Gay rights supporters score victory at CSEA convention

By Rosalie Nichols

Martha O'Connell and Melissa Miller, removed from their positions as chapter officers following their publication of a newsletter article supporting gay rights, have won reinstatement at the California State Employees Association (CSEA) annual conference, according to their attorney Bruce W. Nickerson.

O'Connell also succeeded in regaining her seat as a delegate and introducing an amendment to the CSEA constitution adding sexual orientation to the list of non-discrimination categories. The amendment passed at the conference held in Anaheim Nov. 16-19.

O'Connell and Miller, vice-president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of the San Jose State University CSEA chapter 307, were removed from office by chapter members in October after publishing an article in the chapter newsletter supporting AB-1 and lamenting Gov. Deukmejian's veto of the statewide gay rights bill.

Gay leaders to intervene in S.F. restaurant strike

The Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance announced at press time that a news conference was planned for Dec. 3 at the Department of Store Employees Union in San Francisco.

A broad range of gay/lesbian community leaders were scheduled to address issues of the bitter 3-month-long restaurant strike, the role of Mayor Feinstein, and plans for lesbian/gay candidates.

Among those scheduled to attend were: S.F. Supervisor Harry Britt; Sal Rosselli, president of Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club; Carole Migden, president of Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club; Paul Bovease and Leslie Manning of Stonewall Gay Democratic Club; Cleve Jones, aide to Assemblyman Art Agnos; Howard Wallace, chair of the Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance; Pat Norman, attorney John Wahl, and others. Charles Lash, president of Local 2's striking restaurant workers, was expected to participate.

New Statistics on AIDS Cases

Researchers at the national Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia reported that AIDS cases are up 74 percent from the number last year and will probably go up again in 1983, according to an item in the San Jose Mercury News.

The CDC stated that 73 percent of those people diagnosed before 1983 as having AIDS are dead.

The CDC reported late last month that 6,993 cases of AIDS had been reported; 3,342, or 48 percent, have died.

"We should expect the cases to continue to increase for the next year," said Dr. James Curran, director of the CDC AIDS task force.

So far this year, 3,821 cases of AIDS have been reported in this country — up 74 percent from the same time last year. More than 86 percent of all AIDS cases have been reported in the last two years.

O'Connell, a longtime Republican activist, founded a chapter of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (CRIR) in 1980 and represented that organization at a Forum discussing local gay rights Measures A & B on the ballot that year.

O'Connell was also named editor of the CSEA chapter newsletter Forum earlier this year following publication of her bylined article, "One More River to Cross."

The newsletter containing the article was sent to the printers over the objection of chapter president Vicky Martinez. The executive board then restructured the newsletter operation, removing O'Connell, Miller, and a third woman.

O'Connell and Miller charge the executive board with "censorship;" the board has charged the two women with misuse of funds, neglect of duty, harassment of officers and attempting to usurp authority.

Attorney Nickerson took the case to court in October and won an order for a hearing on the issue. Nickerson is currently attempting to bring the case under the auspices of Gay Rights Advocates, a tax-exempt organization.

Gay activist sues Moral Majority's Jerry Falwell

The Rev. Jerry Falwell, founder of the Moral Majority, has been sued for $3,000 in a dispute over statements he made about a predominantly gay church, according to a UPI story appearing in the San Jose Mercury Dec. 2.

The Sacramento Municipal Court suit filed last day of November by Jerry Sloan of Sacramento, a former Baptist Bible College classmate of Falwell's, stemmed from a $3,000 challenge made by Falwell to Sloan on a Sacramento television show last July.

Sloan asked Falwell about statements made on another television show in March about the Metropolitan Community Churches. Sloan, a gay activist, said the membership of the churches is 90 percent gay and lesbian.

Falwell denied making the statements, according to UPI, and said on the Sacramento television show that he would give Sloan $3,000 if he could produce a tape of him making the statements. Sloan said he later produced the tape but Falwell refused his request for the money.
Are the Gay Community's Political Leaders in Danger of Becoming Uncle Toms?

By Joseph Di Salvo

A large measure of the gay community's political leaders' focus is on the media and the image of themselves. They are afraid of being seen as anything other than the image they would ideally like to portray. This is a natural response, but it can also lead to a lack of accountability and a failure to address the real issues that matter. Many political leaders deny this, pointing to the greater advantage in an election that they can no longer see the real issues. They are afraid of being seen as anything other than their image. This is a natural response, but it can also lead to a lack of accountability and a failure to address the real issues that matter.

As a result, our movement is in danger of being diverted, and our leaders are in danger of being diverted. The greatest advantage in an election is often the greatest advantage in an election. But as a result, our movement is in danger of being diverted, and our leaders are in danger of being diverted.

However, the problem is not with the leaders. The problem is with the movement. The leaders are in danger of being diverted, and our movement is in danger of being diverted.

The re-election of openly gay Congressman Gerry Studds in Massachusetts and the victory of Senator Jackson in New Jersey shows that the gay community can turn out for our cause. With few exceptions, the times have admitted, that this is the case. But as a result, our movement is in danger of being diverted, and our leaders are in danger of being diverted.

In general, the ability of the gay community to turn out for the "gay vote" in elections to anti-gay tactics is marginalized. With few exceptions, the times have admitted, that this is the case. But as a result, our movement is in danger of being diverted, and our leaders are in danger of being diverted.

In the current situation, we are in danger of being diverted, and our leaders are in danger of being diverted. With few exceptions, the times have admitted, that this is the case. But as a result, our movement is in danger of being diverted, and our leaders are in danger of being diverted.

We certainly do not have the visibility or influence on the national political stage that other civic groups, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, have. Did Mondale perceive our support to be too important that he would support those other groups? For the first time in 44 years, the Democratic Party and the presidential and vice-presidential candidates adopted a strategy that directly confronted the political, social, and religious bigots who excluded, scorned, and oppressed gays.

One Paper it published by Our Projects, Inc., a division of the Gay Press Association, and the National Gay News Agency announced the new strategy on the New Right:

"We are not the New Right. We are a movement that is growing, that is gaining strength, that is gaining visibility, that is gaining influence, and that is gaining power. We are a movement that is growing, that is gaining strength, that is gaining visibility, that is gaining influence, and that is gaining power."

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Out of the shadows...  
David DeLong: publicist  
Part II

Understanding, perhaps, best describes the Part One part of our David DeLong profile. The freeform publicist from the shadows, remembering only those early days perhaps a few years earlier, an information that centered on the one-time-endorser of Jimme, the famous San Jose State University basketball player. Jimme was the person who introduced me to the world of public relations, and I remember him looking at me and saying, "I think we can do a lot together." I was 21 years old, and he was in his early 30s. We started working with Jimme, then with other clients, and we formed our own public relations firm. It was a wonderful experience, and I learned a lot.

We discovered that Jimme was a great basketball player, but he was also a great public speaker. He knew how to talk to people and how to make them laugh. He was a natural at speaking in public, and he was very good at it. I learned a lot from him, and I still use those skills today.

Over the years, we have worked with many different clients, from local businesses to national companies. We have done everything from public relations to crisis management. We have worked with politicians, celebrities, and even some of the biggest brands in the world.

I have learned so much from my time with David DeLong, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with him. He is a true professional, and I have the highest respect for him.

David DeLong continues, "I still love my job. I love helping people to get their message across. I love seeing the impact that we have on our clients. It is a rewarding experience, and I am grateful for the opportunity to do it every day."
After a six-month whirlwind courtship, Yvonne and Sandy Shneck had their moment to make it official. They were married on October 19th at the home of Martha and Gerry White-Garza. Doreen Tbiney, Dr. to live Happily ever after in San Jose with the 12 cup coffee maker.

Mid-week — 7:30 pm Thanda)

EQUITY / San Jose is encouraging its members to nominating candidates to serve as member of its Board of Directors beginning in October, 1984. NGTF board requires an equal number of men and women on the Board and a maximum of 30 percent Third World representation.

The NGTF Board is composed of dynamite in a working body, as well as an advocacy voice. Candidates are sought who have professional experience and personal skills that will further the goals of NGTF; they should be prepared to commit the time and energy necessary. Any person interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors may submit an application by January 15, 1985 to Peter Fowler, Nominating Committee Chair, NGTF, 80 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011.

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continued from Page 2

The risk of political embarrassment is read by less than 5% of the country's gay population.

Most important, and because of this lack of self-interest before civil rights activism, in the face of an incredibly significant battle on gay rights, the Jews during the rise of the Religious Right and the rhetoric of the Moral Majority, even the most favorable and specific gay rights issues, is read by less than 5% of the country's gay population.

Moreover, due to this lack of support for gay rights activism, the kind of coverage gay people who are still in the closet need if they are to have any meaningful voice in the national political conversation have been afforded the kind of coverage afforded to AIDS activists. In 1977, AIDS activists, and those who are part of AIDS activism, were comforted to Mondale's campaign, in the face of an incredibly significant battle on gay rights.

The two gay and lesbian issues are important battles over the past six years that are good for the gay community and, therefore, good to stretch the limits, just to see what they really are; but from the inside, things can be extra special, since it represents the recognition of the issues we've been talking about.

So, it's simpler than you think.

Three Times for $5.00!

To say Happy Holidays! OUR PAPER offers its readers an opportunity to place a classified ad for three consecutive issues for only $5.00. Ad is limited to 25 words

For Sale

Come to Daddy: Boy to boy.

For Sale

Roommate: Moving December 15. Have furnace, water, electric.

For Sale

Wanted

Lightning: Wanted.

Wanted

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Gay Adventists seek to make Stonewall historic landmark

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The organization, which supports gay and lesbian Adventists which was formed in 1976 to help gay members of the conservative denomination integrate their sexual orientation with their Christianity, has no affiliation with the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

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