

Abortion activists in face-off at clinic

By Colleen Brush
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

As part of a planned monthlong confrontation in Boston, activists on both sides of the abortion issue faced off at a Boston clinic, yesterday, with abortion-rights supporters outnumbering opponents for the fifth day in a row.

Boston police estimated 300 abortion-rights supporters and 100 abortion-rights opponents stood on opposite sides of Tremont Street chanting or praying in peaceful demonstrations. There were no arrests.

Abortion-rights supporters arrived in front of the Gynecare abortion clinic on Tremont Street around 6 a.m. to "secure the entrance" and force anti-abortion-rights demonstrators to the opposite side of the street, officials from the National Organization for Women said.

"Our strategy is to make sure we have enough people around the clinic door, and by sheer numbers of presence, choice presence, women will have access to the clinic," said Ellen Zucker, president of the Boston NOW chapter.

Mary Schumacher, administrator for Operation Rescue in Boston, said the Boston-based protests her group has scheduled in June are "a 30-day rescue and the idea is to be present every day and rescue as often as we can."

Abortion-rights opponents contended they were successful in deterring women from entering the clinic yesterday, one of the two days during the week when, they said, abortions are scheduled.

"I believe business has been very much deterred today," said Schumacher. But clinic officials said later there were no appointment cancellations yesterday and "everything inside the clinic was very normal."

NOW officials said the fact that abortion-rights forces outnumbered their opponents for the fifth day in a row should send a message to politicians.

"These people are going to remember it at the ballot box," said Ellen Convisser, president of Massachusetts NOW. "If these people are willing to stand out here in the rain, when it comes time to pull the lever this will be on their mind."

City workers, who were expecting larger numbers yesterday because it was the first weekend day of Operation Rescue's monthlong campaign to shut down clinics, drilled holes in the street for stronger police barricades to separate the two groups.

The demonstrators, divided by Tremont Street traffic, began to drift away shortly after noon.

Schumacher said there have been no arrests yet this month in the protests.

"We don't intend to get arrested, but we do intervene to save preborn children scheduled to die by abortion and that usually does lead to arrest," she said.



ABORTION-RIGHTS SUPPORTERS CHEER YESTERDAY AS ABORTION FOES WRAP UP THEIR DEMONSTRATION ACROSS TREMONT STREET FROM THE GYNECARE CLINIC IN DOWNTOWN BOSTON. GLOBE STAFF PHOTO, JOHN TUUMACKI

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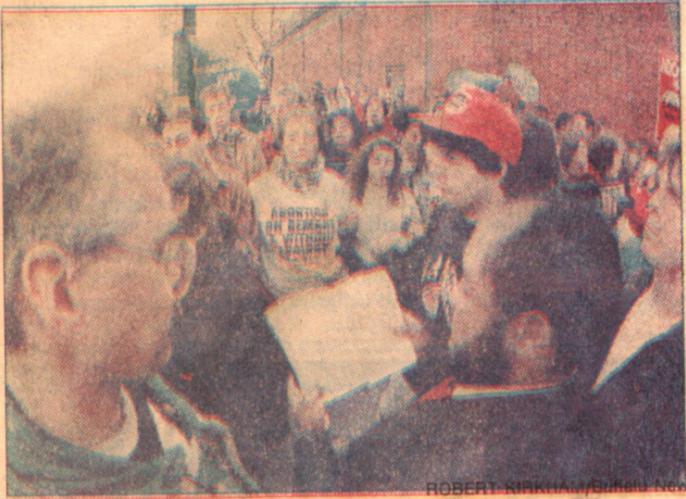
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SUNDAY, MAY 3, 1992



ROBERT NIKKHAU/Buffalo News

Clifton Durante reads a Bible on Saturday near pro-choice clinic defenders in a scene typifying two weeks of protests.

Spring of Life fails to live up to hype

Yet effort puts issue in spotlight

By GENE WARNER
News Staff Reporter

No clinics were closed, even for a minute. No doctors were driven out of the abortion business. Mainstream Buffalo turned its back on Operation Rescue, even as a nation watched.

By not delivering on the expectations they raised, Randall Terry and other national pro-life leaders doomed the Spring of Life demonstrations here to poor reviews.

The ambitious goals suggested by Terry, the public relations guru of the national rescue movement, far exceeded the well-hyped event that Saturday officially closed after a two-week run in Buffalo.

On Jan. 3, Operation Rescue founder Terry stood outside County Hall, pledging that demonstrators would blockade two abortion clinics and attempt to rid the Buffalo area of two "baby-killers."

He and others also raised the specter that Buffalo could become another Wichita, Kan. — where three abortion clinics were closed for one week and 2,600 arrests were made over 46 days last summer.

Three nights before the Spring of Life began, Terry predicted that "hundreds, maybe thousands" would join the protests.

What happened?

"Randy is so taken with his own ability to make the media believe what he wants them to believe, he sometimes can make miscalculations," said Ann Baker, president of the 80 Percent Majority Campaign, a pro-choice group from New Jersey. "And that is what happened in Buffalo."

In the weeks preceding the Spring of Life, local anti-abortion leaders more accurately described the anticipated events.

Karen Swallow, Press spokeswoman for the Western New York Pro-Life Rescue Movement, reportedly said she would not be another "Wichita" but a "Northern" regional event.

ANALYSIS

■ 71 arrested in purported end to protests / B1

Most national publications have panned the Spring of Life, which local pro-life supporters say is not fair.

"The Spring of Life was intended to be a kickoff for a new movement, a new commitment to saving unborn children in Buffalo," said Neil Boron, a pro-life supporter and chief announcer for WDCX-FM, a local Christian radio station. "There have been 10 confirmed children saved. That's successful in and of itself: 10 babies alive today because of the Spring of Life."

Several conclusions can be drawn from the demonstrations that turned daily street confrontations into ho-hum affairs for a city that quickly wanted to roll up the welcome mat that its mayor had unfurled:

■ Clinic defenders — the pro-choice loyalists who locked arms in front of clinic doors before dawn each day to keep the doctors' offices open — were the event's big winners.

■ Local mainstream pro-life supporters mainly stayed away from demonstrations they regarded as too radical. In short, the national rescue effort failed to draw the thousands of potential supporters living in and around Buffalo.

■ The number of outside pro-life activists who came to Buffalo — estimated as high as 1,000, but never more than a few hundred at a time — was a bitter disappointment to those expecting Buffalo to rival Wichita.

■ Contrary to widespread national reports that Operation Rescue turned into "Operation Fizzle," the pro-life forces earned one major victory here, turning the nation's spotlight onto the abortion issue in Buffalo in the way.

The Buffalo, Jan. 23, 1992, news column column carried a story on the event. The story was a... (text is partially obscured)

L.A. remains calm

Troops patrol city streets; toll rises to 44 dead

By MICHAEL FLEEMAN
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — With armed soldiers standing guard, residents of burned and looted neighborhoods swept up Saturday after three days of rioting that deeply scarred the city and shook the nation.

"We go from the mess-up, to the mop-up, to the make-up," said the Rev. Cecil Murray of First African Methodist Episcopal Church, which has sheltered people left homeless by the rioting or too fearful to stay in their homes.

President Bush declared the region a disaster area, making it eligible for federal financial help, California Gov. Pete Wilson announced.

Former Baseball Commissioner Peter Ueberroth, who ran the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, was named by Mayor Tom Bradley to oversee the recovery and said he would ask Japan to invest in rebuilding the inner city.

Korean-Americans and other demonstrators marched through Los Angeles and staged a rally, singing the Korean and American national anthems and hearing prayers of forgiveness for the rioters, many of whom targeted Korean-owned businesses. Organizers and helicopter pilots estimated the crowd at 100,000, but police said there were 25,000.

"This is our country," Helen Kim, a medical student and member of the Korean American Society, told the crowd. "It is not a Caucasian or Latino or Afro-American or Korean-American country. It is a patchwork of many people, and we need to keep it together."

About 2,800 National Guard troops patrolled the city, which exploded into violence following Wednesday's acquittal of four white police officers in the beating of a black motorist, Rodney G. King.

Although things were much calmer Saturday, a 65-year-old woman was fatally shot by a sniper as she walked down a riot-ravaged street in south-central Los Angeles, sheriff's deputies said. But whether the killing was related to the rioting or was part of the everyday violence that plagues the area was not clear.

The riots left at least 44 people dead, according to the Los Angeles county coroner, and 1,984 injured, 198 of them critically.

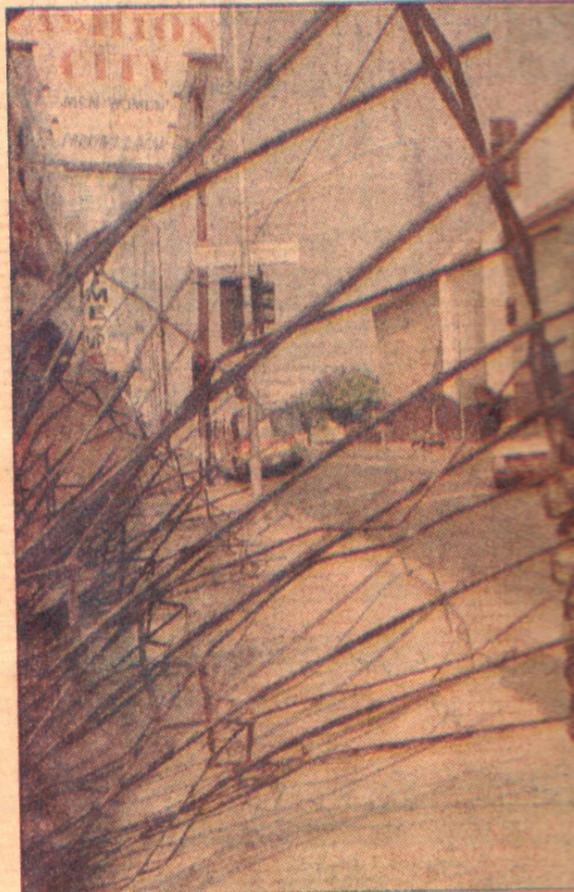
In 1965, 34 people died in the Watts riots that devastated some of the same neighborhoods. Of riots in recent U.S. history, the Detroit riots in 1967 had a death toll

See L.A. Page A10

Civil rights case tough to prove

By JAMES HENRY
Staff

Federal prosecutors... (text is partially obscured)



Two National Guardsmen patrol in front of a Sea

Riots bring U.S.

Need seen for dialogue o



LENDING A HAND: Victoria Smith helps Victor... (text is partially obscured)

Rescue: Foes point to miscalculations

Continued from Page 1

If Terry — on his hit-and-run visits to Buffalo — can be held responsible for raising the expectations too high, he can be credited for hyping the event enough to attract the four major network news programs, the top news magazines and the nation's leading newspapers.

Randall Terry set goals

Once they got here, the national media found that the Spring of Life had trouble meeting the goals set by national and local pro-life leaders.

Those goals were:

■ Blockading clinics. Over the two-week period, the demonstrators' closest attempt came on Day Five, when they blocked one of two rear driveways at Buffalo GYN Womenservices at 1241 Main St. For a few hours, before they were arrested, the demonstrators managed to block one of three entrances to the clinic.

■ What did the driveway occupation accomplish?

"Primarily, we were obedient," Jeffrey L. White, Operation Rescue leader from California, replied shortly before he was arrested.

Conclusion: The blockade attempts failed badly, in the face of the clinic defenders.

■ Saving "lives." On the first day of the Spring of Life, the Rev. Keith Tucci, Operation Rescue-National director, told a morning news conference, "If one life is saved, then our objective is accomplished, and we will return home rejoicing."

Pro-life leaders have said that they counseled 10 women who reconsidered their decisions to have abortions, including one woman who was five months pregnant. Other local pro-life organizations also cited an increase in the number of pregnant women seeking counseling.

The pro-choice side countered that no woman who tried to get into a clinic was thwarted by the demonstrators and that appointments were heavier than usual before and after the planned demonstrations.

"It's remarkable to me how many patients still are willing to come in," Dr. Barnett A. Slepian, one of the five targeted doctors, said last week.

Conclusion: Some women likely were dissuaded from having abortions. Still left to debate is whether more could have been

prevented through other strategies.

■ Driving two local abortion providers out of the business.

That goal always seemed doomed, although as the Rev. Robert L. Schenk of New Covenant Tabernacle in the Town of Tonawanda said last week, "We never lose hope."

Threats of harassment have reduced the number of qualified doctors performing abortions.

Conclusion: In the short run, little was achieved. The long-term effects remain to be seen.

■ Energizing the local pro-life community. This was always a goal of the local anti-abortion activists.

"We had 5,000 individuals register for the rallies and the street (demonstrations), and most of them were local people," Mrs. Prior said. "We've greatly increased the base of pro-lifers that will participate in local activities following the Spring of Life."

But no more than 1,500 local people demonstrated at any one time — compared with 8,000 who participated in a life-chain on Niagara Falls Boulevard last fall.

Conclusion: The local pro-lifers got a moderate shot in the arm. But so did the local pro-choice side.

A total of 628 arrests have been made, with about 15 from the pro-choice ranks, five from the media and only a handful arrested twice.

"Operation Rescue was around to get arrested, not to block clinics," claimed Ms. Baker of the 80 Percent Majority Campaign. "That's a way to get the media interested."

Arrests can lead to stories about the arrests themselves, the arraignments, the setting of bail, the conditions of the jails and the future trials, she explained.

What went wrong with the planned event?

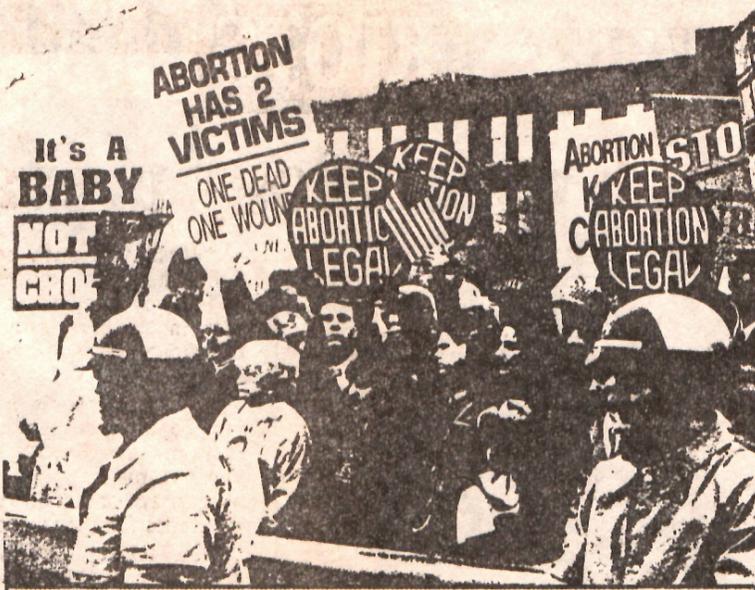
The miscalculations

Ms. Baker and others felt that Terry and Operation Rescue leaders may have miscalculated three major points:

■ Mayor Griffin's welcome to the pro-life forces, which didn't necessarily reflect Western New York sentiments or translate into a police force treading lightly on the demonstrators.

■ The lessons of Wichita, which convinced pro-choice groups here to welcome outsiders who assisted them in defending clinics.

"As long as they continue to



Victories claimed by the two sides in the Spring of Life

PRO-CHOICE

- No clinics were closed, even for part of one day.
- No doctors have stopped performing abortions.
- The Spring of Life has been almost universally panned in national newspapers and magazines.
- The pro-choice supporters matched their anti-abortion counterparts in numbers.
- Buffalo showed that abortion clinics can be defended.

PRO-LIFE

- Ten women reconsidered their decisions to have abortions.
- The nation once again had to confront the abortion issue, thanks to the Buffalo demonstrations.
- The local pro-life community has been re-energized.

call these national rescues and target one city, we're going to make sure local pro-choice activists in those cities have the techniques, the strategy and the ability to defend the clinics," said Katherine Spillar, the Los Angeles-based national coordinator for the Feminist Majority Foundation.

■ The idea that Buffalo, with its strong Catholic population, would participate and embrace the pro-life visitors.

Only 6.8 percent of the adults responding to a Buffalo News survey in late March unconditionally welcomed Operation Rescue to town, with another 50 percent welcoming them only if they obeyed the law; 43.2 percent didn't welcome them at all.

Bishop Edward D. Head, who has not participated in the Spring of Life demonstrations, previously told Western New York's 800,000 Catholics that they could participate if they were compelled by a "good-conscience decision."

Local clergy not included

Pro-life observers of the Wichita summer-long demonstrations have suggested that organizers of the Buffalo event made a crucial mistake in failing to involve enough local clergymen.

But maybe nobody could duplicate Wichita.

"As long as people have injunctions in force and the police are firm toward people that break the law, there is no reason to have another Wichita," said Peggy Jarman, director of Wichita's Pro-Choice Action League.

What's next, and what will be the long-term effects of the Buffalo event on the abortion struggle?

With the U.S. Supreme Court expected to dismantle the 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision, many observers believe that the abortion fight will move to the state legislatures, making street confrontations less significant.

Roe ruling will affect state

By JON R. SORENSEN
News Albany Bureau

ALBANY — Most everyone here — including Right to Life activists — believes New York State will continue to permit abortion even if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns Roe vs. Wade and gives states the option to end that right.

"I don't think we'll ever prohibit abortions in New York State," said Kathleen Gallagher, a lobbyist for New York State Catholic Conference, the Roman Catholic Church's lobbyists in the state capital.

"I'm confident that if Roe is overturned, our state law will still be in place because what the (court's) decision would probably mean is that it would simply turn the issue back to the states," said Shirley Gordon, lobbyist for Family Planning Advocates.

"Our state Legislature would have to make a decision, and our governor would have to concur," she said, adding that both have "been strong for pro-choice."

Legislators and lobbyists on both sides of the issue interviewed last week agree, with virtually all of them citing the political makeup of the state leaders and their constituents.

As a result, Right to Life lobbyists concentrate their efforts on restricting, rather than eliminating, abortion. Parental notification for teen-agers seeking abortions is at the top of this agenda.

They have had very little success so far but are hopeful that favorable rulings from the U.S. Supreme Court will boost their efforts here.

Likewise, pro-choice supporters have been able to focus on legislation that effectively broadens the abortion rights New York legalized in 1970, three years before the U.S. Supreme Court made it the law in its Roe vs. Wade decision.

Last year, the Legislature approved a bill guaranteeing the confidentiality of women who seek abortions. It was possible under the former law that records maintained by the Health Department could reveal those names.

This year, the pro-choice forces, along with a variety of health groups, are seeking non-binding resolutions from the Senate and Assembly calling on the federal government to permit the testing of the so-called "abortion pill," RU-486.

In addition to terminating pregnancies, the drug has also been used in breast cancer treatment.

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500,000 March in Capital To Support Abortion Rights

Continued From Page A1

tions but also to assert the growing political power of women in a year of Presidential and Congressional elections. They often invoked the names of Carol Moseley Braun of Illinois and Representative Barbara Boxer of California, strong proponents of abortion rights who are running for the Senate this year.

"The reality is that we're tired of begging men in power for our rights," said Patricia Ireland, president of the National Organization for Women, in an interview today. "If the courts won't protect them, then Congress has got to enact laws to protect a woman's rights. And if Congress doesn't, then we're going to elect pro-choice women to Congress."

Most of the marchers wore white, the color favored by suffragists and others advocating women's rights. The crowd carried signs such as "We Won't Go Back" and "I Have a Uterus and I Vote." One woman pushed a stroller with two infants in it with a sign that said, "In Vitro Babies for Choice." Marchers chanted "Choice, Choice, Choice" when they sighted anti-abortion demonstrators along the parade route.

Anti-Abortion Protests

Anti-abortion groups held counter-demonstrations on the Mall and some shouted "Shame" or held aloft signs of aborted fetuses along the parade route. Others set up a graveyard of 2,200 crosses representing aborted fetuses on the Mall below the Washington Monument. Earlier, 70 people were arrested and charged with blockading the entrance of an abortion clinic in southeast Washington.

Andrea Sheldon, director of the Washington office of Traditional Values Coalition, a 10-year-old anti-abortion group that she said represented 25,000 churches across the country, said she was "appalled" by the march.

March Was Big. But How Big?

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 5 — There was unusual agreement about one thing at today's march for abortion rights: It was the capital's largest abortion rally ever, and one of the largest rallies ever seen here.

The police assigned to monitor the rally estimated that 500,000 marched on the Capitol; rally organizers gave an estimate of 700,000.

As with all major demonstrations here, the United States Park Police photographed the crowd from a helicopter and then superimposed a grid over the composite photo to estimate the crowd, using a formula based on the number of people who would fit into a certain number of square feet.

In many cases in the past, the official and unofficial attendance estimates at marches has varied widely. In 1971, for example, organizers of a rally against the Vietnam War estimated the crowd at 500,000; the police said 200,000. And in 1987, the Park Service estimated a gay rights rally at 200,000, while organizers put the turnout at 500,000.

By BRUCE WEBER
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 5 — As its contribution to the march for abortion rights in Washington, Planned Parenthood of New York City packed an Amtrak train full of middle-class outrage and ferried it down to the capital today, a ride that ended in a faint shadow of more bellicose days, with dozens of women taking over the men's rooms in Union Station.

About 1,100 people — almost all women, almost all white and almost all over 30 — paid \$70 to ride to the

"Clearly the main purpose is about abortion, but they are also trying to legitimize certain lifestyles," said Ms. Sheldon. "What does the Young Communist League have to do with a young girl in Iowa? This is another example of how NOW is a fringe organization."

'We're Fierce and We Vote'

The abortion-rights marchers gathered on the Ellipse directly behind the White House to hear pre-march speeches from Bella Abzug, the former Congresswoman from New York, and songs from Peter, Paul and Mary.

The three-woman singing group Betty summed up the mood of the crowd when they suggested that when passing the White House, women yell, "We're feminist, we're fierce and we vote." As some demonstrators passed the White House, they tossed tennis balls on the lawn bearing the message, "Are you ready to be a mother?"

The Democratic Presidential candidates took time away from campaigning for the New York primary to be take part in the march. Mr. Clinton's supporters chanted "pro-choice, pro-Clinton." Mr. Brown's supporters handed out literature.

Mr. Brown stood behind the stage chatting for a short while with the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who Mr. Brown has indicated he would like to have as his Vice Presidential running mate.

As in the past, the march was overwhelmingly white, although leaders made a special effort to encourage members of minority groups to attend. Black and Hispanic women use publicly financed abortion centers at a higher rate than white females. Such centers are most affected by Government restrictions on abortion counseling and financing.

"I'm not disturbed that there aren't a lot of women of color in this crowd," said Eleanor Holmes Norton, the District of Columbia's non-voting delegate to the House of Representatives and former head of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Ms. Norton, who is black, marched in the front line of the rally.

"Unless it is a black or black-related march, blacks don't go to these events in large numbers," said Ms. Norton. "But I know that black women are pro-choice. Black women use abortion at twice the rate of white women. And frankly I give the middle-class white women here a lot of credit. This is truly a case of a strong identification with the abortion issue and a recognition that erosion of those rights, even if they don't directly affect you, will eventually affect you."

That was why Stacy Dalgleish, the co-owner of three restaurants in Los Angeles, came to the march. Ms. Dalgleish was among 300 marchers from Hollywood, including Jane Fonda, Joanne Woodward, Jill Clayburgh and Morgan Fairchild.

"I'm not at all here for myself because I will always have the money to do what I want," said Ms. Dalgleish. "But there are a lot of young women who don't. I'm married, I have two children and in a couple of years I won't have to worry about this anyway. But there are 150 employees at our restaurants and many young women among them. They said, 'Go and march for me.' That's why I'm here."

The police reported no major problems or disruptions associated with the crowd attending the rally. People coming to and leaving the rally on the Mall crowded trains, subways, buses and some streets, but authorities reported that transportation generally moved smoothly.

Beverly Silverberg, a spokeswoman



Abortion-rights demonstrators marching in Washington to proclaim that they oppose any rollback in women's rights.

for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, said the Metro subway system was close to setting a new Sunday ridership record by 6 P.M., when 364,000 passengers were reported, close to the 400,000 top set in 1989. "We usually handle 50,000 people on a normal Sunday, but this time, we had the rally, the start of the Cherry Blossom Festival and an exhibition baseball game in town," Ms. Silverberg said.

Union Station was crowded with passengers taking Amtrak to and from the rally. The railroad put extra cars on some trains going in and out of Washington, and a northbound train from Florida that normally goes nonstop between Washington and New York City was designated to make local stops after the rally, an Amtrak spokeswoman said.

Virginia Bill Rejected

Special to The New York Times

RICHMOND, April 5 — Gov. L. Douglas Wilder rejected legislation today that would have required that a parent or judge be notified before a minor could get an abortion.

In a six-page statement, Mr. Wilder said he had 19 objections to the measure, which the Virginia Legislature passed last month. The Governor returned the measure to lawmakers with a request for an amendment that effectively kills the proposal for this year's legislative session, said one of the bill's supporters, State Senator Mark L. Earley, a Republican.

Mr. Wilder said the bill was too vague because it did not specify the grounds a judge should use to determine whether to excuse a teenager from the notification requirement.

The measure would have applied to all minors except for those who were married or in the military. Doctors would have been guilty of a misdemeanor if they performed an abortion without appropriate notification. But the legislation allowed exceptions for cases in which the doctor decided that the procedure was medically necessary or that notification might cause the woman to be abused.



Surrounded by abortion-rights supporters, Anna Gardana of Mexico, a

Allies in Anger Pack a Train to Washington

By BRUCE WEBER
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 5 — As its contribution to the march for abortion rights in Washington, Planned Parenthood of New York City packed an Amtrak train full of middle-class outrage and ferried it down to the capital today, a ride that ended in a faint shadow of more bellicose days, with dozens of women taking over the men's rooms in Union Station.

About 1,100 people — almost all women, almost all white and almost all over 30 — paid \$70 to ride to the

teacher trainer in the New York public schools who rode with several friends. "But I think this is important. I've seen what happens to children brought into this world unwanted. The thought there could be more of them is frightening."

Probably not on purpose, the most politically distinct groups kept to opposite ends of the train. In the front were the women from No More Nice Girls. A couple of members wore huge foam-rubber hats in the shape of lips or carried pink foam-rubber fists with inscriptions like "I'm a woman"

"We founded No More Nice Girls when Medicaid abortion was lost in 1977," said Ann Snitow, a founding member. "Abortion is just one little piece of the concept of women controlling the shape of their own lives."

Ms. Hanover said it was important that "the Administration focus on the fact that so many people in their own party, not just the Democrats, feel passionately about this." She said that Mr. Giuliani was baby-sitting their two children while she was at the march.

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THE NEW YORK TIMES
MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1992
PAGE 1

Abortion Foes Arrested For Blocking SE Clinic

U.S. Supreme Court ruling that established a constitutional right to choose abortion.

Protests and confrontations between anti-abortion and abortion-rights activists are expected to continue today during a noon march sponsored by the National Organization for Women and dozens of other abortion-rights groups. The march will assemble at 10 a.m. near the Ellipse, pass in front of the White House and continue as a rally on the Mall.

A counter-demonstration will begin at 1:30 p.m. on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol. Yesterday evening, anti-abortion crowds also held a candlelight vigil outside the Supreme Court.

"I'm here because I don't have a decision to have an abortion. But I this isn't right," she said about her anti-abortion demonstrators. "I know opening the clinic than by the anti-abortion demonstrators. A few were more upset by what she thought placards in the form of tombstones for Life. Many demonstrators held by the anti-abortion group. Feminists don't tell me what to do."

Robinson said later that she was at one point, a protester, a white man, shouted that he would take her child. Robinson scoffed. "When was the last time you took care of a black child?" she said. Terry, who is white, had told the crowd that he had adopted two black children, the man said. "Two," she said. "Two out of the 2 billion out here. That's nothing."

Tersha Robinson, 21, said she had been waiting since 8 a.m. for her abortion. She hadn't expected the crowds—or the fury. "It's hard enough to come here and these people are making it harder," Robinson said. "They don't know everybody's individual story. They shouldn't be pushing their opinion on them."

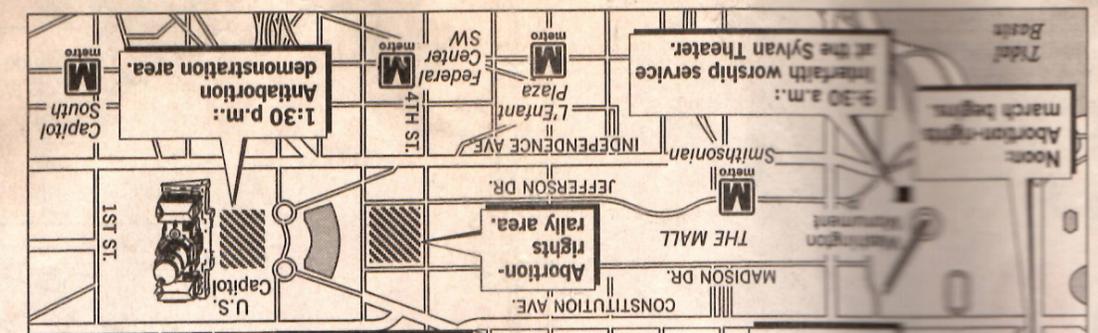
Roberson, a District resident who is studying to be a practical nurse, said she has two children and decided she could not afford a third. Protesters were taken to the 7th District police station and fined, \$50 for blocking the entrance and \$25 for disorderly conduct, police said. Patients were admitted to the clinic beginning about 10 a.m. Clinic operators said all patients scheduled for appointments received treatment.

The protest drew leaders of Operation Rescue and its local affiliate, Project Rescue, which conducted similar blockades in January on the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the report.

Staff writers Stephanie Griffith and Brian Moar contributed to this report.



From left, are Vramley, Jenny and Norah Sullivan during vigil at Supreme Court.



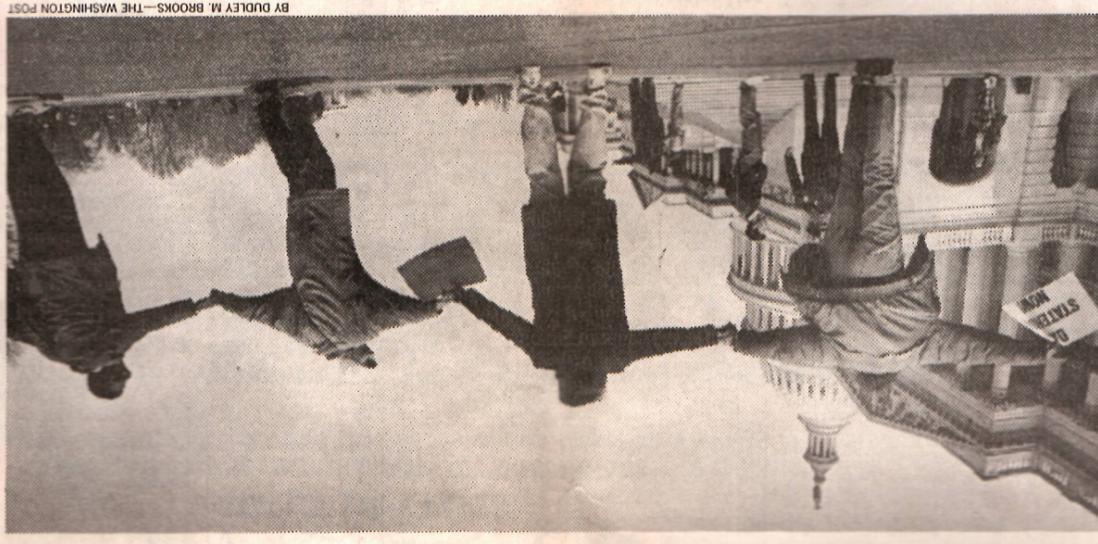
WHAT: The National Organization for Women is sponsoring a march past the White House and a rally today on the Mall. Feminists for Life and other abortion groups will hold a counter-demonstration. March begins at noon. Counter-demonstration begins at 1:30 p.m.

STREET CLOSINGS: Police will close streets along the Ellipse area will be closed at 6 a.m. Starting at 7 a.m., roads in the Mall area will be closed, including Madison and Jefferson drives and First, Third, Fourth, Seventh, 15th and 17th streets NW. Traffic on Constitution Avenue NW will be rerouted between 14th and 18th streets.

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Supporters of statehood for D.C. stretch as they attempt to link hands around the Capitol. About 2,000 people attended.

Statehood Supporters Rally at Capitol

Richard Masur gave their support. Several leaders of the National Organization for Women, in town for an abortion-rights march today, also embraced the statehood cause. Many of those in the crowd belonged to groups that have long been influential in District politics. Leaders of organized labor turned out in force. Several ward political organizations and other community groups also were well represented. John Fanning, a community activist in Logan Circle, has lived in the District for 10 years, but this was his first statehood event. "I think we're much farther along than we've ever been, but there's a ways to go," said Joyce Rollerson, a grandmother and fifth-generation Washingtonian. "You know, I shouldn't even have to be here, I should be out using my time to fight other causes. . . . We deserve this. We shouldn't even have to ask for it."

Proponents are heartened, however. They say that the District's lack of voting representation in Congress is so unfair that getting any public attention automatically helps their cause. "I can tell you for sure there is something not right about this picture," said D.C. Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly. "Statehood has got to happen and it has got to happen now." The rally attracted an array of the District's public officials, including Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-C.) and the majority of the D.C. Council. But there were also some famous faces from outside the District. Singer Lou Rawls and actor

Staff writer Rene Sanchez contributed to this report.

Police arrest protesters blocking an entrance to Hillside Women's Surgi-Center.



Abortion Foes Arrested For Blocking SE Clinic

U.S. Supreme Court ruling that established a constitutional right to choose abortion.

Protests and confrontations between anti-abortion and abortion-rights activists are expected to continue today during a noon march sponsored by the National Organization for Women and dozens of other abortion-rights groups. The march will assemble at 10 a.m. near the Ellipse, pass in front of the White House and continue as a rally on the Mall.

A counter-demonstration will be held at 1:30 p.m. on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol. Yesterday evening, anti-abortion crowds also held a candlelight vigil outside the Supreme Court.

About 150 demonstrators assembled at an hour-long vigil organized by the anti-abortion group Feminists for Life. Many demonstrators held placards in the form of tombstones symbolizing women who had died during legal abortions. A few wore white armbands, signifying that they had had abortions.

Earlier in the day, anti-abortion activists were setting up 2,200 tombstones and crosses near the Washington Monument at the corner of 15th Street and Constitution Avenue NW. The American Coalition for Life says that is how many abortions are performed in the United States each day.

Many passersby at the exhibit said they found the display impressive, but most said it did not sway them from their views about abortion.

"It's only one side," said Glen Burger, 24, a construction worker from Poughkeepsie, N.Y., in Washington for today's abortion-rights rally. "It doesn't show the people killed by illegal abortions."

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, speaking yesterday at a judicial symposium at Washington, Va., Lee University in Lexington, Va., said the protests will have no effect on the Supreme Court's decisions.

According to an Associated Press report, Rehnquist said the planned demonstration reminded him of a time recently when he saw protesters from both sides of the abortion issue set up on the court plaza.

"It suggested that people thought the courts were subject to the same kind of influence and persuasion as Congress and the president," he said. "But that's simply not the case."

Staff writers Stephanie Griffith and Brian Moar contributed to this report.

From left, are Vramley, Jenny and Norah Sullivan during vigil at Supreme Court.

BY JAMES A. PARCELL—THE WASHINGTON POST



ABORTION FROM BI

action Rescue, jumped onto a cooler in the convenience store's parking lot and pleaded with the women to change their minds. Abortion is murder, he told them. Abortion is wrong, he said.

"Half of these people who run these places are racists," Terry said. "That doctor in there is a white abortionist and he doesn't give a crap about you. . . . Your baby could be the next Reverend [Jesse] Jackson. Please don't let them kill your baby."

Vicki Robinson, 29, of Maryland, grimaced as Terry spoke. "Don't tell me you're going to help me," Robinson shouted over the fence. "I'm here because I don't have a job. If you don't have a job for me, don't tell me what to do."

Robinson said later that she was more upset by what she thought was a slow response by police in opening the clinic than by the anti-abortion demonstrators. "I know this isn't right," she said about her decision to have an abortion. "But I can't afford to feed myself. How am I going to have a child?"

At one point, a protester, a white man, shouted that he would take her child. Robinson scoffed. "When was the last time you took care of a black child?" she said. Terry, who is white, had told the crowd that he had adopted two black children, the man said. "Two," she said. "Two out of the 2 billion out here. That's nothing."

Tersha Robinson, 21, said she had been waiting since 8 a.m. for her abortion. She hadn't expected the crowds—or the fury.

"It's hard enough to come here and these people are making it harder," Robinson said. "They don't know everybody's individual story. They shouldn't be pushing their opinion on them."

Roberson, a District resident who is studying to be a practical nurse, said she has two children and decided she could not afford a third. Protesters were taken to the 7th District police station and fined, \$50 for blocking the entrance and \$25 for disorderly conduct, police said. Patients were admitted to the clinic beginning about 10 a.m.

Clinic operators said all patients scheduled for appointments received treatment.

The protest drew leaders of Operation Rescue and its local affiliate, Project Rescue, which conducted similar blockades in January on the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the



March ends here, marchers will head for the Mall.

Abortion-rights rally area.

1:30 p.m.: Ant-abortion demonstration area.

STREET CLOSINGS: Police will close streets along the NOW route as the marchers pass. In addition, all roadways in the Ellipse area will be closed, including Seventh, 15th and 17th streets NW. Traffic on Constitution Avenue NW will be rerouted between 14th and 18th streets.

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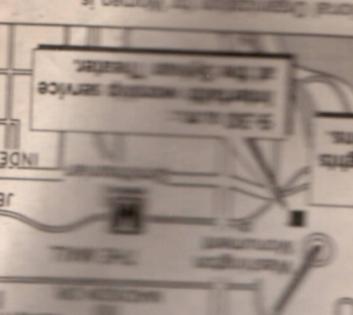
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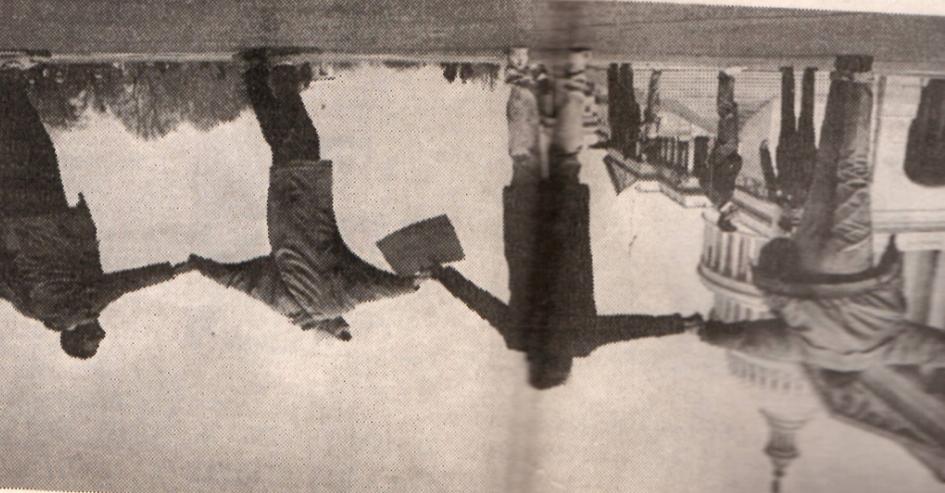
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BY DAVE COOK, BRAD WFE, LARRY FOGEL—THE WASHINGTON POST

SOURCES: National Park Service; Northern Telecom Cherry Blossom 10-mile Run

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DD, From BI