10-10-1981

Fifth Freedom, 1981-10-10

The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier

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The Gay Hotline: Who Needs It?

by John A. Faulring, Jr.

"I'm only 16. Where can I go to meet gay people?

"I'm a married man and I like to have sex with men, too. Is there something wrong with that?

"I enjoy dressing in women's clothes. Where can I meet people who like the same thing?

"When is the next GP meeting?"

"I am a Lesbian with 3 children. Who can I talk to about problems I have dealing with this situation?"

"I'm visiting from out of town. Does Buffalo have any gay bars?"

"I will be going to Las Vegas on my vacation. Do you have any listings as far as bars go for there?"

"This is a very small sample of the types of questions that are received on the Gay Hotline. The variety of questions is astounding and the need is getting greater all the time.

Mattice has had the Hotline service for over two years now. It has survived many of the moves the Society has had to make over the years. It continues to be a very important part of Buffalo's gay experience.

Other Agencies Refer to Hotline

Many of Buffalo's other counseling services refer people to the Gay Hotline as a valid and necessary, supplementary to their list of qualified referral services. We get calls from those referred, as well as the counselors themselves.

Mattice has been approached as far as having sessions where their counselor and ours would meet in marathon sessions to help with the understanding of problems that occur in gay life. We need more trained counselors before this can be attempted on the scale needed. Such a program would greatly benefit both sides.

Gay agencies recognize the importance of peer counseling in really helping to come to grips with our lifestyle. They all realize that some shortcomings as far as the training they receive in their education as far as dealing with homosexual clients. It is up to the gay community to provide this first-hand experience for them and to follow up any cases that the agency feels need this extra effort.

Not All Calls Gay

Many calls that we receive are not from gays at all. We hear from many heterosexuals who have questions about their feelings, sexual problems or medical referrals. They say they don't know where to turn that they can talk about these matters or that they have called other agencies and have gotten nowhere; and have even been referred to us by other agencies as a source of information.

Many calls are for information about the gay lifestyle, too. Many of these come from parents, friends, spouses and children of gays. These people want to learn more about their loved ones so they can fully understand and help them cope.

Currently there are efforts to get support groups organized for all these people. If anyone is interested in these groups, write lack c/o of the paper. These would be very good for both the callers we have that are seeking this type of group.

VD Information

A large percentage of our calls are for medical information. Many people want to find a "gay doctor" that they can feel comfortable going to. At the present time we have no list to refer from. However, in re-

The Gay Hotline: Who Needs It?
AN EDITORIAL:
Buffalo Bars: Coming and Going

With the opening of a new gay bar in Buffalo, the time has come for the owners, and the patrons, to begin asking themselves a few questions.

It is no secret that the Buffalo community has demonstrated a collective morbid tendency to deserting one establishment for another. It has caused the downfall of one bar after another, and kept Buffalo a basic three- or four bar town, while smaller cities like Rochester easily support eight or more.

So as patrons, it is a good time to ask ourselves "Why?" Just what are we looking for in a bar or a bar owner to do to keep our business? Is it really to our advantage to have only a limited number of places to go? Do we have any sense of 'loyalty' to those bar owners, gay or straight, who take on the problems (and, yes, the profits) of running a gay bar in Buffalo?

The owners might ask themselves, too, how they feel about their patrons. Are we real people, or simply a group that takes the initiative to do something different, or do we stick with a tried and true formula because you know it works? Disco bars, even among the gay community, appear to have a limited future. Where do we go from here?

We ask this, why do the gay business people here, and we talk specifically here of the bar owners, been unable to coordinate their efforts? Joint promotions of special events would not only benefit the owner in increased profits, but the patrons, too. Does everyone have to run their drink specials and special events on the same day?

We don't pretend to know the answers. But the questions, we think, merit some thought by everyone.

In This Issue... THE FIFTH FREEDOM'S 11TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

This is the 11th anniversary issue of The Fifth Freedom. And the first anniversary of the stars and stripes logo. We hope you enjoy this double anniversary issue.

We have a variety of features in addition to our regular columns for you this month. They range from book reviews to ways of getting rid of crabs. Also a few thoughts on the Delaware and North situation and a lawsuit update.

You'll also find stories about Buffalo's newest bar and short takes on many assorted happenings around the nation.

Our lead story is an informational look at the Gay Hotline.

We hope you read all the stories. There will be questions later.

Thanks for keeping us alive for the 11 years. We hope to serve you at least that much longer.

Letters to the Editor

City Lights, a/k/a Mean Alice's
Defended Regarding Changes

I would like to respond to Tim Deneshaus's letter to the editor, Aug. issue, which criticizes the owner of City Lights. Since Tim was absent from the scene for so long, perhaps he is not exactly in a position to evaluate the situation as it occurred prior to his return.

Mean Alice's, before its demise, was a gathering place for a heterogeneous group of gays, not just a gay bar, and it is still that way today.

Second, when the Arrow and MacArthur's Park opened, the gay crowd drifted away from Alcides. John did not lose the "gays out"! While Tim was frolicking in the gay life of the West Coast, John Little was sitting in a nearly empty bar every night and on weekends. He tried everything he could think of to draw them back, but nothing worked. A few lone stragglers would drop in and say they didn't want to stay because no one was there.

In an effort to draw the women in, John turned the downstairs into a Women's Bar, with two female bartenders, candlelight, and romantic music. That bombarded also.

Where were all the gay women who used to say they wished they had a nice bar with a lot of music, where they could drink and socialize?

THE FIFTH FREEDOM

INSIDE:
Vol. 11 No. 10 October 1981

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Lawsuit Update

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The Media Watch

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Editor's Edition

Captain Kink

The Gay Directory

Want Ads

Gay Cops To Be Hired

in Toronto Area?

TORONTO — A study costing $22,500, says the Toronto Police are actively trying to recruit gay cops to serve on the force.

The study was commissioned after four raids on gay bathhouses in February was presented to the city council. It was hoped that it would help close a "gulf of mistrust and misunderstandings" between gays and the police if implemented.

Neither the police nor the gay groups jumped at the chance to set the report into motion. Both sides feel that the plan, in its present form, is not workable. The feelings between the groups are still at a very uneasy stage because of the bath raids.

Sections of Toronto's gay community are split as to whether or not the plan is workable. There will be much digitalization amongst gays before the talks even start with the authorities about the plan.

(Editors' Note: The FIFTH FREEDOM welcomes "Letters to the Editor." Letters for submission should be typed, double-spaced and less than 300 words.)

THE FIFTH FREEDOM, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205. Letters must be signed in order to be considered for publication, however the FIFTH FREEDOM will withhold the writer's name upon request. Continued on page 6
The Fifth Freedom, October 1981

Anti-Gay Coverage Appears In Abundance This Election Year

BY ROD HENES

Well it's an election year folks, no doubt about that. And although Jimmy Griffin is assured of re-election this November, the candidates for city council are scrambling for any votes they can get. The conventional political wisdom in Buffalo is, of course, that an anti-homosexual stance is always good for a few votes, not to mention media headlines, so why not tie the gay into our current anti-vice campaign.

It was no surprise then to read about Republican Councilman William Marcy of the Delaware District showing up at a city court hearing sought by District Attorney Thomas Lokken in regards to the Mattachine lawsuit over the state's loitering laws.

As reported by Michael Beebe in the Buf-

The Media Watch

falo Evening News, Marcy said he was solicited by a young man on North Street one night. Marcy said he was watching in his car for his son when the young man approached him. "He said for $10 he would perform a sexual act," the councilman was quoted as saying.

Our old friend Capt. Kenneth Kennedy also put in an appearance with some more of his homosexual stories about Gay Buffalo. You will recall in our last episode, the newspapers quoted Kennedy on the "swarms" of homosexuals descending on neighborhoods to recruit young boys for prostitution. This month he told a whisper of a story about a young boy who was approached by a "group" on North Street to perform a sex act, and as a result is now "afraid to come out of the house." At least that's what Kennedy says the boy's mother says, which makes it at least fourth hand information.

All this testimony has been linked to the problem of prostitution in the Allentown area. Now all I know is what I read in the papers, but doesn't Kennedy work for the same police department that was so responsive a few months ago when the female hookers were harassing and even mugging gay guys on the corner of Main and Allen. Only in an election year could the victims of the crime suddenly be put on an equal footing with the perpetrators.

No one is condoning the actions of prostitutes, be they male or female, but Kennedy seeks to put all gays in a bad light with his homophobic stance. There are laws against sex-for-money, but the vice squad doesn't want to lose the loitering law that can be used as a weapon against any gay person.

And while on the subject of Allentown, let's not forget that the gay community has played a substantial role (with substantial dollars) in keeping the place alive and giving it an "atmosphere," while the city government, until a few years ago, let the neighborhood rot. In the months ahead, the local media's task will be to present the full story, and we'll be watching to see what they do.

MEDIA COVERAGE of the Mattachine lawsuit has continued, with articles noting the naming of an additional defendant who was arbitrarily arrested under the state's loitering law. Meanwhile, one city court judge has ruled the loitering law in a case involving a female, to be unconstitutional while another city court judge has ruled just the opposite.

Statewide, the gay newspapers in Albany and Rochester both gave the lawsuit story big play, using a press release put out by Mattachine.

CABLESCOPE recognizes the gay community last month with its locally produced television special with Carl Backner as host. Ron Wojciechowski, Joseph and Linda Dietrich spoke for the gay community on a wide variety of topics, including the Mattachine law suit, plans for a gay community center, and some basic education on the "gay lifestyle" in general. For the phone-in part of the show, the group took only one call. Cablescope said there were eight others, but that they were "screened out" because the callers used objectional language or were otherwise unrational folks. The rational folks, I suppose, were all watching the "R" rated movies on Cablescope's other channels.

ON A FINAL NOTE, my favorite Hollywood reporter, Miss Rona of Today show fame, says Michael Jackson will sign on for the role of "Paul," the young gay dancer featured in the Broadway musical "A Chorus Line." Jackson played Buffalo in a concert last month, and "A Chorus Line" was also here in September for a week-long run at Shea's. Having seen both, and using my imagination, I think he's perfect for the role.

Delaware and North Street: Hustlers or Gays?

Recently there has been some press about the going-ons at the corner of Delaware and North. Every time it is mentioned the two words that always come up are "gay" and "prostitutes." The police, area residents and Delaware District Councilman Marcy have all said there are gay prostitutes hanging around there. Marcy even claims he was approached and was told that for $10 the guy would perform a sexual act.

The point that should be made is that NO ONE has proved that these men that hang around doing this sort of thing, and boys too, are indeed gay. Just ask all the business men that go to the bars and rest rooms. Granted, there may be some of these people that do think of themselves as gay, but they really are not in the main steam of Buffalo's gay populace, but then who is? We may all prostitute ourselves at the bar, whenever we go there and think nothing of it.

Commissioner Marcy's telephone number is 855-5155. Call and let him know how you feel.

Scratch your favorite record on purpose?

Of course you wouldn't deliberately scratch one of your albums. But sometimes it just happens. If you own a Bang & Olufsen turntable, you'll have no reason to worry. Because of the unique integrated design philosophy of Bang & Olufsen, you can't damage your records by accidentally "skating" the tonearm across them.

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COME IN FOR A DEMONSTRATION AND WE'LL GIVE YOU A DISCWASHER RECORD CLEANING SYSTEM FREE. JUST MENTION THIS AD.
**Gay Hotline...**

**Continued from page 1**

Each call is handled individually and no fast, hard rules are given to the counselors as to how to handle these callers.

Most counselors try to encourage the caller to talk about the real reason for their call. It can be loneliness, desperation, an unrequited love or a break-up of a relationship that is the underlying factor for this need. We try to encourage the person to try to get out into the mainstream of Buffalo's gay scene and find someone to share their feeling with. Sometimes it works, sometimes not.

Suicides and Emergencies

There are rare occasions that we receive a call where the person is desperate and says they are contemplating suicide, or feel they must. Most times they can be talked to and they realize that it is not really a solution to their problem. The counselor tries to point out possible ways of solving whatever is bothering them. Thankfully we succeed most of the time.

The emergencies are a little less urgent, but still in need of attention. It may be a lover relationship has just ended; a family member has just been told about the person's homosexuality and they reacted badly; or a hundred other things. Once again an ear to listen is oft times all that is needed. Loneliness has to be the number one reason for the hotline ringing.

Coming out

Most of our calls are from people wanting to be able to find out if there is anyone else around that feels the way they do. They are usually surprised to find out that there are gays around in numbers and that there are places to go and enjoy other people with the same desires.

Then once they have met these people, we usually hear from them regarding things they have seen and experienced. They cannot talk to those they met at a bar about their feelings and likes and dislikes, so they turn back to us. And they hear about different terms or practices and wonder what they mean or if they are common forms of expression.

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**Gay Father Symposium**

Oct. 24, in NYC City

The Gay Fathers of New York are sponsoring a Symposium on October 24, 1981 on the subject "Gay Fatherhood: The Road Less Traveled." The Symposium will provide a structured opportunity to examine concerns of particular interest to men trying to live comfortably as both parents and gay men. Anyone with a personal or professional interest in this subject is encouraged to attend.

The registration fee will be $5 at the door, or $4 with advance registration. For further information or pre-registration, please call any of the following:

- 212-674-0570 (Dys)
- 212-674-7727 (Eves)
- 212-580-1146 (Eves)
- 212-865-5380 (Eves)

Or write to the following address:

Gay Fathers of New York

175 Fifth Avenue
Room 1101
New York, N.Y. 10010
Editor's Edition

I Shot an Arrow Into The Air...

by John A. Faulring, Jr.

...and when I looked for it, it wasn't there.

I had planned on skipping this column this week and the entire issue of Sunday
October 4th. That was the final night of business for Me And My Arrow.

Everyone PLEASE keep in mind that this column is MY thought and NOT the official stand of Mattachine or
The Fifth Freedom.

This is one in a continuing line of this type of event. I have not been out in the
community of gay bars long, but have seen five closings in this time. The half
comes from the closing and re-opening of Mean Alice's as City Lights.

What is the cause of this syndrome? People always complain that we have so few choices, while they have so many. Then when we find a new place open, there is
great anticipation of a new bar to go to; different experiences to be had; hope-
fully new faces and bodies; and, inevitably, rumors that it will never make it open.

WE... WE kill a place before it even opens! In "the old days," it was a raid by the
cops, a squad or neighborhood problems that were the cause. Those prob-
lems were overcome and it should have been smooth sailing. Wrong!

BUFFALO GAY WITH FIVE CLOSINGS

Some of the descriptions are quite erotic and could be set anywhere, but the reality of where they have taken place soon comes back into the picture. After describ-
ing a session with one of his fellow medics, Kurt just as matter-of-factly describes how the gay war was subject of a horrible death shortly thereafter. He jars you back into the
real world in a hurry.

Kurt's sexual escapades are not the only area covered in the book. We are able to
see him grow up due to all the events he de-
scribes, from being thrown into a war that he doesn't understand to the death of his mother.

His big thing seems to be seducing those who are "straight" and can't stand "fag-
gots" or "queers." After all everyone knows there are more of "them" in the service! Well, even though there aren't any gays around, he manages to keep busy. What is really pointed out here are the double stan-
dards that society applies to homosexuality in all areas of life.

Those he has contact with just do it be-
cause there are no women around and when you're horny, you're horny. How often do we hear that one?

We do have to wonder, however, just how many of these episodes took place ex-
actly as described. After all there is the tendency to exaggerate, to a ridiculous de-
ger, our sexual prowess. And, too, all these episodes are described to his best friend and we all know that they believe anything we tell them. There is a tendency
to get carried away, especially when we know they can never check out our story.

There are parts of the book where Kurt has to take over the chains of authority when the "men" in charge either are absent, or screw it up. In these parts we
see, perhaps, the real point in this story, and not too general. That is the fact that first and foremost we do our jobs. During these times of dire emergency Kurt is not walking around with a perpetual hand,
or even seeing everyone that is bringing in bloody, in pain or dead. Those things are
demolitively a turn on.

It would probably be good for many non-gays to read this book and others like it
that help show us as human beings, not just sex fiends. But then again that is wishful
thinking. It will be hard enough just to get gay to read this book and enjoy it.

Buffalo's gays are a very fickle crew. They bitch and complain when something is
different and when they get it, they blow it. It seems to be a carry-over of what they have been told all their life, "You're no good, you don't deserve anything nice." They manifest this same atti-
de in their relationships. They look for a change and when they find it, it isn't as
good as they thought it would be.

The nicer a place gets the shorter amount of time it lasts. By "nicer" I mean the atmos-
phere, the quality of items served and the help that is hired. This is not to condemn
any bar that has lasted for a long period of time and has outlasted all these others.
The fault lies with the customers. If you don't appreciate your surroundings and have an ingrained self-hated, what can anyone else do for you?

Those bars that have lasted do one thing very well. That is provide what the gay
community asks for and that isn't much.

So Gay Buffalo... You Asked For It.

The name Me and My Arrow comes from a TV show and record album titled The Point. As far as I am concerned, there is none better, victorious.

Good-bye to Arrow... and possibly to a great supporter of the gay community in Buffalo. Joseph, I love you!

Review Faulring

Continued from page 1

Chrystal Marie Cheviron

MISS ERIE 1980 WILL BE YOUR HOSTESS AND MC

Chrystal Marie Cheviron

MISS ERIE 1980 WILL BE YOUR HOSTESS AND MC

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Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance in Albany Oct. 18

The New York State Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance will meet Oct. 18 at the Gay Community Center in Albany. Brunch from noon to 1 p.m. will be followed by a business meeting from 1-4.

To attend, write the New York State Lesbian & Gay Political Alliance c/o C.D.G.C.C., Inc., P.O. Box 131, Albany, New York, 12201. Or, call the Gay Community Center in Albany at (518) 462-5138 (evenings, 7-11 p.m.). Write or call by Oct. 9. Note the name of your organization and the name, address and phone numbers of your members attending. Overnight accommodations and rides from train and bus stations can be arranged.

For further information, contact Richard May (Brooklyn) at 212-858-3509 or Gary Pavlic (Albany) at 518-785-0065.

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SELEcTions by Sam

Anti Gay? Apparently Does Not Exist

by Sam

... Later. My use of this space last month consisted of my ventilating some reactions to a summer vacation in Provincetown with the indication there would be "more later." Well, it is "later."

The strongest impression I received during that good week, and one that continues to bother me, runs counter to ideas and attitudes I have held for a long time. Perhaps the books, research articles, and newspaper and magazine stories have given me a distorted image about what it means to be homosexual in contemporary American society. Many of those sources cite overt discrimination and even oppression as part of many lesbian and gay persons' experiences. Up until now I have accepted as factual the accounts found in biographies and poetry written by and about my lesbian/gay sisters and brothers. Maybe even some of my personal history was less valid that I have thought it to be. It must have been that our personal perceptions were colored by healthy cases of paranoia or some sort of martyr complex.

Accounts of the Stonewall Riots themselves must have been exaggerated. The anti-gay crusade waged by a former fruit salesman must have been an example of journalistic hype. Even the pictures on television, in news magazines and newspapers about the reaction to the Dan White verdict in San Francisco must somehow have been staged. Recent bath house raids were probably also really the product of an overactive imagination. Indeed, much of the "review of gay news" in The Advocate should be properly billed as fiction, etc., etc.

It is personally embarrassing to realize just how effectively I have been misled. My writing this column has to some extent been based on the premise that we and our brothers and sisters have been the scapegoats and targets of non-gays in many instances. The first inklings that I might have been wrong in my assessment took place right here on the Niagara Frontier, but the real trun of the truth hit me during and after the recent trip to Town.

I have quite thoroughly enjoyed the numerous exposures of being in social environments apparently in the company of many lesbian and gay women and men. To be in the bars on a Saturday night and see- ing open same-sex hand holding, hugging, dancing, necking, kissing, petting, and good old-fashioned groping does tend to exorcise some of the voyeur in me. On another level it continues to amaze me that there are all these gay people right where I am, while in earlier years I was sure that my attraction to other males was singularly unique. It is in seeing all these people, even discounting the few non-gays who may be on the premises -- that I now realize my neglect of the press was a serious mistake.

At various places that gay people frequent I have met professional colleagues, community leaders, service personnel, persons in both the private and public sectors of employment. I have been introduced to newspaper reporters, accountants, school public teachers, men and women of the "cloth", mechanics, landscapers, etc. (and strangely less than a dozen hairdressers, interior decorations, and models). Such encounters confirmed to me statements like "we are everywhere," "there is something between 10 and 16 percent of the American population which is homosexual," and "someone in your life is gay."

If now strikes me nearly incomprehensible to imagine that these people have met representing hundreds of thousands of others are oppressed, discriminat ed against, and generally accorded second-class status because of their sexual orientation or choice of affectional partner. Surely if repression taught very many of us, as lives, there would be regular and loud protest and recrimination. Their sheer numbers would cause the rest of society to take note, and begin to offer redress. Anti-gay rumblings and defeat of pro-gay legislation would be non-existent.

No, I am not faulting my brothers and sisters for having the fun associated with the bar and dancing scene. I enjoy that too. But how do they manage to keep us "guilty" in our gathering places and out- wardly remain utterly silent! Could we be a group to be reckoned with? I want lights and recent articles about the political involvement of the Houston gay community.

We gays do have allies in the non-gay population who are often more actively anti-gay than most of us. They have just as much to lose as many of us think we do. In order of fact, we have much more to gain. We stand to gain the joy of living as whole people.

Letters

Continued from page 2

An Open Letter

We are in the final weeks of the political season -- the weeks when candidates with money purchase billboards and expensive mail; the weeks when candidates like myself try instead to meet even more people to discuss issues. My opponent, in his quest for publicity, has decided to rely on a traditional tactic -- scapegoating.

In recent newspaper articles, William Marcy has chosen male prostitution as his favorite theme, going so far as to testify in court that even he had been solicited. Whether his sworn statement is valid or not is ultimately irrelevant -- the crime problems in Allentown cannot be dismissed as male prostitution, and the sources of the problems cannot be implied to be the sole responsibility of the gay community. We -- the residents, businessmen, patrons of Al lentown -- we are the victims, and within this group of victims are many gay home- less, business men and patrons.

Some months ago I publicly stated my opponent might use volatile, emotional themes such as homosexuality, prostitution and personal inventive as campaign tactics. Unfortunately, I was right.

My position is as it always was. To scapegoat any gay groups, women, blacks, Puerto Ricans, Jews, etc. is reprehensible. To scapegoat is the technique of the politician with no comprehension of the real problems, no sense of the real issues, and no ability to formulate solutions.

The problems are PROSTITUTION, ARSON, BURGLARY, ASSAULT -- and these are not initiated by any single group except CRIMINALS. To choose a group or individual on the basis of lifestyle or any other non-objective criteria and use that to identify the real problems is to wrongly define the issue.

In the near future I will be holding a press conference on crime, discussing a 13 point plan to make Allentown safer. I address this issue closely with the police, how to approach the prostitution problem and how to increase the number of cases handled.

In the near future I will be holding a press conference on crime, discussing a 13 point plan to make Allentown safer. I address this issue closely with the police, how to approach the prostitution problem and how to increase the number of cases handled.

Hope Hoetzr
How Does Your Garden Grow

Fall Planting Means Beautiful Spring Affair

by Bill Hardy

Hello everyone, and a cantankerously odd October to you all! Yes, it's that time of year when thoughts turn from warm summer days at the beach to blazingly colorful trees and cute furry squirrels busy looking wherever they can, for nuts. Likewise, many a blazingly colorful acquaintance can be seen running around looking for nuts, not unlike squirrels, wherever they can.

Now is the time to begin planning next year's flower garden. "Egads," you say, "the frost is hardly on the pumpkins and he almost ready for next year's garden." You could say that, but if you want a nice splash of color as soon as the snows are gone, now is the time to do it. I am, of course, referring to the planting of bulbs. Tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and crocus are probably the best known of the spring bloomers, but I've a few friends whose bloomers are constantly well-known, spring or not. Yesiree!

Tulips can be planted to create a continuous burst of color from late March through to early June. The dwarf botanical type tulips, as their name implies, bloom early in the season. The May-flowering parrot and peony types will take you from June to Avenue April with many other types in between. Out at the nursery, we have a hundred different tulip varieties. Hyacinths, with their wonderful fragrance in April, daffodils with their brilliant yellow, orange, white and combinations thereof, and crocus for their very early bloomers all give any spring garden a colorful burst. But there are many other lesser-known or flowering bulbs that, if equal, if not superior, the better-known types in their beauty.

Easter, or spring aconite, blooms a brilliant yellow in March, and is only 4" high. Iris reticulata grows 4-6" tall and forms large masses of blue, purple, white or yellow blooms in March, usually before the crocus. Both of these are great for rock gardens.

Another variety of iris grown from a bulb is Dutch Iris. They bloom May to June, growing to about 20" and produce spectacular blossoms of white, yellow, blue and combinations of those colors. They fill quite nicely that time after your other spring bloomers have faded and before your annuals can obtain nice color.

Mattache's Lawsuit Update

This is an update on the Federal lawsuit Mattache has filed to have the New York State anti-loitering law declared unconstitutional.

On September 2, there was a motion filed in Federal Court to add a member of the gay community to the suit that had already been filed. At the time, Mattache feels that it will strengthen the case by adding someone to the lawsuit that has actually suffered with being arrested, spending time in the holding center, being fingerprinted and photographed.

He was added under an alias, Richard Roe, to cause fewer problems for him in his private life. All the other names on the lawsuit are real names and are that way because the people have not been arrested under the law. If the case is lost there can be no repercussions towards those listed as plaintiffs. (At least that is the legal standpoint. The additional papers also ask that even if the suit is dismissed because the law is not found to be unconstitutional under the United States Constitution, his (and our) rights of privacy or property without due process, freethought, peaceable assembly, equal protection under the laws and the right to privacy under certain respects, are fully protected under the New York Constitution as well.

From the allium family, of which onions, garlic and chives are all members, comes a spectacular June blooming bulb. Allium giganticum produces a foot stem topped by a 6" round purple flower head resembling for all the world like a giant chive. Several other allium varieties, smaller in size, produce various colored flowers from May to July, depending on type.

When planting bulbs in the fall it's very beneficial to add some bone meal to each bulb. Simply place some at the bottom of the hole mixed with a little soil, and then place the bulb. Bone meal is finely ground bone, contains phosphorous and is a wonderful root inducer. The forming plant will better survive the winter and the flowers next spring will be stronger and healthier.

If you haven't anywhere outdoors to grow bulbs, don't fret. Virtually any spring flowering bulb can be forced to bloom indoors.

First arrange as many bulbs in a pot or other suitable well-drained container as will comfortably fit without touching each other or the sides of the container. A very light, loose, well-drained soil should be used. The tips of the bulbs should be just beneath the soil surface. The bulbs should be watered once a week and placed in a well-lit area to maintain the growth. If you have no room in the house to meet these requirements, shift and shuffe your Mirocle Whip, Diet Rite and next Sunday's rump roast in your refrigerator, and put the pots in there. Put saucers under them, as you must water them regularly, even in the fridge. and you don't want mud in your cookies! After a good root system has developed and about 2" of top growth shows, move them into a semi-dark area where temperatures are about 60 degrees. After a week they can be moved to full light. The flowers will bloom in a few weeks. They will also keep longer at a temperature of 65 degrees, and regular watering is essential.

Planting up to a pot of bulbs every two weeks would give you a succession of continuous bloom in those long winter months that lie ahead.

So go on a crash diet to make room in your refrigerator, and until next month, here's hoping your Halloween tricks are good, and their treats just as tasty!
Buffalo Buns Contest Starts

Buffalo Buns is a new contest that the Fifth Freedom is going to be running for the next few months. There will be prizes for the best buns in town.

To enter send a picture of your favorite buns, no hamburger, hot dog or weck need apply, either in or out of clothes. They must be in good taste and not show anything else attached to the body. There can be accessories, but the buns’ the thing. Photos are not returnable unless you send a stamped self-addressed envelope along. There has to be sufficient postage, too.

We will run the photos we receive and you will be able to vote for your favorite. There will be no names given, so you can send in The Unknown Buns and still be the winner. Just remember to include who you are, so you can get the great prizes offered to the winner.

The prizes include a Buns calendar and book. There may be more coming.

So if The Villa’s ad has inspired you to go to it and see what your imagination can come up with.

The photos will run in the December issue and the winner will be announced in the January 1982 issue. So we need to receive your entries by November 20 or they won’t count.

HELP WANTED: BARTENDERS WAITERS BUSBOYS FOR NEW HOT WESTERN BAR! FOR INFO CALL 881-1497 1-5 p.m.

BLUE BOY’S
520 Niagara Street
Niagara Falls, N.Y.
284-0152

HAPPY HOUR
Monday - Saturday
7-9 p.m.

Sunday Tea Party
2 p.m. to closing

The Fifth Freedom Advisor
Gay Marriages and Gay Dress Codes Discussed

The FIFTH FREEDOM ADVISOR provides answers to questions about sex and dress for those interested in FIFTH FREEDOM. RING US NOW.

ELLIOTT STREET, OLEAN, N.Y. 14760. FOR IMMEDIATE HELP IN TALKING ABOUT GAY PROBLEMS, CALL THE GAY HOTLINE AT 881-5379.

Dear FFA,

Four weeks ago I met my right winner.
I had never been so much in love in my entire life. We share similar back- ground, interests, desires and we are both comfortable sexually. He is moving in with me, and we have decided that we both want a wedding with an exchange of rings as a public declaration of both our love and desire to live our lives as lovers and friends. Here is where we seem to be getting into a problem area. The first thing I have noticed is the desirability of each of us to other people. Another problem is having people say that it can’t be “love” so fast and living together and marriage is soon a big mistake. I don’t understand why these people feel this way. It seems to be OK when they fall “in love” or move in with someone, why not me? How can I convince my friends they are wrong? I would appreciate your help.

Answer:

The question of whether or not “it’s love” has been around for a long, long time. Since there is no clear cut definition of love, only you can decide on your own true feelings. Try to be patient with your friends, they are concerned for your happiness and don’t want to see you get hurt. It also sounds like they might be voicing their own fears about relationships. When someone tells you to slow down and voices disapproval toward your plans to live together and to get “married,” they may be voicing their own fears and doubts about commitment to another person. Fear of commitment is not limited to gay men and women, but to everyone. Gay or straight young or old.

Gay marriage is a subject that stirs up concern whenever it comes up. One of the definitions that are given in Webster’s dictionary for the word marriage is, The state of being married or being united by marriage to a person of the opposite sex. While gay marriages are not to persons of the opposite sex, they can still be “united” of two people as one. A commitment to love, share and grow together for the rest of their lives. For some men and women, a marriage ceremony represents the formal beginning of a relationship. The ceremony carries no weight of law, but it can certainly be just as meaningful to the two people involved. It is, a public declaration of both love and commitment — “a uniting.”

The other reason you raise in your letter is about your sudden desirability to others. It’s a lot like an auction. You don’t really notice an article until someone else bids on it. While people are not furniture at an auction the principle is the same. When people see you happy they may suddenly, be aware of how unhappy they are with their own lives. Others will look at your happiness with jealousy. People who are unhappy with their own lives are the first ones to throw stones at those who have found happiness. Beware of these people.

The more you enjoy seeing yourself destroyed, it would reinforce their reason for being unhappy.

If you love each other and want to live together in a “marriage” — do it!!! You must live your own lives and find your own happiness. Love is something very special. When it does happen it must be held very, close and protected so that it can grow into a lifetime.

Dear FFA,

I have noticed that more and more teen-age boys are having their ears pierced. I had always thought that a pierced ear was a visible symbol of being gay, much like

M.C. Compton’s Buffalo’s Newest Bar

by Rod Hensel

A new bar has been added to the gay scene in Buffalo—one that is hoping to attract a mix of both guys and gals as its main clientele.

The name is M.C. Compton’s and it is located at 1239 Niagara Street near Breckenridge. The first night of business was on Sept. 27.

The bar sports a modern and luxurious but not plush) decor, done in shades of black, white, gray and light blue. The bar consists of two rooms connected by a short hallway.

The front room at the entrance features a sit-down bar with table seating for about 40 people. The back room has table seating also, as well as carpeted benches and a high stand-up bar that separates the main room from a game room area.

The stand out feature of the club is the dance floor and sound system, which many first night patrons described as “excellent.” The light show on the dance floor is well designed to accommodate the six to fast and slow music that alternates throughout the evening.

The bar had planned to open a year ago, but was the victim of an arson attack on Oct. 3, 1980. Determined to go ahead with their plans, the owners had to start over from scratch in the rebuilding process. A hand out passed out to patrons on the first night stresses that it wants to be a gay bar for both men and women, noting that, “it’s been a long time since buffalo really had one like it.”

The management is now putting together plans for a “Happy Hour” and special drink feature nights, and will allow regular patrons to sign up for a confidential mailing list that keeps everyone informed of special events planned.

Parking is available all around the bar at businesses closed at night. The area around the bar is well lit so safety should not be a concern.

The owners of M.C. Compton’s are inviting people to “relax, enjoy, feel at home and be sure to come back.”
A Chorus Line—Dance Ten, Looks Three

by Hanford Searl

A Chorus Line
Shea’s Buffalo Theatre
September 22
Tickets: $10-$17 (Harvey & Corky Productions)
Rating: Three Bells

Oke... So, almost each and everyone of us out there is knowledgeable about “A Chorus Line” being this superior musical study about the inside term for any dancer anywhere in this world.

It’s own Tony’s on Broadway, copied a Pulitzer and is undergoing serious, pro-forma adaptation difficulties to the slick Hollywood screen.

And composer Marvin Hamlisch may never top this, his best-ever Great White Way score, which in and of itself is the acu-fal star to the entire two-hour plus show. But for we Buffalonians, not named after the one-time prairie-grazing brass as it is universally thought... but is French for “Beautiful River,” namely the Niagara, have a vested interest since Michael Bennett, who conceived, choreographed and directed it, is from the “Queen City.”

Certainly readers should readily know these factual tidbits being Western New Yorkers, as you’ve been living in here for the last 10 years, no doubt a worse place than Mars.

And, no doubt, we’re all aware that there have been numerous national touring groups sent out herein and your in spreading the impact and financial success of Bennett’s creation.

Well, the cast and crew, which made its way back to the Niagara Frontier for this “Line’s” encore engagement since spring of 1980, was a mostly young, energetic, but inexperienced troupe when compared to the original New York company that opened in Los Angeles during the summer of 1977.

Now, it may be unfair to compare both groups, but that’s how they’re being examined, from which to spring and measure quality, as well as staying power.

As is evidenced opening night, the body (bunhead) of the work survives nicely while the interpretation, thanks to casting, was disastrous and mechanical, forced and average except for the only two, original New York production member. Donn Simon was Zach, the pivotal main character, Depression-era typewriter and, Lois English played Val, the “Tits and Ass” gal.

These two were solid constructs, adding necessary nuances and depth to their respective roles with Ms. English, of the TV commercial spot for “Line,” by far top with her raqsy, almost over-played bit.

When she sang the lyrics about visiting the “wizard at Park and 73rd,” the near SRO audience could easily visualize her swinging into that office eagerly awaiting the additions to her “orchestra and ballet.”

Throughout, she made Val appear real, lovable, genuine in dealing with the pres-sures of auditioning and relating to her fellow linenem. (Yes, there are other types of linenem, just as athletic as pro-footballers. Virginia) Too bad Bennett also didn’t rewrite her role similar to other updated passages in the musical-drama.

Simmone, with much more of a role than Ms. English, provided a no-nonsense approach to his character, dealing out evaluations and judgements to each competing one, Russell Tea also displayed a hint of a human quality when confronting personal feelings about former girlfriend/audition-ee Cassie, played by Leslie Woodies.

Ms. Woodies seemed totally out of her league in recreating the role which propelled Donna McKechnie into instant stardom and Bennett’s life as his eventual wife. Her potential show-stopping “The Music and the Mirror” fell far short of its artistic power coupled with her mediated, non-acting.

Wayne Meledandri, as Paul, the former drag show dancer, possessed surprising depth for an intern from Carnegie-Mellon University and should have established credentials after this touring cast run.

A Pittsburgh native, Meledandri’s Paul was both real, defiant and a survivor, believable in changing his name from a Puerto-Rican background to Italian all for the success of his career.

Still, the most poignant moment in “Line,” Paul’s statement about his father saying, “Take care of my son,” after his parents accidentally catch his drag show act, provides dramatic power that even hushed Shea’s SRO, opening night crowd, which during Paul’s and Bobby’s earlier remarks about being gay, caused some squirming.

For you trivia kids, Bobby as portrayed by San Pepeleo here, is the tall, dark-haired good-looking number that issues Bennett’s loving tip poke at the city about committing suicide in Buffalo as being redundant.

The Chamber of Commerce and the “Talking Proud” campaign will be glad to note mostly a healthy, non-paranoid laughter erupted from some sections, rather than stone silence or resulting boos.

Jan Leigh Herndon’s Sheila was perfect, throwing attitude every which way her blazing red hair would allow as one of the older, wiser auditionees. Her best contribution occurred during the melancholy “At the Ball” number.

The role of Morris, the tough, lovable female PR dancer, was disappointing with Roxo Calaballero’s surface treatment, especially with both her solo effort on “Nothing” and the show’s best-known melody, “What I Did for Love.”

Amongst the entire 28-member cast, which is trimmed down earlier on to the 17 final contenders for the meat of the audition, the only other standouts besides the above-mentioned characters were muscular Kevin Blair as Mike on “I Can Do That” and Christopher Gregory as Mark, the seemingly dumb, all-American kid from Arizona, eager, willing and able to come a Broadway gypsy. (For you trivia buffs again, guess who played the original role of Mike and who his married to right now? Find the answer at the review’s end.)

Bennett’s staging, still a refreshing, precedent-setting design, is best during some of the entire company’s production numbers, namely “I Hope I Get It,” “At the Ballet” and “Hello Twelve, Hello Thirteen, Hello Love.”

His blocking, group flow and segmented slashing is a wonder to the eye and heightens the dramatic sensibility despite the young, inexperienced cast. It acts as a second, solid, unsinkable buoyo to Hamlisch’s memorable score.

Tharon Musser’s lighting was a problem at times, reflecting Shea’s front row balcony tiers off the rear mirror drop and into the eyes of the orchestra section.

Robert Thomas and the 13-member orchestra added admirable accomplishment to the vocally-weak cast, while Abe Jacobs sound found the going rough at Shea’s; a long- overdue, widely-known deterrament to most events staged within the theatre’s venerable core.

For, “A Chorus Line” itself, stands alone amongst the years of smash Broadway plays, musical and innovative pieces, remaining the most viable, current-affairs emotion-changing vehicle in American Theatre history.

Near the show’s finale, Sheila adroitly states, “Everybody in the whole country... Continued on page 10
Of Human Bondage: Nice and Easy Does It

By Captain Kink

Presuming one wishes to be a victim, or victimize someone in a bondage scene, where does one begin? Follow these hints and you are "bound" to have a good time. Start with the hands, which, for basic in- to bondage is all you really need. Rope is sufficient, in any material, although natural fibers are so chic and hemp leaves delicious rope burns on the wrist after a good struggle. For the more genteel, silk scarves may be substituted. The hands may be tied behind the back if the victim is to do any moving around. Crocketting is so much easier this way. They may be tied up over his head if he is to be attached to a pole or beam for, say, a flagging. If bed play is all that is envisioned, one hand may be fast- ened to each bed post. Some men find the struggle erotic and, therefore, prefer a little slack, while others want to be totally re- tained. Control is important, but the first rule of etiquette in bondage is that it should be pleasurable for both. For the more ad- vanced, leather shackles are available in regular or fur lined, for about $25 in Toron- to or N.Y.C. Handcuffs can be found in Buffalo for between $5 and $15. Shackles add an aura of danger and professional to one's dungeon, but handcuffs make a dis- crete fashion statement when hung on one's belt.

After the hands are bound, you may move on to the feet. Feet may be tied to- gether, but standard practice is to spread them apart for easier access to the cock and ass. Leg spreaders are shackles that fasten to the ankles or thighs with an expandable steel prop. They are sometimes tucked into place at the desirable width. Ankle restraints are leather straps that buckle on, with rings that may be attached to other equipment. Now that the body is securely bound, hand and foot, what comes next? Blind- folds are quite popular. You can use the red or blue hacky in your pocket (or gray or black or yellow...). For the real aficiona- do, leather blindfolds with padded eye protectors are available. With a blindfold the element of surprise is heightened. He cannot tell where you are coming from, so what you are sharing with him is unknown to him. This is especially useful for tickling, whipping, or dripping hot wax. You may use the mouth, a gag may not be a good idea, but they are great for eliminating those annoying screams and pleadings. Those hankies come in handy for this too, but you may first wish to shove a dirty sock or jock strap in the mouth. This has a twofold purpose. It is offensive and humilating to the victim, but also, it prevents him from biting his tongue during rough play. For that last reason, ball gags are also popular. They consist of a rubber ball that fits behind the teeth connected to leather straps that tie around the head. If you want to restrict speech, but still utilize the mouth, there are open gags which hold the mouth open but keep both lips closed. A cock will fit nicely, sans sharp teeth, and the mouth can be used as a urinal. Yummy.

Hands, feet, eyes, and mouth cover the basics, but for a truly thrilling bondage scene, it is the options that count. If clamps are the favorite, they come in varying degrees of intensity from "ouch" to "ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh ooh" to "o no, you're killing me.", for beginners clothespins are useful. For the professional, you can add the use of alligator clips. If there are not rubber tipped they can pierce the skin and lead to infection.

The Gay Engagement Calendar 1982

The Gay Engagement Calendar 1982 by MARTIN GREIF

Designed with 56 photographs and drawings of famous men and women in gay history, from legends in our time to striking figures from the past.

Written with 365 daily entries which provide a fresh, sometimes startling, and always witty start to a new day.

Please send me copies of THE GAY ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR 1982.

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The Fifth Freedom's
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.


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 must be typewritten and be available in the above address. Published the first week of each month. Advertising rates on request.

ORGANIZATIONS

MATTACHESE 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, Elmlwood 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, Buffalo, New York 14209. Tel: Tom Hammond, 842-2750. An organization to provide support for gay people in the professions and those who seek a confidential place to meet new friends. Open to all gay men and women.

Fifth Freedom WANT ADS

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


PARENTS AND FRIENDS of GAYS Support Group, Forming. The group will be meeting in Buffalo. We Need The Understanding And Love They Can Provide. Write Jack c/o The Paper.

TRANSVESTITE SUPPORT GROUP Now Forming. Anyone Interested In Cross Dressing and Being With Others Who Like To Do The Same. Please Write, Open To Gay and Non-Gay Cross Dressers. Please Write: Tina Jordan, c/o The Fifth Freedom. If You Request A Written Reply, Please Include A Stamped Self Adressed Envelope. Phone Number Will Get Return Call.

A.A. FOR GAY MEN AND WOMEN, Tel: (814)1108. Meets twice-a-week Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. Shoreline Apts., 210 Niagara Falls, Fridays, 8:30 p.m., Ascension Church, corner Linwood and North. For phone contact, call above number and ask for a member of the gay group, or write: Open Mind Group, P.O. Box 395, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION FOR GAY EXPRESSION (SAGE), 118 Cassedy Hall, State University College at Buffalo, 1300 Elmwood Ave. Tel: 878-6316. Organization for gay men and women at Buffalo State College. Office hours Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Business meetings, Wednesday Noon to 2 p.m.

GAY RIGHTS FOR OLDER WOMEN, Tel: 836-8970. Contact the Emma Bookstore at the above telephone number for additional details.

GAY PEOPLES' ALLIANCE (GPA), 311 Square Hall, State University of New York at Buffalo, 3435 Main St. Office hours Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sponsors coffee house each Friday at 9 p.m. in 107 Townsend Hall (when school is in session). Formerly the Gay Liberation Front.

U.B. MEN'S CENTER, 211 Townsend Hall, State University of New York at Buffalo, 3435 Main Street. A drop-in center for all gay, bi-sexual and straight men. The center is open Monday-Friday from Noon to 5 p.m.

DIGNITY/BUFFALO, P.O. Box 75, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205. Tel: 874-4139. An organization for gay Catholics and Christians.

NICKEL CITY LEATHER/LEVI CLUB, P.O. Box 897 Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York. Contact the above for further information about the group.

COUNTRY FRIENDS, P.O. Box 106, Clarence Center, N.Y. 14032. Gay women's social group which meets outside city. Women of all ages welcome.

GAY AWARENESS ORGANIZATION (GAO), State University of New York at Fredonia, Fredonia, New York 14063. An organization for gay students at SUNY Fredonia. Meets 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, lambda jewelry.


BARS AND RESTAURANTS

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

THE BETSY, 454 Pearl St., Buffalo. Tel: 885-8902.

DOMINIQUE'S, 20 Allen St., Buffalo. Tel: 886-8694.

M.C. Compton's, 1239 Niagara St. Near Breezeway.

VILLA CAPELLI, 926 Main St., Buffalo. Tel: 885-9469.

OUT-OF-TOWN

BLUE BOYS, 520 Niagara St., Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14060.


LITZ BORDON'S, 3412 W. 12th St., Erie, Pa. Tel: (814) 833-4360.

BIG MIKE'S CAFE, 201 Winsor St., Jamestown, New York. Tel 483-5267.

BATHS

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

MORGAN BATHS, 665 Main St., Buffalo. Tel: 855-2153.

Lottery Tickets Can Win Money for Mattachine Mattachine has joined in a program called Cashback, which utilizes lottery tickets that are not winners in the regular game. The tickets are entered in special drawings held periodically and can mean funds to help support our game. If you or your friends please send them to us c/o the paper. Or you can purchase them at Comucopia, 569 Delaware at Al- len, and just leave the losers with them. Thanks.

Blue Boy Product Labels Can Mean Cash For Us The Blue Boy Company that produces canned fruits and vegetables has started a program that can earn non-profit groups, like Mattachine, dividends for labels from their products. If you use these items, please remove the labels, no cans please, and send them to us for redemption. The more we raise the better.

At the present they are paying 5¢ per can label. Thanks for your support.
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7:30 - 10:30 p.m.
SKATE HAVEN, 1830 ABBOTT RD., LACKAWANNA

$3 AT THE DOOR
PRIZES FOR BEST COSTUMES AND OUTFITS
CHILDREN FREE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26
7:30 - 10:30 p.m.

FREE PRIZES FURNISHED BY LOCAL MERCHANTS
INCLUDING THE CORNUCOPIA ALLEH RESTAURANT
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IF YOU DON'T WANT TO WEAR A COSTUME — FEEL FREE TO COME ANYWAY!
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YOU STILL MIGHT WIN!!!
You still might win!!!

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A Publication for the Buffalo Gay Community

OCTOBER 1981

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