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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.

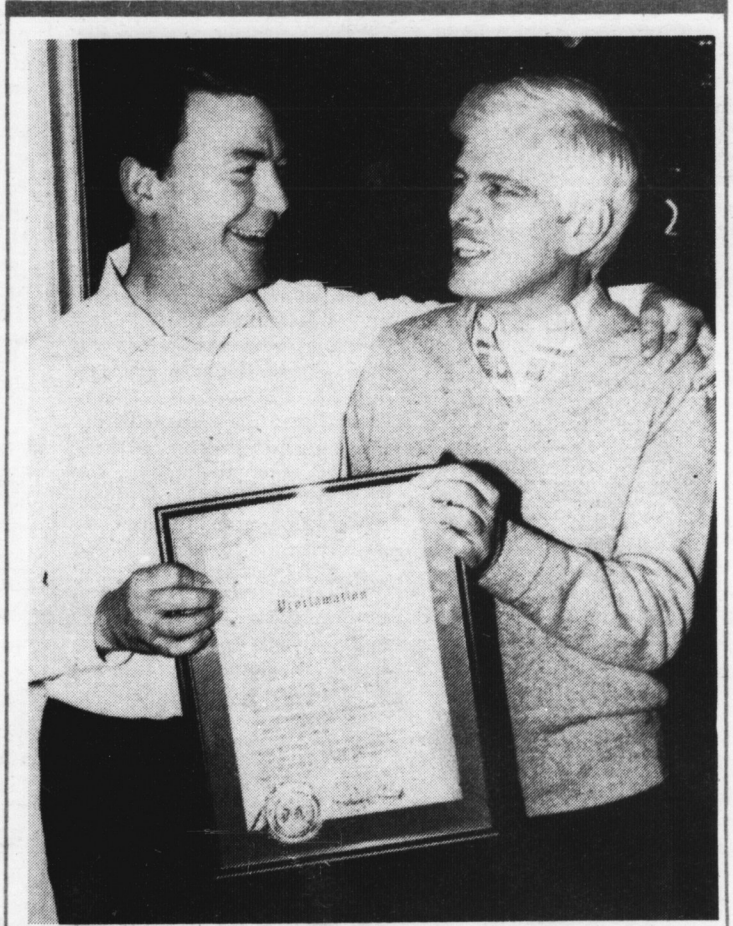
Coles emphasized that the competency of Cady was never the issue. The case, he says, centered on whether his client had been treated fairly. Cady claimed that favorable classroom scores and positive actions by him at Northern Station did not get into his evaluation file.

"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.



Restroom Police Decoys Trap Married Men (Again)

Some Cases Dismissed

by George Mendenhall

East Bay and Peninsula married men continue to seek "quickie" contacts in public restrooms while plainclothes officers again are making arrests. Fremont police have arrested seven men in the last month at the city's park and surveillance continues at Hillsborough's Junipero Serra Highway rest stop.

Discrimination charges made by two San Mateo County defendants in earlier Serra arrests were recently dismissed by Municipal Judge Edward Pliska. Attorney Chris Inama brought a former San Mateo police officer to the stand to admit that discrimination existed. The officer testified that it was common practice to only warn straight couples having sex in public. Pliska would not allow the "discrimination" claim but dismissed the cases anyway after questionable police practices were revealed.

FREMONT PARK

Numerous men — most of them married — were arrested at Fremont's city park in late 1982. Two of the seven were charged with touching plainclothes officers. Earlier charges by some defendants were that officers loitered at a urinal, exposing and fondling themselves. Defense attorney Gary Key, in the resulting court hearings, said, "The officers went out of their way to lead them on. They did everything to invite touching." One defendant said an officer displayed an erect penis.

"There was no entrapment," Fremont Police Detective Roger Herren insists. He said it was the arrested males that made the overtures. Another officer said he was asked, "Are you a cop?" by a suspect. After he answered "No," he was touched.

Police said the Fremont restroom presented special problems because it is adjacent to a playground where scores of children play. They said they had repeated complaints about the number of men "cruising" in the restroom.

HILLSBOROUGH

Eighteen arrests were made in late 1982 at the Hillsborough rest stop. Some of those arrested claimed that plainclothes officers

were wearing cut-offs, displaying themselves in the restroom and making suggestive eye contacts.

Police claimed that hundreds of men were milling about at the rest stop all night. They say they were not entrapment but only attempting to stop the activity. The state Cal Trans department, which manages the facility, put up additional lighting and posted warning signs. Police said they were baffled why the men didn't go to Gay bars or steam baths, but it was learned from arrest records that most of those arrested were married men who evidently do not identify themselves as part of the Gay community.

Attorney Inama said that at the San Mateo County hearings it was obvious that one of the officers, Bill Cody, was placed at the rest stop because of his physical appearance. The officer was described as "young, handsome, and well-built. Perfect bait."

One officer arrested his "pick-up" in his car and then played back a tape recording of their conversation that he had taken on a concealed tape machine. When the arrested male testified in this court the police denied the claim.

In the earlier Fremont busts last year there were numerous complaints of police misconduct, resulting in warnings to officers from Assistant District Attorney Don Chambers. However, the arrests and the same charges were repeated. Some cases were dismissed because of officer conduct.

There is some hope, Inama concludes, that there will be better court treatment in San Mateo County. The newly elected District Attorney, James Fox, is allowing plea bargaining. Inama said the former D.A., Keith Sorenson, was a conservative Mormon who would not allow any plea bargaining in morals cases.

Dept. of Health Sponsors AIDS Symposium

The public is invited to a free, city-wide AIDS symposium sponsored by the San Francisco Department of Public Health this Sunday, May 22, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The symposium will take place in Polk Hall, Civic Auditorium, corner of Polk and Grove Streets, San Francisco.

A general session from 9-10:30 a.m. will feature national and local experts who will give an overview of AIDS, its causes, mode of transmission, and what is being done about it. Keynote speakers include Roger Boas, Chief Administrative Officer, City and County of San Francisco; Marcus A. Conant, M.D., University of California, San Francisco, and President, the Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation; Harold Jaffe, M.D., Center for Disease Control, Atlanta; and Mervyn Silverman, M.D., Director of Health, City and County of San Francisco.

Workshops held concurrently from 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. will highlight topics of concern to specific groups:

- risk factors to the general public.
- risk factors to the Gay community.
- risk factors to health workers.
- psychological aspects of AIDS.
- resources: public and private.

Mervyn Silverman, M.D., Director of Health, will head up a summary session from 12:30-1 p.m.

Community agencies active in AIDS issues will staff information tables during the symposium.

AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome - is a disease that has mainly been confined to the Gay community; however, AIDS has been diagnosed in several other populations as well: Haitians, intravenous drug users, hemophiliacs and other blood product recipients. Since 1979, 1400 cases of AIDS have been diagnosed nationwide with over 200 cases in the Bay Area. Mortality from AIDS exceeds 75%. Although medical experts believe AIDS is caused by a transmissible agent such as a virus, prevention and treatment of the disease are still in the initial stages of research.

SF Chamber of Commerce Execs Unanimously Approve AB-1

The 15-person Executive Committee of the SF Chamber of Commerce has unanimously endorsed AB-1, the Gay non-discrimination in hiring bill. Gregory Hurst, a Chamber official, announced the action. It will go before the full 40-member Chamber board on May 26. Hurst said he was confident that it would be approved.

The Chamber rejected AB-1 in 1981, but the bill has been amended by its author, Assemblyman Art Agnos, to overcome objections of business-oriented associations. Hurst said Chamber attorneys now see no reason to oppose the bill "because it only extends the San Francisco legislation to the state level."

The Executive Director of the Chamber, John Jacobs, introduced the measure to the Executive Committee. His support will be a major factor in the board's vote later this month. There was only a brief discussion after Jacobs' action, with no opposition being expressed by Chamber officials.

The new AB-1 includes a provision that exempts businesses that might discriminate if they have fewer than five employees. It also excludes religious and nonprofit groups, persons previously found guilty of sex offenses, and work places where employees are likely to come into contact with children. Its quick

passage through Assembly committees was facilitated by these provisions in the legislation.

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

The Agnos bill will be voted upon in the Assembly by mid-June of this year. The author says he will "go with it" if he has the votes for passage or decides to put Assembly members on record to determine where wavering legislators stand on the issue. Eric Schockman, an Agnos aide, is currently traveling in California to stir a positive reaction to the bill at the grassroots level.

AIDS On 20/20 Thursday

Dr. Marcus Conant, president of the board of the AIDS/KS Foundation, is one of several people interviewed during an AIDS segment being aired on ABC's "20/20" Thursday, May 19, at 10 p.m.

Willie Brown to Sponsor Gay Freedom Week Proclamation

State Assembly Speaker Willie Brown will sponsor a proclamation declaring June 19 to 26 as Gay/Lesbian Freedom Week in California, according to aide Monica Gamber. The actual proclamation hasn't been written, yet, but Gamber said it would be "put through" well before June 19.

Brown decided to sponsor the

proclamation resolution after reading that Gov. George Deukmejian had declined to do so. The annual proclamation had been a routine affair under Jerry Brown's administration.

Gamber said that Willie Brown doesn't anticipate any problems getting the resolution passed in the Assembly.

Budget For The 1983 Parade and Celebration

On May 1, 1983 the general membership of the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee approved the parade's 1983 budget. This budget, as was last year's, will leave the parade committee in the black. The breakdowns below are an estimate of total income and expenses for this year:

INCOME:	
Beer (gross sales)	\$22,000.00
Benefits (gross)/1	16,940.00
Merchandise Sales (gross)	18,000.00
Hotel Tax Fund	11,110.00
Solicitation/Donations	2,000.00
Foundation	3,000.00
March Fees	800.00
Booths Fees	9,500.00
Float and Bldg. Fees	5,600.00
Celebration Fundraising	1,300.00
Program Ad Sales	44,515.00
TOTAL	\$ 134,765.00
EXPENSES:	
Parade History Project	\$1,858.00
Administration	25,085.00
Medical	1,730.00
Safety	4,345.00
Beer	10,165.00
Fundraising	12,165.00
March	950.00
Program	35,544.00
Float	3,715.00
Booth	350.00
Celebration	19,875.00
Site	19,875.00
Immigration Lawsuit (included in Administration)	-
Childcare	500.00
Outreach	2,700.00
Media	7,875.00
TOTAL	\$129,983.00



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Photo by Joe Altman

Refused Passenger Sues Ambulance Co. for \$3 Million

Attorney James J. Seltzer is filing a \$3 million suit Thursday against the San Francisco Ambulance Service (the Green & White) for his clients Eric Moore and Don Amenta. Moore contends that he was refused a ride to the hospital February 9 by a driver of the company. He subsequently suffered a burst appendix before arriving at the hospital by taxi.

"We're suing them for gross negligence," said Moore's lawyer, Amenta. "The publicity we've gotten has also caused the Public Health Director to start looking into the case."

The story began when Moore, who was vomiting and suffering from extreme abdominal pain, asked his lover to call an ambulance. Amenta said he called 911, which referred him to the city ambulance service, which in turn referred him to the private ambulance service, because no city units were readily available.

When the ambulance from San Francisco Ambulance Service arrived, the driver said, "He doesn't look so sick to me. We're

not taking anybody anywhere before you answer some questions." Amenta said the driver then started asking all kinds of questions about the severity of the illness, ability to pay, etc., all in between other calls on the ambulance radio. He also asked if Moore was Gay and if he had had any other recent health problems.

Disgusted, Moore finally asked Amenta to call a taxi, and the ambulance driver reportedly said, "OK, fuck you buddy, you blew it. You can get yourself another ambulance," and then left.

Moore and Amenta believe that the only reason the ambulance driver refused to take them was that they are Gay. "There was no other logical reason for their refusal," said Amenta.

Moore and Amenta were co-owners of Tickets to Go, which was located in the Castro Street Garage Mall. The couple contend that their business was forced to close due to Moore's lengthy recovery from his appendix operation.

Rally to Commemorate White Night Riot

On Saturday, May 21, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. there will be a rally to commemorate the verdict in the Dan White trial and the subsequent riot that occurred that night. This is the third year that this date has been observed. The main focus this year is on

Dan White's upcoming release in January 1984 and the different strategies that are being used to keep him in jail. Various speakers will speak on the rage that was felt over the original verdict, the violence against Lesbians and Gays, and the inequi-

"Dan White" Bill Clears Judiciary Committee

A bill designed to make criminals pay restitution to their victims out of profits from books and movies about their crimes cleared the first hurdle in the State Legislature last week.

On a vote of 10-1, the Assembly Judiciary Committee approved AB 2102 by Assemblyman Art Agnos (D-San Francisco). The bill will go to the Assembly Ways and Means Committee for a hearing.

Dubbed the "Dan White" bill, AB 2102 would require convicted felons to set aside any profits earned by selling the stories of their crimes for at least 10 years.

The bill essentially places an embargo on the use of the funds to give crime victims ample opportunity to collect restitution in court, Agnos said.

Criminals who squander the funds before the 10 years are up or refuse to pay their victims' claims would be prosecuted for embezzlement, an extraditable offense punishable by a maximum prison term of three years.

Aware of concerns that the bill would impinge on a criminal's right of free speech, Agnos em-

phasized at the hearing that he has no intention of blocking anyone from writing their memoirs or making movies about themselves.

"I don't want to interfere with people's freedom of expression. But, by the same token, I feel strongly that it's time we found a way to maximize the crime victim's chances of collecting restitution," Agnos said. "My bill merely attempts to establish that the crime victim bears a special right to funds that he indirectly helped generate."

Agnos attributed the bill's success this week to testimony by New York State Senator Emanuel Gold, author of the country's first so-called "Son of Sam" law, which is a model for AB 2102.

Enacted in 1977, the law was named after convicted New York murderer David Berkowitz, who called himself the "Son of Sam".

In the last six years, 13 other states have followed New York's

example.

Senator Gold helped persuade the committee by pointing out that none of the 14 "Son of Sam" laws has been challenged in court on the constitutional question.

He also told committee members that so far no publisher or movie producer has complained to him that the law is preventing them from signing contracts with criminals.

Like the New York law, AB 2102 is nicknamed after a criminal — Dan White, who is serving time for the murder of two San Francisco elected officials in 1978.

Agnos said that his bill is not targeted at anyone in particular, but conceded that White would be among the first to be affected, in light of his early parole in January 1984 and reports that he is writing a book about how he shot and killed two people.

Sandmire — First Gay Chaplain to Police

Metropolitan Community Church minister Rev. James Sandmire, has been appointed by the SF Police Commission as its first upfront Gay Chaplain. He will minister to members of the police force — Gay and straight.

Sandmire is a longtime human rights advocate who pastors MCC's Golden Gate church. He is the former treasurer of the national MCC

Fellowship.

Jo Daly, the Lesbian/activist member of the Police Commission, suggested to Sandmire that such a position be created. However, Sandmire says he is "not the Gay Chaplain. I will attempt to demonstrate empathy for every officer in need."

Sandmire said he would welcome an invitation to speak to the Christian police officers group, Cops for Christ.

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Apuzzo Testifies for AIDS in Congress

Requests \$100 Million for Research

National Gay Task Force executive director Virginia Apuzzo testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education in favor of substantially increased funding for AIDS research at the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control. She was joined by Dr. Roger Enlow, Director of New York's Office of Gay and Lesbian Health Concerns, and Dr. David Ostrow of Chicago's Howard Brown Memorial Clinic.

The text of Ms. Apuzzo's testimony was as follows:

Mr. Chairperson, Members of the Committee:

There are four factors concerning the AIDS epidemic and the type of response we are looking for from our representatives which I want to impress upon you. First, the response of the Gay/Lesbian community to the AIDS epidemic has been in the best spirit of American volunteerism. Second, the response of the government has thus far been a series of uncoordinated and inadequately financed gestures. Third, the scope of the problem demands a level of research and funding far beyond the resources of the private sector, however committed, a level which only the government has the resources to meet. And fourth, we are asking for a national agenda which is coordinated, adequately funded, respectful of confidentiality, public, and developed in consultation and cooperation with those segments of society most affected by AIDS.

Since the AIDS epidemic broke out, the Gay/Lesbian community in particular has responded with that magnanimity of spirit which is one of the finest characteristics of the American people when faced with a crisis. Existing local organizations have established counseling and referral centers. New organizations of volunteers have formed to provide accurate information, support groups, and services for those affected by AIDS. Volunteers have raised tens of thousands of dollars to support these services. Nationally, the Gay press has provided the bulk of information on AIDS available to the public. The National Gay Task Force has established a Crisisline, the only national 800 number now providing information and referral information on AIDS to whomever asks for it.

I am proud of the way in which the Gay community has responded on behalf of all who are threatened by the AIDS crisis — and we are all threatened. Diseases tend not to limit themselves for long to just selected segments of society. At the same time, I am angry, frustrated and pained by the knowledge that Gay people have had to be self-reliant if for no other reason than they are intentionally and systematically denied their rights. Additionally we are denied access by the media, by

community agencies and by representatives in government who claim to — and ought to — represent all people, but who do not respond to their Gay constituents. Community agencies solicit our dollars, but refuse to fund our service, health, and social agencies. Within the last two weeks over 17,600 people supported an AIDS benefit in New York, and not one newspaper printed a single line before or after the event. That's what I mean by being denied access. On an issue which threatens the health of every American, the Gay community alone cannot and should not be responsible for funding the level of research needed to meet the AIDS crisis.

I wish I could express as much pride in my government's response to this epidemic. While



Ginny Apuzzo

people die, a full year has passed since the first inter-agency meeting was called by the federal government to explore research directions for solving the AIDS crisis. During that year we have seen precious little action. While people die, the National Institutes of Health process research applications with a "business as usual" attitude. Over seven months into its fiscal year, only 25% of its funds for AIDS research have been allocated. While people die, the Centers for Disease Control are still struggling under a 20% budget cut imposed in 1981, the same year the AIDS epidemic was beginning to get attention. While people die, no detailed, comprehensive research plan of attack has been forthcoming from the Assistant Secretary for Health.

The AIDS epidemic affects too many people, is too widespread, and the needed research too expensive to be handled solely by the private sector. Over 1,400 people have been diagnosed for AIDS so far and, with an estimated incubation period of from one to three years, we don't know how many cases may be developing right now. The number of patients afflicted is doubling every six months. The mortality rate is at least 50%, possibly as high as 75% to 100%, according to the May 6 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. CDC has reported cases in thirty-four states. One out of every twenty people afflicted fits into none of the major groups affected — is not Gay, a Haitian immigrant, an IV drug user, or a hemophiliac. It is a new disease with no known etiology. Patient care for 1,400 patients has already cost \$100 million.

"While people die, it's 'business as usual' at NIH."

— Ginny Apuzzo

We are not dealing with a problem for which "business as usual" is adequate. We are not dealing with a problem which can be met by political gestures. We are not dealing with a problem which can be addressed only by volunteers from the private sector nor through an extra few million dollars for NIH or CDC.

Today I will call upon the Congress of the United States to appropriate at least \$100 million for a comprehensive and coordinated program of research on AIDS in order to stop this frightful waste of lives and resources. This is an amount equal to what has already been spent privately for care. President Lincoln created the National Academy of Science to advise the nation of needs in science. I would suggest that it be charged with developing a comprehensive survey of the need and a plan of attack. I call upon the NIH to speed up the procedures for reviewing AIDS research grant requests and to release funds already available. I call upon the Assistant Secretary for Health to make public his agenda for dealing with this crisis. We need to know if the government has a plan, and what it is, in order to coordinate private efforts and research, and to coordinate studies at other levels of government.

Members of the Committee, we are looking to you for nothing less than a crash program with the nation's finest minds and the funds to support their efforts. In view of the scope of this crisis, and in the name of those afflicted, the hundreds who have died and those who mourn, and the millions who are threatened we would be negligent to ask for less. You will be accountable for our government's negligence if you provide any less.

Blood Group, Gay and Lesbian Community Unite to Fight AIDS

The Hemophilia Foundation of Southern California issued a joint statement May 11 with leaders of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian community, as well as members of other concerned organizations, to urge that immediate action be taken to support research of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The communique also advocated the clinical screening of blood so that discrimination against any specific groups of potential blood donors is eliminated.

AIDS, a mysterious disorder that suppresses certain functions of the body's natural immune system, has puzzled doctors and medical researchers. Its victims are highly susceptible to infections and opportunistic diseases. Close to 85 percent of its victims die within three years of contracting the illness.

The statement has been endorsed by the Hemophilia Foundation of Southern California, Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles (MECLA), American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, AIDS Project/LA, Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, AIDS Network, Southern California Physicians for Human Rights, American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, as well as individuals and members of other concerned organizations.

According to Dr. Edward Gomperts, president of the Hemophilia Foundation of Southern California, AIDS brings together three distinct areas of medical research: cancer, immunity and infection. Says Gomperts, "If panic and hasty judgment are avoided, long-lasting medical advances can be achieved and lives can be saved."

Group representatives hope other individuals and organizations will join them in exerting pressure at the national and state levels to procure emergency funds to fight AIDS. Says Michael Nicola, MECLA board of governors member: "When the American government can allocate \$11 million to the preservation of chastity, that we should even be having to ask (for emergency funds) is an absolute atrocity."

Specifically, the coalition's statement urges that:

- Research on AIDS must be made a priority of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).
- The public must understand that the threat of AIDS is not confined to any one group of people.
- Legislators and the medi-

cal community must be informed and regularly updated on the status of AIDS.

- AIDS research by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and blood service-related agencies should be vigorously supported.

- Efficient, reliable and practical surrogate tests to screen all blood samples for AIDS should be implemented immediately.

- There should be no discrimination against any specific groups as potential blood donors.

The statement went on to say, "Questioning of potential blood donors for the purpose of screening is not a medically effective method of ensuring a safe blood supply. People who have AIDS or AIDS symptoms — and those who have intimate contact with those people — must refrain from donating blood at this time."

Says Ivy Bottini of the AIDS Network, an organization based in Los Angeles: "Volunteer and commercial blood collection agencies must take on the full responsibility of protecting the public when it comes to blood transmittal. We must screen blood, and the cost of doing so cannot be the criteria by which the public is protected — or not protected. The screening of people does not work."

The coalition's statement calls for "diligent and widespread educational efforts throughout the community . . . so that as many people as possible are made aware of this public health threat. Failure to achieve these goals rapidly will result in the increasing loss of human life."

Dr. Neil Schram, spokesperson for the Southern California Physicians for Human Rights, expressed concern with the lack of emergency funds being appropriated. "If the public and the nation do not stop considering AIDS a 'gay disease,' there will be further delay in obtaining adequate research funds to solve this health crisis," Schram states.

The statement issued today also says:

- AIDS is currently a direct threat to all people and has resulted in high mortality rates.
- It can no longer be claimed that the disease only affects particular groups.
- There is an almost total lack of understanding of its cause, and attempts to screen potential blood donors by questionnaire may well be giving the public a false sense of security.
- There is no cure or specific treatment for AIDS.

Gay Men's Health Class in the Castro

Peter Goldblum is the instructor of the Gay Men's Health course at the Castro/Valencia site of the San Francisco Community College Centers. The class meets Thursdays, through June 16, 7-9 p.m., at Everett Middle School, 450 Church Street at Seventeenth Street. Goldblum has arranged that guest speakers — physicians, representatives from the K.S. Foundation, the Shanti Project, Eighteenth Street Services, the Health Department, and the Gay press — discuss the anatomy, physiology, and diseases of the immune system. Other health problems in the Gay community are presented, and the political and social implications of the health crisis in our community are explored.

Sexual activities and values are discussed, as are alternative ways to promote Gay health and well-being.

Goldblum has designed a Gay Health Model to help students develop a personal approach to health. He explains our information processing system as it relates to health and emphasizes the importance of stressors (forces outside ourselves that require adapting) and the availability of resources that assist us in coping with those stressors.

Interested? You may register at any class session, Thursdays, 7-9 p.m., Room 208, 450 Church Street. The course is tuition-free. For further information, call Peter Goldblum at 391-0103.

About your health...

"AIDS stands for acquired immune deficiency syndrome, *not* 'gay cancer,' 'gay plague,' or 'grid.' AIDS is believed to be a new disease in which the body's immune system is severely damaged. At the present time, AIDS is believed to be, at least to some degree, contagious, and to affect some individuals more seriously than others.

In many instances, victims of AIDS are vulnerable to a wide variety of serious infections and some forms of cancer; the most common being PC pneumonia and Kaposi's sarcoma. If you are sexually active with many partners, you should see a physician at least twice a year for AIDS screening and VD (STD) testing.

AIDS is believed to be sexually transmitted. To reduce your risk of AIDS, the most important step you can take is to limit the number of partners with whom you have sex. Have as much sex as you like, but have it more for the quality of partnership than for the quantity of partners."

Lawrence Mass, M.D.

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VOL. XIII NO. 20 MAY 19, 1983 NEXT ISSUE OUT: MAY 26 NEXT DEADLINE: MAY 20

VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

How Does It Go with AIDS Part I

Some two months ago this space announced a new policy toward the AIDS scourge. The shift was akin to sidestepping a fag-basher as opposed to blowing hard on a whistle and squirting the Mace cannister. We went from one to two.

We took the step after much private introspection, discussion with patients, doctors, and following the coverage around the nation. The appearance of Larry Kramer's "1,112 And Counting" in the *New York Native* was the clincher. Researchers had noted in incidence and trauma New York City was a year ahead of San Francisco which in turn was a year ahead of Chicago. The message seemed clear. Why wait another twelve months to pull out all the stops? Why wait until we would be at wit's end? Jumping the gun — so to speak — might save lives.

Deciding to let the chips fall as they may was derring-do, but we felt we had to break through the veil of hush-up and plunge into the icy water of the unknown.

The first myth blown away was that mass panic did not ensue. And in a short time — we can say there's no one who doesn't know about AIDS. It's all anybody talks about when Gay men gather. Sexual habits of years' standing are changing overnight. It's not at all unusual to hear, "I haven't had sex in two months." Some men are starving, some are losing or have lost the urge, and there are still some who couldn't care a fig.

One recent set-to was the reaction of a group of AIDS victims to this bolder policy. In their eyes it was less than responsible — as if one were snatching at their souls as a disease was snatching at their bodies.

Their charge was we were "sensationalizing" the issue. In press terms to sensationalize means to take a minor item and blow it all out of proportion. It means to make an item larger than life. To exaggerate just to attract attention — it means to engage in deception, artifice, cosmetics, trick photography, inflated language. Like the eruption of Mt. St. Helens in 1981 or a 7-point quake on the Richter scale, some events need no help. The AIDS epidemic needs no graphic help. People are dying at an ever-accelerating rate. No one knows the cause. No one knows a cure. After three years the mortality rate approaches 90%. And no one knows exactly what one should do about it.

I have been told that a sizable silent majority of the community awaits the *Bay Area Reporter* to strike its colors. What is the answer?

The answer is that there is no answer. No light at the end of the tunnel. No recipe for safety.

Paul Lorch

Steve's Piqued

★ Noticed some flyers hanging around the Castro lately, pasted right on top of several of my favorite garbage cans (the sacrilege) by that harpster or is it flutist character who also passes as one of your (B.A.R.) favorite political twits, Arthur Evans, alias the Red Queen (translates: bleeding heart). The flyer entitled "Cause of AIDS Revealed" goes on, as you might suspect from a verjoning (*sic*) young Commie, to accuse Gay bars and baths as the main attraction in the never ending vigil to determine where and when and in whose mouth this whole thing got started. Poor Arthur, next thing he will be accusing Mother See's.

Arthur will never learn that health is not a political issue. And although the evidence seems to indicate that your chance of acquiring AIDS runs 10 to 100 times higher if you run in Gay political circles, notwithstanding it also translates into a fact that only childish vanity is really responsible for all the troubles that beset mankind and the Gay community.

So, I for one would like to suggest that the real name of the disease is childish VANITY. The reason for this vanity can be discussed at a more opportune moment. The resulting vanity is there and can easily be cured.

I have found that the main reason people get sick is the exposure to cold. Now this is a very harsh reality when you see the Gay community in all its vanity running around, (fascist and communists alike), several cold and windy cities without any clothes on. And more to the point of the vanity, running out into a cold wind without a thought to covering their heads. There is no quicker way to get sick than to stand in a cold wind for a few minutes while the main blood channels up the back of the neck cool dramatically, sending an icy spike into the brain. Hitler learned through many trials with living subjects that the quickest way to kill a person is to just lower the blood temperature in that most vulnerable of all places — the back of the neck. And (just there) it only takes a minute or two.

I gather that the reason AIDS hangs out in Gay political circles is that many such idiots who stand out on windy corners exposing themselves to mother nature while pushing petitions and their quite exceptionally ugly (pretty vain) faces.

My advice to all queens is to take the wool from over your eyes and put it over the back of your heads.

Steve Perkins
San Francisco

The "Other Crisis"

★ I came across the article on Gay Unemployment this week and felt relieved, a bit, that the B.A.R. is beginning to discover "The Other Crisis" in our community. Thousands of clean, healthy, normal and often even good looking, single Gay Americans are desperately out of work and watching their lives slowly stream into what amounts to a gutter-drain of darkness and solitude. The rest of you are seemingly too busy with your love lives, too busy cruising, too busy building your careers to notice them or even want to notice them. These poor Gays/Lesbians cannot at this moment, relate to the AIDS crisis you publicize so well, cannot relate to a silly Gay Couples Bill; cannot relate to a mayoral recall controversy. These people can, however, relate to your sickly "Jobs Offered" section in the back of your weekly and so they understandably are finding the B.A.R. irrelevant to their immediate concerns and also feel you have, up 'til now, relegated them to the category of unspeakable. I am talking about people who, like myself, are near starving, cannot afford a pair of new socks, are having enormous difficulty paying the rent or are already homeless (No Harry, not only the young are homeless and jobless). This is the first time I have heard anyone, anywhere in this town — including B.A.R. staff — give one lousy hoot for these people — for us.

Paul Koutsos
San Francisco

Credits Out of the Closet

★ Let me say how delighted I was to see the coverage you gave The Closet Ball. The lengthy and enjoyable column by Ronnette (is that one-third of a backup singing group??) certainly captured the jubilant high spirits I felt from the audience as I was onstage listening to my mouth run dry. I felt everyone was having a good time that night on both sides of the (non-existent) footlights.

However, as someone who had been there rehearsing since 11 AM that morning and spent endless hours at meetings, photo sessions and contestant interviews, I must mention in all fairness that several very important people were badly overlooked and that they are really the ones who worked to make the evening the success your critic obviously enjoyed.

Those "showstopping" numbers by Reggie and Pat Montclair were both choreographed by George Lowy; the Tap Troupe's two numbers were choreographed by Rusty Frank, Chris Quann and Vicki Hall Suemnicht; Wally Rutherford produced and stage managed the entire event and made sure there was a profit to contribute by Robert Michael Productions to AIDS; and a friend, Carl Berry directed and oversaw the entire concept of the evening, from lighting to staging each contestant in and out of heels. I realize space prohibits mentioning all the assistants and coordinators who worked so hard backstage to make sure everything ran smoothly, but when people work so diligently months in advance to insure a fun evening, surely a few kudos in print aren't too much to ask. This being my first time to emcee the Closet Ball, I was amazed at the pre-production work involved; all I had to do was show up and bring my mouth.

Finally, a personal note to Ronnette and Karr — that Leatherman with the "great tits" and "the big beautiful blonde from the Caldon" were Pat Montclair and myself out of drag. Thanks for the compliment, boys; I bet you thought drag queens were nelly offstage!

Lori Shannon
San Francisco

Sleeze in Hibernation

★ Instead of all that sleeze and j/o stuff that is going on, why can't the South of Market clubs have slumber parties? With lots of mattresses, we could go there in our jammies and stay up all night, giggle, do each other's hair and play mah jong. This sure beats exchanging body fluids as if we were up on a neck at Goodyear, having our oil changed and our bodies lubed, and our ATF checked for metal flecks. It is a wise sex club owner who sees a changing need and fulfills his customer's wants. Wait till they find out about hand holding!

Richard Lasker
San Francisco

White House Line

★ We of the AIDS/KS Foundation Medical Callback Team would like to use your space to thank everyone who phoned the White House during AIDS Awareness Week to voice their desire for more federal funding for AIDS research. We like to think our efforts were effective, though our requests for results have been refused. We would also like to remind everyone that the White House Comments Line, (202) 456-7639, opens Monday through Friday, 9 am - 5 pm (Washington D.C. time), and there is no reason why we should not be voicing our demands on a daily basis.

Chris Hjort
Kenn Purnell
AIDS/KS Foundation Med. Callback Team

LETTERS

ED. NOTE: One of our readers was kind enough to forward this sample of anti-Gay Rights Bill propaganda. We are reprinting it as a "letter to the editor."

Dear Family Member:

I am writing to you today to ask you to take immediate action on an issue that is crucial to the survival of your family and our Judeo-Christian ethic of morality.

It is vital that you sign the enclosed national petition to stop the liberals in Congress from passing the "Gay Bill of Rights".

On the day before Congress votes on the "Gay Bill of Rights" I hope to deliver 250,000 petitions to the United States Congress.

And these hard-core liberals — who now put the "rights" of homosexuals before your own God-given right to live as you choose — will not ignore 250,000 petitions.

So please, for your family, President Reagan, and America, will you mail me your national petition against the "Gay Bill of Rights"? Thank you.

Now, just let me explain to you what House Resolution 427 (Gay Bill of Rights) is and how it will drastically change your life . . . and the life of every member of your family.

Ever since the mid-1960's homosexual political pressure has been growing on our elected officials.

Backed by the American Civil Liberties Union and well entrenched liberal bureaucrats in Washington, homosexual men and Lesbian women have won victory after victory over you and your family.

Brace yourself, for what I am about to tell you is absolutely shocking.

Already at more than \$640,000 of your hard-earned tax money has gone to Gay community services "for education about Gay lifestyles and Gay people's problems".

Already \$34,000 of your tax dollars has gone to the Gay Alliance to provide speakers to school children can "learn" about homosexuality.

And the National Gay Task Force has operated with funds provided by the Federal Government. The Federal Government has even paid the salaries of homosexual men and Lesbian women who write, print and distribute a Gay newspaper.

But this outright attack on your family and your tax dollars was not enough for the homosexuals and their allies in Congress.

Now they want the "Gay Bill of Rights". I hope you are sitting down for the "Gay Bill of Rights" has just made null and void your Bill of Rights.

Did you know that if House Resolution 427 passes you can be investigated by the Federal Government if you refuse to do business with a homosexual?

In short the Gay community, with all its money and all its liberal influence, wants to change your lifestyle.

They want to have the power to force you to live near a homosexual.

They want to have the power to make you do your daily business with a homosexual.

And if you don't want to work with a homosexual, or if you don't want to live with a homosexual, and if you don't want to do business with a homosexual . . . then, they say you are a criminal.

And the Federal Government will be forced to take the side of the homosexual against you.

The American Civil Liberties Union — with almost unlimited funds — will prepare legal action against you. The United States Justice Department, with your tax dollars, will be forced to bring you to court.

And President Reagan will be powerless to stop this outrage.

For the "Gay Bill of Rights" will be the law of the land.

That's why the "Gay Bill of Rights" must be defeated now!

Because if you refuse to work with, live near, or do business with a homosexual, you will be dragged into court. For you will be the lawbreaker.

And it will be you who will either pay a fine or go to jail.

You and I have only one hope. One chance. The "Gay Bill of Rights" must be defeated.

And it can only be defeated if you are willing to take a stand against it.

My friend, for too long, you and I have allowed our voice to go unheard in Washington.

Your opinion is just as important as any homosexual's.

But unfortunately, your voice is not being heard.

And now the American Civil Liberties Union is suing the Boy Scouts in California to reinstate a homosexual boy scout.

My friend, I am outraged at what the militant homosexuals want to do to your freedom of choice.

And all they have to do to succeed, is for you to do nothing.

The American people, when given the opportunity, have consistently voted against "Gay Initiatives" on their local ballots.

That's why the militant homosexuals have zeroed in on Washington D.C.

And these militant homosexuals and Lesbians have won victory after victory here in Washington.

Your tax dollars — \$41,000 to be exact — was given to a radical feminist organization to produce "The Leaping Lesbian Follies" where women performed in the nude.

National Public Radio has received \$14,695 for the National Lesbian and Gay Mens Radio Project.

The University of Southern California received a \$65,285 Federal grant to "study" successful homosexual men.

These radical homosexual and Lesbian groups — organized at the national level — have posed a direct challenge to you and your family.

And their challenge must be met, with your help.

Now is the time to say "no" to the militant homosexuals who want to dictate their "alternative" values to you.

And now is the time to say "yes" to your family. Your sense of morality. Your freedom of choice.

Now I must ask you a very personal question: do you want the "Gay Bill of Rights" defeated? I hope you just said "yes" for the future of your family is now on the line as never before.

You can help President Reagan and your family by taking two crucial actions.

First, mail me your national petition to Congress opposing the "Gay Bill of Rights".

Second, send your maximum contribution to the American Family Association.

The American Family Association is authorizing an emergency budget of \$19,275.00 for the next ten days to pay for petitions, post cards, postage and telephones.

The situation is critical for you and President Reagan. For once the "Gay Bill of Rights" is the law of the land, you will no longer be free; you will be dictated to.

It is crucial that I have 250,000 petitions to present to Congress and Tip O'Neil and it is crucial that your Congressman know you're outraged.

The American Family Association has made its commitment to you.

Can the Association now count on you for a contribution of \$1,000, \$500, \$250, \$100, \$50 or \$25?

Or if you can only contribute \$20, \$15 or \$10 that will be appreciated as well.

Every dollar is important in this crucial campaign.

Remember, if this Bill passes, you and your family may suffer forever.

So please mail your contribution immediately. Time is short, and the situation is critical.

David A. Williams
Executive Director

P.S. It is crucial that the "Gay Bill of Rights" be defeated. So please mail me your national petition and your contribution. Thank you for standing with the American Family Association.

Important to be Hopeful

★ I am astonished that Marc Hofstadter (Ph.D.) implies that I prefer psychic healing to scientific research, refuse to regard AIDS as a genuinely frightening development, advocate positive thinking as a sufficient means of dealing with it, or want to close my eyes to the truth.

Dr. Hofstadter evidently has not read my column in *The Sentinel*, begun in December 1981, or listened carefully to my speeches. If he had, he would know that I have spoken frequently on "the biological perspectives of the disease and the risks believed to be associated with a high incidence of sexual contacts and with particular sexual practices."

If Mark Feldman and I ("Victims" to Dr. Hofstadter) focus on life's excitement and joys, it is because life's excitement and joys are all the more precious to us now. Evidently thousands of people agreed with us, at the candlelight march and rally, that it is just as important to be hopeful as it is to be angry.

Bobbi Campbell
San Francisco

Supes Need Letters

★ On May 18th the Finance Committee of the Board of Supervisors will consider a detailed, carefully researched proposal from Supervisors Britt and Molinari for a Supervisors' resolution asking the Mayor to appropriate a little over \$2,000,000 in supplementary funds for short-term support of AIDS research, patient care and education. These funds would give crucial sustenance to these areas while all of us work to obtain state and federal funds on a more massive scale.

There has been an alarming lack of mail to supervisors, state and federal legislators expressing concern about AIDS. Letters are an important means of confronting representatives with the importance of our concerns.

We have urged our own congregations and urge the general public, as well, to write today to Supervisor Louise Renne (Chair of the Finance Committee) and Supervisor Quentin Kopp (member of the committee with Supervisor Molinari). Tell them how important you believe these supplemental appropriations can be, what an urgent concern AIDS is for our city. Recommend that they support this proposed resolution strongly. Remember that our concern can be brought to the attention of our representatives only if we express it actively. These letters are one way to do that.

The Reverend Michael E. England, Pastor
Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco

The Reverend James E. Sandmire, Pastor
Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church

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And may it seal the door where evil dwells.

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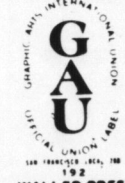
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EXECUTIVE & EDITORIAL OFFICES 1528 15th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 TELEPHONES (415) 861-5019/861-7230
PUBLISHER Bob Ross
EDITOR Paul F. Lorch
ASSOCIATE EDITOR, ENTERTAINMENT John F. Karr
FINE ARTS EDITOR George Heymont
POLITICAL EDITOR Wayne Friday
OFFICE MANAGER Wayne April
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR Pierre Chapman

GREATER BAY REP. Gene Earl
GRAPHICS & CAMERA Ron Olthaus
GRAPHICS & LAYOUT Peter Keane
TYPESETTING Tony Lindsey
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Rink
AUDITOR/ACCOUNTANT Robert J. Dern, C.P.A.



CONTRIBUTORS Burney Allgood, Michael Benzyr, Konstantin Berlandt, Ron Bluestein, Philip Campbell, Jerry De Gracia, Jerry R. De Young, Gene Earl, Wayne Friday, Glenn, Paul-Francis Hartmann, George Heymont, Mike Hippler, Frank J. Howell, John F. Karr, Ron Kraus, Michael Lasky, Arthur Lazere, George Mendenhall, Gene Miller, Denis Morella, Johnny Nieto, Nez Pas, Adele Prandin, Ronnette, Tom Rogers, Bernard Spunberg, Karl Stewart, Kevin Styers, Scott Treimel, Dan Turner, Dick Walters, Steve Warren, Rick Weatherly, Keith White, Bob Woolhouse, Sue Zemel

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LETTERS

Watch It In Hayward!

* Herewith a warning to suburban readers, or those in the city, who would like to sample bars outside San Francisco.

On Saturday, April 30, I had a few beers at Big Mama's tavern, a small Gay bar in Hayward. Leaving with a friend, I had hardly gotten my car into motion before we were stopped by police who had obviously been lying in wait for patrons to emerge from the bar.

I failed a field sobriety test and was handcuffed, taken to the city lockup, and put in a cell in which there were six beds and ten occupants.

While incarcerated I was forcibly raped by a big, dirty biker-type, and then blamed and put in punitive solitary lockup.

This is unpleasant stuff. I'd hoped to avoid the likelihood of contracting AIDS by going to a small-town place, but obviously the cops in Hayward don't want their Gay establishments to prosper.

Please! If you choose to visit a small-town gay bar, do so by bus or train, and leave the car at home. They're gunning for us out there, and they have the law behind them. It's almost impossible to walk out of a bar with a legal alcohol level, and you won't get far before you're checked. Be smart.

By the way, to my companion, if he notices this issue, thanks for being cool, and I hope they didn't do anything to you.

George Androvette
San Leandro

Police Praise

Bobbi Campbell
Bob Reynolds
Gary Walsh
1716 Fell Street
San Francisco, California 94117

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your letter of recognition on the participation and efforts of the San Francisco Police Department in helping to make your candlelight march on May 2, a success. Many people came up to me after the rally to personally thank me for the Department's efforts.

As for myself, I found the march and rally very exciting to see so many, united as one, in a common spirit working for a victory over a disease which threatens all of us. As one speaker said, and I paraphrase, we must decide how we are to live, not how we are to die. We will be stronger because of the struggle.

Please do not hesitate to call upon me should I be able to help you in the future. And, thank you for an experience I will not soon forget.

Cornelius P. Murphy
Chief of Police
by Paul H. Seidler
Police Officer
Community Relations Unit

Unhappy with Sala

* How could Duke Armstrong attack that poor sweet old widow Sala Burton? I think it is terrible. We all know she is totally unqualified to serve in Congress, but what does that matter? The machine politicians have told us voters who to support and that is that.

Duke is apparently very naive. He thinks our electoral system bears some relation to democracy. Wise up, Duke. Sala Burton has already been crowned. None of our politicians have any guts.

Steven Spielberg
San Francisco

Bisexuals Ignored

* First of all, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the vitally important wellness conference sponsored by the Coalition for Human Rights and the Gay and Lesbian Caucus at U.C.S.F. The fact that there were close to one hundred women and men who were actively involved as speakers, panelists and/or facilitators presented a positive image of strength, concern and solidarity within our community. I gained a great deal of much-needed information and felt that my awareness of the issues concerning AIDS was highly increased as was my determination to help. I was also pleased that the focus of the conference was on wellness as opposed to illness in the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual community, an important psychologically reassuring perspective.

I wish that I could say that the day was an unqualified success. Unfortunately, it was not. I did not expect that at a conference I was invited to attend and to help facilitate I would have to defend the existence of my sexual orientation. I found it insulting and infuriating to have my attention drawn away from issues related to my survival by the personal prejudices and/or lack of consciousness of many of the panelists, particularly Tom Waddell, the keynote speaker, and Marny Hall. I was outraged to hear Bisexual orientation repeatedly and deliberately omitted at a conference labeled "Wellness in the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Communities." This kind of obvious contempt is grossly inappropriate and belittles the importance of the matters at hand. Of the twenty-two speakers during the day it was only Nancy Hinds who consistently addressed herself to Gay, Lesbian and bisexual people.

The fact that I am sexually active with women does not give me, or the women I relate to, a special immunity against AIDS, when I am also sexually active with men. However, there was no mention of the fact that there are Bisexual men who have died of AIDS or who are currently fighting for their lives.

Bisexual women and men are part of the Gay and Lesbian community and need to feel acknowledged. It is hard to be a minority within a minority. This is a time for solidarity, not for exclusivity, for intercommunal integrity and awareness, not for antagonism or accentuating differences. The theme of the parade this year is "Strengthen the Ties/Break the Chains." Refusing to acknowledge the term "Bisexual" does not strengthen ties. It humiliates, alienates and drains energy — energy that could be directed towards solving less divisive problems.

In conclusion, I again wish to applaud the sponsors of the conference and the consciousness that had the good sense to acknowledge the Bisexual community. I also want to urge that all speakers, at future programs, be reminded to use Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual when referring to issues that concern us all.

David N. Lourea
President, board of directors
The Bisexual Center

Appalled at Attitude

* I was appalled to read a letter in the May 12th B.A.R. addressing the "Man sues Airlines for Partner's Benefits" matter. If we have attitudes in our community such as those expressed by a Mr. (or Ms?) "K.D.N." it's no wonder we can't get it together on this domestic partnership issue! (Thank you, Paul Lorch, for your Editor's note.) No offense to you personally, "K.D.N." but your remarks remind me of a disgruntled parent! And don't you have the courage to sign your full name?

Regardless of what anyone thinks about the pluses and minuses of being in a one-to-one lover relationship, any of us can fall in love at any time, so why not let go of your jealousy, homophobia or condescending attitude and support those of us who are fighting for equal rights for our relationships. You may want the same thing someday yourself.

I'm not sure K.D.N. understands that Gay marriage is illegal in most places. This problem of "illegality" is at the core of all the legal hassles lovers have to face, including property ownership, inheritance, "single" vs. married status from employers, insurance problems, and worst of all, "single" income tax filing status. Fringe benefits such as those denied Mr. Chamberlain ought to be the right of any person committed to loving another on an ongoing basis. Why deny us the same rights heterosexual couples have? I've only been in a relationship for under five years, and I'm already sick and tired — not of my lover (not at all) — but of all the legal inequalities. We're always considered "single" in the legal and employment worlds when we're not. I have a good friend whose lover works for United Airlines. If he qualified as the "spouse" he could fly all over the U.S. for almost nothing!

So you see, M? K.D.N., the whole issue is a lot more significant than can easily "be left at home in bed," as you say. Haven't you ever heard of Gay pride? For me, it means not being ashamed, embarrassed, or even afraid, when I'm walking down the street with my lover, whether in the Castro, the Haight, or even in Fort Wayne, to put my arms around him and give him the deepest, most luscious and delicious kiss that I possibly can (if he agrees)! It also means standing up for my rights, like Mr. Chamberlain is doing. He's STANDING UP for my rights, your rights, and EVERYONE'S rights to have the validity of their love and joy recognized.

"What can we do now?" those of you who are thoughtful of our situation may ask. Well, only you can decide on that. For me, I've personally called Mr. Chamberlain (listed as Allen in Sacramento, Area Code 916) and wished him my support. He'll be setting up a legal fund soon. I've written the president of Frontier Airlines: Glenn Ryland, 8250 Smith Road, Denver, Colorado 80207 to express how I feel about this issue. I've also written Mayor Feinstein and several supervisors on the domestic partner issue and gotten replies. As Mr. Lorch says, "Why not wish him the best in his adventure?" I ask, "What can we do to help?"

Michael H. Merry
San Francisco

Indiana Pal

* I am trying to correspond with other Gays that are equally looking for that special person to fill the void that has been there for so long. I am soon to be released and I need someone to love me, so I may try to start a new life with a new partner. I am a young Gay handsome boyish looking male in a penal institution, and I wish to find a friend or a lover to share life with totally. I can relocate on day one of my release, and I am eager to please the right mate.

My name is Jimmie Lee Smith, 22 years old, 128 lbs., 5'4" tall with very light brown hair and brown eyes. I have only experienced love with one man, and I wish to feel the same sensation with a very sensitive person who will understand true love and relationship. Please only serious minded, as I need someone to teach me the full meaning of a full and loving life.

Jimmie Lee Smith #18946
P.O. Box 30 (I-2)
Pendleton, Indiana 46064

LETTERS

Disgust with Ch. 7

* Enclosed you will find a letter I wrote to Channel 7 concerning the candlelight march for AIDS May 2, 1983. I was very angry as were a number of people over the coverage we got. I am usually a very quiet person on expressing my views but, this I just can't keep quiet about. I intend to not only voice my concern but, I am embarking on a letter writing campaign to the politicians in Sacramento and to Washington. We as a community should write until our fingers are sore to show our support to stop AIDS. Who knows who will get it next. This is the first time I have voiced my opinion to a newspaper and it will not be the last.

Ian R. Leigh
San Francisco

Ball Bounces at Rhino

* Those of us who have been disheartened by Theatre Rhinoceros' main stage diet of white bread and vanilla ice cream were really rather excited by the opening of Studio Rhino at the end of the season last year.

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Myles I. Lippe, M.D.
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Steven D. Olsen, M.D.
Franklin Medical Bldg.
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S.F. Police Don Masks and Gloves Against AIDS

by Wayne April

In an effort to prevent themselves from catching AIDS, among other things, the San Francisco Police Department has issued plastic gloves and resuscitation masks to the rank and file. Police Sergeant Mike Pera stressed, however, that AIDS was only the straw that broke the camel's back, that the paraphernalia should have been issued earlier.

"Frankly, there's a bigger threat of our officers getting hepatitis — we have about four cases a year — than there is from anything else," said Pera.

Nevertheless, the distribution of "protective devices" at a time when AIDS is becoming an emotional issue has generated a clucking of tongues among the city's medical community. "It's really sad that they did that," said Helen Schietinger, former nurse coordinator for the Kaposis's Sarcoma Clinic at U.C. Medical Center and current head of the Shanti house for homeless AIDS patients. "They had access to excellent advice about AIDS, but instead of taking appropriate measures, they overreacted. Their measures do not go along with the guidelines recommended for care provider safety."

The only time gloves and masks would be appropriate for police or firemen would be if there is a pool of blood, vomit, or other body secretions, according to Schietinger. There has been no evidence that a person can catch AIDS by simply touching an AIDS patient or being in the same room with them.

"Their new policy just promotes hysteria," said Schietinger.

In the three and a half years that doctors, nurses, and other medical personnel have been working with AIDS patients, there has not been one documented case of anyone catching it, according to Pat Norman of the San Francisco Department of Health. Norman said the police department never consulted with her department on the matter. "As far as I know, all their information came from a single sheet passed out by San Francisco General where some of the police went through infection control training," she said.

The sheet gives the current information on what AIDS is and how it is contracted and stresses that there is no evidence of risk from AIDS by casual contact.

Norman said that masks and gloves are being used more for AIDS patients now than they are for visitors. "It's more important to protect the patients who might be susceptible to something brought in by visitors," she said. How the officers in the field will utilize the newly issued "protection devices" is anybody's guess. Sgt. Pera said that any unauthorized and unnecessary use of the gloves and masks in dealing with Gay people would not be condoned by the department.

ACLU Sues Police Commission Wants Court to Force Larger Budget for Office of Citizens Complaints

The American Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit last Thursday asking for a Superior Court order forcing the San Francisco Police Commission to propose a larger 1983-84 budget for the new Office of Citizens Complaints (OCC).

The suit charges the Police Commission with failing to comply with the requirements of last November's Proposition A, the Charter Amendment which established the OCC to replace the much criticized Police Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) which currently investigates citizen complaints of police abuse and misconduct.

According to ACLU staff counsel Amitai Schwartz, "under a proper reading of Proposition A," the Police Commission could have requested at

least nine investigators for the next fiscal year instead of the seven now proposed.

"Given the potential volume of citizen complaints about the Police Department, this shortage of investigators could seriously undermine the ability of the new bureau to do its job — which voters asked for," added Schwartz.

The budget controversy revolves around the question of what it is exactly that the voter-approved OCC budget pays for. The ACLU says that the budget was meant only to pay the new department head and his investigators — not clerical help. The Police Commission, which is following legal advice from the city attorney's office, says that the budget approved by the voters clearly states that "the

implementation of the OCC.

Other plaintiffs include James Morales, president of the San Francisco Latino Democratic Club, S. Chandler Visser, chairperson of the ACLU's San Francisco Chapter, and Howard J. Berman, a San Francisco lawyer specializing in police abuse cases.

Defendants include the Police Commission, Police Chief Cornelius P. Murphy, Mayor Dianne Feinstein, and City Controller John C. Farrell.

ACLU attorney Schwartz and the plaintiffs have tried unsuccessfully for several months to persuade the Police Commission staff to change their interpretation of the charter language concerning the OCC budget.

Shanti Open House

The Shanti Project is proud to announce its community Open House to introduce the Honorary Board and staff on Friday, May 20, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Pride Center, 890 Hayes St.

The Shanti Project is a nonprofit, public benefit organization whose purpose is to provide

counseling to persons with life-threatening illnesses or persons who are grieving a loss.

The Shanti Project is currently contracted with the City of San Francisco to provide these services to persons with AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

GAY COP WINS

(Continued from page 1)

Cady — and both women and other minorities who are being weeded out of the academy — have been altered."

The police claimed that no conspiracy against Cady had been proven but Coles explains that this was not his contention. The discrimination incidents were scattered and evidently not part of any plot to "get" Cady.

Cady was at the top of his class when he attended the Kentucky Police Academy in the late

1960's. He became the police chief of the small Kentucky town where he lived. After serving in that capacity for 12 years he read about the Police Outreach Gay recruitment program in this city and moved here to join the police force.

Cady may now re-enter the police training program here, although that decision has not been made. Coles believes his client will face possible further difficulties if he decides to continue the training.

G. Mendenhall

'Playboy' Surveys Gay Sex

Love is Desired and Oral Sex is Preferred

by George Mendenhall

Love is given top priority by Gay men in this month's Playboy sex survey. Relationships are common but "open" in an allowance for outside sexual activity — which is frequent and usually oral. Both Gay and straight men are equally happy with their sex lives (62%) while bisexual men have difficulty fitting into two worlds.

"Gay men are just as happy as anyone else," Playboy concluded. "At least, once they've accepted a homosexual identity." Gay pride evidently extends to sex, as 80% of the Gay males said they were "good at sex." They had an amazingly large number of sex partners — giving "recreational sex" a growing significance in society.

Straights, the magazine reveals, tend to be more traditional in sexual practice and less experimental about sex. Gay men, it states, are probably more experienced in sex than any other group because of the large number of sex contacts. One of the reasons same-sex partners are better, the magazine emphasizes, is that women know what satisfies women and men know what satisfies men.

GAY MALE SEX

While Lesbians and bisexual women stress that they enjoy lengthy sex sessions the most, this does not seem to be the case with Gay men. Gay males have the largest number of sex partners than any surveyed category. "Lesbians are often waiting for Ms. Right to come along," and desire romance even more than straight women, according to the magazine.

One of the reasons that 39% of the Gay men state that they have had "over fifty lovers" is because of the availability of Gay

do it — but don't enjoy it. Anal sex is practiced by 75%, but only 20% do it every time — 40% more than once a week.

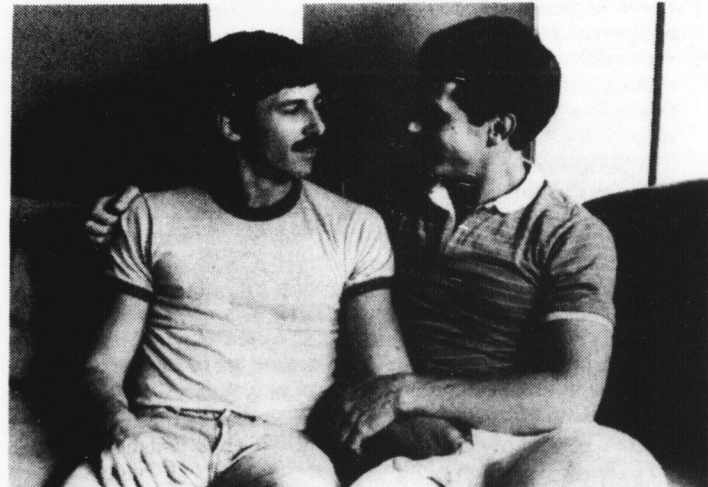
While 62% say they are happy with their sex lives (same as hetero men), 50% say they sometimes fake an orgasm during anal sex. This is attributed to the pressure to perform with so many partners.

It is not surprising that 76% of the Gay males state they have had sex with more than one sex partner in a 24-hour period. They also claim that they have sex two or three times a week or more (69%).

These results are based on the sexual activity of those who are doing it — but there are some who are not. A surprising 24% of those surveyed identified themselves as being "Gay" but claim they have had no such activity as adults. There are 3.4% who consider themselves "Gay" who have NEVER had a homosexual experience.

LOVE/RELATIONS

"Love" was not defined by Playboy and its definition is ambiguous in Webster's dictionary. To both heteros and Gay people, "loving" can mean affection and tenderness that comes from a longtime relationship and/or "quicker" anonymous sex. "Love," according to Webster, can mean "attraction based on sexual desire."



It's official? Playboy says Gay men are just as happy as anyone else — if they're out. (Photo: Rink)

sex in urban areas. Sexual activity in baths, "back rooms," bars, theatres, and clubs makes it easy to make contact. (It is not surprising that among these sexually active men one in three have had VD in the past five years — compared with one in ten among straight men).

Almost all Gay males masturbate (89%), although in preference they put oral sex first, anal sex second, and masturbation third. In partner relations, oral sex rates first, while 40% stimulate their partners in some way anally. Anal stimulation is four times greater than among hetero couples.

GOING DOWN?

Gay males revealed that three-quarters of them go down on their partners every time or almost every time they have sex. A reluctant 13% state that they

Gay men are often dubbed "promiscuous" because of their large number of sex partners. However, when asked to list in order their priorities, "Love" was at the top — followed by Friends, Money, Family, Sex, Work, and Leisure. This order was similar to those listed by bi and hetero men.

Many Gay men (38%) say they have a "relationship" that is primarily with one person and that has lasted more than four years. Almost 50% state that the bonding has been for over two

AIDS Forum Held

Ralph K. Davies Medical Center (Franklin Hospital) is sponsoring a public forum on AIDS on June 1, 1983. It will be held at 7 p.m. in the hospital auditorium, and is free to the public. There will be a panel of

years.

The survey revealed that 75% of those Gays with partners also have outside sexual experiences. Playboy concluded, "Compared with the rest of us, Gay men operate in sexual overdrive. But close analysis reveals that they value sexual exclusivity less than most other people, but that does not mean that they're not capable of love or commitment."

BISEXUAL MEN

Bisexual men have a bigger adjustment problem than any sexual category surveyed. While it appears that they have a broad choice of sex partners, they are basically hetero in practice and desire. Many straight women are turned off by the Gay side of their partners and known bi men are rejected in the Gay community. Thus, many remain closeted about the Gay side of their lives. "Developing a bisexual identity can be liberating," Playboy concludes, "but it can also be traumatic."

Studies reveal that more heteros are now experimenting with some Gay sex, but most bi people have relatively little Gay sex. Nineteen percent of the bi's stated that they had had no adult Gay contacts. Only 16% of the bi men state they have a pre-dominance of Gay sex. One-third are married. A low 50% of the bi men say they are satisfied with their sex lives. Playboy believes "many may be prospective homosexuals looking for an escape from heterosexual lives."

Bisexual women have less difficulties, as Lesbian activity intrigues straight men and a bi woman does not seem to experience much rejection among Lesbians.

The two-thirds of the bi men who are single have a relatively low number of sexual contacts. They masturbate more. Their sex with Gay partners is primarily oral. They prefer intercourse rather than oral sex with women. Evidently expressing the prejudice of society, 19% of those surveyed who said they were "bi" had not had adult Gay sex.

SEXUAL PEOPLE

Playboy hesitates to go all the way and support the increasing psychiatric theory that there is a very early determination of sexual preference. Many professionals now conclude that orientation is determined before the age of five years. Playboy hints that it might even be "before birth" but supports the idea that it is pre-adolescence.

Surveyed straight males state (30%) that they had some Gay relations while adolescent but became hetero. Gay males (75%) say they had adolescent same-sex relations and became Gay. Why didn't they all end up Gay? Playboy: "Probably because there's already another factor at work — a predisposition toward what their sexual preference will be."

In a society in which everything and everyone is classified, Playboy questions the validity of sexual labeling. It concludes, "There are straights who sleep only with straights. There are straights who sometimes sleep with Gays. There are Gays who sometimes sleep with straights and Gays who sleep only with Gays. Then there are the bisexuals. Placing labels on people may not make any sense at all. The old labels seem to be slipping off."

physicians, nurses, and other health care providers to answer questions which the general public may have.

The Forum will be held in the hospital auditorium on B level. For further information call Jim Norbot or Teresa Allen at 565-6071, Monday - Friday, or 565-6779.

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Walking a Tightrope: People Behind the Big Parties

Some Thrive, Some Sink — All the Same the Show Goes On

by Mike Hippler

San Francisco has long been a party town, and nobody in San Francisco knows how to party better than the Gay community. Gay men dance all night in weekend discos; they cavort on Castro on sunny afternoons. They celebrate freedom and pride in June; they dress up in drag in October. There are all kinds of parties given by all kinds of people, but by far the largest and most celebrated of these have been the "disco parties," open to the public — for a fee — and produced by an increasing number of entertainment impresarios in halls and auditoriums all over town.

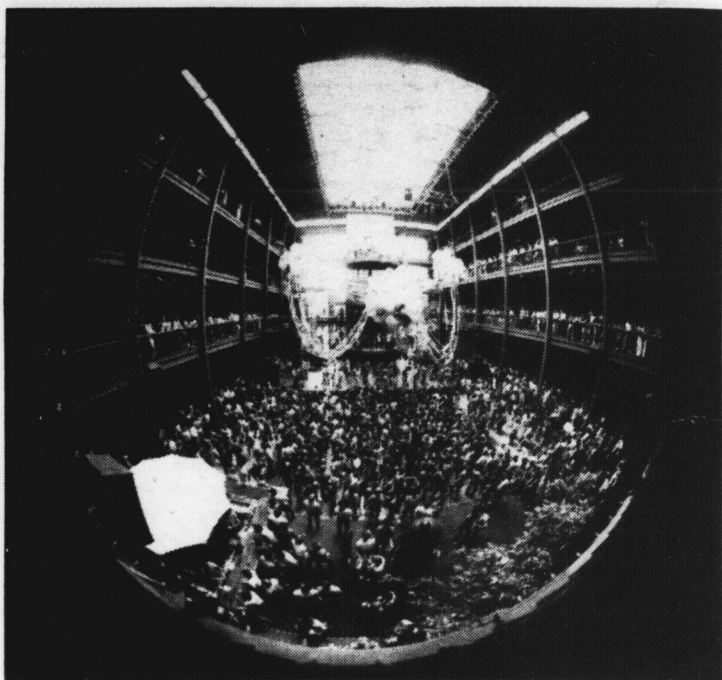
Originally the formula for these parties was basic — rent a suitable space, hire a popular DJ, bring in the sound and lights, charge a standard admission, put up posters, open the doors at 10 PM, and watch the faggots flock in.

Increasingly, however, as the party public has become more sophisticated and the competition has increased — there may be as many as three or four competing events on Gay Freedom Day, Halloween, or New Year's Eve. In a word, the nature of the party business has changed. Producers must go to greater and greater lengths to satisfy jaded party-goers and to best the competition. No longer can they expect — if, indeed, they ever could — instant success. These days the stakes are higher and the potential for disaster great. Many lose their shirts. But some still manage to create evenings that they hope their public will remember for years to come — and that will still net a few bucks for themselves when it's all over.

DAVID BANDY

Although he didn't produce the very first of these "mega-parties" — "Night Flight," produced by the late Michael Maletta at the old Gay Community Center on Grove Street in December 1977 — David Bandy was one of the first to recognize the potential of this new concept in entertainment for the Gay community and the first to profit handsomely from it. According to Bandy, "Night Flight" showed the Gay people of San Francisco that there was an alternative to the bars and the private disco clubs. Its successor, "The Stars Party," however, was "the greatest disaster of all time," he says. At \$30 a head, with all the money going into production and none into the party itself, Bandy and others felt cheated. He swore he could do a better job himself, and so, as a first anniversary present for his lover and a treat for his friends as well, Bandy and an acquaintance, Gary Roverena, produced a party they called "Salute to the Men of San Francisco" in August 1978.

With great insight, the two men rented the Galleria Design Center, a multi-level arts-and-business complex surrounding a central atrium, and charged only \$7 a person. Hoping for 900 people, Bandy was amazed and delighted when 3,000 showed up. The rest is legend. "Salute to the Men of San Francisco" was so popular that it became the first of five consecutive annual Salutes (with a sixth on the way) and led to the formation of Conceptual Entertainment, a company that has produced over thirty major entertainment events in the last four and a half years in locations ranging from Los Angeles to Reno and as diverse as Davies Symphony Hall and the Washoe County Fairgrounds.



The Galleria, shown here, has been a popular site for Gay "theme" parties. (Photo: M. Hicks)

Bandy, who no longer works with Roverena (they split up a year ago due to what Bandy calls "different business styles") is now the sole owner of Conceptual Entertainment and a phenomenally successful man. His parties have won several awards over the years, have been featured in countless newspaper and magazine articles, and have received rave reviews from writers and critics. In his own estimation, the highlights of this illustrious career have been "Sylvester at the Opera House," the first Gay event and the first disco event ever held in a U.S. opera house; "The Mothership Arrives at Griffith Park Observatory," at which a spaceship specially created by Disney Studios was suspended from a helicopter above the heads of astonished party-goers; the finale of the film *Can't Stop the Music*, he says "opened a lot of doors for me;" and the opening and closing ceremonies of the Gay Olympic Games, which he calls "a stunning and emotional event."

At present Bandy produces an average of five parties a year, which sell out days in advance. His parties consistently attract thousands of people — at the last five events he has turned away a minimum of 1,000 people each time, he claims — and enable him to earn what he calls "a good living." He is concerned, however, that people, ignorant of the high costs involved, will think that he makes unrealistic and inflated profits at his parties, which range in price from \$15 to \$35 to attend and cost from \$22,000 to \$70,000 to produce. When his partner resigned last year, it did double his income, but this, he says, allowed him to put more money into his parties and to lower their prices. His main objective, he continues, is to make sure people get their money's worth, no matter what the price. In order to insure that they do, he constantly makes changes and "loves constructive criticism," he claims.

Having "reached the pinnacle of success" in his profession, Bandy says he is a little tired of his Galleria parties — "They're not challenging anymore" — and so he is looking around for other directions to take. He is most excited about establishing a company to produce women's events, a company to be directed by Kate Doty and Beverly Bennett. He is also planning to manage and produce records for a rock group he recently discovered on a vacation to Seattle, the Forbes. Because he believes that disco is fading out, he wants to transform his disco parties into "social/entertainment/dance events" with a wider appeal (once the Civic Auditorium for a party the night before the Gay Freedom Day Parade. This was, however, in his own words, "not a successful party. The ticket price was too high, and besides, Civic Auditorium does not normally work for parties." Planning for a party like that is always "an absolute gamble," says Collier, for "there is no way you can know how many people are going to come. At the club [Troadero] I have a better idea, for I can look at my own track record. At a place like the Civic Auditorium, who knows?"

The major problem in mounting a huge party is the enormous expense involved, according to Collier. "People think you walk away with millions of dollars in your pocket. They don't understand," he says. "You have to give people the most reasonable ticket price and still make enough profit to be able to produce another party." Collier states that it costs him anywhere from \$150,000 to \$200,000 to produce a major event. That includes \$50,000 for the sound, \$40,000 for the lights, \$10,000 to \$15,000 for the rent of the room, and \$15,000 to \$20,000 for the union, labor, and advertising. In addition, the city takes 12% of the gross. No wonder ticket prices are so high, he says.

DICK COLLIER

Although Bandy claims not to be concerned about his competitors — "My attitude has always been that I have no competition" — some have been difficult to ignore. Dick Collier, Jr., who has owned the popular Troadero Transfer disco since it opened five years ago, is one of these. Collier threw his first big party that was unaffiliated with Troadero at the Cow Palace in 1979, a King Tut party that was a benefit for the de Young Museum's Downtown Center. Although he calls it a "fiasco" (Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

because the Downtown Center failed to mail out 85,000 invitations at the last minute, he was undaunted, and in January 1981, after two years of preparation, he and a partner, John Vukas, introduced the city's brand-new convention center, the Moscone Center, to the Gay community — and the Gay community to the center — at the mega-party to beat all mega-parties, "First Encounter."

Hailed as "The Event of the Decade" by the local Gay press, "First Encounter" attracted over 7,000 people and won a Cable Car Award for "Outstanding Theme Event of the Year." People flocked from all over the West Coast to see the new center and to marvel at the sheer power and numbers of such a crowd. However, the party was not without

explains Collier. "It blows the hell out of me to see that many people partying. To see seven to ten thousand people at a fun social event — that is exactly what it's about." One suspects, however, that there is more to it than that. Can that elusive high justly gambling with such great sums of money? "Well, you're always hoping to make money," says Collier. "And as long as you give people what they want, you'll always have a successful party."

SCHMALL & JOHNSON

Two of the most prolific producers in town, Joe Schmall and Jay Johnson of Joe's Shows, Inc., are relative newcomers to the scene. Schmall, a former road manager, and Johnson, once an employee of Headlines on Castro Street, first teamed up



David Bandy poses with disco diva Sylvester at one of his previous San Francisco extravaganzas. (Photo: Rink)

not for a disco party but for a dog show — the First Annual Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence Dog Show on Castro Street in October 1981. They enjoyed producing that event so much that soon they were in the party business full-swing, producing over ten events in a year and a half at locations such as the Harrison Street Theater (formerly Dreamland), California Hall, and even an old brewery, Hamm's. Their largest party to date has been the Second Annual Dog Show, which 7,000 people attended, drawn partly, no doubt, by the appearance of Shirley MacLaine. Their most successful party has been "Return Engagement" in October 1982, which sold out to 1,500 people eager to see Dreamland, once a popular disco, again.

Unfortunately, there have been flops as well, most notably a tribute to Marilyn Monroe in November 1982. Schmall and Johnson are candid about their failures, but they point out that there are different kinds of success. Some parties are successful financially, others in numbers alone, and others because "they clicked, and people still talk about them," says Johnson. "Sure, some lost money, but we were setting up a business and we were willing to take that risk." And it is a risky business — there is no doubt about that. Joe's Shows invests from \$12,000 to \$18,000 in each party, and "there is always the potential for disaster," says Schmall. "People think we're millionaires, but the majority of people in this business are broke." Adds Johnson, "Lots of people get into it and think it's easy, but it's not. They produce one show and that's it. Only a few are doing parties successfully and continually, and we are one of those." Other producers aren't so convinced of this, however. Because Joe's Shows recently moved out of their highly visible Castro Street offices and took a three-month hiatus "to recuperate" from a

flurry of end-of-the-year parties, rumors were rife all over town that they had gone bankrupt. "But we haven't," promises Johnson. "We've got lots of plans."

Among those plans are to go national — to take their shows on the road, to do annual events, and to branch out from disco parties and solely Gay crowds. Sound familiar? Perhaps party producers think alike. They also want to continue doing the unique, rather special events for which they have become known, such as "5'6"; the short people's party; the "Man Show," the first party with Mr. America-type competition; and "Let's Dance," an all-women's event on which they lost money but which they claim was worth it, for "it was the first time women had been involved in something like this before, and it was exciting." Eventually Schmall would like to become "the Gay Bill Graham," a producer of enormous power and, presumably, wealth. In the meantime, however, he'll be content just to make a profit.

CROTEAU & GILLAM

One of the production companies that has found it necessary to produce parties outside of San Francisco in order to make a profit is Nightshift Productions, headed by Dennis Croteau, 25, and Jerry Gillam, 37. Forming in March 1981, they produced their first party, "Nightshift," at the Probe in Los Angeles in June. Why L.A.? "There were too many people throwing parties up here," explains Croteau from his San Francisco office, "and L.A. didn't have anyone doing parties down there." Attracting 600 people on a Thursday night, "Nightshift" was a financial success, so Croteau and Gillam went on to produce another party at the Probe, two at the Palace in Los Angeles, and one at the River Club (formerly 12 West) in New York — all in 1982.

The largest of Nightshift's parties was "Evolution" on Labor Day weekend at the Palace, which 2,000 people attended. All have made money, Croteau claims, except one, "Dreams." Agreeing with Collier and Schmall, Croteau says, "You can lose your ass on these parties," which cost him from \$20,000 to \$40,000 to produce. And as noted before, the producers seldom get rich. "There are a lot of people who think Jerry and I are just loaded. A lot that I own this house. I do get my living expenses out of this, but that's about it. I'm probably poorer than you." Nevertheless, there are plans for more parties, and Croteau is determined to produce one at home. "If David Bandy, Dick Collier, and I all put on three separate, independent parties the same night in San Francisco, there shouldn't be any reason why all three of us shouldn't be busy. Look at the thousands of people at 'First Encounter,' for instance. So we're going to do our next one in San Francisco in a place where no one has ever thrown a party before sometime in the near future."

Over and over again, producers tell the same theme: it costs a fortune to produce these parties, the potential for disaster is great, few make much money at it, and yet everyone wants to continue, to branch out. Has anyone, then, lost so much money that he has been forced to quit the business? What of those people who produce one show and are never heard from again? Where are the horror stories one hears about?

TERRY MONOHAN

Terry Monohan of Terry Photo Studios, whose main business is body-building photogra-

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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:

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Sister Boom-Boom

Where He's Been, and Where He's Going Now

by Kevin Styers

Jack Fertig's ideology has a wide range of parameters: Pagan religion, ritual magic, astrology and certain pertinent aspects of Christianity. "I have accepted Jesus into my pantheon," Fertig said, and indicated that Jesus would have a place next to the Greek goddess Athena and the Roman god Neptune. A pantheon is a temple built to many gods.

Fertig's best known alias is Sister Boom-Boom, one of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. The Sisters are a group of men in nun drag and outrageous makeup who do "good deeds" in the Gay community — like fighting venereal disease by dispensing literature at public gatherings.

Fertig raised concurrent years and nays last year when, as Boom-Boom, he ran for supervisor and pulled in nearly 25,000 votes. His recent appearance on the 60 Minutes segment covering the recall election, however, was less popular.

Widely disdained by both the Gay and straight communities, the 60 Minutes segment, hosted by anchorman Morley Safer, portrayed San Francisco as a "theater of the absurd," composed of "quirky" and "sleazy" people.

"To illustrate this point," wrote B.A.R. reporter George Mendenhall in a recent article, "the Gay community was scapegoated with visuals, [including] Jack Fertig in his 'Sister Boom-Boom' drag."

"The 60 Minutes interview was better than I expected," Fertig said. "I think they're improving." Fertig thinks that "a lot of queens expect to be loved overnight by the press," and that "these kinds of things don't happen." He compares negative media coverage of Gays to that of the Blacks.

"For many years the only Blacks on television were Amos and Andy," he said. "The Gays will have to go through a lot of shit, too."

Responding to a charge that his appearance in the segment may have hurt the image of the Gay community, Fertig contradicted his earlier appraisal of the program:

"The presentation would have been demeaning whether I was in it or not," he said. "They can make the most respectable people look like sleaze-balls."

"But," he concluded, "we might have given them some-



Sister Boom Boom — in her familiar drag — with Gay activist Greg Day. (Photo: Rink)

thing to think about for the next special."

Asked if such negative media coverage might hurt the Gay community's chances for federal AIDS research funds, Fertig appeared at a loss for an answer, other than, "If I thought my appearance would hurt the Gay community, I wouldn't have done it."

Sitting in the bedroom of his California Street apartment, surrounded by astrological charts and symbols, numerous pictures of the Sisters, and a wall plastered with souvenir buttons, Fertig waxed on at length about his religious beliefs and civic responsibilities. His head was covered with a layer of red fuzz, after being shaved, and his eyes were widely expressive. Combined with his penchant for breaking into short bursts of song, the overall image was a bizarre one.

Born in Chicago to agnostic

but civic-minded parents, Fertig grew up there and in Washington, D.C. He was "always personally religious," he said, and did his own research into religion. Early on, he became interested in Greek mythology.

"The Greek gods are just as valid as the others," he said. In 1968 he played a series of female leads in plays at an all-boy summer camp, then went through a period when he "looked down my nose" at effeminacy.

"But as I got older I saw it as a part of the range of human expression," Fertig said. "And saw it as necessary to gain valuable insights."

He moved to Berkeley in 1972 to school, but dropped out soon after. He became involved in Gay community politics in the Gay Student Union at UC, the Pacific Center, and Metropolitan Community Church. He said he was one of the founding members of KPFA's radio talk show, "Fruit Punch."

In 1976 he moved to San Francisco, and "pulled together" the Butterfly Brigade — civilian street patrols in the Castro — which was a forerunner of Community United Against Violence.

"My nun-consciousness began in the Brigade," Fertig said, "when I met Sister Assunta Femia, a fag-nun who is regarded as the Rev. Mother of us all."

Fertig defines "nun-consciousness" as "one's own self-consciousness as a nun — to me, that means a calling from God that is a call through the androgyny of God and creation."

Declaring that he was a "Tibetan nun in another life," Fertig moved into the "convent of the Sisters of the Holy Face of Jesus as revealed to Saint Tuna," in the Noe Valley, above a straight bar called O'Greenberg's.

The "order" faltered, and Fertig joined another headed by Sister Rhondo DuMarie. Fertig became Sister Loboto DuMarie. Head-Sister Rhondo worked in the New York City Deli, and saw an ad one day from the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence which



Sister Boom Boom — as Jack Fertig with shaved head. (Photo: Rink)

(Continued on next page)

Sha'ar Zahav to Purchase Building

by Wayne April

Sha'ar Zahav, one of the city's two Gay Jewish congregations, has completed negotiations for the purchase of their first synagogue, a Mormon temple at 201 Caselli Street in the Castro. The congregation will use the facility for the next five months under a lease/purchase agreement and on October 15 will purchase the building outright for \$200,000 cash, according to Don Albert, chairman of the building committee.

The Mormons will continue to hold their services in the building on Sunday mornings until October. Albert said they are well aware of the fact that Sha'ar Zahav is a Gay Jewish group.

The current Mormon congregation is small and older and no longer able to support the building. The structure has been up for sale for quite a while, according to Albert.

Sha'ar Zahav will be renewing their building fundraising campaign after about a year of inactivity due to internal problems within the congregation. The problems resulted in the formation of the city's second Gay Jewish group — Shabot Shalom.

The original building campaign was aimed at a former synagogue on Bush Street, but that choice was scuttled due to delays that the current occupants have encountered in moving out and by the fact that the building is very large and in very poor condition.

Sha'ar Zahav's building fund has about \$48,000 in it and another \$82,000 pledged. Albert said that now that a building has been located, the pledges will be pursued and the balance raised before the October 15 deadline.

"We're very excited about this," he said. "We've been looking for a home for three or four years."



Mormon Temple to become Gay Jewish synagogue. (Photo: Rink)

Troc Benefit for Parade

Trocadero Transfer will be holding a fundraiser, the parade committee's largest, on May 21st with all door proceeds benefitting the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee from 9:00-Midnight, after which the Trocadero will be

open for business as usual.

The door charge during the three hours that the parade committee will be receiving the proceeds will be \$5.00. The name of the party is "A Night to Remember," in commemoration of the White Night Riots, which took place May 21, 1979.

profit and can't support his political activities.

"We certainly support his individual pursuits even though we may not always agree on specific issues."

Fertig said he issued several disclaimers during his supervisor campaign, disassociating himself from the Sisters. He compares himself to Carole Migden and her involvement with Operation Concern.

"There is no rift between us," Fertig said. "The Sisters are non-profit and must remain non-political — and my nun-consciousness calls for me being political."

Trying to reach the Sisters for comment on the rift was no easy task. Fertig would only supply the number of their "mistress of communications," a man known only as "Sadie Sadie Rabbi Lady."

"The order feels close to Sister Boom-Boom," said Rabbi Lady, "and whether we believe in his activities or not, we are non-

profit and can't support his political activities.

"Her political activities don't affect Operation Concern, and mine don't affect the Sisters," Fertig said.

"I never even ran specifically as a Gay candidate," he said. "I never once said I was Gay, because I wasn't there to make an issue of Gay or drag, but one of free creativity."

Answering a charge that he has become "star-struck," Fertig said, "Those who call me that are the ones who are star-struck, and they should get over it. I'm rather amused by the whole business."

He went on to say that most people didn't even know his real name during the supervisor campaign. "I want Jack Fertig to be a quiet person, and Sister Boom-Boom to be consciousness-raising."

"I truly treasure anonymity and privacy," he said.

Fertig said he is considering the mayoral race in November — "I'd be a shoo-in to come in second" — but won't do it unless it "accomplishes something positive in the Gay community."

"I may be a mad drag queen, but I'm not stupid," he said. "I have a lot of political savvy."

Kevin Styers

Lamble Talk Show Covers Milk Birthday

by Kevin Styers

Youth liberation, the May 21st riot, and Harvey Milk's birthday head up the topics for Saturday night's edition of The David Lamble Talk Show on KGO-FM (FM 104). From 7:05 to 9 p.m. David's guests will be 32-year-old Janet Bellwether and 15-year-old Cathryn Maurer, both eager to discuss the rights of young people, sexual and otherwise. From 9:05 to 10 p.m. the discussion will focus on the impending release from prison of Dan White on the fourth anniversary of the City Hall riot to protest his manslaughter sentence for the City Hall killings of Harvey Milk and George Moscone.

Sunday night's talk will turn to being Lesbian and Gay and "out" on the job. From 7:05 to 8 p.m. Gay senior Ted Rolfs will review his own job history which has included work as an openly Gay merchant seaman. From 8:05 to 10 p.m. Ed Sebesta of L/GAES (Lesbian & Gay Scientists) will discuss strategies for being out and still keeping your job and peace of mind. Listeners are invited to call the program at 928-0104.

Lesbian Rights Project Holds Dinner

On Friday, June 3, 1983, from 5-7:30 p.m., supporters of the Lesbian Rights Project will be celebrating the LRP's Fifth Anniversary at a benefit in the elegant Wattis Founders Room at Davies Symphony Hall. The hors d'oeuvres, champagne and wine will be catered by Narsai's of Kensington, and there will be entertainment. The cost of a ticket is a \$50.00 tax-deductible contribution.

For more information call 621-0675.

Gay Jews Hold Int'l Conference

The Eighth International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews will be held in Miami August 4-7 this year.

For registration information, contact the Eighth International Conference Committee, 19094 W. Dixie Hwy., N. Miami Beach, FL 33180.

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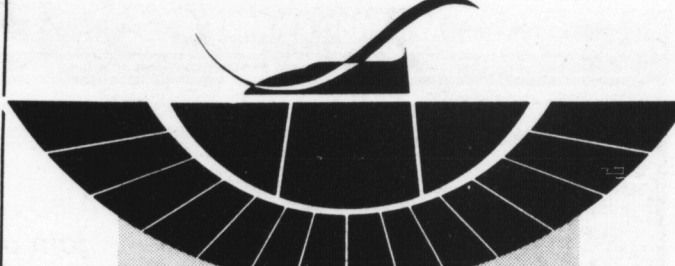
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A 3-Part Series
TRANSSEXUALS:
 Shaking the Myths and Misconceptions
 About Gender Crossing

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 third 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.

Part III
ANITA HOUSEMAN:
 The Lawyer Who Crossed De Fence
 Anita is a 34-year old lawyer who also remodels houses from scratch. She specializes in gender law cases and when not working on those, her house repair work keeps her busy.
 One of her sincere concerns is "being read." That's when people note with either their eyes or, in ruder cases, with their mouths that they perceive the woman before them to be a transsexual.
 "Because some of my features are still masculine and because of my height, I sometimes get called on it — usually in court by an opposing lawyer who thinks he can trip me up by upsetting me casually. When this does happen, I demand respect and get it as an officer of the court. The other lawyer will sneeringly refer to me as "he" and I will correct him until he stops. After a few times he does.
 "For the most part it is business as usual in court. When the other side gets so caught up in their bigoted behavior, it messes up their case. They wind up spending most of their time defending that they aren't bigoted," explains Anita.
 "Slowly I am building up confidence not to be bothered by people's stupid remarks. I was at a grocery store buying beer and this middle-aged Black woman was the clerk. Halfway through the transaction she just started laughing. I figured out why she was laughing, but since her opinion didn't concern me, I didn't let it become an incident by calling her on it."
 But recently Anita lost a repair job because she was perceived as a woman. My landlord, who's an insurance agent, told me of a man who needed his fence to be fixed. I went over and talked to him about doing it and he said he would let me know. My landlord then told me that the man decided against me because he thought I was too weak and frail for the job — he thought a strong man should do it. I lost money, but it was a compliment to me that I was perceived as a woman," says Anita, who is actually ruggedly built with large hands and feet and obvious muscles.
 "My afternoons are spent on house projects and running to the lumberyards and hardware stores. At these places, where the construction workers and blue collar people are, I am most accepted, surprisingly. It's great! They say, "Can I help you with that load, young lady? Need a hand getting that into your car?" They just think it's great that a woman can come out and do these "man's things." It brightens up their days.
 "I've learned, though, to act a bit dumb in hardware stores. I let them find parts I need by pretending not to know them. I let them carry heavy loads to the

truck for me," the six-foot-one, 170-pound Anita notes.
 "I have seen how women can be treated by men, but for me it's okay being a little subservient because it has relieved the burdens of holding up the masculinity end.
 Anita was a married man for four years before finally crossing over. She notes somewhat whimsically, "Now I go through more makeup than my sister has done in her entire life. She is very masculine and is a P.E. coach, the old classic women's P.E. instructor. She can dress like a man and is not considered a pervert. I do it and that double standard of dressing is revealed. In fact, this double
 Add Dr. Paul Walker: "Change of sex operations are so sophisticated today that they are as routine as other elective sur-

standard is why transvestism exists — why it is a closet fetish.
 "If you can put your clothes away and say I don't have time for this until later and not be obsessed with it, then that's transvestism. If you can't wait to get back into women's clothes, then that's a sure sign of transsexualism. TV's can't hassle with all that it takes to be a woman all the time. They can compartmentalize their lives. If you find someone who dresses very provocatively, like a hooker or a little girl, who dresses fetishistically, he is most likely a transvestite, not a transsexual," explains Anita.
 As for sexual interaction with men, that's a whole new ballgame (no pun intended) for her. "I did find that relating to a body that was hairy, not smooth, was not unpleasant and had an erotic edge that I had not experienced before. I'm taking this one step at a time, though."
 Pointing out the still existing dichotomy between men and women in the job world, Anita has noticed a sharp drop in her income. She feels, though, that it's a small price to pay for happiness.
 She comes from a small upstate city in California where her family still lives. "So far my family has been reluctant to accept me. They continue to say 'he' or use my former male name and other forms of denial. They pretend this obvious change doesn't exist. We had a very good relationship before I moved away, but the core of my family

measure.
 In arguing for the bill Marks stated, "I believe that we must have a society in which there is equality for everyone. It is shocking for a state such as California, which prides itself on being progressive, to condone any form of discrimination. I will continue to speak out against injustice until we have eradicated all discrimination."

But operations are expensive, costing from \$6,000 to \$15,000 each. Then the transsexual must go on an expensive maintenance program of hormones for the rest of their lives. In addition, many must visit psychologists and psychiatrists for an adjustment period prior to and after the operation. For the men there is the added expense of electrolysis for permanent hair removal which can amount to thousands of dollars.
 "As you can see," Walker continues, "people must feel fairly certain about what they are doing which is why there is a waiting period of one to two years before an operation, during which time the potential transsexual undergoes analysis and dresses and acts as the opposite sex to get comfortable with it.
 "For men during this period they have the chance to see if living as a woman, dating as a woman, does or doesn't solve their problems. This is the time they realize if they are Gay, Bi, transvestite, or a bona fide transsexual. The trial run year gives people a chance to confront themselves. After all, scalpels don't get one any better boy-friends or jobs.
 "I would say that 40 percent of potential transsexuals are guilt-ridden Gays — it is learned guilt. The real honest-to-God TS's are partially biologically prone, which means that 60 percent are true transsexuals from the start for whom an operation is the right course," Dr. Walker told B.A.R.

ON THE JOB:
GAY PEOPLE AT WORK
 Corporate Closets

ARTHUR LAZERE, C.P.A.
 The reality of the Gay experience. An example is the continuing reference to one's "roommate" rather than "lover." (But that might be a parallel phenomenon to the frequently heard line, "I don't care if you are Gay, as long as you don't talk about it." "Flaunt" can be substituted for "talk" depending on the degree of homophobia in the speaker.)
 Hall sees coming out as a psychological quest for authenticity, the need to be perceived as a whole person by others as well as to be whole within oneself. However, the process does not guarantee the desired results. It has been the experience of many Lesbians and Gays that, having come out, they are no longer perceived by others as individuals, but as a category, lumped together in a group. Individual differences are flattened and the individual becomes tokenized. Ironically, instead of finding the unique identity which each human being is, the lie of the closet is replaced with the shallowness imposed by a label.
 "Coming out" is, then, an artificial concept, a relative rather than an absolute act. In the corporate workplace, "coming out" is not so much the issue as the careful management of this piece of personal information. At one extreme is the individual who totally conceals all evidence of sexual orientation from everyone. But most people relax the secrecy a bit with, perhaps, a Gay colleague in the office or a trusted, sympathetic non-Gay associate. Hall's observation is that only those with a strong Gay support system of Gay co-workers or Gay clients or Gay employers come out to the other extreme of a totally upfront position. Most people, especially in large corporate organizations, don't have such support systems and, therefore, practice a constant balancing and information management process, with bits of "leakage" now and then. These are subtle and delicate maneuverings, "almost as automatic as the fine adjustments the eye makes to changing light." These reactions have been so internalized over a Gay person's experience that many behave in this manner without any conscious awareness of the process, and further, without understanding the seriously counterproductive stress created by the situation. Some even deny that they behave in this way. They say in the same breath: "I'm not in the closet; well, nobody really knows..."
 Sometimes the closet is breached in an impulsive way, perhaps an unconscious attempt to relieve some of the stress of secrecy. Other times information slips out inadvertently. But it is always a real and a deeply emotional problem for the Lesbian or Gay employee to cope with. And even when openly "out," there is often a deliberate avoidance of confronting others at work with

because the reality is threatening and admission of that reality might force consideration of difficult alternatives — coming out or changing jobs or even changing careers.
 The phrase "coming out" is a tricky one. Its meaning seems to vary depending on who is using the term. There seem to be changes in its usage over time as well as in different places. In my experience "coming out" initially was used (New York City, late 1960's) to mean acknowledging to oneself that one was Gay and acting upon that recognition. Later, it seemed to mean being upfront with other Gays — and in New York one could do that without much worrying about being found out in the non-Gay parts of one's life. Life in New York is highly fragmented.
 "Most of the subjects Hall has studied seem unwilling to acknowledge that being Gay and closeted in the workplace has any important effect on them. Yet, when asked how they thought things would be different if they worked in an all-Gay company, the responses were: "I would be more relaxed," "I would aspire to a higher level," "I would be more myself." Most of these people were surprised at their own responses to this question. The responses belied the earlier denials.
 Why the contradiction? The closet is a deception, a lie. Living a lie is difficult and unpleasant. There is always the threat of being caught in the lie, a stressful situation. And acknowledgement of being in an inferior position. The act of hiding goes hand in hand with low self esteem. So the reaction of people who find themselves in this bind is to deny the reality that they are experiencing — that, indeed, they are at a disadvantage in the workplace, that they suffer from additional stress, that their legitimate ambition and creativity are inhibited. Only by approaching the issue with an indirect question did the reality of their experience come to the surface. Consciously, these people really do believe that being Gay hasn't made a difference. They have convinced themselves of this

Stonewall Gay Democratic Club has launched a petition drive aimed at impressing Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler with the need for increased funding for AIDS research and health care. Secretary Heckler will be visiting San Francisco May 24 and the club will attempt to have the petitions presented to her during that visit.
 "Secretary Heckler is in charge of both the National Institutes for Health and the

Center for Disease Control. We need to impress upon her at every opportunity that many lives depend on these and other agencies immediately disbursing increased funds in response to the AIDS medical crisis," stated club President Paul Boneberg.
 Volunteers to help circulate the petitions are needed particularly for the Haight Street Fair and Harvey Milk Birthday Party, Sunday, May 22nd. To volunteer to circulate a petition, phone 626-1245 or 552-4287.

Stonewall Launches AIDS Petition In Response to Heckler Visit

Stonewall to Hold "Fire Sale"
 Stonewall Gay Democratic Club announced today that it will hold a "Fire Sale" to benefit the club on Saturday, May 21st. 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 for sale or for more information contact the club at 864-6036 or 626-1245.

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Law Schools Adopt Policies Against Discrimination

At least eight law schools, including Stanford, have quietly adopted policies against discrimination in admissions based on sexual orientation, according to Jamie Henderson, president of the Stanford Gay Law Students Association.

The Stanford Law School Bulletin for 1982-83 states: "It is the policy of Stanford Law School not to discriminate on the basis of handicaps or sexual orientation in its educational program or in its admissions policy."

Columbia, Golden Gate, Harvard, Hastings, Pennsylvania, the University of Southern California and Wayne State have similar official policies, Henderson reports.

Columbia, Harvard, New York University, Wayne State, Yale, and UCLA also have public policies against discrimination based on sexual orientation in their placement programs. Disputes over Army recruitment have arisen at several of these schools because of Army policies against employment of homosexuals, he notes.

While many law schools have stated privately that they do not discriminate in admissions on the basis of sexual orientation, explicit public statements can assure applicants who might not otherwise mention affiliations or activities that could reveal their sexual orientation, Henderson believes.

"Gays will come here, with or without an official policy," he adds. But without an explicit statement, they could be at a slight disadvantage in gaining admission.

Besides the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford (GLAS) and the Gay Law Student Association, there now is a Gay Business Student Association, Gay Medical Student Association, Gay Faculty-Staff Association, and a Gay counseling group at the Bridge, a peer counseling organization at the University.

About 600 Harvard alumni have organized a half dozen Gay clubs across the country, according to Henderson. Similar networks are being formed by Yale, Princeton, Cornell, and Notre Dame alumni, as well as Stanford graduates, he adds.

It is in the best interest of universities to "deal carefully with issues" surrounding sexual orientation, Henderson says. Considerable progress can and has been made without major controversy.

He commented on the national changes during a meeting with University attorneys discussing a proposed scholarship offer from GLAS. Still under consideration, the proposed scholarship would go to a medical student committed to service in the Gay and Lesbian community. Recipients could be male or female, and would not be restricted on the basis of sexual orientation, according to GLAS.

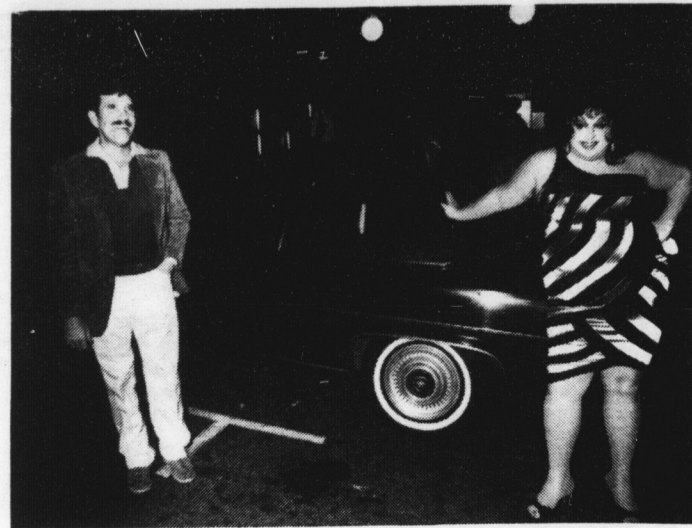
Counseling experience with an organization helping a predominantly Gay population, service on a venereal disease hotline or research in Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) were cited as hypothetical examples of individual activities which might be taken into account in such an award.

The People Behind the Big Parties

(Continued from page 12)

phy, is quite frank about the disappointing results of his first and only party, the "First Annual U.S.A. Bodybuilder's Party: Muscles '82," held last July at the Japan Center Theater in San Francisco. Expecting three to four thousand people, he sold only 800 or 900 tickets and made no money at all. There were many reasons for this. First, "I should never have rented the Japan Center Theater," he says, "which charged too much and imposed too many advertising restrictions." Second, "I should have charged \$15 a person rather than \$25. People just don't have the money and think it's a rip-off to charge that much." Next, it was held at the wrong time of the year, a week before the Gay Rodeo in Reno and a week after the Gay Night at Circus Vargas. "I never saw so many parties and events as last year," says Monohan, and that hurt. In addition, people were intimidated because they thought the party was just for body-builders. "My posters were responsible for that," he says. Finally, Monohan admits that he simply overestimated. Nevertheless, he feels that the party was "a good publicity thing for my studio," and yes, he too plans to do another — but this time he'll go to L.A., and he won't do all the financing himself. He'd even like to take his show on the road to Houston, Atlanta, Miami, Denver, and Seattle — all places ripe for the party scene. So even though Monohan may appear as a one-shot producer to others, as far as he is concerned, he isn't.

There have been disasters, of course. By all accounts, "Celestial Lords," a science fiction/disco extravaganza held at the

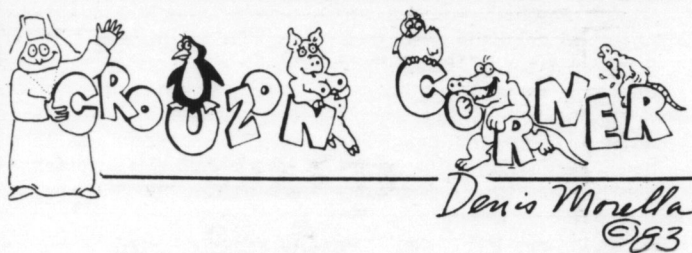


Dick Collier with one of his entertainers — Divine! (Photo: Rink)

Galleria for three separate nights over the course of the Gay Olympics opening weekend, was one. "That was even a bigger disaster than mine," one producer disclosed. "It was simply too Las Vegas for San Francisco." Another was the recent "Erotic Exotic Ball," produced in February by John Vukas of the Alive and Hot Company, formerly Dick Collier's partner. Vukas' mistake, according to one competitor, was to attempt to unite the Gay, straight, and Chinese communities under one roof. "They are just too different," he said. "It doesn't work." His other mistake was his decision to feature the Village People. "Can you imagine?" asked another rival. "Who listens to them anymore?" Vukas hasn't given up and still has plans for more parties, he says, but his chances of success at the last one so disturbed his former partner that Collier took out a full-page ad in one of the Gay papers and disassociated himself in print from any connection with the Alive and Hot Company. He didn't want his own reputation tarnished by any hint of failure.

One party that was such a disaster that it had to be canceled at the last minute was the one planned in conjunction with the Gay Night at Circus Vargas, sponsored by Aryae Levy of Great Outdoors Adventures, formerly a Gay hiking and touring club. Supposedly, Levy wanted to produce a party on the scale of "First Encounter" at Pier 3 at Fort Mason, a mammoth space on the waterfront, and he enlisted the aid of Joe's Shows to help him. "Once we saw the space, however, we knew it would never work," explained Johnson. "We would have lost a fortune. And so we pulled out. We never had a firm commitment or a contract anyway." So few tickets were sold in advance that the party was canceled, and many think that it was this ill-planned venture that sank GOA, causing it to go out of business.

M. Hippler



G 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

Helping the KS Coffers

NEZ PAS

REYNARDISTIC PARAMOURS? (A Nose Behind the 8-Ball!)

An appreciative and enthusiastic crowd helped the KS Foundation's coffers Sunday, May 8, at the Lake Lounge. Hosted by Foxy Ladies II and III, Nova and Little Mother, the abundant buffet and entertainment helped to encourage those in attendance to part with their dollars for raffle tickets.

Nova and Lady Cathy performed several numbers throughout the afternoon, and the raffles were held between the sets. One highlight of the day was when Big Chuck (Berry's) won a month's wake-up service. Someone in the crowd (you don't think it was I, do you?) shouted out, "How will they know which house to call?" Little Mother fell on the floor at that one.

Hats off to the hard-working duo, and also to Fred for allowing them the use of the Lake Lounge. Yours truly won the very last raffle... an 8-ball fortune teller. Was that apropos, or what?

From a very reliable source, I've learned that since she is doing such a magnificent job this year, Little Mother is going to run again... for Foxy Lady IV! I can't begin to imagine who ordered her to!

COUP DE MAITRE! (A Losing Nose?)

Talk about taking coals to Newcastle! Last year Oakland's bushel of booze raffle was won by Eddie Paulson of Big Mama's. This year's treasured liquor was won by Hagatha of Revol. When are the rest of us going to get a chance at the prestigious potables?

RHUBARBS CUE! (A Bridged Nose?)

Round eight of the East Bay pool tournament is Monday, May 23. All games start at 7:30 PM. The matching this time is: Turf Club at White Horse, Inbetween at Big Mama's, Revol at Driftwood, and Lake Lounge at Ollie's.

Game 6 results were: Ollie's 9, Inbetween 4; Turf 11, Driftwood 5; Revol 8, White Horse 8; and Big Mama's 14, Lake Lounge 2.

JOCUND PUGNACITY! (A Dribbled Nose?)

A challenge has been thrown at (in, to, upon?) Oakland — from Hayward! Danny, of Big Mama's, is organizing a basketball game between the hoopmen of his city against the cagers (if any) from our city. He is calling it "Dribble Before You Shoot Basketball Classic" and the Pom Pons and Raw Rahs have agreed to entertain.

Hayward's team is already practicing, so Oakland had better get on the ball. Players and a coach are needed. If you have skill in basketball (or even if you don't), and want to represent our fair city, contact Cathy at the Lake Lounge or John at Revol.

The big challenge takes place on Wednesday, June 15, at the Hayward High Gym, beginning at 7 PM. Tickets will sell for \$4,

with all monies going to AIDS/KS. Our team has to be organized and starting to practice on or before June 1.

We've let too many challenges go uncartelred... maybe this time we can get our poopoo together and whip the pants off Hayward! For further information, contact Danny at Big Mama's.

THINGS TO PLAN FOR! (Gads! A Busy, Busy Nose!)

Atrous/Wan Factotum: BWMT, East Bay, is planning a hike and potluck picnic in the East Bay on Saturday, May 21. For information and directions, call Mike, 763-1591.



The new King of Hearts, Dean Weiner, and Lady Cha Cha. (Photo: Rink)

Nocturnal Enjoyment: Queen of Hearts V Cathy is presenting "An Evening Off Broadway" on Sunday, May 22. This will be a benefit for Children's Hospital Cancer Treatment. The \$10 ticket includes dinner, raffle, and entertainment. It all starts at 7 PM at Tom Vetrano's Roxy Roadhouse, 601 Eddy, in San Francisco.

Minnesingers: "I Sing the Body Electric" is an evening of singing presented by the Temescal Gay Men's Chorus in concert with the Gay Men's Chorus of Santa Barbara. This concert takes place on Saturday, June 4, 8 PM, at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave. in Berkeley. They are requesting a \$5 donation.

Nummeristic Chiffonier: Saturday, June 4, is also the night of two — two — two shows in one! The 3rd Annual Closet Ball (with MC's Pat Montclair and Mr. Cha Cha), and the 4th Annual Mr./Miss Gay & Foxy Lady of Alameda County (with MC's Carlos and Miss Gay World, Margo) will be held at Ollie's Radclyffe Hall. Doors will open at 6, with the function beginning at 7 PM. Proceeds from the \$5 donation will go to

Oakland's Pom Pons and "winning" float!

Coppice Vagary: The Second Annual Lumberjack Event will be held on Sunday, June 5, at the Bench & Bar, starting at 4 PM. If you remember all the fun of last year's, you surely won't want to miss it this time around! I'm sure that there will be new, and more exciting, "games" planned to keep everyone interested... and excited! There IS something very sexy about a hunky lumberjack!

Narcissistic Polemics: You've heard about it; now YOU can see it with your very own disbelieving eyes! The funniest thing in town will be on Saturday, June 11, at the Lake Lounge. Mama Chuckles' 4th Annual Miss \$1.98 Beauty Pageant will have for MC's Joanna Caron, Carlos, Miss Gay World Margo, and Roger of the Stallion. There will be fun, food, and yet another Bushel of Booze! Also, lots of raffles...

DRIVER COURTESY

Try to avoid the scene, my friend. Even though given the leeway. It's really quite rude if you rear end. Unconscious gay men on the freeway.

— Woolly

MCC Art Auction

An Art Exhibition and Auction will be held on Friday, May 27 as a benefit for the Metropolitan Community Church of San Jose. Original graphics, oils and watercolors by well-known artists (Dali, Miro, Chagall, Picasso, Hinte) will be featured. A piece of fine art will be given as a door prize. The exhibition is at 7 PM; the auction at 8 PM. Admission is free, and the event will be at McCabe Hall in the San Jose Convention Center. Info: 279-2711.

Santa Rosa Prom

For the second year, the Lesbian and Gay resource network proudly presents Prom '83. This year's Prom '83 will be Saturday, May 28, 8 PM to 1 AM at The Sons of Norway Hall, 617 W. 9th St. in Santa Rosa, California.

Last year's prom was one of the most popular events in the North Bay, and LGRN is planning on making Prom '83 even better! Funk or '50's? Formal wear can be worn to fit this year's theme, "Sonoma Bandstand". There will be live entertainment, D.J. dancing, beer, wine, portrait photos, raffles, plant auctions, dance contests, to name just a few of the many activities planned.

Mail order tickets are available and for more information, please call Steve McCann at (707) 527-0604, or write Steve at 2471 Westvale Ct., Santa Rosa, CA., 95401.

All proceeds go to LGRN's future Community Center and activity fund.

Tribute in San Jose

Rachel and Lou Lou present A Tribute to Mac's Club Saturday, May 28. There will be two shows, at 9 and 11 PM. Free admission. Owners Gayle and Stuart will host; Ron and Chris will be at the piano.

King/Queen Fun at Toyon

King Father III Jason and Queen Mother IV Doreen will present a fun day at the Toyon Sunday, May 29, from 3 to 7 PM. Admission is \$3 and proceeds go to the court Emergency Fund. There will be games, door prizes, and complimentary food.

Dignity's Eighth Anni

DIGNITY/Sacramento's 8th Anniversary party is June 4, at St. Francis Church at 26th St. and 'K'.

The evening will begin with mass at 6:30 in St. Francis Church, then move to the Social Hall for dinner and dancing. The 'no-host' social hour, 7:30-8:30 and dinner, 8:30-9:30 will be by reservation only. Reservations can be made by sending a six dollar donation for the dinner and dance to DIGNITY, PO Box 16175, Sacramento, CA 95816. Dancing will begin at 9:30 and there will be a three dollar donation, at the door after 9:30 for anyone attending only the dance.

Make your reservations now, and don't miss the fun, food and door-prizes. Info: 929-5495.

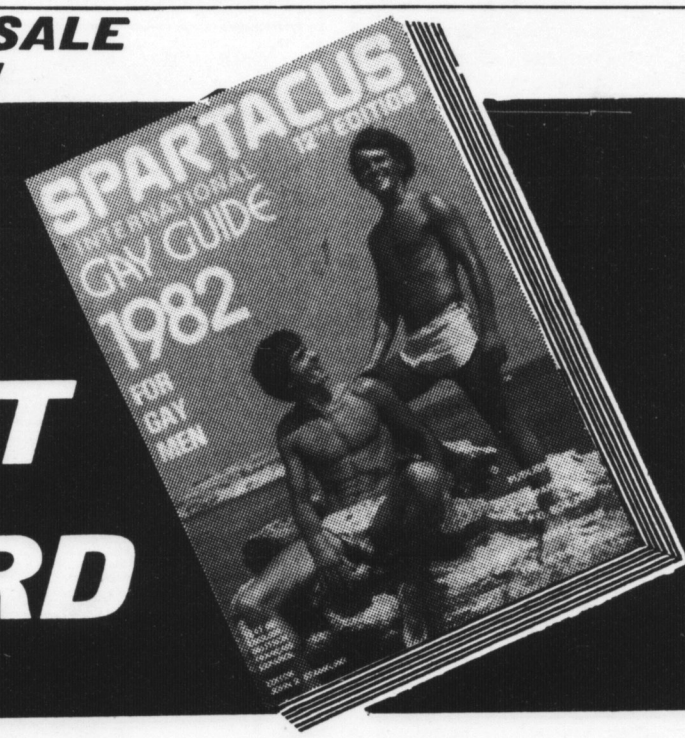
Diablo Rap

The Friday Night Rap Support group meets each week at 8 PM at The Center, 1818 Colfax Avenue in Concord. On May 27 the topic for discussion will be "Dealing With A Loss." All are welcome to the Gay support group. Info: 674-0171.

Magic and Variety

Family Magic and Variety Show will be a fund-raiser for the Diablo Valley Community Center. A family ticket, \$12, admits up to four adults and all your children, or all you care to bring — within reason. Call the Center to purchase or donate a ticket: 674-0171.

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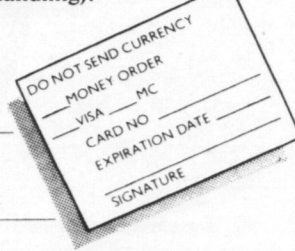
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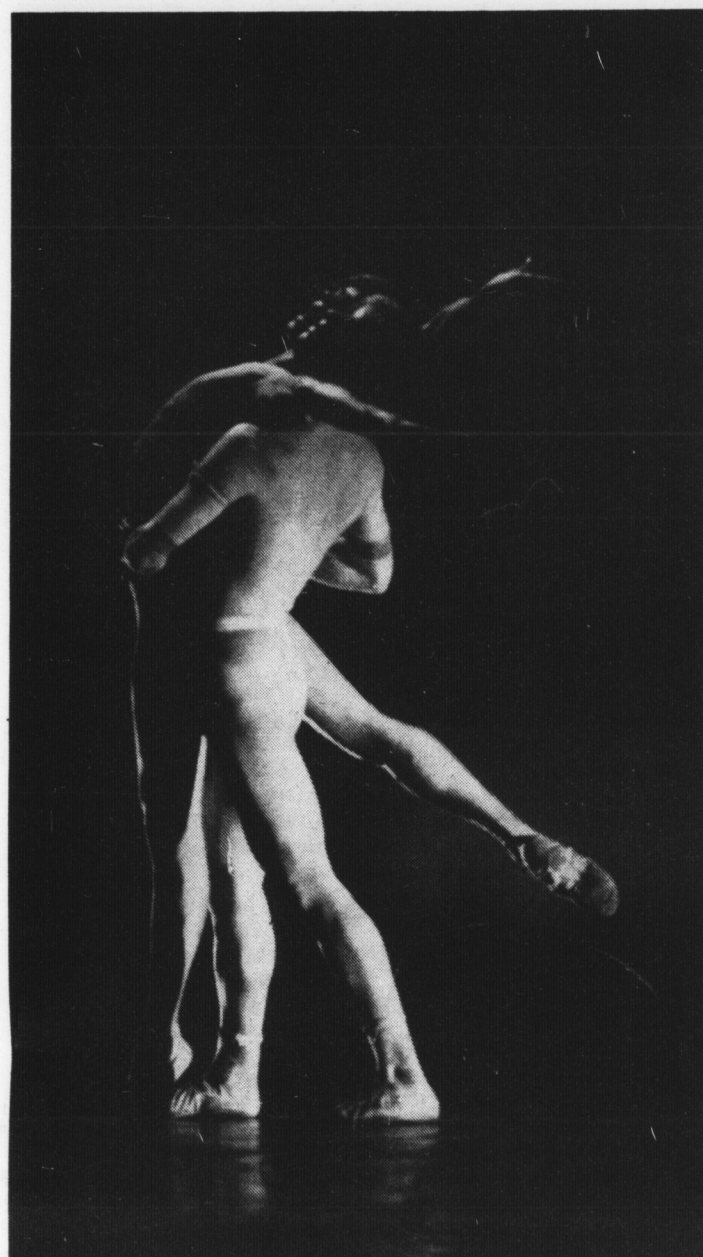
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GayWHOGayWHATGayWHEREGayWHENGayWHYGayWHOGayWHATGayWHEREGayW



Rites of Spring: A Celebration of Men Dancing returns for a second year this weekend with performances Friday and Saturday, May 20 and 21, at Nourse Auditorium. Steve Wallace is seen here (foreground) partnering Antonio Mendes in an intimate moment of "Vena Cava." Nine different dance companies are on the bill, including the serious and spoof

ballet of Falcon Dance Theatre, modern dance of Bob Murphy, Spanish dance with Cruz Luna, island style with Raymoki Polynesia Island Dancers, plus the variety of the S.F. Tap Troupe, Al Fellahin Belly Dance, The Barbary Coast Cloggers, and more. Tickets are at Headlines and Gramophone Stores or the door, and the show begins at 8:30 PM. (Photo: T. Plewick)

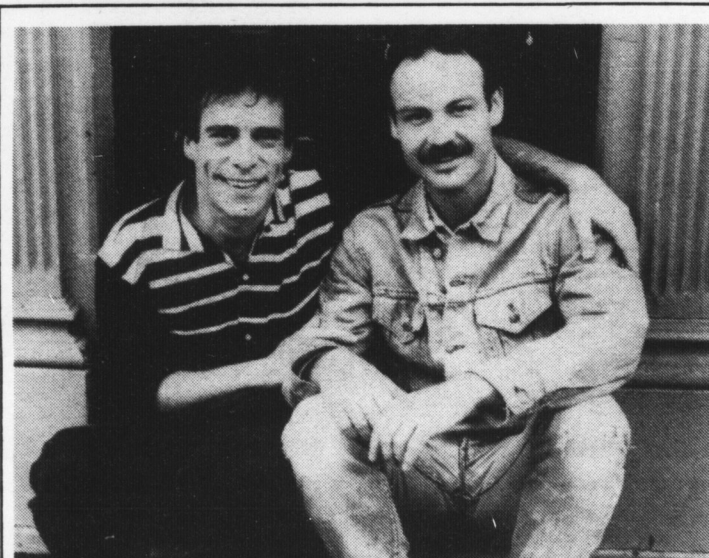
Funding Hitch

Milk Money! *The life and times of Harvey Milk* may become an unprecedented television documentary. Due to a \$100,000 grant to the Harvey Milk Film Project from the Independent Documentary fund at WNET in New York. There's a hitch though. Filmmakers Robert Epstein (center) and Richard Schmiechen (left, with cinematographer Frances Reid) must raise \$50,000 in matching funds by July 15. The matching fund will not only secure the larger grant, but guarantee that the resulting film, to be called *Out of Order: The Times of Harvey Milk*, will air nationally on PBS in the spring of 1984.

Out of Order is a feature-length documentary which focuses on the dramatic political events of the late 1970's. Milk's career is the thread that ties together the historic events that thrust the Gay rights movement into national attention. The story is told through interviews, dramatic television news and documentary footage, still photographs, and other original materials.

The producers and director have proven track records (*Word Is Out*, *Rosie the Riveter*), and have previously won six other grants for the Harvey Milk project. In announcing the current grant, a spokesman for the New York donor regretfully stated, "Our resources have been cut back, so we have been forced to make this \$700,000 grant contingent upon the producer's raising another \$50,000 by July 15 to complete their budget."

The impact of such a film on national television could be immense. Contributions are urged, tax-deductible, and should be made out to "Capp Street Foundation/Milk Fund." Mail them to The Harvey Milk Film Project, P.O. Box 77043, S.F., 94107.



Congratulations! The high level of talent in local Gay theatre received recognition when the Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle presented its yearly awards last week. Chuck Solomon (l.) received "Recognition for Outstanding Achievement as a Director" for his work on the Studio Rhino premiere productions of John Berryhill's *Dressing, Undressing and Talking on the Phone* and C.D. Arnold's *Delivery*. John Wullbrandt was cited for "Outstanding Achievement in Set Design" for his contribution to George Birimisa's *Pogey Bait*. By coincidence, Wullbrandt had also designed the sets for the one-acts Solomon directed. These awards prove that Theatre Rhino is gaining a strong reputation, for the Critics Circle doesn't frequently venture into "ethnic" theatres. Thanks and a handshake to this talented pair. (Photo: Rink)

Masks Unmask Life

"I like to give people a point of view they've never had themselves," said Phil Diers of the *Life Masks* he makes. A *Life Mask* is a cast of the face, and Diers has been producing facial castings for several years. A display of sixteen of his *Life Masks* is on display at the Sweet Inspiration Coffee House (on Fillmore between California and Sacramento) until June 6. Diers told the Bay Area Reporter about the unusual art form at the exhibit's opening.



Phil Diers and several of his life masks. (Photo: Rink)

work of art.

"I've been making masks since I was sixteen. I learned the process in high school when I needed to make some life-sized puppets. The process itself is wonderful, and I like people to have the experience. The mold-making material is called moule. Its a gelatinous substance which is applied warm — about

102 degrees Fahrenheit — and hardens upon cooling. It's like receiving a warm facial. Since it doesn't adhere to any surface and is non-toxic, it can be applied directly to the skin and hair without any lubricant. The whole process is very relaxing and exhilarating. I accompany it with music and visualizations.

(Continued on next page)

Cocktails for Two by Four

Pernod, the French anise spirits marketer, has announced its sponsorship of "Cocktails for Two," a free music series featuring the Pernod String Quartet. Under the direction of Lesesne Van Antwerp, Director of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, the Pernod String Quartet is set to per-

form in Gay clubs and restaurants in San Francisco and at the Russian River from May 25 through June 4.

The members of the Quartet include Dale Chao, John Casten, Lillias Green, and director Van Antwerp. Their repertoire includes pieces they describe as light classical as well as novelty arrangements such as TV show themes. "Our intention," said Van Antwerp, "is to provide an

(Continued on next page)



GayWHOGayWHATGayWHEREGayWHENGayWHY

(Period from previous page)

environment in which Gay men and women can relax and enjoy some friendly conversation with each other. We think Pernod is an excellent sponsor for our music."

The series was arranged and packaged through Avanti Marketing Services. Peter Frisch, president of Avanti, notes that "the event was designed so that everyone involved benefits. The Gay community has dozens of organizations that need funding from sources other than the community itself or the government. Avanti sees a real opportunity to Gay cultural and charitable organizations to work with companies in ways that benefit everyone."

The sponsorship of a Gay group by a corporation may be unprecedented. The Pernod company further sweetened the announcement of the quartet's sponsorship by making a \$1,000 contribution to the San Francisco Band Foundation. Each

participating location has agreed to donate a percentage of receipts from cocktails mixed with Pernod to the Band Foundation.

The schedule of appearances by the Pernod Quartet is as follows: May 25 and 26, 6-8 PM, at The Mint; May 27, 6-8 PM, at Twin Peaks Tavern; May 28, 6-8 PM, at Clementina's Bay Brick Inn; May 29, 3-5 PM, at Alta Plaza; June 1, 6-8 PM, at Twin Peaks Tavern; June 2, 6-8 PM, at Pacific Exchange; June 3, 6-8 PM, Clementina's Bay Brick Inn; June 4, 4:30-6:30 PM, at Fife's at the Russian River; and June 5, 3-5 PM, at Alta Plaza.

(Masks from previous page)

It's sort of a demasking experience — you sort of lose an intense reaction later, when they see their own face in a way that a photograph or painting couldn't equal."

The life masks reproduce the texture of skin and hair down to the minutest hair and strand.

Individuals interested in a mask of their own face can contact Diers at 567-9237.

Meet the Poet

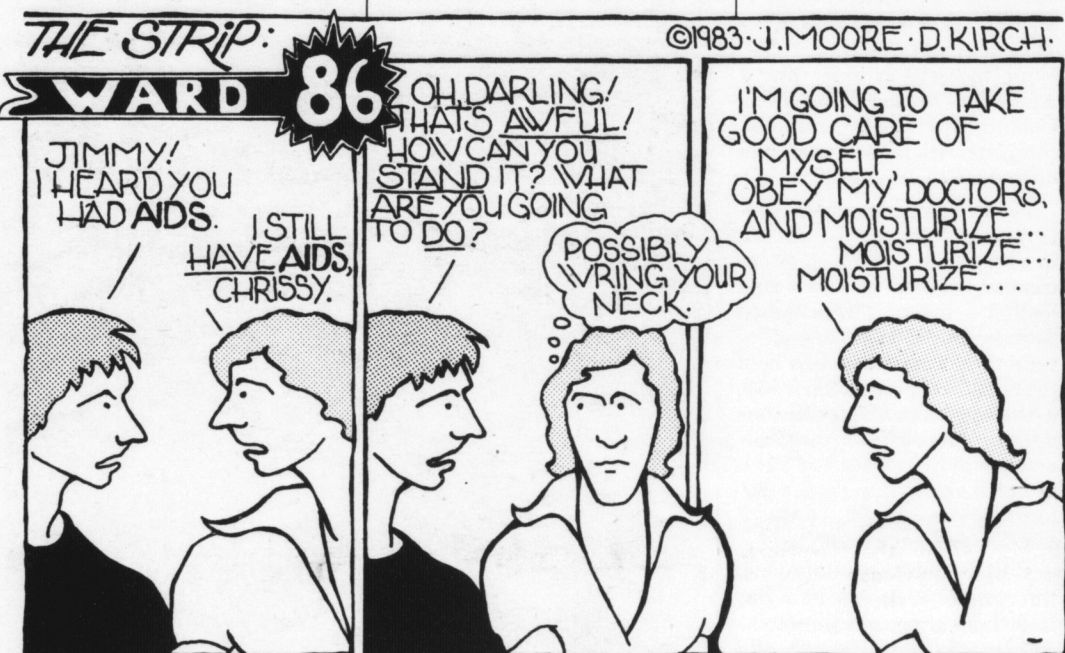
Poet Aaron Shurin will be at the Walt Whitman Bookshop from 1-3 PM on Saturday, May 21 to mark the publication of his new book, *The Graces*.

Stable Artists

The Stable's Second Anniversary Art Show includes the works of eight artists and photographers who have previously exhibited at the bar at Folsom and Seventh Streets. The exhibit continues through June 8.

Ann-Margret Arrives

Tickets for Ann-Margret's upcoming performances at the Golden Gate Theatre, June 21-26, go on sale Sunday, May 22, 10 AM at the theatre.



B.A.R. INTERVIEW

Say Darling Vivian

Vivian Blaine created the character of Adelaide in both the stage and screen versions of *Guys and Dolls* a goodly number of years ago. So it threw me a bit into the twilight zone, sitting down to chat with Vivian and feeling I was confronting Adelaide. They're the spitting image of each other, even with the passage of years, and if Ms. Blaine had spoken with the Brooklynese, adenooidal accents of Adelaide I would have been lost in the ozone. All I could do was consider the women sisters and get over my surprise to talk to the lovely woman I was with.

Ms. Blaine is in town for a cabaret engagement at The Plush Room through May 29. We settled into its cozily overstuffed chairs, and she looked quite glamorous in a blue cocktail dress with a feathery midnight blue ruff around the neck and wrists. She has a star's face, huge eyes lolling on top of high cheekbones, set off by airy, red hair. Getting over my shock at confronting the fictional Adelaide in the flesh, I realized most people must be similarly affected. With the ghost of Adelaide thus ever present, I asked if she was tired of talking about *Guys and Dolls*.

"You bet I am," Vivian exclaimed emphatically, but then confessed she was partially teasing. "I wish I could think of something new to say about it."

The strength of her characterization has haunted her, and has probably even hindered her career. Producers and agents kept typecasting her, and she'd turn down a role rather than straight-jacket herself.

Vivian played Adelaide for nearly five years, on Broadway and on tour, in London, Las Vegas, and finally on screen. "When I finished *Guys and Dolls* in 1955 I said, 'No, I'll lose my mind if I don't do something else!' When Adelaide and I got a divorce, we got a divorce; I refused to do more of the same."

She played an incredible variety of roles, from the stark drama about drug usage *A Hatful of Rain*, to frothy musicals like *Say Darling* ("Jule Styne called and said he'd written a role for me. Would I be interested? You bet!"), to smash comedies like *Enter Laughing*. On tour she was sophisticated in *Cactus Flower*, vulnerably pathetic in *Zorba* ("I had to get to Hal Prince") and, having gotten to Hal Prince, a zinger in *Company* when Elaine Stritch left. She even played *Gypsy*, which she calls "the most consummate female role in musical theatre. Rose runs the gamut. You have to be an actress and a singer. You can't fake 'Rose's Turn.'" But no matter what she did, and with consistently rave reviews, it's Adelaide who is remembered. Perhaps Ms. Blaine should have skipped the divorce

and simply murdered her alter-ego.

But she always moved on, demanding new roles and challenges. This range is reflected by her nightclub act, which covers a variety of styles and material. Included are segments on the numerous film musicals she made in the '40s, "The Ladies Who Lunch" from *Company*, and, of course, *Guys and Dolls*.

Vivian Blaine's desire for challenge, her intelligence, and her warm humanity had me prepared for her easy ability to discuss *Guys* in the theatre. But she is also committed to Gay causes, especially the AIDS crisis.

"I'm not a joiner, a crusader who jumps on bandwagons for publicity," she said, "but nobody is doing anything about this." She meant movie performers, and I brought up the infamous Hollywood closet mentality.

"This has nothing to do with the closet," she insisted. "It has to do with humanity. It's terribly important."

"We've talked about doing something special while I'm in San Francisco, and I'm working on an album from which a certain royalty would go to AIDS. It's for morale," she concluded. "These afflicted people must feel so alone."

While the album and her benefit appearances are coming to fruition, local cabaret-goers will be privileged to see a true Broadway star in the intimate Plush Room.

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MILO O'SHEA and **SHAUN CASSIDY**
directed by GERALDINE FITZGERALD
MUST CLOSE JUNE 12
"The humor in Bill Davis' excellent script in no way diminishes its dramatic power. MASS APPEAL explores church politics in a universal context that people of any age can learn from."
Bay Area Reporter
"A most appealing performance by Shaun Cassidy as the rebel who can be positively angelic one minute and convey a James Dean quality the next."
New York Times
"Explosive humor and true passion. MASS APPEAL is a fervent and funny play. Deeply satisfying in the crescendo of its authentic emotion."
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STAGE
Two Farces
One Flips, The Other Flops

by Dan Turner
The Ritz is back, and alive and kicking at the Victoria Theatre. I had a great time watching this truly loveable farce set in a Gay bath house. The script has been up-dated and localized with references to Dianne Feinstein and Joe Montana — but no, they do not make entrances.

The opening night audience arrived in evening clothes to the 16th and Mission ex-burlesque house. There was valet parking and a klieg light out front, and surprised looks on not a few critics who had never seen such hoopla in that neighborhood.

Everyone got caught up in the enthusiasm of the evening and the actors took it to heart and hammed it up all the way. Rita Moreno has nothing on Lee Garay who plays the feisty, would-be star, Googie Gomez. She chews her words around the stage and spits hilarious, Hispanic hysteria in every eye. I especially liked her "Everything Coming Up Roses" number, complete with missed notes and missed spotlight gags.

Peter Heth has the best comic timing of any actor I've seen in a long time — from stage entrances swathed in towels and leather — to seamy lines bathed in classic Gay vitriol. He's one of those performers who can hold the attention of an audience with a dislocated hip. All evening long nothing goes right for this character. Will he ever get laid? It is as much a tribute to Peter's performance as when he makes it that the audience cheers.

Cliff Ballou plays the role of the straight man lost in a Gay bath house, and no doubt the success of The Ritz, like La Cage Aux Folles, is the manner in which they both let the audience in on the joke. We get to laugh at people putting themselves into ridiculous situations and making the best out of them. The humor aroused by the Gay characters is good natured and a fine example of how we can laugh at ourselves.

Greg Bradford looks great with his clothes off and maintains a silly falsetto as the cool detective, Brick. Deborah Akhet, usually heard singing sweet, dulcet tones, portrays the

hero's distraught wife on all four floors of the bath house while wailing in a four octave range.

The set, by Paul Gilger, is believably seedy and theatrical — perfect for the character chase that is the raison d'être of good French farce. This Gay show works straight down the line. Director Ben Trevor and his assistant and choreographer Barbara Valente could have managed Keystone Cops. In fact, they use an appropriate Jerry Herman tune from Mack and Mabel for transitions. The Ritz is a good time, well-thought out.

Sacred Cow by Jon-Arthur McDonald has the ingredients of a farce — several doors, several characters, several absurd situations, and several missing relatives; but it is not funny. A farce is light and fluffy like a cake. This one flops.

The actors are attractive, look nice in their clothes, smile and sometimes show a little character, but there is no sugar and spice and everything is slow and too nice.

The setting at a fat farm with a Gay Boy Scout troupe sounded like a funny and wacky idea, but there is no development in the script. The playwright left all the humor off stage. It would have been much funnier to have seen the exercise room, rather than the front office. It would have been hilarious to have seen people eating alfalfa sprouts, rather than talking about eating them.

At the end of the first act a stagehand came on to set a prop, and a member of the audience asked if he was an actor. When the audience does not recognize the end of an act or the stagehands from the actors, there is something wrong with the play.

The Ritz
Victoria Theatre
Through August 7; 863-7576
Sacred Cow
Zephyr Theatre
Through June 5; 550-0525



Cliff Ballou hits bottom as the beleaguered straight man in a bathhouse, when confronted by Lee Garay as "Googie Gomez" and Peter David Heth in a praised production of THE RITZ.

Words Are Not Life
by John F. Karr

Director Gregory Boyd has done a competent job of marshalling nine actors through what seems like ninety-nine roles, and much of the acting is of the dazzle variety. But the stage has been treated like a book, as pages and pages of narration are hurtled towards us. Even at top speed this results in

a three-hour playing time and an undesirable emotional distance.

The show is a panoramic view of actual and fictional Americans who show our country's promise, growth, and disillusionment. Director Boyd has termed it "a dramatic revue." Large portions of unhealthy literary instead of dramatic, however, and the show's most successful moments are those which function without any, or few, words. A whirlwind tour of all of Europe and especially the bitter later years of protagonist J. Ward Moorehouse are etched in the manner of the theatre — with creative visuals and emotion, instead of a barrage of words from a printed page.

Discomfort is heightened by the narrational tone the actors employ, mimicking the newsreel-headline source of the material and the show's major thesis of our despoiling by the media. The audience warms to the play immeasurably in the second act, where this tone is dropped for stretches and people can be grasped as human instead of stock types.

We've also seen this sort of (Continued on page 26)



Before disillusion sets in, newlyweds Stephen J. Godwin and Kimberly King are swamped by effusive waiters on their whirlwind European honeymoon in U.S.A. (Photo: K. Friedman)

STAGE
Nothing New Can Be Very New

by Scott Treimel

Men write stories about angst and women write stories about stifling. The difference here is obvious: angst is internally generated, stifling implies affliction. Consequently, while men depict their predicaments, women look for what causes theirs. The culprit they typically discover is men, and the depersonalizing mess men have made of the world. This story goes back a good long way, even before the 1920s when Sophie Treadwell told it in Machinal, which has been given an excellent production by the SF Rep.

The plot is simplistic but its manner is a rich illumination of the — but wait, I get ahead of

myself. A young woman, who may well be everywoman, is a lackey in the George H. Jones Company, a stockpile of gossip automatons. Somewhere in her routine — subway, work, subway, home — the woman has misplaced her script and she is in a daze and can no longer cope. The nagging mother she supports only wracks her all the more. Because the young woman's economic options are nil, she consents when her Babbitt boss with fat hands proposes, and the marriage victimizes her with a child. Only an interlude with a romantic drifter causes her estrangement and allows melody instead of strict rhythm to enter her voice. With

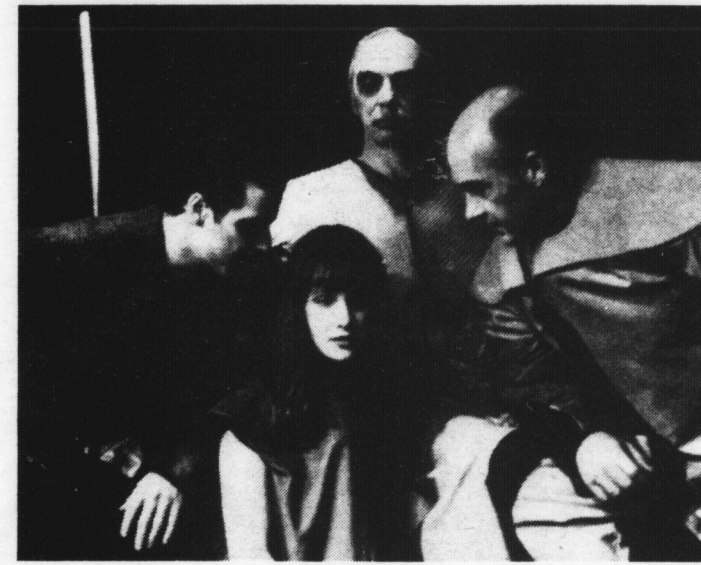
it comes the forgotten sensation of freedom, which prompts the young woman to rebel and murder her husband. She is executed.

What is exciting about Machinal is not this sensational story but the play's stylized expressionism. The woman's alienation is just part of a piece, for the separateness of things controls the entire play. Machinal creates a machine world of indifferent, automated parts that grind the humanity out of its inhabitants. You see it in the office, the hospital, the marriage, the courtroom — the complete disconnectedness that does the woman in.

The play's expressionistic style is thoroughly treated in the SF Rep production. The dialogue is staccato, each utterance like a unit emitted into the air. The talented cast delivers these units with stark detached inflections. Their movements emphasize the parts of movement: arms swing, heels click, pelvis rotates. Fred Hartman's set has black dowels jutting at jaunty angles from the stage floor, slicing the air into compartments. Different colored neon line segments do the same when they suddenly light up. The zealously broad-shouldered and long-waisted costumes (by Pamela Mason-Brune) are Dadaesque takeoffs on 'Twenties' styles, the outfits' component parts being divided by black piping.

A numb woman denied humanity and ambling inside a machine will of course come to ruin. We know this. Machinal is still compelling because of SF Rep's inventive bravado. Hurray for this production.

Machinal
S.F. Repertory
Through June 12; 863-305



Cynthia Wands is set upon by everybody in S.F. Rep's expressionist, exciting production of MACHINAL.

Shall o Hot I
by Bernard Spunberg

When the actors speak their lines from the heart, poetry peeps through a chink in the din of the Bedini Theater Project's production of Lanford Wilson's Hot I Baltimore.

Wilson's play has attained the status of a modern American classic. The setting is a formerly luxurious hotel that is slated for demolition. The characters are what is commonly referred to as the dregs of society. The

theme is the transience of modern spiritual and material life. If nothing is forever, what good is anything?

Black despair and raucous high spirits compete for center stage. When their conflict remains unresolved, laughs come from the gut while the eyes fill. Lawrence Bedini's production accents the boisterous at the expense of sensitivity — an acceptable, if shallow, approach. But when Ida Nolan, William Lawrie, Bob Eggert, Norma Small, and Virginia Rosser speak their lines, they reveal the depth and variety of the script. They are more than funny. They are

poetic.

Absolutely every actor in this ensemble presents a multidimensional, believable character. But please! Slow down! Listen! Stop screaming! Take a breath! The laughs will take care of themselves! The script is sure-fire, so stop trying so hard!

There is energy to burn in this production of Hot I Baltimore, so please burn some of it and make a little more space for poetry. Audiences already exit laughing; let them exit laughing on a cloud.

Hot I Baltimore
Bedini Theater Project
Through May 29; 221-0070

Women During War
by Bernard Spunberg

War is Hell — heard that one? Even if you have, John Murrell's drama of five Canadian women's World War II experiences, Waiting for the Parade, can still engross.

Red Flag Theater's production of Murrell's play is dominated by three absorbing characterizations. That's just the trouble, however, for maximum impact hinges on responsive acting throughout a balanced ensemble.

Sara Jacobson is Catherine, whose husband has gone off to fight. Jacobson's creamy beauty contrasts sharply with the toughness of her characterization, and her odd combination of gangly grace and rapid shifts of mood add up to an instantly recognizable individual.

Victoria Emory is Eve. Her husband is too old to go to war, so he fights his battles around the breakfast table. Emory's Eve is young and innocent but manages to avoid cloying sweetness completely. Like Jacobson, Emory has a hell of a backbone

lurking beneath an exquisitely fragile exterior.

Rebecca Stockley is Marta, born in Germany and transplanted to Canada at age nine. Stockley is an economical artist. Using fewer words than any other character, she conveys oceans of simmering rage at the persecution he endures for her Germanness.

The remaining characters are

adequately drawn, but lack the depth that Jacobson, Emory, and Stockley bring to their roles.

Gary Schrader's direction alternates between fluid traffic direction and stylized, abstract tableaux. Both approaches work, especially the latter. Perhaps Schrader can help his cast achieve a more balanced ensemble in subsequent performances.

Waiting for the Parade
Red Flag Theatre at Studio Eremos
Through June 19; 552-3541



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A Hymn to Him

The Butch Manual by Clark Henley Sea Horse Press, 1982

by Ronnett

It's not easy being butch twenty-four hours a day. The very attempt has been known to transform the humble Ronnett into the less-restrained Ronnettina or even (when I see what the attempt has done to Wendy Nelder) into the terminally nelly Ronnettzzzina.

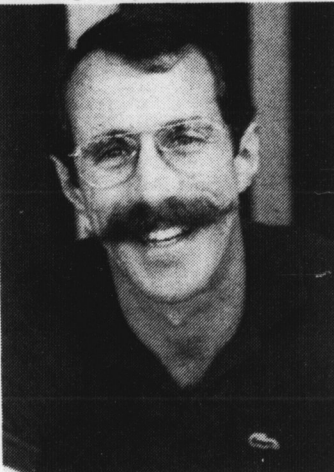
It's not easy being butch at all in San Francisco. Do you sometimes have the feeling that the plane that brought you here from Topeka International Airport got waylaid and landed you right in the middle of the Planet Mary? Do you wish some of your friends were as butch as Margaret Thatcher? Do you wish some of your friends were as butch as Margaret O'Brien? When someone says "pecs" do you pucker your lips, flex your arms, or break into music from Guys and Dolls? Did you know that somewhere on your body are something called "abs," or that you are expected to develop them?

Femme is out. Colt and Falcon, I need not remind you, are selling pictures of Mr. Cincinnati, not Miss Lost World. In Gay life, the only alternative to being butch is being young, and while butch can be achieved with effort, youth can only be achieved with money. Thank God for Clark Henley, who for \$6.95 has anatomized absolutely everything you'll need to know about being Butch in *The Butch Manual - The Current Drag and How To Do It*.

Butch, Mr. Henley tells us, is not a passing fancy; it is as old, we are assured, as mankind itself, having its roots in the ancient tribe of the Machos, and the antique (collecting) tribe of the Fairies. Although both factions had a fondness for the beach, the Machos never used oil (their first words were, "I don't burn") and kept on their Bermuda shorts, while the Fairies took off all their clothes, used lots of lotions (their first words were, "Honey, you're getting red; let me put on some oil") and "at night sat around the campfire and talked about inventing modern dance, hair conditioners, and the word 'fabulous.'" It is to the Fairies,

needless to say, to whom we owe butchness. After an attack by the Machos, the Fairies moved into Macho Cave and tried to act Macho, thus inventing Butch.

Under the heading "Longitude L'Attitude," Henley brings us to the heart of Butch. Attitude — that elusive quality developed by men in Gay bars



BUTCH MANUAL author Clark Henley. (Photo: Rink)

and evil soap opera characters — can be defined as the intellectual parameters of a person's emotional insecurities. "Gay Attitude," Henley writes, "is the result of an overwhelming amount of flawless taste with which Gay people energetically judge absolutely everything." Butch does not worry about attitude. Here is an encapsulated version of "The Butch Attitude Blowjob Blowout":

Imagine that you are a balloon in the exact shape of yourself. You are filled with hot air. Flying around inside are millions of decorative little butterflies.

Now imagine a cute little fairy. He's about three feet tall and his name is Miss Hoover. He saunters up to you, pushes your knees apart, and starts giving you a blowjob. He is sucking all the butterflies out of you.

Finally, imagine yourself deflated. Your body is completely still. You feel nothing. You think nothing. Your breathing is calm. Possibly you are taking a nap.

Welcome to Butch Attitude.

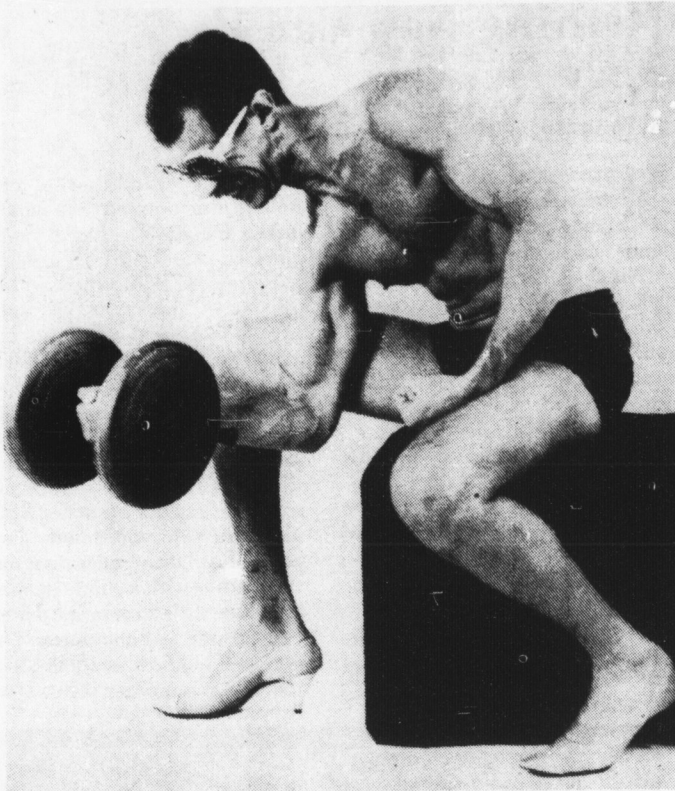
Unlike beauty, Butch has its reward: Sex. "People are looking for a body. People do not want to fuck your car or your Cuisine-art or your collection of rare children's books. No one ever

said, 'I want to fuck that fabulous quiche recipe!'" Butch has A Body. Butch works out every day. "Never work out in heels," exhorts the caption to one of the illustrations, though I assume from the photo one may at least still wear one's rhinestone-rimmed sunglasses. "As the body is growing into a piece of resistance, there are two body areas that demand special attention. All conversation about men revolves around these two areas." These are The Dick and The Nipples. As to the former, The Manual is unusually pithy: "If you don't have a huge one, forget it." Oh well. As to the latter, we are assured that "when the scabs fall off, you'll be a new you."

High on Butch's priorities of activities is drug abuse. Drugs do pose a few problems. "If you have not experimented with drugs, you may find yourself becoming silly, goofy, depressed, serious, spiritual, existential, or — God forbid — femme." Also, "when Butch is enjoying drug abuse, the situation may suddenly call for an erection." In the section ingeniously entitled "How To Get A Hard-on," Henley outlines the various cockings which "by choking the base of the penis" trap blood in the shaft, "and the resulting swollen appendage does a passable imitation of a hard-on." The rubber cocking is the most desirable, since it can be cut off and "leaves a Butch skidmark."

There are perils in being Butch. Too often, a Trick will not leave as soon as Butch has cum. Should this happen, Butch is urged to "blow out the pilot light in the water heater, and tell the trick if he doesn't leave in ten minutes he'll die." There is, too, the dreaded Gay Phone Call Exchange, in which Butch takes no interest at all. "Some women find it difficult to achieve orgasm unless their partner happens to whisper, 'I love you.' Some Gay people find it difficult to achieve orgasm without immediately exchanging phone numbers." Fortunately, Henley provides a list of hints on "How To Lose Phone Numbers."

The *Butch Manual* leaves no stone unturned. Besides your body, mind, and attitude, Henley tells us how to butchify everything from accessories to vocabulary. There is one danger to Butch that Henley does not cover: do not, under any circumstances, read *The Butch Manual* in public. The text will have you laughing hysterically



Butch never works out in high heels, although rhinestone-rimmed sunglasses may be acceptable. BUTCH MANUAL author Clark Henley is the model for his book's sassy and scandalous photos. His picture for "Nippilization" may keep you from turning the page for twenty minutes.

(very unbutch) and the photos by Rod Mitchel will positively set you screaming, which will transform you from Butch into a mad queen with muscles who will pose for pictures wearing a

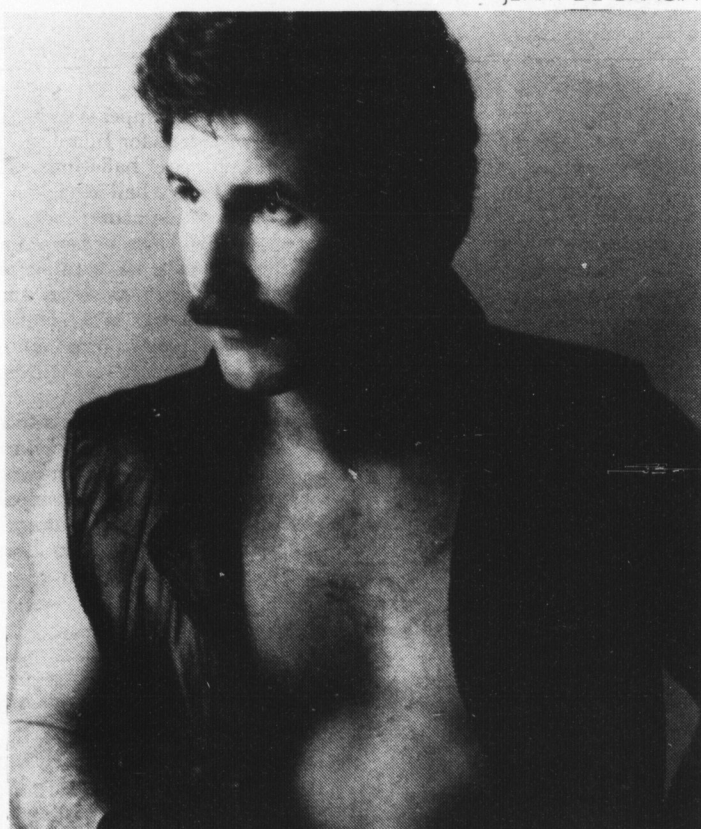
shower cap, designer sunglasses, and soap suds.

Mr. Henley, if you are reading this, Ronnett has only one serious question: where did you find men's size 14 heels?

TO NE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE

Dreaming with Mr. Parker

JERRY DE GRACIA



Paul Parker has a gift from Pat Cowley.

TOO MUCH TO DREAM: Paul Parker (Megatone Records): The question here is not whether San Francisco's handsomest Gay singer is hot enough (he is) or whether his first album sustains the dance energy of last year's single "Right On Target" (it does), but what comes next? *Too Much To Dream* was Patrick Cowley's last full length project before his tragic and fatal bout with AIDS and the LP has Cowley's signature written all over it. It works more as a Patrick Cowley production than a Paul Parker release; only one song "Shot In The Dark" was written by Parker. Since the success of "Right On Target", which first spotlighted Parker's physical and vocal charms with Cowley's perfected synthesized dance rhythms, the album's release seems

rather anti-climatic.

Parker, though, is talented, proving it on the cut "Travelin' Man". It does not cater to an upfront dance beat, and Parker and his background vocalists and band slow the tempo to an easy rhythm and blues gait. The result is a richer vocal sound which stands out in contrast to the dance numbers which seem to put a strain on his voice.

Having begun his singing career in San Francisco coffee houses, Parker, with Cowley's assistance, has ended up in the midst of the Megatone dance machine, more suited for Sylvester than himself. But since Parker sounds his best on less strenuous vocal material this one cut seems to answer "What next?" It's right there on the album, a final gift from Cowley before his tragic death.

MUSIC

Mixed Chorus to Benefit Volunteer Groups

by Laurie Gass

Near the end of this week, the SF Lesbian/Gay Chorus which I sing with is producing and performing in a concert to benefit three well-deserving community groups. Along with a host of other reasons for the benefit, I believe that perhaps the foremost is that the chorus, as a unit which relies on generous volunteer labor, wants to support groups with the same kind of backing. The implications of these organizations largely composed of volunteers providing a service are very interesting. The future of community groups such as Operation Concern, Pacific Center and the Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation is so biased by continuing volunteerism that it bears looking into.

Operation Concern began in 1973 under the auspices of the Tavern Guild as a nonprofit mental health agency for Gay men, Lesbians, and their families. The volunteer pool is enormous, committed, and well-qualified for the direct counseling services which they provide; all of the counseling volunteers are licensed professionals who have chosen OC to fulfill their service to the Gay community. Some twenty-five volunteer counselors work for a minimum of five clinical hours a week, as well as attending a weekly 1 1/2 hour consultation. The atmosphere there is described by workers as "special . . . it's not just any mental health agency!"

As is usually the case, Operation Concern screens its volunteers and ends up with those most suited to the depth of commitment required. Together,

the volunteer counselors see a total of two hundred individuals and families in a typical month. And there are no magic tricks to providing the most competent service. After all of their training and supervision, the volunteer counselors can only open up their ears and listen to their clients, objectively and with caring. One of the counselors, Eileen, told me that "OC is a good place to learn whatever it is that you need to learn . . . the group here works extremely well together." For clients and providers, then, it is a learning process to be in contact with people.

The Pacific Center is another ten-year-old counseling and educational organization essentially run by its volunteer workers. Providing individual and group peer counseling for Gays and sexual minorities, Pacific Center utilizes between eighty

and one hundred volunteer counselors who undergo a rigorous 12-week training. Some of its volunteers are working there through diversionary programs such as Project 20, and there are also interns in Master's level counseling education programs around the Bay Area. But the majority of workers are there to benefit themselves from the direct contact with people. The pressure of seeing eight to ten clients a week is moderated by what co-workers describe as "a very supportive setting" which serves to create the loyalty required for the job. The PC provides extensive services: mental health counseling, support "rap" groups, and a crisis referral switchboard — something for every day of the week. But the amount of volunteer burnout is not great. Placed in perspective, many more workers stay longer than they would have presupposed.

"When it goes well, it feels good." Noreen, a salaried coordinator at Pacific Center, made an effort to explain to me the exchange that takes place between all involved. She told me, "Many of the people who call in are young, and just need to hear they are not sick or weird for being Gay." As she and her co-workers reaffirm others, they feel validated in turn. For volunteers such as Fillmore, the experience is enormously gratifying on a personal level: "It is a therapy for myself to work here." He also spoke of the responsibility he feels to provide a service that has been there when he needed it: "All that's needed to work here is goodwill."

The Pacific Center is prepar-

ing to celebrate its 10th anniversary as a community-based mental health agency. Traditionally, agencies such as this have not received the financial backing to do anything beyond survive. But Operation Concern and the Pacific Center have both survived, expanded, and accurately gauged the mental health needs of the Gay community for ten years. The Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation arose in 1979 in response to the first cases of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) reported in the Bay Area. A relative newcomer, the KS Foundation answers as many as fifty information calls from anguished men and women each day as well as providing crisis intervention for AIDS victims. Volunteers to staff the small office have stepped forth as AIDS has reached epidemic proportions. The grim fact that 10 million cases have been projected by 1989 has brought in some private donations, scant federal funds, and quite a lot of volunteer support. Although some of the volunteers come from diversionary programs, most are Gay men who feel themselves to be potential AIDS victims. The staff all mentioned that they have committed themselves to the struggle they expect will be instrumental in finding the causal agents to cure AIDS. The daily contact with other Gay men and victims makes the psychological torture easier to deal with: "All of us are subject to being victims of the disease, but at least we are doing something about it."

These were Chick's words, spoken as he showed me their monthly comprehensive Bibli-

ography listing all current works on the subject. It was clear that knowing the facts made possible the productive work going on at the KS Foundation. I heard calls being answered professionally and with empathy by volunteers who had received on-the-job training. One of the three salaried workers, Ed, spoke about the three nonproductive things that happen when he avoids a responsibility: he waves his hands around, endures drama and despair, and hides his head in his pillow. Evidently he decided to abide by the responsibility felt to the Gay community.

The reality of volunteer work is different from its image. One can be fully compensated for energy expended, and it is probably helpful to have expectations that are viable, can be met. A volunteer section leader from the SF Lesbian/Gay Chorus, Barb Maher, realized that she had been sitting back for too long, and this forced her into volunteering to do more. Although she now has to pester choristers for dues, she does not have to watch everyone else doing the necessary work. It seems to me that there is little to learn from watching the sidelines. We can only benefit from participating in events such as AIDS Awareness Week and any other community-sponsored event, and certainly cannot err.

The Mixed Chorus concert in benefit of Operation Concern, The Pacific Center, and the K.S. Foundation will be presented at Trinity Episcopal Church, Bush at Gough, May 21 at 8 PM, and in Oakland at Ollie's, 4130 Telegraph, May 22 at 7 PM. Tickets, \$10 and \$12, are available from the beneficiary organizations, or the GGPA or at the door. Info: 864-0326.

FROM FIFTH POSITION

Season's End

KEITH WHITE

A program of four revivals ended San Francisco's 1983 repertory season at the Opera House, and I got home from vacation just in time to see the final performance. Program VII featured a ballet by each of the company co-directors, Michael Smuin and Lew Christensen, and two European imports first seen here during the last decade.

As a humorous study in neoclassic style, Christensen's *Il Diabro*, to Haydn's Symphony No. 60, follows its score with clean, broad steps and subtle pratfalls. The opening Allegro movement is basically a serious composition, the ensuing 2nd and 3rd movements becoming a little campy along the way. The

4th movement appears to begin as a pas de trois for Julian Montaner and two ballerinas. As more and more ballerinas enter he attempts to partner them all and finally loses control and fails to relocate his original two girls among the corps. A supported variation in blacklight divides a body into halves — one girl is visible from the waist up, one from the waist down. The final movement brings everyone back on stage in a kinky formal closing. The non-sense is restrained and gradually folded in so the joke doesn't become stale, and overall, the structure is handsome.

John Cranko's *Opus I* must have looked very contemporary at its premiere in 1965. The pro-

gram notes speak of ambiguity, life-cycles, love and death. It didn't look so complicated to me. A protagonist couple interact with an ensemble of twelve, are born aloft by the corps, finally separated and the male protagonist dies at the end. There are interesting partnering devices, which, though not innovative today, remain striking. The central pas de deux (Laurie Cowden and Atila Ficzere) holds together best, as the ensemble passages lose their rhythm as the procession of body manipulations becomes static. Atila Ficzere maintains admirable depth of feeling, and partners Cowden with expert precision.

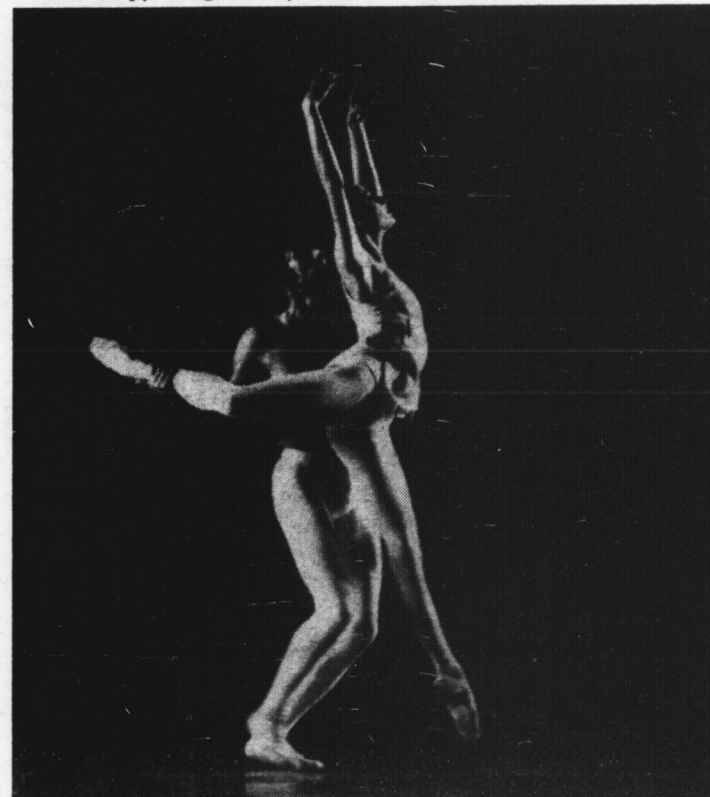
Smuin's *Scherzo* concerns three ballroom couples who are torched by Death (Atila Ficzere) and Death's Apparition (Paula Tracy). One assumes the contact was not fatal, since everyone keeps on dancing.

The closing *Firebird* is a typical Maurice Bejart concoction which bears little resemblance to other productions, old or new. Bejart creates a youthful counterculture with a male firebird as its cult hero. The dancers touch and feel each other (Awakening: Awareness), the *Firebird* emerges from the group to dance an exquisite solo, the Phoenix (a twin firebird) appears and resurrects the prostrate *Firebird* and in the end, 16 new dancers enter, all dressed like the *Firebird*. The group choreography isn't very distinguished, its most expansive gesture a deep second position grand-plie which might symbolize idealism and/or liberation.

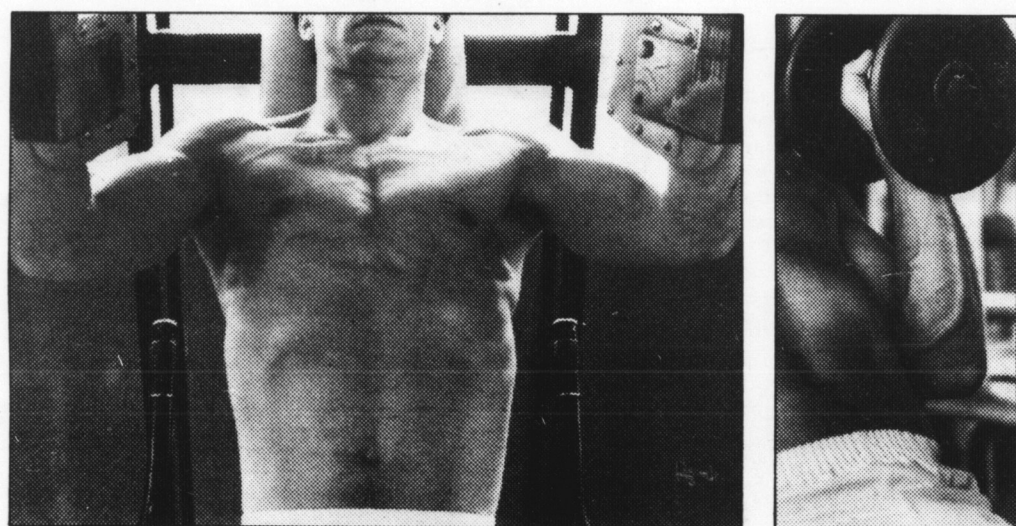
But forget the political and social messages — who cares, when we have Ricardo Bustamante to watch (and I do so with an extremely light head). The male *Firebird's* choreo-

graphy is not really distinguished either, but it shows off the male soloist in a particularly striking, androgynous way, and Ricardo Bustamante is a spectacular virtuoso. He has an easy, natural elevation; very high, secure extensions (especially the right leg); a compact, full-sculptured musculature that is stretched — the body and bearing of a danseur, the line and finesse of a ballerina, and seemingly a balanced ego with a hint of modesty. I suspect Bejart really conceived his *Firebird* to showcase his male soloist. To that end, the performance I saw was a resounding success.

S.F.B. will give one more performance during the summer — an all-Balanchine program at Stern Grove, free of charge, on Sunday, July 3, at 2 PM. I had a wonderful time there last year. Take plenty of food — and a sweater (or preferably a date). It gets cool in there.



Atila Ficzere partners Laurie Cowden in *OPUS I* and the "ambiguity" of Cranko's ballet doesn't look so complicated.



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TALES OF TESSI TURA

Reeling in a Big One

GEORGE HEYMONT

Recent months have boasted an increasing number of live telecasts ranging in style from the Met's Idomeneo to the Chereau interpretation of Wagner's Ring cycle. While video transmission of live performances has become a staple of entertainment in the living room, the professional marriage between film and opera is still in its infancy. Film as a creative force in operatic production appears in two forms: the total cinematic treatment (which sometimes dwarfs the music) or the mixed-media approach — which has been attempted with increasing success by regional opera companies in St. Louis and other cities around the nation.

My personal preference is for the latter. Opera is a bit like fine wine — you ought to roll it around in your mouth and sniff its bouquet rather than chugging down an entire bottle without a pause to refresh the palate. Much of the excitement of live opera lies in the give-and-take between what transpires onstage and what happens in the hearts and minds of people on the other side of the footlights. As much as I love the medium of film, it does not provide an audience with that pregnant pause — that infinitesimal chance to breathe while savoring a dramatically musical moment. Nor does it allow an audience the physical and emotional release of energy so often inspired by the operatic experience. In film, the movie projector continues relentlessly — with no possible concern for one's feelings.

WRETCHED EXCESS

One of my fondest memories from a childhood summer in upstate New York is a trip to Stuart's Ice Cream Parlor. The specialty of the house was "make-your-own" ice cream sundaes which allowed a child's greed and creativity to run rampant (I had not yet heard of bulimia). The greatest fun came from attempting to pile as many syrups and toppings as possible into a plastic dish which held but one small scoop of ice cream. Although the final creation may have been nauseatingly sweet, I went about devouring it with a determined zeal.

Much of the same feeling of nourishment and nausea came over me at the opening of the San Francisco Film Festival. Franco Zeffirelli's film version of La Traviata (starring Teresa Stratas, Placido Domingo, and Cornell MacNeil) is overproduced, overdirected, and often overwhelms the opera. As much as one wants to surrender to its opulent charms and excesses, one has no leeway for reflection — no possible way of slowing down the experience to savor the riches before they are crammed down one's throat. Fearless Franco's film is like an acid trip with too much speed; a luau with no let-up.

Some of the musical cuts are supremely irritating — and

without justification. Often I found myself praying for a chance to either turn off the music or slow down the film. The desperation with which Zeffirelli seeks alternate visual images for each musical phrase (not to mention the delirious way in which the camera careens and catapults through the opera) becomes a disturbing distraction which ultimately proves to be alienating.

"I didn't realize Violetta had a mad scene," muttered my companion after the "Sempre Libra." My own mind was racing with obscene thoughts (lewdly speculating on the skill with which our heroine must have fucked her brains out to earn that apartment in Paris). While there were some exquisite visuals — as well as isolated moments when Zeffirelli perfectly captured the essence of the music and the drama — the overriding effect was that of being assaulted with too much of everything all at once.

Stratas' totally committed Violetta often bore an uncanny resemblance to Barbra Streisand. Domingo's ardent, impassioned Alfredo was more stirring than ever before. Cornell MacNeil, alas, remains eternally wooden. But fear not — in late May Ken Russell will direct a stage production of Madama Butterfly for Spoleto Festival, U.S.A. Only God and Russell can predict what will happen to

Legal Defense Fund.

The play is being performed at Capp Street Playhouse, 362 Capp St., San Francisco. Admission: \$5 general. Merle Woo will be speaking before the performance. Info: 540-7115 or 864-1278

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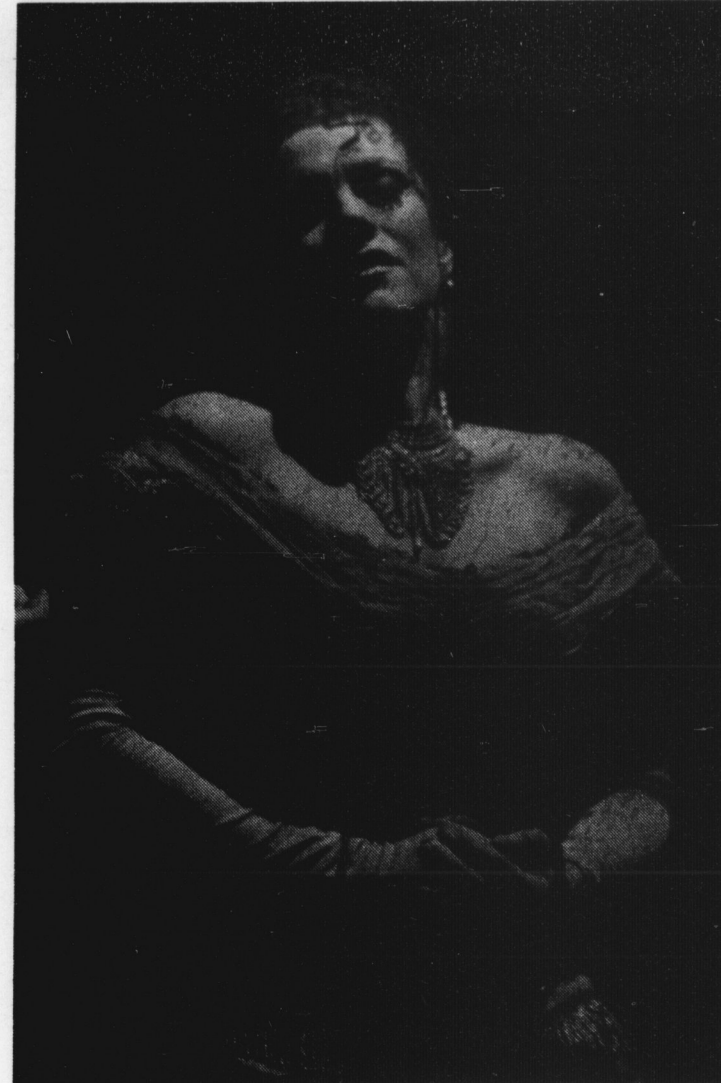
FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

Whereas Zeffirelli fails by leaving nothing to the imagination, filmmaker Ron Chase's work succeeds because of his ability to entice and entrap the audience in the seductive charm of his mixed-media operatic productions (which have included the world premiere of The Who's Tommy for the Seattle Opera as well as the American premiere of Delius' Fennimore and Gerda for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis). Using a combination of film, slides, and live theatre bled through a scrim, Chase conjures up images which not only project a poetic vision but which also allow the audience to embellish that vision with romantic thoughts and fragrances that lie dormant within their minds. Choosing to trace, tease, and titillate the senses rather than pummel the viewer into a senseless stupor, Chase's cinematography is marked by its efficiency, delicacy, and the way it etches dramatic moments in the mind.

His latest triumph occurred in Southern California, where Los Angeles Opera Theatre staged the American premiere of Iain Hamilton's Anna Karenina. Like the Verdi opus, Anna Karenina deals with a classic, tragic love story. Hamilton's score will never compete with Verdi's music. Nor, for that matter, will Zeffirelli's wretched excess ever hold a candle to Ron Chase's cinematic discipline.

The first act alone (nearly an hour in length) was so visually rich that I could have left the theatre thoroughly satisfied. Visions of Anna sniffing a rose, her head reeling back in a quiet ecstasy of intoxication, silently preceded each act. A stunning travelogue through marble hallways, open windows, and autumn forests underlined the dramatic thrust of Tolstoy's novel with a rare sensitivity to mood and environment. Together with conductor Chris Nance and stage director Richard Pearman, Chase presented a multi-media operatic display of visual art which may rank as a new species in the operatic zoo.

The production's dramatic emphasis was strengthened immensely by what should be the standard in operatic casting. Whereas casts for the San Francisco Opera's fall season seem to have been chosen so that Terry McEwen can don the costumes of any major artist in the event of a cancellation, L.A.O.T.'s



Soprano Emily Raulins gave a stunning portrayal of Tolstoy's ANNA KARENINA in the opera's American premiere, given by Los Angeles Opera Theatre.

Johanna Dordick cast her production with singers who move with the grace and depth necessary for film work. As a result, there was no operatic posturing. People seemed so natural, so exquisitely real that one often forgot this was an opera — or that the artists were even singing! The evening unfolded with the delicacy of withered lace and an unfamiliar, yet classic beauty.

Good things do, indeed, come in small packages. While the Wilshire-Ebell Theatre may be small (and nowhere as glamorous as the Los Angeles Music Center) its stage is playing host to some mighty fine evenings of opera. Kudos go to Emily Raulins as Anna, Evan Bortnick as Vronsky, Lawrence Cooper as Stiva and Judith Christin for her delightfully for her delightfully feminine Dolly.

This production of Anna Karenina put Los Angeles Opera Theatre into stern competition with the major league. If

some of the larger companies remain mired in operatic tradition, their stagnancy does not seem to affect Dordick and her cohorts, who continue to set high artistic standards and dance triumphantly to a different drummer. The results speak for themselves. How I wish I could have savored another performance: if not for the music, then at least for the glowing riches of Ron Chase's cinematography!

Jock Straps and Opera

Famed Bay Area Reporter "Tessi Tura" columnist George Heymont deserts the opera momentarily to judge the End-Ups next Jockstrap Contest, May 22.

Rose and Midflight

Jill Rose with Midflight will be at the Valencia Rose on Friday, May 20 at 10:30 PM.

U.S.A.
(Continued from page 23)
play many times, and through the busyness can see a lack of creativity in the staging. A revolving door portrayed by people in an isolated moment in a production not clever enough, content to be quick.

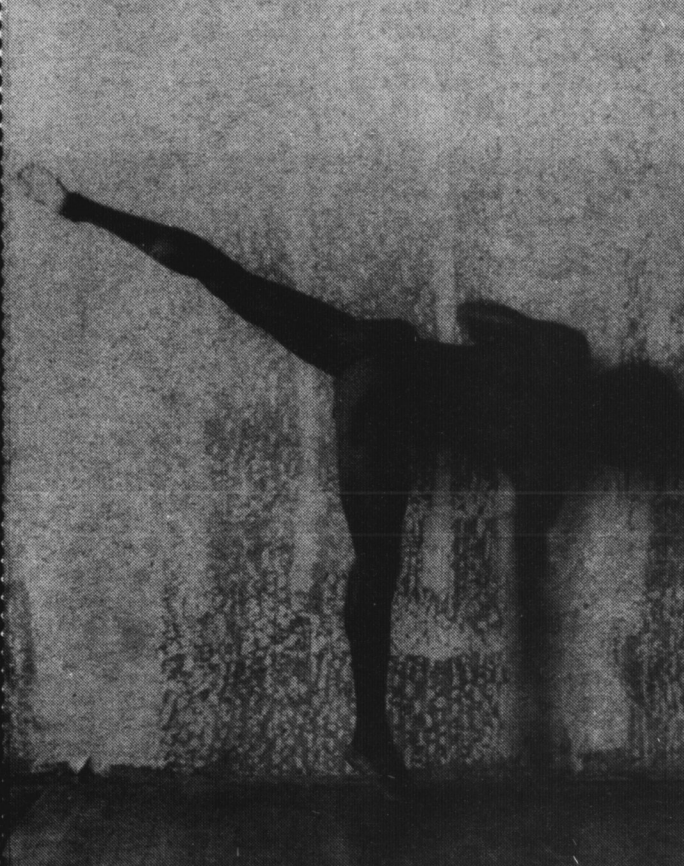
The story, though, is fascinating, as America grows from humble origins on dreams and falters as power and wealth corrupt. The performances are rewarding and the second act pays off. I was repeatedly moved.

The play promises, however, to reveal "the blare and whisper" of America's "strange music." The excellence of much of the show is ultimately forgotten by the play's needless length, lack of directorial creativity, and its tone, which is hardly strange music but the blaring barnum of coming attractions.

My thanks to the actors, a fine bunch, especially Stephen J. Godwin and Charles Dean, creative and touching men. But would someone please shoot the wigmaker?

J. Karr

U.S.A.
Berkeley Rep
Through May 29; 845-4700



Stephen Savage exhibits new works in his fourth one-man show at Centerspace, 2840 Mariposa (between 17th and 18th and Florida and Alabama Streets). Titled Dream Sequences, the 35 black and white images reflect Savage's interest in the nature of motion and sequential action in the images of men dancing.

CABARET

Reach Out and Swing

by Adele Prandini

It's probably about time you paid attention to Swingshift. These Lesbian jazz musicians are a group of uncommon accomplishment. Pulling on standards from the fifties and sixties or the work of local artist Joe Henderson, they add to the music their innovative techniques and talents for a wonderful result. Their musical backgrounds vary from Classical to Blues, Gospel to Latin. In hearing their original works one can appreciate the skill of these women. "Tomorrows That Sing," an uplifting song written by Susan Colson, is full of hope and inspiration — the kind of song that gets your hairs to stand on end. Susan, Naomi Schapiro and Bonnie Lackhart are the

composers of the group and their work is as diversified as it is beautiful. Frieda Feen is the group's vocalist and finds their present work "exciting and very, very challenging." The group is without a permanent drummer at the present and has been playing with a number of talented musicians. This has encouraged them to become more adaptable and innovative. (If you are a terrific drummer with a love of jazz you might give them a call.)

Swingshift is in the process of reaching out to new audiences. "We feel it is very important to bring self-affirming culture to Gay men as well as Lesbians" said manager Leslie Manning, and in light of the problems fac-



The women of Swingshift. (Photo: W. Atkins)

ing the Gay community self-affirmation is an important function of the Gay performer. Lucky for us we have performers of such warmth and talent. Believe me, they put on a damn

good show.

Swingshift will perform at Five's in the Russian River on May 22. Locally, they'll be at the Valencia Rose and Roxy Roadhouse during June.

Dan Whitemania

Three years after the White Night Riots, and less than a year before the assassin's release from prison, Fruit Punch (KPFA FM 94; May 23, 10 PM) will examine the current spate of literary works spawned by the murders of Harvey Milk and George Moscone. David Lambie will review the spring plays: Dan White Incident and Execution of Justice. Fred Brungard will interview Dan Curzon about his newest novel, From Violent Men. Lavender News will cover the May 21st commemoration, Sister Miss threatens to offer a new line of holy relics, and St. James will spin your favorite DW discs: "Twinkie Insanity," "The Ballad of Dan White" and "Danny Boy."

FIGHT PARASITES!
Don't be tongue in cheek.

SPORTS SECTION

CORNER POCKET

GENE MILLER

"All you faggots, outside!"

Homophobia at State Meet Racks More Than Halls

The State tournament was held by California Billiard Association April 29 through May 1 in Concord. A highly organized, well-run tournament should be expected at this level, but in fact just the opposite was true. CBA is about as organized as a Mom & Pop neighborhood bar running their first pool tournament. To wit: A dozen teams were expected — four showed. Opening night the tournament director appeared 45 minutes after the scheduled starting time; concurrent shouting matches ensued regarding what rules to use, whether referees would be assigned, what the payoff would be (Sacramento insisted on winner-take-all), whether to postpone the affair till Saturday or to cancel it altogether... for about 20 minutes players huddled spontaneously, designed their favorite rules, and then descended upon the harried tournament director. Somehow the players finally reached agreement but the vociferous preamble had already placed nerves on edge.

The SFPA All-Stars were comprised of Elliott (E.Z.) Zalta, Peter Fleury, Ray Peterson, Colin Bradley (subbing for Kitty Stephens), and Luby Pelletier. As competition began, SF was almost immediately behind 0-3 against Dale's Dogs of Sacramento, but chipped away at their lead and eventually tied the match at 9-9. SF had pulled ahead 13-12 by 2 a.m., but the match had to be continued Saturday at noon. Dale's Dogs tied it at 13, again at 14, bringing up the two captains, E.Z. and Dale for the deciding match. E.Z. had the table cleared excepting the 8 ball when Dale got his first turn, and he made only one ball, leaving himself no shot. He played a poor safety, leaving E.Z. a straight-across kick-bank for the 8, which was two inches from the corner pocket just off the cushion. "That ball's gone," said E.Z., striding eagerly to the table. It was. SF won 15-14.

Saturday's match against Sacramento's The Flame was an apparent laugher for SF, ahead 12-4, but The Flame caught up and tied it at 13. SF finally win-

ning 15-13. Things looked pretty good at that point — SF was undefeated and had only to defeat Dale's Dogs, returning from the loser's bracket, one more time. The match got underway Sunday at noon, and again the Sacramento players wanted to play winner-take-all; again the SF players said "no thanks", leaving it at \$500 - \$300, thus increasing the already-existing tension between the two teams. A couple of the Sacramento players had decided the SF players were sissies, making certain their comments were overheard. SF was playing under strength, minus Kitty Stephens and Gordon Bell, and was down 10-2 when Ray Peterson decided to put a stop to their roll. They had just made back-to-back table runs, so Ray played a soft break (two balls to the cushion). His opponent, Bobby Parker, immediately began re-racking the balls, but Ray told him it was a legal break. SF's Peter Fleury jumped up to defend his team-mate, and soon it was a full confrontation between the teams, with Parker yelling, "Alright, all you faggots come on outside!" Nobody took his challenge seriously, however (least of all him), but a few minutes later SF spectator Lisa Duncan went to the parking lot and encountered a group of punks. "You're one of 'em, huh?" shouted one, and they began pushing her around. She managed to get safely back into the pool hall, however.

After about 15 minutes, things got back to normal and the Peterson-Parker game was moved to later in the match. The two homophobic flare-ups created a sympathetic mood of support for the SF players throughout the pool hall. People began rooting for SF, cheering them on. Parker's team-mates apologized to SF, and his daughter, disgusted with her father's absurd behavior, went over and sat down with the SF group.

The cheers and well-wishes were encouraging, but nevertheless SF was defeated 15-7 in the deciding match. Hats off to Ray Peterson of The Badlands, SF's top player at 12-8. Finishing 2nd certainly has to be considered a

TGWEDNESDAYNBL

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

Bracco Supports Gay Bowling

Each entrant in the S.F. contingent to the International Gay Bowling Organization's (IGBO) 3rd Annual Tournament to be held in Chicago over the Memorial Day weekend (May 27 to May 31) will have their \$52 entry fee paid by Bracco Distributors (local distributors of Budweiser beer). The number of bowlers attending the event from San Francisco will be between 35 and 45, so the total sum will be an impressive amount.

In addition, the generous Bracco Distributing Company has volunteered to purchase the bowlers' T-shirts which will be worn at the tournament, stipulating only that the shirts bear the famous Anheuser-Busch emblem on their backs (you recall that magnificent eagle flying through the huge blocked "A"). A small price to pay, indeed, for such a handsome gift.

Through their unselfish actions, Bracco acknowledges and supports this now famous annual Gay sporting event. Could we do less, as proud San Francisco Gay bowlers, than compliment their philanthropic gestures by winning big in Chicago for Bracco, Budweiser, Anheuser-Busch, and the Gay community of San Francisco?

By the way, though many of you may not be able to go to Chicago over the Memorial Day weekend, I hope some of you will be able to be at the airport on Thursday, May 26, at 4:15 PM, when United Airlines Flight #130 takes off. Wouldn't it be exciting to be among those privileged persons who are present at S.F. International that day solely to demonstrate their love and best wishes for the S.F. Gay bowling contingent to the Chicago IGBO Tournament!

good showing, but we were all left wondering if this is the sort of organization we should be affiliated with. The league pays the \$250 entry fee, and before we write another registration check, it's certain there'll be lots of discussion.

It should be noted, in closing, that the greatest percentage of the players and spectators treated us very well, and Dusk and his crew at the Great Entertainer were great hosts.

The number of 200+ games bowled on 5/11 were considerably fewer than usual. The League was spared the humiliation of a no-200+ game night by only six bowlers. Astoundingly, the list is dominated by a new league member. (Congratulations, T.G.; you are truly a Stallion!)

Tony Gary (Stallion) 220
Ray Padua (PWIL, One!) 218
Rob Malin (Badlands) 213
Clint Royce (Pilsner 3) 212
Lowell Hills (PWIL, Too!) 210
Jerry De Young (Pendulum) 202

Its high achievers like these who have raised the sport of bowling to almost the level of an art.

In the sixth week of bowling, only four persons have realized a 600+ series: Rob Malin (H.S. 654), Keith Ray (H.S. 640), Pat Moore (H.S. 608), and Larry Kramer (H.S. 600) — cutting it kinda close, Larry. There should be many more bowlers in this category. We all have at least one 600+ series lurking around in our psyches. Why, only last week

5/11/83

22. S.F. Eagle	8 20
21. DeLuxe	8 20
20. Pilsner II	11 17
19. Grady's	11 17
18. Animals	12 16
17. Ambush	12 16
16. Stallion	12 16
15. Pilsner IV	12 16
14. Temptations	13 15
13. Gay Sports Magazine	13 15
12. Pendulum Pin Pals	13 15
11. Play With It, Ltd., Too!	13 15
10. Pendulum	14 14
9. Park Bowl	15 13
8. Pilsner 3	16 12
7. Arena Karma	16 12
6. David Kelsey's	17 11
5. Unmentionables	17 11
4. Badlands	17 11
3. Sweet Inspirations	18 10
2. Atherton Hotel	20 8
1. Pilsner I	20 8

Do you sense an emphasis on competition between the PWIL, One! and the PWIL, Too! ? Or is it just my imagination? In any case, the League is building toward a dynamic conclusion. I would not miss it for all the llamas in Peru!

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SPORTS NEWS

GAY TENNIS FEDERATION

3rd "U.S. Openly Gay" L. Balmain

A star-studded field of some of the best gay tennis players in the United States are riding into town with their racquets loaded and aiming them at Arnie Barba (Los Angeles), the "U.S. Openly Gay" defending champion. The Gay Tennis Federation of San Francisco is excited to announce that their Third Annual National Tennis Tournament shoot-out will take place Memorial Day weekend — Saturday, Sunday, and Monday; May 28, 29, and 30 — on the "O.K. Corral" at the Golden Gate Park Tennis Courts.

Entries came pouring in from New York, Minneapolis, Chicago, San Diego, and over 30 from the Los Angeles area. The members of the G.T.F. provide housing for the out-of-town guests, but the demand this year is larger than ever, and anyone desiring to act as a host of a tennis player please contact Neil Johnson, Housing Chairman, at 431-5938.

Having been nominated as the Outstanding Sports Event in 1981 and 1982 at the Cable Car Awards, the "U.S. Openly Gay" has become a celebrated tradi-



1982 U.S. Openly Gay Tennis Champ Arnie Barba (r.) with semi-finalist Dean Bauer. Barba returns this year for another go.

The Tournament Director, Les Balmain, says that among the tougher sharpshooters in the hunt on Arnie's trail are: Dean Bauer (Los Angeles), Silver Medalist in Gay Olympics '82; David Locke (Los Angeles), runner-up "U.S. Openly Gay" '82; Rich Ryan (Houston), Gay Champion of Dallas and Houston '83; and Gary Sutton (Chicago), Bronze Medalist in Gay Olympics '82.

Due to its increasing popularity, the three-day tournament with a 64-entry draw limited to a first-come, first-served basis was sold out by May 1 this year.

tion in the Gay community of San Francisco in just two short years. This is a tribute both to the quality of tennis play and to the organization and execution by the Tournament Committee of the Gay Tennis Federation.

John Teamer, President of the G.T.F., and the Tournament Committee would like to extend a warm welcome to all the participating athletes in this great event of its kind in the "Wild, Wild West!" and to invite all you "hombres" and spectators to come out to Golden Gate Park on Memorial Day weekend and join in the fun!

COMM. SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RODGER SOTO

Mint and Village Lead the Pack

After two full weeks of play the C.S.L.'s two most seasoned teams, The Mint and The Village, are undefeated. Last weekend C.S.L. fans were again treated to a full day of super softball. The Village, the 1982 Champs, had an easy time of it with last year's second place team, the Rainbow Cattle Co. There was great pitching by 1982's Most Valuable Player, Norm Smith, a tight defensive team and some excellent double plays executed by Joey Barretta. The Mint's double-header victory over Acme Athletics was not so easily won but had good solid hitting and classy fielding,

especially by Mike Arbunish, Ron Lezell, and the catch of the day by All-Star Frank "Dom" Gualco. This is certainly one of the best outfields in their 11-year history. There were lots of homeruns hit in the first two weeks, but it looks like Glen Burke of the Bunkhouse is out to win the homerun title. A big thanks to Larry Martinez and his Bunkhouse men for treating the C.S.L. to a delicious barbecue out at the fields.

MAY 15 SCORES: Slow Rush 4, Cinch 3; Jack's 16, Hot & Hunky 9; Village 8, Rainbow 2; Nap's 13, Bunkhouse 11; Pipe-

line 9, B.A.T.S. 7; B.A.T.S. 10, Pipeline 6; Mint 15, Acme 8; and Mint 8, Acme 3.

DIVISION STANDINGS

Bill Chapman Division

Mint	3 0
Village	3 0
Slow Rush	2 1
Rainbow Cattle Co.	1 1
Acme Athletics	0 3
Cinch	0 3

Julie Jordan Division

Hot & Hunky	2 1
Jack's Happy Days	2 1
Bunkhouse	1 1
Nap's Peacock Gap	1 1
Pipeline	1 2
Village B.A.T.S.	1 3

MAY 22 GAMES

Lang Field, Turk & Gough

10:30	Jack's at B.A.T.S.
	Cinch at Mint
Noon	Pipeline at Bunkhouse
	Acme at Rainbow
1:30	Hot & Hunky at Nap's
	Slow Rush at Village
3:00	Nap's at Hot & Hunky
	Village at Slow Rush

will find the Ambush at the Pendulum. This game should prove a bellwether as to who will vie for the G.S.L. title.

STANDINGS

Barbary Coast Division

Pendulum	3 0
Kokpit	2 1
Rawhide	1 2
Trax	1 2
DeLuxe	0 2
Club 21	0 2
Googie's	0 3

Golden Gate Division

Ambush	3 0
Moby Dick	3 0
Stables	2 1
Pilsner Inn	2 1
Cafe San Marcos	2 1
Rookies	1 2
Phone Booth	0 3

G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

Rookies Roll!

Watch out, Pendulum; the Rookies are on a roll. Debi Kimes' kids came up with the season's biggest upset as they shocked the DeLuxe 17-16. The Rookies were paced by Randy's two booming grand slam homeruns and excellent fielding.

In the league's other games, the results were as follows. The Stables put on their hitting shoes and defeated a fun gang of guys from Sacramento 21-6. The Phone Booth failed to capitalize

on numerous scoring opportunities and fell to the Cafe San Marcos 8-1. Moby Dick won their third straight as they defeated Googie's 20-0. The Rawhide gave it a game effort but lost to the Ambush 9-0. Joey Loza and Ron Hoffman are doing a great job. The Pendulum stayed unbeaten by scoring a 21-1 victory over Trax. In the day's best-played game, the Pilsner Inn won their second straight with a 7-2 win over the Kokpit.

This week all games are at Balboa Park, Ocean & San Jose Aves. Featured game this week

G.S.L. Goes Hawaiian, or "KamaniwanaPLAYa"

by Chuck Smith

Have you ever landed safely on 2nd base, out of breath, only to look in at home plate and realize how far away it still was? At least three zip codes? Or have you ever not taken a jacket to Balboa Park because the weather was sunny and warm at home, but it turned out to be windier and 15° colder at the field, and you froze your ass off? In July?

Well, in just a few weeks home plate will literally be TWO TIME ZONES away, with 80° weather, warm tropical breezes, and suntan oil replacing the usual overcoats and "anti-freeze." A contingent of G.S.L. players and fans, headed up by the Phone Booth Operators and the Cafe San Marcos Fighting Waitresses, are journeying to Hawaii to play softball with a group organized by Hamburger Mary's (Honolulu) especially for this event. With the excitement generated so far in both cities, this affair promises to be a highlight of the 1983 G.S.L. season, as well as a first for the Honolulu Gay community.

This is another pioneer step for the G.S.L. It all started last fall when I agreed to coach the Phone Booth softball team. The team needed rebuilding and some new goals. What better way to weld a group together than to travel to an out-of-town softball tournament? I found, however, keen competition for tournament slots and a formidable expense awaiting us.

One Sunday in March I had a brainstorm: Why not make our own out-of-town tournament? And why not go to Hawaii? Cut-rate fares were available; Bob Weaver, my Assistant Coach, had just recently returned from

a month there and knew most of the staff at Mary's; Honolulu and San Francisco have traditionally had close ties in other areas; why not in Gay sports? It was a natural.

The response at Mary's to our initial contact was positive, so we polled our players, made the plane reservations (by a stroke of magic, we fell into an extremely attractive group charter package), and fronted the deposit to our travel agent — thank heaven for my credit union loan, and for Bob Doeca, our travel agent and G.S.L. Commissioner. In just a few days everything had fallen into place, like a row of dominoes! Now all we had to do was refine the details.

Hawaii! Here We Come

As conversations continued between us and Mikel Wilson, Assistant Manager at Mary's, we became aware of how much interest was being generated on the Waikiki Strip for this event. Since no one had ever approached the Honolulu Gay community with such an idea, it sparked much interest among the Gay population there — so much so that this will apparently be the spark that ignites the concept of Gay sports in Hawaii.

The same excitement was happening here. The trip snowballed from 15 people representing one team, to 40 people representing five teams — Phone Booth, Cafe San Marcos, Googie's, Pilsner Inn, and Stables! (This group will surely concoct the wildest flight plans any airline has ever seen! And speaking of concoctions, try a "Phonolulu": 3 parts Vodka, 1

part Creme de Banana, fill with pineapple juice, a float of Creme de Coconut, and a splash of soda. It's paradise!

Before we even get to the airport, we will have an Aloha Party at the Phone Booth to give a wild send-off to all who are going on this memorable trip. Join us for a Luau and Bon Voyage Party on Sunday, May 22, from 6-9 PM. A good buffet will be served, with Mai Tai specials ready for those daring individuals.

All of those involved look forward to this adventure, especially since it may be the catalyst that sparks widespread interest in Gay sports in Hawaii. Naturally, we are very excited to be a part of something so special, and you can bet that a mixture of Aloha Spirit and G.S.L. Spirit can only result in a memorable experience for all involved. MAHAIO!

P.S. It looks like I'll have to rename our team the Phone Booth Long Distance Operators!

Sports Clubs

Different Spokes Bicycle Club. Sunday, May 22 offers two rides. Moderate: East Bay Regional Park. Moderate hills at a moderate pace with occasional stops; 25 miles round trip. Meet Fruitvale BART 10 AM. Bring lunch. Long-distance riders only. Info: Gary, 664-1611. Alternative Decide & Ride meet McLaren lodge, GGP at 10 AM.

Plan ahead for a Tomales Bay Overnighter, Saturday and Sunday, May 28-29. Hilly ride, some steep, brisk pace with few stops; 110 miles round trip. Info: Curtis, 665-0399.

S.F. Hiking Club. Thursday, May 19. Core group meeting; a plan Saturday, May 21. Audubon Canyon Ranch, Marin County. Meet at 8:15 at 7th and Market to catch GG Bus #20. Info: Art, 863-3034.

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

BOB'S BAZAAR



MY KNIGHTS IN LEATHER

Saddled Knights

KARL STEWART

THE OL' ROUNDUP

Week-long second anniversaries seem to be the trend this year. First the Eagle's last month, and then the Stables' this past weekend. The Stables has always had good taste in art, and that is reflected in their retrospective showing of eight previous exhibits. Weston Rose showed delicate watercolor animals, with such fine detail that you can see the hair on the chipmunk's dick. Randy West's bold men of adventure glared off the wall, but Richard Jorasch's fine color bondage photos were hung too high to be effective. Mary Grung's grotesque and charming primitive stylings meditate quietly, except for a portrait of Lou Rudolph which roars. Lou's own work was the largest in the show, and the new size brings focus to his wild punk-expressionism. Ken Wood showed his wonderfully erotic pen and ink stippling, and a couple of unusually subdued cowboys were Jim Leff's representatives.

In the center of the wall, and the center of our minds, were the torsos cartoonist Vaughn Flick made fun of last week; but Dan Ross's airbrush still knows how to get me off. All that and cowboys too! It's a wild show.

The weekend included a lavish spread by the Hen House, the Stables' newly installed restaurant. Friday night the Stables graciously gave Credit Card-style ID's to each guest, entitling them to cocktail hour prices anytime, upon presentation. Saturday was rowdy, with a country band, a cowboy hat to

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A very close friend of mine and the entire community died suddenly this week. Guy Healy, the Pilsner Inn's hunky daddy, was taken at the 21st St. Baths Wednesday afternoon while sun-



Slave Driver Mack warms up his "slave" Larry before "selling" him for play-money at Savages' Slave Auction. The auction got pretty rowdy, and will be repeated Wednesday, May 25. (Photo: Rink)

the first couple hundred dudes, and Pearl giving his typically exciting performance.

On Monday the Stables Stubs gave away a trip to Hawaii. I'll announce the lucky winner next week, as it was past this press deadline. Stables owners Rick, Steven, and Warren have had a couple of tough years and molded a fine and comfortable Stable for us to hitch up and relax at.

LORD OF THE CHAR

Manfred Stavenhagen, from Munich's Zum Lohengrin Leather Bar, swooped in from Chicago, where he'd gotten into much naughtiness. Bill Browning showed the big hunk how to get into trouble here, too.

David "Puddles" Dysart is buying a bike and will have it christened at the Caldron on Friday, May 20, at 10 PM. I don't think a Honda 500 will fit into the bathtub — but you can try. Recently overheard another Caldron regular accusing David of having a weight problem. David responded, "No problem. I eat; I get fat; I buy new clothes. No problem." Puddles' laundry bills alone must be staggering.

Jane Doe parried barbs with hot Butch Freeman last Thursday in the Eagle, resulting in Butch's hasty retreat. Who is Farley-May anyway?

THE KNIGHT PASSES

A very close friend of mine and the entire community died suddenly this week. Guy Healy, the Pilsner Inn's hunky daddy, was taken at the 21st St. Baths Wednesday afternoon while sun-

ning himself, as was his habit. The cause was apparently natural.

This man gave so much love to his friends. His eyes would flash with zesty joy when he saw you. And style — the man had style. At the Mr. Northern California Drummer Contest last year Guy came out in a tux. He undid his tie, popped the cork out of a champagne bottle with his other hand, and doused himself and the front three rows of men. Healy proceeded to strip down from tux to underwear, which he ripped off to reveal a well-muscled body in bondage by harness and strap. Style. I loved him and will feel this loss greatly, as I'm sure many will.

BOXES AND BASKETS

The SFGDI's and CMC held their annual Box Lunch Social last Sunday. They met at the Men's Room (not the Eagle, as I mistakenly reported) and proceeded to the top of Buena Vista Park. Because neither MC club has a member with a bike, Bob of the Barbary Coasters qualified the course for bike and buddy events. The top buddy rider of the day was Matt Brown, in a disgusting red wig and heels. The laurel for rider was grabbed by Paul Freedman, while people events were dominated by cute, blond Don Towne of Vancouver. In other sports, the volleyball game was taken handsly by Remy's Raiders. The highlight of that game came when Chuck E went down the hill after a ball and disappeared into the bushes. He didn't return for 15 minutes or so . . . hmmm. The Cheaters won the tackiest sight award and Best Formal was turned grandly over to the Barbary Coasters. Best Site was George Duncan's Hawaiian Fantasy. As he walked off with the award, he invited the clan down to his hut for a lei. The reigning Ms. Box Lunch, Wanda June, turned her apron over to Paulette Hansen, who was later seen in Febe's celebrating with a polka.

On May 25, Wednesday, both Animals' owner Bobby Betcher and myself will be 33 years old. We're having a little party with wine and such at Animals. Ask either of us for an invitation. Keep the muscle in your hustle. See you in the skins. ■

Karl's Calendar

Saturday, 5/21: Annual Cock Roast & Poker Run. The Petaluma Cocks MC, one-day run; check-in 10am, Watering Hole; \$10; call Abdul (707) 795-0876.

Sunday, 5/22: Gay Day Parade Benefit. Troc, \$5; door benefits Parade Committee before midnight.

Friday, 5/27: Cheaters Run. Three-day out-of-town run, thru Monday, 5/30. Applications at Febe's. Oedipus 25th Anniversary Run. LA thru Monday, 5/30. Applications at the Eagle.

Our Gay Roots. Lecture series by Karl Stewart. 544 Natoma Street, 8-10pm; featuring photographs by Joe Altman. Part I, Friday; Part II, Saturday; donation \$5 each.

Saturday, 5/28: Last Tangle in Hothouse. Closing Party for Hothouse; party thru Monday noon.

Sunday, 5/29: AWOL Tea Dance & BBQ. The Troc; 7-9pm free, after 9pm \$5; entertainment: Marlana Shaw.

Birthdays: DJ Norm Mason. The Arena, 9pm.

SEX FOR THE 80'S

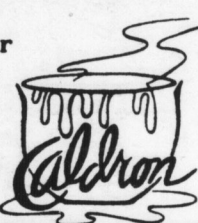
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MUSIC: Peter Call

SUNDAY, MAY 29 - Last Tangle in Hothouse

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Big Boys Choose The Ultimate

by Tom Rogers

It wasn't much after I'd checked into the Ohio House that it became clear I was going to get to see the "big boys" play. Every major city in this country and Canada with any claim to a leather community at all had dispatched their cream to Chicago to show their muscle — or at least to demonstrate their pull.

The action was friendly — sort of like arm-wrestling on a beer bet — but action there was. And it all meshed perfectly with the point of their collective trek.

Competition within cities and between cities was at showdown stage with one question in mind: "Who's going to come out on top?"

Stage center for the action — or most of it — was at two bars in an old section of town about five minutes from Chicago's polished shopping district and about the same distance from the brick towers that house that city's financial district. The bars — namely the Gold Coast and the Redoubt — were hard-pressed to handle the crowd of leathermen who'd come to see the contest. Not that either of those bars is small. The crowd, however, was a huge jam of leather and muscle that pressed upon itself with enough party heat that it could have ignited a second Chicago fire. Happily, efficient bartenders pumped booze

the Chicago Knights M.C. being the nice guys. Although it was not officially a host bar, the Redoubt caught most of the overflow action from the Gold Coast. (There was a second host bar for several of the official functions in the weekend package. The Touche, owned by Chuck Rodocker, is located on the other side of town in what some describe as Chicago's "Gay ghetto.")

The din created by men renewing acquaintances with buddies from around the country reaffirmed the contention that there is brotherhood among us. And if not brotherhood, then at least camaraderie. Plenty of loud



International Mr. Leather Colt Thomas (Photo: D. Armstrong)

outfitted suite at the Allerton Hotel. (The Allerton could be safely compared to San Francisco's Mark Hopkins Hotel.) Although registration was the official reason for this gathering, open bar service and the setting provided a good excuse for a party. Picture-taking of candidates and judges and a mini-convention of Gay reporters and columnists from around the country ensued. It was, in fact, a nice enough affair to have served as the climax of a lesser event than the International Mr. Leather contest. As it was, it served as an opportunity to keep the wheel spinning to its Saturday night destination. It also served to show anyone who did not already know that Chicago has style.

One of the hosts for the social event of the evening was at the Allerton popping one camera flash after another to help document the affair for his readers. Later that evening, Mr. Marcus teamed up with The Interchange of Detroit (owned by John Werkman) to produce this second annual party in the Executive Suite on the 38th floor of the Executive House Hotel. Although conviviality ruled, the party was loaded with snap and polish, including \$3,000 worth of redecorating, food, booze, and "Mr. Marcus" matchbooks. Everyone who should have been there was there, constituting a VIP list about a hundred names long. (Sarah Dash was there — in one of the bedrooms with her manager.) The setting provided yet another opportunity to see Chicago in its best light — balcony views of a glittering skyline from above the Chicago River. It also provided another view of contestants as they, their sponsors, judges, and the rest of the guests washed down fancy hors d'oeuvres with booze from a very well-stocked bar. A big guard, this one in a tux, was stationed at the door to ensure that the invitation-only affair stayed that way.



Penthouse Party. Alan Selby of Mr. S. birthday-boy Tom of Finland, writer Tom Rogers, and Patrick Batt, former of the Eagle, the Gold Coast, and Drummer mag.

fast enough to keep the crowd in a controlled heat.

The man who started the whole thing, Chuck Renslow, owns the Gold Coast. Registration for those who'd managed to reserve space for the show and the rest of the weekend package of picnics, parties, and balls was held in a large office space above the main floor of his bar. We've all seen the pictures before — an isolated doorway on a dimly-lit street, guarded by a leather hulk by whose permission you could or could not pass. Up steep, narrow stairs to a line of men waiting to pass into the room being used for registration — all being overseen by yet another guard posted between the registration room and an office at the other end of the hall.

Central control. Fifty bucks a head greased the way into the weekend. Not a bad price for even half the show. It's getting there that isn't cheap. A generous host made that easy for me, though. He was also my guide, having made the trip before. So all I had to do was answer the man's questions at the registration desk and keep my eyes open. Give the right answers and you get a white plastic shopping bag loaded with free drink tickets, discount coupons, copies of the most recent issues of Chicago's two major Gay newspapers, loads of advertising flyers, and a couple of samples of "personal lubricant."

Downstairs the members of the Second City M.C. were awarding drinks to out-of-town visitors wearing club overlays. That must have been hard on the club treasury. They started the action Thursday night, and it served to open the door to the city's warm hearth. Similar action was taking place across the street at the Redoubt, with

laughter could be heard above the music from around the Gold Coast as friends exchanged notes on their recent activities. The din grew steadily right up to the climax of the weekend.

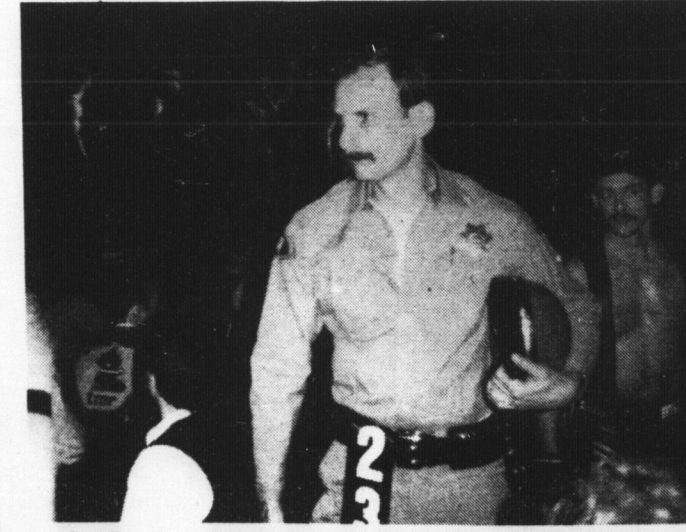
Buoyed by my buddy in a sea of Cuervo Gold and Miller beer, I managed to both make and renew a few acquaintances of my own before the evening ended. One of them, Chuck Kiser, has to be one of Chicago's busiest men. One of his favorite activities is his role in the Autobahn Society, dedicated to the art of fun with friends without hierarchy. J.C. of the SF Eagle is the only member here.

The only "din" I remember hearing outside the official sites of the weekend was back at my hotel. It was created by Toronto arriving on motorcycles. One of them, Lorn Hardcastle, was later to win first runner-up in the contest.

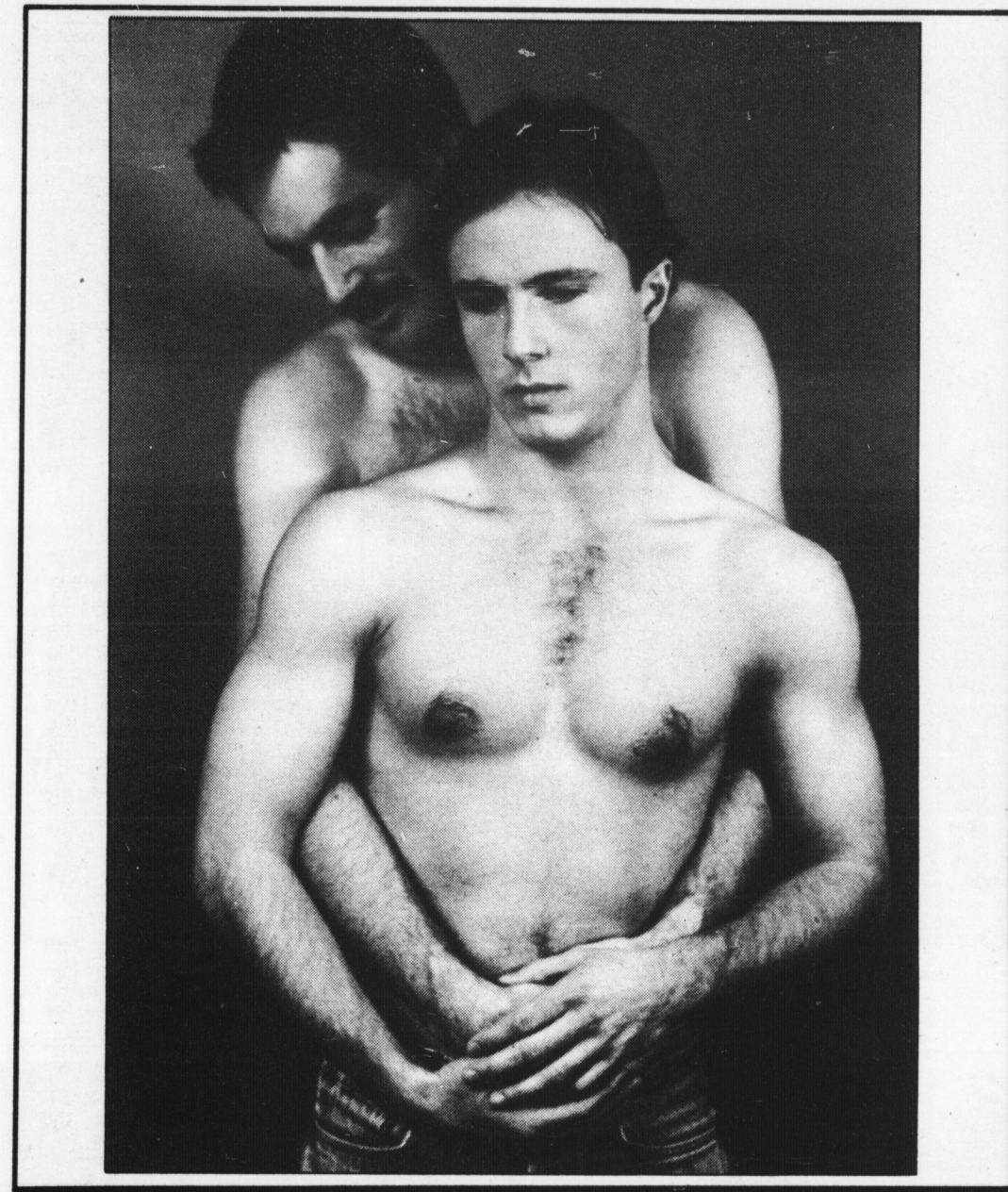
Friday night marked the registration for contestants, judges, and the press in a huge, elegantly

Tom of Finland was there, and meeting him was a real pleasure for many of the guests. His lusty art has generated countless hot loads pounded out of men's guts for years. He knows this because most men tell him so. Yet his most striking feature is his

(Continued on next page)



San Franciscan Peter Kirkham, a Constantines member, didn't place in Chicago but gave a good showing.



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(Continued from previous page)
 matter-of-fact modesty. His response to praise is "Thank you. I'm glad you like it."

One of Chicago's major leather retail shops, Male Hide, presented a showing of Tom's works Saturday afternoon — coincidentally his 78th birthday. The show proved that his mind and pen lock onto images of men who are full of themselves and who are out to show it to each other in a big way.

Not unlike the men in the contest Saturday night — men whose respect for their own masculinity made them willing to set themselves out as examples of the Ultimate Leatherman to the toughest audience of all — Gay Leathermen.

They had been on view close-up in various situations all week-end. Besides the two parties mentioned above, there was an open-bar party in the Gold Coast's dungeon-like basement bar, The Pit, and another, the Chicago MOB Club Night at the Touche. Judges, press, and sponsors of other contestants and spectators had all seen or talked to the contestants, and those whose behavior failed to meet the remarkably tight definition of the ideal leatherman were eliminated from consideration. In all fairness to those who didn't win, it seems important to point out the obvious — that with only three possible winners, judging is necessarily ruthless.

By the time the throngs of leathermen who'd come to Chicago had taken their seats for the show at the sleek Park West Theater, all but twenty-five of the forty-four contestants had been eliminated from competition.

After making a somber dedication of the program to the memory of Hank Diethelm, owner of the Brig whose murder a few weeks ago shocked and saddened the men in the leather community who had known him, Mr. Marcus joined the other judges to decide who of the twenty-five semi-finalists would win.

The entertainment that was presented to keep things moving between the two remaining portions of competition was very effective. Emcees Herb and Potato, the comedy team which had handled the job for the past three years, went through fast-paced routines that added an extra spark to the party spirit that already prevailed in the audience, although interest did stray

when Herb turned the stage over to a punk-rock group known as Stranded.

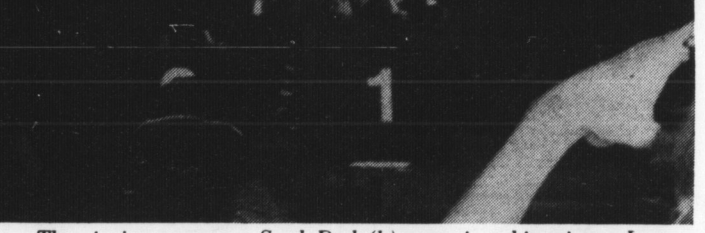
The swimwear competition gave everyone's eyes new reason to focus. The parade of tits and ass gave new meaning to the word strut. The final and most important competition of the contest came when each of the contestants presented himself in his version of a total leather image, coupled with an opportunity to make a one-minute speech on any topic of his choice. Most chose to adulate the leather lifestyle. Judges and audience alike were listening for intelligent expression of leathermen's attitudes — regardless of the subject. A few succeeded.

After another session with Herb and Potato, they brought out the big guns — Sarah Dash, formerly of LaBelle, who hiked the audience attitude level from party to riot. Her get-down-and-live-with-life style brought the audience to its feet, roaring for more. It was only the promise of the winners being announced that got the audience to let her get off the stage at all.

When the winners were announced, the results constituted an upset. California, specifically San Francisco and Los Angeles, no longer dominates the international leather scene. Houston does. A nod to Toronto and another to San Francisco — both deserved — but the spotlight has shifted to Texas. By pulling in dark horse winner "Colt" Thomas, Houston's Officer's Club is standing in the winner's circle.

There were a whole series of events on Sunday — a cookout in the back yard of the Touche, a showing of Flesh Gordon at the Gold Coast, and the annual Black and Blue Ball at Man's Country (a bathhouse) that featured S&M demonstrations by the Chicago Hellfire Club.

I opted for cocktails at the Redoubt. So did my buddy, in a big way. At the hands of Chuck Kiser and J.C., Mr. (Teddy Bear) Red became the fifth victim of J.C.'s birthday bucket brigade. Don't know what that is? A bar ice bucket loaded up with a whole fifth of booze (victim's choice) and mix (also victim's choice). Future victims make note — drink fast or J.C. will tip the bucket on you — ask Red or feel his sticky new chaps. It was a bath for Red and a blow-out of a weekend for everyone.



The winning moment — Sarah Dash (L) moves in to kiss winners Lorn Hardcastle (2nd place), winner Colt Thomas, and San Franciscan Steven Roberts.

Propaganda!
 The Oscar winning documentary If You Love This Planet and two films on environmental hazards, Acid from Heaven and Acid Rain: Requiem or Recovery, will be shown Tuesday, May 24 at 7:30 PM at the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco.
 Tickets are \$6.50 and may be obtained from the Foundation for National Progress, 1663 Mission St., S.F. 94103; (415) 558-8881 or at Bass Outlets.

KARNAL KNOWLEDGE

A Wolf in No Clothing

KARR

Who knows if Wolf is his real name and who cares? The only name more appropriate might be Fox, for he's a foxy fellow. But that doesn't sound German, and Wolf Kentner is a son of the Rhine. You like blond, blue-eyed? You like hard body, toned muscles? Kentner's got all this, plus that all important bone structure for days, all over his face and all over his crotch. I think I'm in lust.

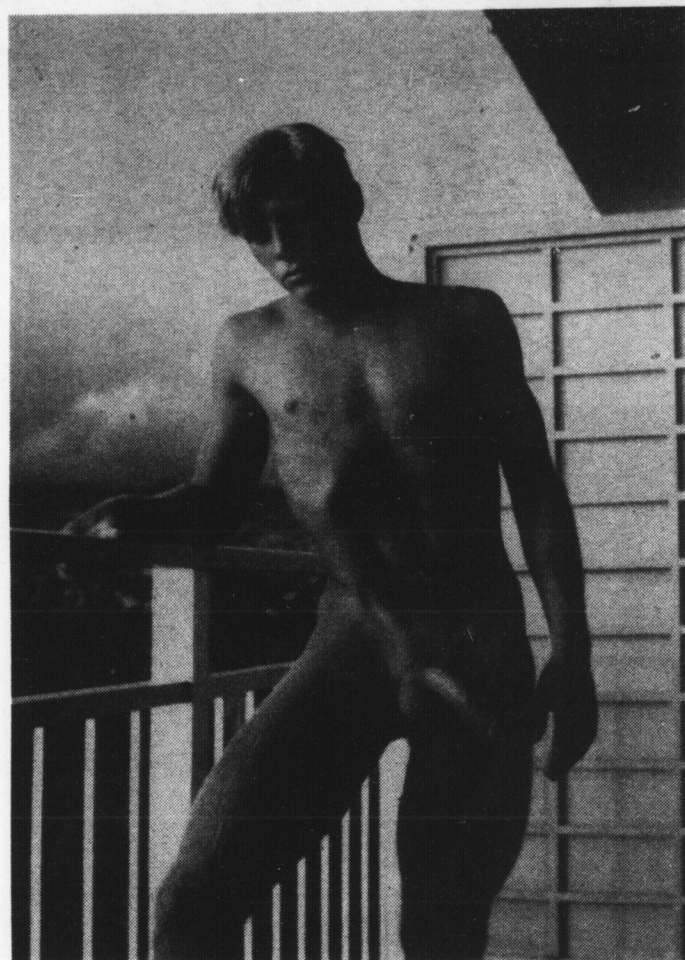
Kentner, barely into his twenties, is the latest discovery of filmmaker/photographer J. Brian. Brian's trademark slogan is "Golden Boys," and Kentner is exactly that. The excellent photography captures the warmth of his summer tan body, and golden sparks seem to fly off the incredibly beautiful copper curls that cover his thighs, chest, and abdomen. Clairol stock would bust through the roof if they used Wolf's pubes on their "Summer Blonde" ads.

Kentner seems to be the younger brother of a previous Brian star, Leo Ford. Besides the obvious physical traits they share, they both know how to

work for a camera. Kentner sends his sexuality right at you, and I'm looking forward to seeing him in movies. He's in Falcon's Huge II, on which I'll report soon. Meantime, these pics more than suffice—it's fab to be able to hold Kentner in my hand, so to speak.

I've seen two of Brian's three photo sets of Kentner. All the photos were taken in Hawaii. The first finds our man posing on a high-rise balcony in the afternoon sun. The second takes Kentner to sea. With the skyscrapers of Waikiki in the distance, Kentner does some sky scraping of his own. He sprawls invitingly on the prow of a boat, brushing the clouds away with his solid hardon, then dangling it over the metal tubing of a deep sea fishing perch. It brought out the shark in me. This sort of bait could get the docile dolphins at Marine World jumping higher than ever. Kentner is beautiful against the dark blue waters of Waikiki, and cock fans will find the imaginative poses of this set very effective.

J. Brian's lengthy picture catalogue



Golden Boy on Balcony. You can feel the Waikiki sun as it warms Wolf Kentner's golden curls. Wish you could feel the boy too, huh? (Photo: J. Brian)

of models is \$5, in color, 6-photo sets of Wolf Kentner are \$10. You target Wolf on the ship (SSP-3), under an outdoor shower (SSP-4), or on his Waikiki balcony (SSP-5) by writing J. Brian, P.O. Box 14253, S.F. 94114. State you're over 21 and sign it.

I expect this to be good viewing. Savages will be screening A Night at Halsted's from Friday, May 20, through Thursday 26. Filmed at Halsted's private club in L.A., the film features not only Mr. Halsted, but J.W. King in leather. Jim looks so good in this flick that his picture was used to advertise it, not Halsted's.

Women's Workshop

Coming of Age in San Francisco: Rites of Passage for Women — designed to lift the myths and taboos associated with menarche, menstruation and menopause, this unique workshop will culminate in a special rites of passage ceremony celebrating the mystery and power of the feminine experience. Conducted by Connie Eastman and Sandy Levey, the workshop will take place at Lone Mountain Campus, 2800 Turk Street, San Francisco, on Saturday, May 28, from 10 AM to 6 PM. Registration begins at 9:30 AM. There is a fee with special rates for mother-daughter pairs. Info: 527-4527 or 383-0762. ■

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Ad-hoc Group Urges Bathhouses to Post AIDS Warnings

Some Fear Pride Parade Visitors will Spread AIDS

by Konstantin Berlandt & Wayne April

Gay bathhouse owners were summoned to a meeting last week held at Metropolitan Community Church in the Castro to discuss a response to the AIDS crisis.

sands of visitors who would be flooding into the city for the annual Lesbian/Gay Pride Parade June 26.

public meeting on the issue, but they did feel that some kind of meeting was "the responsible thing to do."

Wilson said they didn't want to panic people by having a big

Supervisors Pass AIDS Funding 11-0

City to Spend Over \$2 Million on AIDS Projects



Supervisor Britt confers with AIDS program director Rick Crane. (Photo: Rink)

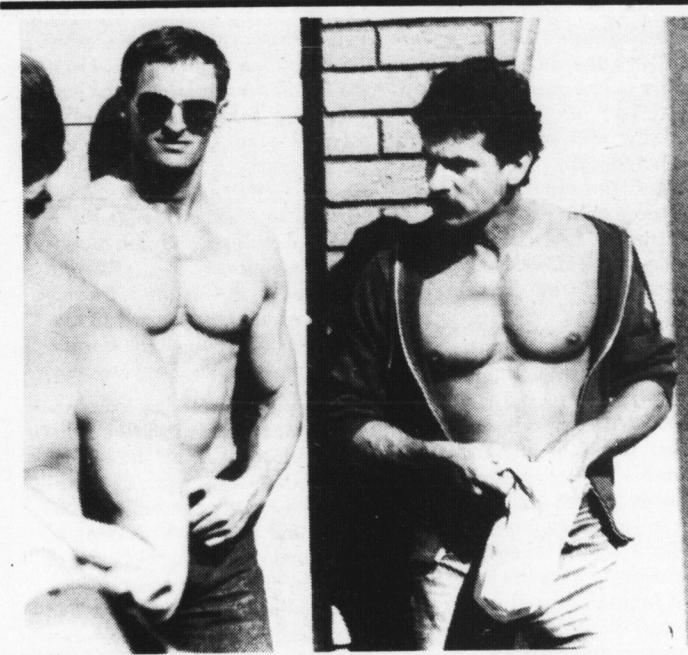
With relatively little discussion, the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Monday in favor of a resolution authorizing up to \$2.1 million for AIDS projects.

Boas, the city's Chief Administrative Officer; and the city's Department of Health before being submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

The resolution does not specify what groups will get what amount of funding. The original resolution did and was criticized for favoring one group over another and for funding overlapping services.

The city is expected to provide funds to the AIDS & KS Foundation, the Shanti Project, Operation Concern, the AIDS Clinic at San Francisco General, and to general AIDS screening and education programs.

Under the current resolution, programs will have to be reviewed by Mayor Feinstein; Roger



The 5th annual Harvey Milk Birthday Commemoration activities brought out a crowd on Castro Street Sunday, including some who decided to take advantage of the sun at the same time. (Photo: Rink)

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Raines Trial Begins

Was Arts Director Fired Because He Is Gay?

by George Mendenhall

When Michael Raines was dismissed as director of the city's War Memorial Board early in 1980 he claimed that he had been dismissed because he is Gay.

Raines was dismissed in a quick, callous session of the board at 10:33 a.m. on January 30, 1980. Three of the directors who had supported Raines decided not to attend the session.

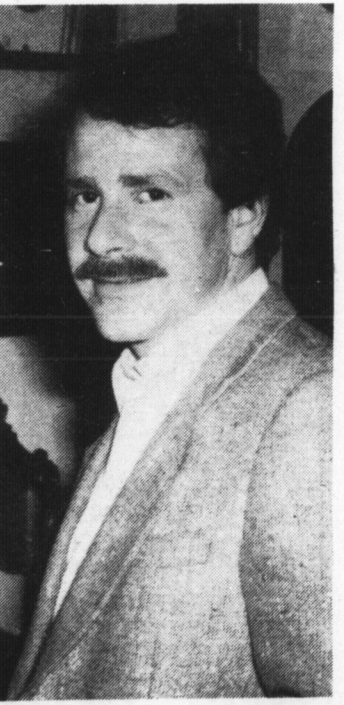
Raines contends that the turning point may have been a 1979 concert in which he scheduled Sylvester, a Gay disco singer, in the Opera House.

The defiant Raines later said he would file suit against the city trustees because "I want to see to it that this kind of old-fashioned bigotry is never permitted in San Francisco again."

The directors established a new position title for the Director of the Performing Arts Center. It now includes the new Davies Symphony Hall as well as Herbst Theatre, the Zellerbach Rehearsal Halls, the Veterans Building, and the Opera House.

Boone replied that Raines "had 14 months in that position to win the admiration and respect of this group and he did not do so."

Raines says he was convinced that he would be included in the selection of a new director, but instead the private search firm excluded him.



Michael Raines (Photo: Rink)

(Continued on next page)