

size as the lid. When he turned his face my way it was dark, indistinguishable; his back and shoulders were carving up strips of light, carving them this way and that as he twisted and bobbed. The water was dark and opaque, but it caught the sun's gold halo, the waves dragon scales writhing under a sainted knight's halo. At last Kevin swam up beside me, his submerged body looked small, boneless. He said we should go down to the store and buy some Vaseline.

"But we don't really need it," I said.

"Let's get it."

It is this ability to bring minute particulars together with the larger patterns of meaning which underlie them that is White's greatest accomplishment in this novel.

Despite disappointments, unfulfilled longings, and feelings of shame, despite the fact that his hopes and dreams never take the shape he hopes they will, the boy does manage to grow up and come to an acceptance of self that is grounded in his own psyché rather than in the examples and dictates of others. He manages to reconcile his conflicting desires and achieve a fullness of self in the novel's final page through an act which is as realistic and psychologically true as it is symbolic and metaphysically satisfying.

A Boy's Own Story amply fulfills the promise White has shown in his earlier work. He has managed to bring the real world into his fiction without losing his sense of the wonder and mystery of it all.

-- ANTHONY MALONE

Reagan and Gays

The National Gay Task Force has urged President Ronald Reagan to oppose the denial of Defense Department contracts to universities whose law schools bar Army recruiters due to nondiscrimination policies.

On July 26 of this year, Lucia Valeska, then Executive Director of NGTF, sent the following telegram to President Ronald Reagan:

"President Ronald Reagan:

The National Gay Task Force urgently requests that you oppose the announced plan of U.S. Army to interfere with major universities' non-discriminatory policies regarding sexual orientation by withholding millions of dollars in federal monies to Harvard, Yale, Columbia, New York University, UCLA and several others.

We remind you of your presidential campaign promise of 4/1/80, when you stated:

'While I do not advocate the so-called gay lifestyle, all citizens have equal rights before the law. I believe the government should not interfere with the private lives of Americans, nor should there be any place in our society for intolerance and discrimination. . .so long as a person's private life is private and does not interfere with his or her job performance, it should have no bearing on private sector or government hiring.'

We request an immediate reply."

AFL-CIO Industrial Unions Endorse Gay Civil Rights

WASHINGTON, DC (GRNL) -- The Industrial Unions Department (IUD) of the AFL-CIO enacted a gay rights policy resolution at its annual convention held in October in Detroit, MI. The resolution, which calls for an end to discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in public accommodations and employment, was passed by a voice vote. William Lucy, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Federal of State, County and Municipal Employees International and the introducer of the bill, praised his colleagues in supporting gay rights as "an important step in gaining freedom and building human dignity for all citizens of this nation." In addition to AFSCME, the IUD is made up of 34 other unions including the Steelworkers, the Auto Workers, the Communication Workers, Service Employees, Teachers, and Amalgamated Clerks.

Mr. Lucy was also instrumental in the passage this summer of a gay rights resolution at AFSCME's national convention. Vic Basile, founder of AFSCME's Lesbian and Gay Caucus, and Labor Liaison for the Gay Rights National Lobby, said, "This is a victory, not only in the struggle for gay and lesbian rights, but also for the American labor movement, in recognizing the needs of millions of its members."

☆ Winter. ☆

☆ Dance. ☆



☆ Dec. 5 / 9 p.m. / After ☆

☆ Dark ☆
