

FREE

In the Washington
and Baltimore Areas

35c Elsewhere

THE BLADE

VOL. 11, NO. 9

A PUBLICATION FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY

MAY 1, 1980



MCC'ers Verbally, Physically Attacked

by Dave Walter

The "Washington For Jesus" rally here this week was marked by active participation — and involvement in a confrontation — by local Metropolitan Community Church members, and was the occasion for a White House gathering of representatives of national Gay religious organizations.

The non-violent confrontation came after 13 members of MCC Washington, holding up signs proclaiming their homosexuality, marched into the crowd of Christians gathered on the Mall Tuesday. One of the signs stated, "The Lord is My Shepherd and

Continued on page 7

Gay Student Groups Sue Georgetown U.

by Dave Walter

Two Gay student groups, charging discrimination, are taking Georgetown University to court. A suit was filed Wednesday in D.C. Superior Court accusing the University of violating the D.C. Human Rights Act by refusing to grant University charters to the Gay People of Georgetown University (GPGU) and the Gay Rights Coalition of Georgetown University Law Center (GRC-GULC).

Both organizations petitioned for recognition, but were turned down. University officials cited homosexuality as being contrary to Catholic doctrine.

The suit was filed on behalf of the two groups, 23 members of the groups, and three faculty members of the Law Center. Named as defendants are the University, the Law Center, University President Timothy S. Healy, and law school Dean David J. McCarthy, Jr.

One of the attorneys for the plaintiffs, Ron Bogard, said the suit seeks an injunction "directing the University to charter the two groups and accord to them the rights and privileges that go to any student group on campus, including competition for money and office space." He added that the suit seeks personal damages for the plaintiffs, and that it asks that the University be ordered to pay attorneys' fees and court costs.

The suits is based mainly on the D.C. Human Rights Act, to which it makes three references:

- "It is unlawful discriminatory action... for an educational institution... to deny... any of its facilities and services to any person.

... based upon... sexual orientation."

- "Every individual shall have an equal opportunity to participate fully in the economic, cultural, and intellectual life of the District and to have equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of life, including, but not limited to... educational institutions."

- "Any practice which has the effect or consequence of violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed to be unlawful discriminatory practices."

Continued on page 3

Gay Dems Ready For Primary

by G. Thompson

Gay political organizers, expecting to send Gay delegates to the Democratic National Convention, are conducting a major campaign effort leading up to the Tuesday, May 6 D.C. primary election. Among the seven openly Gay candidates, five on Senator Kennedy's "CD 1" slate are well-positioned to win places in the D.C. delegation to the Democratic National Convention.

The D.C. effort is part of a nationwide campaign to elect openly Gay delegates to both major party conventions, focusing attention on the emergence of Gay voters as a potent force in today's politics. Gay rights leaders are pushing for adoption of a Gay rights plank in the party platforms by the delegates at both conventions.

The nationwide campaign, spearheaded by the Washington-based National Convention Project (NCP), has already achieved measurable progress by electing more openly Gay delegates to both conventions than in any previous year. According to Tom Bastow, director of NCP, the more than half-dozen Gay delegates elected to this August's

Continued on page 21

CBS Reports: Something Went Wrong

by David Wilson

Just how much power do Gay people have collectively, and of what significance will that growing power be within the ever-changing American political framework? That question was to be the central focus of the recently-aired CBS-TV News documentary "Gay Power — Gay Politics." The news feature, anchored by CBS reporters Harry Reasoner and George Crile, was to use the specific example of the Gay influence on the 1979 mayoral race in San Francisco — one of the most heavily-influenced Gay centers in the nation — as a case-in-point for its study. Reasoner prefaced the broadcast by noting that the show was about the birth of a political movement, and "... not about the Gay lifestyles or the average Gay experience." Somewhere between the idea and its execution, something went wrong.

Early in the broadcast, it appeared that the show would focus on Dianne Feinstein and the role the San Francisco Gay vote took in her bid for and eventual election as mayor last year. It had become evident early in the campaign that the strong Gay community there would form a unified voting bloc — a bloc no candidate who hoped to be successful could afford to alienate. And so, George Crile, who was assigned to the report last spring, set out following Feinstein around the city as she went after the Gay vote.

But then Feinstein, a long-time friend of the San Francisco Gay community, made a mistake during the beginning stages of the campaign — a mistake she would live to regret. In an interview with Ladies' Home Journal, Feinstein, when questioned about the sexual mores of the Gay community, said that Gays should observe community standards — they shouldn't force their lifestyles on others. At that point her Gay constituency backed away, and the mayor had to fight to regain her political composure. Feinstein soon realized that it would not be enough to simply pacify the Gay community — she would have to actively court their vote to win the election. There were receptions and parties and beauty pageants — and they were all Gay-oriented and sponsored. If there was a possibility of getting the Gay vote back in her pocket, Dianne Feinstein was there.

At that point, however, the program subtly started on a drastic negative binge. After examining the issue of public sex in Buena Vista Park, the show goes on to "glory holes," S & M Bars, and torture chambers. There are two "innocent children" giving their accounts of observing men involved in sexual acts in the park. And then there are their parents. There is dialogue between Crile and a coroner concerning deaths related to Gay S & M sex. Men are dancing wildly in the

streets — some clothed, some almost not. For the major portion of the documentary's air time, the show seems to focus on the issues of public versus private sex acts, and the range of sex acts performed by consenting adults. And all of this in a show that was "... not about the Gay lifestyle..."

At the end of the broadcast, there was an equally subtle shift back to the political triumph of Mayor Feinstein. But the damage had been done. The show contradicted its preface by dealing with issues involving individual acts. But to add insult to the blossoming injury, they placed an entirely negative focus on those acts. In short, the program left the impression that public sexuality and Gay political power are both equal parts of the same unit.

Given — CBS News does not have a reputation as being exactly liberal. Nor does Mr. Reasoner. And granted, it is difficult to work on a project of such a controversial nature without letting personal biases rise to the surface occasionally. But it is the job of a reporter to be objective. And surely, in a city with an estimated Gay population of at least 100,000 persons, the producers of this fiasco could have found at least one thing that wasn't negative to say about a movement strong enough to change the face of the

Continued on page 11

INSIDE:

News: Tallahassee "trekkers" get there O.K. • GRNL digs in • Wrap up

Preferences: Past and present domination • Less than the best writing • GCC Arts Festival • Bits and pizzas

Community Focus: No more 19th Amendment • No Nukes • No lack of Gay Pride • Calendar of Events

00311

On May 6, Gay Clout Is On The Line



On Tuesday, May 6, the political clout of our community — your community — is on the line. Never before since the time when our community first began developing gay political influence in Washington has so much been at stake. Never before has our community seriously attempted to elect openly gay people in a primary or general election. With your help, we expect to do just that through our substantial representation on Edward Kennedy's slate.

Vote for Edward Kennedy for President

Never before has an elected official of Senator Kennedy's prominence taken such an unequivocal stand in favor of the rights of gay Americans. Throughout the campaign, Kennedy has spoken consistently and eloquently in favor of gay rights.

Vote for These Openly Gay Persons for Delegates



Don Bruce, Owner, D.C. Eagle and Eagle in Exile



Stephen Brown, President, Gertrude Stein Democratic Club



Paul Kuntzler, Ward 2 Rep., D.C. Democratic State Committee



Melvin Boozer, President, Gay Activists Alliance



Kristine Blackwood, President, D.C. National Organization for Women



Frank Kameny, Commissioner, D.C. Human Rights Commission

Here's How:

If you live in Wards 1, 2, 6, or 8 —

If you live in Wards 3, 4, 5, or 7 —

OFFICIAL BALLOT
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY
AND ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE
DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION
MAY 6, 1980
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT I

DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN ONE (1)	
EDWARD M. KENNEDY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DELEGATES COMMITTED TO EDWARD M. KENNEDY VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN SIX (6) MEN	
PETER M. SCHOTT	<input type="checkbox"/>
EARL O'NEAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
DON BRUCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PHIL OGILVIE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
STEPHEN BROWN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DOUGLAS GLASGOW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PAUL KUNTZLER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MELVIN BOOZER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ROBERT BATES, SR.	<input type="checkbox"/>
DAVID A. "DAVE" CLARKE	<input type="checkbox"/>
DELEGATES COMMITTED TO EDWARD M. KENNEDY VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN SIX (6) WOMEN	
WINIFRED FREEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
LEOLA N. BYNUM	<input type="checkbox"/>
HILDA OLIVER	<input type="checkbox"/>
GLORIA DENT	<input type="checkbox"/>
NADINE WINTER	<input type="checkbox"/>
JUDY K. MORRIS	<input type="checkbox"/>
AUDREY C. THOMAS	<input type="checkbox"/>
VIRGINIA M. JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
KRISTINE BLACKWOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BETTY ANN KANE	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Vote for Kennedy

2. Vote for these 4 men

3. Vote for this woman

Take This With You To the Poll

OFFICIAL BALLOT
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY
AND ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE
DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION
MAY 6, 1980
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT II

DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN ONE (1)	
EDWARD M. KENNEDY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DELEGATES COMMITTED TO EDWARD M. KENNEDY VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN SEVEN (7) WOMEN	
LILLIAN HUFF	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANNIE W. NEAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANN LUZZATTO	<input type="checkbox"/>
MARY ANN KEEFFE	<input type="checkbox"/>
MARGARET W. JONES	<input type="checkbox"/>
JEANNETTE FEELY	<input type="checkbox"/>
AMANDA (AMY) HATCHER LYON	<input type="checkbox"/>
PAT PATTERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
EDNA WOLF	<input type="checkbox"/>
CAROLYN W. RICANEK	<input type="checkbox"/>
MARGARET S. CHASE	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLAXIE PINKETT	<input type="checkbox"/>
DELEGATES COMMITTED TO EDWARD M. KENNEDY VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN SEVEN (7) MEN	
FRANCIS E. HENRY	<input type="checkbox"/>
WILLIAM H. SIMONS	<input type="checkbox"/>
JULIUS A. MOORE, III	<input type="checkbox"/>
WALTER E. FAUNTROY	<input type="checkbox"/>
JOSEPH RAUH	<input type="checkbox"/>
NORMAN C. NEVERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
MARK L. PLOTKIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
JAMES PARKS	<input type="checkbox"/>
WILMUR A. DAVIS	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANDREW CORLEY, JR.	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRANKLIN E. KAMENY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RICHARD LANDIS	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Vote for Kennedy

2. Vote for this man

authorized by Doug Goldschmidt, Treasurer,
Gertrude Stein Democratic Club,
560 N Street, S.W., Washington, D.C.
(202) 484-3134

"Trekkers" Rally at Fla. Capitol Despite Threats

by Don Leavitt

Under the fear of violence and threats a group of Metropolitan Community Church members marched from Jacksonville, Florida to Tallahassee to save a besieged church.

Called a "religious experience" by Tallahassee MCC minister Robert Angell, the 8 day, 168 mile trek was to demonstrate to Northern Florida that the Gay community was not going to be driven back into the closet. MCC founder Troy Perry joined the "Trekkers" for the final miles.

Last fall Tallahassee Baptist minister Gerald Sutek began a crusade to drive the newly formed MCC church out of town. He posted a sign in front of his church reading, "Did you know that there is a queer church on North Adams St?," and attacked the church through the local media. The frightened Gay congregation dwindled down to 3, from its previous 30, worshippers.

To show their resolve not to be scared away, MCC officials decided to hold a trek from Jacksonville, site of the nearest established MCC church, to Tallahassee. Approximately 35 people from all over the East coast began the trek April 19.

Although carrying no banners, the marchers were known to local residents due to ample press coverage. The "Trekkers" met little resistance for most of the march. The only incidents, says Rev. Angell, came from "people giving birdies, exposing themselves, and flipping moons."

Church hymns were sung when the group walked through a town. According to participant Allen Grooms, residents were "amazed and confused" to hear the marchers. "They couldn't comprehend a Gay person singing the same Amazing Grace they sing," said Grooms.

Police cooperation varied from county to county. The sheriff of Madison County was quoted as saying his county was "Gay-free" and that he didn't want "queers" marching through his jurisdiction. A surprise came when a Columbia County Sheriff's deputy met the group at the county line, shook everyone's hand, and escorted the marchers through the county.

Black residents frequently waved, saluted, or gave the victory sign as the "Trekkers" went by. Comments Grooms, "The best support we have gotten from the moment we left Jacksonville has consistently been from the Black community."

Tensions rose as the group approached the end of the trek. Near the town of Monticello, it was learned that a local minister was requesting that the group by-pass the town for their own safety. Allegedly, cars with Confederate flags had been gathering on the outskirts of Monticello. A rumor circulated that the head of the Florida Ku Klux Klan had sworn he would not let the group reach Tallahassee alive. Members of the group were visibly scared.

Pressure was put on Florida Governor Bob

Graham to supply police protection. After receiving over 200 telegrams from concerned religious and Gay groups around the country, a state police escort was granted. On



photo by Allen Grooms

Rev. Troy Perry (l.) and Rev. Ed Hougen, pastor of MCC/Boston (r.), lead the "trekkers" in the final miles of their journey to Tallahassee.

Friday, April 25, 3 state police vehicles met the group outside Monticello and escorted them through the town. No incidents took place.

Rev. Troy Perry joined the "Trekkers" the next day. A group of about 50 reached the Tallahassee city limits that afternoon. Rev.

Sutek and 6 of his flock met the marchers. With the "bible thumpers" demonstrating in the background, a worship service was held by the MCC group and two men were joined in a holy union.

Using the Biblical precedent of stoning homosexuals, Rev. Sutek has planned to symbolically stone the "Trekkers" with eggs. He was unable to carry out his plan, however. Rev. Angell explains: "The Sheriff's office confronted Mr. Sutek with the fact that if the marchers were to be symbolically stoned with eggs, he would have to use symbolic eggs. Not being able to conjure up symbolic eggs, he decided not to do the stoning."

On Sunday the MCC group finished the march to the Tallahassee church. In the afternoon the Florida Gay Task Force held a rally on the steps of the state capitol. Troy Perry and several other speakers addressed a crowd estimated at 200 to 250 people. Rev. Sutek and about 50 supporters were also there, but were kept a safe distance away by the police. According to Florida Gay Task Force Executive Director Patrick Land, the demonstrators yelled epithets such as "You are an abomination," "Homosexuals can not be Christians," and "Animals are no better." The shouting did little to dampen the spirits of the marchers.

Looking ahead, Rev. Angell sees a new day for his church. "I see the church growing again as people discover Northern Florida is not as insane as people think it is, that people like Gerald Sutek do not speak for the majority of the people in the state, and that Sutek does not own God or speak with the voice of God. We will come back again and again until we achieve equal rights for Gay people."

Gay Student Groups Sue

Continued from page 1

The suit further states that "defendants' denial (of charters to the groups) creates a chilling effect upon the speech and association rights of the plaintiffs, and students, staff, faculty, and alumni of the University and the Law Center."

And, it contends, "the D.C. Human Rights Act embodies the fact that education thrives on the interchange of ideas, both popular and unpopular. If ideas cannot be freely discussed and evaluated in a university and law school community, then commerce of ideas cannot be assured anywhere in our

society."

Bogard said the suit is also based on the grounds that there is a "breach of implied warranty" on the part of the University. He explained, "The theory is that students pay tuition, and the University allows class attendance, and the right to associate and express themselves. The University breached that contract and the implied warranty that flows from it."

The University had not yet reacted to the suit at *Blade* press time, but Bill Schuerman, Associate Dean of Students, said previously that the University "would definitely fight" any lawsuit because "there's a matter of prin-

ciple involved." He added, "The University has rights as a private institution."

But attorney Leonard Graff, who is working with Bogard on the case, claims the institution is not exempt from the District's human rights statute, and neither he nor Bogard feel the University would be successful in employing freedom of religion arguments in court. "The D.C. statute embodies the First Amendment rights of speech and association," said Bogard, "If they have to be balanced against freedom of religion, we will win."

Graff said the University will have 20 days from the date the suit was filed to answer the complaint, and 45 days from the same date to answer interrogatories. He added that there has been virtually no litigation under the D.C. Human Rights Act, and that the Georgetown case would therefore be the first real test of the law.

Bogard said support of the suit is expected from several national organizations in the form of *amicus* briefs. And members of the Gay groups involved anticipate campus support. Jim Ryan, GPGU president, said students would like to see a Gay victory because of the University's "condescending attitude" in the way it treats not only Gay students, but all students. Law group president Clint Hockenberry claims support of about eight organizations and of faculty members at the Law Center.

THE BLADE

(USPS 438-330)

Editorial

Managing Editor: Don Michaels
Associate Editor: Steve Martz
Assistant Editor: Donna Harrington

Production

Design: Richard P. Keagan

Advertising

Coordinator: Steve Martz
[202] 347-2038
Baltimore Sales Rep.: Terry Berger
[301] 235-3825
New York City Sales Rep.: Joe DiSabato
Rivendell Marketing Co.
886 Sixth Ave., NY, NY 10010
[212] 242-6863
Classified Ads: Donna Harrington

Business

Operations Director: Don Michaels
Operations Assistant: Donna Harrington

Contributing Writers

Ernie Acosta • Lou Chibbaro, Jr. • Noel Gillespie • Craig Howell • Tom Huhn • Lisa M. Keen • Wayne N. Keyser • Don Leavitt • Jim Marks • Brian McNaught • Dick Munn • Kim Shepherd • Susanna J. Sturgis • James Wagoner • Dave Walter • David Wilson • Ted Wojtasik

Photographers

Joan E. Biren (JEB) • John M. Yanson

Distribution

Steve Martz • Mark Wagner

The *Blade* is published every other Thursday by:

Blade Communications, Inc.
930 F Street, N.W. Suite 315
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 347-2038

CLASSIFIED AD and SUBSCRIPTION information and order forms can be found elsewhere in this issue. FOR DISPLAY AD RATES and information please write or call us — use above address/phone number.

The *Blade* assumes no responsibility for unsolicited materials submitted for publication. All such submissions are subject to editing and will not be returned unless accompanied by a self addressed, stamped envelope.

Although The *Blade* is supported by many fine advertisers, we cannot accept responsibility for claims made by advertisers.

© BLADE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. 1980
All rights reserved. Reprint by permission only.
CONTROLLED CIRCULATION POSTAGE
PAID AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Meridian Hill A Condominium

Four one or two bedroom duplexes remain in this small, compatible, totally renovated Victorian complex. Two have large patios or terraces.

Attractively priced well under the current appraisal with 90% financing available.

Sales by CITYSCAPES

232-0660

Rent

A

Car

Daily & Weekend Specials

Thrifty Car & Truck Rentals

927-0012

00313

D.C. Judge Dismisses Gay "Palimony" Suit

by Dave Walter

A D.C. Superior Court judge has thrown out a "palimony" suit brought by one Washington Gay man against another. Judge John D. Fauntleroy dismissed the suit April 23 by granting a defense motion for "judgment on pleadings," which means he agreed with a defense contention that there was no legal basis for the suit to be heard.

The suit was filed last July by Don Cox against his ex-lover, David Elwing. The two lived together for about 2½ years, first in Chicago, then in Washington. Tom Gaye, attorney for Cox, said there had been "an understanding that they were life partners," and as such, would share profits on Elwing's real estate ventures. The relationship subsequently broke up, which led to Cox's suit seeking half the profits, and payment for the value of home improvement work he performed. Gaye said Cox was not seeking money for support.

Fauntleroy offered no reason for dismissing the suit, but defense attorney Leonard Graff had moved the case be thrown out on two grounds. The first was that a court in Illinois — where Cox and Elwing lived for much of the time they were together — had

ruled against recognizing unwritten contracts between unmarried cohabitants. Gaye argued unsuccessfully that the decision does not pertain to Gay people.

The other ground was based on the D.C. law against sodomy. Gaye said, "The judge presumed sex acts were part of the contract," which therefore made it illegal. Gaye conceded the ground does stand up technically, but added, "We also have civil rights laws." He claimed that because of changing attitudes on homosexuality, the old sodomy law should not be employed.

Graff said he had "qualms" about using the sodomy argument. But he claimed he mentioned it only in passing in his brief, and did not emphasize it. And he defended the move as being dictated by legal ethics. "I had to be as strong an advocate as I could for my client, and the sodomy ground was something we couldn't lose on." He added that his major objection to the lawsuit was that it attempted to enforce an unwritten contract.

Gaye claimed, however, that the agreement did not have to be in writing. He's appealing the decision, which he said could take from six months to a year.

Employment:

Advertising Sales Manager

for *The Blade*. Salary & commission equals comfortable five fig. income for the right person. Health plan & vacation benefits. Send resume & history of outside sales experience, by May 25, to Don Michaels, The Blade, 930 F St., N.W., Suite 315, D.C. 20004.

Also, we have an admin. asst. position open — see "Employment" section of classifieds, pg. 29.

Felices For Hair

Salon De Belleza • Nous Parlons Francais

The most unique experience in hair care & Unisex hair styling on the Hill

*Specializing in: Hair Coloring • Permanent Waves • Perm Relaxer
Pedicures • Manicures • Facials*

1308 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E. (1 block from Potomac Ave. Metro)
Phone: 543-6066 or 543-6067

"20% discount with this coupon"



Mowbray Associates, Realtors
1541 Fourteenth St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
332-4046

Specializing in
Logan and Dupont Circles.

00314

IT'S
HARD TO
SMILE
WHEN
YOU
DON'T
OWN.

Imperial House.

A Condominium For Dupont Circle.

Below \$40,000 prices. Over 50% already sold.
Take advantage of our preview opening values.

Hurry—These prices won't last long!

1601 18th Street, at Que
Office Open
12-6 Daily
483-4857



Miller time



America's quality beer since 1855.

Premium Distributors 526-3900