Fifth Freedom, 1981-04-01

The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier

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Buffalo IN THE CLOSET?

Queen City is closely finds Joy of Gay Sex author

By ROD HENSEL

Buffalo is "very friendly" but also a "very closety town" in the eyes of noted gay author Edmund White.

White, the co-author of The Joy of Gay Sex and author of States of Desire: Travels in Gay America was in Buffalo March 14-16 for a reading of his works and to speak at two joint meetings of Gay Professionals and SAGE. He aired his thoughts on Buf- falo as a gay city as well as a number of other gay topics in an interview with the FIFTH FREEDOM.

White gained national acclaim for States of Desire, a book in which he visits a number of Amer- ican cities to record how gays in each community live. In his first visit to Buffalo, he attended a private par- ty, a Gay Professionals' meeting, and visited some of the local bars.

"I went to a party (here) and was very impressed with the whole range of sexual and occupations. The thing that I think is the kind of thing that I think someone who lives near New York City misses. There you go to a party that's a party of all disco people age 35 and all clones, or you go to party up at Co- lumbia and they're all academics. But last night there was one cook, one barber, about three professors and there was one person in his sev- enties and one person who was eight- een. That kind of range I think is ter- rific - that it was very encourag- ing and fun to be in that kind of group," he said.

White feels such intermingling not only shows a healthy gay communi- ty, but also bodes well for its future.

"For instance that eighteen year old, he now has some sort of model in his mind of what it will be to like gay and 70, and it doesn't seem so horri- fying - I mean it certainly begins to creep in this case. This particular 70-year old was very active and very charming." (He uses the only negative thing he could say,) he continued, "is that it does seem like a fairly closety town in some ways. For example, the group I was speaking to, Gay Professionals, they were very careful not to mention the titles of my books (in the newsletter) or to me)."

He says such an occurrence would not be "common" across the country in cities as Buffalo's population, but also offered a hypothesis as to why a large segment of Buffalo's Gays choose to remain in "the closet."

"There are two ingredients that are really important in people coming out. One is that they be economically independent. Two is that they live in a town where they did not grow up. If you live in the same town where your family is, you'll be reluctant to come out. My impression is that a lot of the people I have met here grew up in Buffalo, so that could be the explanation for closeted gays."

To White, coming out is vitally im- portant, not only for the individual but for the future of Gays across America. "For him, the coming out pro- cess is the first line of defense against the right wing anti-Gays groups."

"My own feeling is that because we are homosexual we tend to think we are very important (as its a fact). I don't think most people in America even know a homosexual," he says. "I think that most Americans really don't care about homosexuals one way or the other. It's a very peripheral issue, and the fact that it has been given so much attention re- cently by the Moral Majority and so on, is because it is one of the few things that holds the right together."

According to White, the gay minority in America is composed of two very different groups: the very rich who "own the factories" and the very poor who largely populate the nation's rural ar- eas or serve as blue collar workers. "About the only things they have in common is a certain kind of moral and cultural conservatism," he adds, and so it comes to the cogni- tive of those in control of the right wing to fan the flames of outrage on moral issues to keep unity within their own group.

"The fact that most gay people are still in the closet allows the right and the Moral Majority to create that illusion of Gays - they're able to paint a picture of Gays being selfish, narcis- sistic, effeminate, child molesters. And a very distorted picture of Gays is coming down the tubes," says White.

But he adds that picture can only be maintained as long as Gays stay in the closet. "It seems to me the single most compelling thing that any Gay man or woman can do is to come out to at least one other person."

"It sounds very primitive, but I think that's very important. Right- wing Republicans and fundamental- ists Christians have to deal with the fact that their uncle is gay, their cousin is gay, that this nice person who is helping them load their groc- ceries at the supermarket is gay. This is wonderful, fatherly lawyer that they're going to for their real estate is gay, that their charming woman dentist is gay - once they have to deal with these things they can no longer summon up these bugaboos about the child molester (or John Gacy as a typical gay)."

While coming out may help stem the anti-Gay tide, there are some quarters of the country, White admits some aspects of gay life will be hard to sell to the straight community. One issue in particular is gay promis- cuality, which he calls "a thing to be celebrated."

But he offers this "homomiscuity" as one of the positive values of Gay life and not a thing to be deplored," he says. "I think Gays sometimes stand as sym- bols for sexuality, and I think that to

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Starting with this issue, THE FIFTH FREEDOM takes on a new look and a slightly different tone in editorial direction. The change in appearance comes as we switch over to typesetting and a four column format for some stories. This allows us more space to handle the size issue, and to present them in a more manner more appealing than the old method in which we used a typewriter and press-on letters. It also means our advertisers can now call on us for the production of truly professional ads to tell Buffalo's gay community their products and services.

The change in tone is a more subtle one, and comes from our wish to inject the high standards of professional journalism into the editorial content of this newspaper. Our commitment to this effort is expressed in this issue by the growth of new material and the early publication of additional pieces of this kind. We urge you to support the businesses who advertise with us, and to mention that you saw their ad in the FIFTH FREEDOM.

Finally, let us say that as the FIFTH FREEDOM advances, so does Buffalo's gay community. Each year brings greater unity, more activities, and an increasingly positive image presented to the city as a whole. We hope every reader will join us as we continue to move forward in the coming year.

Letters to the Editor

Morals laws in public interest?

Once again Congress has proved its hypocrisy. Capitol Hill police on Friday arrested Mississippi Rep. John Hinson for violating morals charges. He was caught having homosexual relations with a government employee in the rear room of a Capitol Hill office building. Apparently, that same man's room has been a "hotbed" of activity for some time now. Two hours before the Hinson arrest, an employee of a democratic study group was seen in a labby with a consultant were arrested for the same thing.

This isn't the first time a government employee has been flushed out of the closet either. In 1977 Frederick Richard (D) of New York was arrested in the same effect of Capitol Hill, flushing out two men from two men. Last year Republican Robert Bauman of Maryland was accused of having sex with a 16-year-old boy. Sodomy in the District of Columbia is a felony.

O.K. here's the punchline - if the conservatives, straight-wingers and homophobes would open their eyes and really look around them, they'd see that their return to pass Gay Rights legislation on the federal level is hurting them, just like it is hurting the people they supposedly work for the public - you, you and me!

Public sex or sex with a minor are separate offenses. The sodomy law against gays, the laws that make the natural state of many people illegal - those are the issues. We're talking about "morals" charges. Think about it - are they acting in the public interest?

Straight owners taken to task

Isn't this a funny town? I have been reading your paper for several years now and I just picked up your singer, FIFTH FREEDOM Extra, and was really not at all surprised to find that again the name Dominique's did not appear.

It stems me that all the other bars are advertised in the paper and are also too parting in this special event. I know that the ads in the paper pay to run the material or the column, so I am sure that what is going on and the special bars run a just extra stroke to show they appreciate the business the Guys bring them. Please tell me how the gay community can patronise bars that is doing so well and (may I add only because of the Guys is not giving anything back to the community. No money to help run the paper, no specials, as we all know a bar that uses nothing but the cheapest liquor for their drinks, and never takes part in any special events.

A bar owned by straights and making a buck of a buck of the community and returning nothing to the community that keeps it doors open. Isn't this a funny town?

Confused

Oral communication only in bed?

Words of encouragement seem in order for the tremendous task you have undertaken as editor of the FIFTH FREEDOM.

To try to put a spark into the gay community is like trying to drain Lake Erie with a toothpick glass. If only a handful of people are moved to get involved, there is satisfaction. In my humble opinion it is more than worthwhile which is presently in the community. It is rather, the selfish, egotistical, self-satisfying motives that shape our criteria for selecting those to use in the scene. Look around the next time you venture out, particularly in the bars. You can see the same thing any night!

1. The cliques/ groups that resist interaction with another individual...
2. The single person, sitting at the bar, afraid to smile, or to say hello.
3. The pretty boy, standing there, wearing an invisible sign that reads "don't touch me, I'm a star.
4. No, it's not a very friendly scene.

If, by chance you attempt to strike up a conversation, for the simple pleasure of talking to someone, right away, you are suspect. Your motives are silently questioned. "This dude must want to get into my pants."

If you're not his "type," forget it. He's looking for the proverbial knight in shining armor, and since you're neither, he can't have it. "I forget it again, you got no response." So he says it the only form of oral communication is that which takes place in bed. It is indeed unfortunate that some people are more interested in what you have between your legs, than what you have in your head.

With this type of attitude, interest in only your group, or your sexual desires, is it understandable you can't interest others in things that you're interested in? We all gather together, we are all a gaggle of muggers, the Moral Majorly, or any other anti-gay group that lies in wait. It is time we wake up and start communicating with each other and become more aware of the aspects of our existence. Let's stimulate our trains for a change.

R.P.C.

Lesbian tells of S&M joys

Playing S & M is exquisite. The basic element between the participants is trust. From the flow of power and scope of fantasies limited only by the combined abilities of both.

S & M is a mind-luck, a total catharsis. Orgasms are more intense but are not the objective, nor are they necessary. In fact, to be constantly aware of your body, to be aroused and on the edge, but not allowed to orgasm for hours, or even days, is very satisfying.

The interactions in a scene strip away artificial socialization. When your lover has just slapped your face hadn't discovered your body, but the two of you. By the time your wrists are tied overhead to a bar and your naked body is precariously balanced on your knees every sense is working at maximum. Whipping takes the two of you through a dimension to a blending of minds, attitudes to each other's basic emotions and sexualities.

It is called a scene but the feelings are more real than most of reality. When hanging with a thin film of sweat covering your whorl body, a body that gives you kinesiologic feedback from every muscle and every skin cell and your lover tenderly caresses your wrist and pulls you forward with one arm and slowly, carefully, but irresistible entices you to bring your lubricated fist your body movements are primal, in

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(Editors' Note: The FIFTH FREEDOM welcomes "Letters to the Editor." Letters for submission should be typed, double-spaced and no less than 300 words. Send to THE FIFTH FREEDOM, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, NY 14205. Letters must be signed in order to be considered for publication, however the FIFTH FREEDOM will withhold the writer's name upon request.)
Gay author eyes Buffalo

Continued from page 1

The degree that this is a pleasure-hating society, particularly one that it is fearful of, is shown. Gays are a very convenient symbol for it. What’s interesting is that the straights who usually accept homosexuals are the ones who themselves have a lot of sexual activity.”

“I think the real problem though is that the gay male.Women, I think, that women would be appalled if they knew what men think and feel and do. And I think that those straight men, since they are constantly interacting with women, have to take on a lot of female culture and female morality, female ideas and female sexuality. One of the reasons gay men and lesbian women have a hard time communicating is that in lesbian life you get an intensification of female culture, and in gay male life you get an intensification of male life.”

“I don’t think most people are appalled by gay lesbian behavior, but I think most straight people are appalled by gay male behavior. The straight men are hypocrites when they denounce gay men for having all that sex or being that promiscuous— I think they themselves would like to have that much sex and that they are envious of gay men and their seeming freedom. I think that straight women and lesbian women are sometimes appalled by gay men, but I think that what they’re seeing is less hypocritical, a much more honest view of what male sexuality is like in America.”

Explaining gay promiscuity, therefore, may simply be a matter of getting straight society to more closely examine their own deepest sexual feelings. “I think men make a distinction between love and sex, more than most women do. They can have quickie encounters, they can have lots of sex,” he observes.

“It’s hard to sell it (promiscuity) to straight people. But it’s not so hard to sell it really to straight men. They know in their hearts they would just as soon be doing what we’re doing, not with other men but with women.”

In the May issue of FIFTH FreedOM. White discusses coming fashions trends for Gays, political activism, and the rift between gay men and lesbian women.

Wheat’s book contains
lesson on attitudes


By Jim Hayes

From the Foreword: “By Sanction of the Victim is dramatized non-fiction in the form of a novel. Sadly enough, there is nothing novel about the story. The events contained herein did indeed take place; they are documented and a matter of court record.”

If I had not been so reassured by the foreword to the book, I would have had great difficulty believing that such a tragedy could befall one human being outside the raunchier pages of the Marquis de Sade.

The story revolves around the events that happen to Marjorie and her younger brother Brucie when they are deposited, after their summer school vacation starts, in the home of Mrs. Florrie Genoud and all of her children while their mother and stepfather pursue the rodeo circuit. Frank, the stepfather is a bronco buster, and totally macho, with women constantly begging for “it” from him. That he views himself this way is revealed when he tells Marjorie, as he is sexually molesting her: “One thing about me, I got all kinds of control. I don’t put it in nobody if they’re scared, I don’t have to, I got em beggin’ for it. One of these days when you’re older you will be, too.”

This is just one of the incidents that cause Marjorie to have severe doubts about her own self-worth. In this case she believes she is betraying her mother who will not like her if she finds out what she has done with Frank. Marjorie believes that Frank’s molestation of her is somehow her own fault. Because she believes that she is no good, she is willing to accept the way she is treated by Florrie and her children as just punishment for her evil ways. She does not begin to fight back until the punishment gets so bad that she is afraid of dying (and, indeed, she almost does), and she is then too weak to be very effective.

Throughout most of the book, I hated Florrie. She seemed to be the most diabolical of creatures, and certainly, her treatment of Marjorie cannot be excused regardless of her own background. However, one is brought to an understanding of her behavior when it is finally discovered that she was an abused child, and had even previously killed one of her own daughters. One then recognizes her mental illness and the necessity of treatment, but she should never be left to care for children.

There is nothing homosexual about By Sanction of the Victim, but the underlying psychological attitudes are relevant to great many homosexual men and women. One of the greatest problems confronting many homosexuals as individuals and the community as a whole is the feelings of the lack of self worth. We have so often been told that we are sinful, sick, dangerous to society and the family, perverted, and disgusting, that we too often believe it. As a result of that belief, we feel that we deserve the punishment that society and our parents administer. There is so much evidence that attests to this attitude that one needs only mention the high incidence of alcoholism and other drug abuses, muggings, fears, and love of closet exhibited by some of the gay community, to state the case. When the homosexual recognizes himself or herself as a truly valuable person, then he/she can more effectively fight the forces that oppress him/her. Until that self realization occurs, he/she is likely to accept the oppression as his/her just due.

Ms. Wheat, in her book, has spoken strongly to this issue, although not directly to the homosexual. Her novel could be expanded to many segments of our society, not the least of which is the homosexual one. It does not take long working with troubled homosexuals to discover that the illness is not their homosexuality, but the attitude towards themselves that they have assumed because of the attitudes foisted upon them by the people who surround them. They should learn, as did Marjorie, that they must rebel—but often that rebellion must start within their own attitudes toward themselves.

Continued in next issue

tea dance and doubles
sundays 4pm

ME AND MY ARROW

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Madeline Davis plans for April 25 concert here

Madeline Davis has been a part of Buffalo's gay scene for quite a few years now. But other than a "Get Out The Vote" rally concert last October, she has been doing concerts that have been geared to women's audiences.

"One of the good things that I did get from that concert," she says, "in the way of feedback was that people said it was nice to see me doing mixed gay political work again. I have been doing predominantly concerts for women's audiences and it was good to have a mixed audience again."

As a result of the feedback, the April 25th concert at the Unitarian church will be open to both gay men and women. "And," she feels, "to non-gays that support our cause. It will be music for all."

In addition to the vote concert, she has been involved in the Buffalo Women's Oral History Project and a few years ago she returned to the University to acquire a second Masters degree in American Studies/Women's Studies. She speaks of her music and "how that is a part of gay activism for me and how it is not only the effort of a creative artist, but as someone doing political work."

Also appearing at the concert with her will be former Buffaloan Grant King, who will be flying in from New York City. Grant is a gay male singer songwriter and artist who has had work published in the past in THE FIFTH FREEDOM. He will be doing a set of his own material and probably will be doing some harmony with Madeline, and the audience, on "Stonewall Nation."

"Stonewall Nation" was cut as a 45 in 1972 and all the proceeds went to the Mattachine Society. "I have one copy of it," she says, "and would do anything -- well almost -- to get another copy! I feel like a part of history. It is a real collectors' item." She would like to hear from anyone who has a copy of it. She considers this concert and the recording of it that will be done for an album, as important as that first 45.

She hopes that there will be a large audience of male and female voices to join in on "Stonewall Nation" and other her songs that are of a "sing-a-long" nature.

One change that people will see and hear is the addition of a back-up group that she has recently assembled. She will still do some solo acoustic guitar work as the group has had limited practice time. The first of December saw Donna joining her with another guitar. Mouse was added in January on bass, Kathy on violin in February followed by Pee Wee on percussion the same month. The newest addition is Melody who has accompanied her in duets on the flute before. "It's weird hearing my own music with a back-up band after so many years of playing alone, but I like it. I like it a lot!"

The Buffalo Women's Production Company will be sponsoring the concert and the ticket prices will go to cover the cost of financing the production of the album. "Businesses can also place patron ads in the program. The ticket prices vary from $3 to $7. The mean price is $5, but for those who wish to contribute more, the chance is there." Tickets will be available through various outlets including DMAA bookstore and the local gay organizations like Mattachine. "Don't wait to get tickets at the door. You might not be able to get one. We expect a sellout."

When asked what she hopes to capture on the album, Madeline says, "so many things. You know I have written my life into my music in so many ways and I've written the lives of people around me. People I've known only fleetingly and people I've loved... and a few that I've hated!" She hopes to preserve their lives and efforts in the album by her artistic and political performance. "It's another kind of way to do musical work putting a Lesbian/Activist band together." Yet she's "very nervous and terrified like a mother hen to the group. Before, I only had to worry about myself."

At times it is difficult to do activist work. Music can be helpful. "When you are on a high you don't need the music. You like it, but you don't need it. But when you're down, music can lift you up without you're really knowing it."

Madeline has no lofty aspirations as far as a singing career is concerned. "I am a librarian and am happy being just that. But what I would like to do is just give permanent, as permanent as anything is these days, record of my music to those who have loved it, and benefited from my talents and who have supported me in the work I have done over the years."

Her music has been a part of Buffalo's gay activist movement and she has many gay men and women friends that she hasn't seen for a long time. She hopes to be able to renew old acquaintances at the concert.

She hopes to bring back many fond memories and much nostalgia to those who attend the concert and hear the album.

The concert will be at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 695 Elmwood Ave. at West Ferry on Saturday April 25 at 8:30 p.m.

HAPPY EASTER FROM THE FIFTH FREEDOM

MATTACHINE'S SPRING EVENT DANCE FOR MEN & WOMEN

APRIL 10 8-11 P.M.
UNITARIAN CHURCH
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TO BENEFIT THE LEGAL DEFENSE FUND
The Media Watch

Between the lines is ‘frightening’ news

By ROD HENSEL

Watching the local news media these days can be a sometimes frightening experience, if you’re willing to read between the lines. The concern here is not with how the media is reporting things, but rather with the disturbing events they are rightfully reporting.

For example, Morality in Media, a group not unlike the infamous Moral Majority Inc., is becoming active again in Western New York. You may remember their last major campaign was to save us all from having to watch the Monty Python movie “Life of Brian.”

Their new target is CableScope Inc., which as part of its new “Super cable” subscription package is offering a channel called “Escapade,” featuring primarily R-rated movies. MIM doesn’t want Escapade movies beamed into their homes, or your homes, regardless of the fact you have to pay an extra fee just to get it.

Experts at garnering publicity to their absurd arguments, MIM got the Buffalo Common Council to hold a hearing on what they call the coming of “Cableporn,” and even went so far as to demand that a member of CableScope’s board of directors resign his job as a local school administrator (an aspect of the story well exploited by Channel 7’s Eyewitness News).

The gay community, of course, doesn’t have any particular interest in defending pornography, even though they would take a real stretch of imagination to label the “Escapade” channel movies as pornographic. What the gay community must have an interest in is the right of individual choice and the freedom of people to do as they choose in their own homes. MIM is seeking to impose its standards on everybody just as a dictatorial government chooses to impose its beliefs on the society it governs. Perhaps the most telling statement on the subject came in a Courier-Express report of the council hearing, when Richard Roth quoted one speaker as saying in opposition to MIM that he did not “particularly like” having the Christian Broadcasting Network beamed into his living room. CBIN, if you haven’t been watching, regularly rants and raves against homosexuals, and I can’t imagine a gay person who doesn’t find that offensive.

EQUALLY DISTURBING are the Citizens Concerned for Kenmore and their nearly year-old fight to put a Kenmore bookstore out of business. The group has been regularly picketing the place for selling things it considers obscene, and recently announced plans to start photographing patrons going into the store.

The group immediately had second thoughts, and decided not to implement the plan. Even the conservative Buffalo Evening News, took the group to task for the idea in an editorial titled “Good End, Wrong Means.”

Regardless of the group’s intentions, says the News, “such picture-taking would smack of harassment and intimidation of private citizens.” The News however praised the group for its “hard work and understandable concerns.”

Here again, the concern of the gay community is not in defending the bookstore and its patrons. The concern is again one of choice — of allowing a few to impose their standards of what is right and wrong, proper and improper, upon all of society. It doesn’t take a lot of imagination to picture the day when some group, acting in the name of God, will decide to photograph who goes in and out of Buffalo’s gay bars.

BECAUSE THESE GROUPS generally cloak themselves in an aura of Christianity and general religious fervor, they are difficult to oppose. The politicians, for example, were lined up behind Morality in Media on the idea of showing “porno” movies on cable TV. It’s good press, and good politics, to be on the side of God. Thus it becomes difficult for those who, perhaps just as fervent in their belief in God as the right-wingers, feel compelled to come forward and defend the freedom of choice and speech which also lets groups like Moral Majority exist.

We must be vigilant to these groups and the tactics they employ. In far too many cities across the nation, the cry has been “today porn flicks and tomorrow the queers.”

TELEVISION DRAMA shows have been picking up on gay themes with increasing regularity this season, a trend that can only help give a better awareness and understanding of those of us who are gay. Usually the whole concept is “let’s do a gay theme” show and the whole thing is pretty obvious and filled with stereotypes.

So I was more than surprised to tune in to the “Lou Grant” episode on CBS March 9. To give you the quick tune, Animal, a photographer for Lou Grant’s newspaper, becomes obsessed with the suicide of a young woman who seemed to have everything going for her.

Animal in fact falls in love with this suicide victim as he learns about her life. He then discovers that the cause of her suicide was that after years of searching she had found someone she truly loved — and that person was another woman, and her own best friend.

“I told her she was just confused,” the best friend explains to Animal, and the story ends with Animal being shocked, and confused.

The gay theme wasn’t revealed to the audience until the last few minutes of the program, although I think most gay people would have latched onto the reason for the suicide before it was finally revealed. The program touched, if only fleetingly, on the question of what can happen when a gay person falls in love with a straight friend. It is a subject not often talked about, even among gays, but it happens with more regularity than one might think.

Chalk one up for CBS and “Lou Grant.”

Metro Book sales will help gay group

Metro Book, the discount coupon book redeemable at many participating restaurants, theaters, and attractions in the Buffalo area, is being offered for sale by the Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier.

John A. Fauling, Mattachine president, said the proceeds from the discount books, which are being offered at $14.95, will benefit the activities of the Mattachine Society.

The books are available from any Mattachine member.
Caution urged Gays on Buffalo’s streets

Gays in Buffalo should take steps to protect their individual safety by being more careful when out at night, according to the head of a Violence Task Force for the gay community.

Ron Wojciechowski, who heads the group in existence since last November, says however that the answer to muggings and harassment from hustlers in the Main-Allen area lies in caution and not in meeting "violence with violence."

Buffalo Gays and bar owners have become increasingly concerned in the last few months with reports of gay people being molested by female prostitutes, as well as reports of muggings and "queer-bashing" incidents. Recently the two major daily newspapers did articles on the subject, but avoided mentioning the gay aspect of the situation.

Wojciechowski says his task force group has had ten specific reports of "queer-bashing" (people being beaten up because they are gay) incidents, but that in each case the people involved would not step forward and go to the police for fear of their gay lifestyle being revealed.

He says the same tends to apply to those who are beaten and robbed or molested by hustlers, but that the police are usually not justified. "In most of the cases it will go into the records as a criminal event with no mention of it being gay related," he says.

The hustlers, he said, present the most immediate problem to the safety of the gay community. "They have been forced out of the Chippewa area and there is a new definiveness on their part because of the hostility they face downtown. There is also an economic factor — the competition is rougher — and that accounts for them acting like animals sometimes," he says.

He is concerned about reports of Gays arming themselves with broken bottles, knives and other weapons for defense. "That just makes the area more unsafe, and it will effect all the businesses if people get the idea that it is not safe to be in Allentown. If the area comes off sounding like a battleground, we are just hurting ourselves."

Reflecting that Gays in Buffalo once maintained friendly relations with the prostitutes, he now thinks that the ultimate solution may lie in the creation of a "red light district" in the city where the hookers could solicit. In the meantime, he thinks patrols by private security people could prove effective, as well as an increased presence of the Buffalo Police Department on the corner of Main and Allen. The police though can themselves be a problem, he thinks, since Gays tend to have an aversion to the cops.

He also wants to see his own Task Force take a more active role in finding solutions, largely through educational seminars on violence. Currently, he says, he is trying to see if there is interest in forming self-defense classes for Gays, a tactic that has met with success in other cities.

He also warns that the gay community can’t complain too vocally about the problems of the prostitutes without addressing the problem of male hustlers who work some corners of the Allentown area. "We can’t apply a double standard," he says.

For the moment though, he says the gay community should "keep a level head" and gay individuals should take precautions for their own safety. Some tips he suggests include:

— Don’t carry any weapons. "Street people know how to use these things far better than most gays and can turn them against you," he warns. He adds that about the best thing to carry is an umbrella or walking stick.

— Don’t talk to the hookers. For the moment, he thinks avoidance may be the safest approach for the individual.

— Let somebody know where you are. If a friend has an idea of your whereabouts, proper concern can be shown if you don’t arrive at a designated time.

— Cruise with a buddy. Then, he says, the two of you can keep an eye on the other’s safety.

— Try to get to know the person you’re going home with. While not always practical, he admits, it might be better to go home alone then to go with someone you know nothing about.

— If being robbed, don’t offer resistance. On the other hand, he says, if you think you are about to be beaten up just because you are gay, it’s better to fight back all you can, since offering no resistance can just encourage a queer-basher.

— If something happens to you, report it. If not to the police, he says, at least to a bar owner or bouncer who can keep out such people.

Gay group denounces Atlanta child murders

ATLANTA — The first Tuesday Association for Lesbian and Gay Rights, has announced that it “deplores the existence of the widespread crisis of unsolved cases of the missing and murdered children of Atlanta, and it extends its deepest sympathies to the families of the victims.”

In a prepared statement, the group said it “wholeheartedly supports all reasonable and effective efforts by law enforcement agencies in solving the cases of these missing and murdered children.”

“The FTA strongly urges that all efforts to solve these crimes shall continue to be pursued in a manner protective of the civil liberties and constitutional rights of every citizen of Atlanta.”

FINIT
Selections by Sam

Local ‘moral’ groups use the same tactics

By SAM

Much time and space has already been devoted to coverage of the media effort by the national intergroup calling itself The Moral Majority, and the local special interest group known as Concerned Citizens Concerned for Our Neighbors. So far, I have found myself in direct opposition to most of what these two groups have said and done. As a matter of fact, I would go so far as to say that I have been impressed with the fact that ‘undesirables’ are the store’s major clientele. (They conduct the 70’s Presidential Commission on Pornography and Obscenereporting in discussing with the typical custo-mer to be a busines-suited, middle-aged, married man.) So, you imag-

ine the ‘righteous indignation’ that might inspire a group to take pictures of those persons who frequent local gay watering holes and events?

A RECENT BATH raid in Toronto has been well-publicized. That is to say, the city is often used as a reference point as enlightened territory. Here in New York state, the bath in Albany was closed after a raid a few weeks ago.

‘Such things like that don’t happen here,’ you say. How sure are you?

Spring Dance prorogued for Buffalo’s Gays

A ‘Spring Dance’ $1 for both men and women in the Buffalo gay community will be held April 10 at the Unitarian Universalist Church Main Hall, Elmwood and West Ferry.

The event, scheduled to be held from 8 to 11 p.m., is being sponsored by the Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier with the support of several other gay groups in the community. Proceeds from the event will go to the gay community’s Legal Defense Fund.

Ray Yeaton, organizer of the event, said the support of every sing-

lolar Gay person is needed to make the event a success. Although lesbian women hold a number of dances throughout the year, this is the first time in several years the gay community has attempted a dance open to both men and women in the gay community.

Yeaton said admission will be $2, with tickets available in advance from Mattachine Society members and at the door on the night of the dance. Door prizes will be given out, and refreshments served.

He noted that as an experiment, Mattachine has decided to hold the event without alcoholic beverages. Yeaton said the decision was made to attract gays who dislike the bar scene, and also to provide a social event for non-drinkers. He said plans are currently being made for some of the bars to honor dance ticket stubs with a free drink after 11 p.m.

The Legal Defense Fund is being established to help pay legal fees for gays involved in court cases on gay rights matters. Members from other gay groups in the community will sit on an independent board which will oversee use of the funds. Ron Wojciechowski, vice president of Matta-

chines, is in charge of establishing the fund and its board.

The fund was originally established to help in the defense of a Buf-

falo area man arrested in the raids on gay bars and baths in Toronto.

FIFTH FREEDOM WANT ADS WORK!
Mean Alice's emphasizing the new

(Editors' Note: This is the second in a series of FIFTH FREEDOM articles featuring the Buffalo gay community's bars. New activities, new decor, new music. At Mean Alice's, 729 Main St., the emphasis these days is on the new.

For owner John Little, the emphasis on the new is necessary to add vitality to the local gay scene. And it also makes good business sense, since Mean Alice's, like all other Buffalo businesses, is not immune from the impact of a depressed economy and the inconvenience of rapid transit construction.

Little is proud that his bar is part of Buffalo's growing downtown theater district, and like other bar and restaurant owners in the area, faces the problem convincing people to stick around before and after a show. "The theaters bring the people downtown," he explains, "but then they go." Still, Mean Alice's can offer its theater-going patrons some special advantages.

For one thing, Little points out, access to his place in the middle of the theater district is very good from both Washington and Tupper Streets, letting customers avoid the Main Street construction mess. Secondly, he invites his customers to use his rear parking lot while attending the shows, which solves the problem and expense of parking in the area.

Mean Alice's half-price cocktail hour runs from 3 to 9 p.m., an ideal time, he points out, for a pre-show drink. And starting in May, Mean Alice's will be serving a full snack menu of sandwiches and wings for before and after the show.

Co-chairing the new Gay Businessmen's Assoc., with Joseph of Me and My Arrow, Little is anxious to cooperate with others in providing special event deals for gays. He was one of the first to sign for the Mattachine Society's "La Cage Aux Folles II" movie deal, in which area bars gave a free drink for a ticket stub on opening night.

"We need to get a little more interaction between different aspects of the gay community," he explains. "Even among the bar people—things like this get them doing something a little different besides just going to the bars."

With Buffalo getting more and more gay bars, one would think bar owners might get worried about too much competition. Little, however, clearly isn't, and in fact welcomes the coming of the newer establishments. "I think people like to be able to go out at night and go to three or four different bars," he says. "Just look at all the different bars Rochester has.

Mean Alice's, in fact, can even be called one of those bars. Although in business since 1977, Alice's has just re-opened the downstairs Tiffany Bar. It's designed, he says, to be a quieter atmosphere, with bartenders Barb and Judy providing over a bar that features easy listening type music and free pop corn through the night. Open from 10 to 4 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, the bar has proven especially popular with the women in Buffalo's gay community.

Little hopes to make more use of the Tiffany Bar in the future. Plans include the installation of a piano, and making the room available for private parties, banquets and meetings of gay groups (the Mattachine Society's board of directors recently held a meeting there). And upstairs, Mean Alice's is boasting about two new disc jockeys who are working with an expanded sound system and light show. Paul Forse spins on weekends while on Wednesday's (Alice's 2:40-1 night) Gary Starr plays a mix of disco, oldies and rock.

Also new at Mean Alice's is a giant screen television, something of a novelty in a gay bar. The screen has proven popular with re-showings of specials like those from Diana Ross and Bette Midler, and Little is also screening popular movies. During Gay Pride Week in June, he plans to offer a festival showing films like "Boys in the Band" and "The Rita," "it kind of keeps people's attention and opens the way for conversation," he says of the showings.

Like other gay bar owners in Buffalo, Little is concerned about the problem of prostitutes and accompanying violence near the intersection of Main and Allen. Although he emphasizes "it's nice and quiet and safe" in his area of Main Street, he still worries about his patrons who decide to walk up to other gay bars further north on Main. "I advise them to walk up Franklin Street rather than Main," he says. "It's a lot safer."

As one of the Buffalo's best known gay bars, Mean Alice's gets a lot of "tourist" trade once the snow goes away for good. It is also, for many, the first bar they go to when coming out. "It's surprising to talk to people just coming out," he observes. "They tell you how long it took them to come in, how many weekends they spent driving by. It's really interesting."

Little also isn't afraid to comment on Erie County's 4 a.m. closing time for bars. "It's unfortunate our closing time is so late as it is. I think 3 a.m. would be sufficient on the weekends," he says. Because gays want to be out at the magic moment of closing, it leads to a late crowd which usually doesn't start filtering in until midnight. "A lot of people gauge themselves to closing time. They have supper, go to bed and then go out about midnight."

But however late the bars stay open, Little confidently predicts Mean Alice's will be there.

--Captain Kink--

Spring means 'bunning' to the Captain

Spring is here—so be of good cheer—it's time now for jogging and jumping or marathon running. But there are other sports of invigorating sports such as flogging or bopping or best of all, Bunning. Checks is checks, but to thigs it sure is great exercise, the choice of the Easter Bunny.

April's Kink of the Month is "Bunning," wherein two people gently rub and massage their posteriors together. Some say this is more than just a primer for Practical Proctology 101, but I'll leave that for you to decide.

Gay Pride Week ideas being sought

Plans are being put in motion for Buffalo's observance of Gay Pride Week. Ron Wojciechowski, vice president of the Mattachine Society, said it is hoped to be able to put together a series of events that will stretch across an entire week in June. "Mattachine wants to work with other gay groups, business people and individuals in putting together a coalition that will insure participation and the success of all events," he said.

Right now, he added, he is working with Mattachine President John Fauling in contacting other groups. Persons or groups with ideas for Gay Pride Week can call the Gay Hotline at 881-3335 or write: Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier, P.O. Box 153, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205.

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IN TOUCH FOR MEN 20
1316 N. Western Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90027
Gays come out for premiere of ‘La Cage Aux Folles II’

In a first for the Buffalo gay community in recent years, Buffalo’s gay businesses cooperated with the Mattachine Society and the Granada Theater to put together an opening night package for the film La Cage Aux Folles II.

“It was a real success,” said Mattachine President John A. Faurig Jr., who organized the event with the help of Joseph, owner of Me And My Arrow and co-chairman with John Little of the newly formed Gay Businessmen’s Association.

The package plan was good only on opening night, March 27. For $5.50 per ticket, buyers could order the ticket for a free glass of wine with dinner at The Allen Restaurant, then gain admission to either of two showings of La Cage at the Granada Theater. The ticket stubs were also good for a drawing for La Cage posters that were given away, and afterward the stubs could be traded in for a free drink at any of four gay establishments (Villa Cafe, Me And My Arrow, Mean Alice’s and Mac Arthur Park). In addition, Marakbeh participated in the deal by serving as a point-of-sale for the advance tickets.

Gay Fathers sought

WASHINGTON — A Gay Fathers Coalition has been set up to assist in helping people in other communities set up gay parents groups.

The group can provide assistance, counseling, support and public speakers. For information, write: Gay Father’s Coalition Box 30360, Washington, D.C. 20004.

Fauling said Mattachine will use part of the proceeds from the sale to sponsor special events during Gay Pride Week in June.

“We hope special deals like this will become a regular part of gay life in Buffalo,” he said. “It not only provides a nice evening for each of us as individuals, but also strengthens gay businesses and instills pride in being part of Buffalo’s gay community.”

Judge rules gay adoption is OK

NEW YORK — A New York Family Court Judge has ruled that there is no legal or public policy which would prohibit the adoption of one adult male homosexual by another.

Judge Leon Deutch, ruling in “In Matter of Adult Anonymous,” held that the fact that the parties were involved in a homosexual relationship was sufficient in itself to prevent the adoption.

Deutch noted the New York Court of Appeals decision in People vs. Onofre which resulted in the state’s consensual sodomy laws being struck down as unconstitutional. The judge said the decision “eliminated consensual homosexuality as a crime in this state” and thus removed the penal law as a point of consideration in the matter of adoption.

The judge however cautioned the parties in the case that adoption is permanent and that it should not be used to create a pseudo-marriage.

Spring means time for sowing of seeds

By BILL HARDY

Hello and an aphrodisiacal April to you all. February and March sure got switched around didn’t they? But have no fear. All those little crocus and daffodils that poked their heads out in February weren’t harmed by the cold drafts in March.

Did you celebrate the arrival of the vernal equinox on March 20th? We did. At 12:03 p.m. while eating lunch at McDonald’s on Niagara Falls Blvd. in North Tonawanda, a group of us from the nursery next door where we work, raised our orange drinks, coffee, tea, and triple thick shakes toasting the coming of spring. Then we looked outside, saw the snow piled up and felt like vomiting.

Whether it was the snow or the food, we don’t know, but we realized that sunshine and good times are just around the corner. This little digression leads me to the meat of this month’s column. Mainly, how to be prepared when you do turn that corner we are just around.

SOWING SEEDS. Some of us have been sowing them all over town all winter, but alas, they’re not the variety that will produce tomatoes, peppers, and acorn squash. For these aforementioned veggies, save for the squash, you can get a head start by starting them now indoors for transplanting to your garden or porch in mid to late May. Squash, if started now, would be all over the house. Wait till early May for that, transplanting to the year soon after germination.

Whatever you choose to start, check out the packet to see how long the veggies to mature or the flowers to open, and go from there. What’s key is a must. Seeds won’t germinate if cold and clammy. They’ll just lay there and rot. The soil itself should be light and porous. Check out your local garden center for the best seed starting mix.

Good light is essential. Either natural or artificial, the seeds need to grow. A bright window is wonderful, but grow lights work well also.

AFTER THE SEEDS germinate and have developed 2 or 3 sets of leaves, transplant them to flats, pots or whatever to develop further until you can place them outside. Use a heavier soil mixture for this, to develop a stronger root system. Also a hormone solution when transplanting will aid their growth. No, you won’t get hair on your tomatoes or nipples on your cantaloupe, but it will develop a healthier root system, which will help reduce transplant shock.

If you don’t have any outdoor growing space anywhere, try some veggies and flowers indoors in containers in a bright sunny window. There are many varieties of vegetables and flowers small enough to grow permanently indoors. You can even obtain seeds for various houseplants for a challenging difference.

WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE, get your bulbs moving, your seeds planed and your roots stimulated and maybe spring weather will arrive a bit sooner. So till next month, think green and still mist, mist, mist.
Man to Man explores themes in gay relationships... 

Continued from page 10.

Man to Man
to, as far as lover material is concerned. One could build a case for male model, teacher, mentor, friend, foe or the rest of the gamut of what we describe, net, in a really correct sense though no lover can live up to the standards we expect, just as father, in reality, won’t really all those things we said to our parents.

Chapter Two: “Boys in the School Yard” examines peer experimentation to see the effects of boys engaging in what may be called “playing around” by young boys is OK, but grown men don’t do that. Silverstein points out that boys in elementary have experimented and have had different realizations about their experiences and feelings. In elementary school, boys may be more open and honest in their feelings and emotions.

Chapter Three: “Coming Out and Young Lovers” moves on to the actual process of coming out of the closet and the thoughts of “wanting to find a lover.” Examined here are the early boyfriends parallel to girl friends. There are parallels of men who were attracted to the cowboys of the movies, jocks from school and TV sports and macho-father images in their youth that were later transferred into Leather/Levi’s, the stereotypical “man’s look” and the older boy who keeps one coming back.

Whatever the boy/young man stands out with such affection, jealousy, kissing, and foreplay was not a part of it. Just sex for sex sake. Much of this is because men are conditioned to keep it inside and not express their feelings.

Early experiences tend to be reciprocal, not masculine/feminine in nature. This is because they need to identify with homosexual roles.

Activities/passive are there too, but not in "what do you do" type of attitude, they tend to follow more easily without being too close and intimate, but that is just one step of the process. People in the world come to believe in their own sexuality.

Chapter Four: Excitement Seekers and Home Builders examines those who want sex outside of the household and those who are seeking a lasting relationship that includes material as well as emotional needs. It looks into singles as well as couples, where problems can arise when you get one of each type in a pairing. Some are shown to work well, others do not. It shows that many relationships started out as excitement seeking and grew into a lasting relationship. Some of the early light shine off. Sometimes sex took a back seat to non-sexual pursuits and sometimes the couple was completely stopped as time went on.

Chapter Five: “The Monopoly Battle and the Demons of Jealousy and Envy” examines whether monogamy or promiscuity is more conducive to the gay lifestyle. The views of many of who have, or have been, couples are shown as far as the feelings are concerned. One could build a case for monogamy with them. The ideas expressed show that there is no conclusive right or wrong. Some relationships just work well together while others fall into that category after a period of sexual monogamy. Many times when there has been a perception of the other sex not being desirable, the feeling is that one is no longer desirable to others and the need to see if this is true appears to be the "cause" of the unfaithfulness.

The idea of monogamy being a religion is to believe that one can love each other, shows that while many gays reject religion they still have religious values ingrained in their psyche and feel extreme guilt when these laws are broken.

When we look at the ramifications of the anger expressed by one whose lover has been untrue we can see how fine a line there is between jealousy and envy. On one hand we have, "How could you...?" and on the other "boy was that gay cute...?" Of it if you could get him to have sex with your friends, more important work and home life and a certain relief to go to a deeper place.

Contrary to what one might think, the presence of "grass roots religion" and the trouble we make in many cases, is not the anti-gay sentiment that is present in the so called religious community in many population areas. It seems that the religious groups are growing up and even into many homosexual and marriage, there is a certain fervency that is applied to the heterosexual tendencies that are expressed as long as they do not become an exclusive religion.

Most of the places visited had both lesbians and gay men in the population and in many cases the women had preceded the men in adopting the country life. All of those who moved into the backwoods from the city are looked at skeptically until they have proved themselves to the "natural." It can be that way because the place is isolated. Most accomplish this by adopting the ways of their surroundings by taking up tennis, raising sheep, slowing their pace of life down to those already there.

Chapter Eleven: "Tell Death to Fuck" Pardee defines a band of men that most people do not want to face regardless of their sexual orientation: the death of a loved one due to AIDS or other circumstances. (Interestingly enough only one case involved suicide, which is usually the "reason one thinks of when he hears about the death of one’s own."

The amounts of time the lovers were together and the ways the lover dies vary, from a couple years to fifty years and from a遴选 less to coming out of a gay bar to cancer. The one common factor that does run through all of them, however, is the need for patients to live. For the most part, the patients or geographic love..."

Many perhaps would say that this is just an excuse and the "normal" male sexual/fitness attitude, but it appears to be much more than that. There seems to be a sincere love between these partners involving a great deal more than just getting good sex with the partner in the last long hours of life. There is something quite beautiful about the way that people find to fill voids in their lives. Some accomplish that, others do not.

Chapter Twelve: "Joe and Andy Fifty Years Plus" Describes how that there are many gay relationships that equal or exceed the longevity of their straight counterparts.

Joe and Andy met in 1924 and went through various stages of living together, living apart, family friends and life in general. They offer quite a view of what it takes to live and love together.

Man to Man is as thought provoking as it is entertaining. Although ad- ministering on a narrowing segment of gay life, it is still able to shed some light on what can be a very dark gay closet even after "coming out."

Man to Man is available at Talking Leaves Bookstore, 3144 Main St. Buffalo and other area stores.

Letters...

Continued from page 10.

Morgan Friend photo

offends Felix.

We, the members of the "Concerned Newsworker" of Westfield, NY, are incensed by the photograph that was run with last month’s article on the "scandal" of a new night spot, "Me and My Angel".

The article itself, insensitive as it might have been, was obviously de- signed to incite true purity, which must have been to destroy a wonderful person: Joseph.

The actual photographers loved Joseph for the warm, kind, charming person that he is, would not have rec- ognized him without the cap. How could you say such nice things about him under a photo that would have sent Quasimodo out of the bell tower?

Tell the truth. You took that picture with a "Fish eye lens" and then air brushed on a pesty, beaded out, didn’t you? Joseph never looked disoriented, even after a bad hair cut.

Are you being paid by the competition to do a hatchet job on him? Are you jealous of his apparent success?

Were you refused "freebies" at the bar?

Whatever the reason for your unconscionable abuse of one of Buffalo’s most respected and admired en- trepreneurs, pass it on to your read- ers to make amends.

Always remember the motto of the Concerned Newsworker of Western New York: “There’s no newspaper like a good newspaper.”

Felix Klemper, president

VD testing offered by Mattachine

A testing clinic for venereal disease (V.D.) will be sponsored by the Mat- tachine Society of the Niagara Fronti-

The clinic will be held as part of a regular Mattachine meeting on May 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Unitarian Uni- versalist Church, Elmwood and West Ferry.

Jim Haynes, chairman of the Health Committee of Mattachine, noted that many gays are reluctant to speak to their own doctors or visit the counters to screen true partners. Con- sequently, Mattachine offers the testing as a service to the gay community to completely confidentiality as- sured.

For the first time, Mattachine will be able to offer testing for both go- norhea and syphilis, according to Ray Yeaton, a Mattachine member.
**GAY DIRECTORY OF BUFFALO**

**INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE**

**THE GAY HOTLINE:** 881-5335. Counseling help with gay life, information on the gay community. Staffed by trained volunteers of the Mattachine Society. Hours: 6 to 10 p.m. daily; all day on Friday.

**SUNSHINE HOUSE CRISIS INTERVENTION CENTER:** 831-3646. Assists persons having personal, family and drug related problems. Emergency outreach services, information and referral. Emergency overnight housing. Open 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**THE FIFTH FREEDOM,** P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205. Tel: 881-5335. Volunteers needed to work on paper, including writers, artists, graphics people and photographers. Press releases, public notices and articles for publication may be submitted to the above address. Published the first week of each month. Advertising rates on request.

**ORGANIZATIONS**

**MATTACHINE SOCIETY OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER,** P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205. Tel: 881-5335. Meetings held first and third Sundays of each month. Unitarian Universalist Church, Elmwood at West Ferry. Pot luck supper at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. All-welcome.

**GAY PROFESSIONALS,** P.O. Box 624, Buf- falo, New York 14209. Tel: Tom Hamm, 842-2770. An organization to pro- vide support for gay people in the profession and those who seek a confidential place to meet new friends. Open to all gay men and women.

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**Fifth Freedom WANNA B**

$2 for first 15 words, 10-cents each additional word. Send to FIFTH FREEDOM, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205.

**GAY INNATES and young pri-*

*PERSONS WITH DESIRE TO OWN a small business, your choice, in downtown/Allentown area.* I have the knowledge, all I need is capital. Serious inquiries only. Write: Business, c/o THE FIFTH FREEDOM.

**WANTED:** WOMEN for soft- ball league, Buffalo, Fort Erie area. Meet at The Betsy, April 8, 9 p.m. or at Rose's, April 10 at 6 p.m. or call 616-894-0057.

**VENTURE CAPITAL NEEDED** for a Gay owned and operated business. Financing is needed to get this project off the ground. Contact: John L. Sagner, P.O. Box 862, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, NY 14205.

**MEAL IS SEEKING**: male 30-40 for sincere relationship. No drugs, letters and photo requested. Write: Dell Christian c/o gay.

**YOU CAN HELP** other Gays who are in trouble because of anti-gay laws and ordinances. Contributions sought to establish Legal Defense Fund for Buf- falo's gay community. Write: Legal Defense Fund, P.O. Box 862, Buffalo, New York 14205. Contributions kept confidential.

**FIND A FRIEND,** rent an apartment, sell an unused object. Use the Fifth Freedom want ads. $2 for first 15 words, 10-cents each additional word. Boxes for confidential mailings available. Write: Fifth Freedom, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205.

**THE GAYELLOW PAGES** helps you find gay businesses in any city in America. Sale proceeds benefit Mattachine Society. On sale now at Mattachine 140 Allen St.

NEED HELP in coming out? The Gay Hotline has trained coun- selors to talk with you. Call 881-5335 daily from 9 to 10 p.m. all day of Fridays.

**THE SUNSHINE HOUSE** needs volunteers to assist in providing services. Call 831-3436 for de- tails.

**WRITE:** artists, photographers wanted to volunteer their time to work on The Fifth Free- dom, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205.

**YOU'RE INVITED** to the Matta- chine Spring Event Dance, April 10, 8-11 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, corner Elmwood and West Ferry. Prizes, refreshments. Donations: $2.

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**GAY AWARENESS ORGANIZATION** (GAO), State University of New York at Fre- donia, Fredonia, New York 14063. An or- ganization for gay students at SUNY Fredo- nia. Meetings Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Room S- 123, Campus Center.

**BOOKSTORES**

**EMMA FEMINIST BOOKSTORE,** 2474 Main St., Buffalo, New York (at Greenfield St.). Tel: 836-8970. Feminist and gay books.

**MARRAKESH,** 140 Allen St., Buffalo, N.Y. Tel: 882-8200. Gayellow Page directories, gay periodicals, lampshade jewelry.


**BARS AND RESTAURANTS**

**ALLEN RESTAURANT,** 16 Allen St., Buffalo. Tel: 881-0586. Serving lunches and full course dinners.

**THE BESY,** 454 Pearl St., Buffalo. Tel: 885- 0892.

**DOMINIQUE'S,** 20 Allen St., Buffalo. Tel: 886-8964.

**MAC ARTHUR PARK,** 153 Elmwood Ave., BUFFALO. Tel: 884-1114.

**MEAN ALICE'S,** 729 Main St., Buffalo. Tel: 856-3298. Luncheon and snack menu. Tif- fany Bar downstairs.

**ME AND MY ARROW,** 274 Delaware Ave., Buffalo. Tel: 856-3291.

**VILLA CAPRI,** 926 Main St., Buffalo. Tel: 886-9469.

**OUT-OF-TOWN**

**ITSY-BITSY LOUNGE,** 1149 Michigan, Niagara Falls, New York. Tel: 282-9717.

**BIG MIKE'S CAFE,** 201 Winsor St., Jamestown, New York. Tel: 483-9267.

**BATHS**

**CLUB AMHERST,** 44 Amherst St., Amherst. Tel: 835-6711.

**MORGAN BATHS,** 655 Main St., Buffalo. Tel: 852-2153.

**MATTACHINE PRESENTS A FREE V.D. TESTING CLINIC CONFIDENTIALITY ASSURED TESTING BY THE ERIE COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. AT UNITARIAN CHURCH 695 ELMWOOD & WEST FERRY MAY 3-7:30 P.M.**
When the movies started to drag...

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"Endlessly funny!"

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A French-Italian co-production

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Screenplay by FRANCIS VEBER

Music by ENNIO MORRICONE

Director of Photography ARMANDO NANNIZZI

Executive Producer MARCELLO DANON

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