible sodomy, sexual abuse, and consensual sodomy. Eventually all charges except consensual sodomy were dropped in the Syracuse case. Also considered were two Buffalo cases, one involving two men, and the other a male-female couple.

The court's decision struck down New York's Penal Law 130.38, prohibiting oral and anal sex between unmarried persons.

## Employee Retains Clearance

The National Security Agency has allowed a gay male employee to retain both his job and his security clearance on condition that he inform his family of his sexual orientation. The decision, approved in December by NSA Director Vice Admiral Robert Inman, may signal a relaxation of the agency's previous policy of dismissing homosexuals.

The NSA decision required the unnamed employee to reveal his sexual orientation to relatives to eliminate possible blackmail. The employee was further directed not to engage in illegal public acts, and to adhere to standard rules discouraging disclosure of his place of employment.

News about Inman's decision was leaked to the *Washington Post* in an

apparent attempt to embarrass the NSA Director. Inman is said to be Reagan's favored nominee for deputy director of the CIA. At the January 13 hearing to confirm William Casey as CIA director, however, conservative Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) lavished high praise upon Inman and recommended that he be placed on Casey's staff.

D.C. gay activist Franklin Kameny, the gay employee's administrative counsel, termed the NSA decision a "major victory" for gay rights.

The controversial decision may signal a relaxation of the ban on gay employees in security-related governmental and military positions. The NSA is a division of the Department of Defense.



## 13-Year Veteran Airman Loses Appeal

The Air Force discharged a 13-year veteran after the U. S. Court of Appeals denied his petition for a preliminary injunction to keep him in the Air Force until his appeal was decided.

Only hours after the January 14 ruling, the Air Force issued Sgt. Harold Bryant a general discharge from McDill Air Force Base.

"We're disappointed, but we plan to keep on fighting," declared Kirk Stokes, Director of the Bay Area Rights Council in Tampa. Alice Nelson, Bryant's Tampa attorney noted that "a long uphill battle" faces appeal in the case.

Three appeal options are being considered in Bryant's case, according to Washington, D.C., co-counsel Hamilton Fox. These options include litigating whether the preliminary injunction should have been granted, challenging the discharge regulation as discriminator in District court, or appealing the discharge within the Air Force.

A new lesbian/gay organization, Bay Area Rights Council (BARC), formed in Tampa in response to Bryant's case. Begun as both an advocacy and community services group, BARC's first project is raising funds for Bryant's appeal.

## Lesbianism Blamed in Fort Story Slaying

The army court-martial of a woman accused of murdering another female soldier opened January 27 with allegations that the slaying may have been motivated by lesbian rivalry. Army Spec. 5 Nancy Jean Verraso, 23, is charged with premeditated murder of Pfc. Tammy Meza-Luna, whose body was found hanging near Fort Story September 29. Both women were stationed at the Fort Story in Virginia Beach.

Early testimony indicated that Verraso and Meza-Luna had fought over a third female soldier, and that Verraso had threatened Meza-Luna. Further testimony indicated that Verraso was under investigation for having an affair with the female who is allegedly central to the fight.

Defense attorney Martin Cosgrove questioned the admissibility of some of the statements of homosexuality made by Verraso.

Meza-Luna was found in a wooded area of Fort Story by her husband Manuel. The medical examiner ruled that she died of asphyxiation by hanging.

## Court Strikes Solicitation Law

The Massachusetts Supreme Court has struck down as unconstitutional that state's solicitation law. The December 15 ruling voided a law making it a crime to be "lewd, wanton and lascivious."

The unanimous Massachusetts decision resulted from solicitation charges against Edward J. Sefranka. The arresting officer admitted that Sefranka suggested having

sex in a private residence. The court ruled that the solicitation statute applied only to cases where sexual touching occurred publicly and would be likely to offend others.

The court cited the 1979 Pryor decision by the California Supreme Court in its ruling. A similar case concerning solicitation laws is pending in the Oklahoma Court of Appeals.

## Penthouse Magazine to Keep Falwell Interview

A federal judge has allowed *Penthouse* magazine to publish an interview with Rev. Jerry Falwell despite Falwell's objections that the interview was deceitfully obtained.

In a February 2 ruling, U.S. District Court Judge James C. Turk refused to ban distribution of the March issue of *Penthouse*, which contains the Falwell interview. Falwell claimed that he specifically instructed the free-lance writers who conducted the interview that it could not appear in either *Playboy* or *Penthouse*.

Falwell had obtained a temporary re-

straining order against distribution of the March issue on January 30. *Penthouse* attorney Roy Grutman said that he considered that decision a violation of First Amendment rights, but that the magazine would try to adhere to the ruling had it remained in effect. Grutman stated that he was not certain that distribution of the magazine's 4.5 million copies could be halted on such short notice.

Falwell's suit had asked for \$10 million in damages.

"There's been no irreparable harm to

him, and I can't see how the truth would harm him," Grutman stated.

Falwell accused Grutman of missing the point, insisting that he would fight for the preservation of *Penthouse's* first amendment rights, "although I do not approve of *Penthouse* magazine and its ilk."

Falwell further stated that his objection was not that *Penthouse* had published information about him, but that the magazine had "deceitfully implied" that the interview was obtained exclusively for the magazine.

Falwell, a prominent Virginia evangelist, is founder of Moral Majority Inc., a religious group with conservative political interests, as well as preacher of radio and television religious broadcasts and pastor of the 17,000 member Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg.

## Student Group Obtains Recognition

The U. S. Supreme Court let stand December 9 a decision that Texas A&M University must agree to recognize its gay student organization. The favorable Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals decision remained in effect due to the Supreme Court's refusal to hear the case.

The decision results from a suit brought by the Gay Student Services organization against the university in 1975. University officials termed official recognition of the student group "tacit approval" of homosexuality.

"This decision shows that fair access to funding and services must be guaranteed to campus gay organizations," commented Lucia Valeska, Co-Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force. NGTF filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the case.

According to Don Knutson, legal director of Gay Rights Advocates, "Case law is now clearly on the side of gay groups." Similar rulings have been made in three other courts of appeals, including a decision involving Lambda League at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

## Gay Press Association Forms

Members of the gay press gathered in New York January 8 - 11 for a gay press convention and voted to form a gay press association. Over 80 people from 50 publications attended the conference, including editors, publishers, writers and business managers.

The four-day conference included panels on advertising, circulation and distribution, business management, and editorial content.

Conference participants voted unanimously to form the Gay Press Association. Among goals of the association are promotion of ethical journalistic standards, increased communication among gays and the community at large, and protection of the rights and integrity of the gay press.

The next meeting of the Gay Press Association will be in Dallas on May 2 - 3, 1981.

## Gay Sailor To Appeal

Former sailor Dennis Beller announced plans to appeal his military discharge to the U. S. Supreme Court. Despite an impeccable 16-year service record, Beller was discharged from the Navy in 1976. Beller's discharge was upheld last October by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

"This discharge was in violation of Beller's rights to due process of law for reasons totally irrelevant to his qualifications and his ability to serve," stated Richard Fox, Beller's attorney. Gay Rights Advocates, a San Francisco public interest law firm, will assist Fox in the appeal.

## Playboy Awards Gay Rights Grant

The Playboy Foundation has awarded \$10,000 to the National Gay Task Force (NGTF) and Gay Rights Advocates (GRA) to fund their joint military project. The grant, the largest ever awarded by Playboy for a specific gay rights project, reflects a continuing commitment by Playboy to the goals of the gay rights movement.

The joint military project is designed to change U. S. military policy requiring the discharge of homosexuals from the Armed Forces. The project will coordinate negotiations with the government and litigation in a strategy to overturn current policy concerning gay men and women serving in the military.

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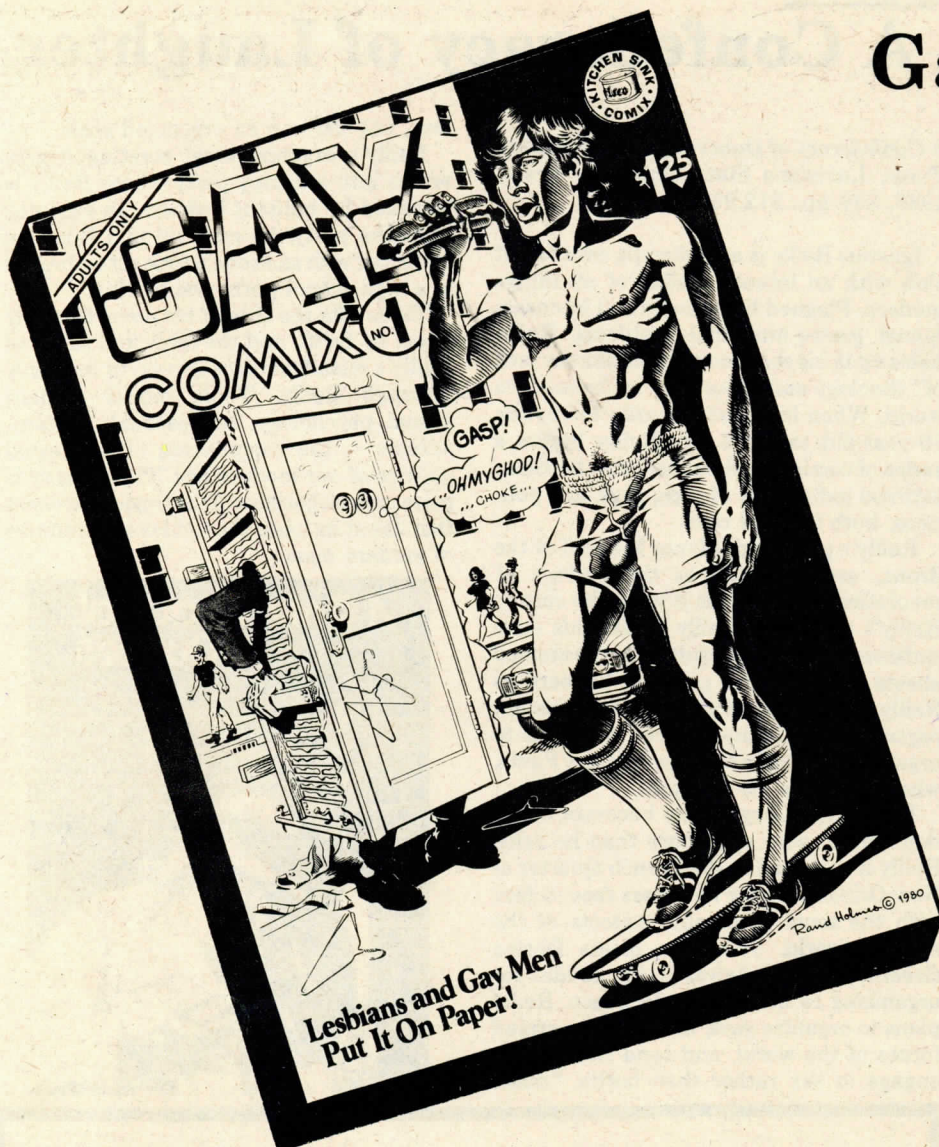
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# Gay Comics



A pair of recently published comic books presents stories of gay men and women who are anything but superheroes. Although both are labeled "adults only," the "lusciously illustrated *Gay Heart Throbs*, vol. 2 is more explicit than *Gay Comix* No. 1.

*Gay Heart Throbs* is, second in a series published and edited by Larry Fuller, includes tales only of gay men. Fuller promises that his comics include no "self-righteous breastbeating, soap-boxing, or hard-line propaganda. No statistics or expert opinions will be trotted out." *Gay Heart Throbs* promises instead to entertain.

*Gay Heart Throbs* includes stories such as "Mike's," about a gay bar owned by two

former boxers who once met in the ring and now meet in a different type of physical encounter. Other stories include "A Straight at a Gay Party," "Broadway Buddies," and "Spartans," a lusty saga of men where all's fair.

While less explicit than *Heart Throbs*, *Gay Comix* No. 1 presents a balance of lesbian and gay stories that are more satirical but real-life situations than *Heart Throbs*. "Reunion," for example, chronicles the tales of three women meeting again years after the break-up of their women's rap group; the story is a realistic but delightful send-up of consciousness-raising and the race to "get your shit together" in the "Me Decade." "Billy Goes Out" is a devastatingly funny look at one man's guilt and loneliness at his back-room bar lifestyle. Billy's one night of adventure is complicated by a running dialogue with his conscience-like crotch.

*Gay Comix* is a well-balanced blend of lesbians and gay men, young and old, without politics or preachiness.

*Gay Heart Throbs* may be ordered for \$2.00 from Larry Fuller Presents, Box 2595, San Francisco, CA 94109. *Gay Comix* is available for \$1.25 from Kitchen Sink Enterprises, Box 7, Princeton, WI 54968.



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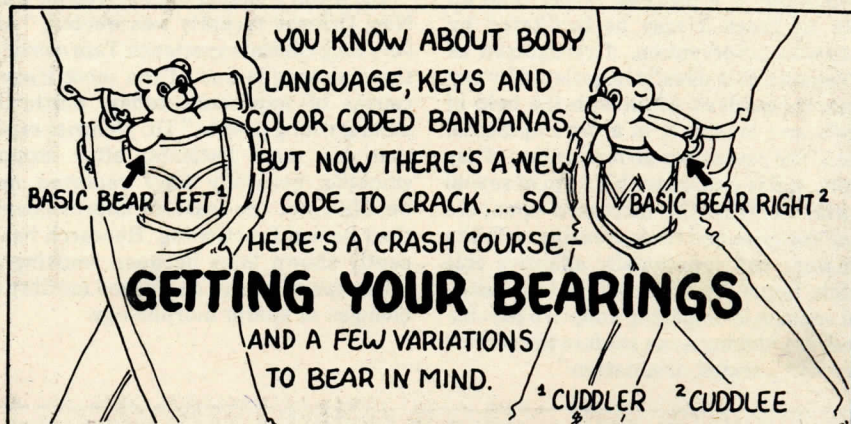
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Teddy bears are not the last word in pocket signals, however. Some West Coast gays have been seen with small plastic forks in their right pockets. The code? They want to be taken out to dinner, not an altogether bad idea given the current state of the economy.



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# Behavioral Science Updates

By Robert Scott

*Human Sexuality*, January 1981. To a question concerning the seduction of homosexual men by heterosexual women, Dr. Evelyn Gendel points out that neither homosexuality nor heterosexuality is created or changed by sexual partners. She concludes, "Yes, she can, if he wants her to."

In the same issue, Dr. Yehudi Felman points out that Hepatitis B exists in a carrier state (Hepatitis A does not), is four times as common in homosexual men as in the general population, and is transmitted by semen and to a less or extent by saliva. Surprisingly transmission by semen is more likely through anal than through oral intercourse.

A brief sketch of the life of Richard the Lion-Hearted reports his twice public confession and penance for homosexual relations, and lists Edward II, Richard II, James I and William III as known to be bisexual. William II (Rufus) is apparently the only English royal Kinsey 6.

*Homosexual Parenting*. At the last meeting of the American Orthopsychiatry Association, a comparative study of twenty children was reported by Dr. Martha Kirkpatrick. Her analysis revealed that children raised by lesbian mothers showed no significant psychological differences from those raised by single or divorced heterosexual mothers. No problems in gender identity distinguished the two groups studied. All children were evaluated by raters not aware to which group the child being rated belonged. Lesbian partners were regarded as "an aunt, an adult friend, or big sister, not as a substitute father."

*The Grandmother Connection*. An article in the April 1980 issue of the *American Journal of Psychiatry* reports that almost one-third of a one year sample of patients evaluated and diagnosed as transsexuals were raised in family settings in which maternal grandmothers were important parental figures during early childhood. The grandmothers were described as supportive, loving, and accepting of the patients' early feminine behavior, early homosexual experiences, and cross-dressing. These grandmothers were strong and firm but willing to teach female homemaking skills to the male transsexuals studied.

At the 1980 meeting of the American Psychiatric Association, Dr. Jaime Smith reported to an evening panel on homophobia that isolation is the main cause of dysphoria (emotional distress) in the homosexual. "Coming out is a process, rather than an event. At times it may be facilitated by therapeutic intervention, if recognized as problematic. It is usually negotiated by gay people themselves, often with the help of friends and lovers. It is a developmental stage in the psychosexual maturation of gay people, and is unique to this form of sexual orientation. With the increased openness of gay lifestyles and the increasing visibility of mature and functionally adaptive role models, hopefully, there will be less individual anguish in achieving adaptive psychosexual functioning as an adult in the context of minority sexual orientation."

In the April 1980 issue of the *American Journal of Psychiatry*, a follow up study of 17 male transsexuals after sex-reassignment surgery revealed that none of the seventeen transsexuals had doubts about having had the surgery. The average interval post surgery was 8.2 years. The authors believe that the individual's adjustment before surgery is the best indicator of success in coping with the stress of surgery.

In the February 1980 issue of the *American Journal of Psychiatry*, a study of fourteen male rape victims reveals that as a group, the male victims, when compared with 100 randomly selected female rape victims, sustained more physical trauma, were more likely to have been a victim of multiple assaults from multiple assailants, were more likely to have been held captive longer, were more reluctant to reveal the nature of their attack, and were more likely to attempt to repress their feelings concerning the event, denying its significance.

Dr. Richard Green reported in Montreal that prenatal exposure to diethyl stilbesterol, natural progesterone, and synthetic progesterone was correlated with significant variations in tests of psychosexual development in males, but the rates of homosexual behavior were the same in exposed individuals and control subjects. These hormones have been given extensively in the past to pregnant mothers to prevent spontaneous abortion. Subjects exposed to progesterone regimens in utero showed the most departures toward femininity in interviews and on tests and those exposed to DES the least.

Dr. W. F. Owen, Jr. reported in the July issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine* that lack of knowledge by the physician regarding the multiple partners of homosexual men may result in omitting appropriate laboratory tests. He urged that physicians who feel threatened by or are unable to understand the homosexual patient should refer him to another physician.

At the Third International Congress of Twin Studies held in Jerusalem, Researchers from the University of Minnesota reported that the similarity of many psychiatric and other traits between identical twins separated shortly after birth and raised by nonrelated foster parents is so striking that there is no alternative to a genetic explanation. One male pair was strongly concordant for homosexuality and a second was apparently not, leaving that issue as cloudy as ever.

Dr. Alton Ochsner of the Ochsner Clinic, New Orleans recently was quoted, "After very long clinical experience, I am convinced that smoking is one of the most frequent causes of impotence today, particularly among young people." Dr. Ochsner reports that his male patients, after stopping smoking, generally have reported many benefits, not the least an improvement in their sexual functioning. Research has recently shown links between smoking and lower sperm count, decreased motility and changes in sperm morphology.

## A Review

# A Confederacy of Laughter

*A Confederacy of Dunces* by John Kennedy Toole, Louisiana State University Press, 1980, 338 pp., \$12.95.

Ignatius Reilly is an unkempt, overweight slob with an intense dislike of all things modern. Plagued by intense (and intensely funny) gastro-intestinal problems, Reilly holes up in his room contemplating the lack of "theology and geometry" in the modern world. When his mother finally forces the 30-year-old to get a job, Reilly begins a series of comic misadventures that becomes satirical indictment of cops, gays, and politics, both left and right.

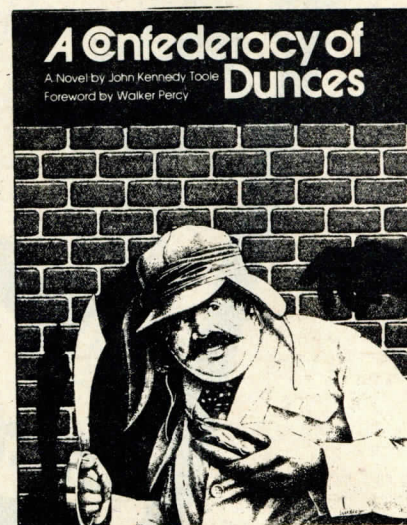
Reilly's girlfriend, Myrna Minkoff of the Bronx, espouses sex as the politics of revolution and believes it to be the cure to Reilly's problems. Reilly prefers his masturbatory fantasies, resulting in the stained sheets that become political banners as Reilly, competing with Myrna's constant organizing for radical causes, attempts to organize a worker's takeover of Levy Pants, where he lands his first job.

Fired from Levy, Reilly becomes a hot-dog vendor who eats more than he sells. Reilly is assigned to the French Quarter of New Orleans, where he comes face to face with the most detestable aspects of the modern world. There he meets Dorian Greene, a gay who gives Reilly an idea for organizing to achieve world peace. Reilly plans to organize gays, infiltrate the armed forces of the world, and send them off to engage in sex rather than battle: "make

love, not war" on an organized scale.

Reilly's organizational meeting degenerates into a campy party where Reilly is attacked by militant lesbians. In escaping from the party, he ends up in a Bourbon street bar with an exotic parrot act embroiled in a high-school pornography ring.

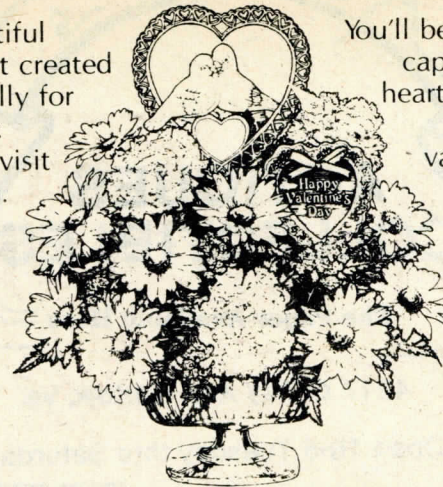
Toole lifts the title of his novel from the poem by Swift, and the farce and satire of Reilly's misadventures live up to its name. Through Reilly, Toole mocks modern sexual psychology, homosexuals, heterosexuals — the components of the sexual politics of our modern age. The comedy is more intense because of the tragic awareness that lies at its base, the foibles and frailties of modern man.



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# Portaro: Speaker At Mandamus Function

Over fifty men and women heard an Episcopal chaplain debunk many of the biblical myths concerning homosexuality at the Mandamus Society monthly dinner January 31. Rev. Sam Portaro, Episcopal chaplain at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, addressed the group on "Homosexuality and the Bible: A Textual Criticism."

Portaro presented a brief overview of biblical scholarship, including discussion of John Boswell's recently published **Christianity, Homosexuality, and Social Tolerance**. Portaro began by noting the many myths springing from the Bible which are unrelated to homosexuality. Portaro cited the popular misconception that the story of Onan is an admonishment against masturbation; Portaro explained that Onan was admonished for breaking tribal law of the militantly nationalistic Hebrew nomads

by practicing coitus interruptus rather than impregnating the wife of his deceased, childless brother.

Portaro also explained that Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed for inhospitality to the three angelic visitors in Lot's house, considered a heinous crime under the code of hospitality adopted by the nomadic Hebrews.

Portaro further noted the distinction

between translations and transliterations of the Bible, recommending the New Living Bible as the best translation among modern English versions. Portaro noted that the Hebrew, Aramaic, and Roman languages in which the Bible was written had no word for "homosexual"; the word translated as "homosexual" in modern versions is the masculine version of the term for "prostitute." Temple prostitutes were common in early

christian times, holdovers from pagan religions.

Portaro defended Paul in his remarks, noting that Paul condemned all people, including himself, but stated that none were separated from the love of God.

Portaro's presentation was both witty and articulate, stimulating much discussion and questions from those attending the \$15.00-a-plate dinner.

## Dignity Plans Sixth Annual Retreat

Dignity/Tidewater and Richmond Dignity-Integrity are planning the sixth annual retreat for gay Christians, to be held in Richmond, March 13 - 15. The retreat, to be held at Genesis House, is held in co-operation with Campus and Young Adult Ministry of the Diocese of Richmond. Approximately 30 to 40 people are expected to attend the conference, which is open to

all denominations.

Dignity members Jack and Vince, who are on the Diocesan Commission on Human Sexuality, recently met with Bishop Walter Sullivan of the Richmond diocese to discuss their concerns as gay Catholics. Bishop Sullivan, who celebrated mass and met with Dignity members at the Dignity Region IV conference held in Norfolk last November, plans to attend an

upcoming informal conference on sexuality. Over 200 bishops are expected to attend that conference.

Dignity recently elected new officers to serve in the upcoming year. Ken Orr was reelected president and John Goula was elected to the position of Administrator. New Board members Bill Reed, Joe Amos, and Scott Wyatt attended an orientation workshop January 31.

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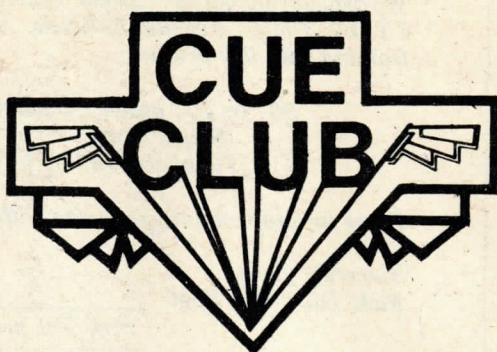
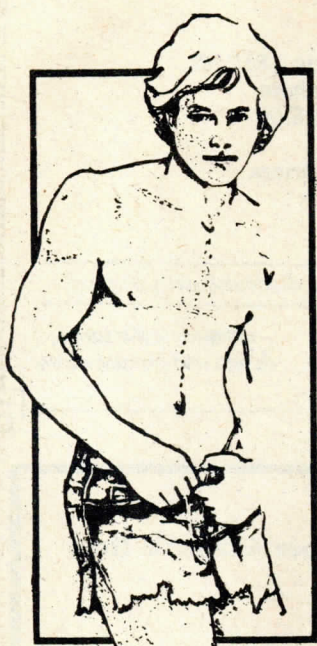
### Gay Counseling Program Begins

A local counseling center has begun providing services to the gay community through a program co-facilitated by counselors Hope Damon and Bill Davis.

Poseidia Institute, a non-profit center concerned with research in parapsychology, has added counseling for gays to its other services, which include classes, workshops, counseling, and psychic readings. The center takes a wholistic or whole-person approach to counseling, incorporating intuition or extrasensory ability into traditional psychology.

Hope Damon and Bill Davis will serve as counselors in the program. Damon has worked for the past two years as an alcoholics counselor for the state, and has been actively involved in reaching gay alcoholics and drug addicts and those who live with addicted persons. Davis has five years experience in peer and gay counseling and crisis intervention.

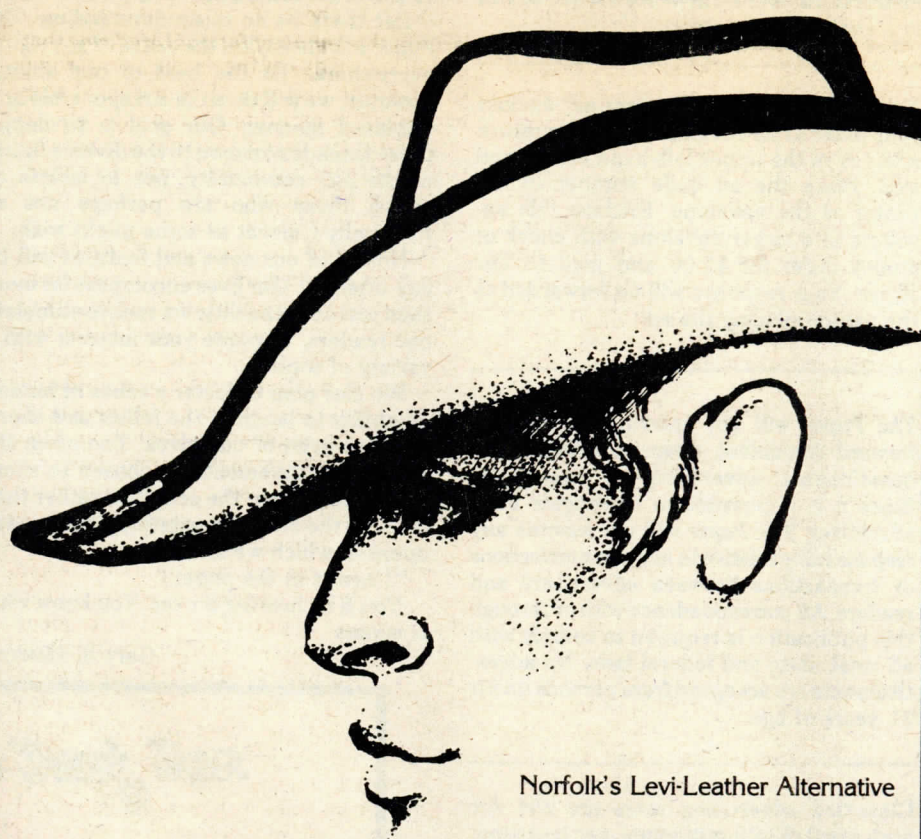
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To the Editor:

The Norfolk gay community seems to have a problem common to many areas: they're calling it "attitude."

As a newcomer both to Tidewater and to the gay lifestyle, my awareness of this problem was intensified on a recent trip to D.C. — where it was easy to meet honest, forthright, no-game gays that are having a wonderful and fulfilling time as a family.

Be it dancing at the bars, playing volleyball at P Street Beach, or reading a book under the trees at Dupont Circle, the D.C. scene was both refreshing and depressing.

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To place a personal contact ad: send your ad, complete with name, address, and signature that you are over 21, along with check or money order to *The Paper*. Your ad will be assigned a code number; your name and address will remain confidential. Letters from all respondents following the instructions below will be forwarded to you in a confidential manner.

To answer a personal contact ad: enclose your letter in an envelope with your return address in the upper left-hand corner and seal. Place the ad code number in the center of the envelope. Enclose this envelope in a larger envelope with check or money order for \$1.00 and mail to *The Paper*. Your response will be forwarded to the person placing the ad.

*The Paper* will not knowingly accept or forward fraudulent, obscene, offensive or questionable advertising or responses. Since it is impossible to investigate each advertiser, *The Paper* will not assume any responsibility relative to any communications or transactions between advertisers and readers. All correspondence with or through this publication is required to comply with all local, state and federal laws. No advertisements are accepted from persons under 21 years of age.

Classified advertising rates are 20¢ for each word (\$3.00 minimum) per insertion. All classified advertising must be paid for in advance. Send checks to *The Paper*, Classified Advertising Department, P. O. Box 4, Norfolk, Virginia 23501.

GWM 34, 6'1", 160#, defined body, curly hair, seeks smooth-bodied, clean-shaven GWM 18-25 for movies at the Naro, evenings in front of the fireplace, walks in Ghent or at the beach, and good times. Photo gets same. Reply NVA-000-001.

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Refreshing in the ease at which gays met, interacted, and supported one another — even me, a first time visitor. Depressing by comparison to my new home town, Norfolk.

An excerpt from *The Blade* poses the problem and some possible cures:

Paul N. Van Ness, Ph.D.  
"The Special Problem and the Special Promise"

Nov. 21, 1980

In a bar, for example, we are inclined to interpret every conversation — our own as well as others' — as a sexual contact. This inhibits ease of both sexual and non-sexual interaction. If you're lonely for non-sexual contact on a given evening, you're reluctant to begin conversation for fear of it being interpreted sexually. If you're interested in sexual contact on another evening, the sexualized atmosphere heightens many folks' anxieties so that they initiate contact awkwardly, or not at all.

The focus on sex short-circuits some of the necessary getting-acquainted processes.

### Letter From The Publisher

"I saw it in *The Paper*."

That simple sentence embodies our editorial policy at *The Paper*, a new publication designed to provide an entertaining and informative look at the world we live in.

Our goal is to avoid the practice of advocacy journalism, the presentation of a single point of view on any issue. We plan instead to provide a comprehensive review of local and national news of interest both to the gay community and the larger society in which we must peaceably exist.

Let there be no misunderstanding: *The Paper* will champion the cause of gay rights everywhere. To the best of our ability, however, we will do so in a responsible and unbiased manner. Our goal is to depict those threads common to the diverse fabric of the gay community, not to isolate or attack those who are perhaps not so Politically Correct as some might wish.

Not all of our news and features will be gay-oriented. Our lives encompass far more than just our sexuality; we seek to stimulate our readers, to pique your interest with a variety of topics.

We also plan to foster a sense of humor, an ability to laugh at the follies and shortcomings even of ourselves. Too often the gay rights movement has chosen to shout propaganda from the soap box rather than observe the often devastatingly funny soap opera in which we all live.

"I saw it in the paper."

You'll be hearing it a lot. You know what it means.

Gary S. Hankins

Sexual and non-sexual contact occurs more easily when other reasons exist for people to get acquainted. Playing volleyball on P Street Beach. Having a "mixer" at bar with nametags. Meeting with Gay political group. Drag shows. Leather fashions hews. Anniversary night at the baths. Black and white Gays forming a social club. These other reasons for meeting help lubricate

getting-acquainted processes, even though some of them include a sexual dimension.

If this problem is frustrating anyone else — if these suggestions appeal to anyone besides me — let your voice be heard! Maybe we could start living like a family around here.

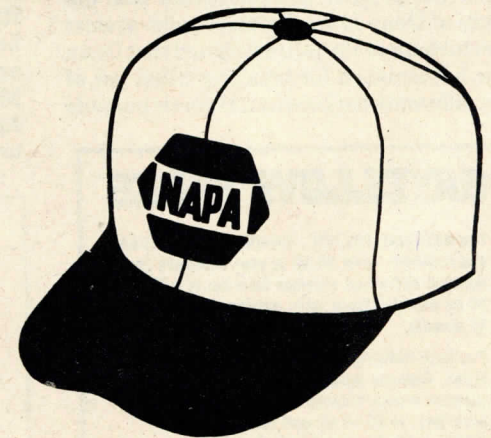
Anyone for volleyball?

Bob

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# CRUISING

## *Location May Be Key To Success*

By Gary Hankins

When looking for just the right belt to go with your Clavin Kleins, pays to browse where there's a large selection. Cruising is the same way; it helps to go where the boys are.

In considering this, the Naro, Military Circle, and any one of several bars come to mind. While it is true that the Naro has a large gay clientele, patrons will not appreciate your negotiating whose apartment to go to while Rhett is carrying Scarlett up the staircase. Besides, it's too dark in there to see which side his handkerchiefs on anyway. Cruising at the mall brings up the problem of approaching complete strangers. Most people will assume either that you're a psychopath or conducting some sort of survey. In either case you're likely to be shunned. This leaves the bars.

Once a choice of bars is made, you are faced with choosing the right clothing. It's important to keep your butch quotient as high as possible. Denim jeans (faded at the least, preferably torn), plaid shirts, and work boots are always in good taste, although the resurgence of the preppie look has returned Top-Siders and Lacostes to favor among the perennially collegiate. Athletic T-shirts and Adidas may be substituted when seasonally appropriate. A touch of leather is always correct, unless it's in the form of a purse.

Keys dangling from the hip can provide the perfect finishing touch. Remember to wear them on the left, regardless of your personal preference; macho is in. If you do not own an oversized key ring of the sort favored by custodians and high-school shop teachers, a bandanna will do just as well. Keeping track of the nuances of color coding can, however, create a mental hue and cry. If so, a rolled-up copy of *Popular Mechanics* tucked discreetly into your left pocket will do nicely.

Since entrances are more effective in front of a crowd, it is best not to go out before 11:00 PM. After all, who wants

to meet someone so tied up in his career that he actually needs a good night's sleep? Napping through the six o'clock news will help acclimate you to keeping such late hours. Besides, information about the unpleasant activities of perfect strangers is of little value anyway.

Selecting a drink is also important to your image. If the bar serves only beer and soft drinks, Bud is a better choice than, say, Miller Lite or Perrier water (be sure to crush the empties, unless they're glass). If mixed drinks are served, scotch served neat is preferable to a Pina Colada. If scotch is not among your favorite liquors, remember that, like Japanese raw fish, it is an acquired taste.

Once served, adopting the correct pose is of prime concern. Your goal is to cultivate a sense of aloofness, a calculated disinterest in those surrounding you. This may or may not prove difficult, depending upon the clientele. Ignore smiles and glances sent your way. No one wants to leave with someone whose attentions are so readily obtained. If you display interest in someone but receive no response, remember that he's trying to give attitude as well.

Selection of the proper person to approach is important. Since most gays are rather narcissistic, it is best to sidle up to someone bearing a strong resemblance to yourself. If, however, you wish to meet someone less ordinary-looking than yourself, wearing a mirrored mask is likely to put almost anyone you approach face to face with the man of his dreams. While it is true that this approach places undue emphasis on physical appearance, be aware that anyone whose inner beauty is visible in a crowded bar is simply likely to have a tear in his shirt.

If the person, near whom you have positioned yourself is interested in you, he may ask you to dance. Do not be afraid to accept; the rise of New Wave has made even the most uncoordinated bodily convulsions acceptable dance

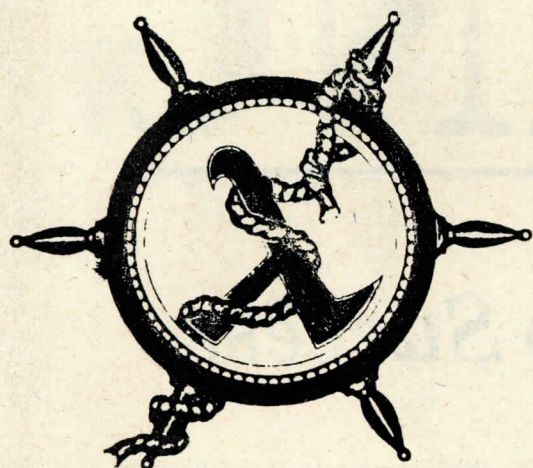
steps. While dancing, you may become overly warm and wish to remove your shirt. This should be avoided. If your partner is interested in seeing how your pecs have developed since you joined the Y, he will not hesitate to ask you. Your bandanna may be used to wipe the sweat from your brow (remember, back into your left pocket).

Once you have finished dancing, keeping the conversation going may seem difficult. "Do you come here often?" and "Are you from around here?" are time-honored conversational ploys. Avoid discussing current events at all costs, as he is likely to feel inadequate because he knows little about them. Remember, he sleeps through Walter Cronkite, too.

During the course of the conversation, you may wonder if he is playing games with you. Game-playing is common in all bars. These games may be classified into two types: recreational and psychological. Recreational games include Foosball and Space Invaders. Psychological games include hard-to-get and attitude. For the less intelligent, pinball may qualify as both recreational and psychological.

Getting together, or the avoidance of such, is likely by now to be in both of your minds; the problem is deciding which of you will pop the question, and when. It is best to take the initiative if last call is approaching and nothing has been said. This will avoid the sudden frenzy of those who have successfully remained aloof all evening and realize they'd better get busy working the coat check. Don't count on his going home with you until he's actually agreed, however; premature plans, like stamps, usually end up being cancelled. Of course, he's unsure of your response as well; that's why he's kept his eye on the guy in the leather vest the whole time he's been talking to you.

Next: Entertaining at Home — bondage, clean sheets, and breakfast with Mr. Wrong.



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## Highlites Of The Month

### FEB

11 - Toga Party

15 - Valentines Day Party

25 - Mardi Gras Party

## Where Norfolk Parties

With your HEAD DJ - John Harders  
and CO DJ - Stan Foreman