Coors appeals federal court ruling

By Dion B. Sanders
Via GPA Wire Service

San Francisco — The Adolph Coors Co. has filed an appeal to a federal judge’s decision dismissing a $145,000 anti-trust suit it filed against leaders of a six-year-old boycott of Coors beer, it was disclosed late last month.

At the same time, the company has filed a separate lawsuit against boycott leaders Howard Wallace and David Sickler in state court.

The company filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court here to overturn a ruling by U.S. District Court Judge Spencer Williams that threw out Coors’ suit charging that Wallace, Northern California coordinator of the AFL-CIO Coors Boycott Committee, intimidated violence against San Francisco public-TV station KQED, if it went through with plans “Coors Day” during its annual fundraising auction in 1981.

Williams, who is also an agent for Solidarity, a local lesbian/gay labor organization, and Sickler, national coordinator of the boycott committee, were named as co-defendants in the state suit, filed March 8 in Superior Court in Los Angeles, where Sickler resides.

Sickler named a defendant in the federal lawsuit, was not named in the state litigation.

The latest legal actions come on the heels of controversy surrounding reports that William Coors, chairman and chief executive officer of the company, made “insensitive” and “insulting” remarks about blacks.

In a speech before 110 minority business owners to a minority business development conference in Denver February 3, Coors said that blacks “lack the intellectual capacity to succeed,” according to the daily Rocky Mountain News. The News quoted Coors as saying that “one of the best things that (slave traders) did for you (blacks) was to drag your ancestors over here in chains.”

The newspaper headlined its story “Coors Calls Blacks ‘Intellec­ tual’ Inferiors.” Almost immediately, black leaders in Denver and Los Angeles called for a black community boycott of Coors.

Robert Carroll, a partner in the law firm of Mittler, Mendelson, Fastiff and Tichy — which represents Coors in the Bay Area — charged that Coors and KQED had signed a legal contract to raise funds for the station for 13 hours (“Coors Day”), and in fact, there were already informational pickets “Coors Day, and in fact, there were already informational pickets.

Carroll sharply disagreed with Judge Williams’ ruling, which held that in accordance with a 1983 U.S. Supreme Court decision, the defendant against Coors was constitutionally protected.

The high court ruled in NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware that a 1979-82 boycott of white-owned stores in Mississippi by blacks to protest job discrimination against them by the stores, was a legitimate form of redress of grievances, protected by the First Amendment.

In a strongly-worded, 22-page decision, Judge Williams branded Coors’ charges of the boycotters committing restraint of trade in violation of anti-trust laws “far-fetched” and an “unwarranted expansion in anti-trust theory.”

Carroll, however, told GPA that contrary to Williams’ ruling, “There is a difference between boycotting stores that refuse to hire blacks, and destroying a contract between two business parties.”

At the same time, the company has filed a separate lawsuit against Coors for breach of contract, Carroll said that “KQED apologized adversely to Coors, saying that the station was receiving threats by Howard Wallace of violent action against the station, and thus felt they had no choice but to cancel “Coors Day.”

KQED, however, told GPA that as far as he could recall, “there were conversations back and forth (between the station and Coors). The union had threatened to picket our (auction) studios (at the Cow Palace) on Coors Day, and in fact, there were already informational pickets there.

Waggoner added that “given the circumstances, Coors told us ‘we don’t have to do this Coors Day, it would cause problems for you,’ to which we said that it would be best for both parties not to put it on.”

A griming Governor Deukmejian joked, poked fun at Democrats, and clapped time to his veto of Gay Rights Bill AB-1, while pickets demonstrated outside the convention hall.

For photos and report, see page 2.

A coalition of Lesbians/Gay political organizations called on the Democratic Party last week to affirm the “fundamental right of (Gay men and Lesbians) to be involved in the decisions that af­ fect our lives.”

Virginia M. Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, addressing the Democratic Party Platform Committee in Washington, D.C., discussed the issues of concern to the Gay/Lesbian community in the 1984 election campaign. She spoke on behalf of 84 and Counting, the coalition that includes NAGTF, the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs, the Human Rights Cam­ paign Fund, the National Coalition of Black Gays, and the Gay Rights National Lobby.

Apuzzo told the platform committee, “in this campaign, our agenda includes not only pro­ tection against anti-Gay/Lesbian bias in the public and private sec­ tors, but also the broader questions of access to the govern­ ment that represents us, inclusion in the government’s decision- making process, and responsive­ ness to the larger concerns we face as a minority group and as a community.”

Among the issues outlined in the statement were:

• The next president should be committed to signing an execu­ tion against Gays and Lesbians from enter­ ing the United States, and to produ­ ing immigration reform that is fair to all (groups).

• (The health care system) needs to be restructured so it can more quickly respond to health emergencies (such as AIDS).

• A thorough overhaul of existing immigration law is essential to elim­ inate the exclusion of Gay men and Lesbians from enter­ ing the United States, and to pro­ duce) immigration reform that is fair to all (groups).

Among the issues outlined in the statement were:

• Extending the civil rights pro­ tections granted in the 1964 Civil Rights Act to include Gay men and Lesbians remains a major priority.

• The next president should be committed to signing an execu­ tion against Gays and Lesbians from enter­ ing the United States, and to produ­ ing immigration reform that is fair to all (groups).

• The half of our community that is female is doubly affected by discrimination. …We join the women’s community in urging the (Democratic) Party to con­
Gay rights demonstrators, Republicans rally in Santa Clara
By Ted Salt

The target for the demonstra­
tion was the Governor's Election
Office, where the Governor was
spending the day making a speech
at a Republican fund-raiser.

Gay rights demonstrators, led by
a group of activists, picketed the
Governor's office, demanding that
he sign legislation which would give
Gay and Lesbian citizens the right
to marry.

The Governor refused to sign the
legislation, and the demonstrators
remained outside his office for over
three hours, chanting slogans and
holding signs that read, "Gay and
Lesbian rights now!"

The event was organized by the
San Jose Gay Rights Coalition and
the Santa Clara County Republican
Party.

The demonstrators were
joined by members of the San Jose
Gay and Lesbian community, as
well as supporters from across the
state.

The demonstration was peaceful,
with no incidents reported.

Gay rights demonstrators, Republicans rally in Santa Clara
Bakersfield

Continued From Page 1

to the Gay and Lesbian community. There is a definite feeling that for the first time in a long time a positive, supportive, and open environment is being offered to everyone. This is not just for people who are gay or lesbian, but for anyone who feels excluded or marginalized. There is a sense of hope and possibility that things can change for the better.

For example, the Bakersfield Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Rights is a group of individuals who are working to promote equality and acceptance for the LGBTQ+ community. They are promoting education, awareness, and support for the LGBTQ+ community in Bakersfield.

The Bakersfield Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Rights is a great organization and it is important to support them. They are doing important work to promote equality and acceptance for the LGBTQ+ community in Bakersfield. It is important to support them and their work.

I hope that you will consider supporting the Bakersfield Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Rights and their important work. They are making a difference and their work is needed more than ever.
Review

San Jose Rep's first foray into cabaret style entered "In and Out of Love... Again" is a three piece combo of bass, percussion and sax. Many in the audience seemed bored. The evening was started in high spirits with a three piece combo of bass, percussion and sax. Many in the audience seemed bored. The only real standout of the lot is Vincent Servinetti who has a most interesting face and a big smile. He moves like a dream and makes the most of the repetitive nature of the score. Llew Logan has a pleasant voice and charming smile. He moves well but doesn't make enough music to keep the audience interested. His songs are elegantly dressed in black tuxedos. Kahl Faye is paired with Servinetti in the "pains" of the review. Her voice is full and strong, but her songs lack a bit of rhythm and style. Her repertoire is not as varied as the others and it is surprising how her biography credits her with a strong background in music design.

Kathryn Nymon is in Kopp's corner and she is weakest of the four. Her voice is limited in range and quality, and she has a tendency to hold the score too low. Her interpretive style is Python, off-putting, and she lacks a sound on. Her voice is ungrammatical and her acting is weak. Her ensemble work does little to improve her performance. She is a miserable around the clock of the show. Llew Logan is dubiously decorated. Some of her songs are abbreviated to a single line or two, and some have an explosively long orchestral passages which leave the singers wondering about anything.

The choreography by Davis is unsatisfying. Lemos picks up the show, but it is not strong enough to win the crowd's attention. The musical is performed appears in the single sheet program. Most of the audience is too young to remember these songs except as movie tunes and composers are mostly lived.

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Cynthia Lembroth is Claudia Dupper who is being explored for a return to the stage for the first time since leaving "The Music Man." Her voice is full and strong, but her songs lack a bit of rhythm and style. Her repertoire is not as varied as the others and it is surprising how her biography credits her with a strong background in music design.

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Claudja Barry at Desperados

Claudja Barry at Desperados is a small but busy ring. The crowd is electric and the atmosphere is tense. The show features a few of Claudia Dupper's best numbers, but the consistency is lacking. The audience is too young to remember these songs except as movie tunes and composers are mostly lived.

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Gay/Lesbian Psychotherapy  
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The report, which was published in the Feb. 16 issue of The Sentinel, stated that Rolfsen had asked for a priest to deliver last rites before dying of a liver ailment.

"Perhaps I should tell the public that I have been mislabeled or resurrected," laughed Rolfsen when he read the news of his demise.

"This is just one more incident in a long series of harassments directed against myself and the GALA organization. I'm used to it by now."

Rolfsen, 70, founded GALA in 1978 to provide "a safe forum where Gay and Lesbian activists could meet and exchange and disseminate ideas."

The group worked to remove the stigmas that it feels religion places on Lesbians and Gays, and to promote "the complete and absolute separation of state and church."

While Rolfsen holds no official position in the organization now, he still volunteers much of his time in dealing with the group's correspondence and helping to publish the bi-monthly magazine GALA Review.

"I'm pleased with what the organization has accomplished," says Rolfsen. "The San Francisco Chapter, especially, is an inspiration with its educational outreach and DIAL-AN-ATHIEST telephone messages."

"Nationally, we are attracting more and more members and are stronger than ever before. The Gay Atheist organization in Washington, D.C., "GAWD," has recently decided to become affiliated with our group.

"So you see, it will take more than my death to put an end to GALA. Anyway, I want everyone to know that I'm not dead. I'm still kicking!"

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**AIDS study seeks participants**

San Francisco — University of California researchers are attempting to understand the causes and transmission of AIDS, are searching for men who are or who have had sex with other men, but who have never swayed or anally received semen. By giving simple, safe blood tests to these men and analyzing the blood samples, they may be able to understand the transmissibility of certain viral agents.

Participants will be asked to go to the University of California, San Francisco to have their blood samples taken. Participants will be paid for their time.

Anyone who meets this description or who knows somebody who does should contact Frank Baumgartner, RN, NP, Coordinator of the Kaposi's Sarcoma Clinic at UCSF, (415) 666-1407.