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BAY AREA REPORTER

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VOL. XIII NO. 50 DECEMBER 15, 1983

PD Names Suspect in Twin Peaks Slaying

by George Mendenhall

Suspect: Timothy Reader.

White - Male - 23 - 130 pounds - brown hair and eyes. Home base: Nashville, Tennessee. Possible "Southern" accent. Using credit cards of Thomas Laskey, 42, who he allegedly murdered in San Francisco on November 23. Last known whereabouts: Reno, Nevada on November 24. Photo enclosed. Hair has since been cut to a shorter length. A warrant has been issued by the SFPD for murder, robbery, and auto theft. Suspect is sought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution.

This description is similar to information being circulated in Northern California and across the country. Local homicide Inspectors Jeff Brosch and Ed Erdelatz have reason to believe that Timothy Reeder hog-tied and murdered Thomas Laskey in the victim's Twin Peaks apartment on November 23. Police entered the premises on Thanksgiving Day to discover the Napa Mental Hospital psy-chiatrist fully clothed on the floor. He had been strangled to death by bare hands. Foul play had been suspected by Laskey's employers when he had not reported to work.

Police investigators now have unraveled a possible sequence of events: Laskey met Reeder and brought him home. Reeder tied the victim's hands and feet to-

Oakland Goes for

First Round Sails Through 8 to 0

Oakland Gay/Lesbian activists were just a bit sur-

prised Tuesday night when their Gay rights ordinance sailed through the Oakland City Council 8 to 0.

The ordinance, authored by attorney Matt Coles,

that the issue was to be put up for consideration. The

preliminary stage is one that tests the waters and where

Mary Ann Brownstein, speaking for the East Bay Gay Demo Club, said that much of the credit goes to Coun-

cilwoman Marge Gibson. The Oakland group has spent

Brownstein said that the second vote is next week

heavy they are not sure but feel the large Mormon

considerable energy pre-educating the community on the issues. And Gibson felt the time was right.

Tuesday, December 20, and they expect opposition. How

presence in Oakland will come out against the Gay rights

They have asked for Gay men and Lesbians to turn out

next week in force. Tuesday, some 60 to 70 East Bay Gays were in the council chamber. The bill covers dis-

crimination in employment, housing, and all services in the city of Oakland. The Oakland bill closes the loop-holes that have surfaced in the Berkeley and San Fran-

The City Council meets in the City Center (14th Street

& City Council Way), on BART the Broadway/14th Street

For more information contact Joe Acanfora (654-8605) or Tom Brougham (843-2459).

strategists often decide whether it is worth pushing an

issue and losing it in a resounding defeat.



SFPD in Twin Peaks slaying of Napa

gether and strangled him. He took his wallet and his blue 1982 Honda. Driving in a storm, the killer went off the highway into a snowbank near the inland town of Sutter Springs. When he was assisted by Highway Patrol officers, Reeder told them he was "headed for Nevada City" and was sent on his way.

Instead of Nevada City, the driver went to Reno, where he spent a night at the Midtown Lodge — using one of Laskey's credit cards. Reeder was fearful of detection because the Sutter Springs patrolmen had taken his driver's license information and the auto's license plate number. He ditched the car eight blocks from the lodge, where it was later found by police. The stolen auto report led to Reeder's detection. A national police tracer revealed that the suspect was from Nashville, where he had a minor police record. A police photo was obtained.

SEARCH CONTINUES

Inspector Brosch states that he has no idea where Reeder is at this time nor is there any way to determine how much money he has with him. Laskey was somewhat of a recluse in his Gay lifestyle so none of his friends know if there was any excess money on the premises that could have been stolen. The suspect can continue to use the Laskey credit cards but eventually he could be apprehended for using them.

Many Bay Area Reporter readers contacted Inspector Brosch after the murder was reported in our lead story last week. The officer praised Bay Area Reporter for assisting in the inquiry and said the information obtained about Laskey and his lifestyle is assisting in the investigation. Brosch said that little had been known about the victim earlier except that "he kept to himself and would bring people to his apartment that he picked up on the streets, every once in awhile." He said two of Laskey's favorite Gay bars were the Alta Plaza and Pacific Exchange on upper Fillmore St.

The doctor entered psychiatry after his eyesight began to fail a few years ago and he could no longer operate (he was a surgeon). The native of Chicago had graduated from Loyola School of Medicine there in 1966. He moved to San Francisco in the 1970's.

(Continued on page 22)



A Gay Christmas is visible all around San Francis on the window one looks through.

DA Charges Gay Employment Service with Irregularities

No License, Soliciting Funds, Accepting Donations

Ken Kline has been indicted by the District Attorney's office for three misdemeanor counts relating to the operation of his Gay Employment Service.

The operation was charged with operating without the proper license, accepting donations without a police permit, and making claims that they had a permit to accept donations.

The Gay Employment Service has been a controversial business since its opening last spring. Staff have claimed that they were a "service" and not an "employment agency." They collected a donation and then gave information and assistance to people seeking employment. The "business" claimed that a third of the people using their service were finding employment. One of their biggest problems stemmed from the other two thirds who had paid their money and did not find work.

The Bay Area Reporter reported on the activity of the Gay Employment Service earlier this year after receiving a significant number of letters complaining of the business. Readers complained of how the agency performed in working with them to find a job.

District Attorney Arlo Smith has been highly critical of employment businesses who collect a fee in advance of a job. In the past three years he has closed down three employment organizations for violations of state employment agency laws.

For Ken Kline to qualify for the pre-trial diversion program the District Attorney is going to demand that he conform to the laws governing employment agencies in California.

Ken Kline and his attorney Susan Abbott chose not to comment to the Bay Area Reporter regarding the charges.

N HIS SSUE

Where goest the Health Benefits Task Force under Herb Donaldson - George Mendenhall p. 4

he Headache at the Headdress Ball - Allen White . p. 4 Fact Finders find Debbie Reynolds' fundraiser above board -

Christmas in Gayland: The Haight - Dianne Gregory p. 18 The Tenderloin - Ronnettte p. 19

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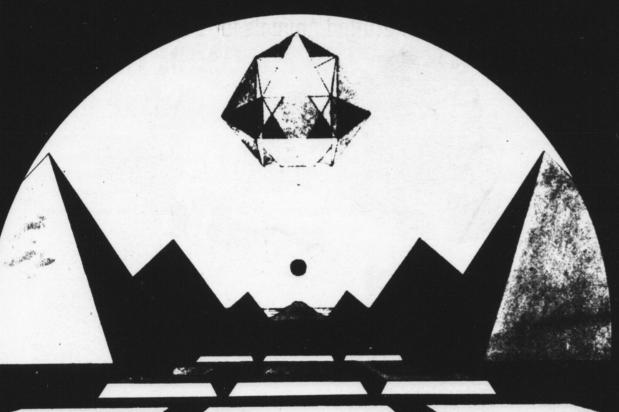
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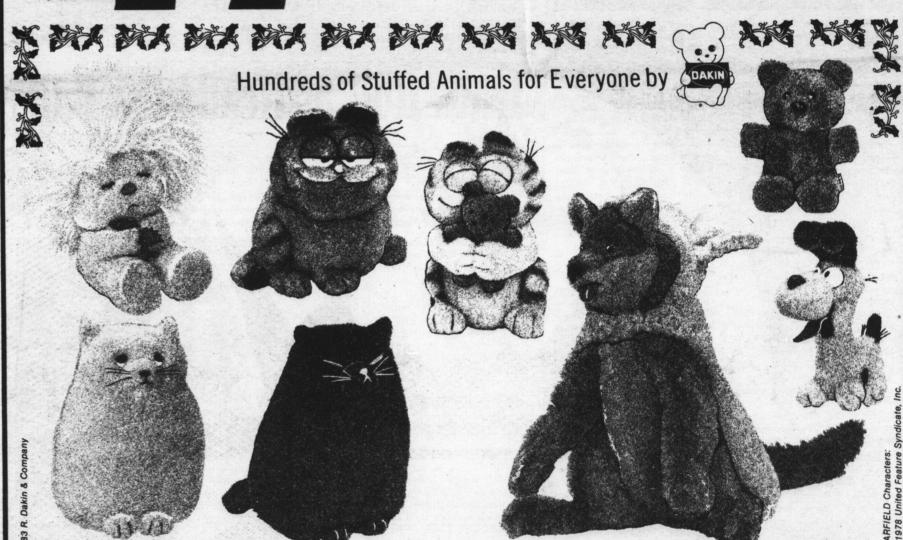
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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 15, 1983 PAGE 3

Health Plan for 'Others' of Single City Workers

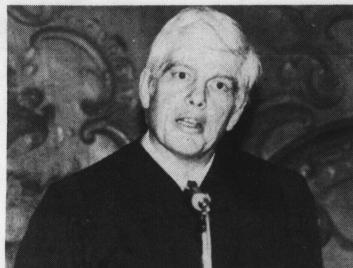
Benefits Task Force Picks Way Through **Political Minefield**

by George Mendenhall

The headlines of last December have faded in memory: LIVE-IN LOVERS VETOED BY MAYOR, GAYS RALLY TO PROTEST AT CITY HALL.

One year later Mayor Feinstein's Task Force on Equal Benefits is beginning to formulate recommendations that it hopes will extend health benefits to same-sex companions of city employees. The mayor says she wants something that is "do-able" which Municipal Judge Herb Donaldson, who chairs the panel, reads to mean "politically feasible.

"Equal Pay for Equal Work" is the theme the task force will probably be stressing when it recommends to the mayor early next year. Donaldson is avoiding talk about "validating our relationships," although he recognizes that might be one of the effects. Although the chair stresses that he is speaking only for himself, he was willing to be interviewed in order to explain where he thinks the 11-member task force is headed:



Muni Judge Herb Donaldson has been heading up the mayor's City Workers' Fringe Benefits Task Force. (Photo: Rink)

REGISTRATION: Supervisor Harry Britt's "domestic partners" proposal had called for a city-wide registration of all same-sex partners at City Hall. Donaldson is talking in terms of a simple administrative act of placing a same-sex partner in the city health plan at the Health Services office — the same as is now done for spouses and children of city employees.

TIME RESTRICTION: A married employee can now register his/her new spouse immediately in the system. Donaldson says most task force members agree that it would be virtually impossible to receive approval of a same-sex partner unless there is a time restriction on the relationship. The chair is proposing a 90-day to 6-month relationship to qualify the partner. He recognizes that this is unequal treatment but essential, as "we have to first get our foot in the door." Donaldson suggests that the time restriction be imposed on a 1-year trial basis.

RELATIVES: Mayor Feinstein emphasized when she vetoed the Britt proposal that there should be an exploration as to how city employees might be able to name any live-in relative

as a participant in the city health system. Donaldson believes 'she may have said that for political purpose, to neutralize the stigma of her vetoing the 'domestic partners' legislation. Task force members unanimously agree that relatives could not be included because older and ill people who would enter would deplete the assets of the system and make the rates prohibitive. That is a reality Donaldson says he doe's not like but

DEPLETING RESOURCES

The city charter establishes the Health Services System Board as the sole authority on whether new people may enter the system or not. The mayor and Board of Supervisors may only recommend to the indepen dent body. It is charged with keeping the city employee health plan fiscally healthy - a nearly impossible task with rising medical costs. The charter limits how much the city is obligated

The city pays for either all or almost-all of the employee's care, depending on which of five plans is chosen. Spouses and children pay the full amount.

Mayor's Task Force on **Equal Benefits**

Herb Donaldson, S.F. Municipal Judge* Lou Giraudo, President, Board of Permit Appeals Naomi Gray, Consultant, Naomi Gray Associates Walter Johnson, President, Health Services System Board Robert Katz, Actuary, Health Services System Board Phyllis Lyon, Chair, Human Rights Commission Juan Rael, Actuary, Health Services System Alexis Reakin, Consultant, United Public Employees Union Connie O'Connor, Captain, Sheriff's Department Sal Rosselli, Business Manager, Janitor's Local 9 Robert Zimmerman, Policy Manager, Kaiser Hospital

Staff: Peter Nardoza, Office of the Mayor * Task Force Chair

member adds, "This whole concept is an awesome idea that many believe is impossible There is no question that adding additional people will mean more money will be needed to operate the system." However, Zimmerman is optimistic that something can be worked out. The key, he believes, is that the recommendations will include a realistic limitation on who can

GAY MEMBERS RESPOND

Mayor Feinstein appointed two Lesbians and three Gay men to the task force in May. They have attended almost every meeting and are determined that the recommendations to the mayor be realistic both in not bankrupting the health system and in what is politically possible. This means satisfying the mayor, whose recommendation to the Health Board will have considerable weight, and the Health Board members, who must keep the system fiscally

Peter Nardoza, the mayor's aide, says he is optimistic that the problem can be solved . . . Phyllis Lyon, Chair of the Human Rights Commission, says it would be ideal if the city charter were changed so the city would be paying more into the system Connie O'Connor, past president of the Toklas Democrats, wonders if the insurance people will ever find it to be workable. She says, "They are not open-minded about this." Sal Rosselli, Theatre Janitors Union business agent, urges, "We are not trying to legalize relationships. We believe that it is not equal pay if we cannot include our partner.'

Robert Zimmerman, an actu-POLLING EMPLOYEES ary specialist with Kaiser Plan, Donaldson believes that the agrees with Johnson. The panel

fear of adding same-sex partners is not based on fact. He is convinced that few people will opt to include such partners. Currently there are 38,000 people in the system - almost every city employee and retiree.

Pollster Mervyn Field has polled a cross-section of 2,000 to determine whom employees might like to include — relatives or same-sex partners. The ques-tions related to sexual orientation, marital status, and the age, sex, and relationship of possible new participants.

The chair says the survey results, which will be revealed at today's task force meeting, will have an effect on the final delib-

BRITT'S MEASURE

Donaldson believes that the public concluded that the original "domestic partners" proposal was validating Gay relationships. He concludes that he may, in effect, partly do that but wonders if Gay people really feel they need their relationships validated at City Hall. "I don't need Society," he says, "to vali-date any relationship that I

The task force chair is hopeful that the controversy over the earlier Britt measure will be avoided when his panel recommends to the mayor. He believes that last December "we were ahead of the nation - and learned that we were also ahead

When the mayor's group recommends, hopefully by February its members are optimistic that their months of deliberation will not have been in vain - that they will have a plan that is both fiscally and politically feasible.

Heads Roll at Headdress Ball

harter limit.

Mama Peck got more than she bargained for last Saturday night at the Headdress Ball at

Before the night was over, Chronicle columnist Warren Hinkle saw a man arrested at his table or a stabbing, another removed in handcuffs, a third drag queen have a person arrested. And when it was all over Mama Peck's husband was in the sixth floor jail at the Hall of Justice.

It all started Saturday night as the annual Headdress Ball was presented at California Hall. This event was possibly the last public paid event at the legendary Polk Street auditorium. For years it has been the site of numerous Gay events. In the next few weeks, new owners will take over and reports indicate the auditorium will be turned into office space.

For example, the city pays for all

of the Kaiser Plan for an em-

ployee, but if a spouse is added

the payment is \$56 monthly or

\$107 monthly if children are

The inclusion of spouses and

children has caused a drain on

the city's trust fund to provide

continuing service. That is why

Health Board members are fear-

ful of adding a new classifica-

tion. Board chair Walter John-

son, who sits on the task force,

says, "What we are talking

about is an area that has never

been explored before. Rates

could go up considerably and

the city will not give us more to

operate with because of the city

Midway through the evening the Empress Ginger took center stage. Ginger stopped the festivities and had everybody give a champagne toast to the old

Shortly after the toast, the action began. Out of nowhere a hysterical person started yelling as a butch number tried to secure him with a pair of handcuffs. Turned out the butch number was an undercover cop who wanted the man out of the building. The duo departed with another person, both of whom were removed from the table of Chronicle writer Warren Hinkle and political strategist Jack Davis. Hinkle, who thrives on the color of the city, perked up

as the tempo quickened. Out on the street the action continued as one Lady Natasha hit the streets screaming, "That man stabbed my roommate." Within seconds Mama Peck was also out on the street yelling, "They're arresting my hus-

The police, somewhat embarrassed by the turn of events, explained that the man was being



Giving Head for Daze. More astounding costumes at the Headdress Ball (l. to r.) Big D. Baroness von Dieckoff, and Gladys Bumps. For sure.

rant and also for stabbing a person. Mama Peck, a rather large, elderly drag queen, was in disbelief at the charges.

It seems the man got to Lady Natasha's apartment by invitation and chose not to get involved with the residents. It might be called "homosexual panic defense" if not for the apparent circumstances that Lady Natasha and friends were trying to "rape" the man. In fact, a stabbing did take place, and the person is still recovering from his very serious wounds.

Mama Peck's protesting the arrest with the claim that she once owned the Headdress Ball proved of no effect. As the cops took the man away, Warren

arrested for an outstanding war- Hinkle and party departed the affair with Hinkle giving a sly

Meanwhile, back in the audi-

torium the Widow Norton, Jose, was slapping his matronly thighs in uncontrollable laughter. With a few slams at the character of Mama Peck, Jose was delighted to see the plight of his former adversary. According to Jose, about a decade ago Mama Peck tried to grab the title of Queen Mother away from Jose. In the land of Imperial Court, this was like trying to steal God. Mama Peck didn't quite come out on top, and Jose won't let him for-

Across the hall, a waiter named Christopher was having (Continued on page 6)

Arizona Solon Puts Foot in Mouth on Gay Slur

State's Top Paper Blasts Indiscretion

The Arizona Republic, the largest newspaper in the state of Arizona slammed down on a prominent elected official last week for saying, "Why don't they bring in the homosexuals and lesbians from San Francisco and let's experiment on them." The unsuccessful attempt at sarcasm was made by Maricopa County Supervisor Hawley Atkinson while discussing a ban on selling dogs for research.

the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors which encompasses Phoenix. Following his remarks last week calls came in for his resignation. The most powerful attack came from the Arizona Republic. The paper asked how Atkinson, as the highest elected official in one of the largest counties in the nation, viewed others in his political realm. The paper asked how he felt of Jews, offering that they could tel Atkinson something of experiments on humans - such as flesh being used for lampshades They then itemized Blacks, Vietnamese and Hispanics as others whom Atkinson also might view as subhuman.

The editorial concluded by saying, "Surely, when an elected official assumes the characteristics of a buffoon and, worse, cannot distinguish between intelligent humor and loathsome wisecracking, then he has shamed his office and embarrassed the public he serves."

Finally the Republic editorialized, "If Supervisor Atkinson has a shred of honor, he will turn the county's leadership over to someone the public can take seriously, and, more important, can respect.

Kirk Baxter, head of the Arizona Lesbian and Gay Task Force told the Bay Area Reporter that through the strength of Gay political power they hoped to run Atkinson out of office next year. Originally, there were hopes of getting the supervisor recalled. That plan was shelved when it was realized that it would take over seven months to mount and carry out a campaign.

Also discarded was a plan to pressure Atkinson to resign as chairman of the board of supervisors. In Phoenix the board rotates the top office between themselves on an annual basis. In less than a month Atkinson's term will expire.

Baxter said that Gays in the county are going to work to mobilize a campaign to find a candidate that will win next November. Atkinson, 67, represents the conservative retirement community of Sun City. Their state representative Republican Jim Ratliff, caused a furor in 1981 when he suggested that abortion be banned except in cases where a white women was raped by "a colored fellow.

Last Saturday, Hawley Atkinson issued an apology to the press and was hoping the entire matter might just go away. He told the Bay Area Reporter that until last week he didn't know there was a homosexual community in Phoenix and didn't know the meaning of the word "homophobic."

In his letter of apology he said his remarks had escalated into an international incident. When questioned why it might have reached international propor-tions he said, "Sonny, I knew it was international when a radio station in Adelaide, Australia called me to appear on a talk radio show.

Now that the man has felt the political clout of Gays in

Atkinson is the chairman of Phoenix, he said he wants to work with the Gay community. He said he wants to not only meet with members of the community but said he will fight to right any wrong the county had



Arizona's new boner winner,

Art Hegyi, a book store owner Maricopa County is taking the supervisor up on his offer of cooperation and is going to ask him to introduce legislation to ban employment discrimination against Gays. Hegyi said the remarks by the supervisor hit the Gay community hard. For Art Hegyi, the impact was very personal because three of his good friends have died in Phoenix of AIDS in the last few weeks. Hegyi found the official's comments about "experimentation" repulsive.

Use SF homosexuals and lesbians rather than animals for experiments - says Arizona Supervisor.

Gay activist Kirk Baxter said they have gotten support from the Grev Panthers, the National Organization of Women and others in their attempt to remove Atkinson from office. He believes there are over 100,000 Gay people in the county which has a total population of over a million and a half persons.

Rev. Fred Patterson, Pastor of the Casa De Cristo Metropolitan Community Church said that the reaction to Atkinson's homophobic remarks are an indication of the trends in Phoenix. A few weeks ago Jerry Falwell came to Phoenix, and he was greeted by "Hello, Jerry' flyers prepared by the MCC church. A sign of the times is the Gay church draws a larger turnout each week than the 300 people Jerry Falwell was able to attract at his Phoenix meeting.

In a strange twist of events, Kirk Baxter said that an apology would not be enough.
"When Mr. Atkinson invites us to his home for dinner," Baxter said, "that will be enough."

Atkinson, when told of Baxter's comments said, "How many of them? I think it would be more kindly if they would invite me to their house for

Asked if he would go, he replied, "No."

Fact Finders Clear AIDS/KS **Fundraiser**

Call Charges Baseless and Sensational

In an attempt to resolve the lone, yet persistent complaints of a local journalist, the National AIDS Foundation set up an investigative committee. In October, the officially labeled "Task Force to Review the Davies Hall (Debbie Reynolds) Event" began its work.

The fact-finding commission was made up by Richard Keller, Franklin Jacobson, Harry Acevedo, and Thomas Horn. (Keller is a personnel director; Jacobson and Horn are attorneys, and Acevedo is one of the owners of Sutter's Mill.) On December 1 the group reported in.

tee, to participate with it, and to

honor his commitment made at

the first meeting. Mr. Schweik-

hart declined to do so and

The fact-finders requested

that Schweikhart, who had at-

tacked the event and its pro-

ducers in issue after issue of the

bi-weekly, "meet with them and

make specific his criticisms of

the event." Mr. Schweikhart,

however, declined the invitation

and refused to either comment

on or criticize the event and its

production. Reportedly he told

the committee he would take

care of them in his newspaper.

The fact-finders also reviewed

the Davies Hall gala to discover

strengths and weaknesses. The

June 23 event netted \$43,000,

the largest single night's take in

Also part of the Task Force's charge was to develop a framework for future use by the AIDS/KS Foundation. The fact-finders put in 118 hours, went through over 100 pages of documents, and privately interviewed the June fundraiser's producer, co-chairs, accountants, and Phil Conway, Executive Director of the Foundation. The critical journalist, Sentinel editor Gary Schweikhart, originally agreed to serve on the task force, then reneged. The report noted, "He declined to participate in any capacity.

December 1, the fact-finders presented their six-page report to the National Foundation. Executive Director Conway released it to the press Decem-

The committee found the criticisms of the Sentinel writer groundless. They went issue by issue from undocumented bills to use of non-Gay businesses. On charge after charge they concluded "not true." On the criticism of the use of complimentary tickets as lost income, they labeled it a "preposterous notion with no basis in fact."

The committee's dealings with Schweikhart deteriorated

San Francisco Gay history. The rapidly. At first he agreed to serve. After the first meeting the committee felt more money report stated "Schweikhart incould and should have been netted. The event was put on with formed the Committee that, as 21 days preparation. More time an investigative reporter comwas recommended, along with more publicity and lower ticket mitted to covering the Foundation and its activities, he would not serve objectively and would not make any recommendations or constructive criticism to the Board. Mr. Schweikhart was asked to remain on the Commit-

The committee called for an experienced press coordinator for future similar events. Also, they urged the securing of "professionals who have had prior experience for events of this nature and someone who can devote the necessary time and energy it takes to get the job

Of the \$43,000 raised. \$10,000 went to the national lobbying effort for AIDS/KS in Washington, DC; \$10,000 went for patient care and medical research; \$15,000 went to the AIDS/KS Foundation and its program at 54 Tenth Street, and \$3,500 was targeted for the refurbishing of the AIDS waiting room at SF General Hospital.

One result of the fracas is that organized AIDS/KS fundraising in San Francisco has for all purposes stopped. The local and national foundations are surviving on government grants and private contributions.

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US Court of Appeals: Gays Unacceptable for Military

Civilians Can't Overrule Military Code

A three-person U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled last week that it had little legal right as a civilian court to restrict personnel injustices in the military. The decision, carried to its logical conclusion, means that the U.S. military is to be viewed as an uncontrollable, independent body — not subject to civilian review. The analysis was in the rejection of career soldier Perry Watkins' attempt to re-enlist after 16 years as an openly Gay person.

"Simply put, military and civilian life are regulated by two separate systems of justice," the court said, "to some extent parallel but nevertheless distinct.

"The encroachment of civilian court power into military life must necessarily be limited, for judges are not given the task of running the Army.'

The justices said they could judge military regulations if they were "repugnant" (inconsistent or hostile) to the U.S. Constitution or statutory law, but otherwise they insisted the courts have no power to intercede in military matters.

ANTI-GAY PREJUDICE

The decision rejecting Sgt. Watkins' attempt to re-enlist in Seattle in 1981 was unanimous but so blatantly far flung that one of the justices, William Norris, signed a separate opinion that chided the Army for its inhumanity. He wrote, "Our nation has lost a fine soldier and he has suffered a manifest injustice. To me the Army's current bias against homosexuals is no less repugnant to fundamental constitutional principles than was its long-standing prejudice against prejudice against minority servicemen."

Ironically, Watkins told the Army he was Gay when he enlisted 16 years ago and has repeatedly stated that he is Gay when his right to remain in the military has been challenged. However, when he expressed a desire to re-enlist again in 1981, the Army said, "No." He won an appeal in 1982 when U.S. District Court Judge Barbara Rothstein ruled that since the Army knew he was Gay all the way along it had no justification to reject his 1981 re-enlistment. She urged that Watkins had an exemplary Army life and was repeatedly praised by his superisors during the hearing.

Watkins' performance record was a factor before 1981. The military had several important reversals in its attempt to oust Gay people up until that year. Before 1982 it was "discretionary" whether a Gay person would be kept in or discharged. In late 1981 a new regulation was put into effect. It no longer required that the military prove that there is a nexus (relationship) between job performance and homosexuality. The new rule rejects everyone discovered to be homosexual - with no

This reporter attended the September 12, 1983, appeal hearing here in the ornate appeals courtroom at 7th and Mission Streets. The justices' questions were primarily directed to the government attorney and were highly critical in nature. "Didn't Watkins have reason to believe that being openly Gay was acceptable after 16 years in the Army?" "Isn't it a constitutional right to re-enlist?" "Does the Army also investigate and discharge for illegal heterosexual acts?" The government attorney was clearly on the defense. Following the hearings Watkins, his attorney — James Lobenz of the American Civil Liberties Union and this reporter surmised that there was a possible victory. Three months later the three justices surprised and ruled for

"They want to destroy my career because I am homosexual," Watkins told the Bay Area Reporter. "There was a case on our base where a man had incest with his 12-year-old son, and the Army said it was not its concern because it was a private matter. There was another incident of incest where a soldier fondled the genitals of his 16-year-old daughter. He admitted it and was reduced one rank . . . The

issue is homosexuality itself.' The San Francisco Chronicle editorialized on December 13, "Those many years of impeccable service have established a strong presumption of the sergeant's right to his job. There is a great deal of sympathy for Watkins — a good soldier who deserves to serve his brief time left until retirement.

tie tuxedo.



ning rebuke from US Court of

The ACLU's Lobenz states that he will ask for a rehearing of the Watkins case and will con sider asking the U.S. Supreme Court to review the entire case.

Gay activists have been alerted by a recent report from Washington, DC, that the Air Force is investigating homosexuality in its ranks in the Pentagon and Washington, DC, area bases. Over 50 men have been singled out for investigations. There are also new Air Force investigations underway in the Seattle area.

The recent military trial of Navy Commander Gerald Vanderwier of Norfolk, Virginia, is also of concern. He was found guilty of sodomy with an enlisted man. He had 19 spotless years of military service. Vanderwier is married and has four children. His career has been

Thus far this year the Navy has discharged 12 officers and 1,155 enlisted personnel on. homosexual charges.

In stating the aim of the

Headdress Ball Headaches

(Continued from page 4)

his own problems. Seems he returned with a drink order for half a dozen people. They were leaving, without paying for their drinks. The reason, they said undercover cops were arresting them for snorting cocaine at their table. Christopher wasn't unhappy about not getting a hit but was miffed that the partygoers didn't even bother to leave

As Saturday night came to an end at the Headdress Ball, the Lady Natasha grandly marched down the ramp and received \$500 in cash as the first prize winner for the night.

Monday morning the man arrested for the stabbing was ar-raigned before a Municipal Court judge at the Hall of Justice. Still wearing his outfit from Saturday night, he was impres-

Headdress Ball, Empress Ginger said, "Our aim is to offer a fun entertainment, and an exsive as he stood before the judge at midmorning in his full blackciting event at reasonable cost.' Ginger came through.



Life Around Town columnist Warren Hinkle and political maker Jack Davis watched more than heads at the Headdress Ball. (Photo: Rink)

DC Archbishop Exiles **Pro-Gay Priest**

Washington, DC, Roman Catholic Archbishop James Hickey has banished Father Robert Nugent from his archdiocese. It was the culmination of a six-year battle to remove Nugent from the head of New Ways Ministry, Inc. in Mount Rainier, Maryland.

Church, we call upon concerned

organizations and individuals to

continue and to increase their

moral, spiritual, and financial

support of this vitally important

ministry. We especially urge

religious congregations, peace

and justice groups, parish and

diocesan organizations, as well

as national Catholic groups and

tion of the Catholic Church

Hickey, according to DC's Washington Blade, has been a consistent critic of Nugent, calling his work "a scandal" and 'ambiguous and unclear with regard to the morality of homosexual activity.'

In early November Hickey sent a letter to the priest's superiors in the Salvatorian order (known otherwise as the Society of the Divine Savior). His superiors sent him out of Hickey's territory and last week his provincial told him not to return. According to Philadelphia's Gay News, the archbishop threatened to raise the matter in Rome if his request

Father Nugent ran New Ways along with Sister Jeannine Gramick, a member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. New Ways is an outreach program concerned with education reconciliation, and justice.

It lists the following statement of purpose: "New Ways Ministry seeks to promote under-standing and theological dialogue, reflective of honest human experience. As a means of accomplishing this, we feel that intellectual responsibility demands the presentation of a broad spectrum of sociological, psychological, historical, and theological data as it pertains to the issue of homosexuality, in order to convey a realistic picture of the topic in question.'

The New Ways Board of Directors was incensed by the archbishop's banishment of their founder. Mostly professional laypeople, they immediately put out a press release protesting the decision. They said they would not give up. The Board let the archbishop know that New Ways is a legal entity, as a civilly incorporated body in the state of Maryland as a nonprofit, charitable, educational organization.

The Board protested, ". with pride and deep conviction we, the Board of New Ways Ministry, pledge to continue to expand the work of New Ways Ministry." In addition to the usual workshops, retreats, research, publications, and the Catholic Coalition for Gay Civil Rights project, New Ways Ministry has just received a grant to undertake a new project con-cerning members of religious communities and sexual orien-

The Board continued, "In union with others who are experiencing the wave of increased repressive tendencies in the

AIDS Hotline Expands

The San Francisco AIDS/KS Foundation has expanded its hotline program to include weekend and evening coverage. Callers can receive up-to-date information Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 9 PM; Fridays from 9 AM to 6 PM; and Saturdays from 11 AM to 5 PM. The hotline number is (415) 863-AIDS in San Francsco. In Northern California outside of San Francisco the number is (800) FOR-AIDS.

Volunteers, says Lyn Paleo, are still needed to help staff the hotline. Hotline volunteers pro-vide callers with medical referrals and information about AIDS and risk reduction advice.

Maud's Party for Norman

by Konstantin Berlandt

Maud's and Amelia's owner Rikki Streicher gave an unqualified endorsement of the Pat Norman campaign for city Supervisor at a mostly Lesbian send-off from Maud's last Wednesday, December 7.

Before the crowd of some 75 women and a smattering of Gay men, Streicher recalled the night 12 years ago when now intended candidate Norman first walked into the bar. "She listened a lot, said very little, and what she said she meant. If we don't all get behind her, we have to be sort of dumb.

"Not only does she do things, was totally corrupt." but she gets things done, Streicher continued. "This city needs someone who says what they mean and does what they say they will." Streicher added. 'And she has a helluva a good chance" of winning a seat on the Board next November.

Lesbian/Gay Health Services others who have firsthand Coordinator Norman then stepknowledge and experience of our ped up to the microphone and work to join us in our efforts on also recalled the day she'd gotbehalf of justice and Spirit-filled ten off a Greyhound bus from renewal within the Church.' Pennsylvania and stepped into New Ways has been national-Maud's "and got loaded. I was ly recognized as a prophetic catscared I'd get beat up because I alvst through its efforts to bring was looking at all these wonderthe sensitive and complex issue ful women. homosexuality to the atten-Norman also remembered

having been through the peace, community at all levels. women's and Gay movements Nugent's superiors would not and been "totally against any say where the priest would be kind of electoral politics, parreassigned. ticularly because I thought it

Acknowledging she has

Norman also criticized those who have advised her to wait for a tap from "a system that is supposedly unbeatable." She chalenged the audience to "Make our own choice.

grown since then, she says she

now feels, "The only way to change the corruption is to be a

part of that system so the cor-

ruption can't continue.

Streicher then summed up before the juke box came back on, "Wouldn't it be neat to have one woman there just once in our goddamn lives?" Streicher has run one or more Lesbian bars here for two decades.



Supervisor candidate Pat Norman was out fundraising at Maud's this week She's joined here by her supporters. (Photo: Rink)

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VOL. XIII NO. 50 DECEMBER 15, 1983

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IEWPOINT

ETTERS

Spirits Without Season

At this time of year the Christian churchies are at their best, yet no one pays greater court to the birth of Christ than the Roman Catholic Church. Nothing in the liturgy surpasses Midnight Mass Christmas Eve. So too, everything is about love, and generosity, and forgiveness - and the spirit of the

Hardly the time to target the power and the glory. Still, settling scores has no season, particularly when the challenge has been issued by the power. On December 2 the Vatican issued new guidelines on sex and sex theology for the 1980's. On second look most observers noted that the guidelines were nothing more than a stern restatement of traditional Roman

What anyone else would call a "Sex Guide," the Vatican in its euphemistic flair titled their 36-page "declaration," Educational Guidance in Human Love.

Throughout the document marriage is portrayed as "designed for procreation" but that it also served the purpose of "the realization of the couple." As it has always meant, that "realization" is attained through having every baby the womb will bear. More Catholic babies mean more power. More Catholic babies mean more souls to be saved. Starvation is another matter but as long as they get baptized celestial glory is theirs without asking for it.

Homosexuality was described as "a disorder" and "a social maladaption." Although priests were urged to treat homosexuals with understanding, they were warned not to "accord them a moral justification.

In traditional RC lingo a homosexual act was a mortal sin. The penalty for a mortal sin was condemnation to the everlasting fires of hell. It also meant that the church itself could exercise corporal punishment on the accused sinner. In the 13th century you might be burned at the stake; in the 20th century you might be driven away from the church and publicly declared a condemned sinner

The Vatican guide does make a concession for the last quarter of the 20th century. Punishment is no longer one of the tools to be used on transgressors. A child is no longer to be punished if caught masturbating (or if he confesses to it) but the priest is urged to investigate the underlying cause and wean the child away from the maladaptive practice. Aversion therapists are probably licking their chops over this one.

In our cases, homosexuality is denounced morally and decried as a "grave disorder." Don't punish us but offer help "welcoming with understanding, creating a climate of hope, encouraging the emancipation of the individual and his or her growth in self-control." Verbiage aside, this means all will be okay when we stop doing it and stop being it.

Gay people will be welcome to come into the churches and use the facilities as long as they come as people and leave the Gayness in the gutter. That means don't come in with your lover, don't feel attracted to the man in the next pew, don't ask for the parish hall for a bingo game for an AIDS/KS fundraiser.

And what can we expect from Archbishop Quinn and his clergy? Understanding (which means being tolerated). Never Validation - or even acceptance as equals.

Make no mistake about it - for the Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education has even figured out the causes of homosexuality - "lack of affection, immaturity, obsessive impulses, seduction, social isolation, and other types of frustration, depravation in dress, license in shows and publications.

For Gay men and women - our family - like that outcast family some 2,000 years ago . . . there is no room at the inn. The exile is ours; the loss is theirs.

Paul Lorch

'Defensor Fidei'

* I found your responses to Fr. Tony McGuire, Pastor of Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church and Randy Schell of CUAV to be disturbing in that they (your responses) were overly reactive and intensely expressed.

I have been a long-time reader of B.A.R. and it seems that when someone disagrees with you, par-ticularly in certain matters regarding the Catholic Church, you seem to become extremely irrational and

It does not seem to phase you that Father McGuire's decision not to advertise in B.A.R. is an adult choice he had the right to make. Your response was purely

k Again, your comments to Randy Schell were more of the same old, tired, highly emotional, childish garbage you spew forth when someone shares a differen

When are you going to grow up?

Louis J. Dunn, III San Francisco

Righteous: "Religion is the Way"

* In the recent issue of the Bay Area Reporter you headline, "5th Milk March, Perhaps the Last." How sad that all the cries of equal rights take on a "discrimination" theme when those EQUAL RIGHTS do not turn out to the "gay" advantage! If Moscone alone had been the victim, would there be angry marches on the anniversary of the killing?

Dan White did beat the more serious charge that he might have gotten had not one of his victims been homosexual, but who is to blame? The prosecutor had as many picks in selecting the jury as did the defense. White cannot be blamed for their verdict. If you are offended by the sentence march against the twelve

Why march at all? The memorial service at the Grace Cathedral was more appropriate, though less attention getting. From the photo on page 19 it didn't seem like too packed a crowd of mourners. With all the empty room the fellow on the right (both arms spread atop the pew) seems to be holding open a seat for some who didn't show. What a farce of the real meaning of

I think Paul Lorch owes an apology for his comment on Catholic priests in answer to Randy Schell's letter in the same issue. To say you, as a practicing homosex-ual, never met a Roman Catholic priest that you didn't dislike because they were either on the make, on the take, alcoholic or malevolent may have been for that very reason . . . you were a practicing homosexual. Hidden guilt has strange ways of revealing itself. Or maybe you went to Dignity masses. There are many Catholic "gays" who will tell you about many Catholic priests who do not fit in any category of those you mention. You know this, but for some reason you ridicule them one and all. Maybe "Rev." Troy Perry and his misinterpretation of God's Word suits you better? Which would bring up the question of the inability of "gays" to change. Wasn't Perry (legally) married and a father before he "came out"? There's a change for

I suggest any homosexual try a church that teaches Christ's TRUTH and see if He can deliver you from the sick and perverted segment of homosexual living that has Him hitting you with AIDS, discontent unacceptance. I am sorry to tell "Rev." Perry that he is not only selling his own salvation short, but leading a lot of others with him. My witness is that if Christ could lift me from the pit of homosexual living, which He did, He can lift anyone willing to listen to Him and not as Perry reads His Words.

Those who are happy living a short "gay" life will never understand my point. Thank God there are as many (possibly more) former active "gays" forming groups to counteract these "churches of misinterpret tion." I'll tell you one thing, you aint't gonna beat God!

He didn't make you "gay," but He made you.

Let Milk rest in peace. Screaming about White's release isn't going to matter to him one way or the other now. When I receive letters from homosexuals asking how I got off the merry-go-round, I tell them through Christ. Maybe I should march my pride. I just may

Los Angeles

ED. NOTE: Thank you. Your testament is so revealing. I can appreciate why you can't keep it

On United Way Use and Abuse

* Tom basset wrote in the November issue of the Toklas tabloid about the United Way of the Bay Area's support . . . or lack of it . . . for Gay/Lesbian service organizations. The club's viewpoint is summed up in the article's headline, "Gays Don't Count With United

As expected, the club's leadership invited United Way's Executive Director to discuss the issue with them. He did and the exchange was spirited. The Toklas folks are taking the lead in holding United Way accountable for a stream of funds that appears not to be "working for all of us."

It is only fair for us in the community to request accountability of our own people who work within the United Way structure in volunteer leadership positions. Roberta Actenberg, Arthur Lazere and Carol Migden are among the better known self-identified Gays/Lesbians who occupy positions within the United Way structure. Their role is to inform and educate United Way about our concerns, and to influence United Way's resource allocation decisions somewhat in our favor. Perhaps only time will tell how effective this initial effor

If we continue to politicize the community's relation ship with United Way, we run the risk of a double loss. The first loss could be future funding. Our agencies, like many others, are finding it more difficult to compete for already scarce monies. We have fielded some of our best organizations. United Way has accepted two or three while rejecting the bulk of them. For whatever reasons, real or imagined, we have not met their criteria, and rather than correcting the situation. we choose to confront the funding source. By comparison, we have less of a case to make for this approach than the Blacks, Hispanics or Asian refugees

We need to meet and confer with United Way's Executive Director as planned. We are doing so, I believe, in a climate that is creative, positive and constructive for both parties.

> **Bob Smith** San Francisco

We're Not the Tappers

* Publicity for the upcoming New Year's Eve celebration at the Galleria Design Center includes an announcement that the "S.F. Tappers" will be

To avoid any current or future misunderstanding, we wish to inform all celebrants attending the Galleri New Year's eve festivities that the "S.F. Tappers" is NOT the same group as the "San Francisco Tap

The San Francisco Tap Troupe has been a member of the San Francisco Band Foundation for three and one-half years, and is the group you saw at Canteen, in the Gay Freedom Day Parade, in their hit show 5-6-7-8! and in countless other performances

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Cookie Correction

★ I am writing in response to the article entitled "Mrs. Fields Cookies Sifts Out Gay Worker" which appeared n the December 1, 1983 edition of the Bay Area Reporter. I am troubled by the article and the lawsuit it describes, because they touch upon an area — fairness in employment — to which Mrs. Fields Cookies is deeply committed. The claims made by Mr. Johnson are false, and we will prove this so in court.

In 1977, when I started Mrs. Fields Cookies in the Bay Area, it was my dream to create a great company, a company which would serve a great cookie in a way that made people feel appreciated and welcome. That goal required for its achievement the employment of the most talented people we could find, regardless of race, sex, or sexual orientation. Mrs. Fields has grown to where it is to-

day because in employment we are open to anyone who wants to be associated with something great.

As a result of our philosophy, we have hired many excellent people, some of whom, incidentally, are gay. We employ, and are proud to employ a broad crosssection from all the communities we serve. In fact, gay people occupy a variety of responsible positions in the Company. There is no truth whatsoever to the allegation of Mr. Johnson's complaint that we have ever tried to reduce the number of gay employees within our company, or to limit their opportunities for advancement. Frankly, we want and need every good person we can hire, at all levels, hourly or management, who are willing to be judged solely on their job performance.

I hope your readers will withhold judgement until both sides of the story have been told, and particular-ly until the claims in Mr. Johnson's complaint have been tested in court. I encourage your readers to solicit the personal views of the fine people which make up this company. Thank you for giving me the opportunit to respond, even briefly, to your article.

Debbi Fields Park City, Utah

More on Burning Out

* First of all, the letter reprinted in B.A.R. was part of private correspondence between me and a Mr. Allen White, who is not listed on the masthead as being a member of the editorial staff. To avoid confusion, ever the envelope was clearly marked "personal." It is enlightening to learn that any written material exchanged with anyone affiliated with B.A.R. may be considered a "letter to the editor." I would consider the wisdom - if not the legality - of such a policy

Secondly, the suggestion that my comments about a particular businessman's habits and practices were an attack on local bartenders is absurd. As a former bartender (of nine years) I know that employees of Gay bars, often pressured for sexual favors by owners and managers, denied benefits or union representation, and generally replaced when no longer decorative, are som of the most hard working (and exploited) people in the Bay Area. My note to Mr. White was in reference to a particular person who was clearly referred to, by

But since I have been asked (and boy, have I been asked, lately 11 not only wrote the note, but there's

I am not the only one of Jim's early buddies who abandoned him when it became obvious, even to me, that he was part of a group of people in the Castro who were intent on destroying themselves. Now I'm sorry, gang, but that's how it was.

Furthermore, it is amazing that the people who yell the loudest about how much they "loved" Jim are the same people who, knowing of the man's obviously appalling physical condition, still served him alcohol and supplied him with other bizzare substances, thereby helping him to an early grave.

So now he's gone, and now maybe the intensity and direction of a lifestyle in which a strong, good-looking, financially secure man who seems to have everything going for him can be literally used up at 38 needs some

For the last decade and a half, or more, a Gay man living in San Francisco has had his lifestyle more or less the way he wanted it, or at least the way the fantasy merchants told him he wanted it, which admittedly, might be pretty much the same thing.

But the people I knew from the Rendezvous/Hideaway/Fantasy days (when the crowd was considerably smaller) who didn't make it this far would fill a page long list, and none of them were run over by a cable car or struck by lightning. One way or the other they all partied themselves to death.

It can be reasonably argued that all of these people simply made a free choice of life and deathstyle, and a few years ago I would have agreed, but recently I'm not so sure. Some of us came to San Francisco without any role models at all, and we bought into the freewheeling, commercial, bar-oriented Gay lifestyle because that was just about all that was available. Unfortunately, some of us have bought into it much too heavily.

Male homosexuality is one of Gcd's greatest gifts. but it does not, of itself, have anything to do with the self-destructiveness, drug abuse, sideshow antics, disco addiction and alcoholism exhibited in and encouraged by some of the bars and bath houses.

There were a few people, in the late 60s and early 70s, who advised us to slow down a little. They were generally rebuked for their "negative attitudes" and unliberated heads." Now, as I realize that for the past two years I have been attending a funeral on the average of once every nine weeks, and now that the list of the dead and dying grows and grows, it's starting to look like some of the old bromides were at least partly true after all. You can't bathhouse, barroom and benzedrene your way through life without paying a hideous price. Those who encourage you to try it are not your friends

George Buchanan

ED. NOTE: Our apologies on the first point. The envelope's "personal" restriction got lost in the process. Still the message was one worth taking public.

White Flush

* Let's not get our collective tush in a new uproar over the federal decision on Dan White. The blame was clearly, and justifiably, placed on California laws and

The best memorial we can collectively build to honor both Harvey Milk and George Moscone is to continue striving for our own rights and those of other minorities.

San Francisco

Interpreter for the Deaf

* Recently, as well as in the past, a number of articles have been written in major publications about a young man who has accomplished a number of firsts in providing interpreter services for the deaf in San Francisco

I would like to take a moment to give my appreciation to Jay Wilson, a legal specialist interpreter, for his work and commitment to those of us who would not otherwise have the opportunity to participate in events affecting us all.

I am not alone in my gratitude and hope you will acknowledge Mr. Wilson's efforts as an integral part As a regular participant in Deaf Community events, I have witnessed his dedication (lifelong) and work towards the betterment of interpreter services to the

deaf including numerous activities such as AIDS meetings, Gay parades and marches in San Francisco. In his profession known for its tremendous turnover rate, he has consistently been available to assure the Deaf Community of professional interpreter services.

Not only have his accomplishments been overlooked as a Gay person in the Gay community, but also I am puzzled by the lack of information written or said about the Deaf Gay Community in and around San

Because English is often a second language, not many deaf people write letters on related subjects.

Jay's remarkable abilities have made many feel less of a minority within the Gay community as Deaf Gay

Cheryl Holmes

Calling South Bay ...

* Okay, South Bay Boys and Girls, our vacation is over. We've all had plenty of time to lick our wounds from those nasty setbacks at the polls a few years ago, and now it's time to pick ourselves up and get back

Sure, we all got pretty frustrated after watching all our hard work and effort fall to such a heavy loss, but hey, no war has ever been won in a single battle. You see, those "good" church people who led the fight ning with our tails tucked between our legs, because they really haven't heard much from us lately. And while the City Boys have been doing their thing in San Francisco, we've sorta grown stale. I know there are a lot of you out there who think that increasing your bar attendance is serving the cause, but sorry, it's not. We all have a political responsibility that many of us seem to have forgotten about.

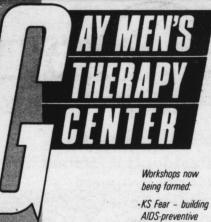
'83 is almost over. With this next year being an all important election year, the South Bay Gays and Lesbians must regroup and once again join our brothers and sisters in the fight for our rights. AB-1 is a perfect opportunity for us to show our political power and to march one step closer to our ultimate goal of equality.

It's not going to be easy, for we have a lot of fresh opposition, but I'm confident that we can give them all they can handle. So what do you say, South Bay? Let's rekindle the fiery spirit that we all had a few years back. I'll be waiting to hear from you all.

> Bill Whiteside San Jose, CA

* Da Da Da Da!

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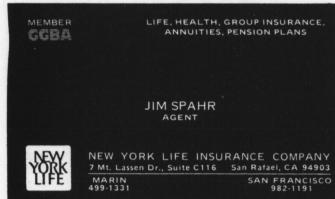
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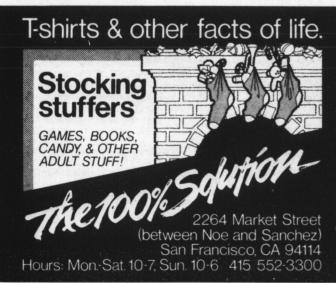
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* Irrespective of the risk, this observation - preceed ed by the caveat that "I am not anti-female, per se must be offered for B.A.R. reader consideration and

With few exceptions, if one encounters a VW (or similar compact vehicle) which is "beat to shit," it will bear (or be held together by) political stickers proclaiming: "U.S. out of El Salvador;" "Women Against Nuclear Technology;" "U.S. out of Grenada;" can't hug your kids with Nuclear Arms;" "End the Arms Race, not the Human Race;" and "Support

Such a "vehicle" - whether it be four wheeled or a written appendage — will invariably be propelled by an obviously liberated/radical female, repleate with bouncing breasts, adorned in lavender/purple jogging shirts/pants. Most "refuel" at the Women's Building

Best wishes, B.A.R., for a successful '84. You deserve it, and you serve the community well.

Thomas M. Edwards

Another Fallen Brother

* I hope you will see fit to print the following obituary to Dennis McLain, a former San Francisco resident and dear friend who died on December 7 of AIDS com-plications in Redding, CA at the age of 44. He was living with his family at the time of his death.

Dennis resided in San Francisco for 17 years and worked at Kaiser Hospital during this time. He bowled in several gay leagues over the years, and was well-known and loved very much by those who knew him. Kaposi's sarcoma was diagnosed in the fall of 1982 and a series of medical maladies ensued, including most recently, cryptococcal meningitis. Dennis' last days were painful and weak, and his death was, perhaps, merciful. From those who knew him, a request is made to keep Dennis in your thoughts and send your love

It is a pity that the lifestyle in which many have sought refuge from the prejudice of others has turned on people like Dennis to inflect such a ravaging, pitiless, hopeless disease. It doesn't seem fair. Our fight against unfairness must continue even in the face of adversities and unfortunate losses such as this one, however. Dennis, we will miss you. We hope you are at peace.

Look the Other Way

"Why does the Moral Majority forbid sex in public." Secause they're afraid it will lead to dancing!

This joke can shed light on two "problems" troubling our community: public sex and public drag.

As far as the latter, Debra Stein, like all other people who are attracted to positions of power realizes, consciously or unconsciously, that one of the ways to control people is to control the clothes they wear. Just as your boss, if you work in the highrises, considers the lack of a tie "inappropriate," so drag is "inappropriate" only because it is a signal that you are not being controlled.

Sex is a more complicated matter. Taboos against sex are rooted in several areas. First, the matter of con trol - it might lead to dancing. Let's look at some of the reasons people give for attempting to suppress sexual behavior and pictures in public. In the matter of the YMCA, it is a matter of "protecting the children." Surely this wasn't the reason my mother when she found me (at age seven) and my buddy in the garage playing with each other slapped my hand and told me that was "nasty" (we didn't use the word "inappropriate" with each other). Sex to kids, before they become interested in it, is like football or politicians - incomprehensible activity that makes grownups excited.

Your writers (often Gay women) state that "it doesn't belong in a generally circulated newspaper." Here again, we get the "nasty" hypothesis, in "inappropriate" clothing. B.A.R. is (was) a publication shose staff and readership is made up mainly of homosexual men, most of whom are interested in sex Sometimes I think that our attempt to include our Gay sisters in the paper makes as much sense as the NAACP taking American Indians. If Lesbians, straights and others want to read a homosexual paper, fine, but please don't attempt to exclude the sexual content!

One writer last week stated that he didn't want to enter a steamroom where two men were getting it on because he didn't want to embarrass them. Let's face it, if they were ashamed of their behavior they would have stopped when he came in, so the "problem" must lie somewhere else. The poor guy is in a double bind, on the one hand, he's straight, on the other hand, he probably finds open sexual activity of any gender-combination a turn on. But he can't participate, and is ashamed to look, so it becomes a problem. If only I had had sense enough, when caught in the garage, to tell my mother "If you don't like what's going on that's your problem" it would have saved us both a lot of grief. As it stands, I recommend a very effective form of censorship - personal avoidance.

Unlike smoking, sexual pictures and activities (unless they're awfully active) do not demand participation from those nereby. If you don't like what you see, look away. If you like what you see, but can't admit it because it's "dirty" or "vulgar" or simply "inappropriate," look away. If you don't like what someone is wearing, look away, or leave the room, if that's what it takes to satisfy you. But save us both the agony of attempting to insist that the behavior of others adhere

of Iran, or even Iowa. Please respect the freedoms that we wish to preserve in our city. "Freedom to" is true freedom. "Freedom from" is the basis of tyranny. And don't give me that "natives overwhelmed by the Gay takover" bullshit - the real native San Franciscans weren't such prudes, whether you want to go back to the 1800's, or further to the Miwok Indians, who had much healthier ideas of both sex and war - that's why they peaceably let the mighty white warrior shove then

> Carl Mayfeld San Francisco

His Majesty, Tattoo Jin

* Drag Queens and the Leather Men both have an equal part in making up our Gay community. I have and still do live in both worlds. No, I am not a Drag Queen and no, Empress Ginger, I don't want to wear any of your wigs or dresses, I love them too much on you. I am your male counterpart in the Imperial family: Emperor this year with Empress Connie.



I am also a member of the Chicago Hellfire Club and a member of the leather nen of this city. Empress Ginger, it was not the drags alone who kicked and push ed for the freedom we have oday. You say it was the drags who stood out and made the impression on the rest of the world and made our movement toward free dom possible. Wrong

Ginger, it was both the drags and the Leather men doing it in different ways. etimes alone and sometimes together, the changes were made by both not just one.

The question I don't feel was who did what, right or wrong, but what Karl Stewart's reporting should be about when it's headed "My Knights in Leather. I feel it should be about the Leather World and men. We don't mix Opera and the Sports do we? I am not saying Karl, who I feel is a friend of mine, is wrong in his reporting. He should be given a gold medal because he tries his best to cover both. I am saying the heading is misleading — Knights in Leather should be a leathermen's column. What we all should be doing is asking the B.A.R. to either change the heading to something that would not mislead us to cover both, or better yet, make two columns - one for each so tha both could get the just coverage they both work hard for, keeping Karl's city-wide calendar.

Karl, other than the misleading heading, you're doing a damn good job for all of us! It's the first place I look in the B.A.R. Thanks for keeping both worlds alive. The next time we meet, have a drink on me.

H.M.I.M. Tattoo Jim

ED. NOTE: Your point is well made, and we're doing some shifting and redirecting. It takes a bit of time though to separate the interlocking threads.

Good Style

* Please compliment Mike Hippler on his good use of English. Would that the Ex-Chron could do as well. G. H. Gilchrist

On Donor Option

★ In the last general meeting of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club held Monday, 14 November 1983, the membership unanimously supported a motion requesting that the lesbian and gay media be morialized and encouraged to discuss the confidenr options in donations made to the United Way. Also, the motion stipulated that the club encourage your discussion of this matter through editorials, articles, and advertisements

As the maker of that motion, I applaud the other members of Alice in their courage.

The importance of "donor option" must not be underestimated. For all our social service agencies, there is a particular difficulty as regards funding cuts, diversity of services, and the development of community social service needs at this time. Presently, various agencies are experiencing staff burn-out due to years of lowered salaries/benefits because of lack of funds and the cuts instituted by federal and state governments. This is particularly onerous in light of the effects upon service delivery.

Moreover, the United Way has informed proposing agencies that no new agencies will be funded during the next two years. As a policy decision that information is especially distressing for the lesbian and gay communities. It means that if you haven't applied before that, for two years your proposal doesn't stand a chance. It means that if you have applied continuously for as much as seven years (Pride Foundation), you will probably not get funded until your tenth year of application, if then. It makes "donor option" that much more meaningful to the women and men of our community who donate through the United Way.

Brandy Moore

TERS

Vitamin C for AIDS

★ We approach the first AIDS Christmas (although the thing has been around longer, as we are all aware) — so to speak — as '83 was the year of the big

My heart goes out to the surviving patients who are mostly alone in their battle. I travel a great deal and my lover saves me all the B.A.R.'s to read when I come off the road, so I get a very intense picture of the

I am struck by recent full-page articles about the beneficial effect high-dosage Vitamin C has been hav-ing on several patients. So, this is an appeal: Could B.A.R. and the good offices of the SF AIDS/KS Foundation office on 10th Street? Their recent meetings with the FARO - the national AIDS people - spotligh them for this. The varying kinds of Vitamin C could be collected in various ways in the city, and then distributed to patients who desire it. All that has to be worked out are a few pickups and deliveries and a campaign of publicity to get people out and contributing. B.A.R. could start the campaign on Page One!

If every gay guy and gal in San Francisco gave just one bottle of 1000 milligram (1 gram) Vitamin C—we could offer a huge gift of help, and not to mention hope, to our stricken brothers, often languishing in dire loneliness and isolation — some not even in hospitals or hospices, but depressing Tenderloin hotels!

What better way to say Merry Christmas to them?

Rats & AIDS

★ That there is an "outbreak" of bubonic plague in New Mexico, with 39 cases of the disease nationwide so far in 1983, and rodents discovered to have the plague in Los Angeles, the connection with AIDS and urban rats seems to have been overlooked in favor of tracking sexual contacts, semen, and blood for clues to AIDS

A review of the facts: bubonic plague is found in three men for every woman; signal for the plague is swollen lymph nodes; papules are found most frequently on the legs and feet, where fleas make contact; pneumonia, or septicemic plague is a variation; suppression of the immune system occurs; dense populations of rodents are necessary for transmission. 'Sounds like AIDS, or a variation, to us, not to mention the blackening of the skin, fever, and diarrhea, and, of course, the high in-

The question is: why is not more being done to track the rat (or rodent) connection in AIDS? The past year, fleas, and rats, have been multiplying in urban areas across the U.S. Domestic animals can become hosts to "hot" fleas which may have jumped from a dead rat to the closest warm-blooded object - be it animal or human, flea begins an unsavory tearing at the newly found host; if full of the bacteria, y. pestis, there is regurgitation of host blood and y. pestis at the site of the bites and there you go.

Why Gay men, drug users, and Haitians? It has possible answers in the interface with rat/flea (lice, bedbugs) these groups are forced into or choose to move into, forming a closed arena for the specialized disease in say a ghetto: Tenderloin, South of Market.

In bringing the "connection" to your attention, it may be stated the real epidemic is in the rat/flea infestation of San Francisco and New York, and the work by city officials should be similar to Forest Service personnel who outline the steps to improve sanitation, be aware of breeding grounds and situations, and monitor rodents and domestic animals for antibodies - and perhaps discover something helpful — be it an AIDS clue or a prevention from the spread of the plague from

> John Buckman Greg Mauser San Francisco

Health Department's Official Response

The only case of plague reported in San Francisc since 1959, (as far back as I searched), occurred in 1976. This was a 16 year old boy who developed the prodromal symptoms of the disease on his grandfather's ranch in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He returned ill to his home in San Rafael, was hospitalized in Marin General Hospital, and was transferred, pre-terminal, to Children's Hospital in San Francisco where he expired. From 1940 to 1976, only 17 cases were reported in California, including the San Francisco case. None in California since.

Reservoir hosts are rodents, and the major United States infected areas are the desert regions of the southwestern states and the mid-level of the Sierra from Kern County northward. A few years ago some concern was voiced by environmentalist groups about the displacement of rats in the home construction areas of Ventura County. The county and state agencies mounted intensive and apparently successful active control programs.

Selma K. Dritz, M.D. Asst. Dir. Bureau of Communicable Disease Control

Cosmetic Clones

* Whatever happened to our "natural" wholesome S.F. male image? Walking/standing in a bar on Castro I noticed somewhat of an identity crisis.

1. The "men" were dressed in clothes that would

enhance any young woman. Exaggerated shirts (open way, way too far), pants that any woman would kill for, especially with all those extra pleats, extreme fits, extra pockets, snaps, etc.

2. The eyebrows which have been plucked, arched. dyed, and thought to be "natural" were truly remarkable. One would have to be blind not to notice this extreme look.

3. Hair was either cut, colored, frosted, bleached to the point that if one did attempt to engage in any form of sexual activity the head would have to rest on a block with a "don't touch" sign. Hair spray also gets sticky

4. Additional tattoos, chains now attaching to wallets, many more keys attached to their pockets, etc. Just how many of these 35 keys open anything other than jingle like bracelets on an arm.

As one begins aging or is obviously insecure, it seems that he must continue adding (replenishing) things to himself to overcompensate. At what point does one step back and look at their newly acquired "natural" look?

Drags are Us

★ Concerning Mr. Apostopoulous' letter in the issue of November 23, I and several friends are very angry at this crass attack upon a hard-working element of the gay community, as well as, obviously, a self-serving attack on Karl Stewart. Frankly put, many of us who consider ourselves a part of the "community" are get-ting really tired of those few people who seek to keep the gay community divided, at odds with one another, and in tension with one another. We see the "commuprejudice, snobbery, and disdain to others who do not fit the mold of their group. There are many people in the Bay Area who are refugees of homophobic environnients, and we did not come here to be subjects to the same crap



First, I wish to commen he B.A.R. for allowing Karl Stewart's column to appear in the paper. Although I do not frequently agree with his personal slant on events, issues, or the like, his column does provide an entertaining orum for events in the community. Those people who work hard for the organizations or events that vides that extra boost in

ity and support to keep their organizations rollng and out in front of nonmembers and nonparticipants. Many of the recent and pending fundraisers for AIDS victims, social groups, and community support groups simply would not have achieved their success vithout Karl's assistance.

Secondly, the various courts are a positive, if somewhat minor, force in the community. The members of the mototcycle clubs and other South of Market organizations are well aware of the support that the courts have provided.
Also, they continue to serve as a delicate

and sometimes tenuous bridge between some of the most diverse groups in the city. On the more personal level, the courts indirectly provide an occasional alternative to the impersonal "hunt" and "panic hour" in the bars. Also, they provide the chance to meet some very personable human beings, whether in costume or

It comes down to this, Mr. Apostopoulous; you never know who has a dress in the closet, and who the hell

As a good friend, Miss Darlene, says: "Well-l-l-l, smell you-u-u; and get off my dress!

John Paul Scott

P.S. to Mr. Apostopoulous and those who may think that I am just another drag queen going off: I'll let you in on a personal secret. I have no dresses in my closet and have never worn one. My drag closet contains full leather, CHP uniforms, cowboy and Castro character and character, I am very capable of keeping it in perspective, thank you!

A Helpful Letter

★ Again I find myself in need of responding, this time it is directed to "Renaissance." I hope that you will be able to find a place for it, and if not I'll understand. Dear Richard.

After a full weekend of entertaining all of my closest friends for Thanksgiving I felt a strong sense of aliena-tion, since they are all mostly coupled. I kept asking myself if celibacy is the right path, and I must admit I had to take a few deep breaths to continue cleaning up. Nonetheless, determined to stick to my convictions because the rewards have been by far greater.

Later that evening I sat down to read the B.A.R. when I came across your article. Well, I flipped - all the way from a hearty, joyful outburst of laughter to being completely filled.

You stated that I gave you encouragement and support; well, I got that tenfold from your letter. The following day, I awoke with more zest, and as I worked, socialized, and exercised I had more energy and vitality

I know now that when my blue moments come, I'll think "Richard Jordan" and it will definitely help.

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Ousted Sailor Walks from NYC to Protest Discharge

by Bernard Spunberg

Mel Dahl, 24, walked from New York City to San Francisco between April 30 and December 1, 1983, to gain publicity and raise funds to fight his discharge from the U.S. Navy for being Gay.

Dahl, a member of the Libertarian Party, enlisted in the Navy in February 1980. Attracted by travel and career opportunities, Dahl planned a 20-year military stint. By March 1981, Dahl had proven his worth as a seaman to the extent of being evaluated for top secret security clearance by the Naval Investigation Service, the Naval equivalent of the FBI.

When the NIS asked Dahl about his sex life, he answered truthfully. The next day, Dahl received a letter signed by his ommander informing him that he was being processed out of the Navy with an honorable

Dahl's case was not heard by Naval Administrative Discharge Board until September 1981. With the assistance of ACLU attorney Joe Schuman, Dahl sought to prove to the Board that his discharge would represent a substantial loss to the Navy. Conceding that his discharge would indeed be a loss, the Navy ruled that Dahl's value as a seaman was not at issue. He was formally discharged in January 1982.

Dahl and the ACLU have filed suit against the Navy in Chicago. Their case, filed in October 1983, rests on the following arguments: The anti-Gay regulation is unconstitutional because it is based on religious principles; it denies the right to free association, since mere ac-

quaintance with a Gay person is sufficient to warrant discharge; it denies the right to free speech; it denies equal protection, since a woman in the Navy would not be discharged for being attracted to men; and it denies due process by including Dahl within a larger group regardless of the merits of his individual case.

The Navy's second extension for time to prepare its case will expire in January 1984.

Dahl's walk across the country garnered mention in the straight presses of Champagne and Chicago, Illinois, appearances on three dozen local talk shows, as well as national coverage on "Sixty Minutes." He has raised approximately \$3500 for his legal expenses.

Dahl creditrs much of the success of his walk to supporters within the Libertarian Party. Libertarian ideas form a basis for Dahl's personal philosophy and also provided impetus for his walk. "Libertarianism is the belief that people have the right to live as they like as long as they don't hurt anybody else, and you don't have to like someone personally to support their right to live as they like. I wish Gay political groups would spend less time on internal nitpicking and more on fighting the common enemy - those who would limit our rights because we are Gay, female, Black, Hispanic, American Indian, whatever.

"My walk was Libertarian in its self-sufficiency. I went on the walk not to ask people to help me, but to ask people to help themselves by helping me to end discrimination that hurts us all.

"My goal is to strike the anti-Gay Naval regulation. I feel I'm a lot closer to that now than I was in April. All told, I think my walk was generally successful.

A few months back a Holly-

wood writer purchased a full page ad in the trade paper, Daily Variety, to protest the program. Since that time, Gay

papers throughout the country

Eddie Murphy's manager.

Robert Wachs, has continually

protested that his star is not anti-

Gay. Wachs blames the press for

the fast-rising controversy.

There was no indication that the

personality felt any responsibil-

ity to apologize either for the

anti-Gay remarks or for the

comments about AIDS. No

matter what the artist's percep-

tions are about his material

with the breaking of the Bill-

board ad there is now a growing

industry perception that the

entertainer is homophobic. If

the perception grows within the

harm Murphy's career. He

could easily become the next

have run the story.

Bel Dahl wore out four pairs of shoes on his transcontinental trek. With his case pending in federal court, he still has some miles to travel before he rests. Contributions may be mailed to Mel Dahl, Box 10816, Chicago,

Homophobic Jokes

Comic Murphy Hit in Trade Papers

The irrational and uncontrollable fear of homosexuality by comedian Eddie Murphy has now been labeled a disease. Billboard and Cashbox, two music trade magazines, have both run ads in the last few weeks which protest Murphy's homophobic remarks. The ads are one of many serious protests against the 22-year-old comedian.

Unlike earlier protests against attack has attracted individuals willing to pay money in entertainment publications. The money is used for ads such as the Billboard and Cashbox ads which carry a unique letter-

The twist is the establishment of the Eddie Murphy Disease Foundation. Those writing the rganization will receive literature and a free sticker which announces, "Eddie Murphy's Disease can be cured.'

The comedian has stirred substantial resentment in the national Gay community because of his records and a concert which was taped and broadcast on Home Box Office. In the show he lets loose with several anti-Gav remarks and a vicious association between AIDS and Gay people.

Last week Virginia Apuzzo, executive director of the National Gay Task Force, said, "We have gotten an enormous number of calls. It is a major source of concern." Michael Fuchs, president of the Home Box Office Entertainment Group, acknowledged that the cable network has also received "a lot of negative feedback."

The televised show has been

concern to Home Box Office

because they not only have re-

vice because of the show. Localnounced that the Telecommuni-

ceived complaints, they are also

getting cancellations of their serly, Viacom Cable has been extremely concerned about the program. In October it was ancations Policy Committee which regulates cable tv in San Francisco would be investigating the show. The show is scheduled to be aired again over Home Box Office near the end of this

Persons interested in joining the Eddie Murphy Disease Foundation can write to P.O. Box 691585, Los Angeles, CA

Anita Bryant.

Pride Seeks Directors

Pride Foundation, the Gaycommunity social service organization is seeking applicants for membership on its Board of Directors. Pride operates alcohol and

drug abuse programs for Les-bians and Gay men, an legal referral service, a Gay commu-nity Switchboard, a large multipurpose community center, and community/neighborhood development programs. Applicants are sought who have particular interest or expertise in these areas, as well as experience in the general areas of manage-ment, finances and fundraising. The Foundation has assets in excess of \$1,000,000, an annual

budget exceeding \$750,000, and a high rate of growth and

Prospective Board members should be prepared to serve on at lease one committee in addition to the Board and can expect to deveote at least twenty hours per month to the Foundation.

Applications from women and Third World persons are especially welcome. The current Board is multi-racial and includes non-Gays. Applicants are asked to respond by letter, with a brief resume and indication of specific

area(s) of interest by January 31, 1984, to: Nominating Committee, Pride Foundation, 890 Hayes Street, San Francisco

House Demos Blast AIDS Program

Republican Opponents Say 'Not So'

A U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee charged last week that the Reagan Administration has failed to adequately fund federal efforts to fight AIDS. The subcommittee voted on party lines, and 10 of the subcommitte's 14 Republican members disagreed with the report.

Sala Burton calls for watchdogs on

procedures are needed to expe-

dite the awarding of research

grants during such emergencies. It also recommended that

money be appropriated to a re-

volving fund for health emer-

gencies that was recently authorized by Congress.

Some House observers felt

that the AIDS funding issue was

falling prey to partisan politics. The report said, "The Adminis-

tration has not exercised suffi-

cient leadership to ensure that

adequate resources have been

available for its No. 1 health

priority . . . Funding requests

have also been delayed, hamper-ing the ability of the Public Health Service scientists to effec-

tively plan and carry out their

work with the urgency demand-

Public health officials at the

Department of Health and

Human Services were aware of

the need for increased funding to

fight AIDS at the end of 1981,

the report said, but the Admin-

istration did not initiate requests

for additional money until last

May. Until then, the report said,

funds to cope with the new

emergency "were only made available through diversions of

resources from other health ac-

tivities or through congressional-

ly initiated . . . appropriations.'

Trying to stay out of the fray, Public Health spokeswoman

Shirley Barth told reporters that

officials at the Department of

Health and Human Services had

Rather than get lost in rheto-

Barth said Congress has ap-

ric, Barth turned to the figures.

propriated \$48.2 million for fiscal 1984 to combat AIDS, in-

cluding \$35 million for the Na-

tional Institutes of Health and

\$12 million for the Centers for

In 1982, \$5.5 million was ap-

propriated for AIDS, compared

to \$39.8 million in 1983, Barth

said. Two other highly publi-

cized outbreaks, legionnaire's

disease and toxic shock syn-

drome, received total authoriza-

million, Barth said.

Christmas Party

tions of \$15.9 million and \$4.3

Hongistos Host Alice

Elizabeth and Supervisor Richard Hongisto will host this

year's Alice B. Toklas Les-bian/Gay Democratic Club's

The party, for members and

their guests, will be from 5 til 9 this Saturday, December 17, at

the Hogisto home located at

Tom Bujxton at 864-1774 or

Dennis Collins at 285-6292

114 Broderick. For info call

annual Christmas party.

Disease Control.

no comment on the report.

PUBLIC HEALTH MUM

ed by this epidemic.

Rep. Ted Weiss (D-NY) spoke for the majority of the subcommittee on intergovernmental relations and human resources. Weiss, as chairman, said, "Tragically, funding levels for AIDS investigations have been dictated by political considerations rather than by the professional judgments of scientists and public health officials."

By "political considerations," Weiss said, he meant that the Administration's approach to AIDS had been influenced by "budgetary concerns," not by the fact that the population hardest hit by the AIDS epidemic has been homosexual

Later in an interview Weiss said, "I have said many times that unconsciously, when there is a societally negative attitude toward a particular group, that will ultimately affect the decision-making process.'

Republicans disagreed; they said the report "offers findings and conclusions which are mis-leading and can create a very wrong impression of the federal response" to AIDS.

Declaring that "it is important to keep the chronology of events in mind," the dissenters said that when requests for funding first were made, "the public health problem with AIDS was not as critical as it

BURTON ADDS VOICE

Meanwhile in San Francisco, Rep. Sala Burton, reacting to several SF Chronicle articles on federal footdragging on AIDS funding and research, called for an independent watchdog committee to be set up.

"These disclosures are a sad verification of what has long been apparent: the federal response to AIDS has been slow and, until recently, wholly inadequate," Rep. Burton said in a statement released last week. "Throughout the past year,

medical researchers, members of the affected communities, and Members of Congress have urged greater action on AIDS. Each time we have been told that everything possible was being done.

"A primary problem has been that federal health officials are responsible both for reporting health needs to budget authorities and for justifying to the public the budget figures approved by the Administration, regardless of whether or not these figures are adequate.

"It is time to restore credibility to the federal AIDS budget process. I have today asked Secretary Heckler of the Department of Health and Human Services to set up an independent committee of medical experts and others to oversee federal AIDS efforts and to recommend priorities and funding needs for the duration of this epidemic.

"Such a committee can make use of the vast scientific resources of this country in setting an agenda for the effort to combat AIDS and can eliminate any doubts in the minds of the public about the veracity of future claims about this effort," Rep. Burton said.

Back in Washington, the committee called for similar action. The committee urged the federal government to create an independent panel to review research and develop strategies to fight AIDS and said established



Weather permitting, the Les-bian/Gay Freedom Day Committee will once again be putting celebrity Santas out on the street corner at 18th & Castro this Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Comedian/singer Lea DeLaria and her accompanist Jeanine will appear white-bearded and red-suited early Saturday afternoon, and Sister Boom Boom's lap will be available for several hours Sunday

At press time, other confirmed Santas include Lesbian/ Gay Health Services Coordinator and Parade Board member Pat Norman, plus Gay Eagle Scout and legal battle winner Timothy Curran, also on Sunday afternoon. Polaroid prints and possibly buttons with a picture of you on the lap of your favorite Santa for \$2 will benefit the Parade Committee.



Santas. (Photo: Rink)

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SF's Muni: Getting Us Somewhere or Nowhere?

New Muni Head Pledges the Best Yet

Part 2

ERRATIC DRIVERS

The best news about rude drivers is that strict new discipline procedures are being developed. It is nothing new for Muni passengers to find that some drivers seem to be paid to be unpleasant. Many drivers appear incapable of finding a curb and others simply pass up waiting passengers for no apparent reason. Safety records attest to the fact that many drivers use the hills of San Francisco to turn vehicles into out of control roller coaster rides.

With the new discipline procedures is the installation of a new computer tracking device.

Drivers are being slotted into all sorts of upgraded training programs. Training manuals are being revised, refresher programs are being given, drivers are spending more time in training, and the drivers that mess up are going to find themselves under strict supervision.

Management of Muni were highly suspect of charges that their drivers were guilty of the dastardly deeds of which they were accused. Spokespersons for Muni said that many times a bus is not just sitting at a location but is disabled. Supervisors, it



Where the crunch is with Muni Metro - as they couple and uncouple in

The 1984 system will give a signal from every Muni vehicle. The signal will show on a computer map at central control and a bus will be tracked through its entire run. A reason for the new system is scheduling and safety. A by-product will be to show if a driver had decided to skip a run and eat a hamburger at the

was pointed out, should know of missed runs and they are supposed to discipline wayward drivers. They implied there are enough checks in the system to keep control on the scheduling throughout the system. Against that is the overwhelming number of patrons who have horror stories about the Muni system.

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CUSTOMER COMFORT

The 100 degree plus temperatures on the Muni Metro, the scratchy windows and the ripped seats are the joke of the ity. Believe it or not, help is on the way. The windows of the busses are being replaced. \$300,000 is being spent to install new untinted nonscratchy glass. New windows started to appear in September, and the job will be completed by May of next year.

There is also a program to rid the system of ripped seats. In 1984, fiberglass seats will be in stalled on Muni. This is a major step towards giving the rider

Muni Metro patrons are going to have to wait, and probably a long time, to see a temperature drop on the rush hour trains. The system is a victim of the theory that San Francisco is a naturally air condition ed city. That was the reason given for not installing air conditioning. Muni claims that the temperature is kept at the 68 to 72 degree level. Passengers stuck in the subway with 300 plus people on one car can feel the temperature rise to over 100 degrees of uncirculated air. For some kind of relief, the Muni people are considering the installation of small vents for cross ventilation in the trains. There is no date set for the work to

The problems of the system compound in a crisis. An area of questionable safety is the underground Metro system. Currently what is known as "trainlining" is being phased into operation. "Trainlining" means that one operator control all the cars in a coupled train. During rush hours over 1000 people are carried on a four-car train. That is more people than there are seats on the main floor of the Castro Theatre.

One knowledgeable person told the Bay Area Reporter, "Trainlining" is a tragedy waiting to happen." Should there be an accident or a crisis in the subway, there will be only one driver. In a four car train,

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the driver is unable to get to the other three cars without actually going outside the train and reentering. Any communication between cars can only be done over a small intercom located on each car. Nobody wanted to venture an opinion on the consequences should an accident happen. By using fewer drivers, "trainlining" is designed to save

A crisis of a different kind almost took place last Halloly 50% or 60% of the cars are answered. The main reason, they say, is that the physical equipment is archaic. The city government is working on a new telephone system and this is to incorporate the new Muni infor-

Though denied by Muni management, there is reason to believe that Muni information operators are under virtually no supervision and many operators simply hang up the phone on



Harold Geissenheimer, Muni's new top banana, who pledges improvements

late in implementing alternate scheduling for the trolley busses when the street closed. What resulted was severe criticism from police and monitors when thousands were left without transportation out of the Castro area. Police were concerned that violence might break out. Police were further aggravated because nobody seemed to know where the bus stops were. Diesel bus drivers which replaced the trolleys were unaware of the alternate routes.

The Muni management moved to assure local Gays that the situation would never happen again. The big test was the Milk/Moscone march on November 27. Muni contacted police officials and march organizers. The results were increased diesel bus service on the B Castro line. Extra Muni Metro cars were scheduled. Each bus stop in the Castro area carried alternate route information. The service that resulted was superb and an example of the new effort by Muni to serve its customers.

Transit information in San Francisco is obtained by dialing the 673-MUNI information number. Muni spokespersons acknowledge that at present on-

ween in the Castro. Muni was passengers when they tire of answering calls.

Central control is the nerve center for the Muni operations. They are responsible for getting the system moving. When there is an accident or a delay, they are the first to know. Because the system is so plagued with delays, there is no time to call the information office to pass on revised scheduling information. The result is that Muni information operators are simply not told of any changes and are rarely made aware of any scheduling changes that would affect their answer to a customer inquiry. Furthermore, several of the operators stated that the people in Central control resent being bothered with requests for information regarding service.

The problems with Muni are certainly not new. What is new is the commitment to turn the stem around. Mayor Dianne Feinstein has given top priority Muni. Supervisor Richard Hongisto is starting to use all the power at his disposal to make the Muni accountable to the people of San Francisco. If necessary, he said, he will start playing "rough and dirty" if that what it takes to get results.

In addition to the new Muni (Continued on page 22) -

Harold Geissenheimer is the General Manager of the Muni Railway. He pledged that he will read all correspondence directed to his attention. The writer will receive a reply. It is in all passengers' interest to provide the Muni General Manager with information about any problems they have with Muni. All incident reports should carry the bus number, the driver number, the location of the incident, and the name of the line. All complaints are logged.

Harold Geissenheimer also has encouraged people to let him know the identity of drivers who have provided excep-tional service to passengers. The mailing address is: Harold Geissenheimer, General Manager, San Francisco Municipal Railway, 040 Presidio Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94115.

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Investing Wisely

BURNEY ALLGOOD

So your first approach to wise

investing is in understanding

your tolerance for risk in your

financial affairs. Your second

decision is what to invest in. The

broad categories for investment

are well-known: stocks, land

buildings, bonds, metals,

is that, in one form or another

you are investing in a business

In order to evaluate the busi-

as a business deal.

joyable pursuit.

month), little or no property appreciation, and the burdens of

management and maintenance

on the property. To illustrate fur-

ther, consider also those indi-

viduals who jumped on the gold

bandwagon when it soared over

\$800 an ounce. Not knowing

anything about the fundamen-

tals of the precious metals

market, these investors now hold

assets that have declined in value

by 50% from the level pur-

The third element of wise in-

vesting is understanding the im-

portance of timing. All business,

therefore all investing, is cyclical.

There are highs and lows

throughout any investment

need to be knowledgeable as to

The time spans you al

yourself for investment growth

will sharpen the focus as to what

investment you should consider.

For example, if you are interested

in short-term speculation (less

than six months), you obviously

aren't going to plunge into real

estate because real estate's very

nature dictates a longer holding

period. Following this example,

tion, you'll opt for the stock market individual securities, or

commodities futures, or possibly

you want short-term specula-

oney. Face it. We all like it. it. Most of us would like all we could get. Money's real importance is due to its ability to increase the number of possible lifestyle options and opportunities open for consideration in our developing lives. It's a simple equation. The more money we control, the more real choices we have in the pursuit of our lives.

How do we get more money? Short of receiving an inheri tance, winning a lottery, or hitting it big at the Nevada tables, there are only two ways. We can work and earn more, or our money can work and earn more. Wise investing is what the latter way is all about.

In a discussion of money and investing let's begin with the basics. There are only three things you can do with your money: you can spend it, lend it, or invest it. Notice I didn't say "save" it. In reality no one saves money in our system. If you maintain a hoard of cash around the house, that's not savings. That's simply a decision not to use your money. Most people's concept of saving money is via deposits at their trusted neighborhood bank or savings and loan. Reality here is that you are not saving, rather you are lending your money. By establishing an account at a financial institution, you loan your money for a negotiated rate of interest to be paid to you. Now most have been conditioned to feel secure about lending because your deposits are supposedly insured and there are, theoretically, not supposed to be any risks to your money. The question here asked is what are the banks doing with your money? Well, they're either loaning out your money to bor-rowers at higher rates of interest than they pay you or they are investing your money again to make greater returns for themselves. If the banks believe in investing with your money, why

ing" is a very conservative, slow arena. As a wise investor you way to go. the economic conditions that de-To maximize your efforts at termine the cyclical patterns inmoney growth (properly termed herent in the investments you capital appreciation) you must consider. Another significant leave the lending realm and enter factor about timing in investing investing. One major event happens when you cross from lendis the clear awareness of how ing to investing. That event is much time you are willing to allot for the development and that you give up "guarantees' and you accept "degrees of risk." maturing of your prospective

aren't more of you doing it for

vourselves? The point here is

that if making more money is the

objective, then lending or what

traditionally gets termed "sav-

Fact: there is no investment without an element and degree of risk. In financial planning the old axiom is "the higher the reward, the greater the risk." Wise investing constitutes the effort to pursue the greatest potential rewards while restraining the levels of potential risks.

n evaluating risk there are two main concerns. First you have the "quantifiable" concerns: is the investment on an economically sound foundation. has management a proven suc-cessful track record, are there serious environmental risks or political risks or market risks? As an investor you can and you should expect to answer and evaluate these concerns. The second main risk question revolves around how much and what type of risk you are personally prepared to live with. Any investment that causes you to lie awake at nights is simply not a good investment for you no matter how well it is perceived by

foreign currencies. Remember, the shorter the term you allow for your investments, the higher the level of volatility and market risk you must accept. Frankly, wise investing usually precludes market speculations. Speculating remains somewhere between investing and gambling.

Let's recap at this point. Wise investing requires 1) acceptance of a degree of risk; 2) comprehension of the business compo nent of the investment; 3) knowledge of the timing element as to cycles and holding periods.

n furthering yourself as a

wise investor you must famil-iarize yourself with all of your energy, commodities, collectibles, new ventures. The underoptions before you embark on an lying premise about all investing investment strategy. As an example, most people accept the concept of real estate as a good in-All investing should be evaluated vestment medium. However, for whatever reason, many people are not temperamentally suited to buying individual pieces of ness component of investing, you will have to examine the proproperty as an investment. This posals and concepts yourself or does not in any way preclude seek professional investment adthem from being real estate invice. Most investors get in over vestors. They have the options to their level of comprehension due choose from an abundance of exto 1) not knowing how to evalucellent real estate limited partate an investment accurately and nership programs and real estate 2) not being aware of the full investment trusts. Through range of investment options open to them. To illustrate this point these programs you can often get into high-grade real estate for far simply consider the circumless capital than attempting to stances of a sizable number of buy a single piece of property by Bay Area investors who incoryourself. Also, consider those rectly assumed that any income who would like to invest in gold property real estate had to be a good investment. These now but feel uncomfortable about possessing and storing the metal. wiser investors find themselves These people have the option of living with true negative cash participating in gold oriented mutual funds that enable them flows (they lose money every to invest in the gold market without having to deal with the Investing for Gays metal directly. should also be an en-

To become familiar with your range of investment options you should utilize the services of a financial professional. The principal professional in this field is the Certified Financial Planner Additionally, there are accoun tants and attorneys individually well-versed in investment knowl edge. Also consider the product specialists such as stockbrokers, realtors, coin dealers, commod ity brokers, and insurance agents who provide detailed analysis of the line of products they

The final factor in wise investing is the proper analysis of what you want the investment to realistically do for you. The majority of investment products contain multiple benefits for the prospective investor. A wise investor seeks out investments that accomplish the precise blending of attributes consistent with the investor's objectives.

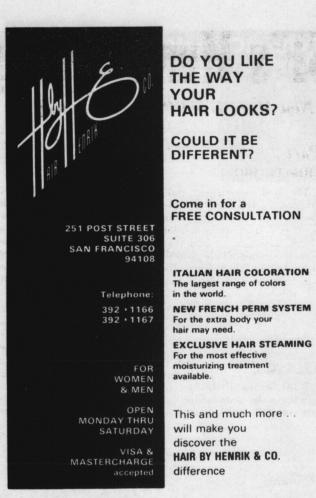
Investor objectives may include growth of capital, tax deductible write-offs, ease of liquidity, tax-free income, safety of principal, predictable cash distributions, income reinvestment options, etc. Investment formats designed to achieve financial objectives are varied. They include investment trusts limited partnerships, mutual funds, fixed & variable annuities, tax-deferred retirement plans, individual equity & debt securities, mortgage instruments, collectible objects, bullion metals, and commodity futures contracts.

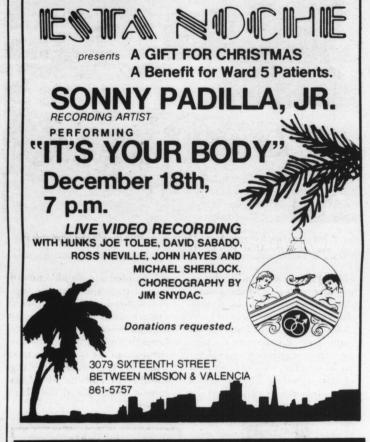
If well-researched and wellexecuted, wise investing should be an enjoyable pursuit. After all, getting wealthy is supposed to be a pleasant experience.

Hongisto Sics Grand Jury on Muni

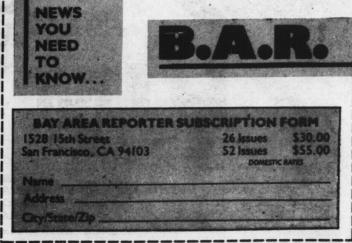
Supervisor Richard Hongisto announced that he has written the San Francisco Civil Grand Jury requesting that they investigate who was responsible for the purchase of 25 Grumann-Flexible buses and how they came to be stored on Port property in such a delapidated condition. He stated that the purpose of this request was to prevent such horrible blunders from nappening in the future.

Hongisto stated: "San Francisco Muni riders will never get the service they deserve if the monies allocated Muni are misspent or wasted in such a blatant fashion. The fact is that Muni monies are being wasted and our people are being mistreated and hurt."









POLITICS AND POKER



Muni Mess

WAYNE FRIDAY

The understatement of the year: "Our residents are dissatisfied with the Muni. (Mayor Dianne Feinstein commenting last week on the latest Muni furor) . . . One of the consistent headaches this mayor, or any recent mayor, has had for years, seemingly, has been the city's Municipal Railway system. A series of critical reports in the Chronicle recently only told us what thousands of San Franciscans already know: that the Muni system is a goddamn mess. Mayor Feinstein's going to a hastily scheduled meeting of the Public Utilities Commission to raise hell probably won't



change much either. The people in the city who have to ride the Muni daily have learned to take the poor service, the constantly rude operators, and the filthy buses in stride. The mayor is quietly being criticized by some for screaming about Muni only after the Chron series, but those around Feinstein know that the poor Muni service has long been a concern of hers and she seems determined to do something about it.

There are some at City Hall who claim that Rudy Nothenberg, the general manager of the PUC, on the job some ten months now, has had time to at least shake the place up. Others are quick to place the blame on former Muni boss Dick Sklar ("Sklar is a friend of mine, but the guy was next to impossible to work with," claimed one supervisor this week). The mayor has served notice on Muni and particularly its top brass that she wants some results. Meanwhile, the public continues to put up with the

lousy service - some 100 riders waiting at the corner of 17th and Castro last week for a bus that finally showed up already packed - the driver ignored the waiting commuters and passed them by. Good luck, madame 1 enator John Glenn's campaign facing big troubles in New York State. State Sena-

tor Manfred Ohrenstein (D.L., Manhattan), the statewide chair of the Glenn campaign, says that he will leave the Glenn campaign if he cannot get the Ohio senator to change his policy of opposing a national Gay rights bill. Ohrenstein, one of New York's most liberal legislators and a longtime supporter of Gay rights, arranged a meeting in VIC this week with Glenn and New York Gay leaders in an attempt to convince Glenn to reverse his opposition to Gay rights (Glenn used a San Francisco press conference recently to announce he opposes federal legislation protecting Gays, saying he does not want to "advocate or promote homosexu-



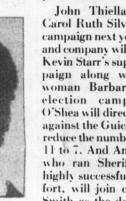
Jesse Jackson says God's on his campaign.

I hardly recognized Dennis McQuaid the other day. The new Novato city councilman has grown a new moustache. • As if Senator Cranston's presidential campaign didn't have enough problems, the California senator is now being sued by two Maine aviation companies for \$9,173 in bills they claim are long overdue. Cranston, meanwhile, has announced that NY Representative Ted Weiss will become the new vice chairman of his national campaign and will be di-



Dianne Feinstein at her recall triumph jumped all over Muni brass this week after local press (including the Bay Area Reporter) jumped all over Muni. (Photo: Rink)

rector of his New York state efforts. • Mayor Feinstein hosting the SF chapter of the National Women's Political Caucus at her home tonight honoring the city's women commissioners. • Congresspersons Burton and Boxer will receive an automatic pay raise beginning next month from the \$69,800 a year they are now paid to \$72,200.





Liz and Dick Hongisto are hosting Alice Demos' Christmas party where much club politicking is expected to take place.

John Thiella will manage Carol Ruth Silver's re-election campaign next year. Bill Barnes and company will reportedly run Kevin Starr's supervisorial campaign along with Congress-woman Barbara Boxer's reelection campaign. Mary O'Shea will direct the campaign against the Guichard scheme to reduce the number of supes from 11 to 7. And Anthony Garrett, who ran Sheriff Hennessey's highly successful re-election effort, will join consultant Ron Smith as the day-to-day man-

Fonzie will do drag role?

ager of Supervisor Jack Moli-

nari's race to become president

Molinari's re-election kickoff

fundraiser at the St. Francis last

including fellow Supervisors

Britt, Hongisto, Kennedy,

Maher, Renne, and Silver, with

many taking note of Mayor Feinstein's very friendly intro-

ductory remarks about Molinari

(the mayor bubbled with praise

for her longtime ally and friend).

Former Congressman John

Burton hinting to Sacramento

reporters that a political come-

back might someday be in the

Who says this isn't going to be

an interesting presidential race? Hustler publisher Larry Flynt

formally withdrew from the

prexy race last week ("If

nominated, I will not run; if

elected, I will not serve," Flynt

wrote) . . . while Jesse Jackson

has the gall to tell a group of

fellow Baptist ministers in L.A.

last week (straight-faced and all)

that God is with his campaign

("The Lord is with me; the Lord

has made me a promise, and

He's never broken a promise;

cards.

of the Board in 1984.

He's never let me down."). • And in Washington, comedian Joan Rivers attending President Reagan's dinner for the king and queen of Nepal, said she is a supporter of Reagan and "a Republican for life" (but do you really care?). • National Gay Task Force boss Ginny Apuzzo gave a full page interview to USA Today last week and when asked how active the Gay movement will be at the Demo convention, replied, "Very active. I think the appropriate question is: how active will the Gay and Lesbian community be in the presidential election of 1984? That's the larger question because we have Gay Republicans

also. Our theory will be to make

1984 count. We've got to count

ourselves in. Every organization

is going to be asked to send us

only the numbers that they've

registered." (The entire inter-



view with USA Today showed

again that Apuzzo is one of the best things to happen to the Gay movement. The woman handles

herself like few other leaders.)

known as the leather-jacketed.

tough-talking Fonzie on TV's

"Happy Days," to play the transvestite part in next year's

Los Angeles production of Torch Song Trilogy. • City

Hall friends of Peter Nardoza

are giving a going away party for

the popular longtime mayoral

aide next Tuesday, December

21, 5-8 p.m. at the Atherton

Hotel. Party organizers Dennis

Collins and Betty Lim want to

invite Peter's friends to attend.

• Milk Club President Carole

Migden in New York for the

holidays. • The pro-Christian,

anti-Gay crazies all over Polk

Superintendent of Public In-

struction Bill Honig reportedly

planning a higher statewide

race. • Community College

Board member John Riordan

seriously ill in Kaiser. • Don't

forget Toklas' holiday party this Saturday (the 17th, 5-9 p.m.) at

the home of Dick and Liz Hon-

Look for Henry Winkler, best

John Burton, who left Congress under a cloud, talks about political

Parade Committee Adopts '84 Theme

New Board Elected, Few New Faces

by Konstantin Berlandt

The Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee Sunday voted to adopt a national theme for the 1984 Parade slogan June 24: "Unity and More in '84."

The theme was first elected by delegates from 18 cities across the country at a convention of pride events organizers in San Diego Columbus Day weekend. It will also be bannered in New York and Los Angeles among other cities during late May and June-July 1 Stonewall commemorations of a gang of SSI queens also

meeting at the Women's Build- corporations. ing, 3543 - 18th Street near Valencia will be voted on. For the bylaws of the current Lesinformation call the Parade of- bian/Gay Freedom Day Comfice (415) 861-5404 (leave mittee, formed in the fall of message).

Membership also reconfirmed role as Secretary in 1981. He is the June 24th date of the an architectural draftsperson. Parade, rejecting after a little Also joining the Board are Jondebate a suggestion the Parade na Harlan, last year's float cobe moved to three weeks later on chair and a bartender at the Sunday before the opening of Maud's, and Debra Friedland. the Democratic National Con- 1983 Committee Treasurer and

the Committee's Board of Di-Health Clinic. rectors that also includes the current officers and last year's Co-Chairs. New to the Board '82 Parade Co-Chair Glenne

giant rainbow flag carried in the Parade every year (with the help inception.

The Committee is now solic- stitching), and the hot pink iting artists' conceptions of the backdrop of the stage raised theme for a logo to illustrate across the front of City Hall the letterhead, buttons and T-shirts. last two years. Baker has worked with the Parade Commi January 8 general membership for six years through two Reid Condit helped fashion

1980. He served on the Commit-The Committee's General tee's Board of Directors in his vention here, Monday, July 16. coordinator of the 1982 Parade Seven people were elected to the Lyon-Martin Women's raffle. Friedland is Director of

Re-elected to the Board were McElhinney, '81 Co-Chair Bar-Gilbert Baker, Queen of bara Cameron, and city Health Flagamania (formerly Sister Department Lesbian/Gay Chanel 2001), the Betsy Ross Health Services Coordinator Pat designer/seamster of both the Norman, serving on the cor-

PLANNING SAN FRANCISCO WHAT'S IN IT FOR US?

South of Market: Then and Tomorrow

CHUCK FORESTER

In San Francisco 1984 may be the Year of the Plan. Major work is underway at the City Planning Department for two areas: Downtown and South of Market. Because the Lesbian/Gay community has a direct stake in the South of Market, let's talk about that part of town.

SOME BACKGROUND

or Gay men things got start-

ed South of Market when FeBe's opened their shrouded doors in the early 60's and the Tool Box got started at 4th off Harrison. These dark and unadvertised bars were hiding; they were hard to find on purpose. Men who wore black leather in 1962 weren't too popular elsewhere; they were asked to leave the "better" bars in the Tenderloin and on Polk Street. Not to be deterred, they found a place of their own. And once they had it, they ousted the fluffy sweaters and smartly pressed slacks that were the rage in 1962. So there!

Handball Express, the Club Baths at 8th/Howard, and the

As a hotel, the Barracks was good for a weekend or a couple of days. The idea of actually living in the neighborhood began to take hold. Apartments around the bars and baths became popular with Gay men who preferred the cheap rents and atmosphere of a warehouse district to the more popular neighborhoods like Castro and Haight Streets. For these men the place had everything except a laundromat and a supermarket. Jobs downtown were

SPUR (San Francisco Planning and Urban Research) looked at the South of Market area in 1981 and prepared "A Plan for San Francisco's Last Frontier." Some of their graphics describe the area and their proposed uses for the future.

City Planning Commission.

Supervisor Bill Maher recenty introduced legislation that puts a temporary hold on South of Market office construction and conversions while the Department of City Planning draws up a plan. "I don't want us to become a one-crop town. Not everyone fits into a tie and shirt." A major objective of Maher's legislation is to protect the low-scale, light industrial qualities of the area.

The supervisor offers some startling statistics:

1. There are 6-8,000 jobs South of Market, including half the auto repair shops in the city, the flower marts, all the remaining wholesale butchers, and 150 printers.

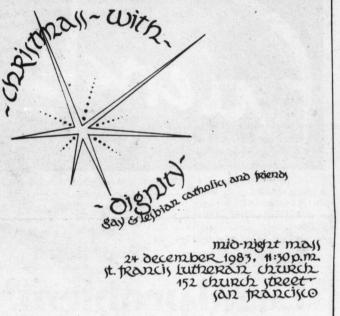
2. There are thousands of housing units, some of the last low-cost units in the city.

3. Transit to the area is poor: while 85% of the workers Downtown take transit to work.

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Light industry has been the sign of South of Market for generations.

A warehouse district, South of Market was the least likely place for a Gay bar. Many of the gentle folk thought a trip down there was fraught with danger. One was putting his cologned life in jeopardy. All the better for a "manly" bar.

And business was good. Leather bars popped up like studs on a wristband. Rent was cheap, and basic decor was black paint, a bar to stand at, and a license. Not large investments, these bars were started by the enthusiasm for leather, not wealth.

Another significant change South of Market were the baths. Ritch Street opened off the beaten South of Market track, then the Barracks Hotel opened on Folsom Street. The South of

close, housing was cheap, and the VD clinic was around the

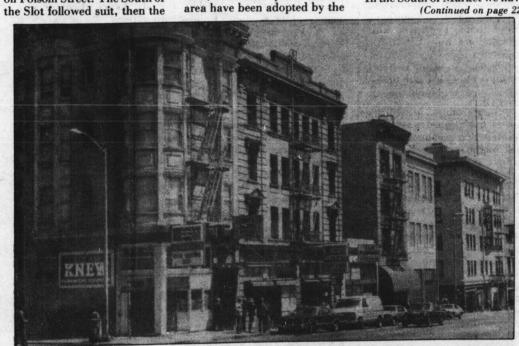
PLANS FOR TOMORROW

hings are hot South of Market. Of course, some know that already. But in this column plans for South of Market means real estate not Saturday night at Chaps. We are talking land use, as they say in the planning biz.

In the past five years office growth has spilled across Market Street as Downtown has filled up. And the Moscone Center has created a boom in the surrounding area. The Yerba Buena Center, once completed, will further that boom. South of Market is changing rapidly. To only 50% of the workers take transit to South of Market jobs. South of Market is the second

or third largest concentration of Lesbian/Gay businesses in the city. It is also an important resource of low-cost housing. And the city is in no position to replace that housing if it is displaced by commercial activity. While Gays have been accused of gentrification in some parts of town, they may become the victims of it in another," notes Bill

s we have succeeded in gaining greater equality for Lesbians and Gays in housing and employment in the city, it becomes harder to differentiate "Gay" issues from "straight" issues in city planning matters. In the South of Market we have (Continued on page 22)



South of Market's 6th Street's resident and transient hotels - worth saving? Where would the people go next?



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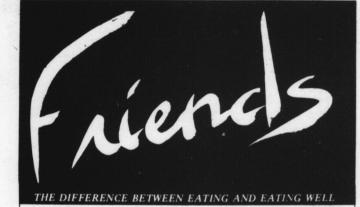
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Christmas in Gayland

The Haight Goes for Purple Bunting, Toys, Santas . . . and Still the Street People

by Dianne Gregory

Purple flags. Not red and green, gold, or any other color of the rainbow. Not garlands or lights strung between the lampposts. Purple flags hang from the lightpoles on Haight Street this Christmas as a symbol of the season. Purple is the color of advent candles (I guess), and the flags are certainly more tasteful than that tacky, tacky tree sitting in the middle of Union Square. Bill Dietsch, part owner of Play With It, a toy store on Haight Street, said some of the merchants had gotten together to buy the flags and chose purple because if they weren't red and green they could be "used for other occasions." Okay, fine.

Haight Street one cold and rainy afternoon recently, one of those inevitable winter days in San Francisco. I live right around the corner on Ashbury and had watched the street and its people adjust to the change from the hot, hot days of late summer to the cooler days of fall and rains of winter. The kids in New Wave regalia hanging out on street corners and doorways, and parading up and down the avenue, became less numerous as their ranks were thinned by the restrictions of school and weather. The panhandlers and street people seemed to become both more desperate and more numerous as the festivities of Halloween came and went and the bad weather set in. Christmas on Haight Street is

a combination of eccentric com-

mercialism and unmitigated squalor. The Upper Haight merchants have decorated with a vengeance, purple flags and all. The Daisy Chain at 1606 Haight has a moving Santa, colored balls, lights, poinsettias you name it - in its window Fringe Benefits down the street at 1600 Haight has a Christmas garland made of dried peppers. And Etc. Etc. Etc. (1560 Haight) has little stuffed animals set in the snow in the window with its Christmas lights. You can buy a tree at the Shop and Save for \$25; the Antique Collector's Showplace (1529 Haight) has a pair of antique Santa and Mrs. Claus statues for sale, and the St. Vincent de Paul thrift store has children's toys and clothes in its window. Both Haight's Victoria liquor store and the Achilles Heel (known in some circles as the "het bar") have signs saying "Happy New Year" in their windows, and the Liquid Experience has an arrangement of fall

leaves, pussy willows, and other



Framing, posters, prints - all in Christmas color at Haight Street's

glistens with its hundreds of framed prints and posters.

Play With It toys is the store that best personifies Christmas on Haight Street. It is decorated to the hilt inside and out, and you can buy anything from a \$135 dragon puppet made by Dietsch himself to telescopes, footballs, hula hoops, bicycles, or even a purple "Queen Eliza-bear." Dietsch does not carry Cabbage Patch dolls, and would not tell anyone even if he did because, as he said, "I don't want to get beat up

usiness is good at Dietsch's store; customers come and go by the dozen. But right outside, in the doorway of the gone but not forgotten Kiss My Sweet, the street people, the homeless, whatever you want to call them, congregate. On the afternoon I visited, a group was dried flowers. And Off the Wall trying to raise money for some-

thing and asked us for a dime as Dietsch and I walked down the street for a cup of coffee. On our return trip, something seemed to have scattered the group, and just one sick-looking old man was left lying in the doorway struggling to get up. Dietsch says he thinks the preponderance of street people in the Haight is unusually high and blames what he says is a rumored clean-up project by the mayor's office and the San Francisco Police Department to clear all the bums out of South of Market around the Moscone Center in anticipation of the Democratic National Convention next year. He says this has driven them into the neighbor-

Whether this is true or not I don't know. All I know is that (Continued on next page)



Haight Street - lavender flags for Christmas outside of the street's favorite dance palace, the I-Beam. (Photo: Rink)

Christmas in Gayland

The Tenderloin: It's About Bars, and Tarts, St. Anthony's Dining Room, and Jesus Among the Poor

by Ronnetttte

he city of San Francisco might have begun life as a Spanish mission, but it wasn't until it became a gold rush boom town in 1849 that it became the premier city of the American West. The San Francisco ethos is decidedly secular. I recall this fact because, in looking for Christmas in the Tenderloin, the only immediately visible signs were the tacky decorations in the box office of the Embassy and the swollen lines at the Seventh Street post office.

down to the point where the

thought is all that's counting,

there are bandanas for 79 cents

or lovely little copper-bottom

saucepans large enough for four

ger, you can hike over four blocks to the Taste of Leather

where there's 30% off all vibra-

I suppose that this part of the

Tenderloin's attitude to

Christmas can be summarized

by the Christmas program at the Strand. Christmas Eve you can celebrate midnight mass watch-ing The Dead Zone, Blue

Thunder, or The Brood, a film

memorable for Samantha Eg-

gar's depiction of a woman who

gestates horrible little monsters

in an external womb. For this

portrayal she won a Divine.

Forget your troubles on Christ-

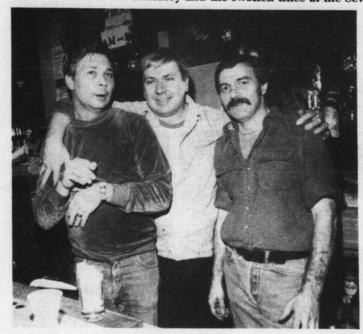
The Atherton Hotel turned out for Christmas, one bright spot between the

Tenderloin and Polk. (Photo: Rink)

If your budget is a little big-

sausages for \$1.99.

tors and dildoes.



What's more, most of the bars

and sex palaces that I called said that they weren't doing anything special for Christmas. Business

as usual. As Hal Call, the owner

of Circle J, explained, "There's always somebody lonely who

wants to get into our scene on

My friend over at the Adult

Art I and II, Bill, added, "The

winos celebrate Christmas all

I checked out the stores on

Market between 6th and 7th,

the site of much smart shopping.

California Discount is selling 35,

50, or 100 little lights on a string

for \$1.99, \$2.99, and \$3.99.

Athena Hair Spray is only 79 cents. A little further down the

block, at Magic Dollar, leg

warmers in red, brown, powder

blue, and lavender are on sale

for \$2.59 or 2 for \$5. If you're

holidays, so we'll be open.'

year long.'

mas Day with Apocalypse Now and Tora! Tora! Tora! (Or was that Torah, Torah, Torah?)

he problems that the pastoral team at Saint Boniface Church face on a daily basis are intensified as the cold and winter rains of Christmas approach, Father Robert Phisterer told me. The transient parishioners sleep on the pews and set up camp near the radiator, as if warmth were a commodity that could be stored for future use. Next door at Saint Anthony's Dining Room, Father Floyd Lotito observed that Christmas is a difficult time for the Tenderloin community: the elderly, the mentally and physically disabled, the street people. The emotional overtones of this most family of holidays is difficult for

turkey with all the trappings and trimmings of a traditional dinner, and it is an unrestricted meal. It is the people's feast." He speaks of the spirit of joy in the dining room which surprised him. "The best Christmases of my life have been here. We realize we don't have anything - no clothes, no beautiful warm front room to go to with presents and a tree, but we have each other

the lonely; nostalgia for better times can be debilitating and

Father Floyd meets the challenge. "Christmas is very special

at Saint Anthony's. We have

of the poor is God's banquet. "I'm overwhelmed sometimes by the presence of God in the dining room.

There is joy. I see it erupt when

someone plays the piano or

starts a Christmas carol and everyone joins in. The banquet

Father Floyd and I talked about the concept of sacred and profane time. Sacred time, because it is always characterized by God's appearance among us, partakes of eternal time. Hodie Christus natus est was the Christmas greeting of the early devoted. Christ is born today not Christ was born today "Jesus becomes one of us, Father Floyd said.

Saint Anthony's is flooded with volunteers for their Christmas meal. It is good to know that there are many people who will give up Christmas and find Christ among the hungry in the



Baskets galore, etc., etc., etc., waiting for holiday shoppers (Photo: Rink)

these people have no place to go, on Christmas or any other day. Sure, there's charities that serve dinner on Christmas, there's the Salvation Army, and the other shelters for the homeless. There are all the countless private and government agencies that cater to the people of the street. But

whatever it is that turns these people from the workaday world of warm beds and hot dinners, I think, but for the grace of my bank balance go I. And when walk down Haight Street with its purple flags and moving Santas, I wonder what it's all about.

D. Gregory

Instructors Sought for Berkeley Gay Studies

The Multicultural Lesbian Berkeley is looking for people to each courses for the spring 1984 term (January 18 to May 15). In the past we have sponsored courses on "Lesbian Literature" and "Lesbian and Gay Mental Health Issues." Examples of future class topics might include "Lesbians and Gay Men in the Arts," "Third World Lesbians

and Gay Men," "Lesbian and and Gay Studies Program at UC Gay American History," etc. All classes taught for the program must represent a diversity of perspectives in regards to physical ability, ethnicity, sex, class, age, and political orientation. The position will be pasically volunteer, but an honorarium is likely. For more information please contact Anna, Grahame or Peggy at (415) 642-6942.

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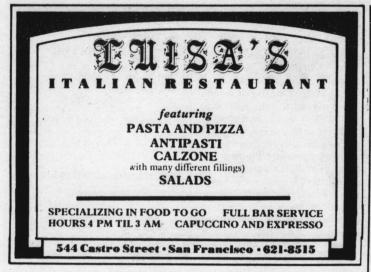
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III. Disciplinary Measures in S&M and B&D. A. Dangers 1. hemorrhage of internal

The Dangers of **Sex Toys**

A Practical Consideration of Potential Sexual Injuries

n recent years, Bay Area physicians and nurses have noted a sharp increase in the number of persons (heterosexual and homosexual, men and women) with sexuallyrelated injuries; only a few types have been publicly discussed in educational ways (such as rape, incest, child abuse, wife-battery). Another group of sexual practices exists which is rarely mentioned in a practical way; these include sado-masochism (S&M), bondage and discipline (B&D), "fisting," use of cockrings, nipple-piercing, and the use of dildoes and other objects. When not treated sensationalistically, the subject of these practices is usually not addressed

Because of the potentially severe injuries (and deaths) associated with these practices, this fact sheet was prepared by a group of health workers as a precautionary guide to explain briefly some of the dangers of and preventive precautions for these "unmentionable" sexual activities in hopes of promoting an increased public understanding of the medical risks involved.

As health workers, we cannot recommend the practice of certain of these activities based on the potentially catastrophic health problems which can (and often have) result; as fellow humans we recognize that each person will have to decide for himself whether or not to engage in these sexual

It is hoped that armed with more information about the health risks involved as well as more understanding of the anatomy, that members of this community can make a more informed decision about the types of sexual practices they choose, and also can be more alert to signs of health problems arising from each of these practices.

organs secondary to

punches against head and

abdomen, and lower back

punch to chest with possible

2. broken ribs if vigorous

3. infections of areas where

1. fainting, dizziness, sharp

pains in belly or shoulders,

urinating blood, sudden loss

of consciousness, problems

with vision, loss of balance,

vigorous vomiting, or per-

2. sudden shortness of breath,

3. pus, redness, pain, heat

1. death or stroke due to in-

2. death due to asphyxiation

widespread infection which

can spread quickly to blood

1. (for all) go to MD im-

1. don't do it or if you must,

1. rectal and intestinal infec-

vessels in intestinal linin

1. painful bowel movements

2. bleeding from rectum with

3. fainting and dizzy spells,

with pus and perhaps blood

or without bowel move-

or bleeding in lungs

ternal blood loss or brain

and red streaks where open

lung collapse

skin is broken

B. Danger Signals

sonality change

coughing blood

C. Possible Results

sores are

D. What to do

mediately

IV. Fisting

A. Dangers

E. How to Avoid

B. Danger Signals

. Binding Restraints used in &M, B&D, on arms and legs

A. Dangers: (due to pressure and tension)

blood circulation cut off nerve damage muscle bruise, sprain, tears

. bone chips, dislocation B. Danger Signals

. numbness, coldness pins and needles, sharp pains . cramping and inability to move hands, feet, fingers,

skin turning blue or mottled 4. severe pains at joints bound

C. Possible Results . possible tissue death, gan-

grene, amputation 2. possible paralysis

3. decreased mobility, if sprain doesn't heal right

4. deformity and decreased function unless set properly D. What to do

. immediate release of bonds 2. apply warm compresses,

massage, and exercise 3. for joint pains, apply ice. 4. if not better within minutes see your MD immediately

E. How to Avoid l. don't use tight bonds, leather chords (shrink when wet) chains or unyielding clamps like handcuffs

II. Bondage/Leashes/Collars around neck

A. Dangers:

nently

tions from scratches 3. perforating intestinal wall

1. cut off air supply to lungs 2. bleeding from torn blood cut off blood supply to head 3. cracking larvnx (voice box)

B. Danger Signals can't get breath, face turns blue or purple

fainting pain and crunching sound

inability to speak . Possible Results death by asphyxiation

loosen immediately and go

to MD if not all better

2. if must, use soft, flexible,

in 2 - 3 minutes

loose restraints.

E. How to Avoid

1. don't use it

passing out, fever, abdominal pains, rectal bleeding 2. coma, brain damage, death by brain centers losing C. Possible Results ability to control breathing 1. abscesses requiring surgical and sustain life

opening 2. operation to sew over 3. inability to speak permableeding vessel D. What to do

3. death or colostomy from massive hemorrhage/in-D. What to do

1. go to MD immediately and give exact history for all E. How to Avoid 2. if you do, don't enter

farther than 4-6" maximum (after 6" intestine makes sharp curve to left and intestine wall is easily penetrated. There is no straight

passage from rectum to mouth, but over 30 feet of winding dangerous path-

3. avoid sharp objects (long fingernails, jewelry)

V. Cockrings

A. Dangers
1. If it gets stuck, pressure can act like a tourniquet and can block blood return from penis to the rest of

B. Danger Signals . can't remove

2. swelling penis and scrotum C. Possible Results

l. blood clot which permanently blocks special veins 2. can lead to permanent

1. lubricate ring and remove immediately after sex 2. if slightly stuck, lie down, put pillow under scrotum to elevate genitals and apply

ice to reduce swelling

3. if can't get off within one to two hours, to to M.D.

E. How to Avoid l. don't use

D. What to do

2. if you use, use type that can be easily removed (i.e. snap off or flexible elastic ma-

3. never forget to remove immediately after sex (or swelling later can make it

VI. Nipple Piercing and Rings A. Dangers

1. infection, surface or deep bleeding

3. constant injury and tears from catching on shirts, etc. B. Danger Signals

l. soreness, heat, redness, swelling, fever, discharge of pus, sore glands in arm pits, pain with deep breathing

blood oozing 3. multiple tears

C. Possible Results 1. drainage of infection into chest cavity which leads to serious general infection. spreading skin infection as

redness (cellulitis) or crusty draining sores all over body 2. blood loss (not life threatening) which can lead to

infection 3. chronic infection, scarring, pain, disfigurement, blockage of normal ducts can lead to cysts/abscesses under skin

D. What to do

. go to M.D. for antibiotics 2. pressure for 5 minutes, if

not stopped, see M.D. 3. remove ring, apply hot compresses and peroxide if looks infected go to M.D.

E. How to Avoid

1. don't do it 2. if you do, have done by

M.D. under sterile conditions 3. be careful not to irritate with pulling, catching, etc.

Bodies in Rectum.

A. Dangers

. getting stuck 2. perforating intestinal wall

B. Danger Signals . can't get out (obvious) 2. rectal bleeding, abdominal pains with pressure or motion, dizziness, fainting

C. Potential Results l. need general anesthesia to remove with or without cutting abdomen open

2. emergency surgery with pos-

D. What to do 1. go to M.D. immediately E. How to Avoid

l. don't use 2. if so, use only soft smooth, flexible rubber, relatively

3. NO GLASS or METAL with sharp edges 4. don't insert completely into rectum, leave part to be

grasped for removal insert and remove slowly and gently

A Personal Exploration Part VI: Conclusion

by Mike Hippler

eid Beitrusten, a former bartender at the Lion Pub only 34 years old, first discovered that he had KS in April of this year when a private physician asked him about the six purple spots on his arm and ran tests on him. Although he hadn't even noticed the spots before the doctor did, for a few months before they appeared he had known that something was wrong. He had had a series of minor diseases, such as impetigo and a six-week herpes attack, and his health was so feeble that he could not work.

When KS was diagnosed, Reid's physician referred him to San Francisco General, and he began a grueling series of treat-ments for the disease. First he was treated with interferon as an outpatient for two months. Because he didn't respond to the interferon, he was switched to chemotherapy. With the chemotherapy he improved a great deal; unfortunately in August he came down with pneumocystis pneumonia and was forced to discontinue the treatments. Does Reid have any idea why his "luck" has been so bad, why one disease followed another inexorably? "There's some feeling that chemotherapy reduces immunity," he says. "But I'd be hesitant to say that that's why I got pneumocystis."

Like Patrick Walker, his neighbor on Ward 5B, Reid was treated with both Pentamadine and Septra for his pneumocystis, although in reverse order from Patrick. After thirteen days of Pentamadine, there was a severe January (and he stopped going to the baths altogether), when he finally realized that AIDS was a serious threat. For a while he became "extremely paranoid;" then he got it anyway. He hasn't had sex since his diagnosis, but it hasn't bothered him much, for he says, "My drive is real low. It's the last thing on my mind.'

Hadn't Patrick said exactly the same thing? Suddenly, I am struck by the similar attitudes of the two men. Like Patrick, Reid does not blame his illness on being Gay. "I've had a good time being Gay," he says. "I erased the guilt when I was 13 years old, and there have been no regrets since then." Nor can Reid believe that "there are still people who don't seem to realize that [promiscuity] is a danger. The things to be done are so simple. It amazes me to think that people don't pay attention to

Listening to Patrick and Reid, I begin to wonder if positivism tempered by reason and



The man I interviewed last on SF General AIDS ward - as I feared died before the article ran. (Photo: Rink)

caution is the indoctrinaire party drop in his white blood count, so he was switched to Septra. The line of San Francisco General's AIDS ward. Are patients trained to think this way? No, I a total loss of appetite — for two weeks he was fed intravenously know better. These are simply but at least his condition two hopeful, cautious, and reastabilized, and in mid-Septemsonable men who happen to find themselves in the same situation ber he was sent home. There his mother, who had flown in from and know no other way to deal with their illness. No, wait, even Miami, cooked for him — "It that is wrong. Patrick and Reid was the best thing I had going for me then" — and tried to know other ways to deal with their illness, I am sure. They nurse him back to health, but simply chose to deal with it this after he had been home only a way. But have I been set up, I short time, he developed a 102° wonder? Where is the bittertemperature for five days and ness, the sorrow? Have I been had to go back to the hospital. given the ward's two Pollyannas When I spoke with Reid the day to interview? Perhaps. These after his readmittance to the ward, the doctors were testing were the only two of the twelve on the ward who agreed to speak again to see what was the matto me, after all. Maybe the ter this time. His face and arms others are all locked in their were covered with purple spots, rooms feeling sorry for themand his breathing was labored. selves — but I doubt it. He seemed to be very, very tired. Like Patrick, Reid agrees that

Perhaps one reason that his sexual lifestyle probably had Reid's attitude is so positive is that his family and friends have a lot to do with his contracting been "extremely supportive, AIDS. Reid was rather more especially since he's been in the promiscuous than Patrick, howhospital. His parents flew out ever. From two or three tricks a week he cut down to one in from Miami when he got pneu-

known for fifteen years that Reid is Gay, which made it much easier for him to tell them about his illness in the first place and for them to cope with it. His friends (he prefers to call them his "guests") visit every day, bring him presents, and have even thrown a surprise birthday party for him in the hospital Only two people have backed away from him because of AIDS, Reid says. "I've heard all kinds of stories, but I haven't experienced them. Of course, my KS hasn't been as obvious as it is now. When I stopped chemotherapy, my face was all cleared up. But most of my friends realize it isn't easily communicable anyway." As if to underscore this fact,

mocystis and have been in San

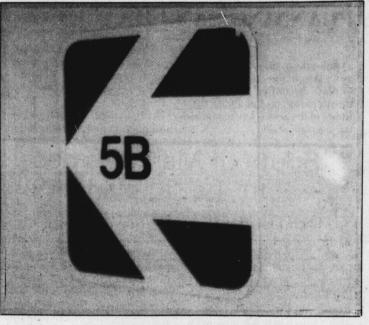
Francisco ever since. They have

one of his friends stops by to visit while we are talking. His parents are also in and out of the room during the interview. In addition, Reid is visited by the attending doctor, the woman who writes the menu, and clinical coordinator Cliff Morrison while I am there. With the constant interruptions, it is hard to see how Reid ever rests, but it is nice to know that he is no recluse, no isolated outcast. When a young man arrives to collect the garbage, however, he is wearing a mask — a reminder that some people still have fears

Reid feels that the individual attention he has received on Ward 5B has been "wonderful," largely because the unit is "real personal." Every fifteen minutes someone stops in to look after him and to see if he needs anything. "Their response is really warm," he says. When asked if he is equally satisfied with the medical treatment he has received, he responds, "That's a harder question. It's been rough. And the food is horri-'When pressed for details, Reid responds vaguely. Clearly he would be happier with his treatment if it were working better. But would he find more suc cessful treatment elsewhere? Reid doesn't know.

Since coming down with AIDS, Reid has met a great many others with the disease, although he was the first and only of his old friends to get it. Most of his friends now, in fact, are people who have AIDS, and most of these he has met through the clinic at San Francisco General. He is not presently a member of any kind of support group, however. His reason is simple. When Reid first got AIDS he went to a Shanti meeting and spent his time "distributing boxes of Kleenexes." It was an unpleasant experience for him, and he said to himself, "I don't really want to be a part of this. My life is already shorter than it was going to be. The last thing I want to do is to spend my time lamenting and crying.'

Which brings us to the main point. Twice Reid has mentioned that he has less time left



to live than other people. He seems to accept that as fact, to take it for granted. Does he indeed think that he's dying then? The other AIDS patient with whom I spoke, Patrick, talked about the future and counted on it. Does Reid think he even has a future? "I don't know," he candidly admits. "I have to be realistic. I have not been responding to treatment very well. And I have thought about dyabout him. Finding out that one of Reid's ex-co-workers was also an ex-boyfriend of mine changed

I also realized as my friends and I spoke that in some ways. despite the obvious KS spots or the giveaway cough of pneumocystis patients, AIDS is an invisible disease. I thought I had no friends with AIDS other than Steve Corpuz, but is that true? There are hundreds of people I

know by sight on the street, at

the gym, in the grocery store, or

at a movie. San Francisco is not

such a large city, after all — we run into each other all the time.

Sometimes these people drop from sight for a period of time,

and I never know where they've

gone. It may be months before

I even realize that they are gone.

Usually I assume that they have

left town for New York, Los An-

geles, or "back home," wher-

ever that is. But how many of

them are at San Francisco Gen-

eral or U.C. or R.K. Davies?

How many of them have AIDS?

Sometimes, when I see a picture

of someone who has died of

Reid Beitrusten died on December 2 — in his home in San Francisco. R.I.P.

ing. For a while, when I was first diagnosed with PCP, I was terrified, and I thought that death was already here. I wasn't eating. I didn't have any will to live. But then a doctor told me, 'I see someone who really enjoys life being extinguished in the hospital. There are no guarantees that if you leave you'll get better, but since you've stabilized, you might consider it.'

Reid acted upon the doctor's suggestion, and at home, with his parents' care, he changed his attitude about dying. He is no longer terrified of the possibility. Instead, he says, "Fear doesn't really seem to have any place in dealing with life." He has made no preparations for death, such as writing a will, but "It is something I definitely have to do," he notes. "The reason I'm avoiding it is laziness rather than denial, I think." I think so too. I have known Reid only an hour, but it seems obvious that this is someone who isn't denying anything. He knows what the future may hold. He only wants to make the best of what he has for as long as he has it.

Tot until I returned home

from San Francisco General

John and Alex's, apartment for

linner did I learn that Reid

Beitrusten, while not a persona

friend, is a friend of half the peo-

ple I know. "You interviewed

Reid?" they asked. "How is he?

We heard he was getting

worse." We talked about Reid

for a while, and they told me

that he is "real smart - a

graduate of Yale. He reads

books, too," which is saying

something, given the milieu in

which we live. As we talked,

realized that this is someone peo-

ple care about, someone who

plays an important role in other

people's lives, someone who will

eave a void if he dies. I had met

his parents and one of his friends

at the hospital, and, of course,

I knew that to them Reid was a

special person, but until I spoke

with John and Alex, Reid Beit-

rusten had no direct relationship

to my own life. He was just a

interview, someone I would feel

person with AIDS, someone

AIDS in the local papers, I have a sense of deja vu, and then I say, "Oh, I know him! I used to see him dancing at Trocadero a few years ago." How many whom I have seen, I wonder, are dancing no longer? I confess I have trouble using the present tense when writing of Reid and Patrick, particularly of Reid, for I don't know how long it will apply. I write this two weeks after my visit with them on the AIDS ward. God only knows how long it will be before you read it. What will happen to them in the meantime? Believe me, not for a moment have I forgotten the possibility that they may not be around to read this when it appears. I hope they will be. God.

I hope they will be. Regardless of what happens to Reid and Patrick, however, what of the rest of us? Will we get AIDS? That is what we realv want to know, isn't it? I have told you how Reid and Patrick are reacting to their illness, but I have said nothing of those about me who may be future patients of Ward 5B. How are we coping with the possibility that we may also be people with AIDS someday? And how are we trying to prevent it?

Some of us ignore that possibility. Others are paralyzed by it. Some carry blithely on doing the things they have always done. Some cut out sex altogether in the hopes of preventing contagion. Most of us cut down, but not out, and those of us who would like to take reasonable precautions without bowing to

nterest in only as long as I wrote (Continued on next page)

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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 15, 1983

PLANNING SAN FRANCISCO

(Continued from page 17)

a vital stake in the neighborhood as a place to live, to work, and to play. Becoming involved in the preparation of plans for the future of the area is key to maintaining that stake.

DCP staff is available to answer questions and to meet with community groups who want to know more about the project.

At this stage, the DCP is be-

South of Market is destined to be a planner's dream or nightmare.

In preparing plans for South of Market, the Department of City Planning encourages citizen involvement. "We want to hear from anyone who's energetic enough to talk to us," says Robin Jones, a senior staff member. "We would like to get those who are able to talk together in the same room and think about the options." The

plans, and Gay input to that process is welcome. When those plans are developed, public hearings will be held to get further comments. If any are interested in working on this plan for the South of Market's future, contact Susana Montana at 558-2683. Susana's coordinating the project for DCP.

C. Forester

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GRNL Search Committee Announced

Gay Rights National Lobby Co-Chairs Kate McQueen and Allan Spear announced the formation of the GRNL Search Committee for a new executive director. The committee is charged to find a replacement for Steve Endean, who after serving five years as GRNL executive director announced his resignation in October.

Tom Bastow, a Washington,

DC Attorney and new GRNL

Board member, will serve as the Search Committee Chair. Rev. Larry Uhrig, pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of Washington, DC; Ms. Amy Isaacs, Deputy Director of Americans for Democratic Action; GRNL Board member and Chicago businessman Chuck Renslow; new GRNL Board member and former executive director of "Democrats for the '80's", Peter Fenn, and GRNL Board members Kate McQueen and Cathie Hartnett will serve with Bastow on the

"The entire staff is quite excited over the formation of the Search Committee and is looking forward to the renewed energy and expertise that a new executive director will bring to GRNL," stated Deputy Director Jerry Weller.

"It will be hard to replace Steve Endean," stated Co-Chair Kate McQueen, "but we'll do our best. We're looking for someone not only with legislative lobbying expertise, but also with the ability to fundraise and administrate a national office with two field offices. Let's face being GRNL's executive director is a difficult task. McOueen added that resumes and cover letters are due by January 15, 1984 and should be sent to: Search Committee, GRNL, P.O. Box 1892, Washington, DC 20013.

Endean resigned in October after receiving relentless criticism from Southern California's David Goodstein. Goodstein charged Endean with fiscal irresponsibility and claimed the job had outgrown Endean's amateurish talents. GRNL's funds began to dry up and it is currently in debt. Portland's Jerry Weller, Endean's number two man, is currently running day to day operations.

Slaying Suspect



Slain psychiatrist Thomas Laskey

The apparent risk-taking in picking up younger men walking the streets of the city evidently did not deter Lasky. One year ago he took home two young men whom he met in an 18th and Castro donut shop. They beat him so badly that almost every bone in his face was

Police Inspectors Brosch and Erdelatz are hopeful that a B.A.R. reader will recognize Timothy Reeder's photograph and description and be able to assist them in his apprehension. Readers with information are urged to contact the officers at (415) 553-1145 or this newspaper at (415) 861-5019.

G. Mendenhall

SF's Muni

Metro LRV trains, Harold Geissenheimer said that hundreds of new busses are being added to the system. Next year there will be 149 rebuilt busses. There will also be 180 new diesel and 100 articulated busses. That's over 430 new busses.

routing for the Muni Metro, the new computer tracking system, the new windows, the new seats, a new Metro announcement system, and the new discipline procedures are all part of a commitment to long-term solutions to the Muni problems.

Ultimate responsibility for the turn around of the Muni Railway rests with General Manager Harold Geissenheimer. He is fiercely loyal to his drivers. He takes care to point out the courtesy of the station agents. He pounds away at the need to

rebuild confidence of patrons in the system. In the spirit of building rider confidence, he says he wants to hear the complaints of passengers. He assures that every letter addressed to him, he will read.

The Municipal Railway handles more customer transactions per day than any other business in San Francisco except the phone company. Harold Geissenheimer pledges that "The people deserve and will get the best because it's used."

AIDS — A Personal Exploration

extremes have a difficult road to travel. Patrick and Reid can't believe that people still exchange fluids when they have sex, for instance, but even as they expressed their concern, I knew that I was going home to have sex for the first time in months with a boyfriend I hadn't seen since February — and I wasn't going to follow their advice about what constitutes safe sex. I knew I should, but I had been celibate for months due to my skin troubles, and I was tired of it. Besides, I just couldn't see my boyfriend as a threat to me, and I idn't want to forgo such fundamental pleasures as . . . well, you know what I mean. I may have been gambling, but it seemed like such a safe bet, considering the number of people with AIDS compared to the total number of Gay people in this town - or in this country, for that matter. Yes, I have heard about the likelihood of a

two-year incubation period, but I can't help feeling that surely I must already have been exposed to the AIDS virus (if it is a virus) by now, and if I have, what difference does it make? Yet, didn't Patrick and Reid think just the same things before they

have said that I am not afraid to die, that I do not fear death as some of my friends do. Before visiting Ward 5B, neither was I afraid of catching AIDS. Oh, a little bit perhaps, but basically I saw it as a suitably symbolic way to go - if I had to go, that is. For

Gay, who has let his homosexuality influence so much of his life, what better way to go than to die of what has often been called (if erroneously) a "Gay disease"? I envisioned myself as a martyr of sorts, a sacrifice, but to what or for whom I had no idea. Since visiting Reid and Patrick, however, I no longer think that way. I am no longer unafraid of the disease. I have seen the pain, and I have heard from them of their suffering, both emotional and physical. I don't want to go through that. I don't want to endure a bronchoscophy, severe nausea, or garbagemen wearing paper masks. I don't want to lie in a hospital bed and think about dying.

Often, when I think of Mom and Dad, I think how lousy it is for them to have died so young. But think how much younger are the people who get AIDS. Perhaps that's the worst thing about the disease - by attacking the young, it upsets all our notions about what is right and fair. We ought to be able to live a long and happy life. We ought not to have to worry about dying, for God's sake. Instead, our worries should concern simple things - whether to buy Skip or Jiffy, whether to join this gym or that one, whether to take him out to dinner or to cook for him at home. Thanks to AIDS, our choices are no longer so simple. We no longer have control over what we are expected to deal

And that's another thing -AIDS shows us dramatically how little control we do have. I

like to lead an orderly life. I like security. I like to know that when the first rolls around I will have enough money to pay rent. that when I come home at night my apartment will not be vandalized, and that my boyfriend - when I have one - is faithful

to me for at least tells me the truth when he is not). All of these things I can control somewhat. None I can control entirely. But my health — it is another matter altogether. It is an enigma. Theoretically I have as much control over this matter as I do over any of the others, but it never seems to work out this way. Perhaps it is because the unknowns are greater, both in number and in magnitude.

It would be nice, wouldn't it. to end this on an upbeat note. wish I could do it. I wish I could report that Patrick and Reid are completely well again and are guaranteed to live full, rich, and lengthy lives. I wish I could report that Cliff, Bill, Anne, and Alison no longer work on Ward 5B, for Ward 5B no longer exists. I wish I could report that the AIDS "crisis" is over, for the cause and cure have been discovered. But I can't. I am - we all are - forced to deal with things as they are and not as we would like them to be. And very little about AIDS is as we would like it to be.

The other day I received a letter from my sister, Missy, on the second anniversary of our father's death, and in it she summed up her feelings about his death, about Mom's, and about all sickness and loss in one word. "Robbed!" she wrote. "Robbed, robbed, robbed!" I couldn't agree more.

M. Hippler

GREATER BAY NEW

East Bay Demos

Status and Strategy

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club organized a meeting at the Alameda County Democratic Party Headquarters in Hayward on November 29 to discuss the meaning of AB-1 to the Gay and Lesbian community and its current status in the State Senate. Emphasis at the meeting of South County Gays and Lesbians was on the pivotal role of Senator Bill Lockyer who represents the southern half of Alameda County.

For nearly a year, the EBL/GDC has been generating letters and telephone calls in support of the bill as well as working in coalition with sympathetic straight friends and groups in the area. President Armand Boulay expressed cautious optimism that Lockyer will consider the bill favorably at the crucial moment. Strategy was coordinated by Political Action Chair Tom Brougham and speakers included Cleve Jones, Lisa Katz and Stan Hadden. Participating were also Hayward Gay activist Cliff Cayanus, Hayward Gay Sheriff Sean, attorney Gary Key, Carole Isaacks of MCC/Hayward, Paul Boneberg and the president of the Hayward

Diablo Rap

The Friday Night Rap Sup-

port Group will decorate with

shiny and fragile baubles on

December 23 at 8 PM. The

Diablo Valley Community Center is at 1818 Colfax in Con-

cord. Info: 674-0171

From Castro to Christopher



Democratic Club.

For information about how to help on AB-1 in the southern county area, call 849-3983. Senator Bill Lockyer can be reached at 22300 Foothill Drive, Suite 415, Hayward 94541 or at

A recent picture of the EBL/GDC

omitted naming Eric Hsu (above) the club's Recording Secretary and

多多多

Photography by Nicholas Bla

NYC Button Contest

The Christopher Street Liberation Day Committee (CSLDC) has announced its Button Design Contest for the 1984 Gay & Lesbian Pride March and Rally. The deadline for submissions is January 1 1984. The winning designer will receive \$100 and dinner for two at one of New York's Gay restaurants.

The design must meet the

following criteria: 1) It must be pro-Lesbian/Gay; 2) It must be in one or two colors, not counting white; 3) It must fit a round button 21/4" in diameter; 4) It must include the words "Gay," "Lesbian," as well as the phrase "Christopher St. Liberation Day, June 24, 1984, New York City"; 5) It must incorporate the theme of the 1984 March and Rally — "Unity & More in '84. . Remembering Stonewall."

The winning design will pecome the property of CSLDC. All submissions must include the designer's name, address and telephone number. Only designs accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope will be returned. Submissions should be sent to: CSLDC '84 Button Design Contest, 147 W. 42nd St., Room 603, New York, NY



We've been there. We're still here. We'll lead the way — The Bay Area Reporter



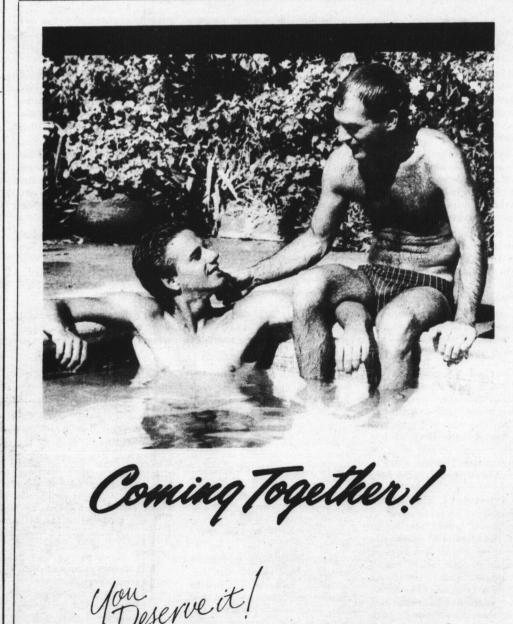
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B.A.R. INTERVIEW



The Music May Have Been In Her, But Linda Tillery Couldn't Let It Out

life of triple jeopardy. That's how Linda Tillery described her fragmented existence on her first A solo album in 1978. She was bigger than a woman who was supposed to be Black, and Lesbian. And although musically involved from early childhood, her career as a professional musician was similarly fragmented and abortive until she resolved the conflicts caused by an identity composed of fractions.

In her own words, Tillery always was "a real big girl." At age thirteen, entering junior high school, she was already five feet, seven inches tall and weighed two hundred pounds. Her size made her the subject of much teasing, and she was defensive and withdrawn. Frequently violent, she was goaded — usually by boys — into fist fights arising from taunting about her stature. "I became very particular about whom I would let in," she recalled. Her first strong sense of being different arose from these

Tillery was raised in the Fillmore, but was not particularly aware that she lived in a ghetto. When she was in junior high school, her family moved to Ingleside, a mostly middle-class white neighborhood, and she sharply experienced the second revelation of her differentness: "I became aware for the first time of conflicts between my Black culture and the predominant white middle-class culture of the city, differences in speech, in dress and hair styles, and in behavior." For an adolescent girl already troubled with self-acceptance, this was not an easy experience.

At the same time Tillery was becoming aware of terms like "fruit," "faggot," and the Black slang "bulldagger." She heard whispered rumors about gym teachers. As a child of five she'd fallen in love with Annette Funicello, and was aware these feelings were different from other feelings of love. Now, Linda's feelings towards other women, previously limited to the television screen, resurfaced as crushes on the other girls in the school orchestra. She now dealt with her third difference, being a Lesbian. A physically large, Black Lesbian.

This triple whammy made her feel isolated. "In 1962 there was no feminist movement, no Gay rights movement. There was no one to tell me that it was okay to love another woman and to love myself as a woman." Although already involved with both music and another woman, the lack of role models

he child of a working class family, her memories are of a comfortable, warm, and loving home, anchored by her mother who was, and remains, her best friend. Both of her parents were music lovers. though neither could carry a tune. There was a large collection of records in the house which provided Linda with the beginnings of her musical education. Even before she could read, she learned to choose her favorite albums by their logos or the color of their labels. Dinah Washington and Count Basie were early favorites. (The senior Tillerys preferred blues and jazz to the then contemporary rock sounds.) Her older brother introduced her to rhythm and blues, and she listened to Clyde McPhatter and LaVerne Baker. Even Kate Smith impressed her - Smith was loud. While assimilating these influences, Tillery said, "I discovered bath-

room acoustics. I'd go into the bathroom, shut the door, and just stand there and wail and bellow out songs!'

non-Gay examples to follow and

they fell into "butch" and

"femme" roles. Linda was the

butch, but she found the role

constricting. Her need to express

vulnerability, or even to cry,

didn't fit the role she thought she

was expected to play. So she re-

pressed those feelings as she had

earned before to repress her

frustrations and resentment over

all those ways in which she

found herself to be different.

The surface cool was main-

Still another source of confu-

sion to teenager Tillery was the

conflict of her Baptist upbring-

ing with her sexual preference.

She sang in the church choir and

heard the hellfire and brimstone

sermons. She took her role as a

Christian seriously. How could

she square that with being a

Her affair ended when

Michelle and her family emi-

"bulldagger"?

Her first formal musical training began in junior high, and even in music her size thwarted her plans. She'd wanted to play the violin, but the music teacher took one look at the tall girl with big hands and assigned her to the string bass. It was her instrument throughout her high school

Her participation in the school orchestra did ease her isolation, and enabled her to display a determination that later became so characteristic. After a long and calculated courtship (modeled after the example of her cousin, a Casanova several years her senior), she initiated an affair with classmate

The lack of Lesbian role models left the couple with only BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 15, 1983 PAGE 24

certainly not a Lesbian and that Lesbians were perverted. The ending of this three-year affair left Linda confused, threatened, and without any support system whatever. She did not know even one Lesbian woman in whom to confide. Once again, she buried the feelings. She became virtually asexual. Throughout her formal musical training in high school - still

grated to Canada. As her part-ing gesture, Michelle announced to Linda that she (Michelle) was

on the string bass - Linda had continued to sing. She sang in the church choir, in school variety shows. Her instrument and talent were beyond doubt. Symptomatic of her other identity problems, she could not find a musical direction to take. As a Black woman she felt the opportunities of an opera singer were too limited; the classical European repertoire did not attract her, either, Within American popular music there seemed to be too much that did not work for her. "I didn't want to go to Las Vegas and wear sequined gowns and sing love songs about Harry and Charles when what I meant was Harriet and The statement reveals that,

despite her withdrawn nature and isolated feelings, a woman of some self-knowledge was lurking within. After graduating high school, she went to work in the post office, and slowly began to carve a life that met her needs and capitalized on her strengths. There were to be some despairing lows before she reached her present success, though.

Her first break came quickly.

toms began. Her heart would race uncontrollably. She would twitch at the temples. Her hands grew numb. She suffered violent headaches. When she sought medical help she was told that she had no physical illness. She committed herself to a psychiatric hospital, the first of three times she did so. Working with therapists Linda learned over a period of time that she had been living in denial, that she was full of anger, and that she had been sitting on her feelings for years. She was angry with herself for suppressing her Gayness. She had never been able to accept herself in all the varieties of her

ety attacks. Hysterical symp-

Slowly, one step at a time, she worked her way back to mental health. She started meeting Gay people, men and women. She entered into a new relationship with a woman which continued for two and a half years. She became totally upfront about being a Lesbian. In 1974, at age 26, she quit singing publicly for a year and spent her time getting involved in Oakland's Lesbian community, particularly with a group of Third World Lesbians called "Gente." She organized a chorus called the Gente Gospel-

At the same time, Tillery kept her recording career going, cutting records with Coke Escovedo and Lenny White. An important new direction in her career was her affiliation with Olivia Records, an independent recording company using women artists, engineers, and producers. She produced albums by BeBe K'Roche and Teresa

"I didn't want to go to Las Vegas and wear sequined gowns and sing love songs about Harry and Charles when what I meant was Harriet and Charlesetta."

In 1968 she answered an advertisement in the San Francisco Chronicle and landed her first professional singing job as the vocalist for a rhythm and blues band called "The Loading Zone." San Francisco was in the midst of a rock music explosion in the late Sixties. Singing with "The Loading Zone," she shared the bill at the fabled Fillmore Auditorium with stars such as Arlo Guthrie, Chuck Berry, Iron Butterfly, and Janis Joplin. "The Loading Zone' was under contract to RCA Victor and the first of her many recordings was as their lead vocal-

Now a public person, Tillery had the external indices of success. Money, fame, music, and partying filled her life. Underneath, she was still confused about her sexuality. She continued to be afraid that she would be rejected and ostracized, both socially and in her work, if she was upfront as a Lesbian. She continued to repress her sexuality. She managed to work up enough courage confide in her good friend Patrick O'Hara, the trombonist with "The Loading Zone." Patrick warned her not to tell anyone else, reinforcing her

The pressures mounted. She began to suffer from severe anxiTrull. In 1978 she produced her own album for Olivia simply called Linda Tillery. She sang:

If I could just tell you what it's To live this life of triple jeopardy I fight the daily battles of all my

Olivia Records was important

vided a working environment which was supportive of her as a woman and as a Lesbian. But Olivia's music is White music, and Linda, as a Black woman. needed to express her cultural roots in her music - blues, rhythm and blues, and jazz. She left Olivia and has not recorded in several years. But she has been far from idle, singing constantly in the Bay Area and on tour. She recently completed a successful seven-week tour to twenty-six cities all over the United States. And, while she still has a strong following in the women's community, she finds that her audiences are growing more diverse. She was recently honored with a "Jammie" award as Best Female Vocalist. ultimate recognition of her talent by her peers. Now she is planning to produce her own record, singing her own music.

(Continued on page 39)

TALES OF TESSI TURA

Godunov for Me

Opera writer George Heymont's weekly coverage of the 1983 S.F. Opera season concludes with his views of its last two productions plus an assessment of the season as a whole.

he man I followed out to California in 1972 was firmly convinced that no one should live past the age of 30. Having decided that by that time he would have done everything. imaginable in life, Chuck made it his business to commit suicide at 28. He was a fool. If playing for a longer run means developing a different perspective on (and appreciation of) one's life experiences, my hope is that those who have been living exclusively in the fast lane might realize that certain things are indeed worth waiting for. Yes, Virginia, there are experiences which should be slowly savored rather than being voraciously consumed on the run.

Some Gay men are learning that there are grander pleasures which await us if we can descend from the frenzied treadmill of our twenties. One friend (who recently turned 50) confessed, "Much to my surprise and amazement, it keeps getting better every year." If 1983 goes down in history as the season Gay men began to hold back their quest for instant sexual gratification, perhaps it will also mark the beginning of a new trend toward acquiring patience rather than disease syndromes. Suddenly we're hearing people say "I'd really rather have dinner before we do anything," or shyly whisper "I don't fuck on the first date."

FOR WHOM THE **BELL TOLLS**

Thus, I'm delighted to report that the San Francisco Opera's production of Boris Godunov was living proof that the best stuff sometimes comes last. No ifs, ands, or buts about it. The final production of the 1983 season was a superbly realized job from start to finish. Whether one focuses on the meticulously etched character performances by Donna Peterson, Robert Tate, Kevin Langan, and David Gordon or the stupendous work by the chorus, it was a phenomenal evening of theatre.

It was, as it should be, an ensemble evening. Using Ming



Czar Wars. A shaky Boris Godunov Nicolai Ghiaurov) contemplates Russia's future in Mussorgsky's epic

Cho Lee's highly evocative sets (on loan from the Met), director David Kneuss staged Mussorgsky's mammoth opera with an exquisite sense of musical pageantry. Capturing many moments of peasant humor and neatly juxtaposing them with the horrific grandeur of Czarist Russia, Kneuss vividly brought the score to life. He was aided immensely by Marek Janowski (whose conducting was distinguished by a musical vision and professional cleanliness). Wieslaw Ochman's Grigory and Stefka Mineva's Marina bore a fighting pride (although the tenor occasionally sounded a bit strained). In his brief moments as Pimen, John Tomlinson made a powerful debut which nearly overwhelmed the impact of Nicolai Ghiaurov's performance in the title role. There is a tendency among

music writers to fill up space demonstrating their historical research or questioning various musicological pieces of trivia. The mark of total satisfaction on my part is a desire to treasure the experience in private and say nothing more about it. When a job is that well done, it is best left well enough alone.

INTO THE LION'S MOUTH

If Boris Godunov impressed with its immensity, what better opera to match it up with than La Gioconda, which demands as large a cast as Godunov to convey its complicated story. Rather than attend La Rotunda's performances, I chose to check out Maria Slatinaru, who made her American debut in the title role of Ponchielli's sprawling melodrama.

Ms. Slatinaru was, indeed, quite thrilling. Dramatically appealing and with a powerful, well-focused voice which could cut through the largest moments in the score, she made a nice foil for tenor Franco Bonisolli, who gave audiences a far more dramatically convincing Enzo than Luciano Pavarotti's characterization several years ago. Despite a cold, Metteo Manuguerra was an effective Barnaba. Some of the strongest singing came from Sheila Nadler as La Cieca.

The singer who truly inspired giggles, however, was Mariana Paunova. The Bulgarian contralto's Laura must have been modeled after a bored suburban housewife or a dead fish on ice. This portrayal was outdistanced by Ms. Paunova's glacial, mannequin-like behavior during curtain calls. In between evil snickers, one longed for a cattle

And what of the music? An overblown work which is often performed at a rather fast clip (no doubt to meet the demands of union time), La Gioconda has never been known for its more subtle effects. Conductor Andrew Meltzer took the necessary time to let many crucial parts of Ponchielli's score breathe that sorely needed extra moment in order to achieve a lush beauty which is so often sadly ignored. Although Meltzer dragged out some tempos to the point where singers were gasping for breath, the overall effect suited Ponchielli's opera quite well. This was not an interpretation one will hear in opera houses very often, but one which is, nevertheless, artistically justifiable if the singers can survive turning blue in the face.

I must admit to being pleasantly surprised by the conducting in this production for, on the basis of Meltzer's previous work, I had braced myself for the worst. It's nice to be proven

HOLD THE ONIONS,

In assessing Terry McEwen's 1983 season, I think it is important for people to recognize the physical size of the productions we have seen. Regardless of their varying degrees of artistic success, the Boris, Otello, Midsummer Marriage, Samson, Gioconda, and Grand Duchesse productions were all ex-tremely big shows to mount. Each required a tremendous amount of work from the chorus, orchestra, stagehands, and costume people way before the curtain even rose. In comparison, works like La Traviata, Manon Lescaut, and Katya Kabanova might seem easy enough to produce. Rest assured, they are not. It is a dangerous trap for audiences to assume that one can take the easy road when preparing these works, or 1983's delicately bal-



The Man That Got Away. Ponchielli's street singer (Maria Slatinaru) contemplates suicide in La Gioconda

anced Ariadne auf Naxos, for

What San Franciscans are seeing, however, are some very important changes in the quality level of the basic product. Productions have a larger, more technically sophisticated feel to them. The overall level of conducting has risen by leaps and bounds from what we heard during Adler's years. And let's fact facts: some of the flimsier productions in the warehouse ought never to be seen again. The initial shock of Terry's penchant for glitter and glitz has worn off and within the next year local audiences will get a firmer grasp on the differences between the McEwen and Adler styles of production.

Alas, every season has its turkey and — although some will vehemently disagree with me - that turkey was not Sir Michael Tippett's The Midsummer Marriage. The American premiere of this opera was a well-chosen 20th century piece which was not meant to be a box-office hit but rather an artistic feather in the San Francisco Opera's cap. Here McEwen succeeded in spades and, after attending two performances, I heartily applaud his effort. I happen to have liked the show in its entirety (which is more than can be said for those queens who stomped out after the first act, huffing and puffing that Tippett's piece was the worst thing of the season).

San Francisco Opera was also hit with an overwhelming number of cancellations this year which, quite understandably, undermined the best laid plans of mice and McEwen. Sadly, what Terry banked on as a surefire box office hit (La Grande Duchesse de Gerolstein) backfired appallingly. One might suggest Big Mac would be

better off relying on fewer of his aging divas in the coming years. ime and attrition will take care of that!

The word around the opera house these days is a somber "We ain't got no money." This fall evidenced a shocking number of empty seats and an equally horrifying cessation of live broadcasts in the Bay Area. Although 1984's summer festival currently seems intact, several sources report that, as a means of cutting costs, canceling the summer season was suggested at a recent board meeting. There will be 12 Adler fellows on the payroll next year and for costeffective reasons audiences can expect to see apprentice singers playing a greater part in future

The money problem can be resolved in two ways. First, by cutting back (which McEwen seems to be doing with a ven-geance) and second, by reaching out. Recent fundraising materials have had a markedly more inviting tone than Adler's autocratic approach of "Give or I'll cut your balls off." McEwen is stressing his dream for San Francisco audiences and, despite my personal disagreement with a few of his moves, I'll bank on much of his vision. Whether or not he can succeed depends in large part upon his health, stamina, and how avidly the audience buys and believes in his product.

The vigor with which Terry McEwen goes out fundraising is going to be responsible for the future of the San Francisco Opera. It's one thing to plead poverty but quite another to bite the bullet and hit the campaign trail. 1984 promises some very exciting opera throughout the United States. One hopes McEwen will be setting standards, not lowering them.

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STAGE

The Ultimate Disconnection

by Dan Turner

ill Barksdale has composed an intimate journey into the world of AIDS. With few words and some rather startling visual effects, he makes us feel the impact of caring for a friend

who is dying with AIDS. He walks barefoot into a dark room and is menaced by unexpected lights and muffled voices. The clock ticks. The nurse repeats, 'There's going to be a little stick

He tells us of a new appreciation of life, a walk into the night where trees and sweet perfume are "mine just for the mo-ment." He feels guilty for going to a movie instead of visiting his friend. "I should have brought

the vitamin C home. I should have called." He walks, then runs in circles. He beats up the Yellow Pages and then says, "I forgive myself."

characters themselves and take on an importance of their own. Kudos to Joe Dowling (lights) and Mark Senjamin (sound). The voice of the nurse is Tessa Loehwing. The voice of the bigot is Leland Moss. Nightmare of the Son: My Shadow Land would work ef-

He tells a funny story about Lily Pons singing La Traviata.

scene from a hospital bed using

his hands as puppets. He sings both parts. "My life with you is

coming to an end." The person

with AIDS is dying like Vio-

letta. The friend, like her lover,

The reality of the situation in-

trudes on the allegorical. Barks-

dale is no longer in the bed him-

self, but trying to comfort and hug his friend without discon-

necting any of the life supporting

tubes. There is an operation. He

is disconnected from his friend.

himself. He is asked to wait in

much fear and feeling, all that

is left to say is a rush of words

describing the final moments.

followed by the scream, "I love

When the performance was

over, a member of the audience

told the actor, "I feel like com-

Though the performance is a

one-man show, both lights and

sounds are used almost like

you! I always will!'

forting you.

After the expression of so

is unwilling to believe.

fectively in AIDS awareness and sensitivity training sessions. It's theatricality is insightful, not

Nightmare of the Son Studio Eremos at Project Artaud Through December 23; 552-3541

good cheer.

Joy Have They

by John F. Karr

h, yes - we all know A h, yes — we all know A Christmas Carol: Scrooge becomes a nice guy and gives everybody presents. It's been some time since I've read it, but after seeing ACT's pointed production, I realized my presumed familiarity with the story may have been deceptive. Perhaps Dickens' welter of words obscured some finer points for me; perhaps ACT's adapters have taken liberties. I went to the theatre expecting spectacle, production values, and a corny story. What I saw was modest yet creatively conceived and surprisingly immediate and contemporary.

What does a nice Jewish homosexual like I find in such a Christian story? Exactly what Laird Williamson saw - a story that transcends both religious and gender orientation, a story that transcends any specific holiday to talk about all people on all days of the year.

Familiar territory is given new twists in this version, portraying Scrooge not simply as the villain, but showing how he got there. Our sympathies thus engendered, we experience his transformation as our own. It's clever, and explains the continued popularity of the show, now in its eighth year!

"No external cold could chill Scrooge," we're told, and then shown why. He removed himself from feeling by his own choice. It's an easy road to take, based in self-defense, and difficult to

Did I remember Scrooge's unhappy, lonely childhood? His yearning for recognition, acceptance, from his father?

Did I remember his misguid-

ed wish for power in business and a personal fortune, when he should have wished for love and trust with his sweetheart? She advises him that he cannot buy his father. "If you love him, you can free your heart," she says, summing up the whole play.

Illuminating the Dark. Bill Barksdale has written and performs the in-

sightful, theatrical Nightmare of the Son, confronting the spectre of an AIDS death. (Photo: S. Savage)

* * * The script is terse, witty, and avoids the maudlin. Performances were excellent in the leads and spotty among the large number of students in the supporting roles. The show has taken on the patina of ritual, an unusually slow beginning par-ticularly offsetting. Laird Wil-



From Bah! to Ah. William Peterson (center) alternates with the excellent Sidney Walker as Scrooge in A Christmas Carol, here pained at seeing his younger self (D. Paul Yeuell) losing his beloved Belle (Annette Bening).

Did I remember this sweetheart turning him out because of his business pursuits, not realizing that her love might have thawed the chill that was possessing his heart?

With his character portrayed so humanly, we pity rather than condescend to him. Scrooge reforms not from fear of his own death, or from the loneliness and sorrow the visiting ghosts have shown him to be his legacy. He changes because he comes to understand the nature of life, and embraces with true understanding the carol sung by the cast: Joy have they that make

liamson's direction has been restaged by Eugene Barcone; I suspect some rhythmic snap has been lost over the years.

I'm one of those people who doesn't give a damn if I get the Christmas spirit or not. It's true that Ronnetttte taught me to love, but ACT's A Christmas Carol gave me the reasons for loving and the methods to implement my feeling. No small achievement, and one that is not just for Christmas, but for the

A Christmas Carol Through December 24; 673-6440

STAGE

Uncoupled Christmas

by Bernard Spunberg

luffy but not spineless, British playwright Alan Ayckbourne's Christmas comedy, Season's Greetings, is currently enjoying its U.S. pre-miere at Berkeley Rep. A direct descendant of the brittle, sophisticated comedies of Noel Coward, Season's Greetings depicts the convergence of three couples and Uncle Harvey on the middle-class home of Neville and Belinda for holiday hijinks.

Funny gags concerning Christmas cliches abound, but the entrance of Charles Dean as a nice guy novelist throws the women into an unexpected tizzy. He's really not so special; he is appealing because he represents possible respite from humdrum

Michelle Morain portrays a doctor's wife as a walking disaster area. Fluttering and flapping, Morain feverishly woos the novelist by asking him to tell her all about English literature. Her husband (Brian Thompson) is meanwhile consumed by preparations for his annual children's puppet show. When everything goes wrong, Thompson's childish pouting and hysteria shrivel up into a humiliated lump of good intentions unfulfilled

Hope Alexander-Willis and David Booth are suave and chic as the host couple. Though there's nothing terribly wrong with their relationship, there's nothing terribly right with it, either. Dignified and resigned to her acceptance of the sort of relationship her husband offers. Alexander-Willis falls to pieces when she meets her novelist houseguest. Booth strikes the right note of outraged pride when he defends his exclusive right to his wife's favors, but he lavishes his finest efforts on repairing broken toys.

Judith Marx invited the novelist to the party in the first place. Her repressed passions surface in confused outpourings that embarrass both her and the novelist, but they are sympathetic to anyone who has experienced unrequited lust. Marx and Alexander-Willis play sisters competing for the same man, and their rivalry has an unspoken history that enriches

Irving Israel's Uncle Harvey has manners too crude for an informal dogfight. He's a nut case, so please - no sudden moves. Uncle Harvey is armed.

Michael Tulin and Emily Heebner, young proteges of the than they make love. Tulin plays a charming, irresponsible, spoiled brat. Heebner's maternal instincts bloom in the presence of children, her husband included, Ironically, Tulin and Heebner may have the most

What Shall We Do to Pass the Days? Young wife Pattie (Emily Heebner) maintains a state of pregnancy; Bernard (Brian Thompson) takes up pup-petry in the Berkeley Rep's Season's Greetings.

durable of all the relationships. Inconsistent accents are distracting, as are Christmas carols

sung by Bing Crosby, the Chip-munks, and the Muppets. Are they meant to represent the Americanization of Christmas in England? These caveats aside, Douglas Johnson's direction achieves slick comic timing

the performance, but when the laughter fades, the characters stick in the memory.

Season's Greetings Berkeley Repertory Theatre Through January 15; 845-4700

while giving the darker elements

of Season's Greetings their

due. Humor is foremost during

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TONE DEAFTONE DEAFTONE

Illusions of Patsy

IERRY DE GRACIA

The name Patsy Cline conjures up visions of tear-jerking country ballads, pickup trucks, and cowboys of the pre-Urban variety. But local musicians "Patsy Cline & The Memphis G Spots," whose act tributes the great Country songstress, are a long way from being home on the range.

The obvious camp of their act may seem less than flattering, with lead singer Arturo Galster doing his bit in look-alike drag, but the band's musical ability manages to pay homage to the great Patsy Cline material with a humorous flair that even the real Patsy Cline couldn't help but love.



Hankering for Patsy. Patsy Cline (aka Arturo Galster) and her three Hanks perform as Patsy Cline & The Memphis G Spots.

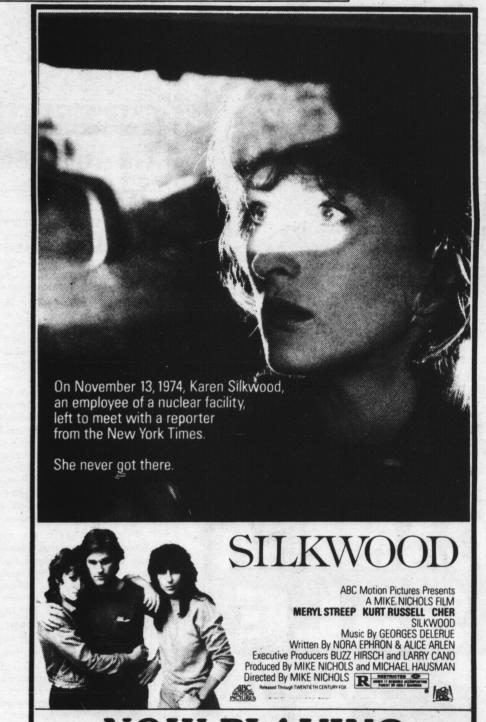
Home on the range for lead singer Arturo is a large flat on Valencia Street. I spent some time there trying to find out more about the guy behind the Patsy Cline illusion.

Being a prime example myself of "If you need to see me before the sun goes down, you're liable to wake me," I was not surprised by his sleepy look or the natty bathrobe he was lounging around in. Besides, having awoken Deborah Iyall once, only Divine before breakfast

would really strike me as interesting.

Arturo kept referring to the band's current act as "novelty, which in part it undeniably is Although Arturo seemed oblivious to the whys and wherefores of any following the band may have now or in the future, there is something beyond the camp surface of the band's work. That elusive appeal is a combination of the talent, skill, proven material, and pure entertainment

(Continued on page 29)



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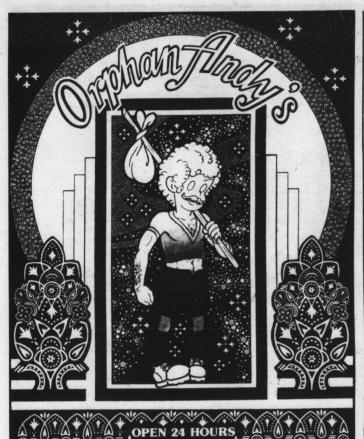
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MUSIC

Close to the Heart

Virile Performances Enliven Christmas Concert

by Bernard Spunberg

ick Kramer's Gay Men's Chorale is presenting a small and select series of Christmas concerts in the cozy sanctuary of St. Francis' Lutheran Church. At the December 6 concert, Kramer's virile, manly approach was evident from the first in the familiar Advent chant, "O Come, O Come, Immanuel." Too often sung with pale, washed-out tone, Kramer's Chorale created the impression of sturdy knights rather than anemic monks.

Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols is a combination of the inspired and the manufactured, and Kramer's performance was a similarly mixed bag. Slackening rhythms and coarse tone marred "Wolcom "There is No Rose' Yole. found the Chorale working hard to achieve secure intonation and warm blend. But "As Dew in Aprille" was fully warmed up and in tune. Ethereal piano expanded easily to gleaming forte, and the Chorale reveled in rippling modal counterpoint. The Chorale rose to the contrasting challenges of "This Little Babe and "In Freezing Winter Night' with performances of fullblooded passion and awed

While blend shimmered in and out of focus during the first half of the concert, the second half began with a sweetly glowing rendition of Kramer's own arrangement of a work of J. S. Bach, performed in English under the title "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heav'nly Light. Sung antiphonally, Kramer's performance established a standard that was maintained throughout Sweelinck's "Hodie Christus natus est" and Jakob Handl's "O Magnum Myste-

The Sweelinck was marked by carefully graded dynamics, steady rhythmic pulse, subtle shifts of color, and longbreathed phrases that generated a mood of spiritual ecstasy. The Handl was distinguished by smooth ensemble among the solo quartet that was mirrored by tone of instrumental purity among the Chorale.

The Chorale performed Poulenc's "Quatre petites prieres de Saint-Francois d'Assise" last spring. Encore performances are justified by Poulenc's varied application of medieval and modern techniques as well as Kramer's affinity for the com-

poser's personal voice. Krame and his Chorale achieved a fin performance that almost match ed the lofty standard set in the spring, when close attention to the color of French vowels gave the music an added dimension.

Kramer's arrangement of Healey Willan's "The Three Kings" was sung with blend that stayed balanced and warm through crescendi, reflecting sensitive musicianship. This was sustained throughout the tradi-tional "As It Fell Upon a Night" and Randall Thompson's "Pueri Hebraeorum." Several small pieces by Alfred Burt were sprinkled throughout the pro-gram. New choral literature is always welcome, and not every composer can be a Beethoven: still, Burt's music has a sameness of color and texture that may not bear repetition.

With his Chorale seated among the audience, Kramer concluded the concert by conducting everyone in traditional Christmas carols. Sound a little corny? Maybe, but if you're feeling alienated this season, you may find that close proximity to beautiful men's voices can vibrate all the way to your heart.

Gay Men's Chorale

Christmas Concert St. Francis Lutheran Church,

152 Church Street Tuesday, December 20; 8 PM; \$6

BACK TO BATON

The Right Stuff

PHILIP CAMPBELL

ulti-millionaire philan-thropist Louise M. Davies has what it takes and she knows how to use it. Her love of music and municipal pride coupled with a seemingly inexhaustible fortune has built San Francisco the symphony hall that bears her name and now an endowment gift of three million dollars (!) has ensured that the hall will be getting the very best n guest conductors.

Of course, there's more to the endowment than simply providing good music when present Music Director Edo de Waart is away from the podium. Inspite of Reaganomics, three million bucks still buys a lot and those alluring greenbacks will hopefully attract big name maestros who might be possible replace-ments when de Waart leaves.

Worried negativists are already predicting that this will only prolong the search and have a demoralizing effect on the possibility to me.

Aside from being an astounding display of good will, Mme. Davies' gift will be good business. For symphony patrons, the pleasure of seeing top flight conductors will be heightened by the knowledge that the guest artists will also be, in a sense, auditioning.

World class "stars" who might have shied away from the musical "provinces" before will certainly reconsider now that the financial groundwork is set. The question of orchestra morale shouldn't affect their performance, faced with the prospect of paying under acknowledged masters. The symphony tends to show their best side to visitors.

The search will inevitably go on as long as necessary, so it is important that the Symphony Association not allow this to become merely an opportunity to enhance ticket revenues. It is also a fact that the orchestra needs the discipline of working

under an ongoing leadership with singular artistic vision.

Finally, the guest artists, themselves, must not be placed in an uncomfortably charged atmosphere of unrealistically high expectations. They face enough critical scrutiny without being made to feel that their performance is basically a high level

Finding the best successor will be a complicated business. The



Dame with Dollars. Benefactress Louise M. Davies has provided an endowment fund for the hiring of frontranking conductors.

person with the "right stuff" must be more than a personality and satisfying musician. To further the excellent building program initiated by Edo de Waart will require a diplomat who possesses the ability to mold and nurture musical excellence without scaring off the traditionally conservative subscribers.

Louise Davies built the house and now she has assured that only the best will be considered for its custodianship.

THANKS, WE'LL BE IN TOUCH

Visiting conductor Antal

Dorati was present at the lunch where Mrs. Davies bestowed her millions and so it's conceivable that he's under consideration for the post of

Maestro Dorati's advanced age is a drawback despite his obvious vitality. The most recorded of all modern conductors, he has helped to build three symphonic orchestras. They are hardly major institutions, however, and his two recent performances did little to excite renewed interest in his long and accomplished career. I can only hope that he is not a serious contender. Seeing him twice a year might prove pleasant, but the thought of having him in charge is excrutiating.

Taking a distinctly bland approch to programming endeared posed no real challenge to either the musicians or himself. The resulting concerts were an exercise in pleasant tedium.

It's usual for visitors to opt for the tried and true when rehearsal time is at a minimum, but honestly, the Brahms Third and the Beethoven as well?

Dorati's second appearance piqued more interest but it turnway. His treatment of Bartok's "Two Pictures" was curiously uninvolving considering his acquaintance with the composer and his Bartok recordings, done with flair and idiomatic under-

It wasn't unforgiveable that Mr. Dorati seized upon the occasion to present us with a performance of his own Piano Concerto with his wife Ilse Von Alpenheim at the keys; just a mistake. Warning us, rather smugly, in his own program notes that the piece is tonal . . . "I am a tonal composer by instinct," seemed to say he's a reactionary and pretty pleased about it. The Concerto itself explores the boundaries of banalsm and only manages to interest in its final pages. There is one unintentionally hilarious moment when the chimes announce that Avon's calling, but for the most part this is not a humorous endeavor.

(Continued on page 32)

FROM FIFTH POSITION

Joe Goode: Emotional Flash Cards

KEITH WHITE

hortly after the performance began, I realized that an aspect of Joe Goode's work had been mysteriously diminished in my memory: the humor. His performance dates have been widely spaced and each new program reflects a changing sensibility, but in the recent "American Inroads" concert at the New Performance Gallery, Joe Goode emerged as a satirist and humorist as well as a dancer/choreographer.

Goode's 1982 Low Tech Duet for himself and Naomi Gruen seems a much longer work now than at its premiere. It is a dance composed of emo-tional flash cards in two suits, which are named during Gruen's opening solo: "yes" and "no." Throughout the piece, every inflection of every usage of those two words is dramatically spoken and accompanied by emotion-specific movement ideas. Goode and Gruen each have solos and share two duets. Against the sounds of a Sixties rock radio station, the final duet over and over bogs down into stalemate only to be revived

TONE DEAF

(Continued from page 27)

band's composition.

that stems more from the enjoy-

ment deriving from the overall

illusion than from a predomi-

nance of any single aspect of the

While he seemed assured that

on the local scene it was inevita-

ble that people would tire of the act, he seemed less sure of what

might happen personally if the band decided to call it quits in

the future. Arturo and the three

musicians who back him -

whom he calls "Hank, Hank

and Hank" — recently returned from New York, where they

Thinking of the end at this

stage of the game seems a bit

premature; in their year of

working together they haven't yet suffered from overexposure.

But Arturo seemed intrigued with the possibility of develop-ing a local following as "Patsy Cline & The Memphis G Spots"

and then fading away. I asked

BIGDAND LITTLE

aved at Danceteria

Pyramid Club.

Infinite Possibilities. Naomi Gruen (r.) can soar on the ideas of Joe Goode (l.).

if he fantasized about dying pre

maturely in a plane crash, the

real Patsy's unfortunate end,

and he answered "No" in an

His answer is indicative of a

musician who can separate the

act from the person, the fantasy

from reality, without difficulty.

The act is obviously not a fan-

tasy surpassing healthy boun-

daries to points of schizophrenia

or beyond . . . it is simply cross-

At 24, it is not surprising that

Arturo's future plans are non-

existent or at least haven't solidi-

fied into driving ambition. His

daily objectives seem rather

malleable. The creation of the

act excites him, which he made

clear by remaining rather blase

until he started showing me the patterns for his Christmas show

outfit. They were spread out on

his bedroom floor, and as he

showed me the various pieces he

became more interested in dis-

involved in creating it.

work will soon be featured in Wimmin's Comix.

cussing the act and ingredients

Creating alone seems to be his

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes cartoonist Leslie Ewing to its pages

as a regular contributor with her strip Big "D" and Little Ike. Ewing's

dressing as performance art.

unamused tone.

again - a "yes" and "no" con-

sider only the spoken phrases. sorry ... we're together. be that the further he develops his solo style, the less heavy i

Rolnick. The nonsensical opening monologue seemed to invoke
— in a daffy and disjointed way the jaded memoirs of an ag-

The evening's second piece, a new solo, was a minor departure in style for Goode; a major portion of the piece is danced to (rather than against, or without) music. I'm Sorry was inspired by the Brenda Lee song of the same name, and I expected high melodrama. Goode's opening mandate, "get it right" (phrased and paraphrased with the variety we've come to expect), followed by a litany of "I'm sorries" (all the things he decided to say he was sorry for in this dance) are pathetic if we con-But the actual rendering of these emotions was more comedic. With the same degree of sincerity, "I'm sorry . . . you're alone" was followed by "I'm Goode perversely encourages us to laugh at these misfortunes and the audience may have been primed for humor - perhaps Goode is developing a reputation for being funny. Or it may

> mutability that makes her look "right" all the time. She took obvious pleasure in the occasional vocal demands made of her by this work; she dances alone or in ensemble with exquisite articulation and is so tiny that Goode could throw her around like a new toy in the uncharacteristic partnering he conceived for the end of the piece. Joe Goode's work changes so drastically from program to program that predictions are impossible and surprises are the

becomes. At any rate, the pathos I expected was not to be found.

Depth of emotion came

through in Elements of a

Monologue, created by Goode and four formidable guest art-

ists: Naomi Gruen, Livia Blank-

man, Pam Quinn, and Melissa

ing eccentric. It was quite

unny, performed on a stool i

the middle of the audience's

center aisle and lit with a flash-

light held by an audience mem-

ber. Gruen and Rolnick then

took the stage for a duet based

on the same monologue "ele-

ments" - words and phrases -

rearranged to tell a different

story, this one with decidedly

feminist overtones. Gruen af-

fected a broad palette of power-

ful, angry emotions, foiled by

the softer, extremely fluid Rol-

nick. The entrances of Pam

Quinn and Livia Blankman

brought two more viewpoints on

the same monologue elements —

bits and pieces of words and

movements. Five moving mono-

logues created a dense stage pic-

ture, and at one point my com-panion whispered, "There's too much going on." Yet marvelous

moments shone through the din. Pam Quinn's wounded solo had

to compete for attention with the duet of Goode and Blankman,

which overlapped a portion of it.

rule. His own "interior mono logues" are scripts from the soul, penned by a master storyteller. Including the points of view of partners and guests, the possibilities multiply to infinity.

Besides Arturo, the band con-

sists of guitarists Mark Harrison

and Howie Crawford and drum-

mer Howard Bernstein. Ar-

turo's reference to them - "I

just call them Hank" - was

verified by a necessary phone

call to find out a couple of last

Arturo grew up in Philadel-

phia, where his family still lives,

and when "Patsy Cline & The

Memphis G Spots" played New

York, his sister came to see the

turing Patsy Cline as well as Ar-

turo does makes it hard for any-

one to resist the music and the

"Patsy's" Christmas outfit,

"Patsy Cline & The Memphis G

Spots" perform their Christmas show on Friday and Saturday, Decem-

ber 16-17, at the 181 Club, 181 Eddy

J. De Gracia

by the way, is a red satin num-

ber trimmed in white rabbit fur

band's stage appeal.

with matching muff. . .

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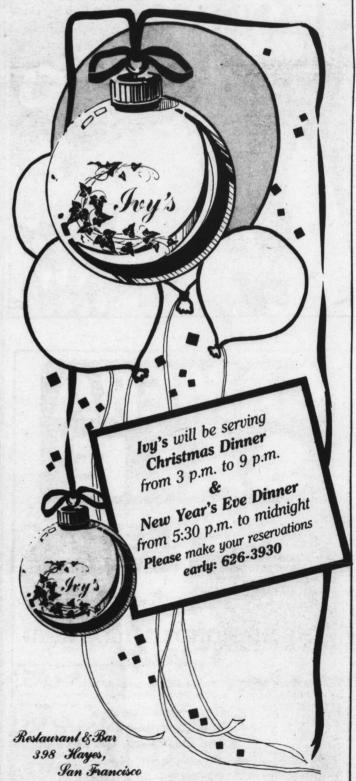
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Photo by Jim Wigler



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OPEN

DAYS

FAMMUS: Lady Sings the Jews

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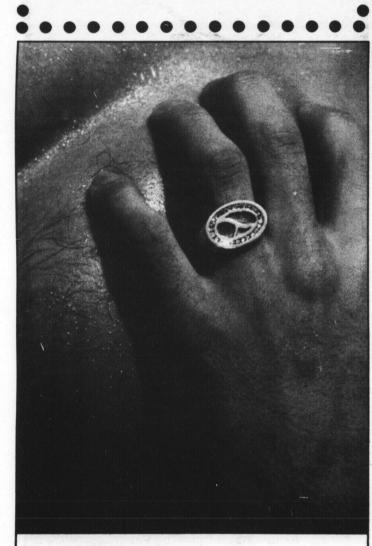
. . .

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FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

new Barbra Streisand movie is greeted in the Gay community A as an entertainment event equaled only by Bette Midler's monthly book/concert tour and Liza Minnelli's occasional sneeze. Does Yentl live up to its advance hype? Creation couldn't live up to Yentl's advance hype, but Yentl comes closer than I

Yentl is about two subjects close to Gay hearts, though not in the way we think of them: cross-dressing and coming out.

In eastern Europe in 1904 it was unthinkable for a Jewish girl to be educated — "A woman who studies Talmud is a demon" - except in domestic skills. Yentl (Streisand) was different. She was born asking "Why?" and grew up extracting knowledge from her scholarly father (Nehemiah Persoff).

When Papa dies, Yentl, rather than board with a neighbor and listen to the local yentas nagging her to marry, cuts her hair and dresses as a boy to get into school. She's taken under the wing of handsome fellow student Avigdor (Mandy Patinkin) and winds up marrying his fiancee Hadass (Amy Irving). Their wedding night may be the most suspenseful scene in any movie this year.

Yentl's masquerade and the sexual confusion it creates — "Who knows what's natural?" she asks at one point in a perfectly innocent context — are as funny as the corresponding events of Victor/Victoria and several Shakespearean plays; but they also raise serious issues about male and female roles and the oppression that results when they are rigidly defined.

When at last Yentl "comes out" as a woman she's realized the importance of being herself 'No Matter What Happens' (the song could become a Gay anthem), because by believing in herself she can do anything.

As director, star, co-writer and -producer Streisand has proved she can do anything. Director of photography David



Don't Cry for Me, Barbra Streisand. Mandy Patinkin is quite the romancer. in Yentl, though he's upset about falling in love with a boy. At least the "boy



From Babs to Boy. La Streisand gives a sly smile because her role as a boy is a smash hit.

Watkin has given the film a beautiful earth-toned look, although the most prominent visual is Streisand's face. With short hair and no obvious makeup she's not a great advertisement for either gender.

Mandy Patinkin's vocal talent goes untapped — the leading lady sings all nine sound-alike songs — but his body is displayed to advantage in a nude swimming scene and he gets to give his most sustained screen performance yet. Amy Irving unctions primarily as Yang to

The songs are well integrated and Streisand's in fine voice, but the music is generally accompanied by montages which slow an already leisurely pace.

If you're not fanatical about Streisand you'll get more than enough of her in Yentl, but the movie also provides more meaningful entertainment than we had any right to hope for.

S. Warren

Silkwood

Nuclear Powerhouse

The weapons side of the nuclear ssue has been getting all the publicity lately. Silkwood reminds us that thousands are dying at this moment from working on the "peaceful" uses of nuclear power

As played by Meryl Streep, Karen Gay Silkwood is a nuclear "Norma Rae," a simple country girl on a plutonium production line.. She's a lovable smart ass with a big mouth and a bad attitude. The deeper she goes into exposing dangers at the plant through her union to the Atomic Energy Commission and the press, the more she alienates not only her employers but also her co-workers who would rather have a dangerous job than none at all.

Silkwood's private life is shown in sometimes tedious but always necessary detail in the screenplay by Nora Ephron and Alice Arlen. Divorced from a common law husband who kep their children, she lives with two other plant workers - Drew (Kurt Russell), her lover; and Dolly (Cher), who turns out to be a Lesbian. Dolly tells Karen she loves her in an emphatically noncasual way, but Karen and Drew are still surprised when she brings home a woman (Diana Scarwid) who proceeds to move in.

It would be a sacrilege to suggest that Cher outacts Streep, but she certainly holds her own in a much smaller role. To think that no one took her seriously a couple of years ago when she was in her rock-and-roller-derby

Mike Nichols' direction does nothing to call attention to itself, just concentrates on letting the story develop - which it does powerfully. Georges Delerue was an odd but canny choic o write the score. He makes heavy us



Swinging Both Ways. Abandoned by lovers of different sexes, Meryl Streep (1.) and Cher comfort each other on the front porch of the house they share, in a tender moment from Silkwood.

of a banjo, alone and with orchestra. Silkwood ends as vaguely as the historical record, but leaves little doubt n our minds as to what happened. This dramatization should reach many

more people than the documentary Dark Circle, which treated the same issues as a direct call to action.

KGO Weekend Radio

Sexual no-no's from the Pope, sexual energy from a gaggle of Gay male nuns, sexual humor on film, and sexual roles changing in the theatre are the sexually charged topics on this weekend's David Lamble Talk Show on Sex-Talk Radio, KGO-FM (FM 104).

From 7:05 to 8 PM Sunday

reviews the Vatican's latest version of church sexual teaching. including the bans on Gay sex and masturbation for avowed Catholics. Saturday from 7:05 to 8 PM Sisters Missionary Position; Sadie, Sadie, the Rabbi Lady; and the Mother Inferior from Australia come on to dish the Pope and complain about Gay bars that bar men in nun's drag. d. Listener call-ins are invited at 928-0104.

Gay Catholic Kevin Gordon

FILM CLIPS

Scarface

Muni Retro

Crime pays — big; but don't wait too long to spend it.

That's one message of Scarface Brian De Palma's bloodbath which assures that Santa's suit won't be the only touch of red in this holiday season.

Two other messages are voiced by cocaine kingpin Frank Lopez (Robert Loggia), who sponsors Tony Montana (Al Pacino) and brings him to Miami from one of the camps the 1980 Cubar refugees were sent to: "Lesson number one: Don't underestimate the other guy's greed . . . Lesson number two: Don't get high on your own supply." Montana sees Miami as being "like

a great big pussy just waiting to get fucked." Before you can say "What transition?" he's gone from washing dishes at a taco stand to selling coke on a scale that makes Lopez' operation look penny-ante. Lopez made the mis-take of underestimating Montana's When Tony takes the crown he

takes the queen with it — Lopez' mis-tress Elvira (Michelle Pfeiffer). Why either man would want her is a mys tery. At least a dozen extras are as beautiful, and any one of them would have to have a better personality. Elvira's a pill and a junkie who never has a smile or a kind word for either

The excitement in the female department comes from Tony's sister Gina (Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio). He feels it too: his obsession with protecting her "virtue" suggests an inces-

The seeds of Tony Montana's destruction are sown liberally. His carelessness increases with his power. His heavy drinking and doping in public, his feelings for his sister, and her obvious attraction for his best friend and chief stooge Manny Rivera (Steven Bauer), are more than enough to do him in. But most dangerously of all, Montana falls for two myths of the super-rich - that they can buy anything and that they are indestructible

Probably reflecting accurately the of the most sexist movies ever made, oozing machismo from every frame.

Questionable Comedy

Remake an all-but-perfect Erns Lubitsch comedy? Successfully? But Mel Brooks saw it as just the thing in

which to team up with his real-life wife

Anne Bancroft and get in a few more licks at his Nazi preoccupation.

To his credit Brooks neither wrote

nor directed the script. Its 80's sen-

sibility was supplied by Alan Johnson,

the man who created the famous

"Springtime for Hitler" sequence from Brooks' first film, The Producers.

However, portraying Nazis as in-competent buffoons is no funnier here

than in previous outings. Lubitsch's

1942 film concerned a renowned Polish acting company led by Jack Benny and Carole Lombard. They impersonate Nazis to aid the Polish underground

Because the war was still on, the Nazis

were portrayed as menacing enemies,

which added suspense with comedic

Brooks' overbearing New York

"ladies and germs" approach plays the whole war as a farce — a bit broad for

But all is not lost. Anne Bancroft

just about saves the film with a con-trolled flair for high vamping camp.

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

asday, December 20: (Strand) The inger and Daughters of Darkness.

by Michael Benery

contemporary portrayal of war.

o assist Jews to escape to

To Be or Not

To Be

Deluxe Demise. Chasing the American dream - success and money finds Al Pacino questioning his values in the surprisingly moralistic Scar guys who fly straight." Immigration quizzes Tony on his arrival: "What "small group of ruthless criminals" about homosexuality? You like men? You like to dress up like a woman?"

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

Massacre" - works entirely by

Though almost as long (2 hours 50

ninutes), Scarface doesn't have the

depth or complexity of either God-father film. It is, however, a hard-hitting update of the old-style gangster

movie. Oliver Stone's screenplay re-

tains all the basic elements of Ben

Hecht's 1932 version while changing

the time and place, the criminal enter-

prise (drug traffic instead of bootleg-ging) and ethnicity (Paul Muni played

an Italian, loosely based on Al

A closing disclaimer avers that the

Women get the bulk of the abuse, and

feminists should find the bloodletting

scenes cathartic (men suffering termi

nal menstruation). Telling the story of

that he brought it with him, the script is filled with bilingual vulgarity. The most frequently used words are "fuck" and "cono," an all-purpose Spanish expletive which literally means "cunt."

Gays get off relatively lightly, unless

you want to attach too much impor-

tance to lines like "Don't fuck me,

Tony. Don't ever fuck me" (spoken by a man in a business context), and "The guys who last in this business are the

a man who rose from the gutter so fast

and he responds, "What the fuck is wrong with this guy? No — fuck no!" Pacino's performance is one of his better ones, but very intense; it would be easier to take if his character would lighten up once in awhile. His accent s extraordinary and flawless, especially compared to William Hurt in Gorky Park and Richard Gere in Beyond the Limit.

The violence which almost earned Scarface an X rating is indeed graphic, but the most effective scene n that respect — a stomach churner I think of as "The Miami Chainsaw

Cuban/American community . . . (t)he vast majority of (whom) have demonstrated a dedication, vitality. and enterprise that has enriched the American scene." In other words, they're still working as dishwashers. More telling is the introduction

which states that one-fifth of the 125,000 Marielitos released to the U.S. by Castro in May 1980 came from Cuban prisons. What it doesn't say is that possibly as high a percentage were Gay (many of them had been jailed for that reason). Their story remains to be

(Regency I)



Piano Prancing. Mel Brooks and Anne Bancroft sing "Sweet Georgia Brown" in Polish while scampering on a giant piano in the debasing remake of Lubitsch's To Be or Not To Be. Not to have been might have been the

There are a few enjoyable musical numbers (a Polish "Sweet Georgia Brown") and the first Hollywood notation of homosexuals forced to wear

To Be or Not To Be is not an

conscious in its attempts at cheap laughs to be anything memorable. M. Lasky

Two excellent, violent, and sexual films about immortal Lesbian vampires.

Tuesday-Wednesday, December 20-21: (Cedar) Myths retold in Beauty and the Beast and Orpheus. Por Jean Cocteau's best films, filled with breathtaking enigmatic illusions. Both films star his lover Jean Marais. Tension marked the Orpheus set, as Cocteau and Marais broke up and Cocteau turned to a younger man

Friday-Saturday, December 16-17:
(Roxie) John Waters' and Divine's best and grossest. The shit-eating ground-breaker Pink Flamingos is in the collection of the N.Y. Museum of Modern Art. Female Trouble is the story of Dawn Davenport, a typical American teenager headed for trouble and infam, in pursuit of the American Dream. Wednesday, December 21: (Strand) Wednesday, December 21: (Strand) Fellini's most visual films. Satyricon is the exploration of ancient Rome by a bisexual young man. Casanova is a surreal impression of the empty life behind the heterosexual legend.

Two Tone Sign-In

unlikable film. It's just not a par-

ticularly good one. It's too self-

The writers who contributed articles, fiction and letters to the recently published Black Men White Men Anthology will be at the Walt Whitman Bookshop on Sunday, December 18 from 2 to 4 PM to meet readers and sign books.

THE NEW AGE IS ART

PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS BY

ANDREW HUBBELL TOLER

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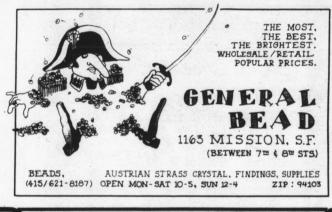
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BOOK RACK

Inside S & M

The Leatherman's Handbook II by Larry Townsend Modernismo Publications; \$4.95, paper

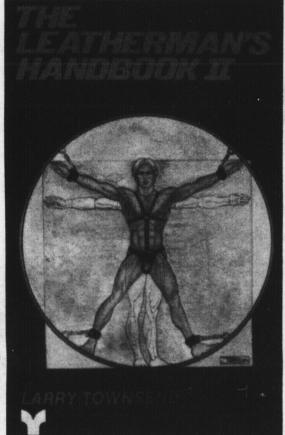
by Max Exander

ong ago I used to sing the praises of S&M for all the wrong , reasons. I believed that it was the only way that "real men" would have sex: manly, hard, rough, and tough. I once wrote, in *Honcho* magazine, a harsh description of such "mansex" as though any other form of sexual expression was a sham, completely

I no longer hold to such beliefs. I have even flirted with the notion that S&M sex is unhealthy, an unfortunate acting-out of one's power trip or feelings of inferiority. But this is an unfair generality. Had I paid closer attention to the writings of Larry Townsend, I might have come round to my latest and most balanced opinion much, much sooner — and much easier, I might

simple as to be reduced to "the only real male sex trip" or, con-

Sado-masochism is not so versely, as sick and unhealthy. It is very complicated, and, most importantly, it is as varied as its



Rewriting Literary History

Literary Visions of Homosexuality Edited by Stuart Kellogg The Haworth Press, Inc.; hardcover, \$18.95

by Paul-Francis Hartmann

or the past decade discovering a Gay history has been as much of the movement as architecting a Gay present and

The work of the academics is the less glamorous of the threepronged movement, but vital all the same. While we all know that homosexuality wasn't invented at the Stonewall bar in 1969, we tend to overlook what went beore. Gay historians are busy all over the nation collecting information never before saved. Biographies are being rewritten — facing up to what more squeamish talents chose to ignore or miss. Debunking has been much a part of a 20th century sensibility, and all over the place Gay researchers and scholars are outdoing themselves in the game of

Out at San Francisco State University, the Center for Re search and Education in Sexuality under the impetus of John DeCecco, has been busy in this department. Last week they put

* * * *

(Continued from page 28)

Closing with a reputable, if

unfocused, Dvorak Symphony

No. 8 sent me out of the hall

BATON

out Number 6 of the Book Series, Research on Homosexu-

Number Six is not everyone's cup of tea: Literary Visions of Homosexuality (an anthology of scholarly articles on a random selection of topics). The new collection — as the nature of the genre demands - is heavyweight stuff. Heavyweight, how-

A Gay sensibility exists in literature as truly as it does in interior decoration.

ever does not necessarily mean heavy (although a selection or two is that as well). It means that the focus is narrow, other scholars must be treated (their opinions accepted or rejected), the studies call for footnote fever (again as both typical, necessary and a way of not being labeled out of hand "fluffery"). And

looking forward to the visit by

the Los Angeles Philharmonic

the following night and wonder-ing whether their interim con-

ductor, the young and promis-

ing Andrew Davis, might be in

the running for Music Director

If he is, then Louise Davies' money might have been better spent on some much needed art work for the walls of her hall. My hunch is, however, that we've got a lot more "auditioning" to do.

practitioners. One man's pen-chant for bondage might well be

a sad projection of his need for

punishment or powerlessness; for someone else, the same taste

might indicate a desire to

heighten pleasure by focusing

sensation to certain areas -

thus, restricted movement, sen-

sory deprivation of certain

kinds, and so on, all contribute

to a joyous and very intense sex-

It is very wrong to condemn S&M on the basis of a general

overview, for it means so many

things, so many different things.

The Leatherman's Handbook II

affirms the complexity of its subject. This second handbook of

Gay S&M is enormously ambitious, covering everything from

a short history of S&M to very

specific instructions on such

esoteric pleasures as the use of

electricity for sensual stimulation, or the utility of straitjackets for bondage. Spliced within the text of how-to discussions are ex-

cerpts from Larry Townsend's fiction writings. So to read the

book is not only to gain information and guidance, it is a turnon. I've made use of the hand-

book for masturbatory rites on several occasions, and it has never failed me (or I it, as the

The book includes an errata

notice, which apologizes for the

incredible amount of typos and grammatical errors throughout the book. Well, all right, I say, thanks for the notice. But I was shocked and disappointed to see that such little care was taken

with the proofing of the work. Such errors render the book cheap in appearance, as if no

For the most part, it is an interesting and helpful little

guidebook. Devotees of S&M might easily pick up some new ideas and sensible guidelines

here, and anyone who remains in the closet about their inclinations in this direction will find the book to be open, honest, and

finally the prose style is the last thing any of the authors seem to be concerned about. The irony

here is that the one recognizable name, much published author

Edmund White (States of

Desire, Nocturnes, and The

King of Naples) contributes a

piece which is the least satis-

What we do have are compe-

tent illuminations such as on the

work of E.M. Forster (specifi-

cally his homosexual novel Maurice). Another article looks

at a nineteenth century mystery

poem Don Leon - written as if

it were by Lord Byron appearing around 1833 which dealt with

homosexual law reform and the

England of the time convicted

"sodomists" were hung — some 200 between the years 1835 and

Roger Austen unearths the

Seas travel tales of Charles Warren Stoddard — "Boy Poet of San Francisco" and friend of

Bret Harte, Ambrose Bierce and

At \$18.95 hardbound - Lit-

erary Visions is no bargain, nor

a cocktail table must-be-seen

volume. Still for those so gaited

(scholars and literary history

buffs) it needs no additional

apologetics nor sales pitch.

Joaquin Miller.

one cared very much.

liberating.

case may be).

P. Campbell

cenes from the Planet Mary



These fashionable ladies may not have worn headdresses to the Headdress Ball, but they featured hair.



Lady Natasha won the \$500 First Place at the Headdress Ball.



makeup Sissy Spaceout wore to perform at the Headdress Ball. What will this madcap think up next?



That's an authenticated Dianne Feinstein bow being auctioned by Tom Horn (in suit) and Sutter's Mill owners at the bar's Christmas for Seniors party. But don't worry - Dianne's got another.

Fashions for the 80's - dressing for the Headdress Ball included everything



Jose, in a fabulous Folies Bergere style costume, won the \$300 Second Place

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SPORT

CORNER POCKET

Surprise!

As I've pointed out so many times in these columns, the postseason usually holds at least one shocker for us. Strange things seem to happen when, after three months of routine 8 ball, playing what we think are crucial matches, we are suddenly faced with the reality of making this ball or not getting another shot 'til next year; the game moves to another level. The unpredictable somehow becomes inevitable.

Two perfect examples of this mysterious phenomenon occur-red within days of each other. On December 6 the city championship got underway, and to nobody's surprise it was Febe's vs. the Stallion Stampede. Perhaps all the players wished we didn't all know each other just for one night — it seems easier to be truly competitive when facing an unfamiliar foe — but in fact we are all very good friends, league players for many

seasons. It was expected to be a close match and indeed it was, although Febe's (the good guys, if you please) enjoyed a 3-game edge in the middle going of the 16-game contest. After the full 16, however, we were tied at eight wins apiece. When that happens in the playoffs, each captain selects a player to play a single game for all the marbles, and after four hours of pool, it all came down to a single match between Peter Fleury and Colin Bradley.

Peter had been in top shape - four wins, no losses, performing sparkling table runs his first two games. The 16th game was a Fleury victory over Bradley but that didn't alter team captain Gordon Bell's choice for Colin in the tiebreaker. Fleury won the lag and broke the balls, sinking a stripe. League rules dictate an open table following the break, so he chose solids since one was sitting inches from

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O CITY ATHLETIC CLUB, 1983. PHOTO: DAVYD APPLE. DESIGN: SFDG.

the pocket, a good start on an-

Surprise #1: Peter missed the shot. Colin stepped to the neatly spread out table and routinely ran all seven solids. His eight ball position was what one can usually expect with opponent's balls strewn all over — he sized up the shot for several minutes and elected to attempt a difficult table-length carom shot, requiring a very steep angle with the

Surprise #2: He miscued and scratched. Game over, Febe's a winner, onlookers and players alike looking confused and disbelieving, Peter could barely adjust to the fact that he'd missed possibily the easiest shot of the evening, only to sit down and win the game and the match without moving again!

Suprise #3: I won the Most Valuable Player tournament. The surprise in the issue is not so much that I won it, but the manner in which it was won. Held at the Stables December 3 and 10 and sponsored by a \$2,000 annual donation from Cours/California Beverage, the competition had been tough both days, sparked with many exciting contests. But when it

comes down to the final matches . . as I'm afraid I've pointed out before . . . the strangest things seem to happen. With \$150 to the winner, my adversary was Randy Caruso of the Arena Lions, and it must have looked for a while as if we'd both been paid to throw it (like Peter days earlier, I missed the easiest

shot of the day) until Randy

caught fire and won three con-

secutive games. He got the first

match, leaving each of us with a loss, and had begun to show real momentum, but fortunately I was able to survive - and my threadbare, dog-eared prediction had finally come true: "If I play enough of these things, I'll win one!" Congratulations to Randy (\$90), Owen Bubar of DeLuxe Powergliders (3rd place - \$65), and the Arena Nu-Cumers' Darryl Lund (4th - \$50).



Members of the San Francisco Hiking Club had a Christmas party at the Collingwood Recreation Center last week. It looks like they ate on the walk — didn't anyone bring chairs? The Club organizes hikes on a weekly basis. If you're interested, check the Sports Clubs listings for activities or write

First Gay S.F. Inter-Bowling League Convention

On December 11 at 3 PM, the first Gay Inter-Bowling League Meeting ever held in San Francisco was convened on the 2nd floor at Park Bowl. The Sunday Reno League; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday Community Leagues (all of Japantown Bowl); in addition to the Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday Tavern Guild Leagues of Park Bowl, had representatives present.

The first topic brought up for consideration was inter-league competion. Input was given concerning such questions as: First, what shall be the team composition, i.e., already established teams or teams created of the best bowlers that a league has to offer; second, what shall be the league membership qualifications, - how long must a bowler have been a member of a league in order to represent that league in the tournament; third, how many bowlers will compose a team; fourth, how many teams shall be permitted to participate from each league: and last, will it be a scratch or handicap competion?

There were many other questions raised concerning interleague competition. Considering the informal tone of this first meeting, however, no attempt was made to reach any firm resolutions. Instead, each representative present was encouraged to formulate questions regarding the positive and negative aspects of his league's participation in an inter-league competition and to share the feed back with his league members.

The second point of consideration at this meeting was

the formation of a Gay Bowling Association. Again, the deletheir leagues and get a feel for the following questions: First, how many individuals from each league will make-up the Association Committee; second, what will be the Association's primary responsibilities; and third, shall the Committee voting be based on one vote for each Association member or one vote for each league? Plus many more questions which the representatives will also share with their league

Another purpose of this meeting, and possibly the most important of all, was to establish ongoing communications between the various Gay bowling leagues in the City. Judging from the interest and enthusiasm demonstrated by the delegates, this objective was indeed a popular goal.

The representatives who were present at the above cited meeting certainly deserve a lot of credit for taking the time out of their personal lives in order to so eloquently speak on behalf of their league's interests.

the groundwork will be laid for

Sports Clubs

S.F. Hiking Club. Sunday, December 18: Day hike on Camp Sawyer Historic Trail from San An-Sawyer Historic I rail from Sai. Andreas Lake to Crystal Springs in the San Francisco watershed. An optional dinner will follow at Yolanda's (Italian) in Burlingame. Meet for carpooling at McDonalds, Haight & Stan-

Different Spokes Bicycle Club. unday, December 18: Mt. Tam, moderate pace with occasional st moderate pace with occasional stops, moderate hills, but easy up: 25 miles, bring lunch. Meets at Tassejara Bakery coffee shop, 10 AM sharp. Contact Michael John, 861-7473.

Some positive results of this First Gay Inter-League Conference are that a Gay Bowling Association and a Gay Inter-League Competition have both become distinct possibilities, while inter-league communic tion has now become an established fact.

The next meeting, at which achieving the above two challenging objectives, will be on January 22, same place same



MY KNIGHTS IN LEATHER

Dungeons and **Dragons**

ONCE MORE, INTO

The Empress and Emperor

9 of 'em. The male title is be-

are about to step down. For the

first time in years, we have a fully qualified field of candidates

ing vied for by former Blue Boy

Tim Oros; The Coits favorite

son, Rich Carle; accountant

THE BREACH

Polk, Billy Ray.

KARL STEWART

lthough the stereotypical A image of Folsom Street is Leather, the continuum of activity on the street is incredibly broad. From the most serious of the butch to the butch who have a taste for drag to those only into drag, the street accommodates all. Last Sunday the hollow rang with parties which couldn't have illustrated this continuum better.

A joint beer bust united the Eagle and Chaps with bands of men traipsing between the two bars. Beer busts have always been So/M's way of making a party, raising funds for good causes, and getting folks to-gether. Sunday afternoons the guys are more casual and there's less pressure to pick up a trick. Now that winter weather has set in we've brought out the cold weather leathers: lots of leather gloves, pants - even shirts, flecting the light of tiny Christ-

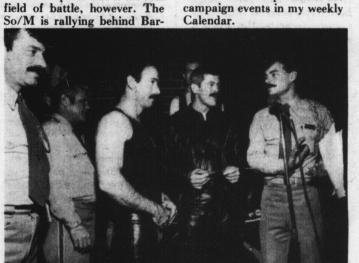
At the same time, the court folks gathered at Febe's for Empress Connie's Polish Auction with humorist Naomi Del Rey acting as auctioness. At a Polish auction you pay a buck each time you bid. Bidding stops when the auctioneer calls time or the runners (in this case Colette, Darlene, and GD Sable) collapse. Ms. Connie raised \$800 for our men on Ward 5B.

and Miss Gay SF, Michael and Trixie, helped out our firefighters with a Toys for Tots function at the New Bell. All the performers - Margo, Tammy Lynn, and Ronnie Lynn donated tips back to the cause.



Twice the Room to Get Bashed In. Leatherman cozied up in front of the Eagle's Christmassy bar decorations for a beer before traipsing to Chaps during the joint beer bash the bars sponsored. (Photo: Rink)

Rennis; and the pride of the campaign trail all year. Kickoff parties are busting out right and left. You can keep track of the The Empress title is the real campaign events in my weekly



The Men Who Made Money. The SF AIDS Fund's Rick Booth (second from right) accepts a check of money raised at the CMC Carnival. The presentation took place at the Arena. (Photo: Rink)

bary Coaster Remy Martin. Kingmaker Ginger is backing her creation, Sissy Spaceout, who has already presented some pretty exotic entertainment. Kimo is packaging Ronnie Lynn and Billy beautifully, and we have a rising star in Miss Piggi. The incomparable Margo Moore with her wild leather/ new wave act has been on the

Some Will Soon be Royal. With the exception of Miss Piggi, who was taking a mud bath, here's all the Imperial

Candidates. Rear, (l. to r.): Ronnie Lynn, Sissy Spaceout, Tim, Margo Moore, and Rich Carle. Front: Billy Ray, Remy, and Rennis. Those in dresses are running for Empress; and, no, that's not a cotton candy machine on Ronnie Lynn's head. (Photo: K. Schooler)

The grande dame herself, Empress I Jose, has made a recent resurgence. Spotted at Con-nie's controversial State Dinner, Jose then popped up at Char and Jon's great Grand Opening of the Kokpit and yet again at Ginger's Headdress Ball. Jose performed at the legendary

Black Cat for twenty years, stopping in 1964 only because it closed. That year Jose was crowned Empress de San Francisco, beginning a tradition which now extends to 52 cities throughout the western U.S. It's just great to see Jose still leading

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to former Empress

the pack — he's even perform-

NOT IN SKIRTS

ing at Finocchio's.

A Fallen Knight: I have very sad news from the MC's; one of the motorcycle clubs' biggest supporters, Fred Reeves, has died of AIDS. Fred passed away last Saturday. He was a member of The Sierra Pacific Rangers, one of the early uniform clubs here in San Francisco.

Please stop and visit Warlock Russ Sullivan at Davies Memo-

* * * The CMC, celebrating its twentieth anniversary this year, completed its Carnival cycle by presenting the top three Mr. CMC's with trophies at The Arena. The freshly redone bar welcomed the ring of leather laughter as Michael Merriot, Mr. CMC '84, accepted top honors and in turn handed over a check for \$1,173 to handsome leatherman Rich Booth, representing the AIDS Fund. Gunner Robinson of Chaps was first runner-up, presenting \$704 to the Shanti Project and Keith Ennenga of the Gay Men's Chorus presented \$469 to the Chorus, making him second runner-up. A total of \$2,347 was raised by the Mr. CMC Carnival contest, the difference being the amounts raised by Mr. Carnival participants Michael Alexander. Jon Bitler, J. Keil Ellington, Robert Lumen, Richard Talmy, Joe Tolbe, and Bob Walsh.

* * * Chaps will be offering dinner to AIDS patients on Christmas Eve. You can help out by donating 5 bucks towards that fund. Chuck will reward your gift by turning on another string of the lights which decorate the

Men Behind Bars is moving full steam ahead. Jim Cvitanich of the Pilsner Inn is directing and producing this variety show which will include your favorite barkeeps on stage. The Victoria Theatre will be the site of this merriment on Monday, January (Continued on next page

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Catalog \$3 PAGE 35

BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 15, 1983

HOLIDAY SALE

KNIGHTS

(Continued from previous page) 23, at 8 PM. Will Linda and the Eaglettes recreate their Divine Miss M number?

ART KNIGHTS

Robert Kalthoff is best known here in the city for his clever bar cartoons announcing "2-4-1 specials" or "Happy Hour prices." Actually, he is quite an accomplished, fine artist, as we observed last week at the new deco palace, Le Mirage, on 22nd near Guerrero. He's been at the palette since 1953 and has lived here for the past eight years. His male nudes in charcoal and conte and large, sensitive portraits give one

The opening party was hosted by Le Mirage's owners, Suki Sakuoto and Hugh Karns. Suki explained the bar's casual

HEAD KNIGHT

chorage as well. Entertainment

included Miss Gay Continental

USA Tiffany and the fabulous Pat Montclaire. Designer Jon

mounted the stage with Grand

Duchess Sable for the first time

in "Turn Around." Each of the

Empress candidates presented a

number to us. Miss Piggi back-

ed up the stage in flippers and

a sea of pigs. Remy drove a crazy car, "Remembering Every

Moo with You." The two most

exotic were Margo Moore's wild

version of "No One Will Hurt

Me Again" and Sissy Spaceout

with her troupe from Xenon and

a bald head doing "The Twilight Zone." Robert K re-

marked, "It's not often you get

to see that many pills kick in at

The top laurels went to Doug

Ardamatt for his Partridge in a

Pear Tree, Miss Piggi for her

Pigs at Sea, and Gladys Bumps,

who looked like a Christmas pin

cushion. In third place, winning

\$200, was Mr. Barry and his

silver, muscled body and huge

space headdress. Second spot

was taken by Jose, who wore a

bejeweled gown and a six-foot

tower of sequins. The \$500 top

prize walked away with a giant

green Christmas tree named

Matasha. Other honorable men-

tions went to Rich Carle and

GD Edie for a Maiden and the

Tree (two turtle doves) and a

once!" I agree.

Febe's Foursome. They're spreading Christmas spirit at Febe's: (l. to r.)

owners John and Don, manager Randy, and hartender Roger, the bar's baby.

At twenty-one, he's younger than the bar.' Photo: Rink)

seating and funky interior. "We

want this to be a bar where peo-

ple feel comfortable in blue jeans

or mink." Hugh continued,

"We are not tasteful, but we're

stylish." Suki concluded, "It's

stylish trash." You have to see

the brass palms and old deco

chairs from the Clift to under-

stand. The Balloon Girls would

love this place . . . Tasteful Trash, indeed!

Equally tasteful was Mark

Vieira's opening at Castro's Village Deli. This was manager

Dan's first reception for an art-

ist and an opulent one, too.

Guests sipped white wine and

sampled cold cuts while viewing

Mark's Hollywood-style pho-

tography. "Tableaux de Bar" is

a photo story in the Hollywood/

Deco manner. Boy meets boy in

"Gay Bar," then loses boy

('cause he was married), and

turns to old friend. These are

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One of the touching moments of the evening was a toast by Ginger, with champagne for all, For years now the Headdress Ball has been the traditional to California Hall. It has been kickoff to the Imperial camsold and will soon be renovated, paign season. Empress Ginger putting the price out of reach for produced the event this year and nost nonprofit events. though the crowd was sparse, M & M Productions (who also the costumes were amazing. Ginger pulled out all the stops by bringing in judges from all over the city, Reno, and An-

did the sound for the event) will be getting all the business at their warehouse space from now

group entry headed by the stylish Baroness von Dieckoff.

KNIGHT-EMS

On Friday, you can meet all the Imperial candidates at M & M warehouse located at 10 Rogers. The crowned heads of San Francisco will host A Country Christmas from 8 PM. For \$6 you'll get entertainment, a buffet, and booze at a buck a throw. Sounds like fun!!

Boy, they're doing something right: Editor JR has started calling all the chits in a wonderful effort to put Drummer's Studstore on the So/M map. He began with Carlo Carlicci's clever cartoon look at Gay life. Carlo appeared in person at the store last week for a book signing. On Friday, 12/16, at 6 PM you can meet Olaf. He'll be opening an exhibition of his drawings from Seductions: Rites of Passage, an illustrated novel. This is a rare opportunity which one may not get again. One of the city's institutions

Dick Walters (aka Sweet Lips) celebrated yet another of his countless birthdays last week with folks from all over the town honoring him at Googie's. Among the celebrants were Jerry and Read Gilmore, who are getting used to No/M life after having taken over the dining room at the Atherton Hotel. Remember, Market Street is not



Mix and Match. The CMC Carnival, like Folsom Street's leather community, attracts men of all styles and fashion. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

8pm-2am; hostess: Rita Rocket; DJ: Lee Harrington. Logo Contest. Chaps; voting during bar hours (thru Sat., 12/17).

Friday, 12/16: A Country Christmas M & M Productions, 10 Rogers (off

Folsom, near 8th), 8pm; food, show, caroling, no-host bar; hosts: All Crowned Heads of SF.

Randy Johnson. 2-4-1 Special. Stables, 6am-noon; well & beer only. Christmas Beer Bust Party. 1808 Club, 2-8pm; \$6 (benefit Tenderloin Youth Street Program); host: Ginger.

Monday, 12/19: IC Rich Carle. Committee meeting. Ramrod, 7pm. Christmas. Eagle, 10pm.

IC Sissy. Ramrod, 7:30pm. Dallas/49er Party. Ramrod, 6-10pm;

Room, 8pm. Birthday, Birthday. Prez of the Year Bill Woods. Ramrod, 6:30-8:30pm; continues at Febe's at 9pm with Dingy

Tuesday, 12/20: Christmas. Men's

IC Rich Carle. Party. Polk Gulch Saloon, 7-9pm. IC Tim. Haight area walk. Trax,

Don and Eric Dean's birthdays.

IC Remy. Haight area walk. DeLuxe.

IC Sissy. Party. New Bell Saloon, Artist Reception. Karen Andersen & Carol Benioff. The Law Center, 295

Fell St., Suite B. 5-8pm. Wednesday, 12/21: All Candidates

Night. Kimo's, 8pm.

Thursday, 12/22: Gay Marching Band Concert. Chaps, 9:30pm; admission: \$1 (gets drink plus concert). Birthday. John Kissinger (owner). Febe's, 9pm.

Christmas. Stables, 9pm-2am; drink specials, hot hors d'oeuvres, surprises Christmas. Endup, 8pm; drink specials; featuring Torch in concert, no

Leather Lovers Loving Lady. Remy was surrounded by admirers at the Headdress Ball. (Photo: Rink)

a river or a mountain range or any other natural barrier. It's

The Coronation will be held at the Japan Center (Kabuki) Theatre on January 8 at 7 PM. bring a candle that evening. Perhaps he's trying to conserve energy by cutting off the electricity. Who knows?

The SF Gay Freedom Day Marching Band will tune up for Christmas at Chaps on Thursday, December 22, at 9:30 PM. The \$1 admission charge gets you a drink plus the perfor-

See ya in the skins! K. Stewart

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, 12/15: IC Rich Carle. All candidates reception. Febe's, 9-11pm. IC Margo Moore. Kickoff Party. The Stallion, 8pm.

IC Tim. Committee meeting. C'est Si Bon, 8pm. IC Sissy. Party. Alamo Square Saloon (Fillmore & Fell), 7-9pm.

2nd Annual Family Reunion & Christmas Party. Castro Station,

Tidings on the March

Reception. Olaf. The Studstore, 960

Saturday, 12/17: Christmas. Troca-

dero Transfer, 10pm; entertainment:

IC Sissy. Party. The Village, 8pm.

Chaps, 6pm; 1st prize: \$250.

Sunday, 12/18: Logo Awards.

Jock Strap Contest. Endup, 8pm; judges: Imperial Candidates; MC:

DJ: Michael Lewis.

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band will tune up for a very special Christmas performance at 9:30 PM on Thursday, December 22 at Chaps Bar. All are invited and admission is \$1 which includes a drink. Chaps will donate a portion of its bar proceeds for the evening to the San Francisco Band Foundation to keep the Band marching in the New Year.

The Chaps performance is only one of four appearances by Band instrumentalists during Christmas week. In addition to scheduled events, the Band will also engage in some impromptu

Christmas caroling on Castro and Polk Streets on weekend afternoons to spread good holi-day tidings. The Band winds up the season in a joint performance with the Gay Men's Chorus at Norse Auditorium on Christmas Eve, followed by the Band's traditional Christmas morning mini-concert for senior citizens at the Fairmont Hotel.

According to Foundation Vice President Duke Armstrong the South of Market Christmas performance is part of the Band's ongoing effort to appeal to all elements in the Gay community. "The Band is the pride of all of us," said Armstrong, "and we are just trying to share a little Christmas cheer all the way around."



The Bottoms are Toppers

friend of mine has been liv-A ing in Manhattan for several years. An opera fanatic, he found the pleasures of both the Met and City Opera an irresistible lure. He was also an untiring trash-and-trickster, out nightly in that city's numerous dim dives. That was pre-AIDS. however, and he was subsequently very ill with an undiagnosed yet related ailment. Now he'd like to be married and monogamous. For that reason, he told me, he'd give up New York's nearly year-round opera, and move back to San Fran-

"You can't get married in New York?" I asked.

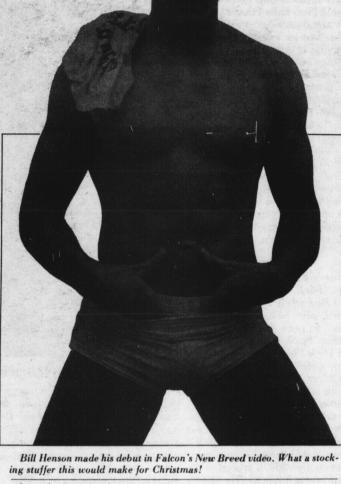
"The odds are against it," he said, and gave an ostensibly sur-prising, but quickly recogniz-able explanation which will ring true to all who ve been out on the streets searching, if not for their heart's desire, for their gonads'

My friend is a top man. He wants a spouse who's a bottom. Seems you can't find a bottom in New York — that aggressive city is home only to tops, and the few bottoms are fought over. On the other hand, says my friend, laid-back San Francisco is a city of bottoms, all searching hopelessly for a top of their own. Do you identify with that.

To facilitate his marriage, my top friend will simply move his much-coveted proclivity here. Voila! Instant marriage. All you have to do is change coasts. (I suggested to him we trade apartments; perhaps I should just tell him to propose to me. He's tall, handsome, well-built, and charming - and, no, I will not forward applications.)

The contention that we're a city of bottoms is borne out by a recent video from Falcon Studios. The New Breed has attractive tops all right, but as Perry Como always said, "You can't have one without the other." The tops in this hourlong video are upstaged by their bottoms. As hot and horny as the fuckers are, the fuckees expose the fallacy of terming their role "passive," for they are, with one exception, aggressive and voracious.

Fronting the video is Malibu. which has the longest playing time (23 minutes) and the best



KARR

Malibu he jogs on the beach so

we can adore his body in motion,

and then surprises Bjorn, who is

masturbating in his room when

Henson and friend Bill Harlen

Both Harlen and Bjorn are

San Franciscans, even though

this was filmed on location in

Malibu. Bjorn takes the lead in

kissing, licking, sucking, and

fucking the large Henson, while

Harlen is basically set decora-

tion until it's his turn for a short

walk in.

They're looking calm here, but hustler Jeff Porter (top) and hustlee Wes

Cole churn up a storm in the Stud for Hire segment of The New Breed.

known cast. Bill Henson was Malibu has many highpoints making his debut in this video. One shows Harlen and Henson so Kris Bjorn got top billing. No blowing Bjorn's thick cock aspersions on Bjorn's perfor-mance (he's as thick and suave simultaneously, their lips run-ning up the shaft and meeting in as ever) but Henson eclipses the a kiss at the top. Another finds star with his combination of Henson and Bjorn on their youth, stature, beauty of face, backs, legs over their heads, butt form, and buns, and happy reto butt. Harlen gazes down at ceptivity. He's shot (ahem) their two adjacent assholes, rims directly to top bililng, and has one and the other appreciatively as the camera gazes straight down into the twin love tunnels. appeared in several films since, most notably A Matter of Size (review forthcoming). In

Most notable, though, is a stack 'em up fuck, which finds Henson straddling Harlen, their assholes vertically aligned, and Bjorn stuffing his Nordic number in one and then the other. It's inventive, erotic, and well

The trio move through other equally successful sexual configurations. Although mouths don't really come in the size necessary to accommodate Bjorn's cock, Henson does quite well. The menage link up in connections that make Balanchine's famous choreographic chains look simple, and the bottoms come out on top. Their star quality eclipses the star.

The second episode is my favorite, and despite a silly but short introduction, I haven't tired of watching it. Stud for minutes when Wes Cole gets going on the hustler he's hired. Both Cole and Jeff Porter, the hustler, are newcomers. Porter is attractive and hung, an active fucker, but he lacks presence. Blonde and chunky Cole has charisma for both, though, and he's dynamite feasting on his purchase. He's expert at displaying Porter's goods to the camera, thrusting the long cock into tantalizing views before devouring it. And is he a bottom? It may be better to give than to receive, but Cole shows what a fine art receiving can be. The episode culminates with Cole upturned on his shoulders and Porter fiercely pumping an ass that's greeting the ceiling. Cole's ecstasy reads better than Porter's strong yet diligent approach, and his orgasm can be viscerally felt. He delivers a second time, and even better, too. When the hustler leaves, Cole (Continued on next page)

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BAY AREA REPORTER DECEMBER 15, 1983 PAGE 37

KARRNAL KNOWLEDGE

jacks off into the underwear the fellow left behind. His cock is finely shaped, harder than one thought possible, and bursting to pop. It soon does, with a skyhigh projectile that's a surprise and smash finale. I'm looking forward to future appearances of the talented Mr. Cole whose role as a bottom gets top billing.

The New Breed may be this video's title episode, but I find it the weakest. Dark-haired and tan Tony Calhoun is a rancher who finds Tex camping out and jacking off on his property. They proceed through a suck-to-fuck routine which is professional by any standards, but lacks the interpersonal chemistry to excite. Still, it can't be faulted, and showcases another firm Falcon

There's a bonus after these three features — an all-too-short six-minute solo jack-off starring Bill Henson. It's called Briefs,

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Henson portrays the Calvin Klein underwear man, and is devastatingly sexy in his white white Calvin jockeys. Lying on his stomach, churning his perfectly shaped buns in the air, you'll be moved to applause. Then he teases, pulling the shorts just below the full curve of his glory globes and spreading his cheeks for full exposure. His desire is delicious, his taunting tantalizing. This bottom just isn't about to be discreet about his desires. The climax is short - discarding the briefs, he jacks off to a quick climax. I wish the segment was longer. Henson may not be the tops in personality, but his goods are Tiffany's all the way, and he loves show-

which is not a description of its

length, but a clue to its origin.

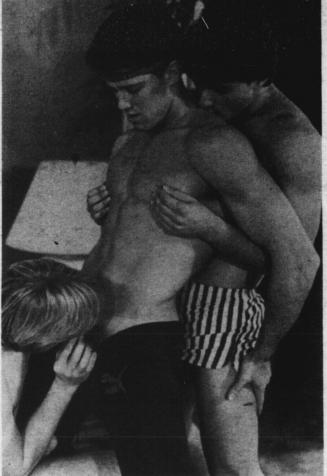
The music is typically Falcon you'll probably want to turn the sound off, but the cinematography and color are first rate. Falcon's been on a winning streak for some time, and The

New Breed is a sure-to-receiverepeat-play video for your collection. It's available from Falcon Studios, P.O. Box 750,

COCKTALES

There's complaints that the new Nob Hill Cinema won't honor membership cards from the old Nob Hill. I don't know why the door clerk doesn't explain, but as I understand it, they simply can't. The previous management left debts galore. To be able to reopen at all, the new management cannot be responsible for those debts, which include IRS demands, a large advertising bill, etc. In disassociating themselves from the previous management, the current proprietor is forced to begin entirely anew — and that means new memberships. They aren't trying to bilk you with a scam, as it appears. It's an unfortunate combination of tax laws, legalities, and show biz.

Come Back to the Five and Ten, Dick Fisk; My Hand Will Be Lonely Without You! Shortly after he had made a fab return to porn films in Falcon Studios' Spokes, front-ranking star Dick Fisk was killed in an auto accident. Fisk's broad shoulders, wasp waist, and fine as silk and jet black hair acted in unison with a whopper cock to make the personable young man a star several years ago. don't know why, but he retired from the screen and spent four years in Georgia. I also don't know what prompted his return to the screen, but his fans legions of men — rejoiced. He returned an adult. Exact



Kris Bjorn bows to the rising stardom of Bill Henson (center) while Bill Harlen hangs on for the ride.

changes in his appearance were hard to pinpoint, perhaps because the change revolved most around a new attitude and energy level he portrayed. He was a new and manly Fisk. Without grandstanding he holds his own, the seasoned professional, among the attractive, hung, and talented cast of

I'll have special reason to miss him; I'm a black hair fetishist, and Fisk was the finest of the black-haired stars. He's survived by numerous films and magazines; he'll be remembered in a most active fashion.

netttte — Caught in a Bed of In-nocence." This will be followed

by an account of my life on the

streets ("Sucked to the Bottom")

and my adventures in the fast-

lane, high-rolling life at the Bay

Area Reporter ("Sucked to the

If Priapus is not some sort of

sex club, then cocksucking and

circle jerks are not some sort of

A friend of mine showed me

a letter he received which con-

tained a description of St.

Priapus. "Saturday night," the

correspondent wrote, "I visited a 'service' at the Church of St.

Priapus, two dimly lit, very

small rooms doubling as some-one's apartment by day and as

a strange suck palace by night

PORN CORNER

RON BLUESTEIN

Dueling Sermons

EDITOR'S NOTE: In a column printed December 1, titled Ronnetttte's Epistle to the San Franciscans, Ronnetttte was upset over the pall of religiosity and lack of hygiene at the St. Priapus Church, run by Father Don Jackson. Ronnetttte also commented, unflatteringly, on the physical appearance of Fr. Jackson's "parishioners." Beauty, as we see it, is not only n the eye of its possessor, but frequently up its ass as well. Fr. Jackson sent the following in response.

o the Editor: The Sins of Ronnetttte and the Gay Community will be the subject of a special sermon at St. Priapus Church, 583 Grove, Thursday and Saturday at 2 PM and Friday and Saturday at 8:30 PM.

The effeminate, the old, the fat, the skinny, the unattractive, the poor, the non-White, the drag, the handicapped, and the female are all oppressed and discriminated against by the Gay community. This doesn't stop with sexual discrimination; it extends into employment and housing. Never in the history of the world has a group been so filled with bigotry against so many different groups. The sermon will show that Gay bigotry raises out of the anti-sex dogma, which is the hallmark of the anti-Christ churches.

Ronnetttte has attended our services often, but he apparently still thinks we are some sort of sex club. That's because he doesn't understand the role of sacramental sex in the theology of Gnostic Christianity. Sex, to us, is a sacrament, an unselfish act of giving oneself for the fulfillment of others. Our tradition as a branch of Christianity dates from the time of Christ, who taught our creed.

Not only do we provide for the spiritual, social, and sexual needs of the outcasts of Gay society, but we counsel and care for the sick and imprisoned, and clothe, feed, and shelter the homeless as Jesus commands in The Last Judgment (Mat. 25).

The "terminally unattractive" Ron condemns are beautiful, loving, caring souls who give generoulsy of their time and money to care for the outcasts of Gay society. As a result of their humanitarianism, our church helps more people in more significant ways than any other Gay organization, as anyone who bothers to drop by can verify for themselves. Twenty years from now, Ronnetttte will join the ranks of the "terminally unattractive" and he'll find out what it's like to be on the receiving end.

> A million orgazms, Fr. Donald Jackson

RONNETTTTE'S REPLY

Susan Sontag and told that she was doing an exegesis on the Workos Literarios Completos de Ronnetttte, I could not be more pleased than I am at the news of Father Jackson's sermon, "The Sins of Ronnetttte." Perhaps he and I should exchange talks sort of dueling sermons. I will

. . . Twenty or more people crowded about: a loudmouthed youth in only a shirt and feminine voice, white bearded men in the corner smoking joints and playing with their wet noodles. a globular woman on the couch, her face entirely hidden in a man's crotch. The inhabitants would all look at home in Skid Row. I toured the area, unglued myself from the clutches of a obular toupeed man (very di ficult to do) and left all within five minutes from my entry. There truly is a place for every-If I had been contacted by

I applaud Father Jackson's sheltering the homeless and feeding the hungry, and I thank God that I am in a position where I do not have to accept such unhygienic charity. I suggest he take a trip down Laguna Street to the Zen Center to see that godliness is next to, at the begin with the subject "Ron- very least, cleanliness.

Band with Chorus

The San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band will perform for the first time at Golden Gate Performing Arts' annual holiday concert, Now Sing with Hearts Aglow, which has previously been an all-choral event. The Band has also offered to perform without fee, as a contribution to the GGPA.

The concert will be performed on December 18 and 24 at Nourse Auditorium, Haves at Franklin. A mail-order brochure sent out by GGPA has already resulted in a sell-out of the \$10 reserved section. For remaining tickets in the \$6 and \$8 sections, contact GGPA at (415)

SWEETLIPS SEZ

Getting Lit for Christmas

DICK WALTERS



You Go to My Head. Headdress Ball organizers Marlena (l.) and Ginger.

How come so many Polk area bartenders are defecting to the Castro? First we find Lucy of the White Swallow doing Monday/Tuesday, 6 to noon, at the Pendulum; and now Bill Wright, formerly of Gilmore's, is at the Nothing Special on Monday and Thursday through Saturday from 6 AM to noon. Good luck to Bill . . . but I still have to put up with Lucy at the White Swallow Thursday through Sunday, days. Inciden-

tally, Mike Dooley is back on the plank at the White Swallow again after being out ill. It is true, Michael, that Nooch is installing safety belts on your stool

Fabulous Eartha Kitt will be at the Trocadero Transfer on Saturday 17 from 10 PM 'til dawn in the first club performance of "Where is My Man" . . . and I want to know where mine is too, Ms. Kitt! This is the Troc's Christmas Party, so don't miss it. The DJ will be Mike Lewis.

Christmas decorations are up in a lot of the bars and some are really out of sight . . . the New Bell's tree has 2,000 lights on it and is just gorgeous. The Gate is aglow with many, many lights. Its true Christmas spirit makes you feel at home. Also, don't miss the White Swallow. as Russ and Jim have hired Allen Leonardi to do the decorating and it truly looks like a fairyland . . . congrats! Another bar with a great decor is the Giraffe. It was decorated by its manager, David, and his lover, Bobby. The walls have been totally covered with gift wrapping and giant bows, re-sembling Christmas presents. These 27 gift boxes, carded for 27 different bars, make the room really festive. Great job, guys

We've got to stop meeting in all of those strange places, Reba. People are beginning to talk. I'm glad to see that Hans is still putting up with you at the Cinch, and that you are not drinking on duty any more . . . or any less.

. . Hi. Larry.

Remember, if you need a great last minute gift, try the Video Mart on 9th Street (at Folsom) . . . lots of great tapes and discs for sale, plus radios, tv's, and video machines . . .

Bob Ross, Jay Noonan, and yours truly spent Sunday in Portland for the closing of the old Dahl & Penne bar. What a blast it was, with Mame and Darcelle doing the narrating and so many, many people that I haven't seen in years turning out to wish Sam and Gene adieu. Thanks for the trip, Bob, as I really enjoyed it. Yes, it was nice to see you again, Bill Mackey.

On Thursday, December 22. Bob Dunn, the Mayor of Geary Street, is having his last Christ mas Party at the Hob Nob from 6 'til 10 AM. Come on down and join in the festivities, as Bob always throws a biggie . . . right, Woody?

TILLERY

(Continued from page 24)

The first time that I heard Linda Tillery sing, I felt that rare tingle of discovering for myself an unmistakable and wonderful gift. One critic has described her voice as "rich and sweet as hot fudge and as powerful as a blast furnace." Another spoke of "vocal strength and clarity of delivery, almost unparalleled in its force and presence.

The prime ingredient for a singer is the instrument itself the vocal cords and resonating chambers which produce the sounds. Then there are musicianship and technique, the skills with which the singer uses the instrument. Beyond these, and providing the means, which differentiate between a singer and an artist, is the musician's identity, life experience, and resulting emotional and intellec- 18; 885-0750.

Tillery has the instrument. She learned the musicianship and it is evident in all her work: she is a virtuoso. As for her life experience, it is completely intertwined with her music and

tual resources that shape and

color the content of the singer's

TA PERSONAL MA

identity, her tale of triple jeopardy resolved in her daily life and expressed in her art. Linda Tillery came back from an abyss. She has found herself and is being herself - a Lesbian, a woman, a Black, a virtuoso musician. She has attained the peace of accepting herself and saying to the world, "This

A. Lazere

Linda Tillery will perform with pianist Adrienne Torff at the Great American Music Hall on December

is who I am; this is the music I

like, the music that expresses

who I am. Come share it with



Hipster and Hunks. Sonny Padilla, Jr. will perform his new hit, "It's Hipster and Hunks. Sonny Padilla, Jr. will perform his new hit, "It's Your Body," as a benefit for Ward 5B patients. The event is called A Gift for Christmas and will be presented at Esta Noche (16th Street near Valencia) at 7 PM on December 18. Donations are requested and will be divided equally between the patients of Ward 5B. Padilla's performance will include "Hunks" Joe Tolbe, David Sabado, Ross Neville, John Hayes, and Michael Sherlock (left, blonde), with choreography by Jim Snydac. It will be recorded on video for showing on MTV. Padilla follows up this benefit by caroling in Ward 5B on Christmas Eve and a California tour to present his song at other hars, all culminating in a California tour to present his song at other bars, all culminating in a presentation to Mayor Feinstein on January 6.

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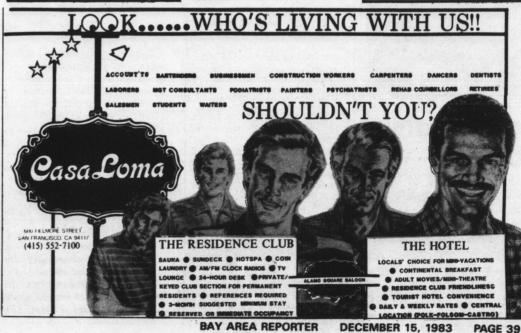
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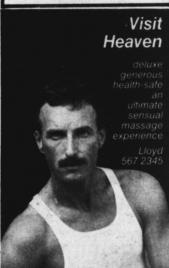
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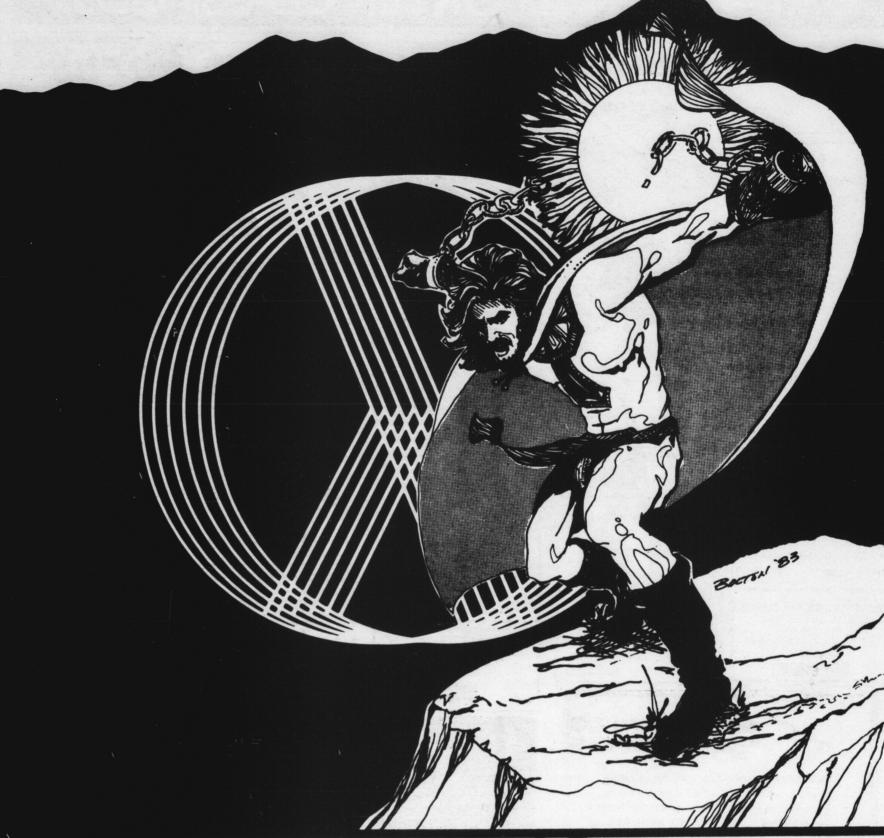
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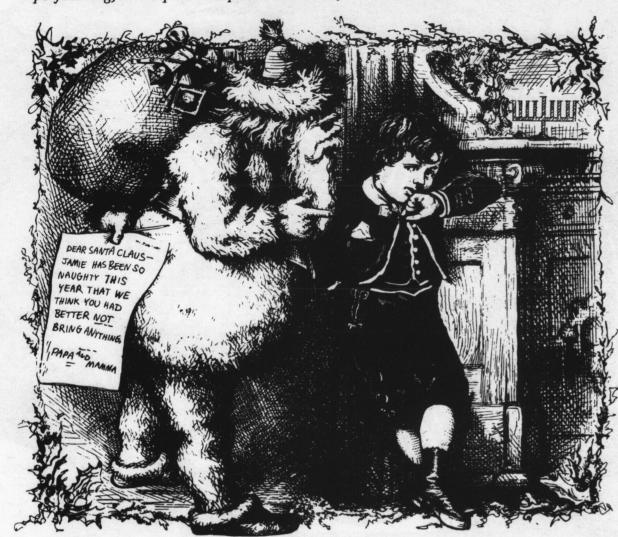
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Provoked by general acclamation, this Spectacle will be presented upon two timely Occasions:

Sunday, Dec. 18, & Saturday, Dec. 24, 1983

commencing promptly at 7:30 o'clock at the venerable

Nourse Auditorium, 275 Hayes St. at Franklin, in San Francisco (formerly Yerba Buena)

TICKETS OF ADMISSION purveyed at these Establishments in the city: GGPA Phone-charge (864-0326); Union Square's STBS Ticket Booth; Headlines (Polk St. & Castro St.) **PRICED** at \$6, Balcony general admission — \$8, Orchestra general admission — \$10, Patron loge reserved seats (\$10 seats SOLD OUT for Dec. 18)



[NOTICE - A rumor is afoot, to wit: that the evening's Merriment will be capped by the rival from Northern Climes of a certain rotund, whitebearded Person of jolly Aspect, who will permit a stupendous SING-ALONG of those happy Patrons present!]

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BAY AREA REPORTER



