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VOL. XIII NO. 44 NOVEMBER 3, 1983

## SEC Halts Trading in Stock of Gay International

'Gay Areas Directory' and Directors Get Warning

by Paul Lorch

A week ago this reporter called a reputable stock salesman from a reputable local Gay stock brokerage. "I'd like to buy some Gay International stock," I said.

"I'm sorry, sir," was the reply. "It's not blue skied in California."

"What does that mean?"

"It means it is not registered here and can't be sold here."

"Well, suppose it was, or I insisted."

"In that case I'd have to put you through to my boss. And probably he wouldn't sell you any even if he could. Or at worst he'd probably put you through to the penny stock market in Salt Lake City."

This brief interchange revealed two phenomena — circulating more and more in San Francisco financial circles last week

that Gay International wasn't all it was cracked up to be. And secondly, the extreme delicacy with which the subject was dealt

with. People had suspicions. People had misgivings, but no body wanted to be quoted or responsible for making wrong guesses. In the stock market highly speculative stocks are subject to the slightest breeze of innuendo, rumor, and suggestion.

On Halloween Gay International which had been riding high on a crest of tricks, got treated to a pail of ice water at the hands of the Securities and Exchange Commission's San Francisco office. The SEC ordered a 10-day suspension of trading in the stock.

Up until October 31 everything about Gay International had been good news. It had been touted as one of the hottest penny stocks out of Salt Lake City in recent memory. Six months ago it opened in Salt Lake City at 20 cents a share; three weeks ago brokers at R. L. Smith & Co. were hawking it at \$3.12 per share.

Monday regulators suspend-

ed trading due to the "apparent lack of current adequate and accurate public information about the company's financial condition and business operation." Put another way there had been much hoopla put out by the company's financial condi-

(Continued on page 7)



The Castro office of Gay International opened last spring. (Photo: Rink)

## Jose Stuffed at Alice Banquet

Widow Norton Drag Too Much for Mark Hopkins Crowd

by Allen White

Jose Sarria was told by Alice B. Toklas Club dinner co-chair Debra Stein that his appearance at their dinner as The Widow Norton would be inappropriate. Following the dinner, Debra Stein commented that his appearance in the character he created would hinder the goals of the dinner just as would be the case if other people appeared in leather.

This appearance of Jose was to be part of the Sixth Annual Dinner of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club held last Tuesday at the Mark Hopkins Hotel and attended by a 500-plus crowd.

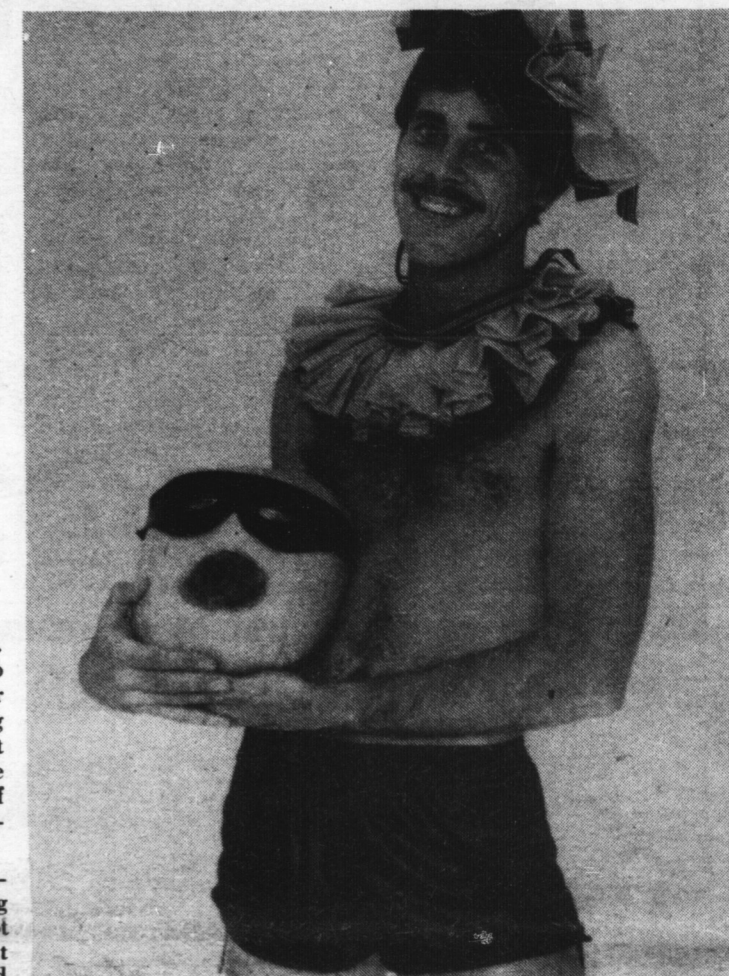
Jose was asked last spring to be the host for the dinner. After he accepted, he met with Stein for several hours and the topic of discussion was whether the entertainer should appear as The Widow Norton. Debra Stein has been vocal in her problems with accepting people in drag. The question became such an issue within the club that it was brought before the women's caucus, who voted overwhelmingly

in favor of Jose participating at the dinner in any manner he chose. Former club President and dinner co-chair Steve Walters also said he had no problems with Jose as The Widow Norton.

The afternoon of the dinner it was learned that Jose wanted five minutes in the program to perform the song "I Am What

(Continued on page 11)

## IN THIS ISSUE



It was a four-day Halloween this year. Players played to different tunes all over town. B.A.R. pictures on page 4.

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## Navy Would Send Gay Sailor Back to Ship Where Life Was Threatened

Local Attorney Files Suit to Stop Dangerous Transfer from Treasure Island to Cuba

by Paul Lorch

Gay activist attorney Tom Horn went into federal court Friday to save a Gay sailor's life. He won the first round.

Before U.S. District Judge Thelton Henderson, Horn sought and was granted a temporary restraining order in the case of Machinist Mate Donovan W. Grogan. The order will keep Navy brass at Treasure Island from transferring Grogan out of the district court's jurisdiction until a hearing on Grogan's application for a preliminary injunction can be held. The full-blown hearing on the sailor's difficulties has been set for Tuesday, November 29.

Horn had to work fast because the Navy has ordered Grogan back to his ship, the U.S.S. Patterson, now based in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Grogan doesn't want to go because his shipmates have threatened to throw him overboard because he is a homosexual.

Grogan, 21, has twice walked away from his job because of his superiors' refusal to heed his fears for his life. Attorney Horn is doubly nettled because on Wednesday, October 26, he advised Grogan to turn himself in to U.S. Navy authorities on Treasure Island. Horn set up an appointment with Lieutenant Commander Pat Foley, Grogan's official custodian on the base.

Foley refused to keep the appointment and could not be reached by Horn, who went out to the base to talk to her. It was Foley, as Commander of Transient Personnel, who ordered Grogan back to his ship October 6 for punishment and indicated she was not about to change her mind.

Horn said, "I implored her to

let me meet with her to discuss the details of the case before she made a final decision." At this point Grogan had not turned himself in, and then Foley took a powder. Horn then could not reach his client, whom he presumed to be in the brig. His only course was to get a court order stopping anything Foley might try to do. Horn's fear, as he ex-

(Continued on page 2)



## Navy Would Send Gay Sailor Back to Ship Where Life Was Threatened

(Continued from page 1)

pressed it to Judge Henderson. "I know of my own personal experience that military personnel at Treasure Island can have a returned member on an airplane and out of the jurisdiction within 24 hours of his surrender in."

Grogan joined the Navy in January 1982 for a 4-year hitch. After training, he was assigned to the U.S.S. Patterson, whose home port was Bath, Maine. His record was exemplary. He said, "My evaluations have been excellent . . . I have had no disciplinary problems whatsoever."

Grogan lived off the ship in an apartment in Portland, Maine. During this time he said, "I began to realize that my sexual inclinations were homosexual. I had Gay friends and began going to Gay bars in the Portland area."

In July of 1983 the young sailor was summoned by his commanding officer, who accused him of being homosexual. He denied it. His CO then presented two members of Naval Intelligence who said he had been seen in Gay bars. Grogan said, "He again asked me if I was a homosexual. This time I

admitted I was." The CO told Grogan he would receive an administrative discharge from the Navy.

Two days after the meeting, someone came on the ship's public address system and announced, "Everyone should know that MMFN Grogan has admitted to being a homosexual." The message was heard throughout the entire ship.

With that began a day-to-day battle to survive. Grogan was repeatedly attacked. "I was being kicked, hit with hands and objects, and verbally abused. The assaults would take place off ship as I was either leaving the ship or returning to the ship." The sailor testified that the physical assaults were daily. "When I would go to the head, co-workers would make remarks to me such as, 'We hate faggots, Grogan' and 'We're going to kill you, Grogan.'"

The terrified machinist's mate reported the incidents to his superiors in the engine room several times. Nothing was ever done.

Around July 11 the ship was ordered to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. His shipmates said things like "Faggot sailors disappear overboard when the ship is out



Attorney Tom Horn said, "In court I found it interesting that the U.S. attorney did not contest the allegation that the young sailor had been beaten, abused, or threatened with death." (Photo: Rink)

to sea." Grogan reported that he was told that if the U.S.S. Patterson was deployed he would never see Cuba. Grogan confessed, "I genuinely feared for my life if I was on the ship when it sailed from Bath."

With no help from his superiors in sight, the frightened sailor called a cousin in San Francisco and fled from Bath, Maine. He still insists, "I did not want to leave the Navy."

Once in San Francisco Grogan sought help. He went to a military counseling organization; everywhere he went he was told

had to return to military jurisdiction in order to resolve the matter.

Horn said that it is general policy on unauthorized cases for the sailor to be returned to the original duty station — except where a return was likely to cause death or bodily injury. Grogan agreed to once again turn himself in and Horn promised to turn every stone to keep him in the local command. When Horn sensed that the Naval command was ignoring his pleas, he quickly turned to the courts for relief.

Horn's first order of business was to get Judge Henderson to intercede and immediately stop the Navy from shipping out the AWOLed sailor. His next move is to seek a preliminary injunction which would keep Grogan in this local command (Treasure Island) for processing. Horn will agree that Grogan's superior officers have "an absolute duty and obligation to provide for the safety of personnel under their jurisdiction and not to knowingly subject them to bodily injury or death."

Horn's next move is to demand the Navy follow its own regulations. Grogan, he says, is an acknowledged homosexual. He has already had Grogan interviewed by psychologist Paul A. Walker, Ph.D. Walker wrote, "Grogan is completely homosexual in behavior (and fantasy). His sexual orientation currently rates a '6' on the Kinsey Scale."

Horn will argue that the Navy is under an absolute duty and obligation pursuant to its written rules to separate Grogan from the U.S. Navy. He will ask the court to order the Navy to discharge Grogan — in accordance with their own regulations.

P. Lorch

Meanwhile, his cousin had been busy on her own. Through friends in the GGBA she was referred to attorney Horn, who was knowledgeable in military law cases. Horn told him that he

## Non-Partisan Alliance Fundraiser

The Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance is holding its first fundraiser Saturday, November 5, at the California Culinary Academy (215 Fremont Street) from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the door, but for more details phone Don Disler at 392-2800.

The Alliance will host Mayor Dianne Feinstein, Sheriff Michael Hennessey, and DA Arlo Smith.

The Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance is a political action committee composed of persons of differing political views and party registrations who are interested in securing the election or appointment of moderate public officials who are sympathetic to the human and civil rights of Gays and Lesbians.

The Alliance focuses its efforts on local, county, and state governments because its members believe that it is at these levels that important decisions are made daily that directly affect our lives, jobs, businesses, friends, and the communities in which we live. Its primary activ-

ity is to raise money and make contributions to support the election or appointment of qualified individuals regardless of their race, sex, or sexual orientation.

The Alliance has members throughout the Bay Area. Each member pays \$100 per year as a membership fee and pledges to raise or contribute an additional \$500 annually. The fundraising goal is accomplished through events organized by the Alliance or by private contributions.

The Alliance was formed in the summer of 1983. Last month it made its first contributions: \$200 (\$50 each) to four candidates running for city council in Santa Cruz (on whose election a Gay councilman will become mayor), \$200 to Dianne Feinstein in her mayoral race (in recognition for her work done and to complete the Gay/Lesbian agenda), and \$100 to Assemblyman William Filante of Marin (in recognition of his lone Republican vote on AB-11).



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## A Tense Halloween on Castro

### Crowds Have No Way Out as Muni Falters

by Allen White

The slipshod operation of the Muni Railway was the most dangerous ingredient in a tense Halloween night on Castro. Police Captain Victor Macia was visibly angered as he learned Monday night that alternate transit service was not in place as Castro Street was closed.

Castro Street was closed to traffic at 8 p.m. due to the heavy crowds which filled the area. Through the night well over 10,000 people were in the area. Several thousand arrived by the now electrified 24-Divisadero from Hunters Point on the south and Western Addition on the north. When streets are closed, the trolley buses are replaced by diesels. When the street was closed, the buses kept bringing people into the area, but there was no service out of the area.

Ann Milner, a spokesperson

for Muni, said service was not restored to the line until 10 p.m. By that time concern existed not only for people in the closed area at Castro and Market, but also for people in the surrounding blocks. It was learned that two buses were sent on the 24 line at 9 p.m. This left the line without bus service for over an hour. Significantly, the Muni information operators were not informed by their central control of any problem on the line. This left people on the street open for attack from roving gangs as they waited for nonexistent bus service.

Community United Against Violence head Diane Christensen was concerned as reports continued to flow into their office of teens carrying assorted sticks, baseball bats, and knives into the area. Glenn McElhinney, a CUAV volunteer at 18th & Castro, said it was the gangs vs. the rest of us. She observed that the crowd was minimally Gay with the majority of Gay costumers having walked Castro on the previous Saturday.

The period from eight until nine was the most tense period of the evening. There was concern that violence might break out at any moment. Several cars were looted during the time, and dozens of weapons were confiscated. Should any major violence have taken place, there would have been no public transportation on the 8-Castro, the 24-Divisadero, or the 33-Ashbury lines. The only major transportation available was the underground Muni Metro.

The on-duty Castro Muni Metro station agent complained to the Bay Area Reporter of the total lack of concern for the situation that existed. With crowds building up in the Metro station, he said he had to call several times to get even one back-up person. The underground station became even more congested as crowds searched for a haven from the intermittent rain showers.

Monday night concluded a four-day Halloween weekend. (Continued on page 17)



The Wicked Witch meets Glinda the Good Witch at the Eagle's costume party. (Photo: R. Pruzan)



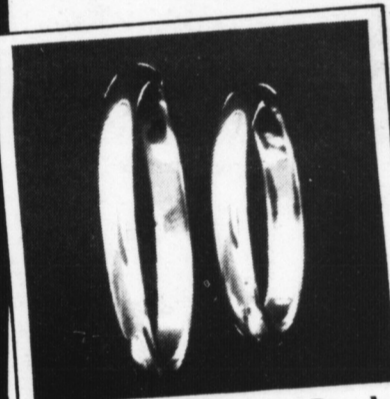
Halloween night at 18th Street's Fanny's, whose "USO Show" brought the Andrews Sisters and (center front) Tina, "Miss USO 1983." (Photo: Rink)



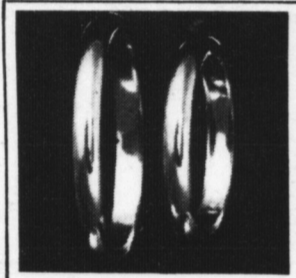
October 31 in the Castro — the shy and the brazen. (Photo: Rink)

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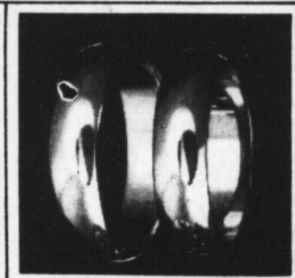
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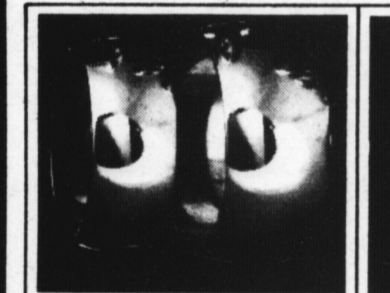
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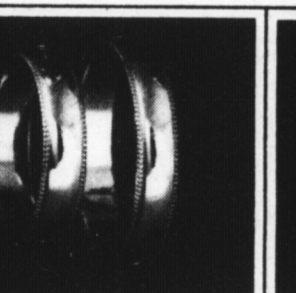
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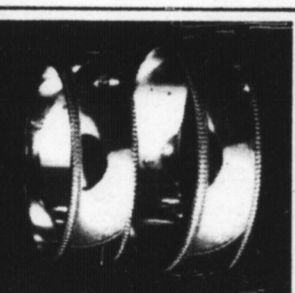
Medium Width 7mm  
polished finish in 14K.  
small  
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large  
JEFCO PRICE \$129.90



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6mm Milgrain Bands  
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(Photos enlarged for detail)

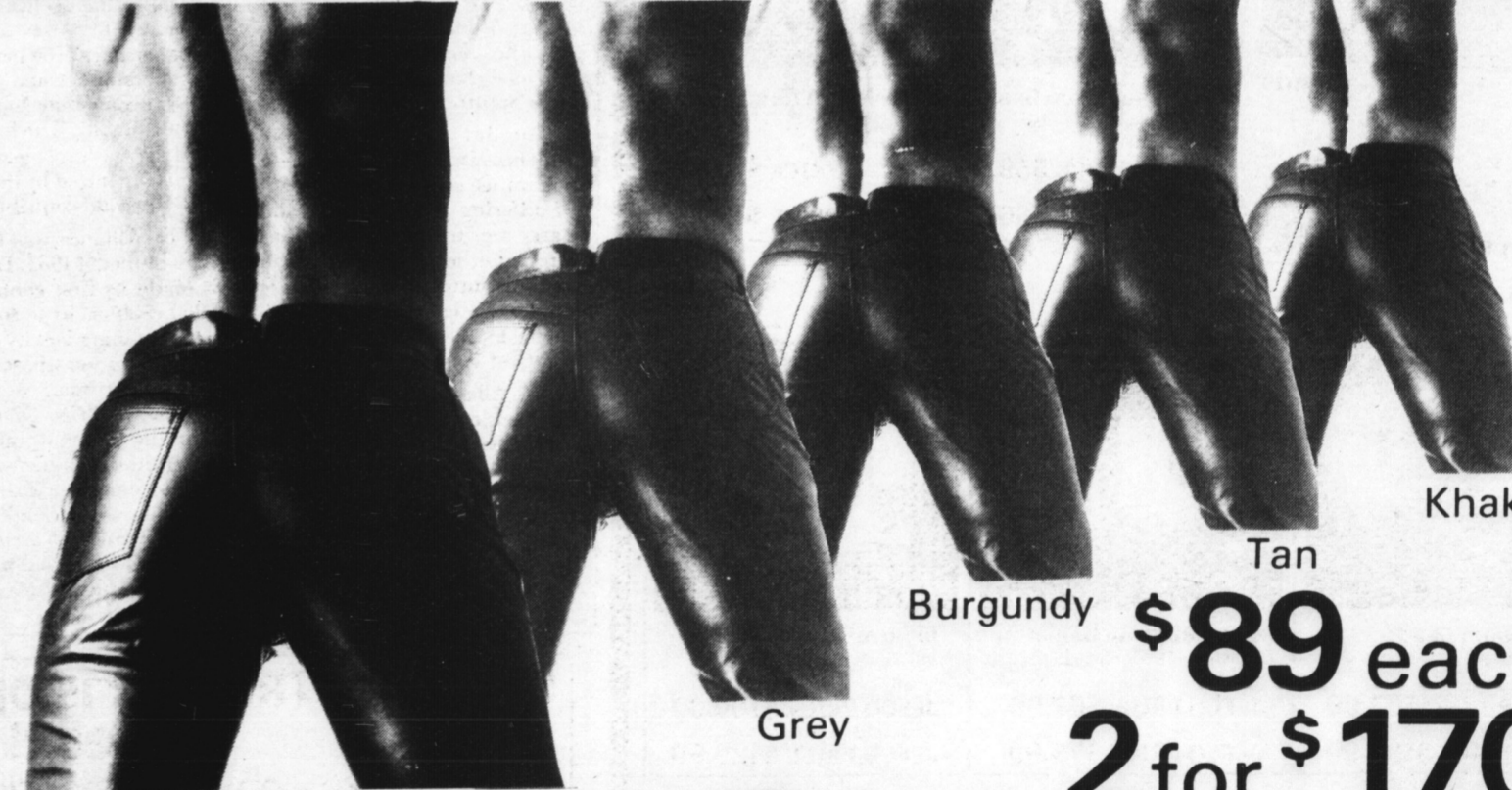
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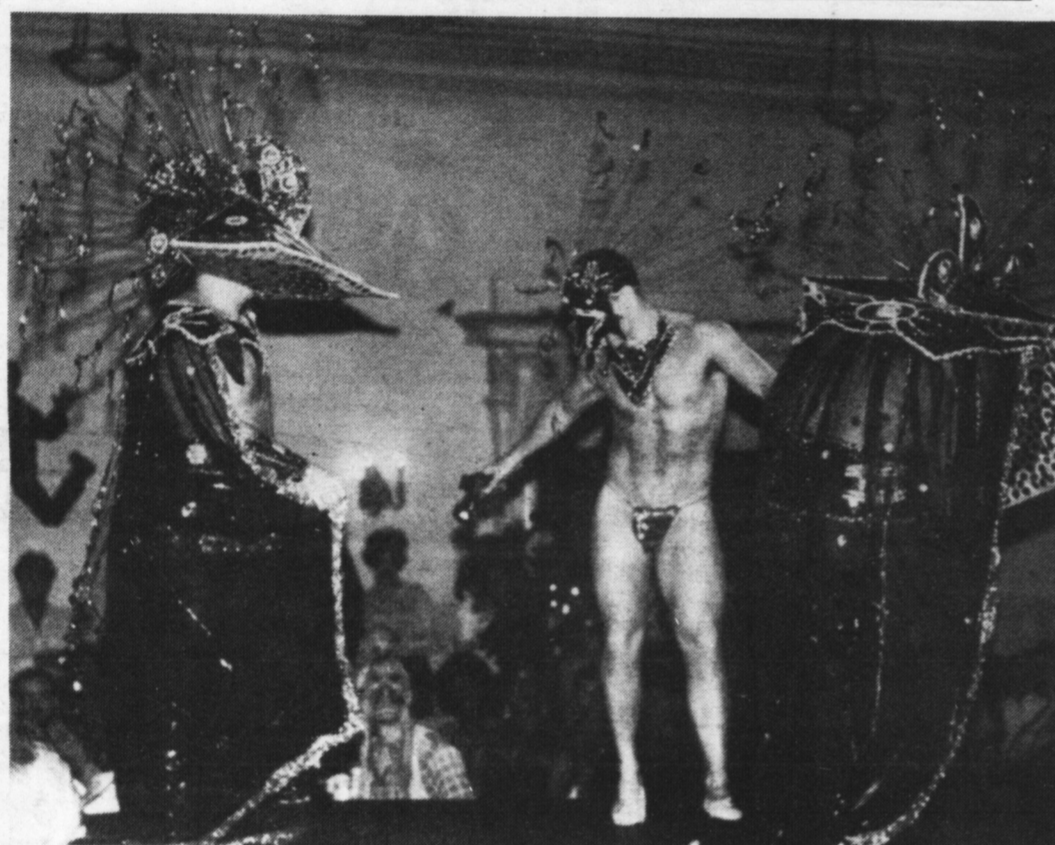
Pumpkin sellers on Castro Street start up the four-day Halloween weekend. (Photo: Rink)



Leather and tutus at the Beaux Arts Ball. (Photo: Rink)



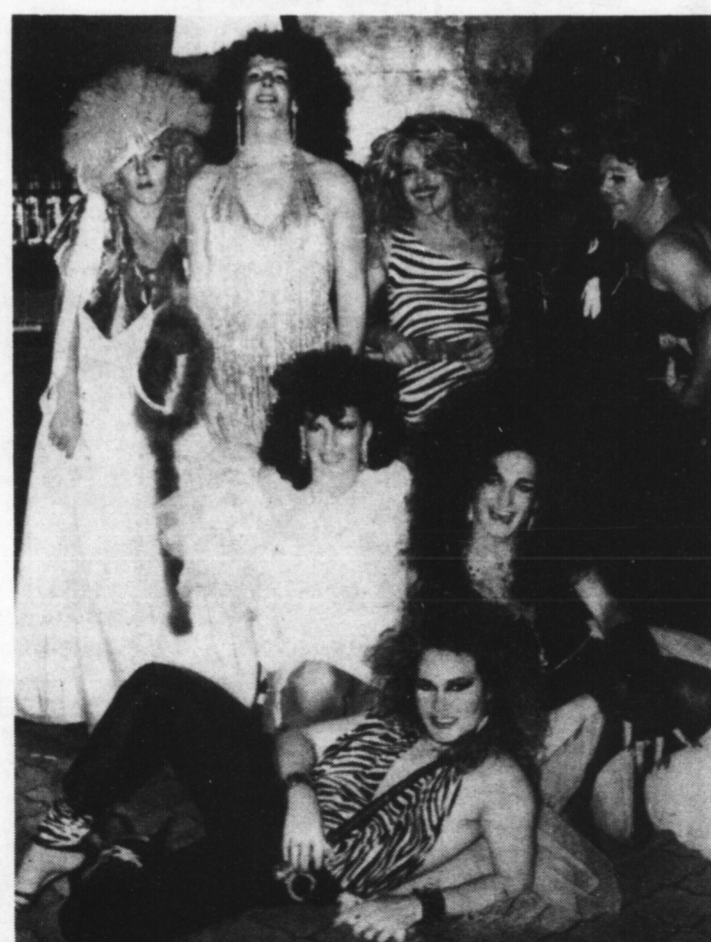
Second place in the Eagle's costume contest. (Photo: R. Pruzan)



The winning Group performing at the Beaux Arts Ball. (Photo: Rink)



Beaux Arts Ball contestants waiting for presentation. Contestant second from the right was the winner of Best Single. (Photo: Rink)



Beaux Arts Ball entries. Foreground, Grand Prize (\$1,000) winner Margo Moore. (Photo: Rink)

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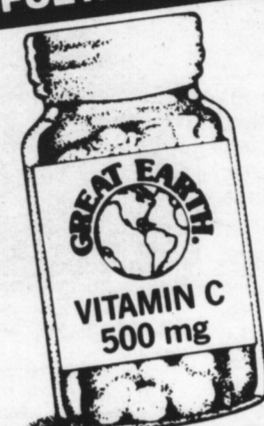
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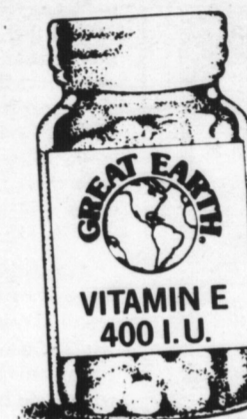
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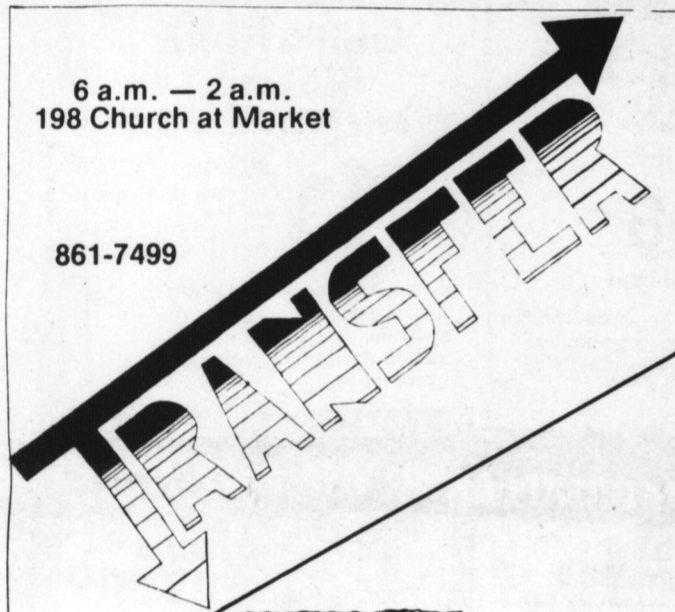
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# Black Comedy from Black Comic Bombs with Gays

by Allen White

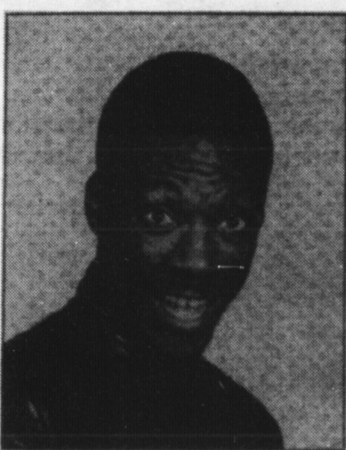
Homophobic remarks by comedian Eddie Murphy will be investigated by Roberto Esteves, Chair of San Francisco Telecommunication Policy Committee. For the last several weeks Home Box Office has been airing an Eddie Murphy special, "Dilirious." Locally it has been shown through Viacom.

As part of his comedy routine Murphy says, "Ladies are saying Gay men are the best friends to have because they don't want anything from you. You can just hang out with them and it's fun. You know what's real scary about that? That new AIDS shit. It kills. It petrifies me because girls will be hanging out with (Gays) and one night they could be in a club having fun with their Gay friend and give them a little kiss and go home with AIDS on their lips."

At another part of the special he says, "I've got rules. Faggots aren't allowed to look at my ass while I'm on stage. That's why I keep movin'. If you don't know where the faggot section is, you gotta keep movin' so if they do see it, it's quick and they don't get a long stare. I'm afraid of Gay people. Petrified. I have nightmares about Gay people."

Robert Wachs, Eddie Murphy's co-manager, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the comments are part of Murphy's comedy routine, and he repeatedly stated that Murphy was "not anti-gay."

The show has aired six times in October on HBO and will air next Saturday at 1:45 a.m. Many question the humor of the program. In Los Angeles, a Hollywood trade paper reader placed a full page ad in *Daily Variety* on October 24. Peter Alexander asked "fellow readers of *Daily Variety*" to witness Murphy's "attack on homosexuals that is unparalleled in modern history. Anita Bryant, Jerry Falwell, and the Moral Majority, at its worst, did not use



Eddie Murphy's anti-gay comedy stirs anger.

such loaded, derogatory language."

The *Los Angeles Times*' television columnist, Howard Rosenberg, agreed with Alexander. Rosenberg observed that he thought Murphy's material was outrageous and defamatory, concluding that "I used to be a big fan of Murphy's... but if this is growth, then dwarfs are giants." The *L.A. Times* columnist also said, "Shock humor, whether the targets are Blacks or Gays, is valid if it takes us to a higher plane and also makes us laugh. These do neither."

Deborah Rosen, a spokesperson for Home Box Office, said they do not censor the shows that appear on their cable network. The Murphy special was a tape of his concert at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. She said, "If it's any consolation, the remarks are aired only after 10 p.m." It is Rosen's belief that one of the values of cable tele-

vision is to present performances with a minimum of censorship. She said they do run disclaimers at the beginning of programs that might be controversial as well as ratings on motion pictures.

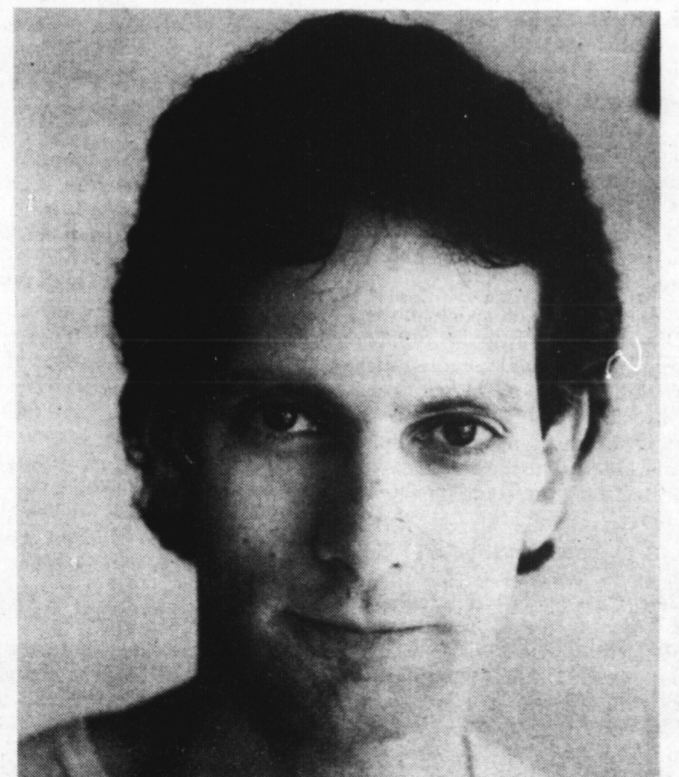
Louise Henry with the San Francisco office of Viacom agreed with Deborah Rosen about censorship of programs. She also said it would be virtually impossible for the local outlet to censor programs as they are fed to the local outlets. She did say that if there were complaints they would be forwarded to cable suppliers such as Home Box Office.

Roberto Esteves is the Chair of the Telecommunications Policy Committee. The committee is appointed by the Board of Supervisors and oversees cable television in San Francisco. He noted that the committee would be very much involved in any attacks against any minority over the cable system. He noted that though the company is private, the cable lines use city streets and can be made to answer for their programming. He observed that cable is moving towards more and more deregulation, which would minimize the involvement of companies such as Viacom. For this reason, he said, it is in the best interest of Viacom to want a certain degree of regulation.

Though there was a question as to what direction the Eddie Murphy incident might take, with the exception of Murphy's manager, all those interviewed expressed personal shock and outrage at the comments of the young comedian.

## NGRA Presents Oral Argument In Military Case

The United States Court of Appeals in Washington DC will hear oral arguments in a case involving the rights of Lesbians and Gay men to Service in the military. National Gay Rights Advocates, the San Francisco-based public interest law firm, announced last week that it is making a constitutional challenge to the Navy's exclusionary policy



NGRA's Leonard Graff (Photo: Rink)

The military requires that all homosexuals be discharged solely on the basis of their sexual orientation, without regard to an individual's fitness to serve. Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, said: "The Navy's mandatory discharge policy violates the constitutionally protected rights of privacy, due process and equal protection of the laws."

NGRA Executive Director from Los Angeles, Jean O'Leary, said: "The only legitimate qualification for serving in the military is the ability to do the job. The Navy's policy is an irrational discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men."

Stephen Bomse, a partner in the prestigious San Francisco law firm of Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe, will present the oral argument. Mr. Bomse's role in the case is a significant achievement for NGRA as it illustrates the ability of NGRA to attract top notch legal counsel for its test cases. (The same policy was followed in the recent Federal Court of Appeals on the Carl Hill/INS case.)

This case was chosen for a challenge because of a seaman's exemplary record over nine years in the Navy. The navy man was an expert in Korean cryptology and was given a \$12,000 reenlistment bonus shortly before the Navy discovered he was Gay and discharged him.

NGRA filed the lawsuit in the DC Circuit because, by reputation, it is the most liberal.

## SEC Halts Trading in Stock

(Continued from page 1)

pany officials and Utah stock sellers about what the company owned and what it planned to do, but little information was forthcoming on what it was producing, much less earning. Stocks are valued by many ingredients: assets, debts, management, past performance, expectations — but the principal determinant of a stock's worth is future earnings. For example, Texas Instruments a prime manufacturer of semi conductors had been losing millions this past year. Its stock price (even though it was a major, solid corporation) had been depressed. Friday it reported a third-quarter loss of \$110.8 million. It also reported it had decided to drop its home computer business (where all the losses had been occurring). On Monday its stock was the most active on the New York Stock Exchange, and it soared 22 3/4 points.

Claire Singleton a saleswoman for Salt Lake City's stock brokerage R. L. Smith has been an enthusiastic booster of the stock. She said her company was one of ten market makers in the stock. They bought and sold the over-the-counter stock. In a phone conversation with the *Bay Area Reporter*, ten days ago she said the assets of the company were \$5.7 million. She said that there were 5.6 million shares of stock on the market. Also untold millions of shares that officers of the company held and treasury stock (which the company could exchange for tangible assets).

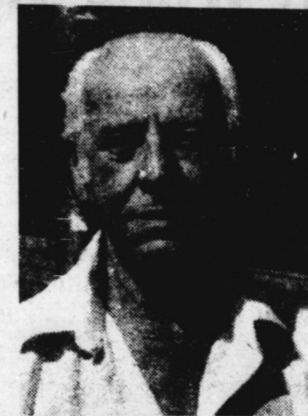
She complained that the SEC in San Francisco was harassing Gay International, but that GI had hired Edelman & Co., a Florida public relations firm of national reputation. She said that Gays and non-Gays alike were snapping up the stock. At the time it was selling at \$3.12 per share. She listed as assets a hotel in Salt Lake City, millions of dollars worth of commercial property in Utah, four buildings in San Anselmo, condominiums in Hawaii, and the San Francisco-based Gay Area Directory. She said Gay International was a growth stock. "It's so good," she said, "it moved up... and stayed there." She ended her sales pitch with "The stock is doing so well because of its potential."

Gay International was formed in April 1983 when Malign, Inc., a private Nevada corporation, merged with Landmark Publishing Co., a public Utah corporation. Later stockholders approved a name change to Gay International and authorized the issuance of 50 million shares of common stock.

What all these companies were about remains a bit murky. They claimed to have net worth in the hundreds of thousands and there was an exchange of much stock from one to the other.

Landmark Publishers, as best one can make out, was a Contra Costa based printing house of private telephone directories. Malign, Inc. owned a Gay telephone directory. Alfred H. Cassidy, a long-time San Francisco realtor had an interest in Gay Areas Private Telephone Directory as did Norman Ironside, a Walnut Creek printer/publisher. Both Cassidy and Ironside were interviewed by the SEC in October in San Francisco to explain the workings of their operation and answer the complaints that had begun to be lodged against it.

Part of the mystery lies with the death and estate of Bob Adams who as far as anyone knew founded the Gay Areas Directory and ran it. Adams at



The late Bob Adams, founder of the Gay Areas Directory which became Gay International.

61 died in 1982. The 1983 edition was at the printer without funds to finish paying for it, and Adams' second in command Jon Berliner canvassed the local community looking for investors to bail out the directory. At the time he gave the impression that he was acting as the agent for the Adams heirs.

The 1982 winter edition simply announced a copyright © 1981 Robert M. Adams, with a San Francisco post office box and a phone number.

The 1983 winter edition appeared, dedicated to Adams. Berliner was listed as Vice President/Secretary-Treasurer; Alfred H. Cassidy was listed as President and Kenneth Partin was listed as Vice President. The headquarters were listed as 1443 Noriega Street, San Francisco.

Berliner has since left Gay International and begun his own directory. The Noriega Street address is also the location of the Partin Real Estate & Mortgage Co. Mr. Partin and Mr. Cassidy have been in the real estate business together for over ten years. They list the same address on 22nd Avenue as their home address. Cassidy is listed as owning or being beneficiary of 9,595,470 shares of common stock.

In June the company opened offices at 4131 - 18th Street for \$1000 a month rent. It has a two-year lease on the premises and began enlarging the scope of the Gay Areas Directory. When he filed with the SEC in August, Cassidy announced that the company's primary intention was to establish "an international communication network through the use of Gay/Lesbian private telephone directories and related services thereto, such as Gay bed and breakfast hotels, inns, taverns, resorts, travel agencies, and Gay oriented magazines." The company projected a \$105,000 net profit from the sales of the 1983 Gay Areas Directory. Claire Singleton of the R. L. Smith stock brokers said this week that the '83 edition "will be on the newstands December 8."

Another strategy of the company since June has been to increase the assets of Gay International by being actively engaged in the acquisition of real estate in exchange for its common stock.

According to an article in the *Deseret News* July 7-8, 1983, Gay International acquired the Wishing Well Hotel in Salt Lake City. The hotel is a twenty bed and breakfast inn and president Cassidy said at the time he expected a net profit of \$6000 per month.

In an article on June 20, 1983 in *The Enterprise* of Salt Lake City, Cassidy was reported as saying that Gay International planned to close on a fifty room hotel in the Catskill Mountains 95 miles north of New York City later than month. It was also reported that Cassidy had offered \$1 million in cash and stock for Azygos Ltd., an East

Coast manufacturer and distributor of a Gay cosmetic line.

The company also acquired three condominium units in Hawaii to rent to Gay and Lesbian tourists. These Honolulu properties were owned by Cassidy; he agreed to continue paying on the mortgages of some \$118,700. The company also acquired from Cassidy 262 acres of unimproved land known as Keone's Royal Hawaiian Ranches. He continued to pay off the mortgage of \$295,820. "However," he pled with the SEC, "if Mr. Cassidy is unable to make timely payments under these mortgages, the company (Gay International) will be secondarily liable to make the payments." For these two transfers of real property, Cassidy was issued 2,646,800 shares of common stock. Also part of this asset swap for stock was a 1955 Bentley automobile valued at \$25,000 and forty framed watercolors by Scott Bader valued at \$20,000. The valuable watercolors reportedly hang in the San Francisco 18th Street office.

Saleswoman Singleton told the *Bay Area Reporter* on Tuesday that Gay International had over 4000 shareholders and that she and her associates were "still confident" in the company's prospects. She said that the company would begin marketing in the first week of December \$35 silver coins minted by the Hawaiian Mint with San Francisco images and the Gay International logo. Singleton said there was an offer pending on a casino in Reno, property in New Mexico, three ranches in California, and a shopping center in Idaho. All these would bring the company's assets up to \$25 million. All of these would be exchanges of Gay International stock for the properties. She said that there had been a shakeup in top management: Cassidy had gone to Chairman of the Board and Partin had assumed the Presidency. She also said that a letter was being drafted this week assuring investors of the strength of the firm. Singleton concluded, "I'm still optimistic."

Meanwhile Phil Myers of the SEC San Francisco told the *Bay Area Reporter* that this week's action was a unilateral one made by the five commissioners of the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, DC. His one-page press statement was "to tell the market to step back and look at it all." Other stock market watchers characterized the move as a warning to investors, a caution signal, telling people to carefully scrutinize the stock, the company, and its assets. It's a way of saying think twice.

An official suspension of trading is viewed as a cooling down period. It is not put into effect, however, to create a negative impression of the corporation in question.

Before the SEC's announcement this week, the *Bay Area Reporter* interviewed both Cassidy and Gay International's General Counsel, attorney Robert Hunnicutt. As with all previous press interviews, both Cassidy and Hunnicutt were strongly optimistic. Cassidy said the directory due in December would have a print run of 150,000. He said Gay International planned to start selling stock in Canada following an offer in Toronto. He implied that the San Francisco office of the SEC was after his company because the personnel there were anti-Gay.

Gay International is frozen until November 9. At what price it will thaw is anyone's guess.

P. Lorch

Allen White also assisted in this report.

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VOL. XIII NO. 44 NOVEMBER 3, 1983

NEXT ISSUE OUT: NOVEMBER 10

## VIEWPOINT LETTERS

### Multi-Lingual Ballot No Gay Obligations

For the first time the other day I heard that the bi-lingual ballot was but a temporary measure. I heard this from those seeking to preserve this idea. It was a line put out by the No on N campaign headquarters.

I was surprised I was even being spoken to in English. They could have done their campaign pitch in Gaelic or possibly Punjab. I wasn't told how long this "temporary" status was to last: 6 months, 6 years, 6 generations. I was led to believe that the measure was for the old folks (now, how can anybody be as old as the old folks?). Apparently this displaced horde have a passion to vote in their adopted community, but not enough passion to learn what the issues are in the language they are to be implemented in or denied by.

I was told that each multi-lingual ballot would cost each household only 3 cents a year, or was it 3 cents a day. Two cents isn't a good symbolic figure because 2 cents suggests sticking one's nose in where it shouldn't be or not worth enough to get hot and bothered about. Three cents spares one those lingual embarrassments. But how would one ever know that 2 cents meant just 2 cents and a whole lot more if one didn't bother to learn the language?

Sticking my nose into it (in my folly, I suppose) I asked about all those multi-lingual poll watchers who are supposed to be on hand. "They're volunteers," I was told. And I wondered: when the volunteers figure out the other old folks who sit around the polling place card table are getting paid, but for monolingual, when will the time come for demanding double time for double talk. And what happens if all the volunteers — unvolunteer? Right Rita, you have to hire same for strange law says you must have them on hand.

Enemies of the devaluation of the *lingua franca* bleat that each election multi printing costs an additional \$200,000. The next figure they pitch is the whole menage has cost us thus far \$1,500,000. But like the 3 cents per household most of these ups and downs figures outpace my skills of long division and multiplication. Leave it that one crowd is calming us with "no cost" and the other crowd is alarming us with "big bucks."

No one ever asked us if we wanted this wrenching of an American tradition, and now we have a chance to voice a concern on this federal slip-up or slip-in.

One of the marvels of our American heritage is people were allowed to come in from all over — generation after generation. The newcomers, thrilled at their good fortune, threw themselves into the new society and learned that new language as fast as they could. Speaking American was the ticket to the American dream show (and that was why they came, because it was better. And the reason for coming in 1983 is no different than in 1620 or 1820.)

English — without a Royal Academy of, say, the French or Spanish — has always been a democratic language. It let in as much as it let out. And "ciao," "manana," and "chop suey" are as American as the Statue of Liberty.

Multi-lingual balloting is Liberalism gone sweet, soft, and sour. It condescends.

And I have three other reasons in any order of importance: I cannot picture a foreign government granting such privilege or foolishness if one of us went there and became a citizen of that nation.

Secondly, American English can be learned to be spoken adequately in six to eight months. One can learn to read it and write it adequately in two years. That is if one applies oneself to the task.

Lastly, I have never seen a language *putch* unless behind it was another agenda. The agenda of separatism. Next it's street signs, then the currency, then the demand that

(Continued on next page)

### Unknown Critics

★ The Parade Committee would like it known that the names of Mr. Allan Terpil and Mr. Drew Roberts who recently wrote (Vol. XIII, Nos. 40 & 41 respectively) in response to Duke Armstrong's attack on the Parade Committee (Vol. XIII, No. 27) do not appear on this year's roster of general meeting attendees. An informal survey of those present at the October general meeting failed to turn up anyone acquainted with them. Mr. Armstrong's attendance is about one meeting annually.

Before making any inferences from these facts, one should appreciate that Committee meetings are always open and it is not uncommon for persons to come and go without signing in as necessary to acquire voting rights. Further, there are persons who participate in the work of subcommittees without ever attending general meetings.

The Parade Committee has so far chosen not to respond to the opinions aired in these letters or by Mr. Armstrong. Given the Committee's diverse composition, members would no doubt associate themselves in vastly varying ways with the views expressed.

Reid Condit  
L/GFDC Corresponding Secretary  
San Francisco

### Lesbians' Blood

★ It is nice to know that people still care. Seventy of the most beautiful women from the San Francisco women's community gave blood in support of my brothers affected by AIDS. To take a phrase from the United Way advertising: "I may not know you, but I love you."

Larry Looper  
Oakland

### Clubs and Peeves

★ First of all let me tell you how much I appreciate what B.A.R. is doing. I'll elaborate on that later.

Before Tom James of Professionals Over 30 (which he "founded" and he'll never let you forget it!) dislocates his shoulder from trying to pat himself on the back for "all" that he has done for gaydom, allow me to set the record straight regarding his rallying response to a letter B.A.R. printed from R. Allen.

Allen stated he had attended social activities sponsored by both G40+ and PO30, "the latter of which I heard some very racist remarks by the 'founder' and of course there were no Blacks present or he wouldn't have said them. G40+ seems to also be very WASPish, but I don't feel it's deliberate on their part. Even BWMT seems to attract very few Blacks in the older age bracket. Does life end at 40 for Black men?" I'm sure he meant to say gay Black men.

The reason I quoted the latter part of Allen's letter verbatim should be evident when I quote verbatim James' opening salvo: "That R. Allen found it necessary to vent his frustration in the letters to the editor" putting down BWMT, G40+, and Pros 30 for his failure to attract older Black men suggests a personality problem he apparently chooses to overlook."

He then goes on to say in so many words that people tend to bitch, but do nothing to improve the situation. There James is completely right — and we all know it — except in the particular case of Mr. Allen, who happens to be a member of BWMT, as am I. We both have given much support, both financial and personal, to BWMT, membership for which is \$20 per year as opposed to Pros 30 which was \$25 for 6 months!

When I expressed appreciation earlier for what B.A.R. is doing, I was referring mainly to the expanded "letters to the editor" column, and particularly those from John W. Steele and Mr. Becay. They just go to show how much prejudice exists within our gay community. Just because these two have been raised with a "superior whites" attitude doesn't mean that they need

to maintain that very stupid attitude in their adult life. It's not a lily white world and gays don't own Castro, to shatter a couple of well-accepted myths.

I would hope that more "thinking" caucasian members of Pros 30 would confront Tom James about his attitudes so he realizes it's not "safe" to make a racist remark just because there are none of "them" physically present.

Jim F.  
Palo Alto, CA

### Shanti Volunteers

★ As the number of people diagnosed with AIDS in the Bay Area increases, Shanti Project has an ongoing and urgent need for volunteers. Currently, Shanti Project has about 100 volunteer counselors who provide emotional support and patient advocacy for people facing life-threatening illness and grief. We have about 30 community volunteers who provide practical assistance, such as transportation, shopping, preparing meals for people with AIDS. Of the 25 new counselors trained last month, all have been matched with clients and many are working with several clients. Shanti averages 40 new clients each month; last week alone we had more than 20 new clients.

Shanti Project provides both training and support for its volunteers, who are in the front lines in this intensely involving and gratifying work.

The next training for counselors will be held November 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, and 20. The next training for community volunteers will be on November 5 and 6. If you would like to join this rewarding and much needed service, call 538-9644 to request an application.

Helen Schietinger, MA, RN  
Director, Shanti AIDS Residence Program  
San Francisco

### No on N

★ Is the Harvey Milk Lesbian Gay Demos Club ignorant traitors, mercenaries?

Inside the Communist system the Gay community would disappear. Money from Communist Party? Proposition N is made in the Soviet Consulate and Faribundo Marti or Communist Party in 19th Street to support and present in the City Hall.

Gay and Lesbian think before you vote on N. It is cord for your neck. Is very wrong.

Cuban Gay  
San Francisco

### "Y" Behavior

★ I have been a member of gyms in the Castro area for a number of years, primarily patronized by Gay brothers. At no time did I see blatant sexual activity. I recently joined the Golden Gate YMCA (approx. 6 months) and was overwhelmed as to the overt sexual activity. Whether one is in the shower, steamroom or dryroom, there is someone jacking off. The heaviest amount of sexual activity is carried on in the so-called dryroom. When one enters this room, there are at least six people jacking off or sucking cock. Both activities I find wonderful but not appropriate for the YMCA. Complaints to "Jamie" have been made several times by many of us. A father and two young children were almost exposed to the activity in the dryroom recently. What does one have to do to change this behavior. This bathroom activity has made many Gay brothers quite unhappy. Help . . .

J. Claremont  
San Francisco

## LETTERS

### Carding Confusion

★ Well, here's another one. And this from someone "who doesn't usually write letters to the editor." But this is in response, to the response to a letter I wrote some weeks ago regarding the carding policies at certain gay bars.

First, and I thought I'd made it clear; but obviously didn't, because not just the two gentlemen who wrote the letters have misinterpreted this, my friend who was refused entry into the bar was a man. My allusion to our treatment of women was meant only as an example of an obvious bigotry in our community. As to my personal bigotries, gentlemen, being a male in this society I probably hold onto a few, but that has not stopped me from enjoying, or supporting women's bars or my Lesbian friends. As to my friend, Sam's attitude — I can't say he was ever a "perfect gentleman," but was by no means "not Detour material." What, may I ask, is a "punked-out attitude" anyway?

Now as to the response, I'm glad to hear that the management of the Detour doesn't treat everyone the way my friend was treated. But, the fact remains, how can anyone be expected to carry three pieces of photo ID to present when called upon to? How can any bar ask for this and not expect it to be interpreted as being elitist and exclusive? (They have it engraved on a plaque by the door.) No one carries three pieces of photo ID. So when the management asks for them, what else can you say but no? And then you're not allowed in. But, this is not a policy evoked on everyone. What else would you call this, gentlemen?

I'm happy to see these gentlemen do agree with my feelings, and I actually think that they restated it better . . . "that Gay elitism and bigotry are more destructive to our lives than anything the straight community can possibly do . . ."

This statement and the example were meant to be the focal points of my letter, not Sam's attitude or my personal dealings with . . . "bridging the chasms of bigotry that so offend my sensibilities."

John M. Becker  
San Francisco

### On AIDS Dump

★ Let Florida and the rest of the world send us their Gays who are sick with AIDS. Believe you me, any Gay or Black person who would go to Florida and spend money is some type of idiot in my book.

Patric Angelo  
San Francisco

### Post-Mortem

★ Re: your article in B.A.R. on the death of Jim Ostlund . . .

I also know Mr. Ostlund quite well. Jim Ostlund became a wealthy man by pandering to the alcoholic, exploiting the weak, and peddling a dangerous and destructive lifestyle. It finally consumed him, as it had already consumed many of his victims. Justice. Delayed, perhaps, but still justice.

George Buchanan

### Smoked-out with Smokers

★ There is an unfortunate political letter bearing the signatures of Jim Foster and Del Martin that was mailed to members of the Gay community. Foster and Martin are siding with the Tobacco Industry in an attempt to defeat YES ON PROPOSITION P. A Yes vote on Proposition P calls for nonsmoking areas in the workplace, if employees want it, and once again, huge amounts of nonlocal money are attempting to control local politics by inundating voters with Tobacco Industry financed ads. Unfortunately Martin and Foster are deludedly aiding in these attempts.

The Yes on Proposition P ordinance was overwhelmingly approved by the Board of Supervisors in response to an overwhelming amount of constituent activity. The ordinance would be law now, giving relief to San Francisco workers forced to breathe smoke-filled air, were it not for the Tobacco Industry. The Tobacco Industry paid up to 70 cents per signature to petitioners who presented prospective signers the kind of confused and self-serving arguments that the Tobacco Industry is infamous for and whose arguments are reflected in the Foster/Martin letter.

The ordinance simply states that employers must make reasonable accommodations in handling the preferences of both smokers and nonsmokers, and if both cannot agree on an arrangement, the nonsmokers' rights take precedence. The ordinance is necessary because the way it is now, smoking has precedence over the right to breathe clean air.

M. Holtz

### ACLU's Other Gay

★ We are extremely pleased — as you are — that Jose Gomez, co-chair of the National Gay Task Force and Director of La Raza Centro Legal, was elected to the national ACLU Board of Directors.

What you may not know (as you headlined your story "First Gay Goes to National ACLU Board") is that gay rights activist Anne Jennings has just been elected to serve as the ACLU-Northern California representative to the national Board.

Jennings has been the Gay Rights Chapter represent-

tative to the ACLU-NC board for the past three years. In her capacity as chair of the Pro-Choice Task Force of the ACLU-NC, Jennings is a leading advocate for reproductive rights and a key organizer of the major efforts to maintain legal, publicly funded abortions for women in California.

An attorney, Jennings also serves on the ACLU-NC Legal Committee, the body which analyzes and prioritizes the many requests for legal assistance which come to the ACLU-NC and decides which lawsuits the ACLU-NC will pursue.

We are sure that both Jose Gomez and Anne Jennings will be advocates for gay rights and other crucial civil liberties which affect those of us in northern California.

Elaine Elinson  
Public Information Director, ACLU-NC  
San Francisco

### Bellicose Tone

★ As a resident of the Santa Clara Valley, I often read your column "San Jose: From the Rosegarden" by Tom Rogers for news of local events and organizations.

I have often been puzzled — and somewhat disturbed — by the tone of Mr. Rogers' column, in that he seems to use the space you give him to repeat negative gossip and create the impression of enormous dissension in the San Jose community.

In your September 22 issue, Rogers wrote something which disturbed me at the time and has stuck in my mind. Going back to look up exactly what it was, I discovered that he had written (and this is an exact quote): "There are times that we all have said things in the thrill of the hunt, heat of battle, or in sweeping demonstrations of lack of information (known also as the state of ignorance)."

Does Mr. Rogers view his column as an instrument of war — the community as his battleground? Who is the "prey" in his thrilling hunt? And what does he get out of it?

Perhaps if Mr. Rogers would let go of his bellicosity and try to approach situations more objectively, his column could contain more solid news and fewer retractions.

A. Dover  
Sunnyvale, CA

### Likes New Critic

★ Critics come and critics go, but in few publications do I read reviews of theatrical offerings that motivate me into attendance. One of your theatre critics, Bernard Spunberg, writes so eloquently and with such love of his craft that I feel I'm being shown theatre in a whole new light. Many critics of this genre spend so much time and editorial space taking productions to task for bloated production values, or overwrought stars . . . that one misses the essential ingredient that separates a good review from an angry diatribe. Namely: How does this show make you feel?

Mr. Spunberg knows his stuff and myself being a Bay Area actor can appreciate the dedication andchutzpah that goes into each of his reviews. Mr. Spunberg's reviews are true entertainment. Laudits to him and the B.A.R. for continuing to enlighten readers to the diversity and depth of talent that Gay America has to offer.

How about an article on Gay actors in the Bay Area? There are a lot of us and the amount of homophobia we face is astounding.

Chuck Hilbert  
San Francisco

### Likes Search for Mr. Safesex

★ I have followed very closely the few articles in your paper by Paul Reed. His most recent piece, "Looking for Mr. Safesex," was so well-conceived and brilliantly written that I felt I had to write and commend your paper for publishing such good work. Not only was the article cogent and to-the-point, it was unabashedly honest, saying the things that many of us feel and do, but that nobody talks about.

I have counted only four articles by Mr. Reed in your paper so far. Can't you encourage him to write more frequently? Or am I missing his regular writing somewhere else?

Again, thanks. Such fine writing infinitely raises the journalistic standards of our community's gay press.

Mark Gregory  
San Francisco

### Literary Resources

★ One could — I won't —icker with Stephen Coote's statement (B.A.R., Oct. 13) that "the fact is [Emily Dickinson] had an affair with a woman called Sue Gilbert . . . for to really get into it would require the kind of letter readers of The New York Review of Books seem to savor where nothing is usually proven but an academic, ostentatious showing-off. Furthermore, if Dickinson's inclusion in *The Penguin Book of Homosexual Verse* leads readers of B.A.R. to her great poetry, why fuss about how?

Meanwhile, this reader appreciates Bluestein's review of the anthology, and especially his quote of Coote's explanation as to why the anthology includes no poetry written after Stonewall. I hope the condition of Mr. Coote's wallet allowed him to do more than browse in Walt Whitman Bookstore, one of our community's major resources.

John D. Dolan  
San Francisco

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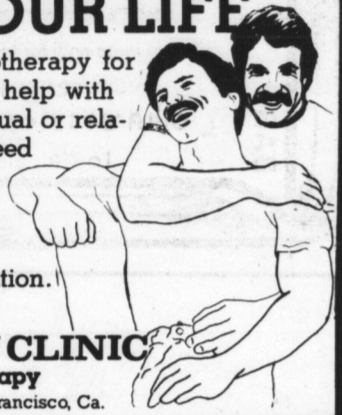
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## LETTERS

### Spending Health Monies

★ Gerald Weissman, in a recent *S.F. Chronicle* column cloaks his apparently disproportionate ire at AIDS funding by arguing that AIDS should take its turn with chronic diseases — such as his specialty — and with chronic social problems in need of solution.

Any comparison of chronic with acute conditions is inappropriate. Arthritis rarely kills within two years of onset — AIDS often does. Diseases afflicting small numbers of us cost more per case — witness toxic shock, kidney dialysis, neo-natal care and "orphan drug" research.

He is correct in speaking of spin-off benefits — quite likely for his own area of auto-immune disorders — and likely, too, for Gay men's health in general.

Stopping the spread sooner will certainly have cost benefits as well, given the stunning cost of care for AIDS patients.

I pray that he is correct, also, in assuming that 4,000 will be the final tally of victims into which the money will be divided; that no more than 50% will die; and that the clinically apparent cases are indeed all the cases — that there will be no damage done to those exposed but not evidently ill.

He is correct in saying that we are not solving all our problems. Treating AIDS is unlikely to ameliorate society's ill treatment of the risk groups, and there is no need to look for dark Freudian motivations in society's fearful attitude toward AIDS — the groups have always been at risk of ill-treatment in society, getting well and getting well-treated would be preferable to be sure.

Weissman's feelings are no doubt shared by more than most of us would care to think, and so it is useful that they be aired — so that we may be alert to the political and practical consequences of that attitude.

Robert Stempel  
San Francisco

### Nob Hill Cinema Revisited

★ After being closed for many weeks (for what I thought to be for renovation) I decided to revisit the Nob Hill Cinema last night for its "re-opening." The seedy character who greeted me at the door (perhaps the new owner or manager) would not accept my membership card (which had not expired and had only been used once), but did offer to throw it away for me and allowed me to purchase a new one. (Whatever happened to good will?) After entering the premises I was surprised to see that the only thing that has changed is the ownership. The facilities were exactly as before, with sanitation devices such as paper towels, absent as always. For those patrons who enjoyed the Nob Hill before its closing — the good news is its been reopened exactly as it was before it closed. For those curious patrons who perhaps were expecting something more — I suggest trying Savages; the environment there is far more interesting — not to mention healthier.

Name Withheld Upon Request  
San Francisco

### Prissy Letters

★ Where in hell has reader Steele ("Too Much Color," *B.A.R.* Letters, 9/29) been living? The moon??? Someone should tell this petty complainer, knowing that a Black Gay community is as real as White, racist Gay groups to which letter writer Steele seems to belong. And since when is asked by nifty Steele in *B.A.R.*, supposed to cater exclusively to prissy, lily-white Gays who can't see past their noses and scream discrimination only when they are on the receiving end of it?

Reader Steele should open his eyes instead of his mouth and realize that *B.A.R.*, as a whole and its "Open Forum" section are a vehicle of access to all (my emphasis) factions of the Gay community, including but not limited to individuals like reader Steele, who, unfortunately, uses it to air his sarcastic bitchiness and covert, petty bigotry.

Ed Dollak  
San Francisco

### Upset Over "Attention"

★ I was upset with the heading you used for the important letter that David Lourea and Lee Olivier wrote to *B.A.R.* about bisexual people not being acknowledged by your newspaper. The title "Looking For Attention" seems to trivialize this important letter. Bisexual people are not "looking for attention," but rather are saying loudly to our Lesbian sisters and Gay brothers that we have given support consistently through the years and we want support back in return!

Maggi Rubenstein  
Co-founder, The Bisexual Center  
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: You forgot to thank me, however, for giving you the opportunity of "saying loudly" something more.

P. Lorch

### Lisp

★ Jon Carroll in his October 21 column in the *Chronicle* asks about the origin of the "Gay accent," the style of speaking used by homosexual males. I don't think we talk funny. How would he say, "Well, all right for you, Miss Thing?"

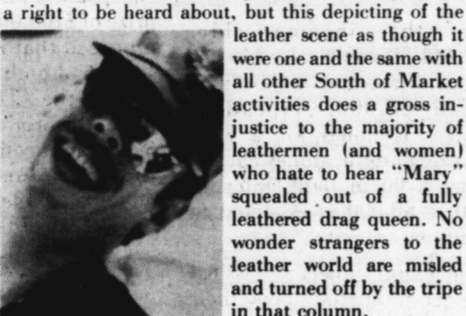
Gordon F. Ross  
San Francisco

Seriously, there's really no mystery. If Mr. Carroll will simply take a large carrot and ram it down his throat for a couple of hours, he'll find that he too will be "drawing the vowel sounds, pausing in unexpected places, etc." I hope this clears the matter up.

Strange de Jim  
San Francisco

### Butch It Up

★ The time is probably long overdue to finally sit down and write about the deteriorating situation on your "Leather Scene" reporting. Each week there are more and more mixing of courts and queens andnelly names with leather news. Suggestions to Mr. Stewart to "Butch it up" a little are met with indignation and pointing the finger at the editor's assignment. Yes, everyone has a right to be heard about, but this depicting of a leather scene as though it



(Photo: Rink)

were one and the same with all other South of Market activities does a gross injustice to the majority of leathermen (and women) who hate to hear "Mary" squealed out of a fully leathery drag queen. No wonder strangers to the leather world are misled and turned off by the tripe in that column.

Red Rivers  
San Francisco

### Grammar Lesson

★ Hi! I enjoy reading the *B.A.R.* but am somewhat disappointed by the slipshod editing and/or writing. The errors are minor; they are grammatical rather than factual; they don't occur too often. But they rankle, nevertheless. Professor Richard Mitchell, "The Underground Grammarian," has written a delightfully witty book on this subject, justifying closer attention to the "small things" of language. Its title is *Less Than Words Can Say*. I recommend that all the *B.A.R.* staff read it.

Here are four errors that caught my eye in the 9/22/83 issue. Two occur on page four, and two on page five. In the fourth column (I'm counting the double column at the left as two columns), twelve lines up from the bottom of the column, the word it's should be its. Since the error is included within the quotation, readers will infer that it was the ad writer who made the error, through ignorance or carelessness. In such a case, however, the writer of the article, Steve Warren, or a *B.A.R.* editor should have inserted sic in brackets between it's and the following word so as to let us readers know that he was aware of the ad writer's error.

The second error occurs in the third line of column five (below the photo). The word sic should not have been written after *Chairman*. I assume that Steve wrote sic so as to imply that someone erred by giving Mary Royer the title of "Chairman" instead of "Chairwoman," "Chairperson," or simply "Chair." Since Professor Mitchell has pointed out the absurdity of the "his/her" argument so engagingly, I'll simply invite Steve — and whoever else is interested — to read *Less Than Words Can Say* and limit my comment to the fact that the most recent edition of *The American Heritage Dictionary* defines "chairman" as "one who presides..." — not as "a man who presides..." By the way, editorial comments, such as sic, should be placed in brackets rather than parentheses. Do the printers you engage lack bracket signs?

The third error occurs in column one (page five), in the final sentence of the first paragraph of "Parish Rescinds Invitation." A semicolon is never used to separate a dependent clause from an independent clause. Modern professional writers choose one of two methods to indicate the relationship between an independent clause and a preceding adverb clause that modifies it: They write a comma between the two clauses, or they write no punctuation mark at all. The dozen or so school handbooks I have consulted from time to time over the years urge their readers to use a comma.

The structure of that final sentence, by the way, could certainly be improved. The use of "while" indicates contrast (in this context), but the contrast is weakened by placing *unanimous* and *carried* in parallel structures. It is only after reading the words 4 to 3 note that one becomes aware of the intended contrast. But why make a contrast at all? Moreover, *rescind* is a bit strong to use with *invitation*, isn't it? One doesn't normally "repeal" or "annul" invitations. Perhaps "withdrew" would be more appropriate.

The fourth error occurs in the third column (page five), in the quote attributed to Tom Murray, Dignity co-chair. Did Tom really say that the right of responsible dissent is a key "tenet" of Catholic doctrine? Or was that a typo? If Tom actually did say "tenet" the *B.A.R.* should have noted the error, using our old friend sic to do so. I assume Tom said, or meant, "Tenet."

Please do not think that I peruse *B.A.R.* issues for errors! I most emphatically do not! The four I have pointed out happened to catch my eye as I was reading. Since I am an English Teacher, and Gay, I do have an interest in seeing that Gay publications like the *B.A.R.* are as well-written as possible. I hope you will accept my contribution to "Gay pride" in a happy spirit and that your editor-in-chief will urge his colleagues to pay close attention to the conventions of English prose.

## Shanti Sweepstakes Cost \$121M

by Allen White

The just concluded Shanti Project Sweepstakes ran up expenses of \$121,584.69. With a total income of \$160,519.47, it will show a net profit of \$38,934.78. The information was provided this week by the Shanti Project.

The largest expense item is \$33,983.09 for printing. The cost of staffing the sweepstakes office and the fundraiser's fee totaled \$21,000. Postage costs were \$15,413.05. Another \$7,838.02 was spent for address labels, with \$7,153.77 expended for a mail house charge. The label charge is to purchase mailing lists. The grand prize of \$25,000 came out of the expenses. The remainder was spent in office expenses and miscellaneous expense.

On the income side, \$149,444.50 was received in donations. Start-up contributions totaled \$8,000. Trocadero Transfer is noted for a \$500 donation and the money earned almost \$700 in bank interest. Another \$2,000 is expected in donations.

The Shanti Project also issued a report indicating how their Board of Directors will split the income: \$5,000 has been allocated for a persons with AIDS recreational program; \$2,500 will implement a patient advocacy program for people with AIDS, their loved ones, and counselors; \$7,500 will pay a half-time AIDS phone support assistant; \$750 will be used for printing Shanti brochures designed for persons with AIDS; and \$9,500 will supplement city funding for residence facilities and current AIDS programs. Additionally, \$7,000 is earmarked for Southern California AIDS organizations to be determined by December 15. The remaining \$9,184 has been reserved for increased services to persons with AIDS for projects yet to be specified.

Sam Mills, president of the Shanti Project, said that based on the size of the fundraising ef-

fort there had been a higher level of revenue anticipated. The mailing to over 300,000 was sent to people in all fifty states. Mills stated that the costs incurred are not unusual for an effort of this scope. In addition, Mills said that through the sweepstakes a mailing list has been developed for future fundraising efforts.

The benefit drawing was prepared by William Shear of Marin County. Originally the sweepstakes was to have a grand prize of \$100,000 and Shear had proposed that it have the sponsorship of both the Shanti Project and the AIDS/KS Foundation. The original proposal projected an income of \$1,000,000 through a direct mail effort to 400,000 people. The direct mail went to 300,000.

The final fundraising effort was significantly scaled down from the original proposal. This is reflected in the actual expenses of \$121,584. The original proposal called for expenses of \$385,000.

The decision to proceed with the sweepstakes effort was made earlier this year by the Shanti Project Board of Directors. Last Tuesday night the board again met to review the expenses. Mills reported that the board was satisfied with the results of the effort.

When questioned as to the sizable expenses, he said the costs were totally in line when compared to the enormity of the project. He further stated that a balance sheet is available in their office, and he personally would answer questions from any person regarding the Shanti Sweepstakes.

## Jose Stuffed at Alice Banquet

(Continued from page 1)

I Am" from La Cage aux Folles. Debra Stein in a telephone call told him the time was not available in the program and his appearance as The Widow Norton would be "inappropriate."

Jose said that he "needed to be true to himself" and if he could not appear as The Widow Norton, he would not attend. Jose told the *Bay Area Reporter* that there is no question that he was not wanted at the dinner if he would be there as The Widow Norton.

Jose has appeared as The Widow Norton at many events, including the inauguration of Mayor Dianne Feinstein. The Widow Norton has raised literally hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Gay community in the past two decades.

This week marks the 20th anniversary of the closing of the Black Cat, a bar where Jose as virtually the only open Gay activist in San Francisco helped launch the city's Gay movement. He was the first person to run for public office in the United States as an openly Gay person. The 60-year-old entertainer has been performing in San Francisco since 1948.

The dinner was the first major event where the club has used their name with the addition of the words Lesbian and Gay. It was believed that the inclusion of the words would better identify the members of the club. Debra Stein, the person who gave Jose

the word on his appearance at the dinner, will not state if she is a Lesbian, stating that sexual preference is nobody's business.

Jose said his decision not to appear was "a matter of principle."

A. White



A San Francisco Gay institution: Jose as The Widow Norton axed from Alice dais. (Photo: Rink)

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## Pope Orders Investigation of Seattle Archbishop

### Champion of Dignity Under Watch

by George Mendenhall

Pope John Paul II has ordered a full investigation into the activities of Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen of Seattle. The inquiry is being conducted this week by another archbishop, James Hickey of Washington, D.C. The liberal Hunthausen appeared to be able to calm his detractors until September when he openly welcomed the national convention of the Gay Catholic group Dignity at its Seattle convention.

Hunthausen had authorized the use of St. James Cathedral for a Gay Catholic service. A videotape welcome from the prelate was played to the 1,260 Gay Catholics in attendance while Hunthausen was in Rome. (Ironically, the pope's Rome address to 22 visiting bishops condemned homosexuality.)

In his video address, Hunthausen had expressed "wonderment and confusion, even anger and resentment" at the local protests by some Catholics over Dignity's presence. Outside the conference, 100 angry demonstrators held candles and sang hymns under a "National Parents League" banner.

The *Seattle Times* said this week's investigation of Hunthausen was ordered after complaints from "several disgruntled groups, some of which include priests, who have gained the attention of the influential people close to the pope."

Hickey was evidently chosen to conduct the inquiry because he is considered "conservative" on church issues — including



Seattle Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen angers pope.

homosexuality. When Hickey came to Washington, D.C., from Cleveland in the mid-1970's he set a policy similar to that of San Francisco's Archbishop John Quinn of not speaking to Dignity members. Hickey recently ended the activities of a D.C. Catholic group, New Ways, which had been active in ministering to Gay Catholics. The archbishop is a former teacher of Catholic doctrine in Rome.

Hunthausen's liberal positions on women, contraception, nuclear warfare, and illegal aliens have upset Seattle conservatives for some time. When he welcomed Gay Catholics into the cathedral, the pope began the investigation. One Seattle member of Catholics Against Marxist Theology, Danny Barrett, was outraged at Hunthausen, stating, "It is time to straighten him out!" Erven Park, editor of a bi-monthly conservative Seattle Catholic newspaper, wrote that the prelate was guilty of "blatant disobedience of church teachings."

While 700 Dignity celebrants met during their Labor Day conference inside the cathedral, a full-page advertisement ran in the *Seattle Times* condemning their presence. Steve Warren, *Bay Area Reporter* correspondent at the meet, later wrote, "The ad was an excellent publicity that the convention could not have afforded to buy. While refuting Dignity with official church teachings . . . it presented excellent statements of Dignity's point of view . . ." Investigator Hickey has been meeting with those who placed the ad to hear their criticisms.

A Vatican official told the *Seattle Times* that the investigation was "not prompted by a specific issue" but it was ordered directly after the Dignity conference.

What could happen to Hunthausen if Hickey's report to the pope is negative? The Vatican source said, "The archbishop should be receptive to those in his diocese who are not of his political persuasion. The visit by Archbishop Hickey is done in the spirit of brotherly correction."

## 'One-Partner' Trend Supplants Multiple Sex

### Survey Reveals Change Began Before AIDS

by George Mendenhall

"A wind of conservatism is sweeping the country," a Kinsey Institute researcher explained last week in relating why there is more coupling and fewer multiple sex contacts. Dr. June Reinisch said, "Hard times tend to bring people back to their puritan roots."

The decline in the number of sex partners is currently explained as related to the fear over AIDS and Herpes. The trend toward forming one-partner relations, however, began before these medical factors gained wide publicity. A survey in Madison, Wisconsin revealed that the number of sex partners within a 30-day period among male homosexuals had dropped from 6.8 to 3.2 in the 1975-1980 time span. In 1980 over 7% said they were abstaining from sex, compared to almost none in 1975.

*New York Times* staffers recently surveyed psychiatrists, public health workers, and law enforcement officials on the frequency of sex contacts for both Gay and straight couples. They concluded that the trend toward one-partner relations began before the herpes/AIDS scare and was evidently based on a general conservatism that followed the "sexual revolution" period of the 1960-70s. There are now fewer sex shows, sex clubs, sex movies, and topless bars in major cities, leading the *Times* to conclude "there is more privatization of sex as the demand for sex continues — but it has redirected itself."

Dr. Nancy Clatworthy, Ohio State University researcher, said that 80% of the women she surveyed in 1975 said they had premarital sex but the figure is at 50% today. An explanation offered by Dr. Shirley Zussman, a

New York City therapist, is that "many of those in their 30s who were in the forefront of the earlier sexual revolution are beginning to question whether casual sex and the lifestyle that goes with it is really as exciting as it has been made out to be."

#### RELATIONSHIPS

"We got a strong sense of how much people want to make relationships work," Dr. Pepper Schwartz said upon this week's publication of his co-authored *American Couples*. The new study is of 12,000 people (gay and straight) in New York, Seattle and San Francisco. The book casts some light on how people who live

together in couple relationships are functioning. Schwartz, et al, make these conclusions:

- Relationships are less likely to be successful if they are based on good-looks. Men in these situations are especially prone to "look elsewhere because the grass is always greener."
- Male same-sex couples overwhelmingly (90%) accept and allow for outside "recreational" sex partners while straight and Lesbian couples generally believe infidelity is intolerable.
- Gay male couples are more likely to break up if their educational levels are poorly matched or if there is an imbalance in economic levels.
- While most women believe it is necessary to sustain a relationship in order to be financially secure, this is less true for Lesbians.

There is agreement that there are fewer divorces and more marriages among heterosexuals. There is also a noticeable trend toward single people who are not married to form one-partner relations rather than live alone.

Dr. Schwartz said his survey of 12,000 urban people clearly indicates that "even people in lousy relationships are working hard at them because they want to have a partner."

## Gay Men vs. Gay Women at Work

Problems faced by Gay women in dealing with Gay men in the workplace and the various issues that arise between them will be the topic at the November meeting of the Gay Academic Union. The speakers will be Poe Asher, self-employed designer/builder; Suzanne Balcer, who works in the field of drug and alcohol rehabilitation; and Marry Hall, a therapist in practice in San Francisco.

The meeting will occur at 4 p.m. on November 13 and will be held at the regular GAU meeting place, 1668 Bush Street (near Gough). GAU members

are admitted free and visitors and guests are asked for a \$2 donation to help cover operating costs and an annual award for academic excellence. Anyone with an interest in academic affairs is welcome to join the GAU and/or attend its meetings. Membership dues are \$10 (\$5 for seniors and students) for the academic year, September-June. The organization especially seeks more Lesbian members, and the Steering Committee hopes that the November program will attract much female participation.

## Minority Leaders React to Minority AIDS at 40%

by Dion B. Sanders

City officials, health-care professionals, and leaders of the Gay and minority communities this week reacted with shock — and in some cases, anger — to the disclosure that up to 40 percent of the more than 2,500 AIDS cases in the United States are ethnic minorities.



Supervisor Willie Kennedy reacts angrily to news on high rate of minority Gays with AIDS. (Photo: Rink)

The *Bay Area Reporter* and other Gay newspapers around the country last week carried a copyrighted story citing data from the National Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta that showed that more than 25 percent of all AIDS cases nationwide are Black — including Haitians — and that an additional 14 percent are Latino. Amazingly, less than one percent are Asians and Native Americans, according to the CDC statistics, which were as of October 19.

The high percentage of non-White AIDS patients sharply challenges a widely-held belief by the general public that AIDS is a "White Gay man's disease" — a belief that stems from a perception of the Gay community as being exclusively White.

Supervisor Harry Britt, reached at his City Hall office Monday, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he wasn't surprised by the year-long period between the first dissemination of the AIDS ethnic data by the CDC and the reporting of it by the news media.

"Gay" triggers into the American consciousness a certain image — a White image," he said, adding that "the general slowness of the press in dealing with (the Gay community) except in the stereotype of the White male," is the chief reason why the AIDS ethnic data had not previously been reported in the media — mainstream, Gay, or minority.

Supervisor Willie Kennedy said Tuesday that she had not read the report in full and would withhold formal comment until she issued a statement tomorrow (Friday).

However, after taking a quick glance at a copy of last week's issue, Kennedy, who is Black, did say — with a touch of anger in her voice — that the disclosure "was long overdue."

Doris Ward, the city's other Black supervisor, could not be reached for comment by press time, as she was absent from Monday's Board of Supervisors meeting and had left City Hall

for the day when this reporter tried to reach her Tuesday afternoon.

A source close to Ward said, however, that she was "absolutely livid" that the AIDS ethnic data had not been publicized by the news media sooner, for she had known about it "for months."

Dr. Carlton Goodlett, publisher of the Black newspaper *The Sun-Reporter*, was stunned when he was told Tuesday about the AIDS ethnic data, which reported that nationwide, 765 Blacks — including 117 Haitians — had AIDS. Another 354 were Latinos. Eight were Asian and three were Native Americans.

"I'm flabbergasted," he said. "This is the first (time) I've heard of it."

Goodlett, who had just the night before returned to San Francisco from an out-of-town business trip, asked that a copy of the story be sent to his office.

*The Sun-Reporter* ran a story on AIDS a month ago under the headline "Blacks Avoiding AIDS." That story cited figures compiled by the city's Public Health Department that showed only four percent of AIDS patients in San Francisco were Black, 14 out of 288 cases locally. Eleven were Latinos, and three each were among Asians and Native Americans.

Dr. Mervyn Silverman, the city's Public Health Director, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the reporting on the ethnic backgrounds of AIDS patients "hasn't been an issue one way or the other, as far as this department is concerned. We've been looking at it (AIDS) as a public health problem, and a problem predominantly in San Francisco of Gays."

Silverman added, "It's my feeling that people know that Gays in San Francisco are made up of all ethnic groups, that it (the Gay community) isn't isolated into Whites, or Blacks or Hispanics . . . We certainly don't see it as a 'White man's disease' or any man's disease."

Rakestraw asked a disturbing question: "Are various members of certain ethnic groups more susceptible to this disease than others?"

When Ed Power, assistant director of the San Francisco AIDS/KS Foundation, was asked by the *Bay Area Reporter* whether the foundation had distributed educational information on AIDS to minority communities, he said, "We've been working with Billy Jones (chief spokesman for Bay Area Black Lesbians and Gays).

"And we were going to work with the (BAYBLAG-sponsored) Third World/People of Color Lesbian/Gay Conference (which was scheduled to convene in San Francisco during the Thanksgiving weekend, but has been postponed until next June)," he said.

Power admitted that the foundation had not made a major outreach to minority communities "at this point, because the process of developing our master plan didn't come through. That is, our major plan to do the outreach to those underserved

groups." He added, however, "We have to make sure that the educational material that goes out about AIDS does not in any way reinforce the misconception that AIDS is a disease that Third World people don't have to be concerned about."

Lyn Paleo, volunteer coordinator at the foundation, raised another issue: the lack of public information on AIDS and women. "I know a lot of women are asking me the kinds of questions (about AIDS) that there aren't a lot of answers for."

Paleo added that there is a large percentage of women with AIDS "whom they put into an unknown or other category, that we now know to be its own category — sexual partners of IV drug users, sexual partners of bisexual men — but that yet hasn't been categorized on its own; it's just been recorded as 'other.'"

"I think that it should clear up the statistics when someone gets around to tracking down those figures . . . there's a lot of fear . . ."

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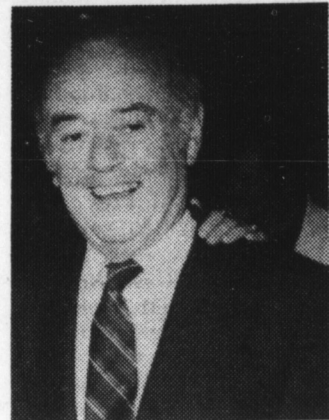
## Marks Pleased with State's Quick Response in AIDS Funding

State Senator Milton Marks of San Francisco/Marin announced this week that five organizations based in the San Francisco Bay Area, as well as ten other organizations throughout the state, will be receiving nearly \$450,000 in state monies for educating the general public and people-at-risk about AIDS. The recipients, according to the Department of Health Services, should be receiving their first check from the state in early November.

Marks stated that he was doubly pleased by the news because the monies being awarded had been introduced by himself into the state budget last May. At that time, the legislature was reluctant to spend any money on AIDS because of the looming budget deficit, but Senator Marks appeared before Senator Bill Greene's sub-committee and introduced \$500,000 into the Department of Health Services' budget for AIDS educational programs.

In the weeks that followed, Marks actively lobbied for his measure; ultimately, the monies were approved by both houses and then signed by Governor Deukmejian.

Senator Marks expressed satisfaction with the speed with which the Department of Health Services requested and reviewed proposals, and awarded the AIDS Educational monies. Organizations based in the San Francisco Bay Area which have been awarded state grants and the approximate amount of each



Milton Marks happy with response to AIDS measures. (Photo: Rink)

grant include: 1) The National AIDS/KS Foundation (San Francisco), \$6,000; 2) The AIDS/KS Foundation (San Francisco), \$66,000; 3) The Shanti Project (San Francisco), \$20,000; 4) The Pacific Center (Berkeley), \$28,000; and 5) The AIDS/KS Foundation (San Jose), \$30,000.

Marks added, however, that he was concerned that four proposals from San Francisco which were worthy of funding will not be receiving monies. These include proposals from BAPHR, the Haight-Ashbury Clinic, Operation Concern, and the Institute for the Study of Social and Health Issues. In response to that problem, Senator Marks pledges to work for increased AIDS Educational funding in FY 84-85 so that current projects can continue to be funded and other worthy projects can also be funded.

## 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.

#### Bedroom Eyes in Florida

★ I'm an inmate at Marion Correctional Institution, and in deep need of corresponding with people in the free world, so would you please place my ad in your magazine?

My name is David Huffine. I am 23, 5'11" 175 lbs., black hair and bedroom eyes, all put into a sweet golden tan. I love people of all kinds. I like music, art, and trucks. My real home is in the state of Ohio. Thank you very much.

David Huffine A-076656  
H-99-451, P.O. Box 158 M.C.I.  
Lowell, FL 32663

#### Florida Fan and Writer

★ About two or three days ago, a friend of mine gave me a copy of your paper. After reading it from the beginning to its end, I feel compelled to write this letter.

You people are excellent! B.A.R. got my attention. I've had the opportunity to see the *Body Politic* and the classifieds of the *Advocate* but, I believe you've the edge! My personal thanks for a job well done.

B.A.R. is a sound piece of professional journalism. I'm a prisoner in the hell-hole known as Angola, so I appreciate "good-stuff" especially since I've replied to over 80 ads at the *Advocate* and *TBP* without an answer!

I'd be willing to bet that it would be a different situation should you people decide on a larger classifieds section. But, then the stigma of being in prison probably has a lot to do with that.

On a personal basis I believe that if it were not for your publication and others like it, we who have become gay since coming to prison would really have it rough. I mean there are no certain directions to take, no quick and easy answers to our problems and questions. When you go to press, think of us. We depend on you to keep us alive spiritually. Really!

Donald W. Talton, #95461  
Hic - 3, L.S.P.  
Angola, LA 70712

P.S. I'm a writer . . . getting out late 84. Think I could find a job writing? Oh, I know I've a long way to go, but what I lack in form, I more than make up in enthusiasm.

#### Green-eyed, Blond Floridian

★ I am an inmate at MCI, Marion Correctional Institution, and in deep need of corresponding with some good people out there. I'm a bisexual and will answer all letters.

I'm 24 years of age. I enjoy reading, writing, and music of all kinds, going to movies, horseback "bare" riding, and meeting new and interesting people.

I'm 6 ft., have a nice firm body, golden skin with brown hair and lovely green eyes and weigh approximately 165 lbs. I live here in Florida, but plan on moving out on the west coast upon my release which is May 25, 1984. I would really like to meet some good people that could show me a good time in San Francisco.

Kevin Powers, #A-612180  
H-Dorm (107) Mail Box 691  
P.O. Box 158  
Lowell, FL 32663

#### A Pal in Deed

★ I would like to add my two-cents worth on the subject of Prison Pen Pals, and especially to respond to the courageous "Name on File" (B.A.R., 9/8). I am grateful to the B.A.R. for providing the Pen Pals column, both for inmates around the country and for the "on the streets" readers. Also, the cautions and guidelines suggested by the B.A.R. are pertinently correct and appropriate. I make this observation based upon my own experiences in such correspondences.

I have been corresponding with inmates, who wrote to the B.A.R., for almost 13 months. What began as a casual response to an expressed need by three young men has become, for myself, a full-time hobby and "obsession," and a very gratifying endeavor. To date, I have written to 23 inmates in 8 states — of that number, one has been released and not heard from again, 12 have "fallen by the wayside" for reasons unknown, but there remains a "core group" of 10 (including the three originals) who regularly write back and keep me quite busy with my responses to them. Of that group, I have been told by a few that I am their ONLY communicant "on the outside," and their regularly expressed gratitude for my caring and sharing both encourages my desire to continue as their friend, and substantiates my conviction that there are many genuinely "good apples" among the "rotten." Having been locked up in some of those "barrels" more than once in my life, I am reminded of many of the good people I have met in such places, many of us finding ourselves

incarcerated due to having been predominantly guilty of human error and carelessness in our interpretations of socially, morally, or legally acceptable practices or behavior. Facing up to and enduring the consequences, as mandated by law, of our errors in judgment, does not, in my opinion, make us criminals — rather, it makes us better informed and more educated individuals. Sometimes the "rude awakenings" of such educational processes are quite effective! I learned, finally, from a lengthy "refresher course," thus I can relate.

Also, I learned and observed that being gay and in jail or prison is not frequently a very "pretty" circumstance, is often lonely, and sometimes can be very hazardous to one's physical and mental health. Unlike the freedom "on the streets" to avoid or walk away from indignities and injustices, the prison environment is devoid of any escape routes from sociological abuse. Such abuse can be a 24-hour a day fact of life, and an outside correspondent may be the only solace or comfort which separates hope from despair. Aloneness and exile are not part of the legal mandate, only deprivation of certain privileges and liberties.

Presuming that "Name on File" is of our community I say: Cast no stones, lest ye suddenly find your own "glass house" shattered and ye forthwith appear in the "barrel" with the "apples." I seriously doubt that your life is replete with deeds and actions that are above reproach — rather, I submit that you undoubtedly are guilty of several legally prosecutable "improprieties," deliberate or inadvertent, very much like the rest of humanity. Jesus Christ would not sign "Name on File," therefore . . .

Earl A. Raymond  
Modesto, CA

#### Down to Earth

★ My name is Charles Silas; presently I'm incarcerated here in California Men's Colony. I'm writing in hopes of having my name printed in your paper. Also I'm interested in hearing from down to earth people.

I'm Black, 5'10", my weight is around 170 lbs., I'm single, age 33. My interests are writing, tennis, basketball, football, racquetball. I love people that are down to earth — I accept them just as they are, especially so if they are out front. I'll answer all letters, males or females, couples, it doesn't matter. I have no hangups whatsoever in reference to what one likes. I see myself as down to earth and honest and open.

Charles Silas  
California Men's Colony  
P.O. Box A1365  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93409

#### Florida Plea

★ This is a plea for help. I would like a pen pal. I am looking for a friend out west.

Though I've never been there and don't know a soul, I'll be leaving prison soon and I'd like to start a new life far away from Florida. I came into jail when I was 17 and don't know a lot about what's going on out there.

I am white, 25 years old, 6', 160 lbs., and like almost everything. I work out every other day and I am in good shape. I don't have anyone out there who cares. But more than that, I need a friend. Someone who will be interested in building a lasting relationship — possibly live with when released. SASE & photo gets one in return — and very fast!

I like to work outside but love to have fun in bed.

Robert Domino, 077320  
Box 274  
P.O. Box 518  
Zephyrhills, FL 34283-0518

#### Florida Hopeful

★ I would like to put an ad in your publication. I have been in prison for two years and correspondences have been short and few. And no visits.

"I am 19 years old (Libm, 10/4/64), G/W/M, 5'7", blue eyes, brown hair, 140 lbs. Wish to write and get visits from a sincere G/B/M, or Spanish, who will be interested in building a lasting relationship — possibly live with when released. SASE & photo gets one in return — and very fast!"

Michael Paul LaMadline  
038696/R-2-N-1  
P.O. Box 747  
Starke, FL 32091

#### Thick Across the Bay

★ Young, sincere, handsome, white, 23, big brown eyes, thick 10" cock, desires erotic correspondence, photo exchange. SASE for quick reply.

Johnny Bellette  
Box C40707  
Tamal, CA 94964

## NEWS BITS FROM THE GAY MEDIA CIRCUIT

### Gay Community News

#### Mass. Rights Bill Stalls in Senate

The Massachusetts Senate sent a bill to empower the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination to hear complaints of discrimination on the basis of sexual preference to the Ways and Means Committee after three hours of vituperative debate October 3, according to *Gay Community News* of Boston. The legislation passed the House last month after much argument and parliamentary wrangling.

"What you're talking about is faggots and lesbians," said Sen. Joseph Walsh (D-Dorchester). "We spend a million dollars a year now at the MCAD. If we have to deal with fags and lesbians, you can bet we'll be spending ten million a year."

"I think they're perverts," said Sen. Denis McKenna (D-Somerville). "We have so many problems in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and we spend the time this afternoon to debate an issue that is an issue for abnormal people. It's disgusting; it's sick. The worst thing the state ever did was to let Gays out of the closet. The only thing they've ever offered to culture is

AIDS and herpes."

Sen. Royal Bollings (D-Boston), the only Black member of the Senate, said the debate reminded him of his earlier fights for Black civil rights.

"The same arguments the Senator puts forth now, I heard 20 years ago," said Bollings. "This is not a new fight. I've always been concerned when I thought that people were being taken advantage of, not getting their rights."

When a roll-call vote was finally taken, the bill was sent to the Ways and Means Committee, which often serves as a junk heap for unpopular legislation, by 20 to 19. Proponents of the bill remain optimistic, saying a little "time out" for it may actually help the bill.

The debate attracted widespread coverage in the local media, most of which portrayed the bill's opponents in less than a favorable light.

"They should never have been allowed out of the closet," the *Boston Globe* said in an editorial. "They should stay in the shadows and not spread their behavior before public eyes. We refer, of course, to those redoubtable orators in the Massachusetts Senate . . ."

#### NOW Lesbian Resigns; Hollings Becomes Co-sponsor

While Lesbians and Lesbian rights were a visible part of the National Organization for Women's 16th annual meeting in Washington, D.C., last month, Barbara Timmer, a vice president-executive for NOW and a Lesbian, resigned, saying NOW leaders were trying to "decrease (her) visibility" within the organization, according to the *Washington Blade*.

### THE BLADE

Timmer said she had not been able to become "part of the team" of NOW leaders because she had not been among the slate of candidates endorsed by former NOW President Eleanor Smeal. She said she believes a decision in August to strip her of her liaison role to NOW's conference committee was an attempt to "decrease (her) visibility" so that NOW leaders could replace her with "who they want in 1984." When a similar charge was made in 1979 after Lesbian activist Arlie Scott lost a vice presidential bid against Jane Wells-Schooley, said to be "handpicked" by Smeal, said Lesbian NOW members said

NOW leadership was trying to "purge" Lesbians from the organization and resigned in protest.

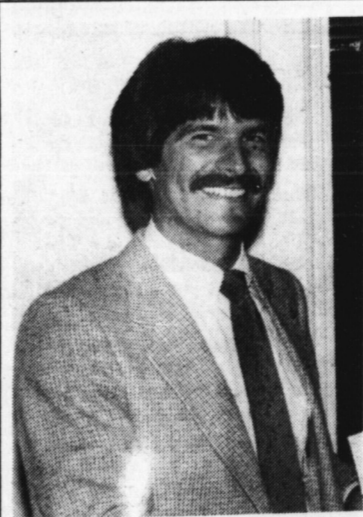
But during a forum for presidential candidates during the conference the issue of Gay rights was raised repeatedly. Former Vice President Walter Mondale and California Senator Alan Cranston both mentioned Gay rights in their speeches, and Senators Gary Hart (D-CO) and Ernest Hollings (D-SC) both confirmed pro-Gay rights stances during the question-and-answer period that followed. Hollings, who said he was "not an expert" on Gays, was asked by Lesbian activists who met with him after his speech why he was not yet a co-sponsor of the Senate Gay rights bill. He said he thought he already was and would tell his staff to make sure he was recorded as such. Hollings was added as the eighth co-sponsor October 4.

NOW also passed two resolutions dealing with Gay and Lesbian rights at its meeting, one to support legislation to fund AIDS research and support services and the other to launch a pilot project to get Gay rights legislation passed at the state level.

donation was from customers who requested \$3 of their August grocery order to be donated to public education and research programs for AIDS.

"A diversified cross-section of our customers were interested and aware enough of the AIDS/KS problem to want to participate in this program. We only wish that many more of our customers would have requested a donation to be made in their name," said Coghlan.

The Grocery Express is a warehouse-based all-delivery grocery service and the recipient of the 1982 Innovation Award from the Small Business Administration and the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.



John Philip Coghlan, Chief Operating Officer of The Grocery Express, presented the AIDS/KS Foundation a \$700 check last week. The

### 'NY Times' Meets with Gay Leaders

In the second meeting between Gay leaders and editors of the *New York Times* since last June, "comfortable" and "productive" discussions took place on a number of issues, according to *Gay Community News* of Boston.



Virginia Apuzzo of the National Gay Task Force; New York City's only openly Gay judge, Richard Failla; and Human Rights Commissioner David Rothenberg met with *Times*' Vice Chairman Sydney Gruson and Executive Editor Abe Rosenthal. Issues discussed ranged from the newspaper of record's refusal to use the word "Gay" except in titles of organizations or in quotes, employment of Lesbians and Gay men in the media, and suggestions for feature stories on the Gay community to "contextualizing" the Gay community by using Gay sources on broader issues. Another point under discussion was

#### VA Liquor Laws Stay Biased

Although the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control department is reviewing existing ABC laws in order to propose legislative reforms, the changes will not include removing sections that single out homosexuals for special treatment, according to *Our Own*, a Gay newspaper in Norfolk.

Two of the three ABC regula-

the treatment of Gay people in the newspaper's obituary columns. When author Wallace Hamilton died recently, the *Times* obituary mentioned he had written the book *Christopher and Gay* but said nothing about why a book written by him would have such a title.

The meeting apparently had some impact because the reporter covering the national convention of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays being held in New York said "word had come from on high" to write a feature-length story about Parents FLAG. Although the story ran five columns on the Style page the next day, constant references to "homosexual" made the piece unwieldy and uneven in tone. The parents group had been suggested by the Gay leaders as a topic for a feature story during the meeting.

Although little agreement was reached on other issues, Failla was optimistic that the newspaper editors would "come around soon." Failla said he hopes to schedule another meeting with *Times* City Editor Peter Millones and National Editor David Jones to discuss further story ideas.

tions allow the department to suspend or revoke a liquor license if the bar owner allows his or her establishment to become a "meeting place or rendezvous" for homosexuals, and the third prohibits employment of homosexuals by a bar or liquor store.

The revisions being considered include liberalizing of the food-to-alcoholic beverage ratio for temporary liquor licenses and other "housekeeping types of amendments."

### Gay Wants to Be Key West Mayor

Key West may get its first openly Gay mayor if Richard Heyman has his way (according to *The Weekly News*, a Gay newspaper in South Florida). Heyman, currently a city commissioner and successful businessman, is making a bid in the Key West mayoral race against Richard Kerr, a Key West native and former Monroe County commissioner.



Southern California's Gay Newspaper

Heyman has lived in Key West since 1973, but considers himself a relative newcomer to the island community. He owns the local Gingerbread Square Gallery and was elected to the City Commission in 1979 with strong backing from the Gay community. As commissioner he helped pass an affirmative action plan for hiring more women and minorities in local government and engineered \$450,000 in loans from the Small Business Administration to cover local costs resulting from the flood of Cuban refugees that came in the Mariel Boatlift.

If Heyman becomes mayor, he hopes he'll be able to change some of the outdated laws in the community, including a local ordinance banning nude sunbathing. He also hopes to develop a growth and development plan for the city to stem the tide of reckless development that has gripped the island of late.

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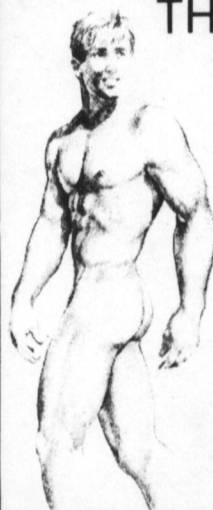
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**POLITICS AND POKER**



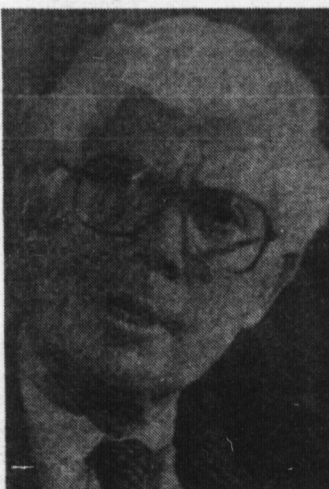
WAYNE FRIDAY

I spent Monday evening (Halloween) walking through the overcrowded Castro and on unusually quiet Polk Street and anyone else can say what they want, but I thought the cops did a hell of a job controlling things, despite the busload after busload of young punks that kept arriving in the Castro. Con Murphy's cops were splendid, and Vic Macia is definitely the best thing to happen to Mission Station in a hell of a long time.

Lia Belli confirming at Cyril Magnin's dinner at the St. Francis the other night that she is definitely planning a run at Milton Marks' State Senate seat next year. • Jimmy Carter's presidency a disaster for this country, but his mother, Miss Lillian, who passed last week was a gem. Among her best remembered quips was one in 1980 when she told reporters that if she had a million bucks she would hire a hit-man to bump off Ayatollah Khomeini (now there's a woman who should have been president).

Kyle Ozier, Bob Bacci, Leonard Matlovich, and Bruce Decker among those sponsoring a cocktail party honoring Marin's Assemblyman Bill Filante at Rick's Cafe (Crocker Center Galleria on Post Street) on November 15 (\$25; 5:30-7:30). • And those who are supposed to know are telling me that you definitely should not invite campaign consultant Ed Slevin and Bob Guichard, who's pushing the plan to decrease the number of supervisors, to the same political picnic (and who DID tip off the Registrar of Voters about those who gathered Guichard's petitions?). • The Examiner recommends a NO vote on Proposition O (the bilingual ballot issue) while the Chron says to vote YES.

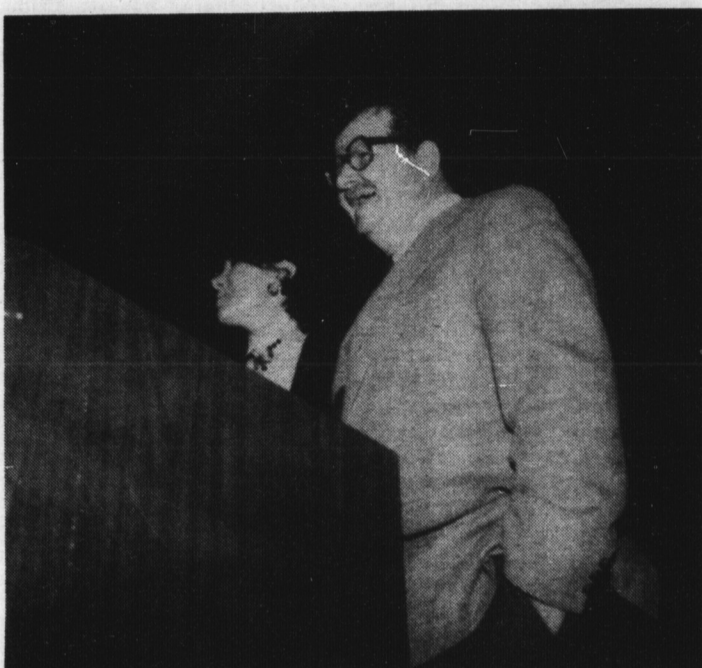
The dirtiest gubernatorial campaign in Mississippi comes to an end next Tuesday. There, Bill Allain, the Demo nominee, has been accused of being Gay. Backers of the GOP candidate claim they have signed affidavits from two teenage male prostitutes claiming they took pay-for-play from Allain, a divorcee who had been favored to win before the charges broke. • And in New York, Governor Mario Cuomo, a supporter of Gay rights who told religious leaders he was about to make good on a campaign promise to Gay leaders and issue an executive order barring discrimination against Gays in housing, hiring, and public accommodations on a statewide basis, has been warned by Jewish and Catholic leaders of political reprisal — "You are denigrating the Bible," the rab-



John Anderson will go for White House another time.

murders of Moscone and Milk (where, in the name of God, do these creeps come from?). • A large turnout at Tuesday night's Toklas dinner at the Mark Hopkins. • East Bay Assemblyman Tom Bates and Congressman George Miller chairing a reelection fundraiser in Oakland on November 11 for Supervisor Harry Britt (\$25, 821-7963 or 771-3200 for info).

In Albany, New York, a resolution condemning discrimination against Gay students and teachers on the 34 New York State University campuses was adopted last week by the Board of Trustees. The resolution stems from an investigation of



Bay Area Reporter's George Mendenhall honored at Alice banquet. He's introduced by Democrat bigwig Nancy Pelosi. (Photo: Rink)

Observers of the meeting, which was to have been a private affair until the press changed all that, said that the governor gave no ground and told the religious bosses that his executive order would simply ban discrimination in employment by state agencies, "something that is already the law of the land."

Last week this column mentioned that the Cranston for President effort is falling apart, and I got a number of calls from the Cranston people advising me I knew not of what I was saying. This week's respected California Poll shows that Cranston has now lost the lead among statewide rank and file Democrats in this, his home state, to none other than Walter Mondale (perhaps Mervin Field also knows not of what he is saying).

Jesse Jackson formally enters the Demo presidential race today, but do you really care? • In Morgantown, West Virginia, a heterosexual man, Bobby Earl Phillips, who was described by authorities as having a fire fetish, pleaded guilty to torching a church recently "because fire is the only way I can have sex" (and they think we're sick?!).

And speaking of jackasses, how about the one who was handing out the "Wanted - Dianne Feinstein" flyers at last Tuesday's Milk meeting (not a Milk member, incidentally) accusing the mayor of everything from the "cover-up" of the John Kennedy murder to complicity in the "CIA projects MK-Ultra and MK-Naomi" as well as "complicity" in the Dan White

**Mental Health Seminar**

The Gay Services Coordinating Committee of District 5 Health Center has set its November seminar topic.

"Bisexuality: Myths and Realities" will be explored Tuesday, November 8, at noon at Health Center #5, 1351 24th Ave.

Dr. David Lourea and Dr. Margo Rila will lead this month's seminar.



harassment of Gays and Lesbians on SUNY campuses.

Arlo Smith, running unopposed in next Tuesday's election, already being talked about as a candidate for Attorney General when John Van De Kamp, the current AG, runs for governor. • And former presidential candidate John Anderson telling friends in the city last week that he will form an American Unity



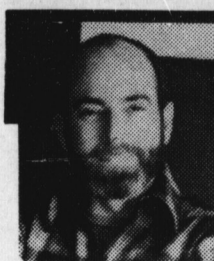
Arlo Smith will breeze to big victory.

Party and run again as an independent next year (Anderson received 7% of the national vote when he ran against Reagan and Carter). • Bill Kraus in El Salvador. • Vote next Tuesday! Vote as you please, but please vote!

**Speakers Sought**

The Human Rights Foundation is seeking Lesbians and Gay men who are willing to participate in our Speakers Bureau, which sends volunteers into high schools and community colleges to dispel stereotypes about homosexuality through open discussion.

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**ON THE JOB:  
GAY PEOPLE AT WORK  
GGBA - My Six-Year  
Connection**

ARTHUR LAZERE, C.P.A.

**Part II of Two Parts**

Part I described the political and social atmosphere prevailing in the Gay community in San Francisco in 1979 and the emergence of the Golden Gate Business Association as a new strength for the community.

In addition to its newly up-front stance and outspoken concern with issues of police/community relations and homophobia in the downtown business community, other important new themes and plans were articulated at the GGBA 1979 installation dinner. The time was at hand to upgrade our own operations, particularly in terms of communications and administration. We were gearing up to hire our first staff person and rent our own office space. On the first of March 1979, Kim Cortright became GGBA's first staff person.

The idea of GGBA taking the lead in the creation of a national Lesbian and Gay business association was warmly received at the 1979 installation dinner; this was the genesis of the National Association of Business Councils. We called a meeting of interested parties which was held during 1979 Gay Pride Week in San Francisco. Interest was sufficient to move ahead with plans. In 1981 GGBA hosted the first national convention for NABC with Joan Baez and Congressman Pete McCloskey lending their charisma to the event. Today, NABC is firmly established with some twenty affiliated organizations around the country.

Outreach to and inclusion of women both in the membership and in the power structure of GGBA have been other key themes since 1979. There has been a heartening increase of women members, as well as on the board of directors and among the officers. At the same time, an independent, Lesbian business group, Bay Area Career Women, has emerged in San Francisco and is now more than 500 strong. BACW and GGBA produce a joint Christmas party annually and are cooperating on other programs as well. BACW has joined NABC, is its first exclusively women's group, and has provided NABC with its current Vice President, consultant Anita Gherardi.

Another important concern of the Golden Gate Business Association has been a commitment to responsible and informed philanthropy within the Gay community. In 1979 the GGBA Foundation was created for the purpose of raising funds to support Gay charitable and arts agencies. A glittering black-tie fundraiser is staged annually for the Foundation. "Twenty-two on the Red" has become one of the

events not to be missed in San Francisco.

The 1984 list of charter members of GGBA is a mixed bag of names including some that have faded into obscurity and others who have gone on to further accomplishment. Insurance agent John Schmidt, who was GGBA's president for a number of years, went on to become a founder and chairman of the board of Atlas Savings and Loan, a phenomenally successful business which has become a benchmark of Gay economic power. Frank Fitch became President of the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club and, not coincidentally, was one of those disinherited by Harvey Milk in his taped political will. Also on Milk's list was attorney Rick Stokes who, as Alice's candidate for supervisor, opposed Milk. Stokes was a GGBA charter member and retains his membership to date. The late Reverend Ray Broshers, also a charter member, triggered much controversy over his questionable political infighting. Broshers did not play an important role within the GGBA; on the contrary, a hush-hush meeting of the GGBA board was held in 1979 at the request of several GGBA members who felt victimized by Broshers' practices. Other charter members included long term activist Hal Call of the Mattachine Society and Bob Damron, well known for his guidebooks for the Gay traveler.

What emerges from this listing is a picture of a network, business and professional people whose success and effectiveness are in part dependent on whom they know and where those people are further connected. Good networking has always been a primary need of business people. For non-Gays, institutions such as city chambers of commerce and country clubs provide the settings in which they build their networks. Since such institutions have traditionally shunned up-front Gays, the Gay businessperson who chooses to be up-front has had to turn elsewhere. That need for a networking medium, combined with the growing perception of a Gay market to be tapped, was the catalyst for the development of GGBA and similar business groups around the country.

The importance of the Gay market has not been overlooked by non-Gay businesses either. First to perceive the marketing potential of

GGBA were savings and loan associations such as Continental and Fidelity (recently acquired by Citicorp). These businesses are close to the market and aware of the importance of their Gay clientele. Joining GGBA was a logical step for them, particularly in anticipation of the opening of Atlas. Somewhat later First Interstate Bank, a major western institution and GGBA's principal bank, came on board. FIB took some static from the downtown business community as a result of taking this pioneering step, but they held fast and have been followed by newer members Crocker Bank and Wells Fargo. Other non-Gay businesses — major hotels, auto dealers, even an airline (Air New Zealand) — have joined GGBA and found it worthwhile to maintain their memberships.

Some GGBA members have from time to time expressed concern that the organization would lose its idealistic thrust if non-Gay members continue to join. The prevailing view, however, has been that if major businesses wish to put their names and money behind an up-front and outspoken Gay organization, it would be foolish to refuse. After all, GGBA does have a code of ethics (and San Francisco has a law!) which states that discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is unacceptable. Furthermore, GGBA has never wanted to foster a ghetto attitude. Our interest is in building bridges, not burning them. And the growing network has extended its tentacles into all aspects of San Francisco life. The membership includes judges and city commissioners, United Way trustees, Chamber of Commerce committee workers, key executives of Bay Area art institutions, and a cross-section of members from the local political clubs, both Democratic and Republican.

As businesspeople, GGBA's leadership has been cognizant of the somewhat conservative bent of the membership, some of whom are more interested in such benefits as health insurance and business promotion than they are in the less immediately achieved gains of social and political change. In part, the success of the organization can be attributed to a strategy of provision of tangible benefits, not only as a valid end in itself, but also to provide the support of substantially increased numbers as a means to the end of significant participation in the Gay rights movement. The zeal of the oppressed minority combined with old-fashioned capitalistic self-interest has resulted in a membership nearing 800, a bulwark of strength in and for the Lesbian/Gay community. ■

there were five entrants for the three awards. The first prize for a group and Grand Prize winner was Margo Moore.

The San Francisco Police Department was noticeably different in attitude throughout the weekend. For the first time in years the police were purposely visible in the Castro area. Relations with the police, CUAU and the Gay community worked because of an intensive effort by the police department. In the past year, officers have been retrained to be sensitive to the Gay community, and Gays responded by treating police with respect rather than fear. ■

Sunday night the Tavern Guild presented the 21st annual Beaux Arts Ball. A disappointing turnout of about 600 people attended the event. In the Couples category there were three prizes and only four entrants. In the the Group category

**A Tense Halloween on Castro Street**

(Continued from page 3)  
Saturday night Castro Street was closed as hundreds of Gays exhibited their bodies and their costumes. The festive crowd moved up and down the street before they ventured off to the many parties throughout the city. As they did on Monday night, the Community United Against Violence had almost a hundred monitors on the street dressed in their unique orange vests.

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# AIDS — A Personal Exploration

## Part II: Learning About Ward 5B at S.F. General

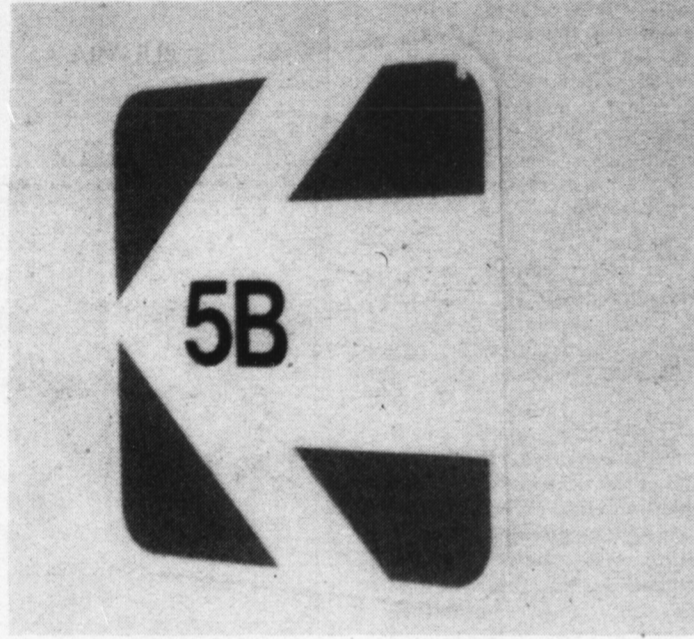
by Mike Hippler

Cliff Morrison is the clinical coordinator of the AIDS ward, the big boss, the top banana. While the idea for a separate facility for people with AIDS was not entirely his, setting it up was largely his responsibility. Since April he has been involved not only in planning and opening Ward 5B, officially known as the Medical Special Care Unit, but also in coordinating care for all persons with AIDS throughout the hospital. He is well qualified to do this. He finished nursing school at eighteen and worked his way through eight years of college, eventually attaining his Bachelor's degree as well as a Master's in Hospital Management. He has worked as an Emergency Room nurse and has served as a Director of Nursing. He has taught for many years and has worked as a psychotherapist for the criminally insane. He has been at San Francisco General for four years.

A year ago Morrison wasn't interested in a separate facility for people with AIDS. It sounded like separatism, he thought — a way to remove Gay people from contact with the rest of the hospital population. Later, however, he realized that the doctors at the hospital were treating the illness but not the "whole person." AIDS patients were kept in isolation rooms at the end of the hall, furthest from the nurse's station. Their rooms were rarely cleaned, their meals were served cold, and they were often ignored. "Because this is a city hospital, we are understaffed," Morrison explains. "There was true sense of alienation, a true sense of isolation." Recognizing this, he went to the administration and presented his plans for a separate facility. The hospital management gave him free rein in setting it up, and after four months of planning, the facility opened on July 25 with funding from the city.

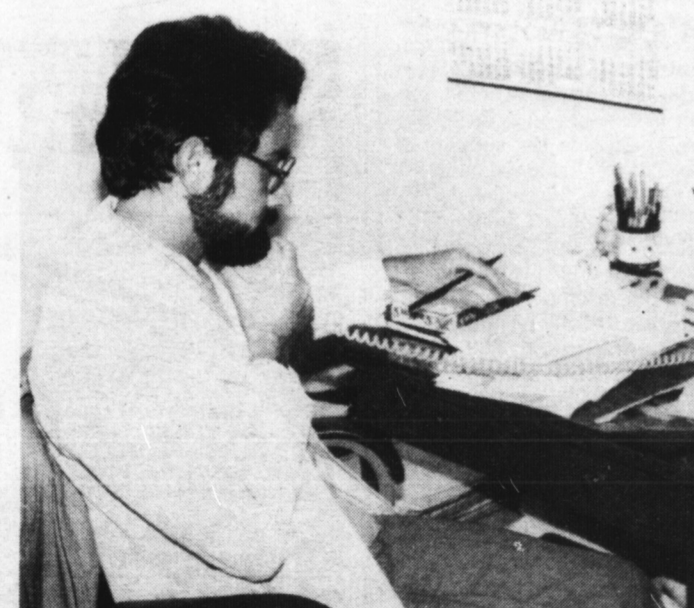
There are only twelve rooms and twelve beds on Ward 5B — one bed to a room. Before the ward opened, a lot of people thought that twelve was too many. Last winter there were as many as fifteen people in the hospital with AIDS. True, but that number had dwindled to two to eight when the warmer weather arrived. Since the second day it opened, however, the ward has been full, and there is presently a waiting list. Morrison is the one who processes admissions. He takes the most acute cases first and sends the others to other units in the hospital and works with them there. Many more people with AIDS visit the hospital as outpatients. They are seen in Ward 86; the AIDS clinic. Morrison works closely with them too, meeting all the new patients and following up with those who are discharged from 5B to 86.

Approximately fifty percent of the people who have AIDS in the Bay Area are seen at San Francisco General, Morrison claims. The majority of these are from San Francisco. Others go to Davies, the U.C. Medical Center, the Pacific Medical Center, and a few other hospitals. In addition, there are more AIDS patients at San Francisco General than at any other hospital in the country. While there are more people with AIDS in New York, they are scattered in a number of different hospitals and are not concentrated like they are here. "We do have a distinct advantage here," explains Morrison, "in that we have a larger Gay population in a smaller city. That's probably why we've been able to do what we've done. The Gay community has power here. Consequently, the city has been responsive. The federal government has done nothing for us."



The state has done even less. If it weren't for the city, where would we be?" Morrison credits Mayor Feinstein for responding quickly to the crisis, and the Department of Health, he says, has been "marvelous."

Since July, about 85 people have been treated on Ward 5B. Seventy of these have been discharged and are being seen in the AIDS clinic. Two have died on the ward. Two or three others have died in the critical care unit next door, and two or three more have died at home. Mainly the patients on the AIDS ward are treated for pneumocystis, which is an acute medical emergency. Kaposi's sarcoma, which was once called "Gay Cancer," is not



Cliff Morrison, the AIDS clinical coordinator of Ward 5B. (Photo: Rink)

acute but chronic, and people with KS are treated mostly in the clinic rather than on the ward. Unfortunately, many of those who are discharged from the ward return — seventy percent of those who are there now have been there before — but this can be viewed as a kind of success, notes Morrison. "A year ago most people with pneumocystis

died after their first infection. Over the last six to eight months, however, our treatment has gotten much better, and our success rate is improving. Now we have people who have had three or more infections and are surviving."

Who takes care of these patients? Morrison selected his staff from a group of 35 nurses who volunteered for the assignment. Of these he chose twelve. (Morrison hates the term "volunteer nurses," for it makes them sound like good-hearted amateurs rather than dedicated, experienced professionals, he says.) In addition, there are three Shanti counselors, one psychiatrist, one nutritionist,

Before the ward opened, there was extensive orientation for the staff, and Morrison continues to hold two support groups weekly for members so that they can discuss problems that arise — specifically, their own emotional needs as well as the needs of the patients.

Has Ward 5B become an isolation ward for diseased fagots, as some feared? "No," states Morrison emphatically, "not in any sense of the word. All that I was told might happen has proved to be untrue. This is not a depressing place. It's a very optimistic place. There's a sense of camaraderie here." One of the reasons the ward is so positive a place, Morrison points out, is that his staff has volunteered for the assignment. Consequently, "we haven't had the kind of horror stories that other places have had, where health care workers have refused to deal with AIDS patients." Another reason is that Morrison has deliberately tried to involve patients in their own care. Patients decide, for instance, what visitors they'll see and when they'll see them — there are no set visiting hours. In some cases, patients make decisions concerning their medication, their treatment, and even the length of their stay.

To a degree, Morrison hasn't had a choice in allowing patients this kind of responsibility. For the first time, he says, "We have a group of young, well-educated, middle-class consumers who are saying we aren't going to be treated in the way people have been in the past: 'We want to become involved in our own care.' These people are vocal. This is the first group that's been able to organize." This is all to the good, Morrison adds, and he concludes, "I've never in my life been so proud to be Gay as I am now. Gay people have been stereotyped as being weak, but we're dealing with it. We're strong, we're handling it. We've had to struggle all our lives, and this is just another struggle."

Several times in the course of our conversation, Morrison has referred to "quality" health care. Does he really think it is possible, I question, for people to receive top-notch care at General? Isn't it simply a place to go for people who can't afford better care elsewhere? Morrison bristles. "I am a first-rate professional," he responds, "with an excellent clinical background. I do not work in second-rate institutions. There is no place in the country where you can receive the kind of care you can here. Patients request to come here from all over the country." He notes that because San Francisco General is a teaching campus of the University of California, U.C.'s resources are available to them. He also mentions the capabilities of Paul Volberding and Connie Wofsy, who run the AIDS clinic and are attending physicians for Ward 5B. He concludes, "Our treatment here is in the forefront."

I press on. Even if I concede that the treatment at General is first-rate, are hospitals really the best places for people with AIDS? These are people whose immune systems are barely working, after all. Mightn't they be exposed to all sorts of bizarre infections in the hospital that wouldn't confront them elsewhere? Morrison states that his question is based on erroneous notions about AIDS and hospitals. The infections that people with AIDS get, he points out, are infections they get from themselves. They are unusual reactions to common elements in our environment. "There is no way to avoid exposure to this kind of infection," he continues. "At least here we can control it. The worst thing you can do if you are vulnerable to infections is to get on a city bus." Infection precautions at the hospital are

specific and consistent, Morrison claims. Staff members wash their hands constantly. They wear gloves, and they wear masks only if the patient has an active or persistent cough. At the same time, they try to avoid unnecessary, potentially alienating precautions. "We are doing everything we can to try to demystify AIDS," Morrison adds.

Because Morrison spends the great majority of his waking hours working with AIDS patients, does he ever worry about getting the disease himself? Morrison sighs and tells me what he has probably told so many before me and what I have heard so many times before: "AIDS is not contracted casually. Yes, I am in a high risk group as a Gay male, but no, I do not feel that health care workers are at a greater risk than that." What is much harder for Morrison to deal with than the fear of catching AIDS is the day-to-day stress that comes from working in a high-power, highly emotional environment. "It takes a lot out of me," he confesses, "and every day I have to cry a little. There are times I'm so sick of AIDS. I just wish it would go away, but it won't. I don't know how long I'll be able to do this. I've made a year's commitment. Then I'll step back and see." In spite of these drawbacks, Morrison admits, "Professionally, this is the most fulfilling thing I've ever done. We feel that we really have made a difference. Sometimes I ask myself, 'How can I feel so good about something so bad?' But you have to be optimistic. I think we'll find a cause. It's only a matter of time — perhaps a year or two down the road."

In the meantime, he concludes, he wants to give as much support as he can to a group of people whose needs, he says, are overwhelming.

In Part I author Hippler has his first hospital visit with an AIDS casualty. It brings to mind his long hospital experience with his mother's stroke.

Unlike Cliff Morrison, I've never worked in a hospital or been responsible for the care of one patient after another, each with a serious illness. But I know what it's like to spend my nights in the hospital by the side of a person who has lost all movement on one side of her body, a person who may never come home again. Like Cliff Morrison, I know what it's like to cry a little every day. Life changed drastically for me the fall my mother was sick. Her troubles became my troubles, and when December turned in to January with no improvement in her condition, my fear seemed a certainty — things would never be the same again.

I remember driving down the freeway one evening on my way to the hospital and listening to a symphony by Mozart. It was a gorgeous piece, a work of genius, and yet all I could think was, "How could he have cared enough to write it? Why did he even bother?" Didn't death loom as heavily for him as it did for my mother? And if it did, what on earth was the point? When I lost hope for her, I ceased to care about my own life. I lost all desire to create my own symphonies. If there was no guarantee that we would fulfill the meager span allotted to us, then carrying on seemed meaningless, absurd.

(Continued on next page)

# Looking for Mr. Safesex

## Part II - What is There After Sleaze . . . ?

by Paul Reed

A lot of talk is out there about "safe sex" these days, but how much action is there? This question has troubled me because in the last year or so I've repeatedly tried to find someone who, like myself, would like to have a good time without risking AIDS or other venereal infections. I'm looking for Mr. Safesex.

I can only report two successes, and (to my worry now) several failures. Every time I've had risky sex in the past eight months, I've vowed the next day never to do it again, even taken a red felt pen and marked a large red "X" on my calendar. Now, to look back over that calendar is almost chilling. To think that each red X indicates an unsafe trick that was vowed to be the last such encounter is unsettling. The red X becomes a morbid symbol, carrying the reverse of the meaning I had intended.



Getting over attitude is the first condition. A young man meets a young man. (Photo: Rink)

Nevertheless, the search goes on. I am not alone, I know. I have friends who suffer the same problem: the desire to couple with a man safely vs. the inability to do so. Part of the problem is confusion about what constitutes "safe sex" anyway.

"Safe sex" is sex in which there resides no risk for the contraction of AIDS or any other STD. This means that no semen must enter a partner, or come in contact with mucous membrane tissue or wounds (cuts, abrasions) in the skin which make the skin permeable to invading organisms. After that stricture, safe sex means no exchange of body fluids in general — saliva, urine, blood, and so on. Contact with mucous membrane or feces is forbidden as well, meaning no cocksucking, no fucking, no fingers up the butt.

What about condoms? A friend of mine suggests. Well, it won't hurt, but it is well established that condoms are not dense enough to inhibit passage of a virus through the membrane of the condom. If AIDS is caused by a virus, that virus could possibly pass through the membrane of a condom directly into the anus or whatever. So there is no guarantee there.

At this point, it is depressing to consider the options that are left. Because of habit, it would seem there are few options open that would make for satisfactory sex, so it's time to enter a monastery, right? This is the moment for those jokes about various safesex positions (Position #1: on opposite sides of the room; Position #2: on opposite sides of town; Position #3: clear across the country).

But this is no laughing matter, believe me. It's one of the

central problems of my life at the moment, one of the many things that send me spiraling into the darkest depths of depression when Saturday night rolls around and I find myself standing on the stairs at Chaps, wondering "What's the use?"

Of course, I tend towards cynicism anyway. My mental argument goes like this: The only option at this point is to meet someone with whom I can develop a relationship, observe fairly safesex standards with him for

Sleaze is over — what's left? Not much. Until then, we might as well relax.

several months, perhaps longer, until we are both free of risk. But how does that happen? How does a person meet someone and get to know them well enough — fast enough — to know that he is worth the effort of forming a relationship, sticking with him, and having sex with him? Especially when the old trial-and-error method of sex is ruled out?

It's not easy. I thought the answer might be to join one of the many jack-off clubs that are forming as alternatives to the baths. But one visit to a meeting of one of the clubs convinced me that there is a bigger issue involved here. Because at that meeting, as I strutted about jacking off with other hot men, I felt vaguely uneasy about the fact that this was not advancing a new order of things. In fact, it was a duller imitation of what was once so glorious: sleaze.

Now that the glamor of sleaze is done, getting a bunch of nude guys together is fine as a release, but it perpetuates the basic premise (or notion, or "habit")

## AIDS Exploration

(Continued from previous page)

Later, though, I learned to hope again. Perhaps it happened when Mon began to improve a little. First she learned to twitch her knee, then her foot, and soon her whole leg. Inexplicably the complications that had beset her ceased. The doctors decided to move her into the rehabilitation unit, and although she still had no use at all of her right arm, she slowly learned how to walk again using a leg brace and a three-pronged cane. At the same time I decided to follow through with an old dream of mine and to take dance classes, and as I struggled to

force my body into awkward, unnatural positions — to balance, to turn out, to beat, (never to pirouette) — Mom struggled merely to walk again. But we both struggled toward mastery of our bodies. It was a wonderful time, however, brief. Each night, when I stumbled exhausted into her hospital room after a hard hour or two at dance class, we compared notes. I showed her an entrechat quatre, and she showed me one of her trembling steps. Both of us were excited once again. Both were as pleased as we could be of ourselves and of each other.

In February Mom came home again.

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# BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

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## Piano Bar/Sing Along!

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY 9 PM - 1 AM

Luncheon Mon. - Fri. 11:30 AM - 3 PM

Dinners Wed. - Sat. 6:00 PM - 9 PM

SUNDAY

Brunch 11:30 AM - 3 PM

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The Bay Area Reporter

## OAKLAND

### Doing It In PJ's

NEZ PAS

#### PJ ENTHRONEMENT (A Baby Doll Nose?)

The invitations read 5:30; the posters, 5:30; and around 6:30 PM the Investiture of Emperor V Don and Empress V Cha Cha and the Court of Fantasy and Ice into the Alameda County Imperial Empire finally began.

It was interesting to note that a large portion of the crowd represented "out-of-town" Courts and Royalty. Had more Oaklanders and Haywardites been there, none of the tables would have remained empty!

'Tis a pity, too, as this was one of the "funnest" events presented at this type of function. With the theme of a pajama party, most everyone there was attired in some sort of bedroom garb — and I mean the sleeping kind, not the playing kind! The enthronement scene on the stage was one huge bedroom, complete with all the finer trimmings. Cha Cha's spouse, Larry, mentioned that he wished their own bedroom looked as good as the stage setting!

returned uncashed! Tsk Tsk!

Sunday, November 6 is the night for Hell On Wheels, the Investiture of Hayward Gay Sheriff VI, Sean. For the \$8 admission, you may enjoy dancing, live DJ Daniel, Blind Alley band, light show, door prizes, and your choice of baron of beef or Cornish game hen. There will be skating, but the rental of skates is not included in the admission price. There will be a no-host bar. The festivities will take place from 5 to 10 PM, at Roller Garden, 15721 East 14 Street, San Leandro.

Big names need little advertising. With just one banner and word of mouth, Big Mama's packed them in on Thursday evening, October 27. They had to practically rearrange the entire place to accommodate the crowd. What was the occasion? A good guess would be "just because!" Zyper Jim pulled a coup when he presented Michael Greer and Jamie deRoy for a one-night stand. All of Hayward (and lots of Oakland) is still abuzz over the great show!

Emperor IV Frumpy had a previous concert commitment, so Empress IV Stephanie was a solo doing the "once, twice, and thrice" with the Royal ascalon. Once that Imperial business was concluded, the party began. Lulls in the merriment were few, and because of clock-like precision, the entire event was over at 9:30!

Sable Clown has to be singled out for her outstanding job as the Good Witch of Oz; so does Miss Gay World, Margo Moore. She's always wild and crazy — only this time there was no beer poured over her head! Almost stealing the show single handedly was Lady Cathy, dressed in her E-T costume.

Hats off to Al and Stanley for manning the bar (provided by Lake Lounge). And a tip of the Nez to those calm and collected persons who quickly extinguished a smoldering cigarette in an ash can. Only a few of us were aware of the incident, and the Investiture continued on without interruption.

Bobette's appointment to the position of Royal Cocktail Waiter was truly a natural.

If Don and Cha Cha can maintain the position they represented on Sunday, October 23, the ACIE is in for some good times. They are off to a great start, and their Imperial Household should keep the spirit going throughout the entire reign.

#### FRUSTUM ET CRASIS IV (A Bits and Pieces Nose!)

I knew it couldn't happen! I knew there wouldn't be a demise to the "Trashy Trish PDTIP-BURDDI Awards." From her very own lips I heard that she will be doing "one more time" come next April. How did Margo Moore ever talk her into it?

The special benefit at the Jubilee last September raised over \$1000, due largely to the fact that Irish, Manuel, and Lady Cathy really entertained their hearts out! Several standing ovations were earned, even after the entertainers had left the premises! Congratulations to all of them.

Seems as if there is some consternation regarding the appointment of one royal tide. Said person still hasn't explained missing monies from a Toys for Tots benefit or why checks were

The Spoiled Brat wants to be classy! On Sunday afternoon, November 20, they will have a baby grand piano for all talented musicians to play. They want classical performers for this occasion, so if you are interested, leave your name and phone number with the bartender.

Don't forget the week-long celebration at the White Horse. It's celebrating 50 years of being in business. It all starts on Sunday, November 13, with Lynda Bergren at 9 PM; and ends on Saturday, November 19, with David Kelsey and Pure Trash at 9 PM. And every night in between has something special and different. Don't miss it!

Yes, Sassy's is coming! Mark your calendars for the weekend of December 2, 3, and 4! You can get Sassy at Revolt!

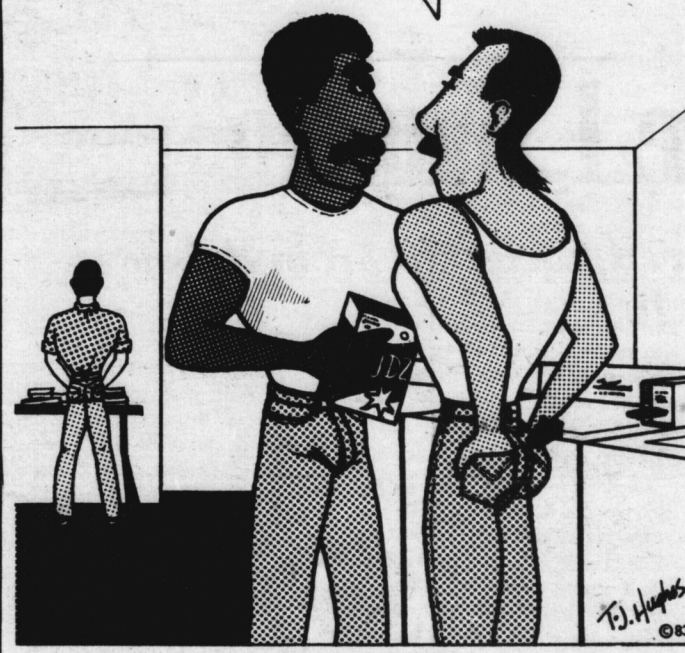
#### RIPOSTE DU NEZ!

In a recent epistle to this paper it was suggested that had I attended Empress I Jose's coronation, it would have not met with my approval. Au contraire! (Is THIS a history lesson?) Jose, himself, stated that his being Empress was in fun and camp, and that I approve of 100%! As for who gave me the right to "act as critic," I guess it's the same "who" who gives you the right to write letters. As for "misinformation and misrepresentations of the truth," does that mean my opinions are invalid, and yours are the only ones to be believed? My comments about the recent ACIE coronation referred mostly to the locale and the management thereof. It is not conceivable to me that you would

(Continued on next page)



My sex life sure has taken a dive since I raised my standards and lowered my expectations rather than lowering my standards to fulfill my expectations!



### Home On the River

Marigold Hill, jazz vocalist, together with the combo Bopism, will regularly perform at the Casa Del Rio restaurant and lounge on Orchard Avenue in Guerneville on the Russian River, every Saturday evening from 8 PM and every Sunday evening from 6 PM

The Casa Del Rio, now in its second year of operation, overlooks the River with its own private beach, and serves lunch and dinner seven days a week throughout the year, specializing in Mexican and Latin American dishes. There is a "happy hour" from 2 to 6 PM. Your hosts are Chuck Engfinger and Bill Fogleman. For reservations, call (707) 869-2017.

### OAKLAND

(Continued from previous page) want to spend the rest of your life in THAT establishment! If you misinterpreted it to mean "Oakland," perhaps you should re-read that column quietly.

Incidentally, speaking of "lessons," perhaps you should take a refresher in English. It is still considered improper to end any sentence with a preposition! Lastly, since you have the privilege of misspelling my name "on purpose," why am I not allowed that same gesture? Or is fairness not a part of your philosophy? Mine is a labor of love! Of what is your labor, Vera?

Nez Pas aka Nez Paz, Nes Pas, Nas Pes, etc.; Oakland (where I have CHOSEN to live for the last 30 years!)

I can forgive a person for being wrong, but it's much harder to forgive them for being right! I'm smiling! Love,  
Nez

### Diablo AIDS Support

The Contra Costa AIDS Action Project is a support program for people who have AIDS and for those who are "worried well" about AIDS. One facet of the project is regularly scheduled community forums for the Diablo Valley area. The second of these forums will be held Tuesday, November 15, 7:30 to 9 PM at Diablo Valley Community Center, 1818 Colfax Street, Concord. Two facilitators from local health care facilities will be present.

The Contra Costa AIDS Action Project, in addition to sponsoring community forums, also sponsors support groups for people who have AIDS and provides personal and confidential counseling as required.

Telephone Diablo Valley Community Center at (415) 827-2960 for more information about the Contra Costa AIDS Action Project.

### Broughton Screenings

The Pacific Film Archives begins a "Bay Area Filmmakers Showcase" at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, November 8, with a tribute to poet-filmmaker James Broughton in honor of his 70th birthday. Mr. Broughton, the "grandfather" of independent filmmaking in San Francisco, has made over 20 films since 1946. The Archive will screen the 1953 comic fantasy *The Pleasure Garden*, *Testament* (1974), and Broughton's newest film, *Devotions* (1983), with the filmmaker in person. Info: 642-1412.

### Busch Benefit

Charles Busch, actor and monologist, will be performing Tuesday, November 8, at 8:30 PM in LeConte Elementary School Auditorium, Berkeley. The performance is a benefit for the Pacific Center for Human Growth, a private, nonprofit mental health and social services agency based in Berkeley.

Busch is famed for his one-person shows which Bernard Weiner described in the *S.F. Chronicle* as "a film noir mix between Lily Tomlin and Charles Ludlam, with a dash of Charles Addams thrown in for ghoulish spice."

Charles Busch Alone is a theatrical show that appeals to a wide audience, young and old alike.

The proceeds from this show will benefit the Pacific Center for Human Growth, a mental health and social services agency that serves sexual minorities, primarily Lesbians and Gay men.

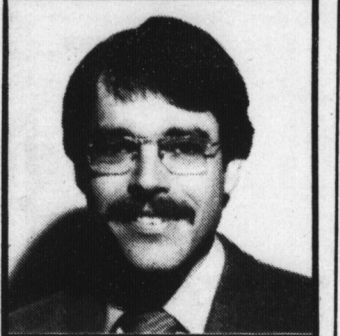
Tickets will be \$4-\$8 (sliding-scale, tax-deductible donation), and may be purchased at the Pacific Center or at the show. Info: 548-8283.

### Broughton Birthday

James Broughton will be honored with a 70th Birthday Celebration with poetry, music and films in Olney Hall, College of Marin, on Saturday, November 5 at 8 PM. Tickets, \$6; info 485-9385

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\$50.00 FIRST PLACE  
9:00 PM

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Next to the 7-11 Store Walnut Creek

Take Highway 24 to Walnut Creek (which turns into 680), Ygnacio Valley Road offramp - right for 5 stop lights, then left on Civic

## What's On Your Agenda?



You are cordially invited every Wednesday between 4 & 8 pm, to join us for fun, frolic & complimentary refreshments  
R.S.V.P. not necessary, black tie optional

-1983-

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
B.B.Q. at the Watergarden	the Watergarden is playing Games!	No. 1 Spot to be Buddy Night 2 for 1	the Watergarden Party	Beauty Contest

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LYNDA BERGREN  
9 pm  
Mon. Nov. 14  
Free Buffet Dinner & Movie:  
"Cabaret"  
"42nd St."  
"Female Troubles"  
Tue. Nov. 15  
High School  
From Nite  
In Person  
VICKI LEE &  
The Conventines  
9 pm  
Wed. Nov. 16  
In Person  
TORCH  
and Live  
FAWN'S  
FABULOUS  
LOVE ACT  
and in Person  
TOM AMBANO,  
Comedian  
Thu. Nov. 17  
In Person  
ALICIA and  
Pure Honey  
Fri. Nov. 18  
In Person  
JANE  
DORNACKER,  
Comedienne  
and Live  
CASTANHAS  
BRAZILEIRA  
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Dance Troupe  
and  
The Great Gatsby  
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(9000 in Cash  
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Live  
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and Pure Trash  
9 p.m.

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# BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

## B.A.R. INTERVIEW

Gay Is Still An Issue

### "I Am Doing This Because I Want To"

Music Director Ernie Veniegas Leads the Gay Men's Chorus Up From A Low — Because They Deserve It

by Bernard Spunberg

His curriculum vitae doesn't say so, but Ernest L. Veniegas, Jr., Director of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, was probably making music in the womb. Born in 1957, Ernie was active in the musical life of his native Honolulu from his teens and, at the age of 20, he was appointed Director of the 200-voice Honolulu Symphony Chorus.

Ernie and his lover left Honolulu for the mainland in 1981. They considered several options, but finally decided on California, where Ernie's musical life got off to a bit of a slow start. Now, however, it's going full blast — as is the rest of his life. His time is filled — not only by his relationships with Jimmy and with the Chorus, but also by a high level job in banking. Ernie is also kept busy by a great big dog and a little tiny dog, both fluffy.

"The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus is a performing group," Veniegas said, "but we come from the streets, the offices you work in, schools — we come from the same places as everyone else. We are banded together not to be elitist, to get away from the rest of the community, but to hone our skills, our gifts. Our music is our gift to our community, our way of expressing pride in our identity, what we are and where we live. We need our community, and sometimes we forget to say thank you. When it's quiet I remember that we're not here for ourselves; we're here for the community."

"I was accepted as Music Director in June of 1982 and almost immediately made an appearance at a Gay Pride event before a crowd of 6,000. It was the most nerve-racking thing I had ever gone through. All I had to do was walk up there, be acknowledged, and walk off. But it was my first public appearance as an openly Gay man. I'd come from Hawaii and I'd lived in Hayward for a year. I'd lived a mildly closeted life, and to be suddenly pushed into this position — I'd chosen it, accepted it. It was a matter of coming to terms with myself, saying, 'You are making a commitment here, a very strong one, and you will fulfill it.'"

"I expect a certain standard of musicianship from Chorus members, although I believe everyone needs a place to start. My basic philosophy is to give everyone a chance to grow. I don't expect professionals. There are people who come in and who have extensive training in music, and I don't need to work with them much, other than to shape their sound to the Chorus'. There are people who come in with more motivation and energy than anything else. If they hold a piece of music upside down, that's a bad sign."

"Some people come to the Chorus for very wrong reasons. 'This is just a stepping-stone,' or 'I just want to keep my voice warm.' I can empathize with those feelings, but they are not conducive to building a chorus."

"When someone with no musical training or experience comes to me, I consider their ability to match pitches I play at the piano; I consider their enthusiasm and willingness to make a commitment to the Chorus and decide whether this

individual can be built into a choral musician. I examine their potential for growth.

"Sixty to 65 percent of the people who audition are admitted. It's a fairly high percentage. I would say that fifty percent of those admitted to the Chorus stay."

**B.A.R.:** Does the term "Gay music" have any meaning for you?

**E.V.:** I have yet to hear a really airtight definition. As Director of the SFGMC, of course I'm interested in pieces with words relating to Gay love.

We've done Stuart Raleigh's setting of "When I Heard at the Close of Day," taken from Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* and composed as a gift to the Chorus. Beautiful, just beautiful. Charles Baker, who was previously director of the Temescal Gay Men's Chorus and is now on leave from the SFGMC, has written an oratorio called *The Epic of Gilgamesh* containing many beautiful passages. Mark Rhynsberger, another member of the Chorus, is also a talented composer and arranger.

Otherwise, I haven't seen anything else that was really suitable for performance. A few composers have sent me scores and asked me to consider them. It was Gay music, yes, but I didn't feel it was acceptable for a chorus. There's a lot of trite stuff out there, and you can't deny the fact that it's going to come. A director could be accused of being snobbish by saying, "No, it's not good enough;" but unfortunately, that's the way it goes in music.

**B.A.R.:** How do you reconcile the needs to perform both classical and pop music?

**E.V.:** In the beginning, we attracted audiences because of who we are; now we need to attract people because of what we're doing — and how well we're doing it. I have decided that our spring concerts will be pop, and our fall concerts will be classical, and we won't mix the two. The tone needed for classics is not appropriate for pops, and vice versa. As opposed to the Los Angeles and New York Gay choruses, San Francisco can sing well in both styles, can produce sufficient tonal variety. I encourage the Chorus to suggest new repertoire. They know I have final say over what we perform but, on the other hand, if

they don't like it, they're not going to perform it with enthusiasm.

**B.A.R.:** How is the Chorus' financial situation? How have economic crises affected values and priorities?

**E.V.:** Economic support from the City is no more than token, and I've been told that if we had any balls, we'd give it back. There are entities that could wipe out our debt in a minute, but in terms of finance, Gay is still an issue. I've been told that if we dropped the word "Gay" from our name, we'd be on easy street. But if we dropped that word, we'd be selling out our identity, and we'll never do it. But things are looking up financially, and they are looking up for reasons other than the fact that there is some money available now.

Last June, the Chorus almost died — I mean completely, out-and-out died because of the financial failure of the concerts at the Warfield Theatre during Gay Pride Week.

I guess it was kind of lucky, or prudent, that the directors of the Chorus decided that we had come to our low. The only way was up or out. We cut all salaries — we just slashed everywhere. I was able to look the Chorus in the eye and say, "I am doing this because I want to, and that's what I expect from you."

The Chorus examined their values and asked: "What are we here for?" and the answer came back: "We're here to sing; we're here for people to take pride in us and, by extension, in themselves, because we're all part of the same community." And that's the way things are going now.

**B.A.R.:** How do you feel community support can be sustained over the long term?

**E.V.:** One man told me that the Gay community is event oriented and supports anything that's big, new, and exciting. I don't think it's just the Gay community; I think America is event oriented. Obviously, the first Gay chorus touring the country was an event and deserved the support from both the straight and Gay communities it did get.

But when the Chorus came back from the tour and was in debt, the principle of people liking a winner came into play. The community kind of held back to see what would happen, and



Classically Yours. A musical background, strong commitment, and clear goals serve S.F. Gay Men's Chorus Director Ernest Veniegas, Jr. well.

planning that was based on the continuation of strong initial support fell apart. We learned the naivete of our approach as we began to experience some real serious financial problems, and that's when everything began to fall apart.

We have come to terms with the idea that we are no longer an event per se, and we have begun to plan a little more conservatively. We know we can't expect a sellout just by appearing. We have to deserve it.

**B.A.R.:** What relationship does the SFGMC have with the other local Gay choruses? What role do you want to play in the musical community at large?

**E.V.:** The relationship between the various Gay choruses is, I feel, a very healthy one. It is mildly competitive, but we're not out there to see who is better. The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus will always be able to say, "We were first." With the guidance of Dick Kramer, they started it all, which could easily be taken for granted, but it's really tremendous. There are 40 Gay choruses across the country, and they are all born of the seeds planted when our Chorus went on tour.

I would like the Chorus to play a role in local musical life. Sure, there's the Symphony Chorus, but when a male chorus is needed by a local organization, I want the Gay Men's Chorus to be among those con-

sidered. We recently participated in a production of *Rigoletto* in Marin, and I want to do more of that.

Next fall I would like the Chorus to do a joint concert with the San Francisco Boys' Chorus. I have a contemporary piece in mind that would also use the new organ at Davies Hall.

**B.A.R.:** How would you characterize your own personal approach to choral direction?

**E.V.:** I don't view myself as an old chorusmaster who screams and pounds it into you. Sometimes, when discipline is on the skids I may get up there and be a little more stern. But for the most part, the Chorus is very understanding. They see what I'm trying to accomplish; they understand the ideas I'm trying to convey, and they will respond. I don't have to baby them.

It may sound corny, but I direct the Chorus very lovingly. I think about them, how they're feeling, how they're standing, how they smile, and I mold them. I don't begin with rigid, set ideas. Musicmaking has to be flexible — I guess that's the key to my approach.

The S.F. Gay Men's Chorus presents a program of Beethoven, Schubert, Debussy, Thompson, Raleigh, Grieg, and Orff on Saturday, November 5 and 12; 8 PM at the First Congregational Church (Post and Mason). Tickets, \$6 and \$20, at the GGPA office (864-0326) or at the concert.

## Gay WHO Gay WHAT Gay WHERE Ga

### Swinging Sickniks

In his recent underground film that climbed above ground, Marc Huestis asked *Whatever Happened to Susan Jane? Now he's got a new show, a theatrical venture which asks "Whatever will happen to Madame LaRue, notorious owner of a beatnik dive; Betty Van De Kamp, waif in search of her long-lost mother; Connie McAlister, gossiping snoop; and the other swinging sickniks who hang out in the bongo ennui of Chez LaRue?"*

own convolutions.

"Betty is looking for her lost mother, and is taken home by Madame LaRue, who has a thing for little lost girls. Silvana Nova plays a faded French film star, also staying at LaRue's. She's a drug addict, supplied by Ann Block, whose gigolo/lover is Joe Cappetta. Doris Fish plays a gossip columnist out for a scoop. Everyone is coming on to everyone, shooting up, bribery photos are being taken, and false identities revealed.

"Then there's a little dance number, followed by a seance



Screamgirls. The cast of *Naked Brunch* rehearses a climactic seance scene: (l. to r.) Ginger Quest, Sandahl Hebert, Miss X, Silvana Nova, Doris Fish, and Joe Cappetta. (Photo: D. Nicoletta)

If that sounds like a soap opera, bingo! Huestis is producing and directing *Naked Brunch: The Story of the Beat and the Beaten*. The premiere episode of this new live soap opera series will be performed Wednesday, November 16 and 23, at 11 PM at Club 181 (181 Eddy), to be followed in subsequent months by continuing installments. The show is cast with members of the Alexis Carrington Colby Players, including local favorites Ann Block, Doris Fish, Sandahl Hebert, Miss X, Silvana Nova, and Joe Cappetta.

"The Pyramid Club in New York is doing a live soap," explained Huestis; "it's all the rage. We decided we wanted to do a beatnik show because of our empathy for the period."

The plot of *Naked Brunch* may leave you as twisted as its

wherein shocking truths are revealed and the FBI arrives! I won't tell you who gets arrested because that's Episode Two!

"I wrote the script, based on the group's collaboration. We watched *Dynasty* every week and then brainstormed. Although we don't want critical attention, being a people-oriented, fun sort of thing, we are taking it seriously. We want to be a repertory company of players, and for me it's a way of branching out to work with new people and styles."

*Naked Brunch* is not only an inexpensive live show, but a great excuse to have a party — the 181 Club is San Francisco's most recent center for swinging times.

Admission to *Naked Brunch, Episode One* on November 16 is \$3; November 23's Holiday show is \$4. Showtime is 11 PM.

### The Promise of 'Premise'

A tap-dancing spittoon?

*Suckled by the Cockettes, spoon-fed by Beach Blanket Babylon animations, San Franciscans are ready for almost anything. So when Sandi Weldon dons her choreographic cuspidor outfit and joins Anne Tofflemine and well-known Jae Ross in the new cabaret show Premises, Premises, no feathers will be ruffled. It's the words to the fifteen original songs by Danny Levenstein that make up the show that might throw some. Irreverent, satirical, or romantic, they remind one of material ranging from Tom Lehrer to pop ballads to the smart Julius Monk and Ben Bagley off-Broadway revues of the late 1950's.*

Composer/lyricist Levenstein is a well-known coach, arranger, and accompanist around town, as well as understudy pianist for *Beach Blanket*. He told the *Bay Area Reporter* how a show of his own songs came to be.

"I used to play in a street band named 'Stark Raving Mozart.' We played classical woodwind trios at the Wharf, and it was a real education. If you sat there and played music you made no

money. You had to hustle them. I learned to be a mercantile musician. I'm in a service occupation — the person who buys the ticket is my boss. My vision is to find out what need society has so I can fill it with entertainment. In other words, I sell out. But I do it with excellence.

(Continued on next page)



Mercantile Musician. Songwriter Danny Levenstein hopes his show, *Premises, Premises*, will prove entertainment is a service occupation.

Golden Gate Performing Arts presents

the Chorus that launched a Gay musical renaissance

## San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

Two Concerts Only! Saturday, Nov. 5 & 12 8pm

## Classically Yours

1st Congregational Church Post & Mason Near Union Square

Tickets: \$6 General, \$10 Patron-Reserved Sec. Info: 864-0326

Tickets also at STBS Ticket Booth, Stockton & Geary

EXPERIENCE the magnificent sound of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus at its classical best, performing Beethoven • Schubert • Debussy • Thompson • Peeters • Orff • Grieg under Artistic Director Ernest L. Veniegas, Jr. with featured guests Chamber Singers & Terry Peterson, Pianist

HEAR why audiences laud this superb choral group and critics acclaim it as "A magnificent ensemble — Bravii!" (B.A.R.) "Our proudest cultural institution" (California Voice) "A triumph of community interest and artistic integrity!" (S.F. Examiner) "Clearly the best chorus in the area" (Oakland Tribune)

Take the Chorus home! "SAN FRANCISCO GAY MEN'S CHORUS TOURS AMERICA '81" stereo LP recording available at Gramophone, Tower Records, & Golden Gate Performing Arts, 890 Hayes, S.F. 94117

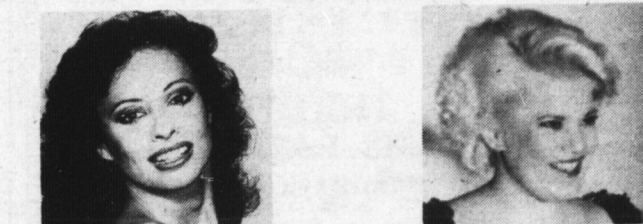
JOE ELLIS  
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## 132 BUSH

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PRESENTS



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NOV. 8, 9, 10 -  
6:00 - 8:30 PM



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**STAGE**

**99% Frivolous**  
**Sugar Babies — Fluffy Visit to Burlesque Shows No Diminished Capacity to Entertain.**

by Steve Warren

It must be proof of the cyclical nature of things that burlesque, once considered risqué — even obscene — now provides some of the most wholesome, all-American family entertainment this side of Saturday morning television.

Mickey Rooney and Ann Miller have taken over the Orpheum to put on a show called Sugar Babies, which they tried out at the Curran in 1979 on their way to Broadway success.

You've got to get into an apologetic frame of mind to enjoy this slambang entertainment package. Burlesque was sexist by nature, devoted to the objectification of women; and this recreation is true to that spirit. In other words, feminists should stay away, but politically incorrect Lesbians will get an eyeful to appreciate.

Burlesque was also heterosexual by nature, but it wouldn't

hurt to eliminate the "queer" joke early in the first act. Ethnic jokes were also part of the burlesque/vaudeville scene, but no other group is slandered with a pejorative term in this show. That one joke aside, we're left alone — unless you also want to take offense at the unnecessary lisp in Rooney's first act finale drag number.

If you can get past all that you'll have a great time at Sugar Babies. There's not a moment's let-up as it brings back the worst jokes and the biggest hits of an almost forgotten entertainment medium. Sally Rand's fan dance is saluted more elaborately and appropriately than in *The Right Stuff*; the number with doves is a Union Square fantasy; belly dancer Melanie Montana is as good as the man who keeps this art form alive at the Castro Street Fair. Program notes document some of the history, thus making the show only 99% frivolous.

The stars are remarkable, not just for their age but for the ages. Rooney is a non-stop dynamo with a tongue like a yo-yo and the ability to get twice the laughs from a bad joke that he gets from a good one. Miller's no match for him in the comedy department, but she's still the top tapper in the business; and her voice, which has always been of second ary interest, comes over with a belt that would rattle Merman's teeth. Indeed, hers are the only lyrics that can be understood. It's wise that they don't have many appearances together, because the chemistry is virtually non-existent; but the planned "mistakes" that crack them up convulse the audience as well.

Two local comedians have featured spots from which they all but steal the show. The first act goes to juggler Frank Olivier, who manages to defy gravity at times; if you're a good audience he'll even do "The Helicopter" for you. Ventriloquist Ronn Lucas takes over the second act with a spot that lip readers will get nothing out of. When he loses control and his body parts start conversing, look out!

There are so many tawdry sets and glittery costumes that we take them for granted after a few minutes. Everything seems accurate, from the Gaiety Burlesque marquee to the 48-star flags to the chorus line whose precision doesn't exactly rival the Rockettes.

It's all in fun and fun for all — if, as I said, you can take it in the right spirit.

\*\*\*

Through no fault of his or mine I missed Mickey Rooney's press conference last week. I had just one question for him and I hope that asking it in this public forum will elicit a response. (Check this space next week to find out.)

Mr. Rooney: As a Christian I've been glad to hear you discussing your religion publicly — God can always use some good publicity. However, as a Gay person I see a warning flag when someone uses the phrase "born again," because so many of that stripe have tried to rob us of our fundamental rights — including in some cases the right to live. Does your personal faith allow for the acceptance of alternative lifestyles?

**Sugar Babies**  
Orpheum Theatre  
Through Dec. 31; 474-3800



Fundamentally Frivolous. No one told Ann Miller it's not 1947 anymore and the gal taps glamorously on; no one told Mickey Rooney he was in the wrong hall for the Louise Renne look-alike contest.

**Jumpy Night On the Great White Way**

by Michael Lasky

Try not to pay attention to all the hype about this energetic little show. It's no major theatrical presentation and was never meant to be. Instead, it's just a pint-sized trashing of Broadway legends and also-rans that's been mushroomed by media celebration into something it's not. One thing *Forbidden Broadway* is, though, is great fun.

In fact, the only thing forbidden in this show is boredom. In just 80 minutes — which go by faster than a Herb Caen column — it whips through 30 potshots and pop shots that are like Hirschfield caricatures come to life. For people who truly know their Broadway lore (and trivia) there's enough inside humor to keep their "dish" overflowing. For those with only a cursory familiarity with new and old Broadway show tunes and affected personalities (new and old), there is still enough merri-

ment, cleverly directed by Jeff Martin, to keep them gasping for breath between laughs.



Fun Not Forbidden. Jim Alden (l. to r.), Mary Jo McConnell, and Lance Phillips pirate the personalities of Rex Smith, Linda Ronstadt, and Kevin Kline in a *Forbidden Broadway* spoof.

**STAGE**

**As the World Screams**

by Bernard Spunberg

Hard to read; a bomb at its first performance in 1700; why is the Berkeley Repertory Theatre doing William Congreve's Restoration comedy, *The Way of the World*? Because its convoluted plot and artificial language set forth characters universal and timeless in their vanity and greed, that's why. And because it's a scream.

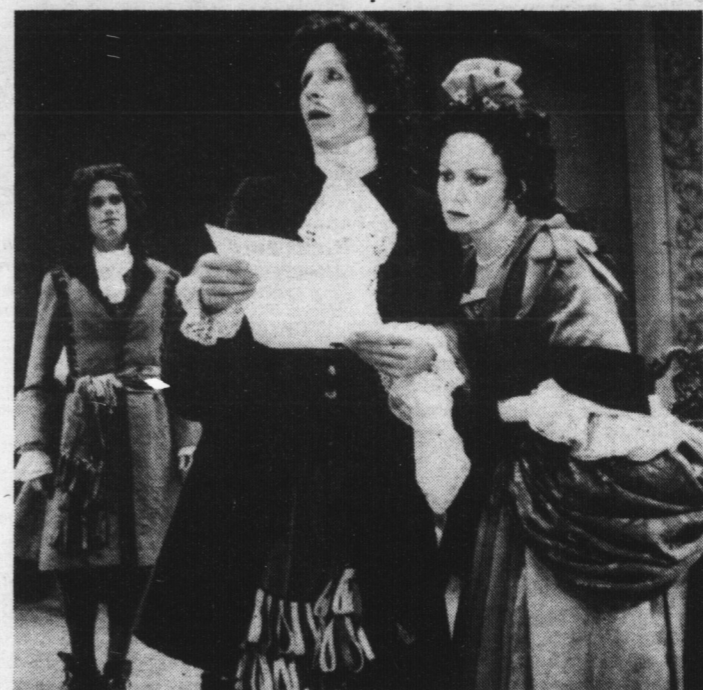
Mirabell has made a fool of Lady Wishfort, so she will never release her niece, Millamant, to him, and he's too broke to marry other than a rich woman. Meanwhile, Mr. Fainall and Mrs. Marwood are in cahoots to bilk Lady Wishfort out of her estate by blackmail. The two plots entwined to produce total chaos, but confusion is part of the fun. Everything finally comes out in the wash as the characters lie and cheat their way to a satisfying conclusion.

All the characters are equally capable of nastiness, and the lovers, Mirabell and Millamant, are no exceptions. Still, their love is genuine, and its juxtaposition with their imperfect scruples lends the play an ambivalence that is modern.

Albert Takazaukas' direction keeps the plot in elegant motion while leaving time for witty darts to strike their targets. There's a choreographic feel to the production, and actors enter and exit, doors open and close, with responsiveness to the rhythm of the script.

There are no star turns among the characterizations. Each is painted on the same size canvas, and the ensemble approach enhances the play's symmetry and coherence. Joy Carlin's Lady Wishfort could be a little less broad, and Holly Barron's glamorously evil Mrs. Fainall occasionally lapses into inaudibility at key moments, but Michelle Morain's exquisite Millamant is always perfectly controlled.

David Booth and Brian



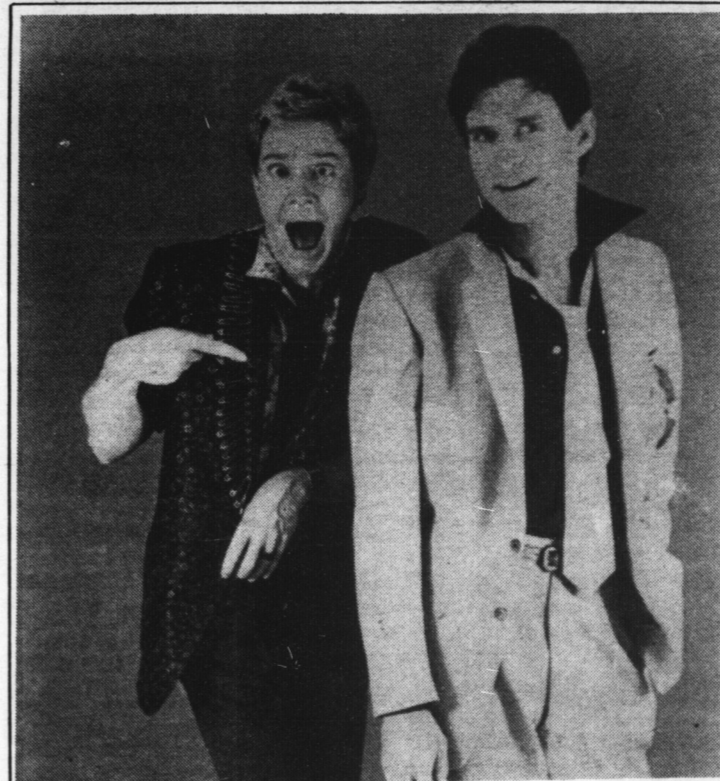
Thin Veneer for Scruples. Mirabell (Wayne Alexander) watches while Mr. Fainall (Charles Dean) and Mrs. Marwood (Holly Barron) find their plotting suddenly reversed in *The Way of the World*.

Thompson camp it up as the fops, Witwoud and Petulant. Their Gayness is doubtful, but their mannerisms are not. Were the seeds of our Gay sensibility planted in Restoration comedy?

Pink, Purple, lavender, and blue dominate Bernard Vyzgas' stylish set, and the whole production has a feeling of the contemporary disguised by a thin veneer of Baroque decoration. After 283 years, Congreve's *Way of the World* is no less the way of the world.

**The Way of the World**  
Berkeley Rep.  
Through November 27; 845-4700

**CABARET**



*Di Fi Dished!* Leave it to Hal-James Pederson (l.) and David Rada — The Hal and David Show — to make waves immediately upon their return to San Francisco after months away. Their none-too-shoddy return booking — the Alice B. Toklas Demo Club's Annual Banquet in the Mucho Festivo Room of the Mark Hopkins (you know, the place Judy watched it get dark from the top of) gave dishy divo Hal the chance to toy with Mayor Feinstein and other politicians. The result is unbelievably entertaining, and delivered at every performance. And you thought all they did was sing!

Earlier that evening they began their two week booking at 132 Bush, but that just gave the pair time to warm up their throats and file their teeth. After discussing what a couple Dianne and Quentin Kopp make, they offered condolences to Lana Turner on her tell-all bio ("Lana, don't be depressed about all those husbands... Lots of people married those guys!") and brought back eternal debutante Gloria Upson. ("When the going gets tough, the tough go shopping!"), who revealed a new political savvy with fashion tips for the nuclear holocaust.

But they didn't stint the music. "The Patty Duke Theme Song," the amazing Irving Berlin medley, and other favorites are back, along with new riches. A new, original Rada tune is "Money," which the pair first sang with Madame on her late TV show. Hal says he's feeling "chantuesie," and has freshened some Cole Porter tunes, Coward's "World Weary," and Piaf's "La Vie en Rose." Fans of the suavely handsome David should bring their raincoats, for he's dug up an ancient Hattie Noel blues called "If I Can't Sell It, I'm Gonna Keep Settin' On It." He growls out this one, and is probably open for bids afterward.

*The Hal and David Show* finishes its current run at 132 Bush, Tuesday-Thursday, November 8, 9 and 10 from 6 to 8:30 P.M.

John F. Karr

**Canteen Fully Cast**

The San Francisco Band Foundation presents a benefit concert and party for the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band & Twirling Corps, the San Francisco FLAG Corps, and the San Francisco Tap Troup. These groups will be featured in an evening of Big Band style dancing and music entitled *Canteen*. Also performing will be Skip Barrett and the Foggy City Squares, and Mr. Jason Serinus (whistler extraordinaire and the voice of the Peanuts character "Woodstock"). The MC for the evening will be the celebrated and popular comedienne and singer, Lea DeLaria, with her accompanist Jeanine Strobel.

*Canteen* will offer two hours of live entertainment beginning at 8 P.M. and have dancing to music of the Big Band era until 1 A.M. There will be an "Andrews Sisters Look Alike Contest," and everyone is invited to wear costumes and uniforms of the period.

*Canteen* is at the Japan Town theatre on November 11 (Veterans Day). Doors open at 7 P.M. Tickets, \$8 advance; \$10 at the door, available at BASS, STBS and Headlines.

**Cabaret Dates**

*Clementina's Baybrick Inn.* Monday rock nights begin November 7 with Fourth Down with Bonnie Hayes. Doors open 9 P.M.; \$5.

*Artemis Cafe.* Francesca Dubie and Deena Clevenston, Saturday, November 5, 8:30 P.M., \$3-6.

*Valencia Rose.* Charles Busch Alone With a New Cast of Thousands, November 3-5, 8 P.M., \$6.

Danny Williams One Guy Show, includes the one-act comic-drama 1978; Friday, November 4, 10:30 P.M., \$4. Also November 18 and 25.

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Testament

Half-a-caust

You're not likely to see a big-budget film about nuclear holocaust because the people who have the money are willing to blow up the earth to keep it; so in Testament the world ends with a whimper — a flash of light followed by a gradual decline in a northern California community's standard of living. People die off camera — not hideously disfigured, just tired: "Larry left us today — he just curled up in a ball and died."

Lacking makeup and special effects for visual impact, producer/director Lynne Littman works on the emotions instead and uses the power of suggestion to such an extent that the story might have worked better on radio.

Jane Alexander is the super-madonna who cares for her own children and assorted strays after the bombs fall, far enough away that they do no physical damage to her town. She never runs out of food, candles, or toilet paper; and even after the police department collapses, it's weeks before anyone tries to break in and take anything.

Maybe Testament will reach some people for whom the whole

truth would have been too much. It's certainly chilling to watch the inexorable diminishing of the local population and loss of communication with the outside world, the growing realization that things won't get better, and the waiting for the end.

In a scene just for us romantics, Alexander answers the questions of her teenage daughter about the facts of life she'll never need to know: "When you love someone you want to be as close to each other as you can get . . . When you make love it's almost as if you were one body. You have a space and that person fills it up." (The last part will be wasted on non-Gay men.)

Early on the school play, The Pied Piper, ends with a line we know to be portentous: "Your children are not dead. They will return. They are just waiting until the world deserves them." But the line that got to me came at the end when, with almost no one, nothing, and no hope left, three of the last survivors have a party; and a child about to blow out the candle asks, "What'll we wish for, mom?"

Honey, just wish that someone who can prevent it will see Testament and get the message before nuclear madness takes its toll!

(Clay) S. Warren

Running Brave

Son of Chariots of Fire

Oh, no, Maude, here's another one of those running pictures in which a man strives to transcend prejudice by winning at the Olympics. And guess what — this one, too, is based on a true story.



As Ethel Merman Used to Sing, "I'm An Indian Too," Robby Benson dons Egyptian No. 9 to win at the Olympics and show some rump in this Billy Mills bio-pic.

True or not, Running Brave is as predictable a tale as they come. It's not without its moments of tension, but it's obvious from the first ready, set, go to the last triumphant mile.

Robby Benson, with his sleek, new John Travolta-ed body, makes the best of his miscasting as the American Indian who struggled against the prejudice of white men — and his own people — and who against the odds of poverty and self-doubt became America's only gold medal Olympics winner in the 10,000 meter race.

For a Walt Disney film, Running Brave is somewhat unprecedented.

material, Billy was swayed by the needs of his people and what he wanted for himself. Beneath his Egyptian No. 9, Benson is able to communicate the mental anguish a man in limbo endured.

That, however, is not enough; since we know the outcome, the story is robbed of suspense. Chariots of Fire had a lyrical sense to it as well as a dramatic Vangelis soundtrack. Running Brave, for all its lack of pretension, comes across preachy and too simple. Not even first class performances can save it.

(Regency 3) M. Lasky

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week by Michael Benzry

Friday, November 4: (Strand) John Waters' Pink Flamingos and Female Trouble. Divine seeks the titles of "Most Disgusting" and "Most Criminal." Devastating portrayals of middle America; vulgarity glorified.

Thursday-Saturday, November 3-5: (Cedar) Mae West in I'm No Angel and She Done Him Wrong. Two-lesbian laughter course on keeping men in their place (horizontal).

Sunday-Monday, November 6-7: (Red Victorian) Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean. Small town loneliness of Gays and straights is affected for years by one visit from James Dean.

Danton

Off with Its Head!

How many Poles does it take to make a movie about the French Revolution? One — Andrzej Wajda.

Now ask how many it takes to make a good movie about the French Revolution.

After many years of redundant rallies my brain can automatically tune out political rhetoric, especially loud political rhetoric; so I hardly heard a word of Wajda's Danton.

By 1794 the people of France were hardly better off than they'd been before the revolution. Former allies Danton (Gerard Depardieu) and Robespierre (Wojciech Pszoniak) have grown so far apart that each is advised by his friends to eliminate the other. Danton has the people's support while Robespierre is part of the new dictatorship. In their sole direct confrontation Danton tells Robespierre that the latter can't represent the people because he's not heterosexual. (The program notes say Robespierre was asexual.)

Wajda is commenting on the political situation in Poland today, and his parallels are obvious. Though the 18th century milieu is convincingly captured, the characters in powdered wigs are as boring and strident as politicians of any time and place. The Poles in the cast are dubbed in French before being subtitled in English, so the sound

is out of synch and we still have to read titles.

If Halloween didn't give you enough of people in funny costumes yelling at each other, see Danton for more.

Mercury) S. Warren

Featured in person will be Zolt Kovacs with four of his films. The Right to Hope and The Nice Neighbor will be shown in a Saturday afternoon tribute to the filmmaker; when Joseph Returns and Forbidden Relations will screen on other evenings.

From animated feature (Son of the White Mare) to social comedy (Rain and Shine) and a variety of political dramas, Hungary will be putting its best film forward at the Castro next week.

S. Warren

The Osterman Weekend

Huh?

Robert Ludlum writes violent, paranoid espionage thrillers known for their unwieldy, far-fetched plots, cardboard characters, and incredibly tight pacing. Sam Peckinpah, the director of The Osterman Weekend, the first Ludlum bestseller to make it to the screen, is known as a top action director (The Wild Bunch) who works best with violence and gore. Robert, meet Sam; Sam, meet Robert.

The combination seems right. Yet when Ludlum is dramatized all we get is confusion — the unwieldy, far-fetched plot of The Osterman Weekend is bogged down in its set-ups and explanations. The action is incomprehensible and the characters unlikely.

The story? CIA agent John Hurt feels he has been duped by boss Burt Lancaster. Hurt's wife has been murdered by the CIA and he wants revenge. He fabricates an ominous organization called OMEGA and targets three men, all respected in their communities, as leading the alleged Russian KGB-run operation. On the weekend of their annual reunion the three men and their wives are pitted against each other as vengeful agent Hurt manipulates them with remote control video units. Lost? Figure how the actors feel as they

Stand by your man . . . Stand by your time-tested Gay newspaper.

The Bay Area Reporter



Waxworks — Gay director (The Wounded Man) Patrice Chereau (L) plays Desmoulin, an ally of Danton (Gerard Depardieu). They are shown here in a typical, action-packed scene from the film.

Steve Warren's interview with director/actor Patrice Chereau is on the next page.

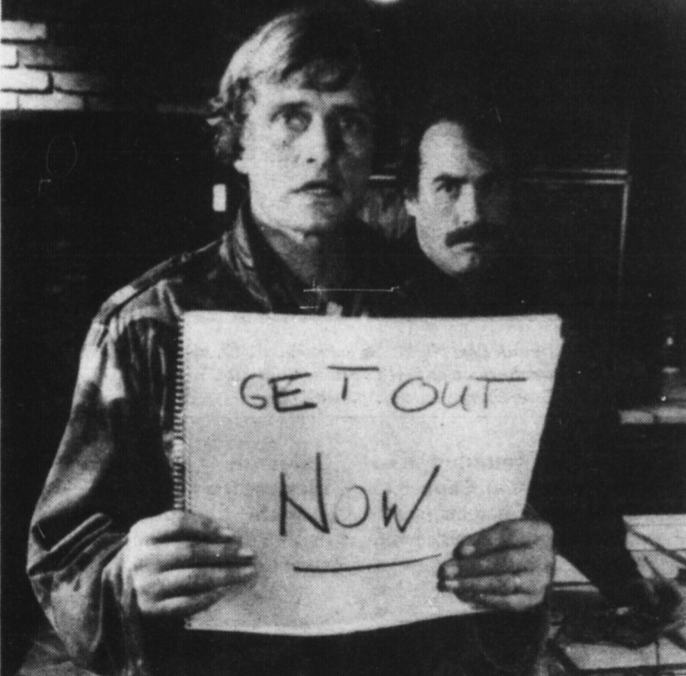
firmly lesbian and the other an unhappy wife. It will be shown at 8 PM, November 8 at the Castro and repeated November 10 at 9:30 PM at Pacific Film Archive.

Fourteen other features will be shown over the next four days, including an earlier Makk film, Love, with Lili Darvas, which deals honestly with old age, political repression, and death, yet leaves you feeling good.

The only new film we've previewed is the series closer (Nov. 12, 9:30 PM, Castro), Lost Illusions. This is a pleasant but in no way extraordinary tale, updated from Balzac and relocated from Paris to Budapest, about a young man who comes to the city in hopes of

a writing career and becomes a victim of petty politics and prejudices.

When he decided to tell a male-male love story in The Wounded Man, the then-closeted Chereau never considered that there was a risk involved — "I don't ask myself that question" — but when he went to cast it he found that some actors were more concerned.



Subtle Hint. Rutger Hauer is not holding a cue card for the audience, but he might as well, in The Osterman Weekend, also starring Craig T. Nelson.

When the bullets, bombs, and blood start to fly in the second half, you know it's Peckinpah and wish it were Mission: Impossible.

(Alexandria) M. Lasky

Tomorrow

Packs a Duvallo

From To Kill a Mockingbird through The Great Santini to Tender Mercies (still this year's best picture), most of Robert Duval's most effective performances have been in Southern dramas.

Tomorrow slipped through the cracks in its 1972 release, but I've wanted to see it since Duval told me in 1976 that it was his favorite of his films. At last I've had the chance, and it was worth the wait (in gold).

This isn't a movie for everybody. It's so slow it's almost a still life, a motionless and on the surface almost emotionless motion picture. It's done in a

naturalistic style so fragile that one person with the giggles can make an entire audience see it as a spoof. (Please don't.) If it didn't have an actor of Duval's mesmerizing ability it would have bored me to tears.

But it does have Duval — as Jackson Fentry, a simple man who gives shelter to an abandoned, pregnant woman and falls in love with her. The story, adapted from William Faulkner, is told in one long flashback from 20 years later, after Fentry hangs a jury by refusing to acquit a local man for a crime of passion.

If you can get into a small, slow, styleless and guileless human drama, see Tomorrow today. It's a true American art film.

(Surf) S. Warren

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

Coming Out at Cannes

Freshly Uncloseted Director Chereau Plays Ring Around the Meaning

by Steve Warren

Renowned director of theatre, opera, and film, Patrice Chereau, came out at this year's Cannes Film Festival. Although there was some outrage at his film having been chosen an official French entry, Chereau's personal revelation received scant attention in the press. They're not accustomed to dealing with festival news other than the usual parade of starlets, each trying to be more nude than the others to win an "audition" on one of the Carlton Hotel's many casting couches.

"I was drunk," Chereau recalls, "and after the tenth or twelfth question I finally said, 'Yes, I am (Gay).'"

Chereau was personally selected by Wolfgang Wagner to direct the centennial production of the Ring cycle at Bayreuth in 1976. The controversial result was broadcast on PBS earlier this year.

Youthful and buoyant, Chereau turns 39 this November but has already started telling interviewers he's 40 — to avoid the enfant terrible label, he says. He's still considered a wunderkind in opera and theatre; and his third film, The Wounded Man (L'Homme Blessé), should extend that reputation to the screen as well.

When he decided to tell a male-male love story in The Wounded Man, the then-closeted Chereau never considered that there was a risk involved — "I don't ask myself that question" — but when he went to cast it he found that some actors were more concerned.

France's leading leading man, Gerard Depardieu, for instance, the director's first choice to play Jean, turned him down saying it might have been all right "if (they) had done some other film together first." Depardieu wound up dubbing Jean's dialogue after Vittorio Mezzogiorno learned to speak French to play the role but still had too strong an accent.

Mezzogiorno is perfect as the sexy, dangerous man with whom the young hero becomes obsessed. Suddenly in demand, the actor worked simultaneously on The Wounded Man and Jean-Jacques Beineix's The Moon in the Gutter — "one week in Lyon and one week in Rome," according to Chereau.

Casting the lead was also difficult. After interviewing younger actors for two weeks Chereau settled on 27-year-old Jean-Hugues Anglade, partly because he had worked with him before and knew what he was capable of. Afraid the producer would think Anglade too old, Chereau introduced the actor as 20 and learned the producer had guessed him to be younger.

His original script (with Hervé Guibert) made Henri 16, but now Chereau puts his age, Ring to the world via television was, Chereau believes, doomed from the start. Fresh from a meeting in New York with the sponsors of the American telecast, he doesn't hesitate to say that he "never believed it could work artistically on television" and he was not pleased with Brian Large's direction for tv.

Chereau says he was too busy overseeing the staging details to consider directing the telecast himself, but he wouldn't have done it anyway. He's refused to direct opera films, including the Don Giovanni that was finally made by Joseph Losey, because the two media have different "rhythms" which are not compatible.

His latest operatic triumph was the first complete production of Alban Berg's Lulu, including the third act which had been suppressed by Berg's widow from his death in 1935 to her own in 1976. "She said she received 'messages' from him," Chereau says bemusedly, "in which he would say, 'Don't touch the third act.' . . . His last cigarette is still in an ashtray on his piano in Vienna."

The Chereau Lulu had a visual style lifted from the G.W. Pabst film Pandora's Box which starred Louise Brooks. In the title role was Teresa Stratas, whom the director calls "one of my favorite people." He says she forbade him to see her in Franco Zeffirelli's film of La Traviata. (The Italian, with whom she obviously had a less harmonious working relationship, has called the soprano "more temperamental than Callas.")

Chereau has been Gay all this time, of course, but it's never been an issue before: "It's a new situation to have to say that I am (Gay) . . . The only new thing is to talk about it."

Has this course of events created any problems for him? "My problem is that I don't have problems," he laughs. Lest he be taken seriously he adds quickly that he does have problems, but not about his sexuality.

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When he decided to tell a male-male love story in The Wounded Man, the then-closeted Chereau never considered that there was a risk involved — "I don't ask myself that question" — but when he went to cast it he found that some actors were more concerned.

France's leading leading man, Gerard Depardieu, for instance, the director's first choice to play Jean, turned him down saying it might have been all right "if (they) had done some other film together first." Depardieu wound up dubbing Jean's dialogue after Vittorio Mezzogiorno learned to speak French to play the role but still had too strong an accent.

Mezzogiorno is perfect as the sexy, dangerous man with whom the young hero becomes obsessed. Suddenly in demand, the actor worked simultaneously on The Wounded Man and Jean-Jacques Beineix's The Moon in the Gutter — "one week in Lyon and one week in Rome," according to Chereau.

Casting the lead was also difficult. After interviewing younger actors for two weeks Chereau settled on 27-year-old Jean-Hugues Anglade, partly because he had worked with him before and knew what he was capable of. Afraid the producer would think Anglade too old, Chereau introduced the actor as 20 and learned the producer had guessed him to be younger.

His original script (with Hervé Guibert) made Henri 16, but now Chereau puts his age,

(Continued on page 32)

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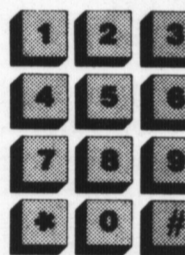
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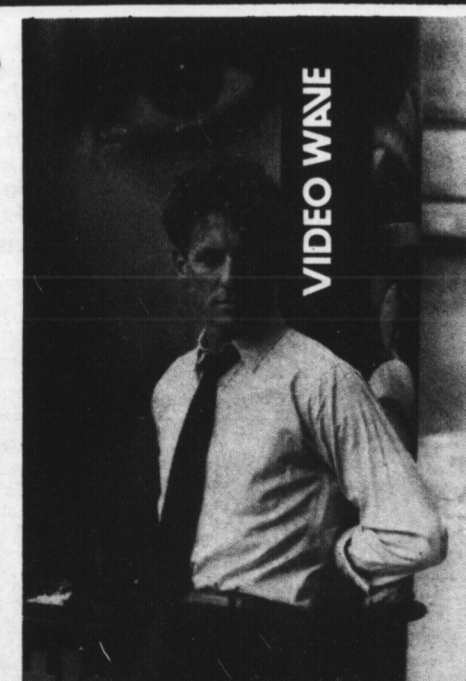


Photo by Jim Wigler

## FROM FIFTH POSITION

### The Future of Ballet

KEITH WHITE

It used to be that audiences went to the ballet merely hoping to see dancers who could do impressive things, but technique is rather commonplace in ballet today. With the exception of the occasional prodigy, dancers have a hard time impressing us with sheer physical ability; we've seen it all before. The future of ballet rests with the choreographers who are making our new ballets. They decide what we will see, how we should see it, and coach the dancers accordingly. These choices are not simple. Today's choreographers have everything from Petipa to Flashdance to draw from — and compete with. Beyond these staggering decisions lies the choreographer's unique dilemma: foreseeing the final result. Unlike writers, composers, and graphic artists, who can read, hear, or see their work before it is shown to the public (and change it if it doesn't measure up), choreographers can't know how a new ballet will look until it goes on stage in dress rehearsal, by which time the die is cast. Whether or not as audience members we are aware of the challenge of choreography, our final judgment is subjective.

Val Caniparoli is the most original and promising of the young dancer/choreographers to come from the San Francisco Ballet. The Oakland Ballet has just acquired Caniparoli's Street Songs, one of his earliest choreographic attempts, set on the Pacific Northwest Ballet in 1980. Caniparoli appears to thoroughly research the musical and thematic elements of his dances before beginning work; in this case, Carl Orff's music was conceived as a means of

we see in much of the ballet are emotional reactions that seem to emerge from thin air. There are sections in which the entire

Val Caniparoli . . . the most original and promising dancer/choreographer of the S.F. Ballet . . . creates dances that are tactile and atmospheric.

ensemble performs unison gestures of doom, struggle, or hope — a staging device that generally signifies group reaction against



The Dark Brown of Significance. Mario Alonzo, Jennifer Young, and Jon Konetski in Ron Thiele's Episodes.

musical education for children. Street Songs maintains a mood of spontaneity and play that is in close alignment with Orff's musical tone; the ballet looks experimental but not inept. A trio set to one of Orff's pieces for unaltered percussion instruments (danced by Mario Alonzo, Susan Taylor and Jon Konetski), reminds me of wind-up toys activated one by one. A simple choreographic device at the end of the trio, having each of the dancers perform the steps first shown by a different dancer, is mildly disorienting, delightfully summing up what we've seen before. At times, Caniparoli's structural devices are too simple to be interesting, but his movement style is generally striking. An apparent contradiction in terms, Caniparoli creates dances that are tactile and atmospheric from an initially cerebral approach — as though research and forethought are the keys to intuition.

Oakland Ballet Associate Artistic Director Ron Thiele created a new ballet, Episodes, to a Leos Janacek Suite for String Orchestra. The program notes suggest that Thiele was not concerned with specifics in creating his ballet, but "wanted to explore and discover different movement reactions from dancers when an oppressive element was introduced." He also reacted to the mood of the score — a variable one with frequent dark emotional overtones. What

Arlene Croce describes as the "deep-think ballets . . . choreographers' musings dyed the rich dark brown of significance," with, always, "a death figure somewhere in the ballet." North's ballet is set to Franz Schubert's "String Quartet #14 in D Minor" — both the score and the ballet at the other end of the earth from the Agnes DeMille Inconsequential on the last Oakland program, also to music by Schubert. Death and the Maiden revolves around a relationship that is not at all abstract; reading the ballet's title tells us all we need to know. In the first part ("Premonitions"), the death figure appears only momentarily among a group of dancers who hardly notice him ("the background of death always a vague possibility in the midst of life" — choreographer's program note). In the second, "Conversations with Death," the maiden relates directly with the death figure (the statuesque Ron Thiele), attempting to flee from him, to struggle in his grasp, to be seduced and comforted by

him, and finally to succumb to him. North's movement style in this work (reminiscent of Jose Limon, and North actually has a strong Martha Graham background), isn't too interesting until the second section, whereupon the sensuality of the duet combines with our fascination with death to keep our concentration firm. Erin Leedom realized a wonderful vulnerability as the maiden.

Marc Wilde's Bolero closed the program, a repertory staple, they tell me, and a wonderful finish for Oakland's most provocative program. Bolero, to the familiar Ravel tone poem, is a backstage rehearsal ballet — always popular with audiences. The curtain opens to a stripped stage, dancers walk on in practice clothes and lean against portable ballet barres, coming forward a few at a time to show their stuff. Full of tricky steps and quick partnering, the message is "Look, I can dance!" it ends with a dynamic unison finale to match the hypnotic crescendo of the score. Nothing subtle, no hidden meanings. Bolero is a show piece — a good one — and the company danced it like a closing night party.

Carlos Carvajal says, "There is a Cinderella in all of us, just waiting to be recognized." If you are in touch with these aspirations, you might want to take in one of Oakland Ballet's performances of The Crystal Slipper. Carvajal's full-length ballet will be danced at two Sunday matinees, November 13 and 20, at 2 PM; Paramount Theatre, Oakland; 530-7516.

Robert North's Death and the Maiden is another of what



Would You Repeat That One More Time, Mr. Ravel? The Oakland Ballet in Marc Wilde's dynamic setting of Ravel's Bolero.

## TALES OF TESSI TURA

### Road Warriors

GEORGE HEYMONT

While many opera fans are awed by the artistry they see onstage, there is a human side to the operatic lifestyle which is often kept from sight. The pursuit of an operatic career is much like the loneliness of a long distance runner. No one can do for you what you yourself must do. "Next time someone asks you about the glamor of opera, why don't you try to explain what it's like to be on your knees, puking your guts out in some hotel room 3,000 miles away from home," groaned one friend who works in the profession.

The opera family is often a small and closely knit group. The nature of the business keeps artists on the road for months at a time (much like a floating crap game). As one gets more entrenched in the profession, one runs into the same people while traveling from town to town. Dependent on friends and colleagues for any kind of stability in their lives, these people are quick to describe the crap they tolerate in order to pursue their artistic goals.

#### GYPSY FEET

"Herb Breslin once told me, 'If you're going to be an artist, then you have to eat some shit. There are more things that you can't do than you can,'" confesses tenor James Hoback. "As far as lifestyle is concerned, the Gay scene clashes with an artist's life. There are many things an artist cannot do that a regular Gay man takes for granted as a part of his lifestyle."

"It's a very hard life, and actually very lonely," he adds. "Friendships are fine, but a relationship is nonexistent for many artists. Sometimes you get disgusted and depressed. You feel like crap and you're tired of living out of a suitcase. When I first came to San Francisco it was terrible. I was living in one of those residence homes where they serve you two meals a day. It took me almost three years to build friendships here."

"The nature of the business involves a lot of travel," stresses soprano Ashley Putnam. "Ever since I was a little girl I've been totally at ease with flying. Now, all of a sudden, I'm scared to death of it. I've read some statistics which say that people are not really afraid of a plane crash so much as what lies at the other end of the trip."

"Sometimes I go through periods of just not wanting to be a singer, but wanting to do anything else: be a mother, be a normal Joe Schmo or open up a plant store. It's not the performing," she sighs. "It's what comes tied up in the lifestyle. I really don't deal well with all the traveling, the hotels, and not having enough time at home. I can't imagine how people have done it for 30 years."

#### LOVE ME, LOVE MY GOWN

It's no secret that opera singers have pretty strong egos. But when so much of proving oneself depends upon one's ability to deliver in three-minute arias and auditions, one often develops a personality which is larger than life.

"Some folks work in this business because they want to be around people all the time," remarks Pat Raftery (the young American baritone who sang Marcello during the San Francisco Opera's recent production of La Boheme). "They want the parties and the ego gratification. A lot of my friends give me shit because I don't party very much."

"And some singers give their best performances at parties," snickers soprano Ellen Shade.

Being pulled away from one's permanent surroundings often causes anxiety and disorientation. "I get intimidated by strangeness," sighs Shade. "Some hotels charge \$13.50 for breakfast and my Spartan soul can't deal with that. When you're away from home, you

have to deal with new things, like getting up in the middle of the night and trying to find the bathroom without giving yourself a black eye. I speak fluent, inaccurate German. I speak hotel-and-restaurant Italian. I know how to say 'Stage right,' 'Stage left,' 'Pretend you're dead' and 'I want one of those.' But I don't know how to say 'I'm lonely. I'm depressed. I miss my husband.'"



Catch Up with the Music. Baritone Pat Raftery's schedule has him singing with opera companies in Chicago, Honolulu, New Orleans, and Toronto in addition to his concert dates around the nation.

#### AN OPERA HOUSE IS NOT A HOME

One doesn't just miss people. An artist also misses the knowledge that his books and personal possessions are waiting for him when he gets home from a day's work. How do singers find ways to ease the pain of being away from home? What support systems do they try to recreate while on the road? Many spend a fortune on long distance phone calls. Occasionally, they stay with friends.

"I don't like to wake up in a hotel room and deal with room service, or have to get dressed to go down to breakfast," confides soprano Linda Zoghby. "The more friends you can have around you, the more bearable traveling becomes. The closer to a home setting, the less anxiety you suffer."

"I'm sort of a homebody. I like being around a lot of things and in many ways I'm very domestic," admits Hoback. "I gave up my apartment in New York and did sublets at one point because I was only home for a month out of the whole year. It worked out fine with my singing schedule, but it's never been the same as having your

own home. Now I've gotten to the point where I have friends in most cities where I sing. Usually I can stay with some of them. These people understand that I'm an artist. They know there are times when I just need to be left alone. I need a section of the house that's mine — and you'd better not come near it on pain of death," he warns.

Staying with friends, however, is not always as easy as it sounds. Subject to moods and a need to be alone, many an artist has found that a free room is not always worth the money saved. Hosts often go overboard in trying to entertain an artist. Many also expect to be entertained. It can turn into an exhausting cycle.

"It's much easier on me than it is on them because they're the ones who stay behind after I go on to something else," confesses Pat Raftery. "As much as they can be supportive, they also need my support. I'm a very selfish person and I do think about myself first. If I'm staying with friends who are having a particular problem, sometimes I have to say, 'I'm sorry, but I can't deal with you right now because I have to deal with me.' On the day of a performance I can only be thinking about my

Again, some twenty years later, we find a reviewer, C. V. Terry, commenting on Gore Vidal's new novel, *The City and The Pillar*, (1948). He declares that one too many sagas about the third sex have already appeared.

## BOOK RACK

### Proving It On Me

Gay/Lesbian Almanac: A New Documentary  
Edited by Jonathan Ned Katz  
Harper & Row - paper, \$16.95; hardbound, \$28.50

by Frank J. Howell

"This class of people (gays) do not wish to get well. They are content with their lot. . . they enjoy their abnormal life, or, if they do not enjoy it, they are at least sufficiently annoyed by it, or are too ashamed of it to attempt any treatment." Dr. George M. Beard (1884) "Sexual Neurasthenia or Nervous Exhaustion, Its Hygiene, Causes, Symptoms, and Treatment"

After a casual scanning of the second volume of Gay history by Mr. Katz we can heartily appreciate the ancient observation that there is nothing new under the sun. In the 1950's and 1960's we sincerely felt that Gay love was pulled out of the closet for the first time. Imagine the feeling of surprise when, on leafing through this almanac, I came across the following,

"On November 10, 1935, The Times (New York) reviewer of Andre Gide's autobiography, thought 'the public is no longer horrified by disclosures of homosexuality' — people would no longer regard Gide's book 'as it might have been regarded ten years ago — as something sensational.' On August 1, 1941, a Times reviewer could claim that the theme of 'Lesbianism' had been 'done to death a decade or so ago.'"

Again, some twenty years later, we find a reviewer, C. V. Terry, commenting on Gore Vidal's new novel, *The City and The Pillar*, (1948). He declares that one too many sagas about the third sex have already appeared.

We were "invented" in 1869 when the word "homosexual" was coined. Before that we were garden variety sinners and perverts.

So we plunge through this seven hundred page tome duly filled with a new appreciation for historical relativity. That which is lavender was old hat before some of us even knew about it.

In his scholarly introduction Katz makes the point that such terms as heterosexual and homosexual are misleading and narrow. He prefers phrases such as "man to man" or "woman to woman." After all, we were "invented" in 1869 by Dr. Karoly Maria Benkert. Katz informs us, when he coined the term "homosexual." Before that time, Gays were nothing more than garden variety sinners and perverts. This is why we cannot compare Gays of the nineteenth century with our cousins before 1869.

The new collection is neatly divided into two major periods, "The Age of Sodomitical Sin, 1607-1740" and then "The Modern United States: The Invention of the Homosexual, 1880-1950."

The colonial period is rather stodgy and legalistic. It is filled with court records and biblical exhortations about sodomy and sin. This person laid with that person and was duly caught and punished. Amen.

The modern period is more lively and consists chiefly of book reviews, medical articles, and newspaper accounts. Excerpts from autobiographies are also included.

This new work is about sixty pages longer than the parent volume, *Gay American History*, but the time span is shorter. The original collection ranged from 1566-1976. The second book spans 1607-1950. There is only a smattering of famous personages examined in detail this time around.

It is only by studying our past that we will be able to cope with our Gay future. Katz has cleared the path and now we must follow.

But historical significance aside, it is pure joy to curl up in

bed late some evening and rummage through this unique record of homophiles and their escapades. Behold:

In 1890, a Dr. Charles Nesbitt tells of Gays who inhabited the lower east side of the Bowery. Naturally they paid police protection. One of the bohemian establishments was known as "The Slide." The doctor attended a dance where five hundred couples were waltzing. He encountered a "Princess Toto" who was head of the social clique. He sat in beer gardens and received company. As "Princess Toto" expresses it, "We quite naturally consider ourselves superior to the perverts in artistic, professional circles who practice perversion surreptitiously. Believe me, there are plenty of them and they are good customers of ours."

Katz has included a generous section on Henry Gerber, who founded the short-lived Society for Human Rights in 1925 in Chicago. This was the first known Gay organization in America. Gerber was part of the

Gay scene, off and on for many years until he died at the age of eighty-one in 1972. We are given intimate views of his efforts at organizing homosexual rights when support was almost nonexistent.

Another highlight is the June 9, 1947, issue of *Neustweek*. Here we discover, "Homosexuals in Uniform." The army doctors explained that homosexuals "topped the average soldier in intelligence, education, and rating. . . as a whole these men were law-abiding and hard-working. In spite of nervous, unstable, and often hysterical temperaments, they performed admirably as office workers. Many tried to be good soldiers."

In 1928, famous blues singer Ma Rainey recorded a Lesbian song, years ahead of its time as a "frank declaration of love. The 'Prove It On Me Blues' was a mad shocker. The last verse follows:

"I went out last night,  
With a crowd of my friends,  
They must bin womens  
As I don't like no mens.  
Wear my clothes  
Just like a man(?).  
Talk to the gals,  
Just like any old man,  
Cause they say I do it,  
Ain't nobody caught me,  
You sure got to prove it on me."

The collection is perhaps not quite as stunning or dramatic as its parent. But sequels rarely are. What is important is that the Katz research will stimulate others to dig for our Gay roots which run deeper than anyone had imagined. The Freedom of Information Act, for example, is opening up a treasure trove of information that will fill in the missing pieces of our Gay heritage.

It is only by studying our past that we will be able to cope with our Gay future. Katz has cleared the path and now we must follow.



# SPORTS

## CORNER POCKET

## G.S.L. UPDATE

GENE MILLER

TOM VINDEED

### Championship Matches

**South Shore, Nevada:** It's 9:45 Sunday morning, October 30, and I find myself relaxing comfortably in Caesar's keno lounge, thoroughly enjoying their game. The 4-spot ticket, which I play whenever I come up here and never change, has paid off for \$117 so far. So I'll return to San Francisco a richer man, since I am an ultra-conservative nongambler who only plays dollar keno when there's nothing else happening.

But what, you may wonder, is your pool reporter doing at Caesar's Tahoe? In a couple of hours the nation's top money tournament, the annual Caesar's Classic, will roll into its fourth and final day as the world's top 9-Ball players shoot for the 1984 Isuzu plus \$25,000 top prize. (Finals, by the way, will be televised on ESPN during the next few weeks.)

From the original field of 119 players at \$1,000 a head, four are still alive on Sunday: Howard Vickery and Earl Strickland on the winners' side, Steve Sizerak and Mike Sigel on the losers' side. As I prepare to watch these pool geniuses, I look forward to another 9-Ball tournament — the San Francisco Pool Association's annual championship set

for November 5 and 6 at Park Bowl, beginning at 1 PM both days.

The preliminaries began September 22 at the Arena and made seven other stops at SFPA bars, qualifying 15 players to challenge 1982 champ Colin Bradley. The only team to qualify all of its members is Febe's, and it was another Febe's team who accomplished the same feat last year.

Here's the field for Saturday: Carl Arguello, Rainbow; Colin Bradley, Stallion Stampede; Owen Bubar, DeLuxe Powergliders; Peter Fleury, Febe's; Wil Franklin, Arena Warriors; Dennis Hall, Transfer Points; Bill Kazee, Febe's; Rick Mariani, Febe's; Gene Miller, Febe's; Ray Peterson, Febe's; Steve Runng, Stallion Stampede; Larry Schwartz, White Swallow Fabulous 40's; Gino Smith, Fabulous 40's; Eddie Sprotti, Bear Teddies; Dave Timko, DeLuxe Powergliders; Lauren Ward, Macante's M.A.R.T.Y.R.S.

So how'd the geniuses finish? Earl Strickland, 22, played incredibly, taking off to a 5-0 lead over Mizerak and eventually winning 9-2. Sigel was 3rd; Vickery, 4th.

### BROADWAY

(Continued from page 26)

be expected to comfortably sustain laughter for 80 minutes straight. Right?


The energy of FB, like its humor, gathers steam as it rolls along. It gets moving by the fourth song, a minor ditty that puts Amadeus in its proper place. An almost anachronistic put down of Evita works only because of its legend-in-its-own-time status. But these are only the ice breakers because what follows in machine gun fire quickness are increasingly devastating musical lambastings of Kevin Kline, Rex Smith and Linda Ronstadt (all from the pop version of Pirates of Penzance). There is the Lesbian version of Julie Andrews who's been "Victor-Victoria-ed," an easy mark but nonetheless effectively hysterical Carol Channing, an intoxicated Richard Burton, a slap happy Ann Miller, the quintessential Ethel Merman, and Mary Martin, and the fattest Jennifer Holliday ("Scream-girls"). The bitchiest bit of the evening is a deliciously sadistic bruising of Lauren Bacall.

practically explodes off the stage. Lance Phillips, with matinee idol looks and a deep throated voice to match is a particularly splendid Kevin Kline and Jim Alden also comes vocally well endowed. He flips from a knock of Amadeus to a punch at Rex Smith with the east of a sure-footed chameleon.

Mary Jo McConnell puts Patty Lupone/Evita to rest (finally) and is smashing as the pushy Ethel Merman and equally aggressive Ann Miller. Gail Heidemann (who dubbed Patty Duke's singing in "Valley of the Dolls" — how's that for a credit!) almost steals the evening with her dicey interpretations of Carol Channing and Raquel Welch. The most applause of the evening, however, was given to pianist Scott Singer's one vocal — a drubbing of "There're Playing Our Song."

Forbidden Broadway is really a New York show — loud, assertively bitchy, and decidedly quick. If you are hip to the brash New York style all the better. If not, fasten your seatbelts, it's gonna be a jumpy night.

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### Christmas Gifts for Seniors

For the third straight year, the Gay Softball League will collect and donate gifts to senior citizens in San Francisco.

Last year, with a tremendous hand from CSL Commissioner George Zepp, we donated over 225 gifts that were distributed through the San Francisco Parks & Recreation Department. This year we hope to bring our total up to 300 gifts. The GSL pride themselves on their community involvement; this happens to be one of our favorites.

Okay, all you players, fans, cheerleaders, scorekeepers, and,

of course, sponsors — we expect lots of gifts to be turned in at our December 3 meeting at the Rawhide. Some items needed are: cologne, candy, robes, slippers, after shave, socks, hand creams, pajamas, puzzles, Safety (Lucky, Cala, etc.) gift certificates, or whatever you think would be useful. Please have them gift-wrapped and mark them "man" or "woman," and size if necessary.

A quick tip: Shop Walgreen's or Pay 'N Save at "sale" time. You can get some great buys at these stores. Last year I told the clerk who I was buying for and

she said, "Here, take these couple of extras from me." Be "pushy" because you all know how to be that way; I've seen you all at league meetings and during the games.

More than anything, it will make you feel good! It only takes a couple of bucks, so have one or two less cocktails one weekend and that will cover it. If you would rather donate money, Commissioner Decca will accept that also, as he does the shopping this year. How do you like that, Bob?

Fellow GSLers, let's get behind this worthwhile league endeavor and help us collect our goal of 300 gifts. Remember, Saturday, 12 noon, the Rawhide, 7th & Folsom, December 3. Info: 775-4037.

Just thinking out loud. I wonder what team will bring the most gifts. I'll be watching... and writing!

### CHEREAU

(Continued from page 29)



which is never specified in the film, at "18 or 20." As for viewers who think he's 16, as some critics have, "It's okay with me."

Once the conversation gets past the issue of whether The Wounded Man is about homosexuality, we come to the question of why Chereau chose such a sordid setting for his homoerotic tale. He begins by insisting defensively that it's "real" and adds on further questioning, "I don't know why I chose this reality to put on the screen."

He was tired, it seems, of films that paint an "idyllic" portrait of Gay life. Pressed to name one he reaches back to 1974 for Christopher Larkin's A Very Natural Thing. He admits that some homosexuals are happy — "I am happy too... I'm not sure it's beautiful to be homosexual. I think it's fantastic, but I'm not sure."

Despite the downbeat nature of all of The Wounded Man, Chereau still finds himself having to explain the tragic ending. "He tries to pass off the killing

that occurs as "a sign, a metaphor," then says it was "the only possible way to end" the story, because death is the only way to completely possess a person who will not be possessed.

Furthermore, "I don't think it's terrible what happens to this boy," Chereau says. "It's better than what would have happened if he had stayed with his family."

French critics, Chereau smiles, "are confused with me." The reaction to The Wounded Man was largely favorable, with the notable exception of Liberation ("They shit on me every time!"). Are the film critics in France Gay?

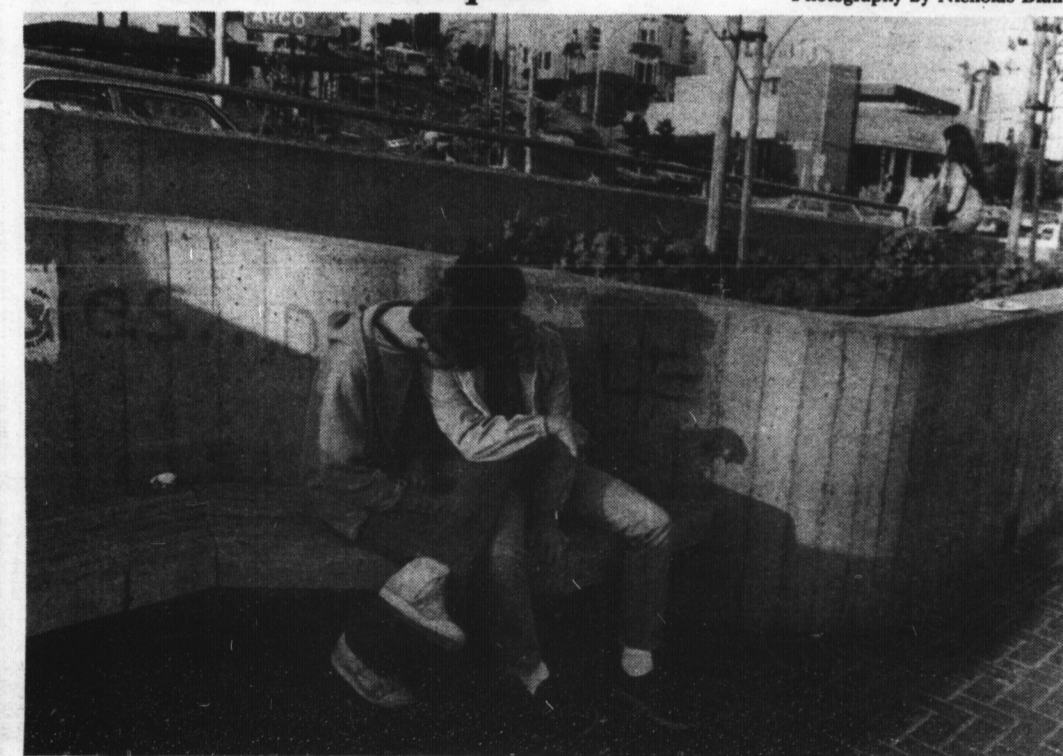
"Two that I know of," Chereau says, "but they hide themselves (in the closet). Sometimes the third time I read a review I think, 'He's Gay, that's why he says that.'"

Chereau uses old jazz recordings sparingly but to great effect in his new film. "I'm afraid to use music in films," he admits. "They'll say I'm doing opera again."

S. Warren

### From Castro to Christopher

Photography by Nicholas Blair



# BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR

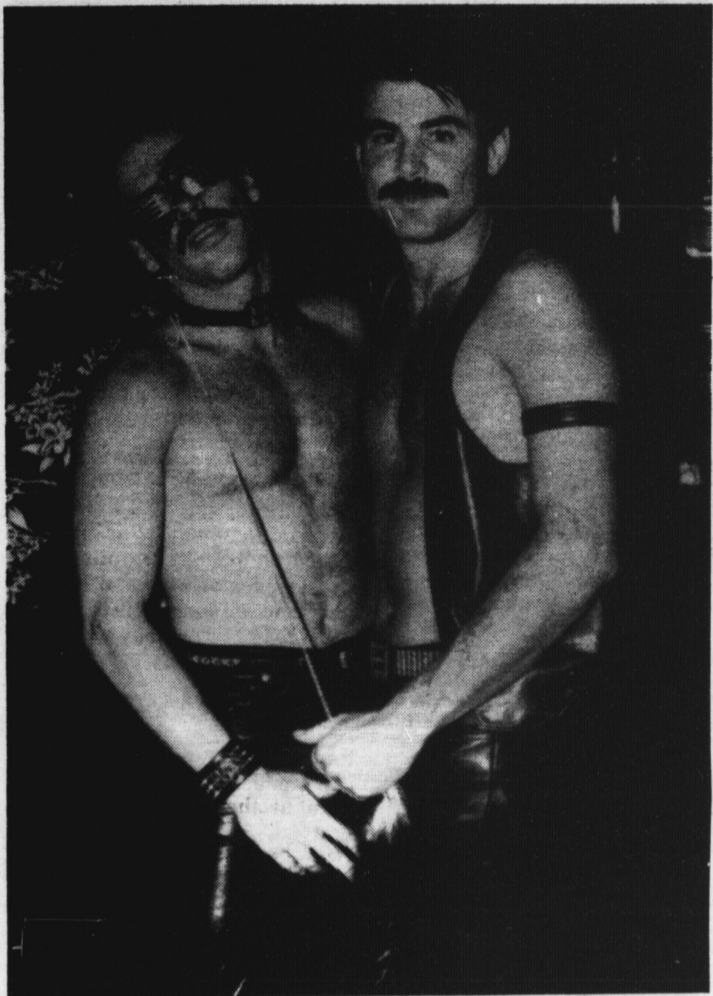
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### MY KNIGHTS IN LEATHER

### Parade of Charade

KARL STEWART



Butch Boys at the Beaux Arts. Feminine drag is being collared at this traditionally femme event with the appearance of these leather drag daddies. (Photo: Rink)

Escorting a lovely lady about town is a pleasure which I've often missed since coming out. Sometimes, though, Halloween affords that opportunity. It was his first time and he was a symphony in a black and silver gown. And those rhinestones, dripping from every appendage — except the nose. Trixie did a super job on the makeup.

First stop Friday night was at our favorite cafes, The Fox, where Leon was blown out of the water when he saw Diedre, and the Castle Grand, where Glenn and Read were floored. Just the day before, we were in to lunch on Glenn's great cooking; now he was toasting my friend to a second "coming out."

The most fun of all was Don Ramon's, where Jay and the girls hosted a fiesta in sequins and leather. Mr. Red and Tom Rogers joined in, too. John Hedu whirled the margaritas out and the crowd got more and more festive. Hedu in his leather Bacchus outfit looked good enough to eat. He's such a cute little enchilada.

We all gathered in the bar area surrounded by Tony's genius floral work and some of the more bizarre So/M characters, including a spaceman with one of the prettiest butts this side of Venus peeking out from under his silver celestial kilt. Now and then he would zap someone with his gamma gun. My heart!!!

The bars So/M jumped with the rhythm of this Gay holiday. Saturday eve Chaps was decked in cobwebs and one huge spider web, complete with mechanical web-spinner; the ghoulish staff matched in gauze and ghostly pallor. Paul, Mr. Daddy of the World, has moved from Castro Station to Chaps and is happy to be So/M.

Larry and Carl of the Arena hosted costume fun Saturday night, too. With Bill manning the mike, we experienced a parade of charade. Robert played the electric clone. Our bartender, Mark, painted a simple beard on his handsome jaw to tease us. After careful consideration, the distinguished judges, Terry and Blair, as well as Bill

and Jeff from The Stables, presented third place to a young man who identified himself only as The Indian and ennobled himself with a butt that defied gravity. Second place was taken by Officer Judy and The Ambush Gang. The first place winner was Mr. Ming, otherwise known as CB. CB dressed in a velvet cape with a peacock head-dress and leathers beneath. He is a native Hawaiian and was accompanied by quite a handsome stud.

The Arena has taken a turn for the festive since Larry and Carl have taken over the "Imperial Palace," with parties and promotions as well as the tradition of fine art (and artlike) exhibitions. Having fun seems to be the business they are in.

\*\*\*

The Eagle was the scene of Rita Rocket's wonderful merry-making. Beginning at 6 AM Sunday morning, the kids put "Bal-ony rules" into effect and headed toward outer space. Paul Varda, Gunner, Kim, and Duffy were all still in ghostly white face from Chaps the night before. David and Jim arrived from the Caldron in Ted Nugent drag, spreading "Joy" about the patio.

Parquet brought her all-night party to the grey skies of So/M. Kitty and GD Prizes Michael and Phoebe Planters all still swing from the stars.

Charles Durham appeared without entourage; The Fifteen spread out all over the So/M last weekend.

For grander glitz, The Eagle and Beaux Arts Ball were by far the places to go. Both took place on Sunday evening.

The Tavern Guild and their appendages have mounted the Beaux Arts for twenty years or so. It is one of the oldest Gay traditions in the city. It was here that in 1964 Jose Sarria was elected by Guild members to the office of Hostess de San Francisco... to become Empress I, after Norton's example, the following year. She was the first of what has become a 52-city court system.

People work all year on costumes and the results are quite amazing. Mr. Dolly and Randy Johnson, of Febe's, MC'd proudly. The event was visited by Senator and Mrs. Marks, which has become an annual runway walk. The best entrants

(Continued on next page)

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Makin' Money, Honey. Smiling faces resulted after a successful AIDS benefit at The Stables. Surrounding Karl Stewart are Sr. Sadie, Sadie, Sr. Clair Voyant; Sr. CPR; Stables' co-owner Rick Needleman; Sr. The Only Bad Publicity Is No Publicity; and (kneeling, of course) Sr. Nocturnal Submission. (Photo: M. Carwagey)

(Continued from previous page)

walk as groups. This year our current Empress, Connie, did "Le Jazz Hot" from Victor/Victoria with great choreography by Sandy Sorell. The chorus hunk wore tails.

The third and best rendition of "Memories" from Cats was offered by GrandDuck Sable, with catty chorus and a cameo by Desiree. The incredible cat makeup was created by Dirk Dykstra (that's the leather daddy who just left the art directorship of a certain macho mag). The third crowned head, Miss Gay World I, Margo Moore, did a new wave number, "Hell is for Children," including a well-played bitch fight onstage. The winners of the Best Group were The Brilliance of Mirrored Celestial Lords in spacey battle.

The Couples laurel was taken handily by Ballet de Castro's sexy Red Lady and her Black Stallion... bringing down the house. The Single Female title was knocked off by Chris Williams bedecked, bepearled, and doing peacock feathers for days. I think Diedre enjoyed this party the best.

The handsome new patio of the Eagle was the next stop, where over 40 costumed fairies were being run through the mill. Fighting a poor sound system and drizzly sky, these people also came up with exotic variations.

The crowded patio was filled with heads gazing upward as the contestants trooped across the rooftop. Judges were Larry and Warren of the Phoenix UC, Mr. S himself, and the dudes from Don Ramon's. Their choice for fourth place was Randy as the Wicked Witch. A tied third spot was decided by audience clatter. Our choice was Scot, who soft-sculpted a muppet-like "Big Hair Man, looking for same." Great stuff!

A \$100 bill went to Ira, dressed in purple feathered cape and headdress with silver jock and mask (of course, pecs forever). The \$150 first prize is at this very moment being donated to the AIDS/KS Foundation by The 7 Guardians of the Celestial Empire. All were wearing silver headdresses of sculpted material representing the 7 elements: Fire, Wind, etc. The head of the group was a charming native of Simbabwe named John Stewart. He organized "just a group of friends" into a weekend long journey to the outer limits of the universe. "We were at the Galleria last night. One of my friends noted that we looked like we just stepped out of the forest," said he. "We decided that we were going to party at the Eagle and created these costumes with that in mind."

At the inside bar we were

to-reel of your music on Monday or Tuesday nights and you, too, can become a disco star. Chuck also told me he's going to hold a logo contest this fall with a prize for the winner. Start drawing!

The Ramrod will celebrate their 16th year in the biz November 11 and 12, Friday and Saturday, with drink specials, prizes, food, and fun. Hank Cheeke is carrying on the tradition which Van Emon began, beautifully.

★ ★ ★

This week I begin alternating weeks with Tom Rogers' Rivets column, but Karl's Calendar will remain a weekly feature to let you know what's going on. Bi-weekly sounds great to me as I hammer this out on Monday afternoon after an exhausting, but fun, weekend. Take a rest, have a quiet fireside dinner, and I'll see ya in the skins.

K. Stewart

## Karl's Calendar

Thursday, 11/3: Charles Busch Alone. Valencia Rose, 8pm, \$6 benefit for AIDS/KS; reservations: 863-3863 (also 11/4 and 11/5).

Friday, 11/4: One Guy Show. Comic Danny Williams. Valencia Rose, 10:30pm, \$4.

Hornitos Party. Don Ramon's, 12-6pm; special drinks \$1.50.

Warlocks Open Meeting. The Stables, 8:30pm.

Saturday, 11/5: Pres. of the Year. Host: Cheaters MC; vote for your favorite. M&M Productions, 10 Rogers Alley, 6:30pm, \$5; drinks \$1.

treated to Dennis, Ron, and Stella in the Eagle Circle all at once. Rare to have the best in one place.

★ ★ ★

The landing place Monday eve, for a long, long, long weekend, was The Fickle Fox with a festive open mike and the Broadway Boomer shaking the rafters. Read never looked lovelier.

## SIX NOBLE LORDS

The Watering Hole celebrated six years on the leather strip last week with a three-dayer. Manager Bryan Todd and owner Bob Merrill announced they will



Birthday Band Blows. The Golden Gate German Band played at Febe's last weekend to help celebrate the birthday of Fobette Walter Siets.

relocate in the classy Victorian storefront of the Globe Hotel, where the old Red Star used to sit. This seems fitting, as some of the same practices which are shared by both seem to perpetuate themselves in the head.

Patrick Cowley's prize proteges, Jo Carol and Lauren, known as JoLo, will release their next 12-incher soon. You remember them from the Megaton Man album and their delicious hits "I Wanna Take You Home" and "Thank God for Music." We're lookin' forward to this one.

The Irish Rover, the pub up the hill (Potrero) has become the Loading Zone and will welcome a visit from you if you're in the neighborhood. Check it out.

Also check out Tim Oros' C'Est Si Bon, in the Phillips Hotel, for Sunday brunch. They also have a complete bar.

November 15 will be your chance to meet the David Awards' bar nominees. These awards will be voted upon by you.

The Troc is the site for this nominee party, including bartender of the year, managers, and barmaids, as well as others. A DJ spin-off will take place for five hours of creative dancing. Admission is \$3 with David card and \$5 without.

Well... if you are an aspiring DJ, Chaps has a deal for you. Bring in a cassette or reel-

The Fabulous Dumonts. Mabuhay Gardens, 9:45pm, \$3; reservations: 861-3796.

Sunday, 11/6: 1st Annual Leather Daddy's Boy Contest. The Eagle Patio; 2:30-6pm, \$10; beer bust (for two well), buffet, door prizes. Benefit SF AIDS Fund; tickets: Chaps, Brig, and Eagle.

Wednesday, 11/9: Art Show. Tom Bell. The Stables, reception 8-11pm.

## Partner Benefits

"The Gay Life" on KSNB, 95 FM, will air a Berkeley city hearing on the use of marriage to determine benefits and liabilities, Sunday, November 6, 6 AM. The Berkeley Human Relations and Welfare Commission scheduled the hearing for October 27 to examine what benefits in the city are linked to marriage, the effect of the linkage on various groups of Berkeley citizens, arguments for and against this linkage, alternatives, and possible changes in city policy.

The hearing will consider couples vs. single, heterosexual couple vs. homosexual couple, and married couple vs. unmarried couple differences. The commission will make subsequent recommendations to the city council.

## KARNAL KNOWLEDGE

### A Little Local Tattle

A news-dispatch from Bay Area Reporter photographer Rink. When Karr's not there to report on the dirt, Rink is there to click it. Here's what he saw of New York "sensation" John Sex, who performs with his snake, Delilah, and guest Leo Ford.

the audience. The entire effect was symbolically erotic and sexual. That's all from Rink.

### ALL THE NEWS... AS SOON AS IT'S OLD

No one ever told me he was in town, and now he's left. Retired porn-star Scott Anderson had been living at Douglass and 18th Street for some time while studying at the S.F. Culinary Acad-



Is Stimulating Stimulating? John Sex (l.) and Leo Ford did not rehearse with Hermes Pan before their show at the 181 Club. Spontaneity is supreme in salaciousness. (Photo: Rink)

emy. Anderson, erotica's answer to Christopher Atkins, only larger and uninhibited, starred in several Wm. Higgins films and reached the pinnacle of his career — in terms of my desire — when he came Face to Face with Jim King. For someone who used to have such an erect profile, he sure remained low-profile while living here. Now he's moved to Stockton, where he's been hired by an "exclusive" restaurant, and where he is maintaining his low profile. Maybe that's because he owes this paper money for unpaid advertising bills.

Moving right along...



Swinger Shot to Stockton. Scott Anderson plans to transfer his ability to sizzle from screen to skillet. (Photo: Rink)



Snake Charmer. John Sex (l.) goes into his snake with dance partner Delilah (r.). (Photo: Rink)

## GIANT 3 UNIT BLOCKBUSTER SHOW!

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Sweet Lips Calls It A "Victorian Restoration." Makeup by Mame, Hair by Jimmy Quinn, Dress by Darcelle, Feathers by Cristal, and Body by Frederick's of Hollywood, but Lillian brought her own purse and shoes.

The next meeting of the Tavern Guild is Tuesday, November 8, at the Giraffe at 1 PM. The following meeting will be at Goggie's on the 22nd. Then there are only two more meetings this year, so do attend these, as lots is accomplished at this time.

Happy 5th Anniversary to Stark and Dolly on November 4... and they said it wouldn't last... and now you even have Trouble.

Dick Rubin (Polo's) called Rome (Rick's Gold Room) an "old bartender" and Rome retaliated by calling Dick a "Tenderloin waitress"... but it was all in fun... wasn't it, Vera? Rumor has it that the Red Eye Saloon has been sold again, this time to Francine of the 222 Club, etc.

Al Carpenter is now at Goggie's five nights a week, Wednesday through Sunday from 6 'til 2, so drop in and say hi. Yes, yours truly is still working the other two nights.

The Arena, South of Market, is becoming a popular bar for parties... their Bare Chest Party was insane, to say the least, with lots of gorgeous hunks participating and also in the audience.

Thank you, Cadillac Chuck, for the fabulous "pumpkins" that you carved of the staff at Goggie's. They caused a lot of comment.

Now that the long Halloween weekend is over, you should start making plans for your Thanksgiving dining. If you contemplate eating in one of our nicer restaurants, you should think about making your reservations early so that you are not disappointed at the last minute.

Have you been to 132 Bush? It's Joe "Trinity Place" Ellis' new club. They have done some extensive redecorating and the place looks just great... so drop in for a drink or lunch some day, or catch their cabaret entertainers, Tuesdays through Thursdays from 6 to 8:30 PM.

## WILLIAMS

(Continued from page 25)

After success both in the workplace and on the homefront with his first lover, Steve Meikle, who designs Williams' publicity material, Williams found that comedy, the protective reflex of his youth, still needed expression. With Marga Gomez and Monica Palacios, he formed the Happy-Go-Lucky's and finally, with the encouragement of Tom Ammianno and Carl Wolf, Williams' current lover, created his solo act.

When Williams attempted to incorporate his experiences as a mental patient and hustler in his act, he encountered problems. He found he couldn't do justice to the material without throwing the rest of his act out of balance, and some of his audience was turned off, despite plenty of comic relief, by the horror of it all.

Williams removed almost all the mental hospital and hustler material from his act and poured it into a one-character play entitled 1970, which premiered at the Valencia Rose on October 12. Directed by Gary Aylesworth, 1970 dramatizes Williams' coming out as well as his subsequent hospitalizations and hustling experiences. Narration, interior monologue, and stylized dialogue propel the drama, applying a sharp satirical scalpel to Williams' college roommate, Doorknob (so-called for the power of his intellect), friends, and their hypocritical values.

B. Spunberg

D. Williams: One Gay Show Valencia Rose November 4, 18, 25; 863-3863

## AIDS Seminar

A seminar entitled "AIDS: Social and Medical Perspectives" will be held November 30, from 1-5 PM at Lassen College, School of Nursing, Susanville, California. This seminar is sponsored by Lassen College and the Sacramento chapter of the AIDS/KS Foundation.

The goal of this seminar is to improve the knowledge about AIDS in the Susanville community by bringing together a multi-disciplinary team to address the relevant medical and psychosocial issues.

The speakers at the seminar will be Sandy Pomerantz, M.D., Co-Medical Director of the AIDS/KS Foundation, Sacramento chapter, and of the UCD CARD Clinic, and Jackson Peyton, Counsellor Coordinator for the Foundation.

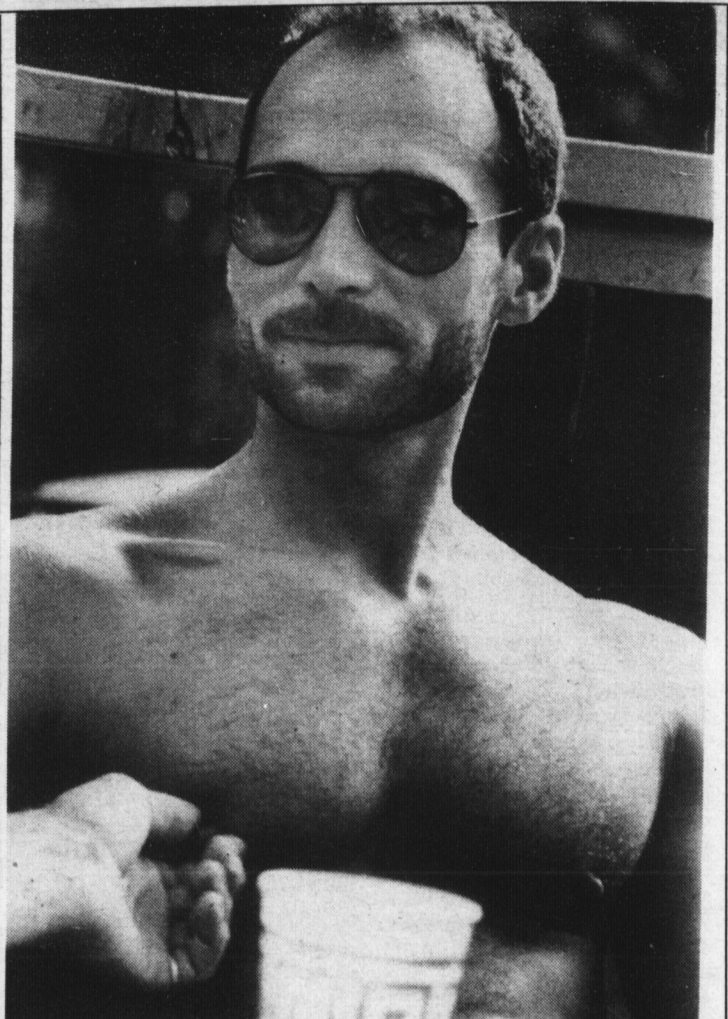
If you are interested in attending, contact Faith Koller, Director of Nursing, Lassen College School of Nursing, (916) 1-257-6181.

## Work On Oakland Ordinance

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club is currently researching and documenting cases of discrimination in housing, employment, and services in the city of Oakland. The club would like to hear from all those who have lost a job or a promotion, have been denied housing, or have been refused services because they were Gay or Lesbian.

The club is also eager to have the help of anyone who would like to donate time, energy, expertise, and/or financial aid in working toward the achievement of a Lesbian/Gay Civil Rights Ordinance in Oakland.

Please contact the Club at 849-3983, 843-2459, or at 2230 Derby St., Berkeley, CA 94705.



Honk If You Wanna Be A Star. Jim Civanich has put out a call for bartenders who want to be in or work on the bartenders' show he's producing. Try the phone to contact him, though — there's no message service on his line. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

## It's Your Health

The Healthy Obelisk presents Eight Pieces of Brocade in its series of talks on illness prevention. Dr. Charles Hall (aka Crazy Owl), a biostatistician turned healer and a practitioner of Chinese medicine, will teach a set of eight exercises developed 500 years ago in China for the aged, seriously ill and those who wished to remain well. Doing these simple energy exercises for 100 days may alter your life, give you enlightenment, good health, or a third set of teeth. The Valencia Rose, 8-10 PM, Friday, November 11. Suggested donation \$3.

## Stonewall Monthly

The next meeting of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club will be on Monday, November 7, 7:30 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street near Valencia. The main discussion will be "Delegates, Demonstrations, and the Democrats: The National Democratic Convention."

## La Riva Salsa

On Sunday, November 6 from 4 to 9 PM, Esta Noche (3079 - 16th Street) invites you to Salsa with the best. Dancing, entertainment and food will be on hand in this benefit for Gloria LaRiva for Mayor. Donation, \$2-5.

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Want to buy rim chair or will pay to have one made. Gregg 824-7068 E44

**JOB** Model Masseur Types All Nationalities Needed apply:  
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**VOLUNTEERS!** Dept. heads, bookkeeper, pickup drivers. 861-4910. Community Thrift Store. E44

**OFFICE MANAGER** Individual with outstanding skills in office management and administrative systems for nonprofit organization. Experience, skills, sense of humor. Full-time: \$15,000 + benefits. Women and People of Color are encouraged to apply. Resume to: Search, AIDS/KS Foundation, 54 Tenth St., San Francisco 94103. E44

**AIDS CLIENT ADVOCATE SUPERVISOR** Direct services to persons with AIDS and some volunteer supervision. Knowledge of evaluative information and social services helpful. Contact: The Pacific Center, 548-8283. E44

**621-JOBS** Gay Employment Service E44

**WANTED** Male Strippers/Dancers for legit show. No sex involved. For info call Junior, 552-9405 E44

**BOOKKEEPER** Full charge, full time position for CPA firm. Call 861-1230 for apt. E44

Wanted: black & white darkroom tech. to develop proof & print black & white pictures. Possibly sales. Part or full time. Call 11 am-5 pm 586-6562. E44

## CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

**OTHER WAYS** Interested in making new friends? Finding a potential lover? Looking for an alternative to the bars and/or baths? Meet other sincere, and responsible gay men through mutual participation in boundless scheduled activities... Drop in Socials, One day and weekend retreats, Seminars, Dinner Parties, Sporting Events, Cocktail Parties, Dances and much, much more. For information contact OTHER WAYS, your Gay Social Alternative. Call 641-5431.

## PEOPLE

Perfect service! Like to meet guys who like to get it and who like to get and give big hugs. John, Castro/Market 863-4479. E47

Computer Dating for Men Who Date Men 644-3865 E47

Wanted by W/M 38 well hung BLK DICK & ASS Tired of bars, hustlers. Call Dan 221-4354 E45

Bad boys spanked free. Write: Occupant, Suite 684, 55 Sutter, San Francisco 94104 E45

GM Ital 30 pro seeks temp marriage w/lesbian. Finance reasons. Mut agreed. John, #138 1827 Haight, SF 94117 E45

**SF EAGLE PIRATE** 10/30 wired pants & eyepatch from Conn. Call 641-5262 E44

Young Guys I desire to meet goodlooking youth, new to gay life okay. No kinky stuff. I'm unusually giving, easy, fun to be with, youthful goodlooking 43, longish hair, shaven face, just come out. SF or Marin. J.M., 12 Wellbrock H., San Rafael, CA 94903 E44

German taught by experienced native teacher, 821-1309 E44

American Sign Language taught by deaf instructor Individual Tutoring Tutoring for 2 or 3 Small Classes for info call 282-5842 E44

Group psychotherapy for gay men meets Weds. 7-8:30pm, exploring issues of intimacy in interpersonal relationships. Sliding scale. Contact G. Dilley, MD, or S. Tucker, MD, 861-2506 E44

Hot j/o buddy w/ince tight ass shoots big, wild man's load, wants young goodlooking white males and hung. Call Dan at 547-1810 after 5:30pm E44

J/O buddy under 5'9". Prefer exercised bodies. 776-9863 E44

**NIPPLE/PEC WORSHIP** given to men with big musc tits by hndsm WM 32. Long sessions. PO Box 33125, SF 94133. Serious titmen only. E44

Quality J/O group meets regularly. If you are under 40 and (2 out of 3) good looking, well built, well hung... write to: 5HJOG, c/o Jeff, 2166 Market St., SF 94114. E44

Psychic Tarot or Runes Reading 775-1299 E44

Wanted: Young Latino, Asian or blonde for houseboy/masseur. Steve 626-1848 E48

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**SEX & RELIGION** Do go together. Phallic worship followed by Ciclio J/O & sex. Wed. Thurs 2PM: Fri. Sat. 8:30PM. St. Prapaus Church, 583 Grove, 431-2188. Jobs needed for homeless clients. St. Prapaus Gay Rescue Mission, emergency shelter, food, counseling. No sex or religion required. 431-2188.

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