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The Catalyst for all Factions of the Gay Community  
VOLUME 4 NUMBER 25

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**CINEMATTACHINE**



# December is a holiday gig.

Year-end Holiday Season is here—and for these busy days we have scheduled a great list of fine erotic film programs. Included are new first runs, selected encores you have asked to see again, a Mattachine Newsreel re-cap of Gay 1974, and some special events which we will tell you about later. Don't miss a single program!

December 5-11 Inclusive  
Jean Cardin and the Overture of 1812  
**HURTS SO GOOD**  
Plus—PLUNGING PISTON  
Country Boy / Co-Captains  
Newsreel: Closet Ball, Spoon Awards, Black Cat Nostalgia

December 12-18 Inclusive  
Joe & Lance in **FREE RIDER**  
Plus—WINTER'S COME with 3 Young Skippers; Inch by Inch  
Mattachine Newsreel\*—GAY 1974 in REVIEW-I



December 19-25 Inclusive  
**RUSTY AND HORSE ERIC**  
**BATH HOUSE BUST**  
Mattachine Newsreel\*—GAY 1974 in REVIEW-II



WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS  
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS DAY PARTY  
and a whooping event  
NEW YEAR'S EVE

December 26-January 1 Inclusive  
**ALL AMERICAN BOYS**  
**HOT PEPPER HEAVEN**  
DROP YOUR TOOLS  
Mattachine Newsreel\*—GAY 1974 in REVIEW-III

\* Mattachine Newsreel Review Specials will be shown TWICE only each day, at 5 and 8:30 pm. Regular shows on schedule.

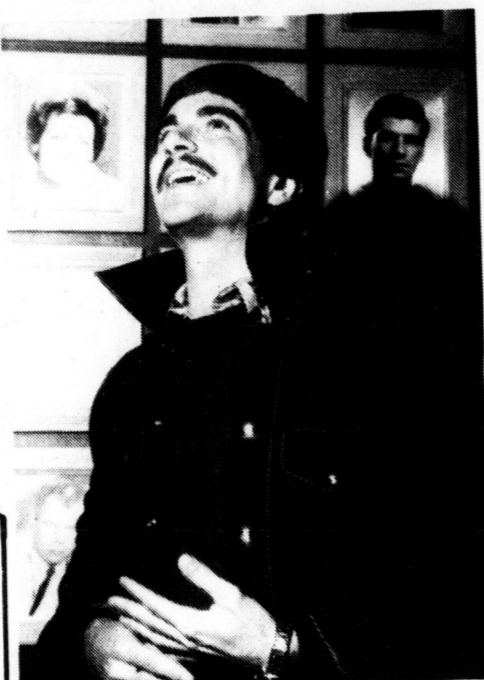


## Seven Committee



CINEMATTACHINE, the SEVEN COMMITTEE, the ADONIS and their entire staff wish you all a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a GAY Holiday Season!

CINEMATTACHINE is not a public cinema, but a project of the SEVEN COMMITTEE and the Mattachine Society, Inc. Facilities of this private club for men include a TV lounge, music room, lockers, gay adult movies, Mattachine Newsreels, Sex Education seminars, group travel and other projects. You may join if qualified—\$2 for 6 months, \$3 per year. Registration fee for use of club facilities, \$3. Open 12 noon to midnight. Films continuous from 3 pm every day. Entrance and registration through ADONIS Bookstore, 384 Ellis Street, San Francisco 94102. Telephone 474-6995.



**RISING STAR: GARY BEACH** — He's 27, got his first job in a featured role on Broadway and has worked steadily ever since. He's currently lighting up the holiday season as the "fey" leading man in "Something's Afoot;" offstage, he's bright, dedicated and very funny as he reveals the personality stars are made of. Photo by Ruben

### In This Issue

**RISING STAR: GARY BEACH**  
(A Personal Interview)  
**FACES OF '74**  
**STALAG 17**  
by Donald McLean

**HORATIO at A.C.T.**  
by Wally Rutherford

**A HOLIDAY PREVIEW**  
by Montezuma

**FILM BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS**  
by J.D. Miller

**CALIFORNIA WINES**  
by Lou Rand

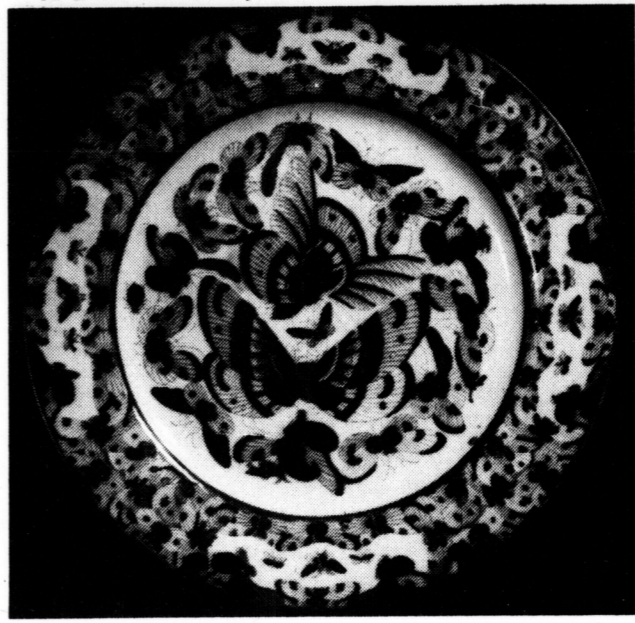
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**A CHRONICLE OF CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES TO INSURE YOU HAVE A GAY HOLIDAY!**

Next Deadline Thurs. Dec. 19th  
Next Issue Out Thurs. Dec. 26th

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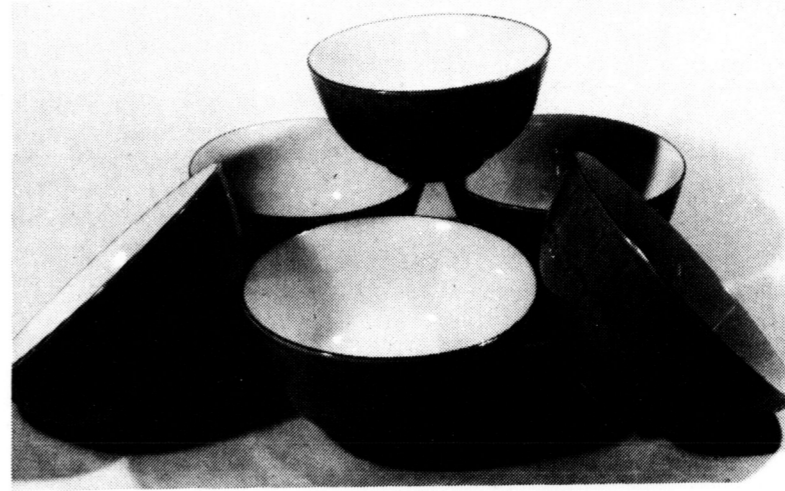
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SOCIAL COMMENTARY



# milk forum

## December's Song

by Harvey Milk

There are some interesting and exciting things happening these days and many people are unaware that they are taking part in them...and sadly, most of our leaders are completely unaware of them as well. That may explain why they are not leaders at all, but just people who are temporarily in charge. It may boil down to the fact that the often talked about "revolution" is really taking place.

In the '60's, there was talk about the fact that the "revolution" was coming...well, even in those days, no one ever thought that a president, elected by a landslide, for the first time in history would have to resign or be impeached...that the powerful Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee would be stripped of his position by a liberal Congressman from San Francisco...and those are just the very obvious signs that the nation has indeed gone through some important changes. Politicians are no longer so entrenched that they cannot be tossed out of power when they

abuse the position that they hold. We can see that happening on all levels...and interestingly, it does not take too many people to do it. Remember, the majority of the people did not bother to vote this past election day. A small number of people who believe in a cause, can hold power. That has always been true. But, up until now, it was the politicians and wealthy who held that power. Now the people have started to understand the game.

That game is currently being played on local levels as well. Witness the number of young people who never took part in the *process* before, who are organizing themselves so that their votes will be counted. Look at the number of young gays who are joining *not* the gay organizations, but the straight organizations and exerting themselves so that they can have influence. There are gains taking place all over, and set-backs too. But those gains are there and the tide is on the side of the "revolution" and not on the side of the politicians...the Nixons, the Mills' and the lesser ones are being picked off, one by one...those who have been office too long, and have abused their positions, are being replaced and the people will soon understand that they can take the government away from the politicians and bring it back home.

BY JUPITER


But the "revolution" continues in other ways and these are much less obvious and thus not so well understood. It takes place in the life style of people. Let me give you an example that might explain what I sense. The Jupiter Fly-By. That night I joined thousands of others at the Exploratorium watching the fly-by on

T.V. sets and a giant Advent screen. There were thousands strolling around in between watching the scenes, trying all the "games" and "rides." That night science had completely replaced the Midway at the Fair. There were rides, shows, places to eat, drink...it was Carnival and all in the name of science. The excitement peaked when word was to be flashed back that the vehicle had passed the danger point. Millions of people all over the nation were in front of their TV's watching a typewriter. And when the print-out started, thousands at the Exploratorium cheered a typewriter! think about it. (It reminded me of listening to tap dancing over the radio...think about that!) Science had taken over. Watching that crowd was an incredible sight. It was one of pure joy. We all KNEW that millions of miles away man WAS going to achieve something and on time...(yet we expect BART to be late and fail).

The type of people milling around and why they were there and their attitudes toward life goes a lot deeper than any of our political leaders understand. It may not be true, but I am willing to bet that not one of our many candidates for mayor was there. They do not understand the future. They are missing a turn in people and the direction in which things are heading. They remain un-leaders.

Those people at the Exploratorium are the very same people who are taking part in the "revolution." They *are* the ones who tossed out Nixon...who tossed out Mills. We are so wrapped up in our history book definition of what a revolution is, that we may have missed our Bunker Hill. It took place in that New Hampshire primary when a man named McCarthy beat a President named Johnson. That was the victory which paved the way for Nixon's ouster. It told the people that it can be done. Today they are walking around the Exploratorium. Tomorrow they may take a good hard look at their local government. The battle is a long way from being won. The politicians will still want to sell us short. But the tide is now in our favor and as long as we keep on fighting, we will soon be able to take the government away from our self-appointed Czars and un-leaders. We must organize ourselves block by block, until all the unresponsive politicians are removed from office, one by one...the time has come.

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photo by Exactly That

COOKING

# The Gourmet Shoppe

By Lou Rand

## California Wines

As most of you have pleased yourselves with some fine California wine, either regularly or on an occasion, have you ever given any thought to how it all started?

Whaddaya mean, does it matter? Yes, it does. As of this date viniculture is a BIG DEAL, may even be the State's No. One.

In mid-July, 1769, a few soldiers (about a dozen), and two tired priests, Fra Crespi and Fra Serra, and less than a dozen settlers; with some cows, some young trees, and a few bundles of vines, arrived and settled at San Diego. They had come on foot, the length of Baja and were tired; but before the month was gone, a mud and wattle building was put up, and was

the first Mission San Diego de Alcalá. The soldiers acquired the surrounding 40 sq. miles of lands, and the few settlers, now aided by the bemused and somewhat reluctant native Indians, planted the trees and vines. In 1770 there was a very small yield on the vines, which were divided and spread to more extensive vineyards. In 1771 there was a grape crop, which in 1773 was a drinkable, if rough, wine. That was just over 200 years ago, and some years before that 1776 ruckus with the British in New England. They didn't have any wine; were squabbling about some tea!

In 1974, there are 5 major grape-growing (and wine-making) regions in the state; all have certain distinctive soils, climate, rainfall and sun; all needed to grow the many varieties of wine grapes. At the small central California town of Davis,

north of San Francisco, is a State School of Agriculture, with the most advanced studies of wines and wine-making, in the world. And, until very recently, the Wine Industry was most strictly supervised by State Laws and inspections, to assure highest quality production. Wine in California became so big, that great Eastern conglomerates have come in and have bought up many of the 350 or so wineries. Then *big business* reared its head, and some unhappy things may be in store for the state's wine industry. A recent instance of *prime time* TV advertising, touting a very bad, adulterated, *so-called wine*. The advertising cost twice the cost of raising the grapes and making the wine, and the *product* was awful. Responsible people in the industry got the plugs off the air, but the junk is still sold, for nearly \$2.00 a bottle.

The average family man wants a good red table wine (sometimes white) with his meal. Of the good, but inexpensive reds, are: Burgundy (some of them), Barbera, Chianti, and Zinfandel. A little more expensive, because of scarcity, are: Pinot Noir, and Cabernet Sauvignon. Among the less expensive, but good, white table wines, are: Chablis, Chenin Blanc, Grey Riesling, Traminer, etc. More costly, are Johannesburger Riesling and Chardonnay, etc. And, festively, there's fine California Champagnes, from \$2.50 a bottle, to \$6.50, and much more for some rare and scarce bottlings.

The big red table wine of the year (any year) is Zinfandel. A large lot of bundles of vines were brought over from Europe, (about 1860); all were different varieties of grapes, and each was so labeled. One bundle had no label, but it was planted and tended, and was named Zinfandel. (All a long and very interesting story, see the library). Today, with possibly one exception, it is the most prolific grape we have, with heaviest yield, best flavor, finest adaptability. However, Zinfandel grown and made into wine in the North-Western district, is different from that grown, say, in Cucamonga. The average comes from the mid-San Joaquin Valley. All told, California Wines are purer, tastier, often cheaper, than most any wines brought into the state, from anywhere! Drink some...enjoy them...

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Ft. Miley Xmas S.I.R.'s Calendar (Revised)

### Variety Show - '74

The 1974 Christmas Variety Show for patients at the Fort Miley VA Hospital will be held on December 23rd, at 7:30 PM. The show is co-produced by the Helping Hands Center and B.A.R. and co-ordinated by Naomi Murdach. In addition to the show, small gifts will be given to the patients, however, your help would be appreciated with contributions, such as after shave lotions, colognes, or whatever you would like to give. Call Helping Hands Center at 771-3366 to find out what would be appreciated, and then bring them to the Center at 225 Turk St., San Francisco.

The Variety Show will be directed by Gary Schnieder for the musical portions, and Kimo, for the production numbers. The following have generously donated their time and effort to make this show possible: Kitty Litter, Lee Raymond, Faye, Jose, Jerry Salazar, Jackie Jones, Fred Miller, Marja Viejo, Dennis Moreen, David Kelsey, Michael Owens and Irene.

December 1974  
Dec. 14 8 PM Board of Trustees Regular Meeting (Members only)

Dec. 14 8 PM *Old Fashioned Christmas Party*, Live Band, Show, etc. Sponsored by the Council of Emperors, \$2.00 door charge.  
Dec. 16 8 PM Vacation Trip raffle drawing, sponsored by the Whitman-Radcliffe Alcoholic Acceptance House Group.  
Dec. 18 8 PM Board of Trustees Regular Meeting (Members only).

January 1975  
Jan. 1 2 PM Royal Hang-Over Brunch Party, Sponsored by the Emperor and Empress of S.F.  
Jan. 8 8 PM Membership meeting-annual nominations of officers and trustees.  
Jan. 22 8 PM Open meeting for S.I.R. Candidates to present their campaign programs to both the membership and the general public.



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## Mr. Gay San Francisco Contest

Judged in Suit, Sportswear, Bathing Suit

## Miss Gay San Francisco Contest

Judged in Female Attire:  
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Bellvue Hotel, 505 Geary Street  
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Tickets available at: Adonis Bookstore  
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Write: 791 Ashbury St., S.F., CA 94117...  
Tickets \$5.00

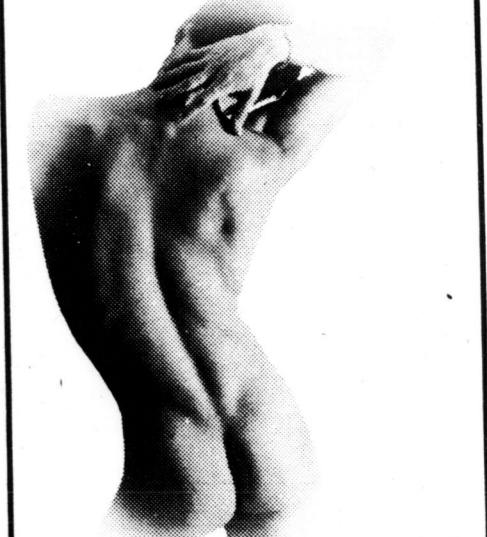


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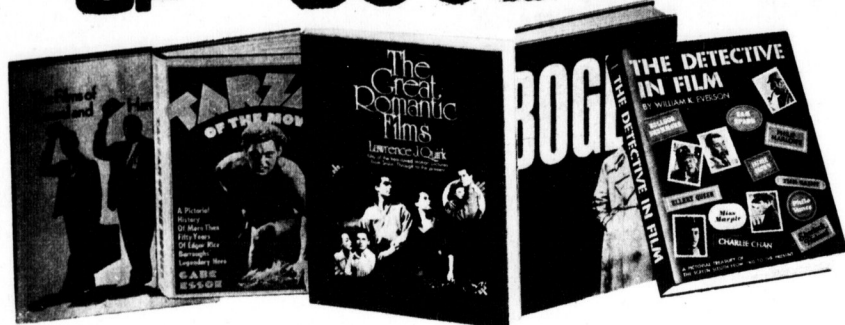


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# WORLD BOOKS OF MILLER



## Film Books for Christmas

**THE REAL TINSEL** is a paperback by Bernard Rosenberg and Harry Silverstein, published by MacMillan at \$3.95. This book is a series of recollections with some rare photographs covering the period from Hollywood's hand-cranked beginnings to its great hey-days.

**HAROLD LLOYD** by Richard Schickel, published by New York Graphic Society at \$14.50, is a very fine book containing 233 black and

white illustrations from the life and films of that daring comic's personal and screen life. It was Harold Lloyd who combined slapstick with high jinks which, for any other actor or comic, would have required the services of a professional stuntman.

**DISNEYANA** by Cecil Munsey is not really a movie book. It is published by Hawthorn at \$19.95. Munsey, a San Franciscan, has for many years written about collectibles, the speculation over which of the memorabilia of our time is going to have value and interest for the future collector. So this is a book of all the amusing junk commer-

cially developed from the various characters of Walt Disney productions.

**THE MOVIE MAKERS** contains the stories of nearly 3,000 movie stars, old and new, and their supporting casts. More than 1,000 key scenes from their films are illustrated, some of these in color. Deribooks, \$19.95.

Also from Deribooks at \$9.98, is a very large, spiral-bound and difficult book called **WAR MOVIES**. There are huge shots and fold-outs and posters of the famous war movies, and the best that can be said for this is that thank God that sort of film is a thing of the past. Even if the gore we now sometimes have, is in, the same bad taste as the gore of yesteryear.

**HOORAY FOR CAPTAIN SPALDING** by Richard J. Anobile, Crown \$8.50, contains 600 frame blow-ups of the best scene and original dialogue from the Marx Brothers' classic *Animal Crackers*.



**THEY HAD FACES THEN: ANNA-BELLA TO ZORINA: THE SUPERSTARS, STARS AND STARLETS OF THE THIRTIES** by John Springer and Jack D. Hamilton. Citadel Press, \$19.95. This book contains hundreds of photos of the sweethearts of the 1930's, stories of their careers and of the films which made them immortal. There are 300 biographies which gave details of their origins and personal lives outside the studios.

**I SHOULD CARE: THE SAMMY CAHN STORY** by Sammy Cahn, published by Arbor House. This is supposed to be the autobiography of

the man who discovered Milton Berle. He also wrote the songs which were eventually sung by Phil Silvers, Judy Garland, Gene Kelly and Dean Martin. The words and music of those songs are included. Or is included, who cares?

**WIDE-EYED IN BABYLON** by Ray Milland, his autography, from Morrow -\$7.95. This is a frank and funny story of the Hollywood days of an actor who played leads in over 200 movies, from *Lost Weekend* to *Love Story*. A good book with a rather miserably looking and uninviting dust jacket.

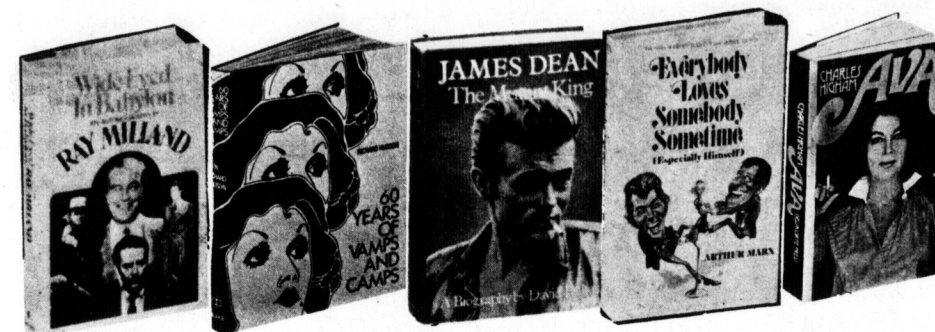
**MORRIS** by Mary Daniels, Morrow, \$4.95, you wouldn't believe unless you were a television and cat fan combined. This is a true story of a cat who was discovered only twenty minutes before he was to be put to sleep in an animal shelter. Distinctly a non-book. If you cannot think of anything better for your own or your friends' bookshelves, then you deserve a big free stack of this great opus.

**THE GREAT BRITISH PICTURE SHOW**, from the 90's to the 70's, by George Perry, published by Hill & Wang, \$12.50, has the unique place in this list of being the only book which takes a thorough look at the 75 year history of British film-making. There are many pictures and much good information for the true film buff.

**THE PLATINUM YEARS** by Bob Willoughby and Richard Schickel, Random House, \$25.00. This is Hollywood riding the crest, the films of the last three decades, when Hollywood didn't know just which way to turn, so it produced lavishly, spent tons of money, and sprinkled rhinestones everywhere.

the best picture book of the season is **THE WORLD OF MOVIES**. This book contains the most beautiful pictures combined with fine reproduction technique. If you give a picture book, this is the book which you should consider first. A look at any other movie book, pictorial, that is, will quickly turn you to this very finest collection.

By comparison, **THE MOVIE BOOK** by Stephen H. Scheuer, Playboy Press, \$17.95, appears only to be chrome and tinsel. Although it has a good deal to say, purports to name



names, it appears to be another survey of the product. There are many illustrations, over 400, some considered rare, of on-the-set movie making.

**BARBRA**, the First Decade, by James Spada, Citadel Press \$12.00, is a big picture book for Streisand fans.


Out of the movie field, but deserving of special mention here are two great books which will bowl-over the ballet lover and the opera fan. The first of these is the very fine and huge book on **MARGOT FONTYNE**. This is an incredible collection of pictures featuring the prima ballerina of our time.

The second special book is **CALLAS**, which is really two books in one. John

Ardoin discusses The Art and The Life, while Gerald Fitzgerald writes of The Great Years. And over all the book many, many fantastic pictures of the great lady, her personal life and her stage life. There is a Callas cult, deservedly so, for who else has been able to make the world forget a flat note or a secondary scene by going on with perfect aplomb and splendor into heights of performance. Holt, Rinehart, Winston, \$22.95

Quite different in every way is the book which wins out for having the longest title: **EVERYBODY LOVES SOMEBODY SOMETIME (ESPECIALLY HIMSELF)**, The Story of Dean Martin & Jerry Lewis, by Arthur Marx (Hawthorn \$9.95). And there, I guess you've said it all. Except that the

*Holiday Greetings*



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↓ GANGWAY ↓

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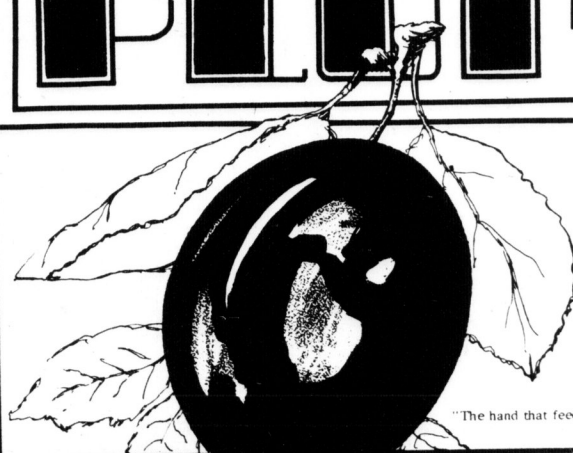


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author has previously written books about the Marx Brothers and two Broadway plays, one of which was *Minnie's Boys*.

**ELIZABETH** by Dick Sheppard (Doubleday \$10.00) is a full length biography of none other than Liz Taylor. It is exhaustive, and of course, she had led an interesting life, probably moreso in the past than in the present. For now rumor contradicts rumor so much, that it is a job sorting out the real person. A closeup of the most publicised women in show business, her 5 marriages, 31 operations, 2 major scandals, her awards, sensitivity, intelligence and fortune.



**JAMES DEAN, The Mutant King** by David Dalton (Straight Arrow Books

\$9.95) is also full-length, but with a difference. This book dissects the fifties and sociologically examines the environment which made James Dean, gave him his rise to fame, and brought him down to even greater posthumous fame.



**AVA** by Charles Hingham (Delacorte \$7.95), **GEORGE RAFT** by Louis Yablonsky (McGraw-Hill \$8.95), and **GABLE & LOMBARD** by Warren G. Harris (Simon & Schuster, \$7.95) need few words to describe them. All are brief books, **AVA** having the fewest pictures, and none of them are coffee-table items.

The most fun is **KISS HOLLYWOOD**

**GOOD-BY** by Anita Loos (Viking, \$7.95), a truly witty woman, who needs no explaining to anyone. In the meantime, down on the back lot, Rex Reed has written a book exactly like its title, **PEOPLE ARE CRAZY HERE** (Delacorte, \$7.95). Vincente Minnelli, with Hector Arce, has written **I REMEMBER IT WELL** (Doubleday, \$10.95), and Willi Frischauer has written **BEHIND THE SCENES OF OTTO PREMINGER** (Morrow, \$7.95) so that even directors have a say.

Last but not least, and the book most of you will enjoy, is **MOTHER GODDAM** by Whitney Stine (Hawthorn, \$12.95). This book is written with running commentary by the lady herself, Bette Davis. She gets a chance to set the record straight throughout. Unfortunately she has to do it in red print, so this book must be read only under the best lighting arrangements. Gimmicks usually turn out unfortunately, and the red print which is not so kind to the eyes, will have everyone picking it up and putting it down, for the reader can only take so much. But it is a book worth reading, just because the lady gets her oar in and says what she wants very nicely. It certainly ought to provide some fresh source material for much of the tired acts now making the local rounds. And not a minute too soon, either.

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# RISING STAR: GARY BEACH

BY DONALD McLEAN



If you're saying to yourself "Who is Gary Beach?", then you obviously haven't seen *Something's Afoot* at the Marines Memorial Theatre. Gary Beach plays Nigel Rancour, the sneaky nephew with the glorious tenor who steals the will and the show in one three minute number. His Nigel is sleek, suave, sophisticated and definitely not to be trusted; Gary Beach is boyish, bubbly, brainy and dedi-

Nigel Rancour [alias Gary Beach] Photo by William Ganslen

cated to one cause -- to make a name for himself in the theatre. And he's got a wicked sense of humor to boot!

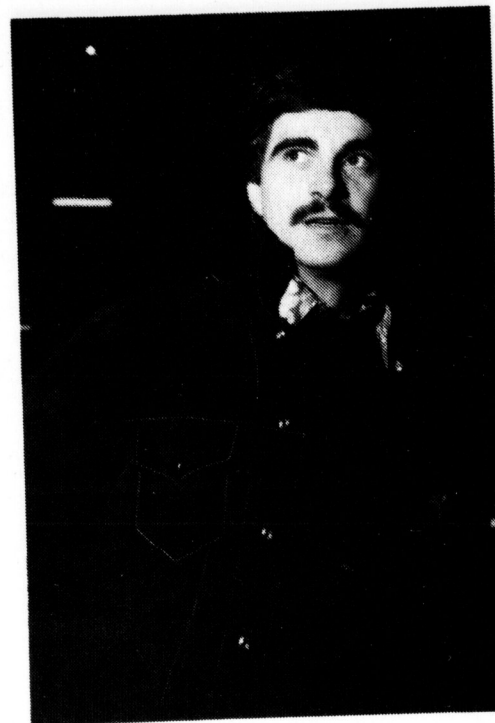
Born in exotic Alexandria, Virginia 27 years ago ("Just say it's 2 miles south of Washington. That's how it's always described"), his father is a contractor and his mother... "What's the word for housewife nowadays? A domestic engineer?" An only child, he managed to make it all the way to college before the acting mania seized him. "I went to see *1776* and fell in love with the part of Edward Rutledge. I was in college in North Carolina and heard they were casting for the road company. I auditioned...I was a theatre arts major...and got the part of Edward in the road company; when that was over I went to Europe for a month and thought 'It was a fluke. I'll never work again!' The day I got back, I got a call for the New York company and played it for over a year on Broadway. I loved that show and well, it WAS my first job." His first job -- on Broadway in a featured role. Not a bad beginning.

I yearn to hear about the hard times, the rough years of struggle and survival in a cold water walkup, the endless plates of warmed over spaghetti, the cattle call auditions. I ask Gary the inside lowdown about the life of a New York actor. "I've been sort of lucky. I've just gone from job to job." So much for the

sweat-and-strain aspect. Well, do you at least live in New York? "Oh, yes. I live on the West Side. It's really turned into one of the nicest areas of the city. They've rebuilt it block by block, and now it's beautiful all the way up to the West 70's. Unfortunately, I live in the West 80's."

We now take a brief pause in our interview to do a few candid snaps. "Can I carry a drink?" No, no, I caution, we don't want to create the impression you're a lush (it turns out to be a club soda, I discover later). "How about a cigarette?" Cigarettes are fine, I reassure him, and he feels better. "I always feel so uncomfortable; I never know what to do for photos." What he does is radiate great charm as we continue talking, the camera snapping, and between shots he mugs a la Nigel, causing one passerby on Geary Street to practically walk into an oncoming bus.

Back inside the Curtain Call bar, I inquire if the young singer/actor has any idols? "Yes, as a matter of fact. Cagney. I think he is one of the greatest actors ever! He uses his body, his voice, everything. And I think Alfred Drake is the consummate musical performer. He can go from Haji in *Kismet* to playing with Burton in *Hamlet*." That's my idea of a performer, someone who can do ALL theatre." And in that one line is revealed the ultimate goal of Gary

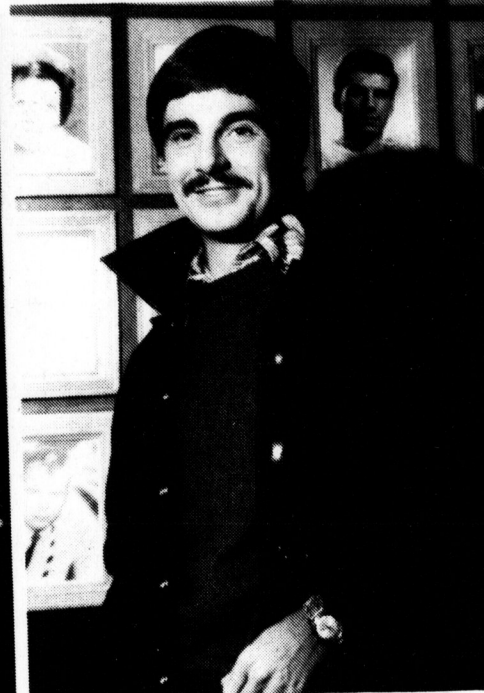


Beach.

He's not exactly a slouch himself when it comes to knocking off those high notes. "I've never had a voice lesson. People used to ask me in New York who I studied with and I told them nobody. I've never studied, and I guess you should. I think the most beautiful voice I've ever heard is Barbara Heuman (ingenue lead in *Afoot*). It's so relaxed. Thank God I can sing or I'd never work. I studied to be an actor, so all I've done are musicals. I grew a mustache so I'd look older for dramatic parts, so I got older parts in musicals...I love musicals, though. They're totally open, you can do anything. And eventually I would like to direct."

And how about recognition? "I'm never recognized! Of course I'd like to be. I think that's the ultimate for an actor. Oh, I don't mean 'There goes Troy Donohue!', just recognition as an actor they respect. That's one of the reasons I'd like to get into television, the exposure."

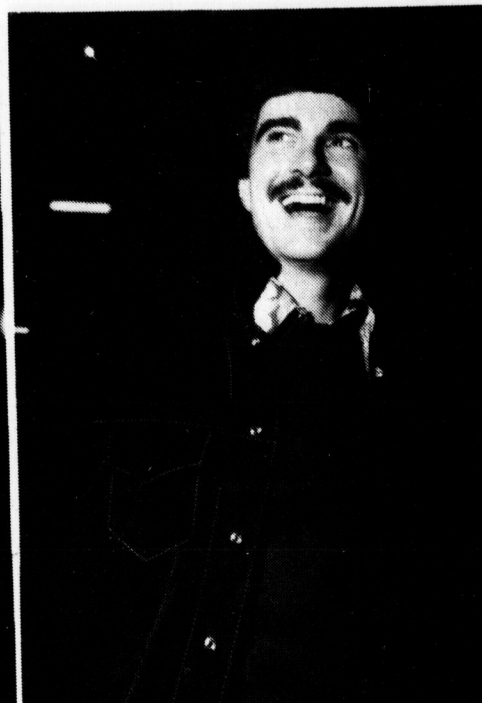
As he talks, he looks you directly in the eye, trying to see if you're understanding him, if he's getting across. When he speaks of theatre or great performances or good memories, his enthusiastic sincerity and total involvement brook no doubts, but when he talks about some of his lesser experiences, the dry humor creeps in. Speaking of a show entitled *Smile, Smile, Smile* -- "The audience came INTO the theatre humming the title song. To tell you what kind of song it was. Kate Smith recorded it."



Shortly after this photo was taken, Gary drove one passerby right into the street.

Photo by Ruben

And there was a pre-Broadway tryout with Metropolitan Opera tenor Jan Peerce entitled *Laugh A Little, Cry A Little*, about a Yiddish family who arrived on Ellis Island and in the course of 2½ hours, moved uptown. "I was



playing Jan Peerce's grandson. The joke around the theatre was everytime we sang together, the dogs would howl. But the audiences loved it. We broke records in Philadelphia...but look at Philadelphia! We could have played to Leo Fuchs crowd forever." And how about when he played Junior

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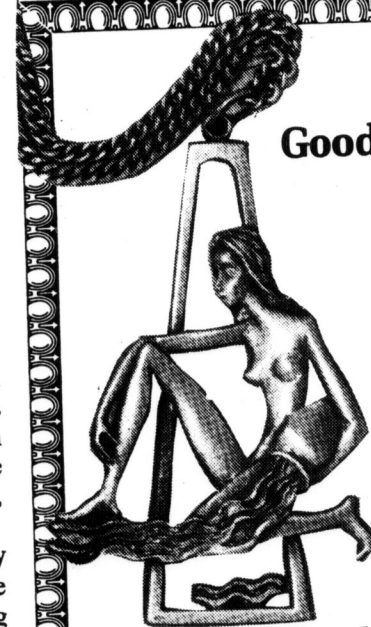
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## Rising Star: Gary Beach

Babcock opposite Ann Miller as *Mame*? "She's crazy...No, really she was great. She's the hardest working lady I've ever seen. She never rehearses, she always performs. She just wants the best, and she works herself the hardest. That's why she's a STAR."

"I devote just about all my time to the theatre." No hobbies? "Well, I do raise dogs. I don't have as many now as I used to, just three Labrador Retrievers and one Boston Terrier. That's my New York dog. And nobody wants Terriers today. I love them. They're so 30's."

Speaking of the Thirties brings us right into *Something's Afoot*. Gary played the show previously in Washington, D.C., in a rather obscure theatre. "I grew up in Washington and I didn't know where it was." Well, where was it? "In the basement of a shopping center. The production was not nearly as good as the one here and the critics flipped over us. We had unanimous raves and became the holiday hit." Needless to say, his eyes tend to flash and his upper lip curl



The cast of "Something's Afoot" view the body of the butler with hysterical calm.

when speaking of a couple of our local critics. -- "I don't see how any critic cannot appreciate at least the theatricality of it. And to say it's derivative!! It's supposed to be!! And I don't understand why we haven't had a bigger gay turnout, because the show has such a built-in appeal. But those that have come to see us have flipped. That was one of the happier reasons for coming to San Francisco, because we knew there was an audience here that would appreciate what we were doing. And yet, we had a much larger gay audience in Washington. What does that say? Do you realize that San Francisco is the only theatre town west of Chicago? I really love this show, if you can't tell. It's one of the most fun things I've ever done. It's really an all-stops-out show."

And how would he describe his character of Nigel, who makes his first entrance with a single bound that lands him centerstage, shrugging off his coat with a gesture that would turn Joan Crawford green with envy and a look best described as "pure lounge lizard?" "It had to be the very *fey* leading man, the one who sounds like a snake when he talks. (he hisses at me; I hiss back) I realized I had to go right to the brink but not over or it would be tasteless. My whole image is a wet black cat that's constantly being foiled. In rehearsals, I used to snarl at the cast (he snarls and claws; I snarl back; the customers at the bar look at us strangely). Scaling the mantel was my idea (on his solo, he climbs up the set and across the mantel, a superb touch), and I was lucky to have a director who allowed his actors the

freedom to experiment." I mention that he's a very physical actor. "Oh, I hope so. I hope I'm a very physical person."

It's time to let Gary go get ready to hiss, purr, snarl, pout, slink and all other ingredients, coupled with a magnificent voice, that combine to make his portrayal one of the most dazzling highlights of the '74 season. But before he goes, I have to ask one last question. I'm still desolate over losing my hungry-actor-gets-break angle, and I ask pleadingly, "Gary, haven't you ever been unemployed for any length of time?" Taking pity on my shattered countenance, he replies, "Yes, I once had a month off."

Well, with Gary Beach's talent, it may be years before he gets another month.



"What a swell interview! And he spelled my name right!!!" Photo by William Ganslen

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**a  
film view**  
BY MONTEZUMA

**A Holiday  
Preview**

T'was the weeks before Christmas and all through the town not a new picture opened just old one on rebound. All the new posters were hung announcing upcoming flicks, and



Bob Fosse as The Snake in Stanley

Donen's "The Little Prince," all hopes were high that none would be *blick!* Some nights I would snuggle asleep in my bed whilst visions of new films would dance in my head. Now I with my popcorn and you with this rag shall look ahead - so please do not lag! **CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FROM THE MAJORS:**

For star gazers and those who haven't had their fill of disasters with plane wrecks and earthquakes, we

have the star-studded, disaster aplenty from that master of adventure, Irwin Allen - *Towering Inferno*. Headlining a gigantic list of stars are Steve McQueen and Paul Newman (I do hope Robert Redford doesn't mind) who fight a fire in an ultra modern office/apt. building (scenes shot in front of S.F.'s Bank of America Building) which has trapped the likes of Fred Astaire, Jennifer Jones, Faye Dunaway, William Holden, Richard Chamberlain and a host of others. Looks like more fun and frolic with flame and water!! Should gross a zillion and provide an interesting evening of morbid fun.

On the lighter side, there is the sole musical entry for the season, *The Little Prince*. Directed by Stanley Donen, this is the adaption from the famed children's story by Antoine de Saint-Exupery with music and lyrics by Lerner and Lowe. The film is currently breaking box office records at Radio City Music Hall and garnering much critical success. With a very small total cast of nine players, it will be interesting to see just what is made of this fragile story. Since the film only runs 88 minutes and contains such talent as Richard Kiley, Bob Fosse (back on the screen as a dancer), Gene Wilder and Clive Revill, my hopes are high on this one being a Christmas gem.

Christmas also brings us the companion piece to film's most successful film, *The Godfather*, with Francis Ford Coppola's *Godfather Part II*. This eagerly awaited film is reputed to be on par with the first part, if not better, and will probably reap a box office bonanza as well as tons of



Dustin Hoffman as Lenny Bruce & Valerie Perrine as his stripper wife

critical honors. I'm looking forward to Al Pacino's work as well as new-comer Robert DeNiro playing a young version of Brando's Vito Corleone.

Family fare a la Disney will be presented by that studio's newest truelife adventure "Biggie," *Island At The Top Of The World*. With many dollars spent on special effects & little money spent on name talent, this Disney special should be a fun adventure. Concerns a group of men who discover a Viking Shangra-la among the snow capped mountains. Hopefully, sans songs by Bacharach, this *Lost Horizon* place will be a little more entertaining than Ross Hunter's trip into exotic places.

If you like films to be far-out and a bit of a camp, look out for *Phantom of the Paradise*. This Paul Williams starrer combines the old *Phantom of the Opera* story with *Faust* and adds rock music and a madcap of gay glittery singer called *Beef* to present a satire on the music business of today. Really looking forward to this one.

If you don't care too much for the far-out style of comedy, then maybe the old magic of Billy Wilder might be more in your line as he brings back to the screen that aged but still amusing comedy, *Front Page*. This time out, it's Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau with Carol Burnett in a small cameo role. If Lemmon doesn't get too frantic and Wilder comes up with some of his usual fun gimmicks, this could turn into a laugh riot.

Dustin Hoffman recreates the life

of Lenny Bruce in Bob Fosse's film of *Lenny* set for the Regency I after the plane lands at the Airport 1975. More on this one next issue but from all indications, this is one to see, as Hoffman's performance is being touted as oscar material and Valerie Perrine is supposedly excellent as Lenny's stripper wife, Honey. It's the film in black & white coming out this Christmas, in fact, the first "biggie" I can recall since *Paper Moon*. It should add to the documentary feeling in this first non-musical by Fosse.

I saw a sneak prevue of *Freebie and the Bean* which is coming from Warner Bros. and I will go into detail on it in the next issue. All I will say is that if you liked films like *Laughing Policeman*, *Bustin* and other such nonsense, then you might dig it. James Caan and Alan Arkin are top lined with Valerie (Rhoda) Harper making her film debut in a small role as Arkin's Mexican wife.

If *Young Frankenstein* is anywhere as funny as Mel Brook's previous film, *Blazing Saddles*, then this should be a ball-buster. Brook's brings his bizarre comedy to the world of horror and what he did to westerns in *Saddles* now threatens to destroy the terror of the horror film genre. Gene Wilder, Peter Boyle, Marty Feldman, Cloris Leachman and other zanies add up to a dream cast for madman Brooks.

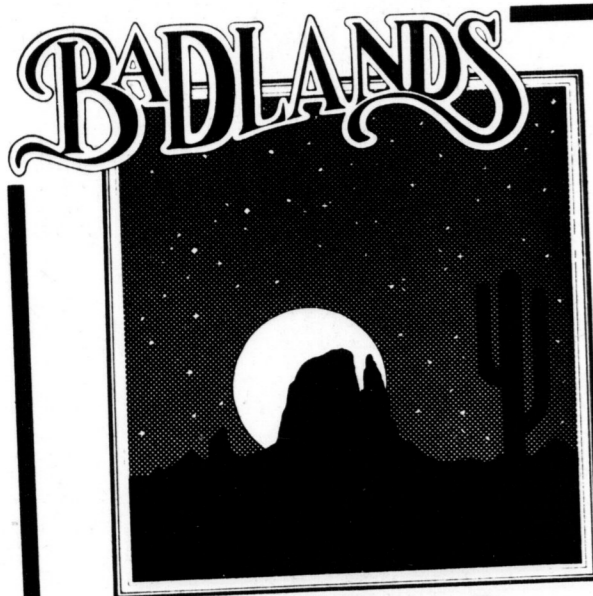
And then there's James Bond (Roger Moore) in *The Man With The Golden Gun*. Again we get the sexy Mr. Bond doing his trip with the super

villians of the comic book world he lives in. It's always a fun trip and the gimmicks get wilder with each film. Bond never dies, he always comes back at Christmas.

Well, luv's, that looks like what all you can expect around the 18th and 25th, until then - stick to shopping and saving a little \$\$\$ for those long winter nights snuggled up to a bag of popcorn and the latest flick. Will start reviewing some of them next issue...  
....Luv....

**Fruit Punch**

*Young Caesar*, an opera by Lou Harrison, will be the special Christmas presentation of Fruit Punch, Northern California's oldest and most widely heard gay men's radio show. The opera is a homosexual love story and, though highly praised, has been seldomly performed. Following the performance, David Melnick, San Francisco poet, will talk with Lou Harrison about his work and his experiences as a gay artist. The broadcast may be heard on Christmas night, December 25, at 9 PM, on Berkeley's KPFA-FM, at 94.1 MHz.



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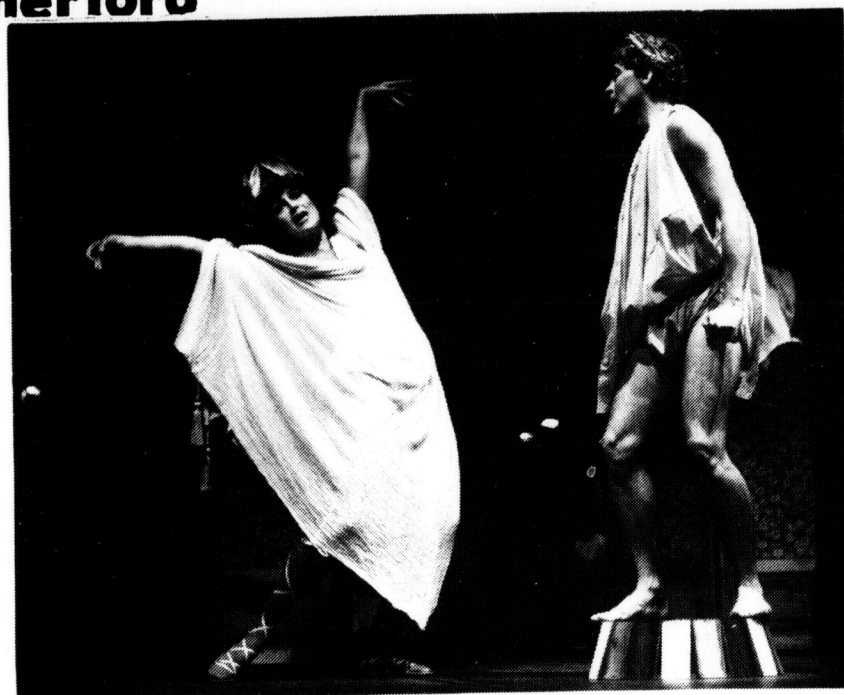
# a world of ENTERTAINMENT

by Wallv Rutherford

## ACT'S Horatio ..... Why?

Who would have believed that a play, let alone a play with music, could ever be created about Horatio Alger Jr.? Not I for one, but odd as it may appear, such a play has been added to the American Conservatory Theatre repertory. ACT, up to the opening of this production, has been enjoying another brilliant season, unfortunately the addition of *Horatio* offers nothing more than a melancholy evening of sporadic entertainment not up to the usual standards of ACT.

*Horatio* is a slapstick look at the life of Horatio Alger Jr., first as a boy, then as a young man and finally as Horatio the man in his declining years. The production depicting his escapades is set in a vaudeville atmosphere, using vignettes laced with



Megan Cole & Daniel Davis as "Horatio" in a zany moment.

gimmicks a la *George M* and *Oliver* to convey the mood of the times, that simply does not work. Even the incorporation of a rendition of Alger's first novel *Ragged Dick* serves a useless purpose to dramatize his accomplishments.

Alger was a tormented child who was ruled by his nearer to God minister father (Sydney Walker), a vagabond rebellious young man who lived on wine, women and song, and finally ends his life as a writer of cheap

children's books. Although the musical play suffers from a technical standpoint there are some performances that warrant note. As Horatio's two female encounters in Paris, Fredi Olster and Megan Elizabeth Cole are excellent. Also Patrick Treadway, as Horatio, the child is convincing. On the other hand, Daniel Davis as older Alger is a disappointment, his characterization is much too broad, often times stiff, to function affectively in the vaudeville setting.

The play by Ron Whyte is like riding a roller coaster, it climbs rapidly, then rockets to the bottom and level out into boredom within 15 minutes after the curtain rises (The second act is especially tedious). The music by Mel Marvin is totally unmemorable (To paraphrase a tired cliché, the music leaves you humming the set as you exit the theatre). The set by Ralph Funicello is clever, imaginative and very functional. The lighting by Mitchell Dana is too muted and in dire need of improvement and lastly, the direction by James Dunn is uninspiring.

Every theatre company is entitled to its mistakes and ACT has a definite loser in *Horatio*!

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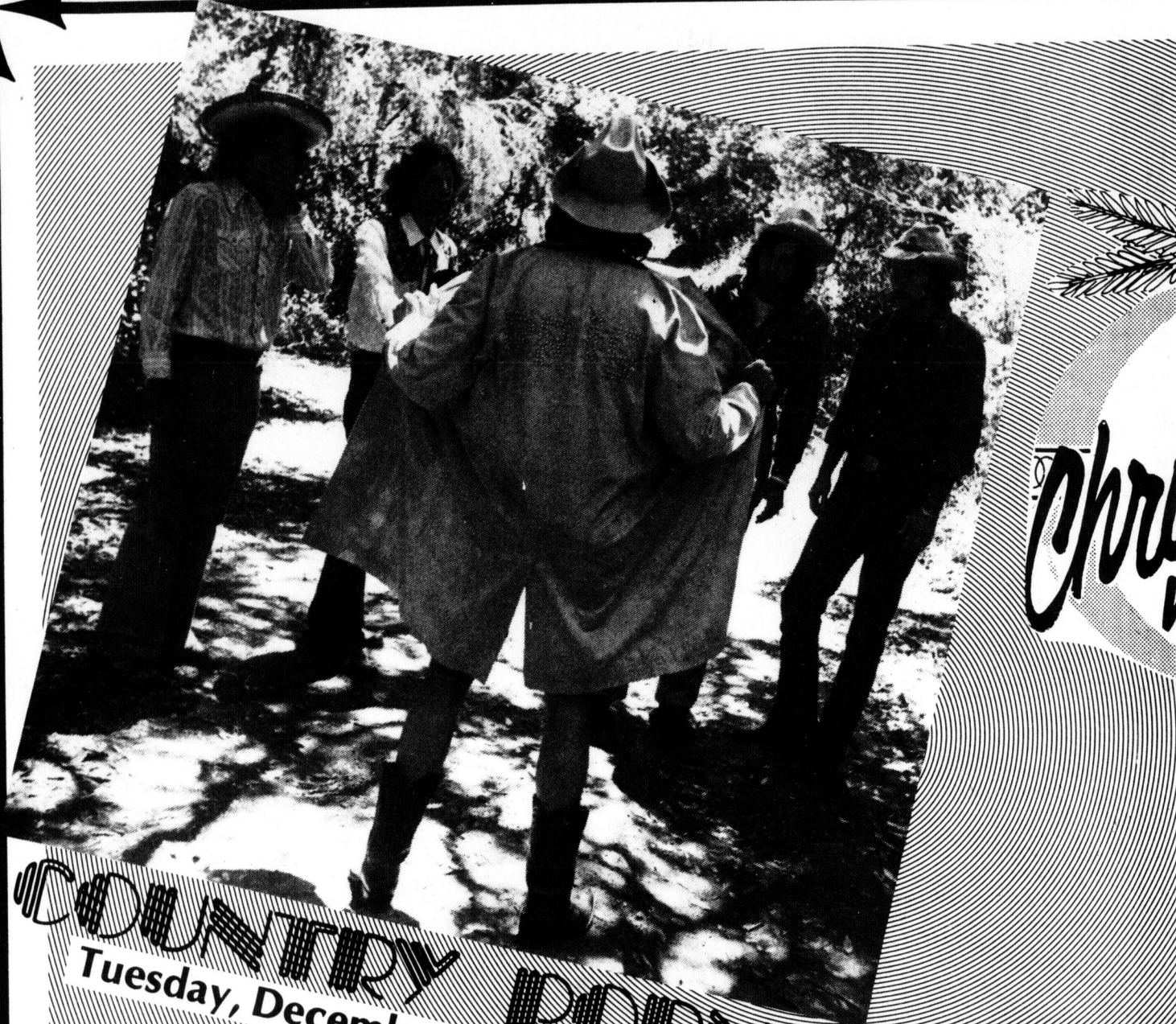
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# THE MIDNIGHT SCOOP



by  
**DONALD  
MCLEAN**

## Stalag 17

**POVERTY CAN BE  
A GOOD THING!**

In the beginning, before William Holden won an Oscar, before Robert Strauss almost won one, and long before somebody got the brainstorm of creating a trivality called *Hogan's Heroes*, there was a play by Bevan and Trzcinski entitled *Stalag 17*. It was a masterful play, dealing with the human comedy of prisoners of war during World War II in a German concentration camp. It had everything -- humor, suspense, violence, high drama and low comedy and a dozen excellent roles for 12 actors to get their teeth into. But then something happened. After the surfeit of television trash of *Heroes*, nobody did the original any more. *Stalag 17* got lost in the archives, leaving only a dim

memory of William Holden clenching his teeth around a big black cigar.

The San Francisco Poverty Theatre has been in existence for over two years. I just learned about it last week, and I fearfully suspect I'm now a member of a very small minority. Hopefully, some of you readers will help remedy that.

The Poverty Theatre performs at 2940-16th Street in the basement (shades of the Enterprise) of a school, across from the Follies Burlesque Theatre (where I missed seeing a divinity student named Cherry Delight do wonderful things with a hard boiled egg). It may be a little difficult to find, but once you do, *Stalag 17* is a rewarding piece of theatre.



Jay Moreno, Sheldon Sperber, Richard Buntin & William Campbell watch Frank South take his Christmas Eve bath in "Stalag 17."

It's billed as "A World War II Comedy," definitely a misnomer. The plot is concerned with a spy in the midst of a P.O.W. barracks, a spy who reports to the Nazi's every attempt to escape, every infraction of the rules and anything that might make life a little more bearable for the American/English prisoners. It's more importantly concerned with the indomitable spirit of the prisoners, who survive by laughter and raw guts. The spy is one of the prisoners himself; which one he is, is the basis of suspense. Tempers flare, accusations are hurled, fights break out. But along the way, hearty camaraderie and ballsey humor provide a lot of chuckles. And Phillip Pruneau has directed the generally skillful cast so that every scripted nuance gets equal attention.

Jay Moreno as Stosh and Sheldon Sperber as Shapiro provide the bulk of the steady laughs. There is a good one-two punch between them, a Laurel and Hardy rapport without ever resorting to playing stooges. Both actors give varied, interesting performances throughout. Richard Livingstone also evokes his share of attention with a few deft touches, while Greg Campbell, Richard Buntin, Mark Dalton and William Campbell offer solid support consistently. And Blaine Souza gives a subtle gem of a performance without ever saying a word.

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Tom McGuire, in the leading role of Sefton, the cynical, unsympathetic loner who basks in being a misfit, throws much of his early effectiveness away with rushed and indistinguishable line readings, but rises to the momentum of the second act tension beautifully. His final scene forgives all earlier trespasses. The loss of enunciation and projection is the only serious drawback of the production; I didn't understand a word anyone said for the first five minutes of the play and completely missed the line that explained why the barrack leader disappeared for three scenes (I began to wonder if the actor had suffered a sudden coronary and we were being spared a bitter announcement). This is not peculiar to Mr. McGuire, it is a common problem in the more casual moments where lines are just tossed away, and it is very irritating. While the dialogue may not be deathless prose in spots, it does deserve to be heard.

Mr. Pruneau has created several gripping moments along the way, particularly in a scene where the prisoners creep out of their beds and beat Sefton in his bunk without a sound, and again where the traitor is revealed on a darkened stage by only the glow of a match. The pacing is tight, the action scenes always convincing and the feeling of strained confinement intense. The comedy is never forced, rising naturally from the circumstances, and to see Stosh and Shapiro waltzing together or Frank South fighting to take a bath in private is hilarious yet totally understandable.

I had long forgotten what a good play *Stalag 17* is. In the capable hands of the Poverty Theatre ensemble, it remains an exciting experience that should be seen.

*Stalag 17* will play Fri. and Sat. nights at 8:30 thru Dec. 28th. Admission \$3.00, call 626-0343 for reservations.

## Faces of 1974

**THE CITY PLAYERS SERVE A CHRISTMAS TURKEY!**

The CITY PLAYERS, producers of all-male theatrical productions, are trying to raise money to sponsor another show next season -- a most laudatory ambition and definitely worthy of support by anyone who's enjoyed their past successes (*Mame*, *Plaza Suite*, etc). To do this, they are

now offering a holiday show entitled *Faces of 1974* at Dovre Hall, 18th and Guerrero, a nice little theatre that bodes potential for future productions.

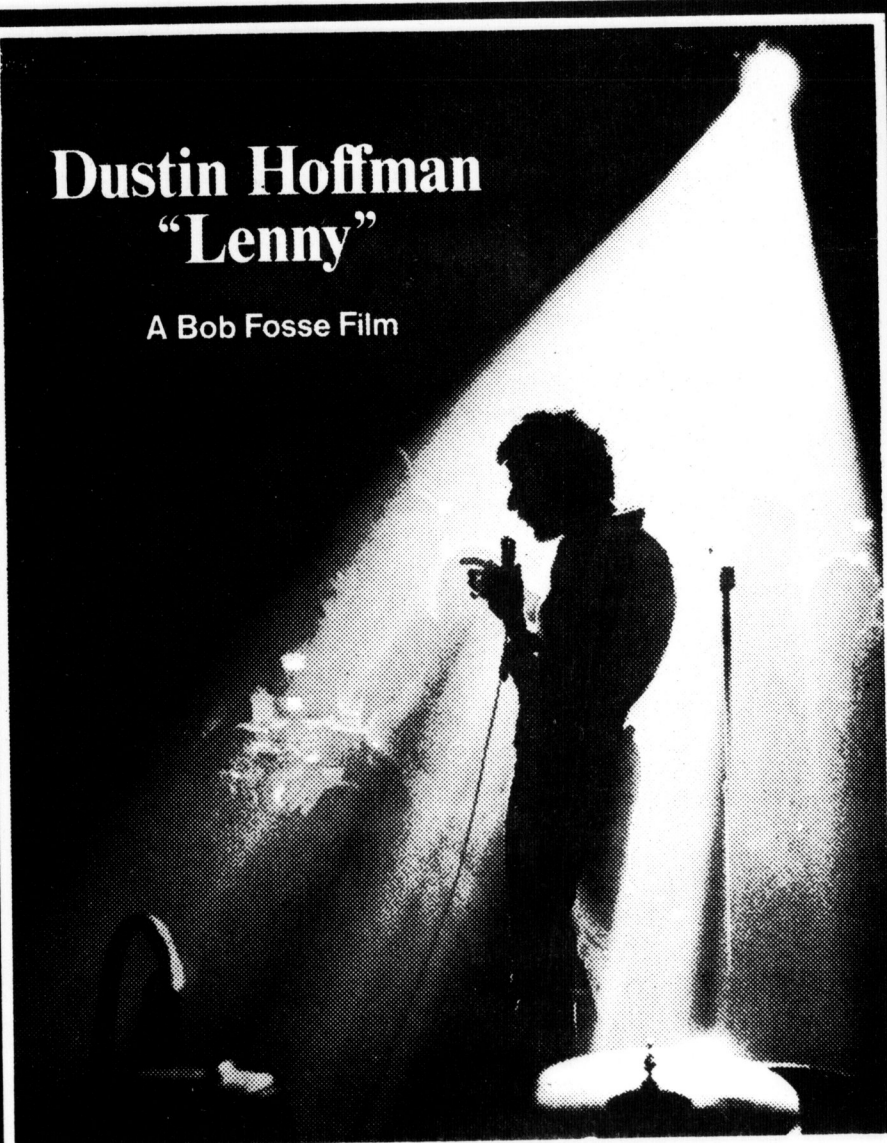
Stephen Sadler has created an excellent multi-level set for them to perform on; the set has more levels than the show. Experienced local performers such as Faye, Nancy, John Reynolds, Grady Clark and Jim Short manage to offer a few entertaining moments in the parade of 32 musical numbers in a recital format that conjures visions of an audition call for future casting (bring your best number

-- especially if it's something from the 50's -- and give it a whirl). It has neither the cohesion nor pacing to warrant the term "revue," the only ensemble number that really works being a *J.C. Superstar* medley. The feeble attempts at comedy fall flat and the selection of material dates right back to the heyday of Teresa Brewer and the Crewcuts, with a slight nod to Ruth Etting. Christine Khoury and her trio lend better musical support than the stagnant selection merits.

Since I have no desire to see any theatrical group "go under," I suppose it would have been nice of me to give

## Dustin Hoffman "Lenny"

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*Faces of 74* a kind review...but honesty prevents in these Recessive times. There are too many good shows currently struggling also to stay afloat. I would suggest if the CITY PLAYERS wish to raise money, they do an out-and-out all star benefit and rely upon the individual creativity of their members/volunteers to furnish some original spark -- what talent there is on The Dovre stage is buried under an avalanche of mediocrity.

At the end of the first act, Grady Clark sings the loveliest number of the evening, *I'm Going Home*. I wouldn't have blamed him a bit!

(*Faces of 1974* will play again Sat. & Sun. night, Dec. 14th & 15th, at 8:30 and 7:00 respectively, tickets \$3.00 and \$5.00)

## Another Opening .....And Another Closing

The rumor factory has had a field day with OLYMPUS. Will *Beach Blanket Babylon* continue? Or will it change its name to the Cha Cha Palace with raspberry and purple decor and become a discotheque? Well, the



"Moments to Remember" sings [left to right] Tony Michaels, John Noles, James Arrington & Phillip Tobus in "BBB" at Olympus. Photo by James Armstrong

answer is...yes, both! *BBB* will play thru the holidays with only one show nightly at 8:30 Tues. - Sun. nights, with additional Christmas material added for festivity. And yes, it will concentrate on becoming a discotheque as well, so the minute the show finishes, you start dancing...and as an extra bonus, pinball machines are available for your pushing pleasure.

The menu has been changed from Greek food to simple steaks, prime rib and fish entrees, so now at OLYMPUS (which might change its name back to The Village) you can see a show while eating, playing pinball or dancing... and for the adventuresome, try all four at once. Gee, even CABARET doesn't have pinball!!

But, pity Kitty Litter. Not only did she close unexpectedly early with Charles Pierce, she was hired by Michael Owen for the Palace Theatre, and when she showed up for rehearsals, the theatre was padlocked. The Palace did not make it, and will go back to being the nicest redecorated porno house in the city. To quote Miss Litter, "Who says 'tis the season to be jolly!???"

David Kelsey has returned...permanently...to our city after an extended bummer in Hawaii (I guess he got a bad lei). The magic of the Islands eluded him completely, and David may now be seen teaming up with his old cohort and childhood sweetheart, Gary Schneider, at THE WIND-JAMMER on Wed. thru Sun. nights for an evening of madness. Oh, and David had yet another birthday on Dec. 2nd...I thought he looked older!

Claude Sacha whirled into town last week to say that *French Dressing* opened in L.A. at the Pitchel Players to good notices and is settling down for a long run. Show was delayed opening a week because Claude discovered he had water on the knee (an old football injury, no doubt), and perhaps you saw him on Dec. 3rd on *To Tell The Truth* on T.V. He was the

real Claude Sacha, whom the panel failed to guess that he was a D.Q., until they saw him perform as Barbra Streisand...which doubtless shocked poor Kitty Carlisle to her orthopedic wedgies.

You can get Rod McKuen for both Christmas and New Year's simply by going to the Venetian Room of the FAIRMONT at 9:30 and midnight (bring money! It helps). Or you can catch *The Temptations* Dec. 26th thru 31st at CIRCLE STAR (which is still suffering from saccarine poisoning from the appearance of Richard and Karen Carpenter), you can take the kids to Children's Fantasy Film Festival on Dec. 14, 15, 21 and 22 at Veterans Aud. to see *Wizard of Oz* and *The Red Balloon* for only \$3., call 751-0217 for information, or you might enjoy Tom Stoppard's London comedy smash, *Jumpers*, joining the A.C.T. repertory Dec. 17th. And at 1842 Union St., *Upon A Dying Lady*, a theatre-piece with music and puppets from the poetry of Yeats, will play thru Dec. 22nd every weekend, \$2.50, 285-4771 for reserv.

My Christmas interview was going to be Richard Chamberlain, in town to promote *The Towering Inferno*, opening Dec. 20th at the Alexandria. But word just reached me that Mr. Chamberlain cannot make it, so to get even, I'll tell you this much...he gets killed off in the *Inferno*! So there!

### LETTERS...WE GET STACKS & STACKS OF LETTERS

Well, maybe not stacks and stacks, but one or two did filter in. James McDonald, one of the authors of *Something's Afoot*, wrote a nice letter about local reviews and ended with this paragraph: "As far as I know, yours is the first review we have ever received from a gay newspaper, and we are very proud of your reaction to our show. It's wonderful to be accepted by your peers." Now, that's the kind of mail I love to get. I average at least one vicious three-page diatribe per year from some drag queen who is the nearest and dearest sister of some drag act I haven't enjoyed. I admire loyalty, however, and they do furnish Tweetie with interesting reading on the bottom of his cage.

If you wanted to know how a local legend spent his Thanksgiving, Charles Pierce writes: "din-din with Alice Ghostly, who refused to sing 'Boston Beguine' while serving the bird -- I was on ham -- that figures."



Richard Chamberlain - he couldn't make it to be our Christmas cover boy.

### QUICKIES

*Feather & Leather Follies*, a benefit for PRIDE, will be performed this year on January 5th at Bimbo's. Show will be completely pantomime, and funniest reaction was when Faye was asked if he would mime a number from *Let My People Come* entitled *Come in My Mouth*. Faye replied he would have to do extensive research before giving the final answer...he doesn't know how to pantomime.

If you're looking for a novel Xmas gift idea, Bobby Short will return Feb. 9th at 5 P.M. at the Geary Theatre for his annual concert; tickets now available at S.F. Ticket Center,

Hermione Gingold, who delight-



Hermione said it...and she meant it. ed the boys at the N'TOUCH one evening, cracked this gem: "Truman Capote is a bitch...a trashy bitch!"

And as four French poodles, five dancing Chrstitmas trees, a funny lady with a tinsel tree on her head and one overgrown elf link arms, we hear a corny but heartfelt:

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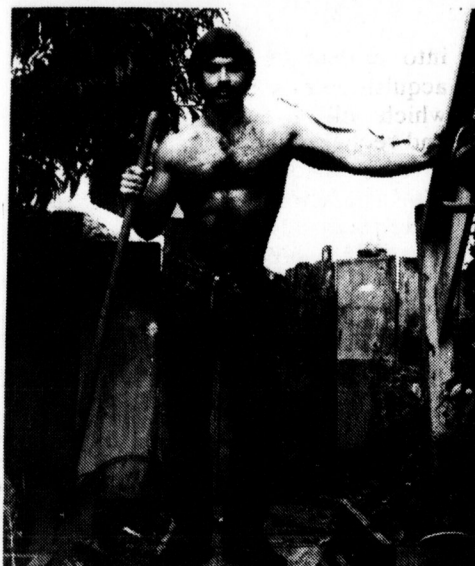
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**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL**

**SOUTHERN SCANDALS**  
**MARCUS EMPEROR I**

There is no doubt anywhere that the *Acme Man Contests* are the hottest item going in Our Town. I don't know where they came from, but some of the hunkiest dudes have suddenly appeared wherever the contests are being held and judges for the bar promotions are more than stymied when it comes to picking a winner to represent the bar. The first contest was held at the **Boot Camp** a little over a month ago and the first winner was Steve Edwards, an avid body-builder at the Golden Gate Health Spa. Subsequent bar contests have turned up some real he-man types, to wit: Jerry of the new **Elephant Walk**; Jim



**STEVE EDWARDS** - Winner of the *Acme Beer Man Contest* at the **BOOT CAMP**. Steve is 29 years old, a *Pisces* and a bodybuilder at the Golden Gate Health Spa. He was also 1st runnerup recently for Mr. C.M.C. Carnival. He will represent the **Boot Camp** Feb. 1st at S.I.R. Center for the *Acme* finals. Anderson of **Buzzby's**; Jerry of the **Early Bird** and Tom of the **Truck Stop**. The schedule of forthcoming contests in bars is as follows:

- Dec. 13 - **527 Club**
- Dec. 14 - **Playpen** (Sacramento)
- Dec. 16 - **Cabaret**
- Dec. 18 - **Polk Gulch**
- Dec. 19 - **Playpen** (SF)

If you think you could qualify to enter, be at one of the above-listed places and see how you fare. Watch for *Acme Beer Ad's*. Congratulations to Acme for a fantastic promotion which will, ultimately, benefit **SIR** and the entire gay community. A \$1200 prize ain't hay!

**Post-Halloween Eye-Tum:** Richard Newell, well known personality around the southern end of the Tenderloin relates an escapade hard to beat: A few nights before Halloween, he was invited to a costume party here in the City. He left the party early enough to get down to the **Trapp** to show off his drag finery to his pals there, but just as he was about to enter, a SFPD squad car called him over to advise he was intoxicated and would he jump in? Those of you who know Richard can imagine that this was no easy task, but eventually, he jumped in and the car headed for Union Square. Thinking he would be taken to 850 Bryant, Richard immediately voiced his concerned opposition to the route they were taking. "Cooperate with us" he was told as he was unloaded at Union Square and dumped into the waiting arms of a hunky bunch of dudes, all members of the Pledge Class of Sigma Chi fraternity at Stanford. They were detailed to round up numerous items in San Francisco and one of them was a San Francisco drag queen! When a final check list was audited by the leader of the group, he asked: "What about our drag queen?" "Here I am" piped the gregarious Richard who promptly advised the group that his name was *Agnes de la Rue*, which properly translated means, *of the street!* With all items intact, off the merry band went, with our delighted Richard in tow, for an all-night blast at one of the local hotels. He isn't saying what transpired at the party, but congratulations to *Agnes de la Rue*, our newest Sweetheart of Sigma Chi! Eat your heart out Dee Dee!

The 7th Anniversary of the **Ramrod** left most everyone involved completely exhausted. George Wilbern's fine staff headed by Denny Hadda & Ralph Rotten did a bangup job of keeping the customers happy with a huge Button Extraganza on Monday night last week, followed by **Slave Liberation Night** on Tuesday and **Ex-Employees party** on Wednesday; needless to say, Wednesday night was

the most crowded with hundreds of former bartenders, doormen, janitors and floor men joining in to make the event a joyous one. Customers with **Ramrod** buttons over the past 7 years were treated to a free bus trip, all expenses paid, to dinner at a secluded, but chic spot. Thanks to the **Ramrod** for an almost full week of fun and frolic, including the gold rush bags with cash and numerous other fun surprises.

It could only happen here Department: The Castro area's newest dining room opened, **La Cucaracha**, the fabulous one with the fantastic Carmen Miranda murals and good luck to them...The recent Halloween issue of **KALENDAR** with Ron (the Diablo) of the **Round Up** in Satanic splendor caused a protest by the Association of White Witches of the Bay Area who demand equal time and that sounds interesting...What's this I hear about no more **Cotillion**?... Michael Hackett of the **Ramrod** is mainly interested these days in Jeff of the **Mistake** so much so, he has dropped out of the Mr. Gay SF Contest, and speaking of the **Mistake**, understand Dave Williams is sprouting

into a demi-conglomerate with the acquisition now of the **Missouri Mule** which will be re-modeled, revamped and reopened for fun and games...Be sure to catch Castro Street's newest watering hole, **The Elephant Walk** - understand this one will take the City by storm and good luck to the owners...Whatever you can spare, send to **Golden Gate Gay Liberation House** for they desperately need funds to repair their heating and plumbing system. Send any and all contributions to 934 Page Street and I'm sure it will be appreciated...The Council of Emperors will stage An Old Fashioned Christmas blast at **SIR** Center on December 14th to buy gifts for the young and old. Admission is \$1.00 and a toy or gift and this one sounds like a hoot so be sure you're there; a fun time is anticipated and it should be with all the smart talent involved... Congratulations to all the winners of Spoons at the Closet Ball & Spoon Awards. The audience, the closet ball contestants and the spoon winners were a beautiful gathering. Contests are fun but this one was HOT, if I must say so myself. A drive, headed by Empress III Shirley, is underway to send Tacky Ruth to reading and

diction classes - yes, she's still stirring.. Lennie Lynn was so excited about the Closet Ball she put her mouth in rollers but unfortunately, someone combed it out. David Hodgson, also known as Rude Ruth of Data Boy was named King of Spoons and Mary Ellen of **Twin Peaks Tavern**, was crowned the Queen of Spoons; it was a fun night and can be read about elsewhere in this issue of B.A.R.....The Coronation of San Francisco's 10th Empress will be at the Sheraton Palace Hotel on January 4th and NO reserved seating, so get your ticket as soon as possible and be there early...Drop into the **Stud** soon and see the new decor, it's HOT and say Hi to Heidi and Jerry... Whatever happened to Tom Corbaley, the deejay at **Olympus**? Anyway, Ric Seiler is now spinning the vinyl there and he is hot...The crew at **The Wagon** may have a hot thing going, but standing by that front door at night is a cool situation. Yes, the **Wagon** is open and still swinging so drop in for fun and games.

With Christmas just around the corner, parties are already popping up there, yonder and there. This past weekend was a marathon of blasts by

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the bike clubs: Friday Night, the **Barbary Coasters** hosted theirs at the **Ramrod**; Saturday night the **Recons** staged their annual Toy Thing at the **No Name Bar**, and Sunday, the **CMC** did a fantastic 3-hour pleasure trip for members and friends at **Seamen's Hall**. The food on the tag was limitless and the booze flowed endlessly - hope you all were able to partake of all the festivities. Last Night, some 500 of SF's glittering people showed up at the **Nickelodeon** for a sneak preview of the newest discotheque in town; the old **Frolic Room** on Mason has been

transformed into a nostalgic trip into the 40's with the 20th Century Fox logo and spotlights on one end and a gigantic jukebox which you literally enter to dance in. The room is a flashing, glittering plethora of studio lighting equipment and the back bar is dominated by a huge cut out of Carmen Miranda (complete with flashing lips) and Don Ameche and a headdress of fruit that reaches to the ceiling. Designed by the fantastic Joe Musil (who did **Mind Shaft** here and the **Diamond Horseshoe** in Wilmington), the art moderne bistro has a

color scheme and lighting that compliment YOU, the customer; or in other words, you'll always look good at the **Nickelodeon**. With Billy Dean, Wayne Williams, Ken Tabb, Gary Duda (yes, he's back) and Don Halliday behind the plank and the best looking waiters in town headed by Shawn Tremell, former Mr. Groovy Guy (L.A.), the **Nickelodeon** is a must on your list. Top tough security will prevail at the door, so bring I.D. and have a ball.

Holiday season means guests from out of town and why be bothered with all the drudgery of cooking and cleaning the mess afterward? The **\*P.S.** boasts a new menu both for lunches and dinners, including some light brunches at lunch time; although the waiters at lunch have a problem with the Closet Ball Queen 2-B, Tacky Angel cooking it, you will find a pleasant menu for lunch at the **\*P.S.** Over on 17th & Florida, the new **Le Domino** opened with little fanfare but boasts a new era in cuisine that is intimate but classy. You must try this one and soon. You'll love it. If you want a new twist in catering, try **WC Caterers**, a food fantasy complete with mime entertainment if desired. Call Phil Aumontte at 922-0651 for a fabled Christmas party in your own home. Incidentally, **Le Domino's** Grand Opening is on Jan. 18th with a beautiful bisque casting by Llaro of Spain of Three Horses worth over \$700 being the grand door prize. Check it out. Senator Milton Marks will host the Christmas Party of the **Round Up** together with SIR Hector, Good Fairy Gardner, Bud Thompson (CMC) and Adrian of the **San Franciscans**. On the 17th, the **Round Up** will show the movies of the Closet Ball and Spoon Awards at 10 and midnight. Be there or be square. Congratulations to Bob Molinari, the **Mind Shaft's** winner in the **Acme Beer Contest** - he's hot, and I love it!

That winds it up for this issue; see you at the **Boot Camp's** Fun Buns Contests on Mondays. Love your neighbor as you love yourself and remember: Sometimes the romantic hunt is better than catching the chosen prey.

Love you all - Mister Marcus  
P.S. Who is Clara Mae Carnival? Why is Tom Avila so obedient lately? I love you Bob.

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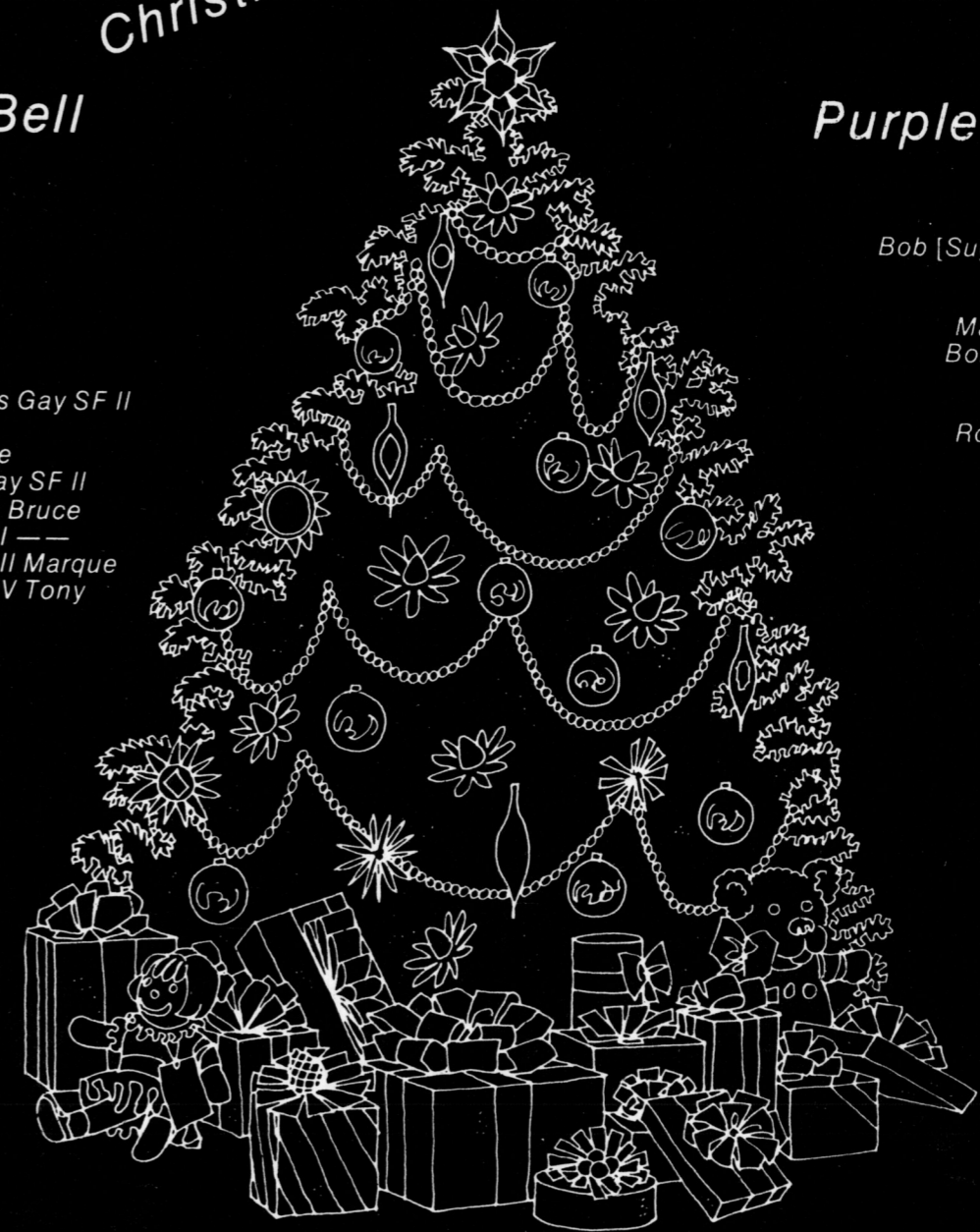
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Roger

# Tidbits

by the Bay



## AROUND THE TOWN

Did you know S.I.R. is having a membership drive now thru Jan? It's only \$20 to join and you get **Vector** for a year, so join S.I.R. Did you know Larry E. has been elected to the board of directors for the Emperor? Congrats Love!! There will be an Investiture along with an Xmas party at S.I.R., Sat., Dec. 14th. Tickets are \$1.00, a tree ornament and some kind of toy or present. Wear your old Xmas tree or something festive. Thank you Bill, Tony and staff for a lovely Thanksgiving party at **Bradley's**. Now that (you know who) election is over, he is taking pot shots at all his old friends and non-advertisers. Me thinks you really did it this time and do you think we are all fools that we don't know who writes that column?? Really. You had better get your tickets for Michelle at the Palace, Jan. 17th &

18th, as I hear they are going fast. Peter King is having another birthday? Yes, she is at **Bradley's**, Jan. 17th. Thanks, Bob (Danny's friend of the **Nothing Special**) Frieda and I went to see **Sugar**, along with the rest of the old bags, at the Wed. matinee. The **Elephant Walk** is now open on the corner of 18th & Castro. It's not quite finished yet, but has lovely pillars, topped with ferns, open windows, overhead fans (a la Casbah) and all the bartenders wear Safari shirts. Looks like another hit. Tues. night at the movies? Try the **Pendulum**. Thanks George & Tosh, love these boys. Frenchy was there in his jammies & robe yet. If you are in the bah! hum bug! class, try the **Powell**, as they are having a special holiday spectacular, Wed. Dec. 25th, and the balls you see won't be on a tree. Did you know Chris & Roger Hall (of **Gangway** fame) now

have the **Nite Cap**. Well, that place is back in the fold. Did you know the buffets at the **Roadrunner** have been recommended by Colonel Sander of New York? Bill McWilliams (**Boot Camp**) has a new sailor in training as a lover...?? Now, if you phone train him, you got it made. Did you know Doug McDonald is making an appearance at **Toad Hall** and congrats on becoming the new Secretary of **Tavern Guild!!** The **Wilde Oscar** is having their Xmas party, Thur. Dec. 12, 6 til 9 pm. Please bring a toy. You think this country is in bad shape, would you believe that in Japan, steak is \$13.00 a pound??? Cal is fun to watch on Tues., at the **Roadrunner**. Now that you have the day off, MaMa Peck, we would love to see you at the T.G. meetings. If you remember Burnie from his So. of Market days, he can now be seen days at the **Hob Nob**. Mr. & Miss Gay San Francisco will be held at Bellevue Hotel, Jan. 11th due to the **Hooker Ball** which could not be moved; however, next year the contest will be held on the last weekend in Jan. and campaigning will not (NOT) start until Nov. 1st. Please!! The tickets can be had from the Contestants, **Adonis** book store, or your's truly. The **Golden Gate Lib. House** needs some code work done and a new heating system. If you can help in any way, please call them at 431-7688. They will even take money. Their deadline is Jan. 1st. Don't forget the Benefit dance for **Acceptance House** at S.I.R. Center, Mon. Dec. 16th and you may win that trip to Hawaii. The Empress Coronation is Jan. 4th, at the Palace and Frieda has planned some surprises for you all. Jeffress (the Hardware store across from the **Mule** on Market St.) is closing its doors and would you believe, after 91 years? Making it the oldest hardware store in S.F. Another bit of old San Fran gone. They have done a fantastic job on the outside of the **Rainbow Cattle Co.**

Did you know DeDe Warwick opens at **Jackson's Penthouse** Dec. 26th? Thanks to the **Play Pen** and the **Phone Booth** for the great Candidate partys for the Mr. & Miss S.F. contestants, and by the way, watch for a surprise contestant in that contest. Due to last minute set backs, the **Nickelodeon** will open Thur. Dec. 12th. I'm sure you will be very interested when you see what the bartenders are wearing!! This used to be the **Frolic Room**. Kisses on your opening Bob! The Leather &

Feather Follies will be produced this year by Fern of **Jackson's** and will be directed by Vern B. & Zane. Tickets will be \$5.00, no reserved seating and will be held one night only at **Bimbo's**, Sun. Jan 5th. This will be a benefit for the **Pride Foundation** which is non-political and promotes educational programs. Sorry to report that Herry Dobbs (**Jackson's**) is in Presbyterian Hospital and by the time you read this, he will be able to have visitors. Get well soon love!! My best wishes to Grand Duchess II and her new court. The **Gangway** will hold their Xmas party Thurs., Dec. 12th with Santa & the Girls? The **Kokpit's** Xmas party is Mon. the 16th, at 5 pm and Dec. 17th, the **Phoenix** will honor Frieda at their Xmas party. The **Turf Club** will have a **Farewell Frieda** party, 8 til 10 pm. Lets all say goodbye to a fine person and thanks for a job well done!! The final contests for **Mr. Acme Beer** will be: **The 527**, Dec. 13-15th; Mond., Dec. 16, the **Cabaret**; Tues., Dec. 17th, the **Nickelodeon**; the 18th, **Polk Gulch Saloon**; the 19th is the **Play Pen** and Mon., Dec. 30th will be the **Pendulum**. The contest will be held at Calif. Hall, Friday, Jan. 31st. If you would like to see all the finalists, they will be presented at the Mr. & Miss S.F. Contest, Jan. 11th. Did you know Assm. Foran & Sen. McCarthy got \$80,000.00 to hire 3 persons to rewrite the Calif. Penal Code?

## CHINESE CHECKERS

Dingy Don has left the **Turf Club**. Jeff, formerly of **The 527** is now at the **Mistake**. Little Butch has left the **Play Pen**. Tom the waiter at the **Badlands**, is now at the **Elephant Walk**. Wayne Williams (**Mind Shaft**), Bill Dean (formerly of **Buzzhy's**) and Kim Tabb (**Cabaret** fame) will be behind the bar at the **Nickelodeon** along with a host of other hunks. Did you know Ken Rector (formerly of **Jackson's**) is at the **Yacht Club**? Jack Wells has left the **Purple Pickle** and is now appearing at the **New Bell**???

Good nite Mr. Hunk and you know who you are!! My love to you all and may Santa fulfill all your wishes and dreams!! Have a very happy holiday season and remember my closing lines....*Be good to each other*  
30 Kiddies.....Perry

P.S. I am having a Garage Sale, Dec. 14-15th, at 791 Ashbury St., with lots of Antiques and Junk.

## TID BITS FROM PORTLAND

Due to very heavy fog, Frank (the Sec. of the **Warlocks** in S.F.). John (the Pres. of the **Committee**, Seattle) and your's truly, missed John's birthday party at the **Mocambo** in Seattle and we landed in Portland. We made our way to **Darcelle's XV Saloon** in time for a fun show. All of the Empress candidates were being paid a tribute and each was being imitated by someone else and quite well, I might add. At the end of the evening, each candidate was presented with a silver champagne glass, and with much love and affection. everyone toasted everyone else. During the course of the evening, your's truly was brought up on stage as **Grand Duchess I of S.F.** and Darcelle and I sang Happy Birthday to John, of Seattle (without music yet), which was taped and presented to him, a momento of his day. I might say that Mame, Doni Lame & Van were in rare form that evening. It was great to see Kissy Dicky again, as he has moved back to Portland from S.F. Portland has a way of making you fall in love with a friend each time you return!!

Thank you Neil of the *Northwest*

*Gay Review* for the interview. You made my day. John and I returned to Portland the following weekend for a mad weekend. Had dinner and dancing at the **Embers** and off to see mama Bernice, Sidney and Jim at the **Other Inn**. A really heaven group of people. Seattle and Vancouver did a fantastic show at **Dahl & Penne's**, after which we stopped at **Hamburger Marys**, the same as the one in S.F., a fun trip of that late night bite. Another late spot, that's like eating in a garden, is the **Greenhouse** in the Park Haviland hotel...open til 4 am. The **New Bell** and the **Purple Pickle** (of S.F.) gave a mad cocktail party hosted by Rose 1,2,3½. Thanks Boo & Roy!!

Darcelle XV had the **Kopp Out Capers 11** from S.F., after which they had their reg. show. **The Water Closet** is one of Portland's new'st and is 3 floors of Booze, Pool and Dancing. Far Out. Sunday, saw one of the most lavish brunches I have ever seen. Food for days, incl. Oysters on the half shell, Ham, Turkey and on and on after which we stopped at the **Other Inn** and then back to the hotel to try and fit in our clothes for the Coronation. This has to be one of the best shows and Coronation's I've

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attended. A tip of the brim to the **Portland Forum**...I can't wait to return and see you wonderful people in Feb. on my way to Seattle.

**TID BITS FROM SEATTLE**

Arriving in Seattle is always a turn on. The first thing that you see is the Rim Room in the Airport and then the Hustle bus takes you into town. Really, *the Queen City*. Did you know, according to the Post-Intelligencer, their King County was named after a Gay Vice-President of the U.S.? He died after only 4 months in office and was the lover of Van

Buren. He was referred to by Andrew Jackson as Miss Nancy. See, it has been going on for a long time.

A very happy 5th anniv. to **B.B. & The Mocambo**. You must have lunch here - it's excellent and Jean is a very charming lady. I have seen mirrors used on walls before, but the mural done by Ray McWade, Scotty & Mark is really fantastic! Dinner at the **Mocambo** is really an experience and you'll love the salad bar and the waiters, Chris & R.B. are real turn ons!! We met Empress Lola and a great group at **Spag's**. This is a fun bar

and Wed. night this is the *in place* to be and I am sure you will find George, the bartender, the wonderful nut that I did. If you were at the Mr. Westernware contest last year at the 922, you won't know the place this year. It has been completely redone with a bright, clean, spring atmosphere.

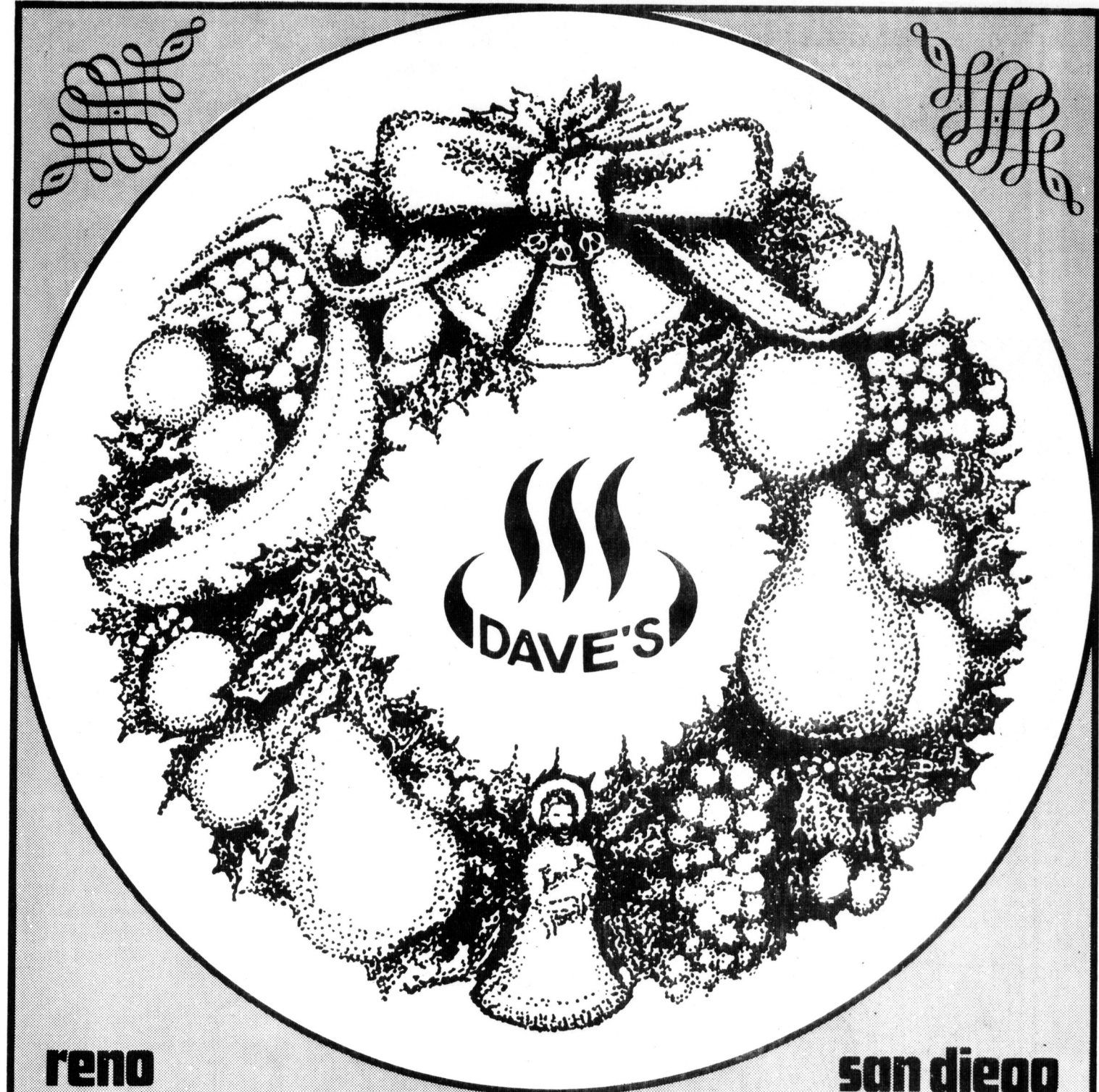
The new'st bar in town, serving liquor, is **Larry's Greenland**, run by Pat. Clean and nicely done...by now, their dining room will have opened, making it Seattle's second dinner house. **Spag's** plans for the future is to enlarge and have dancing. **Mike's Tavern** has taken over the store next door and will put in pool tables. Mike has left Seattle and the new owner is Dale. **The Handle Bar** (Leather and western) has put in a leather shop in the back. S.F.'s own Bob Renkers is now going to beauty school and will become the mgr. of a local beauty salon. The Warlocks (of SF) will be sad to hear that the **Chalet** has closed and their Pat is now at **Larry's Greenland**. Sorry to have missed the S.T.Y.C. #2 chicken feed at **Spag's**. On 2nd Ave., **Shelly's Leg** is a discotheque w/ the largest dance floor in the northwest. How the place got its name is a trip. Ask someone.

For those of you who like to be clean, Seattle offers the **Atlas Athletic Club & Daves Baths** on 1st Ave. & Battery, and if flicks are your bag, **Sultan's Cinema** is the only one on 1st Ave. The I.C.C. (Inter Club Counsel) composed of all Seattle clubs are having their first joint venture, an Xmas party Dec. 15th, to be held at the Aries Ballroom, in the Eagles Hall. The Empres & Emperor hopefuls will be introduced that evening. Don't forget, Feb. 9th (a First for Seattle), Lola has taken over the space needle for her awards party, and of course, their Coronation will be Feb. 16th. If anyone is interested, I will be there for the whole week and available. Thanks to Lola, John, Monty, Terry-Doug & Murel for being such wonderful hosts. Love you all!!

30 Kiddies  
Perry



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BAR EVENTS & NEWS



Rome and Minnie of the **Phoenix**, ever vigilant of the need to economize during these troubled times, planned to immortalize our *infamous* Sweet Lips in an imitation concrete bed of damp kitty litter. Unfortunately, the resident cat felt the need to step on the newly laid mixture, so the following act, the imprintin' of Sweet Lips will, for some, always have a smell.

Seems as if one of our newer bars about to be opened is going to have a policy of NO men in skirts and NO women in slacks...isn't that discrimination..especially in the area they are going to be located...after all, I have even been in a skirt on Castro Street and they are great bars.

Wish to thank all of the lovely people that were at the **Phoenix** on the 1st for the party that Rome, Minnie and the staff gave for me..the caftans were lovely Jerry..thanks to all for the lovely gifts...Ginger, as a hostess you

were fabulous. Thank you Darcell and Roc of **Darcelle's XV Saloon** in Portland for the fabulous *thank you* trophy...you two are very beautiful and thoughtful people...thank you again and am looking forward to seeing you at our Xth Empress Coronation in January. Thank you Mark and Archie for the fun Christmas Party at your house last Sunday... where did you find all of the beautiful people.

Is it true Jay Noonan, that you have joined the F.F.A. Group...at least you got the smell of the onions off your hand.

**Le Domino**...a great place for lunch or dinner...nice people and a very nice decor...try it...you'll like it..to quote.

Peter Decker for Mr. Gay San Francisco...he seems to be every place at one time. Don't forget Sweet Lips' Kokpit Annual Christmas Party will be on Monday the 16th of December from 4 pm on, so come on down and join in the festivities...and cheer. On the plank will be Tom, Mike and of course, our own Helen Trent... Jackson's Christmas Cable Car will be stopping by after leaving the Abandoned Children's Home where they

are leaving gifts for all of the children from ages 7 to 12. The employees and owner, John, are donating their own Christmas gifts to the children...that certainly is a beautiful gesture by beautiful people...Merry Christmas to all at **Jackson's**.

Feather and Leather Follies will be at Bimbo's on Sunday, the 5th of January...watch for the tickets.

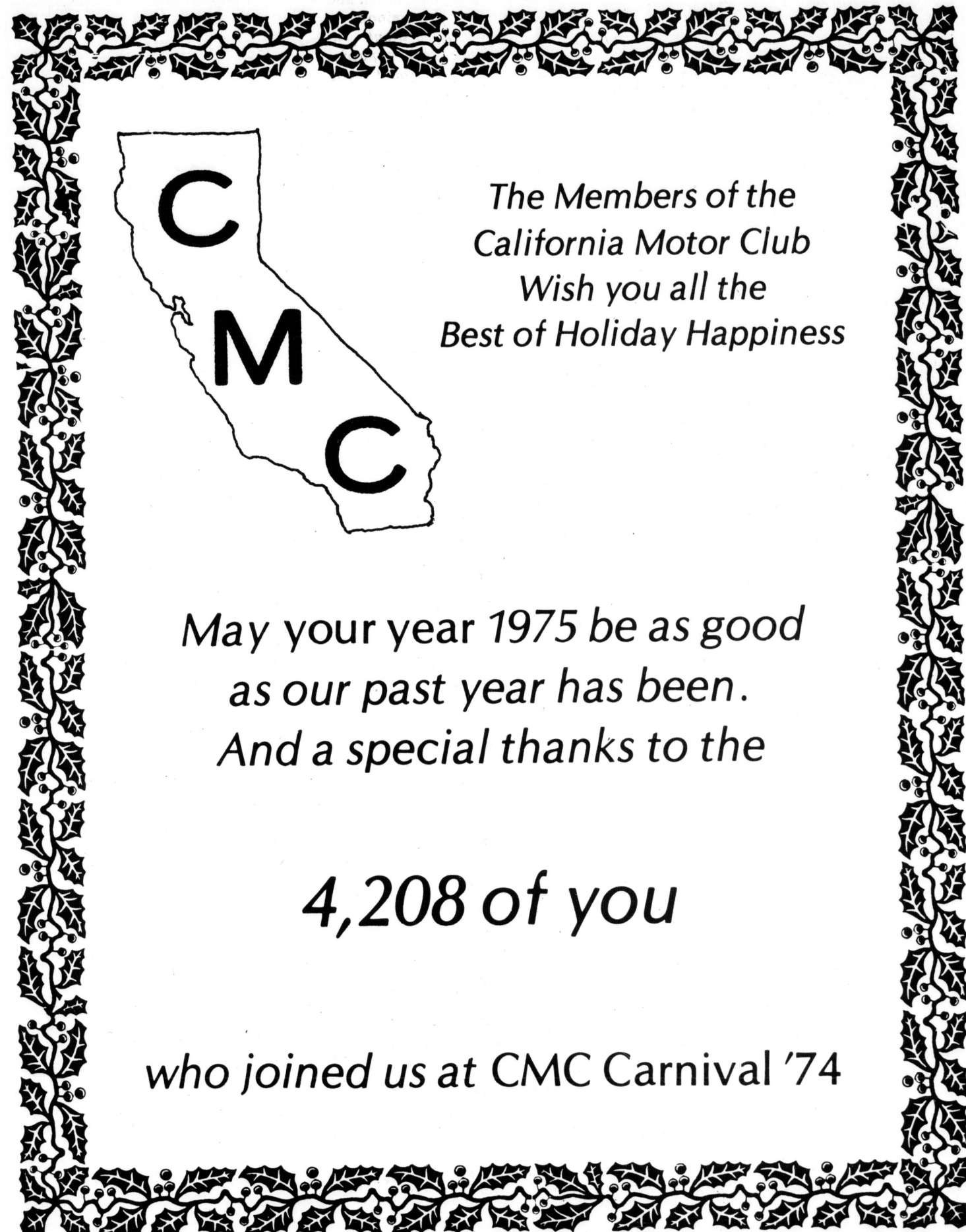
Have you seen **Buzzby's** Christmas decorations...outta sight...you did a nice job **Don Berry**.

Thank you Jim T. for the lovely letter...you sure make the 'Lips' feel just great...just wish that Portland wasn't so far away.

**Gordon's** on Polk Street seems to be the *hot* bar now...lovely people and great bartenders...a pleasant change for Polk St. Across the street at the **Early Bird** we have beautiful Bobby and our favorite own Jack Cox, so drop by and see the great guy.

Remember to make your Christmas Day reservations early...lot's of your favorite restaurants are going to be open including **The Baj**, **\*P.S.** Remember, the **Kokpit** is closed Christmas Day so that the employees can have a pleasant holiday.

Season's Greetings to all especially to you, Jim.....Lips



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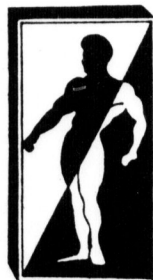
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RISING STAR NANCY BLEIWEISS WISHES EVERYONE A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

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