

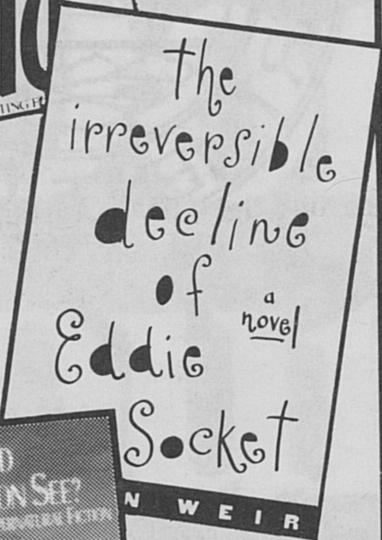
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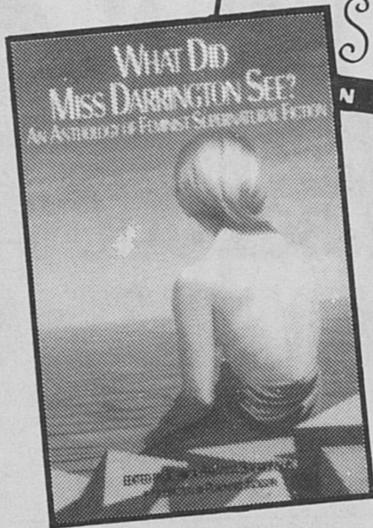
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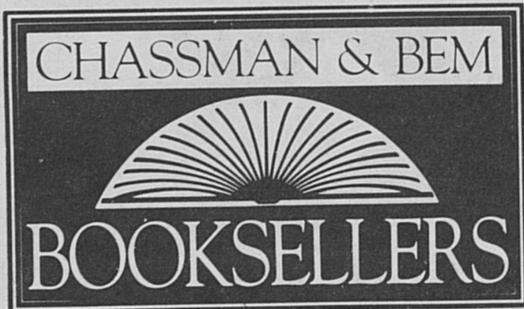
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Howdy Russell Kicks Off Campaign

Howard Russell, more commonly known to many of us as "Howdy," has been a long-time leader in the gay community and is now setting his sights on the Vermont Senate.

Howdy grew up on a dairy farm in Hinesburg, attended college at the University of Vermont, and has earned degrees in Dairy Science, Education, and Counseling Psychology. For the past decade he has worked at the Parent Child Center of Middlebury.

One of Howdy's most recent achievements was the formation of OUTRIGHT Vermont, an organization which seeks to create and provide information and programming for young gay men and lesbians.

Gay rights are only part of Howdy's political agenda, however. In addition, he seeks to establish policies that will increase the quality of child-care and support human services programs available in Vermont, to endorse plans for a more progressive sys-

tem of taxation, to maintain a constant concern and respect for the state's environment, and to defend the pro-choice rights of women.

"I believe that we need openly gay people serving in positions of leadership in this state," Howdy explained in a recent mailing to supporters. "Our children need visible role models to help them adjust to the wonderful diversity that surrounds them." To that end, Howdy has selected as a campaign motto, "For our children, for our future...help broaden the vision."

Anyone wishing to support Howdy's candidacy can write for more information to "Howard Russell for Senate," PO Box 465, Hinesburg, Vermont 05461. There will also be a campaign kick-off for Howdy at the Burlington Boathouse at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 9th, to which all members of the gay, lesbian, and bisexual communities are cordially invited.

Burlington College Endorses Gay Rights Legislation

The Burlington College Council, comprised of students, faculty, alumni, staff and trustees, unanimously endorsed a proposal extending civil rights protective legislation to lesbians and gay men.

"Burlington College already has a policy prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and we feel strongly that the time has come for the State of Vermont to enact legislation stating that discrimination based on sexual orientation is unacceptable and illegal," said Jan Passion, the College Affirmative Action Offi-

cer and the Assistant Director of Financial Aid. "This is a struggle about the right to love. Both Wisconsin and Massachusetts have adopted lesbian and gay rights legislation, and we believe that Vermont should do the same," he said.

This endorsement follows the defeat of House Resolution 211 (legislation which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation) last year. "This endorsement is one small step towards ending pain and oppression in Vermont," Passion said.



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