

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away."

Henry David Thoreau



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The votes are in—and Mr. Drummer '86 joins the company of past winners as the Leather Fraternity pulls out all the stops at the big leather event of the year.

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Cover: Mike Murry, Mr. Drummer '86, bares his all for us in a photo by Drummer photographer Joe Altman.

Opposite: The new Mr. Drummer, aided and abetted by a group of regional Mr. Drummers, attack Mr. Drummerboy backstage. Photo by Robert Pruzan.

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GETTING OFF

We have just received press releases urging all gay and lesbian (lesbians can't be gay?) leaders and elected officials to urge all gays to call the Executive Office of the White House about the newest Justice Department opinion that encourages employers to engage in homophobic actions toward employees who carry antibodies to the AIDS virus. July was designated "MAKE THE PRESIDENT AWARE MONTH." As sincere and as worthwhile as this appeal may be intended, we feel the obligation to make a few remarks here before we encourage you to call whoever answers the phones at 1-202-456-7639 in Washington.

Kids, there may be a hell of a lot that Ronald Reagan isn't aware of, but the Justice Department ain't one of them. It is no coincidence that he has just appointed one of the most ultraconservative judges possible to the position of Chief Justice, then replaced him with an even worse one on the bench, any more than Vice President Bush's idea to go around sucking up to Jerry Falwell and the Christian Crazies.

The pro-Georgia sodomy law decision was made because of Reagan's Supreme Court appointees and just as Chief Justice Burger is being eased out because he isn't the 200% right-winger that the people who paid to get Reagan elected want.

The President is very aware, just as we are going to soon be, of the continual damage to the hard-fought progress made in the past twenty years in the area of our civil rights and job protection.

Forcing Edwin Meese through as the most outrageous Attorney General since John Mitchell was Reagan's doing. Meese's pornography crusade is going to do immense damage to the First Amendment to the Constitution. Meese's puppets are soon going to be telling you what you can read and bookstores all over the country what they can sell. It has already started. If you want to make a phone call or write a letter, direct it to Southland Corporation, 2828 N. Haskell Ave., Dallas, TX 75204, and tell them what you think of their throwing *Playboy* and *Penthouse*, two of the most literate magazines on the American scene, out of their stores when they caved in to Mr. Meese's and Jerry Falwell's demands.

Call the President, if it makes you feel any better. If you voted for Reagan, you are morally obligated to do so. Better yet, send a couple of bucks to the ACLU who is fighting this battle for you and then subscribe to *Playboy* and/or *Penthouse*. They are suing the government at the moment, we are happy to report.

—John H. Embry