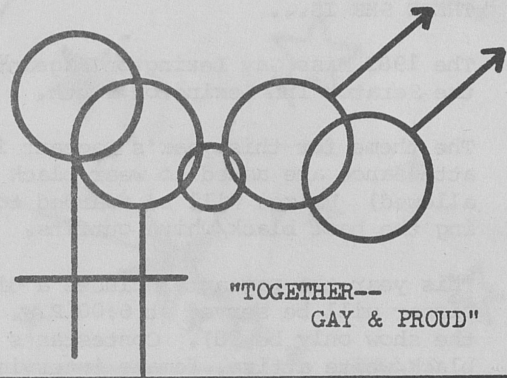


# GSO NEWSLETTER

LEXINGTON GAY SERVICES ORGANIZATION  
POST OFFICE BOX 11471  
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40511



SEPTEMBER 1983

## Presidential Message

Keith Elston, President

For the past several months, I have been pushing toward more media attention for the gay community. I have received many congratulations but I have also received many complaints. Many feel that by pushing GSO and the gay community as a whole out into the open, I am at the very least making them feel uncomfortable attending GSO gatherings and, at the most, endangering their reputations, their jobs, and even their lives. Though I respect their right to have these feelings, I have to respond by saying that they are largely unfounded feelings.

During the recent Gay Pride observance I was told that a number of people refused to attend because they were afraid of being seen and/or harrassed. Gay Pride Week was, despite these people, a major success. There was only one incident (of a person driving by with his girlfriend waving a rather limp wrist at us) that could even vaguely be considered harrassment. That was the first incident which has ever occurred in the more than nine years that GSO has been in existence.

To be quite honest, I am beginning to feel that many of the people who stay away from these things are just looking for some excuse to pin their own problems on, whether it be an uneasiness with their sexuality, a personal grudge against someone in the organization or simply the need to find fault with everything.

I am sick to death of hearing people bitch about GSO doing this or not doing that. The people who gripe the loudest and the longest are also the ones you never see doing anything productive for the organization or the community. They have what they consider to be "the answer" to all of what they perceive to be wrong with the gay community but they want to see someone else implement it. They don't want to get involved. They don't want to be seen or heard. They don't want to take a stand for anything they believe in--even their own civil and human rights. It reminds me of Mayor Teddy Burnside in the old television series "Carter Country". Whenever a crisis arose, Teddy was good at figuring out what should be done and then ordering everyone else to "handle it, handle it!" then hiding in his office while everyone tried to figure out how his plans could work.

We all have that office, or in our case, our closet to hide in from time to time and we all hope someone else will "handle it", but as long as we continue to hide from others, we hide from ourselves as well. We deprive the nongay community a chance to get to know us as human beings, to value our accomplishments, to respect our right to exist. Worse yet, we deny ourselves the right to pride, self-esteem and dignity.

We will continue to work for more media exposure because we feel that that is one of the best ways of dispelling myths, misconceptions and stereotypes about gays and lesbians. We will begin to implement community service programs (i.e. the Community Kitchen, etc.) to show people we are interested enough in this city to help it thrive. And soon we will start educating community leaders on the importance of establishing an ordinance that truly

(CONT. ON NEXT PAGE)

THERE SHE IS...

The 1983 Miss Gay Lexington Pageant will be held on Sunday, September 4th at the Seraton Inn Lexington South.

The theme for this year's pageant is The Black and the White. All persons in attendance are asked to wear black and white outfits. (No jeans or tennis shoes allowed) Prizes will be awarded to members of the audience deemed to be wearing the best black/white outfits.

This year the pageant includes a dinner with the admission price of \$10. Dinner will be served at 6:00 P.M. and the show will begin at 7:00 (Cost for the show only be \$8). Contestants will be judged in casual and evening attire, black/white attire, female interview and talent. Tickets are available at the Bar.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE (CONT.)

protect the rights of all the citizens of Lexington and Fayette County.

Finally to those people who will continue to bemoan the publicity, all I can say is to participate or don't let me catch you griping because I've run out of sympathy for you.

Don't be left out in the cold.....



**ADVERTISE!**



GAYLINE CHANGES NIGHT

As of the beginning of September, the Gayline, a referral service of GSO, will no longer operate on Friday evenings. Instead, we will begin operating it on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 until 11:00pm. We will still operate the line on Thursdays.

If you are interested in volunteering a couple of hours each month to help staff this line, please attend the monthly meeting on the last Sunday of each month.

KISS-OFF SUMMER

The annual Kiss-Off Summer party will be held at Jacobson Park, Shelter #5 on Friday, September 23 from 6:00pm until dark.

Bring a friend and say a final goodbye to the Summer of '83.

Hot dogs will be provided. The rest is potluck. Volleyball, jarts and any other activities (legal) will be provided.

**Gay & Lesbian Services**

**Lexington Gay Services Organization**

P.O. Box 11471  
Lexington, KY 45011  
(7:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m., TH. & F) .....231-0335  
*Support group for gay men and lesbian women; information telephone; speakers bureau; workshops; community forums; newsletter; recreation; monthly meeting.*

**Dignity/Lexington**

P.O. Box 1984  
Lexington, KY 40593  
*Gay men and lesbian women; non-gay men and women; Catholics and non-Catholics; laity and clergy; spiritual development; education; social involvement; social activities.*

**Gay Alcoholics Anonymous & Parents of Gays**

Call the Gayline: .....231-0335  
between 7:00 p.m.-11 p.m., TH. & F.

**AIDS Hotline**

Current information .....1-800-342-AIDS (2437)  
*Up-to-date information on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome*

**Gay & Lesbian Union of Students**

c/o 123 Warren Court, #1  
Lexington, KY 40508  
Gayline: .....231-0335  
(7:00 p.m.-11 p.m., TH. & F).  
*Dues: \$2/semester for voting privilege.  
U.K. student organization; information for and education of university community; creation of legislative library; members are primarily university students; watch for meeting dates in "The Kernel".*

**Thank You  
Friends!**





- Presents -

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It's A Magical Journey

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Take A Trip Through Reflections

Looking Glass

See What You Can Really Be!

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Pat Moore

255-3325

Corky Corbett

GUEST EDITORIAL

By Donny Royse

As the time for the next Miss Gay Lexington pageant draws near it seems appropriate to devote space to a topic that is controversial in general and in particular within the gay community in Lexington. That topic is female impersonation.

As one who performs in female impersonation I have had the experiences of being on both sides of this issue. Since I began performing it has become increasingly tiring to hear people who are supposedly honest and open about their gaily downgrade impersonators. There is an almost alarming aversion to impersonation on the part of certain members of Lexington's gay community.

Rather than elaborate on this point I have asked the editors of THE GSO NEWSLETTER to make available the substance of an editorial that appeared in THE ADVOCATE last month. It was written by the publisher, David Goodstein, and concerns female impersonation and why gay communities should learn acceptance. What is stated contains much of merit - for if one cannot accept a different facet of the gay community, then one cannot complain about non-acceptance from the straight community.

A few weeks ago, I saw a wonderful drag show in Las Vegas, "The Lavender Follies" at the Fremont Hotel. I realized how much agreement I had given to the consideration about drag that makes it embarrassing to many gay men. I was ashamed of my own embarrassment.

Nongay people are much less embarrassed and have fewer "negative" emotional charges on drag as we do. Nongay members of the audience in Las Vegas thoroughly enjoyed the comedy of the men in "Lavender Follies"; they also appreciated the artistry, the costumes and the skill of the more serious performers. Nongay audiences have thoroughly enjoyed recent motion pictures involving drag, including Tootsie, Victor/Victoria and La Cage aux folles, I and II.

Conventional gay political wisdom avers that drag demeans gay males because it supports the stereotype of gay men being effeminate. Of course gay men are not effeminate, at least not most of the time.

As I sat watching the show in Las Vegas, what struck me was the courage of the performers. In the face of massive societal disagreement, these men were carrying on a theatrical tradition of great age and power. Then I remember it was drag queens who had led the fight at Stonewall and many other places. Drag queens have courage. Many closeted clones who wear their 50ls a few nights a week, and hide their gayness the rest of the time lack courage. They often hide out in gay ghettos rather than tell their families about their lifestyles.

What is masculinity? And why is it bad for a man to look effeminate? Certainly courage is a large part of the answer to the first question, and the only answer to the second is a belief that women are inferior. We have internalized a very stupid set of considerations about gender, or we wouldn't be so embarrassed by drag. The belief that masculinity is the same as violence pervades our culture, gay as well as nongay. Men are the ones most victimized by this belief. The belief that women are inferior and/or weak is even more destructive. It permeates most cultures on the planet. Neither belief is even vaguely truthful.

(CONT. ON NEXT PAGE)



GSO Needs You!





FEMALE IMPERSONATORS  
TO BE ADMIRER (cont.)

One truth about many of us is that at one time in our lives we were sissies. We were often ridiculed for it. When we grew up, we chose to compensate for our sissyhood, maybe overcompensate is more accurate. That is human of us. Nevertheless, I wonder about the terrible cost to our community that results from our hiding our sissyhood. Certainly, a substantial part of our humor is repressed at great loss to our self-expression. I have seen grown gay men so uptight about appearing the least bit effeminate that their whole being is dampened down. They have trouble walking freely. Most of you have seen such men. As a facilitator, I have seen some of those men freed of incredible trauma by the simple act of swishing in front of a group of people and discovering that the earth didn't open up and swallow them.

Drag is a valid and important aspect of human diversity. Effeminacy is a part of every man. Drag is a heroic and distinguished aspect of our heritage. Whether some of us like it or not, it too is a valid and distinguished part of our present.



GAY TEACHERS SWING ELECTION

The estimated 500 gay teachers in the Broward Co., Florida school system are credited with changing the collective bargaining representative for teachers and other employees. Two teachers' unions were competing for support and certification as bargaining representatives. The then certified union did not advocate a gay rights position as part of its' contract terms. In the election the challenging union took a pro-gay position and ousted the old group.

This political clout of gay teachers may come as a surprize to those who get so paranoid about the presence of gays in schools and like to tell themselves that we don't exist. And we have heard of no particularly disastrous results to the social institutions at Ft. Lauderdale because of what our moral majority enemies would surely consider a "plague".

While mentioning Ft. Lauderdale, it is of interest that in his first official act as the city's new police chief, Ron Cochran spoke before a group of 100 gays at the MCC on May 1st and assured them that he was willing to work with the community for improved relations between gays and police. Cochran told the group that while he cannot change the prejudices of individuals on the police force, "we can monitor their behaviour to make sure prejudice doesn't interfere with the fair performance of their duties."

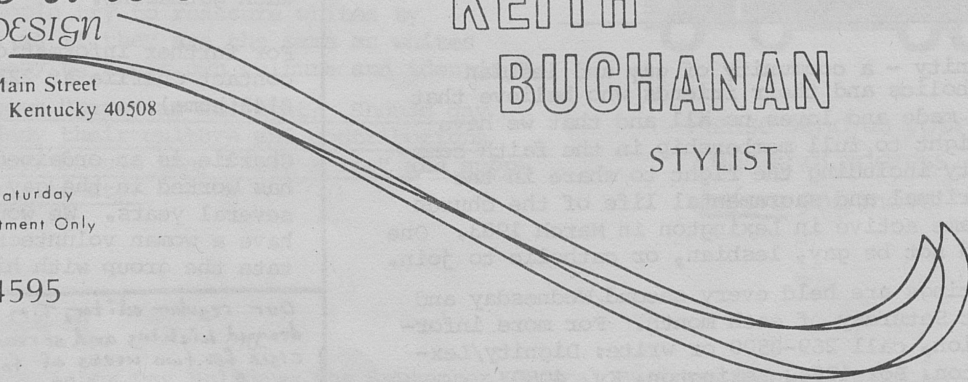
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KEITH  
BUCHANAN  
STYLIST



Throughout the summer, the UK Police Department has been conducting an undercover operation aimed at males who seek anonymous sex in the restrooms of the old Fine Arts building and the Classroom Building.

Two UK officers, working as a team, make themselves available for cruising. Eventually, the person seeking the sexual contact and an officer, in civilian dress of course, meet in a restroom. The person commits himself by words or actions and is promptly arrested. They are joined by the officer's partner who assists in the arrest. The charge is usually Criminal Solicitation.

At least six arrests and probably many more have been made.

One person was fined \$50 and released. Another, for whom this was a second offense (he was among those rounded-up in last year's Turfland Mall bust), was fined \$250, given a 6 month sentence which was reduced to 6 days in the Fayette County Detention Center, plus a 1 year probation.

In a related incident, two UK officers detained a young man who left the classroom building. They asked him his purpose on campus for identification, then took his name and address with the warning that if they caught him on campus again, they would check their list and charge him with Criminal Trespass, which carries an automatic jail sentence.

#### SEPTEMBER POTLUCK

The September Potluck will again be hosted by Charles Hadden at LaBelle Farm, at the Lake House. LaBelle Farm is also the site of the Whitney-Headley Museum and is located at 4435 Old Frankfort Pike. Park in the museum parking lot and walk past the Headley house and out-buildings to the Lake House. Time: 1:30 - 3:00.

#### THANKS TO MONTE

A word of thanks to Montie for hosting the August Potluck at his home. His gracious hospitality is much appreciated and an especially good time was had by all present.

## + DIGNITY Lexington +



Dignity - a community of gay and lesbian catholics and their friends who believe that God made and loves us all and that we have a right to full membership in the faith community including the right to share in the spiritual and sacramental life of the church became active in Lexington in March 1983. One need not be gay, lesbian, or catholic to join.

Meetings are held every second Wednesday and last Saturday of each month. For more information, call 269-8500 or write: Dignity/Lexington, Box 1984, Lexington, Ky. 40593.

#### DISCUSSION GROUP IS BACK!!

Beginning September 18th, GSO is resuming its discussion group, facilitated by Charlie Kast, and running every third Sunday evening for the rest of the year (6 to 7:30 P.M.). The topic of the first meeting will be: What binds gay men and Lesbians together?

Everyone is invited to attend these informal meetings which focus on the concerns of gay men and lesbians.

This year we will meet at "The Annex" at 105 W. High St. and light refreshments will be available at each gathering.

For further information, you can contact Charlie at 223-1448 or 252-8143(home).

Charlie is an ordained minister who has worked in the gay community for several years. We would like to have a woman volunteer to co-facilitate the group with him.

Our regular editor, Tim Banks has been dragged kicking and screaming to San Francisco for two weeks of forced R+R...  
Proof once again of how very much Tim sacrifices for us. - K.E.



## Gay Home Ownership & Finance

By Mike McCormick

Many couples ask me, how they can finance a property. There are four ways to answer this question. It depends on each couple's abilities. Most real estate purchases are made with FHA loans. These loans are insured by the Federal Housing Administration and are available to everyone. They for a 30 year term and at a good interest rate, currently at 12%. The maximum loan the FHA will make is \$67,500.00. Another form of FHA financing is the FHA-Kentucky Housing. This loan is restricted to persons with incomes lower than \$25,000.00 annually. The interest rate is 10% and for a maximum term of 25 years.

A third way to finance real property is a VA loan. This is a mortgage that is guaranteed by the Veterans' Administration. If a person has been in the military and has the proper discharge documents, mainly his or her dd214, he or she is entitled to a VA loan. This is a great loan if you qualify because the interest is 12% and the loan period is up to 30 years. Also there is no down payment, only closing cost.

The next question is, can a gay couple buy a home where one of the partners has the entitlement? The answer is yes. The only thing required is a 10% down payment. Both the lower interest and the 30 year term can be taken advantage of.

The fourth method of financing is the conventional loan. This is a loan that has no government involvement and is made through a bank or savings & loan. Usually the interest rates are higher and the loan term in years is shorter. Also a higher down-payment is required. Conventional loans are used to purchase older homes and farms.

In closing, let me add that acquiring property is a factor that is not financially rewarding but emotionally binding to a couple. It makes a commitment much stronger and more rewarding for a couple. A couple has a home, not just a house, the couple pay a monthly payment on something that is theirs and not rent to a landlord. It is better to be a happy home owner than a happy tennant. Where you sell the house, you get much of your money back - when you leave a rental property, you get your rental deposit back but that will be all - you have nothing but memories and you can't invest memories.

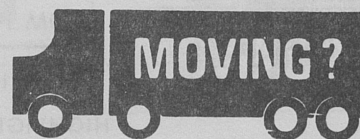
If anyone has any questions about investing in a home, please call me for a confidential interview at my Real Estate office or see me at The Bar for an appointment.

Mike McCormack Real Estate & Auction Co., Inc. 252-4409 - or at The Bar 255-1551.

### SHOULD WE DENY OURSELVES?

Many white people do not like and feel hostile toward Black people. Should Black people try to reassure whites by behaving as if they are the same as whites and by denying their own culture and identity?

Should gays "pass" as straight? Should gay people deny their culture and contributions to society? Should they "live a lie" and suppress their identity?



Please send us your change of address before you move.

COME, LABOR ON

Due to the Labor Day Holiday, the September General Business Meeting will be held on Monday, September 12th at 170 American Avenue. Everyone Welcome.



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## AIDS symptoms

The symptoms listed here can be those of common, everyday illnesses; therefore, you should be alerted but not alarmed if you have one or more of the following:

- Dramatic weight loss (10-20 lbs. within 2 months)
- Persistent or recurring low-grade fevers or night sweats
- Dry coughs or shortness of breath
- Extreme fatigue
- Blurred vision, persistent and severe headaches
- Swollen glands (lymph nodes in the neck, arm pits or groin) which do not go away
- Creamy white patches on the tongue or in the mouth
- Persistent diarrhea or bloody stools
- Cuts and infections that do not heal as quickly as usual
- Purple, blue or pink spots on or beneath the skin that do not resemble bruises, blood blisters, insect bites or pimples.

If one or more of these symptoms persist, you should see a health professional knowledgeable about AIDS.

### HAVE YOU BEEN THE VICTIM OF:

- PHYSICAL ATTACK
- SEXUAL ASSAULT
- VERBAL ABUSE
- VANDALISM, ROBBERY, ARSON
- POLICE HARASSMENT OR BRUTALITY

BECAUSE YOU ARE GAY?  
(OR HAVE YOU WITNESSED ANY SUCH INCIDENTS?)

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Your call will help NGTF to document, publicize and combat violence against lesbians and gay males nationwide

• • •

The Crisisline also provides info and referrals on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (A.I.D.S.), a serious impairment of the body's immune system and a growing health problem facing the gay male community

**NGTF**

**NGTF CRISISLINE**  
Call toll free 800-221-7044  
In N.Y. State (212) 807-6016

- To report anti-gay violence
- To obtain A.I.D.S. referrals

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IT IN A  
CLOSET  
WON'T  
HELP!

Don't stay in the dark  
**PLEASE**

SHOW YOUR  
SUPPORT  
IN '83



### AMBER MOON PRODUCTIONS FALL SUBSCRIPTION SERIES 1983

To start off their fall season Amber Moon welcomes a long time force in woman's culture-- that banjo pickin', guitar playin urban blues singin Ginni Clemmens. Her audience can expect to feel good, fell excited and to sing along. After all ...Wild Women Don't Get The Blues.

Tickets can be purchased until September 10th and are available at Special Media and The Good Foods Co-Op in Lexington; Carmicheal's Bookstore in Louisville; The Appalachian Book and Record Shop in Berea; and Crazy Ladies Bookstore in Cincinnati or mail a sase to Amber Moon, P.O. Box 22096, Lexington, Ky. 40522.

Ginni Clemmens will perform on Saturday, September 17th in the Recital Hall of the UK Center for the Arts, 8:00 P.M.

# Red Cardinal Inn

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OUTSTANDING FOOD  
RELAXED ATMOSPHERE  
UNIQUE LOCATION

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*CARLA DUAN*

### BRUNCH

Sunday 10:30 - 2:00

### LUNCH

Tues. - Sat. 11:00 - 2:00

### DINNER

Fri. & Sat. 5:30 - 9:00

Reservations Accepted

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10  
RELIABLE ROOMATE - wanted to share beautiful 3 bedroom house in Century Hills. \$225 plus half utilities. 272-3383 - leave message.

HELP!! - Part time dining-room personel and banquet servers needed immediately. RED CARDINAL INN. Call Pat at 252-2902.

FOR RENT -

-3 BR House - 1 bath  
\$375. plus \$200. deposit.  
Will be ready Sept. 1.  
-4 BR House - 1 bath  
\$450. plus \$200. deposit.  
Will be ready Sept. 15.

For either house, see Mike McCormick or call 252-4409.

DON'T  
MISS A  
SINGLE  
ISSUE!

## Mythology in 1983

ALL HOMOSEXUAL MEN ARE HAIRDRESSERS,  
ALL LESBIANS ARE TRUCKDRIVERS.

Traditionally, some occupations have been more tolerant of gay people than others and gay people have tended to cluster in them, or, perhaps to be more visible there. However, there are gay people in all walks of life, from architects to zoologists, from Congress to garbage collection. There is nothing about homosexuality that makes a person unsuited for a particular occupation.



**GSO**  
Lexington, Ky.



Yeah... but can he type?

(From The Advocate)

**W O I D**  
Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Friend  Voting\* Expires: \_\_\_\_\_  
 President \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*\$2 annual membership fee and attendance requirement

I would like to be:

A member of GSO (\$2 fee included)  
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 Receive the Newsletter  
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Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
AUGUST S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	OCTOBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	<b>SEPT</b>		<b>1</b> GAYLINE 7-11pm 231-0335	<b>2</b> Cards & Games 266-8859	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Miss Gay Lexington 6:00 pm Sheraton Inn  POTLUCK 1:30-3:00pm	<b>5</b> NO MEETING!!  Labour Day	<b>6</b> GAYLINE 7-11pm 231-0335	<b>7</b> GAY A.A. 8:00 pm the office	<b>8</b> GAYLINE 7-11pm 231-0335  Rosh Hashanah	<b>9</b>  Volleyball/Picnic Jacobson #5 6:30pm	<b>10</b>  GINNI CLEMONS Recital Hall 8:00pm
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> GSO General Meeting St. Stephen Church American Ave. 8pm Everyone Welcome!	<b>13</b> GAYLINE 7-11pm 231-0335	<b>14</b> GAY A.A. 8:00pm the office  DIGNITY 269-8500	<b>15</b> GAYLINE 7-11pm 231-0335	<b>16</b>  Cards and Games 266-8859	<b>17</b>  Yom Kippur
<b>18</b> DISCUSSION GROUP 252-8143	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> GAYLINE 7-11pm 231-0335	<b>21</b> GAY A.A. 8:00pm the office	<b>22</b> GAYLINE 7-11pm 231-0335	<b>23</b> KISS-OFF SUMMER!!! Volleyball/picnic Jacobson #5 6:00	<b>24</b> DIGNITY 269-8500
<b>25</b> GAYLINE MEETING 4:00pm OFFICE	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> GAYLINE 7-11pm 231-0335	<b>28</b> GAY A.A. 8:00pm the office	<b>29</b> GAYLINE 7-11pm 231-0335	<b>30</b> Cards & Games 266-8859	