

herland newsletter

May 1984

a publication of Herland Bookstore, 1630 H.W. 19th Oklahoma City 73106

photo: Regina Bennett



There has been an enthusiastic response to the initiation of the Herland Library Club. We have about 150 titles for circulation and lots of members. Anyone can join with a \$5. one-year membership which will be used to purchase books and journal subscriptions. Your donations of books, magazines, pamphlets, articles, etc., are very much appreciated. The building of a resource library is a valuable contribution to the preservation and distribution of our culture and women's community.

Herland Bookstore has received numerous requests from other organizations to share the Newsletter mailing list. Our policy is to maintain our readers' addresses strictly for mailing of the Herland Newsletter. However, if you would like to receive other mailings please fill out the form below, noting any restrictions, and we will file these forms separately and make them available to others (i.e., Oklahoman's For Human Rights, Women's Studies Program, Oklahoma City Women's Political Caucus, individuals planning miscellaneous public programs, for example).

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Herland Bookstore is pleased to announce the beginning of a summer Writer's Series, featuring authors of interest to the women's community.

Vicki McConnell, author of Berrigan and Mrs. Porter's Letter, has just published her second novel in the Nyla Wade detective series, The Burntown Widows, Naiad Press, 1984.

McConnell will appear at Herland June 9, to read from The Burntown Widows and autograph her new book.

Judy Katz, professor of Human Relations, Education and Women's Studies at the University of Oklahoma, will be featured the end of August. (Watch the Herland Newsletter for exact date.)

She will discuss the writing of No Fairy Godmothers, No Magic Wands: The Healing Process After Rape, R & E Publishers, 1984. Katz is the author of White Awareness: Handbook For Anti-Racism Training, University of Oklahoma Press, 1978.

Herland invites authors to participate in the Writer's Series.

List any restrictions in the use of your address:

NEWS BRIEFS

GAYLE MARIE IN CONCERT

Gayle Marie will appear in concert May 18, 1984 at the ArtsAnnex at the State Fairgrounds, 3000 General Pershing Blvd, Oklahoma City. Local musicians Mary Black and Susan Morgan will open. The door opens to the public at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10. and \$15. (contributing, which is for seating in the front of a somewhat long auditorium and are limited in number). Ticket includes wine and refreshments.

This is a special opportunity to experience women's music at its finest and commune with friends. Records and tapes will be on sale.

CONTRIBUTORS WIN BIG

The Women in Film Festival fundraising raffle was a success, raising enough money to cover film rentals and expenses. The winners are:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Tom Fredgren | 6. Pat Reaves |
| 2. Kevan Kaighn | 7. Therese Cabell |
| 3. Debra Thomas | 8. Michelle Russo |
| 4. Joni Darnell | 9. Cindy Noble |
| 5. Catherine Hanley | 10. Judith Maute |

Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets and thanks to all the women who donated their services in support of an also very successful film festival. Donors are:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Catherine Hanley | 6. Candy Camhi |
| 2. Elaine Barton | 7. Regina Bennett |
| 3. Bobbi Forga | 8. Jana Birchum |
| 4. Teresa Long | 9. Tori Breitling |
| 5. Maggie Goree | 10. Barbara Cleveland |

A NOTE ON LESBIAN BATTERING

Several Oklahoma women involved in the battered women's movement attended the conference on Violence in the Lesbian Community in Washington, D.C. last fall.

Enclosed in this newsletter is a statement which was developed there and issued by the Lesbian Task Force of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Please keep this statement. It contains phone numbers of contacts in this area who can provide information about intervention, safe housing alternatives, advocacy/liaison for Lesbians with existing battered women's shelters, referrals, someone to talk with.

BUDGET CUTS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

The Women's Studies Program at the University of Oklahoma has been seriously damaged by the state's financial crisis. For the 1982-3 academic year, the Program budget was cut by exactly the 4% mandated by the University. For the 1983-4 academic year, when University-wide cuts were estimated at 9% and most maintenance and operations allocations in Arts and Sciences (where the Program is housed) were cut 16% or less, Women's Studies was cut 36% in wages, 100% for graduate assistantship, 100% for the instructor who taught Introduction to Women's Studies, and 50% in maintenance and operations (includes telephone, postage, supplies, library acquisitions, general maintenance). Faculty work loads in "home" departments have increased because of reduction in graduate assistant pools and clerical staff, making overload contributions to the Women's Studies Program difficult or impossible. Two of our projects supported by external funds officially ended in December, 1983. Several of our strongest faculty members are seeking employment elsewhere as a direct result of the budget cuts.

WOMEN'S STUDIES COURSE LISTINGS

Courses for the spring intersession include Mothers and Daughters in Literature, Marriage and the Family in the Middle East, The Horror Film, and Vikings.

Courses for the summer session include Women in Education, Women's Literature, Family Development, Sociology of Women, European Witchcraft, Contemporary Parenting, Human Growth and Development.

Courses for the fall semester include Introduction to Women's Studies, Human Sexuality, Human Evolution, Human Growth and Development, Human Aspects of Design, Contemporary Parenting, Roman Women of the Republic, Women and Madness in Literature, History of Feminist Thought, Family Development, Philosophy and Sex, Women's Issues in the Helping Professions, Women and Power, Sociology of Women, The Family, Early Childhood, Language and Gender, Women in History and Literature, Roman Women in Latin Literature, Multi-cultural Counseling, Non-Normative Transition, The Possible Human, Human Emotions, Early Social Development, Theory of Individual Development and Family and Social Change.

Women's Studies Program, 601 Elm St., Room 530 Norman, OK 73019. call (405) 325-3481 for info.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMANFEST I, A Celebration of Women in the Arts, begins Saturday, May 19, 1984 at The Open Door, 1523 E. 15th, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Each year some of the area's best artists are visible during Tulsa's annual Mayfest activities. In keeping with this spirit we are holding a special celebration of women's contributions to the arts. Schedule: 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Art Show and Sale; 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Performance; 10:00 p.m. - ? Women's Dance. For more information contact Shan, 918-599-7650; Carole 918-836-3958; Tay 918-587-4669; Mary 918-592-2659; Vickie 918-834-7504. Sponsored by the Tulsa Women's Alliance.

CELEBRATEN! 10th Annual National Women's Music Festival, Memorial Day Weekend, May 25, 26, 27, in Bloomington, Indiana. The festival features Meg Christian, Kate Clinton, Margie Adam, Kay Gardener, June Jordan, Adrienne Torf, Susan Freundlich, Henia & Dovidia Goodman, Casselberry & Dupree, Holly Near and many, many others in concert; Workshops in a variety of areas, writer's conference, Third World women workshops, documentary film and video, open mic, coffeehouse, dances, art exhibits, slide shows, and more. Write NWMF, P.O. Box 5217, Bloomington, IN 47402 (812) 336-0676.

STEERING OUR COURSE: Feminist Education in the 80s, 6th Annual National Women's Studies Association Conference, June 24-28, 1984, at Rutgers University. Write: NWSA Conference, Douglass College, Women's Studies Program, Voorhees, Chapel, LL, New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

THE NATIONAL INFORMANT is a new national organization for information and referrals. It will establish a toll-free link of Lesbian and gay businesses, bars, hotels, and vital medical and legal services, via a computerized system. The info will be available 24 hours a day, and will operate throughout the country. Call their toll-free number Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. EST, 800-252-2532. P.O. Box 5923, Providence, RI 02903.

WANTED: Female traveling companion for adventurous weeks this summer. Date of departure: June 1 - final destination: Bay Area. Share expenses and decisions. (non-smoker) Write Peggy, Box 6305, Norman, OK 73071.

Published by Herland Bookstore
Editor: Elaine Barton

PUBLICATIONS

An extensive guide to funding sources and grant writing is provided in the Funding Guide for Native Americans, 1983, Dean Chavers and Associates, 7001 S. 234 E. Ave., Broken Arrow, OK 74012; 399 pp. \$49.95

The Directory of Financial Aids For Women contains a listing of scholarships, fellowships, loans, grants, awards and internships designed primarily or exclusively for women. ABC-CLIO, Inc., 2040 Alameda Padre Serra, Box 4397, Santa Barbara, CA 93103. \$16.00

Women in the Wilderness publishes information about hiking, backpacking, rafting, canoe, bicycling adventures for women. Write for free publication which includes articles, poems, letters, and directories and program calendars for national and regional programs and trips: 20 Sunnyside Ave., Suite A, Mill Valley, CA 94941.

PLEXUS, San Francisco Bay Area Women's Newspaper is available at Herland Bookstore. Also carried: Sisterlode, a Feminist Journal for News, Arts, Ideas; Albuquerque: Off Our Backs, national and international news about women; Washington, D.C.; and Lesbian Connection, East Lansing, Michigan. Coming soon: Sojourner, The New England Women's Journal of News, Opinions and the Arts.

WOMEN'S POETRY NIGHT features "Trip Wire," in performance. Teresa Long and Maggie Goree: In a hostile and alien world two young women's adventures are spun into poetry at the hearth of womanhood. Their love given to the building of solidarity among all women. Women's Poetry Night is Tuesday, May 8, at 8:00 p.m. and is sponsored by Individual Artists of Oklahoma and Herland Bookstore. 12 E. California, Oklahoma City.

WHITE TRAIN/PILGRIMAGE TO PANTEX

The White Train carries the nuclear warheads manufactured in Amarillo, Texas to other parts of the country. On June 9, it will pass through the Woodward, Oklahoma area. On the 10th of June, the Benedictine Peace House will hold a vigil. Call for more information at 524-5577. A Pilgrimage to Pantex, where the warheads are made, will begin the end of July and culminate in a three-day vigil August 4, 5, 6. Participants from Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico will take part in the Pilgrimage.

REVIEWS

REENA AND OTHER STORIES. By Paule Marshall.
The Feminist Press, \$8.95

Paule Marshall's muses, she tells us, are "the poets in the kitchen," West Indian immigrants like her mother who spent their days "scrubbing floor" for white housewives and then came home and talked away all silence, spinning language into richly patterned quilts. Invisible by race and invisible by sex, these women "fought back, using the only weapon at their command: the spoken word." If their new country denied them, they would remake it in their own words: "In this man world," they told each other, "you got to take yuh mouth and make a gun!" Like her muses, Paule Marshall lives in language; she retells the world in order to make it new. Her three novels span the last 25 years; the current collection - five short stories, an autobiographical essay and a novella, "Merle," based on her superb 1969 novel, "The Chosen Place, The Timeless People," Marshall's finest book - is something of a sampler, offering an uneven but always rewarding introduction to her work. Unlike so much modern fiction, which often seems to be inscribed on the inside of a skull, Marshall's tales are panoramic; her carefully detailed portraits are framed by restless social landscapes. In my favorite story, the autobiographical "To Da-Duh, In Memoriam," a 9-year old Brooklyn girl visits her grandmother on Barbados. The old woman, awed and terrified by rumors of New York, points out breadfruit, mangoes, fields of cane and asks triumphantly, "Tell me, have you got anything like these in that place where you were born?" When the child insists that New York has a building taller than the island's tallest palm or highest hill, the old woman and the old world are defeated. What the child's truth destroyed, however, the writer's truth restores; this is Marshall's gift to the poets in her kitchen.

-Carol Sternhell

OLD DYKE TALES. By Lee Lynch.
Naiad Press, \$7.95

Meet Henny - and Curly, the young Lesbian who helps her sell "Oranges Out of Season," who will soon be initiated into the secrets of Henny's life...Over the span of five intensely real stories, you will come to know Sally and Liz and the women who frequent their bar; you will accompany Sally the bartender into the straight world as she goes on "Jury

Duty"; follow her erotic exploration of infidelity in "White Wine"; watch as her integrity is tested by the five Black Lesbians who venture into Cafe Femmes in "Summer Storm". Read "The Coat" and "The Tracks." After Augusta Brennan has revealed herself to you in two powerful stories, you will never forget this eighty-year old Lesbian. Then, be in the mind and heart of an emerging Lesbian as she makes the great discovery of her young life in "The LoPresto Traveling Magic Show"...Accompany two faithful old lovers as they search for a lost wedding ring in "Pleasure Park"... Meet Henry again in a surprising and poignant story that will teach you many things about a "Honeydew Moon"...Read about young Andy, owner of "That Old Studebaker," who must compete in a race with the young man challenging her for the heart of the girl she loves...

NO FAIRLY GODMOTHERS, NO MAGIC WANDS: THE HEALING PROCESS AFTER RAPE. By Judy H. Katz.
R & E Publishers, \$8.95

There are no fairy godmothers or magic wands to help a woman deal with the aftermath of being raped. Rather, it is the author's contention that rape can best be understood from the basis of a personal experience. Katz presents us with her personal account of rape and the impact of the experience on herself, her family and significant others. The author describes from a personal and professional perspective, as a counselor and educator, the healing process which occurs after an assault. The attack in many respects does not end after the rapist leaves. The scars can become deeply imbedded. Many reactions to the rape may emerge days or months after the assault. The healing process integrating the experience into the woman's life will also be affected by the kinds of support and medical personnel, friends, family and significant others. All play a key role in the healing process. Katz also addresses the reality that it is not the woman alone who is affected by the rape. Family members, friends and other significant others must cope with the violent act that has touched their lives. They will never be the same. The rape victim and her significant others must find ways to put their lives in a new order. This book is a must for women and men alike. Although there are no instant panaceas to help the victim cope with the assault, there are ways we can better understand and ease the pain of the emotional healing process.

Hag
Princess
Bitch
Secretary
Maniac
My Own True Love
Nymphomaniac
Centerfold
Witch
Virgin
Slut
Fat Assed
Ball and Chain
Housewife
Madonna
The Weaker Sex
Teen Angel
Kept Woman
Spinster
Man-Hater
Dog
Welfare Mother
Biddy
Fox
Battle Axe
Insatiable
Whore
Honey
Temptress
Nag
Chick
Mother of My Child
Chairwoman
The Better Half
Feeble-Minded
Sex-Goddess
Maid
Ladies
Mother-in-Law
Castrator
School Girl
Brainless
My Little Woman
Divorcee
Widow
Mistress
Cold-Hearted
Broad
Wind-Bag
Sweet Darling
Amazon
Daughter
Shrew
Madwoman
Dyke
Scatterbrain
Call Girl
Old Bag

For Strong Women

A Strong woman is a woman who is straining.
A strong woman is a woman standing on tiptoe and lifting a barbell while trying to sing Boris Godunov.
A strong woman is a woman at work cleaning out the cesspool of the ages, and while she shovels, she talks about how she doesn't mind crying, it opens the ducts of the eyes, and throwing up develops the stomach muscles, and she goes on shoveling with tears in her nose.

A strong woman is a woman in whose head a voice is repeating, I told you so, ugly, bad girl, nag, shrill, witch, ballbuster, nobody will ever love you back, why aren't you feminine, why aren't you soft, shy aren't you quiet, why aren't you dead?

A strong woman is a woman determined to do something others are determined not be done. She is pushing up on the bottom of a lead coffin lid. She is trying to raise a manhole cover with her head, she is trying to butt her way through a steel wall. Her head hurts. People waiting for the hole to be made say, hurry, you're so strong.

A strong woman is a woman bleeding inside. A strong woman is a woman making herself strong every morning while her teeth loosen and her back throbs. Every baby, a tooth, midwives used to say, and now every battle a scar. A strong woman is a mass of scar tissue that aches when it rains and wounds that bleed when you bump them and memories that get up in the night and pace in boots to and fro.

A strong woman is a woman who craves love like oxygen or she turns blue choking.
A strong woman is a woman who loves strongly and weeps strongly and is strongly terrified and has strong needs. A strong women is strong in words, in action, in connection, in feeling; she is not strong as a stone but as a wolf suckling her young. Strength is not in her, but she enacts it as the wind fills a sail.

What comforts her is others loving her equally for the strength and for the weakness from which it issues, lightning from a cloud. Lightning stuns. In rain, the clouds disperse. Only water of connection remains, flowing through us. Strong is what we make each other. Until we are all strong together, a strong woman is a woman strongly afraid.

from
The Moon Is Always Female
poems by Marge Piercy
Alfred A. Knopf: New York
1981, pp. 56-57.
order at
Herland Bookstore
1630 N.W. 19th St.
Sat. 10-6, Sun. 1-6

MAYA DEREN IS ALIVE

By **JERRY TALLMER**
 THEY scattered her ashes over Japan, but Maya Deren keeps coming back together again. She has been dead 23 years; she has never died.

There are three young women, all in their mid-30s — VeVe Clark, Milliecent Hodson, Catrina Neiman — who have been working now for eight years or more on a three-volume biography of Maya Deren. They never knew her, of course. They know her work, her writings, her spirit, her films. *Signatures*, the 900-page first volume of their *Legend of Maya Deren*, comes out this summer under the imprint of Jonas Mekas's Anthology Film Archives.

Jonas is a keeper of the flame, custodian of Maya's papers, restorer

and guardian of the prints of her half-dozen zero-budget pathbreaking imperishable films: *Meshes of the Afternoon*, *Ritual in Transfigured Time*, *The Very Eye of Night*, and the others. To see *Meshes* again now — a door, a key, a flower, a knife, a figure in black with a mirror for a face — is to realize that with all else, Maya Deren at 26 or 27, its director and star, was of the beauty of, oh, the Rita Hayworth of that time.

"The imagery she generated [41] years ago," Boston critic Nat Segaloff has said, "retains its power to chill right through to the soul."

Maya Deren was also the author of *Divine Horsemen: The Living Gods of Haiti*, generally considered the best book

ever done on Voudoun [i.e., voodoo] mythology. Like Maya, this book refuses to die. A new edition (\$20 cloth, \$10 paper) has just been published by Bruce McPherson's Documentext, P.O. Box 638, New Paltz, N.Y.

There is a young woman of 37 years, Cherel Ito, another keeper of the flame. Cherel Ito is the widow of composer Teiji Ito. Before he was married to Cheryl, Teiji was married to Maya, and put music — extraordinary music — to the films Maya had made a dozen years earlier.

Cherel Ito has spent 11 years piecing together and paring down the nine hours of footage on Haitian voodoo that Maya shot in 1947, when she was doing her book. That footage will be ready for screening soon.



Maya, who wrote of herself as "a resolute and even stubbornly willful individual," died as the women's movement was getting born. "She was already there," says Cherel Ito. Maya lives.

New & Noteworthy

DIVINE HORSEMEN: The Living Gods of Haiti, by Maya Deren. (McPherson & Company/Documentext, New Paltz, N.Y., \$10.) Maya Deren went to Haiti to photograph vodun dancing, remained to participate and eventually produced this extensive, intimate illustrated account of Haitian rites. In his 1953 review, Seldon Rodman said "Divine Horsemen" is "visually accurate in its reporting" and "sharp insights abound." A hard-cover edition is available for \$20.

In the misty town of Burnton on the Oregon coast, journalist-detective Nyla Wade discovers a limestone castle and old murders and a town too anxious to obliterate the castle and its history: the generations of lesbians who have lived there.

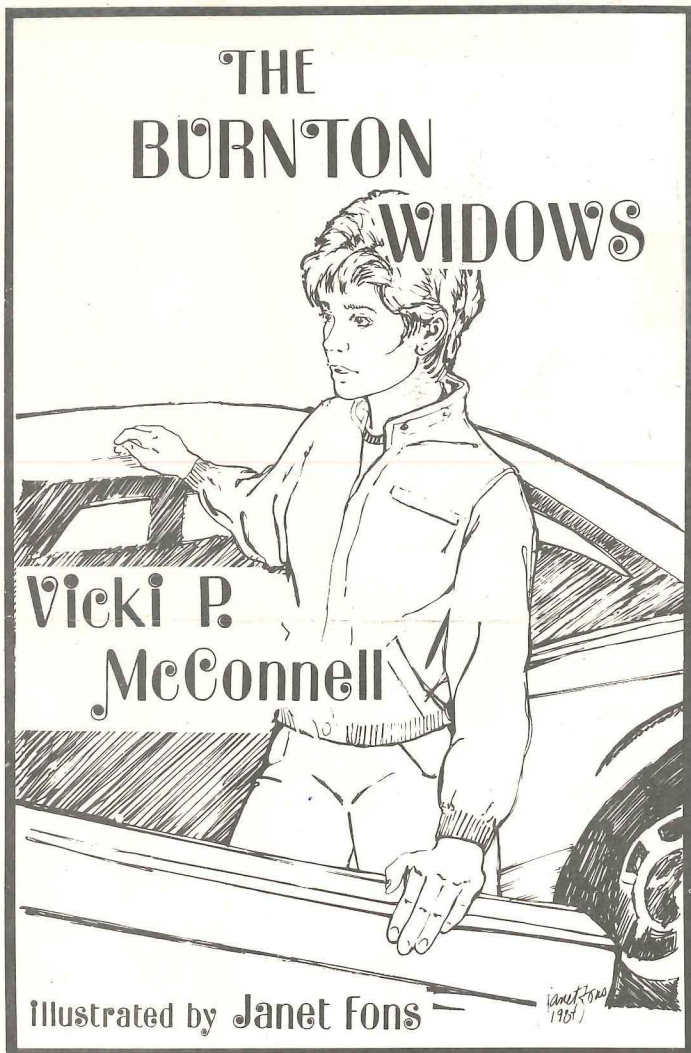
"... Nyla stepped up to Karp's desk, picked up a photo and looked at it closely. Karp watched her. She forced herself to contain her revulsion—in black and white photos, blood was black, but no less gory. She put the picture down in front of the Chief and kept her finger on it."

"You'll talk to Mitch Masters and Ritchie Dennis? Her eyes told him she was afraid of nothing.

"Karp didn't answer. Nyla leaned in close to him. 'Don't underestimate us, Chief...'"

272 pp. ISBN 0-930044-52-5 \$7.95

By the author of *Mrs. Porter's Letter* (224 pp., ISBN 0-930044-29-0, \$6.95). Stephanie L. Gotlob, writing about the first Nyla Wade adventure in *PLEXUS*, said "If you love women and you love mysteries, you're in for a real treat."



A Nyla Wade Mystery



may

POST IT
 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
 COMPLIMENTS OF
 HERLAND BOOKSTORE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Women's Self Defense class Women's Resource Center 364-9424 OU Softball vs. Oklahoma City 5:00 p.m. Norman	2 Poetry at Bricktown 8:00 p.m. open reading 12 E. California Individual Artists of Okla. 232-5514	3 Women & Work symposium Arlington, TX 817-273-2581	4 Women & Work cont.	5 American Indian Heritage Celebration - Lloyd Noble Center 325-3163 Weatherford Peace Festival 10-3 524-5577
6 Shalom Spring - Lifestyle and Peacemaking 2:00 -5:30 p.m. First Christian Church Midwest City, 505 E. Douglass Dr. 524-5577 - info.	7 "Electricity" music in honor of Israeli Independence Day Emanuel Synagogue 7:30 p.m.- OKC	8 Public Relations for non-profit organ. 6:30 p.m. \$10. WRC 364-9424 Women's Poetry Night 8:00 p.m. IAO 232-5514	9 Every Wednesday noon silent vigil to protest U.S. involvement in Central Amer. Federal Bldg. N.W. 4th & Robinson. come & go 524-5577 - info	10	11	12 Auto mechanics class Women's Resource Center 364-9424 226 E. Gray St. Norman
13 Mother's Day Art Show at Kerr Park, 1-5 IAG booths available "The Dollmaker" ABC-TV 7:00 p.m.	14	15	16 Poetry at Bricktown 8:00 p.m. open reading IAO 232-5514	17	18 Gayle Marie in concert 8:00 p.m. Oklahoma Art Center, OKC Fairgrounds tickets: \$10 & \$15	19 WOMANFEST I The Open Door 1523 E. 15th Tulsa, Oklahoma 1:00 p.m. - midnight
20 Phyllis Kornfield organized exhibit of prisoner's art 3-5p.m. reception. show runs - 27th IAO 232-5514 12 E. California	21	22	23	24	25 National Women's Music Festival Bloomington, IN 812-336-0676	26
27	28 Memorial Day (observed)	29	30 Memorial Day	31 "Triple Muse" exhibit by Terry Hauptman June 3, 1-2:00 reading, 3-5:00 opening. show runs - June 16 12 E. California Oklahoma City		