

# BAY AREAAREPORTER

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1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

# Bathhouse Closing Decided, Delayed, Debunked



A Castro Street idler checks out the latest AIDS posters. This week bath closing riled the Gay community. (Photo: Rink)

## Community, Ignited by Issue, Opposes Shutdown

Many Gay men began to think about AIDS and their own sexual practices seriously for the first time last week. The word was out that San Francisco's famed steam baths and possibly other sex-related businesses could be closed by the city's health director, Mervyn Silverman. It was difficult to ascertain what the Gay community as a whole thought of this possible move, but its leaders and activists were overwhelmingly against closure.

It was clear that Silverman himself, who receives continuing input about AIDS and is considered highly informed on the subject, had not been able to make up his mind. He called a press conference to allegedly make THE announcement and then postponed the decision. While the city's top officials apparently favored closure, Silverman remained calm as he evaluated the legal and medical problems involved in such a move. He says the decision may take two more

Sensational daily headlines and quickie news reports baffled the Gay community as well as the general public. Bay Area Reporter was inundated with television cameras and inquiring reporters while staff members attempted to pull the story together. Finally, it was decided that amidst the confusion a chronology of the week's major events would help

A Gay deputy sheriff, Larry Littlejohn, went to City Hall and filed an intent to circulate an initiative petition which, if successful, would have made it city policy to prohibit "sexual activity among patrons of public bath houses." There was general agreement among the Gay activists and doctors that the initiative would get the necessary 7,332 signatures and be approved by the voters in November. The fear that this would call Board of Supervisors that would eventually result in a locked-in and irreversible closure of the

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

A group of five Gay activists and six Gay doctors met at the home of psychiatrist David Kessler to discuss a possible newspaper advertisement explaining the AIDS crisis. During the meeting the co-director of the AIDS/KS Foundation, Dr. Marcus Conant, said he had talked with Dr. Mervyn Silverman, Public Health Director.

There is confusion among

Conant related. Evidently, he indicated that Silverman might move quickly to close the city's steam baths because of an alleged link between bath house sex and AIDS. The group voted 10-2 to support a baths closure.

This led to an immediate statement being drafted by the participants and an organized effort was launched to get broad Gay community support for the closure with 100 signatures as the goal. Callers had difficulty

## Gay Men Will be Screened **Out of Giving Blood**

New Test Will Eliminate High Risk AlDers

The Irwin Memorial Blood Bank revealed last week that all blood donated will undergo a second testing to eliminate

The new test, which will begin May 1, is targeted ostensibly at detecting hepatitis. However, the real reason is that the new testing will eliminate the blood from Gay men from entering the system. Dr. Herbert Perkins, Scientific Director, of the blood bank said that the new blood testing will screen out "about 90 percent of all people in groups at high risk for

Four categories of people make up the high risk AIDS group: hemophiliacs, Haitians, intravenous drug users, and Gay men. Little liklihood exists that hemophiliacs donate blood. Few Haitians reside in San Francisco, and of the last two high risk groups, in San Francisco, Gay

men are in the vast majority. The additional hepatitis test, known as the core antibody test, will reveal evidence of past infection of hepatitis. About 90% of Gay men, according to the Irwin Blood Bank, carry the core antibody of hepatitis. The test will insure that no blood given by a Gay man (a high risk for AIDS) will be transfused. There exists no test to detect AIDS in blood.

Perkins said the new test will enhance the safety of the community blood supply in two ways. It will reduce further the risk of post-transfusion hepatitis and will serve as an added safety net for screening donors at high risk for AIDS.

Currently the blood bank screens for AIDS-possible dontion if they believe their blood is

The Blood Bank admits that their current screening (in addition to the new test) will not detect AIDS. Neither has their current screening for hepatitis eliminated hepatitis B as a cause of post-transfusion hepatitis The test cannot detect the presence of another hepatitis virus known as non-A non-R which can be present in healthy donors. The core antibody test, however, will detect blood that is non-A, non-B virus, thereby serving as an additional screening for hepatitis.

Perkins emphasized that Gay men (90% of whom carry the core antibody) with few exceptions, should have no concern that its presence indicates illness. They have been either been cured of hepatitis B or developed an antibody on their own.

# State Readies Quarantine Format for AIDS Patients

Public Health Officials, State Attorneys Take First Steps in Restraint of Movement

by Paul Lorch

Dr. James Chin, State of California Chief of Infectious Disease, has begun the initial procedure

Of concern to Dr. Chin is what to do or what can be done to people with AIDS "who do not follow the recommendations of the health department." Chin began work in December 1983 and opened a discussion with the state's Office of Legal Services in Sacramento.

at the Office of Legal Services outlining his plan. Chin laid out the steps that could be taken if an AIDS patient refused to folmitted by the health depart-

Chin was concerned over the AIDS patient who would have sexual relations with partners who did not know of his condition. The Chief of Infectious the PWA be contacted by the local health department. The PWA (person with AIDS) would be informed in word and in print of the "need to adhere to public abstaining from sexual activities that could transmit a possible AIDS agent to sexual contacts

Following up on several phone who are unaware he has 'AIDS." Next, if the patient either denies he has AIDS or is "openly hostile and refuses to adhere to medical recommendations" that the local health department refer the patient to an AIDS support group who would counsel the pa-

> If this step failed, the public health official would go further and issue orders for a "modified isolation." The health depart ment orders would detail the need to adhere to policies. It would also outline quarantine

procedures that would be imple-

Again, if this warning failed and the PWA ignored the order to modify behavior, the local health department would take severe measures. They would quarantine the patient's residence by posting a sign at the

#### N HIS SSUE How leader types are reacting tient. The idea being to change to the closing of the baths and his behavior by a talk from his sex clubs . . . . . . . . p. 2 Stonewall fights bath closure Bruce Pettit . . . . . p. 3

Whistles stop an armed assault - Allen White . . p. 5

Bay Area Reporter's new feature: Our weekly calendar, "This Week" . . . pp. 18-19

# CLOSE THE BATHS?

## Community Voices Respond

Gay activists divided this week as the possible closure of the city's Gay steam baths and sex-related businesses continued to be considered by Mervyn Silverman, the city's Director of Public Health. One group urged him to close everything down. In addition, an intent to circulate a petition to criminalize sex in the baths has been filed by a Gay deputy sheriff, Larry Littlejohn. Here are some community reactions:

Jo Daly, City Police Commis-

sioner: If Silverman determines



that closing the baths can save one life, that it would slow down this horrible disease, I support him. However, if we can voluntarily act I would prefer that. I would prefer that we not rely on government to interfere with our ives . . . I believe that if these people could see their partners they are having sex with on the outside they would never take

Lawrence Wilson, Toklas Democrats and Police attorney: Some people believe that Silver-

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man not closing them was a joyous victory, but I do not feel that anyone is dealing with the Littlejohn initiative. Those of us who met wanted to put AIDS on the front burner of Gay community concerns and we did that. No one thought closing the baths would be the answer, that it would stop AIDS. But people who believe AIDS is not spread by sex are kidding themselves.



that there is no medical evidence

- even with Dianne (the mayor). She is being super. If we spect homophobia, then we should be political as hell.

Sal Rosselli, President Marty Cox, AIDS patient: Probably less than 5% of the Toklas Democrats: Closure of Gay male population goes to bathhouses. Even if they were sex-related businesses would have a detrimental effect on the full every night they would only hold a portion of us. Most Gay Gay liberation movement. We need to limit and reduce the high males are masturbating a lot risk practices in sex houses. I am keeping their hands busy. Most hoping that the owners of the sex people are meeting in bars. Should we close them too? . . . establishments will take a leading role in contributing to There are probably not two peo-ple with AIDS who agree with the success of the AIDS Foundation educational program. I am hoping that all members of each other, but I believe the baths are clean, safe places that our community will now be more should stay open. They even provide people with AIDS a place responsible toward preventing the spread of AIDS. The ultito clean up as some are now forced to live in flophouses. mate aim is that no one in our community would engage in high risk sex that appears to be responsible for transmitting AIDS. Carole Migden, President, Milk Democrats; Director,

Rooftop bathhouse hijinks - other than what is assured is going on. (Photo:



Sal Rosselli - opposed (Photo: Vicki

Bill Kraus, Aide to Congresswoman Sala Burton: It is clear that we now have to make drastic changes in our sexual behavior in order to save lives. It is very difficult to justify the type of activity that goes on in the bathhouses in the middle of an epidemic. The doctors that I have worked with on AIDS research funding say that the bathhouses should be closed . . . Politically, it is going to become increasingly difficult to tell straight politicians that there is a terrible crisis if we don't act like there is a crisis ourselves. The argument that the baths allow people to be educated while there is the same as keeping people in a burning building as a reminder that a fire exists.

Jim Foster, nationally known Gay political activist: Placing an emphasis on the bathhouses and related businesses shifts the focus away from where the major effort must be in this crisis the refusal of this federal administration to recognize the severity of this situation . . . The other issue is behavior patterns. We need condoms and everything else that works. We need an imagery in our pornography where safe practices are illustrated . . . As for the bathhouses, it has not been my direction in 22 years in the movement to save bathhouses. I am not sure that they play a major role in the ultimate

(Continued on page 12)

# PICTURE FRAMING

Law Wilson - in favor (Photo: Rink)

Morris Kight, longtime Los Angeles Gay activist: The closing of the baths would assist the homophobes, who would believe that they have won a victory. It would be nothing but a public relations gimmick. The truth is that we still do not know if it is sexually transmitted . . . Alcoholism is also a very real problem so evidently we should close the bars. Over-weightness could call for the closing of restaurants. The message is that pleasurable things should be stopped. This

Harry Britt, City Supervisor: have always insisted that Gay physicians be involved in any decision-making and I have indicated that I would support whatever decisions are made if Gay physicians are involved. I received information before Silverman's press conference that Gay physicians had made the decision to close the baths. Now, I hear that Silverman believes

. . One thing that was agreed upon in a meeting in the mayor's office was that any decision would be made in a nonhomophobic atmosphere. The decision about the bathhouses will come from people who care very much about our rights. No one is going to find homophobia here

Dr. Tim Wolfred, President, Community College Board: Whether the baths are closed should be a medical decision. My interest is to get a massive educational campaign going and public money allotted to support alternatives to high risk sexual activity. The longer this controversy continues, the more pressure there will be in the general community to close the baths. I am surprised how little straight and Gay people know about the high incidence of AIDS. The pressure was building in the medical community toward closure anyway, and the Littlejohn initiative had the effect of putriedly.

Operation Concern: If there was

typhoid, we would close the pub-

ic pools. There is medical evi

dence to indicate that those who

requent bathhouses are of high

risk with a preponderance of

cases traced to the bathhouses

and the people who frequent

them. Doctors should be setting the policy on this and the doc-

tors and Silverman were both

saying YES to closure. We also

recognize that the Littlejohn ini-

tiative could have changed

things because of the homopho-

bia it would generate.



Tim Wolfred, Carole Migden - in ' favor (Photo: Vicki Lenz

# Stonewall Opposes Sex Club Closure; Calls for Changes

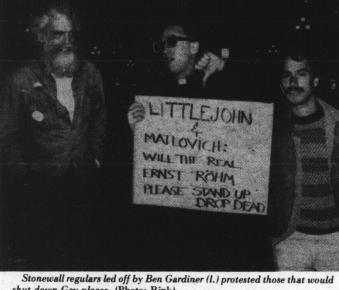
Stonewall Gay Democratic Club members were clearly annoyed Monday night at what they regarded as a small cadre of Gay community leaders "who purport to speak for the entire community" advising closure of the bathhouses and sex clubs. Nevertheless, Stonewall stopped short of censure in hopes of forestalling further divisions that have occurred so quickly in the latest

However, Stonewall voted to condemn the haphazard manner in which the Department of Public Health is making decisions regarding the Lesbian/Gay bathhouses and sex clubs." It urged "immediate consultation with a broad spectrum of our community before making a final decision on this issue.

Stonewall also called upon owners of bathhouses and sex clubs to make "radical changes" to diminish "high risk" conditions and to promote "safe sex."

Dr. Mervyn Silverman, San Francisco's director of public health, was prepared on March 29 to close the bathhouses and sex clubs on March 30. Stonewall president Paul Boneberg told his club Monday night that he and other Gay leaders persuaded Silverman to attend a meeting at Valencia Rose the night of March 29. There, Boneberg believed, "Dr. Silverman became convinced that, at the very least, there was not a groundswell of support" in the Gay community for closure. Boneberg thought the message may have gotten through that "the Lesbian/Gay community should be consulted in such a crucial decision."

A protracted club discussion



shut down Gay places. (Photo: Rink)

revealed that members acknowledged the issues were complex. Vice president Leslie Manning said the Gay community - and particularly the AIDS/KS Foundation — had failed in its assurances that it would persuade Gay men to change their sexual practices. The attempts at closure "are a direct result of that

But Bob Basker felt that closure would "herald a reign of

terror" for renewed attacks on Gays from "vigilante kids and adults." Bill Paul regarded a proposed initiative policy statement by activist Larry Littlejohn to prohibit sex practices in bathnouses as electoral disaster that needed to be deflected. "But harsh closure will have reverberations all over the country."

Ralph Payne, however, was not distressed at the Littlejohn initiative, for it forced the Gay

thing it was avoiding. "We have to address people making a lot of money on high risk, high fre-quency sex practices which our own doctors are telling us are killing us. We have to look at that and not be afraid to touch it.'

The club voted against closure "at this time" and barely defeated a move against closure "at any to try to sell him as Harvey

Connie O'Connor said Hart is reluctant to co-sponsor the Senate Gay rights bill "because the right wing almost defeated

Supervisor Harry Britt made a pitch for Hart: "Hart cannot only defeat Ronald Reagan, but we will be in a position to build Lesbian and Gay political power

### Stonewall's Bob Basker: Bath closure would "herald a reign of terror."

#### NO ONE FOR PRESIDENT

Stonewall endorsed no candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination. The club overwhelmingly supported the Rev. Jesse Jackson in a straw poll two months ago, but since then the campaign of Colorato Senator Gary Hart has caught on fire. In last Monday's balloting, Jackson had 26 votes, Hart 20, and Walter Mondale 8 (four members voted for no endorsement). Thirty votes were needed for endorsement.

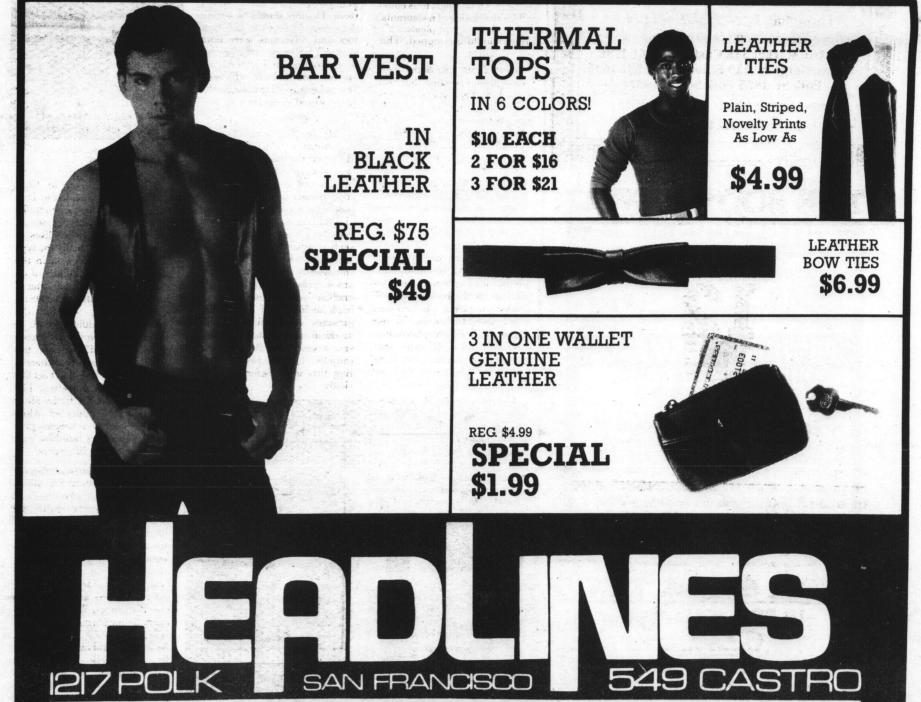
A. Billy S. Jones contended that Jackson not only has the best position on Gay rights but "the mere presence of Jackson in this campaign has kept the issue of Lesbians and Gays in the forefront . . . We need him at the Democratic convention so that our issue gets articulated." Jones said that Mondale is afraid to say the word "Gay" and that Hart is reluctant to endorse a Gay rights bill in Congress.

Jack Truillo insisted that Mondale has been very open "to me" in talking about Gay isues. But he noted, "Mondale is a Midwestern senator who has to be pushed along. He is not Harvey Milk, and I'm not going with Hart. I would not be supporting Gary Hart if I were not convinced he is going to have the strongest presence of Lesbians and Gay men in his campaign of any campaign in the history of the United States."

Ben Gardiner said that Jackson's "saying the right things has had an effect on the Black community. It has been difficult to get Black people to endorse Gay rights, (although) it has not been difficult to get Black legislators to endorse Gay

In other action, Stonewall gave an 81% endorsement to Proposition K on the June ballot. Prop. K would restrict construction of new buildings over 40 feet in height if they would cast shadows on any city parks.

Stonewall endorsed 13 people for the Democratic County Central Committee election. In the 16th Assembly District: Connie O'Connor, Eddie Baca, Linda Post, Cleve Jones, Dennis Peron, Jack Trujillo, and JoAnne Miller. In the 17th AD: Greg Day, Louise Minnick, Ron Huberman, Paula Fiscal, and Anne Daley. In the 19th AD:



job rather than bow to the

Todd McCullough, Assistant

Director of Catering and Con-

ventions for the hotel, denied the

charges. McCullough worked

the banquet and said that if any

such requests had been made, they would have been to him.

McCullough said the only re-

quest regarding waiters for the

governor was to know the person

so a security authorization could

be given. He also said no person

McCullough did say they were

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walked off the job.

Rumors Persist That No Gay Waiters Would Serve "The Duke"

Last Saturday night Gay protesters again made good their promise to be vocally present when Governor George Deukmejian makes a public appearance. At his first public appearance in San Francisco since his veto of AB-1, more than 150 pickets marched in front of the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

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**SOLIGOR ZOOM** 

While television cameras that two waiters walked off the focused in on the demonstration, the governor was inside at a banquet. The governor's security force had anticipated the pickets and reports indicate the governor was given extremely heavy se-

Employees at the Hyatt Regency were outraged at a rumor that circulated swiftly through the hotel. The report was that security officers with the governor had demanded that no Gay person be allowed to serve Deukmejian at the banquet. There were also rumors

issue at the hotel. All people who would have to work with Governor Deukmejian who were Gay were asked if they would like other assignments. McCullough said there were no problems.

McCullough and other managers at the Hyatt Regency did acknowledge that the rumor was known throughout the hotel. One caller to the Bay Area Reporter about the rumor said that the hotel would be trying to cover up any problems.

In Sacramento, Kevin Brett, a press aide to the governor, stated they would have no comment regarding the alleged

The rumors and the protests are all part of a growing vocal movement against Governor George Deukmejian. Assembly Bill 1, introduced by Assemblyman Art Agnos, would have protected job rights for Gays and Lesbians. Deukmejian vetoed the bill on March 13. Participants in a group loosely called "Operation Duke Watch" have now vowed to follow the governor throughout the state to establish a presence at all of his speaking engagements to make Gay demands known.

City Hall Press Event

## "AIDS Prevention Week" Brings Out the Media

"Play Safe" was the official word coming out of City Hall this week as Mayor Feinstein kicked off "AIDS Prevention

Buttons were passed out to guests in the Mayor's office Monday as well as to almost the city's entire press corps. The media came out in force for AIDS, not for the week of education, but to find out more about Public Health Director Merv. Silverman's aborted decision to close down the city's Gay bathhouses and play pens. Nobody was talking about last Friday's scrubbed mission impossible.



The Mayor set the tone with her opening remarks that the press conference was not going to be about bathhouse closings, but about education.

The press corps let her off the hook, but they pressed the ques-tion on Dr. Bob Bolan, president of the local AIDS/KS Foundation. Bolan refused to avoid the question, yet refused to get embroiled in it. Bolan was one of the original petitioners last week to Dr. Silverman to close the baths. He has since abandoned that position and gave the impression that he was opposed to the wholesale shutting down of Gay sex establishments.

Bolan said that the week-long program was designed "to challenge people to change behaviors which may put them at high risk" with regards to

Specifically targeted this week are those groups which are currently defined as the "most at risk." The only description of "most at risk" is those who continue to have multiple sex partners. Nobody can identify these 'addicted" (as Bolan described them) sexers, but the consensus

As of March 5, 1984 the CDC in Atlanta reported 3,646 AIDS cases (San Francisco reported 440 cases) of these, 1,566 (43%)

The AIDS cases identified by the Center for Disease Control reflect only those cases which conform to the CDC's strict case definition. Several thousand other cases have been reported, but have not been officially counted.

# Quarantine

person's address. The sign would indicate that a person "with a communicable disease which can be transmitted by intimate contact resides in the house-

Dr. Chin then asked the state's attorneys if his plan would encounter "any significant legal problems" for either the local health department.

In mid-February Sharon Mosley responded from Sacramento, advising Dr. Chin that health officers "have broad authority to take such measures as may be necessary to prevent the spread of disease." In cases of contagious infections or communicable disease, the community's health may be protected through "isolation" (strict or modified) or through "quarantine."

The length of any quarantine or isolation is as long as neces-

Any violations of either stricture are reportable to the district attorney and, as they are misdemeanors, are punishable.

In addition, if a person violates the isolation or quarantine, they abandon their right to confidentiality and privacy.

The behavior that would re-

quire restrictions must be documented. This the state's attorneys stressed and suggested that public health officers take serious steps earlier rather than later in the process.

The state lawyers pointed out that a patient's right to privacy is guaranteed by the California Constitution, Article 1, Section I. However, these rights are not place." No statutes or regulations existed authorizing posting signs. The last law that permitted sign hanging was repealed in 1957. Again, a patient's right to privacy was raised. Mosley wrote, "In many cases, public exposure of this information would serve no productive purpose and would result in unwarranted invasion of privacy."



NGRA's legal director, Leonard Graff obtains state's plans on quaranting (Photo: Vicki Lenz)

absolute and "must be weighed against the necessity of protecting public health." Still, speculation regarding a person's activity or a hostile attitude is not enough to take overly severe

Attorney Mosley was not happy with Chin's Step 4 which called for the posting of a placard at the patient's residence. She wrote, "There appears to be

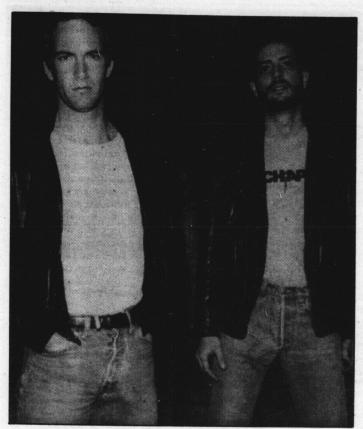
no need for a quarantine of a Leonard Graff, Legal Director of National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA), secured the correspondence exchange. He petitioned Dr. Chin in Berkeley under the California Public Records Act for all relevant documents. Dr. Chin's office responded within days with copies of the interdepartmental

# Whistles Foil Upper Market Holdup

Trio Flee Crowd, Guns Blazing, Police in Pursuit

alucations and hime anomates and t

Three men were arrested last weekend following an armed holdup attempt and a wild gunblazing chase through the upper Market Street area. Over two dozen people blowing whistles are credited with sabotaging the robbers' efforts.



Attack victims Richard MacIntyre (l.) and Eric Nielsen (r.) - when confronted they began blowing whistles. (Photo: Rink)

**Small Turnout to Protest** 

Twenty-two people gathered at Castro and Market last Sunday for a march to protest the closing of San Francisco's

bathhouses. The poorly-planned event was to have been the first time the general public would be able to make a public

statement regarding the controversial issue.

The incident took place on Saturday, March 25, at Castro and States Streets. Richard MacIntyre and his friend, Erik Nielsen, were walking up Castro after leaving the Detour bar at 2 a.m. As they neared States Street, they realized three men were closing in on them. One of the men, Ralph Alvarez, 20, pro-

Sex Club Closing

For two days, event organizer

Bill Camillo had been trying to

stir enthusiasm for a march. As

he passed out his leaflets in the

Castro, Camillo said he received

a positive response from about

three out of four people. Unlike other handouts, Camillo said

very opinionated. Those dis-

agreeing with Camillo on the

bathhouse issue were equally

As Camillo realized the

numbers were not there, he

abandoned the idea of a march and opted for a rally at Harvey Milk Plaza. To stir some excite-

ment, he led the group down Castro to 19th and then returned

to the Market Street location.

Along the way he managed to

double the size of his crowd to

The media wanted a hot story

about AIDS for the 11 o'clock

news and they showed up en masse. Camillo had also lined

up a group of speakers to make a statement. Bobby Campbell,

a person with AIDS, was the

first on the list. He was followed

by Sister Boom Boom, Gerry Parker, Howard Wallace, bath-

house owner Sal Accardi, and

about fifty people.

Earl Galvin.

vocal as his supporters.

duced a handgun and aiming straight at MacIntyre's stomach said, "Don't say a word, just give us your wallet."

MacIntyre said it didn't seem like the man knew how to use a gun. He thought they were bluffing, and he and Erik Nielsen moved back into Castro Street and Nielsen began blowing his

Sal Accardi, who heads an

area association of bathhouse

owners, was displeased that the

protest rally had taken place. He

only learned of the rally an hour

earlier on a radio news broad-

cast. "This is not an issue to be

debated in the streets," he said.

small turnout. For Accardi, it

pointed up his contention that

less than 5% of the Gay com-

Earl Galvin, one of the

speakers, gave a more unusual

reason for turning out. He is a

member of a club called the San

Francisco Jacks. He says the

mutual masturbation society

will have no place to meet if the

clubs close. With a membership

of 300, he said that about 100

come together at any one time.

draw more people could be at-tributed to the fact that people

simply felt "they had more im-

portant things to do." He allud-

ed to the many meetings which

had taken place throughout the

city earlier in the day on the

same subject. He also acknowl-

edged that he had received com-

ments from some Gay political leaders who believed the rally

would be "inappropriate."

Bill Camillo said the failure to

munity goes to the baths.

plainclothes cops wear t-shirts saying, "Where's the beef?" What they found were two cars with bullet holes in their wind-

Kyne, also 20.

whistle. The noise attracted at-

tention, scared the robbers, and

brought the police. Police esti-

mated that over 25 people were

As the police arrived, the three

jumped into a pickup and start-

ed their getaway. A black BMW

pulled into the path and blocked

the way. The guns started firing.

As glass began to shatter from

the gunshots, the attackers sped

off. People began yelling,

"That's them, get them," and

With Alvarez at the wheel, the

truck hit speeds of over forty

miles an hour. Police were right

behind with red lights flashing

As the police gave chase, they

heard three pops from the gun and saw puffs of smoke coming

from the pickup. The chase went

up States Street, running a stop

sign, over Levant and wound

around Upper Terrace. Police

were now responding from all over as they headed off the trio

at Roosevelt and Upper Terrace.

Arrested with Ralph Alvarez was

Thomas Reidy, 20, and Kevin

The officers returned to assess

the damage. Many commented

that only in San Francisco do the

and sirens screaming.

the cops were off in pursuit.

blowing whistles.

who, having been drinking for the last four hours, were ready to literally piss in their pants. What they didn't find was the gun.

The weapon would be found the next morning in the bushes on States Street. Police chose an interesting plan to locate the gun. They drove down the street throwing a piece of wood out of their car. It was hoped that the wood, like the gun, might bounce to the same spot. It worked like a charm, and they found the gun in some weeds beside a granite water slough.

Captain Vic Macia of Mission Station credited the fast action by people in the community with heading off what could have been a deadly incident. Carry-ing and blowing whistles has long been a theme of Community United Against Violence. Macia believes it significant that residents throughout the area near the robbery attempt had been given leaflets outlining the use of whistles in the last month. The residential canvassing effort had been led by CUAV's Stef

Erik Nielsen, a former manager of Sylvester, said he had owned a whistle for over five years and this was the first time he had to use it. Richard MacIntyre was sure the robbers didn't know the proper way to handle a gun. Having congratulated himself on his own bravery, MacIntyre gasped in disbelief as a small truth became a revelation. "Oh, my God," he said, "there really were bullets in the

**Fights Removal** from Bench court judge is appealing a review

> because he had engaged in sex with male prostitutes. Judge Robert Crane Winton, Jr. pleaded guilty last year to two misdemeanor charges and returned to the bench. However, the Board of Judicial Standards for the state recently issued a finding that Winton's actions put him at odds with the sodomy statute he had been sworn to uphold, and "damaged public confidence in the judiciary."

panel recommendation that he

be removed from his elected post

New York City-based Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund has filed an amicus ("friend of the court") brief in the state's Supreme Court challenging the Board's recommendation. "The linchpin of the harsh sanction the Board has recommended is an underlying hostility towards homosexuals and homosexual conduct," the Lambda brief states. "The Board has cited no case where a udge had been removed from office on the basis of private consensual sexual conduct."

Lambda Managing Attorney Abby R. Rubenfeld notes that in a similar case involving a male judge in the same state who had solicited a female prostitute, the judge was censured, not dismissed. "This is another instance of different and prejudicial treatment for Gays and Lesbians. The imposition of vastly different sanctions for the same conduct cannot constitutionally be justified," she said.

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VOL. XIV NO. 14 APRIL 5, 1984

**NEXT ISSUE OUT: APRIL 12** 

**NEXT DEADLINE: APRIL 6** 

## LETTERS **IEWPOINT**

## Killing the Movement

The Gay Liberation Movement in San Francisco almost died last Friday morning at 11 a.m.

No, that's not quite it. The Gay Liberation Movement here and then everywhere else was almost killed off by 16 Gay men and 1 Lesbian last Friday morning.

This group, whose number changed by the hour as people got on and off what they hoped would be a rollercoaster, signed a request or gave their names to give the green light to the annihilation of Gay life. This group would have empowered government forces to enter our private precincts and rule over and regulate our sex lives.

For 25 years in San Francisco a battle has raged to drive government agencies out of interfering with our sex lives. Those agencies include the police, the district attorney, City Hall, the fire department, mayors, supervisors, city licensing agencies, and public health. Twenty years ago in San Fran cisco bars were raided wholesale and people were arrested for dancing with each other. The charge was that same-sex couples were touching.

A point had been reached in that Gay men could go about their business in clubs, establishments, baths, bars, bookstores without interference. Well almost, for never a truce was declared and only constant vigilance pushed back the forces that would interfere, that would grind Gay men under the boot.

Eight years ago then-Supervisor Dianne Feinstein led a protracted campaign to move porno bookstores out of sight and thereby out of town

Right now, day after day, Gay men are being entrapped in Buena Vista Park and in various points of Golden Gate Park. The entrappers are plainclothes police in fetching 501 jeans.

Right now we have a Gay judge, Herb Donaldson. That very same Gay judge is systematically denied from sitting on cases involving sexual transgression.

And it is almost axiomatic that anything board president Wendy Nelder is for will be bad news for the Gay movement and the Gay community. And the perennial daddy's girl wants to close us down.

These sixteen collaborators would have fingered a string of baths, sex clubs, bookstores - from the Jaguar to Le Salon to any tub they decided a hazard to good health. If Ringold Alley can qualify, why not the CMC Carnival, the Cable Car Awards, the Closet Ball, and yes, even the Gay Freedom Day Parade? Wherever Gay men meet, there is sexual energy unleashed, and when the first curative closings don't work. only more closings will satisfy the zealots' appetites. This very newspaper would not be very long immune.

The Gay community should remember those names well if not etch them into their anger and regret.

- 1. Harry Britt 2. Tim Wolfred 3. Dick Pabich
- 4. Law Wilson
- 5. Carole Migden
- 6. Dr. Marcus Conant 7. Dr. Robert Bolan
- 8. Dr. Rick Andrews

and the traitor extraordinaire. Larry Littlejohn

9. Frank Robinson

10. Hank Wilson

12. Bill Kraus

13. Steve Morin

14. Bob Scott

11. Ron Huberman

15. Dennis Collins

These people would have given away our right to assemble, our right to do with our own bodies what we choose, the few gains we have made over the past 25 years. These 16 would have killed the movement - glibly handing it all over to the forces that have beaten us down since time immemorial.

The original ten or twelve spent an entire day trying to recruit more names to join their zealotry. They called hundreds of peo-(Continued on next page)

#### **Experts Sound Off**

Dear Dr. Silverman:

\* We, the undersigned faculty members of The Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality would like to urge you to stand firm in your decision not to close the Gay bathhouses in San Francisco. We understand that you are facing considerable political pressure to close them. We feel this would be a serious error for the following reasons

1. In the past few weeks, there has been considerable effort by a large number of persons to develop an educational program of safe sex in the Gay community in general, focusing on the baths in particular. This educational program consists of lectures, videotapes, discussion groups and demonstrations of various methods for safe sex. A major program has been scheduled for next Wednesday evening at one of the Gay baths, which will pull together all of the research and development that has been taking place during the past few months. As you know, the Gay baths are the point of access for research on AIDS and education for the high-risk group.

2. As persons who spend their lives studying sexual behavior, we know that the sexual activity will simply move to other locations, such as heterosexual baths parks, private clubs, and other Gay gathering places. Moving the sexual activity underground will hinder any scientific and professional approaches to dealing with solutions to the problem.

3. The suggestion that closing the baths would solve the problem is hysterical, short-sighted, simplistic and obvious in its political rather than humanitarian

San Francisco is fortunate in having a large number of professional sexologists and the only graduate school of sexology in the world. We are willing to pledge our support and assistance in finding a real solution to this health dilemma that concerns us all.

Ted McIlvenna, M.Div., PhD. Wardell B. Pomeroy, PhD. Loretta Haroian, PhD. Lewis E. Durham, EdD. Erwin J. Haeberle, PhD. Charles Moser, PhD. Laird Sutton, PhD. Clark Taylor, PhD. David N. Lourea, EdD.

#### Accentuate the Positive

\* Larry Littlejohn's concern about doing something to contain the spread of AIDS is laudable. Yet, the suggestion to close down bathhouses — because they are alleged breeding grounds for AIDS — not only smacks at oppression within the gay community, but is a divisive, negative and counter-productive response.

I believe a more responsible and positive approach to contain the spread of AIDS is available. It is not necessary to destroy gay businessees - and with it, gay

At present, AIDS is pecularly a gay problem; and casual sex meeting places are suspect in spreading the

I would urge Larry Littlejohn to convene community-wide meeting at the Pride Center with all due haste. It should comprise representatives from uses, sex clubs and bars; health and social organizations; and the gay media — whose support is of paramount importance.

The purpose of the meeting would be to implement a threefold plan of action: (1) to keep the gay communiinformed on the latest developments concerning AIDS, (2) to promote hygiene and health awareness; (3) to provide alternatives to sexual promiscuity, i.e., social activities, community service, personal growth

Prohibition was not the cure for alcoholism - even

as outlawing automobiles is not the answer to the annual carnage from over 50,000 traffic deaths and hundreds of thousands of injuries.

Education is the be all and end all of a balanced, happy, healthy life! Let's proceed accordingly.

> Tom James, President **Professionals Over 30/SF**

#### Who Signed for the Bath Closings?

Harry Britt did it again. More secret meetings behind closed doors. This time Britt has Larry Littlejohn and a posse of morality cowboys with him. I know Britt and Littlejohn and their so called "Gay Leader" act, but who are the others? I want names. I want the names of all these "leaders" who signed that unconstitutional and immoral agreement with Silverman to

We all know how Finestein feels - now with her henchman Boas. Everyone forgot about her anti-gay feelings during that unfortunate impeachment attempt. The Gay community has been ripped off by "Gay merchants," as customers and as employees and now the "secret deals" made by "Gay politicians." are ripping off the "Gay merchants." Nice turn about.

Britt never knows when to quit. Why doesn't he get his head out of his Bible and learn some law. Bathhouse are private property - designated as private clubs Remember the consenting adult law — you may do behind closed doors whatever two or more wish to do
— it hasn't been on the books long. Maybe Britt should repeal that law to start with before he begins his next 'morality play" at City Hall.

And with AIDS - I thought it was prolonged contact that spread AIDS, not casual contact, and believe me sex in bathhouses is casual and not very prolonged. Now lovers are another matter; a lover is nothing casual and usually all too prolonged. Britt could outlaw lovers next. How about it, Harry? Don't forget to close the door of the closet at your next secret meeting.

#### **Potential Link**

\* The rationale for closing of the bathhouses seems to be this: they (at a minimum) facilitate and perhaps even cause disease, especially AIDS, and, therefore, should be closed as a menace to the public health.

My question is this: If it is to be public policy to employ governmental coercion over the potential link between bathhouses and disease, why doesn't the Department of Public Health immediately seek legislation to employ the coercive power of the City/County to utterly outlaw public smoking, a proven, not hypothetical health problem?

> Ernie Lazar San Francisco

#### RE: LittleBrain

\* Whether or not Mr. Littlejohn is actually on the paid staff of Mr. Deukmejian or H. L. Richardson is a moot point - but if he isn't, he's missing a great financial opportunity. I'm sure both these gentlemen are applauding. Our community was united over AB-1, and was in danger of getting somewhere; Littlejohn's ridiculous phony "issue" has splintered us nicely into feuding factions, incapable of anything but namecalling - while AB-1 is forgotten. It, and the Duke's veto, must not be forgotten - and we cannot allowourselves the privilege of being fractured. "Divide and Conquer" is still a valid strategy, and is being used against us very effectively.

The rally Sunday night was a good idea — but we don't get anywhere by booing Harry Britt.

Scott O'Hara San Francisco



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#### To Close or Not to Close

★ Liberal, Democratic Fascism is being practiced by our local politicians in the issue of AIDS contagion.

There is not one shred of significant statistically reliable and valid evidence as to how or where AIDS is spread throughout the gay community upon which to base the closing of the baths and backrooms. Hence, we can only assume that any action to this effect would be for political reasons, not medical. We are being subjected to the hysteria of politicians who want to "do something about a condition of which they know nothing. Dr. Silverman, our rational director of public health, is being pressured to be the medical monkey who pulls the political chestnuts out of the AIDS conflagration. His lack of support from the mayor suggests that Feinstein must believe that a coalition with the red-neck, fundamentalist Christians is going to make her irresistible as a candidate for the Vice Presidency.

The political ploy that this action is being requested and supported by "gay leaders" once again raises the issue as to just where we are being "led." Logically, if we save lives by closing the baths and backrooms, then we can save even more lives by prohibiting any sexual contact between or among gay men. Is this what we are prepared to accept? I doubt that the majority of us is going to follow gay or straight politicians, with paternalistic or maternalistic pretensions, who would sell out our gay rights for a few scraps from the political

We cannot isolate a political issue. AIDS cannot be separated from individual freedom. It may be that AIDS is the price that we have to pay now for sexual rights. As an individual and a community, we are seriously weakened if we allow others to determine our

It is by facing individual determinations that we become strong. Based upon the facts available, every man must make his own decisions and accept the consequences, else we are not men.

> Martin F. Stow San Francisco

#### No Frills

\* Re. Bathhouse closure. Burn down the Mission if you want to stay alive: Elton John, 1976.

#### **Closing Logic**

\* The proposed initiative to outlaw sex in gay bathhouses has as much logic as outlawing eating steaks in steakhouses - the March 26 issue of Time magazine documents that heart disease is caused by eating foods high in fat and cholesterol, and heart disease kills more San Franciscans than AIDS does.

**Bathhouse Just the Beginning** 

Richard Winger

\* I have been following, as I am sure every reasonably intelligent gay man and woman has, the AIDS crisis since it first surfaced three years ago. I was made aware of this terrible crisis by the death of a very dear friend from the city of Atlanta, Georgia in early 1982 and I have watched helplessly as two more friends passed away and a fourth lies dying in a San Francisco hospital today.

I am very shocked that a fellow gay (brother) could even suggest a measure as "closing all gay bathhouses" by voter ballot. Where does he get off!!?? To even begin to imagine that this dreaded idea would simply stop at the "closing of 14 bathhouses in the greater San Francisco area, shows that Mr. Littlejohn, hasn't done his research into the late demands of such people as Anita Bryant, and Jerry Falwell who, if this idea gets support, will have more than ample amunition to begin a 'snowballing" chain-reaction, that would be more devastating to all gay citizens coast-to-coast, than the

To put it in short, first the baths, then the bars, then the parks, then the villages and before we all know it we will all be adorned with a large red scarlet letter and NAZI American will have been born.

Safe bathhouse sex can be accomplished through education, not through the closing of them. If we allow government now to begin to make moral judgemental laws we will be handing to every anti-gay American a signed license for "open hunting season" on every gay human being the world over. Is it not enough to be living in the shadow of AIDS without worrying about our safety on the streets. So San Franciscans, yes we need more research funds, and gay leaders to need to stop dragging their feet, but if Mr. Littlejohn would simply look around he would see that the bathhouses are doing everything humanly possible to prevent the spread of AIDS. We must work togethr to educate not to destroy.

This measure would only open up many a long sealed "can of worms" and set us back to a time of no rights at all. THINK ABOUT IT . . . PLEASE!!!

> Alan Grant San Francisco

#### **More Jobs Lost**

★ Hundreds of Gay men have already lost their jobs because of the bankruptcies and staff cutbacks caused by the AIDS hysteria. Many have been reduced to destitution and homelessness.

Larry Littlejohn's proposal to forbid sex in bathhouse will close them, placing hundreds more out of work. And it will be more than just bathhouse employees that lose their jobs. Restaurants, bars and other Gay firms thrive on customers who stop by on their way to or from the baths, and many out of town visitors won't come to San Francisco if the baths are closed. Even Gay newspapers will lose advertising revenues, and some of the marginal ones may fold.

The sex drive is too powerful to be thwarted by laws. Closing the baths will not reduce the amount of activities, it will simply shift it to other places. The taxpayers will have to pay for beefing up the toilet and bush police, as well as for the increased welfare costs.

> Rev. Donald Jackson San Francisco

#### Who Are the Signers?

★ Considering the seriousness of a situation where certain citizens of civil society have petitioned the authorities to deny the civil rights of other citizens in this society, I would like to ask you to use your journalistic influence to make the following information

(1) The full text of the petition presented to Silverman requesting him to close the baths. (2) The name of each person who signed this petition. (3) The name of any gay organization to which each of these people belong, the position they occupy within this organization, and the address and phone number where they can be reached at this organization. (4) The name address and phone number of any business or professional practice owned or operated by any of these people.

This situation is clearly a case where certain people have employed their political, professional or busi influence in an attempt to interfere in the private activities of other people. In this situation, these people have clearly forfeited the right to privacy in their political, professional or business activities. Furthernore, by their actions, these people have declared themselves to be representatives of gay men, and they have declared themselves to be competent to handle the civil affairs of gay men. In this situation, gay men have the right to know who their representatives are, and gay men have the right to acquaint themselves with how these representatives handle their own civil affiars.

We all know who Britt is. Recently, we were rudely forced to find out who Littleiohn is. But according to an article in the Chronicle on March 30, the petition to Silverman was signed by "50 gay businessmen, physicians and othr political leaders." Littlejohn would have needed the signatures of thousands of heterosexual christians to present his petition. Britt only needed the signatures of fifty faggots. Faggots have the right to know who these faggots are.

> Jim Speck San Francisco

#### The Next Closures

\* When I was in the Castro Theatre I saw Gays holding hands and kissing, just like they do at the bathhouse. Now if we are going to sign a stop sex petition, we must include all of the places one may be

1. We must close all movie theaters that are requented by Gays. That is the only way we can make the city a safe place for Gays to live. The same thing goes on in the Gay bars. When two men leave a bar, they don't go to a bathhouse. They go to one or the other's house. If we didn't have Gay bars these people would not meet and be tempted by sex.

2. We must close all bars that are frequented by Gays. That is the only way we can make the city a safe place for Gavs to live.

3. Most dangerous of all are the restaurants. Anyone who has ever been on an infection control committee knows the danger. We must close all restaurants that are frequented by Gays. That is the only way we can make the city a safe place for Gays to live.

Please have Larry send me several petitions, and tell him to mark the envelope rush. The paper holder next

My 2 Cents Worth

#### **Courageous Sellouts**

★ Larry Littlejohn is a courageous man to risk scorn, ridicule, peer pressure and possible ostracism for fighting to give up the rights he once helped us win. Our worst enemies didn't have the courage to do what this "friend" has done.

Of course Gov. Deukmejian was courageous to veto AB-1, Eddie Murphy was courageous to tell us to kiss his ass, Dan White was courageous to shoot George Moscone and Harvey Milk . . . Need I go on?

I haven't been to the baths in a year and a half because of the perceived danger of AIDS, but I'm glad they're there for those who still choose to patronize them; and I'd like them to still be there when we learn to prevent and/or cure AIDS. But I fear they won't be Having sown the wind we will reap the whirlwind

with further restrictions of our freedom. If the baths can be closed, so can other Gay meeting places; and if in San Francisco, then anywhere. The police will have a mandate to curb our sexual activity "for our own good," and that mandate will have started within our own community.

Welcome, Larry Littlejohn, to the Homophobes' Hall of Fame! Steve Warren San Francisco

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(Continued from previous page)

ple. They got only seven or eight to sign on, while five or six jumped ship once they realized the horror of their collective folly. Those who - as far as we can tell - bailed out were Dr. Robert Bolan, Dr. Rick Andrews, Cleve Jones, and Dennis Collins. This last group is being name-called by both sides.

The people of the community were quick to see what was being traded off, and have responded in anger and consternation. This office has received more mail on this issue than any other. Not one letter backed the collaborators.

The sad part is that like Marshal Petain in 1940 they think they are solving the problem. In a way they are, for the horror will subside for a spell. The price is but a word. Liberty.

BAY AREA REPORTER APRIL 5, 1984 PAGE 7

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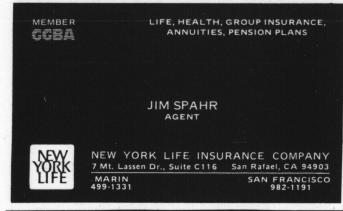
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## TERS

#### Shilts Sellout

 $\bigstar$  Contrary to popular belief, the name Randy Shilts is not an anagram for Warren Hinkle — their coverage of gay concerns just seems similar. By manufacturing an AIDS/gay bathhouse "crisis" last week, an issue apparently dear to his objective heart, Shilts proves that power politics is still alive and well and all gussied-up n journalistic drag at the Chronicle.

Speaking of drag, when does Shilts start wearing an eyepatch to go with his blue-nose morality — you know: "Close the bathhouses, stop AIDS," or is it, "Bring back prohibition, prevent alcoholism?" It's so hard to get things straight these days; I'm surprised Shilts is having a go at it.

Randy A. Worden

#### An Angry Gay

\* On May 28th in the Chronicle I read the single most outrageous alarming, and vulgar political news story in my 36 years of life. The article recounted the efforts and objectives of Mr. Littlejohn and his supporters to place a proposition on the municipal ballot that would eliminate all forms of lawful sexual activity in San

I found it outrageous due to its illumination of yet another misdirected tortured endeavor by the world's Alice-in-Wonderland "do-gooders" to force other people to behave in a manner deemed to be "for their own good" as decided by these self-appointed arbiters of

And I found it truly vulgar because of its source of origin. Being conceived by a man that I could have praised and revered for his prior efforts to make my life as a Gay a better world was more than I could stomach.

The political reality, boys and girls, is that we stand alone when it comes to caring for and protecting ourselves. Gay is different! To most, Gay is just plain bad. The respected Marxist professor, Dr. Herbert Marcuse (certainly no patron saint of mine) stated it best when he wrote "Homosexuals by their very existence in society are the world's true revolutionaries.' Revolutionaries are not gretly loved.

If, as a community, we've decided to give the Littlejohns "Uncle Toms" power to begin the process of telling us where, when, with whom, and how to have sex, then we are a community composed of fools, morons and masochists. And if that's the case, then I would just as soon accelerate this inevitable process. Let's just issue the pink triangles and get this liberation bullshit over once and for all.

Burney Allgood San Francisco

\* My lover and I go to the baths together when we want an atmosphere we can't get in our bedroom. Also, anyone who has been to a bathhouse recently will tell you that the rules have changed since AIDS. There is a lot less exchange of body fluids these days.

The Changes at the Baths

Larry Littlejohn's proposal to prohibit sex in bathhouses is unnecessary, unfair and anti-gay. I'm sure he will get a lot of support from the right-wing bigots. We have fought long and hard to get rid of the oppressive laws that made gay love a crime. Now, we have to fight other gay people who would throw all of our gains away in a moment of hysteria.

There is much discussion in the medical community these days about establishing a "leper-community" for AIDS patients. One doctor is calling for a law that would enable authorities to isolate anyone diagnosed with AIDS, against their will.

With people like Larry Littlejohn within the gay community, I have no doubt that they will succeed.

> Robert Starkey San Francisco

#### All I Need Is Love

\* I've been having this frightening nightmare lately.

The Lesbian, Gay community has finally been liberated from all that rotten dirty separatist recreationa sex, and the evils of sexual preference have been confined to the privacy of one's bedroom (with the lights off and shades drawn). We now spend most of our recreational time together - sexless beings of childish delight, happily skipping through endless fields of clover, gaily throwing flowers at each other. Or playing endless games of non-sexist volley ball — without the ball, of course — so as not to offend the losers with the stench of victory or the agony of defeat.

All the baths have been converted into Lesbian, Gay town and country community centers where proper attitude classes are held to help us keep our minds off sex. The bars (selling cherry soda only) are now equal opportunity Ping Pong parlors without the ball, for who needs balls in a sexless community.

Then I wake up in a cold sweat and with a tremer dous erection. Now, don't tell me all I need is love!

San Francisco P.S. Once gay bathhouses have been closed, they will

**Close Down the Convention** 

\* The reason the city wants to close the bathhouse is to make San Francisco "respectable" for the Democratic Convention.

never again be reopened.

I have a simple proposal:

If they close down the bathhouses, we close down the

**A Wavering Democrat** 

#### **Bath Closures**

\* It's about time gay leaders took some serious action to help curb the spread of AIDS.

Sex club owners have exploited the gay community for too long; peddling degradation, disease and death under the facade of sexual liberation.

As a community we have a right to insist on business which enhance our lives, and an obligation to say no to businesses which which degrade and destroy our lives.

> D. Owen San Francisco

#### **Traitors in Our Midst**

★ While Larry Littlejohn was down at City Hall he would have done well, as it would best suit his intentions, to file for a new name most emblematic of his self-declared new role of "leadership." I suggest Judas Littlejohn or Lazydick Arnold, except that I believe Quisling Littlejohn most forcefully describes what damage his little scheme has in store for us all.

I always knew that if it ever come to purification, safesex training, or sexual remodeling camps, the ones who will lead the way, as always, will be traitors in our midst.

San Francisco

#### Selling Out

★ So the homophobes and the gay politicos have climbed into bed together. Strange bedfellows, indeed, With the baths closed, this group of previously well-contained high risk gays will migrate to places where people who night have escaped exposure will now have to worry about every person they meet.

After, all San Francisco will be telling the nation 'We've found the cure for AIDS. Prohibit gay sex." While you're at it, gay politicos, why not repeal the consenting adults legislation. Queer bashing and morals arrests will be making a comeback.

One small step for gay politicos. One giant step backward for gays.

Stefan Amiel-Rafael San Francisco

#### **Opening the Floodgates**

\* Regarding your article about prohibiting sex in

I am frightened and angered that seemingly informed people could tolerate and even initiate a move to abridge the personal freedoms of a group of citizens. Even in times of "terrible epidemic" the incursion of government into the private sexual activities of consenting

What I find even more intolerable is the Chronicle's use of biased reporting and the presentation of one reporter's opinions as news in this, and other articles on the subject by Mr. Shilts. If the *Chronicle* wishes to make a stand on this issue it should do so on the editorial page as is appropriate.

The ordinance proposed by Mr. Littlejohn is a dangerous piece of legislation. It goes far beyond being only "bothersome." It sets a precedent of prohibiting sexual activity between consenting adults in private bathhouses, all in the name of public health and safety. But consider what might be prohibited next, "all in the name of public health and safety." This ordinance would leave the gay community open to and virtually defenseless from attacks from all sides, "all in the name of public health and safety."

James Vanoni San Francisco

#### **Bath Closings**

\* Apparently a 20-year veteran of Gav rights efforts has forgotten why the baths exist. They provide a safe, non-public, legal place for Gay men to meet, and possibly have sex. Even those doctors whose pet theory is that AIDS is sexually transmitted have said "it's not WHERE you do it, it's WHAT you do.

I applaud Dr. Silverman's voice of reason and sensitivity in the face of hysteria and desperation. After counseling people with AIDS on a volunteer basis for over a year, and having a dear friend die of AIDS as I held him, I am not lacking in concern over stopping AIDS. I do not foresee the ballot effort affecting AIDS statistics. It will give the homophobes incentive to attempt to close any place where Gay men meet with the possible end result of their having sex.

The pitifully small amount of research done on the cause of AIDS points to sexual transmissability more than other theories. Even if that guess is accurate, closing the baths is not the answer to reducing the horrendous AIDS statistics. Why not create an alternative to the bars (for non-drinkers) and the allegedly dangerous baths? Gay men are going to continue to meet, with the possibility of having sex. Oh - that's right, that sort of creative effort would require much more energy than signature gathering. It would seem that efforts to get our government to do its job in finding a cause and cure for AIDS has been given up as too

> **James Andrew Nicholas** San Francisco

#### A Doctor Looks at Littlejohn

Long have gays prayed, "Oh, Lord! Deliver us from our deliverers!" Our prayers have generally been required on account of officious, offensive, straight, streetcorner types who rant, rail, and make public nuis and idiots of themselves. Ah, but now, one Larry Littlejohn has proven that it is not only selected straights who are determined to "save" us in one way or another. Littlejohn's proposed drive to place on the November ballot a measure banning sexual activity in gay bathhouses just may be the most naive bit of 100% idiocy to cross a gay man's littlemind.

There seems little chance that Littlejohn can possibly fail in getting the requisite 7,332 signatures — they could be gathered in minutes in the Mission, and the Arch-bigot will be delighted to help. There seems little chance thereafter that the measure will fail to pass in November Just suppose, then, that The AIDS Answer crops up in December. If Littlejohn thinks that the voters will repeal this bit of pernicious legislation the next time there's an opportunity, he is either more naive than would seem humanly possible or he is as great a Puritan as our most vicious and hate-filled oppressors. In which case, perhaps his next bright idea will require the stationing, 24 hours a day, of a cop in every bedroom in the city occupied by persons of the same sex.

Gays will engage in sex, no matter what. Is it not better that we "not scare the horses" and that we hav access to soap and hot water? As a physician, I certainly do not recommend indiscriminate, "promiscuous exchanging of bodily fluids": current knowledge of the probable means of AIDS transmission seems strongly to indicate that such activity is dangerous. But those gays who have opted to ignore that oft-repeated advice will find ways and places to do so.

As a public health measure, Littlejohn's proposal is absolutely certain to fail. As a springboard to even greater discrimination and oppression, it will be a re-

> C. W. Morrison, M.D. San Francisco

#### Gay Homophobia

★ Homophobia has always come primarily from gays filled with self-hatred. I was fired from a job by a closet gay man once because I was out front. Straight people who are happy don't care what we do

So now we have this homophobic slime seeping out of our own community in the persons of Larry Little-john and Randy Shilts. Their sickness is being spread to the straight community, most of whom would never consider closing the bathhouses.

We must let it be known that these homophobic pigs within our own community will not be tolerated. Peo-ple like these are destructive cancers eating away at our freedom from within. They are more destructive than AIDS or Jerry Falwell. When you see them on the street tell them to get out of town. We'd all be a lot better off

## Leave People Alone

\* Though disagreeing with his approach, I cannot fault the sincere effort, nor the inherent integrity, of Larry Littlejohn regarding his desire, and rationale, to control and eliminate a (probable) source of AIDS, (B.A.R. 29 Mar 84).

My laissez-faire conservatism, coupled with the belief that an educated people should be "prudently self-policing," with as little governmental interference as possible, compel me to oppose any regulatory legisla-tion, particularly one which, en se, is selective. However Larry — together I might add with people as are found in both B.A.R. and Shanti — compel awareness, dialogue, education, research, and, eventually an end to this damnable plague.

> Thomas M. Edwards San Francisco

#### Bathhouses NOT the Issue! The move by Littlejohn to circulate petitions to close

bathhouses is an extremely serious mistake. A monster will be unleashed that cannot be recalled. This makes anything Rev. Ray did "in the best interest of the community" look pale by comparison. Sexual activity cannot be eliminated by legislation. Education is the only viable answer. We are adults and

must make our own decisions about sex. The bathhouses are not the issue! How will you stop sex in parks, alleys, and private homes? Should we hire police to go door to door arresting gay men for having

You are putting a gay community issue into the hands of the straight community to decide. They will close the bathhouses, but for very different reasons. They

would like to eliminate all gay sex. How long after the measure passes will it take a straight demagogue to realize they could put a similar measure on the ballot to close gay bars?

Many gay men have gross misunderstandings about pathhouses. Those who have not been there, and subscribe to the stereotypes are the same that want to close

Although I have not been for three years, when I did go I only had one partner per visit, never caught anything (wish I could say the same of people I met in bars), and found meeting people easier than cutting through layers of attitude, games, and images in the

Our biggest problem is the way we criticize each other pecause we express ourselves differently. We criticize drag, leather, preppies, twinkies, and Castroids. We must learn to respect each other and realize there are many viable ways to live the gay lifestyle.

We "should" all agree to reduce indiscriminate sex but we can't force others to accept that view. We must

If we respect each other's differences and stand together as a community to solve our problems, we won't have to turn them over to the straight community for

San Francisco

#### From the Front Lines

★ I find it very difficult to read the paper lately without going into total rage at the "Uncle Toms" within our

In my (admittedly personal) opinion, this includes those assholes like Larry Littlejohn and "Just Plain

Larry Littlejohn is purely a traitor to the cause of Gay Rights who wants to undo all that hundreds of thousands of Gay people have fought for in the last several decades, and the less said about him, the better.

However, there are far too many hypocrites of the ilk of "Just Plain Jim," who need to be addressed by those of us in the community who have a higher regard for Gay rights. The queens, leather queens, "sissys," and dykes that he rails against have been in the forefront of the "Gay liberation struggle" since the first shots were fired at the Stonewall in New York City. Where in the hell were you when the "queens" were getting their asses kicked in the streets; hiding at home and sucking dick in your closet? If we waited for you faggots from the Sunset with your two car garages and 3 piece business suits to start the fight for OUR liberation, we would have to wait for a long goddamned time wouldn't we?

Well, I wear my leather jacket and earring (even to work at a rather respectable job outside the city). I've paid my dues in the struggle for Gay liberation, but realize that the fight is by no means over until everyone

And let Middle America see what freedom is like (since they have so little of it in their everyday lives). Maybe it will inspire them to join the cause of freedom (some of them? One of them?) and we will be able to spread freedom all over this great (but not yet free) coun-

From the front lines,

Richard Brower

San Francisco

#### State Power

\* Out of the bars . . . into the street! Out of the hhouses . . . into the courts!

AIDS is not the issue, but rather the excuse to overturn at least 20 years of civil rights progress for Gays and Lesbians. The facts don't support the City's reasons for closing our private clubs.

What's at stake here is the mayor's image of her city come convention time. And a public health official is attempting to salvage his career. We are already witnessing on our streets the excessive use of police power to stifle individual rights. In Germany, the next step was to exercise police power against the rights of free

For me, my right to be personally free is being trample ed on in the rush to save us from ourselves. NEVER AGAIN! NEVER AGAIN!

San Francisco

#### **How We Are Viewed**

\* So the governor had the nerve to do something that you people oppose? Well, isn't that too bad! My goodness gracious, your readers are so darn mad! Too bad! You gay boys voted down proposition 13, you voted down proposition 8, the victim's bill of rights, and ing victims, you turned down the gun control bill (perhaps you are afraid of loud noises), you vote the communist-sympathizer line; you have Jane Fonda for your speaker at your rallies and you mourn the death of a half-man, failure Harvey Milk and try to make a hero out of someone who was a two-bit loser.

You denounce the family, you encourage sperm-bank insemination so that a child is born to live in a twowoman family without considering the consequences You want to overturn the country and install a new social order with brain response replaced by penile stimu-

Your own gay newspapers have stories about palimony suits, parental rights for absentee gay parents, sex ads offering all sorts of sexual fulfillment in spite of AIDS. You continue your sex practices and then want the public to pay your way for a cure for your own actions.

You are right, however, when you attack the bible thumpers. They are confused when they rely on God to represent their case. All they need to do is expose your seamy lifestyle and you do that job very well. The public is only partially aware of what gay life is really like. Your readers say. "Puke on the Duke." Take a second look. The Duke puked on you.

> Spy in Your Midst San Francisco

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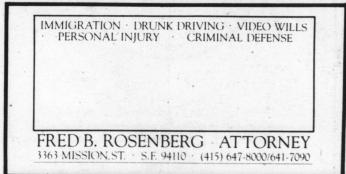
BAY AREA REPORTER APRIL 5, 1984 PAGE 9

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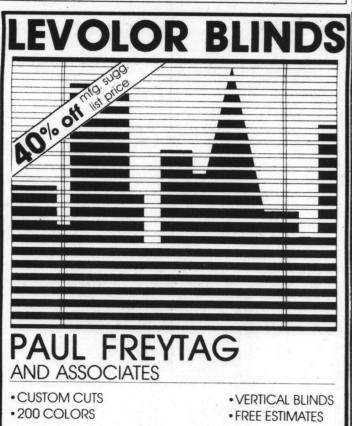
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## **Bathhouses**

(Continued from page 1)

getting that support and alleged-ly only 16 names were obtained with three doctors and two Gay activists on the list later withdrawing their names. According to Carole Migden, president of the Milk Democrats and one of those soliciting names, the list has been withdrawn and not released to the public.

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Gay activists Paul Boneberg and Hank Wilson invited Silverman to a community forum on AIDS and the baths at Valencia Rose, a Gay nightclub. He agreed and by word-of-mouth 100 attended, including considerable news media. The twohour rap session was between Silverman and a large crosssection of the Lesbian/Gay leadership. Most speakers called for the baths to stay open, and the crowd reaction appeared to indicate support for that viewpoint.

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 30

Silverman called an 11 a.m. press conference, and the word was out that he was going to close the baths "and other sexrelated businesses." He arrived an hour late and told the 40 media people present that there were still "facets, both medical and legal" to explore and that he would not have another statement for "a week or so."

Mayor Feinstein held a meeting in her office just before Silverman spoke with several city officials. Included were Supervisor Harry Britt, Dr. Conant, and Police Chief Cornelius Murphy. Silverman later told the media that the postponement on a decision was his idea alone.

All of this was followed by more meetings. Bath owners had several meetings to determine policy. There was another general community forum last night. Gay physicians met with Silverman to review available information. A group of physicians met to develop health guidelines for the bath owners. Rap sessions continued across town, and many were writing to Silverman and the Gay press. The general tone of all this activity appeard to be in the direction of keeping the baths and sex-related businesses open, unless there was compelling medical evidence that they were a medical hazard.

#### MANY QUESTIONS

Silverman, city officials, Gay physicians, activists, the Gay community, and City Attorney George Agnost were all seeking answers to endless questions.

What statistical proof is there sexual activity in steam baths and AIDS are directly related?

Would bath closure halt the bath sexual activity or only move it into public places such as alleys and parks?

Would the 6 out of 14 steam baths that are considered "straight" also be closed?

Does state law concerning sexual conduct pre-empt the city's attempt to regulate sexual con-

## BATH CONDUCT

This week word surfaced that lights have been turned up in some San Francisco bath houses and both prophylactics and literature about "safe sex" made more available. How this will affect a business that is widely known to be frequented by people who like basic sex, some more than once in an evening, is yet to be determined. It is no secret that bath attendance has been down since the well-

Outsiders might conclude publicized advent of AIDS. from news coverage of the Sexual conduct in baths is AIDS/Steam Bath controversy considered private conduct in that the central focus of a Gay San Francisco by a general male's sex life is at the tubs. The

policy of the District Attorney. Sexual activity between consenttruth being that relatively few Gay males patronize these busiing adults is legal under state nesses on any regular basis. Some speculate that 75% of the law. It has been years since a person has been arrested in a bath Gay male population rarely go to a steam bath. The media image here for sexual activity. created was to the contrary.

The articulate baths' spokes-

person on television for the past

week was Sal Accardi, owner of

the Watergarden in San Jose. He

insists, "We will continue to be

part of the solution. Baths do

not cause disease. You do not get

AIDS from touching a door-

knob. The fact is we are talking

about sexual activity, and the

baths is the perfect place to talk

to the people that we need to deal

that the baths will be seeking

legal actions filed by bath

owners if their businesses are

ordered closed. He is talking

about "due process, constitu-

tional protection of privacy, and

the civil rights of millions of peo-

If there is an attempt to close

'sex-related" businesses, it is

questionable what the response

would be. They have business

licenses but are not directly

under the police and health de-

partments. These businesses are

not organized into an association

and their owners barely know

one another. When this contro-

versy arose, one "membership

club" owner said he would "fight

them in the courts," while an-

other left town to visit his mother

for a week after stating, "If they

come up with some new regula-

tions or such, I will just change

Public Health Director Silver-

man emphatically denies that he

cians in regards to the AIDS

crisis. However, Mayor Dianne

Feinstein is reportedly favoring

the closure of the baths in private

conversations and she is joined

by Chief Administrative Officer

Roger Boas in that conclusion.

She has lobbied Gay personali-

ties on the issue. The president

of the Board of Supervisors,

Wendy Nelder, stated, "There is

no question in my mind that it would be better if they were

Boas, who is Silverman's offi-

cial superior, recently put Silver-

man in the spotlight when he

publicly accused him of mis-

managing the operation of city

hospital facilities. He placed his

own administrator over the hos-

pitals. Speculation is that Silver-

man is once again feeling Boas

breathing down his neck, urging

closure of the baths. Publicly

Silverman continues to insist

that any decision he makes will

be based strictly on health

Hank Wilson, popular Gay

with Silverman for several years

on a variety of issues and re-

spects him. "He is a fair and sen-

sitive person," Wilson relates,

"who has always taken a per-

sonal interest in our concerns.

Silverman said last week that he

would have closed the baths 12

months ago if he had bent to

political pressure. He does not

want to close the baths and lose

contact with high risk people.'

MEDIA COVERAGE

health advocate, has worked

is being influenced by any politi-

things around.'

SILVERMAN -

HIS DECISION?

ple across the country."

Accardi also bluntly states

"We believe," the spokesperson for the Northern California While television and print media appeared to be balanced, Baths Association pleads, "that there was increased criticism our solutions are far more prowithin the Gay community of ductive in protecting the health the coverage by Gay reporter Randy Shilts with the San Franof people than the quick, short-sighted proposal of closing the baths. That includes providing cisco Chronicle. Increasingly, activists were openly calling Shilts prejudicial in his bath 'safe-sex' literature, developing video tapes on sexual conduct, house articles. and distributing condoms."

The only news report that some Gay viewers thought was homophobic was on KRON-TV. In a segment, reporter Wayne Freedman told viewers he was going to show them a steam bath - Jaguar Bookstore, which has a private club. A frightened clerk was suddenly confronted with a "60 Minutes" confrontation and asked, "Do you think this is fair?" The scene then moved to Castro Street where activist Spinstar was handing out flyers. The reporter asked, "Don't you have anything better to do on a Friday night?'

The San Francisco Examiner and San Francisco Progress attempted to apply pressure on Silverman with editorials calling for closure. The Examiner called for bath house closure as a way of combatting AIDS: "We think The City has delayed too long in this life-and-death matter and that the proper course is clear . . . It is time to try this kind of quarantine; if it saves even a single life, it will be justified. Dr. Silverman should order a quarantine now, and he should be given sufficient power

#### COMMUNITY REACTION

A small demonstration against baths closure was held Sunday night on Castro Street. The affair was poorly attended due to a meager promotional

Several Lesbian/Gay organizations began to react quickly, in an attempt to influence Silverman: Both local Metropolitan Community Church ministers and 17 other activists signed a statement urging bath house owners to make changes and calling for the Gay community to monitor such changes. Ed Powers, Acting Executive Director of the local AIDS Foundation, pleaded that it is not where people are having sex but how they are having sex that is

"The closure of such establishments," the National Gay Task Force urged, would be 'largely a symbolic gesture that would provide a false sense of security that the AIDS epidemic has somehow been contained.'

The Golden Gate Business Association announced that this was "the most crucial issue to face us in the history of the Gay liberation movement stressed "there must be compelling evidence that there is no need for the Littlejohn initiative or the

Twenty activists met to set up a town hall meeting and issued a statement that urged that communal sex rooms at steam baths either be closed or converted to other purposes. The bathowners associations said they would "cooperate fully with legitimate scientific and humanitarian efforts to disseminate objective information about AIDS."

Larry Littlejohn, virtually forgotten in the scramble for news about Silverman's decision, let it be known that he was elated that people were talking about AIDS and that the steam baths were making some changes. He would not say if he would withdraw his petition effort.

G. Mendenhall

## To the Gay Community:

## This is Deadly Serious:

Each Day in San Francisco **Another Gay Brother** Comes Down with AIDS.

The Rate is Climbing, with No Cure in Sight.

## **Our Sexual Practices Must Change:**

In Our Bathhouses, In Our Sex Clubs, In Our Bedrooms . . . Everywhere.

## Learn The Facts About Safe Sex:

No Rectal Sex. No Exchange of Semen, Blood, Urine or Feces.

## There is No Gay Freedom If You're Dead!

Let's Help Each Other to Change and Survive.



## **BAY AREA PHYSICIANS** FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

success of the movement. The movement is based on being Gay and that this will not preclude you from being what you want to be in your life.



Ron Huberman - in favor

Ron Huberman, Milk Democratic Club: The Littleiohn initiative would have got the signatures and passed in November That is why I supported Dr. Conant's reasoning that this was a medical emergency so they would be closed now. One thing I learned in the fight to save the Jaguar Bookstore was that it is very difficult against homophobes and the general public to defend bathhouse-type operations. The Littlejohn initiative would have resulted in the revocation of bathhouse licenses.

Diane Christensen, Director. Community United Against Violence: The incidence of AIDS would not be noticeably decreased by the closing of the baths. High risk people would use public parks. The baths were set up to provide a private setting for this activity. Closing them would only make public sex a great criminal justice problem and not solve the problem of

Matt Coles, activist/attorney: I recently changed my mind and am now supportive of Silverman closing the baths. I do so reluc-

tantly because I think such an act would be unconstitutional and that it would not do anything to solve the problem. It would be easier to undo the Silverman temporarily closing than it would to have the Littlejohn initiative, which would pecome a permanent ordinance. I believe the Littlejohn measure would be on the ballot in November and would pass. Even if the Littlejohn proposition was ruled unconstitutional, it would take another initiative in order to

Pat Norman, Lesbian/Gay Aide to Silverman: (States that because of her position with the city, she cannot comment.)

Gregg Day, Toklas Democrats official: Closure would be window-dressing and not save lives. It could increase the incidence of AIDS, as high risk people would no longer be in a centralized place where they can be talked with. Closing them down as a reaction to the Littlejohn initiative is no way to defeat that. Everyone is talking about AIDS now and that is good. Now if the bathhouses will make some positive reforms, then something very positive can come of this.



Greg Day - opposed

Jack Fertig, Sister Boom Boom: Gay men who continue to pursue promiscuous and dangerous sex practices would only take their search to places that lack privacy, hygiene facilities, and educational opportunities which the baths provide. Thus Littlejohn's efforts are grossly counterproductive ... However, I am personally happy to see a bathhouse close from a

lack of business, which indicates that Gay men are being more careful in their sexual activities.

Hank Wilson, medical/ rights advocate: Silverman has been great. He is sensitive to our concerns and wants to remain in contact with high risk people. He has learned a great deal about Gay male sexuality. He does not want to close the baths. There is considerable respect for him in our community . . . The bath owners are going to have to make some real changes and quickly. Some baths have been making changes — but others have not. Sex-related places need to respond in some way also.

Phyllis Lyon, past-chair, SF Human Rights Commission: Back in the '60s when Gay bars were being threatened by the police and the state Alcoholic Beverage Control, the Tavern Guild was formed and bar owners began a campaign of self-policing. Gay leaders, bath owners, and the public health department need to get together and establish dialogues and educational programs on AIDS. The way to deal with bathhouses that are not cooperative is to use pressure such as picketing and

John Wahl, attorney and supervisorial candidate: We don't appreciate having our lives, our civil liberties, made a political football because some people want the baths closed before the Democratic convention. We have to make sure that the general public understands that closing them would be a stupid move. We are also going to hold Mayor Feinstein; Chief Administrative Officer Roger Boas; and the President of the Board of Supervisors, Wendy Nelder, responsible if the baths are closed

Jack Campbell, activist and of the national Club bath chain: Our baths, in many cities, are the only place where AIDS lit erature and condoms are being distributed. What would be of fered as an alternative to the baths would be unspeakable. We have private, hygienic facilities, and if Gay people are forced into public areas, they will be mugged, arrested, and killed. What this is about is that the mayor wants a clean city when the Democrats come in July.

tion. Whatever is decided, I will adjust and change the format if necessary. Right now I am just going to wait and see.

Dorr Jones, lifetime na-

tionally recognized Gay activist:

If it would help, I would favor closing the baths. This is sym-

bolic as it stands for a long strug-

gle for sexual fredom. Where

would it stop? Does this mean

that places where Gay people

meet and socialize must also be

closed? Will Gay sex ads be

made illegal? Will we return to

the 1960's when Gay people had

their names recorded on the

street outside of Gay bars by

police officers? The closure

would be like giving ammunition

to someone who you know is go-

Howard Wallace - opposed

Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance:

Those who say that people who favor keeping the baths open are

insensitive to the AIDS crisis are

lying. We are all concerned. We

have spent decades trying to get

government off our back, out of

our private sex lives. There is no

panacea to this problem and

those who claim there is are

snake oil salesmen. You cannot

eliminate a person's sexuality

overnight. One thing the baths

provide is a central contact place

to reach sexually active people.

Ultimately, no matter what is

done, the issue will be the con-

sciousness and personal control

over one's sexual behavior. That

is the only thing that is going to

Ron Ernest, Jaguar Book-

store/Club owner: I believe the

Democratic Party coming here

has a lot to do with this. If they

close places down, people will

just go to the parks and the

public johns. We run a private

membership club, but I do not

consider it a sex club. If people

have sex here, I do not know

about it. We have a clean opera-

Howard Wallace, Co-chair,

ing to shoot you.

Randy Stallings, former president, Toklas Democrats: 1 am totally opposed to a closing. Some people will not heed the warnings whether they close the baths or not. What I fear is that the precedent of closure would have its effect. Tomorrow, the bars? Thousands of people get drunk in bars and then drive and kill people and themselves on the highways, but who supports closing every bar in the nation? You cannot protect adults from their own behavior.

Jeff Jones, Toklas Democrats: The open forum at Valencia Rose revealed that 90% of the 100 Gay people there were for keeping the baths open. I am concerned about the violation of civil liberties involved and the effect this will have across the country. Is there adequate documentation that calls for this? Silverman seemed undecided at the forum and open to more dis-cussion on the issue.

Paul Boneberg, President, Stonewall Democrats: The Gay community should be consulted when our lives are affected by decisions. That is why I set up the public meeting at Valencia Rose when I learned what Sil-



Paul Boneberg - opposed (Photo:

verman might do. To read Randy Shilts in the Chronicle you would think that there was a great swell of support for closing the baths, but by the end of the Rose meeting it was evident that 90% of the 100 there were opposed to such action. At a subsequent meeting, 20 Gav community leaders asked Silverman to delay any action for two weeks and to meet with some of

G. Mendenhall

## A GAY VIEW FROM WASHINGTON

Part III of Four Parts

# Gay Issues Surface in **Congressional Hearings**

eagan Administration health officials held the line on AIDS spending before two congressional committees in March, telling Congress that the proposed \$53.9 million budget for AIDS research and information is sufficient under current circumstances. Dr. Edward Brandt, the assistant secretary for health, and Margaret Heckler, Secretary of the Health and Human Services department, were the testifiers.

The view of the Administra- develop. tion, according to National Gay Task Force Washington director Jeff Levi, appeared to rely strongly on the assumption that one of the current research lines now being pursued would turn out to be correct. It was unclear whether sufficient funds had been budgeted to pursue a number of research avenues simultaneously, or to pursue a new lead if one should unexpectedly

Last year the Reagan Administration also based its budget request on the assumption that it would "shortly" find the avenue leading to a solution to the AIDS crisis, and was forced to ask for supplementary funding when it reached blind alleys.

The Reagan Administration's proposal, which is for the fiscal year that begins next October 1,

has been criticized by Gay groups for not specifically providing new funding for community support and education pro-In a related development, a

Original Defective

Reagan Administration program to provide recognition to notable volunteer efforts through an awards program has turned down the nomination of the New York-based Gay Men's Health Crisis for an award for its volunteer and support program. The group is slated to receive one of several thousand "thank voii" letters for having been been sub mitted, but was not considered for an award. No Gay organization has ever been cited for its volunteer programs, and no other programs devoted to providing services for AIDS people was submitted. The nomination was backed by Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-NY), Representative William Green (R-NY) and Governor Mario

enator Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA) directed friendly questions to the Nationa Gay Task Force during Senate

Judiciary Committee hearings on the nomination of Edwin Meese to be U.S. Attorney General on March 5. Kennedy's questions, which underscored NGTF's position that Meese had shown no disposition to hear civil rights concerns of Gays, was believed to be the first time that any member of the Senate Judiciary Committee had publicly taken up Gay concerns during the committee proceedings.

The testimony, presented by NGTF Washington representative Jeff Levi, was part of a growing closeness between the National Gay Task Force and the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, an umbrella group of civil rights organizations that finally agreed to admit NGTF and the Gay Rights National Lobby to membership in 1982. The Leadership Conference, which also took the unusual step of opposing Meese's nomina-tion, is closely allied with both labor union and Catholic agencies involved in civil rights issues, which has generally kept them away from "controversial" civil rights concerns such as Gay issues and abortion rights.

Levi told the Judiciary Committee that Gay concerns over the Justice Department spanned issues from anti-Gay violence to immigration reform, as well as traditional civil rights issues of nondiscrimination. Among other concerns, Levi referred to the recent Justice Department decision not to press federal charges against Dan White for murdering San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk in 1978, and the thirty-year record of surveillance of Gay groups by the FBI.

"I urge you to call Mr. Meese back before this committee so the record will state clearly from the start what his positions on these matters are - so the Senate can know how deep a commitment to equal justice under the law Edwin Meese actually has before voting to confirm him as Attorney General," Levi said.

Kennedy was the only senator to ask questions of Levi, seeking to draw him out with an assessment that the "Gay/Lesbian community" would not be served by Meese's confirmation. In 1980, Senator Kennedy, then a presidential candidate, took the lead position in support of Gay civil rights in the Democratic Party.

# **POLITICS AND POKER**

Mondale Wins New York: Strengthens Delegate Lead

ormer vice president Walter Mondale won a convincing victory in Tuesday's big New York primary where 252 delegates to the July San Francisco convention were chosen. Mondale, with important support of New York's powerful labor unions as well as that state's top Democratic officials, won nearly two-thirds of the state's large Jewish vote to defeat Hart overall in New York by 45% to 27%. Jesse Jackson, the third candidate in the race, trailed Hart by only 25,000 votes. Jackson, who has been unable to break into the large "White" vote in primaries to date, won the Black" vote in Tuesday's New York primary — taking over 80% of that minority vote across

pletely anespected, however, since most of New York's Demo-

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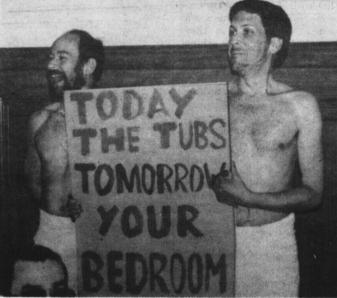
it, use it, enjoy it.

cratic Party apparatus was working for the former Carter vice president, and Mondale has ong been popular with the powerful Jewish community there. Yet, political observers were beginning this week to say that Gary Hart is headed for trouble if he doesn't soon score in one of the more populous states. The next important big-state primary is next Tuesday, April 10, in Pennsylvania with nearly 300 delegates, and Hart was already in that state campaigning Tuesday before the votes were being counted in New York, and the Colorado senator is thought to have a better chance of winning Pennsylvania.

Mondale, claiming his New York win had once again made him the "mon to beat" for the Demogratic nomination, said that his impressive win Tuesday showed that "New York was

voting to end the insane arms race" and to send someone to the White House to "put America back to work again." Hart, speaking Tuesday night from Philadelphia, took the New York results with an upper chin and predicted that "New York will ove me better in November when they get to know me a lit-

Meanwhile, Jesse Jackson, who picked up 47 delegates in New York Tuesday and made the best showing so far in any of the contests, began saying that he would "make an excellent vice president," apparently starting his convention brokering a little early; however, Tuesday mora-ing's Cable News Network news shows had a number of political analysis on their early morning news program, and to a person, all agreed that though Jackson would go into the San Francisco



Bathhouse fans came au naturel to Merv Silverman's press conference

convention holding enough delegates to make him a person to deal with, his famed "hymie" remarks ruled out any even remote chance of being picked for the second spot.

After New York's Bucaday primary, the current delegate count, depending on whose

count you use, stands at Mondale with 864 committed delegates, Hart with 514, Jackson with 147, uncommitted at 322, and "others" stready picked at 35 ("others" includes those chosen for candidates who have withdrawn). A total of 1,967 delogates is needed to gain the (Continued on next page)

## MCC Responds to Closings

An Open Letter to Our Community:

As pastors of the two congregations of Metropolitan Community Church in our city, we wish to express our concern about proposals to close baths and private clubs as an attempt at AIDS prevention. We feel that this would be ill-advised and unproductive, for a number of reasons:

First, there is no conclusive evidence that this measur

would be effective in AIDS prevention, and there is some

reason to believe that it could aggravate the problem by moving it out of potentially controllable environments. Second, such a measure would certainly consume funds and time in implementation and enforcement, not to mention community time already being spent addressing the pro-

posed measure itself. Third, airing of the issue through such a measure may further inflame public panic and give tacit permission to expression of homophobic feelings in repressive legal measures and even violence

Fourth, such a measure could reinforce within the Lesbian/Gay community a feeling of "It's their problem and couldn't happen to me," by seeming to be a major prevention of and protection against AIDS. This could seriously deflect attention from crucial self-positive, safe-sex education.

Finally, we see such a measure as the product, in some minds, of our internalized homophobia, a tendency deep in some of us to see sexuality as evil and to scapegoat nontraditional forms of sexuality, instead of spending the effort to place them in loving and safety-conscious contexts.

As Christian clergy, we are intensely concerned in establishing a context in which human justice and wholeness are encouraged. Our denomination and our local congregations are actively concerned in ministry in the AIDS crisis. We confess that much of the anti-Gay and anti-sexual damage to Western society has been perpetrated by the perverted view

of the gospel held by some Christians. Because of that, we believe that we have a special responsibility to work for the purposes of love and growth. We believe that closure of baths and private clubs would be counterproductive to those purposes, and to the ultimate eradication of AIDS. The Reverend Michael E. England

MCC of San Francisco The Reverend James E. Sandmire Golden Gate MCC

## Gay Doctors' Statement on the Baths

Recently, there has been some confusion in parts of the press and the public regarding the official position of the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR) about sexual activity at Gay bath houses and similar establishments during the AIDS crisis.

We wish to restate our opinion that certain types of sexual practices, no matter in what location they occur, increase the risk of contracting all sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS. What counts is what you do, not where you do it.

We continue to discourage unsafe sex practices in all areas, including bath houses.

We strongly favor, and request assistance for, educational programs to help reduce risks. Furthermore, we think that such efforts may be especially significant at bath houses and similar estab-

We affirm our belief that government intervention in the sexual behavior of consenting adults should be avoided.

Most importantly, we believe that voluntary action by our community is the best method to encourage safe sex. In these difficult times, let us act with concern and responsibility for each other.

## BWMT Philly Gets Busy

Philadelphia - Taking their cue from fellow members in San Francisco and New York, The local chapter of Black and White Men Together, in conjunction with other local Gay organizations, is conducting a survey of Gay bars' employment practices.

The survey, to be distributed to bar owners and managers, will ask questions about how many non-White Gay employees the bars have and also what their policy is regarding patron

Larry Frankel, coordinator of the Philly BWMT's political action committee, said that the survey would not include Lesbian bars because - as was the case in New York and San Francisco - "it would be presumptuous for a Gay men's group to study women's bars," preferring that Lesbian groups conduct such a survey.

Recently, the local chapter celebrated its third anniversary with a lavish dinner in which Mayor Wilson Goode was a featured speaker.

Goode was fulfilling a campaign promise "that I would come back here as mayor and you helped me to do that."

- Philadelphia Gay News

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## The Press Conference That **Almost Was**

Full Statement by Dr. Mervyn Silverman Friday, March 30, 1984



"I think since most of you know me, what I am going to say will be somewhat of a surprise and somewhat of a disappointment. Because of a number of issues, both legal and medical, not resolved at this point I am not going to be making a comment. I will not be discussing the opening or closing of the bath houses at this point. I will be back to you very shortly, probably within another week or so. There are many, many complex issues. I have to offer my apologies for moving as hastily as I did. I was unaware of a number of facets to this issue, some of which have absolutely nothing to do with medicine, some which do. I am making just this statement. I am sorry for your having to be here as long as you have and not being able to give you. You know me. I always try to say will be somewhat of a surprise and somewhat of a disnot being able to give you... You know me. I always try to give you as much information as possible. I have to say that that is the statement and I won't be making any other com-

"The advice is mine and I really want to make it clear really want to make it very clear — that the action is mine and is not based on pressure from this group, that individual, anybody else. It has to do with something that is obviously very complex, that is not a simplistic issue, and one that I have to have sufficient counsel on both sides - looking at the legal and some medical aspects. I am really going to end it and not answer any questions after this. This was done by me and solely by me and not by anyone else in the city system and that is the truth. Thank you.'

Silverman exited to prolonged applause from about 50 spectators in the audience.

### Politics & Poker

Continued from previous page) nomination, and the next large contests, after next Tuesday's Pennsylvania primary, are scheduled for Ohio, where they will hold a primary next month as well as Texas' important caucus, and then the all-important California primary in June, a state that could decide it all.

In the only other presidential contest this week — a "beauty contest" in Wisconsin that will have little bearing on the state's delegation to the July convention - Gary Hart beat Mondale by a 46% to 42% vote, with Jackson trailing poorly with 10%. The results of the Wisconsin vote Tuesday, however, are meaningess, as the actual 78 delegates to the San Francisco confab will be chosen this weekend in party caucus. All three candidates are expected to be in Wisconsin before the delegates are picked Saturday and Sunday.

Q upervisor Doris Ward carried an important piece of legislation for the Black and women's communities last week. Known as the Minority Business Ordinance, the Ward legislation will go far to help both minority and women's businesses to obtain a percentage of private con-tracts awarded by the city (only Supervisor Kopp voted against this legislation, and I thought that Quentin's political advisors were trying to move him a little more to the left this year!).

New York City's growing Gay community was wooed openly by all three candidates in Tuesday's Demo primary, and Gay activists in NYC were "split and split again" as to their choice, according to Peter Vogel, the chair of the National Ass'n of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs. The city's two Gay newspapers were split with the New York Native endorsing Hart while the Gay New York City News went for Mondale. The four Gay Democratic clubs in NYC were also split between the candidates. Virginia Apuzzo, the executive director of the New York-based National Gay Task Force, told reporters last weekend that her organization has studied the stands on Gay issues of both Hart and Mondale and "there isn't a dime's worth of difference. They're both acceptable." Apuzzo, a member of the platform committee of the Democratic National Convention, said that 12 declared homosexual men and women were running as delegates or alternates in New York: three for Mondale, two for Jackson, one for Hart, and six who remain as Cranston delegates, who, if they win, will go to the San Francisco convention

presumably as uncommitted

lelegates.



Alice Demos celebrate heads of local Democratic clubs at supervisor's home. (Photo: Ringle-

not already a national celebrity. Sunday night's "60 Minutes" on CBS certainly made him one. Brown and his advisors have to be smiling after this highly positive promo-piece. • Supervisor Bill Maher recently started a job as a real estate trainee at United Bank. • Bill Kraus to New York this weekend for the opening hearing of the Democratic National Platform Committee. • Don't invite Mayor Feinstein and Wendy Nelder to the same cocktail party. Some of the mayor's aides were furious at the remarks Nelder made about Her Honor regarding the closing (or nonclosing) of the bathhouses. . As for the bathhouse issue, that is one that has divided our community like few others, but if the bathhouse owners thought that those jackasses that showed up at Merv Silverman's almost-press conference last week clad in towels helped their cause, they were in the minority (even a couple of owners told me they were embarrassed) and frankly, if those

If Speaker Willie Brown was

baths, who would want to go? Supervisors Molinari, Renne, and Hongisto all received good receptions at Saturday night's dinner honoring Jose at the Green Room. Incidentally, Jose, who was unceremoniously uninvited from last year's Alice Toklas Demo Club's dinner, was made an honorary lifetime member of that same club at his testimonial dinner last Saturday (what a difference some bad press makes!). • In Baltimore last week a large number of Gay activists marched outside City Hall as legislation was introduced to protect homosexuals

creeps were indicative of what

you are likely to run into at the

against discrimination in jobs and housing; action by the Baltimore City Council is due soon.

Willie Brown isn't the only one thinking (or hoping) that the Democratic Convention in July becomes deadlocked and eventually turns to Ted Kennedy. Even GOP Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater, who has some experience with nominations, predicted this week that neither Hart nor Mondale would lock it



Wendy Nelder wants Dianne to shut

up and bet that Kennedy would eventually emerge; meanwhile, in Washington Kennedy's aides say that the senator "considers the possibility so remote that he isn't even thinking about it."

In Chicago last week it was announced that a Mexican who was denied an immigrant visa because his wife is a transsexual will get a new hearing on his petition. The Immigration and Naturalization Service admitted that its original refusal to recognize the marriage of Patricia Michelle and Manuel Castaneda was a mistake.

riends of supervisorial candidate Dave Wharton will hold a wine and cheese benefit for their man this Sun-

day, April 8, at 25 Castro (\$10: 1-4 p.m., 861-511 for info). The federal government allotted \$1.1 million last week for research seeking a test for AIDS that would detect the disease early and permit screening to eliminate blood donations that might transmit it. While driving down Polk

Street the other day, Supervisor Jack Molinari burst into laughter upon noticing the sign on Sukker's Likkers' famous marquee. The owners of the store, friends of the supervisor, had placed a different message on their now-famous marquee: "Molinari is Not a Salami, hoping to draw attention to the fundraiser party they threw for Molinari last week. • In Manhattan Beach, Doris Tate, the mother of murdered actress Sharon late, says that the slay ing of her daughter by the Charles Manson followers has turned her to politics and she will run for the Assembly in the 51st District as a "law and order" Democrat. • Despite assurances by organizers of the planned Lesbian/Gay march on July 15. the day before the opening of the Demo Convention, that their march will be peaceful, it is no secret that some Democratic leaders are worried that the convention here will turn into a media ircus featuring Gavs and prostitutes: Margo St. James, head of COYOTE (Call Off Your Old Tired Ethics) has announced that her group will hold a press conference dur ing the convention, and a growing number of Demo leaders are fearful that television coverage of such affairs could cost them votes and help re-elect Ronald Reagan.

W. Friday

# GREATER BAY NEWS

## **BITCH IN HEAT**

# Up The River With Mary-Louise

BRIAN IONES

dancehalls in The City. Mary-Louise and Hubert left before

midnight, married people

needing their rest and all,

thereby narrowly escaping what

was later described as the week-

end's biggest attack of attitude. Disco diva Viola Wills was to

appear at midnight, and The Woods was packed for her ap-

pearance. But the diva didn't ap-

pear. Folks who were there said

no explanation was given for the

show that didn't happen, and

the whole thing was handled rather rudely. Management of The Woods said later Wills came

down ill, and that it was the first

time in three years they had canceled a show.

The happy honeymooners' own first brush with High At-

titude came Sunday morning,

like a cold shower. It was a cold

shower. Now, at a woodsy resort

packed with queenly campers -

or is that campy queens? — it probably is impossible not to run out of hot water. Really, there

probably isn't enough steam heat in Old Faithful to get 22 fag-

gots through wash-rinse-

condition-rinse, wash-rinse-

condition-rinse, with that pause

in the middle for a stanza from

Mary-Louise mentioned her

rude awakening to Manage-ment, only to be chided for speaking, without being called

upon, to someone who didn't

come on duty until 3 in the after-

noon. Well, she was then dis-

patched hither and yon, from

hot tub to Cabin 7 and back, to

find the Proper Authority to

whom problems with plumbing should be discussed. Now this

was not a pretty sight. Mary-Louise was still in housecoat and

duster, and her fuzzy slippers left

little clouds of clay-colored

smoke as she shuffled around

what we had started to call The

The problem was solved after

a long discourse on plumbing and pilot lights and piping and other unfathomable depths of Real-Man stuff. Mary-Louise

doesn't understand any of it

High Attitude switched into

High Gear when Mary-Louise,

Hubert, and their child Tammy

dropped by the River Village for Sunday Brunch. The maitre d

informed the party matter-of-factly, "The Chef had a rough

night. None of the specialties are

available." Well. This was a Real

Problem: Half the menu was

listed under "Specialties." The

And the 35-minute wait for

food wasn't too boring, as Mary-

party made do.

because she doesn't have to.

"Stormy Weather."

ary-Louise looks for the same thing in a weekend getaway as she does in a man. She wants them hot, affordable, and with a minimum of attitude. In the case of her opening foray of the season up to the Russian River, she can say - as is so often the case after a first date: Well, honey, two out of three ain't bad.

Attitude at the River is, of course, legendary. Tom Ammiano, the Gay comedian, put it succinctly in a show a month ago. First Man: "Look! There's a guy drowning in the river!" Second Man, looking at his fingernails, bored: "Oh really. Is he

To answer that last question first — yes, he must be cute; my God, they're all cute; in fact, Mary-Louise has discovered you have to be cute or they don't let you over the Sonoma County line after April 1. All the ugly guys have to wait 'til after Labor Day to get into Guerneville. Mary-Louise only snuck through by posing, in the back seat of our pretentious LTD Crown Victoria, as Jane Wyman, a feat only made possible by the liberal doses of Lady Clairol number 52-D Black Velvet applied unsparingly — even despairingly — before leaving The City.

Well. I digress. It began late on Saturday, after Mary-Louise had spent long hours slaving her tits over a hot typewriter at the B.A.R. Goodness, the things you have to go through - or vice versa — to get a job at this rag.

So Mary-Louise and husband Hubert were indeed ready to blow this town - that is, get away — when the mercury soared past 75. They stashed their fast-passes and made eyes at the man at the rent-a-car place, thereby nabbing an LTD for the price of a Pinto. Mary-Louise likes to be able to be rammed from the rear without bursting into flames, thank you

It's only an hour and 20 minutes from the bridge to the Headlands resort - I mean Highlands resort — even when you drive less than 75. And the place is charming. They put most of the towels in the bathroom, but one smaller one right by the nightstand next to the

It was off to The Woods to disco The City right our of their hair. The Hexagon House, in Mary-Louise's opinion - and we're talking here about an unreconstructed Fort Lauderdale disco queen - matches or surpasses the setting of any of the

Gay Poet Reads

The distinguished French-

American poet, critic and trans-lator Edouard Roditi will give a

reading at 8 PM, Thursday,

April 12 in History Corner 205

on the Stanford campus. The

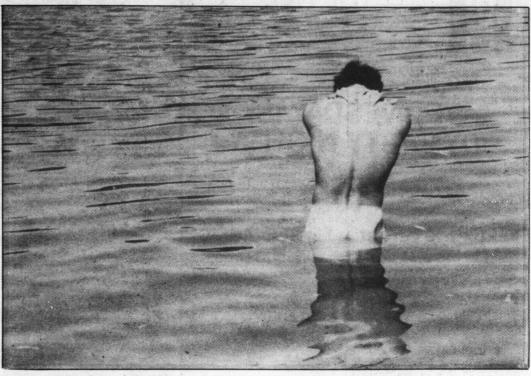
event will be sponsored by the

at Stanford

Speakers' Series.

Roditi has been active as a poet, critic and translator since 1928. Among his many volumes are Poems for F. (1936), Oscar Wilde (1947), Poems 1928-1948 (1949), Dialogues on Art (1961), Prose Poems: New Hieroglyphic Tales (1968), Emperor of Midnight (1974), and Thrice Chosen

For more information, call the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford Gay and Lesbian Stanford as part of its Spring Events Tape at 497-1488.



Romance on The River. (Photo: Mick Hicks)

morning's disaster.

Louise and company were kept busy devising clever tricks for trapping the waitron and con-vincing him to bless us with coffee for our depressingly empty cups. The food, when it arrived, was fine, but difficult to eat at first because nobody provided silverware. Just seven minutes later, this problem was solved, and the rest of the affair proceeded without incident.

valley reminded the crew why so many folks come up here: Its stunning natural beauty. There really aren't too many places on earth that are prettier. And that evening's meal, at Little Bavaria in Guerneville, was so impeccably cooked and presented that it more than compensated for the

By midnight Sunday, the happy family was ready to sit in the hot tub, chat, and prepare for an early departure Monday to return to The City. Perhaps this was the high-point of the trip

about out of space for this issue. Maybe we'll get to it next time. Maybe we won't.

Two days and two nights up the river set us back only \$60 each, and that included the car. Certainly a getaway any Working Girl can afford. And it was indeed a mostly enjoyable trip. One hopes the professional hostelers and restaurateurs at the River would treat the customers more like guests and less like pests. Ah, well. See you at the



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## BAY AREA REPORTER APRIL 5, 1984 PAGE 16

## Alameda Groups Express AIDS Concerns

by John Wetzl

Last Thursday, community groups and social service organiza tions in Alameda County again echoed concerns that the East Bay cities, particularly cities in southern Alameda County, lack sufficient county AIDS planning. Officials of the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency listened to the concerns and then responded carefully to most charges during the county's second Community Health Forum. This time speakers were asked to pool suggestions on budget planning for 1985.

For the past six months, East Bay health officials have been warned of a potentially dramatic increase in the number of East Bay AIDS cases. Such warning has come mostly from the mostly Gav East Bay AIDS Resources Organization (EBARO). Now county officials seem to be gearing up for just such a possibility. Programs to be expanded are psycho-social support services and the distribution of accurate information about AIDS.

The latter, Gay groups testi-fied, is severely limited in the southern part of the county, particularly in Hayward, which is described as "the largest organized Gay community outside of San Francisco in the Bay Area.'

Three speakers spoke from the Maranatha Metropolitan Community Church in Hayward, and one also represented the EBARO. MCC pastor Jodi Safier appealed to the county panel. "My congregation is terrified," she said. "I have found no resources (with the county) and I don't have answers for people who come to me terrified.

County officials will work with Safier and Maranatha to coordinate efforts to make information available to the Hayward community through the MCC. Safier is amenable to such an arrangement, but would also like to include a network of other social service centers in the effort. "This is by no means exclusive," she said.

Regarding AIDS services in general, Safier said, "I don't see this as a need that is being met, but I think it is a need that exists and continues and grows at an alarming rate. Just because the needs haven't been obvious doesn't mean they're not there."

The American Committee of the Committee

It was after Safier's testimony that Public Health Director Carl Smith approached her with the idea of securing the MCC as an AIDS education clearinghouse. EBARO has already declined to serve as community consultant for the county in administering AIDS program services, which may have included a similar clearinghouse capacity.

Current programs in AIDS care have been put in place within the last two months, following public and private pressure maintained by EBARO. There are currently five screening locations throughout the county.

"Basically they have taken their standard STD clinics and have said, presto, you are now AIDS screening clinics," Dorothy Graham of the Alameda County Health Consortium and EBARO told Bay Area

Apparently, the transition was slow. Graham said she contacted one of these clinics following the announcement by the county that AIDS screening would be conducted, and staff at that particular location did not know they were supposed to be conducting AIDS screening at all. Also, there had been some apprehension at the Highland Hos pital clinic, and even some hostility, at the notion of screening patients for AIDS.

According to Graham, the systems are now much more organized for screening, and EBARO

Democratic Club," Diefenbach

Founding members see the

purposes of the Gay and Lesbian

group as educating the public, officials, and the Lesbian and

Gay Community about relevant

issues, and promoting Gay

Toward this end a strategy session will be held to plan the in-

is now concentrating its efforts on pushing for an AIDS specialty clinic which would provide treatment for AIDS. EBARO secretary Jim Chambers informed Smith in a March 28 letter that the county's "triggering event" of 15 patients to be cared for had been surpassed. "Based on the new criteria outlined in the (AIDS Response Plan) pro-posal we submit that the clinic should be opening within two weeks," the letter said in part.

Chambers' letter also called for clinical representation on a proposed advisory committee (set out in Smith's AIDS Response Plan he submitted to the state last month) and representation by people with AIDS. It also called for efforts "to educate personnel" and called for installment of an AIDS project monitor to oversee implementation of the plan.

Jim Curber testified for EBARO Thursday before the county panel, which included Carl Lester, director of the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, that "By June 1985 there will be a projected number of 385 cases of AIDS in Alameda County." EBARO activists agree that the county is responding to the pressure being placed on it, more than anyone expected.

'They have to be educated,' Chambers said. "For example, I don't think they realized the extent to which people were going over to San Francisco for treat-

"We want you to know that we are trying to be responsive to the needs you have expressed both in this and the former forum and we will continue to listen to your input in an effort to develop a program that at least addresses these needs," said Lester at the

The county initiated this series of health forums as a result of public outcry over a statement Lester had publicly issued assuring that Alameda County had no unmet health needs. It was at about the same time that EBARO became organized and pressed the administration for more attention and money to be paid to the AIDS epidemic. 

## Marin Lesbian and Gay Democrats Organize

rights legislation.

Lesbians and Gay men of Marin County are getting openly involved in politics. They are forming a Lesbian/Gay Significant Interest Group within the Marin Democratic Club.

The organizers of this group say that they have long seen the need for such political activity in Marin, to serve as a voice for the Lesbian and Gay Community, as well as to support the expansion of the county's existing Gay rights legislation. Marin has an excellent record of support, as exemplified by its overwhelming vote against the Briggs initiative and Barbara Boxer's successful efforts to put Gay rights legislation on the books while she was a supervisor. During 1983, various means of politicizing the county's Lesbians and Gays were considered, with the final result being the Gay and Lesbian group SIG within the Marin Democratic Club.

《母母》

LAGA

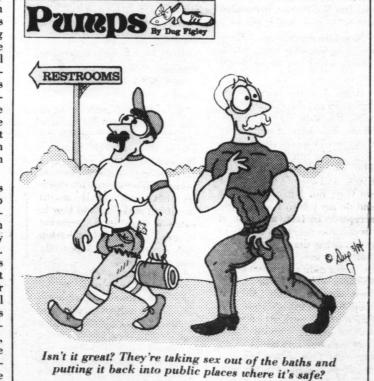
Though less than two years old, the Marin Democratic Club has been successful in its first efforts at grassroots organization of Democrats according to Gay activist Aledander Diefenbach "The general membership is progressive with an excellent record of individual support for

Gay issues. Given the usual level of noninvolvement in Marin, this joining of forces appears to present a greater chance for success especially since a majority of the members of the Marin Demo cratic Central Committee are also members of the Marin

volvement of the county's Lesbians and Gays in determining what issues will be focused on during 1984. This meeting entitled "Where do we go from here?" is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10 at 7:30 PM at the First Methodist Church in San Rafael

For more information contact Diefenbach at 488-0885.

(Ross Ave. at Fourth Street).



### OAKLAND

## **Rhonda Love Interviewed**

Ronald (Rhonda) Love has spent the last 16 of his 23 years right here in the Bay Area. Although born in Mobile, Alabama, he considers his "home state" to be Mississippi. Having been a bus driver and an airline ticket agent, he now has settled down (?) to the task of being a "411 telephone operator."

Ron's family knows of his sexual orientation — except for his baby sister. He informed his family when he was 16, and his father (being a doctor and a teacher) took the news better than his mother. She had resentment against Gays in general; couldn't accept the lifestyle and tried to "cure" Ron. Over the years she has "seen the light" and accepts Ron and loves him - except for the drag. That still bothers her, so Ron doesn't flaunt it.

Ron first went in drag about three years ago when Chuck and Carlos were Emperor and Em-

so I walked by them in the street. I sluffed it off when I realized that they were not living in the

Nez: For which titles have you

Ron: I ran for the first Miss

Closet Ball and also for Empress V. ACIE. Although I didn't win either of them, I still think that my idea of lessening the rivalry between Oakland and Hayward is still with potential. If I could receive an elected title I think that I could ease that rivalry and strengthen the representation of ACIE. I must say that I, personally, didn't experience any of the "back stabbing and friendship splits" that accompany so many of the running competitions. During the Empress contest, Cha Cha, Johnny, and I really grew, and our friendship became stronger. I finally knew just how hard it is to "run" there's always something to do no matter how tired I was - and

I would like to stay involved with ACIE and give them as much help and support as necessary to help it continue to grow. I want to see the court cruise at 35,000 feet and be well known all over the country! I feel that the court system is important because it gives Gay men who don't like drag queens something to talk about! The court system gives us activities and something to do as a group or Community that is fun and exciting. The court system keeps "them" off the street! The court system also shows the straight community that we really do care about people whether or not they are Gay or Straight. I real-ly wish that I had the opportunity to meet Martin Luther King. I would like to know what reall made him do what he did with the Civil Rights movement. Was it actually "the man upstairs" or was it just him. I would like to ask him just what more we can do today for human rights, both Black and White and Gay and

Straight.

viewed. Why?

Ron: Girl, can we talk? I'm

frightened or in awe of everyone,

in certain ways. I really don't get

over that fear until I really know

them. But, I felt it was time that

people know who I am - I've

waited for over a year for this -

and if I told you everything that

I wanted to do, it would take the

entire issue of this paper to print it all! I'm a person who is scared

of AIDS but, not being promiscuous, I haven't changed my

lifestyle as yet! I am a person who loves people in general. I am a good listener with a good

shoulder to cry on. I feel that I

am a lovable person. I like to go

out and have a good time. I like

to make people smile when they are not having a good time! I am a human being just like everybody else. Sometimes I am Ron and sometimes I am Rhonda,

but I am always the same inside.

I have a hope that ACIE will get more people involved and willing to help those who are Emperor and Empress. The "voters" can't expect the two of them to do it all! They need HELP instead of bitching and complaining. The "voters' should give support and assist-Nez: Is there any ONE thing that you could do to "activate"

all the Gays in Alameda Coun-

ty? Or is it even possible? Ron: I don't know! I really

Nes: Any final comments? Ron: I have a splitting headache!

Please don't supply any more information to me; I'm already too well misinformed! But, smile anyway and any way!

Nes

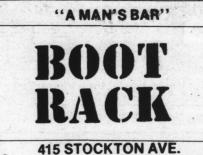
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Rhonda Love

press of ACIE. Doug Odermat and Jim Weatherton persuaded him to do it - and it stuck! Nez: Discrimination - Have

you experienced it being Black photo, which try to see!) and

Ron: I really haven't experienced any discrimination in being Black or Gay. The telephone company doesn't care about race or sexual attraction as long as you can pass the test. They certainly know that I am Black, and they do know that I am Gay; but I passed the test and do my job so I am readily accepted. In fact, a couple of times it was necessary for me to go to work in drag! Many of the managers were sorry that the Governor didn't pass that bill. I was harassed a bit for being Gay once, however, I didn't think it could happen in California, but walking from work in San Leandro one evening, a group of men were standing outside of a pri-vate club. They shouted obseni-ties at me and blocked the sidewalk. I was upset, but didn't have the time to deal with them,

the relief of no "foul play" made it easier!

Nez: Any plans for running in Ron: Let's just put a question

mark on that one! Nez: Who do you respect the most in the Community

Ron: Even though we once had our major problems, this man — Stephanie — taught me how to be a "woman" in drag! He was one of the first Black Gay men in drag (there aren't too many of those around the country) that I ever met. He taught me about make-up and how to catch a man in a "woman-ly"way! She showed leadership with grace. We now talk freely and are starting to enjoy each other's company again. Another person I truly respect to Cha like to be a lady of quality. She is a dear friend. I respect her for her ideas and how she's handling the Community. These two will definitely leave their names as damn good Empresses in this



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• Tuffy Eldredge and Christa Hillhouse: 12-string

originals, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 PM, free.

· Paul Jones: with Ken Muir at the piano, music.

· An American Story: stage performance, Asian

American Theater Company, Julian Theater, 953 DeHaro St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7.50.

· Creeps: stage performance, San Francisco Reper-

tory, 4147 19th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. Directed by Fred

Hartman, by Canadian playwright David Freeman.

• The Dead End Kid: stage performance, One Act Theater Company, 430 Mason St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. Ex-

tended run on a limited basis, directed by Simon L. Levy

Filumena: stage performance, Berkeley Repertory

Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 2 PM and 8 PM,

\$10 to \$13.50. Italian comedy by Eduardo de Filippo,

· Heart City: rock musical, On Broadway Theatre, 435

Broadway, S.F., 8 PM, \$10.50 advance, \$12.50 at the

· Judy's Floating Head: comedy written and per-

formed by Lee Strucker and Nadine Caracciolo, Inter-

section for the Arts, 756 Union St. (between Powell

Last Summer at Bluefish Cove: stage performance,

Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St., S.F., 8 PM, \$15

and \$18. Award-winning playwright Jane Chambers'

Raven's Seed: stage performance by Sansei Produc-

tions, People's Theater Coalition, Fort Mason Center,

· The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium: stage per-

formance, Magic Theatre, Building D, Fort Mason, S.F.,

· Steeltown: stage performance by the San Francisco

Mime Troupe, Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St., S.F.,

Putting Safe Sex Principles Into Action: education

event of the SF AIDS Foundation sponsored by Richard

Locke and friends, The Caldron, 953 Natoma St. (north

Safe Sex Techniques: education event sponsored

by the National Sex Forum and the SF AIDS Founda-

tion, 1523 Franklin St. (between Pine and Bush), S.F.,

• VD Testing: 18th and Castro, S.F., 11:30 AM to

1:30 PM, free. Sponsored by the San Francisco Depart-

ment of Public Health City Clinic Volunteers. More vol-

unteers are needed. Interested persons should call

· All Join Hands: first international Gay square dance

convention. Madison Hotel, Seattle, Washington,

through April 8. Western Star Dancers of San Francisco

is organizing a group of participants from the Bay Area.

For more information call Henry Shernoff at 282-7042.

Jane Anderson: From the Thighs of L.A. to the Heart

Comedy Cabaret: featuring Monica Palacios and

Marga Gomez, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom

. Danseur: grand opening of videorock dance club

Jane Dornacker and Tom Ammiano: comedy, Julia

Morgan Theater, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8:30 PM,

· Kerrigan Black: piano, vocals, guitar, at the Sansome

St. Brasserie, 411 Sansome St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM, free.

of San Francisco, a one-woman comedy performance,

Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.

St., S.F., 6 PM, free.

(see Thursday listing for details).

call 548-7234 for ticket information.

Marty at 285-1167 for more information.

8:30 PM, call 441-8822 for ticket prices.

with choreography by Roger Henderson.

directed by Tony Amendola.

and Mason), S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7.

play about Lesbian love and death.

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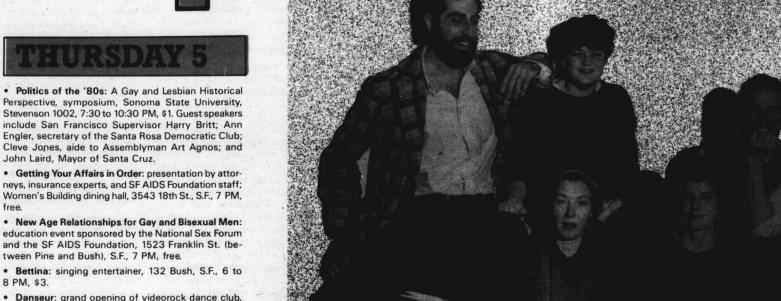


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# THISOWEEK



The Leopard Set, an all-acoustic, modern-beat ensemble will perform at the Valencia Rose Wednesday, April 11, at 8 PM.

 Charlie Murphy and Jami Sieber: music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Singer/songwriter Murphy and cellist/vocalist Sieber will be joined by percussionist June Hoffman and bass guitar/saxophonist Everett Armstrong to blend jazz, new wave, African, Latin, gospel, and folk music into World-Fusion Gospel. The group will also appear Saturday, April 7, at the Whole Life Expo at the Moscone Center

Danny Williams: comedy, Fanny's, 4230 18th St., S.F., 7 and 8 PM, free.

· American Gems: stage performance of two one-act plays, One Act Theatre Company, 430 Mason St., S.F., 8 PM \$10. Eugene O'Neill's Hughie and William Sarovan's Once Around the Block will be performed.

 An American Story: stage performance, \$8.50 (see Thursday listing for details).

• Creeps: stage performance, \$8 (see Thursday listing for details).

• Filumena: stage performance, 8 PM only (see Thursday listing for details). · Heart City: rock musical (see Thursday listing for

 lolanthe: stage presentation, Presentation Theater Turk St. near Masonic, S.F., 8:30 PM, call 752-7755 for tickets. By Gilbert and Sullivan, directed by Orva

 Judy's Floating Head: comedy theater performance, \$8 (see Thursday listing for details).

Hoskinson with Gilbert Russak conducting.

 Last Summer at Bluefish Cove: stage performance, \$17 and \$20 (see Thursday listing for details).

· Raven's Seed: stage performance, \$11 (see Thursday listing for details).

• The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium: stage per formance (see Thursday listing for details).

Steeltown: stage performance (see Thursday listing

 AIDS Forum: for bisexual men and women, sponsored by the SF AIDS Foundation and the Bisexual Center, at the Bisexual Center, 1757 Hayes St. (between Masonic and Central), S.F., 4 PM, free.

Approaches, education event sponsored by the SF AIDS Foundation and Planetree Health Resource Center, St. Mary's Cathedral, Room A, 1111 Gough St. S.F., 10 AM to 2 PM, free. Speakers will be Dr. Paul Volberding, Dr. Robert Bolan, Dr. Joseph Helms, Dr. Paul Lee, Dr. Richard Hamilton, and Dr. Paul Stuetzer.

· Dance: sponsored by the UC Berkeley Gay and Lesbian Union and the Mills Lesbian Union, Haas Club House, UC Berkeley, 8:30 PM to 12:30 AM, \$3. Shuttle bus leaves every 20 minutes from the corners of Telegraph and Bancroft, University and Center, and Euclid and Hearst in Berkeley. For more information call 642-6942 or 635-9015.

· Putting Safe Sex Principles Into Action: (see Friday listing for details). · Samuel M. Steward and Phil Andros: celebrate

publication of their books Parisian Lives and Shuttlecock at the Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 1 to 3 PM, free. VD Testing: Polk and Sutter Sts., S.F., Noon to 3 PM

(see Friday listing for details). · Jane Anderson: comedy (see Friday listing for

· Benefit Show: produced by Larry Starr, reigning Cowgirl of All California, The Traveler's Inn, 3rd and Tamalpais Sts., San Rafael, 8 PM, \$3. To raise funds for an excursion for limited-income senior citizens in

 The Bridge of Sighs: stage performance, Pocket Opera Company, Julia Morgan Theater, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$12. By Offenbach, with Robert Tate, Roger Andrews, Eric Morris, and Lawrence Venza.

(see Thursday listing for details) · Gay Comedy Night: emceed by Tom Ammiano with guests Ruby "Rodriguez" Rubenstein, Robin Heller and Pam Anton, and Doug Holsclaw, Valencia Rose, 766

· Danseur: grand opening of videorock dance club

Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$4. Mothertongue Reader's Theater: Passing: Identities Hidden and Exposed, benefit for the Nancy Shaw Legal Defense Fund sponsored by Sociologists for Womer in Society, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 3 PM

· Naked Brunch: a new episode of the live soap opera series, Club 181, 181 Eddy St. (at Taylor), S.F., 11 PM,

· American Gems: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

An American Story: stage performance, \$8.50 (see

Creeps: stage performance, \$8 (see Thursday listing

 Escurial and The Ugly Duckling: stage performance, Haight Ashbury Repertory Theatre, Red Victorian Movie House, 1659 Haight St., S.F., 12:15 PM. Escurial, by Michel DeGhelderode, is directed by Valerie O'Riordan. The Ugly Duckling, by A.A. Millne, is directed by Larry

• Filumena: stage performance, 8 PM only (see Thursday listing for details).

· Heart City: rock musical (see Thursday listing for lolanthe: stage performance (see Friday listing for

details) · Judy's Floating Head: comedy theater performance \$8 (see Thursday listing for details).

 Last Summer at Bluefish Cove: stage performance, 5 PM, \$15 and \$18, 9 PM, \$17 and \$20 (see Thurs-

day listing for details) · Raven's Seed: stage performance, \$11 (see Thurs-

day listing for details). The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium: stage per-

formance (see Thursday listing for details).

· Steeltown: stage performance (see Thursday listing

for details

· Robert Ferro: author of the novel The Family of Max Desir, will be the guest on The Gay Life on KSAN (95

· Gay Academic Union of the Bay Area: meeting, World Print Gallery, Room 345, Fort Mason Building B, 4 PM, members free, guests \$2. Local Gay/Lesbian history projects will be discussed, including speakers from the West Coast Lesbian Collections, the Harvey Milk Archives, the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay History Project, and the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Periodi-

 Lady Bianca: jazz, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 4 PM, free.

 Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band: music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 4 PM, \$3.

· A Friendly Affair: concert by The Vocal Minority, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Will include standards in jazz, pop, and choral styles focusing on songs from the '30s and '40s.

 Kerrigan Black: piano, vocals, guitar, at The Griffon, 1700 Shattuck at Virginia, Berkeley, from 7:30 to 11:30 PM, free.

 Naked Brunch: live soap opera, 9 PM (see Saturday listing for details).

 American Gems: stage performance, 3 PM, \$7, 7:30 PM, \$8 (see Friday listing for details). An American Story: stage performance (see Thurs-

day listing for details) • Creeps: stage performance, 2 PM, \$6, 8 PM, \$7

(see Thursday listing for details). • Filumena: stage performance, 2 and 7 PM (see

Thursday listing for details). · Heart City: rock musical (see Thursday listing for

· Last Summer at Bluefish Cove: stage performance, 3 and 7 PM, \$15 and \$18 (see Thursday listing for

· Raven's Seed: stage performance, 2 and 8 PM, \$10, (see Thursday listing for details).

• The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium: stage per formance, 2 and 8:30 PM (see Thursday listing for details).

• Steeltown: stage performance, 2 PM, \$6, 7 PM, \$8. last performance (see Thursday listing for details).

 Gay Comedy Open Mike: with co-emcees Tom Ammiano and Monica Palacios, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$2.

 Maryanne Price and the Millionaires: boogie-woogie Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 PM,

 Girls Can't Help It and Exposure: new wave music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM,

Bettina: singing entertainer, Gary Menger's Cabaret, San Francisco '84, Plush Room, 940 Sutter St., S.F., 8:30 PM, cover.

· The Rites of Spring: An Evening of Dutch Poetry in Translation, poetry by both Gay and straight poets focusing on war and death, resistance and resurrection, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$2. Music by he Sulumo Trio-Berkeley with Lulu Karp, violin; Susan Kinlock, flute; and Monique Visser, piano.

• Debbie Saunders: rhythm and blues, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 PM, free.

 The Dead End Kid: stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).

• Filumena: stage performance, 8 PM only (see Thursday listing for details). • Last Summer at Bluefish Cove: stage performance

(see Thursday listing for details) • Raven's Seed: stage performance, \$9 (see Thursday lisitng for details).

 Titanic Tonight: annual gala event commemorating the sinking of the ocean liner, Sheraton-Palace Garden Court, Market and New Montgomery Sts., \$75, dinner included. For more information and reservations, call the Oceanic Society in San Francisco at 441-5970.

Kerrigan Black: piano, vocals, guitar, at the New Orleans Bar and Grill, 2088 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, 8 PM to 12 AM, free.

 The Leopard Set: music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia cia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$3. All-acoustic, modern beat ensemble performs original songs and jazz standards.

· Lisa Pawlak: acoustic rock, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 PM, free. • Creeps: benefit performance of stage production for United Cerebral Palsy, 8 PM, \$10 (see Thursday listing

 The Dead End Kid: stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).

• Filumena: stage performance, 8 PM only (see Thursday listing for details).

• 5th of July: stage performance, opens at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2940 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM. Call 861-5079 for ticket prices and availability. Written by Lanford Wilson and directed by Joe Cappetta.

• Last Summer at Bluefish Cove: stage performance

(see Thursday listing for details). · Raven's Seed: stage performance, \$9 (see Thursday listing for details).

• The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium: stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM

pillows - placemats - glasses - baking dishes - cards Remodeling oks-floral arrangements - barware pkins - mugs - French cookware floor lamps - bamboo tables - pillows - placemats glasses - baking dishes - cards - note pads - napkins pepper grind - floor lamps bamboo tab baking dishe Isses - cards per grinders pillows - pla hes - cards note pads - a nts - barware pepper grin th cookware 10 - 50% off floor lamps glasses - baking dishes - cards - note pads pepper grinders - mugs - French cookware bamboo tables - pillows - placemats baking dishes - note pads - napking Sale ends: emats - glasses dress books - 1 Sunday April 15th glasses - baki

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# John Waters

The King of Sleaze

by Steve Warren

John Waters sounds normal Slightly jet-lagged from a trip to Paris, where his book Shock Value was just published under the provocative French title Provocation and his films were given a retrospective at the Cinema-theque Française, he answers the phone cordfally at his Baltimore home, even though we've interrupted his viewing of The Wizard of Oz.

Why should John Waters films be given retrospectives last month at the Cinematheque, this weekend at the Castro and next week in Iowa City? (Iowa City? "It's a lot like Berkeley." he says. For Iowa.) When some of the great filmmakers have never had retrospectives, why is this sleaze merchant being so honored?

Because scumbags like you are sick enough to buy tickets, that's why.

The man who made "Divine" a bawdy household word has been a movie nut for most of his (as of April 22) 38 years. A puppeteer before he started making movies, he's sure he would have ended up in show business even without Divine intervention. They've been friends since their teens, but Waters made his first short film, Hag in a Black Leather Jacket (1964, without Divine and gave him only a small role with no billing ("a mere starlet") in Roman Candles (1966).

Those 8 mm. epics are unsuitable for theatrical showing, as is Eat Your Makeup (1968) Divine's first starring film; but the rest of the Waters oeuvre will be shown at the Castro this Saturday in three shows separated by puke breaks.

The matinee (1:30 PM) will feature Polyester, the most re-

Life, Death, and Rebirth

cent, most accessible and most successful (it's been shown in 30 countries, Waters reports, most recently Iceland) of the lot and the only one in "Odorama," a gimmick featuring a "scratch and sniff" card full of disgusting smells. Also on the bill are Pink Flamingos, the movie that started it all by becoming a midnight cult success (it's been running for ten years at the Nu-Art in Los Angeles, where Waters appears tonight — Thursday — to celebrate the anniversary) because everyone wanted to see Divine eat dogshit (he spit it out afterward, or so he says); and Desperate Living, Waters' only major film without Divine.

will appear in person at 8 PM to introduce his personal favorite, Female Trouble, which will be preceded by The Dianne inkletter Story. Hardcore fans and other masochists will want to see the 11 PM showing of Waters' first two full-length features, Mondo Trasho and Multiple Maniacs. He calls Mondo Trasho "the worst by far . . . It cost \$2,000 to make and looks like it cost \$1,000 . . . It's really just 90 minutes about Divine getting in and out of cars . . . It's okay to see if you've seen all the others and

The writer-producer-director

Although Waters sounds normal, he resembles something you'd step on if it crawled out from under your sink.

just want to see how we started.

"I always feel I look like Don Knotts," he says. "I try to become more a caricature of myself as I get older." He doesn't go in for frequent changes of image, just tries to look "like a successful funeral parlor owner.'

He's been spending a lot of time in prison lately, but not for

'Bluefish Cove' Runs Deep,

Last Summer at Bluefish Cove, which opened April 1 at Theatre on the Square, is a play which

The play is essentially about Lil: How she falls in love as she is dying of cancer; and how she, her

new-found love, and her friends try to help each other pull through the experience. But it is about so much more. It is about death and rebirth, heterophobia, the hazards of the closet, and what it means to be Gay in the last quarter of the Twantieth Century. It is a beautiful play. Go see it.

The San Francisco production distinct, fully developed, and Falcon Crest — was hired to fluefish Cove was not true-to-life. I believed most — play the role of Lil. Maybe she

This production also marks

an attempt by producer Judy Miller to market the play for larger audiences. To this end, Susan Sullivan — the television

but not all - of them.

Opens Well in S.F.

Shortcomings on Opening Night

transcends its basic theme of Lesbian love and death.

Performance is True to Script; A Few



John Waters (l.) with Divine and Tab Hunter

the reasons you might expect. He recently went to Florida for a Baltimore paper to interview Arthur Goode, "a man who raped and murdered little boys." Goode had committed crimes in Maryland as well, but Florida won the toss.

Last year Waters taught a film course to prison inmates in Baltimore. "I'm into correction now," he explains. "The state of Maryland paid me to show murderers my films" (Talk about "cruel and unusual punish-ment!" It was his own idea, but "they (the state) were very sup-portive of the whole thing." The program included some of Waters' favorites he thought the prisoners would enjoy: Fat City, A Streetcar Named Desire and Wise Blood. All went over well, he reports, except Streetcar: "They thought it was corny."

After the movies the convicts would improvise, writing and acting out their own scenes. Waters laughs recalling their final project: "The biggest brute

play the role of Lil. Maybe she is not yet comfortable with the

role, but she never convinced me

Just as Sullivan didn't inhale

the smoke from the cigarettes she

smoked on stage - sure sign of

a nonsmoker — she never looked

(Continued on next page)

of her Lesbianism.

in the place played Santa Claus. Everybody sat in his lap and told him what they wanted. Oh, it's etched in my mind forever."

It's been four years since Polyester, but Waters finally has two film projects in the works. One is too far off to talk about - "It might be bad luck" and the other is "a joke on movie

sequels" called Flamingos Forever. He likens it to The Big Chill — a reunion movie showing what happened to the characters of Pink Flamingos ten years later. It will star Divine, Edith Massey and most of the rest of the original cast, plus some new Waters discoveries. It was ready to go this spring, Waters says, but "one of the backers pulled out, so maybe we'll do it this fall."

Perhaps it's the hassle of raising money, but he doesn't sound as eager to get to work as you might expect. For one thing, he says, "I don't think the world needs a new John Waters movie every year. One a year would be too many.

Divine, meanwhile, is suppos ed to be making a film called Lust in the Dust for Paul Bartel of Eating Raoul fame. "I talked to Paul this morning and he says it's on," Waters informs us. Tab Hunter, who made his comeback in Polyester, will be producing and co-starring. Other details are vague but Waters thinks Edith Mas Cesar Romero will be in the cast, and the rumored Gale Storm will

Waters tries to increase his budget with each new movie (Polyester) was the first to go into six figures). If he were given unlimited funds to work with he would have two modest ambitions, he says: "I'd buy 'Confederacy of Dunces' back from Johnny Carson Productions." He says the John Kennedy Toole book is the only thing he hasn't written himself that he'd like to make a movie of.

The other dream might be realized less expensively than he thinks: "I would hire all the stars I'd really love to work with -Anita Ekberg, Joey Heatherton, Pia Zadora, Benji - all the greats!" Or all the dogs.

Speaking of Waters' dubious taste, we thought it might be in-structive to ask the movie buff about his favorite recent films.

Two of the six he mentions have never played in San Francisco, and you're forgiven if you've missed some of the others: "Of Unknown Origin, a movie about a giant rat; Angel; The Moon in the Gutter, which was the Beyond the Valley of the Dolls of art films; Cujo; Fanny and Alexander . . .

But his very favorite, he says. is "a picture that just played for a week on 42nd Street. It was called Christmas Evil . . . about a man so obsessed with being Santa Claus that he spies on children and goes home and writes in a book about them. . . . He murders someone with the top of a Christmas tree

star . . . and the children protect him because they think he's Santa Claus. The original title was You Better Watch Out. which was better . . . It's one of those movies that only plays the week before Christmas, when nobody goes to the movies."

Although Baltimore is Waters' home, he says he lived in San Francisco "for a year and a half around 1970;" and like every Gay man he keeps up with what goes on here. He's heard a somewhat exaggerated report about our having outlawed smoking, but he's not very relieved to learn that it only applies in certain work situations. "How can you work without smoking?" he asks in horror.

The idea of closing the bath houses ("What's that going to do? You can fuck in the bushes, you can fuck anywhere.") is just another indication of how rapid ly the absurdity of life is making it difficult for him to find things to exaggerate to satiric or shock purpose in his films. "I'm not trying so much anymore to shock people, just to get them to laugh at everything that's

Anticipation of The City's other major event this year (besides the John Waters Film Festival) amuses the filmmaker: "The one thing you can be sure of when they have the convention in San Francisco, Mondale isn't gonna yell, 'Where's the

And so the Sultan of Sleaze returns to the yellow brick road which will lead him this week to San Francisco, but which we can be sure will never lead him to good taste.



the state of the s

Susan Sullivan (standing) plays Lil to Katherine Cortez's Eva in Last

Dykes Are Women, Too

by Bernard Spunberg

The words "Lesbian" and "dyke" were temporarily reduced to bleeps in an advertisement broadcast during the week of March 19 by San Francisco radio station KYUU for Jane Chambers' drama, Last Summer at Bluefish Cove. KYUU broadcasts romantic soft rock, but apparently had some doubts about an ad for a play dealing with Lesbian love. The offending sentences, quotations from the play, aired as follows:

"I couldn't just say that all the women in this cove are (bleep) because I don't have the right to make that kind of announcement for them."

"George always claimed that Women Libbers are a bunch of

"Some are. After all, (bleep)

Disc jocky Rick Shaw also had some doubts about the bleeps. He followed at least one airing of the ad with the comment, "Is there any reason why we can't say 'Lesbians' on the air? This was San Francisco, the last time I looked.

listenership shared Shaw's sentiments. Explaining that at no time did he suggest disgruntled listeners call the station, Shaw requests that he "not be given too much credit. I was just reactheless, KYUU did receive calls sion of the Bluefish Cove ad by March 22.

Karen Bunde of Dubin Bunde Associates, the Los Angeles advertising agency that created the spot, says she was aware that KYUU might have problems with the spot as written. To avoid risking the ad's being badly distorted by KYUU, Bunde created the bleeped version herself. Realizing, however, that minds can change, Bunde sent KYUU both the bleeped and unbleeped versions.

On what basis was the decision to broadcast bleeps instead of "Lesbians" and "dykes" made? How many calls protesting the bleeps did KYUU receive? Most important, has the incident had any effect on KYUU's fundamental policies? Shaw and two workers in KYUU's continuity department plead ignorance, and station manager John Hayes' secretary says, "Mr. Haves declines to be interviewed at the present time."

Judy Miller, producer of Bluefish Cove, did not know KYUU would broadcast bleeps until they were already on the

"But even if we had known Bleeps — and possibly a few what they were going to do," says go ahead. My associate, Jerry B. Wheeler, and I believe that the bleeps made a statement of their own. They reflect the homophobia pervasive in our culture and underline the value and ting to what I heard." Never- significance of Bluefish Cove as a play about love among memprotesting the bleeps and began bers of a minority whose very proadcasting an uncensored ver-name is subject to suppression.

## **Quips & Quotes**

... comments, bitchery and wisdom from the year gone by to enlighten or confuse the year ahead.

Woody Allen: "Instead of facing challenges we turn instead to distractions like drugs and sex. We live in too permissive a society. Never before has pornography been this rampant. And those films are lit so badly."

Gore Vidal: "You may speak of love, tenderness and passion, but real ecstacy is discovering you haven't lost your car keys.

How to college, a Stanford University primer on dating the sons of celebraties: "They are often Republicans, homosexual or Yankee fans.'

Anonymous at the Health Clinic: "There's no such thing as just a little VD."

### BLUEFISH COVE

like she was really enjoying touching her lover in their love scenes. It wasn't that she looked as though she found it distasteful, but that she had never experienced what comes next.
That shouldn't stop her from being convincing in her role, and
I hope she will become more comfortable with it as the production continues. Katherine Cortez as Eva, Lil's

lover, does a wonderful job in a pivotal role. Eva is anathema to all the things that the residents of Bluefish Cove hold sacred -

blossoming under Lil's tutelage are coming-out experiences everyone can relate to. Cortez makes them that way.

Four of the six other women in the play (Camilla Carr as Kitty, Nora Heflin as Annie, Lee Garlington as Rae, and Sarah Langenfeld as Donna) come from the production of Bluefish Cove that has run for two years in Los Angeles. As such, their performances are polished and comfortable. Joan Pringle as Rita is charming, if a bit overstated, and Winifred Mann as Sue would be adequate — if she would speak up a little. Many of her lines get lost between the stage and the rafters.

Generally, the acting was fast-

The role of Eva can make or break any production of Bluefish Cove, and Cortez approaches it with a sensitivity that makes Eva alive and real and totally believable.

paced - too fast. Many lines were lost, including one hilarious exchange between Lil and Annie starts out that way. Eva progresses from a confused runaway housewife to an independent wowhich, in its reading, makes for one of the funnier points in the man with job and travel plans. play. Several potentially confus-She is the legacy Lil left to the living, the rebirth of woman born of Lil's death. The role of ing transitions in the play were handled very well, and the lapses in time came across clear as a Eva can make or break any production of Bluefish Cove, and The set for Bluefish Cove is Cortez approaches it with a sensitivity that makes Eva alive and difficult to pull off because it rereal and totally believable. Her quires both interior and exterior settings with no change of experience at the hands of the scenery. Instead, the lighting dykes of Bluefish Cove, her feel-

Mt. View OLD MILL 6 CINEMA

SAN JOSE
Campbell PRUNEYARD CINEMA

Sunnyvale SUNNYVALE 6 CINEMA

Redwood City REDWOOD DRIVE-IN

signal a change of scene. The set in this production is well-built and pleasing to the eye - but more importantly, it works. I would have liked the exterior part of the set to have been larger sometimes you couldn't see the actors if they were sitting or lying on the beach — but overall the set was well-conceived and well-constructed. The lighting, all-important with this type of set, also worked well except for a slightly distracting ripple-type effect used to introduce the beach scenes that reminded me of those ballroom mirror things.

Last Summer at Bluefish Cove says something important to both Gay and straight audiences. As Jane Chambers wrote in 1981, "Life is not a crap shoot; it is what we who love each other do together, and that is, in itself, sufficient meaning." There is something in that statement we can all learn from.

D. Gregory

## Cortez Interviewed

Wednesday, April 11, from 4:30 to 6 PM on KPFA (FM 94 David Lamble will interview Katherine Cortez from Jane Chambers' Last Summer at Bluefish Cove, which has begun a limited run at Theatre on the Square in San Francisco. Listeners are invited to call in at (415) 848-4425.



after writing the play.) Each of the eight female characters was Sullivan — the television actress who plays Maggie on

of Bluefish Cove was not

without flaws on opening night,

but generally it did more than

justice to the script by the late

Jane Chambers. (Chambers,

ironically, was diagnosed with

the cancer she died of five years

Citrus Heights UA SUNRISE CINEMA

STOCKTON/MODESTO

Modesto VINTAGE FAIR

## **Cross-Dresser Denis Quilley** Comes Across on Gay Role

by Steve Warren

n enis Quilley has a lot to say about drag for a man who has only donned it for one role in his 40 years of professional acting; but the British look at things somewhat differently, and besides, that one role was rather a milestone for him. "Acting Capt. Terri Dennis" was the leading charater in Peter Nichols' Privates on Parade when Quilley played him for the Royal Shakespeare Company for a year (1977-78) in London, winning the Society of West End Theatres' award as Best Comedy Actor of the Year in the process. (A few years later they were to name him Best Musical Actor for Sweeney Todd.) He repeats the role - or what's left of it - in the film

Terri directs the odd (and in at least three cases including his own, queer) lot of soldiers in SADUSEA — Song And Dance Unit, South East Asia - who put the "sing" in Singapore in 1948. Because there's only one woman in the company - and because they love it! — the men frequently wear drag in their

The unit's military commander is Maj. Giles Flack, played in the movie by Monty Python's John Cleese. Because

too explicitly sexual - you can get away with more on the stage - and some that wouldn't have been understood (outside of England)." He admits that Cleese's popularity may have been a factor, but shrugs that off as a fact of show business life

In the film as in the play, musical numbers alternate with comic and dramatic scenes to develop a story with a partially tragic conclusion. An early sequence in the stage version brought out the human being in

The move to macho is understandably to change our image as victims, but have we gone too far?

"When I was a kid . . . the Gay scene was gentle . . . Now, it's all bulging T-shirts and Burt Revnolds moustaches ... it seems aggressive, violent, intimidating."

Cleese's name means more at the all-important American boxoffice, hardly a word of Maj. Flack's dialogue has been left out - in fact some has been added - while Capt. Dennis' part has been cut by about half. including numbers in which he played Noel Coward, Marlene Dietrich and Vera Lynn.

Perhaps as a consolation prize Quilley gets to visit four American cities in support of the movie's initial U.S. release -Miami, where it was shown in a festival; and New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco. where March theatrical engagements will determine whether Privates gets wider distribution.

Quilley defends most of the cuts that have been made: "The play was a bit long . . . They removed things that were either

Terri's constant camping. After changing out of his Dietrich drag he turned directly to the audience and related his romantic history, including the tale of his true love, a sailor who was killed in the war: "The next-of-kin were informed, his wife and his mother, but I had to hear it a long time after from someone off the same ship in a Gay bar."

That speech, which could have inspired some elements of Torch Song Trilogy, was in the English cut of the film but has been excised for the U.S. "That's the cut I most regret," Quilley says. "It showed a sensitive, lonely person." He's always tried to make audiences share the affection he and the playwright feel for the character, "certainly the nicest man in the play;" but American audiences may be



"It Takes a Fairy to Make Something Pretty," Denis Quilley puts the finishing touches on Joe Melia's drag as Simon Jones (standing) and David Bamber look on in Privates on Parade.

jarred when he suddenly reveals his warm side near the end.

While Quilley's portrayal may bring objections from that fascistic element in the Gay community that considers it politically incorrect to recall that Gay men ever did (let alone still do! dress in women's clothing or otherwise acknowledge the feminine side of their natures, most Gays in England praised it to the

"On opening night," he relates, "two old friends of mine, a well-established Gay couple, the most famous theatre historians in London, flung their arms around me . . . and another friend, a CHE member — that's the Council for Homosexual Equality in England — got up a party of 40 to come back and see it again."

The other Gays in SADUSEA are Charlie, a young nurse, and his lover Len, a middle-aged, super-butch sergeant whose every other word is "fuck." In a scene near the end Charlie tries to impose his lifestyle on Terri: "At your age you should be settling down." The whole speech is blatantly homophobic, but the worst line of it - "I don't think we should flaunt this cruel trick of nature" - has been cut from

Nichols based Privates on Parade on his own military experiences, according to Quilley in an entertainment unit which

included director John Schlesinger (Midnight Cowboy, Sunday Bloody Sunday). The inspiration for Terri was "a fading drag queen, Barry Chat," who joined up because he was running out of options.

Quilley says he turned down the role when it was first offered to him, "not because it was a Gav character — he was so well written that I empathized with

him - but because I had never done drag before, never attempted this type of impersonation that Danny La Rue and Stanley Baxter do so well." What sold him was when Michael Blakemore, who directed both stage and screen versions, pointed out that Terri was not exactly the best in the world at what he did

(Continued on page 31)

## **Privates on Parade**

by Steve Warren

rivates on Parade is a music hall revue that incorporates comic, dramatic and musical turns into a drag show with a plot. It's Streamers played for laughs and South Pacific with a British accent. And being all that, it could hardly have been very good.

In Singapore in 1948 we meet Song And Dance Unit, South East Asia, known by the Biblical sounding acronym SADUSEA. They're the troops who entertain the troops. Because only one of them is a woman, roles aren't assigned on the basis of sex or sexual preference; but we know why the director, Capt. Terry Dennis, gives himself the best parts - Carmen Miranda, the middle

Referring to all men by feminine names and pronouns, Terri runs afoul of the new commanding officer, Major Giles Flack (John Cleese), with his epithet, "Jessica Christ." The major is a pious man, which of course means racist and militaristic.

A new member of the unit, after being issued his tap shoes and eye shadow, naively tells Terri, "I'm going to be attached to your section." "Sounds heavenly," the captain swoons. Such doubleentendre "passes for wit among people of (Terri's) persuasion," the major is informed. "Theatricals?" he asks, and is told, "A certain type of theatricals'

Two men in SADUSEA are known to be lovers, Len (Joe Melia) and Charles (David Bamber). Another, Eric Young-Love (Simon Jones), appears to be Gay but insists, "There's nothing camp about me. I'm not a homosexual." "Don't worry, sweetie," Terri assures him. "It doesn't show from out front."

With all the fun of Denis Quilley's performance as Terri, a character that ranks with Emory of The Boys in the Band and Arnold of Torch Song Trilogy, it's too bad Peter Nichols felt comed to carry over the serious plot into what is basically a condensation of his stage play. The murky business about smuggling guns to both sides was confusing enough on stage when there was time for explanations. Now it makes no sense at all; but when a large audience is laughing at the funny parts it hardly seems to

Quilley makes a charming graduate of the Liberace School of Butch Behavior, and Cleese does a satisfying variation of the British officer he's played many times on "Monty Python's Flying Circus." One can imagine Maj. Flack in retirement, spending his days writing letters of complaint to the BBC.

In adapting his play for the screen Nichols had de-Britishized it enough that Americans won't need subtitles and left his Gay characters sympathetic if a shade less human; but he's taken out some good jokes and some good drag numbers and weakened the play's anti-war message.

Original stage director Michael Blakemore shows an excellent visual sense in his first feature film and has fun mixing black-andwhite sequences with color. His pacing's less than perfect, but that could be the fault of editing that was imposed on

Both meanings of the title are inaccurate. Everyone in SADUSEA is given at least temporary rank to assure them better facilities on the raod; and nudity is carefully avoided, even in a

I've seen Privates on Parade with and without an audience, and a laughing crowd covers most of its flaws.

#### REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

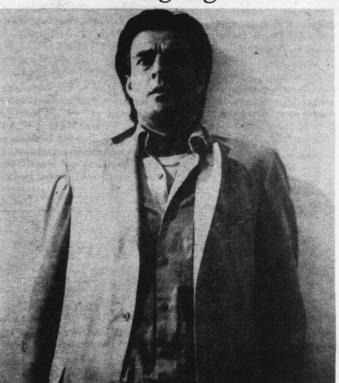
## Film Fest

The 27th San Francisco International Film Festival will screen more than 100 films from April 11 to 24, with almost half of them being shown at the Castro Theatre. The Ghirardelli Cinema, Pacific Film Archives (Berkeley) and the War Memorial Opera House are other venues in what promises to be the best

The Bay Area Reporter will offer, this week and next, reviews and highlights of many of the films that were previewed for film critics. When a film has been picked up for theatrical distribution (for regular theater showings at a later date), it will be so noted

Likely sell-outs are expected for The Fourth Man, Clementine Tango, La Belle Captive, The Wild Duck, The Terence Davies Trilogy, A Night at the Movies '41, and Stop Making Sense. In addition, Festival Tributes are always brisk ticket-sellers. This year they include Ginger Rogers, Gena Rowlands and John Cassavetes, Burgess Meredith, and cinematographer Gabriel

## S.F. International Film **Festival Highlights**



Jeroen Krabbe plays a Dutch homosexual in The Fourth Man shown dur-

## The Fourth Man

A slightly alcoholic Dutch homosexual writer meets an alluring, seductive woman while on a speaking engagement. He goes home with her, and because he sees her body as somewhat boyish, is able to have successful sex with her.

But he is obsessed with strange premonitions and even stranger wrapped-in-symbolism dreams, mostly centered around

He is broke, so is only too delighted to move in with the rich woman. Besides, she has a hot boyfriend who he happened to cruise in the railway station on the way to the speaking engagement. Staying with her and play-

ing mind games is his clever way of getting his chance with the guy, another fortune seeker. Alas, those bloody symbols keep getting in the way.

With natural nudity and a barrage of visual, stylized stream-of-consciousness, Paul Verhoeven's The Fourth Man is a readily engrossing spider web of intrigue. The symbolism is purposely heavy-handed, but the film's brilliant pacing and well-conceived imagery make it quite entertaining. The homosexuality is handled with natural grace and offers a couple of erotic scenes, one with, of all things, a crucifix, and another in, of all places, a mausoleum.

The Fourth Man has been picked up for theatrical distri-

(April 12, 7PM, M. Lasky Castro Theatre)

## The Wild Duck

Most filmmakers have not had too much luck bringing Henrik Ibsen's plays to the big screen. Extreme underplaying and subtlety are required if his larger-than-life dramas are to be considered credible. This Australian production boasts such heavyweights as Liv Ullmann and Jeremy Irons but, alas, that is not enough to save it from its lumbering, overmanned direc-

Sabotaged by an abrasively maudlin soundtrack, somewhat

surprisingly self-conscious performances and embarrassingly unprofessional photography (numerous times we see camera equipment and the microphone bobbing in the periphery), The Wild Duck comes across more like a wild turkey.

Ibsen's theme of human blindness both physically and metaphorically seems more obvious than suggested in this ver-sion directed limply by Henri Safran. Yet we don't get too many chances to see this classic with this type of cast, so for the curious and the aficionado it still is of interest.

(April 15, 9:30 PM M. Lasky Castro Theatre

Characters don't have much to say, but have much on their minds, in Le Bal.

### Le Bal

Shut Up and Dance

That's exactly what everyone in Le Bal does as the film traces close to 50 years of French history by following the nabitues of an art deco ballroom from 1936 to the present.

There is not one word uttered i Ettore Scola's internationally acclaim ed Academy Award nominee for Best Foreign Film. Instead we are treated to a comedy-drama with music and dance based on a successful theatrical venture. Following various characters through eight periods, a universal com munication that says more than more could ever do takes over.

through an ingratiating soundtrack of music from each period and through the many splendid actors in multiple parts. Because there is no dialogue, th actors must rely on their faces and podies to convey what they are thinking. It is to their credit that they make us forget they haven't actually said anything. It is to the director's credit that the film moves so fluidly and entertainingly.

The temper of the times is captured

From 1936's popular front to the War in 1940 to the 1942 Occupation to 1944 iberation and the entry of Americans a year later to the Algerian War and rock and roll in '56 and revolution in 1968, we finally arrive at 1983 carefully called "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." Throughout this we hear more than 50 songs featuring such artists as

One Night Stands by Michael Benzry

Friday-Saturday, April 6-7: (Red Victorian) Myra Breckenridge. Gore Vidal's essay on masculinity in America is turned into a fascinating piece of garbage featuring Mae West, John

Maurice Chevalier, Edith Piaf, The Beatles, The Platters, and Duke Ellington.

Le Bal is a human comedy filled with emotion, charm, tenderness and above all, wisdom. It deservedly wor the Cesar (the French Oscar) for Bes Picture, Best Director, and Best Music

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

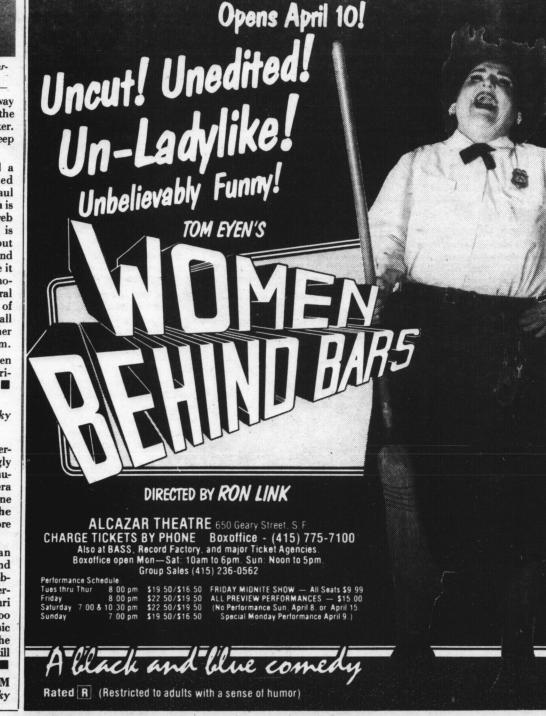
Friday, April 6: (UC Theatre) Pansex uals. David Bowie is an alien with a Gay manager in The Man Who Fell o Earth. Mick Jagger is the pansexial manager of a mobster in Per

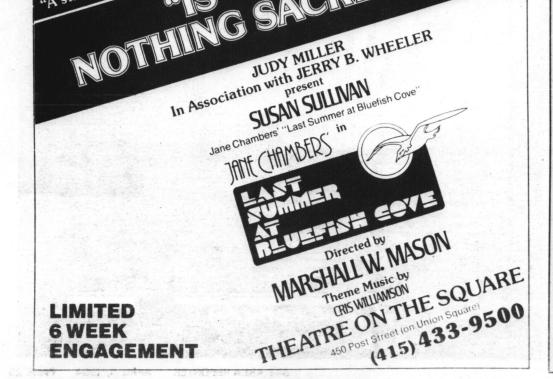
Huston, Raquel Welch, and Rex Reed. Saturday, April 7: (York) Women in married couples includes the guys wrestling nude for Oliver Reed and

(Glenda Jackson) involved with a Gay Tuesday, April 10: (UC Theatre) Jean Cocteau's Blood of a Poet is perfect for surrealists. With Richter's Dreams That Money Can Buy and Vigo's Zero

Alan Bates fans, and one of the wives

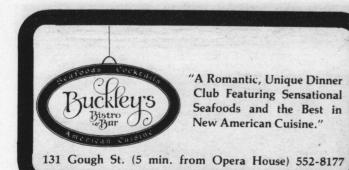
Wednesday, April II: (Strand) Pasolini's sensitive and human The Gospel According to St. Matthew with the





NOTHING SACRED?

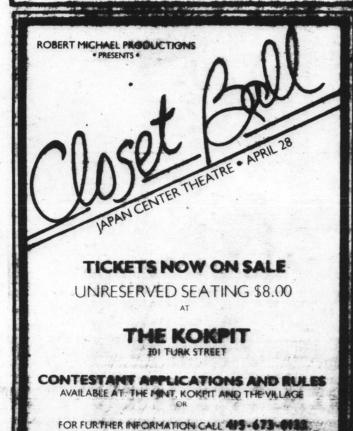
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#### STAGE

## **Catholic School**

by Bernard Spunberg

Bottled-up emotions explode in The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium currently onstage at the Magic Theatre. Playwright Lucy Lewis writes of relationships among nuns at a Catholoic girls' boarding school with sympathy, but she identifies most strongly with the sutdents. Monika Gurney and Maud Winchester play roommates thrown together in the hope that exposure to Winchester's charm and poise will transform Gurney's awkward homeliness.

A Lesbian subtext surfaces when Winchester falls in love with Gurney, much to the nuns hypocritical dismay. Gurney and Winchester capture the volatile, quicksilver quality of young women discovering passion and conflict greater than they had believed possible. Playwright Lewis has created a relationship straddling the abyss between adolescence and maturity. Her dialogue constantly shifts from childish trivia to emotional truth as the girls struggle to come to grips with their powerful but

ephemeral feelings.

In contrast to the two principal characters, the two nuns are written from the outside in rather than the inside out. Playwright Lewis outlines the mechanics of their conflict and guilt over sex and religion, but the inner workings of their hearts remain mysterious. Sandra Cannon and Tracy Lee offer imaginative, deeply-felt portrayals. The sensitivity of their characterizations underscores the irony of age and supposed maturity which bring self-knowledge and self-acceptance no greater than that of youth.

Darting in and out of the main action, Maureen McVerry plays a girl destined to be a saint, a whore, or an asylum inmate—we're not quite sure which. Mute throughout, McVerry's huge eyes suggest a caged animal alternately terrified and resigned.

Gerald E. Ambinder projects

no such subtlety in the role of a student's sleazy guardian. Ambinder indulges his addiction to out-of-bounds females by kissing

The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium

Magic Theatre
Through April 29; 441-8822

a student and a nun and the

tries to blackmail the head nun

Ambinder does nothing with his

juicy role. Instead of playing a

slimy, smooth-talking exploiter

of the weak and lonely, Am-

binder simply walks through his

Director Simon L. Levy must

share the blame for Ambinder's

ineptitude and for the play's

slightly excessive length. He may

creating a vocabulary and

rhythm of movement that con-

veys a nasty little network of

dominant and passive relation-

Though The Sister Joseph

Memorial Gymnasium would

benefit from cutting, the work

achieves success by staying

within modest parameters. Play-

wright Lewis avoids weighty

statements about the nature of

Catholicism. She passes no judg-

ments. She attempts no stylistic fireworks. With admirable inten-

sity and sincerity of purpose, she

restricts herself to sympathetic

but truthful examination of

character and relationship.

also, however, take credit for



Maud Winchester (r.) and Monika Gurney in The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium

## Reality's Merry 'Dead Emd'

by John F. Kar

As musicals go, The Bead End Kid is nearly the best of all possible worlds. It's as fresh as a show can be, an attribute that can rarely be applied to the New York brand of "Let's Add Songs to an Old Movie" musical. Dead End Kid combines old-fashioned musical comedy technique and zest with contemporary sensibility, a pinch of Pirandello and a lot of snappily creative tunes to keep the show percolating along in merry and surprising fashion. It's like seeing Bye Bye Birdie or Boy Meets Boy for the first time — this is no rerun, no conventional show, but a happy whisk into that Never Never Land of unreality set to music that only the best, and most original, musical comedies

Originally a series of low-budget films, the antice of the New York street gate made new fans when syndioated to television in the 1950's. One such fan is the here of the current musical. In his schizophronic factors, flapses believes behinds he here the Goods, Repair Lee Goods, Re's control to the character to

out of the TV showing their reruns to join Lee/Reyan in a song,
dance and a hilarious — a pro-

Likewise the cast, with the Boys themselves standouts. Dan Hiatt's body can do anything, Stephen Sloane is a quick whippersnapper and Grant Machan an attractive foil. Priscilla Alden is way beyond Divine as Bryan's

Whenever the show starts settling down, some plot twist or other gives the ball a kick and we're off again.

gether. Whenever the show starts settling down, some plot twist or other gives the bell a kick and we're off again, as the Dead End Kids (visible only to Bryan/Leo) spar with punk rockers, politicos, and that arch-rival of all time. Reality

estions of identity

posed by Pirandello, and the

silly conventions of musical com-

edy are here bouncily balled to-

Direction by Simon L. Levy is a Gower Champion conflagration of creativity, and the masic (Steve Sigal and Andy Kathens) and lyrice (Sigat) are dealed, snappy. A fit of pullly about a set off a master/damping had before leading to a contamparatel section finding the contamparatel section finding the contamparatel "mother," and Tina Sigel as a punker is too-too. Steve Cotten's Bryan/Leo could be better delineated, but with such a contusion of characters, comedy and song whirling around him, it doesn't much matter.

No wonder the show has won or is nominated under energy category known to Mr. Weiner's "Bernies," the Bay Ares Critics Circle and the Drama League Awards. It's a hit, and it's hombald, over nearly indefinitely.

to their to

## FROM FIFTH POSITION

## The Importance of Imports

KEITH WHITE

company as self-congratulatory as the San Francisco A Ballet does not heavily promote a program on which the major works are all imports. Last week's Program IV was just such an evening, marking the local premiere of George Balanchine's early masterpiece The Prodigal Son, along with the return of his Chaconne, one of last season's great successes. Also back for a second look was Jiri Kylian's Forgotten Land, choreographed for the Stuttgart Ballet in 1981 and first danced by SFB in early 1983.

by SFB in early 1983.

Amid such grand-scale works, Lew Christensen's Airs de Ballet is no more than a pleasant divertissement; a pas de trois interrupted by a pas de deux. In the first cast, Gina Ness and Alexander Topciy had unity that lacked poetry. Individually, Ness showed a precise allegro; Topciy gave us high elevation. The greater charm of the work was in its pas de trois, with Catherine Batcheller and Eda Holmes the twin partners of the very handsome Keith Schaeffer, in his first leading role.

Chaconne is the most recent Balanchine ballet to be approved for performance by companies other than the New York City Ballet, as Prodigal Son is the oldest. No two ballets could be more dissimilar. Prodigal Son, a dance drama, retells the Biblical story to a great twentieth century ballet score (Prokofiev) commissioned for the choreographer during the latter days of Diaghilev's Ballet Russe. Chaconne uses ballet music

pure dance ballet in classic style. In Chaconne's Olympic-scaled ballerina and danseur roles, Victoria Morgan and Jim Sohn were exceedingly elegant; Wendy Van Dyck and Nigel Courtney were charming in the second pas de deux, despite a few technical problems.

Prodigal Son was set on SFB (rather hurriedly, I understand) by John Taras, a current ballet

from Gluck's opera Orphee et

Euridice and is a themeless

master of the New York City Ballet. Despite the challenges inherent in doing a ballet so dramatic, so old and wellknown, it looked good at both performances I saw. We should be very grateful to have Kirk Peterson's powerful rendering of the Son, a role he has reportedly performed with two other companies prior to dancing it here. With Peterson, Tracy-Kai Maier is a natural for the role of the Siren, and she danced it with a relish that seemed evil indeed. The other cast was interesting in the promise it showed. Ricardo Bustamante, an extremely beautiful but quite classicallyoriented dancer, did not fully develop the character of the Son. He appeared more willful than youthful and impatient, diffident with his new-found drinking buddies and almost bashful in the presence of the Siren. Victoria Morgan had difficulties with the long cape worn by the Siren, and she seemed to approach the role with too much care and too little dramatic

As wide a stylistic margin as



Seduction of the Innocent. Victoria Morgan (The Siren) corrupts The Prodigal Son (Ricardo Bustamante).

seated in the theater makes a dif-

ference in the experience it

evokes; casting makes a differ-

ence. Most impressive this sea-

son were Paul Russell and Nata-

lie Kohn in the tender, amusing

fourth duet, and Lauri Cowden

they cover, Balanchine's ballets are not so universally popular as one might imagine. What they always seem to do is stimulate growth in the dancers, while revealing strengths and weaknesses that are hidden in the works of other choreographers. Balanchine's Four Temperaments, coming later in the season, contains two of the best roles for male dancers in the entire Balanchine repertory. It will be interesting to see the degree to which the SFB men will excel in them

Kylian's Forgotten Land springs from such a seemingly spontaneous movement impulse that we hardly recognize dancers we know well. In Kylian's work they become what Arlene Croce has called a "welded ensemble," taking on the European modern ballet chic of the genre. Notwithstanding a brief metaphysical program note, the forceful

grandeur of the Benjamin Britten Sinfonia da Requiem is the guiding inspiration for the work. Music and movement occur in long, startling phrases; the partnering is unusual and spectacular. This terrain takes on seasonal differences: where one is

Highly-publicized modern dancer Molissa Fenley appears with her company next Thursday, April 12, at 8:30. The New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th Street at Shotwell. For information phone 863-9830.

## More Quips & Quotes

Armistead Maupin: "Real Beautiful People read books about other BP's only in the privacy of their toilets... If you're truly serious about blending in at the Sonoma Mission Inn... don't get caught with a copy of The Annenberg Leg-

acy, Edie or Little Gloria — Happy at Last. Face it, darling: You should know that dish already."

Maitre D' at the "21": "You can do almost anything to people except inconvenience them."

Woolly

#### STAGE

## GAYnor Pride Week with Glitzy Mitzi

by Steve Warren

itzi Gaynor fills a theatre with an infectious ease that spreads faster than AIDS. If she's not having the time of her life on stage she's a better actress than anyone ever gave her credit for being (and might even have earned the Academy Award nomination she lays false claim

She effects the persona of a simple country girl who tries to be demure but can't quite contain her frivolous side. Then she pokes fun at that by pretending to be a sexpot while letting us know her 30th anniversary is approaching and this is all a front.

At one point in the Act I finale Mitzi preens and poses while her chorus boys lie on their backs and kick their legs in the air (one leg at a time — this is a family show). The last time I saw her, seven years ago, the show was full of these star-saving devices and I thought her dancing days were numbered.

Well, 1977 must have just been a down year for her, because she's back at peak energy. The chorus only has to carry the show while the star's changing from one Bob Mackie creation to another. When she's onstage, she's the hardest-working person there.

Speaking of Mackie, who claims Mitzi as his first celebrity client, he still does well by her. Whether her appearance is the result of makeup, surgery, personal fitness, or a pact with the devil, Mackie packages her well. The first half is all black and

white deco decadence until a touch of yellow turns up in the minstrel number. The second half exhausts the rainbow.

Yes, I said minstrel number. (No blackface, thank God.) There are just so many gimmicks you can use in a show like this, and all of them are hokey. The best you can hope for is that the assembled talent will be able to make it work, and in this case they do — splendidly.

Most of the songs were written before Mitzi, let alone you or I, was born, with a few modern exceptions such as "Abracadabra," "Mr. Roboto" and "Can't Smile Without You." She jokes about the awful songs written for her by the likes of Arlen and Berlin, but goes on to sing some of their better ones. She also jokes about the "gaw-jus" Gay Beverly Hills doctor Michelle Lee referred her to.

The nine-man chorus is attractive, but not enough to divert attention — even mine — from the star. They dance better than the last group I saw her with, or maybe just have better choreography — by Thommie Walsh, assisted by Baayork Lee.

Mitzi Gaynor is the definition of "cute." She talks a lot, but leaves you remembering the music. She's a lot further than I thought from being good "for her age." She's still good, period.

The Mitzi Gaynor Show Golden Gate Theatre Through April 15; 775-8800

# The Inter-Club Fund Of San Francisco PRESENTS



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# Gay Variety Show Debuts on Cable Channel 6

Half-Hour Weekly 'Video Magazine' Is Off and Airing

by Brian Jones

Ready or not — and in some ways, it's not — Gay television is rolling, again, in San Francisco. Couldn't Be More Graphic Studio debuted its "Video Magazine" last week on Viacom Cable Channel 6, and will be airing it weekly at least through the Spring.

The half-hour variety-format program will be aired at 11 p.m. esdays through this month, according to producer Tom

Last week's debut came after nearly a year's efforts by two companies to get Gay programming back on local television. Viacom signed a contract with

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wave

1716 CLAY at POLK 1414 CASTRO at 25th 2416 CLEMENT at 25th

hoto by Jim Wigle

Walter Rowen Associates to produce a program in June 1983, but the idea never got into

In the Fall, Couldn't Be More Graphic — a video production shop and ad agency at 520 Castro Street — took to the streets with its minicams and began shooting tape for what it hoped would become a local Gay

Almost until air time last week, it was unclear when the show would debut. In late February, Producer Rosso had received a letter from Viacom giving the impression it could be at least six months before the show would be broadcast.

But at 11:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, the tape rolled and Couldn't Be More Graphic was on the air.

The first show demonstrated that the variety format is an ambitious undertaking, one that can gobble up lots of videotape - and camera time, and community events — to simmer down into even a 30-minute program. Thirty minutes might not

seem long, but on television, it's forever and a half. Making it not seem like forever and a half is the trick. So far, the Graphic crew has had some trouble doing that

trick very well.

to Gay issues.

The premiere show led with

an interview of Sylvester, an in-terview done before his big retro-

spective in early February. That

was two months ago, so some of the segment was dated. A "Point

of View" editorial-type segment followed, and presidential can-didate John B. Anderson talked

about the Gay Vote. Here, per-

haps, is some of the biggest promise of a Gay TV show: Put-

ting notables on the air, and on

the spot, to commit themselves

A lengthy interview with

Supervisor Harry Britt was next.

Here, the lack of editing - the

too-lengthy monologues about

the need for voter registration

and the importance Harvey

Milk played in the Gay com-

munity (Trite! Boring!) -

showed itself. Perhaps the big-

gest challenge was simply filling all that time — and Britt's talk-

ing head was the most conve-

"Pacific Heights" - "the show too rich for network television" — promises to be the high-point of the show. It's a mostly Gay soap. The premiere only introduced us to the cast of characters, so we will have to visit again later to discuss the plot. But it looks interesting.

Technically, there are two roblems. The editing is choppy; t's weird to see Sylvester pointing left, talking, and then in the next instant — jerk! — pointing right. And the cinematography (videotography?) is dizzying at times, especially during the tootoo-many pans and sweeps at the beginning of "Pacific Heights."

All these rough edges will likely be polished in coming shows. however. And if the opening show was thin on material, i may be because the Graphic crew is husbanding some good items for coming weeks, as the

It is a lively show, and an ambitious project. It deserves to be watched. Don't take my word for it; tune in for yourself next Wednesday at 11 and decide.

can hear tunes sweeping, tender, and witty in technicolor orches-

trations. Contrasting textures

dominate and recede, creating a

constantly shifting dialogue. And for all its surface brilliance,

the work conveys spiritual con-tent, a sense of exhilaration in

full and complete expression of

the composer's personal vision.

Is my description unforgivably subjective? Probably. But Car-

ter's Symphony of Three Or-

chestras sustains my interest for

every moment of its fifteen-

minute duration. I am simulta-

Who can comment in depth

on the quality of a rendition of

an unfamiliar piece in an origi-

nal, highly-convoluted idiom?

Not me. It's possible de Waart

and the Symphony played lots of wrong notes I didn't notice. But

I doubt it. Its performance, ad-

mirable in view of its subscrib-

ers' consistent hostility towards

contemporary music, freed me to

concentrate on the Symphony's

content rather than its difficulty.

Their magic is that they can say so much by saying so little.

Fountain": "You can pin and

mount me like a butterfly/But

take me to the haven of your

bed/Was something that you

never said" or "I could have

been wild and I could have been

free/But nature played this trick

on me" or "But I don't want a

lover/I just want to be tied to the

back of your car." There's eerie

poetry in this guy's mind, and he

neously dazzled and moved.

#### MUSIC

## **Gripping Concerto**

by Bernard Spunberg

rama of cosmic proportions gripped me by the balls when Isaac Stern played the Brahms Violin Concerto with Edo de Waart and the San Francisco Symphony at Davies Hall March 30. Stern's personality dominated the performance from the start of the work's long orchestral introduction. Psyching himself up like an athlete, his face grew redder with each measure, and his first notes were like sledgehammer blows. But grandeur is only one aspect of Brahms' mammoth work. Poetry, mystery, and virile high spirits each demand expression, and Stern's large spirit allied to his technical mastery encompassed them all. His white-hot concentration achieved a unity, a consistent intensity of expression that galvanized de Waart

and the Symphony. The other

musicians rose to Stern's mighty

challenge with a performance of

breadth and fire De Waart's performance of

J.C. Bach's gallant Symphony in E for Two Orchestras was graceful - but that's all. De Waart's recordings of music in this style bubble with irresistible rhythmic energy lacking in this pleasant but blah run-through.

Definitely unblah was de Waart's San Francisco premiere of Elliott Carter's Symphony of Three Orchestras, inspired in part by Hart Crane's poem, The Bridge. Yes, "chill from his rippling rest the seagull's wings" can be heard, but acceptance as a repertory staple requires that the Symphony communicate with audiences unfamiliar with Crane's poem, as well as literati willing to study it. Well, I haven't studied the poem, and I find Carter's piece does communicate - magnificently. Listeners willing to forego a tonal center

The Smiths Create Myths

by Peter Keane

emember the '60's? Rock music was a significant social force, as potent a tool for change as any that existed in that decade. While the strength of rock music has been diluted somewhat since then, there are still musicians who see and utilize that potential beyond the

The Smiths are such musi-

Lead singer/lyricist Morrissey (no first name given) says of the group's crusade, "Popular music seems to affect most everyone, and I think something very substantial can come from it. Its potential is so great! It can virtually change the entire universe." Close your eyes and you'll swear it's 1968.

This piety is not a bad thing, though. A magnificent obsession it may be, but the Smiths are one magnificent band. They can put their money where their mouths are. And judging by their ambiguous, often homoerotic lyrics, their mouths have been in some pretty . . . interesting places.

This quartet hails from England and has garnered the sort of praise usually reserved for transcendent experiences and divine visitations. (To say the British rock press is frequent and indiscriminate with its praise is being polite.) The Smiths have

yet to prove themselves to the American public — their subtle, Velvet Underground-inspired music, coupled with lyrics of sophisticated passion, are not what we've been MTV'ed to death with. Sex, too - Morrissey has lots to say about sex, and love, and power, and loss, and . . . well, significant things.

(Continued on page 31)

The Smiths

# SPORTS & FITNESS

## G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

## Kokpit Upends Trax in League Opener

Paced by Rod Bradford's booming home run, the Kokpit defeated Trax, 12-3, in the firstever night game in Gay Softball

A crowd of 500 was treated to Grady Clark's rendition of the National Anthem and cheered heartily as Senator Milton Marks and Pat Norman threw out the traditional "first ball."

The biggest winner of the evening was the AIDS Foundation, which will receive \$500 from money collected during the game by the Village Softball Team. Many thanks to friends, fans, and league members for your generosity.

In other league action, the defending champions, Pendulum Pirates, opened with an impressive 21-5 win over Rawhide

Surprising Response

Gay Gridiron

To date, he has heard from ap-

proximately 40 people ranging

from "one guy who has never played football, never thrown a

ball and wants to learn" to "an

amateur soccer player who tried

to organize one (team/league)

himself." Calls have come from

up and down the peninsula, San

Jose, Oakland, and "as far away

Stapleton laughed as he

related that "some guys thought

as Pittsburg."

by Paul Trefzger

II. Chris Jensen and Tommy Lee paced the Pirates to victory in this one. Also, nice recruiting job, Art Jackson!

The Vagabond returned to the league and gave top contender Moby Dick a good battle before falling, 11-7. Pat Conlon's Pilsner Inn Penguins unloaded early and often in downing the Ramrod Rookies, 35-5. Skip Anderson's powerful Ambush showed little mercy as Cafe Sn. Marcos fell, 29-0. Newcomer Chaps outslugged the DeLuxe in a wild one, 13-11. Chaps got off to a big early lead and then held off the DeLuxe onslaught. In the best-played game of the day, The Village scored two runs in the 7th inning to eke out a 4-3 win over Googie's. Bob Smith was the winning pitcher, but Rennis



Michael Strickland of Chaps at bat during the Chaps vs. DeLuxe softball

Gay Jocks Are Up For

New Football League

Dozens of Players Swell Ranks of

Steve Stapleton is proud to announce that as a result of the

article in the Bay Area Reporter (3/22/84) he continues to

receive a large and steady response from prospective foot-

ball players. So great, in fact, has been the interest, that he

has scheduled a special "get acquainted" game for 11 AM Sunday, April 8, at Douglass Park, located at Douglass and

that we were more organized

than we are and asked when they

could 'register' and when our

meetings were. I said, 'Meetings

are no fun.' Of course we will be

having meetings, but the em-

phasis is on fun and football. I

want to make it clear that I get

off on the idea of getting people

together outside for a good time,

rather than to find the biggest

to get people out there who never

even imagined themselves as

baddest, meanest player. I'd like

Tony Candelaria of Chaps slides into third base during the Chaps vs. DeLuxe Gay Softball League game last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

Monday night, April 9, at 5 p.m., the Village Softball Team is having an Academy Awards Party to benefit the team. Stop by and enter the contest with a chance to win \$100 and several other prizes.

Week #2 finds the GSL at Balboa Park at Ocean and San Jose Avenues.

10:00 a.m. - DeLuxe vs. Pilsner Inn

11:45 a.m. - Rawhide/Moby Dick and Googie's/Vagabond 1:30 p.m. - Phone Booth/ Chaps and Kokpit/Ramrod 3:15 p.m. - Ambush/Pendu lum and Trax/Village

STAND	INGS	
Chaps		1-0
Moby Dick		1-0
Ambush		1-0
Pendulum		1-0
Phone Booth		0-0
DeLuxe		0-1
Rawhide II		0-1
Kokpit		1-0
Pilsner Inn		1-0
Village		1-0
Googie's		0-1
Trax		0-1
Cafe Sn. Marcos		0-1
Ramrod Rookies		0-1

playing." Teams will likely be chosen by letting players line up and then using the odd/even selection method. The game will probably be "one or two handkerchief" (meaning that the defensive team removes the ball carrier's exposed handkerchief(s) to stop the play) rather than "light

Stapleton definitely would like to see spectators there too.

boyfriend on to a touchdown.' He added that the Valley Girl cheerleaders (male) will also be there and are also recruiting.



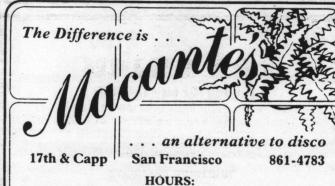
Steve Stapleton (Photo: Rink)

# **BOWLING TOURNAMENT**

Price includes Air 3 days Sheraton Hotel and Transfers. For info

## Marvin Lewis Shipley

In San Francisco on March 25, 1984; Lover of Weldon Washburn; Dearest son of Carmelita Shipley; Beloved brother of Elaine Fredianelli. Mr. Shipley was a member and Past Officer of the San Francisco Frontrunners. Friends are invited to attend a Memorial Service, 2 p.m., April 7, at the Pride Foundation Chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to your favorite charity.



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SUN. APRIL 8TH 8:00 PM.

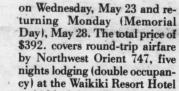
HRS. 8pm-2am TUE.-FRI. 6am - 2am SAT. - SUN.

BAY: AREA REPORTER: HAPRIL 5, 1984 - PAGE 27

## **GSL Goes Hawaiian**

by Chuck Smith

So successful was last year's Honolulu trip that the GSL will again be represented in a softball challenge with the Hamburger Mary's "Mary's Meats" team. Like last year, the Phone Booth Operators team has obtained an attractive package deal, and it is open to any individual or team that wishes to join us. (Last year, we actually had 40 people with five GSL teams represented!)



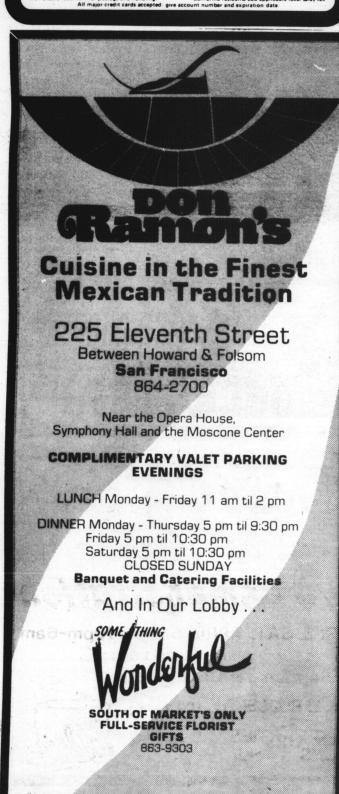
- ½ block from Waikiki Beach - and transportation to and from both airports. While there, several special events in addition to softball have been planned by Hamburger Mary's which will make this a very enjoyable trip. Deadline for payment is April 16, and you may call me at 621-3788 to make reservations or obtain additional information.



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### SCOREBOARD

#### JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES TEAM STANDINGS

SUNDAY RENO L	EAG	UE		TUESDAY LEA	GUE		15. Station Masters	14	26
Week 18 of 24 - as of	3/25	(84)		(Week 28 of 34 - as of	3/20/	(84)	16. Gutter Girls	12	28
							17. Jugs Liquors	8	32
King & Her Queens	20	4	The state of the s	. Ethel	32	12	18. PAFA	8	32
Battery Point	13	11	47-13 773	. Half & Half-C of C	32	12	THIDEDAY		
Fish and Dicks	13	11		. Ezy Pick-Ups (1st)	30	14	THURSDAY LEA		
All Stars	91/	2 141/2		. The Extremes	29	15	(Week 27 of 32 - as of	3/22/	(84)
Japantown Bombers	9	15	5	. Late Night Rollers	261/2	171/2	1. Pendulum	34	10
Number 4	71/	2 161/2	6.	. The Misfits	261/2		2. Vagabond Tramps	32	12
			7.	. Doris Daze	26	18	3. Chief (3rd)	31	13
7			8.	. Deadwood	26	18	4. Spare Parts		151/2
MONDAY LEAC			9.	. The 5 Pickups	22	22	5. Pilsner Kingpins	28	16
Week 20 of 28 - as of	3/19/	(84)	10.	Ruthless	19	25	6. Twin Peaks #2	24	20
			11.	Charlie's Angels	17	27	7. Transfer #1	22	22
Play With It, Ltd.	19	5	12.	Pinheads	17	27	8. Ball-Busters		DEPARTMENT OF THE PARTMENT OF
Porky's (1st)	17	7	13.	One Plus Four	17	27	9. Gold Room	21 1/2	221/2
Number 16 (2nd)	15	9	14.	Ouick & Easy	17	27	10. Answer (1st)		23
Village Sluts	15	9		R and P	17	23	11. Pendulum III	20	24
Knotters	14	10	16.	Univ MD All-Stars	14	26		20	24
Bad Boys	14	10		Team 12	14	30	12. Twin Peaks #1 (2nd)	3103 50 139 1	27
PJ and the Bears	13	11		Team 13	6	38	13. Perfect Job	17	27
Ramrod	13	11 .	10.				14. Alleycats	16	. 28
Easy Pickups	13	11		WEDNESDAY LE			15. Pendulum #1	14	30
22nd St. Gang (4th)	13	11		Week 25 of 30 - as of	3/21/	84)	16. Number 15	0	44
Vagabond Tramps	13	7	1	High Gear	30	10	FRIDAY LEAG	IIE.	
Dynasty (3rd)	12	12		Chiquita's Bananas	29	11	(Week 15 of 22 - as of		84)
Rick's Gold Room	12	12		Golden Gate MCC	29	11		0, 20,	OI,
Phoenix Phirebirds	12	12	1.00	Stud City	27	13	1. Team 08	341/2	251/2
Phoenix Phantoms	12	12		Brunswick Beauties	27	13	2. Team 04	321/2	271/2
Harlepins	11	13		Image Leather (3rd)	26	14	3. Team 03	32	28
Obelisk-Crystal Ball	11	13		Mike's Ice Crm (1st)			4. Team 06	291/2	301/2
Deluxe	10	14			100000000000000000000000000000000000000	16	5. Team 02	291/2	
Gay Sports	10	14		Ballers	24	16	6. LC & LB's Bees	29	31
D 111 D		1.	9.	Pin Heads (2nd)	20	20	7 Tan 01		011/

#### SF POOL ASSOCIATION TEAM STANDINGS AND PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

24

25

2991

R. De Young.

TOP TWENTY

Prillwitz (Vlg)

DIVISION	I	DIVISION II	II	TOP TWE
Pendulum Pirates White Swallow Storm Maud's Pilsner Doughboys	57-39 .593 54-42 .562 49-47 .510 56-56 .500	Stallion Stampede Macante's MARTYRS Village Knights Bear Shots	62-34 .645 66-46 .589 59-53 .526 49-47 .510	R. Peterson (Febe's) Mr. B (Rainbow) K. Stephens (Peg's) E. Z. (DeLuxe)
Arena Hellbreds DeLuxe Rebels Village Tribe Brig Inmates Pipeline Deaf	47-49 .489 53-59 .473 45-51 .468 41-55 .427 35-77 .312	Febe's Snow Pendulum Chaos Arena Centurions Cstro Sta. Identification Academy Plebes	48-48 .500 46-50 .479 45-51 .468 45-67 .401 37-59 .385	P. Fleury (Febe's) A. Ravena (Brig) C. Lundberg (Arena) C. Arguello (Rainbow B. Kelly (DeLuxe)
DIVISION I	1	DIVISION I	<b>V</b>	R. Moore (DeLuxe) C. Bradley (Stallion)
Febe's Rainbow Stallion Steeds Chaps Outlaws Castro Station Express White Swallow Wreckers Macante's Moondancers Pk Bwl Parallel Pockets Peg's Pugs	47-49 .489 43-69 .383	DeLuxe Spare Parts Arena Warriors Brig Guards Peg's Promises Pilsner Ltd. Academy Cadets Bear Claws Maud's Squad Daly City Rough Riders	79-33 .705 56-40 .583 52-44 .541 58-54 .517 56-56 .500 43-53 .447 41-55 .427 39-57 .406 31-65 .322	S. Abramo (Rainbow) O. Bubar (DeLuxe) B. Von Prillwitz (Vlg) B. Kazee (Febe's) D. Henderson (Rnbw) R. McKay (Stallion) D. Timko (DeLuxe) G. Miller (Febe's) L. Duncan (Macante's)

10. Thing 11. Warlocks

12. GGMCC II

13. SRA (4th)

## Statewide Bowling Tourney Rolls Into Park Bowl

by Jerry R. De Young

21. Fever

22. Lucky Strikes

24. Sounds Incredible

San Francisco hosted the first annual Tri-City Bowling Tournament. This imaginative cre-

ation of local bowling personality Mal Garcia presented the dual enticements of providing an exciting day of friendly bowling competition combined with the possibility of enriching one's coffer (who can resist that combination?). Cash prizes were awarded to the eight highest total-pincounts, including 80% handi-

Fiver-person Lesbian and Gay

### individual softball leagues, as well as establishing policies and Hiking Club Frontrunners

San Francisco Frontrunners will meet Sunday, April 8 at 10 AM at the North Windmill in Golden Gate Park for its weekly Sunday Scenic Run. The run can be anywhere from one to five

The club also sponsors Thursday Fun Runs (meet at 6 PM at Mclaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park), Saturday Fun Runs (meet at 10 AM at the Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park), and Saturday Long Distance Training Runs (10 AM, call for meeting loca-346-3718 or 621-6268.

The San Francisco Hiking Club will sponsor a car camping trip to the Pinnacles National Monument State Park this weekend, April 6 to 8. The park is located about three hours south of San Francisco near Hollister. There will be campfire gatherings on Friday and Saturday nights and a seven hour hike Saturday. For more information call Bob Jones at 626-2512.

teams came from as far away as

Los Angeles to take part, and ap-

parently a good time was had by all — many bowlers competed in

more than one of the three shifts.

finishers and their total pins:

2. Damifino (Sacto)

. Bumper Pumpers (SF)

. Chequita's Hags (SF)

. Can We Talk (SF)

8. Mike's Ice Cream (SF)

. Monday Community (SF) 3169

. Jpntwn Bowlg Bmbrs (SF) 3068

own-PWIL (SF)

Here are the top eight

The club will also sponsor a day hike to remote Marin beaches Sunday April 8. Meet for carpooling at 8 AM at Maction). For more information call Donald's on the corner of Stanyan and Haight Streets. 

## **NAGAAA Signals** Start of 1984 Gay **Softball Season**

Houston, TX — The official start of the 1984 Gay Softball Season was signaled March 1 by the spring meeting of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance. Seventeen member cities sent delegates to the fourday conference in Houston. NAGAAA represents thousands of Lesbian and Gay softball players from all around the United States and Canada.

centered on exchanging ideas and developing support for the individual softball leagues, as ensuring success for the Gay Softball World Series. This year in late August, Houston will play host to the Eighth Annual Gay Softball World Series. The series is a competition among the championship teams from each member city: Atlanta, Birmingham, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Kansas City, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Minneapolis/St. Paul, New York, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Seattle, Southern New England, and Toronto. The purpose of NAGAAA and its member leagues is to provide opportunities in sports for Gay people to come together in a positive environment of participation, commitment and fun.



281/2 311/2

15-0 1.000

14-2 .875

23-5 .821

19-5 .791

19-5 .791 14-4 .777

12-4 .750

17-6 .739

17-7 .708

12-5 .705

.761

.722 20-8 .714

13-4

16-5

## **BLACK LASHES** The Upstroke

KARL STEWART

Grand Ma Mere was honored in the grand style Saturday. Empress I Jose, the Nightingale of Montgomery Street, drew an elegant covey of friends and admirers to a glamorous banquet to toast his more than quarter century of entertainment, Gay freedom fighting and community support. Jose began as one of the first popular female impersonators to achieve city wide aclaim in a "tourist trap" (Jose's words) called The Black Cat. which was a popular bohemian nightclub of the early 60 s. Jose Shand, all gave us tributes. The coin that gave us a passport into the days for which Jose is fondest known was his friend Michelle (Closet Ball - Robert Michaels Prod.). He gave an incisive look into the good times, the wisdom, the camp and the tears.

The evening raised more than \$3,500 for the Gay Band to travel to LA for a National Gay Band Concert in June.

Later than evening Febe's hosted the rowdies of the So/M and MC community. The occa-



Trixie Trash (Photo: R. Pruzan)

was also one of the first Gay men in the nation to run for public of-

This effort brought forth accolades from as far away as special guest Empress Nicole Murray, the articulate, longreigning monarch of San Diego. The city government too responded with praise and appreciation: Larry Eppinette emceed as well as read a letter of commendation from his boss Mayor Feinstein. Senator Milton Marks followed with greetings from the State, but President Ronald Reagan couldn't make it. Many of the city's Gay institutions (some of whom owe at least part of their existence to Jose's fundraising and personal generosity) approached the throne with gracious laurels: Namely the presidents of both The SF Band Foundation and GGBA (the Bobbsy Twins -Lester and Lori). Tom Porett of CRIR together with the Evening's hosts - Bob Cramer, Hector, Duke Armstrong and Bond

officers and 18th Anniversary of Club. Stepping down as prez was Bob Ro. replaced by Chuck E (who took on the Management of the Men's Room this week also). Taking Empress Remy's spot as VeePee is the official lady-in-waiting and Imperial Sceptor receiver Gene Forest. Chuck's hunky blond lover Jason Garret will join him in service to his club brothers as Road Captain. Also during the evening's long celebration, Ed Wilson joined the club officially as the baby.

sion was the installation of new

Dick Wheeler restored a Febe's tradition the previous evening with the "Man Con-test." Now this one is just for fun. You can really tell the sort of man Febe's men like. The contest is run with categories for under 30 — where David John took the trophy. David looks handsome with his sexy balding head and beard; more like a daddy than most daddies. For men

was edged out of first place by Walt Christom (Skip's other half and the resident "Chest"). Up 'til now each of these legs held six or less contestants. When the real daddies were brought out (40 to death) there were 18 men competing: John Shubat was judged hottest in the land by the

Dick Wheeler (with his oils) will be joined by his buddy Ed Burns (with his great photography of straight men at work) and will open JC's week-long Third Anniversary party for the Eagle. These So/M men will open Thursday, April 12. The ICF will hold a "Brunch Party" Sunday April 15th from 3-6 PM in the Patio. It's a beer bust and feed for a discounted price of five bucks. This is in anticipation of the much talked about Casualty Capers, and the three directors have gone out and drafted everybody from Jim Cvitanich to the BC Cloggers for this one. The competition is stiff. I hear there'll be some real Southern Scandles that evening (what color lashes????).

This weekend meet the newlyformed California Eagles MC at Chaps (???), tonight 9 PM to midnight. They have announced their first run (road trip) to Sacramento April 14 and 15. If you sign up before the 13th, \$20 will bring you the basic road trip (bridge tolls, a meal both days and beer bust Saturday), \$40 will include hotel, double occupancy and \$55 for a single. If you sign up at the kick-off Saturday at noon at Febe's, it'll all cost

The Constantines are planning a road trip also: Saturday 4/8 at Febe's will see the men off at 10 AM (yes I agree; it's hard to fathom any of 'em up that

Sunday the CMC will mount its annual Tax Break Run. It's an all day adventure that also begins at Febe's at noon. Donation of \$3.99 includes button and admission to the PM Beer Bust at the Eagle at 3:30 PM. This run will take you all over So/M collecting fictitious tax info through bike and buddy events as well as people events (relay races). If your figures add up correctly, you may get a date with Prez David Sarathain (who knows). The CMC is also beginning a book drive for a ward 5B Library — tax emption for new or used paperback or hard cover books. Prize for the CMC's Run Theme Contest (come as a broken pencil). Look for The Studstore's Steven Smith with leather as a prize.

The CMC voted in some of So/M's favorite men as prospec-tives: The Ramrod's Michael Bowman and Body-of-silverbuilder Joe Tolbe.

Bud McGinnis (manager of Folstom St. Hotel) video taped the South of Market Contest and will make VHS or Betamax copies for you with all the profits going to the AIDS Fund. Phone 552-3390 (9 AM to 4 PM) for more info.

#### **CROSSED LASHES**

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence is a band of gentlemen who have combined traditional street theater, gorilla theater and social/political activism to become one of the gay societies most bizarre set of spokeswomen /men. Their technique of cross



Jose (right, with the balloons) at the tribute in his honor last weekend. With Jose are Gardner Pond (l.) and Ed Emond. (Photo: Rink)

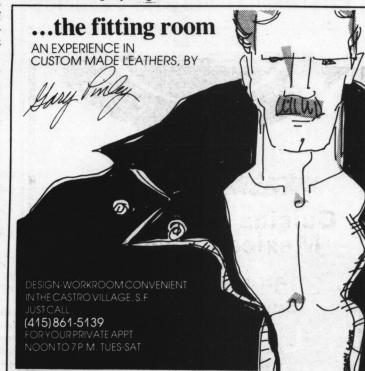
dressing and making fun of a serious problem, thereby pointing the way to the answer, has been a San Francisco tradition from the time of Norton. Why any group that elevates Bette Midler to their station of Sainte Bette the Devine (upon her own request) can't be all bad.

I mentioned earlier that Nicole Murray was in town for Jose's big night; it seems the (united??) Imperial Courts of Southern California has circulated a press release, here and there abouts, reviling the good sisters for having anything to do

courage the Sisters to continue their good work in fundraising and social services field, which they, as we, have more expertise

I don't know about you, but Sister Boom's bid for Supe was one of the funnest protest campaigns in some time. Not only was Boom Boom informed and articulate; she pointed out some of the city government's glaring discrepancies in serving the Gay Community. When a clown points

(Continued on next page



# RICHARD LOCKE

in person, doing his famous

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BAY AREA REPORTER APRIL 5, 1984

#### **BLACK LASHES**

(Continued from previous page)

out your mistake, suddenly everbody notices. Apparently the queen of So/Cal doesn't like protest politics. I'll have "Status Ouo" as an entre, waiter.

Well, the Sisters are doing some fundraising in LA soon They and the SF Gay band will be participating in a big basket ballgame at Fairfax High, between the SF Gay Game II team and LA team on April 14th. Sadie Sadie and Sr. Shamel 2001 will be leading the cheers. That seems safe enough. Sr. Sadie also will soon be appearing in Pacific Heights, the Gay Soap on Couldn't Be More Graphic's video magazine on Castro St.

Moby Dick has long been a bastion of Gay Photoart; this largely by the effort of manager /photographer Scott Goldschidt His annual photo "click off" competition has become a coveted prize for any lens jockey's wall. This week Scott left Moby Dick, "just because it's time," and in his wake left one of the better color photo shows on the walls by Howard

ter as the architect of the Muni/ Metro stations). One can certainly see the way he constructs his images also. Sensuous and warm, Grant explores the classic form of the male, in space, in relationship to form larger and more powerful than himself. Mike, (Mr. Grant's model throughout) shows his best assets in a set of more erotic frames on the upper deck, many in "Duo" image format using b/w flipped mages in tandem with his color. This is a consistantly high quality showing. Howard Grant is obviously a perfectionist. This is the ideal legacy for Scott's departing shot. \* \* \*

worth and arthur one orr

Grant (you may know him bet-

The Coits are investing their 'queen" (not that they have only one, mind you):: Oueen Trixie Trash, de South Shore, protectress of the State Line and her perpetual husband of state King Monte Reddick, will be soundly crowned at the Mint Monday, ollowing the Academy Awards. You can watch the Awards there beginning at 6 PM. What's more, you can watch Trixie get drunk at the Men's room from 7 to 9 PM for her birthday Friday, April 6. I feel a campaign coming on.

CIRCL

Other Awards parties will be at the Village, the Men's Room, Castro Station and the Pilsner So/M you can see the big show on the big screen at Chaps, en joy a buffet at the Ramrod or in the Polk area, stop in at the Giraffe for their big screen. They will all be featuring drink specials and lots of camping.

We hear Ron Pearson wore turquois and red at his hanky party last weekend.

The Kokpit is showing a set of stained glass windows from Robert Michaels productions. The reason is the Closet Ball has headquartered itself there and has tickets available for the show on April 28. Rumors are flying about which popular So/M bartender will mount the stage that

Ever notice how clever some of the window designs on Castro or Polk can be? One of the designers in demand is Michael Barns: his work is on display at Headlines on both of those streets. Keep it together. See ya in the

K. Stewart



Winners of Febe's "The Man" Contest: (l. to r.) Walt Christom (30 to 40 yrs.), David John (under 30), and John Shubat (40-plus).

## Karl's Calendar

Friday, 4/6: Trixie Trash Birthday Men's Room, 7 to 9 PM Warlocks Open Meeting, The Eagle Patio Bar, 8 PM. Photographic Narratives, work of Nina Glazer, Nathan Hart Gallery, 437

Hayes at Gough, 6 to 10 PM. Saturday, 4/7: Constantines Road Trip, departure, Febe's 10 AM.

Sunday, 4/8: Tax Break Run, host CMC, kickoff: Febe's - noon \$3.99. Includes Bike, buddy and people events, Beer Bust at Eagle 3:30 PM, Ward 5B Library Book Drive. Grand Prize leather from Steve at The Studston

Monday, 4/9: Investiture, Queen Trixie & King Monte of So/Shore following Academy Awards Show at

Academy Awards Viewing, Men's Room, Castro Station, The Village, Pilsner (Balloting and cash prizes: fee), The Mint (Investiture), Febe's, Chaps big screen), Ramrod (Buffet) - all begin at 6 PM. Most will include drink

Tuesday, 4/10: Square Dancing, S.F. Eagle, 7 to 10 PM. Advanced class (beginners on Thursday, same time).

forty singers wowed audiences at

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## Steve Dobbins Snags **Emmy Nomination**

Steve Dobbins, San Francisco producer, director and playwright, has been nominated by the Northern California Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for Outstanding Individual Achievement in directing for The People versus Dan White, the KOED docu-drama that aired locally last November. Based on his play, The Dan White Incident, The People Versus Dan White, will air nationally on all PBS stations on a vet-to-be determined date. Dobbins also served as writer and co-producer for the KQED venture.

Currently he is collaborating with LA writer Paul Barnes on the screenplay The Dan White Incident, again adapted from his original work which premiered in San Francisco last March, and recently closed a critically-successful run at the Pan Andreas Theatre in Los Angeles. Joe Hamilton's Production Company, best known for producing the television series and specials featuring Hamilton's wife, Carol Burnett, has been actively interested in this project since 1978, and approached Dobbins to work with Barnes after seeing the LA production. According to Dobbins, a finished script is due in three weeks. Whether the screenplay is slated for a feature film or a television special is not yet

"The screenplay will focus less on the problems during Dan White's trial," says Dobbins, and more on the political and social attitudes in San Francisco prior to the violent killings of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk."

## Have Tune. Will Carry

carry it over to 1350 Waller Street this Wednesday evening at 7 PM and share it with the SF Lesbian/Gay Chrous. One of the oldest and largest such mixed choruses in the nation, the group is seeking to expand its membership in all sections: soprano, alto, tenor, and bass, as well as non-singing staff members.

The chorus, recently celebrating its fourth birthday, began with some ten nervous pioneers and grew to more than one hundred singers. The past year has been a challenging one as the group chose a new artistic director and transferred sponsorship from Golden Gate Performing Arts, Inc. to Capp Street. The group survived this process in fine form. Its approximately

December's Holiday Concerts and most recently at the Cable Car Awards Ceremony, February 5. The Lesbian/Gay community continues its strong support of this Chorus as the singers are certainly a source of pride to themselves and their friends. Artistic Director Matthew

O'Grady has a musically-rich and demanding program planned for the upcoming May Concert. More voices are needed to give the music the power and range it deserves. He is hoping to get more new members by the end of March so that everyone can prepare adequately.

The SF Lesbian/Gay Chorus rehearses each Wednesday night from 7-9 PM at All Saints Episcopal Church, 1350 Waller St., near Haight and Masonic. To join, simply come to rehearsal. or call Recruitment Director Michael at 431-4671 for more information.



Oooo Baby. Partygoers relax outside last weekend's Butch-Femme Soiree, held at the S.F. Women's Building to benefit the Lyon-Martin Clinic. (Photo:

## 'La Cage' Benefit

More than 1,000 tickets have been sold for the first San Francisco performance of La Cage aux Folles at the Golden Gate Theater Tuesday, May 29. The evening is a benefit for nine Gay charity organizations.

The Board of Directors of the Cable Car Awards are now working to make this a gala community event. People arriving at the theatre will be greeted by music from the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band. A platform is being erected in front of the theatre on Golden Gate Avenue to welcome those attending.

Following the performance there will be a celebrity champagne reception in the rotunda of City Hall. Entertainment currently signed for the party in-cludes the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus and the Gay band. In addition to complimentary champagne, sev-eral full size bars are being set. Rikki Streicher, owner of Maud's and Amelia's said profits from the bar service will be

given to the 1986 Gay Games. La Cage aux Folles opened August 21 of last year at the Palace Theatre in New York. The San Francisco edition will have new costumes and sets and will be the first presentation outside of the Broadway engage-ment. Walter Charles is slated to perform the role of Albin, created on Broadway by George Hearn.

Tickets are available only by

mail order through a coupon which has appeared in past editions of the Bay Area Reporter.

Primary recipients from the opening night benefit are The San Francisco AIDS Fund, the Lesbian Rights Project, the Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders of Operation Concern and the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights "Can We Talk" brochure, produced with the Har-vey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club.

## SWEETLIPS SEZ

## Mexicali Bound

DICK WALTERS

truly a hot event, so don't miss it. Fiesta! . . . Win a round trip for two to Puerto Vallarta, which Rumor has it that the beautiincludes hotel and airfare . . . a ful Ann-Margret will be in the Googie's Softball Team fundaudience the opening night of La raiser . . . donations only \$1.00 Cage aux Folles . . . this is on . . . you can get tickets from any Tuesday, May 29, and is a spebartender at Googie's. (Cash in cial benefit . . . tickets are going lieu of trip. \$750.) fast and some sections are al ready sold out . . . the Cable The Arena's Bare Chest Con-Car Awards Committee should be thanked for putting this event

test is Thursday, April 12, and it starts at 9 p.m. Yours truly will together. be there that night . . . no. not as a contestant but just to admire some of the "hunks" and to have fun with Mr. Marcus. This is

#### **Denis Quilley** (Continued from page 22)

Danny La Rue has long been popular with the English masses as a female impersonator, but Quilley was not surprised that he failed miserably when he tried recently to play the leading role in Hello, Dolly! "Danny is moderately talented in songs and patter and makes a very beautiful, glamorous 'woman' when he's dressed up; but he always throws in little winks and thingsto say, 'Relax, folks. It's really just me, good old Danny, in

"Well, when you're playing a character, actually trying to be believed as a woman for an entire evening, you can't do that. His safety valve was gone.'

On the other hand, Quilley says he appreciates "the element

**Smiths Create** 

conveys it in delicate yet power-

"When we entered the whole

thing I really thought it was time

for very fundamental language

to be used. I always find that the

most powerful words are the

most fundamental ones . . . it

wasn't enough to employ the

He certainly doesn't. The sen-

timents expressed are light years

beyond the "usual" ones of "you

are mine." "Hand in Glove," one

of the debut lp's more panoramic

songs, details the exhilaration of

being with a lover while simul-

taneously knowing it won't last:

The good life is out there, some-

So stay on my arm, you little

But I know my luck too well

and I'll probably never see you

usual pop terminology."

(Continued from page 26)

Myths

ful ways.

Denis Quilley in such films as seems, in an ambiguous way, to tell the story of a young man picked up by same after his bi-

Then in this charming car this charming man on the passenger's seat?

that someone so handso

. . . I'm satisfied (with the way

The British have caused quite a row over what they feel is the Smiths' most overtly Gay song, "This Charming Man." It cycle tire goes flat out in the countryside:

of fantasy in cross-dressing" and

finds it "off-putting — from an

- when at the end of a drag

show the performers pull off

their wigs to show that they're

really men. If they've been able

to sustain the illusion that long,

he feels, they shouldn't spoil it

drag in England," Quilley enlightens us further. "There's the

butch school, the 'pantomime

dame' (just short of genderfuck,

comic impersonations of dowdy

dowagers who are not very femi

nine to begin with); and the

more serious type who try ac-

tually looking like girls." Terri

Dennis' attempts obviously fall

Americans have seen

though scarcely noticed

in the former category.

"There are two streams of

artistic, not a sexual perspective

Why pamper life's complexities When the leather runs smooth

I would go out tonight but I haven't got a stitch to wear This man said, "It's gruesome

Handsome and charming are not your basic heterosexual words. But at the same time, Morrissey is maddeningly coy about the homosexual, or least homosensual, content of many of his songs: "Sometimes

people see me), but then other days I'm quite horrified. I hate being misquoted, because I take interviews very seriously, and I also hate this 'festive faggot thing, which seems to come through, because people listen to This Charming Man' and think no further than what anyone would premise. I hate than angle, and it's surprising that the Gay press has harped on that more than anything else."

relate to the message of love and sex they posit. Consider the competition. I mean, for all his camping about, does anyone really identify with Boy George? And those former bisexuals of yesteryear, David Bowie and Lou Reed — the less said about them, the better. The Smiths write about situations we've all

been in, however. They're brainy working class lads with poetic leanings and sexual politics that ooze out between the lines. As added icing on the cake, it just so happens they've recorded a nearly perfect debut lp that

revives the ghost of the Velvet Underground (yes, you've heard this before, and will undoubtedly hear it again, but take my word for it. This is the Real Thing.) even down to the Warholian cover art, a photograph of Joe Dallesandro's torso. This music shimmers with beauty. At first listen, The Smiths is a simple record. But simplicity can be deceiving. So it seems as if this band has

bitten off more than it can chev

more comfortable with the in-

GLOE is funded by a grant

from the San Francisco Com-

mission on the Aging and in part, by the GGBA Foundation.

It provides a range of services for

Lesbians and Gay men over the

age of 60 who live in San Fran-

cisco. For further information,

contact Stafford Buckley at

by Woolly

626-7000.

evitability of growing older.

#### However, the common denomi-Seniors' Reading a Success nator in all the works was that of genuine, human experience. And the sharing of that experience made one feel not only proud to be Gay, but also much

by Ray Ankrom

Eight senior Gay men from the writing workshop sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders of Operation Concern read their selected works to an enthusiastic full room at the Valencia Rose on March 25. Master of ceremonies, screenwriter Robert Sidney, kept the pace upbeat with his disarming, "roast-like" introductions. Obviously, these men had shared many hours together in the "supportive atmosphere and caring environment" of the workshop, which is led by local playwright, George Birimisa.

backgrounds - educational, technical, and screenwriters, a computer specialist, and a writer for pre-Stonewall Gay rights organizations. And, of course, they had different responses to given themes, such as, "My Heart Skipped a Beat When ...," from a son meeting his bereaved father at the airport, to

The writers were from various discovering "the man of my dreams," to ascending four flights when the elevator is out.

After all those cricks were duly laid, After all that fucking practice, The most impression that he made Was the one upon the mattress.

Noticed that the old Landmark on Turk Street has been posted and it will soon be reopened by Gil, so you know that it'll be a hot and popular bar.

Lenny's Chez Mollet still serves about the finest prime rib dinner in town and in a very relaxed atmosphere.

Congratulations to the Kokpit for winning the opening game against Trax at last Saturday's season opener for the Gay Soft ball League . . . sorry, Cha Cha. Understand that Bob Paulson

brought to San Francisco on tour

Among his favorite stage roles,

in addition to Privates on Pa-

Theatre productions of The

Front Page and Long Day's

Journey into Night, the latter

ever play another character like

Terri Dennis. He offers feeble

excuses about not wanting to

repeat himself, but ultimately

Not really, dear. While Mor-

rissey is being vague about gen-

der and preference, it's possible

to interpret the songs in a more

specifically Gay context. We can

with Laurence Olivier; and

and Bob Cramer and his Peter are going to be opening TWO more flower stands in the very Overheard at the White Swalnear future . . . Hope you don't low: "Lucy acts like she just instop cutting hair, Bob - where vented sex and can't wait to

cally.

beats me to it. Murder on the Orient Exacknowledges the irony that a press, Evil Under the Sun and Shakespearean actor can play Anne of the Thousand Days; any number of kings without and on television in Masada and fear of typecasting — but let him The Avengers. His last stage play more than one "queen" and appearance here was 20 years ne's marked for life. ago in Irma la Douce, which he

The Sausalito Inn is still one

of the nicest places to go for a

great cocktail . . . just take the

erry over to Sausalito, and when

you get off it is the first saloon

that you can hit . . . always a fun

Remember: Casualty Capers

1984 at California Hall is April

21 and tickets are only \$8 . . .

this is one of the better events

that you'll see this year, as it has

It seems as if Dolly Dale of

Polk Gulch fame has a new and

hot romance going, and Dolly

won't even have to change the

monogram on the towels, as his

initial is 'D' . . . nice pickin's,

Dolly, and I'll take the pick of

the litter, unless Bobby Tanguay

As antiquated as Terri may

been for many years past.

crowd - right, Jimmy

Stapleton?

seem to us, Quilley prefers him after nine months on Broadway. to many of the Gays he sees today: "When I was a kid in the theatre," he says, "the Gay scene rade, Quilley lists National was very gentle . . . Now, especially in America, it's all bulging T-shirts and big Burt Reynolds moustaches . . . It seems aggressive and violent . . . Sweeney Todd, which was "the frightening . . . intimidating. hardest . . . physically and vo-He says he "can understand the move to macho" to change our image as helpless victims, but he It is unlikely that Quilley will feels we've carried it too far.

> Perhaps, if we can appreciate his attempt to be "a) truthful and b) affectionate" in portraying

with its idea about Importance and Significance, it's because they've erred on the side of trying too hard, not too little. Says Morrissey, "The normal rock and roll terminology sounds like a chant of agony. I think we need more brains in popular music.

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P. Keane

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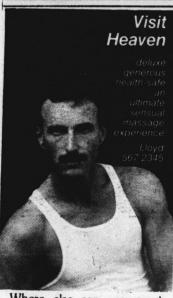
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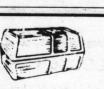
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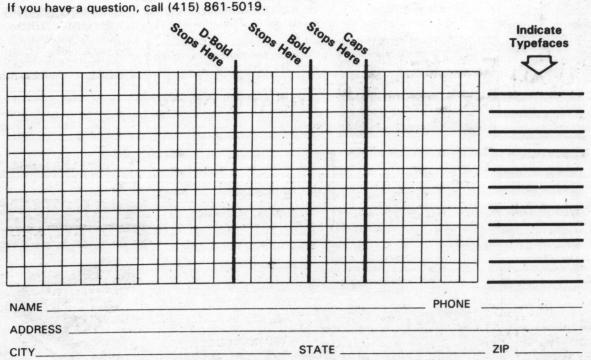
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MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE	Bowls on Monday nights at 8:45 p.m There are 5 people on each team - Cost of bowling is \$7.50 per week - Handicap is 80% - League starts bowling on June 4th - THIS IS SAN FRANCISCO'S OLDEST GAY LEAGUE.
TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE	Bowls on Tuesday nights at 8:45 p.m There are 5 people on each team - Cost of bowling is \$7.50 per week - Handicap is 90% - League starts bowling on May 22nd - WE HAVE 18 TEAMS NOW AND ARE SHOOTING FOR 20 IN THE SUMMER LEAGUE.
WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE	Bowls on Wednesdays at 8:45 p.m There are 5 people on each team - Cost of bowling is \$7.50 per week - Handicap is 80% - League starts bowling on May 16th - THIS LEAGUE ALWAYS FILLS EARLY; SO IF WEDNESDAY IS YOUR CHOICE, YOU'D BETTER SIGN UP EARLY
THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE	Bowls on Thursday afternoons at 1:00 p.m There are 3 people per team - Cost of bowling is \$5.50 per week - Handicap is 90% - League starts bowling on May 17th - THIS IS THE ONLY AFTERNOON GAY LEAGUE DURING THE WEEK FOR YOU BARTENDERS AND NIGHT WORKERS; DON'T MISS IT
THURSDAY NIGHT SCRATCH TRIOS  NEW - NEW - NEW - NEW - NEW	Bowls on Thursday nights at 8:45 p.m There are 3 people per team - Cost of bowling is \$10.00 per week - League starts bowling on May 10th - THIS ONE'S FOR YOU SERIOUS BOWLERS WHO WANT A CHALLENGE EVERY WEEK. YOU BOWL 4 GAMES IN THIS LEAGUE. MAX TEAM AVERAGE IS 480
FRIDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE	Bowls on Friday nights at 6:30 p.m There are 4 people per team - Cost of bowling is \$7.50 per week - Handicap is 100% - League starts bowling on June 1st - THIS LEAGUE WAS NEW LAST WINTER AND WE EXPECT IT TO EXPAND FAST SO DON'T MISS THE START OF A GREAT WEEKEND EVERY WEEKEND
SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE	Bowls on Sunday nights at 6:00 p.m There are 4 people per team - Cost of bowling is \$9.50 per week - Handicap is 90% - League starts bowling on June 3rd - EVERYONE IN THIS LEAGUE GOES TO RENO (ALL EXPENSES EXCEPT FOOD ARE PAID) AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SEASON

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# BAY AREA REPORTER

TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

VOL. XIV NO. 15 APRIL 12, 1984

# **Customs Agents Raid British Bookstore**

Maupin's 'Tales of the City' Confiscated in London

Armistead Maupin's Tales of the City was one of several books seized in a big raid in London by Great Britain Customs. The raid took place Tuesday at Gay's the Word Bookshop, the largest Gay bookshop in England.

The first incident occurred Cruise to Win, Southern Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. when Customs and Excise inspectors broke into the flat of bookshop director Glenn McKee. The British police confiscated tapes, diaries, and

At 1 p.m., the police entered the Gay's the Word Bookshop. The ten customers in the store were thrown out. For the next five hours customs officials went through the store seizing books. Among the titles taken were

Discomfort, Return to Lesbo, Walking on the Moon, One for the Gods, Tales of the City, and The Joy of Lesbian Sex.

Michael Mason, a Gay newspaper editor in London, said the books were taken as a first step to prosecution to evade Customs. , Mason said that British Customs officials are hesitant to allow Gay books into the country from the United States. "Books are imported by indirect

# VD Rate Drops for Gay Men

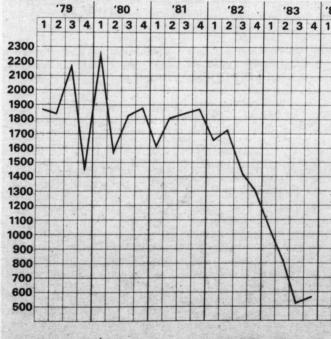
Interpreting Statistics at Root of Sex Club Confusion

by Brian Jones

Venereal disease among Gay men in San Francisco dropped more than 60 percent from 1980 to 1983, as gauged by several official measures maintained by the city's Department of Public Health.

For example, the number of cases of rectal gonorrhea logged by the health department fell 61 percent from 1980 to 1983. In 1980 — the last full year before the AIDS epidemic became widespread — there were 7,549 cases of rectal gonor-rhea recorded. By last year, the number had fallen to 2,934

Dr. Mervyn Silverman, director of public health, said at his press conference on bathhouse policy Monday, "The Gay community has changed its behavior more than any other community has ever changed its behavior in such a short time."



**RECTAL GONORRHEA - TOTAL CASES, SAN FRANCISCO** 

# Cex Banned in Sex Palaces with Gay Backing

Half the Gay Backers Back Off in Day-After Fallout

"What we are doing today is taking steps, with the support of many members of the community, to eliminate the bathhouses, bookstores, and sex clubs as places of sexual encounters between individuals - places where multiple sex takes place.



Dr. Merv Silverman surrounded by the Gay leaders who supported his stop sex program. Silverman gave 24 name to the media. At press time II had recanted or cried "foul." (Photo: Rink)

City Public Health Director Mervyn Silverman made this announcement on Monday. The move was an attempt to help stem the dramatic increase in AIDS cases in this city, but the support was not universal. Faced with possible closure due to lack of business, bathhouse owners were loud in their disapproval, and a frustrated Gay community split over whether the move would effectively help the AIDS crisis.

An impressive group of people (but not, as Silverman contended, "the major part of the Gay leadership of this city") symbolically stood behind the health director as he read a prepared statement. Silverman said they supported his statement, but 11 out of the 24 later told this reporter that they were either nonparticipants, or had never read the statement he had read, or thought the health director had gone too far.

Silverman urged that there is ample evidence that AIDS is transmitted by sexual contact. He pleaded that there were 471 reported AIDS cases here on April 2 with 174 (37%) deaths recorded. The number of AIDS outpatients being seen at General Hospital has increased in one year from 113 a month to

Gay men here felt the impact of the Silverman decision as they tried to evaluate to what extent they should alter their own sex practices. The AIDS scare has already begun to change some sexual patterns. A San Francisco Examiner survey this week revealed that 57% of the Gay population that previously had gone to the baths no longer did

#### **GAY SUPPORT?**

The overall Gay population either favored measures to ban bathhouse sex (34%) or thought they should be closed (18%) in the Examiner survey. A Bay Area Reporter survey of the local Gay leadership last week indicated that there was universal

opposition to the bathhouses being closed. Silverman attempted to counter this with his plan to officially bar sex "between individuals" - with Gay support. Approximately 20 Gay people, activists and doctors, were invited on Sunday night to a meeting with Silverman, in which he indicated that he supported 'safe" sex in businesses but not 'unsafe" sex. So-called "safe" sex is basically touching, kissing, and masturbation.

Many of those who attended the Sunday night session told this reporter they understood Silverman was going to talk about his support for "safe" sex in imposing restrictions on bathhouses and sex-related busineses at the press conference. Others said they understood Silverman to say he was going to avoid discussing "safe" and "unsafe" sex acts specifically because it would create wisecracks from reporters and make light of the situation. He later indicated to B.A.R. that he was also aware of possible criticism of his allowance for some contact between patrons and of legal problems if the city

appeared to condone any con tacts in a licensed business.

Included on the press conference "supporter" list was Gay (Continued on page 10)

## N THIS SSUE

High-tech firm in S.F. hit with Gay bias lawsuit - Dion B. Sanders . . . . . . . . . . p. 2

Dignity finds a home - at last Allen White ..... p. 3

An interview with Public Health's Dr. Mervyn Silverman in the art of being inconsistently consistent - George Mendenhall . . . . . . p. 5

The night Jesse Jackson never got to the Tenderloin fundraiser in his honor - Allen White . . . . . . . . . p. 11

Financial Planning: Could Manage If I Became Disabled? - Burney Allgood . . . . . 14