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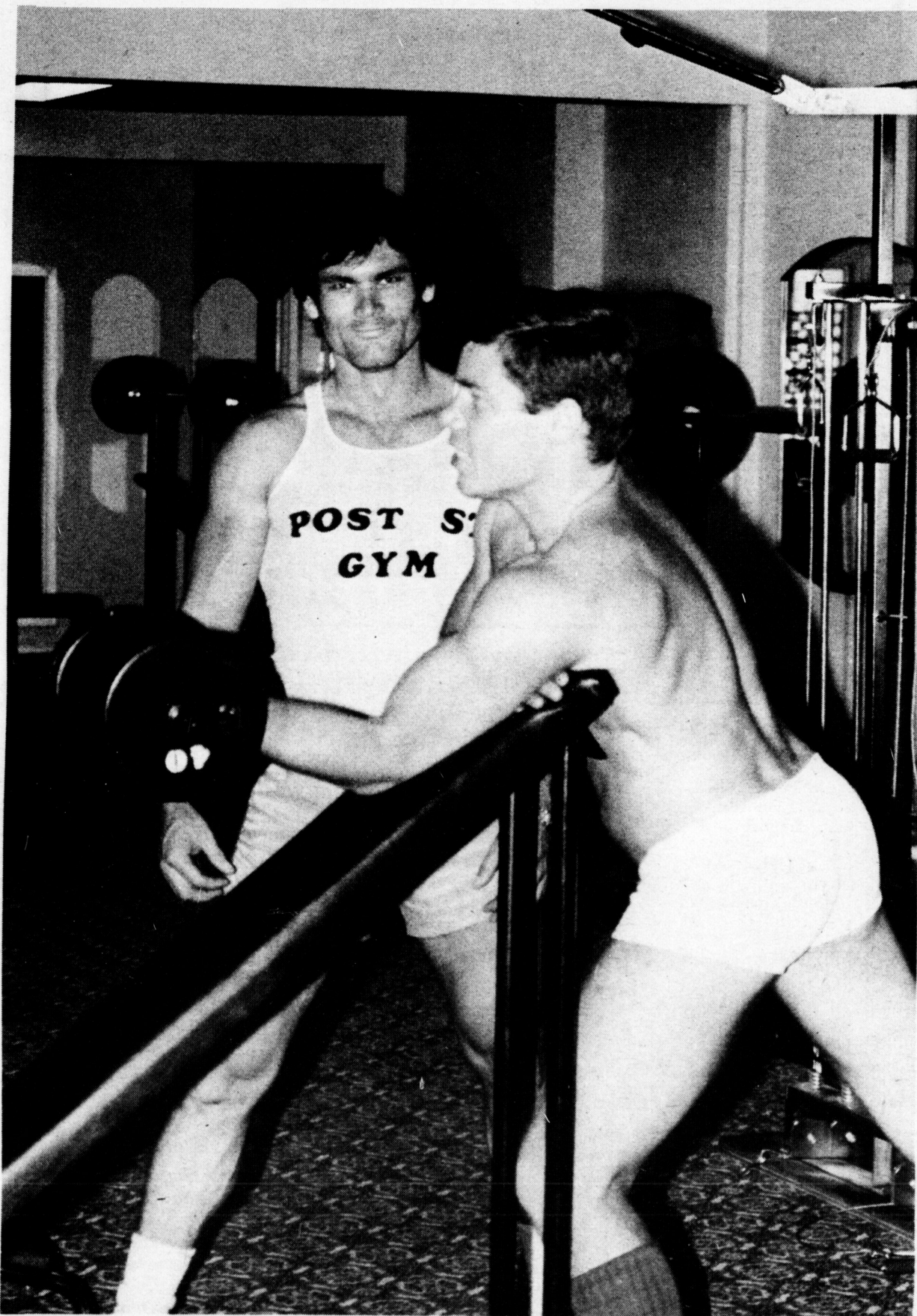
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"The Great American Yankee (GAY) Freedom Band of Los Angeles" parades before the Capitol. (Photo by Mark Swartz)

REFLECTIONS ON D.C.

by Supervisor Harry Britt

You could tell by Saturday that the March on Washington was transforming Washington, D.C. Lesbian couples strolled hand-in-hand in the National Gallery, Gay men stared up at the roof of the Capitol Building, White House tourists suddenly looked a little different from the regulars from Detroit and Des Moines. In Washington, our old slogan became a reality once again — we were everywhere.

The poignance of seeing the national capital, with its buildings and monuments which we have all been taught symbolize our history and our country's power, suddenly filled with Lesbians and Gay men was overwhelming.

But there was more to the spirit of the March than our mere numbers — which to me seemed clearly in excess of 100,000; as we marched into the rally site, march organizers announced each contingent on their microphones — Tulas, Helena, Montana, Milwaukee, Dartmouth College. It's difficult to describe the feeling I got listening to the names of these

The police took twenty minutes to respond following the stabbing, but did manage to round up four of the five gang members. Two have admitted the stabbing, according to Thibodeaux, who accompanied the police in their search. He also reported that the same gang has been charged with several other muggings around the Castro area.

The responding cops reportedly said that Gays should complain about the lack of police protection in the Castro

area. They suggested plainclothesmen and pairs of beatwalking police would help curb the rash of muggings in the area.

Unfortunately, Gays have been repeatedly complaining since the assassination of Harvey Milk of the continuing muggings, stabbings, harassment by young punks. The police understand the problem totally, but say they can do nothing about the violent crimes.

Supervisor Harry Britt, when informed of the latest assault in his District, told B.A.R., "The violence directed against Gays is the same kind of violence that all kinds of people experi-

"I want to commend these two Gay men for coming to the aid of a senior citizen — to the risk of their own lives." Britt promised he would contact the two Gay men and see what he could do to be of assistance and to pledge they receive the recognition they deserve for their valor.



Getting on the Britt bandwagon (L. to R.) Randy Taylor (holding banner), unidentified, Harry Britt, John Joiner, Cleve Jones, Chuck Morris (publisher of The Sentinel), unidentified, Linda Taylor, Hugh Guilbeau. (Photo by Mark Swartz)

VOL. 9 NO. 22 OCTOBER 25, 1979
NEXT ISSUE OUT: NOV. 8 NEXT DEADLINE: NOV. 2

Inside B.A.R. This Issue

- B.A.R. endorsements of major candidates by Paul Lorch pp. 1 & 6
- Exclusive to the B.A.R. Non-Gay candidate in District 5 Joel Ventresca's position paper on Gay rights P. 4
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places — small towns like the ones where so many of us grew up and felt alien and alone — and now we were marching to the Washington Monument from these places, thousands and thousands of us, together for the first time. And somehow we all knew that for all of those Gay people from the Peorias of the world and for all of us — things would never be the same.

What we felt the most on the Sunday of the March on Washington was not just the importance of the size of the crowd or of the particular issues for which we marched; we shared

(Continued on Page 2)

CASTRO STABBING

GAY MAN AIDS MUGGING VICTIM
— STABBED 4 TIMES

A Gay man was repeatedly stabbed near Cala Foods last Thursday evening when he and a friend came to the aid of an old man who was being harassed by a gang of young punks.

John Donofrio, 25, active in the Gay Softball League, and Lee Thibodeaux, 41, were on their way to Cala at about 6:30PM when they saw five youngsters trying to grab groceries from the old man. Coming to his aid, Thibodeaux thwarted two of the attackers with his heavily laden backpack, but the other three converged on Donofrio and stabbed him four times in the stomach. Donofrio is now in stable condition at S.F. General recovering from the stabs as well as from infection caused by the dirty weapon.

A woman who witnessed the attack reported that the gang of 16 or 17 year olds had been hanging around the Cala parking lot for about an hour. They were drinking liquor and harassing passers-by with shouts of "faggot, queer" and a variety of epithets.

Reportedly, when the two Gay men approached the gang to help the old man, the youths shouted, "You lookin' for trouble" and "Come on, you queers" before they attacked.

The police took twenty minutes to respond following the stabbing, but did manage to round up four of the five gang members. Two have admitted the stabbing, according to Thibodeaux, who accompanied the police in their search. He also reported that the same gang has been charged with several other muggings around the Castro area.

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B.A.R. Endorsements

BLUNTING THE ASSASSIN'S BULLETS

This season in the major races our choices were immediate and easily arrived at. The Dan White scenario: that assassination is the ultimate political weapon (a political status we have lived under for the past eleven months) can be either sustained or repudiated by the electoral process. Substituting Gay "smarts" for the White bullets could put us further ahead than White ever dreamed possible. And not in the least Harvey Milk would be avenged.

DISTRICT 5: Harry Britt

The slogan of the Dan White supervisorial campaign in 1977 was UNITED AND FIGHT. The slogan of the Hallinan campaign in 1979 is UNITED WE STAND. The homophobia in the first instance was overt; in the latest more polished version it is covert. Both campaigns are capitalizing on the former prize fighting image of their decent "family man." Once again the Irish Mafia of the parishes are trying to make a comeback.

At first, the B.A.R. was not overjoyed with the appointment of Harry Britt. Since then we have been critical and monitored his performance most carefully. Britt over the past ten months has worked assiduously to heal the wounds created by Dianne Feinstein with her unforgivable 7-week delay in finding a replacement for Harvey Milk. Britt's office from the first has been responsive to the needs and complaints of his constituents and Gays city-wide. Britt has grown with the job. His performance on the night of the May 21 riots is a false issue (his constituents were being beaten to the ground before his eyes — like the B.A.R., his response was "NO APOLOGIES").

The effort to dump Britt is but one more manifestation of homophobia. It is spearheaded by Dianne Feinstein and her program of moral rearmament. It is aided and abetted by homosexuals who for their own comfort would like to shove Gays back into their closets. We begin to hear stories of organizing on Castro Street to make the promenade more

(Continued on Page 6)

Reflections on D.C. March

(Continued from Page 1)

the sense that day that we — Lesbians and Gay men — had all arrived as a national community just beginning to make our claim on American society.

Everyone felt good — very, very happy — and people were kind to one another and paid attention to the requests of the organizers with a spirit of cooperation and a feeling of oneness that was inspiring.

Several incidents of the weekend stand out in my memory. At the assembly point, a Lesbian called out the

place names of contingents to get everyone in line for the march. And people went where she asked them to go. When got to some little town in Missouri, she told over the microphone that she had grown up in Missouri, and the marchers stopped their assembling to listen as she talked passionately about what it was like to be a Lesbian in rural Missouri.

Later, as the San Francisco group — there were about 1,000 of us — marched down Pennsylvania Avenue, we

came across a group from Tennessee. They cheered our San Francisco banners, and unfurled one of their own — "San Francisco, We Love You!" It was a moving moment because it brought home to us how much the strength and freedom we have developed here mean to Gay people all over the rest of the country.

A third incident, at the rally itself, made this point even clearer. Harvey Milk had called for the national March on Washington in his speech at Gay Freedom Day in San Francisco in 1978. His fight for all of us and his assassination have made him a national hero for Gay people. For all of us from San Francisco who knew and loved Harvey, the highlight of that wonderful weekend in D.C. came when the crowd of 100,000 Lesbians and Gay men from every state in the Union roared as a single voice "Harvey, we are here! Harvey, we are here!"

Harvey's dream of bringing tens of thousands of Lesbians and Gay men to Washington, D.C., came true on Sunday, October 14. But Harvey's dreams always had their practical side. He wanted us there as the beginning of something, not as the end.

The question we should be asking after Washington is "Where do we go from here?" The Gay rights movement is still in its infancy. Like all groups of people we have decades of struggle ahead of us before we reach the day when we are all free — free from verbal and physical assault, free from discrimination and abuse, and free from the self-hatred and denial of self-worth which comes from growing up in a culture which tells us we are sick. Freedom for Gay

people will mean freedom for all people from rigid sex role stereotypes which inhibit all people from knowing and living as who they really are. And freedom will mean a society where we care for and take care of one another — free of the loneliness and isolation and lack of warmth which has so often characterized one part of our culture.

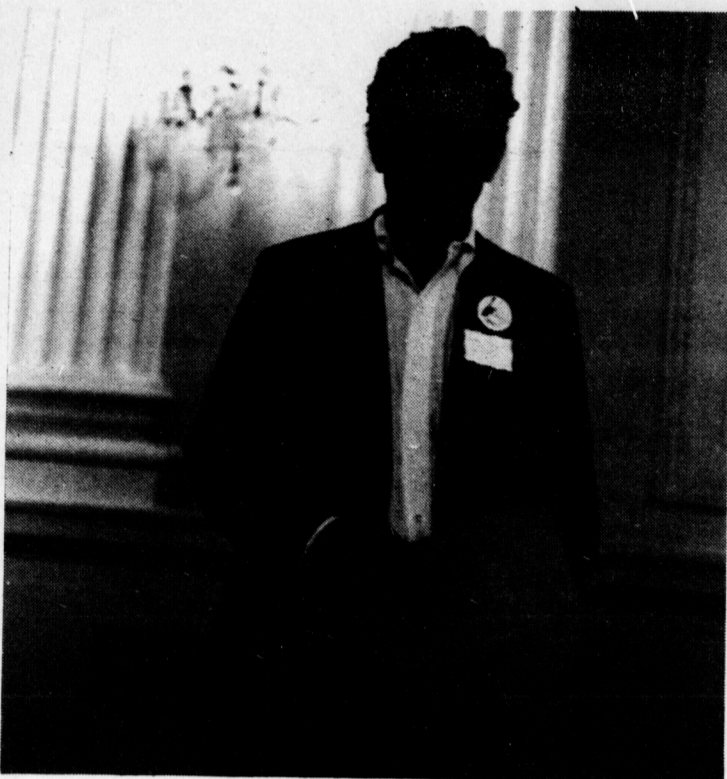
Many of us believe we can create that kind of world — we saw it in Washington on October 14. The islands of Lesbians and Gay strength, like San Francisco, are beginning to spawn efforts by Gay people to stand up for themselves all over the country. No one who saw the thousands of determined Gay Texans in Washington can doubt that the world will soon be hearing from them.

But the March gave us something more concrete than hope with which to continue our struggle. It began the development of our movement as a true national force. The weekend produced not only the March, but a series of meetings which led to the organization of a permanent national Third World Gay Caucus and (thanks in great part to San Francisco's Bernice Becker) a national Parents and Friends of Gays.

On Saturday, hundreds of Lesbians and Gays met at a conference called to plan strategy for electing Gays and our friends as delegates to the national Republican and Democratic conventions next summer. The conference was part of a highly-organized campaign leading to the adoption of national party planks in favor of Gay rights.

Harry Britt

Throughout the weekend, at



Supervisor Harry Britt — who led the San Francisco delegation to the national March on Washington — at a Gay caucus in the Cannon House office building. (Photo by Mark Swartz)



On the way to Washington March via Amtrak — West Coast Gays made a respectable showing. (Photo by John Green)

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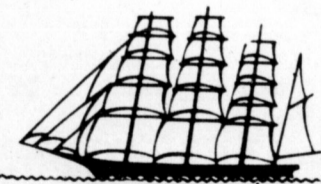
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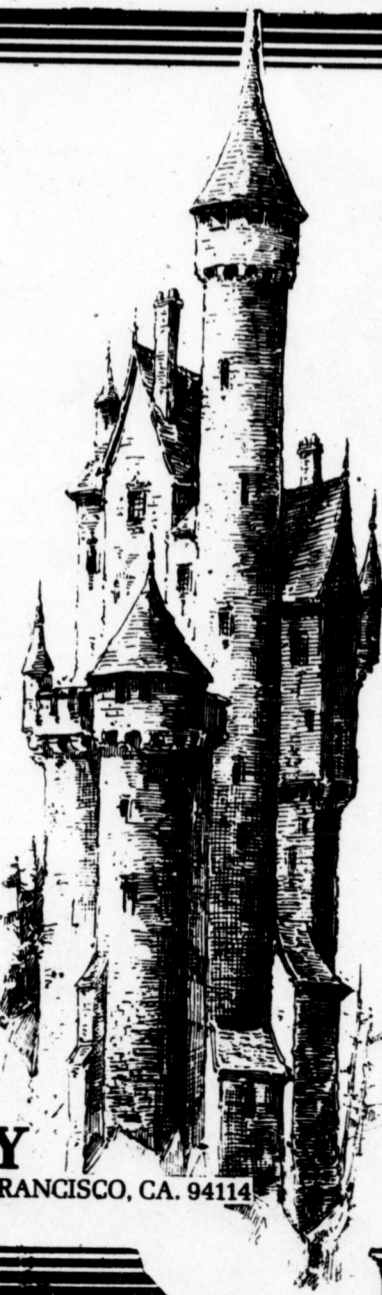
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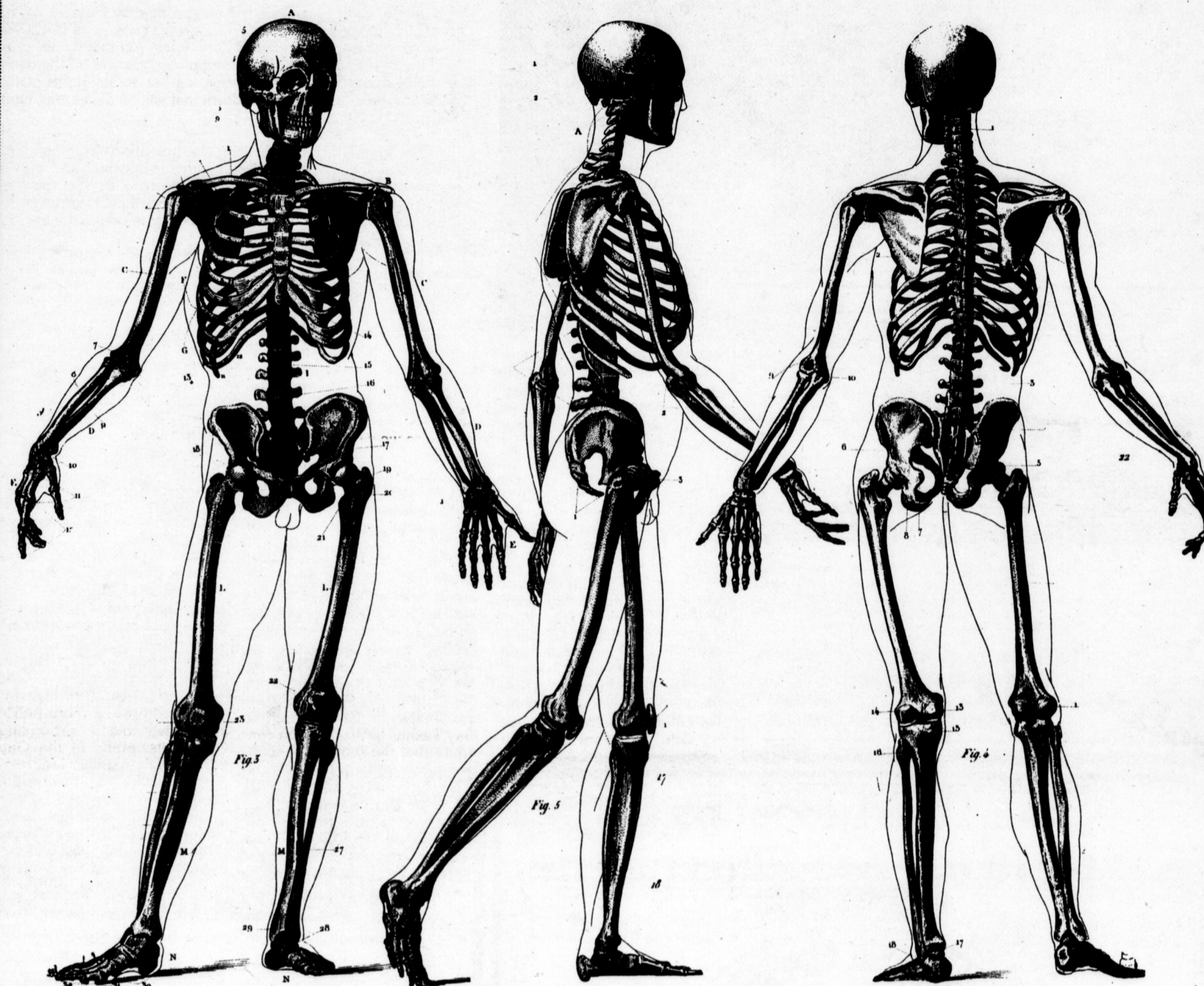
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San Francisco songwriter and singer, Conan entertained the Gay Washington-bound marchers on their three-day Amtrak journey. (Photo by John Green)

If we ate at NINES more often we would get invitations to something other than Halloween Parties!



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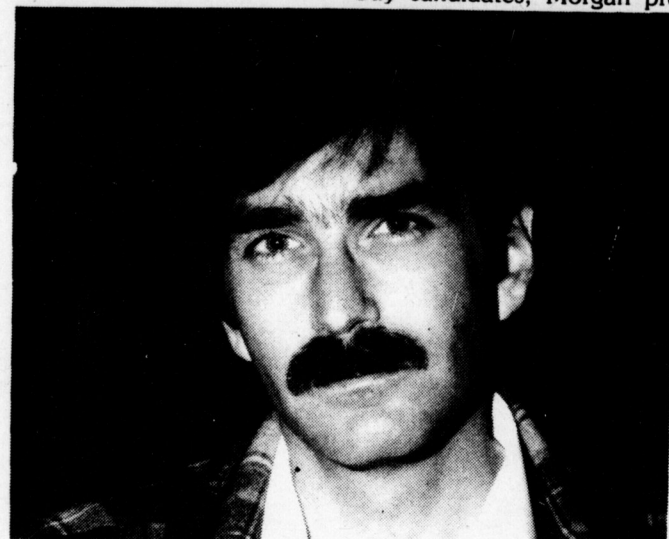
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16 Gays Make Police Candidates

Seven Lesbians and nine Gay men have been chosen as candidates for positions with the San Francisco Police Department as a result of the Gay Outreach Program's year-long recruitment drive. These candidates represent 8% of the officers that will be hired between November 1979 and June 1980.

Les Morgan, coordinator of the program, which is composed entirely of volunteer Gays and Lesbians, told B.A.R. that "we've done much better than planned." The original goal was to have 2% representation. As it now stands, one in five of the Gay applicants will be hired. As a whole, only one in ten applicants to the force are accepted. "The Gay candidates scored



Les Morgan — inspiration and driving force behind Gay Outreach for candidates to the SFPD. (Photo by Rink)

well in competitive testing," Morgan said. There are no quotas involved in the selection of candidates; sexual preference is not considered as a deciding factor.

Pressed for names of the Gay candidates, Morgan pre-

ferred to keep that information carefully concealed. "We'd like to see them on the job before they are exposed to the media," he said. This is an effort to reduce any undue strain that may be placed on them during their training. Morgan promised that some of the candidates will "go public" in November.

The Gay Outreach Program is now in the midst of a new recruitment cycle for hiring in 1980. This program is not in any way connected with the SFPD. It is a community group that works to assist Gays in preparing their candidacy for the Police Department. Those interested in the program can contact Les Morgan at 775-1000. Individuals will be added to a confidential mailing list and kept abreast of the program as it progresses.

Joel Ventresca's Position Paper on Gay Rights

(ED. NOTE: B.A.R. asked for and received Joel Ventresca's — candidate for Supervisor in District 5 — views on Gays and Gay rights.)

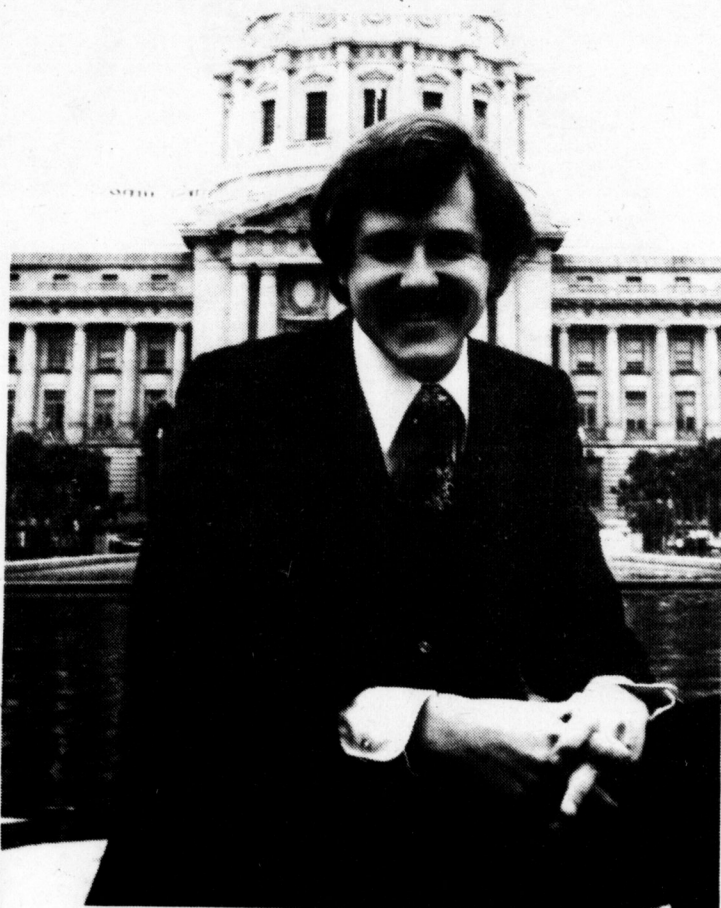
"Discrimination against Gays in the workplace, physical violence against Gays in the streets, and bigotry against Gays in our society must end.

"Gay people should be respected and accepted. Any source of harassment or bigotry against Gays I will fight here and everywhere. I will seek legislation at the local, state, and federal levels of government to stop injustices Gay people experience.

"I would seek to end discrimination against Gays at every level of government. I strongly support the passage of HR2074 — an amendment to the 1964 Civil Rights Act that would prohibit businesses from refusing to employ someone on the basis of sexual preference. I also strongly support a Gay rights plank for the Democratic Party's platform that will be developed next summer.

"The city ordinance prohibiting discrimination based on race, sex or sexual orientation in employment, housing, and public accommodations should be strictly enforced by the Human Rights Commission. Quarterly reports from the Commission to the Board should measure effectiveness in enforcing the law.

"There is no justification for making criminal sexual conduct between adults, both consenting, carried on in private. Government should stay out of people's bedrooms.



Joel Ventresca, candidate for Supervisor in District 5, speaks out on Gay rights.

"A police department which is representative of the residents of San Francisco — and are in fact residents — is the best way to guarantee equal treatment by the law for all groups. Recruitment of Gay police officers is essential to make our police department representative and sensitive to the Gay community. A Gay police commissioner could open up the department to Gays, and I strongly support this move.

"I think the most qualified, hard working, competent and accessible candidate should be elected, whatever their sexual orientation. We need a Supervisor who will represent and be accessible to all the people of District 5 — working people and poor, young and old, Gay and straight.

"Displacement of long-time residents because of economic reasons must stop. It is the essence of legislative authority to impose reasonable regulations upon private property rights to serve the larger good. I would work for legislative remedies to this problem. Social and economic integration in our neighborhoods must be preserved. Gays, straights, young and old, well-off and not so well-off can live together as neighbors."

"I like Harry Britt personally and politically we have similar positions. But I believe I would make a better legislator because of my experience with the Board and my familiarity with how to pass legislation that people in District 5 want to see developed, passed, and implemented.

"As a freelance writer specializing in San Francisco's political process, I have covered the Board of Supervisors. Every week for a recent 1 1/2 year period, I attended and carefully monitored all meetings, discussions, debates, and votes of the S.F. Board of Supervisors. I know the complete legislative record of the late Supervisor Harvey Milk. Over 53 meetings and 268 hours of the Board in session, Harvey took 265 legislative actions that laid the groundwork for 59 pieces of legislation he introduced. 63% of this legislation remains dormant. Because I have a similar political agenda, I would seek to complete the legislative proposals begun by Harvey Milk but left unfinished by his absence. Bullets should not change the course of government and silence a political agenda that deserves to be heard and represented."

Joel Ventresca

Three More Organizations Endorse Silver for D.A.

Three more organizations, the Mexican American Political Association (MAPA), San Francisco Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW), and the San Francisco Feminist Democrats (FEM DEMS), have thrown their support to Carol Ruth Silver's campaign for District Attorney.

Other groups who have endorsed Silver include the Chinese American Democratic Club, Citizens for Justice, Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, Japanese American Democratic Club, San Francisco Federated Young Democrats, National Women's Political Caucus, and the Franck R. Havenner Democratic Club.

This is the first time the local chapter of NOW has exercised their option to endorse candidates. Club President Mary Spenser said this was because, "until Carol Ruth Silver we had not found a candidate to endorse who supported our goals."

MAPA, one of the most influential hispanic organizations in the city, "overwhelmingly voted to endorse Carol Ruth Silver," reported MAPA President Angie Alarcon.

The last group, the FEM DEMS, are working to promote feminist candidates within the Democratic Party and they also support the implementation of the "Plan of Action" adopted at the National Women's Conference held in Houston in 1977.

Beaux Arts Judges to Include Marie-Victoire

San Francisco Superior Court Judge Ollie Marie-Victoire has accepted an invitation from the San Francisco Tavern Guild to be a judge at the 1979 Beaux Arts Ball being held Saturday, Oct. 27, at the Civic Auditorium beginning at 8:00PM.

The naming of a Superior Court judge to the panel of judges is the first time in the history of the ball that an actual court judge has acted as a judge.

Beaux Arts Ball Tickets

As the current issue of B.A.R. becomes available, it is expected that there will still be a limited number of balcony seats on sale. The general admission seats are now on sale at all BASS outlets for \$5.



Carol Ruth Silver and Sharon McNight at fund-raising benefit for Silver's District Attorney campaign.

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ACLU Takes Gay Rights National

by Claudia Moomjy

The National Gay Rights Project, formed by the American Civil Liberties Union, is going to coordinate information exchanges among some 40 (ACLU) attorneys who are working on Gay rights cases around the U.S. Up until now there has been no coordination of their efforts.

The National Gay Rights Project is aiming to provide support for ACLU attorneys, act as the ACLU's liaison to other groups working on Gay rights litigation, coordinate a national legal strategy, and work to influence public opinion and policy.

Laurence Lyon, president of the ACLU's Southern California's Gay Rights Chapter and acting director of the Gay Rights Project, stated, "By utilizing the pre-existing network of ACLU affiliates, we can build an effective lobbying, litigating and public education force. While many of the ACLU's 50 state and regional affiliates already support active Gay rights chapters or committees, there is no central office to serve them until now. In spite of that, the level of activity remained high, and with adequate funding, it will go even higher."

Cases from the start-up phase of the project range from military rights to child custody to the effect of public disclosure laws on contributions to Gay political candidates and causes.

The project is a successor to the defunct ACLU Sexual Privacy Project, best known for its work on the case of former Air Force Sergeant Leonard Matlovich, who was dishonorably discharged for his open homosexuality. The Privacy Project closed when its funding expired.

For further information on the Gay Rights Project contact the ACLU Gay Rights Chapter at 633 So. Shatto Place, Los Angeles, CA 90005; telephone (213) 466-6739.

District Attorney CANDIDATES QUIZ

1. As of 9/24/79 in the officially filed reports

Joe Freitas had collected \$131,544.25

Arlo Smith had collected \$50,515.75

Carol Ruth Silver had collected \$26,404.62

2. Which Candidate do you want for District Attorney?

- A. Freitas
- B. Silver
- C. Smith

3. What can you do?

b. Next week is too late
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Mike Hennessey and the sorry incumbent . . . the Feinstein campaign took a real jolt with the *Chronicle* endorsement of Quentin Kopp for Mayor . . . one of Dick Hongisto's closest friends assures me the former Sheriff will be moving back to the City in plenty of time for the next Mayoral election . . . Hongisto, meanwhile, strongly urging the election of Mike Hennessey as Sheriff . . . David Scott apparently has finally convinced the straight media he is a real candidate for Mayor . . . Chief Gain tells me he has no concrete plans after his job is over in January — "Just looking for a job, Wayne," says the Chief . . . meanwhile, most smart betters are putting their money on Cornelius Murphy

being the next top cop . . . the N'Touch on Polk Street will host a champagne reception for Carol Ruth Silver tonight (Thursday) at 8PM . . . politics by the dozen expected at Saturday night's Beaux Arts Ball . . . the Japanese-American Demo Club and the Firefighters Local 798 both endorsed Harry Britt . . . the Mayor was both applauded and booed at Saturday night's opening of "Hello Dolly" . . . Scott, Kopp and Feinstein to square off at yet another debate — October 31, 11AM at City College . . . popular Board Prez Jack Molinari, running unopposed in District 3, appearing at candidates' nights and campaigning as though he was in the political fight of his

life. . . Cecil Williams pounding the pavement in the Haight for Harry Britt . . . Cleve Jones, the Commish, celebrating his 25th birthday . . . political opponents pointing out that Kevin Wadsworth's recent campaign mailer pointedly does not mention the word "Gay" . . . Dennis Peron with a group of dedicated volunteers working the corner of 18th and Castro . . . Jane Fonda to appear at a fund-raiser tonight (Thursday) at the Warfield Theater to benefit San Franciscans for Affordable Housing . . . Dan White's attorney, Doug Schmidt, reportedly has a "verbal agreement" with a Hollywood literary agent to write a book about the All American Killer . . . Superior Court Judge Ollie Marie-Victoire to be a "judge" at Saturday night's Beaux Arts Ball . . . the Young Democrats and the National Women's Political Caucus added to Carol Ruth Silver endorsers . . . one of Bart Lee's campaign people called to give me hell because I failed to mention the candidate's name in a recent story I did on the D.A.'s race — name mentioned. . .



D.A. candidate Carol Ruth Silver addresses the Tavern Guild. Tavern Guild President and B.A.R. political editor, Wayne Friday is on the right. (Photo by Rink)

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Visitors to the downtown Emporium's basement store will come across a handy little phone device. It's one of those new-fangled phones, sassily sitting in a glass display case. Next to each button is a strip which indicates the number to be automatically dialed at the caller's touch. Most of the labels are fairly commonplace: Doctor, Emergency, Office, Mother, Aunt Ruth, Bob & Carol, Ted & Jean, etc. But if you read through the entire list the last button takes the cake. There, in big block letters are the two magic words "Club Baths." Remember, the customer is always right!

George Heymont

More Gay Cops To Be Hired

A new recruitment drive for 1980 police hiring will get underway soon according to Les Morgan, the Coordinator of the volunteer Gay Outreach Program. Gay Outreach's previous hiring drive has just come to a successful conclusion, and a number of Lesbians and Gay men should become San Francisco police officers over the next eight months as the current eligibility list is used up.

New applications for the force may be available as soon as November, and Gays are urged to apply. Lesbians and Gay men do not receive any special processing and there is no quota system. Applicants are never asked to disclose their sexual orientation. Informational workshops and training seminars are available to Lesbians and Gay men through the Gay Outreach Program, however, which maintains its own confidential mailing list. A Lesbian support group has also formed. Legal and medical consultants are available to answer special questions about filing and eligibility requirements.

For more information contact Les Morgan at 775-1000.

DeANDRADE MOVES INTO TENDERLOIN

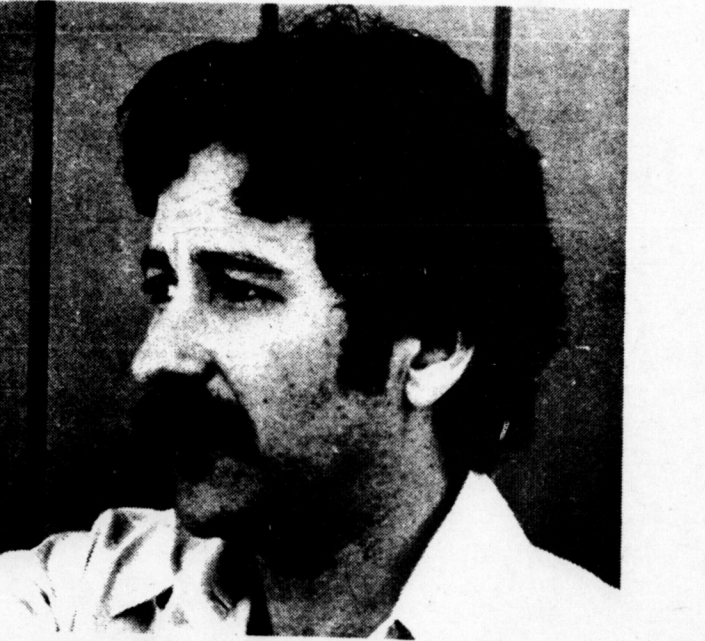
Last week Philip DeAndrade, the Gay candidate for Supervisor in District 7, announced at a press conference in the lobby of the Warfield Hotel at Turk and Taylor (San Francisco's Tenderloin) that for the past two weeks he has been living in a \$35-a-week room in this residence hotel.

DeAndrade, who owns Goat Hill Pizza on Potrero Hill, declared that his reason for moving into the Tenderloin was to dramatize the fact that the Tenderloin is a real but forgotten part of this district. Most people think of District 7 in terms of Potrero Hill or Bayview-Hunter's Point, forgetting that the Tenderloin and the South of Market are the home for many long-time San Francisco residents.

DeAndrade pointed to some areas of concern that need public recognition and the attention of the Board of Supervisors and city government. He said:

"There is growing concern over the decrease of available low-cost housing — in light of evictions of seniors, remodeling, and the gradual move of the tourist industry into the area. A new Holiday Inn is planned. Many buildings stand vacant waiting for the day when they can earn a high tourist income.

"Many senior citizens are satisfied with the living environment in the hotels (many HUD subsidized," continued DeAndrade, "but they are upset about the unsafe and degrading conditions once they walk out the front door: the loitering and public drunkenness — people with no place to go, nothing to do. This is a problem that has grown greatly since the start of the Yerba Buena project.



Philip DeAndrade — Gay candidate for Supervisor in District 7.

Womanalysis

The Candidates

by Priscilla Alexander

MAYOR

I first met David Scott when he was hoping to be appointed to the seat in District 5, during that long nightmare of a year ago. I asked all the candidates what they would do to ratify the E.R.A., and only David Scott specifically mentioned the tactic I had in mind, the boycott of unratified states. Since that time I have been consistently impressed with his wide-ranging and specific knowledge about issues that are important to me. I have also been impressed with his ability to come up with innovative solutions to problems — such as the granting of zoning variances to homeowners who wanted to build income-producing apartments if they would make those apartments wheelchair accessible — and his ability to admit he was wrong, and to change — as demonstrated by his earlier vote against Prop. U and his present support and campaigning for Prop. R.

I am impressed with David Scott's enthusiasm, and the sense he gives that he will grow with the times, coming up with new ways to meet the problems we will face as this country careens into economic crisis. And wouldn't it be fun to have a Gay mayor?

DISTRICT ATTORNEY and SHERIFF

The present system of justice, if that is what you can call it, is a disaster. Juveniles who spend any time in the places that are supposed to rehabilitate them, come out more confirmed in their criminal behavior. The recidivism rate for adults is frightening, and this country has the highest incarceration rate in the western, technological world, just as it has the highest violent crime rate. Many people who work in prison reform believe that the second statistic is a result of the first, just as it is children who have been battered and abused who are likely to grow up to batter and abuse other people.

It is important, then, to have humanitarians working in the criminal justice system. That is why I support the recruitment of women, minorities, and Lesbians and Gay men into the police and sheriff's departments.

And that is why I am supporting Carol Ruth Silver for District Attorney, and Michael Hennessey for Sheriff. I believe both of them are committed to changing the criminal justice system so that more of the people who are processed through that system will be able to change their lives.

Silver has a long history of working for change, from the time she worked in the civil rights movement in the South, to her present involvement in the feminist and Gay movements. Her forthright stand in favor of decriminalizing prostitution the last time she ran for District Attorney was a factor in my later decision to become active in that fight.

The real crimes in this society are rape, assault, and death — the violent crimes that keep us afraid to walk alone down a street. The real crimes are



Harry Britt and David Scott meet at the Washington, D.C., march organizing grounds October 14. (Photo by Mark Swartz)

and concerned Sheriff, could begin to make some of the long-needed changes in the way people in trouble are treated in this city.

DISTRICT 5

Some say this is the most hotly contested race in this city, and that the world is watching with bated breath. I am not so sure, in my travels around the country this year, I have not found that Lesbians and Gay men are particularly concerned about this race. I think we have proved not only that a Gay person can be elected to office, we have also shown that Lesbians and Gay men can serve on boards and commissions to

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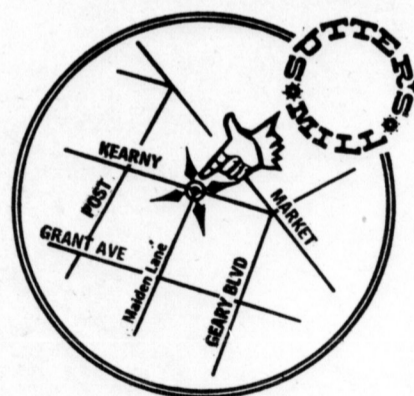
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nato, an underworld figure said to have been the lover of gangster Mickey Cohen as well. If Turner seems to be adored by Gays, it is no accident. She seems to have always surrounded herself with Gay or bisexual men (Stompanato and Power amongst others).

When she made her appearance at a tribute in New York in April, 1975, the *San Francisco Chronicle* proclaimed in a front page headline: "Gay Throgs Cheer The Actress."

Her appeal to Gays is not elusive. She has the elusive mix of a Harlow who came across as a hardened blonde of the world and a soft, innocence of Marilyn Monroe. She has always had a glamorous image and a tempestuous, stormy and tragic private life (her

daughter killed lover Stompanato). She was exploited just like her close friend Judy Garland and she survived. She was the 40s' G.I. dream girl, an image she maintained through the 50s when she toured Korea with Bob Hope and — of all people — Anita Bryant.

Her evening's tribute on November 5 will be produced by Phil Sinclair in the format of his previous evenings with Mae West, Ann Sothern and Sophia Loren. There will be a red carpet entrance at 7:30 and about two hours of film clips. Then a half-hour question and answer appearance with the star. Tickets are \$5 and \$10 and are available from BASS. A private party for Miss Turner follows the show with tickets for it at \$50 available by calling 981-1949 or 921-7869.

Stage:

ENCOUNTERS

STRONG TRIPLE BILL
FROM ONE ACT THEATER CO.

The One Act Theatre Company of San Francisco led off its 1979-80 season with three acts displaying insightful choice of material, exceptional acting, and skillful direction. They continue to prove themselves one of the Bay Area's finest theatre groups.

In Leonard Melfi's *BIRDBATH*, the encounter is between a repressed, mousey, 27 year old woman and a middle-aged, would-be poet who work together in a seedy late night diner. Both lonely, they find themselves sharing the miseries of their lives and gather solace in being with each other. This is an exceptionally well-crafted play full of rhythmic dialogue illuminated by controlled and sustained characterizations by Jean Schiffman and Dan Leegant. It is a faultless production.

Equally effective is *LOU GEHRIG DID NOT DIE OF CANCER* by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Jason Miller (*THAT CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON*). The encounter here, in a suburban home, is between Victor Spinelli, coach of the local little league, and Helen Martin, mother of one of the team's least successful players. He has a wife who can no longer cope with his jock mentality; she still carries a torch for a husband who deserted her years before.

As in *BIRDBATH*, the two find in each other someone who cares enough to listen, someone with whom a more positive life might develop. Laurelee Westaway and Mark Todd offer two more exceptional, sympathetic characterizations.

Dan Greenburg's *THE RESTAURANT*, the final piece of the evening, lacks the dramatic depth of the first two plays. Its comic encounter between two tourists and a waiter in a one-table, off-the-beaten-path foreign restaurant is an amusing spoof of the Ugly American on vacation. Al Perez shines here as the waiter, head-waiter, manager and town cop taking advantage of a very uptight man and his more adventuresome wife.

Much of the credit for this excellent trio must go to director Peter Tripp who gives each play its own time, place and feeling. I especially liked the sustained dramatic line of *BIRDBATH* which might have been lost without strong directorial control.

ENCOUNTERS will play through December 2 at the Showcase Theatre, Mason at Geary. Call 421-6162 for your reservations. It's certainly the best theatre I've seen in some time.

Mark Topkin



A scene from *LOU GEHRIG DID NOT DIE OF CANCER* as performed by the One Act Theatre Co.

Concert:
S.F. Gay Men's Chorus
"LOVERS TOO HAVE A SONG TO SING"
IN JOYOUS CONCERT PROGRAM

In a world so laden with artificial and chemical stimulation, it is indeed a pleasure to find oneself, from time to time, in the midst of a natural high. Such was the case last weekend at Mission High School where the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, now 145 voices strong, presented **LOVERS TOO HAVE A SONG TO SING**. MDA, LSD, or THC just can't offer the sustained rush of GMC when one's aim is feeling good and feeling proud and feeling musically satisfied. When it comes to GMC, I'm an unabashed addict, and the unremitting cheers from Saturday's nearly full house indicate the addiction may be reaching epidemic proportions.



The singing — to be succinct — was gorgeous. The program, which ran the gamut from Bach to the Beatles, was exquisitely chosen for its entertainment as well as political value. From the opening song, "Behold Man," through the ravishingly sung "We Kiss In The Shadows" (no, Chuck, Richard Rodgers could not complain), to the rousing finale of "Stout Hearted Men," the love of man for his fellow man

Gay Men's Chorus during their recent concert at Mission High School. The artwork above the chorus was rejected by the San Francisco Chronicle's Pink Section when it was a part of an ad. (Photo by John Gieske)

rang out with strength, energy, and a rich, fluid vocal line that had "professional" stamped all over it. Bravos go to director Dick Kramer for putting it all together, to the soloists — especially Bob Siegel and Dale Richard for their duet from Bizet's **THE PEARL FISHERS** — to the Chamber Singers for

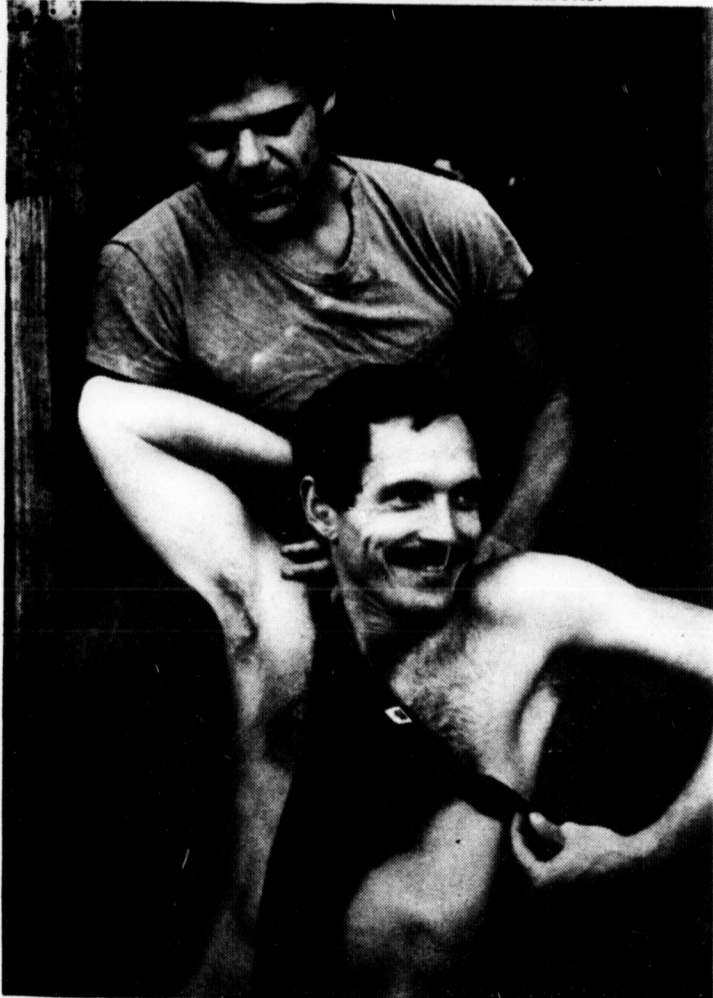
Mark Topkin

Gay Stage:
THEATRE RHINO PRESENTS
ROBERT PATRICK FESTIVAL
CONTINUES WITH TWO COMEDIES

"T-Shirts" and "My Cup Ranneth Over", two one-act plays by Robert Patrick, will open Friday, Oct. 26, at the Goodman Building, 1115 Geary St., San Francisco, and will play Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays through Nov. 17. This show is the third and final production in the program offered by Theatre Rhinoceros honoring Robert Patrick.

Robert Patrick began his career as a playwright in 1964, with "The Haunted Host" at New York's Caffe Cino. These early days of the off-Broadway theatre are recalled in all their

gore and glory by Sparger, the actor in "Kennedy's Children" (1974). These two plays were the first and second productions in Theatre Rhinoceros' Robert Patrick Festival. "T-Shirts" and "My Cup..." are two parts of a trilogy with the general title "I Stayed in New York and Wrote". The trilogy deals with success and failure in New York City. It is the most recent of Patrick's work to be included in the festival.



David Van Pelt (top) and Greg Kollenborn in Theatre Rhinoceros' production of T-SHIRTS, the third and final production in its Robert Patrick Festival.

Musical Comedy:
On the Twentieth Century

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Like the American railroad system it rhapsodizes, **ON THE TWENTIETH CENTURY** is rolling on stock that has passed its prime. "Streamline" and "airflow" were aerodynamic concepts applied in the design fashion of the 30's. The idea was to overcome friction and drag. The current restaging of the Broadway hit is a study of excess baggage.

logue has degenerated into wooden protestations and limp jokes. I never saw the original stage comedy, but recently I caught the film version which starred John Barrymore and Carole Lombard. The sparks these two created made their vehicle fly, and while overplayed, the pair burned up the tracks.

The original crack luxury train between New York and Chicago, the Twentieth Century Limited, was one of the most celebrated examples of advanced engineering and physics. Its theatrical grandchild, the current Civic Light Opera offering at the Orpheum, does not fare as well. Ballast wins out over chrome and neon sets (which, large, versatile, and numerous so dominate the production, they detract).

What's worse is that what was once clickety-clack dia-

Rock Hudson, who plays the last of the flamboyant 19th century impresarios, has a problem: he can't sing and he has trouble acting. He is still too nice of a hunk to convince anyone that he could be a treacherous but lovable svengali. Imogene Coca, in a role created for her, cutely camps it up — at times you don't even get the feeling she is on the same train. The bouquets go to newcomer and leading lady, Judy Kaye. This young lady can sing, dance, and act. She has the talent and convinces. The same can be said of her Hollywood co-star,



Rock Hudson shows Judy Kaye the check for \$200,000 that will put them back on Broadway. The show won 5 Tony awards in 1978. It is Civic Light Opera's last presentation of the '79 season.

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Patrick Quinn. His clownings are some of the show's brightest spots.

The production evidences once again the great changes taking place in the contemporary American Musical. The lyrics, the score, and their renditions today are complex and demanding. Demanding of both performer and audience. Every word, note, and nuance demand conveyance — and when they're not, as they were often not opening night at the Orpheum, more than a mere trifle is missing. The "new" musical demands greater vocal prowess than was ever expected of a Henry Higgins. And sadly, the demands were light years beyond the limited skills of Rock Hudson and Imogene Coca, even ingenuous as she may be.

The Betty Comden and Adolph Green lyrics and the Cy Coleman music are ambitious. They, while limited, deserve better.

The current production whose original won 5 Tony awards in 1978 while on Broadway runs through November 24. If one wants to keep abreast of the latest in American musical theater, take in this West Coast restaged package. It won't be down the track again. Sadly, TWENTIETH CENTURY hasn't traveled well... if it ever was a crack express, we'll never know. Our TWENTIETH CENTURY is more chug-chug than zing.

Paul-Francis Hartmann

Britt Benefit

The public is invited to an "I'm Just Wild About Harry" party to benefit Supervisor Britt's campaign. It will be held on Friday, Oct. 26 at the old Flood Mansion, 2120 Broadway, from 5 to 8 PM.

Champagne, wine and lavish hors d'oeuvres will be served. Music will be provided by "Pure Trash". Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased in advance at Britt's headquarters, 526 Castro Street and 1457 Haight Street, or at the door.

Win A Weekend Contest

A contest has been set up by SMC-TV to name a new Lesbian/Feminist TV show. The prize is a weekend for two at Willow, a Lesbian mountain retreat in Napa. The resort features a hot tub, sauna, tennis, swimming, and other sports. Deadline for submitting a name for the show is November 2. Mail entries to: Contest, 31 Cortland St., #2, San Francisco, CA 94110. The show which will begin in December will be hosted by Celia Brown and Carole Morton.

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FILM CLIPS

By Michael Lasky



Scene from BEST BOY, a superb cinema verite documentary.

MOLIERE

Does four hours and fifteen minutes seem like a long running time for a film? Even with an intermission I think that is an interminable length no matter how engrossing the subject. Admittedly Moliere led a fascinating life, but director Ariane Mnouchkine has, I think, explored it a bit too stretched out. From infancy to death the French playwright's life is narrated in lavishly appointed detail.

Designed in two distinct parts (not just an overlong film divided at a convenient spot), MOLIERE features a cast of unknown French actors who — after their performances here — will surely be better known in later productions. Mnouchkine goes heavy on the crowd scenes, but these are French crowds, not Biblical epic ones. She lingers over the masses, the camera exploring each face, for these are the people of France to whom Moliere would later write his plays. As he sizes them up, so do we.

The crowd scenes are indicative of the pageantry and spectacle of the Royal Courts Moliere and his acting troupe visit. The biography of the actor-writer becomes a history lesson of 17th century France. Philippe Caubere as Moliere gives a tour de force performance as we watch him grow from his dashing youth to his withering old age. With a budget of \$4.5 million it's amazing that this film is as opulent in sets, costumes and historical accuracy as it is.

For all the beauth and brilliant acting, the film just goes on for too long; many spots could be easily cut without any loss to the story. The laborious detail finally takes its toll so that by the end I felt more than I wanted to about Moliere.

Pacino is called upon by the very judge he hates to defend him when he is arrested on a rape and assault charge. Under threat of blackmail, he takes on the case willy-nilly. The case is particularly hard for Pacino to take on because he learns the judge is indeed guilty. In fact, the entire judicial system is guilty as hell in Jewison's eyes. There are no saving graces — of lawyers in it for money, of sordid plea bargaining, and a system that has gotten so monstrously large that it no longer concerns itself with justice for all but with only wins and losses. As Pacino tells his grandfather during a visit to the man's room at the old age home: "Being honest has nothing to do with being a lawyer,



FRENCH POSTCARDS from Paramount Films — "A heavy-handed American doughnut (greasy cake with no middle)."

grandpa."

Pacino is stunning in his vivid inflamed portrait of the lawyer who cares. He clowns and fumes with a relentlessly accurate rhythm. Jack Warden buffoons as the suicidal judge and seems the synthesis of the insane system. John Forsythe is perfectly hateful as the ogre rapist judge.

The film, a two hour entertainment, says what is has to — and then some — in a blunt-edged way. We laugh at the excesses but it's a nervous laugh. We are watching our system of law and order going down the toilet and all we can do is laugh about it.

BEST BOY

Ira Wohl's homage to his cousin Philly, a 52 year old mentally retarded man, is a cinema verite documentary that captures the essence of human dignity. Filmed over a three year period, BEST BOY follows Philly as he adjusts to living without his parents, who have raised him daily since birth. As Philly's life expands and the umbilical cord is gracefully cut, we feel the same joy of growing up. Wohl gets into the soul of his cousin and Philly's mother and father.

Wohl's camera follows the man to school, to the supermarket, to doctors' offices — everywhere. Somehow we do not feel like voyeurs but spectators to the life process.

Philly's father dies and his mother, now alone, does not want Philly to leave and live in a half-way house. But she faces the inevitable and watches her son leave the nest. He's not a late adolescent but a man in his fifties — the way she treats him, though, is like a son going off to college.

This is real life, beautifully captured on celluloid, and at the conclusion you leave the theater feeling wonderful and alive. There's nothing like a dose of life to make you feel good. BEST BOY is superb!

THE PENTECOST OUTING

Elisabeth Bergner and Martin Held are a married couple living in an old folks' home. The atmosphere is oppressive and highly restrictive as run by the pair of officious women.

The film is not as much a study of life in an old age home but a poignant portrait of two people who have lived their lives with each other and survive because of each other. Michael Gunther's West Germany film is a close-up of sharing and of old age in the Western World.

Margaret (Bergner) and

Heinrich (Held) escape the home for the day and are confronted with a Berlin they no longer know. The civility of the past is gone, replaced by the indignities of the whirlwind life of a big city in the 70's. With only their memories to guide them, the couple wander the city on public transport and foot. Fighting age and each other, Margaret and Heinrich go in search of relatives but find instead each other. It's a touching, simple story held up by the brilliant performances of Bergner and Held who make old age not a villain but simply a part of living.

Director-writer Michael Gunther savvily lets the actors steal the show and the result is a human/humane drama that grabs at the heartstrings and plucks our emotions.

FRENCH POSTCARDS

What happens when Ameri-

can college students come to France to learn how to speak French? If you believe Willard Huyck and Gloria Katz, the creators of AMERICAN GRAPHITI and this new film, the students learn no French but fall in love and walk off into the sunset with their newly-found Parisian amours. What could have been a delightful bonbon of a film turns into a witless, predictable tale of post-adolescent love.

Even the "grungey" film score by Lee Holdridge turns this production from a lighthearted Continental sophisticate into a heavy-handed American doughnut (greasy cake with no middle).

The acting is competent but even the radiance of Marie-France Pisier cannot save the film.

Michael Lasky

Tales of Tessi Tura

You Oughtta Be In Pictures

by George Heymont

BREAKING THE OPERATIC FILM BARRIER

Oh, to be on the silver screen! If you've kept a pair of Ruby Keeler's tap shoes hidden in your closet, you'll be surprised to learn that one might end up tapping one's way to stardom next to the opera singers of tomorrow.


Film is quickly becoming a vital, potent force in the world of opera. Millions are now watching live telecasts of opera in their living rooms. At the same time, videotapes have become an important facet in analyzing rehearsals. Singers now have the chance to stand outside their bodies and see how they look onstage. Videotaping has become an increasingly crucial tool in the training of young singers involved in musical drama. So too, the flexibility of the camera offers relief from a stagnant stage picture. The freedom of a mobile lens will eventually break through the barrier of the proscenium arch to let audiences experience opera in a more fluid medium. The magical world of operatic mythology will assume new proportions perhaps never captured by composers in their greatest efforts. Jean-Pierre Ponnelle's controversial movie of MADAMA BUTTERFLY was a

mere appetizer of things to come. It is fascinating, therefore, to examine the potential of some of this fall's opera productions to see how they could provide the basis for brilliant films.

READY, MR. DeMILLE??

Dallapiccola and Debussy

Ponnelle is, of course, the



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