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Mayor Names Judge Herb Donaldson to Head Up Health Benefits Task Force

Alice Demos Get Four Seats

Before leaving for her Hawaiian vacation last week, Mayor Dianne Feinstein set up a Task Force on Equal Benefits to review City practices and make recommendations to insure that health benefits are provided equally to municipal employees. In so doing, the mayor put into place her second plank on the controversial domestic partners bill and fulfilled a promise she made to the Gay community three months ago.

In December Mayor Feinstein vetoed Supervisor Harry Britt's bill on City employee domestic partners. When a second version was presented to her, she said

that the Gay "marriage certificate" was still unacceptable (and would continue to be) but that other aspects of the bill were of no trouble. These included City employee health benefits, jail and hospital visitation rights, and bereavement leave. She next promised to set up a task force to study fringe benefits.



Judge Herb Donaldson will chair mayor's task force on city employees' fringe benefits. (Photo: Rink)

In mid-March the mayor issued an official memorandum spelling out her policy that Gays are entitled to bereavement leave as are any other City employees. The leave policy applied "on the death of any person who is permanently residing in the household of the employee."

Harry Britt's office immediately attacked the mayor's memo as being irrelevant because it limited coverage to one residing in the household. Britt aide Dana Van Gorder told the Bay Area Reporter that their legislation was targeted to people who did not live together and that Feinstein's memo only restated what everyone knew. The Britt office admission cost the measure further lack of support among fellow supervisors. At this time the Version II Domestic Partners is dead and in deep freeze say City Hall watchers.

"I want to be sure that all individuals employed by San Francisco are treated equally and fairly with respect to health benefits," the mayor said last Friday.

"One useful thing we learned in the domestic partner controversy last fall is that deserving dependents — a handicapped relative, an aged parent, or a dependent other than a marriage partner — are denied access to Health Service System benefits.

"I ask this task force to evaluate employee access to our Health Service System to determine whether it is possible to institute a method of extending health benefits to a principal beneficiary, rather than a spouse, as is done in the armed services — while recognizing that premium costs may vary.

(Continued on page 12)

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KS Foundation Goes National

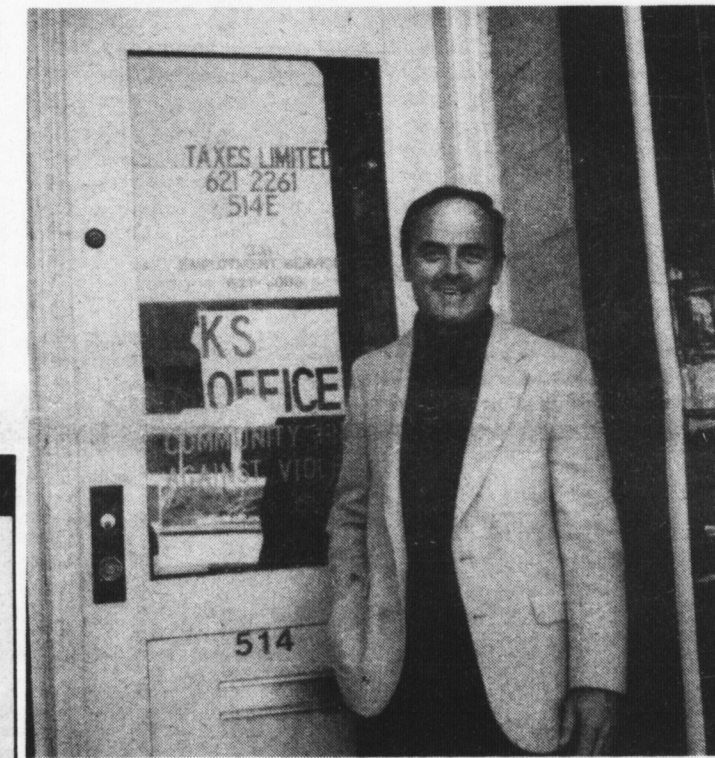
Hires New Director

by Wayne April

The Kaposi's Sarcoma Research & Education Foundation, the San Francisco organization that was established to fight AIDS, and which just received \$400,000 in research funds from the National Institutes of Health, is transforming itself into a national foundation and has hired a new executive director to head it.

The newly renamed AIDS and KS Foundation will act as an umbrella organization for local groups based in cities

led in San Francisco, and five other cities are expected to follow in May, according to Foundation treasurer Bob Ross.



Phil Conway, new executive director of the KS Foundation outside their Castro Street office. (Photo: Rink)

where the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, AIDS, a major killer of Gay men, has become a health crisis. So far, Sacramento has the only group under the umbrella, but a new group is currently being assembled. The old KS Foundation board of directors has become the board for the national foundation. A new director will be added to the board from each new local AIDS group that joins. (Continued on page 11)

200 Attend Catholic Gay Social Justice Forum

Clergy Turn Out for 1-Day Program

by George Mendenhall

"Now the Work Begins" was the forum's title and 200 Gay people and Roman Catholic officials attended. The event at Old St. Mary's Church last Saturday was considered a success by its sponsors.

However, how the Lesbian/Gay Task force of the Church's Social Justice Commission will be able to implement the 54 recommendations of its earlier study remains unclear. Still, forum members endorsed the recommendations and hopefully will themselves become a broader group to make them a reality. The overall aim is to mellow the Church's non-communication with Gay Catholics and involve the Church in some of the goals of the Gay liberation movement.

CATHOLIC OFFICIALS

Those present were encouraged by the attendance of priests and nuns from Catholic service agencies and the archdiocese of office itself.

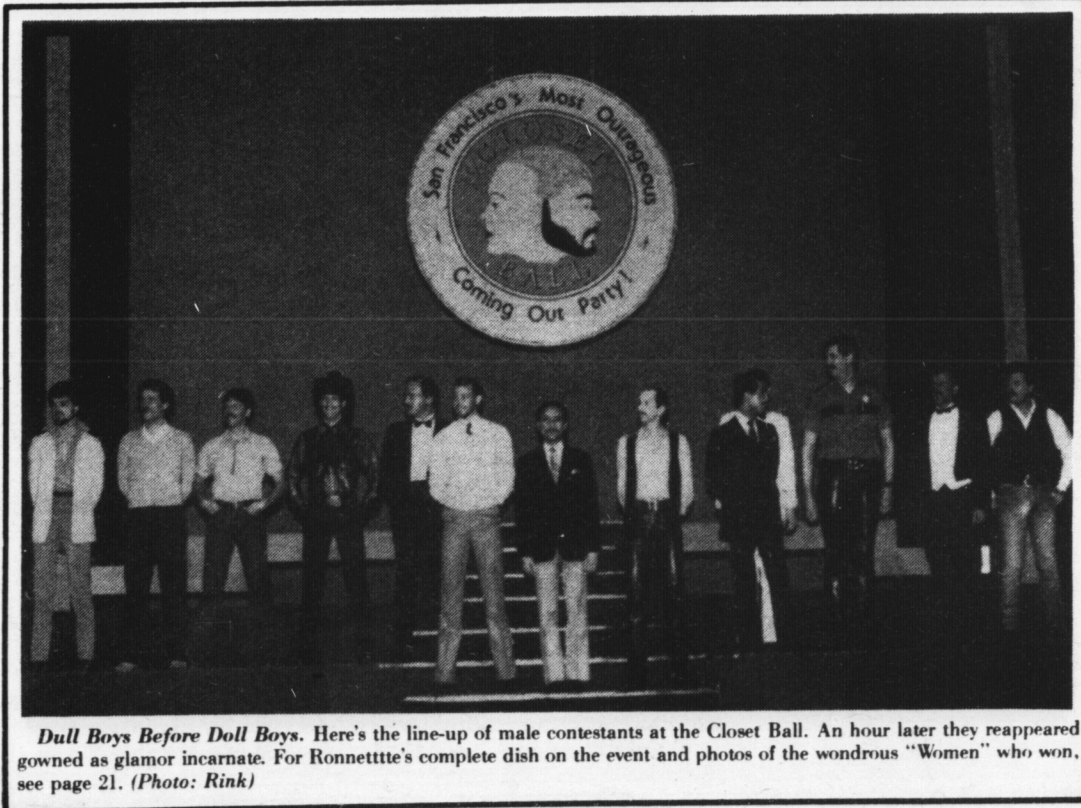
The secretary to Archbishop John Quinn, Fr. Robert McElroy, attended with Fr. Gerald Coleman. Both men are members of the archbishop's own Priest Senate, which will issue its report on Gays and the Church within the next month.

Monsignor Peter Armstrong also attended. He is the priest who chairs the full commission.

An earlier attempt by Armstrong to disband the task force failed. He was joined by Dr. Tom Abroggi, who is the Executive Director of the commission. Also in attendance: Fr. Robert Pfisterer, the controversial pastor of St. Boniface Church, who had scheduled and then been forced to cancel a recent concert by the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale.

GORDON'S FORUM

The determined dynamo behind the task force is a therapist (Continued on page 18)



Dull Boys Before Doll Boys. Here's the line-up of male contestants at the Closet Ball. An hour later they reappeared gowned as glamor incarnate. For Ronnetttt's complete dish on the event and photos of the wondrous "Women" who won, see page 21. (Photo: Rink)

Gay Press Association Convenes in Philly

by Steve Warren

Mark Segal, Gay activist and publisher of Philadelphia's *Gay News*, became the second president of the two-year-old Gay Press Association (GPA) at the group's third convention May 1 in Philadelphia.

Action Programs were adopted for outreach to women and minorities to increase their involvement in both the organization and Gay media in general.

It was Segal's weekend from start to finish, one he'd been planning for months and brought off with the help of his paper's staff. The highlight, at least for a former Philadelphian, was marching down the street behind a gaudily dressed string band.

DAY ONE

Caucuses were scheduled Friday afternoon for women and GPA Wire Service users. The women reported back suggestions for a sliding scale of membership fees and possibly scholarships to future conventions to encourage participation by workers on grass roots volunteer publications, which would include most Lesbian and minority press.

The other caucus grappled with a variety of questions about how to improve the quality of the wire service, which needs more funding and more input by publications taking news off the wire, as well as from major cities where no publications are participating as yet. A full-time editor will be essential not too far down the road.

User fees of \$20 per month were proposed for online publications, and a goal was set of two items per issue to be filed on the wire by those publications. It was announced that the computer would start keeping track of payment for writers who attach a fee to their work. A "bulletin board" feature will be made available for members and other Gay organizations to use in exchanging messages, creating in effect an electronic community center.

DAY TWO

The *Gay News* hosted a welcoming cocktail party which was visited by local political figures, including the clear-cut liberal choice in Philadelphia's mayoral race, Wilson Goode. Former presidential candidate John Anderson, who would be a keynote speaker later in the evening, spent at least an hour mingling with the crowd as we ate hoagies, soft pretzels and Hershey bars, all local delicacies. (What — no Tasty Kake?)

The string band led a parade from the *Gay News* office to the DCA Club, a local disco whose lighting setup looks like four cocks and a ball, where the convention was treated to a buffet and serenaded by the Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus (a very tenor-oriented group — their basses are barely baritone).

In introducing the first keynote speaker Segal said his goal had been to see that the Gay Press Association was treated as any professional organization would be. To that end he had secured citations from the state house and city council and had elected representatives on hand to greet us. In the same vein, because presidential candidates address other press associations he had invited John Anderson to



Bay Area Reporter columnist George Heymont was a prize winner at last week's Gay Press Association convention in Philadelphia.

DAY THREE

This Anderson did — at length (35 minutes). He made no mention of running again but was obviously out to build a Gay constituency. Speaking about "freedom of association" he stretched to link his April 19 Supreme Court victory against the state of Ohio to the cause of human rights and segued into a brief eulogy: "My, what a champion of human rights and Gay rights Phil Burton was — and a very dear friend of mine."

The rest of his speech was devoted to a politically correct analysis of AIDS on which an un-

named associate in California had done a good bit of work. He drew a parallel between AIDS and "coronary artery disease," which had once been labeled the "Jewish disease" because it was first isolated in a hospital with primarily Jewish patients. "No disease discriminates on the basis of sexuality," Anderson said, "except perhaps in the minds of the 'Moral Majority.'"

Keynote number two was Roger Wilkins, son of former NAACP Executive Director Roy Wilkins and currently a CBS Radio commentator and a Senior Fellow at the Institute for

Policy Studies in Washington, DC. He discussed how his consciousness had originally been raised on Gay issues through his association with the late Bob Livingston, who had likewise used Wilkins to become sensitized to the Black experience.

Recalling the homophobia he had encountered at the *New York Times*, where he'd had Gay-related articles rejected as irrelevant to his "urban affairs" beat, Wilkins outlined the function of "writers from repressed minorities" — primarily "to record the experience of the oppressed . . . to give comfort and hope." He said we must be open to learning and should resist the pressure from our own community "to adhere to a party line."

DAY TWO

Saturday was devoted to four 90-minute workshop sessions, with a choice of three or four in each period. The 108 registered attendees could pick from: Ad Sales, Investigative Journalism, Business Management, Sexual Content in Publications, Targeting Minority Markets, Label and Plagiarism, Ethical Guidelines and other topics.

A number of conventioners took special buses that evening to an AIDS benefit in New York, the Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey circus at Madison Square Garden, which raised a quarter of a million dollars. Others went to a reception at the Key West bar, featuring entertainment by Robin Tyler. Still others explored the local night life on their own or stayed in the hotel and talked shop.

DAY THREE

The Sunday morning business session included lengthy commercial presentations by an insurance firm offering special coverage to GPA members and a company which audits newspaper circulation; a surprisingly breezy treasurer's report by Morgan Pinney of San Francisco; the election of a board of directors for the next year; some non-controversial by-laws changes; and reports and motions on a variety of subjects.

Mark Segal was opposed for the presidency by Susan Cavin, publisher and co-editor of the *Big Apple Dyke News* in New York, and Larry Bush, Washington Correspondent. Both were more concerned with raising issues than being elected, and Segal won easily. In his acceptance speech he announced the start of outreach programs to women and minorities.

Elected to other offices were Henry McClurg, publisher of Houston's *Montrose Voice*, *Out in Texas* and *Dallas Gay News*, vice-president; Staci Aker, treasurer of Miami's *The Weekly News*, secretary; and incumbent Morgan Pinney, treasurer.

Don Pintacura, publisher and managing editor of *Western Express* in Phoenix, was elected to the board seat representing the Western Caucus, which includes San Francisco. Other regional seats went to: Roy Lindberg, who publishes the *GP Reporter* on Staten Island (Northeast); Tony Rome, publisher and editor-in-chief of *Cruise*, Detroit (Midwest); Jack Campbell, founder of the Club Bath Chain and publisher of *Out in Florida*, which is starting regional editions in other markets (South); and Steve Warren, syndicated writer whose work appears in the *Bay Area Reporter* in his home town of San Francisco (National, actually International, as three other countries — Australia, Canada and the Netherlands — were represented at the convention).

Two "at large" members were elected to the board — Susan Cavin and Bob Craig, the latter

(Continued on page 18)

A News Analysis

Gay L.A. Banker Heads Jerry Brown's PAC

by George Mendenhall

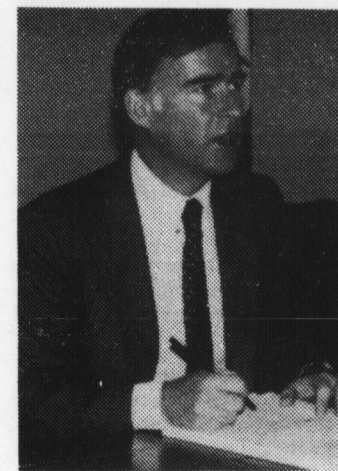
Sheldon Andelson, a University of California regent and founder of the Bank of Los Angeles, chairs a new group, Committee for California. It is denied that this is a front group for Jerry Brown but the former governor joked at a CC banquet here recently, "Well, I didn't put myself on the Board of Directors."

Andelson is an upfront Gay person and major contributor to the Democratic Party. He was appointed to the U.C. regents by Brown and was confirmed by the State Senate over objections about his Gay lifestyle.

A table of Gay activists near the speakers platform included Municipal Judge Herb Donaldson, PD Attorney Law Wilson, and the Local 2 Business Manager, Sal Rosselli.

Andelson emphatically denied to this reporter that the new group "is promoting Jerry Brown" but the guests understood what it was all about. Brown is to be the chief spokesperson for the committee, allowing him a platform while he is out of office. There was some talk at the banquet that Brown will seek the presidency again.

The stated purpose of the committee is to elect Democrats



Ex-Governor Jerry Brown sets up political slush fund. (Photo: Rink)

to Congress. Sala Burton was present to accept the group's first cash contribution for her congressional bid.

Brown was casual and flippancy in his remarks. He said, "We must continue the course. I will raise money for this group as I have a habit of raising money. Your financial responsibility is bottomless."

Another Brown — Assembly Speaker Willie Brown — attended. He credited the former governor with "turning the bold dreams of people into political statements. His greatness will not be recognized for many years, when historians in 2020 will look back and recognize the importance of Jerry Brown."

Gay people have an interest in Brown because as governor he supported Gay issues and made numerous appointments of Gay people and women to state positions.

Whether the public can forgive and forget is a question yet to be answered. A recent Field poll indicated that Brown remains unpopular with a large part of the California citizenry.



Los Angeles Gay attorney/banker Sheldon Andelson heads up ex-governor's PAC. (Photo: Rink)

Alice Focuses on AIDS

Britt Eases Stand on AIDS Bill

by Margaret Frost

The top issue of the day, AIDS, again topped the agenda at the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club meeting this week, with the club increasing its efforts to deal with the growing epidemic.

Alice members voted to lobby the Board of Supervisors for at least \$2 million in funding for research and patient service. The figure was drawn from a board resolution drafted by Supervisors Harry Britt and John Molinari. The bill is in the form of a grants package, totaling \$2.1 million given to various agencies for AIDS-related services. The bill as originally drafted designates dollar amount grants to specific projects. But by this week Britt was backing off insisting his choices become law.

Some of Britt's colleagues on the board had voiced some concern over the specific grants — feeling neither they nor the Gay supervisor possessed the expertise to judge individual requests.

Briefly addressing the Alice meeting, Britt admitted that he too lacked the expertise to judge the merit of the various proposals. Instead, he included all funding requests received by his office, leaving it to the mayor and other city departments to evaluate the programs. The Alice executive board was directed by the membership to

advise the mayor in this process, seeking community input to avoid duplication of efforts. If the bill passes, it will probably be without the specific allocations.

The Britt/Molinari resolution will go before the Finance Committee Wednesday, May 18, at 1:30 p.m. in room 228, City Hall. Community representatives will be on hand to testify on the urgency of the AIDS problem.

Alice President Randy Stallings stated his intention to meet with the presidents of the Harvey Milk and Stonewall Gay Democratic Clubs and Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights to coordinate action around AIDS. "It is most important that we work together to avoid duplication of effort, and particularly to avoid any sense of competition," Stallings stressed.

The club also planned to initiate community discussion on a proposal to create a full-time AIDS lobbyist in Washington and formed a subcommittee to work exclusively on AIDS issues.

Pacific Center Hosts AIDS Benefit

Oakland's disco the Bench & Bar, 120 11th Street, will be the scene Sunday night, May 15, for a gala show starring Peter Todd, Gay Olympics gold medal winner in Physique, accompanied

by other finalists, doing their winning poses and routines.

Donations will be accepted at the door, for the 8 p.m. event. For further info call 841-6224.

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New York Marches and Rallies for AIDS

by Konstantin Berland

A crowd of several thousand gathered at Sheridan Square, lining up with banners and candles down Christopher Street in front of what was once the Stonewall bar, symbolic birthplace of the modern Gay Liberation movement. Posters in the air sung the slogan: "Fighting for Our Lives!"

As demonstrators proceeded down Bleeker Street for the Federal Building in Federal Plaza, marchers added the chant: "What do we want? Money for AIDS! When do we want it? NOW!"

A golden dollar sign held high at the front of the march led the way, the imperative from the already ill and among the worried faces those who may not know it yet.

"We never know who or when it will strike," said rally MC Jim Fournat on the rally platform below the government headquarters: "To be healthy today is no guarantee," Fournat added. One hand-made sign near the stage: "Man: The Next Endangered Species."

Manhattan Democratic Congressman Ted Weiss, a favorite of the crowd, thanked the Gay community for raising the issue. "We owe you, the Gay community, the greatest appreciation because outside of you nobody has attempted to mobilize or to deal with a problem that belongs to all of us."

Weiss was cheered when he attributed "the reticence with which we address the AIDS epidemic" as akin to society's unwillingness to afford the Gay community their civil rights. Weiss also expressed concern for AIDS patients who may now qualify for SSI (Supplemental Security Insurance) but under Reagan's new rules cannot get medical coverage for two years.

Weiss also noted that since he had spoken at an AIDS symposium only two weeks earlier another 100 people had been added to the national statistics kept by the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta of patients with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, and 50 more

cure, but "bright ideas fail" when their research isn't funded.

Medical research, Enlow said at the rally, is a multi-billion dollar industry. "It is very appropriate we are here tonight to demand our fair share. I am tired of seeing my friends and patients die."

Manhattan Republican Congressman Bill Green insisted funding of AIDS was a bipartisan effort, despite the Executive branch's dragging its feet in the release of funds already voted by Congress. However, Green said, not enough letters were coming in supporting such funding. "Please help us by writing."

A letter from New York's Governor Mario Cuomo was read, reminding the audience he had declared April AIDS Awareness Month and promising continued support.

Author Larry Kramer boasted that the mayor of San Francisco had committed a million dollars to AIDS research and patient care, while locally Mayor Koch had released only \$25,000 and refused to offer an empty high school on 13th Street in a neighborhood accessible to many patients to be used as a patient services center and office for local AIDS networking groups.

"AIDS is our Vietnam," Kramer asserted. "The issue of AIDS has been turned into politics. We are dying here, not in El Salvador."

Kramer compared \$600 million in aid to the El Salvadoran army support government, \$10 million to fight the Tylenol poisoning and \$5 million emergency federal funds to clear snow off New York City streets to the "princely pisspoo sum" trickling down for AIDS research.

But the most impassioned plea to the President came from AIDS patient Bob Cecchi, who

appealed to Reagan in his role as Father of our Country. "If you are my father, Mr. President, then I am your son. Please help me save my life."

Michael Callan, another AIDS patient and cofounder of Gay Men with AIDS, introduced himself, waving his arms in the air like the Elephant Man. "This is what we look like — just like everybody else."

Callan warned against supporting attempts to quarantine the disenfranchised groups who have been the first targets of AIDS. He also complained about the myth of "bad blood" being perpetrated. "In the name of medicine they might be able to accomplish what they have so far been unable to accomplish politically" in divesting Gays and other groups of their Constitutional rights.

The right to privacy Callan also stressed, noting that social security numbers were now being used to code AIDS patient interviews with the Centers for Disease Control and asked what abusive purposes the government might make of such information. "I want information to go forward," Callan said, "but not at the cost of my civil rights."

"We need to be touched," he said, "talked to and treated like people with disease — not like lepers."

NGTF Director Ginny Apuzzo concluded the rally with a rousing speech cursing the "politics of gesture in the face of rising fatalities." Unsatisfied

with "a thousand dollars here and a thousand dollars there," she warned "those politicians who sell their favors in exchange for charity, the price has just gone up." She called for "a crash program to attack this disease with the seriousness that we're living with it."



NGTF's Ginny Apuzzo was the chief speaker at NYC's march for AIDS. (Photo: Ken Howard)

Apuzzo further vowed, "If something isn't done soon, we will not be here in Federal Plaza at night in this quiet, we will be on Wall Street at noon!" Demands, she said, would be taken to the city, state and federal levels as well as the national conventions next year, "and no politician will be immune to a community who will not take no for an answer."

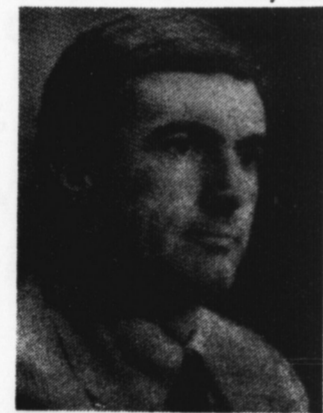
The rally ended with a fist in the air chant, "NOW! NOW! NOW! NOW!" the echoes trailing off into the night.

Gays Split on San Diego Mayoral Race

Republican Openly Sought Gay Vote

by George Mendenhall

Gay Politics received considerable attention in San Diego last week as County Supervisor Roger Hedgecock, a Republican, edged out former Councilwoman Maureen O'Connor, a Democrat, to become mayor. Unlike San Francisco where three Gay Democratic clubs are wooed by Democratic candidates, San Diego's major political force is a strong Gay Republican club. Only Hedgecock availed himself of it. O'Connor snubbed a Gay Demo group.



San Diego's new Republican mayor, who gladly took Gay support.

The Feinstein recall effort here had similarities in the O'Connor campaign: Money was no problem, as O'Connor's husband, the owner of Jack-in-the-Box restaurants, loaned her \$350,000 out of the \$500,000 she raised. A massive absentee mail-in ballot campaign was launched — but by her Republican opponent who sent out 65,000 such ballots. The obvious sameness in the campaigns is that Feinstein and O'Connor are women and Democrats. Both women used a former United Farm Workers organizer to head their precinct efforts.

It worked for Feinstein in heavily Democratic San Francisco, but in San Diego Democratic registration only has a slight edge and the area has con-

sistently voted Republican. Mayor Pete Wilson, a Republican, held that position for 11 years and the area voted overwhelmingly for Reagan.

San Diego's Gay community divided on the candidates and it was generally conceded that doors would be open at City Hall for Gay people no matter who won. However, O'Connor refused to publicly identify with the Gay vote and would not attend a meeting of the Gay San Diego Democratic Club. Hedgecock had no problem with this and openly attended fundraisers for himself run by the Gay Log Cabin Republican Club.

Lesbians, feminists, and some Gay Democrats worked for O'Connor; Allan Giesen, president of Log Cabin, was Hedgecock's campaign coordinator. Both candidates raised \$500,000 — ten times the amount spent in any previous San Diego mayoral race. An estimated \$30,000 was raised for Hedgecock in the Gay community.

Assemblyman Art Agnos, speaking on San Diego, said, "They are getting themselves together down there. They are now where San Francisco was about six or seven years ago. Politicians are now going to them (Gays) for support and political campaign contributions. Two years ago you did not have that in San Diego."

Oil Company's Homophobia Brings \$10 Million Lawsuit

Three Gay men and a straight woman who was their friend have been dismissed or forced to resign from Sohio Petroleum Company. The firm, whose main office is at 100 Pine Street, is charged with permitting its staff members to discriminate against the four former Sohio employees. The attorneys in the \$10 million lawsuit are Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver and her law partner, Arthur Siegel.

Terry Adams claims that she

was denied pay increases and career advancements because she was thought to be "overly friendly with Gay employees and refused to discriminate against them." She also charges that Frank Fisher, Sohio's security director, asked her to identify Gay employees, which she refused to do. She was terminated.

Paul Edmonds, Robert Spear, and Robert Tarsia believe that they were denied promotions, given extra workloads, and even-

tually fired or forced to resign all because they were homosexual.

Spear claims that he was put under surveillance. Edmonds insists that he was forced to resign after he became openly Gay. Tarsia claims that he was denied a routine pay increase granted other employees because he was perceived as being Gay.

All three men state that they were falsely accused and generally harassed because of their sexual orientation. Spear says the stress was so great that he resigned in 1982 "after experiencing an episode of panic and anxiety disorders."

Sohio Petroleum officials have no comment at this time. Silver is representing the clients as a private counsel and not an elected public official.

Marks Offers AIDS Funding Bill

The University of California would receive \$500,000 for research on the causes and cures of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) under a proposal by Senator Milton Marks (R-San Francisco) this week.

"AIDS is a tragic health problem which continues to spread because we do not yet understand its causes or how to prevent it. AIDS is as deadly as smallpox once was. Thirty-eight percent of those known to have contracted the disease have now died," Marks said.

"Nothing is more important than maintaining the good health of all of our citizens —

Gay and heterosexual, men and women, young and old. I am concerned that government has been slow to support research on AIDS," Marks continued.

"Under my proposal, \$500,000 will be appropriated in the state budget for research by the University of California. California must continue to take a leadership role until a cure is found," Marks concluded.

Marks also has co-authored legislation which will establish a section of the State Department



State Senator Milton Marks

of Health Services to fund education and prevention efforts on AIDS.

San Francisco City Clinic VD Control

LOCATION: City Clinic is located at 356 Seventh Street between Folsom and Harrison Streets.

PHONE NUMBERS: The Clinic telephone number is (415) 864-8100 (Main Switchboard), the VD Information Hotline number is 495-OGOD! (6463).

CLINIC HOURS: Monday and Tuesday 9:30 am - 6 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:00 am - 4 pm
Our service fee is \$3.00

CLINIC FEE: In addition to providing community education, outreach screening and epidemiologic control efforts, City Clinic also offers confidential diagnosis and treatment for syphilis, gonorrhea, crabs, scabies, venereal warts and non-gonococcal urethritis.

ACCESSIBILITY: City Clinic provides service to anyone 12 years or older and is wheelchair accessible.

TRANSPORTATION: While car parking is limited to street availability, City Clinic is served by the following Muni Bus routes: 41 Union-Howard, 42 Downtown Loop, 25 San Bruno, 19 Polk, 14X Mission Express, 17X Park-Merced Express and 30X Freeway Express.

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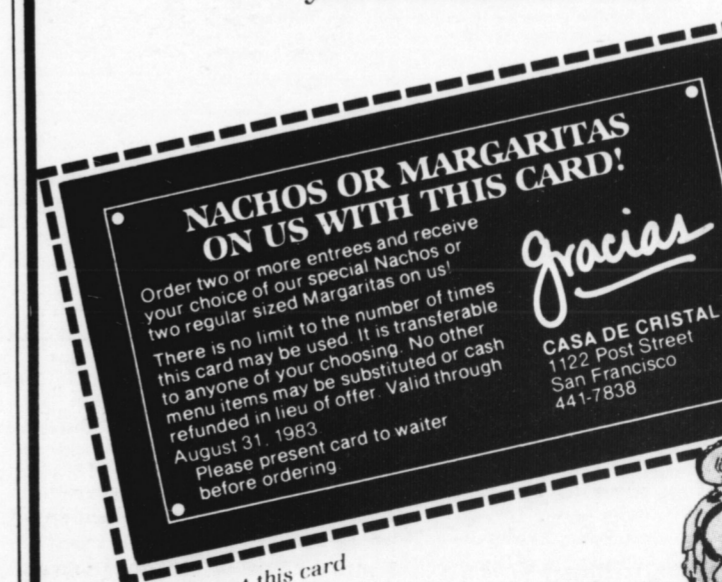
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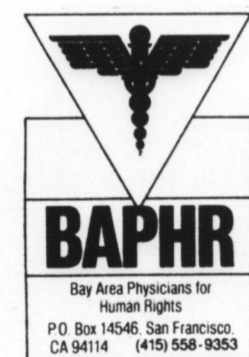
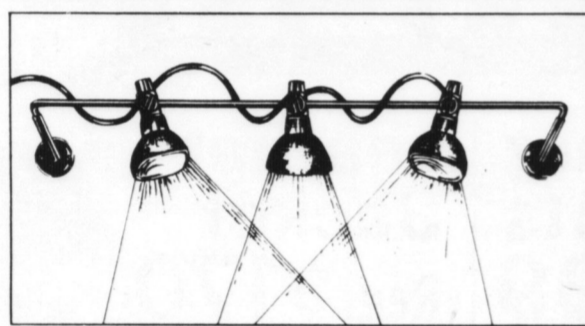
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The Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights wishes to thank the host of medical and non-medical volunteers who helped make last week's Health Fair a resounding success for over 800 participants. We especially thank Health Center #1 Administration and Staff, and Sanchez School for overwhelming cooperation.

To our major financial contributors, deep gratitude:

Dr. George Riley
Atlas Savings and Loan
G.G.B.A.

Tavern Guild of San Francisco
N.C.D.H.R.
Kassman Piano and Organ
K.S. Foundation

Walter Leiss
Crocker Bank Health Fair Coordinating Staff

BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

PLEASING PLAUDITS, PROVOCATIVE PUNDITS, & OTHER PREDICTABLY PRECOCIOUS PROFUNDITIES TO TEASE THE MENTAL PROCESSES PLEASING PLAUDITS, PF
VOL. XIII NO. 19 MAY 12, 1983 NEXT ISSUE OUT: MAY 19 NEXT DEADLINE: MAY 13

VIEWPOINT

AIDS Funding — No Games Please

One reels at times on the rapidity with which the political sands shift. The name of the game: if one loses a battle, then recover with the nearest, safest issue at hand. For the winner the task is to consolidate the gains, and keep the loser in disarray.

Even a sizable victory can be whittled away if the loser seizes the initiative, and the winners snooze on their laurels. Lean and hungry men are seldom caught napping, nor can they afford to nap.

As noted before the issue of the year is AIDS — and will remain so indefinitely. Politicians — like everyone else, once they recognize the stakes — want to do something about it. One of the quickest (and safest) responses is to spend money on the problem.

This is in tune with the wishes of their Gay constituency who are crying even louder, "Do something about it!"

To date we have appropriation bills pending at the city, state, and federal level. Few of us know where the money is going or what it will be doing. All we seem to care about is that so-and-so many \$'s are going for AIDS.

The next question — and a touchy one — is should we care where it goes or how it's spent or who's in charge of it. What with the trillions the various levels of government have pitched away since 1940, who's to quibble with a few thousand here and a few thousand there. Foreign aid is nothing more than hush money, some will say so why should we fret. Afford it we can.

No one wants to be the spoilsport and no one wants to be against the AIDS people. Similarly how could one be against the people in Coalinga from getting Red Cross packages, or low-rate government loans.

Last week the mayor put through a small request for AIDS related projects. It is being followed by a 2.1 million package put together by Supervisor Harry Britt's aide Dana Van Gorder. Harry is the only supervisor who is Gay. Gay men are in trouble. It's an emergency. There isn't time to ask questions, to check out the money seekers. No time to scrutinize the proposals — to find out if the people involved are legit, if the projects are relevant, if there is any overlapping, if there is room for fraud or embezzlement.

Remember it's an emergency . . . and everyone wants to help the patients, to ameliorate the crisis, to find a cure. And — if anyone would impede this process they would be against the sick and dying young men, they would be inhumane, they would be homophobic.

For Harry Britt the situation is ready-made to Gay-bait any other board member. "Oppose me and my bill and you'll feel the wrath of the Gay community."

The situation smacks already sadly close to what went down in the early days of the now shipwrecked domestic partners legislation. The disastrous scenario then: Make it simple, everyone keep quiet, slip it through, don't challenge — this is our legislation. It's a way of saying "hands off . . . join on . . . or you'll be sorry." Everybody then stuck together until the shit hit the fan and then the supervisors flew in every which way — mostly for cover.

In every natural disaster — the first thing in everyone's mind is to help the homeless, feed them, clothe them, find them shelter. Distributing food packages and comforting the injured are kind of a sweet job. We make ourselves feel good by doing good things for others. Unfortunately there are allocated to a few more unpleasant jobs. One of the most distasteful is to prevent looting.

What sense does it make if one part of the relief team is dishing out hot soup in the high school all purpose room to a family in distress. While across town another group is ransacking the family's house, walking away with their valuables and raping their daughter.

(Continued on next page)

LETTERS

For a Job Well Done

★ Most of the criticism directed at your coverage of the AIDS epidemic comes from people who prefer what amounts to psychic healing over scientific research, who pretend that AIDS is not mainly a Gay disease and who refuse to regard the situation as the genuinely frightening development it is.

As one of the few people who has had AIDS or an AIDS-like disease and recovered completely from it — I was sick with all of the AIDS symptoms, including an inverted T-cell ratio (but not KS or Pneumocystis carinii), from February 1982 to January 1983 — I was encouraged to see how early on and how strongly you were bringing what was then a little-spoken-of crisis to the attention of our Gay community. When I and tens of others in the Bay Area were lying in bed with fever, sore throat and diarrhea, sweating and exhausted, month after month while most Gay media ignored the facts or published articles by people advocating positive thinking as a means of dealing with the disease, you were screaming loudly — appropriately so — what a threat this illness was posing to us and our lifestyles.

I think your alarm has, by now, proved justified; almost 1,400 people, 75% of them Gay (and the rest almost entirely needle-users, Haitians and hemophiliacs), have contracted AIDS and over 500 have died, and the number of victims is increasing in a geometric curve. Those victims, like Mark Feldman and Bobbi Campbell, who continue to talk primarily of life's excitement and joys while criticizing you for alerting people to biological perspectives on the disease and to the risks believed to be associated with a high incidence of sexual contacts and with particular sexual practices, are the ones who are not fostering life and are doing a disservice to our community.

I would like to commend and thank you for taking this crisis as the serious emergency it is and for continuing to inform people, even those who want to close their eyes to the truth.

Marc E. Hofstadter, Ph.D.
San Francisco

Acknowledging Bi's

★ The resources mustered for the Wellness-Well Being conference were remarkable, and I appreciate the immense energy that went into and came out of that conference for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual people. I wondered throughout, however, what we as Gay women and men have learned that we could sponsor such a conference with bisexual people and fail to acknowledge their presence from the podium even once in the entire day. Even when protest of the omission was raised from the audience, conference leadership failed to respond.

The health and human rights issues which face us as Gays, face bisexuals as well. Indeed, AIDS itself does not recognize the distinction any better than the press does. The first AIDS fatality in Arizona was not a Gay man, but a bisexual, certainly as AIDS makes its way into the larger population some of those most at risk in this crisis are the bisexual women and Lesbians who relate intimately to us as Gay men. There were several memorable moments during the Wellness conference in which the men with AIDS acknowledged the immense support of Lesbians in facing their challenges; it is unfortunate that as Gay people we could not acknowledge the community, resources, and participation of the powerful bisexuals who were with us.

Nick Latham
San Francisco

Clarification

★ Never have I said or implied that I am glad people are dying of AIDS. I am glad that as Gay men we are finally forced to be responsible adults. I am only sorry it has to be under such terrible circumstances.

Robert Starkey
San Francisco

Culprit

★ It's only a matter of time before medical research confirms it, but the real origin of AIDS is reading B.A.R. too much, especially Paul Lorch's editorials!

David Steinberg
San Francisco

AB1 in Suburbia

★ Contra Costa Citizens note: On May 2, while lobbying for SB 910 (A.I.D.S. research and social services bill) in Sacramento, I visited an administrative assistant to Sen. Daniel Boatwright (D-Contra Cost.). I was given the distinct impression that A.I.D.S. was only a San Francisco concern. If you live in Contra Costa and the A.I.D.S. epidemic is a concern to you, Senator Boatwright's office could benefit from that knowledge. Sen. Daniel Boatwright, Rm. 3086, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814 and 1035 Detroit Ave., Concord, CA 94518

G. Jalbert
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Include Walnut Creek's Assemblyman William Baker (R.); Gary Condit (D.), Modesto; and Pat Johnston (D.), Stockton.

P. Lorch

Help, Don't Kick

★ Much as I appreciate the opportunity the press gives us to respond to organizations and businesses with our complaints, a closer look is needed at a recent complaint against the Community Thrift Store printed in the B.A.R.

I attended an orientation meeting of the beneficiaries of the store as the representative of a president of one of those beneficiaries, so I have a little knowledge of the operation. I also helped collect merchandise for the store and made a couple of donations myself of stuff I didn't want, so that is no big deal.

The entire operations of the store is overlooked by the Tavern Owners Foundation and their auditors. The store is tax-exempt by the I.R.S., and that right must be protected by each of the beneficiaries having that exemption. That is not a simple matter and they need to scout about to get it.

There are between 25 and 30 participants in the proceeds of the store and the bookkeeping problems alone are great just to keep track of the division of profits. Collection of merchandise is the least of the problems. Sorting, marking and sweeping up must also be done. An attitude of "just send the money and don't bother me with the details" is hardly in order. I also understand that some of the gifts were unusable and some dirty, so immediately had to be laundered.

Perhaps B.A.R. should adopt a policy of accepting complaints only from the store's volunteers who can show a few hours of labor there. The moral to me is "Don't Kick a friend in the teeth."

Jack Ragsdale
San Francisco

Grrh . . . Grant . . .

★ In regards to Grant, who runs classified ads in the models and massage sections, he should receive the Pia Zadora Award for believing his own publicity.

Ron & Peter
San Francisco

LETTERS

Mental Health

★ Since your "editor's note" asked a question of me in my most recently published letter in B.A.R., let me respond: there can be no comprehensive substitute for psychotherapy for anyone, including the professional psychs. Merely reading (in a linear sense) material dealing with psychological ideas and processes could be a plaything of the ego, merely intellectual. The value of the intimacy and factor of one-to-one relationship in psychotherapy keeps one essentially honest, whether the ego is comfortable or not. A more advanced context of psychotherapy might proclaim that every single human "problem" begins and ends in the mind alone. It is — in a very real way — our consciousness which determines health or not. Certainly a man who does not ever entertain fear or guilt in his consciousness would be, by any standards, a Superman.

Michael D. Delaney
San Francisco

Inferior Minds

★ I've always thought whenever your publication has been brought to my attention, that what I was seeing was the product of inferior minds. After seeing "The Strips" in the edition of April 28th I have to lower my judgment much, much lower.

Raymond Hulslander
Concord

Fla. Pal

★ I am in need of correspondence and I'd appreciate it very much if you would place this ad because I am a victim of insolvency and I cannot afford to purchase an ad.

Inmate, 23 years old, needs sincere people to write, all letters are welcome. Frank Smith II #046920, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091.

Frank Elijah Smith II

AB1 Urgency

★ AB1, the Gay and Lesbian employment rights bill, was passed out of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee on March 23rd and is currently pending on the Assembly floor.

We need 41 members of the State Assembly to vote "aye" to move AB 1 into the Senate.

Once again I need your active support.

A massive political campaign has been launched to defeat AB 1 by our major opposition — the National Association of Evangelicals.

I need your help to counter-balance this religious right-wing attack against our civil rights. Please assist in the following:

- Attend a state-wide AB 1 conference held at the State Capitol in Sacramento on Saturday, May 21st. This all-day conference will pull our allies from all over the state who will participate in strategy workshops and district organizing behind AB 1. Conference reservation forms and more details may be obtained by calling my office at (415) 557-2253.

- Launch a massive letter-writing campaign supporting AB 1 to some important Bay Area swing voters: Assemblyman Robert Naylor (R-San Mateo), Assemblyman Don Sebastiani (R-Napa), Assemblyman Dominic Cortese (D-Santa Clara), Assemblyman William Filante (R-Marina). All may be reached c/o State Capitol, Sacramento, California 95814.

- Write to Governor George Deukmejian and ask him to sign this bill when it gets to his desk.

With your effort, we can make a difference. I greatly thank you for all your support.

Art Agnos
San Francisco

Parade '82 Recalled

★ Just wanted to find out something, if I can. Some friends and I were sitting home the other night, and somehow I brought up the discussion on the incident last year on the gay whose life was taken during the Gay Day Parade. Well, one of them gets upset, accusing me on getting excited and stuff like that while talking about it. Well attitude was thrown back, let me tell ya, so it ended up being — seeing you around, both sides agreement.

But before he got out the door, I asked him if he'd ever really thought, or gave any thought of any kind, on who that guy was, how he lived, or even thrown a prayer out to him or his family. Well I have, and still do, and I'm pretty sure it won't stop there. And I know I'm not alone. Never met the family, or him and never really heard that much, on his other half, or his sister, the two who had been with him that day. But all in all, my love is with that family, and, always will be.

Wanted to express a caring, and I do.

Roger Hawkins
San Francisco

BART Fare

★ Seeing all the people reading Robert Ludlam novels as I ride to work on BART, I can't help thinking straight people have a disease too.

David Fink
Concord

Olympic Correction

★ In response to Dianne Kovacs (if there is such a person) letter in last week's Bay Area Reporter.

First, let me say that the easiest thing one can do is to criticize. The most difficult thing to do is to research and find the truth!

So — to set the record straight on the few things that I am sure of, I will endeavor to give you the TRUE facts.

1. As for the accounting of the Gay Games, a copy of the accounting is available, and was passed out at open recent meeting at Holiday Inn, attended by many Gay business groups, reporters, social organizations, etc. Sorry you didn't attend, or if you did, you probably weren't paying attention.

2. We moved to Pride Building because we had only a temporary lease on Castro Street, and were paying a very high rent. May I ask "is it a sin to move to and become part of the Pride Building?"

3. Now most important of all — the accusation that "A series of expensive promotional tours to Europe, Far East, Etc." Well, this was paid out of my own pocket (As stated during my speech during meeting at Holiday Inn) and did not cost the Gay Games Treasury one cent!!!

You are correct about one thing — let's get on with the work of putting together Gay Games II. The people I worked with on this project are some of the finest I have ever encountered, and love and respect each and everyone of them!

Paul Mart
San Francisco

Mr. Fertig, Please

★ As a professional Gay person I was pleased to read in your last issue of other people who are growing tired of Jack Fertig's antics as Sister Boom Boom. Let's hope someday soon Mr. Fertig will be able to leave his nun's garb in the closet and come out as a mature and responsible individual. Personally I feel Mr. Fertig needs some professional assistance to help him channel his energies more effectively. How about it Mr. Fertig, maybe it's time to dump Sister Boom Boom.

Tom Buchanan
San Francisco

A Tribute to a Talent

★ News of the death of our century's greatest choreographer, George Balanchine, at once brought to mind his own three-act ballet, Don Quixote, first staged by N.Y.C. Ballet in the early 1960's and unjustly neglected ever since. It was a masterpiece, with a special, commissioned score by Nicholas Nabokov, younger brother of Vladimir.

In none of his ballets did Balanchine ever appear on stage — except for this one, in which he himself played the title role for a benefit to help pay the costs. Contemplating his death, I like to think of the final scene, wherein the Don lay comatose as a long procession of cherubic young monks dressed in crimson habits came winding each sounding, joyfully (not dolefully), his little bell or chime.

At the very last, the withered old Don suddenly awoke and heaved himself up mightily several until finally sinking back with a faint but unmistakable smile on his lips — in a sort of quiet triumph.

Unlike some great geniuses, may I add, George Balanchine was an absolutely marvelous human being to know personally, as warm and simple and unaffected as so many "lesser" tend to be the reverse. He was never less than a great joy to be with.

Reed Vernon
San Francisco

Friends at Channel 7

★ It really hurts to see someone like Russ Coughlan (channel 7 KGO-ABC-TV) do the series this week on A.I.D.S., when it was he, who did the editorials on television comparing homosexuals to necrophiliacs and murderers in the mid-1970's and would not give any of us equal time for rebuttal.

For those who have newly arrived in the Bay Area (less than 10 years) this man has been just as good a "friend" to the Gay community as Anita Bryant, John Briggs, Pat Boone, Richard Pryor, the Rt. Rev. Ray Broshers (forgive me) or Jerry Falwell have been. And the list keeps growing daily, whether one chooses to admit it or not.

J.C. Cunningham
San Francisco

Sideshow

★ I think Sister Boom Boom should realize that her popularity is not on the rise after her performance on "60 Minutes". This is a very serious time for many Gay people. It is a time to deal with AIDS and to pull together in terms of our lifestyle in general. Sister Boom Boom's act is NOT representative of many Gay people who are doing their best to survive in these troubled times. Perhaps she could forgo her habit and consider the real needs of the people she chooses to represent. Maybe she could present herself and Gays as human beings rather than as a sideshow attraction.

Billy Pastor
San Francisco

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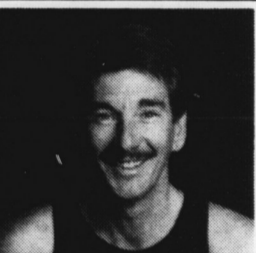
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VIEWPOINT

(Continued from previous page)

That's why we have the National Guard along with the Red Cross.

We would like to think that in the upcoming debate on the AIDS Funding both roles are recognized as legitimate. We don't ameliorate the AIDS crisis by making scalawags and carpet-baggers rich.

We would like to think that everyone involved will take the high road. Those who want to disperse the funds should be able to justify every proposal, vouch for every petitioner, guarantee the legitimacy of the request. It's up to the money bill's co-sponsors, Harry Britt and Jack Molinari, to prevent the looting and rape of the AIDS patients. It's not the time for Quentin Kopp to smirk and make snide asides. It's not the time for the mayor's friends to have their faces in the sand. It's not the time for Harry Britt to make cheap mileage, set traps, or embarrass his colleagues.

Let's all show a little class this time around.

Paul Lorch

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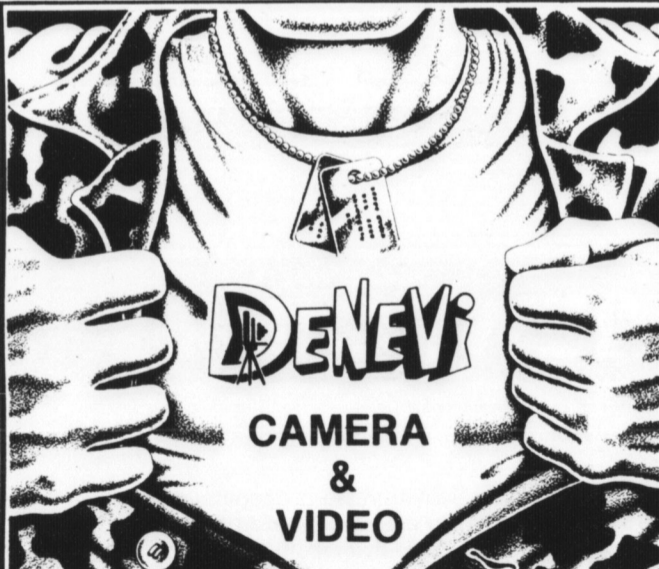
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LETTERS

Leave Cartoonist Be

★ As James Moore's former Shanti Counselor, and now his friend, I am concerned with the letter from C. Roger Morales which appeared in your May 5 issue. The Shanti Project tried to teach its counselors to be sensitive to other feelings and aware of the diversity of feelings. I feel it is important to realize that some people who have AIDS and KS have maintained their sense of humor, and it is helping them and us to survive in a negative and often misinformed society. James' willingness to share who he is and his determination to face his illness with humor and dignity have been inspirational to me. Please be informed that Mr. Morales, in signing his letter as a Shanti Volunteer, in no way speaks for that organization or its other counselors.

Our community suffers from the disappearance of "Ward 86", and its courageous artist suffers from your censorship. I sincerely hope to see it return to the pages of *B.A.R.* in the very near future.

Douglas McGaughy
San Francisco

Defending Ward 86

★ Boy I am annoyed! First, because of the pompous, self righteous letter from C. Roger Morales attacking the "Ward 86" cartoon and its author James Moore for his alleged insensitivity to KS/AIDS when in fact that same author is dealing with exactly that same issue in his own life. Is Mr. Morales? Or is he just deciding what is an appropriate response for someone else and using his "4 days of training" as a Shanti Volunteer to sit in judgment as only the wise can? Grow up and get real, C. Roger Volunteer! We all prepare to face our deaths and lives as best we can in our own ways. Dictating is just another more civilized term for censorship . . . and we all know how ugly that is.

Secondly, I am annoyed and disappointed that you have decided to cancel the "Ward 86" series in the strip. Please reconsider and have the guts, my friends, to remain controversial. It helps us all to think and grow.

Jeffrey S. Cotton
San Francisco

Calamity

★ Why are some of us seeing the wrath of God in our present calamity? Diseases are a natural phenomenon.

Since the beginning, promiscuity has always carried with it the specter of danger and wildfire epidemics. Societies have attempted to control or eradicate screwing around for their own safety and survival. They have not been above using God as the big stick.

If the majority of straights had insisted upon living as Gays have done, there would probably not be a cop or a hospital left to turn to for help.

We are largely an irresponsible and unreasoning mini-society unable to govern our own affairs with even common sense. An apt parallel might be a state where the straight teen-agers were permitted to run everything out of control.

There are highly unpopular views — always have been. I don't need my phone tied up with the curses of the outraged, so I am unsigned.

Name withheld

Boy By Brownie Mary

★ To all my friends in San Francisco, thank you so much for your support. Because of the public's opposition to the prosecution of me and the many people who signed my petition, the charges of possession of marijuana brownies for sale have been dropped by the district attorney.

The petition drive was successful in reminding the D.A. that the marijuana initiative of 1978 (Proposition W), passed by two to one, and that the people of San Francisco do not view the use of marijuana to be a crime.

Special thanks to Dennis Peron, Ron Huberman, Russ Fields of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club, my lawyer Ellen Chatin, and District Attorney Arlo Smith for respecting the wishes of the people.

Mary Jane Rathburn
(A.K.A. Brownie Mary)

Pot Shots

★ A few random shots at a few randy topics:

First, to Dick Stängel and all the other Feinsteinoids out there: May I direct your attention to the *Chronicle* letters page which came out a few days after the recall fiasco. Seven letters were published therein, and every one of them contained a message to this effect: "I voted against the recall, not for Feinstein." The recent *Bay Guardian* carried many more words to that effect as well. So don't get too smug, Dick. You and all your little Yup-Yups-for-Di-Fi buddies still got a job to do, 'cause when November comes around, you ain't gonna have no White Panthers to hide behind. This time, it's Feinstein's record that'll come under hard scrutiny — and there's a lot of us out here who don't think it passes muster.

Second, to J.F. Karr: Excusing Jim Moore's tasteless *Ward 86* by mentioning that Moore himself is a KS victim is tantamount to vindicating Phyllis Shlafley's anti-ERA hysteria because she's a woman. Laughter may indeed be a cleansing thing, but not everything that induces laughter. The laughter I hear in *Ward 86* is chillingly similar to the laughter I hear in the St. Francis

theatre as Jason goes through his grisly paces in *Friday the 13th*: the sick mirth of a sick society.

Third, with all due respect to that eminent man of letters, Paul Lorch, I must submit in regards to his response to Allan Benjamin, that Faith is not the "last refuge of the weak." It is the first. (Perhaps he was confusing this with Joplin's First Law of Debate: "Any given position can be supported somehow by a passage from the Bible.")

Fourth — well, I'm not even sure I should bother with Monty Damann's little screed; Hal Slate's fine article (a source of optimism we all could benefit from), as well as Lorch's own succinct reply covered the bases on that one fairly well. But as a long-term customer of the Caldron, I feel I must re-state to Monty Damann and all the other armchair analysts out there that there are places run by people who care, and that the Caldron (as well as the Catacombs) top the list. Hal's recent ads are signs of that. If all he wanted to do was "get higher attendance," as Monty suggests, he would lower prices, have free coat-checks, free beer — all the standard attendance-boosting gimmicks. You're throwing your tomatoes at the wrong targets, Monty.

(Frankly, I don't think there's any need to worry: AIDS-panic will take care of the places Mr. Damann so despises. The 1808, the Trench and the Cornholes have already bitten the dust, and I suspect that the GH Club on Sixth Street, the Boot Camp and possibly the Academy will follow shortly. Interesting that Richard Locke mentioned a "tribe" of sex partners as a way to combat AIDS, because I've had that kind of feeling about the men I've met at the Caldron and the Catacombs. As with papers, puddings — but not necessarily with politicians — quality will out. And speaking of quality, I commend The Hothouse management for the dignity and class they've exhibited as they prepare for their bow-out at the end of this month.)

And lastly — we always save the easy targets for last; a spot letter writer of humor is always a nice way to end a letter — my only wish for Jack Barry and his troglodyte ilk is that he contract some nameless disease which can only be cured by a transfusion from a Gay person. After which I'd personally make a hegrin down to Palo Alto to bring him some homemade quiche!

Mark Joplin
San Francisco

Your Stand on AIDS

★ I would like to commend you on your stance concerning the various AIDS articles and response to the letter from the AIDS patients.

I personally stepped out of the "Gay scene" both politically and to some extent socially, at least as far as the bar and Castro cruising socials go. My reasons for taking this step were two-fold, my own business takes most of my time and choosing to be a full time lover take all my time. I felt it was time to get on with life.

Thank God there are people like you around who keep a watch on the goings on of the community.

As a former member, I watched the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus be led down the garden path to thousands of dollars in debt and loss of stature, to say nothing about the lives that were needlessly altered by loss or near loss of homes, etc. and all this because of two or three ego-oriented people who wanted only to bask in a brief light of glory and the rest be damned.

I don't think there is a Gay person in S.F. who hasn't been touched by AIDS, and all the information you shed can only help in the long run. I have seen a very dear person pass away over the last year. A person who did not lead an active sexual lifestyle. A person who stayed to home and friends and led a very conservative lifestyle by any standards, a person who gave a lot of joy and love to all those who knew him. Unfortunately he happened to be at the wrong place at the wrong time and AIDS took over. I also know two AIDS victims who knowingly pursue an active sexual life and can be found at the Caldron or Catacombs on any given night. One can't help but wonder what horrible destruction these two are seeking on the lives of unknowing persons.

So I say thank you for standing firm and voicing your beliefs however unpopular they may be to some, just remember there are at least as many who support you.

John K. Tallarino
San Francisco

Artful Dodging at the Caldron

★ In reference to your guest column by Hal Slate, Caldron owner, I would like to commend him for his Herculean act of subterfuge.

Mr. Slate promotes "non-fluid exchanging sex" with multiple partners to replace the "fluid exchanging" variety in the guise of being more passionate and caring of one another. Tit clamps have never fit into my picture of a loving, albeit momentary, "relationship." This is an evasion of the real problem: we have been using each other as sexual mannequins too long, fluidly or non-fluidly. Those of us who live as if promiscuity were an inherent right, to be maintained now only through the most twisted of rationales, are living a reactionary life. It is reactionary in it's unending response to all the sexual taboos of repressed adolescents. That can be a healthy phase to experience but does not wash as a lifestyle in perpetuity.

The question we all must struggle with now is "what is it I am really looking for in all the sexual contacts and am I getting it?"

Tom Poe

LETTERS

Terminal Debilitation

★ Undoubtedly both *B.A.R.* and humourist M.J. Goldberg will receive no small amount of "sturm and drang" due to his incisively satirical, yet accurate, diagnosis of "The Disease no one Talks About, 'Attitude'" (*B.A.R.*, May 83).

While it is true that all are exposed to its insidious contagion; and some contract it, to a major or minor degree; the only group, en toto, depicted by Goldberg, which appears to suffer from its terminal debilitations is, with but few exceptions, the Lesbian community.

Contrary to popular opinion, most dykes are about as "sensitive" as warts, and their affected attitudes of innate and emasculating superiority — particularly when placed in positions of authority — are utterly without foundation, justification or rationale. Certainly, there are, indeed, fine ladies of Lesbian persuasion, who have risen above the arrogance of which I write, and which was deliciously captured by this brilliant cartoon (Commissioner Jo Daly, and a few others not so public, come to mind). In the main, however, most Gay women find identification in the next to last frame of that caricature — they are "the pits." With due consideration,

Thomas M. Edwards
San Francisco

A Divisive Vote

★ Gays who supported Dianne Feinstein in the recall vote did all of us a disservice.

God knows there were enough reasons to get rid of her — the veto of the spousal benefits, the signing of the bill to block Sister Boom Boom, the blind support of the Cosack-minded police department.

However, the overriding reason to vote for the recall was a matter of tactics. We can have political strength only as long as we can support one or another of fairly strong factions, so that our influence can tilt a politician in our favor. It was only a short time ago that our swing to Feinstein instead of Kopp made the difference in her election.

Now, with votes for Feinstein by the majority of Gays across the political and social spectrum, we have nowhere else in sight to turn should she commit further offenses against us.

All of us at times are slow to learn. I do hope the Gays will realize the primary issue was not Feinstein; it was, and is, the Gays' own welfare, which depends on how united we are and how we use our clout for our own benefit. In this last election, we tossed away our influence, for nothing in return except promises that she gave to her Gay lackeys.

Tom Scott
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: You're telling 75% of the Gay community it made a tragic mistake. Also that we only have strength (clout) when we are in opposition to somebody. And that when leaders and representatives of that 75% take advantage of their status they are nothing more than "Gay lackeys." What if they made the right choice, for the right reasons and are thriving in the fruits of their victory?

P. Lorch

Bitch, Bitch, Bitch, Grow Up

★ I tell you, this is a very hard time we all are going through. With all the problems we have within our Gay community. All of which I'm sure most everyone is familiar with at this point. So I don't feel it is necessary at this time to elaborate on the various matters of concern. With this letter I'm trying to relay a message to all who may read this opinion. In reading the *B.A.R.* over the past weeks, I have discovered much of a negative reaction, in the Open Forum section, from one to another. Names aren't really important, what is are the words that are written and read by many people such as myself, in other words, our voices. Let them be heard: by all means, and be thankful that we have a means such as the Forum to do so! But please people stop bitching and complaining about whatever one of our brothers and or sisters is feeling. This is our voice and we must treat our voices with much respect and equality.

To contest in such an adamant way what someone feels so strongly about is a waste of time and of valuable printing space, where perhaps something positive could be aired.

"Negativity" to wallow in the mud is to get stuck, to get stuck is to stay, to stay is to stagnate. Let people think what they will and let people believe what they must. I feel that the attitude of our community should be an uplifting experience, that we all should be fortunate enough to take part in developing and sharing. To maintain this, our weapons should be directed towards situations that are of a conspiratorial nature and are just as strong as our or my will is to survive. We are confronted with these matters all the time and sometimes don't recognize the severe potential of these destructive powers. We must think more! And I don't mean in a 2-second manner. Some of us do things that we are not really conscious of and will continue to do so. After all we are only human — people — a life force — a state of evolution. And evolution is why we are! For every ounce of negativity we exhibit we only strengthen and stabilize the foundation for our foes to build upon.

Get your shits together, it is time that we really grow up and face the music even though it may not be your song. If ever there be a time to UNITE God knows and so do I that the time to UNITE is now! I believe that

Michael W. Stanby
San Francisco

Thoughts on Thoughts

★ In reading recent issues of *B.A.R.*, several random thoughts came to mind which I would like to share with the community:

1. Closeted Gay men, whether from San Francisco, Santa Rosa, or Tiburku, are men who have decided not to be one of us; therefore, in the moment of our community's supreme crisis and grief, such men should shut their mouths.

2. Your responsible editorial guidance in the recent recall election, and the responsible way you are handling the present crisis, have earned you a special place of leadership in our community.

3. It would be helpful to have you sit with other leaders and come up with a list of recommendations on how we as a community should treat the parade this year. This is going to be an important issue and it should be looked at in time. Should floats be altered? Should we have a mass showing of suits and ties? Should we all lock arms and march as a community? Should we again litter Market Street with beer cans for neatly dressed Vietnamese children to scavenge? What IS expected? The eyes of more than Texas are going to be upon us.

4. I observe a spate of letters from those who want to use the present sad crisis to put down our recent activities. To them, I say that these recent activities were at least as meaningful as the dinners we traded back and forth — and the lonely Scrabble games we played — in the fifties. One participant learned he can be touched deeply by someone he has known for only a brief moment, and be untouched by some he has known forever. Being touched requires neither foreverness or place; it's far more likely to happen in the dark, murky corner of a sex club than the front pew of a Christian Church. Being touched requires need and a partner with kindness to fill it.

Finally, may I suggest we change the name of the OTHER problem to Sister Boo Boo?

Gerard A. Martin
San Francisco

On Fringe Benefits

★ "Man sues airlines for partner's benefits," the whole thing sounds a little ridiculous to me. I can understand the airlines feeling, and I don't blame them. Why should they give benefits to employees who are not sanctioned by marriage. I think that Allen Chamberlain is taking this a little bit too far, after all he is the one that is going to be out on the street without any job, and then with this lawsuit, not another airline would look twice at hiring him. Somethings are better to be left home in bed, where they belong . . .

K.D.N.
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Chamberlain is ready to take the risks. There are labor laws which back up his claim. Why not wish him the best in his adventure?

P. Lorch

Ohio Pal

★ We both will appreciate it, if it's possible you print our ad in your newsletter.

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Ron Jenkins, # 167-216
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Lucasville, Ohio 45699-0001

Very lonely, will answer all letters.

J. Patterson
R. Jenkins
Lucasville, Ohio

Cal. Pal

★ I'm a convict incarcerated at Folsom Prison in California.

At this point in my incarceration I find myself indigent, without family or friends.

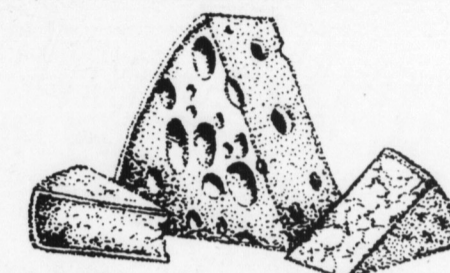
I feel correspondence is very important in one's rehabilitation. So at this time I would like to put an ad in the *Bay Area Reporter* if possible.

My name is Shaun Wheaton. I'm 32 years old, Black, 6 ft., weight 190 lbs. I play the bass guitar and sing. I'm also a baker. I would like to correspond with all.

Thank you.

Shaun Wheaton
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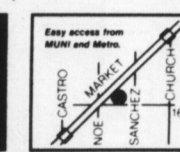
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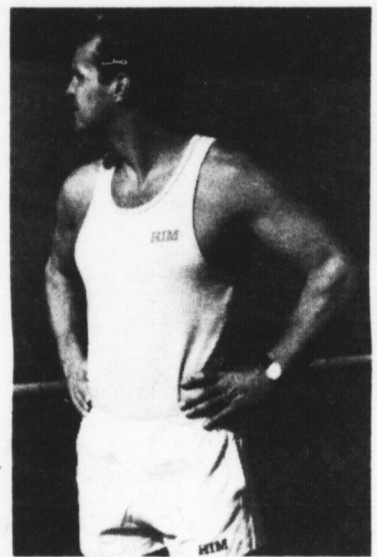
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What Gay Rights Advocates Do

Other Gay Cases in the Courts

by Michael Benzry

National Gay Rights Advocates is six years old. Their office is on Castro Street, but they handle cases from all over the United States. According to Leonard Graff (local executive director), they are probably the only national Gay legal group.

In Washington, D.C., there is a case in the Court of Appeals in which they are working with the American Civil Liberties Union. It concerns a man thrown out of the Navy when it was discovered he was gay. The government contends that it is destructive for the morale of heterosexuals in the armed forces to be forced to associate with homosexuals. The ACLU used arguments which compared this situation to the reasoning which led the armed forces to be segregated into black and white units. "It is a remarkable parallel to the black segregation," remarked Graff.

In Oklahoma, they are contesting the constitutionality of the Helms law. This law is much like the Briggs initiative which failed to pass in California. It prohibits Gays from teaching in the public school system, and even prevents heterosexual teachers from discussing homosexuality in the classroom. In Ohio there is a case of a Lesbian fired from her position of guidance counselor.

In California before the Supreme Court is the issue of unemployment benefits. As state law now stands, when a person takes a job in a different area of the state and their spouse must quit their job to move, the spouse can collect unemployment benefits. The particular case now being heard concerns an unmarried heterosexual couple. (California does not recognize

cooperating attorneys, plus other contacts. They never charge for their services. Most of the other groups and lawyers working in this area, such as Mary Dunlap, are doing a lot of work for free. Graff indicated all of these groups could use donations.

OTHER ISSUES TO ADDRESS—OPEN GAYS PROTECTED

"Enforcement is the biggest issue," said Graf. "As the movement becomes more visible, employers are more sneaky in their discrimination." Besides the anti-gay discrimination laws in San Francisco, anti-gay discrimination is prohibited throughout the state, at least to those open and out of the closet. This is the result of a court case of the Gay Law Student Association against Pacific Telephone and Telegraph. The Court said that being openly gay is a political action comparable to the brief at the Supreme Court level. Arguments were heard in December, and a decision should be made in a couple of months.

There are several other legal rights groups. The Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders of Boston work mostly in New England. One of their current cases concerns a Gay common-law marriage. The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund of New York City works all over the East Coast. In Texas, there is Texas Human Rights Foundation.

Locally the Lesbian Rights Project is often involved with child custody cases. NGRAs work with the Lesbian Rights Project and they have held benefits together. Graff said that the various Gay legal groups in the area are getting along "better and better. I hope we will continue to work together so as not to duplicate our effort or cases. We have limited resources and could employ ten lawyers full time." NGRAs has one paid attorney, about a half-dozen

Over all, there is much work to do. Challenges must be mounted against the 25 states which still have sodomy laws. There are the rights of Gay student groups, the right to free speech such as in the Helms law in Oklahoma. "In California the primary issue is employment discrimination and to drive home that an employer runs the risk of being sued and that's going to be expensive," said Graf. "Changing the law [such as AB-1] does not insure the end of discrimination. There must be suits to enforce the laws."

Operation Concern Opens on Market Street

Operation Concern, an outpatient mental health clinic of the Pacific Medical Center for Lesbians and Gay men, has relocated to a new facility at 1853 Market Street.

"We've matured from a grass roots nonprofit agency to a bona fide professional clinic," noted Carole Migden, Executive Director of the agency, which is also celebrating its tenth anniversary. "As our program has expanded and the number of clients we serve has increased, the need for a larger site was critical."

After a three-year process, the 15-member paid staff, and volunteer staff of 25 people, moved into the spacious Market Street quarters, which is three times the size of their former Pacific Heights site. The new space is architecturally elegant and roomy, in addition to being wheelchair accessible, an important factor, as Operation Concern provides services to disabled people and older clients, who participate in Project G.L.O.E. (Gay/Lesbian Outreach to Elders). It's located at Market/Guerrero and will be convenient for Gay men and Lesbians who reside in the Castro and Mission/Valencia Districts.

Operation Concern has a five-year lease on their new space, which is approximately 3000 square feet. Although \$60,000 was recently spent on renovations, the clinic is still in need of office furniture, chairs, file cabinets, household items, and artwork for the freshly painted office walls and is asking for contributions from the community.

"We plan to continue meeting ongoing needs by providing services such as individual and group psychotherapy, in addition to responding to needs as they emerge, for example, holding worried-well groups for Gay men dealing with issues around

AIDS," Migden concluded. On June 15, from 5 to 7 p.m., Operation Concern will hold a community open house in its new facility. For further information, or if you wish to contact OC, call their new phone number, 626-7000.



Operation Concern's new headquarters on Market Street. (Photo: Rink)

QUICKIES

Poppers Acquitted

According to animal studies conducted at the Atlanta Center for Disease Control, there is no connection between nitrite-based odorants and AIDS. The *Medical World News* concurred with the findings that acquit the much assailed poppers.

The report hastens to point out that poppers are not indeed healthful; they merely do not directly cause AIDS. In concert with other factors, they may still precipitate immune deficiency.

The makers of "Hardware" and "Quicksilver" are understandably heartened at the news, and they have announced a new ad campaign that will be "used as a vehicle for sending the message of good health through nutrition and exercise."

Alice Fetes Sala

Sala Burton, widow of Congressman Phillip Burton and candidate for his vacant seat, will have an opportunity to meet informally with members of the Lesbian and Gay community at a cocktail fundraiser May 28. Sponsored by the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club, the event will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at 55 Twin Peaks. Donations of \$10, \$15, or \$25 will be used by the Alice Political Action Committee to promote Burton's campaign.

KGO Weekend Radio

This Saturday night live on KGO-FM's (FM 104) David Lambie Talk Show a candid discussion about how AIDS anxiety has cut into business as usual at the city's South of Mar-

ket sex clubs. From 9:05 to 10 p.m. David's guest will be Caldron owner Hal Slate. Slate will expand on his *B.A.R.* guest column description of how male sex can go from sleazy to safe and still be "hot." Listeners will be able to ask Hal Slate about just what has been done to ensure the health of Caldron customers by calling in at 928-0104. From 7:05 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Mike Smith, the founder of Black and White Men Together, will describe a new guide he has published to the growing network of friendships and activities between Gay men from different minority ethnic backgrounds.

Sunday night from 7:05 to 8 p.m., Jack Fertig as Sister Boom Boom explains it all for you. Hear a nun's story about why CBS's "60 Minutes" crew got a nun's eye view of San Francisco in their segment on the San Francisco recall election. From 8:05 to 10 p.m. job counselor Robert Pitman explains how Lesbians and Gay men can graduate from those "survival jobs" that can quickly change from a necessity to a trap for those trying to make it in San Francisco.

Daddy's Garage Sale

Huge Pacific Heights garage sale featuring: furniture, appliances, books, records, clothes, antiques, and junk. All proceeds to benefit San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers.
Time: Saturday, May 14, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 15, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Place: 2826 Sacramento (between Scott and Divisadero).
Come and enjoy the bargains and help a worthy cause.

Gay Spiritual Conclave

The Tayu Grand Council announces its annual Gay Spiritual Conclave, from June 17-19. Held on the summer solstice at an 1,100 acre mineral hot springs in Northern California, the Conclave features a solstice ceremony, guest speakers, spiritual workshops, annual meeting and talks by Brothers Promis and Arion, authors of "God Is Gay". The \$75 registration donation includes meals, lodging, use and hot springs and other facilities. Applications and further information is available from: Tayu Grand Council, P.O. Box 11554, Santa Rosa, CA 95406.

Pros over 30

"The Positive Aspects of Group Outings" will be the subject for discussion at Professionals Over 30/San Francisco on Sunday, May 15. The time is 1:00 p.m. and lunch will be served. For reservations call the hosts for this event, either Bart at 282-9922 or Jim at 922-7268.

For information on Professionals Over 30/San Francisco, contact Tom James, Box 421161, San Francisco, CA 94142.

AB-1 Brunch

Jim Foster, veteran Gay politico, is hosting a Back AB-1 Brunch at his home, 1952 15th St., Sunday, May 15. Donations begin at \$15 (and up). The funds will go to the California Legislative Human Rights Campaign Fund. Call 431-5678.

and he is looking forward to setting up a national medical research foundation "along the lines of the MS and Easter Seals networks." One of the reasons for forming a national foundation was to make it easier to acquire funds. Conway intends to begin his new

with the literature and other resources we've developed here, than to let them invent the wheel all over again." Conant said the \$400,000 the AIDS Foundation received was half what the organization requested, but consistent with the ratios received by other AIDS

KS Foundation

(Continued from page 1)
Directors are currently being solicited for a new San Francisco AIDS board, which so far includes Dr. Bob Bolan and Steve Walters. The new director of the national AIDS Foundation is Philip F. Conway, who was hired April 25. Conway was the end product of weeks of interviews with the more than 30 people who applied for the job.

Conway, 49, has an extensive background in administration and fund-raising. He was a Roman Catholic priest for 12 years, during which time he served as the administrator for charities for Santa Clara County. Later he was director for the Senior Coordinating Council in Palo Alto, an agency that serves the elderly. Most recently he was director of development for Heald Colleges, a California network of 12 business and technical colleges. Conway was born and raised in San Francisco.

The new AIDS Director said that he was in a "career transition" and was unemployed when he learned of the director's job from several physician friends who encouraged him to apply for it. "I was looking for something that was a combination of administration and fund-raising, and it turned out I had the exact qualifications the job was asking for," said Conway. "Now all my past experience is coming together in one job."

Conway said that he doesn't know any more about AIDS than what he has heard from his doctor friends and read in the press. He considers his new job, though, as "one of the most challenging things I've done,"

and he is looking forward to setting up a national medical research foundation "along the lines of the MS and Easter Seals networks." One of the reasons for forming a national foundation was to make it easier to acquire funds. Conway intends to begin his new



Carolene Marks, wife of State Senator Milton Marks, presents the State Senate's proclamation on AIDS Awareness Week. (Photo: Rink)

job by organizing "major fund-raising strategies" in order to go after the private corporation and foundation, as well as government, money that is available to national research groups. Dr. Marcus Conant, president of the AIDS Foundation board of directors, said the evolution of the organization came about naturally. "Groups from all over the western states were calling us for information and help on their local AIDS projects," said Conant. "It makes more sense for us to start them

groups around the country. "The new organization will allow us to coordinate the research projects with the money," said Conant.

The AIDS Foundation currently has three paid employees, besides Conway, who work out of a small office on Castro Street. The Foundation is looking for larger and less expensive quarters, however, and will be relocating soon.

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READY OR NOT...

"The current outbreak of immune deficiency diseases represents an epidemic unprecedented in American medical history."
— Dr. James Curran, Center for Disease Control

The Kaposi's Sarcoma Research and Education Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit corporation organized in response to the outbreak in the Gay community of immune deficient diseases. The Foundation is dedicated to conducting or supporting efforts which accomplish the following:

- **BASIC AND CLINICAL RESEARCH**
Studying the spread of these diseases and bringing new research techniques to bear to investigate the factors which may be contributing to these diseases.
- **COMMUNITY EDUCATION**
Educating the community at large in prevention and detection of these diseases.
- **PATIENT SERVICES**
Assuring that adequate financial resources are available for necessary diagnosis and treatment.
- **PATIENT SUPPORT**
Coordinating appropriate referrals or provision of services for emotional and psychological support for Kaposi's and Pneumocystis patients.
- **PLEASE GIVE TODAY!** We need your participation and we need your financial support.
—Marcus A. Conant, M.D., President

Your regular United Way donation can be channeled to The Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation by requesting a Donor Option Card and writing to Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation.

Enclosed is may tax deductible donation for: \$10 \$20 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____

I'd like to volunteer to help. Please contact me. Please make your check payable to: The Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation, and return it with this form to P.O. Box 14227, San Francisco, CA 94114. (415) 864-4376.

Various Groups Offer Chance for Support or Lifestyle Changes

Lonely? Disgusted? The following groups are offering you a chance to change all that.

Goodbye John Wayne! The San Francisco Men's Network is presenting a series of workshops designed to involve the participants in a discussion of issues important to men who are seeking an alternative to the John Wayne mold. Fathering, what can men get from a men's movement, homophobia, and alternatives to pornography are some of the workshops being offered. Workshops are scheduled on Friday evenings, May 13 and 20, and Saturdays, May 14 and 21. For more info call 282-6021 or 387-8652.

Improve Your Relationships. A new group is forming that will focus on improving relationships among Gay men. The group will serve as a context from which Gay men can give and receive support, form and develop new relationships, and work on personal issues. Meetings are Thursday evenings from 6-8 p.m. For more info call Shimon Attie at 922-3478.

Support Group for Gay Couples. A new couples group designed to improve your relationship with your principal domestic partner is being offered. The 10-week group will focus on topics that most frequently cause distress in Gay male matings. Topics of the two-hour sessions will include: romance and sex, finances, communication, family relations, sex

and disease, and who takes out the garbage. For more info call 563-6100.

Re-Mything Center Opens. The Re-Mything Center, a personal growth center for Gay men, has opened its doors under the direction of Ed Boggs and Ed Turney. Re-Mything — the

quantum leap to fulfillment — is a process of discarding old beliefs and habits in favor of new behaviors that we can choose for ourselves. The center specializes in individual and group sessions for stress management, giving and receiving pleasure, developing intimacy, and addiction abandonment. For more info, call the Center at 922-5214.

At press time veteran counselor Martin Snow also announced his setting up a group (see ad in classifieds).



Gay therapists react to current dilemmas by offering group sessions. One set of group starters sent along their pictures.

What are the Symptoms of AIDS?

Many of the AIDS symptoms are subtle and may only indicate simple, everyday ailments; therefore, you should be alerted but not alarmed if you have one or more of the following symptoms:

- Weight loss of more than ten pounds during a period of less than two months that is not related to diet or increased activity; prolonged loss of appetite.
- Unexplained, persistent or recurrent fevers or night sweats.
- Swollen glands (lymph nodes) found in the neck, armpits, and groin) which persist and are unexplained by other illness.
- Profound fatigue that is not transient or explainable by physical activity, substance abuse, or a psychological disorder.
- Persistent or unexplained diarrhea or bloody stools.
- A persistent, whitish coating (or spotting) on the tongue or in the throat which may be accompanied by soreness or difficulty in swallowing.
- A heavy, persistent, dry cough that is not due to smoking and has lasted too long to be explained by a cold or flu.
- Easy bruising or unexplained bleeding from any orifice.
- Skin rashes or discolorations of the skin.
- Blurred vision and/or persistent, severe headaches.

Kaposi's sarcoma patients may have any of the above symptoms and/or might develop slowly enlarging purplish or discolored nodules, plaques, lumps, or other new growths on top of or beneath the skin or on the mucous membranes (inside the mouth, nasal passages, anus, or underneath the eyelids). These lesions do not disappear and may get larger, and cannot be attributed to explanations such as bruises, blood blisters, insect bites, or pimples.

What Should I Do if I Have Any of These Symptoms?

It must be emphasized that each of these symptoms may appear in diseases that are not caused by or associated with AIDS. When not easily or otherwise explained, the persistence of one or more of these symptoms should be discussed with a health care provider who is familiar with AIDS.



Phyllis Lyon, another Alice member on task force. (Photo: Rink)

vene the first meeting in her office on May 17 at 4 p.m. Peter Nardoza of the mayor's office was assigned as staff assistant.

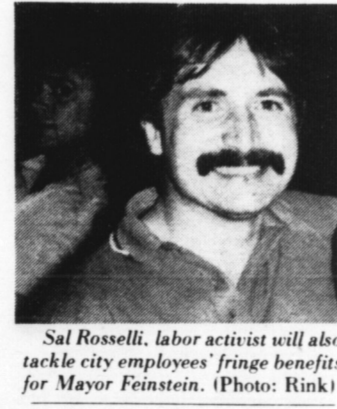
Nardoza told the *Bay Area Reporter* that his role will be defined when the task force meets with the mayor next week. Nardoza said that one function would be to report back to the mayor. "I think that she would like to see recommendations on specifically how the City can institute a policy of principal beneficiary that would be fair to all," he added.

"We are looking to provide each City employee the ability to cover an individual of their choice."

Sal Rosselli, Gay labor figure and two-time candidate for Community College Board, was delighted with his selection. He had let it be known that he was interested in the task force when Alice Demos were talking to the mayor in March and April. He said, "I think that as workers, all workers should have the same rights as their co-workers." Rosselli continued, "Labor works for all its members. When one gets benefits for spouses, it should apply to Gays — some way."

Rosselli did not care to comment on the quickly-observed fact that all four Gays and Lesbians chosen by Mayor Feinstein were prominent members of the Alice B. Toklas Demo Club. Randy Stallings, Alice president, said that his club was not consulted on the make-up of the task force but that he was happy Alice members were included. "We did submit a list of names whom we thought would be good on the task force," he said. This they did when they discussed with the mayor the domestic partners issue.

Phyllis Lyon, long-time Lesbian activist and Feinstein supporter, admitted she was not an expert on the issue. "However," she said, "I have a stake in the issue in making changes in the way benefits are given out. With a period of 30 years the issue of benefits is a very real one." She too was looking forward to the mayor's return and the first meeting.



Sal Rosselli, labor activist will also tackle city employees' fringe benefits for Mayor Feinstein. (Photo: Rink)

FINANCIAL PLANNING Profiting by Tax Planning

BURNEY O. ALLGOOD, CFP

April 15 has passed, and you've once again had the dubious annual opportunity to acquaint yourselves with the hefty chunks that federal and state income taxes plus social security have snatched from your earnings. At this time you might find yourself more receptive to a general discussion on the subject of effective tax planning.

First let's state what tax planning is not. It is not a frenzied scramble on April 14 to wade through the paper sea of your cancelled checks, cash receipts, credit card slips, wage statements, and bank records in hopes of discovering overlooked deductions. Tax planning is also not feverishly thumbing through the newspaper on December 30 searching for some flaky, year-end tax-shelter that promises nirvana in the form of a five to one write-off. Furthermore, tax planning is not meeting with your tax advisor once a year to dutifully listen once again to him or her tell you what you should have done, but now it's too late, for the previous year.

Tax planning is a strategy. A strategy that functions as a year-long process of effective personal money management. This strategy begins with the knowledge that there is never a preordained required tax you will have to be obligated for. Much of what determines your tax obligation is totally decided by what you as an individual taxpayer do or don't do with your money. This is decided by both the way you create money in your life and the uses you put that money to.

Over the last fifty years this country has concocted a horrific and Byzantine tax system entitled as the Internal Revenue Codes. These tax laws are a huge labyrinth of deductions, exemptions, exclusions, credits, exchanges, deferrals, determinations, rulings, and procedures. Arranging one's financial affairs to utilize for one's benefit the rules in this tax maze is not only the act of a rational person it happens to be perfectly legal! What's the difference between avoiding and evading taxes? About 20 years in the penitentiary. Evading taxes is a crime. Avoiding taxes is perfectly legal and about as American as apple pie.

Another widely used example of not creating taxable income is the gifting of appreciated property to charity. Let's say you held a stock or another form of property that had gone up in value over what you paid for it. Let's also say you desired to make a sizable (and deductible) contribution to some organization that you strongly believed in. Instead of selling this property, pay tax on your profit, and then donating cash to your organization, it would be tax-wise for you to gift the actual property.

Competent tax planning is structured on three techniques: 1) avoiding the creation of taxable income, 2) creating income which is subject to favorable tax treatment, and 3) deferring taxable income to future years and accelerating tax deductions for use in the current year. How any one person can

utilize these techniques is dependent on that person's resources, life situation, and philosophical attitude. I might also include that it is further dependent on the expertise and creativity of that person's financial advisors.

In examining the use of the first technique the most visible activity is in buying a home versus renting one. This is the classic textbook example of not creating taxable income via restructuring your finances to obtain tax deductions for the otherwise nondeductible expense of providing yourself housing. However, disregarding the factor of any potential property appreciation, this practice is only financially prudent if your combined federal/state tax bracket is high enough so that your sum of interest and property taxes, net of the income tax benefit, is less than the prevailing rent for comparable housing.

Another favored method of not creating taxable income is through the use of municipal bonds. The interest paid to you from state and local government bonds is nontaxable income for federal income tax purposes. The rationale for this is that one level of government can't tax another. If you have interest from government entities in California, then that interest is tax-free for California income tax as well. Those of you interested in obtaining this type of tax-free income but not wanting to buy and hold individual bonds can avail yourselves of either of the two presently offered mutual funds that are 100% invested in California municipal bonds. Both funds pay interest monthly and the current yield is in excess of 9%.

The third technique of deferring income and accelerating deductions is based on the reasoning that a dollar of taxes payable tomorrow is less expensive than a dollar of tax payable today. The longer you retain control over the use of your money, the greater the opportunities to structure your affairs to your betterment and the taxcollector's detriment.

Lastly, not only is effective tax planning a year-around process, it also is an area demanding professional competence to maximize benefits. Remember the cost of any tax counseling, advice, and preparation work is fully tax deductible. ■



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Health Benefits Task Force

(Continued from page 1)

"Currently, adult dependent relatives do not have access to the system. This has led the Gay community to feel that the system discriminates against a long-standing relationship — denying the employee the opportunity to pay for premiums for his or her dependent. The task force should evaluate cost, both for the individual and the City. Actuarial findings should be utilized to devise a new system that is cost-effective for the employee

and the City and yet provides employees with access now denied," the mayor concluded.

The mayor asked Municipal Court Judge Herb Donaldson to chair the 11-member task force and named the following members:

Lou Giraudo, President, Board of Permit Appeals; partner, Tobin & Tobin;

Naomi Gray, Project Consultant, Naomi Gray Associates;

Pat Jackson, Deputy Executive Secretary, Local 390-400, United Public Employees Union;

Walter Johnson, President, Health Services System Board;

Robert Katz, Actuary, Blue Cross; member, Health Services System Board;

Phyllis Lyon, Chair, Human Rights Commission;

Juan Rael, Actuary, on contract, Health Services System;

Connie O'Connor, Lieutenant, Sheriff's Office;

ant, Sheriff's Office;

Sal Rosselli, Business Representative, Theater and Amusement Janitors Local 9; Political Action Chair, Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club;

Robert Zimmerman, Manager, Policy Development and Contract Administration, Kaiser Hospital.

The mayor asked the task force to report its findings by next December 31. She will convene the first meeting in her office on May 17 at 4 p.m. Peter Nardoza of the mayor's office was assigned as staff assistant.



Sheriff Lt. Connie O'Connor, former Alice president, takes seat on task force. (Photo: Rink)

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Dan White/Writer's Bill Passes Test

The controversial "writer's profits" bill by Assemblyman Art Agnos is now under consideration by the Ways and Means Committee of the Assembly. It has passed the Judiciary Committee and could be on the Assembly floor for a vote by June.

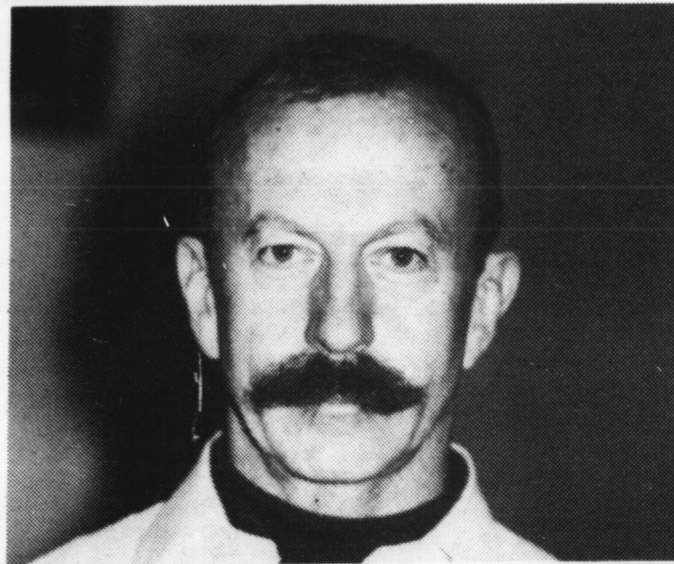
The measure would require that any profits from released prisoners from books they write about their crimes be partly divided among victims. It is dubbed the "Dan White bill" because it was initiated to prohibit Dan White from benefiting from a book he is allegedly writing about his murder of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk.

Gay Educator Appointed to Jobs Panel

The Human Rights Commission of San Francisco has appointed Dr. William Upton to the Human Rights Commission's Employment Committee. The Committee has the responsibility for reviewing city contracts for employment discrimination.

Dr. Upton has been working in the Gay community for over ten years and was influential, in 1978, in beginning the Castro/Valencia site of the San Francisco Community College.

A strong advocate of equal access to education and employment for Gays and Lesbians, he is currently working with a plan for positive action/affirmative action as well as a promotion of accessibility for Gays to training and networking into management level positions.



Community College counselor Bill Upton accepts Human Rights Foundation appointment. (Photo: Rink)



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AIDS and the Baths

To Go or Not to Go . . . ?

by Mike Hippler

AIDS. In San Francisco you hear about nothing else these days. Mention the word at any gathering of Gay people and it becomes the conversation. In the grocery store, at the gym, and even at parties, everyone's comparing notes. They describe various symptoms and theorize on possible causes. They discuss recent statistics and share the latest information. They commiserate with friends who have been diagnosed with the disease and wonder if they will be next. Everyone is talking, but no one has any answers. With much speculation but little concrete information, most Gay men are nervous and afraid. AIDS is causing great unrest in the Gay community.



Popular Liberty Baths — People want to know: is business up; is business down? Some owners talk; some owners evade the question. (Photo: Rink)

One focus of their anxiety is the bath houses and private sex clubs. Although no one knows what causes AIDS, many are afraid that, like gonorrhea and syphilis, it is communicable, and therefore the baths have come to represent a potential source of "contamination." But are the baths a danger zone as far as AIDS is concerned? And whether or not they are, has there really been any noticeable change in people's sexual habits? For years Gay men have been characterized as leading free-wheeling, rather flamboyant sexual lives, favoring numerous, random encounters over steady, monogamous relationships. For those for whom that has been true, have things changed in the last year due to AIDS? Furthermore, how are bath house and sex club owners reacting to this crisis? Are they nervous for themselves, their clients, their businesses? Do they feel at all responsible, and are they making any effort to combat this problem? Establishments of sexual convenience have long played an important role in the Gay community. Is that role about to change forever?

First things first. Can you "catch" AIDS from going to the baths? No one knows for sure. No one even knows as yet whether you can catch AIDS at all. According to Dr. Dritz of the San Francisco Department of Health's Communicable Disease Department, there is no proof that AIDS is infectious or that the baths are places where it can spread. A case control study done last year at the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta compared Gay men with AIDS, Gay men without it, and heterosexual men, and it was found that Gay men with AIDS had a much larger incidence of multiple sexual contacts than either of the other two groups. Therefore, fucking around at the baths, or anywhere, is a risk factor — but not a proven cause, says Dr. Dritz. "We will say this, however," Dritz continues. "The

more intimate contact you have with people, the more chance you have to pick up something from those people."

If this is the case, is this enough for the Department of Health to take some sort of action against the baths, perhaps restrict them somehow, or even close them down? "That's not our business," states Dr. Dritz. "It becomes our business only if infectious diseases are transmitted there, but we have not been able to prove that. As long as the baths comply with Health Department regulations, they're okay. And those regulations concern only sanitary conditions, not AIDS." If a bath house is particularly dirty, then, or if it runs afoul of some minor sanitation rule, such as the one

requiring the waterproof floor covering in toilet rooms to be carried up the walls to a height of at least six inches, could the Health Department use that as an excuse to close it down? According to Inspector Bush of the Department, there is absolutely no plan or desire to do that, and in any case, adds Dritz, "It isn't stuff on the walls or dirty floors that causes AIDS." One final concern — could the Health Department use the Police Department to close the baths on some kind of morals or vice charge? "This isn't a police state," says Dritz. "As long as they're operating as bath houses, the police can't go in there, no matter what the people do inside. In this city, sex acts between con-

(Continued on next page)



The ever-busy Jaguar Book Store. (Photo: Rink)

AIDS and the Baths

(Continued from previous page)

sending adults are legal, and the bath house owners aren't responsible for what their customers do."

The basis of the AIDS problem, Dritz concludes, is that the phrase "consenting adults" says nothing about "responsible adults." "We are doing what we can to inform people about this problem, but whether or not people will accept it and apply it to themselves, that we can't control." People are therefore free to go to the baths as much as they like as far as the Health Department is concerned, but they do advise against it because of the likelihood of multiple sexual contacts. And despite their hands-off policy, Dr. Dritz warns, "We're watching this as closely as we can, and as soon as we have proof of anything, we'll take action."

Gay men have heard these warnings for some time now. Most know that fucking around increases the risk not only for AIDS but for any number of communicable diseases. But are they changing their habits now that the number of AIDS victims is increasing? That depends on whom you talk to. As one long-time resident of the Castro neighborhood says,

a year and a half. He missed it, he says. In fact, "I craved it. I'd even walk the streets at three in the morning, but I was determined not to go because I didn't want to get reinfected." However, eventually he returned, and "slowly but surely it became a regular thing again" — until he noticed suspicious-looking bruises on his body last April. A series of visits to the doctor assured him that he didn't have KS, but he was scared and stopped going to the baths again. In October he returned, thinking himself safe, but in December more bruises appeared, and although his doctor doesn't classify him as an AIDS victim, Kerley doesn't want to take any more chances. "I think I've stopped for good," he says. "Basically it's just not worth it. The terror that runs through you when you see those purple spots — it's too overwhelming, it's too intense. But the reality of making the change is so much harder than everybody realizes. The habit is so ingrained."

Does Kerley blame the bath houses for his recent health concerns? "The baths are a wonderful, magic thing," he responds. "It's frustrating to have to give them up, because that means I have to go back to that dreadful, smoky atmosphere of the bars to

hand, Ron Ernst, the owner of the Jaguar Book Store, which is celebrating its thirteenth anniversary this year, isn't nervous about AIDS personally. "I'm gonna die, I was born to die, and if that's going to be the way, then that's it," he states simply.

Whether or not they are nervous, as bath house or sex club owners do they feel at all responsible for the AIDS problem? Ron Ernst says no. "As far as communicable diseases are concerned, I don't think the sex clubs are responsible. You get some horny males, and they've got to have some place to screw around. We are concerned, however," Richard King of Liberty Baths agrees. "We certainly do want to help solve the problem any way we can short of closing our doors, but I feel that closing bath houses would be counter-productive because people are going to do it anyway in alleys and parks, and at least here they have a chance to clean up. There are no showers in Natoma Alley. Besides, closings and prohibitions never work anyway. Look at the prohibition of liquor in the 1920's or the marijuana prohibition today." Furthermore, King points out that, as Jim Kerley implied, there is a need in the community for places like his. "We're not just a sex place. We serve social as well as sexual needs. People have encounters here that transcend sex."

Hal Slate of the Caldron takes a slightly different viewpoint when it comes to the incumbent responsibility of his position. "As a public sex place owner, I do feel a certain responsibility to do whatever I can to support people while they play but to encourage them to be more conscious of their health while they do it. It's easy to overextend and burn out whenever you're immersed in that kind of activity, and we all need to be responsible for our lives." However, Slate cautions that his responsibility for others is limited. "Any activity contains a certain amount of risk. The Wright Brothers could feel guilty about inventing the airplane because of the number of people killed in the future. It depends upon the ultimate evidence and how I react to that. At this point my conscience is clear. Guilt is the most pernicious disease there is."

Slate has probably done more than any other sex club owner in San Francisco to alleviate the fears concerning AIDS and to provide help and information for his clientele. He has held two benefits for the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence to aid them in producing their "Play Fair" pamphlet, the infamous "Cum Clean" party and the "Revenge of the Sisters" return engagement. He has invited a Gay doctor into his establishment to make recommendations concerning health precautions. He's also handed out AIDS literature and posted health notices. Furthermore, he's been in communication with the KS Foundation to keep informed, but he admits that there has been little communication with the Health Department or with other bath house and sex club owners. He would agree to regular VD screenings by the Health Department at the Caldron, however, if the Health Department offered to do so. "I'm trying to stay as informed as possible and give what support I can without getting hysterical and crazy about it. I think people feel that there is an attitude of caring at the Caldron."

At Liberty Baths, King would also make health screenings or literature available if requested. He too has made donations to the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, and he has had meetings with the public health clinic. King emphasizes the cleanliness

(Continued on page 18)

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POLITICS AND POKER

Marks Will Stick With Senate

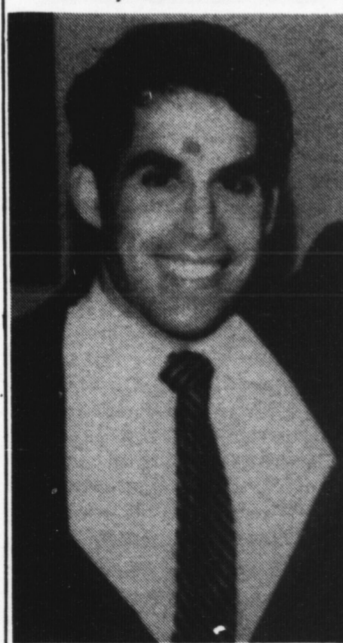
WAYNE FRIDAY

Republican State Senator Milton Marks held a press conference Monday morning, the day of the filing deadline, to announce that he would not run to fill the unexpired term of Phil Burton. Marks' announcement leaves Sala Burton, the late congressman's widow, as the winner on June 21.

Marks, insisting up until the last minute that he had not made up his mind, used the occasion, however, to announce that he would definitely be a candidate for re-election to the State Senate next year (in what will be known as District 3, taking in both San Francisco and Marin counties). Claiming that he now has more influence than ever before in Sacramento, the veteran lawmaker says that as the chairperson of the Senate's Committee on Local Government he has been able to secure "many more millions" for the city and feels he can be more helpful as a senior member of the state Senate. As chair of the Local Government committee, Marks is one of a few Republicans to hold such a position in a Democrat-controlled Senate.

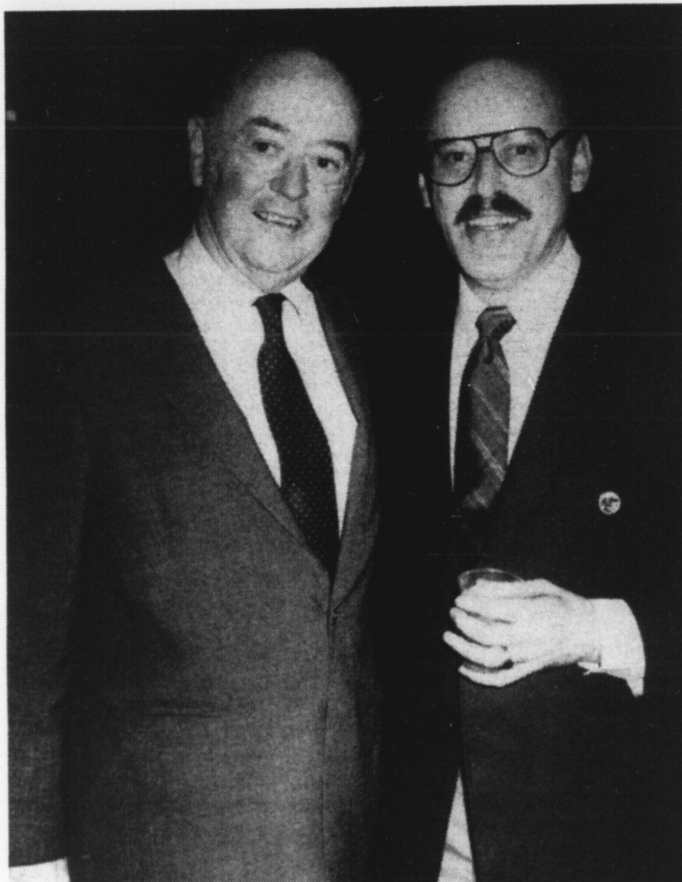
Marks, first elected to the legislature's upper chamber in 1967, knows that he is probably in for the fight of his political career next year when he runs in the new district. Democrats will make an all-out effort to defeat Marks, who made an unsuccessful attempt to oust Phil Burton last November. Political observers feel that John Molinari, a long-time member of the Board of Supervisors, will be a candidate for Marks' seat next year, presumably with the full backing of most of the city's Democratic powers. Molinari is already lining up support and raising funds. Marks himself has not run for office in Marin before but has been spending more and more time making appearances across the Bridge building constituency support in Marin.

One of San Francisco's most respected political consulting firms, Rivaldo, Pabich & Friends, will cease to be in a few weeks; partners Jim Rivaldo and Dick Pabich have parted ways but "expect to work together from time to time on some future projects." • Summer is here and the Christian crazies are back on Polk and Castro Streets with their familiar crusade to convert Gays. • The May issue of San Francisco



Losing School Board candidate Mike Bernick tells all in last Sunday's "Parade." (Photo: Rink)

magazine has an interesting story on Board President Wendy Nelder ("she calls herself 'Jaws'; she's number two and trying very, very hard"). • Someone has been calling to see if I know how to reach Ginny Foat, and the only thing I know is that she is back in Cali-



Senator Milton Marks announced this week he was going to hold on to his State Senate seat. He poses here with his friend of over ten years Hector Caceres. (Photo: Rink)

fornia staying at the home of her attorney, Robert K. Tuller, in Fullerton.

Having decided to beef up his already highly successful law practice instead of running for office, at the moment, at least, Quentin Kopp will open a branch of his law office in Santa Rosa shortly. • Contra Costa Congressman George Miller will be one of the featured speakers at the Milk Club's birthday dinner honoring the late Harvey Milk at Kezar Pavilion on May 26 (tickets \$35, 863-5560 for info). • Could this be sexist? Feminist leader Gloria Steinem telling the American Psychiatric Association in New York the other day that "what the gender difference breaks down to in terms of mental health is that the male half of America identifies with violence and dominance and the female half of the population is the victim of this attitude."

Sala Burton opened her campaign headquarters Tuesday night on Van Ness Avenue, and her committee is holding a "Pre-Victory Celebration" May 12, 5-7, at the Green Room in the Veteran's Building (no host cocktails, etc.; donations from \$5 to \$100 asked). • An overflow group at Tom Hayden's CED headquarters opening last Thursday night, including many Gays and Lesbians. Some politicians made note that the CED's Market Street office affords that group a good view in which to watch over City Hall goings-on. • In Colorado, the original sponsor of that state's Gay rights legislation, Wellington Webb, has announced for Mayor of Denver and this is the first time that a major candidate for mayor of that city has spoken out strongly on Gay issues. • And San Diego Republican mayor-elect Rodger Hedgecock's people say they attribute his slim victory last week to the

heavy support he received from that city's Gay, Black, and Hispanic communities. Hedgecock received the endorsement during the runoff of the Black and Hispanic members of the City Council although they are both Democrats.

Mayor Feinstein and her husband Dick Blum vacationing in Hawaii while Supervisors Molinari, Hongisto, Renne, Ward, and Kennedy share Acting Mayor duties. • Perennial candidate Tom Spinoza, a Republican, filed as a candidate for the late Phil Burton's seat. • Gay activists in Boston report that major Gay rights legislation will likely pass the Massachusetts State Senate

A 3-Part Series

TRANSSEXUALS:

Shaking the Myths and Misconceptions About Gender Crossing

by Michael Lasky

You may live next door to a transsexual and not even know it. Despite the myths and stereotypes we might have about the men who become women, they actually live quiet, humdrum lives no different than anybody else's. And that's the way they like it.

To find out just what the daily lives of transsexuals were like, I interviewed three women who were formerly men. This is the second interview that best illustrates why some men feel the need to change sex and what happens before and after this transformation. All names have been changed to protect privacy.

Presently unemployed, 26-year-old Cheryl Franks lives with her stepister and family in a remote suburb of San Francisco. She hails from a small town in New Mexico and recently had been living in Dallas until she followed her boyfriend to the San Francisco area. Within a few days of arriving here, she broke off with him.

On the day of my interview, Cheryl is still shaky from a life-threatening experience that occurred the evening before.

"I was almost raped. The man actually didn't do it but he sure tried. I fought him the whole time and only when I nervously threw up did that stop him."

"I'm a big girl and have al-

I needed experience. I needed to go all the way with a man and never tell him of the change.

"So we divorced after four years and I started to date. I didn't tell the men I dated. I didn't feel like giving out personal information like that if it wasn't necessary.

"Now and then I go to singles' bars, restaurants, or even work to meet men. Christ, you can meet men anywhere—even the supermarket." Cheryl says with a foxy grin.

"My last lover with whom I just broke up has this hangup: he's at odds about how he feels about me and how he thinks society should make him feel. Even his family accepts me. He told them and they said if I make

as my heart pounded.

"It's not something you decide to do and wake up one morning and put on women's clothes, go out of the house, and voila! you're a woman. You don't have the confidence to do it. You don't even know what size dress to wear. I was dumb and not good at it when I finally decided to do something at 17.

"I felt as if I was living a lie. I wanted to be the real me. I identified as a girl, but I was a boy.

"I was trying to be a woman but wearing men's clothes. I would wear women's things at home or a friend's home or to a Gay bar—places where I would not be ridiculed. But when I finally decided to make the change I called my mother long distance and told her exactly what I was going to do and she said, 'I've been waiting—I've always known.' She and the rest of the immediate family gave me their support and that's very important.

"I was working at a restaurant at the time. I was on hormones and working as a male—a very effeminate male. I decided that it was harder to be this way than to just go all the way and wear women's clothes. I told my boss I wanted to come to work as a woman and he said okay, he would transfer me to another unit.

"I didn't have the confidence yet but I had the courage because I was doing it. I felt like I was half a woman.

"Then when people would say 'Yes, ma'am' to me I knew that they accepted me as how I presented myself. It took me about a year to gain confidence.

"Makeup is routine now. I love to shop, do grocery shopping, clean house. It's easier living now. I finally feel like me. I don't feel trapped anymore." the blond Cheryl declares.

Probably the funniest experience of Cheryl's based on the sex change was the time a few years ago when she returned to her New Mexico hometown and gave a fag-baiter his comeuppance.

"While visiting my sister, we decided to go out to a night spot. A guy in the bar came up to me and I recognized him as the one who, when we went to school together years before, used to call me queer all the time. He approached me and didn't know me. I played it to the fullest and didn't let him know. I just loved it as I let him come on to me, thinking all the while, 'You asshole; now who's the queer?'"

To be continued . . .

A waitress in the suburbs — an aunt to her young nieces.

ways been able to protect myself. The attack, though, was totally unsuspected. I was with a man I trusted. We had a date and I met him and then left in his motorhome. He drove some distance out into the boonocks on the Delta. Then he parked. I thought everything was fine but suddenly he jumped me and pinned me down. I thought this was it—he was gonna rape and then kill me. My life was flashing before me. I was petrified. I suddenly saw the physical vulnerability of being a woman." Cheryl recalls with horror.

"Other than this experience my days are somewhat uneventful. I am living with my married stepister because I broke up with my boyfriend. They really care for me and there is great joy for me to be with their two little girls."

Cheryl has never had a problem dating as many transsexuals do. "I dated even before my operation (at 22) when I was just cross-dressing. I would have to explain the situation on occasion and never had a bad reaction. If I was with a bisexual, I was a dream for them. You could take me in public and hold my hand and take me home and do what you want. I had no lasting relationships really, but then I met a guy just before my operation and we got married.

"I was a working housewife. I waitress and I also taught mentally retarded children. I always had one job or another. I wouldn't want to do the teaching work again. It was too painful when I got that scanty paycheck. Teaching was just personal gratification and I had to get other work to pay the bills.

"Then I had to come home and do all the housework. My husband thought it was my place to maintain the house. He didn't lift a finger," explains Cheryl.

"I love him and tried to be a good wife. He was a good husband to me. Yet, I needed more. Because I was new, brand new, with my female identity I sold myself short by marrying early.

him happy, they are happy. But he has some stigma despite having a close relationship with me. Finally it got to be too much of a hassle and we broke off," continues Cheryl.

"You know I don't think of myself as a transsexual. I am a woman. I am female. A woman is a state of mind. A female is a state of body. I'm just the girl next door. I blend in with society and that's how I want it to be. I don't want a lot of attention paid to me because of my change.

"To my sister's kids I am just Aunt Cheryl. My brother-in-law first saw me as a woman last July. I was worried, but we were immediately comfortable with each other. I don't think he ever thinks about it. He treats me naturally. He has put his arms around me and kissed me when we greet. I am his sister-in-law, period."

How did the change of sex come about? Cheryl has a childhood history many Gays could probably identify with.

"When I was just a little kid, my grandfather always called me by a girl's name and it used to just burn me up. When I was about 13, my mother came up to me where I was sitting just so on a fence. She said, 'If you don't change the way you act, when you grow up you are going to be a fairy.' It really hurt me that she would say something like that to me," Cheryl recalls.

"I never brought it up again, but when I was 16 and we were watching a talk show on TV together, there was a transsexual on. She asked me point blank, 'Are you like that?' I denied it.

Stonewall to Hold "Fire Sale"

Stonewall Gay Democratic Club announced that it will be holding a "Fire Sale" to benefit the club on Saturday, May 21. The sale, consisting of items donated by club members and friends, will be held in front of

159-A Noe Street (2 blocks north of the Cafe Flore) Saturday afternoon.

To donate items, please call 864-6036, 552-4287 or 626-1245.

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POLITICS

(Continued from page 16)

by last year's unsuccessful Community College Board candidate Mike Bernick about the frustrations of running for public office in San Francisco. • An all-day lobbying conference will be held



Margaret Heckler, Secretary of Health and Human Services, due in S.F.



Art Agnos will hold a capital AB-1 workshop May 21. Agnos' staff (Cleve Jones, Eric Schlockmann) are traversing the state enlisting small-town Gays and Lesbians in the campaign. This Sunday an AB-1 brunch is scheduled at Jim Foster's, 431-5678. (Photo: Rink)

in Sacramento sponsored by Assemblyman Art Agnos on May 21 to develop strategies for supporters of AB-1 (call Cleve Jones in Agnos' office for additional info). • Margaret Heckler, the new Secretary of Health & Human Services, will be in town later this month to deliver a speech. • Friends of Maureen Reagan tell me she might be a candidate for Congress next year. ■

W. Friday

AIDS and the Baths

(Continued from page 15)

of his place and hopes that that will help alleviate the AIDS problem. At the Jaguar, however, Ernst feels that the sex clubs are not the proper place for health monitoring and education. "I don't want that going on," he declares flatly. "People come in here to forget what's go-

ing on outside and to do their thing." Unfortunately, not all bath house owners are particularly concerned about AIDS. Despite numerous attempts to reach the owners of four other San Francisco bath houses, none were available for interviews. There is a chance that these men are as intent upon resolving the AIDS situation as Hal Slate, but one suspects that they are more likely to agree with Richard King when he says, despite his own efforts and concerns, "We just wish the whole problem would go away."

M. Hippler

Catholic Forum

and church theologian, Kevin Gordon. He believes the forum "demonstrates to the country that the Church and the Lesbian/Gay community can struggle along creatively on a topic like this. Our work has captured the attention and admiration of many people in the Church across the country." Gordon just returned from a speaking engagement at Yale and Harvard universities where "they are amazed at our progress."

Professor Robert McAfee Brown of the Pacific School of Religion opened the morning segment by calling upon the Church to place as much emphasis on relating to homosexuals as it does on attempting to end the nuclear freeze. McAfee is a member of the archbishop's own "task force" on homosexuality, a Priest Senate.

Afternoon workshops were divided into eight groups, correlated to the eight sections of the task force's study released last year. Each panel discussed the recommendations from the task force in its area: Violence, the Latino Community, Language and Distinctions, Family, Spiritual Lives of Lesbians and Gay Men, Gay People in Religious Orders and the Priesthood, the Sexually Disenfranchised, and Education.

Workshop participants spent considerable time expressing their own personal stories of how they have had difficulty relating to the Church and to themselves as Gay Catholics. They did take time to reduce the 54 recommendations of the task force to a "high priority" list of 24 items.

IMPLEMENTATION

Gordon is confident that meetings between the 14-member task force and the full Social Justice Commission will present a plan of implementation. He believes the archdiocese may feel the need to hire a staff member to direct implementa-

G. Mendenhall

Gay Press Association Convention

(Continued from page 2)

publisher of *Frontiers* in Los Angeles. A by-laws amendment created a twelfth seat for past president and GPA founder Joseph Di Sabato.

Resolutions put the GPA on record as opposing: AIDS reporting which discourages research or exploits the health crisis to threaten our rights; employment discrimination in the Gay press on racial or ethnic grounds; and the *New York Times* for not reporting police raids on Lesbian and Black bars and not using the words "Gay" or "Ms." except in quotes. The organization took stands in favor of: open board meetings of Gay organizations; financial disclosure by paid staff and board members of Gay organizations with annual budgets over \$200,000; outreach to women and minorities; and keeping down the cost of housing at next year's convention (in Los Angeles) to encourage attendance by low income members.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 54 recommendations include the recognition of the "New Right's" promotion of homophobia and sexism, a call to Catholic agencies to recognize that they themselves might be conduits of oppression to Gay people through their attitudes and practices, the changing of careless language that encourages stereotyping, and the acceptance of Gay people as fully sexual persons. The task force also urges that the Church recognize that "male control and repression of women basically, underlies the oppression of all homosexual persons" and calls for the "full participation of Gay persons in parishes and organizations in the archdiocese." The latter recommendation calls attention to the recent banning of a Gay chorale concert at St. Boniface Church because the word "Gay" was found to be offensive by Archbishop John Quinn.

Gordon continues to be optimistic that progress can be made in opening up communication between the Church and Gay people in San Francisco — if not the world. The perennial optimist concludes, "People may be getting tired about all of this about the task force, but we want the Gay community to realize that we will not always be victimized. We can beat this thing."

Local winners were B.A.R. fine arts editor George Heymont for interviews appearing in the *Advocate*, and Daniel Curzon and Joe Kirby for a cartoon syndicated by the International Gay News Agency.

Receiving the highest honor, the Magnus Hirschfeld Award for Outstanding Achievement in Journalism, was "Gayscam" by Larry Bush, Lou Chibarro, Jr., Wallace Hamilton, Richard Kaye, Steve Martz, Martin McDonough and Greg Robinson, which ran in three papers.

The final event of the convention was the First Annual Invitational National Gay Leadership Press Conference, in which heads of NGTF, GRNL, BWMT and five other major Gay organizations spoke to those assembled and later fielded questions.

The newly elected board met for nine of the next 24 hours, officially forming the Media Fund for Human Rights as the GPA's charitable and educational arm. Unlike the parent corporation, the Media Fund will be eligible to receive tax deductible donations.

Fundraising was the primary topic of the board meetings but other subjects were discussed, assignments made, and a tentative calendar for the rest of the year. Each region will have its own conference during the year, the West meeting in Phoenix Nov. 4-6. San Francisco will host the next board meeting Aug. 26-28.

True to the theme of the Western regional conference held here in March, "Creeping Professionalism," the Gay Press Association appears to be moving ahead — slowly — to upgrade the level of Gay journalism. ■

S. Warren

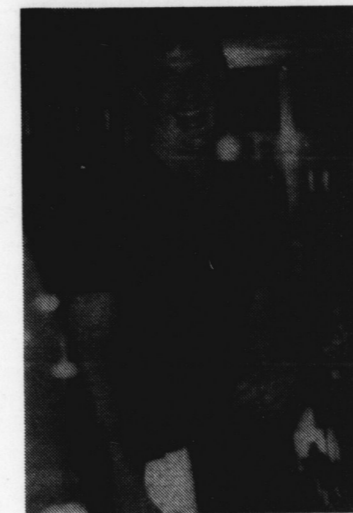
BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

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

OAKLAND

Funn For All

NEZ PAS



Robert Reed, aka Bob Funn

"I feel that anyone working with the public has to be up. If I'm not up, I'll call in sick. I love life and the love of people means everything to me. We're all individuals and different, and upsets shouldn't bother a person. After all, don't you prefer to remember the up people rather than the downer people?"

So started my interview with Robert Ryan Reed (aka Bob Funn), bartender at the Bench & Bar for nearly a year. All during the interview, even when in deep thought, Bob seemed to have that twinkle and gleam of happiness about living in his eyes. Born in Taft, California, he moved to the Bay Area 11 years ago, when his family decided that these environs were most suitable for the best living. His family knows that he is Gay, but it isn't discussed in any detail. Their love holds them together.

Bob has attended Diablo Valley College, Los Madrias in Pittsburgh, and C.C.C., where he majored in physical education and American Sign Language. He hopes that someday he will be able to make constructive use of this very important talent.

He recently moved to Oakland from Crockett. He has worked as bartender and waiter at Juanita's Warehouse in Port Costa. He has been involved in a "house-mall" type business on Bethel Island. Not too bad for a youngster of only twenty-four, eh?

Nez: What's this I hear about your attraction to psychics (not to be confused with physics)!

Bob: How did you hear about that? Yes, I do go to Michalina Russo in Richmond. She has revealed a lot of facts that only I knew; facts about my lover, my moving to Oakland, my job, etc. And I feel that I can read people to a certain extent. Everyone experiences at some time or other that they "know" a person as soon as they meet them. I feel that all people have the ability to do this type of thing but it takes a lot of work and concentration. I get a lot of my spirit from Michalina.

I met my lover at the Warehouse. He came in one night to discuss something with Juanita. Of course, I did notice him, and told her that I thought he was someone I wanted to meet. The next time he came in, Juanita told him exactly what I had told her and he made it a point to meet me! The rest is just history!

Bob: I enjoy bartending very much! I consider it a challenge, but look upon it as a hobby. We can all learn from each other... and I enjoy the benefits!

Nez: I don't dare ask just what kind of benefits! How do you compare working in a Gay bar as opposed to working in a "straight" place, like the Warehouse?

Bob: Gays are in a bar for a different reason from straights... that's obvious. It doesn't bother me that some of my customers try to put the make on me. I consider that flattering, and I enjoy making a mind game out of it. When I was at the Warehouse, some of the female

The Life of Fife's

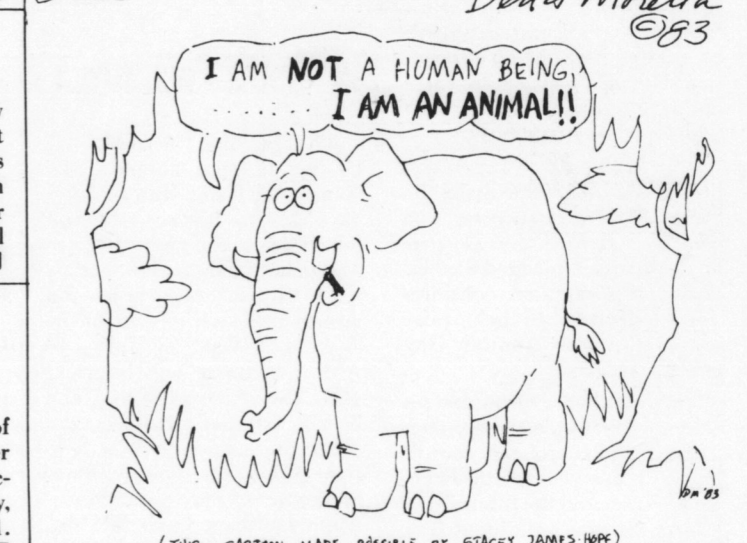
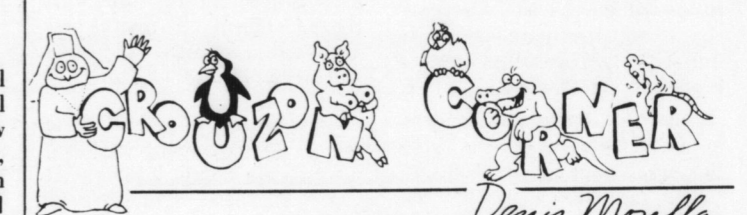
The *Examiner* called Gail Wilson "the best of the local cabaret stars," and she'll show river residents why on Sunday, May 15 at 3 PM at Fife's in Guerneville. ■

Diablo Support

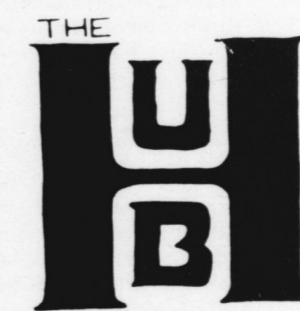
It's Movie Night at the Friday Night Rap Support Group at The Center in Concord. Flicks start at 8 PM on May 20; it's an evening with friends. Regular raps return on Friday 27. Call The Center at 674-0171. ■

Black and White Together

The East Bay Chapter of Black and White Men Together will have a hike and pot luck picnic in the East Bay on Saturday, May 21. Info: Mike, 763-1591. ■



(THIS CARTOON MADE POSSIBLE BY STACEY JAMES HIRE)



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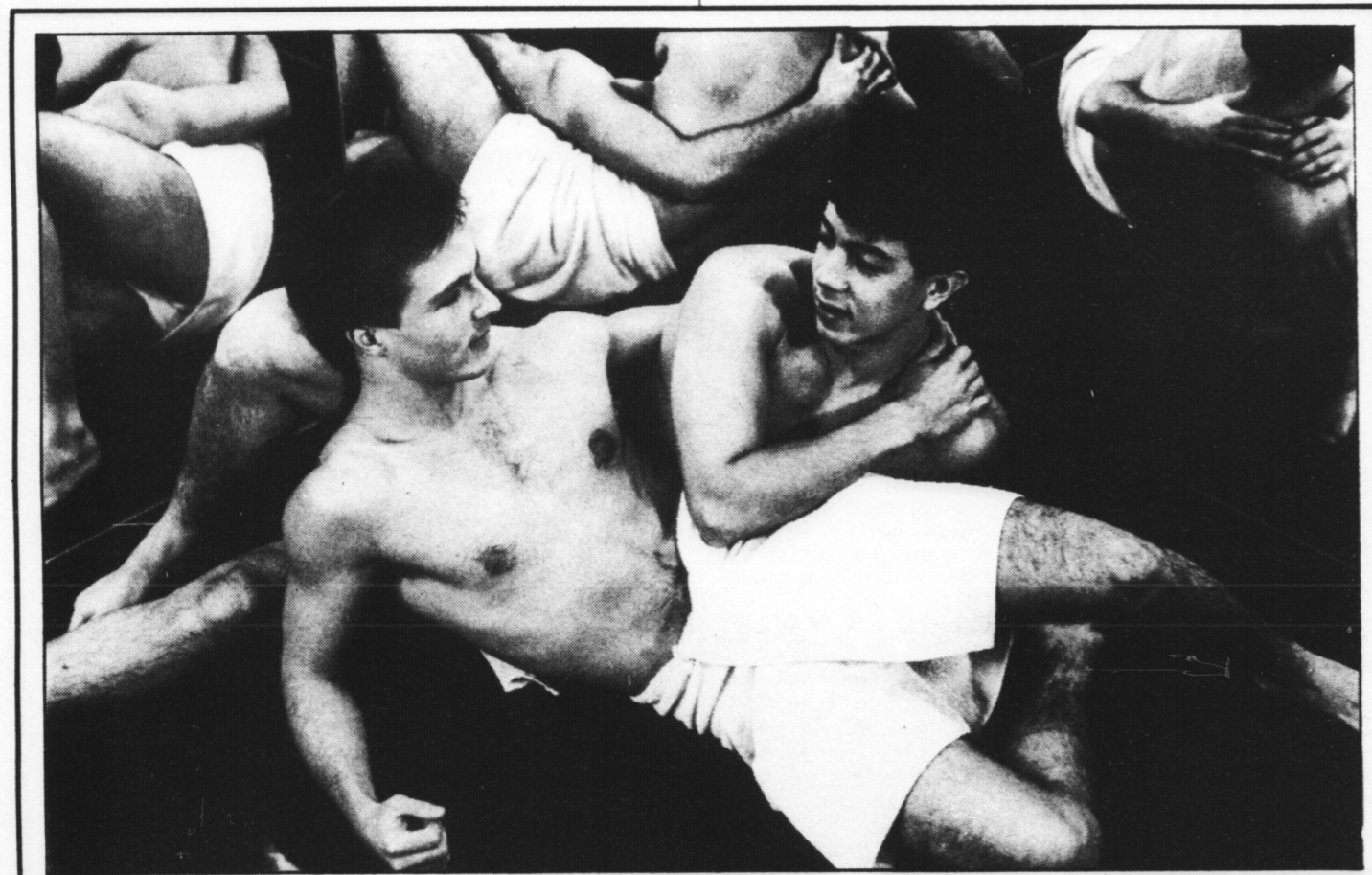
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Pledge Pride in San Jose

San Jose's Gay Pride Celebration is receiving impressive support from that community's Gay businesses, according to organizers of the June 19 event.

Approximately one half of a proposed \$9,000 budget has been secured from several prominent Gay business owners. The funds will cover costs of several star entertainers, an extensive publicity campaign, and numerous other set up costs.

San Jose Gay business leaders agree that the Gay Pride Celebration, predicted to be an overwhelming success, will attract thousands of people from throughout the area to San Jose's St. James Park. High turnout would mean a weekend business boom for establishments catering to the Gay community.

The Watergarden Corporation has pledged \$2,500 to make the June 19 event a success. The owners of H.M.S., and Desperados have each pledged \$1,000. Some bar-owners are considering fundraisers to help raise money for the annual Gay celebration.

Several other Gay businesses are expected to pledge support, according to Roger Lee, coordinator of this year's Gay Pride Celebration and the fundraising efforts. Several prominent Gay business owners will most cer-

tainly contribute when approached, Lee said, as they have for previous Gay Freedom Day activities.

A program publicizing the Gay Pride Celebration will be published a month before the event and 25,000 copies will be distributed throughout Northern California. To reserve program ad space please call Teri or Becky at (408) 289-9231.

To volunteer your time to the rally, or for further information, please call Doug Winslow at (408) 294-2311.

Petaluma Cock Roast

The Petaluma Cocks MC will be having their annual Cock Roast and Poker Run on Sunday, May 22. It's a one day run for bikes and cars through Marin and Sonoma followed by a BBQ at a Petaluma ranch and awards presentations up for the event at the Watering Hole at 10 AM. Departure will be at 11 AM. The donation for BBQ and beer is \$10 and all subsequent proceeds will be given to help fight AIDS. The club welcomes everyone. Info and reservations: Abdul Hoffman, (707) 795-0876, or Jim Lilley (707) 795-3914.

OAKLAND

(Continued from previous page)

customers would actually come behind the bar and dance with me! That type of expression is acceptable out there. If one of my customers here did the same thing, I would have to ask him to leave. The personalities of a place determine just how far a bartender can, and will, go. There is nothing that I dislike about my job. I do wish that the customers could enjoy just being themselves, and not get into posing and head trips. That usually turns everybody off, including me.

Nez: How did you get the name Bobby Funn?

Bob: It originated at the Warehouse. The customers tagged me with it, and they would tell their friends. People would come from all over to see me just because someone had told them about me. They just had to come and see how fun was Bobby Funn! It's the type of thing that isn't planned. It just happens!

Nez: How long have you been Gay?

Bob: Since my early teens. I have always been attracted to men, and really curious as to what could go on between two of them. I didn't go through the episode of "I'm the only one in the whole world!" I knew what Gay meant, and I wasn't ashamed or afraid to experiment. My coming out was not unexpected, and I was totally aware of just what was going on. Education and enlightenment does have its advantages!

Nez: You have been in Oakland for over a year now. Do you consider yourself involved?

Bob: I'm not too involved with outer activities, mainly because of my lover. He isn't the socializing type. But I do definitely want to get involved

... for the right cause.

Nez: What are your observations of Oakland's Gay scene?

Bob: There is anything and everything here in the East Bay. I don't feel the Gay populace is as supportive as it could be, and should be. There is a lot of lip service, and requests! Perhaps the City is too close. Whoever can go over there, enjoy whatever is offered, and return home. They leave the city's problems over there, ignoring our problems here at home! We should be one for all and all for one. For our own, that is. But the boost of one's ego gets in the way. Everyone wants his/her own fame without regards for anyone else's regard for fame. If each one of us took our own part, individually, it would be so much easier... and our force would really be something to reckon with. Of course everybody has to be working a common goal. Unfortunately, that's never the case in Oakland.

Nez: Is there anything you dislike about the Gay lifestyle?

Bob: I really disapprove of attitude! The majority of Gays are lonely and want companionship. They want to talk with other people. The fact of rejection, whether it be for sex or just conversation, is foremost in everyone's mind. To many, any introduction is considered an overture for cruising. That's my biggest complaint. It's too common that if two people are introduced, they are automatically tagged as cruising. That's not always the case!

Nez: What is your opinion of titles?

Bob: Oh, boy! This will probably get me into trouble! I think it's a bunch of bull shit! So what? It's all done for ego. If

all that time and energy were spent for the community, we'd all be better off. Thing have gotten way out of hand. It's time to stop and get ourselves together.

NEZ NOTES:

Round five of the East Bay Pool tournament had these results: White Horse 13 - Lake Lounge 3; Revol 9 - Big Mama's 7; Turf Club 10 - Ollie's 6; and Inbetween 10 - Driftwood 6.

Round 7 looks like this: White Horse at Ollie's; Big Mama's at Driftwood; Turf Club at Lake Lounge; Inbetween at Revol.

Construction of the Oakland float is scheduled to begin May 15 place and time to be announced. On that same day is the beginning of Three for Three at the Lake Lounge, starting at 3 PM. Proceeds will go to the float. On that same day, also, is Pacific Center's benefit for AIDS, at the Bench & Bar, starting at 8 PM. The event will feature Peter Todd (Mr. Australia), gold medal winner at the 1982 Gay Games for best physique.

What's a mother to do? Is it really possible to participate in all three of these activities?

If all the segments ever get together it will probably be "tomorrow." But on the morrow, this will be part of the unchangeable past. Fortunately, it can still be changed today. But will it? Smile anyway.

Love, Nez.

Nez Pas

Junior Prom in Palo Alto

The Whiskey Gulch Memorial High School class of 1963 will hold its Junior Prom in The Whiskey Gulch "gymnasium," 1951 University Avenue, Saturday, May 14, from 8 PM until 2 AM. The theme this year is "Memories." Gentlemen are encouraged to wear tuxes and ladies are asked to wear gowns. A King and Queen will be elected at midnight. This is a bona fide function, and a spokesman says they're going to do this "Prom" up grand.

Gay In San Jose

The Billy De Frank Lesbian and Gay Community Center (86 Keyes Street; 293-4525) has these meetings in store:

A Gay Alcoholics Anonymous meeting each Sunday at 10:30 AM.

A Men's Support Group, informal and social, meets each and every Thursday at 7 PM. On May 19 they'll discuss "Ageism."

A Women's Coffeehouse each Friday at 8 PM, presenting the Whitney Pearl Duo with original music on May 20. Donation: \$2.

Stanford Scholarship to Benefit Gays

Stanford University has accepted gifts totaling \$2,040 to establish a scholarship for a Medical School student who has shown a commitment to serving the Gay community. The gifts are the result of a fundraising campaign conducted by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford (G.L.A.S.).

In a letter accompanying the gifts, the G.L.A.S. Steering Committee noted that the needs of Gay people have historically not been adequately provided by mainstream health care institutions. They noted that in most areas of the country there is a shortage of health care professionals with the skills and commitment needed to serve the Gay community, and that there has also been little research specifically directed at the health care needs of Gay men and Lesbians.

The G.L.A.S. scholarship was

designed to meet the University's objections to an earlier gift offer, from a Florida physician, of \$500 to establish a scholarship for an openly Gay medical student. University President Donald Kennedy turned down that proposal arguing that the University should not be awarding scholarships based on "declarations of faith." The G.L.A.S. scholarship is completely separate from the earlier offer, and does not require the recipient to be a Gay person.

In their letter, the G.L.A.S. Steering Committee suggested several possible ways the University could identify a student with a commitment to serving the Gay community: the student could be involved in an organization serving the Gay community; the student could be pursuing a course of study directed toward preparing him/her for

service to the Gay community; or the student could be involved in research which would improve health care for Gay men or Lesbians.

In a letter to the members of G.L.A.S., Kennedy stated: "Your understanding of the University's position is appreciated, and your energy and innovation in expanding upon the idea of a scholarship for someone who is performing, or has performed, service directed toward the Gay community is commendable."

Thirty-five individuals contributed to the scholarship campaign. Many of these are believed to be first-time donors to the University. The students were aided in their campaign by members of the recently organized Stanford Gay and Lesbian Alumni Club in San Francisco.

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OH, HONEY! YOU'VE BEEN SAYING THAT FOR YEARS TOO!

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

avec RONNETTTE

At the Closet Ball

For the High and the Low of It

The Princess of Writers takes in the Queens of Gaydom

Between the ages of 10 and 11 my shoe size was exactly the same as my mother's. I might not have known at such a tender time that I was Gay, but my feet did; they were constantly inside her high heels. There is even a picture, now buried amid family photos, of Ronnette at the Camp One Costume Ball dressed in a Peter Pan cap with a large feather, a very short skirt, and very high heels sitting perched on a ledge, legs poised and displayed with a sexual coyness somewhat alarming in a person totally lacking secondary sexual characteristics.

This was, alas, my last personal encounter with drag until Saturday night, May 7, when, along with my friend Karr, I went to what is billed as "San Francisco's Most Outrageous Coming Out Party," The Closet Ball. For those of you too butch or too reclusive to know, the Closet Ball is a function where men are presented as themselves and then are given sixty minutes to metamorphose into drag personalities, the one stipulation being that these gentlemen never have attempted serious High

Century Fox. Two of the contestants named their Ideal Men Tom Selleck and Jan-Michael Vincent, who lovely and hairy and lovely and smooth as they might respectively be, are a far cry from Ronnette's Ideal Man, Cyril Magnin, who is a vegetarian.

Drag, I discovered, does not necessarily mean dresses. At the Closet Ball your basic (and not so basic) drag queen rubbed shoulders with motorcyclists, state troopers, underdressed Daddies, overdressed rhinestone

Lori Shannon is in a very good mood. Thank you for smoking and enjoy your evening.") and a stage the likes of which drag queens in the '50's could only dream. Designed by Bob Kenny and constructed by Brent Ferrin, it was all black and silver with a stairway stage center and moving platforms, and on it was the San Francisco Tap Troupe in a fab tableau of '30's gangster outfits. The men and women of this company were, in a word, terrific, generating with their personable presences what is usually consigned only to the great performers: love. I pointed out a woman in beige who danced with the presence of a star.

Karr: She gets a lot of solos in their other shows. Oh God, there's the number with the tits again.

R: And look who he's with—the big beautiful blond from the Calderon.

Karr: Of course.

The Mistress of Ceremonies was announced and Lori Shannon in pink and diamonds descended. "Do you like it?" she said, referring to her, uh, clothes. "I didn't know what to wear so I wore everything." Her arms looked like she stripped the candelabra at the Starlight Room and strapped it all on her, uh, person. "You've heard of *Women's Wear Daily*. This is what *Men Wear Nightly*." Lori has a voice like Bea Arthur's and much better timing. "How many women do you know who wear clothes like this? It takes a Man to wear these clothes! My head hurts, though — I was putting on some toilet water before the Closet Ball and the lid fell and hit me on the head!" Lori, in case you've never seen her, is a Full-Figured Woman and is obviously not intimidated by crowds. After the one-liners she introduced the judges who came, gaily, from the restaurant, entertainment, and hair businesses. Leticia Luna, the restaurateur, petite and besouped, reminded me of Piaf, and Boyd Smitty, last year's Closet Ball Queen, looked like C.J. Laing on either too much attitude or qualudes. (C.J. Laing, my dears, is a '70's female porn star of classic, Strindbergesque homeliness.) "Mary Louise," sniffed Karr, "I guess the competition last year wasn't so stiff."

The rules and prizes were announced (the winner receives \$300, a trophy, and a tiara pretty enough to wear at the Boot Camp), and the contestants were presented for the judges' immediate first impression as males. The men wore suits, cowboy shirts, tuxedos, even beige



First Runner-Up Lydia (Bob Hix, right) dripped regal attitude off the flashing wing of his evening gown. Daniel Espinosa (L.) was Lydia's creator. (Photo: Rink)



Alexis Carrington Colby Jr. (David Carney, r.) won the tiara, the trophy, and the title Miss Closet Queen 1983. Alexis was created by Pat Montclair (L.). (Photo: Rink)

sweaters. My favorite man was the cop in leather pants, Gregg O'Shell, but he is 10'6" (or was it 6'10") and I am partial to giants. Pat Montclair, all rhinestones, cleavage, and polish, lip-synched Liza's "City Lights," encoring with all the contestants doing Rockette kicks. Some of the men had obviously never been on a stage in their lives, and it was all such charm and innocence and drag queen glitz, it made me laugh out loud.

A Gay event cannot be judged until intermission — in many ways a Gay event is its intermission — and by that standard this was one of the Great Affairs. Since the contestants had an hour to dress, there was plenty

(Continued on next page)



These two women made a noble attempt to counter the overwhelming tide of men being women by being men themselves — and quite snappily at that. (Photo: Rink)

MASS APPEAL
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MILO O'SHEA and **SHAUN CASSIDY**
directed
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CLOSET BALL

(Continued from previous page)

Center's bartenders poured ounce and a half drinks and the sound of tinkling ice was drowned in the clamor. I got up the nerve to introduce myself to Shelley, the only queen I have ever seen in a Scotch tartan gown. Tease-shirts with tits and the big beautiful blond from the Caldron led to ruminations on whether to hit that tasteful nightspot after the show.

R: I have decided never to appear at JO Parties without contact lenses.

Karr: It's horrible not being the most beautiful person in the world.

I concurred. "Horrible, horrible."

Reggie opened Act II with "Le Jazz Hot," a number that received such enthusiastic applause that Lori Shannon was moved to remind the audience to "Save your hands — you might need them later." The Female Competition followed, and it was a Pay-off that really paid off. Alexis Carrington Colby Jr. (David Carney) almost turned the entire second act into an anticlimax by literally twirling onstage in a white satin creation with a floral and crepe neckline and enough crinolines to make a seventeenth century Spanish Infanta kill. Dana (Robert Fox) was gorgeous in a white pants outfit with big pleated puff sleeves and slit sides, but the poor thing couldn't walk in heels, a problem which afflicted more than half of the burly girls.



Pat Montclair stopped the show with her performance of "City Lights" and lit those lights brightly by creating the evening's winner. (Photo: Rink)

There was a woman in the very same dress sitting in the front row, and when Lori pointed her out, she unhesitatingly took a bow and a little more — she showed one breast and then the other and looked like she was about to strip completely before her companion coaxed her to her seat. I am proud to say she received a thrilling standing ovation from this audience of fagettes. Miss Shannon quipped, "Yours might be real, honey, but we can hang our tits over the bed at night."

Real boobs or fake boobs, the show must go on. "Lydia" appeared in a fabulous black and white creation, the black dress hanging from the bodice in a simple empire style, one shoulder bare, the other shaped from some stiff material into a white conch shell — very art deco. Crystal LaLique billowed in white satin slit to the crotch set off by a fur muff and a bejeweled turban. Sheena Kim wore a white gown that emphasized her purity. "Altogether too tasteful," Karr remarked, but I reminded him that Oriental women are altogether tasteful and, besides, Sheena's black curly hair was gorgeous. Parkay glittered in black and sequins, her torero hat over her long blond hair a masterpiece. Eva LeGalleon was all spandex glitz and Annie wig. Kelly Warner was strictly tea dance on a stage of glamour, and TatiAnna, now 10' 8½", accentuated her height in a long white dress with lots of pleats and a tasteful string of pearls. I personally adored Fluffy, breathless



From Plaid to Plain. On the theory that if you can't out-dress them you should under-dress them, writer Ronnette chose a demure wardrobe for the Closet Ball. He was entranced with Shelley, "the only queen I have ever seen in a Scotch tartan gown." (Photo: Rink)

in purple sequined slacks, very high heels which she negotiated with truly professional ease, and a blouse with glittering butterfly wings. Jessica Dithers in a simple knee-length shirtwaist with a bow at the shoulder proved that even in afternoon attire a girl could look lovely onstage.

The awards were presented by Michelle, an enduring star who made a breathtaking entrance in a pink sequined gown and a pink sequined pillbox hat capped with two pheasant feathers, im-



The residents of the Fillmore never saw such an illustrative group leave the Japan Center, and I saw amazed motorists staring incredulously through their windshields. I strongly suggest to the show's producers that they provide a squadron of taxis for next year's event.

Karr and I hung around a little while to watch the show after the show. "My God," Karr cried, "there's Tits again." Leatherman was leaving.

R: His tits aren't so good.

Karr: It's not the tits, Ronnette; it's the nipples that are perfection.

Ronnette

The Closet Ball's Official Photographer, Steve Sutton, will show color photos of the Ball at The Mint, the afternoon of Sunday, May 22. Reproductions may be ordered at the show.



GALA came to the gala, and members of Gay and Lesbian Asians filled seven tables with party-goers! "Banzai Bill" and "Naughty Nicole" joined the intermission promenade. (Photo: Rink)

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

Rites Right for Randall

by Mike Hippler

His drag performance as Swan Lake's Black Swan brought him notoriety, but it's the celebration of men dancing called Rites of Spring which he produces and dances in that is his most famous achievement. Strangely, though, Randall Krivonic originally wanted to be one kind of performer and became another. A native of Santa Monica Randall's intentions were to be an actor until he was cast as Puck in a production of A Midsummer Night's Dream and had to take a dance class as part of his preparation for the role. As far as Randall was concerned, that was it. "Dance is like heroin," he says now. "Once you get into it, it's addicting. And it never stops being challenging." He began studying with Donald Hewitt in Los Angeles, who taught him that dance was "a religion — not something you do two or three times a week, not a volunteer's art." He was further inspired by Louis Falco, who he saw perform when he was only fifteen — a moment of enlightenment for him, Randall says. Randall progressed rapidly, and by the time he was nineteen he had founded his own dance company, the Venice Free Theater.

That same year, when he was nineteen, Randall moved to San Francisco to a flat on Valencia Street across from a Greek Orthodox Church that he says is the only place Nijinsky ever danced in this city. He soon landed a job dancing with San Francisco Dance Spectrum, dancing off and on with them for the next eight years. In 1973 he became involved with the Jesuit Institute for the Arts and spent three years choreographing and performing liturgical dance for the Jesuits in Lincoln Center, at Princeton, and in a convent in Guadalajara. ("They were very jet-set Jesuits," states Randall. "They even knew Andy Warhol.") For three seasons he danced with the San Francisco Opera, which gave him the chance to work with his idol, Falco, in person. He also spent two years as dance and theater director for a YMCA mental health program, mounting theatrical productions with casts comprised entirely of mental patients, and he taught dance in a woman's jail for a year. Quite a bio for a 29-year old. But that isn't all.

In 1976 he organized a show called Nocturnal Emissions, which was held at the Gay Community Center of Grove Street and billed as the "world's first full-evening Gay dance concert."

Rock Bonds Roll

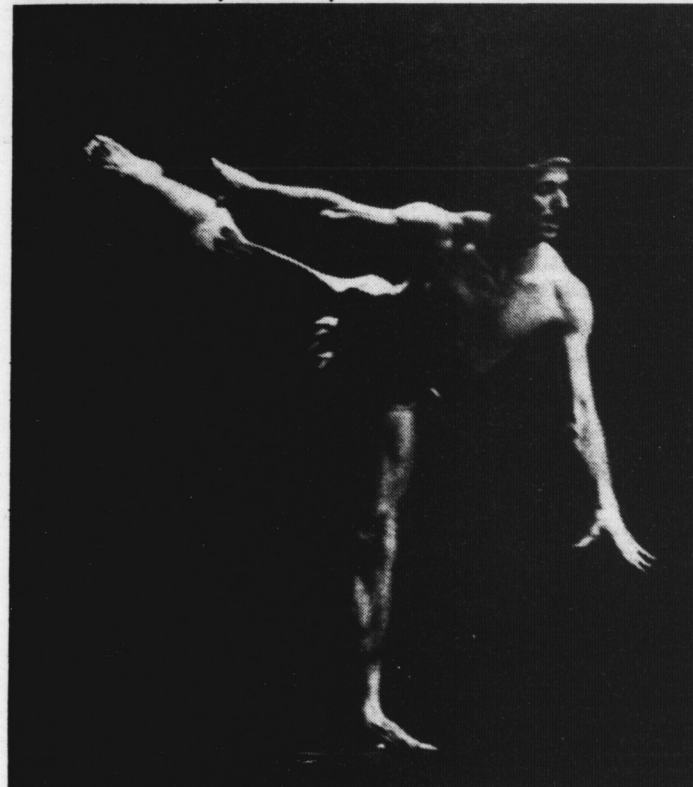
Times Square, the rarely-seen big budget rock & roll ballet, will be screened Friday, May 13, at the San Francisco Women's Building, 3548 18th St. as a benefit for Frameline, producers of the Gay Film Festival.

Music is by Patti Smith Group, Lou Red, Talking Heads, The Ramones, Roxy Music and more. There will be screenings at 7:30 and 9:30 PM. A donation of \$3 will be requested at the door.

Image Songs

544 Natoma presents duets and solo pieces combining sound, light and space through music and sequences of dissolving images at 9 pm on May 13

"When I felt the audience reaction to that concert," says Randall, "I knew this was a direction I had to follow." In 1977, consequently, he and a friend danced before thousands of spectators at the Gay Freedom Day Parade — a performance that almost didn't take place because Randall's partner was undergoing too much pressure and wanted to cancel. When he was accosted by thugs in the Mission with baseball bats, however, he called Randall at 4 PM and said, "I've got to do it now." The event was such a wonderful experience for Randall that he furthered his involvement in Gay dance by



Choreographer, dancer, company director, and RITES OF SPRING producer Randall Krivonic as he appeared in last year's version of the all-male dance show. (Photo: T. Plevik)

dancing at a Gay wedding at the Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park. Next, he helped to produce Joseph Taylor's evening of Gay dance, Curtain's Up!, at the Victoria Theater in early 1981. He has also danced with the Gay Men's Chorus and at the Beaux Arts Ball. Finally, in early 1982, Randall founded Falcon Dance Theater, a Gay dance company, and in May of that year produced Rites of Spring. This celebrated Gay dance concert showcased the talents of a wide variety of Gay dancers, including Flamenco, belly, Polynesian, cloggers, fan and of course, modern, jazz, and ballet dancers.

Obviously, being Gay is extremely important to Randall. "When I say I'm a Gay artist I say it proudly and I focus on that," he says. "In dance right

Troc Men's Night

The Trocadero Transfer has set aside Tuesdays as a night for men only. Peter Cail, disc jockey from the Hot House, will present musical numbers alternating from new wave to jazz to technopop. Assisting Peter Cail in the transformation of the Trocadero Transfer from its well known disco format to an evening filled with alternatives is Glen Klein on visuals. Tuesday evenings will be free during the months of May and June for all men over twenty-one years of age. Doors open at 10 PM and close at 3 AM. Info: 495-0185.

and 14. Sheppard Powell plays his carousel projectors and specially designed dissolve unite like a musician while pianist Peter Hartman gives the images sound. Donation is \$5, or \$8 both nights.

now I think it's extremely important for a Gay statement to be made. But there is a certain professional risk you take in becoming a Gay artist. Your career can become severely hampered." Randall notes that although a majority of male dancers across the country are Gay, the dance world can be curiously homophobic. Only recently has any sort of Gay consciousness begun to develop and have major companies like the San Francisco Ballet created male pas de deux. That's why he feels it's even more important for Gay dance companies like Falcon Dance Theater and Ballet Trocadero to exist. "But while we may be doing the first openly Gay ballets, we are by no means without precedence," Randall cautions. He points to the Ballet

Russe as an example, which revolved around the talents of such Gay men as Diaghilev, Nijinsky, and Massine, and to the phenomenal Ted Shawn and his male dancers, who used to dance naked in the woods in the 1930's.

At present Randall is too swamped by his responsibilities as dancer, choreographer, director, and producer to think much about his future career. He is continually beset by difficulties such as funding, losing dancers who can't afford financially to stay with the company, and dealing with Gay community members who constantly expect him to volunteer his services while they pay straight performers from outside the community. Nevertheless, he continues to plan a full range of activities for himself and his company, including next week's Rites of Spring reprise, a Gay Nutcracker in December, and a full-length ballet based on the story of Dracula for the Theater Ballet of San Francisco, a straight company. When he does think about his future, Randall envisions a career focusing exclusively on choreography and directing, free of the responsibilities of producing. He remains as ambitious as ever, but ambition for Randall is merely an extension of his current involvements. He doesn't want to be a principal dancer for the American Ballet Theater. He has found his niche, directing his own Gay dance company. He only wants to see it expand and grow.

Rites of Spring; May 20-21, 8:30 PM, Nourse Auditorium. Tickets \$7 adv., \$9 at door, at Gramophone and Headlines stores.

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FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

Say Amen, Somebody!

Amen & Hallelujah

George T. Nierenberg's close-up look at two pioneers of the bluesy-soul religious music called gospel gets to the heart of the matter — with heart and matter, unlike the concert film Gospel.

Say Amen, Somebody! is, of course, a documentary — the very word probably scaring much of its deserved audience away. But his film is so heartfelt



Age and injury can't dampen the spirited performances of Thomas A. Dorsey, the "Father of Gospel Music," in SAY AMEN, SOMEBODY!

and its subject matter so, well, lively, that it proves to be an entertaining as well as an invigorating enlightenment about a musical genre slowly being replaced by commercialism.

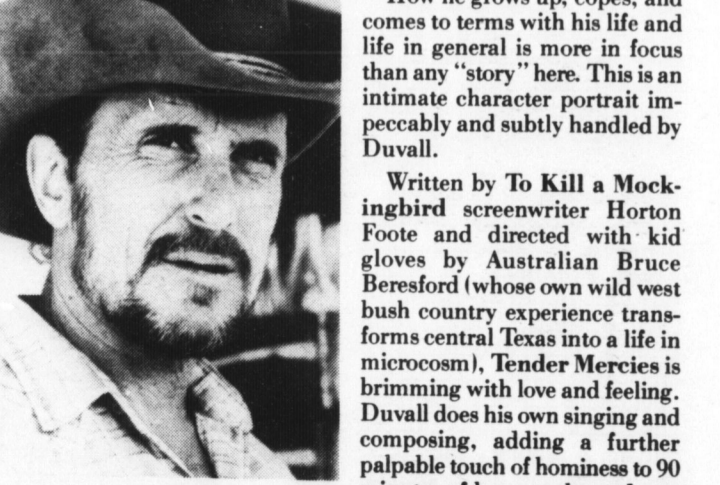
There are 25 songs in the film, but Nierenberg frequently cuts away as if to remind us that his film is about the music, it is not of the music.

Father of Gospel Music Thomas A. Dorsey is an 83-year old hepcat, a man whose faith and devotion and singular buoyancy keep him going despite two broken hips. His compositions and life figure highly, as does the voice and life of Mother Willie May Ford Smith, the 78-year old matriarch of gospel.

Tender Mercies
Counting Blessings

"Be thankful for the tender mercies of life." It's another way of saying, "Count your blessings." For moviegoers they include this beautiful little film about common people making the best of their muddled lives.

Robert Duvall plays a once-successful country composer who is now all but down and



Robert Duvall in TENDER MERCIES.

Nierenberg doesn't so much interview as "create environments in which the characters I have preselected will interact in ways I've already observed. Film is about more than its subject matter. I want each scene to represent a theme, a universal truth."

Tracing the roots of gospel to the present, he focuses both on how congregations react to the music — typically ecstatically happy and with cathartic tears — and on the deep faith that inspires the music as well as the performers.

A brief clip of a young Mahalia Jackson is the tip of this mountain of mainstream gospel. Then we're carried away with the joyful appeal of the Barrett Sisters, a trio of women whose fervid delivery gets things cookin', plus performances by mass-voiced choirs and the film's aged stars.

Gospel is performed in churches in place of stuffy conventional hymns and gives parishioners a chance to express their belief in God with deeply-felt emotions. Say Amen, Somebody! captures this concisely and if it doesn't get you caught up in its primitive beat and passion, you are probably dead.

washed out. His last stop is at a central Texas motel where he meets and in quick order marries widow-with-child Tess Harper.

With her help he reforms just about completely, not allowing drinking or laziness — the things that destroyed him previously — into his new existence. Then his wife now superstar singer Betty Buckley comes to town, bringing all the bad vibes Duvall thought he erased. There is also the problem of his daughter who he hasn't seen in 19 years.

How he grows up, copes, and comes to terms with his life and life in general is more in focus than any "story" here. This is an intimate character portrait impeccably and subtly handled by Duvall.

Written by To Kill a Mockingbird screenwriter Horton Foote and directed with kid gloves by Australian Bruce Beresford (whose own wild west bush country experience transforms central Texas into a life in microcosm), Tender Mercies is brimming with love and feeling. Duvall does his own singing and composing, adding a further palpable touch of hominess to 90 minutes of honey cake and cotton quilt smoothness.

STAGE

The Limits of Love
Latino Theatre Tackles "Gay" Play

by Scott Treimel

When a homophobic character appears in a play his homophobia is always the given. It might operate on the action or be incidental to it but its source is never treated. Edgar Poma's Reunion, which the Mission District's Teatro Gusto opened last week, corrects this deficiency. The play is a portrait of Chicano homophobia, depicting what fuels and sustains it. Although both the script and the production are dramatically sluggish, Reunion exemplifies what neighborhood theaters do best — cast relevant issues in familiar terms.

The story, for this is a staged story more than a play, is about what happens when Rick takes his lover Danny home to meet the family in San Jose. Both men are UCLA students and the family is relatively well-to-do. The mother teaches history and the father is a civil liberties lawyer. Also on hand for the disclosure that Rick is Gay are his older sister Diana, her husband Marcos, and the family friend Barbara, who was once Rick's girlfriend and still has it bad for him.

"Gays have to understand our family structure to understand how homophobia is bred, and Latino(s) have to see that Gays are people too."

Danny, of course, is on edge, and rightly so. The nutty Barbara, who is a dead letters clerk in the post office, at once suspects he is her rival. Diana, Barbara's confidante, dismisses this impermissible thought until Rick himself verifies it, at which point she fumes, fears humiliation, suggests psychiatric counseling, and argues for Chicano solidarity: "Gay is a bourgeois perversion created by baggy-khaki Cholo with curiously sculpted facial hair. He wants to know who does it to whom. Marcos, you see, thinks Gay is okay as long as a Gay fellow remains a man, which to him means 'a conqueror.'" The play pushes forward with little remarks such as these that broadly paint the mindset of homophobia. Rick's father has a fit when he learns of Rick's bent. Civil liberties lawyers or

not, Rick's father pronounces "Gay men are weak" quite as if it were a judicial view. He beanoans lost traditions and maligns the irresponsible notions — feminism, socialism, and now homosexuality — he has paid for his children to learn in college. At last, it is suggested, the father relents.

Teatro Gusto performs Reunion in a highly naturalist fashion, which is mildly convincing and usually illuminates the implicit structure of a Chicano family and the limits of its love. The Capp Street Playhouse is an intimate setting for this intimate story, which Teatro Gusto deserves thanks for staging. You might consider it a gesture toward reconciling the bruised relations between its community and ours, something of a reunion in itself.



The inner workings of a Latino family are exposed when a son (seated, right) brings home his boyfriend in REUNION.

In four years Teatro Gusto has established itself as a company intent on social change. Its productions have confronted a slew of issues pertinent to the Mission neighborhood it chiefly serves, such as racism, consumer manipulation, and the violence forced on the community's youth. The controversy the company's record of activism has sparked, however, might just be eclipsed when word of its current production, Reunion, gets around. In the play a young Chicano comes out to his family, thereby addressing, says director Hank Tavera, "the Chicano/Latino community's homophobia head on."

"We know we're taking a big risk by doing the play," he said. "We had a lot of meetings before we decided to take it on. When we made the commitment to

stage the play, we also made a commitment to deal with the homophobia of our own friends, families, and neighbors. The cast has been repeatedly asked, 'Why are you doing that play? Why are you playing that role?' Other activists in our community have asked the same questions, but the tension the play has already caused is exactly the reason we have to do it."

"Teatro Gusto is a progressive theater company, and we feel we have a duty to confront our audience, which is mostly Latino and Chicano, with important social issues. Homophobia is rampant in our community and we can't shirk away from it. "I think this production is a great way to bridge the gap between the Gay and the Latino and Chicano communities. We

want members of both communities to come see the play. Gays have to understand our family structure to understand how homophobia is bred; and Latino and Chicano have to see that Gays are people too."

In preparation for the play, Tavera has had his cast read Gay newspapers, essays, and books. The cast, which is part Gay, part straight, has been forced to deal with each other more intimately than before. "And now they're ready to perform the play," he concluded, which led to my conclusion rather obviously: Is the Latino/Chicano community ready to see it?

Reunion
Teatro Gusto
362 Capp Street
Through June 4; 826-0440

Pathos In A Hula-Hoop

by Bernard Spunberg

Easy, obvious convention is not much cultivated by Sara Shelton Mann, James Tyler, John LeFan, and their co-creators and co-performers. Appreciation of their works, Circe and The Bog People, requires a willingness to ignore expectations. Movement may be forced to carry the burden of narrative while words, stripped of all but subliminal meanings, may have primarily abstract impact. Emotional content is expressed in unexpected ways, becoming all the more poetic and powerful.

Sara Shelton Mann uses Homer's Odyssey as a point of departure for her Circe. Homer's character was a sorceress who held Odysseus prisoner and turned his sailors into pigs; Mann bills her work as a "psychic comic strip" and makes Circe a compulsive hula-hooper with a very strong attachment to her gown, which, she tells us, she wore to her prom and now wears while washing dishes.

LeFan taps our collective pain over tragedies such as those of the Bog People and of Jonestown. By letting us experience them within a context of ritual and artifice, he helps to purge us

(Continued on page 27)

Rites of Spring

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Quite a temptress, this CIRCE, about to be devoured by a conquest.

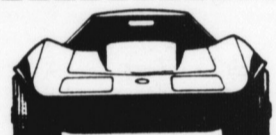
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STAGE

Pain ÷ Comedy = Success

by Dan Turner

If you grew up fat, Italian, Catholic, and guilty in South Philly, and considered yourself grotesque before Gay you might have gone to the Yale School of Drama instead of committing suicide and be presently writing painful, comic plays.

Albert Innaurato, who is such a person, has survived the humiliations of obesity, prejudice, religiosity, and conscience; conquered the ghetto; climbed the ivy; lighted Broadway; and lived to be over thirty. He was a classmate at Yale and collaborated with Christopher Durang, who is also a playwright who slays nuns; and the two of them knew Meryl Streep, who was studying to be an actress, who we all know made it and sheds believable tears.

Innaurato's tears are encased in monster characters that he has created from his life, and these emotional denizens are as indestructible and eternal as cockroaches, a favorite symbol of evil incarnate which he forces them to face. These monster characters are personifications of himself, who he was, and how he still survives. Moral: If you don't eat up your past, your past will eat you up.

Innaurato's first cry of self-expression made him famous. It was a play called *The Transfiguration of Benno Blimpie*, which has been successfully revived in New York. Unlike Christopher Isherwood, who announced, "I am a camera," Innaurato declared, "I'm eating myself to death." Benno Blimpie, who is as fat as his name implies, is the first of many characters who are Innaurato's self-projections.

In *Passione*, currently at the Berkeley Stage Company, Innaurato casts himself as Little Tom, a man who is not little, a clown, and living with the fat lady of the circus. His family life is a circus too, and when his mother returns from "over the hill" after a ten-year absence, the pasta flies.

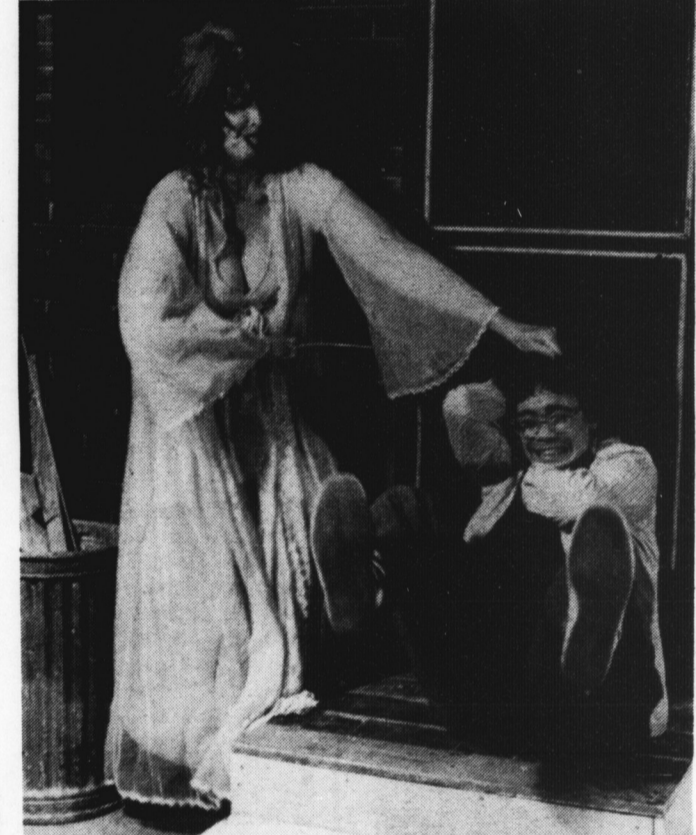
The play could have been called *WASPS vs. Wops* as Innaurato makes this Italian-American family reunion a pizza of pickaxes. Francine, the fat lady (Kristi Johnson), informs

Little Tom (Joseph Riggs), "WASPS don't put their head nowhere there hasn't been boiling water and Lysol."

This "three hundred pounds of pulchritude" expounds in an aria of words that she is fat and proud, "I can shake my meat!"

Angela Paton plays Sarah, the aunt, like Mercedes McCambridge in *Giant*, blustery, big-mouthed, and tough. She says, "Human beings are just animals that stand up and use deodorant."

The mother has become a doctor in the intervening years. "I was almost forty and I had nothing." She seems to have forgotten that she had a son, but Little Tom sent her a letter explaining that he attempted suicide. He says, "You pushed me out. I'm a joke — just useless



Sandra Cannon bustily berates her overweight son (Michael McGee) in *GEMINI*.

plasma!" She berates him, "You are a howling, crying animal without a future!" She calls him a Bozo and leaves.

Innaurato's characters are larger than life, or seem so, but they must be because they are fighting for their own survival. They must make comedy out of pain, and it takes an aria to do it. He gives his most soulful characters great monologues that are more like personal explosions.

In *Earth Worms* which opens at UC Berkeley on May 12 both the character of Bernard, the seventy-year-old drag queen, and Edith, who only crawls and is blind, are effusive in their outpourings. Their personal preoccupation becomes phantasmagoric.

Innaurato's bold portraits are well worth your admiration and amusement. In some cases you may be shocked by the hyperbole and the rococo artistry, yet these wounded creatures rise above their over-indulgence and affect your heart.

Jean Shelton directs Innaurato's *Gemini* at the Stage Group Theatre on Powell, and this play eases you into the playwright's world through more

traditional comedy. It ran for six years on Broadway and was made into a movie which was poorly advertised and distributed. After seeing *Earth Worms* and *Passione*, the happy ending seems almost an afterthought, but the characters bristle with life, even if they do not reach the depths of the later plays.

The heart of the matter lies rather vividly in the core of the play which depicts another fat, nearsighted, opera queen, trying to cope with the onslaught of his twenty-first birthday, adult life, the arrival of two college chums — a brother and sister duo, and last but certainly not least, admitting his homosexuality to them and his father.

Dan Kozloff plays this incarnation of Innaurato with twisted, painful grimaces, and shy, stultified stammerings, and makes us empathize with the plight of the social outcast, who is first, unwittingly a victim unto himself.

Sandra Cannon plays the brassy, big-breasted character Bunny Weinberger who keeps contradicting herself and says after throwing one of her fits, "All that opera screaming — it ain't like real life!"

All the performances in both *Passione* at Berkeley Stage Company and in *Gemini* at the Stage Group Theatre are first rate. I especially liked Judith Weston's tight-lipped Southern Baptist mother and the zesty old Italian grandpop of Robert Elross in *Passione*; and the obsequious but bossy Lucille of Linda Ayres in *Gemini*.

A good set adds a lot to a show and both Ariel at Berkeley Stage Company and Steve Coleman at Stage Group Theatre did smash-up jobs (or should I say that Ariel did the "smashing" and Steve built "up" a great two-story house and patio).

In the words of Alberto Innaurato's Bernard in *Earth Worms*, "I only became an artist a few years ago. Before that I was a failure. You may not think there is a difference, but there is, a small one..." Moral: from pain to comedy to success — that's Albert Innaurato. ■

Passione
Berkeley Stage Co.
Through June 4; 548-4728

Gemini
Stage Group Theatre
Through June 12; 433-1226

Homosexuality Bricked Up

by Scott Treimel

at on a Hot Tin Roof will remain indestructible so long as money, death, and sex continue to animate the human psyche. The play's dramatic bravado and Williams' flawless ear for speech won him his second Pulitzer Prize and third New York Critics' Circle Award in 1955 when the play opened on Broadway. The play is a beauty and there is no reason to turn your nose up at a homely, neighborhood production of it, such as *Tour de Force*'s at the Noe Valley Ministry. Despite the cavernous, indifferent hall and the uneven cast, the production's earnestness sustains the play's merits.

Big Daddy, as he is affectionately called, is the massive mountain of the largest estate in the Mississippi Delta, and it is his sixty-fifth birthday. The celebrants are the Pollit family, a greedily alive brood made all the more aggressive because the shadow of cancer has fallen over Big Daddy, though neither he nor Big Mama know it. Brick, the favorite son, has turned to liquor following the death of his

dear pal Skipper, a death Brick's wife Maggie instigated by suspecting the two of a homosexual relationship. Brick now loathes Maggie and refuses to sleep with her, so the two have no children. Their childlessness is an issue because Big Daddy wants an heir by Brick and Maggie wants the inheritance to secure her from the unseemly poverty of her past. Also gathered are Big Daddy's other son Gooper and his wife Mae, an irrepressibly fertile pair who hope their five brats will curry Big Daddy's favor.

A complex of questions hold you to the play: How will the parents receive the news of Big Daddy's doom? Which couple will get the plantation? And most central, why is Brick morose? In the crucial scene when Big Daddy forces Brick to explain why he is suddenly sucking up liquor, Brick answers, "DISGUST!" The word is repeated six times before Brick's explanation shifts to the mendacity of living. Brick, unlike Big Daddy, cannot suffer the lies that are life, which ultimately, though vaguely, refers to his relationship with Skipper. When

Big Daddy is not horrified at the suggestion of homosexuality, Brick exclaims, "Don't you know how people feel about that? How, how disgusted they are by things like that?" Brick's fear of homosexuality has defeated him.

Tour de Force takes its production seriously, and though this is good, a stiff conscientiousness occasionally hems in

the animal vigor of the play. The direction is literal, the cast satisfactory, and the technical aspects smooth, if a little bland. All things considered, the production is a credit to the neighborhood troupe.

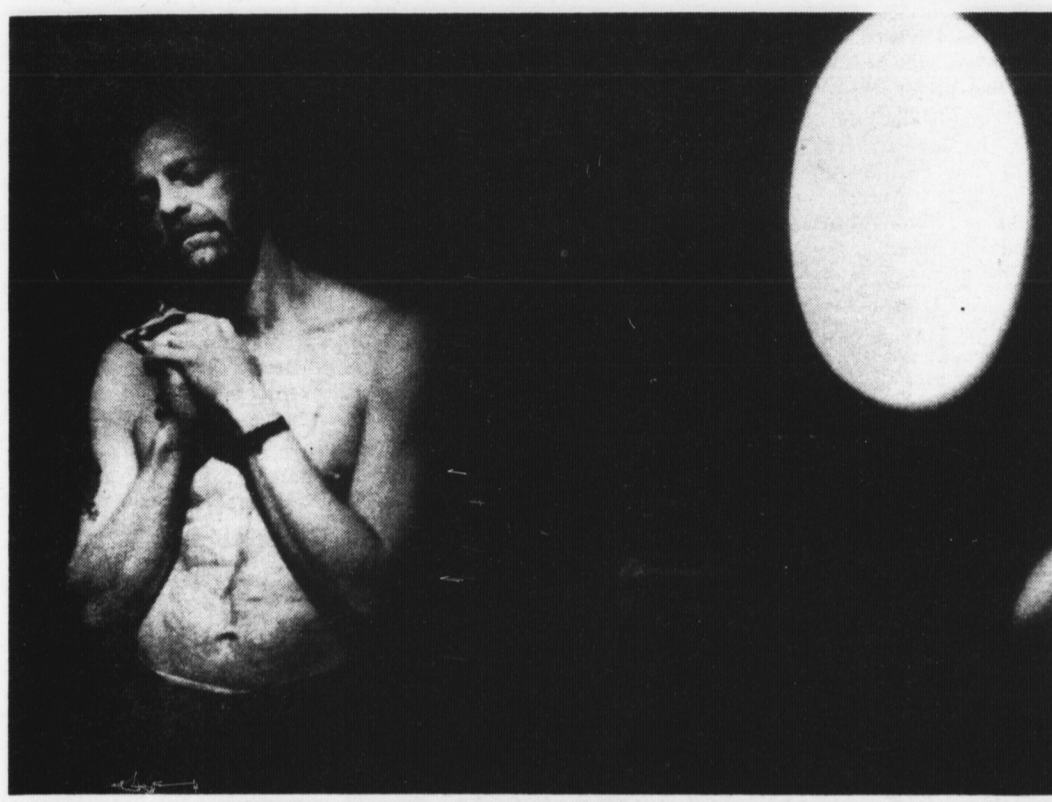
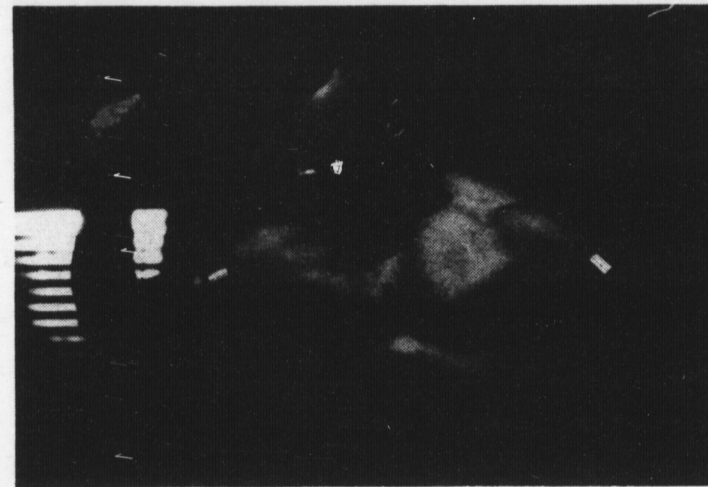
Cat On A Hot Tin Roof
Tour de Force
Through June 5; 626-1192



From *High to Low on Love and Drugs*. The finale of C.D. Arnold's play, *King of the Crystal Palace*, offers this embrace both tender and desperate. The play is moving into the finale of its run, and will close on Saturday, May 21. The successful world premiere engagement has hardly been desperate for the play's seriousness is suffused with a tender embrace for the realities of life, particularly the experience of Gays. Chuck Solomon cradles Steven Patterson in his arms, above. (Photo: M.I. Chester)

544 Retrospect for Chesterphiles

A retrospective show of performance photographs by Mark I. Chester is at 544 Natoma through May 28. The performances all occurred at 544. Besides the pictures of Larry Glover going into a sex ritual in *The Maids* (right) and Dennis Yount (foreground, below) preparing to cast off his heterosexuality with John Ponyman in *Sunsets*, the exhibit includes 15 shots of Esmeralda, Lou Rudolph, the Sisters, C.D. Arnold's *Delivery*, and others. Recent paintings by Tasha Robbins are also on display.



CABARET
Song and Seduction

by Adele Prandini

Looking for a sparkling evening of entertainment? I've found one for you. This month Clementina's Wednesday night cabaret is loaded with talent. Lea DeLaria, with the help of Jeanine Strobel, acts as emcee, easing the audience through transitions with bits from her comedy act. As a performer Lea is energetic and projects a love of her work.



Singer Francesca Dubie which should not be missed. Between numbers she chats warmly with the audience, a comedienne in her own right. In a moment of honesty she admits, "I don't talk dirty in bed, just ask anyone." Dubie is a marvelous

entertainer with lots of heart and soul.

Following Francesca onto the stage are Rebecca Weber and Jeanie Rogov in Phillip Real's play *Dessert*. This vivacious one-act is delightfully acted by Weber and Rogov. It is a story of seduction, in which a straight woman tries to get herself seduced by her Gay friend, or is it the Gay friend trying to seduce the... ah, well, you'll have to see it and decide for yourself. Jeanie Rogov in the role of the straight woman employs a deadpan that could halt a Mack truck and Rebecca Weber never falls prey to the ills of mugging and overacting. Both women have a great sense of timing and work very well together. I have a feeling you'll enjoy this piece of theater, and I don't want to spoil things by telling you more. Let me say that the laughs are bountiful and the performers lovable.

Singer Francesca Dubie and Dessert can be seen at Clementina's each Wednesday night in May. Ms. Dubie appears in solo at Fanny's, Thursday, May 12, 8:30 PM, \$2.

Bog People

(Continued from page 25)

Of our horror and, perhaps, guilt.

Using movement, abstract vocalization, and music, LeFan creates a work of unity and passion. The primeval setting is incidental, and the action takes place then and now, there and here. Though *The Bog People* is serious, it is not depressing, for its design, execution, and intention are ultimately positive and uplifting.

Circle and The Bog People are aided considerably by the energy and creativity of their supporting ensembles. Though details could be fine-tuned — pert blond hairdos should be

eliminated from *The Bog People* — this is not stiff, formal corps de ballet but individual artists who each make an inimitable contribution to the whole. Music composed by James Tyler also greatly enhances both works. Like good movie music, it is highly atmospheric and never intrusive.

Both Circle and The Bog People are demanding and original works. They may never bring great wealth to their performers or creators, but they certainly enrich their audiences. ■

B. Spunberg

Circle and The Bog People
Theatre Ariad
May 13-15; 861-6355

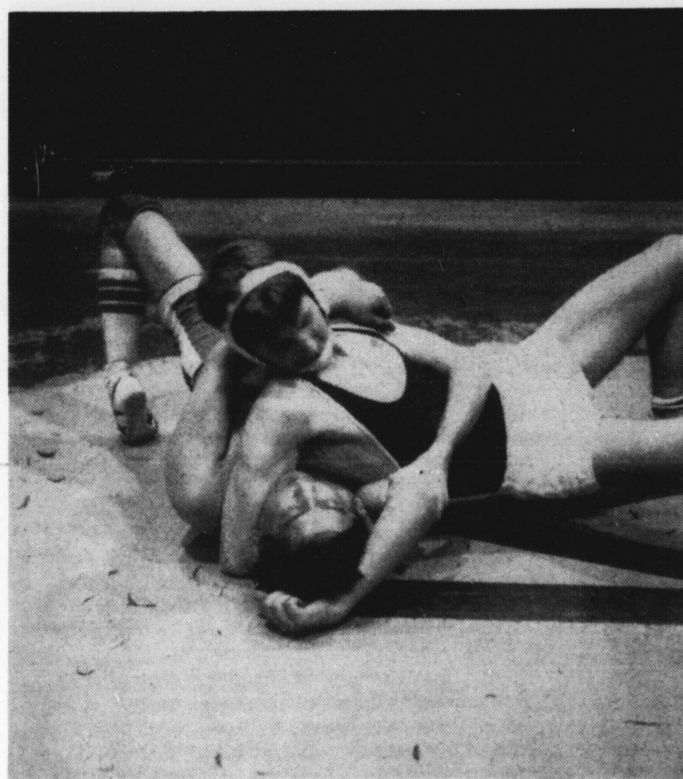
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SPORTS SECTION

Inter City Wrestling Match



Jimmie Carrier (with headgear) pins Frank Augustine in practice for Golden Gate Wrestling Club matches.

by Don Jung

Gay wrestling is spreading. With the Golden Gate Wrestlers of S.F. and I Sweat of L.A. getting ready to square off at Kezar Pavilion on Saturday, May 21 at 8 PM, news arrived from Tim Brown that a new team is forming in San Diego. Coach Don Jung of the GGWC says that they have picked up new members and everyone is improving but they still want more members. New York has promised to send a contingent for the May 21 fundraiser.

The S.F. & L.A. teams have been studying video tapes that were made of the last contest in March. While studying and

practicing their holds and tactics, each team is eagerly looking to the next contest. Team members send a special thanks to Kimmo's and to Ralph Roel for his great spaghetti sauce at our last dinner.

The May 21 match will feature two styles of wrestling, free style (international) and collegiate (American). A martial arts demonstration of self-defense will be performed by William Paul of SFU. Cheerleading will be provided by the Oakland Pom Poms and the Hayward Raw Rabs. Tickets are available at Headlines stores, Rosie's Cantina and at the door. Info: Don at 839-6500 or Randy 441-6045.

CORNER POCKET

GENE MILLER

Playoffs Underway

The San Francisco Pool Association's 11-week Spring season is over, and the top three teams in each Division have begun eight weeks of playoffs to determine SF's team entry in the West Coast Challenge, set for July 15-17 at West Hollywood's Four Star. By the time you read this, four teams will have been eliminated, their victors advancing to face the Division winners this Tuesday, May 17 (for match locations, phone J-O-E P-O-O-L).

Winning the Division I title (by the largest margin of any) was the Stallion Stampede. They'll face the winner of the Stables Thoroughbreds - Arena Warriors match.

The Badlands recaptured the Division II crown with a 10-6 win over the Warriors on the final night, as an obliging Febe's Gypsies went 13-19 the last two weeks; the winner of the DeLuxe Powergliders - Peg's Amazons match will face The Badlands.

The standings in Division III remained unchanged for the last third of the season — Febe's Dons finishing 13 games ahead of the Arena Phalanx. The Dons will face the winner of the Phalanx - Macante's Marauders match.

Division IV was another topsy-turvy race, the White Swallow Fabulous 40's finally

finishing four games ahead of the Arena Warriors, who had been at the top by the same margin just two weeks prior. Finishing first is nothing new at the White Swallow (check out Russ Glenn's trophy shelf), and their first test will be against either the Bear Grizzlies or the Gypsies.

"DON'T PLAY ME"

In pro sports there's always some player announcing the ultimatum, "Play me or trade me." In the SFPA, the situation is just the opposite: The final night of league play, when all the top teams faced off in an interdivisional position round, seven of the top 16 players sat out. Sure enough, their averages proved safe and they'll get a shot at the trophies, cash, and four trips to Los Angeles at this Saturday's All-Star (top 16) tournament (1 PM, Park Bowl). The "great sit-out" underlines an SFPA trend: This season's top 16 played 11% fewer games than last season's group, 17% fewer than the top 16 of Fall '81. Evidently more players are discovering that a high average is easier to hit with minimum participation. In view of that — congratulations to the top gamewinners: Kitty Stephens - 35 (she won her last 18 for the season's longest streak); Ray

Peterson - 34; Lauren Ward - 32; and Tom Sipple and Rachael Williams, both at 31 and both out of the top 16.

THE TOP TEN - SPRING '83

Archie Ravena	22/2 .916
Brig Sting Kings	E. Z.
Stallion Stampede	26/5 .838
Frank McGuire	20/4 .833
Stables Thoroughbreds	20/4 .833
Tommy Sherck	20/4 .833
Stallion Stampede	Ray Peterson 34/8 .809
Kitty Stephens	35/9 .795
Peg's Amazons	Albert Arvilla 25/7 .781
Ambush Atti-dudes	Peter Fleury 25/7 .781
Febe's Dons	Sonny Abramo 20/6 .769
Febe's Dons	Douglas MacDonald 22/7 .758
Arena Phalanx	

CALENDAR - SFPA SPRING/SUMMER EVENTS

- May 14 - All-Star (Top 16) Tournament - Park Bowl, 1 pm
- May 15 - Class "A" Tournament - Park Bowl, 1 pm
- May 17 - Team Playoffs, 2nd round
- May 21 - 1983 SFPA/Miller Lite 8-ball Championship - Park Bowl, 1 pm
- May 24, 31, June 7 - Playoffs, 3rd round
- June 14, 21, 28 - City Team Championship
- June 18 & 25 - Coors/SFPA Most Valuable Player Tournament - The Stables
- July 5 - Hi-Lo Tournament - The Stables
- July 9 - Party & Awards presentation - The Oasis
- July 15-17 - West Coast Challenge, Four Star, West Hollywood

COMM. SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RODGER SOTO

Twelve Solid Teams

DIVISION STANDINGS

Bill Chapman Division	
Village	2 0
Mint	1 0
Rainbow Cattle	1 0
Slow Rush	1 1
Acme Athletics	0 1
Cinch	0 2

Julie Jordan Division	
Hot & Hunky	2 0
Bunkhouse	1 0
Jack's Happy Days	1 1
Nap's Peacock	0 1
Pipeline	0 1
Village B.A.T.S.	0 2

Game Scores For May 8th	
Bunkhouse 11 Pipeline 10	
Rainbow 8 Acme 2	
Jack's 7 Nap's 5	
Village 10 Cinch 8	
Hot & Hunky 7 B.A.T.S. 2	
Mint 8 Slow Rush 4	
Hot & Hunky 8 Jack's 7	
Slow Rush 17 Cinch 6	

May 15th games at Jackson Field
 17th & Arkansas
 10:30 Slow Rush @ Cinch
 Hot & Hunky @ Jack's
 12:00 Rainbow @ Village
 Bunkhouse @ Nap's
 1:30 Acme @ Mint
 Pipeline @ B.A.T.S.
 3:00 Mint @ Acme
 B.A.T.S. @ Pipeline

A LINK OF 12 SOLID TEAMS

After a smashing Opening Day last week, the Community Softball League of San Francisco played their first full week of regular season play and it was a wonder to behold for the spectators and players to 12 of the

most competitive teams in our 11 year history.

Because of the raining season most teams had little or no practice and the league was concerned with the 2 brand new teams, Hot & Hunky and Pipeline that they would not be up to the C.S.L. caliber of play. Not to worry, Hot & Hunky came in like a lion winning a double header against 2 of our seasoned teams. The Pipeline lost their game in the final inning against one of our finest teams, the Bunkhouse.

George Zepp, C.S.L. Commissioner was delighted with the caliber of play and predicted that this would be our finest year. George also wants to give much thanks to all the C.S.L. workers that made Opening Day such a success. Namely the Coits, Pendulum Pirates, John Boy, Leona, Reba, Dee-Dee, Duke, Roger, Bruce-Ann and all those who donated dinner & lunch prizes, beer, wine, soft drinks, hot dogs, buns, etc. Also to the fans and especially the softball players who gave us 2 good competitive games.

Sports Clubs

S.F. Hiking Club. Sunday, May 15. A self-guided tour of a nearby volcano, the Robert Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve in Oakland. Lots of lava flows and other geographical oddities. Meet for carpooling at McDonald's, Stanyan and Haight Streets, 9:45 AM. Bring lunch and water. Give your driver a buck or two for gas and tolls. Info: 386-2008.

Different Spokes Bicycle Club. Sunday, May 15. Ride to Oakland/Alameda. Enjoy flat terrain at a leisurely pace with many stops; 15 miles round trip. Meet Lake Merritt BART 10:30 AM. Bring Lunch. Call Daryl, 846-5666, for info. Alternative Decide & Ride meets McLaren Lodge, GGP 10 AM.

Frontrunners. May 13-15 the club hosts the Los Angeles frontrunners for the Bay-to-Breakers weekend. Other activities include Tuesday track workouts (5:30 PM at SFSU track, interval training for speed improvement), Thursday Fun-runs (6 PM, McLaren Lodge in GG Park, 3 miles of non-competitive runs) and Saturday Fun-runs (10 AM, boathouse at Stow Lake in GG Park, 3 to 5 miles of non-competitve runs).



Opening day procession at the Community Softball League game.

BAY AREA REPORTER BOB'S BAZAAR

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MY KNIGHTS IN LEATHER

Chicago Knights in Windy Daze

KARL STEWART

With a stream of our City Knights on the prowl in the Windy City, no one was safe. The Eagles of SF and DC met in the middle, with JC and DC Eagle's Don Bruce handling themselves like the kingpins they are. While there, one of the favorite judges, Tom of Finland, celebrated his 78th birthday while the madness whirled about him. Marcus and the Detroit desperados carried on tradition with an elegant cocktail party complete with silver service (only a queen knows how to serve leathermen on silver).

They painted one end of Clark Street to the other. The Gold Coast acted as host bar, with trails of men moving between the Detour and Ozone. But my undercover knights had the most congenial times at Chuck Rodecker's Touche.

Chuck Renslow, International Mr. Leather's Executive Producer, can be proud of his right hand, Jim Dohr; the Saturday eve main event came off flawlessly. The 1200 leathermen from all over the globe jammed into the high tech Park West diner theater and were entertained again by the super team of Herb and Potatoe, who acted as emcees. Sarah Dash (formerly with Labelle) sang her incomparable hits, including one from her new album.

The winner? The Brick brought home a piece of the rock again as Steven Roberts stole 2nd runner-up, with his good looks and low-key wry humor. First runner-up was handily taken by Mr. Outpost of Edmon-ton, Alberta, Canada, Loran Hardcastle. 1983's International Mr. Leather is Colter Thomas (a Luke Daniels look-alike) who entered as Mr. Texas from The Officer's Club in Houston. Colt, as he is known, is a med student in Houston and is one of those naturally macho blond dudes that we all look for and die over.

Speaking of which, our own Black Stallion, Vern Stewart, fell head over heels with San Diego's entry, Steve Desdire, represent-

ing SD's hot leather bar, The Loading Zone. At least he doesn't live in Boston, Vern. The airfares to SD are so much lower.

There was a bit of trouble in paradise. A riff perhaps? Why was Dennis excluded from the final dinner, JC?



Leather Lords. The two top winners of Chicago's leather contest were Loran Hardcastle (L) from Toronto, who was First Runner-Up, and Houston medical student Colt Thomas, International Mr. Leather 1983. (Photo: D. Armstrong)

The Eagle has a set of new wet ones. Calistoga has a line of lightly flavored waters: Lime, Lemon, and Orange are now added to Natural. Kirin Japanese Beer, which is a light, malty brew, comes in a 2-liter can with a detachable handle — \$5 will keep you going all night. JC has also added Cooper Australian Beer to the line. It's a rich, cloudy ale.

KNIGHT SNIPER

The huge old deco space at the corner of Church, Market, and 14th St. has been turned into the latest addition to the "Silver Strip." The Transfer is Danny and the Men's Room gang's contribution to Rustic Bardom. Larice says, "At last we have a bar where we can wear

our ball gowns and not have them stepped on." Larice also gave me a Beauty Hint from her collection relative to this. "Never wear a hoopskirt into a crowded leather bar." I quite agree.

The Ambush Deli is open again. Operator Leo Battle serves deli food as well as hot specials and will be open 7 days a week from 11:30 AM to 12:30 after midnight.

Clothespins and jockstraps flew last weekend. Animals' Jockstrap Party and Calderon's Tit Party drew fetishists from all over. Hal Slate strung up 500 clothespins across the bar and

they got used. At Animals, owner Bobby Betcher dyed dozens of jocks black. He now has tie-dyed hands. Kinky.

Barbary Coasters' Baby Joe Crossfield took over the Fickle Fox's center dining room last week for a festive birthday food fight. His other half, GrandDuck Vinnie, made sure the guest list was well rounded with Michael Hopper and the Filipino Princess, Jim, on their way to Chicago for the weekend. Michael toasted with Phoebe Planters on future crowns. I don't know what they mean. Ex-Emperor Gene Bettis did, though. Artist Steven Martin simply admired our blond waiter, Chaz. Reed Gilmore, the Fox's owner, tells me he's got an open mike at the piano each night and Sundays with Ray get real musical. GD Kitty tried, but she can't sing. Bob R and BC's Prez Antony just escaped in time.

Another birthday: TOP 25 is 3 years old. David Miller and George Ferren have done good stuff for our DJ's and in the parties they give. Thank God for Music.

Rita Rocket is at it again — #6 Balcony Anniversary Party on June 6; location TBA. Stay tuned.

Speaking of high flyers, Jimmy Miller (as in the Handball Express) is now doing Animals' PR work. Who knows the biz better?

What do Alan White, Randy Shilts, Jerry De Gracia, Kimo, his waiter Billy, and Commissioner Tom Horn all have in common? They all agreed that swimmer Bill was top man in last week's Endup Jockstrap

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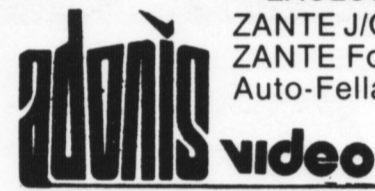
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KNIGHTS

(Continued from previous page)

Contest. Jerry Semas, the contest's producer, just finished a week of "manse sitting" at the Larkin McAllister House where he threw a chic party for journalists, leather men, and disco fairies. Hits of the eve were The Mistresses Kathy and Carole.

What Oasis/Numbers bartender was spotted by Hamburger Mary's DJ doing JO scenes in his windows?

Bright news is that Hank Cheeke (as in Devil's Herd) has purchased the Ramrod and will bring his cabaret dance license to So/M — Yahoo!

AIDS FOR AIDS

Au Naturel Health Food Store, 2370 Market Street, is doing something about it. Owner Denise Buzbuzian is offering her years of food and supplement experience to the Gay community and especially AIDS patients. She will give a 25% discount to those with patient cards (available through the K.S. Foundation and Shanti Project). Denise offers nutritional counseling to anyone who is concerned for their health.

The Stables is having a big second year party, which began yesterday with a retrospective art show, including Mary Grung, Richard Jorasche, Jim Leff, West Rose, Dan Ross, Lou Rudolph, Randy West, and Ken Wood. They'll be hoopin' and hollerin' all weekend, with buffets at 10 PM each eve from Friday through Monday. They'll give the world's most unusual gift to the first 500 men in the bar Friday, cowboy hats on Saturday, specials on drinks all the way through, and a trip to Hawaii on Monday.

Our Gay Roots in San Francisco will be the subject of two evenings of talks I'll be giving Friday, May 27, and Saturday, May 28, at 8 PM, plus a Celebration on Sunday at 8 PM. Joe Altman will be showing a group of his stunning male images throughout. It'll be at 544 Natoma.

Cuffs of LA owner Wes Blizard took the city by storm last weekend with Michael, who uses his cast. But for what?

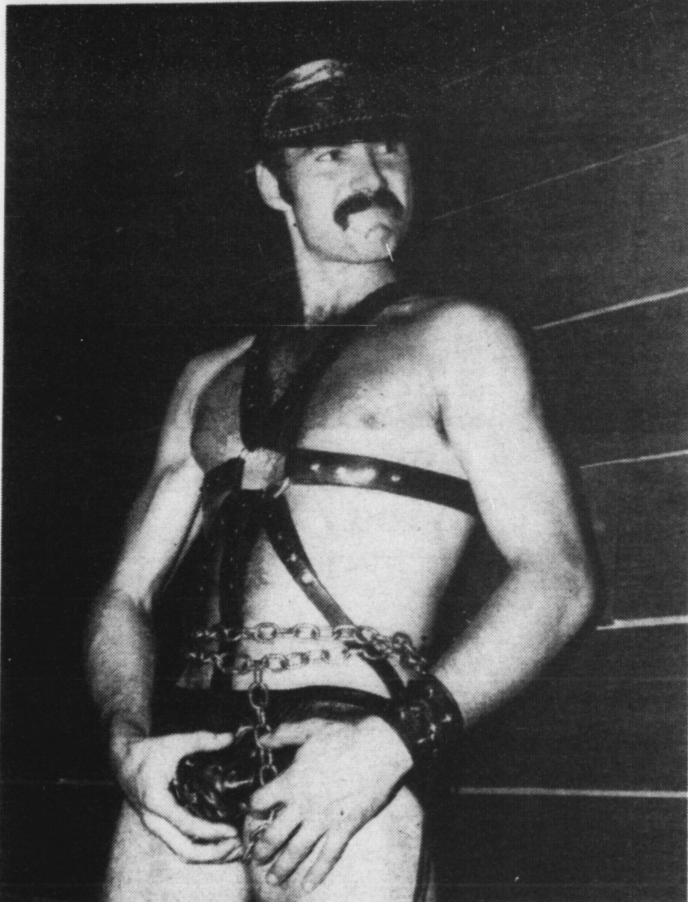
ART KNIGHTS

544 Natoma Gallery opened its season this week with a diverse show of Mark Chester's Performance Images, Tasha Robbins' new wave paintings, and Kaye Buckley's provocative modern dance.

Mark's "iconology" (his term) makes up a show comprised entirely of performance photographs. He captures Lou Rudolph in mid-stroke, the SPI in a whirl of movement, and Cal Yeomans' Sunsets and C.D. Arnold's Delivery in mid-line. Mr. Chester has broken out of the "Burned-out Photographer" syndrome and has grown quite nicely into one of San Francisco's contending behind-the-lens artists.

Tasha Robbins' violent and emotional styling in paint and torn canvas moves one to anger. One critic said, "Some modern artists stoop to nothing but mental masturbation." In a sexually liberated town like San Francisco, watching someone's homoerotics has become a popular pastime.

The centerpiece of the evening was the fine storytelling of Kaye Buckley in dance. Working with rope, she defined the life of "Everyman." Artist Mark Kadota rose and did a dance of seduction. Together they defined marriage, love, hate, tying, and untying.



Get a Grip! Steve Roberts was the Brig's entry in the Mr. International Leather contest, and won third place. At the Brig he ripped off his codpiece...

The Gemini Twins are having a birthday party. Bobby Betcher (Animals' owner) and myself were born on May 25 in the same year, within 20 miles of each other in Southern California. We will celebrate our 33rd at Animals, Wednesday the 25th, with a reception from 7 to 10 PM. Ask either of us for invites. It will get you in and entitle you to a dollar locker if you want to stay. Everyone is welcome, Mary, Mist's Carole and Kathy, too.

Rumors are flying downtown: will Trinity Place buy The Iron Duke on Third beneath Schmidt and Schmidt? We heard Sutter's is moving slightly So/M — on Annie Street — to The Front Page near Third and Market.

An opening night reception for the show of Joe Altman's photos at the Arena will run from 8-10 PM on Wednesday, May 18.

See you in the skins!

K. Stewart

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, 5/12: Gute Riese Feier. Febe's, Doug, Don, Walter, and Donny: 7-10pm.

Friday, 5/13: 2nd Anniversary Party. The Stables; special gift, drink specials 8pm; buffet at 10pm.

Saturday, 5/14: 2nd Anniversary Party. The Stables; cowboy hat night, 8pm; buffet, 10pm. Party through Monday, 5/16.

Image/Songs. 544 Natoma Gallery; Hartman's Piano (et al), Powell's color slides = sound, light, space & image; 9pm; \$5.

Sunday, 5/15: SFGDI/CMC Box Lunch Social. Check-in at Eagle, 10-11am; BYOB Lunch; \$5; includes bike and people events, best spread awards, beer, and fun.

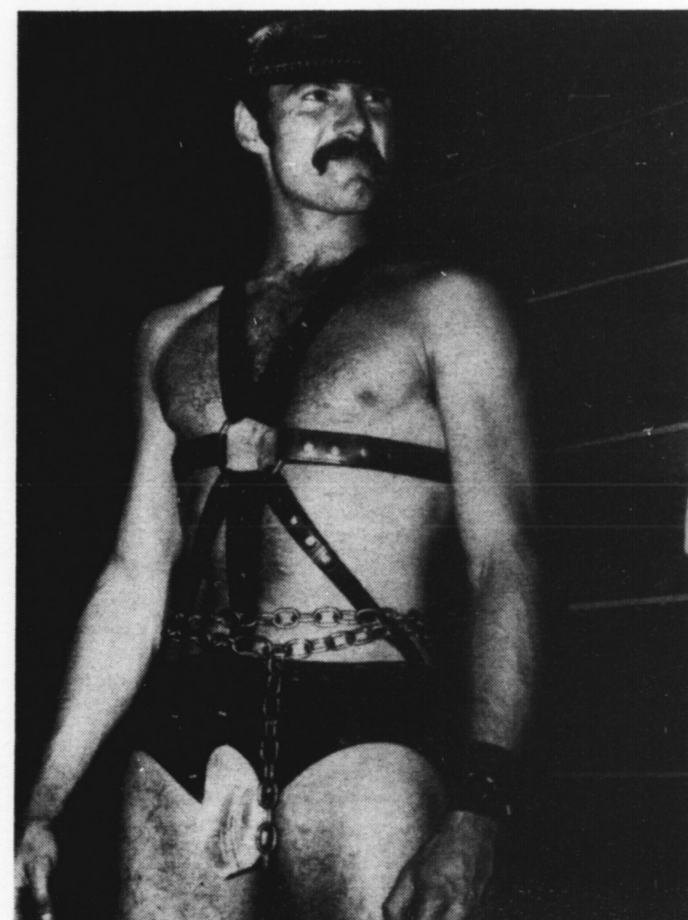
Wednesday, 5/18: Joe Altman. Portrait Photography. The Arena; reception 8-10pm.

Friday, 5/20: Dreams. 544 Natoma Gallery; Mark Kadota - multi imagery, multi media presentation; 9pm; \$5.

Sunday, 5/21: Annual Cock Roast & Poker Run. The Petaluma Cocks MC; check-in 10am at The Watering Hole; \$10; includes poker, people events, BBQ, beer. Call Abdul Hoffman at (707) 795-0876 or Jim Lilly at (707) 795-3914 (one-day run to Sonoma Ranch).

★★★★★★★★

The Local Scene. Kevin Ross with his band, Raw Silk, plays Fridays in May at the Roxy Roadhouse, 9 PM.



... to reveal a soaking wet jock. The crowd cheered him all the way to Chicago, where he was the only San Francisco entrant to place. (Photos: Rink)

KARRNAL KNOWLEDGE

Robotics On Display

"Love," said Paul-Jean Toulet, "is like those second-rate hotels where all the luxury is in the lobby." The local porn-vendor can be similar for frequently the films upon the silver screen have left all the fantasy in the lobby. Such is the case with the Nob Hill's current feature, Summer Fantasy, which wouldn't be a fantasy in any season. This pedestrian feature is only recommended to die-hard pederasts; its cast members are about as young as they could be without causing youth-enthusiasts in the audience to be arrested and charged with Statutory Gape. Excepting one decent 15 minute scene, the film is mechanical and cold.

Nino Rota's Hawaiian-dream theme movie as waves crash upon the shore. A handsome blonde lies asleep in a bed, and we are privy to his horny dreams. They are as arousing as a lobotomy, and the dreamer is lucky he's having a good nap while we're trying to get off on the loops that make up his dreams.

The dreamer is played by Scott Nichols. This archetypal California surfer has appeared to better affect (but not much) in some Wm. Higgins movies. With longer hair he's his own dream-of-fantasy, being serviced by Jamie Wingo and Jeff Starr. He is livelier when asleep than when making out. He's attractive, sure, but is he alive? Jeff Starr bends him over his surfboard for a fucking and the only way you can tell him apart from his surfboard is that he's

KARR
the object Starr is shoving his dick into. The surfboard is more expressive. Hey — la Don e immobile.

Nichols' first dream pairs him with Jamie Wingo. Even the loving attention pro Wingo gives Nichols' cock cannot get Nichols to stir. And when positions are reversed it gets even more boring. Nichols is a shallow, nibbly cocksucker and an absent minded fucker. If this is what he's like in the blush of youth he'll need an iron lung at twenty-five. Wingo throws him a nice fuck — Wingo's cock is pleasurable to see and his presence noticeable. But he might as well be alone, and come to think of it, a solo JO scene would have been an improvement.

Nichols momentarily redeems himself with a fabulous orgasm that caps his somnolent noodling in Wingo's ass. Pulling his dick out, he shoots high spurts over Wingo's back. But after so much tedium all I could do was admire it professionally. My gonads had checked out for the night some time before.

Both young men are attractive. Wingo is also attentive and decently hung. Neither one seems to have an aptitude for performing, though, and I wonder why they're in this movie and why the filmmaker released it. The movies' two other scenes — excepting the one duo mentioned — are similarly sluggish, with non-involved performers leaving the audience similarly uninvolved.

Pornographic? Honey, this stuff is positively anti-erotic. The cast of shreds and patches suffers from sexual anorexia and the director doesn't care enough to tell anyone to wake up and eat. It's just like so much other Gay you'll-pardon-the-expression "porno": there's no sex in their sex.

Listen to what Robert Gluck wrote in a love scene for his new book, Elements of a Coffe



Tough, truculent yet tender — Sean Weston

Service: "It was great sex, not because of the acrobatics, not even because he loved me, and showed it and showed it, but because we were both there, very much of us, two people instead of two porno-movie fragments."

The trends in Gay porno recently have not been concerned with love — they've been concerned with big dicks — and

they've not gone in much for acrobatics, other than how to get that big dick exposed. The result has been objectification to an extreme, hiding the fact that genitals don't have sex, people do. Porno-movie fragments of people, that's all we get, and I'm exhausted and drained by it.

The second scene of Summer Fantasy adds stupidity to boredom, trotting out a dialogue in which "straight" boy resists Gay sex and then dives right in, practiced veteran. The insult is heightened by the dubbed-in voices; the actors don't even bother moving their lips. This is the scene with Jeff Starr. He's tall, homely, dull, uncircumsized, hung, — in short, your stereotyped stupid backwoods farmboy. And what good is a 10 inch dick when Scott Nichols is giving head? He can only cope with licking the sides; taking a half-inch of it between his lips is an incredible accomplishment. If I got in bed with a kid who sucked cock like this I'd be back out in a moment.

The movie's music at first struck me as nice — bluesy, mellow summer stuff, even a little sexy. After hearing the same two records fourteen times I felt otherwise, and the audience — those still awake — were rustling in their seats. They paid some attention to a solo JO from a teenager with loose, floppy balls. His dick was similarly floppy and his facial expression one of permanent stupefaction, but he shot over his head while standing up and I nearly cheered.

Actually I just wanted to stretch. Suddenly Sean Weston appeared on the screen in a debut that had better not be one-shot. Weston has a tough, truculent yet tender face that even the gods would flatter themselves for having created.

When he gazes down at his cock being sucked we see the snowy soft and white skin of his eyelids, dramatically edged by lashes of thick black mink. What innocence lies in the blush of his cheek, what condescending adolescence in the curl of his lip. His partner is the compactly hunky and butch Tige Masters. They make out well, demonstrating the desire that until now has been so absent. Weston provides not only beauty of looks and an ability to relate to his partner, but a Niagara Falls endless stream of an orgasm. Afterwards he smiles happily and grimaces with the intensity of pleasure. Masters fucks him next, deftly, and I enjoyed it, but the film had climaxed. The subsequent four-way reverted to tedium with Jeff Starr and Matt Thomas separating Weston and Masters.

Genitals don't have sex — people do.

With the music repeating yet again and the film jumping in its sprockets, I was too numb for Masters' last orgasm to have any personal affect. Let it be recorded that it's a good one and he should make more movies. But I had begun to wish that the abstract ideas of cock and sex weren't such compelling fantasies. Waiting for either to appear turned out to be the fantasy in Summer Fantasy. By the time summer rolls around this one won't even be a memory.

More creative, interesting and erotic are some polaroid snapshots by San Franciscan Richard Law, on display in the win-

(Continued on next page)

SWEETLIPS SEZ

Hung Again

DICK WALTERS

You are cordially invited to attend the Fourteenth Anniversary Party of the World famous Kokpit at 301 Turk Street on Wednesday, May 19, from 5 PM on. Yes, yours truly will be reappearing through the magic of Empress Cristal's handiwork as a vision in RED. Howard really must have been into the booze when he okayed this event... remember that the famous "Hangings" were actually earlier anniversaries... so take your theme from that. I personally am looking forward to greeting you all.

Saturday night's Closet Ball was a great success and thanks to Robert Michael Productions for donating all of the receipts to AIDS... a very generous gesture. Lori Shannon was fabulous as emcee, as were stars Reggie of Sutter's Mill fame and, of course, Pat Montclair... a job well done and a great evening of entertainment.

You know, of course, that popular Lori Shannon is going east to Provincetown for the summer season... a first for Lori, who hasn't been further east than the Sacramento River... you'll love it there, Lori, and I know that you'll do San Francisco proud.

Overheard at Google's: Howard and Cha Cha are not a couple, they are a group.

Happy birthday to Steve Suss of the Embers/Avenue in Portland on Tuesday last... hope you liked your surprise birthday party... hi, John T.

The great Johnnie Ray is at the Plush Room through this

Sunday and he does a fabulous show... he recently played Darcelle's 15 in Portland, his home town, for the first time in his long show business career and wowed them.

The 25th of this month is the birthday of Jay "Ethel" Noonan's mother. She'll be 83 years young... why not drop her a card... Bessie Noonan, 425 Presidio Avenue... she would love it.

Also at the 14th Anniversary of the Kokpit we'll be having the one and only Vi Looby, formerly of Vi's Club Drake in Fairfax, for a visit and believe it or not she'll be 84 years young this fall and still drinking with the best of us... you looked great the other day, Vi.

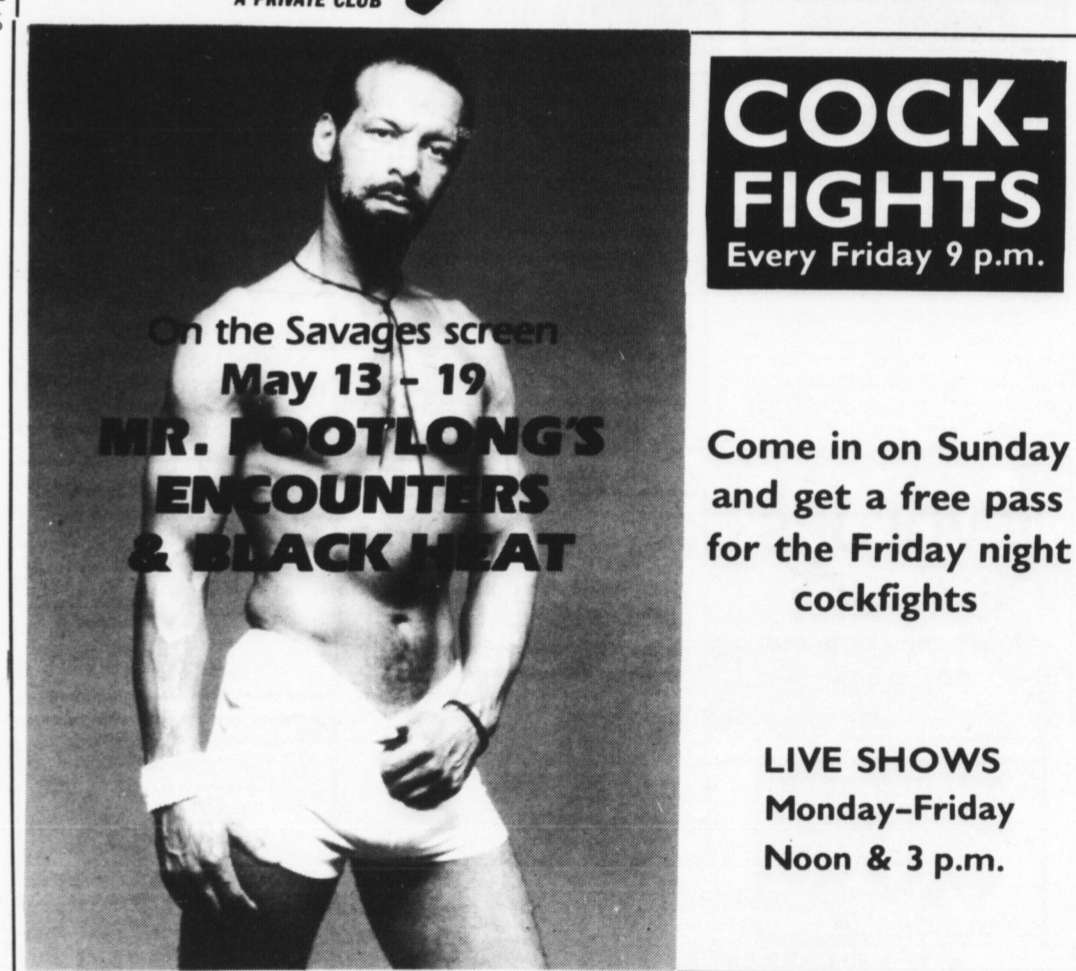
Tommy Turner of Sutter's Mill's Mint is in charge of the Great Tricycle Race and if you need any information on entering do call him at the bar... this is one of the best and funniest events in the city and a great fundraiser for the Guide Dogs for the Blind, so don't miss it... I'll let you know where all of the pitstops will be later on.

You should have seen Ethel Noonan and Lillian (No Title) dancing in the booth at the Closet Ball. Maybe my great friend Bob will book them in as entertainers next year.

Thank you, Kenny Allison, for helping out at Google's Sunday night due to Duffy's illness — but after all, when you are Duffy's age, and date someone as young as Bruce you are bound to get ill.

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VOL. XIII NO. 20 MAY 19, 1983

Gay Cop Trainee Wins Discrimination Appeal

S.F. Police Must Take Him Back

by George Mendenhall

"Whatever happens now, I hope that the police department realizes that it is not enough that they only hire Gay people who choose to remain closeted."

Attorney Matt Coles was speaking out after he learned this week that his client, Tom Cady, had been ordered reinstated in the Police Academy. Police recruit Cady was dropped from the academy and a Northern Station training program in 1981 and promptly filed a complaint with the Civil Service Commission. He charged that he had been subjected to extensive homophobic treatment by officers and been given negative ratings because he was openly Gay.

"You roll the dice and sometimes they do not come up your way" is the reaction from Attorney Jerry Akins, who represented the police department. He told *Bay Area Reporter* that the department did not appeal the case to Superior Court. "No one is upset over this decision and there is no basis for appeal. That

is the way democracy works. Cady asserted his rights and we will live with the results."

The Civil Service Commission reinstatement followed a lengthy investigation by its three-person panel, which rejected Cady's claim. The panel was composed of staff members from the Human Rights Commission,

the mayor's office, and the commission itself. While the panel agreed that there was discrimination, it questioned if Cady was competent. The full commission rejected the panel's conclusion and agreed with Cady and Coles that there had been unfair treatment.

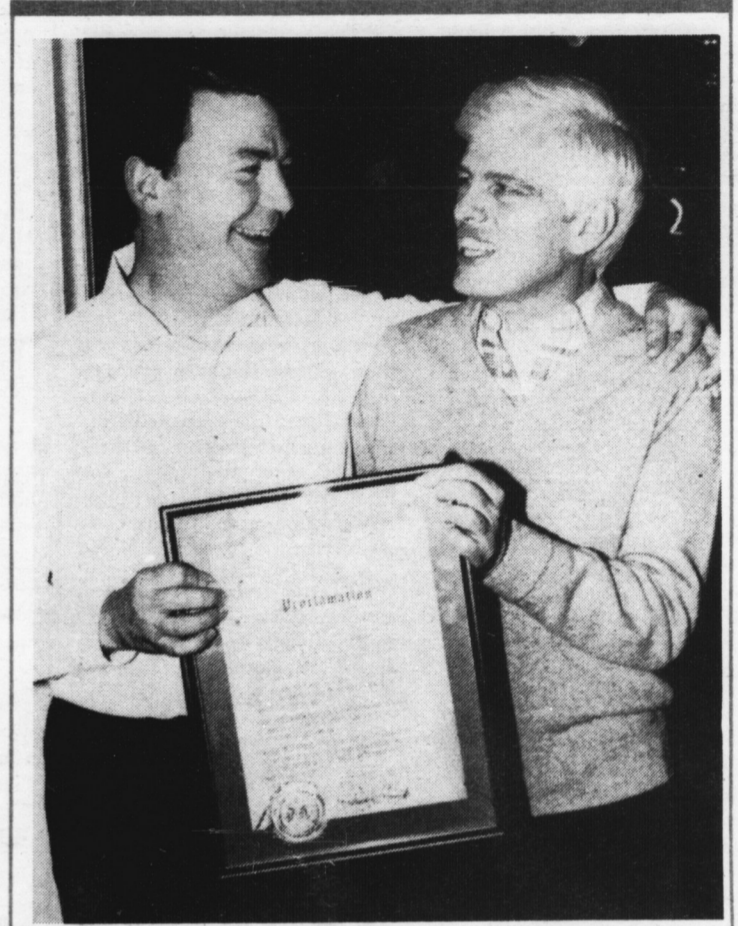
Coles emphasized that the competency of Cady was never the issue. The case, he says, centered on whether his client had been treated fairly. Cady claimed that favorable classroom scores and positive actions by him at Northern Station did not get into his evaluation file.

"Kill Cady and All Faggots" was written on the Northern bathroom wall. Cady was referred to as "girl" by another officer. One officer called out, "Is your asshole sore?" to the trainee, while another asked, "Are you the fairy officer?" One piece of graffiti read, "Cady: Get Out of San Francisco."

The decision may be another San Francisco first in the history of Gay liberation: A city agency has determined that an openly Gay person was discriminated against by police officers in his recruit training program — and he has been reinstated in that program.

"It was a very difficult case," Coles stressed. "The police persistently emphasized that Cady was not competent. However, the police lost credibility when they refused to turn over any classroom or training records to us or to the Civil Service Commission. We could not technically prove our claim that the records of

(Continued on page 10)



While Mayor Feinstein was on vacation in Hawaii, Supervisor Dick Hongisto became Acting Mayor and declared a "Herb Donaldson Day" in San Francisco. Here Hongisto presents the recently appointed Gay judge a suitable proclamation. (Photo: Rink)



Tom Cady (Photo: Rink)

Next Saturday

AB-1 Day for Workers

"Not a Rally" Says Jones

by George Mendenhall

"We have deliberately down-played this event," an aide to Assemblyman Art Agnos explained this week. The event is this Saturday's AB-1 Day in Sacramento. Cleve Jones stressed, "There have been no posters or press releases. This is not a rally and we do not expect a big turnout." He said everyone is welcome but it is basically a day for non-San Franciscans from areas of the state where Assemblyman Art Agnos does not yet have the votes for passage for his bill in the Assembly.

Confusion surfaced locally when the Gay press here had difficulty in obtaining details about the Day. Jones explained, "This is for activists. There will be workshops to determine how we can win over Labor and religious groups." There will also be detailed projection lists on how Assembly members are voting on the nondiscrimination in employment measure.

AFL-CIO officials and local Gay religious figures such as Rev. Jim Sandmire of Metropolitan Community Church and Rabbi Allan Bennett will attend. Some local Gay political activists will be there to update themselves on AB-1's chance in the Assembly.

CENTRAL VALLEY

Agnos was pleased with Gay activism in the central San Joaquin Valley. He pointed to these recent developments at a recent Milk Democratic Club meeting:

- Endorsement of AB-1 by the McClatchy newspapers (*Sacramento Bee* and *Fresno*

Bee).

- A possible endorsement from the conservative *Bakersfield Californian* newspaper.

- Newly elected progressive legislators in the area who will either vote for AB-1 this year or next year.

- Lobbying is being done by the 130-member Stanislaus County Alliance in Fresno, Modesto, and Stockton.

- Francis Quinn, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Sacramento, has made "a strong and courageous statement" on Gay rights according to Agnos.

AB-1 Day this Saturday (May 21) will begin at 10 a.m. in Room 4202 in the State Capitol building. It will conclude at 5 p.m. There will be strategy meetings and workshops beginning at that time. Although Jones urged that the vital effort to the passage of AB-1 will be outside San Francisco, local activists are welcome to attend.

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Happy Birthday Harvey Milk

The Fifth Annual Harvey Milk Birthday Party will be held on Sunday, May 22, from 6 p.m.

until 9 p.m.

Castro Street will be closed from 17th to 18th Streets. The event is sponsored by the Harvey Milk Archives and produced by the Castro Street Fair, Inc.

Each year, since his tragic assassination, neighborhood residents and others have gathered on Harvey's Birthday to remember his spirit and accomplishments.

This year's stage program will feature comedians Jane Dornacker, Tom Ammiano and Lea DeLaria. Music will be performed by the Mellotones, The Choral Majority, and Permanent Wave, with The Make giving the crowd an early musical warm-up.

