

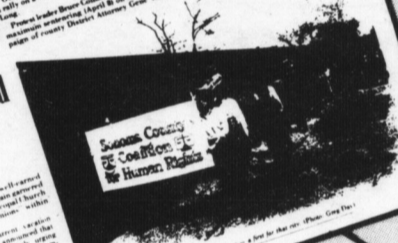
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# BAY AREA REPORTER

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1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

VOL. XIII NO. 16 APRIL 21, 1983

## Union Shop Dispute

# NY City Deli Bucks Workers

## Gay Employees Seek Better Conditions

by Mike Hippler

The sign on the door at New York City Deli on Market Street says "Closed for Remodeling: Will Open Soon Under New Management." A Public Notice of Application for Ownership Change is posted on the adjacent window, however, indicating that more than remodeling and new management is at hand. Whatever is happening, the majority of the Deli's former employees claim that owner James Yu closed his doors because he didn't want to unionize. And because they did, they are all out of work.

In May 1982 the New York City Deli, a popular restaurant in the Castro/Church neighborhood, was sold by Melvin Laffer to James Yu; and in the year since, its employees have compiled a long list of grievances that eventually led them to demand a union. Their chief concern — job security. "The first week he got there he fired six people just to show his power as the new owner," claims one

former employee. "That's the way it started, and that's the way it continued." From that first week to closing, the restaurant has had three different managers, and nearly 50% of its staff has been fired. One employee, Johnathan West, who was at the Deli almost two years before Yu took over, was fired a month before the restaurant closed "solely for being twenty minutes late one time, even though I called in

advance and told them my car had broken down."

Job security is only one of the workers' complaints, however. Yu refused to pay time and a half for overtime, wouldn't pay anything at all for hours worked beyond an eight-hour shift, rearranged schedules without notice, and denied standard health benefits. "He even accused people of stealing food," says

(Continued on page 10)



Employees and labor activists protest new owner's treatment at

original counterculture New York City Deli on Market Street.

## A News Analysis

# The Recall Countdown

## Majority of Gays go with Feinstein

by George Mendenhall

The shouting is over. Even lovers who have disagreed with each other have long since stopped discussing it. Those who did not vote by mail will line up at the polls on Tuesday. They will be surveying who their Gay neighbors are and casting votes — for and against Mayor Dianne Feinstein. Almost everyone agrees that it is a popularity contest in the Gay community with the mayor's position on domestic partners legislation considerably more important than gun control.

Gay voters, it appears, will be supporting the mayor because of her consistent pro-Gay stance over 14 years. A *San Francisco Examiner* survey indicated that

the mayor will receive 71% of the Gay vote, although the overall sampling done (503) was questionably small. In February the

(Continued on page 12)

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The newest round of court appearances in the Hill case — Michael Benzry p. 10

What it's like to catch every "Gay" disease going and still carry on — Mike Hippler p. 14

Feminism and its literature — Ron Bluestein p. 20

"King of the Crystal Palace" — a review by Scott Treimel p. 23

Gay softball season starts p. 28

## AIDS & Co. Strikes Back

The letter which follows was being widely circulated in the community this week. Numerous copies were mailed — from the mayor to the political clubs, to the press. The signers are AIDS patients and others — though one can't be sure who's who. It was mailed from an address on 18th Street and no author is indicated.

And before it is twisted beyond redemption by detractors, we felt the community would be best served by laying it open to our readers and their responses.

Dr. Marcus Conant  
President, Board of Directors  
Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation

Weekly, the community is exposed to Paul Lorch's editorials and headlines regarding AIDS in the Bay Area Reporter. These articles are widely read and discussed and to many become gospel. It seems to us that the publisher and editor have been less than responsible in representing the theories and data surrounding AIDS.

Of the people we speak to, including many other patients, we find that many are distressed that this sensational approach to reporting only fuels the fires of fear, guilt, homophobia and adds to the everyday stresses patients must face in dealing with this illness. Too often we patients are asked to leave restaurants and our homes and are abandoned by those we feel are necessary to our emotional support because of hysteria and misplaced fear.

It would be instructive and informative to advise the community that this is not a socially casually contagious disease. Too often, however, the issue of AIDS and the "victims" themselves are pawns on someone's editorial, political, or monetary gameboard.

We also feel that the indirect editorial slander of those persons and organizations which have helped us most, i.e. the Department of Public Health, the Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation, the Shanti Project, and our physicians and health care workers, is totally unwarranted and unjustified.

The Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation is a much needed organization with a dedicated group of paid and volunteer workers. Our concern is that if Bob Ross allows his paper to be directed in this manner and continues to hold a place on the Board of Directors of the K.S. Foundation, that organization is going to lose a considerable amount of credibility in our community.

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Ron Carey  
Gary Walsh  
C. Alessio  
Paul Castro



Dianne Feinstein chats with backers in Outer Mission home of her friend Allan Johnson the weekend before the big vote on her future. (Photo: Rink)

★ VOTE 'NO' APRIL 26 ★

Commented editor Paul Lorch, "I am distressed by the letter, as I am solely responsible for the paper's editorial content, and I will respond to the signatories privately. However, there is nothing to apologize for. My function is to illuminate, not curry favor or win prizes."

# Gay Man Left for Dead in Cruising Area



Larry Johl, 32, recovering from a knife wound in the heart. (Photo: Rink)

by Randy Schell

Larry Johl, 32, was stabbed in the heart on March 6, 1983. He has no idea who stabbed him. In fact, Larry Johl never saw the knife or knew that he had been stabbed. Had it not been for a straight, punk-rocker and her friend, Larry Johl would not be alive today.

At 3:00 AM, Larry walked through Alamo Square Park (a late-night pick-up area) after visiting friends earlier in the evening. He lived a block away from the park. He acknowledged acquaintances of his while strolling in the park. Other Gay men were in the park and occasionally, glances were shared with "hellos". Finally, he decided it was time to go home.

On his way out of the park, Larry noticed two men coming towards him. Instinctively, he felt uneasy, and his sixth sense warned him to avoid them at all costs. Next he took note of two Gay men standing at the top of the crest of the park. Thinking that there is safety in numbers, he moved towards the men on the

30 feet from where he had been struck down.

Larry knew that something was desperately wrong. He yelled into the darkness; "Help me, help me." Consciousness left him, once again. When he came to, he heard voices. A woman said, "we're going to get help for you." Larry pleaded to her, "please don't leave me, please." A man knelt down beside him while the woman ran across the park. She hailed a cab and asked the driver to call the ambulance. After waiting for some time, she ran back through the park to her friend and the dying man. The ambulance still had not shown up so her friend searched the park until he found a fire alarm. He pulled the lever of the alarm. Shortly, fire trucks sped down the street and he flagged them down. Police and fire personnel were led to Larry who laid there whimpering, his hand held by a woman he had never met.

The police report which was filed, describes what the fire personnel and police found:

"He was completely covered with blood, mud and water. Johl's pants were pulled down to his ankles. He had cuts, scrapes and a stab type wound in his upper center chest area. He was located on the path next to the restroom area and tennis courts. . . . They took my leather jacket. I want my glasses, find my glasses". Johl went into shock and was unable to give any further information."

Prior to the police arriving, Larry thought he saw a man he had seen earlier in the evening while strolling through the park. But, but the time the police came, he was gone. However, the straight punk-rocker stayed with him. So did her friend. They talked to the police and fire men. They watched him placed in an ambulance. They watched the ambulance carrying him away in the rain.

Larry Johl spent three days in intensive care at San Francisco General Hospital. Six days later he left the hospital with bandages over his chest and questions on his mind. The questions have had a habit of repeating themselves. Why didn't his Gay brothers come to his aid? What prompted them to leave during this crisis? Why did another Gay man rush away when the police arrived? What precipitated a straight woman of another culture to act as the good Samaritan?

Perhaps none of these questions will ever be answered for Larry Johl. Larry Johl is alive and well in San Francisco and has a lifetime to find the answers.

# 7 Concord Navy Women Charged

Lesbian Clues, Drugs

by George Mendenhall

Five women at the Concord Naval Weapons Station in the East Bay are awaiting a decision from Washington that could end their Navy careers. Charges against two additional women have been dropped. All were initially charged with being Lesbians and with drug usage. They have had administrative hearings, resulting in recommended discharges. The drug charges were dropped.

The five women are friends who worked together in the Tug Boat detail at Concord. All refused to discuss their sex lives with Naval investigators in March. They are not sure where all the accusations came from, although two came from straight women. One claims that she discovered two of the accused women in bed together and a second said she lived off-base with two of the women. She identified them as lovers.

The first indication that there was trouble was in February when the Naval Intelligence Service approached two of the women who it knew lived together off-base. The NIS asked permission to search their home, and the women, feeling they had nothing to hide, agreed. At the residence, the investigators claim they found an incriminating letter and an unsigned note that read "I love you." The women were questioned extensively.

Investigators began to follow the women without their knowledge, and on March 22 five additional women were called in for lengthy interrogations. Two women were told they had been seen together "being affectionate" in Our Bar, a Vallejo Gay bar.

Linda Hladek, the civilian companion of one of the accused women, works in San Francisco.

She related to this reporter that she had contacted the American Civil Liberties Union for advice in March when investigators wanted to search her home. She denied them access. Hladek says the women have been fearful of consulting private attorneys to handle their cases for fear of repercussions from the military. Navy attorneys at Treasure Island represented the women at their March hearings.

All seven women were transferred to Mare Island Naval Station on March 23 — the day after they were charged. The hearings were held quickly, with the women denying all. They were tried by a 3-man panel of two Navy officers and one Marine officer. The recommendations: that two receive "less than honorable" discharges, two receive honorable discharges, and that one receive a "general discharge under honorable conditions." All the discharges are based on alleged homosexuality.

The five women facing discharge all had excellent military records. Their concern now is that the discharges might somehow affect their future civilian employment. They do not want their names released to the public, although some of the women state they will talk later — if they are discharged. They would have six months to appeal their cases.

# Feinstein Supporters Raise \$12,000

by Wayne April

The "No Recall" party thrown by interior designer Billy Gaylord last Tuesday for Mayor Dianne Feinstein attracted over 450 supporters and collected \$12,000 for her campaign war chest, according to benefit committee member Alan Johnson.

The suitcoat and tie affair in the Green Room of the Museum of Modern Arts Building was by invitation, with the lists drawn from the private mailing lists of several prominent Gay men. "There's a lot of money in this room," quipped an invitee.

The benefit was organized to demonstrate that most of the City's Gays, especially the "establishment" Gays, support Feinstein in her struggle against the recall election. The recall was initiated by a tiny, radical

group of pro-gun enthusiasts called the White Panthers, but it's been held that many of the signators on the petition were Gays disenchanted with the mayor's veto of the domestic partnership bill.

The special election April 26 is estimated to cost \$450,000. Although, technically, the mayor can bill the city for the entire expense, she has pledged to pay for the election herself. Her campaign has so far raised \$441,000.



The mayor and her husband, Richard Blum, chat with host Billy Gaylord at Green Room fundraiser. (Photo: Rink)

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Photo by Joe Altman

# AB-1 in Mid-Passage

## Will Gays rally? Was GOP excluded? What is the Agnos game plan?

by George Mendenhall

"We think that discrimination on the basis of sexual preference is no more defensible than is prejudice on the grounds of race or religion," editorialized the *Los Angeles Times* last Sunday as it urged the state legislature to pass AB-1. The bill authored by Assemblyman Art Agnos would make it unlawful for employers to discriminate in the hiring or placement of people solely because of their sexual orientation. Agnos is asserting considerable effort to move the bill through the Assembly. However, as in the past, his effort is not without its problems.

Two hurdles are in the way: Gay Democratic activists who are somewhat "burned out" from previous sojourns to Sacramento to lobby for AB-1 and Assembly Republicans who are reluctant to support what they perceive as Democratic Party legislation. The usual extensive anti-gay lobbying efforts at the grass-roots level. Jim Foster, longtime Gay activist, is on the telephone with his political contacts.

The religious Right is working overtime with letter-writing to Sacramento. It is the same network that worked for the earlier Proposition 6, former Senator John Briggs' earlier attempt to ban gay teachers. Letters to leg-

islators are running as high as 25-1 against AB-1. Agnos states that he is working to line up an impressive list of pro-AB-1 sponsors from the broader religious community.

### REPUBLICANS NEEDED

The bill's author needs six more votes in the Assembly. He has 35 of the 48 Democrats committed but is unable to get more Democrats willing to support the issue at this time. He admits that he must have some Republican support but states that he has none at this point. (*Bay Area Reporter* has learned that there is one Republican who says he will vote YES — Assemblyman Bill Filante of Marin County.)

Agnos is seeking to enlist Gay Democrats to lobby Assembly Republicans while the local Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights officers claim they have not had contact with Agnos. Duke Armstrong, CRIR's state legislative chair, says, "The bill should have been

ifornia Human Rights Advocates, closed its Sacramento doors in 1981 after failing to raise enough operational funds. Agnos is pleased that there was a recent AB-1 Day in Southern California and Gay businessmen have formed an AB-1 support group in the Central Valley communities of Fresno and Modesto.

### SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco Democratic Party Gay activists have been preoccupied in the recall election and a variety of other issues such as El Salvador and AIDS/KS. If they are convinced that AB-1 can pass in this session, there might be an escalation of effort on AB-1 in May. The big question they have, after five years of attempts, is "Does AB-1 really have a chance of passage this time?"

Agnos states that "many San Francisco people have forgotten what things are like ninety miles from here. The opposition is going from pulpit to pulpit saying all sorts of outrageous nonsense about this bill and gay people." He believes the bill has a real chance of passage in the Assembly and he is hopeful about the Senate.

Bob Bacci, CRIR president, said, "If the Republicans had been permitted to make it their bill also by adding something like Housing Rights, then it would have a better chance of passage in the Assembly and the Senate." When approached with these conclusions, Agnos' aide Schockman replied, "The credit will be to the state legislature — not just the Democrats — if this passes. Republicans can be approached by anyone on the basic fact that this is a matter of discrimination."

The state-wide coordination for AB-1 is sporadic at best. The state Gay lobbying group, Cali-

threefold effort will be the organizing of religious support, the lobbying of Assembly Republicans, and obtaining editorial support from major city dailies. If the measure passes the Assembly by mid-June, it may not reach the Senate floor until December.

### HURDLES AHEAD

Republican Assembly Caucus Chair William Mountjoy (Los Angeles) has not expressed support for AB-1 and the GOP Minority Leader, Bob Naylor (Redwood City), has told Gay Republicans he "will not help." The editorially conservative San Francisco daily newspapers have not endorsed AB-1. The *Los Angeles Times* reports, "The bill's prospects in the more conservative Senate are doubtful." A positive note: The word is out that Governor George Deukmejian would probably not veto the bill if it reached his desk.

Complacency and opposition also confronted Assemblyman Willie Brown, however, in the six years that he promoted a private, consensual sex bill. When it did pass in 1975, it surprised many complacent Gay people.

Agnos has been criticized by some for adjusting his bill to overcome opposition from law enforcement and business associations.

The Agnos bill would, with the exceptions, bar all companies, private and public, from refusing to hire or promote a person solely on the basis of sexual orientation. It adds "sexual orientation" to the list of other unlawful employment practices that come under the jurisdiction of the state's Fair Employment and Housing Commission. ■

# Imbroglia at Ice Cream Emporium

## Showdown at 24th and Castro

by Mike Hippler

Bob Brown and Sande Morack have been lovers for sixteen years and have lived in San Francisco since 1968. They have been actively involved in various aspects of the Gay movement from the early days of "Gay Liberation" to the present era of the "Gay Community" and have worked hard to achieve the kind of freedom many Gay people now take for granted. Rather than take that freedom for granted, however, Brown and Morack believe it is necessary to zealously safeguard what gains have been achieved. Therefore, they are not the kind of men who, when confronted with a situation that is either a threat or an insult to their dignity, back down without a fight.

On Friday, March 25, at about 7 or 8 in the evening, Brown went into Bud's Ice Cream Store at 24th and Castro to order two hot fudge sundaes while his lover waited in the car parked out front. To his surprise and dismay he noted that the server, a young man about 17 years old, was wearing a T-shirt that read, "Fags Leave S.F." Astonished that he would be allowed to wear such a shirt at work, Brown spoke to the person he assumed was the manager and complained about it.

The "manager" replied that he had been getting a lot of complaints all evening but that he didn't know what to do about it. Brown continued to engage the manager's attention until the sundaes were made. Then he turned to the server and said, "Fella, you just bought yourself a couple of sundaes," and stormed out. "I knew I was going to do one of two things," Brown explained later. "And the kid was lucky. I almost shoved the ice cream in his face."

Not until Brown got back to his car did he find out from his lover, who was watching all this from the parked car, that while he was talking to the person in charge, the server with the nefarious T-shirt was putting the ice cream in his mouth before spitting it back out into Brown's sundaes. "I couldn't believe it," says Morack. "If Bob hadn't walked out when he did, I would have gone in and raised hell myself."

Infuriated, the two vowed never to set foot in Bud's again, a store they had been patronizing ever since Magnolia Thunderpussey served Montana Bananas across the street in the late 1960's, and they dashed off a letter of protest to the B.A.R., calling for a community-wide boycott. "I think a store that would hire someone like that doesn't need my business," says Brown. "That kid had no right to use the store as a forum for his own personal feelings, especially when the store is so close to the Castro area and he is likely to offend so many people." Neither Brown nor Morack feels this is a minor matter. "This sort of thing is getting closer to home all the time, and it's getting more and more noticeable. We've got to put a stop to it, and speaking out like this is one way to do it."

Dave Juarez, the manager of the Bud's store, wishes, of course, that the entire incident had never taken place. He was not at work the night of Brown's visit. The person Brown assumed was the manager, Juarez explains, was the senior employee, a young man not much older than the kid in question. The young man with the T-shirt, "Ben" wasn't supposed to work that night either. He just happened to be passing by when one of the other employees asked him to fill in for him. That's why he was wearing the T-shirt at work — and he did finally take it off after Brown left.

be good for him in the long run. I think he learned something from it."

Although Juarez feels that this is mainly a misfortunate incident which has been blown up out of proportion, he is sorry for the insult to the Gay community, and he has written a letter to the B.A.R., apologizing to Brown and explaining Bud's position. "The shirt was wrong," he admits, "but I don't think there is any prejudice here against any group. And we don't discriminate against Gays." Although there are no Gay employees at Bud's now, there have been in the past. Juarez does not know whether or not Bud's makes contributions to any Gay benefits or causes, but he states that they are always willing to consider requests. (A contribution to the KS Foundation or some similar gesture of goodwill was requested by Brown and Morack before they would consider going back to Bud's.)

As a result of Brown's letter to B.A.R., the Health Department sent a man over to write a report on the incident. Bud's hardly needs this kind of publicity, since just two years ago it was the center of a city-wide hepatitis scare when one of its employees contracted Hepatitis A, and the Health Department issued a public health warning. As it is hardly company policy for its employees to spit in ice



Frate Bud's Ice Cream customers Sande Morack and Bob Brown. (Photo: Rink)

cream sundaes, however, there is little the Health Department can or will do about this affair.

Whether or not the incident will hurt Bud's business is still unclear, although it is unlikely. And whether or not Brown and Morack will accept Juarez's apology and return to Bud's is also undecided. They have stood up for their rights, and besides, there are plenty of other ice cream stores in the neighborhood. The biggest question

mark, however, remains the fired employee, Ben. Will the incident teach him something, as Juarez believes, or will it embitter him further against Gay people in San Francisco? Ben might, after all, blame the Gay community for losing his job — in which case, the oppressor, having become a victim, becomes an oppressor again, and an insignificant little event at an ice cream store becomes a minor tragedy for the community at large. ■

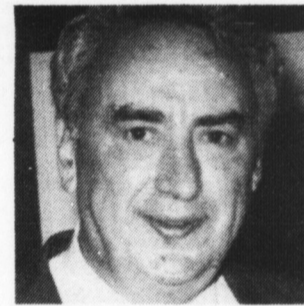
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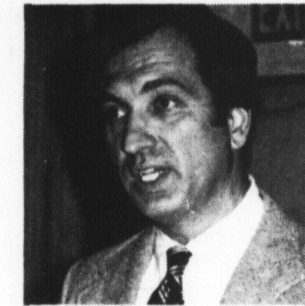
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"We consider the recall of Mayor Dianne Feinstein unwarranted."  
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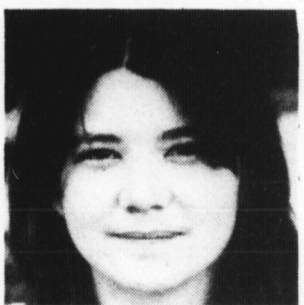
"I'm opposed to the recall because it leaves us with politicians afraid to take strong positions on any issues."  
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"We shouldn't turn our backs on Mayor Feinstein's past and current support for lesbian gay rights. Vote NO on the recall."  
Sal Roselli



"Mayor Feinstein has pledged to initiate a new era of cooperation between her office and the lesbian gay community."  
Greg Day



"Dianne Feinstein is responsible for funding Community United Against Violence—the only anti-gay violence agency financed by a city government in the country."  
Diana Christensen



"Mayor Feinstein has been exceptionally supportive of the lesbian gay community's needs for health services, particularly at this critical time."  
Pat Norman



"Dianne and I don't always agree on issues, but she has been an honorable mayor and gives her best to San Francisco."  
Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver

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# Back to Court Again on the Hill Case

by Michael Benzry

Last week in the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, two important cases concerning the Immigration and Naturalization Service were heard. Both cases arose from Day Parade festivities. The cases revolve around the INS laws as mandated by Congress which prevent homosexuals from entering the United States. The defenders in the two cases used two different legal arguments against the law.

The law states that anyone suspected of being a homosexual (which the immigration form calls a "psychopathic personality") can be denied entrance to the United States if a doctor from the Public Health Service examines the person, finds that the person is a homosexual (and thus a pathological personality), and issues a Class A certificate. The examination usually consists of an interview. The problem is that the medical profession in the United States, as represented by the American Medical Association, no longer recognizes homosexuality as a pathological personality disorder. Public Health Service doctors will not issue a finding for a disease that does not exist. But the law stands as it was originally written.

The two cases were presented by Leonard Graff of the National Gay Rights Advocates, representing Carl Hill, and by Mary Dunlap, representing the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee. The Committee's argument is based on the Constitutional First Amendment right of free association. The Courts have held that Congress does have the right to limit association with certain impermissible aliens. The argument against the law is that Congress is attempting to exclude a group as impermissible that does not medically exist. NGRA's Graff said that this argument is an ambitious undertaking, as the prior decision of the lower court will be difficult to overcome. He said that Dunlap made "a very good argument. She's a powerful speaker."

The Hill case arises from the Londoner's attempt to enter the country in 1979 for the parade. Graff's argument is one of strict statutory construction. The law states that a homosexual can be

(Continued from page 1)  
Union Shop Dispute

# NY Deli Bucks Workers

one waiter. "Once, when a customer called in a take-out order and never picked it up, the owner accused us of trying to steal it and called the police." Concludes another, "It's been literally hell to work there over the last nine months."

Consequently, early this year several of the employees began to promote the idea of union representation, and Local 2 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union was called in. Soon, over 80% of the workers had signed union authorization cards, and in mid-March they presented Yu with a letter stating their desire to be represented by the union. Yu replied that he did not want to meet with them without his lawyer and set up a meeting for the following Thursday, March 17. However, on Thursday he didn't show, and he later refused to submit to a card check, a standard but voluntary procedure on the part of management.

As a result, Deli employees decided to picket the weekend of March 26. They opted not to strike — they continued to work their scheduled shifts — but whoever wasn't working or whoever got off work joined the picket line. "Originally we were just going to do it for a weekend," says West, "to show the kind of community support we had. We didn't want to stop the business. But every time we picketed, he closed for the day. He refused to talk with us." The employees picketed seven times. Finally, the situation deteriorated so badly that Yu closed his

This is the second time this year that the NGRA has been asked to give oral arguments. At the end of March in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans it was asked to argue in the Longstaff case. Longstaff moved to the United States in the mid-60's. In his naturalization proceedings he was asked if he was married, did he have a girlfriend, etc., and he admitted to being Gay. The government said he entered the country illegally. He should have known the law and have declared himself to be a pathological personality, even though the issue was never brought up directly. The case has been in the courts for four years.

doors for good, and the change of management/ownership signs appeared.

According to Gary Guthman of Local 2, who is representing the out-of-work employees, the National Labor Relations Act prohibits the firing or demoting of an employee because of union-organizing activities. However, when a restaurant fires all its employees, closes its doors, and changes ownership, it is hard to enforce that law. "Legally, it's a gray area," explains Guthman, "although morally it's very clear." This is exactly what happened several years ago, in fact, when employees of the Patio Cafe on Castro Street demanded union representation. Although they picketed for over a year, they never got their jobs back because the restaurant changed ownership. "We suspect, however, that Mr. Yu has not really sold the place," continues Guthman, who believes that the ownership change may be merely an attempt at title-juggling.

In any case, the Deli employees vow to continue their struggle. With or without a place to work, they have filed for union election through the National Labor Relations Board, and eight employees have filed complaints with the Board. They also plan to continue picketing, no matter who opens the New York City Deli doors. "Those people have a right to those jobs," says Guthman. "And the union plans to claim its rights to represent those employees no matter who they are." Adds one employee, "Nobody is going to make any money at that restaurant as long as we picket." They plan to picket Jim's Liquors at 7th and Mission as well, another store that Yu owns, and they have even considered picketing his home in Hillsborough. "I don't want to harass the guy," notes one worker, "but I do want my job back." Others note that Yu continues to harass them, though, as he is contesting their claims for unemployment compensation, saying they were conducting a full strike when they were not.

The workers, most of whom are Gay, have garnered the support of the Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance and other sympathetic groups. They have been encouraged as well by the example of the employees of Little Italy at 24th and Castro, who, after picketing for only four days, forced their employer to recognize the union, to re-hire laid-off workers, and to begin contract negotiations.

Yu was not available for comment. **M. Hippler**

# Tijuanans Commend San Diegans

Four San Diegans were recently honored for their support of Tijuana's Lesbian and Gay community. FIGHT, Tijuana's only Gay movement organization named two health advisors with the S.D. Dept. of Public Health for encouraging the publication of educational pamphlets on sexually transmitted diseases in Spanish. Also cited were Pat Burke, the managing editor of Southern California Update, and Fred Scholl, one of its staff reporters, for covering news that affects the estimated 100,000 Gays and Lesbians in Tijuana.

# PD's vs. DA's Charge Up CRIR

by Margaret Frost

"Our criminal justice system is basically an adversary system."

Attorney Tom Horn gave this explanation, and other panel members illustrated it beautifully, at this week's meeting of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights.

Fireworks erupted when Carboni questioned the PD's office's handling of a case currently in the courts. The facts of the case resemble the Sonoma murder in



(l. to r.) Tom Horn, Jeff Brown, CRIR Moderator, John Carboni, Judge Phil Moscone at CRIR's Monday night debate. (Photo: Rink)

Horn, Public Defender Jeff Brown, Municipal Judge Philip Moscone, and John Carboni of the District Attorney's office were present to discuss the notorious murder acquittal which came down in Sonoma County recently. In that case, a self-confessed murderer of a Gay businessman pleaded not guilty on the grounds that the victim had made a sexual advance to him.

All of the panelists agreed that the verdict was a miscarriage of justice, but the consensus stopped there. The lawyers contradicted and challenged each other with the zeal of Perry Mason dissecting Hamilton Berger.

Horn, a long-time civil rights attorney, and Brown presented the defense position, which Horn pointed out is to "present the defendant's story." They felt that the blame for the Sonoma case rested on the prosecutor. "That is not an admissible defense," Horn stressed. "If the jury bought it, it's the prosecutor's fault for not challenging it."

"The defense attorney's role is not to make his client subservient to some greater truth," Brown stressed. "No matter how unpleasant, how despicable, how ungracious the accused is, he has a right to the best defense possible."

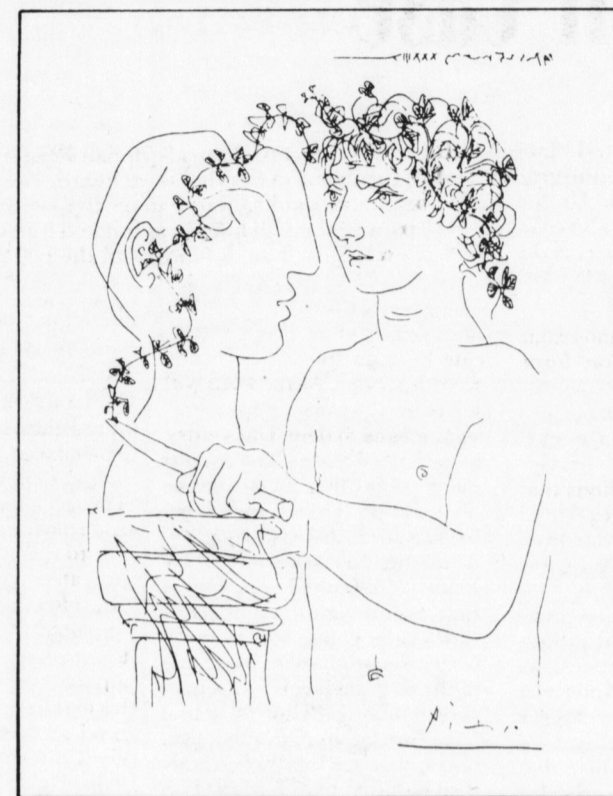
Carboni aggressively defended the prosecutor's position. Agreeing that the so-called "outrage" defense was not legal, he added, "unfortunately there is enough slack in the legal system to allow the Public Defender to use it. This defense is nothing more than a red herring. It was a thoroughly outrageous appeal to the bias of the jury."

"The best way to combat this kind of error is with an enlightened and intelligent jury."

Moscone, who noted that he felt like he was caught in the crossfire, questioned the role of the judge in the case. "The judge reads instructions to the jury regarding acceptable defenses," he pointed out. "Then the jury must separate the wheat from the chaff. It is clear that our law does not allow for this defense."

**M. Frost**

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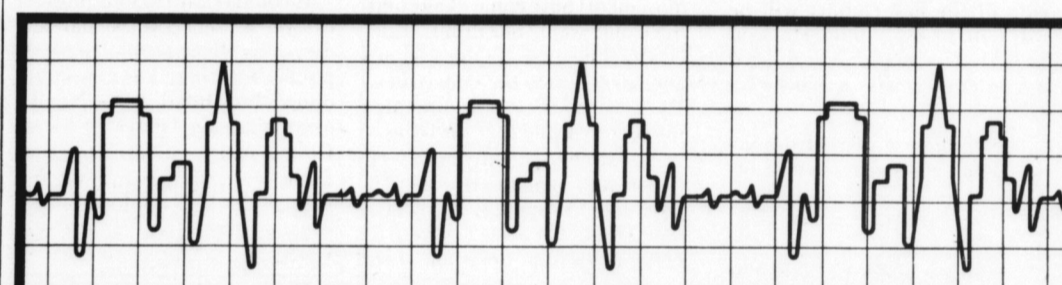


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 I'd like to volunteer to help. Please contact me. Please make your check payable to: The Kaposi Sarcoma Foundation, and return it with this form to 470 Castro Street, No. 207, Box 1366, San Francisco, CA 94114.

**National Council Still Holding Off Metropolitan Community Church**

Dispute continues on whether to admit the primarily Gay Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches to the National Council of Churches (NCC), the country's largest ecumenical agency.

The council is composed of 32 Christian denominations and 40 million members. Although its 260-member governing board has already ruled that the 30,000-member Metropolitan Community Church meets NCC eligibility requirements, retrograde theological positions may deny the Gay church's application for admittance. This suspicion owes to the Presbyterian practice that welcomes Gays into the church but refuses to ordain them as ministers.

"My understanding of our Church doctrine is that they (the Metropolitan Church) shouldn't be admitted," said Isaac Faulk of Berkeley, who is a lay member of the NCC governing board. He told *Examiner* reporters last week that "our position as a church is that we believe this (homosexuality) is not the will and the way of God."

Rev. Scott Anderson of Sacramento, also a member of the governing board, concurred. "Publicly," he said, "our denomination views it (homosexuality) as a sin and a breach from God." He mentioned, however, that his own views differ, and he pointed to the hypocrisy of welcoming Gay people into the church but denying them office within it.

Rev. Michael England, who heads the Metropolitan Com-

**Recall Countdown**

*(Continued from page 1)*  
 mayor had told this reporter that her campaign poll indicated that "I am not anathema (intensely disliked) in the Gay community."

The original Gay anger over the veto of domestic partners legislation subsided somewhat when the mayor expressed a willingness to appoint a task force to develop new legislation. In several interviews, Feinstein has stressed that the legislation introduced by Supervisor Harry Britt was "poorly written." She expressed opposition to a City Hall registration of "partners." The mayor emphasized that she will seek a way to broaden city health benefits to live-in unmarried partners.

**DEMOCRATS DIVIDED**

The Harvey Milk and Stonewall Gay Democratic Clubs led the way in the opposition campaign in the Gay community. They claimed that the mayor had not made enough Gay appointments in ratio to the large Gay population, that she vetoed the domestic partners legislation, and refused to recognize police violence against Gay people. Unlike the pro-Feinstein forces, many of those Gay people supporting the recall did so on a variety of other issues — high rise buildings, rent control, unemployment, Muni fares, and the mayor's financial support from corporations.

The Alice B. Toklas club (with peripheral help from concerned Republicans for Individual Rights) led the Gay campaign against the recall. Toklas distributed a 12-page tabloid that supported the mayor to 40,000 people. The basic arguments centered on the mayor's 14 years of support for the Gay community and her release of funds for Lesbian/Gay projects. An emphasis was made on the need for the Gay community to continue negotiating with the mayor and keeping the lines of communication open. Feinstein supporters expressed hope that some accommodation can be reached with the mayor on the various domestic partners issues. The local Gay press supported the mayor as well — with the *Bay Area Reporter* emphatically rejecting a recall solution within hours of its promulgation.

**GAY POWER**

The overall *SF Examiner* survey indicates that Feinstein could win by as much as 75% of the votes cast. However, the mayor has said that the release of the survey might work against her, as it could cause overconfident voters to avoid the polls. As her ace-in-the-hole the mayor prepared for any eventuality by identifying supporters and getting them to vote by mail. A possible 70,000 people may cast absentee ballots.

When the recall vote is history the Gay community has reaped one positive gain from the experience: The daily press perceived from the start that it was the Gay vote and not the White Panthers that was the big news story. The result was a message loud and clear — Gay Power remains a major consideration in San Francisco elections.

**Alice Competes with Oscar**

*by Margaret Frost*

AIDS research, discrimination and the recall topped a full agenda addressed by a sparse crowd at the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club meeting last week.

With hard-core Hollywood enthusiasts staying home for the Oscar rites, only 88 ballots were cast on a motion to rescind the club's "no on recall" position, taken at the previous month's meeting. At that time, a total of 222 votes were cast, breaking down into 73 yes, 137 no and 12 no position.

This time out, after a lengthy and sometimes confused discussion on parliamentary procedure, the rescission lost 7-80, with one abstention.

On a recommendation from the Issues Committee, the club joined with Black and White Men Together to form an ad-hoc committee on racism. Established in response to BWMT's report on employment discrimination by Gay bars, the committee will "work with bar patrons, employees, owners and organizations so as to bring about change in this pattern of employment discrimination."

**Lesbian/Gay Physicians Host Health Fair**

Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights, an organization of Lesbian and Gay physicians, will be coordinating a health fair in conjunction with Health Center #1. The fair will be held on April 23 and 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Castro District of San Francisco. Physicians, podiatrists, dentists, and other health care professionals will donate their time providing free screening and health testing to persons 15 years and older.

On the day of the fair, first stop is Sanchez School, 325 Sanchez Street for registration. After registration, most of the screening will then be at Health Center #1, right up the street from the school.

Special attention will be given to Lesbian and Gay health concerns. Breast and complete pelvic examinations including Pap smears will be provided by women physicians. Screening for sexually transmitted diseases and an audiovisual presentation on AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) will also be included. Several free tests will be of interest to everyone. These include screening for blood pressure, vision/glaucoma testing, dental problems, foot disorders, mental health services and blood testing. An optional chemistry panel costing \$8 will screen for anemia, diabetes, kidney disease, liver disease, iron, and increased cholesterol. People who plan on having the chemistry panel should refrain from food and alcohol for at least five hours before the test. Physicians will review these tests and referrals will be made for follow-up health care if necessary. Volunteers (including people who are not health care professionals) are needed to properly service the expected 1,000 participants. For further information about the Health Fair, call (415) 558-9353.

Sponsors of the Health Fair include: George Riley, M.D.; Tavern Guild of San Francisco; Atlas Savings and Loan; Northern California Dentists for Human Rights; John Peterman, Financial Consultant; First Interstate Bank of California; Arlene Hoffman, D.P.M., Ph.D.; Golden Gate Business Association; and Lenny's Linen Closet. Additional sponsors are welcome to participate in supporting this event.

**QUICKIES**

**Workshop Looks at Gay Youth Health Needs**

A workshop on health and mental health issues for Gay and Lesbian youth will be held Wednesday, April 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 101 Grove Street, room 300.

The workshop is aimed at those who work with Gay and Lesbian youth. Representatives from the city's Dept. of Public Health, the Training Committee of Gay and Lesbian Health, Sexual Minority Youth, and other health service organizations will be conducting the workshop.

**Widow Announces for Congress 'Gay Rights' Top Priority, at First**



*Mayor Feinstein consoles Sala Burton — at the memorial service for her husband. Three days later Burton threw her hat into the ring. (Photo: Rink)*

Sala Burton was asked this week to name what her top priorities as a U.S. Congresswoman would be. She responded, "Environment, Labor, Gay Rights." Later she qualified herself by saying she has "no real priorities."

Phil Burton's widow was cheered at a press conference in which she announced her candidacy for Congress. The overflow crowd included the leadership of Gay Democratic Clubs — Toklas, Milk and Stonewall. Anne Kronenberg, former aide to Harvey Milk, handed out pro-Sala literature and was soliciting names for a Lesbian/Gay support list for the candidate.

Senator Alan Cranston, himself a candidate for President, introduced Senator Paul Tsongas as "a man who I have worked with in obtaining AIDS funding." Cranston called Sala "a fighter for those who have not had equal opportunity." When Sala herself was asked directly if she would support Gay rights she replied, "Of course."

**KGO Weekend Radio**

The problems of Gay youth highlight the 7:05 to 9 p.m. segment of Saturday night's *David Lambie Talk Show* on KGO-FM (FM 104). Jon Herzstam of The Sexual Minority Youth Program of the San Francisco Department of Health explains what his agency attempts to do for Gay young people who want an alternative to life on the street.

From 9:05 to 10 p.m. Saturday, we look at the vacuum created in San Francisco politics by the death of Congressman Phil Burton. Political analyst Bruce Pettit of *The Pettit Report* forecasts how the race to succeed Burton may shape up and how the Lesbian and Gay communities will fare in the scramble for power.

**Bodies for AIDS**

A benefit for the East Bay AIDS and Health Issues Program, sponsored by the Pacific Center will be held at the 73rd Ave. Baths, Saturday, April 23, at 11 p.m. The baths are at 2544 73rd Ave. in Oakland.

The event will feature Peter Todd, Olympic Gold Medalist in physique, who with two other body builders will perform their routines. Beer will be provided. Admission at Bath's prices: \$8 room, \$6 locker. Half of these proceeds will comprise the benefit. Info: 841-6223.

**Blood Pressure Time**

May is National Hypertension Month and it's a perfect time to have your blood pressure checked. For information on high blood pressure or for low-cost blood pressure screening, call District Health Center #1 at 558-3905, M-F 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Center is located at 3850-17th Street between Noe and Sanchez.

If you're a Senior citizen, you might want to join the Hypertension Peer Support Group that meets every Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. There is no charge and all Seniors are welcome.

**AIDS Forum**

Ken Dunnigan, M.D., M.P.H., Director, Public Health Center II, Department of Public Health will give a presentation on AIDS disease at Westside Community Mental Health Center, Inc. Central Office - 1153 Oak Street, San Francisco, California 94117 on April 25, 1983 at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. You may contact Bill Smith at 431-9000 if additional information is needed.

**FREE!** Sunday, May 1 10am-4pm  
 THE HIGH-ENERGY BRAZILIAN SOUND OF  
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 A new, eight-week group starts Tuesday evening, April 26, near the Haight and Castro neighborhoods. The emphasis will be on helping members improve their skills in giving and receiving support from other Gay men. Loneliness, self-esteem, and relationship issues will be explored under professional guidance.

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## To Tell Desire From Despair A Male Look at Feminism and Its Literature

**Give Sorrow Words**  
by Maryse Holder  
Avon Books, 1980

**Selflove and Orgasm**  
by Betty Dodson  
P.O. Box 1933, Murray Hill Station  
New York, NY 10156; \$5

by Ron Bluestein

*The greatest poverty is not to live  
In a physical world, to feel that one's desire  
Is too difficult to tell from despair.*

— Wallace Stevens, *Esthetique du Mal*

"... in reality, what freedom is, can, or will be has not been presented to the masses in concrete and intelligible form. The potential for general happiness has not been tangibly described to them. Whenever someone attempted to do so in order to win them over, they were presented with the sick, wretched, guilt-ridden pleasures that can be found in the philistine lower-middle class dives and honky-tonk joints. The core of happiness in life is sexual happiness. No one with political power has dared touch upon this."

— Wilhelm Reich, *The Sexual Revolution*

"... a veil is drawn over the real life of pornography. What advertises itself as nakedness is shrouded. What is called frankness is denial. What is called passion is the death of feeling. What is called desire is degradation."

— Susan Griffith, *Pornography and Silence*



The frontispiece illustration by Betty Dodson for her book *SELFLOVE AND ORGASM* reflects her decision to banish sexual guilt and allow the female genitalia to flower.

man. This is the capacity of the female self, of a female self, to love the female self, in oneself or in another.

Substitute for "Lesbian" whatever word you use to denote a male homosexual, and change the word "woman" to "man." A man's movement would not deal, at least primarily, with men's relations to women, but with the relations between men. It took generations of women suffering from radical sexual dysfunction before some of them were des-

perate and courageous enough to change. Most men have learned the solace of masturbation and most men have orgasms. Men are not, unbelievably, unhappy enough yet to confront each other and change.

My readings in the feminist literature contra pornography were hardly ameliorative and, of course, they were not meant to be. Gloria Steinem asks us all to "consider also our spirits that break a little each time we see ourselves in chains or full labial display." (The equation of full erectile display and chains is not made.) Hers is one of the less damning indictments. Laura Lederer (*Take Back The Night*) sees nothing in pornography but "the celebration of male power over women and the sexist wish that women's sexuality and values be totally subservient to men." Andrea Dworkin gave the incendiary title "Why So-Called Radical Men Love and Need

as taut as a bow, one can die both of love and hunger.") Pornography holds a central place in my life, and rather than give it up, I became one of its critics. The question of why men have created a very visible hard-core pornography and women have not has not been exhausted or even satisfactorily addressed and will be the subject of a future column. For the moment, I would like to introduce my readers to two women writers who go against the prevailing feminist grain.

### II

If it is true that "nothing is revolutionary except candor," as Robert Desnos asserts, then Maryse Holder, the author of the letters from Mexico collected under the title *Give Sorrow Words*, is the truest revolutionary. This is how she begins her first letter:

*Had been going to write you ebullient sex letter intermixed with poetic epistemological reflections of being reborn in the crater of civilization but I actually fucked him this afternoon and it was grubby and banal, as you always knew... Sheez. He had metallic breath and I shit-juice in underwear from Exlax-induced runs. So grubbyadick... so grubbyadick was he. Sex with men, how can I say, lacks the personal.*

Joan Didion or Fran Leibowitz might have the candor to write about their fears, their loves and hates, their migraines, but charting the condition of their underwear and its social and psychological implications is outside the scope of their studies. It is too private, too personal, unprofessional, too "grubbyadick." Love, though, "has pitched its mansion in the place of excrement," which is just another way of saying that love itself is grubbyadick. Love and sex are Maryse Holder's themes and, emboldened by her association with the women's movement, she went to Mexico, discovered her passion for "bright guttersnipes," ignored her own edict of choosing "one theme or metaphor," of being "wary of private associations," and compulsively composed letters anatomizing her love, lust, hunger, body, despair, pain, loss, self. Yeats finishes the line quoted above: "And nothing can be sole or whole that has not been rent." Maryse paid the highest price for her candor and her place in literature: her body was found alongside a Mexican road, the skull smashed.

Mexico, Maryse declared, was her "vacation from feminism." "Heterosexuality — when one is sexual —" she writes, "is a strain on feminism." Maryse lives as full as an egg and one's phallus

(Continued on page 32)

Prior to 1973, if feminism or the women's movement permeated my consciousness at all, it was as "Women's Lib." Feminists were "Women's Libbers," and, more often than not, were the butt of Las Vegas comic humor. The media of that era did little to educate. "... in 1972, in a 'special issue' on women, *Time* was still musing genially that the movement might well succeed in bringing about 'fewer diapers and more Dante.'" Joan Didion writes, and she cannot help adding: "That was a pretty image, the idle ladies sitting in the gazebo and murmuring *lasciate ogni speranza...*" (*The Women's Movement*) Sometimes it seems that the current press is caught in 1973 — or 1953, or 1253. A recent headline in *The National Enquirer* (scoff if you wish, it's the nation's largest-selling paper) announced that "women's lib" was turning husbands into — oh, I can't remember — was it rapists or spineless jello-molds resembling horseshoe crabs?

In 1973, on the first leg of a journey to Philadelphia, I stayed with a college friend in Colorado Springs, home of the Air Force Academy, one of the Army's forts, and, of all things, a hotbed of nascent feminist women. My friend, whom I'd always admired as an intellectual and psychological adventuress, had broken from one nonorgasmic affair and an equally unsatisfying near-marriage with a man who, quicker than you can say *qui tollis peccata mundi*, subsequently married, became a university professor, a Catholic convert, and the father of three. Betsy embraced feminism, as so many women did, with the passion appropriate to a new lover, and, indeed, the relationship between feminism and sexuality was basic, primal, deep. Feminism was for Betsy, I believe, the rediscovery that the company of women was as valid and validating as the company of men — as interesting and more comfort-

ing; more important, feminism was the unveiling of the female genital and the discovery of masturbation and orgasm. This is meant quite literally: consciousness-raising group rap sessions led to "self-health" classes in which Betsy would open her vagina with a speculum before a group of women who would be encouraged to examine and explore their own genitalia. Betsy practiced and practiced masturbating, turned what had been in her mind self-abuse into self-love, and in her mid-twenties had her first orgasm.

Here, finally, was a political movement I could understand, based on the awakening of personal happiness, dedicated to the separation of desire from despair. My enthusiasm was only bounded by my sex (men in the

Feminism, based on the awakening of personal happiness, dedicated to the separation of desire from despair, was a political movement I could understand.

women's movement were and still seem to be about as welcome as Nazis in the Jewish Underground), and my open enthusiasm for pornography, heterosexual and homosexual, which identified me surely as a member of the opposing caste. The men's group in Colorado Springs disintegrated into a drinking club before it disbanded, and an organized men's auxiliary to the women's movement has not formed in the decade that has passed since then. After reading this statement by Susan Griffith, why it never happened suddenly becomes clear:

*Let us look at what lesbianism might mean outside the pornographic mind. A lesbian is a woman who loves another woman: a woman who loves, cherishes, touches, soothes, brings pleasure and ecstasy to the body of another wo-*

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Chorale Debut

"Praise the Lord, we are a musical nation," jests a character of Dylan Thomas Under Milk Wood as a floor-scrubber murders a tune while she works. Thomas may have been jesting about his Welshmen, but the comment seems true about America's Gay population. Non-professional Gay participation in the arts is hardly uncommon these days, and San Francisco's newest musical group makes its debut this week. Dick Kramer, known as the founder and first director of the Gay Men's Chorus, has started this new group, named the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale, and he told the B.A.R. about the group and its first four concerts, being held April 21, 22, 24 and 29.

"I organized the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale in September of 1982. After leaving the Gay Men's Chorus I wanted to continue making music with Gay men. We still have a statement to make and although some of my singers have been or are in the Chorus there are other Gay men who want to make music.

"I feel that with this group it will be easier to relate to the whole community, and by that I mean the straight community. It's long been my feeling that Gay people need to do that.

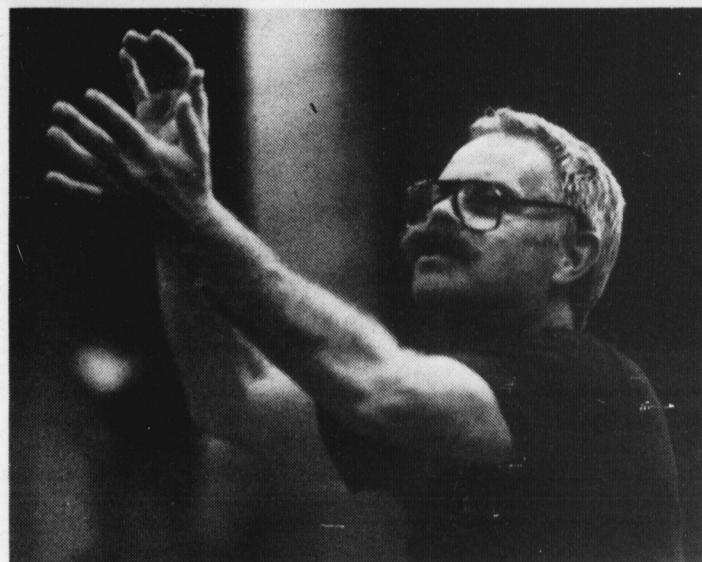
"There are 31 men in the Chorale, as opposed to 140 in the Chorus. This smaller size enables me to do music of a chamber sort as well as larger pieces. My name appears in the group's title since I am shaping the group more personally than is frequently done.

"Our first concerts, which we've been preparing since last September, purposefully cover ground. Our audience and the Chorale needs exposure to the variety of men's choral music that exists. Besides, my ears demand variety. I've included two pieces by Ives, a revival song called 'Zion's Walls' arranged by Aaron Copeland, an 'Ave Maria' by the contemporary Finnish composer Rautavaara and 'The Last Words of David' by Randall Thompson. These modern works contrast romantic pieces by Finzi — the beautiful song 'Thou Didst Light My Eyes' — and 'Four Scriptural Songs' by Brahms with earlier works by Lassus, Croce and Handel. Further variety comes with a bass aria from Faust and arrangements by Griffes and Copeland of four 'Songs of the Sea.

"Some of the texts, especially the Thompson, deal with liberation. They'll have special meaning for our Gay audience, but not specific enough to preclude a more general audience.

"The group is suddenly — even this week — making a wonderful sound. That's what turns me on about the whole process. It's political to use that word, Gay, and be Gay performers. But that's secondary. Making music is our raison d'être."

The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale in Concert: April 21 and 22, Church of the Advent, 261 Fell; April 24, The Pride Center (a 50/50 benefit); April 29, St. Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate. All performances are at 8 PM; tickets are \$6. Info: 863-0342.



Dick Kramer, whose new Gay Men's Chorale debuts this week.

Dreams/Schemes

Known to many as Daniel Scandal, Daniel Robeski is currently exhibiting his unusual collection of collage works at The Bear, 440 Castro, through June 1. Dreams/Schemes as he calls the exhibit, combine together elements of the mystical, erotic and apocalyptic in large size col-

lages that nearly defeat reproduction. The collages juxtapose the sacred and the profane and are frequently elaborately byzantine in their depth of detail.

Robeski makes the process of composition sound easy, although the finished product belies his breeziness. "I sort through piles of pictures, magazines, books and old prints un-



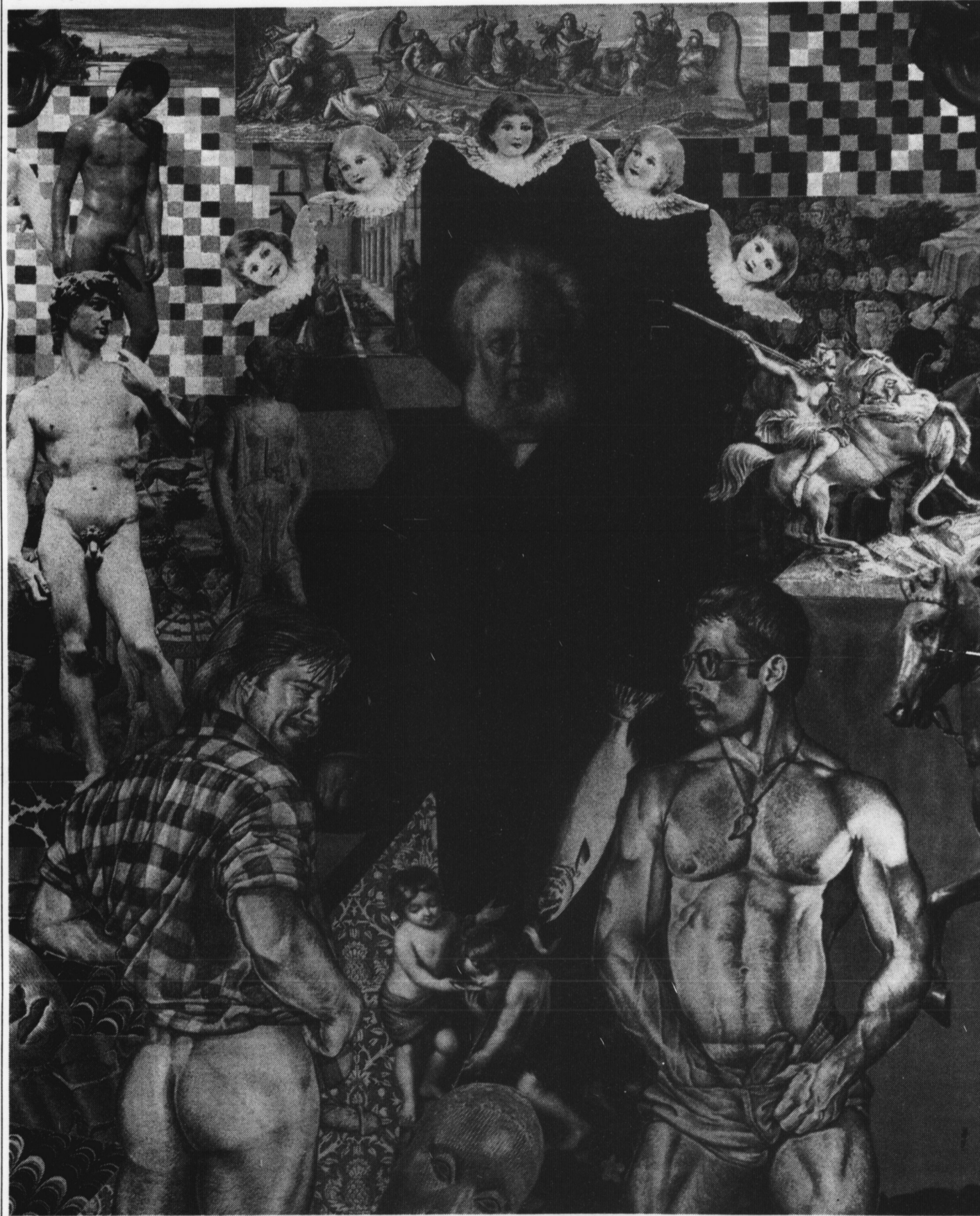
Frequent B.A.R. contributor Adele Prandini (second from right) is one of Four Women in Search of A Solo, a theatre montage of original works. Susan Dambroff, Debbie Israel and Anne Leonard complete the quartet. They'll perform for four nights, April 22-23 and 29-30 at Studio W, (22nd and Capp Streets). Curtain at 8:30; admission \$4. (photo: Z. Moskel)

til I find just the right images for whatever I'm doing at the time," he said.

"I've even picked stuff off the street and incorporated it. The whole process is one of 'finding' the suitable images and then assembling them into a completed 'cosmic puzzle' I've work-

ed out in my head."

Robeski feels his combinations of the sexual, religious, elegant and low-brow "serve up the fact that in everyday reality the loftiest motivations will be inevitably vulgarized, while in the spiritual realm all is equally sacred."



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STAGE

Pharmaco And Fantasy

In Between the Tricks and the Tragedies

by Scott Treimel

King of the Crystal Palace is more a vision than a play. It is not the conception of a mechanistic intelligence but a dusky impression coaxed from that part of the mind where the soft musing of dreamwork occurs. The play conjures up the world inside "a typical South of Market flea trap," replete with drug addiction, love-torn souls, and infinite anguish. It does not, however, explore these as issues; there are no willful resolutions, no moments of epiphany, no prescriptive finality. King of the Crystal Palace is a matrix of themes that redouble, fall away, converge, and sometimes collide. Together they posit something more basic than the existential terms of happiness, which is here beside the point. The point is survival, and what playwright C. D. Arnold suggests is a certain view of the world that sees life as therapeutic strategy.

The lights rise on the loft where Seth, an overwrought playwright with a stagey disposition, works. He is like Tom in The Glass Menagerie, both the narrator and a player. He tells us he must write a play, needs the money, has no choice. Of course this is baloney. He must write a play because he has one to write, and it is as phlegm to him — something he must cough up. Seth also tells us of his lover Rob, whose courtship with crystal Methadrine is progressing to a more committed relationship. Seth's love for Rob is organic, it clutches his gut, and Rob's growing estrangement has set tension a foot. This is what we know as Seth commences to write his play, which then unfolds before us.

The play is Seth's rendition of what happens in the South of Market flea trap owned by the sensible Mo, Seth's devoted, protective, heterosexual liaison. She is coping with an indistinct dissatisfaction and is distressed by the diffusion in the household the three constitute. There was a fourth, Lyle, an acknowledged space cadet, but he fled San Francisco and hemorrhaged to death in an airplane washroom.

Rob has taken up with a fellow named Simon, a Black man who deals drugs and likes to get Rob in the sack. Simon is the metaphor come to life — the dark tempter — and he plays on Rob's itch for addiction. It seems

refuses to hem the world inside a tidy package, so it leaves its characters' future uncertain. It also maintains neutrality. You can, for example, read the story of Seth and Rob a dozen ways. While the play supports each of them, it convinces you of none. Seth's mind, in which most of the play is set, is too honest to settle on a one-sided truth, so instead of interpreting the events it replays and muses on them.

I see a problem here. The events are passionate, charged, fist-clenched fits. It seems to me unlikely that a mind recollecting this feverishness could render it neutrally. I have never known a mind to range this kind of passionate turf without succumbing to judgment. A mind that has a ferocious story in it, and Seth's surely has this, might forsake one point of view but rather than settle on none I should think



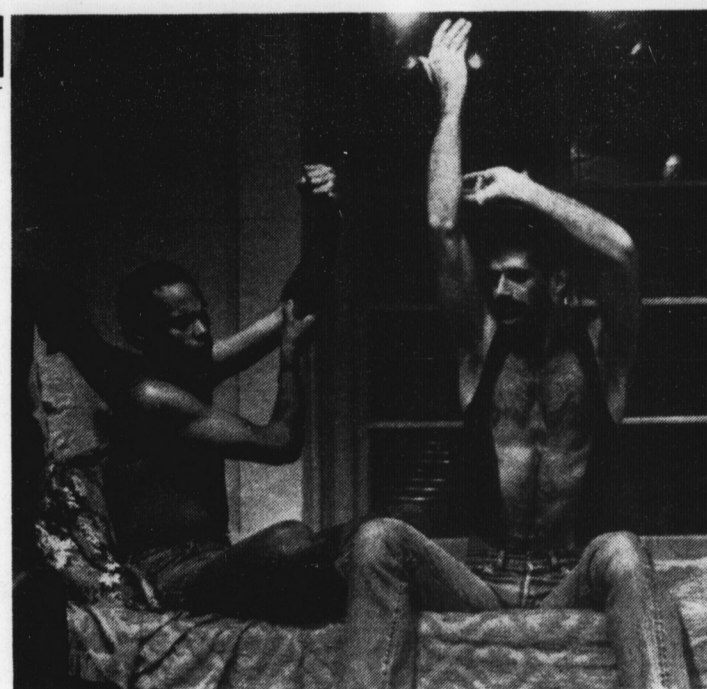
The sight of a beautiful full moon brings a moment of calm to Ann Block and Chuck Solomon during KING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE. (Photo: M.I. Chester)

Rob wants dependence, preferably nonhuman, so one night he and Simon shoot speed and escape to their other addiction, a bathhouse. The action is decisive: Rob opts for a life of pharmaco and fantasy and leaves Seth.

The house is oozing drama now. Seth's play has permeated his pores and poisoned him to the world outside his invention. Mo flees the no-longer sufferable scene to regain autonomy in Mexico. A boarder named Rocky, fresh from 24 straight years in Anaheim, moves in. South of Market's sexual circus has him wide-eyed with excitement, which puts him at odds with the skulking Seth. No matter, the two survive. Everyone survives. Simple human

to your reason. You know these people, and are perhaps even among them.

The assembly that enacts these characters performs well, with one stand-out in each direction. Ann Block as Mo is an uncanny actress. Though absolutely unassuming, she wins your attention every minute she is on stage. She loves Seth and yet is exasperated by him. When she says, "We've got to get a handle on things or we're not going to make it," the entire complex of her feelings is present. You know that even her love has its limits and they are drawing near. Mo senses this herself and it frightens her. Ms. Block, who seems made for intimate theater, conveys all this at once. J. Carlton Powers as Simon, on the other hand, has yet to command his character. It gets away from him, so when he excitedly bursts into Rob's room and reports another drug bust, you sense he is playingacting. The character may well be playingacting, for he is paranoid, a dealer, and he may



Speeding Into Fantasy. A high-powered moment in CRYSTAL PALACE, as J. Carlton Powers (l.) and Steven Patterson spin off together into the separating fantasies of drugs. (Photo: M.I. Chester)

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VOL. XIII NO. 17 APRIL 28, 1983

## A News Analysis

# Mayor Won Even Better Than Expected

## Most Gays Pushed for Victory

by George Mendenhall

The Gay political clubs divided on the recall of Mayor Dianne Feinstein, so how did the Gay community vote? The 80% victory indicates that a large number of Gay people also supported her. A recent *San Francisco Examiner* survey had 71% of this community voting against the recall.

The riddle of how Gay people voted is further complicated by the massive absentee vote. Since that vote is not broken down into precincts, it is impossible to determine what designated "Gay" areas did.

The Victory Party at Fein-

stein's headquarters was a crowded, noisy affair with many identifiable Gay activists — notably from the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club. They were lost in the mob. The most notable Gay person, there to capture the TV cameras, was Jack Fertig in

his Sister Boom Boom drag. Feinstein's Gay aide, Peter Nar-doza, questioned Fertig as to why he was there, since he had supported the recall. Fertig replied, "It is such a lovely party. I am meeting so many wonderful people. I am here to reconcile my differences with Dianne."

The cross-section of people from varied ages and ethnic backgrounds at the victory cele-

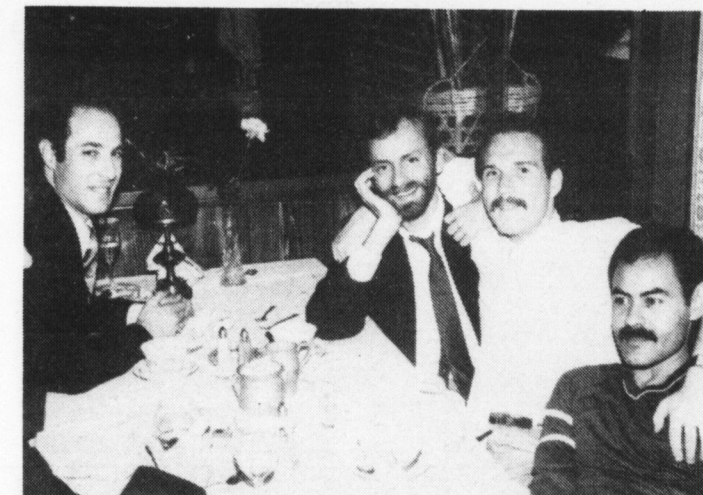
(Continued on page 11)



Dianne Feinstein arrives at her headquarters at 10:15 Tuesday night — barely able to squeeze through the crowd to make it to the stage. Despite voluble critics, Gays and Lesbians went overboard in support of the mayor. (Photo: Rink)

# 'B.A.R.' Celebrates 13th Birthday

## 77 Contributors Honored at Le Domino Banquet



Fifty of the 77 writers, photographers and technicians that produce *Bay Area Reporter* were honored by publisher Bob Ross Sunday night at Le Domino restaurant. This newspaper, the largest and most successful Gay weekly in the nation, was celebrating the beginning of its 14th year of publication. Dinner and cocktails were "on the boss."

Mayor Dianne Feinstein arrived early to informally celebrate the occasion.

"Happy birthday to B.A.R.," commented Mayor Feinstein during the 6-7 pm cocktail period. She arrived early so as not to miss the "60 Minutes" CBS-TV segment on the recall campaign. The mayor told Ross and Editor Paul Lorch, "I hope you increase circulation and continue with positive, constructive articles." As she exited, she joked, "Oh, yes, and always be good to the mayor."

B.A.R. had a special reason to celebrate. Its technical expansion had been extensive in 1982-83. The newspaper's seven full-time employees had been enjoying the recently installed automatic newspaper and typography equipment — the most modern "state of the art" machines. The B.A.R. facility now includes four typesetting machines, word processors, a fully equipped photo lab, and inter-office telephone service. This newspaper, which doubled its office space in the past two years, is now seeking adjoining space for further expansion.

Entertainment Editor John Karr revealed that he now has over 30 contributing writers and photographers to cover show biz/leather/the bar scene/sports and porno. Editor Lorch receives contributions from 40 writers and photographers. Published contributors are paid, not a common practice among most Gay publications.

Publisher Ross told his Le Domino guests that he appreciated their efforts in making B.A.R. the leading Gay weekly. He then led the dinner crowd from the upstairs dining room to the downstairs lounge. Joining the staffers were guests Supervisor Richard Hongisto and his wife, Elizabeth Colton. ■

# Massive \$2.1 Million AIDS Request Submitted to City

by George Mendenhall

The number of AIDS cases have doubled in six months with 175 known cases having been diagnosed in San Francisco. Researchers estimate that there could be an additional 350 local cases before the end of 1983.

"Every dime we spend now on AIDS," Supervisor John Molinari has told the Board of Supervisors, "could prevent many additional cases, and save a lot of lives, months from now. We have to get this disease under control before any more good, young lives are lost to it."

Molinari and Supervisor Harry Britt have submitted a \$2.1 million emergency request to the city this week for local education, services, and research involving AIDS and AIDS patients. In addition, Mayor Dianne Feinstein has requested \$293,500 for additional funds to assist AIDS patients with housing problems.

Britt said that there is an immediate need for additional ser-

vices for screening, patient care, counseling and public education. He and Molinari called the AIDS crisis an epidemic that demands emergency funding both locally and nationally. Britt says State help is on the way and announced that Rep. Barbara Boxer is one of those re-introducing national legislation to provide the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia with \$10 million for research. (The original national legislation was

introduced by the late Congressman Phillip Burton).

The new funding request by Britt and Molinari includes a massive community education campaign to alert citizens to the high risk of contracting AIDS and an explanation of symptoms. It also involves funding for epidemiology (determining the incidence, distribution and control of the disease), screening services, mental health care and research.

## AIDS RESEARCH

The research request is for \$838,671 to fund medical research proposals to determine the causes, transmission and cure of AIDS. The largest research grant would go to the University of California for studies involving lymph node swelling, tissue specimen and serum sample processing, the attempt to isolate the infectious agent responsible for AIDS, a clinical study of diagnostic tests and other AIDS-related projects.

Research funds would also be (Continued on page 10)

# Catholics Stop Gay Chorale Concert

## Dick Kramer Shifts Event to Pride Center

Roman Catholic Church officials in San Francisco have ordered its Franciscan order to cancel a Gay concert at St. Boniface. The event was a performance by Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Chorale, which was to sing this Friday night at the Tenderloin church at 133 Golden Gate Avenue.

Kramer says the chorale concert, the final one in a series, will be held at the Pride Center, 890 Hayes (at Fillmore). He said, "We wanted to be at St. Boniface because of the building's beauty and its fine acoustics. We had planned a final rehearsal there. My concern has been about the

quality of the concert and now I must try to make technical changes."

The Franciscan order suddenly informed the St. Boniface pastor, Fr. Robert Pfeister, on Tuesday of this week that there was to be no Gay concert on the (Continued on page 11)

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