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Major Victory Follows AB-1 Veto

US Appeals Court Strikes Down Oklahoma Anti-Gay Teachers Law

by Paul Lorch

National Gay Rights Advocates this week were bursting with good news. The news was of particular pleasure because the morale booster arrived the day after California's Governor George Deukmejian vetoed AB-1 which would have prohibited discrimination against Gays on the job.

On March 14 the United States Court of Appeals (Tenth Circuit, Western District of Oklahoma) declared a statute of the Oklahoma legislature — barring homosexual teachers from the school system — unconstitutional.

The Appeals Court — comprised of federal judges Barrett, McKay, and Logan — also overturned a ruling of the lower district court that it had earlier found the statute constitutional. The vote was two to one, with Logan writing the decision; Bar-

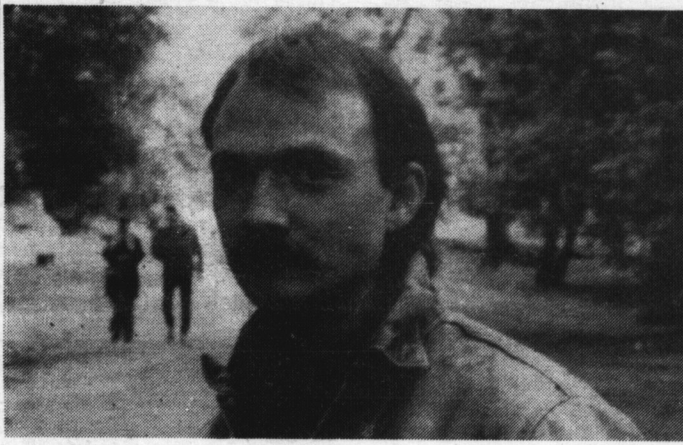
rett wrote a 6½-page dissent.

The plaintiff/appellant in the case was the National Gay Task Force and the defendants were the Board of Education of the City of Oklahoma City. NGTF

(Continued on page 13)

Arrest in June Murder of Gay Man

New PD Print Computer Fingers Suspect



The SFPD made an arrest this week of a murder suspect in the death of a 28-year-old Gay man on June 13, 1983.

In the hours after midnight that Monday, James West, a cashier for Yellow Cab, was repeatedly stabbed in his Bush Street studio apartment. At the time, the police inspector described the scene as "a gory death." It was a brutal murder and police were reluctant to disclose any details save that West had been stabbed and slashed in the chest and throat.

This week SFPD revealed that the murderer left a bloody fingerprint. It was fed into the department's new fingerprint computer. The computer connected the print to Steven Lamerson, 20, an apprentice sheetmetal worker. Monday police picked up Lamerson outside his apartment at 1728 Hyde Street.

That Sunday afternoon, June 12, West had gone for a few drinks at the Endup. Later that evening he and friends went to a Joni Mitchell concert at the Concord Pavilion.

When he returned home he told his friend Jim Williamson that he was horny and wanted to go out "prowlng." Williamson had known West for six years.

West lived in a studio apartment near Bush and Hyde Streets. Working the graveyard shift at Yellow Cab gave him many cab driver friends. In his free time he liked to paint and had developed a large number of straight, as well as Gay friends.

He was also attracted to Gay Latino men. Esta Noche, the popular Gay Latino bar, was one of his favorite spots. He also spent time at other Latino bars in the Mission and enjoyed such places as Buzzby's on Polk Street.

At the time PD Inspector Jim Crowley reported that they knew West had a motorcycle which he parked down the street from his apartment. Witnesses reported he was seen leaving his apartment a few minutes after midnight.

West was murdered between midnight and 4 a.m.

Lamerson, while taken into custody without any trouble, refused to speak with investigators. He is being held for investigation or murder in lieu of \$250,000 bail. He was arraigned on Tuesday morning.

Lamerson has denied being Gay and more than likely will call upon the Public Defender's office to defend him. In turn, that office will no doubt employ the "homosexual panic" defense which says the killer didn't know what he was doing, once thrown into a panic over the advances of a pervert.

The S.F. Chronicle reported that the SFPD videotaped the murder scene, the first time such evidence was recorded in that fashion. This way the prosecution could show the jury a videotape providing them with a vivid picture of the crime. Police said the apartment was drenched in blood.

P. Lorch & A. White

AB-1 Aftermath

Gay Pickets Pocket Major Media at GOP Convention

Governor Avoids Persistent Press Questions
 Local Activists Present Gay Rights Plank Demands to State Party

by George Mendenhall



Gays car pool it down to Santa Clara to picket Deukmejian appearance at the Republican Convention. (Photo: Ted Sahl)

Thirty Lesbians and Gay men picketed the state Republican convention in San Mateo County Saturday as a reaction to the governor's veto last week of the Gay job rights bill, AB-1. The protesters captured the statewide media with almost every television station and newspaper covering their presence.

The protest was to remind Governor George Deukmejian "that we are not going away" according to its organizer, Gerry Parker, a local Gay activist. Parker said the governor will now face similar demonstrations as part of a new "Operation Duke Watch." Inside the convention a somewhat leery Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights activist, Duke Armstrong, presented a possible Gay Rights plank to the convention.

The noisy demonstrators shouted "Duke has got to go" and "Gay Rights Now" and carried placards as they marched in a circle at the Marriott Hotel entrance in Santa Clara. The placards had a variety of messages: "God Loves ALL People," "Curb Your Dogma," "End Bigotry" and a disturbing "Puke on Duke." The two-hour effort was frequently interrupted by enthusiastic interviewing reporters looking for a break in the relatively quiet proceedings inside.

(Continued on page 17)

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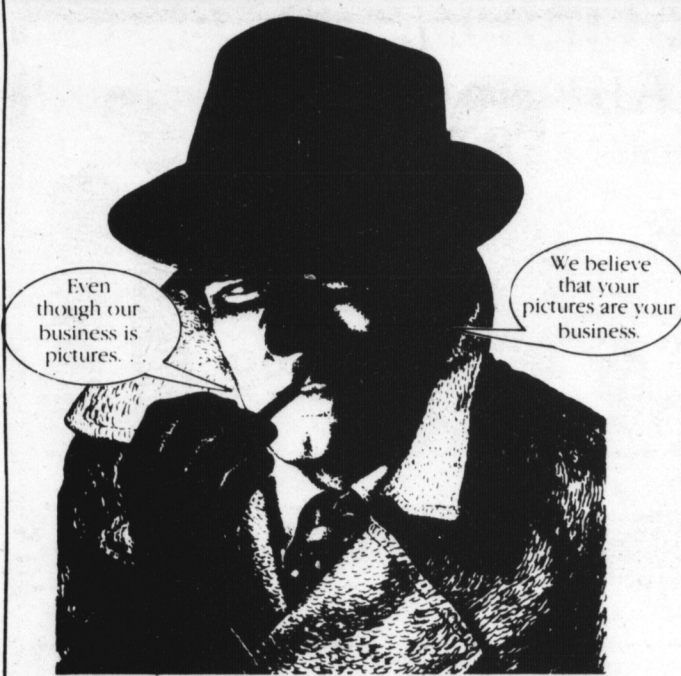
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Gay Republicans Respond to AB-1 Veto

Will Protect GOP Supporters; Will Oppose Leaders of the Opposition

by George Mendenhall

"I was stunned and angered," the president of the local Gay Republican club told 70 members attending its monthly session Monday night. Tom Peretti of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (CRIR) called the governor's veto of the job rights bill AB-1 "a kick in the face. We are seeking basic human rights, not endorsement of a lifestyle . . . We lost a battle but not the war."



CRIR's 1984 president Tom Peretti. (Photo: Rink)

Peretti chided Governor Deukmejian for part of his explanation for the veto: "I never thought a 'privileged class' was created by allowing people to work." However, the governor himself was not personally attacked. As Peretti explained, "We are going to be more militant, but we are not going to shout and call names. We want to use our anger for good."

The president, knowing that two of the club's directors had reportedly re-registered as Democrats in the past week, said, "Some people think we should pack our bags and join the Democrats or go back in the closet. Let us not just go to be driven out of the party by political neanderthals like H.L. Richardson. I urge you to stand with me and fight." His comments drew considerable applause.

REPUBLICAN EFFORT

Members unanimously adopted a statement, authored by member Chris Bowman, outlining the club's campaign for AB-1 — a victory that took the measure to the governor's desk. Five Republicans, one in the Assembly and four in the Senate, voted for AB-1. Without their votes the measure would not have passed the legislature.

CRIR emphasized that it had obtained the endorsement of the city's Republican County Central Committee, lobbied GOP state legislators, met with the governor and his staff, lobbied the *San Francisco Chronicle* for its endorsement and collected 1,400 signatures of support for the measure. The statement called for the governor to now "actively work to repair the damage he has created by this veto."

The club disagreed with the governor's contention that there is no significant job discrimination against Gay people and stressed that the veto "fuels the fires of bigotry."

There was a call for the re-

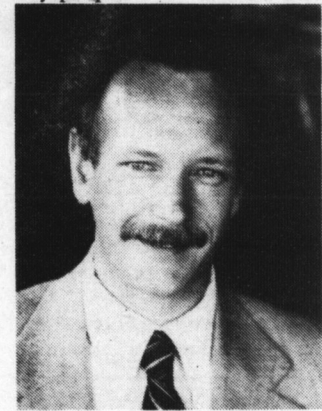
lection of "those courageous Republicans who supported AB-1 — namely Senators Milton Marks, Ed Davis, Bob Beverly and Ken Maddy and Assemblyman William Filante — and those Republican candidates and legislators who will support similar legislation in the future."

Peretti chided Governor Deukmejian for part of his explanation for the veto: "I never thought a 'privileged class' was created by allowing people to work." However, the governor himself was not personally attacked. As Peretti explained, "We are going to be more militant, but we are not going to shout and call names. We want to use our anger for good."

DOLSON AND BACCI

Club business also included these items:

Bacchi and former city Supervisor Lee Dolson were endorsed in Assembly races against incumbents. Bacchi will challenge Lou Papan and Dolson will take on Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. Dolson took the stage to comment, "Many straight people still look upon Gay people as child molesters. If the governor had the experience of knowing the Gay people that I have, he would not have vetoed AB-1. Americans do not realize what a loss this country would experience without so many creative Gay people."



Bob Bacchi still sees GOP can do something on Gay job rights. (Photo: Rink)

Dolph Andrews, chair of the city's Republican County Central Committee, spoke briefly. He said, "We supported AB-1. It takes time for acceptance. It is an evolving process."

Armstrong received club approval for establishing a caucus of Gay people and pro-Gay Rights advocates within the state GOP . . . State Senator Ed Davis has confirmed that he will be the speaker at the May 10 annual CRIR dinner . . . Carole Migden, president of Harvey Milk Democrats, came under attack from club officials for her alleged statement that she did not see how a Gay person could be a Republican.

President Peretti told members that this year CRIR wants to expand with new chapters in Bay Area counties. He predicted that there would be a need for more Gay power in Republican areas, as Senator Richardson "may be introducing legislation that will be aimed at inflicting punishment on Gay people. This is not far-fetched. Remember the Jews who still would not believe what was happening to them as they boarded the trains to the concentration camps."

Coors Appeals Fed Court Ruling

Howard Wallace and Solidarity Will Be Back in Court

Blacks Take Up Boycott Calls Over Joe Coors' Remarks

by Dion B. Sanders

The Adolph Coors Co. has filed an appeal to a federal judge's decision dismissing a \$145,000 anti-trust suit it filed against leaders of a six-year-old boycott of Coors beer, it was disclosed last week.

At the same time, the company has filed a separate lawsuit against boycott leaders Howard Wallace and A. David Sickler in state court.

Attorneys for the Colorado-based brewery asked the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals here to overturn a ruling by U.S. District Court Judge Spencer Williams that threw out Coors' suit charging that Wallace, Northern California coordinator of the AFL-CIO Coors Boycott Committee, threatened violence against public-TV station KQED, if it went through with a planned "Coors Day" during its annual fundraising auction in 1981.

Wallace, an agent for Solidarity, also for the Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance, and Sickler, national coordinator of the boycott committee, were named as co-defendants in the state suit, filed March 8 in Superior Court in Los Angeles, where Sickler resides.

Solidarity, which is a defendant in the federal lawsuit, was not named in the state litigation.

The latest legal maneuvering comes on the heels of a controversy surrounding reports that William Coors, chairman and chief executive officer of the company, made "insensitive" and "insulting" remarks about Blacks.

Robert Carroll, a partner in the law firm of Littler, Mendelson, Fastiff and Tichy — which represents Coors in the Bay Area — charged that Wallace and Sickler committed "intentional negligent interference" in Coors' participation in KQED's annual auction.

"Coors and KQED had signed a legal contract to raise funds

for the station for 13 hours — 'Coors Day,'" Carroll said. "The company raised \$13,000 for the station."

Carroll sharply disagreed with Judge Williams' ruling, which held that in accordance with a 1983 U.S. Supreme Court decision, the boycott against Coors was constitutionally protected.

The high court ruled in *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware* that a 1979-82 boycott of White-owned stores in Mississippi by Blacks to protest job discrimination against them by the stores was a legitimate form of redress of grievances, protected by the First Amendment.

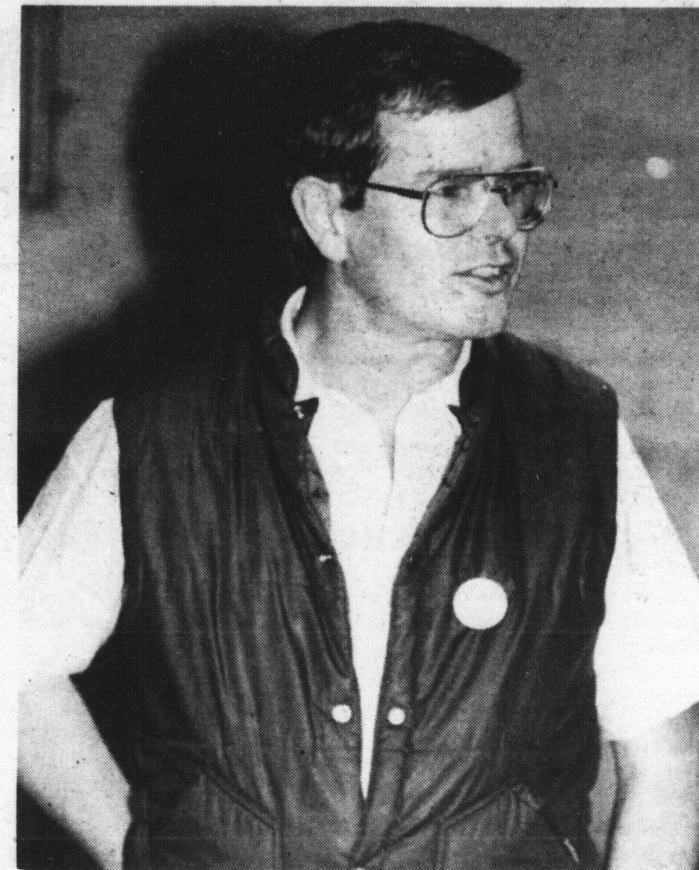
In a strongly-worded, 22-page decision, Judge Williams branded Coors' charges of the boycotters committing a restraint of trade in violation of anti-trust laws "far-fetched" and an "unwarranted expansion in anti-trust theory."

Carroll, however, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that contrary to Williams' ruling, "There is a difference between boycotting stores that refuse to hire Blacks and destroying a contract between two business parties."

Asked why the Coors Company did not file suit against KQED for breach of contract, Carroll said that "KQED apologized abjectly to Coors, saying that the station was receiving threats by Howard Wallace of violent action against the station, and thus felt they had no choice but to cancel 'Coors Day.'"

KQED: WE WERE THREATENED

Ken Waggoner, director of corporate communications at



Coors attorneys are not finished with Gay labor activist Howard Wallace. He'll be back in court. (Photo: Rink)

KQED, said that as far as he could recall "there were conversations back and forth (between the station and Coors). The union had threatened to picket our (auction) studios (at the Cow Palace) on Coors Day, and in fact, there were already informational pickets there."

Waggoner added that "given the circumstances, Coors told us 'we don't have to do this (Coors Day) if it would cause problems for you,' to which we said that it would be best for both parties not to put it on."

Tony Tiano, KQED president and general manager, said at the time of the auction that "while

we don't like to lose underwriting support, no amount of money is worth the possibility of danger to the several hundred volunteers coming to the Cow Palace to assist in our auction."

The station returned the \$13,000 to Coors upon the cancellation.

WALLACE: CHARGES "GARBAGE"

Wallace and Sickler hotly denied Coors' charges, with Wallace saying that what the station was "really afraid of" was bad publicity. "We never advocated

(Continued on next page)

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Gays Emerge as Demo Convention Delegates

SF Hart and Mondale Slates Offer Two Gay Men and Two Lesbians
Jackson Slate Boasts Two Gays

by Paul Lorch

A number of Gays and Lesbians have found their way onto the delegates' list in both the 5th and 6th Congressional Districts. Well-known Gays and Lesbians make up approximately one-third of the names which have arisen out of local caucuses and campaign headquarters selections.

In the June 3 primary, Democratic voters will go to the polls and vote *not* for the candidates (Hart, Jackson, or Mondale) but for the individual delegates. For each candidate eight names are listed (4 men and 4 women) in each district. The total number of names will be 24, out of which the 6 top vote-getters will be the delegates, and two will sign on as alternates. One isn't required to vote a pure Hart slate or a pure Mondale slate, but can pick and choose.

Gay attorney Jon Kouba, who has been with the Hart campaign from the beginning and is a delegate in the 5th CD (Representative Sala Burton's district) told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he hopes voters won't split their votes but will vote a straight Hart slate. Placement on the ballot becomes the next item of con-

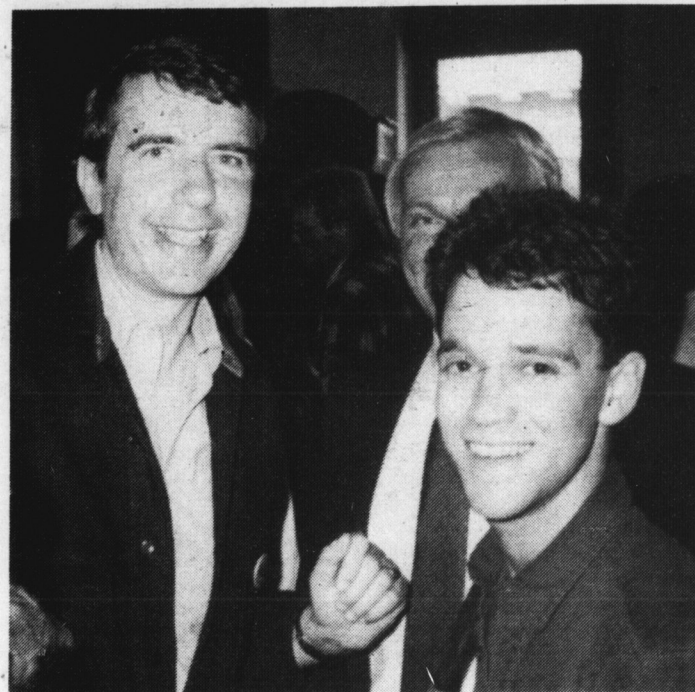
Besides Kouba on the Hart slate in the 5th is Supervisor Harry Britt and Sheriff Lieutenant and former Toklas president Connie O'Connor. In the 6th District (Rep. Barbara Boxer's, covering parts of SF, Daly City, Vallejo, and Marin County) the sole recognizable Gay name is former Milk Club president Gwenn Craig.

One anomaly of the Hart slate is that it includes democratic socialists like Britt, progressives like Craig, and moderates like O'Connor and Kouba. Supervisor Richard Hongisto is also a delegate, and it is expected that Supervisor Quentin Kopp will be added as an at-large delegate after the June primary. Britt and Kopp at one point possibles on the same slate was a hard swallow for Hart backers. Some attributed this to the vagueness of

The Mondale campaign has its own two supervisors, Doris Ward and Jack Molinari.

All the Mondale delegates' selection was done by the California Mondale Campaign smoothly and without confusion and turmoil. The only caucuses — where party members could vote — were put on in the 5th District for Hart and Jackson. The Jackson caucus was held at Mission High School, Sunday, March 11; the same day Kouba put on the 5th District Hart caucus at the SF Press Club.

A little over a month ago there was next to no interest in the Hart campaign activities. However, as the candidate's fortunes blossomed after Iowa and New Hampshire, interest in his campaign exploded here. As other candidates dropped by the wayside (Cranston, McGovern, Glenn) would-be convention goers scrambled madly to get on board Hart's bandwagon while there was still time or a berth. Kouba, who had originally scheduled to hold the Hart caucus in his modest Market



Attorney John Kouba (L.), early Hart supporter, emerges with a delegate slot if Hart wins in June primary. (Photo: Vicki Lenz)

who had hoped to be a delegate in the 6th, were turned out in the cold. Supervisor candidate Dave Wharton, also an early Hart supporter, suffered the same fate. State campaign people, in particular Bill Bradley, who was in charge of Northern California, moved in to exert their control as they saw the San Francisco delegation (the host delegation) as a crucial one. District Attorney investigator and Milk VP Ron Huberman, who polled fourth in the 5th District caucus, was replaced by Asian American Clifford Lee at campaign headquarters' direction.

The supporters of Jesse Jackson also voted two Gay men to their slate: Billy Jones and George Raya. Some 75 to 100

voters turned out to pick from some 30 people who wanted to be delegates. Stonewall Gay Demos, who had endorsed Jackson, turned out in force to see that some of their members got on the slate.

Gay voters are now faced with the decision of whether they will get solidly behind one candidate or vote for their favorite Gay delegates. Gay convention delegates have a two-part mission: to advance the fortunes of a candidate who is favorable to Gay rights and to advance the Gay rights agenda as part of the Democratic platform. Regardless, it was reported to the paper the winning candidate takes all the delegates under his name to the convention.

How one becomes a convention delegate. It's not easy.

Street office, found himself deluged with names and numbers. From a point when he was hard-pressed to come up with 8 names to fill up the slate, he learned two days before his caucus that he now had more than 75 would-be Hart delegates.

Kouba the day before the caucus switched its location to the Press Club on Post Street and over 400 enthusiasts showed up to vote. Some were declared ineligible because of not living in the district, but special interest groups including environmentalists, Delancey Street under the direction of John Maher, the Milk and Toklas clubs turned out in force. The afternoon was one of mass confusion and consternation.

Some early Hart supporters including Gay attorney Joel Paul, who was directing the Hart operations in San Francisco and



Connie O'Connor (L.) ended up as a delegate for Hart as Ron Huberman got bumped by the Hart campaign. (Photo: Vicki Lenz)

zou said.

BILL COORS DENIES SLURS

In a press conference on the day after the *Rocky Mountain News* article was published, Coors charged that the newspaper had "irresponsibly" misquoted him as saying that Blacks are inferior. "I did not say it, and I do not believe it," he said.

"I want to apologize to all Adolph Coors Company employees and to the entire community of Denver — and in particular the Black community around the world for the misunderstanding of my remarks."

But as talk mounted of a Black boycott of Coors beer — and after a Denver TV station said it had a tape of his speech — William Coors issued a sec-

ond statement, acknowledging that "some of my statements to the Minority Business Development Center seminar . . . conveyed a meaning I did not intend."

"For my unfortunate choice of words, I sincerely apologize," Coors continued. "In hindsight, those statements demonstrated a lack of sensitivity . . ."

MEETING WITH BLACKS

John Meadows, director of community affairs at the Golden, Colorado, brewery, disclosed that William Coors met with local Black leaders last Thursday to discuss his speech in depth.

Meadows quoted a story in the March 17 issue of the *Rocky Mountain News* as saying that the Rev. Langston Boyd, pastor of Shorter Community AME

Church in Denver, "characterized the meeting as 'cordial' and that he and the other Black leaders who attended the meeting 'were impressed by Mr. Coors' sincerity.'"

Boyd was concerned that a boycott by the Black community "would be an angry overreaction that wouldn't accomplish anything," Meadows said.

His comments were confirmed by Samuel Tidmore, executive vice president of Operation PUSH, who told the *Bay Area Reporter* from PUSH headquarters in Chicago that "we chose to develop an economic covenant with Coors, rather than a boycott, because Mr. Coors did choose to apologize and wished for us to sit down with him before we took any action." ■

D.B. Sanders



5th District Demos try to get a ballot to vote for their favorites at the Gary Hart caucus at the Press Club. Pandemonium reigned. (Photo: Vicki Lenz)

cern said Kouba, for if one votes a straight candidate's slate there is a tendency for those who lead the list to get more votes, and those who end up down the list will end up in the alternate's slot or nowhere at all. All the same it is a winner take all situation.

After the June 3 primary, the campaigns can add delegates as at-large candidates, and there is also room for big name politician additions.

COORS APPEAL

(Continued from previous page)

a boycott of KQED or made any threats against it," he said. "What we said was to urge the viewers to donate to KQED, but also to express their sentiments about Coors."

Wallace asserted that "it would be foolish and counterproductive for us to advocate any violence against either Coors or the station. Their (Coors') charges about this are ridiculous," adding that Coors lawyers were "absolutely livid at KQED for canceling 'Coors Day.'"

Sickler, reached at the AFL-CIO's Los Angeles office, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that KQED and Coors "reached an agreement to put the blame on

his platform, others laid it at the door as the opportunism of his sudden-found friends.

The Mondale delegates represent more of the city's mainstream Democratic Party apparatus. The 5th District slate includes Toklas Democratic Club president Sal Rosselli and Milk Club president Carole Migden. Jack Trujillo, veteran party Gay activist, is also a delegate. In the 6th, Louise Minnick is on the slate.

the union" for the cancellation.

COUNTERSUIT IN THE WORKS?

Sickler called Coors' appeal and second lawsuit "just a continuation of harassment against us . . . It's my belief that the suit was frivolous on its face; that it is peripheral to their main objective — to frighten off community support for the boycott."

Marcia Burzon, an attorney representing Wallace, Sickler and Solidarity, commented that she and her clients "have not ruled out" the possibility of filing a countersuit against Coors, charging the brewery with harassment.

"At this point, we haven't given much thought about doing that, but we may employ that (countersuit) in the future," Bur-

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Homeless AIDS People Flap Sets Mayor's Office Against Press

by Allen White

San Francisco Examiner Editor David Halvorsen has been accused of sabotaging the city's program for homeless AIDS victims by Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

The accusation, according to mayor's press aide Tom Eastham, came in the wake of a series of stories which broke last Friday about the Sea Captain Motel in the San Francisco Examiner. In the story the motel was revealed as temporary shelter for people with AIDS. As a result of the story the program at the Sea Captain has been discontinued.

In an effort to try and kill the story, the mayor talked for almost half an hour with Halvorsen. The primary thrust of her argument was that there was absolutely no threat to the public health by placing these people in public housing. She made it clear that the program for homeless AIDS victims would have to cease if the Examiner ran the story.

David Halvorsen acknowledged he had talked to the mayor. He said "our sense was that it was a matter of community interest." He also said that he believed the issue should be presented "in a public forum."

Halvorsen noted that since the breaking of the story, there has been a successful effort to find housing for those in the motel. He favored seeking a more permanent solution for the problem than use of motels for placement of people with AIDS.

One who doesn't agree with Halvorsen is David Custead. Custead works in the mayor's office and has been a key person in helping homeless people with AIDS find shelter. He has been working with the Department of Social Services and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation to

find emergency housing. He said the Sea Captain Motel has been used for people with AIDS for about five months. He said that he knows that most of the media in San Francisco were aware of the location.

Chronicle reporter Randy Shiltz, under fire for his own AIDS pieces, said that his paper has been aware of the people at the motel for almost a month. To publish the information he said would produce a "so what" story. He, and his editors, chose not to run the story because they felt it would serve no purpose.

The B.A.R. has confirmed through sources that information about the Sea Captain Motel was known by television stations KTVU (2), KRON (4) and KPIX (5) prior to the San Francisco Examiner story last Friday. They all chose not to run the story.

After the Examiner article appeared, the rules changed. Television stations swarmed over the motel and continued to broadcast reports for the next five days. Even the Chronicle carried the item. The people with AIDS were given two hours notice before the story broke and were

hustled out of the motel after being evicted by the owners. (This version according to the AIDS Foundation people.)

Four days later on Tuesday afternoon, the AIDS Foundation announced that a location had been found to house the people. They said it was a private residence and, as such, the location was confidential.

Steven Pratt, a social service worker at the AIDS Foundation, was bitter and angry as he reflected on the past weekend. He told of how the 12 homeless people were once again homeless in the middle of a rainy, wet Friday with no shelter.

One paragraph in the initial Friday Examiner story particularly galled the city officials. Referring back to a previous story on a Tenderloin hotel, the Jefferson, it said, "If the patients do have to move, it will be the second time in six months that The City has admitted failure in its efforts to find housing for indigent AIDS victims."

David Custead accused the Examiner of destroying the program and then turning around and saying it was a failure because they were able to render it inoperative.

A key part of the plan was the agreement with the motel owner that the location of the AIDS patients be kept secret. Ed Power, Acting Director of the AIDS Foundation, said, "Unfortunately, there are a lot of people out there who don't like Gay people and people with AIDS. We are doing the same thing as shelters such as those for battered women. We are respecting people's privacy and keeping the residences secret." What the motel owner thought about it all the Bay Area Reporter was not able to learn.

A twist to the whole story was a comment repeated at City Hall, the AIDS Foundation, and at the Examiner. They all said, "If you're going to die of AIDS, a motel is a helluva of a place to be."

None of the AIDS patients staying at the motel was available for comment, nor did anyone speak to the issue of standing their ground and staying where they were.



TV shot of the now notorious Lombard Street motel that rented rooms to homeless PWAs.

Edelman Announces AIDS Clinic

LA Supervisor Ed Edelman recently announced that the county-funded AIDS Clinic has opened at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center in Hollywood.

"Establishment of this AIDS Clinic at the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center will help us meet two vital needs," Edelman said. "It will help in the identification of additional AIDS cases, and it will also provide a triage and counseling resource for persons who feel they may have been exposed to AIDS but are unable to afford the cost of a private physical examination."

Funding for the AIDS Clinic was provided by a \$29,000 increase in the county's existing contract with the Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center. Under that contract, the Center receives \$237,181 annually.

Classes for Elders

Community College Centers of the San Francisco Community College District are offering Feeling Better, Growing Older, a program emphasizing issues of interest to older Gay men and Lesbians. The classes meet on Mondays at Everett Middle School, Room 107, 450 Church Street at 17th Street. Wheel chair access is through school yard, 17th Street side. Registration, at first class, is at 6-6:30 PM and classes meet 6:30-8:30 PM. Participants are asked to sign in each week. This is a tuition-free class offered by the Community College Centers Division of the San Francisco Community College District.

SPRING SCHEDULE 1984

April 23: Aging in Contemporary Society: Lesbian & Gay Issues. Welcome: Joyce Ream, Executive Director, San Francisco Commission on Aging, Lesbian Issues: Sheryl Goldberg, Program Coordinator, Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders of Operation Concern. Gay Issues: Stafford Buckley, Program Coordinator, Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders of Operation Concern.

April 30: Legal Issues Facing Older Gays & Lesbians: Maureen Malvern, Staff Attorney, Legal Assistance to the Elderly, Inc. specializing in Health Law Benefits and Long Term Care issues, Roberta Achtenberg, Directing Attorney, Lesbian Rights Project.

May 7: Making the Most of Your Health. Jerre Kelly, M.D., Geriatric Consultant, St. Mary's Hospital.

May 14: Moving Ahead in the Face of Loss: Stafford Buckley and Sheryl Goldberg, Program Coordinators, Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders of Operation Concern.

May 21: Support Systems & Other Resources for Older Lesbians & Gays: Stafford Buckley and Sheryl Goldberg.

For program information call Gerry Murphy at 239-3082. For public transportation information call 673-MUNI.

Labor Alliance Delves Into Domestic Partners

by Paul Lorch

Domestic Partner Benefits returned last week as a subject of discussion in the Gay community. It remained an idea whose time is yet to come.

The Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance on Wednesday night offered its first of what it hopes to be an ongoing series of labor forums. The forum was held at the retail clerks union hall at 1339 Mission Street. Some 35 Gay labor activists showed up to listen to seven panelists explore the subject for two hours.

Three of the panelists were actual plaintiffs in fringe benefit lawsuits. They included: Allen Chamberlin, a Sacramento resident, who is suing his employer, Frontier Airlines, for travel and reduced rate benefits for his lover of nine years. Chamberlin is a steward.

Another Sacramento resident was Boyce Hinman; he is suing his employer, the State of California, for dental benefits denied his lover of 12 years.

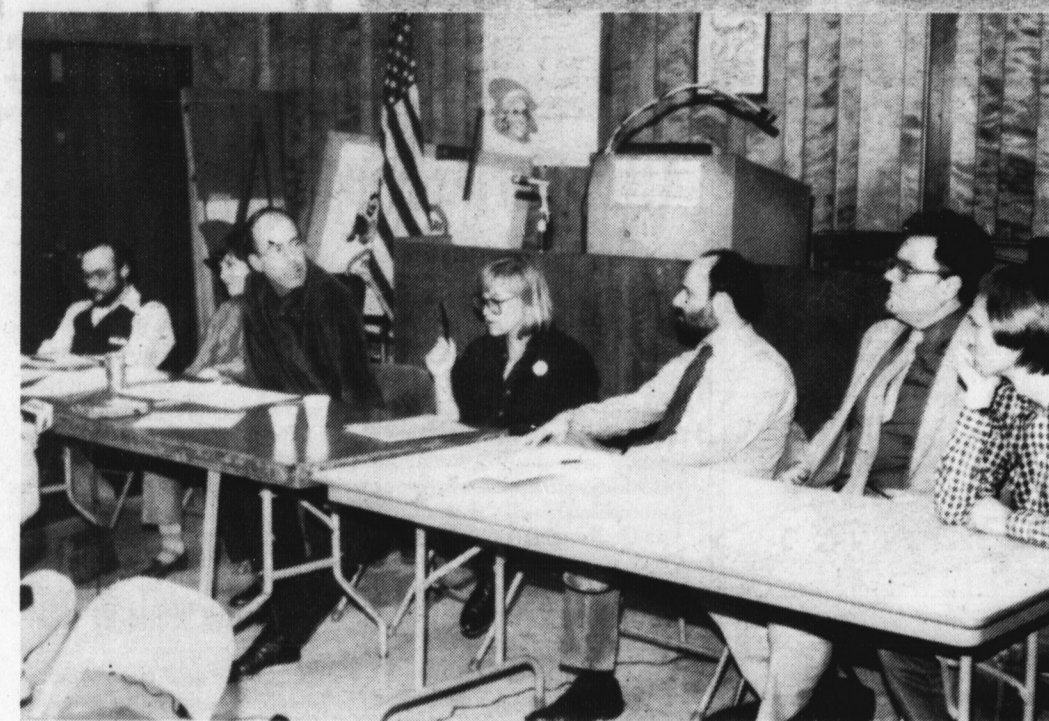
The third litigant was a local Southern Pacific employee, Larry Brinkin, who is suing both his employer and his union (Railway Clerks) for denying him funeral leave compensation following the death of his lover of 11 years. Brinkin is being represented by the ACLU and attorney Matt Coles.

Coles, the author of the original Domestic Partners legis-

lation and its second draft after it was vetoed in December 1982 by Mayor Dianne Feinstein, also served on the panel. Coles was particularly critical throughout the evening of the mayor and linked her 1982 veto as a precedent for Governor George Deukmejian's March 13 veto of AB-1.

Supervisor Harry Britt, who introduced the Domestic Partners legislation to the Board of Supervisors, got it passed, lost it to the mayor's veto, and who was unable later to get enough votes to override that veto, also spoke of the ideas behind his bill. He noted that it was the retrogressive thinking of politicians (whom he did not name) that caused his bill problems. Coles in turn blamed the insurance industry for polluting the legislation he authored. Britt added that he had spoken to members of the Benefits Task Force (set up by the mayor after the December '82 veto) and that they were running afoul of the same rocks that he and the mayor did in late '82 and early '83.

Attorney Roberta Achtenberg also served on the panel. Achtenberg represents Boyce Hinman and is a key figure in the local Lesbian Rights Project. She



Six-person panel at last week's Gay Labor Alliance forum on Domestic Partners included Gay plaintiffs, attorneys, and lawmakers: (l. to r.) Matt Coles, Roberta Achtenberg, Boyce Hinman, Barbara Bain, Larry Brinken, Harry Britt, Allen Chamberlin. (Photo: Rink)

stressed that lawsuits were but one way of seeking progress in benefits extension. She said the whole issue is of particular interest to Lesbians — especially in matters of economics. No Lesbians are presently engaged in benefits lawsuits.

NEW ORGANIZATION

Hinman announced that he and others have formed a new organization, called The Campaign for Family Partner Benefits. He passed out a flyer which gave the direction of the group.

The Campaign for Family Partner Benefits (CFPB) is

dedicated to the principle that the relationships of Lesbian women and their family partners and Gay men and their family partners are equivalent to the relationships of heterosexual persons and their spouses.

As a result the benefits of employment such as health and dental insurance, retirement benefits, and family sick leave that are provided to the spouses of heterosexual employees should be provided on an equal basis to the family partners of Lesbian and Gay employees.

The CFPB seeks to advance this viewpoint in two ways:

• By publicizing the issue so as to encourage challenges to discriminatory practices in the provision of benefits and to foster an atmosphere of public acceptance of the provision of employment benefits to the family partners of Lesbian and Gay employees.

• By raising funds to cover the costs of court challenges to discriminatory practices in the provision of employment benefits.

Barbara Baine of the Labor Alliance chaired the panel and led off the questions period.

P. Lorch

ONE Institute Confers World's First MA's in Homophile Studies

Los Angeles' ONE Institute conferred the first Master of Arts degrees in Homophile Studies January 29 at its annual

convocation. These are the first earned degrees in this field ever granted in the history of education.



Gay Mortuary Suspended, Will Reopen in April Says Owner

Licensing problems have temporarily closed the nation's first Gay funeral service, Lambda Funeral Guild. It's founder, Tom Simpson, is on a brief vacation and will reopen in April at his upper Market Street location.

John Gordon, the financier of Lambda, said his Neptune Society will perform Lambda services until it reopens. He explained that Simpson opened before he had full business credentials from the state Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers. It is a common practice in the industry to open and then await approval. However, in this instance the board postponed the matter until its March 28 meeting.

The state board sends out copies of any new application to all area funeral directors, who then have an opportunity to try and halt the new business. There was a complaint against Lambda by an unknown local mortuary. Simpson claimed, before he went on a brief vacation, that homophobia could be involved. There is also speculation that funeral directors could be objecting because Lambda plans to offer its services at very low rates.

Gordon said Lambda could open without a license if the board continues to postpone the matter. Funeral services may operate as "unlicensed" in California.

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From Castro to Christopher



Bite My Shoulder. Two women share a joke and a sunny afternoon at last year's Gay Pride Day.

San Jose
Man Charged with Lewd Conduct
 by John Wetzi

Mudelman said he filed charges "because I thought there was merit to the allegations. I can't imagine it being dismissed."

The alleged victim was a 12-year-old Los Gatos boy, a student at Valley Christian School. Sholer had volunteered with the Los Gatos Christian Church's youth group for eight years, according to a *San Jose Mercury* article. Sholer is married and has two children.

District Attorney Allan Mudelman declined comment "because at this time we've got a sensitive case that is currently pending, and it involves youngsters. It's a matter of my sensitivity to the content of the charges," Mudelman said he was not personally acquainted with the defendant.

Ash has entered the plea of "not guilty" for his client and colleague, but hopes to get the case dismissed. Asked if he was going to need the dismissal, Ash replied simply, "Mr. Sholer does." If merited, the case will go to trial in Santa Clara County Superior Court.

According to the police report, the boy's parents became suspicious after Sholer took him to breakfast last November and spent an hour in his bedroom when they returned.

A preliminary court examination is scheduled for March 21 in the Los Gatos Municipal Court.

East Bay Lesbians, Gays Establish Political Fund

The Campaign for Equality, the political action fund set up by the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, will host its first fundraiser Sunday, April 1. The wine and cheese reception will be held to honor those East Bay legislators who have supported AB-1, the state Lesbian/Gay employment rights bill vetoed by Governor George Dukemajian.

"We want to express our gratitude to those Assembly members and Senators who have supported our rights and issues," said Finance Chair Kerry Woodward.

Assembly members Tom Bates, Elihu Harris, Johan Klehs, Bob Campbell, and State Senators Nick Petris and Bill Lockyer will be honored April 1 from 5:30 to 8 PM at 5030 Golden Gate Avenue, Oakland (off Broadway Terrace, near Highway 13). Cost will be \$15/person. Please call 548-0329 for further information.

The next membership meeting of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club will be 7 PM Sunday, April 8, at the West Branch of the Berkeley Library, 1125 University Avenue. The meeting will be an endorsement meeting for Alameda County supervisorial candidates and for Berkeley Rent Board candidates. The meeting is free, and open to the public. Telephone 849-3983 for further information.

Raw-Rah A-Go-Go

The Hayward Raw-Rahs will present Raw-Rah A-Go-Go Saturday, March 24 at 8 PM at Big Mamas in downtown Hayward, one block from the Hayward BART station. Entertainment will be provided by The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence A-Go-Go Squad, the Hayward Raw-Rahs and several other special guests. The evening will include a \$1 buffet, door prizes, a 50/50 raffle, a Sexiest Legs Contest, Go-Go dancers and more.

Half of the proceeds will go to the East Bay AIDS Foundation and the other half will go to the Raw-Rahs Go-LA.

BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

HUMOR

Farewell for Raging Bull and Bullette

Nothin' Gets Past This Mother

Cross Country Rampage to Narrow Gap Between Gay and Lesbian
 by John F. Karr

To arms! To arms! Man the rammed parts! Batten down your britches! We're being besieged. San Francisco's premier journal of separatism, *The Ghetto Guardian*, reports an influx of Women into the Castro so sisyphian in its return that the *Ghetto Guardian's* Editor and First Misogynist (former Empress Drusilla) is walling off Eighteenth Street with tall stacks of twelve-inch singles. To further stem the encroaching world, he has formed a Gay men's alliance Ghettoes Are Great (GAG), to shield Gay men from contact with too many biological women.

"Women are everywhere!" he complained. "They stroll hand in hand down Castro Street, sit right next to you in the Castro Theatre — good Lord, they even give birth to you!"



Jeanine (r.) succeeded in muzzling Lea at this year's Cable Car Awards. (Photo: Rink)

One member of what the *Ghetto Guardian* calls "the invading forces" was leaning against a wall at Hibernia Beach. We spoke to her, hoping for a less ventilated response than that we received from the founder of GAG. Although she smilingly introduced herself as Dolores Heights, we approached her as Miss Apprehension. Openly flaunting her sexuality, her breasts clearly outlined by a form-fitting blouse which seemed to have bleached highlights skillfully painted on for emphasis, she explained her point of view.

"Queers!" she manifested our way: "Get Kyanized!"

This seemed strange. "You want to canonize queers?" we asked.

Dolores scoffed. "Kyanize 'em."

Our confusion grew. Was this a new form of castration? Gelding the silly?

"No," she said, laughing. "In the early 1800's, J.H. Kyan invented a way to make objects resistant to decay by treating them with a solution of corrosive sublimate. We figure you guys have been here long enough to need a little Kyanization."

"You're saying Gay men are stagnating?"

"No, not really. But if you hang around together all the time you're gonna miss an awful lot of stuff going on elsewhere."

Even though I couldn't take my eyes off her breasts, I paid heed to her words, and waved goodbye as she sauntered off.

"Well, bye. I gotta go pick out a new lipstick to match the burgundy tux I'm gonna wear to the Butch/Femme Soiree."

Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel. They were awarded the 1983 Cable Car Award as Outstanding Cabaret Entertainers, and that was a Critics' Choice, not a Bring All Your Friends and Win audience vote. Lea is no mere boat-rocker. If the observant eyes of her dearest and her dished, getting into FFA — Florida Fashion Attire. Delicate little gold lame slippers, a muu-muu with a purple and orange passion flower design, many bijoux, lipstick most definitely over the lipline, and a blue rinse sparkling in her ratted and sprayed solid bubble of a beehive.

Of course, Lea and Jeanine were bolto in nubibus Florida; the prevailing idea of entertainment in most Southern states being drag shows. And I don't make up without results akin to Fantasia on acid) — they believe they are women. They have beauty pageants just like Miss America and look just like girls and, boy, do they need some permatation. Take those medieval ideas away. Give us the outrageous, lovable queens of San Francisco any day. Reality? I never heard of such a thing.

That's the scene. The land that time forgot. Upscale Gay men tan and tryst in glamorous Key West while non-genital females pull the wool over their eyes with the same shimmering ease with which they pull an imitation Halston over their heads. Enter Lea DeLaria, Fuckin' Dyke, ready to tell a few jokes.

Were they ready for Lea's talk on "nature's cleansing process," the monthly process few people can pronounce? "Menstruation," she explains, "prepares my body for pregnancy. It is sadly deceived." Were they ready for a graphic demonstration of the sanitary methods used to hide "minestrone?" Of the life raft of a tampon she produces, swearing, "Nothing gets past this mother."

Forbidden subjects? A DeLaria specialty. Tell me, guys: When was the last time you met the fellows at the Cafe San Guineous to discuss your girlfriend's minstrel flow?

Political satire? Were they ready to meet "Jane Fondue?" Jane guarantees that if you exercise at her spa you'll lose weight while you loosen the shank of oppression; trim your waistline and defense spending at the same time.

The Women's Movement? Lea fatuously explains the Brobdignagian reaches of Womanhood: "As a Woman and a Lesbian I wrap my life around other Women. We have a deep unity, a spiritual connection. As a Woman I have an invisible clothesline that wraps itself around my waist and the next waist and the next and the sun

DeLaria and Strobel first hit Key West's Pigeon House Patio, a resort in excelsis deo, then it's two weeks at New York's famed Duplex.

she'd gotten to the Titanic before the iceberg, the ship would've gone down so much earlier. Bills herself as The Fuckin' Dyke. "Not a fuckin' dyke," she'll explain. "The Fuckin' Dyke." Butch? Fierce? Arnold Schwarzenegger calls her "Ma'am" (although it sounds like *gnadiges Fraulein* when he says it). She was supposed to be Nixon's Seventh Crisis but he deleted the chapter for fear she'd imitate him on stage. ("I don't want to cry tomorrow," Nixon said.)

There's no untouchable subject for Lea. Coupled with an unerring wit, her swift success, awards, and an eight-month tour that's booked solid are quickly understood. She began at the Valencia Rose barely two years ago. She heard Carol Roberts, laughed, decided she had some things to say, went to Open Mike Comedy Night the next week and ate the house whole.

She's played outside of San Francisco once, and that so successfully she was immediately booked to return — to both the Copa and the Marlin Beach Hotel ("it's right on the beach"), both Gay men's clubs.

Lea DeLaria in Florida? Quel hoot. We envision her, far from Fuckin' Dyke (Photo: Rink)

Lea DeLaria in Florida? Quel hoot. We envision her, far from

(Continued on page 31)

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Paul Young Brings Rhythm
and Romance to America

JERRY DE GRACIA

In his American debut at San Francisco's Wolfgang's Nightclub, English pop singer Paul Young proved, in spite of irritating technical difficulties and some unnecessary Michael Jackson choreography, that he can sing as sensually in performance as in the studio, a point already proven on his album *No Parlez*.

Although Young's strength is more suited for the low-key balladeering which highlights his album, he chose an up-tempo approach for most of the show, which was somewhat disappointing, since his powerful vocals did not dominate the performance. But his voice was strong enough to overcome the lead guitar — which could have just as well been left in England.

Young's vocal force was best displayed on "A Broken Man," in which he was accompanied only by the piano player, and during the encore performance of Marvin Gaye's "Wherever I Lay My Hat That's My Home."

His rendition of his first American hit "Come Back and Stay," which at first was overpowered by the lead guitarist, then rudely interrupted by a technical failure causing the lead guitarist to lose sound, was saved by the fact that after stopping the performance to deal with the problem, the other band members continued playing. Young finished the song beautifully — and without the crowding sound of the lead guitar, the rendition sounded more like the recorded version, which is, for those hopeless romantics, a classic gypsy torch song that seems to have grown out of the early American blues.

Overall, it was easy to denote the influence of American rhythm and blues on Young's music, and Young proved his mastery of romance and rhythm on his cover of Don Covay's "It's Better to Have It and Not Need It, Than to Need It and Not Have It."

The fact that San Francisco is full of lovers who love romance was obvious when a guy in the balcony yelled "I want you Paul."

June Millington . . . Running

June Millington is a Bay Area musician who has traveled from the all-woman rock band Fanny to a solo career based around the local women's music scene which has exploded in the last several years. She is one of many talented women artists in the Bay

Area but she is unique because of her ability to perform driving rock-oriented music in a scene dominated by a smoother, more folk-oriented sound.

Her rock sensitivity may not be unique but the title track of her new album *Running* is certainly the only contender for radio/club play to have come out of the women's music scene to date. This is not because it is the only dance track done by a woman in what seems to be the "Berkeley collective" but because it is definitely great material performed by a very talented artist.

Although "Running" stands out on the album, Millington lets her guitar-playing slide down to a softer rhythm on the remaining tunes. While she may see her own sensitivity and



Laurie Anderson

musical abilities better displayed in a more well-rounded collection of songs reflecting various musical influences, it seems the rock steady rhythm of "Running" is only an unfortunate tease. Even though more rock oriented material could only be flattering, Millington's album overall will still be one of the best Bay Area releases of 1984.

Lethargy and Poor Taste

Following the rules of basic logic I first listened to the new 12 inch "Laugh Lines/Peppermint Pig" by the Cocteau Twins, next to the latest Modern Eng-

downright frothy. Set in the period the West called "the Jazz Age," it shows that the music wasn't unknown in the Soviet Union. The party liners denounce it as "a monstrous product of bourgeois decadence," but young Konstantine defends it as "revolutionary" because its roots are in the Negroes, "the most oppressed people in the U.S.;" then he goes off to form his country's first jazz band.

The music catches on faster than they do, giving the quartet time to get good and to grow closer as friends — er, comrades.

The soundtrack, not always well synched to the action, is full of good-time music, dixieland and ragtime. There are moments which recall the glorious Hollywood musicals of old, and moments of warmth the likes of which Hollywood — let alone the USSR — rarely achieves.

Jazzman may not be a major film, but it's a fine and pleasant one, highly accessible to Americans who like the music; and star Igor Sklyar is probably the cutest Russian I've ever seen. (Surf)

S. Warren

lish lp Ricochet Days and finally to another single release "Sixteen Days" by This Mortal Coil, which contains contributions by both the Cocteau Twins and members of Modern English.

Ricochet Days, by Modern English, is actually a pleasant collection of songs that indeed possess a solid base, unlike This Mortal Coil's music. Several tracks are good including "Rainbow's End" and "Hands Across the Sea." Neither unfortunately comes close to the sensuality of "I Melt with You."

Synthetic (aka synthesized), progressive and/or experimental rock is fine but it has no appeal until it coalesces into a more solid form than either the Cocteau Twins or This Mortal Coil have developed. Wandering aimlessly should be left to Christians (or was it the Jews?) since it adds little value to pop music. Laurie Andersen's meanderings may not necessarily go from point A to point B but her poetic cynicism and staccato drawl at least manage to hold the listener in suspense rather than lose them in lethargy.

Where Winning is Different

Making a Pass for
Gay FootballIs This the Season to Kick Off
Drive for a New League?

by Paul Trefzger

One day Steve Stapleton decided he wanted to play football on a Gay team. That was a problem — there weren't any Gay football teams. So Stapleton decided to start one. Now the guys who play in the monthly games are thinking about what it would take to form a Gay football league.

ball jersey with the number "69," and Stapleton was ready to play ball.

The informal gatherings have become a regular once-per-month game, usually on the second Sunday. Stapleton describes it as "light tackle."

"I believe in a fast game. As



Gay football — for the rough and ready. (Photo: Rink)

"I like to play. I started this whole thing" — his campaign to get a league going — "assuming that there was one; not trying to start it, but to find it. It was like the search for the Holy Grail — or Holy Gridiron," Stapleton said.

That was two years ago. It occurred to Stapleton that there may be something in the *Bay Area Reporter*, but what he found was "every other conceivable sport." He phoned the sports editor and was told that there was no one to whom he could be recommended to find a Gay football team. He tried his gym. No luck. He began posting notices on the bulletin boards of gyms around the city, but still got no response.

So Stapleton gathered whoever he could by word of mouth and asked them to join him in an occasional Sunday game at Colingwood Playground in the Castro. His dad gave him a foot-

it's played now, everybody knows when the ball carrier isn't getting anywhere and the play is stopped. The idea is to have fun, not

hard feelings, and if it gets heated the game is stopped.

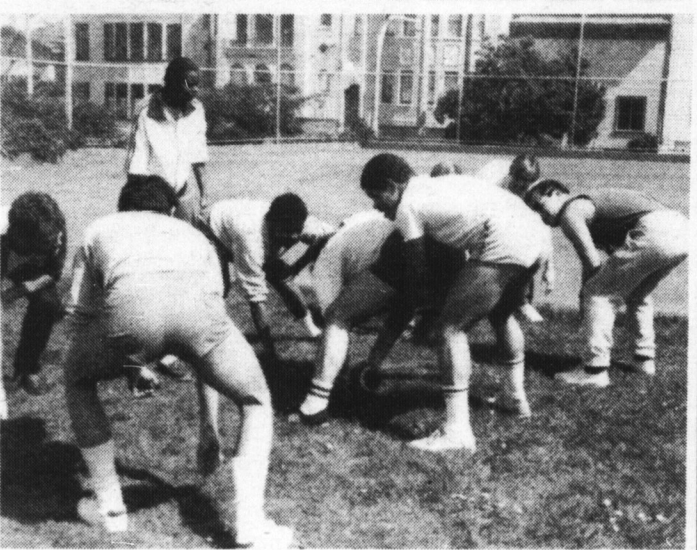
"Winning isn't always the highest score. Winning is when a fat, pudgy kid like I used to be — who thought he wasn't good enough, or macho enough to enjoy sports — gets together with other guys who may have felt the same way and has a great time," Stapleton said.

I asked Stapleton if he gets tired of the organizer role he's assumed. "Sometimes one of the guys will say, 'Oh, football.' The word has taken on a negative connotation for some Gay people. Then I remind him what a good time he had the last time," he said.

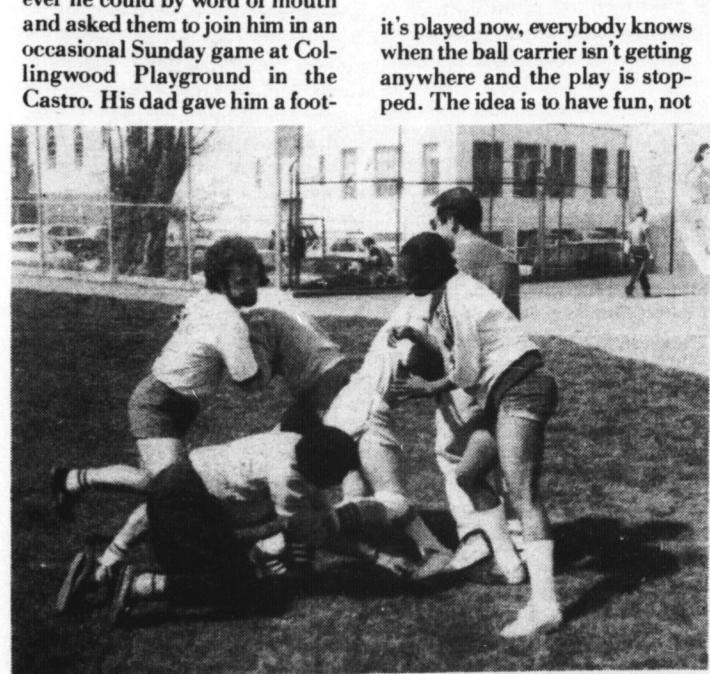
"Often we'll play until we get tired. Then we might go over to the Pipeline for a beer. One day we had about twenty-five people. We even had some friends in drag as Valley Girl cheerleaders. It's fun when a lot of people show up. Some guys will bring their new boyfriends," Stapleton said.

Stapleton's goal is a Gay football league such as the softball leagues sponsored by the bars. I cited the possibility of the game — his game — losing some of its spontaneity and of lesser players being replaced by "ringers" by a bar trying to move up in the standings. He said, "I would be strongly opposed to that. I think there are ways that this could be prevented. Rather than honoring the team that's won the most games, there could be merit awards such as for the team that's exhibited the most Gay pride or been the most inspirational," Stapleton said.

"Participation levels should be kept rigid. People should identify more with the league than with individual teams. There



The informal gatherings have become a regular once-per-month game. (Photo: Rink)

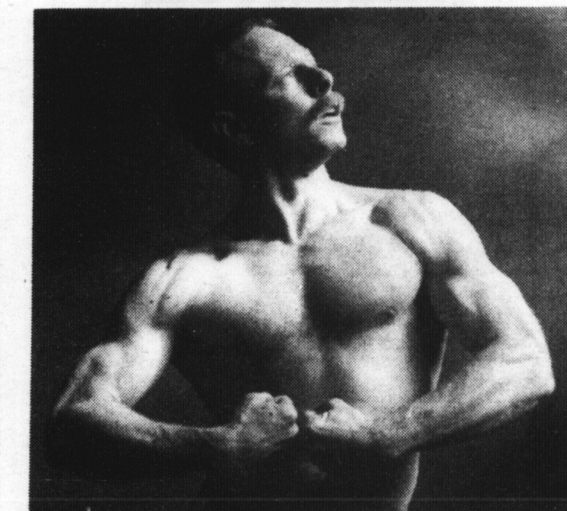


Gay football? Before long they'll be a Gay football league. (Photo: Rink)

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VOL. XIV NO. 13 MARCH 29, 1984

Pride Founder Will Circulate Stop Sex Petition for Ballot

by George Mendenhall

Larry Littlejohn, a Gay Deputy Sheriff and founder of the Pride Foundation, announced a petition drive this week that could result in a halt in sexual activity in the city's fourteen steam baths. He needs 7,332 signatures by August 8 in order to place his measure on the November ballot. It would be a policy statement, requiring that the Board of Supervisors adopt an ordinance that would make it illegal for patrons of a steam bath to have sex on the premises. Police would monitor such activity.

Littlejohn argues that his goal is to end multiple-sex activity in Gay steam baths, which some people believe increases the incidence of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). He suggests that the Board require that all bathhouse rooms be brightly lighted and that signs be posted stating, "Sexual activity among patrons on these premises is prohibited."

Attorney David Clayton, co-owner of the Steam Works bathhouse chain, told this reporter that Deputy Littlejohn "is letting his police mentality override his Gay mentality. This mentality says that if people are not doing what we want them to do, we will make it illegal and punish them for violations. No one in the Gay community is ignorant of the consequences of sexual activity. Gay men have the right to make that choice. Such an ordinance would only have a token effect and will have no real effect

on the AIDS crisis."

Clayton asked, "What will be next? Followed to its logical conclusion, the police would then begin to halt sexual solicitations in Gay bars, Gay movie houses, and 'back rooms' private clubs." Littlejohn responded, "What people do when they meet elsewhere on a one-to-one basis is their own business. There is control. However, in the baths there is an atmosphere of promiscuous sexual activity with strangers. Even if people are jacking off together someone could make an entry from the rear."

Does Littlejohn go to bathhouses? "No, I stopped two years ago when I got a lover and they began to become boring for me. Now I do not have a lover, but I stay away because I would be exposed to AIDS. You cannot tell who has it, and multiple contacts increase the possibility of getting it."

(Continued on page 3)

The Duke Gets Zapped in Berkeley

AB-1 Veto Protesters Dog Governor's Tracks More Picketing Planned for This Week

by John Wetzel

Governor Deukmejian Monday confronted angry Gay picketers face to face for the first time since he vetoed AB-1. As the governor's entourage for visiting French president Francois Mitterand wove its way across the peaceful UC campus in Berkeley, picketers mobbed the governor's party, coming within two feet of the governor. Gays from San Francisco and from Berkeley wielded pro-Gay and anti-Deukmejian signs in protest of the veto. They chanted during the one-mile walk, "Gay rights now!"

Mitterand was welcomed onto the campus by a virtual wall of at least 40 picketers shouting for Gay rights and the separation of church and state. Mitterand, who supports Gay rights in his socialist country, said to a capacity audience in Berkeley's Wheeler Hall, "I appreciated the welcome extended to me at this campus. (Quote from translation) . . . it was very friendly and very lively."

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Berkeley and San Francisco pickets dog governor's footsteps. (Photo: Rink)

Court Says Coroner Must Return Milk's Clothes to Estate

by Paul Lorch

The battle over who should have the late Harvey Milk's suit, the suit he was wearing the day he was shot and killed, took another turn this week. The suit has been ordered returned to its rightful owners.

Attorney for the Milk estate, John Wahl revealed news of a court victory, which he hopes will be the first of many. On Monday, March 26, Superior Court Judge Victor M. Campilongo ruled that the Captain of Inspectors of the SFPD and the San Francisco Coroner either must deliver the property to Milk's heir, Scott Smith, or "show cause . . . why the property should not be delivered."

The items in contest are all the clothing worn by the late supervisor on the day of his death at the hands of then-Supervisor Dan White. The police held on to Milk's clothes he was wearing November 27, 1978, as possible evidence against White. The clothing which would have revealed information on how and where Milk was shot. And how and from what wounds he bled to death.

The possession of the clothing did not become an item of contention until last year. A play was produced last year that recreated the Milk/Moscone assassination. Some of the more shocking lines in the original script supposedly dealt with where White

placed the final bullets into his victims' bodies. The line — which was excised from the staged version at the last minute — suggested that White's *coup de grace* was into Mayor George Moscone's rectum.

The S.F. Coroner denied this allegation but refused to submit the dead men's clothing for inspection. To him the matter was closed and the clothes nobody's business. He then announced they were his to keep indefinitely to prevent exploitation of the articles.

Wahl, acting for Scott Smith, refused to accept the Coroner's assuming ownership of things that — simply put — did not belong to him.

Wahl took his complaint to court and argued that the clothing "has undetermined intrinsic value, and symbolic value to the claimant and others."

Judge Campilongo agreed with Wahl's arguments and ordered that Milk's effects be returned to the Executor of the Estate, Scott Smith, or to return to court April 6 and argue why they can't or won't.

Eddie Murphy Says to Gays, "Kiss My Ass"

by Allen White

Comedian Eddie Murphy has finally responded to charges he was homophobic by telling the Gay community to "kiss my ass." The comment came in a lengthy interview in the current issue of *Rolling Stone* magazine.

Murphy had been the target of heavy criticism and a boycott of his work because of his inflammatory and inaccurate remarks about AIDS in a Home Box Office cable special broadcast last year. The concert was released this year for home video cassette sale by Paramount. A spinoff of the anti-Gay material was the Eddie Murphy Foundation, a Hollywood group which took out ads in several magazines denouncing the comedian.

In the *Rolling Stone* story, Murphy makes the astonishing statement, "Faggots who have nothing to fucking do but sit around with tight asses and feel like people are pointing at them . . . people who are insecure got offended. The way I feel about it is, what they did helped my album because the majority of

the country is heterosexual, and they read that homosexuals don't like Eddie Murphy and they think, 'Hey, all right.'"

Rolling Stone writer Christopher Connelly then asked Murphy his reaction if a White comic began telling jokes about Black people. Murphy responded, "That's not funny."

It is revealed in the article that Eddie Murphy's father, Charles Murphy, was stabbed to death by his girlfriend over Labor Day weekend in 1969. Asked by *Rolling Stone* if that would be the premise for comic material, Murphy responded, "I don't like to do stuff about my father being dead. No tragedy. My comedy's good time comedy." The Eddie Murphy Foundation did not think it was funny and spent

(Continued on page 4)