

THE

east
village



OTHER

VOL. 4, NO. 12

METROPOLITAN 15¢

FEBRUARY 21, 1969



Ben Kennedy



DECOMPOSITION

BY DA LATIMER

One day Joey Skaggs got up and he was inspired. "I'll make a brassiere," he thought, "the biggest brassiere ever seen, and hang it on Wall Street and earn fame and fortune." Now, why would he want to do a thing like that? Because it would shock people, that's why. Once upon a time, not long ago, Joey had built a Jesus and hung it up in Tompkins Sq. and other places, and his Jesus had shocked people because it had a foot-long prick. He became rich and famous as a result, because everyone was saying "Look at that Jesus of Joey Skaggs, isn't that a bitch?" So as the years went by, Joey Skaggs got more and more scandalous. Pretty soon you couldn't turn around without getting your pants shocked off by something he did.

Last fall, thousands and thousands of people started congregating along Wall Street to watch Francine Gottfried go to eat lunch. Francine Gottfried wasn't exactly shocking, but she had enormous tits; it was the thousands and thousands of people who congregated along Wall Street to look at her and her enormous tits that was so shocking. Joey Skaggs had nothing to do with this, much to his chagrin.

Then Louis Abolafia, who has been called the Phil Silvers of the East Village, took a herd of girls down to Wall Street last winter and had them open their blouses and show their own tits. Unfortunately, it was raining then and nobody saw this happening, except a lot of newspapers reporters and photographers who found out their papers wouldn't print the pictures, much to Louis Abolafia's chagrin.

So, last week Joey Skaggs put his inspiration to work. With a psychedelic busload of friends he went downtown to Wall Street and hung his big brassiere — it had a 40-foot shoulder-spread — between Wall and Law streets. People threatened to call the police to come and remove this shocking thing, so Joey Skaggs took it down and hung it up again at the Treasury Building: one strap was attached to the hand of the statue of George Washington, and the other strap was attached to the Treasury Building itself.

Hooray! This was so shocking, one man who

was watching it started to cry, and said he was insulted because he was a taxpaying American so he was going to call the cops and all these hippies would get thrown in the river, SO THERE! And yes, he called the cops, who came and took one of Joey's friends away for conspiracy to commit an undermining of the Morality of all taxpaying Americans, who would much rather look at Francine Gottfried 'stits than any old shocking bra that Joey Skaggs made.

But if you want to, YOU can look at Joey Skaggs' bra, because we have pictures of it right here on this page. If your Morality has already been undermined, that is . . .

(Confidential Top-Secret Bulletin: According to Joey Skaggs, his new 40-foot bra would fit perfectly around the tits of the Statue of Liberty. I dreamed I lit the lamp of freedom and justice and good mental health in My Maidenform Skaggs Bra. If you have two helicopters, please get in touch with Joey Skaggs).

APPLIED TWEEZERS VICIOUSLY

Valentine's Day. The envelope that you open turns out to be a hearts-embroidered form letter and when you unfold it, oop?, out falls a long yellow joint. Yaggh, *dope!!!* Where are the narks? Lock the door! *Dope!!!* Real dope, yes, locally grown from the smell of it — you torch up, inhale, and the stuff creeps up into your head like slender green cannabis growing up through the sidewalk on a Puertorican block, in the sun. Too much, real gone, *crazy daddio!* The letter says that thirty thousand people are torching up right along with you, gratis these Yippie gardeners. Oh, yas, yas, yas. "It would be impossible to find more than a handful of researchers who would claim marijuana is harmful, yet the government and local authorities maintain the same attitudes they have held for years. Penalties for doing just what you are doing right now run up to life imprisonment in some states. Lindsay has just petitioned the Governor of New York to raise the penalty from one to four years for possession. In 1968, over 60,000 people in California alone were arrested for smoking pot. Nationwide statistics to be released next month will show over 200,000 arrests last year. The law is

very discriminatory with blacks, hippies and other minority group members being the only ones prosecuted." Yeek! As my friend Rielly useta say, "I ain't paranoid, I'm just worried." To be Harry Anslinger's Valentine, that would rub me the wrong way. But keep cool, and watch the mailbox on Mother's Day.

PUNISHING KNOT

The hour is getting late. By the end of spring we should have the situation primed for a summer of such intense heat that all previous summers will be the glow of a panatella by comparison; by autumn the System will be on its knees. From the East Coast papers — except for the once-weekly Student Riot Wrapup in the *Daily News* — you'd suppose it was good Republican business as usual from coast to coast. But around the Bay in California the situation is fermenting. The American Federation of Teachers and the American Federation of Teaching Assistants, locals 1352 and 1928 respectively, some weeks ago joined with the Third World Students at S.F. State to keep Hayakawa occupied; and last week the East Bay local of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers, local 1-561, proclaimed solidarity with the S.F. State strikers.

At the Community Conference to Support the S.F. State Strike, held on 7 February at the *Sun Reporter* office in San Francisco, OC & A Secretary-Treasurer Jake Jacobs explained the provocations leading up to this action. The OC & A workers have been striking Standard Oil for some time, and their strike has been countered with all manner of illegal strike-breaking tactics on the part of the company, working with the assistance of the Richmond County Pig Department. An injunction passed in response to the OC & A strike limits the number of striking pickets to five at each gate of the Sandard Oil plant: this has left the strikers vulnerable to "the violent assaults by the company goons and strike-breakers who have escalated their armed attacks against our peaceful picketers," according to Jacobs, who was himself savagely beaten by Richmond County Pigs when he inquired at the

(Continued on Page 12)