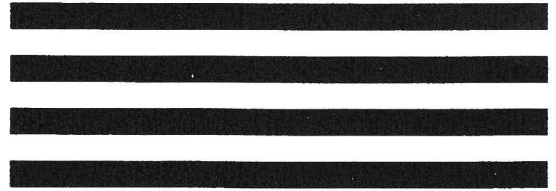


# GAYVOTE



AUGUST 1979

NEWS FROM THE HARVEY MILK GAY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

## Police Punished for Peg's

By JUDITH HOFFMAN

In March of this year, a group of men invaded Peg's Place, a women's bar, resulting in a fracas which left two women injured. On July 24, 1979, two of these men were brought to trial. This, in itself, was cause for rejoicing since the police and District Attorney seemed intent on keeping the incident out of the courts. The story that emerged from the trial was a frightening and fascinating demonstration of how misogyny and homophobia permeate society, making it nearly impossible for women and gay men to obtain justice.

It was the contention of the prosecution that, shortly after midnight on March 31, 1979, the defendants, Daniel Marr, an off duty police officer, and Kevin Guerin, a civilian, disturbed the peace at Peg's and assaulted both the door attendant, Alene Levine, and the bar owner, Erlinda Symaco. Guerin was one of approximately forty men, many of whom were off duty police officers, attending a bachelor party which had

been bar-hopping on a motorized cable car. Marr apparently joined the group later in the evening after visiting some bars on his own. Shortly after midnight, about eight of these men, including Marr, arrived at Peg's.

Levine had been warned of their arrival by a patron who had seen a group of men drunkenly disembark from the cable car and head toward Peg's. Looking out on the street, Levine saw the men approaching and heard someone shout, "Let's go get the dykes!" At the entrance, Marr headed the group of men, all of whom were drunk and carrying beer. Levine blocked the doorway and refused them entrance because they had alcoholic beverages. The men placed their containers on the ground, making it apparent that they weren't leaving. When informed that they still could not come in because they were too drunk, Marr became increasingly argumentative and Levine, realizing that the men were getting out of hand, asked the bartender to call the

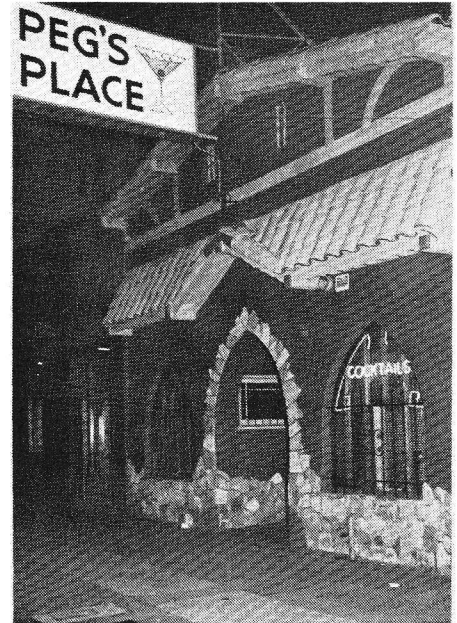


Photo by Savage Photography

police. The bartender had already assessed the situation as dangerous and had pressed an alarm which was wired directly to the police station. At this point, Marr began shouting, "We are the cops and we can do any goddamn thing we want!" He shoved Levine, who managed to push him back out the door and lock it.

Minutes later, Levine heard two women and a man plead in frightened voices to be let in. Still hearing the men outside and fearing for the safety of the newcomers, Levine let them in. With them came two men from the bachelor party, Kevin Guerin and Michael Kelly, also an off duty police officer. When Symaco requested identification, Kelly produced his license and, while Symaco was studying it, according to witnesses Kelly lunged at her, grabbing her around the neck and falling to the ground with her. Seeing Symaco, a small woman, who was already suffering from a back injury, pinned beneath Kelly, Levine attempted to pull him off. While doing this, Levine said she saw Guerin

## Gay Candidate for Mayor



David Scott

By ARTHUR FELSON

David Scott, an openly gay candidate for Mayor, has been invited, along with Supervisor Quentin Kopp and Mayor Dianne Feinstein, to speak at the August 28 meeting of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club.

Scott, 44, is former president of the San Francisco Board of Permit Appeals. He answered a series of questions on the race for Mayor, his campaign strategy and his "grass roots" campaign in an interview with GAYVOTE.

*What are the key issues that you see in this campaign?*

"Lesbians and gay men are not participating in the political system," Scott said. Other basic issues he cited included: "The police department is not protecting the public from vicious,

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