

AIDS Safe-Sex Guidelines[©] June 1984

SAFE SEX PRACTICES

- 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

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

© Bay Area Physicians For Human Rights (1984) (415) 673-3189

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
<input type="checkbox"/> Being fucked without a condom			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Fucking without a condom			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Being fucked with a condom		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fucking with a condom		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Getting sucked to climax			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Getting sucked - stopping before climax		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sucking to climax			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Sucking - stopping before climax		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Masturbation/jacking off	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Massage/hugging/dry kissing	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Watersports in mouth			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Watersports on skin		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rimming/scat			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Fisting			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharing dildos and sex toys			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Dildos and sex toys - not shared	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Body-to-body rubbing (frottage/tribadism)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Semen or urine in mouth or anus			■
<input type="checkbox"/> Cunnilingus		<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Contact with someone's blood			■
<input type="checkbox"/> 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



Hit the Ramp. It's Halloween, with Sunday's Beaux Arts Ball the kickoff for a week of celebration. For what's doing, see page 6. (Photo: Mick Hicks)

Judge Orders Baths to Close

Refuses to Hear Pleas Of Civil Rights Groups

by Brian Jones

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 based 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 graphic and specific, detailing precisely the kind of sex they saw taking place in the clubs.

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 (Continued on page 2)

Mayor Vetoes Anti-Bias Bill

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

by Brian Jones

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 the bill.

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

could be prevented from being 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 organizations or groups could be prevented from investigating desecrations of temples or burning of crosses," the Mayor said.

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

"Well, there are always silly excuses for not fighting discrimination. But when you use them instead of confronting discrimination, 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 could be overridden.

(Continued on page 3)

IN THIS ISSUE

KGO Radio talk show host is stirring up the airwaves with words such as "nigger" and "swish." Allen White tunes in p. 7

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 question p. 22

Are you too — uh — mature for working out? Meet Roland St. Pierre, 61. Paul Trefzger talks fitness p. 29



Modest Protest. While police cruisers filled the Castro, there was little protest of bathhouse decision. One exception was this small group outside 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'

by Brian Jones

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)



Dianne Feinstein (Photo: Rink)

Judge Orders Baths to Close

(Continued from page 1)

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 AIDS.

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.

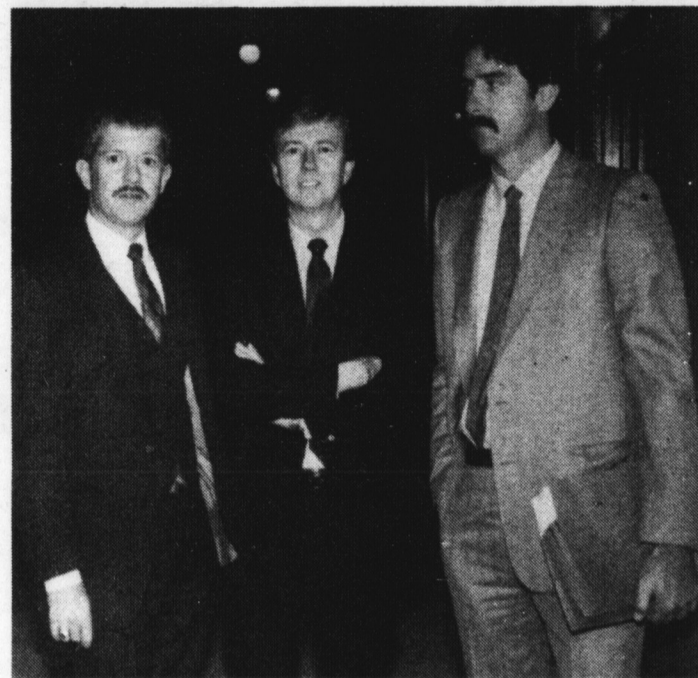
All multiple-sex contact behavior carries high risk for AIDS, the study indicates. Men in the study who reported five or more sex contacts per month were three times as likely to have AIDS as men who averaged less than one contact per month.

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)

halt the spread of AIDS. AIDS is not caused by places. All evidence indicates AIDS is primarily transmitted by specific behaviors which can take place anywhere."

Any behavior which involves the exchange of body fluids — be it sex, sharing of IV needles to shoot drugs, or (in very rare cases) the transfusion of blood or blood products — puts one at risk for AIDS, researchers have documented.

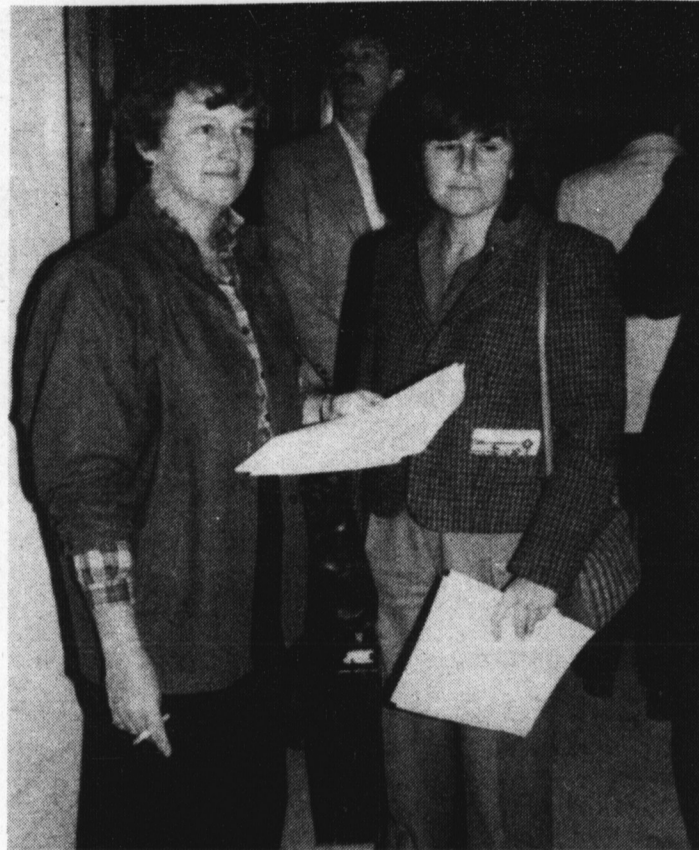
Mullins, in the hearing, refused to hear from civil rights lawyers, ruling that their concerns were not relevant. The issue, Mullins said, was a medical one.

The American Civil Liberties

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 by the court," said ACLU attorney Donna Hitchens.

The "strict scrutiny" review requires that there be no less restrictive way of fighting AIDS than interfering with Gay men's right to freely assemble, the ACLU brief argued.

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



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," Hitchens said.

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 baths.

In his ruling Monday, Mullins left open five establishments 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 Slot.

B. Jones

Mayor Vetoes Anti-Bias Bill

(Continued from page 1)

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 Gays.

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 "embarrassment."

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 thoroughly."

"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 said.

Christensen, who deals with 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 "saying 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 job at CUAV, echoed that theme.

"What happens is that police officers use their titles to make these statements and to give them credence. The result is that it leads to the citizen having a lack 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 fag-bashing victims not reporting the crimes because of low confidence the police will pursue them.

The Rev. Dave Smith, pastor of "His Way" ministry, spoke on a theme that would be repeated 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.

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 others.

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.

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 Ankrum at 626-7000 for more information and to RSVP.

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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 Gay 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).

"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 scene.

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 is 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 at-

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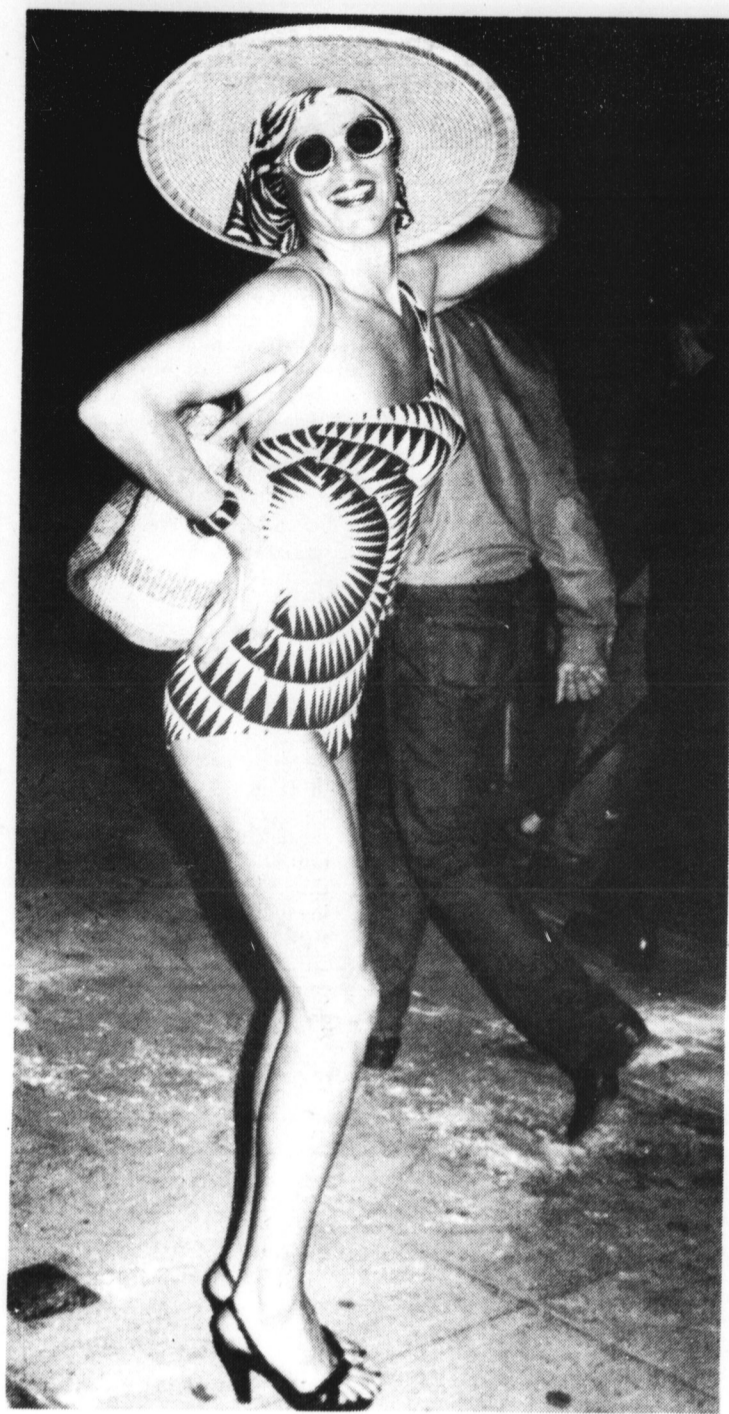
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Thousands to choose from **20% OFF**

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Roman goddesses, southern belles, sexy nuns—everybody's coming to Headlines this year to shop for Halloween

Headlines

1217 Polk
and now
557 Castro
Open 7 days a week



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

by Allen White

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.

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 spectacles 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 Foundation.

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 recording.

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 Halloween 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 tax 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 bad surprises.



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 July, 1981 is 723.

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 Control.

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 age.

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 program is designed to assist high-risk individuals to identify 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

by Allen White

Last week Morton Downey, Jr. terrorized KGO Radio in the late night hours with comments ranging from the closing 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 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 balance.

The first night Downey went on the air and said he was pro-life (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 entertainment 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 their closet."

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 guy.

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."

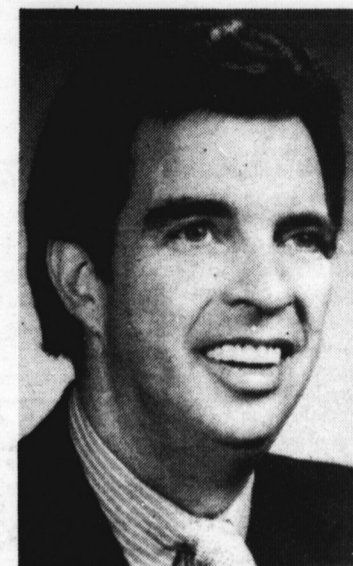
By Friday, KGO Radio was in a certain type of frenzy. One guy had threatened to come down to the station and blow the guy's head off with a shotgun.

They might have had a clue as to what to expect from Downey 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 Chink."

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 station.

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. Richardson.

It was speculated that Downey 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. ■



Morton Downey, Jr.

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 shave.

Prison, Jail Terms Given to Men in States St. Shoot-out

by Allen White

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 Castro area.

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 they made their way to States Street they were approached by the three robbers at gunpoint. which resulted in the guilty plea.

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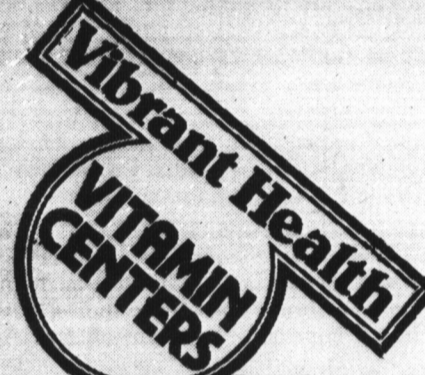
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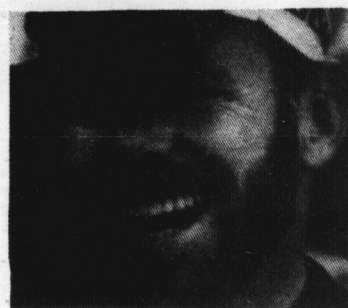
William (Billy) S. Gassaway

William Gassaway, better known to people throughout San Francisco as Billy Gassaway, died peacefully on Saturday, Oct. 13.

Billy was an active member of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, the Pajaro 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 churches 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 recently, Billy had worked to raise funds for AIDS research.

Billy lived life fully and shared his portion as if it were a banquet. He is survived by his mother, his sister, and a son, Bill. His lovers and friends will miss him sorely, recalling the joy that was Billy Gassaway.

Information about a remembrance gathering and services may be obtained from (415) 921-4869 or 558-2367.



Larry Weaver

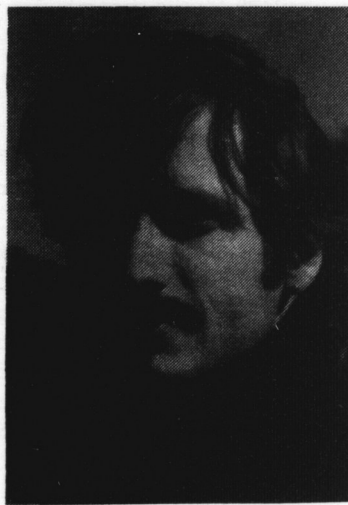
Larry Weaver, age 44, born in Green Valley, Iowa, resident of San Francisco for 20 years, teacher at San Francisco State College, landlord, died at Kaiser Hospital September 1984 of cryptococcal meningitis as a result of contracting AIDS. He is survived by a brother and sister and a companion. Larry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

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 House.



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 moment — because of a grin from you or a warm "Hi, gorgeous" and a hug from Frank, for 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.

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, for several years.

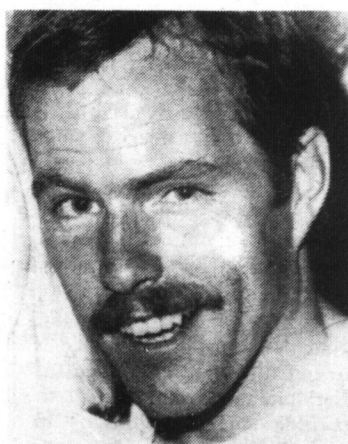
He was born Nov. 15, 1949, in Ogden, Utah, and grew up in Twin Falls. His parents, George and Pat Williams; his sister, Chris; and brother, Tim, live in Twin Falls.

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 representatives of the class of all district attorneys in the state had decided not to appeal the decision.

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,' 'mar-

ried,' or 'single.' There is only one privacy right, and its application and principles should be uniform."

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 extremely 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 challenges."

An interesting and ominous development in this case occurred

when the so-called "Dallas Doctors Against AIDS" filed an *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 minimizing the spread of AIDS.

"The case takes on added significance due to the involvement 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 disease.

"It's good to see that the 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: this was not the first time, nor undoubtedly the last time, that we have had to fight DDAA," explains Rubenfeld.

Lambda is continuing to organize a national project to challenge sodomy laws in the remaining nonreformed states. The project involves all of the Gay and Lesbian legal organizations and the national ACLU.

"It is extremely important for the Gay community — both women and men — to understand why challenging sodomy laws is a top priority of Gay and Lesbian legal groups," Rubenfeld said.

"Such laws are used against us in many ways well beyond simply arresting people for semi-public sexual activity. These laws are used to deny us rights in areas as diverse as custody 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.

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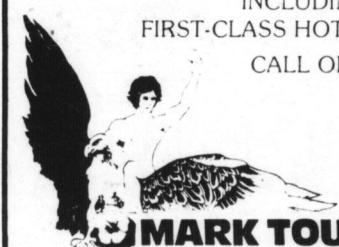
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For Some, Castro Is Prosperity Street

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 area.

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 al-

ways filled with customers. The lines still exist outside the Mid-night 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 Street.

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Anti-Fatwell Speaker. Harry Britt appears at Union Square rally as the Moral Majority comes to town. (Photo: Rink)

The Life and Times Of Harry Britt

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

by Mike Hippler

San 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 betrays his Texas origins, but this is certainly no good 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 become the main focus of his life — his homosexuality.

Instead, he explains, "I developed 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.

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 ever did."

Not 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 Club.

"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 niche.

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 highest-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 constituents.

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 II.

"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 at national rally for Lesbian and Gay rights in July. (Photo: Rink)

Life and Times of Harry Britt

(Continued from previous page)

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.

With this as the case, it is not 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 elections.

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 board. 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 us."

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-

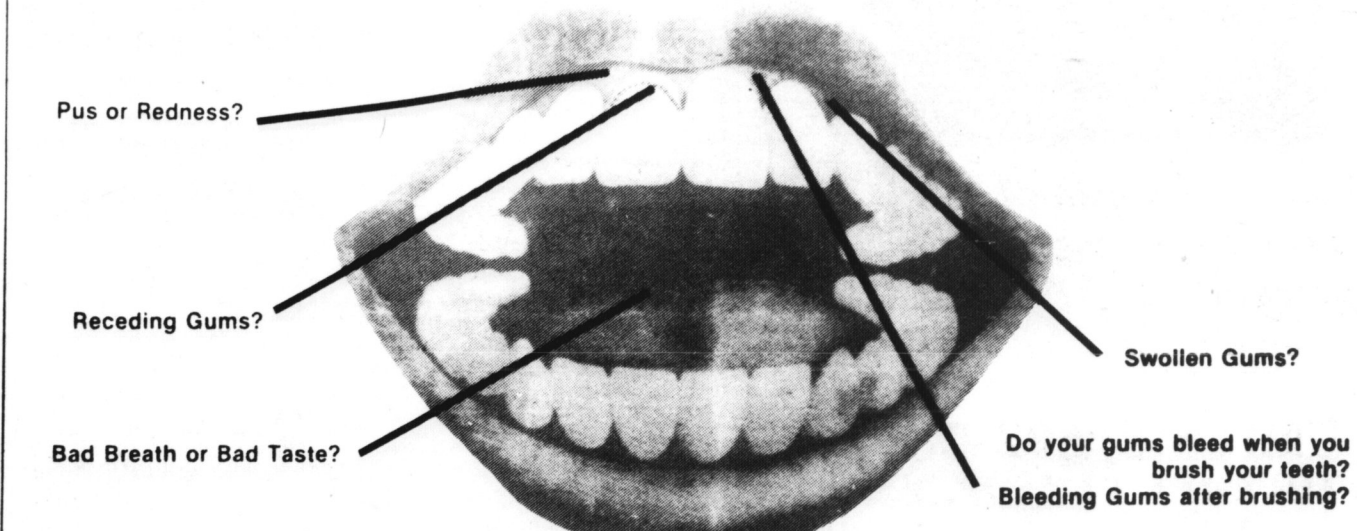
evitable.

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 Party.

"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 well.

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Life and Times of Harry Britt

(Continued from previous page)

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 criticism."

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 the issue.

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."

Despite controversies such as this, Britt obviously enjoys his 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 here."

Britt believes that his second-greatest 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' centers."

"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 seniors."

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



The Day It Began. Mayor Dianne Feinstein precedes Harry Britt off podium immediately following his appointment to seat vacated by assassination of Harvey Milk. (Photo: Guy Corry)

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 glad-hand everybody, and that's not natural to me."

New Program Provides Care in the Home for AIDS Patients

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 Jeanne 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 Francisco's AIDS Program, call Stephanie Wong, Intake Nurse, at (415) 285-5619.

A QUESTION OF LAW

Protection from Body Snatchers

TOM HORN



Do you have a question of law? If so, write us. Send your questions to: "It's a Question of Law" c/o the Bay Area Reporter, 1528 15th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. This column will attempt to give answers to questions presented that pose common situations, or are of general interest. Recognize, however, that individual cases vary as do the statutes in the various jurisdictions. It is advisable to seek a professional opinion before undertaking any action that may have legal implications.

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 death.

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 safer.

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 garage owner is not binding 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-in-common. Which do you recommend?

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 lesbian.

According to ACLU-NC staff attorney Donna Hitchens, the lawsuit charges that Lieutenant Julie 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.

Julie 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 ratings.

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 interrogations.

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 commander.

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 conduct."

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 and privacy.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation

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AIDS UPDATE 84

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SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETED

HTLV-3 AND HTLV-3 TESTING Should We Be Tested or Not?

What is HTLV-3? Is it the cause of AIDS? What about LAV and ARV? When will testing for the(se) virus(es) be generally available? What about the tests going on now? What will the test results mean? Will a positive test affect our civil liberties, jobs or insurance? Should we be tested or not? Will a positive test mean we will get AIDS?

Participating:

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

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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G BAY AREA REPORTER 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 patients.

"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.

"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 said.

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

Remington's lab knew of only six cases of central nervous system toxoplasmosis. From 1981 until the present, our two labs have diagnosed more than 100 cases of the disease." Dr. Jack Remington, a professor of infectious diseases at Stanford and director of the department of immunology and infectious diseases at the Palo Alto Medical Foundation, is a world-

recognized authority on toxoplasmosis. He spearheaded most of the work Conley described, she said.

Central nervous system toxoplasmosis, 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 researchers 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 lingers harmlessly in about 50 percent of the U.S. population, *Toxoplasma 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 lies with the body's immune system.

The healthy immune system keeps toxoplasmosis dormant 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 said.



Crowd Reaction as the Freedom Day Marching Band invades the Great Straight Way beyond the Bay. (Photo: Jerry Roberts)

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 Band members.

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.



Not Quite 76, trombones that is, but spirited nonetheless, the Freedom 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 unwanted 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 tenets of Daddy David. The predictable camaraderie that Hayward 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 that.

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.

AGON
(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 show.

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.

NEZ'S NOTES:

- Egads, Ecods, and Heavenly Days! Such tumult and turbulence 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 spinners.

- 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 pisser!

- 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 spas.

Love,
Nez

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 belong.

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.

Pampers
By Doug Fligley



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

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. ■

Herpes Forum Set in Berkeley

United by a common concern about the uncontrolled, epidemic 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 American Social Health Association providing assistance and support to people who have Herpes, and contributing to greater public awareness and understanding of HSV.

As part of our continuing effort, the East Bay chapter is

sponsoring the Fifth Community Awareness Symposium on the disease.

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 Hospital, 3001 Colby Street, Berkeley. Preregistration is suggested as space is limited.

Dr. Marcus Conant, a leading HSV researcher at UCSF, will provide the keynote address. ■

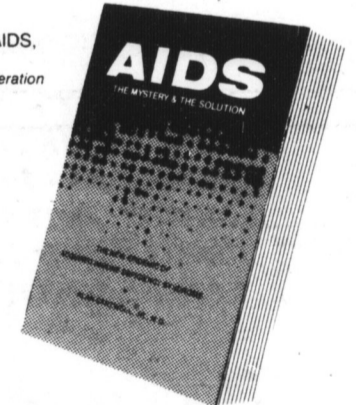
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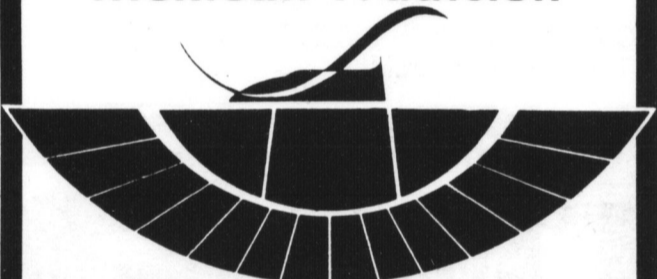
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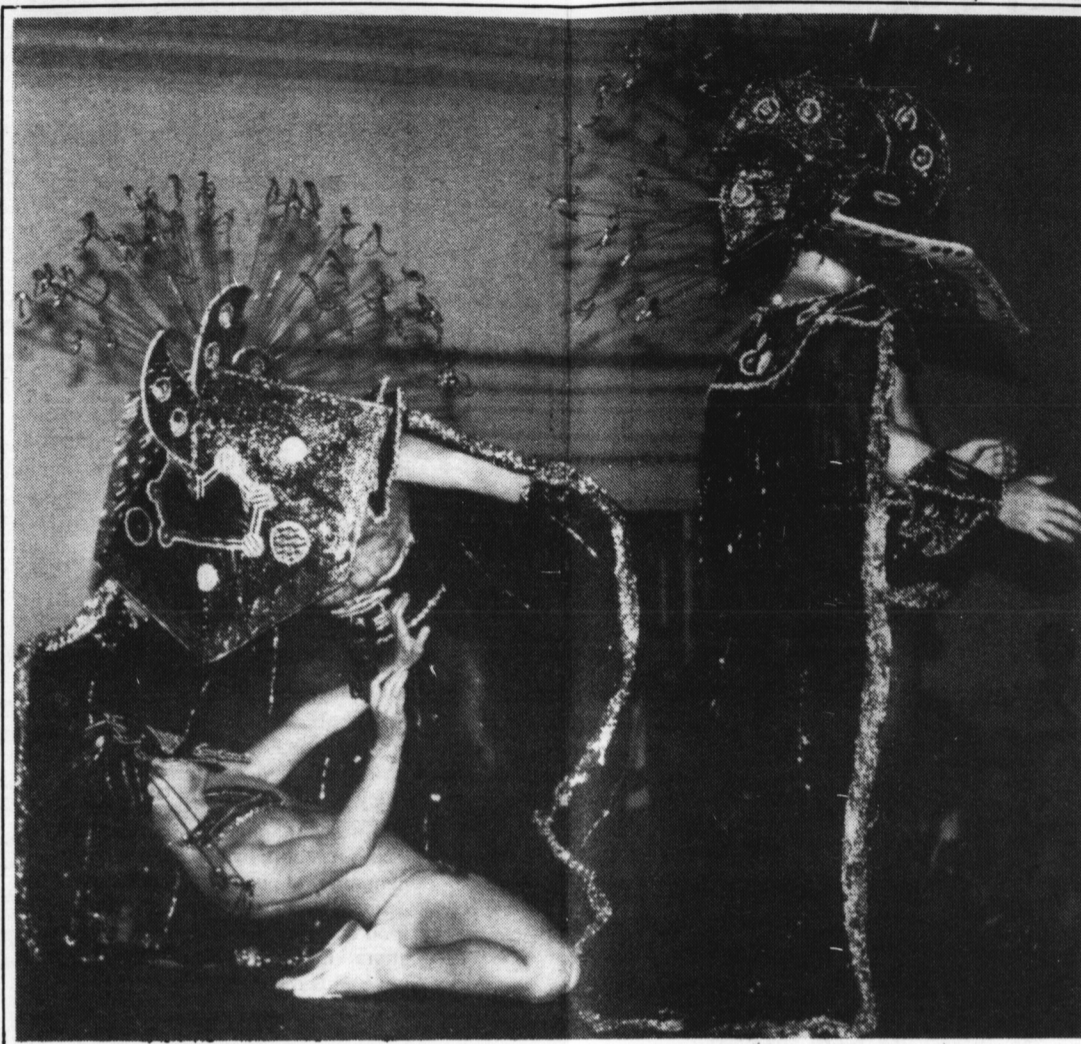
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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 19

- **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.
- **Dalia 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 Donacker.
- **Patience:** stage performance, Presentation Theater, 2350 Turk St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10 and \$12. The Lamplighters in its 22nd production of Gilbert and Sullivan.
- **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 its 11th season.
- **Jazz:** dance class, Pride Center Auditorium, 890 Hayes St. at Fillmore, S.F., 6 to 7:30 PM, free. Beginning jazz taught by Ron Petersen. Wear gym clothes or loose clothing.
- **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret, 132 Bush, 132 Bush St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$10. Starring Ruth Hastings.

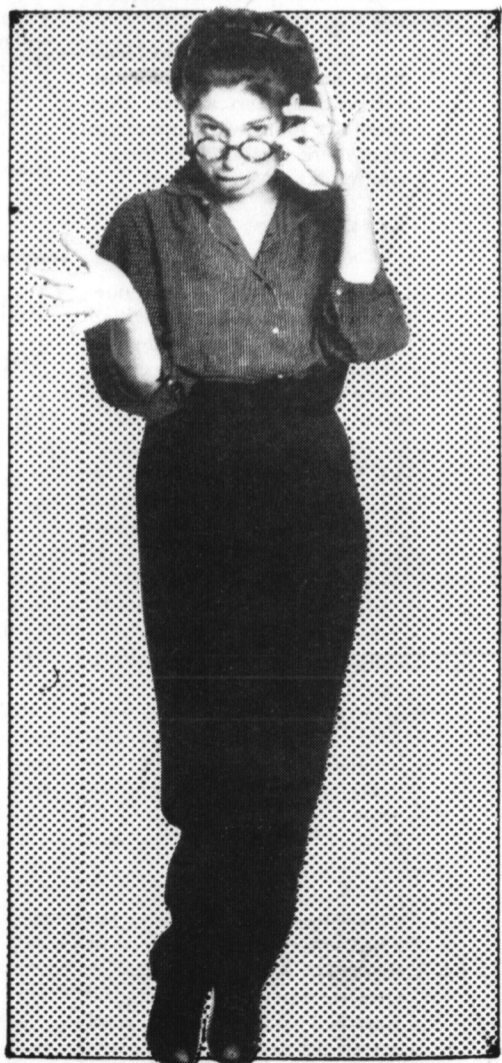


The winners of Best Group perform at last year's Beaux Arts Ball. You can try your luck this year — or just enjoy the show — Sunday at the Galleria. (Photo: Rink)

- **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 annual 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 single female costume.



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

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 Ammianno, Monica Palacios, and Ruby "Rodriguez" Rubenstein.
- **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 information.
- **Sanford Friedman:** will sign his book, *Totempole*, Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 1 to 3 PM.
- **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 for details).
- **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 details).

TUESDAY 23

- **Danny Williams Birthday Roast:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Tom Ammianno, Laurie Bushman, Jane Donacker, 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., 7:30 PM.
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** day hike, Tiburon Peninsula, meet at Rolling Pin Donuts, 497 Castro St., S.F., 8:45 AM.
- **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 Albert Martin Starr.
- **Little Shop of Horrors:** stage performance (see Friday 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 information.

WEDNESDAY 24

- **Francesca Dubie and Robin Young:** music/comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4. Blues and comedy for the '80s.
- **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 guests.
- **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).

THURSDAY 25

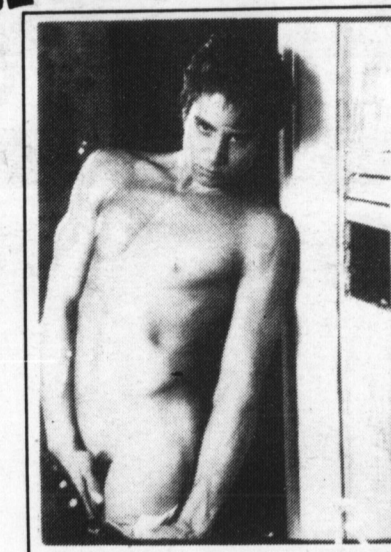
- **Playing on an Impulse:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Bad Mothers:** stage performance, \$5 (see Friday listing for details).
- **San Francisco Hiking Club:** general meeting, 1833 Page St., S.F., 7:30 PM. There will be an opportunity to sign up for future trips.
- **Teresa 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, Operation 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 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).
- **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.

MONDAY 22

- **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. Tom Ammianno and Monica Palacios will co-emcee. Performer sign-up at 7:30 PM.

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.

Uncensored



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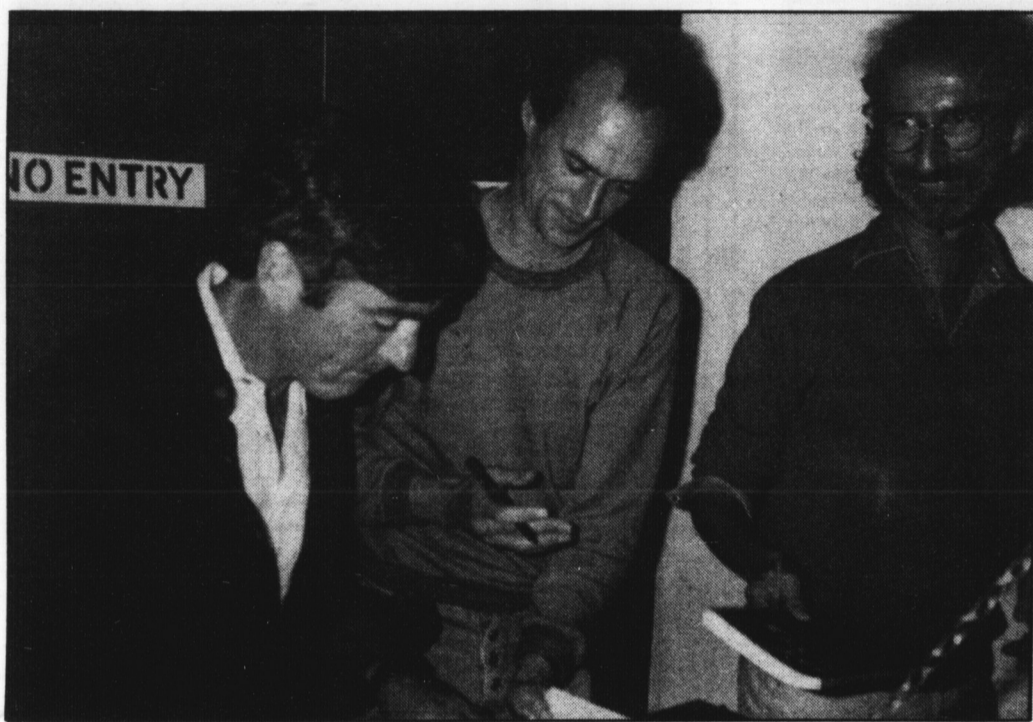
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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE



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

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

"Gay" play.

McClenaghan had the least to say about anything, and nothing about being Gay. He just looked macho and disinterested and kept bringing up his 15 years in the Royal Navy. His play, *Submariners*, takes place in a nuclear sub, and he said the claustrophobia of the situation was his starting point, after which Gays and nukes came into it. Eventually, "Cock (an 18-year-old draftee trying to get out, who pretends to be Gay until a sailor who's really Gay takes him seriously) just took over.

"Sherman defended the need to make statements through Gay plays while expressing the hope that someday none of that will be important..."

"I've always thought of my play as a black comedy," he said, pointing out several times that he had tried to avoid clichés. 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."

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

While McClenaghan represented the macho right and Wilcox a neurotic middle of the road, Sherman added life to the proceedings as a combination Jewish princess and faerie queen. A member of the audience pointed out that both the Wilcox and McClenaghan plays had been done on British television, but Sherman's *Passing By* had not because it was the only one that showed "two faggots getting in bed together."

"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 think?"

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

Adele 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.

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

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 *Sparkle's Tavern*.



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

The 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 lip-synch 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 over-size 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 boundless.

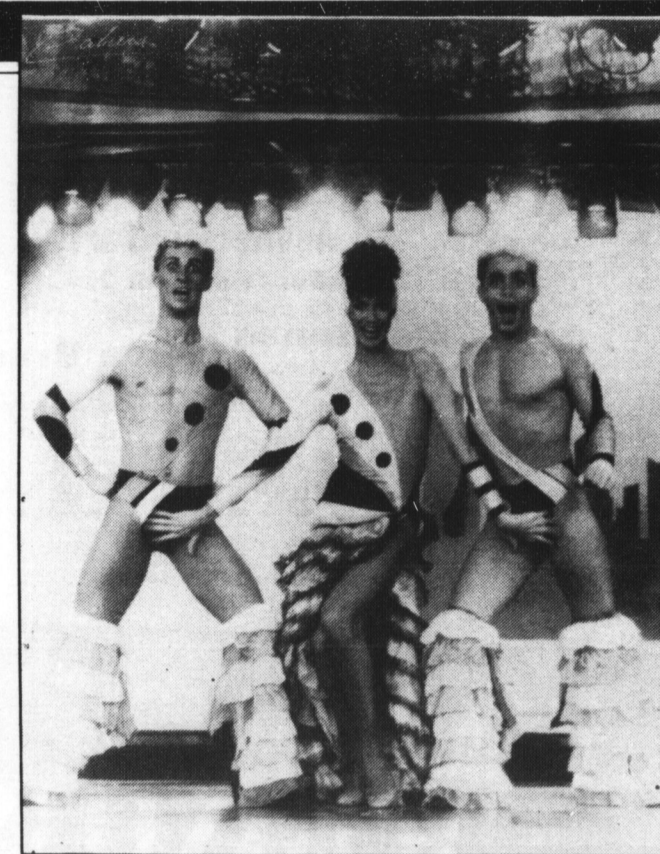
Nearly every number is a star turn. A soul plaint about a lost man includes an entire rap, synched so well the illusion is never doubted; it's preceded, believe it or not, by a strip tease. Bette Midler's "Big Noise From Winnetka" is a hot one, and

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

Good 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 express than they can find words for. Gradually, father and son unbend. They reminisce about their relationship with the dead man and reveal the corrosive power of failed communication. In language increasingly poetic and allusive, father and son find comfort in awareness of life's inexorable

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

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 ridic-

ulously 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

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STAGE

Neighboring Madness

by Adele Prandini

On 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 die."

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 placed 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 photog-

raphed 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 Portrait
Studio Eremos
Through October 28; 641-0480



A scene from Sylvia Plath: A Dramatic Portrait.

Moving Monologues

by Adele Prandini

A 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 wide, she continues, "You got 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

the pieces. The tit jokes I would expect to hear from an adolescent comic, not from a writer of this caliber and sensitivity. Don't get me wrong, we can joke about our bodies. Breast size can 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 individuals.

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
92 minutes, \$69.95

You might remember Miles O'Keefe as the Michelangelo-like 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

makes Harold Robbins read like 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 quite sure, since the post-dubbing is sometimes not synched 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?

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

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JERRY DE GRACIA

Master and Servant . . . Thump, Thump, Thump

The new Depeche Mode single "Master and Servant" epitomizes — or rather eulogizes — new music's formulaized dance/rock doldrums when in lyrical reference to S&M fantasies, the chant drones, "it's a lot like life." Yeah, repetitive.

The group's references to sexual fantasy are a washout. Even teenagers are more sophisticated than this weak piece of material assumes of a target audience, 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 instrumentation.

Much the same could be said for "Sexy Movie" by Flexicowboys, which of course isn't saying 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" 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

favorite is Annette DiCicco's rendition of Carla Thomas' "Baby."

Rock the Box
Sylvester
(Megatone Records)

Sylvester's new single merges his dance-oriented style with some interesting instrumentation that plays heavily on a beat box sound and goes lightly on Sylvester's vocal cords, something unique for the singer, who rarely steps off the center stage mark.

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 joined the crowd.

Lovin' is Really My Game
Zino (featuring Tyne Mouton on vocals)
(Pacific Records)

Tyne Mouton is a great vocalist, 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 I heard it — probably at Studio One when I was probably much younger. The song is unquestionably danceable, and the production quality top-notch, but the material is pale, and Mouton's vocalizing and the song's excellent production are not 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)

MICHAEL LASKY



Max Maven

hands of evil, it's curtains for 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.

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

Max Maven has a weird hair-cut, 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-home-video 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, soporific humor, tacky sets,

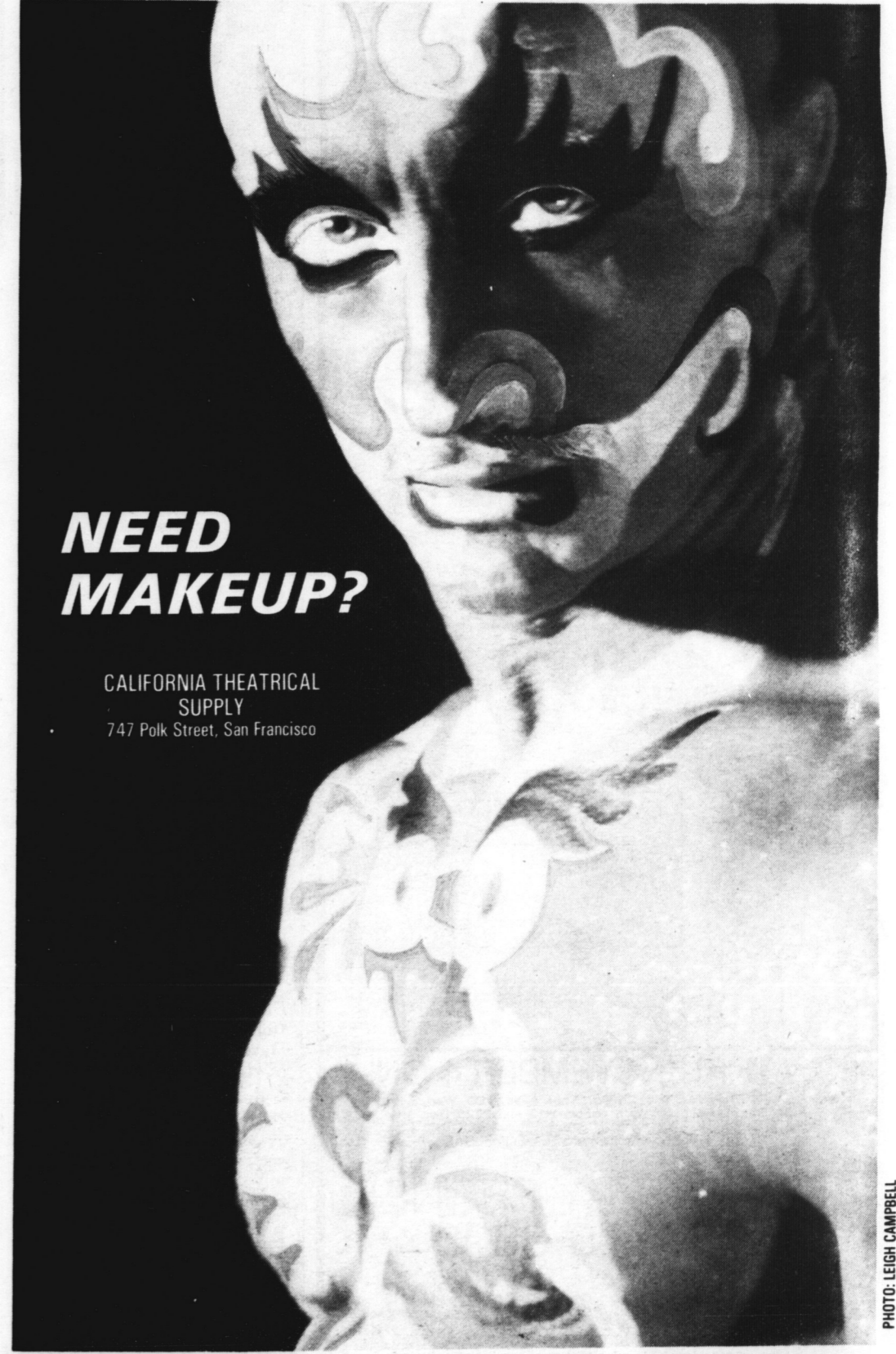
and increasingly obvious "games," and our patience quickly tires.

It's almost fun one time through, but repeat viewing — even rewinds — reveal the speciousness of the whole enterprise, and we feel "taken."

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

Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner's

now-famous series of comic routines 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' insane humor that was at the time completely 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 commercials.



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FROM FIFTH POSITION

New Works at Oakland Ballet

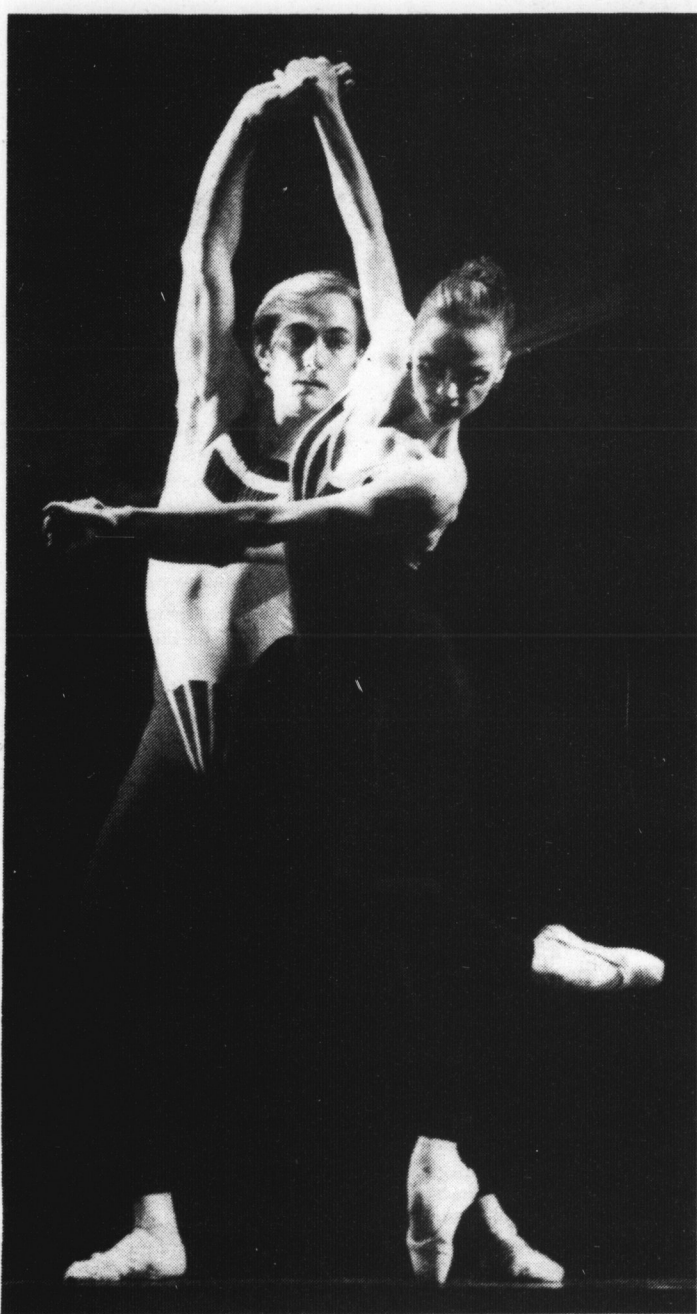
KEITH WHITE

The 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 program.

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 indiscernible 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 Academy frolics over the stage as the



Summer Lee Rhatigan and Don Schwennesen in *Tar Marmalade*.

curtain falls, an event as inexplicable as the many other off-the-wall occurrences in the piece. The audience responded as though it had seen the runaway hit of the season, but having seen Tandy Beal's solo work, I hate to think of her being represented by . . . this harsh spectacle.

The other new work, much more approachable, was "an exotic pas de deux" by San Francisco Ballet dancer Val Caniparoli, a young choreographer I am inclined to encourage by virtue of his very promising first ballets. *Tar Marmalade*, so named because the music is a duet for guitar and "tar" (a North African drum), is a contemporary "apache" dance — a male/female duet in which the

exotic, animal-like woman is manipulated and tamed by her strong male partner. Except, in this case, the woman is the stronger of the two dancers — by far — and she tames the man. Summer Lee Rhatigan is indeed a strong dancer, with a sharpness about her attack reminiscent of Bruce Lee. She was a spider in this piece, very arresting in her opening solo, attached to stretch fabric bands held from the wings of the stage. But the tension weakened once the duet began. Don Schwennesen, an attractive dancer who was cast as Rhatigan's partner, is overpowered by Rhatigan too completely, too early, which robs the duet of any mounting tension. Sandra Woodall's costumes and set cloths are attractive props, yet while they reinforce 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 times quite engaging.

El Salon Mexico, a ballet by Ronn Guidi to the Aaron Copland score of the same name, closed the program. It attempts an unwieldy combination of a basically classical ballet with a Mexican veneer.

J. De Gracia

TALES OF TESSI TURA

Target Practice

GEORGE HELYMONT

Many 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 thunder thighs.

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-blasting 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 bells.

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 Saratoga's strongly male chauvinist order.

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, Cleve!?" 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 annals of history.

BULL'S EYE

By contrast, Cimarosa's *Il Matrimonio Segreto* was pure ambrosia. Although one friend described this nearly 200-year-old 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 Matrimonio Segreto*.

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 performed *The Magic Flute* in seven of the past sixteen seasons. By now, John Crosby and his gang should know better.

The best thing in this production was the dragon which appeared 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,

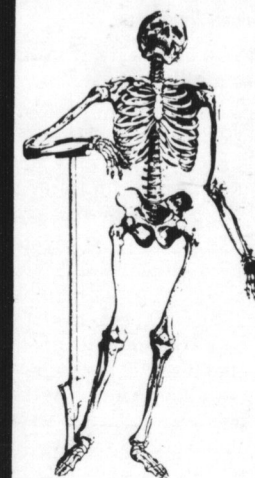
Renato Capecchi — who also appeared in the role of Gerono — the performance I caught was an example of the Santa Fe Opera at its very best.

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 artistry.

The utter superiority of this 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.

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VIDEO
wave

Photo by Jim Wigler

British Theatre 1984

(Continued from page 22)

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 premiere 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, romantic, and loving encounter" — actually a case of hepatitis.

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.

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 everything."

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 radical."

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 middle-aged 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 none had been submitted in response to announcements about the book: "If there is a worthwhile, durable play about Gay women that hasn't been published, I should like to know about it." You can let him know c/o Methuen London Ltd., 11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4P 4EE, England; or Methuen, Inc., 733 Third Ave., New York 10017.

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 promisingly.

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, *Pornography*.

That show, seen late in its run, was one of those company-developed numbers in which a bull session by virtue of repetition becomes a theater piece. Let's 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 yet 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 (because 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 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

all manner of weapons, but never lovingly by a penis; and when at the end of a listing of fantasies, the question is asked, "Do you want to live with another man for ten years?" and the response is, "I don't have fantasies that can't come true."

Pornography is presently touring England, and will travel to Canada early in 1985. Less sophisticated Gay audiences will probably enjoy the idea of a theater of commonly shared experience as much as the Londoners seem to, proving there is still a place and a need for this sort of thing.

Fortunately, even without Gay Sweatshop, there is better Gay theater being done in London. In a room over a pub in a borough with 18 percent unemployment, *Kiss of the Spiderwoman* by Argentina's Manuel Puig held sway for two moving weekends.

It's about cellmates. Valentín is a macho revolutionary, Molina a nelly queen who formed his values from watching movies of the '40s. Over the course of their confinement, Valentín 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 himself down: "I'm a window dresser. That's the next best thing to being an interior decorator."



Valentín in *Kiss of the Spiderwoman*.

Valentín 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 metaphor.

As Molina, Eric Presland gave the best performance I've seen in a Gay play since *Torch Song Trilogy*, conveying the character's flamboyance without camping up a storm. Neil Stewart brought something more than good looks to the role of Valentín, 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 issue.

S. Warren

BAY AREA REPORTER
SPORTS & FITNESS

FITNESS EIGHTIES

Roland St. Pierre

You're Never Too Old To Get in Shape

by Paul Trefzger

You 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-lease! 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 overweight 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 firmer.

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, nelly, and old. I felt I was a part of the Y, which was a great feeling for me.

"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, all-inclusive 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



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 in 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."

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Running for the Life of It

by Charlie Lineberger

Gay 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.

"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

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 Francisco FrontRunners get together for a group run. Choice of location alternates between San Francisco and the East Bay. In September the two clubs joined for a run on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay.

"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 Berkeley. 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

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 indefinite future."

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 members.

Volleyball, Anyone?

San Francisco's first Gay and Lesbian volleyball league is now forming. Darrell Adkins and Michael Hackett are the co-chairs of the organizing committee. They can be reached at 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.

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

However, sponsors are still needed and additional players are being signed up. Supporters for the initiation of a city league 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.

SCOREBOARD

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES

TEAM STANDINGS

(League Averages not available)

HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE (Week 3 of 37 - as of 9/21/84)		THURSDAY COMM. LEAGUE (Week 2 of 32 - as of 10/4/84)	
1. El Rio II	8 1/2 3 1/2	1. Pendulum #1	7 1
2. Publio's	8 4	2. Pilsner Kingpins	6 2
3. Number 6	7 5	3. TP Dougalettes	5 1/2 2 1/2
4. Mane Islanders	7 5	4. Vagabond	4 4
5. Lady and Tramps	6 6	5. Old Rick's Gold Rm	3 1
6. Church St. Strikers	5 7	6. 2 Lefts + A Right	2 1/2 5 1/2
7. Number 9	5 3	7. Number 5	2 6
8. El Rio Tartarugas #1	4 8	8. Number 3	2 6
9. Alley-Oops	3 1/2 8 1/2	9. Number 2	2 6
10. Number 10	2 6	10. Number 9	2 2
WEDNESDAY COMM. LEAGUE (Week 2 of 32 - as of 10/3/84)		<i>Bowling scores compiled by Jerry R. De Young.</i>	
1. High Gear	7 1		

SFPA SCOREBOARD

TEAM STANDINGS and PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

DIVISION ONE		TOP TWENTY	
DeLuxe Spare Tires	90-38 .703	1. Dave Chua	22-3 .880
Stallion International	78-34 .696	2. Bill Kazee	14-2 .875
Macante's MARTYRS	64-48 .571	3. E.Z.	19-3 .863
Febe's Snow	72-56 .562	4. Colin Bradley	16-3 .842
Ramrod Riders	54-57 .486	5. Rick Moore	23-5 .821
Bear Shots	60-67 .472	6. Charles Dossert	14-4 .777
Pilsner Doughboys	49-63 .437	7. Dean Lechner	20-6 .769
Chaps Sticks	47-65 .419	8. Soni Sowder	14-5 .736
Maud's	47-65 .419	9. Dennis Hall	19-7 .730
Transfer Fast Passes	41-71 .366	10. Ray Peterson	19-7 .730
Pendulum Panthers	40-72 .357	11. Dave Timko	19-7 .730
Febe's		12. Gene Miller	20-8 .714
Transfer Tigers		13. Ron McKay	22-9 .709
Stallion Nightmares		14. Sam Bridges	19-8 .703
Pilsner Ltd.		15. Chuck Lanier	21-9 .700
Pendulum Pirates		16. Lisa Duncan	19-9 .678
Ramrod Rascals		17. Bill Boyles	18-9 .666
Guantes de Macantes		18. Allen Bulholtz	18-9 .666
Bear Claws		19. Vince Galindo	14-7 .666
Brig Guards		20. Nick Maheras	21-11 .656
Maud's Squad		Barry White	21-11 .656

G.S.L. UPDATE

Rita Gets What She Deserves

After several years of hard 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-

test between incumbent Rick "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 league.

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 brigade.

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.

Mark down Saturday, Nov. 10, as the next GSL league 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.

* * *

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

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.

TOM VINDEED

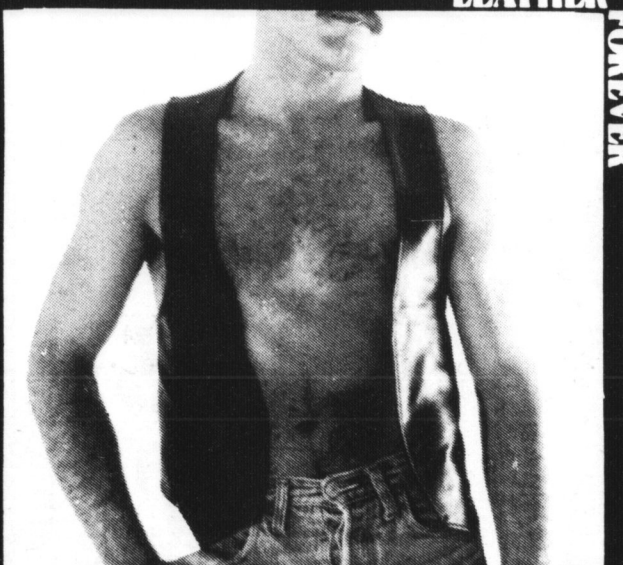
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BAY AREA REPORTER OCTOBER 18, 1984 PAGE 31

BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS

The Search for Daddy's Boy II

Raising 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



A Piece of Cake. The Manring/Russo wedding reception at The Village, that is. (Photo: Rink)

in the always heavenly cruising 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 Ambush.

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 is 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 in 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

(Continued from previous page)

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 Caribbean 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 reservations 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 years, so the rumor-mongers may take a hike to about 1,000 miles below the earth . . . The first coronation of the Imperial

Movie Capital Court of Hollywood will be held on Wed., Nov. 21, at Troupers' Hall in L.A. as an AIDS benefit. Since all this royalty crap is SUPPOSED 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 receive: 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 Bevilacqua 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 shit-stirring 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 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



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

"Love Your Magic Spell Is Everywhere" at the local bars whenever David Sarathain walks in ALONE? . . . Did you notice the mob scene at the Vagabond Inn on Van Ness last night? Representatives from Surgicenter, those people who can operate on your anatomy for penis enhancement, were giving a lecture for \$25 a head and I saw several people standing in line as I drove by. I don't mention their names HERE . . . Don't forget the Garage Sale for Sen. Milton Marks this Sat., Oct. 20, at 2301 Market (at Noe) from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a raffle for two trips to Hawaii . . . Also, the BRIG's annual Oktoberfest kicks off this Saturday with German delicacies and continues until next Thursday, Oct. 25 . . . People walking

around with sore feet — they're practicing for A Date at Minsky's at the Russian Center on Sat., Nov. 17, and brought to you by those lovely GDI's . . . And no, the WARLOCKS M/C is NOT having a joint run with one of the other clubs, either one-day, two-day, or three-day. Also, there will be no Witches Christmas party this year, and that's FINAL . . . Overheard at the EAGLE last Saturday: Leather Queen #1 (denying being a bottom): "The only thing I want next to my asshole is toilet paper." Leather Queen #2: "The whole roll?" Onward! . . . There was a big mob scene at Trocadero Transfer last Sunday night for the premiere of SYLVESTER's new album: M-1015. Upon hearing the name of the party, Bubbles Abramson

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

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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 overturned.

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 having dinner with two women 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."

Robert McNamara described the firefighters as loud and abusive. Randy Hanson, the waiter for the group, endured an onslaught 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, Moore and the women he was with were forced to endure the 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 flying.

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 done their damage and were

(Continued on page 2)

A NEWS ANALYSIS

Commissioner Jo Daly: Whose Side Is She On?

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 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 minister and police chaplain, was humiliated and embarrassed in the "Cops For Christ" column. For weeks after the article appeared, Jo Daly would not return the phone calls of Sandmire, the pastor of the Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church.

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 Daly.

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

One comment in the story 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 by it."

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 about it.'"

Her phone might have stayed

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Man Confesses to 2 Teens' Murders

San Francisco police reported 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 homicide detectives to a location near Land's End where the decapitated, dismembered body of another young man was discovered Tuesday afternoon.

Authorities in Salem, Oregon, 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 murders.

The body of young Gomez was discovered in Golden Gate Park on Sept. 22. He had died of multiple stab wounds.

Homicide investigators have yet to identify the second victim, described as a teenage street person.

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.

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Jo Daly (Photo: Rink)