## AIDS Safe-Sex Guidelines June 1984

## SAFE SEX PRACTICES

- o Massage, Hugging
- Mutual Masturbation
- Social Kissing (Dry)
- Body-to-Body Rubbing (Frottage)

## POSSIBLY SAFE SEX PRACTICES

- French Kissing (Wet)
- Anal Intercourse With Condom
- Sucking Stop Before Climax
- Watersports External Only
- (Risk Increases With Multiple Partners)

## **UNSAFE SEX PRACTICES**

- Rimming
- Fisting
- Blood Contact
- Sharing Sex Toys
- Semen or Urine in Mouth
- Anal Intercourse Without Condom

## **AIDS Hotlines**

- o (415) 863-AIDS
- o Toll-Free in N. CA: 800-FOR-AIDS
- o TTY (415) 864-6606

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TIME A PP

## Can You Pass The Safe Sex Test?

Safe Sex Protects You and Your Partner

## Sex I Like To Do (Or Might Be Talked Into)

	SAFE	POSSIBLY SAFE	UNSAFE
□ Being fucked without a condom			
□ Fucking without a condom			
□ Being fucked with a condom			
□ Fucking with a condom			
☐ Getting sucked to climax	7		
<ul> <li>Getting sucked - stopping before climax</li> </ul>			
□ Sucking to climax			
<ul> <li>Sucking - stopping before climax</li> </ul>			
☐ Masturbation/jacking off		· .	
☐ Massage/hugging/dry kissing			
□ Watersports in mouth		×	
□ Watersports on skin			
□ Rimming/scat			
☐ Fisting			
☐ Sharing dildos and sex toys			
□ Dildos and sex toys - not shared			
□ Body-to-body rubbing (frottage/tribadism)			
☐ Semen or urine in mouth or anus			
☐ Cunnilingus			
□ Contact with someone's blood			
☐ Sharing needles			

AIDS HOTLINES; (415) 863-AIDS / Toll-Free in N. CA (800) FOR-AIDS / TTY (415) 864-6606 Produced by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, June 1984. Another Message From The San Francisco AIDS Foundation

VOL. XIV NO. 42 OCTOBER 18, 1984

1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103



Hit the Ramp. It's Halloween, with Sunday's Beaux Arts Ball the kickoff for a week of celebration. For what's doing

assigned to arson cases; police

officers who had denigrated

organized crime would not be

assigned to 'sensitive' investigations; and investigators who had

denigrated Nazi or KKK organ-

Supervisor Richard Hongisto,

the former city cop and sheriff

who proposed the measure, called Feinstein's reasoning "silly." "The Board of Supervisors passed it because we are committed to fighting discrimination instead of listening to silly ex-

cuses as to why you can't. Room 200 (the mayor's office) seems more interested in the silly

"Well, there are always silly

excuses for not fighting discrimination. But when you use them

instead of confronting discrimi-

nation, it shows that your commitment, in the first place, was mediocre," Hongisto said.

The supervisors will vote

Monday, Oct. 22, on whether to

override Feinstein's veto. The

measure originally passed 7-2,

with two supervisors absent, so

if no votes change, the veto

(Continued on page 3)

could be overridden.

excuses.

#### Supes Vote Monday on Whether To Override; 'Soft' Votes?

Mayor Dianne Feinstein last week vetoed the "anti-bigotry" bill. The bill attempts to block city employees who openly denigrate members of minority groups from working on cases which affect those groups.

The bill, prompted by the "Cops for Christ" controversy this summer, passed the Board of Supervisors 7-2 on Oct. 1. Supervisors Wendy Nelder and Quentin Kopp voted against could be prevented from being

In vetoing the measure, Feinstein echoed the statements made by Christian fundamentalists at a public hearing Sept. 24. She said the bill could keep cops who were against the Mafia from working on cases involving organized crime.

"It is my opinion that this legislation is so broad and sweeping in scope that its effect could be much broader than intended. For example, a fireman who has denigrated arsonists

Dianne Feinstein (Photo: Rink)

KGO Radio talk show host is stirring up the airwaves with words such as "nigger" and "swish." Allen White tunes

There's some propositioning going on Nov. 6 and Wayne Friday is interested. He looks at statewide propositions in Politics & Poker . . . . p. 10

The life and times of Harry Britt, the city's most powerful Gay man, are chronicled by Mike Hippler ..... p. 14

Where is Gay theater headed in the '80s? Steve Warren was in Britain and sat in with playwrights pondering that

Are you too - uh - mature izations or groups could be for working out? Meet Roland prevented from investigating talks fitness . . . . . p. 29 ing of crosses," the Mayor said.

## Judge Orders Baths to Close

## Refuses to Hear Pleas Of Civil Rights Groups

San Francisco Superior Court Judge William E. Mullins on Monday issued a temporary restraining order closing the city's nine Gay bathhouses and sex clubs. In doing so, he rejected any consideration of civil rights arguments and barred the American Civil Liberties Union and Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom from filing "friend of the court" briefs.

The Monday afternoon hearing was straightforward: Mullins accepted the arguments of Health Director Mervyn Silverman that the bathhouses and sex clubs encouraged homosexual acts which in turn spread AIDS. In so doing, Mullins declared the clubs a "public nuisance.

Silverman başed his argument on more than 80 pages of reports from four private investigators he dispatched to the facilities in the past month. The private eyes' reports were

In its brief, the city stated that the sex clubs "harbor, encourage, and derive profit from multiple sexual contacts among homosexual males," and that such activity promotes the spread of AIDS.

Tom Steele, attorney for the



of bathhouse decision. One exception was this small group ou City Hall on Monday. A meeting for those against closure is set for 7:30 p.m. Friday at Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. (near 18th). (Photo: Rink)

## Congress Rebuffs Reagan OKs \$93 Million for AIDS

\$40 Million More Than President Requested; Health Secretary Assailed as 'Irresponsible'

Scientists said they "urgently" needed millions more for AIDS research. The Reagan administration refused to pass along their request to Congress. Congress listened to the scientists, chastised the administration, and the result was a bounty for AIDS research.

Late last Thursday night, Congress passed \$93.6 million for AIDS research — almost \$40 million more than President Reagan asked for. The appropriation is for the federal budget year which began Oct. 1. It compares to \$58 million approved for AIDS research last year and is more than triple the \$29 million passed in 1983.

(Continued on page 4)

## Judge Orders Baths to Close

bathhouses, used a federal AIDS study based in San Francisco to dispute that argument. The study, involving nearly 300 San Francisco Gay men and conducted by the federal Centers for Disease Control, showed no statistical link between bathhouse attendance and risk for

In fact, among men with five or more sex contacts per month, those who meet most or all of their partners in bathhouses appear less likely to be at risk for AIDS than other men with multiple sex contacts.

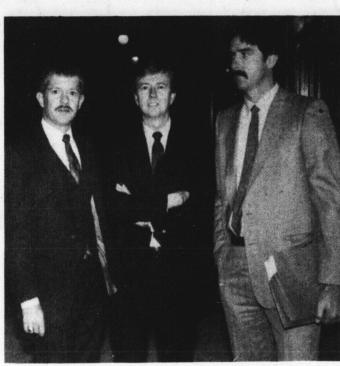
All multiple-sex contact behavior carries high risk for AIDS, the study indicates. Men in the study who reported five or more sex contacts per month were three times as likely to have AIDS as men who averaged less than one contact per month.

The fundamental disagreement between the two sides was whether closing the clubs would reduce multiple-contact sex, or simply move it elsewhere.

"It's people who transmit AIDS. What good will it do to close the baths? What's the difference between sex in a bathhouse and sex in any other location?" Steele said.

Gay community leaders were worried that the successful closure would send a message that bathhouses - not personal behavior — spread AIDS.

Jim Ferels, executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, said, "It is imperative that the general public and populations at risk for AIDS realize that Dr. Silverman's actions will not totally



Case for the Defense was argued by, from left, Duke Armstrong, Tom Horn, Tom Steele. (Photo: Rink)

Union took a different view. Because Dr. Silverman's action restricts the constitutional rights to privacy and association of certain members of the community, namely the Gay men who patronize the establishments, a 'strict scrutiny' standard of review must be applied

cases) the transfusion of blood or ney Donna Hitchens. blood products - puts one at The "strict scrutiny" review risk for AIDS, researchers have requires that there be no less restrictive way of fighting AIDS than interfering with Gay men's fused to hear from civil rights right to freely assemble, the ACLU brief argued.

by the court," said ACLU attor-

"If there are other means available to city officials to stop the spread of AIDS, the closure The American Civil Liberties



Case Rejected. Civil Rights attorneys Donna Hitchens (l.) and Roberta Achtenberg saw their briefs rejected by judge. (Photo: Rink)

of Gay establishments is not constitutionally allowed. We feel it is absolutely necessary for the court to seek that proof," Hitch-

But Mullins rejected that plea, and refused to review constitutional arguments.

Mullins' action was temporary. His order is effective only until Oct. 30, when a hearing will be held in Superior Court on a preliminary injunction — an order to permanently close the

In his ruling Monday Mullins left open five establish ments which Silverman had ordered closed. Adult bookstores and porn film theaters,

being protected by freedom of speech guarantees, could not be closed outright, Mullins ruled. However, he issued a partial order in the case of two theaters Savages and the Tea Room banning sex in them.

The closed clubs represent all

the remaining Gay sex clubs and bathhouses in the city (of 14 such facilities open in early 1983, five have since gone out of business). The closed clubs include: The Academy, Animals, The Boot Camp, Club San Francisco (Ritch Street), Club Baths (Eighth and Howard), Jack's Turkish Baths, San Francisco Health Club, and The

B. Jones

## Mayor Vetoes Anti-Bias Bill

But Feinstein's close ties to several supervisors who supported the bill - and who are in tight reelection campaigns raise the prospect of several supervisors switching their votes to avoid confronting the mayor. "Some of the votes look soft," said one City Hall source.

The bill was proposed in August after it was revealed that a group calling itself "Cops for Christ" within the San Francisco Police Department was active in anti-Gay efforts. The group published a column on the front page of The Policeman newspaper which denigrated

The column attacked police hiring of Gays, Gay sensitivity training for police, and indicated that Gays belonged in prison. The column also attacked the appointment of the Rev. Jim Sandmire of Metropolitan Community Church as a police chaplain, saying it "humiliated" the police and is an "embarrass-

At the public hearing Sept. 24, the committee room was packed with more than 50 fundamentalist Christians. Their remarks extended the hearing for more than two hours. In contrast, only one Gay leader -Diane Christensen of Community United Against Violence spoke to support the bill.

The city's two largest Gay political groups, the Alice Toklas and Harvey Milk Clubs. had passed resolutions supporting the measure. But neither of the clubs lobbied for the bill, appeared at the hearing, or sent copies of their resolutions to the supervisors.



Richard Hongisto (Photo: Rink)

Hongisto compared his bill to other "conflict of interest" legislation. "In the judiciary, if a judge has a bias or even the appearance of a bias, he can be removed from a case. In the legislative branch, there are provisions prohibiting people from voting on matters in which they have an interest or appear to have an interest. For example, I can't vote on rent control because I own property.

"It works well in the other two branches of government," Hongisto said. He said there was a clear need for the bill. "In my 10 years as a police officer in this city, I saw many instances in which prejudice and hatred definitely interfered with an individual's ability to do a job thor-

"It is important that the police department have the support of the public, and it cannot function well if it doesn't. When the public doesn't support the police department, they won't come forward with their stories and provide clues," Hongisto The Rev. Chuck McIlhenny

of First Orthodox Presbyterian Church defended the Cops for Christ and said they had not denigrated Gays. McIlhenny. who won notoriety several years ago when he fired the church organist for being Gay, said the Cops for Christ were merely 'saving things in accordance with the word of God . . . if you throw out the law of God as a standard of moral authority, what do you intend to replace it with?" McIlhenny said.

Other fundamentalists said Gay crime victims as part of her ob at CUAV, echoed that

"What happens is that police officers use their titles to make these statements and to give them credence. The result is that t leads to the citizen having a ack of confidence in the fairness of the police - and then, they won't report attacks to the police," Christensen said.

She said there is a history in the local Gay community of fagbashing victims not reporting the crimes because of low confi dence the police will pursue

The Rev. Dave Smith, pastor of "His Way" ministry, spoke on a theme that would be oftrepeated during the day — and would be repeated in Mayor Feinstein's veto message. "The problem here is what

constitutes a minority group? What about child abuse? Are child abusers a minority group? Could I, as a police officer, express outrage about child abuse and work on a child abuse case? This ordinance would appear to prevent that," Smith said.

Gays and Lesbians should not be hired as police officers. One teenager testified, "We love the homosexuals," prompting a young man in the audience to say, "Yeah - we love them to death." Several in the audience laughed.

The fundamentalist filibuster prompted openly Gay Supervisor Harry Britt, a former Methodist minister, to launch into a sermon of his own to condemn bigotry. His remarks visibly angered most of the fundamentalists in the room.

"I've heard these arguments before and I've seen this kind of bigotry and hatred and ugliness preached before," Britt said. "When I was a child growing up in the Deep South this was the argument used by every fundamentalist minister who preached against mixing the races because it was against the word of God . . .

"We are governed here by reason, not by anybody's claim that they are in sole possession of divine truth. We need to remember that the Ku Klux Klan marches as Christian soldiers,' Britt said.

## Health Issues Workshop Set for Lesbian, Gay Seniors

Health Issues for Lesbian and Gay Seniors will be the topic of a workshop, sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders of Operation Concern, to be held at San Francisco Home Health Services, 225 - 30th Street, on Saturday, Oct. 20, from 10 a.m. to noon, which will be followed by a potluck lunch.

Please call Sheryl Goldberg or Ray Ankrom at 626-7000 for more information and to RSVP.

## Bella Abzug to **Address Luncheon** for Pat Norman

Feminist leader and former U.S. Congresswoman Bella Abzug will address her concerns with election-year politics at a luncheon on Thursday, Nov. 1 beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Marines' Memorial Club Ballroom, 609 Sutter St., San Francisco. The event is a benefit for S.F. supervisorial candidate Pat Norman, a challenger in November's race. Chronicle columnist Warren Hinckle will make the introductory remarks.

Abzug, a six-year Democratic Congresswoman from New York, is also the founder and president of Women-USA, a national grassroots group designed to raise gender gap issues and organize coalitions to register women to vote. An outspoken advocate of women's rights, Abzug was the first woman in history to run for the U.S. Senate from New York and for mayor of New York City.

Norman, a senior administrator with the city Department of Public Health and community activist for minorities rights, has received endorsements from the San Francisco chapter of NOW, the Chinese American Democratic Club, the Harvey Milk and Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic clubs, and the Golden Gate Democratic Club, among

Tickets for the luncheon are \$45 per person, and available through the Pat Norman campaign headquarters, 2152-B Market Street. Call 621-1780 for reservations and information.

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to shoot drugs, or (in very rare

Mullins, in the hearing, re-

lawyers, ruling that their con-

cerns were not relevant. The

issue, Mullins said, was a medi-

documented.

transmitted by specific be-

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## AIDS Prevention, Education Forum **To Explore Community Action Options**

Members of the community are invited to a public forum on Monday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka (near 18th Street), to discuss how community-wide AIDS prevention and education activities can be improved, how more individuals and organizations can become involved in preventing the spread of AIDS, and to present ideas for future AIDS prevention campaigns.

This forum is being sponsored by the new "Community Partnership," a coalition of groups within the Lesbian and Gav community, to promote AIDS prevention and education and action within the community. The Partnership is currently comprised of The Golden Gate Business Association, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, Stonewall Lesbian Gay Democratic Club, People with AIDS (San Francisco). Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights and Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (who act as the official medical advisor to the group).

The decision to form the 'Community Partnership' came at a time over the past several months when there was a consensus realization that it was important that the broad community, both on individual and organizational levels, must become more visibly involved in the promotion of AIDS prevention efforts in order to support action by individuals to protect themselves and their partners from AIDS by avoiding unsafe sex and other high risk activities.

The Community Partnership s greatly concerned about the message that individuals may be focusing on, given the current commercial sex establishment regulation case unfolding in the San Francisco courts. Media attention has been focused on the regulation and closure and civil rights issues associated with the actions initiated by the Department of Public Health and the City Attorney

"This is not the main point for

Gay and bisexual men in San Francisco to focus on," said AIDS Foundation spokesperson Holly Smith. "All research indicates that AIDS is primarily transmitted by specific behaviors which can take place anywhere. It is a false conclusion to assume that the educational efforts of the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay community and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation have been less than successful. In fact, the formation of the Community Partnership and the efforts to provide a supportive environment for action which will result in the reduction of the San Francisco AIDS incidence rate, is a model concept which is being viewed as a prototype to be copied in other cities. The successful efforts of the community seem to be getting lost in the current media coverage of the San Francisco

For information about this or any other related AIDS issue, contact the San Francisco AIDS Foundation at 863-AIDS (in San Francisco) or 800-FOR-AIDS (toll free in Northern

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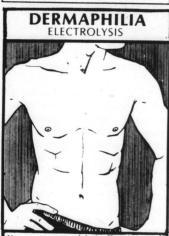


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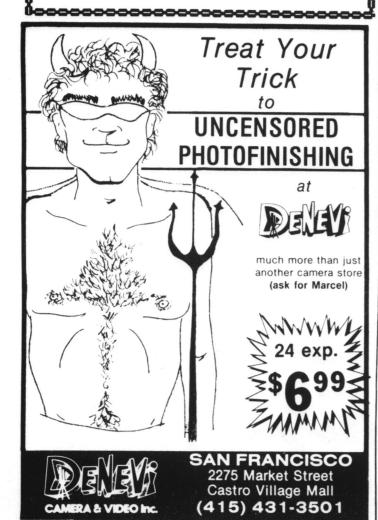
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OCTOBER 18, 1984 PAGE 4

BAY AREA REPORTER

## \$93 Million for AIDS Research

and it was accepted without any problems," said a jubilant Miguel Gomez, legislative aide for Gay Rights National Lobby in Washington, D.C.

Budget-writers in Congress, acting on leaked information and informal advice from AIDS researchers, added money to virtually every line-item of the Reagan budget request. Some

• The National Institutes of Health will receive \$58 million to pay for direct, in-the-lab AIDS research. The appropriation is \$18 million more than the Reagan budget requested. NIH is the federal govern-

ment's huge grant-making agency, a collection of institutions which set the pace — and pay for - most of the nation's fundamental scientific medical research. It was an NIH grant to Dr. Robert Gallo which led to the discovery of the HTLV-3 virus, the presumed cause of AIDS, in April of this year.

• The Centers for Disease Control was appropriated \$23 million for "epidemiology" tracking how the AIDS epidemic is spread. CDC researchers long have complained usually in private - that the spiraling number of new AIDS cases has outstripped resources to keep track of them.

Congress passed nearly double what the President asked for. That will allow a new virus lab and 17 new researchers to be put into the fight against AIDS in the current budget year.

• The Food and Drug Administration will receive almost \$9 million for blood research. The FDA inspects and guards the nation's supply of blood for transfusions.

With the advent of a blood test for HTLV-3 in the coming months, money is needed to put that research into use testing the nation's blood banks. Reagan's budget included no money for FDA blood testing.

On the front lines of congressional effort to expand the AIDS esearch budget was California's Democratic Senator, Alan Cranston. Cranston successfully pushed an amendment which was responsible for almost \$15 million of the money Congress added to Reagan's budget.

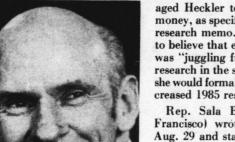
Cranston personally proposed the amendment on the floor of the Senate, after the House had passed its bill and the Senate bill was already out of committee. In a speech on the Senate floor Cranston pleaded for senators to be generous to AIDS research.

"These funds are urgently needed to ensure that every scientific effort that is practical and reasonable is made toward finding a cure for AIDS and pre venting the further spread of this tragic disease," Cranston said.

"This discovery this past spring of the probable cause of AIDS — the HTLV-3 virus opens the possibility that a vaccine may be developed in the near future," Cranston said. "We must step up our research program now to take full advantage of that discovery and to maintain the momentum in our

efforts to conquer this disease. In pushing for his amendment. Cranston relied on a memo leaked from inside the Department of Health and Human Services, where AIDS programs are funded.

Dr. Edward Brandt, head of the Public Health Service, wrote the memo on May 25 to Margaret Heckler, Secretary of



Sen. Alan Cranston

Health and Human Services. In it, Brandt said \$36 million more than the administration had asked for was "urgently needed" to "seize the opportunities which the recent breakthroughs have provided us."

The memo was revealed seven weeks later, and in an official statement from her office. Heckler said she had not yet reviewed it. Meanwhile, negotiations on the 1985 budget were proceeding in congressional committees - and members of Congress were unaware of the plea for more research money.

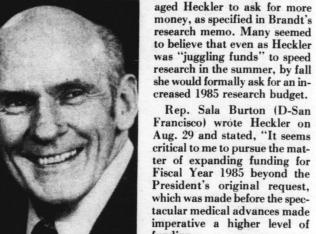
Brandt's memo was more than a plea. Prepared at Heckler's request, it was a precise list of research programs that were not funded, or insufficiently funded, to adequately follow up on the discovery of the HTLV-3

In August, Heckler responded. She denied the request to ask for additional federal funds for AIDS research, and ordered Brandt instead to divert money from other health programs to AIDS research.

"I have viewed your proposal regarding additional resources for AIDS . . . I agree with you that there is a need to expand research, investigations, and other epidemiological efforts as quickly as possible. Accordingly, with resources currently available to the Public Health Service, I direct you to carry out the most important projects of direct relevance to AIDS as soon as pos-

Among those angered by Heckler's response was Virginia Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force. "What Margaret Heckler seems to be saying is 'make do with what you've got.' Well, make do with what you've got is an inadequate response and something that clearly indicates Margaret Heckler is failing to see that the AIDS crisis is reaching the kinds of proportions it has reached."

Members of Congress encour-



"In keeping with the spirit of doing all that is possible to fight this epidemic, I trust that you will support this effort. To trust to the diversion of funds from other presumably meritorious health programs for another full year would clearly be an inadequate response to this grave crisis," Burton said.

As the 1985 budget neared the final hurdles last month, however, there was silence on AIDS funding from Heckler's office. There was to be no administration proposal for increased money for AIDS research in 1985 over what the President had already recommended.

By last month, some members of Congress were angry Rep. Henry Waxman, a Los Angeles Democrat, chastised the administration at a mid-September hearing. He called Heckler's budget chief in and derided Heckler's efforts on AIDS research money.

"Why don't we have your recommendations now? The only conclusion I can reach is that you don't want to appropriate more money," Waxman

"I think the secretary (Heckler) acted irresponsibly. Every day there are deaths that are a monument to your irresponsibility. Last spring, the secretary of health said the AIDS crisis was the nation's number one health emergency. She responds by rejecting the recommendations of top scientists. I'd sure hate to be the subject of the number two health emergency, Waxman said.

Congress began ignoring the administration and paying attention to the Brandt memo. The Senate Appropriations Committee upped the ante by \$15 million. Then, on Sept. 25, Cranston went to the full Senate with his amendment to add another \$14 million on top of that.

"Despite the fact that Dr. Brandt's request for additional AIDS funding was prepared in advance of House and action on the 1985 appropriation bill, this funding proposal was

(Continued on next page)



Sala Burton. She pleaded for Heckler to request more money plea was ignored. Sen. Cranston is in background. (Photo: Rink)



More Money For AIDS - a top demand of the Gay community, as demonstrated at National March on July 15. (Photo: Rink)

(Continued from previous page) never transmitted to Congress,' Cranston said.

"Dr. Brandt, in his capacity as Assistant Secretary for Health, is the highest ranking expert in the federal government for assessing the overall needs of the federal AIDS research program. In his budget recommendations, Dr. Brandt outlined in specific detail the projects needed to be developed and expanded, and he identified the agencies. I believe that we should accept Dr. Brandt's evaluation and heed his recommendations," Cranston said.

The Senate agreed, and passed Cranston's \$14 million

There was still a problem: no money for blood screening. With the likelihood of a method to test blood bank donations for HTLV-3 early next year, there was no money in the budget for the Food and Drug Administration to do the testing.

Cranston lobbied members of the joint Senate-House budget committee which was putting final touches on the budget last week. When the AIDS budget emerged, another \$9 million had been added for the blood proHill among Gay lobbyists and others concerned with AIDS research. But even amid celebration, an ominous note sounded. On Thursday, even as the budget with its \$93 million for AIDS research passed, Dr. Edward Brandt resigned as Assistant Secretary of Health.

His memo had done its job better than many had hoped but already, it seemed time to begin worrying about next year.



## **Britt Announces Formation of New Domestic Partnership Committee**

Supervisor Harry Britt's office has announced the formation of a Domestic Partnership Advisory Committee. The committee, composed of a diverse group of community activists, met with Britt on Sept. 14 and Oct. 10 to begin planning the agenda for the reintroduction and passge of Domestic Partnership Legislation.

Present at the meetings were Carole Migden, President, Harvey Milk Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club; Vince Quackenbush and Howard Wallance, Labor Alliance; Connie O'Connor, member of the Mayor's Domestic Partnership Task Force and Alice B. Toklas Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club; Roberta Achtenburg, Bay Area Equal Rights Advocates; Maura Kealey, local 390/400; Paul Boneberg and Ralph Payne, Stonewall Gay Democratic Club; Jackie Winnow, Human Rights Commission; Matt Coles, attorney; Diane Bone, National Women's Political Caucus: Tom Brough am, East Bay Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club.

"Our intent to pass Domesti Partnership Legislation for San Francisco is as strong now as it ever has been," Britt said. Your role will be a pivotal one in helping us develop a cohesive strategy for its passage, in continuing to hold the widespread support for our legislation we have in the community, and by gaining new support from those who may have been opposed or have been waiting on the sidelines. Together we will send out the clearest and strongest message possible to the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor and the people of San Francisco that we will prevail with this legisla-

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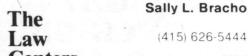
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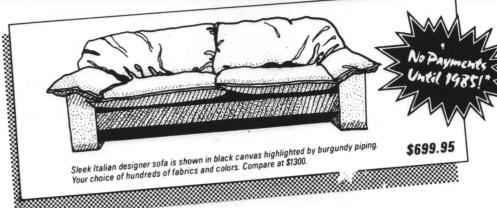
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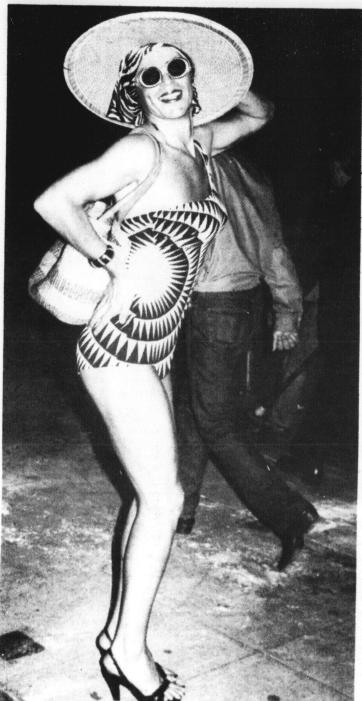
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**BAY AREA REPORTER** 

OCTOBER 18, 1984 PAGE 5



Harbinger of Halloween. The swallows are to Capistrano what this bird is to Castro Street - an annual harbinger of things to come. (Photo: Rink)

## Halloween's Here! We **Unmask Party Plans**

Wednesday Holliday Stretches Festivities Over 2 Weekends

Halloween has many new twists this year. The energy level was set last Sunday night by Sylvester as he introduced his latest album, "M-1015" to a jam packed crowd at the Trocadero Transfer. The excitement continues for the next two weeks when Halloween and "Dynasty" collide on Wednesday, Oct. 31.

Galleria. All tickets are \$25 and

they will be giving out over

\$2,500 in prizes. The party will

have nonstop dancing through

the entire night. A ramp runs

down the middle of the building

and the contestants, which can

be anybody, all have their turn

Tickets are available at Head-lines and, if history repeats

itself, they will be sold out in

The same Saturday night,

at parading down the runway.

After a series of successful parties at the Giftcenter Pavilion, Sanford Kellman has dropped the bombshell that he has cancelled plans for a Halloween party at the location. This leaves three Gay Halloween spectaculars this year in San Francisco.

Next Sunday night, Oct. 21, the oldest and most famous Gay Halloween tradition, the Beaux Arts Ball, will be presented at the Galleria Design Center. This is the 22nd year for the event, sponsored as a fundraiser by the San Francisco Tavern Guild

The theme is "Broadway to Hollywood" and the prizes total over \$2,000. Tickets are available at Headlines, Polk and Castro locations, and range from \$20 advance general admission to \$30 reserved seat main-floor seating.

The ball runs from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Through the course of the evening there will be costume competitions and the appearance of Sharon Redd with the world premiere of her latest

The following Saturday night is Conceptual Entertainment's annual Halloween party at the

Oct. 27, the Trocadero Transfer presents "The Black Party in 3-D." The theme is "A Hallo-ween Comic Book Fantasy." The whole place is supposed to come alive when you wear the 3-D glasses they will be giving out at the door. The price is \$12 in advance with tix at Headlines. and \$15 at the door. Their special entertainment attraction will be Thelma Houston.

Between Dynasty parties and other special events at clubs throughout the area, Halloween is setting up to be an exciting party time this year.

Again, safety tips are in order. Watch side streets if in costume, always have money for a cab to and from your destination, and carry a whistle. Each year the Community United Against Violence prepares for monitors in the Castro area on the big costume nights, the Saturday before and Halloween night. Each year they are most emphatic in urging people to prepare in advance where they are going. Street violence does occur and a little caution can make for an evening without any



Fans of Halloween will have 10 days to celebrate this year. (Photo: Rink)

## 39 New AIDS cases in Sept. National Total is 6,122

Thirty-nine new cases of AIDS in San Francisco were reported for the month of September by Dr. Mervyn F. Silverman, Director of San Francisco Department of Public Health, in a report released today. The total number of AIDS cases reported in the city since

The number of deaths of AIDS patients in San Francisco for September is 18. There were 143 new cases in the third quarter of 1984, as opposed to 110 in the second quarter, for a 30 percent increase in the number of cases, according to Dr. Dean F. Echenberg, Director of Health Department Bureau of Communicable Disease

Other Health Department statistics from San Francisco's City Clinic indicate that the drop in rectal gonorrhea which began in 1982, has leveled off this year. Nevertheless, the lower rates have been sustained.

Dr. Echenberg also pointed out that the age group with the largest incidence of AIDS is between 30 and 39. Fifty-three percent of AIDS cases are in this group, while a significant and steadily increasing 32 percent are in a 40 or older age bracket;

15 percent are under 29 years of He stressed that AIDS

prevention should be a high priority for all men at risk and encouraged them to take advantage of a prevention program: the AIDS Health Project. This nigh-risk individuals to identif specific ways to improve and maintain their health. All services are free of charge to San Francisco residents. For information on the AIDS Health Project, call (415) 863-AIDS. ■

## Atheists to Meet In San Francisco This Weekend

GALA, Gay Atheist League of America, will hold its Annual National Convention in San Francisco Oct. 20 and 21, at the Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia Street. Registration will begin Saturday morning at 10. The Annual GALA Dinner will be at Restaurant Chez Mollet, 527 Bryant Street in the city on Saturday at 8:00 p.m.

## **KGO Talk Show Host Broadcasts Bigotry**

'Nigger' and 'Swish' Fill Airwaves Over San Francisco at Night

Last week Morton Downey, Jr. terrorized KGO Radio in the late night hours with comments ranging from the clos-ing of what he called "swish houses" to "nigger mentality" to aborted fetuses ending up in shampoo. He ended the week on Thursday night by telling a blind man that Geraldine Ferraro needed a shave in her debate with George Bush. KGO still hasn't recovered and many of its listeners as well as executives are still in a mild form of shock.

The subject of Thursday

night became the Ferraro-Bush

debates. A blind man called in

to say that he listened but could

not figure out what the people looked like. Downey said the

only thing he really noticed was

that Geraldine Ferraro needed a

The right-wing adventure began when regular talk show host Ray Taliaferro went on vacation. Taliaferro is considered a liberal and they chose Morton Downey, Jr. from Sacramento. a conservative, as a supposed balance. They got a conservative, but not necessarily a

The first night Downey went on the air and said he was prolife (or anti-abortion). He explained he had research that showed that fetuses of unborn aborted babies are sold to companies who grind them up to be part of shampoos, hand lotions. and maybe even sexual lubricants. That was Monday night.

Then along came a Black man who called to say Downey was a racist for his anti-abortion views. The conversation wound around until Downey implied the comment reminded him of the Ku Klux Klan and he supposedly said, "Let's get rid of this nigger mentality.

If the shampoo comments didn't steam people enough, the "nigger" reference really got people going. The switchboard lit up like a sequined gown on a Halloween drag queen.

Then came Wednesday, and Silverman and the bathhouse story became the subject of the night. Morton Downey, Jr. described the night to the Bay Area Reporter in an interview.

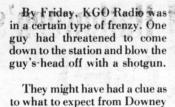
He said he was in favor of the bathhouses closing. His brother, he said, was Gay and he was not ashamed of him. He also said that he knew many Gay people who worked in the entertain-ment business and he didn't feel he was anti-Gay.

The position was a point of view until he let loose his bombshell remark. He started to refer to the bathhouses as "swish houses." He said if Gays wanted to do the type of thing they did in "swish houses" they should "go bury themselves back in

Downey said the remarks polarized his radio audience. As he talked he sounded surprised the remarks would have done otherwise. He then proceeded to say that the broadcast never rose 'above the gutter level.'

Thursday morning the telephones were ringing off the hook at the Bay Area Reporter, KGO, and God knows where else. He was accused of just about everything. One person suggested that he said Gays should be killed. A review of the audio tapes at KGO found the closest remark was that he told a listener, regarding AIDS, that he didn't want to be too close when the lightning struck the

Management stepped in on Thursday and suggested that Downey at least consider apologizing for the use of the word 'swish." He said he would. Thursday night at the top of his show he said he still was in favor of closing the baths but apologized for the use of the word "swish."



when he worked previously at KFBK, a radio station in Sacramento. There he accused a person of being a "Chinaman. Sacramento Councilman Chin called and explained the word was a disparaging remark. Downey countered that he was Irish and he thought of himself as an Irishman. Downey then clinched his fate in Sacramento when he told the councilman, "I called you a Chinaman, not a

Does this man have a future in broadcasting, you ask? You bet he does. Monday, Oct. 29, he starts a Monday-through-Friday television talk show from 6 to 7 on Channel 42. Channel 42 is the Concord-based fundamentalist Christian television

This is the local television station which earlier this year went on the air every night urging viewers to write to the governor to get him to veto AB-1. What does Morton Downey, Jr. think of AB-1? Unlike the station, he said he is for the legislation. He said he believes State Senator Ed Davis is the guy who voted the proper way on the bill. He thinks the station was all wrong in supporting the likes of H.L.

It was speculated that Downev would have a very short future with this "family oriented Christian television station. Downey isn't worried about what the station thinks. This guy has purchased one year of time for one hour, five nights a week. In television land, this may truly be a marriage made in heaven. At the same time, there may be quite a bit of hell over at the TV station. Prison, Jail Terms Given to Men in States St. Shoot-out

Stiff prison terms will be handed down to three men who attempted to rob two Gay men in the Castro last March. The robbery caused considerable attention when one of the victims began blowing his "crime-stopper" whistle, causing many people to rush to the site of the robbery. It was followed by a wild cops-and-robbers chase through the upper

Ralph Alvarez, who admitted to using a gun, will be sentenced to three years in state prison. Thomas Reidy will receive two years and four months in state prison. Kevin Kyne is set to receive one year in the county jail and three months probation. The three will appear in court Nov. 2 for the actual sentencing by the judge. The three have pled guilty to the charge of attempted robbery.

The incident occurred on a Saturday night in March when Erik Nielsen and Richard MacIntyre were leaving the Detour bar on Market Street. As they made their way to States Street they were approached by the three robbers at gunpoint.

One victim, Erik Nielsen, began to blow his whistle. It attracted many of the people in the area as well as police.

When police arrived the three assailants fled in a car and with the robbers shooting back at police, a chase ensued through the area. One car was hit in the windshield with a bullet. Another car, which attempted to block the way, was hit.

The three were captured and the case made its way through the judicial system. At one point the case was being considered by the defense for a jury trial. Assistant D.A. Ken Cady's work on the case is credited for presenting to the defense attorney a case which resulted in the guilty plea.

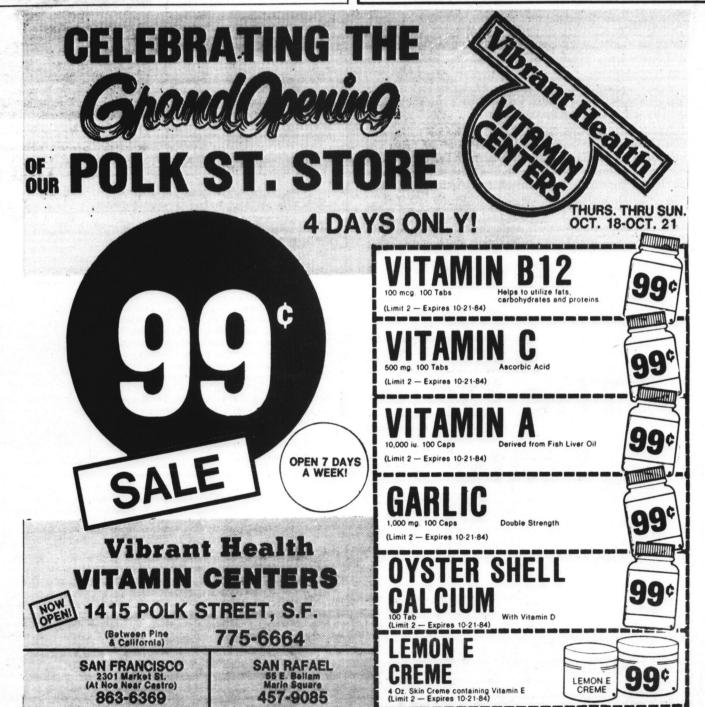
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VOL. XIV NO. 42 OCTOBER 18, 1984

**NEXT ISSUE OUT: OCTOBER 25** 

**NEXT DEADLINE: OCTOBER 19** 

## **IEWPOINT**

## **ETTERS**

## Who's Who

Some people are against bigotry with their whole heart and soul. They will sacrifice to secure fairness for the less favored of society. Then there are those for whom "fighting discrimination" is just another buzzword for a political pamphlet at

Mayor Dianne Feinstein has demonstrated that she is the latter. She did so last week in vetoing a sensible piece of legislation called the "anti-bigotry bill." The ordinance would prevent city employees who espouse denigration or hatred toward specific groups from working on cases affecting those groups.

The ordinance is badly needed. This was pointed up this summer in the "Cops for Christ" case. The "Cops for Christ" openly denigrate Gay and Lesbian citizens, both in columns appearing in The Policeman newspaper, and in public appearances. In one case, Officer Jim Higgins appeared at a San Diego rally sponsored by the Rev. Dorman Owens, a man who told the Bay Area Reporter that his group supports ex-

Some police, the daily papers, and Police Commissioner Jo Daly have pooh-poohed the effort to pass this bill. They suggest it is unfair to criticize those hard-working cops who just happen to express a political opinion that Gays should be imprisoned or executed.

A specific defense has centered on Cop for Christ Ed Erdelatz, a homicide inspector involved with the John O'Connell Gay-bashing murder on Polk Street. Erdelatz successfully affected the arrest of four of the five suspects (acting on the eyewitness confession of an accomplice, we might add). So it seems obvious — Daly and others say — that Erdelatz can do a good job on Gay cases despite this view that we belong in jail along with those who assault us.

Well, let's agree with that logic for a moment — and switch cases. Let's turn to another Polk Street case. Let's look at the murder of 15-year-old Ted Gomez, a hustler who hung out on Polk Street until he was found stabbed to death last month The case is being investigated by Jim Crowley, another of the

After a month, there is no suspect. Using the logic of folks like Daly, this is evidence that Crowley can't properly handle the case because of his anti-Gay views.

Sounds silly, doesn't it? Yes, it does - and it is just as silly an argument when used in defense of the Cops for Christ. The point isn't the outcome of this case or that. The point is that the Cops for Christ's open denigration of Gays will always have an effect to impede law enforcement. And it is that effect which bears examination.

All police work depends on a partnership with citizens. Homicide inspectors get their leads, their clues — and often their suspects — from citizen cooperation. But how many Gay citizens are likely to open up to cops such as Jim Crowley and Ed Erdelatz, who have been outspokenly anti-Gay?

So the anti-bigotry bill is indeed a needed one. Seven members of the Board of Supervisors agreed when they passed it. Next week, the supervisors will vote whether to override the Mayor's veto. There is talk that some of those votes are "soft." The Mayor has been generous in throwing fundraisers for the supervisors this election season.

We hope and we expect that the supervisors' commitment to the fight against bigotry is not so easily put aside. The vote on the veto override will provide an interesting "who's who' in the fight against bigotry in City Hall.

#### On the Baths . . .

#### Wake Up!

\* Wake up out there! Today it is the closure of the bathhouses. When do they shut down the bars? When do we have to pack up and go to the concentration camp, Daddy? Maybe we'll all have to go around wearing little pink triangles for awhile first, on the premise that it will insure that no tainted blood gets into the

Folks, we are being targeted. The "spectre of AIDS" could be used as an excuse to do any one of these things, with supposed legal and medical justification, and the scary thing is that people actually believe it. Many of

What I want to know is, why didn't they make similar moves to cut down on heterosexual activity and reproduction when polio was raging? Why don't they close down all bars, with drunk driving deaths at an all-time high? Why don't they ban the growing and sale of tobacco when that causes several times more cases of deadly, lingering, and painful disease than does

Perhaps AIDS is spread at the baths more than in other places. But a "perhaps" just isn't good enough to justify the wholesale discrimination of a selective group of persons, and especially not the deprivation of Constitutional and other fundamental rights such as freedom of association, right of privacy, and right to do with my own body as I please.

I do not need Dr. Silverman's permission to go to bed with somebody. Not yet anyway. But the closure of the bathhouses has set a critical and dangerous precedent for direct government intrusion into all our bedrooms, and you all had better wake up to this sad fact before it's too late to cover the keyhole.

Jeffrey J. Schmidt San Francisco

#### Close 'em

\* As a 42-year-old man with many younger friends. I had been repeatedly asked about my opinion on the Gay bathhouse issue. During the past few months, my answer was a cop-out (?) and the questions and answers an agonizing issue to me personally, since, like most men today in large cities, I have lost dear and good friends to this dreaded epidemic

Well, today, and publicly yet - at least to you and all who might read. I have reached my conclusion after all this thinking, and pondering and soul searching.

Yes! Close the baths and any place where an innocent person might contract AIDS. We will live. Live to fight again to open other places, to get out of jails, to march and protest, to sit down, or stand up wherever. But, in order to do this we must be alive. And strong, and proud, and together, but alive . All things considered, even one life, one precious life, is worth the sacrifice. Never mind the suffering, the agony of the sick and lonely. The despair of having no future at all, when you have AIDS. I have seen it myself, and it's terrible not to be able to help the dving. I have heard the story of someone I had loved very much, when he asked not to be taken back to St. Vincent's in New York, yet again — this would have been his fifth time needles, tubes, tests, waiting alone in gurneys in hallways at uncaring hospitals, and knowing he would not survive, and not knowing when, if ever, there would be a cure. Only that there was no future. Yes, Bob asked not to go to the hospital, so he could die at home, near his lover, but die at last. And he did. His lover told me the story when I called to confirm what I had heard And I hurt, and died a little, and thought about the past, and the future.

No more! Close them now. We will survive.

Please excuse this very long letter which attempts, feebly, to justify one man's opinion. And with an outlin of his experiences, perhaps share his concern, and constant review of his innermost thoughts and feelings. That is why I listed the places and recounted things I had thought were best left in the past, where they

> Armando Puiol San Francisco

#### Why?

\* Question: Why does only San Francisco find it necessary to close the baths? Answer: Only San Francisco has Feinstein

> G. H. Gilchrist San Francisco

#### **Closing the Candy Store**

\* I present this bit of prose for printing in your paper

They're closing the candy store!

I moved here so that I could eat candy without dealing with the persecution from candyhaters.

It feels so much more calming not to sneak into the closet to eat. My stomach gets so anxious for fear that one of them will open the door to harass me. Sure to give ulcers.

I can eat candy privately with friends, not out in the park where people might stumble upon us unaware.

We can get together at the store and eat as we choose. No one forces us. If anyone watches, they want to.

I was warned that eating candy leads to disease. Sugar on the palms might even make hair grow. As to cavities, there is always brushing my teeth

afterwards But, this is America! Don't I have the right to let hair grow, if I choose, or get cavities?

I know people are putting nasty things in the candy Let's deal with them, not simplistically punish

What good is the freedom of Choice, if there are no

Close the store, there are still the parks and alleys. My fellow candyeaters, I ask you, if so many associate candy with disease why stop at closing the Candy store? Why not just stop candyeaters from getting together? Might not someone accidently leave a

Is there proof that candyeating in the store is more likely to produce disease than eating at home?

It seems the issue is brushing, not the place of eating!

J. Michael Kessinger

## **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 cor-respondence from a single author.

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## ETTERS

\* As with most of the homosexual community, I too, orginally protested any contemplation of any action which would result in the closure of the baths as a means to curtail the spread of AIDS. I had hoped that, in the face of a killer epidemic, patrons and proprietors would assume vantages not dictated solely by sexual gratifications or financial rewards. Such, apparently, was not

As Big Brother had to intervene, "liberals," with pious protestations in the name of civil rights, and invoking the "red-herring" of homophobic pogroms, denounce an action which, if it involved any enterprise other than Gay sex clubs, would have gone unnoted. Frankly, these are the self-same mentalities who, in the name of fair employment practices, would picket a match factory for not hiring a pyromaniac.

Thomas M. Edwards

#### **Constructive Action**

The following was written to Mayor Dianne

\* This letter is in regard to the bathhouse controver sy and surrounding issues. While I respect your concern and I support your efforts in reducing the pain and loss resulting from AIDS, I do not believe your stand on the bathhouses is a solution.

I have done peer counseling with people who have or had AIDS, and while my experience is small com pared to the numbers, it is of truth. Of ten people I have worked with, only two were users of such facilities. I might add that they were only users previous to their diagnosis - all ten never used them after such diagnosis. For this reason and others, I cannot believe such facilities cause or accelerate the spread of AIDS

I believe the culprit is as always: People, people who don't care; people who could use their resources to ad-vance research and funding for AIDS; people who could further educate with what we do know; and people who use the issue to further exploit an unfo

I believe the closing of the bathhouses would be based on half-truths or other assumptions based on lack of knowledge, and I further believe such action would violate freedom and civil liberties, and send out a cloaked message, not to mention the loss of business and employment to individuals of such facilities. If I thought for one minute that such action would save lives, I could support such action. At this point, I would liken the reasoning of closing the bathhouses to that of closing all the churches for the same reasoning that through history religion has been a big cause of wars and the destruction of innocent peoples. Thank God and the powers above that, though wars have been fought on religious issues time and time again, churches remain free and open. Closure is not the answer we are

I believe the Gay community and people of such bathhouses are making changes and working toward creating safety and concern as information becomes available, and that your efforts in saving lives would be much better spent by working with them rather than

The point is, I believe our efforts would be better spent by focusing on those who do care, and by so doing eliminating the idea that additional laws and regulations will solve an all-too-complex issue.

People are the cause of the spread of AIDS - not bathhouses. People caring can motivate people toward care and safety - not laws and regulations. And you, Mayor Feinstein, can set a truly fine example by work ing with people and exploring all the facts and after Ernie F. McNett

#### A Cop's Thanks

\* This letter is to thank those individuals who came to my aid last week while I attempted to secure an arrestee who resisted and assaulted me, while I was on duty on Castro Street.

Individual names aren't necessary, those involved know who they are. Thanks again.

**Bob Miller** Patrolman, Mission Station

#### Life Tenure

★ During a recent trip through Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia, I was amazed to learn of the numerous hereditary political offices now existing. From Congress to County Supervisor, it seems as if once a politician is elected it is virtually impossible to get them - or their heirs - out of office.

Here in San Francisco it is virtually the same. Once on the Board of Supervisors, if a Democrat, one term becomes practically a life tenure.

Though I am but one vote, I plan to not further encourage this political trend. There are many excellent nonincumbent candidates for supervisor. Perhaps I would be more inclined to vote for all incumbents if I could honestly say that life in San Francisco is better today than four years ago. I cannot.

Consequently, my votes are going to Jonathan

Bulkley, John Molinari, John Wahl, and Dave Wharton. Though John Molinari is an incumbent, he is also one of the very few local politicians who is consistent, does what he says he will do, and is positive in his approach to issues and people. As for Messrs. Bulkley, Wahl, and Wharton, they each are capable, honest, and qualified.

If we as voters take seriously our responsibility to elect the best, then we should expect to see some new faces on the Board of Supervisors come January.

**Kevin Wadsworth** 

#### **News From Downunder**

\* Your news item "Australia: 'Lovers' Get Benefits" (Bay Area Reporter, Sept. 20) began, "Australia, which has restrictive laws against homosexual conduct . . ." and later "Australia has been strict in prohibiting homosexual sex . . ." suggests and implies Australian Gays generally are oppressed. This is not

Of Australia's six states and two territories, three states and one territory (within which 75% of Australia's 15 million people live) have laws legalizing Gay sex between consenting adults in private.

In the state of New South Wales, with 37% of Australia's population, and of which Sydney is the capital, it is also illegal to discriminate on grounds of

Most Gay Aussies therefore live proudly under liberal and protective laws.

I hope you would consider publication of these facts I have thoroughly enjoyed the Bay Area Reporter on each of my San Francisco visits and look forward to my next. All the very best from Downunder.

Sydney, Australia

#### **Alcoholism and AIDS**

\* I am writing to express my concern over what I see are major community problems that stem from the AIDS epidemic: alcoholism, lover-beating, loneliness,

I find myself wondering what is my response to all this, and how are others responding to this.

In general, I see people responding the same way people have always responded to strange new diseases like the Black Plague, Syphillis, and Cholera. Fear, suspicion, prejudice, denial, plague us as much as

Personally, I think my response has been denial. I hate to admit it; I just don't let myself think about it. Though I am not naive enough to think this couldn' happen to me, I wonder at my choices or lack of them: safe sex (yuk!), no sex, close friendships, or unsafe sex-

There is one other choice a lot of my friends have made, that is getting into a relationship. This is on the surface a great solution till reality sets in. Relationship take a lot of work and often a struggle even when they are based on mutual love, respect, and friendship. They appear to be a nightmare when they are based on reducing the number of sexual contacts "the lovers" have, thus their chances of getting AIDS. I hear my friends brag about not having to go to bars to meet men because they have a lover. Then I see them walk out of a liquor store loaded down with booze on their way home to

When I talk to these same friends they say they are unhappy with these relationships, but don't want to go through the emotional trauma of breaking up. They also express fear of trying to get their sexual needs met with strangers during the AIDS epidemic.

I see my friends living a lie, beating their lovers, pecoming alcoholics out of fear.

My question is, who is addressing these problems or are we shutting our eyes in denial as a community?

We are all going to die sooner or later, peaceably or tion is an old one. quality? I don't want to get AIDS; I don't want to sew up my butthole either. I am left wondering . . . What do I do?

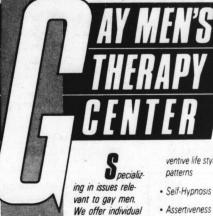
> Michael S. Ross San Francisco

#### An Un-Real Payne

\* The recent editorial article, "South of the Slot" in the Sept. 17 Sentinel, written under the pseudonym of Robert Payne, requires a response from a concerned individual whose knowledge of the "real" Mr. Payne makes his credibility as a commentator on the South of Market scene lacking.

The author, by coincidence or by design, reminds one of Mr. John Embry, publisher of Drummer, the magazine that's touted by some as the epitomy of San Francisco "machoism." Fictitious "macho" writers suffer the problem of not being able to stand behind their own real name. The "voice" of the leather community should be given to those who through pride and selfrespect are willing to stand by their word, and not hide behind an image that they can't live up to. I, for one, choose to disassociate from such individuals.

> Patrick Toner San Francisco



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The Fall Lineup from the Alice Demo Club is, from left, Louise Renne, Harry Britt, John Molinari, Pat Norman. and Carol Ruth Silver. They're all good stock for supe . . . (Photo: Rink

tions mean:

#### POLITICS AND POKER

## **Propositioning**

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that we explain them. Briefly, here is what the state proposi-Prop. 25 - Clean Water

Bond Act. Would provide for a bond issue of \$325 million to provide funds for water pollu-Prop. 26 - School Building Bond. Would provide for a bond issue of \$450 million for

here are 16 statewide prop-

some might seem unimportant,

a number of people have asked

ositions appearing on the

Nov. 6 ballot, and while

provement of public schools. Prop. 27 - Hazardous Substance Cleanup Act. Would provide for a bond issue of \$100 million to provide funds for hazardous substance cleanup.

capital for construction or im-

Prop. 28 - Safe Drinking Water Bond Act. Would provide for a bond issue of \$75 million for funds for improvements of domestic water systems.

Prop. 29 - Veterans Bond Act. Would provide for a bond issue of \$650 million to provide farm and home aid for California veterans.

Prop. 30 - Senior Center Bond Act. Would provide for a bond issue of \$50 million to provide funds for senior centers around the state.

Prop. 31 - Property Taxation, Fire Systems Exclusion. Would exempt property from reassessment for taxation purbased on construction or installment of any fire detection or sprinkler system.

Prop. 32 - Supreme Court. Would add a provision that the Supreme Court may review part and not necessarily all of a court of appeals decision. Shall not apply to an appeal involving a udgment of death.

Prop. 33 - Property Tax Postponement; Disabled Persons. Provides for a disabled person to postpone payment of property taxes on a dwelling owned and occupied by the person as a principal place of resi-

Prop. 34 - Property Taxation, Historic Structure Exclusion. Would exclude certified historic structures from reassessment when new construc-

Prop. 35 - has been removed from the ballot.

Prop. 36 - Taxation, Initia-

tive Constitutional Amendment, Jarvis IV. Would add restrictions on real property taxa-

Prop. 37 - State Lottery for Education. Would establish a state lottery and prohibit casinos. Of the total lottery revenues, 50 percent would go to winner prizes, 16 percent used for expenses, and 34 percent to go directly for public education.

Prop. 38 - Voting Materials in English Only. Initiative stature, similar to San Francisco's Proposition O; would require a communication to the President of the United States, et al, urging English only

Prop. 39 - Reapportionment Initiative. Repeals existing constitutional and statutory provisions; would create a new commission to draw boundaries for the state's 165 legislative and congressional districts to a panel of retired appellate court justices who would be chosen by lot.

Prop. 40 - Campaign Contributions Limitations. Severe campaign contributions limits

on state office candidates by individuals and political action committees.

Prop. 41 - Public Aid and Medical Assistance Initiative. Limits expenditures and benefits under each program.

raldine Ferraro, though missing the event itself, sent a telegram to the Human Rights Campaign Fund dinner in New York last week, saying, "All groups, including Gays, must be free from discrimina-

Some supporters of the state lottery (Prop. 37) are madder than hell at Supervisor Willie Kennedy's change of heart and withdrawal of support for the lottery initiative. One prominent supporter snapped, "Why the big fuss? This isn't the first time Willie Kennedy has flip-flopped

An Oakland man who was raped by two male prisoners on an Alameda County Sheriff's bus has won a \$40,000 out-ofcourt settlement. The suit, filed (Continued on next page)



Making His Point that anti-Gay discrimination will not be allowed in city contracts is New York City Mayor Ed Koch. (Photo: Rink)

(Continued from previous page) by Franklin Torrey, accused sheriff's deputies and Alameda County of negligence when Torrey was raped by two other prisoners on a bus while being transported to the Oakland courthouse for a hearing in October 1978. The Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved the out-of-court settlement without comment.

Supervisor John Molinari will be the guest speaker at next Tuesday's Tavern Guild meeting at the Rathskeller on Polk Street at 1:30 p.m.

The Milton Marks - Lia Belli battle in the third state senate district rated a major story in last week's L.A. Times. Belli, meanwhile, is reportedly reeling from a story out of Sacramento that State Senate President David Roberti, an old friend of Republican Marks, has refused to enter the fight on behalf of the Democratic nominee.

The Democrats, who control the U.S. House by a 266-167 majority, had feared a Reagan andslide could lose them dozens of seats, but most political prog-nosticators think Mondale's good showing in the Oct. 7 debate will help keep the Demos' losses down. Both parties feel a loss of 10 to 15 Democratic seats is likely; Democrats hold little chance of regaining the Senate, where the GOP holds a 55-45

In politics, anything can happen (and usually does). It seems ooth the Harry Britt and Dave Wharton campaigns were using the same printer to print their campaign contribution return envelopes and somehow the printer mistakenly placed a number of Supervisor Britt's return envelopes in with those returned to the Wharton campaign. Dave's envelope-stuffing volunteers didn't notice. The result: Some of Dave's supporters got donation requests, but were asked to return them to Britt. (Pass the checks on, Harry; Dave needs all the help he can get.)

In Hanover, NH, the state attorney general's office has decided that charges won't be filed against Dartmouth College students accused of secretly taping a meeting of Gay students and then publishing the transcripts in the Dartmouth Review.

Mondale might have bested Ronald Reagan, but the media experts are claiming that Gerry Ferraro blew her big chance with George Bush. NBC's John Chancellor: "I think we have to get up and say it - Geraldine Ferraro lost this debate; she was not forceful and she spent too much time reading from her notes." Added NBC's Tom Brokow: "It was not one of her sterling evenings." ABC's Sam Donaldson saw it as a draw, saying, "There were no clear win-

In case any of you are wondering what happened to former mayoral candidate Gloria LaRiva, she is busy running as the vice-presidential nominee of the Workers World Party; in 1980 the party was on the ballot in 13 states, receiving a grand total of 15,000 votes, and doesn't stand to do much better this vear.

And regardless of who wins Nov. 6, Inauguration Day, called for in the Constitution to be Jan. 20, will be delayed. Jan. 20 falls on a Sunday next year and while the newly-elected president will take a private oath that day, the inaugural ceremonies will be put off until the next day.

In a new attempt to prohibit discrimination against Gays by New York City contractors, New York Mayor Ed Koch urged his fellow Board of Estimate members last week to include such prohibitions in each contract they approve. Koch's move is the latest devel-



Geraldine Ferraro (Photo: Peter A

opment in a battle with religious groups, including the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York and the Salvation Army. over attempts to prohibit discrimination against Gays by city vendors. NYC Comptroller Harrison Goldin and City Council President Carol Bellamy, who, like the mayor, each have two votes on the powerful board, said through spokesmen that they support Koch. Their six votes are a majority on the

11-vote board. Those close to San Diego Padres star Steve Garvey, a born-again Christian, say that baseball's "Mr. Clean" will retire from sports soon and seek a career in elective Republican politics.

The Sierra Club, the California League of Conservation Voters, and the Friends of the River held a joint press confer-

Feminist leaders Midge Costanza and Ginny Foat will appear at a fundraiser brunch for supe candidate Pat Norman this Saturday, Oct. 20, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 320 Clement St. (621-1780 for info). Costanza, former aide to President Jimmy Carter, will also attend a cocktail fundraiser for candidate John Wahl that same day (Oct. 20, 4-7 p.m.) at Valencia Rose. Donations of \$10, \$15, or \$25 requested (431-3260 for info).

Joe Ellis and John Schmidt are the hosts at a cocktail party, dinner, and show for Dave Wharton, also this Saturday (Oct. 20, starting at 6 p.m.) at 132 Bush Street. Ruth Hastings will perform her famed "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris." The entire evening for \$75.

Connie O'Connor, Sal Rosselli, and Gael Sapiro are among the Toklas Democrats hosting a party for Supervisor Harry Britt at Steve Walters' home next Tuesday, Oct. 23, at 1223 Diamond St. (5:30 to 7:30, hors d'oeuvres, no-host bar, etc., donor's choice of \$15, \$25, or whatever asked; call 641-8965 or 641-8866 for info).

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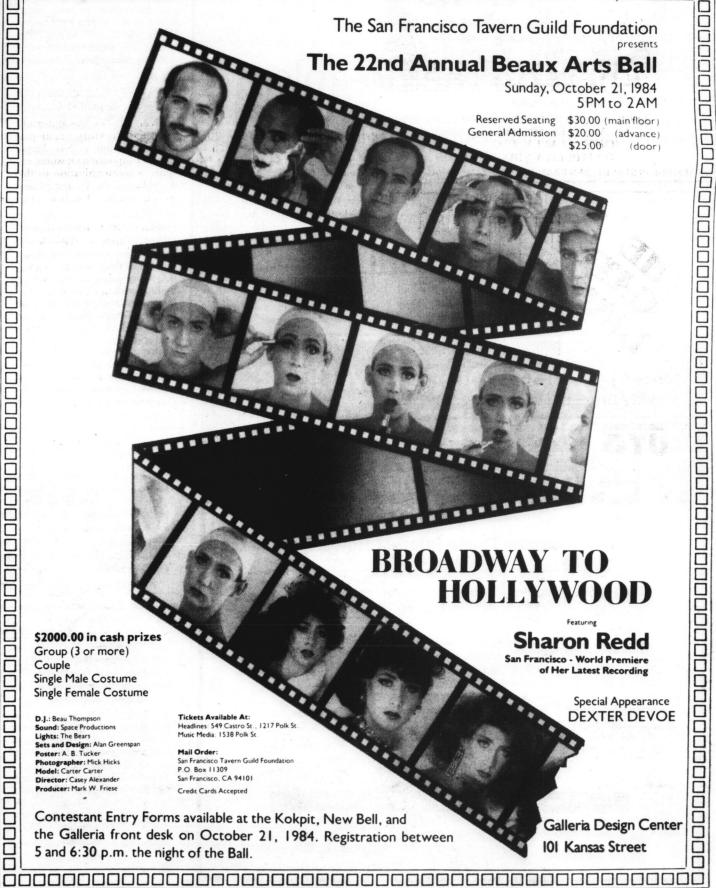
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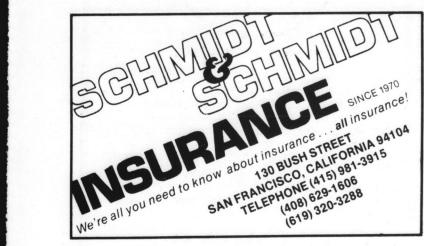
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#### **DEATHS**

## William (Billy) S. Gassaway

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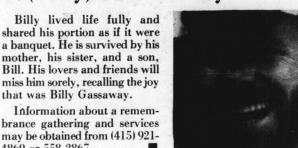
William Gassaway, better known to people throughout San Francisco as Billy Gassaway, died peacefully on Saturday,

Billy was an active member of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, the Paiaro Dunesmen, the Golden Gate Business Association, and the Human Rights Foundation. He was adamant in his belief that the strength and dignity of the Lesbian/Gay movement for human rights lies in political clout. He joined many San Franciscans in raising funds for the No on 6 campaign, and for establishing a Speaker's Bureau to visit San Francisco schools, businesses, and chuches to dispel myths and stereotypes about Lesbian and Gay people. Friends will remember the "White Elephant" fundraising parties held at Billy's 106

Dolores St. address. Most re-

cently, Billy had worked to raise

funds for AIDS research.



## **Larry Weaver**

Larry Weaver, age 44, born in Green Valley, Iowa, resident of San Francisco for 20 years, teacher at San Francisco State College, landlord, died at Kaiser Hospital September 1984 of cryptoocccal meningitis as a result of contracting AIDS. He is survived by a brother and sister and a companion. Larry was buried at sea by the Neptune Society and will be sadly missed by friends

Andrew Betancourt

## Frank Lobraico

Frank Lobraico died as he had lived, nobly, in the arms of his lover and surrounded by his devoted and loving family and friends Sunday, Oct. 7, at 11:30 p.m. He was a skilled architect graduated from the University of Illinois. He served in the Peace Corps in Guyana, S.A. Most recently he was a general contractor with Step Construction in San Francisco. Frank was 42 and had just celebrated his tenth anniversary with his lover, John Krause.

Frank will likely be remembered by many each Christmas when the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus presents its annual concert, "Now Sing With Hearts Aglow," winner of the prestigious Cable Car Award in '81, '82, and '83 for Best Concert of the Year. For it was Frank and his lover, John, who designed and executed the now awe-inspiring sets and lighting for the concert that fulfilled anything that was ever incomplete in any of our childhood Christmases. At the onset of the Gay (Olympic) Games, Frank helped make possible the concert extravaganza which featured the family of Gay choruses, our band, and the Gay (Olympic) athletes as well, at Civic Auditorium. With John, Frank also was set designer and technical director for the ambitious Too Much Fun program by the Gay Men's Chorus at the Opera



Perhaps friend Deb Clifford said it best in a poem to John.

for the music we've made for the souls that we've gladdened. for the family that's been built and love freely given

for each time my heart soared freed from the pain of the

because of a grin from you or a warm "Hi, gorgeous" and a hug or all those times

you and Frank touched my life and made it better Thank you.

Friends may join with John and their chorus family for a Celebration of Life Sunday, Oct. 28, at 11 a.m. at the Mountain Theater on Mt. Tamalpais.

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## **Jeffrey Scott Williams**

Jeffrey Scott Williams, "Scotty," died at his home in Twin Falls, Idaho, on Oct. 9. He had returned there last summer to open a restaurant. Mr. Williams had lived in San Francisco since 1972 and had been a partner in Burton's restaurant, now Leticia's,

He was born Nov. 15, 1949, in Ogden, Utah, and grew up in Twin Falls. His parents, George and Pat Williams; his sister, Chris; and brother, Tim, live in Twin Falls.

Funeral services were held there Oct. 12.

## Jim Murphy

Jim Murphy died Oct. 7. This sensitive soul shall survive forever in the memory of his friends and family.

Private family services were held. Donations for the purpose of establishing a scholarship fund in his memory may be sent to Jim Murphy - Stanford, c/o Michael Goglia, 161 Hartford St., San Francisco, CA 94114.



## U.S. Court Nullifies Texas Sodomy Law

## Appeals Panel Affirms Unconstitutionality Issue

A three-judge panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit has preserved a lower court decision holding the Texas sodomy law unconstitutional. The panel dismissed the appeal of District Attorney Danny Hill in Baker v. Wade.

The court's Sept. 21 decision does not discuss the merits of the case, holding only that District Attorney Hill did not have standing to bring an appeal in the case when both the Attorney General of Texas and the repre sentatives of the class of all district attorneys in the state had decided not to appeal the de-

The Fifth Circuit decision leaves intact the significant Gay rights victory where the district court found the law to be unconstitutional in a well-reasoned, thorough decision that has already been cited in a number of cases since it was issued.

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. filed an amicus brief, arguing that sodomy laws violate the constitutional right to privacy, and that this important right should not be "chopped into illogical compartments marked 'heterosexual' or 'homosexual,' 'married,' or 'single.' There is only one privacy right, and its application and principles should

Other amicus briefs were filed by 'the Texas Human Rights Foundation and National Gay Rights Advocates. The plaintiff was represented by Dallas attorney James Barber.

Explains Abby Rubenfeld, Lambda Managing Attorney, "This case is extrememly significant in that the ruling leaves intact the excellent decision of the court below, and allows work to continue in challenges to the sodomy laws in the remaining 25 nonreformed jurisdictions. It is not the complete victory that it could have been had the appellate court affirmed the decision on the merits, but it is a victory nonetheless, and one that we will be able to use in future chal-

An interesting and ominous

development in this case occured

laws are used to deny us rights in areas as diverse as custody For Some, Castro Is cases and Gay student group recognition. It is imperative that all such laws be stricken, and that we no longer wear the label of criminal," Rubenfeld said.

**Prosperity Street** 

Merchandising, Creativity Are Keys to Staying Alive

by Allen White

Headlines, sometimes described as a Gay department store, this month celebrates seven years in business. Andy Cramer, the store's owner, seems very positive in his feelings for his business and the Castro area. To celebrate, Headlines is opening a second store just up the street from the main Castro Street store.

Th store, located in the Castro Mall at 557 Castro, is now a Halloween specialty shop. Certainly, if any business knows about Halloween it's Headlines. This year, Halloween falls on a Wednesday night. With the Tavern Guild's ball now set for Oct. 21, there will be over two weeks of Halloween activities.

In describing the new store, Cramer said there will be a wide display of masks, costumes, makeup, jewelry, accessories, and just about whatever else it takes to get into a party spirit.

Following Halloween, Headlines will change the focus of the store to the Holiday Season with Christmas gifts, greeting cards, and other items geared to this special time of year. Cramer said he also has plans to develop a women's specialty shop in the new location. This new expansion will result in a wider diversity for Headlines in the Castro

The changes that are taking place at Headlines are part of a change of character in the entire Castro area. Andy Cramer noted that many of the new stores are being welcomed into the area. Rather than limit, Cramer believes these businesses are making the Castro a more viable area for shopping.

Up the street, he noted that All American Boy is almost always filled with customers. The lines still exist outside the Midnight Sun and there still is a waiting line for brunch at The Patio. These businesses combined with others such as The Obelisk, Castro Country Flowers, The Good Provider, Main Line Gifts, and the Elephant Walk are businesses which are survivors. They all have been in the area for years and have worked to create the ambience that is called the Castro.

The success of many of the businesses, Cramer credits to smart merchandising. And creativity has always been apparent in Castro area businesses.

P.O. Plus started as a small answering service and has now grown to be a catch-all service for sending packages, wrapping gifts, and having your own Castro Street address.

At the Castro Theater, they have been zipping through the works of Agatha Christie, and Friday they begin a complete Hitchcock Festival, with the melodious sounds of the finest Mighty Wurlitzer theater pipe organ in the area thrown in for good measure.

Against this changing panorama rises the new Atlas Savings & Loan building, perhaps the most dramatic symbol of growth and stability along Castro

#### when the so-called "Dallas Doctors Against AIDS" filed an STEPHEN T. BAKER, M.D. amicus brief on behalf of District Attorney Hill. Their brief argued that sodomy laws are valid and should be upheld

because they work to protect the

public health through minimi-

"The case takes on added

significance due to the involve-

ment of DDAA, and to the fact

that neither the lower court nor

the appellate court accepted

their outrageous argument that

sodomy laws were necessary to

curtail the spread of AIDS. It is

obvious that criminalization is

not the way to stop a serious

courts have not accepted such an

approach. However, the efforts

of DDAA in this case should

serve as a warning to us to be

prepared for them in the future:

his was not the first time, nor

undoubtedly the last time, that

Lambda is continuing to

organize a national project to

challenge sodomy laws in the re-

maining nonreformed states.

The project involves all of the

Gay and Lesbian legal organiza-

the Gay community - both

women and men - to under-

stand why challenging sodomy

laws is a top priority of Gay and

Lesbian legal groups," Ruben-

us in many ways well beyond

simply arresting people for semi-

ublic sexual activity. These

'Such laws are used against

feld said.

"It is extremely important for

tions and the national ACLU

we have had to fight DDAA,' explains Rubenfeld.

"It's good to see that the

disease.

zing the spread of AIDS.

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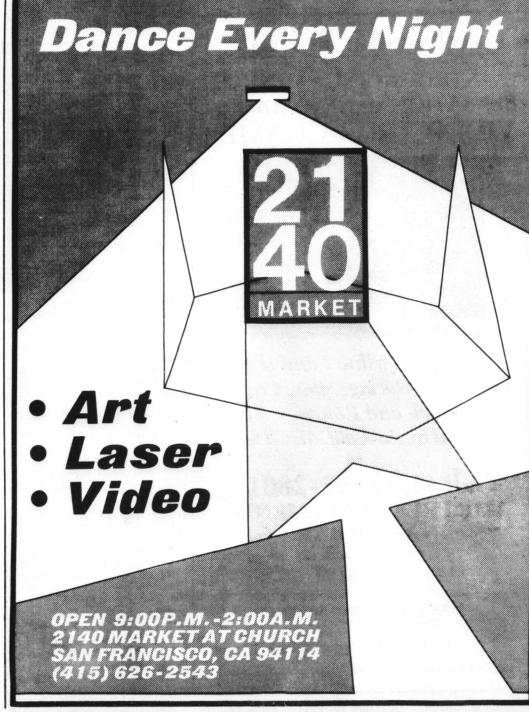
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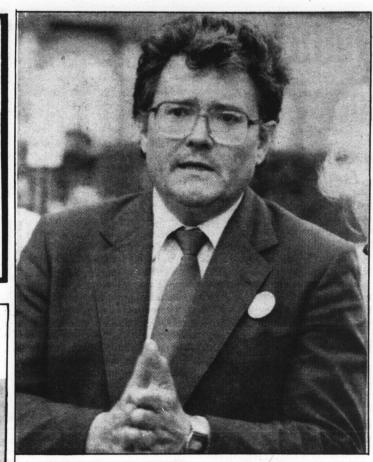


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Anti-Falwell Speaker. Harry Britt appears at Union Square rally as the

## The Life and Times Of Harry Britt

Like It or Not, He's the City's Most Powerful Gay

by Mike Hippler

an Francisco Supervisor Harry Britt likes to talk. "Hell, I could spend an hour on 'How old are you?' if you gave me the chance," he admits. He speaks with a gentle drawl interrupted by frequent bursts of laughter, which betray his Texas origins, but this is certainly no good of Southern boy. Quite the contrary, Harry Britt is probably the closest thing to a "nigra-loving, commie queer" that Port Arthur, Texas ever produced - except for Janis Joplin, of course, Port Arthur's other famous export to San Francisco.

Although Britt was raised in Texas, "The words 'grow up' do not really apply to what happened to me there," he says. It wasn't until he escaped his native state at age 18 to attend Duke University on a National Merit Scholarship that he discovered it was "okay to be intelligent.

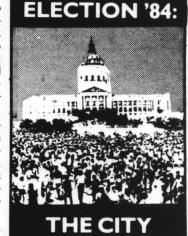
At Duke, he developed an active social and intellectual life in what he calls an "extraordinarily stimulating" environment, but he did not learn much about the thing that would later be come the main focus of his lif his homosexuality

Instead, he explains, "I de veloped the kind of interior life that is a substitute for real life that I think a lot of Gay people know about.

Graduating from Duke in 1960, Britt got married, returned to Texas briefly with his wife, spent a year in Germany studying the Classics and the Old Testament, and returned to America, where he studied philosophy at the University of Chicago and took a job as the minister of a local church.

At the same time, he also became involved in the civil rights movement and worked with activists such as Martin Luther King, Jesse Jackson, and Dick Gregory. It was an exciting time for him but not entirely satisfactory, for he knew that something was wrong with his life - but he didn't know what.

It wasn't until after Britt separated from his wife in 1967 and moved to San Francisco in the early '70s that he discovered he was Gay. Unlike most other Gay immigrants to the city, however, he didn't come here specifically to be Gay.



Instead, he came to California, he says, because "I was inwere going on on the West Coast in terms of Esalen, therapy, personal growth, and all that stuff.

Britt says that he spent the first 30 years of his life "not being Gay" and had no social contact of any sort with Gay people until after he moved to San Francisco. He finally came out by answering an ad in the Berkeley Barb placed by a man who, like himself, was a newcomer to homosexuality.

"He was as terrified as I was," explains Britt, "and we spent an evening bar-hopping and talking, and the talking was the best part, for we really poured out our hearts to one another." After that, it was easy or easier than before, and Britt's life took a revolutionary turn.

"For the next year or two, my life pretty much consisted of Castro and Folsom Streets. I was going to the gym, playing pool, wearing contact lenses,

and doing all those things, the whole number. It was marvelous, it was great. I now realize that dealing with my Gayness was the most important thing I

ot long after coming out, Britt became involved in Gay politics through the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, which he joined "in 1975 or 1976," and the Coalition for Human Rights, an organization which helped fight against Anita Bryant's campaign.

He got involved "in a significant way" in politics and first played a leadership role during Harvey Milk's 1977 race for the Board of Supervisors. When Milk won that race, Britt became the president of the San Francisco Gay Democratic Club, now named the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic

"In that role," he explains, "I did what I enjoy the most, which is bringing new people into Gay politics — motivating them, training them, and offering them a chance to be involved.

Much of his work centered around campaigns, which he calls "the best place to find potential leadership for the Gay community. I discovered I liked campaigns," he says. He also discovered he liked the entire political process. At last, after years of career and goal changes, Britt had found his

When Milk was assassinated by Dan White in 1978, Britt was appointed by Mayor Feinstein to Milk's seat on the Board of Supervisors. He has held that seat ever since.

Considered by some Milk's spiritual successor as well as his political one, Britt notes that the two were very different in some ways - "He was a New York Jew and I was a Texas Methodist" — but in more important matters, such as their attitude toward Gay oppression and what to do about it, they had much in common.

"What Harvey did for me, Britt volunteers, "was to convince me that Gay people can make a difference in this world not just adjust to it and survive in our own little ghetto, but change things, get rid of homophobia. Seeing Gay people come to believe that is still the most exciting thing I watch happening in people's lives.'

As the only Gay member of the Board of Supervisors and the nighest-elected Gay official in San Francisco — and, for a few years, in the country — Harry Britt says he is well aware of his responsibility to his Gay con-

He is quick to point out, however, that his support does not come solely from within the Gay community. Although CBS, he claims, sees only two political forces in this town — Gays and straights — Britt sees three.

"One," he says, "is the downtown establishment that has a great deal of money, controls the newspapers, and historically has been the source of much of the political leadership in this city.

"The next group is Older San Francisco, Quentin Kopp's constituency, which to some extent has been resistant to a lot of the changes that have gone on in San Francisco since World War

"The third group is what I call Newer San Francisco. which is made up not only of Gays, but also of racial minorities, renters, environmentalists, yuppies, and senior citizens. These three forces exist pretty much in tension. My primary political base is the third group," Britt says.

Although Britt's support does not come from all three groups, (Continued on next page)



On the Stump for Gay Rights. Harry Britt speaks to national rally for Lesbian and Gay rights in July. (Photo: Rink)

## Life and Times of Harry Britt

he sees the necessity of bringing the three together.

"My political goal is not to destroy the other two political forces, for that's not going to happen, but to form relationships, particularly with Older San Francisco, that will enable more acceptance of Lesbians and Gay men, racial minorities, and other groups," Britt says.

"There is no minority in this town which is ever going to control this city. That is not possible. So I have to use this office certainly to take care of Lesbian and Gay concerns, but I also have to work with all of these other constituents. I wouldn't be here if I hadn't done that," says Britt.

III ith this as the case, it is not with surprising, therefore, that Britt does not consider his seat on the board to be a Gay seat. He is pleased that there is Gay representation on the board, of course, but no seat belongs to any one minority, he points out, which was made quite clear when the Asian and Hispanic communities lost their representation on the board after the demise of district elec-

Britt would like to see a return to district elections so that minority representation could increase. That is also the only way, he says, to get a second Gay supervisor on the board. "I would love to see another

Gay person on this baord. It will be very, very difficult for it to happen this time, however. The most likely scenario in this election other than re-electing all the incumbents would be Kevin Starr's being elected, which would be a significant move to the right and would really hurt

Concerning his own chances in this election, Britt is extremely positive. "I don't think anyone thinks I'm going to lose. I'm running hard and working hard because my campaign will clearly be interpreted by the larger world not just as a measure of Gay strength but as a measure of the strength of progressive politics in San Francisco.

"In a time when Ronald Reagan is trying to pull the whole country together around him, I think it's important that we in San Francisco send a different message to the media.

The image of Britt as a foil to Ronald Reagan is an apt one -Britt is about as far to the left as a politician in America can be and still remain somewhere in the mainstream. According to Britt, his place on the political spectrum was historically in-

His roots, along with those of Harvey Milk, lie in street politics, he notes, the politics of demonstrations and marching, the politics of anger. And once those politics moved off the street, it was into the arms of the left wing of the Democratic

"The natural home of all Lesbians and Gay people has been the political left," he says. "The Republican Party has been very slow to deal with us. The reason that there is effective Gay political strength in San Francisco at all is because of people like Alan Cranston, Phil Burton, and George Moscone, all from the political left, who were supportive of our efforts to build our political strength. It has not been possible for anyone to become a supervisor except out of

that tradition. Britt recognizes, however, that not all Lesbians and Gay men share his leftist leanings, and, because he feels a responsibility to Gay people of all political stripes, he tries as best he can to work with Gay Republicans and Gay conservatives not only here but all over the country as

He even predicts, "Some day in the not-too-distant future it

will be possible for conservative Gay people to find real support and power in our society." he is a bit incredulous, nevertheless, that some Gay people chose to be conservative.

"The decision to be conservative." he states, "is the decision to identify with the values of a society which has been homophobic. It's a very difficult thing to identify with the prevailing values of a culture and still want to be a part of a movement for social change.

artly because of this broad spectrum within the Gay community, partly because he is so outspoken on issues such as this, and for other reasons as well. Britt has had to endure a great deal of criticism over the past few years, much of it from within the community itself. He admits that it's been painful sometimes.

"There have been periods when I haven't read the B.A.R.regularly," he states, continuing, "When I was first appointed, I wanted everyone to love me. That's not going to happen in politics if you stand for any-(Continued on next page

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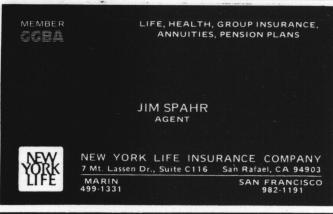
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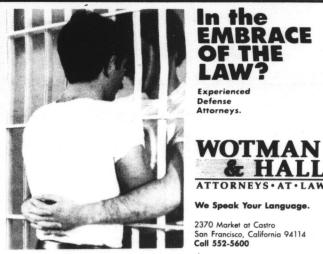


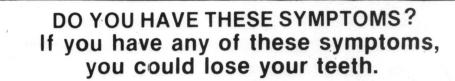
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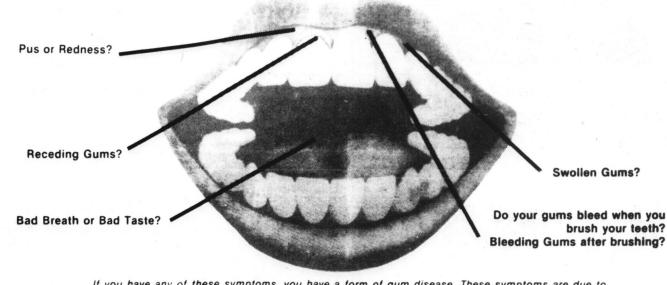
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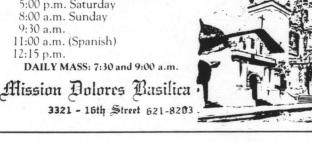
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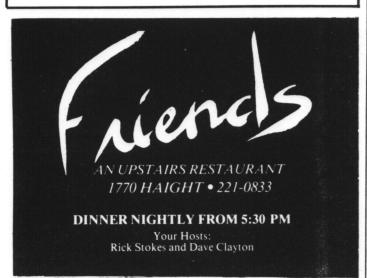


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BAY AREA REPORTER OCTOBER 18, 1984 PAGE 16

## Life and Times of Harry Britt

thing at all, especially if you're homosexual. So I got over that.

"Now it still hurts, but I've learned that in politics you've got to work for the respect of the people you respect. And I've learned not to deal with the criticism of people who don't want me to succeed. The people who just honestly disagree with me on issues or think I've taken the wrong position on something, that's okay. I think I'm intelligent enough to learn from

Some of the harshest criticism Britt has received has come in response to his handling of the bathhouse issue. He has been accused of indecision, hesitation, and vacillation on the issue. Some have called him a traitor to civil liberties by abandoning the baths; others have called him an enemy of public health for defending them. Few know exactly where he stands on

Does Britt believe in closing the baths? "No," he states firmly. "For one time I'll try saying that and see if the papers can get it right. I have never urged Dr. Silverman to close the baths, for that doesn't seem in my opinion to represent much understanding of our community and how it works and what the effects of closure would be.'

However, he notes that "a health director must have the power to do whatever needs to be done to fight an epidemic, and if he doesn't have the medical evidence to hold up in court, that's our protection.

Britt, who did not expect Silverman to use his power to close the baths, does not believe that Silverman has the evidence he needs to win the court battles which the bathhouse owners have promised.

He has declined to oppose Silverman politically on the issue, however, for he prefers that the courts weigh the evidence and settle the ultimate fate of the baths. His final comment on the situation: "I think it is unfortunate that the bathhouse issue has become more important than the AIDS issue, for that's what's killing us. That's what we should be focusing on.'

espite controversies such as this, Britt obviously enjoys nis role and is proud of the things his office has accomplished. "The most important thing that I've done has been doubling the size of this city's commitment to funding the fight against AIDS. Nothing is more important than that, and it was not easy. My office spent months putting that package together, and I've never felt so glad to be

Britt believes that his secondgreatest achievement has been helping to develop political strength for groups of people who traditionally have been without it - groups such as Filipinos, Samoans, and Koreans, with whom he has worked.

"In terms of legislation," he says, "my work for tenants is well-known. I've also sponsored an energy-conservation ordinance which is possibly the best in the state. I've made significant revisions in the availability of funding for senior citizens'

"And in terms of Gay issues, we've gotten a lot of money for Gay agencies, including Gay youth programs on Polk Street, Gay artists' groups, and Gay

"Historically," Britt says, "the domestic partners legisla-



tion may turn out to be the most important thing. It's become a part of the national Gay movement and represents a movement away from just asking for our rights to getting our relationships recognized as a part of the mainstream of American life.

"I think it's a basic step forward, and although the mayor has frustrated us here, we will pass it in San Francisco, there's no question about that. It's just a matter of time before this becomes standard legislation all over the world.

If by some miracle this domestic partner legislation became law today, it wouldn't help Harry Britt personally. He hasn't had a lover "for the past few months," he says, "and I need a lover. I'm really a very shy human being, and I like having one other person with whom I feel very comfortable, and that's become more true in politics, for I'm not permitted any shyness now. I'm expected to go everywhere and to gladhand everybody, and that's not

Politics has forced him to make other sacrifices as well. One of them is midnight trips to Folsom Street, which used to be 'the great pleasure of my life. But I can't really enjoy that anymore, because I can't relax and be just another guy in that

With midnight trips to Folsom Street a thing of the past, Britt must look toward the future, and he hopes that future includes more than just a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. "I would like to be n the legislature," he confesses, more in the Assembly than in the Senate, but I'm not campaigning for that now. In politics you deal with your base and you do your job, and you wait o see what opening is there.

"I'm very well-located politically, and I think there's a very good chance that an opportunity might come up to go to Sacramento. I'm not going to run against Willie Brown or Art Agnos, and I don't aspire to be Mayor of San Francisco, but I feel strong. I'm just taking it a little bit at a time," Britt says.

## New Program Provides Care in the Home

Hospice of San Francisco's new AIDS Program began providing home care and hospice services for people with AIDS on Oct. 1, immediately reaching full capacity of 18 patients in need of such care, Executive Director Hadley Hall announced.

Funded with a grant from the City and County of San Francisco and established in cooperation with the volunteer group Coming Home, this innovative program is designed to provide health care and supportive services in the homes of persons with AIDS, explained program Director Jeannee Martin.

The city contract provides funding to establish a team of nurses, social workers, home health aids and homemakers, with all of the auxiliary services of Hospice of San Francisco, in order to support and manage the care of persons with AIDS outside of medical institutions.

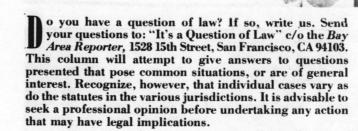
Hospice's past experience demonstrates that such support can keep gravely ill and even dying AIDS patients in their own homes, Ms. Martin said. "Care in the home is not only an acceptable alternative for the patient, but is less expensive than hospital care and can help relieve the pressure on the city's AIDS Unit at San Francisco General Hospital," she said.

To make a referral or for information about the services of Hospice of San Francsco's AIDS Program, call Stephanie Wong, Intake Nurse, at (415) 285-5619.

## A QUESTION OF LAW

## **Protection from Body Snatchers**

TOM HORN



death of either of the joint

tenants the entire property be-

longs to the survivor. If there

is a problem down the road be-

tween the parties, both parties

must consent to changing the

deed or one of the parties would

have to go to court and petition

the court to partition the prop-

erty so that each individual

owner could do with his or her

property be held as tenants-in-

I generally recommend that

common and that each party

have a will drawn which ex-

pressly wills the property to the

other at the time of death. This

way both parties maintain the

maximum flexibility over their

assets as circumstances change.

share as each wished.

Question: I moved to San Francisco from the Midwest when I was 18 years old. My family threw me out and told me to go to San Francisco and live with people who were like I am. I did that 40 years ago and could not be happier for it.

In recent years I have made up with my family. Time seems to heal all wounds and we are now close once again. My mother is now 81 years old. She has decided recently that all of the family members should be buried in the family plot back home.

I love my mother, but my home is San Francisco. I wish to be buried here when the time comes, with my lover of 25 years. If something should happen to me before my mother dies what can I do to see that my burial wishes are carried out? Answer: You should write a will that gives specific directions as to burial or other disposal of your body at the time of your

It is important, however, that your lover and closet friends know that you have provided for your burial in your will so that they can enforce those rights when the time comes. Frequently, wills are not even looked at until after the burial. You should give your named executor an executed copy of the will so that he can be certain that your wishes are carried out.

Question: I just bought a new car. I don't want to park it on the street as I am afraid of vandalism. I have been parking it in a garage thinking it would be

I have noticed, however, that the ticket I receive when I go into the parking lot says that the garage keeper is not liable for any damage that is caused to my car from whatever source.

Answer: The type of printed ticket you describe is not uncommon. If it were strictly enforced it would lead to unfair results. Therefore, in 1957, the Legislature adopted Civil Code Chapter 1630, which provides that such a limitation on liability by the unless the printing has the limitation of liability printed at the top in capital letters of 10 point type or larger (roughly, the size of the print in this column).

Finally, if the garage owner requires that you leave the keys with the vehicle then the garage keeper may not limit his liability for the theft of the vehicle. Question: My lover and I are preparing to buy a home. We don't know whether to put it in joint tenancy or tenancy-incommon. Which do you recom-

Answer: Generally, I recommend that deeds be held in tenancy-in-common rather than joint tenancy. The reason for this is that if the parties come to a parting of the ways down the road, it is easier to transfer each individual's interest than it would be if the property were held in joint tenancy.

Joint tenancy with right of survivorship means that at the

## **Ousted Lesbian Sues** Air National Guard

Performance Ratings Excellent But Brass Wants Gays Out

The American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California and the Lesbian Rights Project filed a lawsuit Monday, Oct. 1, in federal court on behalf of an officer in the California Air National Guard who was involuntarily discharged because she wrote a letter to her commanding officer stating that she is a

According to ACLU-NC staff attorney Donna Hitchens, the lawsuit charges that Lieutenant Julise Johnson's First Amendment rights of freedom of speech and association have been violated by the U.S. military.

In addition, since members of the California Air National Guard are employees of the state of California, the Air Force has overstepped its bounds by ordering Johnson discharged. California law prohibits the termination of government employees solely on the basis of their sexual orientation.

Julise Johnson has served as

a lieutenant in the California Air National Guard (ANG) since 1981. Prior to her commission in the ANG, she served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. In both capacities Johnson has received excellent performance

Johnson informed the National Guard of her sexual orientation because she believed it was necessary as a matter of personal integrity. She was aware of the regulations requiring the discharge of homosexuals and was also aware of the fact that people suspected of being homosexual are often subjected to extensive investigations and inter-

Unwilling to live and work with the fear of being suspected or discovered, and not wanting to pretend that she was heterosexual in order to avoid suspicion, Johnson believed that the situation required her to be direct and honest with her com-

Following a hearing before an Air Force board in December 1983, Johnson was discharged from the Cal ANG and the Air Force. The discharge order was signed by the Secretary of the Air Force, Verne Orr.

The basis of the discharge rested solely on Johnson's own assertion that she considers herself a Lesbian and not on any finding that she had engaged in homosexual activity or illegal conduct of any kind.

Ironically, throughout the proceedings, which lasted for more than a year, Johnson continued to serve as an officer in the ANG and to receive excellent performance evaluations.

According to Hitchens, "This is the fourth case that we know of that challenges the military's policy of discharging people solely on the basis of their identification as a Lesbian or homosexual — as opposed to their

The ACLU is asking that Johnson be reinstated in the California Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve and for a judgment that the involuntary discharge on the basis of her assertion of a homosexual identity violated Johnson's constitutional rights to free speech, freedom of association, due process

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#### Participating:

**Paul Volberding, MD**, Director, AIDS/KS Clinic, San Francisco General Hospital (Chief, Medical Oncology, San Francisco General; Assistant Professor of Medicine,

Dennis J. McShane, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Immunology), Stanford Medical Center. President, Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR).

Dean Echenberg, MD, PhD, Director, Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Matt Coles, Attorney.

(and a few surprises!)

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# GREATER BAY NEWS

## Rare Brain Disease Seen in AIDS Cases

Stanford U. Researcher Probes Formerly Rare 'Toxoplasmosis'

At least one common and potentially lethal disease afflicting people with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is controllable with medication, while researchers hunt down clues to the underlying ailment, says a Stanford University neurosurgeon.

Dr. Frances Conley, associate professor of neurosurgery at Stanford University, said that central nervous system toxoplasmosis is reaching epidemic proportions among AIDS

"This disease, which used to be very rare, is now being diagnosed in my lab about twice a week, and the vast majority of cases are AIDS patients," she said. Conley made the remarks in an Oct. 5 public lecture.

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Remington's lab knew of only

six cases of central nervous sys-

tem toxoplasmosis. From 1981

until the present, our two labs

have diagnosed more than 100

cases of the disease." Dr. Jack

Remington, a professor of infec-

tious diseases at Stanford and

director of the department of im-

munology and infectious dis-

eases at the Palo Alto Medi-

cal Foundation, is a world-

"If it's caught, it is very treatable with certain antibacterial drugs. If the index of suspicion of toxoplasmosis is as high as it now should be in doctors' minds, many AIDS patients suffering from it will be successfully treated while researchers continue to look for ways to reverse the basic immunity defect," she

"In the years between 1975 and 1981," Conley said, "Dr.

plasmosis. He spearheaded most of the work Conley described, Central nervous system toxo-

recognized authority on toxo-

plasmosis, which causes quite varied symptoms including such problems as chronic headaches, confusion, lethargy, fever, and sometimes seizures and paralysis, will progress to coma and death if left unrecognized and untreated, said Conley, who is also chief of neurosurgery at the Palo Alto Veterans Administration Medical Center.

The tricky part about pinpointing the disease in people with AIDS, Conley said, is that this group's blood test results show up differently from those of non-AIDS patients who are infected. This is one reason physicians have often overlooked the possibility of the parasitic infection in their AIDS patients suffering symptoms of encephalitis. Since lab tests won't disclose the condition, Conley said. samples of actual brain tissue must be examined.

Conley and Remington published their observations in the Aug. 17 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association. They suggest that physicians treating AIDS patients who are showing signs of central nervous system problems order CT scans to check for abnormalities, take biopsies on affected tissue, and run blood tests anticipating the type of skewed results they describe.

The drugs available for use upon diagnosis cause a wide range of side effects and must be used on a long-term basis. But they are effective, Conley said. Meanwhile, Remington and other reseachers are testing alternative antibiotic medications every day. (Cortisone, often used for encephalitis treatment, is not effective and is even harmful when the condition is caused by toxoplasmosis, Conley said.)

A ubiquitous parasite that ingers harmlessly in about 50 percent of the U.S. population, l'oxoplasma gondii can trigger deadly disease in people who are immunosuppressed, Conley explained. These may include cancer patients, organ transplant recipients taking immunosuppressive drugs, and AIDS patients, in whom the basic defect ies with the body's immune

The healthy immune system and under control in most healthy persons. It is spread through undercooked meats. unwashed vegetables, soil, and cat feces. Symptoms are usually absent or are similar to a mild case of flu, Conley said.

But if the immune system is later impaired, the heretofore latent disease can become highly infectious. The ailment also becomes dangerous when a woman becomes infected during the first trimester of pregnancy, risking transmission of the disease and the likelihood of major birth defects or stillbirth.

"We don't know exactly why," Conley said, "but the brain, the heart, and the retina seem to be the three most susceptible target organs for toxoplasmosis." This may be because none of them have large colonies of immunologic cells. "In fact, the brain is very tolerant to foreign substances," she



Crowd Reaction as the Freedom Day Marching Band invades the Great

## Gay Band Struts Its Stuff, Wins Honors in Two Outings

In its latest tour of the hinterlands, the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band has received acknowledgement as one of the finest marching bands in California. The Band was heaped with new honors and awards during two recent out-of-town trips.

At the invitation of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, the Band represented the city at this year's California Admission Day Parade in Sacramento. Despite the blistering September heat, the Band in its distinctive new uniforms garnered first place as the best civilian marching unit, while the honor guard also received a special first place award.

Flushed with success, the Band made a second excursion. over Columbus Day weekend, this time to Santa Cruz for the annual Mission Fiesta parade. The Band received a thunderous welcome and captured first place honors in all categories. The Band was again named as the best civilian marching unit, the F.L.A.G. Corps the best color guard, and the Twirling Corps the best baton corps of the parade

In individual categories, the Band's featured twirler, Richard Roesner, was named best baton twirler, and Chaz Watson was chosen as the parade's number one drum major.

Immediately following the Mission Fiesta Parade, Band members, some 50 strong, were feted at a pot luck by the Santa Cruz Gay Men's Support Group. During the relaxing festivities Santa Cruz' new Gay mayor, John Laird, stopped by to express his personal thanks to

Now back in the city, the band is rehearsing hard for "Hollywood Canteen," its upcoming Veterans Day show and party at Japan Center Theater Nov. 10. It is a 1940s uniform and drag affair complete with patriotic Big Band music and a Betty Grable look-alike contest. General admission tickets are \$10 each and are available through BASS or Headlines. For reserved tables contact the Bandphone, 621-5619.



bones that is, but spirited nonetheless, the Freedon Day Marching Band blows the horn for Gay pride. (Photo: Jerry Roberts)

## OAKLAND

## A Quick Spin On the Caravel

NEZ PAS

PALOSITE SHIVAREE (A Nina, Pinta, Santa Marie Nose?)

In celebration of Columbus Day, Dean Snow sponsored the Fifth Annual party of the same name at Big Mama's on Sunday, Oct. 7. Several consuetudinary incidents took place, along with one unwonted scene that this writer hasn't witnessed in Hayward in many a moon.

The established talent and performance of Bravo once again brought the delight and freshness of Country/Western music to a height that left not one single toe untapped. The rooted forte of rhythmic and cadence of square dancing was truly exemplified by the Foggy City Dancers (who, just that afternoon, had finished a weekend "retreat" in Marin County). The traditional cornucopia buffet only reconfirmed the culinary tanents of Daddy David. The predictable camaraderie that Havward is known for took up residence for the evening.

The one sui generis, if you will, was that once very popular and long thought dead practice of hoardes of people avalanching upon the premises just as the food is served (as if some secret signal had been issued), and once consumed, just as quickly departing for parts unknown without the common courtesy of purchasing one single drink.

Free buffets are provided by establishments as a way of saying "thank you" to the patrons who indeed patronize. How sad to see a return of the free loaders. I had thought that the Gay community matured beyond

Those who did remain throughout the evening were treated to a true, honest entertainment and hospitality. A pox upon those who took advantage. Even Frumpy and Steve made a hasty return from their sequestered vacation in Santa Cruz to be a part of the Columbus Day festivities.

A big "thank you" to Dean Snow and Big Mama's for the celebration. Rest assured that there are more who appreciate than there are who take the accommodation for granted.

(A Colliding Nose?)

The final details are now available, and no matter which way it's looked upon or how it's sliced or what reasons are given, there is a direct conflict of events.

**ACIE Emperor and Empress** VI, Doug and Billy, present "A Class Act" as the investiture for these most Imperial Majesties. It will be Sunday, Oct. 21, at Antoninos, 23700 Hesperian (corner of Winton) in Hayward.

No-host cocktails begin at 5; sitdown dinner at 6 (promptly); entertainment at 7 p.m. The raffle to benefit AIDS and ACIE (50 percent to each) will be conducted during the festivities. The tickets, available at some East Bay Bars, are \$12 and include the dinner and

Unfortunately, this date and these times coincide almost exactly with the date and times of the Beaux Arts Ball by Tavern Guild of San Francisco. Several East Bay establishments, who are members, have had plans completed for weeks to attend the annual costume event.

It really is a predicament to have to choose between two functions, but the established

rule of first accepted, first attended, must prevail. Hopefully, I can persuade one of my sources" to take notes at the Investiture, so that it can be reported here - albeit through different eyes, if you will.

· Egads, Ecods, and Heavenly Days! Such tumult and turbulation surrounding elections of the six seats to the new ACIE Privy Council. Me thinks it's wise to wait for all the dust to settle before even attempting to make mention of any of it here. Suffice it to say that Don Squire (Emperor V) will be acting President of the Council until the next election within the month. God's Hooks! All this controversy BEFORE the Investiture?

· Speaking of Don Squires, please make sure that you are a customer of Town & Country before you use the rest rooms, especially when he is on the planks. There will be no colters on the rocks!

• Frank Ernestine Frommelt requested that mention be made of all the guest disk jockeys at the recent Dance Marathon at the Spoiled Brat. To wit: kudos to Guest D.J.s from Toyon in San Jose, Our Bar in Vallejo, Gemini in Modesto, Bench & Bar in Oakland, and The Answer in Redwood City. Plus plaudits to the Brat's own in-house platter

 Watch for yet another contest soon to be announced at the Bench & Bar. Only the insiders know the details, but I'm sure it will be a fun event.

· So all will know, the newest singing sprite in the East Bay spells his name Jimi Dee. Any other spellings henceforth will refer to someone else. • Please don't ask Revol's Rick

what tune his portable toilet

plays. The answer is a real

 Coming up Sunday, Nov. 17, will be the Hayward Gay Sheriff Roundup, (with a "new twist" I hear). Applications for this south county office are available in all the Hayward drinking

Nez

Love,

## **Gay Center Seeks Director** In San Jose

Looking for something to do for six to twelve months? Have we got a deal for you! The position of Executive Director of the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center is open and applications are being accepted by Liz Burkhouse, President of the Board of Directors.

The Executive Director is responsible for the day to day operations of the Center, which include the Switchboard, the Newsletter, representing the Center at community functions, volunteers and general public relations. The Director attends the two monthly board meetings, as well as those meetings of any committees to which they

Currently, the Director's staff includes a Volunteer/Switchboard Coordinator and a Newsletter Editor. A nominal monthly salary of \$100 is paid to the Director. The new term will begin November 1.



Gee, I love mornings! I just don't understand people who are grumpy in the morning, do you? Wanna have coffee? Wanna do breakfast? Wanna . . .

## South Bay Speakers Bureau

The Billy DeFrank Center has announced the reformation of the South Bay Gay and Lesbian Speakers' Bureau. The objective of the bureau is to provide Lesbian and Gay speakers to community organizations to attempt to break down the misunderstanding and prejudice which many people have toward Lesbians and Gay men.

The speakers' bureau is looking for people who are willing to

United by a common concern

about the uncontrolled, epi-

demic spread of Herpes Simplex

Virus (HSV) disease, 25 East

Bay residents formed a local

chapter of HELP. HELP is a

national information service of

the Americal Social Health

Association providing assistance

and support to people who have

Herpes, and contributing to

greater public awareness and

As part of our continuing ef-

fort, the East Bay chapter is

understanding of HSV.

Herpes Forum Set in Berkeley

make themselves available to speak from time to time. The requirements are: a willingness to share your ideas, feelings, and experiences of being a Lesbian or Gay man with others, and a desire to help people understand better what it means to be a homosexual in this society.

If you are interested, please call Wayne Herriford at (408) 293-4525 or (408) 263-9187.

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sponsoring the Fifth Commu-

nity Awareness Symposium on

The symposium will be held

Sunday, Oct. 21, 9:30 a.m. to

5 p.m., and will be in the main

auditorium of Alta Bates Hos-

pital, 3001 Colby Street, Ber-

ing HSV researcher at UCSF,

will provide the keynote ad-

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keley. Preregistration is sug-\$1 discount with this coupon gested as space is limited. on motel rooms or bathhouse Dr. Marcus Conant, a lead-



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# 

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By Dr. Alan Cantwell, M.D.

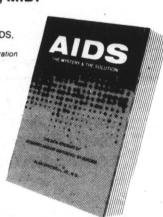
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scientifically curious. "Of great value to every physician, as well as to everyone involved in protecting the health of the community. Easy-to-read...contains

the most comprehensive world bibliography of work done on AIDS, as well as on a sadly neglected phase of cancer research Florence B. Seibert, Ph.D., Sc.D, LL. Professor Emeritus, University of Penn



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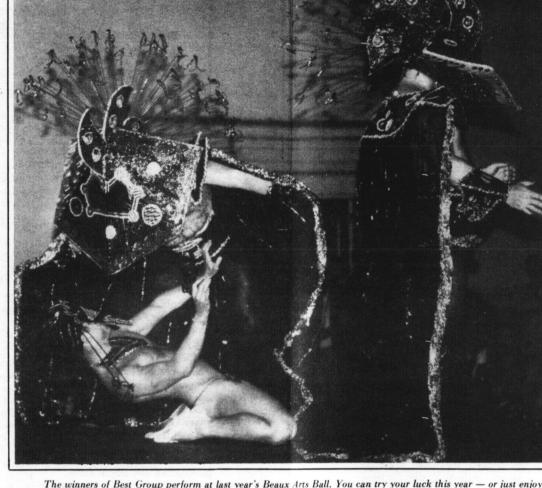
**DINNER SERVED FROM 4 PM TO 9 PM** 



- Playing on an Impulse: stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Starring Judy Sloan in a one-woman show. • Bad Mothers: stage performance, Julia Morgan
- Theater, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8:30 PM, \$7. The Plutonium Players in the further adventures of Ladies Against Women. Armistead Maupin: will sign his new book
- Babycakes, Bookmania, 160 California St., S.F., noon to 2 PM. Proceeds to benefit Shanti Project.
- Bi Pol: candidates forum, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7 to 9:30 PM. Candidates for supervisor, State Senate, and Community College Board.
- Fraternal Order of Gays: lecture on Homophobia and Self-Oppression, FOG House, 2038 22nd Ave., S.F., 8 PM. Conducted by Ira Rudolph, co-director of the Gay Men's Therapy Center.
- · Dalila Jasmin: belly dancing especially for women, A Little More, 1702 15th St., S.F., 9:30 PM, cover. Call 654-9633 for more information. • Pamela Brooks: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at
- Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5. · Amy Dondy: music, The Plush Room of the York
- Hotel, 940 Sutter St., S.F., 9:30 PM, \$6, two-drink minimum. With Bill De Lisle on the piano. • Steve Sanfield: storytelling, New College Theatre, 777 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. The storyteller, poet,
- author will present Could This Be Paradise, Jewish tales and Hasidic legends. • A Safe Light: stage performance, Ollie's, 4130
- Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 8:30 PM, \$5. Written and directed by Adele Prandini. · Riot Squad: comedy/improvisation, Valencia Rose,
- 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10:30 PM, \$5. · Jane and the Family Jewels: stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 9 and 11 PM,
- \$6. Starring Jane Dornacker · Patience: stage performance, Presentation Theater, 2350 Turk St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10 and \$12. The Lamplighters in its 222nd production of Gilbert and
- Little Shop of Horrors: stage performance, Warfield Theater, 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.
- Once is Never Enough: stage performance, People's Theatre Coalition, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. B, 8 PM, cover. The Asian-American Theater Company opens
- Jazz: dance class, Pride Center Auditorium, 890 Haves 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.

## **SATURDAY 20**

- Playing on an Impulse: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Gay Comedy Night: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. Featuring Tom Ammiano, Monica Palacios, and Ruby "Rodriguez" Ruben
- Bad Mothers: stage performance (see Friday listing) for details).
- Brunch for Pat Norman: hosted by Midge Costanza Ginny Foat, and Tsenin, 320 Clement St., S.F., 10 AM to 12:30 PM, \$10 to \$25. Call 621-1780 for more
- Sanford Friedman: will sign his book, Totempole, Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 1 to
- Different Spokes: East Bay ride, call 658-5580 or 731-6288 for start time/location, 35 miles.
- · Fraternal Order of Gays: game fest, FOG House, 2038 22nd Ave., S.F., 8 PM. Monopoly, Scrabble, Rise, Trivial Pursuit, Clue, Probe, Chess, and card games, refreshments served. Call 753-6786 for more information.
- Amy Dondy: music (see Friday listing for details). • Lynda Bergren: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5.
- Witches Christmas: costume party, Sciots Hall, 1001 S. Santa Cruz, Modesto, 8 PM, \$6, Special entertainment.
- A Safe Light: stage performance (see Friday listing)
- Jane and the Family Jewels: stage performance (see Friday listing for details)
- Little Shop of Horrors: stage performance, 7 and 10 PM, \$20, \$22.50, and \$25 (see Friday listing for

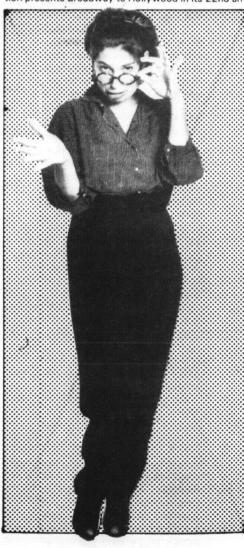


The winners of Best Group perform at last year's Beaux Arts Ball. You can try your luck this year — or just enjoy the show - Sunday at the Galleria. (Photo: Rink)

- Patience: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Once is Never Enough: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- . Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris: cabaret (see Friday listing for details)

## SUNDAY 21

Beaux Arts Ball: costume extravaganza, Galleria Design Center, 101 Kansas St., S.F., 5 PM to 2 AM, \$25 to \$30. The San Francisco Tavern Guild Foundation presents Broadway to Hollywood in its 22nd an



Judy Sloan will be at the Rose until Oct. 27.

nual event, featuring Sharon Redd singing a world premiere of her latest recording. \$2,000 in cash prizes for best group (3 or more), couple, single male, and

- Jose Sarria in 'La Boheme': stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. The Dowager Empress of Opera portrays Mimi as he continues his ongoing revivals of a Sunday tradition.
- · Bad Mothers: stage performance, \$5 (see Friday
- · Gala Birthday Dance Party: to benefit Pat Norman, candidate for supervisor, Olive Oil's, Pier 50, S.F., 5 to 8 PM, \$5 to \$25. Hosted by James Dugish and Barbara Cameron, refreshments, no-host bar.
- · Eastbay and San Francisco FrontRunners: run at Strawberry Canyon, meet at the Space Sciences parking lot, UC campus, Berkeley, 9:30 AM. Call 526-7315 or 527-9167 for more information. One to 71/2 hilly
- San Francisco Hiking Club: day hike, Mission Peak Regional Park, Fremont, meet at the McDonald's on the corner of Stanyan and Haight Sts., S.F., 9:45 AM.
- Different Spokes: Pleasanton/Sunol Valley ride, call 282-3022 for time/location, 35 miles. • G 40+: meeting, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 2 PM. Paul Seidler, SFPD community
- liaison, will speak. • Bi-Annual Sale de Garage: sponsored by San Fran-
- cisco Bay Area Gay Fathers, 3960 18th St., S.F., 9 AM • Drop-in VD Clinic: sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM, free and con

gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, etc., also

counseling and referrals. Call 644-0425 for more

- Sixth Anniversary Party: El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 2 to 9 PM, cover. With the Melotones and Viva
- Leola Jiles: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason,
- S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$6. • A Safe Light: stage performance (see Friday listing
- · Little Shop of Horrors: stage performance, 3 PM, \$13.50, \$15.50, and \$18.50 (see Friday listing for
- Once is Never Enough: stage performance, 3 and 7 PM (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

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

- Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Tom Ammiano, Laurie Bushman, Jane Dornacker, Marga Gomez, Teresa Holcomb, Curt Jones, Monica Palacios. Righteous Raoul, Karen Ripley, and Romanovsky and Phillips in an evening of ritual humiliation. To benefit the People With AIDS Fun Squad.
- · Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club: meeting, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F.,
- · San Francisco Hiking Club: day hike, Tiburon Peninsula, meet at Rolling Pin Donuts, 497 Castro St., S.F.,
- Matt Cassell: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$3.
- · Ron Murphy: music, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5, two-drink minimum • The Dippers: playreading, Room 300, Bldg. C, Fort Mason, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$2. Written and directed by
- Little Shop of Horrors: stage performance (see Fri-
- day listing for details) • 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

## **WEDNESDAY 24**

- · Francesca Dubie and Robin Young: music/comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4. Blues
- Fruit Punch: radio, KPFA (94 FM), 10 PM. Jon Sugar interviews Sylvester.
- Gwen Avery: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$5.
- · Bach to Basics: music, The Old Mint, Mission and 5th Sts., S.F., 6 to 8 PM. A reception to kick off the Bay Area Women's Philharmonic subscription series and the S.F. Band Foundation's membership drive. With entertainment by the Band's Woodwind and String Ensembles, and the Philharmonic's Chamber Ensemble, guest appearance by Nicholas, Glover, and Wray. Hors d'oeuvres and no-host bar.
- · Danny Williams Birthday Party: comedy in the cave, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 PM, cover. With special quests.
- Jane and the Family Jewels: stage performance, 9 PM, \$5 (see Friday listing for details).
- · Little Shop of Horrors: stage performance (see Friday listing for details)

## 1月;自11(42)D》7章,每542)

- Playing on an Impulse: stage performance (see Fri-
- day listing for details). • Bad Mothers: stage performance, \$5 (see Friday listing for details).
- San Francisco Hiking Club: general meeting, 1833 Page St., S.F., 7:30 PM. There will be an opportunity to sign up for future trips.
- Teresa Tudury: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9:30 PM, \$5.
- Ed Fonseca: music, Buckley's, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5, two-drink minimum. • Writing Workshop: for seniors 60 and older, Opera-
- tion Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7 PM. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call George Birimisa at 431-6254 for more information.
- · Jane and the Family Jewels: stage performance, 9 PM, \$5 (see Friday listing for details). · Little Shop of Horrors: stage performance (see Fri-
- day listing for details). • Once is Never Enough: stage performance (see Friday listing for details
- Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris: cabaret (see Friday listing for details).
- Western Star Dancers: beginners square dance class, YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, 2nd floor, S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-6134 for more information.
- Fun Run: sponsored by SuperNutrition Vitamins and Au Naturel health food store, polo grounds, Golden Gate Park, S.F., 6:30 PM, free. Three miles. Meet at the south end of the polo grounds on Middle Drive.

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

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— Bea Pixa, S.F. Examiner

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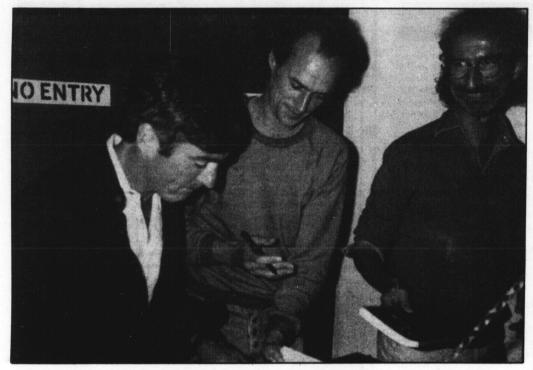
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE



Tom McClenaghan (l.), Michael Wilcox, and Martin Sherman sign copies of Gay Plays.

who's really Gay takes him seri-

'Sherman defend-

ed the need to make

statements through

Gay plays while ex-

pressing the hope

that someday none

of that will be

"I've always thought of my

play as a black comedy," he

said, pointing out several times

that he had tried to avoid cli-

ches. Relating his own history,

he observed, "Coming to the

fore is a very difficult situation

in the military service." But

there are exceptions. When

McClenaghan was 17 his unit

had a chief petty officer who

'was always camping and

touching us young lads up . . .

I couldn't believe it.

important . . .

ously) just took over.

## **British Theatre 1984**

More Questions Than Answers for Gay Theater-goers

Part I of Two Parts

by Steve Warren

Where is Gay theater going in the '80s? Is there still a need to ghettoize our theater? What makes a Gay play Gay? How can we get more Gay characters into mainstream entertainment? Is it safe for an actor or playwright to come out?

The questions are familiar. Neither they nor, with the exception of the last, their responses sound different in a variety of British accents.

A "Gay Theatre in Britain" seminar was conducted in London to mark the publication of Gay Plays (Methuen, \$6.95). Not to be confused with Gay Plays, The First Collection, published in the U.S. by Bard/Avon in 1979, this new tome is England's first such anthology, although there are probably more Gay plays published individually in the U.K. than over here.

Four plays make up the volume, and three of their authors were present at the seminar, including editor Michael Wilcox. The others were American-born Martin Sherman who has lived in London for five years, and Irish-born Tom McClenaghan who makes his home in the Virgin Islands. Sherman is the only one with a name in the U.S., as the author of Bent.

Wilcox spent much of the seminar alternately defending the concept of marketing "Gay plays" as such ("I felt it was important to get these unpublished plays published") and boasting that the works he had chosen were really about other things, with Gayness just an incidental part. His own selection, Accounts, he said, "is actually about sheep farming (and) economic survival. It just happens that one of the (two) brothers (left to help their mother manage a new farm they've bought after their father's death) becomes increasingly aware of his Gayness as the play progresses." Indeed the Gayness is treated so briefly and subtly Americans might miss it in the thick dialect of this brilliantly written but hardly

'McClenaghan had the least to say about anything . . . He just looked macho and disinterested and kept bringing up his 15 years in the Royal

While McClenaghan represented the macho right and Wil-McClenaghan had the least to say about anything, and nothing about being Gay. He just looked cox a neurotic middle of the road, Sherman added life to the macho and disinterested and proceedings as a combination kept bringing up his 15 years in the Royal Navy. His play, Sub-Jewish princess and faerie queene. A member of the audience pointed out that both the mariners, takes place in a nu-Wilcox and McClenaghan plays clear sub, and he said the claushad been done on British televitrophobia of the situation was his starting point, after which sion, but Sherman's Passing By had not because it was the only Gays and nukes came into it. one that showed "two faggots Eventually, "Cock (an 18-yearold draftee trying to get out, who getting in bed together.' pretends to be Gay until a sailor

Navy.'

"I write for all audiences,"
Sherman declared, "but I write
... as a Gay writer, as a Jewish
writer ... Nothing makes me
happier than to see an eclectic
audience at one of my plays."
His latest, Messiah, premiered
in London last year. "There's
nothing Gay in it," he said, "but
it's a play by a Gay writer ...
Every writer has to express what
he or she is."

Sherman defended the need to make statements through Gay plays while expressing the hope that "someday none of that will be important . . . I never sit down to write a didactic play. I write on many levels. Sometimes one of those is Gay, sometimes one of those is political." When Bent opened in Israel last year, he said, he was moved by the audience's response; yet when he mentioned his Gayness at a symposium afterward they were audibly shocked. "They just sat through my play. What did they

It's to reach people at that level of awareness, Sherman believes, that we still have to state what should be obvious: "You (Continued on page 28) A Safe Light

Adele Prandini's Re-written and Re-cast Her Second Play

by Mark I. Chester

As Lesbians, we are trying to come up with a way of life that is totally different; a way of looking at life and answering all those questions for ourselves that is totally different. I would like to see Gay men and Lesbian women do that together and come up with something we can call Gay theater.

— Adele Prandini

dele Prandini is strongly committed both to the Lesbian and Gay community and the power and beauty of theater. As a writer and critic her work appears regularly in the Bay Area Reporter and other local newspapers. As a performer she has been involved in Bay Area theater for more than 10 years. And as a playwright she walks the razor's edge, combining artistic vision with a social conscience.

Her second play, A Safe Light, confronts the issues of loving relationships between three Lesbians when one of them learns she is dying of cancer. But death is not the central focus of the play, which is subtitled "an uncommonly moving love story."

"It's a play about intimacy, warmth, and communication," Prandini says. At the same time, she hopes the play deals with issues in such a way that they will "help men and women in the community deal with our grief and our loss, and at the same time, celebrate our life."

The play premiered at Theatre Rhinoceros last season. Prandini acknowledges that "new work needs to be nurtured" and that she learned a lot from the play's premiere. With those insights, she reworked the play to improve it and give it a somewhat different emphasis. founding a Lesbian theater group called The Whole Works, which dealt with social and political issues. Louise Minnick co-founded the Women's Theater Production, although in recent years she has been more directly involved in political action groups such as the Alice B. Toklas Gay Democratic Club. And Marion Eaton has worked in theater for more than 20 years, although she is best known here for her eccentric tour de forces in Kurt McDowell's films, such as Thundercrack and the recently released Working on A Safe Light has

Working on A Safe Light has
been a powerful experience for
all the women involved in the
production, despite the problems of putting on a production
without financial backing. Having found many roles in traditional theater lacking and oppressive, Simon is excited to be

with the death
The prickly dis
customed inti
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The cast of
A Safe Light
(Photo: Mark I.
Chester)

This new version was presented at the Women's Festival of Theater in Santa Cruz Oct. 6 with a new cast, chosen and directed by Prandini. The changes in the play and cast warranted a new run, which will take place at Ollie's in Oakland, Friday through Sunday, Oct. 19 to 21 and 26 to 28, with an 8:30 p.m. curtain time. Tickets are \$5. This version will also be presented by Gay Meridian Theater in New York later this year.

A Safe Light allows Prandini the chance to put her personal stamp on every facet of the production, from the writing to the staging. In casting the play, she chose women who have been working in theater in the area for many years, but who have never had a chance to work together before. Their credentials are impressive. Michelle Simon has been acting in this area for more than 10 years, including co-

able to play a Lesbian role that has depth and conscience.

"People will feel drawn into the relationships and the sadness, the beauty and the love and the ability to work things out," Simon says. "It's important as an example. It's important to feel that sweetness and that sadness."

"It's affected me personally,"

said Eaton. "I'm really inspired to deal with people who are trying to tell who they are and how they really feel." But for Minnick, the potency has been difficult. She comments that the play has "really changed the way I relate to my lover. I look at her and I just want to hold her. I realize how important she is, just being here. Every second we have together is real crucial. It's really had an impact on me.' Whether you are a man or a woman, A Safe Light is bound to have a real impact.

#### STAGE

## Dragomania

by John F. Karr-

he advertisements for the exciting revue After Dark, which just opened at the Alcazar, call it "The Swedish Night-club Sensation." Nowhere is it called a drag revue. Yet the lady on the poster has a strongly bulging g-string, and a drag revue is what the show is.

The category of drag revue engenders a certain skepticism, and as After Dark began, my worst fears were realized. The opening seemed just another lipsynch routine, and I sniffed, "Pat Montclair could do it better."

I hadn't reckoned with that all-important concomitant of drag shows, the Period of Adjustment. For After Dark is an express ticket to the Planet Mary and it took me several numbers to make the trip. Arriving, I found just what the posters proclaimed. A sensation.

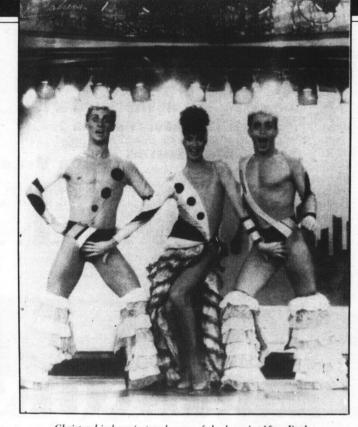
Accepting the limitations of lip-synch, After Dark is a surprisingly contemporary show. It's given drag a much needed facelift. The show may come from Sweden, but don't expect embroidered suspenders and Zarah Leander. The costumes are fantastic, spectacular creations, and the cast forces you to believe and rejoice with their continually-sustained oversize performances. They make you feel there isn't much a woman can do that a man can't do ten times bigger, and while that's not necessarily a virtue, there's a little size queen in each of us. The size of After Dark, in imagination, talent, and fun, is

Nearly every number is a star turn. A soul plaint about a lost man includes an entire rap, synched so well the illusion is never doubted; it's preceded, believe it or not, by a strip tease. Bette Midler's "Big Noise From Winnetka" is a hot one, and Streisand's "Look At That Face" medley receives a charming performance that is simple and unexaggerated, surprising qualities in an art form as extreme and exaggerated as drag.

Naturally, there's a nod to that Doyenne of Drag, Shirley Bassey, with "This Is My Life," performed strongly by the man who created the show and designed its costumes, Christer Lindarw.

But the most memorable sequence is from Pink Floyd's "The Wall." Extreme in its vision and execution, the scary number goes way beyond what we've known as drag. And that's After Dark's main virtue. You may have thought of drag as a limited vehicle, but After Dark proves otherwise. Am I glad each of these boys enjoys being a girl.

After Dark The Alcazar Through November 21; 775-7100



Christer Lindarw (c.) and some of the boys in After Dark.

## Love and Approval

by Bernard Spunberg

ood theater nourishes the soul. Generations, a satisfying double bill currently presented by the One Act Theater Company, comprises West Coast premieres of John Bishop's "Cabin 12" and Lanford Wilson's "Thymus Vulgaris." Both playwrights are in residence at New York's distinguished Circle Repertory Company.

Deceptively small scale and intimate, "Cabin 12" depicts a father and son coming to grips with the death of a younger son. The prickly discomfort of unaccustomed intimacy forced by tragic circumstances pervades the first moments. Both men have more to expess than they can find words for. Gradually, father and son unbend. They reminisce about their relationship with the dead man and reveal the corrosive powr of failed communication. In language increasingly poetic and allusive, father and son find comfort in awareness of life's inexorable

Dead American

wkward stagecraft deadens

The American, currently

in production at the Julian

Theater. Directed by David Parr, George Crowe's drama outlines the fall of John Peter

Altgeld, governor of Illinois

from 1892 to 1896. The play

suggests Altgeld was one of the

great Americans. Too bad The

American is such a weakling.

unjustly convicted of throwing a

bomb at the Haymarket Riot of

1886, Altgeld, then a judge, re-

fused to protest. After his elec-

tion as governor, however, Alt-

geld restudied the case. He re-

leased those still in prison and

granted posthumous pardons to

those who had been hanged. In

1896, Altgeld withheld his sup-

port of the popular William Jen-

nings Bryan for the Democratic

nomination. The anarchists'

pardons and nonsupport of

Bryan cost Altgeld his political

The Altgeld we see in The

American is both physically

and spiritually exhausted, but

that's all we really learn about

him. What triggered his change

of heart over the issue of the

anarchists? If he was such a

smart politician, why did he sac-

When several anarchists were

by Bernard Spunberg

cycles as well as renewed love for each other.

Bob Parnell's gritty characterization of the father conveys trauma and guilt eased by redemptive self-knowledge. Mark Todd should consider strapping on electrodes to keep his hands off his hips. Despite intrusive mannerisms, however, Todd's portrayal of the son is both tender and volatile. He is an emotional powder keg.

Scott Smith and Dolores Dwyer are convincing in supporting roles. Richard Howes' carefully calibrated direction generates a claustrophobic, supercharged atmosphere.

Lanford Wilson's "Thymus Vulgaris" invites analysis, but don't bother. The play is a sunny, funny fantasy depicting a prostitute's visit with her mom. The women compare notes on their latest grand passions, but it's soon clear romantic gossip provides the springboard for their communication, not the

rifice his own political base for

the sake of a losing candidate?

Because he was a man of con-

science and integrity? It may be

true, but it isn't drama. Theater

- especially political theater -

requires the interaction of be-

Altgeld listens to a ne'er-do-

well gambler, but he never talks

back to him. A young Clarence

Darrow makes dumb remarks.

by first pining for a simple life

and then complaining his

choices have foiled her own am-

bitions. When Altgeld confronts

the widow of one of the hanged

anarchists, a few sparks fly, but

they are nothing by comparison

with those struck by the anar-

chists themselves. Spoken by an

declarations of political freedom

reveal nothing so clearly as the

mediocrity of the play in which

The American should be

seen by scholars of American hi-

story. General audiences may

find it long and confusing.

Julian Theater Through October 27; 647-8098

hey're quoted.

The American

off-stage voice, their searing

Altgeld's wife contradicts herself

foundation. Mother and daughter desire nothing so much as each other's simple, uncomplicated approval and love.

Dolores Dwyer's portrait of

the prostitute is as deep as it needs to be. Her adorably hootchy kootchy characterization comes to life by means of snappy comic timing. As the

mom, Priscilla Alden's effervescent girlishness contrasts humorously with her mature girth. Scott Smith's comic flair shines in the role of a cop willing to expose any body part you're willing to admire.

Director Andrea Gordon's production bubbles joyously. Designer Stephen Elspa's ridiculously idealized pastel evocation of a dreary trailer park could only be occupied by people incorrigibly in love with life. And that's just the way these two one-act plays make audiences feel.

Generations One Act Theater Company Through November 3; 421-6162

# The first night he stole her diaries. The second night he read her fantasies. The third night he started to live them...



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#### STAGE

## **Neighboring Madness**

by Adele Prandini

n a cold winter's morning a young woman arrived at the flat of Sylvia Plath. This November day was to be the woman's first day of employment for the poet. What anticipation she must have felt as she approached the door, but her knock was unanswered. She was expected she was sure, the agency had seen to it. She knocked again, and as she waited the odor of gas met her nostrils. At the age of 31, Sylvia Plath was dead. Plath, who once wrote, 'Like a cat, I have nine times to

A dramatic portrait of Sylvia Plath is currently being presented at Studio Eremos. This work, conceived by Barry Kyle, relies heavily on Plath's writing. The words of Plath are raw words, and when r'aced side by side a cruel imagery emerges. I say cruel because the imagery reflects a tortured soul trapped in an emotional state neighboring madness. I am affected by the words of Plath much like I am affected by the photographs of Diane Arbus. Both artists created very honest pictures of a side of life that is difficult to witness — its imperfections, its ironies, its cruel humor. Arbus has said, "There are things that no one would see unless I photo-

graphed them." I believe the same is true of Plath's writing.

In this production three women alternately portray Plath. It is a biography of sorts. Creator Kyle has wisely decided to allow Plath's words to speak for themselves. All of the actresses possess strong presence onstage, and the production is enriched by the lighting design of Mary Kitchens, who contributes greatly to the mood of the piece.

Putting poetry onstage is risky because the form lends itself to speech patterns. Director Robert Willden seems to have deliberately decided on this homogenous form of speech, which in my opinion tends to give an unreal quality to Plath's passionate lines. Despite this criticism, the play succeeds in giving us insight into the writer and the woman.

The set pieces are boxes arranged and rearranged during the performance. The costumes are simple white garments. In this theater piece the drama resides where it ought, in the words of Sylvia Plath.

Sylvia Plath: A Dramatic Studio Eremos Through October 28; 641-0480



A scene from Sylvia Plath: A Dramatic Portrait.

## **Moving Monologues**

by Adele Prandini

woman stands before you. She is barefoot. She stares at a box at her feet. She says, "You can fool a person but you can't fool a snake." Eyes the spirit, the snake don't bite.' She is a snake handler. Handling snakes is a religious ritual in her neck of the woods.

The woman is a character from a piece called Talking With, which consists of 11 different monologues by 11 different actresses. Eleven very talented actresses.

The monologues are written by Jane Martin, and in a way, the pieces share a single theme - all explore personalities which could be labeled outsiders, misfits - the individuals who don't quite fit in. Of course, this leaves us with the question, who of us does fit in, and what is it we're supposed to fit into?

Jane Martin, whoever he or she is - nothing is known about the author — is a very, very good writer. Martin breathes life into the characters with a clever sense of humor and a warm sensitivity. Therefore, I am surprised at the sexism of some of

expect to hear from an adolescent comic, not from a writer of this caliber and sensitivity. Don't get me wrong, we can joke at times be a hell of an inconvenience. However, the attitude here is ridicule, and ridicule is the cheapest of shots no matter who's employing it. I also have problems with White people calling themselves niggers to impress upon you that they are oppressed for a given reason. The word nigger carries with it a good deal of history which White people have no right to claim as their own. Of course, the anti-Lesbian cracks in the first monologue didn't exactly warm my heart. But for the most part, the author avoids these lapses of critical thinking and provides humorous and thought-provoking glimpses of

the pieces. The tit jokes I would

Despite my differences with the author, Talking With is a very worthwhile production at times funny, at times moving, and always intriguing. My thanks to the cast, crew, and producers for such an enjoyable evening of theater.

#### **VIDEO**

## Screen Magic: Large and Small

BLADE MASTER Media Home Entertainment

You might remember Miles O'Keefe as the Michelangelolike torsoed Tarzan in the Bo Derek remake two years ago. If you saw him, you remember him. With a body like his, he's hard to forget, and was conceivably more pretty than Derek.

O'Keefe spent some time at our local ACT, but whether he learned anything is hard to say. In Tarzan he didn't utter a peep, and in his latest opus to come to the screen he gets to wear very little (hee hee) and act a similar amount (ha ha).

Blade Master is a sequel to a previous sword-and-fantasy epic called Ator. Both Ator and the sequel require O'Keefe to talk. Unfortunately, in these sorts of movies the script to be spoken

he new Depeche Mode sin-gle "Master and Servant"

logizes - new music's formu-

epitomizes — or rather eu-

makes Harold Robbins read like quite sure, since the post dub too well.

This adds to the unpretentious charm of the genre. Blade Master is probably best enjoyed on the home screen because you can fast forward whenever and whatever. At the movie theater you would have to endure too many gratuitous cut 'em up fight sequences just so you can feast your eyes on O'Keefe. After all, that's why we want to sit through this anyway, right?

Shakespeare. Produced in Europe in much the same way the '60s gladiator films were made, i.e. cheaply, they appear to be in English, but you are never bing is sometimes not synched

Oh yes, the story: the castle of knowledge in a land of contradiction houses the ultimate weapon. Should it fall into the

favorite is Annette DiCicco's rendition of Carla Thomas'

Although his new single offers

nothing startling musically, it

certainly brings Sylvester back from vacation in style. Because

instrumentation in the synthesized '80s often dominates a

song, as in New Order's The

Beach/Blue Monday smash

Sylvester seems to have willingly

Lovin' is Really My Game

Zino (featuring Tyne Mouton

Tyne Mouton is a great vocal-

ist, and this Disco classic is

redone in a noteworthy manner.

but the line "I can't get no man hanging out at the discotheque

sounds as queer as the first time

heard it - probably at Studio

One when I was probably much

vounger. The song is unques-

duction quality top-notch, but

the material is pale, and Mou-

ton's vocalizing and the song's

excellent production are not

tionably danceable, and the pro-

joined the crowd.

on vocals)

(Pacific Records)

'Baby.'

IERRY DE GRACIA

everybody. The Blade Master, a hero of mythical strength. saves the day. He saves the picture from total tedium. O'Keefe might not get much meat to his role, but he gets enough meat to roll to keep you satisfied.

hands of evil, it's curtains for

MICHAEL LASKY

MAX MAVEN'S MINDGAMES MCA Home Video 55 minutes, \$39.95

Max Maven has a weird haircut, but that's all part of his mystique. You see, he can read your mind even though he is on videotape.

This original made-for-homevideo tape must have looked great on paper but comes across as sort of dumb on TV. The idea was that he would lead viewers through a number of "experiences" and would predict the outcome, even though you at home were performing them.

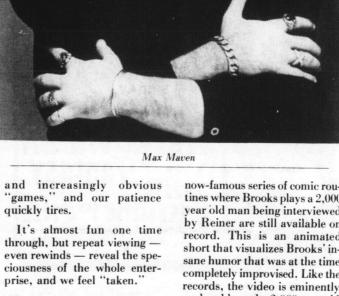
What we get is an elaborately orchestrated and expensive shell game. Maven does indeed lead us through some tricks, but he leaves no room for chance. The outcome is always the same. much like that of those mathematical mind teasers where you fill nine boxes with numbers from one to nine and no matter which direction you add in, it always comes out to 15.

At first we don't mind being set up and playing along, but the production is filled with limp, sophomoric humor, tacky sets,

THE 2000 YEAR OLD MAN Media Home Entertainment 25 minutes, \$19.95

Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner's

tines where Brooks plays a 2,000 year old man being interviewed by Reiner are still available on record. This is an animated short that visualizes Brooks' incompletely improvised. Like the records, the video is eminently replayable as the 2,000 year old man expounds on his years of experience from caveman to the second World War to TV com-





BAY AREA REPORTER OCTOBER 18, 1984

#### lized dance/rock doldrums Rock the Box when in lyrical reference to Sylvester S&M fantasies, the chant (Megatone Records) drones, "it's a lot like life." Sylvester's new single merges

Master and Servant . . .

Thump, Thump, Thump

**TONE DEAFTONE** 

Yeah, repetitive. his dance-oriented style with The group's references to sexsome interesting instrumentaual fantasy are a washout. Even tion that plays heavily on a beat teenagers are more sophisticated box sound and goes lightly on than this weak piece of material Sylvester's vocal cords, something unique for the singer, who assumes of a target audience, rarely steps off the center stage whomever that might be. Perhaps Depeche Mode is aiming

for the pre-teen crowd. Jerry Falwell might point to such music as exemplifying the depravity running rampant in the world. But then he has always missed the point. The point is, the sexual revolution has been overdone, and no one is going to be titillated by unimaginative sexual overtones served up with mediocre instru-

Much the same could be said for "Sexy Movie" by Flexicowboys, which of course isn't saving much. The Flexicowboy pictured on the jacket has a great bod, but music is aural, not oral, and you'd be better off spending your money on pornography.

"High Sex Drive" by Dolmann has more energy than the aforementioned misguided mating calls, but it's also tedious, and rounds out the three worst 12"s of the week.

**Greatest Hits** Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra (Slithering Discs Records)

The Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra has been a local party favorite for a while, and on this release the group maintains its reputation of serious camp. This is strictly a party album by a collage of artists, and the group does a respectable job of rehashing everyone else's greatest hits.

Nobody's looking for new material or trends here - just a good time - and that is what Zasu Pitts dishes out. The album includes "River

Deep, Mountain High," "To Sir With Love," "Tossin' and Turnin'," "Baby," "Nowhere to Run," and "Shout." My enough to save it. Schizophrenic Circus Red Rockers

(CBS/415)

This is the first lp by the Red Rockers I've actually enjoyed. Perhaps the group has attained commercial appeal and I've been unable to appreciate it, but that's doubtful. More than likely the Red Rockers have finally pieced together a palatable collection of rock songs. The group's excellent cover of "Eve of Destruction" manages to bring the tune out of its limp history, and it has been recorded with the energy it should have

(Continued on next page)

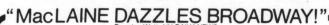
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#### FROM FIFTH POSITION

## New Works at Oakland Ballet

he contemporary ballet audience loves innovation at least as much as it loves the traditional elements which actually distinguish ballet from the other styles of dancing that draw large audiences today. The Oakland Ballet is taking the eclectic approach to its repertory, but always the choice seems to be based on suitability for the company and its resources as well as on direct audience appeal. Last weekend Oakland Ballet presented the world premieres of two ballets which could both be called "experimental" when compared to that company's repertory during the last two seasons. The new works were the best-received pieces on the

A premiere entitled . . . this harsh spectacle, this invisible activity, this sense ... is modern dancer Tandy Beal's first work to be mounted on a ballet company. Its sleek, stylish look must be credited in large part to the set design by Norvid Roos and lighting design by Evan Parker. These, together with the white jumpsuits and unitards the dancers wore, created a vibrant two-dimensional stage picture. The new dance also had a modern commissioned score by Jon Scoville, laced with undiscernable monologues by a female speaker, which framed the movement without either inspiring or interfering with it. Yet what the dancers actually did within this stark. handsome environment was as meaningless as the rarefied title of the piece.

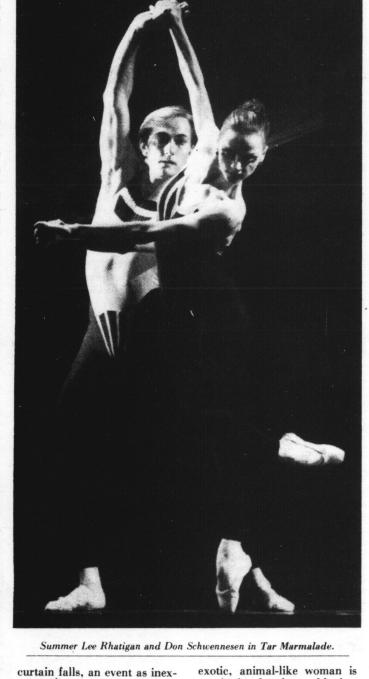
Regarding the dancing, a program note advises that Beal spent six weeks in workshop with the Oakland Ballet dancers to "discover a shared vocabulary between ballet and modern dance." Perhaps the six weeks might have been better spent teaching the dancers her own movement, as the shared language which came out of this experiment was very short on verbs. Most of the actual steps are from the ballet vocabulary, with the modern dance contribution mostly contained in arm and face gestures. It looked as though Beal had attempted to give the company something new, but discovered the dancers securely-held ballet torsos difficult to release.

Very odd things happen through the course of the dance, such as when one dancer walks onto the stage and, one by one, paints red "X"s over the hearts of the dancers already on stage. At the end, a throng of children from the Oakland Ballet Acad-

resting in her opening solo, at-The other new work, much tached to stretch fabric bands more approachable, was "an exheld from the wings of the stage. otic pas de deux" by San Francisco Ballet dancer Val Canipa-But the tension weakened once roli, a young choreographer I the duet began. Don Schwennesen, an attractive dancer who am inclined to encourage by virwas cast as Rhatigan's partner, tue of his very promising first ballets. Tar Marmalade, so is overpowered by Rhatigan too named because the music is a completely, too early, which duet for guitar and "tar" (a robs the duet of any mounting North African drum), is a contension. Sandra Woodall's costemporary "apache" dance — a

Slippery People

With one part soul and one part Talking Heads you can't ose, and neither do the Staple Singers on "Slippery People," a David Byrne song that sounds even better with real soul behind it. Mavis Staples does a dynamite job here, but "I Know A Place" is still my favorite Staple



KEITH WHITE

#### TONE DEAF (Continued from previous page) "Blue Jean" is more promising

been done with when it first

Blue Jean/Dancing with the David Bowie (EMI)

Bowie's tenacity for staying on top continues with "Blue Jean." Even though it's a concoction that couldn't lose mixed by Jellybean Benitez, and featuring Iggy Pop and Tina Turner — it doesn't distract from Bowie's own talents.

"Let's Dance" was less than overwhelming as an album leadin, although the ensuing album contained some great tracks.

as an album lead-in simply because it's less formula-ridden than the catchiness of "Let's

plicable as the many other off-

the-wall occurrences in the

piece. The audience responded

as though it had seen the run-

away hit of the season, but hav-

ing seen Tandy Beal's solo

work, I hate to think of her be-

ing represented by "... this

harsh spectacle."

(Private Records)

Singers song.

J. De Gracia

tumes and set cloths are attractive props, yet while they rein force the spiderweb motif, they detract from the dancing. Tar Marmalade qualified as a hit on this program, yet in relying so heavily on Rhatigan's persona, I'm afraid Caniparoli took the easy road Ron Thiele's Amis (1982) opened the program. Set for a male soloist, two couples, and a female trio, Amis uses a demanding score, Tchaikovsky's 'Trio in A Minor." The music is lush and romantic, and Thiele fully responded to those qualities. The length of the score and the small cast together invited considerable repetition, yet the

ballet is well-crafted and at

El Salon Mexico, a ballet by

Ronn Guidi to the Aaron Cop-

land score of the same name,

closed the program. It attempts

an unwieldy combination of a

basically classical ballet with a

times quite engaging.

Mexican veneer.

manipulated and tamed by her

strong male partner. Except, in

this case, the woman is the

stronger of the two dancers - by

Summer Lee Rhatigan is indeed

a strong dancer, with a sharp-

cent of Bruce Lee. She was a

spider in this piece, very ar-

ness about her attack reminis

far — and she tames the man.

peared at the beginning of the opera. After that, it was strictly downhill all the way. Willa Kim's costumes ranged from Egyptian space cadet chic to mediocre sci-fi drag. Steven Rubin's sets, although occasionally charming, were oftentimes glaringly inappropriate. How he ever dreamed up those painted spook-house flats for the trials of fire and water beats me.

Although physically new,

Renato Capecchi - who also appeared in the role of Geronimo — the performance I caught was an example of the Santa Fe Opera at its very best.

An exceptional tightness of ensemble work was evident throughout the evening, as was the famed Capecchi touch. Never overdoing matters, the veteran buffo directed the production with such slick grace the opera seemed to rest on an airy cloud of froth. Cimarosa's work has one hell of a lot of singing in it, and the entire cast is to be commended for its consummate vocal as well as dramatic art-

production — especially when contrasted with such an outrageously shitty staging of The Magic Flute - makes one wonder what kind of quality control exists at the Santa Fe Opera these days.

## TALES OF TESSI TURA

## **Target Practice**

any critics would be forced to keep their peace if their definition of operatic success relied solely upon a singer's ability to hit all the notes as they appear in the score. But when fully competent artists with proven track records are placed in situations which not only jeopardize their singing but demean the operatic art form, it rots-my critical garters and sours the old

For a variety of reasons, I was forced to cancel my trip to Los Angeles' Olympic Arts Festival in July. My sudden change in plans meant having to witness one less interpretation of The Magic Flute this year, but, having recently reveled in two excellent performances of Mozart's opera in St. Louis, I must confess I did not feel any driving compulsion to tackle the smog belt for yet another go-around with the star-blazing Queen of the Night. Nor did I break down in tears at the loss. Mind you, it's not that Mozart's opera lies low on my list of priorities. I have plans to reacquaint myself with the Beni Montresor production in New York come November, and hope to experience the Maurice Sendak/Frank Corsaro staging once more in Houston next February. But a girl can take just so much of that bird man and his fucking

#### **GUTTER BALLS**

This summer the Santa Fe Opera mounted a new production of The Magic Flute which could be rated as a genuine atrocity - a dismal interpretation which revealed such a profound lack of understanding of what was happening in the opera that it made one fear not only for the stage director but for Mozart and impressionable audiences as well. In my book, the director who tries, at any cost, to milk a trap door for as much action as Robin Thompson did, deserves to be flogged. Rather than have Tamino leading Pamina through heraldic ordeals, Thompson chose to have the soprano lead her future husband through the trials of fire and water - a blow for the feminist movement which I doubt would ever score points in Sar-

astro's strongly male chauvinist

Sadly, this was the kind of

evening when I wanted to leave

the theater early (many others

did) but professional ethics kept

me in my chair. What infuriates

me about this disgustingly inept

and amateurish production is

that the Santa Fe Opera has per-

formed The Magic Flute in

seven of the past sixteen seasons.

By now, John Crosby and his

The best thing in this produc-

tion was the dragon which ap-

gang should know better.

Santa Fe's production felt achy decrepit, and tired - mostly due to George Manahan's sluggish, leaden . . . no, comatose conducting. Remember the good old days at the Met when standees used to scream, "Faster, Cleva!"? Well, I believe Maestro Manahan's tempos for Mozart's opera may well have bested Kurt Herbert Adler's record for the slowest performance of The Magic Flute to go down in the anals of history.

#### **BULL'S EYE**

By contrast, Cimarosa's II Matrimonio Segreto was pure ambrosia. Although one friend described this nearly 200-yearold comic opera as "charmingly dull," I must admit I was instantly captivated by the work. Conducted with loving care by Kenneth Montgomery and staged with immaculate style by



Fidalma (Judith Christin) puts the make on a shocked Paolino (Rockwell Blake) who is secretly married to Carolina in Cimarosa's comic opera, Il

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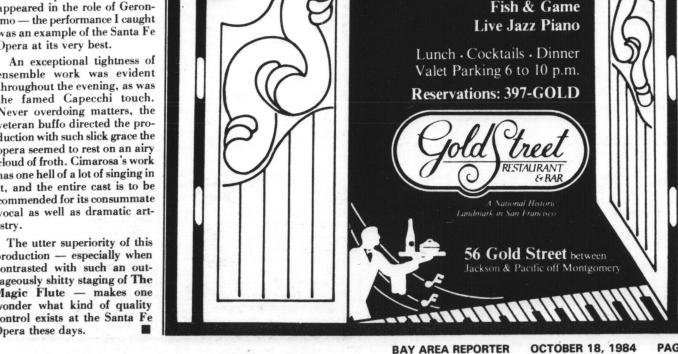
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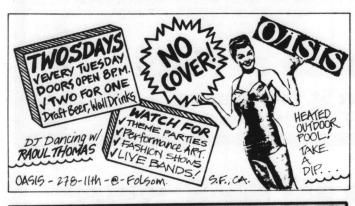
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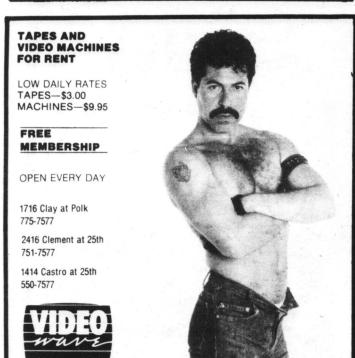


Photo by Jim Wigler

## **British Theatre 1984**

have to be at this point in time a bit of a pill about it.'

At the same time he presented the opposing view: "If a Gay play is a good Gay play it's a human play and takes on dimensions beyond that.'

The audience was divided, with one man insisting, "Gays want a Gay experience in the theater" and another stating that "Gay" defines only his sexuality, not his total personhood. The prevailing view was that Gay plays are a means to an end

- "You have to go into the ghetto to get out of the ghetto" with disagreement regarding whether we have reached our end yet. Wilcox said recent police raids on Gay bookshops in London and elsewhere show we haven't.

England's principal Gay theater company was the Gay Sweatshop, which flourished in the mid- to late-Seventies and is apparently defunct today. Sherman said its 1975 production of Passing By "kept me alive as a writer" after the New York pre-miere the year before had proved a disaster because "no major actor would touch it" at that time. They were willing to play "screaming queens" or queers "who slash their wrists at the end," but not two normal Gay men like his Toby and Simon, who share a "gentle, ro-

The onset of AIDS caused Sherman to cancel a New York revival last year, the playwright says in his introduction to the printed version, "for fear that the . . . epidemic . . . would throw the story . . . into a completely misleading light and fan some of the misconceived and prejudiced linkage of homosexuality and physical illness that was then popular in the American press." Illness seemed more romantic when he wrote the play in 1972.

mantic, and loving encounter'

- actually a case of hepatitis

Speaking again about Gay Sweatshop, Sherman said its original philosophy was to start a company of actors and directors who are Gay . . . They said you could be a member of the profession and be outwardly Gay . . . Having established for yourself a level of honesty you can be honest about every-

The work of Sweatshop, he said, was more professional than any Gay American theaters he has seen. In addition, he credited its work with having inspired him to write Bent, and said the success of that play paved the way for Torch Song Trilogy and then La Cage aux Folles to be done on Broadway. Having thus inserted himself into the Cage lineage, he disowned the show, calling it ". . . wretched - badly directed, badly acted . . ." but allowed that any play "about two Gay men who love each other in its own awful way is rather rad-

The fourth play in the collection, The Green Bay Tree by Mordaunt Shairp, was first produced in London and New York in 1933. Wilcox said he included this "golden oldie" for the sake of historical perspective, and that it's "more about possession than homosexuality." The latter is true on the surface, as any open reference to Gayness would have kept it off the stage in its day, but one doesn't need x-rays to see beneath the surface in this story of a young woman fighting for her man against the middleaged millionaire who has raised him in his own image for a life

of idle, womanless luxury. Wilcox apologized both in print and in person for the

absence of works by and about Lesbians in Gay Plays, but said all manner of weapons, but never lovingly by a penis; and when at the end of a listing of none had been submitted in refantasies, the question is asked, sponse to announcements about "Do you want to live with anthe book: "If there is a worthwhile, durable play about Gay women that hasn't been publishother man for ten years?" and the response is, "I don't have fantasies that can't come true. ed, I should like to know about "You can let him know c/o Pornography is presently Methuen London Ltd., 11 New touring England, and will travel Fetter Lane, London EC4P to Canada early in 1985. Less 4EE, England; or Methuen, sophisticated Gay audiences will

probably enjoy the idea of a

theater of commonly shared ex-

perience as much as the Lon-

doners seem to, proving there is still a place and a need for this

Fortunately, even without

Gay Sweatshop, there is better Gay theater being done in Lon-

don. In a room over a pub in a

borough with 18 percent unem-

ployment, Kiss of the Spider-

woman by Argentina's Manuel

Puig held sway for two moving

It's about cellmates. Valentin

is a macho revolutionary, Mo-

lina a nelly queen who formed

his values from watching movies

of the '40s. Over the course of

their confinement, Valentin

builds Molina's self-esteem —

which isn't easy, as he's in for

corrupting a minor, wants to be

a woman in the most unliberated

sense, and constantly puts him-

self down: "I'm a window dress-

er. That's the next best thing to

being an interior decorator.

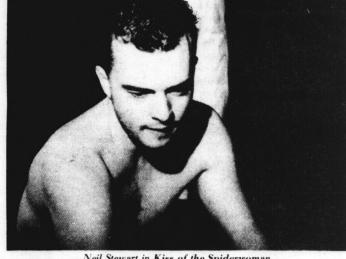
sort of thing.

Complaints were aired about the shortage of Gay characters on television, especially in shows imported from the U.S. We announced that ABC had promised to make Steven Carrington Gay again this season on Dynasty, and that the Showtime sitcom Brothers had started off

Inc., 733 Third Ave., New York

A local publication reported later that the afternoon's most vocal proponent of indigenous theater by and for Gay people had been Neil Bartlett, a director who was about to premiere just such a work, Pornog-That show, seen late in its

run, was one of those companydeveloped numbers in which a bull session by virtue of repetition becomes a theater piece. Lest we forget, A Chorus Line employed the same process, but with far better results.



Neil Stewart in Kiss of the Spiderwoman.

Sex would have been a more accurate title. Pornography was only peripherally involved and never specifically addressed The cast of three physical and mental exhibitionists started with the questions "What do you want?" and "What are you into?" and went on to tell us more than we cared to know about their sex lives and fantasies. There was no talk of safe sex, either because it hasn't reached England vet or because we're still able to fantasize about doing it the old way. With England's AIDS count at 75 and starting to accelerate, that added an air of irresponsibility to an already childish evening.

Gay Britain officially began boycotting Donna Summer (be cause of her homophobic statements) during the run of Pornography, which made the show's lip-synch to a song from her pre-Christian era another incorrect note.

It was technically a revue, but even that term implies more structure than was present. Some bits recalled workshops we used to have (What was the purpose, anyway?) in which we listed all the terms we could think of for various sexual organs and functions. To be sure, many in the audience responded to this, and to humor which amounted to dirty jokes told in the first person.

Two moments worth noting: Duncan Roy talking about his childhood movie memories, when he saw men penetrated by

Valentin likes women, but tries to pretend they're not as important to him as politics. He opens up in the course of the play to new insights about himself and the world, while Molina, a real "Chatty Cathy," entertains him by relating the plots of Cat People and other films. When they inevitably make love, it's staged as a dance - an ideal '40s movie meta-

As Molina, Eric Presland gave the best performance I've Song Trilogy, conveying the character's flamboyance without camping up a storm. Neil Stewart brought something more than good looks to the role of Valentin, but it was obvious where the casting priorities lay.

Kiss of the Spiderwoman was done previously in Paris, New York, and Berlin. Hector Babenco's film version with William Hurt and Raul Julia (expanded to include a major role for Sonia Braga) is awaiting release. The London premiere was nothing fancy, although the lighting was relatively extravagant, and the price (equal to \$2.60 top) was a bargain.

Shows in London's mainstream theaters during my visit, apart from an unsuccessful revival of Butley, had surprisingly little Gay content. We'll go into what they did have in the next

S. Warren

# SPAY AREA REPORTERS SPORTS & FITNESS

**FITNESS EIGHTIES** 

## Roland St. Pierre

You're Never Too Old To Get in Shape

by Paul Trefzger

ou say you're a little beyond 40 and consider yourself too, uh, mature, busy, tired at the end of the day to start working out? Come on! Puh-leeze! Can we talk? You think you're too old and out of shape. Well, bull.

I interviewed Roland St. Pierre, a volunteer Nautilus instructor at the Central YMCA, who is 61. He was referred to me by his boss, Rob Goldstein, assistant physical director. Roland was anxious to talk.

"I feel the need to let people who are mature know that it is possible to do everything," he said. "I had a stroke two and a half years ago and I'm in great shape and feel great. I feel that many mature Gay people have a tendency to vegetate, as opposed to 'I'm alive,' 'I have vitality,' 'I can be a part of the mainstream of physical fitness, physical activity.' I took a person around the gym who is over-weight and he said, 'I feel so out of it. Everybody looks so good. I told him, 'It takes a little time. Not to mention that you always notice the ones with the great bodies. Then there's another reaction. I took another guy through. He got into it and became a very 'up' person. He just attacked - in a positive way the Y. He went into everything immediately. He lost eight pounds, feels great, said he feels

I asked his age.

"I think he's around 57. The first person I mentioned just hasn't gotten into it. He's still frightened, still intimidated. That can happen. You go down to the showers and everybody seems to look better than you do. But it's just not so. I got into fitness when I quit smoking three years ago and found myself gaining weight. I decided to go to the gym, but I felt intimidated. I felt that the only things I could do were to run and to swim. I was terrified of things that involved other people. Then one evening as I was running, I watched the aerobics class in the gym below the running track. I thought, 'Hey. Maybe I can do that.' Before long I was really enjoying it. People were saying 'Hi' and talking to me. All of a sudden I didn't feel small, nellie, and old. I felt I was a part of the Y, which was a great feeling for

"When Rob asked me to be an instructor," St. Pierre continued, "I said, 'Surely you've got to be kidding.' I had all of these negatives. He said, 'That's exactly why I want you in there.

"I do Nautilus three times a week. I use the new rowing machine. It's real smooth and a good over all front body machine. Now don't quote me on this, but I think it's great for, because it uses, your legs, torso, arms, and abdomen. It's a wonderful, sweeping, graceful, allinclusive smooth exercise. I do slow aerobics twice a week. This is great for people who are overweight, out of shape and/or have never exercised. And I work with my friends," who, he told me, are in his approximate age group. I wondered if he bugged" his friends on fitness.

"Some," he said, "I got to

work out. Some were just impressed with the difference that they saw in me. Most of my friends are reacting positively. Two friends I'm currently working with, well, one, I noticed he was beginning to gain weight and I got on his case. Now he has a 27-inch waist and looks fabulous. I could kill him. He dieted and used Nautilus. If you combine the two it works beautifully.

I quizzed St. Pierre on his

"I watch my diet to a degree, he said. "I'm fairly stable. My weight varies between 133 and 140. If I reach 139, I diet and eat only vegetables for a couple of days. I guess I really don't have a diet problem. My physician is aware of my regimen and is very happy. I'm sort of under his supervision. I'd had my stroke and was getting into my fitness routine when he said, 'I'll see you in a year and then I probably won't want to see you again.' I said, 'I don't want to see you, sweetheart. It's not a priority on my list of things to

On free weights, "They intimidate me. I'm satisfied with my program. I'm not trying to build. But I want to put on a swimsuit and say, 'Hey. I look good enough to go to the beach and . . . look good.' I don't run anymore, mainly because I don't have time.

"For money, I'm a hairdresser," he said. Roland didn't particularly care to give the name of the place. "I don't need any more customers. I'm basically retired and approaching Social Security.

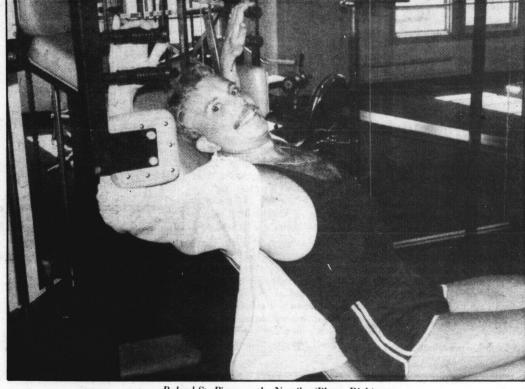
For fun, St. Pierre square dances at the 2140 Market (classes, Thursday nights: social, Sunday afternoon). The instructor is Skip Barrett of the Bay City Ramblers. Roland was pleased to inform me that "I sent one of my customers. He was 52 or 53 and a loner. He's ecstatic. He said, 'I'm so glad vou sent me.

This mature Pied Piper was born March 24, 1923, in Fort Edward, New York, "a little Revolutionary War village in the foothills of the Adirondacks.'

I asked about his youth.

"Did I ever do anything for fitness in my life? Never. I hated anything physical. If someone would've asked me when I was younger what I wanted to do I'd have never imagined that one day I'd be a Nautilus instruc-

He came to San Francisco in 1942. I asked if being Gay had anything to do with his relocation. He said, "No. I just wanted to move to a bigger city.

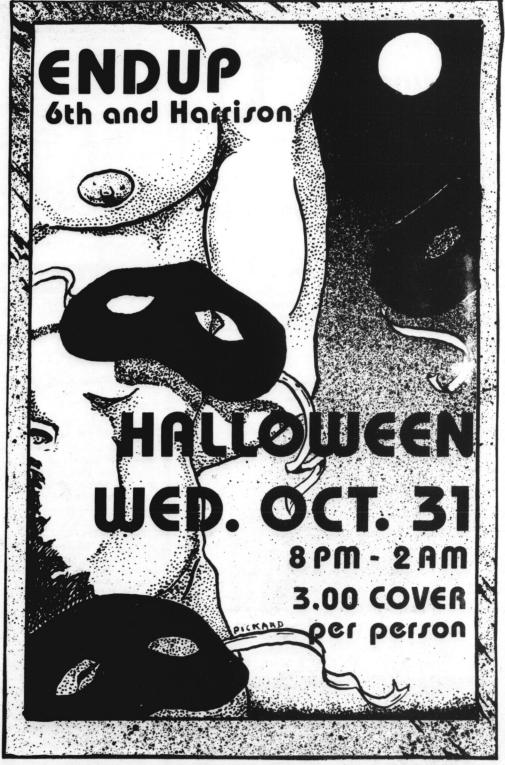


Roland St. Pierre on the Nautilus (Photo: Rink)

If it would've been for the Gay life, back then it would've been Los Angeles. I asked if there was anything

he wanted to impart to readers. "Well," he said, "the fact that there are so many gyms is an in-

dication that we're becoming more health conscious, and it's not a fad because I've seen too many people who've been coming to the gym for too long, and it just keeps growing. I know. There's one thing I really want you to get in. If there's anyone out there that's mature and interested in working out but is afraid, I want them to contact me. I'm at the Central Y on Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 12, and on Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. to 7."



## East Bay FrontRunners

## Running for the Life of It

by Charlie Linebarger

ay and Lesbian joggers formed the East Bay FrontRunners in July so that Gay men and Lesbians living in the cities of the East Bay would have an alternative to driving to San Francisco when they wanted to join a group of Gay people in a run. There are 30 to 35 people involved in the club's activities, according to Kevin Casey, one of the original founders of the club.

Several joggers who lived in the East Bay showed up for the San Francisco club's Lake Merritt run in Oakland back in June and, according to Casey, they exchanged phone numbers and decided it would be a good thing if they got organized. A few days later the club was founded.

itself is usually on a flat surface

and covers an area anywhere

from three to four miles. On the

third Sunday of every month the

East Bay club and the San Fran-

cisco FrontRunners get together

for a group run. Choice of loca-

tion alternates between San

Francisco and the East Bay. In

September the two clubs joined

for a run on Angel Island in San

"On October 21st the San

Francisco club is coming over

here," Casey said, "for a run up

Strawberry Canyon in the hills

behind the Cal campus in Ber-

keley. This is a gorgeous run,

with an incredible view of the

bay. It's on a fire road so it has

a good, even surface. We're

Francisco Bay.

"Our club has a definite purpose," Casey said. "We want to learn new trails. We try to include a different part of the East Bay in each of our runs. We've done runs as far north as Point Pinole, and as far south as Alameda Beach in Alameda. But most of our runs have centered around Berkeley. Basically, we try to focus on places of natural beauty.

Other goals of the East Bay club, according to Casey, are meeting new people who are interested in running, and group encouragement for each individual's running goals.

The club meets every Sunday at 9:20 a.m. to begin limbering up for the weekly run. The run

Goat Hill

planning on a three to four mile jog before we reach the hills (one and a half miles each way)."

Casey just turned 30 in July, and he said he began running on a regular basis three months before that. He had been an irregular runner before, he said, as well as a hiker and occasional swimmer. But this time, maybe because the big 30 was coming up, he decided it was time to get down to business.

He got himself a pair of good running shoes. In the past, when he'd started running, he'd always gotten injuries — things like shin splints, which are a pain along the inside of the shin bone caused by muscular imbalance due to running. To forestall injuries, he went on an exercise program at a local gym to make sure his lower and upper leg muscles remained in balance.

"I didn't want to start and then have to stop again all of a sudden," Casey said. "I'm a beginning runner, and I have to be careful about going at it too

hard or too fast. I'm in this as a regular fitness activity for the

One thing that is special about the East Bay FrontRunners is that Lesbians have taken an interest in the club. Beginning with a couple of women at the first runs, Lesbians now make up about a third of the club's members. Casey feels that having a co-ed club broadens the interests of its individual mem-

## Volleyball, Anyone?

Lesbian volleyball league is now forming. Darrell Adkins and Michael Hackett are the cochairs of the organizing commit-386-7515 or 752-8482.

While there have been various sports teams successfully organized and responded to by the Gay and Lesbian community, there is no Gay and Lesbian volleyball league. Perceiving

On the first Sunday of every other month the club has a business meeting at the home of a member to discuss possible runs and to decide who will be hosting forthcoming events. A host is responsible for making sure everyone knows where the route is and where the club will meet afterward for lunch. To Kevin Casey, good lunch among friends, after a hard run, is the best part of being an East Bay FrontRunner.

San Francisco's first Gay and tee. They can be reached at

this need, Adkins and Hackett have moved to organize the league, which already has had considerable enthusiastic

However, sponsors are still needed and additional players are being signed up. Supporters team include Dr. Tom Waddell, chairman of the Gay Games committee, Supervisor Richard Hongisto, and Sara Lewinstein and Hal Herkenhoff, both Gay Games committee members.

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HAWAII VACATION I (Week 3 of 37 - as of 9			2. Sutter's Mill I 3. 4 Coachmen + 1	7 7	1 1 2	THURSDAY COMM. (Week 2 of 32 - as of		-
1. El Rio II 2. Puhio's 3. Number 6 4. Mane Islanders 5. Lady and Tramps 6. Church St. Strikers 7. Number 9 8. El Rio Tartarugas #1 9. Alley-Oops 10. Number 10	8½ 8 7 6 5 5 4 3½ 2	3½ 4 5 6 7 3 8 8½ 6	4. Rag-Tags 5. Thing!!! 6. Quiet Fire 7. Rockin' Rollers 8. Number 10 9. Number 8 10. Number 6 11. Bananas w/o Att. 12. Number 1 13. Super "5" 14. Salsa Supremes	6 5 4 4 4 3 3 3 3	2 3 4 4 4 5 5 5 5 5	<ol> <li>Pendulum #1</li> <li>Pilsner Kingpins</li> <li>TP Dougalettes</li> <li>Vagabond</li> <li>Old Rick's Gold Rm</li> <li>2 Lefts + A Right</li> <li>Number 5</li> <li>Number 3</li> <li>Number 2</li> <li>Number 9</li> </ol>	7 6 5½ 4 3 2½ 2 2 2 2	1 2 2½ 4 1 5½ 6 6 6
WEDNESDAY COMM. (Week 2 of 32 - as of 19			15. Number 9 16. Gutter Girls 17. Pinhead II 18. Number 3	2 2 1 1	6 6 7 7	Bowling scores compile R. De Young.	d by J	lerry

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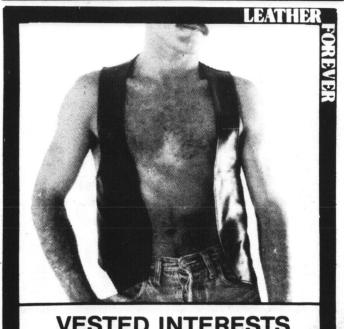
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## Rita Gets What She Deserves

After several years of hard test between incumbent Rick work in the Gay Softball League, Rick "Rita" Brattin was elected Commissioner for the 1985 season.

At a meeting attended by close to 90 players and fans at Chez Mollet, Rick won over nice guy Bill Luque of the Vagabond. There was very little to choose between the two candidates, but Rick's well-known 'Rita" won it for him. Bill congratulated Rick on his victory and pledged his continuing support of the GSL.

Newly elected Assistant Commissioner Francis Medeiros defeated The Rookies' Scott Mize for this post. Francis is a former board member, serving as Secretary five years ago. If enthusiasm is a prerequisite for this job, Francis will be spectacular. In a nice gesture, Scott moved that Francis win by acclamation. Everyone in the GSL knows how hard Scott works, and 1985

will be no different. Treasurer was a spirited con-

"Becky" Ritt and John Larisa of Moby Dick. Both have excellent accounting backgrounds, but the power of the incumbency proved too much for Larisa to overcome. John also echoed the theme of the evening by pledging his support to work for the

Ken Stewart was returned to office by winning a tight contest over Mike Tabeling of the Cafe Sn. Marcos. The "quiet" Secretary will return for his third year at the helm of the typewriter

Congratulations to everyone who ran. It only strengthens an already terrific organization. I hope everyone keeps that spirit of enthusiasm throughout the coming year. We shall see.

With the exception of Nov. 4, all remaining weeks of the fall season will be at Jackson Field. 17th and Arkansas. The Nov. 4 date will be at Rossi Field at Turk and Arguello.

meeting at Chaps. The agenda of new business is quite lengthy, so get there on time so we can get on with the business at hand. Meeting time is 12 noon.

Mark down Saturday, Nov.

10, as the next GSL league

On a personal note, I am saddened to announce the passing of a good friend of the GSL, Ron

Although he never played in the GSL, he was a staunch fan and supporter of the Phone Booth and Village teams. Ron had planned on playing in the league this coming season on the Rookies team.

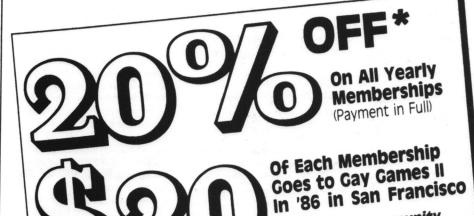
We all loved Ron very much and will miss him, but we will not forget him.

In his honor, at the Village Golden Bear Softball Classic, the True Spirit Award will now bear his name.



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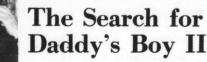
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## MR. MARCUS



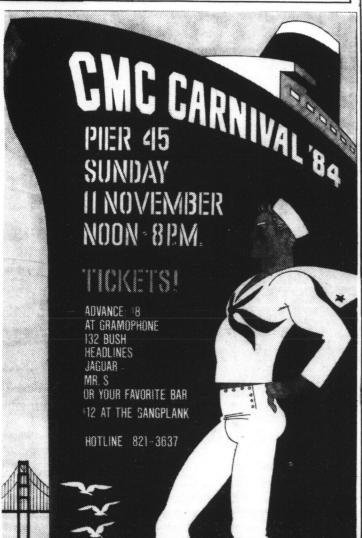
aising funds for all the AIDS groups can be painless. There have been numerous events during the past years to help the various programs do their much-needed work and this coming Sunday, Oct. 21, is one of the most popular to date. From 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. the SF AIDS Fund will host the Second Annual Leather Daddy's Boy Contest at the SF Eagle. The \$10 entitles you to all the free beer you can drink OR two well cocktails. The show will start promptly at 3:30 p.m. with Mary Buffet singing her little heart out and the Four Skins rocking the

house with their frantic jive, as well as the SF Men's Chorus. Jane Dornacker will auction off some of the items that have been donated, and the "stars" of the leather and porno galaxies will include Luke Daniel, Colt Thomas, Ron Moore, Sonny Cline, and Al Parker. The "boys" need not appear with their "daddies," but it might help reinforce the "image" if you're planning to compete. Applications are available from any bartender at the Eagle, and your \$10 admission fee includes a chance at many of the items to be raffled off. Sounds like a great way to spend the afternoon

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OCTOBER 18, 1984

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patio of the Eagle. Hope to see all of you there.

I hope you've had a chance to catch the exciting art show at the AMBUSH by Tony de Rosa. This man's work is much admired, and has been for years. The show currently on the walls at the 'Bush has drawn Tony's fans from as far away as Los Angeles, Boston, and Wisconsin. His distinguished record dates back to 1969 when he did so much wonderful graphics work for the Gay Liberation Front in Los Angeles. Much of his work hangs in The McCadden Place Collection at 1428 No. McCadden Place in Hollywood, alongside works by Diego Rivera, Federico Contu, and others. Some of his best work was posters and picket signs. LA's most famous activist, Morris Kight, has high praise for the works, and three of his major efforts are part of the permanent McCadden Place collection. I hope you will have a chance to see the current exhibit at the

Another leather man in our midst is jubilant about his latest effort in the cookbook department. Ron Johnson, the highly iconoclastic unnamed leader of the RAINBOW M/C, is enjoying all the attention being given to his latest culinary tome. Watch this column for an update on a book-signing in celebration of this South of Market gastronomical innovator. It's not every day you can rub shoulders with men who are and have prominently been listed in Who's Who in America.

#### OF MICE & MEN (BUT MOSTLY MEN)

If your current bridge group s getting boring, or you're sick of S&S (standing & staring) in the local watering holes, you COULD earn cash and prizes at the Pride Center's weekly Bingo games every Tuesday night beginning at 7:15 p.m. Funds generated from these games are support of the foundation

itself, the Gay Men's Chorus, and Gay Games II . . . Hey. they're serving Bar-B-Que at the Mint every night now with all dinner entrees at a bargain \$7.50 with your choice of pork ribs, chicken, hot links, etc. I don't think the Mint will be moving to Divisadero, but they're giving Do-City a run for their money. according to a barbecue connoisseur I know . . . Likewise, at DON RAMON'S, they're now serving Sunday brunch from 1100 to 1500 with some tantalizing South of Z Border plates which have the locals in an uproar . . . The Barbary Coast Cloggers raised some \$500 showing the videotape of their wonderful appearance at the World's Fair in New Orleans which was promptly donated to the Hospice of SF; they're having a beer bust at the SF Eagle Sun., Oct. 28, as an AIDS benefit from 1500-1800 for a measly \$6, so join in the fun . . . Halloween is just around the corner, and if you find yourself stranded in L.A. (heaven forbid), you (Continued on next page)



Bob McQuinn (r.) does a victory stomp after winning an Endup Jockstrap Contest recently. It was his last day in town on a visit from Indianapolis. (Photo: Rink)

#### MARCUS

might want to check out the 25th Annual GGRC Halloween Ball at the Hollywood Palladium. This being their quarter-century event, the theme is: Silver, and the admission price is only \$15,

with the Grand Prize being \$1,000 and \$1,500 more in prizes Saturday night, Oct. 27. The event this year is not without sadness because Ray Harrison, founder of GGRC (Gay Girls Riding Club), passed away earlier this year while on a Carribean cruise and left the Ball to his long-time friend, Ms. Freida. If you want to attend, send your check or money order to: GGRC Halloween Ball, PO Box 46276, Los Angeles, CA 90046 or call (213) 852-0732. This one is ALWAYS a great function that doesn't rip you off either . . . It was inevitable: A Gay Ski Club called SAGA NORTH. They're having a fashion show of the latest ski fashions for men AND women on Sunday, Nov. 11, for a \$2 admission charge in conjunction with the opening of a new ski store. They meet the first Sunday of every month, so call Jeff Sahl at 824-8112 if you're the type who likes to cruise the slopes . . . The Constantines M/C will have an open meeting on Fri., Oct. 26, at the RAM-ROD and will show the videotape of their run show beginning at 8:30 p.m. And NO, there is no truth to the rumor that the whole club is boycotting the CMC Carnival. Al Martino may have his own personal res-

ervations about the carnival, but

isn't he entitled to do so? They

will not have a booth this year

either because they can't afford

it, and they haven't made any

money on it in the past three

vears, so the rumor-mongers

may take a hike to about 1,000

miles below the earth . . . The

first coronation of the Imperial

dinner prizes . . . DOT, DOT, DOT, DISH

The CMC (California Motor Club) has announced in advance that it will announce at its Carnival (Nov. 11) all the names of those people who bounced checks to attend its 4th of July Run (?) . . . Have you noticed how many times they play

Movie Capital Court of Holly wood will be held on Wed. Nov. 21, at Trouper's Hall in L.A. as an AIDS benefit. Since all this royalty crap is SUP-POSED to be CAMP (but isn't, at least in SF), the LA girls are pouring it on THICK. The new emperor and empress of Hollywood will recieve: maps to the homes of the stars; beauty tips from VERONICA VA VOOM: a tour of the dirty movie houses by SUZY PARKER (she learned it from LaKish); fashion tips from GO-GO at the L.A. Stud Bar; boxing lessons from Jay Bevilacque of the OEDIPUS M/C; and many, many more absolutely worthless gifts. Now that's camp. The new court is hoping for donations from our current rulers, like free drinking lessons from Emperor Rich Carle, emergency ambulance coupons from Dowager Duchess Vinny Russell, a giant shitstirring spoon from Dowager Duke Lee-ona, or Awards Ceremonies Tips from Empress Remy. It's so strange that the true meaning of CAMP, which started here, is practiced with expertise in Hollywood . . . Anthony Bruno, the Los Angeles dude who tries to show us how to put on leather contests, is now working at the IN THE MEANTIME in Hollywood. In the meantime for what? . . . Another Halloween Party you might want to attend and win money at is Don Ramon's on Fri., Oct. 26 - they're converting the place into a disco with \$250 cash in prizes to be awarded around 11 p.m. and other

"Love Your Magic Spell Is around with sore feet — they're Everywhere" at the local bars practicing for A Date at Minsky's at the Russian Center on whenever David Sarathain walks in ALONE? . . . Did you Sat., Nov. 17, and brought to notice the mob scene at the you by those lovable GDI's . . And no. the WARLOCKS M/C Vagabond Inn on Van Ness last is NOT having a joint run with night? Representatives from Surgicenter, those people who one of the other clubs, either can operate on your anatomy for one-day, two-day, or three-day, Also, there will be no Witches penis enhancement, were giving Christmas party this year, and that's FINAL... Overheard at a lecture for \$25 a head and I saw several people standing in the EAGLE last Saturday: line as I drove by. I dasn't men-Leather Queen #1 (denying be tion their names HERE . . . Don't forget the Garage Sale for ing a bottom): "The only thing Sen. Milton Marks this Sat., I want next to my asshole is Oct. 20, at 2301 Market (at Noe) toilet paper." Leather Queen #2: "The whole roll?" Onward! from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with

a raffle for two trips to Hawaii . . . There was a big mob scene . Also, the BRIG's annual at Trocadero Transfer last Sunday night for the premiere of Oktoberfest kicks off this Satur-SYLVESTER's new album: day with German delicacies and continues until next Thursday, M-1015. Upon hearing the name of the party, Bubbles Abramson Oct. 25 . . . People walking

was heard to snip: "I wonder why they used such a short serial number?"...Don't forget the FINAL Bare Chest Contest at the ARENA tonight (Thurs., Oct. 18). They'll be naming Mr. December 1985 and a lot of HUNKS will be on hand to compete for this one . . . Byron the BIG, a bartender of some repute, formerly of L.A., is now doing his thing in Palm Springs. After he met Tom Sanford (Sally) who owns the Mirasol Village Motel (and formerly of Toad Hall here), he promptly dubbed Byron as HIS BIGNESS, a name true to life on a man true to life, dishing the Desert Queens in his column in Compass Magazine.

Mister Marcus



Revelers at the Castro Station anniversary party last week. (Photo: Rink)



You will find Marlowe (formerly of the Club Dori) now on the planks at Bill Giddings' popular Bradley's Corner working days Thursday thru Sunday . . . You can just fall out of bed now and roll down the hill and make it to work in time; can't you, Marlowe? It was sure nice visiting you the other day, but you have a lot to learn about

making burritos. Here's wishing Randy Dulaney, the DJ technician at the Tavern Guild's very successful picnic, a happy birthday on the 19th . . . Is Tommy Hall going to trade you in on someone a little younger now that you will be 27 years old?

Mentioning birthdays, a happy belated one to Lucy of the White Swallow who celebrated his (33 years old) on Wednesday (yesterday) the 17th . . . and a happy birthday to Jay (Ethel) Noonan, who will be celebrating his on the 23rd. Yes, I know you are a decade younger than I am,

Nora of Oakland was so loud last Saturday she drowned out the noise of the Blue Angels that were flying low over the city . . . but we love you, Nora.

Luigi, our retired real estate tycoon, has gone to Mexico and

ZIST SI BARTLETT

285-3000

left his handome Danny behind understand he's going to ake you there in December, Danny, but in the meantime. stop in for a drink and a chat or

After Dark is a fantastic show at the Alcazar Theater at 650 Geary . . . for tickets and information call 775-7100 . . . even Jose, who saw the show last week, was overwhelmed by such talent and great costumes designed by the star, Christer Lindarw . . . don't miss this one, and remember that Googie's is just four doors away for a cocktail before or after seeing this great show . . . yes, Eric Nessi is the wardrobe (lady) on this one, and there are 106

The Gate at Pine and Jones has finally opened for dinners and is serving Wednesday thru Saturday from 5:30 p.m. Call 885-2852 for information . . . ilso Sunday brunch from 11 a.m. 'til 4 p.m., and the food is delicious, so give it a try.

changes in the 75-minute perfor-

mance . . . a lot of work for all

Don't miss Shirley MacLaine at the Orpheum Theatre. She opened last evening and will be here thru the 4th of November.

Understand Art White of the

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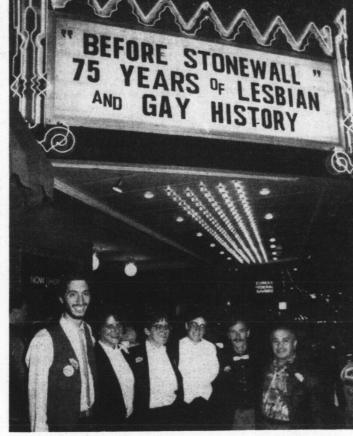
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BETWEEN CASTRO AND FOLSOM STREETS



Some of the people responsible for the movie at the opening of Before Stonewall. (Photo: Rink)

## Karl's Calendar

buy a bar by himself.

Twin Peaks Tavern has a nev

lover and co-worker . . . 1 thought you were ordered not to

have any more affairs with the

employees because they always

quit after romancing you . . .

just kidding, Art, and can't wait

Yes, the Mother Lode on Post

Street still has the one and only

Reba on the planks, and rumor

has it that Reba is even sober

these days . . . thanks for the in-

Remember to play safe, be-

That madwoman of Portland,

Mame, will be in town the last

weekend of October, so watch

out, South of Market . . . the

last Mr. Hunky Guy will be

chosen tonight at the very popu-

lar dance bar, the Arena, so

don't miss out on this one. The

calendar should be ready in

early November - you don't

want to miss having one for your

collection . . . understand Carl

and Larry have some surprises

in store for the introduction of

Allan Scott's Seth is back

from Florida to live permanent-

ly. I understand he is going to

cause the life you save may be

formation, Carrot Top.

to meet your latest . . . and

thanks for the phone call.

Compiled by Karl Stewart

this calendar.

Thursday, 10/18: Final Bare Chest Contest, Arena, 9 p.m. check-in, 10 p.m. contest; Mr. December on 1985 Calendar.

Friday, 10/19: Market St. Anthology, Theater Borgia, South of Market Cultural Center, 934 Brannan St., 8 p.m., \$5, director Ralph Odom. BC/MC Run Tape Showing, Men's Room, 8 p.m

Saturday, 10/20: Dress Sale, Men's Room, 10 a.m. on, hosts: BC/MC (also Sunday, 10/21). Cal Eagles MC Kegger, SF Eagle, 3

to 6 p.m., \$6. German food and beer Reverse Koktail Hour, Kokpit, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Cocktail hour

## Correction

Tony Sbragia's art show opening at Moby Dick was incorrectly reported in the las ssue of the Bay Area Reporter. It will open Oct. 25, not Oct. 11. prices, 75 cents (also Sunday)

Sunday, 10/21: 49er Football, l p.m., The Special, The Village, Trax, Men's Room, Kokpit (free drinks w/49'er TD's, and food in A Class Act, ACIE Investiture, An-

tonino's, 23700 Hesperian at Winton, Hayward, Emprs Doug and Billy cocktails 5 p.m., dinner 6 p.m., show p.m., \$12 includes all (no-host bar). Search for a Leather Daddy's Boy SF Eagle, 3 to 6 p.m., \$10. Hosts: Ir terchain and SF AIDS Fund, benefits AIDS patients. Judges: Al Parker, Luke Daniels, Colt Thomas, Ron Moore, Christian Haren, Sonny Cline. Paul Mager.

Beaux Arts Ball (costume ball). Galleria, 7 p.m., \$20 and \$30 adv.

Monday, 10/22: Mr/Miss TG Tammy Lynn and Alan, Kokpit, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, 10/23: Comedy Roast of Danny Williams, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., 8 p.m., \$5, with Tom Ammiano, Laurie Bushman, Jane Dornacker, Marga Gomez, Teresa Holcomb, Curt Jones, Monica Palacios, Karen Ripley, and more

Wednesday, 10/24: Dynasty Night, 9 p.m., SF Eagle (Dinner \$4), Trax,

The Coits of San Francisco held an annual election of of ficers Oct. 9. President Ton Turner was reelected to preside over the club's activities for the coming year Dixon Olivieri was named vice president, his first term as a Coit officer. Paul Johnson was chosen as treasurer, having served this past year as the club vice president. Bill McDowell, a junior member of the club, was elected recording secretary. Ed Durity will assume the duties of cor responding secretary.

Primarily chartered as social club, the Coits of San Francisco is currently celebrating its 22nd year of community involvement providing organiz ed social activities, promoting fundraisers, and participating in other charitable activities.

The Special, Men's Room, Village,

Pastels, Moby Dick, reception 6 p.m.

## **Coit Officers Elected**

Thursday, 10/25; Tony Sbragia's

## **BOOK RACK**

## The Youth's Quest — Yet Again

That Other Realm of Freedom Gay Men's Press: \$8.50

by Marv. Shaw

Simon Palmer.

he confused, insecure male S.F. PREMIER **USA's 4 HOTTEST YOUTHS** 

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adolescent plunges off on his own to find his true identity and his life role. This eternal narrative is usually completed when he confidently enters his young manhood. With the appearance of the explicitly Gay novel, the problems of coming out complicate and sometimes prolong the process. Such s the case with Nonweiler's

Scots/English Simon leaves his family to move to Glasgow with his cousin Annie and her lover Phillip to study for a degree and prepare to teach. Subsequently, he moves to London to complete his thesis, returns to Glasgow briefly with that project unfinished, then bolts to New Zealand, where a teaching post offers more sta-

This kind of odyssey is familiar, and most join what is now

a long line of Gay novels about coming out. Well, as a coculture, haven't we gone beyond this preoccupation? Not when the treatment is as comprehensive and incisive as Nonweiler's; not when the style is this original and arresting.

The gallery of supporting characters is a cross-section of familiar Gays: the fake-macho, abusive Frank; the prissy, middle-class Bernard; the alcoholic, self-hating Kevin; the intent, dedicated Nick; and many more. With these and sundry others, the author shows us who we are collectively.

Collective effort gets its attention, too, as Simon tries Gay liberation, with disillusioning results, until he combines his raised Gay consciousness with his growing Socialist convictions. He discovers that a small but doughty band is better than an amorphous Gay Freedom

But the problem that really plagues Simon is his inability to mate successfully. He feels achingly unwhole without a real lover. The title phrase, from an Edward Carpenter poem, becomes a realization that is a better fulfillment than a romantic

We get everything through Simon's intensely-sensitized consciousness, an artistic propellant that keeps us reading. While still a comparative innocent, he awakens from a Gay wet dream with "the cold, gelatinous fluid inching its way down his thighs like the pollutant slime of some symbolic snak e.' And as he approaches the brink of maturity, he muses, "Loves are like stars scattered in the darkness . . . never burning out, only always growing fainter or

I have three small reservations. Alcohol soaks the story never a more sodden bunch of Brits. Most of the settings deserve the English term "grotty. Sometimes Simon deserves an exasperated kick in the ass.

But these are minor cavils. Nonweiler has used a universal pattern to show us to ourselves and the world in realistic but

## Gay Men Take to Zen

Zazen in the Castro

What we call 'I' is just a swinging door which moves when we inhale and when we exhale.

— Shunryu Suzuki-roshi, Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind

that existence is Something and No-

thing. Something and Nothing - that

On one of my first meetings

with Issan Dorsey, I asked him,

"Why aren't you Tommy Dor-

- Issan Dorsey

is the nature of the universe.

alf a block to the west is the Twin Peaks Bar, half a block to the north is the Midnight Sun, but little Hartford Street with its wood frame Victorian homes, its flowering eucalyptus, red plum trees, its rose bushes and marigold beds, feels miles away from commerce and cruising. It is home to Winnifred Davis, whose parents bought their house during the Depression on the day she was born. It is also the home, at number 57, of the Hartford Street Zen Center, a place where Gay men practice the Japanese Buddhist meditation called zazen. in the void. Suddenly I understood

"'I discovered the spirit,' I told a student at Page Street Center, 'in high school choir.' She smiled. 'Spirit . spiritus . . . do you know what spiritus means?' I did, and when I remembered I felt the chill of rediscovering something vital. 'Oh my God, it means

sey and why aren't you an Irish alcoholic?" With his beguiling In the practice of zazen "life becomes," as Suzuki-roshi said, and straightforward smile he "an art." Zen has been called looked at me and said, "I am. "the artless art" because one applies the concentration and Since I've been in this place, since awareness usually associated I've been recognized and accepted more by the Zen community, my ef with artistic endeavor to one's total being, both demeanor and fort has been to make practice available to Gay people. As Aitkin-roshi (leader of a zendo in Hawaii) said to spirit. This is achieved through meditational form, zazen, me, "As long as you're in the closet which is introduced in about 20 you can't practice." If you're in the minutes every Saturday morncloset, you're not practicing Zen. ing on Page Street or on Tuesday evening at Hartford Street. Dorsey has lived a colorful Accustomed to the great mystics life, though "colorful" might not of Christianity like Meister be the word he himself would Eckhart and Saint John of the use to describe his years of drug Cross, or of Judaism such as addiction, female impersona-Rabbi Hillel and Jesus of Nazation, and many close brushes reth, we think of meditation and with death. prayer as the gift of the spiritually inspired — unavailable, unattainable, and forgotten by the despairing mass of the rest of us. In zazen simplicity and difficul-

ty are wed: you sit on a black

pillow called a zafu placed on a

black mat called a zabuton.

With absolutely straight spine,

legs crossed left over right to

symbolize the passive over the

active, and the hands in a spe-

cific mudra, you count your

breaths to ten, and then you

count to ten over again for 40

minutes. You sit counting your

breaths in a group consisting of

both adepts and basic schlep-

pers, and at the end of 40 min-

utes the big bell and the little

gong ring, you bow and process in a formalized way. That's all.

Because these wings are no longer

But merely vans to beat the air

The air which is now thoroughly

"I was born in Santa Barbara on March 7, 1933, which is the feast of St. Thomas Aguinas, Issan says, implying that he and the saint had a date since Day One. This urge toward spirituality encountered complications which are familiar to Gay men and Lesbians. "I was supposed to go to junior college and I wasn't supposed to be Gay, Issan says, "and all these things were going through my mind, and I thought, 'This isn't me, so I joined the Navy.'

Life was such smooth sailing for Dorsey he didn't even care when he and his sailor lover were uninvited to the Navy's party.

"I seemed to always have had a rebellious tendency," he says, "and anything I would hear about that you weren't supposed to do I couldn't wait to get into.

once in Alaska and once in Manhattan, "In fact," he recalls without distress, "they were driving my body to the East River to throw it in when they realized I wasn't dead. Once my parents showed up at the 118 Club on Turk Street when I was doing a show . . . The person who

used to be the bouncer was someone named Bunny who was a big Lesbian - the last I heard she was in jail for murder - I mean, it was an outrageous place. I was a speed freak and alcoholic at this time, and I came out onstage in a solid red sequinned straples gown with a slit up one side par

Diahann Carroll.

Arriving in San Francisco at the

'In fact, they were driving my body to the East River to throw it in when they realized I wasn't dead.'

Issan Dorsey

small and dry Smaller and dryer than the will Teach us to care and not to care

"Ash Wednesday The reader has a right to

know the writer's biases. There is much about the aesthetics of Zen — its sparseness and orderliness — that appeals to me. I like a religion in which meditation is central and the burden of work is on the worshipper, not God. I like both the strict discipline and lack of dicta. Zen does not, like Fundamentalist Christianity, besmirch God with goods or proselytize with propaganda. It does not need to. Likes and dislikes have nothing to do with why one practices zazen.

When I was young, I saw a painting in National Geographic of Neptune and its moons, gigantic spheres

height of the Beatnik era, there was plenty to satisfy his nonconformist urges. He started working at Ann's 440 Club, and that proved the gateway to little names like T.C. Jones, then a famous female impersonator. and big names like Lenny

"Ann Dee and I produced a play called Buy Me Blue Ribbons," he said. "Lenny rewrote it. I started shooting heroin with Lenny. I had been snorting heroin before that with a Black rock and roll singer named Aggie Dukes who worked on Broadway. I fell in love with her. She had my ass on the street getting money for our drugs. She was my daddy." Winning a number of drag contests around the city transformed Dorsey into Tommy Dee, and so began a

Dorsey is now General Director of the Zen Center on Page Street and the chief advisor to Hartford Street Zen Center. Besides his work with the Gay community in the Castro, he is initiating a project working with street people in the Tenderloin

Issan Dorsey at the Hartford House. (Photo: Rink)

decade-long career in drag and

hustling, and a life on the road

"I realized I had a habit about

year before we went on tour,"

he said. "I cleaned up to go to

Alaska — just smoking pot and

taking pills and drinking — that

was called being cleaned up.'

Tommy Dee was in jail nine

times in Chicago - "The first

time I went to the State Farm I

had pink hair and plucked eve-

brows" - and nearly OD'ed

tomiming "All or Nothing At All" by

Asked when the spiritual life

began for him, Dorsey says,

"My sense is that I was always

a spiritual person, but it was the

misdirected urge to evolve that

accounts for the wrong direction

talks about the three events that

tial: his own depression after

years of drug dependency; the

friend; and seeing a picture of

going into Napa or someplace to

help with the depression," he

said. "A friend of mine had

heard Baker-roshi recommend

meditation as a way of dealing

with LSD syndrome/depres-

sion. After my friend Mark died

I was so moved I thought, 'Look

at you. How do you help people, what do you do?' So I decided

at that point to make a commit-

ment to this practice and to

Bluestein: Tell me the power of

Dorsey: I can't tell you the power

of zazen. The power of zazen is you.

There is no power in zazen - zazen

everything I need. Everything I need

is right here. The way to realize that

is you. It's the way I can know I have

working on myself."

zazen. What is it?

is through zazen.

Ramana Maharishi's face.

lrug-related death of a dear

"Actually I was thinking of

I took for fifteen years." He

- Issan Dorses

and in the clink

through the ranks of the Zen organ

Dorsey: I don't know. It's always sort of blown my mind. When I first started I went through every kind of physical and mental pain imaginable I started sitting once a day, and then I found out they were doing it twice. Then a one-day sitting, then five days, then seven days, then Tassajara . . . I just kept going into the next thing, which is the same thing I did with the

All or nothing at all.

One question the Gay Buddhist community keeps asking itself is: why a Gay zendo? Issan answers this in two ways. Page Street, he feels, has a middle class. White face which might make some Gay people nervous, and Hartford Street exists in the Gay community to make practice available to that community. Second, he feels that "the Gay community is a very strong spiritual community that hasn't realized itself yet. I talk about the misdirected urge to evolve. Fundamentally, we all have this basic urge to evolve spiritually. We misunderstand it. We fill the gap with other things. Gay people are a strong spiritual com munity unrealized.

When things are examined carefulmodern physics, they rest on the edge, the entry of arising and disappearing The process of meditation is to iden tify ourselves . . . in that emptiness that includes form and emptiness . . You, your aspiration, your making, is

- Richard Baker-rosh

We come back to ourselves. I sat zazen for a year, and after that year I thought to myself as I sat on the little black cushion 'This is doing nothing." Then I stopped sitting for a year until one day I realized that that's ex-

'One question the Gay Buddhist community keeps asking itself is: why a Gay zendo?'

eighborhood. It was through his efforts and those of Richard Baker-roshi, then the Page Street Abbot, that the meditation hall was equipped, monks encouraged to practice there, and a monthly financial grant

Bluestein: How did you move up

actly what zazen was - doing nothing but Nothing. It's something to limit activity to such an extent that it looks like nothing. It is very difficult to do nothing. It is ultimate self-awareness.

Teach us to care and not to care

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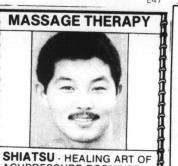
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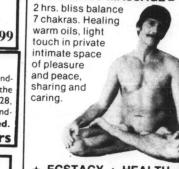


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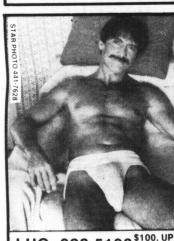
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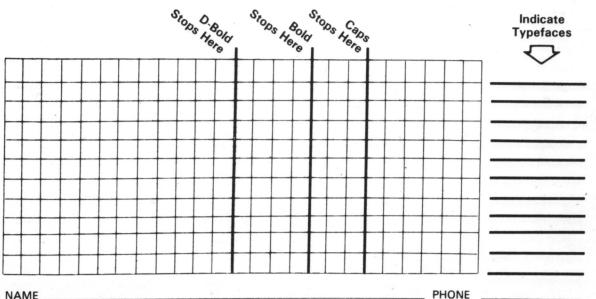
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Too-Too Much. Bulbous ballerinas make their appearance on Castro Street — part of a troupe of 60 on Saturday night. (Photo: Rink)

## Firemen Trash Gay Restaurant

Police Refuse to Investigate, Make No Arrests in Attack

by Allen White

Five members of the San Francisco Fire Department have been identified as suspects in the violent brawl at the Gay Casa de Cristal restaurant on Saturday, Oct. 20. The brawl began when the firemen made anti-Gay slurs at waiters and a patron, continued when they assaulted one patron and the restaurant owner, and ended with bottles flying and tables

Police called to the scene refused to enter the restaurant. Although police went to the firehouse where the firemen work, they did not make any arrests. As this edition of the Bay Area Reporter went to press, no charges had been filed in the brawl.

The primary victim of the attack was Bill Moore, a restaurant customer who works as a bartender at the newly opened Hard Rock Cafe. The straight man was at the restaurant hav-

friends when the fight broke out. Tony Vaughn, a customer at the Polk Street area restaurant, said the fight resembled a bar brawl "just like in the movies."

ing dinner with two women

Robert McNamara described the firefighters as loud and abusive. Randy Hanson, the waiter for the group, endured an on-slaught of homophobic slurs from the San Francisco firemen. "Wouldn't you just love to have me pull out my cock?" one fireman reportedly said. Another firefighter reportedly said, "Bet you would love to have a penis in your mouth.

Witnesses said the firemen were making "fag" and "pansy" remarks. One of those who was a target was Bill Moore. He and his two friends chose to have dinner at the restaurant. Last Saturday night at 10 p.m. the restaurant was filled to capacity. There was a waiting list as people had drinks at the bar of the P.S. Restaurant next door.

Sitting at an adjoining table, have yet to identify the second | Moore and the women he was continual stream of anti-Gay re-

marks. The comments became so loud and so hostile that owner George Sanders asked the firemen to leave.

As they started to depart, one of the men turned to Moore and called him "a fucking pansy. Moore stood and made a remark about one of the firemen's mother. At that, the members of the San Francisco Fire Department attacked Moore. The men. as they pummeled Moore, sent glasses, dishes, and chairs

Several waiters tried to pull Moore away from the firemen. They were able to move him to the other side of the restaurant. As he was being held, dazed and bleeding, the firemen went after Moore, throwing glasses and dishes in their path to the floor. They attacked Moore again, beating him to the floor.

At 10:08 the first phone call was received by the police saying there was a fight. One minute later Harry, a waiter, called, frantically saying "patrons in the restaurant are throwing bottles and glasses" and that "this was getting out of hand." Two minutes later, Sanders called the police saying he believed the five were firemen.

By this time the firemen had with were forced to endure the done their damage and were

## Man Confesses to 2 Teens' Murders

ported Wednesday afternoon that a 42-year-old ex-convict

has confessed to the murder of 15-year-old Theodore

Gomez last month. William Melvin White also led homi-

cide detectives to a location

near Land's End where the

decapitated, dismembered body of another young man was discovered Tuesday after-

Authorities in Salem, Ore-

gon, arrested White on sex

charges last weekend. After

telling police there that he had murdered a man in San

Francisco, he was taken to the

city where he admitted both

The body of young Gomez was discovered in Golden

Gate Park on Sept.22. He had died of multiple stab wounds.

Homicide investigators

victim, described as a teenage

murders.

street person.

## Commissioner Jo Daly: Whose Side Is She On?

A NEWS ANALYSIS

Smiling Photos With Anti-Gay Cop And Candidate Kevin Starr

by Allen White

Many in San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay community have seriously begun to question whether Jo Daly, Lesbian police commissioner, is selling out her roots — San Francisco's Gay community. Holding one of the highest appointive offices in the city, she has recently been the subject of two highly controversial articles in the San Francisco Examiner.

On Sunday, Aug. 19, as the minister and police chaplain active Gay political community and many police officers were reacting to an inflammatory anti-Gay column by a splinter police group, "Cops For Christ," Daly took to the pages of the Examiner in an article authored by Larry Maatz. In the story, she defended members of "Cops For Christ" and never once was there any defense of the Gay community mentioned.

As she praised "Cops For Christ," she ignored the fact that Rev. Jim Sandmire, a Gay

Jo Daly (Photo: Rink)

Following the article, she said she stood by all the statements in the story. One comment in the story

Church.

stated that Supervisor Richard Hongisto was to introduce legislation primarily because members of the Gay community saw the "Cops For Christ" column and were "incensed and insulted

was humiliated and embarrass-

ed in the "Cops For Christ" col-umn. For weeks after the article

appeared, Jo Daly would not

return the phone calls of Sand-

mire, the pastor of the Golden

Gate Metropolitan Community

Sandmire stated to several

people that he was personally

hurt, not by the "Cops For

Christ," but by the total lack of

compassion or concern by Jo

Examiner columnist Larry Maatz quotes Daly as responding, "But Daly disagreed, 'I'm a pretty visible member of the Lesbian and Gay community, she said, 'and my phone sure hasn't been ringing off the hook

Her phone might have stayed (Continued on page 4)

# Immigration Rules Leave Couple Without a Country

Years-Long Struggle Leads to Order For Deportation of Australian Gay

by Charlie Linebarger

"... We do not find that the respondent's (Anthony Sullivan's) separation from his 'life partner' (Richard Adams) will cause him hardship, emotional or otherwise ..." So went the decision of the federal Board of Immigration Appeals in April, effectively classing Gay relationships in the same unrecognized limbo accorded to marriages between slaves before the Emancipation Proclamation.

