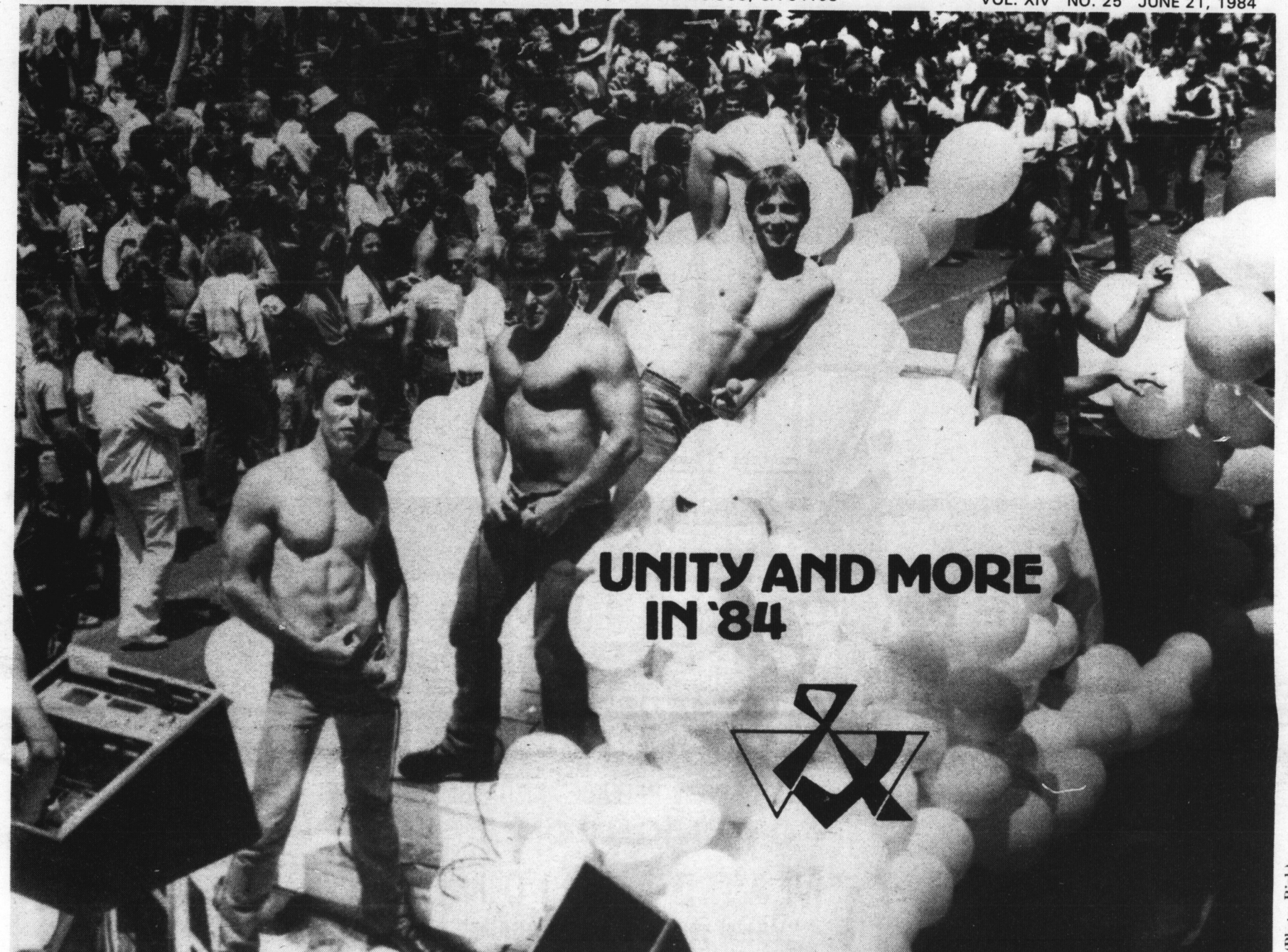


BAY AREA REPORTER

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1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

VOL. XIV NO. 25 JUNE 21, 1984



(Photo: Rink)

Demos Want Gay Rights Out of Party Platform

Kraus, Apuzzo to Argue for Planks as Platform Panel Concludes This Week

by Wayne Friday

Are the Democrats going to come to San Francisco next month with a platform that doesn't support Gay rights? It may happen. Democratic platform chair Rep. Geraldine Ferraro, a congresswoman from the Archie Bunker district in Queens, New York, is pushing a "them, etc." approach designed to squeeze out controversial groups such as Gays. At the center of the storm is San Francisco Gay activist Bill Kraus, a past president of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club, and currently an aide to Congresswoman Sala Burton.

Kraus is one of five openly Gay members of the platform committee, and the only Gay member from California. "It's definitely going to be tough," Kraus said. "A lot of these people are from places like Tennessee and Kansas where they think support of Gay rights would be the kiss of death for their candidates; even some good people are afraid."

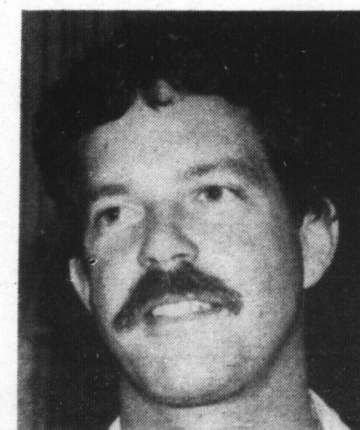
The solution, Kraus said, is to deal directly with the fears. "When I testified to the committee last week I concentrated on that, saying that you don't defeat the New Right by giving

in to it. You defeat it (the New Right) by standing up for the principles you believe in and exposing it as the ugly, undemocratic movement that it is," Kraus said.

Kraus' speech to the committee last week was widely applauded by its members, but the issue of Gay rights in the platform remains very much in doubt.

Virginia Apuzzo, a Lesbian member of the committee from New York and the Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, also testified last

(Continued on page 19)



Bill Kraus (Photo: Rink)

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 Pat Bond says San Francisco may not be Mecca after all. An interview p. 26

Crowded Barroom Watches

Gay 'Hero' Rescues Woman in Stabbing at Midnight Sun

Police Call for Witnesses; Attacker at Large

by Allen White

Two people were stabbed Friday night in the Midnight Sun. The incident took place in the popular Castro area bar just before midnight.

According to police reports, Karla Mora, 24, was standing in the bar watching music video when a still unidentified man lunged at the woman with a knife. She screamed, "Oh, my God!" and a second person, Jeffery Potter, grabbed the man. In a brief struggle, the six-foot tall attacker broke away from Potter, stabbing him in the shoulder.

(Continued on page 19)

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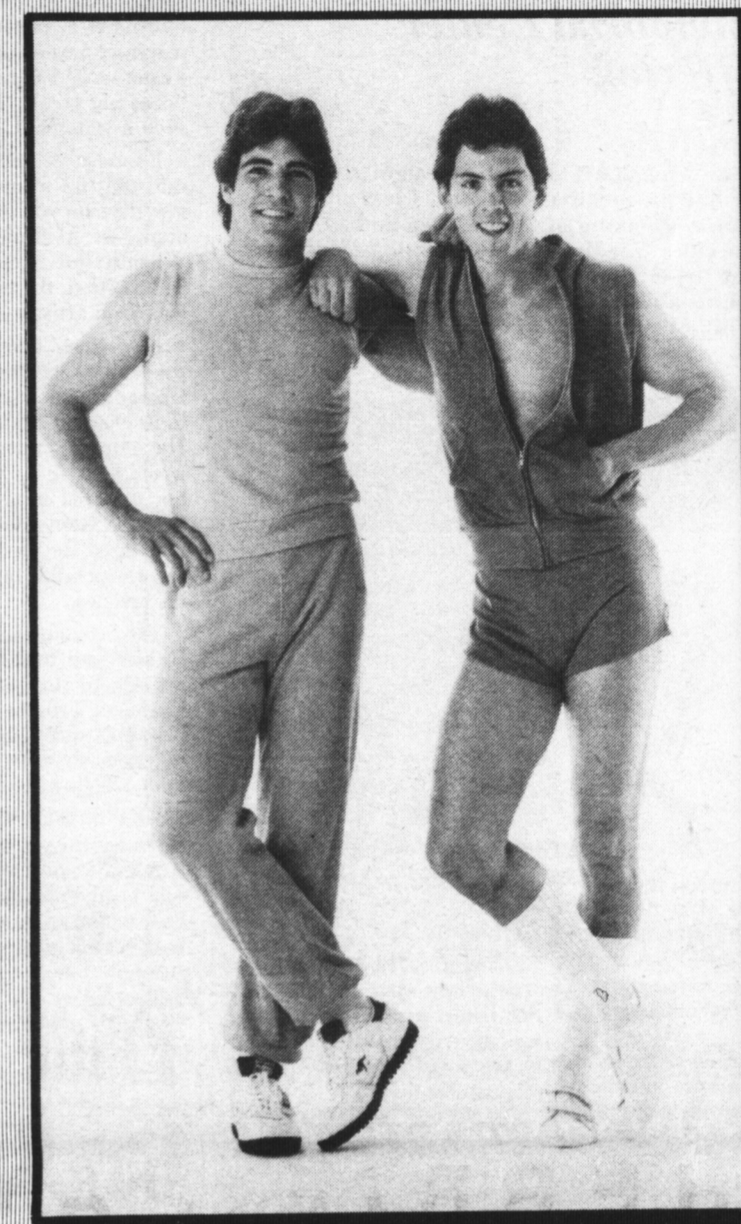
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HEADLINES

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Earlier Jury Deadlocked

Million Dollar Raines Case Begins, First Test of City's Gay Ordinance

Former Director of War Memorial Center Tells Jury of Personal Suffering

by George Mendenhall

"The dismissal even affected my sexual orientation. I felt that if I had been straight and married I would still be employed. I did not particularly like the fact that I am Gay. I lost my feeling of self-worth as a Gay person." Michael Raines was speaking of the feelings he had in 1980 when he was dismissed as Managing Director of the city's War Memorial Performing Arts Center. Raines, who had a \$32,000 annual salary, is suing the city for \$1 million, alleging that he was fired because he is Gay. He claims that much of his abuse came from the homophobia of an influential trustee of the War Memorial Board, Philip Boone. Nine of the 11 trustees, those who voted to dismiss Raines, are being sued.

This is a retrial of the first court test of the city's non-discrimination ordinance, which was adopted in 1978. The first trial was voided when the jury could not agree on a verdict.

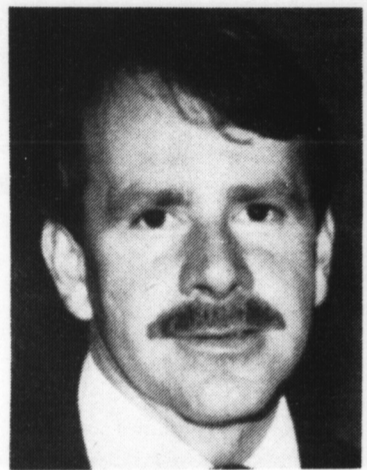
Two key personalities in the Raines trial will have their testimony read to the court this week and will not be in the courtroom. The situation was created when Boone suffered a stroke and trustee Adrian Gruhn died.

Superior Court Judge Richard Figone ruled in the first trial that Gruhn's testimony could not be read. It will be read this week. Judge William Mullin said it is necessary "in the interest of justice." This deposition is considered crucial by the plaintiff because Gruhn allegedly spells out Boone's homophobia.

Lesbian activist Mary Dunlap and Matt Coles are the attorneys for Raines. Coles, who wrote the ordinance, is handling the first phase of the trial, which began last week. The trial is expected to be extended over a 4-5 week period.

RAINES DISMISSAL

Raines testified that he served as director of the War Memorial arts complex for 14 months, having been hired late in 1978. He was dismissed in January 1980, although he stated he was never criticized for his management nor was there ever a negative evaluation made of his work. He was praised by trustees for his work. The only explanation he received about his dismissal was from Boone, who is reported to have said, "You have been found wanting."



Michael Raines (Photo: Rink)



Mary Dunlap (Photo: Rink)

In 1979 some directors and members of the San Francisco Foundation met with the mayor. They decided to begin a search for a director of the new Performing Arts Center, which would incorporate the new Davies Hall, then under construction. Boone wanted a person of international reputation — although everyone agreed that Raines would be considered for the new post. They agreed to hire an outside firm to search for such a person.

Coles told the jury in his opening statement that Raines was not seriously included in the search effort and was unceremoniously dismissed at a board meeting after Boone became President of the board. The board was told that Raines would be present with his attorney, Coles.

Police patrolled inside and outside the meeting, as there was evidently fear of a demonstration. Raines was fired without any board discussion and was told to clear out his desk within

icism by the Board. There is this Sylvester concert." Judge Mullins would not permit Raines to testify on whether the audience was well behaved or not.

Victor Wong, a local theatrical promoter, will testify later that Boone asked him if Raines was Gay. Boone commented, in testimony heard during the first Raines trial, "There are already too many homosexuals in the places of responsibility in San Francisco." Boone has said he "does not recall" having made such a statement.

Boone is also alleged to have said that he wanted to have a new director who was a "family man, an All-American boy." When Raines asked Boone why he was fired, the trustee said he was "too artistic."

Bay Area Reporter is part of the trial as its fine arts editor, George Heymont, wrote articles in 1979 about Raines' problem. Heymont defended Raines and wrote that there was possible homophobia involved in his difficulties. Raines testified that he had urged Heymont not to mention the possible homophobia in his articles.

Two trustees approached Raines and told him that the articles might cause him difficulties. Trustee Fred Campagnoli told Raines he was shocked when he had received mail alleging that Raines was being dismissed because he was Gay.

A major part of the defense will be that Raines played his case to the media, becoming a controversial personality.

24 hours. The director hired to replace Raines was George Matson, a San Diego arts manager. Raines was never confronted with any charges of inefficiency or mismanagement.

Raines told the jury that he was repeatedly assured earlier that he would be offered a second position in the new Performing Arts Center setup if he was not retained, but he was also denied that after his dismissal. His income dropped dramatically after his dismissal as he could not find employment in his chosen field.

SYLVESTER CONCERT

Raines insisted that the only criticism he heard was of a concert at the Opera House starring disco diva Sylvester. He said trustee Claude Jarmin, a former child movie star, told him, "the Opera House deserves better than that — that kind of thing going on." Raines said that after he was dismissed, Boone told him "there has been this crit-

Raines denied this in his opening statement. He also said he was not a member of any Gay political organization nor was he public about his homosexuality. Raines explained, "I have a few close friends who know me as a Gay person. I consider my sexual orientation to be a private matter."

JURY SELECTION

The second Raines trial is being heard by a jury of six women and six men. Racial minorities represented appear to be three Asians. One male and three female jurors are single.

There is one openly Gay male involved and he serves as an alternate juror. The judge almost insisted that he serve although the man was questioned if he would be fair because of his sexual orientation. After a lengthy question and answer session, the alternate said he thought he could be fair.

Jury selection was different from the first Raines trial. Judge Mullins repeatedly asked jurors if the fact that Raines is Gay "bothers you in any way" and said, "Are you uneasy with the subject of Gay people or Gayness?" Several prospective Gay jurors felt comfortable enough about their sexual orientation to openly discuss it although they were never asked.

The Gay men were dismissed for a variety of reasons. Two explained that they had read about the Raines trial last year in the Bay Area Reporter. One said he belonged to the Toklas Democratic Club and that "Gay people are often discriminated against in employment."

Pride Week Present: Gay Rights in Houston

by George Mendenhall

They were celebrating on Westheimer Road and in the Montrose section of Houston Tuesday night. The Houston City Council approved, 8-7, a bill which prohibits anyone in the city from discriminating against Gay people based on sexual orientation. It also passed a measure, 9-6, which prohibits such discrimination in civil service.

Council member John Goodner has already begun to mobilize his forces to overturn Gay rights. He wants a referendum on the ballot in the summer election. The editor of the Gay Houston Voice, Billie Duncan, said, "The citizens of Houston are more intelligent than he thinks they are. They will not support this lunatic fringe. They will not buy the argument that this means Gay quotas and forced hiring of Gay people. The fundamentalists are not well-organized. They only bloc vote in this town is the Gay vote."

A crowd of 500 Christian fundamentalists, robed KKK members, and Gay activists filled the council chambers and overflowed into the hallways. The anti-Gay demonstrators angrily shouted in the chambers and sang "Onward Christian Soldiers" as the vote was taken. Signs read, "Homosexuals Will Not Inherit the Earth" and "Don't Turn Houston into Sodom." A "Former Homosexual" carried a large placard that read erroneously, "48% of All Homosexuals are Child Molesters."

In the circus atmosphere, the council majority decided to take a vote without hearing 68 people, who asked to speak, because they knew they had the votes. Duncan told the Bay Area Reporter, "That was unfortunate. It was a bruise for our side. It said to the opponents, 'We have the votes and we do not want to hear your opinions.' They had a right to be heard."

The Houston vote encourages Gay activists in the South, who saw a Gay rights bill go down to defeat in New Orleans. The Catholic Church did not take a strong anti-Gay stand in Houston — as it had in New Orleans.

Houston, the nation's fourth-largest city, has become the Gay capital of the South in recent years. It's Gay Political Caucus has become a political force in the city. Mayor Kathy Whitmire received national attention last fall after she openly welcomed Lesbian and Gay support in her election campaign.

Houston citizens were informed of the meeting in a full-page advertisement in the Houston Chronicle. It was placed by an anonymous party and carried the name of Council member John Goodner, who opposed the legislation.

Local Lesbian and Gay activists began their campaign for the amendments one year ago after Council member Anthony Hall was elected with strong Gay support. He introduced the measure.

Editor Duncan said full-page advertisements placed in the dailies by fundamentalist groups read "Homosexuals will flock to Houston and make this the Gay Capital of the World if these amendments pass." She added, telephone calls to council members opposing the amendments were running 8-1 until the advertisements appeared and then Gay supporters began calling and reduced the ratio to 2-1.

Reagan on Gay Rights: I Am Opposed to Discrimination

by George Mendenhall

President Ronald Reagan avoided an opportunity last week to speak out against national Lesbian and Gay rights legislation. Instead, the President told a televised press conference, "I just have to say I am opposed to discrimination. Period."

The question was asked by Pat McGrath, national White House correspondent for Metro Media. Here is the exact transcript of June 14 question-and-answer segment:

Q: There is a measure before the Congress to change the Civil Rights law to specifically prohibit job discrimination against homosexuals. Is that something that you would favor?

A: Well, I just have to say I am opposed to discrimination. Period.

Q: But would you support the measure, Mr. President?

A: I want to see what else they have there.

Ron Najman, media director of the National Gay Task Force, (NGTF) told Bay Area Reporter he was encouraged by Reagan's response. He said, "This may be the opening of the door — although only slightly. The President had three opportunities. He could have come out against Gay rights legislation, distanced himself from the Democratic party's general support for our issues, or separated himself from candidate Mondale and the other Democratic candidates who have spoken out for Gay rights."

"The President missed an opportunity to come out against Gay rights. If he is not actively and openly against the civil rights for Lesbians and Gay men, I would think that his Moral Majority-type supporters would be very unhappy with his response."

McGrath spoke to the Bay Area Reporter, and said he had several questions to ask Reagan at the press conference. "But the others had been asked, and the Gay rights question had never been asked." He said he has a special interest in Gay rights, as he had recently broadcast a series on Gay Power on the Metro Media television stations (KTTV in Los Angeles).

The broadcaster said, "It was well worth asking. Reagan had a pretty good record on Gay rights when he was Governor and he had not spoken out on this issue since becoming President. The Democratic candidates have been supportive of the legislation. I tried to get a statement on Gay Rights from the White House when I did my series but they had no comment."

"Reagan could have come down against Gay rights but he did not take that opportunity. He didn't seem prepared for the question or maybe he just didn't want to answer it. It is still not clear where he is on this issue but he does support fundamentalist, evangelical groups that openly oppose such legislation."

What would it take to force Reagan to be more specific? McGrath gave a clue to how that might be achieved: "Some time back the KKK said it supported Reagan because his position was the same as theirs. The White House did not comment for several days. Reagan finally had to issue a statement separating himself from the KKK." Gay activists will have to ask if they would rather the President be vague than possibly hostile.

The NGTF National Director, Virginia Appuzzo, told the Democratic Party Platform Committee last week that "the Reagan White House pretends that we do not exist." She stressed that "Gay men and Lesbians are probably the last minority group in this country against whom the federal government, actively and overtly, discriminates." She called special attention to the military where Gay men and Lesbians have been excluded as a class — "a policy that has been implemented with a vengeance over the last few years."

Tom Peretti, who heads the local Gay Republican group, Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, said, "I am not surprised by Reagan's response. It supports what I have felt all the way along — that, although he has been silent on our issues, he has not been homophobic. He certainly has not made any statements to that effect. He does not share the opinion of some of his more conservative supporters."

A press aide to President Reagan said the White House had no further comment on the Gay rights issue at this time.

Atlas Stockholders Meet June 27 — A Glowing Report

The world's only Lesbian and Gay owned-and-operated savings and loan association, Atlas, will hold its annual stockholders meeting next Wednesday, June 27. The staid affair at the Castro Theatre will be enlivened by an organ concert while construction continues across the street on the firm's new \$2 million corporate offices.

Atlas will present another year of success. In an era when savings and loan companies continue to have difficulties, the Lesbian and Gay operation has survived and expanded.

John Schmidt, chair of the Atlas Board, will tell stockholders of the company's phenomenal growth in the second full year of the S&L operation and new projections: A 219% increase in assets and a profitability increase from a 30 cent share loss to a \$3.46 gain will be announced. The 18th Street branch will be moving into the new Castro office. A Financial District Branch will open at 110 Bush Street. Automatic Tellers will be increased from one to six.

There will be room for cheering as the value of Atlas stock has more than doubled in the last year. Atlas closed its 1983 books with \$62 million in its savings accounts, compared with \$17 million at the end of 1982. Its loans have jumped from 1982's \$13 million to over \$43 million in 1983. Depositors, many of whom have learned of Atlas through national publicity, are now in 50 states and several foreign countries.

The Atlas board has begun a search for a new president/chief executive officer. Atlas' current president, Harlan D. Mowbray, is scheduled to retire in December of this year.

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(Valentine's Day is the most difficult day of the year to find roses at any reasonable cost — if you can find them at all.)

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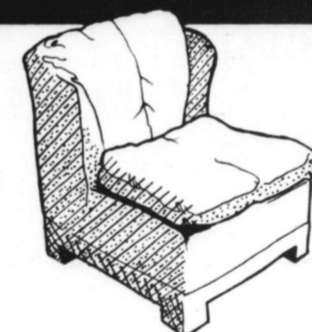
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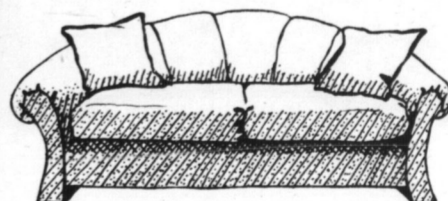
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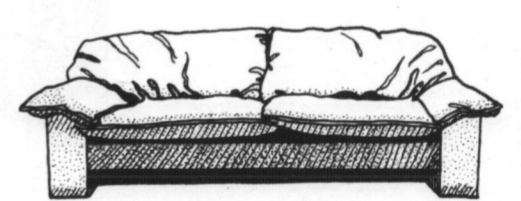
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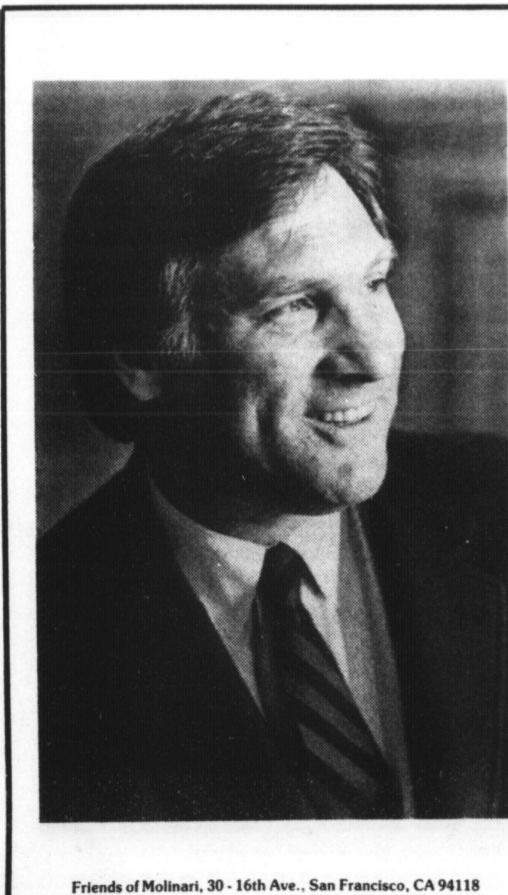
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What's on Tap for Pride Gaylas

Sunday's Parade the Highlight for Three Days of Celebration

by Allen White

Sunday morning at 11 the 1984 International Lesbian/Gay Freedom Parade begins at Spear and Market Streets. With the theme "Unity & More in '84," the 100,000 who are expected to march will move up Market Street, turn into United Nations Plaza, and then rally in Civic Center. This year's program in front of City Hall at 12:30 p.m. features a smaller number of speakers. The speakers were chosen to illustrate the breadth and accomplishments of Gay men and Lesbians on this, the fifteenth anniversary of Stonewall.

More than 200 units of marchers, floats, and musical groups will take part in this year's parade. They will be flanked by more than 300 rainbow banners as they make their way up Market Street. There will be a carnival atmosphere in Civic Center, as many booths will be set up, with people selling everything from their political philosophy to t-shirts to cold beer.

The emcees for this year's celebration will be Supervisor Harry Britt, Lesbian/Gay Health Services Coordinator Pat Norman, Community College Board President Tim Wolfred, Carmen Vasquez, and comedian Tom Ammiano.

The parade and celebration are but two of the many events which are presented during this period of Gay pride in San Francisco.

The San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival presents its last event at the Castro Theatre this evening



The Disco. Big bashes at the Giftcenter Pavilion and the Troc keep Freedom Parade partiers hopping all weekend. (Photo: Rink)



The Glamour. Balloon Girls' Pajama Party at the Casa Loma is just one of the romps that will make this weekend one to remember . . . if you can. (Photo: Rink)

before moving on to the Roxie Cinema for film presentations through Sunday night. The National Third World/People of Color Lesbian/Gay Conference begins at UC Berkeley and continues through Saturday.

Emmett Foster and his brilliant "One Mormon Show" continues almost every night through the weekend at the Valencia Rose for \$6.



The Men. The finale for the Mr. Drummer Contest will be one of the highlights of a star-studded weekend. (Photo: Rink)

Friday night the 6th Annual Gay Musical Celebration will be presented at Nourse Auditorium with the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Mixed Chorus, Dick Kramer's Gay Men's Chorale, and the Barbary Coast Cloggers starting at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$6, \$8, and \$10 at Headlines' Polk and Castro stores. The Lesbian Erotica Film Festival, which always sounds like fun, starts at 8:30 at the Women's Building with a sliding scale from \$50 zipping down to \$5. The Fourth Annual Medical Symposium, "Directions in Lesbian & Gay Health," sponsored by the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights, begins on Friday; 558-9353 is the phone number to get the doctors.

Saturday night is when the big dance parties begin. This year's events are nothing short of sensational. Saturday Sanford Kellman and the I-Beam folks present the first of a two-day dance marathon at the Giftcenter Pavilion. For \$22 you gets tickets to dance from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. and see Miquel Brown ("So Many Men, So Little Time") and you get to come back Sunday for the open air tea dance, with entertainment to be provided by Sylvester, starting at 4 p.m. and running to midnight. Tickets are at Gramophone and Headlines. A buck from each ticket goes to benefit the parade coffers. Starting at 9 p.m. Trocadero Transfer presents the finals to find Mr. Drummer '84, with tickets priced at \$15. For women there is going to be a truly class act dance at the Hyatt Regency. Titled "Puttin' on the Ritz," it is sponsored by the Bay Area Career Women. It starts at 9 p.m. with a \$15 tariff. Dress is formal attire optional. Tickets are at Artemis on Valencia.

Earlier Saturday, there is the 6th Annual Pre-Parade Picnic Party. It's sponsored by the Gay Youth Community Coalition; for information call 552-6025. The Concerned Republicans do what they usually do this week-

end — they leave town. They will have an outing to the California Railway Museum in Sacramento. Call them at 885-6240 if you want to see some antique sleepers. At 6 p.m. there will be an Annette Funicello & Frankie Avalon Look-Alike Contest at the Alamo Square Saloon. In conjunction with the contest, the Balloon Girls, who have a float in the parade, are having a slumber party and have taken over the entire Alamo Square Hotel.

Sunday, following the parade and celebration, are the annual tea dances. There are several noteworthy major events. Sylvester will be making a splashy appearance at the open-air Giftcenter Pavilion party. Scherrie Payne, Magda Dioni, Sport, and Mr. Drummer '84 are all part of the Galleria Gay Day Tea Dance. Both cost \$12 in advance with six at Headlines and Gramophone; the charge is \$15 at the door. The Trocadero Transfer has lowered the price for its annual tea dance this year to \$5 and it may become the bargain of the weekend.

Gay pride is being celebrated throughout the city all week long. Many bars, stores, and restaurants are planning special activities. Marshall Petty, bartender Marty, and Lovey Blue perform a special revue Friday at the Q.T. on Polk Street. Tom Ammiano and Marga Gomez celebrate two and a half years of comedy Saturday night at the Valencia Rose. David Kelsey & Pure Trash perform Sunday night at the New Bell. Next Monday night the entertainment continues with Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel at Sutter's Mill on Battery.

In the world of the theatre, San Francisco has its own Gay-based Theatre Rhinoceros presenting *Bad Drama* on the main stage and *Psycho Killers* in the smaller studio theater. Last Summer at *Bluefish Cove* continues with Lee Meriwether at Theatre on the Square, while the grand and glorious *La Cage aux Folles* plays at the Golden Gate Theatre.



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VOL. XIV NO. 25 JUNE 21, 1984 NEXT ISSUE OUT: JUNE 28 NEXT DEADLINE: JUNE 22

VIEWPOINT LETTERS

And We Are Proud

Judy Garland was dead.

She lay in a casket in a New York City church that sultry June night 15 years ago. Thousands of mourners — many of them queens — slowly walked past to say goodbye.

Afterwards, some of the Gay mourners left the cathedral and walked a few blocks to the Stonewall Inn, a tacky drag dive. By midnight, the place was packed.

It was the wrong night to pick on the faggots.

The New York Police didn't know that. They had raided the Stonewall many times — showing people around, calling people names, making a few arrests — maybe injuring one or two patrons; but these were, after all, queens. And nobody raised much fuss when you bashed a queer. Even the queens didn't raise a fuss. So they were fair game for the pigs' humiliation and harassment.

Not that night. On that night, Gay Rage was born. On that night, the sissies fought back. On that night, our movement was born.

For two nights the rioting raged. Recent accounts seem to play down the extent of the battle. Rocks and bottles flew, glass shattered, fires burned, cops and queens were injured, and whole blocks were cordoned off.

That Stonewall Riot is what we celebrate this week, what we will commemorate Sunday as 100,000 of us march side-by-side and arm-in-arm up Market Street; and as hundreds of thousands more of us march along avenues grand and small all over America. We march with pride. We march with defiance. And well we should.

Who could have imagined we would have accomplished so much in such a short time — and against such opposition? The scope of our development since Stonewall is astonishing. Gay politics. Gay lawyers. Gay churches. Gay business. Gay clinics. Gay sports. Gay press. Gay literature, drama, art: a Gay culture. And most important of all, Gay and Lesbian families: Those extended groups of love, support, and concern which give us strength when the world beats us down. Whole sections of great American cities have become ours, and while these places go by the not altogether flattering term "ghetto," we love our ghettos — because, within them, we can be surrounded by our own people; within them, we achieve a moment's success from the struggle that is being Lesbian or Gay in America; and because, within our ghettos, we may be free.

We celebrate today not just the birth of a movement, but the emergence of an entire people, and the flowering of its culture. The force and the speed with which we have emerged stands in direct proportion to the degree of our oppression. For 50 centuries on this planet, we have been a despised people — a people tormented, a people tortured and murdered, with abandon and even cheerfulness by others. Know us, know our history by our names. A "faggot" is a bundle of sticks used to light the pyre for burning witches — many of them Lesbians and Gay men. "Queer" is something nobody wants to be. "Homosexual" is a clinical description of a psychological pathology — which is to say, the description of an illness. But we are not demonic, we are not strange, and we are not sick. Today, on the 15th anniversary of our defiance, we are Lesbians and we are Gay men. And we are proud.

Perhaps the greatest measure of our humanity, of the truthness of our spirits, is this: From a history of utmost cruelty, and living today in a world which, at its worst, wants us dead, and at its best, wants us to go away — we have not lost our hearts. We have not lost our heads. We have not lost our hope. So much of this world has given us cruelty, but we have not lost our love. That — that is the most precious gift, our love. It burns openly and brightly today, casting a glimmer across 5,000 years of darkness.

Brian Jones

Can the Klan?

Your article on the possible KKK march stated that police are now denying any permit was given to the Klan to march in San Francisco on July 17 at noon. Earlier reports in the press stated the time of the march, but police refused to divulge the exact location, for fear of "radical counter-demonstrators."

So now the police are protecting the terrorist, anti-Gay, anti-worker, racist, sexist Klan from us! The people of San Francisco have the right to know when and where the Klan is marching so we can exercise our free speech and show that San Francisco does not welcome fascists!

Karen Brodine, Radical Women
San Francisco

Oh, Grow Up!

Hurrah for the Michael Lasky editorial on Gays growing up.

M. Lucas
San Francisco

Snap Out of It

I realize that there are a lot of Americans who believe that the United States is the best place to be. It's true if you are rich, white, male and heterosexual. Sometimes I think many of my Gay brothers sell out for playing that role.

In case many of you haven't noticed, we have a serious crisis on our hands. Almost daily our elected officials, the police and self-appointed Gay leaders trade in a few more of our rights. Each time their deeds become more atrocious and each time our response as a community becomes more complacent and apathetic.

The word is out: The Gay community doesn't care about civil rights anymore. Jerry Falwell knows it, Diane Feinstein knows it and George Dukmejian knows it. In the middle of the AIDS epidemic we lost our hope somehow. It really doesn't matter any more if AIDS came from a government laboratory or is a rare African disease. The only thing that's important is that it has put the Gay movement in its place, and that makes a lot of self-righteous bigots very happy.

In the next few weeks we will have several opportunities to respond to these threats. It's time to snap out of the depression. We don't have much time left!

D. Allen
San Francisco

AIDS and the LAV/HTLV-3

In the May 7 New York Native Dr. James E. D'Eramo, PhD, makes the following comment:

"... If HTLV-3/LAV causes AIDS by infecting and killing off T4 (helper) cells, why do some AIDS patients with Kaposi's sarcoma have relatively normal T-cell ratios when the KS lesions are first diagnosed? Supposedly KS is a result of the destruction of the immune system, not a precursor to it — or is it? ..."

A very interesting statement that is worth pondering over. I personally think that HTLV-3/LAV is just another opportunistic passenger with many AIDS patients.

Stew Anderson
San Francisco

R.F.

San Francisco

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LETTERS

Keeping Jose Off the Stage

★ So Jose Sarria will not be invited to speak at the gay community rally at the Democratic convention here this summer because he might insist upon dressing up as the Widow Norton. I had hoped our community had gone beyond this sort of unfortunate prejudice. Furthermore, the rally committee of the National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights, San Francisco 1984 has recommended at their most recent meeting that scheduling and security precautions be taken to prevent drag entertainers, such as members of the Royal Courts and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, from appearing onstage at the rally or from joining other community leaders at the head of the march.

San Francisco's own Jose Sarria is a venerable entertainer and activist who is also the first openly gay person to have run for a political office in America. Fired from a public school teaching position for being gay, he turned in the 1950s to show business and became well-known for his opera burlesques at the pioneering gay bar, The Black Cat. At a time when society casually expected "decent" homosexuals to change sexual orientation or commit suicide, Jose closed every show by leading the audience in singing "God Save Us Nellie Queens."

I can't believe the stupidity and political insensitivity that allowed this to happen, but this Berlin Wall in my Gay neighborhood at this particular time simply must be removed.

He founded San Francisco's Royal Court, which was the first effective gay community government in America, and the source of San Francisco's reputation as the most well-organized gay community in the world. It served and still serves as a prototype for community organizing in cities large and small. It was the first successful political vehicle of gay pride as we know it today, and our current gay political establishment rose directly out of it.

Jose has raised tens of thousands of dollars for gay causes. He has traveled all over the country, in the '50s and '60s giving pep talks to demoralized and isolated groups of gay people when no one else would. For decades his title, Empress Jose I, has appeared in boldface in the white pages of the San Francisco phone book; in the years before gay social service organizations, gay people fleeing the bigotry and violence of their hometowns could come to San Francisco and call Jose, who would help them find homes, jobs, and friends.

Jose, and other drag entertainers like him — male and female — were once the only proudly visible leaders we had, the only people with a positive message to sustain us. Without them, most of the organizers of the coming march and rally would not only still be in the closet, most of them would be living in suburbia, married, with children, sucking pee-pees in truckstop restrooms. Yet, these organizers have voted not to include "drag queens" among the "recognized contingents" that will make up "the first half of the march" or speak at the rally.

In response to Jerry's closing remarks, I would like to say that straight organizations have extended memberships to acknowledged homosexuals. Didn't gays bowl in the basically straight City Tournament? Also, there is a team from the GSL playing and doing quite well in the City Softball League. Many of us have played in industrial and insurance softball and bowling leagues with no discrimination. As a matter of fact, we have done well and have been rewarded for our abilities while gaining respect.

The competition with straights in many circumstances is good for our community. Weren't it all happy when a gay team won money in the City Tournament? Aren't we proud that the Gay Games (it will always be Olympics) proves that we are as athletic as others and only need the chance to prove it? When the gay softball teams beat straight teams, doesn't it make us feel good?

While keeping our organizations as pure as possible by remembering that their purpose is to give gay men and lesbians a chance to play and prove themselves, let's also prove that we are as good as we can be by not bickering over sexual orientation, but beating them at their own game. We have fantastic bowlers, softball players, tennis players, track stars, swimmers, basketball players, some "macho" football players, pool sharpshooters, and other athletic individuals who will win no matter whom they play and we should be proud of them. If the straights feel that we are pushovers, let's go out and prove to them that we are not. When it comes to tournaments and competitions that bill themselves as gay events such as the Gay World Series softball championships, IGBO bowling tournament, Gay (Olympic) Games, etc., then we should insure the integrity of the name by only allowing brothers and sisters to participate. However, what is wrong with local competition from anyone who wants to be fair and help us improve our game and quality?

Long lists with scores of names on them were circulated at the meeting. Heavily weighted with the names of every conceivable heterosexual celebrity except Zsa Zsa Gabor, and including Joan Rivers, there was only one local name I recognized. James Baldwin was a particular favorite of the group, although no one could figure how to get him here from the south of France on such short notice. Ralph Paine insisted that "we need a speaker from the classical music community" and suggested Van Cliburn. Ralph also suggested former U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, because "I hear she's dying and she might come out onstage."

In this tragedy or farce? The meeting occurred at the behest of the co-chair of the steering committee for the demonstration. This co-chair made the motion to regulate local community participation in the march and rally, which passed.

Drag is an honorable — and socially necessary — art that is thousands of years old; until relatively recently in the western world, all women's roles in theatre were played by adolescent boys. Only people insecure in their masculine self-identity (this includes certain "politically correct" lesbians) could be offended by it. Now that Boy George has taught every four-year-old child in



Larry Trend
San Francisco

On Straight Athletes

★ Re: Jerry De Young on gay sports for gays.

I, like Jerry, have written articles for the *B.A.R.* about gay bowling leagues and tournaments. I respect Jerry and the work he has done for the furthering of gay bowling in San Francisco. However, I feel that Jerry should think a little and get his facts straight before he writes about other organizations in the gay community.

I have been a member of the Gay Softball League for four years, two broken fingers, two wrist operations, and a lot of aches and pains. I think I know as much about it as I do the gay bowling leagues. First, I would like to ask Jerry if he feels that there are no straights in the Community or Tavern Guild Leagues? Also, whether he felt that not a single person who was either straight or bisexual competed in the Tri-City or No-Tap bowling tournaments? Also, Jerry, how many gay individuals competed in the San Francisco City Tournament that was open to all?

Although I was not here at the time, I have been told that there was a problem of gay managers buying straight players to win the old Community Softball League (CSL). When that occurred, the new Gay Softball League (GSL) was started by various individuals who are well-known by those of us who play softball, with the idea of keeping it a gay league. The CSL (with gay and straight players) and the GSL have survived quite well.

The GSL has in its rules that any player can be challenged as to his or her sexual orientation. If that player says he or she is gay or lesbian, then the matter is dropped. This has occurred on rare occasions and each time the matter was resolved internally, as it should be. No one was asked to prove their sexual orientation. People have been accepted based on their word and their attitude to others in the league. This is true in bowling also.

In response to Jerry's closing remarks, I would like to say that straight organizations have extended memberships to acknowledged homosexuals. Didn't gays bowl in the basically straight City Tournament? Also, there is a team from the GSL playing and doing quite well in the City Softball League. Many of us have played in industrial and insurance softball and bowling leagues with no discrimination. As a matter of fact, we have done well and have been rewarded for our abilities while gaining respect.

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Michael J. Haggett
San Francisco

Open Door Policy

★ In my published letter last week captioned "What's What," I irresponsibly wrote, (*sic*) "Bathroom doors should be kept closed except for leaving and entering." I have since been reminded that the choice to leave a door open for ventilation and other purposes is also a personal privacy right, unless jailed. I must remember to enroll in some kind of intercourse in breeding, brightening, (*sic*) and especially writhe-metic. My apologies and thank you.

William (Bill) Smith, 2001th
San Francisco

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The Dykes on Bikes as they appeared in the '82 Parade. (Photo: Rink)

What's in a Name?

Dispute Revs Up for Dyke Bikers

Two Groups Vie for Spot at Vanguard of Parade

by Allen White

Who's a Dyke on a bike? That's not a dumb question - it is, in fact, the central question in a dispute over who will lead the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade this coming Sunday.

The issue has been simmering for months and came to a head when a group of women, including Glenna McElhinney, chose to form a legal association and get a trademark for the phrase "Dykes on Bikes." Ramey Fair, who, with McElhinney, founded the group in 1977, said the purpose of the group is to educate women about motorcycles and that it is a recreational club. She says it has been a loosely organized group and that anybody could ride in the group in the annual San Francisco parade.

Last year, the core group of "Dykes on Bikes" numbered about a dozen, though over 125 women participated in the contingent. The core group now calls itself the "Dykes on Bikes" and claims that the other women can no longer use the title.

Roberta Whitelaw, a woman biker in the parade since 1975, countered by forming the "Dykes on Bikes Motorcycle Club of San Francisco." She and her advisor, Hydie Downard, claim that "Dykes on Bikes" is a generic term and anybody who desires can be a Dyke on a bike.

This year, both organizations have filed applications and money has been accepted for the groups to participate in the 1984 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. Both groups have attorneys and Betsy Calloway, the attorney for the "Dykes" with the trademark, has served papers to make the other group of "Dykes" stop using the name.

"Dykes on Bikes" founder Glenna McElhinney would make no statement because she said the issue is being negotiated by the attorneys. Hydie Downard said there is nothing to negotiate.

Downard told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "This group has been formed and registered to assure that all women have the right to continue the tradition they are entitled to. Any discrimination or denial of this right is a misuse of power and a direct attack not only to the goals followed by the

Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade but the women who gather to ride each year." Fair said the issue was one of safety. There have been complaints that some of the riders drink beer and take drugs before the parade. "The problem is not image; it is safety!" she exclaimed.

Last year, she said, there had to be negotiations to get the people who were using drugs and drinking beer to drop back in the group of women bikers. At the same time, the core group purchased flags and formed as an official organization which included trademarking the name "Dykes on Bikes."

Dykes on Bikes Profile
 See Page 39

Hydie Downard counters by saying the women on bikes at the rear of the group were not drunk and were the contingent that escorted the "People with AIDS" at the head of the parade. "I think it's unfair," she said. "All I want is for women to have the right to ride in our parade."

Drinking, even in a parade, is against the law. It is also against the rules of the parade. Motorcyclists in the parade will have to sign statements pledging not to break the law, which would include consumption of drugs and liquor.

Throughout the controversy, the two primary questions relate to the one group to hold exclusive use of the phrase "Dykes on Bikes" and who goes first in the parade next Sunday.

Rikki Streicher, the owner of Maud's and Amelia's, the two largest Lesbian bars in San Francisco, is appalled at the fight over the name. She said she



Hydie Downard (Photo: Rink)

is a board member of the group that puts on the Gay Games. They are now involved in a bitter and costly legal action of the use of just one single word. Streicher said, "I believe it is a travesty when one of our community organizations uses the same sort of tactics as an outside organization." She further stated, "I believe that any woman who wants to have a right to ride on a bike in the parade and they have a perfect right to call themselves a 'dyke.' For a woman to be called a 'dyke on a bike' is her own prerogative."

Meanwhile, over at the parade office, they are sitting with two applications from two "Dykes on Bikes" groups. They have both paid their fees and both have met all the requirements to ride in this year's parade. Parade co-chair Linda Boyd said they take the position that the "Dykes on Bikes" is a generic term which has been used in the past three years. She said both groups will be a part of the parade.

The decision of who goes first is made by the parade committee and it is their decision. There are several considerations in making the decision and they believe their policies are fair. Boyd said the official lineup of the parade will not be released until Sunday morning and only at that time will the truth be known about who will lead the parade.

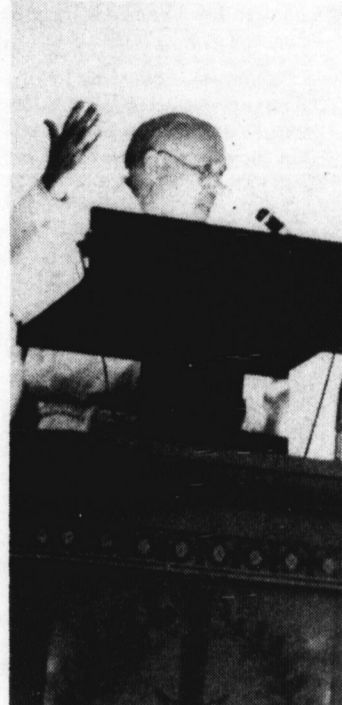
The *Bay Area Reporter* has learned through several reliable sources that the trademark group, "The Dykes on Bikes" which includes Glenna McElhinney, will begin the 1984 parade. The second group in the parade will be the "Dykes on Bikes Motorcycle Club of San Francisco" which will include Roberta Whitelaw. The parade starts at 11 a.m.

'Thank God for Making Me Gay'

Rousing Service at Trinity; Preacher Boyd Rips Bigoted Biblical Babblers

by Allen White

Gay and Lesbian worshippers joined in a rousing confession of faith Sunday night during the annual ecumenical service coinciding with Gay and Lesbian Freedom Week. This is the third year the service has ushered in Gay Freedom Week. The first was in 1982 at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral. Last year the service was presented at Grace Cathedral. This year, by far the most theologically inclusive, was hosted by Nostri, the Gay and Lesbian group of Trinity Church. Participating in the Sunday service were ministers and priests representing the Roman Catholic Church, the United Church of Christ, Lutherans, Presbyterians, a group called Evangelicals Concerned, and ministers from the two Metropolitan Churches in San Francisco.



Malcolm Boyd preaches. (Photo: Rink)

Through the symbolism, the pageantry, and the expressed theology it became a statement as colorful as La Cage aux Folles and as reverent as the solitary prayers of a mother in a deserted chapel.

The speaker was Episcopal priest Malcolm Boyd. Boyd has become a controversial religious personality for his radical prayer book, *Are You Running With Me, Jesus?* and for his coming out from a church pulpit. The announcement he was Gay was, in fact, made from the same Trinity Church pulpit almost a decade ago.

Malcolm Boyd declared, "A new age is here for Gay men and Lesbians. The past is past; we must not forget it lest we have to relive it. But our situation is now fundamentally different. We are now a new moral minority. We must resist being flogged in the name of morality. We are a moral people; we possess morality and we must stand up now." He attacked Jerry Falwell,

who four days before the Democratic Convention is bringing a "Pro-Family Forum" to San Francisco. Boyd ripped into Falwell for laying claim to the concept of the family. "Remember, Jesus Christ was a single man. He had a mother, a father, and an extended family," Boyd said. He compared the situation to that of many Gay men and Lesbians.

Boyd commented on bigots using the Bible to interpret Blacks as beasts and less than human. "How many Jews have died," he said, "because of someone's interpretation of the Bible?"

He denounced those who would interpret the Bible as advocating people live a lie. "Living in the closet is a lie," he proclaimed. "The good news is to know you are Gay and to know you are not a victim. To many, a Gay identity means living in a closet. America needs to know who we are. "Gay has a new meaning:



Clergy congratulate Boyd after his sermon. (Photo: Rink)

Take off the mask! Self-pity is so boring; social arrogance is so unnecessary. Be yourself and help others to be themselves," Boyd said. To a standing ovation he proclaimed, "Thank God for making me Gay."

As the service moved into the holy communion, the intensity of the two-hour event was awesome. Rev. Robert Crome, the Rector of Trinity Episcopal, invited all those present to take communion. He was specific, as if to give no doubt, that every person, including Gay men and Lesbians, were to be a part of this part of the service.

As the people slowly moved through the aisles, the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorus presented an anthem and Jack Pantaleo, a member of Evangelicals Concerned, played a canon on the harp.

Following the benediction by a Roman Catholic priest, the building shook from the booming of the organ and several hun-

dred people singing "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God." As the procession of priests, singers, and flags marched back through the church, the worshippers stood, screamed, and applauded. The declaration of faith had been made.

New Wizard of Oz

London - Attention, all you Judy Garland fans! Walt Disney Productions is finally going to do what no studio has dared to do up to now - produce a sequel to Judy's 1939 classic, *The Wizard of Oz*.

Who will play Dorothy as being kept a closely-guarded secret, but she will be considerably younger than Ms. Garland and make Ms. Ross old enough to be her grandmother. On second thought, could you imagine Minnie Mouse as Dorothy and Pluto as Toto? Would you believe Mickey as the wizard? After all, he DID play the Sorcerer's Apprentice in *Fantasia*.

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Sanders Withdraws Initiative — Police Code Makes It Moot

Following consultations with attorneys and conversations with bathhouse owners, the Gay newspaper writer who two weeks ago introduced a November ballot initiative to ban heterosexual bathhouse sex has withdrawn his proposal.

"It was brought to my attention during those conversations that my initiative is moot because of a clause in the city's police code which makes it impossible for any ban on bathhouse sexual activity to be imposed on Gay bathhouses alone," said Dion Sanders, the initiative's sponsor.

"That clause puts Gay bathhouses and straight saunas and hot tubs that are licensed by the city in roughly the same category — which means all of the establishments would be affected by the Public Health Department's proposed regulations," he continued.

The regulations, drafted by the Police Department, in conjunction with the Health Department, would specifically ban sex between Gay men in bathhouses with city licenses.

Sanders, a writer on leave of absence from the *Bay Area Reporter*, said that the owner of one of the straight saunas told him, "the real reason why Dr. (Mervyn) Silverman has not taken any action to date is the fact there is no legal way for him to do so without also coming down on the straight establishments."

"He told me in no uncertain terms that my initiative would

remove that barrier," he continued, adding that the owner's statements were backed up by "several attorneys researching the issue."

Sanders acknowledged that the real danger would be in the precedent that his initiative would set. "I am well aware that there are some groups in this city who would push initiative after initiative to close down the X-rated theaters, bars, private clubs, you name it. In the long run, it would have done more harm than good."

"I said all along that my initiative was intended as a pressure tactic to stop Dr. Silverman's regulations — and it seems to have worked, in light of recent events," he said.

Sanders — who has been a free-lance reporter for the *Bay Area Reporter* for a year — said that the past two weeks "it has been very uncomfortable for me. After asking questions for 13 years as a reporter, believe me it was very unnerving to be on the receiving end of reporters' questions."

"But I felt I had to do what I did, because this was one issue in which I could not be impartial," he said, Sanders and his editors have agreed he will not cover the bathhouse issue.

Sanders said that the experience which included the overwhelming rejection of his initiative by the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club — taught him that "journalists make lousy politicians." ■

What About Liz?

Sandmire, Hubbs Mark 25 Years

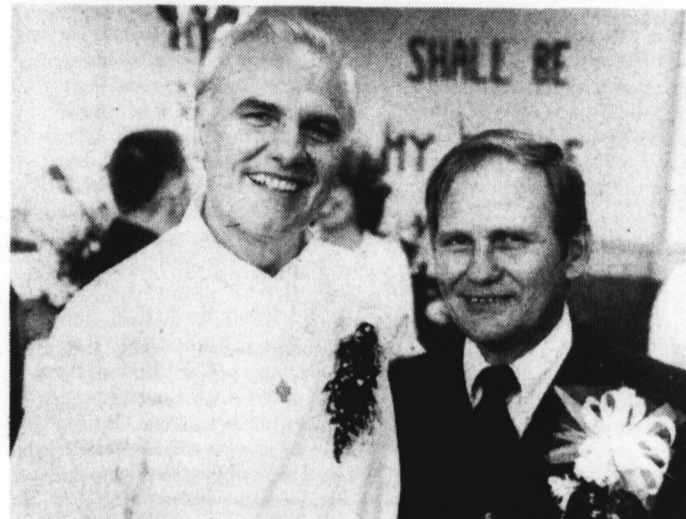
It Started with an Argument at a 1959 Dinner Party

by Steve Warren

Rev. Jim Sandmire and Jack Hubbs celebrated their 25th anniversary at California Hall Sunday with a party attended by over 200, many of them members and friends of Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church, where Jim is pastor and Jack is a deacon.

Their relationship began in 1959. That same year:

- Liz Taylor married for the fourth of seven times;
- Mickey Rooney married the fifth of his eight wives;
- Joan Crawford's fourth husband died, leaving her in charge of Pepsi-Cola;
- Hedy Lamarr divorced the fifth of her six husbands;
- Martha Raye and her sixth husband marked their first anniversary, Artie Shaw and his seventh wife, their second;
- Lana Turner and Ginger Rogers were taking breathers between their respective fourth and fifth husbands, Gloria Swanson between numbers five and six.



The Rev. Jim Sandmire and Jack Hubbs had an intimate little affair with about 200 friends for their 25th anniversary. (Photo: Rink)

Sandmire and Hubbs were students at Berkeley in 1959. They were only vaguely aware of each other prior to June 15th of that year, but they had at least one thing in common — an interest in a young man who was graduating. Jack threw a dinner in his honor and the graduate invited Jim as his guest, to Jack's jealous chagrin.

In the middle of dinner Jack and Jim got into an argument. Something clicked and you might say they've been going at each other every since.

"Jim courted me like mad for a week," Jack said. Sandmire had a wife and children, which gave them both reason to hesitate. "Jack said it didn't matter," Jim says, "but he insisted that I fulfill my (obligation) to my family first."

As it happened, Jack had a ticket for a long-planned trip to Europe. When he returned ten months later Jim had put his affairs in order and they were able to begin their life together.

Both were political science majors, but their career paths took different courses. Jim set up a management consulting firm and Jack began teaching in the suburban Mount Diablo school district, where he has been for 20 years. Jim's firm folded in 1971 after his photo appeared in the *Chronicle* as the leader of a Gay rally on the steps of the Federal Building, but by then he had found another career.

Sandmire had been active in the ministry of the Mormon church, but left them after "years of agonizing... Being Gay was part of it, but not the main reason." Some years later he was helped over a bad period by an Episcopal priest he consulted on impulse, and he started attending that church. Hubbs, who had been separated from the church for several years, went along to be with Jim

and "because he enjoyed the liturgy."

MCC, which began in Los Angeles in 1968, brought its ministry to San Francisco's Gay community early in 1970. Sandmire attended a service and soon joined the church. Feeling his old calling reawakened, he became a deacon and then founded a new church in Oakland. Later he was called to pastor MCC of San Francisco, where he is now Pastor Emeritus.

After MCC's 1974 general conference here, Jim was called to pastor the "mother church" in Los Angeles. Between that, founding All Saints MCC in West Hollywood and serving the fellowship as treasurer and a full-time elder, he spent 4½ years in Southern California. Jack couldn't move around so easily as a teacher, so they were separated except for summers and as many visits as they could arrange.

Hubbs said he feels that the decision to stay together indefinitely came "fairly early as far as I was concerned." As to what makes a relationship last, he suggests, "It's something you work at... (It requires) consideration and caring... We have an awful lot of common interests (and) we're interested in what each other does." While some couples grow apart from each other, they've found, "Our individual growth adds richness to the relationship."

Sandmire concurs, mentioning some of their shared interests as museums, galleries, concerts and historical trivia. "We've had our ups and downs like every relationship," he said, "but I don't think we've ever lost respect for one another." With that respect goes trust, which "has allowed us to be separated and come back together and pick it up where we left it... It never occurs to us to doubt one another."

Jack and Jim have always been part of each other's biological families. Jack helped raise Jim's children. "My wife had custody sometimes and I had them sometimes," Jim says, adding, "but we kept their pets... The kids called Jack 'Mama Jack' because I was the stern one in the family. When I said no they would go to Jack to get around me."

They've always "raised" Jack's mother together. She's lived with them "off and on for 15 years," as a neighbor for a while but sharing their house for the past seven years. Like her son before her, she had a spiritual awakening at MCC. "That was how she found out we were Gay," Jim says. "We decided it was time and took her to church with us... She had been a nominal Methodist, but she became a real Christian through MCC." "Mother Hubbs" is popular in Jim's congregation, and with church members around the world.

Their careers and church activities don't give Jack and Jim a lot of time to be alone together, so "We try to make it quality time," Jim says. "We may get tired of one another's commitments, but we've always supported one another's commitments."

At the couple's anniversary celebration, city Supervisor Willie Kennedy presented a unanimous proclamation of the Board of Supervisors, honoring the couple for their life together and their service to the Lesbian and Gay community.

Sandmire and Hubbs are both young enough that there may well be a sequel to this story on their 50th anniversary. I hope I'm still around to write it, and perhaps celebrating an anniversary of my own by then. Talking with a couple like this gives hope to an old romantic. ■

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National Business Councils Reacts to AIDS

Delegates Push Education, Oppose Bath Closings

The National Association of Business Councils is deeply concerned with the grave crisis presented by the AIDS epidemic in communities throughout the United States.

We urge our members to support and participate in the following activities:

1. Efforts by both private and public agencies to educate the community as to risks, alternatives, and responsible health practices.
2. Advocacy for increased local, state, and federal funding of research, educational efforts, and assistance and support for people with AIDS.
3. Fundraising for purposes of research, education, and assistance and support for people with AIDS.

We firmly believe that education is the most positive agent for promoting continuing health in our communities. We firmly oppose any attempts to impose arbitrary regulation or closures upon bathhouses or other similar businesses. Such action would be an unwarranted intrusion by government and poses a serious threat to civil liberties.

— Passed unanimously by the Board of Directors
May 19, 1984

The statement came out of the semi-annual meeting of the Business Councils' Board of Directors held last weekend in Seattle. Some 40 delegates attended. ■

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Cops' Plan for Convention

Spells Out What Will Be Allowed, What Won't As Demos — and Gays — Converge at Moscone

by Allen White

The San Francisco police will operate as virtually two separate departments during the Democratic Convention. Plans for convention security were reviewed by Police Lt. James Dachauer at a Board of Supervisors' committee meeting last week.

One section of the police department will operate to provide basic police services to the citizens of San Francisco. The other will focus on the logistics of the 1984 Democratic National Convention.

The convention organization will be under the command of Deputy Chief George Emil. He will head seven separate tactical squads. One will operate inside, another outside, Moscone Center. Traffic and in-transit concerns will be the responsibility of two other squads. One squad will be assigned to hotels, one to emergencies, and one group will be assigned to intelligence.

Dachauer told the supervisors' committee that the police had put in motion a policy to facilitate the right of all persons to demonstrate. He was firm in stating that any violence will lead immediately to arrests. Supervisor Nancy Walker, who requested the report, asked for his "guidelines of violence."

Dachauer said that a rigid chain of command had been set up to monitor any violations of the law and keep control. He also stated that all lieutenants and sergeants had received four hours of special training to sensitize them to proper police procedures.

Dachauer said that any violent incidents would be videotaped by the city. This tape will be used to prove or disprove criminal activity, not only against demonstrators, but also against police officers, he said.

Other sources reported that Gay leaders have been meeting with the police in an effort to reduce the possibility of violence. The Community United Against Violence has been meeting with the police and will

be working with dozens of monitors being trained in the Gay community. The organizers of the Lesbian/Gay Rights march the Sunday before the convention are expecting over 250 Gay monitors to assure a safe event.

Deputy Chief Emil has coordinated police coverage during several Gay demonstrations. He personally supervised the police during the events surrounding the release of Dan White last January. Following the defeat of AB-1, there were demonstrations, and, though small in size, Emil was present observing the crowd and the conduct of his officers. For the last several years he has also been the officer in charge of the City Hall command post during the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day activities. ■

NGTF Meets with Social Security Commissioners

Representatives of the National Gay Task Force and three AIDS service organizations met with the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, Martha McSteen, on April 30 to establish new channels of communication between that agency and the Gay community. NGTF Executive Director Virginia Apuzzo described this meeting as "part of NGTF's continuing effort to educate the federal bureaucracy regarding the needs of persons with AIDS."

Also attending the meeting were Jeffrey Levi, NGTF's Washington Representative; John Boring, NGTF's AIDS Program Coordinator; Jay Lipner, special counsel to Gay Men's Health Crisis of New York; Phil Gerber of the Dallas AIDS Information Project; and Peter Laqueur of the Health Education Resource Organization of Baltimore. In addition to the Commissioner, attendees from the Social Security Administration (SSA) included Patricia Owens, Acting Associate Commissioner for Disability; James McDonald, Chief of Medical Evaluation; and Janice Warden, Deputy Associate Commissioner of the Office of Field Operations.

THE ISSUES

Among the issues raised by NGTF and the AIDS service organizations were inordinate delays experienced by some persons with AIDS before gaining access to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI); and failure on the part of some state disability determination offices to follow SSA guidelines for AIDS claimants. Gerber provided his own personal perspective as a person with AIDS and claimant for benefits: "Only after much frustration, and countless inquiries on my part, and only after I had to endure repeated requests for irrelevant information and a six-month wait, did I finally receive benefits."

Among the specific steps that the SSA was urged to take to make it easier for persons with AIDS to obtain benefits were: adoption of special teleservice numbers for receiving applications from persons with AIDS and implementation of systematic follow-up procedures for AIDS claims (procedures already in effect in New York City) and designation of SSA personnel to specialize in AIDS claims and work with AIDS service volunteers, which has already happened in San Francisco and a few other cities.

The need for better entitlement education directed towards persons with AIDS and closer cooperation between SSA and AIDS service groups was also discussed. Lipner urged that the SSA provide AIDS applicants with referrals to the Medicaid program, noting that "in states such as New York, Illinois, California, and Massachusetts, where it is possible to obtain Medicaid before qualifying for SSI, it is highly desirable for persons with AIDS to apply separately for Medicaid."

Commissioner McSteen agreed to take further measures to encourage expedited handling of applications from persons with AIDS, especially in those localities such as Dallas and Atlanta where delays have been particularly excessive. She also pledged better communication by her agency with AIDS service organizations and agreed that AIDS claimants would be provided with Medicaid referrals and information about local AIDS service organizations. The Gay community will receive the names of local and regional liaisons who specialize in the handling of AIDS claims. In addition, the Commissioner recognized the need for SSA to make the availability of benefits better known to those who are eligible. It was agreed that SSA would consider public service announcements to achieve this goal.

To alleviate the plight of those who suffer from AIDS-related

conditions that are severely debilitating, NGTF asked the Social Security Administration to supplement the existing definition covering only CDC (Centers for Disease Control)-defined AIDS, with a new impairment category (or categories) that will make it easier for these persons to obtain badly needed support. The Commissioner and her medical evaluation staff agreed to begin discussions with physicians from the Gay community experienced with these AIDS-related conditions. In the meantime, the SSA agreed to send a bulletin to those in charge of disability determination in every state advising them that AIDS claims falling short of the CDC definition may be allowed if the patient is unable to perform work.

Apuzzo said the meeting "demonstrates a willingness on the part of Social Security to be more responsive to the needs of persons with AIDS and to move beyond the helpful but not wholly adequate policy initiatives that they have made in the past year." ■

Persons with AIDS may call the NGTF Crisisline (800-221-7044; in NYS call: 212-807-6016) to obtain basic information regarding the application process for benefits obtainable from the Social Security Administration. NGTF urges persons with AIDS and those who are disabled as a result of AIDS-related conditions to apply for benefits; those experiencing problems or delays should contact their local AIDS service organization or NGTF.

Philly Gets Sexual Minorities Board

Philadelphia - Mayor Wilson Goode has signed an executive order creating a special mayor's commission for sexual minorities.

Lisa Bacon, president of the Philadelphia Equal Rights Commission, and Len Bost, former vice chairman of the local chapter of Black and White Men Together, were named co-chairs of the new commission, which will, among other things, study problems facing sexual minorities, work with city agencies toward ending anti-Gay and anti-Bisexual discrimination, and improve city services to sexual minorities. ■

A Cease-Fire in the Battle for the Baths

Supes Delay Action for 45 Days After Legal Objections

by Brian Jones

The year's nastiest political brawl went into half-time last week. A Board of Supervisors committee delayed a bill to define who will regulate bathhouses. The Committee on Public Protection voted 2-0, with one member absent, to delay action for 45 days. It provided a breather welcomed by almost all of the combatants enmeshed in the city's war for the bathhouses.

The committee did not directly address the sex ban — the proposal to outlaw Gay sex at sex clubs and baths. Instead, it pondered a related measure on who will have the power to create regulations — such as the sex ban rules. The Chief of Police currently has that authority. The Director of Public Health wants it transferred to him.

And that's the connection — the Public Health Director, Dr. Mervyn Silverman, is the man who drafted the sex ban rules. If Silverman is given the power to regulate the baths, he told the supervisors, he will lose no time in pushing for the sex ban regulations.

So, while Silverman's sex ban was not on the official agenda, the supervisors heard about little else. A coalition of seven Gay, Lesbian, and civil rights groups pleaded for delay. Silverman and City Attorney George Agnost pleaded for speedy action.

But the supervisors were in no mood to be rushed. Fundamental legal objections, murky medical evidence, and complaints the issue was being railroaded through City Hall combined to convince Hongisto and Kennedy to stop the action — at least for now.

Their hope is that the 45-day delay will clarify the issues. At last week's hearing, confusion reigned. The testimony was complex and sometimes contradictory. The proposals were confusing. And the remarks were occasionally weird. The Director of Health discussed law. The City Attorney testified on medicine. Analogies were made to sex acts in restaurants. And the openly Gay attorney for the police department defended the right of police officers to visit bathhouses "for recreational purposes."

When the dust settled, key questions emerged: how to save citizens' lives, and how to preserve citizens' rights. Kennedy and Hongisto said they were unconvinced that giving Silverman control over the baths would promote either goal.

Said Kennedy, "I have consistently supported the humanitarian efforts to provide care for people with AIDS and to seek a solution to their suffering. However, it is very questionable as to

torneys who might hold different views — especially from the Gay and Lesbian community — were not given adequate opportunities to give input and review," Hongisto said.

The supervisors' action was intended to provide time for such input and review. During the 45-day hiatus, Lesbian and Gay lawyers, along with other civil rights attorneys, are to prepare a "white paper" on the issue. The paper will explore the civil rights aspects of the various bathhouse proposals. It will be presented to all the members of the Board of Supervisors.

THE LEGAL ISSUES

During last week's hearing,



Who Gets Control? The power to regulate bathhouse sex was at issue as Supervisor Harry Britt (back to camera, right) addressed his colleagues Richard Hongisto and Willie Kennedy. (Photo: Rink)

how, or in what manner, the legislation before us today addresses these issues.

"Just as the City Attorney has advised the Director of Public Health to move slowly in formulating any new laws or regulations regarding bathhouses, so does it seem appropriate, to me, that the Board of Supervisors should move cautiously and deliberately... Given the size of the problem we face, and the possible legal effects of our actions, we should take the time to carefully consider the measures. Forty-five days seems okay — and no one can seriously argue that we are just prolonging the problem," Kennedy said.

Hongisto said he had seven specific objections to the proposal to give Silverman power to regulate the baths. Most of the objections were on legal and civil rights grounds. "There is divergence here in legal views — and in views on medical evidence, and sociological evidence," Hongisto said.

The supervisor was openly critical of Agnost. "The City Attorney appeared here today and did not give us legal advice. Instead, he came here as an advocate of a piece of legislation. And, really, he gave us no legal views. I was struck by that," Hongisto said.

Hongisto also criticized Agnost for the way he was handling the proposals to regulate bathhouses. "It appears that at

It is easier for citizens to protect their rights in dealing with the police, the lawyers argued. If the health department gets control, rights might be violated more easily, they said.

"There is a clear body of law limiting what police can do in bathhouses," said constitutional lawyer Jay Kohorn of Los Angeles. "There is no such body of law dealing with the health department, and defining its power in regulating adult behavior in bathhouses."

Hongisto accepted this argument in explaining his vote to delay. "There is a sense within the community of how to deal with the police department, and the civilian police review panel also allows more public response," Hongisto said.

A second legal concern was privacy. The sex ban rules which Silverman hopes to put in place would force owners to remove doors and brighten lights.

"If the veil of privacy is pierced, no longer will people using these facilities have a reasonable expectation of privacy. Police would have the right — in fact, the duty — to go in and make arrests for lewd and lascivious conduct," Kohorn said.

Constitutional lawyers and some Gay activists are also concerned about the legal precedent which may be set in San Francisco. "What we see here is the first use of a medical problem as the foundation for the state to delve into the private, consensual behavior of adults," Kohorn said. "There's nothing to stop recriminalization of consensual sexual activity throughout the U.S., if we follow this argument."

MEDICAL ISSUES

The hearing was long on medical argument, but short on

facts. Silverman and Agnost made repeated references to studies and statistics, but in no case did they cite the names of studies or the sources of their statistics.

"Facilities which foster multiple sex acts are in fact fostering behavior which is deadly," Silverman said.

He was challenged by Kennedy. "If this is so, and since you have that power, I can't understand why you have not used your emergency powers to close the bathhouses," Kennedy said.

"The evidence has not been at all clear," Silverman responded.

Later, in his prepared testimony, City Attorney Agnost repeated the same themes. "This is a disease whose victims are characterized by multiple, random sex contacts," Agnost said. But he also said, "The etiology (cause) of this disease is not determined."

Such medical testimony prompted Hongisto to interrupt. "Excuse me. I'm not used to hearing from the City Attorney on health. I'm waiting for you to begin talking about the legal questions."

In shared testimony from Silverman and Agnost, reference was made to a study which was unfamiliar to the Gay AIDS activists in the room. Silverman said, "... a study shows that first use of a medical problem as the foundation for the state to delve into the private, consensual behavior of adults." Kohorn said, "There's nothing to stop recriminalization of consensual sexual activity throughout the U.S., if we follow this argument." Agnost also cited the study — again, not by name — and this time it came out, "as we have heard, patrons of these establishments are 10 times more likely to become victims of AIDS." ■

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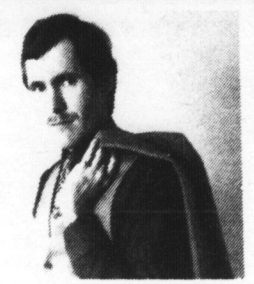
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NATIONAL NEWS

NY Catholics May Lose Funds Over Discrimination Law

New York - The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York stands to lose as much as \$60 million in contracts with the city to operate child-care programs because it refuses to comply with a city policy against anti-Gay discrimination.

Archbishop John O'Connor last week told members of Courage, an organization of Gay Catholics which is committed to celibacy, "We would rather close our child-care agencies rather than violate church teaching."

O'Connor's remarks were published in the archdiocesan newspaper, *Catholic New York*. The archbishop said the Roman Catholic Church is "on record" as being in favor of antidiscrimination efforts, but added, "There is a tremendous difference between a controlled inclination (celibacy) and an endorsement of active homosexual behavior," which the church condemns.

"I cannot change church teaching," he said. I cannot be ambiguous. I cannot fudge on it."

Mayor Edward Koch earlier this year issued an executive order that agencies doing business with the city cannot discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

The policy cost the Salvation Army \$4.5 million last March after it refused to comply with the directive. The Archdiocese has contracts with the city worth about \$60 million, according to the *New York Daily News*.

Koch declined to comment on the matter, saying he would wait until he was briefed by the city attorney.

O'Connor, in a speech before the American Jewish Committee last month, declared that the church considers "the practice of homosexuality sinful and unnatural."

— *New York Native and San Francisco Chronicle*

It May Take Act of Congress to Keep Longstaff in U.S.

Washington, DC - A "private bill" was introduced in the House last Thursday to grant to Richard Longstaff what the Immigration and Naturalization Service — and the courts — have refused to give him: American citizenship.

Rep. Michael Leland (D-TX), in whose Houston district is located one of Longstaff's two hair salons and clothing stores, introduced the measure at the request of the Gay Rights National Lobby. The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear Longstaff's appeal of a lower court decision which upheld the INS's denial of his citizenship. The INS said Longstaff entered the country under false pretenses.

Longstaff emigrated from his native Britain in 1965. He denied to INS examiners, at that time, that he was afflicted with a psychopathic personality. Immigration law still lists homosexuality as a condition of psychopathic personality — despite a 1973 ruling by the American Psychiatric Association that homosexuality is not a psychiatric disorder.

The bill — which would apply only to Longstaff — must be approved by both the House and the Senate and signed by President Reagan before it can be enacted. Its introduction, however, will, for the time being, force a suspension of deportation proceedings against Longstaff by the INS.

— *Washington Blade*

STATE NEWS

Baptist Pickets Protest San Diego MCC, Gay Parade

by George Mendenhall

An independent fundamentalist Baptist group in San Diego has begun to openly appear at Gay events to protest. Metropolitan Community Church had 13 pickets at a late May service and 175 demonstrators congregated at the annual Gay Pride Parade Saturday, June 9.

The Bible Missionary Fellowship members shouted their anger when women members of MCC appeared with children in their arms, forcing the women to use a side entrance. One protestor called out, "Do you want to turn your children into perverts?" Another carried a sign, "God Hates Homosexuals."

Early notice that the Baptists would appear produced a record turn-out inside the church. Inside, Rev. David Farrell told the over-flow crowd "These people have been around since the time of the Apostles. They used to call them Pharisees." Outside, a Baptist minister was telling the news media, "You can't come to Christ and be a homosexual. God says they are fools."

Local activists staged a Town Hall at MCC to discuss the coming Lambda Pride Parade and word of a possible Baptist protest. Mary Lou SanBlise of San Deigo's *Update* told the group, "I am angry that they are calling the shots."

W. Hollywood to Challenge S.F. as Gay Capital

Los Angeles - West Hollywood is one step closer to perhaps becoming the first city in America — in fact, the world — with a majority-Gay population. The step was taken in the form of a unanimous vote by a county commission that West Hollywood's bid for cityhood is financially feasible.

The unanimity of the vote astonished cityhood supporters and enraged opponents, who fear rent control and higher property taxes.

If West Hollywood — the heart of which is Boystown — becomes a city, it would have the highest per capita concentration of Gay residents of any city in the world. Estimates of West Hollywood's Gay population range as high as 52 percent.

Barring a threatened lawsuit by a group of property owners opposed to cityhood, the proposal by the West Hollywood Incorporation Committee will go on the November ballot.

— *Update, San Diego*

Constanza Gets a Hollywood Job Insists She Has Not 'Sold Out'

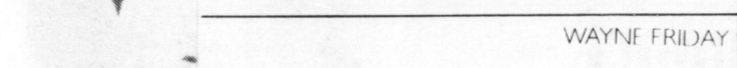
Midge Constanza, who served as the Assistant for Public Liaison under President Jimmy Carter, has been hired by one of the nation's largest television/movie producers, Alan Landsburg. Her new Hollywood position is Constanza's first full-time position since she served 20 months under Carter in the late 1970's.

It was Constanza who opened the national door to Lesbian and Gay rights on March 26, 1977, when she welcomed a group of Gay activists inside the White House to hear their concerns. This was followed by contacts being opened up in several federal departments with staff members — contacts that are still valuable to the 6,000-member National Gay Task Force.

The popular, outspoken feminist and supporter of Gay rights heads a new Landsburg Productions division that is developing short films and commercials for corporate clients and political candidates.

Has she "sold out"? Constanza denies it, emphasizing that she worked in Assemblyman Tom Hayden's campaign and is scheduled to sing at a coming fundraiser for Steve Schulte, a Gay candidate for Los Angeles City Council.

POLITICS AND POKER
The Nation's Eyes Turn to Our Town



Wayne Friday

Mayor Feinstein and her closest political advisors do not seriously expect Walter Mondale to tap her as his veep choice, but all the publicity Her Honor is getting surely can't hurt her when she starts looking at a possible statewide race (governor, maybe?); Feinstein not only made the cover of *Time* recently, but her photo has also graced the front page of the *New York Times* twice in the past couple of weeks, and Feinstein appeared this past Sunday on NBC's highly rated "Meet the Press" program. As for the search for a Mondale running-mate, pressure grows on the probable nominee to ask Gary Hart to run with him, but the two have grown to dislike each other and Mondale's people know he will have little chance of defeating Reagan without substantial Southern support, so after the current charade of "interviewing prospective candidates" is over, the choice will probably narrow down to either Texas Senator Lloyd Bentsen or Arkansas Senator Dale Bumpers.

Attention, all of you holding outstanding parking tickets: Supervisor Jack Molinari will announce next month the starting date for his one-month amnesty plan. Molinari, incidentally, last week received an early endorsement for re-election from the *California Voice*, and long-time political observers say they have never seen the popular Molinari working so hard in an election campaign; the veteran supe is out making speeches, cutting ribbons, and shaking hands seven days a week. The *New York Times* ran a feature story entitled "For a Politician, Power and Riches Go Together" on Speaker Willie Brown last week; says the *Times*: "There are two things to remember about Willie Brown. He grew up poor, Black, and without power. Now he is rich and powerful, and he intends to stay that way. Mr. Brown has a good time in his exciting world. He is a fashion-plate dresser, escort for attractive women, driver of high-performance cars, associate of powerful people, skillful politician, doting father, good friend of his former wife, horseman, rich and successful lawyer . . ."

The *San Francisco Bay Guardian* has endorsed Lia Belli for Milton Marks' State Senate seat. State Senator Milton Marks and campaign manager Joe Shumate have had an "amiable parting of the ways" and Marks has now hired Clint Reilly to manage his reelection campaign. Ellen Chaitin, Art Simon, and Tom Steel are co-chairs of a fundraiser/reception put on by the

City's legal community for Supervisor Harry Britt at the Washington Square Bar & Grill on June 28 (\$25, 4:30-6:30 p.m., no-host cocktails, 731-8498 for info).

In Reno, the fundamentalist Pro-Family Christian Coalition is at it again, trying to get the July 18 Reno Gay Rodeo canceled; as in the past two years, the Christian Coalition is circulating petitions to force the County Commission to cancel the rodeo. And in Fargo, North Dakota, some anti-Gay citizens have asked the City Council to rescind a proclamation making June 25 to July 1 Gay-Lesbian Week; Fargo Mayor Jon Lindgren says he will refuse to rescind the proclamation. In Hollywood, they are saying that Jane Fonda will definitely run next year for president of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG), supposedly with the support of current SAG president Ed Asner.

As of press time, the three Democratic presidential candidates have all failed to respond to an invitation to march and/or speak to the July 15 National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights.

In Massachusetts, the latest to enter the 10th Congressional District race against incumbent Gerry Studds is a Republican candidate who says he will make Studds' censure by the House a major campaign issue. Claiming Studds suffers from "diminished effectiveness," Republican Lewis Crampton joined four Democrats in opposing the openly Gay congressman, who faces a tough Democratic primary fight in September. A big Democratic Party donor grumbling to me about Lia Belli's very aggressive fund-raising techniques: "I don't even give that much to established politicians," he complained.

Everyone I spoke with agreed that Mayor Dianne handled herself superbly on Sunday's "Meet the Press" program where she appeared with Philadelphia Mayor Wilson Goode; Feinstein came off well-versed in everything from foreign policy to fiscal crisis in the cities and the closest the issue of San Francisco's Gay community came to the program was when Hearst's Marianne Means asked the mayor how San Francisco would handle the expected demonstrations from "diverse groups" at next month's convention. Feinstein replied that the "right to demonstrate will be protected, but precautions were being taken to insure that all demonstrations were peaceful" and that violence was neither expected nor would be tolerated.

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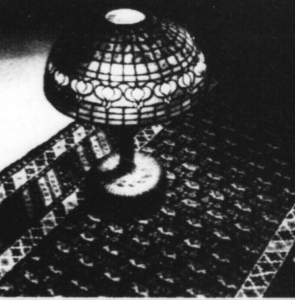


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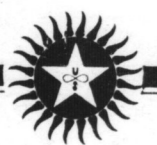
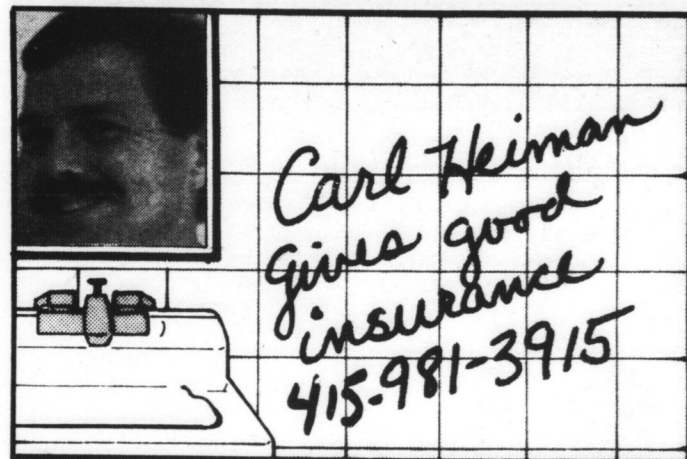
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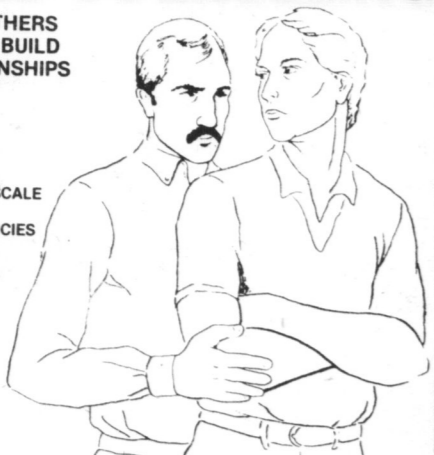
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Primary Post Mortem

Gay Candidates Win Voters' Support

Who Placed Where on June 5 Ballot

by Wayne Friday

The June 5 primary election brought few surprises, and in fact proved, as many thought, that the Bay Area is indeed Gay Hart country. Among those Gay and Lesbian candidates on the ballot, the hopefuls — for the most part — fared well with San Francisco voters.

In the fight for delegate seats to the Democratic convention here next month, Supervisor Harry Britt and former Toklas president Connie O'Connor were elected as Hart delegates in the 5th Congressional District, while Toklas' current president, Sal Rosselli, was elected as an alternate delegate pledged to Walter Mondale.

In the 6th Congressional District, which includes parts of the City as well as Marin County, and where Hart ran the strongest, former Milk Club president Gwenn Craig placed seventh to win a seat as an alternate Hart delegate.



Greg Day (Photo: Rink)

A crowded race for seats on the San Francisco County Democratic Central Committee did not stop a number of Gays and Lesbians from victory, with incumbent Louise Minnick, Carole Migden, Greg Day, Catherine Dodd, and incumbent Ron Huberman winning seats in the 17th Assembly District. The Milk Club's Gwenn Craig, however, lost a re-election bid to the county committee in the 17th district, by 48 votes.

In the 16th Assembly District, Connie O'Connor led the ticket, receiving a whopping 14,798 votes, obviously helped by her first place ballot position; incumbents Jack Trujillo and Cleve Jones easily won re-election while another incumbent, Steve Krefling, placed just out of the winner's circle, finishing 11th.

On the Republican side, Bob Bacci, a former president of



Gary Myerscough (Photo: Rink)

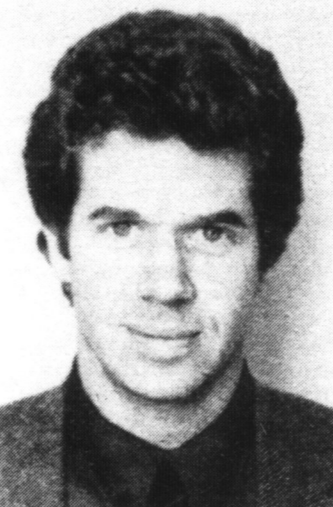
CRIR running in the 19th Assembly Republican primary race, was edged out by conservative Robert Silvestri, but won re-election to a seat on the GOP County Central Committee in the 19th district.

In the 16th Assembly District, two well-known Gay activists, Gary Myerscough and Kevin Wadsworth, won seats on the GOP County Committee. Myerscough is an incumbent and Wadsworth was familiar to voters, having twice been a candidate for supervisor. Another Gay Republican, Andrew Betancourt, lost a bid for a committee seat by a mere 2 votes.

In the 17th Assembly District there were no winners among Gay candidates for the GOP committees, although former CRIR president Duke Armstrong polled nearly 4,000 votes to become the highest vote-getter among a score of Gays running.

In the East Bay, two well-known Gay activists, Armand Boulay and Leland Trainman, won seats on the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee.

In other Bay Area results, Democrat Lia Belli impressed observers with her strong vote-getting in the 3rd State Senatorial District, where she polled 58,000 votes compared to 24,279 for her primary opponent. Incumbent Republican Senator Milton Marks received over



Ron Huberman (Photo: Rink)

38,000 votes running unopposed and the combined Democratic vote in that district of over 83,000 votes (Marin and part of the City) gives the Marks supporters real reason for worry in the November faceoff between Belli and Marks.

Fifth District Congresswoman Sala Burton will have no problem with perennial Republican nominee Tom Spinosa in the fall, although 6th district Congresswoman Barbara Boxer could find that her Republican opponent, Douglas Binderup, might prove to be a tough foe.

San Francisco's Democratic incumbent Assembly members, Willie Brown (running against Republican Lee Dolson), Art Agnos (opposed by Republican Max Woods), and Louis Papan



Carole Migden (Photo: Rink)

(running against the GOP's Robert Silvestri) should have no problems in the November general election.

San Francisco voters showed they wanted nothing to do with Robert Guichard's bothersome habit of messing with the Board of Supervisors; Guichard's plan would have reduced the board from its current 11 members to 7, and was beaten by 2-to-1 vote.

Proposition J — "another good idea from Quentin?" (what was his other one?) — the collection of jail incarceration costs from defendants, passed hand-

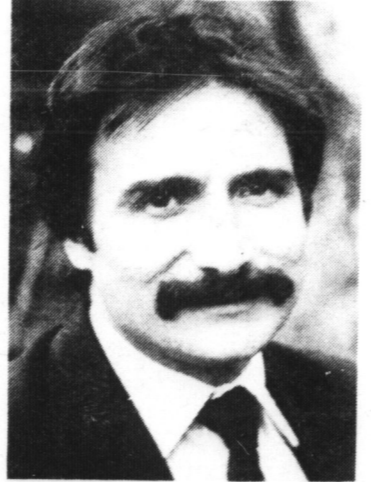


Connie O'Connor (Photo: Rink)

ily. It proved not that Quentin has good ideas but rather that few voters like jail inmates. This measure was opposed by Sheriff Mike Hennessey, who said, "What do we do if they don't pay — evict them?"

Another important measure, Proposition A, which would have given relaxed working conditions and fringe benefits for City employees, was seen by most as costly. Thanks to the combined efforts of Kopp and Mayor Feinstein, it was voted down by the voters.

Of the statewide propositions, the most controversial was Prop. 24, the Gann Initiative, designed to curb the legislative powers of the majority party in general, and the near-supreme powers of Speaker Willie Brown in particular. It passed easily, and the losers in this one went directly to court to challenge the legality of the proposition. ■



Sal Rosselli (Photo: Rink)

No Gay Rights in Demo Platform

(Continued from page 1)

week in Washington. Her testimony spelled out what Gays want in the platform.

The basic Gay agenda this year includes support of the national Gay rights bill, a change in the anti-Gay immigration laws, an end to discrimination in the military, and a greatly-expanded federal effort to find an AIDS vaccine.

Ferraro, meanwhile, continues to be quoted as saying that Gay rights will be assumed under a broader civil rights plank. That statement last week led Apuzzo to snap about the platform chair, Ferraro: "Let her come to San Francisco and tell that to 100,000 Gay people."

Local Gay leaders agreed. Carole Migden, president of the Harvey Milk Club said, "The Democratic Party can't come here and tell us they're going back on promises they made four years ago because they're afraid of the New Right. We left the closet once and we're not going back."

One major issue is what the platform will say about AIDS. Kraus' testimony in Washington included a passionate denunciation of the slowness of the Reagan administration's response to AIDS and a strong appeal to include support for sufficient resources "to find a vaccine and help save our lives."

Kraus said, "They listened. They have to know that it would be terrible to come to this city, where there has been so much suffering, and say nothing about it. But sometimes there's this



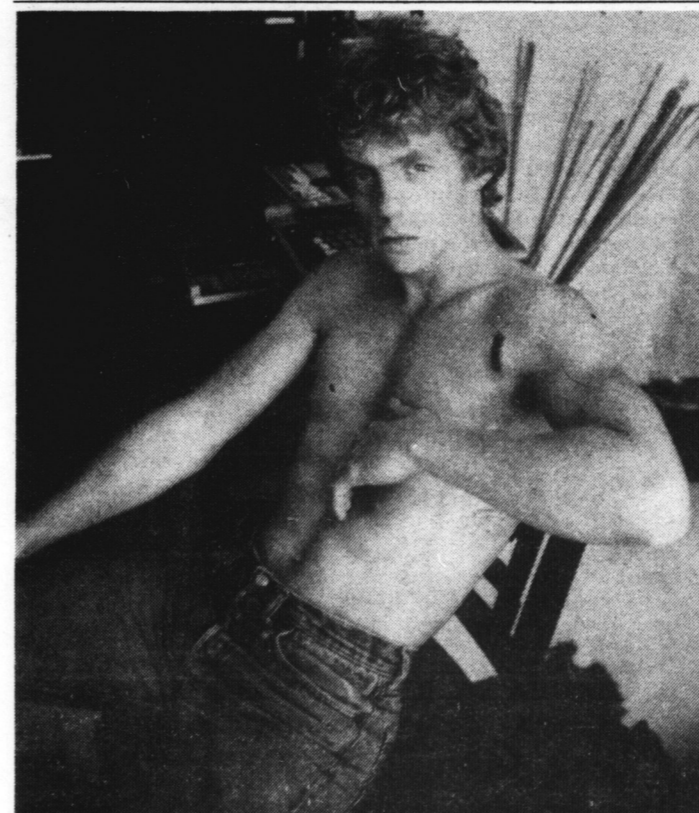
Virginia Apuzzo (Photo: Rink)

response of, 'so why is your disease so much more important than all the others?' It get's very frustrating."

The platform committee begins its final meeting today (Thursday) through this Sunday in Washington. Besides Kraus and Apuzzo, Gay members of the committee include Terye Anderson of Vermont, Rick Stafford of Minnesota, and Ross Brubaker of Washington.

One of the problems in dealing with the Platform committee is the fact that, because of party rules, its membership keeps changing. After each state chooses its delegates, its platform members are reviewed by the winning candidate. In California, that happened only last Saturday.

Platform members can attend



"A Real Hero." Wound shows how close Jeffery Potter came to death in stabbing tussle: the knife entered above his shoulder — and was an inch from his heart. (Photo: Rink)

Hero at Midnight Sun

(Continued from page 1)

The woman was stabbed in the upper chest and ran toward the front door of the crowded bar, followed by the man with the knife. Witnesses say they saw her stabbed again in the back. The man then ran out of the bar.

Paul Boneberg, a local Gay political leader, saw Karla Mora scream and watched the man with knife in hand run down 18th Street and up Hartford towards 19th Street. When police arrived just moments later, they found Karla Mora outside the bar on the sidewalk and Jeff Potter inside the bar, both with stab wounds. They were both rushed to Mission Emergency Hospital for treatment. Jeffery Potter required surgery. Both have now been re-

leased from the hospital.

"This guy Potter is a real hero," said Police Inspector Robert Shepherd, who is investigating the case. "He had no connection with the lady, but when he saw her being accosted, he intervened. He came within a half-inch of losing his life."

Shepherd said he needs witnesses to help police identify and track down the stabbing suspect, who remains at large. "The bar was packed that night. There were dozens of people who saw this guy. We need their help," Shepherd said. Witnesses may call Shepherd at 553-1141.

The suspect was described as being about 30, with a dark day growth of beard, wearing a white shirt with blue pinstripes, tan pants, and carrying a Walkman radio. ■

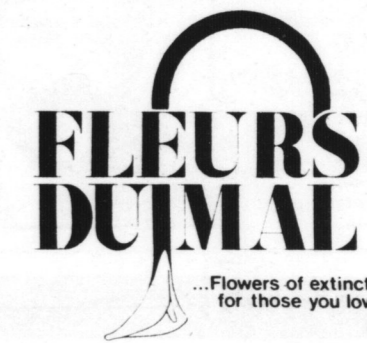
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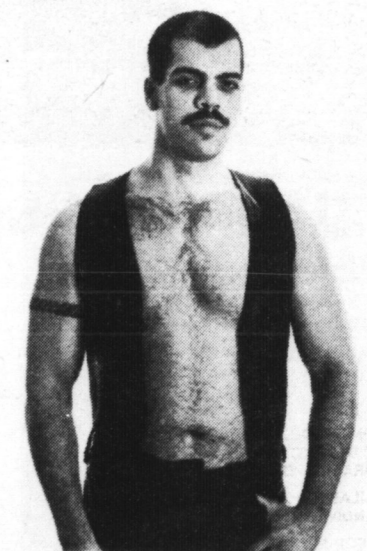
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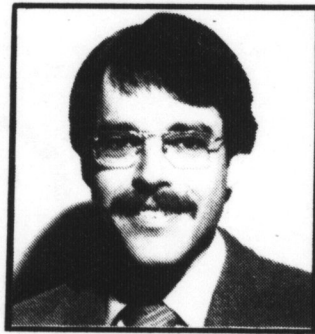
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3:30PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SATURDAY JUNE 30 A LITTLE Lite MUSIC PIANO, BASS & DRUM TRIO BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRUMS MONDAY JULY 2 BOB LUCAS TRIO WITH LOIS TANNER DANCING BY TRACY AVILES
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SUNDAY JULY 1 LINDA BERGREN BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS TUESDAY JULY 3 FIREWORKS THE BEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SATURDAY JULY 7 RUTH HASTINGS BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS FRIDAY JULY 5 THE CONVERTIBLES BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SUNDAY JULY 8 HAPPY BIRTHDAY! BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS SATURDAY JULY 6 RAFT RELAY RACES BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SATURDAY JULY 14 JULIE BROWN PIANO, BASS & DRUM TRIO BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS SUNDAY JULY 7 THE CONVERSIBLES BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SUNDAY JULY 15 LINDA BERGREN BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS MONDAY JULY 8 RAFT RELAY RACES BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SATURDAY JULY 21 BOB LUCAS TRIO WITH LOIS TANNER DANCING BY TRACY AVILES	7:30PM AT DRAMS TUESDAY JULY 10 FIREWORKS THE BEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SUNDAY JULY 22 LINDA BERGREN BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS WEDNESDAY JULY 11 SAN FRANCISCO GAY FREEDOM DAY MARCHING BAND & TWIRLING CORPS BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SATURDAY JULY 28 RUTH HASTINGS BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS THURSDAY JULY 12 TRIVIAL PURSUIT TOURNAMENT ANDY PESCE BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SUNDAY JULY 29 HAPPY BIRTHDAY! BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS FRIDAY JULY 13 THE CONVERSIBLES BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SATURDAY JULY 30 JULIE BROWN PIANO, BASS & DRUM TRIO BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS SATURDAY JULY 14 RAFT RELAY RACES BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SUNDAY AUGUST 6 LINDA BERGREN BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS SUNDAY JULY 15 RAFT RELAY RACES BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SATURDAY AUGUST 13 BOB LUCAS TRIO WITH LOIS TANNER DANCING BY TRACY AVILES	7:30PM AT DRAMS MONDAY JULY 16 THE CONVERSIBLES BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SUNDAY AUGUST 14 LINDA BERGREN BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS TUESDAY JULY 17 FIREWORKS THE BEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SATURDAY AUGUST 20 RUTH HASTINGS BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS WEDNESDAY JULY 18 SAN FRANCISCO GAY FREEDOM DAY MARCHING BAND & TWIRLING CORPS BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SUNDAY AUGUST 21 HAPPY BIRTHDAY! BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS THURSDAY JULY 19 TRIVIAL PURSUIT TOURNAMENT ANDY PESCE BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SATURDAY AUGUST 27 JULIE BROWN PIANO, BASS & DRUM TRIO BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS FRIDAY JULY 20 THE CONVERSIBLES BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SUNDAY AUGUST 28 LINDA BERGREN BY STEVE FABUS	7:30PM AT DRAMS SATURDAY JULY 21 RAFT RELAY RACES BY STEVE FABUS
3PM IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES SATURDAY AUGUST 31 BOB LUCAS TRIO WITH LOIS TANNER DANCING BY TRACY AVILES	7:30PM AT DRAMS SUNDAY JULY 22 RAFT RELAY RACES BY STEVE FABUS

Raw Rahs No More

Gay Cheerleading Group Calls It
Quits After Almost Three Years

by Allen White

The Hayward Raw Rahs, a popular Gay cheerleading group, stunned several hundred people last Saturday night when it announced its demise. The statement came at mid-point through its 1984 Homecoming Celebration at the Spoiled Brat, a dance bar in Hayward.

Guy Andrade, leader of the group, said a decision was made last week to break up the group. He said its performance schedule had become too demanding and that "we wanted to stop while we were still friends." Andrade announced that the final performance of the group will be next Sunday on the stage of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Celebration. The Raw Rahs are scheduled to perform between 2 and 2:30 p.m.

Andrade said the group had been fun, that its members had made friends, and not one person had quit the group. It was

formed in November 1981, and there have been three Hayward Raw Rahs squads. The 1982 squad had five members, the 1983 group six, and the current 1984 group has seven members.

The Raw Rahs' first performance was at a Homecoming Celebration in 1982 at the Turf Club in Hayward. Two months later it performed at the body-building competition of the Gay Games at the Castro Theatre. Word quickly spread, and the group fast became one of the most popular volunteer performing groups in Northern California.

The purpose of the group, according to Andrade, was to create a spirit of pride in Hayward's Gay community. The Raw Rahs performed at virtually every Gay bar in Hayward and most Gay bars in the East Bay. Most of these performances were fundraising events, and the group raised several thousand dollars during its almost three-year existence.

The Hayward Raw Rahs performed twice at the Cable Car Awards, at two San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parades atop the Hayward Gay Sheriff's float, at the CMC Anniversary, and literally dozens of other events. Its last two appearances in San Francisco were at a fundraiser at Chaps for Dykes on Bikes and at the Castro Dog Show.

Andrade said the Raw Rahs would reorganize to participate in the 1986 Gay Games. More than 500 people attended the Spoiled Brat's Homecoming event last Saturday night, and close to \$1,000 was raised for the East Bay AIDS Foundation. ■



The Hayward Raw Rahs performing at the '84 Cable Car Awards. (Photo: Rink)

EBL/GDC Discusses County AIDS Plan

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club held a public forum June 10 to discuss Alameda County's response to requests for AIDS funding. Present on the panel were Lupin Loughborough of East Bay AIDS Resources Organization; Dorothy Graham, executive director of the Alameda County Health Consortium; and Jeremy Landau, director of the Pacific Center's AIDS Resource Project.

After much lobbying from EBARO and other organizations, county health officers finally presented a plan to the Board of Supervisors May 29, requesting funding for medical services at Fairmont and Highland Hospitals, in San Leandro and Oakland. An AIDS clinic will begin operating at Fairmont in August, and those requiring

surgery or hospitalization will be seen at Highland.

Loughborough, Graham, and Landau all criticized the county's response as "too little," but offered hope that increasing lobbying could result in more funding. The county, according to Graham, has less funding available and more responsibilities, since Proposition 13 took effect. Supervisors often pit one group against the other.

"If we hadn't often gone to the media, we wouldn't have the funding we have now," Graham said. She urged the Lesbian and Gay community, and all those interested in aiding people with AIDS, to use the media effectively to affect the supervisors, who seem to respond only to public pressure.

Landau said present county funding allows nothing for psycho-social services, such as

counseling, help in finding housing, etc.

EBARO member Jim Chambers urged those present to write letters to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors requesting additional funding for AIDS services. About 50 letters were generated at the meeting. The public can help by writing their supervisor at the following address: 1221 Oak St., 5th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612.

Who to write: John George - Berkeley, North Oakland; Fred Cooper - Central & East Oakland, Alameda; Joe Bort - Oakland Hills, Castro Valley; Charles Santana - Hayward, San Leandro; Don Excell - Fremont, Livermore.

For further information on EBARO, or the progress of talks with the county, call Jim at 655-6975. ■

East Bay Election Results

Election day in the East Bay saw a lot of success for the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club slate card.

For U.S. Congress, Ron Dellums (Berkeley/Oakland), Pete Stark (Hayward), and George Miller (Contra Costa County) all won by lopsided majorities. All are strong friends of Gay rights legislation.

In the State Senate races, there was a split decision. While pro-Gay Senator Nicholas Petris (Berkeley/Oakland) overwhelmingly defeated a LaRouche candidate, anti-Gay Senator Dan Boatwright (Contra Costa County) defeated Diana Patrick of Martinez, who had stated her support for AB-1.

In the State Assembly races, all four friends of the Gay community easily won re-nomination by the Democratic Party: Robert Campbell (Richmond), Tom Bates (Berkeley), Elihu Harris (Oakland), and Johan Klehs (Hayward). Although these representatives can be counted on to vote again on AB-1, Klehs will be challenged by an anti-Gay Republican in November.

For Alameda County Supervisor, John George, the lone liberal voice on the board, was unopposed. He represents Berkeley and Oakland. A challenge by Margaret Tracy to conservative Republican Don Excell in the Livermore area was easily defeated. Tracy had pledged her support for Gay concerns on the county level. Marge Gibson of Oakland, author of the toughest Gay rights law in California, and contrary to expectations and polls, she succeeded in making the November run-off election with 24% of the vote, against 32% for her chief rival. She was

the only woman in a field of seven candidates, and if elected this fall, she will be the only woman on the County Board of Supervisors.

Peggy Hora of Hayward amassed an impressive 45% of the primary vote in competition with three male opponents. She will face a run-off election this autumn on her road to becoming southern Alameda County's first woman judge ever. All of the above results were in the Democratic primary. Alameda County is nearly two-thirds Democratic in registration.

For Berkeley Rent Board, the EBL/GDC endorsed six candidates. The following were victorious: John Brauer, Betty Olds, Kathy Pugh, and Michael Sims. Franchesca Callejo lost by only about 100 votes. Berkeley Measure D (Charter Revision) passed by a slim margin, while Measure E (Settlements) was easily defeated by 40% to 60%.

For Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, District 5 (Berkeley/Oakland), the EBL/GDC was the only endorsing organization out of seven clubs that had a 100%



Marge Gibson (r.) and EBL/GDC's Joe Acanfora

record. Armand Boulay, EBL/GDC president, was the only nonincumbent to defeat an incumbent. He led the field of 14 candidates in Berkeley with 11,400 votes of the 19,100 district-wide total he garnered. Ann Chandler led district-wide with more than 21,000 votes and was a close second in Berkeley

with 11,200 votes. Also winning were Jerry Jackson, committee vice-chair; Elizabeth Laurenson, who sits on the Oakland Board of Education where she authored the Gay anti-discrimination clause to school district policy; Carla Dillard Smith; Leland Traiman, veteran Berkeley Gay activist; and Ramon

Sevilla. All but Smith are members of EBL/GDC. There were other successes in central committee races in the other four districts, most notable of which was the close but decisive defeat of LaRouche candidates in the Fremont area by liberal friends Mark Stein, Joyce Lanto, and Liz Figarola. ■

San Jose Gay Pride

More than 1,000 Gay men and Lesbians gathered in St. James Park in San Jose last Sunday for the city's annual Gay pride rally.

"It looks like this is going to be the best year ever," said Sal Accardi, owner of the Watergarden bathhouse there. "Considering the setbacks we've had, the sense of working together is bigger than ever."

The festival was a cross between a neighborhood bazaar and a rock concert. Twenty-three booths offered everything from information about Gays in high tech industries to pamphlets on AIDS. On the stage, a pair of speakers blasted music that sent tremors through the celebrants. Linda Clifford, a rhythm and blues vocalist, was the main attraction, but the crowd was also treated to the sounds of the Gay Men's choir, and other Lesbian and Gay choruses. Some danced under a rainbow of balloons on a plywood surface that had been laid down just yards from the statue of former President William McKinley.

The rally was sponsored by the Gay Freedom Day committee, which estimated its cost for putting on the rally at \$12,000. ■

VD Clinic

A VD clinic by and for Gay men will be held this Sunday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Avenue, Berkeley. It is free and confidential. For more information call 644-0425. ■



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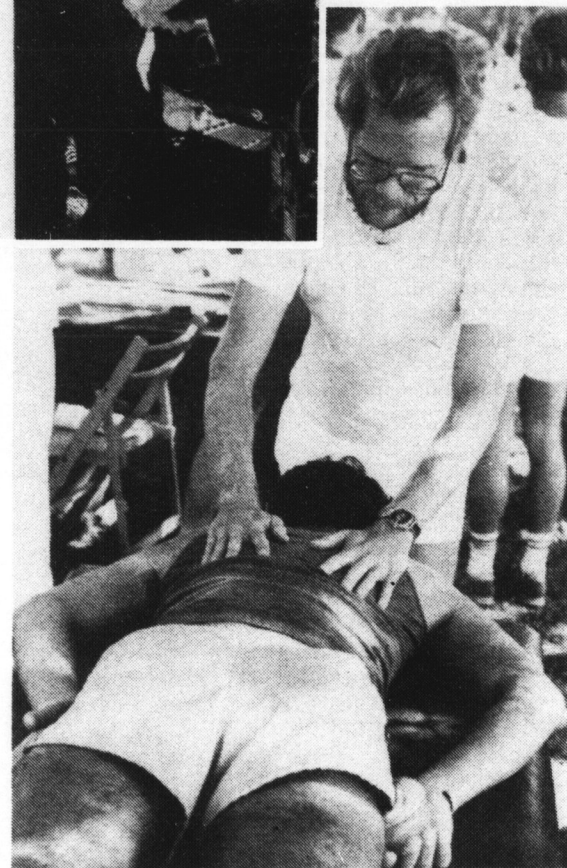
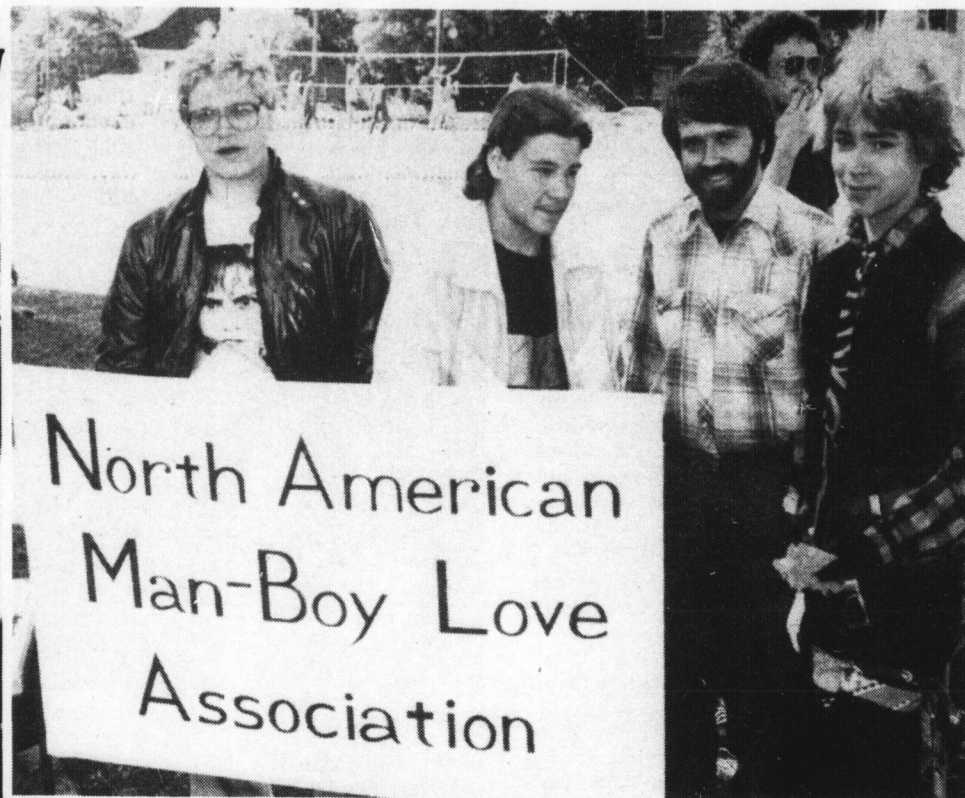
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East Bay Gay Day



All Photos
This Page
by Rink



Experience it!

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THE WATERGARDEN BATHS & RECREATION CENTER
1010 THE ALAMEDA SAN JOSE CA 408-275-1242

by John Wetzel

Booths and balloons adorned Berkeley's Ho Chi Minh Park last Sunday as Gay men and Lesbians celebrated the East Bay Gay community's increasing visibility in 1984. Almost 2,000 people gathered for the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Celebration. Participants wandered among booth displays as diverse as the Feminists for Animal Rights and the North American Man/Boy Love Association. But what was described as the event's most political lineup in memory went mostly ignored by the usually integrated female and male audience.

"The crowd just wanted to sit back and enjoy the afternoon, and that's what they did," said the event's co-chair, Robert Kegeles. Comparing this event with the massive Market Street parade scheduled for next Sunday, Kegeles said, "We're much more laid back."

There was no parade this year, but then last year was the first time a parade has been associated with the Pacific Center-originated event.

"There are drawbacks to having a parade," said Kegeles. "One is that it makes it seem that we're trying to look like San Francisco, and that's not the case. We'd like to keep it a very joyous celebration and the parade hypes it."

In the future organizers would like to move the celebration closer to a BART station for a larger draw. Also, the need was seen for earlier and more community-based planning for the event to be a greater success.

"The only people who printed our press release was the *Bay Area Reporter*," said Kegeles. That was the extent of publicity, except for an outreach mailing to local organizations.

"I had hoped more people would be here," Kegeles said. "I see very much that our political power is growing, especially in the East Bay. The spirit of the event showed in the number of booths (there were 45). This year the celebration was more politi-

"This makes us more visible," said co-chair Barbara di Jeannene. "I'd like to see a lot more things going on in the East Bay in the Gay community. I was disappointed in the lack of community support. But it's hard to do outreach to the community for bodies to help. A lot of it is organizing ahead of time. All in all it went beautifully. With the committee itself we had no problems."

The Alameda Health Care Services agency displayed AIDS statistics and other health-related literature for the first time. The people organizing the National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights plugged the July 15 event. The Pacific Center, the Gay Men's Health Collective, Plexus, Connexions, and the U.C. Berkeley Gay and Lesbian Union all were represented.

Prepared statements were delivered from Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport and Oakland City Councilwoman Marge Gibson. Other speakers and artists included Human Rights Campaign Fund co-chair and East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club Finance Chair Kerry Woodward, Oakland City Councilman and 1985 Oakland mayoral candidate Wilson Riles, Jr., Berkeley Citizens Action co-chair Ann Chandler, gospel singer Gwen Avery, Women Against Imperialism, and self-announced emcee Jon Sugar.

OAKLAND

Is It Just Me?

NEZ PAS

INQUISITORIAL PERAMBULATIONS (A Paul Pry Nose?)

May be I'm just being a noisy nose, as it were, but is anybody else curious enough to seek answers to the following ramblings?

• Simultaneous functions that take away from the effectiveness of either event confuse me. Can't the planners contact other facilitators and coordinate schedules so there is minimum conflict?

• Last Saturday was the last chance to help support the Oakland Marching Corps at the Lake Lounge. A "Cover the Earth" party included bingo, raffles, and prizes — and, of course, the Oakland Pom Pons, who were also in Hayward showing support for the Hayward Raw Raws at the Spoiled Brat! Granted, there are about 28 Pom Pons (has the "community" seen the entire assemblage?), but the splitting seems incongruous. Was it really planned that way?

• How come the Pom Pons didn't make appearances at all Oakland bars to raise funds, interest, support, and recognizability?

• A basket of bucks (\$500) raffle was supposed to have tickets available after May 20 for an August 1 drawing. What happened?

• A "First Annual Daddy Contest" on Father's Day last must have, I guess, gotten lost in the frantic shuffle some how, some way! Right?

• How come there are "those" who choose to run for a title — with virtue, passion and esprit — and immediately upon winning either disappear, or become dormant until it's time to relinquish their appellation? Makes it kind of rough on those who do do

something with their titles. Can't something be done about this?

• Why is it that advertising and promotion seem to be a thing of the past? If bodies are expected to appear, shouldn't complete coverage and canvassing be the cardinal rule of the game?

• Are there "cliques" adoptive to a bar who deliberately ignore other bars and then complain vehemently when sought support doesn't materialize?

• Whatever happened to "one hand washes the other," or "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours"? Polarization exists in Oakland, unfortunately, and it always goes directly adverse to all the Gay parade themes. Does this help build "our community"?

• Egads! How come I wrote oast (an oven for drying malt, hops, and tobacco) in my last column and it came printed roast (which has a variety of meanings)?

• Is it true that the reason Fat Freddie has all those "Harvey's" napkins is because he has an interest in the place? He told me so. I've put money into Harvey's too, but never received any napkins! Maybe a jack pot or two, but then . . . ?

• How can Empress Cha Cha possibly entertain in Hayward, then in Modesto (at a "Pleasant Pheasant" affair), then back to Hayward — all in the same night? How many actually appreciate all her efforts?

• Is it just me, or does anyone else get reminded of the Oakland A's when they see the Oakland Pom Pons? (No, dear one, not their playing — their color of uniforms!)

• I was curious, so I had to ask. Here is the answer I received from one who knows. In case you're interested: Emperor

and Empress titles are owned by ACIE; Mr. & Ms. Gay/Foxy Lady titles are owned by Chuck and Carlos; King and Queen of Hearts of All Northern California titles are owned by Tony Valentine; Miss \$1.98 title is owned by Churek and Carlos; Closet Ball Queen title is owned by Cha Cha; King Father and Queen Mother titles are owned by "your guess is as good as mine"; Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of All Northern California titles are owned by the previous; Mr. Lumberjack title is owned by Jim Brendon and the Bench & Bar. Got all that?

• How come David, of Bench & Bar, says that he is a "single girl" and is looking?

• Why is a certain waiter at Bench & Bar so worried that I'll mention the fact that he "won" Queen of the Ball (in drag yet!) at B Street in San Mateo? Just because Carol thought the outfit was "darling" doesn't mean whatsiname should get paranoid . . . or does it?

• When are the basket auctions in Hayward coming about? Soon, I hear!

• Is face lifting catching? (No, not Ethel's!) Redecorating and painting are soon taking place at Revol and Kelly's. Upper — er, make that mid — Telegraph is aiming for a new, smart sprucing up, if you will. It should all be completed by mid-July . . . hopefully?

• And, speaking of Town and Country, have you tried its new pool table? Yep, the beef is out totally and bank shots are in. Right, Sam?

• And, speaking of Peter (White Horse), isn't anyone still interested in the East Bay pool tournaments? Round robins are still in vogue, aren't they?

• And, speaking of acceptance,

if you're so inclined, ACIE applications are now out for the first County ELECTED Grand Duke and Grand Duchess. Solicitations are due by Friday, June 29, for the soiree on Sunday, August 12, to be held at Ollie's Radcliff Hall at 4 p.m. Any takers?

Cliff hanger number one is now solved and resolved! Cha Cha's Closet Ball is definitely scheduled for Saturday, July 21, at Ollie's Radcliff Hall, \$7 door opens at 7 p.m., and the metamorphosis begins at 8 p.m. Entry blanks are now available at Town & Country, Jubilee, Ollie's and the Spoiled Brat. Due date for same is Sunday, July 15, so how's about it?

• Clogwyn gibbeter number two is answered also! Ed Paulson's obsequial, two-day birthday bash will be, naturally, at Big Mama's on Saturday and Sunday, June 30 and July 1. Is Daddy David doing the cooking again?

• Is "Irving" going to the Rus-

sian River again? I've heard rumors, but it's up to my Tita and Orca to get the organizing started — and completed! Will they do it?

• And finally, why do I want to give a tip of Nez's nose to Hayward Gay Sheriff Deputy, Phil Ward? Because he was at MG&MG/FL in Oakland, Fat Freddie's grand opening of paradise in Oakland, and Bench & Bar's Mr. Lumberjack in Oakland! That's class and a lot of drinking, too! How many in Oakland do the reverse support???

• Why does a poltergeist get into my typewriter? In last week's column I reported the second runner-up of the Mr. Lumberjack contest as Ron Holiday. It was Jerry Joint. My apologies!

In Oakland, will "Unity and More in '84" become a revolving door? I can't smile at that! Love,

Nez

WILD AND WOOLLY

BOB WOOLHOUSE

ULTIMATE TRUTH

with a tip of the hat to Dorothy Parker

Our life is a gay cabaret, like the song. No way can we ever be thrown apart. Our relationship's one that can never go wrong; And I am Napoleon Bonaparte.

NINE TO FIVE

As the rat race at work gains momentum, Now the trouble is really beginning. As the good guys get screwed up and then some, I think that the rats may be winning.

NOT ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

It doesn't take much livin' in To make our home a hovel. At last my roommate's given in; He cleans with pick and shovel.

INDEPENDENCE WEEK

DANCEHALL OPEN EVERY NIGHT

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SAT. 6/30	Cabaret ANN WELDON 8PM DANCEHALL 10-4AM \$4
SUN. 7/1	SUNDAY T AT 4PM OUTDOOR BBQ NO COVER
MON. 7/2	Cabaret ANN WELDON 10PM \$6
TUES. 7/3	MARY BUFFETT "My Boyfriend is Back" in the DANCEHALL OPEN 9PM \$2
WED. 7/4	NO COVER T-DANCE & BBQ 2PM TOM AMMIANO
THURS. 7/5	DANCEHALL OPEN 10-2AM NO COVER
FRI. 7/6	S.F. BALLET BREAKDANCERS MIDNIGHT \$2 IN DANCEHALL \$6
SAT. 7/7	CLAUDJA BARRY "Boogie Woogie Dancin Shoes," "Work Me Over" OUTDOOR BBQ NO COVER
SUN. 7/8	SUNDAY T AT 4PM Author of "The Rose"
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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

A Conversation with Pat Bond

Star of 'Lorena and Eleanor' and
'Gertie Stein' Gets Down

by Steve Warren

Pat Bond is an upfront lesbian with a lot behind her. Most of us met Pat in *Word Is Out*, where her reminiscences of army life provided comic relief, grim though some of the stories were.

"Discovered" through that film after a lifetime of writing and performing, Bond was able to quit her office job and devote all her time to work she enjoys — entertaining, enlightening, and consciousness raising through her one-woman shows *Conversations with Pat Bond* (which she endorses June 26 at the Valencia Rose), *Gertie Gertie Stein is Back Back Back* and the latest, *Lorena Hickok and Eleanor Roosevelt: A Love Story*.

My conversation with Pat Bond took place in a Mexican restaurant across the street from Theatre Rhinoceros during the premiere engagement of her new show. After the obligatory questions about Pat's life and the show, and some standard political chitchat, we got down to the part we enjoyed most — which may be why Armistead Maupin once called Bond "the missing link between the faggot and the dyke" — the show business dish, including the story of how she was given her first joint by Billie Holiday.

But let's take things in order. Pat Bond was born in Chicago. She joined the army in 1945 to get over a woman who hadn't returned her love. While she still talks a lot about the military phase of her life, it only lasted two years. Take it from one who knows, those can be two long years.

Although no one, least of all the people interviewed for the film, expected *Word Is Out* to get the distribution it got or have the impact it had, when it opened doors for Pat she was ready to walk through them.

"I owe it all to those years of training," she says. "All that training held me up like an iron girdle. That's the only way I was able to get up in a major nightclub (The City in San Francisco) and do a show with only three weeks of preparation."

And that's what she's been doing ever since, though refining her act somewhat — the new show took two years to research and put together. "Hold on to your dream," she tells people, having been in her 50s when hers came true. She's 59 now. "Just before *Word Is Out* I remember sitting on the couch in my living room and crying. 'My life is over and I blew it.'"

Though she's never wanted to have a child — "They can all go out and play with razor blades" — Pat is helping her lover raise a 12-year-old son. The boy was fathered by Michael Lynch, a founder of Toronto's *Body Politic*, and has been in the public eye all his life. Bond quotes from a radio interview he gave when he was seven: "Gay people are like everybody else, only nicer. I don't think I'm gay because I'm not very nice."

Does Pat think Lesbians and Gay men are nicer than the general populace? Of course

not. "Some are shits like everybody else," she says, punctuating it with that explosive Phyllis Diller laugh of hers.

Over the next 30 years Bond got a college degree (drama and English lit) and worked a variety of menial day jobs so she could perform for free at night. She worked with, among others, Actors Workshop, before it went professional, and appeared with "Harvey Korman and people like that." (Are there people like that?)

The solo performances Bond gives now are as simple in their presentation as they are complex in the material they deal with. Whether she's speaking as herself or as another famous lesbian — Gertrude Stein or Lorena Hickok — she leaves her viewers moved, amused, and better informed than they were before.

One of the most moving parts of *Lorena and Eleanor* is Bond's reading from reports "Hick" wrote about starving depression families, especially the children. With the same situations existing today in a country that should better be able to handle them, Pat is still concerned. She may not care to have kids of her own, but "I'm a woman, after all. My old programming goes click click click click."

Rather than falling into the heterosexual trap of presenting a woman as if she existed only in relation to her more famous spouse, Pat does justice to Hick as an individual. "She had to be pretty special," Bond explains, "to get that AP job in those days." Not all biographers have dealt as fairly with Hickok, she says, but she alerts us that a new one by lesbian historian Blanche Cook will be out later this year, and it's going to be the best of the lot.

October 11, 1984, will be the 100th anniversary of the birth of Eleanor Roosevelt. Bond is aware that this will give her play an added timeliness — at least for Gay groups planning alternative celebrations. Officially, she says, a new stamp will honor Mrs. Roosevelt; and more importantly, Val-Kil Cottage, where she lived in her later years, will be declared a national shrine.

"She'll be the first woman to be so honored," Bond waxes enthusiastically. "She deserves it.

"You travel around this country and you see San Francisco isn't the (Gay) mecca that we think it is."

— Pat Bond



Not that she cares — she's dead — but all women deserve it and this will be for all of us."

Helping women, especially lesbian women, get what they deserve is a major part of what Pat Bond is about. She admits to a personal ambition — "My dream is that Hick would go off-Broadway" — but even that would be just a means to an end:

"They're doing all these lesbian films now, and it's time for lesbians to show them which way to go so they don't screw them up the way they did the films about gay men. I think the stage may be the place to show them."

After a monologue about what incredibly hard work acting in movies is, Pat says she'd love to do more of it. Her dramatic screen debut in *The House of God* was never released.

"It was a five-line part and they might have cut it out anyway," she rationalizes. She doesn't know why, but they flew her to Philadelphia from San Francisco to play the part, even though "there must have been hundreds of women in New York who could have done it." She worked six exhausting, 12- to 14-hour days to shoot her bit as a nurse. Her co-stars were Tim Matheson, Bess Armstrong, Howard Rollins, Jr. and Charles Haid.

To emphasize the physical demands of the work, Bond says Matheson and Armstrong worked out in a gym to keep in shape after their long days on the set, and "had nutritionists advising them."

The hospital story was being filmed in a real hospital which had just closed permanently two weeks before the film crew invaded. One day while Pat was standing around in her nurse's uniform between takes, a little old lady came up to her and said, "My friend Mrs. Zimmerman isn't in Room 314 anymore." The actress tried to explain that it wasn't a real hospital now, but the poor woman looked around at all the people who appeared to be doctors, nurses, and patients and must have thought she'd stepped into the *Twilight Zone*.

The *House of God* may have deserved its place in limbo, but Pat is disappointed about its shelving because, "I thought I was going to be the first outfront

lesbian to appear in a major motion picture. You know, they usually have straight actors playing gay characters, or gay actors playing straight characters; or gay actors playing gay characters but not admitting it."

We kicked around a few of the standard names of closeted actors and swapped stories about some of them. Bond has been meeting some of the better-known performers these last few years, but what means more to her is that "I get to meet writers I love: Reynolds Price, Christopher Isherwood and — I had lunch with Quentin Crisp."

Going back quite a few years, Pat tells of her encounter with Billie Holiday in a San Francisco bar: "She told me, 'I'd dance with you, honey, but people would talk.'" Later, the singer, who was nearing the end of her short, tragic life, offered Pat a joint. "She said, 'Honey, you know I wouldn't give you anything that would hurt you.' (This from a woman who was killing herself with heroin) . . . And she wouldn't," Bond believes. "She wouldn't have turned anybody on to anything harmful."

The women Pat's shows are bringing to life for new generations were natural political enemies, even though they never met, and Gertrude Stein never knew how much she had in common with Eleanor Roosevelt.

"She was a political fool," Bond says of Stein. "A lot of her family was from Virginia, so she considered herself a Republican.

She even sort of liked Hitler before the shit hit the fan."

Observing Pat over dinner has given me an idea for another woman she could play. "Can you do a British accent?" I ask.

"Of course. I played Lady Bracknell in (Oscar Wilde's) *The Importance of Being Earnest*."

"You'd make a great Margaret Rutherford."

The suggestion earns me a preview of the show I'm envisioning, as Bond recalls the late actress' comment on learning that her nephew had had a sex change operation: "I feel I have not lost a nephew — I have gained a niece." Aside from its being a great line, she does a good spontaneous impression. With a little work . . .

Pat Bond has been based around San Francisco since leaving the service — "I came here and never left" — but she has no illusions about the city and its gay community.

"Houston is miles ahead of us politically," she says, going on to list cities and states which offer gays more legal protection. "You travel around this country and you see San Francisco isn't the mecca that we think it is."

Now that Lorena Hickok and Eleanor Roosevelt: *A Love Story* has been broken-in here, Pat is traveling around the country again. If off-Broadway beckons, that's fine; if not, she'll have no trouble wherever she goes finding people to love her and the women she loves. ■

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STAGE

Redgrave Explains 'Sister Mary'

by Bernard Spunberg

One word, one glance, one gesture. That's all it takes, and you know you're watching a star.

Lynn Redgrave is currently leading an ensemble of actors in Christopher Durang's *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You* and *The Actor's Nightmare* at the Marines' Memorial Theater. The 2 one-act plays are clever. The audience laughs a lot, and *Sister Mary* conveys frighteningly obsessive fanaticism as well as humor. Ultimately, however, both pieces are slight. But when

mindful enough, until we begin to realize the insanity underlying *Sister Mary's* convictions, *Sister Mary* quizzes a little boy, and she rewards his correct answers with cookies. Still harmless, if a little odd. Eventually, a group of former students appear. One of them happens to be Gay. Gary Sullavan's characterization captures perfectly the terror of a once-devout Catholic screwing up his nerve to tell his former teacher, a nun, that he's Gay. Gay Catholics hanging on his every word will find much to identify with.

enough in a wacky sort of way, and she winds up terrifying. She has the ability to color the sweetest, most affectionate remarks with horror. Her connection of offhand remarks made early in the play with insane ranting at the end forms an arch that gives *Sister Mary* the force of a hammer's blow.

The Actor's Nightmare is a pleasant bit of fluff. The central joke about a man forced to perform in a play he's never rehearsed is stretched to the breaking point. Still, the play is funny — especially as performed by



The ensemble gathers in *The Actor's Nightmare*.

Redgrave is on stage, something special happens. She communicates instantly. Never stooping to easy exaggeration or cheap caricature, Redgrave somehow lets us know everything there is to know about a character. Her excellence stems from a blend of faultless technique and sheer genius for characterization — the union of intellect and instinct.

Sister Mary begins with a lecture on Hell, Purgatory, and Heaven. Harmlessly simple-

The students perform an inane Christmas pageant for *Sister Mary*, and she is pleased until she realizes their motivation flows from something other than respect. *Sister Mary* rises from a charming portrait of an eccentric to a bitter, violent climax.

Do you need to be Catholic to appreciate the play? Well, it doesn't hurt. But all that's really necessary is interest in the dynamics of obsession — and responsiveness to brilliant acting. Redgrave starts out nice

this ensemble. Their precision timing extracts every possible laugh. As the hapless actor, Jeff Brooks finds variety in hilariously desperate pleas for help.

As directed by Jerry Zaks, the ensemble is fine. The real reason to see this double-bill, however, is Lynn Redgrave. She is scary, she is funny, she is brilliant from start to finish. She's a star. ■

Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You and The Actor's Nightmare
Marines' Memorial
Limited engagement; 771-6900

Seehear!

by Bernard Spunberg

Time dissolves. Words lose meaning. Sensations — enchanting sensations — flood the consciousness. George Coates' performance piece *Seehear*, recently presented at Herbst Theater, has no story. No words. Nothing but the union of abstract sight and sound. Boring? On paper, maybe. In person, *Seehear* massages the spirit and the senses with unceasing, kaleidoscopic fantasy.

The music, composed by Paul Dresher, is for thirteen instrumentalists and three singers. It sounds a lot like Phillip Glass, Terry Riley, and Steve Reich — hypnotic noodling subtly altered over long periods. Scenic and lighting designs by Jerome Sirlin, Jeremy Hamm, and Clint Gilbert use the techniques of computer-generated art seen on TV commercials at any hour. Hitomi Ikuma, a mime, is also on hand.

Tough to reduce the quintessentially nonverbal to words.

Seehear is sheer poetic loveliness. Yes, it soothes, but it never bores. Constantly shifting patterns, new imaginative vistas unfold constantly. The mind's memory cassettes are unplugged one by one until we are an unthinking entity. We are absolutely conscious, but we are ab-

'Seehear is sheer poetic loveliness... It soothes, but never bores!'

solutely cleansed of thought. We are delighted and refreshed.

Seehear is the third part of the *How Trilogy*, which includes *The Way of How* and *are/are*.

The *How Trilogy* is part of a recent movement in art which seeks expressive uses for modern technology. New artistic movements are generally fraught with all sorts of self-conscious snobbery — who's stealing ideas from whom, who's first to ac-

claim the latest genius, who's first to see through a fake? Keeping up with the politics of art requires unlimited funds to shuttle between the world's capitals. Personally, I would have gone to New York last week, but I simply had to do my laundry. Besides, none of that political

stuff really matters. What does matter is the work at hand. Not only is *Seehear* a delight, but it suggests artistic commitment to speak clearly and directly to audiences, not just to other artists. Post Modernism has moved away from self-conscious art created only for an elite few. *Seehear* exists within a stylistic context, but not for the sake of that context. It exists to communicate, and it does. Beautifully. ■

CABARET

Willkommen to the Kit Kat Club

by Bob Woolhouse

"Having no talent is not enough," John Wasser-man, former entertainment critic for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, once wrote about the Cockettes after a local appearance. In the case of Mona Mandrake, who has brought her three-man show to the Valencia Rose, having no talent is quite enough. In fact, it's definitely too much.

Mandrake demonstrates a sterling inability to sing, dance or play the accordion, all of which she attempted during her *Mona At Midnight* show. However, she need not be concerned with such trivialities as talent for two reasons: her drag show is a parody — no, a travesty actually — of every Middle European chanteuse who ever did the back rooms and cellars of Paris, Berlin or Vienna. Here is the caricature of Dietrich, who couldn't sing, dance or play the accordion either. Mona, on this point at least, is breaking even. The other thing in her favor is that she can be quite entertaining, and that's what it's all about, isn't it?

The show was an uphill climb all the way. It started out at ground zero with commentator

Claude Duvall reading what seemed to be the longest short story ever written, which was supposed to illustrate, I think, that Mona is a dingbat. The reading, however, came across like all of the Books of the Old Testament as translated by Dorothy Parker. Once that was out of the way, Mona appeared and proceeded from parody to camp, to outrage, to what the hell is going on here?

With a makeup job that looked as though it had been applied immediately after full frontal plastic surgery by a chiropractor, and draped in a wardrobe of gowns that Adolph Hitler would have loved, Mona did her languid, world weary thing. She mimicked the 1930 allure and tacky glamour of the Continental femme fatale, all the while maintaining the new world androgyny of hairy chest and armpits to match. Truly, Mona is for all eras.

Her repertoire included the standards of European cabaret: Noel Coward's *Half Cast Woman*, the obligatory *La Vie en Rose* done in Las Vegas French Provincial dialect, and from *The Threepenny Opera*,

Pirate Jenny rendered in what might have been either low German or possibly maternity ward labor pains. One number, striking in its originality, was her "Walkyriera" — Wagnerian whooping to the rafters, but with a counterpoint of flamenco dancing choreographed "to the tunes of Bizet," according to the program notes. The resulting cross-cultural melange was something even the United Nations would not be able to cope with.

Mona Mandrake does have her act together for the most part, but needs to work on timing particularly: entrances, exits, stances and gestures all need defining and tightening. The readings between musical numbers, although providing change of pace, merely stretch things out and give spectators the chance to rattle off to the bathroom in rather noisy fashion. Perhaps a better approach might be musical interludes of Noel Coward, Kurt Weill and even Howard Arlen melodies by Mona's talented musical director, Bill Severson at the piano.

Oh well, *toujour gai*, Frauline Mona. Hang in there. Some day you too may do the Tonight



(Photo: R. Prozan)

Show and be booked into the Venetian Room like our most famous male actress. It's a long way from the Valencia Rose (or the Gilded Cage) to the top of Nob Hill, but it is being done.

Meanwhile, don't get sidetracked by talent. Stay with the glitz. ■

Midnight Mona
Valencia Rose
Through July 1; 863-3863

STAGE

Rock Recipe

by Bernard Spunberg

Recipe: Select one deathless legend. Add a liberal handful of classic pop tunes. Stir in witty sets and energetic performances. Result? *Tristan*, a musical written, directed, and produced by Jack Essex, based on the story of Tristan and Iseult. The show, currently on stage at USF, is fast-paced, charming — sometimes it's even buoyant. But despite the sure-fire ingredients, *Tristan* doesn't quite thrill, never quite raises the goosebumps it should. Why not?

After all the singing, dancing, and funny visual touches, there is no drama if we can't believe in the central lovers' passion. The *Tristan* legend is simple in outline and vast in implication. Essentially, King Marc sends his loving nephew, Tristan, to a neighboring kingdom to bring back Iseult, whom Marc wants to marry. Tristan and Iseult drink a love potion, and the seeds of tragedy are sown. Eventually, conflicting responsibilities, loyalties, and passions drive Tristan and Iseult to early graves.

Essex embellishes the medieval setting with sounds and symbols of '50s pop culture. Good idea. The songs he has chosen, classics like "Love Potion Number Nine," "You Don't Have to Say You Love Me," and "Who Wrote the Book of Love?" have long since proven their durability. But how well does their style fit into a medieval context? Well, it's a little weird, but because the performers sell the songs with a flair that is mirrored in the settings, and most of all because the songs actually comment on — and sometimes even advance — the drama, it works. Bruce Henderson's witty settings are an equal blend of medieval fantasy and '50s kitsch. Heraldic shields decorated with cherry automotive symbols line the stage, and whimsical touches, like a little reading light under the canopy of King Marc's throne, abound.

Essex's production of *Tristan* is pleasant. There's lots of lively singing and dancing. Lots of laughs, too. But without a sense of size and scope, the tragic story is trivialized. We leave this production charmed, but unmoved. ■

Musical Director Scott Singer is loaded with talent. Now all he needs to do is learn to control it. Singer seems unable to resist providing twice as much music as necessary. If one simple chord is needed, Singer plays two. If stormy sound effects are called for, Singer makes noise worthy of a Steven Spielberg extravaganza.

Choreographer Edward Blair also hits just the right stylistic mark. Some of his routines suggest hackneyed cliché rather than inspiration within the conventions of a style; still, his work is efficient and professional-looking. Some of it does leave the performers a little breathless.

As *Tristan* and *Iseult*, Christopher Strand and Maureen McKenna are a problem. Individually, they're wonderful. McKenna belts "You Don't Own Me" with thrilling emotional conviction and full, controlled sound. She also conveys the element of dignity, the sense of noble stature, that belong to a legendary figure. Strand is a cute little hunk, if a little on the squeaky-clean side. His performance of "Heartbreak Chateau" (taken from "Heartbreak Hotel") has infectious, sexy energy, and his interpretation of "Since I Don't Have You" is also strong — but nothing more. Strand is talented, but his characterization is that of a chorus boy, not a leading man. He never quite generates belief that he is a mythic figure. His relationship with his *Iseult* is likewise unbelievable. McKenna, too, seems distant from her *Tristan*. Oh, they like each other all right, but a staging of the *Tristan* and *Iseult* legend needs actors willing and able to act out a superhuman sexual attraction.

Essex's production of *Tristan* is pleasant. There's lots of lively singing and dancing. Lots of laughs, too. But without a sense of size and scope, the tragic story is trivialized. We leave this production charmed, but unmoved. ■

Tristan
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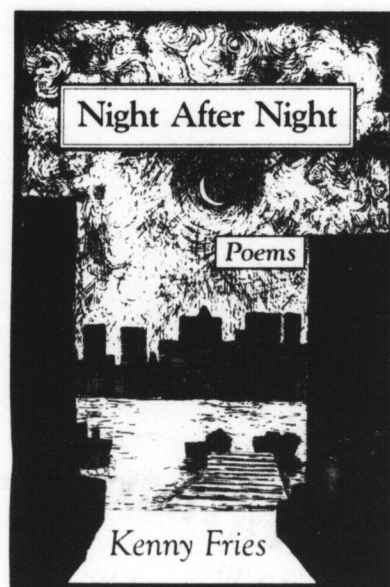
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TALES OF TESSITURA

War of the Fledermice

GEORGE HEYMONT

Too often, I wonder if attending yet another performance of Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* is a bit like boning up for monogamy. One has to work hard to keep things fresh. And, although this particular operetta gets mounted on a regular basis throughout the year, one rarely experiences an evening which bears the sparkle, wit, and sexuality that accompanies a truly great lay.

A recent trip to Los Angeles, however, offered a tantalizing opportunity to see two performances of *Die Fledermaus* back-to-back. The matinee was performed in English, the evening in German. The performances promised distinctly different production styles from two opera companies of diametrically opposed philosophies. One, the Vienna Volksoper, is world-renowned for its treatment of Viennese operetta. The other, Los Angeles Opera Theatre, is a fledgling American grass-roots company dedicated to ensemble work currently celebrating its fifth anniversary. The comparisons were fascinating.

SCHTICK IT TO ME

Despite all the hoopla surrounding the American tour of the Vienna Volksoper, I was disappointed by what I saw happening on the stage of Pasadena's Civic Auditorium. The cast members had obviously worked together many times, polishing their performances

women without sufficient motivation. Eisenstein's English-language ad-lib upon entering Orlofsky's party ("Where's the beef?") was gratuitous at best.

Despite Peter Minich's animated Eisenstein, Sigrid Martikke's matronly Rosalinda, Robert Granzer's bulbous



"You think Terry, he may wanna me back?" Renata Scotto waits for a phone call about the 1985 season.

over what could be considered a long run. But, just as the cherished D'Oyly Carte died of terminal arthritis, the Volksoper appeared frighteningly dependent on intravenous injections of schmaltz.

Not that I have any objections to a heavy fix of prime Viennese schlag — when it is fresh. But less-than-fresh cream quickly tends to lose its magic. Old traditions soon become grim indulgences as self-satisfied principals took every opportunity to step out of character and steal a bow. Orlofsky's ball was interrupted several times: once to bring fading Hollywood celebrities (Martha Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stack, and some local bigwigs) onstage, and again for ballets performed to Strauss' "Thunder and Lightning Polka" and "The Blue Danube Waltz." The corps was strong. The music was lively. The effect was interminable.

This *Fledermaus*, which is one of the Volksoper's calling cards, was performed with the slickness of a touring production of *My Fair Lady*. In short, there was plenty of panache but little singing of note. Artists barked and crooned. Some principals sounded tired, strained, and even below Broadway standards. The male leads were all portrayed as dirty old men; the

The scale of this production contributed handsomely to its success. For once, the delicacy of Strauss' operetta did not get lost on a huge stage or disappear into the vast regions of some 3,000-seat opera house. Instead, the essence of LAOT's *Fledermaus* felt very much like the good old days of San Francisco's Spring Opera Theatre: small, sweet, and sassy.

Because the stage of Los Angeles' Wilshire-Ebell Theatre can only accommodate sets which are half the size of the Volksoper's, Miguel Romero designed a production styled with utter simplicity yet glowing with uncommon warmth. Henry Holt's conducting was solid, loving, and true; Hans Neugebauer's direction exquisitely detailed. I felt as if I had just discovered the inner workings of Strauss' operetta and, believe me, I've seen some performances of *Die Fledermaus* I wish I could forget.

This one, however, was remarkably fresh — filled with so much motivation the principals seemed to be discovering their lovers' infidelities for the very first time. Ellen Shade's Rosalinda was deliciously feminine, stunningly introspective and exceptionally musical. Charles Roe's solidly sung yet vainly preening Eisenstein was the essence of macho stupidity. Scott Reeve's Falke was meticulously focused on his sweet revenge, while Joan Zajac's spirited Adele glowed with life. Lisa Turetsky's Prince Orlofsky was, quite simply, the best I have ever seen.

As you can guess, I usually don't get too excited at the thought of experiencing another *Fledermaus*. Such an outing is a ritual part of the critical turf and, like many performances of *Tosca*, *Carmen* and *La Boheme*, one which too easily becomes routine. Well, so much for jaded critics! I'm tossing my hat in the air and turning cartwheels over LAOT's *Die Fledermaus* — an excellent ensemble production which made me see and feel the magic of Strauss' operetta like never before.

In past columns I've stressed the high standards of Los Angeles Opera Theatre's work, which often outclasses the arthritic performances and overblown productions presented by the San Diego and San Francisco Operas. LAOT's next venture is an English-language production of *Der Rosenkavalier*, guided by the same team that masterminded this charming presentation of *Die Fledermaus*. Under the loving care of director Hans Neugebauer, conductor Henry Holt, and producer Johanna Dordick, the cast will include Winifred Faix-Brown as the Marschallin, Kathryn Gamberoni as Sophie, Eric Garrett as Baron Ochs, and Susan Quittmeyer singing her first Octavian.

Performance dates are October 13, 16, 18, and 20. If you're smart and care about good opera, you'll make it your business to be there.

Lesbian Mother's Anthology

A cross-cultural group of Lesbian mothers have decided to collect and edit writings by Lesbian mothers, co-mothers and their children to form an anthology. Using the metaphor of quilt making to talk about their lives, this anthology is an opportunity to allow their voices to be heard, to relieve their isolation as Lesbian mothers, and to dispel the myth that they do not exist. In addition, it will provide a vehicle for those who do not consider themselves to be writers, or have never been pub-

lished, to allow stories, poems, prayers, rituals, songs, and laments to be nurtured into print.

The group invites ideas, comments, suggestions and submissions, along with requests for information and/or technical and womanly assistance. Submissions will be accepted through December 21. Please send the original, along with one copy of a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Anthology, 1803 Mission St., Box 160, Santa Cruz, CA 95060-5296.

GUANO

Why Back in Grace?

DIANNE GREGORY

When my companion and I arrived at the top of Nob Hill the fog that had settled over the city enveloped us in great swirls. A newly renovated cable car clanged its bells on its way back down the hill. It was so San Francisco I could hardly stand it.

I rarely venture up to such rarified atmospheres — preferring the nitty gritty of the Mission and the Haight — but I was a woman with a mission. Below the vaulted ceilings of the Grace Cathedral a momentous event was about to occur: the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, and the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band were back in Grace after a three-year absence.

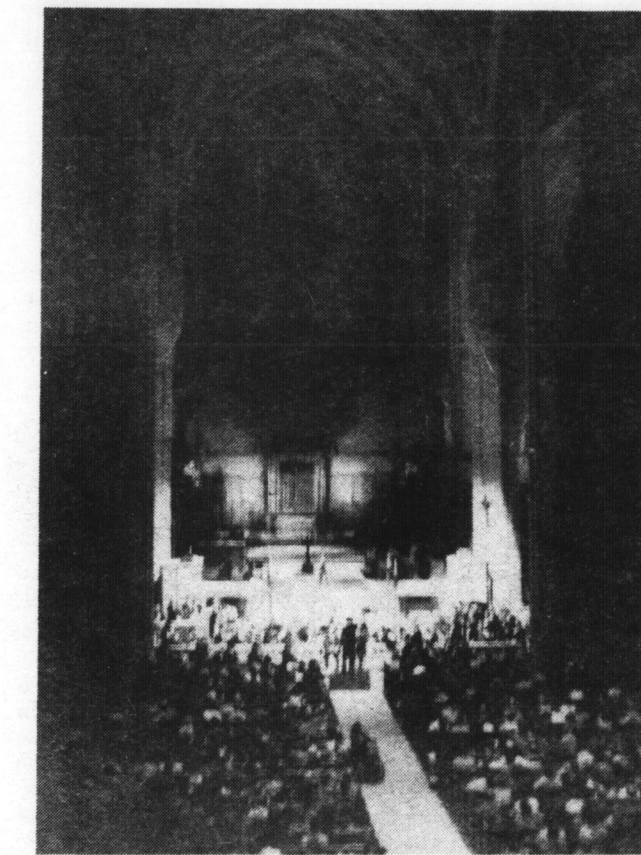
Because we got there about a half hour early my companion and I decided to stroll around the haute-everything neighborhood and ended up in a bar in the Fairmont Hotel where an aging Asian male was blinking myopically at a TV screen on which the Giants were meeting their fate. I don't think this was the place for us. When I ventured into the lobby in search of a rest room in what I thought was entirely appropriate attire — black leather jacket, red tennis shoes, blue striped funeral director's pants and lavender sweater — I could hear the whispering ebb and flow in my wake. Baby, if the high church tourists couldn't take me, imagine their reaction to the Charles Pierce crowd. We left.

We went back to Grace where the gathered minions were filing inside in anticipation of the night's festivities. Men in full leather mingled with those in their tuxedoed best and others dressed more casually. The women sprinkled around the audience chatted amiably with their companions in hushed tones. This, after all, was church.

And what a church it is! Reminiscent of the great English cathedrals Salisbury and Winchester, Grace boasts the highest ceilings I have walked under in some time. It's gray-stoned fly-

ing buttresses support walls adorned with pre-renaissance type murals — you know, the kind with gold leaf backing and kodachrome color portraits depicting historic events. The place literally screams — CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Cathedrals such as Grace provide visually idyllic settings for inspirational choral concerts



Grace Cathedral. The sanctuary provided an idyllic setting for the mingling of choruses and melding of sounds. (Photo: Rink)

such as Back in Grace, but make for acoustic nightmares. When organist John Renke played Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, a wonderfully baroque Draculian epic, the rafters rang with the sounds emanating from the organ's pipes. When the Lesbian/Gay Chorus sang "One" from A Chorus Line, the blending of male and female voices sounded like a fuzzy record. The Gay Men's Chorus fared a little better, having more voice power behind it, but when the choruses

and the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band combined for the last segment of the show, the band nearly drowned out the voices of the chorus.

Nevertheless, there were some inspirational moments in the concert. One of my favorites was the Gay Men's Chorus' rendition of "Gloria Tibi" from Mass by Leonard Bernstein. The stark modernism of the piece was beautifully wrought, and the nuances of the song were mercifully not lost this time somewhere between the altar and the ceiling. Another moment of inspiration came when the combined choruses and the band played "America the Beautiful." As my companion

said, "Makes you feel almost patriotic, don't it?"

As the choruses gave us one more rendition of "I am What I am" from La Cage aux Folles for their closing number, a woman rocked and soothed the infant in her arms as she stood in the far right aisle. A more fitting tribute to the song some have called the "Gay national anthem" could not have been made. Diversity, after all, is what it's all about.

POP MUSIC

Berkeley Symphony Does Zappa

PETER KEANE

Frank Zappa's performances in conjunction with the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra last weekend were indeed as billed: a multi-media event. Possibly a little too multi for my taste because the busyness of the puppets, dancers, and props did not seem to adequately enhance the music being presented. Rather, the stage business (busyness?) detracted from Zappa's modern orchestral work.

Remember The Mothers of Invention? They were wild, they were freaky, and there wasn't anything too smarmy or outre they wouldn't commit to vinyl. The only thing that kept The Mothers from complete self-indulgence was Zappa's brilliant sense of humor and his "legitimate" musical credentials. Here was a guy, it is said, who listened to Edgard Varese as a child. Possibly read Nietzsche for laughs, too.

Zappa's rock music never had much commercial impact, ex-

cept for the ubiquitous "Valley Girl." At least the song gave him the bankroll necessary to pursue what seems to be his true love: modern classical composing. Gone forever are the likes of "Calling Any Vegetable," "Brown Shoes Don't Make It," and the legendary "Suzy Creamcheese." The humor of that music has been put into an orchestral context.

The music performed at Zellerbach last weekend came from a recording made last year titled *London Symphony Orchestra, Zappa, Vol. I*. I highly recommend the album, even to rock fans, because the music is fueled by the same dynamic — he did start out as a rock guitarist, after all. The album has enough scope, beauty, formal structure, and exotic instruments to keep even the most listless neophyte's attention. I'd love to hear it performed at Davies Hall in a straightforward presentation.

(Continued on page 33)

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FILM

A Day-by-Day Look at the International Film Fest

An exclusive interview with Jean Genet, two films about Lesbian and Gay oppression in South America, and a comedy about an Australian public health doctor highlight this weekend's climax to the Eighth San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. The festival runs through Sunday at the Castro and Roxie Theaters. On Friday night, the Trocadero Transfer is hosting the third annual San Francisco Gay Video Festival in conjunction with the film series.

Bay Area Reporter film critics Steve Warren and Ellis Morgan will focus on the highlights of the film fest. Here are brief capsules of all the films scheduled.

FRIDAY

JEAN GENET (France, 1983) U.S. Premiere Roxie, 6 p.m.

vocation as a writer. Plus, *Un Chant D'Amour* (1952).

VIDEO FESTIVAL Trocadero Transfer, 7 p.m.

Never before this day had Jean Genet accepted a camera interview of even one minute. So it is an event to see him for the first time talking freely of his love for the darkness of prisons and for the light of Greece, of Alberto Giacometti — the only one he admires — of his commitments to the Black Panthers, to the Palestinians, and to his

Now in its third year, The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Video Festival 1984 will offer videos from independent Gay producers across the country, and a surprise entry from Australia. Comedy, art, social documentary, drama, erotica, and a sizable turnout from Lesbian producers are featured.



A scene from *Asa Branca*.

a time when our lives were universally portrayed in film as tragic, remain a unique affirmation of the pleasure and joy Gay people take in their lives. The presentation includes *Always on Sunday*, *What Really Happened to Baby Jane*, and *Roman Springs on Mrs. Stone*.

STAND BY (United States, 1984) Roxie, 10 p.m.

Dedicated to several snapshots of the filmmaker's father, *Stand By* combines shots of six entertaining male visitors, beautiful men and music by Snakefinger.

PLEASURE BEACH (United States, 1983) Roxie, Midnight

Pleasure Beach is an X-rated beach romp starring Michael Christopher and Johnny Dawes as two lifeguards, one Gay and one straight — or is he? High acting ability from the cast and a surprising sense of humor make the film an unconventional entry in the genre of all-male Sex films.

SUNDAY

THE DOZENS (United States, 1984) Roxie, 8 p.m.

This film, which raises questions about the problems and responsibilities working women face, replaces *Amor Maldito* in the film festival lineup.

It's about Sally, a young woman who talks like a street-smart young man. The film is an unsentimental indictment of a society which neglects its working-class women, a film about surviving. It's about working-class life, sex roles, families, and what used to be called the System.

ASA BRANCA - A BRAZILIAN DREAM (Brazil, 1982) U.S. Premiere Roxie, 10 p.m.

In *Asa Branca*, director Djalmá Limongi Batista explores repressed homosexuality in Brazil's most popular sport, soccer. By tracing the private life of a Gay soccer star (*Asa Branca*), Batista reveals the homoerotic side of the men who idolize star athletes in Brazil.

MANEATERS (United States, 1984) San Francisco Premiere Roxie, Midnight

Continuing the legend of Falconhead, director Michael Zen returns once again to the man-eating mirror that devours the bodies and souls of young narcissistic men. What could have been a routine porno film, however, is actually a highly stylized and beautifully photographed work of eroticism that avoids the clichés and slipshod technical values of some Gay adult films.

SATURDAY

DRESSED IN BLUE (Spain, 1983) West Coast Premiere Roxie, 6 p.m.

Dressed in Blue (*Vestida de Azul*) is a look at six transvestites/transsexuals who work as female impersonators and prostitutes. Director/writer Antonio Gimenez Rico (*Love and Death*) and cinematographer Teo Escamilla (*Carmen, Cría*) have created intimate portraits of six determined, colorful characters living in a country just discovering Gay liberation.

SILENCIS (Silent Moments) (Spain, 1983) U.S. Premiere

An officer in the Spanish army feels strongly attracted to his son, but he has been unable to express his feelings during the dictatorship, with its frustrations, repressions, and religious principles. His ability to love has been converted into pure voyeurism, but now a process of liberation begins; the end of his silence is in sight.

FILMS FROM THE GAY GIRLS RIDING CLUB Roxie, 8 p.m.

In the early 1960s, Los Angeles Gay bar patrons knew of the Gay Girls Riding Club (GGRC) as the producer of hilarious camp satires of popular movies. Less known was the fact that the GGRC was primarily a social group that got together on Sundays for horseback riding and brunch. Their first film venture, appropriately called *Always on Sunday*, was such a hit that they eventually made three more films: *Roman Springs on Mrs. Stone*, *What Really Happened to Baby Jane*, and *All About Alice*.

Rarely seen today and never widely screened outside the LA Gay bars, these films, made at

THE CLINIC (Australia, 1982) Roxie, 8 p.m.

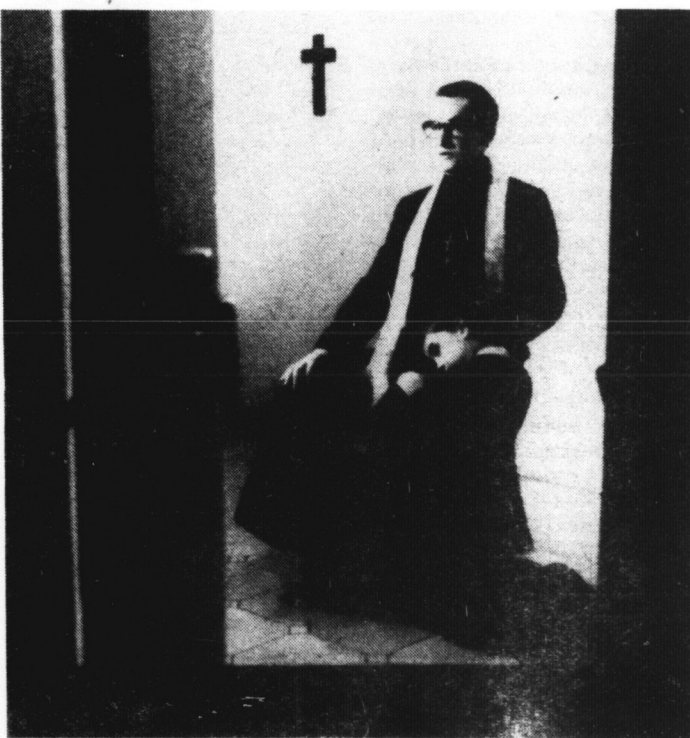
Set in a Sydney VD clinic, this hilarious comedy presents the day in the life of a Gay doctor who works at the clinic. In addition to a steady stream of patients with an array of problems, he must cope with his new assistant, a young homophobic medical student. Director David Stevens (*A Town Like Alice*) approaches this ticklish subject with honesty, sensitivity, and humor.

The screening of *The Clinic* will benefit the AIDS Fund, a San Francisco-based organization which directly assists those with AIDS.

MIRROR, MIRROR (Denmark, 1978) West Coast Premiere Roxie, 10 p.m.

Edward Fleming mixes pure comedy with melancholy in his depiction of a group of middle class transvestites. There's no sensationalism in the film, but instead a subtle empathy with a minority's daily lives, loves, disappointments, boasts, and unmaskings, which everyone can recognize and laugh at.

(Continued on next page)



Boscomolina and Vladimir in *Silencis*.

FILM

The Clinic

Comedy *Veneraleaf*

The *Clinic* is a cross between an educational film about sexually transmitted diseases and an attempt to revive the "Carry On" series (*Carry On Dripping?*). Considering how much information it tries to dispense while maintaining a nonjudgmental attitude, it succeeds surprisingly well.

Melbourne, Australia, is the setting, but the stories are the same in any big city. Dozens of patients represent all types, from nervous near-virgins and an almost-faithful fiancée to the professionals and clientele regular enough to know the doctors personally.

The script is necessarily contrived to work in all the desired elements. A naive medical student is uptight about working with prostitutes and "poofters" (us), but he goes to the beach and returns as a new and incredible — in the negative sense — person. He's startled to find out that one of the clinic's leading doctors (Chris Hayward) is Gay, and he ultimately realizes how little it can be found in textbooks.

The student sets up some of the best lines. When he expresses concern about Gay males having the highest incidence of syphilis, he's told, "I suggest you become a Lesbian — they've got the lowest rate of all." A prostitute, gagging on a tongue depressor, says, "If dicks looked like that, I wouldn't be

in the business!"

While it was made before AIDS became a household word, *The Clinic* is sufficiently timely to include a reassuring segment about herpes. The most prevalent diseases they deal with are guilt and ignorance, not only among their patients but also those people's families and employers. As one doctor puts it, "We're here to see that they enjoy fucking."

The clinic treats young and old, rich and poor, promiscuous and novice, Gay, non-Gay, transsexual, the seriously ill and the hypochondriac.

One of the leading Gay characters (Geoff Parry) complains, "I've got this terrible problem with my lover — I haven't got one." He considers bisexuality briefly, but is up to his old tricks by film's end.

Screenwriter Greg Millin worked in a similar clinic for three years, but could have gathered as much material by being treated at one a few times. Director David Stevens, who wrote the screenplay for *Breaker Morant*, doesn't keep the pace frantic enough in spots, but deserves credit for a probable first in mainstream filmmaking — more male frontal nudity than female (but nothing to get excited about).

The Clinic isn't a great movie, but it strikes a good balance between education and entertainment, and may help some people get over their fear of those important regular checkups.

(Sun., June 24, 8 p.m., Roxie) S. Warren

BOOK RACK

Whodunnit?

Slate by Nathan Aldyne (Dennis Schultz, Michael McDowell) Villard Books; \$12.95

by Brian Jones

We had to review this mystery novel, of course. The cold corpse lying in bed is that of a columnist for the *B.A.R.* — *Boston Area Reporter*, that is. Much of the action takes place at the paper's run-down office, and the clue for which our hero and heroine are searching is the missing last column of the late great gossip writer.

You'll remember who the duo who star in this story is if you're a Gay mystery buff. Dan Valentine and his straight friend Clarisse Lovelace, first teamed in *Vermilion* and last seen at Provincetown in *Cobalt*, are on the trail of a puzzler once again. These pulp mysteries have been quite popular, sort of the Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple of the homo set; and if you liked the first two, momentum alone will carry you well into *Slate*.

It would have to be momentum. The first third of the book drags. We don't have a crime until the end of chapter six. That would be okay if there were sufficient ill boding of evil yet to come to maintain our interest. It doesn't happen. Instead, the author relies on our affection for, and familiarity with, the star duo of Valentine and Lovelace to carry us into the plot.

The authors also depend, in the first third of the book, on flash — style. And there are some fine characterizations here. We find ourselves developing a clear picture, and some empathy for, the lineup of off-the-wall characters who play out this mystery. This is a sensual-

ly written novel: evocative of the reader's senses of sight, sound, taste, touch, and smell. Somebody said once that good writing is heard, through a little speaker in the brain, rather than seen. We get good visuals in this one.

But at places, the style is too forced — and gets in the way of the story. Some of the dialogue is stilted, and there are too, too many adjectives. Some of the passages recommend the authors for a meeting of *Overwriters Anonymous*.

But when we near the end of the book, only then are we given the key clue to unraveling this puzzle. I say boo to that. Agatha Christie, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, even the folks who gave us the Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew, play fairer than that. They give us all the elements early on — so that when the knot is untied at the end, we slap our foreheads and say, "Damn! I should have figured that one out!" In *Slate* we couldn't have figured it out — because the key piece to the puzzle isn't put on the table 'til late.

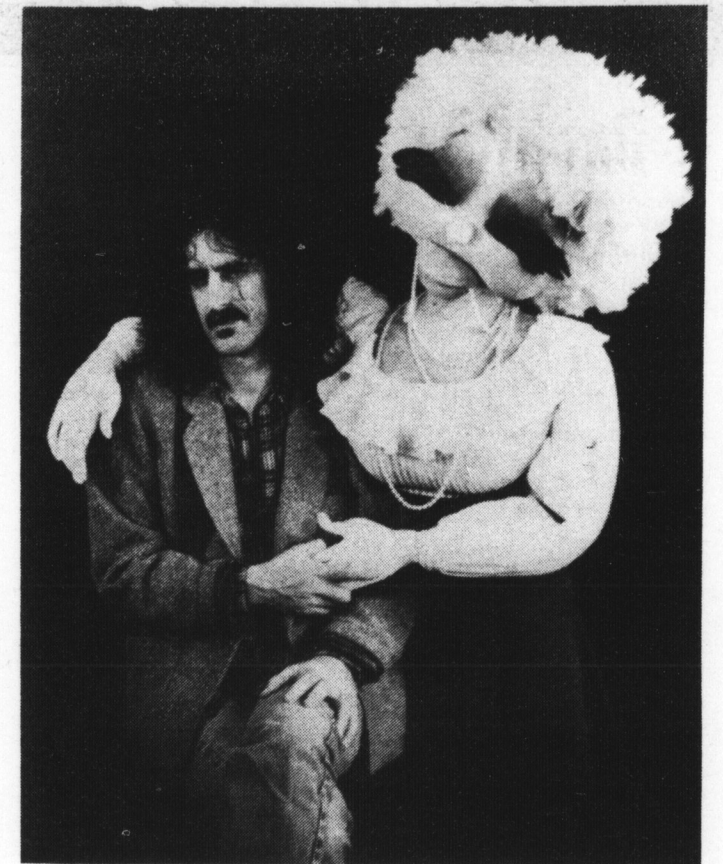
So this is no great mystery. It would, perhaps, be better described as a suspense novel, as a matter of fact. But it is fun — light summer reading, popcorn for the brain. The price, at \$12.95, is not light.

And we feel compelled to mention a misguided and cruel AIDS joke within the pages of *Slate*. There may be something humorous to be said about the epidemic, but I have yet to hear it, and certainly, this gag isn't it. Two points off the top for the authors' insensitivity in poking fun at dying Gay people.

Given the plot-line here, I dish this novel with some trepidation. I wonder, in fact, if this column will ever see ink in the *B.A.R.* Just in case, let me tell you that the carbon copy is filed away in the soxaargghhh . . .

POP MUSIC

(Continued from page 31)



Frank Zappa with Dolly

The preponderance of sexist images, despite satirical intent, began to wear thin after a while. Even the big purple and pink cocks, and vulvas made to look like Venus flytraps, started to lose their impact. Or was that the point?

The music itself, superlatively conducted by California native Kent Nagano, was eloquent, engaging, and yes, modern. The Berkeley Symphony acquitted itself admirably, with the addition of a stellar percussion section that included xylophones, Chinese gongs, four tympanis, electronic drums, and ersatz wind machines. The orchestration seemed heavy on brass, with only a smattering of strings and woodwinds. I heard echoes of Bartok and Stravinsky — Zappa's much-beloved Varese influences were minimal, if present at all.

The future of Zappa's orchestral maneuvers looks good. On January 9 no less a luminary than Pierre Boulez conducted the world premiere of three of Zappa's chamber pieces in London. These recordings, along with the most recent examples of Zappa's computer music, will be released later this year on EMI Records.

Truly an enjoyable HIGH ART event this was, but Zappa still doesn't take himself too seriously. When was the last time you saw a symphonic composer introduce his work on stage wearing blue jeans and orange high tops?

P. Keane

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(Photos enlarged for detail)

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FILM CLIPS

Ghostbusters

Spooks and Kooks

Ghostbusters elevates stupidity to an art form, expands the horizons of absurdity to awesome new proportions to make *The Blues Brothers* look like an intellectual exercise. Within those parameters it's kinda fun. Amidst all the other silliness, they might as well have thrown in a rubber chicken and called it Poultrygeist.

Thrown out of a university, parapsychologists Bill Murray,

Dan Aykroyd and Harold Ramis set up shop in an abandoned fire station. They catch ghosts with some sort of electronic butterfly net and become overnight sensations.

To help viewers relate to Murray, he's less interested in research than in getting laid. Potential layee Sigourney Weaver tells him, "You don't act like a scientist . . . You're more like a game show host." Aykroyd and Ramis serve as his foils. They must have thought he was funny enough to need two—pardon the expression—straight men, because they

wrote the script.

Weaver and nerdy neighbor Rick Moranis are they keys to a plot by some bad Samaritan spirits to come back and take over the world, or destroy it, or something. With the fate of humankind hanging in the balance, I won't give away the ending; but if you want a sequel—no problem. The *Ghostbusters* can come back, from one side or the other.

The ghost effects are good; some other technical work is sloppy, including the integration of an album's worth of song fragments. The cast does what's required of them, with Weaver pretending she's not too good for the part, and Ramis looking like he should be funny but not having a chance to prove it. Aykroyd may as well be invisible for all he contributes, and Murray makes me laugh for reasons I can't explain, with lines like "Back off, man, I'm a scientist."

Beam me up, Scotty. If a critic can enjoy *Ghostbusters*, there's surely no intelligent life on this planet. ■

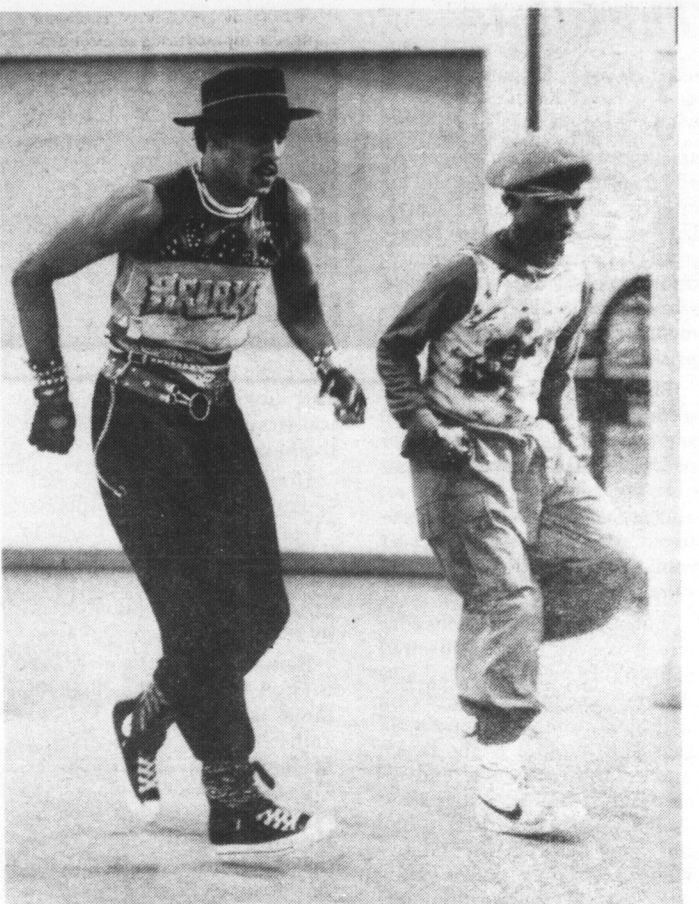
(Northpoint) S. Warren

Beat Street/Breakin'

At the Hip-Hop

Breakies are going to be more important than *Trekkies* to the movies of 1984 and beyond, so I took a crash course last weekend, catching up with *Breakin'* and *Beat Street*, the first two commercial films to deal with the "hip-hop" scene. (*Wild Style* was made about two years earlier by independents.)

It was an eye-opener, something like the Breakdance Olympics, with moves most medalists of both the Gay and



Hip-Hop, Hype and Hope are major factors in the lives of Adolfo "Shabba-Doo" Quinones (l.) and Michael "Boogaloo Shrimp" Chambers in *Breakin'*.

non-Gay Games could never hope to duplicate.

Breakin', like *Wild Style*, deals with ghetto mentality that uses pride to conceal insecurity. (Sound like anyone you know?) In a sanitized version of the Los Angeles slums, we are shown, breakdancing is used to release both hostility and sexual tension. Ambitious young Kelly (Lucinda Dickey) is introduced to street dancers Ozone (Adolfo "Shabba-Doo" Quinones) and Turbo (Michael "Boogaloo Shrimp" Chambers) by a Gay man in her dance class.

"I promise you these guys aren't gonna want you for your body," he says, leading us to expect more like him.

Well, Ozone wants Kelly, but he never does anything about it except sulk and act jealous when her honky agent is around. Turbo seems to resent Kelly taking Ozone away from him. But that's all unspoken, the real conflict coming from Kelly joining the act and trying to convince Ozone to go commercial with it.

(Continued on next page)



Marshmallow Muck covers Sigourney Weaver and Bill Murray in *Ghostbusters*. Don't ask why.

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

FILM CLIPS

(Continued from previous page)

segment to another; but the two major sequences top anything in *Breakin'*.

To tell you the truth, I was expecting something on the order of *Don't Knock the Rock* and *Twist Around the Clock*, but neither *Breakin'* nor *Beat Street* is on that level. Both have good production values and attempt to explore, rather than just exploit, a new social phenomenon. ■

(at local theaters) S. Warren

Rhinestone

Porky's, Too

Can you imagine a movie where Sylvester Stallone is likable? Can you imagine a movie where Stallone steals the picture from Dolly Parton? Not that the coarsely funny *Rhinestone*, directed by Bob Finkel (*Porky's*), leaves much to the imagination.

Dolly Parton is a country singer (natch) who's locked into a long-term-with-no-future contract with sleazeball promoter, nightclub owner Ron Leibman. She makes a bet with him that she can find an average guy off the street and make him into a better singer than any of the losers he finds

for his club.

Enter Sylvester Stallone, a tough, abrasive New York cabbie. Finally, Dolly has met someone with a bigger chest than she!

Surprisingly, Stallone seems to have a previously unseen flair for comedy, and he steals much of the film with his hamming, New York sarcasm, and yes, his ability to sell a song.

Much, of course, is totally predictable. You know, first they fight, then they get along, then they fall in love, then they fight, then he comes back a winner, then they kiss, make up, and sing a rousing song over the end credits.

The direction is from the Blatant Sledgehammer School of Drive-In Movie making that Bob Clark perfected so nauseatingly well in *Porky's*, but this is a down-home film, so it doesn't really matter.

Rhinestone starts slow and unfunny but builds a healthy momentum so that by midstream it becomes enjoyable in the yuk-yuk tradition of "Hee Haw." ■

(Galaxy) M. Lasky



Sylvester Stallone (l.) and Dolly Parton in *Rhinestone*.

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Thursday, June 21: (Strand) *Fortune in Men's Eyes*. Young man in prison for minor charge becomes caught in a web of sexual slavery. *Cruising*: A cop investigates violent S&M murders of Gays by cruising. Could have been good but is just the same old, tired stereotypes we've all seen since day one.

Thursday-Saturday, June 21-23: (Cedar) *Entertaining Mr. Sloan*. Boarder monopolizes the sex lives of his landlady and her brother. Something for Everyone. Brilliant black comedy starring Michael York as a bisexual who fucks his way to the top.

Friday-Thursday, June 22-28: (Red Victorian) *The premiere of Recent Sorrows* by Jerry Barrish. The lovers of two men — one Gay, one straight — unravel the events leading to the death of one of the men. Unusual film about modern relationships.

Sunday, June 24: (UC Theatre) *Two of Jean Cocteau's best*, both starring his lover, Jean Marais. *Beauty and the Beast* is the definitive fairy tale fantasy and is meant for adults. In *Orpheus*, a poet confronts death in a mystical story derived from the Greek play. ■

BOOK RACK

Lesbians & Incest: Too Much!

Love in the Present Afternoon

by Kathleen Fleming
Naiad Press; \$8.50, paper

by Dianne Gregory

This book is not so much a Lesbian romance novel as it is a book about divorce and dealing with childhood incestuous abuse. Those passages are powerfully written, but the romance tends to get lost in the shuffle in places. What is worse, it never is really believable.

Fleming has three plots going: the breakup of Lynne's marriage; her internal analysis of what her brothers did to her as a child; and her romance with Ruth. Never do the plots cross to weave a pattern, except when Lynne finds out her husband married her because he thought of her as "damaged goods," and in the implication that she prefers women because of what

her brothers did to her.

Lynne (Lynnanne in the painful flashbacks to her childhood) is desperately trying to hang on to her marriage to a homophobic latent homosexual. All of a sudden in chapter 10 Ruth appears lying on a beach beside her. Three chapters later this sudden introduction is explained with the fact that they met in a night class. Lynne and Ruth end up together after much tribulation and many trips to an attorney named Nora, but the whole does not quite add up to the sum of its parts. It should have been at least two different books.

Not that the writing was not good. Some of the scenes between Lynne and Ruth are elec-

trifying, and the flashback passages to Lynne's childhood are believable and terrifying. Lynne is a whole and complicated character. It is Ruth who seems to have merely been sketched by Fleming. I'm never sure how she came to love Lynne, and I don't know what motivated her to take the first step. She is just there.

But if you want to read a riveting account of what it's like to be stalked by your brothers year after year and what it takes to remain a viable person in the face of it, you will not be wasting your time. I wish, however, that Fleming had concentrated on the incest issue without trying to drag a Lesbian relationship into it as well. ■

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FITNESS EIGHTIES

DON WEIDEMAN

He is Certainly Fit, But is He Gay?

by Paul Trefzger

Don Weideman and I sat opposite each other in a window booth at the New York Deli. He told me that he was born March 11, 1952, in Milwaukee, and that he was raised in Lake Forest, Illinois (Chicago's North Shore). He said he had played football, baseball, wrestled, and ran track in high school, and that during his last two years at the University of Illinois in Champaign he'd been a Martial Arts Instructor.

I had another sip of coffee and asked, "Did you come out in college?"
He paused. "No."
"When did you then?"
There was another pause. Don smiled. "I didn't."

a Gay area and that I can't understand homophobia. It's so alien to my nature. Anybody that would criticize me, I wouldn't have any, I would not have much of an opinion of."

Don went on to say that people who "insist they're straight" are the ones who are truly repressed, and he feels they are "Victorian, priggish."

"My relationship now is with a woman, Susie Hawley. We've been living together at 20th and Castro for a couple of years. We like the location. It's always sunny. It's centrally located and Muni Metro's nearby." I asked him if he got flack for living in the Castro.

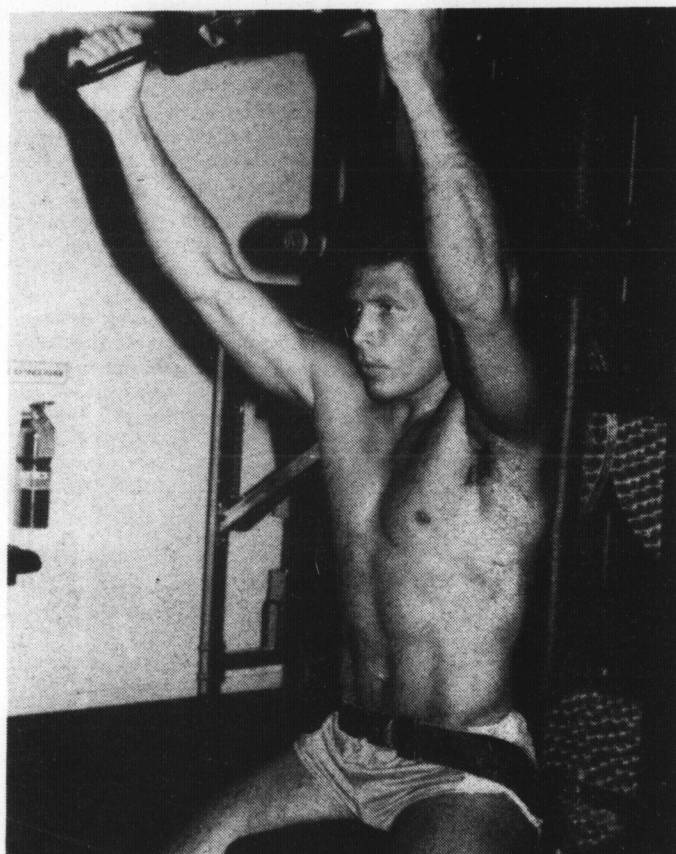
"When I first moved here some people said, 'Well, in this part of town there's a large Gay population,' as a sort of warning. Well, I don't understand that. Usually, it's a nicer part of town."

"I've always had a lot of Gay friends and I won't deny that I've had a few experiences. Say, are we going to talk about fitness?"

"Sure," I said.
Don then told me that he jogs, but "I don't believe in jogging too much. I do it as an aerobic exercise. I like to jog in Golden Gate Park. I jog about ten miles a week and that's on days that I don't work out at the gym. I try to swim now and then for a difference in cardiovascular exercise routine, but it's inconvenient because there aren't that many pools around and I don't like salt water."

On diet: "I avoid sugar and caffeine. I eat slow burning carbohydrates; vegetables and fruit, chicken and fish, occasionally red meat. I don't believe in being fanatical about anything. I mean, we're all human beings. I don't take food supplements, no vitamins unless I feel a cold coming on, or if I'm run down. They don't do any good unless you have a good basic diet anyway. I don't smoke. I don't drink. I don't do drugs."

Weideman has been a member of Shape Up since it opened.



Don Weideman on the machine. (Photo: Rink)

"For a while I was spending about six hours a day there," he said. "I don't have to work. I have interests in a trust. When Burt (Walden) quit, Jim (Shurtleff) called me. He knew I'd been talking about doing something. I was going bananas. He asked me if I'd like to be an instructor."

Don came to San Francisco in 1982. In college he hadn't taken part in any competitive sports. "I was too involved in the social life and trying to maintain my grades." He studied Liberal Arts with a Psychology focus after trying Business Administration, Architecture, and Social Sciences. It's hard to believe he didn't major in Philosophy. The first thing he said to me was, "Life's got to be fun." He also spoke with admiration of people with power and success.

"First, they have the ability to act and to change things that need to be done, rather than be-

ing apathetic and indolent. They are also creative in the way that they relate to the world around them, people around them. Third, successful people are aware of the complexities of the world, the expansion and contraction of things. I guess I'm getting a little esoteric here, but I mean in areas of your life; the ying and yang thing." Then back to "fun."

"I don't believe you have to sacrifice short-term fun for long-term success. It's sort of Zen. You can be serious and responsible without being solemn. Fitness should be fun. You should be eager to get back to the gym."

"I just don't like a scheduled existence. For example, if I go on a vacation, I avoid things like the tours. In working out, I don't believe in working only the upper half of your body like some guys do and neglect the lower half. A complete workout of your entire body is better. The biggest problem with most people starting is that they 'overtrain.' They may come in every day. They don't give their body a chance to recover. Then they may actually lose size and think 'Well, I just don't have the body for it.'

"It's a good idea to read about working out." I asked if there was a good basic book. "Nautilus Body Building by Darden. And then they have a more advanced book for someone who's been at it for over a year."

"You should always change your workout program, your routines. It keeps your body 'off balance.' It helps you adjust to new stresses, new situations. Your body responds better than if you have set routines month in and month out. I alter mine every couple of weeks. Even body builders alter their programs. I don't do a strictly Nautilus routine. I kind of grew up with free weights."

Weideman started using weights in his freshman year in

(Continued on page 38)

SOFTBALL

A Family That Knows How

by George Zepp, Jr.

La Cage aux Folles move over!

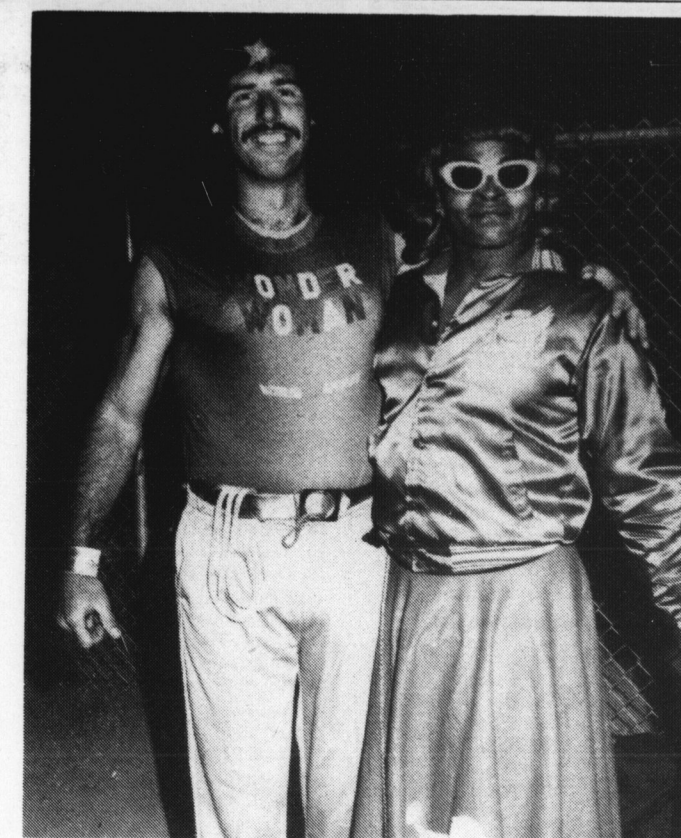
That show was challenged last Saturday evening by a stunning premiere of the First Annual Ambush Drag Softball Game. It was the Ambush from the Gay Softball League and the Royal Family from everywhere.

What a bevy of beauties! Outlandish drag and ridiculous talent contributed to one of the most entertaining evenings I've experienced in a long time.

The Ambush was splendid from the moment of their arrival until the game was over. If the Royal Family had been able to have had just half the practice games the Ambush had, there would never have been a final score of 9 to 9. At entrance time, my Ambush favorites were "Odessa" Finton, Bessie Mae Wilson, "Tina" Ford, "Sparkle" Dyell, and "Weasie" Brooks. Actually, the entire team "pee-ed."

My special thanks to all the members of the Royal Family for helping to make such an unforgettable evening. To the dowager Empresses Tessie,

Mae, Frieda, Ginger, and Reba, my heartfelt thanks. For our former Emperors Marcus, Bobby Pace, Tattoo Jim, and present Emperor Rich Carle, you were all so very necessary and appreciated. The inspiration to "pull" this one off was in knowing that all segments of the community were going to participate — the GSL, the Community Softball League, the Royal Family, and — more important — our many, many fans from Castro, Folsom, Polk, Haight, and of course the always reliable Tenderloin. There has been "talk" that the Salvation Army store at 26th and Valencia had



Mike Gray of the Ambush (L) with Miss Glenda B. of the Ambush at the Royal Court vs. Ambush softball game last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

Makeup artists Tessie and Ginger have received offers from Fuller Brush to start painting buildings and give up people. They may continue doing their own faces, however. No one would know the difference!

A special thanks to the umpires, who had absolutely no idea how the game was to be played. Fortunately, Cha Cha was always standing on home plate, so strikes and balls were anybody's guess. Rich Carle spent most of the time at first base peering into the camera lens hoping there was film inside, and our Portuguese Princess, Rodger Soto, was out in the field soliciting votes from the Moral Majority by ejecting "Glenda" Burke out of the game for drinking a beverage while hovering over third base.

All in all, a good time was had by all. A favorite charity was supported. The Ambush team is to be commended for a job well done, and the Royal Family truly knows how it's done. I do hope this event will be considered as a nomination for next year's Cable Car Awards as the truly Fun Event of the Year. ■

G.S.L. UPDATE

"Cafe" Stuns Kokpit, Village Upends Pilsner!

TOM VINDEED

Playing what must be considered its best game of the season, the Cafe Sn. Marcos upset the once highly touted Kokpit, 10-9. Paced by the pitching of Joe Sprotti and Jerry Pritikin, the "Cafe" has won four of its last five games. Steve Dryburgh and reliable John Parsons led a strong infield effort for the winners.

The Village, looking to win against a team with a winning record, downed the Pilsner Inn 19-2. The Villagers were led by the brilliant six-hit pitching of Bobby Di Tulio who used to toil for the Pilsner. Larry Noack boomed a tremendous two-run homer to pace the hitting attack for the Village. One bright spot for the Pilsner Inn was AH Keith Smith, who had two of the six Penguin hits.

Now Nooch is not speaking to Cha Cha! Someone must have told Cha Cha he was a pitcher and all he did was spoil Nooch's bid for a shutout. Thank God he had the sense to take himself out before it was too late, as Googie's prevailed over Trax, 12-7. Will he (Cha Cha) ever learn? All of you who said no take one step forward.

The ever-improving Pendulum put it to the De Luxe, 20-0. It seems that the long lay-off didn't help the De Luxe Dandies. I'm not going to tell you that John Larisa went 0 for 4 against the Rookies and struck out once as Darlene Boulanger hand-cuffed him. Instead I will tell you that the boys from Moby Dick won the game by around 21-1. Nice game John!

The Vagabond fell behind early once again and lost to Chaps by a 9-8 count. Maybe the Vagabond can start in the 4th inning? Sorry Tom, I can't mention your name.

In what was certainly a "dressing down," the Ambush defeated the Phone Booth, 19-2. Read on and you will understand. Saturday night the Ambush "dressed up" for its game against the Royal Family, and everyone in attendance had a great time. Now that the Royal Family has the knack for playing the game, the team is confi-

dent it can win next year after it played the "opposite everything" Ambush to a 9-9 draw.

The best part of the evening was that \$500 was given to Ward 5B. The Ambush has now donated more than \$800 to charity from its fundraisers. Nice job, guys. Special thanks to George Zepp and Rodger Soto for a great job. Emperor Rich Carle and Cha Cha did their usual lousy job of umpiring (only kidding).

Some forthcoming events to note: The 3rd Annual Jerry Walker Memorial Softball Tournament will be held this Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. at Kimball Field at Geary and Steiner. Participating teams are Googie's, Kokpit, Rawhide, Chaps, Vagabond and the Phone Booth. Check with any of these bars for details regarding the many parties that are planned. Proceeds from the tournament will be donated to the AIDS Foundation. Please come out and support this fun-filled tournament.

The Village softball team is going to hold an auction Tuesday, June 26 at 8 p.m. We are hoping to defray some of the costs of our Boston trip. There will be a showing of the GSL Amateur Night Contest starting at 7:30 sharp! It should be a fun evening. No games are scheduled for this weekend in the GSL and all teams are expected to march in the Gay Freedom Day Parade. See you at the parade and the tournament.

STANDINGS

Cable Car Division	
Ambush	11-0
Pendulum	9-1
Moby Dick	8-2
Rawhide	7-3
Chaps	5-5
DeLuxe	2-8
Phone Booth	2-8
Golden Gate Division	
Village	8-2
Kokpit	7-4
Pilsner Inn	6-4
Cafe Sn. Marcos	4-6
Googies	4-7
Vagabond	3-7
Trax	1-10
Rookies	0-10

to close Sunday just to restock. It seems the entire Royal Family participated in a massive invasion.

What fun to see that Reba could stand without bar stool assistance; Jon-Jon did not need an upper to jump up and down in the field; Rita's tits stood up throughout the entire game; Leona does not look thinner in drag and John Boy does; Johnny Koster has been persuaded to fire his hairdresser; Sparkle will either get garters or new legs for any future games; "December" will be used as next year's sound system; King of Hearts, Tony, must stop looking like a Queen of Hearts; Tattoo Jim will have to paint the remainder of his body; Little Joe must learn how to squat properly

ly out on the field; and Bob (formerly of the Railway) will not be allowed such gaudy accessories while being videotaped in the future; "Stephanie," of Bunkhouse fame, will start taking Geritol immediately so she can bend over to stop any ball heading in her direction in future games; "Snow White" Mayhan will stop acting like she's either in heat or has gas pains while out on the field; Empress Mae's dresses were all in the cleaners, so all is forgiven for her lumberjack attire; Billy Buns must stop losing weight or we will have to change his name; and "Sybil," aka Katherine Hepburn, has one whole year to practice running, sliding, and stop showing her ass to the whole world when she does fall over home plate.

GSL Tourney

The Kokpit, Googie's, Chaps, Rawhide II, The Vagabond, and The Phone Booth softball teams will go out on the field this Saturday for the Jerry Walker Memorial Softball Tournament.

The fun will begin Friday at 7 p.m. at Chaps with an opening party. Saturday morning at 8 a.m. breakfast will be provided at the Phone Booth for \$3. At 11:30 a.m. the teams will gather at Kimball Field, on the corner of Geary and Steiner, for double elimination play until dusk. At 5 p.m. a buffet will be held at Rawhide II.

(Continued on next page)

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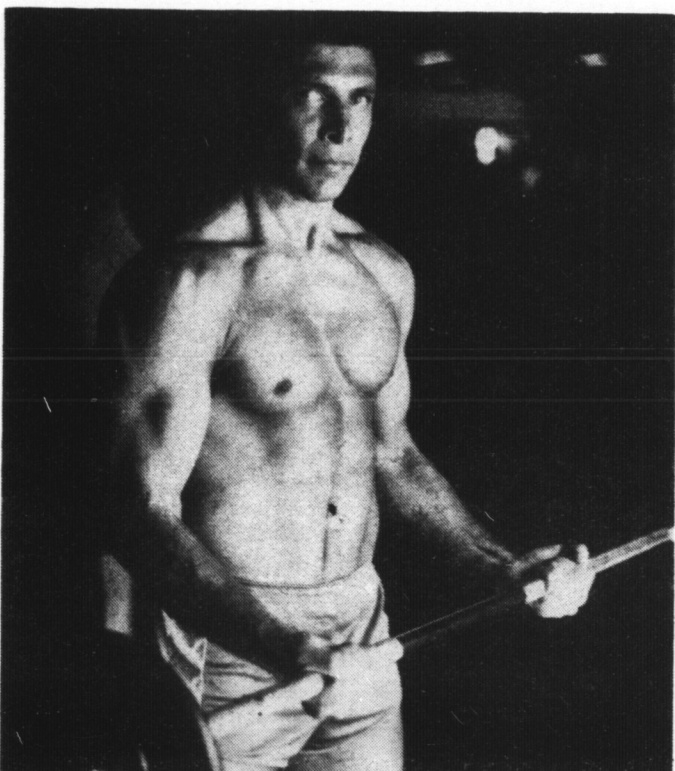
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Don Weideman (Photo: Rink)

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avec **RONNETTTE**

Ronnettte Goes Skintight

Saturday, June 16, will long be remembered by those who, like Ronnettte, study the history of sexual mores as reflected by the changes in the practice and art of pornography. That evening marked the opening celebration of the first facility in San Francisco (if not the world) to solicit and solace both homosexual and heterosexual men.

The "World Famous Skintight Lounge and Cinema," near the world-famous corner of Market and Seventh, broke a tradition that amounts to a taboo by running its live Love Act and hot women (who pay

RON BLUESTEIN

alone in a bathing suit before taking Damien from the audience. They slow dance and kiss. It is she who undresses him first, removing his shirt and kissing his nipples, undoing his zipper and kissing his chest and belly until he is stripped to a spangled jockstrap. Given the doublethink of double standards, Damien goes down on Summer — it is the main event — but Summer can only suck his sequins. For those who need particulars: Summer is named for her looks, which are soft and fertile, and her husband forced Ronnettte to rescind his Edict Against the Hairless. My photographer,

nettite kept a constant fly count during the show, and it was not until contestant three, a hot Black man with abdominals to die for, grabbed his member that I saw the first tentative peters poking out of audience pants. Good taste and demure reservation made their welcome exits when contestant four, Sean, a California hunk with just the right amount of maturity, body hair, and straight attitude, made his entrance. I spoke with Sean before the performance; he told me he was "95% straight," and those of you who don't know what that means do not cruise the Tenderloin.

As Sean stripped, cocks blossomed. The three men behind me were suddenly beating the band, so to speak. Even the usually very controlled Mr. Smith turned to me as Sean unzipped and quietly said, "I can't wait." The wait was worth it.



Damien (L.) and Summer (Photo: D. Smith)

the rent by doing six shows a day) upstairs in the Lounge while downstairs on the main stage eight men danced, dipped, and stripped in the Cinema's first "Manhunt Revue." Ronnettte learned something very valuable about nomenclature that night: we are called "Gay" because straight men are so emphatically not!

This epiphany was granted me during the fifth and sixth performances of Damien and Summer's Love Act. Charming children. Summer has dark, American Indian good looks with a little turned-up nose that must have come straight from the British Isles. Damien is light with small, piquant features, tattoos, bad teeth, and the kind of yellow hair that made Yeats write "For Anne Gregory." They married on his birthday, and Summer told me joyfully that she is one month pregnant after four months trying. In an impromptu afternoon interview I was taking notes on a piece of paper supported by C.S. Lewis' *The Allegory of Love*. Damien said, "Oh, I love C.S. Lewis. Have you read *Surprised by Joy*?" Read it? I was suddenly living it! The words of my new daily mantra took on a new meaning as I recited them silently: "I will not judge people by their looks. I will not judge people by their looks. I will not . . ." Oh, but that goyische blond hair of his!

They performed on what looked like an over-sized pool table with flashing colored lights where pool pockets should be. In folding chairs with a perspective usually reserved for porno photographers sat a small audience of men who looked like they had been struck dumb by terror or megadoses of librium.

The emphasis in this Love Act is definitely love. They kiss and kiss and kiss. Summer dances

Mr. Smith, and I, queer as we are, found reservoirs of enthusiasm for this display of joyful union. The rest of the audience, however, had descended into total catatonia. "Thank you, gentlemen," Summer said, applauding them. Reminded that they were alive, they applauded back.

The crowd downstairs needed no reminders. They hooted with banshee delight as one of the women in the audience put a tip on the stage for contestant one, Rich Gold, who got Ronnettte's thanks — if not his money — for keeping his black socks on long after his flaccid but flying phallus had been exposed. They screamed with surprise when, after the opening bars of Also Sprach Zarathustra contestant two made the most manic stage entrance since Bea Lillie levitated in *Blithe Spirit*; his mania continued as he displayed the first Elvis imitation avec strip during which it seemed that his body, like Miss Lillie's, never touched the stage.

But the management of the Cinema will have to learn, if they want to compete successfully with the other live male sex shows in town, that it is turgidness not turning-points, sprays not splints, that the Gay crowd seeks. Ever reportorial, Ron-

Dykes on Bikes

(Continued from previous page) motorcycle contingents: the Leather and Blue, and the Scooters and Beauties.

"It means that much more color in the parade," said McElhinney.

All things considered, the Dykes on Bikes are not what they might seem when they are

Like so many of the 95% straight, Sean's erotic tension centered on his rear-perineum-balls. So did mine, at least when I wasn't getting bursitis trying to see the cowboy behind me who was ailing his cock for what I am sure were reasons of health. Not even the surprise appearance of veteran performer John Kass and his hard-on could upstage Sean's act (although Sean's 5% groped a certain percentage of Mr. Kass during the final dance-off). Sean walked off with the \$50 first prize, John with the \$25 second prize.

The evening's events were sort of presided over by Consuela del Rio, a deserving loser of this year's Miss Gay San Francisco contest. (I'm only joking, Consuela dear.) Contestants were complaining about missed music cues and rotten spots, but having once been a performer and not being a theater critic, a successful opening night signifies to this writer an evening in which an actor was not maimed or killed by a stage prop.

The Cinema is taking a step toward advancing sexuality, but it was desperation, not good intentions, that forced the change.

"The girls aren't selling," said the blond woman manager,

(Continued on page 42)

BLACK LASHES
Lashes & Leaders



KARL STEWART

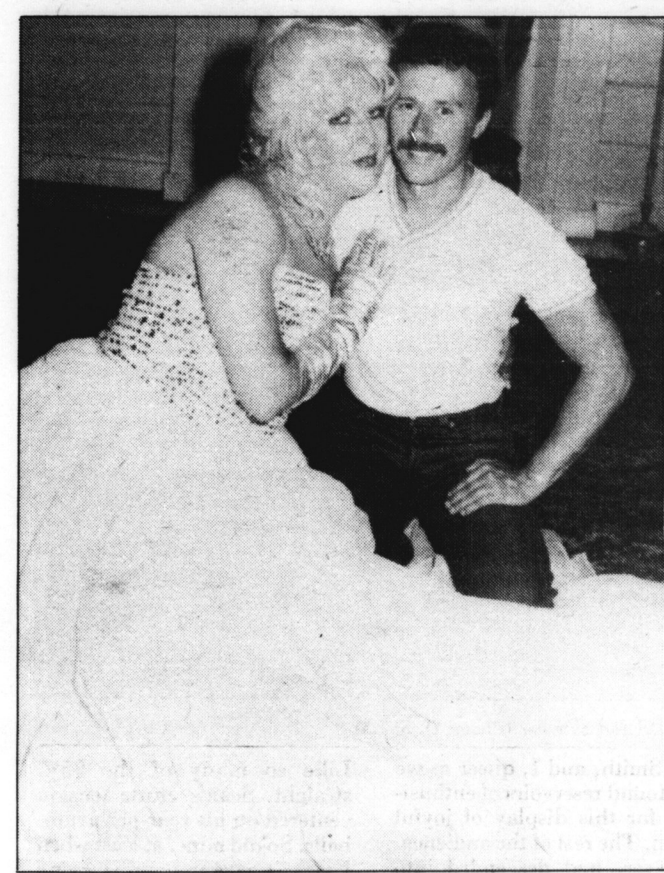
Our big weekend is nigh and everyone is polishing the convertible and washing the crinolin.

This evening International Mr. Leather Ron Moore will be receiving at Chaps from about 10 p.m. (or so) as the official kickoff to the weekend. You can also view the incredible macho figures of artist Carl Ferrieras. Ferrieras has been featured in *The Advocate*, and is currently on tour with his works.

Friday night the Drummer folks will unload a whole truck-

Mullens as Mr. So/W which Riche won just last weekend. If all these men sound tempting, stop by one of the following for tickets, which are going for a mere \$15: the Studstore (960 Folsom), Mr. S. (both locations — the Eagle and 227 Seventh), Headlines (Castro & Polk), the Jaguar (18th St.). Doors open at 9 p.m.

Other parties Saturday night: the Balloon Girls are holed up in the Casa Loma Hotel and



Grand Duchess Sable Clown (L.) with John Kass at the Mr. & Miss Gay San Francisco contest party. (Photo: Rink)

full of hunks when they introduce the regional finalists for the 1984 Mr. Drummer national finals at Chaps about 8 p.m. The party will feature a fashion show by the Studstore's LeatherSmith, which will debut the controversial leather wedding dress. The DQL might be interested in this one. Your emcee will be the incomparable manager of that bar, Kym Whittington, with special guest Ron Moore.

Saturday is the big event: the 1984 Mr. Drummer finals will be mounted at Trocadero Transfer and promises to be an even bigger multi-media event than last year. Some of those jetting in for the heat-of-the-meat are: Mr. Pac No/W Ray Woods of Portland (JR's Cell); Mr. New Eng. Jerry Sabourin of Portland Maine (Cycles); Mr. So/E Ken Bergquist of Ft. Lauderdale (Tacky's); Mr. So/Cal John Rush of LA (Grag's Blue Dot); Mr. Appalachian John Phillips winning at Pittsburgh, PA (Trucking Co.); and SF's own Sonny Cline, Mr. No/Cal, taking his title at the Woods. We have the results of the Mr. Midwest Drummer contest held at Man's World in Cleveland. The awesome Rog Thornton will attempt to conquer the city. Stella of the Arena (or perhaps The Eagle or The Mine by now) will be first in line. June 13 saw the Mr. Rocky Mountain Drummer finals in Denver at the Tool Box with prelims in Phoenix at that high tech wonder-Trax. The winner was Eric Johnson, who happens to be great buddies with Ron Moore. The Loading Zone of Houston offers Riche

want you to join them. From about noon Saturday all the way to parade time Sunday, the girls will host a show with both live and lipsync entertainment, food and BYOB/D. The Slumber Party may be easier to bear if you have your own room: reservations — 552-7100.

Also Saturday, Dr. Sanford Kellman and his I-Beam family will cast light on the stage of The Gift Center Pavilion from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m., featuring Miguel Brown singing "So Many Men, So Little Time." Tickets for this one are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. The party continues the next day, Sunday after the parade, with Sylvester. Doors open at 4 p.m. and six go for \$12 in adv. and \$15 at the door.

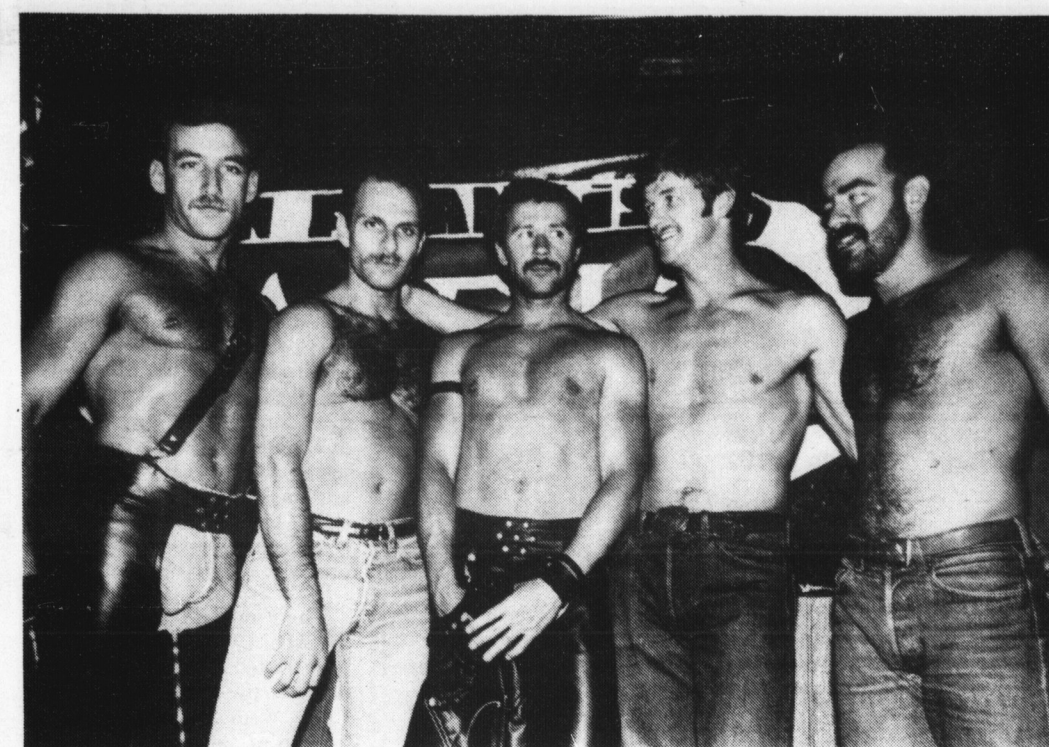
Across the street, the Galleria will swing, as Sutter's Mill and producers Rick, Terry M. and Fred B. bring you the entertainment of Scherrie Payne, Magda Dioni and Sport. The newly-elected Mr. Drummer '84 will help celebrate Gay Freedom Day too. The price: 12 bucks in advance and 15 at the door.

If you're hungry and want to dance too, the End Up is offering BBQ (chicken or ribs) at \$3. They'll be serving up sound and grub from about 3 p.m.

Char and Randy Johnson are producing a video of this year's event, and will feature it at the Kokpit as soon as Char can move her fancy butt from the parade route. The Kokpit will also offer food during the afternoon.

GAY MUSIC

Lashes' first real encounter



Pectoral Parade. The finalists at the Arena Bare Chest Contest. The winner, Will, at far left, will be immortalized on the Arena Calendar. A star is born! (Photo: R. Pruzan)

with Gay "culture" outside the bars, shortly after moving here, was the first Grace Cathedral concert by the Band and the Gay Men's Chorus. This tradition was re-established last weekend by the board of directors of the GGPA. The concert was dedicated to the band's founder, Jon Sims, who is near the end of a long health battle here in San Francisco. He would have been pleased with the outcome of this year's effort, too. The SF Lesbian and Gay Chorus offered appropriately spiritual music, including "Elijah Rock" and a delicious "Cantique de Jean Racine" by Faure.

The Gay Men's Chorus followed its own schedule of tunes, the highlights of which were "With Catlike Tread" by Gil-

bert and Sullivan and excerpts from Leonard Bernstein's Mass.

The Gay Band, in tux and under the baton of Lesesne Van Antwerp (formerly of LA's Great American Yankee Band), performed the national Emblem March by Bagley, which would have made even John Phillip Sousa smile. The group played Grainger's "Irish Tune from County Derry" beautifully in honor of John. It is one of his favorite songs.

All three groups ended the concert with combined works of "America the Beautiful" and Herman's "I Am What I Am" from La Cage.

After the concert, the gang gathered at Rooney's on 9th at

Market for a celebration typical of performing arts groups. Lots of singing and wildly aggressive socializing. The FLAG Corps, which ushered the event, welcomed Roger back into its fold. Ted Nipe are two of the founding members of the Guard. Perry George, who is the Oscar Wilde of the Gay Men's Chorus, held court as Kimo's Mama Billy joined in the music fest in the next booth. Exec. Travel's Gary, aka Baby June, even joined in the fun at the FLAG Corps corner. Duke Armstrong, the concert's co-ordinator, has lots to smile about, too.

SOUTHERN TAILS

Last weekend the Arena (Continued on next page)

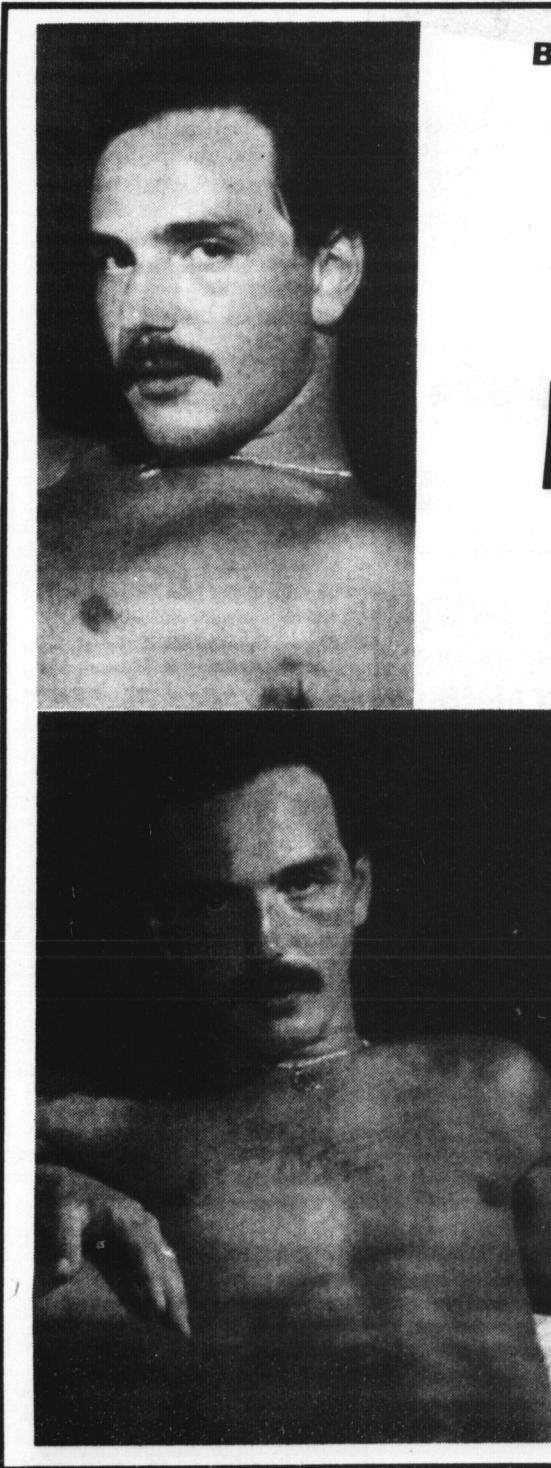
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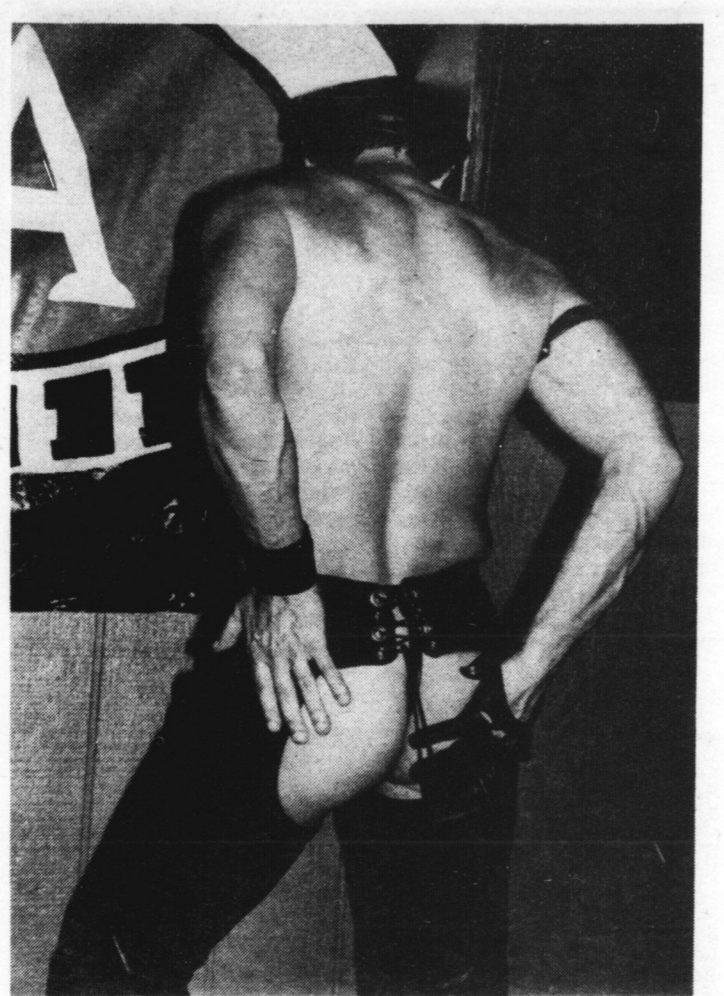
OUR BOYS ARE OUTRAGEOUS NASTY LATE SHOW FRI-SAT 11 PM

The Nob HILL Cinema
 Open Daily 10:45 AM 781-9488
 729 Bush at Powell

(Continued from previous page)

hosted a horde of hunks for the Bare Chest Contest, which assures the winner a corner of immortality on the Arena's 1985 calendar. Among the hottest was Buddy, who told a tail of a run-in with Stella and a dildo. Stella says the man has unlimited talents and a size 13 shoe (!!!). We even saw Kym of Chaps get up and submit to double exposure.

This month's first runner-up was firm and furry Andy Zimmerman, and Mr. July is clever and solid Will Tucker, who has just split up with Jim Cvtonich, and was dished merrily from the stage, too. Saw Mark Abramson, the Mr. No/Cal Drummer and Mr. RushRiv producer.



Chest, John, Chest. John Kass lets it all hang out at the Bare Chest Contest. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

The First Ladies Union and the MC/UC Prez will host a bash called "A Star Spangled Salute to the 4th of July," at the Eagle, Wednesday, July 4, from 3 to 6 p.m., and will offer food, beer bust and show, all for \$6.

The Coits are offering a package tour of the Reno Rodeo, July 20, 21, 22. The 95 dollar chit includes round trip bus, two nights at the Pioneer Hotel (double occupancy), snacks and cocktails enroute, Sat. evening hosted cocktail party, and all the fun you can dish out. Write: Coits of San Francisco, P.O. Box 513, SF 94101, or call 863-6559 days, 386-7515 evenings.

Celebrate our Gay Freedom from every roof top this weekend and set a vigilant eye to keep watch on it all year 'round.

See ya' in the skins. ■
 K. Stewart

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, June 21: Febe's 18th Anniversary, Febe's, 8 p.m. Boozie specials, food and fun.
 Forum Meeting, Chez Mollet, 8:30 p.m.

Friday, June 22: GSL Tourney, Opening Party, Chaps, 7 to 9 p.m.
 "Sweet Leather Dreams," pre Mr. CMC Open Meeting, Febe's 8 p.m., pre-run meeting.

Jack Frost Birthday, Febe's, 8 p.m.
 Parkway Victory Party, Men's Room, 8 p.m.

Saturday, June 23: GSL Tourney, Phone Booth Breakfast, 8 to 10 a.m., \$3. Double Elimination Kimball Field (Geary & Steiner) 11:30 a.m. Buffet: Rawhide II, 5 p.m.

Pre-Parade Slumber Party, hosts The Balloon Girls, Casa Loma Hotel, noon Sat thru parade time, non-stop entertainment, food. Reservation for rooms (optional) 552-7100.

Dance Marathon, Gift Center, hosts Dr. Sanford and the I-Beam folks, 9 p.m. to 4 a.m., \$15 adv., \$20 at the door, featuring Miquel Brown, DJ Bobby Viteriti.

Sunday, June 24: GSL Tourney, Google's wake up, 9 to 10:30 a.m.
 End Up Tea Dance and BBQ, food, \$3, 3 p.m.

GSL Torney: Lang Field, 3 p.m. championship game, awards presentation, Kokpit, 7 p.m.

Giant Chili Cook-Off, SF Eagle Patio, Constantines and Cal Eagles beer bust, 5 to 8 p.m., \$6.

Gift Center Tea Dance, hosts I-Beam, 4 p.m. to midnight, \$12 adv., \$15 at the door; featuring Sylvester.

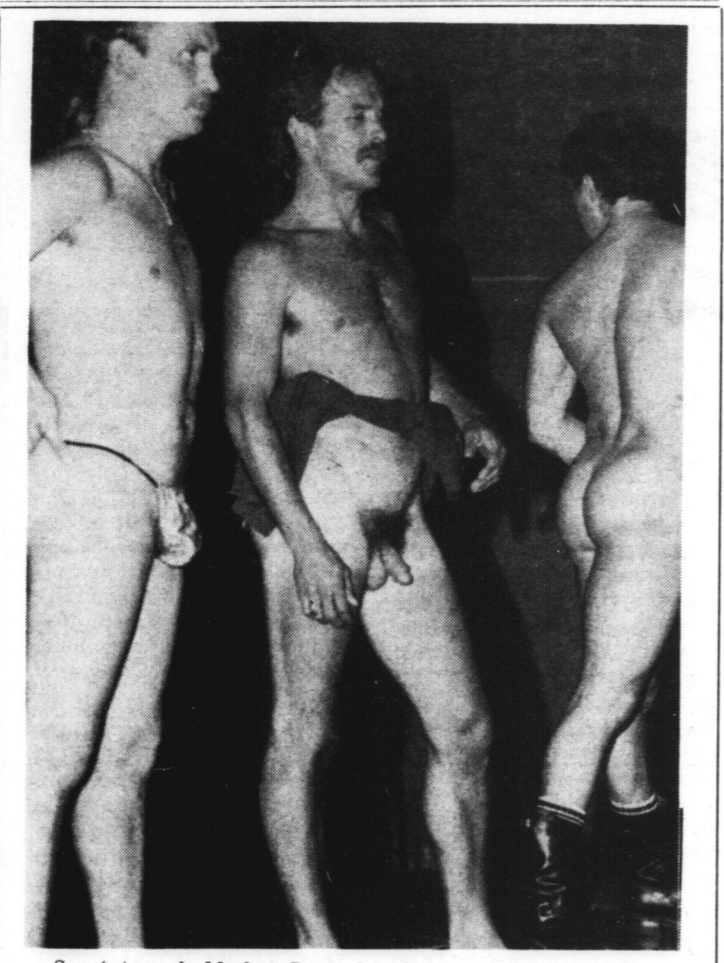
Gay Day Tea Dance, Galleria, hosts: Sutter's Mill, 4 p.m. to midnight, \$12 adv., \$15 at the door; featuring Scherie Payne.

Trocadero Tea Dance, 4 p.m.

Monday, June 25: Sutter's Showcase, Lea Delaria and Jeanine Strobel, 6 and 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 26: Sutter's Showcase, Danny Williams (also Robin Heller and Pam Allan), 6 and 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 27: John Kass Show, 181 Club, 181 Eddy St., featuring Danny Williams, also with Desiree and Joe Tolbe, 9 p.m., door charge ■



Sean (c.) won the Manhunt Revue. John Kass (r.) came in second. (Photo: D. Smith)

RONNETTTE

(Continued from page 40)

Chris. "I think the Manhunt Revue will go over big," she continued. "The only thing I'm nervous about is how the guys will react to a woman manager." Chris needn't worry about that. What she must realize is that erotic dancers, whether male or female, were hot in the '60s, but that today's audience is accustomed to performers getting up to get down. What the Cinema must do is call one dollar of its \$8 fee membership dues and find a variety of men as hot as John and Sean who can give the Gay audience what they expect, want, and deserve. Either that or we'll all have to join the police force and start partying at the Rathskeller.

Repeat after me: "I will not judge people by their looks. I will not judge people by their looks. I will not judge people . . ."

Ronnetttte

Manhunt Revue
 Skintight Lounge
 Fri., Sat., 8 p.m.
 Sun. (winners), 7:30 p.m.

As for the lobotomized zombies we left around the pool table

SWEET LIPS SEZ . . .
Have a Gay Week!

DICK WALTERS

Hope you all have a great Lesbian/Gay Freedom Week and that you get to enjoy the parade this year.

At 10 a.m. this Sunday at Google's, 688 Geary St., Bobby Dooca, travel entrepreneur, and the GSL Commissioner, will draw the winning ticket for the trip to Mexico, or \$750, whichever the winner decides on. There are still a few tickets left at only a donation of \$1, and it benefits the Google's softball team. Cha Cha and the team will also be serving a continental breakfast that morning, so come on down and join in the festivities, as you could be the winner.

Did you know that Empress Mae is holding forth on the plank at the Blue and Gold on Turk Street? According to Peggy, she is doing a great job, so drop by and say hi.

The one and only Henri Leleu is up and about and "stirring" again after having had two heart attacks. They can't keep a good old girl down; can they, Henri?

Land's End at California and Polk, with Darryl Glied on the planks, is already celebrating its First Anniversary - Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, June 29 to July 1. They will have food, entertainment, and many surprises. So drop in and join them

on this happy occasion.

Thank you, Jesse, Mr. Hunkly) of the Polk Gulch Saloon, for the note and the "sweets." Hope you liked the picture.

Dolly Dale, how come your temporary date, Stark, calls you a slut? We know; don't we, Stark?

Have you met Bill Arming-ton, the doorman at the Giraffe on Polk Street, who is known as The Puerto Rican Bombshell? Thank you, Carl.

Incidentally, Happy Birthday to Carl Younger on Monday the 25th. I hear that Larry is having a party for him at the Giraffe. Why won't you tell me how old you are, Carl?

Yes, Emperor Bob Pace is on the planks at the Kokpit on Turk Street on Saturday and Tuesday nights. Do you always return to the scenes of your former crimes, Bob? And how is Madame LaFarge?

Two nice people from Portland, Dennis and Lori, were down for the La Cage aux Folles opening the other evening and they certainly had a ball. Thanks for the beans, Dennis.

Today is the grand re-opening of the Cable Cars, and great

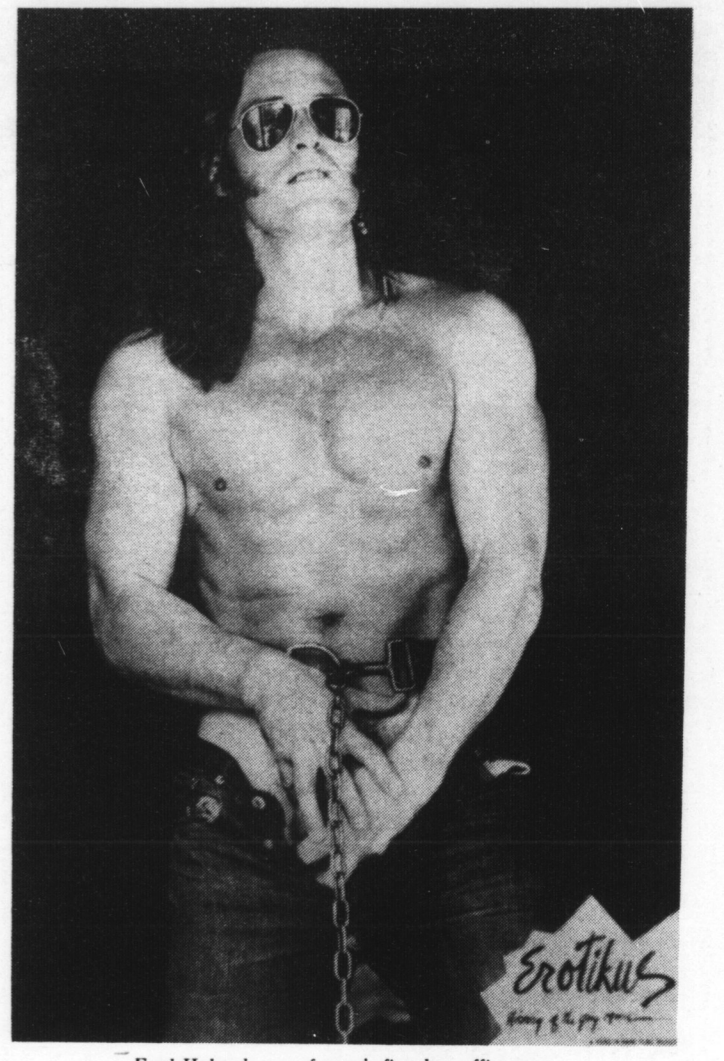
Nob Hill is 15

This Sunday starting at 5 p.m. the Nob Hill Cinema will celebrate 15 years of continuous film programming and sexual entertainment. This bastion of cinematic male erotica will offer free of charge to its members (\$10.00 for guest admission) an open bar, buffet, a first run film, porno stars and dancers on stage as highlights for Sunday evening's festivities.

Since 1969, despite persistent police harassment and winning battles in the California Supreme Court, the Nob Hill Cinema has survived and done much to establish fundamental Gay rights. Now a private club, the theater has set a standard for quality erotic entertainment.

In the early days, quality films for public exhibition of nude men were scarce. Soft-core was all that was permissible. 1971 is still the theater's record box-office year, when 202,156 men passed through its turnstile.

The action in the backrow



Fred Hubsted, one of porn's first box office stars.

events are planned for the entire day. Gilmore's at Hyde and California is a great place to watch and drink; right, Paul Ruehl?

Google's beat Trax, 12-7. It would have been 12-0, but Cha Cha insisted on pitching and let seven runs in and became the losing pitcher. Poor Nooch was robbed of a shutout by Cha Cha.

Bubbles Brown lost their playoff hopes - Cafe Sn. Marcos won. Nooch, you were just wonderful.

and side rooms always are in competition with the acrobatics on screen and on stage. Sex-ed films to Song of the Loon to Bijou to Chicken & Rice, soft dicks to zucchinis, the rest is

history. Gay men have plenty of reasons to celebrate the presence of the Nob Hill Cinema and the active concern of its owners and management over its 15 years of pleasure-seeking existence. ■

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VOL. XIV NO. 26 JUNE 28, 1984

More \$\$ on AIDS

Democrats' Platform Strong on Gay Issues

by Wayne Friday

It's now official. The Democratic Party will come to the convention in San Francisco next month with the strongest platform on Gay rights ever. Events moved quickly last week as the platform committee met in Washington. On Saturday the committee unanimously voted a platform containing a call for more money for AIDS research and patient care, support for the national Gay rights bill, and opposition to discrimination against Lesbians and Gays in the military, in immigration, and in Legal Services funding. The party's new platform also contains a condemnation of anti-Gay violence.



Walter Mondale: Thumbs-up to Gay rights plank. (Photo: Rink)

Gay platform members were ecstatic. "We got it all," San Francisco's Bill Kraus said. "It's a real breakthrough." The victory for a strong Gay rights plank came after months of national hearings, more than a year of lobbying the Mondale and other presidential campaigns, and a series of statements by Mondale, Hart, Jackson, and other earlier candidates in favor of Gay rights.

Still, as recently as last week, there was fear that the Democrats would retreat from their 1980 statement against anti-Gay discrimination. Instead, the 1984 plank is far stronger than the 1980 one. In addition to all the specific pledges, the platform for the first time uses the words "Lesbian and Gay." Previous language has referred only to "sexual orientation."

"It was the last step out of the closet for Democrats," said one local political observer. The Mondale staff, who controlled the platform committee because of their delegate lead, prepared the initial Gay rights draft presented last week, with the full support of the Hart and Jackson campaigns.

The Mondale draft "exceeded" (Continued on next page)

Third World Gays Meet to 'Reclaim' Identities

Three-Day Conference Draws
More than 350 Participants

by Dion B. Sanders

Exactly 15 years ago today, on Sunday, June 28, 1969, police launched a raid on the Stonewall Inn, a Gay bar on Christopher Street in New York's Greenwich Village.

In the ensuing 15 years, the riot has been commemorated as the spark that gave birth to the Gay Freedom movement, with the last Sunday in June each year marked with parades, rallies and parties by Gay men and Lesbians: women all over America.

But there is one fact about the Stonewall Rebellion that has been ignored over the years.

The Stonewall Inn catered to a predominantly Gay Latino clientele, with a substantial Black Gay presence as well.

So on that fateful night in 1969, it was Black and Puerto Rican drag queens who fought back the cops. The Gay Freedom movement — and the Gay community as it exists today —

(Continued on page 13)

1984 FREEDOM DAY



Free to Be... You and Me. That's what it's all about, especially on Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day. Whether you're straight, like the couple at left, or Gay, like the guys at right — a kiss is a kiss. Five pages of coverage begin on page 14. (Photo: Rink)

Fears of Violence, Political Pressure May Cancel Falwell's 'Family Forum'

With Just Two Weeks to Go, Speakers Missing;
Falwell's People 'Concerned About Security'

by Allen White

Jerry Falwell's plans for a "Family Conference" here are unraveling as organized opposition — some of it from Democratic politicians — is growing. Local officials close to the planning of the Falwell event, set to kick-off two weeks from today, are saying it now appears the conference may be canceled. The two major guest speakers, both members of the Reagan Administration, have canceled. They are Dr. Everett Koop, Surgeon General and well-known anti-abortion activist, and William Bennett, chairman of the National Endowment of the Humanities.

Their cancellations have left only conference organizers Falwell, who heads the Moral Majority, and anti-ERA crusader Phyllis Schlafly as keynote speakers for the event. But in Lynchburg, Virginia, Falwell spokesman Dwayne Ward said plans for the conference are still on.

Three sources close to the City's planning around the conference, two of them law enforcement officials and one of

them a member of the clergy, told the Bay Area Reporter this week that they now doubt the conference will take place. The chief factor blocking the plans, they say, is growing opposition from conservative southern Democrats. The Democrats, say the sources, are concerned that Falwell's forum — and the demonstrations planned to coincide with it — will disrupt the opening of the convention.

With Falwell comes the serious concern of violence just days before the beginning of the Democratic Convention. There are now three days of rallies, protests, and church services directed at Jerry Falwell and what he believes. Though every event is being announced as nonviolent, law enforcement officials fear that a spark of violence could erupt into a riot.

Jerry Falwell also knows that there could be violence. Many in San Francisco believe a confrontation would play directly into Falwell's hands. Falwell press aide Ward told the Bay Area Reporter that their concern was

(Continued on next page)

Full Coverage of The Queen's Visit

Her Royal Highness of High Camp, Charles Pierce, is coming to town — to crown the top of Nob Hill. Charles, the reigning Queen of Drag and all its colonies, has spent 30 years moving up that hill from the Tenderloin. Read all about it in Arts & Entertainment.

And get this! The National Examiner — one of those scurrilous grocery-store check-out scandal sheets — ran a contest recently for a Joan Collins (Dynasty) look-alike. Among the three finalists was "Charlene Pierce" of L.A. The editors and readers were surprised when they found out their winner was no lady. But we weren't. Congrats, Charles. After 30 years, you still gotta great set of games!



Jerry Falwell