

# GAY 50¢

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## Ex-Heavyweight Boxer Attacks Gays At Hilton Dinner

### Police Ignore Melee City Officials To Testify

BY VICKI RICHMAN

New York, N.Y., April 15 Saturday night at the New York Hilton. A night for the beautiful people, a night to swing. John V. Lindsay was on the guest list. So were most of his administration. The publisher of *The New York Times* was there. Also the City Council, including Michael DeMarco, the energetic opponent of gay legislation, and Carter Burden, a supporter of gay rights, with all his Kennedy-style glamor.

Twenty-five members of the Gay Activists Alliance made the scene, too.

But at least eight gays were forced to bow out a bit earlier than they may have liked. An unexpected appointment with the doctor was made for them, and two are now threatened with partial loss of eyesight.

April 15 at 53rd Street and Sixth Avenue, surrounded by New York's Finest. "Saturday, bloody Saturday," as one activist put it.

"God, how I hate those bastards!"

Michael Maye, president of the labor union representing New York's uniformed firemen, and a City-salaried mem-



Michael Maye



Jim Owles



Morty Manford

ber of the Fire Department himself, was reported to have made that comment about homosexuals before he allegedly pushed a policeman out of the way in order to knock Morty Manford, a gay leader at Columbia University, to the ground and kick him repeatedly in the groin.

"No kick exactly, but stomp five or six times with his heel," a high city official there corrected for Judith Michaelson, a reporter with the *New York Post*. Mr. Maye was another of the beautiful people who managed to make it to the annual dinner of the Inner Circle, the exclusive club representing New York's most prestigious political journalists.

In addition to Mr. Maye, numerous tuxedo-clad, shouting assailants were seen, all of whom appeared to be invited guests. The witnesses, who include both

activists and city officials, also accused members of the Hilton staff.

The most seriously injured were Jim Owles, former president of GAA, Rich Wandel, the current GAA president and GAY's one-time news editor, and a young homosexual who has concealed his real name to protect his policeman-brother. Each was kicked or punched in an eye, and the state of their vision remained in doubt at press time. Rich Wandel has a possible skull fracture. John Vouriotis, Allen Ross, and Rockefeller University Professor Bruce Voeller, chairperson of the State and Federal Committee, suffered minor injuries.

"Someone behind me said, 'You're not demanding anything,' and threw me down the escalator." Morty Manford was explaining to Ms. Michaelson why he was unable to effect Maye's arrest at the time

of the alleged assault. The *Post* reporter, who gave New Yorkers the only complete and unbiased account in the media of the bloodbath that splashed over the tinsel of the city's most glittering political and social luminaries, quoted a city official who observed Mr. Manford on the ground at 54th Street with eyes glazed, an "enormous lump on his head," unable to focus, moaning and trembling, before he was taken to St. Luke's Hospital.

When another gay called for the attacker's arrest, a police sergeant was reported as saying, "I'm not arresting Michael Maye on the say-so of you creeps."

Two days later Mr. Manford was able to swear out a complaint against Mr. Maye at the West 54th Street Station. Leonard Cohen, Deputy Borough President of Manhattan, and two of his colleagues will identify Mr. Maye in court, as GAA presses both civil and criminal actions against New York's top firefighter.

Mr. Maye was reported out of town immediately after the beatings and unavailable for comment.

"It's so symbolic," Dr. George Weinberg said when he heard about the injuries to Mr. Manford's genitals. "That's their solution—kick them in the groin, wipe them all out!"

Leading the courtroom battle is Ronald Thomas, the chairperson of the Legal Action Committee of GAA, who avers

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## A Albany March Starts With Times Square Kiss-Off

### Cold Winds Whip 1,000 Protesters

BY JOHN F. LeROY

Albany, New York. A second Albany march in hopes of demonstrating support for pro-gay legislation pending before the New York State Legislature was held on April 14, culminating on the steps of the State Capitol building. Last year, when a similar march was held, over three thousand gays from all over New York State

turned out in mid-March, when snow was still on the ground. This time, between eight hundred and a thousand were assembled for a show of support, and of these, over two-thirds were from the New York City area.

Six buses left Union Square in New York City on a raw, bleak, overcast Saturday morning, around 9 a.m. Heartened by warm and sunny weather the day before, most of the New York City gays dressed for spring, sporting bright body shirts,

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Kiss-Off in Times Square for those who walked to Albany



The Albany marchers braved cold winds

Photos by Eric Stephen Jacobs

## N.Y. Democratic Delegates Organize



Steve Ostrow

BY JOHN F. LeROY

New York, N.Y. A newly-formed organization, Gay Independent Voters for Equality (GIVE), held a special meeting and cocktail party at Danny's bar in the Village on April 18 in order to get enough petitions signed and enough money raised to enable a full slate of gay delegates to be entered on the ballot of the June Democratic primary. Dan Tuite, the principal organizer, invited over a hundred and fifty bar owners, boutique entrepreneurs, and other managers of pro-gay businesses in hope of enlisting their cooperation in putting up posters in their places of business, placing contribution canisters, and circulating petitions for signatures.

About fifty people showed up, fifteen of whom were bar owners. Five hundred dollars was collected, and those bar owners who agreed to participate became, in effect, ward bosses. Instead of the usual doorbell ringing, patrons would be asked to sign petitions and make contributions.



Michael Giammetta

The slate of gay candidates includes Michael Giammetta, publisher of *Michael's Thing*, a weekly entertainment guide for gays; Enid Gerling, a female lawyer with a famous reputation for getting gays caught with their pants down in parks and tea-rooms acquitted; Jim Owles, former GAA President; Steve Ostrow, owner of the Continental Baths; Daniel Tuite, writer of several gay erotic books for Olympia and organizer of the campaign; Joseph J. Kennedy, a GAA member chosen mainly for having the namesake of the Kennedy family; and James "Pat" McGarry, a famous drag queen well beloved by the local Alcoholics Anonymous.

Tuite, a prime mover behind the drive for a strong contingent of gay convention delegates, first became active when he received a letter from Common Cause, a national "straight" organization devoted to the encouragement of greater political participation among the general populace. Tuite is a member. The letter gave in-

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setting of "Our revels now are ended" from *The Tempest*. (Don't worry how that got in there—it did.) Emily Adams and Don Nute reappear as Grandmother and sociology student in a funny little scene with the coach.

But it's Margaret Writth who fairly walks off with the show as Miss Loomis (also from the first play), the sexually frustrated maiden aunt type who makes a public spectacle of herself by inviting the star player to shoot the ball—into her. She has a song, "I'm Peculiar That Way," which is funny and touching without being syrupy.

*A Look at the Fifties* is a damn fine evening. I hope it can be moved somewhere for an extended run, although I realize such a large cast will make that difficult. Somebody think of something!

(DANIEL)

## Ex-heavy weight Attacks Gays

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that the "top civil-liberties legal talent of the United States" have taken up the case. But as yet no one but Mr. Maye has been accused. "For two hours," Mr. Thomas told GAY, "I demanded—I pleaded—that the assailants be arrested, or at least be identified. The police did nothing, except refuse to admit us back to the hotel. They made it difficult for us to pick the attackers out, but we'll find 'em."

Joseph Faman of WABC, the president of the Inner Circle, told Mr. Michaelson, "I saw no blood... The Inner Circle was not in any way involved. We were running a private affair, and they had no business coming in."

But Mr. Thomas insisted to GAY that the activists were invited in by some of the invited guests, whom he did not name, who were outraged by the offensive portrayal of homosexuals in a skit staged by reporters, one of whom was in drag. (A year ago Bella Abzug walked out when a male journalist attempted to impersonate her.)

"All we were doing was going into explain our side," said Mr. Thomas, who, in the role of legal observer, was himself kicked and pushed. "I've never seen such a violent reaction. The hatred in some people's hearts is just frightening. These were members of the liberal media—of the left-wing Eastern establishment, as Spiro Agnew phrases it."

For GAA, the attack was the climax of a series of indignities they accuse the mass media of perpetrating. Two weeks earlier, several activists were roughly handled, and three arrested, at the office of the *Daily News*, where they were protesting an editorial calling homosexuals "swishes, fairies and lezzies."

Mayor Lindsay, who did not include himself among the witnesses, deplored the attack and called for an immediate investigation of police for their alleged inaction. Councilman Eldon Clingan said he would bring the issue before the Council if no results were forthcoming. Congresswoman Bella Abzug and Congressman Edward Koch also voiced their outrage.

Councilman DeMarco, however, chose not to comment to the press on the violence he was alleged to have been witness to. But his reticence has only now become apparent. When gays loudly asked for their rights in the Council chambers, for example, Mr. DeMarco showed no reluctance at all in boldly denouncing their lack of manners.

"Michael Maye should not and must

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## Ex-heavy weight

not remain immune from arrest," Mr. Thomas said. "We will not stand for selective enforcement of the law. We're demanding that the District Attorney begin an immediate investigation."

Despite his pessimism, Mr. Thomas characterized the incident as "the most important in the history of GAA. It has all sorts of political repercussions, and it has brought all segments of the gay community together," including Mattachine and the Church of the Beloved Disciple. Mr. Thomas estimates the legal and medical expenses at \$20,000, which he says can be raised only by voluntary contributions.

"GAA has been a nonviolent, political organization," Mr. Thomas summed up. "We've tried to educate our opponents by picketing and leafleting. But violence has been repeatedly perpetrated on us. Whether we will remain nonviolent is a question that will come up at the next meeting."

## Albany March

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tight thin levis, and snug denim jackets. Separatism between the gay men and the gay women was manifest as the women demanded and got a special bus of their own, but it wasn't large enough to hold all the lesbians. Periods of rain were encountered as the caravan of buses rolled out of the Lincoln Tunnel, through the New Jersey Turnpike, and onto the New York State Thruway, stopping at a restaurant just outside of Newburgh. There, the local tourists were astonished, bewildered, and overwhelmed by the unexpected invasion of several hundred gay libbers.

Upon entering the Albany city limits, the caravan was nearly broken up as a few of the bus drivers temporarily got lost trying to find the parking lot across from the education building of the State University of New York at Albany. When all the passengers had arrived, disembarked, and congregated on the plaza of the campus, a cold raw wind sent most of the demonstrators indoors, shivering.

Out they came again once the march got mobilized, placards being torn by the wind, banners nearly carrying away their bearers, and the transvestites makeup almost caking on their faces. Nevertheless, the enthusiasm could not be chilled. Gay power cheers and chants resounded through the streets of the sleepy dreary capital. As the marchers turned onto the main street that led to the capitol building, local townfolk expressed the usual astonishment. Ladies at a local beauty parlor came out from under their dries to gape.

A parked motorist had to wait in frustration before he could get his car out, for this time the gays were permitted to use the streets under police escort. Last year they were confined to the sidewalks. A few right-on counter-culturalists waved their approval, but declined offers to join the marchers. A truck, a few buses, and several rows of cars were the substance of a minor traffic jam that piled up behind the demonstrators. The lesbians were mostly at the front; mixed crowds were in the center and rear, highlighted by the clergy of the Church of the Beloved Disciple, their long purple robes flowing in the wind, with Father Clement wearing a long white robe with a gold trim.

No hostile gangs mobilized, nor were the police anything less than dutiful.