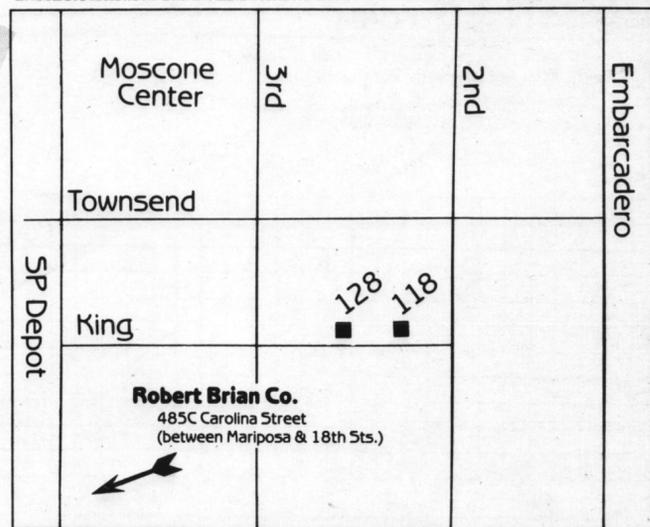


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VOL. XIII NO. 42 OCTOBER 20, 1983

Supes Sniff Around Poppers

by Allen White

Warnings at the point of sale is one of the primary provisions in popper legislation currently working itself through the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Last Thursday the Health Committee of the board voted to take action on the issue of poppers.

Supervisor Doris Ward requested the board to work to pass legislation which would call for a letter to be sent to the federal agencies asking for an investigation of poppers, that the public be educated to the hazards of the substance, and that false advertising be ceased.

Public Health Director Mervyn Silverman pointed up instances where people have died while using poppers. He said the primary effect of the butyl nitrate was to alter the blood and restrict its ability to carry oxygen. He mentioned that the use of poppers does not directly cause AIDS. He then quoted a report from the Center for Disease Control which states, "Nitrite inhalants do not appear to be implicated as a cause of the immunosuppression seen in AIDS, but their role as a cofactor in some of the illnesses found in this syndrome has not been ruled out."

Silverman would also like to see poppers properly packaged and labeled. Currently the butyl nitrate substances are marketed as "room deodorants." Silverman told Supervisor John Molinari that he was not calling for a ban on the sale of poppers.

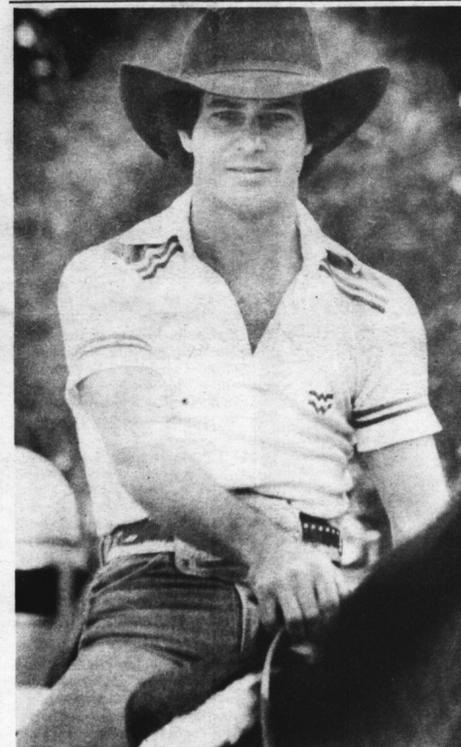
Dr. Silverman was followed by several speakers all speaking in opposition to the use of poppers. Except for one woman, all spoke as representatives of the Gay community. Chris Bowman, an aide to State Senator Milton Marks, believes poppers would fall into a category covered by a look-alike drugs statute now pending in the State legislature.

False advertising was also discussed. Supervisor Quentin Kopp asked that the District Attorney investigate this area. Speaking for DA Arlo Smith, Ron Huberman said that their office would investigate when they receive the request from the Board of Supervisors. He noted, however, that a case could be

the District Attorney's office.

The subject of poppers is not new to the Board of Supervisors. It was first presented in 1981 and because of AIDS has received renewed attention. Supervisor Nancy Walker, who chaired the hearings, believes action will be taken by the board and the forthcoming legislation will be in place by the first of the year.

made for the position that butyl nitrate is indeed a room deodorant. In other words, in addition to what they might do, the product does what it's advertised to do. Legally, this restricts what action what might be taken by



Straight to the Rodeo. The easy mixing of Gay and Straight marked the Pacific Coast Rodeo and Horseman's Association Playday in Golden Gate Park last weekend. For a story on the event, where the Rawhide met the cowhide, see Tom Rogers' Rivets on page 32. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Fast PD Work Nabs Castro Bashers

Two teenagers on a rampage through the Castro Sunday night beat up on three Gay men, one after another. Armed with a bottle and a stick, the pair were finally chased and caught by police.

This week they are in custody as the district attorney's office decides whether to prosecute them as minors or adults. Among other charges, they were arrested for assault with a deadly weapon.

Their first victim was George Storz, who was attacked while he was walking home from work at 7:25 p.m. along 17th Street at Eureka. Storz was beaten with a foot-long bamboo stick that police said resembled a martial arts weapon. The attackers chased Storz for a block; he suffered a broken front tooth.

Witnesses reported the two were shouting epithets like "We hate faggots" and "stupid faggots."

Further down 17th Street they attacked Paul Dobson and beat him 15 to 20 times with the weapon. Dobson suffered head injuries, and an ambulance was called to take him to Mission Emergency Hospital. As the squad car was leading the ambulance away, witnesses alerted police to still another attack. This time it was Christopher Baron at 17th and Noe. He told police the attackers had fled toward Market Street. Baron suffered facial injuries.

Another witness told the police that the fugitives were hiding behind a construction site on Market Street. The police gave chase. The pair doubled back on Noe Street where they were finally caught at 17th about 8 p.m.

The attackers were described

Steve Endean Out as GRNL Head

Relentless Criticism Proves Too Much for DC Lobbyist

by Paul Lorch

The power of Southern California financier David Goodstein displayed its strength last week. It toppled Washingtonian Steve Endean from the executive directorship of Gay Rights National Lobby.

Goodstein since early 1983 used the power of his national magazine and also the power of the purse to drive Endean out of office.

For months Goodstein has been hammering away at Endean from his "Opening Space" in the bi-weekly *Advocate*. Endean had been charged with "dereliction of duty, incompetence, and mismanagement of funds and staff."

GRNL, which Goodstein helped found and support, found itself without his funds and the contributions of his friends.

Endean submitted his resignation Saturday, October 15, at a meeting of GRNL's executive committee in Chicago. Six of the seven-person committee were on hand. They included co-chairs Alan Spears and Kate McQueen, also Meryl Freidman, Troy Perry, Jean O'Leary, and Jack Campbell. Details of Endean's resignation were not available at press time; neither was the GRNL board's response. Endean was not expected back in his Washington, D.C., office until mid-week.

Sources close to the GRNL network reported that the Executive Board was reluctant to accept Endean's resignation. And that they remained supportive of his leadership. Reportedly, Endean gave as reasons for his leaving that he was under a great deal of pressure and that it was time to move on.

Insiders said that while Endean remained confident of his accomplishments, his work and goals, that the Goodstein bombardment damaged him on a private level. He found it hard to understand, said friends.

A Minnesotan, Endean, 35, has headed up GRNL for five years. It was broke when he took over. Said another friend, "And he built it up without David's [Goodstein] money."

The resignation is not immediate but will take effect



Steve Endean resigns from GRNL. (Photo: Rink)

within three to six months. This will give the GRNL board time to set up a search committee. It is also said that Endean while finishing up his tenure wanted to sign up more co-sponsors to the pending Gay rights legislation. Last year Endean had come up with 42 co-sponsors. This year he had increased that number to 73. He doesn't want to leave until the total is double, or 84.

Endean will have at his side his assistant, Jerry Weller, who moved to Washington, D.C., from Portland, Oregon. Weller told the *Bay Area Reporter* when asked about Endean's record, "I believe he's been highly successful. I'm committed to work with him throughout the transition period."

Already as this week opened there was talk of fusing the national lobby with the New York-based National Gay Task Force (NGTF) headed up by Virginia Apuzzo.

GRNL reportedly had a budget of \$400,000 per year with an office in Washington, branch of

(Continued on page 20)

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- Rink encounters Bette Midler — along with the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band p. 11
- Steak Diane — Peter Hirsch & John Prisco p. 15
- Feature writer Mike Hippler spends time at SF General's AIDS ward p. 16-17
- Is Proposition M, the Planning Initiative, homophobic? — Jim Haas p. 20



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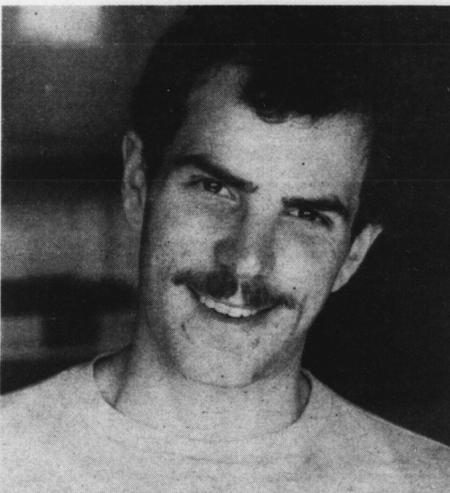
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Boy Scout Brass Will Appeal Pro-Gay Ruling

*No Gays, Girls, Godless An Ironclad
Rule Say Top BSA's*

by George Mendenhall

"We just don't think parents want homosexuals in the troops," the top national executive of the Boy Scouts of America said this week. He was joined by a BSA attorney who said that no one has been able to change the group's policy of banning homosexuals, girls, and atheists. However, he added, no one has come closer to threatening the Scouts than Timothy Curran, who was ousted from the East Bay Scouts. The organization was recently ordered by Superior Court Judge Robert Weil in Los Angeles to reinstate Curran.



Berkeley Eagle Scout — and Gay rightist — Timothy Curran, "the ideal scout." (Photo: Rink)

The Scouts' attorney in Los Angeles, Malcolm Wheeler, told Katherine Ellison of the *San Jose Mercury News*, "One of the ideas of scouting is to get kids out in the woods — removed from everyday problems, one of those problems being sexual relations."

Curran, however, does not see sexual relations as a "problem" and responded, "I find that highly offensive. It's wrong to think just because I'm Gay, I'm going to molest kids. It's well-documented that upwards of 99 percent of all child molesters are heterosexuals."

David Park, BSA national attorney, told the *Mercury News* several boys who "refuse to acknowledge the existence of a Supreme Being" and several females — denied admission into the BSA — have unsuccessfully challenged the "no Gays, girls or godless" policy.

Judge Weil ruled that the BSA

must show "a rational connection... between homosexual conduct and any significant danger of harm to the association" before they can expel a homosexual member.

Curran urges, "It will be difficult for the Scouts to prove I'm immoral. They made me an Eagle Scout, gave me the Order of the Arrow... They've gone to great lengths to prove how moral I am."

It is the national officers who are opposed to Curran's return to Troop 37. David Potter, Curran's former scoutmaster in Berkeley, responds, "If you wanted to select a person who has been the ideal scout, that person would be Tim Curran."

The BSA intends to appeal Judge Weil's decision. The American Civil Liberties Union, which represents Curran, may eventually confront the scout group in the U.S. Supreme Court.

Shanti Raffle Pays Off

by Allen White

The Shanti Project will show a net profit in excess of \$34,000 following a raffle held last Saturday night. The winner of the grand prize of \$25,000 cash was Michael Watkins of San Leandro.

Sam Mills, President of the Shanti Project, said that money is still being tabulated and that he knows there will be a net profit of \$34,000. He said the final figure could be substantially higher when all the money is totaled. Mills said a final report would be issued following the organization's board meeting next Tuesday night.

Jan Winick-Heerman of Benicia won a Kawai console piano from Russ Kassman Pianos. John Bako of San Francisco won the luxury sailing trip. A \$1,000 jewelry gift certificate from Barad's jewelers was won by Gayle Donasky of Mill Valley and another \$1,000 gift certifi-

cate from Daily Travel was won by Howard Young of San Francisco.

The profits will go directly to nonprofit organizations in Northern and Southern California that are providing direct service to persons with AIDS. ■

Hotline Help

AIDS Hotline volunteers are needed at the AIDS Foundation. The training session will be Monday, October 24, at 11 a.m. If you are interested, call Lyn or the Hotline, 864-4376. ■

ACLU Sues FBI for Records on Gay Activists

The American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Southern California filed suit October 11 for the release of Federal Bureau of Investigation documents under a Freedom of Information Act request concerning FBI surveillance of Gay activists over the last 33 years.

The suit was filed on behalf of Dan Simonowski, a political columnist, lecturer, and political consultant, who has tried without success to pry the documents out of the hands of the FBI for more than a year. Simonowski is writing a book called *Spies in the Closets: The Record of Thirty Years of Federal Surveillance of the Gay Rights Movement*.

"Gay activists, FOIA scholars, and students of the FBI believe that the size of the FBI record, when fully released, will demonstrate a record of federal activity against millions of Gay Americans that constitutes a scandal of national proportions," said Simonowski. "We believe it will demonstrate a pattern of collusion between federal agencies that was based more on fear and prejudice than on definable law enforcement needs."

Simonowski, who has been struggling with the FBI since last January to get the documents released and to qualify for the waiver of fees that the law provides researchers whose work

is in the public interest, said several factors were important in his requesting the documents:

- Simonowski knew personally of many individuals and groups that had been targets of the FBI;

- the FBI had demonstrated a pattern of wanton destruction of documents in an unrelated case, including some 99 cubic feet of Gay-related documents collected under a little-known federal law called the Hoey Act;

- the FBI and the Department of Justice belied their assertions that contemporary Gay groups were not then undergoing surveillance through their detailed responses in the so-called "Capitagate" investigations in August 1982.

Simonowski said the FBI has acknowledged that it did gather information on most of the groups he asked about by name and that it currently has a total of 5,600 pages of surveillance records. ■

Parents of Gays Celebrate 10th Anniversary

More than 100 delegates to the second annual convention of the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays gathered in New York City in October to ask themselves and each other the question, "As nurturing and loving parents, what can we do to support our Gay children?"

The answer was multifaceted. The foundation's major focus in 1984, according to Richard Ashworth, president of the New York affiliate, will be to try to convince religious organizations that homosexuality is a "true and natural sexual orientation." Another big topic of discussion was how to help Lesbians and Gay men combat the tide of homophobia rising out of the AIDS crisis. And since the national federation was formed

only two years ago out of a loose coalition of parents and friends of Gays groups all over the United States, an effort to strengthen the network between the groups as an effective national organization was made at the federation's second convention. The delegates did this through workshops on subjects ranging from "Psychological Approaches to Homophobia" to "Lesbian and Gay Adolescents," and by listening to such speakers as Virginia Apuzzo of the National Gay Task Force, Congressman Ted Weiss and New York Mayor Edward Koch.

The convention also marked the tenth anniversary of the formation of the first parents of Gays group in New York City. Marybelle Smith and Bert Brauer represented the San

Francisco chapter of Parents FLAG.

One project the national federation has undertaken of late is a mass mailing to 1,700 university dormitory directors and 2,650 nursing school directors around the country to help change the attitudes of university and nursing school students and staff towards Lesbians and Gay men. Each packet contains a cover letter and two booklets called "About Our Children," which seek to dispel some of the myths and legends of Gay sexuality. To date, 350,000 of the booklets have been distributed.

The local chapter of Parents FLAG meets at 2 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month at 1450 Sutter Street. For more information call 928-2748 or 668-2128. ■

Bias Case Against Oakland Bar Dropped

Doorman Gone, New Manager

by Dion B. Sanders

A 24-year-old Black Gay man who said that he would file a race-discrimination complaint against the Bench & Bar in Oakland after being refused entry last month, has changed his mind and will not pursue the case, the *Bay Area Reporter* has learned.

Kevin Wilcox, who was denied entry by a doorman September 3 for carrying what management said was improper identification, said he was dropping his case because the doorman who stopped him was no longer employed there, and that "there's a new manager there, and it wouldn't be fair to cause embarrassment to the new management" by pursuing his complaint.

The doorman resigned the day after the incident.

Wilcox on September 12 attempted to issue a verbal complaint to the state Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission at its Oakland office, but because Wilcox suffers from a severe speech impediment, ABC investigators were unable to understand him, according to ABC district administrator Jay Caldis.

Caldis told the *Bay Area Reporter* three weeks ago that if Wilcox still wanted to file a complaint, he should do so in writing.

Bench & Bar general manager Paul Hernandez, when informed Saturday of Wilcox's decision, expressed satisfaction that the complaint had been dropped. "His (Wilcox's) allegations (of being refused entry because he

is Black) were totally unfounded. What was claimed to have occurred did not occur," he said.

Hernandez, himself a Gay Latino, was appointed to his post September 1 and reiterated an earlier statement to the *Bay Area Reporter* that as a person of color who has himself experienced race discrimination, "It is not... nor will it ever be my policy to discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, sex, national origin, or religious affiliation." ■

Free Legal Clinic

On Saturday, October 22, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Pride Center, 890 Hayes at Fillmore, lawyers will talk to you about your legal problem. Everyone is welcome.

The legal clinic is sponsored by Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, Gay Legal Referral Service, Lesbian Rights Project, National Gay Rights Advocates, and the Pride Foundation. For further information phone George Voigt, 621-3900. ■

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HEADLINES

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Vandals Smash Up Lesbian Cafe

Berkeley Landmark Won't Back Down

by George Mendenhall

Nine years of intimidation has not discouraged Joan Antonuccio. The co-owner of the Brick Hut Cafe, an openly lesbian-operated Berkeley restaurant, was saddened Sunday morning when she discovered cafe windows and the front door had been broken by vandals. Concrete blocks were discovered among the shattered glass.

"If you bitches don't stop fondling our children," a telephone caller had threatened earlier in the week, "we will torch your place." Antonuccio said the phone calls and attacks on the Brick Hut have been more regular lately, causing her to reflect on incidents that occurred during the Anita Bryant campaign in Miami.

The cafe is openly run by Lesbians, and a bulletin board proudly displays notices about Bay Area Lesbian events. Most of the customers are straight and accept the ambience. The owners have a ten-year lease on the space. Antonuccio said, "Our landlord is a great guy. He is very supportive. We just signed a ten-year lease. He will probably only bill us for \$500 for the windows."

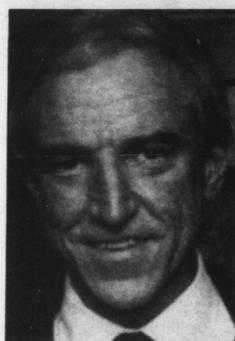
The Berkeley police have been usually cooperative in taking reports about incidents in the past, including break-ins in which food was taken. The owners revealed that this time a man who lives above the business reported the incident to the police after it happened. Police arrived and took notes but did not notify the owners, who Antonuccio says are known to the officers. Although the door was broken open, the owners did not know of the incident until they arrived at 7 a.m.

Barbara Lubin, a Berkeley school board member and regular Brick Hut customer, was angered over the incident. She arrived on Sunday to find the destruction and later met with the

Pride Foundation Has Triple Celebration

Pride Foundation this week-end celebrates its tenth anniversary, having become over the decade one of the largest Gay community social service organizations in the country. Pride operates 18th Street Services (an outpatient alcohol and drug abuse counseling service for Lesbians and Gay men), Acceptance House (a residential alcoholism treatment facility for Gay men), Gay Legal Referral Service, Gay Community Switchboard, and Pride Center, a Gay and neighborhood community center at Hayes and Fillmore. Pride is also the only Gay organization in the country operating its own Community Development Corporation that can accept federal funds to purchase residential property for the benefit of low-income persons.

In addition to its tenth anniversary, Pride also celebrates the first year of operating Pride Cen-



Jim Hormel to be honored for his fundraising work with the Pacific Center. (Photo: Rink)

ter and the completion of a \$1.1 million capital fundraising campaign for Pride Center.

A gala event celebrating Pride's triple accomplishment will be held on Sunday, October 23, from 3 until 5 p.m. at Pride Center. Led by Mayor Dianne Feinstein, the honorary co-chair of the Pride Center Capital Campaign, this \$25 per person reception will honor those who made the successful fundraising drive possible. "The reception on the 23rd will also give us a chance to have a reunion of the many directors and volunteers whose energy made Pride Foundation's ten years a success," commented Larry Long, president of Pride Foundation. "Pride has always been a volunteer organization with one of the lowest administrative overheads of any organization of our size in the country. We hope the several hundreds of people who've made Pride what it is will come visit Pride Center during our anniversary celebration."

Worried Well Drop-in

The AIDS Worried Well drop-in group is designed for Gay men who are anxious about the AIDS epidemic and want to implement preventive health practices in their lifestyles. The drop-in group is held at Operation Concern, 1853 Market Street, on Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m.; a \$5 donation is requested.

police chief to ask for beefed-up police patrols and prompt notification of the owners when future incidents take place. The local activist will meet with Mayor Gus Newport to discuss "the implications of this kind of atrocious attack on the Gay community."

There have been no recent attacks or damage to Lesbian bars

or restaurants in San Francisco. A spot-check on some businesses indicated that other than occasional catcalls from passing males, there have been no reported incidents. . . . Ollie's, one of the East Bay's largest Lesbian-operated bar/restaurants, has not had incidents; all the same, single women are escorted to their cars at night.

Fast PD Work Nabs Castro Bashers

(Continued from page 1)

as almost adult Latinos. One is reportedly 16 and the other almost 18. Police said the duo kept up their anti-Gay slurs even as they were taken to the Mission stationhouse.

District attorney's office investigator Ron Huberman said that the cooperation of neighborhood witnesses was vital in the attackers' apprehension. People repeatedly gave directions, leading the police to make an arrest.

Huberman said that if any other locals were attacked or harassed to be sure to contact him, also any additional witnesses of the rampage.

Two days after the attack Baron, 34, contacted the Bay Area Reporter to share the good news of his ugly experience.

Baron was the least injured of the three. On Tuesday he still showed a bruised and bloody lip from a bottle thrown in his face . . . but no more. "I had Mace and used it," Baron said. "and I chased my attackers away." He wanted everybody to know that Mace helps.

Baron, who works for the Museum of Modern Art, has been in San Francisco for eight years. He was returning home and had walked down the alley to his first floor front door. "I wasn't aware of them until they started in on me. The fact that I had Mace kept them at least eight feet away," Baron started screaming and drove his attackers back to the street.

The second thing that Baron wanted to note was the immediate helpful response of neighbors and passersby who went to his aid. He said, "I was overwhelmed by all the people who came forth to comfort me."

His final appreciation was for the SFPD who stopped immediately when he flagged them down. "They went right after the assailants," he said, "and got them."

"With Halloween coming up," concluded Baron, "I want to alert everyone to be careful and safe. . . ."

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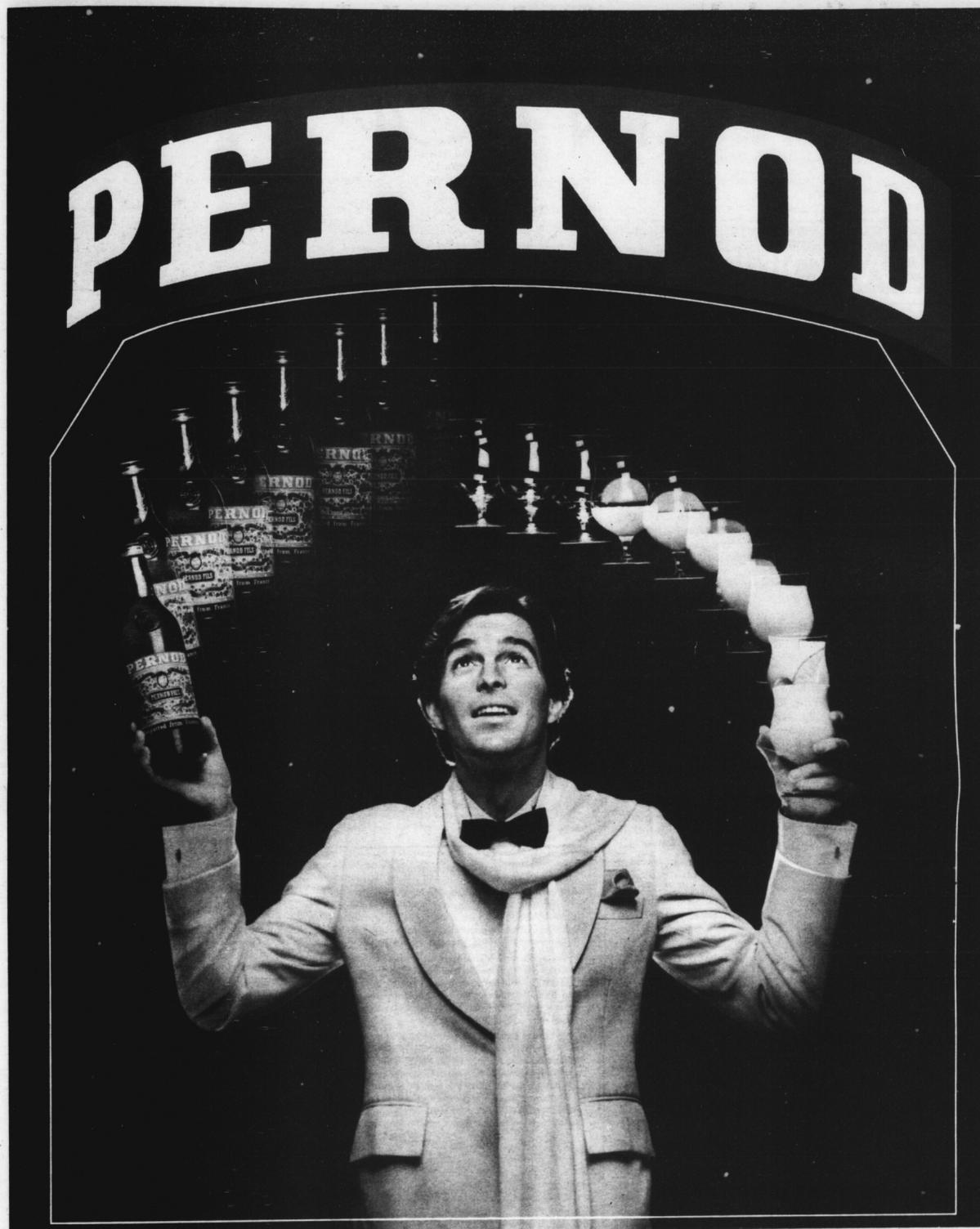
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VOL. XIII NO. 42 OCTOBER 20, 1983 NEXT ISSUE OUT: OCTOBER 27 NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 21

VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Naming the Diseases

Part I: On the Way to No Man's Land

Some 15 months ago at a Gay leadership conference in Dallas, I first ran into the AIDS semantics battle that was waged as strenuously and tediously as the "what-to-do" battle. The immediate occasion was a health care workshop with doctors, nurses, researchers, and volunteers from around the nation.

As there was little progress made on what to do about the calamity — save at that time to collect as much information as possible — an easier (and perhaps more satisfying) path to take was on what to call the malaise. Half the time and energy was spent complaining on what other people were calling the disease — "the Gay disease," "the Gay plague" or just "plague." The other half was spent on what terminology was appropriate. Kaposi's sarcoma was a mouthful; pneumocystis carinii pneumonia was a double mouthful. Both beyond the pronouncing skills of most.

Few seemed to appreciate that for all the official haggling — some of which verged on thought control — over the back fence people were going to call "it" something that was simple, clear, and probably accusatory.

One was suggested calling it the "Haitian disease" exploiting the human folly of blaming someone else for misfortune. After all, he pled, in the 16th century venereal disease exploded in Europe (the Indians' return gift to Columbus); the Italians called it the Spanish disease; the French called it the Italian disease; the English called it the French disease. The disease decimated armies and ravaged the cities. One died of it and horribly. Over the back fence they called it the "pox" and when one got angry at another they called down a "pox" upon that person's head.

As the ravages of primary stage syphilis subsided over the generations, so did the virility of the word "pox." Not much threatening in the 20th century by wishing a "chicken pox" on somebody . . .

It's not a new language game either that when words get dirty, we give them a scrubbing. Syphilis was an advance over the pox — perhaps. It was borrowed from the name Syphilus, the hero of a 1530 poem, "Syphilis, or The French Disease" (that phrase again) by Italian poet Girolamo Frascatoro. The poet was probably trying to pin the business on the French soldiers for what they were trying to pin on the Italian signorinas. Scientists don't cotton up to artistic titles and in time generalized the "hiss" and "sneer" of syphilis with "venereal disease." Sooner or later — so penitents didn't have to think of private parts — the dread was shortened to VD.

At some point all too many people knew what VD was. Time also came when more of them were being passed along, and someone to neutralize the postulate came up with STD's (sexually transmitted diseases).

A similar clean-up process began soon with the new dread disease. With an eyelash flick we had KS and PC-pneumonia, neither sounding so bad as their parents, and before we knew it, the condition behind the condition was unveiled: Acquired Immune Deficiency, and we had AIDS. A label not to be similarly conferred with STD's (which started going down about the same time as the former's rates were going up. And although best guess is that both are gathered in the same garden using the same tools and orifices, you can't have one rising tide contradicting an ebbing tide. Or put otherwise, you can't jumble up the good and bad news together.

AIDS — despite other tries for linguistic dominance — took hold. It worked on many fronts. It was simple. It was clear (because it said nothing). It was clean (a la "bandaids" or "curads") and sounded clear-uppable, if not curable. Or as we began to like to say, "It was nonstigmatic."

Paul Lorch

To be continued . . .

Enemy Says

★ Re flap over AIDS funds (SF Chronicle 10/12/83)
Why don't you demonstrate a little non-tunnel vision and write something about Feinstein's money juggling against the poor. It's no wonder minorities hate you cocksuckers! Wake up!

Naturally Unsigned
San Francisco

Prefers Popo

★ Someday, before I die; I would like to know the correct pronunciation and phrase, for that part of the male anatomy "That goes over the fence last." Is it behind, derriere, buns, rear, tush, cheeks, ass, or popo? I personally like popo.

Herb Levy
San Francisco

Mathematicians

★ Check your arithmetic, please! In the October 6th issue on page 1 and later on page 19, the headline incorrectly states, "Hotel Tax Fund Grants Gays .00075% of Total for Arts." The number should be 7.5%!

A calculator probably won't help in this case since it appears that the erring individual moved the decimal point in the wrong direction. Common sense will — .00075% would have been a minuscule part of \$3,400,000 — a mere \$2.65!

Jim Smith
Sunnyvale

ED. NOTE: We've been corrected, thank you.

P. Lorch

Blood Bank Thanks

★ The Irwin Memorial Blood Bank extends its appreciation to the San Francisco Women's Community for their blood donations in support of those lives affected by AIDS. Approximately 70 women responded to the recent two week Women's Campaign.

Giving blood is a simple gesture which can help a person suffering from disease, trauma or surgery. This lifesaving gesture has made a statement to everyone that San Francisco Women will rally together in a health crisis to support our community, thereby insuring a continual and safe blood supply.

As far as I know, no other community has shown the responsiveness of San Francisco. Our blood supply has had no decrease directly due to AIDS. This is because of gestures similar to this event. We are looking forward to more events like this. The San Francisco Women's Community has set an example for the rest of the country. Thanks to everyone for all their support through publicity, support and donations.

Deborah Kleinman
Donor Recruitment
Irwin Memorial Blood Bank
San Francisco

Pro 30 Protest

★ That R. Allen found it necessary to vent his frustration in the "letters to the editor" by putting down BWMT, G-40+ and Pro 30 for his failure to attract older Black men suggests a personality problem he apparently chooses to overlook.

BWMT, G-40+ and Pro 30 all have dedicated people who give generously of their time and talents to bring together Gay men with similar interests. Anyone who has ever volunteered his/her time and talents knows

Rodger
San Francisco

only too well it is usually a thankless effort, but certainly not without feelings of personal satisfaction.

As founder of Professionals Over 30 with seven years of dedication in bringing about understanding and camaraderie among both Gay men and Lesbians, I know full well the hurt of hearing criticism from people who take it out on the leaders of such organizations when they personally fail to connect. R. Allen says he has attended functions of the aforesaid groups, but has he ever offered his help in making them a success?

During the past seven years, Pro 30 has played host to some 10,000 diverse people from all over the globe. New friendships wrought via Pro 30 are legion. And it is with due pleasure and satisfaction that not a few members and guests have personally thanked me for organizing the group. A plaque from the Board of Directors to that effect attests their grateful appreciation for my efforts.

An old sage wisely counsels, "Don't tell me about the storms you've encountered. Did you bring in the ship?" I sincerely hope that R. Allen and others seeking to broaden their horizons will take heed.

Tom James, Founder
Professionals Over 30/International
San Francisco

AIDS & Interferon?

★ I would like to say how overwhelmed I was to read about the article "I Am Recovering from AIDS" by S.M. Anderson.

I have a lover of 16 years who was diagnosed as having Kaposi's sarcoma in November 1982. His tests also revealed him as having parasites and hepatitis B. In December, in order to help overcome the fear of the disease, we started listening to mental therapy tapes by Carl O. Simonton, M.D., plus heavy doses of vitamin C in powdered form.

In January of this year he started on Interferon; each month on this treatment he felt sicker and weaker. After five months he felt as if the drug was killing him and was worse than the disease itself. Even though his Kaposi's sarcoma lesions disappeared during this time, we both felt that the Interferon was doing no good whatsoever. He stopped taking the drug in May against his doctor's advice.

As of today, he has gained 15 pounds, his Kaposi's sarcoma has gone, and he has regained the energy and is working full time without the slightest complication. His new doctor, however, did say that the Interferon did do severe damage to his liver which will take at least a couple of years to repair itself.

How long are doctors going to continue to kill AIDS patients with chemotherapy and Interferon when it is so obvious it is the wrong treatment and only lowers the immune system more than ever?

We had a very close friend who would only listen to his doctor die last week. He looked worse than Linda Blair in The Exorcist without any exaggeration. I believe the doctors involved are more concerned with getting rich quick than wanting to hear of a cure at this time.

Henry H. Hoffer
Mill Valley, CA

Gay Roulette

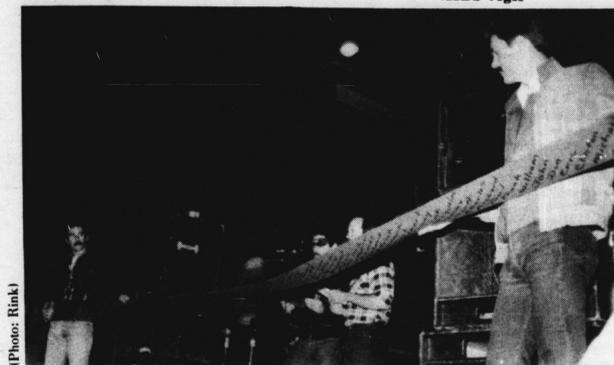
★ Does the front page of every newspaper and magazine need to carry a story about AIDS every day to remind gay/bi men that it still exists as a life-threatening illness?

Reports have it that 8th & Howard has them lining up on some nights just to get in. With three or more new cases being reported daily in S.F., the reality of AIDS still exists. Continuing this behavior is like playing Russian Roulette.

Rodger
San Francisco

LETTERS

No Support for Vigil



(Photo: Rink)

★ Please extend this letter to all those who found it in them to attend the Saturday evening vigil on October 8 as well as to those who did not.
I'd like to personally thank everyone who attended the AIDS vigil this past Saturday evening; your presence and response to this crisis was greatly appreciated. I'm aware that Saturday evenings are not the most politically or socially acceptable times for this type of event; nevertheless, thank you for your concern and heartfelt response. It was greatly appreciated. I'd like to especially thank my friends who saw fit to attend this worthy event. And to those friends who found other pressing engagements, let me say in the words of one who precedes me, Mark Feldman, "Phooey, phooey, phooey!" Your absence was not overlooked, nor will we be likely to forget your oversight.

Roger Lyon
San Francisco

Will 'B.A.R.' Go to College?

★ Weekly I have to make a special trip to the Castro to pick up my copy of B.A.R. At the college, San Francisco State University, there are many different newspapers available outside in front of the college, but the B.A.R. is not one of them. As I'm sure there are many other Gay men who read B.A.R., I'm writing this letter in hopes that something can be done to make B.A.R. more available to the students here at San Francisco State. The B.A.R. is the only newspaper I read and I would like to thank you for a job well done in the writing of the article on Safety that appeared in a recent issue. Although lately you have had very few articles on violence against Gays, I must say it is the first thing I look for when reading B.A.R. I hope to see B.A.R. go to college.

Michael LaFleur
Student at SFSU
San Francisco

Grrr . . .

★ Must you demonstrate your ignorance of the language in the boldest type on the front page of your rag? I refer, of course, to the recent headline, "Media Toys with a Feinstein for Vice Pres. . . etc." As a newspaper, a medium of communication, one of the several media of communication, commonly grouped as "the media," you should know that if the media were to do anything, they should TOY with something. They would never TOYS with it.

Raymond Coshow

ED. NOTE: We did it consciously. We decided to use "media" as an "it" rather than a "they." Does that make us ignorant or innovative?

P. Lorch

Don't Divide

★ I have just finished reading the letter of Edward Jon Beay in yesterday's issue of the B.A.R. and am greatly distressed. He appears to echo the sentiments recently expressed by many others vis-a-vis funding for AIDS research. Specifically, he refers to the competition between Black colleges and AIDS researchers for federal funds. This issue of competition for limited dollars has also been raised in relation to funding of public health services for the poor here in San Francisco.

Don't people realize that when we start complaining that "our" cause is more worthy than "their" cause that we are doing exactly what Reagan and Feinstein want us to do? This is a game known as "Divide the Oppressed and Make Them Weaker." Those of us who are disenfranchised by our governments ought not to undermine each other's struggles. A cure for AIDS will not limit its effectiveness to white males. Money for Black colleges does not solely benefit Black heterosexuals. That money is likely used to train future researchers to assist in the eradication of fatal disease!

The myth that our present administration perpetuates is one of limited funding available for research, education, and public health programs. The truth of the matter is that the \$600 million awarded to Black colleges is a paltry sum compared to the billions lavished on Department of Defense projects.

Gary Skop
San Francisco

AIDS Vigil

★ In your last issue I was surprised and disappointed that the announcement of the AIDS march was not on page 1 — instead some story about Feinstein and her chances of being vice-president. I think your magazine should get its priorities in order. I saw another gay magazine have the AIDS march on their front page. This is a major life/death issue that has affected us all and I hope to see your magazine give AIDS information more priority.

On the positive side, I was very glad to see your two AIDS-related articles — one on condoms and the other on vitamin C and its effect on AIDS. They were both very interesting and informative. Please keep trying to be the best gay mag in the area.

Steve Rogers
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Would a switch from page 5 to page 1 have made much change in attendance? Why not look for reasons rather than scapegoats . . .

P. Lorch

"Piggish" Thoughts

★ I see by their latest Buyers Guide & Directory that both California Voice and B.A.R. are members of GGBA. I have been urged to join GGBA by a couple of friends, and my response was, "Why should I?" They said it was a great place to socialize and there were a lot of other cute men who were members. As proof they showed me the latest GGBA newsletter which did indeed have a couple handsome men in the picture on the front page, which was taken at the last "Twenty-Two on the Red" party. Upon reading the complete newsletter, I was not impressed. As a matter of fact, I was most upset that they are urging people to support the GGBA Foundation "whole hog" and say that I consider them "piggish" is putting it mildly.

My friends told me that GGBA had recently received an anonymous donation of about \$50,000 which I never saw mentioned either in the California Voice or B.A.R. Even with inflation, that's nothing to sneeze at. So what are they doing with that money? They have hired a professional fundraiser, yet, and this donation is going toward his salary and "other administrative costs."

GGBA could very well stand for "God grants bones accordingly" because they dole out a little here and a little there to their "chosen few" such as the Harvey Milk Film Project, Lilith, West Coast Lesbian Archives, etc. Somehow they have managed to dupe Bay Area gays into believing that the GGBA Foundation knows best where Gay Charity should go. How any people can indulge themselves by renting tuxedos for their one night of black and white, with "that touch of red," while our gay brothers, and now sisters, are dying of AIDS/KS is beyond me. I wouldn't be surprised to see them sponsoring a fox hunt for another touch of red for the blue-bloods of the group, since their first group trip was to the Reno Rodeo, which most definitely is cruelty to animals. But so what if a measly little fox suffers and is torn to bits by the hounds as long as it's entertaining to the monied crowd.

I doubt that any paper would have the guts to print this since I have attacked a fat and very rich sacred cow, but I, for one, am not going to have "big gay business" dictate which gay charities I should give to. The money it would cost me for GGBA membership and the price of tuxedo rental plus the \$25 for a ticket (yet!) will go to my favorite charity, the Shanti Project. Please just sign my initials, as I'd be crucified and probably lose my business if you printed my name.

W.H.
San Francisco

Cabaret Booster

★ Congratulations on obtaining such a fine writer as Gene Price who did the cabaret review on Rich Jensen in your 10/13 issue.

I have long avoided reading most of your cabaret reviews as they are, more often than not, amateurish. However, Mr. Price displays a quality of writing that has long been absent from your pages.

Keep up the good work — and let's have more from Gene Price.

Fred Seals
San Francisco

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LETTERS

Perking with Perkins

* Seems like I am being continually criticized for not settling down. Just last week, for instance, one of the former cover faces of The Advocate jibed me on Castro as to whether I was still standing around in the same spot every day. I know that most of the offenders of my dignity are only trying to make small talk or be nice when they resort to the repetitive refrain, "When are you going to settle down?" but it does tend to become just a bit weary.



(Photo: Rink)

After all, just what am I supposed to settle down to a piece of ground round, or should I exercise just a wee bit of selectivity and grab a nice T-bone steak?

These days, with all the pumped up bodies walking around it seems like pulling in your line loaded with a nice hum is not too unreasonable. I have, unfortunately, pulled in that particular line many times only to find the requisite catch has all that you could ever pick up at the gym but not that which you might pick up at a library.

So, obviously, I am picky; too picky, they say. Fickle. Well done, I say and so I wait. And as I wait I see all the ground meat and popular cuts getting together and settling down — and settling down. I might add, to all that America and they each have to offer each other — friends, parties, dinners, movies, together forever in midland deploria.

And it appears from out of nowhere, I just ain't interested in such kinds of settling down. When I settle down, it will be with a smart piece of meat, liver well browned, thank you.

I think what people really mean when they ask the settling down question is why the fuck don't I get off the street and do something productive — like write, for example. "You're a good writer," they say; "why don't you do it seriously?" And I can only respond that if I didn't know what I was doing, yes, I would probably write. But writers are in love with the romantic affair which is going on within their own minds. They are caught up with their own wit and intelligence, their own affable expression. Sorry, but that is just not me.

No thanks, but I have my money on the bet that when it's all over, those who are crying will be exactly those who have gone through life unproductively occupied. And that it was people like myself who were productively unoccupied that agitated everyone else into the seeming illusion of your splendid lives.

Steve Perkins San Francisco

Too Much Color

* In response to John W. Steele's comment titled "Too Much Color" in issue 39:

Since when does one article or one page devoted to a certain topic or group of people mean that a newspaper has shifted its focus on that particular group or topic? That logic is absurd.

In any event, blacks as well as other people of color are a part of the gay community. To dismiss this act is to say they don't exist. From your inept comments I can only surmise that your "intellect" is similar to your segregationist brethren's in South Africa.

During these crucial times in our lives it's unfortunate that our insensitivities to other people allows our energies to be misdirected.

Rather than condemn the Bay Area Reporter for attempting to make our community more cohesive through exposure for all segments, we should applaud their efforts.

Remember, we live in a heterogenous community, country, and world. It is time for each of us to interact with others as individuals and not as categories. The rewards and added richness to our lives are limitless.

Ira Durant Marin County, CA

Share rather than Stab

* One of the psychological weapons held in reserve by the Ruling Class is the trick of "divide and conquer." Unfortunately we have learned our lessons all too well: they do not have to set us upon each other, because we attack each other far more fiercely than those in power would even care about us doing.

An article in the Chronicle about funding for Black education benefits versus funding for AIDS research sets two minority groups at each other, squabbling over crumbs, when the real money is always spent on the military budget.

A woman writes a letter about finding the sexually-explicit portions of B.A.R. offensive. Her letter is inflammatory. The letters printed in response are retaliatory and equally inflammatory. People call each other names (faggots and dykes used as epithets) and make claims of gender superiority. This, of course, isn't the first of these epistolary exchanges: remember the dog-shit barrage of a couple of months ago? — nor, I'm afraid, will it be the last. Meanwhile, those of us who choose, as Gay people, to socialize with other Gay people regardless of gender, have difficulty finding acceptable and accepting places to go. How many times have we read stories of requirements of three photo I.D.'s when a potential patron is viewed as somehow less-than-perfect?

As Lesbians and Gay men, we share a history of oppression. When we attack each other, we only further oppress ourselves. I'd love to see a moratorium on this type of expression. Associate with whom you please, love who you please, but stop hating everyone else. Anything less than unity only fans the fires of prejudice that would consume us.

Sonnie Swenston San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Beautifully put, thank you.

P. Lorch

Feminist Rights Wrong

* We would like to extend our sincere apologies to Paul-David Wadler for our error (published in our letter "Bovine Thoughts," September 29) in attributing to him the authorship of the letter "Rodeos are Okay" (August 18). The actual author, Jok Church, is the person to whom our criticism should have been directed. Far from endorsing such cruelties as the rodeo, Wadler, we have since learned, is a staunch supporter of the rights of animals. We therefore extend an especial apology to Wadler for mistakenly attributing to him views so antithetical to his own.

Marti Kheel Feminists for Animal Rights Berkeley

Attitude

* On July 18, 1983, I ordered four chairs from The Apartment Store-Spatial Relations located at 2362 Market Street in San Francisco. On Friday, September 30, I was advised by one of the employees at The Apartment Store that my chairs had arrived and I could pick them up at their warehouse on Saturday morning, October 1. When I arrived at the warehouse on Saturday, the four chairs were in unopened cartons. The chairs were removed from the cartons by the individual in charge. I was asked to inspect the chairs to see if they met with my approval.

The upholstery work was less than satisfactory. I explained this to the warehouse person. He in turn called The Apartment Store. I finally spoke with one of the salespeople at The Apartment Store and was told, "You either accept the chairs as they are or you lose your \$200 deposit." I pointed out that I was a customer and did not appreciate this level of service. At that point there was some discussion between the salesperson and perhaps the owner of The Apartment Store whose full name they refused to give me. I was advised that they would take \$5 off each chair. I suggested a larger amount like \$50 total and was told that that was out of the question. There was absolutely no suggestion made on the part of The Apartment Store-Spatial Relations that they would return the chairs to the manufacturer in order that a first-class upholstery job be done.

This kind of treatment was totally uncalled for and I hope that individuals who shop in either of these places will be wary of the kind of treatment they are apt to receive.

Howard Lader San Francisco

School Speakers Needs

* The Lesbian/Gay Speakers Bureau for the San Francisco public schools would like to inform the community that it arranged for over 90 speaking engagements during the 1982-83 school year. In addition the bureau's copy of the film The Word Is Out was borrowed and shown by many of the teachers.

While Lesbian and Gay speakers made presentations at all the major public high schools and some middle schools (junior highs) there is still much to be accomplished. To help us in our work the community must continue to lobby the superintendent of schools and the members of the Board of Education. Increased speaking, to wider and more varied classes and age groups is needed as well as outreach to parent groups and teachers.

More volunteer speakers are always needed and in keeping with the rich pluralistic ethnic make up of the student population, we especially require representatives of all racial and cultural groups. Training is provided: for more information call, Hank Wilson 441-4188 or E.G. 824-1521.

Tom Anniano San Francisco

And Then There's This

* To all you worthwhile contributing members of society, i.e. AIDS and prospective AIDS "victims":

Seeing as your rag is a popular outlet for various hate mail and articles, I'm sure you'd adore printing this.

I used to have contempt etc. for the typical highly visible white fag of the Castrate area and neighborhoods, but such wasted energy my dear queers. Nevermind all those millions of fag bucks going into research for AIDS while women's clinics continue to scratch for funding. Hey, you dudes really deserve it!

Now I think positive, yessirs. I'm happy now when you scumbags get it and in thinking positive hope it will be more and more of you 'til the rest of you pricks crawl back into the closet where you belong and no longer will decent folk have to live in San Franfaggio.

(Very) Hope Full San Francisco

LETTERS

Prison Pen Pals

The Bay Area Reporter has not screened any of these correspondents. While we think it a good idea to keep lines open to these inmates, we do not wish any of our readers to be exploited. We suggest anyone who writes not to send money, not to get emotionally involved, nor to make promises on places to stay, etc.

Keep in mind some of those men are in maximum security prisons. They didn't get there for jaywalking. All the same, some are good people; some are not.

Multisexual In Nevada

* Am a prisoner and cannot pay for an ad in your personal column, but if you have space to do so, would you please print this small ad?

Lonely, but soon to be released bisexual prisoner wishes correspondence, friendship and possible good relationship with transsexuals, Gays, or any lonely person interested. Please write.

Ernest Jogan P.O. Box 607 Carson City, Nevada 89702-0607

In A Hurry Pal

* GWM, 25, intelligent and lonely seeks friendship or possible relationship. Presently incarcerated for 6 months. Please write me soon. Honesty is the best way toward happiness. Any race, age ok.

Greg Tucker #53234 Unit 24 Parchman, MS 38738

Florida Sailer

* I am a prisoner in a Florida prison and have no family or friends. I am given to understand you might make four chairs known to your subscribers.

I am white, 40, reasonably articulate, a world traveler of sorts, sometimes bum; into sailing, music, travel and stimulating experiences and conversation.

I appreciate beauty in all its forms and can be content with a loaf of bread, a jug of wine and an interesting companion. I would like to write to someone who would allow a relationship to develop based on love, trust and honesty. I'm a Gemini, caring and sensitive to the needs of special people.

Danny Mazak #002390, Slot 265 Zephyrhills, FL 34283-0518

Hopes in Ohio

* My name is Jimmie E. Brown, and I am incarcerated here at Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. I am in search of correspondence with someone in the outside world because communication alleviates the pains and intensities in my mind and heart. Although I have committed a crime to or against society, please look not upon this as being a mark of disgrace, for we are all capable of error.

I am still a human being and have all the human characteristics that the most high has bestowed upon us all. Except, I have no one to share my feeling with. I love people who care.

I am an indigent individual who has not the funds to pay you to publish my ad, but I thank you in advance with prayers. The inmates here at SOCF only receive three dollars a month and the three dollars are used to purchase necessities to keep the body fresh. Such as soap, toothpaste and deodorant. But I will be glad to forward you a dollar if it will help pursue my endeavors.

Many nights I have cried silent tears which no one feels. I am very emotional in things regarding the emotions. My sign is Sagittarius. My height is 5'7" and I weigh 149 lbs. My physical activities are swimming, boxing, dancing and singing. I used to be a lead singer in church until I got lost in the sauce. I am not a christian now, but I have regained my sane, smile.

Jimmie Brown, #153-044 P.O. Box 45699 Lucasville, OH 45699-0001

Ohio 21 Year Old

* I am a young man currently incarcerated. I am requesting pen pal correspondence. It is my understanding that your newspaper will publish ads for pen pals.

I am a 21 year old electronic student, 5'9", 147 lbs., would like to establish friendship through letter writing with intelligent caring people.

Larry A. Smith, #170-635 P.O. Box 57 Marion, OH 43302

Bad Boy

* I'm a young white prisoner and I'd be most grateful if you'd publish my ad seeking pen-friends in the Bay Area Reporter.

"Bad Boy wants friendship! 20 yrs. old - dirty blond hair & brown eyes - 5'5", 130 lbs. Please write."

Craig Reed, #026971 P.O. Box 747 Starke, FL 32091

Jail Thanks

* Most recently we had an incident happen up here in San Francisco County Jail. The fact centering around this was that certain staff in the facility were being discriminatory toward Gays. Myself and one other inmate went on a hunger strike as a result of our protest not getting anywhere.

At this time, we ran out of sources to go to. All that was left was for me to call you and speak to you. The B.A.R. is a very busy publication and I did not expect much. I was wrong.

You were not only professional, but very kind in listening to the problem. As a result of my inquiry, you brought results to us. I just would like to say that if it would not have been for your assistance, nothing would have taken place. This is not the first time you have come to the aid of the Gay inmates here in County Jail.

On behalf of myself and the other inmates here at County Jail, a very warm thank you. I wish I could do more than just a simple thank.

Thank you to the entire staff of the B.A.R. and yourself for running a very professional newspaper, and a warm thanks for continuing to voice our opinion in your paper.

Ted Jorgensen

Thanks Prison Services

* I would like to express my thanks in behalf of your response to my previous letter. Your assistance in my efforts to make the "innerworld" of jail life known to those concerned on the outside civilization has made an outstanding effort in all and has provided a method for those concerned to ask and be answered.

Please keep up the good work. People who read your paper do so for many reasons. I would personally like to see an article or "column" appear in your paper in regard to the ups and downs of prisons and penal systems in general. I think that if this were to come about, it would help those who wish to learn.

Gary Fullerton San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Mike Hippler has been working on one such article of Gay life in prison. Anyone who has information to share may write him in care of this paper.

P. Lorch

Pen Pal Supporter

* This letter is being written to you in grateful appreciation for the Prison Letter section of your paper and Mr. Comfort's letter. It truly warmed my heart and uplifted my spirit to see such a loving, warm, and heart-felt story which had its beginnings in simply correspondence and blossoming into a strong, meaningful and blessed relationship for both persons. One like this has strong similarities and parallel characteristics to mine, and that, I feel, caused me to write this letter to you.

Unlike "Name On File's" appellation and dismay at anyone daring to write to a prisoner, might I say that examples of these relationships do stand out in the forefront of positive, sincere social interaction and should not be denied the recognition and acceptance that any other relationship has. If these alone can be accomplished and the foundation laid and nurtured through the medium of pen and ink, then they have just as much value and importance as the ones on the outside. Also, one question to "Name On File" — Has he/she ever made any mistakes in his/her personal life? If so, were there any guilt feelings? Admonishment? And, correction made by him/her? Though I understand that there are the ones who "feel no pain in whatever they may do, be it right or wrong, and carry on that same attitude, but what about the others who have learned from their experience and folly of their actions, and sincerely want to change their lives and re-enter the mainstream of society positively and fully? Can't we as a community and as a society try to reach out to these persons in honesty and sincerity and bring them back into a healthy, progressive and meaningful life? And, are we truly reaching out enough.

Henry M. Chappell San Francisco

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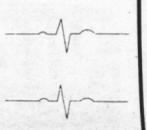
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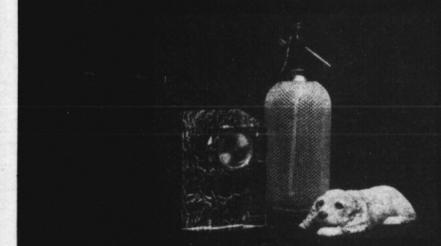
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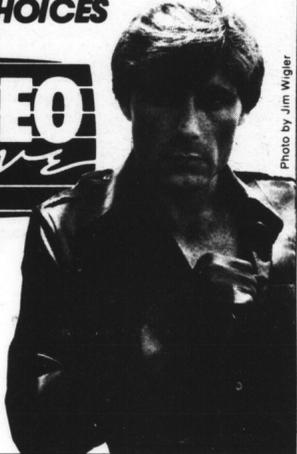


Photo by Jim Wigger

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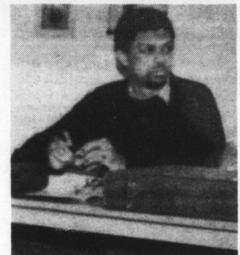
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BWMT Plans Growth and Halloween Dance

Black and White Men Together/San Francisco will be holding their first annual Membership Drive for the entire month of October. Among their activities will be a newcomers brunch, "bring-a-friend" BYO parties, an information table at 18th and Castro every Sunday, and a possible fundraiser or two at local watering holes. The monthful of activities will end with their Fourth Annual Gala Halloween Party.

"Puttin' on the Ritz" was chosen by BWMT/SF members to be this year's theme for their Halloween party. It will be held at the Park West Hotel, 450 Post Street, 4th floor, just half a block



Black and White Men Together plan big month. (Photo: Rink)

west of Union Square. Saturday night, October 29, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. will be the date of the largest, multi-racial affair of Halloween weekend. There will be dancing and a no-host bar available. "Puttin' on the Ritz" will also be one of the least expensive and safest parties in town with admission costs of \$3 for BWMT members (any chapter) and \$7 for nonmembers. Available also are free discount tickets which are available from BWMT members or which can be picked up at All American Boy, 463 Castro Street. Further information about BWMT/SF or "Puttin' on the Ritz" can be obtained by calling Jim or George or leaving a message at (415) 563-2443.

Gay Business Convenes in L.A.

Hundreds of Gay and Lesbian business professionals will gather in Los Angeles next month for the third annual convention of the National Association of Business Councils. The NABC convention, to be held Thursday, November 3, through Sunday, November 6, is the most important event of the year for Gay professionals, business owners, and company representatives.

The theme of this year's convention is "Future Links" which asserts that if we want to enjoy the bonds that span the gaps between different ideologies and cultures while maintaining our own identities, we must begin today to lay new foundations of communication and continue to reinforce those that already exist. The theme is also concerned with relationships — between the present and the future, be-

tween communities, and between professional and personal involvements.

The centerpiece of the convention will be a banquet to be held on Saturday, according to organizers of the business gathering, Hank Koen, vice president of Futures Research at Security Pacific Bank, will deliver the keynote address. Culminating the evening will be the NABC's awards presentation. Actress Debbie Reynolds will receive the Humanitarian Award for her ongoing efforts to raise funds for AIDS research. The Business Award will go to the Miller Brewing Company. The recipient of the Political Award has yet to be announced.

In addition to delegate meetings and workshops, a number of optional events and a special cocktail party at Los Angeles City Hall have been scheduled.

Convention organizers will present a series of seminars and panels designed for the Gay and Lesbian businessperson. Subjects range from "Real Estate: Investments and Co-ownership" and "Discrimination in Employment" to leadership and financial issues, marketing, advertising, and communications.

The '83 convention will be hosted by the Los Angeles Business and Professional Association. It is planned as a gathering place for people who share both professional and humanitarian goals and will also be a tangible expression of the strength and potential of the NABC, its twenty-nine member groups, and their affiliates. NABC is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. Membership is comprised of thousands of business and professional Gay men and Lesbians, and friends and supporters from the non-Gay community.

Independent Gay Health Clubs Organize

A press release from Indianapolis, Indiana this week reported that Gay health clubs are helping one another.

"Well, I found out why we're called independents," proclaimed Stan Berg, owner of The Body Works, a Gay health and social club in Indianapolis. "The idea of forming an association of Independent Gay Health Clubs (IGHC) came about in early May of 1983 when I realized that the AIDS problem and the depressed economy were hurting my business. I began to look for ways to improve patronage at my club." With those thoughts, Berg began writing all the independent bathhouses (many prefer being called health and social clubs) in the country telling them that if they would honor his club's membership card at their club, then he would honor theirs at his club. A great deal of dialogue took place between Berg and the other club owners. Within three months nearly thirty other clubs were cross-honoring memberships. The obvious benefit to the consumer is that a membership

purchased at one IGHC club can be used at all IGHC clubs with few exceptions. The traveler need no longer carry a wallet full of membership cards. And most of the IGHC clubs are comfortable places to spend the night — fewer hotel bills for the traveler.

Soon Berg discovered that these club owners were interested in two other ideas whose time had apparently come: 1) cooperative national advertising, and 2) forming an association of Gay health clubs primarily for the exchange of information.

Jim Snodgrass of the Diplomat Health Club in Grand Rapids, Michigan had said his club joined the IGHC because, "The Gay population in this country is extremely mobile, and because of this mobility, a large 'chain' of Gay health clubs always has a built-in advantage. One of the main benefits of the IGHC will be the ability of independent clubs to more effectively compete with a large chain through cooperative national advertising and cross-honoring club cards."

Terry Johnston of The Pines

in Seattle, Washington stated, "I hope the IGHC will generate business and good will to all concerned." Ron Ehemann of Man's Country in Chicago noted, "Our President, Chuck Renslow, has discussed the benefits of such an association for years, and fully supports the efforts in forming the IGHC." Bob Pereira of The Compound in North Hollywood, California noted that "There were several reasons for our interest in the IGHC, including national advertising and the cross-honoring of club cards, but probably the biggest benefit to all of the independent clubs will come out of the ongoing communication that the IGHC will naturally establish between the businesses."

In reacting to the AIDS dilemma, Conrad Morgan of Morgan's Sauna in Buffalo, New York probably summed up the feeling of many club owners when he said, "We have to act responsibly towards the AIDS problem. We need to talk about educating our patrons about the 'facts' of AIDS, not the myths. To ignore the problem would be irresponsible. And if we don't make it an issue, perhaps some state health departments will." Regarding this issue Bob Pereira of The Compound further noted, "I don't think clubs that offer their patrons a variety of services such as gyms, video and other more 'social' activities have as much to worry about as those clubs that simply offer a place for people to have sex."

The enthusiasm of club owners towards this association has been staggering to say the least.

An international convention for the IGHC is being hosted by Kevan Goodrich of the Midtowne Spas and will take place in New Orleans at the Ramada Hotel, January 15-19.



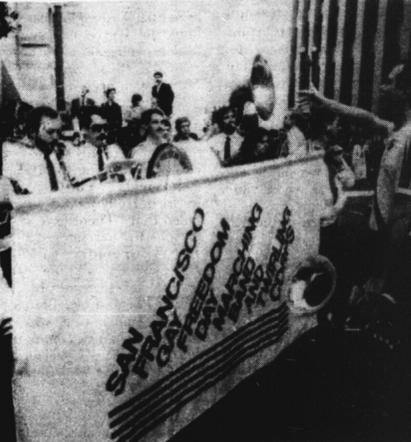
Founder of Independent Bathhouses' organization. Indiana's Stan Berg.

Bette Midler Comes to Town

Bette Midler's appearance at Crocker Galleria's Walden book store proved to be a smashing success. A line a block long had gathered at 7 a.m. for The Divine One's noon appearance. A couple thousand people hung out of buildings, clung to construction scaffolding, and packed 20 and 30 deep on sidewalks and into the streets. The line seeking autographed books stretched for blocks.



Cheers and applause swelled up from the crowd at the kickoff tune from the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps, who had slipped into a reserved area near the bookstore's entrance. (Bette Midler personally requested that the band play, following a tradition started at Bette's downtown appearance three years ago.) "San Francisco," played full-tilt, bounced off the buildings and swept down onto the wildly cheering crowd. The band's sound is better than ever, especially evidenced by a melodious "If My Friends Could See Me Now." "The Stripper," drawn out of the now warmed-up group by effervescent drum major David Bailey, confirmed that the band is more than ready for a record and videotape. The videotape could be stunning, mostly because the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps is made up of extraordinarily attractive people, who smile like they mean it.



The Flag Corps did their stuff, and a baton twirler from the band demonstrated his artistry, to the delight of the spectators, who by now were tensed to a fever pitch.

Bette Midler arrived a bit after noon, scampering out of a limousine with a fanfare from the band resounding across the shouting and applauding throng. Bette mugged, toyed with a baton — she threw it into the air and ran for cover instead of trying to catch it — and spun around to give everyone a good look at her subdued (for her) velvet and satin outfit, topped by a veil. She was dressed for Le Domino, in marked contrast with her usual book-signing outfit, which was right in line for the stage of "Beach Blanket Babylon."

Bette charged into Walden Books, the band played, and the line of eager fans clutching their books edged closer and closer to their goal. The Divine One stayed for hours, saying that she "owes it to her fans," reassuring them that she's "worth the wait!" (Photo: Rink)

Berkeley Training for Public Speakers on Lesbian and Gay Lifestyles

Lesbians and Gay men interested in doing public speaking on homosexuality and Lesbian/Gay lifestyles are encouraged to participate in an all-day Speaker's Training at Berkeley's Pacific Center on Sunday, October 23.

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NEWS BITS FROM THE GAY MEDIA CIRCUIT

Rape of San Diego Man

A San Diego man said he was raped last month by three gun-wielding men who forced him to go to a secluded parking lot where all three took turns with him, according to *Update*, a gay newspaper in Southern California.



Southern California's Gay Newspaper

The man had to go to a local emergency room for treatment, but did not report the crime to police.

The case is not unique, according to the newspaper. A week earlier a 19-year-old sailor reported being kidnapped and raped, and both emergency room personnel and police say there are a surprising number of male rape cases. Male rape victims, like female rape victims, are reluctant to report it.

Gay Community News

Boston Black Paper Rejects Gay Pol. Ad

A conservative weekly newspaper catering to Black people in Boston has refused to accept an advertisement promoting voter registration placed by the Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, according to *Gay Community News* of Boston.

The Alliance placed orders for the ads last month in several weekly neighborhood newspapers, including the *Bay State Banner*, but was told by the associate publisher of the paper that the ad was "discriminatory" and that the *Banner* was "not interested in marketing the Alliance in our paper." The Alliance treasurer requested a meeting with the publisher but was told such a meeting was "unnecessary." The publisher, Melvin Miller, has been criticized in the past for editorials in the *Banner* that expressed sexist and homophobic views.

GAYELLOW PAGES™

Anti-Lesbian Article Stirs Australian Campus Fuss

Gay students at Adelaide University in South Australia are upset because a columnist for the campus newspaper wrote an article attacking Lesbians, according to the *Green Park Observer*, a gay newspaper in Sydney.

The article appeared under the name "Sluggo Fewings" in the student-funded weekly newspaper *Bread and Circuses* and said in part, "1983, The Year of the Pig or the Lesbian, I'm not sure... Probably not much difference anyway — they both stink and have fat slimy bodies."

The newspaper is partially controlled by conservative Christians, according to the *Green Park Observer*, and has been used as a vehicle for attacking a campus women's group. The article is seen as the latest attack in a continuing battle.

Representatives of the Adelaide University Gay Society have called on the student association to censure and reprimand the newspaper's editors and require them to reveal the identity of the columnist, one of whom has been accused of being its author.

SEATTLE GAY NEWS

Cornell Gay Denied Housing

A housing discrimination suit may be filed against a student community program at Cornell University because the group decided to rescind an offer of admission to a 17-year-old student after it was discovered he was a member of the steering committee for the North American Man-Boy Love Association, according to *The Empty Closet*, a Gay newspaper in New York.

Members of Telluride House, a small group that provides com-

munity housing for a select, highly intellectual group of students, decided to revoke the admission of Bill Andriette after he revealed his NAMBLA membership during a public speaking class at a seminar sponsored by the group.

Ithaca's human rights statute prohibits housing discrimination based on sexual orientation, but leaves it up to the city prosecutor to decide whether to pursue a particular case.

SMU Rejects Student Club

For the second time this year, the student senate at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, has refused to formally recognize a Gay student group, according to the *Dallas/Fort Worth Gay News*.

When the SMU Gay and Lesbian Student Support Organization applied for recognition from the senate last Spring, the vote against the group was greeted by a chorus of cheers from students who were vehemently against recognizing it, and it was learned that select senators attended a dinner at which an anti-Gay presentation was made by right-wing activist Paul Cameron. Charges of harassment of Gay student have been made in the ensuing months, including one student who was passed an anonymous note saying, "Move off the floor, faggot, or else."

The student group was again

greeted by opposition this Fall when it petitioned the student senate for recognition, which would enable it to receive student funds, including public comments by U.S. Rep. Jim Collins that expressed concern that the Methodist Church-affiliated university would sanction a Gay organization. A former student senator sent about 1,000 letters to SMU alumni urging them to express their disapproval of the group to the university administration, but this was seen as a less powerful tactic than the petition opposing GLSSO signed by 2,500 students last Spring.

The measure to recognize GLSSO lost 16 to 15, with the student body vice president casting the deciding vote when it came to a tie.



The Atlas Savings & Loan Board of Directors turned out in work clothes and hardhats to launch the demolition of the building at the site of the new branch on Castro Street. (Photo: Rink)

CUAV

Halloween Safety Plans

by Diane Christensen



CUAV's new safety brochure on display. (Photo: Rink)

Halloween is a night of mystery. It provides the forum for even the financial district clones to go out on the town in genderfuck drag. Fantasies become realities. My best friend has always wanted Lois Lane's blue-black hair — her opportunity quickly approaches. Halloween is our night.

The meaning of Halloween has changed for me during the last ten years. When I was a kid my friends and I would set out for miles, armed with pillowcases, whipped cream, and a couple of eggs. Excitement flared on Halloween. The adrenalin shooting through our bodies then can now only be compared to the very best coke. We were eight or ten, and during that one night each year we were liberated — we got that rare taste of freedom. Last year I sat in Mission Police Station at 3:00 a.m., well after the Halloween celebration had died down. The former captain there, Don Taylor, was unwrapping tootsie rolls that had been laced with needles. Trick or treating ain't what it used to be. Few parents allow their kids out on Halloween anymore, fearing they'll bite into the literal translation of the poisoned apple.

A lot of images come up when I think of Halloween now: dyke witches, drag queens, more parties than one could possibly attend... Our celebration in the Lesbian/Gay community represents to me the same thing it did when I was a kid: the quest for

liberation — the search for that rare taste of freedom. When CUAV committees formed in July this year to begin planning Halloween safety projects, I became saddened. Thoughts raced through my head. Is Halloween continuing to evolve? Will the Gay community lose the meaning of this mighty holiday, just as our children have?

Yes, Halloween still brings to mind witches, face paint, and the obnoxious but festive noisemakers. But the image that comes to the forefront of my mind this year is youth gangs.

I am not willing to lose Halloween to the thugs, bigots, and fag-bashers. Let the parties be larger and brighter than ever before! And let our efforts at safety be stronger than ever. We in CUAV decided to attempt to recruit 200 monitors for Castro Street this year. We want to outnumber/out-do those who wish to steal away with our holiday. We need your help. If you're one of the many experienced community monitors, or if you've never monitored anything but the back rooms of bars, we need your help! Please join us!

CUAV monitors will be out Saturday, October 29, and Monday, Halloween night. Training sessions are October 24-27 from 6:30-7:30 and Sunday, October 30, from 11 a.m. to noon at 514 Castro Street.

To sign up or for more information, call Stef Mattfeld at 864-3112.

AIDS a Topic In Hong Kong News

by Dianne Gregory

California State Senator and Mrs. Milton Marks took a little vacation during a recent legislative recess in August and found some interesting reading over their morning coffee in Hong Kong. It seems concern about AIDS has reached the readers of the *South China Morning Post*.

Over a three-day period the Hong Kong daily newspaper ran no less than five stories about AIDS and one letter to the editor that would make Jerry Falwell look like a long-time friend of homosexuals. The articles the San Francisco Republican brought back to the United States did not contain anything really new about the immune deficiency syndrome, but did offer a slightly different perspective on it. Two of the articles concerned hemophiliacs, the only group thought to be at risk in the area, and three others concerned the first possible AIDS case in Hong Kong and the difficulties of confirming it. The letter to the editor was something

else, though. "However, homosexuality needs partners," the letter said in part. "Without partners, homosexuals cannot satisfy themselves, so it is frequent that the Gays induce young boys with various temptations like money, presents and other material attractions. In the United States sometimes the pimps entice the boys to be sodomites for their own benefit... Promiscuity may be one of the causes of the spread of infectious diseases and also a source of violence between rival sexual mates."

As the senator said, "Homophobia is alive and well in Hong Kong."

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ON THE JOB: GAY PEOPLE AT WORK

GGBA — My Six-Year Connection

Part I of two parts

The assassinations of Supervisor Harvey Milk and George Moscone in 1978 changed the course of Gay activism in San Francisco. Milk, on his third try, had been elected to the Board of Supervisors the year before, becoming the first upfront Gay elected official of a major city. Euphoria prevailed in the Gay community. Established activists experienced a surge of optimism and renewed energy in their quest for social change and legal protection. Many who were previously inactive were inspired by Milk's success to get involved.

After Dan White's shooting spree, the mood changed from euphoria to bitterness, from hope to gloom, from a sense of genuine possibilities for positive change to a despairing of such an eventual outcome. The example of violence against a Gay man, spread as it was across the front pages and the television screens, quickly elicited imitators. Violence against Gay men and women, always a problem, grew markedly in frequency, a trend further stimulated by the implicit message contained in the leniency of the Dan White verdict. Many observed a new and pervading sense of anxiety in the community.

In that crucible of thwarted expectations and dashed hopes, a new strength was emerging from a previously unexpected place — San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay business community and its fledgling chamber of commerce, the Golden Gate Business Association. Founded in 1974, GGBA had kept a low and closeted profile. (The Tavern Guild, which dates back to the early 1960's, was for many years the more visible and politically-oriented organization of bars, bar employees, and related businesses.)

San Francisco politicians saw the potential clout of GGBA even before it was perceived by the membership of the organization itself. GGBA's annual dinner, at which the board of directors for the new year is installed in office, was the first GGBA event I attended, back in 1977. Prominent on the dais and at the speaker's rostrum were Harvey Milk (the proprietor of a camera shop) and George Moscone. Vocal in their support for this emerging Gay constituency, the politicians received enthusiastic ovations from an audience grateful for their friendship and awed by such fervent wooing. For many it was the first awareness of an enfranchisement for Gay identity. It certainly felt good to a then recently arrived immigrant from New York and its City Council's monotonous and disheartening annual rejection of Gay rights.

Late in 1977, I attended a monthly GGBA membership meeting and unexpectedly found myself elected to the board of directors for 1978. In the class of 1978 were a number of new faces, young and energetic professionals, some emerging from the closet for the first time. (Local Gay business groups have found that not all of their newer members do not belong to other Gay organizations; the business group provides a relatively comfortable, nonpolitical environment for participation by some who feel threatened by the contentiousness, both internal and external, which seems inherent in political clubs.) It was this new energy which brought GGBA firmly out of the closet at the 1979 installation dinner. The dinner program

described the organization as "business people who happen to be Gay, working together to build a better community." It was the first time the word "gay" had appeared in writing in a GGBA document. The description was sincere in intent and not unsophisticated in its public relations message. "Working together to build a better community" is about as unassailable as motherhood and apple pie.

The board was sworn in by Supervisor Harry Britt, appointed by Mayor Feinstein just a few weeks before to the vacant Milk seat. My speech that evening — as newly elected president — was an articulation of the concerns I had heard expressed by GGBA's board and membership. The tumultuous and disturbing events through which we had lived in recent months called for a more outspoken stance on issues and that could only be effectively pursued by an upfront organization.

I brought GGBA out of the closet . . .

During 1979 two situations arose in which the newly energized GGBA was able to flex its political muscle. An anonymous, aggrieved Gay employee of Oakland-based World Airways sent me a copy of a memorandum, addressed by President Ed Daly to all employees. It included the line: "This company doesn't need hoodlums, racketeers, [or] queers . . ." GGBA wrote to Daly, but its protests were ignored. A Coors-type boycott was considered. A key problem was that World Airways was outside of San Francisco and subject to no law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. When World later opened a sales office in San Francisco we immediately registered a complaint with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. With the cooperation — and legal force — of the Commission we were able to obtain a pledge of nondiscrimination from the recalcitrant Mr. Daly.

The second confrontation of 1979 was of more lasting significance. After the White Night riots, the then-President of the powerful San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, Bill Dauer, wrote a scathing critical piece about the riot in the Chamber's widely-circulated magazine. In a television interview with Gay journalist Randy Shilts, Mr. Dauer was asked about the importance of Gay tourist dollars.

"There are more legitimate ways to get money," he replied. He was quoted in the *San Jose Mercury*: "The positive effects of the Gay community? There are no positive effects." It seemed to me that, as our community's chamber of commerce, it was the responsibility of GGBA to confront our downtown peers. A delegation of GGBA board members met with Dauer and explained its concerns. To Dauer's credit, we never heard an anti-Gay remark from him again, and, not long after, he hired two well-known Gay activists to work for the Chamber.

The San Francisco Chamber, observing the rapid growth of GGBA membership, sent its well-commissioned salespeople into the Gay community seeking

ARTHUR LAZERE, C.P.A.

new members. There was always some overlap between the memberships of the two groups. But the GGBA board and membership have long understood that the differences between GGBA and the Chamber are not only those of sexual orientation. The Chamber is controlled by, and works in the interests of the major downtown corporations. GGBA, on the other hand, is a group of small merchants and professionals. On issue after issue, we would not be able to work with the Chamber. Nevertheless, the Chamber was certainly viewing GGBA in a new light. Under Dauer's successor, Executive Director John Jacobs, the relationship between the organizations improved to the point where, in 1983, when a new delegation from GGBA board called upon Mr. Jacobs, we were able to secure an endorsement by the Chamber of the Gay employment rights bill, AB-1, currently pending in the

state legislature.

Of continuing interest to GGBA has been the thorny problem of police/Gay relations. In my installation speech in 1979 I promised: "If there are incidents of police harassment of Gay businesses, as has been suggested in the press recently, GGBA will speak out and make it clear that *anywhere*, but least of all in San Francisco, such activity is not acceptable and will not be tolerated by this community." Police Chief Charles Gain, an acknowledged friend of the Gay community, was at the dinner and demanded equal time. But the good Chief's friendship alone was not sufficient to combat homophobia in the police force. A March, 1979 GGBA program on the subject drew an unusually large crowd, some of whom were angry over problems with permits and threatened closings of baths and other sexually oriented establishments. A *Chronicle* front page headline the next day trumpeted: "Gay Businessmen Boo Police Chief." Since 1979 GGBA has played an active and continuing role in programs to educate police recruits and familiarize them with our community. In addition, we have supported efforts to recruit Lesbian and Gay officers into the San Francisco police force. ■

To be continued — This is the first of a two-part reminiscence as the author prepares to retire from the Golden Gate Business Association board after six years of service.

Stress Session

District Health Center #1 is holding a six-week stress management program beginning November 1. All six sessions will be held at the Center, located at 3850-17th Street, on Tuesday evenings, 7:15 PM to 9:15 PM.

The fee for the six-session program is \$11.00. For more information and/or to register, please call 558-3905, Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. ■

GUEST COLUMN

Poo on Prop. P

by Duké J. Armstrong

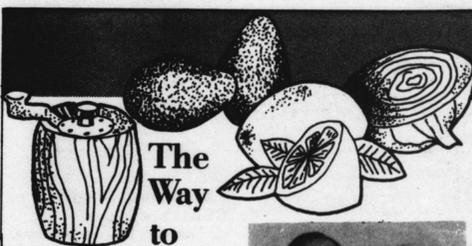
In its appropriate sphere, government regulation harmonizes disparate interests in a complex society. The problem is that some fuzzy-minded legislators never seem to understand the effective limits of government. They are forever attempting to legislate solutions for all of life's ills. Wendy Nelder's anti-smoking ordinance is the quintessential example of such misplaced legislative zeal.

The ordinance unblushingly purports to dictate inter-office personal relations between employees. That is absurd on its face. However it may be phrased, common courtesy and politeness cannot be imposed by legislative fiat. The attempt to do so only generates contempt in the citizenry for all government.

But the entire Board of Supervisors, excepting one (Nancy Walker) voted this ordinance into law. The media trumpeted the

legislation as "trendsetting" and "the first in the nation." No self-respecting politician worth their perks could possibly have enough chutzpah to vote against anything so labeled. And so, it has been left to the citizens to reimpose a modicum of sanity. As has happened all too frequently in recent years, the voters have had to fight their own government by qualifying a referendum to overturn an inane legislative act.

Proposition P will appear on the ballot this November for the express purpose of nullifying Wendy's folly. The supervisor would have us believe it is all a nefarious plot by the tobacco industry to kill her crusading measure. Sorry, Miss Goody Two Shoes. It is we the people telling you to mind your own business. We can attend to our own personal affairs, thank you. ■



The Way to His Heart . . .

Steak Diane

Peter Hirsch & John Prisco

A steak dinner for two. Expensive? Yes. But let us consider transforming the lowly cube steak into something a little more interesting than steak sandwich.

This recipe is good for any kind of beefsteak, though some hunks might object to being seared on the grill. But you can use cube steaks, New York strips, filet mignon, or even hamburger.

You need to have on hand in addition to your meat a few basics. Of course, as a dedicated reader of our column, you always have Dijon mustard, Lea & Perrins Worcestershire sauce, wine, and freeze-dried shallots. What, you don't stock up on freeze-dried shallots? Well, just for this once we'll allow you to use chopped onion or minced green onion.

Get your frying pan quite hot. Then add the meat and sear on both sides to keep in juices and flavor. Turn down the heat and cook — but for only a couple of minutes more. Take the meat out of the pan and put it on a plate in a warm oven — about 225°.

Put some butter in the frying pan and add your shallots — or onions. Let them cook about a minute. Then add a teaspoon of mustard, a teaspoon of Worcestershire sauce, and about 1/4 cup of wine — white, red, or vermouth, whatever you have. Stir this up and cook over high heat until it thickens a little and reduces to three or four tablespoons of liquid.

Now to make this extra fancy, if you like, at this point you can add a dash of cognac or brandy, then turn the heat down low. To gild the lily, you can also add a little cream — whipping cream — about two or three tablespoons and a little extra butter.

I then take your meat out of the warm oven and return it to the frying pan. Allow the flavors to mingle over low heat for a couple of minutes. Then serve. Voila! Steak Diane.

You could serve this with some crisp French fries — they are French after all — but we like it with just some pieces of crusty baguette and a green salad with a light vinegar and oil dressing. And don't forget the flair — a sprig of watercress and a couple of cherry tomato halves would be tasteful. Bon appetit! ■

Youth Switchboard

This month marks the fifth year Gay Youth Community Switchboard has maintained operation in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Gay Switchboard is a pioneer program offering the first youth-for-youth community switchboard ever.

The Switchboard does not pretend to have all the answers

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The Switchboard wants to maintain the best service possible and in order to do this the Switchboard relies on its only source of income — donations. Make donations payable to GYCC, c/o PO Box 846, San Francisco, CA 94101. ■

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AIDS — A Personal Exploration

The New Gay Ward at San Francisco General

by Mike Hippler

Steve Corpuz was the first friend of mine to come down with AIDS. I say friend, but I hardly knew him really. We used to work together at Badlands when the back room was a restaurant. I waited tables. Steve washed dishes. He was an unusual dishwasher. Hell, he was an unusual person. First of all, he enjoyed his job, which to most people would have been intolerable. Secondly, he fit into no known categories within the rigidly structured Gay subculture — butch or fem, top or bottom, clone or leatherman, attractive or un. I never even knew what race he was. I liked Steve, for he always seemed to be smiling. He was so outgoing and personable that in an instant he cut through the layers of attitude and posturing that plague most of us.



S.F. General Hospital where the city has an AIDS clinic and a newly-designed AIDS ward. (Photo: Rink)

When the restaurant at Badlands closed, I lost touch with Steve. From time to time I would see him around the city, and we would exchange pleasantries for a few minutes before moving on. After a while, I heard more about Steve from my friend Randy, who had been a closer friend of his and who had moved to New Orleans in the meantime, than I did from Steve himself. It was Randy, in fact, who told me that Steve had AIDS. He had it pretty bad, Randy wrote, and was staying in San Francisco General Hospital. "Pray for him," Randy suggested, but I decided to do better than that. I decided to visit Steve at the hospital.

I don't know why I was so anxious to see Steve in the hospital when I never bothered to see him at home. Partly I saw myself as Randy's proxy, paying the visit he would have made if he could have. Also, I viewed myself as an angel of mercy, I must confess. My mother used to make the rounds of the hospitals when I was a kid, bringing genuine good will and cheer to those whose names appeared in the church bulletin as down-but-not-out, and to a degree I saw myself as valiantly carrying on in the family tradition. Furthermore, I put myself in Steve's position and decided that if I were in the hospital, I would appreciate visits from any friend, no matter how minor or foul-weather — anything to break up the dull hospital routine and to keep me from self-pity. But mostly, I realized, I wanted to see Steve out of a sense of curiosity and a desire to learn more about AIDS. No, that sounds too clinical, too detached, and perhaps a little morbid. I am not one of those who rushes to the scene of an accident for the fun of it. I just wanted to bring myself into closer personal contact with AIDS. After months

and months of reading about it, hearing about it, talking about it, and dreading it, it still hadn't touched my life significantly. I knew no one with AIDS. It seemed about as real to me as the fighting in Lebanon and El Salvador thousands of miles away. But unlike those battles, in this case, the enemy was all around. Even if I couldn't do anything

me a mask and directed me to a door down the hall on the right. "He's in isolation," she informed me, "and we have to protect him from infection." Although Randy had already told me that Steve had pneumocystis, I hadn't understood what that would involve.

When I saw Steve, he didn't look so bad — a little tired, I

"He hasn't been seeing people lately," she said. "It upsets him."

about it, I at least wanted to know what the enemy was.

I went to see Steve in March. I didn't call to let him know I was coming. I was afraid he might not connect the name with the face after all this time, and that would have been awkward. Also, I think, I was embarrassed about my motives, and I was afraid that if I talked to him on the phone first, he might somehow divine that I was coming to see him more for my own sake than for his. I realized, of course, that by simply showing up at the hospital, I was decreasing my chances of seeing him, but even that would have been OK — an easy out. The situation was a little false, after all, and if Steve couldn't see me, I could console myself by noting that at least I had made the gesture.

When I introduced myself to the nurse at the nurse's station, I was asked to wait a moment. "He hasn't been seeing people lately," she said. "It upsets him." Of all the things I expected, I hadn't expected that. I thought he'd be delighted to see visitors — any visitors. "Tell him I'm here for Randy Brooks," I suggested. "See if that makes a difference." Perhaps it did, for when she returned she handed

suppose, but who wouldn't look that way after several weeks in the hospital? His hair was disheveled. Perhaps he had lost some weight. The major difference was that he spoke with difficulty, and every few moments he reached over for an oxygen mask. He was definitely very sick. We didn't talk much about his illness, though. I think he was trying to block it out. Instead we talked about Randy ("So what's he doing, anyway?") and about the television programs Steve spent his day watching. I tried to pretend that there was nothing unusual about our situation, that I often spoke with a mask on my face to friends in hospital beds. The mask was hard to ignore, however. It kept slipping down over my nose.

The only truly uncomfortable moment came at the very beginning of the visit when I handed Steve the copy of *Gay Comic Number Two* that I had brought as a present. He took one look at it and handed it back to me in disgust. "No thanks, I don't want it," he said, and then, after a pause: "It's not that I don't appreciate it. It's just that that's not where my head is right now." I had thought he would find it

(Continued on next page)

AIDS — A Personal Exploration

(Continued from previous page)

funny, but it was clear that the free-wheeling, heady Gay lifestyle that the comic book represented appalled Steve now. "That's what put me here," he explained, "and I don't want to have anything to do with it." I was amazed, not so much at the depth of Steve's bitterness but at the focus of it. Obviously, he blamed his illness on being Gay. If he weren't Gay, he implied, he would never have gotten pneumocystis. Suddenly, I felt guilty — not just for being healthy, but also for being Gay and still glad to be so. I knew he was wrong to feel the way he did, but as I sat by that hospital bed, I wondered if perhaps I would feel the same if I were the one reaching for the oxygen mask.

Later Steve spoke about the future and how he couldn't wait to leave the hospital, which he hated. "When I get out of here," he said, not once, but several times, and I don't remember the rest, for again and again my mind objected. "But what if you don't get out of here, Steve?" He wouldn't let himself think about that possibility, which was perhaps the wise and sensible approach, but hardly a realistic one. Death was by no means a

— did I learn how Steve was doing. "Did you hear?" my friend asked me breathlessly. "Steve Corpuz died this week. He had AIDS."

I heard.

I've spent a lot of time in hospitals, and I know what it's like, if not to have a serious illness, at least to live with someone who has. When I was twenty-four my mother had a stroke and spent the next four months in the hospital, first at Verdugo Hills and then at Glendale Memorial in L.A. It was a terrible time. Everything that could go wrong did go wrong, and I watched my mother, who had been relatively young and healthy when the stroke hit her, rapidly fade away into a shriveled version of her former self. The doctors couldn't tell us why she had the stroke or why she was beset by so many complications. They couldn't tell us when or if she would get better, and I don't think they had the foggiest notion what to do. They shaved her head and drained her skull.

"It just isn't fair. Things will never be the same."

certainty, but it hovered close by, a near neighbor.

When I rose to go, Steve reached out to shake hands. Again he surprised me, for once or twice during the visit he had shown great concern about his vulnerability to infection, and I didn't think he would want to take any risks, even through contact that casual. I immediately shook hands but couldn't help worrying about my own vulnerability. I'm no hysteric. I know how stupid it is to worry that AIDS can be passed through the air or by a handshake. And yet my own health has been none too good this year, and I do worry, even about the stupidest things. "Good-bye, Steve," I said. He replied, "I'll call you when I get out."

Steve didn't call, and I didn't pay another visit to the hospital. The prospect was too unpleasant. I suppose I could have at least phoned to find out how he was, but I was afraid. Not until I ran into another friend from Badlands days some time later — was it a month? Six weeks?

They took her pulse and gave her drugs — but nothing worked. She only got worse. At Christmas, after three months spent watching Mom deteriorate, I prepared myself for the possibility of her death. The prospect terrified me, but I had to face it. I didn't think she would make it.

Throughout that period I spent my days working at a library in Pasadena and my nights at the hospital. I drove there directly from work just in time to meet Dad, who drove in from the opposite direction, from Burbank. Together we shared Mom's hospital dinner if she wasn't hungry or had one sent up for the two of us if she was. I don't remember exactly what we did all night. I do remember that we played a lot of bridge. Occasionally I read to her or watched TV while she slept. Dad and I stayed there every night until they kicked us out about ten o'clock, for we hated to leave her alone. We became hospital regulars and soon had the run of the place.

My sister, Judy, says that hospitals oppress her, and I can certainly understand that. They don't oppress me, however — not anymore. They remind me of Mom, and I appreciate those memories, even the painful ones. One particular memory still comes to mind whenever I enter a hospital corridor. I am stan-

ding at the end of the hallway outside Mom's room at Verdugo Hills Hospital about a week after the stroke. A large plate glass window is there with a panoramic view of the San Gabriel Mountains, and against the mountains a lone figure stands out — the gleaming white statue of a prophet. He is facing the mountains, and his arms reach out to the sky. Having passed that statue, which stands on the front lawn of a church on Foot-hill Boulevard, many times, I know what is written at the base: "Unto these hills I will lift mine eyes." It is a stirring sight, and as I watch, I begin to cry. "It isn't fair," I think. "It just isn't fair. Things will never be the same." People pass in the hall, but they don't stop to inquire what is wrong. In the hospital, people cry all the time.

San Francisco General doesn't look much like Verdugo Hills or Glendale Memorial, but inside it is much the same. Do all hospital corridors look alike? I went back there last week for the first time since Steve died, and I couldn't even remember exactly where I had last seen him. Remembering the location of my friend's room wasn't the purpose of this visit, however. I wanted to see the new AIDS ward that Steve never had the chance to see. Why? Because visiting Steve brought me no closer to AIDS than I had been before. I've seen my friends change their habits since then, and I've read about others dying — Patrick Cowley, James Howell, Michael Malone, Mark Feldman, James Moore — but I still don't understand. Who are the people with AIDS, and how are they dealing with it? Who takes care of those people, and how does this affect them? What is life like on a ward where no one fully understands the nature of the disease being treated, much less the treatment itself? How do any of them deal with the uncertainty, the ignorance, the fear? I hoped that at San Francisco General, I might find answers to some of these questions.

M. Hippler



S.F. General — on the way to the AIDS ward. (Photo: Rink)

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No on O

WAYNE FRIDAY

One of the more controversial measures to appear on next month's ballot is Proposition O, a measure sponsored by Supervisor Quentin Kopp and supported by opponents of bilingual elections. Proposition O would require the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor to pass and sign a resolution to Congress and the President, on behalf of the people of San Francisco, asking for repeal of the bilingual provisions of the Voting Rights Act. Supporters of Prop. O want to use San Francisco as the "kick-off city" for their national campaign to change the Voting Rights Act; a victory here for Prop. O would be used for publicity, fundraising, and for other purposes toward attaining that change. Opposed to Proposition O are Mayor Feinstein, Representatives Burton and Boxer, Speaker Willie Brown, and the three Gay Democratic clubs. The only member of the Board of Supervisors supporting the initiative is its author, Quentin Kopp. I join those listed as opposed to Proposition O and

ask the readers of this column to do likewise. San Francisco's large Chinese and Latino populations are particularly concerned about Proposition O, which many see as having less to do with bilingual ballots than with racist concerns about a "changing" San Francisco. This town's other minorities were with our community when we needed them on Proposition 6 (the anti-Gay Briggs initiative) and I, for one, hope the Gay and Lesbian community turns out in large numbers to vote NO on this attempt to take away other people's rights at the ballot box next month. Vote NO on Proposition O!

The Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance (a "nonpartisan PAC" composed of persons of differing political views and party



Feminist writer Gloria Steinem

registrations who are interested in securing the election or appointment of public officials who are sympathetic to the human and civil rights of Gays and Lesbians") will hold a champagne reception at the California Culinary Academy, 215 Fremont St., on Saturday, November 5 (8:35-6-8 p.m.).

Both *Time* and *Newsweek* did stories last week of a possible woman veep on the Democratic ticket (also a Republican possibility) with Mayor Feinstein mentioned prominently with *Time* running a color photo of the mayor. • David Scondras, a well-known, up-front Gay, made it into the November runoff for the 8th District City Council seat in Boston and is given an even chance of being that city's first openly-Gay council member. And most Boston Gay activists are now expected to support Mel King, a Black, in the November mayoralty runoff.

Never one to mince words, the Rev. Cecil Williams can be expected to speak about more than the Drew School controversy when he addresses next Tuesday's (October 25) regular meeting of the Harvey Milk Gay Demo Club at the Women's Building. • In Rochester, New York, members of the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley plan a major protest against the Rochester Chamber of Commerce, which denied the Gay group the use of its banquet hall — the 200-member Gay Alliance had requested the use of the hall to celebrate its tenth anniversary. • Actress Lauren Bacall (Woman of the Year), appearing on Channel 5's "People Are Talking" show last week, warned against the New Right, calling the Moral Majority a "nightmare." She claimed that some of the same types are emerging now that were



Marin County's Assemblyman Filante will be one of the first recipients of a political contribution from the new Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance. The move was in appreciation for his vote on AB-1, the only Republican "Yes" vote in the Assembly. (Photo: Rink)

licity in Louisiana and Foat's supporters are worried. • Good turnouts at both Carol Ruth Silver's birthday party last week and Richard Hongisto's Maxwell's Plum fundraiser, as well as at a barbecue fundraiser held Friday night for Harry Britt at the home of Andrea Jepson.

Van Ness (October 24, 6 p.m.), and this one sounds interesting. • Rosalie Wyman, the new chair of the 1984 Demo Convention, telling the *NY Times* that she expects a lot of demonstrations at next July's San Francisco confab; says Roz. "I expect you to find a lot of environmentalists, teach-



Senator Milton Marks launches his mobile District Office this weekend in the Castro. Saturday, October 22, he'll be at Hibernia Beach from 11 to 11:45 a.m.; from noon to 12:45, he'll be at Bell Market (24th & Sanchez). He is posing here with CRIR members — for which club he'll be on a panel at their next meeting. (Photo: Rink)

You read it here first: A two-year study just completed at UC Davis found that separating young male sheep and goats from females at an early age to avoid premature pregnancies is the leading cause of homosexuality among adult rams and billies. • Lia Belli looked like a candidate for something when she rode in the Columbus Day Parade pass-

ers, and MediCare and Social Security people demonstrating because they know it will get them on prime time television."

Bill Kraus, aide to Representative Sala Burton, will fly to El Salvador Monday, representing the congressman as part of a six-person delegation attempting to persuade the government there

The real power at the '84 Demo convention will be L.A.'s Roz Wyman, who has already managed to oust the late Phil Burton's SF man in the top management. The maneuver revealed that the Burton family's political power has passed.

in charge during the McCarthy era when the famous actress was among those charged by the House un-American Activities Committee; Bacall warned that "it could all happen again."

A "Halloween Masquerade for Women," a benefit to help erase Carole Migden's old campaign debt, will be held on Saturday, October 29, at Cesar's Palace on Mission Street near Army. Entertainment will be by The Contractions, Lea DeLaria, and Marga Gomez (\$10 in advance, \$12 at the door; 552-3829 for info). • Famed feminist Gloria Steinem, editor of *Ms. Magazine*, telling reporters who questioned her sexuality, hoping to spur a disclaimer of Lesbians, that there is "always an unpleasant curiosity about my feminist's life" (especially an unmarried 49-year-old feminist) but "I always say that my friends are my friends and I'm not going to talk about certain things." • Good seats still available for the 6th Annual Toklas Club Awards Dinner at the Mark Hopkins (November 1; cocktails at 6, dinner at 7; 621-4986 for info). • A state district judge in New Orleans postponed the murder trial of former NOW leader Ginny Foat because of excessive pub-



Friends at the Hongisto bash at Maxwell's Plum. (Photo: Rink)

ing out little packets of Chiclets (?) to the people lining the sidewalks. • Former Congressman Pete McCloskey, Senator Milton Marks, KRON-TV political specialist Rollin Post, RNC Regional Director Harvey Hukari, and County GOP Chairman Dolph Andrews will discuss politics in general and GOP politics in particular at a roundtable discussion during next Monday's regular Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (CRIR) meeting at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn on

to free one of its most prominent political prisoners, professor Ricardo Calderon, the secretary-general of the National University of El Salvador. ■

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WONDERS IN ALICELAND

Annual Banquet on Tap

DENNIS COLLINS

A monthly report of happenings within the largest Lesbian/Gay political club in the nation.



Bay Area Reporter writer George Mendenhall will be honored at the Alice Demos' banquet November 1. (Photo: Rink)

DINNER

Steve Walters reports that this year's Annual Awards Dinner promises to be the biggest and best ever. The popular team of Hal & David from L.A. has been signed on as entertainment and ticket sales have been brisk. Thirty tables of ten have been sold already, and Steve says that the 500-seat Peacock Court may sell out. To insure getting a ticket, call Steve at 621-4986. Vital data: 6th Annual Awards Dinner, Mark Hopkins Hotel, Peacock Court, Tuesday, Nov. 1, 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner. Tickets are \$40 per person.

WOMEN'S MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Women's Caucus will launch a membership drive next month. During November all women will pay 59 cents on the dollar for membership. This is the approximate and inequitable amount women are paid in this country compared to their male counterparts. The standard \$20 annual dues will be \$11.80. For information call Diana Christensen at 864-3112.

REGISTRATION DRIVE

An extremely successful registration drive was waged recently in some South of Market bars. According to organizer Law Wilson, well over 100 new voters signed up. "Chaps," the new leather bar in town, gave every new registrant a drink on the house, and "The Eagle," as always, was very cooperative.

LABOR CAUCUS QUESTIONNAIRE

The newly-formed Labor Caucus of Alice in conjunction with the Lesbian and Gay Labor Alliance is developing a survey of Gays in the Bay Area. The purpose of the survey is to determine if the workers feel that they are being exploited. Some of the areas the survey will explore are union membership, salary levels, health plans, paid vacations, and attitudes toward Gay em-

ployees. One of the objectives of the survey will be to determine if Gay employees might benefit from union organizing in Gay businesses.

THIRD WORLD CAUCUS

Newly-elected Chair Claude Wynne and other caucus members are currently developing a strategy for dealing with relevant issues, promoting third world leadership within the club, and encouraging people of color to join Alice. Those interested in participating in this process are invited to attend meetings held the third Monday of every month, 7 p.m., at 2260-A Market Street. For further information call Claude at 431-1522 or Bill Camilo at 864-6454.

HALLOWEEN MONITORS

All dressed up and no place to go? CUAV desperately needs monitors on October 29 and 31. For further information and training dates call Stef Mattfeld at 864-3112.

and, somewhat less seriously,

RUMORS YOU CAN PUT TO REST DEPT.

Mayor Feinstein has fired her hairdresser and signed on an industrial roofer. Not true!

The Board of Supervisors will move to rename Mt. Davidson "Ella Hutch Hill" in honor of the late Supervisor. Just in the talking stages.

Allan Johnson, who recently sent out invites to a fundraiser hosted by Dianne Feinstein, Leonard Bernstein, Deborah Kerr and Allan Johnson, has lined up Indira Gandhi, Pope John Paul II, and all living Kennedys for his next do. It just ain't so.

And finally, that there is a move afoot among several club members to fly in the face of political correctness and rename the club "Fags and Dykes with Lots of Gripes." Only rumor. ■

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Be Wary of the San Francisco Plan Initiative

Has City Plan Seeds of Homophobia?

by Jim Haas

Proposition M is the most significant issue on the November ballot. It addresses the past and future direction of the city and proposes a rigorous regulatory scheme to govern growth.

I oppose the proposition. Before I give my reasons, I would like to set forth my orientation on this issue. I was involved with creating the neighborhood movement and was one of the dozen neighborhood leaders who spent nearly six years shepherding (through the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors) the Residential Zoning Ordinance which controls development in the neighborhoods. I am a director of Heritage, San Francisco's architectural preservation organization. I am a member of a committee of civic leaders dealing with the long-range future of the city. I believe in good planning, neighborhood participation, and environmental controls. Even with this background, I think that Proposition M is *overly complex, wrongheaded, and counter productive.*

The proposition not only attempts to regulate growth but restrict immigration to San Francisco. It would require employers located in new office buildings to participate in a comprehensive employment and training program so that the greatest feasible number of new employees are San Francisco residents, Gays and Lesbians should be particularly sensitive to implication of this provision.

The proponents argue that office development brings a continuous stream of new employees to San Francisco, displacing existing residents and increasing the cost of living. They want this stream cut off by restricting the employment opportunities of immigrants. As Gays and Les-

bians know better than most, people are not drafted into coming to San Francisco but choose to because of the environment, amenities, etc. San Francisco is a city of immigrants. Statistics indicate that no more than a third of the population is native-born. New residents enrich and broaden the city and enhance its attraction. I am very uneasy with a public policy which holds that immigrants are not wanted.

Many of the proponents appear not only to want to restrict immigration in general but Gays and Lesbians in particular. At a convocation in May at the Telegraph Hill Neighborhood House organized to launch the initiative, numerous speakers decried the changes that have occurred in San Francisco in the past

twenty years. Attacks were leveled at the emergence of a large singles population, the "gentrification" of lower class neighborhoods, the loss of families and family housing. These speakers clearly want to reverse the clock to 1963 and implicitly remove the significant Gay presence from the city.

Besides being pernicious, the proposition will produce an effect on employment, opposite from that intended by the proponents. By requiring employers in new buildings to hire San Francisco residents, the proponents hope to increase job opportunities for residents, particularly for minorities and the low-skilled.

Because of high rents, for the past several years employers have

been moving their more labor intensive activities to lower cost space in the suburbs. Such transfers cause San Franciscans to incur increased commuting costs or to lose their jobs. In addition, new employment opportunities for San Franciscans are lost. Efforts to discourage such transfers have been undertaken and lower cost office space South of Market developed to accommodate such uses. However, the pressure to transfer remains.

If Proposition M should pass, the incentive to transfer would accelerate, if not immediately, then in a few years. The proposition subjects all developers obtaining new office building permits after March 1984 to housing and transit as well as the resident employment requirements. Presently, there is a surplus of office space which will probably exist for the next few years. When space gets tight again and rents firm, rather than build new buildings under the onerous new requirements, developers and tenants will transfer labor intensive uses out of San Francisco and replace them with professional and executive uses, which will support higher rents.

Consequently, the result of Proposition M will be the transfer out of town of clerical, sales, and service jobs, the sort of jobs which minorities and lower skilled San Franciscans can fill. Obviously, no one desires this result. But it will be a result of the ill-conceived nature of the proposition.

ED. NOTE: Mr. Haas is a native San Franciscan, an attorney, and a former Charter Commissioner.

Steve Endean Out

(Continued from page 1)

ices in San Francisco and Chicago, and eight staff members. Their relationship with NGTF has generally been testy — squabbling over turf.

The protracted assault on Endean's stewardship was also joined by Washington, D.C.-based columnist Larry Bush (*The Advocate, The Washington Blade*). On the other hand, Endean's cause was carried by Philadelphia publisher Mark Segal, who accused the Goodstein cabal of white, middle-class elitism.

Criticism came from other sources as well. Some Gay activists complained that GRNL, under Endean, was slow to recognize the AIDS challenge.

And that when GRNL did respond the effort was not sufficiently sophisticated.

Bush repeatedly hit Endean on the charge that the lobbying job had outgrown Endean's talents. In addition, there was no accountability to a board that were mostly Endean's appointees. Bush also charged Endean of being overextended with financial mismanagement, of failure to follow through on critical items, and failure to plan ahead.

Goodstein also used the campaign to repeatedly attack those who became board members of major foundations and did little more than lend their name and their presence. To him, a board member was obligated to con-



Southern California Gay power — David Goodstein gets rid of a target. (Photo: Rink)

organization one represented or to raise large amounts of money. Otherwise directors merely took up space.

P. Lorch



Happier days for Steve Endean and his staff in their Washington, D.C., GRNL offices. (Photo: Rink)

Milkers October Agenda

The Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club will present information on the positions on Gay issues of the seven announced Democratic candidates. The presentation will be part of the club's monthly meeting this coming Tuesday, October 25, 7:30 p.m., at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street.

The Milk Club's Political Action Committee will recommend that the membership endorse California Senator Alan Cranston for the Democratic nomination. According to club President Carole Migden, "an early endorsement is being considered to maximize the people and dollars that the Gay and Lesbian community can offer. Our people are highly aware of how government action on health and human rights issues affect their daily lives."

Margie O'Driscoll, director of the Democratic County Central Committee, will speak to the club about convention planning and delegate selection now underway.

Reverend Cecil Williams, minister of Glide Community Church, will speak with the Milk Club membership on coalition-building among San Francisco's Gay and ethnic communities.

Club plans for the final weeks of the 1983 campaign and for getting out the vote will be discussed. The Milk Club has already endorsed District Attorney Arlo Smith and Sheriff Michael Hennessey for reelection. Propositions M, N, P, A, B, C, E, F, G, H, and J have received the club's endorsement. In addition, members voted last month to oppose Propositions O and K.

A proposal to change the club name to the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club will be brought to the membership for ratification.

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

East Bay Gay Democrats

State Assemblyman Elihu Harris addressed the October meeting of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. Harris, a Democrat, represents the 13th Assembly District of Oakland. Harris said he felt it was time for legislators to take moral stands on issues such as gun control and AB-1, the Gay employment bill, and to stop hiding behind the supposed opposition of their districts when

it comes to issues that are a matter of conscience. A past, and present, supporter of AB-1, Harris said he would co-sponsor the bill in the future, should it not pass the senate this session.

Berkeley City Councilmembers Veronika Fukson and Andrea Washburn joined Maura Kealey from SEIU Local 390-400, and attorneys Patty Roberts



Veronika Fukson, Patty Roberts, Maura Kealey, Peggy Hora, and Andrea Washburn discuss Comparable Worth at an East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club forum.

and Peggy Hora in a public forum devoted to the issue of comparable worth. The forum was sponsored by the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club.

Kealey and Fukson revealed that representatives of the city and the union have reached agreement on a study of clerical workers employed by the city. Points of agreement include: job criteria, which jobs to compare, and what point value to give to each job. Negotiations between the union and the city must now determine how much money can actually be put into reversing the institutionalized discrimination against women by providing equal pay for jobs traditionally held by women, compared to jobs traditionally held by men, in which the skills and responsibilities are equal.

Councilmember Washburn, also a proponent of comparable worth, hoped its implementation would encourage a reinterpretation of what is held to be "women's work" or "men's work." She did caution, however, that implementation of comparable worth in Berkeley might result in deferred hiring, and that the city is facing a possible \$2.5 million deficit next year.

Peggy Hora, managing attorney for the South Alameda County Legal Aid Society said,

grand opening popped up but the staff handled them with finesse. There just might be a winner here, so when you're in the mood La Manzanita Room will fill the bill. The "GRANDE" margarita is just that — huge! And the menu features other fare besides the Mexican cuisine — a little something for everyone! Congratulations to all involved.

Town & Country, 2022 Telegraph, celebrated its Grand Opening Saturday, October 15. Owners Sam and Marv didn't want to have just the ordinary run-of-the-mill Grand Opening, mind you! They had it in conjunction with a benefit to fight AIDS/KS! Between the sales of raffle tickets and the dollar donation to the buffet, \$500 plus was raised and donated to the AIDS/KS Foundation!

It was a lively evening and the patter never stopped because of Fat Fairy on the microphone pushing those raffle tickets. The grand prize, a portable b/w TV, was won by Len. Fairy's "extra-special" basket prize was raffled and the winner immediately

(Continued on page 36)

OAKLAND

The Openings Get Bigger

... 'Tis the season to be opening, tra la la la ...

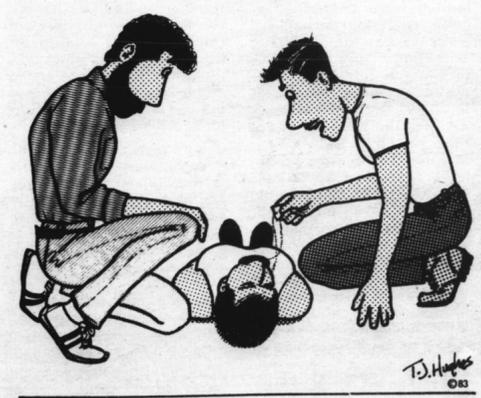
The Bench & Bar's La Manzanita Room (since 1983) opened Thursday, October 13, to a packed and pleased house. Almost everybody who is anybody was there, including Fred of the Lake Lounge, Frumpy and Steve of Spoiled Brat, Ralph and Pete of Revol, Lee and party from the Wine Garden, and Graham of the White Horse.

Just as Cortez conquered Mexico, La Manzanita conquered the East Bay's quest for fine Mexican dining. From the tuxedo-clad management — John, Jim, and Paul — the fancily attired waitpersons, the harassed hostess, John's sister, excited (exciting?) Eric, to the tremendous mariachi orchestra — all added to the excellence of the evening.

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Stanford Halloween

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford will be sponsoring a Halloween Dance on Saturday, October 29 beginning at 8:30 PM, at the Elliott Program Center by the shores of beautiful Lake Lagunita on the Stanford Campus. New Wave, Old Wave, Disco and Women's music will be featured, along with light refreshments and a friendly atmosphere. A \$2.50 donation will be requested at the door to help cover expenses and to benefit GLAS's social and educational programs. Everyone is welcome regardless of sexual preference, gender, age or Stanford affiliation. Costumes and welcome and encouraged. For info and directions, call the Campus Gay Events Tape at (415) 497-1488.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

The Fruits of Fierstein's Fame

by Steve Warren

Playwright/actor Harvey Fierstein once went through a 2½-year period of voluntary celibacy. "It was great — I got so much work done!" he half-jokes, beginning a story that must some day find its way into a play. It didn't begin by choice. "What happened was, I didn't have enough money to take a subway into Manhattan (from Brooklyn) to get laid; so that created a situation of celibacy. And if I did have the 75 cents to get into Manhattan I didn't have the dollar to buy the beer to stand in the bar and they would throw me out."

Then the struggle to get *Torch Song Trilogy* staged without compromise paid off, providing a modest but steady income. After Tony awards for Best Play and Best Actor that income has multiplied with the addition of a national touring company (heading for Los Angeles after it closes at Theatre on the Square November 13), an Australian company, and soon a London company in which Fierstein may star.

Torch Song Trilogy will become the inevitable "major motion picture" in the spring of 1985, Fierstein says. "I'll write it and probably star and maybe even produce." It will be an independent production so he can retain control and keep his 3½-hour play from being cut. (If it were any longer they'd call it *New York Alexanderplatz*.)

While *Torch Song* was working its way to Broadway and trying to build an audience there, Fierstein's talent was recognized by Allan Carr, the flamboyant film producer who owned the American stage rights to *La Cage aux Folles* and had been trying for years to mount a musical version.

Like Yenta the Matchmaker on a good day, Carr brought together Fierstein (book), Jerry Herman (songs), and Arthur Laurents (direction) and turned them loose on Jean Poiret's original French script. Fierstein says Carr never bothered them until they had finished the first act. When they read that for him he loved it and let them complete the show without interference.

Not expecting to like it, Fierstein had avoided seeing the movie. Now he says he would never have accepted the assignment if he had seen it. When he finally did, after his own script was completed, he was so upset by Albin's self-hatred he says, "I went home and called Arthur Laurents at like three in the morning and said, 'La Cage aux Folles the play will have to run for 20 years to sold-out houses to undo the damage that La Cage aux Folles the movie is doing.'"

While he didn't derive the satisfaction from adapting someone else's work that he gets from creating something himself, Fierstein enjoyed the collaborative process: "The three of us worked day in and day out together. I loved that relationship and had a ball doing it, and I now have two closest friends in the world. . . . But as far as artistic satisfaction it's a little bit better to go home and jerk off."

As for George Hearn and Gene Barry, who play the leads in *La Cage aux Folles*, announcing their heterosexuality in every interview, Fierstein believes "the press went out for that angle." He's pleased that Hearn finally tired of it and "said the other day, 'I'm not letting anybody say I'm heterosexual anymore.'"

He wouldn't insist on a Gay actor playing the lead in the film version of *Torch Song Trilogy*. Fierstein says, denying that he rejected Richard Dreyfuss for that reason: "I just think that when it comes to playing *Torch Song*, that it's a hell of a lot easier to play it if you're Gay. . . . 'If I play it I'll have to turn Gay!'"

Because Fierstein created the role of Arnold Beckoff for himself, it's widely assumed that the play is autobiographical. He says this isn't true — "any more



Harvey Triumphant. Mr. Fierstein beamed at his San Francisco press conference. (Photo: S. Warren)

than *A Streetcar Named Desire* is autobiographical." A lover did leave Harvey for a woman, but he didn't come back as Arnold's does. Nor did Harvey ever have a lover who was killed by fag-bashers. And the mother, he says, is not his mother, though he thinks any Gay man will relate to their confrontation.

It becomes apparent at the San Francisco press conference — the first he's ever held, incidentally — that the most recognizable part of Fierstein in *Torch Song Trilogy* is his philosophy — an extremely conservative one favoring committed relationships and even a Gay ver-



Harvey Glamorous. Mr. Fierstein with Court Miller (L.) during the off-Broadway run of *Torch Song Trilogy* after doffing his drag. (Photo: K. Howard)

sion of the nuclear family.

"Marriage, family, commitment, love — are not heterosexual words," he declares. "Those are human experiences and have got to be taken as such."

"I am not against one-night stands and living that kind of life. I am against it at the moment because we've got a disease that we've got to control and we've gotta take very seriously."

"I am very for setting your life goals. I don't see how — for me anyway — that I could have continued my life by running around a lot and gotten my work done." (I told you he was just half-joking before.)

Fierstein carries his crusade a step further: "I would like politically to get past the point where we discuss whether homosexuality is a sickness, is a condition, is a 'born with,' is a — whatever. I don't think all those arguments get you anywhere."

"Once you accept homosexuality, there's a great role. . . . I think Gays can play — and that is in adoption. I know many Gay homes that would love to adopt children; and we could — if they would. . . . finally accept us as loving human beings. . . ."

"We've got the money to take in unwanted children — the severely retarded, the (physically and) emotionally handicapped



Harvey Disguised. Mr. Fierstein in proud drag for the opening scene of *Torch Song Trilogy*.

— and I think it's time we were allowed to play our role in this world. We could close down every orphanage in this country, maybe the world — if it was allowed. Those children have a right to be in loving homes instead of being in institutions. I think it's time to let us give it a try."

Although this message comes across in *Torch Song* and — except for the adoption part — *La Cage*, Fierstein says he does not intend to push it in all his writing: "I would like to show all the life choices there are. You can live any way you like, but know that the choices are there."

He admits that he told *Newsweek* San Francisco is "a sexual Disneyland." Of the visible part of the Castro scene he adds, "If this is the true meaning of Gay liberation, then we've been fighting for very little."

Not that New York is any better. "The Village is worse, but the Village is smaller. Christopher Street now is all straight kids selling drugs." The bar scene isn't going to change, he says — not while "it's more profitable for the Mafia to keep us alcoholic. . . . It's a whole marketing thing the Mafia has done to us."

Speaking of marketing, Fierstein is apparently becoming aware in that area. His San Francisco press conference was sandwiched between appearances with Barbara Walters and Johnny Carson.

Let us think the acceptance of the playwright and his work signals an end to homophobia in the media, he points out that Frank Rich, senior theatre critic of the *New York Times*, "has only once in the two years *Torch Song Trilogy*'s been running, mentioned the words 'Torch Song Trilogy.' That was (in) his review of *La Cage aux Folles* and what he said was, 'La Cage aux Folles makes *Torch Song Trilogy* look like pornography.' That is Frank Rich's only mention of *Torch Song Trilogy*. He wrote a whole article about the Tony nominations, never mentioned it — or me; as if the Best Play award was not given out, the Best Actor award was not given out."

A woman had agreed to write

a story for *Cat* magazine about two *Torch Song* cast members and their pets, but it was rejected when the magazine learned that the play is about homosexuals. "Who does she think she is writing for?" Fierstein asks. "I told the *Post*, 'I don't know a heterosexual who owns a cat!'"

The royalties from *Torch Song* and *La Cage*, which should be enough to keep Fierstein in style indefinitely, have merely freed him to be more selective about what he works on. He's turning down all offers to do musical adaptations of plays — "There's a big pressure to repeat your hits" — but would like to collaborate with Jerry Herman again sometime on an original — "if he's gonna start cranking 'em out again, and I think he is."

Spookhouse, a play he wrote between *Torch Song* and *La Cage*, will open off-Broadway "this season hopefully but otherwise next season." The story of a Gay social worker's impact on a family he's trying to help, its author describes it as "the dark side of *Torch Song Trilogy*."

Coming out of the "Theatre of the Ridiculous" Fierstein prefers working off-Broadway. "I don't like Broadway. I think Broadway is too damned expensive." He's proud that *La Cage* has \$10 balcony seats, even though the orchestra costs \$45.

Plans are already being made to tour *La Cage aux Folles* and to open it in London. The American company will start in Los Angeles, Fierstein says, because "I think they sorta promised Gene (Barry) that he could go home and show 'em."

Two television projects are in the works for the busy writer. *Kaddish* and *Old Men* is a PBS teleplay Fierstein is trying to finish about two old men who live together in an old-fashioned neighborhood. Everybody thinks they're brothers until one of them dies and the other comes out.

More significantly, Fierstein has been commissioned by NBC to write and star in the pilot for a series about "a Gay man just coming out of one relationship, just beginning into another." Perhaps he's just trying to keep from being disappointed later, but he expresses little hope for the show: "It is my personal feeling it will never get on the air. . . . I just think it's time to try."

One thing about Harvey Fierstein hasn't been changed by all this success: "I'm not what you'd call sexy." Still somewhat chubby at 200 pounds and 29 years, he's not finding himself surrounded by groupies or twinkies. "Pretty boys still do the same thing they always did to me, which is to take me on the side and say, 'Oh, you know that guy over there? Could you help me. . . .?'"

It's easy to joke about at the moment, because he's been in a relationship for nine months, and that's more important to him. If this should be the one that lasts, that enables him to make a home and adopt children, it will mean more to Fierstein than all the money and fame he's been garnering.

Time will tell about that. In the meantime he's enjoying the fruits of success: "I'm Cinderella and hopefully midnight won't come too soon." ■

Gay WHO Gay WHAT Gay WHERE Gay WHEN Gay WHY

Great Outdoors Returns to San Francisco

Great Outdoors, incorporated in the state of California as a nonprofit Gay organization, has returned to the City and is offering 6 months free membership to all past *Great Outdoor (GO)* and *Great Outdoor Adventure (GOA)* members who contact us prior to October 31. *Great Outdoors* should not be confused with the *Great Outdoor Adventure* group that once operated in San Francisco. Although both groups share the common goal of providing alternative activities to the Gay community, *Great Outdoors* is nonprofit and *Great Outdoor Adventures* was not.

GO is a nonprofit volunteer Gay organization that provides low-cost outings into some of our finest wilderness areas and also provides many other types of social activities. Currently, we have 9 chapters located throughout Arizona and California with approximately 1,500 members (both men and women), and over 5,000 people on our mailing lists. Two new chapters are in the process of being formed. "Great Outdoors-The City" will serve the San Francisco Bay Area, and the "Redwoods Chapter" will serve the Santa Rosa/Russian River Area. All 11 chapters plan active schedules of activities for its members. Most of them are planned over a year in advance so that members can plan their vacation time accordingly. Since all chapters are part of the same organization, chapter members are encouraged to participate in the hundreds of activities being



Great Outdoors' Answer to the Leather Scene. It's rubberwear, seen on club members before a river canoeing event.

sponsored across the network. Joint activities are also planned with other Gay organizations across the U.S., Hawaii, Canada, England and Australia.

Since we are a nonprofit volunteer organization our fees are very low. Membership fees are \$15 per year for a student and \$25 for a nonstudent. Overnight activity fees are \$5 per member and \$15 per non-

member. Day activities are usually \$2 per person. Most transportation is by carpool with the expenses being shared. All costs for food, equipment and miscellaneous fees are the responsibility of the participants. You need not be a member to participate, but the activity fees are lower for members. Also, certain activities are for members only.

- Thurs., 10/27 - 7:30 PM Pot Luck - Great Outdoors Slide Show
- Sun., 11/6 - 1:00 PM Bike 'N Bite (Bicycle ride & picnic at Golden Gate Park)
- Sun., 11/13 - Noon Mt. Tam Day Hike and Picnic
- 12/2 - 12/3 Or Hot Springs
- 12/30 - 1/2/1984 New Years at Yosemite
- 2/10 - 2/12 Skiing - Tahoe/Donner Ski Area
- 3/30 - 4/1 Big Basin Redwoods State Park
- Sun., 4/29 Whale Watch
- 5/19 - 5/20 Calaveras Big Trees - Calaveras County Fair and Frog race.

Other activities include a Memorial Day Grand Canyon Jamboree, White Water Rafting on the Colorado River, Hawaii Backpacking, the Reno Gay Rodeo, Big Sur Camping, and a Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park Jamboree.

For information, call Brian, (415) 821-6773. See you in the Great Outdoors!

Brian Evitch

Cultural Crocheting

"In a way, that describes what I'm trying to do," 26-year-old artist Michael Brewer told the Bay Area Reporter. Brewer's watercolors and drawings, which crochet together traditional art forms and car-



Michael Brewer

tooning, are on display through the end of October at Without Reservations.

"As we computerize and digitalize, the humanness in us is becoming an alien thing," Brewer said. He created Zacknoids, those aliens among us who may be bag ladies, keypunch opera-

tors, or toll booth collectors, to express that alienation. The Zacknoids look Picassoesque to present an alternate reality. "One of the points I'm trying to make is that weirdness has become commonplace. We overlook the Zacknoids we meet daily."

The artist/cartoonist's work is hard to overlook and keeps diners at Without Reservations laughing. Brewer has done more than draw, though. He performed naked and mud-covered in a performance art rock band called the Mudmen. Their music was "high-tech banality." While Zacknoidism itself may be banal, its chronicler is warning potential Zacknoids to be aware of existence. "Otherwise," he warns, "you'll step out of the house and be arrested." ■

Foggy Diplomacy

If you like board games but want a bit more of a challenge, *Diplomacy Night* sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Gays (FOG) may be just what you're looking for. This first *Diplomacy* game is especially directed at beginners, the initial part of the evening being devoted to instruction of this somewhat involved and endlessly entertaining game, which involves negotiations and strategy to overtake Europe.

Diplomacy Night will be held on Friday, October 21 at 8 PM, 934 Ortega Street in San Francisco. Members, \$3; guests, \$4. Refreshments will be served and a prize will be awarded to the overall winner of the evening. Everyone is welcome to attend, phone 566-6227. The FOG is a new Gay social organization offering a social alternative to bars.

AIDS Benefit

Reginald McDonald, prominent SF vocalist and Julie Halston, New York City comedienne will perform an evening of music and comedy Wednesday, October 26, at 8 PM at the Valencia Rose. Tickets are \$6, and all proceeds will go to the San Francisco AIDS/KS Foundation.

Philip Ellwood of the *SF Examiner* has said: "McDonald is an attractive, informal performer with . . . a voice of pure gold." ■

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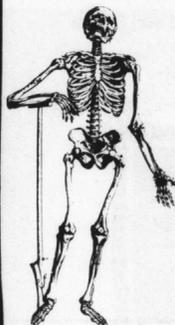
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STAGE

Oh What A Beautiful Mormon

by Bernard Spunberg

Polished professionalism shines throughout Emmett Foster's *One Mormon Show*. Words are perfectly placed and weighted, gestures calculated, and even light and sound cues are planned and executed for maximum theatrical effect. Foster's fifty-minute work about growing up as a Gay Mormon has been produced as part of Joseph Papp's New York Shakespeare Festival and has enjoyed much critical acclaim.

Foster's *One Mormon Show* is divided into a series of monologues with interludes from Foster as himself. We meet his sister and her girlfriend barricaded in the bathroom as they tease their hair, dish their friends, and smoke up a storm — swearing that each sinful puff will be their last.

His mother uses her beauty shop's phone as a dragnet to dredge up information about her neighbors as well as dole out tidbits about her own imminent umpteenth marriage. Foster's grandmother also makes an appearance, advising him to keep praying and stop performing for free.

Foster's piece is saturated with Mormonism. He has fun explaining some of the more off-the-wall aspects of the dogma, and he zeroes in on his characters' hypocritical claims to a special sanctity simply by virtue of their Church membership.

While Foster's family portraits are funny and his own prayers for release from Gayness moving, they are all too familiar to these Gay ears, and I long to



Mormon Depths. Emmett Foster repeats his *One Mormon Show* at the Valencia Rose this weekend.

hear the voice of the Gay little boy who pressed his ear to the bathroom door. Dramatization of the process by which he abandoned his family's Mormon culture to embrace his own Gay identity would enrich the comedy and is conspicuous by its absence from an autobiographical work by a Gay Mormon.

Emmett Foster is talented; he's better than his material. He's capable of plumbing depths of feeling and character, but settles for their surfaces. Contained within his smooth, muscular body there is a powerful human tale — and it's still waiting to be told.

One Mormon Show
Valencia Rose
October 20, 21: 863-3863



Why are these men laughing? Selaelo Maredi's *For Better Not For Worse*, produced by the Julian Theatre, details horrors of being Black in South Africa, but the bitterness is sweetened by lots of singing and dancing. Don't look for fancy sets and costumes; vivid, sincere characterizations by playwright Maredi (r.) and Tsepo Mokone (l.) require no elaborate technical assistance. Familiarity with South African politics is helpful but not essential to Gay appreciation of this cry for basic human dignity. Listen closely and you'll hear lots of oppression to identify with as well as music and laughter to enjoy. At the Julian Theatre through October 29; 647-8098.

Bernard Spunberg

Support Men's Voices

Die Mannerstimmen, a chamber chorus of men's voices, will hold its first annual fall fundraiser on Saturday, October 30, 8:30 PM at 1080 Haight St. in San Francisco. Promising an "Evening of Halloween Revelry" with Whoopie Goldberg, comedienne, and Sando Counts (as Baby Sando), vaudevillian, this "costume encouraged" party will feature champagne, hors d'oeuvres and dancing, all in Victorian splendor at one of the city's most grand and beautiful 19th century structures.

Proceeds from the Halloween gala will enable the ensemble to present their third season of exquisite music for men's voices. Tickets are \$25/Single, \$45/-Couple in advance, or \$30/-Single, \$50/-Couple at the door and can be ordered by calling (415) 621-5295.

Friends of Die Mannerstimmen, a nonprofit corporation, are especially encouraged to attend this event as it will officially welcome Tim Isbell, the new music director, and support their efforts to enrich our community through the performance of fine music.

FROM FIFTH POSITION

Forced Smiles

KEITH WHITE

As its title suggests, *Inconsequential*, the Agnes DeMille work recently premiered by the Oakland Ballet, is a suite of dances unrelated except by music, mood, and period flavor. Set to seven pieces by Franz Schubert (three of them songs, sung by tenor Baker Peeples; the other four for solo pianist Roy Bogas) the title of the ballet also gives an indication of its lack of heaviness. Charming and humorous, *Inconsequential* was the highlight of Oakland Ballet's second program of the current season. The mood, inspired by the music and realized with unmistakable period costumes (Santo Loquasto) alluded to the Austrian countryside, incorporating humor that ranged from simple

ment in this ballet — though the men look mighty good. Western attire which substitutes tights for jeans is sexier than an early Colt Studio drawing: silhouettes of muscular legs rising out of cowboy boots. (Sit as close to the stage as possible.) Kirk Peterson, on loan from the San Francisco Ballet, securely danced the role of Billy, and Ron Thiele made an excellent Pat Garrett.

Company director Ronn Guidi's Dvorak Dances is a divertissement for seven couples, often septuple unison duets in straight classical style. A pleasant piece, Dvorak presents a dance suite somewhat similar in structure to the DeMille premiere, and I think it would show to better advantage on a program containing no other



Stripped Down Baroque. Ron Thiele partners Summer Lee Rhatigan in Betsy Erickson's new ballet, *Sonata*.

froth to ballet slapstick. Abra Rudisill's opening solo would have been right at home in *The Sound of Music*, its ensuing segments cascading with wholesome, Tyrolean-flavored pranks. DeMille even incorporated gymnastics floor exercises, performed here by Joral Schmalle and greeted with the roaring ovation that always follows athleticism on the ballet stage. For my taste, DeMille charmed us to death, the only repose being a wistful duet for Erin Leedom and Jon Konetski (the best-matched couple I've seen in Oakland so far). DeMille's great knowledge and experience were always evident in structure, design, and syntax, in spite of too much whipped cream.

Eugene Loring's 1938 *Billy the Kid* dances around that famous old Western legend without clearly telling us the story; the drama is weak. Where the ballet does succeed is in its movement motifs: riders on horseback and wagon trains are deftly suggested in movement symbols designed on the capabilities of ballet dancers. A card game between "The Kid" and "Pat Garrett" became, in Loring's dance language, a hypnotic adagio duet for two male dancers. Anyone who draws and shoots a gun in the ballet does so by way of a startling multiple pirouette and double air turn which lands in a dueling stance with an imaginary pistol drawn. The choreography, innovative for its time, is the significant ele-

"suite" ballet. The program was long and final bows revealed some forced smiles from exhausted dancers.

San Francisco Ballet ballerina Betsy Erickson's new work for Oakland, *Sonata*, contrasts modern ballet movement for six dancers to music by Albinoni. Erickson has shown in her work a proclivity for studied counterpoint that somehow interferes with the spontaneity she also tries to achieve (in this piece). Her concept appears to be stripped-down baroque, steps musically balanced in canon while the language is faintly post-modern. The concept is sound and proven (by Twyla Tharp, for one), and though it didn't completely succeed here, Erickson's new ballet is vastly superior to her *Pixellage* for S.F.B. *Sonata*'s hand-picked cast gave us a first good look at new company member Summer Lee Rhatigan, a strong, imposing woman with an extremely aggressive style. Ms. Rhatigan is a highly unusual performer and an interesting acquisition for the Oakland Ballet. Casting her to fullest advantage is a challenge I hope the company will meet.

The Oakland Ballet's final repertory program of the season premieres on Friday, October 28, at the Paramount Theater in Oakland. On the program: Val Caniparoli's *Street Songs*, Ron Thiele's *Episodes*, Robert North's *Death and the Maiden*, and Marc Wilde's *Bolero*. Info: 530-7516.

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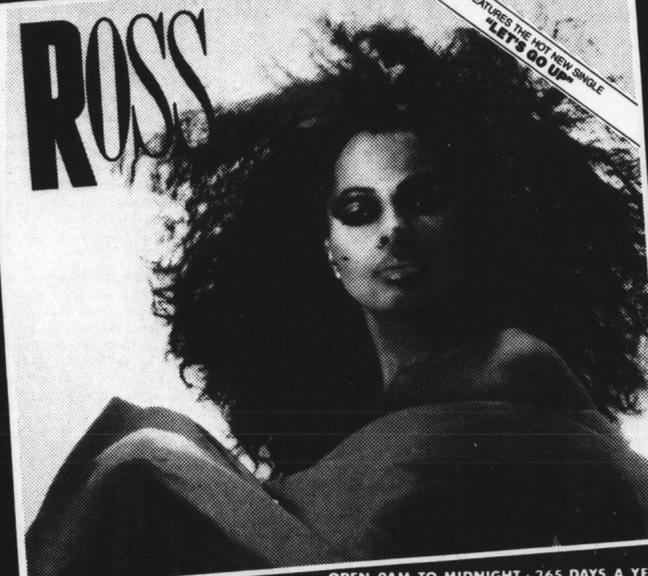
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TALES OF TESSITURA
Adler's Last Stand

GEORGE HEYMONT

Isn't it strange how a person's karma comes back to haunt him? For many years Kurt Herbert Adler sat on a powerful throne. His practice of humiliating the artists, musicians, administrative staff, and chorus members around him with his savage tongue-lashings left many wounds, which sometimes never healed. And now the shoe is on the other foot. How ironic for Adler to be licking some wounds of his own. Recently fired from the San Francisco Opera due to the divisiveness his presence was causing within the company, the maestro chose to retaliate with exactly the same kind of vehicle he would have avoided at all costs during his own tenure as General Director: a highly publicized lawsuit against the San Francisco Opera.

Last week I paused to stare at Adler's scowling bust, which hangs in the lobby of the War Memorial Opera House. "I mean, like WOW!" chuckled my friend Jerry Semas as Adler glowered in stony silence. "I mean, like, maybe we should tape a Mickey Mouse watch on his wrist?"

LEGAL EAGLE

If, indeed, an oral contract is binding within the State of California, one must ask if Kurt can really gain anything other than money from any settlement to be reached with the San Francisco Opera. I doubt it. He has already done too much damage to himself. By himself. Who knows? Maybe they'll even remove Adler's bust from the lobby.

In his suit, Adler claims he is the victim of age discrimination. Perhaps not, when one considers that Pierre Devaux (who conducted Carmen for the San Francisco Opera last June) is Kurt's senior. Adler further claims he has suffered a loss of income because of the damage to his reputation as a conductor.

REALLY? Gimme a break! What about those scathing reviews he always received? Are we to believe that the critics enhanced his reputation? Never known within the music profession as a great conductor, Adler's stick technique was once described to me by a chorus member as "a cross between a duck paddling water and a chef tossing a salad." From a great conductor, instrumentalists might tolerate the kind of abuse for which Kurt is famous. Indeed, while Adler was running the company the musicians had no choice but to cooperate. They no longer need to.

Can Adler sue for the humiliation, mental anguish, and emotional distress he has suffered by being fired? Now we're treading on thin ice. What about the humiliation, mental anguish, and emotional distress he inflicted on so many others? The man has quite a reputation for being extremely temperamental and insulting during rehearsals. Perhaps he's simply getting a taste of his own medicine.

MEGALOMANIA TAKES ITS TOLL

When a man has been king of the mountain for so long, his fall from power does terrible things to the ego. Indeed, after years of being the center of attention, the silence can be deafening. Adler had great hopes of pursuing a conducting career once he left the San Francisco Opera but, strangely enough, few offers came his way. Those that did were largely from people to whom he had given breaks; people who felt they owed the old man a favor. Others openly wondered how the remaining staff of the San Francisco Opera

crystal ball) one sees a new production of either Verdi's *Rigoletto* or Ernani flanked by revivals of Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*, and Donizetti's *L'Elisir D'Amore*. Look for a production of Mussorgsky's *Khovanschina* with Helga Dernesch in the cast as well as a revival of Strauss's *Elektra* (directed by Regina Resnik and starring Gwyneth Jones, Carol Neblett, and Regine Crespin). Star vehicles include Donizetti's *Anna Bolena* with Dame Joan Sutherland in the title role, Bellini's *La Sonnambula* with Frederica von Stade, Giordano's *Andrea Chenier* with Luciano Pavarotti, and a revival of Bizet's *Carmen* with Marilyn Horne and Jose Carreras sharing top billing.

Not bad. Not bad at all. But it has not been easy. Saddled with a \$1.5 million debt from Adler's final season, McEwen's administration still struggles financially amidst lagging ticket sales. Many San Franciscans dislike the company's radio ads, which gush relentlessly with marketing hype. Indeed, this year's box office sales may be the lowest in a decade. There are lots of empty seats in the house. And, for the first time in years, there have been no live broadcasts of the Friday night performances:



Jewels of Paste? Luciano Pavarotti reassesses Maestro Adler's medallions, just as Adler is forcing the opera company whose reputation he made an international force to reassess his credentials. (Photo: I. Novinsky)

only way to make the transition of power work without more grief for both of us. Our methods of achieving the same end are very, very different. We couldn't know how different until we worked under the same roof."

It was an uncomfortable truce. And before long, Adler's sarcasm was leveled at McEwen. "My face meant the end — it reminded Kurt that he was leaving. No matter how consciously Kurt made the decision to retire, lots of men have made that decision and found it equally painful in the last 12 months of their regimes," sighed McEwen. "My presence, particularly when he was there, obviously created tension and bad vibes for him. No matter what disagreements we had, my feelings about how I handled the transition period never changed and never will. I believe I did the right thing. Besides, I held all of the cards. I had a contract in my back pocket."

So far, McEwen has done well artistically. Both Ring productions were hits and deservedly so. This past weekend's triumphant premiere of Sir Michael Tippett's *A Midsummer Marriage* (to be reviewed in a later column) added a new feather to McEwen's cap. Good, strong opera conductors like Marek Janowski, Christoph von Dohnanyi, and Edo de Waart are improving the orchestral sound. And Terry's 1983 season looked good on paper until important artists started to disappear.

Peering ahead to the 1984 fall season (through the unconfirmed mists within Ms. Tura's

a shocking lapse in public visibility. Nor did Terry fork up the airfare for Sir Michael Tippett to attend the American premiere of his opera. McEwen's excuse? Once again, he did not have the money.

A confirmed night owl, Terry is reported to rise, like Auntie Mame, at the crack of noon. "There are times when he is needed for administrative meetings but he's out having a three-hour lunch with Marilyn Horne," stated one company source when commenting on McEwen's groupie-like admiration of big stars. Has Terry not worked hard enough to secure funding for the San Francisco Opera? That is very possible and, no doubt, one of the doubts gnawing away at Adler's gut.

Perhaps when Terry sent Adler his letter of termination McEwen's hope was that Kurt would not go away mad — but that he would just go away. Ironically, both men were born under the sign of Aries. McEwen freely admits that he likes to be the person in charge, who gives orders and gets his own way. And, like Adler, he has the capability to be childish and retaliate spitefully (as evidenced by his refusal to let Stephanie von Buchau interview him for a cover story in *San Francisco Magazine* following that critic's harsh reviews of McEwen's Ring).

DIFFERENT STROKES FOR DIFFERENT FOLKS

There are also those in town who, over the years, felt the sting of Adler's caustic tongue and with Kurt now out looking for

(Continued from previous page)

sympathy do not feel they owe him any favors. A former staff member who was once fired by Adler told me several years ago that the only reason people paid attention to the maestro when he went abroad was because Adler had contracts dangling from his back pocket. "Once he retires, those people won't give him the time of day," warned the man.

When this reviewer had his press tickets revoked by the San Francisco Opera in March of 1981, the *Bay Area Reporter* went to the city's Board of Supervisors to get those privileges reinstated. In a piece of correspondence shortly afterwards, the editor of *Opera News* magazine wrote: "Congratulations on your victory. One gets such pleasure seeing Adler squirm and then having to apologize."

"I remember one New Year's Eve when he was showing off in front of his new employees, making it clear that we weren't going to get out until 9 o'clock," recalls Armistead Maupin, who was once the opera's staff writer. "It was complete megalomania. We were all sitting in his office and he was showing off like crazy: calling Leontyne Price long distance on the phone and asking her how her poodles were by their names. Richard Rodzinski was flipping through prospective singers for the fall season. One right after another Adler would say, 'No, he's a fairy, Donald Gramm? I will not knowingly hire another fairy in this house!' In retrospect it seems so preposterous — I mean, the house was crawling with them. The audience would not exist if it weren't for fags! But I was deep in the closet at that point and it was the most blood-curdling thing in the world for me to hear."

Adler knows Leontyne's poodles by name as well as which singers are fairies.

Perhaps, then, having already proven his virility by siring two children in his mid-seventies, Adler's lawsuit is little more than a belated gust of his old homophobic megalomania which serves to fan the flames of ill will among those Adlerites who wish to see McEwen's contract not get renewed. The lawsuit serves the public with notice that McEwen's honeymoon is officially over. Sadly enough for Terry, it means that his predecessor has fallen into the trap of transforming himself from a proud and revered papa into a mean, old curmudgeon; a public nuisance who just won't let go.

Earlier this year Terry and I were discussing his strengths as a negotiator (he studied to be a lawyer in his youth) when he made the following statement. "I think I'm pretty good at seeing the other guy's point of view and am essentially considerate of my fellow man. Unfortunately, a career is very much like life. You have a moral code which keeps you going and which you strive to live up to — presumably without hurting other people. That's the first step in establishing some kind of code for yourself. I have never purposely hurt anyone in my life. Essentially, everyone has to work out his own morality and that's true of a career, too. I may have hurt somebody, but never purposely. That's just part of my personal effort and I'm proud of that."

An interesting quote when one considers that hell knoweth no fury like that of Kurt Herbert Adler scorned.

G. Heymont

POP MUSIC
These Ghoulish Things

PETER KEANE

There is a certain morbid curiosity regarding Marianne Faithfull. She was a former girlfriend of Mick Jagger; pop star and icon of swinging London in the 1960's; and more recently, heroin addict and has-been on the comeback trail. She even co-authored the book (along with Keith Richards) on rock and roll excess. Her unhappy life and drug arrests have been so well-chronicled, in fact, that her personal life threatens to dwarf her status as a singer.

That's okay, though. Her habits have contributed hugely to the current state of her voice; it's become thick and raspy, speaking of years spent with hashish and the bottle. She's almost the Tallulah Bankhead of her day (not quite as talented as Tallulah in the broader sense, but talented and confident nonetheless). She's a surprisingly hearty old thing, earthy and warm, regaling us with stories; or, as Brel would have it, "... (her) whiskey voice croaked/ Splitting the night with the roar of jokes."

She comes out on stage, a petite, frail-looking wisp, wearing only slacks and a man's sportcoat with nothing underneath it. It's the late-period Judy Garland syndrome all over again — we're happy just to see her up there, a survivor, wanting to protect her, but how will she sound? Will her voice give out? What if she's loaded and starts rambling on incoherently? Will we utter "too bad" and be secretly pleased that she's lived up to our expectations of her?

For those ghouls in the audience hoping to see Marianne fall

giggles endeared her to all. The support flowing up to the stage, buoying her, was almost tangible.

Music? Oh yes... Miss Faithfull has found her groove — solid, mid-tempo songs heavy on the percussion. They have a strong Caribbean flavor, which is not surprising, because that's where she records — and with the band Grace Jones uses, no less.

The woman has been around the block so many times she's worn ruts in the pavement, and her lyrics reflect that. She sings of mature concerns, in a strong unapologetic way. "Intrigue," "A Child's Adventure," "Blue Millionaire," "Tenderness," everything from the Broken English album — these are songs that I, as a rock and roll adult, can accept.

The three songs that stood out as most memorable deal with loneliness, class struggle, and bitter betrayal. Not exactly your run-of-the-mill frivolous themes. "The Ballad of Lucy Jordan," written by Shel Silverstein and most recently used as theme music for the film *Montenegro*, deals with a suburban housewife's frustration and alienation. John Lennon's "Working Class Hero" has become her own with a forceful delivery. At the end of that song, she went limp, looked at the ceiling and said, "Was it all right, John?" He would have approved.

It was the final song that pleased the crowd and showed-cause her raunch. The infamous "Why'd Ya Do It" is a blistering, blunt, jealous attack on an unfaithful lover. She turned the air blue with lines like "Every time I see your dick, I see her cunt in my bed" and "Why'd you spit on my snatch?" She meant business and the venom with which she spit it out was a sight to behold.

A pleasant surprise, in all. At 37, she's found a niche and works it well with a less than exceptional voice. Her energy and conviction (my two primary criteria for good rock music) get her over the humps.

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FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

Rumble Fish

The Good, the Bad,
and the Beautiful

At the end of the year when critics list the best and worst movies of 1983, I wonder how many will have the guts to put *Rumble Fish* on both lists, where it belongs.

Francis Ford Coppola shot *The Outsiders* and *Rumble Fish*, both based on S.E. Hinton novels and starring Matt Dillon, back-to-back in Tulsa; but the two are completely different. If *The Outsiders* tried to be *Gone with the Wind*, *Rumble Fish* is Coppola's version of *West Side Story* played as Greek tragedy, with Medea in place of Maria.

It's unique, you've got to say that for it, even if it constantly reminds you of other films — *West Side Story* for its choreography (by Michael Smuin) teen violence; *Invitation au Voyage* for the survivor who turns into his departed sibling in the end; *Koyaanisqatsi* for its speeded-up photography; and *Zelig*, if not *One from the Heart*, for the way its puny content is overwhelmed by dazzling technique.

The barely coherent plot is about 17-year-old Rusty-James' (Matt Dillon) attempts to emulate his 21-year-old brother, "The Motorcycle Boy" (Mickey Rourke) and the trouble he gets into along the way. Among the potentially wonderful supporting characters who aren't devel-



Hunkie and Junkie. Matt Dillon confronts Diana Scarwid on the fire escape as the fog machine works overtime in the background, in a scene from *Rumble Fish*.

oped are a junkie (Diana Scarwid) named Cassandra and a gum-chewing oracle/poet (Tom Waits) who runs the pool hall.

It's as symbol-laden as a Tennessee Williams festival. Such good-bad dialogue as "You're better than cool — you're warm" and "I didn't get to the ocean; California got in the way" alternates with naturalistically redundant teen talk — I mean, you won't fuckin' believe how fuckin' many times they fuckin' say fuckin' in this fuckin' movie!

Diane Lane, who may be prettier than Dillon (but I know which one I'd choose!) plays his sometimes-girlfriend. Their scenes together are like an audition for a 20-years-hence production of *A Streetcar Named*

Desire — and they should both get the parts. Dillon turns in his best performance to date, despite the demands of Coppola's constant shifting between naturalism and stylization.

The pulsing score by Stewart Copeland of Police and the outstanding, mostly black-and-white cinematography of Stephen H. Hurum are two strong plusses for this absurd attempt to create an American mythology.

Between fuckin' and fuckin' *The Motorcycle Boy* gets off one sage bit of optimism that should make your day: "The gangs are gonna come back — once they get the dope off the streets." (Metro) S. Warren

charm and a growing fortitude by Charles Martin Smith — was sent to the Yukon on an ill-planned solo government expedition to find and follow a wolf pack and see if they are responsible for the great reductions of caribou herds.

So here's a true life, man-against-nature story mixed with a strong (but not preachy) ecological message. This is done with a splendid aesthetic sensibility that combines riveting synthetic music by Mark Isham with haunting photography by Hiro Narita. And unlike his treatment of *The Black Stallion*, Ballard never lets go of the story at hand for needless lyrical digressions. We follow Smith as he heartlessly dumped on the icy Arctic tundra,

as he learns to survive the alien environment, meets up with Nomadic eskimos who teach him snow smarts, and as he finally settles near a family of wolves and spends a year with them, observing their rather civilized behavior.

The be-kind-to-our-wolves messages come through rather convincingly as does the what-price-vanity concept that man is smarter than Mother Nature. But, essentially, the play's the thing. I might be accused of crying wolf by claiming that this is an entertaining, enlightening must-see picture. I don't think, however, that I will be challenged by too many people.

(Cannery) M. Lasky

Never Cry Wolf Fugue in White

With his anthropomorphic cartoon characters and accessible real-life nature films, Walt Disney, more than anyone else, made us appreciate the animal kingdom. Now the Disney Studios has produced a rewarding screen translation of Farley Mowat's popular *Never Cry Wolf*, directed by Carroll Ballard, who scored so well with *The Black Stallion*. *Never Cry Wolf* is an autobiographical story of one man pitted against the inhuman elements of the Yukon wilderness.

Mowat — here played with goofy

mercenary who goes to Nicaragua in the summer of '79 because it's "real thin in the spook department" but he regrets his decision when he finds "a shitload of greasers" there.

Harris is a supporting character, as the rise of the Sandinistas and the overthrow of President Somoza and his U.S.-backed troops is a sub-plot in this



All's Fair. Gene Hackman (l.) gives his blessing to Joanna Cassidy and Nick Nolte so they'll have time for a quickie before the Nicaraguan government topples, in *Under Fire*.

La Passante Passing Grade

La Passante is the fourth film (after *Daniel*, *Eddie and the Cruisers* and *Heat and Dust*) in as many weeks to divide its time between two eras.

The late Romy Schneider, leaving a stunning impression in her final film, plays two devoted women. In the present she's the disgustingly servile wife

of Michel Piccoli, president of Solidarity International, an organization that exposes human rights violations around the world. When this pacifist murders the Paraguayan ambassador, his past is revealed:

At the age of 12, orphaned and crippled by the Nazis, he moved from Berlin to Paris with his foster mother (also Schneider), whose husband was sent to a stunning camp. The murder victim turns out to have been a Nazi villain, leaving Piccoli a hero

entertaining, old-fashioned romantic adventure.

The leadership of a Central American country doesn't amount to a hill of beans compared to Joanna Cassidy's change of lovers from Gene Hackman to Nick Nolte. All three are journalists who go around covering little wars, and Nicaragua just happens to be where the action is.

There is a serious political side to *Under Fire*, and it's barely less liberal than a Costa-Gavras film. I hope everyone can see it before voting on Proposition N, to get an idea of the kind of governments we've been supporting in Central America.

Note: When Nicaraguan soldiers arrest Nolte they call him *maricon* (fagot), but the subtitles ignore it. Later Nolte uses "cocksucker" as an epithet in an argument with Ed Harris, who responds, "I don't suck no dick, man," momentarily changing the subject of their quarrel.

It's good to see the old Hollywood formulas updated as skillfully as the "romantic triangle played against an exotic, war-torn setting" has been in *Under Fire*.

(Royal, Serramonte) S. Warren

at his trial. I couldn't help thinking of Dan White, and that it all depends which side you're on.

The visual similarity of the two women in Piccoli's life is finally addressed, but the implications are left for the viewer to unravel. A brief, gratuitous scene of two nude women dancing together is thrown in, but generally *La Passante* is classically enough to make you forget you're watching soap opera.

(Clay) S. Warren

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

Timothy Hutton — No Class?

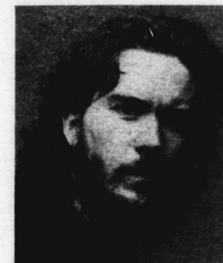
by Steve Warren

Timothy Hutton has no class, but I'd marry him in a minute if he asked me — and if he'd quit smoking. (I'm worth it, Tim.)

By "class" I don't mean the economic and social accoutrements that give the snobs a platform from which to look down on the rest of us, but two other points which reveal something about the 23-year-old Academy Award-winning (for *Ordinary People*) actor.

Class was one of the movies he turned down while looking for work between *Taps* and *Daniel, Risky Business* was another. "I thought they were terrific," he says, "but I didn't see myself playing them."

The other kind of class Hutton lacks is acting class. "When I did my first play in high school (*The Bacchae* by Euripides)," he says, "some things struck me as the beginning of a technique. So I wrote them down . . . I continued working and came to the conclusion that technique was something you could develop without class."



With Hair. Timothy Hutton as he appeared in *Daniel*.

One aspect of Hutton's technique is extensive research in preparation for a role. In the case of *Daniel*, director Sidney Lumet told the cast not to read about Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who were executed in 1953 for conspiring to give atomic secrets to the Russians. It was on them that E.L. Doctorow, who later wrote *Ragtime*, modeled the characters of Paul and Rochelle Isaacson in *The Book of Daniel*, which he later adapted for the screen.

What Hutton researched for the role of the Isaacson's son was the New York Jewish lifestyle. "I wanted to get a clearer picture of a particular cultural background I wasn't that familiar with." He passed up a million dollar offer to make a film in Australia with Tatum O'Neal. "I could have made a lot of money," he says, "and still gotten back in time to shoot *Daniel*, but it . . . made me uncomfortable."

Instead he "felt the need" to spend the summer in New York, living in the Village near NYU, "where Daniel might have lived." He went to Hebrew school, attended synagogue, and immersed himself in the Hebrew culture *Daniel* was exposed to as a child. All this for a film that was paying him (and the rest of the cast) minimum wage (\$25-30,000). Plus a piece of the profits? "In a way, yeah," Hutton admits.

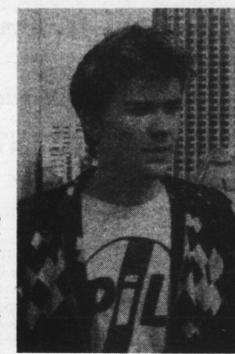
One Night Stands

Films of Gay interest this coming week.

by Michael Benzry

Monday, October 24: (Strand) *And God Created Men* from France, and *Games Men Play* from raunchy America. *La X Rating* for les pantless panting hommes. Games better than God.

Wednesday, October 26: (Strand) *Quevele*. With expressionistic sets and philosophical dialogue, Fassbinder interprets Genet's dark look at male relationships. Terence Stamp is a personal innocent in Pasolini's *Trois...*



Without Hair. Timothy Hutton in daily drag, meeting the press in San Francisco. (Photo: S. Warren)

I'll be doing it as long as they have, play the variety of parts, and get the respect they've gathered."

He's never been offered a Gay role, Hutton says — "but I thought (*Making Love*) was very good." Would he have any hesitation about playing a Gay character? "No," he responds unhesitatingly, fixing me with a long, blue-eyed stare that says he's sincere.

Even though Timothy Hutton wouldn't mind doing a comedy if he found a good one, it may be a while before I realize the ambition I confided to him in parting — to get through one of his movies without crying. ■

Rock Against Reagan

Rock Against Reagan is a free music and comedy concert with the Dead Kennedys, Permanent Wave, MDC, Sticks Against Stones and comics Goldberg, DeLaria and Strobel, Ammanno, Dornacker, Durst and Rodriguez. It's in Delores Park on Sunday, October 23 from 1 to 7 PM.

Pia Zadora: Daring People to Take Her Seriously

by Michael Lasky

Pia Zadora seemed to leap to fame from nowhere when she won the 1982 Golden Globe "Best New Star of the Year" award for her role in a movie that hadn't even been released at the time — *Butterfly*. It was the *cause celebre* of Hollywood, complete with wild-fire rumors that her wealthy, 30-years-her-senior husband had bought the award for her.

Let's face it, Pia is no dummy. She's been in show business since she was seven, when she appeared in a comedy called *Midgie Purvis* with Tallulah Bankhead, and she knows what she wants.

"In many ways, I have emulated Tallulah. She was so classy she could get away with anything — and did. She took me under her wing at our first meeting. She asked me how long I had been in show business and I looked at my brand new Mickey Mouse watch and replied, 'Twenty minutes, Miss Bankhead!'"

After that, Pia was cast in numerous moppet parts on Broadway including the youngest daughter of Zero Mostel in the original *Fiddler on the Roof*.

"Bette Midler was in the chorus of that show but our age difference kept us from really knowing each other. Years later, when I married Rik Riklis (her husband today) I walked into the '21 Club' with him and an entourage of other men. I was wearing a low-cut dress and lots of jewelry.

"Bette was there and she came up and said, 'Pia, is that you?' and we talked. She pulled me aside for a minute and asked

quite innocently and sincerely, 'Pia, are you a high-class prostitute?' I explained I was married. Despite her image, Bette is still this way."

Zadora was in San Francisco recently, promoting her poorly received film, *The Lonely Lady*.

"Now isn't that movie trashy! But I knew it was nothing more than trash entertainment. After all, Harold Robbins is no Shakespeare, right?" she confessed.

In addition, this month she is featured in a nude layout and cover in *Penthouse* magazine. "Nude scenes were difficult at first but I went into them with open eyes. I've been in the business long enough to know that controversy makes for good PR. Many young performers go for years without the attention that I have received in a short time. It is the type of publicity that may make people not take me seriously in the beginning but which at least makes them look and listen to me. Then they see the talent."

Zadora has been in the enviable position of being able to pick and choose her scripts. She chose *Butterfly*, which cast her as a voluptuous young girl who uses her incendiary coquettishness to get men to do her bidding — including her father. The pot-boiler culminates in an emotionally charged trial they face for incest.

As the project after *Lonely Lady*, Zadora chose *Attack of the Rock 'n Roll Aliens*. Sounds like an exploitation film. "Yes, but it exploits my talents as an actress and a singer — and that's what I want," said Pia, eyeing the controversy that makes for good PR. ■

Can we talk?

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BOOK RACK

Medical Reference for Gay Men

A Worthwhile, Readable Book

Gay Men's Health: A Guide to the AIDS Syndrome and Other Sexually Transmitted Diseases
by Jeanne Kassler, M.D.
Harper & Row; \$12.95, cloth; \$7.95, paper

by Robert Bolan, M.D.

Jeanne Kassler's *Gay Men's Health* is a slim but surprisingly encyclopedic book. Its theme is found in the last two sentences of the introduction: "Education provides protection against having to learn by unwanted experience. It permits one to make decisions that are genuinely based on informed consent." The author's usually clear and concise style brings infectious diseases concepts within the grasp of the motivated reader. There is no attempt to avoid scientific terminology but its use is generally followed by adequate explanation in the text. A glossary of terms, a labeled cutaway model of the male anatomy, and descriptions of different organ functions provide further background information.

The book was not intended to be a treatise on AIDS but the 35-page chapter devoted to it provides a good overview of the viral, antigen-overload, drug, sperm, and genetic theories on etiology. The opportunistic conditions seen in AIDS are presented and briefly explained; generalized lymphadenopathy and autoimmune diseases are discussed as separate but AIDS-related phenomena; even the psychological side of AIDS and its financial costs are briefly considered. However, the section about prevention of AIDS recommends only that one limit the number of sexual partners and avoid anonymity — hardly an adequate presentation of the prevalent views on appropriate AIDS risk reduction. This complex but crucial issue deserves the same overview that was given to potential AIDS etiologies. At the very least, this section which ends the AIDS chapter should close with the suggestion that up-to-date risk reduction information should be sought from local Gay organizations.

Although the section on venereal warts is good, the prediction of a 50% cure rate after one or



Slim But Encyclopedic. Dr. Jeanne Kassler, author of *Gay Men's Health*. (Photo: Rink)

two podophyllin treatments is simply not true — at least for wart diseases of the anus and rectum. In the discussion of syphilis and gonorrhea the author states that there is a 50-80% chance of contracting gonorrhea from a single episode of intercourse. The type of intercourse is not specified but the data probably refers to peno-vaginal intercourse and is of questionable value in predicting anorectal transmission of gonorrhea.

Regional differences in practice (the author interviewed primarily New York health practitioners) are probably responsible for the failure to mention the well-established oral treatment for anorectal gonorrhea which administers a total of 7.0 grams of ampicillin and 2.0 grams of probenecid in two equal doses spaced 8-12 hours apart.

The need to frankly and thoroughly discuss behavioral correlates for STD risk in the sexually active Gay male population is obviously more important than ever in this age of AIDS. Although the author does cover all the basics for general STD risk reduction, the presentation could have been stronger. I liked the paragraphs titled "Prevention" which followed most (but not all) of the individual infection discussions. I think the final section on the medical examination where screening and guidelines are listed should have emphasized in the author's clear expository style the reasons for placing specific sexual activities, locations of activity, anonymity of partners in high, medium, and low risk groups.

However, compensating for the above shortcomings and making this work complete are its health resource directory which lists Gay health services throughout the country and its bibliography which directs the reader to background literature. It is a worthwhile and readable reference book.

Bartender Benefit

Jim Cvitanich, Mr. Leather of SF, 1982, has secured the Victorian Theatre on 16th and Mission Sts. for the presentation of the all bartender vaudeville/follies review, *Men Behind Bars*, scheduled for presentation one night only (Monday, January 23, 1984).

Male and female bartenders in San Francisco, Oakland, the East Bay, the Peninsula and Russian River are invited to participate in the fundraiser to benefit the Shanti Project. In addition to individual and group performers, volunteers are needed for behind the scenes talent.

All bartenders interested in having a good time while benefiting an organization of great merit should call Jim at (415) 621-1459 immediately to schedule an audition or volunteer for other duties in connection with the show.

Women's Eroticism

Bay Area women artists, painters, photographers, sculptors, printmakers; who create erotic, sensual art will have the opportunity to exhibit their work and excite the public during Studio W's Erotic Art Month in February 1984. Studio W is a women's art, film, and performance gallery located in the sunny Mission. To enter, send SASE and fee of \$5 for 1-4 slides or \$10 for 5-10 slides to Studio W, 3137 22nd Street, San Francisco 94110, 641-9299. For an appointment to show original work call Renee, 282-5148.

Biblical Gayness

A lecture/discussion titled *Homosexuality and the Bible* will be an intensive look at the subject of homosexuality in light of scripture. Three skilled scriptural interpreters with varying perspectives will reflect on appropriate methodologies and will probe the scripture passages that deal specifically with homosexuality.

The panel includes Rev. Dr. Robert McKenzie, former Pastor of St. John's Presbyterian Church in Berkeley, presently Adjunct Faculty member of San

Gay History

A new organization with an historical perspective has formed and is working in cooperation with other groups in San Francisco to preserve Gay history.

The San Francisco Gay Archives and Information Services (SFGAIS) will focus on collecting periodicals as well as but-

Getting Glassed

The first San Francisco Depression Era Glass, China and Pottery Show and Sale will be held at the Hall of Flowers October 22-23 from 10 AM - 6 PM. Admission is \$2.50. Info: 552-9337. The two day sale will feature one of the largest and most exclusive private collections of depression glass. There will be 30 nationwide exhibitors, authors distributing new books on the subject, and repair work done on your damaged, chipped glass.

Francisco Theological Seminary and Staff member of San Francisco Network Ministries; Rev. William Auld, Pastor of First United Presbyterian Church San Francisco, President of San Francisco Council of Churches, and Board member of Campus Ministry, S.F. State University; and Rev. Glenda Hope, Executive Director of San Francisco Network Ministries and Pastor of Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church.

The event is Wednesday, October 26 at 7:30 PM at The Network Coffeehouse, 1329 Seventh Avenue. Admission is by donation. Info: 989-6097 (days).

tons, posters, and other memorabilia. A clipping file to document Gay Coverage in the non-Gay media has also been established. Anyone who has an interest in working with SFGAIS is encouraged to attend our upcoming potluck to be held at 2260-A Market Street at 7 PM on Wednesday, October 26. For info contact Bill Camillo, 864-6454; Greg Pennington, 673-9201; or Frank Collatz, 864-0776.

Coits Officers

The Coits of San Francisco recently elected its new officers for 1984. The Coits, one of the oldest Gay social clubs in the country, was organized some 21 years ago and is strictly a non-political social club.

The newly elected officers are: President, Tom Turner; Vice President, Paul Johnson; Treasurer, Royal Liner; Recording Secretary, Gene Forrest; and Corresponding Secretary, Prescott Walker.

SPORTS

CORNER POCKET

GENE MILLER

Down to the Finish

The Fall 8-Ball season is almost over — only two weeks remaining by the time you read this — and many playoff spots are still very much up for grabs. It's a 12-team field, the top three in each division, and as they come down the stretch all sorts of things could go wrong (or right, as the case may be) as those little balls bounce around totally unaware of whose fate they are sealing. It's that time of the season when players are certain they hear the table laughing at them; when the pockets mysteriously shriek, balls roll too far or not far enough, team captains turn to serious drugs, and score-keepers shriek unbelievable arithmetic.

Stallion, stallion. What is it about Tommy Sherck's little Polk & Ellis bar that makes players play so well? Their Division I team took over first place in week 7 and currently has a 3-game lead. They also have the Stampede in Division IV... they break records every time they rack the balls, it seems. The latest: 38 consecutive wins - Sep. 20, Oct. 4, and the first win on Oct. 11. The Castro Station Brakemen's top player, Cal Kennedy, stopped them with a victory over Tommy Sherck at Castro Station. The big news in that division is Peg's Amazons stealing second place from the White Swallow Fabulous 40's (every player over 40) with the league's first-ever 16-0 shutout by an all-women's team. October 11 Cady Bell, Guia Gonzales, Debby Hawkins, and Kitty Stephens each went 4-0 at the Stables against Jim Tingle's "Stabilized," their second such defeat this season — also a league first.

The Brig Guards enjoy a 7-

game lead in Division III, and a quick glance at the records of Steve Fleck and captain Mike Davis can explain that: Mike and Steve, after seven weeks last season, were 26-22. This season they are 42-14. Need we say more? Yes! Mike and Steve are the light artillery on this team — Archie Ravena, a man who is always top ten and last season ranked #1, is leading the way. Currently 29-3 and the league's top game-winner, Archie is on a streak of 18 straight.

The Stallion Steeds in Division I are the personification of inspiration. With Dave Chua and Ed Whittaker combining for 41-12, the others are bearing down and giving their best effort. They face a real challenge from the Transfer Tabledogs and the Arena Warriors. The Warriors-Cadets interdivisional match on November 1 may determine the outcome in that division.

A strengthened DeLuxe Powergliders (Dave Timko, Rick Moore added midseason) constitute a real threat to Febe's and the Rainbow Plague. Febe's has had breathing room at the top all season but faces the sizzling Stampede on November 1 in an interdivisional contest at the Stallion.

AROUND THE LEAGUE

Vindicated: Vic Hayden & Rachael Williams, after being expelled from the league following an incident (B.A.R., Sep. 22), were readmitted by popular vote at the Sep. 27 membership meeting.

Bucks for SFPA: Bill West threw a 60-hour party at the Academy last weekend to raise funds for the league. Tending bar with him Saturday AM was

none other than his arch-rival of a few months ago, Lea Benson, who beat him in the league's presidential election last January.

West Coast Challenge fever: SF hosts WCC VIII, and the likelihood of it being held in a major SF hotel is very real. Hey, big time!

Politics & Pool: The SFPA elects a new President and VP on November 5. Running for Pres: Lea Benson (incumbent), Colin Bradley, and Dennis Hall. For VP: Sam Bridgers, Mike Macri, and Soni Sowder. Bradley and Sowder, on a write-in campaign, are the only two running as a pair.

LEAGUE STANDINGS

Division I		
Stallion Steeds	84-44	.656
Arena Warriors	81-46	.637
Transfer Tabledogs	80-48	.625
Bear Teddies	76-52	.593
Pendulum Chaos	73-55	.570

Division II		
Febe's	97-31	.757
DeLuxe Powergliders	91-37	.710
Rainbow Plague	87-41	.679
Bear Bottoms	78-50	.609
Pendulum Pirates	64-64	.500

Division III		
Brig Guards	88-40	.687
Academy Cadets	81-47	.632
Ambush Outlaws	78-50	.609
Arena Centurions	76-52	.593
Village Nights	65-63	.507

Division IV		
Stallion Stampede	115-13	.898
Peg's Amazons	83-45	.648
White Swallow 40's	82-46	.640
Park Bowl Spare Parts	76-52	.593
Brig Inmates	58-70	.453

TOP TEN

(Includes games of Oct. 11)

1. E.Z. (Stmpd)	25-1	.961
2. C. Bradley (Stmpd)	18-1	.947
3. A. Ravena (Guards)	29-3	.906
4. R. McKay (Stmpd)	26-3	.896
5. P. Fleury (Febe's)	25-3	.892
6. S. Runng (Stmpd)	25-3	.892
7. G. Bell (Stmpd)	15-2	.882
8. K. Stephens (Amazns)	24-4	.857
9. D. Timko (Pwrgrld)	13-3	.812
10. B. Phipps (Cntrns)	17-4	.809

There was a lot of good bowling this summer. Rob Mallin, the top bowler on Wednesdays, continued his domination on Mondays. Mallin ended the season with a 191 average, and rolled 24 games of 200 or more and seven 600+ series. The high scratch games were by Aubrey Palmer of Eagle Creek and Tim Hagerman of Pendulum #2, who both rolled 277. High scratch series was also by Aubrey with a 670. We had a total of 151 200+ games and fifteen 600+ series. Good bowling, people!

The final standings for the summer series are:

1. Eagle Creek	64½	23½
2. Park Bowl	62½	25½
3. Pendulum #2	58	30
4. Renegade Bar	55	33
5. DeLuxe	53½	34½
6. VIP Realty	48½	39½
7. Trax-Masters	47	41
8. E.M. Memorial	47	41
9. Pendulum I	46	42
10. Pilaner II	44½	43½
11. Monday Mares	43	45
12. Perfect Petals	42½	45½
13. Stables	41½	46½
14. Pilaner I	39	49
15. Giraffe	37	51
16. Pilaner III	36½	51½
17. Men's Room SF	35	53
18. Gay Sports Mag	35	53
19. River Rats	35	53
20. P.S.	35	53
21. S.F. Gym	34	54
22. New Image	28	60

If you're in the neighborhood of Haight and Stanyan on Monday night or are looking for something different to do, drop by Park Bowl and join in the fun at 8:30 PM. A good time is had by all.

G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

Here We Go Again!

Approximately 80 players and guests showed up at Chez Mollet for the annual Gay Softball League's election of officers for the 1984 season.

Commissioner Bob Docca thanked everyone for a great year and wished everyone a successful 1984, regardless of the outcome of the upcoming elections. His remarks were on behalf of the entire GSL Board.

Commissioner Docca was nominated for a second term by Francis Chuck "Cha Cha" Chateau was nominated by Nooch. Docca spoke first and said he "would run and stand behind his 1983 record." Chateau gave one of his most eloquent, if not subdued, speeches of all time. Try as he did, Cha Cha could not unseat Bob, as Docca won by a slightly less than 2-1 margin.

The Assistant Commissioner slot was next, and Rick Brattin was nominated again. Chuck Smith's name was also advanced for the assistant's position. Both members spoke, but to tell you the truth, nothing much was said. In a very close contest, Rick held his job by just 5 votes over Chuck. Dust off that baton, Rita!

Three members were nominated for the Treasurer's job — incumbent Rick Ritt, Scott Mize, and Bob Clary. All three candidates showed lots of spark and enthusiasm, especially Mize, who is a relative newcomer to the city and league. When all the votes were tallied, Rick "Becky" Ritt won by a comfortable margin over his two fine

opponents. The usually unwanted position of Secretary was contested between Kent Stewart, the '83 officeholder, and Steve "Sally" Hoover. Ken defeated Steve by more than a 3-1 margin.

Congratulations to all the winners and "hooray" for all the members who cared enough about the league to seek office. It speaks well for the league and those five fine individuals.

The next meeting will be December 3, 12 noon, at the Rawhide.

The fall season is going strong and will continue Sunday, 12 noon, at Jackson Field. Everyone is welcome!

Sports Clubs

Different Spokes Bicycle Club. Saturday/Sunday, October 22-23: Second Annual Hostel Ride — Pigeon Point overnight, 120 miles. For info/reservation, contact Bob, 824-7145.

Frontrunners. Sunday, October 23: Lake Merced, 5 miles. Meet at boathouse on Harding Road off Skyline, near south end of Great Highway, 10 AM.

S.F. Hiking Club. Saturday, October 22: Tilden Park, Berkeley, a night hike (full moon and meteorite shower). Meet at McDonald's Stanyan/Haight at 7:30 PM. Bring a flashlight and warm clothing.

October 23: San Mateo County, meet at 9:45 at McDonald's, Stanyan/Haight for carpooling.

SF Track and Field. Sunday, October 23: Marin Headlands. Carpool leaves from Safeway Parking lot on Market and Church, 9:30 AM.



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BAY AREA REPORTER OCTOBER 20, 1983 PAGE 31

BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR

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RIVETS

Western Sentiment

TOM ROGERS

The Rawhide is no shabby shingle set artfully in some remote doorway by a decorator turned bar owner. It's more like a successful Rancher's party-house transplanted intact to its Seventh Street address So/M.

The interior's nearly-slick finish, electronic games, video and music combine smoothly with references to Western Romanticism provided by displays of art and artifacts turned *objets d'art*. The space is good-sized and features three major areas that offer different forms of entertainment. Just inside and to the left of the entrance is an area housing the electronic games, then the pool table and bar area (which is ruled serenely from above by the best elk head I've ever seen mounted), and finally a dance floor with a stage and sound-proof control room to back it up. It's a nice place that, to me, serves as an example of how cowboys have survived the ravages of progress. More than just survived. They've put progress (electronics, in this case) to work for the enhancement of cowboy pleasure and Western sentiment. They've evolved, and done so with their identities intact.

It's occurred everywhere. Ever since buffalo hides and gold nuggets lost all real purchasing power and ever since cattle drive functionaries such as the "Drive Boss" and the "Camp Cookie" were dropped by the U.S. Department of Labor's *Dictionary of Occupational Job Descriptions* as viable employment opportunities, cowboys everywhere were forced to meet the challenge.

Corporate structures operate those ranches that haven't been subdivided into suburbs. Sentimentality for features characteristic of the old west (and often defended by rules like "If it was good enough for my granddad...") has been relegated to

a second-rate status in favor of profitability.

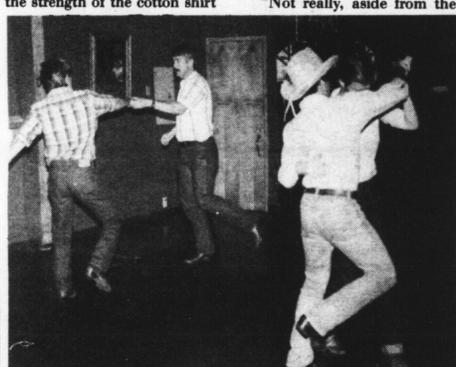
Of course, even sentimentality has a marketable value, like Dude Ranches, Rodeos, C&W music, and places like The Rawhide.

The first time I noticed the Rawhide was on a Wednesday night several months ago. My buddy and I were racing to an appointment somewhere (the only way we go anywhere), and I noticed a jam of men standing around outside. "What's going on there? Look at all those cowboys!" We couldn't stop that night, but we did go back the next, and we couldn't have timed our arrival better.

There was no line outside, but a crowd of bawdy customers filled the bar with a party spirit that I've since experienced every time I've paid a visit. Carefree laughter and teasing conversations were being banded between groups of men in bravado-laden shouts across the barroom. It was immediately clear that the Rawhide crowd was not into emulating the "silent stranger" type.

"Cowboy Jim's buyin' the house a drink," shouted the bartender. "Belly up and name it." He flashed a bright smile from behind a dark beard clipped short. We "belled up" and joined the party with our gift drink and by striking up a conversation with a man who turned out to be a horse trainer and sometimes rodeo judge. When he told me that one of the horses under his care was a quarter-horse belonging to the Rawhide's owner, I was impressed. "Yeah, sure he's here. Right over there at the bar," said the Horse Trainer.

Ray Chalker, 37, came here to open the Rawhide after the family ranch near Farmington, New Mexico, was sold. The night I met him, his solid body tested the strength of the cotton shirt



Far Apart and Hip to Hip. Country western two-stepping comes in all varieties at the Rawhide. (Photo: Rink)

and the levis he wore. A starch-looking straw hat framed his big smile. He stood wide with his thumbs hooked comfortably over his toled belt. I checked out his buckle with a quick and almost covert glance. (I didn't want him — or my buddy — to think I was cruising his crotch.) His buckle was a solid pledge of allegiance to a cowboy's sense of physical decor. Relatively conservative when compared to buckles awarded to rodeo riders (which look to me like someone raided the dining room silver for a tray to use as a buckle), the bright tooling on Chalker's oval buckle caught enough light to flash the message: "Start here to get me out of all these clothes." The lower the buckle hangs above a cowboy's crotch, the readier he is. Chalker was wearing his high. All business. He practically looked like a banker.

Chalker claimed no pretenses to conducting a crusade to preserve the cowboy lifestyle or any other form of chivalry, when I asked him why he'd opened a Western-style Gay bar in San Francisco. "To make money," he said simply. I hate asking that unoriginal but necessary question. Chalker reacted with more surprise than most others I've asked the question and shot me a look that accused me of possibly not understanding why anyone would go into business, like



Prairie Platters. Rawhide's Sunday DJ's, "Country" Carl and Randy spin western favorites. (Photo: Rink)

I might be a little slow or something).

"Oh good," I said. "You'll be open longer that way." His look switched back to a comfortable smile. "Did you have any secondary goals in mind when you opened?" I was pressing for some kind of personal sentiment from him.

"Not really, aside from the

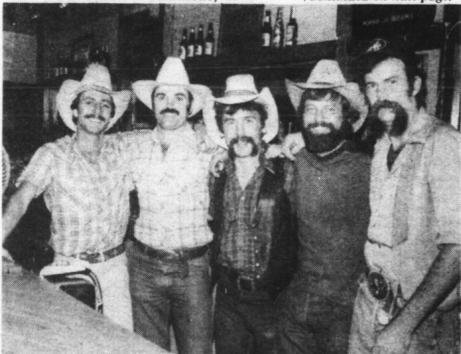
to long, high-pitched complaints about how their competition conspired with every agency in city, county, state, and federal government in attempts to wreck the new business. The best in this latter category are delivered with the speed of near-bubble and, in especially dramatic cases, punctuated with a sob.

Chalker had an unusual response. "Yeah. It took the first few weeks, but we identified dealers and freaks and 86'd them. Anyone who's tried to smoke grass in here has been shown the door and asked to smoke it somewhere else. My customers want a safe place to have good, clean fun, and we're gonna keep it that way." He finished with his arms folded across his chest to emphasize the finality of the decision that led to that policy.

The weekend before last was a great example of the kind of fun he was talking about. The Rose Maddox Show, on stage both Friday and Saturday night, was a special treat for the Rawhide's crowd — who appear by their penchant for kicking up their heels on the dance floor to be avid C&W fans to the last. Rose had them hootin' and hollerin' with the first two bars she sang, never mind the first two songs. She'd come down from her home in Ashland, Oregon, for the Rawhide show and to participate as a subject in the filming session Saturday of a public television documentary. Her appearance at the Rawhide Friday night typified her music's ability to spread a party spirit without a full-scale Hollywood production.

"In the key of A, boys," she

(Continued on next page)



Mustache Museo. Judging by the Rawhide's line-up of Sunday staff, cowboys may have the market cornered on facial hair. There's (l. to r.) Ian, Rawhide owner Ray Chalker, Robby, Randy, and Steve. (Photo: Rink)



He Can Feel A Pea Under 20 Mattresses, Too. This hunky horseman gallops back to the gate after his horse demonstrated its finesse by delicately tapping an egg with its hoof — without breaking the egg! (Photo: Rink)

(Continued from previous page)

said to her three-man band with a big smile when she first appeared on the stage. With no more than that as a "warm-up monologue," she started clapping her hands and singing her style of magic. She signaled the band to wrap it up with a conservative lariat-like gesture above her head, and after they finished it, she started them up on the second song. It ended horribly within the first few seconds when one of her guitarists strayed from the proper key at about the same time that the amplifier invented a few new keys of its own to create a real show-stopper.

She turned to the guitarist with a set smile. "When I say in the key of A, I want you to put it in the key of A and leave it there until I tell you different," she said. "You got that?" He got it. He didn't look real pleased, but he got it and did his thing in concert with everybody else for the rest of the show.

I had already established an idea of what the Maddox style was like. (She has, after all, been an important part of the C&W scene ever since her "Philadelphia Lawyer" won her so much fame. Her appearances locally and in Reno for Gay audiences have also given her a "favored star" status here.)

When she arrived with a friend about an hour and a half earlier than the show was to start, I expected her to flee to some hidden dressing room to wait for her grand entrance. Instead, she took a seat on the edge of the pool table and chatted comfortably with her friend, customers, fans, and me.

"No," she didn't mind if I asked her a couple of quick questions; "Yes" she's in or into Shakespearean Theater (I didn't

want to ask her to shout her answer to her three-man band with the sound of an Ernest Tubbs rendition of a song I've never heard before that was being amplified much bigger than life through a bank of JVL speakers); "Yes" she comes to San Francisco as often as the invitation itemizes pay for her show; this summer was her third at the Reno Gay Rodeo; "I like all kinds of people and their sexual orientation makes no difference to me;" "I was originally from Alabama;" "Yes, there sure are Philadelphia lawyers in Alabama;" and "I don't have a favorite piece of music. I like them all." I liked her style. No bullshit and totally democratic. She didn't get plowed before getting in front of her



Horseback Buddies. Or, Happy on a Horse. Two contestants at the Pacific Coast Rodeo and Horseman's Association Playday. (Photo: Rink)

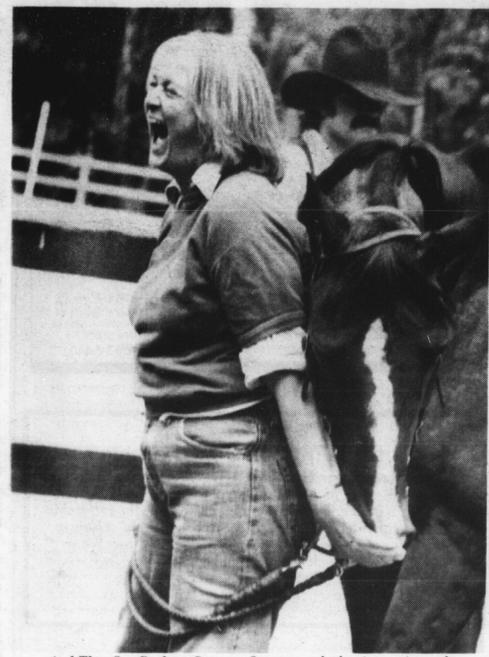
audience like so many performers do in the name of being relaxed, and when I told her how much I enjoyed the fact that she joined the party in the bar before the performance rather than taking to a dressing room, she smiled broadly. "Performers who do that are afraid of peo-

ple. I love people. I'm not afraid of them." Another reason to like her. Expansive and wide-open as the night sky above a Western plain, a characteristic I ascribe to cowboys (and now to at least one Alabamian cowgirl).

Special treats for Rawhide customers include things like the Maddox Show, and an occasional contest between Western dancing fans. It was one of these contests which created the line of cowboys outside the Rawhide that first drew my attention to the place. The competition is a chance to show off for those who participate in the three skill levels of dance lessons that are presented three days a week at the Rawhide. Beside the chance to two-step your stuff, the competitions serve as a great excuse for a party.

Even if Chalker's reason for opening Rawhide is more purely pecuniary than chivalrous, the bar's presence on the scene So/M has the effect of helping to spread and/or perpetuate the Western lifestyle that Chalker lives. He's an enthusiastic horseman and has become involved in the Pacific Coast Rodeo & Horseman's Association (PCRHA), which is "a club for Lesbians and Gay men interested in equestrian and related activities."

"We have all kinds of events that include things like trail rides on weekends. We have a lot of fun," enthused Chalker, "and we're getting more active all the time." When I asked if he was going to ride in the Playday (a euphemism for Rodeo, I think) that was being sponsored by PCRHA (last weekend in Golden Gate Park), I got the impression that wild horses wouldn't stop him. "You bet! I



And They Say Gayboys Scream. One woman had a riotous time, when her horse nibbled her digits at Playday. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

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Not one of the nearly thirty
(Continued on page 35)

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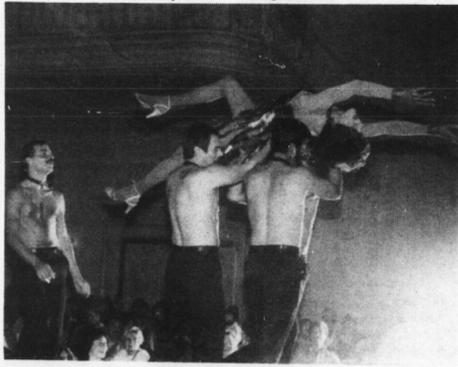
Strange Partners and Fabled Cattle

KARL STEWART

A week of celebration in sound, sight, and art has been planned for you by Alternate Publishing, beginning Thursday evening, 10/20. "I don't care if you crawl on all fours" is a triple premiere at Dick Collier's big warehouse space back stage at Second and King (way South of Market). He will use this for special parties only. This is the first of a week of events planned to mark the opening of The Stud Store, Drummer's retail outlet for mags, rags, and other toys at 960 Folsom St. near Sixth. It's also the preview of Hot Talk Tapes' latest addition, Stallion Sounds. "I don't care if you..." invitations are by mailing list (you might make sure you are on one of these companies' mailing lists anyway) but even with such invite will cost \$10. Your perk for attendance is Stallion Sounds unreleased tape.

Friday at 6 PM, The Stud Store family parties with a big bash and a showing of Hun's extraordinary, exotic art. This is the first show of his work for five years. You may want to stop and meet him. Saturday at noon, they throw the door open with goodies with each purchase, drawings for gift certificates up to \$100. Monday will be the first day of full service for this latest addition to the South of Market leathermongers. The Stud Store folks are the purveyors of VitaMen, the food supplement you've been hearing about.

Another company making an impression is The David Society. This is a networking system which works with the Gay community to create more communication and cooperation. One way they try to achieve this is by asking their members to recognize community achievement. The David Awards is in its thirteenth year in Florida, the Society's home. This year Bay Area men and women will be honored with a David Awards ceremony of our own. A series of nominee parties is in progress, the first of which was a hilarious evening at Clementina's for the Comedy candidates. Some of your local favorites were featured — witty Danny Williams, multi-faceted Lea DeLaria and her partner Janine Stobel (who writes Lea's music), also effeminate extraordinaire Tom Ammiano (who co-hosts Valencia Rose's Open Mike Comedy Nights with Lea each Monday). A newcomer, Linda Maokes, was nominated for most promising new performer. She's the space cadet of cosmic comedy. The most well-known of the guests Thursday evening was KFRC's terrific traffic lady, Jane



Not! Not! Not Out the Window! The boys toss Jonni Valle through Victor/Victoria's "Le Jazz Hot." (Photo: Rink)

Dornacker. A celestial cast like this makes us look forward to other nominee parties for the David Awards West.

Taking the act on the road: The reason Remy Martin killed a heifer during the Warlocks' run is clear. She can't stand competition. The moral of the story is: Never walk your cow at night and never, never wear a cowboy hat to the campfire after 2 AM.

One of the most giving of the disco honchos is Dr. Sanford Kellman and his I-Beam family. This Saturday, October 22, the



Hit Me With Your Rhythm Stick. "There's Danger in Your Eyes, Chere," went the song, but Pushy Phyllis didn't seem threatened at all when whipped by Ken Singleton. (Photo: Rink)

Haight Street gang will celebrate anniversary #6 with a party called Let There Be Light featuring Taka Boom on stage and lots of food and fun in the holds. This is premiering her latest cut "Ride Like the Wind." With a \$5 admission, you cannot only afford it, but do it 'til 4 AM.

The shake-up: Last Monday Castro Station was in possession of new owners and, as with most ownership changes, heads rolled — including that of Steve McGlinchy, manager superiorem. The survivors are AM's Larry Duckett, PM's Michael Bowman, and in-between Maury Miller.

KN-ITEMS

The First Ladies Union is on the warpath again. Saturday will mark their second raiding party at Febe's. The First Ladies Roast will commence at 8 PM. Hang on to your scalp...

Vivacious Randy Kingery (Arena's former star bartender) has returned from parts provincial. He arrived the same day as the fleet did. Is Randy really a camp follower?...

Another mystery: What former So/M tavern owner is thinking of investing his \$100,000 in one of the BIG operations here?...

Did you know that Joel Roman, owner of Inn on Castro, is quite an accomplished and nationally recognized artist? It's true. Halloween weekend he'll be opening a big show at Penryn Gallery in Seattle...

The Watering Hole is celebrating its 6th birthday this coming Monday, October 24, through Wednesday. Bob and Bryan have three days of fun and food and boozing in mind, culminating in an Anniversary Pin eve on Wednesday from 9 to midnight...

The Stables and the SPI joined together in an auction, first to supply funds to the AIDS Fund which gives funds and seminars directly to AIDS/KS patients, second to aid the Sisters in their education program. You remember their "Play Fair" pamphlet. Rick assembled quite an array of plunder for the bidding, in-

cluding bar drink tickets from everywhere, a custom pair of chaps, and everything from dildos to dinners. After Sisters CPR, Boom Boom, and I got finished with the crowd, each organization received \$300...

We are finally marrying the old girl off! Grand Duchess VI Frau Schneider will totter down the aisle to Prince Charles Mitchell Sunday (10/23) at 3 PM at Mr. Vetrano's Roxy Roadhouse. John Ewing is producing it and invites you to dine and dance afterward. Donations are \$5 to benefit Ward 5B...

CATTLE CALL

Wearing dresses is one of the oldest habits of our community. The MC's have their own special brand of camp Costume which they applied liberally and with great panache at A Date at Minsky's, the SFGDI's annual variety show. Last Saturday's sold-out audience got an eyeful of special effects, glitz, and gleam as the cast's intrepid leader, Jonni Valle, led them into some fine choreography and wonderful recreations of Minsky's past, as well as sparkling new work.

What may be remembered as The Jonni Valle Variety Hour began with the cast, led by Jerry Bumgarner, tapping to "42nd Street" (after lotsa practice on the SF Eagle's bartop). The CMC had a contribution of their own. "The Best of Times" from La Cage was presented Village People-style with the youngest members jumping right into the theatrical fray.

Larice proudly recreated "Glad Rag Doll" from 1976's Minsky's and Warlocks' Daddy Alan D topped his MC boys, exalting S/M relationships in "Daddy."

The finale of the first act saw Jonni exercising his choreographic prowess as the cast did a stirring "Um Pa Pa" backing up Matt Brown's second solo of his MC show career (hard to believe;

(Continued on next page)



In the Eye of the Beholder. Many say that's where Beauty is, but here's a "gal" who doesn't have to see to believe." (Photo: K. Ankeny)



And It's Still A Week Until Full Moon. But the GDI's always were ahead of the times and got a triple headstart on the heavens during A Date at Minsky's. (Photo: K. Ankeny)



A Sign of Today. Awareness of our friends' needs drew heavy applause when Jonni Valle (L) and John Weatherman signed their entire "We've Got Tonight" number. (Photo: Rink)

RIVETS

(Continued from page 32)

members of the PCRHA were willing to just sit back and watch. The enthusiastic group is planning to attend the Grand National Rodeo at the Cow Palace on October 28, as a group excursion. It should serve as an excellent opportunity to test their reaction to the arena action there against the reaction of "straight" rodeo fans. According to the infinite wisdom of an L.A. bathroom wall, reports a loyal reader, the difference between a Gay Rodeo and a Straight Rodeo is that at a straight rodeo the fans all yell, "Ride that sucker"

When the activities at Bercut Field were over, there was a general exodus to the Rawhide. A lonely cowboy stood guard over the horses (safely ensconced in sleek horse-trailers, twentieth-century style), while their owners partied in what one PCRHA

member called their clubhouse.

Whether the Rawhide is their official clubhouse or not has more than likely never been called to vote in any formal meeting. Their allegiance to Rawhide, however, is demonstrated by the frequency of their patronage, and the gusto they exhibited last Sunday afternoon is justified by the gusto exhibited by the Rawhide's staff and management for Western living.

So if you like ridin' it hard and putting it away wet, hitch up with one of the (real) cowboys who hang out at the Rawhide.

A word about the 10th annual Minsky's. The parade of costuming and choreography delighted a crowd estimated at 700. A new element carried a surprise that brought the house down.

The aged (check news clips referencing Finocchio's and the

(Continued from previous page)

this girl is always on stage).

In the second act, Tom Way with Remy (Moo) Martin and Gene Forest moved in on Supremes territory.

One of the high points of the entire show was a powerful and touching duet, "We've Got Tonight," signed beautifully by John Weatherman (what a hunk!) and Director Valle.

More macho camp in recent years has made these shows much more interesting. Ken Singleton beat poor Pushy Phyllis with all manner of whips and so forth as she sang "There's Danger in Your Eyes." One of So/M's better lip-sink artists (an untapped resource), Charlie M took the opportunity to shine on "Razzle Dazzle."

Jonni, amid fog, a chorus of hunks and acrobatics, received a standing ovation for "Le Jazz Hot" from Victor/Victoria.

The third act was jammed with high quality licks and a big build-up. Michael Gill mounted "Mascara" from La Cage as he told the story of every drag queen's inner thoughts (we're all guilty of "painting faces" once in awhile). The other side of the question was presented by John Blythe and his men in "Shady Lady" ("male" version) from Victor/Victoria.

A quite nice touch, too, was a parade of the SFGDI succession of past Miss GDI's from roughly 1975 to the present with only a couple of holes.

The audiences at these MC functions are by nature easy to play to, but as JC stated, "This is one of the best shows I've seen recently." Thanks to my reporter, Larry Hough.

K. Stewart

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, 10/20: Afternoon Bridge Tea. Pilsner Patio, noon on; RSVP with bartender.

Bare Chest Party. Arena; judging 10pm-12am; prizes: \$100, 1st; \$50, 2nd.

Manuel Golidar. New work, oils and sketches. Ambush, reception 5-8pm. Imperial Party. Rathskeller (600 Turk at Polk), 8pm, \$3; featuring top star show.

Friday, 10/21: Full Moon & Gray Card II Party. The Stables, 9pm; special drink prices w/gray card; "Moon" contest, \$25 booty.

Chicken Dinner. Ramrod; 7:30-9pm (during movie) \$1.75.

Saturday, 10/22: First Ladies United Roast. Febe's, 9pm.

Wine Tasting. Pilsner, 3-5pm, \$2; poll for new house wine.

Sunday, 10/23: A Royal Wedding. Frau Schneider and Charles. Roxy Roadhouse, \$5 donation (includes ceremony, dinner, and dance) to benefit Ward 5B.

Tuesday, 10/25: Birthday. Pam. Febe's, 8pm.

Gilded Cage) art of pantomime practiced to full production levels, netted, for a few brief and beautiful moments, a point. One of Minsky's numbers was choreographically devoted to signing for the deaf in the audience.

Thank you, SFGDI. It was a truly meaningful contribution to both art and love in the community.

T. Rogers

KSAN Spirituality

"The Gay Life" on KSAN, 95-FM, will air the conclusion of a panel discussion on spirituality among older Gay men and Lesbians, Sunday, October 23, 6 AM. The panel was taped at the Second National Conference on Lesbian and Gay Aging, held at San Francisco State University in June.



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The How Appropriate Award for October: Bob Cramer appointed to the committee to oversee the growth and development of the city's bushes . . . er, excuse me, I mean parks.

DICK WALTERS

... hi, Ed.

Remember, Google's First Anniversary Party today, Thursday, from 3 PM on.

The Masque on Polk Street is celebrating their second anniversary on Wednesday 26 . . . this is a very pleasant bar with great entertainment nightly, so do help them celebrate.

Watch for the surprises the Club Dori is going to have on November 18-20 . . . they will be 21 years old and have been in the same location for all of that time . . . you have done a great job, George Banda, with a great staff

Buckley's, 131 Gough Street, has some of the finest food and greatest service in the city and is always willing to accommodate you . . . also, if you have a large group they will make a special effort to please you, so do give them a try.

Remember the Tavern Guild meeting next Tuesday at 1 PM is at Ginger's, Mason and Eddy Streets. These meetings are almost coming to a close for the year, so do plan on attending; right, Big Bird?

weight?

Boo, Roy, and Teddy, owners of the New Bell Saloon, are happy to have Totie on the day shifts there and say that he is doing a great job . . . hi, Wayne Friday.

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On Friday 28 the Kokpit's staff is having a party welcoming John and Char to meet all of the customers and for all of us to wish them success on buying the Kokpit. No, the license has not been transferred yet, but we want you all to meet these two great people. Incidentally, Mame of Portland will be on hand that evening to help in the fun.

Thank you, Lew and Don, for the truffles, but do you really think that I needed the added

OAKLAND

(Continued from page 21)

ACIE Emperor and Empress V, Don and Cha Cha, and the Court of Fantasy and Ice will hold its investiture on Sunday, October 23, from 5:50 until 10 in the evening, at the Fruitvale Temple, 3209 Galindo Street at Fruitvale in Oakland. There will be a \$5 donation at the door, a no-host bar, and light munchies. This soiree is being touted as An Imperial P.J. Party and everyone is requested to arrive in some sort of pajama attire! Mercy! I've never been to a pajama party before - I don't even wear any pajamas! Oh no, I wouldn't dare; would I?

I don't know the whole story, but Sam now wears his glasses around his neck on a chain because he was tired of peeing on them???

The Spoiled Brat in Hayward held its Grand Opening during the weekend of October 1 and 2, and what a full two days it was! It seemed as if there was nonstop entertainment, food, and, of course, BOOZE! Frumpy and all his staff certainly have added that "touch of class" to the East Bay. And, what's this I

hear? Is it really true that the Spoiled Brat was named after Steve?

NEWS AND VIEWS

The Fourth Annual Columbus Day Party and Celebration at Big Mama's took place Saturday, October 9. Bravo and Touch of Class provided the entertainment, and the champagne buffet was certainly an added highlight! Hey! It was free! Zephyr Jim and his congenial staff always have the knack of making people have a good time. Thanks must be given to Dean S. for making this annual event possible.

Speaking of Dean, not too many know that he makes possible three (soon to be four) annual events: Columbus Day Party at Big Mama's, Bastille Party at Turf Club, Birthington's Wash-day Party at Revol, and coming up soon, "It's Time to Eat Again" Party at the Spoiled Brat! How's that for the old Community support?

By the way, I really resent being treated like the sort of person I really am! It makes smiling so difficult! Love, Nez

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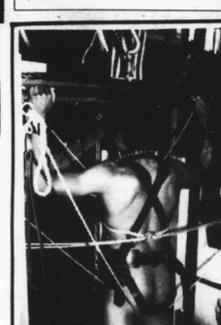
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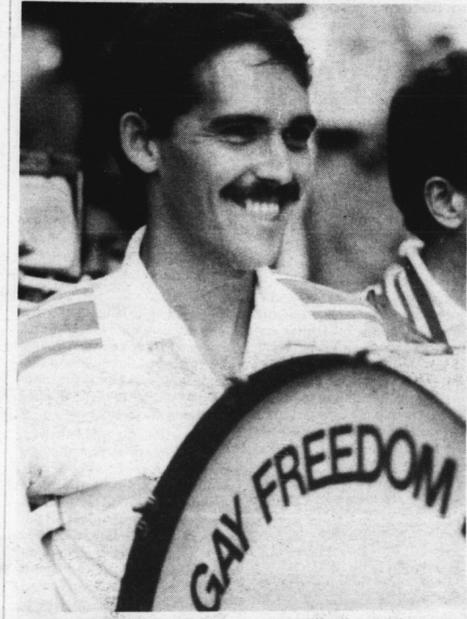
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IN THIS ISSUE



(Photo: Rink)

Halloween Weekend, the four-day celebration of Gay frivolity. The word at press time is be careful, carry a whistle, don't get lost...

What's Doing on Halloween — A Complete List ... p. 4

Billy Jones, Black Gay Activist — interviewed by Dion Sanders ... p. 12

Second thoughts on the use of Interferon as an AIDS therapy ... p. 14

Diane Gregory spends a night on Ward 5B — the AIDS ward — at SF General ... p. 15

New President Named at Atlas Savings & Loan

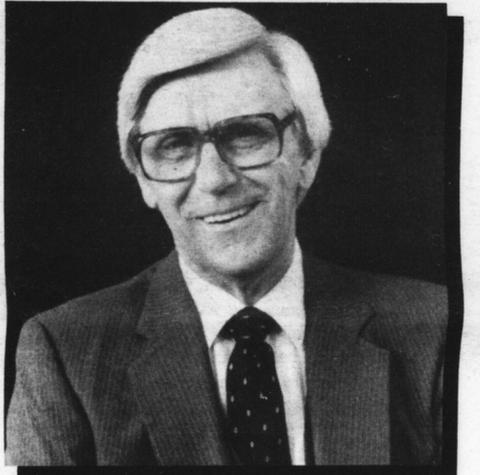
Board Votes Stock Split

Harlan D. MowBray has been appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Atlas Savings and Loan. MowBray, 64, has recently served as controller for Atlas and has over 27 years' experience in the savings and loan field.

He began his career as a state savings and loan examiner and a Federal Home Loan Bank examiner. MowBray was also manager of the corporate facilities division of Eureka Federal Savings and Loan and was managing officer for an association in Colorado.

Upon his appointment as Atlas President, MowBray said, "The growth of Atlas Savings from \$2.5 million to over \$70 million in assets within the short period of only 22 months of operation is phenomenal. I view my job as President as an exciting challenge. I look forward to helping Atlas become even more successful."

Board chairman John Schmidt stated, "After an extensive search for the right person as our President, the Atlas Board felt Hal MowBray was an excellent choice because of his strong background in the savings and loan industry and his first-hand experience with Atlas. He



Harlan D. MowBray, newly-appointed President of Atlas Savings and Loan Association.

(Continued on page 2)

Three More Killers Plead "I Panicked"

"Homosexual Panic" Defense Spreads Around State

S.F. Public Defender's "Saturday Night Special" Takes Toll

by George Mendenhall

Defense attorneys across the state are increasingly using "homosexual panic" in an attempt to free their defendants. Cases have surfaced in Bakersfield, Sacramento, and Camarillo (near Santa Barbara) where killers claim they killed their victims in a state of "diminished capacity" to reason when they were sexually approached.

Gay activists are increasingly concerned over cases in which defense attorneys claim that a murderer should be given a lesser sentence (if not go free) if mental capacities are reduced during a state of panic. They are also interested in recent cases in which single men have been removed from juries in "homosexual panic" cases in the attempt of defense attorneys to

eliminate Gay jurors.

Three recent "homosexual panic" cases:

CAMARILLO

Kenneth Lang, 23, claims that he met Thurmond Anderson, 44, on a hunting trail above Santa Barbara on August 18. He killed Anderson and robbed him. He later was arrested by

authorities at the San Francisco airport as he attempted to leave on a plane. He was in possession of a handgun.

Investigators say Lang admits that he shot Anderson but claims that he did so after the man made sexual advances toward him. He says he "panicked" and killed him. The claim confuses authorities, as the victim was

(Continued on page 17)

The Untold Story

40% of AIDS Patients Are Minorities

CDC Figures Smash Myth of "White Gay Man's Disease"

by Dion B. Sanders

Shattering a widely-held belief that AIDS is a "White Gay man's disease," previously unpublished data compiled by the National Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta show that more than a third of all AIDS patients in the United States are from racial and ethnic minorities.

Moreover, a doctor's report published in a leading medical journal says that while a significant percentage of Black and Latino AIDS patients — not counting Haitians — are intravenous drug users, an equally significant percentage of them are upfront Gays.

In a telephone interview from Atlanta, Dr. Richard Selik, director of AIDS information at the CDC, reported that as of October 19, out of a total of 2,513 AIDS cases nationwide, only 57.9 percent are White.

Blacks (including Haitians), Latinos, Asians and Native Americans make up a combined

39.9 percent, Selik said, with the remaining 2.2 percent of undetermined ethnic origin.

For months, news media reports have repeatedly stated that AIDS patients are primarily Gay men, IV drug users, Haitians and hemophiliacs receiving blood transfusions. Gay

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