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Michael Peeler, co-director of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance, said he was frustrated with the social hypocrisy that condemned the "sin" of homosexuality while ignoring other wrongs.

"I'm sick of American society associating 'gay' with 'bad,'" he said. "I'm sick of the low self-esteem that gay people suffer and that makes them act self-destructively."

Peeler cited a high rate of suicide among young gays, lesbians and bisexuals and noted that drug and alcohol abuse is more prevalent than in the

straight community.

In an open mike session at the end of the rally, ASUO vice president-elect Sheila Stickle promised to address gay, lesbian and bisexual issues, including spousal equivalency and a repeal of state Ballot Measure 8, when she and Kirk Bailey take office.

Measure 8, passed in November 1988, rescinded an executive order that had prohibited state employers from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation.

At the end of the rally students marched across campus on 13th Avenue chanting and

waving signs that read "Gay and Proud" and "Deal With It."

"Deal With It," the theme of this year's Pride Week, is intended as a message to gays, lesbians and bisexuals as well to straights, said GALA co-director Laurel Sharp.

"Everybody in the community needs to deal with issues that keep us from being effective," Sharp said, adding that people are ineffective when tension, in-fighting and lack of confidence keep them from doing their jobs. "Racism, sexism and homophobia deter effectiveness."

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said, the divisions are already there, and "until the most oppressed are liberated, nobody is going to be liberated."

Woo works in the women's studies department at San Francisco State University, and she is a former lecturer at the University of California at Berkeley.

She was fired twice from her UC Berkeley job and has successfully sued the university both times.

For a year she has been awaiting reinstatement by the university, and she has filed another suit in an effort to return to the classroom. UC Berkeley officials had requested that Woo submit to a psychiatric exam before she would be allowed back. She refused.

"What they're really saying is that if you're an Asian-American, and a woman, and a lesbian, and you're fighting back, you've got to be crazy," she said in an interview Monday.

Woo said she lost her job because she was outspoken about her radical political beliefs.

"It's one thing to be a lesbian of color. But it's another thing to be an advocate for movements and to criticize the university openly," she said.

Woo said despite the repeated efforts to remove her from her job at UC Berkeley, she wants to return to the campus in hopes of showing that a grievance process can be successful.

"The University of California is supposed to be a public institution of higher learning," she said. "It belongs to the people of California and everyone who wants to be there."

She said if she did not return to the university, a chilling effect could result, in which peo-

ple would fear losing their jobs or other punishment for filing a grievance.

Woo also is a candidate for California governor. She is running on a platform that includes socialism and equality for people of color, gays and lesbians.

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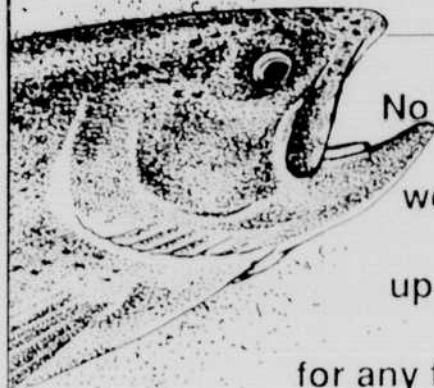
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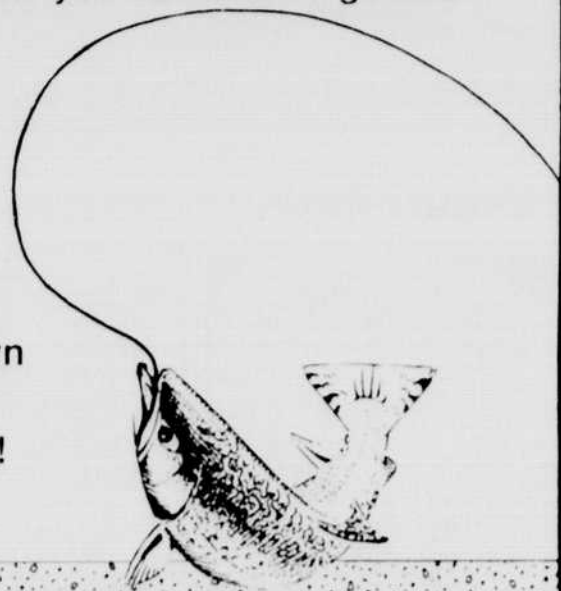
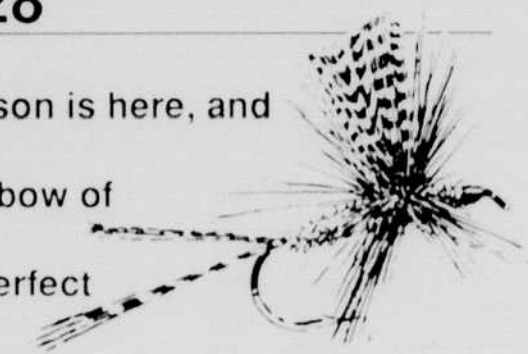
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