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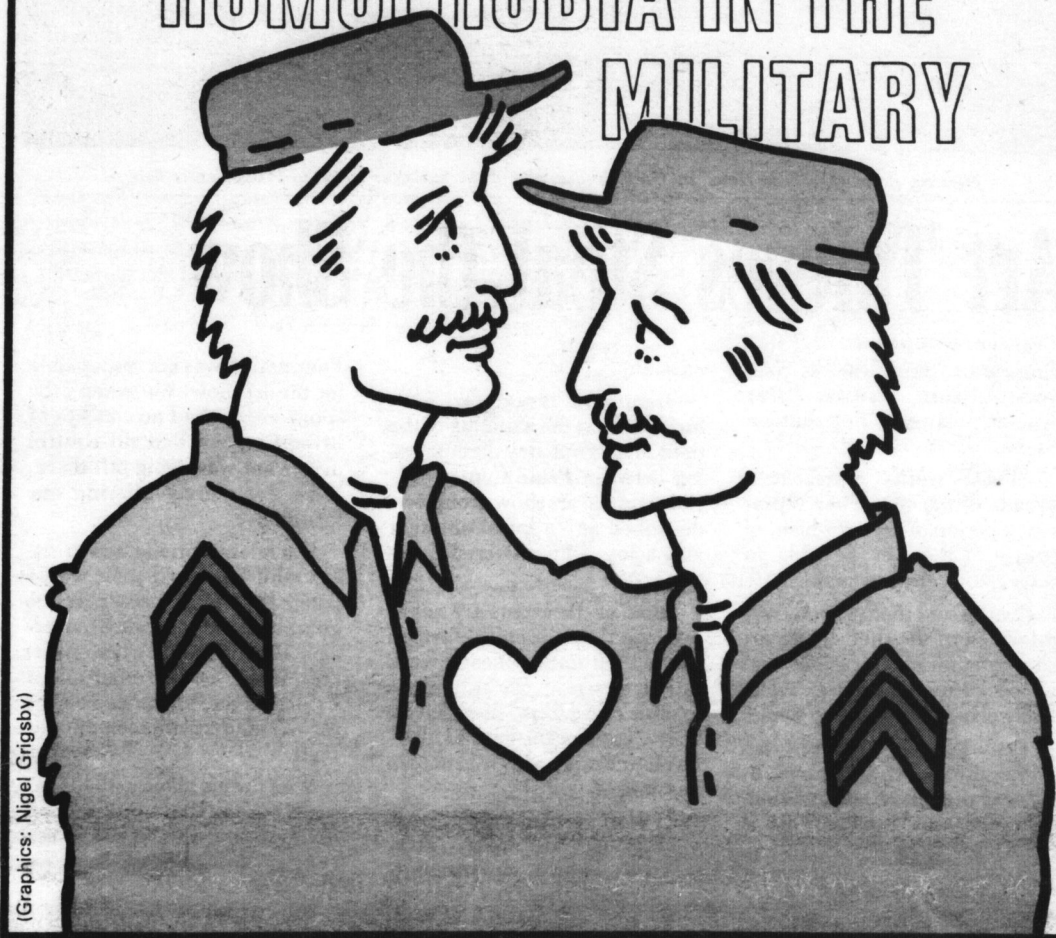
# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XIV NO. 35 AUGUST 30, 1984

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## HOMOPHOBIA IN THE MILITARY



## Federal Appeals Court Upholds Ban on Gays in the Military

Navy Petty Officer from Monterey Loses Case; Court Says No Constitutional Protection for Gays

by George Mendenhall

"Private, consensual homosexual conduct is not constitutionally protected." This was the startling conclusion by a three-judge panel of the prestigious Washington, D.C., federal appeals court this week. The ruling was written in a case involving a former sailor, James Dronenberg, who was seeking redress — claiming that the Navy was denying the constitutional right to privacy and equal protection of the laws by denying homosexuals the right to serve in the military.

(Continued on page 10)

## Anti-Violence Bill Passes Legislature

Sponsor Bates Frets Over a Duke Veto, Calls for Massive Letter Campaign

by George Mendenhall

Governor George Deukmejian now has on his desk a sweeping anti-violence bill passed this week. AB-848, authored by Assemblyman Tom Bates (D-Berkeley), would strengthen the ability of Lesbians and Gay men to be free from violence or the threat of violence. The bill needed 21 state Senate votes for passage this week — and that is just what it got in a 21-14 tally. Activists are hopeful that the Governor, who has supported victims rights, will sign it or allow the bill to become law by not taking any action before the Sept. 30 deadline. Senator David Roberti (D-Los Angeles) carried the bill in the Senate.

(Continued on page 18)

## Art Thieves Steal the Show

Big Heist in Broad Daylight At Pride Center Gay Exhibit

by Brian Jones

The Gay community's biggest art exhibit has now become the Gay community's biggest art heist. Thieves working in broad daylight walked into the Pride Center the afternoon of Saturday, Aug. 18, and stole 32 of the 78 artworks on display in the building's chapel. A 33rd artwork is also missing, but is believed to have been stolen in an earlier theft on Friday.

"This occurred in broad daylight on a Saturday and there was no volunteer on the desk, with the door standing wide open," said Holly Smith, assistant coordinator of the show.

Pride Center officials met with organizers of the art show Thursday, Aug. 23, in a closed meeting. They asked all involved to release only basic information to the public or the press about the art theft. At the Pride Center, all questions were referred to the president of the center's board, Brandy Moore, a Gay activist who is an aide to city supervisor Doris Ward.

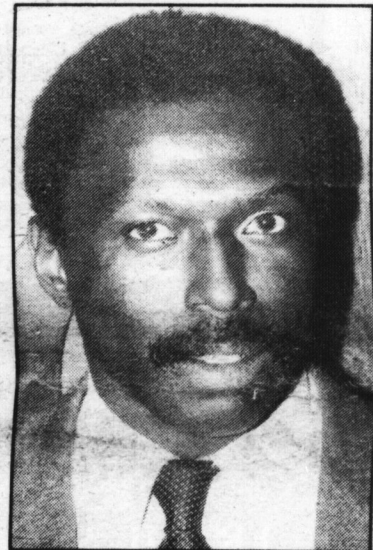
"We are trying to recover the art at this time," Moore said this week. "There is some hope we can do so . . . A car was seen and a license number was given to the Police Department."

Burglary Inspector Tom Crawford of the police burglary detail said a police report was filed on the theft at 6 p.m. the day it occurred, and that a witness' statement put the theft at between 1 and 3 p.m. Crawford said the license number of the car involved has been traced and there is a possibility that lead will yield suspects — and, perhaps, return of the artwork.

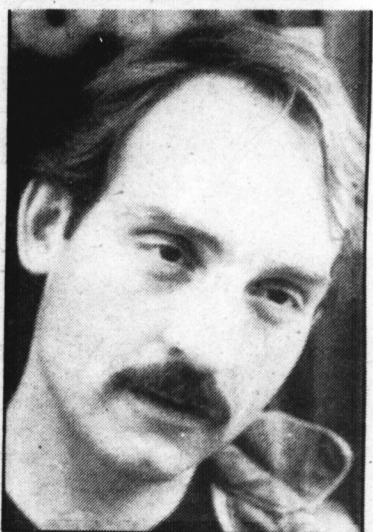
Organizers did not release a dollar valuation on the group of artworks stolen. For the artists involved, however, the loss is greater than monetary.

Gregory Brouse displayed three canvases of brutal, vivid, impressionistic scenes set in San Francisco.

(Continued on page 21)



Brandy Moore (Photo: Rink)



Tony Plewik (Photo: Rink)



Scene of the Crime. The Pride Center at Fillmore and Hayes Streets. (Photo: Rink)

### IN THIS ISSUE

The Police Officers Association Board unanimously disavowed anti-Gay comments from the Cops for Christ. Allen White reports . . . p. 5

Two looks at Gays and the Republican Convention: Duke Armstrong trips along to Oz while George Mendenhall takes a dimmer view of the proceedings . . . p. 12, 13

High Tech Gays challenge defense security clearances which block Gays from many Silicon Valley jobs . . . p. 17

Local playwrights look at the "ever after" — what happened to Cinderella after she wed Prince Charming? John Karr and Bernard Spunberg's fairy tale . . . p. 22



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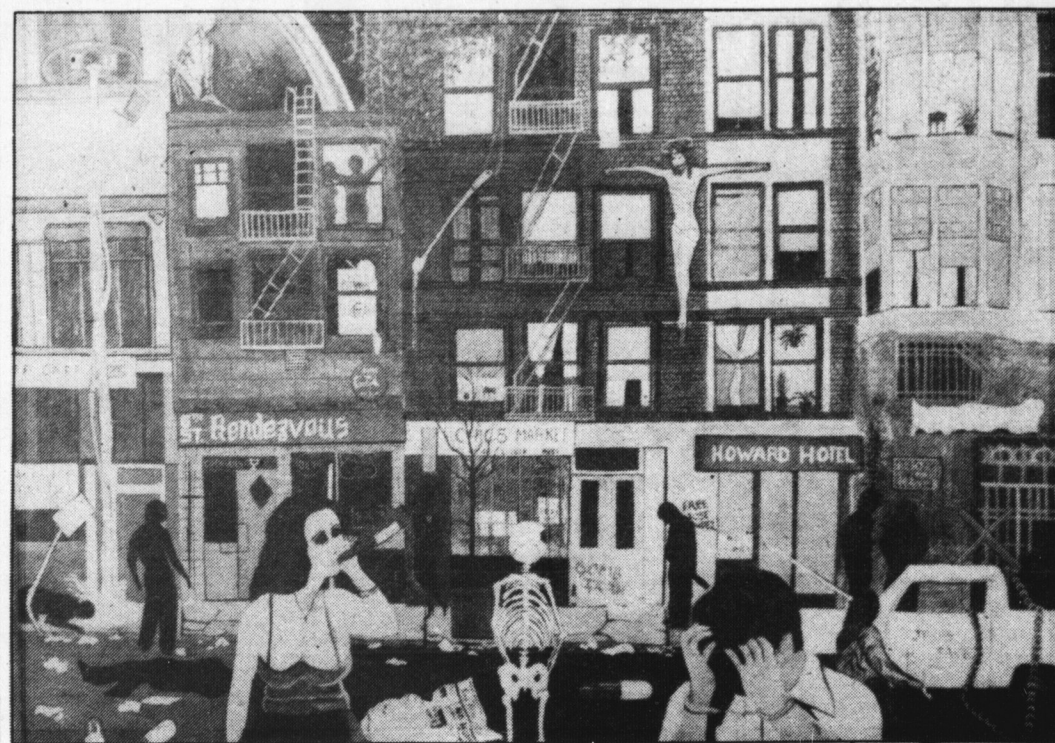
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Missing artwork, "Skid Row" by Greg Brouse, one of the artworks stolen in Pride Center heist.

## Art Thieves Steal the Show

(Continued from page 1)  
Francisco: "Skid Row" at Sixth and Mission Streets; "Bar Scene"; and "Separation Scene."

"These works represent a decade of my life. They represent a period of my art which, of course, I'll never be able to return to," Brouse said.

Brouse said that when he was informed of the theft by an art show organizer, "I was told that people came in and very selectively chose which ones to steal."

Tony Plewik, a professional photographer who was coordinator of the exhibit, was despondent over the heist. "This is terrible. I have to tell all these artists their work was stolen. I hate to see it end like this. Until this happened, it was a very successful show."

The show was the first-ever Gay and Lesbian exhibit associated with the San Francisco Art Commission's Annual Art Festival. It was a joint effort of the Gay Arts and Athletics group, which sponsors the Gay Olympic Games, and the art com-

mission.

Organizers reportedly were furious about the handling of the theft. The Thursday night meeting between Pride Center officials and the art show group was described as "a lot of emotion and a lot of unanswered questions."

Some of the artists are angry because they weren't informed of the theft until almost a week after it occurred. Smith said the exhibit organizers, themselves, weren't told of the heist at all — but found out about it almost in passing.

"I didn't find out about it until Monday afternoon. Tony (Plewik, exhibit coordinator) was over at the Pride Center, and he called me up and said, 'Holly — our artwork's missing!'" Smith said.

"I wanted to get answers to questions and I couldn't get basic questions answered," Smith said.

Moore said, "The Pride

Foundation was not responsible for the art show. We weren't the sponsors, we had no concept of inventory, we had no control over what was being put there. We were merely offering our location."

But release forms given to artists who displayed their works listed the Pride Center as the guarantor of insurance coverage. The forms said work on display would be "covered under Pride Center insurance policies for damage, defacement or theft."

Was the art show actually insured? That was a question all involved had agreed not to answer at the Thursday, Aug. 23, meeting.

"We made an agreement not to say anything. I want to respect that because I don't want to muddy the waters... I can't answer that," Smith said regarding the insurance question.

B. Jones

## DA's Footwork Leads To Assault Conviction

**Lovers' Quarrel Turns Brutal; One Convicted, One in a Coma**

by Allen White

Donald Fernandes, 23, is to be sentenced Sept. 13 for the brutal beating of his roommate Jack Autrand, 53. Since the beating, which lasted more than three hours, Autrand has been under "full care" treatment and in a coma at Laguna Honda Hospital.

Fernandes and Autrand were reportedly lovers. According to friends, they frequented the Pendulum bar on 18th Street. On the night of July 13, the two came home to their residence in the 600 block of Clipper Street. A neighbor arrived home shortly after midnight, now the 14th, and heard the sound of a beating. The fight, according to witnesses, proceeded for several hours. At one point the 53-year-old Autrand ran outside the apartment and was physically dragged back in by the younger Fernandes.

At 3:15 a.m. an ambulance was called. Police would later determine that Jack Autrand had been hit three times with a wine decanter. The effect of the blood-stained decanter was to cause lasting and permanent brain damage.

Donald Fernandes was arrested but not for the beating. He had outstanding charges in Yolo County and he was taken there. On Jan. 24, the District Attorney's office formally charged him with the crime.

Following the arrest, Fernandes attempted to construct an alibi. Assistant District Attorney Mike Williams said that Fernandes tried to get a friend to put him in a different location. If the alibi had stuck, Williams believes they would not have been successful in their prosecution.

Williams gives Ron Huberman, an investigator for the District Attorney and a well known Gay activist, credit for breaking down the alibi. Williams said Huberman's job

was to make the witness understand that "what was done was wrong." The Assistant DA said he believes Huberman being Gay was a strong influence in getting the witness to testify. "I don't believe I would have been able to talk to the guy the same way that Huberman did," Williams said.

Assistant District Attorney

Mike Williams said, "It is important that no one in the community would lie for this guy." He explained that in similar cases it is not uncommon for people to come to the aid of a friend to get them off.

During the trial the name of another person kept being brought up by the defense. The claim was that a man who looked like the defendant was the guilty party. The District Attorney's team was able to discover that the man frequented the Black Rose and the 222 Club in the Tenderloin. They went down to the bars and found the man. This effectively "plugged a hole" in the defense's position.

Earlier this month, Donald Fernandes was found guilty of assault with a deadly weapon and intent to cause great bodily injury. He could receive a sentence of up to four years for the assault charge and three years for the bodily injury count. It was the belief of attorney Michael Williams that Fernandes will receive a sentence of at least six years.

At Laguna Honda Hospital, Jack Autrand will continue to live. He is unable to communicate in even the most basic manner such as the blinking of an eye. He will continue to receive the "full care" treatment of the hospital staff for the rest of his life.

## Human Rights Commission Opposes Bathhouse 'Sex Ban'

The Human Rights Commission of San Francisco, upon the recommendation of the Lesbian/Gay Advisory Committee, unanimously adopted a resolution "Regarding Proposed Governmental Regulation of Private Sexual Conduct in Bathhouses and Sex Establishments in San Francisco." This Resolution states the commission's opposition to "any action by the City of San Francisco to close bathhouses or to prohibit or regulate private consensual sexual activity in any bathhouse or sex establishment, absent a showing that it is a necessary and essential public health measure supported by clear and convincing medical and epidemiological evidence."

In addition, the Resolution adopted at the regular meeting of Aug. 9, states the commission's firm support of the work of community and governmental agencies to educate populations at risk in order to prevent the transmission of AIDS. Expanded funding is encouraged for these programs on the local,

state, federal, and private levels as they have achieved excellent results. This is clearly shown by the recent statistics released on the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases, in which the disease rate has dropped dramatically in relation to sex practices correlated highly with risk of transmission of AIDS.

The Human Rights Commission found that governmental regulation of private consensual conduct between adults is an infringement of civil liberties. In light of the current AIDS epidemic, an action of this sort should not be taken since "health professionals cite types of sexual behavior, and not location, as the causative factors in the transmission of AIDS." Therefore, it cannot be shown that the public health benefit outweighs overriding the rights of the individual.

HRC urged governmental officials to take a position based strongly on civil liberties when any decision regarding the monitoring of private sexual activity between adults is made. ■

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## Britt Calls for Bill to Protect AIDS Research Privacy

Supervisor Harry Britt requested at the Board of Supervisors meeting Monday, Aug. 27, that the board direct a letter of inquiry to Dr. James Curran, Director of the AIDS Task Force of the federal Centers for Disease Control. The letter will voice strong concern of any HTLV related registry and requests an immediate explanation as to the status, nature, and purported purpose of the proposed registry as well as information as to any requests that have been made by CDC for lists of individuals exposed to the suspected AIDS-related virus.

In expressing his strenuous opposition to the compiling of any such registry, Britt stated, "The thought that such a registry might be compiled will only serve to send a chilling effect throughout our community stifling persons from participating in ongoing and new research projects and could conceivably inhibit persons from seeking medical care from accredited facilities."

"I pledge to use every resource available to insure that our government protects the privacy of those receiving treatment or participating in any research projects. Our community has been outstanding in cooperating and participating in research projects by both government and private organizations and this cooperation and trust cannot be betrayed allowing any type of registry or similar program to be instituted," Britt said.

Britt also requested that the board receive immediate clarification from the City Attorney as to applicable rules of privacy pertaining to the divulgence by city health and research facilities or those funded by the city should a request for registry-related information be made by the federal government.

Britt also notified the City Attorney of his intent to pursue legislation aimed at protecting the privacy of those currently under medical care for AIDS or AIDS-related diseases or who have participated in AIDS-related research projects.

Supervisor Britt also requested that the Board secure from Dr. Mervyn Silverman a statement as to the policy of the Department of Public Health regarding the confidentiality of information regarding persons with AIDS, AIDS-related diseases, or participants in AIDS-related research projects. ■

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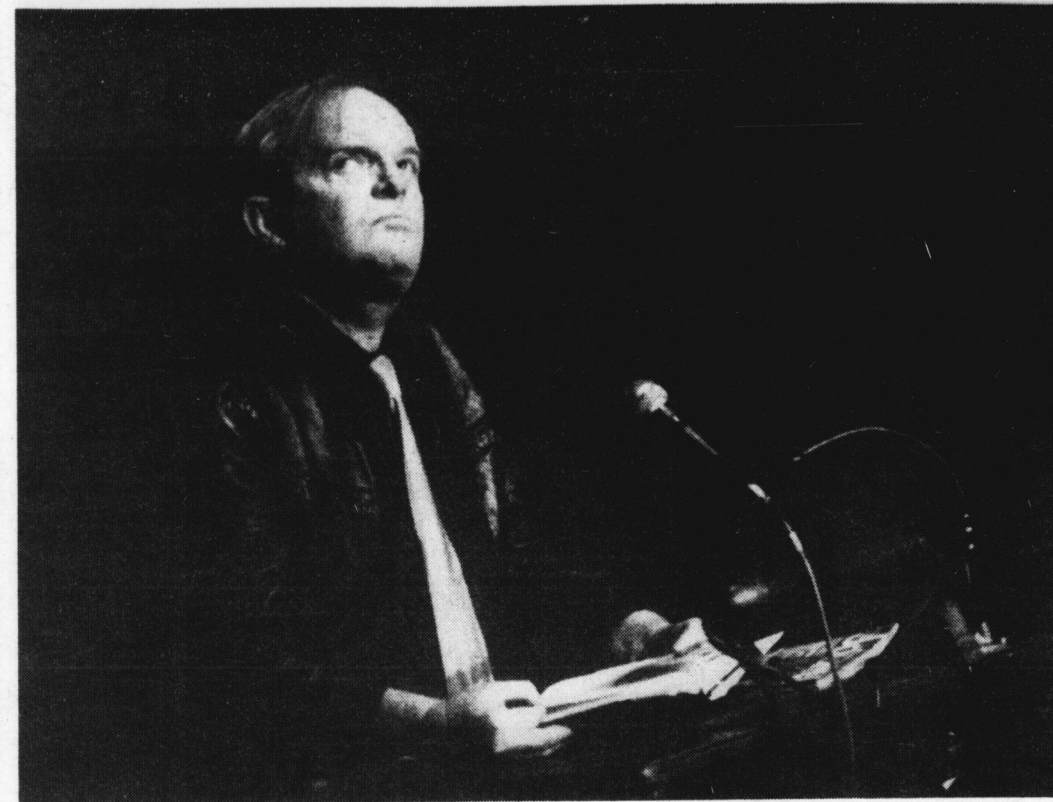
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Truman Capote Reads. At recent San Francisco appearance for Herbst Theatre library benefit. (Photo: Rink)

## Gay Author Capote: Talent, Wit and Camp

*He Loved Gossiping On Talk Shows But His Work Was Serious Stuff*

by George Mendenhall

"I was a very special person and I had to have a very special life," author Truman Capote once said. "I was not meant to work in an office or something, though I would have been successful at whatever I did. But I always knew that I wanted to be a writer, and that I wanted to be rich and famous."

Truman had his wishes answered. When he died last week at age 60 at the home of Joanne Carson in Los Angeles he was rich, famous, and an internationally known author. However, Capote was known more by the general public for his campy, outrageous appearances on the Johnny Carson television show. The author's high voice, rolled-back eyes and effeminate mannerisms made him a Carson regular.

Denis Peron and Scott Smith, two local activists, are holding a memorial service for Truman Capote in Golden Gate Park on Sunday, Sept. 16, at 4 p.m. in Marx Meadows. Lesbian and Gay men will then have the opportunity to hear Capote readings and to plant a tree in his honor. Similar service and tree-planting will be held in the garden of Los Angeles activist Morris Kight in the garden of the Kight family home in Hollywood.

*Other Voices, Other Rooms* was published in 1948. It was an autobiographical account of the Gay author's lifestyle and was reprinted to critical acclaim in 1969. Although Capote preferred the company of high society women much of his life, he was publicly identified as being Gay and openly camped and joked about his lifestyle.

On one Johnny Carson TV show he bluntly said that when his androgynous photo appeared on the reprint of *Voices* it brought him some interesting sex contacts. He then laughed and refused to elaborate.

Capote was known as a jet-setter and would show up at elaborate society parties in Paris and London as often as the Hamptons on Long Island. His photo often appeared in *Vogue*, *The New Yorker*, and *Mademoiselle*. "I have a love affair with cameras — all cameras," he once explained.

Frequently, Capote preferred

South. An intelligent youth, he taught himself to read and write by the time he was five. His mother took him to New York when he was 16 where he was sent to Catholic schools. She later committed suicide.

Capote later wrote that his early life was so restrictive that he began to write in order to express himself. His life was isolated although he had one love affair with a boy his age that ended (after four years) when he was 16.

The one thing that Truman Capote did not relate earlier in his life as a major goal was good health. Increasingly over the years, he mixed drugs and alcohol "into sort of a cocktail." Sometimes his speech would become incoherent as he rambled in public appearances, and was not able to finish what he was saying. When he died last week the author was considerably overweight and was suffering from a variety of physical illnesses.

Morris Kight, the longtime Los Angeles Gay activist, said he had met Capote on several occasions. He reflected, "We should mourn his death, and it should also cause us to reflect on our own lives. What have we written, produced, achieved? What new spirit do we have from his life? Do we relate with pride to *Cold Blood* — that it was written by one of our own?"

"When the people made fun of Capote for his high voice and his funny clothes did we realize that they were being homophobic? Did we recognize the oppression of Truman Capote and reflect on how this relates to our own lives? His death gives us a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our own lives."

### Wharton Named to United Way

Supervisory candidate Dave Wharton has been appointed by The United Way of the Bay Area as one of a group which will review funding requests from San Francisco's Gay and Lesbian community.

"I've been working with the United Way for ten years to get more funding for under-served communities in San Francisco," Wharton said. "This is a major step forward in recognizing our community's needs."

Eleven Gay and Lesbian agencies will be vying for approximately \$110,000 in United Way "special needs" funding. This is the first time the Gay and Lesbian community has been included in the United Way funding schedule.

### 'Cops for Christ' Controversy

## Rights Panel Hits Cop Column As POA Board Disavows It

*Draft of Rights Letter Calls Column 'Frightening'; POA Unanimously Rejects Anti-Gay Broadside*

by Allen White

The Human Rights Commission tonight will take up a request of its Lesbian/Gay Advisory Committee to send a strong letter to the Police Officers Association (POA). The draft of the letter expresses "great concern" over the recent column published in the POA newspaper, espousing the views of the Cops for Christ. This move comes on the heels of a unanimous repudiation of the article by the Board of Directors of the Police Officers Association.

In the column, six members of "Cops for Christ" attacked police hiring of Gays, Gay sensitivity training for police, and indicated that Gays belong in prison. The column also attacked the appointment of the Rev. Jim Sandmire of the Metropolitan Community Church as a police chaplain, saying it "humiliated" the police and is an "embarrassment."

The *Bay Area Reporter* has received a rough draft of the letter which will be presented today to the Human Rights Commission by the Lesbian/Gay Advisory Committee. Authored by Eileen Gillis, a Human Rights Commission staff member. It is specific in questioning the POA on several issues.

The letter, if approved, will state, "While the Commission is in support of the author's right to freedom of speech, it objects strongly to action by the signers of this letter to publicly use a title representing the City of San Francisco to espouse personal prejudicial beliefs. Your action to then publish this article in *The Policeman* served to further support these views, and inflames a distrust in the community your officer members have been hired to serve. The fact that one of the signers of the article is assigned to investigate a Gay related murder is frightening to a public who is expected to hold faith in his ability to act impartially in this case."

The letter states, "Please inform us who made the decision to publish this article and how was this decided. Please clarify the editorial policy of your association regarding the choice to publish articles displaying such a personal bias."

The Human Rights Commission is composed of people appointed by the Mayor, and as such, speaks officially for the City on matters of citizens rights.

"It is our experience that the direct result of the publication of articles, such as the one authored by Mr. Higgins, is to give of-

placing the editor of the newspaper. POA sources have specifically commented that the reason for the editor appearing before the board related to the mechanics of preparing the paper. Apparently the paper has had problems getting to the printer in a timely manner and there was great care in emphasizing that the problems did not relate to the Cops for Christ article. By a narrow vote of 10-8, the editor held on to his post at the paper.

In a related issue, Rev. Dorman Owens, the San Diego minister who invited Robbery Inspector Jim Higgins, the author of the Cops for Christ column, to join him at his church, is now facing a jail term for contempt of court.

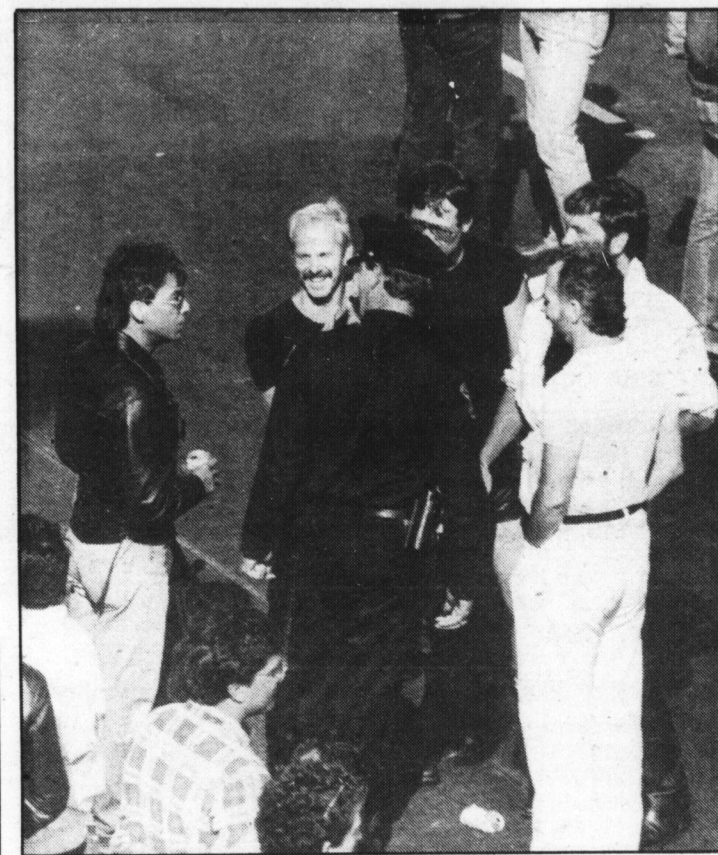
Owens is accused of violating a court order forbidding him from harassing a birth control clinic. A preliminary injunction was issued against him by San Diego Superior Court Judge Paul Overton. The charges stem from encounters with patrons of the Birth Control Institute in San Diego and members of Owen's Bible Missionary Fellowship.

The San Diego Deputy City Attorney said Judge Overton's order specifically barred protesters from saying or shouting "Baby Killers! Murderers!" to employees or patrons of the clinic.

The statement said, "that the POA formally disavows itself from the thoughts and views expressed in an article appearing on the front page of the July, 1984 edition of *The Policeman* newspaper entitled, "The Unbalanced Scale" as per the disclaimer printed on page 2 of said edition.

The motion was printed on a special full-page bulletin which was distributed to police stations throughout the city. Across the top of the bulletin it boldly stated, "Please Post - Read To All Watches." This action, in effect, carried the force of the officers of the San Francisco Police repudiating the anti-Gay article.

In a separate motion, the same POA board considered re-



Support Your Local Police. Officer Paul Seidler gets encouragement from a group at the Castro Street Fair. Seidler's kiss at Gay Freedom Day Parade resulted in an internal complaint, still pending. (Photo: Rink)

of court.

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San Francisco Police Department Inspector Jim Higgins accepted an invitation to appear at the church and talked about homosexuality in San Francisco from his viewpoint. Officer Higgins is the person who authored the anti-Gay column which appeared in the POA newspaper.

Though law enforcement officers have appeared at Owen's church, it is significant to note that this is the second time this year that members of the church have been arrested. Last March church members were arrested after violating a temporary restraining order sought by the Alexandria Institute of San Diego, a humanistic school.

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NEXT ISSUE OUT: SEPTEMBER 6

VOL. XIV NO. 35 AUGUST 30, 1984

NEXT DEADLINE: AUGUST 31

## VIEWPOINT

## LETTERS

### FOUR FRIENDS

#### Barbara Boxer

It is amazing how much energy Barbara Boxer expends. She is always on the go and serves her constituents well. This is the end of her first term in office and there is little to fault her for. She spends most weekends in the district and is quite available to almost anyone who wishes to reach her. She deserves all of our support in her bid for re-election.



#### Louise Renne

She is the dynamo of the Board of Supervisors, a hard-working, dedicated public servant. I have come to know and respect Louise in the last year and a half we have worked together on the Golden Gate Bridge District. She is a Director who always does her homework and usually doesn't mess around with the trivia that can bog down most public agencies. As the chair of the finance committee of the Board of Supervisors, she has been most directly responsible for the massive AIDS funding that the San Francisco Gay community enjoys today. As if she didn't have enough to do, she was on the Democratic Platform Committee and fought hard and well for the Gay Rights plank as well as the other minority planks the convention approved. While I don't always agree with Supervisor Renne on some of the issues, she has a superb record toward our community, and she stands on a long solid record of accomplishments to the city as a whole. This is one of our community's best friends. Louise Renne has earned our support in her bid for re-election.



#### Willie Kennedy

She is one of the quietest members of the Board of Supervisors — a woman of great personal strength and integrity. Because she is not constantly trying to get banner headlines, her hard work and dedication are sometimes overshadowed by other members of the Board. She would rather take her time to understand all of the ramifications of an issue and then deal with it openly and without remorse. She has no special interests to govern her, and she is truly concerned about her city. Check her voting record. She has a genuine record of commitment to the city and to the minority communities. I urge you all to help her maintain her seat on the Board of Supervisors. She has become a true friend of ours.



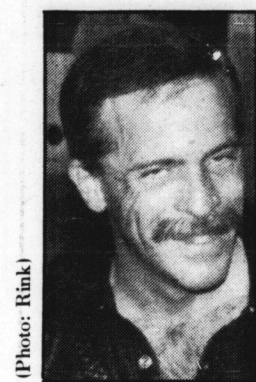
#### Sala Burton

Here is another feisty fighter in the halls of Congress. Sala Burton has not only stepped into her husband's shoes, she has outgrown them. This woman works tirelessly on behalf of her constituents to the point that her aides sometimes have trouble keeping up with her. No one I know can figure out how she keeps going or where she gets all that energy. With a superb voting record and an excellent attendance record, she is truly an asset to Bay Area politics.



Bob Ross

#### Coors and the AIDS Fund



(Photo: Rink)

As a director and founder of the San Francisco AIDS Fund, I must respond to the Aug. 23 article regarding our board's acceptance, in principle, to a grant from the Coors Foundation.

The decision was democratically and openly made, there was no attempt to keep the matter "under wraps" for political purposes, so it is surprising that your reporter had such difficulty with accuracy. For example, my name has never been Walter Jenkins, although I was referred to by that name throughout the entire article. My name is Walter Mellon.

The San Francisco AIDS Fund, at the July 10 meeting of the board of directors, consented, in principle, to accept a \$15,000 grant from the Coors Foundation, if it were to be offered. And if offered without restrictions, obligations or endorsements of any kind. To date, we have received no monies from any representative of the Coors Foundation.

From the beginning, the AIDS Fund has attempted to draw the community together, so that the hand giving will reach the hand receiving. We rely on the generosity of the public and have never questioned the motives for that generosity. We receive no salaries of any kind for our work and are able to keep expenses to a minimum. Fully 86% of our funds go into the hands of AIDS people who are in desperate emotional and financial crisis. Their needs are so great that we, in good conscience, cannot afford to refuse any reasonable and free offer of assistance to them.

In the end, it is a matter of where your heart is. Our heart has always been with those who suffer so cruelly from AIDS, and with those who give so generously to comfort them. It is in that spirit that all donations are accepted, and, we hope, are given. The San Francisco AIDS Fund values the trust placed in us by our community and has never made, nor will make, any decision that diminishes that trust. However, in this time of grave crisis, the brave people who live with AIDS in their lives must be our first concern. We will not play political guessing games at their expense, we will not be miserly in our aid and we cannot afford to be suspicious in our hearts. There is too much vital work to be done.

It is unfortunate that only controversy brings scrutiny. It is disappointing that the *Bay Area Reporter* has only recently taken notice of the San Francisco AIDS Fund, and then most inaccurately. Hundreds of generous donors and over 130 people with AIDS have known about us for a long time.

Walter Mellon, Co-director  
San Francisco AIDS Fund

### On 'Cops for Christ' . . .

#### Take a Break

The following is an open letter to Mayor Dianne Feinstein:

I am writing as a concerned citizen and as the President of the Pride Foundation. An issue has arisen recently, which seems to have grave implications for the City and County of San Francisco. Moreover, the issue seems to have traveled outside our borders and is being laid before the people of Dallas, Texas. Would that it were not reflective of the manner in which the world looks at our City. However . . . we cannot always be in control of what goes on outside our view.

Specifically, I refer to some published remarks made by an inspector (robbery detail), Jim Higgins, which appeared in a booklet entitled "The Tragedy of San Francisco — Don't Let It Happen To Your City." The booklet has been distributed by a San Diego-based personality who makes no bones about his anti-Gay stance and activism. His philosophy encompasses the belief that Gay people who practice the "homosexual lifestyle" should be put to death.

My concern centers on Officer Higgins' endorsement of such beliefs. Especially, since he makes known his feelings about a significant segment of the San Francisco population (the Gay population) through an article published in *The San Francisco Policeman*. Inspector Higgins makes inflammatory remarks against the Gay community in the article headlined "Cops for Christ." He claims to have no way in distinguishing the difference between private sex acts among consenting adults and prostitution. Another officer, Inspector Ed Edelatz (homicide) signed the same article. You may be aware that this officer was recently assigned to a case involving the violent murder of a Gay man.

We support any person's right to speak freely in a democratic society. Yet, when an officer uses his title from the San Francisco Police Department to give credibility to articles he writes for public dissemination, the issue calls attention to who speaks for law enforcement policy in the jurisdiction of the City and County of San Francisco.

As citizens, we wonder whether the populace of San Francisco can be objectively and equally served when there are officers espousing such beliefs walking neighborhood beats, patrolling communities, and monitoring activities in and around San Francisco. How far is the jump between espousing hatred and acting upon that hatred, critically wounding the feelings and hopes of the people of San Francisco?

It wasn't so long ago that murder was committed against two elected officials because of the dislike held by the killer for the liberal views and lifestyle of one of the victims. That killer was a former police officer of the SFPD.

How are we treating our police force? Are they suffering from stress and overwork? Wouldn't it be prudent to give them leaves of absence until they were healthy, whole people ready to live in a civilized community like San Francisco? Are they receiving proper community relations skills through continuous training about the various ethnic and racial communities of San Francisco? Are they acquainted with the fact that they are public servants and that despite annual salary standardization, they still work for all the people of San Francisco?

You Honor, we appeal to your knowledge and involvement as our Mayor. What can the Lesbian and Gay community expect in the way of protection when those enlisted with protection are rampantly anti-Gay, anti-freedom, and anti-San Francisco? What course of action will your good offices take to assure the people of San Francisco that "equal protection under the law" will be the governing rule for our City?

Your investigation of this matter would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

W.J. Brandy Moore, President  
Pride Foundation

#### The Public Trust

An open letter to Police Chief Cornelius Murphy:

As you know, several police officers recently signed a letter (in the July issue of the *Policeman*) which was quite denigrating to the Gay and Lesbian community. Unfortunately, since one of the signers has been assigned to an unpleasant case involving a member of the Gay community, a strong protest from the Gay community has been made to my office.

The protests express outrage at the gratuitous insults to the Gay community. They also express a suspicion

(Continued on next page)

## LETTERS

that the openly espoused hostility toward the Gay community suggests that the investigators assigned to such cases have greater allegiance to their personal beliefs and animosities (in this case supposedly buttressed by a system of religious beliefs) than to their professional obligation to serve all members of the San Francisco community without regard to their race, social or political beliefs, sex or sexual orientation.

It is much as if a police officer belonged to the Ku Klux Klan and was assigned to investigate the death of a Black civil rights leader.

It is much as if a police officer was a member of the American Nazi Party and was sent to investigate the fire bombing of a synagogue.

It is much as if a police officer who publicly expressed the view that "women should be kept barefoot and pregnant" were assigned to handle the investigation of the assault of a feminist leader by an angry male.

Ours is a democratic form of government by and for the people. Our citizens deserve and desire not only the reality of a full and fair measure of public service, but also the appearance of it. Further statements such as have been made, regrettably, serve to dramatically undermine the public trust and confidence of the police department.

Chief, I am sure you know that I consider this a most unfortunate incident for many reasons, one of which is the problems this causes for you. However, I feel that something must be done to prevent further similar events in the future. Thus I am pursuing the drafting and passage of legislation which will institute a City policy preventing assignment of any investigator or law enforcement official (from any city department) to any significant or sensitive case involving any minority group member when said officer has made statements expressing hate, hostility, or animosity toward members of that minority group.

In the interim, I would like to urge that you now consider the implementation of such a policy in your own department and that such policy affect the assignments currently in effect. I am sure you realize that I am pursuing this policy because I believe we owe it to the citizens of San Francisco in this case and all others.

Richard D. Hongisto  
Board of Supervisors

#### Must Be Stopped

Thank you for your article exposing "Cops for Christ." I am outraged that an openly anti-Gay group not only is allowed to exist in the SFPD, but is promoted by the Police Officers Association in its newsletter.

It's no accident that officer Higgins (author of the POA article) allies himself with San Diego's Rev. Dorman Owens, who has called for the death penalty for the "homosexual lifestyle." Groups like "Cops for Christ" evidently share the Moral Majority's vision of a "White Christian America," one which clearly has no place for the liberation of Third World people, women, or Gays.

We can't dismiss these groups as a lunatic fringe. Ultimately they work hand in hand with openly racist, fascist groups like the KKK, who are making anti-Gayness an increasingly integral part of their own program.

Right here in San Francisco, the KKK has a recorded telephone "hateline" which preaches White power, anti-Semitism, and genocide against Third World people. Recently its attacks on Gay people have been clearly aimed at inciting anti-Gay violence.

The week of John O'Connell's murder, the hateline was denouncing "queers" and "perverts" and calling for "the removal of all homosexuals from Aryan territory." It depicted AIDS as a plague threatening the White race "brought by the primitive Negroes of Africa"; "Get rid of the queers, and get rid of the disease."

These groups must be stopped!

One final note: You ask, "Do anti-Gay police belong on Gay cases?" I say absolutely not! But which police do? The cops who attacked and beat peaceful demonstrators at the Falwell protest? The police who terrorize Black youth on a daily basis? The Rathskeller 200? "Cops for Christ" are more than a few bad apples. I think we have to begin to question the oppressive role of police in an unjust society.

Please continue your very informative investigative reporting.

Mike Murphy  
San Francisco

#### Equal Mistreatment

I beg to take issue with James Andrew Nicholas' letter (*B.A.R.*, Aug. 16, "The Cop's Kiss," p. 9) in which he accuses San Francisco police officers of not treating Gays and straights equally.

Three weeks ago I was grabbed roughly by an officer from a passing squad car and was cuffed in brutally tight handcuffs, which the officer apparently enjoyed twisting mercilessly. After being driven to a police station, I was pulled from the car by the cuffs because I had difficulty getting out of the car by myself. Once inside the station I was slammed up against a wall, after which my face was smashed up against some sort of wire-mesh barrier.

After considerable taunting by the officer, I was put into a cell by myself. I was terrified that the officer would be back to work me over. He didn't come, but I am not even sure now that the dreadful expectation

is any better than the reality would have been. What seemed an interminable time later, I was taken to the city jail at the Hall of Justice, where I was kept for several hours in a dank, smelly "tank," and later fingerprinted and photographed.

At what seemed to be about 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning (at which time I would have been in custody for about six or seven hours), I suffered an attack of angina, and had no nitroglycerine with me. I was taken to the infirmary, where I was treated.

In about another hour I was released with a citation on a charge of possession of "drugs." (At the time of my arrest I was carrying a six-pack of beer from the store from which I had just purchased it, to my home, two blocks away.)

I had to appear in court for a hearing that morning, but there I learned that the citation had been dismissed, and that I should never have been arrested and detained in jail, and that I was free to go home. I had instead to be taken to the hospital, where I spent the next two days.

That was, as I said, three weeks ago. My wrists still bear traces of bruises and swelling, and are not yet without pain. The black and blue blotch below my right eye is gone. In time all the bruises and pains of the body — the arms, the legs, the face — will be gone. But the bruises and pains of the mind and the spirit and the outlook will remain.

So please, Mr. Nicholas, disabuse yourself of the notion that "our boys in blue, our city's finest" do not accord equal treatment to Gays and straights, old and young, blind and sighted, sick and well. They do. I know. I am a 72-year-old, blind straight male with coronary-artery disease.

Thanks for listening.

Name Withheld  
San Francisco

#### Cop's Kiss

An open letter to the San Francisco Police Commission:

This is to express my outrage at the abuse of the Police Department's internal complaint system represented by the charges against Officer Paul Seidler. The act for which Officer Seidler is being victimized was shown on videotape this past Tuesday night on Channel 2. It is clear that Officer Seidler bade farewell to an acquaintance with the peck on the lips which is a common form of greeting and farewell within the Gay community. Kissing as a form of greeting is widely practiced among non-Gay people in the United States of America, and in many other countries. It is not, to my knowledge, illegal or immoral anywhere, and particularly not in the State of California or the City and County of San Francisco.

I ask that the Police Commission view the videotape of the act in question and instruct the Police Department to dismiss the complaint as frivolous. I also ask that the Commission act to discipline the persons who filed the complaint for abusing the internal affairs system for the purpose of homophobic harassment of Officer Seidler, and for causing the system, and the Police Department, to be made the object of ridicule in the community.

It is also evident that management of the Police Department has been unsuccessful in dealing with the problem of internal homophobia within the SFPD. This incident, as well as the columns published recently in POA newspapers by so-called "Cops for Christ" have gravely undermined the efforts at improving relations between the Police Department and the Gay community. If department management, and the Police Commission which oversees that management, do not take prompt action to end this unacceptable and unprofessional behavior by a handful of officers, the damage already accomplished will be profoundly worsened.

I anticipate the prompt action of the Commission in this matter.

S.R. Montague  
San Francisco

#### Vitamin C Therapy

This is a desperate plea. The fatalities from AIDS seem to be getting worse, if we can believe what we read in the press.

I congratulated *B.A.R.* on the brave and straight-ahead reportage of Dr. Robert Cathcart's therapy for AIDS with Vitamin C. Since the articles appeared months ago, I've seen little of Dr. Cathcart's work and fear he may have been the victim of the medical profession's machinations to suppress anything they don't like. The articles were positive proof that his C therapy worked — or seemed to be.

We desperately need an update on this. Can you contact Dr. Cathcart? I believe in him and so do the patients he has helped. Do another whole page on him if you can. It is so needed.

And you guys who can't break the old multiple sex partner habit — triple your dosage of C with both time release and regular capsules of the various kinds of the vitamin. Also, after sex, rinse your mouth out with straight lemon juice and gargle with it. Leave that ass sexless, babes, 'til this thing has a cure.

I personally thank J.W. King and his brother Jon for giving me a lot of release from chronic horniness, and keeping me off the streets. Thanks, guys.

M.H. Murphy  
San Francisco

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# LETTERS

## On the Sisters . . .

### Two Camps

★ I applaud Mr. Greg L. Pennington's letter in the "Open Forum" section (*Bay Area Reporter*, Aug. 16) entitled "Be Who You Are," regarding comments made from various persons in previous issues regarding the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, particularly Sister Boom Boom.

From what I have observed thus far, this issue has divided the Gay community into two camps: Those who accept willingly, or with tolerance, persons who dress in drag, and those who do not because, as they say, it either takes away from the image that the Gay community is trying to positively project, or it is a personal insult to those who see it. I have read with great interest letters sent by persons tracing the history of men dressing in what one would consider as "drag" today from the Middle Ages until the Stonewall Rebellion, which would also include female impersonation entertainment, from its early beginnings until today. This aspect of history is very educational, as well as colorful, and hopefully someone will take the time to compile these facts into a worthwhile best-seller.

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence have posed no threat to the image of the Gay community; if anything, they have enhanced it, just as our brothers and sisters who dress in drag do likewise. They (the Sisters) have been quite beneficial in providing information and assistance regarding AIDS, and have been very helpful within the community in various fundraising projects. As well as providing the diversion of humor into our lives, the Sisters have assisted us in many positive and encouraging ways as well.

The criticism that comes from within our community regarding the lifestyle of other Gays in our community, if not given in a positive and upbuilding direction, can become very divisive and very condescending. At this point and time, it is more important for us to work together toward a common goal, rather than allow this type of bickering to exist. In this city, we have more of a freedom of expression in terms of lifestyle than any other city in the United States. Let us not take away or deny this expression from others, but rather receive it with an open mind, and/or support it if possible. This is a part of the rich history that we have; let's not bury it in the sand or hide it on a bookshelf to forever gather dust and fade away in a void of forgetfulness.

Henry Michael Judge Chappell  
San Francisco

### Work for Ourselves

★ In a day and age when men are dying of AIDS in greater numbers than ever before, and we are being beaten to death in our streets, it is pointless and obscene to bicker over how the media portrays us.

If we cannot stop harassing one another and instead confront and solve the problems that daily face us, I'll tell you how the media will portray us — dead. If the rest of the world still doesn't like us, they'll get over it. We need to work for ourselves, not them.

When the day comes in this great nation that Gay men and women, along with all other people, face no discrimination or bigotry; when AIDS is no longer incurable and untreatable; then and only then will it be morally permissible to question who makes us look good and who makes us look bad.

However, by then everyone will have learned the lesson of acceptance and such a question will be as useless then as it is now.

Before us we have more demanding questions than whether or not the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, etc. are an asset or an embarrassment. Among those questions are "Am I next?" and "What can I do to help?"

Steven K. Homer  
San Francisco

### Move On

★ All good things must come to an end before the good thing turns into a bad joke. The Stonewall Riot was a good thing and the drag queens had the common sense to hang up their dresses and turn to political drag. And we moved on! We went through a period of construction hats; it showed our masculinity. And we moved on!

We used fans in discos; it was fun. And we moved on! Harvey Milk taught us to be strong. And we're moving on! AIDS is teaching us unity, how to share, show caring, love, and support. And we're moving on! Dan White's sentence showed the people we are fighters. And we moved on!

The Demos put us on the platform. And we're moving on! The Sisters had something to say; they said it. They should move on! They're rapidly becoming a bad joke, not only to themselves, but also to the entire Gay community!

Why doesn't the B.A.R. put the question to the community via a "call-in vote," as other Bay Area papers do? "Should the Sisters hang up their beads before they drop all of yours?"

I vote Yes!

Kevin Sullivan  
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: We couldn't afford the phone bill, of course.

Brian Jones

### Who Speaks for Whom?

★ Having Sister Boom Boom act as a spokesman for the Gay community is like having Tiny Tim represent the recording industry or the Hare Krishnas speak out on behalf of the religious community. Think about that.

Don Snetzing  
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: And Tiny Tim is disgusting because he has limp wrists and a high voice — right?

Brian Jones

### Just Like Them

★ Doug Faron of Oakland accuses Editor Brian Jones in a letter published in the Aug. 16 edition of missing the point about the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

Mr. Faron informs the editor that the only "basic simple difference" between "us" and "them" is "whom we choose to sleep with," so, Mr. Faron concludes, "to help them understand" us, the Sisters must disappear, because "times have changed and so must tactics," and, then, "them" and "us" can be comrades together, "their worst fears" no longer a source of alienation that "pushes them away from us."

Well, now! Anyone who cannot take these very simple arguments apart ought simply to consider themselves one of "them," just like Doug!

Isn't it just as simple as that?

Charles Harris  
San Francisco

### Cheap Morality

★ The heart of the matter is not whether one is for or against Boom Boom's right to appear in the media, NAMBLA's right to march in the parade, or children's right to have sex with people they want to have sex with. The heart of the matter is that these rights are even up for discussion by dykes and faggots who consider themselves to be competent adults.

Who are these neurotic bigots obsessed with imposing their cheap morality on people they haven't the slightest control over? Who are these polite caretakers of worn-out reasons to defend what an upright dyke or faggot would fight for without a thought? Sad to say, these people are representatives of the current situation in San Francisco, where the reign of selfishness and stupidity is taking away what little remains of what was achieved in this city, clearing the way for an accounting which will not restrict itself to the impotence of argument.

Tim Speck  
San Francisco

★ ★ ★

### Cloudy Planning

★ Although 61.2 percent of San Francisco voters enthusiastically passed Proposition K, the sunlight ordinance, in June, it appears that we voters are going to have to call on our officials to enforce the protection of sunlight. It has been nearly three months since the election, yet Planning Commission and Recreation and Park Commission members have failed to define the language of Proposition K so that it can be implemented. The voters gave these officials a job to do and they are procrastinating.

The purpose of Proposition K is to protect the City's parks from being shadowed by large buildings. But large buildings mean powerful developers and developers mean politics. The intent of Proposition K is to remove politics from the parks. The issue of Proposition K is not whether a deal is good or bad but rather, because of our sorry past, that there shall be no deals. Period. We can not let our officials sell a park's sunlight for any reason and on any terms. Sunlight belongs to the people and cannot be used as a bargaining tool.

But the implementation of Proposition K is being delayed by the officials who have the responsibility of writing and passing the regulations which will make it clear what Proposition K allows and what it does not allow.

The developers who back the "No on K" campaign have not stopped campaigning though they lost the election June 5. These developers are continuing to exert political pressure on officials with the intent of thwarting Proposition K. Developers do not approach Recreation and Park officials to make trades unless they know their project will somehow damage parks. We must keep developers out of the park business completely.

The task at hand for the Planning and Recreation and Park Commissions is to define "insignificant," a word used in Proposition K's legislation stating that buildings which cast an "insignificant" shadow may be built. A flexible definition will continue to allow backroom deals which we are trying to prevent. We must call on our officials to write strict rules that will ensure the protection of our parks and which will not make room for trades with developers.

Bill Maher  
Board of Supervisors

# LETTERS

### Fag-Bashing in Print

★ Did anyone notice Jeffrey Hart's syndicated article, "Gay Rights Debate," on the Friday, Aug. 10, op-ed page of the *San Francisco Examiner*? That was fag-bashing in print if I ever saw it. Since the *Examiner* only gets advertisers by being picked up as a low-priced option when advertisers buy space in the *Chronicle*, anyone disturbed by that vile bit of muckraking could do a good turn for the Gay community by writing any department stores, banks, or airlines where they maintain accounts and request they not pick up the *Examiner* advertising option until that paper publishes a public apology for printing that article, or agrees to stop running Jeffrey Hart's column. Remember to sign with your account or charge card number, since businessmen hate to lose customers.

Peter B. Dyer  
San Francisco

### Buy the Book

An open letter to Benjamin Tom, president of the Board of Education:

★ We request that the Board of Education officially approve the book *Demystifying Homosexuality: A Teaching Guide About Lesbians and Gay Men* for use by teachers as resource material.

Several committees of the Human Rights Commission have reviewed and recommended approval of this book. District health education administrator Joan Haskin has reviewed and approves of this book.

For too long, teachers have had to scramble around for information concerning homosexuality. *Demystifying Homosexuality* puts the subject in perspective by offering concrete answers and areas for discussion, which will lead to greater understanding and the elimination of myths and stereotypes about Lesbians and Gay men.

Reducing prejudice and violence against Lesbians and Gay men continues to be a priority in our community. The shadow of the Briggs Initiative necessitates official approval of this book if we are to see its widespread use in the district. District staff needs reassurance of a continuing commitment by the board to work in this area of demystifying homosexuality.

We seek your personal assistance in facilitating a unanimous vote of the board. We further request that this matter be expedited so that staff could/would start using the guide this fall.

Hank Wilson  
for Gay Teachers Coalition  
San Francisco

### AIDS Phobia

★ What's happening out there? We condemn straight of homophobia while we develop "AIDS phobia" as a Gay community. This is just what the leaders of the Moral Majority would like to see, our internal social and sexual disintegration. Not so, Jerry; we will fight you and AIDS until you've both left town! On the political front the bathroom closures are just one of the early symptoms of this disintegration. Not so, City Hall; you better listen, too!

And on the social and sexual level there has been another type of internal disintegration, our own separation from each other. Not so, Gay friend; we are going to win in the end! Are we going to crawl into our shells and live a lonely life of solitude and bitterness? Never!

We should all be concerned about AIDS. It is important that we fight, prevent, and conquer this disease at all costs. Something else is happening that has no direct correlation to AIDS but obviously is a direct result of the epidemic. We are becoming social and sexual hermits, rejecting our own fellow man.

Men seem to be afraid of relating to each other on simple personal and social levels. They fear that if they relate, date, cruise, or get involved they will inevitably do something dangerous in bed. This has set up a psychologically phobic type of atmosphere in our places of social contact. Can't you feel it? There is a coolness and distance that I haven't felt in many years of being Gay.

We are afraid of each other, and why? The theory goes something like this: "I'll go out and drink too much and my inhibitions will drop and drive will rise and before I know it I will meet someone and we will be doing all of those risky sexual practices that feel — ooh so good! Then I will get AIDS, so I will just keep my distance or stay at home."

I agree that this is a problem. We can change and I recommend some old solutions and new ideas. We all need romantic, emotional, and sexual attention. Therefore, it is imperative that we change those unhealthy sexual practices, and INSIST ON SAFE SEX AT ALL TIMES. Remember that a crisis demands necessary discipline from all of us. A commitment to ourselves and to one another, as a Gay community, is the best way to attack these fears of unsafe sex.

Then we must make every effort to relate to each other, putting the AIDS phobia in its proper perspective, learning to love and treat one another like the brave Gay men and women we propose to be. We can look forward to the time when it is safe to "enter the water" again for more intense sexual experiences. But for now unlocking and unfreezing our feelings to reach out and not shut out one another is our only hope to meet the needs for the attention we deserve, demand, and must have to remain emotionally healthy. The Gay mecca will survive and it is our duty to sacrifice now for future existence.

Tom Faulk  
San Francisco

### Aural Discosis

★ My roommate and I attended the "1984 Men of San Francisco" dance at the Galleria, 101 Kansas Street. Immediately upon entering, we both commented at how "shrill" the music sounded; the treble was boosted up to the point that the speakers were producing distortion and making the music almost unbearable to listen to. We walked to the "DJ booth" on the second floor and spoke with one of the personnel. He agreed with our diagnosis, but said that he had repeatedly told the DJ to turn down the treble, but that the DJ refused.

In spite of the unpleasantness of the shrill, distorted sound, we decided to remain to see the entertainment, but made certain we did not get very close to the speakers. Four hours later, at 3 a.m., we left.

Fourteen hours later, and after eight hours of sleep, my ears were still ringing. Additionally, my left ear had difficulty hearing; every sound muffled, as if cotton were in the ear.

Obviously, the shrillness we perceived in the speakers was due to excessive volume, not just the treble adjustment; the huge speakers were being over-driven to the point of distortion, and the poor, unsuspecting customers, myself included, were being subjected to possible ear damage due to this excessive volume.

If what I am experiencing is typical of those in attendance, then hundreds of Gay men are today wondering if they have suffered permanent hearing loss/ear damage due to negligence. Only time will tell, of course, but it is my contention, after attending dozens of "Galleria dances" with no ill effect, that a customer's ears should not be ringing when he leaves a dance, and he certainly should not be suffering from impaired hearing 14 hours later.

R.C. Bryant  
San Francisco

### Help for Homeless

★ I want to thank you for Mike Hippler's article (August 9) on the "Helter-Skelter for Shelter" he went through in behalf of the "wandering lost soul" named Joel who appeared on his doorstep. I think many San Franciscans have shared the frustration he described in wanting to help some bewildered and homeless new friend, but not knowing how — especially when you realize that this person has mental problems and is really vulnerable in the big city, "adrift, alone, and unfriended."

Hippler recognized the limits of his compassion but struggled with the guilt of his good judgment in not letting Joel stay with him. He knew that Joel needed more help than he or the housing referrals or the crash shelters could give him, but didn't know where to find it. There are thousands of people like that in our city, people who are on the fringe of both society and reality, the "homeless mentally ill" who are so evident to those of us who open our eyes and occasionally meet them. There has to be some agency that helps them.

The community mental health system in San Francisco is underfunded and strained by the press for services, but is fortunate to have a variety of programs that cooperatively struggle to meet the needs of poor people disabled by mental impairments. Baker Places is one of them.

We are a community-based, nonprofit agency that has been providing residential treatment services to this population for 20 years. As one of the founding providers of this city's community mental health system, we operate three halfway houses, vocational rehabilitation services, and an innovative Assisted Independent Living Program under contract with the Department of Public Health.

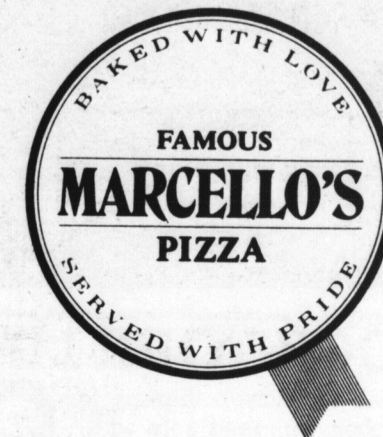
Our therapeutic communities throughout San Francisco provide alternatives to hospitalization, or the stepping-stones after crisis or in-patient treatment, for people like Joel who are unable to pull it together on their own and are at risk of further psycho-social deterioration. In 1978, we created the first psychiatric residential treatment program for Gay men and Lesbians in the country, and continue to serve the special needs of Gay people struggling with serious mental problems.

Baker Places' services have been quietly providing vital community services to these people for years. To mark our 20th Anniversary and to alert the public to changing government priorities and funding cutbacks that threaten programs like ours, Baker Places wants the community to know who we are and what we do.

I hope that Mike Hippler and others who encounter some of the "Joels" who wander our city, and are concerned enough to help them, remember that there are agencies like ours who can follow through from their initial compassion and referral.

James M. Illig  
Executive Director  
Baker Places

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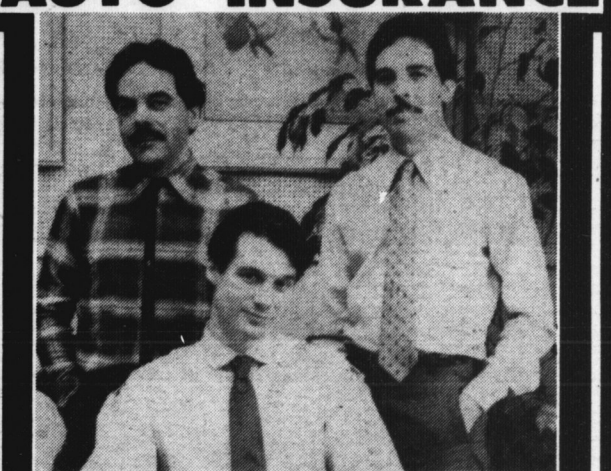
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## Court Upholds Gay Military Ban

(Continued from page 1)

National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA), which represented Dronenberg, estimates that this is one of hundreds of cases that cost the taxpayers over \$20 million a year — the amount the services spend to exclude Gay men and women from the military.

Dronenberg, a 27-year old petty officer at the time of his discharge in 1981, received an honorable discharge after he admitted that he had repeatedly engaged in sexual activity with a 19-year-old seaman recruit in a Navy barracks at the Monterey, California language school. The seaman testified against him. After his discharge, the former officer decided to contest the federal exclusion of homosexuals in the armed forces.

The 3-judge panel was headed by Judge Robert H. Bork, a 1982 appointee of President Reagan who has frequently been mentioned as the next possible Reagan appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court. He was joined by Judge David Williams of Los Angeles and Judge Antonin Scalia, another Reagan appointee. Their ruling upheld a Federal district judge ruling which had denied Dronenberg's suit.

Attorney Stephen V. Bomse of the local firm of Heller, Ehrman, White and McAuliffe was the NGRA counsel for Dronenberg. Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, said his group will most likely ask for a rehearing by the full 11-member appeals court in Washington. This could happen within the next month. A possible U.S. Supreme Court appeal in the future would probably not be heard until late next year.

Judge Bork supported the right of the military to restrict sexual activity. In his decision, he wrote, "The effects of homo-



sexual conduct within a naval or military unit are almost certain to be harmful to morale and discipline... Homosexual liaisons call into question the evenhandedness of superiors' dealings with lower ranks, to make personal dealings uncomfortable where the relationship is sexually ambiguous, to generate dislike and disapproval among many who find homosexuality morally offensive, and, it must be said, give the powers of military superiors over their inferiors, to enhance the possibility of homosexual seduction."

Bork specifically mentioned only homosexual activity in this decision although types of heterosexual activities are prohibited in many states. He wrote that governmental penalties against homosexual conduct could only be struck down "if any and all private sexual behavior was constitutionally protected — a conclusion we are unwilling to draw."

The decision urged that the constitutional right to privacy does not extend to include homosexual activity. He added that the Navy policy of prohibiting Gay sex "is plainly a rational means of advancing a legitimate, indeed crucial, interest in common to all our armed forces."

The Navy exclusionary policy was attacked by Attorney Graff.

who said Dronenberg had a 9-year exemplary service record. In fact, Judge Bork noted that the former sailor had "an unblemished service record and earned many citations praising his job performance." He had a top-security clearance.

"Jim was kicked out simply because he is Gay," Graff explained. "They did not judge him on his individual ability to serve but rather on outmoded stereotypes."

Navy regulations are specific: "Any member of the armed forces who solicits, attempts or engages in homosexual acts shall normally be separated from the naval service. The presence of such a member in the military environment seriously impairs combat readiness, efficiency, security and morale."

This military code was affirmed earlier in 1978 when Leonard Matlovich, an Air Force sergeant, fought to remain in the military after reporting to his superiors he was Gay. His case gained national attention — with his photo on the cover of TIME magazine.

In an unusual settlement, Matlovich accepted \$160,000 payment from the government in 1980 in return for dropping his legal battle. However, before the settlement, a U.S. District Court judge ordered the Air Force to reinstate him. Matlovich chose to stay in civilian life and opened a pizza parlor in Guerneville.

More recently, a Seattle, Washington soldier, Perry Watkins, fought a long battle to remain in the Army where he had served as an openly Gay person for many years.

Watkins was recently discharged but is continuing his legal battle to finish his Army career.

G. Mendenhall

## GUEST COLUMN

### Gay Incident in Army Resurfaces Years Later

Ed. Note: The following column first appeared in Equal Time newspaper in Minneapolis, MN, and is republished here by permission.

by Bonnie Fournier

This story is not only about life in the military, but also life after the military, once you've been labeled Gay.

In 1976, Jane (not her true name) decided to enter the military, specifically the Army, under the GI Bill. She wanted job training and school funding. Her enlistment period was four years. She served slightly less, due to a medical disability, and was honorably discharged.

She now lives in the Twin Cities and is attending school. She is financially sponsored by Vocational Rehabilitation and also receives a disability check. This income is not enough to cover her expenses, so she works part-time when she can.

Honeywell posted an announcement at her school asking veterans to sign up, offering part-time temporary employment. Fifteen or so people applied, including Jane. After extensive paperwork, including filling out security clearance forms, they were all hired immediately.

Each of them began receiving their green security badges, allowing them to enter restricted areas of the building. People received their badges at different times for many reasons — generally as soon as their military record was checked. "I never got mine. I was asked to redo my security clearance three times," Jane said.

Still waiting after 11 months,

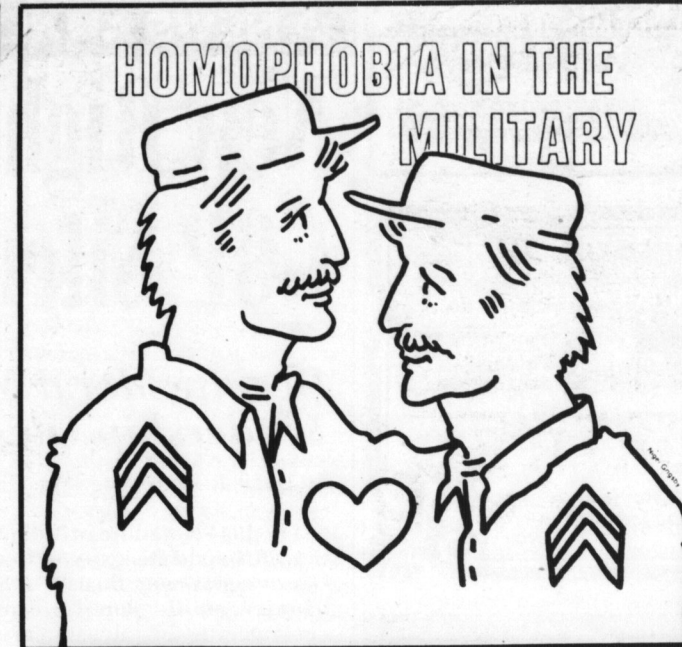
Jane got a call from a friend in another state where she used to live. She was told that "some guy flashing a badge was asking some questions about her." It was an agent of the Defense Investigative Service, and he had lots of questions: where Jane had lived and who her friends were. About a month later, Jane herself was called by the DIS and agreed to meet and "answer a few questions."

The meeting was at a local Air Force Base. She met with two agents, one of them the man she had spoken to over the phone. He spoke the whole time. "The other man just sat there and stared." During that meeting, where she had hoped to get her clearance, an eight-year-old document was produced, a document Jane had signed while in the military.

From that point on, the meeting turned into a horrible case of *deja vu*. After two hours of intense questioning, Jane found herself signing yet another statement. It was a statement saying that she is a Lesbian, that she lives with Lesbians, and it gave legal authorization to release medical records for inspection.

The eight-year-old document was an Article 13: military charges that were filed against Jane stating that she was a practicing Lesbian.

It was 1977 and Jane was stationed at a California military base. "I had lots of free



time. I enjoyed watching the Army baseball team (which was heavily Lesbian), met other Gays in the Army, went to bars and got invited to private parties."

This is where Jane was introduced to a group which was known as "The Family." The Family was a close group of Lesbians in the military and its head was the company commander. The commander used her military powers "to protect her members of 'The Family.'"

At this time Jane was interested in the Gay lifestyle, but was not yet out and not comfortable with it. "People were looking at me as a potential (Lesbian)," and her First Sergeant started calling her into her office to say "You've been mentioned again (for Lesbian activity)." Jane was certainly not looking for trouble — she promised to do her best to stop the "mentioning."

One hot day, Jane's roommate (who was also Gay) wanted to go sunbathing on a beach area of the base. While sunbathing, both women took their shirts off.

The military police, who had been observing them from an overlooking hill, arrested them. They were charged with nude sunbathing on government property.

When brought before the company commander, the women were informed that "she needed to set an example." The C.C. was under investigation by the MPs for dismissing charges against other accused Gays. The MPs suspected that she was the head of "The Family."

Jane and her friend were separated and interrogated. "The MPs picked us up at noon and we didn't get out until midnight." The women were never allowed to speak to each other, even while eating. Two officers, male and female, questioned them separately. They sat alone, under guard, for "what might have been hours. I just sat there and sweated."

During the interrogation, Jane denied charges of perverse (Lesbian) sexual activity. The male interrogator was very threatening; the woman played

the role of kind friend. Finally, Jane was presented with a typed document and told "All you have to do is sign this." She didn't know what it was. But she knew she wanted out. The MPs informed her that military charges are automatically dropped from your record after a few years. She signed.

Now, because of the Honeywell incident, she knows what was in that document.

While still in the military, after getting busted, Jane was trained as a cartographer. The job entailed drawing maps of secretly surveilled areas. She needed a security clearance and she had no trouble getting it.

Jane had no suspicions that she would have trouble getting a clearance for the Honeywell job — until she got the call from the DIS agent eight years later.

Jane has since legally revoked her authorization to the DIS agent, and she resigned immediately after her interview. Her future plans are to finish her schooling and work for the Veterans Administration. But now she fears being blocked by her military records.

She has some advice for Gays in the military: "When any trouble arises, get yourself a lawyer, no matter if you feel you need one or not. A civilian lawyer. And always deny homosexuality. They have to prove it unless you are out and tell them you are. And it's a real hard thing to prove."

Jane certainly wishes she had her past to do over again. And she doesn't look forward to facing those documents again in the future. Yet she is very clear about the mistakes she made.

She believes there's nothing wrong with being a Lesbian in the military. "The only thing I did wrong was that I didn't get a lawyer. If I had got a lawyer, I wouldn't be in this mess today."

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Hate is in the Air(waves) — Activists Challenge Radio

Philadelphia - Five local radio stations are facing challenges to their license renewals by the Philadelphia Lesbian/Gay Task Force (PLGTF) for what it says are "the anti-Gay nature" of three of the stations' public affairs programs.

PLGTF filed petitions with the Federal Communications Commission to deny renewal of licenses to WWSH-FM, WWDB-FM, WHAT-AM, WCAU-AM, and WCAU-FM. All of the stations' current licenses expire at the end of the month.

WWSH-FM announcers were accused of "using the airwaves" to organize a May 31 protest against the city's only Gay-owned bookstore, Giovanni's Room, in response to news reports that the store was selling copies of a pamphlet entitled "How to Have Sex With Kids."

Announcers Kelly Randall and Dan Cooke were charged with going to the air "to promulgate the myth of Gay men as child molesters" and to "incite a group of protesters in a manner... that could have caused serious incidents of violence against Giovanni's Room and against the Gay community."

The bookstore was, in fact, vandalized.

WHAT and WCAU-AM and FM were accused of "having continually refused to broadcast any public service announcements or any public affairs programming on Lesbian/Gay concerns."

PLGTF also accused WHAT talk show host Mary Mason of making "disparaging remarks about Lesbians, Gay men, and Black people, by using such terms as 'bulldykes,' 'faggots,' and 'know-nothing niggers.'" The latter charge is ironic in that Mason herself is Black.

WWDB talk show host Bob Grant was also accused of using disparaging remarks about Gays. Grant, who also hosts a show on WMCA in New York and has a reputation of being rude to on-the-air telephone callers ("Get off the phone, you bum!"), is accused of referring to Gays as "sick aberrations" and "child molesters."

In a related development, a southern New Jersey radio station has come under fire for airing jokes believed to be disparaging toward Gays and Blacks.

— Philadelphia Gay News

### Head of Gay Lobby Quits Job

The Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) announces, with great regret, that health problems will force Vickey Monrean to resign from her position as executive director effective Oct. 1. Appointed only last April after an intensive search, Monrean came to GRNL with superb political action credentials from the National Organization for Women.

"It's very difficult for me to express how disappointed I am at having to leave GRNL so soon after coming aboard. I welcomed the challenge I faced and looked forward with so much anticipation to working toward justice for Gays and Lesbians, and also to helping restore GRNL to its rightful place as a major force for Gay and Lesbian rights on the national scene. I will do whatever I can to support the work of GRNL and that of my successor," Monrean said.

A GRNL search committee has been established. Resumes should be sent to: GRNL, P.O. Box 1892, Washington, DC 20013. Attn: Kate McQueen. Salary is commensurate with experience.

"I hate making predictions, especially about the future."

— Jack Warner

## Gay Summer Camp Begins Sept. 15

In just a couple weeks, after four years of planning, gay men of all ages will have the chance to participate in a totally new and unique alternative. Camp Never Never Land truly is your chance to be a kid again. The camp will be run in many ways like a children's camp, with many of the same fun activities; from scavenger hunts and sing-alongs to talent nights and arts and crafts classes. But in addition there will be many fun and educational workshops including Cake decorating, Gay Fairy Tales, Massage, and cooking classes.

The scene for this great retreat is an existing camp in Mendocino county, set deep in the redwoods, 9 miles inland from the quaint town of Mendocino. Accommodations are in beautiful rustic redwood cabins each sleeping 4, complete with stone fireplace, walk-in closets, and a balcony. The camp has a large dining hall, recreation hall, campfire areas, and many acres of trails through the redwoods. There's a stream to swim in, and a pond complete with beaver and otters.

A staff of trained counselors will make your stay exciting and will lead many of the group activities including a decathlon, spook night, dress-up parties, color war, games day, tropical island night, weight-lifting, exercise and aerobics. And all activities and workshops are optional!

Our own chef and kitchen staff will serve sumptuous meals like you never tasted at camp, plus will prepare special meals for vegetarians.

You can come for the entire 8 day camp (Sept 15-23), or for the weekend, or \$289 for 8 nights includes all meals, accommodations, and activities.

A special treat at the camp will be the presentation of a specially written version of Peter Pan (like you've never seen before!). Actors, singers and musicians wanted. A bingo night will be held at the camp, with all proceeds to benefit the S.F. AIDS Foundation. Prizes for winners are being donated by local businesses.

The camp is for everyone of all ages, singles and couples. Just come to camp, relax, and leave your troubles at home. This is your chance to be a kid again!



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**A NEWS ANALYSIS**

# New Right's Big Push Blocked; GOP Silent on Gay Rights

**Despite Moral Majority Influence on Platform, Leadership Quietly Quashes Anti-Gay Planks**

by Duke J. Armstrong

The 1984 Republican National Convention has ground to its inexorable finale: the renomination of Ronald Reagan and George Bush. As the final echoes of the speeches die away, the Dallas Convention Center floats awash in discarded placards, spent balloons, makeshift signs, crumpled banners, multi-colored streamers, patriotic bunting, and all the other glittering paraphernalia customary to the uncustomary American political process. For a week now Dallas has been the conservative Land of Oz.

The 2,235 delegates to this convention have almost certainly nominated the men who will lead the world's greatest democracy over the next four years. Their slogans and rhetoric will become the living policies shaping America's future. Thus each aspect of the week-long ceremonies takes on new significance: each sign a guidepost to the future. For Gays along the Yellow Brick Road the sounds of the convention, although discordant, seem heartening.

On Tuesday evening last, during the hoopla of the fourth Convention Session, harmony reigned as Gay Republicans from around the country gathered at Club Menage, a restaurant and lounge in prosperous North Dallas. More than 250 Lesbians and Gays braved a "Jesus Freak" picket line out front to attend this first national gathering of Gay GOP activists.

Representatives from dozens of states were present, although the actual delegate count was minimal. In contrast to the Democratic Convention, with 67 upfront Gay and Lesbian delegates and alternates, Republicans could boast only four out-of-the-closet Gay alternates: Bill Ratcliffe, Alaska; Richard Butter, Arkansas; T. Edward Page, Indiana; and James Shields, Pennsylvania.

Several sympathetic straight conventioners were also in attendance, including Marin County Assemblyman Bill Filante. The president's daughter, Maureen Reagan, was also scheduled to appear, and this was cleared in advance by the Secret Service, but she didn't show.

Despite all the anti-Gay noise surrounding the convention, this reception was at least a stunning success. A new determination seemed to animate those attending, a determination to forcefully foster Gay rights within the Republican Party and no longer to stand on the sidelines.

Many internal battles lie ahead over direction and leadership, but the fundamentals of a Gay network within the GOP were established. In many ways the reception seemed to represent the best and the brightest that the Party has to offer. The melody was contemporary and optimistic; it was tail-wagging time.

The harsh sounds of the GOP platform were also distinctly muted for Gays. This convention almost certainly represents the high-water mark of Religious Right influence. If the Moral Majority could not get an anti-Gay plank in the platform this year, as in fact it could not, then it will probably never be able to do so.

With the Democratic Party platform having given a blank check to the Gay community, the temptation for the Republi-



The President's Daughter. She wasn't happy with platform planks at Republican Convention. (Photo: Rink)

cans to do otherwise was almost overwhelming. But somewhere in that mysterious process by which GOP platforms spring to life, the decision was made, apparently at the highest levels, not to condemn the Gay rights movement in any manner.

This paucity of comment was one of the most unusual aspects



President Reagan

of the entire platform, and was widely noted by media commentators and press reporters. For Gay Republicans it was a distinct relief — and victory.

Then too, President Reagan's own much trumpeted comments on Gays did not ring a sour note. They were benign, akin to the sort of thing one's father or mother might say: a steady hesitancy to endorse or validate the overall Gay lifestyle, but transcended on the personal level by sympathy and a distinct opposition to any sort of discrimina-

## Hotel Tax Fund Ups Contribution To Freedom Parade

The City's Hotel Tax Fund administrators announced Tuesday, Aug. 21, an award of \$17,500 to the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade 1985, a 30 percent increase over last year's award of \$13,500.

"It is a small step in the right direction toward getting us our fair share," said Parade Co-Chair Ken Jones. To compare, the 1985 award to the Gay and Lesbian event is half that allotted to the Chinese New Year Parade in 1984.



Get Out the Vote. Republicans work the street for support. (Photo: Rink)

## Religion at Forefront Of GOP Convention

**Moral Majority Prayers, Free Bibles Fill the Hall at Dallas Revival**

by George Mendenhall

Gay twists and turns and a mixture of religion and politics made the Republican National Convention provocative. Here are some highlights garnered from news clips, special reports and C-Span coverage:

- TV Evangelist James Robinson gave the opening invocation, calling upon America to "reject the party that encourages practices and lifestyles that destroy the family."
- The Moral Majority's Jerry Falwell concluded the meet with a benediction. During a Dallas press conference he said, "To me it is as ridiculous (to recognize homosexuals as a minority) as men who run around on their wives and then form a club and ask for minority status. If you live a perverted lifestyle you should not be rewarded for it."
- Religion was at the forefront with 20,000 Bibles being distributed within the hall. Reagan told 10,000 fundamentalists at a rally, "politics and morality are inseparable. Without God, democracy will not and can not endure."
- The chair of the GOP host committee said, "religion is our answer to Sister Boom Boom."
- Lyn Nofzinger, one of President Reagan's closest aides, told an NBC-TV interviewer "the homosexuals have seized control of the Democratic Party." (Nofzinger is the aide during Reagan's California governorship who initiated the secret filming of an alleged sex party at Lake Tahoe. Five Gay Reagan aides were fired after the disclosure).
- V.P. George Bush called a reporter "she" at a press conference. He later apologized when he discovered the long-

## Walker Speaks on Plans for Health Board

Despite its size and tremendous impact on San Francisco's various communities, the City Public Health Department is one of the few city departments with no board or commission for public discussion and control of policy issues. In November, city voters may change all that. They will consider a charter amendment to remove the Public Health Department from the control of the city's Chief Administrative Officer and create instead a Public Health Commission. Supervisor Nancy Walker, author of the proposal, will speak and answer questions at a forum Wednesday, Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m., at New College of California's Newspace Gallery, 762 Valencia Street (between 18th and 19th).

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causes, such as El Salvador and women's rights.

• Show Biz Republicans: Wayne Newton, a major fundraiser for anti-Gay Nevada Senator Paul Laxalt, sang the national anthem while Charleston Heston made jokes about being Moses. Bob Hope wisecracked and comedienne Joan Rivers entertained. Rivers did not do her "Ronald Reagan Jr. is Gay" night club routine in which she says "this dress is one of his hand-me-downs."

• More than 900 demonstrators marched down town on the opening night of the convention with 15,000 new voter registrations they had accumulated in the poorer sections of the city. This event was sponsored by a group called ACORN, which erected a Tent City in an arid field provided by the city — far away from the convention. The tent city housed 2,000.

• While a local Gay showing of "Bedtime for Bonzo" was poorly attended and only 60 people showed up for the "Sisters" exorcism of Jerry Falwell, SF's Concerned Republicans had a successful posh cocktail party that drew more than 200. The Sisters had real competition — a parade to honor two Olympic gold medal winners.

• Dallas built a one-mile long, \$70,000 fence around the convention center to keep protesters away. It was 300 feet from the dome itself. An earlier plan to have the fence 700 feet from the dome was vetoed by a court action.

• More than 2,000 police officers were on duty but there were only 97 arrests — compared with 434 in San Francisco. There were two major reasons for this — the over-100 degree temperature that limited mobility and the distance that demonstrators were kept from the convention hall itself.

## Threat to Sue Eastern Leads To Dropping 'Homo' Question

Eastern, the nation's largest passenger airline, has agreed not to discriminate in employment opportunities for Gay people. Eastern has deleted a question about "homosexual tendencies" from its medical questionnaire and has stated: "It is not Eastern's policy to inquire into an applicant's sexual preferences as part of the employment selection process."

The policy changes were a direct result of a suit threatened by National Gay Right Advocates (NGRA), the San Francisco-based public interest law firm.

Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, said, "I pointed out, to their senior attorney, the number of cities that prohibit discrimination in employment based on sexual orientation. She recognized Eastern's potential exposure to liability and was very cooperative in reaching an out-of-court settlement." Graff noted that Eastern serves many of the cities that have job protection for Gay men and women.

Jean O'Leary, NGRA Executive Director, said: "It is our policy to vigorously fight for equal employment opportunities for Lesbians and Gay men. Eastern's employment practices were discriminatory. It is a victory for the entire Gay community that NGRA has effected a reversal of that practice."

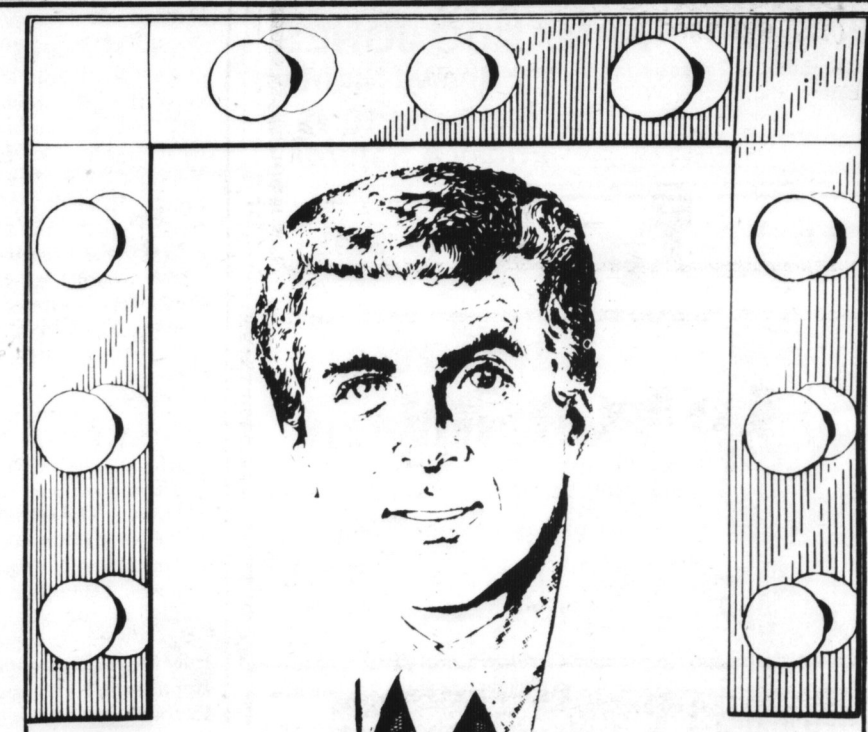
The controversy arose when NGRA received information about a man in Detroit, Michigan who had applied for a job at Eastern. He was given a medical questionnaire that asked: "Do you have homosexual tendencies?"

NGRA then obtained, from the National Gay Task Force in New York City, a copy of a letter Eastern had written NGTF in 1975 for its corporate survey. Eastern had indicated at that time that it didn't make inquiries into one's sexual orientation. It was this contradiction be-

## Stonewall Sets Endorsements

Candidates for supervisor and Community College Board will gather at the next meeting of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club seeking the club's endorsement. The club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street (between Valencia and Guerrero) on Tuesday, Sept. 4. Stonewall members will also vote on the club's endorsements for City Ballot Propositions. The meeting is open to the public.

One candidate not likely to receive Stonewall's endorsement is Quentin Kopp. The club was the first to condemn Kopp following his homophobic comments in the *New York Times*, and since then has begun an extensive campaign to increase public awareness of Kopp's contempt for minority communities. The club has been selling STOP KOPP buttons, and is considering buying billboards also.



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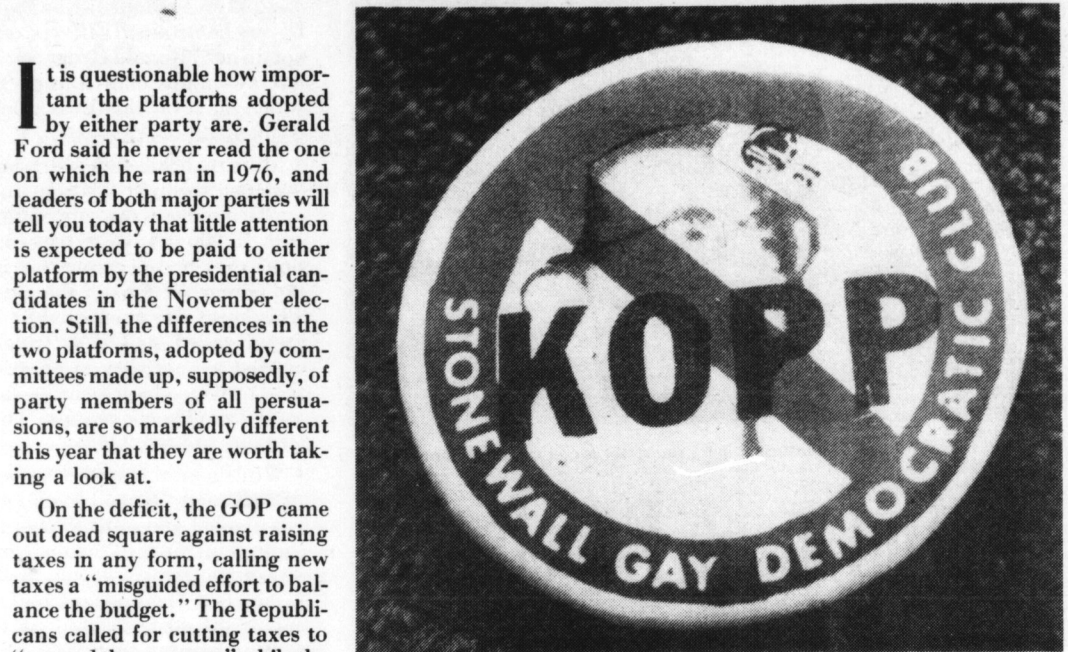
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**POLITICS AND POKER**  
**Platforms Show Choice, Not Echo**  
WAYNE FRIDAY



A Hot Selling Item. "Stop Kopp" buttons from the Stone Wallers are moving quickly at \$1 a pop. (Photo: Rink)

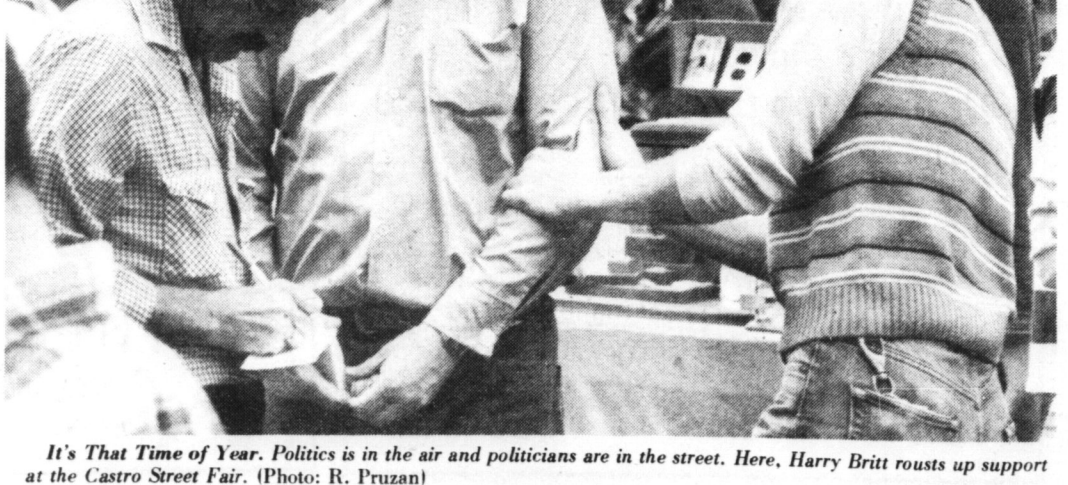
It is questionable how important the platforms adopted by either party are. Gerald Ford said he never read the one on which he ran in 1976, and leaders of both major parties will tell you today that little attention is expected to be paid to either platform by the presidential candidates in the November election. Still, the differences in the two platforms, adopted by committees made up, supposedly, of party members of all persuasions, are so markedly different this year that they are worth taking a look at.

On the deficit, the GOP came out dead square against raising taxes in any form, calling new taxes a "misguided effort to balance the budget." The Republicans called for cutting taxes to "expand the economy" while the Democrats called for reassessing defense spending, creating a "fair and equitable" tax system, controlling health costs, and cutting "unnecessary spending." Mondale actually favors using tax increases to help cut the deficit.

The Republicans are for a balanced-budget constitutional amendment, and called for a constitutional convention to do it if Congress won't approve such an amendment. The Democrats came out against an "artificial and rigid" constitutional amendment. The Republicans ask for continued efforts to try to cut tax rates. The Democrats would cap the effect of the Reagan tax cuts, and limit benefits from the third year of cuts to those with incomes under \$60,000.

The Democrats are for a mutual freeze and efforts to reverse the arms race, while the GOP made no mention of a nuclear freeze. On defense, the Republicans are all for Reagan's broad "Strategic Defense Initiative," while the Dems are against the "futile" scheme which would "lull the nation" into a false sense of security.

The GOP made no mention of the Equal Rights Amendment and opposes comparable worth — requiring equal pay for comparable jobs. The Democrats' platform calls for passage of the ERA and support of comparable worth. The Republican platform calls for a constitutional amendment to ban abortion while the Democrats support the



It's That Time of Year. Politics is in the air and politicians are in the street. Here, Harry Britt rousts up support at the Castro Street Fair. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

the California ballot, nominated former Olympic pole vaulting champion Bob Richards for president last week and nominated Maureen Kennedy Salaman, a San Francisco radio talk show host, as its veep nominee. • The late author Truman Capote described himself on a recent television talk show as "a drunk, a drug addict, a homosexual, and a genius." Capote was undoubtedly all those, and more. • Reagan campaign chairman, Senator Paul Laxalt (R - Nevada) told reporters over the weekend that if the president stays as high in the polls later in the campaign as he now is, the GOP campaign in the last four weeks will be devoted almost entirely to the election of a Republican House of Representatives. • President Reagan will open his national campaign with a Labor Day Rally (September 3) in San Jose.

Mayor Dianne Feinstein is honorary chair of a fundraiser-reception for Board of Education member Dick Cerbatos next Thursday, Sept. 6, at the Fairmont (\$100; wine, hors d'oeuvres, etc.). • While others are claiming that public officials shouldn't have to subject themselves to the public scrutiny Geraldine Ferraro went through, Congresswoman Barbara Boxer disagrees and thinks it's a fine idea, saying, "It is one more important piece of information for the public to have in order to make an informed judgment."

No such support of Gays and Lesbians from the Republican Dallas convention, however; and there was some talk of actually inserting a plank in their platform coming out against Gay rights — though conservatives in control of the party machinery there were talked out of inserting such a clause. Consequently, there is no mention whatsoever of Gays and Lesbians in the Republican Party platform.

The American Independent Party, one of five political parties which will appear on

ment about its officials." • Ronald Reagan in Dallas last week appeared everywhere with Jerry Falwell, Rev. Jim Robinson, Rev. Jimmy Swaggert, and even the "Rev." Pat Boone, trying to make the Republican Party into the new Church on the Right. Reagan, with tongue squarely in cheek, claimed that "religion and politics are inseparable." Falwell, incidentally, was everywhere at the GOP convention, being toasted as the savior of the party; flashing a smile as wide as the Right Wing movement itself, and sitting erect on a Texas longhorn on the estate of H.L. Hunt, Falwell said that being so high in the saddle made him feel "about six feet closer" to God. Falwell delivered the benediction to the convention the night Reagan was renominated and personally offered a plank in the GOP platform (that overwhelmingly won approval) that calls for Reagan to appoint judges only who agree to take a pre-stated opposition to abortion.

Among the forgettable Falwell quotes of the Dallas confab: "Ronald Reagan is the greatest president since Abraham Lincoln."

And while we are speaking of bigots, remember Anita Bryant? Well, the one-time orange juice pitch lady who moved to Selma, Alabama, after waging her Hitler-like anti-Gay campaign in 1977, announced, with some fanfare last week, that she is moving to Atlanta to resume her show-biz career.

Bryant says that (after the anti-Gay crusade) "Selma was a bridge into a new life for me," but now, "I have to go where I'll have work and be more accessible. I have a new recording contract and will be doing some work with the Nashville Network and Cable Network and in the fall I'll appear on Hee-Haw." (Ha!)

Does it mean anything that television ads for supe candidate Kevin Starr feature two police commissioners (Daly and Nelder)? • The Police Officers Association board of directors passed a resolution last week disassociating their organization from the anti-Gay remarks made recently in their publication by the so-called "Cops for Christ."

One of the class shows to come out of the GOP Dallas convention was, once again, Maureen Reagan; Maureen, a delegate from California, shouted a loud

"no" during a voice vote on the platform, which she called "very inadequate." Ms. Reagan, the president's eldest daughter, who supports the ERA, said the Republican-passed platform was a "disgrace" and reminded reporters that while it might be a "Republican platform, it surely isn't a Reagan platform." Reagan said, "We (the women) will live to fight another day." The presidential daughter was a hit with the few Gays at the convention and once told me, in a taped interview, that "Jerry Falwell is nothing more than a pompous jackass."

And remember Roosevelt Grier, the ex-football player, liberal Democrat, who was Robert Kennedy's bodyguard the night he was killed in L.A.? Rosie is now a born-again Christian and attended the Dallas convention as a "Reagan Republican."

In Hollywood, a judge has branded a \$36 million libel suit against Liberate and *Newsweek* magazine "a silly complaint" that must be rewritten. The suit was brought by Liberate's male ex-lover, Scott Thorson. Mr. Thorson based his lawsuit on a May 1983 story in *Newsweek* quoting Liberate as saying Thorson's palimony suit against him amounted to "blackmail." L.A. County Judge John Cole did say, however, that there are grounds for at least part of the suit by Thorson to proceed toward trial.

Gay activist attorney Michael Hall was recently appointed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to the Citywide Alcoholism Advisory Board. • And Richard Sevilla of the Human Rights Commission is resigning to move out of the city.

In Minneapolis, real estate agent Clark Bufkin has filed a complaint with that city's Civil Rights Department claiming that the Calhoun Beach Club discriminates against Gays; Bufkin says he was denied a family membership for himself and his roommate because couples must be married to obtain family memberships. Stay tuned for the results of this one, folks! • The 500-member Mexican American Political Association (MAPA) endorsed the Mondale effort at its Fresno convention last weekend. • The National Gay Task Force sent out a four-page press release listing the appearances (six in all) of their Executive Director "Ginny" Apuzzo while here during the week of Sept. 13; listing Ms. Apuzzo as "an eloquent and long-time leader in the Gay rights movement," the release mentioned that while Apuzzo's

real reason to be here is to accept an "Outstanding National Leadership" award at the Toklas dinner on the 14th, Ms. Apuzzo will appear at meetings ranging from an "Old Fashioned Town Meeting and Ice Cream Social" to a meeting of "High Tech Gays in Silicon Valley;" the release, listing her near every minute, failed to mention what "Ginny" ("as virtually everyone else calls her") will be wearing or exactly what it is she has for breakfast.

Finally, news was so scarce at the convention in Dallas last week that near hysteria broke out among several delegations on the convention floor Tuesday night over a computerized message sent during a speech by Gerald Ford. The message read: "Bulletin: CNN reports that Democratic Vice Presidential nominee Geraldine Ferraro has resigned." It wasn't true. ■

W. Friday

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## TV Documentary Educates on AIDS

*It's An Un-Sensational Look at History of the Epidemic*

by Allen White

Channel 9 will repeat the PBS documentary "AIDS: Profile of an Epidemic" Saturday night at 11:30 p.m. The show will be aired again on Sunday night on its sister station, Channel 32, beginning at 9 p.m.

Striking in its honesty and clarity, the documentary was shown last night across the United States on the PBS Television Network. This is the first television documentary to provide a comprehensive examination of the medical, historical, and societal facets of AIDS. Narrated by Edward Asner, the show probed much deeper than the evening news clips.

"AIDS: Profile of an Epidemic" is unique in that it profiles the experiences of a young Gay man, a hemophiliac, a drug user, a child born with the disease, and a Haitian. The show never veers from the seriousness of the subject, yet it remains calm and lacks hysteria.

The show is important for every person who has any interest in the mysterious disease. It chronicles the rise of the disease in the last four years and it broadens the effect of the disease beyond the Gay community.

The look at the Gay community is very understated. The show features shots of last year's candlelight AIDS march in San Francisco and shows brief scenes from the Ringling Bros. Circus performance for AIDS which raised almost \$400,000 at New York's Madison Square Garden.

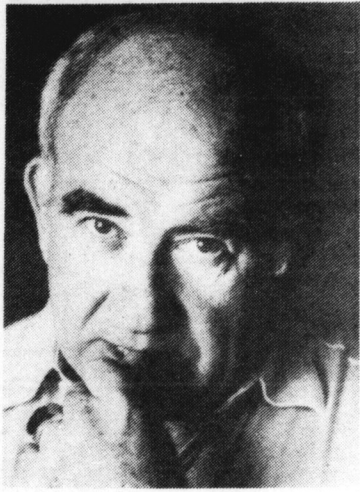
As the show progresses, it becomes clear that the producers are trying to profile a disease more than those who have the disease. There is clever use of video game type characters to show how the disease attacks the immune system. It is not as much entertaining as it is educational. Viewers will feel they are learning something.

For the Gay community, it provides a fascinating glimpse at other groups of people considered "high risk." The film includes a touching interview with a foster parent attempting to raise a child born with AIDS. A hemophiliac talks about having AIDS and how it affects his wife and children. The show also focuses in on a drug user and a Haitian who have the disease.

In Los Angeles, Nancy Cole discusses her role as a worker at the Los Angeles AIDS Project. "I hate AIDS," she says as she talks of how the disease has segmented the Gay community. She comments about how prejudice has sprung up even among Gays and how many people with AIDS fear they have somehow acquired a "sleazy disease."

The program describes how AIDS is being tracked in many cities across the United States. It also takes time to comment on the burn-out of doctors from the stress of the disease.

As the hour program proceeds, it becomes readily apparent that it is not a sensationalistic attempt to exploit people with AIDS. Instead, the program provides one of the most honest looks at AIDS to be presented on television to date. Through its broadcast last night on PBS, the show reached millions, to educate about the disease. Doctors talked in a rational and calm manner about the effects and the phobias connected with the disease. The show's primary virtue is its abil-



Ed Asner narrates show.

ity to provide truthful information without generating fear in the viewer.

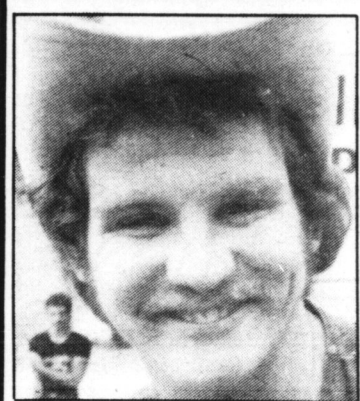
"AIDS: Profile of an Epidemic" is a well-produced show with a major production budget. Footage is shown from across the United States. The quality of the expensively mounted production shows through. Major funding was provided by Hoffman-La Roche Inc. with additional funding from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the National Cancer Institute.

Viewers who saw the show when it aired last night also saw a one-hour open forum which followed. The special one-hour open forum show aired on 20 of the PBS stations in major markets throughout the United States.

The primary show will air again Saturday night at 11:30 on Channel 9 and Sunday night at 9 p.m. on Channel 32. The open forum show will be repeated Sunday night on Channel 32 at 10 p.m.

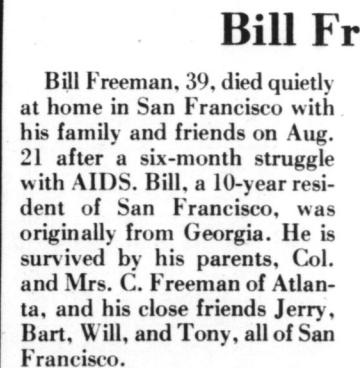
As a public service, the AIDS hotline telephone numbers operated by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation will appear across the bottom of the screen through the forum program. ■

## DEATHS



### John C. Stanley

John Stanley, 29, a native of Ohio and 10-year resident of San Francisco, died Monday, Aug. 27, 1984. His friends, lovers, and acquaintances will greatly miss his warmth, his compassion, his music, and above all his special talent for multiplying the joy in the many lives he touched. Memorial plans are pending. ■



### Bill Freeman

Bill Freeman, 39, died quietly at home in San Francisco with his family and friends on Aug. 21 after a six-month struggle with AIDS. Bill, a 10-year resident of San Francisco, was originally from Georgia. He is survived by his parents, Col. and Mrs. C. Freeman of Atlanta, and his close friends Jerry, Bart, Will, and Tony, all of San Francisco.

A special "Thank You" to Dr. William Kapla, Dr. Patrick

## Pleasure Faire Hosts Gays for Labor Day Fete

by Konstantin Berland

When the original Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence marched across the University of San Francisco campus protesting the school's anti-Gay policies during their 150th anniversary several years ago, one of the college priests said to another, "Well, at least some people are wearing the old habits."

At Lesbian/Gay Labor Day Monday at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire near Novato, Sister Boom Boom will be wearing a habit of 15th century design, plus adornments from the 20th century such as fishnet stockings. Boom Boom will be joined by his fellow Sister Natalie Dressed in selling Tarot readings during this special day at the Faire.

Meanwhile, another kind of nun, the current Sister Mary Ignatius and former "Phyllis" from TV's Mary Tyler Moore Show, Cloris Leachman will be ballast at the 2 p.m. wench-lifting in the sports arena, where Renaissance sports will be played all day.

Other special activities for Labor Day at the Faire include an AIDS Auction, emceed by Empress I Jose (the Widow Norton), joined by State Senator Milton Marks, challenger Lia Belli, and Lesbian/Gay Health Services Coordinator Pat Norman, also running for San Francisco Supervisor in November. The auction, featuring donations from vendors at the Faire, will benefit the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and last year raised \$4,000 to fight the epidemic disease and its social consequences.

For more information about Lesbian/Gay Day at the Renaissance Faire, call the Parade Committee at (415) 861-5404. The regular gate price at the Faire is \$10.50 but Gay Day discount tickets sell for \$8.

Buses directly to the Faire will leave at frequent intervals all day Labor Day from the Ferry Building at the foot of Market Street in San Francisco. Tickets are \$4 roundtrip. ■

# G BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

## Gay Engineers Sue for Security Clearance

High Tech Gays, a group of Silicon Valley engineers, announced Wednesday the filing of a federal lawsuit to challenge security clearance procedures. Those security clearance rules have barred some Gays and Lesbians from working for private companies which do business with the military.

The lawsuit deals with "secret" and "top secret" industrial security clearances issued by the Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office (DISCO) in Columbus, Ohio, a part of the Department of Defense. These clearances are needed by employees of private businesses who work on defense contracts involving classified information, so they may have access to such information.

If a clearance is not granted by DISCO, the application is referred to the Directorate for Industrial Security Clearance Review (DISCR) in Arlington, Virginia, another part of the Department of Defense, for final administrative determination.

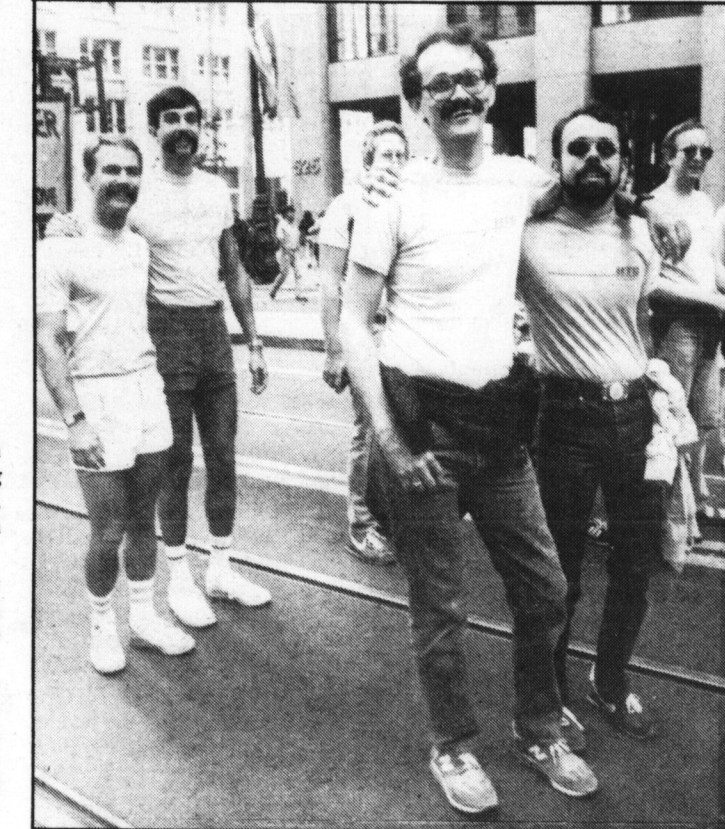
High Tech Gays is an organization of more than 100 engineers, computer scientists, and similar technical people who work in the high-technology industry in the Silicon Valley, largely centered in Santa Clara County. Its president is Rick Rudy, and Tim Dooling is one of its members who needs (and now has) a "secret" clearance from DISCO for his engineering work at Lockheed in Sunnyvale.

The federal government has always discriminated against Gay people regarding security clearances, and prior to 1974 no known Gay person was ever allowed to have a clearance at any level. A classified and concealed statement put this policy in writing in 1963 and even prohibits the granting of clearances to Gays who are open and prove they are not susceptible to blackmail. The complete text is revealed in the lawsuit.

Today, some known Gays are allowed to have "secret" and "top secret" clearances by DISCR, but only after special time-consuming investigations ordered by DISCO that take a year or more and stigmatize them as persons unable to get ordinary "secret" clearances in the usual six weeks. This brands them as undesirables in the eyes of private contractors who do a substantial amount of classified defense work and so require employees who can obtain clearances as quickly as possible.

Under present DISCO written policy, all known Gay "applicants" for (and including holders of) "secret" security clearances are subject to a special background investigation, including neighborhood checks and a personal interview that goes far beyond requirements for a "top secret" clearance.

DISCO then reviews the investigative file and always concludes that the requested clearance cannot be granted, and then refers the matter to DISCR with a recommendation that the applicant is not eligible for the clearance. DISCO's "reasons" typically (as in Tim Dooling's



Fighting Security Policy. Members of High Tech Gays, shown here at 1984 Freedom Day Parade, put Defense Department on the defensive with lawsuit. (Photo: Rink)

## Pittsburg Lesbian Seeks Parenting of Ex-Partner's Child

Linda Jean Loftin is continuing her effort to gain the right to act as a parent of a 6-year-old girl who was born to her former lover when they lived as a couple. The state of California will not recognize Loftin as the co-parent of the child because she is not a male.

Loftin has filed suit in Alameda County Superior Court, arguing that California law discriminates against her because of her gender. She states that she and Mary Elizabeth Flournoy, a 32-year-old Oakland woman, are the "parents" of the child but that she is now denied the right to visit the child and assist with the parenting. Flournoy had the child by artificial insemination.

Loftin was identified on the child's birth certificate as the "father" and is currently paying \$100 a month child support by court order. She is represented by attorney Ivan O.B. Morse of Dublin. ■

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**LABOR DAY WEEKEND**

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 IN THE BANDSHELL AT FIFES ON SUNDAY AT 3 PM

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND  
**DEBBIE JACOBS**  
 "UNDERCOVER LOVER," "MAYBE THIS TIME"  
 AT DRUMS ON SUNDAY NIGHT

**VAL DIAMOND**  
 SPECIAL CONCERT ON THE GREEN  
 AT DRUMS ON MONDAY AT 3 PM  
 FOLLOWED BY HOT T WITH MICHAEL GARRETT

FOR INFORMATION, TELEPHONE (707) 869-0656.

**FIFES**



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# Violence Bill Passes

(Continued from page 1)

AB-848 would add three new classes to the state's Ralph Civil Rights Act: Gays, the elderly and the disabled. The act states that "people have the right to be free from any violence or intimidation by threat of violence, committed against their persons or property because of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, political affiliation, sex or position in a labor dispute."

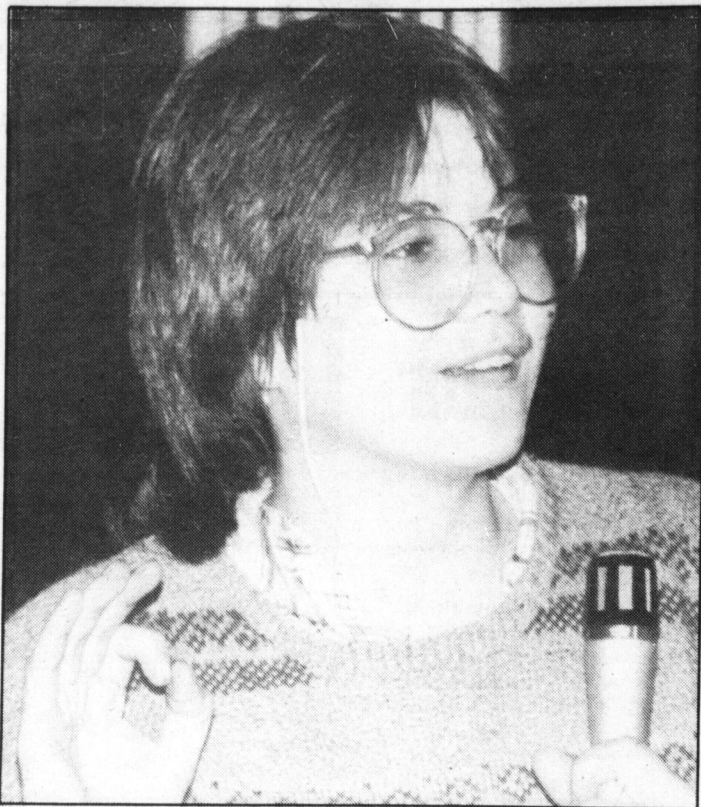
The victims of violence or threats of violence, under the act, can hold the person who is violent liable for actual damages — plus \$10,000. This would make it easier for Gay people to obtain an attorney, who would benefit from the \$10,000 claim. It also opens up the possibility of more out-of-court settlements.

Bates was less confident than others about the governor signing the bill. He said, "The governor said when he vetoed the employment rights bill (AB-1) earlier this year that he did so because the proponents had been unable to provide com-

week so AB-848 was only allotted ten minutes for discussion.

Sen. Newton Russel (R-Glendale) said he did not want to protect people who "chose this lifestyle." Sen. Jim Ellis (R-San Diego) received some laughter when he claimed that some people might file false claims, claiming to be Gay when they are not. Sen. John Doolittle (R-Citrus Heights) gave his standard speech about this being "another attempt to condone an immoral lifestyle."

Gay Republican activists were encouraged by the GOP vote in the Senate. Chris Bowman, Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, pointed to the fact that more Republicans abstained (6) and voted for the bill (3) than opposed the measure (6). Republicans voting "FOR" on the Republican side were Senator Milton Marks (San Francisco), Bob Beverly (Redondo Beach) and Ed Davis (Los Angeles). Davis, the former police chief of Los Angeles, made a dramatic decision earlier in the year when he supported



Gives Evidence on Violence. Diane Christensen, executive director of Community United Against Violence, was in Sacramento to offer data on anti-Gay assaults. (Photo: Rink)

1975 that he include "sexual orientation" but was rejected. He then fought a long battle to have San Francisco legislators carry a bill to amend the Ralph act — but no one would author such a bill.

Gayer said that he was rejected or ignored by all Sacramento legislators from San Francisco. Assemblyman Art Agnos, who was promoting his bill for Gay employment rights, wrote Gayer that he questioned that a campaign could be mounted to pass such a bill.

Gayer began attacking Agnos publicly for his position but he now reflects, "I think I got nasty and I wish I hadn't. I think Agnos didn't want any more

earlier lobbying over the last six months on this bill has been able to produce. However, this is not the end. We must now begin a letter writing campaign — particularly from people who have been attacked themselves.

Gayer believes that the governor will allow AB-848 to become law, perceiving it as a bill "that does not restrict anyone, as AB-1 did for employers, but just allows a remedy for Gay people that they did not have before. This is an anti-crime law that attempts to keep people from beating up other people."

The governor is being lobbied with an effort underway by Aimee Hughes, Bates' aide, who has developed the campaign for AB-848. At a press conference in Sacramento Wednesday, speakers included the aged and disabled as well as Diane Christensen and Randy Schell of San Francisco's Committee United Against Violence. The CUAV officials have supplied the governor's office with ample statistics about violence against Lesbians and Gay men.

The Bates aide said there was no major religious and police opposition to AB-848 as there had been against AB-1. One state-wide police group, Police Officers Research Action Committee, opposed the bill orally but not in writing. The group claimed that straight police officers could face liable suits if they tried to stop Gay conflicts.

Gay Democratic clubs here and in Los Angeles have not been aggressively involved in the AB-848 effort thus far but appear to be mustering some excitement over the possibility that it could become law.

Bates reminded the public this week of what the governor had said when he took office: "To be free from violence and the fear of violence is a basic human right, and I consider it the first responsibility of government."

The assemblyman urges, "It is time to hold him to his words by urging his signature on AB-848 which will help reverse the patterns of violence against aged, disabled, Lesbian, and Gay people."

G. Mendenhall

Deukmejian once stated: 'To be free from violence and the fear of violence is a basic human right.'

elling evidence that there is, in fact, widespread employment discrimination." Bates and his staff are attempting to get as much anti-Gay violence evidence as possible to the governor.

The Senate considered AB-848 in the last-minute rush of bills as it is due to adjourn this session tomorrow (Friday). The body will vote on 1,000 bills this

the Gay employment rights bill, AB-1. Even the homophobic East Bay Democratic Sen. Alister McAlister cast a "YES" vote on AB-848.

The "behind the scenes" advocate in the AB-848 bill was Attorney Dick Gayer, a long-time Gay activist who has filed numerous Gay liberation lawsuits. Gayer was proposing to the author of the Ralph act in

pressure from his colleagues than he was then getting over AB-1. I guess he was trying to say, 'One bill at a time, please.'"

Gayer discussed his problem with Ed Sebesta, who took it to the East Bay's Assemblyman, Tom Bates, a longtime civil libertarian who had been supportive of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. Bates took the issue to the club and was encouraged by its officers to proceed.

Gay Republicans have taken the lead in lobbying the Governor who is Republican himself. Frank Ricchiazzi, Long Cabin Club of Los Angeles, told Bay Area Reporter, "I feel comfortable with the people I am talking to on the governor's staff. They are people who get to the governor. Yes, we do get to the governor! As Republicans it is easier for us to discuss things with them."

Ricchiazzi believes that the fact that a number of significant republicans abstained from voting "illustrates what our

## Veterans Job Program Makes Outreach to Lesbians, Gays

Officials at the Veterans Assistance Center (VAC) have unveiled a new outreach plan designed to recruit Gays and Lesbians into their job placement programs. Program coordinators hope their new service will help the agency to meet their county-regulated placement quotas and benefit the Gay community as well. VAC programs are open to non-Oakland Alameda County veterans and all low-income Berkeley residents.

The city and county funded center specializes in On the Job Training (OJT) contracts in which employers agree to train pre-screened employees on a hire-first basis. VAC covers 50 percent of all training expenses. Employment specialist and program coordinator Glen Collins said efforts would be made through the so-called gay Employment Program to reach both Gay clientele and Gay and Lesbian employers for participation in such contracts.

Currently the agency is contracted to place 56 low income clients and veterans over a nine-month period at a per capita budget of \$1,200. There is no projection for the number of Gays or Lesbians to be placed through the Gay Employment Program, though.

Coordinator Collins explained, "We are using the same program but extending out to the Gay community and we are saying, 'Hey, here we are, come to us.'"

Clients are expected, at no charge, to attend a 16-hour placement workshop for assessment of their backgrounds and development of interview skills, application and resume writing, which includes video taping of interview.

VAC places its clients into both private and public sector positions though many civil service positions make themselves available to the agency. Collins said he hopes to contact more private Gay employers for OJT and other placement programs through the Golden Gate Business Association referral file. Collins holds personal membership in the Golden Gate Business Association and in the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club.

VAC is funded through the state Jobs Training Partnership Act (JTTPA), successor of the CETA program. Employers participating in VAC programs are eligible for tax credits, according to center literature. ■

John Wetzel

## OAKLAND

### Crown Upside Down is a Real Deep Dish

NEZ PAS

#### ANADEMATION DICTUM (A Stream-of-Consciousness Nose)

The sixth Coronation of Alameda County Imperial Empire is three weeks hence, Saturday, September 22. It's strange that this entity, well into its pentagon, is still somewhat of a mystery to many, never heard of by some, couldn't be cared less about by numerous members of this community, totally ignored by a few, and seemingly condoned by yet another group.

I suspect that if the rank and filers of our fair community were asked to express their view and opinion of ACIE, a common denominator answer, if you will, would probably be "A bunch of drag queens trying to win a crown." It's too bad that such a response probably exists. It's also too bad that a very small minority actually participates within this "court" and are privy to just what it stands for.

If, as I have been told, the court is to represent the Gay community of Alameda County, then shouldn't that community be privy to all the rules and by-laws of that "court"? Another question arises as to what extent the community desires to be represented — and to whom? Legislator? City fathers? Anators? It seems a little silly to me — and I am only one individual — that I should take pride in being "represented" to someone in another city or state that I probably have never heard of or will never meet.

Do court systems exist for the sole purpose of spending a night or two with as many other court systems as time and finances allow within their year of reign? Far too many in the community feel this to be true, and subsequently have little, if any, interest in the system.

During the up-coming campaigns, I should like to see the following items addressed by all four candidates (albeit there is only one for Emperor).

- Please tell me in simple language, with no fancy foot work, just what is ACIE, and what are its principles?
- If elected, how do you and your court plan to help Alameda County?

- Tell me why you want to represent me to another court. What advantage will I receive from it?
- From your heart, tell me why I should vote for you. What's in it for me?
- Explain to me how this community is better off for having a court system. Or would it be the same with or without such a system?
- Why do you want to run, much less be elected?
- I've been told that all five "courts" have done a lot for this community. My brain is added, so please show me a list of these accomplishments so I can understand the value of the courts to Alameda County.
- The mayor of Oakland feels that there is no viable Gay community in his city. What do you plan to do about educating him? Wear a dress to city council meeting? What?
- Hayward's relationship with its police and city council developed primarily because of the bar owners, with no help from ACIE. What are your intentions for all of the other cities in this county?
- Will you be "flying off to Rio" whenever commanded by another "court," or is the county

you represent more important than glory and glitter?

- Don't feed me — even with a long handled spoon — the song and dance about wanting to unite the community. How can you possibly accomplish this if you must constantly cower to the wishes of other "courts"?
- How do you plan to make the importance (if there is one) of ACIE known to those "non-caring" members of the community?
- We are virtually fighting for our lives with the AIDS epidemic. Tell me why it is more important to you to raise money to go to a coronation in Timbuctu than to raise funds for fighting this disease, or not to attend any of the fundraising auctions?
- What support will you return to the community from which you seek support?
- If there is such a thing as unity, how do you intend to strengthen it? If there isn't such a thing, how do you propose to establish it?
- I am a free citizen of the United States of America. Since courts have gone far afield from the original camp way on earth do you suggest that I should feel or become part of such a system?
- And, lastly, explain to me why the citizens of this county are expected to attend functions that: never start on time; become long, drawn-out affairs with countless introductions and walks; depend heavily on "not-the-very-best" pantomime entertainment; seem to exist solely for those who are "in"; tend to create a wedge between sub-factions within our sub-culture; and meaningful only to those seeking some recognition; interrupt normal business from those very establishments upon whom you must depend for publicity and, in some cases, finances?

If I, and many others, could get truthful answers to the preceding, I would cast a meaningful vote — not a popularity vote. Would that this could happen!

DEJEUNER SUR L'HERBE!  
(An Alfresco Nose?)

A few weeks ago, the Bench & Bar held what they intend to become an annual occurrence, a picnic (this year at Lake Temescal). All employees and specially invited guests enjoyed such outdoor activities as volleyball, touch football (I'm curious as to just where they touched!), barbecue, and just plain relaxing and "swating flies."

Mr. Lumberjack II, George, was there and was propositioned to repeat his now infamous strip tease routine. Also, I understand, there is some sincere talk between he and "Daddy Warbucks" about the possibility of running for Emperor and Emperor VII ACIE. That isn't a typo — they could both be Emperors without an Emperress! Think of the dollar savings on wardrobes alone!

ANTERIOR BALLYHOO!  
(An Informing Nose)

Out of the three Ladies and one Gentleman running for ACIE's paramount position this year, only Lady Billy has given me her itinerary for campaign parties. If one were inclined, one could manage to eat very well for very little for five days in a row.

Sun. Sept. 16 . . . . . Revol  
Mon. Sept. 17 . . . . . Jubilee  
Tue. Sept. 18. Town&Country

Wed. Sept. 19 . . . . . Lake Lounge  
Thur. Sept. 20 . . . . . Big Mama's

All evenings will have a \$3. buffet beginning about 8 p.m., with three evenings' proceeds divided between ACIE and East Bay AIDS Fund. Billy has opted for all the proceeds from the buffets at Revol and Big Mama's to go solely to East Bay AIDS Fund.

NEZ'S NOTES:

- Hope no one showed up to "Come Have a Formal Affair with ACIE." That proposed August 25 event was cancelled.
- Ed Mother and Little Paulson's next to last auction series was at Big Mama's last Sunday. And wouldn't you know, a tremendous amount was raised for the East Bay AIDS Fund. Kudos and plaudits to all who participated.
- Don't forget two First Anniversaries this long weekend. The Town and Country ushers in on Sunday, starting at 1 p.m. with a roller skating contest. The Spoiled Brat plans that you sleep not one wink for four days, starting on Friday, and collapsing (?) the following Monday. The Brat will be open 24 hours around that four day clock!
- Sunday, September 9, is the big finale for Ed and Little Mother's first auction series to benefit patients with AIDS. It will be at Revol, starting at 4 p.m. A plentiful buffet will be available, hopefully for a round \$8.00 a head.
- Belated Birthday greetings to Steve (Spoiled Brat's namesake) and Danielle (Larry's spouse-sake). They celebrated a duo Leo/Virgo soiree last Saturday.

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Nez

Chorus Wants A Few Good Men In San Jose

They say they're looking for a few good men who want to be all that they can be. What, have the Marines and Army combined their recruiting effort? No, this time it's Liedermann, the Gay men's chorus of San Jose, which is doing the recruiting. They are looking for singers, not soldiers.

"We have positions open for two baritone, one second tenor, and three first tenors," said Jim Clark, the chorus's director. "We believe in controlled growth, and these are the voice types we need at the present to achieve the balanced sound we are looking for."

Liedermann performs a variety of music for a number of different occasions. It has five performances scheduled so far this fall. The musical numbers range from Broadway tunes to folk songs and classical pieces.

Anyone interested in joining Liedermann should come to one of its rehearsals to audition. Rehearsals are held each Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Campus Christian Center at the corner of 10th and San Carlos in downtown San Jose. For further information call Jim Clark at (408) 358-3032, or Larry Marcus, the general manager and founder, at (408) 280-6297. ■

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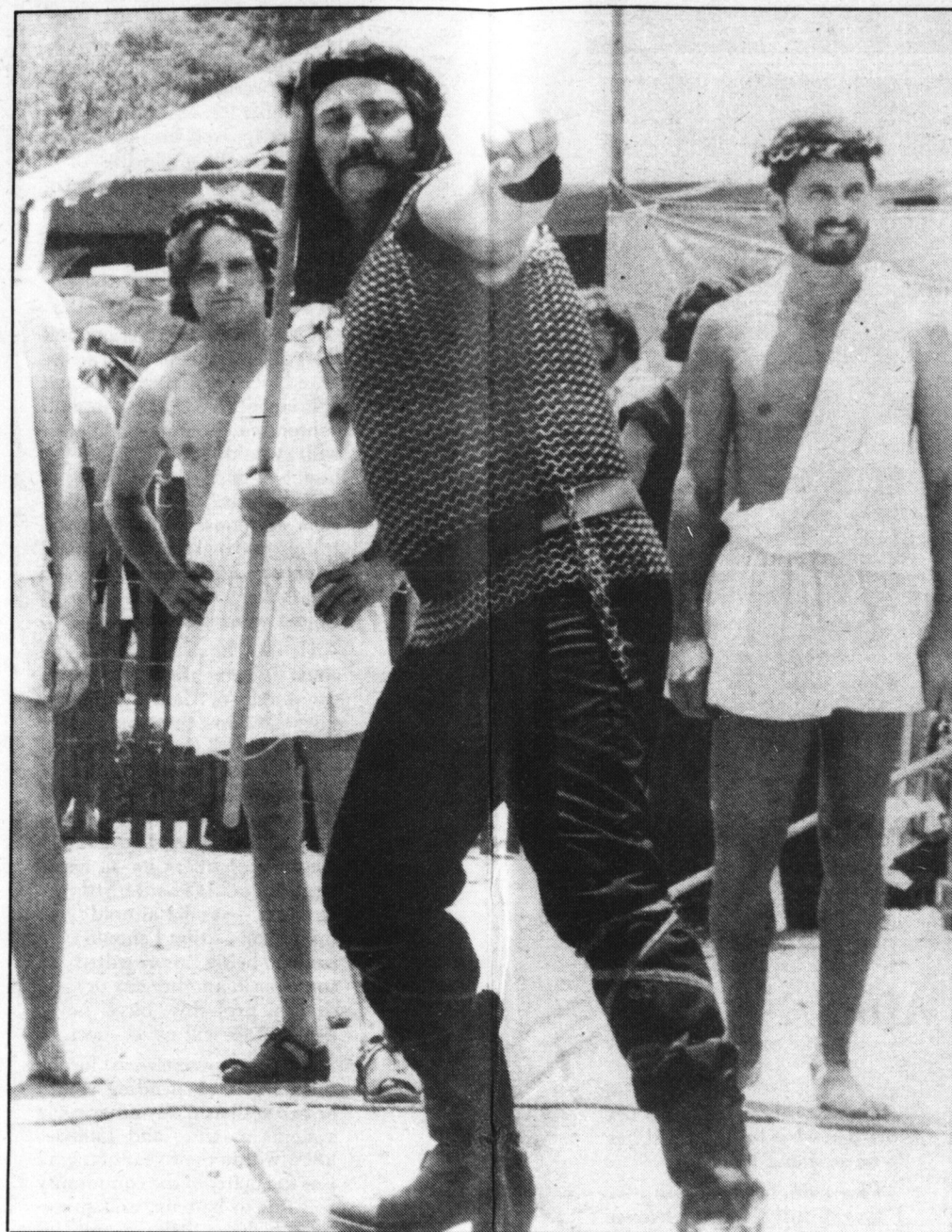
# THIS WEEK

## FRIDAY 31

- **Charles Pierce:** stage performance, The Woods, 16881 Armstrong Woods Rd., Guerneville, 8 PM, \$8. Pierce does his thing in the woods.
- **Blue Collar Bash:** cabaret, Chaps, 375 11th St., S.F., 10 PM, \$4. With Tom Ammiano and Alicia Daniels.
- **Joe Ross:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 PM, cover. With Bob Bauer at the piano.
- **Golden Gate Business Association:** celebration of the re-opening of the Cable Cars, Cable Car Museum, 1201 Mason St. at Washington, S.F., 6 PM, no-host bar. Call 956-8677 for more information and reservations.
- **Norman and Nancy Blake:** music, Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8:30 PM, \$7. An evening of traditional and contemporary bluegrass, with The Rising Fawn String Ensemble.
- **Godzilla Voice:** music/theater, Bannam Place Exhibition Space, 50-A Bannam Place at Union, S.F., 8 PM, \$4. A collection of poetry, prose, and commentary scored for bongos, percussion, children's toys, and three male vocals. Written and directed by Alex-5, performed by Alex-5, Jay De Baum, and Johnny Perfect Land.
- **Cinderella II:** stage performance, Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St., S.F., 8 PM, \$10. Written by Daniel Curzon and Dan Turner, performed by the Angels of Light.
- **Charles Busch Alone With a Cast of Thousands:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. Busch returns to San Francisco with three new pieces.
- **Hissy Fits:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10:30 PM, \$5. Doug Holclaw, Mario Mondelli, Suzy Berger, Ellen Brook Davis, and M Brauer perform.
- **Kerrigan Black:** music, Cathedral Hill Hotel, Van Ness and Geary, S.F., 8:30 PM, cover. Black will also appear at the Sansone Street Brasserie, 411 Sansone St., S.F., at 5:30 PM.
- **K-RA-ZY for Gershwin:** stage performance, 1177 Club, 1177 California St., S.F., cover. Call 776-2100 for details. With Patricia Butler and Scott McKenzie.
- **Femprov:** comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, free.
- **Jazz:** dance class, Pride Center Auditorium, 890 Hayes St. at Fillmore, S.F., 6 to 7:30 PM, free. Beginning jazz taught by Ron Petersen. Wear gym clothes or loose clothing.
- **The Annual St. Valentine's Day Zin Tasting:** stage performance, Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. Written by Joe Besecker, directed by Constance Cramer.
- **Paradise is Closing Down:** stage performance, South of Market Cultural Center, 935 Brannan St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7 and \$8. Presented by Red Flag Theater, by South African playwright Pieter-Dirk Uys, directed by Leon Johnson.
- **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret, 132 Bush, 132 Bush St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10. Starring Ruth Hastings.

## SATURDAY 1

- **Charles Pierce:** stage performance, The Woods, 16881 Armstrong Woods Rd., Guerneville, 8 PM, \$10. Pierce does his thing in the woods.
- **Blue Collar Bash:** cabaret, Chaps, 375 11th St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. With Jane Dornacker and Mary Buffett.
- **Gay Comedy Night:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Featuring Tom Ammiano, Doug Holclaw, Linda Moakes, and Ruby "Rodriguez" Rubenstein.
- **Fraternel Order of Gays:** Game Fest, The FOG House, 2038 22nd Ave., S.F., 8 PM. Monopoly, Scrabble, Risk, Trivial Pursuit, Clue, Probe, Chess, card games, and many others may be played. For more information and reservations call 753-6786.
- **Car Dances II: Gloria Her Story:** stage performance, parking lot on the corner of Main and Folsom Sts., S.F., 9 PM, \$4. The Gulf of the Farallones performs its second drive-in location play. Broadcast on KALX (90.7 FM).
- **Group 87:** music, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6. A blend of classical, minimalist, jazz, industrial, and punk-funk noise in two 60-minute sets.
- **Cinderella II:** stage performance, \$7 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Charles Busch Alone With a Cast of Thousands:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Renaissance Pleasure Faire:** Black Point Forest in Novato, Marin County, 10 AM to 6 PM, \$10.50. A Celebration of the History of Sports tops the 18th annual recreation of a 16th century English country fair.



Try your luck at Gay Day at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire on Labor Day.

- **K-RA-ZY for Gershwin:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Paradise is Closing Down:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Annual St. Valentine's Day Zin Tasting:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret (see Friday listing for details).

## SUNDAY 2

- **Women's Street Fair:** 2nd annual working women's celebration, Valencia St. between 18th and 20th, S.F., noon, free. Arts and crafts, information on organizations, childcare. Call 552-7035 for more information.



Have a drink with Edith Massey at Chaps on Labor Day.

- **Tuffy Eldridge and Krista Hillhouse:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7 PM, \$3.50.
- **Blue Collar Bash:** cabaret, Chaps, 375 11th St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. With Marga Gomez and Val Diamond.

- **The Gay Life:** radio, KSNB (95 FM), 6 AM. A discussion of aging in the Lesbian and Gay communities, and a Gay Pride Sermon.
- **G 40+:** meeting, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. at Geary, S.F., 2 PM. Claude Duval will speak on Mrs. Parker's Voices: Selected Readings from Dorothy Parker's Writings.
- **Eastbay Frontrunners Club:** run at Strawberry Canyon, meet at the Space Sciences parking lot on the UC campus, 9:30 AM. Flat two-mile run, brunch follows. For more information call 526-7315 or 527-9167.
- **The Martha Young Trio:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM.
- **Estrada's Natural Band:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4 to 8 PM. Latin R&B.
- **Glamor Rock with Dexter Devos:** music, Chi Chi Theater Club, 440 Broadway, S.F., 9:30 PM, \$6. Call 392-6213 for reservations.
- **Cinderella II:** stage performance, \$7 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Renaissance Pleasure Faire:** (see Saturday listing for details).
- **Paradise is Closing Down:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **All Join Hands:** Gay square dancing, dancers from every club join hands at 2140 Market St., S.F., 5 to 7:30 PM, donation.

## MONDAY 3

- **Gay Day at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire:** Black Point Forest in Novato, Marin County, 10 AM to 6 PM, \$8. Same-sex kissing booth, beribboned flagellation, Renaissance Gay sports, and an auction to benefit the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, emceed by Empress Jose, the Widow Norton. \$2 from each ticket will go to benefit the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee.
- **Charles Pierce:** stage performance, The Woods, 16881 Armstrong Woods Rd., Guerneville, 10 PM, \$8. Pierce does his thing in the woods.
- **Blue Collar Bash:** cabaret, Chaps, 375 11th St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. With Danny Williams and Edith Massey. *Pink Flamingos and Female Trouble* will be shown from 2 PM. Cocktails with Edie from 7 to 9 PM.
- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$2. Co-emceeds Tom

Ammiano and Linda Moakes. Performer sign-up at 7:30 PM.

- **Tuffy Eldridge and Krista Hillhouse:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 to 11 PM.
- **The Plimsouls and Mercy Seat:** music, I-Beam, 1748 Haight St., S.F., 10:30 PM, cover.
- **Car Dances II: Gloria Her Story:** stage performance, broadcast on KPFA, 94.6 FM (see Saturday listing for details).

## TUESDAY 4

- **Lisa Pawlak:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **For Women Only:** live erotic dancing, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, cover.
- **Scott Warner:** music, Rags, 22 4th St., 9 and 11 PM, \$5.
- **Polar Flight:** playreading, Fort Mason, Bldg. C, Room 300, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$2. Written by Allison Blake.
- **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No pre-registration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

## WEDNESDAY 5

- **Coming Out:** Lesbians of Color/Third World Lesbians Drop-in Rap Group, Pacific Center, Berkeley, 8 to 9:45 PM, \$1 to \$2.
- **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Our Lady of the Rainbow Sheets:** playreading, Studio Rhino, 2926 16th St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$3. Written by Charlotte Versaggi, directed by Cynthia Wilson.
- **American Inroads:** dance, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. Nancy Karp and dancers Charles Amirkhanian and Carol Law perform three collaborative pieces combining dance, sound/text scores, and projected visuals.
- **The Bong Show:** comedy, Club 181, 181 Eddy St., S.F., 9:30 PM, \$2. Danny Williams will emcee, performer sign-up from 8:30 to 9 PM.
- **Writing Workshop:** for seniors 60 and older, 7:30 PM. Conducted by George Birimisa, sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call 431-6254 for address and more information.

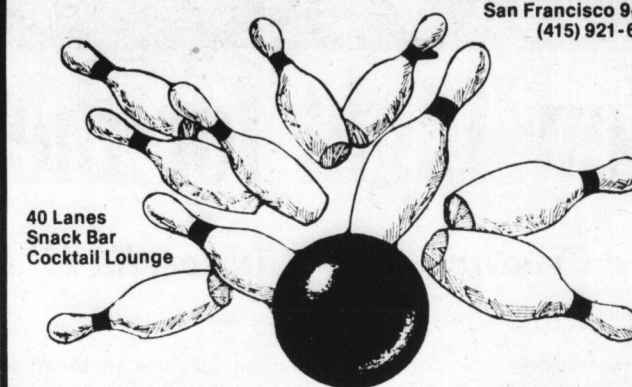
## THURSDAY 6

- **Charles Busch Alone With a Cast of Thousands:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. Busch moves from the Role to the Rhino.
- **Debbie Saunders:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Songs from the Heart and Other Chakras:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$3. With Becky Reardon and Judy Munson.
- **Gay Italian Americans:** monthly get-together, Swedish-American Hall, 2174 Market St., S.F., 7 PM. *Swept Away* will be shown.
- **Western Star Dancers:** beginners square dance class, YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, 2nd floor, S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-6134 for more information.
- **Judith Maynard:** music, Rags, 22 4th St., S.F., 9 and 11 PM, \$5.
- **Car Dances II: Gloria Her Story:** stage performance (see Saturday listing for details).
- **American Inroads:** dance (see Wednesday listing for details).
- **Noh One Knows:** stage performance, Point Bonita YMCA at Fort Barry, Bldg. 981, Golden Gate Recreation Center, Sausalito, 9 PM, \$7. Sound, light, dance, and lasers merge to create a meta-world beyond human experience.
- **Irina Roza:** new works, Nathan Hart Gallery, 437 Hayes St., S.F., reception 5 to 8 PM.
- **Cinderella II:** stage performance, \$7 (see Friday listing for details).
- **K-RA-ZY for Gershwin:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Fun Run:** sponsored by SuperNutrition Vitamins and Au Naturel health food store, polo grounds, Golden Gate Park, S.F., 6:30 PM, free. Three miles. Meet at the south end of the polo grounds on Middle Drive.

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

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## GAY BOWLING LEAGUES

**MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE** - San Francisco's oldest Gay league. This league is traditionally 20 or more teams and we expect this season to be no exception, so sign up early. League starts on Monday October 15. Bowls on Monday nights at 8:45pm, is 90% handicap, costs \$7.50 per person per week, and there are 5 people per team.

**TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE** - Growing by leaps and bounds. This league is only 2 years old and starts on October 9. League Tuesday nights at 8:45pm, is 90% handicap, costs \$7.50 per person per week, and there are 5 people per team.

**WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE** - The most popular league for the more serious bowler. The individual averages in this league are a little higher than the other Community Leagues. League starts on Monday nights at 8:45pm, is 80% handicap, costs \$7.00 per person per week, and there are 5 people per team.

**THURSDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE** - Just perfect for you night workers, the league bowls on Thursday afternoons so you people who work at night can enjoy the fun of league bowling also. League starts on September 27. League on Thursdays at 1:00pm, costs \$5.50 per person per week, is 90% handicap, and there are 3 people per team.

**SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE** - Kind of like the Hawaii League, except at the end of the season you spend 3 days and 2 nights in Reno all expenses paid (except food). League starts on October 21. Bowls on Sunday nights at 6:00pm, costs \$9.00 per person per week, is 90% handicap, and there are 4 people per team.

**HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE** - This is the ultimate, a league where you spend a week on Waikiki in June 1985 and all expenses are paid (except food). Everyone goes to but everyone in the league. League starts on September 7. Bowls on Friday nights at 6:30pm, costs \$16.00 per person per week, is 90% handicap, is 90%. There are 4 people per team.

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# BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE

## New Light for the Angels

The Production of 'Cinderella II' Brings New Blood

by John F. Karr

Paraphrasing Gertrude Stein one could say, "These are the Angels who are not Angels." More accurate though, would be, "These are the Angels who are new Angels." When the Angels of Light opens its new show, *Cinderella II: Happily Ever After*, fans will find an identifiably "Angels" show. But in many ways it is a marked departure in style, content, production method, and personnel.

*Cinderella II* marks the first time the Angels has gone outside its group of authors and composers. The show was written by the team of Daniel Curzon and Dan Turner. Curzon is known as the author of such seriously themed novels as *From Violent Men*, as well as lighter entertainments like *The Misadventures of Tim McPick* and *The Joyful Blue Book of Gay Etiquette*. Turner has become known as a spokesman for AIDS, but is an established journalist and playwright. The team has previously written two musicals. Comeback, about a male cabaret star and his return to the stage as a female, and *No Mince Pies*, "a moral majority musical" about a Puritan family corrupted by its rise to power.

They want fun. So I'm giving them fun.

"The best way to please an audience is to give them something old and new," Curzon continued. "I didn't want to do a nostalgia piece, though, so I took an old story and did further adventures. This is a story in its own right, with its own complications."

These complications give the story a modern angle. *Cinderella's* life after the Brothers Grimm segment turns out to be not merely complicated, but positively fraught. Imagine being married to Prince Charming and falling in love with your brother-in-law. Imagine a Fairy Godmother feeling exploited, or the role reversal havoc caused when her wand acts up and

stepped aside to allow the Curzon/Turner team integrity when the Angels decided to mount Curzon's script.

Highlights of the score include a tap dance competition between the Jester and Prince Charming, three different love themes for the main characters which combine into a trio, a show tune called "Play the Palace" which Turner said took off from Cole Porter's "You're the Top," and a song for the Stepsisters, done a la the Andrews Sisters. Turner's personal favorite is a ballad, "How Far Can Love Reach." Since the Angels have always been a dancing group, Turner wrote a ballet for each act. He described the second act "Nightmare Ballet" as "a little Nino Rota-ish."



Part of the cast of *Cinderella II*. (Photo: Rink)

## Happily Ever After

by Bernard Spunberg

Extravagant flights of fantasy sail over rough spots in *Cinderella II*, a new musical with script and lyrics by Daniel Curzon and music by Dan Turner. Directed by David Hillbrand and produced by the Angels of Light at Theater Artaud, *Cinderella II* has more plot than you can shake a stick at. After a period of marital bliss with Prince Charming, *Cinderella* has grown tired of perfection. Just for old times' sake, she pays her nasty family a visit and winds up getting suckered into bringing them all back to the palace. The plot thickens when *Cinderella's* stepsisters scheme against an evil jester for power over the kingdom while *Cinderella*, Prince Charming, and his noncharming brother, Prince Moe, are lost in a forest. Fairy Godmother's magic backfires repeatedly and, just to add to the chaos, the Masses periodically wander in and out of the action.

All the characters are forced to re-examine their roles in life — all except *Cinderella* herself, that is, and she was the one who was dissatisfied in the first place. In *Cinderella II*, Miss C., played by Frances Marie Scholly, finds a new lover, but she remains the same twit she always was. Prince Moe is supposed to be a bore but, as played by Richard Pardini, I liked him from the start. As for Rodney Price's Prince Charming, he's just a great big gorgeous hunk of nincompoop. Is that all there is to charm? Do not ask why *Cinderella's* parents are such nonentities, either, or why we keep hearing from the narrator long after his jokes have run out. Do not wonder what happened to the grand ball promised by the stepsisters and their mother in "Invitations," a song worthy of Cole Porter. That ball would have set up a production number during which the plot could have climaxed and brought the curtain down with a bang instead of a soggy

whimper. Above all, do not question why *Cinderella II* has to be so damn long.

Please do, however, ask why I love *Cinderella II*. Beaver Bauer's costumes are gorgeous, full of character, and funny. Great big puffy trunks for the princes, a gown like a birthday cake for *Cinderella*, and a cool water-drip dry plastic creation for the Fairy Godmother are all pretty, but the main characters' work shines in the subsidiary roles. *Cinderella's* chambermaid has a chorus line of legs hanging from her petticoats, the forest creatures look like a Klimt painting, and even the stepsisters' cat reflects creative inspiration. And wait 'til you see the stepsisters themselves. Especially as played by Martin Zero and Janice Sukaitis, ugly has never been more ridiculous.

Ric Tringali's palace sets have colossal columns and all sorts of secret openings through which funny little goblins poke their heads and make sarcastic remarks. His cottage for *Cinderella's* family is picturesque. His forest scene is enchanted. No matter how big a budget is, there's no substitute for talent, and that mysterious, scary greenery demonstrates the kind of theatrical magic an artist can pull out of a can of paint. Tringali's lavishly detailed sets make audiences gasp.

Choreography by Tommy Janes, Rodney Price, and Deidre Shibano suggests *Cinderella II* is as much a dance recital as a musical. The ballets are atmospheric and well performed. The tap dance for Prince Charming and his jester, played by Janes, is a tour de force.

Dan Turner's music exploits the sentimental cabaret styles of yesteryear, vaudeville, and Broadway. Scrumby Koldewyn's and Jay Lyon's resource-

(Continued on next page)

STAGE

## Failure to Connect

by Bernard Spunberg

Signals from a distant planet made sporadic *Connections* in Mark I. Chester's performance piece at Studio Rhino last weekend. Of course, if you happen to live on the planet from which the signals emanate, I guess they come in loud and clear. Personally, I live on a planet whose symbolic language is based on flowers, sunlight, and the human body unmarked by more than the tiniest drawing or puncture.

What are the dominant symbols of *Connections*? "Letter from Bill's Mom," one of 20 segments comprising the piece, consists of Chester reading a letter credited to Faye Browning. The letter is composed in the voice of Bill Browning's mother and describes her despair at his having adopted values and symbols so different from her own as to be completely alienating. The mother is a fundamentalist Christian, and she's likely to be alienated by a man dressed in cotton rather than polyester. She is unwilling to connect with anyone who speaks in symbols other than her own.

But I think the blame for failure of communication rests equally on Bill Browning's shoulders. As Chester reads the letter, Browning puts on his own favored symbols. Starting from modified mohawk, tattoos across the chest and upper arm, nipple and cock rings — through, not around — Browning puts on torn net stockings and shirt, leather jockstrap, a pair of shredded levis with no crotch, and combat boots. Great. I say, everyone should dress as they please. I eagerly await the day when dedicated nudists ride Muni cheek by jowl with businessmen in three-piece

suits.

But it seems to me people bent on one-to-one, nontheatrical communication have a responsibility to speak in symbols accessible to those with whom they want to communicate. Of course, accessibility is relative, and Browning does say that he wore conventional shirts and pants when he last saw his mother. But when I saw the symbols with which Browning is truly comfortable, I confess I cringed in fear and pain.

Not all of *Connections* failed to connect with me. Warren Muller's film of distorted human bodies and a series of projections by Chester and Browning moved some mysterious, primeval spot of my consciousness. I was frightened, soothed, and completely enraptured. Carla Wood Saivre's monologue and ritual in which she dripped hot wax onto her breasts conveyed potent, passionate emotion. The music, credited to Muller, Browning, Charles Cohen, and Glen Margo, is also powerfully evocative, as are the technical effects by Muller and Margo.

A ridiculous misconception illustrates the basis of my failure to connect with *Connections* more fully. The show's publicity photo shows Bill Browning's head being pulled to one side by strings tied to holes through his ear lobe. When I first saw the photo, I wondered why the man had a wire egg whisk stuck in his ear. Talk about alien symbols! Some people apply body ornamentation while others cultivate egg whites beaten to soft peaks. I guess we each communicate in our own way. Personally, I find my souffle speaks volumes. ■

## New Light for the Angels

(Continued from previous page)

take on a more current flavor," said Price. "We never had a political platform. In the beginning, just being who we were was a political statement, and it was liberating for an audience just to see us. Liberation of the spirit has always been part of our shows, but not a platform."

"It's hard nowadays to deal with the sort of spiritual matter we did earlier. That sort of consciousness had faded into the background. Now we've taken on a different manifestation. I'd like to bring hope and appreciation to people's lives."

There's a touch of the big chill in Price's comments, but director Hillbrand has an understanding that suggests greater fidelity to the Angels' origins.

"I'm getting the impression that the Angels have evolved into something really different

over the years," Hillbrand told me. "Nobody quite knows what it is anymore; it's taken a couple of steps away from its founding. Some of them feel if their traditions aren't passed along to new members, who are the majority of the cast, it isn't really the Angels. So, I've encouraged them to feel this is not just another theatrical venture, but something with a mission, a spiritual goal."

So here's the Angels who are not Angels and who will be Angels. A mainstream show created specifically for entertainment by authors who aren't Angels, tied together by a director who is not an Angel, but who can sense the Angel identity and encourage it. In its fifteenth year, the Angels of Light takes a giant step, evolving, growing, entertaining, and still remaining the Angels. ■

J.F. Karr

## CINDERELLA

(Continued from previous page)

ful arrangements reprise melodic fragments to dramatic effect.

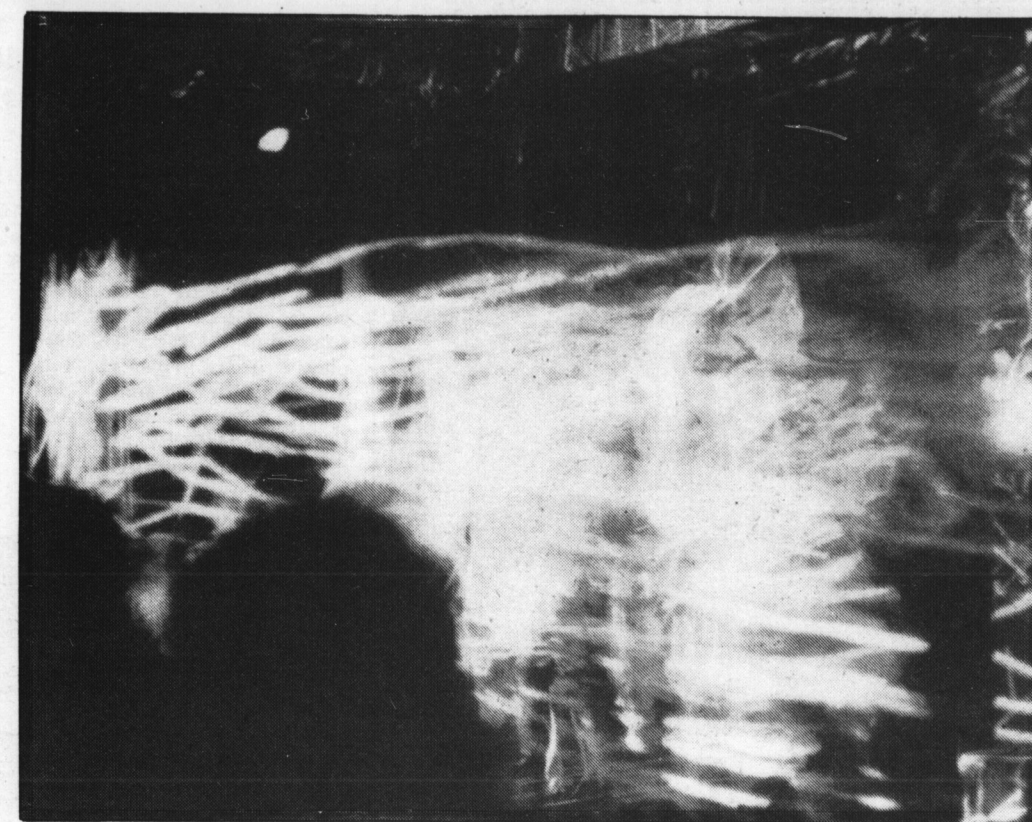
Though playwright Curzon's script is a little flabby, the stepsisters' attempt to expand their identities through deceitful acquisition of power contrasts significantly with *Cinderella's* and her two princes' risky, sincere efforts to find themselves. Curzon reveals a keen sense of life's inequities when the stepsisters are finally dealt a punishment by which they're thrilled. Their glee suggests that, while honesty and integrity must muddle through

as best they can, ruthless evil persists through its ability to feed on itself. As for flab, a pair of scissors can work wonders.

The Angels of Light, however, are true to themselves. They are not perfectly articulate, but they do not sanitize or simplify for the benefit of cretins out on the town. Compromising neither their own nor their audience's integrity, they present nothing less than their best inspiration, and damn the cost. ■

B. Spunberg

*Cinderella II*  
Theater Artaud  
Through September 30; 621-7797



The cast of *Connections* tries to connect. (Photo: Rink)

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*Cinderella* makes for strange bedfellows. Dan Turner (l.), Scrumby Koldewyn, and Daniel Curzon (r.) get under the sheets to mug for the camera. (Photo: Rink)

The theme of *Cinderella II* is not quite as weighty.

"It's primarily to entertain," said Turner, "but there is a main theme. What does 'happily ever after' mean, and what does *Cinderella's* understanding of being happy mean?"

"It isn't a message show," Curzon said, "except in the sense that amidst all the fun you can't rely on artificial means of happiness — the Fairy Godmother's wand — and you can't expect too much of happiness."

"I like being as varied as I can be," Curzon said in reference to his earlier work. "From my twenty-year academic background I learned that serious critics don't take comedy seriously. Since I wanted to be taken seriously, most of my earlier novels were naturalistic. But theater audiences, in particular, don't want seriousness.

turns *Cinderella* into Prince Charming (and vice-versa). Imagine a Court Jester experiencing Identity Crisis, wanting power instead of laughs.

The tangle of the plot is mirrored in the creative process. "Daniel Curzon wrote the script," said Dan Turner. "I write the music and we both do lyrics. We choose moments in the script that will become songs, and Daniel writes a prose paragraph that is developed into a lyric. I'll do my version of it, tape the melody, and Daniel will go over the two sets of lyrics with the tune. It goes back and forth like that, although he has final say on the lyrics."

Turner is pleased with the score, especially with Musical Director Scrumby Koldewyn's approval of it. Until now, Koldewyn has composed all the Angels' shows. He graciously

Director David Hillbrand is another new element for the Angels, recommended by a previous Angels director.

"I'd never directed a musical before," he said, "and working with a choreographer and musical director had some surprises, but it's worked out well. It's a mammoth production, and I find incredible appreciation for the sets, costumes, and music. The tap dancing is a cut above, and the ballet very graceful, with a different dynamic than the rest of the show."

But the Angels have always been famous for wildly varying dynamics within one show. Hillbrand called *Cinderella II* "a pretty mainstream" show, and Rodney Price, who's been with the Angels since its inception, commented.

"With each show we try to

(Continued on next page)



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## STAGE

### Beating the Busch

by Bernard Spunberg

Sometimes soaring, sometimes stumbling, Charles Busch stretches his art to new limits in the current edition of his one-man show, *Alone With a Cast of Thousands*. Now onstage at the Valencia Rose, Busch's program of three plays written and performed by himself has drama, humor, and pathos. Not surprising, his performances last year, especially those of his masterpiece — not a word I throw around — "The Phantom Lovers," proved his

artistry once and for all. And yet . . .

Busch is a better social commentator, satirist, and writer than he is an actor. His thumbnail sketches of guests at "A Theatrical Party" incorporate the precise details required to convey the various types Busch has in mind.

The party is given by a famous actor in search of one actress to play Cleopatra, Ophelia, and Juliet in his season of

Shakespeare. Among those actresses vying for the roles are Solange Gabrielle, Dame Beatrice Fortesquieu, and Lily Murbanks. Other guests include a critic, Vivian Pernod; his "companion," Rodney; a mystery writer, creaky Sir Basil Baise-water; and his young amour, Leticia. Love those names.

At his best, Charles Busch achieves theatrical impact not through depth of characterization, but through the interaction of types. Busch shows us sharply detailed snapshots — neither more nor less than needed to add up to a little world complete unto itself. The end of "The Party" is predictable, but it's the kind of predictability that brings a sigh of satisfaction. Life may seem chaotic, Busch seems to say, but right below the surface there are forces that ensure a sort of order and symmetry. Of course, the forces may consist of nothing more heartwarming than vanity, lust, and greed, but that's okay. Somehow, life's pieces fit together. Somehow, the universe works.

On opening night, only the final moment of "The Party" lacked the perfect timing, the rhythm, to make the last loose ends of plot hang together. And unfortunately, unless the final moments are perfectly weighted, the sense of inevitability from which emotion flows is dulled.

In "Après Moi, le Deluge," Busch varies his usual format. Spoken by a high school teacher recently dismissed from leading the students' drama club because of weekend employment at a Gay bar, "Le Deluge" finds Busch assuming only the role of the teacher. The scene is intermission at the opening of his replacement's debut as director,

(Continued on page 26)



Charles Busch

### Cloris Leachman is Sister Mary

by Dianne Gregory

At a reception after *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You I* told Cloris Leachman that, "It was very nice." Not only was that an incredibly banal statement, it was a lie. At its nicest *Sister Mary* is vaguely smarmy, at its best it is outrageously sacrilegious.

*Sister Mary*, now played by Leachman who replaced Lynn Redgrave in the role, explains heaven, hell, and purgatory to us, and what will land us at those destinations. She proceeds to run a little boy (played by Ariel Shafir the night I saw it) through his catechism — "Who made you?" "God made me." "What is the fifth commandment?" — until she is interrupted by several former students who have dropped by to present a pageant. It is during the re-creation of the pageant that the audience replaces its laughter with gasps, and several people inevitably walk out. There seems to be especially violent reaction to the part where a doll, signifying Jesus, is tied to a wooden cross and lifted up as a crucifix.

But that's what theater is supposed to do, isn't it? Contrary to prevailing opinion among television network executives, theater is not meant merely to entertain. It is meant also to teach. And to teach best, at least in theater, is to shock. If you don't want your sensibilities assaulted, if you don't want to learn through other people's grim fantasies, you should stay home and watch re-runs of *Leave it to Beaver*.

But how well does *Sister Mary*, as played by Leachman, startle us out of our complacent little lives? Although Leachman plays the role with considerable

energy and brings intuitive perception to the part, she did not hold the audience as Redgrave did. Midway through *Sister Mary*, which combined with another one act play, *The Actor's Nightmare*, completes the evening, the screamers in the back row got so out of hand I thought Leachman was going to leap across the footlights and box their ears. Redgrave didn't let the audience get that far on the evening I saw her in the role, although in all fairness it must be said that Redgrave's voice

can carry over almost anything — I'm sure she could be heard in the top row of Candlestick Park on a windy day without benefit of a public address system.

Screamers or no screamers, Leachman still taught her audience its lesson for the evening. And a stern taskmaster she is. ■

**Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You**  
Marines Memorial Theatre  
Through September 9  
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Cloris Leachman

## TALES OF TESSI TURA

### Dishing Dirt

GEORGE HEYMONT

On more than one occasion, friends have asked me why in the world I would ever want to travel thousands of miles to see the same opera performed over and over again. Let me assure you, it's not that I'm so infatuated with mediocre performances of *The Magic Flute*. The quality of opera is one thing. The circus which surrounds it is another.

Before leaving town on my latest jaunt, I bumped into a colleague from *The Advocate* who had just returned from a week at the Santa Fe Opera.

"You won't believe the gossip floating around town this year," he said. "The whole place is buzzing about the San Francisco Opera. There's talk of an orchestra strike in the fall, and half the people there are claiming that Terry's contract won't get renewed."

A brief rundown of my recent trip to New Mexico should convince readers that, at least in the world of opera, the real action does not always take place in full view of the audience.



Copping a Feel, Guido (John Stewart) checks out Bianca's body in Zemlinsky's *Eine Florentinische Tragodie*.

### TIT FOR TAT

Our flight to Albuquerque was filled with ominous portents. Having set a new Olympic record for chugging down chocolate milk at 30,000 feet — at the very same moment my dinner tray was being plopped down in front of me — I was promptly handed a marketing questionnaire by one of United Airlines' overreager flight attendants. When, I ask you, will the folks who rule the friendly skies learn their passengers can't fill in a multiple-choice IBM form with a goopy piece of dead chicken?

The drive from Albuquerque to Santa Fe — which takes one past road signs for Santa Rosa, Las Vegas, and Cuba — included 15 minutes of blinding hail. A warning, I suppose, that the best was yet to come. Once in town, I was regaled with news that the local merchants were hot after General Director John Crosby's ass, claiming that — notwithstanding the Olympics, an election year, and a sudden surge in travel to Europe — his daring choice of repertoire for the current season had effectively scared off the tourist trade which is Santa Fe's economic lifeline.

1984 also marked the year in which an outraged audience member, who claims to be a representative of the Moral Majority, filed suit against mezzo-soprano Lisa Turetsky for going nude during the final moments of Zemlinsky's *Eine Florentinische Tragodie*. A veteran soprano who mimes no words laughed off the allegations that Turetsky could have corrupted

the audience by insisting that, "If you have someone like Carol Neblett who is tall, has nice breasts, and looks good when she goes nude onstage in *Thais*, that's one thing. But this girl is an absolute dog."

For those who haven't been to Santa Fe, the opera house is an outdoor theater where intermissions become a virtual orgy of networking and gossip. Impresarios, artists' managers, and critics circle the grounds like sharks sniffing after fresh bait. In between dreaming up special artistic projects — such as a Christmas production of *Amyl* and the *Nitrite Visitors* or a revised *Carmen* with Bette Midler and the Harlettes leading off the gypsies while Jessye Norman's Micaela lumbers across a rocky mountain pass — I was able to nail down consumer reports on the size and scope of a Pulitzer prize-winner's penis, news of a rising soprano who is running a personal ad describing herself as a "new wave opera star seeking affluent men," and a rundown of next year's repertoire.

Between acts of an opera which will, no doubt, receive the award for the most pretentious piece of shit staged in 1984, I remarked to one of the few entrepreneurs in the business who has good taste that the challenge was to write a review which would be scatalogical, yet terse. In the light of the full moon, he agreed wholeheartedly. After the performance — which included a smattering of everything from *Marat/Sade* to some Grade-Z war movie — I fled to the parking lot where I found my 61-

year-old friend, Burton Pell, draped on the hood of his station wagon. Burt really likes to get into the spirit of things.

### ART FOR ART'S SAKE

Much valuable information switched hands during my trip to New Mexico. At one point I informed a major Los Angeles critic about the glass display case at The Pleasure Chest on Santa Monica Boulevard where he could observe the "Waltz Of The Vibrators." Meanwhile, one of my traveling companions had been furiously scouring the local Gay business community trying to get people to talk about lavender living in Santa Fe. Unable to make contact with any major talents who would open up on tape, his rather closely results convinced him the title of his next dissertation should be "Minor Lesbian Artists of the Upper Rio Grande Valley." A

careful shopper, he was immensely relieved — if not downright ecstatic — to find some flamboyantly feathered roach clips on sale for 99 cents at a small truck-stop in New Mexico. Why the big fuss? These items are currently unavailable in San Francisco due to minor legal technicalities.

Oh, yes. The Dowager von Rhein graced our dinner table one evening complaining about a lackluster trip to Bayreuth. And at lunch the following day, a handsome waiter asked if he should try to find two charming women to fill the empty seats at our table for six. I wasted no time in suggesting that he find two hot-looking men, instead. He smiled sweetly and brought us an extra dish of mayonnaise.

Other choice moments included a rather demented, aging soprano who frantically kept trying to corner everyone from the press during intermission;

one friend's graphic description of the all-male orgies he envisioned taking place among the Indians who inhabited the prehistoric cave dwellings at Bandelier National Monument; and a long, winding drive through the country surrounding Jemez Hot Springs behind a band of dykes on bikes.

During our layover between homebound flights, I introduced one of my traveling companions to the lesser known passenger tunnels at Los Angeles International Airport. A freelance sign language interpreter, he had just spent most of the preceding flight seated beside me listening to a tape of Gypsy on his Sony Walkman while signing the entire show to the tray table in front of him. The flight attendants were not amused.

Despite rumors to the contrary, I only went to Haagen Dazs once during my week in Santa Fe. ■

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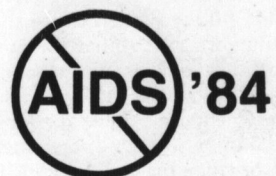
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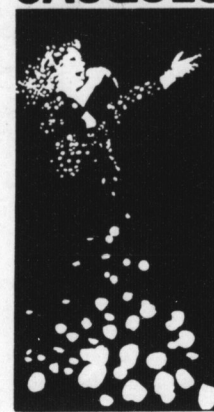
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## BACK TO BATON

### The Retreating Beat of the Doldrums

PHILIP CAMPBELL

After what seems to have been a particularly long summer, the San Francisco Symphony is returning September 5 for Music Director Edo de Waart's farewell season with an all Italian Gala featuring superstar soprano Leontyne Price.

For many Symphony fans, however, this will be only an event to hear about. It has been sold out for some time now. As if to make amends, the Symphony has scheduled an additional Sunday performance of Mahler's Eighth the following week. You see, the first week of subscription concerts is also sold out.

It's obvious that after a summer of musical doldrums and lackluster special events, symphonic music audiences are hungry for some big-time concerting.

Just about the only "hard ticket" at Davies Hall during past months was Zubin Mehta's visit with the Israel Philharmonic. The performances were rather undistinguished, except for Mehta's insistence on making every composer a Romantic. Still, the encores were great fun and, had the audience been better behaved, it would have been the exciting show this summer.

Also appearing under San Francisco Symphony auspices, the Joffrey Ballet breezed into the Opera House for a two-week stay that proved once again its remarkable mastery of divergent styles. With members of our own Symphony acting as their pit band — and doing it beautifully — the company managed to dance better than ever.

It's a pity the Joffrey saw fit to bring us so much of what we've already seen, several times. Of the new works, one, Jiri Kylian's *Dream Dances*, was a pleasant success. The other, Arpino's *Jamboree* was a genuine embarrassment.

Judging by the generally poor attendance at the Joffrey, and the lukewarm response to this year's Beethoven Festival, it might be safe to assume that if one wants enthusiasm and sold out houses, then one had better book big names performing big time pieces.

It wasn't that the Beethoven Festival was a failure. It was truly refreshing to see lesser known works scheduled. The performers were, in most cases, accomplished, and while results were less than scintillating, the overall impression was one of careful professionalism. It's just that we get the Joffrey and Beethoven every summer. Maybe it's time to do a little creative schedule juggling. Bring us the Joffrey and Beethoven one year, but switch to Brahms or Bach or even Mendelssohn the next. And how about a visit from the Royal Ballet, or the New York City Ballet, or the Dance Theatre of Harlem for a change of pace?

This year's unbelievably boring Pops series certainly didn't do anything to spice the pot. Sure there will always be audiences for Andy Williams and Carol Lawrence. Why not? They're perfectly competent entertainers. Still, if the Symphony wants to attract new faces to their pleasingly produced evenings at Civic Auditorium, it's going to have to come up with someone a little jazzier than Carole Bayer Sager.

If you managed to get a tan this summer and put aside a little money for a new Compact Disc player, the season wasn't a total loss. And if you're one of the lucky few who will hear Leontyne Price or witness Mahler's devastating "Symphony of a Thousand" in coming weeks, you actually have quite a bit to be thankful for.

Finally, regardless of your personal feelings about Edo de Waart, this is his last season with us and this year's schedule looks appetizing, indeed, after the malaise of the past few months.



Leontyne Price

## CHAS. BUSCH

(Continued from page 24)

and the teacher scurries between students and teachers, dishing everyone in sight. As we slowly realize the depth of the man's involvement with his productions, his complete dedication to a little society from which he is now barred, he acquires dramatic stature. That is, according to the script Busch has written.

Busch's portrayal is loaded with hilarious detail: shrugs, glances, and quicksilver changes of inflection as he dishes someone to whom he has just spoken cordially. But the details don't add up to flesh and blood. "The Party" succeeds because Busch paints a picture teeming with tiny, perfect little figures deeply involved with each other. "Le Deluge" is crowded with figures, too, but they're all beyond the edge of the canvas. We see one little character all alone in the center of the picture waving madly at other characters just out of the line of vision.

"Reed," a world premiere, is also spoken by only one character — a sometime hustler from New York who has moved to North Dakota in response to an ad placed by a man in search of a lover. The hustler has been less than honest in his introductory letters, and his host has grown steadily cooler with the passage of their brief time together.

Unlike other works by Charles Busch with which I'm familiar, "Reed" is naturalistic. The play is moving and true in its depiction of an individual slowly realizing that the lines — and lies — that sustained his place in the society he's left fail him completely in that which he's entered.

Charles Busch's portrayal of Reed scratches no more than the surface of the words Busch has composed. The script, a resonant psychological study, painfully strips away the character's various masks. Busch's realistic approach, abandoning the crisp, compressed stylization of his best work, is diffuse and medi-

ocre. Line readings are false, transitions are awkward. I just can't see Reed. I don't believe in him.

Artists struggling to grow and expand deserve support even when they don't achieve their usual heights — perhaps especially then. Last year, I raved about Charles Busch. I'm still raving. If I'm picky and analytical with him, it's only because his genius inspires me.

B. Spunberg

Charles Busch Alone With a Cast of Thousands  
Valencia Rose, Theatre Rhino  
Through September 30; 863-3863

## Opera Auditions

West Bay Opera will hold auditions for principal roles in *Un Ballo in Maschera* by Giuseppe Verdi, Monday, September 3, at the Holt Building, 221 Lambert Street, Palo Alto.

The opera will be performed, in Italian, over two weekends between March 8 and March 16, 1985, at the Lucie Stern Theatre, Palo Alto. The conductor and music director will be Samuel Cristler, and stage direction will be by Kenneth Row-

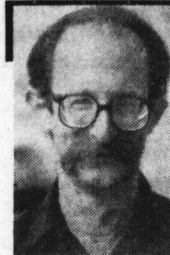
land. West Bay Opera presents professionally-produced, fully-staged operas with chorus and orchestra. Principal roles are cast in open auditions, and interested singers of professional caliber are invited to phone for further information and to make an audition appointment.

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## EVEN IN BABYLON

### Bye Bye Judy; and Baby Jewel

JOHN F. KARR



I used to be secretive about my fondness for Judy Garland. Silly fags bubbled on about her, tarnishing the memory of her talent with queenly hysteria. But it's fifteen years after her death, and there's a Judy revival going on. A *Star is Born* is back in complete glory, out of print records are being imported from France, and PBS is showing select segments of her 1963 television series. And last fall, composer John Meyer made the most important contribution to the literature about Judy with a coolly devout, sober look at Judy's last months, *Heartbreaker* (Doubleday, hardbound, \$15.95).

Meyer, best known as the composer of "I'd Like to Hate Myself in the Morning," was a piano bar sing-along leader. One habitue always requested Garland tunes, which he'd listen to while sniffing poppers. In October 1968 the fellow offered Meyer the unlikely prospect of playing his tunes for Judy. Sounded like a ruse to lure Meyer to his apartment. But Judy was there, liked the tunes, and took over.

Meyer became one of The Legend Relay, in which the torch that was Judy was passed to whomever had the temerity and patience to guard it. Meyer was Judy's lover and guardian for two incredible months, and his book is a second by second chronicle of everything she did and said during that time.

In what was obviously a last gasp attempt, Judy was striking out in any way possible to continue her career. And although she had moments of greatness, she was a broken shell. The daily intake of ups, downs, and booze had broken any connections with reality, and her life was a bizarre series of charades and nightmares. Her desperation could make her ruthless, while her basic kindness and vulnerability tied one to her. Everyone suffered.

The book is cheaply bound and printed, and while it has an index, lacks illustrations. I sensed a rip-off. Why was every second under scrutiny? The reason slowly became clear, and I

was left with respect for Meyer's accomplishment. By eschewing dime-store psychology, simply presenting the onion-skin layers of Judy's behavior, Meyer allows us to deduce the drives and devious workings of Judy's addled and destroyed life. By not pontificating about her, Meyer has given her to us whole. No other biography or memoir presents Judy as vibrantly or full-bodied.

Judy springs from these pages with the force of her galvanizing concert appearances. It's frequently an ugly portrait, shocking and tragic. The waste and ruin are so palpable that several times I had to put *Heartbreaker* down to recuperate. Empathy was Judy's strong point. Even in decline she grabs your heart.

\*\*\*

Meyer came to town and met with several Gay writers to discuss his book. We gossiped. He looked Gay, but he'd slept with Judy. I wasn't going to put him on the spot — it doesn't really matter, does it? — but someone else leapt in.

"I'm totally straight," Meyer replied. "I've often thought I have a Gay mind in a straight body. I've worked basically Gay bars. That's what piano bars are, except for a flagship like the Cafe Carlyle, and no one sings along with Bobby Short."

Besides composing, Meyer writes special material for nightclub acts. Margaret Whiting uses his material and sings his touching song "When Do the Words Come True." Meyer wrote it after his affair with Judy, reflecting her belief in the lyrics of the songs she sang. It was to be part of a Judy Garland musical, which Gloria De Haven backed out of starring in. "She didn't want to say 'fuck,'" Meyer said.

With that musical aborted, Meyer wrote *Heartbreaker*. He's been accused of cashing in on his intimate knowledge but sees it otherwise.

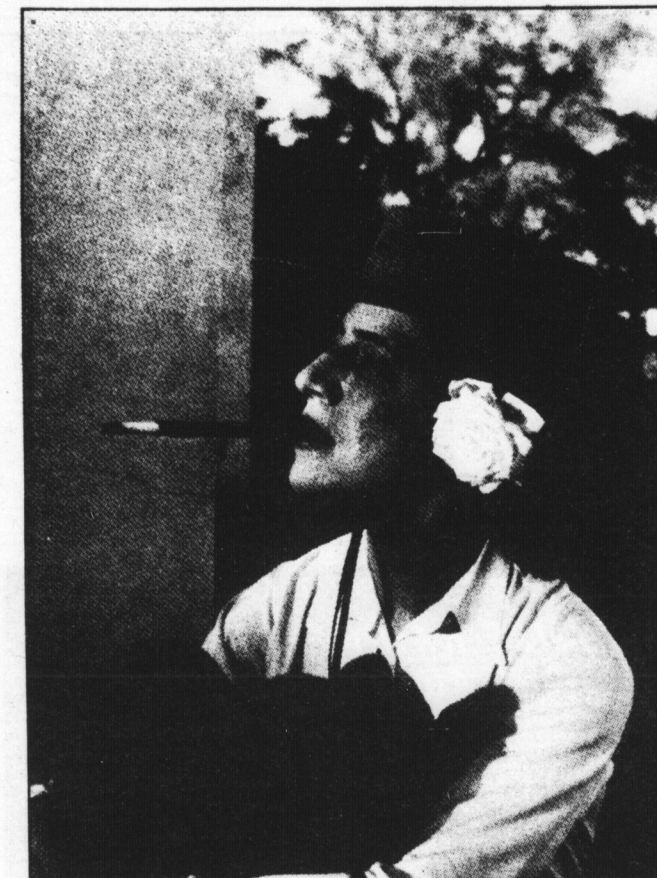
"I have a different view, a day by day insider's view of Judy," Meyer said. "It's a view that tells more about Judy than all the other books combined. It's

the only one I've kept." It's a heartbreaking story because the destruction is so complete and so unnecessary. We have Judy's talent on film and record. In *Heartbreaker*, John Meyer has presented the splendor and the misery of Judy's personal life. With love.

## PAGES FOR LA PLAGE

Even those who head a *l'riv Russie* instead of Ocean Beach need a summer beach book, and I've got two doozies. The first, and most engrossing, was published last year, but will be fresh, sassy fun for many a season to come. *Running Time* (available in both hardbound and paper) is the crowning impudence of Gavin Lambert, whose short stories and novels (*Inside Daisy Clover*) have marked him as a literary Patrick Dennis. The foibles, fortunes, disasters, and decadence of Hollywood are his ground, and in *Running Time* he does no less than cover the entire history of the movies and Tinsel Town.

Elva Kay arrives in the nearly barren Hollywood of 1918 to make her child, Baby Jewel, a star. She does, and we learn not only the full story of films, from silents to Spielberg, but every trick of the trade from Lambert's clever conceit. He alternates Elva's tell-all diary with comments from the adult Baby, who finds the diary after her mother's death. *Running Time*



Diana Vreeland

is by turn wickedly funny, amazingly authentic, raunchy, tinged with pathos, and at all times a feast for those suffering from movie-mania. Mingling real people with fictional, it's in-

genious and entertaining, perhaps the quintessential Hollywood novel.

This summer's other gem is the hoot called *D. V.*, the howl-

(Continued on next page)

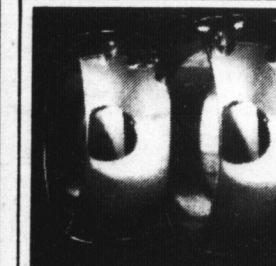
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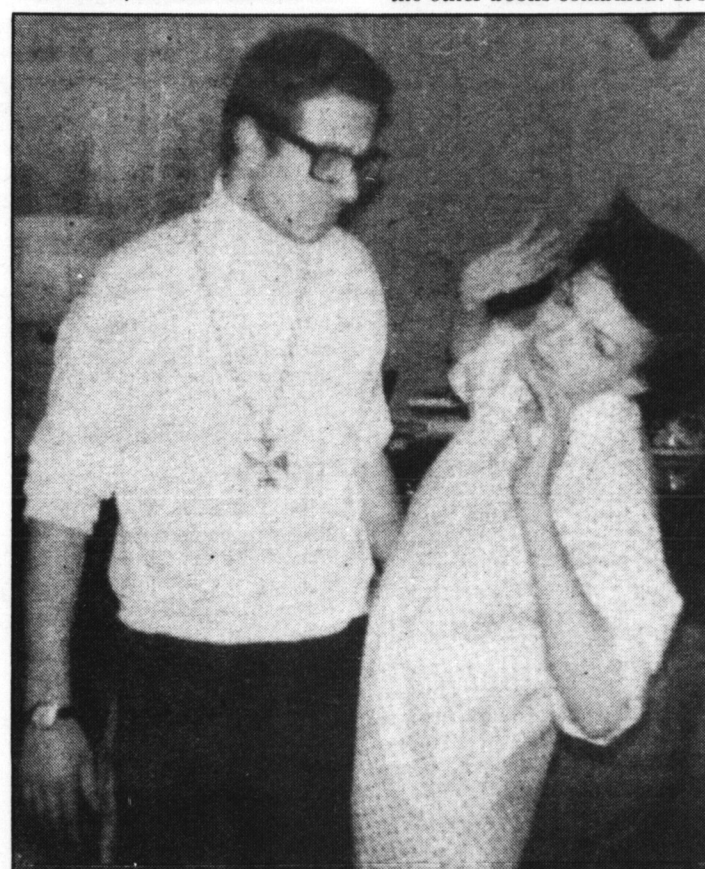
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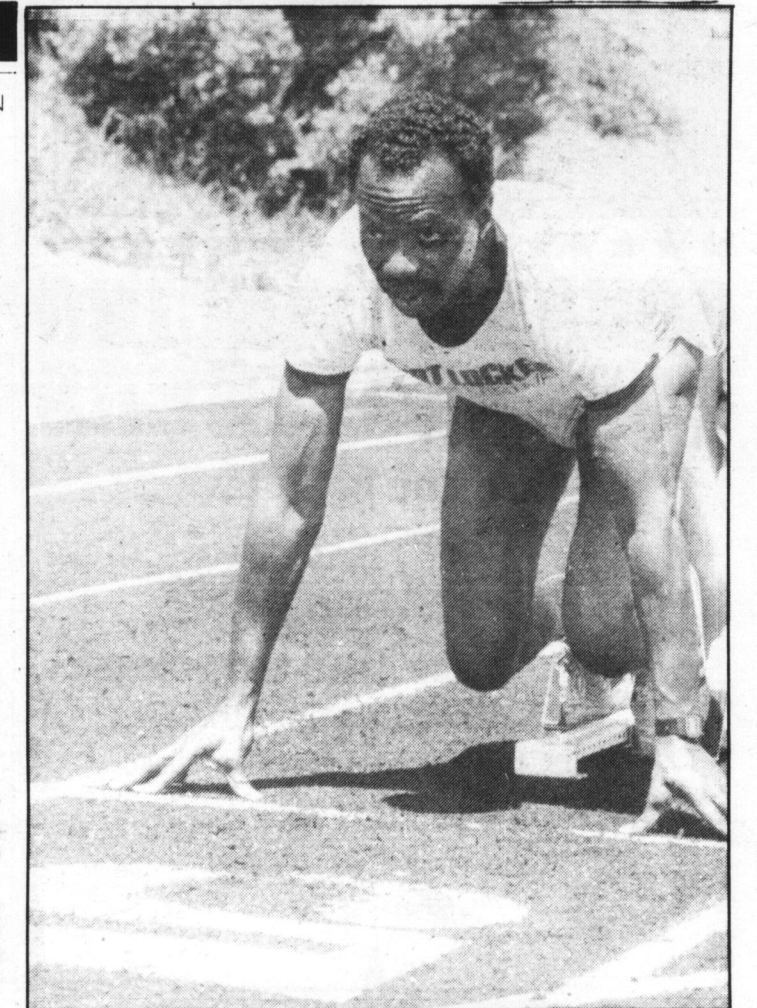
Grim Dance. *Heartbreaker* author John Meyer with Judy. It's the only photograph of the couple together and was taken by Meyer's mom. Meyer says he has a Gay mind; Gay taste in clothes, too, circa 1968.



# BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

## S.F. TRACK & FIELD

RICK THOMAN



Bernard Turner on the blocks. (Photo: D. Reynolds)

### Arriving on the National Scene

It's only been two years since the first Gay Games, but the San Francisco Track & Field Club has hung on, continuing to train hard and compete throughout the Bay Area. On August 17, the Club reached a new level of experience when four members journeyed to Eugene, Oregon, to compete in the US National Masters Track & Field Championships.

The three-day competition for sub-masters (ages 30-39) and Masters (40 and older) drew the best in the nation to Eugene, the "track capital of the U.S.A." Included in the field of national and world masters champions were several former US Olympic athletes, still competing, still winning, still pushing their bodies to the limits of physical endurance. And out of the 860 entrants emerged a tiny, inexperienced group representing San Francisco.

How did the SF quartet do amidst all the hoopla and big name competitors? In the first night of competition, Bernard Turner ran a strategically perfect 400 meters, coasting across the finish line in a time of 53.07 seconds to qualify for the finals the next day. And approximately half an hour later, Turner was back on the track to anchor the Club's 4x100 relay to a fifth place finish.

The Club was overjoyed with its fifth place finish in the relay, and after only one night of competition emerged onto the national scene in an event that is troublesome for the team, to say the least. Opening with Earl Bryant, the first leg of the relay went smoothly, but the team was never in the battle for first or second after the first hand-off because Dwayne Isham, Rick Thoman, and anchor-man Bernard Turner had trouble with hand-offs and powerful competition.

"This is an event we've had problems with throughout the season," Turner said after the race. "We have shifted person-

nel around to try and get the best four men possible. Our exchanges need work, but, considering the competition that was there, I think we did excellent. The San Francisco Track & Field Club is fifth in the nation. That is no small achievement."

On Saturday, Earl Bryant and Rick Thoman competed in the 100 meters. Bryant just missed qualifying in his heat, grabbing fifth place (top four went on to the finals) with a time of 12.3. It was not his fastest 100 meters of the season, and Bryant was hampered by a slow start. Thoman, normally not a 100m runner and running only his second 100m race of the season, clocked a personal best time of 11.5 to finish sixth in his heat.

The lights were just starting to come on in the University of Oregon stadium when Bernard Turner returned to the track for the 400 meter finals. Of all the 400m finals run this day, Turner's race would turn out to be the fastest. The race got off to an explosive start with Fred Booker of Nebraska taking an early lead that caught the rest of the pack off-guard. With 200 meters to go, the rest of the field was catching up, including national sprint star J. T. Haggerty and Turner, who managed to stay with the pack and hold out to the finish line. Haggerty won the race with a time of 49.8 and Turner placed fifth with a personal best time of 51.8, an outstanding achievement.

In the final day of competition, Dwayne Isham was back on the track competing in the 800 meter finals. Isham got off to a good start, and was in second place going into the final lap of the race. Then he was bumped a number of times, forcing him out into outer lanes and allowing other runners to edge past him. Isham finished sixth with a time of 2:03.1, off the marks he has posted earlier this season, but a tremendous effort against seasoned competitors.

About an hour after Isham collected his ribbon for his sixth place finish, the SF Track & Field Club returned to the track for its final performance in the 200 meters.

Turner again found himself in one of the fastest heats of the day, and clocked a 23.8 for a fifth place finish. Had he run that same time in the other heat in his age division, Turner would have qualified for the finals.

Thoman was also the victim of a fast heat, and also had the added handicap of running in lane eight, the farthest lane out. Thoman managed to post a season-best time of 23.9 in his heat, but didn't qualify for the finals.

Earl Bryant just missed qualifying in his heat of the 200m. Bryant was in perfect form for the first half of the race, but as he came off the curve, a knee problem that has plagued him most of the season returned to slow down his effort. Bryant finished fifth in his heat, and also posted a season-best performance of 25.01.

The San Francisco Track & Field Club has certainly arrived on the national masters track scene. To the layman, fifth and sixth places do not mean much, but for a young club, under-trained and with little experience, to come and compete in the heady atmosphere of national quality competition, these marks will serve as a stepping-stone to the future of the San Francisco Track & Field Club on the national scene. The other track clubs at the meet, from Dallas, Atlanta, Southern California, and the East and mid-West, are now aware of the S.F. Track Club. All the athletes at this meet respected the honest efforts of all competitors throughout the three days. The SF Track Club has gained some respect and, even better, some experience to take back with them and use for next year.

"We know what we have to do to get ready for the Nationals next year," Turner said. "This experience is going to stay with us as we aim for Indianapolis (where the Nationals will be held in 1985) and we hope to bring even more people and have an even greater impact. We're not just Gay athletes out for a jog. We are athletes who happen to be Gay, with the ability to compete on a national level."

Teammate Bryant echoed Turner's sentiments, saying, "We have proven to ourselves that we have what it takes. We need to do some fine tuning to perfect our abilities, but one thing is certain, we are here to stay. We are serious about running."

The four runners would like

to express their thanks to Terry Bean, owner of Cassidy's Tavern in Eugene and Salem, for putting the team up during their stay in Oregon. Also, their thanks go to the rest of the team for the support and good wishes they received throughout the season.

The San Francisco Track & Field Club will be hosting a final meet of the 1984 season this Saturday, September 1, at McAteer High School, Portola and O'Shaughnessy Blvd. Participants may enter at the track the day of the meet, which will begin with a 10,000 meter race at 9:30 a.m. Entry fee is \$6, and events include the 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, and 5,000m, as well as relays and field events. Call 821-7674 for more information.

## FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

### Metropolis

Classic Silent Meets MTV

The first thing you can't help but notice about composer/recorder/producer Giorgio Moroder's reconstruction of Fritz Lang's silent classic is that it is no longer silent. Quite the contrary. It is loud, very loud.

With its direct digital soundtrack of thumping disco-rock songs, its meticulous color tinting and new subtitles, *Metropolis* is a 1926 picture made palatable for the MTV generation weaned on spoon-fed pabulum and heavy-handed rock videos. But if this is what's necessary to get Fritz Lang's masterpiece vision of the future to the masses, so be it. The in-

congruous music and artificial color can't hide the beauty of Lang's ahead-of-its-time film.

Set in the year 2026, the people of *Metropolis* are oppressed and manipulated, forced to work grueling ten-hour shifts below the city in a vast, steamy underground. The son of the dictator thinks what dad is doing is just awful. He dons the outfit of a worker to get a first-hand glimpse at what's going on downstairs. He falls for a beautiful evangelist and, in a *Perils of Pauline* conclusion, saves her and the world, and brings his father to his senses.

Before he does that, dad has his wizard, Rotwang, turn a robot into a dupe for the evangelist to fool the workers. But she gets out of hand and incites everyone to revolt. They do.

Such a mess they make.

There's no mess, however, with the loving reconstruction and careful color enhancement done by Moroder. Although he's given some of the scenes an MTV look, for the most part the single and multi-color hues give a renewed energy that would otherwise be ignored by eyes jaded by modern special effects.

The acting is typical melodramatic silent film, over-gesticulation style. Yet on only one or two occasions was it funny. Surprisingly, this film works and would have even without the ear-blasting soundtrack. *Metropolis* transcends time, changing sensibilities and standards, and even tampering. Then again, most masterpieces do.

(Ghirardelli Sq.) M. Lasky



Did George Lucas See This Film? A droid-like character looks on in a scene from *Metropolis*.

### One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Thursday, August 30: (Castro) Johnny Guitar. Joan Crawford all done up in black cowboy drag shoots it out with Mercedes McCambridge. Whatever Happened to Baby Jane.

Friday, August 31: (UC Theatre) Cher

was nominated for an Oscar for her role as Meryl Streep's lesbian roommate in *Silkwood*.

Saturday, September 1: (Strand) La Cage aux Folles I & II. Two funny, gay, Gay films about a middle-aged Gay couple who own a female impersonation nightclub, marry their son to the daughter of the minister of morals, and get on the wrong side of the mob.

Wednesday-Thursday, September 5-6: (Roxie) *Volcano: An Inquiry*

into the Life and Death of Malcolm Lowry, the writer of *Under the Volcano*, whose drug and sex life helped make the novel what it is.

Thursday, September 6: (Strand) Valley Boys and Broadway Boys. One can assume lots of boys, which in the Gay porn business means not retired. If you're old enough to want it, you're old enough to do it.

close-up. "This afforded the flailing actress an opportunity to show her flair for dialogue. 'Oh doctor, doctor, please hurry; this is an emergency.'" The subsequent stage show describes every member of the audience masturbating onto the female performer. Diana Dors called it "a memorable literary experience, appealing to people of all genital persuasions."

Naomi Eisenberg-Wong?

### TIDBITS

Do you know about Raggs, the new cabaret, restaurant, and open mike on 4th Street near Market? Your favorite performers are there.

The Castro Theatre's Dance Series has a wonderful rarity on September 5. The *Lovers of Teruel* combines ballet and surrealist style to tell the Paggiaci story — a troupe of gypsies live the story they present onstage, with a murderous love triangle climaxing in an incredible mad scene for ballerina Ludmilla Tcherina. Hysterics on pointe, with a beautiful score by Mikos Theodorakis.

J.F. Karr

### BABYLON

(Continued from previous page)

ingly funny memoir of Diana Vreeland (hardbound, \$15.95). D.V. is a woman who seems to say, not imperiously, "Let them eat cake!" but who asks in unfeigned surprise, "Don't they eat cake?"

D.V.'s wealthy origins and fashion dictates were her personal fantasies. Her whole life was her fantasy, and facts and dates don't cow her at all — she made it all fabulously up as she went along, and she makes it up again as she sets it all down. It's a truly inspirational book which had me laughing out loud at D.V.'s audacity, wacky perspective, and casual disregard for reality.

Without being a Lesbian, D.V. has written the gayest memoir since Auntie Mame. It's all italicized words, triple exclamation marks, non sequiturs, and a drag queen's gift for inventing a silky glamorous life out of the sow's ear of reality. D.V. it's called. Probably stands for DiVine.



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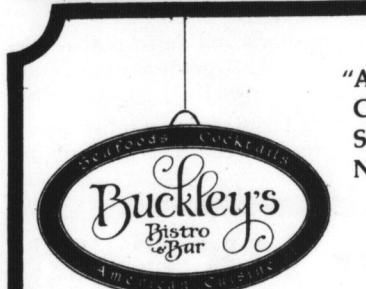
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## G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEFD

### Ambush Sweeps First Two Games at World Series

Paced by the incredible play of Glenn Burke and the outstanding pitching of Cliff Wilson, the Ambush won its opening games by identical 9-2 scores.

In the first game, against Southern New England, the San Francisco club scored early and often to defeat the Connecticut team. Led by the aforementioned Burke, who had a two-run homer, and Wilson's eight hit pitching, the Ambush won going away.

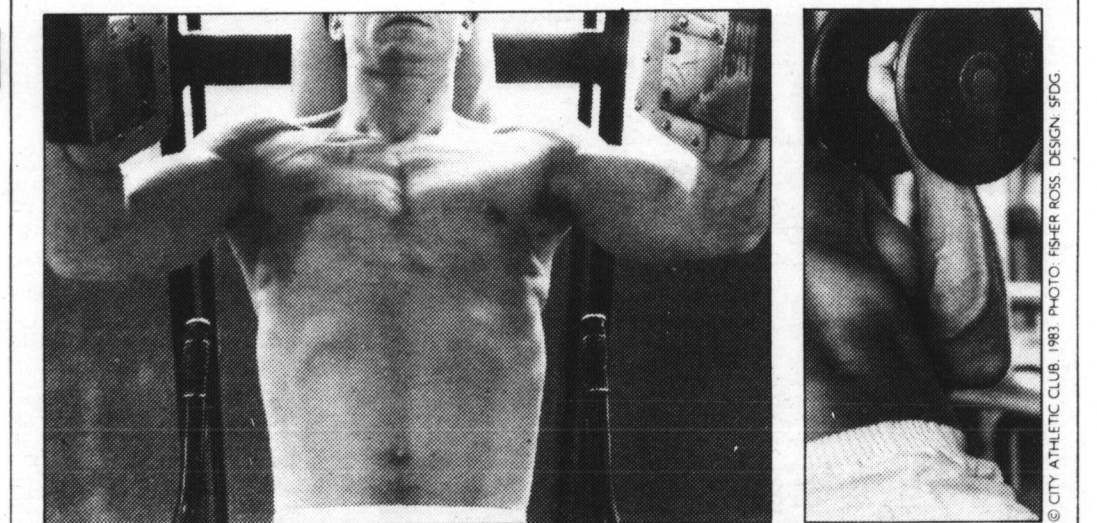
Having to play two games the first day due to the "luck of the draw," the San Francisco squad rose to the occasion to upend Long Beach by that same 9-2 score and another eight hitter by Wilson, with a little help from Sammy Migliaccio. The venerable Skip Anderson hit an inside

the park homerun to pace the hitting attack against the Southern California team.

Winning its first two games in the intense heat of Houston bodes well for the hometown team. Temperatures were in the high 90s under a blistering sun. We won't even talk about the humidity. The next game for the Ambush will be against the home team from Houston, Dirty Sally's. It could decide the eventual champion.

In other games played so far, Twin Cities defeated Los Angeles, Chicago over Birmingham, Atlanta routed Toronto, Boston blanked Dallas, New York edged Kansas City, Houston whipped Pittsburgh and Milwaukee and Seattle had not finished as of this writing.

(Continued on next page)



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## MR. MARCUS

### Carol Channing Visits South of Market

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, September 22, when Carol Channing will slip away from the bright lights of the Curran Theatre in Jerry's Girls to draw the winning ticket for the raffle of a 1984 Chevy Sprint (Only \$1) at the Golden Gate Business Association's Fifth Annual 22 on the Red party at the Giftcenter Pavilion on 8th and Brannan. This year, Cabaret Gold Award winner Jae Ross will warble his sweet tunes accompanied by the Frank Elliott Orchestra, and there'll also be a lavish buffet by Bon Appetit Caterers. Tickets will be on sale any day now and they're \$22 in advance or \$25 at the door for the extravaganza beginning at 8 p.m., with a special section on the sixth floor for high rollers. Incidentally, the fire engine red Sprint is from Val Strough, and Ms. Channing will be accompanied by — are you ready? — Wilkes Bashford! It's the night before the Folsom Street Fair, and you'll look just GRAND driving around in the red chariot if you're lucky enough to win. See you all there.

What might have been a dull weekend turned out to be quite a sweet affair because the SF GDI's held its Mid-Summer Madness in-town run last Sunday. The hearty checked in at the Ramrod at the UN-Goddy hour of Noon, and after cavorting around with bike competition and other shenanigans, convened in the patio of the SF Eagle where quite a few of the local populace were lambasted with whipped-cream pies, all in the name of Guide Dogs for the Blind. It was a gooey affair because Ms. Parkay, also the current Ms. Gay San Francisco, grabbed the mike and everybody got done in. I graciously picked up the gauntlet and let several "meanies" do their "thing" to the tune of \$250. I DID expect the California Eagles to get me, and they did — with CASH, this time. I hope Ms. Parkay is happy, but revenge is sweet, my dear.

## GAMUT FROM HUM TO DRUM

Well, it's Labor Day weekend, and things are happening all over town. Of course, the Blue Collar Bash at Chaps is the biggie South of Market with Tom Ammiano, Alicia Daniels, Jane Dornacker, Mary Buffett, Marga Gomez, Danny Williams, and Ms. Edith Massey scheduled for show-stopping appearances on the new stage MINUS the canopy. Mark Abramson has been working his tush off all these weeks lining up the entertainment. Tickets are still available at both Headlines stores, and you can save some bucks if you buy the \$12.50 ticket in advance and save yourself \$7.50. All the shows are at 10 p.m. with 75-cent cocktails from 8 to 10 Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Monday the show starts at 9 with 75-cent cocktails from 7 to 9. Over at the Arena,

they'll be having dancing, free cocktails, and lots of fun. South of Market WILL be festive if you're staying in town.

Applications are out for the Warlocks M/C M-TV run the weekend of September 14-16. The \$60 tariff includes booze, food, and the run show, and can be obtained in most SofM bars or by writing to PO Box 5820, SF 94101. . . The Knights of Malta Int'l M/C of Fresno will have its Assembly '84 run this weekend for \$75, which includes all the amenities, and you can get more info and applications by writing to PO Box 4162, Fresno, CA 93744.

The unique concept of oil paintings behind windows by Cecil Johnson is on display at Chaps until September 4. The paintings depict various men in various stages of undress peering at you from window frames, my favorite being the Pacific Heights scene. The show opened last Thursday and is a must-see if you're into high quality porno art.

San Francisco should be well-represented at the Annual Review of the American Uniform Ass'n, departing for Denver on Thursday, October 4. The Bay Area Brigade of AUA has launched an ambitious mode of travel, and it's obtained a private Pullman car of 34-year old vintage named "Mount Hood," part of a streamlined

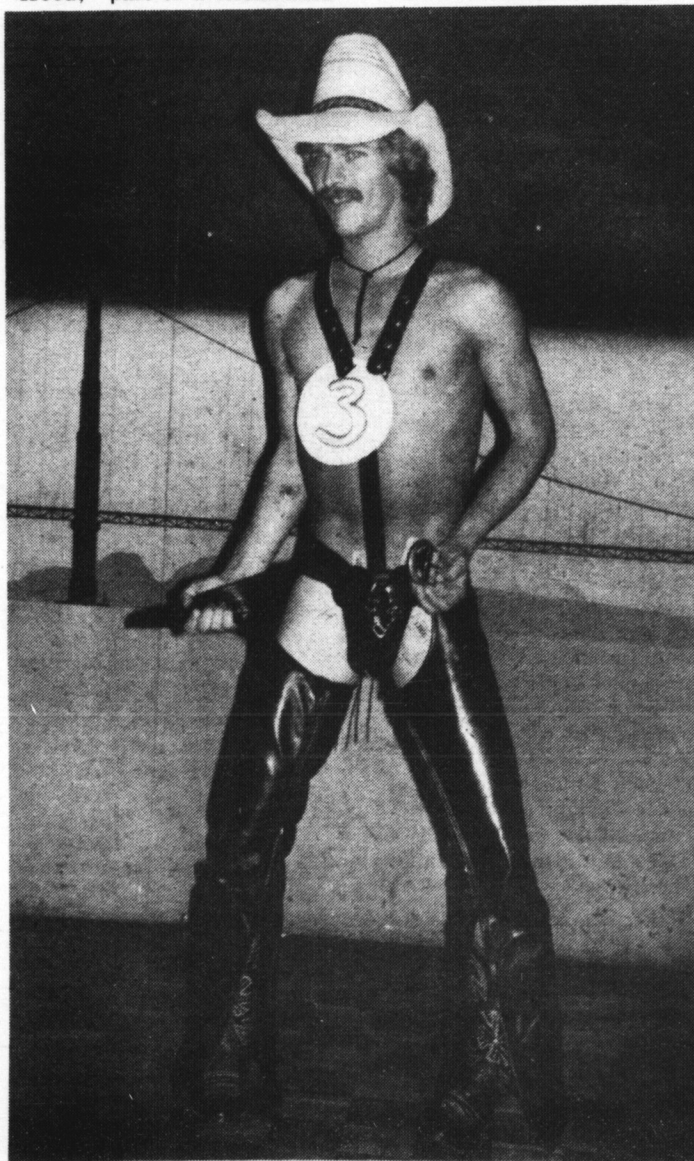
steam train. "The Louisiana Exposition Daylight." The group is offering five meals each way, drink, sleep, and partying on the day and a half plus overnight trip. The "Mount Hood" has its own kitchen, lounge, shower, and sleeping quarters — a self-contained rolling hotel, and you can stay on it while in Denver. There's still some space left, and even if you're not interested in uniforms or trains, this has GOT to be a fun event. The tariff: \$650 in advance or \$350 one way. All this and heaven too in the Mile High City.

They finally realized there's leather in So. California, so Interchain Int'l and Avatar are having this Mr. Silverlake Leather contest at the Gauntlet II on Sunday, October 7, as a fundraiser for Aids for AIDS in that city. Contact John Ferrari at (213) 413-2769 or write to him at 7985 Santa Monica Blvd., LA 90046.

Since safe-sex is de rigueur these days, you might want to avail yourself of Mercury Distributing's hottest new item, Manguard condoms, designed with YOU in mind (strong) at a paltry \$2 for three, by mail order only — call (415) 621-1188 for details.

## DOT, DOT, DOT, DISH

We are now in Dept. 16 of  
(Continued on page 34)



Fresh Meat. Just a week in S.F. and this cowboy is stripping at the End-Up's Jockstrap Contest. (Photo: R. Pruzan)



## BLACK LASHES

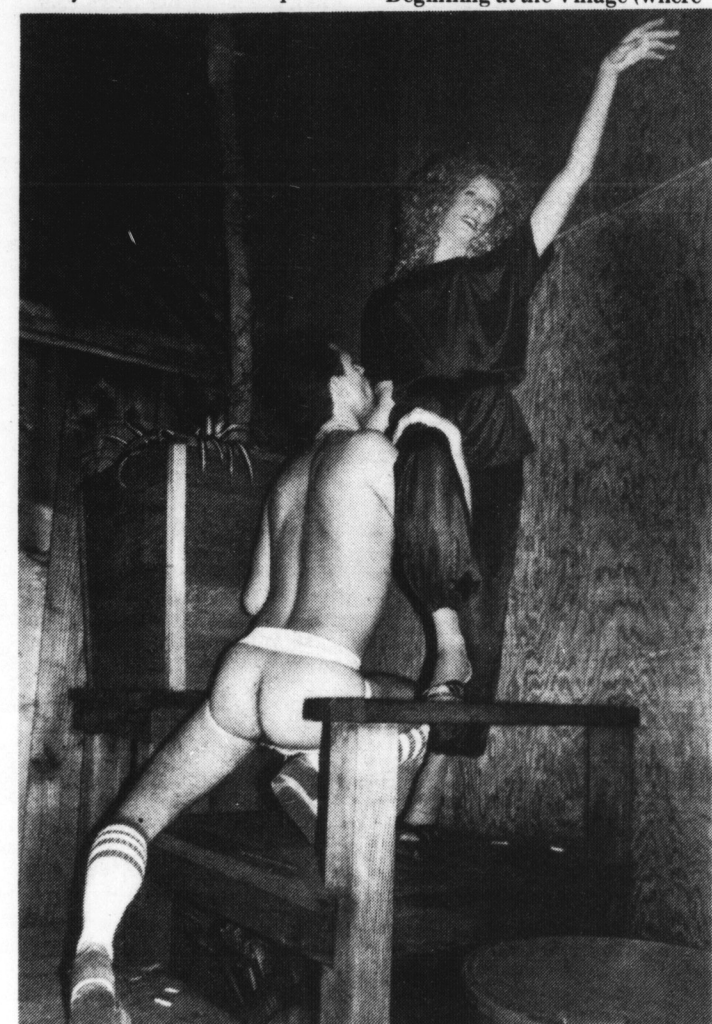
### Black Jack and the Cow Keeper

KARL STEWART

Now and then something extraordinary occurs in one corner of our land or another. In June, it was the Amazon Contest, whose tape a few were privileged to review last week at M&M Warehouse. This little coven was reminded just how brilliant, incisive, poignant and in some cases hilarious the contest was. Why then, did Miss Planters, the producer, wait two-plus months to show it. She didn't: Mark and Marv of M&M showed it out of frustration, brought on by the avalanche of requests

with whom Char consorts occasionally. Sissy Spaceout appeared in suit and hat, looking truly tasteful, Ron Ross (who even spelled his name out to me) and long time Kokpit regulars Obie and Lonnie, and Gene Blackburn (who is running for Mr. TG at the Tavern Guild Picnic mid September) were also there.

This seemed to be the week for birthday madness (as in join the . . .). Parkay was thrown a marathon 30th on Saturday. Beginning at the Village (where



Former End-Up Jockstrap Contest winner Buffy (r.) hears yet another plea from a contestant last week. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

It seems Phoebe was waiting for the Men's Room, (who had first viewing rights) to make the first move. Glad this wasn't a chess game. It would have lasted for years. The M&M viewing, by the way, was made pleasant by Miss Piggli's and KSK hors d'oeuvres, a full open bar by M&M and Francesca, and the kibitzing of GD Kitty and Joanna with "girl."

What happens when you throw a birthday party for a popular figure like Empress Char? You fill the Kokpit to overflowing with decadent and genuine friends and admirers from all parts of the community. Black Beauty supplied an enormous buffet, which included several baked hams and pasta salads, as well as beef stroganoff. Well wishers ranged from our own Empress and Emperor, Remy and Rich, to Emp I Ed Paulson, (ACIE) who has raised nearly \$4,000 which is dispersed directly to AIDS patients. All this in a myriad of small and mid-sized bar functions. Bravo!

Other visiting royalty were: Joey McThrew, Emperor Portland, Mr. and Miss Gay Bruce and Parkay, Grand Duke Michael, and the queen of the Village and Pilsner (and all of the Silver Strip), Gordon.

Now just to show you that the crowd wasn't all crowns and scepter swingers, there were some truly common people there

were only outshone by the bartender, Charles, swarthy in tux, tie and black leather pants. Of course, Miss Duster and Francesca dominated the porch and patio with a solid scream of dish. Best dressed was Miss Goldblatt in summer white lace, who later got it good at the SFGDI's bake sale/pie toss at the SF Eagle patio. In the living room Laura, Whiskey, and Kissy dished their own grade of dirt, and Reno Pete proved where he got his name at a nearby black jack game. The cutest couple award has got to go to Carry and Walter, who sacrificed their dining room drapes to make sun dresses and babushkas in shades of hospital green.

The SFGDI's one-day run "Mid Summer Madness" began at the Ramrod and ended with much pie and cake tossing in the Eagle patio, which now has a serious case of ants. This is a party where, like Flo's, the gang really gets down and cooks and bakes some beautiful food . . . GDI Prez Jonni Valle, however, forgot and bought a store brand to add to the fray.

The weekend ended at Danny Espinosa and Bill Ireton's smart flat for a tasteful birthday soiree in the twilight Sunday, making it, in the vernacular of Dorothy D, "A three gallon day."

## DISH DISH DASH

Next Friday Harry Britt and Tim Wolfberg are opening their re-election headquarters at 2185 Market (at 15th Street). The September 7 fete is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., and Tim and Harry welcome everyone, even Republicans.

Look forward to Tesse's wedding to Frank Poons and Tom Schulte Saturday, Sept. 15 . . . alllll daaaaay. It begins at 6 a.m. at the 222 Club, and ends with

(Continued on next page)

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MARK ABRAMSON, ENTERTAINMENT COORDINATOR  
PIANO COURTESY OF P. HASSMAN





Parkay enjoys her birthday party at the Village with Larisse (l.) and Dick Neill, one of the Village's owners. (Photo: Rink)

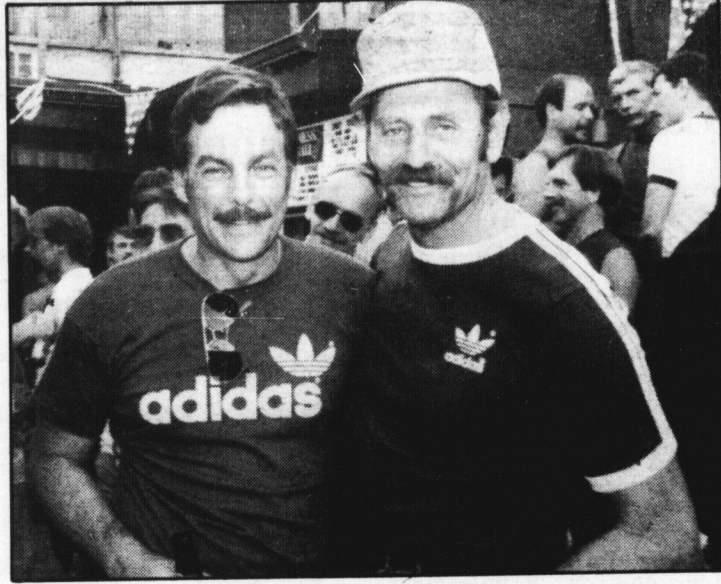
## MR. MARCUS

(Continued from page 32)

Municipal Court where Judge Herb Donaldson is presiding over a feud of sorts between the Queen of Potrero Hill and the Knave of Castro in a tiff that has grown to vicious proportions. It all started some years ago when they were billing and coining over each other. When one of our heroes one day proclaimed, "I have a new boyfriend and I don't ever want you to speak to me again," the beginning of the feud was assured. Now the Knave is facing 10 days in jail (after a guilty verdict by a jury), three years probation, and possible psychiatric care. On top of all that, a civil suit for \$100,000 is in the works, and it looks dismal indeed. This could ONLY happen in San Francisco, but stay tuned for the thrilling conclusion of "Hell Hath No Fury Like a Spurned (read: Spurred) Queen," the likes of which you will NEVER see on Straight Soaps.

Tessie, Tuffy, The Virgin, and Daedalus got drowned in beer and champagne last Sunday. They weren't at the Oasis, but in the Eagle's patio for a bike christening by owners Richard Tessier, Bruce Woodward, Jerry Downing, and Stephen Maidhof. Terry Thompson and Bob Bowling managed to make sure the bikes and everyone else within range got spurted with the bubbly and suds, with each given a spiffy commemorative plaque a la Jay Platt.

Sigma Delta Chi, the honorary journalism society, has awarded our own Randy Shilts an honorable mention in feature writing competition at the State Fair Media Awards for his contribution to the 12-page AIDS report in the Sunday edition of This World. Randy also got an



Double celebration for Len Hagen (r.), the much-decorated Viet Nam vet whose war injuries were finally taken care of by the VA, shown here celebrating with his other half, Tom Topp, who just learned he's on the Deputy Sheriff list of eligibles after taking the recent test. (Photo: Marcus)

honorable mention in feature writing for a story he wrote last year about his mother's funeral in Michigan, and I think congratulations are in order this time around... Seems as though no one believes that Butch Freeman's real name is Butch Freeman. In the obituaries last week, one each Clifford Newman was reported as a victim of AIDS-related complications and died. This prompted a flurry of phone calls all over town wondering if it was our Butch. No dice. Mr. Freeman is happy as a lark with his Ma Bell/PSA romance in Los Angeles and is currently weighing the advantages of moving down there or staying up here.

\*\*\*  
Quite a few men seem to think that the leather lifestyle, as it has been known in San Francisco, is slipping. Slipping away from the days when it was a closed camaraderie, close-knit group of leather men who were "into

leather" as opposed to just being "in leather." You know the type that are prevalent all over town: leather jackets with white Adidas or Nikes; leather chaps with designer jeans labels peeping out; leather as a costume instead of as a way of life. Coming now A Leather Town Meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 13, at the SF Eagle patio beginning at 7:30 p.m. The group will try to explore ways in which S&M, fetish, and dedicated leather men can bring back the enjoyment of their sexual, emotional, and tribal lifestyle and spirit. Flyers and posters will be out soon to remind you of the important date. For more information, call 861-3183.

\*\*\*

If you're not going out of town, camping, or just goofing off, have a good time here in town over the Labor Day weekend. There's plenty to do, so don't sit around feeling sorry for yourself. Get out there and interact. Have a sane and safe holiday, and until we meet here again next week, remember: MACHO does not prove MUCHO.

Mr. Marcus

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## LASHES

(Continued from previous page)

dinner at the Rathskeller at 8 p.m.

The Gift Center will be the venue of 22 On The Red, the GGBA's big charity fundraiser, Saturday, September 22 at 8 p.m. Stay tuned for more.

National Gay Network, our intrepid Gay "radiologists," have taken Jerry Semas into the fold as its entertainment editor. Jerry is the one behind the End-Up Jock Strap Contest, but is a man of letters where the entertainment industry is concerned. You can hear Jerry report, as well as all of the Gay news, on KALW-FM 91.7 (M-W-F) at 4:55 p.m. and on KALX-FM Berkeley (M-F) during its regular 5:30 to 6 p.m. newscast. Check it out.

Chaps has mounted a hot art show by C. Johnson titled "Windows." This unique show is framed in window frames of various shapes and sizes with fantasy men of various sizes and shapes. Very provocative. It will hang through September 4.

Jeanine of Tiger Trucking is our favorite moving lady. Her real avocation is that of an aspiring artist. You can spot her at the SF Women's Street Fair Sunday, September 2, on Valencia between 19th and 20th.

Keep your eyes on the North Star and your feet on the path. See Ya' in the Skins.

K. Stewart

## FRIESE FRAME

### Labor Day Festivities

MARK FRIESE

Labor Day Weekend is upon us, and even though I don't have a great knowledge of what this officially means to the people of the Holiday Committee of America, as we all must have realized by now it's just another Monday holiday that gives most of us a three-day weekend.

Probably your best bargain for fun and sheer enjoyment would be to take advantage of Gay Day at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire over in Novato. The monies from this event will benefit the parade committee, and information is yours for the asking by giving them a ring at 434-4623.

One other phone number that could prove worthwhile to people who like good company and hospitality would be PUBBRAT. This number will give you a direct line to the Spoiled Brat in Hayward, which is proudly celebrating its first anniversary. A three-day blast will be held, concluding on Monday.

Bon Voyage to the Kokpit's entourage, and good luck to the Alaskans who will be treated to severe partying from all those people journeying there for coronation weekend. How Char gets around so much at 50 years of age is beyond me. He managed to tell me that the Kokpit serves you a complimentary schnapps

with each drink you buy every Monday night, provided you have a Kokpit T-shirt or jacket on.

Parkay had a birthday at the Men's Room this past Saturday evening. When he admitted to being 30, one of the guests replied that he didn't look 30, but probably did when he was! Happy birthday Miss Gay.

Drums, at the Russian River, will feature "The Vocal Minority" this Sunday at 3 p.m. in the bandshell of Fives. Debbie Jacobs will perform at Drums Sunday evening. Drums Monday offering this Labor Day weekend will be Val Diamond at 3 p.m. on the green.

Back in the city for Labor Day weekend, it is suggested you get your tickets early for Chaps fun-packed weekend because it is all for you. From comedy to cabaret, you can enjoy it all for a \$12.50 package, which includes four nights. Those tickets are available from Headlines or Chaps.

Polking-my-nose in... Lucy is still loose at the White Swallow, and belated birthday greetings to Russ Glenn. Bev. and Babs barbecue weekends at the Cinch. Renegade is doing lots of promotion, and getting more involved, thanks to Jim, Steve, Dale, and staff. Q.T.

### Karl's Calendar

Thursday, August 30: Cowboy Party, Ramrod, 8 p.m. Candidate Floyd, MC's GD Michael and Trixie Trash.

Friday, August 31: Satyrs at Badger Flats, Run through Sunday, September 2, \$60. Includes everything.

Blue Collar Bash, Chaps, 10 p.m. featuring Tom Ammiano and Alicia Daniels, \$4, cocktails 8 to 10 p.m. 75 cents (beer and well), live DJ

Dance, Dance, Dance, Arena (private opening of Arena Disco 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. (invitation only) 10:30 pm

open to the public. Party through Sunday, 9/2.

Saturday, September 1: Blue Collar Bash, Chaps, 10 p.m., featuring Jane Domacker and Mary Buffet, \$5, cocktails 8 to 10 p.m., 75 cents (beer/well), Live DJ.

Sunday, September 2: Cheater Beer Bust, Village, 12 to 5 p.m., \$6. Includes food and beer.

Grand Ducal Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 3 to 6 p.m., \$6. Includes food, mud wrestling among council members such as Naomi Del Rey and Princess Sandi Sorrelles.

Goose Reunion, Freeways (1488 Pine

features Dan, R. Johnson, and some fine entertainment. Kimo's has got them dancing up a storm. New Bell will be hosting the farewell weekend for David Kelsey and Pure Trash September 16 and 17, Saturday and Sunday, with many of the former cast and crew in attendance. Polk Gulch has two for one cocktails Monday through Fridays with Dolly Dale and all the other P.G. Good guys to serve you. The Stallion is just as festive as ever, and Patty Party, Mitch, and the rest of their staff know about attitude adjustment. The Wooden Horse is still a favorite, and has lots of people in and out for you to check out.

Randy and Big "D" San Francisco's cowboy and cowgirl, invite you to their awards ceremony Friday, September 7 at 8 p.m. at the Village on 18th Street near Castro. They formally step down at the Rathskeller Saturday, September 8 at 7 p.m. Tickets for this are \$5.

"Heart and Soul," an entertainment benefit for the senior citizens lunch program, will be this Saturday evening at the Roadrunner starting around 8 p.m. This is presented by the King of Hearts of Northern California, Jim. \$3 donation.

Just a note in closing to say thank you Taco, Empress III of ACIE, for the tour of bars and buffets in Oakland Sunday night. The Lake Lounge may never be the same! Have a fun-filled holiday weekend, but make it a safe one.

-the old Wild Goose) 4 p.m., hostess: Mama Billy.

Monday, September 3: Tea Dance, Arena, 4:30 to 6 p.m. (invitation only); 6 p.m. open to the public.

Blue Collar Bash, Chaps, 9 p.m., featuring Danny Williams and Egg Lady Edith Massey (Pink Flamingos), \$5, cocktails with Edith 7 to 9 p.m., 75 cents (beer/well), live DJ.

Cowboy/Cowgirl Party, Kokpit, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, September 5: All Candidates Night, Kokpit, Cowpersons, 8 p.m.

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**11" x 7 1/2"**

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**Classified Deadline is Tuesday - Noon, Sept. 4**

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# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XIV NO. 36 SEPTEMBER 6, 1984 1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

## Campers, Newspapers Left Waiting In National Gay Travel Scheme

### State Investigates 'Wilderness Experience' As Newspaper Operators Seek 'The Contessa'

by Brian Jones

It sounded great. The ad looked inviting. And Joe Heckman of Stockton was having hassles at work with "an anti-gay jerk." He needed a break and thought he had found one when he spotted the full-page ad in the Bay Area Reporter for a "High Sierra Adventure — Gay Camping Trip."

Such a deal: Round-trip to the Sierras from San Francisco, tent, sleeping bag, and all meals, for just \$130.

"It sounded like just what I needed — a chance to get away and be with a group of other Gay guys," Heckman said last week. He began to get suspicious when he telephoned the trip organizer and was told to travel to San Francisco with a money order. "But the guy said I had missed the deadline to get in on the deal, so I agreed," Heckman said. The ad, in fact, had mentioned no deadline.

On Friday the 13th — July 13 — Joe Heckman had a friend drive him to Castro Street quite early. He was to meet the Wilderness Experience bus there to begin his High Sierra Adventure.

It was cold. "So I'm sitting there on Castro Street with this

backpack and all my gear, and I'm looking for this bus. An hour, two hours come and go," Heckman said. "Then this guy comes up to me, points to my backpack and says, 'Are you waiting for the Wilderness Experience trip? I was going on it, too. They called me an hour ago to cancel.'"

Joe Heckman isn't the only person left out in the cold by Wilderness Experience — also known as Weekend Safaris. It is a widening travel scheme that has drawn the nation's largest Gay newspapers and, potentially, hundreds of would-be campers. It has left behind a string of unreturned cancellation deposits, unpaid bills, bounced checks, and broken promises.



Gay Day at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire was gay indeed. For more pictures, see pages 13 and 14. (Photo: Rink)

(Continued on page 3)

## Northern Station Police Complaints

### Meeting Between Polk Street Area Station Captain and Community Set

by Allen White

Ongoing complaints of misconduct and harassment by police officers at Northern Station will be addressed next week at a meeting with the station's captain, Charles Schuler. Strained relations with city police stations are not new, but the approach to solve the problem is.

On Sept. 11 Schuler will meet with several community leaders to discuss the problems that are perceived in the area. Scheduled to attend from the police department will also be Officer Paul Seidler. The Community United Against Violence will be represented by Diane Christensen, Carmen Vasquez, Suzanne Gautier, and Hank Wilson.

Rev. James Sandmire, the pastor of the Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church, will join Wayne Friday, a B.A.R. columnist and bartender in the Polk Street area, in attending the meeting. Others representing merchants from the area are also expected to attend.

The meeting comes on the heels of a highly-publicized anti-gay murder on Polk Street and continuing concern regarding police action in the area. At a town hall meeting held last month at Old First Presbyterian Church, CUAU Director Diane Christensen said Northern Station leads the city in complaints against police officers at CUAU's office.

In discussing the meeting, Christensen also noted that there are particular problems in the Polk Street area relating to the differing needs of minority

youth, merchants, and residents.

The purpose of the meeting is not to create a confrontation. What is hoped is that a foundation for the development of an ongoing and consistent dialogue between Northern Station personnel and the community will be created. There was concern at the Polk Street Town Hall meeting that the police were not interested in the safety of citizens who live in the area.

It was noted that no person from Northern Station appeared at the meeting. Station personnel said it was never made aware of the meeting. Christensen said they were informed of the meeting, and that fact, in and of itself, underlines the need to open lines of communication.

A general consensus of the Polk Street Town Hall meeting was that there should be more foot patrols in the Polk Street area. At the same time, there is serious question about the sensitivity of the officers who patrol the area. It is a serious debate, though one in which there is general hope that groundwork will be laid at the meeting between police and the community which will be productive for the Polk Street area.

## Gay Int'l 'Hoax' Charged: \$1.7 M. Loss for Gay Investors?

### Fraud, False Claims, Illegal Stocks; Feds File Lawsuit - Board Resigns

by George Mendenhall

One Gay man and six of his straight associates appear to have bilked 4,000 investors — including many Lesbians and Gay men — out of a total of \$1.7 million. They perpetuated a colossal scheme that was promoted in misleading press releases. The firm — Gay International, Inc. (GI) — was put together in 1983 by a group of straight people in Salt Lake City, and a Gay Castro area real estate dealer, Alfred Cassidy, 73.

The federal Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), which had temporarily suspended GI's operation for 10 days in October of last year, has filed a 43-page complaint against GI. It is asking the court for a permanent injunction to halt GI from selling more stock. The SEC claims in its complaint that GI representatives continued to sell stock even during the October suspension last year. Since the allegations were made, all members of the GI Board of Directors have either resigned or been removed.

The SEC charges against the defendants include accusations of fraud and the claim that GI has been making untrue statements of GI's real status, performing illegal acts in the sale and purchase of stock, preparing and distributing false and misleading promotional material, concealed its income in personal accounts, and issued false and misleading press releases about the nature of the firm.

GI illegally sold or transferred an amazing 23,925,640 stock

shares to unsuspecting investors who saw the opportunity to make a killing in a new "Gay" enterprise that was not Gay at all. The promoters had said its first asset — Gay Areas Directory — had been expanded to include (later disclosed as greatly

over-valued) assets owned by Cassidy, and claimed GI was entering into numerous profit-making deals, none of which were realized. The SEC claims none of the assets of GI were ever evaluated by an outside source. (Continued on page 2)

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Books Banned in Britain, by Allen White . . . . . p. 5
- A New Column by Tom Horn, A Question of Law . . . p. 9
- AIDS Prompts Reform Among Speed Users, by Charles Lineberger . . . . . p. 10
- The Bay Area Reporter Book Review Special, starts on p. 20

GRAPHICS: PETER REANE