

## ==Air Force Reinstates Matlovich==

(AIR FORCE, cont. from p. 1)

This ruling probably had more impact than the ruling ordering Matlovich reinstated because it forced the military either to set forth persuasive reasons why gays should be barred from service or else to abandon their restrictions.

With the court order reinstating Matlovich, Judge Gerhard Gesell assailed the military for not fully explaining its reasoning for dismissing the decorated Vietnam veteran.

It was not stated whether Matlovich would return to the Air Force, a requirement for picking up his back pay, after five years of campaigning for gay rights.

Matlovich joined the Air Force in May of 1963. He served three tours in Vietnam, winning a medal

each time including a Purple heart. He was promoted to technical sargent and worked in drug abuse prevention and race relations.

Almost twelve years to the day after entering the service, he decided to test the military's ban on homosexuality. He was championing gay people's constitutional rights to privacy and equal protection of the laws.

In the 1975 Air Force military court hearings, Matlovich testified that he wanted to keep his job.

When asked if he would sign a pledge not to engage in homosexual activities, he answered, "No, I would not. That would be like making me celibate for the rest of my life."

## ==Falwell's Machine Crusades On==

(FALWELL, cont. from p.7)

Churches were urged to form Moral Action committees (MAC) to politicize congregations by conducting voter registration drives and taking stands on local, state and national issues and candidates.

MAC's are organizing not only in churches, but on state levels. There are now 32 such state organizations. In California MAC's were instrumental in defeating two gay rights proposals in Santa Clara county.

A newsletter of 26 Aug 1980 from the Gay Rights National Lobby quotes a Washington Post article in which Falwell expressed support of national civil rights legislation for lesbians and gay men, H.R.2074 and S. 2081.

Falwell said, "I think we can certainly be for the civil rights of homosexuals without condoning their lifestyles..."

Gay leaders expressed astonishment and skepticism at Falwell's statement. But they challenged Falwell to act on his statement and indeed throw his support behind the bill. A reply from Falwell has not been received.

Falwell's ministry dates back to 1956 when it began in Lynchburg, Va., in the basement of an old Donald Duck bottling plant.

According to the Advocate, this same ministry's revenues had reached by 1978 almost \$1 million per week, with a budget for 1980-81 of \$75 million, and

a projected budget for 1987-88 of \$2 billion.

His "empire" now includes a seminary, a bible school, a four-year college, and an extensive radio and TV ministry.

He has organized ministers to help defeat the Equal Rights Amendment and legalized gambling in Virginia. He has supported anti-gay movements in various parts of the nation.

### In The Closet?

"Think you can't help the cause of gay rights?"

Think again.

No one can follow you into a voting booth.

The forces of hate are out to get us. They're registering new voters like crazy. They're going to vote against candidates who support gay rights. What can you do?

**Take the time to vote.** Even if the candidate you support loses, the margin of win or loss will be very important.

**Here's why:** This margin of vote is one way politicians read the "mood" of the people... and it has a real effect on the way they vote on laws.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* **gay** \*  
 \* **Vote '80** \*

...because our future is on the line.