

BAY AREA REPORTER

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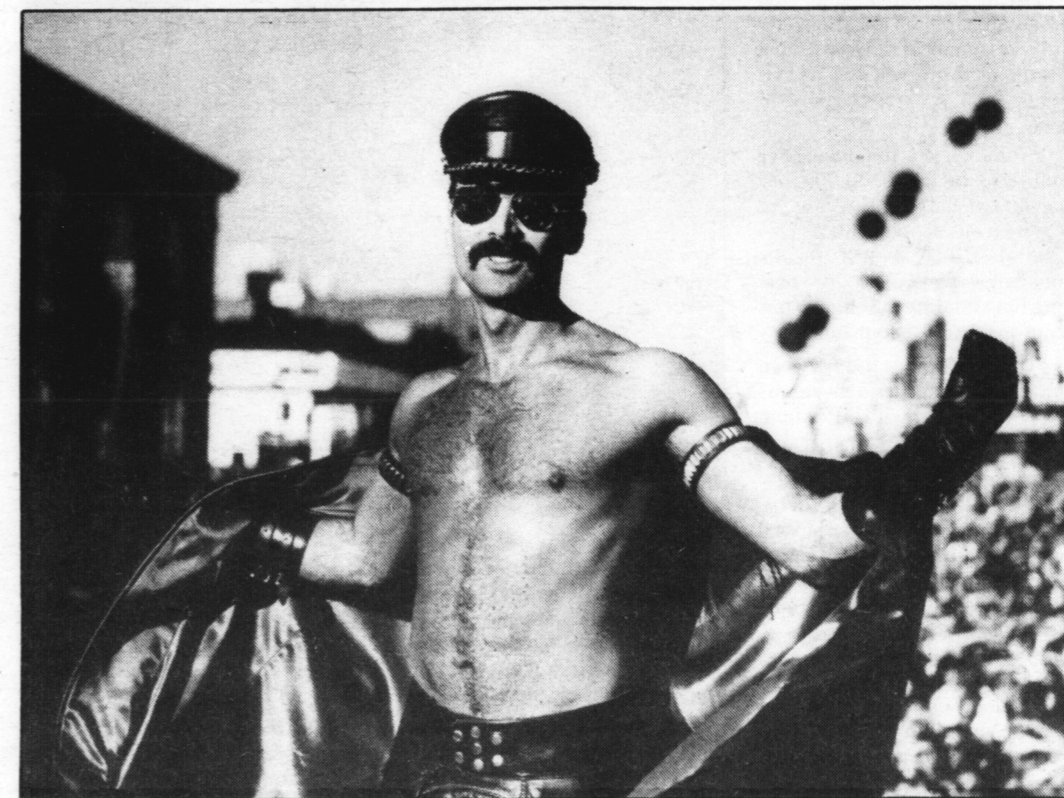
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 Full page of photos, story on p. 15.

Mayor Quizzes MDs On Closing Baths

Secret Meeting in City Hall; Is Silverman Odd Man Out?

by Brian Jones

Mayor Dianne Feinstein may have taken personal responsibility for an effort to close Gay bathhouses in the city. The Bay Area Reporter learned that Feinstein held a private meeting Tuesday afternoon with top AIDS experts — including Dr. James Curran, director of federal AIDS activity — in her office. The topic was AIDS and bathhouses.

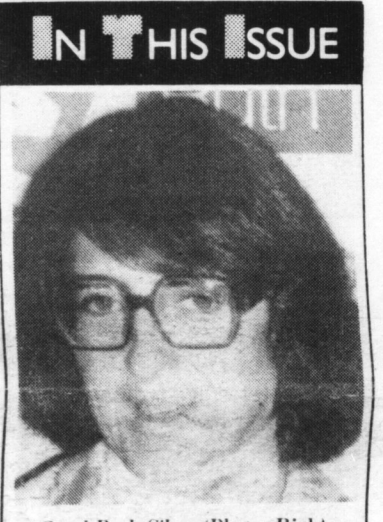
The mayor has publicly been calling for Dr. Mervyn Silverman, the Director of Health, to close the baths. Last week, Feinstein said on television she would try to act if Silverman did not. It remained unclear what powers the mayor could use to close the baths.

For her part, the mayor withheld comment. Press Secretary Tom Eastham late Tuesday confirmed the mayor's meeting with "senior AIDS experts from city hospitals" and confirmed that Curran, an official of the federal Centers for Disease Control, was present. Eastham said "bathhouses were mentioned," but declined to comment further.

Among those attending the mayor's meeting were Gay doctors who long have pushed for closing the baths as a response to the AIDS epidemic. One of the doctors, internist and blood expert Dr. Donald Abrams of the UC-San Francisco medical center, was interviewed as he left City Hall. He declined comment.

No one, it seemed, wanted the public to know what the mayor was planning.

Any action the city might take held the prospect of drawing nationwide attention to the controversy. As Feinstein fumed at Silverman, a group of about 500 civil rights lawyers rushed to review and complete a "white paper" of several hundred pages in length. The paper examines not only the legal issues of closing



Carol Ruth Silver (Photo: Rink)

Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver talks about her newest projects on the reelection trail. Dianne Gregory interviews Silver p. 10

Move over San Francisco — the world's new Gay capital may be West Hollywood. Voters will decide on creating a new city Nov. 6, and it promises to be a Gay place. George Mendenhall maps it out p. 11

A referendum to overturn Gay rights is blocked in Maryland — an historic first for Gay activism p. 13

John Karr talks to Jerry Herman's No. 1 fan, Jerry Herman, for a look at the man behind the show tunes p. 20

Feds Promise AIDS Privacy But Admit Insurance Risks

Gay-Rights Groups Negotiate Research Rules, Win 'Strict Confidentiality' — With Loopholes

by Brian Jones

The federal Public Health Service is urging researchers to provide a standardized "consent form" for participants in AIDS studies. The form assures research subjects that their test results "will be kept strictly confidential" — but includes two significant loopholes.

The form also promises that "no identifying information to any third party will be distributed without prior written consent."

The form raises the concern, however, that HTLV-3 testing could later cause job and insurance problems for those who take part. "It is possible that in the future, I will be asked about a positive test result by such organizations as insurance companies and/or employers," the consent form states.

The national effort to reassure test subjects follows the disclosure last month that the federal Centers for Disease Control had suggested a national registry of people who test positive to the antibody for HTLV-3 virus.

The disclosure made nationwide news, drew scathing criticism from Gay leaders, and presented a difficult conflict for the Gay community.

On one hand, Gay research subjects are critically needed for

AIDS research. Only such research will lead to an AIDS vaccine.

But on the other hand, lack of safeguards for handling AIDS research data subjects Gay participants to employment and insurance risks.

The first documented case of insurance company "dumping"

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued on page 4)



Baker Beach. A wide crescent of sand overlooking the Golden Gate and the Pacific beyond — and scene of 'fag-bashing.' (Photo: Rink)

Teen Won't Be Charged In Baker Beach Attack

3 Suspects Caught, Victims Cooperate, But U.S. Attorney Says 'Insufficient Evidence'

by Allen White

There were police reports. There were photos of the bloodied wounds and torn clothing of the two victims. And the victims cooperated with police. One of them, Jay Garza, described how he was kicked in the groin, punched in the ribs, and struck repeatedly in the face.

But, despite all that, U.S. Attorney Floyd Dawson has decided not to charge 18-year-old Joe Poetzl in a "fag-bashing" attack at the federally owned Baker Beach. The U.S. Attorney's office said there is "insufficient evidence" to prosecute Poetzl, who is the son of a reserve police officer.

(Continued on page 5)

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Feds Promise AIDS Privacy

(Continued from page 1)

related to AIDS was disclosed in New York City on July 25 at a meeting called to examine HTLV-3 testing. Paul Popham of the Gay Men's Health Crisis disclosed the case of a volunteer in a T-cell ratio study who later became disabled by a non-AIDS related disease.

The insurer canceled all coverage after reviewing the study subject's medical records, citing results of the T-cell test as evidence of a pre-existing condition.

Popham said the insurance industry, facing \$100,000 per person for AIDS cases, is eager to screen out people with AIDS. Use of HTLV-3 test results could allow them to do so — barring both healthy and ill persons from insurance programs.

"If the insurance industry can find relief from these enormous expenditures, it will," Popham said.

THE CONSENT FORM

Such concerns prompted meetings between Gay-rights groups and federal health authorities to explore the confidentiality issue. Three groups — the National Gay Task Force, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, and the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights — negotiated for a consent form to protect research participants' right to privacy.

That form was first distributed in mid-August to researchers in four cities, including San Francisco, who were launching a blood-bank based HTLV-3 study.

At the end of August, the national controversy over the suggestion of an HTLV-3 registry broke. The federal government was assailed by telegrams, letters of protest, resolutions by government boards such as the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and criticism from members of Congress.

Brandt widened his distribution of the new consent form, and on Sept. 5, sent it to federally supported AIDS researchers nationwide. "The importance of using such a form has again been brought to my attention," he said.

Brandt said, "We must urge all of our grantees and contract recipients to recognize the needs for confidentiality of participants in AIDS clinical studies, and to assure volunteers of our awareness of such needs — and our intent to honor that."

Gay leaders considered Brandt's move to be an important step in dealing with the AIDS confidentiality issue.

"It is probably unprecedented for an at-risk group to demand confidentiality protection before participation in research studies," said NGTF Executive Director Virginia Apuzzo.

"With so many questions still unanswered about the significance of a positive test for HTLV-3 antibodies, the potential for abuse of those results — using them to discriminate against those who fall into groups at risk for AIDS — requires that researchers make clear their commitment to confidentiality and that participants in research enter a study fully informed of the risk of participation," added Lambda Executive Director Tim Sweeney.

"What we're working toward is informed consent," explained Sweeney. Among the key provisions of the model consent form are:



At the Blood Bank, prospective donor interviews seek to ensure blood safety — while feds continue research on "AIDS test." (Photo: Rink)

- A commitment by the researcher to strict confidentiality with acknowledgement that certain authorities do have legal rights to identifying information under certain circumstances.

- A promise of prior notification before identifying information is shared with a third party.

- A clear statement that the significance of a positive HTLV-3 test is not known at this time.

- A warning that in the future employers or insurance companies may inquire about a positive test result.

- A full description of the study to be undertaken.

Because results from initial studies show that many healthy Gay men may test positive to HTLV-3 antibodies, the test can be seen as a "surrogate marker" for homosexuality. "There is a potential here for harm to our community," said Apuzzo. In 24 states, same-sex consensual relations are considered criminal.

Both NGTF and Lambda said they are pleased that the model consent form has been recommended for use in further studies in AIDS. However, the study just begun by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), which should not involve at-risk groups, will not use this consent form. Instead, the four participating blood centers — including Irwin Memorial Blood Bank in San Francisco — are giving their research participants a sharply amended consent form. Their shorter consent form leaves out the two important features Lambda and NGTF have lobbied for — prior consent and notification of risks to participants.

"It is legitimate for blood bankers to maintain a permanent deferral registry, but they need not indicate why a donor has been deferred for hepatitis, HTLV-3, malaria, and so on. Yet Curran suggested testing positive for the HTLV-3 antibodies might become a reportable disease — despite the fact that it is unclear what testing positive means."

"Suggesting the need for an interstate registry intensified our concerns about confidentiality," said Apuzzo. "The bottom line is that if this is a good blood test, then blood donations can be efficiently screened for the antibody. Other screening processes beyond that test — such as the interstate registry Curran mentioned — would be superfluous."

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the National Gay Task Force will continue to work together on this issue. The aim now is to urge local communities to request research agencies in their areas to adopt the model consent form recommended by Dr. Brandt, NGTF, Lambda, and the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights. ■

Donors who tested positive will be notified of the results and offered the opportunity for follow-up tests to give some indication of what the results

mean. Recipients of the "positive" blood will be notified and asked to participate in the research study along with a control group of individuals who received "negative" blood.

B. Jones

Big Bucks, Big Biz Stalk Castro Street

Gramophone Goes Under As Chain Stores Move In

by Allen White

Gramophone closed its doors for the final time on Castro Street last Monday night. It became the largest casualty in skyrocketing real estate prices that now dominate the Castro. Long-time businesses are disappearing, and the end of a unique community is in sight.

"It won't be tomorrow, but it's only a matter of time until we will be gone and there will be no small businesses," said Ian Ingham at the unique Gilded Age. As the news of Gramophone's closing spread through the Castro, speculation began about how much longer other small community businesses could hold out against the high rents.

Gramophone was forced out when its rent was reportedly doubled from \$2,000 a month to \$4,000 a month, with an escalation clause which would boost the rent in another year to almost \$6,000 a month. Owners Dean Stamatopoulos and Randy Wallace said it would simply be impossible to stay in business under the pressure of the rent.

Steve Scarborough, owner of The Good Provider, a health food store, was reluctant to discuss the rent problem until he signed his new lease last Monday. He acknowledged that he was lucky because he was fortunate to have a workable rent.

Scarborough made two specific observations. He noted that the pressures to do business are so heavy in the area that a business must maintain the absolute top management. This, he said, is why so many chain stores are moving into the area. He noted that Walgreen's, Crown Books, and Haagen-Dazs all have very

stringent management policies. There is no room for creativity any longer. The area is now highly business oriented. "The irony," he said, "is that the people who built up the neighborhood are now losing it."

One doesn't have to look far in the Castro to realize the truth of the statement. It began with Harvey Milk and his camera shop. He was forced out when his rent jumped from \$350 a month to \$1,250 in 1978.

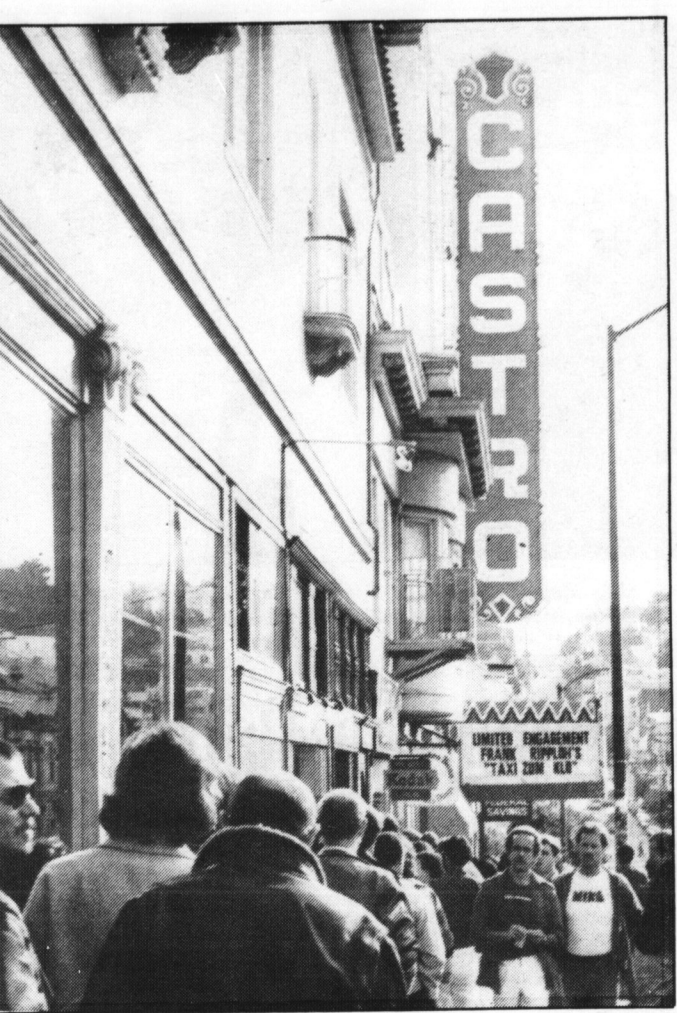
One observer said, "No matter how hard they try, Crown Books will never replace Paperback Traffic." Paperback Traf-

nigan to Sharon McNight. The police had to be called to control crowds the afternoon Grace Jones showed to autograph her records.

Monday night all that remained in the store were empty record racks and store fixtures. Dean and Randy will be putting all their effort into their Polk Street Store. It is their hope that with the opening this week of the Hard Rock Cafe, at Van Ness and Sacramento, there will be a new infusion of life into Polk Street.

Christopher Nisperos and his TotoFoto operation also moves from the location and will maintain a presence on the street to service his customers. Jaime Vega, who managed the video section of Gramophone, will be moving the video to a location at 691 Portola Drive near Tower Market.

With the character change of the business ownership comes the realization by the new "chain companies" that they need to adapt if they plan to be successful. As Hallmark has opened its Castro store, it has



Castro Goes Corporate as skyrocketing rents replace "main street" businesses with boutiques and chain stores. (Photo: Rink)

begun to stock Gay greeting cards certainly not found in its downtown stores. Walgreen's stocks sexual lubricants such as "Probe" and "Performance." The male-oriented magazines on sale at Crown Books certainly are not the same that are carried in Marin County.

The effect of all this appears to be that the Castro will continue to be the Gay Capital of the World — but managed by straight capitalists.

'The irony is that the people who built up the neighborhood are now losing it.'
 Steve Scarborough

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Headlines

SAN FRANCISCO

All expense paid trip for two to Disneyland (No purchase necessary)



She's Taking Charge. A determined Mayor Dianne Feinstein takes bathhouse issue away from Health Department and vows to close them — if she can. (Photo: Rink)

Closing the Baths

(Continued from page 1)

ing the baths, but also the medical evidence for doing so.

"Whichever way they go, we'll be in court," said Roberta Achtenberg, an attorney with the Lesbian Rights Project. "They will have to talk about what's going on in the bathhouses and they don't want to do that."

"It could be the most hotly contested preliminary injunction hearing in the history of jurisprudence — a real battle of the experts," Achtenberg said. "For every expert who would say there is a correlation (between the bathhouses and AIDS) we know of experts who say there is no correlation whatsoever. The facts are in conflict, at best."

If Silverman uses his state-granted power of quarantine, lawyers are ready to file an injunction to block him, Achtenberg said.



Roberta Achtenberg (Photo: Rink)

If Silverman or the mayor tries to close the baths without using the quarantine power, they will have to go to court. And in any court hearing, those opposing bathhouse closure would be given required notice and an opportunity to state their case.

Silverman "could sign something right now and close the baths — but whether a court would overturn is another problem. The legal precedence is sketchy," Achtenberg said.

For Achtenberg — a lesbian lawyer and gay rights activist — there is no personal stake in the bathhouse controversy. But she and the lawyers working with her believe, she said, that "the civil rights consequences are enormous... the potential implications of it (baths closure) happening here are enormous. If it is accomplished, then the mayor has sent the message, in her victorious crusade, that gays are weak and vulnerable."

The Director of Health, on the front lines of the battle for the baths since April, retreated to silence this month. He asked for two lawyers from City Attorney George Agnost and so the medical effort took a legal turn.

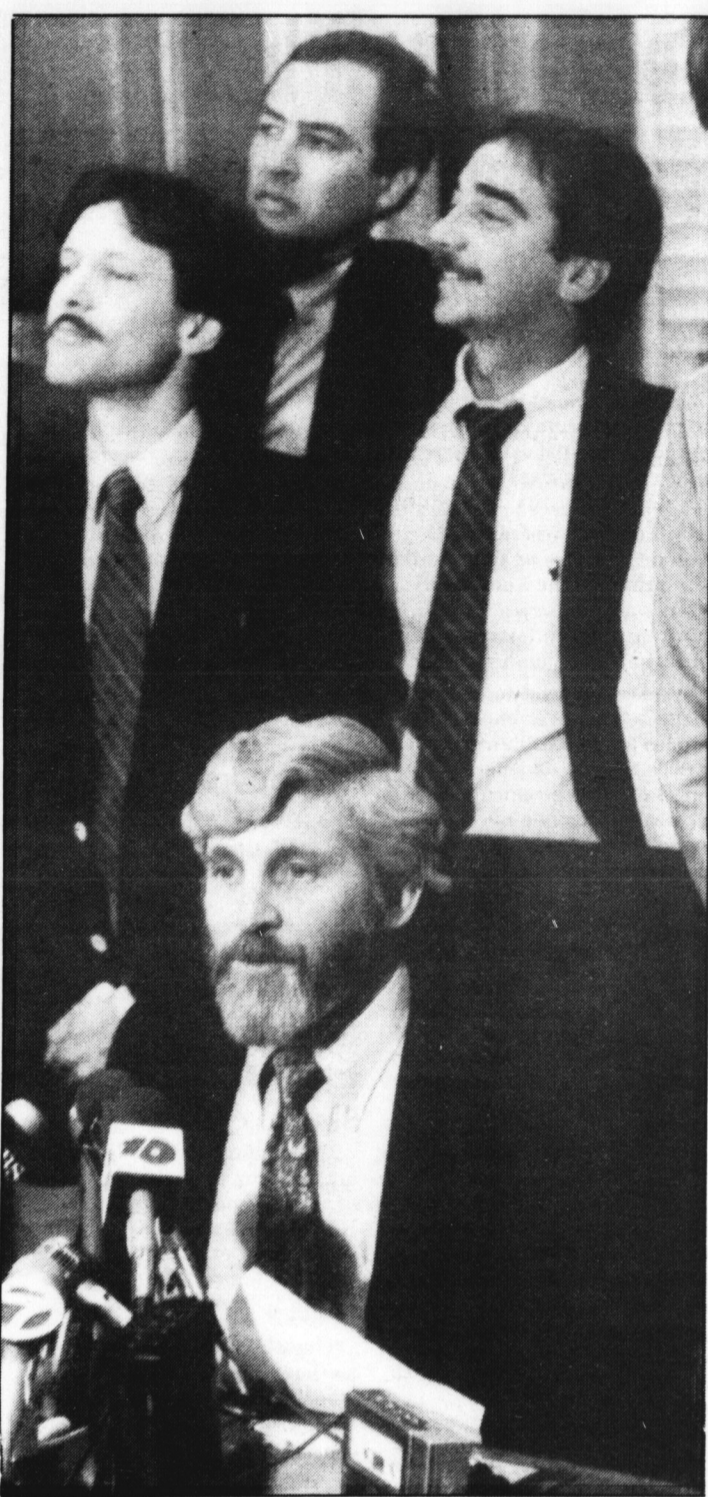
Headlines earlier this month heralded the closure of the baths but nothing happened. The story, leaked from the mayor's office, was seen by some as a tactic by Feinstein to put more pressure on Silverman. Whatever the reason for the erroneous headlines, the news they heralded was not to be.

In response to the headlines, Silverman issued a statement Sept. 13. He said, "There have been a number of comments by others indicating a course of action to be taken by the Director of Health with regard to AIDS. As I have made no public statement indicating that a specific decision has been reached, I would like to summarize my present position." Silverman said he was considering three options:

- Continuing to try to institute his "sex ban" regulations. To do so, he would have to submit the rules to the police department, and the police would be required to hold a public hearing.

That was the strategy in June — but Feinstein canceled the hearing. She said she feared it would be a "media circus," especially coming on the eve of the Democratic National Convention.

The "sex ban" must go to the police because the police still have the responsibility for regu-



Gay AIDS Experts. Doctors Robert Bolan, Paul Volberding, and Donald Abrams among those urging bathhouse closure. They are shown here in April photo as Health Director Dr. Mervyn Silverman announces ill-fated "sex ban" ordinance. (Photo: Rink)

lating the baths. That is a power Silverman sought to have transferred to himself. But the transfer was rejected by a Board of Supervisors committee.

- Close "facilities which encourage multiple anonymous sexual contacts among high-risk groups," Silverman said "individual rights are an important consideration" but "we consider health to be the uppermost priority."

Silverman could take this action on his own, using his state-granted power of quarantine. But he would be certain to face a legal challenge. "It is important our actions not be reversed by the courts... the ultimate goal is to effect a reduction in the spread of AIDS, not just make an empty gesture."

- Silverman's third option is the only one which seems to offer a new strategy — and then, only by reading between the lines. "Encourage the affected community to take action with regard to the sex clubs, bathhouses, and other establishments which facilitate sexual behavior," Silverman stated.

Silverman said facilities which do not comply with agreed-upon "safe sex" guidelines would be closed — not by the city, but by community pressure. "Concerted efforts by the gay community to close all remaining facilities which foster unsafe sex practices would have significant impact extending beyond the objective of closure itself."

How would that work? As Silverman kept his silence, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation was quietly gathering political clubs, bathhouse and sex club owners together to agree

upon a community response to AIDS (see accompanying story).

Said AIDS Foundation Executive Director Jim Ferels, "Silverman and I talk on the telephone almost daily." In addition, Ferels has sent Silverman written updates of the community anti-AIDS program.

The progress of that community program may have been a reason for Silverman's continued delay. But as the mayor grows impatient — and more determined to close the baths — the biggest question became: Who's in charge of the bathhouse issue, Feinstein or Silverman?

B. Jones

AIDS Conference Set For Saturday In Burlingame

Peninsula Addicts and Alcoholics Together (PAT) is co-sponsoring a forum, "AIDS and San Mateo County Residents," Saturday, Sept. 29, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the PAT Center, 139 Primrose Road, Burlingame.

Topics will include how AIDS is diagnosed and treated; AIDS as a governmental problem; blood donations; AIDS and the recovering alcoholic or addict; public medical resources; personal insights into AIDS; and AIDS as a community problem.

For more information telephone Mark Stadelman at the PAT Center, 348-4114.

Community Plan To Regulate Baths

AIDS Foundation Organizes For Standards and Pressure

by Brian Jones

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation has been quietly organizing this month to establish "minimum AIDS-prevention information and hygiene standards" for sex-related businesses. The aim is to create standards supported by a majority within the gay community, then use community pressure — up to informational picketing — to persuade sex businesses to comply.

In proposing the community approach, the foundation's new executive director, Jim Ferels, has taken the lead in trying to forge a nongovernmental approach to the bathhouse issue. Ferels said in an interview he hopes to have agreement and cooperation from bathhouse and sex club owners on the AIDS prevention standards, so confrontation would be unnecessary.

Dr. Mervyn Silverman, the city director of health, has been watching the AIDS Foundation effort with interest. Ferels has regularly reported on the progress of the plan to Silverman. The foundation's community action plan may be one reason why Silverman has delayed on ordering a bathhouse closure.

"It is critical that a broad cross-section of the community be involved in coming up with the standards, and that the owners be involved," Ferels said in an interview.

Ferels met Sept. 4 with leaders of the city's four gay political clubs. Present were Sal Rosselli of the Toklas Democratic Club, Mark Coulter of the Milk Democratic Club, Chris Bowman of Concerned Republicans; and Paul Boneberg of Stonewall Democratic Club.

"I'm not sure this group was totally representative of the gay community, but I had to start somewhere," Ferels said. "Generally, there was more agreement than not — which amazed most everyone."

Ferels circulated a draft of suggested AIDS education and hygiene standards for bathhouses, sex clubs, bookstores, and porn theaters. Among the proposed standards:

- AIDS prevention posters and warning signs, designed by the AIDS Foundation, prominently posted in each room throughout the facility.

- AIDS prevention literature distributed to each patron upon check-in.

- Public-service AIDS warnings announced on the facility's public address system every 30 minutes. One example: "The management of (name of facility) warns our patrons that AIDS is a sexually transmitted disease and is a very serious health threat. More than 250 Gay and Bisexual men in San Francisco have already died of AIDS. Please avoid any activity that would result in the transfer of body fluids from one person to another. AIDS prevention information and free condoms are available at the desk. Please protect yourselves and each other from AIDS." There would also be video public service tapes for those facilities with video monitors.

- AIDS Foundation or other groups may staff AIDS information tables within the facilities at any time.

- Minimum lighting levels of no less than five footcandles 30 inches from the floor — bright



Jim Ferels (Photo: Rink)

enough to read an AIDS brochure — would be maintained throughout the facility.

- Showers, towels, and soap dispensers would be available to patrons at no charge, plus a locker in which patrons can lock belongings while showering.

- Free condoms and personal sized lubricants will be distributed to all patrons upon check-in.

How would standards be enforced? Ferels said the AIDS Foundation and other groups supporting the program would work with sex business owners to implement the standards.

Those businesses meeting the standards would display a sign at the front entrance stating, "We comply with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Minimum Health/Education Standards." The sign would be removed if the business subsequently failed to meet the minimum standards.

Businesses which refused to cooperate with the standards would be the subject of a community boycott. That is the role of the political clubs in the community action plan. The clubs would organize informational picketing at businesses which did not comply, and actively urge patrons to stay away.

That tactic was the most controversial of the plan. One pol who attended the Sept. 4 meeting said, "There's no difference between Silverman shutting a bathhouse and doing it by economic pressure, like a boycott."

Ferels disagreed.

"The standards would not close the establishments, nor place undue financial burdens on the owners, nor regulate individual conduct of the patrons. The standards would only ensure that the sex establishments provide minimum hygiene and AIDS prevention information, so that they would be safer places, and so that safer methods of sexual expression could be encouraged."

So far, three of the four political clubs have endorsed the community action plan in principle. Toklas club representatives did not attend a follow-up meeting on the plan which took place Sept. 13. There is another meeting set for today, Sept. 27, to finalize the plan.

Feds Drop Fag-Bashing Charge

(Continued from page 1)

Poetzl's two friends are minors. They will be charged, not by the federal government, but by the city. The U.S. Attorney's office has a far more lenient attitude against anti-gay violence than the city does.

This is the same federal office which, last November, chose not to prosecute Dan White on civil rights charges stemming from the assassination of Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone.

According to the police report, the two groups spent time together on Sept. 2 at Baker Beach talking and smoking marijuana. As Jay Garza and his friend Jeff Smith were leaving the picnic area, they were attacked by Poetzl's two friends. Both are under 18 and can't be publicly identified. A fight took place as the two kids attempted to steal Garza's knapsack. According to the police report, the gray pack was thrown to the suspect, Joe Poetzl, who fled with it. The other two teenagers then fled the scene.

Joe Poetzl, said the U.S. Attorney, "just didn't sound like the kind of case where we needed to keep a kid who had just turned 18 over the weekend at the city prison." He was found hiding in the bushes behind the Presidio's Reserve Center by police.

The two juveniles were quickly captured by police and turned over to juvenile court.

The Bay Area Reporter this week talked with the parents of all three suspects in the case. Poetzl's father would neither confirm nor deny that he was a

police officer. The U.S. Park Service and several city agencies have confirmed that he is a special reserve police officer. He is not a member of the San Francisco Police Department.

In Washington, D.C., Congresswoman Sala Burton became aware of the incident. She has demanded that her local aide, Bill Kraus, determine why this incident on federal property has been so quickly dismissed. Kraus said that Congresswoman Burton was outraged.

case against the two juveniles.

One parent contacted by the B.A.R. was relatively calm in discussing the incident. According to the parent, their plan is to accuse the victims of attempting to make sexual advances against their children. This is commonly known as the "homosexual panic" defense.

The B.A.R. discussed this specific point of gay attitudes with the Park police who arrested the three. They stated that the three teenagers never

'With all the evidence before him, attorney Dawson didn't even allow the case to go to court. It's simply disgusting.'

DA Investigator Ron Huberman

Kraus said, "Congresswoman Sala Burton and her late husband Phillip Burton didn't fight to gain these park areas to see them turned into a playground for 'fag-bashers.'"

District Attorney Investigator Ron Huberman questioned the Fed's handling of the case. He said, "The U.S. Attorney didn't even bring the case before a judge. With all the evidence before him, attorney Dawson didn't even allow the case to go to court. It is simply disgusting."

The case against the other two, the juveniles, will be tried in the San Francisco courts with the first hearing next month. Huberman has all the evidence, which currently is confidential, and which will be used in the

mentioned anything about being sexually propositioned.

One of the more gratifying parts of San Francisco's criminal justice system is the failure of the "homosexual panic" defense to work. It has been tried several times in the last year in cases ranging from the petty to murder. Juries have not believed it.

In spite of the capture of these three, anti-gay violence continues at a rapid rate in San Francisco. Community United Against Violence received ten reports of attacks against gays over the Labor Day weekend. It was pointed out that this figure represents only the violent acts where an actual report was made.

A. White

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VIEWPOINT LETTERS

It's Time to Act Against Fag-Bashing

Christian soldiers are on the march. They bivouacked Tuesday at City Hall. Statewide, they have launched a massive first strike of letters aimed at the governor's office. As usual, Gay people are the target.

The issue is fag-bashing, and how society may respond to its threat. Two sensible measures — one local, one state — are wending their way through the system. Both are wise, because they address more than the results of anti-Gay violence. They address its cause: bigotry and hatred.

Neither is getting much help from Gay leadership. We are in danger of losing one bill. And we are emboldening our foes here in San Francisco by our lack of response on the other.

The state measure is Assembly Bill 848, which strengthens the legal ability of Gays and Lesbians (and the elderly and the disabled) to protect themselves from violence. The victims of such acts could sue for \$10,000 if they could show the attack was based on their sexual orientation, age or disability. It would also allow lawsuits for court protection from patterns of violence, threats or intimidation.

The bill wandered like a lost puppy through San Francisco and, finding no sponsor or interest here, ended in the hands of Tom Bates (D-Oakland). Bates capably guided the bill through the legislature. Our Gay political clubs were silent.

It passed anyway — by a hair-splitting one vote in the Senate. The governor has until Sept. 30 to act. Fundamentalists letters are pouring into his office. Gay support for the bill has been slight.

The local measure is Supervisor Richard Hongisto's bill to keep city workers who "espouse hatred" of groups such as Gays from working on matters involving those groups. The bill was prompted by the assignment of a "Cop for Christ" to the John O'Connell murder case.

Tuesday, when the bill passed committee 3-0, there were more than 50 fundamentalists on hand. Sixteen of them spoke. There were six Gay people in the room. Five of them spoke. Only one, Diane Christensen of CUAV, represented Gay leadership.

Where is the leadership? Where is the lobbying for these measures? To be sure, the Toklas and Milk clubs have passed resolutions supporting both measures. But those resolutions smack more of opportunism than activism. The Bates bill was endorsed after it passed the legislature!

Everybody says they're against violence — it's an apple-pie issue. But there's a difference between jumping on a bandwagon, and getting out to push one on an uphill climb. The bill needs a push from every person reading these words.

The governor has until midnight Sunday to sign AB 848. So far, public sentiment — swelled by fundamentalist fury — is overwhelmingly against the bill. This is the same force which helped to bury AB 1. It is time to act against fag-bashing, and there is indeed something each one of us can do today.

The governor's public comment telephone line is tabulating calls on AB 848. Call the governor's office today and urge him to sign AB 848, the anti-violence bill, by Tom Bates. Here's the number:

(916) 445-2841

We may lose the Bates bill, and we may lose it in days. Call the governor now. If you get a busy signal, keep trying — and know that others, like yourself, are taking action to end anti-Gay violence.

Brian Jones

United Way and Gays

Once again, the United Way Campaign is vigorously seeking support from all residents of the Bay Area, and again this year, I am dismayed not to find, as in the past, a listing of Bay Area organizations that are designed to meet the needs of Gays who could also benefit greatly from community support.

I note that United Way lists organizations specific to many groups in the Bay Area, and targets people with particular problems. United Way does seek to address many of the groups in the Bay Area deserving of help; however, why, once again, were Gay organizations, especially those directed towards helping our people with AIDS, left off the official printed contribution list which is distributed with each packet of materials? True, I can designate any organization I wish on optional donor cards, but I would like to see Gay organizations listed publicly — not closeted away.

By excluding any listing of Gay organizations, I strongly feel that United Way does, in fact, make a political statement, and considering the numbers of Lesbians and Gays in San Francisco, such an omission cannot be a matter of sheer oversight.

W. Bacon
San Francisco

Boom Boom on the Faire

I am so truly regretful that Joe Marino had to encounter homophobia during his Gay Day at the Faire. Indeed, I am regretful anytime anybody has to deal with homophobia anywhere. I had faced an ugly little bit of it myself while at the Faire Saturday making preparations, and also during the Gay Day benefit for the Parade Committee.

Nonetheless, I pray that he will reconsider his statement that he will discourage his friends from attending future Gay/Lesbian/Bi Pride benefits at the Faire. Perhaps after seven years in the Castro he has forgotten some of what the outside world is like. It is so easy to be "Gay and Proud" in a Gay ghetto and forget the challenges to Gay pride in a less protected setting. Indeed, the strongest expression of Gay for Lesbian or Bi pride is to be who you are without shame or rancor when faced with homophobia. In this you demonstrate true pride to the people who need most to see it.

I will be at future Gay Days at the Faire and I hope that Mr. Marino, all his friends, and you, dear reader, will join me. I cannot and will not promise you that Novato and the Renaissance represent epitomes of acceptance, nor would I dream of asking you to pay to be insulted. I do ask that you join in such gaiety as exists in that setting, not only to help the Gay/Lesbian/Bi Pride Parade Committee, but to demonstrate that pride to people who need to see it.

St. Boom Boom
San Francisco

Check Your Facts

Black and White Men Together wonders where Mr. Marcus uncovered his "information" about why Sept. 16 customers of the SF Eagle were greeted by BWMT. He certainly didn't get it from anyone in BWMT; he certainly didn't get it from reading the flier we were distributing. To set the record straight, we were not picketing — we were distributing informational leaflets. We never asked anyone to stay out of the bar. The leaflets were not addressed to a situation specific to the Eagle; they were identical to the fliers we distributed at Sutter's Mill, Twin Peaks, Phoenix, Badlands, and Midnight Sun. The same fliers will be distributed at more bars in coming weeks.

Mr. Marcus reports a recent Eagle decision to hire a White man after a Black man refused the job. BWMT knows nothing of this alleged fact, but we find the story as interesting and as unbelievable as SF Eagle manager

Terry Thompson's statement to us that day that he doesn't discriminate — he has an Italian bartender and a Puerto Rican DJ. He also said that no Blacks ever applied for a bartender job, and that it had been more than three years since they had had a bartender vacancy.

Over the past 2½ years BWMT has repeatedly raised the issue of discriminatory employment practices. We documented the reality. We took the issue to dozens of Lesbian/Gay groups and gained their support. The many community groups took the issue to the city's Human Rights Commission, which conducted an independent investigation, held public hearings, and issued a report confirming the existence of discrimination and making some recommendations for voluntary change. Throughout this time the Tavern Guild and individual bar owners have refused to participate and have remained silent.

Bar owners clearly have no intention of changing their policies. BWMT has no intention of abandoning the issue. Incidents of confrontation will become more frequent. We hope that Mr. Marcus and other reporters will do a better job of checking the facts.

To answer Mr. Marcus' question if anyone can please anyone anywhere anytime these days, BWMT says "Yes!" We would be pleased if the owners of San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay businesses would join in the community's efforts to end discriminatory employment practices. The first step is to call Jackie Winnow at the Human Rights Commission.

G. Stuart Gillespie
Thomas D. Horan
Co-presidents, BWMT
San Francisco

It Could Be You

The Gay community has been secretly singing a song from West Side Story for years. It has almost become a prayer — the song "There's a Place for Us." In this song it says that there is a place and time for all of us.

The people who talk for the "community" (Note — I didn't call them leaders) say that San Francisco is the place and now is the time. This is fine when we really mean it.

It would be right if we could start acting like a community and not a group of small, back-biting, backstabbing, BSers spending a lot of time looking for someone — anyone — to blame anything they can on that person or group.

Just who is your favorite one to pick on today? Leather people, clones, drugs, Lesbians? People from: Polk, Castro, Haight, Folsom? Long hair, tileholders, Mr. Marcus, Wayne Friday, Rink, Mel (MP) Wald, Castro Street Fair Committee, religious groups, etc., etc., etc.

I just ask that you remember that you not only fit into one of these groups, but other people are going to use you to blame for something sooner or later.

MP Wald
San Francisco

Letter Policy

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter — this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

LETTERS

Making a Connection

After more than three years of work, 12 photographic exhibitions, and five performances, it was nice to see something about the work I am doing outside of the columns or X-rated section. I appreciated the pre-article by Adele Prandini and the centerfold calendar photograph. Thank you.

There is some information that I would like to add to Bernard Spunberg's commentary on Connections. The performance piece came out of a desire to talk about and deal with the times that we are living in — the fact that our friends are dying and things are changing. This was in our press release, program notes, and directly stated in many of the sections of Connections. Either Bernard missed it, didn't feel it was important, or didn't want readers to know it.

I think Bernard's commentary to be a sincere and honest gut reaction to what he saw. Still, I feel the men and women who put together and produced Connections, and Theatre Rhinoceros, deserve more credit and more respect for trying to speak to the times we live in — and being willing to take risks and put their hearts on the line. Regardless of the symbols used, Connections was a theater event with structure and flow, and deserved to be "reviewed" on basic theatrical elements.

As far as the fact that Bernard "cringed in fear and pain" because Bill Browning has piercings, tattoos, and ritually dressed himself, these are not signals from a distant planet, but customs of earth people that appear in almost every culture and every time period. Many San Francisco Gay-men and Lesbian women have piercings, tattoos, and ritually costume themselves. The fact that a 1984 urban Gay man sees these traditions as "signals from a distant planet" at a time when our lives are being turned upside down is an important statement. Bernard's obsession with Bill Browning indicates that we did connect and quite strongly. We just touched tender spots that Bernard doesn't want touched. Like Bill Browning's and Carla Wood-Saivere's pieces on his mom and her dad, the question is how do we make connections, how do we come together with love and support even when people build barriers because they are afraid?

Mark I. Chester
San Francisco

Is That You, Dan?

Dan White did not go to prison. He really went to a clinic, had a sex change, and has come back as Wendy Nelder.

Jim Cvitanich
San Francisco

Individual Rights

I never cease to be amazed by Mr. Duke Armstrong and his band of zanies who, for reasons that escape me, choose to call themselves Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights.

Now, Mr. Concerned Armstrong and others in his coterie have voted to withhold support from Harry Britt because of, among other things, Harry's "secret association with socialist demagogues" (B.A.R., 20 Sept. 84). Does Mr. Concerned Armstrong consider his open association with right wing demagogues any less odious? I, for one, do not. Further, I am sickened by Concerned Republicans for Individual (i.e. their own) Rights and that group's support of the right wing, elitist, war-mongering, bible-thumping, money-grubbing extremists whose "concern" for the rights of the individual extends only to those individuals whose political beliefs are in line with their own.

Charles Godwin
San Francisco

Pageant Phooey

The Hollywood flap reported on P. 19 of the Sept. 13 issue, on the pageant winner who was suspected of being a straight in a Gay contest, added just one more irritant to the unwanted stock that has been growing in my consciousness for some time. Coming after the Vanessa Williams absurdity and just before Miss Antiseptic from Utah was named the new Miss America, this mess confirmed an idea that really occurred to me some time ago: all such contests are worse than idiocy.

Who are these people to be rewarded so lavishly? Or rather, why should they be rewarded more than Nature has done already? That dude in S. Calif. got a new Pontiac! For what? The whole issue of his sexual orientation aside, what did he do to win that new car? Did lucky genes entitle him to such a prize — or any prize?

Okay, so some of that musculature might have been achieved only because he spent hours at the Nautilus. That work got him a stronger, healthier body. That is a reward in and of itself, to say nothing of the advantage it gave him in sex appeal. Never mind whether he wants to attract guys or chicks — or even both.

Recent psychological data is loaded with evidence that the beautiful have lifelong advantages. They get preference from teachers, bosses, and a legion of others, simply by looking as they do. The plain guy who has to bust his ass to get anywhere is supposed to stand there and applaud while Mr. Glamorous Hunk gets his treasure.

I realize that there are those who will insist that the

shows that such "pageants" provide are great entertainment. There was mention in the article about the "kid in the candy store" appeal. I submit that the kid can't do anything but drool. He never gets to taste. The situation is much akin to prick-teasing. You may look but not touch. Or at least, you may not touch unless you pay an additional fee. What the hell is an audience doing to itself at such a spectacle?

The prize winning should be reassigned. As far as the Gay community is concerned, I believe it should go to the dedicated who are struggling to make all our lives better, often at great labor, sometimes with sacrifices, even in some situations at risk.

Marv. Shaw
San Carlos

Name Calling

Because he dresses like a Baptist preacher, regardless of the social circumstances or surroundings, I have long suspected Harry Britt of being less than a truly liberated Gay man. Nevertheless, I have wanted so badly to have Gay representation on the Board of Supervisors that I gave him my vote last time, and planned to do so again, on the theory he had the best chance of winning. This is the story of how, with a single word, Harry Britt has lost my vote.

In the mean-spirited town where I grew up in upstate New York, there was a malevolent word to describe nearly everyone. Jews were kikes; Germans were krauts; Italians were dagos; Blacks were niggers; Gay men were fruits, fairies, pansies, and faggots.

When I moved to this civilized city in 1958, it was a delight to get away from the meanness that had surrounded me in my youth. For quite few of the following years I seldom heard name-calling of any sort; then, in the late '70s things began to change.

The first time I walked down the street and got called a faggot, I was quite startled. This was the late '70s and nothing like that had ever happened to me before. Now, only a few years later, it happens so often I've come to dread and expect it whenever I leave the house. A few weeks ago, I was riding in the subway, completely absorbed in Gore Vidal's *Lincoln*, when suddenly the young man sitting next to me, whom I had barely noticed, jumped up and announced loudly that he had vacated his seat because he thought he had been sitting next to a faggot. Had I then done what I wanted to do, I would today be in prison.

Bad enough, it is when outside enemies hurl names at us; worse, it seems to me, is when we use the same names to describe ourselves. I, a White person, felt really bad when at Tower Market I heard three Black youths refer again and again to each other as niggers. Similarly, for a Gay man to refer to another Gay man as a faggot is, to me, an unforgivable act of verbal violence.

And that's what Harry Britt did on Sept. 15 at the New Bell Salon. Specifically, while describing the difficulty he had in mounting his first campaign for the Board of Supervisors, he said, "We had every faggot in the city opposing us." With this, he told me more about himself than I wanted to know. Win or lose, I'll take my chances with one of the other Gay candidates.

Gerald A. Martin
San Francisco

Steve Perkins Responds

You are, Mr. Morrison, just another illiterate medical junkie who has not a wit of common sense. The medical profession is as just as upright and afraid to take any legal action against me for the same reason they are unwilling to fund a study and research of the millions of extremely healthy Gay people who cleanse their colons regularly. There are untold quantities of evidence and personal cases to support every claim I make — for those who have eyes to see. The first requirement of my profession, Certified Public Accountant, is that sufficient evidence must exist before I may make any personal judgement. It is my profession which has specific training for making such judgements — were it not the medical profession's, too.

Steve Perkins
San Francisco

Atheists Unite

Time and time again you write about various Gay or Lesbian religious leaders and their desperate attempts to be accepted into a structure which was designed to perpetuate hatred toward women, Gays, Lesbians, and racial minorities.

It seems senseless to want to be included in organizations that have no relevance to reality and seek to thwart the possibility for growth, self-definition, and creative fulfillment.

For hundreds of years religion has been the cause of many of the world's wars, persecutions, and sorrow.

Instead of trying to patch up inherently hate-promoting organizations, I suggest that open-minded and aware people explore atheism, which provides freedom of choice, as well as self-actualization, and broadens understanding of the earth, the universe, and our place in it.

Heidi Mueller
S.F. Lesbian/Gay Atheists
San Francisco

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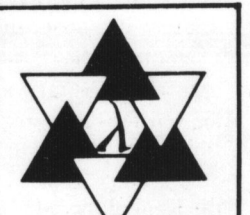
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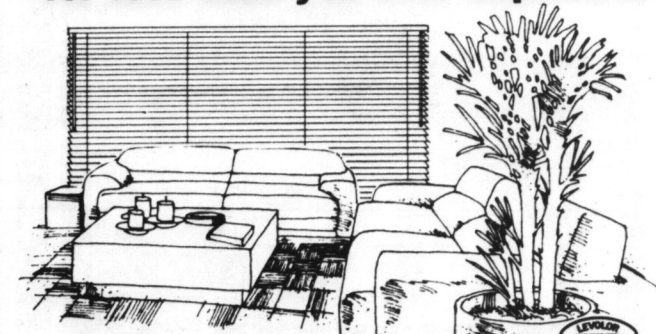
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POLITICS AND POKER

The Rev. Jerry Becomes an Issue

WAYNE FRIDAY

With barely six weeks left before the Nov. 6 election, Walter Mondale has apparently decided that he can make a campaign against Ronald Reagan and the Democratic nominee sees Jerry Falwell as an issue in that effort. Speaking to a meeting of the usually non-partisan National Women's Political Caucus in Washington over the weekend, where he received their endorsement, Mondale struck out at the Moral Majority's Falwell.

Mondale said that Ronald Reagan's reelection would surely mean a "scary, intolerant, and dangerous future" in which Falwell, the anti-gay leader of the religious right, could select the next two Supreme Court justices.

In the past, Falwell, campaigning for Reagan, has boasted that if Reagan is returned to office "we" can appoint at least four new Supreme Court justices.

Mondale, singling out the 18-to-30 year old voters who are thought to be turning to Reagan in large numbers, asked them, "Do you really want to join a party that intends to put government between you and the most private choices of your life? Do you really want women to be paid less than men for the same work? Do you really want politicians to write prayers for your children?"

Warning that those who vote for Republican Reagan would get more than just the president, Mondale warned that "you get Falwell, Nicaragua, and star wars, too."

Meanwhile, some of Reagan's political consultants are seemingly trying to figure out how to keep Jerry Falwell low-key and out of their campaign. A number of those advising the president feel that Falwell now threatens to become too much of an issue in the campaign, particularly in the moderate-to-liberal areas of states such as California, New York, and Michigan, where Falwell's anti-gay, anti-abortion, anti-feminist views are not helpful.

While Mondale has apparently decided to take off the gloves, and is hopeful that the upcoming debates might mark a turning point in the campaign, the national polls still spell doom for the Democrats.

In Illinois, a Democratic state that Mondale and Company are depending on, the influential *Chicago Sun-Times* editorially endorsed Reagan for reelection this week.

And while not yet endorsing, the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* both editorially criticized the Mondale campaign this week, asking in effect, "Where's the campaign?" Mondale, incidentally, was telling reporters this week that his campaign has finally found its track and predicted that "we're going to pick up, and pick up dramatically."

Among the 26 candidates for six supervisorial slots to be elected Nov. 6 are three up-front gay men and one prominent lesbian.

Incumbent Supervisor Harry Britt is a native of Port Arthur, Texas, a former Methodist minister, and was appointed to the Board in January 1979 by Mayor Dianne Feinstein to replace the murdered Harvey Milk.



On the Stump. Walter Mondale speaks in San Francisco a week ago — with Gay pals Jack Trujillo and Carole Migden standing by their man. (Photo: Rink)

Britt was elected to a four-year term in December 1979 in the then 5th District, but when district elections were overthrown, he ran again the following April and won yet another four-year term — this time, city-wide. Supervisor Britt has wide coalition support and is not thought to be in reelection trouble; some polls show the liberal Britt to be running as high as third place in November.

Britt is a past president of the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Demo Club, his home club, and has the support this year of the Toklas and Stonewall clubs as well; he is also endorsed by Mayor Feinstein as well as most of the city's leading officials and Democratic Party officials.

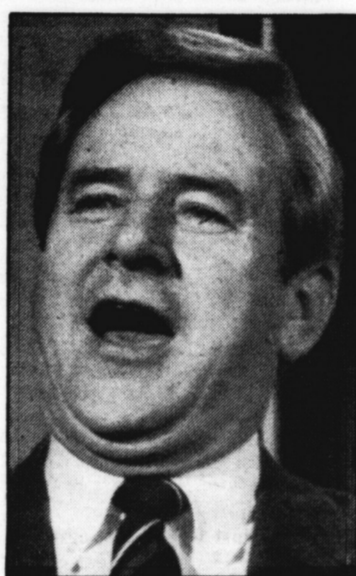
John Wahl, a native Californian, is an attorney in private practice in the city. Wahl, making his first attempt at elective office, was the attorney and personal friend of the late Supervisor Harvey Milk and is a long-time gay and civil rights activist. Wahl's grandfather served as Lt. Governor under the late Governor Hiram Johnson. Wahl is himself a registered independent. Wahl received the endorsement last week of the predominantly Gay Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights.

The third Gay man in the supervisorial race is attorney Dave Wharton, a native of Buffalo, New York, who has lived in the city for 17 years. The Gay father of three children, Wharton ran for supervisor two years ago and placed eighth out of a wide field of candidates, and won the endorsement during that race of both the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Examiner*.

Wharton is a Democrat and is a member of the Toklas and Stonewall clubs; candidate Wharton has to date won the endorsements of CRIR, the City Demo Club, and the District 8 Democratic Club. Wharton is one of those given an outside chance of knocking off an incumbent to gain a seat on the Board in November.

Pat Norman, a senior administrator in the city's Department of Public Health, is a feminist organizer and civil rights advocate who identified herself as a political progressive on social, economic, and environmental issues. Norman, a native of Brooklyn, New York, has a degree in clinical psychology from Antioch University, and has been active in the Gay rights movement for more than a decade.

Norman is the mother of four,



Jerry Falwell (Photo: Mick Hicks)

owns her own home in San Francisco's Bernal Heights district, and says she regards "jobs, job training, and downtown development" as key issues confronting the city's voters in November.

Supervisor Britt is expected to retain his seat, and all three of the Gay candidates running — Wahl, Wharton, and Norman — would make a welcome addition to Britt on the Board next January.

State Senator Milton Marks has endorsed supervisorial candidate John Wahl for election, making this the first supere candidate the popular senator has endorsed since he went on the line for Harvey Milk back in 1977. • ENDORSEMENTS: The City Demo Club, which prides itself on being a stronghold for Yuppies, endorsed Molinari, Britt, Renne, Silver, Kennedy, and Dave Wharton; they're doing a slate card to 15,000 "yuppier" households. • And that's "Yuppier" as in Young Urban Professionals, as opposed to "Guppier," which, I'm told, stands for Gay Urban Professionals. Who invents these terms? • The San Francisco Demo Club, led by some famous San Franciscans (Arlo Smith, Jr., Michael Wong, and Stan Shields) last week endorsed Molinari, Britt, Kennedy, and Pat Norman.

Does Herb Caen know something we don't? Apparently feeling that Prop. 39, the reapportionment initiative, is going to pass and strip Willie Brown of some of his powers, Caen seems hell-bent on pushing Brown into a campaign for mayor. • And

(Continued on next page)

Bay Area Gay PACs Gird for Election

Barney Frank Will Keynote Mark Hopkins Affair Friday

by Allen White

(Continued from previous page)

speaking of the Speaker, don't invite Willie and Senate leader David Roberts to the same intimate sit-down dinner. • The Hebrew Academy of San Francisco would like you to know that Moshe Arens, the former Israeli Defense Minister, will be at their 16th Annual Banquet on Oct. 28 at the Hyatt Regency (info and reservations at 752-7490). • And if you are marking your calendar, you might want to know that Cecil Williams will be honored on Dec. 7 at a posh dinner at the Hilton; this one will only set you back \$250, but you get entertainment by Sammy Davis, Jr.

Gay activists, Democrat and Republican alike, are reportedly standing behind their troubled pro-gay mayor in San Diego. • USA Today, the nation's only general-interest national daily newspaper, has declined to endorse a presidential candidate, saying that they will try to present the positions of both Reagan and Mondale and then urge "you to pick your own president." • A new statewide California Poll shows 77 percent of those interviewed favoring a statewide lottery (Prop. 37). • Lyndon Johnson was the last Democratic presidential candidate to carry California, with his victory in 1964.

Mrs. George (Gina) Moscone and John Burton are holding a \$100 fundraiser for Harry Britt at the home of Nancy and Paul Pelosi on Oct. 9 (cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, etc., 6-8 p.m., 621-2383 for info). • For those of you waiting to meet Geraldine Ferraro, she will be at a \$125 reception on Oct. 15 at the Embarcadero Hyatt Regency from 5 to 7 p.m. (Carole Migden at 626-7000 for info on this one).

So you think Joan Rivers is funny? At last week's appearance in San Jose at the Center for the Performing Arts, a number walked out on the acid-tongued comic. Among her outrageous lines: About Billie Jean King: "Did you know she was a dyke? I had her on the Carson show. I thought she was a bisexual. You know, (I thought that meant) she only shaved one leg!"

About Christina Onassis: "The woman is a dog! The first time I met her, the woman tried to sniff my crotch!"

Rivers, carrying on a running conversation with women in the audience (all of whom she openly called "bitch") took on everyone. After trashing Jane Fonda, Rivers said, "Actually, I bought the Henry Fonda exercise tape. It's easier. You just roll your eyes back and drop dead!"

The election for president of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights could end up in a contest between incumbent president Tom Peretti, former prexy Bob Bacci, and Pat McGonigle. • The GOP membership in California now stands at just over 4 million (35.1 percent) while the Democratic Party membership is now about 6.1 million (53.5 percent). The remaining percentages of registered voters in the state are divided among three smaller political parties and independent or decline-to-state voters. • Jerry Berg, Jim Hormel, and Bay Area Reporter publisher Bob Ross will host a fundraiser for Supervisor Louise Renne at Ross's home on Oct. 2 (6 to 8 p.m., \$50 per, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres; Deborah at 381-8200 for info). Supervisor Renne, incidentally, will open her headquarters this Saturday, the 29th, at 10 a.m., 2876 California and all are invited.

W. Friday

Sponsored by The Alliance, a Bay Area Gay political action committee, the \$125 a plate dinner hopes to raise tens of thousands of dollars. The featured speaker will be Congressman Barney Frank of Massachusetts.

The dinner is another example of Gay men and Lesbians who have financially begun to fight back against far-right politicians. The target is hate and bigotry and people such as State Sen. H.L. Richardson, who opposed AB-1 as an "AIDS health threat."

The Alliance, formerly known as the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, is a political action committee. Following the dinner, in mid-October they will meet and distribute funds to candidates who are supportive of Gay and Lesbian rights.

They are but one of several organizations which have sprung up in Northern California with basically the same goal. In the South Bay, the Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee (BAYMEC) has been formed to raise funds and to become active in campaigns in San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz Counties.

BAYMEC's treasurer, Ken Yeager, said, "For far too many years, Lesbians and Gay men have been painfully aware of a lack of political power and legal protections. While there has been some notable successes with the enactment of civil rights

laws in several Bay Area cities, the defeats we suffered in several anti-discrimination referenda against the highly visible and well-financed Moral Majority left many of us shaken and frightened."

These new Gay PACs are fighting back. The Alliance's Friday night dinner will be co-sponsored by The Alliance and Congresswoman Sala Burton and Barbara Boxer. The event will include the appearance of several important local political personalities, with Frank as keynote speaker.

In addition to The Alliance in San Francisco and BAYMEC in San Jose, the Campaign for Equality has been organized in the East Bay. This particular organization is the political action fund of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club.

The Alliance is judging the recipients of the money by their political position and not on party affiliation. Treasurer Don Disler noted that the group has already given money to candidates of both the Democratic and Republican Parties. At its October meeting, the organization said it will give careful consideration to candidates, especially Republicans, who are receiving opposition because of their stand favoring the state employment legislation, AB-1.

Further information regarding the dinner may be obtained by contacting Paul Wotman at 552-5600. ■

Milk Club Endorses — Molinari Leads Again

The Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club endorsed Tuesday night for the Nov. 6 election. As he had done earlier with both the Stonewall and Toklas clubs, veteran Supervisor John Molinari received the highest number of votes to lead the club's voting. Molinari, in a contest with conservative Quentin Kopp to become president of the Board, received 86 percent of the votes cast Tuesday night, while Kopp failed to win a single vote.

Pat Norman, a Lesbian administrator with the city's Department of Health, was the only challenger for a seat on the board to be endorsed. Norman garnered 84 percent of the vote.

Incumbent Supervisors Willie Kennedy and Carol Ruth Silver also won Milk's endorsement, receiving 75 percent and 73 percent of the vote, respectively. Supervisor Harry Britt, a past president of the Milk club, had been unanimously endorsed at an earlier meeting.

In the race for four open seats on the Community College Board, incumbents Chuck Ayala, Amos Brown, and Julie Tang won endorsement. Dr. Tim Wolfred, the Gay incumbent, had been endorsed earlier by the Milk club.

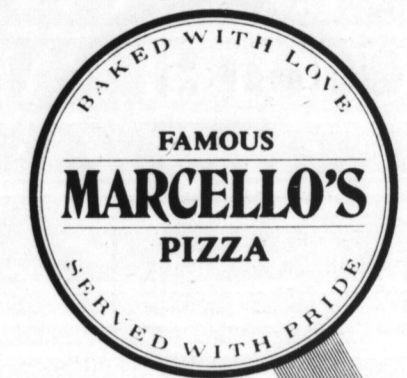
Board of Education members Libby Denebeim, Dick Cerbatos, and Ben Tom were endorsed for another term while the other endorsement to the School Board went to challenger JoAnne Miller. On the San Francisco County propositions, the Milk club voted a "yes" endorsement on propositions A, B, C, E, F, G, and I and opposed propositions D (Retirement Board investments) and H (Honda patrol).

Statewide propositions endorsed Tuesday night included propositions 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 37 (state lottery). Milk members voted to oppose propositions 38 (voting materials in English only), 39 (reapportionment initiative), 40 (campaign contribution limitations), and 41 (public aid and medical assistance initiative).

Congress members Sala Burton and Barbara Boxer, Assembly members Willie Brown and Art Agnos, State Senate candidate Lia Belli, and the Mondale-Ferraro slate had all been endorsed by Milk members prior to Tuesday night's meeting.

Wayne Friday

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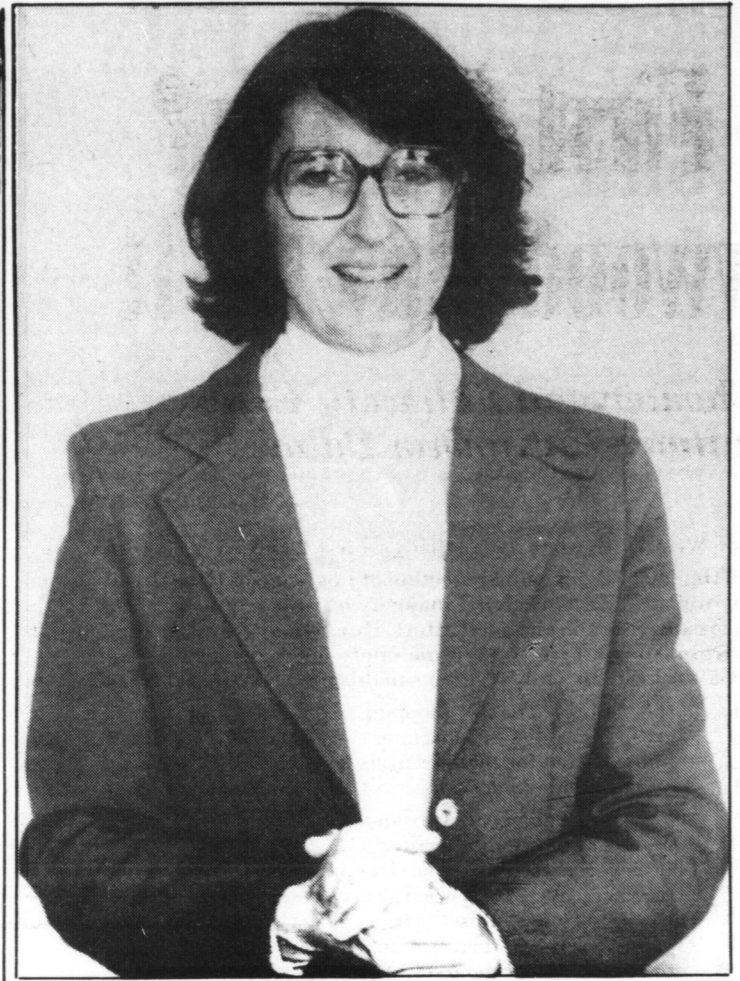
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Carol Ruth Silver (Photo: Rink)

Carol Ruth Silver's New Pet Projects

More Parking Spots, Animal Rights On the Road to Reelection

ED. NOTE: This is one in a series of articles on candidates for Board of Supervisors in the Nov. 6 election. In future issues, profiles of other incumbents up for reelection, and of the openly Gay challengers, will appear.

by Dianne Gregory

Carol Ruth Silver has two pet projects at the moment: the Silver/Pritikin Neighborhood Parking Plan, and several resolutions protecting the rights of animals. She is also about the business of seeking reelection to the post of San Francisco supervisor.

The parking plan grew out of a study by Silver — involving legal research, taking a tape measure to the city's streets, and talking to bureaucrats — from which she concluded not only that the problem is not insoluble, but that thousands of additional legal parking spaces at curbside can be made available.

"If just five additional parking spaces were freed up in each of the 3,000 city blocks," the Silver/Pritikin Parking Plan says in part, "more than 40,000 new spaces would be available — at essentially no cost, and in a very short time."

For example, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved four of Silver's proposals Sept. 17 — to reduce the fire hydrant zones to five feet, to allow parking between garage cuts of more than 13 feet, to require businesses that request green, white, or yellow curbs to pay for repainting, and to create motorcycle spaces in curb areas too small for cars — which supporters claim will add about 5,000 parking spaces in the city. The measures will come before the board for a second hearing this week, and then go to Mayor Dianne Feinstein for her approval.

The reforms also include a broad proposal to designate individual parking space boundary lines along the city's streets and mark them for use by compact or larger cars. Experimental proposals include middle of the road parking and leasing

ment, and freedom from needless and capricious pain and death." The resolution also states that the appropriate agencies of the City and County of San Francisco "shall give priority to the investigation of any complaint concerning animal cruelty or abuse." Since many laboratory research animals, particularly connected to the experiments at the University of California at San Francisco medical center, are housed within the city limits, and given the rising clamor of antivivisectionists on both the national and local levels, this resolution could become a powerful tool. Silver did point out, however, that the UCSF medical center opens its laboratory doors to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals with regularity. If the resolution — which also calls for the encouragement of spaying and neutering of pets — is adopted, San Francisco will be the first city to have an animal rights policy.

"Animals have rights too," Silver said. "The way we treat animals tests our humanity."

On other issues, Silver says she supports domestic partner benefits even though the policy involves risk.

"The short term direct costs are low," Silver said. "But in the long term, the possible dangers are very high. It's a risk I'm personally willing to undertake." The risk, Silver says, is the opportunity for abuse, and that it will be difficult to "resist a number of other opportunities" to recognize many kinds of relationships for the purpose of health insurance and other employee benefits.

However, Silver places the responsibility of handling the controversial decisions surrounding Gay bathhouses in San Francisco squarely in the lap of health professionals.

"It's a matter of epidemiology," Silver said. "But we all have the same objective, to save people from this horrible disease. Every time I go to another funeral of a friend I feel helpless."

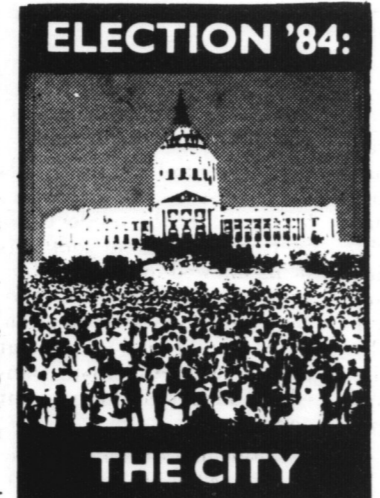
L.A. Forms AIDS Task Force

Los Angeles — Supervisor Ed Edelman and Mayor Tom Bradley have established a Los Angeles AIDS Task Force to focus on the complicated issues relating to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

"This Task Force will review AIDS issues, recommend government policies relating to AIDS, and advocate for the needs of persons with AIDS," Edelman said at the first meeting of the Task Force in City Hall. The Task Force is made up of public health experts, private physicians, and community leaders.

"I am confident that the AIDS Task Force, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Neil Schram, will help to coordinate all of our local efforts to combat the AIDS crisis," Edelman said. Dr. Schram is an internist at Kaiser-Permanente and is past President of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights. "It is important for all of us to remember that AIDS continues to be our nation's No. 1 public health crisis," Edelman said.

"I am pleased to be joined by Mayor Bradley in establishing this AIDS Task Force because many AIDS issues go beyond County healthcare problems. Many persons with AIDS need fundamental social services which the City can help to provide," Edelman concluded.



private lots for nighttime use. Other proposals are increasing perpendicular or diagonal parking, reducing the length of metered spaces, and shortening bus zones.

Silver's activity to protect the rights of animals comes in the form of three resolutions: one declaring Oct. 4, 1984, as Animal Rights Awareness Day in San Francisco, another supporting a bill in the U.S. Senate sponsored by Robert Dole (R-Kansas) to require decent treatment of laboratory animals, and a third "declaring the policy of the City and County of San Francisco to protect and defend the rights of animals."

This policy states that domestic pets, zoo animals, and laboratory and research animals have "the right to nutrition and shelter, and a suitable environ-

Nov. 6 Vote World's First Gay City? W. Hollywood May Do It

Harvey Milk Theater and Sidewalk Cafes Amidst the Southern California Palms

by George Mendenhall

Move over, San Francisco! West Hollywood — America's First Gay City — is on the way. Political analysts are predicting that a 2-mile-square section of Los Angeles County will become a separate Gay-oriented city Nov. 6 when a predicted majority of Gay people will become the new city's first council. The organizer of the cityhood effort, Ron Stone, estimates that the plan will be accepted by a 5-1 margin Nov. 6. Five council members will be selected from among 40 candidates, most of them Gay or Lesbian. Only residents in this unincorporated area will vote.

What would the new city be like? A Los Angeles magazine, *Frontier*, recently projected that there would be Gay lovers in the parks jogging, lifting weights, and swimming during the day. At night "the lights go on along the center strip of West Hollywood Concourse, formerly called Santa Monica Boulevard and now lined with tall palm trees... The neighborhood Gay bars — there are now 100 of them — are filled with residents and tourists while the klieg lights shine upward at the Harvey Milk Theater. Nearby sidewalk cafes and shops stay open all night and the sheriff's department officers — dressed in their Ralph Lauren designed uniforms — cheerfully help residents."

The currently unincorporated county area would have the already Gay-oriented Santa Monica Boulevard as its main street. The West Hollywood section would begin at the border of swank Beverly Hills and through a relatively nondescript area into a district commonly called "Boys' Town."

This area includes the Gay nightclub, Studio One, and 50 other Gay businesses — an enlarged and more upper-class version of Castro Street.

The boulevard then reaches into Hollywood with a stretch known for its around-the-clock male street hustlers — which ends at LaBrea Street where the city of Los Angeles begins.

A MODEL CITY

Stone, a council candidate himself, said his motive has always been "to demonstrate that people's sexual preference is irrelevant when it comes to the ability to provide services. This will be a Gay city in that most of the council will be Gay. I want to use the movie and television production companies here to spread the message world-wide — that Gay people can make a real contribution in improving the productivity of life."

There is some apprehension over the idea of a "Gay" city. Los Angeles Gay activist Morris Kight said it is possible that "the wrong people could get elected and create a monster."

He said he hopes "they will create something beautiful that will be a model." Stone adds, "Some of those running for the council have no experience in running a multi-million dollar business. We will make mistakes. Many people will be watching our actions closely." The council's first meeting would be in early December.

West Hollywood has the largest concentration of Gay residents in Southern California in its 2-mile-square area — estimated at more than 13,000 of the 35,000 residents. Most of the affluent Gay population is male and concentrated around

the "Boys' Town" shopping area. Many live in apartment houses noted for their Jacuzzis and swimming pools.

A sizable number of Gay men moved to the county territory, fleeing from the L.A. Police Department. West Hollywood also includes the "Sunset Strip" youth disco area where gawkers once waited for hours to see Humphrey Bogart leave Ciro's.

The area is one of the most densely populated in the United States with the estimated 30 percent Gay male population making that group the largest minority. Many of the residents include Russian and Jewish immigrants and senior citizens. The single population is a high 80 percent, equally divided between men and women. Stone said that everyone lives quietly side-by-side, although a sheriff in the area said there are noise problems when the bars close at 2 a.m.

TAXES AND RENTS

West Hollywood is currently in county territory and receives city services (fire, sheriff's department, libraries, medical care). If incorporated, it would become a "general law" city that will, most likely, contract for county services rather than attempt to establish its own. Currently, the area's county tax base is \$15 million annually but as a city it would only need an estimated \$10 million for contracting services and hiring a City Manager. This would free \$5 million for its own special use without raising the tax rate.

Local control over taxes is not the only issue in an area where 98 percent of the residents are renters. County rent control is being allowed to lapse on Jan. 1 by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Stone believes there is no question that the new West Hollywood council will adopt some form of rent control.

Residents are wondering why an expected, well-financed anti-cityhood campaign by the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and local apartment owners never materialized. When an early attempt was made to counter the city plan, the opponents could only garner 1,000 votes.

The local petition for cityhood received 6,000 signatures, over 25 percent of the 19,000 registered voters, as required by state law. One council candidate, George Piazza, said some business owners are still opposed, but "I think it is just fear of the unknown."

What would the new city do with the \$5 million? Some of it would be spent on new Lesbian/Gay services, according to Stone. He said that hopefully the financially starved National Gay Archives facility would be moved from Hollywood and be funded by West Hollywood.

Stone, a management consultant, may emerge as Mayor of West Hollywood; the newly elected city council makes that decision. However, a former male model may be his chief challenger — Steve Schulte.

Schulte, who can still be observed as the nude "Nick Chase" in *Colt* magazines, recently became a West Hollywood resident and dropped his earlier attempt to challenge Los Angeles councilwoman Peggy Stevenson. Schulte resigned as Executive Director of the L.A. Gay/Lesbian Community Services Center earlier this year.

Lesbian and Gay council candidates also include Steve Smith, assistant to State Assembly Speaker Willie Brown; Scott Forbes, part-owner of Studio One (a popular Gay nightclub in the area); and Pam Parker, a real estate agent. One of the candidates, Bud Siegal, is straight but has one of each in the family — a Gay son and a Lesbian daughter.

Ron Stone started the West Hollywood effort for cityhood a year ago after he became dissatisfied with the lack of commu-

nity services being provided by the county. Only seven people showed up but five of those decided to launch a campaign for cityhood.

They began the petitioning drive required by state law. The new city of West Hollywood would become one of fifty other cities in the sprawling Los Angeles County area to have successfully followed the same process to become incorporated in the past 20 years.

AIDS Sex Partners Sought for Study

The UC-San Francisco Department of Epidemiology is conducting a study of persons who have had sexual contact with someone who has been diagnosed with AIDS.

If you have had sexual contact in the last two years with a person with AIDS and are interested in participating in this study, please contact the project office on Ward 86, in room 606 on the south corridor of the ward, at San Francisco General Hospital. Or telephone 666-5325.

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A Girl's Best Friend. Is it a diamond or a new Chevy? Bill Keach (c.) won the latter — "And he's crying like he won Miss America," Carol Channing says. (Photo: Rink)

Some En-Channing Evening; '22 Red' Raises Big Stakes

by Allen White

Bubbling like an uncorked champagne bottle, Carol Channing reached into a barrel and pulled out the name of Bill Keach as the winner of a brand new Chevrolet. All this merriment took place last Saturday night at "22 on the Red," the Golden Gate Business Association's annual fundraiser.

Now in its fifth year, the event has become to money what the Beaux Arts Ball is to drag. More than 1,600 people, twice last year's crowd, filled the Giftcenter Pavilion to be elegant, grand, and just a little bit on the elite side.

The climax of the evening was the arrival of Carol Channing and Andrea McArdle escorted by Wilkes Bashford. They had been elegantly limousined to the event by their dashing hunk driver, Kenneth Sandoval, from the Curran Theatre, where they are appearing in Jerry's Girls.

Carol Channing doesn't arrive — she makes an entrance. She's a class act and she milks it for all it's worth. Andrea McArdle, who is equally the star on the Curran stage, chose to head for the powder room. As Channing was ushered to a special reserved area, every politician running for office within five miles managed to get into at least one picture with Channing.

On her own schedule, Carol Channing decided to make her move. She headed for the stage. As the music played and a songstress sang something lilting, Channing simply stood directly in front of the stage. With the subtlety of a Crest toothpaste commercial she let it be known she was ready to move.

She swept onto the stage and went into a marvelous routine geared to money, diamonds, and everything else the crowd wanted to hear about. She gave diamonds to Laurie McBride, the head of GGBA, and more diamonds to Bob Hull, the head of the "22 on the Red" event.

Then the moment came. She reached in, pulled out a ticket, and Bill Keach had won himself a car. As Keach wiped a tear away, 1,500 other ticketholders quietly muttered "Oh, shit," and ripped up their raffle tickets. Life's like that.

Then in a flash, Ms. Channing and Ms. McArdle were out to the comfort of their limousine as they were whisked off to Trader Vic's.

Meanwhile, inside, the crowd continued to party as they had for the previous four hours. The way all of this works is that you get chips, you play the chips, and if you win you cash them in on prizes. The Golden Gate Business Association received more than \$30,000 in prizes, literally thousands. They ranged



The Lucky Winners weren't all at the gaming tables — some already had a prize. (Photo: Rink)



Carol Channing (Photo: Tony Plewik)

from 250 scoops of Double Rainbow ice cream to a blue lapis lazuli and gold ring from Barad's Jewelers valued at \$1,400.

On three levels they gambled and they partied. The entertainment featured Jae Ross, Terri Cowick, Silvia Kohan, and Joe Elliott's Orchestra.

The diversity of the gambling tables was fascinating. On the main floor were such groups as Pacific Bell and Atlas Savings & Loan. Things got lighter and crazier as you hit the higher levels.

On the third level, Jerry Berg sponsored a blackjack table. The high roller at the table was the one and only Christine Jorgenson. She became famous 32 years ago as the world's first sex change. This means that many in the crowd really didn't know her claim to fame. As she acknowledged the applause, it was fascinating to watch as grown men attempted to explain Ms. Jorgenson between the rolls of the dice.

When the night drew to a close at 1 a.m., the winners were the audience. There is no question that many in this city look forward to the opportunity to go for the tuxedo, the limousine, and move in style. For the Golden Gate Business Association and their Foundation, the evening means tens of thousands of dollars for charity and the knowledge that they really hit the jackpot with this year's "22 on the Red."

STD Screening at City Clinic

STD (sexually transmissible disease) screening is available daily at the Men's Clinic at Health Center #1, 3850 17th Street (near Sanchez). Clinic hours are Monday and Thursday, 1 to 7 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 1 to 4 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 to 11 p.m. For more information, Call 558-3905. ■

Gay Rights Repeal Blocked by Court

Effort to Kill Bias Bill Is Stricken in Maryland

For the first time, Gay-rights lawyers have successfully blocked a referendum called to repeal a Gay rights ordinance. The ruling came in Montgomery County, Maryland (the suburban Washington area) last week. The case was argued by the San Francisco-based National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA). The court ordered that the referendum could not be placed on the November ballot.

Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, said, "The court's decision was apparently based on violations of state election law by those who drafted and circulated petitions. While the decision there is not binding on other states, the victory signals our ability to defend Gay rights throughout the country." Graff noted that there have been referendums on Gay rights laws recently in several cities and one is now shaping up in Houston, Texas.

Jean O'Leary, NGRA Executive Director, hailed the victory as an indication of what can be done when the legal arm of the Gay community goes to court. O'Leary said, "This is the first time Lesbian and Gay men have gone to court to prevent the repeal of a human rights ordinance. The court's decision demonstrates that we can successfully defend our legislative gains."

The case came up in February of this year when the Montgomery County Council voted to extend its general human rights law to ban sexual orientation discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations. Petitions to require a referendum were immediately circulated by the reactionary, anti-Gay "Citizens for Decent Government" and certified by the county on June 28, 1984.

The County Circuit Court upheld the validity of the petitions Aug. 29 and the Court of Appeals, Maryland's highest court, reversed that decision Sept. 14.

Working with NGRA on this case was civil rights attorney Susan Silber, the Women's Legal Defense Fund, and the prestigious Washington, D.C., law firm, Covington & Burling. ■

A Gay Version of 'Trivial Pursuit' Planned

The National Gay Task Force is creating a Lesbian and Gay trivia game as a fundraising project and is holding a contest to help collect the thousands of questions needed.

\$100, \$50, and \$25 worth of books (winner's choice) from Lambda Rising, A Different Light, Giovanni's Room and Chosen Books will be awarded the three best sets of questions submitted. To qualify, 12 questions must be submitted, two in each of the six categories: Heritage, Scandal, Quotes, Wonder Women, Sex and Culture.

Winners will be chosen by a panel of judges made up of prominent Gay and Lesbian his/herstorians and deadline is November 1, 1984. More than one entry can be submitted and all questions become property of the game. Send entries to: NGTF, 80 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1601, New York 10011, Attention: Game. ■



Leonard Graff (Photo: Rink)



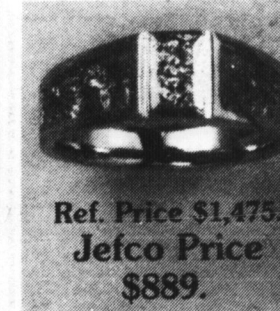
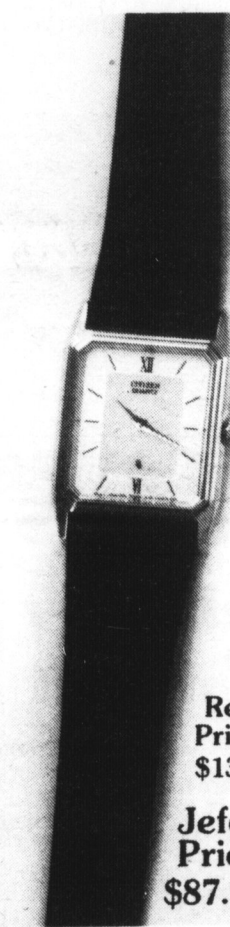
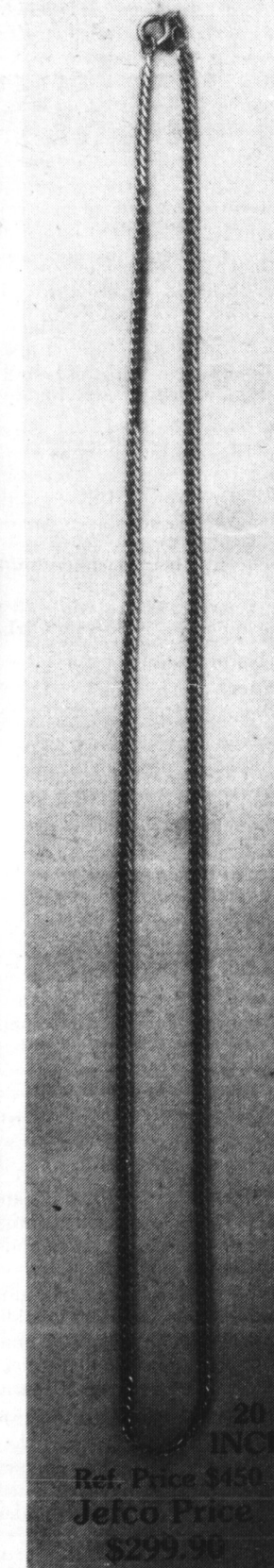
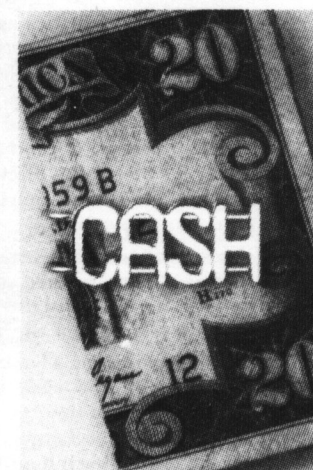
Jean O'Leary (Photo: Rink)

Rescue Mission Offers Food

The Gay Rescue Mission announces that it will provide free emergency food packages to the needy of the community. The mission is a member of the San Francisco Council of Churches Food Bank, and is operated by St. Priapus Church. Food pantry hours are 11 to 2 weekdays, at 583 Grove. No sex or religion is involved in the food program. Further information: 431-2188. ■

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CUAV

Muni Muggers Attack Rider Who Has AIDS

by Randy Schell

The 1984 summer season yielded a higher number of incidents reported to CUAV in comparison to the rest of the year. This phenomenon follows trends of previous summers. The hot weather and summer vacations of the San Francisco school systems are possible reasons as to why the incidents escalate during the summer months.

CUAV's statistical analysis is prepared on a quarterly basis. This quarter will end on Sept. 30 and a comprehensive breakdown of the incidents is forthcoming. However, as a sneak preview, this is what it looks like so far. In June, 30 incidents were reported. In July, 40 incidents were reported. In August, 33 incidents, and in September, not yet over, we have 33 incidents reported to date.

Several incidents stand out during this period. Certainly, the most dramatic of these is the murder of John O'Connell and the assault of his companion Andy. CUAV remained with the family of John O'Connell during this crisis and we continue to work with the criminal justice system advocating on behalf of the survivors.

The assault at Baker's Beach of two men by assailants who attempted a robbery has recently received a great deal of publicity. The victims have expressed profound frustration with the U.S. Attorney's Office, which is responsible for prosecuting the assailants. Rarely has CUAV received so many calls and letters expressing anger over an attack.

Some of the reports we received did not yield much city-wide publicity, although the plight of the victims was equally as frustrating. One case involved a man who has AIDS.

While on a bus returning from General Hospital, several assailants taunted the victim in reference to his having AIDS. They attacked the victim both on and off of the bus. He was robbed and beaten.

Afterwards, one of the assailants called the AIDS Foundation to inquire if he would get AIDS because he physically molested the victim.

Today, a report was received from someone who had been inside of the MUNI underground. As the victim was going up the escalator, the suspect who was walking up the stairs next to the victim, suddenly lunged forward and smashed the victim in the throat.

The victim, fell backward and down the escalator, dragging

'One of the assailants called the AIDS Foundation to ask if he would get AIDS because he attacked the victim.'

other people with him. The suspect then ran down the stairs to the victim sprawled on the floor, and continued to assault him.

The victim managed to get up and run inside of the MUNI booth. The attendant on duty called the police. When the police arrived, the suspect told them that he attacked the victim because "he looked like a fagot."

These are only a few of the incidents we have received at CUAV. Beyond the single incidents we receive, there are a host of families and lovers attached to that single victim of that single incident that are traumatized and enraged.

That is why statistics can be deceptive — a single victim is surrounded by multiples of others who share in the ramifications of the attack. The successful prosecution and sentencing of assailants alleviates only part of the frustration of the victims and loved ones.

When the victim is attacked because of her or his sexual orientation, successful prosecution only fills part of the void.

There is one thing all of us can do to help fill the void. It involves taking the time to write to the Governor and urge him to sign AB-848. This bill adds the disabled, the elderly and Lesbians and Gay men as victims of violence to an already existing law. This law stipulates that victims and loved ones of victims may file suit against assailants for an additional \$10,000 because, as minorities, their civil rights have been violated.

The Governor's office reported to CUAV last week, that opposition to this bill, led by fundamentalists, was running 300 to 1 against signing AB-848. It is critical that everyone call the Governor today to support this bill. He has until Sept. 30 to decide its fate.

If not for yourself, then do it for those around you who are victims or suffer the trauma of one maimed or one dead because of whom they chose to love. The victory of AB-848 may lie in your hand — the instrument is known as the telephone. The Governor's phone number is (916) 445-2841. ■

Gay, Lesbian Scholarships At City College

The Gay/Lesbian Educational Services Committee of the San Francisco Community College District has created a Scholarship Fund for deserving students at City College of San Francisco or the San Francisco Community College Centers. In announcing the start of its scholarship program, the committee stated that one of the first scholarships to be awarded is the Rick Jacobi Memorial Scholarship, named in memory of a City College student who died last spring of AIDS.

Each semester the committee will award two scholarships of up to \$250 for the following semester's expenses.

The deadline for submitting applications is two months before the start of each semester; however, Fall, 1984 applications will be accepted through Oct. 15.

To obtain applications or further information, contact Sava Ranisavljevic, 31 Gough Street, San Francisco 94103. Telephone: (415)239-3095. ■

DEATHS

Joseph E. Murray, Jr.

Joseph E. Murray, Jr., 1956-1984, died last week in San Francisco. Services are set for 6 p.m. today, Sept. 27, at Old Mission Dolores. Friends welcome. ■

Death Notices Policy

The Bay Area Reporter publishes death notices as a public service free of charge. We rely upon our readers to provide the information they deem appropriate for publication.

If you would like a death notice published, please include all information you believe to be relevant and appropriate. To avoid misidentification, please provide a complete name, including nickname; age; and place of residence (a street address is not necessary). You may want to include information about the person's job, club or activity associations, or other information to further describe his or her life. If a funeral or a memorial is planned, include date, time, place and a contact for friends and acquaintances who may want to take part.

Photos, color or black-and-white, are welcome. Attach a self-addressed label to the back of the photo for return.

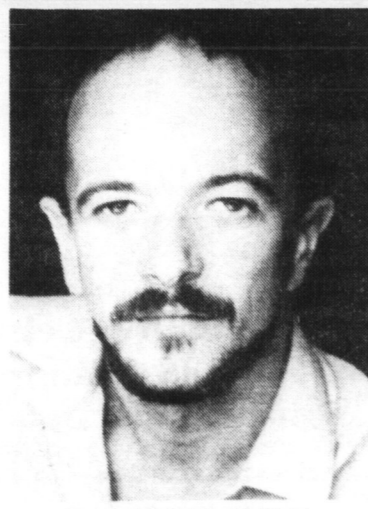
In all cases, please submit the name of a contact person and a telephone number for verification. This information will not be published. ■

Archbishop Names Randy Schell To Commission on Social Justice

Randy Schell, client advocate for Community United Against Violence, was named last week to the Commission on Social Justice by San Francisco's Archbishop John R. Quinn.

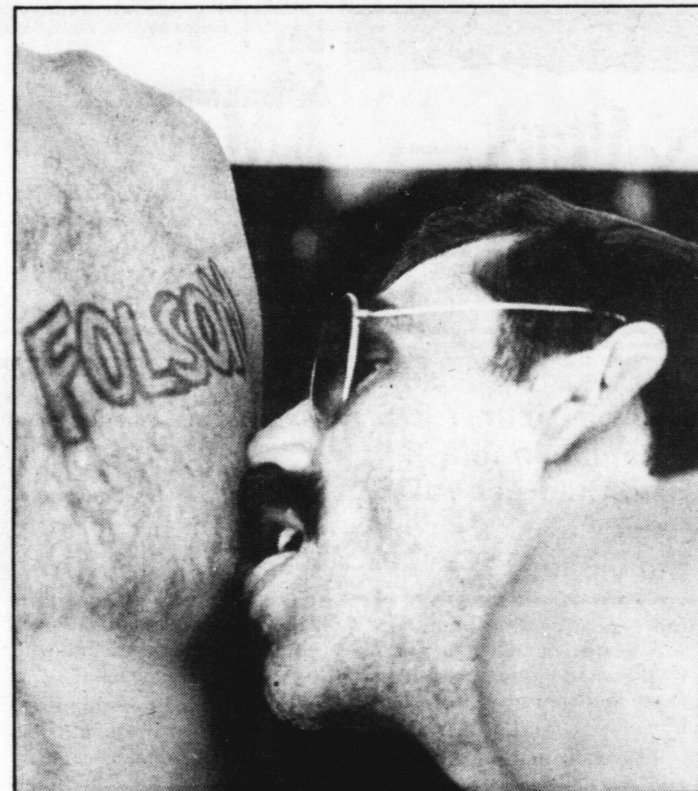
The commission has been the most openly Gay arm of the Roman Catholic Church in San Francisco. Two years ago the commission published a strong report on Homosexuality and the Church. The report was highly critical of the archbishop, who rejected the report.

Schell was notified of the decision of the Archbishop of San Francisco by Msgr. Peter G. Armstrong. By the appointment, it makes Schell the most highly visible openly Gay Catholic to hold a position in the San Francisco Archdiocese. ■

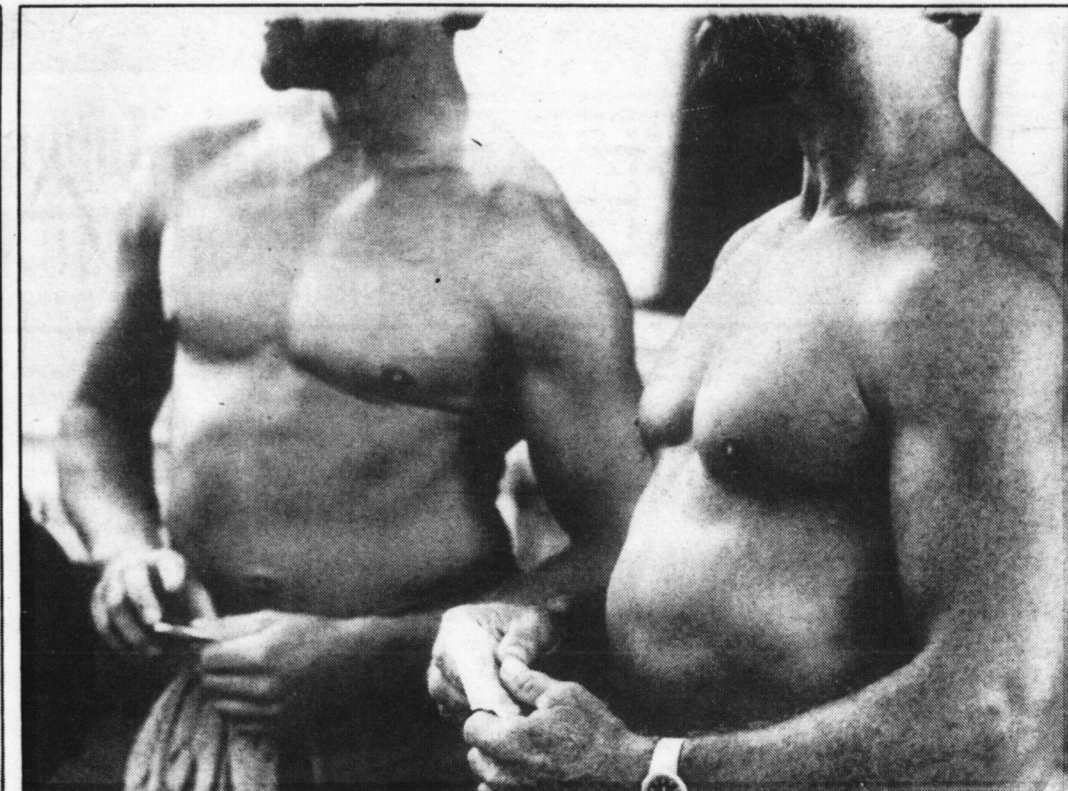


Randy Schell (Photo: Rink)

Allen White



You Can't Lick Folsom Street. Then again, maybe you can. We would point out the above cavorting qualifies as "Safe Sex." (Photo: R. Pruzan)



T and A, Part One. It was Folsom Street or bust on Sunday — site of many fond mammaries. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

All's Fair on Folsom Street

Makin' Hay While the Sun Shines

by Allen White

Last Sunday, Folsom Street shut down to party. It was called "Megahood '84" and the group of 300-plus people who make up the South of Market Alliance gave it their best shot. It was a good one.

The success of the afternoon was how it broadened perceptions people hold of the area. Most expected leather, and they got it. Yet, they got so much more.

The Brig and the Ramrod were the two primary bars for the leather numbers who shrank from the sunlight. For hours, hundreds of leather dudes ventured forth into an outside world.

The truly kinky award of the day would have to go to the Golden Gate Wrestling Club. Their president, Don Jung, came up with the rules and the idea. For \$1 you got to "apply" whipped cream to a person's arms and calves. \$2 and you got to go for the chest or back. \$3 and the thighs were all yours to lather with whipped cream. Jung gave no particular reason for the gimmick. In addition to whipped cream, they also wrestled. It goes without saying they got a crowd.

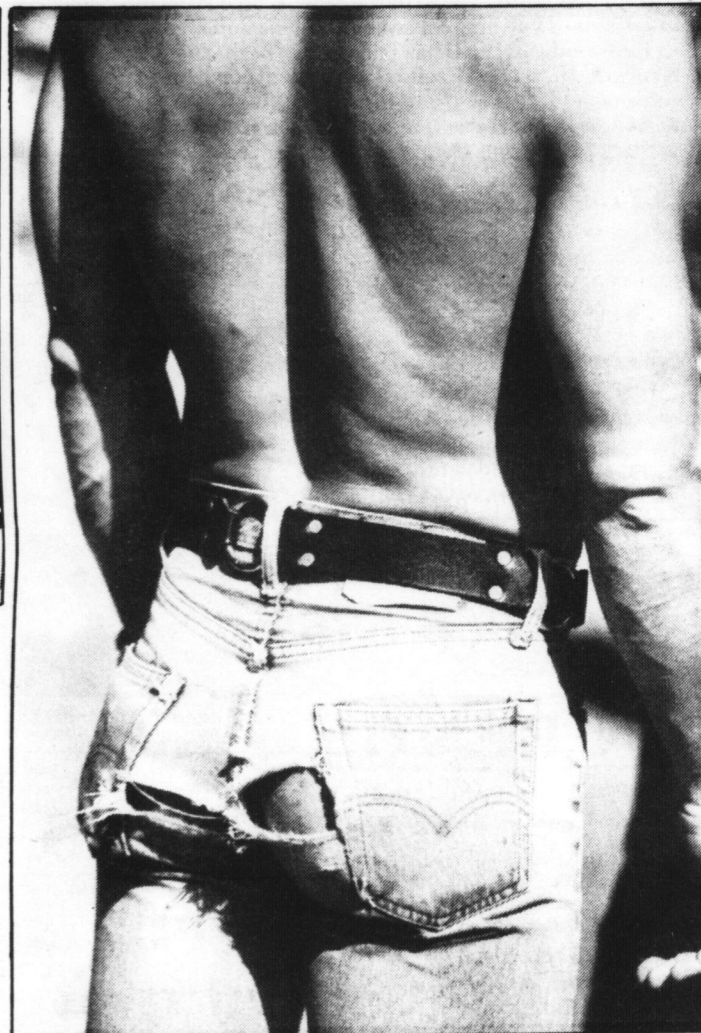
The Ramrod was a bar geared to party from the opening moment. With their balloon-covered ceiling and their up-tempo music, it was fun time all afternoon.

The Bay Brick Inn, a women's bar if you didn't know, was tastefully mellow. During the afternoon they gave much more than just entertainment by providing a free presentation of Theatre Rhinocero's "Artists Involved with Death and Struggle." Their decision to present this drama about AIDS is indicative of their sensitivity to the needs of people.

The fair ran from 7th Street to 11th Street. At each end there was a stage and continuous music. KUSF broadcast the festivities "live" throughout the afternoon. Station producers Ray Michaels and Jim Dunbar marvelled at the artistic and creative ability of the area. They viewed the afternoon not so



Comic Danny Williams — 'Sir' to you (Photo: R. Pruzan)



Eagle was an ocean of people.

This was year number one for the Folsom Street Fair and producers Teri Anne and Chuck Stevens were delighted with the proceedings. There were no serious incidents and the mixed crowd appeared to move with the flow. The flow: smooth, sunny and mellow. ■

T and A, Part Two. This reveler at the Folsom Street Fair seems torn by passion, or maybe just harsh detergent. (Photo: R. Pruzan)



Face Painting is passe, but at the Folsom Street Fair, there was time to adorn a cheek. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

AN JOSE SANTA CLARA CUPERTINO SUNNYVALE REDWOOD CITY PALO ALTO MONTEREY PLEASANT HILL VALLEJO BERKELEY WALNUT CREEK CAMPBELL FREMONT

Redwood City

The Gay Church — Community Catalyst

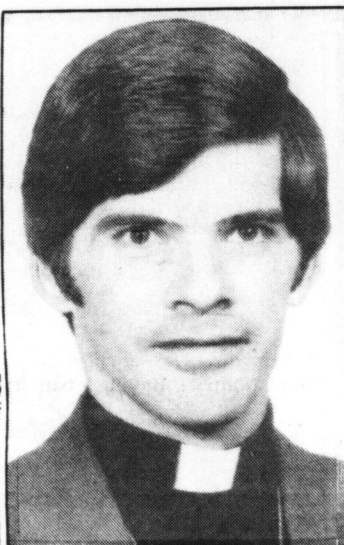
Rev. Hill Leaves Calvary MCC;
Reflects on Community Growth

by Marc Shaw

"This church is more like a child to me, conceived in my own head, brought forth in my own living room, nurtured for the last five and a half years — it's as though I were letting go of a child." So said the Rev. Bruce Hill, the departing pastor of Calvary Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) in Redwood City. Hill has been called to the MCC in Atlanta, Georgia. He recently talked with me about himself, the development of Calvary, and his expectations about the church he is leaving and the one he is about to lead.

Hill came to the MCC in a dramatically religious way. A native of Connecticut, he came with his former lover to Los Angeles, where they met and were counseled by Troy Perry, the founder of the MCC. The two subsequently moved to San Francisco.

In this period Hill had a nervous breakdown so severe that he decided to commit suicide. As a final act, he attended the first meeting of the first MCC con-



Rev. Bruce Hill (Photo: Rink)

gregation in San Francisco on Mother's Day, 1969. That experience renewed his faith in life. He joined the fledgling group and soon after started the steps that led to his pastorate.

When he worked as an assistant pastor in the San Francisco church, and also served on the staff of the San Jose church, he realized that there were some people who wanted to belong to a congregation but didn't want to travel to either San Francisco or San Jose. With the loving support of some of the San Francisco members, Hill had a first service at his home on Decem-

ber 31, 1978. Twelve people attended.

By Easter 1979, a lease had been signed for the use of the building and facilities of the Unitarian Fellowship of Redwood City at 2124 Brewster St. Today, the active membership is 53. That alone is significant, but Hill sees many other outstanding characteristics in this congregation.

"From the beginning we have been of one mind, of one accord, in everything we have done," Hill said. Though the church bylaws now state that a two-thirds majority is necessary for the passage of any measure, the most frequent decision-making is by consensus. Too, the group as a whole is quite generous, with individuals often exceeding even the tithing they have committed themselves to.

Additionally, Hill characterizes Calvary MCC as a loving family resembling the early Christian church. He sees his parishioners as anything but "Sunday Christians" because as individuals and in small groups they are politically involved (though not officially representing the church) and are active in such groups as the Emergency Hunger Fund, the Emergency Housing Consortium, prison and juvenile hall ministries.

"I have been accused of preaching a social gospel," Hill said. "I suppose in a sense that's true in that the gospel is a social activist kind of thing. Christ was a revolutionary, and we are revolutionaries. You can't very well be a Christian if you are withdrawn from all the people around you. You have to be out there involved with all the people, as Jesus was."

Beyond fulfilling its members' religious needs, Hill asserts that their social needs are met as well. Because many are not bar goers, some in fact being AA members, the church serves as their social center.

Also, the church is a kind of extended family. "So many Gay people don't have a family they can relate to openly, honestly, comfortably, so in one sense the church substitutes for the biological family," Hill observed.

He recently discovered that the non-Gay portion of the congregation feels the same way



Conebunga! A Sunday surfer shoots the plastic fantastic at the Windsor water slide during Tavern Guild Picnic in Sonoma County Sept. 16. (Photo: Darlene)

about the family aspect. And, of course, the matter is a two-way street. The Gay members find here a most congenial ground on which to interact openly and honestly with straights.

Also, in keeping with its world-wide reputation, this MCC congregation is interracial. At this point, three races are represented in the group. "People are just accepted as people," Hill asserted. The same is true of age, with participants ranging from very small children to those over sixty, and of economic status. The membership is a real social cross-section, Hill believes.

The outreach of the church has been to social and other Gay groups too. For example, a Palo Alto-based limited membership social group called Force Five, which has existed here since before the MCC came, is kind of a co-responder.

In addition to sponsoring social events, Force Five is involved in charitable activities, with, therefore, a natural connection to Calvary. It is Hill's feeling that there is an emerging larger Gay community on the Peninsula and that the MCC will continue to be a vital part of it.

"Most of the religious organizations on the Peninsula would consider us not even liberals," Hill answered to a question on relationships with other churches here. "We would be considered far left."

Virginia Knowles, former minister of the Unitarian Fellowship of Redwood City, once proposed Hill for membership in the Redwood City Clergy Association. The application was turned down, Hill believes, because the majority of members were convinced that their congregations would have been furious at his inclusion. Hill finds this ironic because within the MCC, Calvary is thought of as rather conservative.

Hill foresees continued growth as a certainty for the church. Also, the expansion will

be in some new directions. Besides getting its own plant eventually, he believes that Calvary will share its facilities with other Gay and self-help groups. In sum, it will meet the needs of more groups than it is currently able to do.

On Hill's departure, the Board of Trustees will handle the business of the church, including the planning of services, with guest speakers often invited. There are a number of lay people in the congregation qualified as preachers.

In view of the accumulating success, it seems surprising that Hill would leave. I asked him why. His reply was characteristically religious. He feels that he has been called by God to the Atlanta church.

Originally, he complied with their request that he file an application because he thought it the only courteous thing to do. The application was taken very seriously by the Atlanta people, however, and Hill was invited to visit and consult.

After he did so, there was a period of skepticism on his part — but also one of prayer for guidance. Hill decided that he would accept the Atlanta call if the voting for him there was at least 85 to 90 percent. It turned out to be 87.5 percent. It was at that point that he accepted.

He is going to a larger church in a big, inner-city area. There are growth plans of various kinds there too. Hill looks upon his prospects as a challenge.

The departing minister is guiding his flock through the departure and grieving process. In doing so, he is carefully avoiding direct involvement in any steps to replace him. But he has great confidence that the consensual practice and the dedication he knows lives in the congregation will guide and nurture the church.

Services will continue at 5 p.m. on Sunday, as will mid-week activities. Contact can be made by calling (415) 368-0188.

OAKLAND

A Crowning Affair

NEZ PAS

PROTRACTED TRIUMPHAL (A Fagged Nose?)

First you have to have a hall incorrectly set up by the management (due to an elongated wedding reception, no less). Add to that, last-minute details being carried out as guests start to arrive. Put in a dash of mix-up in "changing room" and rest room arrangements. Include a pinch of "Imperial Time" and a large amount of confusion. Put them all in a delightful setting overlooking the San Francisco skyline and you produce ACIE's Coronation '84, "A Trip Through Time."

An emphasis must be placed on "Time." The 7 o'clock starting time was nearer to 8:15, and when the winners were announced at 1:15 a.m., several tables had already departed for more ambience, if you will.

A synopsis really can't do the coronation justice, because there were many pleasurable highlights along with a few (and necessary, I'm told) repetitious and monotonous episodes. Perhaps mentioning the minuses first will make the pluses stand out.

Time has already been mentioned — four short intermissions didn't help. A ticket fiasco in Hayward didn't help county relations at all. The three MCs were not masters and most certainly not ceremonious. Albeit some people's handwriting is terrible, but person's posing as Masters of Ceremonies should know how to read. There was ample time during "walks" to proofread and seek answers to confusing words. Some out-of-towners did three and four numbers, while local court members were deleted due to the lengthy evening. It seemed that some were on the stage more often than the out-going emperor and empress!

The opening ceremony (Presentation of Flags/Colors) was impressive, save for those low hanging chandeliers and long flag poles! Jimmy Dee's rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" was a tear-jerker, especially with the entire gathering joining in. Emperor Don's and Empress Cha Cha's four costume changes ran the gamut of time from caveman, roaring 20s, future, and finally, formal. Two presentations also went the "time tunnel" route; San Francisco and Reno (always great!). Entrant Lady April was presented via an ol' time revival gospel meetin', complete with "saved converts." Contender Lady Rhonda did a vigorous pantomime, as did agonist Lady Billy. All three received standing ovations.

The command performances by Elaine Peacock were truly talented and very entertaining, as were the three numbers by Fresno's Empress Jerry. Even Fat Fairy did a presentation for her Empress and Emperor — and, by golly, the old girl donated her honorariums to the East Bay AIDS Fund. That was nice.

All eight dowager Emperors and Empresses appeared together for the first time, and it was kind of touching to see the ten monarchs of ACIE joined in mutual respect and admiration from the audience. The five Emperors never looked more vivacious and resplendent!

In their tearful, final walks and awards, Don and Cha Cha selected Tulare County as best in-state presentation (who was that "Gretchen" look-alike?); best out-of-state, Reno; and best overall, San Francisco (was that Rocky Horror Picture Show?). The Emperor/Empress Award went to a person "not everyone likes, but he doesn't care," Nez Pas! The Billy de Frank Award was presented to Ed Paulson and Little Mother. Special honors were received by "Mama Cha Cha" and Hal Bundy.

The precedent-setter that night was Titles for Life for Grand Mere ACIE Suzie and Grand Pere ACIE Ed Paulson; Baron ACIE, Sarge; and Honorary Crown Prince ACIE, Larry (Mr. Cha Cha).

No contest for Emperor VI (thank goodness!). It was Doug Odermat, Empress VI, ACIE, Lady Billy. When she was announced as winner, guess who fainted! No, not Lady Billy. Congratulations to the newest monarchs. They have been shown the way by their predecessors — but their road will be bumpy. Hopefully, those who elected them will support them.

Sources tell me that from all the pre-coronation functions, more than \$1,300 was raised for the East Bay AIDS Fund, thanks to Ladies Billy and Rhonda.

EXCHQUER DELATION
(An Up-Dating Nose)

A Catch-22 type situation almost developed, due to some misunderstandings and crossed wires. The East Bay AIDS Fund (EBAF) was under the impression that a deceased brother couldn't be cremated because of San Francisco dollar assistance and couldn't be shipped to San Francisco because of dying in Alameda County. The heartbroken father back East subsists totally on Social Security and couldn't afford to have his son returned home.

Well, lo and behold, there were two different cases involved here. After things were straightened out, and after EBAF learned that a doctor contributed \$166.00 for cremation and shipping, the remaining balance of \$171.00 was paid for this worthwhile, one-time expense.

To date, EBAF has allocated one-time payments of \$400 (rent, transportation, food); \$266 for one-half rent and \$130 for hospital TV rental; and the previously mentioned \$171.00.

Currently pending is a request for one-half of first or last month's rent. All details were not available as of last meeting

for Rick Woolley, who'll be in the hospital for some bit of time.

In October, the committee of EBAF will have as speakers Paul Seidler (the "kissing cop") and a representative from the Pacific Center. The Pacific Center, by the by, is working with the Steamworks in Berkeley in an educational campaign about all sex-related diseases. Hopefully the Club Baths on 73rd will contact Jeremy at the Pacific Center so they, too, may be included in this educational program.

NEZ'S NOTES:
• Saturday, Oct. 29, the Town and Country is having a benefit

for Rick Woolley, who'll be in the hospital for some bit of time.

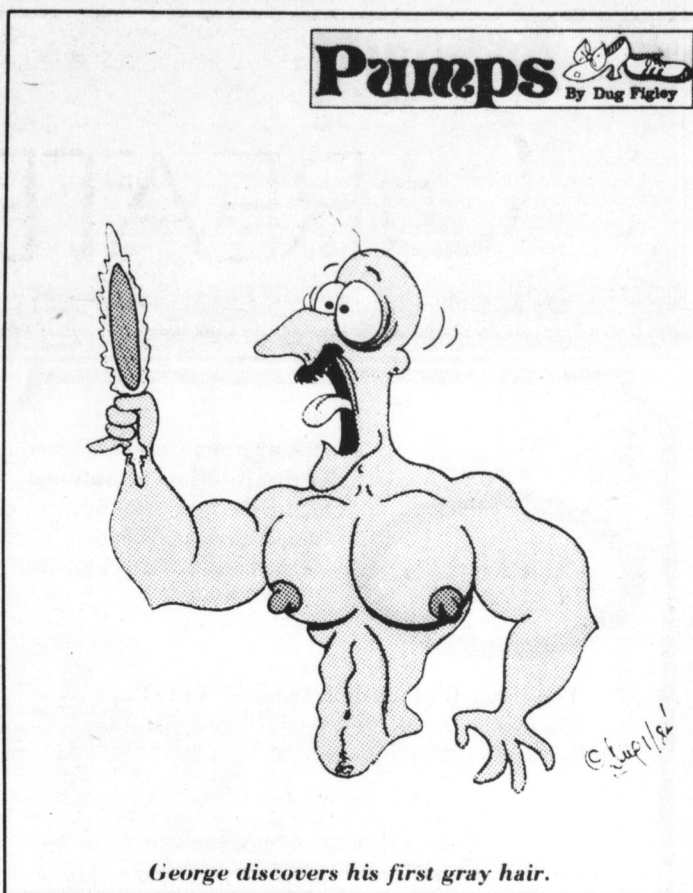
• Just what did happen to the bus from San Francisco enroute to Coronation '84?

• Trish (as in trashy) and Cheryl in choir robes? "Loardie, loardie, what's gonna happen next?"

• Marv (as in Town and Country), your drag was sensational! Did Sam open the car door for you . . . or did you drive?

• Er, ah, I know all about "Imperial Time," but just why was Kelly's overlooked during ACIE's bus tour, R.L.?

Remember, if you explain so clearly that nobody can misunderstand, somebody will smile! Love, Nez



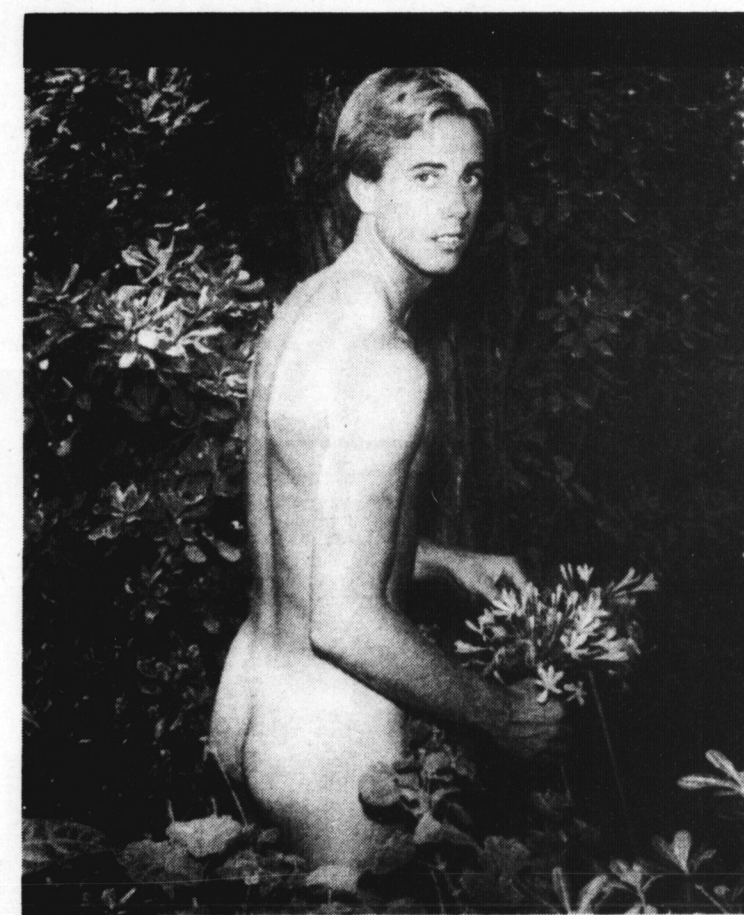
George discovers his first gray hair.

so it was postponed until next month.

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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 28

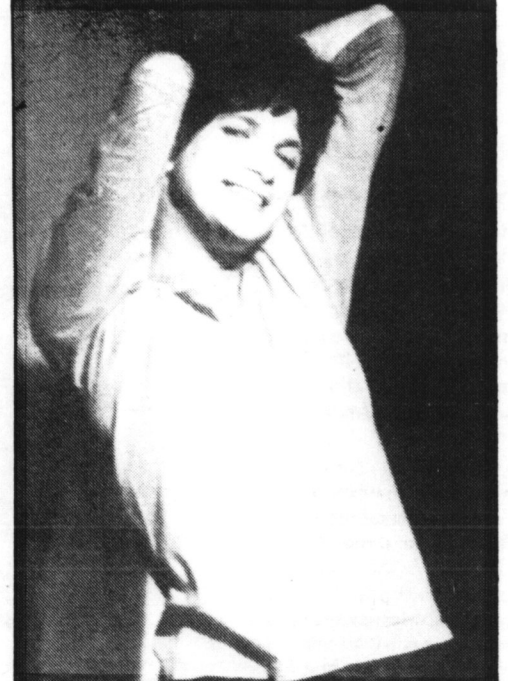
- **Beau Soir:** music, St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St., S.F., 8 PM, cover. The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale presents an evening of mostly French choral music as a benefit for Hospice of San Francisco. For tickets and more information call 285-5622.
- **Femprov:** comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, cover.
- **The Captive:** stage performance, The Studio, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. The play's first presentation since it was closed by New York police in 1926.
- **Tales of Danger, Fragility, and Love:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2940 16th St., S.F., 10:30 PM, \$7. Tom Keegan and Davidson Lloyd in a dance/theater event about food, relationships, spray paint, and everything else pertaining to survival.
- **Beyond Happiness:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. A one-man, multiple-character play written and performed by Peter McGehee.
- **Once is Never Enough:** stage performance, People's Theatre Coalition, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. B, 8 PM, cover. The Asian-American Theater Company opens its 11th season.
- **Steel Town:** stage performance, Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$8. The San Francisco Mime Troupe brings its show to the East Bay.
- **Singing My Mother to Sleep:** stage performance, Intersection for the Arts, 756 Union St., S.F., 8 PM. Motion presents a view of a woman's search for freedom and struggle for survival.
- **Riot Squad:** comedy/improvisation, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10:30 PM, \$5.



The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale will give three performances this week, Sept. 28 at St. Francis Lutheran Church and Sept. 29 and 30 at Trinity Episcopal Church. (Photo: P. Fearey)

- **Charles Busch: Alone With a Cast of Thousands:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. Busch takes his act from the Rose to Rhino.
- **Future Junkyard:** stage performance, Zephyr Theatre, 595 Mission St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. Dream Theatre presents a new production.
- **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.
- **Kerrigan Black:** music, Cathedral Hill Hotel, Van Ness and Geary, S.F., 8:30 PM, cover. Black will also appear at the Sansome Street Brasserie, 411 Sansome St., S.F., at 5:30 PM.
- **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.
- **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.

- **Baum and Tufo:** comedy/music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. The Baum and Tufo show returns from its Midwest tour, with J.D. Taylor on the harmonica.
- **Gay Comedy Night:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Featuring Danny Williams, Monica Palacios, and Marga Gomez.
- **Dalila Jasmin:** belly dancing especially for women, Community Women's Center, 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 8:30 PM, \$4 to \$6 sliding scale.
- **Mason Powell:** author of *The Brig*, book signing, The Studstore, 960 Folsom St., S.F., 3 to 6 PM.
- **Pizzazz:** dance for Gay men and women, Sheraton-Sunnyvale ballroom, 1100 N. Mathilda Ave., Sunnyvale, 8 PM to 1 AM, \$22. Hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, door prizes, no-host bar. Semi or formal dress optional. Call (408) 971-7408 for more information.
- **SGA's Memory Ball:** dance, Eagles Hall, 126 Camellia Way, Modesto, 8 PM to 1:30 AM, \$5. Games, refreshments, entertainment, no-host bar. Must be 21 years old to attend, ID required.
- **Lynda Bergren:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5.
- **Co-Lab Arts:** grand opening, 1805 Divisadero St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. Installations, performance art, and poetry by local artists. Proceeds will benefit the art.re grup and Polyphonic.
- **The Captive:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Tales of Danger, Fragility, and Love:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Beyond Happiness:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Patience:** stage performance, Presentation Theater, 2350 Turk St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10 and \$12. The Lamplighters in their 222nd production of Gilbert and Sullivan.
- **Once is Never Enough:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Steel Town:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Singing My Mother to Sleep:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Charles Busch: Alone With a Cast of Thousands:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Future Junkyard:** stage performance, 8:30 and 11 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Cinderella II:** stage performance, \$8 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret (see Friday listing for details).



This week is your last chance to see Charles Busch: Alone With a Cast of Thousands at Theatre Rhinoceros. (Photo: Rink)

SATURDAY 29

- **Beau Soir:** music, Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale presents an evening of mostly French choral music. Call 863-0342 for more information.
- **Judy Gorman, Jacobs and Marga Gomez:** comedy/music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- **In Memory of Truman Capote:** on his 60th birthday, Robert Coffman will read from Capote's last work.

SUNDAY 30

- **Beau Soir:** music, Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush St., S.F., 4 PM, \$6. The Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorale presents an afternoon of mostly French choral music. Call 863-0342 for more information.
- **Judy Gorman, Jacobs and Marga Gomez:** comedy/music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- **In Memory of Truman Capote:** on his 60th birthday, Robert Coffman will read from Capote's last work.

TUESDAY

- **Living on This Planet:** performance art, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Frank Shepard will perform.
- **Different Spokes/San Francisco:** meeting, San Francisco Public Library, Parkside Branch, 1833 Page St., S.F., 7:30 PM.
- **Peggy Lee:** music, Venetian Room, Fairmont Hotel, S.F., 9:30 and 11:30 PM, cover.
- **Millie, Mavis, and Rose:** playreading, Room 300, Bldg. C, Fort Mason Center, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$2. A one-act comedy by Kenn Honeychurch, directed by William Martin. With Buena Serra, Phillip Reed, a one-act monologue by William Martin.
- **For Women Only:** live erotic dancing, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, cover.
- **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 3

- **Jane and the Family Jewels:** stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. Starring Jane Dornacker.
- **The Geraldine Ferraro Emancipated All Star Blues Band:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, cover. Featuring Miss Addie, Jo Baker, Lady Bianca, and Keta Bill. The Lesbian Caucus of the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club will staff a voter registration table.
- **Alcohol in Our Lives:** Lesbians of Color/Third World Lesbians Drop-in Rap Group, Pacific Center, Berkeley, 8 to 9:45 PM, \$2.
- **Peggy Lee:** music (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **Next Stop Tokyo:** mime, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4. Marj Bly in a one-woman show for one performance only.

THURSDAY 4

- **Resorts for Sex Perverts:** lecture/slide show, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Allen Berube's presentation of the chequered history of San Francisco's Gay bars in an encore performance.
- **Jane and the Family Jewels:** stage performance (see Wednesday listing for details).
- **Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns/San Francisco:** discussion, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez, S.F., 7:30 PM. An ecumenical group of religious leaders forming Religious Issues '84 to facilitate discussion among mainline Christians on the broader ethical and moral issues of 1984.
- **Reginald McDonald:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6. With Joyce Imbisi at the piano. Call 986-4553 for reservations.
- **Little Shop of Horrors:** stage performance, Warfield Theatre, 982 Market St., S.F., 8 PM, \$15, \$20, and \$22.50. The New York musical based on Roger Corman's sci-fi cult film.
- **Peggy Lee:** music (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **The Captive:** stage performance, \$6 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Once is Never Enough:** stage performance, 3 and 7 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Steel Town:** stage performance, 2 and 8 PM, \$7 and \$8 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Charles Busch:** stage performance, \$7 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Future Junkyard:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Martha Young Trio:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM.
- **Cinderella II:** stage performance, \$7 (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 1

- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. Tom Ammiano and Monica Palacios will co-emcee. Performer sign-up at 7:30 PM.
- **BADC Dancers' Preview:** dance, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$4. The works of Evelyn Larsen, Neils Mezynski, Ron Garnys, Alexandria Kale, and Rene Pulliam will be performed.

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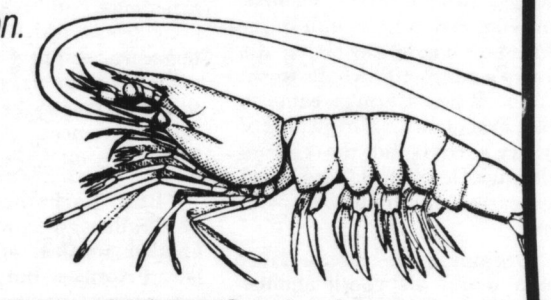
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The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

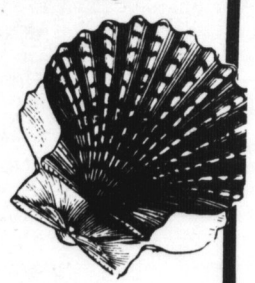
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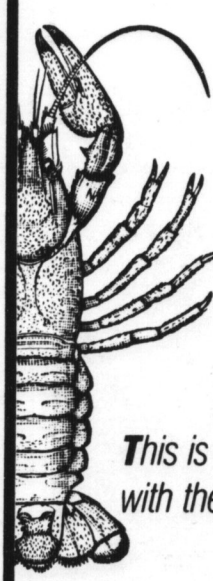
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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

B.A.R. INTERVIEW

JERRY HERMAN

The Man Who Writes Those Catchy Tunes

by John F. Karr

Jerry Herman and I see eye to eye. When I dared reveal my true heart, that my philosophy of life was Oscar Hammerstein's buoyant "Many a New Day," he concurred with a beneficent "Bless you." And when I flattered him one station short of shameless, he agreed wholeheartedly.

Yet with clear head, Herman's self-knowledge gets off before conceit. One year into his fifties, Herman recently concluded a period of reflection on his career. He knew quick success, quicker failure, and a dry spell of doubt. His troubled years ended when La Cage aux folles opened, and whether you liked the show or not, it confirmed Herman's ability to entertain. Simultaneously, the revue of his songs, *Jerry's Girls*, opened, proving that even though Barry Manilow made the claim, it's Jerry's songs the whole world sings. When Herman came to San Francisco for the opening of *Jerry's Girls* (at the Curran through October 6), I surveyed his career and discussed it with him.

Beginning his career, Herman found his youth against him. The still boyish composer laughs to recollect his appearance in his mid-twenties.

"I must have looked twelve years old," he says. "Kermit Bloomgarden liked my songs, but said, 'Could you picture me with a several million dollar musical out of town with you?' I had to prove myself."

That he did with *Nightcap*, an off-Broadway revue that put Charles Nelson Reilly on his first New York stage and Herman behind the piano. It evolved into a bigger revue, *Parade*, with Herman still at



Jerry Herman

At the same time Herman's royalties were at flood level, the boat was sinking. The big Broadway musical, with integrated songs and a linear script, had reached its apotheosis in *Gypsy* several years earlier. Nothing can function on that

ceived form, and Herman revealed, "I am dedicated to doing it again. It's a show that will just refuse to die."

The composer himself disavowed his next show, and none of its songs are in *Jerry's Girls*.

"Even though my shows are my children of a sort, I don't love *The Grand Tour*," he says. "I did it for an odd reason — I wasn't working. I didn't love the material."

Although he attempted to stretch, the serious story — a Jew fleeing the Nazis — was not quite matched by Herman's tunes. The production number, "Do It for Poland," may be the hilarious nadir of Herman's career.

Three flops in a row, even though two had strong scores, left Herman dazed and confused. He still didn't fully realize the change swirling around him, and thought he had been personally rejected. Now that the change is stabilizing, with critics and audiences realizing various forms of the musical can co-exist, Herman's output is receiving due credit.

Herman is also glad his ballads are being reassessed. "I wrote a song called 'Hello, Hello,'" he says.

— Jerry Herman

"This is fascinating and absolutely dead-on in my mind," Herman said. "But I'll go a step further." (Overture) "I have to learn something from everything I do." (Curtain up) "I was in a funk because I was hurt. I'd written a wonderful score and a meat-and-potatoes score and been rejected. But without these negative experiences, these rejections, I wouldn't feel as together as I feel now. I had to learn about me." (Act One finale) "One morning I woke up and knew that what I had to do was write like Jerry Herman."

His identity reconfirmed, he went to the movies. He saw something called *La Cage aux folles* . . .

"I learned that when something is going through a change,

there is nothing wrong with keeping the traditional values," Herman said. "I want the song to keep going. I want the theater to change, to be experimental. But at the same time, I want the traditional values to remain. Let us all do what we do and be happy that our musical theater supports such variety."

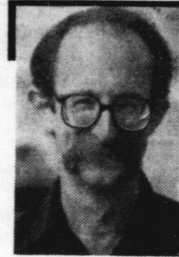
"And so *La Cage* went for a personal statement," Herman continued. Criticism from the Gay press hurts. "Had we written the show for them, it would have been a dazzling political success *d'estime*, and that's it. It wouldn't have three companies running simultaneously."

"This should never come from my mouth, I didn't say this, but I believe when we look back at what has helped the Gay movement the most, it might turn out to be *La Cage*. I swear to you I wrote it to entertain people, but in the long run it will educate more bigoted people because they have loved these characters."

Looking around at the fair, I realized how much I love Gay people, for the exact reasons others revile us. Everything others can't accept, all those extremes, are so . . . embraceable, so full, so fun, so extraordinary where others are only ordinary.

Particularly extraordinary was Theatre Rhino's AIDS Show: *Artists Involved with Death and Survival*. You still have a chance to see it because it will tour around the city. It should be famous, taped by KQED. My fervent thanks to the writers, actors, and director, who rose to an incredible challenge and produced writing and acting of the highest quality. I've written of the theater's ability to restore innocence, cleanse the soul, and ennoble the ordinary. But here, it creates life from death.

Theatre Rhino spent an evening last week presenting its annual Bette Rhino Awards to an assemblage of the Famous. Talent dripped from the walls as MC Tom Ammiano dripped jokes. Ripping into Bible-thumpers, he wondered if Jesus could have been Gay. "Jesus sits



EVEN IN BABYLON

Famous People

JOHN F. KARR

I don't know what's driving me to do it, but in a confessional and perhaps overly revealing moment, I'd like to begin my column this week with a list of the famous people I haven't slept with. Since there's so many, this week I'll list "Roberts": Robert Redford, Robert Goulet, Robert Kennedy, Robert Merrill, Robert Pruzan.

More than any other portion of society, Gays have embraced Warhol's dictum, and last Sunday everybody was all dressed up and dressed down at the Folsom Street Fair, being famous for an afternoon. We seem to be playing out Colin Wilson's view of fantasy writer H.P. Lovecraft — "oppressed by the ordinary, Lovecraft keeps declaring that the extraordinary exists."

The extraordinary existed on Folsom Street. Talk about costume and fantasy. The street crawled with the picturesque, the bawdy, those famous even if only in their own minds. It also crawled with television cameras, come to stare at the butch, the femme, and every combination thereof. My companion, Ronnette, straddled one camera, preening, "I'm ready for my close-up, Mr. DeMille," but I advised the sweet thing he'd more likely find true fame in a long shot.

My other companion, J. June Dubois, found the fair just to her liking.

"It's short on booths," she bon-motted, "but long on baskets." Mine eyes had seen the glory repeatedly — I've always been a basket case — and they darted from bulging codpiece to sleek and handsome leatherwomen, a species new enough, at least on the streets, to upstage a cock. I feasted my gaze on a group of Hispanic teenagers, those tight-bodied, tropically-skinned, and swaggeringly macho dudes who were creating a new prototype by cloning themselves with the Castro look. Coming out could be extra hard when you're coming out of the Mission, but, oh, they were handsome. In a few years it'll be "Low-ride me, daddy."

Looking around at the fair, I realized how much I love Gay people, for the exact reasons others revile us. Everything others can't accept, all those extremes, are so . . . embraceable, so full, so fun, so extraordinary where others are only ordinary.

Particularly extraordinary was Theatre Rhino's AIDS Show: *Artists Involved with Death and Survival*. You still have a chance to see it because it will tour around the city. It should be famous, taped by KQED. My fervent thanks to the writers, actors, and director, who rose to an incredible challenge and produced writing and acting of the highest quality. I've written of the theater's ability to restore innocence, cleanse the soul, and ennoble the ordinary. But here, it creates life from death.

Theatre Rhino spent an evening last week presenting its annual Bette Rhino Awards to an assemblage of the Famous. Talent dripped from the walls as MC Tom Ammiano dripped jokes. Ripping into Bible-thumpers, he wondered if Jesus could have been Gay. "Jesus sits

on the right hand of God . . . what's that all about?"

I was particularly proud of one award they presented, Bernard Spunberg's "Bette Pulitzer" for his writing in the *Bay Area Reporter* and *The Advocate*. Bernard's writing is well-thought and his taste nearly always excellent. Congrats to my conscientious friend, whose body of work removes the opprobrium often connected to the office of critic.

Congrats to all the Bette Rhino winners:

Outstanding Production (Mainstage): *A Late Snow*, Jane Chambers

Outstanding Production (The Studio): *The Four Tunes: The Homosexual, or The Difficulty of Expressing Oneself*, Copi

Outstanding Directors (Mainstage): Kris Gannon, *A Late Snow*; Chuck Solomon, *Four Tunes*

Outstanding Directors (The Studio): John Beeman, *Lorena Hickok and Eleanor Roosevelt: A Love Story*; Philippe Roy, *Copi plays*

Outstanding Actor/Male (Mainstage): Duane Cooper, *Crystal Blaze*; Charlie Hufford, *Vieux Carre*; Mario

Mondelli, *Four Tunes*

Outstanding Actor/Female (Mainstage): Gail Golden, *A Late Snow*; Michele Simon, *A Late Snow*; Deborah Spector, *Four Tunes*

Outstanding Actor/Male (The Studio): Aaron Denny, *A Member of the Wedding*; Randahl Freisen, *Copi plays*

Outstanding Actor/Female (The Studio): Pat Bond, *Lorena Hickok and Eleanor Roosevelt: A Love Story*; Esther Scott, *A Member of the Wedding*

Outstanding Set Design: Sandra Howell, *A Safe Light*; Peter Grote, *Vieux Carre*

Outstanding Lighting Design: Jim Wallace, *A Safe Light*; Cayenne Woods, *A Late Snow*

Outstanding Costume Design: Lorraine Cathie Barber, *Copi plays*; Pamela Mason Brune, *Vieux Carre*

Outstanding Sound Design: Cindy Rae Braman, *Crystal Blaze*; Jerry Beasley, *5th of July*

Bette Pulitzer: Bernie Weiner, *S.F. Chronicle*; Bernard Spunberg, *Bay Area Reporter*

Bette Rhino Lifetime Achievement: Michael Carter, Vice President, Board of Directors

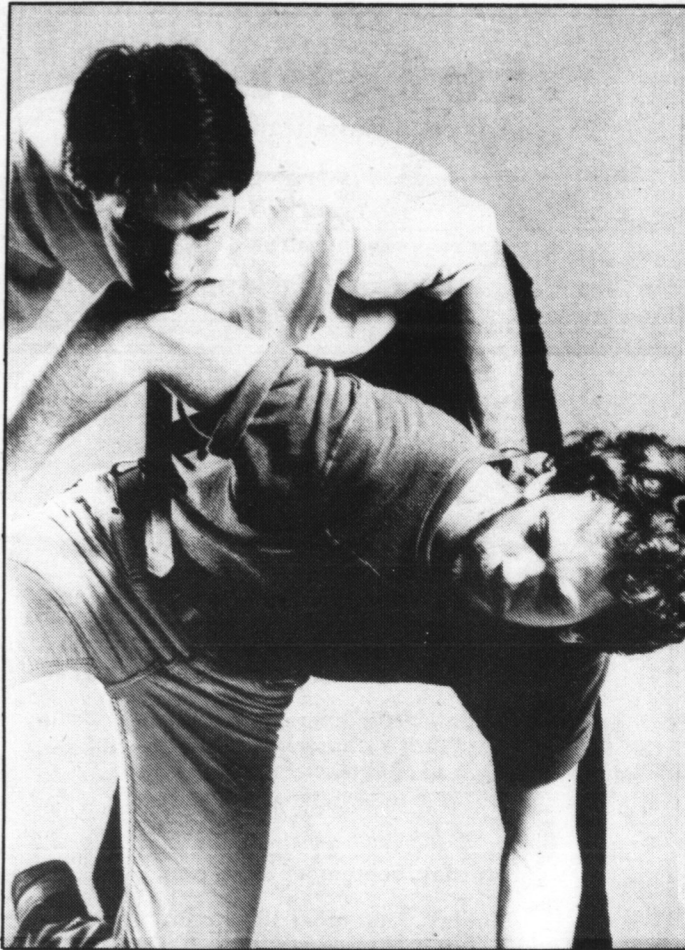
Board of Directors Awards: Bob Gouly and Frank Pignotti; Cindy Braman and Ed Guthrie

Administrative Awards: Mark Hoover; The Mailing Mart

Technical Awards: Raleigh Waugh; City of Oakland Parks & Rec.

RECOMMENDED:

Keegan and David finish a Rhino run this weekend. Robert Coffman reads Capote's *An-*



Tom Keegan and David Lloyd will perform *Tales of Danger, Fragility, and Love* through Sunday at Theatre Rhinoceros.

suered *Prayers* at the Walt Whitman, Sept. 30 at 8 p.m. Jane Dornacker opens a new showroom at the Valencia Rose Oct. 3, and Reginald McDonald croons at Mame's Oct. 4. ■

'I believe when we look back at what has helped the Gay movement the most, it might turn out to be *La Cage*.'

— Jerry Herman

teary-eyed remembering Mame," he says. "During the tryout in Boston, Beatrice Arthur and Angela and I went to the movies!"

level consistently, and the musical was in for a period of change and evolution. Hair ushered in rock, the concept musical became fashionable, and more progressive musical idioms, approaching cantata and opera, were tried. Traditional values were momentarily passe. It was a troubled time for Herman, who rose to fame as the representative of the old school at the moment of its eclipse. He had several failures in a row.

"The mistakes weren't all my mistakes," he can say now in his defense, agreeing with me that a true valuation of his work can only be made now that he's ridden out the tempest years of change.

Mame was followed by *Dear World*.

"I wrote the most diverse material I'd written for *Dear World*," he recounted, "and it was the biggest failure. The audience rejected Angela playing an old lady, and my score. But it was conceived as a small Parisian street musical, with only eight musicians, on stage. But the producers played Barnum and it was all blown out of proportion."

Mack and Mabel was next, and though Herman is saddest about its failure, it may be his *Candide*. The record is a collector's item, and several of the songs are frequently heard. Herman admits permitting the changes that destroyed the musical's concept, but the score stands intact. Michael Stewart has restored the script to its con-



Jerry Herman in a 1950 production of *Finian's Rainbow* at the University of Miami.

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TALES OF TESSITURA

Getting Even

GEORGE HEYMONT

Bitter acts of revenge are often used to bring many operas to their close. Yet, whether they be accompanied by the dulcet tones of a tenor croaking his final aria, the whoosh of a soprano's cape as she drops off a balcony ledge, or the gurgle of someone's dead mother as her body sinks to the bottom of a Venetian canal, these acts are not as sweet as some might think. Why? Because the intense premeditation required to pull off a clean job often consumes the soul of the avenger, destroying both him and his victim in the process.

Alas, dead bodies do not rise to perform encores — although one occasionally prays for the equivalent of a cinematic retake in hopes that an artist will get it right the second time around. Perhaps the most bitter irony in all of opera is that such caustic acts of revenge can be accompanied by so much wonderful music that the audience can't wait to hear it played again and again. A steady diet of murders helps keep the box office healthy.

LETHARGIC LOTHARIOS

But what happens when matters grow so tired and boring the audience doesn't even care what's happening onstage? That was pretty much the situation during the San Francisco Opera's opening production of *Ernani* — a revival of Verdi's early opus originally planned as a blockbuster showcase for Luciano Pavarotti, Montserrat Caballe, Sherrill Milnes, and Paul Plishka. On paper it sounded fine, for the cast included some of the supreme Verdi stylists of our time. Alas, the final results proved to be frighteningly dull.

Since the success of this opera does not rest entirely on the shoulders of the tenor, it was discouraging to see what happened to the remainder of the cast after Pavarotti blew town and was replaced by Nuzzio To-discio — who had left little if any impression on local opera fans several years prior when he sang the role of Pollione in Bellini's *Norma*. Lamberto Gardelli conducted at half speed, producing music-making which could hardly be called inspirational. Nicolas Joel's direction failed to keep many people awake. Indeed, a stage director visiting from New York was aghast that the opera company hadn't demanded the money paid for Joel's artistic fee be returned for work not performed.

One critic characterized the performance as flaccid and detumescent and, in truth, there was little hope of getting a hard-on in the opera house that night from anything happening onstage. Milnes and Plishka held their own without too many problems. Indeed, Plishka seems to have emerged as one of the finest American basses to develop an international career in the past quarter century. His phrasing, musicianship, and sheer vocal splendor make any performance in which he appears a worthwhile artistic event — if only for several brief, shining moments. In the role of Don Carlo, King of Spain, Milnes was still in relatively good shape.

His voice, however, sounds drier than in years past.

Alas, Montserrat Caballe was in frighteningly poor condition on the evening I attended *Ernani*. Straining for notes and marking her way through sections of the score, she delivered a performance of such overwhelming mediocrity that, had it come from any other soprano, Elvira would have been booed off the stage. There is no question in my mind that, when she is in good voice, Caballe can be a ravishingly seductive artist whose vocal talents easily compensate for her dramatically gross unbelievability. On too many nights, however, she gets through an evening with a great deal of uninspired singing and then saves face by pulling off one single note which is all her fans choose to remember.



Violanta (Mary Jane Johnson) tries to overcome her love for Alphonso (Neil Rosenhein) so that she can avenge her sister's death.

STAGE

Abracadabra '84

by Michael Lasky

You have to be pretty jaded and cynical not to like a good magic act. Doug Henning's is about the best there is, with his state of the art illusions that have motorcycles, lions, and assorted oversized bric-a-brac vanishing before your eyes, only to reappear at the other end of the stage in microseconds.

Sure, seeing a woman in half is as hokey as it is old hat. Trust Henning to add a new twist by sawing two women in half and then returning mismatched legs to the torso.

Part of the fun of magic shows

is guessing, "how does he do that?" Henning offers no clues, but just keeps the tricks coming, one toppling after another. Therein lies the problem with this show. Unless you are a magic junkie, these tricks do tend, despite their gimmicky nature, to get repetitive.

Let's face it; how many disappearing illusions in various guises can we put up with, especially when they are sandwiched into a hopelessly mushy, Velvetea cheese-white bread show peopled with bouncy dancers and canned music? Is that call-

In recent years, Caballe's continued track record of sudden cancellations, erratic singing, and genuine ill health have taken away much of the joy this artist once brought to her public. Sad, but true.

STABBING MIT SCHMALTZ

Brief mention should be made of Erich Wolfgang Korngold's *Violanta*, a one-act which was performed this summer for the first time by the Santa Fe Opera. I'd love to see this work produced on a double bill with Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Together they would make a sick, but provocative evening. As the heroine who wants to avenge the death of her sister — but who falls in love with the murderer instead — Mary Jane Johnson looked stunning and sounded absolutely magnificent. Neil Rosenhein sang the gut-buster tenor role of Alfonso with a new-found strength which makes one believe this talented artist, who sang many years ago with Spring Opera Theatre, is finally coming into his own element.

Bliss Hebert directed *Violanta* with great busy-ness, indicating the work might do better with a video approach. Although Nancy Thun's highly-stylized set was oddly unnerving, I was quite taken with the opera's lush orchestrations. Korngold (who wrote so many film scores) had an uncannily effective style; an eruptive tidal wave of sensuality which underscores the plot's violent passions and bizarre moments of theatricality. Although I doubt we will see or hear much of *Violanta* in the future, it was an interesting diversion — a schmaltzy curiosity filled with blood, guts, and a most poignant revenge. ■

FROM FIFTH POSITION

Oakland Ballet's Mixed Bag

KEITH WHITE

The Oakland Ballet opened its new season on an exceptionally positive note last Friday night. A capacity crowd flocked to Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley, eager to see the company's celebrated new acquisition, *The Green Table*, a 1932 anti-war ballet by revolutionary German choreographer Kurt Jooss. The two company revivals which filled out the opening program also held their own, making this one of the best evenings I've spent at the Oakland Ballet.

Fokine's *Scheherazade* was one of the Oakland Ballet's earlier historical revivals — acquired in 1978 — and the company has since come to be recognized as one which chooses such works with uncanny perception and stages them with careful attention to detail. Knowing that this ballet is from 1910 raised some question in my mind as to its entertainment potential today, particularly since a number of the early Ballet Russe works are complete duds, despite their historical significance. *Scheherazade* is quite a fantasy, however, with the ballet's action revolving around an enormous

bi-racial sex orgy between the Shah's wives and his male slaves. The ballet shows its age with its staging, with actual dancing taking second place to the setting, costumes, and wonderful Rimsky-Korsakov score — at least until the favorite wife, Zobeide, begins to take over the action. Summer Lee Rhatigan found a role she could sink her teeth into, and with Ron Thiele as her excellent partner, she gave us quite a memorable performance.

As a centerpiece, artistic director Ronn Guidi revived his 1976 ballet *Gallops and Kisses* — to music of Johann Strauss, Franz Schubert, and Joseph Lanner — and despite the insipid title, it's a charming ballet. Romance and frivolity abound amid a garden setting, with flirtatious duets, daring solos, and exuberant ensembles composed of, as my friend remarked, "practically every step in the entire ballet vocabulary." A few too many kisses get thrown at the audience, particularly annoying at the end of Joral Schmalte's big allegro variation. Please, Schmalte, the company's likeliest boy-wonder can-

didate, still barely gets through solos of this magnitude. But his struggle keeps one on edge, and there is palpable relief when he does throw his final kiss and dart off into the wings. The Oakland dancers perform this piece with a kind of refreshing faith I've come to associate with the company. All the dancers have this aplomb, though I particularly enjoyed the women, Erin Leedom, Julie Lowe, Patti Owen, and Abra Rudisill.

The big event, *The Green Table*, freshly staged for Oakland by Kurt Jooss's daughter, Anna Markard, lived up to our expectations and is a great addition to the company's repertoire. *The Green Table* is known to Bay Area audiences from having been performed here a number of times by The Joffrey Ballet, which was the first American company to revive the work. I have also seen it danced by the Cleveland Ballet, and in each instance the audiences have been greatly moved. The ballet depicts the horrors of war, both in combat and at home, taking us through the final destruction and leaving us with the dark suggestion that it's all going to happen again. The inevitability of war. Friday's performance was very creditable, though I know that repetition will enhance it. Particularly effective on opening night were, once again, Summer Lee Rhatigan, Richard Chen See, and The Profiteer and Allyson Deane as the Old Mother. ■

BACK TO BATON

Also Ran Zarathustra

PHILIP CAMPBELL

Preparing a performance of Gustav Mahler's enormous *Symphony No. 8* is a grueling enough challenge for any conductor, but making it an artistic success is almost miraculous.

In addition to massive orchestral forces, the score calls for two mixed choruses, a boys' chorus, a girls' chorus, three sopranos, two altos, a tenor, a baritone, and a bass. Beginning to see why the Eighth has been nicknamed the "Symphony of a Thousand"?

The logistics of getting everyone rehearsed are mind-boggling enough, but a cohesive performance requires only one person to make it work. The director must come to the piece with a personal vision and the ability to impose that vision on everyone he leads.

Maestro Edo de Waart may lack the podium glamor of some conductors, but he does take a no-nonsense, "let's get this show on the road" approach that enables him to tackle large works and make them go. The results may lack the fire or spontaneity heard elsewhere, but the performance moves, and no one gets in each other's way. In the case of Mahler's Eighth, that's saying something.

The performances that opened this year's regular subscription concerts with the San Francisco Symphony marked de Waart's second mounting of this glorious composition and, if memory serves, his interpretation has changed very little. The only major difference was the use of the new Ruffatti organ. What a splendid sound when the "Veni, Creator Spiritus" is supported by the awesome power of that magnificent instrument.

Uniformly excellent soloists, especially sopranos Faye Robinson, Nancy Gustafson, and Ruth Ann Swenson, along with beautiful work by the choruses

and orchestra, made for a suitably monumental production. A trifle staid, perhaps, but thrilling nonetheless. Besides, I defy anyone to remain unmoved during the final *Mystical Chorus*; the hall filling with sound, almost to the bursting point, while the voices intone, "Look up, all you contrite, tender souls!"



Nancy Gustafson, soprano

This was a careful and conscientious production and the effect was fulfilling. I wish I could make the same statement about last week's concert. A little more care and conscience might have elevated a mediocre evening into a much more exciting experience.

The ingredients were all there; it's just that the performers weren't quite up to their task. The program itself was pure de Waart. A classic (Mozart's 40th *Symphony*), a modern (Jan Van Vlijmen's "Quaterni I"), and a Romantic (Richard Strauss' *Tone Poem* "Also Sprach Zarathustra"). Maestro de Waart has been juggling styles like this for several seasons, managing to provide something for every-

body without sacrificing the impact of individual pieces. Of course, the formula only works when the pieces and the performances are themselves individually satisfying.

The Mozart was sure-fire, at least in theory. Four lovely movements, each brimming with melody, wit, and invention, should make an ideal concert opener, but that is provided the players and their director are capable of matching score with performance. De Waart opted for a leisurely approach that seemed particularly tedious during the inner movements, and curiously slack-jawed during the first and last.

Jan Van Vlijmen is a countryman of Edo de Waart's, and judging from the premiere of his composition, "Quaterni I," that may be the only tangible reason for giving him a local hearing rather than an unheard Bay Area writer. I'm sure de Waart's intentions were good. He champions all modern composers, and he usually gives them a hearing whenever possible. I just wish Van Vlijmen's score were less predictable; new without being innovative; irritating rather than provocative.

I never trust artists who title their works "I." In the case of "Quaterni I" it sounds like a threat. Do we really have a Quaterni II or III to look out for? A better choice for this program might have been Hungarian avant-gardist Gyorgy Ligeti. He's a radical with talent, and it would have dovetailed nicely with the concert's final offering of Strauss' *Tone Poem*.

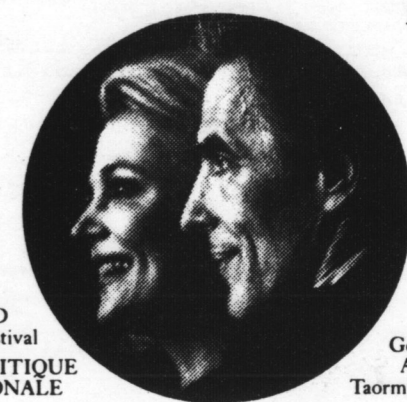
The Symphony's treatment of old Richard was pretty shabby too. De Waart seemed ill at ease, and tempi throughout were ragged and loose. The horns were not playing well, and if the whole thing came off it's because the audience needed something to applaud after the boredom of "Quaterni I."

If the overly enthusiastic response to this torpid presentation meant anything, though, it was mainly the proof of my new maxim about Symphony audiences in general. "If you really want to please a crowd, just be sure it's fast and loud." ■

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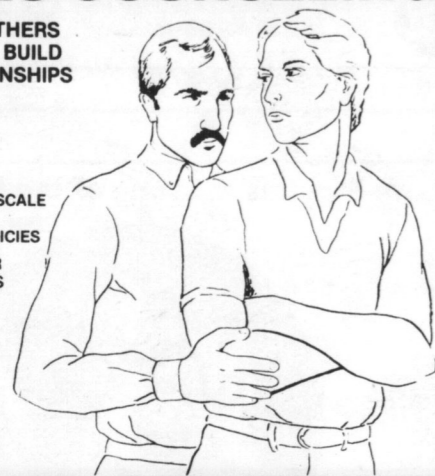
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STAGE

Captivating Experience

by Adele Prandini

By 1926 Americans heard that homosexuality existed. Certainly they knew of the terrible trial of Oscar Wilde in 1895. Those Americans who could read French in 1904 might have been familiar with Renee Vivien's *A Woman Appeared to Me*. Of course, it was still two years before anyone would get the opportunity to read *The Well of Loneliness* by Radclyffe Hall. But, I suppose, then as now, knowing about homosexuality and having it crammed down your throat are two very different things. Picture poor New York City Mayor James J. Walker dispatching his police officers to close the show and muttering to himself, "Oh, if only they weren't so blatant."

After seeing Studio Rhino's production of *The Captive*, raided by those who would uphold the moral standards of Broadway in 1926, I can only say these righteous guardians must have had something against the happy ending. Seeing *The Captive* 58 years after its demise on Broadway is a unique and fascinating experience. How clearly the moral attitudes are drawn. One wonders about the advances we've made. In 1984 people no longer speak of Lesbians and Gay men in such terms as, "There is no greater horror." Do they? 1984 is a perfect time for the revival of this play because we now find ourselves facing political and religious forces which would thrust us back into the moralistic dark ages.

The play is dated. At times we are forced into laughter at the blatant sexism of earlier generations. "The only solution to any girl's life is marriage." Sounds similar, doesn't it?

Director Gabriel Breitzke chose not to camp up the production — a wise decision. Rather, he uses economy of

movement, combined with a strictly straightforward delivery of the lines. These elements help point to the harsh morality criticized by the play's author. Sharon Silverglate is perfect as the tormented Irene. I know in a past life she must have been a silent screen star. Acting in a melodrama is difficult, the tendency is to overdo, but Silverglate's serious approach keeps the play a drama. David Broussal and Sean Sharp turn in deft performances in a difficult situation. Wendy Levy, although miscast in this production, adds vitality and welcome humor to the production. Supporting players do their part to bring alive this drawing room drama:

Cliff Reynolds is the saddest little butler I've ever seen; Gillian Shaw as the lascivious Francoise is lascivious; and Kathryn Rosak, although too young to be anyone's governess, gives a believable performance.

In 1926 audiences were not ready to see a play about a woman who chooses her Lesbian lover over her handsome, wealthy young husband, but thank goodness we are.

One last item. I find that I cannot close the article without giving special mention to the technical crew, who, while working with an awkward space, are able to transform it so completely. When you go to see this show, take a moment to notice the hardwood floor. ■

The Captive
The Studio
Through October 7; 861-5079



Sharon Silverglate and David Broussal in *The Captive*. (Photo: Mark I. Chester)

Beyond Recital

by Bernard Spunberg

More than a reading, less than a dramatization, Peter McGehee's *Beyond Happiness* is currently in production at the Valencia Rose. McGehee's work comprises eleven episodes describing his coming of age as a Gay man. McGehee portrays a few of his characters, but, for the most part, *Beyond Happiness* is recited — McGehee steps into the light and talks. He shifts position about three times. As hope for visual variety dwindles, the ears tune in to McGehee's story and style.

Famous performers like Hal Holbrook and James Whitmore have created magical evenings of talk, but their success has rested on vivid characterizations of Mark Twain and Will Rogers. Peter McGehee offers himself, as naturalistically as possible. McGehee's language, however, is not naturalistic. His is a literary style more usually absorbed through reading than listening. Gradually, however, McGehee's slightly stilted, slightly artificial sentences generate a characterization. We begin to perceive what it's like to grow up Gay in the South, to be brought up within a culture founded on a sense of local history, formal manners, and social distinctions.

McGehee's relationship with

his troubled mother forms a continuing thread throughout his story, but we also meet several other colorful family members. Dinners, funerals, and parties introduce a skinny, alcoholic aunt and a grotesquely fat aunt who have been feuding for years. There's also Trina, the pampered poodle, who meets a watery death after lapping up a little too much Kahlua.

McGehee eventually leaves the South for adventures in San Francisco as a hippie, a political activist, and a lover. Visits to his childhood home reveal the extent of his personal growth. Finally, McGehee acquires a kernel of wisdom that elevates *Beyond Happiness* above the level of a remembrance of things past written before the past has been created.

Scented with gardenia and just a hint of diesel exhaust, Peter McGehee's *Beyond Happiness* is neither dramatic nor theatrical. There are no virtuosic shifts of character and no

'We begin to perceive what it's like to grow up Gay in the South, to be brought up in a culture founded on a sense of local history, formal manners, and social distinctions.'

After adventures in school and in a psychiatrist's office, McGehee finally has his first romance. Here McGehee's perfumed language strikes just the right wistful, bittersweet note. "We discarded our silly underwear and were lost to the night as one" sounds a little corny. People just don't talk that way. In the context of sweet — and sweetly reciprocal — puppy love, however, the sentiment rings true.

swinging from the chandelier. There is, however, a growing sense of personal values, both as a Gay man and as an artist. There is also an awareness of the continuity that links generation to generation. Best of all, there is a sense of language, a lyricism, that generates a luminous aura. It's called poetry. ■

Beyond Happiness
Valencia Rose
Through September 29; 863-3863

FILM CLIPS

A Soldier's Story

One of '84s Best

Norman Jewison, who directed the Academy Award-winning film, *In the Heat of the Night*, has come back to a similar-themed movie based on Charles Fuller's acclaimed play, *A Soldier's Story*. And judging from how wonderful a production this is, lightning may strike twice at the next Oscarfest.

The story is sort of a Black Perry Mason cum *In the Heat of the Night* as a Black sergeant at a highly bigoted, segregated Army base during WW II.

The Whites, including the base's colonel, don't think it's particularly worthwhile to investigate the death of a "nigger" because there is no way a White man would be charged even if it was proven that he was the murderer.

As Rollins begins to investi-

gate, we find that the sergeant was not particularly loved or appreciated by his own Black troops. In fact, they themselves had reasons to see him knocked off.

Unlike the play, the film takes each man's recollection of the murdered man and turns them into well-developed flashbacks. We see the character of Black and White, and the social dynamics of racial strife.

The acting is ensemble style, and all are so stunning that the only standouts are the poor performances. Accordingly, there are no standouts. Rollins gives a strong performance, no more, no less.

The music by Herbie Hancock captures the period, yet is still contemporary, using blues as a metaphor. And what a metaphor when sung in an all-too-small part by Patti LaBelle.

A Soldier's Story is one of the best movies of 1984 — a top notch thriller than has something to say. ■

(Regency III) M. Lasky



A scene from *A Soldier's Story*.

The Bostonians

Henry James for Nonreaders

Reading Henry James is a formidable task, but don't think watching his novels acted out is any easier.

James Ivory, who previously transformed James' *The Europeans* to the screen, has now taken on *The Bostonians*, an infinitely more devastating depiction of northern elitists and southern bigots.

What distinguishes this film, and makes it almost enjoyable to watch, is the astonishing acting of Vanessa Redgrave as the highly sublimated Lesbian suffragette who turns her attraction for a younger woman into a feminist fight for rights.

Christopher Reeve's performance is quite astonishing. He's never had a part before that allowed him to reveal

his true dramatic ability as he does here as the southern macho bigot, Basil Ransom.

He clashes with Redgrave over the affections of Verena Tarrant, supposedly a woman of great beauty and evangelistic persuasiveness. The actress enlisted to perform this is one Madeleine Potter, who is neither a great beauty nor a charismatic speaker. Therein is a huge gap in the credibility on which the entire plot ostensibly hinges.

Ivory has created a bright, sunny atmosphere to counterpoint the Victorian gloom, and with the help of cinematographer Walter Lassally, has made the film easy on the eye. But cosmetic surgery, and even the skills of Jessica Tandy, Nancy Marchand, and Linda Hunt cannot disguise the fact that other than Redgrave, this is a film without soul. ■

(Clay Theatre) M. Lasky

Places in the Heart

Cross Another Creek

Except for an oddly appealing "curtain call" at the end, *Places in the Heart* has as many surprises as Part Five of a mad slasher series, but there are worse things than predictability.

This is writer-director Robert Benton's petition for sainthood for a Texas woman, perhaps his mother. Sally Field is the widowed madonna struggling to raise her nine-year-old son and his younger sister in Waxahachie in 1933. She has help from two angels. One is black, the other blind, but she seems to know instinctively that her help will not come from the unaffiliated, moneyed white folks of the town.

To attract soap opera fans there's a sub-plot involving philanthropist Ed Harris, married to the heroine's sister, Lindsay Crouse. He's fooling around with Amy Madigan, who played the

Lesbian in *Streets of Fire*.

The principals have given better performances, but this is the kind of movie people will believe because they want to. There's better news in the supporting cast. Danny Glover plays Moses, who attaches himself to Sally as Alfre Woodard did to Mary Steenburgen in *Cross Creek*, and his performance as the field hand could likewise be rewarded with an Oscar nomination. John Malkovich, currently hot on the New York stage in *Death of a Salesman*, does a fine job as the blind boarder.

Nestor (Improper Conduct) Almendros does his usual excellent cinematography, and mention should be made of the effects work in a storm sequence so fierce you won't expect the characters to be in Texas anymore.

Places in the Heart will appeal to those who liked the inferior *Cross Creek*, but it's sadly lacking in mystery and magic. ■

(Metro) S. Warren

Heartbreakers

Straight Male Neuroses

The problem with straight men is that they love other men, but have been brainwashed into hiding any sign of even platonic affection. The two guys in Bobby Roth's film, *Heartbreakers*, share all their problems together and obviously have a deep regard for each other, yet are incapable of forcefully and willfully revealing their love.

Do straight men have a homoerotic attraction for each other that is deeply sublimated and only manifests itself in arcane body language? Perhaps. It certainly seems a plausible theory, based on the actions in this well-intentioned but poorly conceived film.

Peter Coyote plays an artist — Arthur Blue — whose life and career seem to have no direction, even though he's well into his thirties. His live-in girlfriend (Kathryn Harrold) gets fed up with his egocentricity and leaves him for another, more successful artist, and a close friend to Blue.

Coyote leans on his best friend, portrayed by hunk-and-a-half Nick Mancuso, who looks Italian as all get out and is supposed to be Jewish here — oi vay! Mancuso's problem is that he wants a relationship with a woman, but doesn't want to get involved. Sound familiar? It seems to be going round these days.

When he finally finds the woman he can love, she ironically doesn't want a commitment. In fact, the only person that's mutually committed to him is another man — our artist in residence, Mr. Blue.

The idea of exploring modern male anxiety is a noble one, but Roth's writing is limited to trite, unrelistic dialogue, and his direction is stale at best. We quickly get tired of these people and their quirks.

This is a frustrating movie. Frustrating because it could have been so good. It's heartbreaking to see such a waste. ■

(Alexandria) M. Lasky

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

Irreconcilable Differences

Irreconcilable, Period

It's a comedy with Ryan O'Neal, which should say it all. He still thinks he gives good cute. But when the crows feet start to show and the talent doesn't, you've got a problem.

There's a bigger problem here. The movie itself isn't particularly good, even if its premise is clever, and somewhat gimmicky.

He's a film scholar, who while hitching his way across the U.S., meets up with an impetuous but charming Shelley Long (Cheers), whom he promptly marries four days later, even though she's engaged already to a nasty Navy man.

We follow the ups and mostly downs of their relationship as he gets seduced into the world of Hollywood where he becomes a mighty successful director/writer, even if she has done most of the work.

The premise of the film is that their daughter, played by Drew Barrymore with an excess of cutie — even more than Ryan, for Godsakes — is suing

them for divorce. Because of their ego-oriented bickering, they have totally ignored her.

Fortunately, Shelly Long does, as we watch her transform from that irrepressible youth with stars in her eyes to a devoted Hollywood housewife, to an overnight bitter divorcee to a chic, overnight, best-selling

author. This is Long's movie, even if she's not long for the skimpy-in-the-wit script and the sappy direction by Charles Shyer.

Wimpy, annoying, and cloying. *Irreconcilable Differences* is only for Long fans, not long on quality. ■

(Galaxy) M. Lasky

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Thursday, Sept. 27: (Strand) Two excellent films with Gay themes. In *The Deputy*, a socialist member of the Spanish parliament falls in love with an underaged hustler and learns about himself and the realities of politics. It's a tough, raw film. In *You Are Not Alone*, two boys in a Danish boy's school explore awakening sexual feelings and love. This is a fascinating film about growing up in one of the few truly free and open societies in the

world, Denmark. As an aside, in Denmark there are few Gay bars because Gays are not considered outcasts and go to "ordinary" bars. It is a different world than the United States.

Thursday, Oct. 4: (Strand) Falcon Head. Michael Zen produced and directed this unusual film of Gay erotism. It is the story of Narcissus as seen by beauty-oriented, sexually obsessed Gays who live for the worship of their bodies. With El Paso Wrecking Corporation, a non-stop Joe Gage action film. ■

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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

SAGA NORTH

From First Timers to Hot Doggers, It May Be For You

by Charlie Lineberger

Gay men are turning the '80s into the decade of Gay athletic clubs. There are Gay hiking clubs, Gay bowling leagues, Gay softball leagues, Gay wrestling clubs, Gay running clubs, Gay bicyclists, and now Gay skiers are getting in on the act. Well, that's not quite right. Saga North, a Gay skiing club based in San Francisco, has been in business for the last three years, not much longer than the original clubs in Los Angeles and San Diego.

Jeff Sahl, the membership chairman for the club, talked to the *Bay Area Reporter* about Saga North over coffee at the Village Deli on Castro. Saga North is a recreational, non-profit club dedicated to skiing, according to Sahl. During the summer months Saga North pursues other activities, such as white water rafting, water skiing, camping, etc.

There are 75 dues-paying members of SN, but Sahl believes there are more like 150 people involved in the club's various activities. This year SN

anticipates an increase of about 50 new dues-paying members.

Annual dues are \$36, which includes a T-shirt, lapel pin, monthly newsletter, and the right to join in club skiing trips. It does not include the price of lodging, etc., of any individual trips. The cost of club trips ranges from \$62 to \$110 this year. A week-long trip to Utah planned for winter, which includes air fare, costs \$430.

The price of most weekend trips, and most excursions are weekend trips, covers lodging on



Saga North members Christopher Mead and Jeffrey Sahl get ready for their club's forthcoming ski-wear fashion show. (Photo: Rink)

6:30 in the morning to get organized," Sahl said. One of the good things about the club is that members share help and advice with other members.

"The major advantage of the club," Sahl continued, "is that you have a lot of nice people to ski with."

Forthcoming activities include six skiing trips, each to a different location. In December SN will hit Kirkwood; in January, North Star; in February, the week-long Utah trip; in March, Heavenly Valley; and in April, Alpine Meadows. Club members from Saga North in Los Angeles and San Diego participate in some of these trips, enabling people to make and renew friendships with skiers from Southern California.

The first Sunday of every month SN holds a membership meeting. These are held at Franklin Hospital, and begin with cocktails at 6:30 p.m. The meeting itself begins at 7 p.m. There is a theme for each meeting which is apparently creative. The meeting in November will feature a fashion show of the latest in men's skiing attire. An equipment show will be featured in January. The theme in February is winter skin care, and something akin to a seminar on the subject will be offered by experts from Macy's.

Saga North will hold its season kickoff party at Mame's Palazzo, at Bay and Mason, Sept. 29. For \$25 you get to join club members in Mame's Gondola Room for a gourmet dinner, followed by a cabaret show featuring Lynda Bergren.

If you're interested in Saga North, or would like to go on a skiing trip before you make up your mind, call Jeffrey Sahl at 824-8112.

The skiing abilities of members run across the spectrum. There are first timers, hot doggers, and everyone in between. But club members are devoted to skiing, according to Sahl. "People really do get up at

Friday and Saturday nights, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and cocktails and dinner on Saturday night. All members are expected to help out with the chores on club trips. Car pools are organized for local trips.

G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

Instructional Camp and the Fall Season

For those of you who want to improve your softball game, the Gay Softball League will start its fall instructional camp Oct. 7 at 1 p.m. at Christopher Field next to the Diamond Heights Safeway.

Batting, fielding, base running, and all basic fundamentals will be taught by talented Glenn Burke, Jeff Stone, Steve McTannel, and Art Jackson. Many players have asked the GSL to have these types of sessions, so come out and attend.

The complete Fall schedule is as follows:

Oct. 7 10 a.m. Christopher

Oct. 14 10 a.m. Jackson #1
Oct. 21 10 a.m. Jackson #1
Oct. 28 10 a.m. Jackson #1
Nov. 4 10 a.m. Rossi #1
Nov. 11 10 a.m. Jackson #1
Nov. 18 10 a.m. Jackson #1
Nov. 25 10 a.m. Jackson #1

Managers should have advised their teams by now of the league banquet Friday, Sept. 28, at Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, 7 p.m., and Candidates Day, Sept. 29, 1 p.m., on the patio of The Village. Did you all get your MVP candidates to Tom Vindeed at 753-0740? For further info on any of the above, call 775-4037.

S.F. TRACK & FIELD

RICK THOMAN

Gay Games II Track Team Organizing

The 1986 Gay Games track and field team for San Francisco is now organizing. All interested participants are invited to attend an informational team meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 2, at 6 p.m., at the Pride Center, located on the corner of Hayes and Fillmore Streets.

Mark Molina, gold and silver medalist in Gay Games I, will be coaching the team on its way to Triumph in '86 (the theme of Gay Games II). Assisting Molina will be Bernard Turner, Gay Games II sports chairman

for track and field, and John Robinson, assistant coach. Organizer of Gay Games I and former Olympian Tom Waddell has also indicated he will be on hand for occasional coaching sessions.

"It's not too early to start getting in shape for the Games," said Molina. "We're expecting more athletes for the second Gay Games and we're anticipating everyone will be in better shape. Now is the time to get started, not in 1986."

The San Francisco track and field team is open to all individuals, male and female, of all skill levels and all ages. The '86 Gay Games track and field competition will be run in age groups. The team is also looking for people who may not want to compete, but want to become involved with the team to assist in coaching and timing.

For more information regarding the formation of the 1986 Gay Games track and field team for San Francisco contact Bernard Turner at 821-7674.

CORNER POCKET

GENE MILLER

And Then There Was Wang

Here I sit, surrounded by megabytes and whirring disk drives trying to think of a proper topic during the midseason break. No league 8-ball matches last Tuesday to report, and we're all having a great time — the midseason meeting was the breeze in years — but there is news. We've just reduced our communication turnaround tremendously, thanks to all these megabytes.

When I began doing the league statistics back in '81, an

important step had just been made. Ed King, as Secretary, had purchased an answering machine (the birth of J-O-E P-O-O-L), and he'd demonstrated that timely, well-organized, and attractive league standings for the Tuesday night matches actually could be compiled, printed, and in the bars by Friday. Replacing Ed as Secretary was a challenge I relished. In July '81 we switched offices — he took the VP slot, — and I did that first season with an

IBM Selectric and a pocket calculator, never suspecting how automated my task would become.

OFFICIAL LEAGUE WANGBANGER

My employer — Hay Associates, which donated countless hours to the league by providing their office facilities — bought a fancy new Wang word processor in '81. The amazing toy, after 27 years of typing, made me feel

(Continued on next page)

TGWEDNESDAYNBL

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

Old Seasons, New Seasons

The Pilsner teams certainly dominated the Wednesday League team standings this past season. To top it off, the highest TGWNBL 600+ series (696) was bowled by none other than our staunch League President, Keith Ray, who just happens to be a member of the Pilsner Potlickers — the #1 team. Good show, Keith.

As a last gesture of triumph, these exceptional competitors bowled a 200+ game on the last evening of the TGWNBL '84 Summer Season.

C. Jarrett (Gay Sports) 223
R. McKay (Stin Stmpd) 220
K. Ray (Pilsnr Ptlkr) 211
A. Stenson (PWIL) 205
M. Platis (Grady's) 204
E. Carnick (S I) 201, 202

Nice way to top off an exciting

season, guys.

The TGThursdayBL started its 84/85 Winter Season this past 20th. As incredible as it may seem, the number of teams that compose this fun league jumped from 5 to 18 (possibly 20). In addition, after the first night of bowling, the TGTBL realized a league average a full 10 pins higher (568) than the ending Summer Season TGTBL average (558). By the time the mighty Wednesday and Monday Tavern Guild leagues begin their Winter seasons (Oct. 5 and 8, respectively), the Thursday league should be well enough entrenched to begin challenging the higher league averages of its two older — yet still very pretty — sister leagues. The Monday and Wednesday leagues will each have a 7:30 p.m. pre-

season meeting in the second floor assembly room of Park Bowl on the above cited dates to vote on rules and elect officers.

The officers elected at the Sept. 20 pre-season meeting of the TGTBL membership are:

Roger Spencer President
Charley Garrett Vice-Pres.
Bob Jahnigen Secretary
Mal Garcia Treasurer
Ron Squires Sgt. at Arms

What a dynamite combination, winners all.

As a final note, Bracco Distributors — the local distributors of Budweiser — a long-time financial and moral supporter of Gay sporting events, is sponsoring a team in the Thursday Tavern Guild League this season. More large firms that profess support for Gay athletics should follow Bracco's excellent example.

CORNER POCKET

(Continued from previous page)

freed from a straitjacket.

Like a kid and his Erector set, I gradually developed programs, improved them, patched them together, and improved them further still. The result: beginning this week, the league can boast a total statistical print-out of the matches by 10 a.m. Wednesday morning — a ten-hour turnaround — including team standings, won/loss data for each league member grouped by team, plus a league roster sorted by winning percent. The whole works, error-free, is printed and mailed to every league member within hours.

League President Dennis Hall is responsible for that particular innovation. It's hard to believe I once pooh-pooed the idea as "just more junk mail."

Along with all that data goes a little newsletter that has just evolved to another level — the addition of Secretary Ken Robertson's comments. Ken, reporting his not-so-good match score to the league's recording machine last week, signed in as "your despondent correspondent," and that's just a hint at this guy's wonderful wit. Following most of our conversations, I feel like I ordered house brandy and got dealt Hennessy.

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IMPROVEMENTS EVERYWHERE

The Board has announced that the winner of the Class "A" tournament will play in the singles event at the West Coast Challenge. It pleases me, naturally, because that was my intention when I first suggested the Class "A," a tournament for the near-misses, the good players who finish just short of the elite top 16. Another one of my suggestions was approved by the three cities (LA, SF, SF) in July — increasing the singles event to 16 players, each city sending five

players, with the current champ seated to defend the trophy. So I've got plenty of reasons to smile.

CHANGE DOWN SOUTH

The Los Angeles league, too, is growing. It's now having money tournaments — for years a topic most LA Board members wouldn't even discuss. Rick Mariani's astute observation is probably correct. "We invited them to our awards party and they saw all those checks!"

The party. The idea was abandoned after a financially unfortunate late-70s league-sponsored bash. For a while, our trophies were quietly presented at the White Swallow. President Mike Flowers, confronted with a surplus a few seasons later, decided to throw a party. Bill West took it to the Trocadero, where it peaked as a production and has now evolved into something resembling a school reunion.

G. Miller

SCOREBOARD

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD LEAGUES TEAM STANDINGS and PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

TG MONDAY LEAGUE (Week 21 of 22 - as of 9/17/84) League Average: 713		16. S.F. Eagle 38 50	
1. Grand Central Sta. 64 20	2. EC Midtown Boys 59 25	17. Gay Sports 36 52	18. Sweet Inspiration 34 54
3. New Image 58 25 1/2	4. Park Bowl 58 26	19. Scenic Hyway Tours 33 54	20. Hr Tdy Gn Tmrw 32 54 1/2
5. Pilsner Pick-ups 52 32	6. Pendulum 1 51 1/2 32 1/2	21. Animals 32 56	22. Alley Cats 30 58

High Scratch Game	
Adrian Stenson (PWIL)	266
Tim Hagerman (PTE)	265
David Hobler (PB)	255

High Scratch Series	
Keith Ray (PPilkr)	696
David Hobler (PB)	663
Bob Mack (PB)	657

TG THURSDAY LEAGUE (Week 1 of 21 - as of 9/20/84) League Average: 568	
1. Pig Pins 4 0	2. Ron's Records 3 1/2 1/2
3. Queen Mary's Pub 3 1	4. Team #3 3 1
5. Bracco Dist. 3 1	6. Febe's 3 1
7. Fourplay 3 1	8. White Horse 3 1
9. Team #15 3 1	10. Team #4 1 3
11. The Krew 1 3	12. Team #10 1 3
13. Park Bowl 1 3	14. C.D.C. 1 3
15. Trax Maniax 1 3	16. Trax 1 3
17. 4 Little Pigs 1/2 3 1/2	18. The Special 0 4

TG WEDNESDAY LEAGUE Final Season Standings (Week 22 of 22 - as of 9/12/84) League Average: 744	
1. Pilsner Potlickers 60 28	2. Pilsnr Patless Sisters 59 1/2 28 1/2
3. Park Bowl 58 1/2 29	4. Pilsner #1 53 35
5. Anonymity Reigns 52 36	6. Japantown Bowl 51 37
7. Stallion Stampedo 50 38	8. Play With It, Ltd. 49 39
9. Cafe San Marcos 47 41	10. Pilsner II 44 44
11. Pilsner Trojan-Ends 43 45	12. Grady's 42 1/2 45 1/2
13. Pendulum 42 46	14. DK's Unmntbls 41 47
15. Wnsday Washouts 40 48	

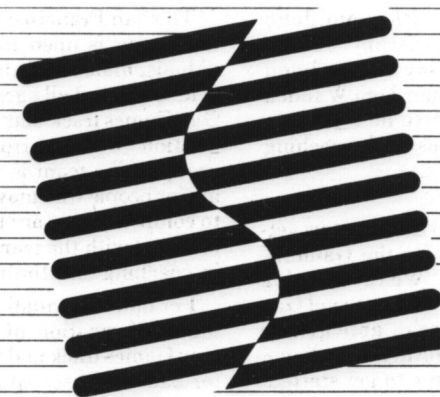
Bowling scores compiled by Jerry R. De Young.

BAWIM

Bay Area Women in Music, with the support of Bill Graham and the Bill Graham Presents organization, has launched a voter registration drive for 1984. "Between now and the October 9 deadline, BAWIM members will set up voter registration booths at all Bay Area BGP concerts. We hope Bay Area concertgoers of all ages will take a moment to fill out one of the voter registration postcards we will provide, and then vote in November," said BAWIM President Gaynell T. Rogers.

Bill Graham Presents is cooperating with Bay Area Women in Music in setting up booths at all BGP shows with the hope that BAWIM will be able to register many voters from within the music community in this very important election year.

Look for the BAWIM voter registration booth during the next two months at Wolfgang's, The Kabuki, The Greek Theatre, The Cow Palace, and The Berkeley Community Theatre.



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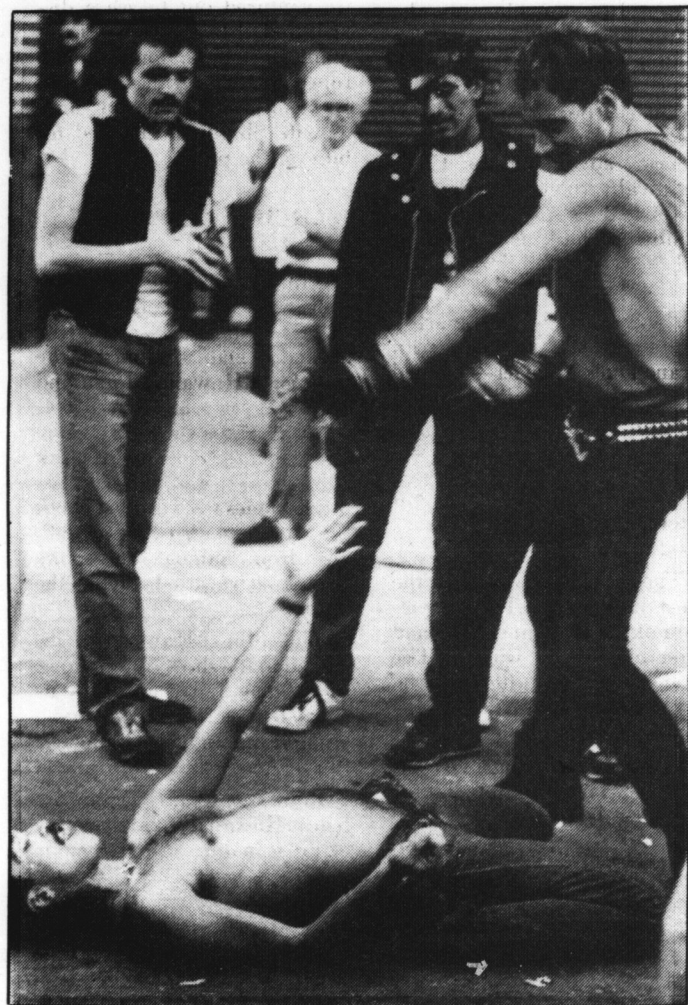
MR. MARCUS

The New Kid On The Block

The SFPD estimated between 25,000 and 30,000 people showed up last Sunday to welcome the newest hot event in town. Megahood '84: The Folsom Street Fair was judged a smashing success. In a private survey conducted last evening, 99 out of 100 people questioned said they felt Megahood '84 was without a doubt one of the finest events they had attended this year. The other person was disgruntled because his lover took a hike with one of the many hundreds of hot dudes parading their pees around the four-block pastiche of brotherhood. The stages on either end of the funway were busy all day with entertainment by some of the finest talent in town, and the spillover in the bars was outrageous. While not directly on the scene or fair area, the Ambush, Arena, SF-Eagle, and the Stud all enjoyed brisk business as straights, gays, and all manner of humanity jammed the area, which was blessed with sunny skies, cool breezes, and a real human to human sense of family. Leather, lace, glitter, and machismo mixed amiably with polyester, pink plastic curlers, bib overalls, and tiny tots as the newest street fair in town was given a studly and stunning welcome. There were jugglers, mimes, wrestlers, antique cherry cars, singers, dancers, and good vibrations all over the place. The South of Market Alliance (SOMA) deserves a whopping big congratulations and a thank you. Some 3,000 people waited patiently for the leather fashion show on the 11th Street stage, which put forth leatherdom's finest bodies arrayed in a variety of leather outfits from every leather shop in town with Arena Bare Chest Contest winners, Mr. Drummer, and other leathery notables. If you missed the whole thing — shame on you! The talk around town for days afterward centered on Megahood '84 and eager anticipation for Megahood '85. Megahood '84 was Mega-great!

So now with the passing of the Equinox and the Fall Season in full gear, here's a few happenings coming your way: this weekend, the Cycle Runners M/C will offer its final bike run of the season with OPERA MADNESS (watch for several Aidas) and if you haven't made your plans to attend, you better get busy for the three days of fun, people events, bike events, booze, a hot show, and the usual shenanigans. I understand the SF GDIs are planning to attend en masse WITH or WITHOUT

you can drink) for a measly SIX BUCKS, and an Indian Leg Wrestling Demonstration (Indian Leg?) from 1500 to 1800 hrs. GGWC Prez. Don Jung has whipped his team into winning shape and it is HOT! See you there? . . . Tomorrow evening (Friday at 5:30 p.m.), the very interesting paintings by Tony DeRosa open at the AMBUSH with a reception for the artist, and I know you'll not want to miss it. Tony's work is among the finest in the state . . . On Sunday, Oct. 7, Ms. Parkay (the current Miss Gay SF) teams up



A flattened fan at the Folsom Street Fair. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

their three bikes. The pruned pickers zone (San Jose) stages its 1st Annual Fall Festival at the San Jose Fairgrounds this Sunday, Sept. 30 from Noon to 5 p.m. Jon Snell, owner of the Desparadoes Bar in San Jose, was in town for the Folsom Street Fair with his handsome other half, Dale, doing a whole lot of PR for the event, which will cost you \$15 at the Gate with the one and only SYLVESTER doing the entertaining, while food, booze, games, and fun prevail in the pruned capital of the state. This event should keep some of those hot Peninsula dudes in their own territory for at least a day — get out of the city for a day and see how they live and play in their natural habitat . . . After its stunning victory over the Los Angeles Wrestling Team, our own Golden Gate Wrestling Club will stage a victory party at the SF-Eagle Sunday, October 14, with spaghetti and a beer bust (all

with the Men's Room for a benefit auction and two for one Beer Bust at the TRANSFER for Grand Duchess Trixie Trash, who went and got pneumonia and has to pay thousands for his hospital bill. THIS Duchess' illness is legit, so be there and bring money or auction goods to the Transfer to be sold . . . I hope you're all beading, gluing, sewing and feathering for Halloween — some BIG parties will be coming your way at the Galleria, the Beaux Arts Ball, the SF-Eagle's Leather and Feather Party, and even Don Ramon's gets into the act with a Halloween extravaganza . . . Jerry Semas, another hot ticket, is having his 3rd Annual Hollywood Party on Saturday, Sept. 29 — call 558-9941 for details, but I can tell you you're supposed to come as your favorite movie star; John Rowberry is "sincerely" considering going as Joan Collins, while Vinegary

(Continued on page 30)

BLACK LASHES

Heavy Metal Meets Heavy Leather

KARL STEWART



It wasn't like a street fair at all. It was like a giant Eagle Beer Bust set to heavy metal and jazz. The Folsom Street Fair baked to a turn Sunday in the blaze of the South of Market sun. There were very few crafts or artists, only two beer booths and even the political action booths hung perilously at the far right and far left — mostly left.

It was, as Augustus Ginnocci said, "an excuse to come out and be in the sun."

The most interesting events took place not on the stages, but on the pavement — it was the incredible number of nearly naked be-pecked men. The four bars between 7th and 11th, where the fair took place, enjoyed packed houses all day. The Watering-hole kept its shades down as if they hoped the punk rockers outside on the stage would go away. They didn't.

The Ramrod started out not allowing take-out sales, but threatened with riot, the bar's managers quickly changed their mind. Just outside was the CMC Food booth where the coming Oktoberfest at The SF Eagle, October 7 from 3 to 6 p.m. (6 bucks) was touted. Tony T also handed out press releases advancing the CMC Carnival, which will be held down at Pier 45 Sunday, November 11, harking back to the old "Semen" Hall daze. Break out the hip boots.

Right next to the smartly-uniformed CMC was Sable with Grand Duck Michael — painted hunk and queen alike. Grand Duchess Trixie Trash sat serenely upon her barstool throne, supervising the artistry below. This was Trixie's first time out after a lengthy illness. It was so good to see her.

The next block was by far the most interesting. The magnetism of the Brig must have had something to do with it. The Brig was jammed with folks who would never venture there in the gloom of night.

Outside Don Jung's GGWC spread out its wrestling mat for day-long demos.

Nearby sat the Hammersmith

Co-op, comprised of Haven with his gleaming stainless steel wrist and arm bands, Steven Smith showing his provocative leather-craft, and Eric Pennigar displaying his drawings and work in harnesses. These three will open a dungeon-like sales and service location in the rear loft of Chaps Saturday (9/29).

Face Forward: Dr. Kenneth Agues is behind that aggressive ad campaign for his "For Your Eyes Only" optometry office at 552-A Castro. He was fielding eye care questions out on Folsom Street Sunday, too.

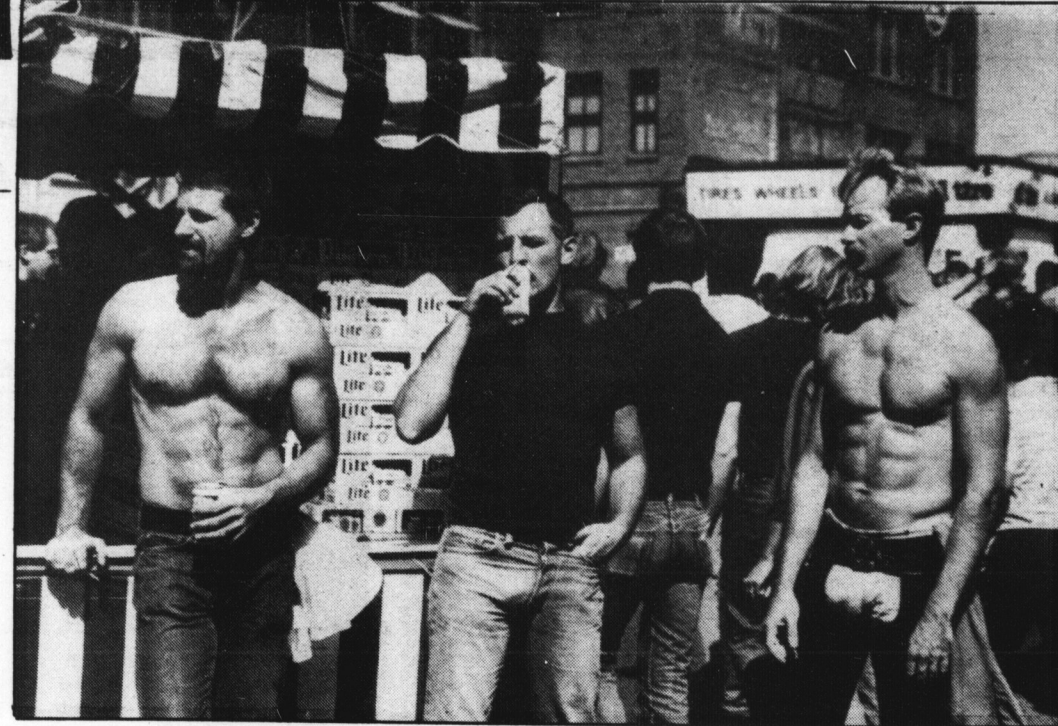
As the Sunday afternoon came to an end and shadows on the surrounding warehouses grew, the men and women poured into the bars by the thousands. Lashes and Diedre ended the day at the SF Eagle. We knew there was a Cheater's MC Beer Bust out on the patio, but couldn't even get near the door. Watching Stella and Ron put out hundreds of drinks per hour was much more amusing. Later we ventured out to see a disgruntled Blair, whose lover manager Terry Thompson had roped into tending the patio bar. It was a family affair. Ernie's ex-wife Sharon barbacked for him on the patio.

WARCHANTS AND THE LEI

Kimo's 7th Anniversary on Polk Street was mounted with the usual panache. With the pub decked in giant tiki masks, the tone for Hawaiian Luau and Show was set. Kimo himself was the Star of the show. His knife dance caused the entire back row to duck, and his giant Samoan blades twirlybirded about the stage. The Fire Knife dance, also from Samoa, found the front row vacant to avoid the scorch.

The other Hawaiians included in the show were Liko, a huge burly native who gave us a superbly sensitive Hula and a strongly masculine Tahitian fertility chant.

Both Remy and Desiree are fellow Hawaiians and performed hulas in the traditional mode



A scene at the Folsom Street Fair last Sunday. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

as well as "the new Hula." For variety and comic relief we saw Jack Coats of the Constantines do "Pineapple Princess," and BCMC's Ken Wright offer a "Tuka Shell Tour Guide."

Mama Billy's food is always tasty, but sometimes looks a little like Clifton's Cafeteria. This time she had the table decked out with a floral display fit for a Kahuna. The Hawaiian-style spaghetti was a hit. Marlena helped out later when a drawing brought champagne and other goodies to surprised guests. Our barmaid was the ever-tacky Sissy Spaceout. Miss Tavern Guild Tammy Lyn was visited at her station by her counterpart Alan. Tammy sold \$1,200 worth of those little tickets, and at ten cents a crack that's no mean feat.

Too late for today's deadline, but none the less important, is yesterday's anniversary of the Village. The festivities included cocktail prices all day, and a big buffet by Flo, Bill, and Mira in the evening. Congrats to Bill, Hank, and Lee.

DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS

Parkay and Bruce, our Mr/Miss Gay SF, raised more than \$140 and lotsa canned foods for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank. The bank's founder, Director Cary Norsworthy, was on hand at the little fete last week at the Village. The food bank distributes canned food and packaged goods to more than 50 people. You can help out by donating these good things to The International David Society at 2340 Market, The Community Thrift Store at 625 Valencia Street, and The Garden at 1960 University Avenue in Palo Alto. Call Cary for more info at 864-4376.

The ACIE Coronation was a big success. Our Grand Ducks quacked across the Bay and won best in theme, "Trip through Time," to the Rocky Horror Show's "Time Warp." The new Emp's are Billi and Doug Odermatt.

Ms. Naomi Del Rey is planning a big show too. The Casa Loma Hotel at Fell and Filmore is throwing a Gala Congratulations Party for Grand Duke Michael and GD Trixie, as well as Princess Sandy, Sunday Sept. 30 at 3 p.m.

The Pilsner Inn is celebrating three years on the Silver Strip Monday, Oct. 1 from 8 p.m. to midnight with open bar and food for days. You need to stop in and get an invite.

One of the good guys (to quote Randy Johnson) is Joseph Evanko, manager of the Marra-kech at 417 O'Farrell Street. The bar is celebrating the opening of a lavish new dining com-

plex. Check it out. Moroccan dining is a real event.

Jerry and Jim Coletti/Martin invite you to a fundraiser for Milton Marks Monday, Oct. 1 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The ten dollar fete will be held at 450 Corbett Avenue in the city.

Modesto's Closet Ball will take place Saturday, Oct. 6 at the Old Winery at 10 Escalon.

Door opens at 7 p.m. with a donation of \$7.

Looking forward to the Cycle Runners' first run "Opera Madness," this weekend at Big Basin in the Santa Cruz hills. Look for Apps at your favorite leather pub. Cost is 60 clams. The run is Friday thru Sunday.

See ya' in the skins.

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, Sept. 27: Benefit for Dingy Don, Febe's 8 p.m.; MC Randy Johnson.

Saturday, Sept. 29: GSL Town Meeting, The Village, 1 p.m.

Hammersmith Grand Opening, Chaps upstairs, rear p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 30: San Jose TG Fall Festival, S.J. Fair Grounds, 12 noon to 5 p.m. \$15 at gate, featuring Sylvester in concert.

49er Football, The Kokpit, 1 p.m. Round on house per each 49er TD. Congratulations Party, Alamo Square Saloon (Filmore and Fell),

3 p.m. Show by Naomi Del Rey. Golden Gate Troopers Beer Bust, SF Eagle, 3 to 6 p.m., \$6. includes food.

Monday, Oct. 1: Third Anniversary, Pilsner Inn, 8 to 12 midnight, open bar and buffet, by invitation (from b'tender).

Wednesday, Oct. 3: Dyrner and Dynasty, Meal 7 to 9 p.m., \$3. TV 9 p.m., SF Eagle.

Dynasty Night, Febe's 9 p.m. Dynasty & Hotel, Castro Station, 9 to 11 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 4: Bare Chest Contest, Arena. Check-in 9 p.m., contest 10 p.m.

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MARCUS

(Continued from page 28)

Russell may show up as Medusa... The Cable Car Awards board met quietly last week, and nominations are rolling in already — the committees are hard at work already watching all the functions, events, fundraisers, and outstanding events going on in these closing days of the year for the Awards to be presented on February 2. That should keep you ALL busy for the next few months.

DISHLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT

You may or may not remember Gina Morandi, the on-again off-again girl friend of our own Butch Freeman? We-I-I kids, La Morandi is coming back to town from Sacramento with a NEW look; according to my VERY RELIABLE source(s) she just completed major surgery and her former 22-inch bust is now full-blown to a whopping 36-C! And how appropriate that Columbus discovered America in 1492! Gina will make her first appearance here with her "new look" on Columbus Day, Oct. 12, 1984 — the year Gina discovered Silicon — and what a valley!... I can hardly believe some of our local leather men are tired of their titles already, and right now, Jake Banks (Mr. Leather of SF, Daddy's Boy '83) and Sonny Cline (Mr. No. Cal Drummer and Mr. Drummer '84) are fighting tooth and nail to see who out-dresses who at next year's Closet Ball! Another bugle beads war?... It may have been serious at the time, but they're all laughing about it now: One of our more notable belly dancers from a famous SofM bar had so much fun cruising the hot dudes in Houston during the Gay World Series he got busted in an alley right off Westheimer Blvd. for "oral activity" and for possession of "mystic white powders" from the East. But that's not the item. The item is that he was wearing

a "Men Behind Bars" T-shirt at the time, and to add insult to injury, the arresting officer had the audacity to scold our heroine (Isabella) by saying: "Tsk, Tsk. You're old enough to be MY father!" Onward!... Wes Jackson, the super jock ball player, was out last Sunday after the Folsom Street Fair UN-accompanied by his Irish other half, and when questioned as to the other half's whereabouts, snapped: "She ran me out!" as he lustily grabbed a stunning "number" right out from under the nose of David "Stella" Stoll... In case you heard the RUMOR, it's just that — a RUMOR: The Cowboy/Miss Cowgirl titles are NOT FOR SALE, so put your \$3,000 away and that's FINAL!... On an unsigned (naturally) post card I got the dish that Chuck Thayer and Cam Solari were BANNED from attending the Warlocks M/C big M-TV run two weeks ago, and their application(s) and check(s) were returned. The Warlocks run is STILL a BIG FAT TEN, and I'm sorry Chuck and Cam were barred... Time flies: The Pilsner Inn will be celebrating its 4th Anniversary on Monday, Oct. 4 with the usual "invitation only" party for the Brahmins in our community; the Untouchables will be denied entrance until about 11 p.m. And speaking of anniversaries, Don Ramon's sent me an invitation to its 2nd Anniv. last Friday night, Sept. 21, but I didn't get it until Monday, Sept. 24 — so I didn't make it, but I heard everyone had a *spectaculo-lar* time; likewise, with the Knights Templar, which celebrated its 1st Anniv. with a smart little party at CHAPS last Sunday — I think the US Postal Service could use a little discipline as dished out by the KT's. And lastly, you may or may not recall back in 1971 when the South Pacific Motor Club of Sydney, Australia — (our official Sister City) — came to Faghdad by the Bay (43 of them) and made a whirlwind tour of the USA with parties all over San Francisco, Los An-



That Face. Carol Channing makes her entrance at 22 on the Red. (Photo: Marcus)

ges, New York, Washington, D.C., Denver, and Atlanta. Well, two weeks ago, that group celebrated its 14th Anniversary in Sydney at the University of New South Wales Roundhouse, and a couple more days of celebration. The newly-elected president, Ron Cain, sends greetings to all his club brothers here, and sorry you missed the spectacular "barbie-cue" at the club house at Rozelle. Waltzing Matilda, mates.

DISHTRIBUTION POINT

Hey, Joe Sanders is back South of Market and at the RAMROD of course... If you're for Pat Norman for Supervisor as I am, you'll want to know her committee is staging a supershow at the Great Amer-

ican Music Hall Sunday, Oct. 7 at 8 p.m. featuring Bobby McFerrin, Ed Mock, and the Linda Tillery Band. Since it's a benefit for Pat's campaign, any amount over \$8.50 goes to the campaign fund. Call 621-1780 for details and Vote for Pat!... Since the 2nd Annual Daddy's Boy Contest is slated for Sunday, Oct. 21 at the SF-Eagle, you might want to know that Al Parker, Luke Daniel, Colt Thomas, Ron Moore, Christian Haren, and Sonny Cline will ALL be the judges. It's a benefit for the SF AIDS Fund, so you all better be there!... And wasn't it nice that the BRIG and the STUD both issued commemorative buttons in honor of the Folsom Street Fair? Collectors items!

Marcus

WILD AND WOOLLY

BOB WOOLHOUSE

Joan Collins of 'Dynasty'

Just Like Thee and Me

by Bob Woolhouse

Joan Collins was recently interviewed by the Sunday Times of London about her typical day at home and on the job. I was amazed to discover how similar her life in Hollywood is to mine in the Castro. For instance:

Ms. Collins

I spend most of my time in L.A. where I have a modern house decorated in Art Deco style.

Dynasty takes up 8 months (plus 25%) of my year, which means getting up between 5 and 7 nearly every morning.

My service wakes me and a lovely firm voice says, "It's 5 o'clock, time to go to work."

I stagger out of bed, clean my teeth and throw on whatever I put out the night before.

By then the driver has arrived to take me to work.

On the way I go through my lines, which I learned the night before. If there is something I particularly dislike, I change it.

As soon as I get to work, I have coffee with cream and two sugars.

Depending on whether I'm 4 lbs. overweight, I'll have one English muffin and juice. My designer isn't too happy if he has to keep letting my seams out.

I do my own makeup which takes about 15 minutes, and try to wear a hat in the scenes as often as possible because it wrecks the hair, having it teased and blow-dried week after week.

I try to get home in time to have dinner with my daughter, who likes me to go through her homework, but her math problems are too complicated for me; I left school at 15, so arithmetic is not my strong suit.

Then I lie in the bath, listening to music. I call my service, find out that 97 people have called and ring a couple back.

Once a week I meet girlfriends for lunch. I entertain about once a month. My staple menu is spaghetti bolonaise, salad, and chocolate mousse. Not very original but very popular.

Life is a gift, and we should live each moment to the fullest.

Woolly

I spend most of my time in S.F. where I have a modern carport decorated in Art Deco style.

Macy's take up 8 months (plus 25%) of my year, which means getting up between 5 and 7 nearly every morning, since Sales Audit begins about the same time as the S.F. Scavengers.

My service, an insistent cocker spaniel, wakes me and a lovely firm voice barks, "It's 5 o'clock. I want to go out! I want my breakfast!"

I follow the same routine, but add the extra dimension of a shower, based on the recommendation of friends. The fact that I put out last night seems to be of little help at this point.

Mine too, except my driver tends to race me to the corner in his 8-Market bus.

I go through my lines, which I learned years ago, like why I'm late for work again. If there is something I dislike, I avoid it. Absolutely, except for the cream and sugar. The rules of Butch are very strict on this point.

If I'm only 4 lbs. overweight, it's juice and a banana split. My designer, the cute salesman in Men's Sportswear, isn't too happy, though, if he has to call all the other stores for size XL.

I do mine too, which takes about 15 seconds. How creative can you be with underarm deodorant? I wear a hat to camouflage the fact that I have so little hair to wreck.

I try to get home in time to have dinner with my roommate, who likes me to go through the dishwasher and cleanup work. I left school at 31, and math is not my strong suit either.

I lie in my bath, realizing that the stopper doesn't work. I call my service and find that 97 people haven't called, but I try to phone them all back anyhow.

Me, too — best girlfriends like Terry and Greg. I entertain about once a month, since that is the only time my roommate is out of town. My staple menu is peanut butter, beer, and chocolate chip cookies.

Amen. And thank you Auntie Mame.

FRIESE FRAME

Gambling On Fairs

MARK FRIESE



Miss Gay S.F., Parkay (l.), Marlana, and Grand Duchess Trixie at one of many fundraising auctions. (Photo: M. Friese)

This past weekend was one of events and action, what with Megahood '84 producing the ultimate in street fairs for the past few years, and also 22 On the Red producing a sizeable profit for the Golden Gate Business Association, it looks like many viable parts of our Gay community enjoyed a great fundraising weekend.

Sweetlips departed for Portland this past Sunday, and if that wasn't enough for Portland, Lucy of the White Swallow arrived there this past Tuesday. If Mame, Lance, Darrell, Roxy and the rest of Portland didn't have ulcers before, they certainly will now.

The weekend coming up provides us with things to do and things to support.

A small listing, in partial, would be that Dick Kramer and the Gay Men's Choral will be performing a program of mostly French offerings on two separate dates and locations. Mark these down. Friday, Sept. 28 at 8 p.m. the chorus will perform at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church Street, and on Saturday, Sept. 29 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 30 at 4 p.m., the group will perform at Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush.

Tix are \$5 in advance or \$6 at the door, and more info is available by phoning 863-0342.

Along with the other fine cabarets that our fair city has to offer, we should all check out Raggs on 4th Street below Market, because it features a lot of great entertainment. This Friday evening Raggs will present Mercy and Dell at 9 p.m. with a \$5 cover charge. Say hi to Chuck, formerly of the Mint, when you are there.

Great plans in store for The Elephant Walk, as if the place wasn't great enough, will be a certain post card girl becoming assistant manager, and of course Alicia's engagement being continued.

Moving on up the Silver Strip, a forthcoming event should be announced. That, of course, would be the auction that Miss Gay SF, Parkay and the Men's Room is sponsoring for our newly elected Grand Duchess Trixie Trash. Trixie has been ill since shortly after he won Grand Duchess, and does need part of his medical expenses taken care of. This auction will be held at the Transfer on Sunday, Oct. 7, starting at 3 p.m. I'm proud to have been asked to be an auctioneer for this event because Trixie has always worked very hard for the Gay community — see you there!

Kimo's two-night anniversary this past Wednesday and Thursday brought out old friends and new to help another of our com-

munity's workers celebrate in a fitting tribute. The new Miss Tavern Guild was on hand to dispense beverages and love, only as Tammy Lynn can do.

Just a few doors down from Kimo's is just what Polk Street needed — a good Sushi bar and that, of course, would be "Oishii" which is small, intimate and staffed by very friendly people. Try this one out the next time you are in the Polk area.

It certainly has seemed like old home week on Polk Street these past few weeks. The visitor's included: Tacky Ruth, visiting from Long Beach; Rag's and David from Portland; and La Kish from Sacramento, who swears none of his high school teachers are still alive. All of them looked great, and Ruth isn't as big as some people thought she was.

The Granddaddy of the Jockstrap contests will hold its finals Sunday, Oct. 7 at the Endup. And on the same date, the

Bench and Bar in Oakland will hold its finals. Both contests will start around 8:30 p.m. How to be partial is anyone's guess because Randy Johnson, Jerry Semas, Diamond John, and Lady Rona are all very special friends of mine. But on the other hand, I have the good fortune to be the MC for the Bench and Bar contest. Well, I guess we'll see you at one of the above, and most of all good luck to the contestants and winners because they are the ones who make the contest.

In closing, I'll tell you that general sales of tickets for this year's Beaux Arts Ball will be available through the Tavern Guild now, or at the general outlets starting Oct. 1.

Naomi Del Rey and Tim Johnson will be having a celebration party for G.D. Trixie, G.D. Michael, and Sandy Sorreles Sunday, Sept. 30 at 3 p.m. at the Alamo Square Saloon.

That's all for now, and remember you never feel left out if you get involved!

BOOK RACK

More, Please

Sweet Dreams
by John Preston
Alyson Publications; \$4.95, paper
by Paul Reed

John Preston is becoming a prolific writer, and that's good news. His latest novel, *Sweet Dreams*, may be a fast read, but oh, it is a good one. Preston has created a fantastic Gay hero — Alex Kane, a great big hulk of muscular man intent on avenging anti-Gay, homophobic activities.

The book is a tight little mystery thriller — part detective fiction, part "avenging angel" vigilante fiction. When an unusual number of young Boston Gays go bad, people begin to suspect something's up. Then, when star gymnast Danny Fortelli goes bad, it is very evident that somebody in Boston is corrupting these guys.

Gay vigilante Alex Kane steps in, does some fancy detective work, and discovers just who is responsible for what. With a series of avenging scenes so well-written and captivatingly exciting I couldn't put the book down, Kane takes care of the hoods and sets things right.

For the time being, that is. The dust jacket of *Sweet Dreams* says this is the introduction to a new series by John Preston, featuring Alex Kane in the role of vigilante/hero. Well, it's a great idea, and one that's long overdue. The only other similar figure we have is Joseph Hansen's Dave Brandstetter, but Brandstetter is a fairly mainstream, commonplace private eye. *Sweet Dreams* Alex Kane, on the other hand, is a tough though lovable vigilante

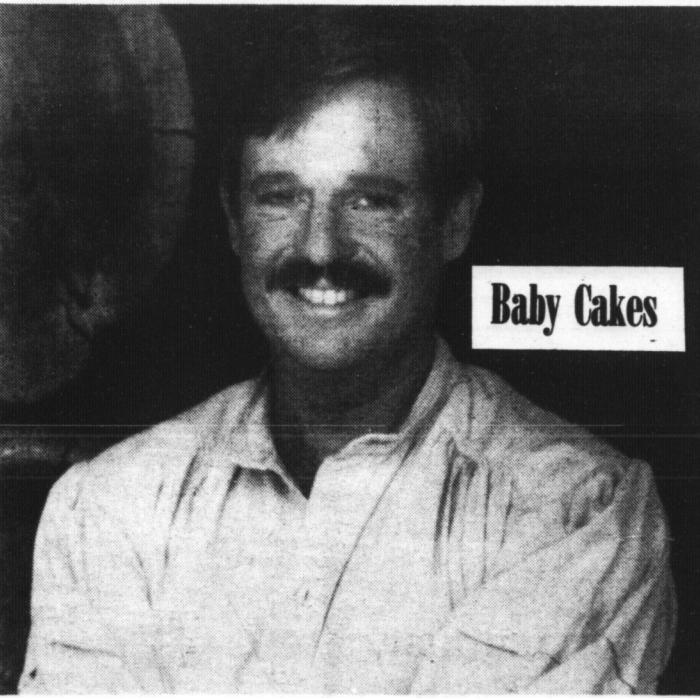
riding roughshod on anti-Gay creeps in the manner of Charles Bronson in *Death Wish*.

Of course, I stopped reading a couple of times to ask myself, in breathless piety, "Should I be getting such a charge out of this vengeful violence?" But the genre is so well-established — and the hoodlums so repugnant — we can easily settle in for the ride and thrill right along with it. After all, it is just a story. We would not condone such extreme

measures in real life. Would we?

The book itself is nicely designed and well-packaged at \$4.95 for a quality trade paperback — an almost unheard of price for such a book nowadays.

Here's the only problem, but it's one inherent in all such series: I can't wait to read the next one. I haven't read such highly-charged entertaining Gay fiction in a long time, and I'm truly dying to find out what, or who, Alex Kane is going to avenge next. So hurry up, John Preston, and write!



Baby Cakes

Baby Cakes, the latest of Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City* saga that details the further adventures of the residents of 28 Barbary Lane, has been released by Harper and Row. The book, serialized in the *San*

Francisco Chronicle, can be found at local bookstores. Maupin's previous works, *Tales of the City*, *More Tales of the City*, and *Further Tales of the City*, are also available from Harper and Row.

(Photo: M. Hicks)

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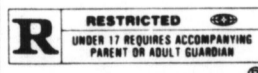
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VOL. XIV NO. 40 OCTOBER 4, 1984

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Cops Probed in Assault on Gay Man

DA Investigates Four Cases in All; Cops on the Street After Complaint

by Brian Jones

The District Attorney's Office is probing two Mission District police officers for the abduction and beating of a Gay man on Aug. 29. The victim, Bruce Lindberg, 29, said in a signed statement that he was abducted from a Muni bus, driven in a squad car to the warehouse district, then maced, clubbed with police batons, and kicked while on the ground. His injuries required hospitalization at San Francisco General Hospital, where he swore out a civilian complaint from his bed.

The *Bay Area Reporter* has learned that the two officers being investigated for the Lindberg case are simultaneously being probed for three other brutality cases during the past month. All involve the abduction and beating of citizens. At least one of the other victims is believed to be Gay.

Captain Vic Macia of the Mission Station said Tuesday he was aware of one of the cases against the officers. But Macia said he was not aware of the Lindberg case, and he was not aware that four related investigations of the same two officers were underway.

Macia said the two officers had been reassigned to "non-public contact positions" two

weeks ago — two weeks after Lindberg filed his formal complaint.

Macia expressed anger when he learned that the initial complaint against the officers, which apparently was Lindberg's, had been filed Aug. 30 with the Office of Civilian Complaints (OCC). Until made aware of Lindberg's complaint this week by a reporter, Macia still had not been informed of the Lindberg complaint.

Standard procedure for the OCC calls for a supervisor to be formally notified of a brutality case against police officers, so the supervisor can decide whether to reassign the officers during the investigation.

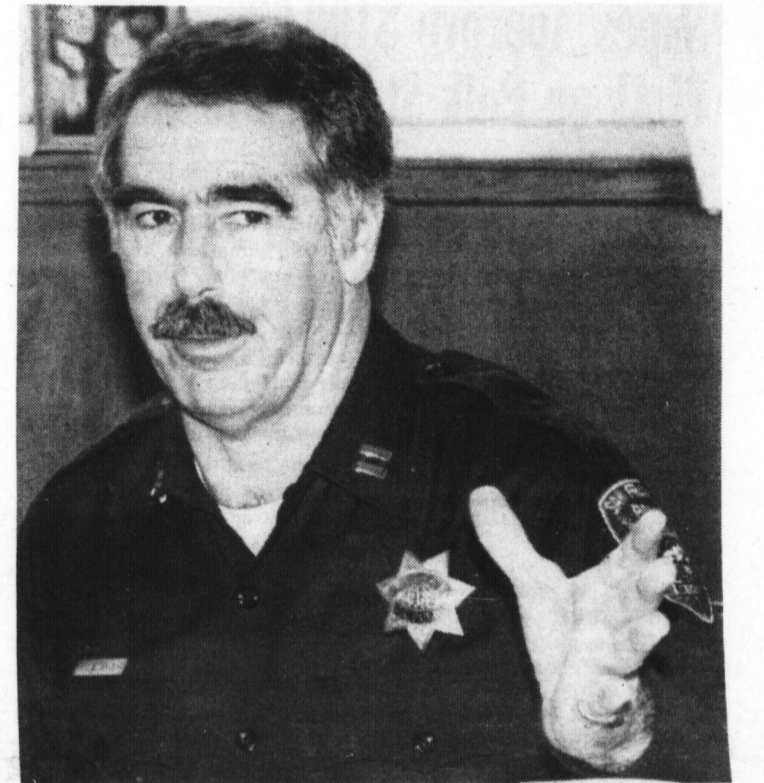
Apparently, the three other

brutality complaints occurred after Lindberg filed his formal complaint — and may have been prevented, had proper procedures been followed.

"The thing that bothers me is that if we had been made aware of the first case, we could have pulled the guys off the street sooner, and possibly kept other citizens from being hurt," Macia said.

The Office of Civilian Complaints has been involved in controversy all summer over charges that complaints are not properly or expeditiously handled. The OCC director, Eugene Swann, resigned under pressure from the mayor last week.

(Continued on page 4)



Reassigned Officers. Mission Station Captain Vic Macia says he should have been told earlier of brutality complaint. (Photo: Rink)



Above the Clouds. A solitary soul is silhouetted against setting sun and incoming fog as seen from atop Mount Tamalpais. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

John Wahl: Not a Household Name

Battling for Recognition — And City Hall — on a Budget

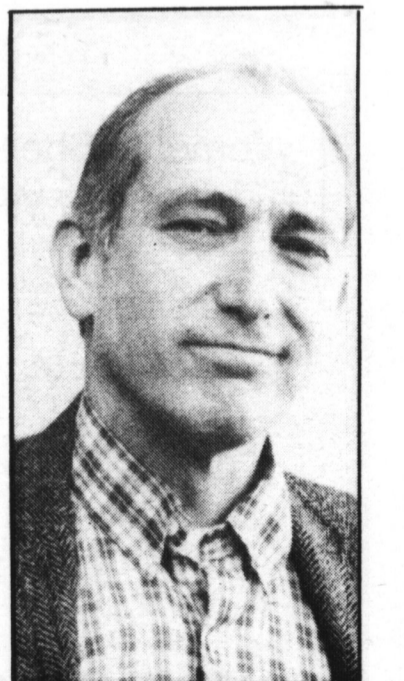
by George Mendenhall

City Hall regulars believe it now takes \$150,000 for a challenger to the Board of Supervisors incumbents to build enough name identification to be considered "serious." Challenger John Wahl, a popular Gay attorney, hopes they are wrong and challenges that analysis.

"I do not think anyone should spend that much money to run for office," Wahl said. "That is absurd and offensive. That is not democracy — it is the purchasing of a seat in the legislature. Those people get that money from big moneyed interests and then are beholden to them. I am the biggest backer of my campaign — a \$6,000 loan out of the \$30,000 that has been raised and spent.

"It is suicidal for the public to say that if you cannot raise that kind of money, you are not a serious candidate. That is saying that only rich people or people supported by the rich are qualified," Wahl said. "I campaign on a one-to-one basis. I find that many people have considerable distrust of public officials here. Maybe the incumbents have to raise a lot of money just to keep the public at bay."

Wahl may do it on a one-to-one basis. (Continued on page 14)



John Wahl (Photo: Rink)

Governor Signs Violence Bill; It Arouses Little Controversy

Victims of Violence May Sue for Damages; The Legacy of the Late John O'Connell

by Brian Jones

Gov. George Deukmejian last week signed into law AB 848, making it a state civil rights violation to attack or threaten citizens because they are Gay, disabled or elderly.

In his statement on the bill, Deukmejian said, "I have signed this bill because I don't believe anyone should be singled out for violent attack for any reason. . . . The first obligation of the law and our criminal justice system is to protect all residents from violence.

(Continued on page 4)