

The Boston Globe

ON A THREE-THAW

Monday: Mostly sunny, 30s
Tuesday: Warmer, may rain
High tide: 8:41 a.m., 9:17 p.m.
Full report: Page 34

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1992

Clinton rebuts Brown's charges in debate

By Walter V. Robinson and Curtis Wilkie
GLOBE STAFF

CHICAGO - Provoking the most acrimonious exchange of the presidential campaign, former California Gov. Jerry Brown last night accused Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton's administration of channeling state business to the Little Rock law firm where Clinton's wife is a partner.

Brown, in a presidential debate, cited a Washington Post report and contended that Clinton and his wife, Hillary, were involved in a conflict of interest and a "scandal of major proportions" that even included polluting an Arkansas River.

Clinton, seething with indignation, jabbed his finger to within inches of Brown, calling Brown's charges a "lying accusation." Clinton said his administration had never funneled any money to the law firm.

"You ought to be ashamed of yourself for jumping on my wife," an angry Clinton retorted. "You're not worthy of being on the same platform with her."

Clinton, in turn, accused Brown of being willing to say anything to win votes. And he charged that Brown, though he is refusing to accept contributions of more than \$100, fought a California measure in 1990 that would have restricted po-

DEBATE, Page 9

Technology commercial

About the same time, Joseph Callarame, the assistant general manager of Raytheon's research division in Lexington, was out in Iowa, talking to people at the company's Amana appliance division.

Their biggest complaint? Home-makers were scratching the glass tops of Amana's new quartz halogen stoves when they used Brillo pads to scour off grit.

You didn't have to be a rocket scientist to see the potential marriage of military scientific know-how and commercial need here - the kind of matchmaking that is becoming critical for defense contractors, as the Cold War becomes a memory and weapons procurement plummets.

Back in the company's Lexington labs, researchers got to work on a



Escorted by police officers, members of the Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Committee of Boston march in South Boston yesterday. GLOBE PHOTOS / PAM BERRY

Jeers, threats greet gays in South Boston parade

By Don Aucoin and Andy Dabillis
GLOBE STAFF

As obscenities, insults and threats rained down on them from all sides, 25 marchers yesterday became the first openly gay contingent ever to take part in the St. Patrick's Day parade in South Boston.

The marchers, who had won a court order allowing them to take part in the parade, walked a 5-mile gantlet of hostility that sometimes threatened to erupt into wide-scale violence. Supporters of the gay marchers were scattered along the route, but they were largely drowned out in a din of detractors.

In a sense, there were two parades yesterday: A largely festive and peaceful one for 120 groups ranging from marching bands to smiling politicians, and another for the 25 members of the Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Pride Committee who were occasionally cheered, but who otherwise had to endure a near-relentless storm of abuse.

"It was exhilarating and scary at the same time," Barbra Kay, chairwoman of the gay group, said in an interview after the parade. "I was really proud to be there. Nothing I heard today was something that I haven't heard before: gay men, lesbians



How cheers greet gays in S. Boston march

PARADE

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and bisexuals live with harassment every day."

For the entire length of the parade, attended by an estimated 600,000 spectators, scores of youths surged down sidewalks in pursuit of the gay marchers, sometimes urged on by older spectators yelling "get them!"

One marcher said she was struck in the head by a rock thrown from the sidelines. Smoke bombs were also hurled into the midst of the gay contingent at several points. A teenager was hauled away by police after he knocked a supporter of the marchers to the ground, as mounted police dispersed a crowd of youths who flocked to the fracas.

There were seven arrests in all, including three for assault and battery, according to police spokesman Vincent Loporchio, who also provided the crowd estimate.

Despite the turmoil, the marchers seemed undaunted, waving and calling out "thank you, South Boston" and "happy St. Patrick's Day," and smiling broadly when they spied supporters cheering on the sidelines.

But primarily they faced an outpouring of vituperation that spanned generational lines.

"We hate you," chanted one group of spectators along West Broadway, while other shouted refrains included "you bunch of fags, get out of Southie," and "I hope you all die of AIDS, homos." Signs were hoisted that read, "God Hates Fags," and obscene epithets were screamed by youths and adults alike. Some spectators demonstrated their anger at the gay marchers by turning their backs as they went past or by brandishing upraised middle fingers.

Amid the tumult, a young woman sat weeping on the sidewalk and murmuring, "all this trouble over a parade."

While the gay marchers were accompanied from the parade's start by a concentrated chorus of hatred and outrage, the rest of the traditional event went off as planned, with children, parents, and grandparents cheering passing bands and floats.

Crowd quiet until gays passed.

Spectators were generally peaceful except when the gay marchers passed by, at which point each segment of the parade route erupted with shouted protests. That led some



Young Davlyn Bilotas joins thousands of others in South Boston yesterday for the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

South Boston residents to blame the gay marchers for the turmoil.

"Before that contingent came, it was quiet, peaceful and orderly, and after they went by, it was quiet, peaceful and orderly," said John Cicone of the South Boston Information Center, who contended the gay marchers had provoked spectators by raising their fists and other "obnoxious" behavior.

But Cliff Arnesen, a gay veteran of the armed services who marched yesterday, said, "We won't sit in the back of the bus again. We're human beings, and we're entitled to the same respect, the same dignity, the same freedom of choice."

Many spectators said they came not to see the marching activists, but for the celebration of Irish-American heritage, festivities and, in some cases, to return to the South Boston where they had grown up, and

where friends and families lived.

"South Boston had a great day," insisted state Rep. Paul Gannon (D-South Boston). "We had a great parade."

But the invective directed at the gay marchers transformed parts of the parade route into scenes of raw rage not seen on the streets of South Boston since the busing era of the mid-1970s. Gannon and others noted that many of the spectators came from outside South Boston, and he contended the neighborhood should not be blamed for what transpired yesterday.

Wherever the irate spectators hailed from — two of those arrested gave South Boston addresses — they confounded the hopes of parade organizers and Mayor Flynn, who had predicted a peaceful day. Interviewed in Dublin, where he was preparing to take part in a national "Prayer for Peace" for Northern Ireland with Cardinal Bernard Law, Flynn attempted to portray the parade in his home neighborhood as a success.

"I was pleased to learn that the overwhelming majority of parade watchers and marchers brought great credit to themselves and their community," Flynn told the Globe, going on to praise parade organizers.

Police fought to keep peace

Boston Police Superintendent Thomas Maloney, who organized strategy for the 400 police officers along the way, said after the parade, "We did what we had to do, provide crowd control and containment," although there were evident gaps on the long stretch of streets.

Police on motorcycles and horseback battled to keep the crowd under control, especially during numerous delays when the gay contingent was at a standstill, providing a non-moving target for the crowd.

During one such pause in the parade on East Broadway, dozens of youths rushed toward the marchers, crying, "This is it, this is the breakdown!" Police forced them back on the sidewalk.

One bizarre moment among many came when a man stepped in from the sidelines, dropped his trousers and stood, naked from the waist down, as spectators gaped and the

gay contingent waited. The man, who held a sign reading "Choose Life," was hustled away by police.

At another point, Beverly Wilkins, a 47-year-old Chelsea resident, confronted a group of youths who were spewing epithets at the marchers. "You have no right not to respect somebody else's lifestyle," she told them.

But contempt for the gay lifestyle, and an angry conviction that the gay marchers had mistled their way into the parade as a publicity ploy, were evident in the remarks of many spectators.

"God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve," said Tim Chase, 25. Added Mary Anne Austin, 32, of South Boston: "It's a family event and they shouldn't be here. What's the good of them doing this? No good."

Charlie Blackstone, a resident of South Boston for more than 25 years, said he was embarrassed by paradegoers yesterday who shouted derogatory comments at gay and lesbian marchers as they passed by.

Contingent hustled away

"I've lived here for a long time and I've never seen anything like this. Southie isn't a place filled with these derelicts, although this scene makes it appear it is," said Blackstone as others screamed "faggots" and "queers."

When the gay marchers reached the end of the parade route, police quickly hustled them into a pair of vans and they were spirited away.

Yesterday's mayhem climaxed a lengthy battle over the gay group's attempt to march that eventually wound up in court. The Allied War Veterans Council of South Boston, organizers of the parade since 1948, rejected the gay group's application two weeks ago, asserting that leaders of the group refused to provide assurances they would not stage a protest during the march. Kay denied that assertion.

After Flynn intervened to mediate between the two sides, Kay signed an agreement with the Boston Police Department that the gay group would limit its size to 25 marchers and would not distribute pamphlets or other material. Foes of the gay group were convinced they were intent on staging a protest that might include the throwing of condoms at spectators, in the fashion of a June 1990 protest at Holy Cross Cathedral. Members of the gay group insisted they wanted only to express pride in their dual identities as Irish-Americans and gay men and women.

The veterans' council voted again on the issue last Monday, and again opted to deny the gay group permission to march. The gay group filed suit, and last Wednesday Judge Hiller Zobel ruled in Suffolk Superior Court that the group had a constitutional right to march in the parade. The veterans decided not to appeal, saying they wanted to bring an end to the acrimony.

Parade chief of staff John (Wacko) Hurley, along with City Councilor James Kelly (South Boston), have said they will recommend the parade become wholly private next year, eschewing city funds, so the veterans can choose who will and will not be admitted to the parade.

The gay marchers were positioned behind a small group from the National Park Service and just in front of two vans filled with police officers and about 100 police from New York City who were marching as a unit in the parade.

Philip Bennett and Brian McGrory of the Globe staff, and contributing reporters Kimberly Baker and Lou Delgado assisted in the preparation of this article.

Marchers

added: "On both sides people shouting, 'Fags, you've no right to be here.' They were portions that scared hell out of me."

"I've always identified myself as being Irish, longer than I've identified myself as being gay," said marcher Tim Daley of the South End. "We weren't there to be a disruptive force. That was never our intention."

Police officers who attended the gathering in the church after the parade were greeted with standing ovations for their support and protection.

For many, personal fear was overshadowed by the vision of young children booing them, staring at them with hate-filled eyes, lashing thumbs down signs — a sight, some said, they will never forget.

"What makes me sad is they teach their children to hate," said Cliff Arnesen, co-president of New England Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Veterans.

Others drew solace and inspiration from small sparks of acceptance and support from the crowd.

"There was this old man who I loved us most of the parade," Arnesen said. "He kept saying, 'Don't worry about it.'"

In the end, marchers said they hoped they were able to foster some tolerance and understanding in the South Boston community.

The parade, group members said, was a chance for homosexuals and bisexuals to express pride in their community.

"We want them to know that we're their brothers and sisters," Arnesen said. "We're their bankers, their neighbors, their police officers, their veterans. We're everywhere."

This Wednesday in FOOD



REFRESHING! PROSPEROUS!

Turn to *The Boston Globe's* FOOD Pages this Wednesday and take a look at new restaurants thriving in the recession. Also, great ideas for grapefruit and winter salads.

The Boston Globe

SP 3/17/92

THE LOTTERY

Sunday number **7375**

SUNDAY PAYOFFS

(based on \$1 bet)

EXACT ORDER

All 4 digits **\$4,870**

First or last 3 **\$682**

Any 2 digits **\$58**

Any 1 digit **\$6**

ANY ORDER

All 4 digits **\$406**

First 3 digits **\$227**

Last 3 digits **\$114**

MEGABUCKS

March 14: **7 13 30 36 39 42**

Jackpot: \$2,113,520 ; There were no jackpot winners

PREVIOUS MASS. DRAWINGS

Saturday **3081**

Friday **0445**

Thursday **0210**

Wednesday **1666**

Tuesday **2487**

SUNDAY NUMBERS

AROUND NEW ENGLAND

Rhode Island **3383**

Connecticut 3-digit **882** 4-digit **4895**

Sat. Maine, N.H., Vermont 3-digit **726** 4-digit **7477**