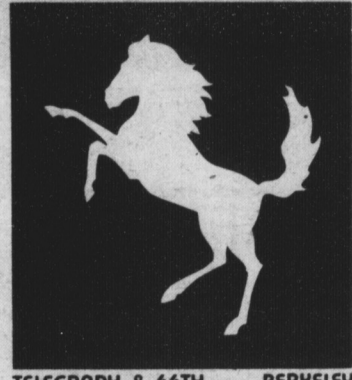


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BAY AREA REPORTER

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VOL. XII NO. 20 MAY 20, 1982

Buns & Booze

National Advertisers Want Gay Dollars . . . (sort of)

by George Mendenhall

The man in the ad is young, handsome, and muscular with blond, ruffled hair. He lies on his stomach without a shirt on, displaying his well-formed buns. The only words on the ad are "Calvin Klein Jeans."

Some national magazines and local daily newspapers run the ad, but it will not appear in the Gay press, even though Madison Avenue recognizes that it appeals to Gay men. Klein, like almost all national advertisers, wants the Gay dollar, but they are fearful of being identified with the Gay community. So far they have been successful in advertising to an ethnic minority without letting the broader public know about it.

The aim of these advertisers, the *New York Times* recently revealed in a major article, "is to reach the white, single, well-educated, well-paid man who happens to be homosexual."

Local Gay newspapers such as the *Bay Area Reporter* and national magazines (*The Advocate*, *Christopher Street*) have sought out national advertisers such as Klein with little success. Indirectly, some such advertisers will pay part of the costs of an ad promoting a local merchant — especially television, stereo, beauty, and record companies. Commercial stage shows and major motion pictures sometimes use B.A.R.

Paul Hufstедler, B.A.R. advertising representative, believes many national advertising firms are fearful. He says, "They are the masters of sociological study with statistics on every ethnic and minority group — except one. They refuse to study the Gay market to determine our lifestyle, our needs, what we will buy, and how to advertise to us. They are so afraid that doing anything in regard to us will hurt their sales to the general public that they ignore us." One ad executive recently told the *New York Times*, "They choose either to deny the Gay community's interest or to evade the issue altogether."

The *NY Times* ran a full-page analysis on the reluctance of national advertisers to use the Gay press on May 3. Author Karen Stabiner said these firms look at the homosexual differently because "homosexuals choose to belong to a disenfranchised group." However, these firms do advertise extensively in other minority and women's publications.

"There are billboards in the Mission area with Latinos smoking Chesterfields and

Blacks are drinking Pepsi-Cola in the *Sun Reporter*," Hufstедler emphasized. Stabiner asked, "Where are the ads portraying two childless, attractive men turning off their dual controls on the electric blanket and brushing their teeth side by side?"

Another reason that the Gay press is generally shunned is the Gay advertising executive. B.A.R. editor Paul Lorch commented that "homosexism" — "in" Gays pitted against "out" Gays — is a common problem on Madison Avenue. He says these Gay men re in and out of the closet, constantly fearful of being discovered, afraid of going to Fire Island for fear they will be spotted. Their refuge is the Hamptons. Hufstедler added, "They are afraid of recognizing that the Gay community exists as a viable market, partly because of fear of exposure and partly because they do not really adjust to other Gay people that are not at their push status level."

There is one major breakthrough. Smirnoff has been boldly advertising its Boodles Gin in *The Advocate* since August. The results have been increased sales in urban centers: New York, San Francisco, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Houston.

Homosexuals, the *NY Times* reported, make up over 10% of the general sales market and over 15% in urban areas. An *Advocate* survey of its relatively well-to-do readership indicates the median income of its readers is \$30,000 with 28% earning over \$40,000. In general, Gay income figures are lower, but as a group the income among urban Gay males is significantly high.

B.V.D. briefs, Heublein liquors, Harper & Row books, and Calvin Klein are among the national advertisers who are not being too subtle in their ads in an attempt to appeal to Gay males. Hunky males drinking Seagrams in front of a portrait of Oscar Wilde is getting the message across. The aim is to come up with advertising that distinctly appeals to Gay males while both being "in" enough to reach Gays but not reveal to the general public what is happening.

Roger Stone of Marshall Advertising in New York told the *Times* that he believes the Gay market is bigger than the Black market. He says the potential is great to use it as a sales market.

VIEWPOINT



Louise Renne (Photo by Rink)

I am convinced — without a gossamer of doubt — that Supervisor Louise Renne is the Congressional candidate who would best serve the interests of the San Francisco Gay community. Gays in Marin, Vallejo, and Daly City we can't speak for, as they might have different scales. Yet insofar as they see San Francisco as hub of their psycho-sexual orbit, they too would be best served with Louise in Washington.

On general terms Louise is a fine person. She has ideals and works hard — San Francisco City Hallers have rated her the hardest working legislator. She got their AAA rating in a S.F. *Examiner* poll. She is warm; she listens — she has a penchant to giggle. She is not judgmental of alternate lifestyles.

When Dianne Feinstein ascended to the mayoralty on George Moscone's assassination, she appointed Louise as her replacement. As the mayor polled her district constituency Louise's name appeared on the top of every list.

Louise is a product of the Kennedy years — swept up in those heady days of idealism of what you could do for your country. Those liberal ideas and aspirations lost favor with the Nixon era, and as so many others she returned to work out her contribution on a local level.

After 1977 when the Gay community made overtures to Louise to learn what they were about, she never flinched. As

(Continued on Page 6)

Castro Closes for Milk Birthday

by Allen White

This Saturday, May 22, is the birthdate of Harvey Milk. To celebrate the life of the late Supervisor and "Mayor of Castro Street," there will be a public birthday party. Castro Street will be closed from noon until sundown for the event.

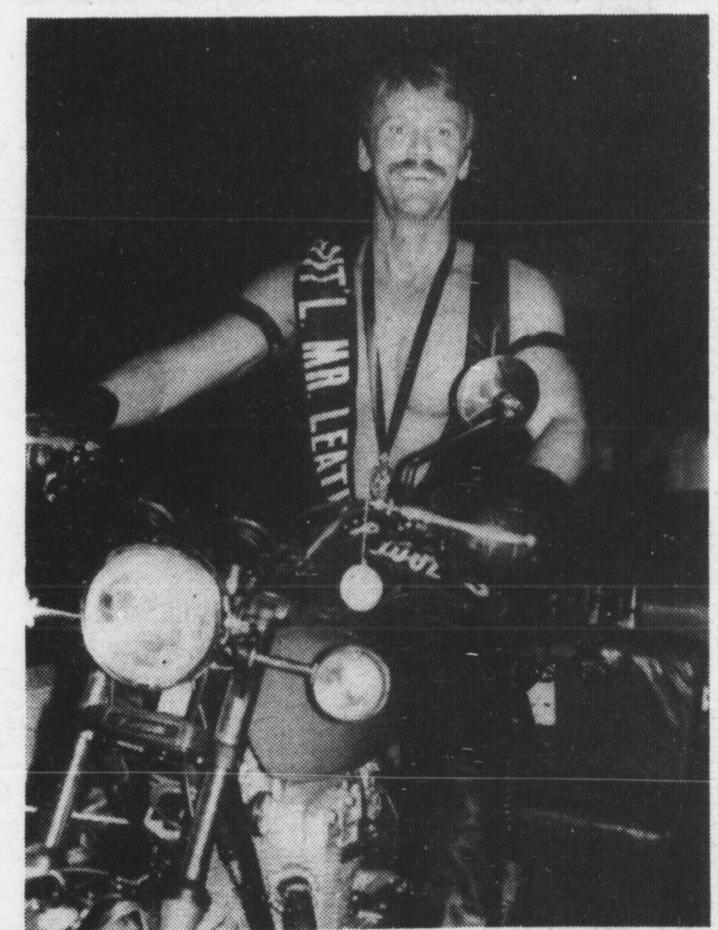
Planned by Rick Slick and the people who present the annual Castro Street Fair, there will be "live" music on a stage yet to be erected. There will also be brief comments throughout the afternoon by many people who were friends of Harvey Milk.

Since his assassination in 1978, there has been a public birthday celebration each year for Harvey Milk. This will be the third year the event has been held on Castro Street. Harvey Milk operated a cam-

era store on Castro Street at the site which is now occupied by "Statements," between 18th and 19th Streets.
(Continued on Page 2)

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- Gore Vidal — the '82 burrah * George Mendenhall p. 8
- The last of the Caldron series * Gary Pedler p. 15
- Gay Dancing, dancing, dancing * Keith White p. 19



Luke Daniels, a Los Angeles leatherman who previously had copped the "Mr. Drummer 1982" title, flashes his winning smile and wraps his legs around the Kawasaki bike that came with his most recent honor, the prestigious title "Mr. International Leather, 1982." (Photo: Robert Prusan)

(Continued on Page 2)

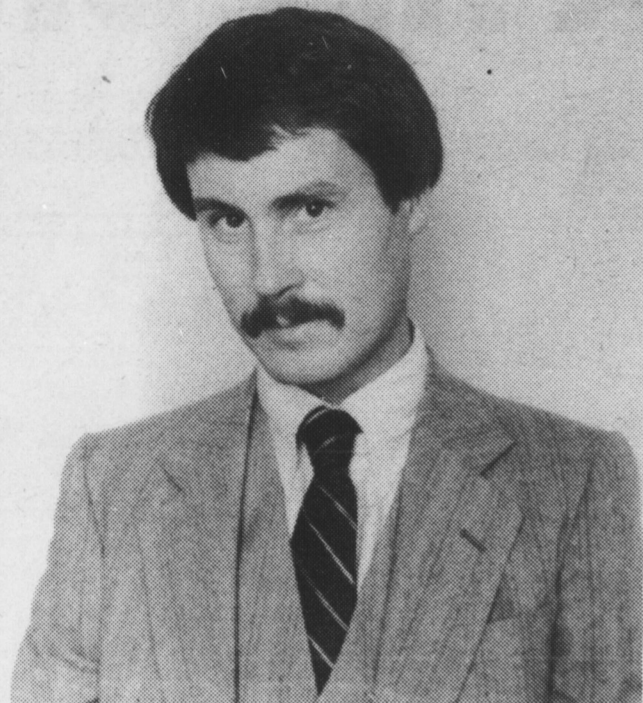
Charges Dropped Against Deputy Mayor's Son

by Allen White

Assault charges in an anti-Gay attack against Timothy Roff, son of Deputy Mayor Hadley Roff, were dismissed last week. However, John Fitzpatrick, another of those originally charged, pled guilty in the incident and has been sentenced to 45 days in jail.

Beatings against Gays are not uncommon in San Francisco. This particular incident drew more than usual attention when it was learned that one of those arrested and charged was the son of the Deputy Mayor. *San Francisco Chronicle* columnist Herb Caen drew more attention to the beating when, in an item which named no names, he stated that the incident was being "hushed up" and that the person was involved in "fag-bashing" on a regular basis. If the "blind item" was directed at Roff, and there is no evidence to support a contrary assumption, Caen was wrong on both points.

The victim in the incident, Andy Shallal, a newcomer to San Francisco, was beaten on a "J" Church bus at 1 am on January 25. It was the night of the Super Bowl highjinks. According to Assistant District Attorney Ken Cady, in the investigation that followed there were seven different versions of what happened as described by the witnesses and victims. What appears to be certain is that four people boarded the bus, one throwing a transfer at the victim and calling him a "faggot." Shallal challenged the statement. He was then beaten. All seem to agree, including Fitzpatrick who pleaded guilty, that Shallal was hit by John Fitzpatrick. It also appears that the last person to board the bus of the four persons was Timothy Roff. In putting together testimony, Cady told the B.A.R. that Roff appeared as sur-



Deputy DA Ken Cady successfully winds up fag-bashing case with a conviction. (Photo: Rink)

prised as anyone when the beating took place. Because of guilt by association (leaving the scene of the crime together), Roff was arrested with Fitzpatrick and a third person, Joe Brady. Later identified as being in the group was Paul Fitzpatrick, a younger brother of the convicted defendant.

During the entire investigation, the B.A.R. has concluded there was absolutely no attempt by either Deputy Mayor Hadley Roff or Mayor Feinstein or the Gay community to interfere in any manner. The Deputy Mayor told the B.A.R. that he took a position from the beginning that his son would have to "stand on his own." Timothy Roff used the office of the Public Defender. He passed a private polygraph test administered by the PD and a second test given by the Police Department. Furthermore, in a photo identification he was not identified as being the as-

sailant. Because of the conflicting statements, passage of the polygraph tests, and the subsequent failure to conclusively identify Roff and the additional assailant, charges were dropped.

Deputy Mayor Hadley Roff has been deeply concerned over the incident because it involved his son and also because of his position in city government. The *Bay Area Reporter* talked with Roff when the story first came to the attention of the newspaper. Mr. Roff never took a position which would influence the publication of the story. Hadley Roff did tell the B.A.R. that he did not believe the *Chronicle* portrayal of his son as a "fag basher" was accurate. Except for his association with the people involved in this incident, the B.A.R. has found no evidence to contradict Hadley Roff's assessment of his son.

served on the Board until his assassination by former Supervisor Dan White on November 27, 1978.

Milk would be 52 years old. Scheduled entertainment for the Harvey Milk Birthday Party includes music by the Punks, a popular new wave band, and Mojo, a local rock group.

Allen White

Castro Closes for Party

(Continued from Page 1)

It was from his base on Castro Street that Harvey Milk built a foundation which would lead him to become the first elected openly Gay official in San Francisco.

Harvey Milk was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977. He

Dog and Man Contests to Proceed

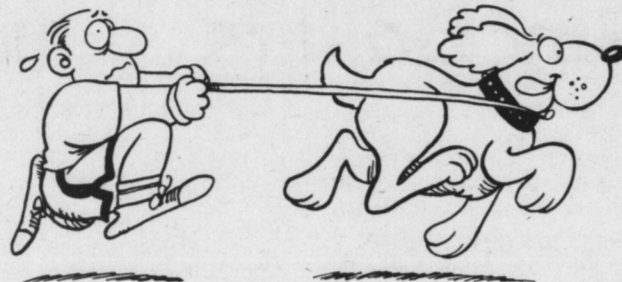
by Allen White

Late Monday night, just after midnight, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors had the unique distinction of voting to close the entire block of Castro Street from 18th to 19th Streets for the 2nd Annual Dog Show featuring Jane Dornacker. The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and many, many dogs. The street will be closed on Sunday, June 13, and the event will start at 1 pm.

Supervisors to take a vote. Monday morning, the holdout department had a change of position and endorsed the show.

Full details of how dog owners throughout the Bay Area may participate will be in advertising which will appear next week in the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Tied in with the Dog Show is "The Man Show." It will be Saturday night, June 12, the night before the Dog Show, at



The Dog Show, which was held in front of Hibernia Bank last year, was such a success the crowd almost forced closing Castro Street. This year, a huge elevated platform will run down the middle of Castro Street. Entry fees and donations which will be made in conjunction with the event will be given to the Kaposi Sarcoma Clinic at the University of California Medical Center.

The motion was pulled out of the Transportation and Traffic Committee by Supervisor Harry Britt. The committee had chosen to debate the issue, and Britt was concerned that it might never get out for a vote. Additionally, individual departments including Police, Public Works, Fire, Muni, and City Planning form a group called ISCOIT, which takes a position on such items as street closures. One department had voted against closing the street. Thus, it landed on the calendar this week for the Board of

California Hall. "The Man Show" will be a pageant similar to the Dog Show with many of the same categories. The show will feature Sharon McNight, Hal and David, The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, and many, many men.

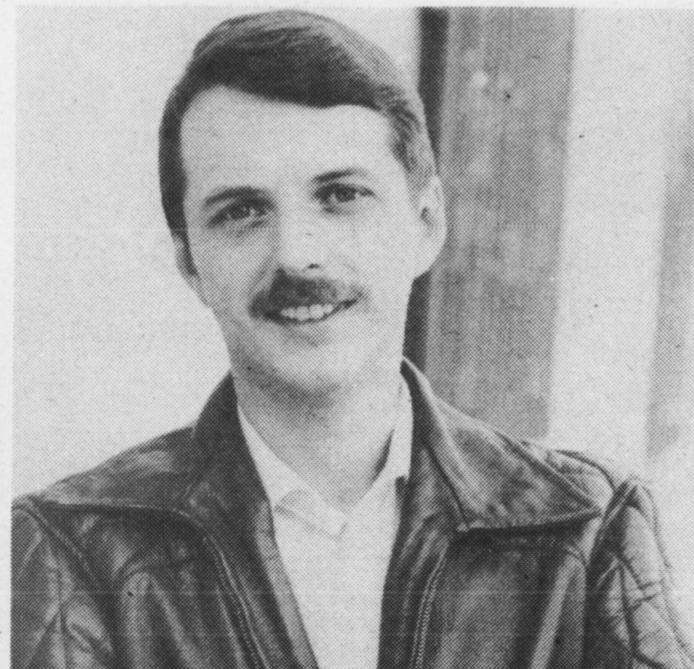
"The Man Show" also has been having its share of behind the scenes controversy. Originally scheduled for the Japan Center Theatre, the theatre chose to cancel the contract. The full reasons are still unclear, except for the fact that lawyers had been negotiating and there appears to be some legal action on the horizon.

"The Dog Show" is co-sponsored by Headlines and Joe's Shows, Inc. "The Man Show" is sponsored by Joe's Shows, Inc. and produced by Jay Johnson and Joe Schmall. Entry forms for both dogs and men are now available at Headlines.

National Advertisers Want Gay Dollars . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

The staid *New York Times*, which still refuses to use the word "Gay" to mean homosexual, concluded its analysis by stating the reality that "most providers of goods and services still choose either to deny the homosexual's interest or evade the issue altogether."



Paul Hufstедler, Bay Area Reporter advertising director, reacts to advertising in the Gay press. (Photo: Rink)

Della Femina, who heads a New York advertising firm, believes it will not happen — "not in our lifetime."

B.A.R.'s Hufstедler is more optimistic. In an era where newspapers have replaced "pervert" with "Gay" and movies with positive Gay themes are being released, he thinks the public will accept

national advertisers using the Gay press. Hufstедler says there is an advertising firm out there that will "have the ingenuity, the sensitivity, and the cleverness to advertise extensively in the Gay community."

George Mendenhall

Gay Academic Union Ongoing

by Scott Treimel

Queer I'd never thought of it before — a Gay alliance for professors and graduate students. Of course. Everyone knows about the undergraduate Gay clubs, even *Newsweek* ran a story on them a couple weeks back. But what about an organization for the real eggheads, the upper-strata campus Gays? There's one right here, the Gay Academic Union (GAU), which was founded in 1973 to put Bay Area Gay scholars in touch with one another.

At first GAU met in private homes and discussions were typical scholarly gigs: members gave progress reports on their research and then launched Gay-related intellectual explorations. But in the 70's the closet doors on homosexual research fairly flew open and GAU's original function became unnecessary. The group survived, though, and its eighty dues-paying members are now deciding whether or not to affiliate with the national Gay Academic Union, headquartered in, of all places, San Diego.

In the meantime, it will continue as it has been, meeting every second Sunday at four o'clock in the Trinity Church basement at 1668 Bush Street, engaging high dilettantism. In the past month its programs have included:

- Sally Gearhart expounding the ideology that informed her novel *The Wanderground*.
- Carter Wilson reading from his new novel *Treasures of the Earth* and talking on "Eros in Fiction."
- Stanford and Community College of San Francisco professors addressing the incorporation of Gay literature into the college curriculum.
- Humanities professor Ed Kaufmann's slideshow on Tibetan culture.
- JoAnne Castillo lecturing on "Lesbians in History."
- *Saphistry* author Pat Califia broaching "Sexual Politics in the 80's."
- Stanford classics professor Jack Winkler's exploration of "Homoerotic Imagery in Sappho's Poetry."
- Gay Rights Advocates' Don Knutson's "Report on the Status of the Law."

That's GAU's bag — potent intellectual stuff. The meeting I attended last Sunday, "A Panel Discussion on Homophobia," was, unfortunately, kind of flaccid. First off, one of the panelists couldn't make it. The three that showed were a rector, a psychiatrist, and an official of San Francisco's chapter of Lutherans Concerned. They started things off provocatively enough, each speaking briefly on this manifestation or that cause of homophobia. Then came time for discussion, and that's when the rambling started. A number of self-help maxims were aired, and an unreasonable amount of time was given over to wondering if Tennessee Williams revealed homophobia when he remarked that being homosexual has helped him understand both male and female psyches. Here's a sample of last Sunday's comments:

— We are trapped in a

male/female myth. Someone must write a homosexual myth.

— I'm not sure this is saying much, but, well, we live in an individualistic society.

— Ethnology and anthropology must be accounted for.

— It is, quite simply, a fear of losing status.

— We ourselves are quite capable of manufacturing homophobia.

Once discussion ended, applause sounded, and coffee and cookies were had. I talked to John Ungaretti, a member of GAU's steering committee.

"Usually it's a lot more hard driving than today," he said. "The *Chronicle* put a notice in about today's meeting, and I think a lot of people came who aren't really academic."

"Is the audience generally all scholars?"

"Not so much anymore (Continued on Page 10)

Local Presbyterians Approve Lesbian/Gay Ministry



Lesbian minister Jane Spahr validated for Presbyterian ministry. (Photo: Rink)

by Rick Weatherly

Once again regional autonomy within a religious body has allowed the cause of Gay and Lesbian equality to advance despite official condemnation. A regional unit of the United Presbyterian Church validated the Lesbian/Gay ministry of one of their clergy. Ignoring an offi-

cial denominational policy declaring Gay women and men unsuitable for ministry, the Redwoods Presbytery (52 churches stretching along the California coast from Sausalito to the Oregon border) on April 16 validated the ministry of the Rev. Jane Adams Spahr who serves on the staff

of the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco.

The Rev. Spahr has served with MCC-SF since shortly after she was forced to resign in 1979 as Executive Director of the Oakland Council of Presbyterian Churches because of her Lesbianism. The issue of Presbyterian validation of her MCC work arose in connection with Spahr's Presbyterian insurance and pension plan. In order to remain covered she needed to have her work with Lesbians and Gays recognized by the U.P.C.

In typically Presbyterian fashion the decision went through several committees. The national Board of Pensions referred it to the Stated Clerk of the Redwoods Presbytery. The Stated Clerk referred it to the Ministerial Relations Committee who approved it and sent it to the General Council. They approved it and sent it for a final vote before the full Presbytery. The Presbytery voted unanimously to approve Spahr's status on April 16.

Within the Presbyterians' structure the regional presbyteries have substantial autonomy. Despite the denomination's General Assembly vote in 1978 to forbid the ordination of Gay people, Redwoods Presbytery felt free to take this action.

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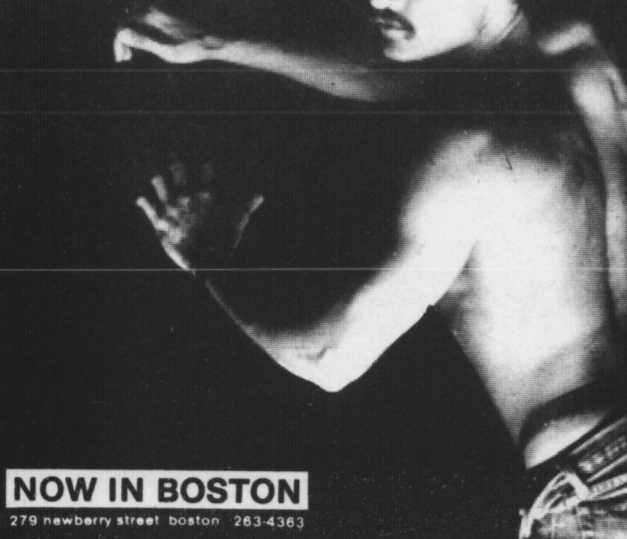
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INS Ban Case Still Bubbles

by Konstantin Berlandt

Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day attorney Mary C. Dunlap will argue the Parade Committee case against the Immigration and Naturalization Service and U.S. Attorney General's ban on homosexual foreign visitors before federal district court judge Robert P. Aguilar at 9:15am Thursday, May 27, in Aguilar's courtroom on the 17th floor of the Federal Building, 450 Golden Gate Avenue. The hearing is open to the public and attendance is being encouraged by the plaintiffs.

Aguilar issued in June 1981 a temporary injunction forbidding INS officials from using sexual orientation as a basis to harass visitors entering the country through Oakland or San Francisco.

A panel of three Ninth District justices last Thursday morning in a courtroom above the 7th and Mission post office reviewed the injunction.

Federal attorneys argued that the higher review should discontinue Aguilar's still standing injunction. Attorney Dunlap, who argued to let it stand, says she does not expect any immediate decision from the panel of justices.

If Aguilar rules next week in favor of the Parade Committee's contentions that the government ban on homosexual visitors violates citizens' constitutional rights of assembly and social discourse, the injunction would be made permanent and the Ninth District panel's review last week made moot.

Either way Aguilar rules, Dunlap expects appeals that could lead to the Supreme Court. On April 22 Judge Aguilar



'81 Gay Parade attorney Mary Dunlap fights on in the INS/Carl Hill case. (Photo: Rink)

ruled that the government could not exclude London visitor Carl Hill for his sexual orientation without giving him a medical test, as had been the government's former procedure until the Surgeon General under President Jimmy Carter eliminated such testing, bringing that department's policy inline with current medical consensus that has removed homosexuality from the official list of "sexual deviations" — the term used in the 27-year-old INS statute.

At last week's hearing government attorney James Hunolt also argued that the ban on homosexual visitors

was not merely medical but moral as well. Dunlap urged the justices to dismiss such an argument, since it had not been within the government's submitted briefs nor raised in the lower court when Judge Aguilar issued the temporary injunction.

Dunlap argued the justices should not strike down the temporary injunction since citizens' constitutional rights

could be irreparably impaired without it and the government had no overriding reason why homosexuals as a class should be prevented from visiting this country.

But lead Justice Herbert Y. Choy remarked that it was Congress' responsibility and not the court's to change the law in line with the progress of medical knowledge over the terms within the law. Justice Choy not too civilly cut Dunlap off before she could give a final one-sentence summary of her argument, saying she had gone over her time while answering the Justices many questions.

OC Gets Grant for Seniors

by Sue Zemel

Operation Concern, an out-patient mental health clinic for Lesbians and Gay men, was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the San Francisco Commission of the Aging to develop a program providing services to older Gay men and Lesbians, as well as to sensitize existing senior service providers to the special needs of older Gays.

"There are 25,000 older Gay men and Lesbians living in San Francisco. However, they are the most neglected and isolated among us," said Carole Migden, Executive Director of Operation Concern. "This project will enable us to recognize and dignify the struggles of older Gay men and Lesbians, and provide

them with opportunities for growth."

The multifaceted program, the first of its kind contracted for by a city to provide senior services to Gay people, was awarded to Operation Concern after two years of successful lobbying by Carole Migden and Stafford Buckley, a Gay gerontologist and chair of the Board of Directors of Operation Concern.

Project Gay and Lesbian Outreach (GLO), which will be underway in September, provides direct services to Gay seniors including counseling, support groups, information and referral, and recreational, educational, and cultural activities.

BWMT-SFBA Adopts New Logo

During the past year, members of Black and White Men Together-San Francisco Bay Area expressed concern that the current logo was not sufficiently symbolic of the group. It was also the opinion of some members that the logo looked like too many other established symbols. These concerns did not fall on deaf ears.

At the January 1982 Quarterly Membership Meeting of BWMT-SFBA, a contest was announced to encourage members to display their graphic design and artistic

proress by producing concepts of a new logo for BWMT-SFBA. The contest deadline was the date of the April Quarterly Membership



Meeting and a cash prize was offered for the winner of that contest. The final decision on the logo was made by the members at the April QM Meeting.

The choice of logos given to the members was between the current one and one of new design. The winner was the new design, and its creator, George Clements, accepted the cash prize offered by BWMT-SFBA.

Because of minor problems with the clarity of the new logo after reproduction and reduction, the artist reworked the design. Now, the new logo is ready to proudly displayed as the representative symbol of Black and White Men Together-San Francisco Bay Area.

Albertson Faces Tough Race in L.A.

Wallace Albertson, President of the Los Angeles Community College Board, is a candidate in the upcoming June 8 Democratic Primary to fill the Hollywood 45th Assembly District seat. This week she made a concerted outreach to tie down Gay support.

Known to her thousands of Gay and Lesbian friends throughout the nation as "Wally," Ms. Albertson and her late husband Jack, star of the NBC television series "Chico And The Man," have crusaded for Lesbian and Gay rights since the early days of the Gay liberation movement.

Wally has been endorsed in her hard-fought bid for Assembly by the Stonewall Democratic Club of Los Angeles, M.E.C.L.A. (Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles) has contributed \$2,500 to the campaign effort. Wally has also been endorsed by the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club of San Francisco, the National Organization for Women, the National Women's Political Caucus, Americans for Democratic Action, and numerous California labor unions.

Wally served as a three-term president of the grassroots California Democratic Council. As president, she certified the CDC's Lesbian and Gay caucus as the first recognized party caucus focusing on Lesbian and Gay issues in Democratic Party history. She has used her position as a member of the Democratic National Committee to be the chief spokesperson for Lesbian and Gay issues within the Democratic Party throughout the country. As a member of the National Platform Committee, she fought successfully to include prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the 1980 National Democratic Party Platform.

As President of the Los Angeles Community College Board, she successfully negotiated a collective bargaining agreement which includes sexual orientation. As an appointed member of the California State University and Colleges Board of Trustees, she insured the inclusion of sexual orientation in the system's policy on nondiscrimination. These achievements have enabled thousands of school administrators, professors, staff personnel and students to live without fear of losing their jobs. These two great accomplishments were done at a time when Gay and Lesbian rights were under increasing attack.

Wally was on the founding Statewide Steering Committee of No On 6, established to defeat the infamous Briggs Initiative in 1978, and spoke to groups throughout the state. She currently serves as Vice-Chair of Governor Jerry Brown's Commission on Personal Privacy. She is joined on that committee by local Gay activists: attorney Jerry Berg, Supervisory aide Del Dawson, Harry Britt's aide Bill Kraus, and Bay Area Reporter editor Paul Lorch.

"This is a race which should concern us," said Lorch. "Wally Albertson has been in our corner repeatedly. She has earned whatever support Gays around the state can muster."

Gay and Lesbian leaders throughout California who have endorsed her candidacy include Rev. Troy Perry, Mor-

ris Kight, David B. Goodstein, Ivy Bottini, Steve Schulte, Pat Rocco, Bob White, Jim Kepner, Greg Carmack, Jean O'Leary, Deborah Johnson, Gerry F. Parker II, Bob Ross, Sally Fiske, Dr. Bruce Veoller, Atty. Steve Weltman, Syd Crocker, Jerry Wheeler, Atty. Jerry Krieger, Gayle Wilson, Steve Badeau, Atty. Ray Hatler, Rick Saslaw, Wayne Friday, Atty. Jerry Berg, Paul Lorch, Clayton Wells, Jeanne Cordova, Garry Shay, Newt Dieter, John Tackaberry, Stu Zinn, Jim Foster, Frank Fitch, Steve Walters, Rob Eichberg, Alan Johnson, and numerous others.



"Wally" Albertson

The Albertson for Assembly campaign office is located at 7580 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90046. The office telephone number is (213) 651-2186.

Wilson Named to Elections Committee

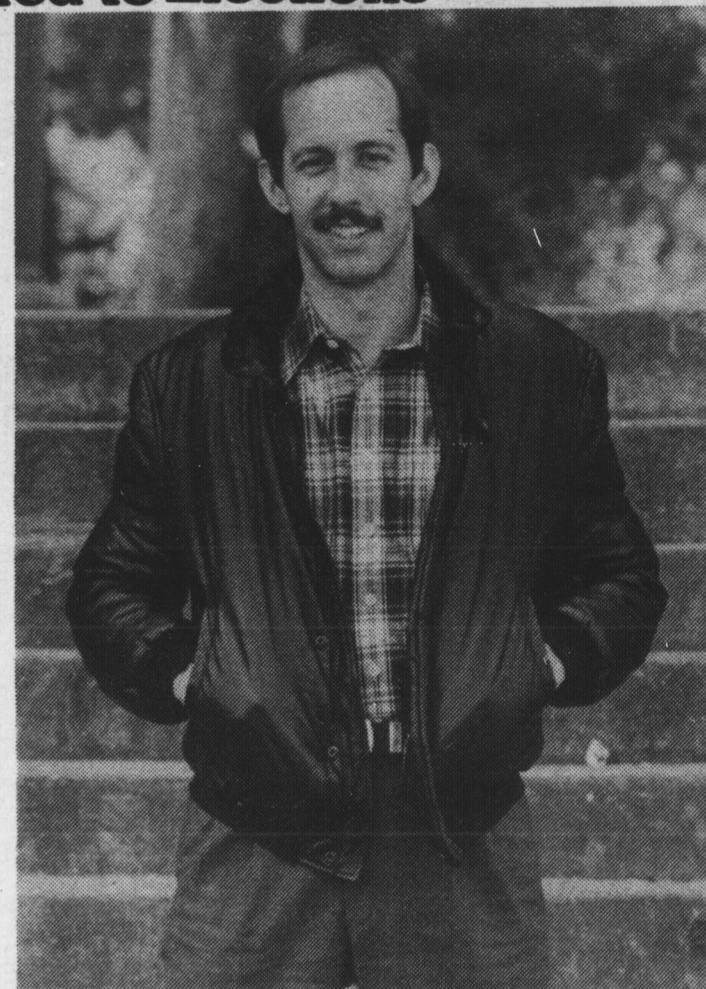
Lawrence Wilson, Alice B. Toklas membership chair and Democrat Party Gay activist, was sworn in by Mayor Diane Feinstein to the Citizen's Advisory Committee on Elections on Wednesday, May 19.

The Elections Committee is charged with studying matters relating to voter registration and elections, investigating compliance with election laws, and promoting citizen participation in the electoral process.

The Elections Committee monitors the City's compliance with the 1979 Federal Court Consent Decree which settled a suit charging non-compliance with the Voting Rights Act requirement for bilingual ballots and voting assistance.

In his remarks at the swearing in, Wilson noted that the Gay community's influence was directly related to its voting strength and that "the free and accessible ballot guarantees the right of all citizens to be heard and it is activist citizens making themselves heard that guarantees the free ballot."

"I will ensure that the City carries out both the spirit and the letter of the Voting Rights Act regarding bilingual registration and voting." Wilson, who has been involved in a number of local campaigns, is a native of Louisiana, and served for two years with VISTA and Action as a community organizer for criminal justice reform programs before graduating from



"Law" Wilson sworn in as a member of the Mayor's Citizens Advisory Committee on Elections.

Hastings College of Law in 1977.

He is a member of several civic and political organizations including the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, the Haight-Fillmore Neighborhood Association, the San Francisco Planning

and Urban Research Association, the Sierra Club, the Pride Center-Development Committee, and the Heritage Foundation.

Wilson, who was appointed on April 22, takes the seat vacated by Jim Foster.

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VOL. XII NO. 20 MAY 20, 1982

NEXT ISSUE OUT: MAY 27

NEXT DEADLINE: MAY 21

VIEWPOINT

LETTERS



(Photo by Rink)

(Continued from Page 1)

we like to say, she had her consciousness raised and learned what the Gay lifestyle is all about. She turned out for Gay function after Gay function — from the Beaux Arts Ball to South of Market auctions.

She voted to challenge the INS exclusion of Gays and Lesbians at our borders.

For the Gay men's community the time-to-be-tested came in the City Hall efforts to close down the Jaguar Book Store. It was a messy — if not ludicrous — situation. Voting for their license to be upheld

became like voting for sin over virtue. Louise Renne — to the displeasure of moralistic voters (including the Mayor) voted not to revoke the Jaguar's license to operate. And the wrath of the do-gooders came down upon her head. The San Francisco Gay male voters owe her one for that courage.

Louise has always been there to be counted on women's issues, and when Lesbian Mary Morgan was seeking a Municipal Court judgeship, Louise Renne wrote the letters, made the phone calls, put her reputation on the line. And the opportunity now arises for the San Francisco Lesbian community to return the favor.

When Louise Renne ran for re-election two years ago, she put Alan Johnson immediately into her campaign staff. Since she was elected, he has served her as a volunteer aide. When the congressional race burst upon the scene two months ago, she once again brought him into the race. He has been at her side every day and will work with her once elected, be it in Washington or here. (San Francisco needs a Gay aide in Washington, D.C. — not hidden back here on Golden Gate Avenue — who is up-front, articulate, and personable.)

The wrap-around waterfront band of San Francisco precincts — exclusively safe Democratic votes — served up on a skewered platter by reigning Congressman Burton for his fading brother John — is a disenfranchised urban mass and mix: Blacks, Latinos, Orientals, Filipinos, the Disabled, the Elderly, and pockets of un-with-it Gays in the Tenderloin, Haight, and South of Market. Put simply — and perhaps less than flattering — people who need help, need representation, need opportunities, need jobs, and need hope.

They aren't the people who only need more national parks, or more hot tubs, or cocaine connections. Their needs won't be served from Larkspur or Ross. They don't need more of the good life — and Gays included — they need basics. This is not to say Louise Renne is a San Francisco version of Sister Theresa, but it is to say she knows these people's needs and is not an overnight converted suburbanite.

Louise Renne will further any worthwhile Gay interest, program, or project in Washington. Of that we can be assured, for she has demonstrated her commitment. Neither will she be saddled with the legacy of syndicated columnist Jack Anderson's finding of San Francisco's (one of five) least effective Congressmen with the seventh worst attendance record.

Getting Louise Renne to Congress will be a great boost of the Gay Liberation Movement, and national Gay leaders are unanimous in their enthusiasm. Similarly for the San Francisco Gay movement, a Renne victory will be bountiful. That one you will have to take on faith, but our movement will take giant steps forward.

It comes down to this: Barbara Boxer is a good person; Dennis McQuaid is also a good person. Louise Renne is equally a good person. The difference is that she is better for us. And better for San Francisco.

P. Lorch

AID DE CAMP

★ Can you please explain to me what is meant by the new term "Gay Aid" that has been appearing recently in the B.A.R. photo captions? I read recently that Supervisor Renne appointed a "Gay Aid" and not to be outdone, Mr. Burton also appointed a "Gay Aid."

How does a Gay Aid differ from anyone else? How does the aid prove that he is gay? I mean, is there a civil service exam or what? How can you tell an impostor? What happens if somebody claims that they are the gay aid and we know that they are not?

May I suggest some new descriptive terms? Perhaps Willie Brown could have a Cool-Aid. The Marching Group might have a Band-Aid. Those who wear LaCoste Shirts could be known as Gator-Aids. Will there be a contest in the community for the First Aid? Can we hope for a fundraiser for Aid to the handicapped? Thank you for your explanation.

Andrew J. Betancourt, President
Gays of the Return of the ARCO Card

ED. NOTE: A "Gay Aid" — as you will have it — is indeed a novel wrinkle on the smooth face of politics. If every one were one, we'd see a sea of smiling faces and fewer jaws. Notwithstanding they remain a toxin to reactionary youths.

P. Lorch

RED FLAGS AN INSULT

★ In his article "Red Party," Allen White described how the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence rented the Russian Center to hold their fundraiser for the Golden Gate Performing Arts and the Gay Olympics. "They chose their flags for color," Allen White tells us, and therefore the Sisters decorated the Russian Center with the flags of the Soviet Union and Red China. The management of the Center objected to the flags, which Allen White thinks was because "the Russian Center is for Russians who are pre-1914 revolution" and "who don't get all that jazzed up about communist flags." So the Sisters enforced the contract clause that permitted them to "fly anything" and the "flags flew in the breeze."

For Mr. White's information: there were three major Russian revolutions in the early 20th century, but none of them happened in 1914, except for very senior citizens. Most of the thousands of Russian-Americans who live in this city and who may use the Russian Center were born and raised in the Soviet Union after the October Revolution of 1917. They have experienced first-hand the brutalities of Stalin's rule. Many of them lost friends and relatives in the Stalinist purges and the GULAG camps. Many are religious people who lived through decades of savage repression under Lenin and Stalin for trying to practice their religion. Forcing them to accept the Soviet flag over their Center is in no way different from renting a synagogue and then flying a swastika over it.

But even apart from trampling on the sensibilities of their hosts, the idea of the Sisters flying the flags of the two most homophobic countries of our century at a gay fundraiser is enough to turn anyone's stomach. Yes, dear Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, fun is fun, but are you really so ignorant? Or don't you give a damn about oppression of gays? In China under Mao, acting in an effeminate manner was punishable by hard labor and sex between males by firing squad (see Prisoner of Mao by Bao Ruo Wang and Rudolph Chelminski, Penguin Books paperback, especially pp. 92, 186-188 and 200). There are today gay Chinese being "cured" of their homosexuality in China's labor camps. In the Soviet Union, just being homosexual is enough to get you four to eight years of hard labor and you are allowed to do only menial work after completing the sentence. I personally know of several gay Soviet Russians who have done time in GULAG camps for being gay and of other gays who were forced to undergo chemotherapy treatments for their homosexuality at Soviet psychiatric clinics.

So is it really all that campy to fly those pretty red flags that stand for gay oppression and gay genocide? If you were a gay Chinese or Russian man, who at this very moment was serving time in a labor camp for having loved another man, how do you suppose you'd feel about the decorations and symbols under which more than 800 San Francisco gays danced the night away at that oh-so-kicky "Red Party"?

Simon Karlinsky
Kensington, CA

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

★ Most of the people I have met who object to smoking in public are the very ones who will not hesitate to push everything they can get their hands on up their noses, veins, and assholes. But when it comes to old-fashioned sucking and fucking they can't even get a hard on.

Ron Bruno
San Francisco

NAZI SYMBOLS

★ Thanks for your editorial April 15, "Longings Still Felt." I agree with your answer to Mr. E. Rofes letter, "Empowering" and feel this whole subject bears watching, exploration! In the same issue as Mr. Rofes letter, Karr in Porn Corner reviews a movie called Scorpio. He ends by saying, "Jack Wrangler arrives like the U.S. Cavalry, sets Bob free, destroys the Nazi relics." "This is mean," says Karr, but "it didn't damage my memory of the four preceding sex scenes — each high-power turn-ons with an emphasis on fucking." Would cruel sex scenes have the same power under neutral symbols? How/why this mix-up of power, sex, politics?

Many political systems have used violence as part of power gains. But shouldn't gays really question Nazism or Fascism? Both left or right extremes? How many gays were deliberately selected and exterminated by the Nazis once the power takeover was complete and the fanatics at the top had a free hand to do as they pleased? Let us not be lulled by any group, or overpowering sex scenes! There is a group going around today saying the Holocaust never happened! Even the TV show "Quincy" recently carried a fictionalized story from these true events. Recently while listening to a religious FM station (108? FM) here in S.F. I was stunned to hear a good morning Bible reading personality substitute the word "homosexual" for the word "pervert."

I sent for some of the station's literature, free program schedule — it states that their way is the only true way! This FM station is quite far-reaching and their kind of one way thinking makes me nervous, just as do gays who believe everybody into power sex turn-ons are always under the sway of good sense.

Thanks again for the editorial.

Charles Roberts
San Francisco

SIS BOOM BAH

Dearest Children,

I do wonder how Doctor Kaposi feels when he sees his name in blights.

Love,

Sr. Boom Boom, S.P.I.
San Francisco

P.S. — I know it's a sick joke, but do you think I could sell it to Johnny Carcinogen?

LETTERS

ANONSMOKERS OFFER

★ Re: Steve Warren, Ron Casey, Link Kramer, Jeff Warren

Okay, Mama Billy's Wild Goose accepts your challenge.

Monday nights from 7 pm to 2 am will be No Smoking Nights (our bartender, Little Mike, doesn't smoke).

Now we will see if your arguments hold water concerning feasibility of a no smoking bar. See you there?

The Management and Staff of
Mama Billy's Wild Goose
San Francisco

TO THE FLAG CORPS, SPONSORS, AND COMMUNITY

I sincerely thank you, our sponsors, for literally affording me my experience in the Flag Corps. Being a new resident in San Francisco, I am blown away by your desire to contribute time, effort, and money to the Corps. A number of you even called us without prior solicitation and asked how you could help. This never happened in old Philly! The encouragement of your fundraising, donations, and moral support has added a real zest to my participation in the Corps. To all of you at the Church and Market Street Business Association, the Pilsner, Chris Carter, the Atherton Hotel, and the Artemis Cafe, just to mention a few, I promise a show stopper at the Games in August you won't soon forget. You see, your efforts really make a difference in my efforts. You are wonderful!

And you, my Community and home, who have made the Flag Corps welcome, show that there is still room in your collective hearts for another organization with a different message. Recently at our debut performance at the Stanford Gay Family Day you were there. I was nervous as hell wondering how you would greet us, yet three seconds into our routine you cheered and applauded. I've noticed how you support such organizations like the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps, and to be counted among them is a great honor. The energy of your love and enthusiasm could put OPEC out of business. I want you to know that I definitely get your appreciation. I can't wait to give it back to you at our upcoming performances.

How can I praise and thank my Flag Corps family for all you have done for me? I had been here just three short months and was beginning to wonder how much I liked Gay Mecca when along came an opportunity to join this new group. I thought it was about time I stop observing the community and start participating. Next thing I knew, I had a new Flag Corps family giving me a renewed sense of enthusiasm and belonging.

I have rarely seen such pure joy in one group. The way all of you get along, men and women, gay and straight, is a light to the world. Why, you even cheer whenever a new member joins. You have jolted me out of my complacency and unwillingness to be an active part of my world. Now I can't shut down the excitement. I'm either typing, fundraising, phoning, sewing, or organizing for you besides rehearsals. I know that all of you love me, and when I know that there is no stopping me! I can't wait to be with you more.

I truly believe this: If all the world could experience your example, we'd all get along just fine. You are the flags of our spirit, shining bright, reaching high, I love you all.

Gary Butler
San Francisco

FINDING A LOVER

★ It was with interest that I read Richard Damien Groove's letter in the May 6 edition of the B.A.R. He seemed to feel that heterosexuals presented some kind of barrier to his having a relationship with another man. Maybe it's because he lives in Milpitas. My experience has been that the biggest barrier to having a relationship with another man is the men that I meet.

Sometimes I get the feeling that men don't believe it's possible to have a lasting relationship with another man. I know it happens but it seems so rare. The times I've come close to it, it's seemed like the other man didn't want it to happen. The two men I most along fine with, both rejected me flat out when things began to get serious, for reasons I still don't understand. I think it had to do with freedom. Actually, one just couldn't stay sexually interested in someone for more than two nights in a row. The other got scared when he thought maybe he was important to me.

Which isn't to say that there haven't been people interested in having a relationship with me who I have not been interested in though more often than not the disinterest the next morning is mutual. One of the most depressing aspects of coming out for me has been discovering that it's so much easier to sleep with someone than it is to talk to them. I've been seeing someone for four months now and we're finally realizing that there needs to be to a relationship than the fact that the night we met he thought I was pretty and I thought he had a Jack Nicholson mouth.

Actually, I'm not even sure these problems are strictly gay issues. As I was growing up my sister was constantly crying about some guy who never called

back the next day. Still, if it isn't a gay issue, maybe it's a male one. Maybe love just isn't a concern for most men. I had hoped gay men were different. It doesn't appear that they are.

Anyway, to get back to the point of this letter, I, like Richard Groves, consider myself a lonely gay man and would like for love to work out someday. But I don't think heterosexuals have much to do with the reasons it doesn't. Which isn't to say they wouldn't get upset if it happened but that's a bridge I would greatly look forward to crossing when I came to it (if only I could come to it).

David Fink
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Since most of us experience rejecting others and being rejected, is it ever a question of fault or just not the right mix? It certainly isn't that there aren't enough men around in San Francisco. For bonding the stakes are higher here; less imperative for many and at best more tenuous.

P. Lorch

EVER HEAR ABOUT THE GAY ARCHIVES?

★ ARCHIVES, N. pl. G. arche, the beginning, 1. a place where public records are kept. 2. the records kept in such a place.

Webster's New World Dictionary

What is there in common between these two definitions? A place to "keep" the beginning? To homosexuals, the beginning is both infinite and personal. The Gay and Lesbian Archives are not just history, but culture. Long before any quest for fire, we were involved in culture, and to be modest, we always invented ways to reflect it.

Such was any beginning. But, noting that we have been left out of history, should we not instigate a library of our own?

In San Francisco now there is a small group trying to organize the Lesbian and Gay Archives as well as the Harvey Milk Archives. Hoping to create some focus to reflect our recent history as well as our past. This whole project has lacked the support of our own community. Only a few individuals have kept the archives alive at all, and it's time we gave them our support. There will be chances to help further the goals of creating our own Archives, and such support deserves our consideration. Let's work toward solidarity about our own culture and its Archives.

Tom Buxton
San Francisco

RUFFLES & FLOURISHES

★ I am writing in response to Michael Emry's reactionary letter (B.A.R., Vol. XII, No. 18) re: The Red Queen's "complaints" about the gay community.

I, too, have followed the Red Queen's extensive commentary on the quality of gay life in San Francisco. His biting criticism and daring insights have indeed provided one of our few alternative voices. The Red Queen has spoken for many of us who have never fit into the mainstream of gay life in this city. He has voiced our frustration for those of us who had hoped for more after years of struggle for liberation.

We gays have never taken criticism well. We are understandably sensitive. Thoughtful self-criticism is crucial to our growth.

The Red Queen ruffles ego. He has always challenged the status quo. I hope he upsets a lot of people. It is important for us to stay awake.

I resent the brush-off by P. Lorch that the Red Queen (and the rest of us) are elitist and "homosexist." We care as much as anyone else. I could live without the cheap shot commentary and dictatorial manner.

Arthur, the Red Queen, if you read this: don't let up! I love you for your spirit. You are no "burden" to me. You are an inspiration.

E. Jelly
San Francisco

FROM THE PARSONAGE

★ Lest your readers be misled, we wish to correct the impression given by your article on the status of CUAV.

CUAV is not a part of The Parsonage, though some of its members have met at The Parsonage from time to time. The suggestion that The Parsonage undertake a "night ministry" has been received by the Steering Committee of The Parsonage and conversations have begun to explore whether this is either desirable or practical. As your readers know, a Night Ministry has existed in San Francisco for many years and has done wonderful work helping people in all kinds of trouble. The official Night Ministers also include the Castro area in their regular tour of duty. The members of CUAV who also happen to be Parsons at The Parsonage and who are considering a more developed "night ministry" which might include some of the tasks for which CUAV was originally organized are presently in touch with the official Night Minister so as not to duplicate service, and so as to learn what such a ministry means, before making any decisions. There has certainly been no application made for funds of any kind to support such a venture.

Rev. Bernard Mayes
Chairperson
San Francisco

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WALLER PRESS

Gore Vidal: Candidate or Pundit

by George Mendenhall

Author/social critic Gore Vidal has gained acclaim across the world. Now he is busy campaigning across the state for the U.S. Senate slot vacated by the notorious homophobe S. I. Hayakawa.

His contender for the Democratic nomination on June 8 is Governor Jerry Brown, who has considerable support among Gay community leaders because of his many Gay/Lesbian appointments and his outspoken positions on Gay rights.

Both candidates are single. Vidal is Gay. Brown has not made a public statement about his sexual orientation.

Recently articles about Vidal, including a brilliant two-part article in the May and June issues of *California* magazine by writer Armistead Maupin, now reveal more about Vidal's philosophy and how he feels about himself as a Gay person.

Vidal's frequent appearances on the Johnny Carson Show have established him in the minds of many Americans as a charming wit and political pundit. However, the fun involved between audiences and Vidal on these has marked him as a "whimsical, frivolous" person according to the *Los Angeles Times*. Vidal has recently responded to this criticism by making his campaign more serious.

SEX AND POLITICS

This is a sampling of Vidal's public wit:

POLITICS: "I don't think there's much difference between Democrats and Republicans. Actually we have a one-party system divided into two factions. Those who do vote provide a Green chorus to events. . . . The I.R.S. is an extortion racket that would have taught the Gestapo a thing or two."

GOV. BROWN: "Since Jerry and I are both middle-aged bachelors, any right-thinking person will assume that each is a virgin. And my just the more immaculate one win. . . . Brown is the Lord of the Medflies."

WOMEN: "I like women better than men. Who doesn't — of anyone who ever thought of it? Women tend to be more interesting, even though, paradoxically, their lives seem less so because they are economically stunted. But the life of the slave is always more interesting than that of the master."

though, paradoxically, their lives seem less so because they are economically stunted. But the life of the slave is always more interesting than that of the master."

SEX: "Get the government off our fronts. . . . I hate narcissism. A narcissist is somebody better looking than you are. Or a narcissist is someone you want to go to bed with who doesn't want to go to bed with you."

IT NEVER COMES UP

Gore Vidal told Maupin that as a Gay person "I never went in. I never came out. I'm just there. I never talk about my private life, because I just don't do that sort of thing. It has to do with my age and the kind of world I come from." He added that it is a matter of "personal style," that he is not an autobiographical person "discussing my day as most people seem to do."

The author claims, "It never comes up. At least it rarely comes up in my presence. I'm sure it comes up quite a bit when I'm not present." He added, "I am a candidate," and not a GAY candidate.

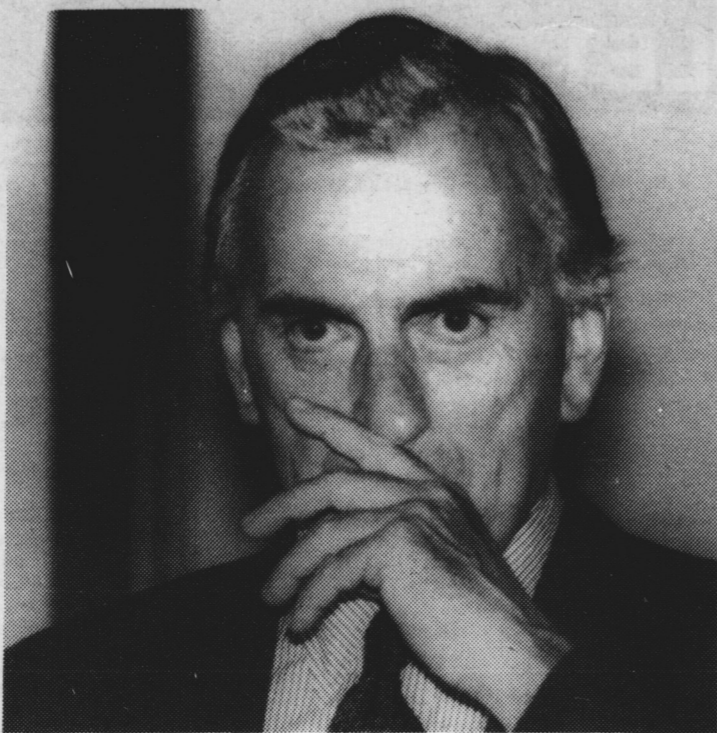
Vidal lives with his longtime friend, Howard Austen, who is into advertising, real estate, and assists Vidal with his personal affairs. The writer has considerable wealth from extensive book and film royalties and has divided his time between residences in Rome, New York, and Los Angeles.

The author's numerous appearances on the Carson show belie his nature — which he says is to visit with a few old friends, not be very social, and stay at home and read. "Home" is Los Angeles now, but he likes to do his writing in Italy.

Some Gay activists are disturbed that Vidal is not more outspoken about Gay liberation and his personal life. He replies that there are more important issues than sexual orientation. Vidal told Maupin that his general instinct has been "rather toward ecumenical than toward ghettoizing."

Vidal has startled some Gay activists by stating, "I'd have to say I really don't think either heterosexual or homosexual exists and that only an insane society could ever have made a division like this, and those who think of themselves proudly on one side or the other are equally demented."

Charles Morris, former *Sentinel* publisher, vigorously supports Vidal. He told *Bay Area Reporter*, "I think what Vidal is saying is that there are too many Gay people who confine themselves to a very limited Gay experience in life. Some people work on nothing but Gay issues to the total ignorance of non-Gay issues." (Morris is the informal, unpaid "coordinator" for the Vidal campaign in San Francisco.)



(Photo: Robert Pruzan)

Connie O'Connor, president of the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, responded that she will also vote for Vidal in the primary, although she disagrees with her candidate on this point. She said, "It is ideal that people can just be people. However, we have been forced into a position where we have to identify ourselves for our own self-preservation."

Randy Stallings, co-chair of the state Democratic Council's Gay caucus, says that he understands Vidal's desire to remain quiet on Gay issues: "He has never been a Gay activist but neither have a lot of other people who are Gay. He contributes as much to the Gay rights movement by being one of our greatest living writers and being openly Gay. This may be more effective than if he had been more active in other ways."

Recently at a state Democratic convention in Fresno, Vidal was cheered by the Gay Caucus at its meeting. He also enjoyed conversations with many Gay people in his hospitality suite and joined the Toklas Club members at dinner. However, the caucus endorsed Governor Brown. "This has been a continuing problem for Vidal with Gay Democratic clubs who like his wit but endorse his opponent."

Bill Holzman, a former state Democratic party official, has recently been hired to make more sense out of the Vidal campaign. He told the *S.F. Chronicle's* Larry Liebert that Gay clubs endorse Brown because "the heads of these groups usually are promised judgeships or commissions." Morris said, "The promises have not been given but the hope has been held out there." Local Gay activist leaders emphatically deny that this is the case. They say the broad Gay support for Brown actually comes from the fact that he has already made more appointments of women and Gay people than any public official in the country. The governor has been outspoken in his support of Gay rights legislation.

CAN VIDAL WIN? Vidal's candidacy for the U.S. Senate surprised many who had heard his cynical observations about politics in general for years. At 56, the author of *Myra Breckenridge*, *Burr*, and *Creation*, announced his Senate candidacy in an advertisement in the *New York Review of Books*.

Vidal has a variety of problems in his attempt to win the Democratic primary over Governor Brown: ■

Holzman told Liebert, "Gore is much more appealing to women. Men seem to find him a threat." Morris responded, "That probably means straight men. Vidal is charming and straight men get uptight about that. They do not know how to react to charming men."

Raising cash is also a major problem for Vidal, who virtually ran his own campaign until Holzman was hired a few weeks ago. A few celebrity fundraisers have brought in under \$100,000 while Governor Brown has over \$2 million.

The *L.A. Times* believes that Vidal "could do what the Brown campaign fears most, and that is cripple the governor enough to make it hard for Brown to recover against the Republican candidate." Some pundits are saying that this makes Vidal a "spoiler" in the race. Vidal responds, "Jerry Brown has nothing to spoil. All polls show he would lose to most any Republican who would run against him."

The primary reason several well-known local Democratic Gay activists are speaking out for Vidal is not the Gay rights issue. They are angry at Brown because he supports the B-1 bomber and the Peripheral Canal and Prop. 1, which would authorize the building of more jails.

O'Connor, Morris and Stallings believe Vidal is a superior candidate — on issues. Each also contends that Vidal could lose in the primary. They will support Brown after the primary.

Gore Vidal is already contemplating an offer from a publisher to write a one-volume history of the United States. He says this will take five years of his time, after (or possibly in lieu of) serving in the Senate for one term. He says he will then retire (at 63) with the book as "a very satisfactory end to a long career."

Although Vidal has been criticized for not being public enough about his own sexuality, his observations often ring true in the area of sexual freedom. "Sexual repression has behind it an economic motive. To allow people to be Gay or to stand aside from the means of biological production is dangerous. . . . Plato wrote that countries that are uncivilized dislike sex between males because it makes them independent. They might rise up and slay the tyrant."

Vidal is evidently feeling his independence and will continue his attempt to slay the tyrant — whether it is in the U.S. Senate or on the Johnny Carson Show. ■

QUICKIES!

What's What Out of Town

L.A. GAY PRIDE RUN

This year's Gay Pride Week in Los Angeles is being kicked off with a Run for Gay Pride, to be held Sunday, June 20, at 8pm. The run is sponsored by the FrontRunners Track Club and Christopher Street West.

The run includes a five kilometer (3.1 miles) and a ten kilometer (6.2 miles) race in Silver Lake. Experienced runners are invited to compete and novice runners are encouraged to run for fun.

For additional information or to have an entry form mailed to you, call Dennis Odums, (213) 221-9666, or Ken Shapiro, (213) 508-0710, or write to Joan Coogan, Box 42923, Los Angeles, CA 90042.

NYC GAY PRIDE WEEK

"A Heritage of Pride" is the theme this year of New York City's Christopher Street Liberation Day March and Rally. New York's 13th annual celebration will be held on Sunday, June 27, the same day as the San Francisco and Los Angeles parades.

New York's June 20-27 Lesbian and Gay Pride Week activities will include the first marching band competition and a float contest with awards in various categories. To spread the word about the week's activities, a newspaper called *Struttin' Up 5th* will be published, a billboard in Sheridan Square has been rented for two months, and an ad with the calendar of events will be placed in the "Arts and Leisure" section of the Sunday *New York Times*.

DALLAS ORGANIZES NATL CONFERENCE

The Dallas Gay Alliance would like Gay leaders from all over the country to come and meet with them, so they have organized a national leadership conference, to be held August 13-15.

B/W Men Plan Anthology

Gay Sunshine Press will publish the first comprehensive anthology on Black and White men, with special emphasis on the Gay Black experience.

Poems, short stories, oral histories, essays, art work, photographs, and personal reminiscences — from the most scholarly to the most sexually explicit — are being sought for possible inclusion. Particularly welcome are submissions from Third World people dealing with Black-on-Black as Black-on-White life.

The anthology is being edited by Mike Smith, founder of Black and White Men Together and editor of the *B.W.M.T. Quarterly*. All material (together with a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return) should be sent directly to him for consideration: Black and White Anthology, 279 Collingwood, San Francisco, CA 94114. The deadline for receipt of submissions is October 1, 1982.

The purpose of the conference will be "to educate, inform, and share with women and men from other organizations the experiences, goals, and expectations of the human rights movement for homosexuals."

For more information contact The Dallas Gay Alliance, P.O. Box 35011, Dallas, TX 75235.

GAY PRESS CONVENTION SPEAKERS

San Francisco's Randy Shilts and New York City's Arthur Bell, both journalists and authors, will be the keynote speakers at the Gay Press Association convention in Denver, Colorado, May 28-31.

The convention is the first held by the GPA, which was organized last year. GPA members are associated with Gay journalism or are Gays who work in the non-Gay media.

DENVER VOLLEYBALL

The 1982 National Gay Invitational Volleyball Tournament will be held Memorial Day weekend, May 29-31, in Denver, Colorado. Twenty-four Gay volleyball teams from across the country will compete in the event, now in its fourth year.

VIOLENCE IN GAY COUPLES

Gays who are most likely to be beaten by their lovers have relationships characterized by rigid gender roles and traditional power divisions. That is the main finding of a study presented this week at the Pacific Sociological Association meeting in Los Angeles.

According to the researchers, Dr. Laud Humphreys and Brian Miller, when Gay couples are violent, masculine-feminine role playing is the strongest characteristic. Other power divisions such as financial and racial inequality also correlate with couple violence. Jealousy and alcohol abuse were precipitating events in virtually all the violence.

Humphreys and Miller investigated 242 Lesbian and Gay victims of violence over nine years and found that although the majority were attacked by Gay bashing gangs,

about six percent were attacked by lovers.

CHICAGO POLICE SENSITIZED

All police officers in the Chicago Police Department received a training bulletin April 13 titled "The Gays and the Police," according to Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force, which calls the bulletin "a sensitive and enlightened document."

The bulletin is part of a continuing process of the Chicago Police Department and Gay community working together to improve relations between the two groups.

Al Wardell, one of the co-chairs of the Task Force, said, "Relations with the police in Chicago have improved greatly in the past few years. We aren't saying things are perfect here, but we have made real progress."

Plans are now being made for members of the Gay community to speak at all the roll calls in all the police districts in the city that have significant Gay populations.

L.A. POLICE SENSITIZED, TOO

The Gay and Lesbian Police Advisory Task Force of

Los Angeles was officially recognized as a citizens' commission by the Los Angeles Police Commission on April 14.

The Task Force is made up of an 18-member voting board with alternate members and represents a cross-section of the Gay and Lesbian community.

James LaMaida, co-chair of the Task Force, said, "In the last couple of years relations between the LAPD and the Gay and Lesbian community have begun to change in a positive way. While this is only a beginning, the commission's action is an important sign that communications are improving and that the city government is opening up to ideas from one of its largest, but often invisible minority groups." ■

Wayne April

Nebraska - 78% Reject Rights

Lincoln, NE

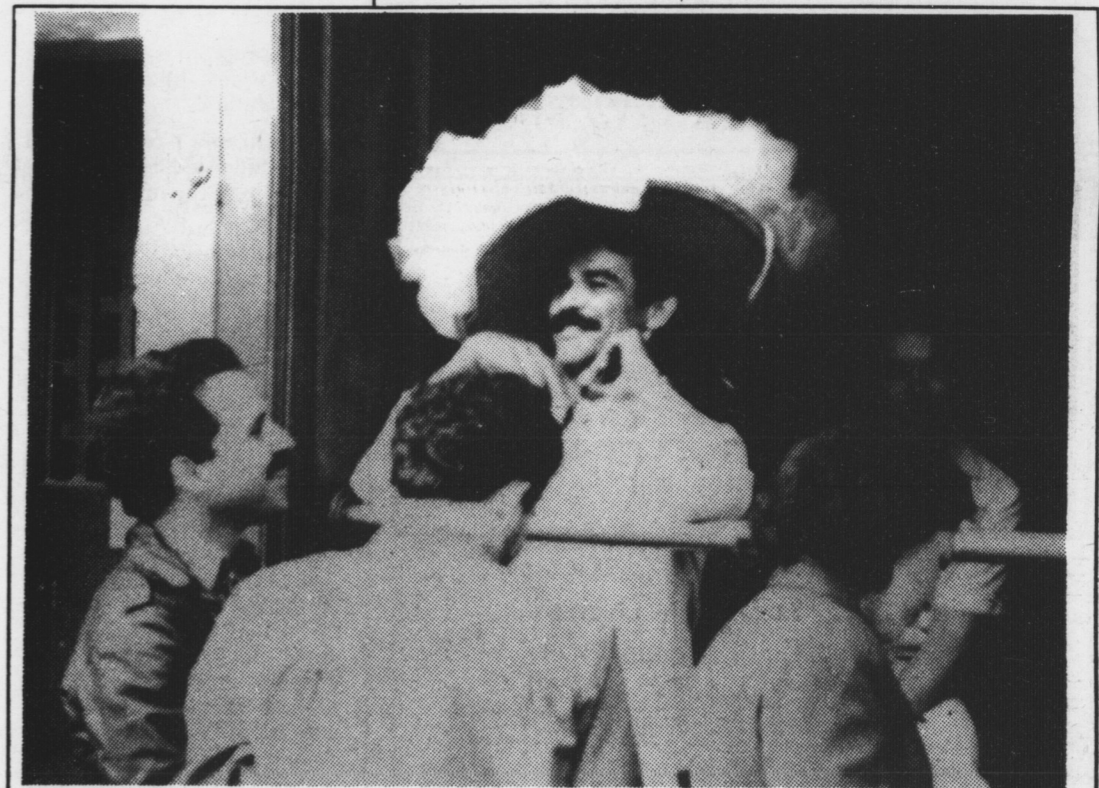
Another initiative that would have granted civil rights to Gay people has been overwhelmingly rejected on the local level.

Voters here rejected such a measure by 78% on May 11. The measure would have protected homosexuals from discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations.

Gay activists have had numerous failures across the country in recent years in attempting to have such initiatives passed on the local level. The victories for Gay people have been on initiatives that would emphatically deny rights for homosexuals. The public has indicated it will not approve denial of rights but neither will it approve extending rights to include Gay people.

Doctors Discuss "Kaposi's Sarcoma"

"The Medicine Show" on KNBR-AM (680) will air a discussion of "Kaposi's Sarcoma" on Sunday, May 23, at 9:30pm. Martin Brotman, M.D., chairman of the Department of Education, Pacific Medical Center, will interview Robert Bolan, M.D., director of Presbyterian Hospital's new Gay Health Clinic on a topic of interest to the Gay community.



Hats on for a spring Castro afternoon . . .

(Photo: Rink)

CRIR Opposes Feinstein Handgun Control

Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, the largest Republican organization in San Francisco, voted overwhelmingly to oppose Mayor Dianne Feinstein's proposed ban on handguns in the City and County of San Francisco. The vote came after a spirited debate over the merits of the proposal between Sheriff Mike Hennessey and Supervisor Lee Dolson.

Sheriff Hennessey spoke in favor of the Mayor's proposal, suggesting that while a handgun ban might not reduce crime, it would reduce the number of injuries and fatalities resulting from the discharge of guns. Supervisor Dolson cited the failure of gun

Changing Images For Gays In Media

Changing Images, a conference on effective media relations for Lesbian and Gay organizations and individuals, will be presented at New College of California (777 Valencia Street) on Saturday, June 12 from 9 AM to 7 PM. The coalition for Human Rights and the Media Alliance have pooled their expertise to create this educational conference. The conference is designed for Gays who want to improve their media relations and skills, create an effective media plan, are concerned about perceptions of Lesbians and Gays in the media, and who want to explore ways to coordinate and network media access and perceptions.

Registration is \$15 (\$20 including lunch). Contact Mark Feldman at 648-5556 or write Changing Images Conference, c/o New College, 777 Valencia, S.F. 94110.

Eighteen speakers, carefully selected to offer many viewpoints, include editors, reporters, freelance writers, and lawyers as well as television "anchors", communications directors and documentary directors. Small group discussions, workshops, panels and a reception are planned. One workshop will focus on "the Media and the New Right" while another will discuss "Creating an Effective Media Plan."

Registration is \$15 (\$20 including lunch). Contact Mark Feldman at 648-5556 or write Changing Images Conference, c/o New College, 777 Valencia, S.F. 94110.

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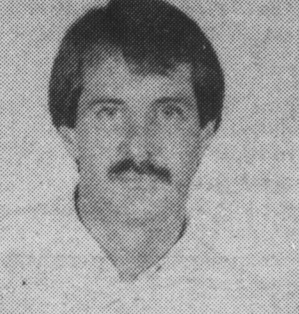
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DOMESTIC RATES

'82 Parade Program Ad Nudity Sparks Debate

by Konstantin Berlandt



This shot is loathsome to some, not so to others.

The Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee Sunday voted 16-11 to publish in this year's Parade program a much-debated full page ad from San Jose's Watergarden bathhouse depicting two naked men in a missionary position. A bare ass is showing.

The program is slated to be on the streets June 4; the Parade is June 27.

Bathhouse owner Sal Acardi attended Sunday evening's general membership meeting at the Women's Building to defend his submission on "principles that should be considered" and described his ad as "artistic act." Acardi noted that the Parade guidelines, which discourage both nudity and "lewd conduct" in conformance with local law, when applied to the program "could not even permit a reproduction of (Michelangelo's) Sistine Chapel."

Acardi stressed he did not intend to "exploit or play on" the naked body, male or female, but did wish to catch the male reader's eye enough to note that his establishment was not as far from San Francisco as prevailing inner city provinciality generally supposed. "Closer than you thought," reads the text above the two entwined bodies very close indeed.

With men and women on both sides of the issue, one woman objected the ad was purely sexual, not the image she wished to see in the program, "since straight society already thinks that's all we are."

Parade guidelines also forbid "lewd conduct," but any real sex going on in the ad was purely in the eye of the beholder. Post-coital it seemed to some observers.

Parade guidelines, applied to the program this year, were adopted in 1977 after much controversy and debate over the shenanigans of the '76 parade, still remembered fondly by such as Jim Gordon, who remembers being stark naked at Castro and Market before boarding a bus to the celebration site in Golden Gate Park that year. He describes what happened on the bus as an orgy.

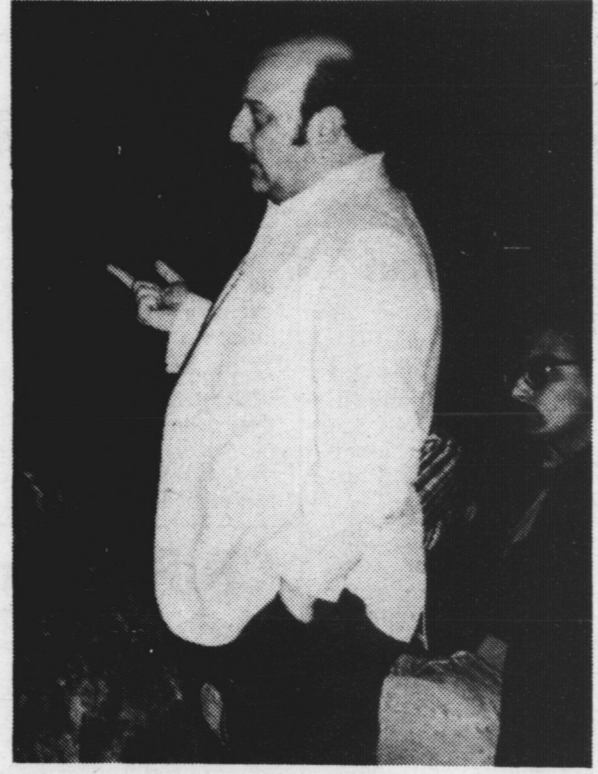
were poppers and lubricant ads. Before even a title page, the tone had been established that the program was addressed to a popular Gay male aesthetic of sexuality. Women reading that year's program already felt undressed. For a movement that espouses including all of us — "Out of Many . . . One" this year's Parade theme — this exclusive sexuality was unacceptable.

In 1981 the Steam Works ad — a sweaty torso down to the pubic hair where another man's hand is coming up from below — was originally sold as the inside cover but bumped deeper into the program by a vote of the Committee requiring co-sexual advertising in prime space and avoiding the tonal quality in the program as had been given the year before. The same Steam Works ad is running again in this year's program without controversy.

Nevertheless, with men's business advertising an overwhelming majority again in this year's Parade program looking at a \$10,000 increase in advertising sales over last year's \$25,000, the problem of making the program accessible to both men and women is one for the 112-page booklet's graphic designer, content and photo editors.

Many who voted against the Watergarden ad admitted not being personally offended by it. "Prudery" was not the only objection but to establish a tone that embraces the community as a whole without eliminating any part of that community — men or women.

The resolution that excepted the Watergarden ad from the applying Parade guidelines against nudity also called for a rewrite of program ad guidelines "to more accurately reflect the intent of the Parade Committee" to be reworked before rate sheets go out next year.



Bathhouse owner Sal Acardi fights for sexy ad in '82 Parade program. (Photo: Rink)

GAU Ongoing

(Continued from Page 3)
since Gay research is now conducted openly. Still, about forty percent of our members are in academia. Usually the audience tends to be older, too.

The audience last Sunday was thirty-five people of both sexes and all ages. There was a Black man in an Italian t-shirt, a white man in a tweed sport coat, a man in cowboy boots, a woman in loafers, a

man in a pale silk tie, and all of them were amicable.

Scott Treimel

Upfront Gay Candidate for Lt. Governor

by Wayne Friday

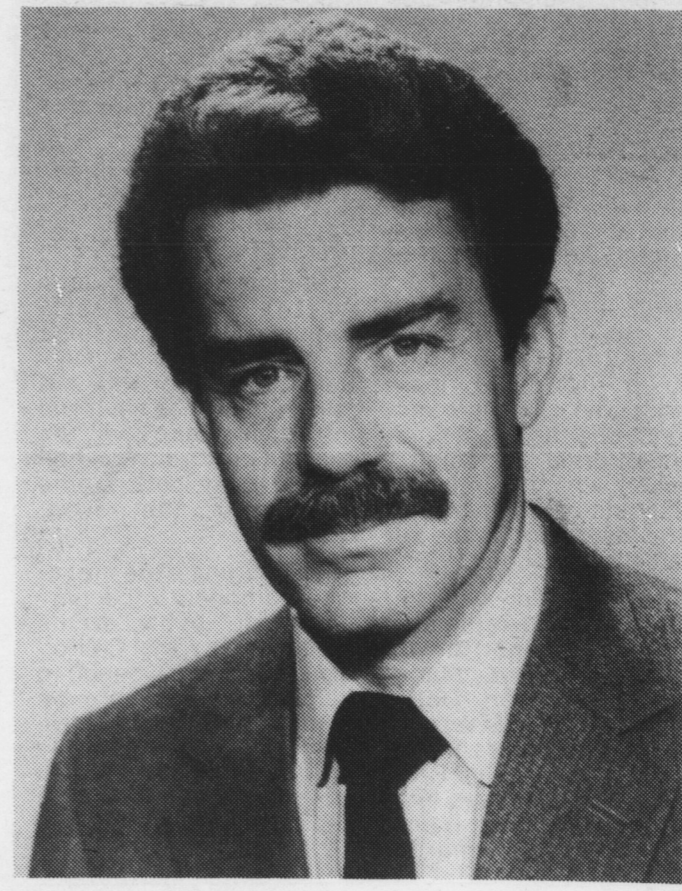
John Vernon, an independent restaurateur from Los Angeles who bills himself as "The Omelette King," will likely be the Libertarian Party nominee for Lieutenant Governor on the November ballot.

Vernon, who told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he is running for statewide office as an up-front Gay, but whose campaign literature makes no reference to his homosexuality, was in San Francisco last week for campaign appearances and Libertarian Party meetings. Vernon is running a low-budget campaign, but says he expects to do well in his campaign to replace Mike Curb.

Opposing gun control, Vernon says he "supports the right of all persons to defend their lives, liberty, and property by whatever means necessary," and says he advocates a voluntary Neighborhood Watch as the most effective means of preventing crime in the neighborhoods. The Libertarian candidate proposes a Private Police Tax Credit as a means of enabling many people not now able to do so to obtain more satisfactory police protection from private security agencies operating in the free market.

Vernon says he supports the decriminalization of activities involving no victims such as prostitution, gambling, private drug usage, and sexual activity between consenting adults, which he claims consumes as much as 50% of valuable police resources, which Vernon believes ought to be directed toward the elimination of violent crime. Favoring the eventual elimination of all taxes, Vernon says that in the meantime he supports the passage of the Income Tax Indexing Initiative as a means of preventing taxes from automatically rising, and supports Jarvis III, the initiative to repeal the inheritance tax.

Although Vernon has an opponent, B.J. Wagner, a real estate consultant from Los Angeles, in the June primary, the California Libertarian Council has endorsed Vernon and he is favored to win the June 8 primary, making him the first up-front Gay man to be on the ballot for a statewide post. Vernon, 42 years old, is a native of Oklahoma, has lived in California for six years, and makes his home in Hollywood with his "roommate," a cat named Junior. A restaurateur by pro-



John Vernon, Gay Libertarian seeking Lt. Governor post.

profession, Vernon was a candidate for the Oklahoma City Council in 1975, served as treasurer of the Oklahoma Libertarian Party, and was once a candidate for the Libertarian Party vice-presidential nomination. The candidate is a member of the National Rifle Ass'n, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Ass'n, is a licensed air pilot, and attends the Hollywood Church of Religious Science.

In a statement to the *Reporter* last week, the Libertarian candidate for Lt. Governor said, "I offer my services in the interest of promot-

ing the philosophy of government which says that each individual is the rightful sovereign of his or her own life and affairs. Thus, if elected, I will endeavor as President of the California Senate to assist in the introduction of bills which will reduce taxation, relieve regulation of business, and implement a hands-off policy with regard to the private lives of individuals. Our aim is to build a society in which every individual can fulfill his or her maximum potential through the possession of maximum individual freedom and the exercise of personal responsibility."

P. Lorich

May 21 Riot Rally

by Konstantin Berlandt

An informal rally will be held on City Hall steps Friday, May 21, between 5:30 and 7:30 pm, focusing on police repression and commemorating the third anniversary of protest there after the Dan White jury verdict was announced.

The glass doors of City Hall were smashed and several police cars torched during the May 21, 1979, protest there following the announcement that former Supervisor and cop Dan White had been convicted of merely voluntary manslaughter for assassinating Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk November 27, 1978.

David Waddle, sentenced last December for felonious tossing of a bottle in the direction of police in Civic Center Plaza during that "White Night" protest, was among a number of May 21st Defendants who suffered protracted prosecution, fines, and jail sentences.

Yet last month District Attorney Arlo Smith announced he was dropping the criminal investigation of the police attack on the Elephant Walk that took place the same evening. The limitation of statutes for prosecution of that police action also expires Friday at midnight.

Police repression will be the theme of several speakers and entertainers at the Friday evening anniversary rally, including Supervisor Nancy Walker, Women's Building and Parade Committee Board member Carmen Vasquez, and Libertarian Party editor Justin Raimondo to speak; the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and Choral Majority plan to entertain. Other speakers and performers have not yet been confirmed.

A cavalcade of police victims, each to say a few words over the microphone, could provide much audience participation.

ED. NOTE: To the best of our knowledge the rally is being produced by an amorphous ad hoc committee. No one individual is in charge of the event, nor have any been identified as responsible for specific functions. Names that have been proffered as part of the May 21st ad hoc committee are Konstantin Berlandt, Greg Day, Eric Garris. Others contacted did not wish themselves listed as responsible parties.

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So that he who runs
After shapely buns
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—Glenn

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Monitors Needed for Parade

Approximately 350 volunteers are needed by the Medical and Safety subcommittees. Classes for experienced and/or inexperienced volunteers will be conducted the first three weeks of June. Safety monitors will be asked to attend two training classes — one from either of two planned session schedules:

"A" Sessions are planned for Tuesday, June 8, 7 pm; Friday, June 11, 7 pm; and Saturday, June 19, 1:30 pm.

"B" Sessions are planned for Monday, June 14, 7 pm; Wednesday, June 16, 7 pm; and Monday, June 21, 7 pm.

Contingent/Float monitors who will only be marching with a specific float or group are required to attend one class from the "A" sessions.

Medical monitor classes will be held on Saturday, June 12, at 2 pm and Tuesday, June 15, at 7 pm. First aid and CPR classes are also available.

Training classes for all monitors will be held at the Women's Building in San Francisco, located at 3543 18th Street near Valencia. Safety and Medical monitors will be issued Parade Monitor T-shirts, and Contingent/Float monitors will be given distinguishable armbands. To volunteer or for information please contact Safety co-chair Rick Blesinger or Sheila Petrakis; Medical co-chair Kathy Knowles or Teddy Unterreiner by calling the Parade office at 861-5404.

CDC Forums

Candidates for Demo Primary

Nine major Democratic Primary candidates and 44 Democratic Party committee candidates will be on hand at Candidates' Forum next week. The event will be the largest single presentation of candidates of this season's election campaigns so far. The event is sponsored by 15 Democratic clubs and is expected to draw a large crowd to the 1500-seat hall on Church Street between 16th and 17th Streets.

Conway Collis has added his name to the acceptance list for this first Forum next Wednesday, May 26, at Everett Junior High School Auditorium, 17th and Church Streets, 7:30 to 10:00 pm. Fifteen Democratic clubs are co-sponsoring the event with the California Democratic Council, which is fronting the costs for this event and presenting it free of charge to the public.

The speakers will be Gore Vidal and a representative of Governor Brown for U.S. Senator, Mario Obledo and Sen. John Garamendi for Governor, Marin Sup. Barbara Boxer and S.F. Sup. Louise Renne for U.S. Congress (6th District), Sen. Omer Rains for Attorney General,

John Shimmon and Conway Collis for Board of Equalization.

The event will be moderated by Lia Belli, President of the California Democratic Council, and a panel of press representatives will take part in the question-and-answer process which enables people to participate without boring the crowd with personal speeches unrelated to the campaigns.

Those who wish to ask questions should be prepared with a brief and concise formulation.

Because of the large number of candidates to be heard, the Democratic Party candidates for Central Committee will not speak but will be seen and introduced and will be available for conversation in the lobby both before and after the event begins.

This forum is the first of what is hoped to become a series of public events presented by the California Democratic Council to help voters become more familiar with the elective process and to publicly introduce the clubs which are seldom as fully represented as they will be May 26.

Gay Lit Course Starts June 1

A comprehensive nine-week course on Gay/Lesbian Literature will be offered at New College on June 1. Poet Aaron Shurin will teach the classes, which will review Gay issues from 7BC when Sappho of Lesbos sang until the present. The emphasis will primarily be on contemporary writers.

Is there an historical Gay or Lesbian sensibility? If so, what's changed and what has remained the same? Is a Gay love poem different from a straight one? These are some of the questions Shurin will be addressing.

The course fee is \$90 or \$270 for those who wish full college credit. The fully accredited New College, 777 Valencia Street, offers courses of special interest to Gay people. Gay activist Mark Feldman is the admissions director: 626-1694.

Gay Author Reads at Branch Library

How are your manners?

Noted local author Dan Curzon is going public with advice. Reading from his soon to be published guide, *The Joyful Book of Gracious Gay Etiquette*, Dan Curzon will appear at the Eureka Valley/Harvey Milk Library on Wednesday evening, June 9, at 7:30 pm. Topics to be covered will range from debutante balls to summer cruising. The reading is free to all and the community is welcome to attend.

Parade Flags

The Guard of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps is seeking new members to participate in the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade and in the opening ceremonies of the Gay Olympics. Practice is for two hours each Tuesday, and dues are \$5 monthly. Women are especially encouraged to participate. Previous experience is not necessary. If interested, leave your name and number for "The Guard" on the Band's message tape at 621-5619.

Police Chief at Next Stonewall

Dialogue with Chief of Police Con Murphy will be the feature of the next monthly meeting of Stonewall Gay Democratic Club Monday, June 7, at 7:30 pm in the Women's Building. Chief Murphy will bring a few officers to discuss the problems in relations between the Gay/Lesbian community and the Police Department. The idea of this agenda grew out of an hour in the Chief's office with Paul Boneberg, Greg Day, and Ben Gardiner meeting with Murphy and Captain Don Taylor of Mission Station.

The format is intended to provide discussion rather than the "speech and questions" repartee that has often

in the past failed to bring any change or improvement. Both the Chief and the Stonewall officers agreed at the end of their preparatory meeting last week that there are some topics that need discussion with real hope in sight of improvement in the two-way relations between Gay/Lesbian citizens and the Police Department. Among the possibilities: the use of uniforms and of plainclothes officers, the identification numbers and badges, and the knee-jerk attitude which often confronts all police work.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 pm with club business. The public is welcome to attend. Program is expected to start about 8 pm.

Baths Raided in Florida

by Wayne April

Club Tampa, a member of the Club Baths chain, was raided by police Wednesday, May 12. Three employees were arrested and jailed and 69 customers were cited and released. The raid was quiet and orderly, according to Club manager Peter Esfakis, because "everyone was in a state of shock."

"It took me a couple of days to get over it and realize what had happened," said Esfakis. "This was considered one of the safer baths around. We even called the police in on occasion when there was trouble."

According to Esfakis, who spoke to the police during the raid, the search warrant was initiated by a "confidential informant" who had been a

customer at the baths. The informant had complained to authorities that what he saw there was "disgusting, vulgar, and sick," or so stated the search warrant.

Esfakis said that one policeman told him that they were reluctant to do the raid, but were forced to by the informant's complaints to higher ups.

Two plainclothes policemen accompanied the informant on at least two visits to the baths, and they wrote a 6-page report on what they saw, most of it centered around the orgy room. Esfakis said the report reads like a bad pornographic book.

"It's obvious that they wrote the report as shockingly

as possible, so that it would read better in court," said Esfakis.

So far there has been no publicity about the raid in the local media. That, said Esfakis, seems to support the police contention that the raid was not carried out with much enthusiasm.

"The police seem to be keeping it very quiet," said Esfakis. "There hasn't been any mention of the raid in the papers."

Club Tampa re-opened for business, minus the orgy room, less than two days after the raid. Attorneys for the Club Baths are handling the cases of all employees and customers who were cited. A court date has been set for May 27.

POLITICS AND POKER

Office of Citizens Complaints Delayed



WAYNE FRIDAY

The Board of Supervisors voted Monday to hold for a week the controversial proposal on the November ballot that would create an Office of Citizen Complaints within the San Francisco Police Department. The plan, sponsored by Harry Britt, was challenged by POA officials Bob Barry and Paul Chignell. Barry complained the POA was not notified that the plan was up for a vote that meeting. A very bitter campaign will continue to be waged this year with all sides being counted on this one... Sideliners wondering who the POA will sue this season. Maybe Louise Renne?

A recently-completed poll conducted by respected San Francisco-based pollster Hugh Schwartz will be released this week; it shows a large undecided vote (59%) in the tough 45th Assembly race in L.A., with Wally Albertson taking 20% of the decided voters and 13% going to her machine-backed opponent Burt Margolin. Gay supporters of Albertson tell me they are now encouraged that



Burton takes it on the chin from SF Chronicle. (Photo: Rink)

proposed Gay rights amendment that would have extended local anti-discrimination laws to Gays... the Bar Ass'n of San Francisco will not endorse a candidate in the June election for Municipal Court Judge — under the by-laws of the Association, a candidate cannot be endorsed unless at least one-third of the members eligible to vote cast their ballots and out of 4615 ballots mailed to eligible members, only 32.5% both



Louise Minnick, a candidate for Democratic Central Committee. (Louise's photo was unavailable last week when we showcased the up-front Gays and Lesbians running for the slots.) (Photo: Rink)

with a little more money and a lot of hard work Wally can pull that one out in the final three weeks, despite the CED maneuverings... Cesar Chavez, boss of the United Farm Workers, will be a guest speaker at the Harvey Milk Gay Demo Club dinner at Moscone Center held in honor of the murdered Supervisor's 52nd birthday... some state Republican leaders are now saying that San Diego Mayor Pete Wilson will probably beat out Barry Goldwater, Jr. for the GOP senatorial nomination; Goldwater's opponents have apparently succeeded in promoting him as an intellectual lightweight, but don't count Goldwater out yet. This column still believes he will be Jerry Brown's November opponent.

Slamming Phil Burton for his artistic reapportionment scheme, the *Chronicle* last week urged the voters to "wipe out" the Burton gerrymander by voting "No" on state propositions 10, 11, and 12.

Probably the less said about it, the better, but voters in Lincoln, Nebraska, last week rejected by a 4-to-1 ratio a

ered to return ballots... should anyone have really been surprised at the witch-hunt being conducted by U.S. Attorney Joseph Russoniello? Surely, some of us must have remembered his political background.

Lots of publicity on the Burton dinner on May 25, but don't forget THE party to celebrate Harvey's birthday — May 22 from noon to sundown on Castro Street, sponsored by the Castro Street Fair Committee... Bill Maher expected to run a big campaign to gain a seat on the Board of Supes... George Deukmejian, stepping up his bitter campaign against Mike Curb, is now comparing the Lt. Governor to Jerry Brown, saying, "Mike's behavior on this issue (the Peripheral Canal) is the same type of thing we have all been criticizing Jerry Brown for — flip-flopping on the issues"... incidentally, Deukmejian supports the Peripheral Canal, while Curb is campaigning against it... Gay Republican activists Kevin Wadsworth and Paul Johnson are running for the GOP County Committee in Solano

(Continued on next page)

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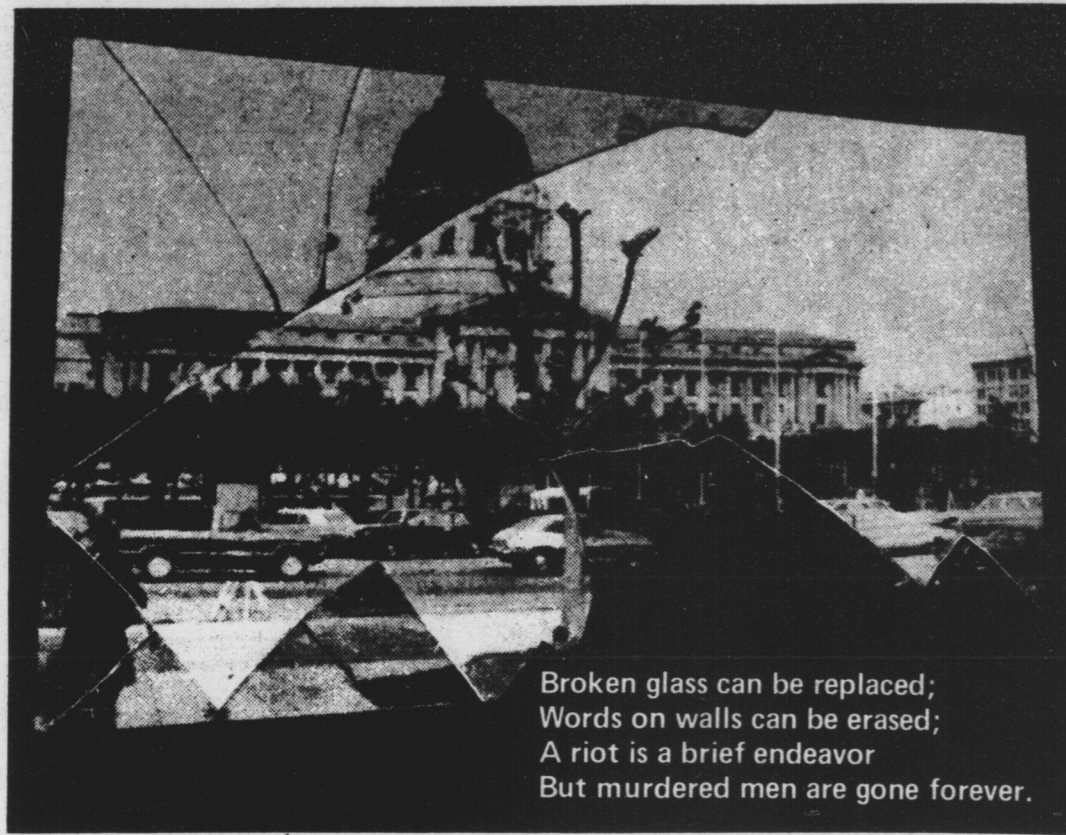
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AMPLE FREE PARKING

Politics & Poker

(Continued from previous page)
County . . . Advocate publisher David Goodstein will celebrate his 50th birthday by chartering a couple of huge yachts and take his friends cruising on the L.A. harbor — the kicker is that he will charge same friends big bucks to join him, with the money going to the new congressional human rights campaign so that there will be money for the campaigns of pro-Gay candidates in the November elections . . . and the Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles (MECLA) has decided to go statewide and intends to conduct a massive direct-mail fundraising campaign throughout California with the intention of extending the boundaries of their endorsements to a statewide political base; Steve Smith, an aide in Willie Brown's L.A. office and a mover at MECLA is slated to head up this latest project.

It was hardly a secret, but Mayor Feinstein and Oakland Mayor Wilson made their pressy endorsement of Tom Bradley for Governor official last week . . . if anyone is qualified to serve on the Board of Equalization, it is John Shimon, the long-time assistant to incumbent George Reilly, and I urge you to vote for Shimon on June 8 . . . and the race for the Demo nomination for Attorney General is getting bitter with both Van de Kamp and Rains going all out for the important Gay vote — frankly, I don't think I'd buy a used car from either of them . . . meanwhile, Assemblyman Dave Stirling, one of the Republicans running for Attorney General, showed up at last week's Concerned Republicans meeting at Sutter's Mill to thank them for their endorsement . . . even Pete McCloskey's opponents see the endorsement last week by the Ku Klux Klan as an attempt to embarrass the peninsula congressman in his senatorial primary race; McClos-

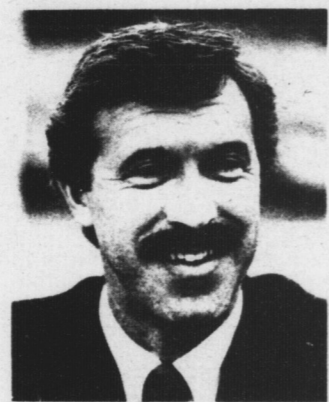


Broken glass can be replaced;
Words on walls can be erased;
A riot is a brief endeavor
But murdered men are gone forever.

Facsimile of logo for May 21st rally. (See story on Page 11)

key said "No thanks" and told them to take their bigotry elsewhere . . . meanwhile, McCloskey's campaign manager, Ron Smith, is trying to raise \$100,000 a week for the next three weeks to provide money for a TV blitz in the Fresno, Bakersfield, San Diego, Modesto, and L.A. markets. McCloskey's backers are certain that they will win if they can pick up a minimum of 5% points before primary day . . . And Jerry Brown has pulled so far ahead of his opponents for the Democratic nomination that a decision has been made to spend not a dime until after the primary.

And still another poll, the Gallup Poll, shows that Ted Kennedy has taken a huge lead over Walter Mondale and Jimmy Carter (you



Dave Stirling

DO remember Carter, don't you?) as the Democrats' top choice for the 1984 presidential nomination . . . Gay and Lesbian friends of Supervisor Louise Renne are holding a \$25 cocktail party tonight to help fund her congressional campaign — 2319 Hyde St.,

6-8pm . . . Quentin Kopp and Gordon Armstrong, the head trial attorney for the Public Defender's office, gave those in attendance a real treat when they went at it before last week's CRIR meeting while debating Proposition 8 (the Victims Bill of Rights measure), and when Sheriff Mike Hennessey, who was speaking in favor of Mayor Feinstein's hand-gun control plan, was asked how many people would voluntarily turn in their hand-guns under the proposed plan, the Sheriff smilingly admitted, "About two" . . . Police Chief Con Murphy will be the guest speaker at the June 7 meeting of the Stonewall Gay Demo Club at the Women's Building at 7:30pm.

Wayne Friday

Marks Gets Heritage Award

Over 400 people watched Senator Milton Marks receive the first annual California Preservation Award at the opening reception of the statewide California Historic Preservation Conference last week. Mayor Lionel Wilson initiated the reception with welcoming remarks at the Oakland City Hall.

Jane Ellison, President of Californians for Preservation Action and Urban Conservation Officer of Pasadena, cited a select few of Senator Marks' contributions to the preservation of California's historical and architectural heritage: "Senator Marks has successfully carried legislation to create a Heritage Task Force," she said, "which will have one year to recommend public policies, programs and legislation to strengthen heritage preservation tools in California."

With the federal government's withdrawal of funds from historic preservation programs, the Heritage Task Force according to its spokesmen will have a timely opportunity to recommend creative ways for the State to encourage preservation of historical properties at little or no cost to the public.

Senator Marks also authored the Marks Historical Rehabilitation Act and the Marks-Foran Residential Rehabilitation Act, which allow local governments to issue revenue bonds for historical and residential rehabilitation. Both of these laws provide low-cost financ-



Larry Hughes, long-time Milton Marks aide. (Photo: Rink)

ing at no direct cost to the public. Senator Marks has been busy in Washington, D.C., to help make sure that bonds for historical and residential rehabilitation do not lose their tax exempt status.

In addition, Senator Marks supported the restoration of the State Capitol, fought efforts to weaken the integrity of the National Register of Historic Places, and voted for the alternative building code for historical buildings.

Californians for Preservation Action was founded in 1976 as a statewide organization with a mandate to encourage public policy and legislation to protect California's architectural, historical and culturally significant properties. In establishing the California Preservation

Award, the organization recognizes outstanding contributions of public officials to heritage preservation in California.

In giving this award to Senator Marks, Ms. Ellison noted that the historic preservation community consists primarily of volunteers and nonprofit organizations. Ms. Ellison added that "Californians for Preservation Action recognized Senator Marks for his dedication to preserving our heritage, especially because his reward will not consist of major campaign contributions but the human rewards which value homes and neighborhoods more than concrete jungles and a sense of our ethnic and cultural past as embodied in the best of our historic sites and architecture."

THE CALDRON

Part III: How the Owners See It

by Gary Pedler

After a little more talk, Jim and I found ourselves discussing the philosophy of the Caldron. "The main idea behind the club is this: people are able to go there and do whatever turns them on, and from the staff and from the management and from the other customers they'll get support and acknowledgment."

"There's a warmth, a sense of connection at the Caldron. I can't say it exists all the time in every square foot of the building, but it is one of our goals to see to it that there's as much of it as possible. The Caldron is meant to be a place where people can be totally open, and free of all judgments and guilts about their sexuality. In a more profound sense, the Caldron isn't even about sex. It's about a way of approaching life. It's about exposing oneself, and about being as honest as possible when trying to answer questions like 'Who am I?' and 'What do I want?' What do I want? Do I want to connect with this man? Shall I take the risk of trying to make contact with this other human being? Many of the customers may think they're just coming to some sleazy glory-hole place. That's fine. Their experiences at the club may have a positive effect on them without their being conscious of what's happening."

The Caldron is licentious not only in the sense of being sexual, but also in the sense of being "licensing"; but were there at least a few things that were not allowed on the premises? "We're not willing to have people in the club who want to seriously hurt others or to be seriously hurt themselves," said Jim. "We won't have people who want to vent their anger on their sex partners. We won't have people who don't sense other people's limits or respect them when made clear. And we won't have people who don't know what they're doing. In this last case, I'm thinking especially of fisting. If a guy is fisting someone and doesn't know what he's doing, the fact becomes very obvious to the person being fisted and to everyone else around, and he's stopped immediately. People get called on their acts very quickly, and they're gotten out of the place either by a member of the staff or simply by the action of group pressure. They don't belong at the Caldron."

"There are other kinds of inappropriate behavior. A sex scene is an energy bubble. One of the unwritten laws of communal sex is that if you aren't wanted in that energy bubble, and you're told so, and you don't comply with those people's wishes, you're being inappropriate. You're being a troll, which has nothing to do with what you look like or how old you are. "Being too loaded is another type of inappropriate behavior. . . . Fairly often, I have to take away a customer's car keys, pay the cabbie cab fare and have him take the poor guy home. I won't have a drunk staggering around in our parking lot where he might get mugged or trying to drive home and maybe having an accident."

There are prohibitions in regard to dress as well. "If people are wearing clothes that they feel inhibited about having sex in, they aren't going to have a good time. The doorman has the job of judging whether or not someone will get down in what he's wearing. If his pants are so nice that it's unlikely he'll kneel on the floor and suck a dick, he'll be informed at the door, 'You don't meet the dress code. You're welcome to come in, but you'll have to check your clothes.' If someone says, 'I feel I'm a little overweight and don't want to run around in there without any clothes on,' or if someone just has come from a dinner at Ernie's and is wearing a fabulous suit — that's fine. They

can check their clothes and we'll dress them up. When people leave jockstraps, jeans, t-shirts behind, I take them home and wash them and bring them back to the club for people to use in situations like these. We want to provide every means possible to ensure that someone who arrives on our doorstep will have a good time."

"We didn't used to be so strict in enforcing the dress code. And someone would come in wearing, for example, a nice sweater. And I wouldn't say anything. And I'd see him walk up to a sex scene, and watch, and not get involved, without even realizing that he wouldn't because he was afraid of getting his sweater dirty. But if I went up to that person and told him that he didn't meet the dress code and that he'd have to check his sweater, and he did, the next thing I'd know, there he'd be slurping up dick like a vacuum cleaner." I asked Jim how he avoided angering people when he laid down the law in this way. "I try to communicate that I'm doing it in order to help the person. 'You'll have a better time if you check your sweater,' is what I'm saying. 'I'm the madam here; trust me.'"

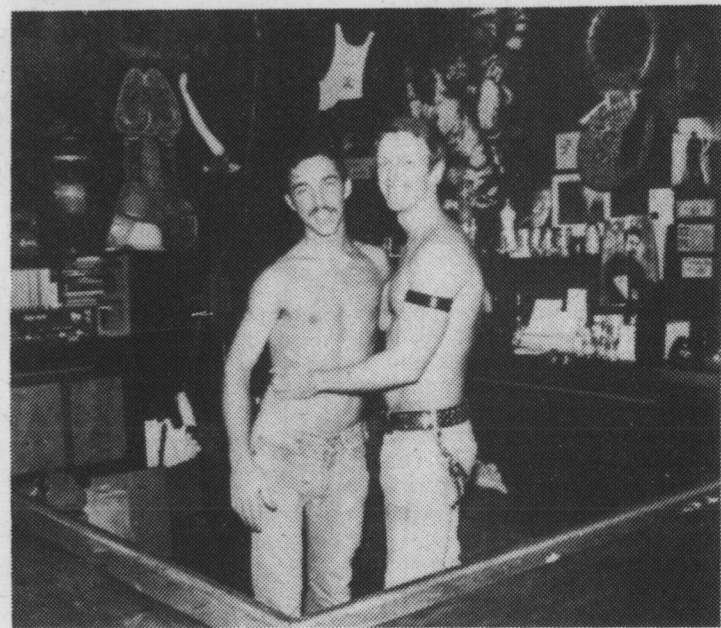
I asked if the attendance of unattractive people is one of the things that's discouraged. "Absolutely not," declared Jim. "Everybody is welcome at the Caldron. Everybody. If someone is upset by the fact that there are old people at the club, or fat people, or long-hairs, or blacks — whatever — and tells me he does not like the situation, I say, 'What's the problem? You don't have to have sex with anyone you don't want to.' Besides, many pretty men are sexually tepid and unimaginative. What they usually get off on is attention, being validated for their looks, not having sex with people."

"Inevitably, some customers are more welcome than others, but usually that's not so much because they're stunners as because they have the courage to go ahead and do what they enjoy doing, be that climbing up on the table and getting fucked, lying in the tub and being pissed on, or whatever. People who lead the way, who encourage others to go crazy. People who help make the party happen. I used to do more of those things myself — do lots of performing, lots of sexual theater. But I've eased up on that. If it feels like I need to do something and I want to, I do it, but since I

have other people to lend a hand with the cheerleading, I don't push myself anymore."

Had he received complaints from people who had caught things at the club? "Before we opened the Caldron, I asked myself, 'how can we make this place in every way possible as fine and as humane and as noble a work as it can be?' I realized that there'd be certain health problems, so I talked to doctors and to other sex-club owners. The people who helped me most, though, were the ones at Easterday Janitorial Supply. I told them what sort of business we'd be running; I'd say things like, 'A lot of Crisco will get on our slings. What will clean the leather without damaging it?' or, 'People are going to be doing watersports. What disinfectant should I use when I clean the place up afterwards?' And they'd have the answers. They're savvy. They supply the Slot, the Hot House."

"Every single surface of the Caldron is sterilized with a hospital disinfectant each day in order to minimize the incidence of diseases like amoebiasis and hepatitis A: diseases that could be picked up from surfaces and substances at the Caldron. One reason we have small cans of Crisco instead of big tubs of it is that it's apparently possible for people to catch amoebiasis from communal Crisco. Unlikely, but possible. Using small cans ensures that any problem will be narrowly confined. We've had no reports of rampant amoebiasis or hepatitis or any other disease of that kind. "The main cause of the



At The Caldron — the hot bartenders. (Photo: Rink)

spread of sexually transmitted diseases is stupid, thoughtless people who know they're sick, but go to some sex palace anyway and screw around because they don't care about their brothers. I think the integrity of the environment that we maintain, the quality of the energy that we hold at the Caldron, keeps those kind of people from coming there. We tend to attract a clientele that is intelligent, mature, responsible."

I remarked, "I take it from a number of things you've said tonight that someone on the staff can't be just an attractive nincompoop. He has to be aware, bright — maybe even wise." "You're absolutely right," Jim returned. "You see, every employee has a job in substance as well as in form. Form is the physical actions he performs and substance is what he does psychologically. The job in form of the man at the door is to see that your membership has not expired, to take your

money, and so on. His job in substance is to make you feel comfortable, welcome. The coat-check man hangs up your coat and hands you a ticket, but he should also give you the feeling that your belongings are safe. The floorman picks up the bottles, puts out toilet paper, and things like that. His job in substance is to make sure that the energy bubbles aren't being encroached upon; that people aren't being forced to do things they don't want to do — just generally to look after the customers while they're actually out there on the floor. The bartender gives you your beer, but he also throws the party and directs the energy. The thing is, someone can do the form of the job well, but not the substance, or the substance, but not the form. One young man I was training threw a fabulous party, but his cash register wouldn't come out straight and his bookkeeping was a

(Continued on next page)

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THE CALDRON

(Continued from previous page)

mess, so I had to take him off bartending.

"The energy demands placed on our employees are enormous," Jim went on to say. "Most of them only work three days a week. If they work more than that, they tend to get sick. So we pay them enough to live on, and live on comfortably, working only three days a week. Also, they get paid vacations and have full medical and dental coverage. The staff is very much involved in policy-making at the Caldron. The way I see it, the Caldron is their club. They're what makes it happen. Hal and I are just their servants in many respects. They tell us what will help them do their jobs well... It's very family. All of the men have become friends of mine — personal friends. When we get off work at six in the morning, we often go out for a drink or have breakfast together. Hal and I paid \$150 a head and took them all to the Mayor's benefit dinner for the Chorus. Most members of the staff have come to study with me; not because I've required them to or even asked them to, but because it's something they've wanted to do. Of course," he smiled, "even the ones who don't study with me formally do study with me in a sense because of the way I run the business."

The staff has come to Jim and Hal through a variety of sources and after occupying a variety of other niches in the work world. "John Riccardi I knew because we're both in the Gay Men's Chorus. Jimmy Levin was a student of mine and used to be an accountant at Levi Strauss, then was on staff with EST, then with MMS (Motivation Management Service) before coming to work at the Caldron. I became friends with John Ponyman when he was working at the Boot Camp. John was a professional actor in New York for fifteen years. Bill Shade I also met in the Chorus, and through Bill, I met Alan McGill. Scott Nowland I met here at the club. John Wilson who does our tapes has recently been taken on as a bartender. He used to work at the Boot Camp, the Elephant Walk, the Eagle. A wonderful man; wonderful."

"Do you ever ask yourself where working at the Caldron is going to lead these men career-wise?" "Yes, I do. I see working at the Caldron as a stage in a journey. It's not the kind of job I see most people making a career out of. Take Bill Shade, for example. He's much too smart and talented to spend the next thirty years of his life in a sex club. He's making good money for a man his age, and he's having a great time. But he's a skilled mechanic, and so I'm encouraging him to set himself up in business. It'll be a



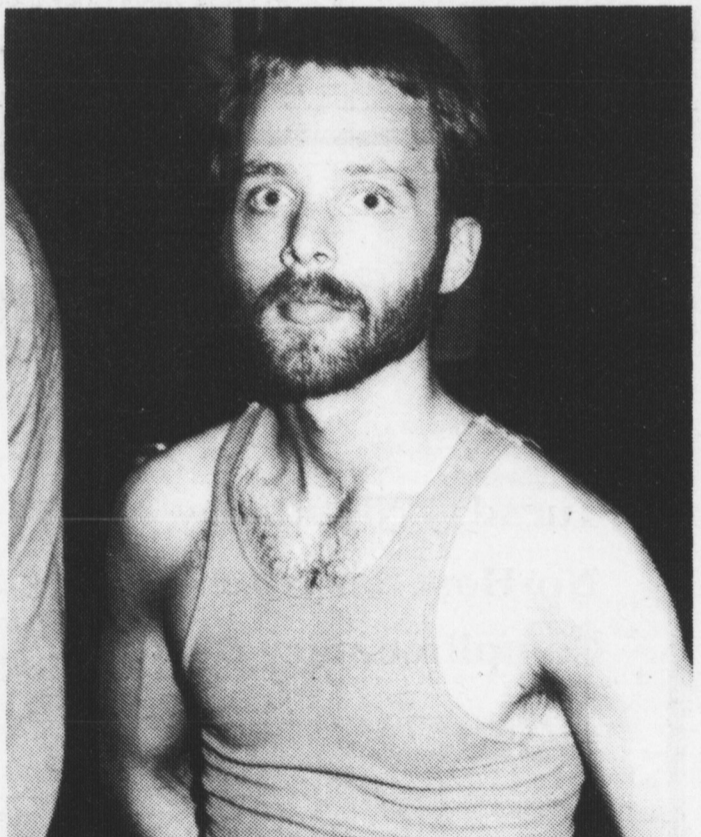
The Caldron Staff (Photo: Rink)

great loss to me if he quits, yet also a great joy, because I'll know that he'll have a form of employment that's much more likely to be his life-work."

I asked, "And what about you? Is the Caldron a last resting place for you?" "I doubt it," replied Jim. "It seems unlikely to me that I'll want to spend the rest of my life running the Caldron. Or maybe the Caldron will tire of life before I tire of it. Because at some point, its day in the sun will be over and it'll be time to close the doors permanently."

Jim Gilman is a very interesting person to speak with and a pleasure to have before one's eyes. I could easily have gone on talking to him for the rest of the evening. But it was well past eight on a Tuesday, and there was something I wanted to do even more than continue our interview, a place I wanted to be even more than his apartment, so I wound down our conversation at this point, thanked him for his hospitality, and took my leave.

Gary Pedler



...and finally, the author — Gary Pedler (Photo: Rink)

GUEST COLUMN

Solidarity Ired at March

by Peter Drucker

An Open Letter to the Lesbian and Gay Focus of All People's Congress:

Solidarity is a group of Lesbian and Gay activists for Lesbian/Gay liberation and we see this as occurring in the context of liberation for all people. For this reason we participated in your march on April 28 from Valencia to Castro Streets. We too oppose the Family Protection Act; we agree that Lesbians and Gay men should join with all the people the FPA attacks in order to defeat it. But we were angry at many of your tactics, which we felt were disrespectful of the Lesbian and Gay community.

We especially objected to marching past various Lesbian and Gay bars yelling, "Out of the bars, into the streets." There are probably times when this chant is called for. This was not one of them. Gay men and Lesbians have fought for years for the right to go to Gay or Lesbian bars without harassment. Bars may not be perfect but they are community institutions that most of us go to and feel a part of. The bars and the people in them are not our enemies. Amelia's, a Lesbian bar, was even flying a banner advertising the march. Yet you made a two-block detour to go by Amelia's and yell that slogan, among other things causing men to disrupt a women's space.

By these tactics you placed the bars in opposition to political activity. This dichotomy does not exist in fact, and should not be kept alive in people's minds.

We also object to the heavy-handed monitoring that went on in this march. We were given chant sheets and monitors yelled chants from these sheets at the demonstrators over bullhorns. We were told the bullhorns were to make sure no unauthorized chants were started. There

has been a tendency at recent APC and other marches to treat the mass of demonstrators as potential enemies who have to be under close control at all times.

But these marches are not military battles. They should be open to all who support the aims of the demonstration. Too often we see crowds of monitors preventing one group or another from being on a march. Some Lesbians were excluded from this march. We know that the politics of the people excluded angered some of the marchers, but monitors should be there to protect marchers, not police them.

Lesbians and Gay men have long been oppressed by this kind of needless regimentation, which detracts from the special colorfulness and joy of our communities. We are not chant-shouting robots. Although we understand that Lesbians and Gay men organized the April 28 march, we felt you acted like straight leftists. You seemed to be trying to prove yourselves to your straight-dominated organization (All People's Congress) and its motivating force (Workers World Party).

This was an informational demonstration that was supposed to be in support of the community, and if it had shown the community support instead of hostility maybe more people in the community would have supported it. We're proud of being Lesbian and Gay leftists and activists and we're proud of the ways we're different from straight people. If the All People's Congress wants to have a Gay focus that Lesbian and Gay people like us can support, you will have to show our communities the respect we deserve.

Solidarity: San Francisco Gay/Lesbian Liberation

CUAV



Quick Hits

Randy Schell

Quick Hits received at CUAV:

Incident #1

Victim was in Haight Ashbury Clinic for services. Two males waiting for services approached victim and told him his vehicle was blocking their vehicle on the street. One of the assailants hit the victim in the shoulder. The victim, sensing further violence, fled behind a medical station. Assailant pursued and hit the victim in the face, broke his nose and fractured his jaw in four places. The victim states that the assailant kept using derogatory statements such as "faggot." Victim was treated and admitted in the hospital and required major surgery.

Incident #2

Victim was walking on Parnassus Street when the #6 Masonic bus passed. As the bus was passing, someone threw a rock from the inside of the bus at the victim. The victim states the rock was

medium sized and would have struck him in the head had he not ducked out of the way. The assailant yelled "faggot" as he threw the rock at the victim.

Incident #3

Victim was in the Castro area and was approached by a Police Officer and was given a citation for "spitting on the sidewalk," 374(b)PC. Victim stated to CUAV that "the sole reason for this citation is anti-Gay harassment." CUAV has been unable to reach this victim to advocate for him and he is requested to call this office at 864-8331 as soon as possible.

Incident #4

Victim was coming home at about 11:30 at night on Beaver Street. Victim was attacked by 3 males; one of them held him in a choke hold until he passed out. Victim was robbed of his wallet, money, a watch and a ring. Reported to the SFPD. Victim states that the Police response was quick and thorough.

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

AN JOSE SANTA CLARA CUPERTINO SUNNYVALE REDWOOD CITY PALO ALTO MONTEREY PLEASANT HILL VALLEJO BERKELEY WALNUT CREEK CAMPBELL FREMONT

OAKLAND

Ethel's Got the Spunk

NEZ PAS

Ethel (born Elmer 60 years ago) was born in Oakland, raised in Sonoma County, and moved back to Oakland in 1950. Work experience includes being a carpenter pre- and post-WWII, a C.B. for three years during WWII, teamster for various dairies for 25 years. Ethel retired in 1977, boasting three daughters and one son, and three grandchildren (with one on the way!).

Nez: What was life like as a man, to you?

Ethel: Just like any other man, I guess. I did, however, like to wear women's clothes, and my wife helped pick them out for me. We led a regular heterosexual lifestyle at that time. In those days, the term "transvestite" wasn't even heard of!

Nez: How long have you felt a need to change your sex?

Ethel: Since I was about five years old. When I was in grade school, I had a chum named Ethel, and I knew that someday I would change my name to that. I knew I wasn't happy the way I was. My wife and I talked it over for a long time. For us both to be happy, we agreed on a divorce. We are now considered sisters. For years I wondered why I was so unhappy, and could never or would never talk to anyone about it in any depth. One day I decided the only way to happiness was to meet and talk to someone about my feelings. I stayed for awhile in Concord with a successful operation and her husband. Through her I got female hormones and contacted a clinic in Hollywood. The owner took me by the hand and took me down the path of happiness. I am a woman who works as an apartment house manager, who is respected by everyone she knows, and would never think of turning back if it were possible.

Nez: How has life been as a female?

Ethel: Absolutely beautiful! I have a feeling that people understand, accept, and believe in me more now. I just wish I had done it in 1944... but if I had, I would have been thrown in jail! Christine



Ethel was treated royally at her Revol birthday party — she doesn't wear a tiara daily!

Jorgensen had a lot of influence on me because of her successful surgery... yes, a definite influence.

Nez: Have you had any regrets?

Ethel: None whatsoever.

absolutely none! I consider myself lucky, because I only had to see a psychiatrist once during the preliminary interview, but that was the only time. It's a state law or a doctor will not accept you. Now you have to live as a woman for only one year. When I started, it was three years, with one of them spent working as a woman.

My brothers and sister disowned me, but to my children and grandchildren I am Aunt Ethel. To my ex-wife I'm a sister. So I've been accepted pretty good. My friends have been beautiful and society has



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(Continued on next page)



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OAKLAND

(Continued from previous page)

Nez: Did you consider yourself a homosexual as a man?

Ethel: NO! I wasn't a homosexual! I was a man who wanted women. It wasn't until I started taking the female hormones that I wanted a man... that was back in 1972.

Nez: Do you consider yourself a homosexual now?

Nez: Put it this way... I was married to a woman for 25 years. Medical science changed my body, not my mind, so it stands to reason that I have desires for both men and women. I have not been to bed with a woman since the operation... and it's none of your business if I've been to bed with a man since!

Nez: Since you are now a woman... why go to Gay bars?

Ethel: I guess I must consider myself a bisexual, because at the very first Gay bar I ever went to (Berry's) I was so totally accepted, so understood, I was accepted as myself. Perhaps it was my E.S.P.

Nez: E.S.P.?

Ethel: Ethel's Superior Personality! In a Gay bar I've found that everyone is friendly and will talk.

Nez: Anyone seen proof of the operation?

Ethel: Only my doctor... **Nez**

no one else, and they ain't going to! I have many straight and Gay friends, as represented at my 60th birthday party, and if I ever had a doubt, that night proved everything right. I shall remember that night the rest of my life. I have friends in Oakland... known them for 35 to 40 years... who have totally accepted me as Ethel. If you treat people right, no matter what, they will reciprocate. I'm living proof of that.

I consider myself part of the Gay community; I am the Imperial Grandmother of the City of Oakland... for life. I don't think Ethel could have become Ethel as easily as she did had it not been for Gay bars. Most transsexuals aren't accepted by Gays, but they helped me over the hurdles that a sex change demands, by accepting and by being friendly. I feel privileged to be part of the community.

Nez: Thank you, Ethel.

★ ★ ★

Here's clue #2 in the Nez Buys Dinner for the Winner Contest:

Think geometric in your quest, Choose only one and forget the rest;

Don't look near water, nor towards the sky, When you find it, you'll know why!

Til next time, keep the drinks coming, Ethel! ■

Lesbian/Gay Video Festival

On Saturday, June 12th, Frameline will present the 1982 San Francisco International Lesbian/Gay Video Festival at the Roxie Cinema in San Francisco using the full-screen Aqua-Star video projection system. The Festival will be presented in three programs at 7 PM, 9:30 PM and midnight.

The festival will present works of video artists representing San Francisco and several other U.S. cities as well as several foreign countries.

Works to be included in the Festival offer a wide range of video artistry by Lesbians and

Gay men. **M-A-S-S** by Bruce Pavlov is a modern mystery in which the viewer plays private eye, finding clues in every shot. **Gay Is Out** by Horses, Inc. (Chicago) is a witty examination of images and stereotypes of gays and can be viewed as a parody of San Francisco's own unique culture. **Ghetto Girls**, a TV (transvestite) video musical by San Francisco's John Canaly and Marty Monroe, will be presented in a special midnight program.

For more information and complete Festival schedule contact: FRAMELINE, P.O. Box 14792, San Francisco, CA 94114 (415) 861-5245.

SAN JOSE: FROM THE ROSEGARDEN Leathers As A Flag

Tom Rogers

With the excitement of the Mr. Leather International Contest behind them, San Jose's leather community is once again drowned out with the beat of disco and the shrieks of eligibles for glittering crowns.

Happily, the Bootrack is maintaining its Thursday night tribute to leathermen, and the Watergarden has announced that Thursday night is its leather night also.

A tour of Stockton Avenue last Saturday night, however, left me with the sinking feeling that the leather community put its gear in mothballs. It's as if we sped up long enough to participate in the "fast lane" action of the contest in Chicago, then hit the off-ramp as soon as it was over.

I had one leatherman tell me he doesn't wear his leather out to the bars down here because "we all know each other" (referring to those men who are into leather).

Needless to say, I was filled with consternation. I wear my leathers because I like wearing them. They feel good and look great. I like looking at guys who wear leather. They look great and feel good, long term friends or not.

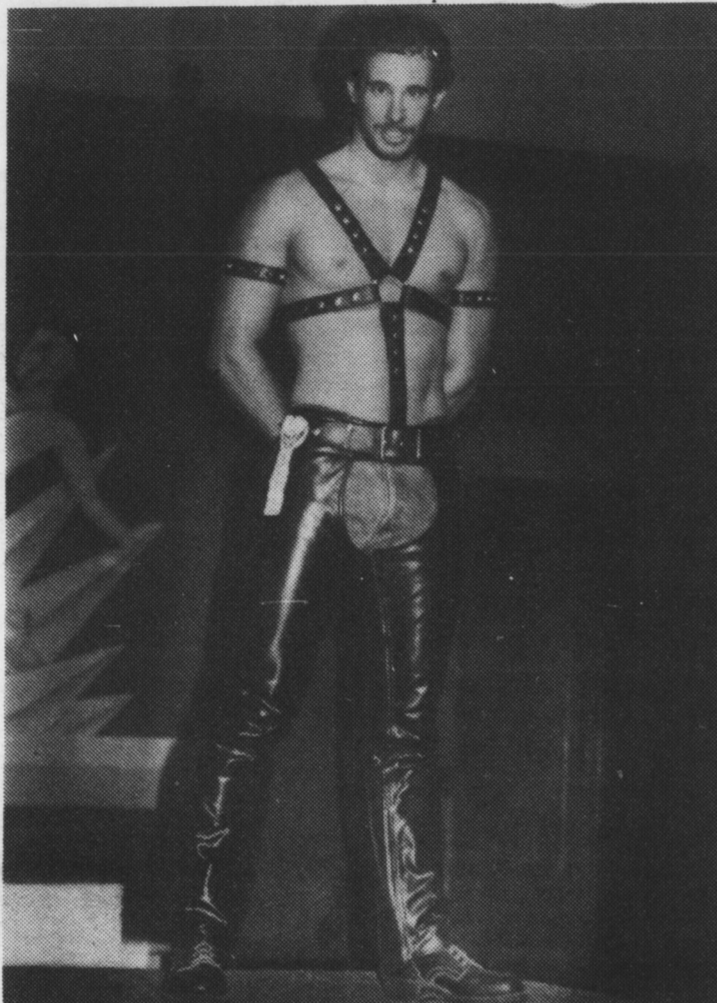
Anybody (and Saturday night that included everybody on Stockton except Mr. San Jose Leather and me) can look like Mr. Joe Average. If you practice being Mr. Joe Average long enough, you become a perfect Mr. Joe Average.

If you show off your imagination, though, you'd be surprised at how much positive attention it'll create. If you present style often enough and long enough, someone else is going to want to do it better.

When that happens, heat is generated. With enough heat, energy is created. Energy, style and imagination are what make San Franciscans such delicious experiences.

For years, the only people in the San Jose Gay community who have consistently shown any interest in energy, style and imagination have been those vying for Gay royal titles. The participants in those contests have brought that part of the local Gay community together.

The Mr. San Jose Leather Contest was a flag for guys who aren't into lace and rhinestones. It was an announcement that there is room on the billboards for the leather alternative.



Eric Staal, San Jose's Mr. Leather, did well at the Mr. International Leather contest in Chicago, where he placed among the 25 semifinalists. (Photo: Robert Pruzan)

Two of the winners in the San Jose contest have indicated an interest in promoting a leather club "as long as it's real." (The third winner has not been contacted as of this writing.)

The group (only five strong so far) is seeking input from other leathermen on how to make next year's leather contest something more than just another flag. (There's also room on the calendar for some fun.)

Interested men should contact one of the winners of the Mr. San Jose Leather Contest or me at the Bootrack on Thursday night (about 8:30pm), May 27. (Check with the bartender if you don't know any of us. We'll make sure he knows who we are.) There will be a report on this group's success.

STANFORD GAY WEEK

Ten years ago (I was there), the Leland Stanford Junior University was confronted with an idea that was not easily hidden away in the stacks of the library then housed in Hoover tower.

The Gay Peoples Union (as it was then called) secured permission to occupy a tiny, out-of-the-way office on campus.

BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

TAGE SCREEN SHOWS ROCK OPERA INTERVIEWS BOOKS MUSIC THE ARTS STAGE SCREEN SHOWS ROCK OPERA INTERVIEWS BOOKS MUSIC THE ARTS STAGE SCREEN

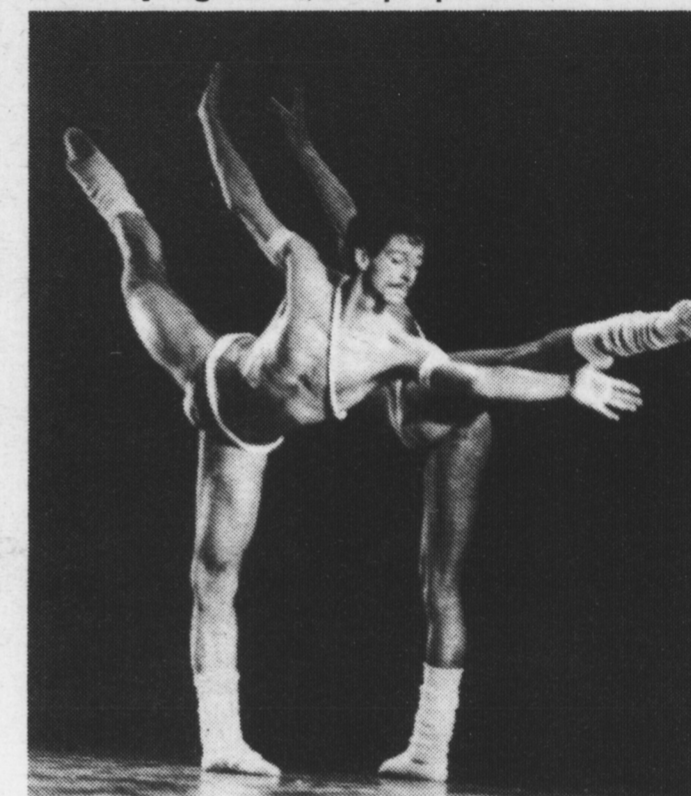
Rites of Spring Gay Dancing Comes Out

by Keith White

Rites of Spring could have happened only in San Francisco. I can't think of any other city where Gay male dancers could even be organized for a cooperative evening like this, where they would want to appear, or where a sizable audience would support such an endeavor. Golden Gate Performing Arts, the organization which supports our two Gay choruses, took an ambitious, giant step to present an evening of Gay men dancing, something I've been waiting for with curiosity and trepidation, wondering who these dancers might be, how talented they would be, and how Gay their dancing would be. **Rites of Spring** was organized to present — all on one program — ten Gay dance companies and soloists whose styles run a gamut from ballet to folk to ethnic to modern to tap dancing and back. The wonderful result was a feast of seriously talented performers in the most inspiring experience of Gay dancing I have had outside of a handful of disco evenings when the energy turned communal and lifted us to an almost spiritual affirmation of our freedom, love for each other, and the dream of unity. All along the amazing extent of territory that **Rites of Spring** covered, that spirit prevailed.

The program was necessarily long, but thoughtfully arranged. It opened with the **Raymoki Polynesia Island Dancers**, six husky men performing an aggressive battle dance using six-foot long poles ("Chopping to Pieces the Sea Dragon"). If there was a collective expectation in the audience of how our program of Gay men's dance would begin, it was certainly a shock to witness this war-like ethnic dance (talk about masculine!) punctuated with battle cries and faces sneering with hostility. But in the course of dances the Raymoki dancers performed, a number of other expressions emerged, including a duet of courtship and desire, a "genital" hula (I won't describe it — you'll have to see them) and a display of New Zealand fire ball dancing. These men were marvelous in their exotic costumes, crackling with humor when the dances became more suggestive, and dispelling any misconception we might have had that Gay dancing was going to be effeminate.

Underscoring that point, the second performer was **Bob Murphy**, a very muscular solo modern dancer whose controlled, protracted movement is also singularly masculine. Bob usually performs almost nude (as did a number of the dancers on this program) and when I have seen him dance in his studio, the close physicality of his large movement and large body in a small space was at times disconcerting. On the larger stage of the Nourse Auditorium, with room enough for him to broaden his movement to the limit, watching it from a greater distance, I had a revelation that I was seeing him dance for the first time, the distance allow-



Christopher Parashis and Joe Poltrone, dancing Randall Krivonic's DOLPHINS, defused the erotic component by the beauty of their movement. (Photo: Tony Plewik)

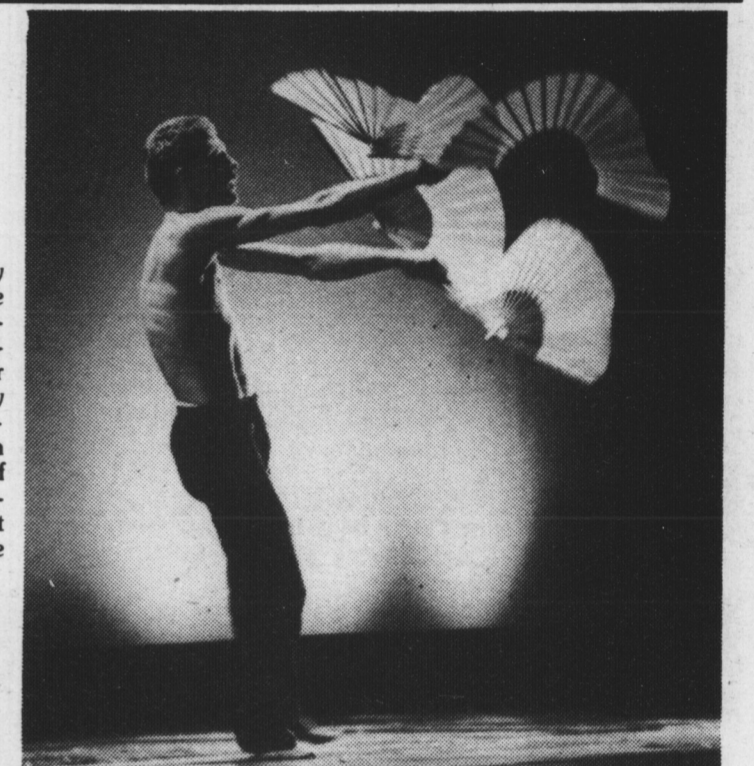
ing me to perceive the structure of his dances. Murphy's power and weight, seen from this perspective, are magnificent to behold.

An array of ethnic styles kept appearing during the evening. **Al Fellahin Belly Dancers** gave three different types of dances, explaining in a program note that due to the Islam restriction of female dancing in public, the practice during the nineteenth century was for young men to perform these dances, preserving a form that most of us think of as strictly a woman's art. The opening Moroccan **Tray Dance** was a convoluted belly dance balancing a loaded tray on the head throughout. There followed another solo

dance with finger cymbals and the undulating abdominal movement that fascinates me so, and then a "social" dance for three boys — all in those wonderful, huge pants and short tight jackets.

Cruz Luna performed Flamenco, accompanied by guitarist Augustino Quintero, with assured virtuosity, bringing the house down more than once. His is another very dynamic stage presence, reeking of authenticity. However limited our sophistication may be with regard to these ethnic forms, one received a clear sense of the discipline and pride these men bring to their arts, sparing nothing in terms of costuming and showmanship. Some of the dances seemed to have little to do with Gayness, per se, sometimes because they were meant to express something other than sexuality, and often because the fascination of the art itself transcended sexuality.

The **Barbary Coast Cloggers** is a group of men who do Appalachian folk dancing (it looks like square dancing but involves much more activity from the waist down while perhaps more contained from the waist up). A possible parallel could be drawn between them and the Raymoki dancers, since in both cases, the dancing has an unmistakably masculine look, yet I gather



"Perhaps the most original and Gayest way of moving there is" — Bret Locquemont in the moody fan dance he performed to Patti Labelle's recording of "Over the Rainbow." (Photo: Tony Plewik)

that both types of dance usually include women. Here it seemed very natural to see only men on stage. The Cloggers look very good-natured and huggable, and as though they're having an awfully good time, particularly when their patterns and formations get complicated. Nothing seems to delight them so much as a near-miss when the lines cross through each other or break into pairs.

The traditional theatrical dancing — ballet, modern dance, and tap — had me apprehensive, wondering how the usually rigid male/female polarities that are so familiar to American audiences, Gay or otherwise, would be handled in works danced only by men. In ballet particularly, training usually stresses one set of esthetics for male dancers and another for females. Additionally, ballet partnering is based in the fact that the ballerina is light enough to be lifted and, to a degree, manipulated by her male partner. Only once had I seen a truly fulfilling — technically and emotionally — pas de deux for two men (Vicente Nebrada's **Gemini** for New York's now defunct Harkness Ballet). But then, ballet is in the closet, padlocked (as Falcon Dance Theater Artistic Director Randall Krivonic noted in the program), and it was hard to imagine what the purposeful inbreeding of a company of Gay male dancers would yield.

(Continued on next page)



... a celebration of their Gay identity, heritage, and talent. (Photo: Tony Plewik)

Beasties in Barroom

Love Among the Mewlings

by Roland Ledtke

Have you ever been to a Pet Show at a Gay bar?

The SANTA ROSA INN held their 1st Annual Pet Show on Sunday, May 2, along with a BBQ on their patio in sunny Sonoma County.

A variety of animals were entered besides dogs and cats. No prior show experience was necessary and the entrance fee of \$1 entitled pets to qualify for the final judging.

The big hits of the show were a 26-year old parrot named Casanova with the vocabulary of a drunken sailor; and Gabriel, a llama who offered rides to the patrons.

Entertainment was spontaneously provided by the participating animals. Mike (a dachshund) chased Agnes (the house cat) up a tree; two

dogs fell in love, and the parrot cussed the customers. Free puppies and kittens also found new homes.

Judging was by class, and of course in the opinion of the judges all the entrants had class, so to the surprise of their owners, every pet entered won a blue ribbon reading "1st Prize, Best of Breed, First Annual Santa Rosa Inn Pet Show, 1982"

The Inn, well known for its charitable functions and unusual contests have recently presented Christmas, Valentine's and St. Patrick's Day concerts by the **Sonoma Singers**, the north bays new mixed Gay choir; Mr. & Ms. Sonoma County Cowboy/Cowgirl and Mr. & Ms. Gay Sonoma contests. They also have a live production called **The American Dream** coming up in June. What will they think of next?

From that meager beginning, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford (GLAS) has grown to the point that it now occupies a much larger office space and this year, to commemorate its tenth anniversary on campus, threw a very successful week-long celebration of Gay Awareness that began May 7 with a concert featuring San Francisco's Gay Men's Chorus. Several hundred people attended the dozen or so events held during the week.

The planning, preparation and style it took to pull that together, all in the face of so-called moralist opposition, sets the Gay community at the forefront of the fight for personal freedom.

Saratoga Picnic

The Tinkers Damn has announced their 11th Annual Guys and Gals Together picnic at Saratoga Springs on Sunday, June 6. Gates will open at 10am and a steak barbecue will be served from 1 to 4pm. There will be door prizes, games, swimming, and a dance contest. Tickets at the bar are \$12; at the gate, \$14. Info: (408) 243-4595.

New Women's Bar

The Top Hat, located at 717 El Camino Real in Redwood City, has opened as a Lesbian bar. Their number is (408) 365-2382.



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Rites of Spring

(Continued from previous page)

extensions I couldn't help thinking of New York City Ballet's Suzanne Farrell.

A modern dance by Hassan Al Falak with Ron January was also a very beautiful duet, more earthy than the ballet duets, and brimming with joy (it was set to the Laura Nyro and Labelle version of "The Bells"). A trio by Ron January, for himself, Falak and Steve Faringhy, was more erotic but less successful, having too blurred a focus visually and musically.

Joseph Nobles choreographed a delicate, bird-like solo in celebration of Spring — the only performer who directly related his dance to the theme of the evening.

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence presented their tribute to Terpsichore, **A Midsummer Night's Scream**. Need I say how mad it was, with everything imaginable (and some things unimaginable) going on, the stage a profusion of disparate set pieces and small electrical appliances plugged into heavy extension cables? Go, girls! Living theater. I will always remember the final bow taken by Sister Chanel 2001, staggering onto the stage in a habit of silver sequins — some gorgeous drag queen.

Falcon Dance Theater performed Krivonic's **Disturbance in the Clone Zone** — a trio of clones in pointe shoes (this was one of the runaway hits of the evening), butching it up for their bows then dropping the attitude like yesterday's paper to *falli* and *Jete* into the wings, ballerinas to the core. Another duet by Krivonic, **Vena Cava**, danced by Antonio Mendes and Steven Wallace, was good, too, containing more lifts and tighter partnering. Mendes is another dancer with beautiful feet and line — very stretchy. Partnering is a problem not fully surmounted by Falcon Dance Theater (men are heavy) but they're moving in the right direction. Technically, the only shortcoming I see in the Falcon men is a good

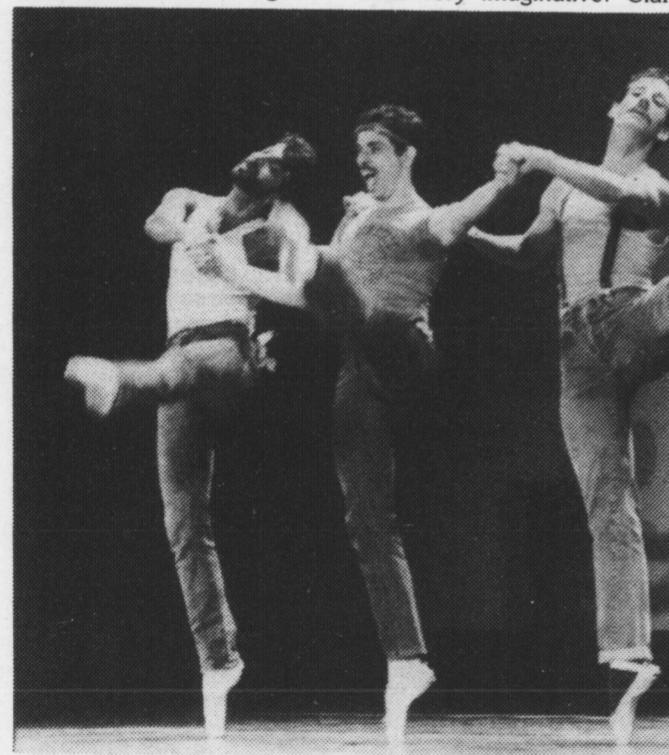


The Raymoki Polynesian Island Dancers raised eyebrows with an indescribable "Genital Hula." These Islanders glory in their masculinity. (Photo: Tony Plewik)

deal of tension held in the upper body — for all the inner stretch they have from the waist down — so that their arms, which are intentionally fligid anyway, tend to get angular and jerky as the steps become strenuous. This is correctible, if they focus on it in a company class, and continue to perform. The potential of Randall Krivonic as a choreographer and director dazzled me with every one of his works, and he was, incidentally, the artistic director of the **entire evening** — quite a coup. He's articulate, creative, a talented dancer himself, very attractive, and obviously organized, having gathered this group of dancers with unusual and wonderful gifts, recognizing the gifts of dancers unlike himself and giving them plenty of space on his program.

Randall Krivonic's solo, **Aspects of Jasmine** is a poignant and difficult dance, contemplative, suggestive, dreamlike. In choreographing for himself, Krivonic is fairly self-indulgent, looking as though he's given himself lots of the things he likes best to do. He later did a leather Black Swan pas de deux with a leather man partner (Ed Stark). It was South of Market Petipa, **VERY CAMPY** — an audience favorite. Joe Poltrone made himself a solo called "Superman 3" — also very campy, but more subtle, and very imaginative. Clark

I had hoped that a fan dance would be included on the program, since this form of expression, nurtured in our discos, may be the most original and Gayest way of moving there in. It's a San Francisco phenomenon — not being done in New York when I left, and the use of fans as extensions of the body's own movement is as wonderful a device as I know of. Bret Lacquement of Falcon (who has arrested my attention on a number of dance floors around town, with or without fans — the boy can DANCE!) gave a wistful, quiet solo, showing us, during the second half of it (using a modest four fans), his remarkably poetic control with that medium. Again, the audience went crazy. "And," as Rael Lamb said to me during intermission, "all this for a quarter!" It was a full evening for a small ticket price, and the richness of it is characteristic for me of what makes San Francisco "mecca," our diversity, our pride.



Clones on Pointe! Randall Krivonic (center) choreographed a frolicsome satire, **DISTURBANCE IN THE CLONE ZONE**, which he danced with Chris Parashis (left) and Joe Poltrone. La, how gay! (Photo: Tony Plewik)

Play Deadline

The deadline for submission of applications for the Bay Area Playwrights Festival V is May 25. All applications and inquiries should be sent to Playwrights Unltd., P.O. Box 704, San Anselmo, CA 94960; tel: 381-3311

Meet the Author

The **Sunny Side of Castro Street**, a *Diary of Sorts* is the personal story of Dan Vojir. He left a Chicago suburb and found life and love on Castro Street. His book tells of those experiences. Vojir will be present at an autograph party on Saturday, May 22 from 1 to 3 PM at the Walt Whitman Bookstore, 2319 Market.

New Musicals

B.A.R. writer Dan Turner exposes his composing talents this Sunday, May 23. Turner and playwright Daniel Curzon will present excerpts from their Gay musicals **Comeback and No Mince Pies** at 9:30am at the Unitarian Church, Franklin & Geary, as entertainment for the Gay and Lesbian Caucus meeting.

STAGE

Technicolor Dreamcoat

A Skimpy T-Shirt

by Mark Topkin

On the surface, it's hard to fault **Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**, the latest Webber-Rice musical (*Evita*, *J.C. Superstar*) to reach San Francisco. Throughout its brief running time (1½ hours, including intermission) I found myself delightedly entertained: bouyed, fluffed, tickled and amused. The trouble came about two hours later when I had to stop and think where I'd been earlier that evening. Alas, **Joseph** had come and gone faster than a quick trick on a summer Sunday afternoon. Residual pleasures were nil, and I began to wonder if the old Chinese food adage could be applied to Broadway musicals these days.

Maybe my expectations are too high: maybe I want more than the medium can offer these days. **Joseph** is, after all, a likeable show with a sound cast headed by ador-

able, well-sung Michael Crouch in the title role and Sharon Brown as the soulful narrator. The male chorus (Joseph has eleven brothers) is an eye-ful—attractive and energetic—as is the physical production with Karl Eigsti's pyramid sets and Judith Dolan's colorful costumes. Webber's score is playful pastiche: part rock, part soul, part calypso, C&W, French cabaret and plain old Broadway schmaltz. Tim Rice's lyrics that does leave one free to enjoy director Tony Tanner's next anachronistic surprise.

But where, after all, is the substance? Is there a moral to this retelling of the biblical tale of daddy's favorite son sold into slavery by his jealous brothers only to rise to favored status as second-in-command to Egypt's Pharaoh? No. No lesson comes forth. Is there innovation to stir the creative juices and

slake a thirst for originality and newness? No. There's slick showmanship and stage competence but no stunning stirrings. Is there superstar quality spectacle? No. Not from Joseph, his brothers or even Michael Speero's Presleyesque Pharaoh, witty as he is.

The truth is, **Joseph** has no substance. In fact, the show is a case of the whole being less than the sum of its parts. It's not the fault of the medium; last year's Sweeney Todd still haunts me to this day. Maybe it's the economy; who needs depth in a depression? Or maybe I'm the only one who thinks that sixteen-dollar an hour entertainment (that's the breakdown for a \$24 orchestra seat) should stay with me longer than the walk to the bus stop. I'm glad I saw **Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**. I'm also glad I didn't pay for it. Caveat emptor.

Hot Ice
Avowedly Crass

by Bartlett Naylor

Playwright Charles Ludlam and the boys and girls of **Hot Ice** (now at Theatre Rhinoceros) want very badly to have a good time. They want the audience to laugh and have resorted to nearly every device imaginable to tickle the funnybone.

In a parody of the James Cagney film **White Heat** the cast and crew crack one-liners, screw around with stage effects, screw around with each other using every sexual combination and permutation, and in the end, screw around with the audience. But **Hot Ice** is frozen on the idea that if you push hard and long enough, you can force out comedy. And you can, though the laughs may be guffaws and not deep rushing pleasure.

The story concerns a battle between euthanasia proponents and advocates of immortality via cryogenics. (Rather arcane for a play hinged on superficial pranks.)

If you're familiar with Lud-



"We'd better get this body frozen before brain damage sets in," says Doctor Jerry Zientara of patient Andrea Mezumsky, as Elliot Singer and Marc Kraft assist. The show is **HOT ICE**.

lam's work and come prepared with low standards for orthodox stage comedy, the 90-minute show is worth some laughs. The parodies are rough-hewn, but there is humor in the stumbling. The exaggerated motions will hold interest and at points, you'll be forced into a chuckle or two.

Despite the seeming lack of care for thespian standards, Randy Hurst as Buck Armstrong, Elliott Singer as transvestite Bunny Beswick, Mary Kraft and Karl Mayo are at home with their parts and

fun. Tim Montana's musical accompaniment is downright good.

As a production, **Hot Ice** is avowedly crass. Some disappointing prejudices about female genitalia are displayed, but it's difficult to discuss boundaries when the intentions of Ludlam and director Buzz Bense are at hand.

In the end, the play dissolves into self-indulgence. With all the frivolity, it becomes clear that the cast is having a better time than the audience.

Another Part of the Forest
Wicked Fun

by John F. Karr

"Ibsen was an important part of my moral development," the man in front of me said. I agreed, adding that a lot of the time Ibsen wrote good theatre too. The same is true of Lillian Helman's **The Little Foxes**. Its melodramatic theatrics and urgent moral tone have made it a classic, and also made viewers clamor for another visit with the Giddens clan who populate the piece. Seven years after writing it, Helman obliged with **Another Part of the Forest**, actually a prequel. It shows what happened 20 years before **The Little Foxes**.

In its current revival, the ACT cast is acting the hell out of it. There's a manic glee in their performances, and the

lengthy, convoluted story hurtles by with a velocity that had an opening night audience trembling with excitement.

A lot of the fun is foreknowledge. When Regina crosses her beau at the start of Act One and swears, "Oh, I'm never going to be nasty again," we get a hearty laugh, for we know exactly what's coming. Her maliciousness is adorable. Regina gets away with murder — figuratively at this point — and giggles about it. She'll pay the price later.

The message is still there — a touch on women's rights, the tangent information on child raising and greed.

But it's the conniving and plotting that propel this play.

Father tells his own son, "You're a very ugly man," and then, in the midst of his own downfall takes time out from the hair-raising proceedings to ridicule his other son.

It's the funniest wickedness I've seen. ACT's excellent production and the full-scale acting from an excellent cast match the grand guignol plot to make **Another Part of the Forest** a mouthwateringly bloodthirsty evening. It's scary and grand fun!

Gay Comedy

Every Monday night at 8:30pm Carol Roberts and Tom Ammiano co-host "Gay Open Mike Comedy Night" at the Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia Street, near 18th, \$2. Come watch and laugh, or come perform! Virgin comedians, living room comedians and professional comedians welcome. Comedy in a supportive, sophisticated atmosphere (Valencia Rose was once a funeral parlor).

... it's Vojir's ordinariness (and his willingness to reveal it, even celebrate it) that is the book's appeal... Steven Saylor, *The Sentinel*.

Dan has a superficial but agreeable way of informing the reader about Gay San Francisco life... Frank J. Howell, *B.A.R.*

Dan Vojir, author of **THE SUNNY SIDE OF CASTRO STREET** will be autographing at Walt Whitman Books 2319 Market Street (near Noe) Saturday, May 22, 1-3 p.m.

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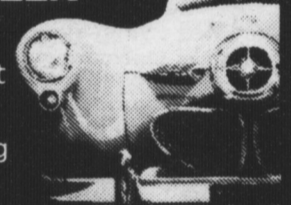
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DIVA

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The Recent Round-Up

RUTH HASTINGS

Even the Plush Room piano, which is beginning to sound like Ms. Kitty's nickelodeon, couldn't disguise the excellence of Barry Lloyd's playing and the cleverness of his arrangements for Ruth Hastings' *Brel/Piaf* evening. Sounding the evening's theme, he intertwined "Hymn L'Amour" with "If We Only Have Love" and provided one of the few overtures I've heard that was enjoyable on its own.

Craig Jessup looks Aznavour-sexy in his black shirt and sweater, the sleeves pushed frenchly up to the elbow. I've been critical of Jessup before, but in this program he's doing his finest work to date.

And what a fine performance from Ruth. I believe the best she's given. She's capitalized on the festive, upbeat nature of Piaf, something all the morbid Piaf graverobbers have missed. Piaf's greatest strength, after all (and next to her talent), was her joy in life, in romance, even her joy in sorrow. Ruth's version of Piaf is no imitation or impersonation. She matches Piaf by lavishing her own exuberant life force over some astoundingly

good material. Even the serious sections are life-embracing, and the surge of Ruth's singing coupled with this feeling make for a triumphant evening.

Like Piaf, Ruth becomes completely involved within the inner life of a song. She is also maturing as an artist, relying less on the external shock value of her chest range and more on her innate talents. Her "Cry of the Heart" is restrained at first, stunning. And when she cries, "C'mon, get hip, Milord! And let life rip, Milord!" we know what this show — and Ruth's music making — is about: Let Life Rip — and the devil take the rest!

At the Plush Room through May 29; a don't miss.

SHARON McNIGHT

Despite a sound system that turned her finely pointed work to mush, Sharon McNight worked two capacity audiences at the Galleria to a fever pitch on Mother's Day. She used to be such a fixture of the Gay entertainment scene — she won the Best Entertainer award so regularly that a special "in perpetuity"

category had to be created — that her popularity is frustrating; she's out of town far too much!

But she knows where home is, and proved it by offering her best, including an emotional and lovely ballad she found in England, "Be Mine" by Peter Skellern. This demonstrated her growth as a singer, for such a ballad exposes technique yet was sung in pure, musical fashion.

Louise Renne and Richard Hongisto, both friends of the Gay community, joined with us to welcome Sharon back, with a proclamation of welcome from the Mayor!

The evening was typified by the new gospel-based coda Sharon has devised for the morose "Pearl's a Singer." This turned the song from introspection to a rousing celebration. A new Sophie Tucker tune helped, too. It's "Cross-Eyed Papa." ("I've got a cross-eyed papa, but he sure looks straight to me.")

Although this was a one-night gig, Sharon will do two concerts at the Russian River, May 29 and 30 (one cabaret and one country), and promises more for her home-town after that.

KEVIN ROSS

I don't think Dolly Parton is as poured into her clothes as Kevin Ross. He sure looks sharp in a pair of pants. If it's matinee idol you want, Kevin Ross is your man. He's ma-



Ruth Hastings — appearing at the Plush Room.

ture, handsome to the eye, and pleasing to the ear.

He's junked his old routine and "modernized." He's got two pretty back-up singers, an overly loud band, with synthesizer, two guitars and drums and a top 40 repertoire. This includes tunes from Al Jarreau, Quincy Jones, and Boz Scaggs.

I caught the group's premiere performance, and allowing for bugs and the confines of Our Kitchen (which is not really the place for this sort of group), found it a nice lounge act. The girls sang off key, one brightly focused and sharp, the other with a wide vibrato that covered several tones. The band was a little heavy-handed, but they'll loosen up.

Kevin's blue eyes light up his face. His manner invokes instant trust. Sooner or later he'll plug into exactly what to do with these qualities. At present, with a batch of generally undistinguished tunes by fellows who've written better, Kevin isn't connecting. Although he offers a pleasant hour, he's like AM radio; the urge to switch stations to find something that connects might give you itchy fingers.

Kay Granger is new in town and she'll do a one-night showcase at the Plush Room on Monday, May 31, before further engagements in June. Her bright soprano touches blues, show tunes, from climactic "Birth of the Blues" to an operatic "Summertime."

to get by with junk food. The zits which exploded on cue were a stiff reminder of how painful and embarrassing acne can be.

BLACK AND WHITE FOR DAYS

Across the plaza the Met was reviving another early Verdi opera, *I Vespri Siciliani*, in Josef Svoboda's stark production. The first time around Gil Wechsler's lighting is brilliant, evoking the glaring Mediterranean sun. Repeated viewings, I'm afraid, would make it relentless.

The Met, however, had solid musical reserves to fall back upon. James Levine's conducting galvanized the score, inspiring the musicians to put their best feet forward. Pablo Elvira's Monforte was stunning — etching his arias with the grace and phrasing which comes from a supreme stylist. As Arrigo, Wieslaw

(Continued on Page 27)

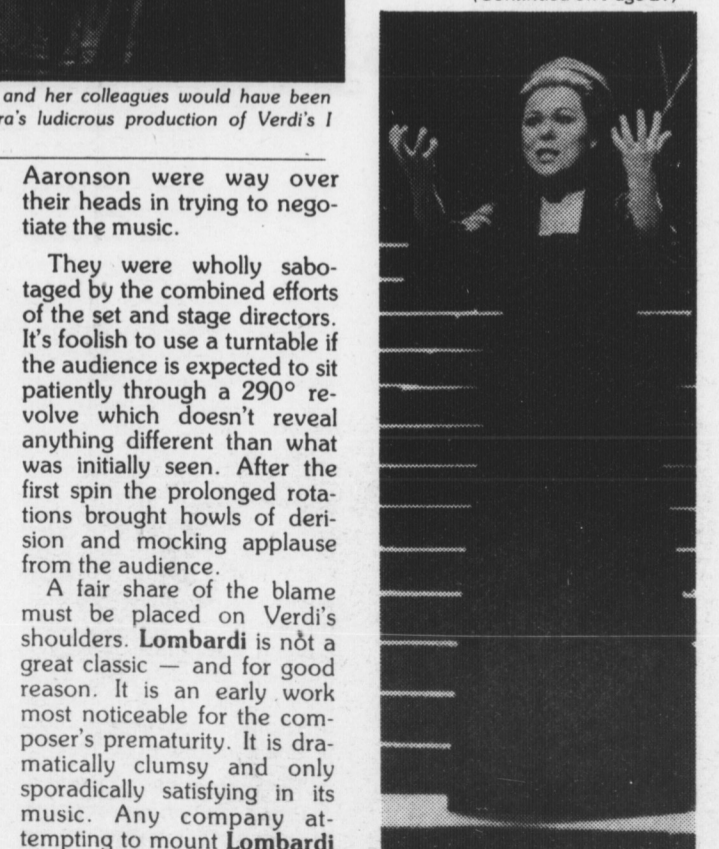


"Abandon Ship!" Ashley Putnam and her colleagues would have been better off to bow out of City Opera's ludicrous production of Verdi's *I LOMBARDI*.

SPIN ON IT, SISTER

When the City Opera's revival last month of Verdi's *I Lombardi Alla Prima Crociata* lacked the vocal power to cover up for Mario Vanarelli's fearfully ludicrous sets, Gilbert Hemsley, Jr.'s pre-rheostat lighting, and Cynthia Auerbach's blithering stage concepts, the City Opera had something akin to an audience revolt on its hands. It's the first time I've seen the lighting, scenic and stage directors get booed by the entire house on opening night.

A fair share of the blame must be placed on Verdi's shoulders. *Lombardi* is not a great classic — and for good reason. It is an early work most noticeable for the composer's prematurity. It is dramatically clumsy and only sporadically satisfying in its music. Any company attempting to mount *Lombardi* has got to put stiffer ingredients into the pot unless it wants to be laughed off the stage. City Opera attempted



A rebel with a cause, Elena (Renata Scott) in Verdi's *I VESPRE SICILIANI* at the Met.

FILM CLIPS

Diva

MICHAEL LASKY

Hocus Pocus Opus

Diva has critics around the country jumping out of their seats with praise. Director Jean-Jacque Beineix is being touted as a French Wunderkind, an Orson Welles of the New Wave set. Don't be misled by this pseudointellectual verbiage. *Diva* doesn't deliver.

Ostensibly the film is a comedy thriller. Other than a few sight gags the humor is noticeably missing and the thrills only come if you completely suspend credibility.

The convoluted story has mailman Frederic Andrei infatuated with the voice of opera singer Wilhelmina Wiggins Fernandez (how's that for an international name?). She refuses to make commercial recordings, so Frederic tapes her during a performance. Two Taiwanese businessmen notice this and want the tape to make pirate records. Confusing matters are a tell-all prostitute who's spilled the beans on a criminal mastermind police chief on a

tape which she has dropped in the mailman's satchel. So everybody is after the letter-carrier.

At no time does any of this make sense. There are so many ridiculous coincidences that we tire of saying "Oh, c'mon already!" Only the smashing cinematography sweeps us along like dust in the wind.

To top it all off, the quirky film is based on the supposition that the opera star is fabulous. She's only so-so. So why all the fuss about her, about the tape of her voice, and about this movie?

The Atomic Cafe

BOMBastic

by Michael Lasky

There's no narration in *The Atomic Cafe*, a welcome change from the standard documentary style. Instead filmmakers Kevin Rafferty, Jayne Loader, and Pierce Rafferty have assembled rare-

ly seen government and military propaganda from movies, TV, radio, cartoons and other sources. Allow each to be its own prosecutor and jury.

The humor is black because it is all true—combining lunatic footage of soldiers running to ground zero minutes after a Nevada A-test detonation, and a cartoon that instructs schoolkids to "duck and cover" in an atomic blast (as if a sweater over your head would give you more than adequate protection), with cross cutting to the victims of atom bombs in Japan and on South sea atoll test sites.

But the acerbic humor of these "nothing-to-worry-about" lies cannot sustain this one joke movie for its 88 minute length. We get the message in the first ten minutes. This is, however, our history — our heritage — and we shudder at the revelation that our once trusted government lied to us so heavily. Laughter at our early gullibility increases our cynicism now, and *The Atomic Cafe* is certainly more fuel to the fire—even if a bit BOMBastic. (The Surf)

Film Clips
continued on Page 28

BOOK RACK

A Strong Case For Lesbian Motherhood

Rocking the Cradle: Lesbian Mothers: A Challenge in Family Living
Gillian E. Hanscombe and Jackie Forster
Alyson Publications; \$5.95 paperback
by Sue Zemel

On Mother's Day I didn't send a copy of Alyson Publications' newest release, *Rocking the Cradle*, to my mother, who tactfully announces that she has a headache everytime I attempt to discuss with her to possibility of my having a child by donor insemination. I thought about it though.

Written by two British lesbian feminists, Gillian E. Hanscombe and Jackie Forster, this important book is about lesbian mothers, their children, lovers, friends, and families. One of the most comprehensive examinations of the complex subject of /Lesbian motherhood I have read to date, *Rocking the Cradle* covers a range of topics including the social and personal aspects of lesbian motherhood, the implications and practice of donor insemination, and the continuing legal struggles around child custody that Lesbian mothers everywhere still face.

Hanscombe and Forster traveled throughout England and Wales interviewing Lesbian mothers and members of their families. The open-ended conversations which comprise much of the copy reflect a wide diversity of experiences—all of which support the authors' thesis that "the very existence of Lesbian mothers shows clearly that motherhood is a peculiarly female phenomenon which has no natural dependence on a heterosexual lifestyle."

The Lesbian mothers who shared their stories with Hanscombe and Forster live in a variety of different circumstances. Some are still married, some are divorced or separated from their husbands, and some never married at all. Some women live with a Lesbian lover and children, whereas others live alone with their children or in larger households that include other adults.

Apart from the different kinds of relationships within these families, there were also regional and class differences, and differences in race and religion. The women's political views ranged from Marxist to conservative, from feminist to anti-feminist.



Jackie Forster (left) and Gillian E. Hanscombe, co-authors of *Rocking the Cradle: Lesbian Mothers, A Challenge in Family Living*.

students, farmers, nurses, a computer operator, a waitress, a civil servant, an architect, a t.v. technician, a photographer, a cashier, and a singer.

"There were in short, no ideas, circumstances, experiences which all these women have in common except that they are mothers. And that they are Lesbians," the authors write in the book's preface.

Rocking the Cradle makes a strong case for the compatibility of Lesbian sexuality and motherhood, providing substantial evidence that the children of Lesbians are as sexually and emotionally well-adjusted as children raised by heterosexual parent(s).

"I don't feel adversely affected that Mum and Dad have split up or that Mum is Gay and living with Miriam," says Sue, an eighteen-year old who has a Lesbian lover with whom she's lived for two years. "I've gained from all that by being in a position to understand feelings and emotions from my straight father, sister, and brother and their reactions to me. I'm more open to more things because of my set-up and Mum's set-up."

The National Gay Task Force estimates that between 1,430,000 and 2,200,000 Lesbians are mothers, Hanscombe and Forster, using material from members of Lesbian families, in addition to collecting available information from social science researchers, clinical psychologists, and legal experts, thoroughly explore the dynamics and the difficulties of forming viable alternatives to the nuclear family.

"The idea of family will be radically re-thought and redefined in a more logical way," the authors predict, "so that the blood bonds and sexual relationships—the present characteristics of the family—will give way other characteristics which are primarily social, for example, the shared, voluntary commitment to a dwelling and a lifestyle. A group of people who choose each other, that is will constitute a family."

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SPORTS SECTION

UPDATE '82 OLYMPICS

They're Off and Running

TOM WADDELL, M.D.

Jon Roberson leaves San Francisco in a van this coming Saturday. He'll be gone for three months, driving the northern route across the United States and back. He'll be in New York City for a celebration at Stonewall Tavern (now a bagel store) on Christopher Street on June 13. That will be the start of the Gay Olympic Games National Torch Run, which will see hundreds of Gay women and men carrying the flame from coast to coast.

The van will be carrying some 500 butane cartridges and a special torch: 1,000 "I Bought A Mile" buttons; souvenir maps of the torch run; a huge banner to be signed by all the runners; information sheets, and applications for competitors. The entire run has been neatly planned and its significance will impact on the nature of the Gay Olympic Games: a link to Gay communities all across this country.

After the New York celebration, Jon and the first runners will go through the Lincoln Tunnel and proceed to Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Pittsburgh, Columbus, Toledo, South Bend (get ready, Irish), Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison, Minneapolis, Des Moines, Omaha, Lincoln, Boulder, Denver, Salt Lake City, Reno, Tahoe, Sacramento, and on in to SAN FRANCISCO.

On Saturday, August 22, Jon, the van, and the final torch bearers will cross the Golden Gate Bridge. You can be sure we'll be ready with a fitting welcome. And please, help us support it by "buying a mile." We'll be selling buttons around the city.

Speaking of running, if you were near the Twin Peaks on Sunday morning, May 2, you may have seen a small group of runners in their jogging suits. They were the women's and men's San Francisco Track and Field Club which will be vying for positions on the San Francisco Gay Olympic Team. Coaches Joel Irvine and Marcia Veale arranged the event as a fun run and solicited the team members to get pledges for so much a mile. Yours truly was running for \$26 a mile, and seven miles later I had run up a total of \$182.

After the run (and it was fun), we had amassed a grand total of \$1402, enough to cover our entry fee and buy the equipment we need.

The individual San Francisco teams, as you may or may not know, are autonomous from the Gay Olympics Organizing Committee. It must be this way since all the teams from other cities are having to raise their own funds for uniforms, equipment, and the heavy burden of travel expenses. The Australian team, for example, must raise \$1100 per individual to put them on the field at Kezar on August 28. Since many of the teams have not yet had their final trials, they're doing their fundraising independently. After the teams have been finalized it would serve them well to do it jointly.

One problem in acquiring sponsors is that the rules of the Gay Olympics are emphatic about no advertising on any of the uniforms. This is an important rule to adhere to since advertising would create terrific competition among sponsors with an emphasis on sponsoring a "winning team," would confuse officials who need to be able to identify players by city only; would destroy any consistency among the teams which need to coalesce as a homogeneous "city" representative. Some teams would do well and others, depending on their strength, would fare poorly. We need to do this thing TOGETHER as a city and not as a series of little fiefdoms.

Tickets for Opening Day and Closing Day Ceremonies can now be ordered. The seats will go by section, with the front sections going to the earliest orders (open seating in each section). Price is \$15 for Opening and \$15 for Closing, or \$25 for a combination. Tickets for the sports events will go on sale in late June and will be nominal (\$2-\$3).

Our new sponsor for the week is Jaguar Book Store (thanks, Ron). The "Fruita Fair" Bingo Extravaganza was a fun success. Many have asked to have another, and thanks to Other Ways for their co-sponsorship; they were a pleasure to work with (thanks to Bob Jerome and Rich Carlini). Sara Lewinstein's 50's Sock Hop at her Artemis Cafe was a blast for the Olympic Bowling Team and the Flag Corps, thanks to beautiful Sara and Chula.

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TGWEDNESDAYNBL

The Night of the Pilsners

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

At last, life has been breathed into teams 13 and 14. All hail the Mint and Bottoms Up (the former is an excellent place to do the latter).

There now remains only one team on the TGMNBL without a title, and we are waiting with bated breath for that last anonymous team to identify itself.

Now that we know who we are, or are not, whichever the case may be, let's look at what has been happening on the lanes at Park Bowl.

First off, the number of teams vying for the first 3 positions has dramatically decreased from nine, on May 3, to six, on May 10.

In addition, the Pilsner 3, Eagle Creek, and Pilsner 1 each won all three of their games on the 10th. This put the Pilsner 3 ahead of its nearest rivals, the second placed Pilsner 2 and Another Country (both with a tremendous 10-5 W/L ratio), by a game.

Meantime, the magnificent Eagle Creek, the formidable Fixers, and the spectacular Maintain are all poised in the #3 position, just waiting for enough room to move forward (don't push!).

Ken Sexton, of the Pilsner 1 team, is carrying the highest average of the season, an amazing 182. (3 games?)

Foghorn! What are you doing down there? You can do better than that. Are you sandbagging?

There were only four 200+ games bowled on the night of the 10th, and you guessed it, three of them were executed by Pilsner team members. Take a gander at these high achievers. Dennis Singleton (P2)... 255 (165 avg.); Tom Dungey (P1)... 213; Larry Reh (AC)... 203; and Clint Royce (P2)... 201.

Outstanding accomplishments, you guys.

Yes, on the night of the 10th, the Pilsner teams sent out a very clear message. Did you get it?

Frontrunners Compete in Marathon

by Tex Ritter

A group of 19 enterprising runners representing Frontrunners recently travelled north to Humboldt county to participate in the "Avenue of the Giants Marathon" through the National Redwood Forest. The team took over a lodge in Miranda, CA for the marathon weekend. The festivities commenced with pre-run work-ups on Saturday, May 1st, and a carbohydrate-lad spaghetti dinner planned and executed by Dave Fieger, social director of Frontrunners.

Nineteen Frontrunners began the 26.2 mile run on Sunday, May 2nd. 18 members completed the race (one runner completed a half-marathon) and Frontrunner Michael Graves finished in the top 20 competitors with a time of 2:35 (2 hours, 35 minutes), for a run average of less than 6 minutes per mile for the entire 26.2 miles. This is Michael's personal best and a great time for his 3rd marathon. Two other Frontrunners completed the marathon in

less than three hours: Peter Franks (his 7th marathon) finished in 2:54 and Steve Gatlin (his 2nd marathon) finished in 2:58. Commendable times all.

Another accomplished runner is Bob Plantz, a 43 year old master runner who completed this, his 10th marathon, in a time of 3:16.

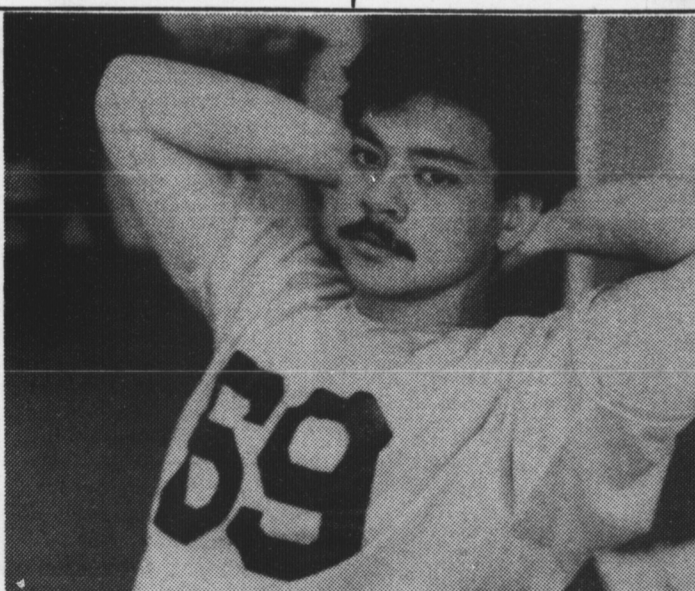
Other Frontrunners completing the marathon included Larry Bartolomei, Gerry Coffey, Jose Contreras, Dave Fieger, Dennis Hicks, Stoner Lichty, Bert Lock, Peter Middendorf (Frontrunner president), Edd Powell, Eduardo Recarte, Bruce Rudy, Tex Ritter, Alan Weaver and Jay Richards (1/2 marathon).

Frontrunners is a group of non-competitive Gay and Lesbian runners and their runs are free and open to all Gay, Lesbian and non-Gay runners. For more information call Tex Ritter 285-4418 or Steve Scholl 587-1893.

Women's Float

The 1982 theme of the Bay Area Women's Float Committee entry to the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade is "Break The Chains That Bind Us." This theme was chosen to emphasize that women/Lesbians are still being oppressed and that we continue to work towards equality.

Construction will begin shortly. We are still in need of a garage to rent, someone with recording equipment to help make the music tape, a driver for a 27-foot long truck, and graphic artists. If you can help with the float or fundraisers, please call Chris at 922-2840, evenings or weekends.



Justin Dardis is coordinator of the Gay Olympic Games physique competition. (Photo by Rink)

G.S.L. UPDATE

Favorites Frolic

TOM VINDEED

After the upsets of last week, form prevailed in the fourth week in most cases.

Mark Warlick's Fickle Fox boys proved that they are serious threats in the Barbary Coast Division as they stunned Cafe San Marcos 15-8. Led by Frank Poles' three-run homer and John Montanez's brilliant fielding, the Fox raised their record to 3-1. Art Jackson's awesome arsenal unloaded on The Vagabond 23-3 to stay atop the Barbary Coast Division.

Tom Sherks Stallion kept pace with a 20-0 thrashing of On The Mark/Stables. Bert Farber and Bruce Ann held the opposition to two meaningless hits. Paul Coke's Wreck Room (Sacramento) made quick work of Bob Doca's Tara/Devis 20-0 led by an outstanding effort by Doc Bufkin.

In the Golden Gate Division the Pilsner Inn showed that their win over the Wreck Room was no fluke as they manhandled Moby Dick's error prone crew 21-4. Bobby Colon and Ken Sexton paced a slugging Pilsner group, and once again Bob De Tullio and Pat Conlon pitched nearly flawless ball. Bob Weaver's Parking Lot team came back from a 9-8 deficit in the fifth inning to down The Kokpit 16-9.

Congratulations to The Pendulum Pirates on their victory over the C.S.L. All Stars. They have done the G.S.L. proud. Also, congratulations to the C.S.L. on a fine opening day.

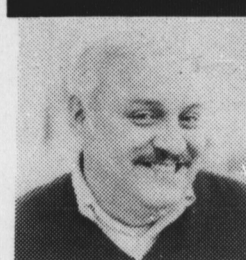
STANDINGS

Barbary Coast Division	
Pendulum	4-0
Stallion	3-0
Fickle Fox	3-1
Wreck Room	3-1
Parking Lot	2-2
Moby Dick	1-2
Phone Booth	0-3
Golden Gate Division	
Pilsner Inn	3-1
On The Mark/Stables	2-2
Vagabond	1-2
Cafe San Marcos	1-3
Kokpit	1-3
Tara/Devis	0-4

BAY AREA REPORTER BOB'S BAZAAR

BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT X-RATED BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT X-RATED BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT X-RATED BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT X-RATED BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT

MR. MARCUS



Here & There with Drags & Stags

SOUTHERN SCANDALS

After a rewarding visit to Detroit and Chicago, it's great to be back home in Mecca where life in the fast lane is always on GO. Last weekend, some 1500 dudes had interludes on the premises of the Russian River Lodge where Jim Moss & Fred Leahy staged their Bivouac II party for those who are inclined to the para-military lifestyle. The booze flowed in abundance, and despite troubles with the sound system and electricity, Bivouac II was deemed a success. The inimitable Sylvester was the surprise entertainment much to the delight of the crowd. The next morning, the bodies laying all over the place looked like the scene in *Gone With The Wind* after the siege of Atlanta. I think I spotted Chris Winkle, 1st

shiny gowns (all except one who chose a bathing suit!). In the end, the judges picked diminutive Boyd Smiddy as the 10th Closet Ball Queen (sponsored by the Line-Up & Leticia's) to reign for the next year with Eric Bell the 1st runner-up, Chuck Enfinger of Sutter's Mill as the 2nd runner-up and Jim Sharp as the 3rd runner-up. Doug Allen won "Miss Congeniality" and the timing of the whole show was excellent. The appreciative audience gave the vivacious Pat Montclair a standing ovation in his home-again debut. A fun night, indeed.

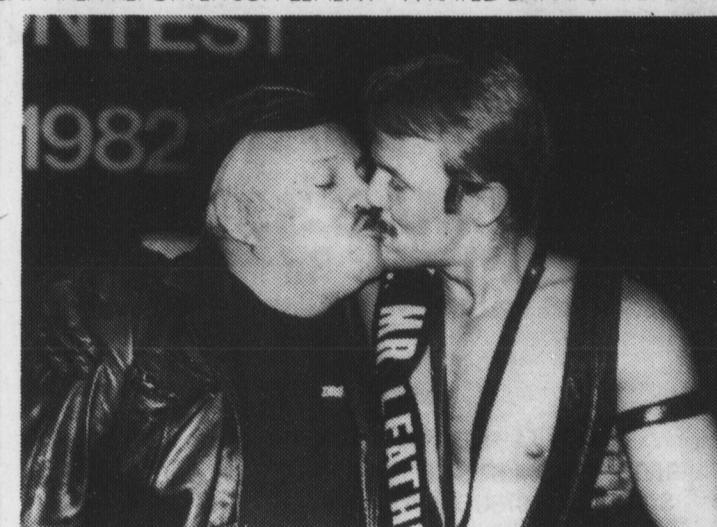
I've received dozens of calls and letters regarding the inflammatory column by Bill Mandel in the *SF Examiner*

of the Gay community, these deprecating articles are a boring display of ignorance. My thanks to all of you who sent me the clipping — for those writers of trash, I certainly hope ignorance is bliss — to me it's quite gauche.

MARCUS THE MERCILESS

Wondering whatever happened to David Nelson, the wonder boy of the defunct Black & Blue? He's currently honcho-ing a leather/western disco in Palm Springs named THE SUNDANCE. You can tell David decorated the place — there's a giant cowboy boot suspended above the

(Continued on next page)



The judge's perk — head judge Mr. Marcus mashes noses with winner Daniels. (Photo: Robert Pruzan)

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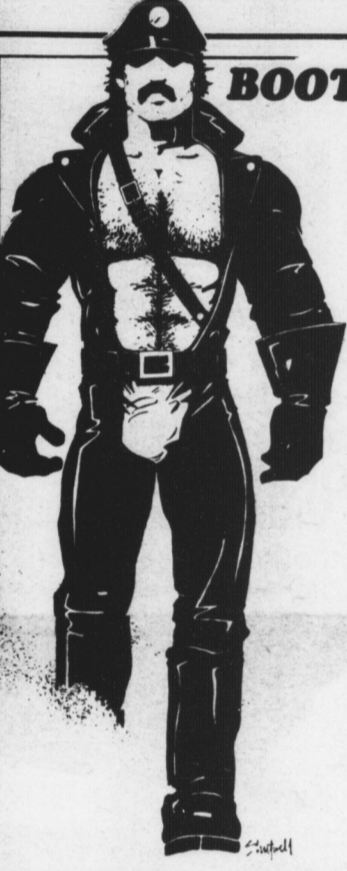
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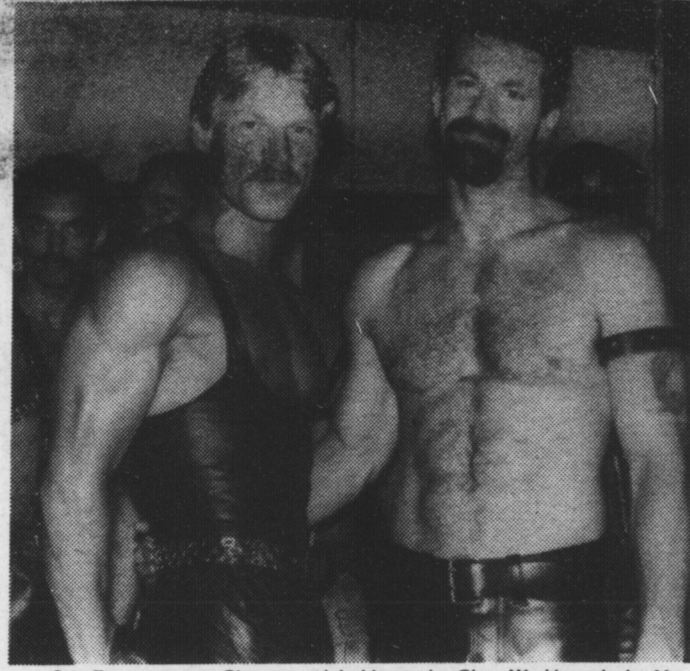
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MR. MARCUS
(Continued from previous page)

dance floor and it's covered with mirrored pieces of glass in the disco ball fashion; while you're there, you might consider bunking in at LOST WORLD, a hotel complex with FIVE swimming pools, tennis courts, stables, bars, a disco, and a restaurant and billed as the most superb GAY vacation resort in California. Despite the weather, there's a new leather bar in the area, too. It's called THE ROCKS (formerly the Party Room) and gaining in popularity with everyone who visits.

Watch for the new 1982 Silver Star San Francisco Map Guide, a well put-together item that is a very thorough (even Patty Hearst's hideouts are pinpointed) way to steer your out-of-town friends to the RIGHT places. Only \$3 a copy. If you can't find it in your favorite book store, order it from P.O. Box 667, SF 94101. Remember those new HIM vitamins I told you about a few weeks ago? They're available at the Ambush, Taylor of SF (in the Ramrod) and at MR. S on 7th Street.

The toes and sox fetish group, FOOT FRATERNITY, are planning their 2nd Annual Convention in June (the 12th) at a location not yet named, so mark your toenails (no paint, please) for this event. . . . Tonight the STABLES are celebrating their 1st Anniversary (already!) through Sunday with all sorts of events including a tribute to their artists' shows all year, a buffet on Saturday evening, and a tribute to the bike clubs on Sunday. Much success to them in the future and congratulations! . . . Also belated birthday greetings to Patrick Batt, the Head Honcho at DRUMMER, who celebrated his 36th last Sunday eve with a suave soiree on Twin Peaks, an amiable gathering of men and superb entertainment by Mario. . . . The Oedipus M/C of L.A. announce their 20th Annual GRECIAN GAMES bike run on Memorial Day weekend to Camp Kessab; write to them at P.O. Box 451, Hollywood 90028 for more details.



San Franciscans in Chicago: titleholder-to-be Chris Winkle with the Hot House's Mike Leber. Robert van Assen of Folsom Magazine is just behind Chris. (Photo: Robert Pruzan)

POCKETFUL OF KNOWTS
Hank Trout, long a contributing writer to such leathery tomes as *Drummer*, and its imitators, is launching a Guide Book for the TRUE



Reunion in Chi: 'Drummer' mag manager Pat Batt used to work for contest coordinator Chuck Renslow, of Chicago's Gold Coast. (Photo: Robert Pruzan)

leatherman to be called LEATHER, SAN FRANCISCO, a concise pointer to all things of interest to leather men and including the great fiction of Hank and other writers in the genre. The whole project sounds exciting, so watch for it coming soon. . . . THE 15 ASSOCIATION is holding their big SCENE 10 on Sunday, May 30, the tariff being \$20. Write them at 220 9th St., #15, SF 94103, for your application or call 468-5669.

Frank Hatfield is the new Ad Manager for DRUMMER, replacing Karl Stewart who is now a freelance producer of whatever you want produced (his words). . . . The slots are going FAST for the AMBUSH run (the only bar run in the state) the weekend of June 4-6, the fee being \$55 and an experience you'll long remember. . . . Enroute to Gabon (Africa), David Kloss, Mr. Leather #1, flashes that leather is alive and well in PARIS, the main places being LE SLING at 10 rue de Perche, Paris 3e, and the MANHATTAN at 8 rue des Anglais — that boy DOES get around; a provocative poster from LE SLING will be seen all around Folsom as soon as I get them — it'll blow you away!

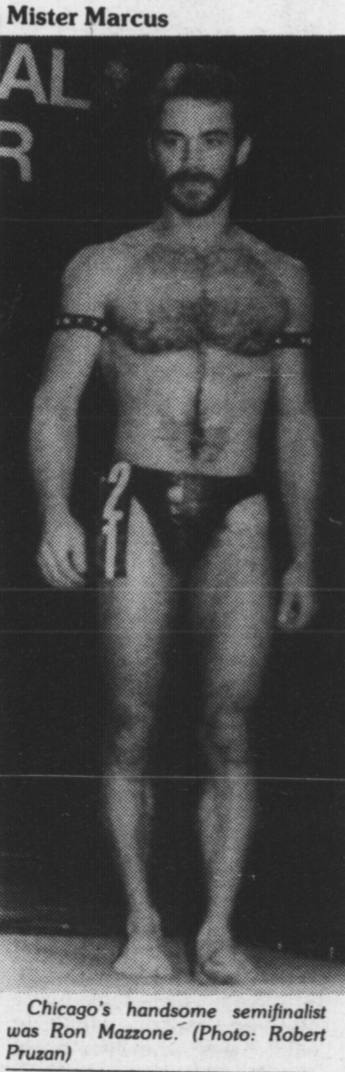
Olin Sanders at the PILSNER INN will show his collection of home movies there on Monday, May 24, beginning at 9pm with shots from A Cheap Affair (John Yantis should see THAT one), the Royal Reception, Tricycle Race '81, and other titillating

clips — don't ignore this one! . . . Big body building party, MUSCLE 82 coming your way on July 24 — more details later from Terry Photo and billed as the Jock Event of the Year. . . . And this Saturday, the San Franciscans M/C are having a NEW MOON Barbeque at the SF-Eagle for only \$5 and all the BUD(S) you can drink.

A photo exhibit of new work by Steven Savage can be seen until June 13 at Centertspace, 2840 Mariposa.

This is Savage's third annual show at Centertspace, and the 45 black-and-white images reflect his continued interest in the nature of motion as represented by the still photograph. These new pictures focus on the motions of men—men working, running, dancing, some nude, some clothed, but all engaged in some characteristically male gesture or step. The title for the new show is **Men Dancing**.

★ ★ ★
Good to be back. Learned one thing, being a tourist is a trip, for tourists are people who seek different places but are disappointed when they are not the same. Thank God, San Francisco never changes. See you all around the campus!



SWEETLIPS SEZ
Sweet Lips in a Sidecar



Earlier in the evening the smiling person at the right was Boyd. With the help of Nina, left, he underwent the transformation from Boyd to the state you see here, which won him 1st prize and a title at this year's Closet Ball. Nina and Boyd celebrate their victory with Leticia at her popular restaurant on Market Street at a party after the Ball. (Photo: Rink)

Well, Frieda, under the pinball machine at the Nothing Special is as good a place as any to sleep. . . . but why wouldn't the cab driver drive you home alone? He insisted that someone else come along and then was kind enough to drive him back to the bar for free!

BY GEORGE! — a great pet grooming and bathing spot at 2979A 21st Street. . . . you'll like the work they do on your pet.

The Fickle Fox has a new family. The Castle

Grand, and I understand that they take over May 26. . . . we all wish you good luck on your new venture, Roy.

What an evening at the Closet Ball! It seemed as if the entire town was there. . . . even David (Mame) Hamilton flew in from Portland. The Tap Troupe was really a delight. Sorry that you didn't win, Chuck of Sutter's Mill, but you did come in the running and you looked great, especially using your own hair and not a wig. Never saw so many red shirts in one corner



With glamour befitting her title, Empress Mae glittered at the Closet Ball. (Photo: Rink)

TESSI TURA (from p. 22)
Ochman presented a forceful hero (his voice much stronger than I had recalled). Ruggero Raimondi's Procida was a model of Verdian style and resonance.

The most pleasant surprise was Renata Scott's Elena. This has not been a particularly rewarding season for Scott's fans (she could probably shatter more glassware than Julie Andrews). But Scott's fanatic stranglehold on the way to present Verdi's music is her strong point.

When her upper register can barely support the more ferocious moments in the score she goes at it with an intelligence and intensity which nonetheless is awe-inspiring for its sheer determination and style.

Perhaps the most frightening contrast between the two productions was the feeling that I Lombardi had been mounted by adolescents in a sandbox while the adults took their time in getting the Vespro properly put on stage.

George Heymont

of the room as that night. . . . Hi, Michael C.

Cora, our favorite banker, has finally lost his fabulous transportation, as it was towed away permanently. . . . now you'll have to ride buses like the rest of us peasants, Cora.

Why do they call Kent of Sutter's Mill "Velveta"? Because he is cheery orange and spreads easily. . . . right, Metz?

How do you like the picture of Wayne Friday's friend, Max? He sure is great — Max, that is.

Polo's on Mason Street now has Grey Ryder working as a waiter. From what Dick Rubin tells me, Grey is doing a very good job at it, so drop in for luncheon or dinner and have Grey or Dick give you some fine food.

Have you seen Bob Ross (B.A.R. publisher) riding around town on his new red motorcycle. . . . does it have a sidecar for me, Bob?

Don't forget Circus-Circus on Sunday, May 23, from noon till midnight at California Hall. . . . this is a worthy event



CIRCUS-CIRCUS PART II opens at noon this Sunday at California Hall. As a benefit to many Gay organizations it features blackjack, horse racing, wheel of fortune, bingo, buckin' bull rides, food, drinks, and music with Randy Dulaney as DJ. Tickets available at the door with limited complimentary pins of last year's party which was raided. **Come early and enjoy the festivity!**

for many different charities. You can get a great Sunday brunch at Leticia's at 2223 Market Street. . . . and some really great margaritas. Isn't that right, Larry Casas? How did you enjoy Mame dining there last Sunday night?

Remember this Friday and Saturday at the Railway Express, the great Bobbie Callicoate and Mr. Tiffany Jones are doing three shows nightly. Reservations, 771-5885.

"Ma" Perkins, hope you found good use for the handcuffs that Woody of Googie's gave to you.

Thank you, Joe Urban, for the flowers at the table at the Closet Ball. But I didn't get to sit with your Harry.

Glad that you had a nice vacation in Russia, Daddy Joe Roland of Queen Mary's Pub, but we are sure glad that you are back here with us — love ya!

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Sunday Afternoon May 30
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Sunday Night May 30
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Monday Afternoon May 31
 Fifes Bandshell 2pm
 DAVID KELSEY & PURE TRASH
 Cover \$5

Monday Evening May 31
 Drums 4pm-Midnite
 EXTENDED T DANCE
 D.J. Michael Garrett
 No Cover

BAY AREA REPORTER

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TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

VOL. XII NO. 21 MAY 27, 1982

Privacy Trespassed

Fire Victim Sues City

by Allen White

Mark Chester, one of the victims of the spectacular Folsom Street Fire last July 10, this week filed suit against S.F. Fire Chief Andrew Casper, Mayor Dianne Feinstein, the *Chronicle*, the *Examiner*, KRON-TV, KGO-TV, KPIX-TV, AND KTVU-TV for an amount in excess of \$156,500.

Chester lived in an apartment that was partially burned by the fire. The complaint charges that Fire Chief Andrew Casper made "one or more public pronouncements to the effect that the area of the fire was known to contain a number of homosexual sado-masochistic torture chambers and that he expected to find any number of human bodies chained to beds."

The complaint alleges that having controlled the fire and exited, Casper and others were informed that the apartment contained "photographic works of erotic art displayed around the premises and rooms, closets, chests of drawers and cabinets unaf-

ected by fire containing photographic works of art and valuable objects used by Chester in creating photographic works, including restraints, sex toys, isolation hoods, and various whips.

Chester continues in the complaint that for the purpose of justifying Chief Casper's pronouncement, "for the purpose of displaying the photographs and objects described as items of curiosity and ridicule for examination by their co-defendants and the general public, and for the purpose of injuring Chester's health and reputation, did, on the same date invite and induce defendant Feinstein and DOES 50 through 109 to enter Plaintiff's premises to inspect, photograph and videotape the photographs and objects." The complaint claims the Mayor entered closets, cabinets, chests of drawers and rooms unaffected by fire.

The second part of the complaint claims "that Defendants Casper, Feinstein and DOES 1 through 109, while exploring plaintiff's premises,

removed and converted several valuable photographs and objects to their own use, to wit: 20 11x14 inch art photographs, 200 8x10 inch art photographs, two isolation hoods, thirteen whips, ten Brazilian spears, various pieces of chain, assorted locks, turnbuckles, clamps, one bottle of champagne from plaintiff's refrigerator, one Stetson hat and assorted sex toys." The assorted sex toys are not described in the complaint.

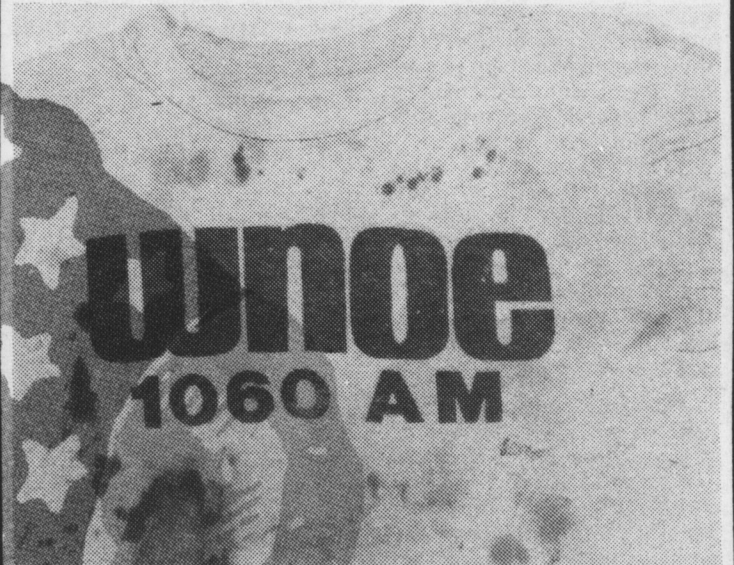
The third part of the complaint states that Chester's address was released to the public and as a result looters entered his home and looted and destroyed one guitar, one family photographic album, ten Brazilian spears and assorted photographs.

Douglas Montgomery, attorney for Mark Chester, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he believes he has a strong case and that Chester's privacy was indeed invaded. All of the various items mentioned in the suit, Chester claims

(Continued on next page)

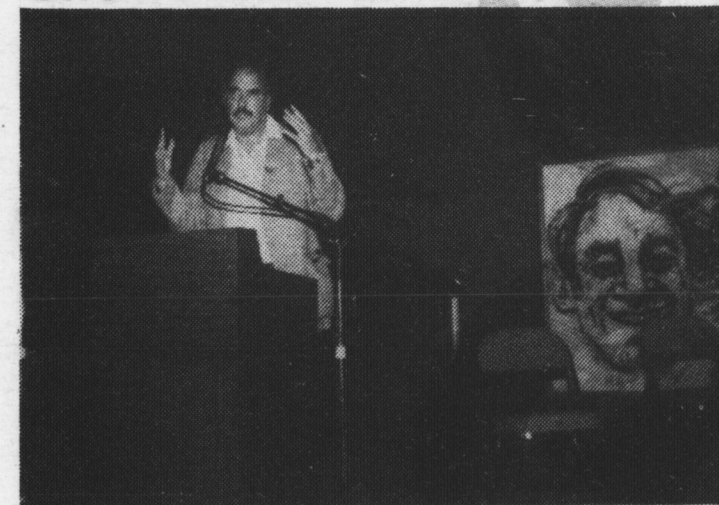
Murder Suspect Sought

Piritti Laitio was found dead in his apartment at 425 Hyde Street on May 19 at approximately 2am. He had been bound and gagged and beaten around the head and body, and may have been killed 12 to 24 hours previous to the discovery of his body.



Laitio frequented bars in the Polk-Larkin area, usually the Two Turtles and The Gangway. The murderer may have changed clothes in Laitio's apartment. Police are seeking a suspect who may have been wearing a size small, powder blue T-shirt with the call numbers WNOE 1060AM written on it. This is a New Orleans station. Anybody who recognizes the shirt or can offer information about its owner is urged to call Inspector Guinther or Inspector Byrne of the Homicide Detail at 553-1145. Help them curb violence against Gays.

Milk Dinner Shows and No-Shows



Retiring Congressman John Burton lets it all hang out at banquet. (Photo: Rink)

by Allen White

The Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club's 1982 dinner was a unique blend of ingredients. The surprises of the evening which was attended by over 550 people were marked by those that chose to attend and those who were not present. Guest of honor Phil Burton, Art Agnos, Milton Marks, and Willie Brown didn't show while Mayor Dianne Feinstein attended the cocktail party and then skipped the dinner, as did other pols.

SLOW SERVICE

As a dining facility, Moscone Center's staff have still not learned the most elementary procedures in presenting

a dinner. Many people arrived at the pre-dinner party at 7pm and waited until almost 8pm to be served by the two or three bartenders assigned to serve drinks to almost 600 people. Most people, including top city administrators took the wait in stride. The attitude was apparently, "What the hell, it's run by the City." Many waited over half an hour at one bar only to be told that the bartender was moving to a different location and the bar was closed.

LOCKED EXITS

In the dining area, many speculated that it was unbecom-

(Continued on Page 8)

SF Breakfast

Tom Bradley Makes Pitch for Gays

by Paul Lorch

The Gay rumor network had it that the Tom Bradley for Governor campaign was avoiding his Gay constituency — particularly in Northern California. However, no one could say if it was on purpose or an oversight.

As a result of the breakdown in communications, none of the three Gay local Democratic clubs had endorsed the popular Los Angeles mayor.

To put the rumors to rest, Bradley's staff arranged a breakfast meeting with local Gay leaders last Thursday morning at *Bay Area Reporter* publisher Bob Ross's home in the Castro.

At this end the meeting was organized by Supervisor Harry Britt's staff and this paper. A list of some 20 activists was hastily compiled.

The 90-minute session began with an introduction by Britt and a presentation by the gubernatorial front-runner. Britt said that Bradley would find San Francisco Gays much more liberated and demanding than their Southern California counterparts. The first half of the session was off the record. Bradley addressed the group, assuring them of his support of Gay rights under the blanket of Human Rights.



LA Mayor Tom Bradley makes outreach to SF Gays. (Photo: Rink)

The off-the-cuff phase was followed by a press session wherein Bradley said he would re-issue Governor Jerry Brown's executive order prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. He said he would keep a check on lower echelon bureaucrats to insure that homophobia did not direct their policies. He agreed that high-

visibility Gay and Lesbian appointments would be a feature of his administration.

In addition he promised to take a close look at Brown's Privacy Commission whose report is due in November 1982 . . . as opposed to letting it gather dust.

Bradley told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he would welcome a list of Gays and Lesbians who would be possible appointees in his administration. At the same time he admitted there were no high-

(Continued on Page 15)

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Humorist Terry Boots on the terrors of high school locker rooms . . . p. 20

The S.F. Summer Festival will benefit Gays - George Heymont . . . p. 20

Ronnetttt dreams of the porn he'd like to see . . . p. 31